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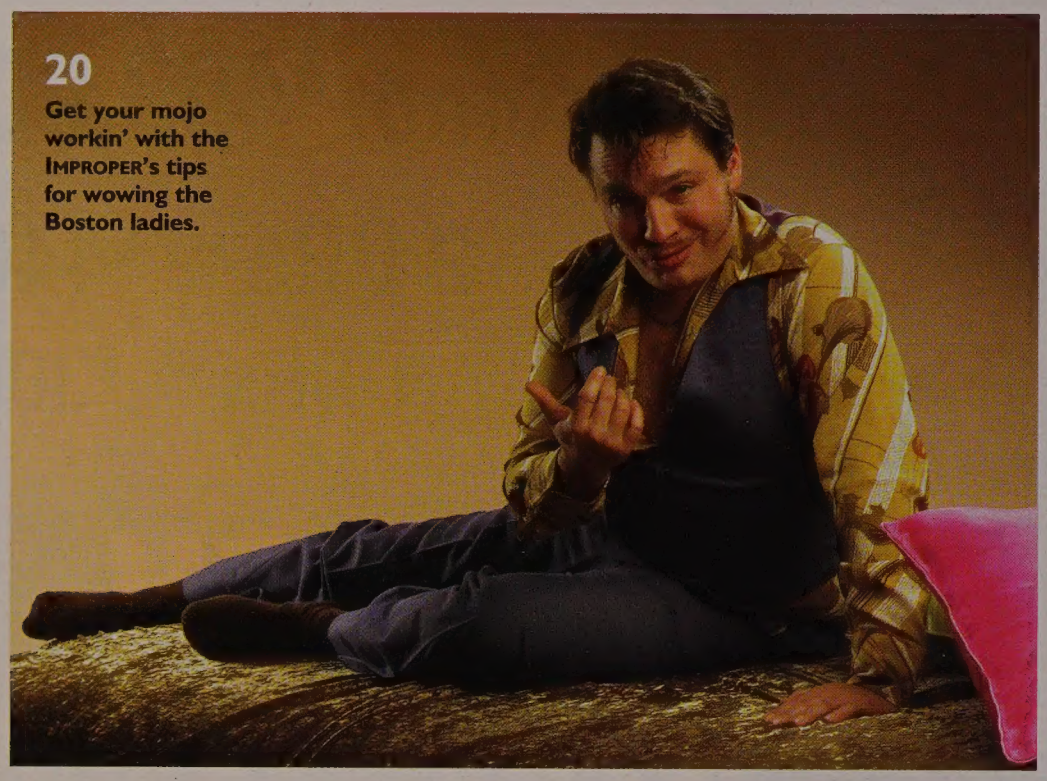

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Bill Streicher**

Bra and panties: **available at H&M;** jewelry: **available at Kimmeron;** location: **B&B Italia, New York City**

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

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Christophe Delcourt® Rive Droite Collection for Roche Bobois

Christophe Delcourt, world-renowned designer, especially famous for his tailored upholstery, has just released his newest collection with Roche Bobois: Rive Droite. This collection emphasizes the tastes of this young designer for natural textures, fluid design, precision and special techniques. Light, sensual, and intimate, the Rive Droite collection brings the French "art of living" by drawing on its craftsmanship spirit to create modern and sophisticated furniture.

Rive Droite Collection, design by Christophe Delcourt. Oak veneer, solid oak edges, sesame stain with medium-luster lacquer and patina, white-gold stain or olive-green stain with medium-luster lacquer and patina, bronze stain. Sofas, beds and armchairs in cowhide grain leather, satin finish.

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

MAN HANDLING

If you're looking for serious or sensitive articles about the plight of the modern man, we have to disappoint you here. The lingerie model with lollipop on our cover is a clue that we've filled our second annual Man Issue with much lighter stuff.

First up, there's Steve Almond on the all-important topic of getting the girl. In "Surefire Ways to Get a Boston Woman to Go Out with You," Almond guides you toward the "less overtly stupid behavior" that just might turn you into a lady-killer. Meanwhile, Ezra Dyer covers the other side of the coin in "How to Lose a Girl in 10 Days." His tips had the women on our staff wincing—trust us, they'll do the trick.

Advice on what to do when you're bored, a guide to must-have toys, and, of course, the lingerie spread round out the frivolity.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

EZRA PRACTICES TREESTIALITY

I am writing to you on behalf of your staff writer, Ezra Dyer. His article, "The 411 on 2004" (Dec. 15, 2004) was offensive and demeaning. Making the correlation between gay marriage starting the "slippery slope" contributing to people marrying animals and animals marrying trees is just completely disgusting and ignorant.

I will never pick up a copy of the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN again, due to the ignorance of this "journalist."

—WAYNE BETTENCOURT
Boston

I've always looked forward to reading your magazine for years and was anxious to see what you said about gay marriage in "The 411 on 2004."

For the record: Ezra Dyer, you suck as a human being and your magazine sucks as the piece of trash it is!

—GREGORY MARTIN
Plymouth

Editor's note: *Our apologies. We should have included an advisory on the gay marriage piece stating, "Warning! By using the 'slippery slope' argument to conclude that animals will soon marry trees, Ezra is in fact making fun of fears about gay marriage, not gay marriage itself." But hey—why waste an opportunity to get outraged? Excuse us while we write angry letters to Jonathan Swift over his essay, "A Modest Proposal." His ideas about eating babies are disgusting and ignorant.*

HAMER TIME

I was shocked and disappointed to see the Improper Sightings in the Dec. 15 issue.

My friends and I all thought the photo of Terry Myers with two Hamer women was blatantly racist. Depicting people of traditional cultures as little more than a backdrop or furniture is pretty despicable and the decision to print it offensive.

—CHRISTIAN WILLIAMS
Roxbury

IT WAS A DARK 'N' STORMY SLIGHT

Get out a pencil and write this down: Dark 'n' Stormies will *never* be out of style ("What's In and Out for 2005," Dec. 15). It's still the drink shared over power lunches, mixed in the homes of the powerful, and sipped on the beach by lovers (and Bermuda's unofficial national drink).

So until you right this wrong, I'll be using your 2004 year-end issue as a coaster. And I think you know what I'll be serving.

—A PROPER BERMUDIAN, AKA GLENN JONES
Newton

MAKING THE CORRELATION BETWEEN GAY MARRIAGE STARTING THE "SLIPPERY SLOPE" TO ANIMALS MARRYING TREES IS DISGUSTING AND IGNORANT.

—WAYNE BETTENCOURT
BOSTON

BRINGING UP THE MEZRICH

I am a longtime reader of your Ben Mezrich letters column and haven't missed an installment since its inception. Kudos on a great feature! One request: How about a picture of the handsome heart-throb for my bedside table?

—MICHELLE D'ORSI
Wellesley

BILL STREICHER

Photographer Bill Streicher is a frequent IMPROPER contributor, but this issue's lingerie fashion spread marks the first time that a shoot has distracted onlookers to a dangerous degree. You see, said lingerie models were frolicking about in a building with lots of windows. Where there are lots of windows, there are often window-washers, and where there are window-washers and lingerie models, there's a level of distraction inappropriate to men balanced on platforms high above the street. Streicher sends apologies to the guy who nearly toppled to his death. But let this be a lesson to you: Make sure you're sitting somewhere safe before looking at this issue's cover, or turning to "Sugar and Spice," on page 30.

MARCIA CROSS COVER: GREG HENRY/LAMOINE PHOTO GROUP

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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SMALL PLATES; BIG SPACE

There's a lot to like about the small-plate revolution that's taken over many a local menu. Instead of having to limit yourself to one pricey entrée, you get to try a lot of different tastes. It's fun to share little dishes with friends—plus it's much easier to take a risk on a food you don't typically order when it's a tapas-sized portion.

All of that makes the opening of the second Piattini, Josephine Oliviero's Italian tapas–and–wine café, cause for celebration. Oliviero says customer demand far surpassed the capabilities of her tiny Newbury Street space, so last November she launched a second location on Columbus Avenue, next to the Armory castle. With triple the space of the first restaurant, the new Piattini seats 125. "The kitchen is about 10 times the size," Oliviero says, "so now we can do things like homemade pastas and homemade breads." She was also able to greatly expand the wine list, the restaurant's raison d'être. There are 105 wines—27 by the glass—as well as 10 wine flights, each of which comes to your table with a descriptive card that you keep.

Most of Oliviero's huge Italian family is in the restaurant biz, and she got the idea for her restaurant when hanging out in an *enoteca* (wine bar) during a trip to Italy. She quit her job as an exec at Saks in New York to move back to Boston and launch the venture. But the seed was planted far earlier than that: "My mother had a name for me when I was little," Oliviero says, "She called me *piattini* because I always picked at different things when I ate."

The new Piattini's airy, expansive ambience is far different than that of the Newbury café. Diners don't eat elbow-to-elbow with their neighbors. The menus differ too; the new one, created by consulting chef Joseph Tinnirello (most recently of Terramia), offers lunch and dinner options that include hot and cold piattini, salads, pastas and entrées. About half the piattini are under $10. Cold piattini options include antipasto; bruschetta; and beef carpaccio with white truffle oil. Among the hot dishes are a dreamy herb polenta with wild mushrooms; saffron-seafood rice ball; and gnocchi with plum tomato and fresh mozzarella.

Entrée-wise, there are more than 10 pasta dishes to choose from ($15–$20) plus dishes like fontina stuffed bistro chicken ($19.95) and veal scallopini with rosemary whipped potatoes ($21.95). Late-night diners can order from a separate bar menu (Thursday though Saturday), which has a selection of piattini and grilled pizza. *162 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-423-2021). —E.H.*

Quaglia balsamic grilled quail

improper reports

STEAK OUT

Where's the beef? In a word, everywhere. Here's a look at some of the hot spots, both new and old, that have helped transform Beantown into Steak City.

Abe & Louie's
793 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-6300)
If you're looking for an alternative to the New York steakhouse, this classy Boylston Street spot is a Boston original, with a bar that's a nightlife favorite among the over-30 set. $24–$38.

The Capital Grille
359 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-8900)
High rollers flock to the Capital for its dry-aged beef as well as the famous, frothy Stoli Dolis. $32–$35.

Grill 23
161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255)
Open since 1983, this two-floor, country-club-like restaurant offers one of the city's top selections of dry-aged steak, as well as an à la carte menu. ($26–$49 for the Kobe beef steak).

Morton's, The Steakhouse
One Exeter Plaza, 699 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5858)
Chicago-based Morton's is one of the most famous names in steak. Dark wooden details, celebrity photos and tuxedoed waiters give the room classic boys club ambience. Steaks start at $24 and run up to $42 for the New York strip steak.

The Oak Room
138 St. James St., Boston (617-267-5300)
The Fairmont Copley Plaza's steakhouse is as fancy as the dining room at its sibling venture, New York's Plaza Hotel. The à la carte menu features items like a ribeye steak for $33 and a T-bone for $45.

The Palm
200 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-867-9292).
Located in the Westin Copley Place, this New York chain offers 10-ounce filets for $32.50 and Palm favorite steak à la stone (an 18-ounce New York Strip sliced and served over sautéed onions, pimentos and toasted Italian bread) for $36.50.

Smith & Wollensky
101 Arlington St., Boston (617-423-1112)
This New York import, Boston's latest (and largest) steakhouse, occupies four floors in the Back Bay's Armory castle and offers favorites like a bone-in Kansas City cut and prime rib. $33–$38.

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tasty tidbits

TEA PARTY

Tipsy over Tea... Not since we read about the Mad Hatter and the March Hare have we come across a tea party that packs this kind of punch. The Boston Park Plaza Hotel, which serves afternoon tea daily from 3–5 pm, recently introduced new tea-infused cocktails. The hotel's resident tea expert, Cynthia Gold, has concocted drinks like the Green Tea Martini and Tea on the Beach (both made with Absolut vodka) that are sure to liven up any demure get-together, especially at 3 in the afternoon. *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-426-2000).*

Hot Diggity-Dog... Bubba from *Forrest Gump* may have known a few things about his shrimp, but we're not sure that even he could hold a candle to Kostas Sakkas and George Karakitsos' hot dogs. The two owners of Beantown Dogs, which opened in Allston in December, have created a menu that dog lovers of any kind will appreciate, with more than 50 frank variations and almost as many toppings to boot. Well Forrest, there's your Hot Dog, your Salad Dog, Thai Chicken Dog, Chicken Parm Dog...you get the point. *166 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-783-3647).*

Beantown Dogs

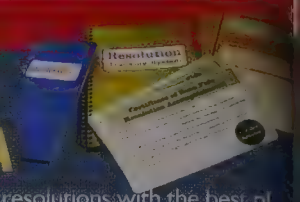
Neptune Rising... Opening a new restaurant, let alone breaking the pizza/pasta/primavera mold, among the North End's endless Italian institutions requires some serious stugots. Jeff Nace, first-time restaurateur and co-owner of Salem Street's newest eatery, Neptune Oyster, is a brave man. After eight years of careful planning, as well as a lengthy tenure as beverage manager at Todd English's Olives, Nace and his wife opened the Italian raw bar in November. The menu includes New England and regional Italian seafood, like cioppino, fried calamari, traditional lobster rolls and minestrone-style oyster stew, and the raw bar—available daily for lunch and dinner—offers 12 different oysters (10 East Coast and two West), littlenecks and cherrystones, along with selections like lobster tail, crab claws and Nantucket Bay scallops. *63 Salem St., Boston (617-742-3474).*

Sweet Stuff...A slice of la dolce vita landed in Jamaica Plain in early December with the opening of Fiore's Bakery. The traditional Italian confectioner, modeled after the North End's famous sweet shops like Mike's Pastry, specializes in fresh-filled cannolis, Italian rum cake and ricotta pies, as well as cookies and breads. For the time being, Fiore's is take-out only, but business partners and JP residents Charles Fiore and Washington Gomes are working on licenses for eat-in service. And cappuccino is on the way. *55 South St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9200).*

Drinko Chantico... Never satisfied with simply selling coffee to billions of people on a daily basis, the mavericks over at Starbucks continue to push the envelope. The latest drink? The Chantico. Not quite hot chocolate, the Chantico is a richer, creamier take on the old winter favorite. We'd liken it to swimming with your mouth open through Willy Wonka's chocolate river. And the best part is, for a limited time, it's free. Every Thursday (through February 10) from 4-8 pm, every Starbucks in the state will offer free four-ounce Chantico samples—which is a good deal, considering the normal six-ounce serving sets you back $2.65–$2.95 a pop.

sam says

A NOVEL IDEA

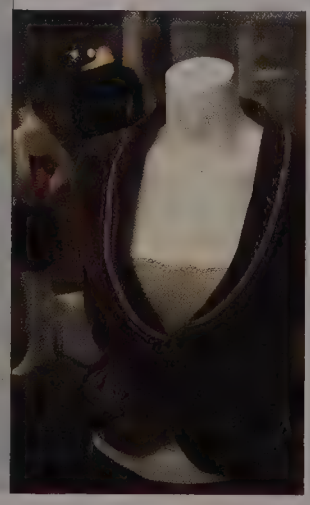


I can make and break New Year's resolutions with the best of them. Return calls promptly. Lose weight. The list goes on. This year, I intend to follow through, and I'm armed with the Container Store's Resolution Tracker, a 4" x 6" booklet that's full of tricks designed to make you keep your word. Here's how it works: Write your goals and your plan of attack on the resolution brief cards, and track your performance in the resolution log, documenting your bad days in the lapse log, and the good days in the reward log. You'll be able to troubleshoot your problem areas and properly reward yourself for a job well-done. Bonus features include a how-to guide to keep your resolutions and my favorite certificates of accomplishment that you present to...um, yourself. *$11.99. 27 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-566-7400). www.containerstore.com* —*Samantha House*

around town

WHAT'S IN STORE

If your holiday shopping took you to Copley Place's upscale retail repository, you might have noticed some new additions. After a three-month hiatus, former Newbury Street women's boutique **Elle Style** reopened in its new home just off the Westin Hotel skywalk. In addition to doubling in size, Elle now carries more than 60 labels, including new lines like Adrienne Bui and Arayal, as well as staples like Corey Lynn Coulter and Rock and Republic. Three stores down, chocoholics can find a slice of heaven at **Richart Chocolate**, a worldwide chain that opened in early December. With its exquisite, individually designed candies, a visitor might confuse a trip to this boutique with a visit to the MFA. And the appearance is far from deceiving: Richart boasts some 50-odd chocolate variations that, judging from the batch we sampled, will be quick to catch on. And last but not least, big spenders will be thrilled to hear that fashion mecca **Barneys New York** is negotiating to open a new store at Copley for 2006.



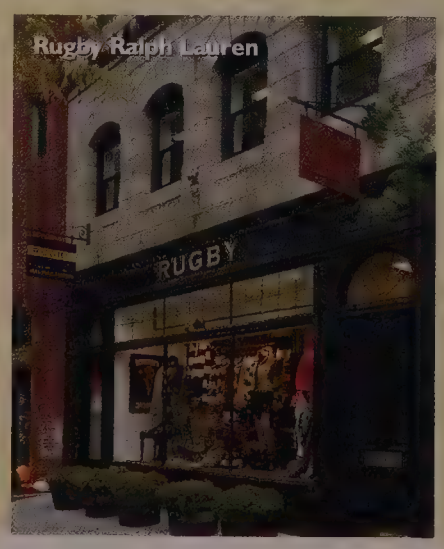
—*Jessica Iredale and Rich Levine*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

The Art of Spin Meets Fine Art...PR powerhouse Kate Shamon—whose clients include restaurants like Radius, Via Matta and Great Bay—has had a lifelong love affair with contemporary art. As a teenager at Concord Academy, she cultivated a correspondence with Christo, the controversial Bulgarian-born artist whose large-scale projects have included "wrapping" the Reichstag in Berlin, hanging a curtain across a valley in Palm Springs and erecting miles of brightly colored umbrellas in Japan and California. Over the years, Shamon saved Christo's letters to her and assembled an impressive collection of his works on paper (she also participated in the umbrellas project). In February, the love affair continues, as the artist has chosen Shamon to assist with the installation and monitoring of his latest undertaking, *The Gates*, which involves erecting a series of saffron-colored fabric arches throughout New York City's Central Park. A thrilled Shamon plans to celebrate the project with friends and family in Central Park sometime in February.

Heaven Skate... If you need a fix of ice time at the FleetCenter, through January 18 a cool $10 buys you the chance to strap on your blades and hit the same rink that pro hockey players once used, back when there was such a thing as pro hockey. (Skating could very well be extended for a few more months pending further NHL inaction.) There's no word on how much they'd charge to let you drive the Zamboni. Check www.fleetcenter.com for ice schedules.



Batter Up!... Speaking of strikes, you can learn how to throw one at the new Extra Innings year-round baseball and softball training facility, which opens in Watertown January 22. You can start your spring training early in the 13,000-square-foot building's six batting tunnels (which are available for rent by the half hour or hour), and lessons are available if your swing needs some bling. About the only thing they can't offer aspiring Bondses is the cream or the clear. *100 Parker St., Watertown (617-393-3858) www.extrainnings-watertown.com.*

Prep Rally... Between his three pricey labels, Black, Blue and Purple, and the more affordable Polo Sport and Lauren, we thought Ralph Lauren had the Oxford/cable-knit/collar-up market covered. But there's always room for one more. RL recently introduced his newest line, Rugby Ralph Lauren, to Boston with a store on Newbury Street. Preppy is still the name of the game, but the new duds (colorful rugby shirts, polos, sweaters, denim casual pants, jackets, suiting, dresses, etc.) are designed to transition customers from the Polo of their youth to the upscale Blue Label. Translation: affordable. *342 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-2801).*

—*Ezra Dyer, J.I., R.L. and Jonathan Soroff*

Got scoop?

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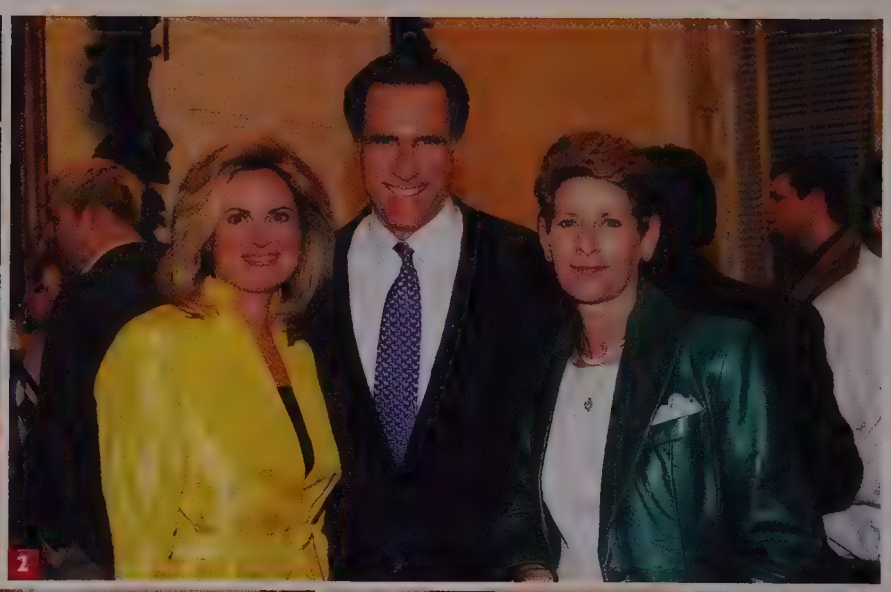
PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

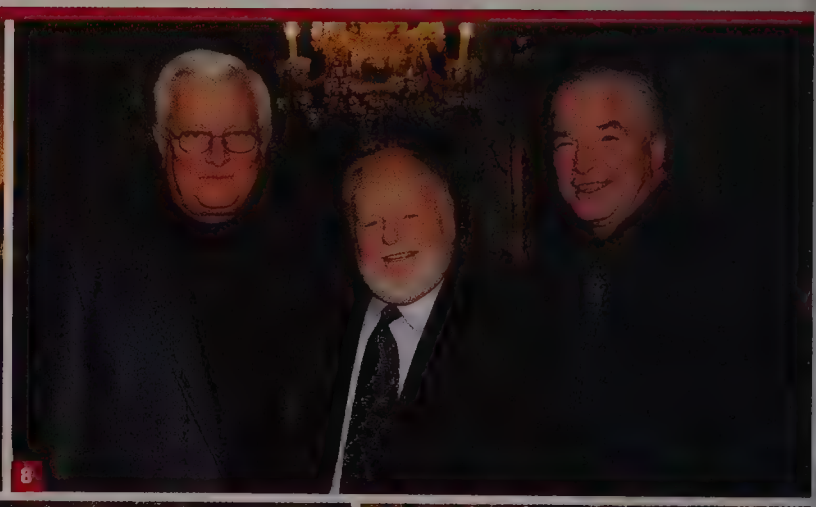


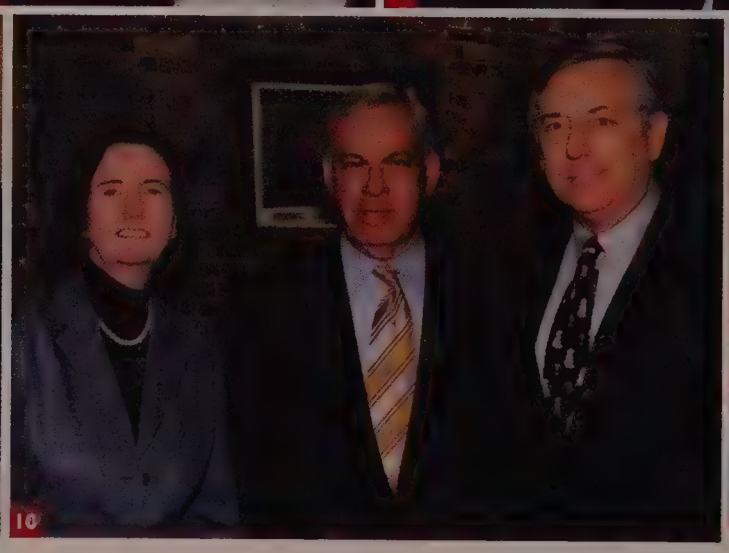
The **Governor's Holiday Press Party** took place December 16 in Governor Mitt Romney's State House suite. More than 200 party-goers celebrated the holiday season with Governor Romney and his wife, Ann.

1. Lt. Governor **Kerry Healey**; **Howard Manley**, op-ed columnist for the *Boston Herald*; and **Ginny Buckingham**, deputy editorial writer for the *Boston Herald*
2. Governor **Mitt Romney**, his wife, **Ann** (left), and **Shelly Cohen**, editorial page editor for the *Boston Herald*
3. **Kristina Jacobsen** and **Barney Kelleher**, both students at the University of Chicago
4. **Peter Flaherty**, Governor Romney's chief of staff; **Jon Kelleher**, political analyst for WLVI-TV 56; and **Spencer Zwick**, the governor's deputy chief of staff
5. **Andrea Bell**, attorney at Stoneman Chandler & Miller LLP; **Ed Bell**, bureau chief for the Associated Press; and **Lisa Marie Pane**, news editor for the Associated Press
6. **Michael Jonas**, associate editor for *CommonWealth* magazine; and **Bob Costrell**, Chief Economist for Administration and Finance

The **Holiday Reception for the Media**, hosted by Mayor Tom Menino and his wife, Angela, took place December 16 at the Parkman House. More than 400 guests gathered to enjoy the festivities and donate gifts for the Toys for Tots Foundation.

7. **Angela Menino**; **Toni Pollak**, parks commissioner; **Charlotte Golar-Richie**, city of Boston chief of housing and director of the city's Department of Neighborhoods; and **Mary Hines**, spokesperson for the Parks Department
8. **John Henning**, senior correspondent for WBZ-TV 4; **Ed Jesser**, communications consultant; and **David Nyhan**, political columnist
9. **David Epstein**, meteorologist for WCVB-TV 5; and **Kelley Tuthill**, co-anchor of the *EyeOpener* newscast for WCVB-TV 5
10. Boston Police Commissioner **Kathleen O'Toole**; Mayor **Tom Menino**; and Boston Fire Commissioner **Paul Christian**
11. **Maria Stephanos**, news anchor for Fox 25, and **Matt Siegel**, host of KISS 108's *Matty in the Morning* show





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BY EZRA DYER

WHO WANTS TO LIVE WITH SCOTT?

Maintaining dual residences is good for the image but rough on the bankbook.

A couple of years ago, I wrote about how I needed a roommate, and that article very nearly landed me one. So the time has come once again to invite the public into my home. Except this time, it's not to live with me, but to replace me.

As you may have read, a couple of months ago I bought a condo. It's proven to be a fine purchase. Instead of riding the mechanical bull at the Liquor Store until I throw up my tequila shots all over the girls from the escort service, I now spend my free time smoking pipes and building birdhouses in the basement. I own insurance, which covers me against falling spacecraft but not against volcano damage (this is true), so I'm keeping my fingers crossed that Mount St. Southie remains dormant. It's nice to know, though, that after the Russian satellite obliterates my kitchen, my policy provides $20,000 for improvements. Fridge with a built-in icemaker? Yes, please!

The only unfortunate aspect of this deal is that I haven't found a roommate to replace myself in my old apartment in Bay Village. Thus, I've got a mortgage payment and a rent payment. And paying $700 per month for a place you don't live in is about as much fun as falling down in such a manner that you stub your toe on your own nuts. A few weekends ago Roommate Scott had a party, and at the end of the night I had to take a cab from my place home to my place. If there are financial advantages to owning, I'm doing fine job of totally negating them.

Having a second home is a frivolous indulgence I can ill afford, what with the crushing cost of ascots and pipe tobacco these days. So I need someone to take over my old room. I know what you're thinking, and I'd just like to say that everything I've written about the place—the prostitutes and drug dealers on my street; next-door neighbor, Elmer, who makes the CIA seem laid back; the people upstairs peeing on our patio; the building management installing backwards sink handles; and the guy who sits at the end of the street in a folding chair all the time—was an exaggeration. Seriously, I haven't heard a pimp reprimand his ho' outside my window in months.

Let's talk about the positives: My apartment has excellent water pressure. Anyone who's ever been hit with a water cannon at a riot is going to feel right at home in my shower. You'll never have to worry about whether you washed out all the conditioner again! (You might have to worry, however, about whether you have any hair left on your scalp).

And the apartment is large. How many square feet? I don't know—you think I measure my apartment? Anybody who knows the exact size of their apartment is either lying or really insecure. Let's just say my apartment is big enough to get the job done and leave it at that.

What else? Scott! Another bonus. If you choose to live in my old apartment, I can assure you that Scott will be a faithful manservant. He's not only very neat himself, but he'll pick up after you as well. If he starts to mouth off or refuses to do your dishes, you should make direct eye contact and threaten to take away his bicycle privileges. (Did I mention that one corner of the apartment looks like a stage finish on the Tour de France?) I do recommend that you and Scott work out a better system of bill payment—ours was to each pay certain bills, without keeping track of the amounts, and then get mad at each other roughly every six months.

If you're looking to make extra money while living at my old place, you could sell

HAVING A SECOND HOME IS AN INDULGENCE I CAN ILL AFFORD, WHAT WITH THE CRUSHING COST OF ASCOTS AND PIPE TOBACCO.

hair extensions made from the remnants you find in the drain after Scott's girlfriend, Jen, takes a shower. Often I would climb into the shower after Jen and shriek in horror because I thought Johnny Damon was stuck in our drain. If you're like me, you'll look past this foible because Jen is hot.

I originally planned to be choosy about who would replace me, but at this point I'm just interested in not paying rent anymore. So if you're a human between the ages of 18 and 98 (this excludes you, Elmer, so don't try to lie), you suffer from fewer than three "-manias" (pyromania, kleptomania, drugging-Scott-and-molesting-him mania), you could be in! In fact, the only person in the Boston area I won't consider is Bob from Bob's Discount Furniture. The last thing I want to do is go visit Scott and have to listen to that guy talk about his stools. iB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

SO LONG, PEDRO

Say what you want about the way he left, Martinez was the best Sox pitcher we've ever seen.

Pedro Martinez is gone. Not only that, but he left the same way Roger Clemens, Mo Vaughn and most recently, Nomar Garciaparra, arguably the three best Red Sox players of their era, left. He's black-and-blue. It seems we Boston sports fans can never say goodbye with grace. It always has to end up in a cat-fight, some mud-slinging, and, of course, unkind leaks to the press.

Pedro isn't without blame either, just like his departing brethren. He had rabbit ears and a big mouth—he heard every negative rant and returned every verbal volley with a swing of his own. The comments about Curt Schilling, when Pedro intimated he was better than his teammate this past season, crossed the line. Anybody with eyes realizes that Schilling was the man who personified this year's championship team. But over his entire span with the Red Sox, Pedro was the Man, the greatest pitcher these eyes have ever seen in a Red Sox uniform. And while Theo Epstein has done his best to make up for most of his wins, there will be a void.

Replacing Pedro's personality will be impossible. For me, covering a team in a major market is as much about the major personalities that you encounter day to day as it is about the games, and Martinez helped make Boston the real deal. The persona that went along with the powerful right-hand whip won't be equaled by a couple of up-and-coming .500 pitchers from the National League, even if Petey has turned into public enemy No. 1 due to his speaking out of both sides of his mouth. For much of the previous year, he went between "I will not leave Boston," and "Boston never showed me respect." Like Clemens saying, "I want to play closer to home," we can't believe anything these guys say, but we can appreciate what they did best, which was to perform in front of Red Sox Nation. And nobody did it better than Pedro.

A few outstanding Pedro performances, off the top of my head: His Fenway Park debut, when he struck out 11 Oakland A's through seven innings, was a harbinger of things to come. In 1999, his performance at the All-Star Game at Fenway Park, when he struck out five of the six batters he faced, was a shining moment that capped one of the most memorable baseball weekends this city has ever had. (Remember the Ted Williams tribute and the home run hitting contest between Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa?). The 17-strikeout, one-hit game in Yankee Stadium, also in 1999, is a night I couldn't forget if I tried. That was a great Yankees team he dominated from the first pitch. In October 1999, Pedro's legend became a mainstay when, with an injured back, he came out of the bullpen against the Cleveland Indians in the deciding game of the Division Series. After doctors initially ruled him out for his scheduled start, he came in and twirled six perfect innings. And this without a fastball, which he couldn't throw because of his achy back. Amazing.

We can pretty much say that Pedro's 1999 and 2000 may have been the most dominant back-to-back seasons of any pitcher. He was 41-10 with a 1.90 earned average. And remember, this was in the "steroids" era when 50 homers and 140 RBIs were the rule rather than the exception.

The thing I remember most over Martinez's seven seasons here was the response from the fans. When somebody got their meathooks on a Sox ticket, the next question was always, "When is Pedro up in the rotation?" That happened all the way to the end.

IF PEDRO WENT TO THE YANKEES, I MIGHT BE MORE UPSET. BUT HE'S IN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE, WHICH MAY AS WELL BE A DIFFERENT PLANET.

This, my friends, was a special talent. He not only won games, but did it in an entertaining way. While Pedro's reign in Boston was unparalleled, we've got no choice but to move on. If Pedro went to the Yankees, I might be more upset. But he left for the Queens section of New York City. It's the National League, which might as well be another planet. I, like most people who've followed the Red Sox for their entire lives, can live with that. Pedro is gone, but the good he did around here shouldn't be forgotten. He earned every penny he received, which was upwards of $90 million, when he was here. While some will remember him as the Dominican Diva, I'll remember him as the Dominican Dominator. He was the best. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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TOM HAMILTON

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Aerosmith bass player Tom Hamilton was born in Colorado Springs, Colo., the son of an Air Force officer. The family moved to Virginia for four years, then Cape Cod, and then Wayland and Weston, where Hamilton attended grade school. They relocated to New Hampshire when his father left the service and went to work for Sturm, Ruger & Co., one of the nation's largest gun makers, which was founded by Tom's uncle. Growing up in New London, Hamilton joined his first band at 14, and during summers throughout high school, he would play in a band with seasonal resident Joe Perry. Following Hamilton's graduation from high school in 1970, he and Perry moved to Boston and teamed up with Steven Tyler, whom they had known as a musician in New Hampshire. Initially, Tyler was set to be the band's drummer, but they insisted he be out front. For a drummer, they recruited a high school acquaintance of Tyler's from New York, Joey Kramer, and when Brad Whitford joined on second guitar, the Aerosmith lineup was complete. The rest is rock and roll history. Hamilton lives in Chestnut Hill with his wife, Terry, and their two children.

"BASS PLAYING IS LIKE HOUSEKEEPING. NOBODY NOTICES UNLESS YOU DON'T DO IT."

Jonathan Soroff: *You're in one of the biggest, most successful rock bands of all time. When was the first time you felt like a star?*

Tom Hamilton: I don't feel that, in my core.

JS: *OK, then, who impresses you?*

TH: My heroes would be people like Jimmy Page and Led Zeppelin, Pete Townsend and the Who, the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, the Yardbirds…

JS: *Ever feel like second fiddle in the band? Do you guys have those petty rivalries?*

TH: Oh, yeah. We're textbook, but we've been through our crisis cycle and survived. It's always on the brink. It's always either great or it sucks.

JS: *So what keeps it together?*

TH: Something you learn early on, which is finding people who are as serious and committed to it as you are. I think that's what we all have in common, because there are lots of personality differences.

JS: *Who causes the most friction? Who's the problem child?*

TH: [Chuckles.] I would never say. But one thing I have had to deal with, since early on, is that the lion's share of attention from the public and the press went to Steven and Joe. It's a strange part of human nature that when people look at a band, they need to identify who are the so-called "important ones" and who are "the other guys." It was very painful when I was young. For me, I was egalitarian, and I thought, "Well, it's not Joe Blow and the Aerosmiths. It's Aerosmith." It took a long time to come to grips with the fact that it's the two most out-front people who get the most attention. To make a band work, you can't have all flamboyant people and you can't have all reasonable, level-headed people. But seeing it that way is something I've had to mature into.

JS: *So it hasn't been all sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll?*

TH: No. More importantly, there are the musical frustrations I've had to deal with. We got to a point in our career—after we broke up and got back together—where we decided to turbo-charge the creative process by working with people outside the band in writing. It was a great help in rebuilding our career, but I've always been frustrated about wanting to take part more in the writing, and it's always been a competitive thing. It was tough when it was just the five of us, but now over the course of an album, there's the band members and maybe three or four professional songwriters, so the competition is pretty intense. For a while, I just sort of pouted about it. Now I try to look at it as a challenge, and I've found myself having more empathy and understanding for Steven.

JS: *Most nonsensical or idiotic lyric from an Aerosmith song?*

TH: Oh, God. Just today, I was thinking about a song of ours from our second album, called "Spaced." All of us have a fascination with science fiction and outer space and aliens. Steven's written songs about it, and I forget what all the lyrics are, but it's sort of a double entendre song. It's not really inane, but I was thinking about how today a song like that would never get played on the radio.

JS: *What the hell does "Keep in touch with mama kin" mean?*

TH: I think it means stay close to your roots. Don't forget where you came from.

JS: *Who is "Dude Looks Like a Lady" about?*

TH: [Chuckles.] There's a stock story about that, but I think it's really a case of a phrase being so singable it was irresistible. These days, when someone puts it in a set list, Steven doesn't want to sing it because he thinks it's just so silly, which it is. But a lot of times, if you've got a really good song, even if it's got odd lyrics, the music infects you and you don't think twice about singing things like "Dude Looks Like a Lady." That song is so much fun to play. The audience loves it, and it's so catchy.

JS: *Ever had love in an elevator?*

TH: I should try to make up a story, but no. Not yet.

JS: *Greatest rock anthem of all time?*

TH: I might have to say [the Who's] "Baba O'Riley."

JS: *One album you'd take to a deserted island?*

TH: Wow. That's no fair. I guess the *White Album*. Or the second Led Zeppelin album. Or *Let It Bleed*.

JS: *All good choices. So how rich has Aerosmith made you?*

TH: I think I'm probably above well off. But it's funny. As a percentage, we have kept so much less of what we've made than any other band, mostly because we've always spent it freely on making things as good as they can be. Like on our last album. Somebody said, "Let's build a rehearsal room inside our warehouse." Sounded like a great idea, and the budget was reasonable, but of course, two months later, we're building a full-blown studio, and 800 grand later, it's finished. Only thing is, the album's already done. But it was worthwhile. Or on tour, we've never thought about the expense of the equipment or lighting, or if someone had an idea for a stage effect or something expensive. We're a bit better about it now, but we still overspend. We just can't resist. You want to make it the coolest show you can.

JS: *What would you say if one of your kids said, "Dad, I'm going to become a rock musician."*

TH: [Laughs.] One of 'em kind of already has. Both my kids love music, and they fight about it all the time, because we've got a death-rocker on one side and a pop diva lover on the other. The dinner table gets a little heated when music comes up. But my son is always saying, "Dad, I'm gonna join a band."

JS: *Most embarrassing moment onstage?*

TH: The one that comes to mind was when we were playing the Grammys. We were doing "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing," which is a very smarmy but extremely successful love song we did. By the way, on that subject, we've always had tender ballads on every record we've ever made, which comes from a tradition of playing high school dances where you gotta play a slow song now and then so the guys can get the girls to dance with them. Anyway, we were playing live but decided to add a recorded string part as extra ear candy. We're waiting to go on. It's a commercial. The curtain's closed, and Whoopi Goldberg or whoever is about to introduce us, and none of us can hear the cueing track. We start panicking, and we just had to wing it. We had no choice. So I'm looking at a roomful of music industry people acting polite in their tuxedos, and I'm thinking, "We must sound terrible." It actually came off well, because our guy in the sound booth took the strings out, but I was sure we looked like complete morons.

JS: *Personal motto?*

TH: Bass playing is like housekeeping. Nobody notices unless you don't do it.

JS: *Worst part of touring?*

TH: The time between shows. You do a show and then you're back in isolation at the hotel. If you're in Chicago, it's great, but if you're someplace where there's noth-

ing going on, you really need to use your imagination to figure out what to do for a whole day.

JS: *Best part of touring?*

TH: I love room service. I love maid service. I love nice hotels. But most of all, I love the camaraderie, and being out at sea with my fellow pirates. That's something I'll never lose. But it's still draining.

JS: *Most overrated band or trend in music?*

TH: Well, I can't tell you the number of times I've read about the death of the guitar as the primary instrument of pop music. That's one of those things that I always hear and think, "Why do people need to say things like that?"

JS: *Who would win in a battle of the bands, you guys or the Rolling Stones?*

TH: Oh, God. We'll never fit on their pedestal. I'll tell you something, though. On our last tour, in Japan, we did two shows with the Who. They went on before us, which for me was wild because I'd go on tour and open every night for them for free, or for per diem, at least. Anyway, they played amazingly, and they're my god. But we got out there afterward and I was really proud of how we put our thing across.

JS: *Should there be a mandatory retirement age for rock stars?*

TH: [Laughs.] No. If you can do it, do it. The people who decide that are the people who buy tickets, so when they stop buying tickets, it's time to write a book or something.

JS: *Spandex or Lycra?*

TH: Spandex! [Laughs.] We used to have this woman who made clothes for us out of the most insane materials. She made me an outfit out of busy, shiny drapery material, but it was too tight and it started splitting and ripping on stage. So we went to spandex and toured for quite a while wearing pretty silly-looking spandex get-ups.

JS: *Presumably, those days are over?*

TH: Only until spandex comes back. Then sign me up, pal!

JS: *Strangest piece of Aerosmith merchandise?*

TH: Well, it's not merchandise, exactly. Seeing people with Aerosmith tattoos is cool, but it kinda weirds me out. It used to be that if someone came by with one, it was like, "Oh my God!" The whole band would check it out. Now, at every show, there's bunches of people, pulling up their shirts or pulling down their pants to show us.

JS: *Favorite sampling of an Aerosmith song?*

TH: I gotta say the Eminem one, "Dream On."

JS: *How does it feel when you hear Aerosmith on an oldies station?*

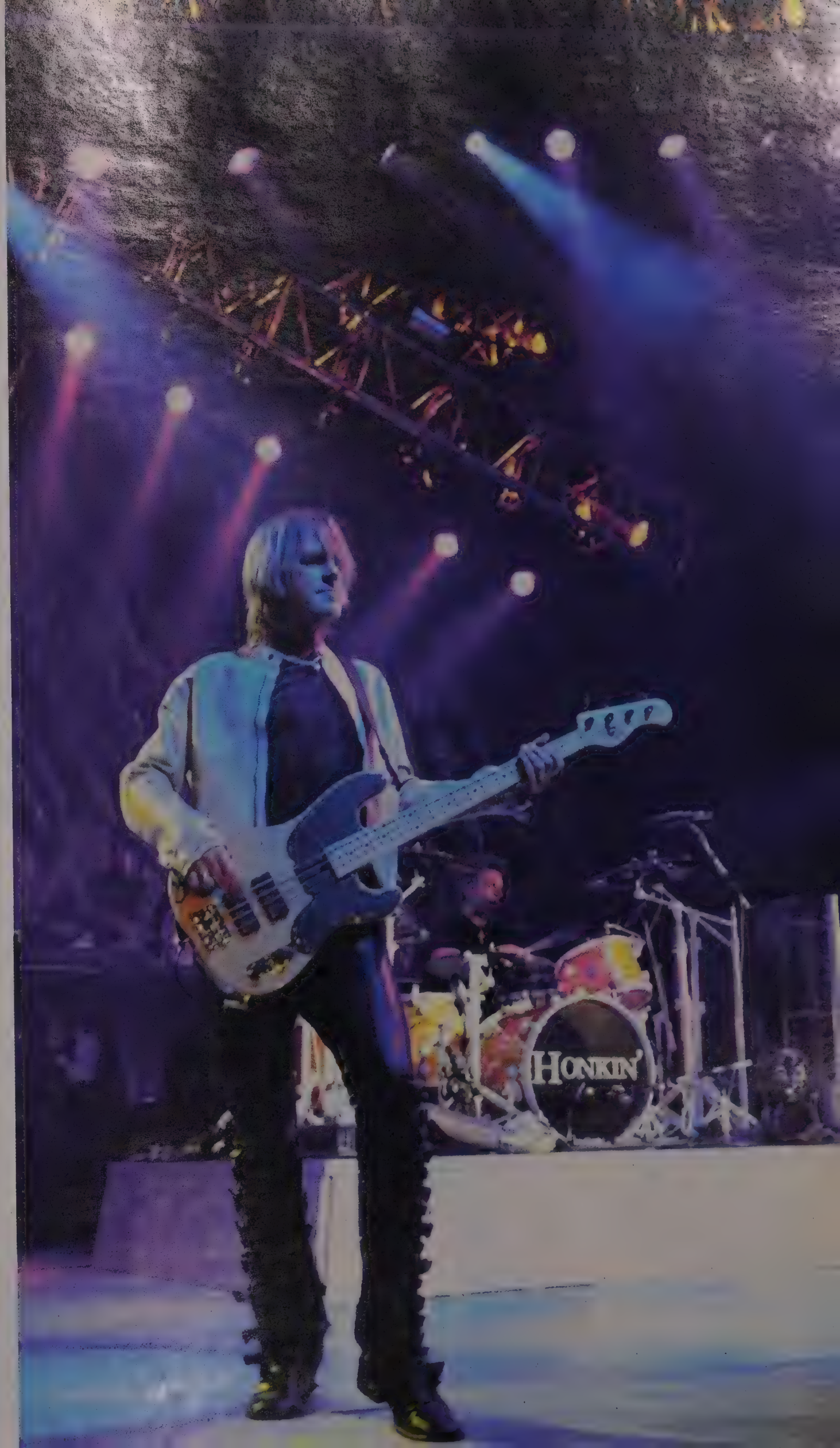
TH: It feels appropriate. By the way, it's not all ancient geezers who listen to those stations. A lot of kids are listening to the same music their parents did. It's cyclical.

JS: *Most lucrative thing for the band—licensing a song for a car commercial, T-shirts, what?*

TH: Tickets and swag.

JS: *Last question: When will Aerosmith retire?*

TH: I don't know. I think it's too late. We could say, "OK, we're retired," but then the phone would ring a year later and they'd want us to go out and do 30 dates, and we'd say, "Why not?" So why worry about it? IB



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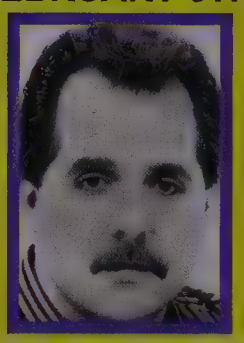

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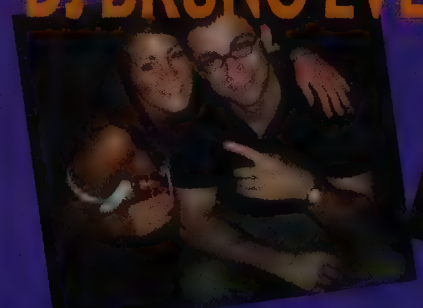

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THE MAN ISSUE

20 SUREFIRE WAYS TO GET A BOSTON WOMAN TO GO OUT WITH YOU

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30 FASHION: SUGAR AND SPICE

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WAYS TO GET A BOSTON WOMAN TO GO OUT WITH YOU

BY STEVE ALMOND PHOTOGRAPHS BY BOB PERACHIO

Let me begin by saying that I distrust articles of this ilk. I find them gimmicky and mildly degrading. The idea that you should have to consult a magazine for advice on how to work your mack is, let's face it, a sad indicator.

On the other hand, consider the alternative: loneliness, a mounting sense of desperation, dangerous hormonal buildup. Believe me, I know these symptoms. I know them so well they're no longer symptoms; they're more like roommates.

I realize the previous sentence may cast a certain shadow over my perceived efficacy as a romantic adviser. But the truth is, you need someone on equal footing with you, someone who's made all the mistakes, who's suffered the sting of rejection just as many times as you and emerged—well, if not wiser, then at least less overtly stupid. Because that's what we're really shooting for here: less overtly stupid behavior.

So let us venture forth, fellow dudes, in the spirit of romantic hope and low expectations.

(Note: According to the rules of this particular genre, I shall have to proceed in steps. There are two reasons I'm abiding by this patently contrived organizing principle. First, it will make the feast of wisdom I have to impart easier to digest. Second, it will lend the impression that I've organized my thoughts.)

STEP 1

RECOGNIZE THAT WOMEN ARE ON TO YOUR BULLSHIT

The thing about women—one of many things about women—is that they've figured out by age 12 that most guys are tools. I say this with no great joy. It's not nice to feel that the gender we would most like to impress views us, in essence, as Naired monkeys. But that's the radical circumstance.

So, the first step to enjoying any sort of success with women is to stop trying to fool them. This is especially important in Boston, because the women in this city are here for a reason: to advance their education, or their career. Not to listen to you run your stale, pathetic, transparently self-aggrandizing line. The patter that plays in Portland, or Peoria, isn't going to play here. Yes, boys, Boston is a no-cheese zone.

Some lines to avoid:

"I think a lot of times people don't realize how hard it is to be the guy at the top."

"I don't want to get into details, but let's just say qualifying for the Olympics is a lot harder than it sounds."

"My Porsche is right outside."

"That sweater is very becoming on you. Then again, if I was on you, I'd be coming too."

Any sentence that begins, "I hope this doesn't sound conceited, but…" It does.

STEP 2

THE WOMEN, WHERE THEY AT, AND SO ON

Once you've accepted that lying to women is not going to work, you should consider where you might find some women not to lie to.

Unless you're really good looking, I don't recommend a singles bar. (And for that matter, if you're really good looking, please stop reading this article, you smug bastard.) Why? Because a singles bar is generally a place where hope goes to die. It's predicated on the idea that loud music, dark lighting and overpriced drinks will get you laid. And it's filled with dozens of other men who believe this too.

Better to consider those venues where you're likely to meet women who might actually share your interests. No, I don't mean a sports bar. Or a Nintendo support group. I mean something like a Sierra Club outing, or a reading, or an improv class; somewhere you can interact in a low-key way.

Note: Expertise is not required. You don't have to be a ranking authority to show up at a wine tasting, for example. You just have to have a natural curiosity.

The most important thing to realize is that Boston is absolutely brimming with smart, sexy women. Unless your name's Tom Brady, however, they're not likely to simply drop by your place for a visit. This means you have get out there.

But please, don't be the guy who shows up at yoga simply because you've heard lots of chicks will be there, in semi-lewd positions. The chicks will sniff out your pervy intentions faster than you can say "downward-facing dog."

I must ask you to trust me on this last point.

STEP 3
YOU MEAN NOW I HAVE TO TALK?

Yes, sadly.

A few rules of thumb, on this talking business: First, women value, above all else, a sense of humor. I'm not talking about the ability to relate selected episodes of *Jackass*, or to dismiss the world at large via muttered sarcasm. I mean an acceptance of the world's basic absurdity. Fortunately, all guys come equipped with an automatic source of humor: themselves. I'm not suggesting that you have to go Woody Allen on anyone. I am suggesting that most women appreciate a guy who doesn't take himself too seriously. It shows you have the confidence not to have to thump your chest.

Second, as previously noted, women place a much higher value on honesty than men do. They don't want to hear what you think they want to hear; they want to hear the truth. If you're feeling nervous, you're allowed (even encouraged) to say so. If you're between jobs, just fess up. (Warning: This may feel unnatural at first, because guys are long accustomed to bullshitting one another about even the most trivial of topics, such as how many women we've "bagged.")

Third, women dig passion. They want to know that you're capable of expressing emotion. Unlike your fellow dudes, they don't automatically interpret enthusiasm as a sign of potential homosexuality.

Fourth (and perhaps most important), there are limits to all three of the foregoing maxims. If your version of honesty is telling a woman that you really, really want to see what her nipples look like, well, it's best to maybe wait on that one. Likewise, using a constant stream of jokes to avoid actual interaction will not work.

STEP 4
YOU MEAN NOW I HAVE TO LISTEN?

This is the step that usually trips me up because, like most men, I tend to measure my social worth based on how many consecutive words I can utter without actually, per se, breathing.

I hope you'll again trust me when I tell you that women do not admire the sound of your voice nearly so much as you do. Because women have their own stories to tell—particularly Boston women. Remember, they're not arm candy. They have their own history and ambitions. They wish, above all, to be known, understood, perceived. This only happens if you shut your piehole and listen to them.

I'm not recommending that you pull some bullshit sensitivo routine, asking them a million questions and leaning close as they answer, with an earnest look on your face. Nobody wants to date Dr. Phil. I'm recommending that you ask a few pointed questions ("Will you sleep with me?" is not one of them) and then sit quietly, as the answers emerge. This is in your own interest, guys. If a woman bores you on this very basic level, you should not be trying to get her in the sack.

STEP 5
THE BASIC COMPROMISE

This brings us to our final order of business, which has to do with your motive in approaching a woman, and her motive in talking with you.

I hate to make generalizations, but based on my own experiences in the world at large, women tend to want companionship, affection and a lasting emotional connection, whereas men tend to want someone to reach down the front of our pants, preferably in a public setting. These are the cards evolution has dealt us. Best not to fight it.

But you do need to be honest with yourself. Don't pretend to give a damn about a woman just to get her into bed. You'll probably fail, but even if you do succeed, you're only loading yourself up with bad sexual karma. You'll eventually become impotent and women will laugh at your poor, pitiful, once-virile equipment.

So if what you really want is something quick and dirty, get a hooker.

A final note: The above steps are not intended as dogma. You're all smart enough, at this point, to figure out things for yourself. You don't need me, or anyone else, to provide the answers. You just need to relax and trust your own instincts. The basic rule in love, as in most other worthwhile human endeavors, is this: nothing ventured, nothing gained. **iB**

*The most important thing to realize is that Boston is absolutely brimming with smart, sexy women.

BOREDOM

BY ANDREW GRAHAM
PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIC LEVIN

DESPERATE FOR AMUSEMENT?

GIRLFRIEND OUT OF TOWN, OR PISSED AT YOU, OFFERS SOME TIPS FOR PASSING THE TIME

BUSTERS!

Boredom. Mankind's oldest and most formidable enemy. Ever since the caveman female got her first period, man has struggled to find ways to occupy his mind when there's nothing to do. Watching the shadows flicker on the wall of the cave got old pretty quick, and those buffalo paintings weren't much to look at. (Frankly, neither was cavewoman, if the pictures I've seen are at all accurate.) In fact, scientists have linked the above combination of circumstances with the first fights between human males.

Civilized man has had to refine his methods of boredom alleviation somewhat. So what are some acceptable alternatives? Well, when was the last time you tidied up the place? A little Windex on the TV screen makes it so much easier to see through the tiled-out booty shots on the *Howard Stern Show*. Or you could put away some of those dishes, scrub out the bathtub, maybe bring some of those beer cans back for the deposit? You could use the dough to buy a little doily for your PBR tall boy. And while you're at it, why not put on a cute little French maid outfit? Look, we were just pulling your leg about cleaning the place. Here are some more realistic suggestions to pass the time till something fun happens

AGAIN? THE IMPROPER WHEN ENNUI IS ON THE MARCH.

PLAY WITH FOOD

When I'm stuck at home, I like to play a game I call Find the Food. Are you really out of ramen noodles? Has the terror level of last week's takeout hit orange yet? Make like you're on *Survivor* and test your foraging skills.

Depending on when you made your last trip to the grocery store, this game can be ridiculously easy or stomach-growlingly infuriating. Canned food is off-limits, not because it involves a tool, like a can-opener, but because it involves cooking. So unless you want to put that maid outfit on, those cans are can'ts. (Note: Dinty Moore Beef Stew is an exception to this rule. That ain't cookin', baby! Same goes for corned beef hash, especially since your girlfriend won't let you make it when she's around.)

Another game I like to play is Iron Stomach. What's the best combination of the best foods you can come up with? For example, I discovered that by fixing up a box of macaroni and cheese, chucking it in a skillet with a pound or so of ground turkey, and adding a can of diced tomatoes, I had invented a dish I call Turkey Throwdown. What foods would you like to try combining that man has never attempted before? I bet a hot-dog omelette garnished with Easy Cheese tastes a lot better than any French chef would admit. I'd call that dish a Frenchman's Finger. What would you call it? Isn't this a fun game?

*TECHNOLOGICAL LEAP FORWARD OR TIME SINK?: THE INTERNET

When was the last time you were on the Internet? I don't mean the *Maxim* site, or Sexxxynursez.biz. I mean the *fun*ternet. There are some real time-sink sites out there you might not have caught. For example, there's Superbad.com, sort of pop-art dada Web project. The numerous clickable buttons and icons on every page take you to bizarre, trippy and comical screens that in turn offer even more options. It's a mesmerizing virtual playground, great for clicking your consciousness away.

Programs that let you import audio tracks and then monkey around with them are pretty easy to find, and lots of them are free! Like Audacity, (http://audacity.sourceforge.net). So, have you ever wondered how "All Apologies" would sound with a booming house beat underneath it? Or wanted to loop that great Mingus riff into a tranced-out trip-hop beat? If you're musically inclined and even the slightest bit tech-savvy, we guarantee you'll literally lose days with this stuff. Another audio amusement is Infinitewheel.com, which lets you create dub-reggae-inflected improvisations based on hypnotic loop tracks playing in the background. You'll find yourself spellbound as you create the perfect music for, um, "zoning out." If you catch our meaning.

Finally, although the name isn't very politically correct, Fatchicksinpartyhats.com is a good way to send the better part of an hour down the drain. The name says it all. And while the pictures are embarrassingly hilarious, the guy who runs the site ("Miguel") is pretty entertaining on his own. Here's an unedited caption from one of the photos, which hints at the site's absurdly dopey vibe: "Head size = GIANT fatty. hat size = tiny tiny. it is allways the same for the fattys." So get your party hat on and start surfing!

DON'T FORGET THE LITTLE LADY

Since you have this free time, maybe you should spend some of it coming up with ways to express your devotion to your sweetheart. For example, she appreciates it when you compliment her cooking. So maybe you should get her to make you a nice meal tonight, so you can tell her how great she cooks.

Also, there's the holiday scam. New Xbox game coming out this week? Well. I bet your girl doesn't even remember the first time, um...let's see. The first time she met your dog. Yes! Your golden retriever, Brando! There's no denying that it was a very significant point in your relationship. He's man's best friend and certainly yours, and the woman in your life has probably forgotten that your doggieversary is right around the corner! And if that's not a special gift-giving occasion, well, I don't know what is. If you can think of a better one, then get to it. (Note to our gay readers: There's no reason you can't run the old Holiday Surprise ploy on your partner. Sure, he knows you're "out," but did you ever discuss the exact date you told your folks? My guess is, it's coming up pretty soon.)

EXPAND YOUR LITERARY HORIZONS

Remember last year's horrible Sean Connery movie, *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*? Well, it was based on a brilliant comic book of the same name, written by Alan Moore, a legend in the field. *League* rounds up fictional heroes like Allan Quartermain, the Invisible Man, Captain Nemo and others and throws them into gritty and sordid adventures. Frank Miller's graphic novel focusing on the Batman of the future, *The Dark Knight Returns*, also makes for good reading, as does the follow-up, *Batman: Year One*, which recounts the horn-headed hero's first foray into crimefighting.

You might also want to consider books without pictures, but go easy on yourself. Just because you're bored doesn't mean you have to tackle *War and Peace*. The late, great Rodney Dangerfield published his autobiography, *It's Not Easy Being Me: A Lifetime of No Respect but Plenty of Sex and Drugs*, shortly before he died. And there's always Jenna Jameson's self-help (or is it self-abuse?) opus, *How to Make Love Like a Porn Star: A Cautionary Tale*. It's odd though—you'd think your girlfriend would appreciate your taking an interest in improving your lovemaking technique. But the fact is, she'll probably get all upset that you're reading a book by a porn star. Chicks are funny that way.

EXERCISE YOUR BRAIN

I've always led a fairly active fantasy life. Here are a couple of mine to give you some ideas:

1. The airline that I own goes into chapter 11, but my offshore holdings are a secret to everyone except me and my accountant, so I'm gonna be OK. Oh, and my accountant is Lindsay Lohan, and we're totally engaged.
2. I go to see the Knicks, and Chris Rock is sitting next to me. He's like, "Hey, do you want to meet the Juggies from *The Man Show*?" and I'm all, "Sure, but I'd rather hang out with some of those cheerleaders," and he goes, "Whatever, they'll all be at the after-party. My chauffeur will pick you up. Tell the boys at the door that Chris sent ya." And his chauffeur is Nicole Kidman, circa 1992. Or else Christina Ricci before she got all skinny and weird-looking. Some days it's both.

GET SICK

This is a boredom-relief last resort, but it can be quite effective. Think about it: You get to call in sick to work, and you get to lie around all day coughing, wheezing, blowing and sneezing, and watching movies. And if you've picked the right girlfriend, you'll be showered with TLC like it was going out of style. Now, how can you make yourself sick? Not as easy as you might think. Try tasting some handrails on the bus. Or maybe have your lunch in the men's room at South Station. Smoke a butt from the sidewalk. Or just check out whatever "reality" shows Fox is offering this week. The method you choose is up to you; the result is up to your immune system. So throw on that light summer jacket, find yourself a nice bench on the Common, and ask the guy with the hacking cough if he has any lip balm. Boredom cured!

BEND AN ELBOW

Why do you think alcohol was invented, professor? Oh, it's too early? Look, what time is it? Two in the afternoon? Hell, the sun's always across the yardarm somewhere. Mix us up a couple of weak ones to start out, and we'll roll into the evening like this afternoon never even happened.

MANLY MUST-HAVES

You're a material dude living in a material world, so here are a few basic quality-of-life items that will make other men jealous and women swoon. OK, women will probably be indifferent, but remember, if you're buying that monster truck to please someone other than yourself, you're buying it for the wrong reasons.

BY EZRA DYER

INTERNATIONAL CXT

Price starts at $93,000 and tops out at $115,000.
Available at Fredrickson Bros. Inc., Norwell.

One problem with exotic cars is that no matter what you drive, someone's always gonna trump you. If you've got a Lamborghini, somebody will eventually pull up in a McLaren F1 and make you feel like a schlub. No such worries with the International CXT, the pickup truck to beat all pickup trucks. The CXT mates a pickup bed with International's 7300 severe-duty chassis, the one that normally underpins dump trucks and other such vehicles. Add a posh leather interior and a honkin' diesel under the hood, and you can tow up to 12,000 pounds while making mortals in dinky Ford F-350s swerve for the ditch. And the backseat is big enough for a ménage à trois with those lot lizards you met at the Stuckey's on I-10.

POWER CARD SHUFFLER

$24.95.
Available at www.gadgetbargains.com.

Perhaps you're adept at shuffling cards, but over the course of a poker marathon you can practically develop carpal tunnel syndrome from splitting the deck so many times. Enter the power card-shuffler, the best innovation since the power screwdriver, the power toothbrush and the hour of power (in general, adding "power" to the name of any previously non-"power" item makes it better). Set your old-school attitude aside and realize that your pathetic monkey paws can never shuffle cards as effectively or as stylishly as this bad boy. Plus, when you run out of money and your credit card is maxed out, you can throw it in the pot along with your wedding ring and start climbing back!

IROBOT ROOMBA RED

$149.99.

Available at www.irobot.com.

When does a vacuum cleaner belong on a list of man-toys? When that vacuum cleaner is also a robot. If there's any way to make vacuuming fun, it's by watching your own little automaton bump around the room like a legless drunk while sucking up your toenails and discarded popcorn. The Roomba recognizes chair legs and other obstacles and dutifully cleans around them, paying extra attention if it detects a particularly dirty area. And it won't get mad and call you a perv if you buy it a hot little French maid outfit to wear while it works. Roomba, don't you listen to that mean old Dyson man—your technology simply *does* work.

PHILIPS MIRAVISION

$2,499 (17-inch screen). Available at Tweeter, 350 Boylston St., Boston.

How many times have you gone without shaving for weeks because you didn't want to miss any TV while you were mowing down the stubble? Well, thanks to MiraVision, now busy men and extremely lazy men alike can admire their Clooneyesque visages while watching TV. When the TV's off, this sucker looks like a plain old mirror. Hit the power, however, and the LCD screen—available in 17-, 23- and 30-inch sizes—embedded behind the glass comes alive with a widescreen, HD-capable picture. Mirror, mirror, on the wall, what's the stealthiest way to watch TV on the can of all?

NEED FOR SPEED UNDERGROUND 2 AND GRAND THEFT AUTO, SAN ANDREAS

$49.99 each. Available wherever video games are sold.

We'd like to tell you about Gran Turismo 4, but the final version of the game still isn't finished—its original December release date has been pushed back to March. In the meantime, you can get your speed-and-antisocial behavior fix with these two games. Need for Speed Underground 2 is pretty much just like the first one with some different cars and tracks, which is to say it'll keep you up all night trying to win the drag race to unlock that Stage 3 turbo. Also, it's the only acceptable way to indulge your desire to drive a lime-green Ford Focus with nitrous and a giant skull on the side.

If you're more in the mood for mayhem, step into the persona of Carl, the protagonist in GTA's latest. The setting is early-'90s L.A. (sorry, "San Andreas"), and you've just gotten out of jail to find your mother's been killed and the cops are framing you for another murder. We haven't gotten much further with the game than that because rather than follow the story, we've mainly just carjacked people, run over gang members, stolen their guns and gone on rampages until we're arrested or killed. It's good healthy fun!

PORNO-
COPIA!

HOW TO LOSE A GIRL IN 10 DAYS

HAVE A HARD TIME SAYING SAYONARA? THERE ARE PLENTY OF WAYS TO MAKE HER DO THE DIRTY WORK AND GET YOURSELF DUMPED.

BY EZRA DYER ILLUSTRATION BY BOB FLYNN

It's time to move on. What to do? Things were so much simpler in sixth grade, when relationships could be both initiated and dissolved by a note passed in math class. Now it's a different story, and most guys would rather poke themselves in the eye with a rusty awl than start a breakup. Fortunately for you, many of your natural tendencies that you suppress in order to sustain your relationship can be exaggerated to speed its demise. In other words, be yourself—only more so—and you'll never have to be the bad guy, because she'll be packing her bags of her own accord when she realizes what a pathetic filthy pig you really are. Good luck with the single life!

BE LATE

You can set your watch, the saying goes, by a woman. Ironically, most women don't even own watches or alarm clocks because such items are unnecessary—they simply know what time it is, and how much time they'll need to get somewhere. Scientists are unsure as yet whether women's timeliness is genetic or learned behavior, as most studies on the subject are overseen by men and as such are running a bit late. Einstein attempted to help his bruthas out by coming up with the theory of relativity, which basically says that time is relative to one's speed, thus you're never truly late—she's just not moving fast enough (also, you could theoretically put your girlfriend in a particle accelerator and spin her around at the speed of light until you're damn ready to quit playing Donkey Kong and go out to dinner). Sadly, this is still just a theory. But hey, what do you care? In your quest to turn her against you, lateness is greatness. Make an appointment to something time-dependent, like your own wedding, then show up at least a half-hour late. Think you're a pro? Step it up a level and try not showing up at all.

OGLE

Every woman wants her man to make her feel like she's the most beautiful girl in the world. The best way not to do that is to confirm that there are in fact many other beautiful women right here in this very city. Why, look at them all! Go ahead, take your time. Lick your lips and mutter under your breath while swiveling your head like Linda Blair. Drop your food (if you're not eating, grab someone else's food and drop it). Ask your girlfriend if she'd consider adopting any components of the rival female's look, such as fake breasts. Make it clear that you've got a raging, incurable case of wander-eye. Tip: You'll accomplish your goal even faster if the ogle-ee is your girlfriend's friend, sister or mother.

PLAY VIDEO GAMES

We shouldn't stereotype, here—not all females hate video games, just like not all members of the Barenaked Ladies are Canadian. What? They are? Well, that settles it, then: Playing video games excessively can only help your cause. The key thing about video games is that their plots, such as they are, don't appeal to women. EA Sports has yet to release "Talk on the Phone with Your Friends About Getting Married 2005" or "Britney's Shopping Spree Challenge." Video games are about manly pursuits: killing people, killing aliens, killing aliens who look like people, racing cars, stealing cars, racing stolen cars, playing football and fishing. She'll be mad enough if you ignore her to go on a fishing trip—imagine her rancor if you ignore her because you're sitting on the couch playing "In-Fisherman: Freshwater Trophies"!

NEVER HANG OUT WITH HER FRIENDS

Dinner parties are prime chances not to hang out with her friends. Not going to a dinner party serves two purposes: It sends the dual messages that you really don't like her friends and you don't care to make an effort even to feign that you like them; plus your absence allows the girls to cast aspersions on you. The only comparable way to make outroads with her friends is to show up and act obnoxious, but that requires effort on your part and so is less appealing.

DON'T LISTEN

One thing women love to do is talk. This is fine when they're around other women, because both parties will have something to say, resulting in a "conversation." But a woman talking to a man is like hitting a tennis ball against a Velcro wall—nothing's coming back. Why? Because we're not listening. Many people assume certain groups of monks have taken vows of silence when in fact they're just ignoring each other—they don't speak because they're surrounded by other guys, who they know wouldn't be listening anyway. Earlier this year, our own president ordered an invasion of Botswana because his wife told him they were out of bananas. Really, it was her own fault for trying to talk to him while he was playing "In-Fisherman: Freshwater Trophies." So basically, you don't even need to try for this—hey... pay attention for a sec... hellooooooo?

COLLECT PORN

Well, more like don't hide your collection of porn. We're assuming you already have it. And purely in the interest of this project, you might want to check out a certain movie we saw in a clip on HBO's *Pornucopia* documentary. This guy goes to a hotel with a suitcase, throws it on the bed, and a midget in lingerie climbs out and starts jumping on the bed. We don't know where it went from there, but we can bet that if your girlfriend discovers that one sitting on the coffee table when she invites her parents over for dinner, you may not need to read any further.

OFFER TO MAKE DINNER, THEN SERVE A BAG OF BEEF JERKY AND BEER

Tell your girlfriend you're cooking dinner. Make a big deal out of it—talk about candles, wine and girl food, such as salmon crusted with Luna bars. Get her all atizzy about it. Then, on the appointed night, serve beef jerky and beer under a naked light bulb. Explain that cooking is hard and you were busy with... stuff (now might be a good time to leave some porn in a conspicuous location). Besides, if she really appreciated you, she'd appreciate your cooking. Do you know how hard that bag was to open? How challenging it was to ensure that there was only pure, delicious beef jerky on her paper plate, and not beef jerky mixed with the little preservative packet? That preparation took time. OK, we're fighting.

BE INSENSITIVE

If you were trying to ingratiate yourself to a girl, instead of the other way around, you'd absorb her tales of woe like a sponge, and then wring out torrents of esteem-boosting sensitivity that would make Dr. Phil look like Sgt. Hartman from *Full Metal Jacket*. But since you're not, the next time she's venting about how unfair her boss is, or how clothes from Abercrombie definitely run small, just say, "Oh, I'm sorry baby. How about you put your jacket on and I take you out to get a nice warm plate of toughen up? Or would you prefer we ordered some toughen up for delivery? I could do that, too. [Picking up phone and dialing] Hello, House of Toughen Up? I'd like to order some Chicken McToughens... Yes, you can Big-Girl-Size that... Nope, just earplugs for me. And a bottle of sleeping pills. Thanks." The downside to this strategy is that she could think you're giving her tough love and reward you for your life advice by getting two tickets to the next Sarah McLachlan concert.

NEVER, EVER, DROP THE L-BOMB

There are three little words that should go without saying. And we're talking zero-tolerance. If you're listening to a certain Stevie Wonder song in the car, sing along as follows: "I just called, to say, hhhmmm rghhh hegggh." The only possible exception to this rule is if Lou Merloni comes back to the Sox next year and delivers the hit that wins the World Series, in which case you can say "I love Lou!" But then you've got to turn to her and say, "I said 'Lou,' just then. Just so you know."

DENIGRATE OPRAH

If there's one thing all women have in common, it's a love for Oprah. (If you haven't hung out around girls enough to know who Oprah is, you might want to learn because she could give you a car or something cool if you're so pathetic that being nice to you would make girls cry.) We don't know how Oprah got to be so powerful, but we do know this: Women are fiercely protective of their talk-show she-deity, and if you badmouth her you're going to get in trouble. Perfect.

Keep in mind that these methods can work better in combination. For example, talking smack about Oprah is well-suited for use with other tactics: When she's telling you how Oprah gave new plasma TVs to a football stadium full of African orphans, reply, "Yeah, I think Oprah's probably big enough to play football—definitely in the CFL... Did you just say we should get a plasma TV?! I love... that idea." Check it out, bro: You just managed to bash Oprah while being insensitive, not listening and not saying "I love you." Four points! And, if you've followed the rest of this plan, freedom. IB

GET COOKING IN THESE HOT LINGERIE LOOKS

ugarandspice

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER

Teal lace demi-bra with heart charm, $12.90; matching panties, $5.90.
Both at H&M. White topaz lariat necklace, $138, by Kiramesori

Green midriff tank with yellow bow, $19.50; matching g-string, $10.50. Both at La Senza. Hammered tourmaline necklace, $650; matching earrings, $198; multi-tourmaline triple-strand bracelet, $285. All by Kimmeron.

Blue and pink teddy with keyhole back, $14.90 at H&M
Sterling silver stardust necklaces, $45 each by Kimmeron

Red satin bustier, $14.90; black and red mesh boy shorts, $7.90. Both at H&M. Multicolor tourmaline necklace, $350; pink tourmaline earrings, $128. Both by Kimmeron.

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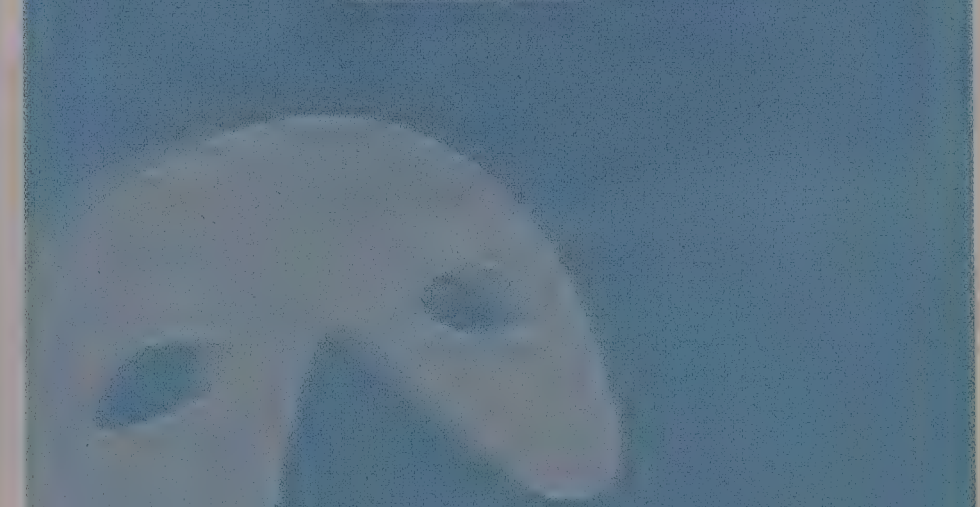

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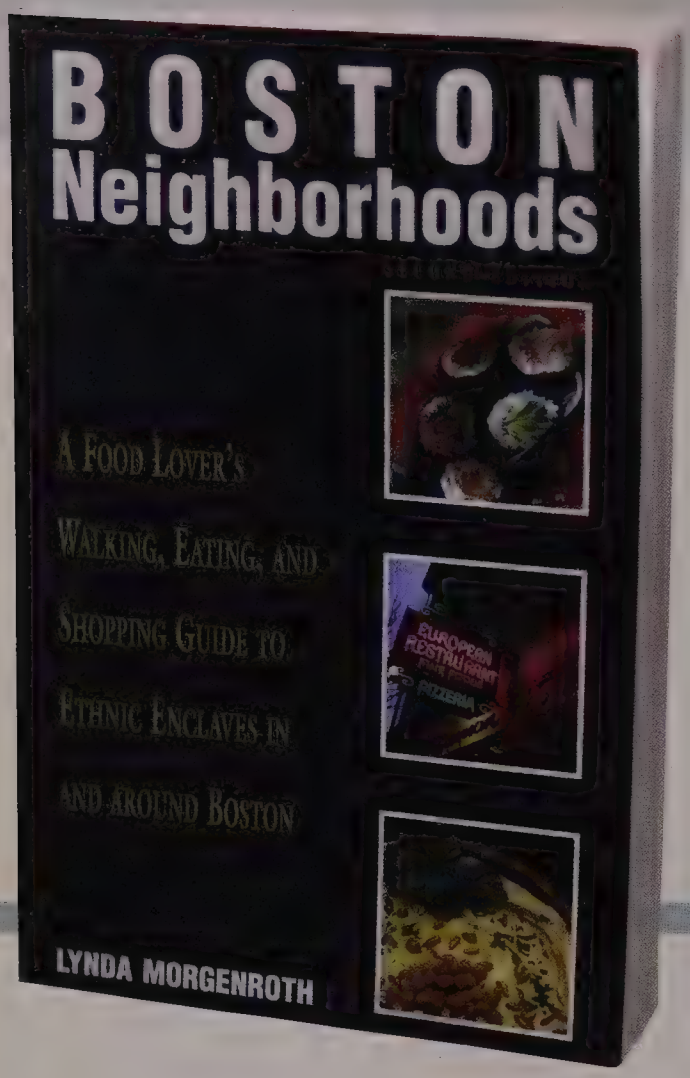
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



TAKE ME TO YOUR HUMMUS

***Boston Neighborhoods: A Food Lover's Walking, Eating and Shopping Guide To Ethnic Enclaves in and Around Boston* is a tightly textured guide to local taste treasures, by Lynda Morgenroth.**

If you had a friend—curious, spicy by nature, quirky, intimate, comic, always delighted—who would do ethnic-food crawls with you through some of Boston's interesting neighborhoods, you couldn't do any better than with Lynda Morgenroth and her book. Mostly, but not entirely, focused on food—shopping for it, eating it in take-out or restaurant form, identifying what magic nutty crunchiness you're eating in the first place—she makes the case that in Armenian Watertown, Vietnamese Dorchester and polyglot JP, Central Square and Brighton, food that's aching with saltiness and nostalgia for distant locales is waiting for you to venture forth. Always generous, Morgenroth notes the cozy-dive dimension of some of these places, the cats snoozing on the counter that add flavor; the local, often foreign-language-speaking denizens of a place—which is its very allure—and the exhilaration of finding a food surprise. Side sections, and a glossary, explain unfamiliar dishes and ingredients. She appreciates the soul foods and comfort foods of many ethnicities and makes forbidding foods like Portuguese *bacalhau*—dried, salted codfish—sound appealing. An East Boston Salvadorean favorite is *dulce atado*: brown sugar wrapped in a dried corn husk, neatly tied with a banana-plant fiber. Get this book and get your tongue, glazed by mallsnax, moving through Boston's rich, rich eating territories.

POTTERY WINNER

Monroe Salt Works, selling pottery and other useful and amusing gifts, is at 202 Mass. Ave. next to the Capitol Theatre in Arlington (781-646-6699). Also in the Westin Hotel, Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston.

That this pottery is made in Maine may account for the earthy feeling of these plates, cups and bowls. Rock salt is thrown into the hot cooking kiln, creating what even feels like stalwart backbone in the pieces, which are mostly made in a distinctive grayish brown. Painted moose stride across them; beautiful trout leap around them; frogs frolic; Monroe's totemic mascot, the crow, hovers, half-ominously; pine trees contemplate eternity. It's Maine you can eat off of. Lamps and vases are available too, and in its expanded spirit, Monroe also sells items like colorful pillows from fair trade companies; delicate, affordable silver and pearl jewelry; and, an interesting recycling, kimonos sliced and diced into chic scarves and neckties. Another beautiful use-again idea is the street signs made into bigger-than-hubcap medallions for hanging as art. One features that yellow schematic "man" you've seen crossing the street at crosswalks. Inventive too are the little tables made from wooden boxes with old-fashioned commercial names on them, edged with rulers. Merry oddities include a darling devil, mischievously incarnated in toylike things—droll books, and some arrestingly swirly blown glass items, including wildly colorful vases.

LITERARY SANCTUARY

The Writers' Room of Boston, at 111 State St., Boston, offers writers a place to work. Membership costs $185 per quarter. Call 617-523-0566 or go to www.writersroomofboston.org. A fellowship program allows for some scholarship aid.

"A writer is a man who, embarking upon a task, does not know what to do," says author Donald Barthelme. The lack of 9-to-5 structure may make creative writing look like a nonjob, hardly meriting the space and time that "real jobs" require. But, to honor the structure, the quiet, the away-from-it-allness that writers require and crave while embarking on the ephemeral solidity of their task, this pleasant, cozy space has been designated just for them. Located way-upstairs, intimately overlooking the beautiful Richards Building with its 39 cast-iron arches; downtown, but up at a lofty remove from the busyness of business, the Room consists of seven cubicles. There's also a sweet little sitting room, a kitchenette, also a "back room" with books on display (some of which were written here). Happily, the Writers' Room is equally patronized by regular old non-published, non-professional writers as by the other kind. Pleasantly low-tech, no phones, no Internet, no doorbells, not even any loved ones, the place warmly invites the sipping-in of the muse. Like inspiration itself, the Writers' Room operates 24/7.

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Advertising Deadline: January 26

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REVIEW

PASTA PERFECT

Paolo's Trattoria is another winner in Charlestown's City Square.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Charlestown was my first home when I relocated to the Boston area almost 15 years ago. I joined yuppie condo dwellers in the Boston Navy Yard, at a time when gentrification pioneers were making inroads around Monument Square. I departed Charlestown before that gentrification was complete, but it has now almost transformed the tribal enclave made notorious in J. Anthony Lukas' *Common Ground* into a diversified collection of neighborhoods in which new coexists with old, poor with rich, and insular with cosmopolitan. Nowhere is this transformation more visible than in the restaurant scene. A few issues ago, I reviewed Meze, an estimable palace of Greek cuisine on City Square, anchoring one end of the Charlestown Bridge with wrap-around windows affording splendid vistas of the Zakim–Bunker Hill Bridge. My delight with Meze caused me to visit Paolo's Trattoria, the original Charlestown restaurant of Meze owner Paul Delios, located in a modest storefront along Main Street.

One is almost surprised upon entering Paolo's at the expansive space, with its high ceiling of pressed metal, attractive exposed bricks, framed paintings and prints (many by local artists, all for sale), greenery, decorated plates, hemispheric hanging light fixtures, and pleated shades on the windows. A bar with four stools stands at the back of the restaurant, separating the open kitchen from the dining room.

Paolo describes his eatery as a "warm and friendly" place, and its ambience lives up to that billing. It's a down-to-earth, simple trattoria like those that enrich the neighborhoods of so many Italian cities. The menu is divided into the traditional three categories of antipasti, *primi piatti* (pastas), and *secondi piatti* (main courses), supplemented by *insalate* and wood-oven pizza.

The pizza offerings provided a good place to start, particularly since I found the eponymous Paolo's Pizza ($12) outstanding. Our party of five ordered this pie as an hors d'oeuvre, and although a generous 12 to 14 inches across, the pizza disappeared in no time. Ultra-thin crust, in the Neapolitan–New Haven style rare in Boston, provided a worthy platform for toppings of *sopresatta* (spicy salami), succulent kalamata olives, rich plum tomato sauce, aged provolone cheese and grated pecorino Romano, well lubricated with good-quality olive oil.

***Risotto con cappesanti*: Milanese-style risotto with saffron, sweet onions, flat-leaf parsley, Parmigiano Reggiano, and cast iron–seared New England diver scallops**

PAOLO'S TRATTORIA

251 Main St., Charlestown
(617-242-7229)

HOURS Sun.–Wed., 5–9:30 pm; Thu.–Sat., 5–10:30 pm

RESERVATIONS suggested

CREDIT CARDS all major

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Moving to antipasti, we ordered the *calamari alla griglia* ($11). Accompanied by flat leaf parsley, scallions, vinegar peppers, plum tomatoes and lemon-caper sauce, these resilient, robustly flavorful grilled squid provided a welcome change from the standard *calamari fritti* (fried squid) that so many restaurants offer. Another antipasto, *scallopini de melenzana* ($9) brought four slices of eggplant folded over a ricotta stuffing, battered and pan fried in first-rate olive oil and served with roasted-tomato sauce. A drizzle of basil oil finished the dish in fine fashion, with the lively, minty aroma of the basil providing a marvelous counterpoint to the earthy flavor of the eggplant.

Over two visits to Paolo's, I sampled three of its eight pasta offerings. I'd be hard pressed to choose a winner, since all three coaxed maximum flavor out of their diverse, delicious ingredients. In the *orecchiette con broccoli rabe e salsiccia* ($11 as a pasta course; $18 as a main), meaty, robustly flavored sausage and pleasantly bitter broccoli rabe in a garlicky, olive oil–based sauce perfectly coated little ears of al dente pasta. *Penne con pollo* ($20) brought a large bowl of small pasta cylinders tossed with moist medallions of chicken breast, asparagus, mushrooms, sun-dried tomatoes, pignoli nuts, sweet onions and a lively pesto cream sauce. The sweetness of the onions, earthiness of the mushrooms, tang of the tomatoes, herbaceous flavor of the asparagus, and tender, moist goodness of the chicken made this a sublime symphony of flavors. *Tagliatelle alla Bolognese* ($18) contained more meat than I'd ever encountered in a pasta course. This protein-rich dish featured ground veal and pork that had spent a long time simmering with fresh herbs, atop al dente fresh tagliatelle crowned with shavings of Parmigiano Reggiano cheese.

Paolo's *secondi*, or main courses, constituted entire meals in themselves, and if they merited any criticism, it was from their overly complex composition and the layering on of ingredients, à la Charlestown culinary legend Todd English. Even so, with one exception they pleased and satisfied.

Baccala al forno con patate ($22), described as native line-caught cod fillet and wild mussels, oven-roasted in broth with sopresatta, grape tomatoes and broccoli rabe, served on top of garlic- and rosemary oil–rubbed roasted potatoes, seemed over the top—too busy, with the fish overwhelmed by the accompaniments. But there was no denying that some of the flavors hidden in the array were terrific, particularly the unannounced saffron. Meanwhile, a special of jumbo butterflied shrimp scampi ($22) provided a good exemplar of this standard offering, with a lemony, garlicky sauce and firm-textured linguini.

The exception was the *porchetta* ($22), pork tenderloin stuffed with garlic, rosemary, parsley, sage and pepper, wrapped in pancetta and roasted in Paolo's wood-fired brick oven after being basted with marsala wine. The pork had a slightly charred taste, and the wine sauce—marsala is a heavy, often sweet, dark wine from Sicily—overwhelmed the dish. The accompanying grilled wild mushrooms, sautéed spinach and rosemary-scented

Paolo's Trattoria occupies a modest storefront in Charlestown.

Antipasto piatti: daily chef's selection of roasted and grilled vegetables, imported cured meats and artisanal cheeses

Gamberi alla Catalonian: Oven-roasted jumbo shrimp in an ancho chili Romanesco sauce, served with sautéed Milazzo baby spinach

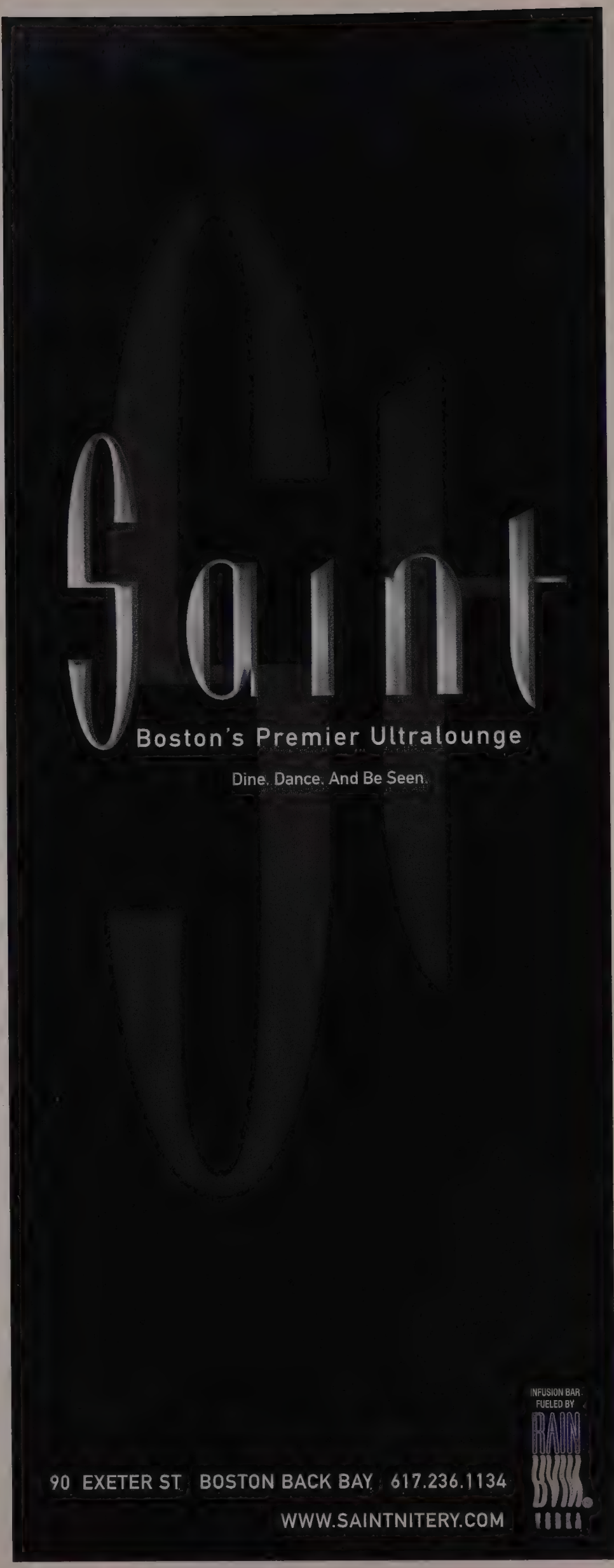
From left: general manager Dave Evers, executive chef/owner Paul Delios, and sous chef Rigoberto Posada

roasted potatoes, to the extent they were not inundated by the sauce, stood out among garnishes. Another Marsala-sauced dish, *pollo alla bana stana* ($20), brought a pan-seared chicken breast with spinach, Parma ham and fresh mozzarella. Its sauce, studded with wild mushrooms, seemed less ponderous than its counterpart served with the pork. While the extra ingredient of wood-roasted sweet potatoes that underlay the ensemble seemed excessive, they were delicious.

Portions were so large at Paolo's that desserts (all $7) became superfluous if not foolhardy. Still, who could resist a tiramisu, with a deft balance between sweet mascarpone cheese and pleasantly bitter coffee and perfect texture—not dry, not soupy? Chocolate mousse, a thick, intensely chocolate custard served in a giant martini glass, had three or four ladyfinger biscuits protruding from it supporting a giant luscious strawberry. Bread pudding with mellow sweetness and an eggy, rich texture arrived in a pool of sweeter caramel sauce.

From Paolo's wine list, I enjoyed a glass of sangiovese from Italy's Adriatic Marche province one evening ($7) and two noteworthy Umbrian wines on my second visit. Poggio Belvedere ($28), the lighter of the two, had decent structure and went well with the food, while the Umbria Rosso from Vitiano Falesco, a cabernet-sangiovese blend ($30), proved a much bigger wine, with pronounced tannins that promised substantial improvement with age.

One Sunday evening, while the Patriots game played on the television over the bar, service at Paolo's seemed slightly desultory, but on a subsequent very busy weekday night, our waitress' attentiveness, efficiency and engaging personality mirrored the excellent quality of the food. Mr. Delios' pair of excellent Charlestown restaurants, Paolo's and Meze, along with the exotic Moroccan eatery, Tangierino, up the street, have transformed this neighborhood known for its Hibernian heritage into a Mediterranean miracle. iB



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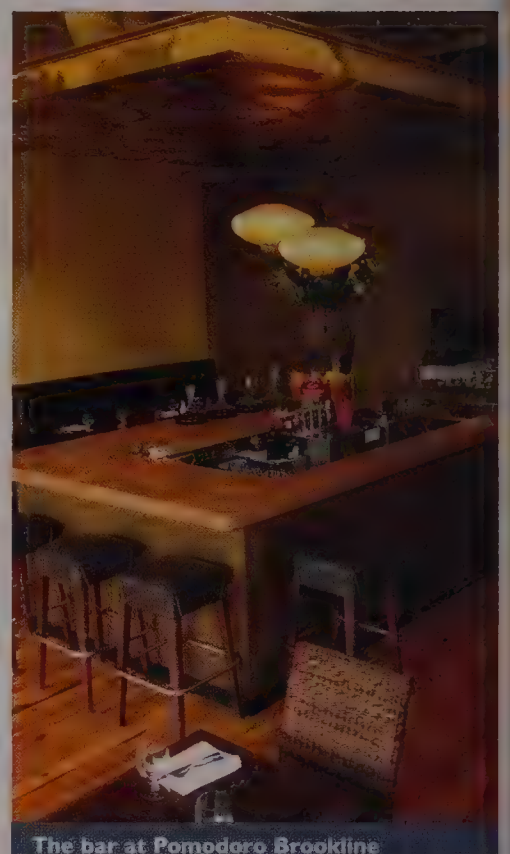
DISH

Much Ado About Carew

Pomodoro premieres…Quagliata quits Boston

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX


The bar at Pomodoro Brookline

Siobhan Carew doesn't cut corners, and she doesn't mince words. She runs her restaurants—Pomodoro in the North End, and Matt Murphy's and a brand new Pomodoro, both in Brookline Village—strictly according to her personal philosophy of hospitality.

"Her standards are extraordinarily high," says **Frank van Overbeeke**, chef at the new Pomodoro. "Nobody in the dining room can give us a harder time about the food than Siobhan." Naturally, she expects her staff to meet the same standard. "She's not into coddling," he adds. "We've had cooks walk right out in the middle of service [at the first Pomodoro]."

On the other hand, Carew's uncompromising dedication has attracted an impressive list of chefs to Pomodoro, whether as full-time chef of record or featured guest. **Barbara Lynch**, **Paul O'Connell** and **Marc Orfaly** are just three who cooked up a storm in the kitchen on Hanover Street. And about that chef who walked out: minutes later, the ever-resourceful Carew persuaded a passerby carrying a knife case (an aspiring cook, she knew instantly) to get into the kitchen and work the line.

Over time, Carew has attracted a loyal following of diners who've come to depend on her personal touch. "The food is fantastic, but people come in for Siobhan," says one fan, a regular for seven years. It's a relationship thing, and in her restaurant as in her life, Carew sometimes opens the door to the guests she's got, not the ones she wants. People "have to *let* us take care of them," says van Overbeeke. So when a party of eight gave off an unhappy vibe, and complained as soon as they were seated, the outspoken Carew did not, as many restaurateurs would, try to coddle them into contentment. Instead, she asked them to leave, spurring one exile to start a mass e-mail campaign against what he called the "Restaurant from Hell."

"It'll happen again," says Carew with a shrug. Despite its sleek and cozy decor—leather banquettes, exposed brick, handsome rattan chairs—the new Pomodoro isn't intended to be fine dining spot. Wooden tables are naked. Dinner for two, including appetizer, main course and wine, come to roughly $60, about $10 more than the tab at the North End eatery. The focus is on the food, says Carew, making it "very accessible to people, not exclusive, not pretentious."

SECOND COURSE

When one door closes…

Congratulations to **Carmen Quagliata**, former chef/partner at the **Vault** downtown. After a frustrating attempt to open his own restaurant in the Boston area, he set his sights farther away and recently landed the plum post of chef de cuisine at **Union Square Café**, one of the most popular restaurants in New York City… A second door: The owners of **Osushi** in the Westin hotel have opened **Osushi Too** in Downtown Crossing. (The original Osushi was British food writer **Nigel Slater**'s favorite spot to grab a bite while in town during his recent book tour.)…Wait at the door: The opening date for the Boston version of **Ruth's Chris Steak House**, to be located in the former **Maison Robert** space, has been moved from February to this summer. Meanwhile, a less-heralded steakhouse—the **Oak Room**, in the **Copley Plaza Hotel**—continues to offer one of the better red-meat treats in town: buffalo au poivre.

Closings: A fixture in Harvard Square for decades, **Cafe Pamplona** is no more. And after just about a year in the space of the former **Empire** in Providence, **Andy Husbands** has closed **Kestral**. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.

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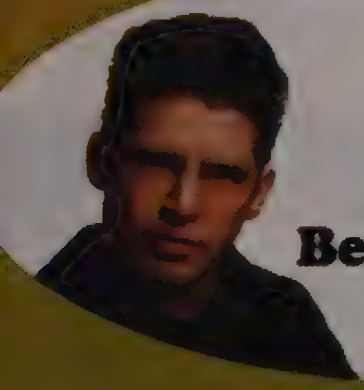

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Author Joyce Goldstein
Meze Estiatorio, 100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-6393). www.mezeboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Jan. 12. 7 pm. $75. The cookbook author signs copies of her book, *Sephardic Flavors: Jewish Cooking of the Mediterranean and Cucina Ebraica—Flavors of the Italian Jewish Kitchen*. Guests also enjoy a cooking demonstration, dinner and drinks.

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9355). www.bostonwinefestival.net MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Through April, the Boston Wine Festival features more than 50 events. •Jan 12 and 14, 7 pm: Battle of the Cabernets, $210. •Jan. 18, 6:30: Penfolds, $195. •Jan. 19 and 20, 7 pm: Quarterly Review of Wines, $210. •Jan. 21, 7 pm: Robert Mondavi, $145. •Jan. 24-26, 7 pm: Meritage Madness, $210.

The Brewmaster's Table
John Accardi & Sons, 85 Commercial St., Medford (781-431-1470). Jan. 25. 6:30 pm. $30. **Garrett Oliver**, brewmaster and author of *The Brewmaster's Table: Discovering the Pleasures of Real Beer with Real Food*, joins the Culinary Guild of New England for a beer and cheese tasting.

Cooking Class Series at Radius
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Jan. 22. 11 am-2 pm. $125. Chef **Michael Schlow** helps guests stay true to their New Year's resolutions with a class on preparing flavorful yet calorie-conscious dishes.

Couples: Fun with Food and Wine
Wall Street Café, 127 South St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Jan.22. 1-3 pm. $35-$40. This couples-only wine tasting and cooking class offers tips for preparing appetizers that complement winter wines.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •Jan. 22: Dessert wines.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Jan. 12: Rhone. •Jan. 19: Dessert wines.

Kendall Hotel Wine Series
Kendall Hotel, 350 Main St., Cambridge (617-577-1300). www.kendallhotel.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Jan. 15. 6:30 pm. $50. The Kendall offers a four-course dinner paired with a 2001 cabernet.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Jan. 18: Napa Valley Cabernet. •Jan. 25: Northern Rhone.

Vincent Girardin Tasting
The Wine Cellar, 30 Mass Ave., Boston (617-236-0080). www.bostoncellar.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Jan. 15. 2-5 pm. $80. Enjoy a four-course meal paired with wines from **Vincent Girardin**, like St. Aubin En Remilly 2001.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays, 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of wines that complement a French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Jan. 17: Burgundy. •Jan. 24: Erik's Favorites.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wed., 7 pm. $41. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Jan. 12: I Want to Be a Rhone. •Jan. 19: It's Summer Somewhere: Australia and New Zealand.

PREVIEW

TIPS FROM THE TOP

Unlike those selfish magicians, who still won't tell us where that rabbit came from, most of Boston's chefs are more than willing to share their secrets to success.

Don't believe us? Check out the Fairmont Copley Plaza's 10th annual Celebrity Chefs Culinary Program, a seven-week venture that brings out some of the city's top pros for a series of two-hour cooking classes on Saturday afternoons.

The program gets under way January 15 with guest Kerry Downey Romaniello, executive chef at Westport Rivers Winery and author of *Out of the Earth*. That's followed by a class by Mary Ann Esposito, author of *Ciao Italia in Tuscany*, on January 22. Future guests include chefs Gordon Hamersley, Andy Husbands and Paul Delios.

Classes include a sampling of food and wine, as well as a bound copy of the recipes used that week. Each class costs $50, or for $300 you can attend them all.

Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). www.fairmont.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Saturdays, 1–3 pm. $50.

WINE

Blind Faith

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.

Probably the most valuable learning exercise for me when I first began studying wine was tasting "blind," with the identity of each bottle concealed. Although I had tasted a lot before, this practice led me to a much deeper understanding of what wine is and how it's put together. It leveled the playing field; fancy pedigrees mattered less than the actual aromas and flavors. The reason I started doing this is that I had a feeling I would eventually sit for the Master of Wine exam, part of which requires six hours of blind tasting. You're poured 36 wines over a three-day period, without receiving any information about them, and are required to analyze their colors, aromas and how they taste. The exam requires candidates to answer with a high degree of accuracy questions such as which grape variety each wine is made from, its country and region of origin, the type of climate it enjoys, the production and aging techniques that are used, the intended quality level, and the age of the wine, and then further to demonstrate the reasons for these assessments. Not the most enjoyable six hours I've ever spent with several glasses of wine in front of me.

The reason this type of exercise makes sense for professionals is obvious: When you already know what a wine's label says, when you know the reputation of the producer, or the region, or the grape variety, or the importer, or the price of the bottle for that matter, you have preconceptions about how it's supposed to taste before you even open the bottle. And more often than not, you end up tasting exactly what you expected. In other words, if the winery is highly regarded you might begin to fool yourself, fabricating reasons why it may taste better to you than it actually does. If it's a famous wine and I don't like it, maybe there's something wrong with me. On the other hand, if it's a complete unknown, or from a region that's unfamiliar, the wine may already have two strikes against it. You're skeptical before you start. Tasting blind forces you to concentrate only on what is in the glass, to the exclusion of any positive or negative associations you may have. In a sense, it's the only unbiased way to come to a judgment. In my new position, directing the wine program at Legal Sea Foods, my colleagues and I are blind-tasting almost every sample we're considering for our list, thereby insuring transparency in the selection process and guarding against the possibility of our own prejudices creeping in.

Why would the amateur wine connoisseur want to do it though? Certainly not to try to identify the wines. Blind tasting is something I highly recommend regardless of whether you're interested in developing it as a professional skill, simply because it can be fun and interesting. You'll discover, as I have repeatedly, that the least expensive wine in a group is sometimes the most appealing. There are two types of tasting that you can do: "single-blind," where you know something about the wines, such as that they're all American pinot noirs costing $15 or less; and "double-blind," where you know nothing about the wines, and they're not necessarily related in any way. Start with single-blind tastings. Pick a theme that interests you and your friends—let's say, sauvignon blancs from around the world for less than $20. You'll need some help to set this up, so once you've settled on a theme, ask your local wine merchant to sell you whatever number of bottles you're comfortable starting with (I recommend six or eight) that fit this category. The store will need to remove the foil capsule at the top of the bottle, put the bottles in brown bags, and tape the bag around the neck so you can get the bottle open without seeing the label.

Each taster should have the same number of glasses (preferably stemware of the same size) lined up before them as the number of wines being tasted. Instruct everyone not to move the glasses out of order in their row, so they don't confuse the wines. You can give each taster a paper placemat with a circle and a number for each wine glass written on it. Number the bags, and pour the wines in order left to right. A cup or spit bucket should be available for each taster, because once you start swallowing the wine your judgment becomes a bit hazy—you can drink your favorite wine afterwards. Neutral-tasting crackers or bread can cleanse your palate between sips.

Give everyone a piece of paper and ask them to record their impressions before anyone talks about the wines. People are easily influenced by comments, so it's best to form an impression before you hear what someone who supposedly knows more than you thinks. You don't need to use any technical language. For starters, it's simply "I like it," or "I don't like it," hopefully with some reason as to why. In rare instances everyone agrees: Wine number three is the absolute best. But usually there's some open discussion and disagreement before the wines are revealed. Why shouldn't there be? Don't we all have different food preferences? iB

Master of Wine Sandy Block is VP of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.

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Awesome Beer-Steamed Burgers - All-U-Can Eat Lunch Taco Bar - Giant Fiesta South-of-the-Border Nachos - Sizzlin' Smokin' Fajitas

agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

january 12 - 25

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			12 **Tom Perotta** reads from his latest novel, *Little Children*. *See Books & Poetry on page 70.*	13 The **Boston Wine Festival**'s Battle of the Cabernets takes place at the Boston Harbor Hotel. *See Tastings on page 42.*	14 Glam rockers the **Scissor Sisters** are at Avalon tonight. *See Music on page 56.*	15
16 Comedian Tony V hosts a weekly open-mike stand-up night The **DeVille Lounge** at Kings. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*	17	18	19 Tennessee Williams' play ***The Glass Menagerie*** continues its run at the Lyric Stage. *See Performing Arts on page 49.*	20 **Super Diamond**, a Neil Diamond tribute band, plays the Paradise. *See Music on page 58.*	21 The Brattle Theatre begins its run of Stanley Kubrick's classic ***Dr. Strangelove.*** *See Movies on page 52.*	22 Chef **Michael Schlow** teaches a calorie-conscious cooking class at Radius. *See Tastings on page 42.*
23	24 Stephen Maler directs ***The Children's Hour*** at the Shubert Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 49.*	25				

FRI./JAN. 21 AND SUN./JAN. 23

Music: Contemporary Classical

It's not often that Boston's Handel and Haydn Society, famous for performing classical and baroque-era choral and orchestra works on instruments from the good old days, combines classical with contemporary influences. But the opportunity to collaborate with some of jazz's best—such as Chick Corea, Dave Brubeck and the Dizzy Gillespie Alumni Allstars—has proved tempting in the past, and this month, H&H enters the realm of "new" music again, when vibraphonist Gary Burton and pianist Makoto Ozone join the group at Symphony Hall. The Virtuosi Jazz concert is divided into three parts: Burton and Ozone perform selections from their Grammy-nominated album, *Virtuosi*, which features arrangements and improvisations of music from the baroque and romantic periods along with early-20th-century works like Cardosa's *Milonga* and Rachmaninov's *Prelude VIII, Op. 32*. Following that, H&H musicians play classical compositions, like Scarlatti's *Sinfonia di Concerto Grosso in D*, on modern instruments. The performers unite for a jazz/classical fusion in the finale, Darius Milhaud's *La Creation du Monde*. *Fri., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. $26–$60.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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AGENDA EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale
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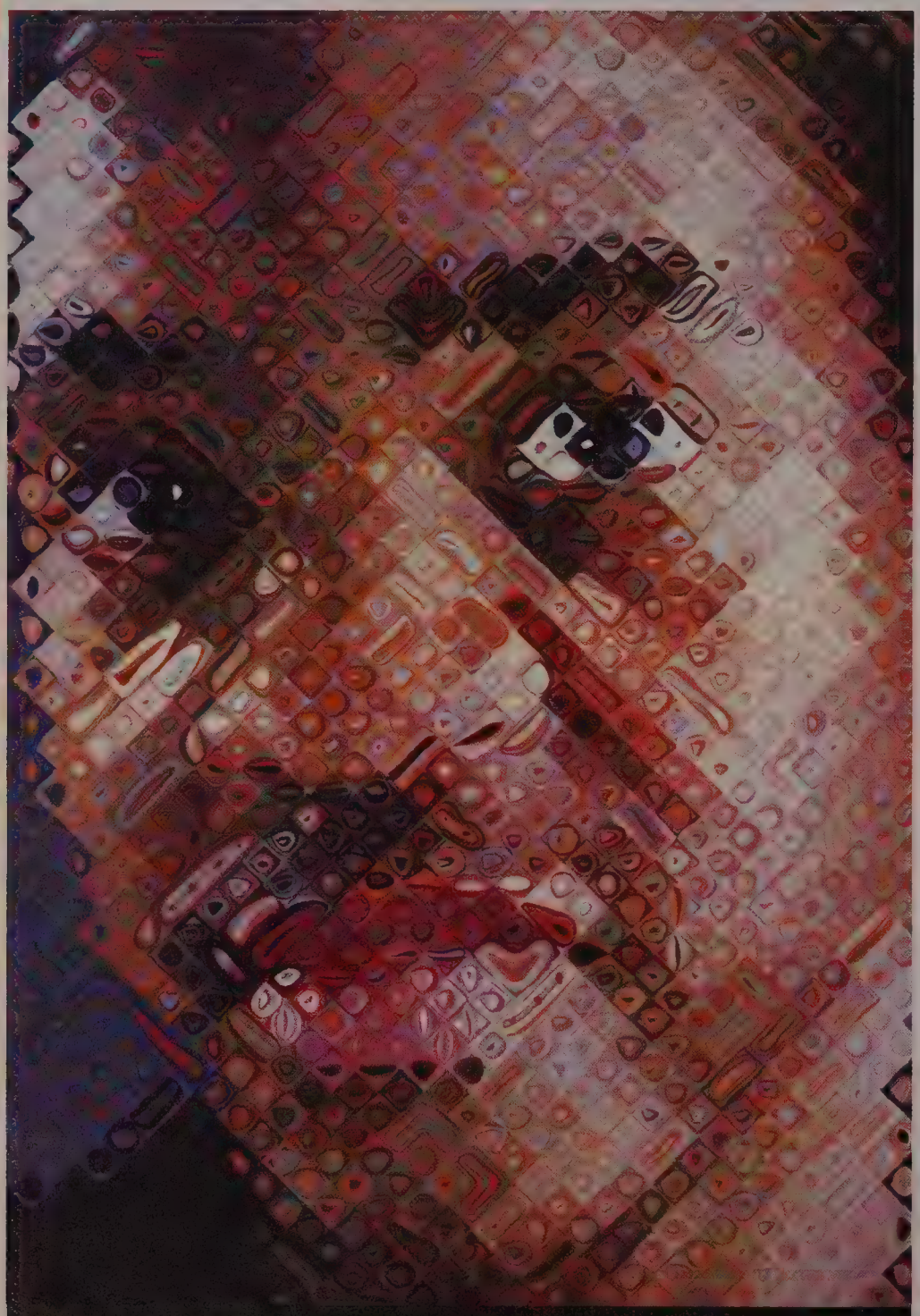
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

FRI.–SUN./JAN. 21–23

Performing Arts: The Sounds of Sadness

Most of us would get a little bit depressed after seeing the tragic opera *La Boheme* just once. So imagine how the cast of Europe's largest opera touring company, Teatro Lirico D'Europa, feels—the group now has more than 3,000 performances of Puccini's opera under its belt. *La Boheme* was, in fact, the first touring production for the troupe—which started in Europe in 1988—and it's become sort of their specialty. The dramatic plot, set in Paris around 1830, focuses on two couples: a young poet who falls in love with a girl who makes flowers, and a painter who loves a singer. Skip ahead a few months: the flower maker is dying of tuberculosis and winds up at the house of her ex-lover (the poet). They reminisce. She dies. Curtain. The Boston production—like the rest of Teatro Lirico's USA tour—features soloists from Europe and the USA in addition to the company's full orchestra and chorus. *Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. Fri.–Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $35–$75.*



JAN. 19–MAY 1

Museums & Galleries: Portraits of the Artists

The Institute of Contemporary Art puts a new twist on an age-old genre with its latest exhibition, *Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists*, which opens January 19. Instead of capturing the faces of stoic royals or Hollywood celebs, *Likeness* turns the tables and makes artists the subjects. The more than 50 displayed works span a multitude of media. Robert Mapplethorpe stays classic with a photograph of the great American expressionist, Louise Bourgeois, while Felix Gonzalez-Torres' text-based portrait of his friend and fellow alternative artist Julie Ault, which lists personal events from her life, toes the experimental line. Deborah Kass goes Warhol with her silkscreen of Cindy Sherman as Liza Minnelli. And photorealist master Chuck Close keeps it real with his signature gridded silkscreen of large-scale self-portrait artist Lyle Ashton-Harris, pictured above. *955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org.*

THU./JAN. 13–SUN./JAN. 30

Movies: Sontag and Cinema

When Susan Sontag lost her battle with leukemia in late December at age 71, the world lost one of its great literary minds. Through her essays, novels, short stories, screenplays, theater productions and films, Sontag left her mark on many genres, and her cultural influence can still be felt locally with the Museum of Fine Arts' film series, Susan Sontag's Favorite Japanese Films. A longtime fan of Japanese cinema, Sontag curated the series in honor of the centennial celebration of the Japan Society of Boston. Many of the selections feature themes of women struggling against an amoral society, like Kenji Mizoguchi's *Love of Sumako the Actress*, which chronicles the life of actress Sumako Matsui from her debut role to her scandalous affair with stage director Shimamura Hogetsu. A chic widow tries to buy her own bar in Japan's Ginza district in Mikio Naruse's *When a Woman Ascends the Stairs*. And the disappointed wife of a failing stockbroker reconciles herself to a life of limited possibilities in *Repast*, also by Naruse. Women's themes aside, the series includes Kon Ichikawa's antiwar classic *Fires on the Plain*, about starving Japanese soldiers and their ailing leader on the Philippines' Leyte Island in 1945. *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org.*

FRI. & SAT./JAN. 14–29

Performing Arts: Bridesmaids' Banter

The number of incentives to drive the short distance to Waltham keeps growing: the restaurants that keep springing up along Moody Street, the Landmark Embassy independent movie theater, the Rose Art Museum, the cornucopia of ethnic shops. This month, there's another reason to add to the list. The Hovey Players are putting on a play called *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* at Waltham's Abbot Theater. Written by Alan Ball, who created HBO's *Six Feet Under* and wrote the screenplay for *American Beauty*, the comedy examines how society views modern women (and vice versa) through the story of five bridesmaids at an extravagant Southern wedding. The entire play is set in one room, as the women hole up in a bedroom and swap remarks on marriage, the bride herself, sex and relationships—quite unladylike discussions, all told. Local actor/director Gordon Ellis directs the play in the theater's small space, which seats just 52. *9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). www.hoveyplayers.com. Jan. 14–29. Fri.–Sat., 8 pm; additional shows Sun., Jan. 23, 2 pm, and Thu., Jan. 27, 8 pm. $15.*

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope @improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

Art Appraisal Day
South Street Gallery, 149 South St., Hingham (781-749-0430). www.southstreetgallery.com. 10 am-3 pm. $10 per appraisal ($25 for three). Professional art appraiser Arthur Garrity offers verbal assessments of etchings, prints and original oil or watercolor paintings. All proceeds go to the Hingham Interfaith Council Food Pantry.

Festivals & Parties

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

A Joyful Noise
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-5771400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm, $15-$25. The Barrett Sisters, Bullock Brothers and local church choirs present the 18th Annual Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Old Town Trolley Chocolate Tour
The Trolley Stop Store, Corner of Boylston and South Charles streets, Boston (617-269-3626). Sat. and Sun., through April 10. Tours depart at 11:30 am and 12:45 pm. $60. This fully narrated tour includes chocolate-tasting stops at the Top of the Hub, the Omni Parker Hotel and the chocolate bar buffet at the Langham Hotel.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

Spa Party
Margo Bistro at the Harborside Inn, 185 State St., Boston (617-524-8976). www.biancaneve.us/spa margo. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 5 pm. $29.95. Biancaneve hosts this spa party featuring chair massages, nail care, hair styling, hors d'oeuvres, live harp music and more.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

Greater Boston Antiques Festival
Shriner's Auditorium, 99 Fordham Road, Wilmington (781-862-4039). www.ne antiqueshows.com. Through Jan. 23. Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $7. This show features more than 160 dealers from 10 different states selling collectible items from the 17th to the early 20th century. Paul Royka from PBS's *Antiques Roadshow* also offers an appraisal clinic for a $5 donation to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

Eight Minute Dating
The Asgard, 350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 35-49.

Singles Dining Out
Skyline Restaurant, 305 Victory Road, Quincy (617-446-0234). www.se-4u.com. 6:30 pm. $10. This event for singles ages 35 and up features complimentary hors d'oeuvres, door prizes and music from the Ron Towers Band.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

Singles Dance
DoubleTree Hotel, 550 Winter St., Waltham (781-721-5844). www.funfun fun.org. 9:30 pm-1 am. $15. FunFun-Fun.org hosts this party for singles of all ages featuring a DJ and full bar.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

Eight Minute Dating
Soho, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-562-6000 www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: #57 Bus Brighton Center. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetize during eight different eight-minute dates. The mingle and meet the people you didn't get th chance to share a date with. For ages 22-32.

Eight Minute Dating
Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cam bridge (617-225-0888). www.eightminutedating.com MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Samp appetizers during eight different eight-minu dates. Then mingle and meet the people you di n't get the chance to share a date with. For ag 25-35.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

Eight Minute Dating
Vox Populi, 755 Boylston St., Boston (617-42 8300). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Gree Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetize during eight different eight-minute dates. The mingle and meet the people you didn't get th chance to share a date with. For ages 28-38.

Hurry Date
Lir Irish Pub, 903 Boylston St., Boston (617-77 0089). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 f nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates an enjoy drink specials. For ages 35-45.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

Single Professionals for the Arts Tou
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Bosto (617-267-9300). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA E Green Line to Museum. 3-5:30 pm. $50. Tour th MFA with other singles and mingle over post-to coffee. Reservations required.

MONDAY, JANUARY 24

Eight Minute Dating
Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-79 0720). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Li to South Station. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetize during eight different eight-minute dates. The mingle and meet the people you didn't get th chance to share a date with. For ages 32-42.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

Hurry Date
Lir Irish Pub, 903 Boylston St., Boston (617-77 0089). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for no members. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjo drink specials. For Jewish singles, ages 25-35.

The Greater Boston Antiques Festival takes place at Wilmington's Shriner's Auditorium, January 22–23

performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts. Or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

American Voices: The Children's Hour
Shubert Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 24. 7 pm. $10. Stephen Maler directs Lillian Hellman's play based on a 19th-century incident in which a malicious child accused her teachers of having romantic feelings for her.

The Barber of Seville
Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 20. 7:30 pm. $35-$75. Teatro Lirico D'Europa presents Gioacchino Rossini's opera about a love triangle between a young girl, her lecherous guardian and a handsome count.

La Boheme
Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 21-23. Fri.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $35-$75. Teatro Lirico D'Europa presents Puccini's classic opera about a group of young people trying to follow their dreams.

The End of the Moon
Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 16. 7:30 pm. $30-$40. NASA artist-in-residence Laurie Anderson performs her spoken-word act based on her research and travels.

The Father Hat
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway St., Somerville (617-931-2787). www.theatrecoop.org. Fri., Jan. 14 and 15, 8 pm; Tue., Jan 25, 8 pm. $10. Michael Nurse directs Frank A. Shefton's play about a retired Lowell man whose illegitimate, ex-con son comes to visit.

Five Women Wearing the Same Dress
Abbot Theater, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). www.hoveyplayers.com. Jan. 14-29. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Thu., Jan 27, 8 pm. $15. Gordon Ellis directs this play by Alan Ball, creator of HBO's *Six Feet Under*, about five bridesmaids in a grand Southern wedding who hole up in a bedroom and reveal their shared dislike for the bride, the dresses and more.

Nothing but the Truth
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 21-30. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Wed., 10 am; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 pm; Sun., 7:30 pm. $36-$72. John Kani stars in his play about the aftermath of apartheid in South Africa. Janice Honeyman directs.

103 Within the Veil
Boston Playwright's Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (866-811-2111). www.companyone.org. MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul. Jan. 20-Feb. 5. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25, $15 students. Company One presents the world premiere of Kirsten Greenridge's play about Hubert Collins, one of Boston's first black photographers, whose work wasn't discovered until 10 years after his death.

Marianna Bassham, Benjamin Evett and Austin Pendleton star in the New Repertory Theatre's production of *Quills*, through February 6

Storytelling for the Ages
Boston Center for the Arts, Nancy and Edward Roberts Studio Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston. (617-426-1492). www.bca.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Jan. 14-23. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 3 pm; Sun., Jan. 15, 3 pm. Free. Playwright Kirsten Greenidge, visual artist Chandra Dieppa Ortiz, composer Hugh Hinton and the Bennett Dance Company come together for the community arts project Stages' production based on oral histories of Boston neighborhoods.

Thrill Me: The Leopold & Loeb Story
Stoneham Theatre, 396 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Jan. 20-28. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $10-$25. Stephen Dolginoff's play chronicles the events that led to the murder of a young Chicago boy by Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb in 1924.

Tribute to Frank, Sammy, Joey & Dean
Stoneham Theatre, 396 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Jan. 12-16. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $38, $32 seniors, $22 students. The Stoneham Theatre re-creates the Rat Pack's legendary Copa Showroom performances at the Sands Hotel in the 1960s.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

The Books of Hours
Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, 106 Central St., Welleley College, Wellesley (781-283-2000). http://theatre.wellesley.edu. Through Jan. 22. Thu. 7 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 2 pm. $20. Nora Hussey directs this story, set in Belgium during WWII, about six people attempting to preserve rare literary classics at the library at Louvain.

Dressed Up! Wigged Out!
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston. (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. www. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. Through Jan. 17. Mon. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25, $20 students and seniors. Boston Playwrights' Theatre presents two one-act, one-woman plays about motherhood, sex and death: *Dressed Up!*, written and performed by Leslie Dillen, and *Wigged Out!*, written and performed by Paula Plum.

Foreign Aids
Theatre at Zero Arrow St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Jan. 23. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $35-$45. Playwright and performer Pieter-Dirk Uys takes the stage in a number of different incarnations for his play about the South African AIDS crisis.

The Glass Menagerie
Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Feb. 5. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $19-$43. Eric C. Engel directs Tennessee Williams' classic play about an overbearing mother and her two adult children in 1930s St. Louis.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 15, 22, 28 and 29. 7:30 pm. $49. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

The Kreutzer Sonata
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. Through Jan. 29. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. The Merrimack Rep presents the world premiere of Larry and Margaret Pine's adaptation of Leo Tolstoy's book about a jealous, obsessed man with a deadly secret.

The Last Little Porn Shop in Manhattan
Boston Center for the Arts Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Jan. 22. Thu. -Sat., 8 pm (Jan. 18, 8 and 10:30 pm); Sun., 7 pm. $19.50. T&A Theatre Company presents Anne Continelli's play about a family's plan to keep its porn business afloat during New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani's 1998 crackdown on pornography.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston. com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 20. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Maria's Bachelorette Party
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 21. 7 pm. $39. Bridesmaids, exotic male dancers, and the mother-of-the-bride go head to head in this comedic audience participation show.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

Quills
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Through Feb.6. Wed., 7 pm; Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $28-$48. Rich Lombardo directs Doug Wright's play about the Marquis de Sade's imprisonment in 18th-century France.

The Rivals
Boston University Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through Feb.6. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $14-$55. Nicholas Martin directs Richard Sheridan's play about an affluent naval captain who disguises himself as a lowly officer in order to woo a simple woman.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

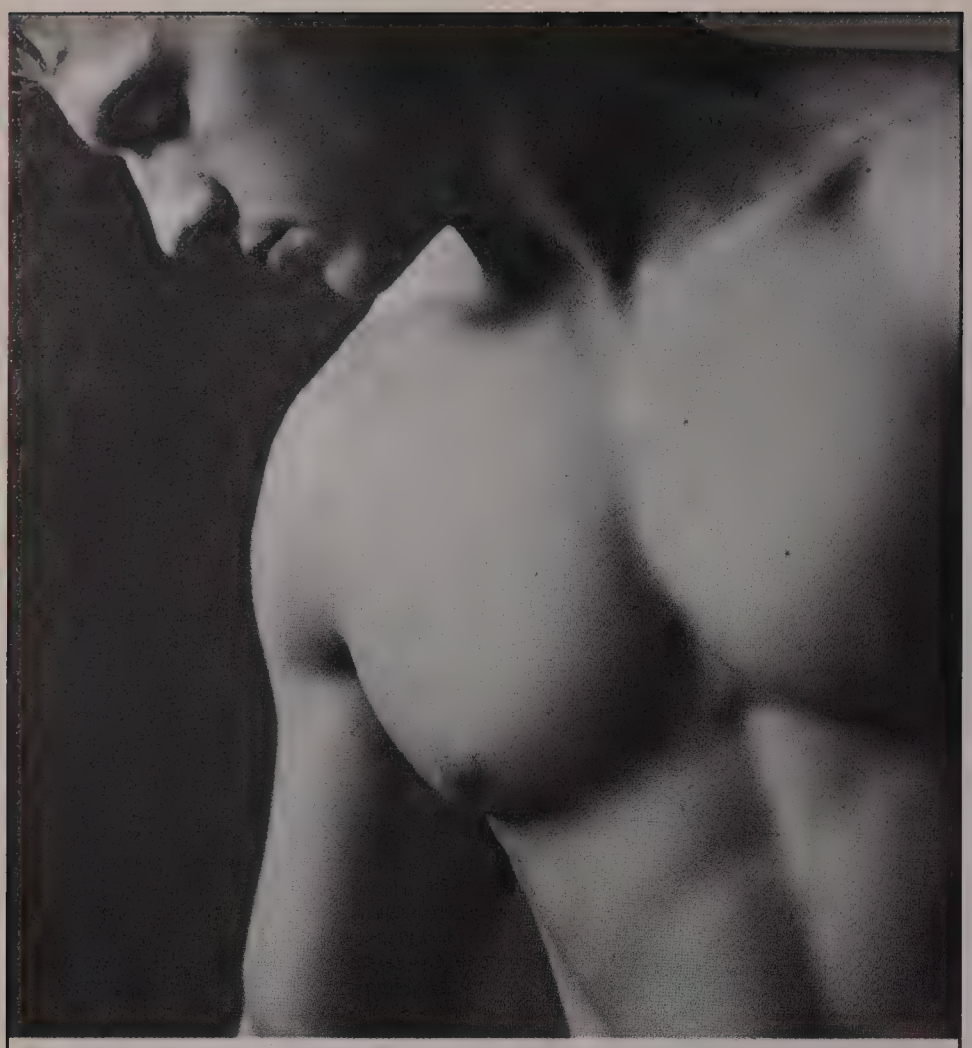
The Sopranos Last Supper
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 14. 7 pm. $49. This interactive dinner theater show is based on the HBO series.

The Syringa Tree
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Jan. 16. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $36-$72. Playwright Pamela Gien stars in the American Repertory Theatre's production of her play about four generations of two families, one white and one black, living in the same South African household.

Under Her Umbrella
The Actor's Workshop, 327 Summer St., Studio 4, Boston (617-851-8321). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Dec. 17 and 18, 8 pm. $15. 11:11 Productions presents the world premiere of Brian Tuttle's play about six characters trying to get through a dinner party.

University Theater

The Book of Days
Robsham Theater Arts Center, Boston College, Chesnut Hill (617-552-4002). MBTA: Green Line to Boston College. Jan. 20-22. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. Students from Boston College's theater department perform Lanford Wilson's murder mystery that explores small-town life.



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Dance

What I Came For

Dance Complex Studio One Theater, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-522-8019). www.dancecomplex.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Jan. 14 and 15, 8 pm; Jan. 16, 6 pm. $10-$15. Crabtree Dance presents a concert of three modern dance duets and quartets.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail toCalendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café

All Asia Café, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. The café hosts local comics on Tuesday nights.

Beantown Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Stand-up •Sun.: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge

738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Jan. 12, 8 pm: Frank Santorelli, from *Last Comic Standing 2*, $12. •Jan. 13, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Jan. 14, 8 and 10:15 pm: Bob Marley, $22.50. •Jan. 15, 8 and 10:15 pm: Bob Marley, $24. •Jan. 16, 7 pm: Ben Boime, $12. •Jan. 17, 8 pm: Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Jan. 18, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •Jan. 19, 8 pm: Tony V., $12. •Jan. 20, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Jan. 21, 8 and 10:15 pm: "I'm Rich Biatch" Tour, with Charlie Murphy, Bill Burr and Donnell Rawlings, $24. •Jan. 22, 7,9 and 11:15 pm: "I'm Rich Biatch" Tour, with Charlie Murphy, Bill Burr and Donnell Rawlings, $24. •Jan. 23, 7 pm: Tony V., $12. •Jan. 24, 8 pm: Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Jan. 25, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Jan. 12: Tony V Experiment with Taylor Connelly, Richard Rubin, Korte Yeo and others. •Jan. 13: The Dan Sally Show with Robby Roadsteamer, Andy O'Fish, Rebecca Anderson and others. •Jan. 14: Paul Day, Tuck, Jesse Gersten, Charlie Hatton and others. •Jan. 15: Steve Macone, Jon Rineman, the Walsh Bros.,Tissa Hami and Rick Jenkins. •Jan. 16: The Erin Judge Show with Patrice Vinci, Myq Kaplan Arthur Meyer and others. •Jan. 19: The Tony V Experiment with Dan Klien, Arik Marks, Ken Reid and others. •Jan. 20: The Dan Sally Show with Patrice Vinci, Myq Kaplan, Arthur Meyer, Tommy Morello and Chris Torres. •Jan. 21: Jim Flaherty, Al Smith, Jen Dlugos and the Walsh Bros. •Jan. 22: Jim Flaherty, Chrissy Kelleher and Rick Jenkins. •Jan. 23: Emerson College Talent with Mike Bent, Noah Garfinkel, Dave Burdick and others. •Jan. 11: Magic Lounge with Bob Riordan.

DeVille Lounge

The DeVille Lounge at Kings, 50 Dalton St., Boston (617-266-2695). www.backbaykings.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Sun., 8 pm. Free. Tony V hosts "Comedy Hell," a weekly open-mike stand-up night. Sign up is at 6 pm.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Photographer Hubert Collins is the subject of Company One's play *103 Within the Veil*

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Jan. 13-15, 8:30 pm: Brad Mastrangelo from HBO and Showtime. •Jan. 20-22, 8:30 pm: Mike Donovan, Boston's sports comic.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at midnight, $10; Lies, Half Truths and the American Way, Wed., and Thu., 8 pm; Sat., and Sun., 8 and 10 pm, $15.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253) www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Thursdays, 8 pm, $10-12 Unnatural Selection. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fridays, 8 pm $10-12: "Carole Lombard Live!," a reverently irreverent, one-woman show performed by Melinda Coneys. •Saturdays, 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free) Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sundays, 7 pm, $5: Sgt Culpepper/Open Jam. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Saturdays, 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thursday, 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Deborah Henson-Conant

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Jan. 13-15. 7:30 pm. $18. Deborah Henson-Conant performs her one woman show titled Stand Up and Sing, Harp Lady!, which combines comedy with her musical skills on the harp.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Aviator ★★★
Like Howard Hughes' infamous Spruce Goose, Martin Scorsese's Hughes movie is big and clumsy, yet it somehow manages to get off the ground. Scorsese starts his film on an iffy trajectory, with most of the first hour dwelling on the first extravagant foray by Hughes (Leonardo DiCaprio) into producing movies (the World War I aerial drama *Hell's Angels*) and on his romance with Katharine Hepburn (Cate Blanchett). You're afraid Scorsese's fascination with old movies is causing him to overlook Hughes' aviation exploits. But the rest of the movie concentrates on Hughes' roles with TWA and his aviation innovations, as well as his battles with the government and the emotional problems that ultimately turned him into a recluse. DiCaprio does a good job of bringing out Hughes' charm and vulnerability, and Scorsese champions his subject as a visionary who wouldn't let the bean counters dampen his ambition. The result is much more satisfying than Scorsese and DiCaprio's previous *Gangs of New York*. (At Boston Common, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Bad Education ★★
Well, at least Pedro Almodovar's latest doesn't feature drama-filled women, the default Almodovar characters who've gotten less and less interesting with each of his releases. There's less camp in this layered tale about a movie director (Fele Martinez) suddenly reunited with the childhood friend (Gael Garcia Bernal) who's written a story about their schooldays spent with abusive priests, which the pair decide to make into a movie. With its different tracks of action (the present, the flashbacks of the past, the filming of the past), the movie is interesting for a while, until the layering and the conflicting layers of truth become more important than believable character motivation. As in *Closer*, it seems as if all the layering and shifting chronology are just trying to pimp up a meager story. (At Kendall Square, Coolidge Corner and Embassy Waltham.)

Beyond the Sea ★★
Kevin Spacey's loving tribute to eclectic 1960s singer Bobby Darin fails the ultimate test: Unlike *The Buddy Holly Story* or *Ray*, it doesn't make you want to run out and buy music by its subject. You can't fault Spacey for trying; he not only dons a prosthetic nose to play Darin, he directed the movie and sings the songs himself. But even a movie about a "star" needs to establish its hero's entertainment chops, and by skipping over lots of early details of Darin's career, the movie just assumes that *we* assume he's a great talent. Meanwhile, Spacey's storytelling is all over the place. There are musical fantasies and the occasional abstract touch, along with more conventional biopic kismet. Yet the movie can't integrate all of its different tones. (At Boston Common, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Closer ★
The youth and early career of Red Sox reliever Keith Foulke come alive in this—aw, hell, it's just Mike Nichols' insufferably talky drama about the infidelities among a quartet of blah characters. The two male Brits (Jude Law, Clive Owen) and two American women (Julia Roberts, Natalie Portman) hook up, break up and make up so often that you never really take an interest in who ends up with whom. Then again, the characters are just pawns that writer Patrick Marber pushes around without putting much effort into turning them into fleshy, believable people. Poor Marber thinks because his characters talk about sex (and have it offscreen), they're "real." Only Owen, who steals scene after scene, makes his character interesting. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Finding Neverland ★★
As *Peter Pan* playwright J.M. Barrie, Johnny Depp nails a Scottish accent and gives his character a pent-up imagination that bursts loose when he meets a quartet of boys grieving for their late father. It's hard to imagine anyone else giving as rousing a performance as Depp does. Still, his movie never made me want to clap my hands in approving belief. This Edwardian fluff means to be a celebration of Barrie's tale of retaining your inner child, but when half of pop culture tells us that these days, is it really very special? Meanwhile, the film could have easily been called *The Attack of the Art Department*, and that's a big surprise from director Marc Forster, whose previous movies were the much rawer *Everything Put Together* and *Monster's Ball*. There's also a soap opera surrounding the boys' sickly mom (Kate Winslet), and the entire mix is rather cheesy and creepy. (At Boston Common.)

House of Flying Daggers ★★½
There's something oddly distasteful about Zhang Yimou's recent artsy forays into martial arts. His lat-

Misery Loves Company

Bacon and Penn are down-and-out in new dramas.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

It's not often that a movie gets an R rating for "disturbing behavior." But that's one of the reasons cited for the rating of *The Woodsman*, a stark drama about a pedophile trying not to be a repeat offender, and it might as well be a reason for the R given to *The Assassination of Richard Nixon* too.

Assassination protagonist Sam Bicke (Sean Penn) is generally the victim of his own misdeeds, but he's disturbing nonetheless. His facial expression looks as if he just stepped in a deep mud puddle: half shame, half anger. And it's no wonder. His wife (Naomi Watts) left him, his brother (Michael Wincott) kicked him out of the family tire business for a financial impropriety, and that expression on his puss continues to deepen, as if he's slipping deeper into that mud puddle.

Over the course of the 1974-set story we see that desperation increase. Sam, based on the real-life figure Sam Byck, hits the desperation trifecta: Emotionally, his wife closes the door on reconciliation; professionally, he takes a lame job selling office furniture for a glad-handing boss (the great Jack Thompson) and is rejected for a loan to start a mobile tire-repair service; and politically, he becomes more disillusioned with the myths of the American Dream. All he sees are charlatans like his sleazy boss, and Nixon, getting rewarded.

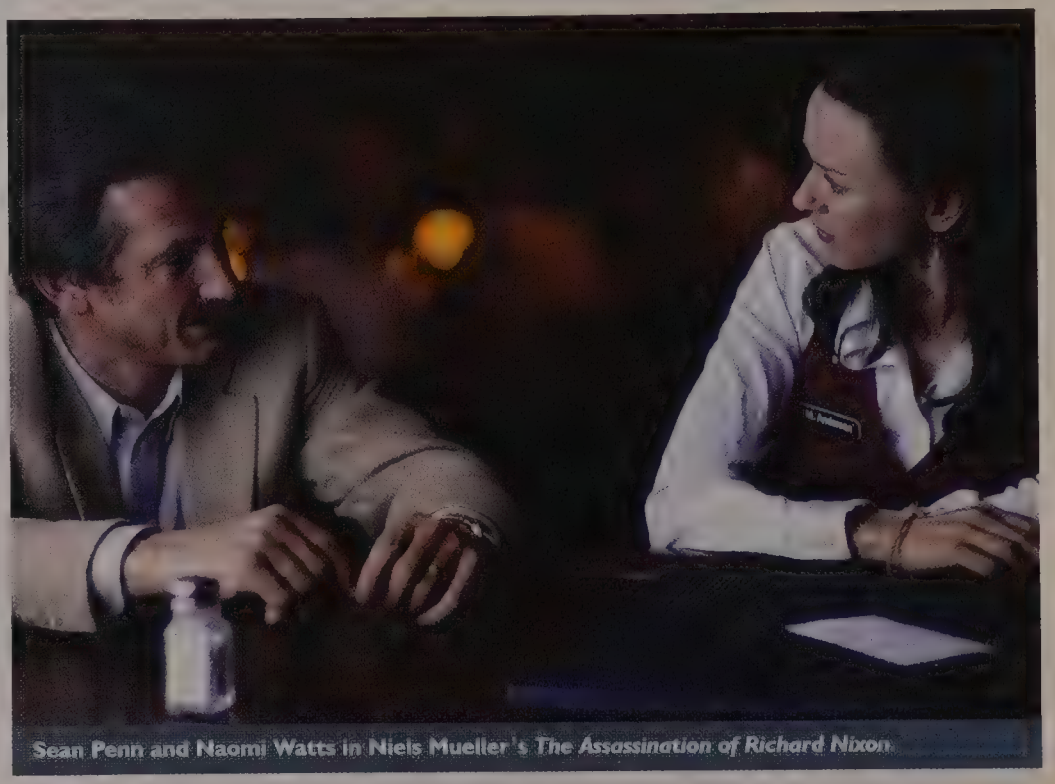
Looking for an answer in the age of Vietnam and Watergate, Sam gives some money to the Black Panthers but then hits upon a more constructive idea. He'll hijack a plane and crash it into the White House, taking Nixon down with him. Like the real-life Byck, the movie's Bicke falls so short of his goal that his motives only come out through a fluke. His recorded, confession-like audiotape monologues, sent to respected citizens like Leonard Bernstein, become known after the fact.

The debut film from director Niels Mueller, *Assassination* is a trip into Bicke's doubt-festered brain, and Penn makes it a fascinating plunge. Sporting a mustache that recalls De Niro's Rupert Pupkin in Scorsese's *The King of Comedy*, Penn's demeanor captures Bicke's defeat at the game of life. It's an absurd tragedy that has an eerie resemblance to everyday life at its frustrating worst.

If you think that sounds disturbing, park yourself inside the mind of Walter (Kevin Bacon) in *The Woodsman*. It's easy to see what drives Bicke around the bend, but with Walter the pedophile it's not so clear. His battle not to hurt others is mostly internal and—like *Assassination* director Mueller—*The Woodsman*'s Nicole Kassell isn't afraid to challenge the viewer in her directorial debut.

The movie and its star are pleasingly unadorned. Walter, released from prison after 12 years, moves into a plain apartment and starts a plain job at the lumber mill where he used to work. Like Bicke, Walter has the look of shame on him, and Bacon bravely plays the role without disguising himself under heavy makeup or any weird tics. But Walter can't rant about his shame, as Bicke might. He's afraid to get close to anyone because if he tells them his dark secret they might run off in horror. That's essentially what happens after he starts going out with a feisty co-worker (Kyra Sedgwick, Bacon's real-life wife) who pesters him about his past. So Walter usually just remains aloof, which isn't much better. When he acts coldly toward another co-worker (rapper Eve), he turns her into an instant enemy with a grudge.

External forces, which also include a hardnosed detective (Mos Def) who makes unannounced visits to the apartment, don't influence Walter as much as they might Bicke. But his internal battle gets tipped when people start treating him like scum, so he starts to see no reason not to act like scum. The movie climaxes in a squirm-inducing scene in a park in which Walter talks with a young girl (Hannah Pilkes) he'd previously befriended but now might molest. The unpredictable, yet convincing, scene manages to generate genuine tension.



Sean Penn and Naomi Watts in Niels Mueller's *The Assassination of Richard Nixon*

The Woodsman—which takes its name from the cautionary tale the detective tells Walter (saying, unlike in "Little Red Riding Hood," there'll be no woodsman to rescue little girls here)—has the painful intimacy of an intense short story. Like *The Assassination of Richard Nixon*, it has quiet power beneath its potent lead performance. If only more movies were as "disturbing" as these two. **iB**

The Assassination of Richard Nixon
★★★½
Directed by Niels Mueller. Written by Mueller and Kevin Kennedy. With Sean Penn, Naomi Watts, Don Cheadle and Jack Thompson. Rated R. At Kendall Square.

The Woodsman ★★★½
Directed by Nicole Kassell. Written by Kassell and Stephen Fechter. With Kevin Bacon, Kyra Sedgwick, Mos Def, Benjamin Bratt, David Alan Grier, Eve and Hannah Pilkes. Rated R. At Boston Common and Harvard Square.

est doesn't look so much like a perfume commercial as his *Hero* did, and some of the action sequences in this 9th-century tale are imaginative and well executed (though heavy on the digital effects). But if you like martial-arts movies with a gritty, rock 'n' roll energy, Zhang's two most recent films have an antiseptic, classical-music sterility (this one ends incredulously with opera diva Kathleen Battle bellowing a ludicrously over-the-top reprisal of a song from the tale). Storywise, this starts out with a Western-like economy, as an undercover lawman (Takeshi Kaneshiro) befriends a mysterious female martial artist (Zhang Ziyi) who may be a member of the anti-government gang that gives the movie its name. Early complications effectively thicken the drama, but there are eventually so many people pretending to be so many fake identities that the drama, which morphs into a love triangle, gets all balled up—culminating in an emotionally overblown final action sequence that just gets silly. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Coolidge Corner, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

The Incredibles ★★★

The animation in Pixar's computer-generated movies keeps improving, and this is the first one that's had the nerve to put humans—albeit semi-abstract ones—in the foreground. That's not a problem at all, as the animation's ability to portray facial expressions is so much better than it was for past Pixar movies, in which human action was kept to a minimum (like the *Toy Story* series). Still, this is the first Pixar movie that's merely good, not great. Once again, there's an amazing mesh of voice actors and characters, with Craig T. Nelson and Holly Hunter playing retired husband-and-wife superheroes forced back into action along with their supergifted kids (Sarah Vowell and Spencer Fox). But the story is an awful lot like *Spy Kids*, with more emphasis put on the parents, and for much of the middle section, this is merely a decent animated "big" action movie, with less of a satiric twist than *Team America*. Pixar has raised the bar so high that, when taken against other animated movies, *The Incredibles* is still very creative. But it's also disappointing at times and overstretched. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Kinsey ★★★

Scientist Alfred Kinsey became obsessed with researching the sexual habits of Americans and having his scientific findings replace myth and traditional morality in shaping people's view of "average" sexual behavior. Bill (*Gods and Monsters*) Condon's period piece does a fascinating job of capturing the fervent work of Kinsey (Liam Neeson) and showing how his findings of the 1940s and 1950s shook up the public and put the powers-that-be on high alert. Neeson's performance recalls the fixation of his Oskar Schindler, with the goal this time of getting people's sex histories on paper, while Laura Linney, Peter Sarsgaard, John Lithgow and Oliver Platt fill out the deep cast. The intensity of this rise-and-fall story starts to peter out, though, when it gets to the third act, thanks to vagueness in chronology and the sense that many events are being rushed through and oversimplified, right down to the rather mystifyingly upbeat ending. (At Copley Place, Kendall Square, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events ★★

It's sometimes obnoxious and sometimes amusing, but fortunately it's not as bad as its trailer. Jim Carrey gets to give a Peter Sellers/Jerry Lewis multi-character performance as the ham actor who repeatedly disguises himself to try to get the best of the orphans (Emily Browning, Liam Aiken) whose inheritance he's trying to steal. While Carrey's main character isn't that funny, his alter egos are. The movie's faux–Tim-Burton style is another hit-and-miss element. It's often very creative, but every scene has the same gloomy look and the same mood, an overbearing quality in which Burton would never indulge. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou ★★½

After establishing himself with the melancholy comedies *Bottle Rocket* and *Rushmore*, Wes Anderson has entered a phase where his boyish charm, low-tech clutter, cool old songs and casts of sad yet funny characters are starting to come off like schtick that's getting a little precious. Like *The Royal Tenenbaums*, his latest has that erratic feeling. Sometimes it feels genuinely inspired (having a character sing early David Bowie songs in Portuguese from time to time), sometimes it seems as if it's on automatic pilot (Bill Murray giving the same sad-sack performance he did so well in *Rushmore*). That's not to say Murray isn't very amusing at times (same goes for Willem Dafoe, Anjelica Huston, Jeff Goldblum and Owen Wilson), or that the visuals aren't very creative and Anderson doesn't have more going on than most directors. But giving Anderson's adolescent sensibility to characters who are all over 25—some well beyond—is an odd fit. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

From left: Dustin Hoffman, Ben Stiller and Robert De Niro in *Meet the Fockers*

Meet the Fockers ★★

You know the humor in the *Meet the Parents* sequel is much more forced this time around when Ben Stiller's character suddenly falls over in his chair during an early scene—for no reason and with no set-up (and no laugh generated). There are a few laughs with the introduction of Dustin Hoffman and Barbra Streisand as his touchy-feely, overly nurturing parents whose ways, of course, collide with those of their uptight, WASPy in-laws-to-be (Robert De Niro, Blythe Danner). Despite the occasional laugh, this never generates its predecessor's comic momentum, which is necessary to get the weaker gags over and snowball it all into a funny movie. Disappointing. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Million Dollar Baby ★½

Clint Eastwood's latest is an odd combination of fisticuffs-filled boxing movie, surrogate father-daughter tale and tragedy. Those separate ingredients are often unconvincing, so, not surprisingly, the combination fails. Eastwood plays an aging boxing trainer, but his performance makes him little more than a crabby old coot who'd be right at home in a mediocre sitcom (ditto for the bickering between him and the old buddy played by Morgan Freeman). The coot gets hounded into training a stubborn female boxer (Hilary Swank, best thing in the movie) who, under his tutelage, shoots up the women's boxing rankings. She also emotionally replaces the estranged daughter who sends his letters back "return to sender," while he replaces her late father. There's little subtlety in the father-daughter tale, or anywhere else in the film, either. Paul Haggis' weak screenplay often wants things both ways—like how it has the boxer knock out most opponents in the first round, yet contrives ways for her to supposedly be the underdog. It takes some of that contrivance to shift the movie into tragedy after an in-ring injury. Where's *Fat City* when you need it? (At Boston Common.)

National Treasure ★½

After Trey Parker and Matt Stone's dead-on parody of Jerry Bruckheimer's action monstrosities in *Team America*, I was ready to laugh my ass off at Bruckheimer's latest. But what a drag. The gimmicky founding-fathers-hid-a-treasure-and-Nicolas-Cage-is-gonna-find-it action-thriller from the producer of such obnoxious ordeals as *Armageddon*, *Bad Boys* and *Pearl Harbor* isn't even bad enough to be good. This gadget-heavy, character-light diversion is just mediocre and forgettable. From a sunken British ship lodged in the arctic ice to the Declaration of Independence to the Franklin Institute to Independence Hall to Wall Street, it's a long-winded jigsaw puzzle that is easy to stop caring about. More to the point, it's hard to *start* caring about it. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Ocean's Twelve ★★★

While not the effortless lark its predecessor was, Steven Soderbergh's sequel is still a scenic caper comedy that, with its Euro locations, trades Las Vegas' fake Bellagio for the real thing. Forced by the casino owner (Andy Garcia) they robbed the first time around to pay back the $160 million they stole, plus three years' worth of interest, Danny Ocean (George Clooney) and crew target the Fabergé coronation egg on display at a Rome museum. The addition to the title is due to the enlistment of Danny's former and, once again, current wife (Julia Roberts) for the job, and the sequel also adds a savvy Europol agent (Catherine Zeta-Jones) who's the sometime love interest of Brad Pitt's Rusty Ryan. An hour after the movie was over, I realized much of the last hour's twists and turns are immaterial to the caper. Still, it's hard to argue with a comedy that supplies so many laughs and that, despite its overextended length, is lighter on its feet than most thrillers. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Ray ★★★

Jamie Foxx's monumental performance dominates this fairly conventional biopic in which a talented hero (R&B/pop pioneer Ray Charles) overcomes adverse circumstances (witnessing his brother's drowning, going blind at age 7) and inner demons (a heroin habit, infidelity) to become a beloved American institution. Sometimes director Taylor Hackford's Hollywood treatment stretches credibility, particularly when the movie contrives to have Charles concoct the classic "What'd I Say?" as an impromptu time filler onstage one night. And the movie might be too forgiving of the pain Charles caused his wife. But Foxx is so immersed in the role, giving Charles a sly charisma, and the musical moments (with Foxx lip-synching to Charles' recordings) are so good that the movie's life-affirming intentions win out. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Sea Inside ★★★

The real-life tale of Spaniard Ramon Sampedro (Javier Bardem), a quadriplegic, poet and one-time sailor who fought for the right to end his life, is fortunately not a strident exercise in nobility. While Bardem gives a powerhouse performance, writer-director Alejandro Amenabar (*The Others*) and co-writer Mateo Gil pepper the movie with humorous moments and formidable supporting characters. The result is more than a message movie and, thanks to Amenabar's skill at putting images together, much more cinematic than you'd expect a movie about a guy stuck in bed to be. (At Kendall Square.)

Sideways ★★★

Alexander Payne's *Sideways* does for the approach of middle age what his *About Schmidt* did for the onset of old age: uses it as a springboard for bittersweet comedy and a road trip. At first, this makes the latest from the director of *Citizen Ruth* and *Election* a letdown. But Payne and writing partner Jim Taylor's riffs on male bonding make this story of two 40-ish buddies' trip to California wine country painfully funny. It's hard to say where the characters leave off and the actors begin in the hilarious little moments in which the pair goes to wineries to sample the latest vintages. Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*), who could be amusing reading a shoppin list, gives a colorful tilt to wine connoisseur Mile picky assessments of his tastings; in Giamatti hands, sometimes Miles is being intentionall funny, sometimes not. Meanwhile, Thomas Hade Church's Jack has an endearing dumb-jock qualit and his response to Miles' "knowledgeable" wir talk is usually "tastes pretty good to me." Eac man's approach to wine mirrors his approach to li and to the women they meet, of course, with Jac blindly leaping in and Miles analyzing and analy ing. (At Boston Common, Coolidge Corne Kendall Square and suburbs.)

A Very Long Engagement ★★★

With Hollywood unwilling or unable to provide th sort of handsome epic we've come to expect at th time of the year (aside from *The Aviator*), this clev French World War I drama picks up the slack. Audre Tautou reteams with *Amelie* director Jean-Pierre Jeun and plays a young French woman searching for the so dier fiancé (Gaspard Ulliel) she was told died in battl Full of flashbacks to the fateful day in which the fianc may have died, the movie veers from serendipito comedy to stark drama and zips along quickly. It co tains Jeunet's typical visual flourishes, though his hab of injecting visual action that literally depicts chara ters' anecdotes can be annoying. (At Copley Plac Harvard Square and Embassy Waltham.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Dea line is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Silence Is Silver: Silent Films from the Library of Congress

•Jan. 24, 6 pm. **The Patchwork Girl of Oz** *1914*. Tw hungry characters set out on a journey to Oz, the lan of plenty. J. Farrell MacDonald directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Engagements

•Jan. 14-20, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Sat., Sun. an Mon. matinees, 1:30 and 3:30 pm. **Peau D'Ane** *(Do key Skin) 1970*. Jacques Demy's opulent fairy tale fil stars Catherine Deneuve as a princess whose fath tries to marry her off.

•Jan. 21-27, 4:30 and 7 pm. Sat. and Sun. matinees, pm. **Purple Butterfly** *2003*. Lou Ye's thriller, set durir the Japanese occupation of Shanghai in the 1930s, fo lows a telephone operator who is also a member of a underground resistance group. •Also showing, Jar 21-27, 9:30 pm. **Dr. Strangelove, or How I Learne to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb** *1964*. Stanle Kubrick's satirical look at the Cold War presents comedic what-if nuclear-war scenario.

Some of the Best of 2004

•Jan. 12, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. **Vera Drake** *200* Mike Leigh directs this drama about a middle-age woman who performs illegal abortions for youn women in 1950s London.

•Jan. 13, 5:30 and 9:30 pm. **Screaming Men** *200* Mika Ronkainen's documentary follows the Finnis Screaming Male Choir as they travel the world pe forming their musical repertoire by shouting. •Als showing, 7:30 pm. **The Five Obstructions** *2004*. I this collaborative effort, director Lars Von Trier cha lenges fellow director Jorgen Leth to remake his 196 short, *The Perfect Human*, in accordance with Vo Trier's "obstructive" rules.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies

•Jan. 24, 1 pm. The Coolidge's biweekly series pr vides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent i ternational, independent and documentary films. T tles are announced the week before the screening www.coolidge.org.

Celebrating Sarah Jacobson

•Jan. 20, 7:30 pm. **Sarah Shorts**. The Coolidg presents Jacobson's own compilation of her earl Pixelvision work and TV spots. •Immediate following. **I Was a Teenage Serial Killer** *1993*. A 1 year-old girl goes on a killing spree after dealing wit one too many sexist pigs.

•Jan. 21, 12 am. **Mary Jane's Not a Virgin Anymor** *1997*. Jacobson's debut feature follows a high scho student, as she explores life, love, and her sexuality.

•Jan. 22, 12 am. **Ladies and Gentlemen th Fabulous Stains** *1981*. Lou Adler directs one Jacobson's favorite films, about two rocker girls wh jump on a tour bus with an an angry British pun group and find their own success.

olidge Selects
)pens Jan. 14. **Game Over** *2003*. This documentary by Vikray Jayanti looks at chess champion ry Kasparov and his 1997 match against the IBM nputer Deep Blue.

dnight Movies
an. 14 and 15, 12 am. **Fight Club** *1999*. Brad Pitt ys a man who becomes disillusioned with his life l joins an underground organization in response. vid Fincher directs.
n. 14 and 15, 12 am. **The Iron Giant** *1999*. A boy riends an innocent alien giant that the governent seeks to destroy in this animated film dited by *The Incredibles* director Brad Bird.
n 21 and Jan 22, 12 am. **Night of the Living Dead** 58. A group of people hide from bloodthirsty zoms in a farmhouse in George Romero's film.

ecial Events
an. 17, 7:30 pm. **Other People's Pictures**. The otographic Resource Center presents a documentary about nine people who share a fascination h collecting everyday photos that have been t by their original owners and are sold at flea rkets. Directors Lorca Shepherd and Cabot ilbrick appear in person.

ARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

onservator's Choice: Directors in nort Program 1
an. 12, 9 pm. **Le Sang Des Bêtes** *(Blood of the asts) 1949*. Georges Franju directs this postwar cumentary about a slaughterhouse in Paris. mmediately following, **New Domestic Animal** 64. Dusan Makevejev's documentary is a comrison of the utilitarian domestic horse and the tomobile. •Immediately following, **The Beoke Overcoat** *1956*. Jack Clayton directs this m about a store clerk who goes to great lengths acquire a special overcoat. •Immediately folwing, **Anticipation** *1966*. Jean-Luc Godard's sction from an anthology about prostitution fols a man who prefers prostitutes who speak but n't touch.

onservator's Choice: Directors in nort Program 2
an. 12, 7 pm. **Land Without Bread** *1932*. Luis ñuel's documentary explores the bleak lives of the residents of Spain's Las Hurdes region. •Immediately following, **Borom Sarret** *1964*. Ousmane Sembene directs this documentary about a day in the life of a poor horsecart driver in Senegal. •Immediately following, **Toby Dammit** *1968*. Federico Fellini's film follows a burnt-out British actor who arrives in Rome to star in the first "Catholic western."

Global Visions: Contemporary South African Cinema
•Jan 14, 7 pm. **Amandla! A Revolution in Four-Part Harmony** *2002*. Lee Hirsch's documentary explores the role music played in the South African struggle against apartheid.
•Jan 14, 9 pm; Jan. 16, 7 pm. **Karoo Kitaar Blues** *2003*. Liza Key's documentary follows a group of talented but isolated musicians who eventually perform for large crowds in South Africa.
•Jan 15, 7 pm. **Hijack Stories** *2001*. A South African actor is drawn into his childhood friend's life of crime when he attempts to relate to a gangster role he is playing. Oliver Schmitz directs. •Also showing, Jan 15, 9 pm; Jan. 17, 9 pm. **Cage of Dreams** *2001*. Clifford Bestall and Pearlie Joubert's documentary looks at a ruthless gang's influence on inmates in the South African prison system.•Immediatly following, **The Cage Unlocked** *2002*. Bestall's follow-up to *Cage of Dreams* focuses on two former gang leaders attempting to reenter society after being released from prison.
•Jan 16, 9 pm; Jan. 17, 7 pm. **The Guguletu Seven** *2001*. Lindy Wilson's documentary follows the South African Truth and Reconcillation Commission attempt to resolve the case of seven alleged terrorists murdered by apartheid police 10 years earlier.
•Jan 18 and 19, 7 pm. **State of Denial** *2002*. Elaine Epstein's documentary examines the South African government's and pharmaceutical companies' responses to the AIDS epidemic. •Immediatly following, **Ask Me, I'm Positive** *2002*. Teboho Edkins' documentary follows three African film stars who publicly declare their HIV-positive status.

Global Visions: Films from Europe
•Jan 21, 7 pm. **Gegen die Wand** *(Head-On) 2004*. Two German-born Turks—a sex-crazed Muslim woman and a recovering drug addict—agree to marry to escape their families' oppression. Faith Akin directs. •Also showing, Jan 21, 9 pm; Jan. 22, 7 pm. **Omagh** *2004*. Pete Travis' drama is based on the events following a 1998 IRA bombing that killed 29 people in Omagh, Northern Ireland.
•Jan 22 and 24, 9 pm. **Interview** *2003*. A frustrated middle-aged journalist interviews a Dutch actress and is surprised to find an intellectual adversary in her. Theo Van Gogh directs.
•Jan 23 and 25, 7 pm. **Visions of Europe** *2004*. Twenty-five short films from different directors represent 25 European countries and the growing influence of the European Union.
•Jan 24, 7 pm. **Masnap** *(After the Day Before) 2004*. Attilla Janisch's film follows the story of a teenage girl's brutal murder.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film
•Jan. 19, 8:10 pm; Jan. 20, 1 pm; Jan. 21, 6:15 pm; Jan. 22, 2:15 pm; Jan. 23, 11 am. **In the Realms of the Unreal** *2003*. Jessica Yu directs this documentary about visionary artist Henry Darger, who was also a janitor and a novelist.

Cinema Tropical
•Jan. 20 and 21, 8:15 pm; Jan. 22 and 23, 4 pm. **Mercano, el Marciano** *(Mercano the Martian) 2002*. Juan Antin's film follows a Martian who lands in Buenos Aires.

French Cinema
•Jan. 12, 6:30 pm; Jan. 13, 2:30 pm; Jan. 14, 8:30 pm; Jan. 15, 12:20 pm; Jan. 16, 12:20 pm and 4 pm. **Notre Musique** *(Our Music) 2002*. Jean-Luc Godard's film, which combines documentary and dramatic footage and criticizes modern culture, is divided into three parts: Heaven, Hell and Purgatory.

Italian Cinema
•Jan. 12, 8 pm; Jan. 14, 4:45 pm; Jan. 15, 2 pm; Jan. 16, 2:15 pm. **Incantato** *2003*. Pupi Avati's film tells the story of a 35-year-old Greek and Latin teacher who travels to Bologna to visit his father.

Japanese Cinema
•Jan. 14, 6:45 pm; Jan. 15, 4 pm; Jan. 16, 10:30 am; Jan. 20, 4:45 pm; Jan. 22, 10:30 pm. **Akarui Mirai** *(Bright Future) 2003*. Kiyoshi Kurosawa's film explores the anger-based bond shared by two young men working in a plant.

One Man's Journey: A Trilogy by Robert Perkins
•Jan. 13, 8 pm. **Into the Great Solitude** *1987*. Filmmaker Perkins goes on a 72-day, 700-mile canoe trip down Northwest Canada's Back River, capturing the beauty and threats that nature offers.
•Jan. 20, 6:30 pm. **Talking to Angels** *1993*. In this documentary, Perkins travels through the Artic wilderness while he deals with the life-threatening illness of his partner, Dr. Irene Gooddale.

Susan Sontag's Favorite Japanese Films II
•Jan. 13, 4 pm. **Onna ga Kaidan o Noboru Toki** *(When a Woman Ascends the Stairs) 1960*. A middle-aged geisha is torn between opening a bar and getting married. Mikio Naruse directs.
•Jan. 13, 5:45 pm. **Himatsuri** *1984*. The traditions of a remote Japanese fishing village are threatened by plans for a tourist marine park. Mitsuo Yanagimachi directs.
•Jan. 15, 10:30 am. **Joyu Sumako no Koi** *(Love of Sumako the Actress) 1947*. Kenji Mizoguchi's historical drama follows the life of Sumako Matsui, one of Japan's first modern stage actresses and emancipated women.
•Jan. 19, 6 pm. **Buta to Gunkan** *(Pigs and Battleships) 1961*. Shohei Imamura's film captures the devestation and anger of postwar Japan through the eyes of a hoodlum with a black-market job, and his prostitute girlfriend.
•Jan. 20, 2:45 pm. **Meshi** *(Repast) 1951*. Mikio Naruse's film follows a troubled married couple whose relationship is complicated by the unexpected arrival of their niece.
•Jan. 22, 12:15 pm. **Nob** *(Fires on the Plain) 1959*. A soldier tries to survive and stay true to himself in the Japanese Imperial Army in the Philippines in 1945. Kon Ichikawa directs.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater
•Through Feb. 17, 2005. **Extreme**. Audiences experience the most extreme outdoor sports, including skiing and snowboarding on perilous untouched mountain peaks; climbing frozen waterfalls and red-rock spires; surfing some of the largest waves ever surfed and windsurfing El Niño–strength winds.

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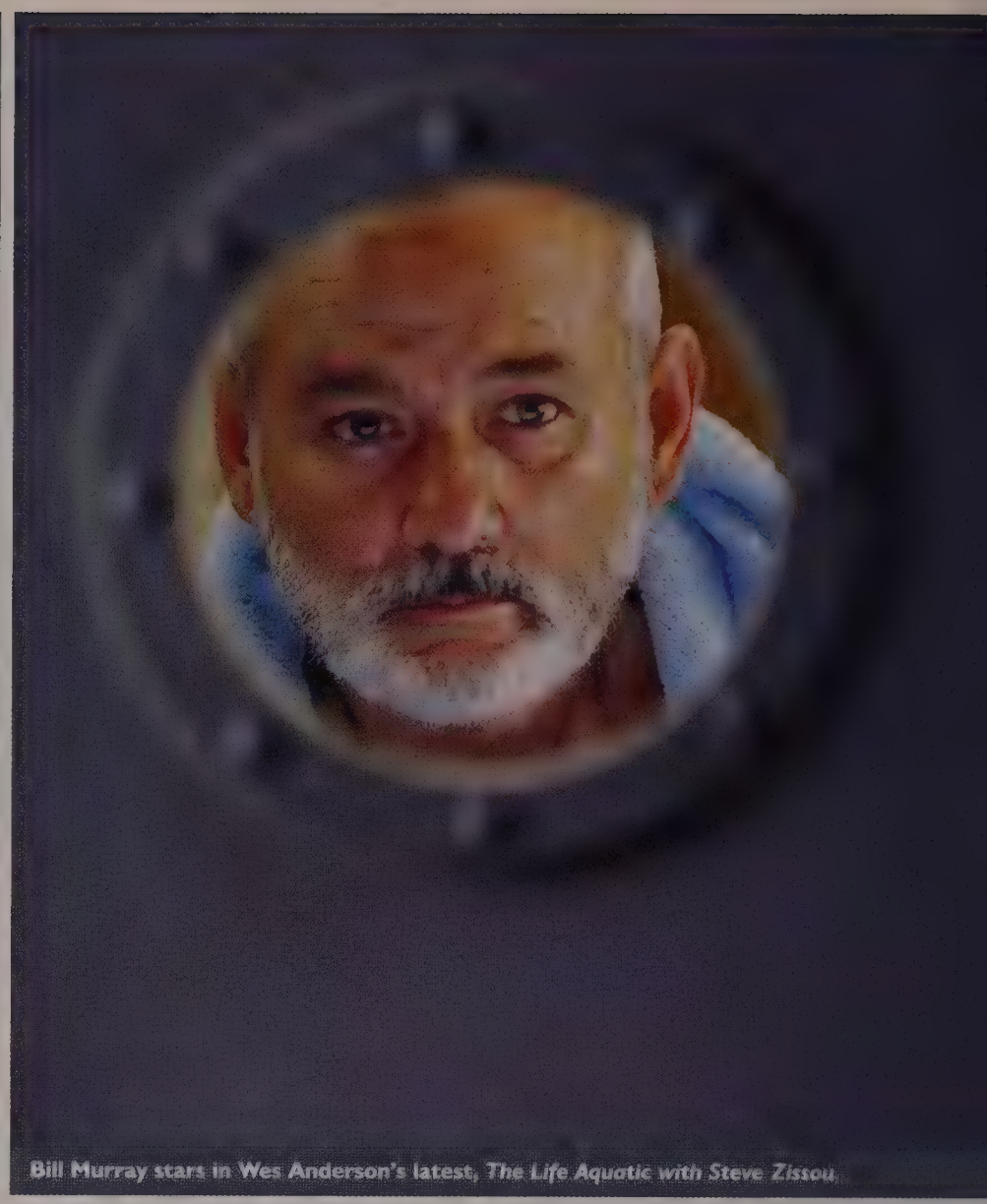

Bill Murray stars in Wes Anderson's latest, *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou*.

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• Through Feb. 17, 2005. **Roar: Lions of the Kalahari.** Journey into the Kalahari Desert as two Botswana lions battle over a water hole.
• Through May 26, 2005. **Forces of Nature.** Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theater
• Through June 5. **Galapagos.** Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.
• Through June 5. **Into the Deep.** This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California and its many inhabitants.
• Through June 5. **Ocean Wonderland 3D.** Watch as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and other creatures create an underwater wonderland.
• Through Jan. 18. **Polar Express 3D.** Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis collaborate for a 3D adventure inspired by Chris Van Allsburg's children's book about a young boy who takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole.
• Through June 5. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea.** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line Reservoir.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gre Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBT Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: R Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gre Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Oran Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Li to Davis.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by e-mail to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Laurie Anderson Jan. 16, Cutler Majestic Theatre (617-876-4275).
Gavin DeGraw Jan. 14, FleetCenter (800-462-2849).
Detroit Cobras Jan. 21, T.T. the Bear's Place (617-492-2327)
Kay Lamontagne Jan. 15, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Bob Mould Jan. 14, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Makoto Ozone, Gary Burton Jan. 21 and 23, Symphony Hall (617-266-3605).
Bob Schneider, Aslyn Jan. 21, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Scissor Sisters Jan. 14, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Sister Hazel Jan. 19, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Soundtrack of Our Lives, Inouk Jan. 15, Middle East Downstairs (617-931-2000).
Spooky Daly Pride, Adam Richman Jan. 21, Harpers Ferry (617-931-2000).
Super Diamond Jan. 20, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
We Comin' Hip-Hop Showcase with Lyrical & Invasion, Cekret Society, Acute and others Jan. 22, Middle East Downstairs (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Rollins Ross Trio, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Hottest from the Campfire, with Bill Deasy, Jon Nolan and the Everybodyfields, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground The Adam Ezra Band.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm.
Harpers Ferry Jamie McLean Band, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's The Mystics.
Johnny D's Kekele.
Lizard Lounge Martha Wainwright, 7:30 pm; Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Ordinary K, Electric Donkey, Frequency 7, Cold Duck Complex, 9 pm, $8.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
Paradise Laura Glyda Band, Morgan Clamp, Jess McDonough, 8 pm, $8.
PA's The Kissers.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Allan Holdsworth Trio, 7:30 and 10 pm, $22.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Osmany Paredes Group, 9 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Jeff Hicks Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Thee Electric Bastards, Zillionaire, $5.
ZuZu Model A, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shannon Aaron.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, 8 pm.
Club Passim Maeve, Easily Amused, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Mutha's Mistake, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Jon Frederick Band.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Geno Delafose.
Kirkland Café Henry, Michael Rakusin.
Lizard Lounge Howard Moscovitz, 7:30 pm, no cover.

Shear Fun

The Scissor Sisters take campy subversion to the mainstream.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

A cheeky pop group named after a lesbian sexual position and sporting three gay members may not fit the demographic of the American heartland. But things are going swimmingly for the Scissor Sisters, who played on *Saturday Night Live* last month smack in the middle of Midwestern tour dates.

"Our red states are going fine," guitarist Del Marquis reports from Dallas as the Manhattan-hatched quintet winds toward a January 14 concert at Avalon. "You can be freaks in any state. We did Salt Lake City, and that was an amazing show. People need free expression in those places."

"Some people have no clue," he admits. "Some housewives are just tuning into their car radio and hear 'Take Your Mama,' know nothing about the band, and they're into it. And maybe they're not down with the gays. That's the subversiveness of it."

Certainly the Elton John–styled jive of "Take Your Mama"—buoyed by the line "We'll get her jacked up on some cheap champagne, we'll let the good times all roll out"—isn't about to rankle anyone. But then, casual listeners aren't likely to decode the band's moniker, be familiar with other songs that go "You can grab me, ooh, 'cause you're nasty" and "There ain't no tits on the radio," or know that frontman Jake Shears was once a stripper in a club called I.C. Guys.

"At least in Jake's case, this is an evolution of his exhibitionism," Marquis says. "He loves to dance and he wanted to be a go-go boy and express himself and go wild. Then he realized that he was a singer and wanted to be a performer."

Brassy co-singer Ana Matronic, in turn, holds up her share of the onstage repartee. "Ana is what you call whip-smart," says Marquis. "She can pull just about any line out of her ass at any given moment and slay somebody in the audience. I try not to smile that much, but I can't help it. It's definitely entertaining. And it's more interesting for us to do it within the system."

That the Scissor Sisters managed to break out of the New York cabaret scene was a longshot in itself. "I saw them accidentally at this club about six months before I joined," Marquis says. "But I was like a hatchet man. Like a typical New York audience, I didn't get it. It was three people doing choreography to their CD on the PA."

Things clicked when that trio of Shears, Matronic and multi-instrumentalist Babydaddy hooked up with Marquis and drummer Paddy Boom and turned the Sisters into a real band.

"If you put a band together, you wouldn't put us together, but it works," Marquis says. "It took a rock band that was a little out of the ordinary for me to feel like I fit in. Most people in the band would agree. It's a really open space.

"We're all schooled in some way, well-read, music freaks, freaks of nature," he adds. "We love to dance and party. We appreciate the worst and best as pop culture aficionados."

England and Ireland were first to fall for the Sisters, starting with the band's disco-ized cover of Pink Floyd's "Comfortably Numb," which alternately channels the Bee Gees and Frankie Goes to Hollywood. The Sisters' eponymous debut CD hit the Top Five in both countries, and the group opened for both Duran Duran and idol-turned-supporter Elton John.

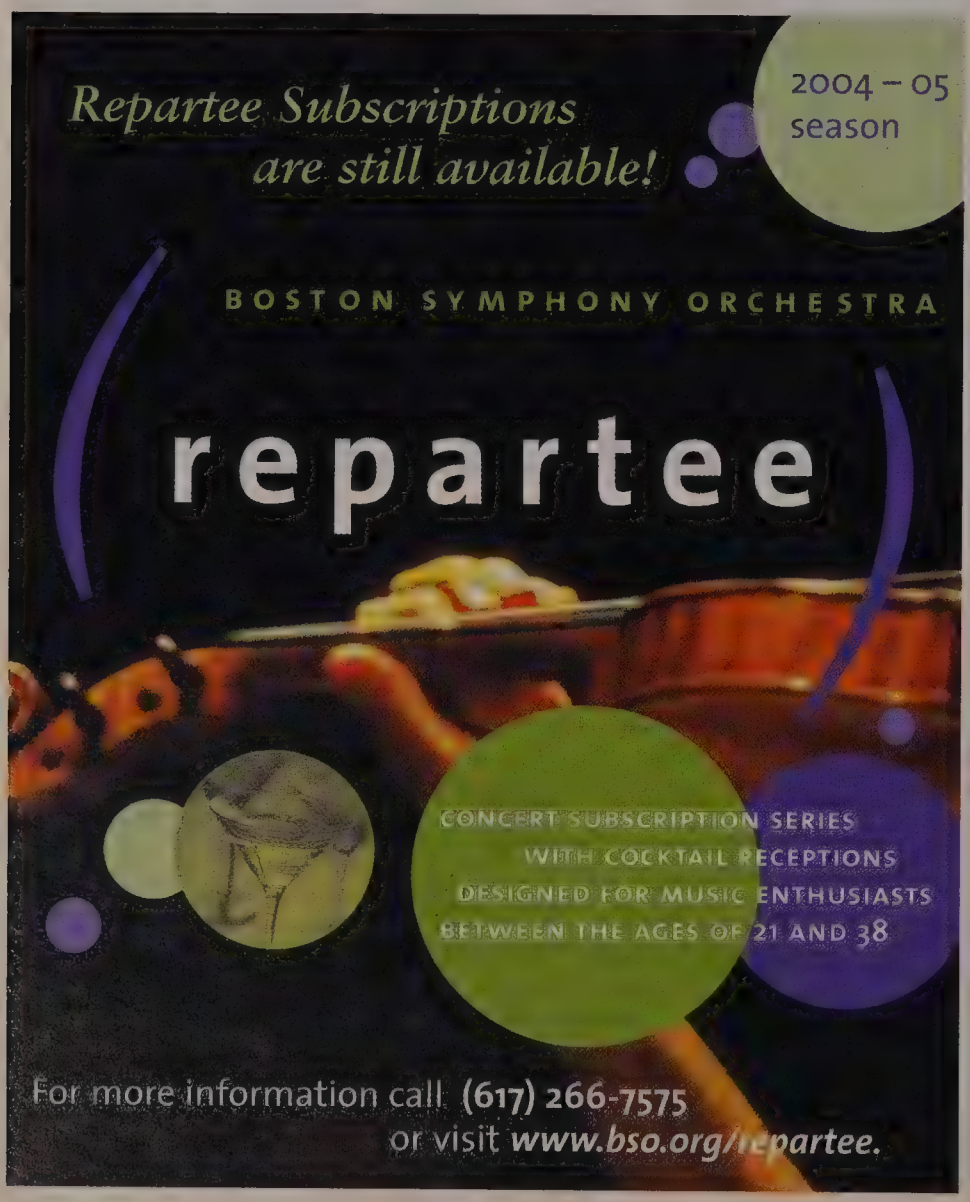
"It's more of a dance culture over there, and they really picked up on it," Marquis says. "Although we certainly cover a much wider spectrum at this point, being a dance band at the beginning kind of opened the door for us, and that [style] doesn't make sense in the States as much."

The Manhattan-based Scissor Sisters take a unique approach to rock.

The jaunty "Take Your Mama" has opened the door more successfully in America since the album was released here last summer—several months after its British debut. "It was like having to relive every moment of coming up," says Marquis. "We had gone through the motions and toured our asses off, and done our first TV and press in the UK. Then, seven months later, we were starting all over again. In one respect, it was actually a great thing because we were a much better band at that point."

"If we were selling ourselves on our outfits and being funny, we wouldn't be here two months later," he says. "The most important thing is that you put on a good show, that the band is tight and the music is good. And partially for my own entertainment, I'm going to dance around and wear nice clothes. I don't want to get onstage looking like I do when I get out of bed. It's like an exorcism." iB

The Scissor Sisters
play Avalon January 14.



ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Alter Bridge, Silvertide, Submersed Feb. 11, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Averi Feb. 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Big Head Todd and the Monsters Feb. 25, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Brothers Past Feb. 10, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Ryan Cabrera Feb. 20, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Dropkick Murphys March 17-20, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Gwar Jan. 31, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Kristin Hersh, Ben Weaver Jan 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Keane Feb. 5, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Pat Metheny Group March 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Jill Scott March 13, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Patty Smyth and Scandal Feb. 5, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Social Distortion Feb. 22, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Third World, Keith Reggae Hurlock, Vibewise Feb. 1, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Ron White, Feb. 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).

Matt Murphy's Round Midnight.
Middle East Downstairs: Rubikon, Stoic, Drinkfist, Haloburn, Adrenokrome, 8 pm, $9.
Mr. Dooley's Eamon Sheehan.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's Sean Aylward, Self-Righteous Bros., the Impulse, Straight To Video, $6.
PA's Smog Monster, 9:30 pm; Milo's Syndicate 10:30 pm; Truth Ending Cycle, 11:30 pm.
Plough and Stars The Armadillos, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Kenny Barron Quintet, Stefon Harris, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Scullers Jazz Club Wannetta Jackson and Friends, 8 and 10 pm, $14.
Toad Mark Erelli, 7 pm; John Cate and the Van Gogh Brothers.
Top of the Hub Jeff Hicks Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Pilot to Gunner, the Milwaukees, Hero Pattern, the Call Up, $8.
Western Front Rhythm Stage and open mike, 9 pm, $6.
ZuZu Frank Smith, 10 pm, no cover..
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

Abbey Lounge Goldenwest, Motorlodge, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Avalon Scissor Sisters, 7 pm, $17.25.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, $5. Upstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Meg Hutchinson, Naomi Sommers, 8 pm, $12.
DeVille Lounge Blacksnake, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Howling Devils, 8:20 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter Gavin DeGraw, 10 pm, $10-$750.
The Green Briar Random Axis.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swerve.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Badfish, 9 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Crown Tops.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm; Spring hill Rounders, 9 pm-1 am.
Kirkland Café Reckless Daughter, Fair Enough, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm, no cover; Kabir, 9:30 pm, $7.
Marquee Stoning Jo.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint.
Middle East Upstairs: The Breakfast, Project 1.9, Dr. Professor, 9 pm, $10. Downstairs: Kool G Rap, OVM, Savin Ill, E3, Radix, Latia La Rock, 8 pm, $20.
Milky Way Live band, 9 pm, $6-$9.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5-7 pm; McTaggarts, 9 pm-2 am.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's Rock City Crimewave, Fast Actin' Fuses, Cocked & Loaded, $7.
Paradise Rock Club: Bob Mould, 9 pm, $15. Lounge: Audrey Can't Die, Kelly Buchanan, Grey Star Morning, 9 pm, no cover.
Parris Loud Mouth Soup, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Palace in Thunderland, Al Chemilla, Sad Marvin.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8:30 pm; Kevin Connolly Band, 9 pm.
Regattabar Kenny Barron Quintet, Stefon Harris, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Shimon Ben-Shir Group, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club The George Coleman Quartet, and 10:30 pm, $18.
Toad The Cranktones.
Top of the Hub Jeff Hicks Group, 9 pm, no cover.
Western Front First Drop, 9 pm, $5.
ZuZu Latin night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 1 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

Abbey Lounge The Tint, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Dave Foley, 4:40 pm; Downstairs Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, $5. Upstairs: Celtic Clan 9:30 pm, $5.
The Burren The Bagboys bluegrass session, 5-7 pm Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 1 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, pm.
Club Passim Jim Weider, 8 pm, $17.
DeVille Lounge Evan Goodrow Band, 10:30 pm, n cover.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Kashmir, 9 pm, $5.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice.
Kirkland Café Winter Surf Music Extravaganz 2005, $5.
Matt Murphy's Nights in Wyoming.
Middle East Upstairs: Sam Bigelow, Spacecake Laura Thomas Band, the Mighty Buck, 9 pm, $9 Downstairs: the Soundtrack of Our Lives, 8 pm, $15
Mr. Dooley's McTaggarts.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's Lamont, Bury the Needle, We're Al Gonna Die, $7.
Paradise Rock Club: Ray Lamontagne, Willy Mason 9 pm, $12. Lounge: Mad Mad Films, Jon Macey, Na talie Flanagan, 9 pm, $8.
Parris Loud Mouth Soup, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Sea Bucket, 9:30 pm; Kings Junk, 10:30 pm Scram, 11:30 pm.
Plough and Stars Tom Hagarty, 5-7:30 pm; On Thin Dime, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Bellevue Cadillac, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club The George Coleman Quartet, and 10:30 pm, $18.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm; the Clif Murphy Band, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Hicks Group, 9 pm, no cover.
Western Front Fitze Niceness, 9 pm, $10.
ZuZu Sou le lu jah, 11 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Dave Foley, 4:30 pm; Eugene Byrne 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover.
The Burren The Cannon Family, 3-6 pm; the Americans Session Band, 6-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Paddy Keenan and Patsy O'Brien 7:30 pm, $16.
Cutler Majestic Theatre Laurie Anderson, 7:30 pm, $30-$40.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Finbar Doyle.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swingin' Johnsons.

nny D's Jazz brunch with Tom Pendergast.
nedy's Midtown Julie Lloyd.
t Murphy's Mang Dub.
dle East Upstairs: The Chainletter, the Crumb livans, 9 pm, $8.
Dooley's Mike Barrett.
adise Lock and Key, Shanghai Valentine, 8 pm, $8.
ugh and Stars Hayseed Prophets, 5:30-7:30 pm; Tamale Brass Band, 9:30 pm.
es Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Steve hinski, 10 am, no cover.
d The Paul Ahlstrand Band, 7 pm; Session erica na, 9 pm.
of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2pm, no er; Paul Nagel Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Zu Johnny Carlevale and the Broken Rhythm s, 10 pm, no cover.

ONDAY, JANUARY 17

e Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costello, nmy Peoples.
ntab Lounge Singer-songwriter open mike, 8 pm.
k's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no er.
ard Lounge Sarah Sweet and Little Joe's aoke, 7 pm.
tt Murphy's Brad Barr.
ddle East Upstairs: Danko Jones, the Vershok, hts, 9 pm, $8.
Brien's Pants Yell, Kitsune, Mycroft, the Shrink-Islands, $6.
radise Lounge: Open-mike night with James eare, 6 pm, $5.
ugh and Stars Primitive Revue, 8:30 pm.
ad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7 pm; the n Gearan Band, 10 pm.
of the Hub Paul Nagel Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Zu Stephen Brodsky, Brett Rosenberg, E.R., 10 , no cover.
s Zygomates Steven Spungin, 7 pm, no cover.

UESDAY, JANUARY 18

e Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
e Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Matt over.
ntab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm.
ub Passim Open Mike with Mike Duffy, 7 pm, $5.
ck's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
e Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
ennessy's Scott Damgaard.
nny D's Greg Anderson & Sara Milonovich.
zard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm; Instant Soul, 30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Low Budget Superhero Presents: A Wish for Fire, Specimen 37, EJ Labb, Babies in Limbo, 9 pm, $8.
Oak Bar Rebeccca Cline, 8 pm.
O'Brien's Honest Bob, Chimp Simple, Lobot, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: Jimmy Chamberlin Complex, 8 pm, $10. Lounge: Sam Shaber with Teddy Goldstein, Kristin Cifelli, 8 pm, $8.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thare, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Francisco Mela Latin Quartet, 8 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Sai Ghose Trio, 8 pm, $15.
Toad Jennifer Kimball, Kris Delmhorst, Kevin Barry, Duke Levine, 7 pm; Katie Terrio, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Commodore Vic, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Antje Duvekot, Adam Brodsky, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground The Adam Ezra Band.
Dick's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm.
Harpers Ferry Jamie McLean Band, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's The Mystics.
Johnny D's Matt Glaser.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm; Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Skope Magazine presents: III Kings, the Kin, Sixth Sense, Dreadnaught, 8 pm, $10.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's Tremulant, On My Terms, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: Sister Hazel, Graham Colton, Drew Copeland, 8 pm, $16. Lounge: Elephant House, Mundo's Circus, 8 pm, $6.
PA's The Kissers.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club A.NO.NE Band, 9 pm, $10.
Toad Rachel McCartney, 7 pm; Steve Mayone, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Andy Milk, Sarah Rabdau, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco, 8 pm, no cover.

Ray Lamontagne plays the Paradise Rock Club January 15

Preview

Swede Success

The Soundtrack of Our Lives celebrate their *Origin*.

TSOOL's love of classic rock comes through in its sound as well as its look.

It seems like once a decade or so, American pop fans take a shine to a new Swedish import. In the past few years, the Soundtrack of Our Lives, like fellow Swedes the Hives, have introduced U.S. audiences to a heavier-rocking sound than Yanks usually associate with the country that gave us ABBA and Ace of Base. TSOOL's combination of psychedelic-influenced groove-rock with catchy classic-pop choruses might seem out of place in a rock radio climate that tends to segregate pop music from heavier sounds, but the 2002 CD *Behind the Music* and its song "Nevermore" built a growing following for TSOOL and helped open up U.S. radio for retro glam rockers like the Darkness. The group, which formed in Göteburg in 1994, also became a live favorite on their Boston visits.

"We've done great in Boston," says Mattias Bärjed, the sextet's lead guitarist, recalling that the band's 2003 show at the Paradise was broadcast on radio stations nationwide. This month, TSOOL returns to town, touring in support of its new CD, *Origin Vol. 1*. The band brings its high-energy live show to the cozier confines of the Middle East Downstairs, in Central Square, this time through.

***Origin Vol. 1*, TSOOL's fourth disc, expands the band's studio sound in all directions, with songs like "Bigtime" and "Transcendental Suicide" spotlighting their heavier, space-rocking side while "Heading for a Breakdown" and "Believe I've Found" feature catchy choruses that recall the Brit pop of the 1990s, or the '60s. Bärjed jokes that the band has "moved up from 1968 to 1972" with its new disc, but adds that *Origin* is his favorite LP yet: "Usually when we finish an album, I can't listen to it for a while—I like them but I need a break. But this one I'm very happy with."**

Bärjed says all the band members listen to a broad variety of music, which helps explain the group's expanding sonic palette. But their primary influences remain the classic rock artists of the 1960s and '70s. "We all like the Who, the Stones, Led Zeppelin," he says, adding that a personal current rave is the legendary Nigerian musician Fela Kuti. But when the group gets together, "it just comes out sounding like the Soundtrack of Our Lives."

The Middle East stop is one of only five shows the band is playing on its current minitour of the U.S., and given the down-sized venue, there's a strong chance the show will sell out. But TSOOL has a more extensive tour planned for March, with a Boston date already scheduled for the Paradise. So if you're shut out of this week's show, you've got another shot to catch the band in a couple of months.

472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). www.mideastclub.com. January 15, 9 pm. $15. 18+. —David Plunkett

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shannon Aaron.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, 8 pm.
Club Passim Jabe Beyer, Sarah Borges, Jimmy Ryan, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Jon Frederik Band.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Mr. Nick's Blues Mafia.
Kirkland Café Ricky Rocksteady, Watch Brigade, David Harold, Eric Harper, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm; Club D'Elf, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight.
Middle East Upstairs: Kieran Ridge Band, Joint Custody, Focusin, the Ferns, 9 pm, $9. Downstiars: The Human Marvels, the Enigma, Rev. Glasseye and His Wooden Leg, 8 pm, $12.
Mr. Dooley's Derek Keane.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's Live-band punk karaoke, $5.
PA's Kite, Asia Mei, Zeke Martin.
Paradise Rock Club: Super Diamond, 9 pm, $20. Lounge: Caroline Guide, 7 pm, $5.
Plough and Stars Elene Jewell Band, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Bill Charlap Trio, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Tony Gallo, 8:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Jazz Club Frank Morgan, 8 and 10 pm, $20.
Toad Deb Pasternak, 7 pm; David Johnston, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Steve Wynn & the Miracle 3, the Silos, Caged Heat, $10.
Western Front Frequency 7, 9 pm, $5.
ZuZu Tom Thumb, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

Abbey Lounge Bill Janovitz, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5. Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Barbara Kessler, Tom Kimmel, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground Baba Reef.
DeVille Lounge Blacksnake, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Blockhead, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Maxie Courtney.
The Green Dragon Tavern Incadence.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm.
The Harp Candiflyp, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Spookie Daly Pride, Adam Richman, 9 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Freeze Pop.
Johnny D's 5 Helena.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm; Springhill Rounders, 9 pm-1 am.
Kirkland Café Johnny Carlevale & the Broken Rhythm Boys, AJ Crowe & the Airconditionaers, Mickey Bliss Organ Trio, $5.
Lizard Lounge Chris Keene, Aurora Ounjan, 7:30 pm; Twinemen, the Pierces, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Marquee Telepathy.
Middle East Upstairs: Labb, Six Day Slide, Meet the Day, Big Top Vertigo, 9 pm, $9. Downstairs: String Theory, Motherseat, 8 pm, $9.
Milky Way Live band, 9 pm, $6-$9.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5-7 pm; Christy O'Connell, 9 pm-2 am.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's Elephant House, In Fervor, Crash Magnet, $7.
Paradise Rock Club : Bob Schneider, Aslyn, 9 pm, $15. Lounge: the Trachenberg Family, 9 pm, $12.
Parris Darik & the Funbags, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's The Beau Roland Band.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8:30 pm; Handsome Frank, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Bill Charlap Trio, 7:30 and 10 pm, $22.50.
Ryles Jazz Club The RPM's, 8:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Jazz Club Sherrie Maricle & the Diva Jazz Orchestra featuring Marlena Shaw, 8 and 10:30 pm, $26.
Symphony Hall Makoto Ozone, Gary Burton, 8 pm, $26-$60.
Toad Melvern Taylor and the Meltones.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group starring Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Detroit Cobras, the Sigh Andrea Gillis, $12.
Western Front Edu Leeds Presents, 9 pm, $7.
ZuZu Latin night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

Abbey Lounge Bill Janovitz, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 4:30 pm. Dow stairs: Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5. Upstairs: To O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, $5.
The Burren The Bagboys bluegrass session, 5-7 p Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers pm.
Club Passim Christopher Williams, Justin Rosolin 7 and 10 pm, $15.
Common Ground Revision.
DeVille Lounge The Spitting Vinnies, 10:30 pm, cover.
Dick's Last Resort Fastimes, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Amo.
The Green Dragon Tavern Velvet Jones.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm.
The Harp Darik & the Funbags, 10 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Nicole Nelson.
Kirkland Café Analog Method, Amun Ra, the V umn, Robot Zen.
Lizard Lounge Only One, 7:30 pm; Twinemen, t Everyday Visuals, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Andy Voelker.
Middle East Upstairs: The Skels, Suspect Devic Ike Reilly Assassination, the Peasants, 9 pm, $1 Downstairs: M.I.C. Presents: We Comin Hip-H Showcase with Lyrical & Invasion, Cekret Socie Acuta, Back Draft, S.L.U.M.S., Dre Robinso Team 220, Venom, NBS, JV Da Rap Singa, DJ Sal DL and more, 8 pm, $12.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Christy O'Connell.
O'Brien's The Hidden, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: Sudden Ease, Parker House Theory, Passenger, the Dij, 9 pm, $10. Lounge: dS Dedos, 9 pm, $8.
Parris Candiflyp, 10 pm,$5-$10.
PA's The Oxford Collapse, Lock and Key.
Plough and Stars Flexible Flyer String Band, 5-7: pm; Twilight Ranchers, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Teresa Ines Group, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Sherrie Maricle & the Diva Ja Orchestra featuring Marlena Shaw, 8 and 10:30 p $26.
Toad Tom Glynn Band.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group starring Magg Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tarbox Ramblers, Tom Leac Muck & the Mires, Whoa Man Jesus, $10.
Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
ZuZu Soul le lu jah, 11 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series wi Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station

Boston-based Sudden Ease headlines a show at the Paradise Rock Club on January 22.

e Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 4:30 pm; Sunday's
ell, 9:30 pm.
avo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron
10, 11:30 am, no cover.
eezeway Rollins Ross Trio, 7:30 pm.
e Burren The Cannon Family, 3-6 pm; the
nericans Session Band, 6-9 pm.
ntab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
ub Passim Christopher Williams, Clare Burson,
)m, $15.
ck's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm, no cover.
e Green Briar Finbar Doyle.
e Green Dragon Tavern The Swingin Johnsons.
nny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry
ikers, 9 am.
nnedy's Midtown Julie Lloyd.
att Murphy's 1,000 to One.
ddle East Upstairs: WMBR's Bats in the Belfry
esents: Dreamchild, Annette Farrington, Ultra-
ish, Kris Thompson, Robert Byrd, 9 pm, $8.
r. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Brien's The Saturday Saints, Steel Poniez, Rosie
intress, $6.
radise Westbound Train, 8 pm, $8.
ough and Stars Jumpin' Juba, 5:30-7:30 pm; Hot
male Brass Band, 9:30 pm.
gattabar John Hammond Trio, 3 and 5:30 pm,
0.
les Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Yoko
iwa, 10 am, no cover.
mphony Hall Makoto Ozone, Gary Burton, 3 pm,
6-$60.
ad Kelly Sprouse, 7 pm; Session American, 10 pm.
p of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm, no
ver; Marshall Wood Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place Colin Meloy of the Decem-
rists, Jake Brennan & Jimmy Ryan, $10-$12.
uZu Central Square Hay Ride, 10 pm, no cover.

IONDAY, JANUARY 24

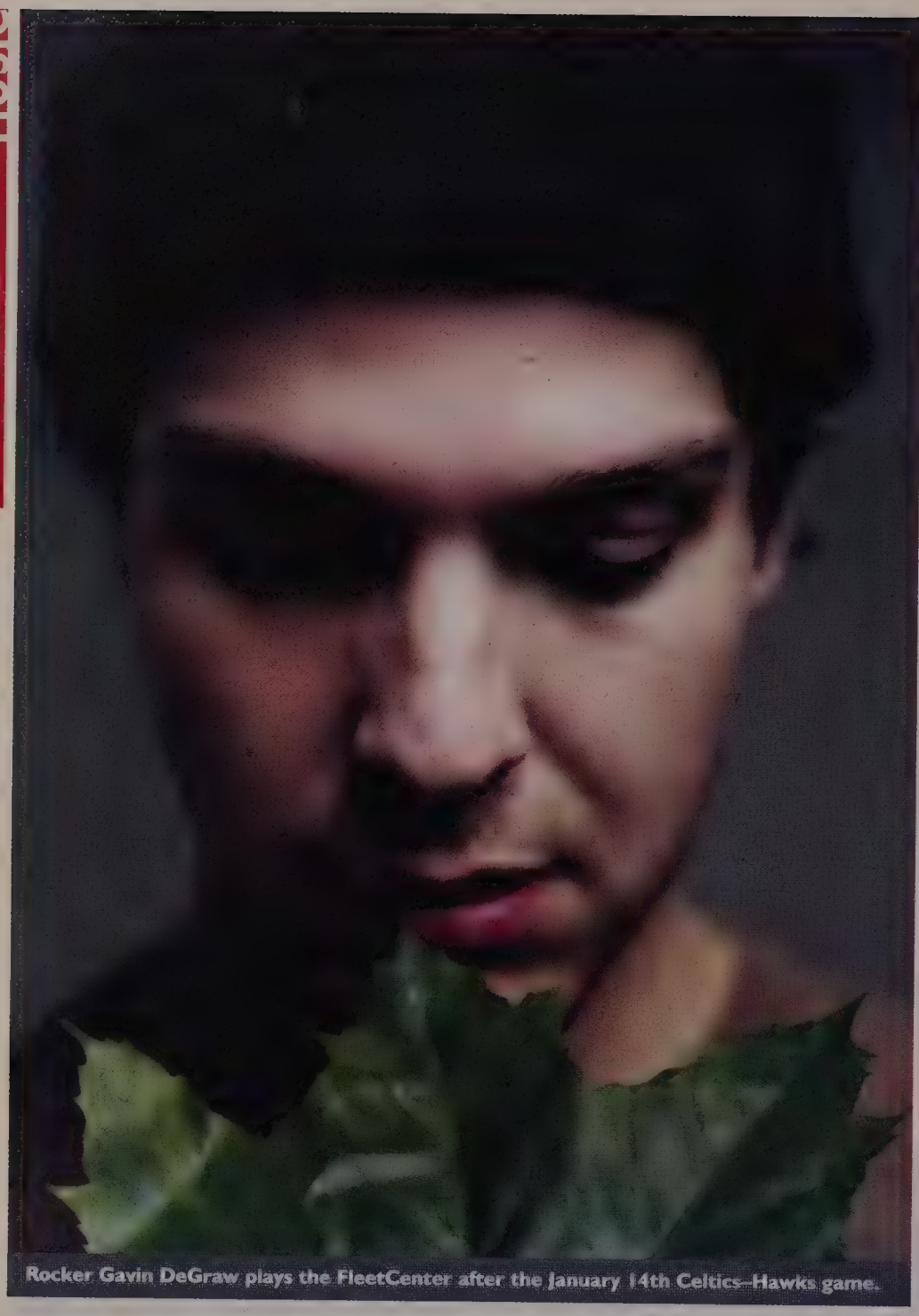
ne Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costello,
)mmy Peoples.
antab Lounge Singer-songwriter open mike, 8 pm.
ick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no
ver.
arper's Ferry Nova Kane, 9 pm, $3.
ennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Sarah Sweet and Little Joe's Karaoke, 8:30 pm.
Matt Murphy's Hilken and Chris.
Middle East Upstairs: Sean P. Rogan, the Sharking, 9 pm, $8.
Paradise Open-mike night with James Cleare, 6 pm, $5.
Plough and Stars Down Dog, 9:30 pm.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Marshall Wood Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Milo Jones, Rick Berlin, Brett Saiia, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Matt Glover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Marc Herman, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Lizard Lounge Low Budget Super Heroes opem mike. 7:30 pm, no cover; Old Dogs/New Tricks, 9:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Clampede, Selfonix, Pinocchio Syndrome, the Violet Sons, 9 pm, $8.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's The Words, Parkview, $6.
Paradise Pamela Means, Ember Swift Band, 8 pm, $10.
Plough and Stars Mark Brine, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar The Sofia Koutsovitis Quintet, 8 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 8 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Julia & Zerounian Ensemble, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
Toad Jennifer Kimball, Kris Delmhorst, Kevin Barry, Duke Levine, 7 pm; Katie Terrio, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub April Hall Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bravery, $8.
ZuZu Ordinario, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Cutler Majestic Theatre *219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
DeVille Lounge *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*



Rocker Gavin DeGraw plays the FleetCenter after the January 14th Celtics–Hawks game.

Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Marquee *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Briens Pub *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

Sister Hazel performs at the Paradise Rock Club January 19 on the second stop of its U.S. tour.

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm, Free. Jane Struss rects scenes from Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro.*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $27-$95. James Levine co ducts the BSO in the world premiere of Milt Babbitt's *Concerti for Orchestra,* as well as wo by Sibelius.

A Voice of Their Own

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington S Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghou org. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12: 1 pm. $5. Sopranos Mary Ann Lanier and Christi DeVaughn, cellist Myrna Trent and pianist Fred icka King perform works by American fema composers.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (61 266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Li to Symphony. 1:30 pm, $27-$95. Same progra as Jan. 13.

Cantata Singers

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (61 868-5885). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $15-$48. T Cantata Singers and Ensemble perform works Bach and Schütz.

Community Music Center of Boston

Allen Hall, Boston Center for the Arts, 34 Warr Ave., Boston (617-482-7494). www. cmcb.or MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. Free. Fa ulty member Yangwei Situ performs Chopi Sonata No. 3 and Dutilleux's Sonata on the piano.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-48 6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Gree Line to Symphony. 2 pm, $20. Robert Kapilo conducts Boston Musica Viva in a performanc of his composition *And Furthermore, They Bit* and Saint-Saen's *Carnival of the Animals*

Boston Early Music Festival: From Heaven and Hell

First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cam bridge (617-424-7232). www.bemf.org. MBTA Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $21-$59. Ensembl Caprice performs works by Andrea Falconier Diego Ortiz and Johann Schmelzer.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym phony. 8 pm, $29-$105. Same program as Jan. 13

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cam bridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm, $15-20. Swiss violin ist Helena Winkelman and Austrian pianis Anton Kernjak perform works by Bartok Brahms and Webern, as well as an original piec by Winkelman.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

Cantata Singers

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-868 5885). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: E Gree Line to Symphony. 3 pm, $15-$48. Same progra as Jan. 14.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series

Emmanuel Church, 5 Newbury St., Boston (617 536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA Green Line to Arlington. 10 am, Free. Emmanue Music presents Bach's Cantata BWV 13 Leonard Matczynski conducts.

New England Conservatory

St. Botolph Hall, 241 St. Botolph St., Boston (617 585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory. edu MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. Free Faculty member David Hagan performs works b Beethoven and Chopin on the piano.

Robert Kapilow conducts his *And Furthermore, They Bite!* January 15.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm, $3. Tenor Jason McStoots, organist Heinrich Christensen and harpist Courtney Furno perform works by Britten and Schütz.

New England Conservatory

Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 6 pm. *Free.* The Borromeo String Quartet performs Schubert's Quartet No. 14 in D Minor, Op. 7.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

Longy Chamber Singers

Edward M. Pickman Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. *Free.* Lorna Cooke de-Varon conducts the Longy Chamber Singers in a concert of Mozart's Requiem in D Minor, K. 626.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.newenglandconservatory.edu . MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. *Free.* As part of the NEC Composers' Series, Malcolm Peyton directs a program of works by Milton Babbitt, who appears in person to discuss his music.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $27-$95. James Conlon conducts pianist Garrick Ohlsson and the BSO in works by Viktor Ullmann and Shostakovich.

I, Too, Sing America

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15-1 pm. $5. Soprano Kokui Selormey Woodson and baritone Brian Ballard perform songs by Hall Johnson, and violinist David Eure and pianist Fredericka King perform the music of William Grant Still.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $43-$48. The Tokyo String Quartet performs works by Mozart, Takemitsu and Beethoven.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm, $27-$95. Same program as Jan. 20.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

Boston Modern Orchestra Project

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-363-0396). www.bmop.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $25-$38. Clarinetist Ian Greitzer, saxophonist Eliot Gattegno and percussionist Nancy Zeltsman join the BMOP in premieres of works by Boston composers Eric Chasalow and Donald Martino, as well as works by William Thomas McKinley and Elliott Schwartz.

Boston Public Library

700 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2285). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ ICA. 2:30 pm. *Free.* Tenor William Hite performs works by Schumann, Strauss and Cambridge composer Betsy Warren Davis.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $29-$105. Same program as Jan. 20.

Convivium Musicum

Church of St. John the Evangelist, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-773-6913). www.convivium.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 8 pm. $8-$15. Music director Scott Metcalfe leads the choir Convivium Musicum in *Lamentations for a Ruined City*, by Robert White and Alfonso Ferrabosco the Elder.

SARASA Chamber Ensemble

Friends Meeting House, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-492-4758). www.sarasamusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $16-$19. Timothy Merton leads the ensemble in a program titled Evolution of the String Quartet, featuring works by Scarlatti, Durante, Boccherini and Haydn.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

Convivium Musicum

University Lutheran Church, 66 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-773-6913). www.convivium.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $8-$15. Same program as Jan. 22.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series

Emmanuel Church, 5 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am, *Free.* Emmanuel Music presents Bach's Cantata BWV 17.

Handel and Haydn Society

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm, $26-$60. Same program as Jan. 21.

King's Chapel Concert Series

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 5 pm, $8-$12. Heinrich Christensen directs the King's Chapel choir and soloists in grand motets by Bach and Brahms.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Faculty member Frances Conover Fitch performs works for dance by Valente, Jacquet de la Guerre, Bach, Byrd, Howells, Locklair, Clement and others on the harpsichord.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. *Free.* The NEC's Youth Philharmonic Orchestra performs works by Barber, Holst and Tchaikovsky with cellist Jacqueline Choir. Benjamin Zander conducts.

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-661-7067). www.proarte.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm, $9-$45. Conductor Isaiah Jackson celebrates his 60th birthday by conducting six Bach-Brandenburg concertos.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $27-$95. Same program as Jan. 20.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm, $3. The New England Winds perform works from 20th-century French composers.

New England Conservatory

Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. *Free.* Faculty members Katarina Miljkovic, Felicia Sandler and Matthias Truniger present recent compositions for solo instruments, ensembles and electronic media.

Tuesdays with Sebastian

St. Paul's Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline (617-661-0570). www.tuesdayswithsebastian. info. 8 pm. $10. Harpsichordist Christa Rakich performs works by Bach.

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ spins top-40, open mike, interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish Seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

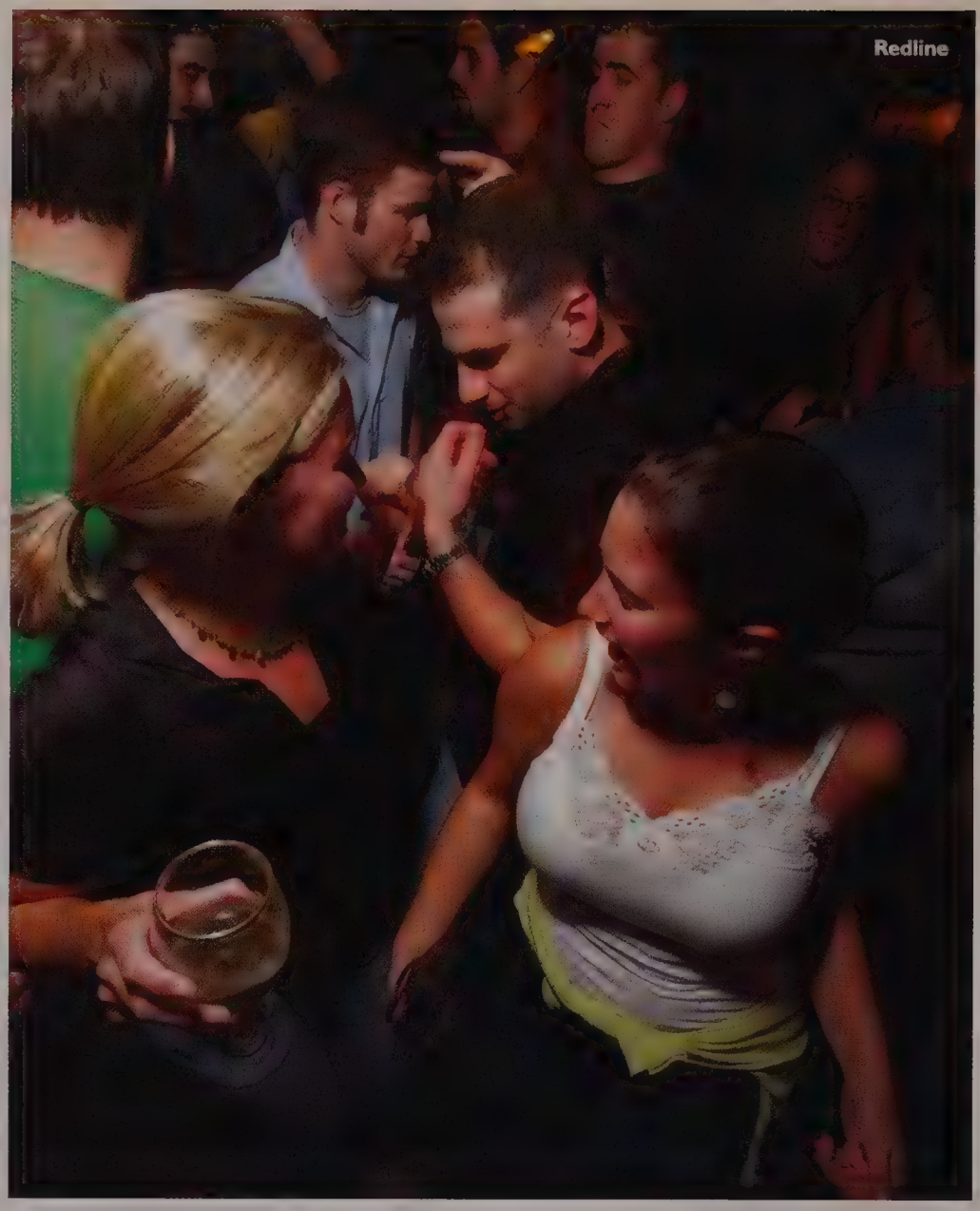
Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Signs of Life Guest DJ's spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.


Redline

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clery's
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts live performances and spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Weekly rotation of underground dance, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Sexy Santa DJs spin top-40 music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock-and-roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor, while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21

Devlin's
DJ Doc spin upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 a no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance a disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, M town, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band pl reggae, funk, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dan tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes including hip-h R&B, and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk a soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog prese drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $ 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $ 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-h all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music a samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin par classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons a dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loun music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin po and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro intern tional, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hi hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul a rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cove

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins ol school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cove 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech a funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 fro the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
DJs spin Latin, international house, hip-hop a R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women wit college ID).

alon
land International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15,

e Avenue
Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1
no cover, 21+.

is
ror Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15,

g Easy Bar
ebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spin-
g top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover
ds, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

l's Bar
e cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2
21+.

ston Rocks
days at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a
ht of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-
tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

price
Kamal and DJ Kon spins a mix of international,
in and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

erys
Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ub Europa
st DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and
s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15,
-, after 11 pm.

ogan's
Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5,
+.

smopolitan
ropean Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style
sic, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

evlin's
Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trans music,
m-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ckside
's spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5,
+.

co Lounge
e Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s
the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

nbassy
rsuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20,
+.

ne Enormous Room
-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from
-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

elt
lansion Fridays" After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm.
SS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy
nce, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

olden Temple
ie E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s
d vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

reen Briar
FK spins dance and top-40, 7-1am, no cover,
+. •Jan. 14: Random Axis. •Jan. 21: Maxie
urtney.

reen Street Grill
ouse band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm,
, 21+.

ypsy Bar
Gabe spins.

he Harp
iday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins
wnstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Jan. 14: The Zoo.
an. 21: Candiflyp.

urricane O'Reilly's
spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10
n, 21+.

D
ashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15,
+.

se McIntyre's
Js spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am,21+.

invara Pub
J Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop,
&B, and pop, 21+.

he Kells
adies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance
hile DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm,
dies free before midnight, 21+.

iquor Store
J Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock,
5.

Matrix/Paradise City
J Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy
ouse and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-
op, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
Js spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
J Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and
ip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
go DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Jan. 14: Loud Mouth Soup. •Jan. 21: Darik and the Funbags.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
International Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

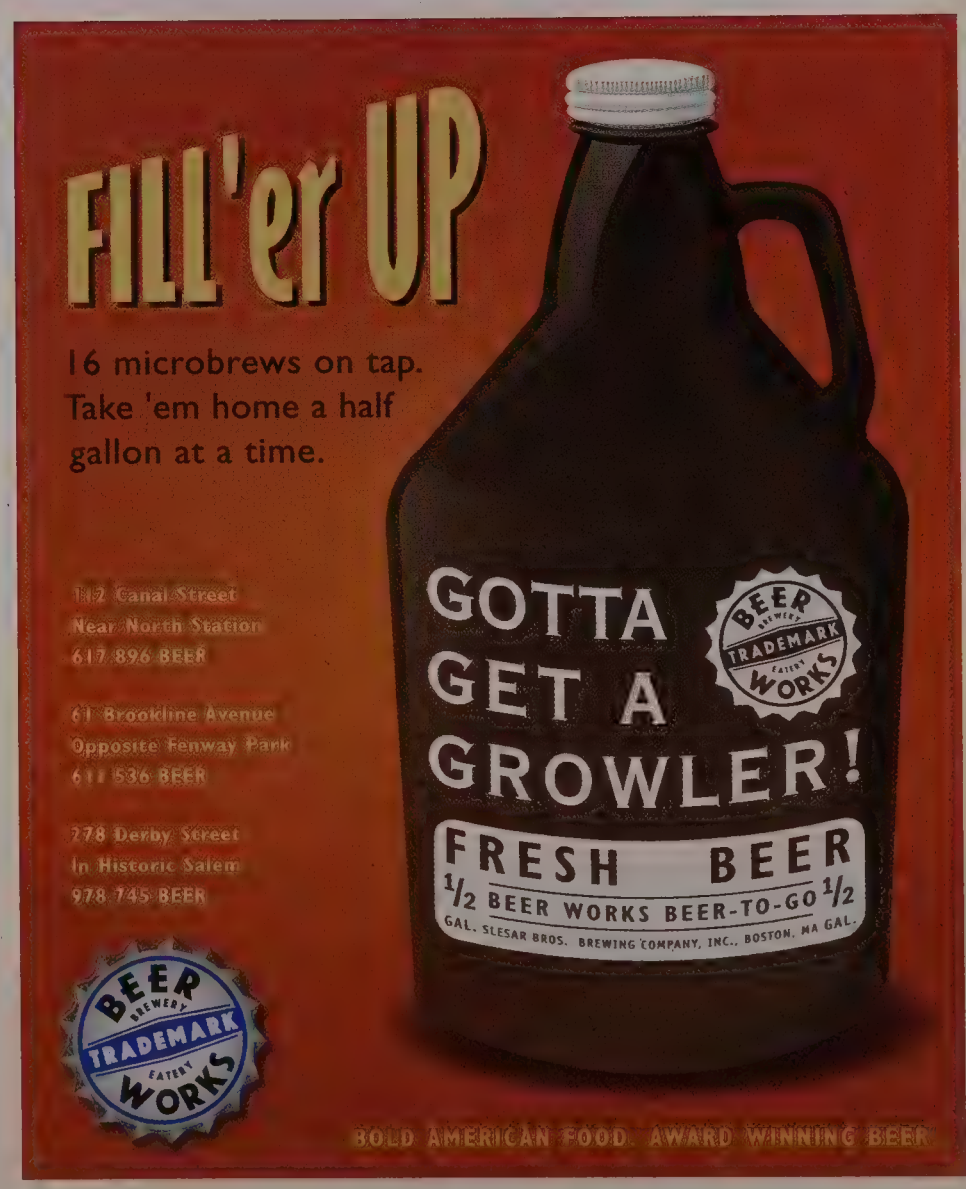
Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.



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The Rack

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Gost and DJ Vagelli create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
1st Floor: DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance; 4th Floor: **"The Penthouse Club"** DJ Tanerk spins house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
•Jan. 22: Amo.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Jan. 15: The Zoo. •Jan. 22: Darik and the Funbags.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Buddha spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis DJs Frank and Matty spin a mix of rock, retro and electro beats, 10 pm, $5, 18+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-h no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio O spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $ men; $5, women (women admitted free bef 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $ 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top- $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Span and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip H nandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 bef 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**T Male Encounter** New England's longest-running male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 p 12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxyg** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21 •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21 •Jan. 15: Loud Mouth Soup. •Jan. 22: Candiflyp.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wo ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roc spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mode mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs DJ Massi and DJ Play each spin the own style of house, progressive and techno music, pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. pla house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, internation and dance, often joined by live bands and speci guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in th front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro f vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

ıe Sugar Shack
Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8,
r.

quila Rain
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10
, $5.

ernan's
turday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic
l-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ast
rses Wretched Design presents an evening of
hic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

enu
ula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek
ıtabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11
ı, 19+.

ertigo
Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm,
5, 21+.

est Street Grille
te Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all
ght, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

UNDAYS

valon
ıy Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and
chno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

ill's Bar
ve reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

oston Rocks
s spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

uzz
azilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am,
0, 19+

aprice
spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

evlin's
dustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and
mixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

kco Lounge
ip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

he Enormous Room
evolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-
am.

reen Briar
nbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

reen Street Grill
ve Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30
n, no cover, 21+.

evel
otating DJs spin Latin and international on the
ird floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house
n the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10,
1+.

hoenix Landing
ump This house-music night has a rotating roster
local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5,
)+.

he Place
had Lamarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no
over, 21+.

he Purple Shamrock
J Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

Q
eggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

he Rack
J Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am,
o cover, 21+.

ed Line
unday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests
pin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

iver Gods
ction Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic
ck-and-roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

yles Dance Hall
Vepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday
f each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa
nusic, 6-10 pm, $12.

aint
pice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night
eaturing Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2
m, $10, 21+.

issy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

ophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm,
10, 21+.

iki Room
eggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub
Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

oast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and
Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

enu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian
night as DJ Leandro spins, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

ertigo
aitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and
world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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JAN. 24 - AGES 32-42
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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in Iran and India* features paintings, decorative arts, and weaponry depicting hunting scenes from western and southern Asia. Jan. 22-June 26. •*Marks of Enlightenment, Traces of Devotion: Japanese Calligraphy and Painting from the Sylvan Barnet and William Burton Collection* features more than 70 objects from the 8th through 20th centuries, including Buddhist scriptures. Through April 17. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through April 13.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. •*Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project* features a puppet opera, a film and a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center by artist Pierre Huyghe. Through April 17.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •*Pretty Sweet: The Sentimental Image in Contemporary Art* features more than 100 works in all media by 33 New England artists. Through April 15. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Prints: System, Style and Subject* is a history of printmaking and graphic systems. Through Jan. 30. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be viewed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing. •*Highlights from the Carpenter Center Photography Collection* are on display through March 20.

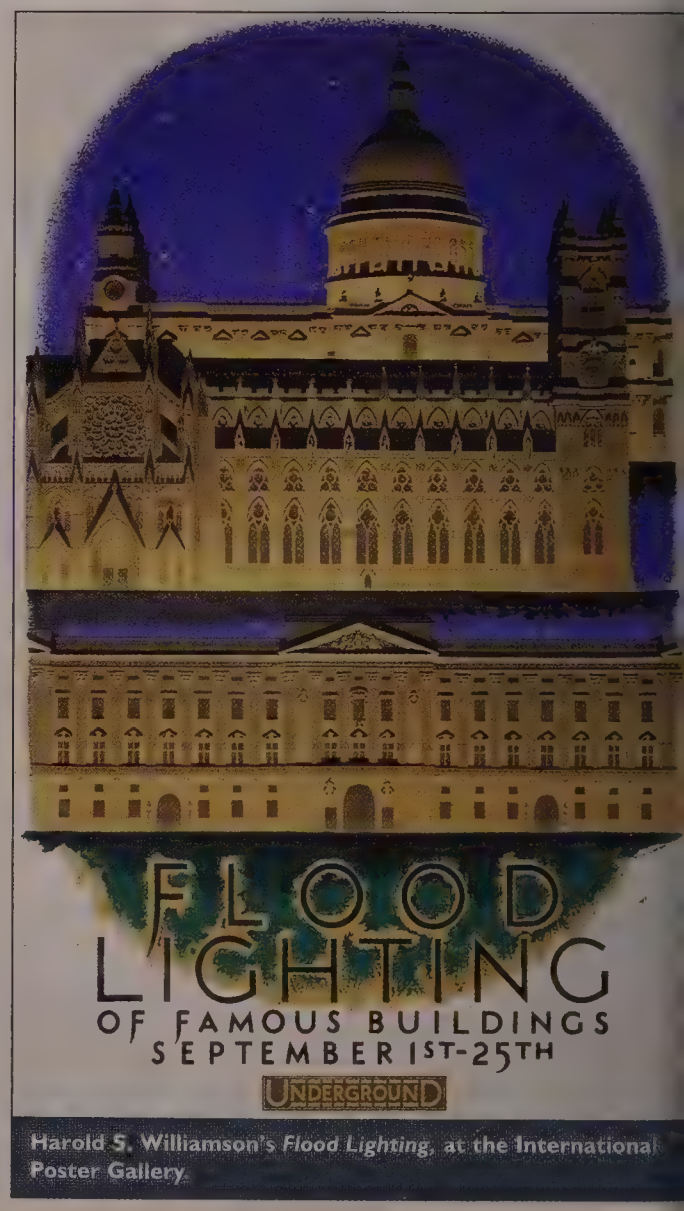
French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Cultural Savage* is a show of collage by Nana Gregory. Through Feb. 4.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun. 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists* features more than 50 artists' portraits of their peers and heroes. Jan. 19-May 1. • Kanishka Raja shows paintings as part of the ICA *Momentum* series. Jan. 19-May 1.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7 students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries depicting Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20.



Harold S. Williamson's *Flood Lighting*, at the International Poster Gallery

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Threads of Faith: Recent Works from the Women of Color Network* is an exhibition of quilts depicting historical, story-based, political and spiritual themes. Jan. 14-March 31. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition highlighting Boston's African-American community in the 19th century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Sets, Series, and Suites: Contemporary Prints* features serial prints by 30 artists from 1950 to the present. Jan. 19-May 29. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Czech photographer's landscapes, still lifes and architectural photos. Through Jan. 17. •*Cerith Wyn Evans* is an installation of seven chandeliers flashing Morse code. Through Jan. 30. •*High Style and Hoopskirts: The 1850s* features mid-19th-century men's and women's clothing. Through March 13. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11. •*Playing with Time* features experimental tools that manipulate the perception of time. Jan. 22-May 1. •*Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* explores vast and harsh African landscapes and the day-to-day life and power struggles of the Kalahari lion. Through Feb. 17. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Deep Inside the Blues: Photographs by Margo Cooper* features 38 black-and-white photographs of musicians taken by Cooper over the past 10 years during her travels through the Mississippi Delta. Through June 15. •Learn how mail-order catalogs revolutionized American shopping in *Satisfaction Guaranteed*. Through Feb. 6. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a compilation of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, shows through April 24. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake* is an exhibition of 30 photographs by Linda Butler capturing the Three Gorges area. Jan. 22-April 24. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 2005. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children, $5. •*Field Photography, The Marsh Arabs of Iraq, 1934* features 34 prints of Arab tribes in the marshlands of southern Iraq. Through Feb. 28. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward S. Morse Collection* is a rare display of Japanese artifacts collected from 1877-1879. Through April. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* features 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December 2005. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Towards Geometric Abstraction* is a show of works by Michael Loew. Through Feb. 5.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's annual sale of art glass, fiber arts, jewelry and ceramics continues through January.

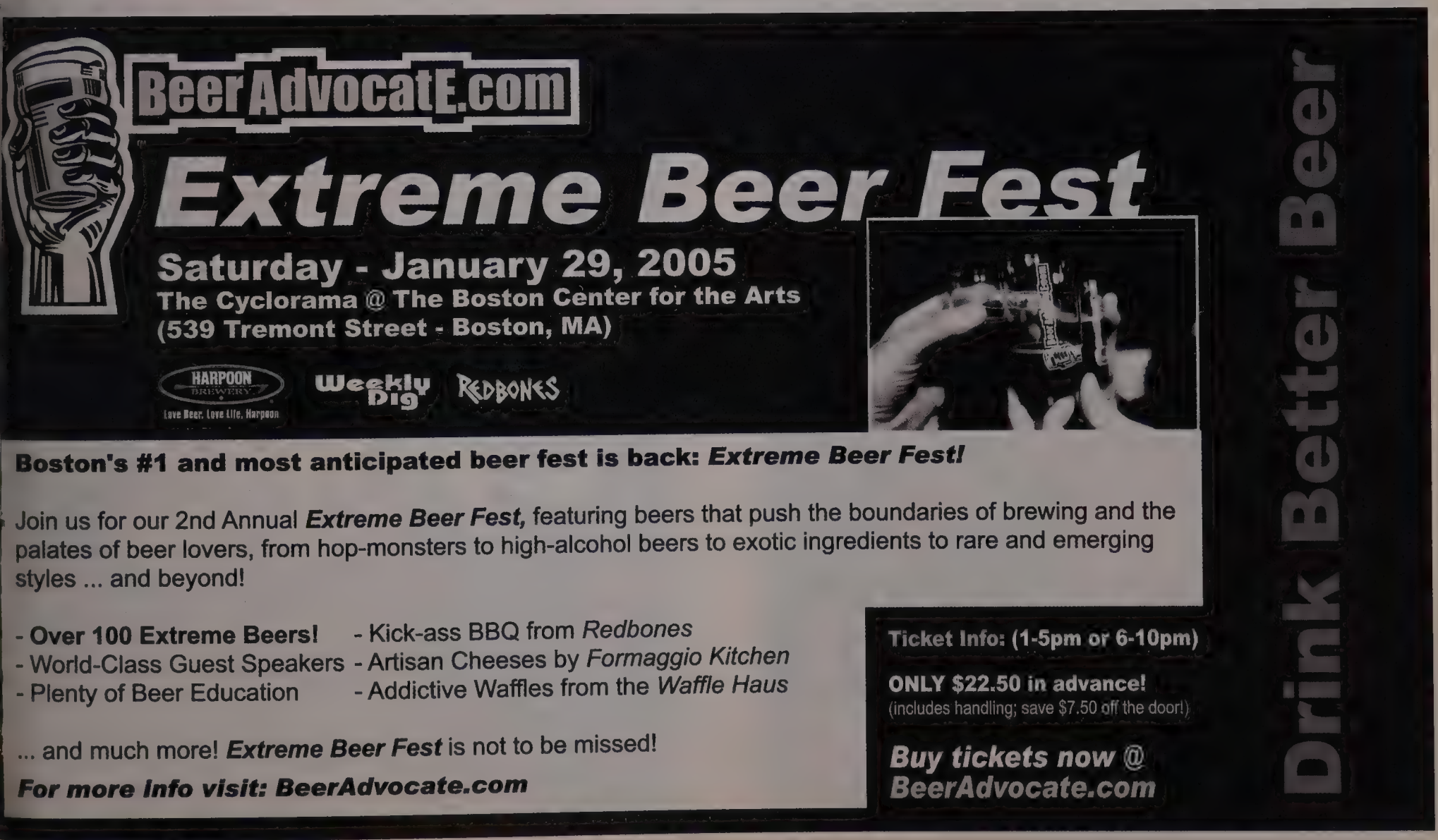
Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Scott Prior shows landscapes, interiors and still lifes, and Kevin Wixted shows new paintings through Feb. 2.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Tom Paiement shows mixed-media work in *Acoustical/Visual Resonance*. Through Jan. 30.

Artana
1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111) www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm. •*Holiday Group Show* features 40 new paintings. Through Jan. 15.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •Caleb Sonik displays graffiti art inspired by Kathmandu and Nepal. Through Jan. 14.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Paper Sculpture Show* displays through January. •*Intimachine: The Art of Intimacy, Expectation and Behavior* is a group show of interactive works in various media. Through Jan. 30.



Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A group show of gallery artists is on display through Feb. 2.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New England Self-Taught Artists* is a group show of mixed-media works. Through Feb. 26.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Tanja Hollander: New Photographs* shows through Feb. 12.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*Unbecoming* features works by Pat Shannon, and *Weightless* features works by Leslie Wilcox. Through Jan. 29.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •*A Certain Journey: Reflections on Lives Passing* is a group show of works by Susanna Darling, Lois Fiore, Riki Moss, Ted Prato and Beverly Sky. Through Feb. 13.

Bromfield Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5. •Natalie Loveless presents *(Co)Operation*, a wall-drawing installation, and Christopher Gardner presents *Lobbies*, a series of photographs depicting San Fransisco lobbies. Through Jan. 29.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Mammoth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Corinne Ulmann: New Paintings and Constructions* is a show of oil paintings and 3-D constructions. Through Feb. 4.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Bill Brauer shows new work. Through Jan. 29.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions—*Edward Page and His Circle* (paintings), *Leo Meissner Drawings* and *Lithographs of Gordon Grant*—display Jan. 17-March 5.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •A collection of works by new gallery members shows through Feb. 5.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Michael Comina shows abstract works in *Man2Man*. Through Jan. 29.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Deborah Bohnert and Jessie Morgan show their work in *Skin*. Through Jan. 28.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. By appointment only through January. •*Last Look: 2004 Gallery Artists* shows through January.

Healing Series by Brian Knep, at Art Interactive through January 30.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., Garden Level, (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri., Dec. 3, 5:30-7:30; •*Color Photographs* by Bill Armstrong displays through Jan. 29.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Structure* is a group show of photographs by Aaron Siskind, Alex MacLean and others. Through Jan. 15.

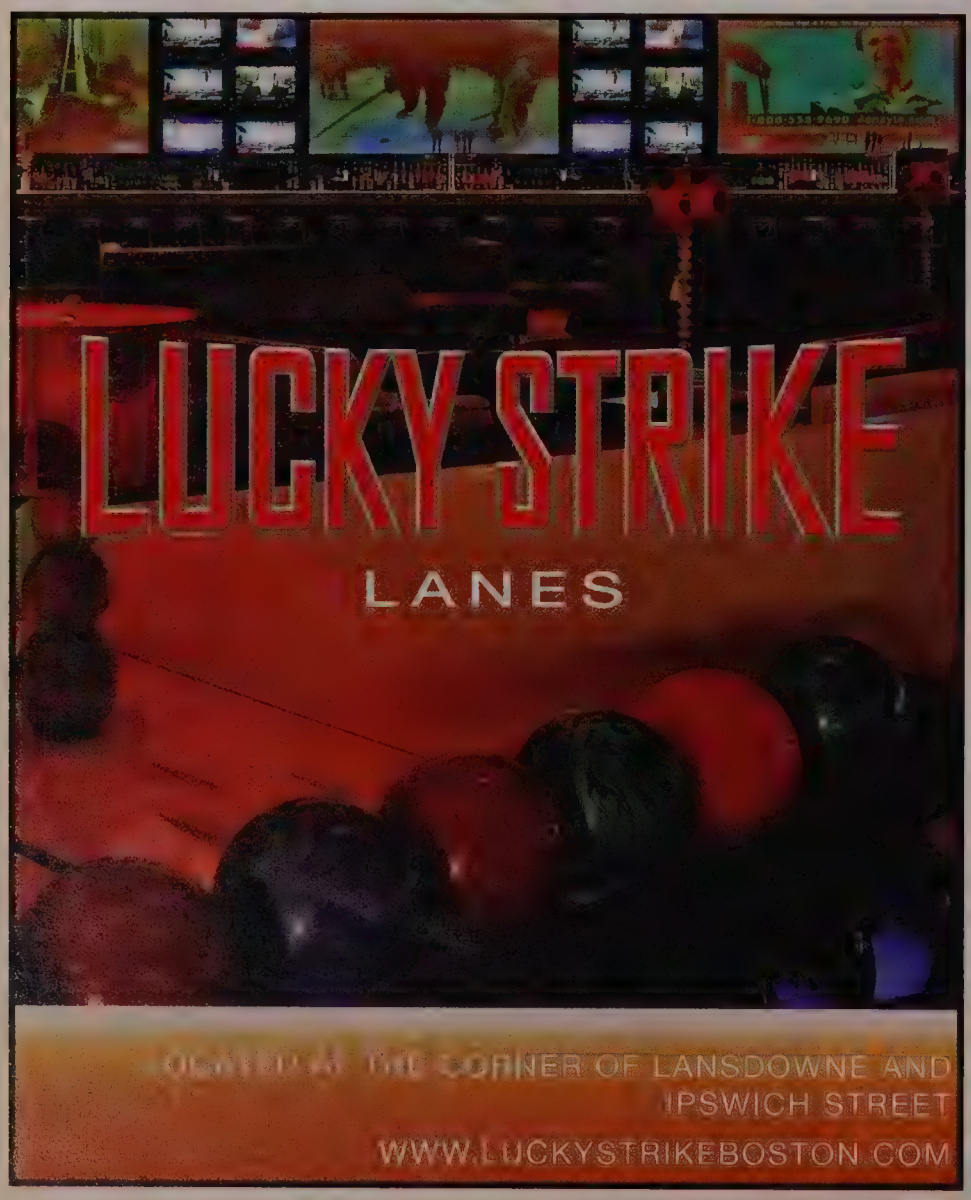
Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Whatever Meredyth Wants: The Eclectic Eye of Meredyth Hyatt Moses* is a group show of paintings and works in glass and clay by 18 artists. Through Jan. 29.

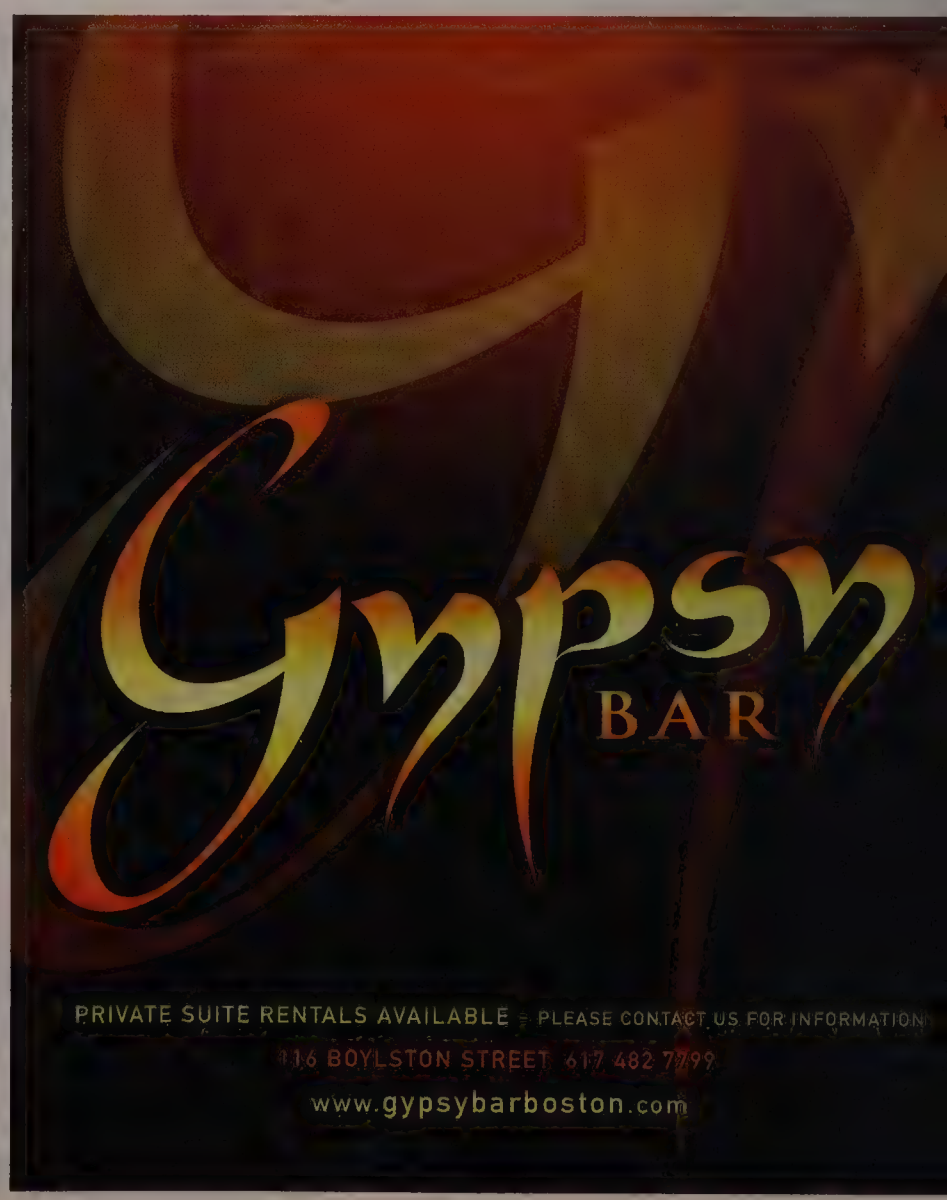
Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., St., Boston (617-426-973 Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Isabel Riley's wo and yarn installation, *Girl Feelings*, displays throu Feb. 1.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.ha steele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-F 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment
•The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prir Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (617-989-9985). ww hallspace.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mo Thu., by appointment; Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. •Cy thia Von Buhler and Leonie Bradbury show th work in *I Am No Angel*, and Dough Bell shows n work in *Nail to Nail*. Through Jan. 15. •Chantal kari shows new work in *WebAffairs*. Jan. 22-Feb. 19

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). ww howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to





ton. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Paul Sham-om's new exhibition, *Meetings*, is on display.

ternational Poster Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.rnationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop-Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The ery's permanent collection showcases a variety of tage posters. •*Naughty and Nice* features posters icting scenes from Paris during the Gay Nineties London during the Roaring Twenties. Through 31.

di Rotenberg Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.rotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. *Introductions 2005* tures new work by LaVaughan Jenkins, Sean enan and Ben Colen. Jan. 13-29.

dy Ann Goldman Fine Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judy dmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. .-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jill Slosburg-Ackerman ows sculpture and sculpted drawings, and Tom mberger shows photographs. Through Jan. 9.

uji Aso Studio
St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.iasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym-my. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, l by appointment. •*Winter Festival of the Arts* is a up show featuring mixed-media works. Jan. 22 ough February.

dder Smith Gallery
1 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kidder thgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-., 11 am-5:30 pm. •California artist Morgan rver shows paintings. Through Jan. 15. •Peter Har-shows photographs in *Lush*. Jan. 19-Feb. 19.

ngston Gallery
Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingston lery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Station. e.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm and by appointment. •Richard Veau shows his work through January.

noue Fine Art
0 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.ouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The lery's collection features works by international and al artists including Andrew Saftel, Ruth Block, il Alzamora and Carrie McGee.

Attitude Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.titudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •A selection works by gallery artists shows through Jan. 31.

ark Gallery
1 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.rkartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. d Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •Abstract intings by John Lobosco and Sandys Moore display rough Feb. 13.

ercury Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercury llery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-t., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Phillip Jones shows new work. n. 22-Feb. 16.

liller Block Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.llerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. ue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •William Ciccariello and reg Parker show recent paintings. Through Feb. 15.

dobilia Gallery
58 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). ww.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; at., 10 am-5 pm. •*Blue Show* is an exhibition of ultimedia works in blue. Through Jan. 29.

HPG Contemporary
50 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.pgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-at., 11 am-5 pm. •*New Art 2005* features works om a national competition juried by Fogg Art Mu-um curator Linda Norden. Through Jan. 29.

lielsen Gallery
79 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.elsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Ved.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •Jake erthot presents *Survey Exhibition:1968-Present*. hrough Jan. 22.

OHT Gallery
50 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ntgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. ue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Recent Objects* is a show f works by Steve Novick. Through Jan. 29.

OSP Gallery
50 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to ack Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •Gallery artists ow their work. Through January.

Out of the Blue Gallery
06 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.utofthebleartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Cen-tral. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.pepper galleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Peter Smuts shows his work in *All Fun and Games*. Through Feb. 5.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Phil Rogers shows paintings in *From Past to Future*. Through Feb. 3.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Laura Letinsky and D.W. Mellor: Still Life* is a photography exhibition. Through Jan. 15. •Beth Yarnelle Edwards shows new photos. Through Feb. 5.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Selected Paintings and Water Colors, Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Picasso. Through March.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •Jeffrey Gibson shows paintings and Rune Olsen shows sculptures in *The Urge That Binds*. Through Jan. 15. •*¡Dominicanazo!* is a group show of photography, painting, video, sculpture and multimedia installations by Dominican artists. Jan. 21-Feb. 27.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Integral*, is a group show of oils, acrylics, watercolors by William St. George, Sandy Mueller-Dick, Christina Keating, Anne Grandin and Judy St. Peter. Through Jan. 30.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Sunlight and Shadow: American Impressionism in New England and Abroad* features 19th- and 20th-century impressionist paintings. Through January.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

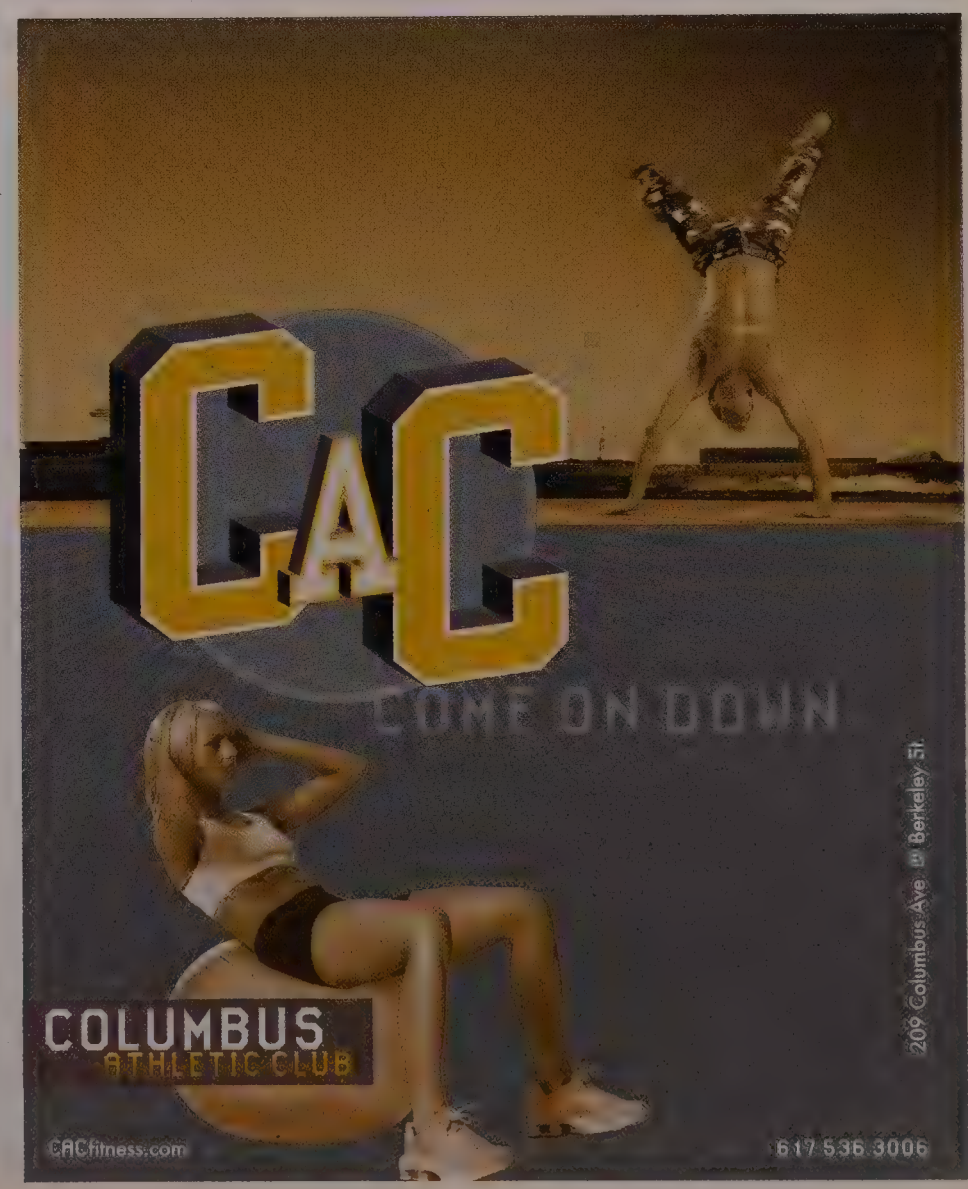
PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*We Skate Hardcore* is a collection of photographs and video images by Vincent Cianni. Through Feb. 3. •Lili Almog shows her work in *Intimacy*. Through Feb. 20.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*A Photo Medley* is a group show of photography by gallery artists. Through Jan. 15.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Picture Taken* is an exhibition of anonymous vintage snapshots. Through Jan. 15. •Jan. 18, a virtual gallery by Ernest C. Withers.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*In the Vernacular: Everyday Photographs from the Rodger Kingston Collection* is a group show including family, found and domestic photographs. *Contemporary Vernacular* features modern artists' response to everyday photos of the past. Through Jan. 23.



books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

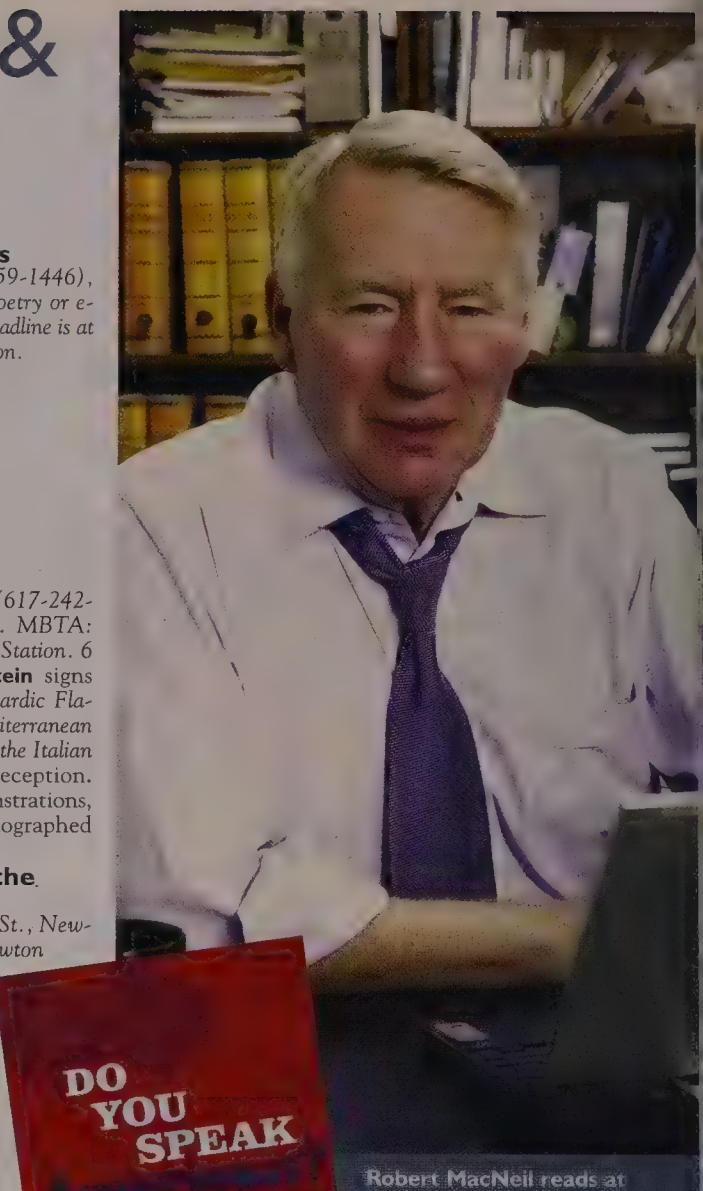
Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

Meze Estiatorio
100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-6393). www.mezeboston.com. MBTA: Orange or Green Line to North Station. 6 pm. $75. Chef **Joyce Goldstein** signs copies of her cookbooks *Sephardic Flavors: Jewish Cooking of the Mediterranean* and *Cucina Ebraica: Flavors of the Italian Jewish Kitchen* at a dinner reception. Tickets include cooking demonstrations, dinner, drinks and one autographed cookbook.

Newtonville Books in the Attic
Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Tom Perrotta** reads from his novel *Little Children*, about adult dramas, marriages and affairs that unfold in a suburban town.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Poets **John Hodgen**, **John Hildebidle** and **David McCann** read from their works.



Robert MacNeil reads at Harvard Book Store January 18

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Local chef **Gordon Hamersley** signs copies of his cookbook *Bistro Cooking at Home* and prepares samples for guests to taste.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Grouphug.us Web site founder **Gabriel Jeffrey** discusses his book, *Stoned, Naked, and Looking in my Neighbor's Window*, a compilation of confessions that appeared on the site in 2003.

Harvard Book Store
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Sister Helen Prejean** reads from her book *The Death of Innocents: An Eyewitness Account of Wrongful Executions*, which examines the American criminal justice system and details her experiences fighting to clear two death row inmates.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

Harvard Book Store
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. UCLA geography professor **Jared Diamond** discusses his new book, *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, which studies fallen civilizations and suggests how the world can avoid committing "ecological suicide."

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

Newtonville Books Lizard's Tale Series
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. **Laurie Stolarz**, **Lara Zeises** and **Kim Ablon Whitney** read from their respective young-adult novels, *Silver for Secrets, Contents Under Pressure* and *See You Down the Road.*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Jeff Shapiro** discusses his novel *Secrets of Sant'Angelo*, about citizens of an Italian town who try to recover from years of misfortune with the help of two mysterious strangers.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Former PBS news anchorman **Robert MacNeil** discusses the new book he co-wrote, *Do You Speak American?*, which looks at American English and how its standards are quickly changing.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Richard Marinick** reads from his novel *Boyos*, set in the criminal underworld in South Boston.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Joyce Wilson**, **Li Conners** and **Kathi Aguero** read from their selected works.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. PETA president **Ingrid Newkirk** discusses *Making Kind Choices: Everyday Ways to Enhance Your Life Through Earth- and Animal-Friendly Living*, her handbook that provides tips on living compassionately.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Stephanie Weller Levine** discusses her book *Mystics, Mavericks and*

errymakers: An Intimate Journey Among Hasidic rls, which describes the lives of adolescent Ha- ic girls living in Brooklyn.

ewtonville Books & Brews
6 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. wtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to New- n Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Stephen Elliott** reads m his latest novel, *Happy Baby*, about a man who es memories of abuse he suffered in the child wel- e system.

RIDAY, JANUARY 21

orter Square Books
White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). MBTA: d Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Stella Rimington** ads from *At Risk*, her debut novel about a itish intelligence officer who tries to thwart rrorists.

IONDAY, JANUARY 24

ewtonville Books in the Attic
nion Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617- 4-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D reen Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Dou- as Coupland** reads from his novel *Eleanor Rigby*, out a lonely middle-aged woman whose life anges when her son appears 20 years after she ve him up for adoption.

rident Booksellers & Café
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-8688). www.trident okscafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 2 n. Free. Boston Phoenix journalist **Sean Glennon** scusses his new book, *This Pats Year: A Trek hrough a Season as a Football Fan*, which chronicles s experience following fans of the New England atriots the year after the team's first Super Bowl ctory.

UESDAY, JANUARY 25

rookline Booksmith
79 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). ww.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green ne to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Sunday Times riter **Redmond O'Hanlon** discusses his travel ook *Trawler: A Journey Through the North Atlantic*, hich describes life aboard a Scottish fishing boat the North Atlantic.

Newtonville Books in the Attic
Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Pam Houston** discusses her novel *Sight Hound*, about a woman's attempt to keep her dog alive after he's diagnosed with cancer.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www. poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies, with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and an open mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

A Piece of Cake: Readings from a Novel in Progress
Radcliffe Institute, Colloquium Room, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-498-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Radcliffe institute fellow **Julia Glass** discusses her novel-in-progress.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

Dark Tide: The Great Molasses Flood of 1919
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State; Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 10:15 am. Free. Author and newspaper reporter **Stephen Puleo** discusses the early-20th-century disaster that killed 21 people when a steel tank holding 2.3 million gallons of molasses collapsed in Boston's North End.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

Truth, Justice and Healing in South Africa Ten Years After
Zero Arrow Theatre, Zero Arrow St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. **Heeten Kalan** of the South Africa Development Fund and Free South Africa and Dr. **Jack Geiger**, former president of Physicians for Human Rights, speak about their campaigns.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

An Evening with Franz Wright
Brookline Adult Education, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7 pm. $8. Pulitzer Prize–winning poet **Franz Wright** discusses his work.

Style and Identity in Modern African Art Music
Radcliffe Institute, Colloquium Room, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-498-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Radcliffe Institute fellow **Olabode Omajola** discusses trends in African music.

What Is a Beautiful Building?
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 7:30 pm. Free. Pulitzer Prize–winning critic **Robert Campbell** and architectural photographer **Peter Vanderwarker** discuss architecture from classical European styles to Harleston Parker Medal–winning buildings in Boston.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

Gallery Talk
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6:30 pm. Free with museum admission. Calcutta-born and Boston-based artist **Kanishka Raja** discusses the ICA's *Momentum* project, which features new work based on the museum's exhibition spaces.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

American West Film Series
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. $5. **John Michalczyk**, chair of the Film Studies Program at Boston College, screens and discusses the classic Western film *High Noon*.

Carvaggio, Murder and Mystery
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 2 pm. Free with museum admission. Mass. College of Art professor **David Nolta** discusses how criminal violence inspired Italian artists like baroque painter Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

The Coelacanth Revisited and Recent Invasions of Land by Fishes
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Boston (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Karel Liem**, Harvard's curator of ichthyology, discusses the coelacanth and the natural mechanism of "slow evolution."

Spirits Need a Lift?

The weather outside may be frightful,
but the wine flowing inside the Seaport Hotel is so delightful!

Warm up at the WGBH Wine & Food Weekend with Master Classes
Saturday, February 5:

Michael Schlow and Christopher Myers
Radius, Via Matta, and Great Bay

Joanne Chang
Flour Bakery + Café

Port tasting and wine and food pairings classes

Join us for a weekend of spectacular events, all to benefit WGBH's TV and Radio programming.
For tickets and information, call 617-300-3999 or visit wgbh.org/wineweekend.

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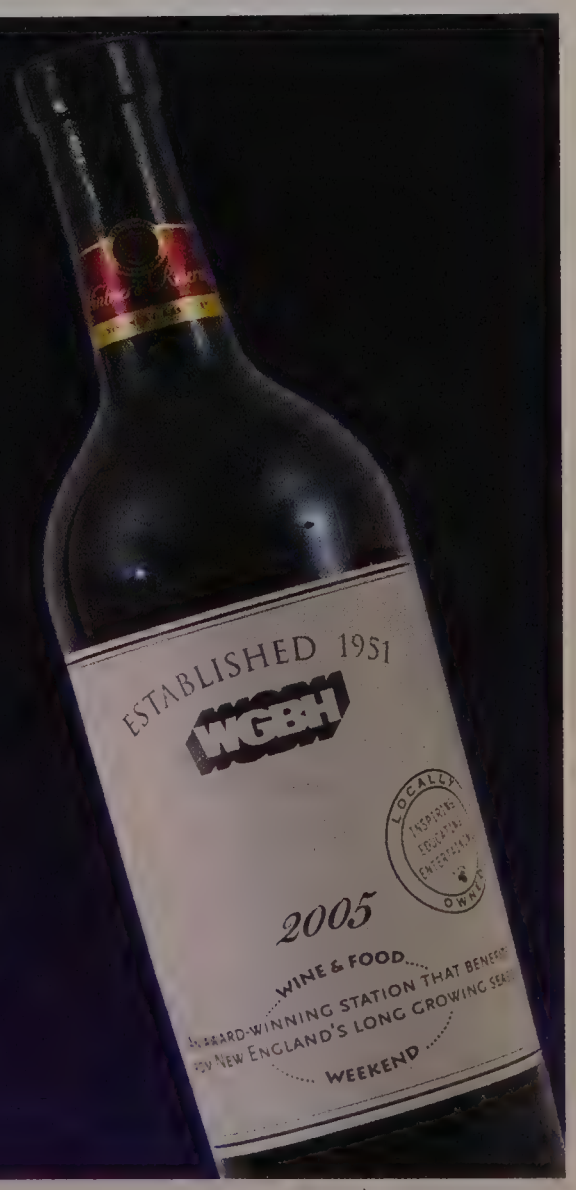


gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door, $5 on guest list. 18+. Rotating guest DJs spins progressive house for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Ms. Kris Kneivil hosts a drag show, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spin progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for women. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-587-0000). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

First Event 2005
Crown Plaza Hotel, 2 Forbes Road, Woburn (781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. Jan. 19-23. $20-$65 per event. This 25th annual event, designed to bring together the transgender community, offers day and evening events, including informational workshops, discussion groups, entertainment, a fashion show, meals and an awards banquet.

The Last Little Porn Shop in Manhattan
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Jan. 22. Thu.- Sat., 8 pm. Sun., 7 pm. $20.50. The T&A Theatre Company performs Anne Continelli's comedy about the last porn shop in New York City and its creative attempts to stay in business.

Single Gay and Lesbian Professionals for the Arts
Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Jan. 15. 3 pm-5:30 pm. $40. Tour the Gardner Museum with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffee. Reservations required.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wednesday and third Thursday of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the challenges and joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge. Call for more information.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people

The Last Little Porn Shop in Manhattan is at the BCA through January 22

assigned female at birth who feel that is not an a curate or complete description of their gende Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, th group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM usa.com for details.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay ma wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. Th group welcomes gay and gay-friendly profession women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic an sophisticated to get together with like-minde women for conversations, dinners, theater an networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hyne ICA. Fenway Community Health offers a wide arra services for the GLBT community, ranging from di cussions about parenting and safe-sex practices t programs addressing domestic violence and sub stance abuse. Call for more information

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Joi Boston's GLBT flag football league for a casua spring season, followed by a formal fall season. A are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave. Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com ~frontrunners. Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to joi this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn mor about photography, socialize and meet new people a these monthly meetings. For more information, e mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-1 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This confidential, toll free hotline provides support for GLBT and ques tioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617 742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. Thi group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the firs and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developin healthy gay relationships features alternatives fo meeting and dating, communication games, single mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome t join this networking organization for GLBT profes sionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Members of this social group fo gay men and lesbians get together on a regular basi to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaic Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thursda of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the

.BT community are invited to share poetry, prose performance pieces at this open-mike event.

irlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian omen of Color
mbridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. e., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line Central. This discussion group for all ages meets ery Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

irlz 2 Girlz
31-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls es 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or nsgendered. For information, contact Marcela dez-Osorio.

affan
embers of this social and networking group for omen receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. r info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

quid Assets Swimming
vw.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and n. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian im team is open to both competitive and fitness immers of all ages and abilities.

he Network/La Red
17-423-7233). The Network is a support group rking to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual omen's and transgender communities. E-mail fo@thenetworklared.org for more information.

ewly Diagnosed Group
l Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 17-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange e to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of ch month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group offers support for gay and bisexual men who have been diagosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail ongtin@jri.org.

ut to Dance
17-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin d ballroom dance classes and workshops are held a gay-friendly environment.

ut TwentySomethings Boston
entysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. his social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay en, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks d their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

eer Listening Line
00-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential formation, referrals and support to their GLBT peers.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men age 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

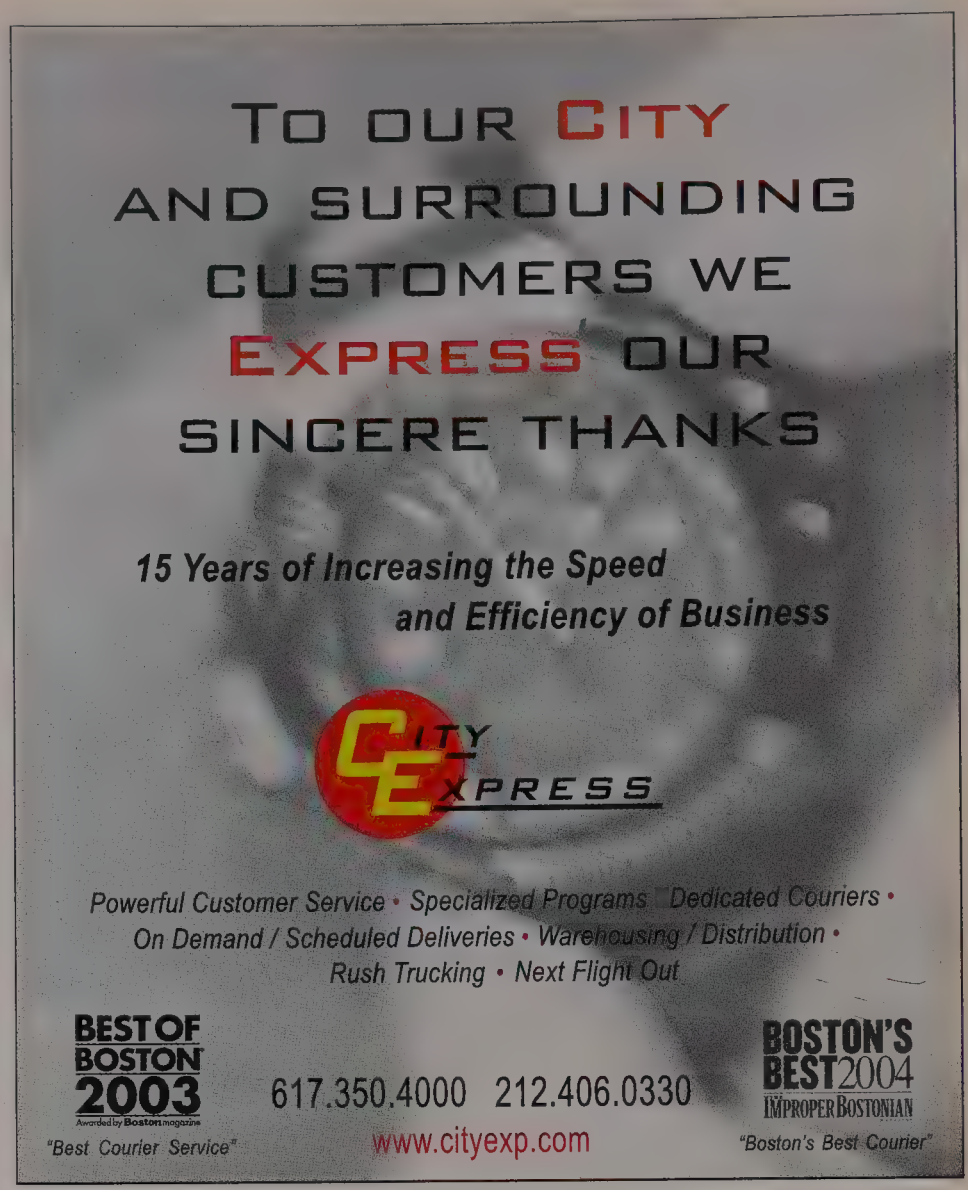
The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbow boston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

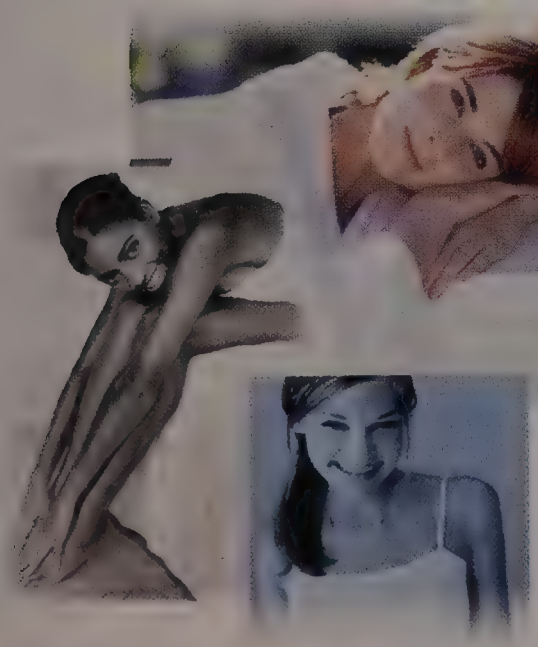
Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatino slgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.





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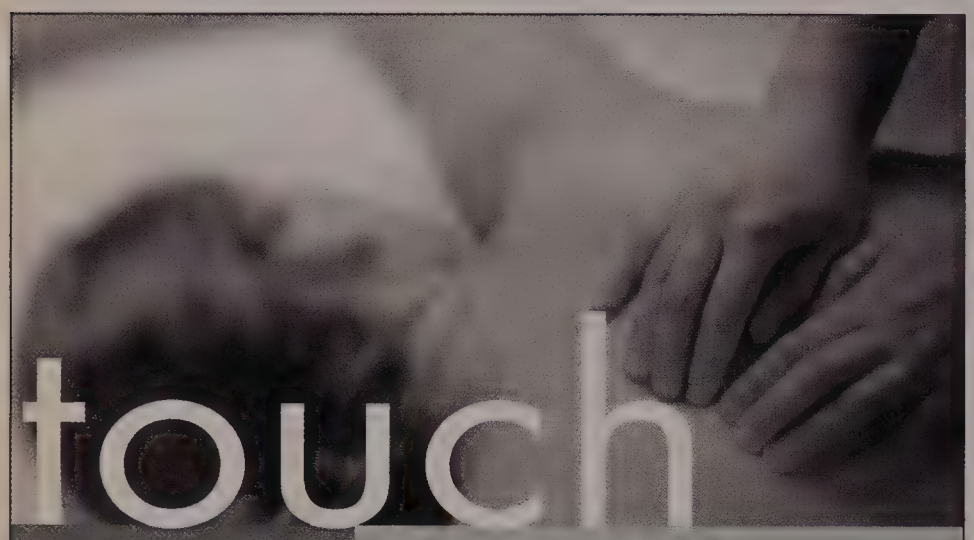

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body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 21, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Accompanied by live music.

Shiatsu School Open House
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass. Ave., 4th floor, Cambridge (617-868-4585). www.charlesriver shiatsu.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Jan. 21, 6-8 pm. Free. The art of shiatsu entails applying pressure to certain points on the body in order to activate the body's energy (also known as chi) for health benefits. Learn more about Shiatsu, view demonstrations and eat some sushi at this school's open house.

Thomas Moore: Caring for the Soul in Difficult Times
Robert Dubbs Auditorium, 115 Greenough St., Brookline High School, Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org or www.cgjungboston.com. Jan. 21, 7-9 pm. $15. Psychotherapist and best-selling author Thomas Moore discusses ways to acknowledge and nurture our inner and outer selves, even in times of difficulty.

Workshops

Breathwork
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Jan. 23, 2-4 pm. $30. Learn how breathing can help calm the mind and emotions and relax the body and spirit. Certified breath facilitator and massage therapist Christine Hall and certified breath facilitator, shiatsu practitioner and licensed mental health counselor Tamar Naor lead this workshop.

Butoh
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com or www.butoh.net. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Jan. 23, 1-4 pm. Call for details. Butoh began as a rebellious dance in Japan during the 1960s. Called the dance of utter darkness, Butoh invites dancers to heighten their perception and move their bodies without thinking too much.

Meditation That Works
Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202-6333). www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Jan. 19, 7-9 pm. $35. This workshop introduces a wide variety of meditation techniques with the aim of helping novices discover which practice suits them best.

Ready Yourself for a New Career Challenge
Wild Women Outfitters, 397 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-641-5776). www.wildwomenoutfitters.com. Jan. 20, 6:30-8 pm. $25. Please preregister. This interactive session introduces participants to practical habits designed to maintain motivation and help them move toward achieving what they truly want from their work.

Reiki Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass Ave #304, Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. Jan. 21, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Come experience a relaxing Reiki energy healing treatment.

Relaxation and Hypnotherapy for Health and Weight Loss
Earthsong Yoga Center, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-480-8884). www.earthsongyoga.com. Jan. 18, 7:30 pm. Free. This workshop is designed to sho participants how relaxation and hypnotherapy ca help change unwanted habits.

Skills and Insights for a Well-Timed Life
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (78 646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. Jan. 21, 8:30 pm. Sliding scale: $12-15. Jan. 22, 10 am- pm. Sliding scale: $90-120. Call for more detail. This two-day workshop introduces time manage ment in a spiritual and creative light, whil teaching participants skills such as sustaining a tention, maintaining boundaries and choosin priorities, plus how to deal with interruption distractions, procrastination and becoming ove whelmed.

Retreat

Maitri: Five Wisdom Energies Meditation
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave Brookline (617-734-1498). www.primordialdot.or MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Jan. 1 16, 18.5 hours. $120. Maitri is a modern medita tion practice based on traditional principles fro the five Buddha families. The practice teache participants how to better understand themselve and gain a greater sense of perspective. Open t all levels.

Ongoing

Basics of Yoga
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St, Boston (617-523-7138) www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles Green Line to Government Center. Mon., 12-1:30p and 5:30-7pm. $10-15, drop-in. This Hatha yog school teaches a blend of styles and methods, an this class, designed for newcomers, introduces th fundamentals of yoga.

Beginner's Meditation
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA Red Line to Central. Tue., 6-7 pm. $5. This class of fers the novice a chance to try meditation in soothing setting.

Beginner's Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga, 215 Brighton Ave. Allston (617 562-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave. or #57, 64, 66 and 50 buslines. Wed., 6:30-8 pm. $15-$20, drop-in. Try th beginner's class in this peaceful environment, bu call ahead if you're dropping in for the first time Parking available.

Gentle Yoga
Karma Yoga Studio, 1132 Massachusetts Ave., Cam bridge (617-547-9642). www.karmayogastudio. com MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon. and Wed., 5:30 6:45 pm. Tue. and Fri., 7-8:30 pm. $15. The overal pace of gentle yoga is slow and steady, with warm ups and easy postures. Perfect for beginners, thos who need to stretch, and individuals with minor in juries or physical limitations.

Iyengar Yoga/Cambridge
St. Mary's Church, 8 Inman St. , Cambridge (781 648-3455). www.yoganow.net. Thu., 6-7:30 pm $16, drop-in. Study beginner-level BKS Iyenga yoga, a spiritually integrated form of yoga, with in structor Dr. Jarvis Chen.

Philosophical Open House
The Philosophy Foundation, Worcester House, 2 Worcester Lane, Waltham (781-647-0020). www philosophyfoundation.org. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. $5 sug gested donation. Check out this gathering to hear an cient and modern wisdom, converse with peers an take time out for silent meditation.

Thomas Moore speaks in Brookline Jan. 21.

Power Yoga Fundamentals
Prana Power Yoga, 282 Centre St. Newton (617-641-9642). www.pran poweryoga.com. Thu., 7:15 pm. $12 Learn the fundamentals of powe yoga, including basic breathing an posture techniques based on th flowing, sequenced style of Vinyas yoga. Open to all levels.

Yoga/South End
South End House, 48 Rutland St. Boston (617- 522-7199). www.an- gelfire.com/ma/patrice. MBTA: Or ange line to Mass Ave or Back Bay Mon. and Tue., 7 pm. $15-$17. These mixed-level yoga classes are taught by certified kripalu yoga in- structor Patrice Flesch. Drop-ins and beginners are welcome.

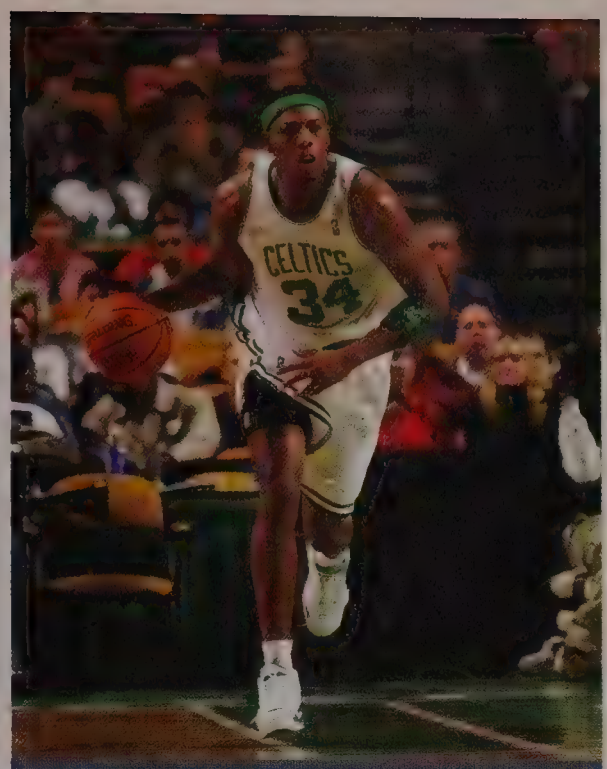
Sports

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Celtics
FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
Jan. 14, 7:30 pm vs. Atlanta Hawks
Jan. 19, 7 pm vs. Chicago Bulls



Paul Pierce and the Celtics take on the Atlanta Hawks Jan. 14 and the Chicago Bulls Jan. 19.

Events

Runners for Those in Need in Iraq Run
Jan. 23, 9:30 pm. American Legion Marsh Post, 5 Greenough Boulevard-Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Donate useful personal items for American soldiers in Iraq, then go on a fun run around the Charles. Brunch follows. See Web site for list of needed items.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
25 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now for dodgeball teams.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
61 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-7101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stage combat programs offered.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480) www.baystateskatingschool.org. Classes for adults and kids at 14 rinks around the city.

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Membership includes access to a ski lodge and ski and snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

Discover more terrain, more snow and less crowding with packages starting at just $59.95* for a lift ticket and slopeside lodging.

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CoISo
Copley Society of art

Copley Society of art wishes you a happy, healthy and art-filled new year.

EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

January 6 - February 5, 2005
NEW MEMBERS' SHOW
Artist Reception: Thursday, January 6th, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

February 10 - March 5, 2005
STEPHEN D. PAINE SCHOLARSHIP:
Award-Winners & Honorable Mentions
Scholarship established by the Boston Art Dealers Association
Artist Reception: Thursday, February 10th, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

16th ANNUAL STUDENT SHOW
Artist Reception: Thursday, February 10th, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

March 10 - April 2, 2005
MANIFEST: The Many Faces of Boston
A Juried Exhibition of Contemporary Artists (Open to All Artists)
Artist Reception: Thursday, March 10th, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Become a ColSo Patron and receive advance notice of events and discounts on all art purchases and workshops. All new Patron Memberships of $100+ will be eligible to win a Jason Brockert painting (valued at $850.) Please visit www.copleysociety.org for more details.

:: ONE5OEIGHT Newbury BOSTON MA p:: 617.536.5049
w:: copleysociety.org gallery hours:: Tues-Sat 10:30-5:30

since 1879

children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10; children $8. •Saturdays, 10:30 am: Saturday Morning Kids Variety Show. •Jan. 15. The Jim Show features stunt comedy and acrobatics. •Jan. 22. Toe Jam Puppet Band performs songs, stories and shadow puppetry.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-2045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 15, 9 am-12 pm. $35 non members, $31.50 members. Saturday Scholars' presents *Surfing the Sea*, an exhibition of live ocean animals from New England.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •Jan. 12 and 13, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Spring Valley Puppets presents *Three Wishes & Wolf in Sheep's Clothing.* •Jan. 15 and 16, 1 and 3 pm, ages 3-7. Pumpernickel Puppets presents *Peter Rabbit & Other Stories*, which features Peter Rabbit's birthday party, performed by puppeteer John McDonough. •Jan 19 and 20, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Deborah Costine presents a new version of the Cinderella story, *Cinderella: A Woodland Fairy Princess.* •Jan. 22 and 23, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-9. Christopher Piper of the Puppet Company presents *Peter and the Wolf*, a one-man show based on Russia's tale of good versus evil and staged with half-life-size marionettes.

Regent Theatre

7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.regenttheatre.com. MBTA: 350 bus to Arlington Center. Jan. 22, 10:30 am. $7 adults, $5 children. Spoof Gabbling Circus is a two-person comedy juggling show for all ages.

Sesame Street Live

Agganis Arena, Boston University, 925 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-318-7000). www.sesamestreetlive.com. MBTA: Green Line. Jan. 20, 7:30 pm, Jan. 21, 10:30 am and 7:30 pm, Jan. 22, 10:30 am, 2 and 5:30 pm, Jan. 23, 1 and 4:30 pm. $15-$25. The VEE Corporation presents the 25th anniversary show of *Sesame Street Live.*

A Year with Frog and Toad

Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 12-16, 10 am and 2 pm. $20-$25. This Broadway musical is based on the popular children's books by Arnold Lobel.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music

Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Boston Art Tours

Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet

Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am and 2 pm; $8. This child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail's architecture and history is designed for walkers 6 to 12 years old.

Boston Public Library

Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm.

•Jan. 14 and 21, 10 am, ages 2-5. Children listen music, read stories, paint and more at Read Readiness.

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (6 426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red L to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Da KidsStage is an interactive theater featuring p fessional actors and museum staff. •Fri., 3-5 p Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone i hands-on science challenge culled from the P TV show *Zoom.* •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The studio is open for bookmaking, painting, fing puppet making and more.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200 http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to H vard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members re children's stories. Snacks and craft activities follo

Ice Skating at Frog Pond

Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-367-234 www.cityofboston.gov/parks/FrogPond_winter.a MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon., 10 an pm; Sun.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 p $3. Skate on Boston Common's frozen Frog Pon which offers concessions, skate rentals, restroo and warming areas.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kend Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; a 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free (f admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holog phy, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring t world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoir •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artific intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Mode The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship mode from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

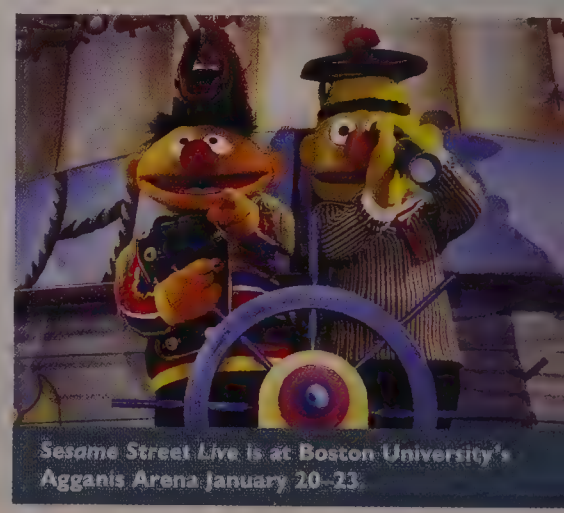
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.m org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Su 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; ch dren, $10. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavi and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Co puting Revolution* traces the history of compute from the electronic giants of the 1940s to toda smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling t Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of nosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoir •*Playing by the Rules: Fish, Fads, and Fireflies* exa ines how simple processes can generate complex r sults. Ongoing. •*Playing with Time* explores techn ogy that detects and manipulates time. Ja 22–April 21. •*Making Models* is an interactive exh bition that features models of a wave tank, Mou Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Scien in the Park is a permanent playground with a scie tific spin. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am. Animals and St ries Alive is an interactive story hour featuring fo tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.nea org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; s niors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* fe tures thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •Th 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains shark stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the S* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, he mit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Simons IMA Theatre. Check Web site for listings.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.c newton.ma.us/library. •Thursdays, 7 pm. Staff mem bers read to children ages 4 and up at Pajama Stor time. •Fridays, 10:30 am. Films for preschoole screen.


Sesame Street Live is at Boston University's Agganis Arena January 20–23

around town

Sights to See

oston University Observatory
it Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-3-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-t., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

ildren's Museum
0 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-55). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to th Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 . $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

aneuil Hall
State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue ne to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 -9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. ee.

arvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.mh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. on.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

hn F. Kennedy Library & Museum
lumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: d Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; se-rs and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

ount Auburn Cemetery
0 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). BTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

useum of Afro-American History
Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam seum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or reen Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memor-Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 -4 pm. Free.

useum of Science
ience Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. g. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, 1.

useum of Transportation
i Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-n., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

ew England Aquarium
entral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www. aq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June): Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 n. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

ld North Church
)3 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

ld State House Museum
)6 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: range or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, niors and students, $4; children, $1.

rudential Center Skywalk
)0 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: reen Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. 9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; chil-en under 3, free.

rinity Church
)6 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: reen Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; chil-en 12 and under, free.

SS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). ww.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

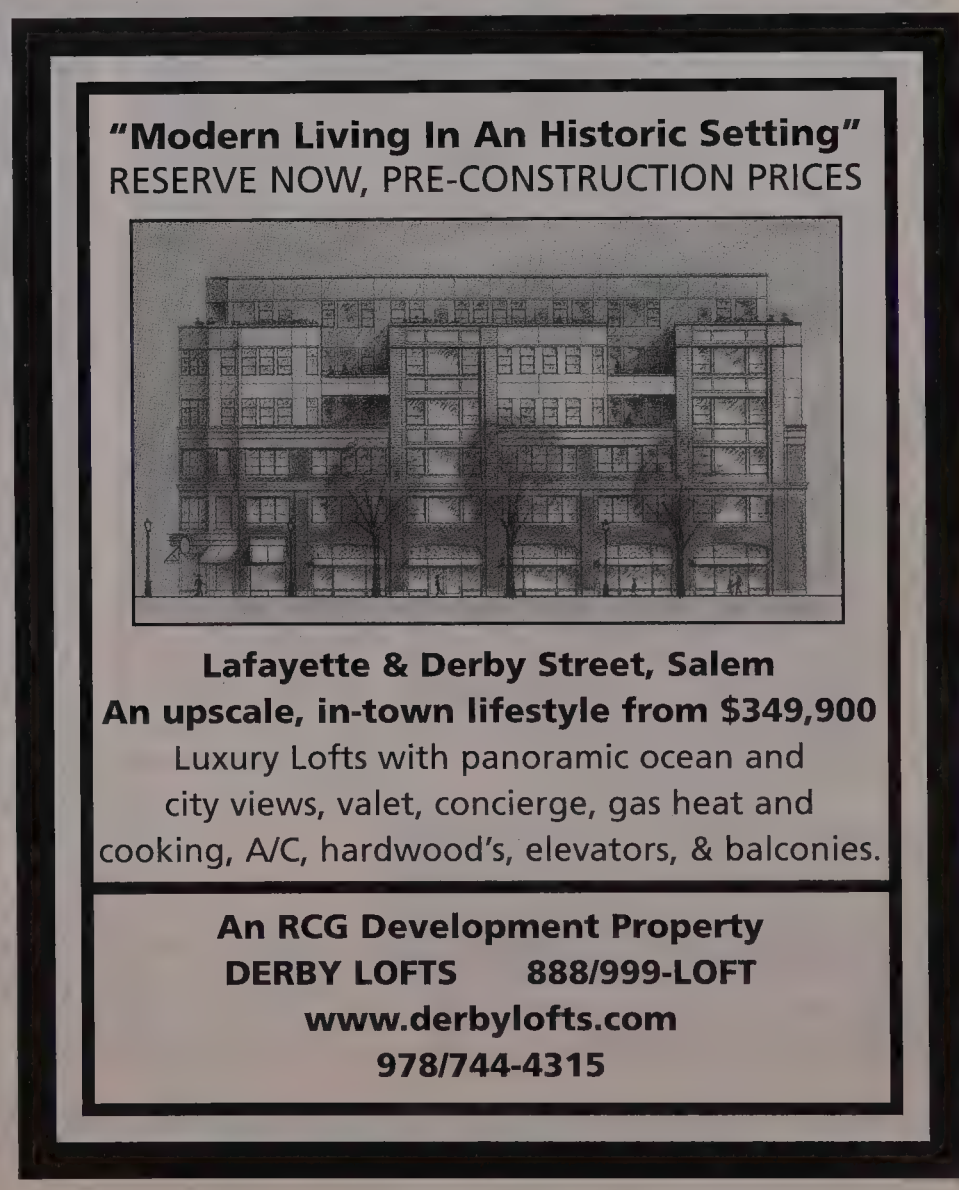
Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

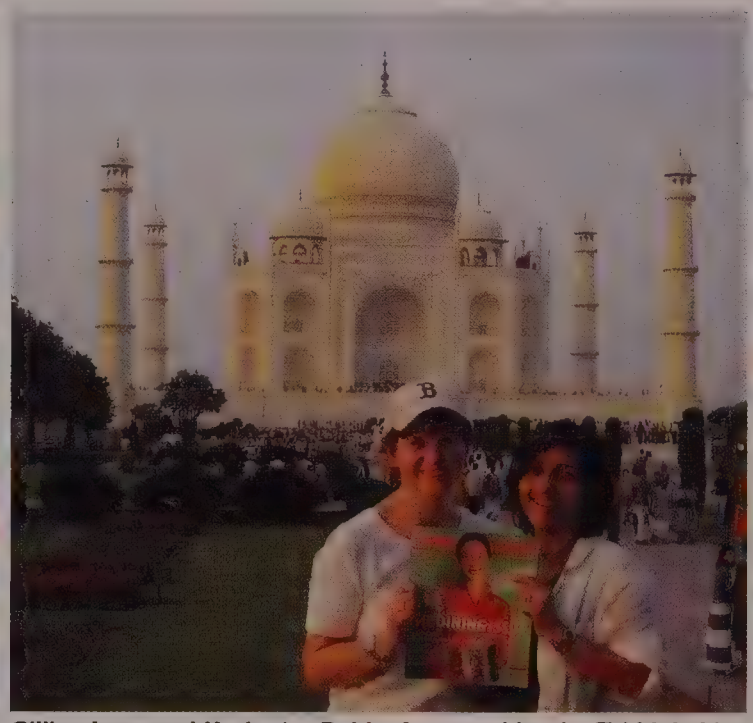


IMPROPER sightings

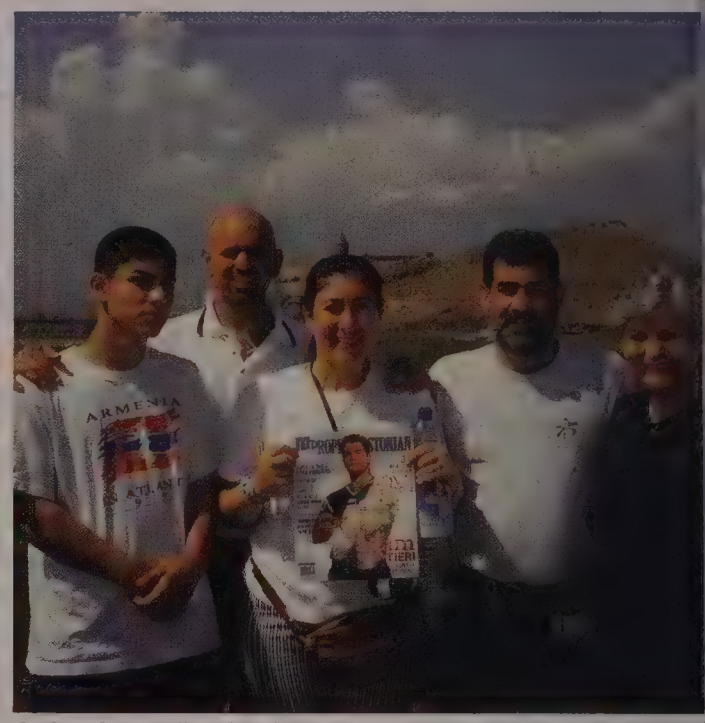
UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRI

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you we The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

English Parliament member Andrew Love, Florida Congresswoman Katherine Harris and Parliament member David Chidgey all know a few counts.



Gillian Lane and Kashmira Baldauf stopped by the Taj Mahal in Agra, India. Then they spent a day at the adjoining spa resort, Massage Mahal. They parked, of course, in the Garage Mahal.



Arthur Sabounjian, Mark Kashgegian, LuAnn Sabounjian, Fr. Krikor Sabounjian and Rosemarie Davidian stand before Mount Arafat in Armenia. That's a building behind LuAnn, not a horn.

Danielle Quintin and Henry Almeida (at left) strike a pose with several fellow tourists and locals in Bayahibe, Dominican Republic. The Red Sox are huge in the Dominican, thanks to home-grown hero Doug Mientkiewicz.

Esther Ning Yau and Chung Cheng traveled to the cathedral in Lima, Peru. Lima was sacked in 1582 by a mob of 5-year-olds bent on wiping out the lima bean forever.

Andreea Gorbatai checks out the Acropolis in Athens, where the ancient Greeks held gladiator battles. Right?

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Flinging a tuna with all their might at the Tuna Toss world championship competition, held during Tunarama, Jan. 22–26 in Port Lincoln, Australia.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

improperimpersonals

veryone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the rld to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of rself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Mr. Starbucks

e seen you at the Marriott gym in e morning (though I never peek) fore you get your coffee (Venti rk—no sugar—you're sweet ough!). I notice you're minus a g and a mustache. Now that u're free, come see me!
-Caramel Macchiatto

David in BMW on Mass Pike

e were stuck next to each other in affic on the Mass Pike the day fore Thanksgiving. You were in a rk-colored BMW. We made eye ntact a couple times and then you t my attention when you beeped. e talked (or yelled, really) through r open car windows and you told e I had a nice smile. I told you I ought you were very handsome. u said, in an accent that may have en Italian, that you were heading Long Island for the holiday. You ld me you lived in Coolidge Corner nd that your name was David. hile we held up traffic, you asked if ou could take me out for a drink nd I said yes and yelled you my umber. What happened? Maybe you pied the number down wrong? You ever called, and I can't forget your mile or face. If I am so lucky to ave found you and you're still nterested in that drink, e-mail me ith more details. I'd love to see ou again.
—highwaysmile@otmail.com

Net Brunette

saw you the evening of December 0 down by Park Plaza; you were arrying a blue umbrella and earing a black leather jacket and a ute smile when we passed (I was the ent in the black topcoat.) You went nto Dedo and I wish I had followed ou in to discover if you were as cute s your smile. My loss (but I hope ou stayed dry!).
—RJ

Tails Between Legs

o the tyrannical couple at Oleana Impersonals, Dec. 15, 2004]: Would ou care if discourse on gay narriage rooted in your point of iew offended a dining neighbor? I m in fact a gay man opposed to gay narriage. (I am instead for a reconsideration of household rights nd responsibilities across all non-narital arrangements.) You are ushing a radical agenda that Justice Scalia rightly criticized for its unconstitutional judicial activism nd for the legal roadblocks to all non-hetero marriages that it dismantles (which, yes, could eventually lead to unions of bestiality and incest). What you consider ignorance is known as civic discourse. Still, I would ignore your conversation at the next table in peace, not poison. And by the way, you did not have a wedding ceremony 10 years ago. I hope as well that any legal ceremony is overturned by a constitutional amendment, which, by the way, is not a constitutional abuse—as is gay marriage. Regardless of what you think, stray from presumptuous self-aggrandizement. You know nothing about these men except that they do not agree with you.
—Mr. B.

Luck of the Irish

When we had our company party December 10 upstairs at Lir, you were the tallest and most braided of the three women staffing the bar. I couldn't make up my mind about drinks, so I kept switching between double Jameson and Guinness. Having visited Ireland, I received many a Guinness with a shamrock in the cream. But when you started serving my Guinness, I was very surprised by the gift in the cream. It's not often that something so simple makes one feel so good. It has been said that the whole may be greater than the sum of all the parts. Know that your gift made the evening just that—greater than the sum of all the parts. Maybe you do the same for other guys who venture in, but whether you do or not, I must say "Go raibh maith agat" because you made me feel quite special. I hope that my telling you about this makes you feel special too.
—GimmeGuinness@operamail.com

Dated Bart?

Feeling dirty? If you have dated Bart in the last few months, you definitely should. I just found out that there are a lot of us out there that have. Trust me—you need to protect yourself. I'm sure he is spreading more than just his filthy lies. Bart, we know you read this as we all know you dated someone who found you here. So pay close attention: You should get yourself tested too and stop the madness. Game over—we all know you're nasty.
—An ex

Red Line T, Dec. 18, 7:30 pm

You: crew-cut brown hair, crammed in a seat, reading a book on top of your bag, drifting off to sleep. Me: blue jacket, brown hair, iPod in tow. Waiting for the doors to open at Davis Square, we made eye contact, and I think (I hope!) I got a little smile from you. You struck me as one of the most handsome men I've ever seen. I would have talked to you above ground but you took a right out of the station, and I went left toward Davis Square. E-mail me and let me know how you're enjoying the book. Maybe we can meet over coffee to talk about books and the joys of napping.
—redlinedec18@yahoo.com

Riding the Rail

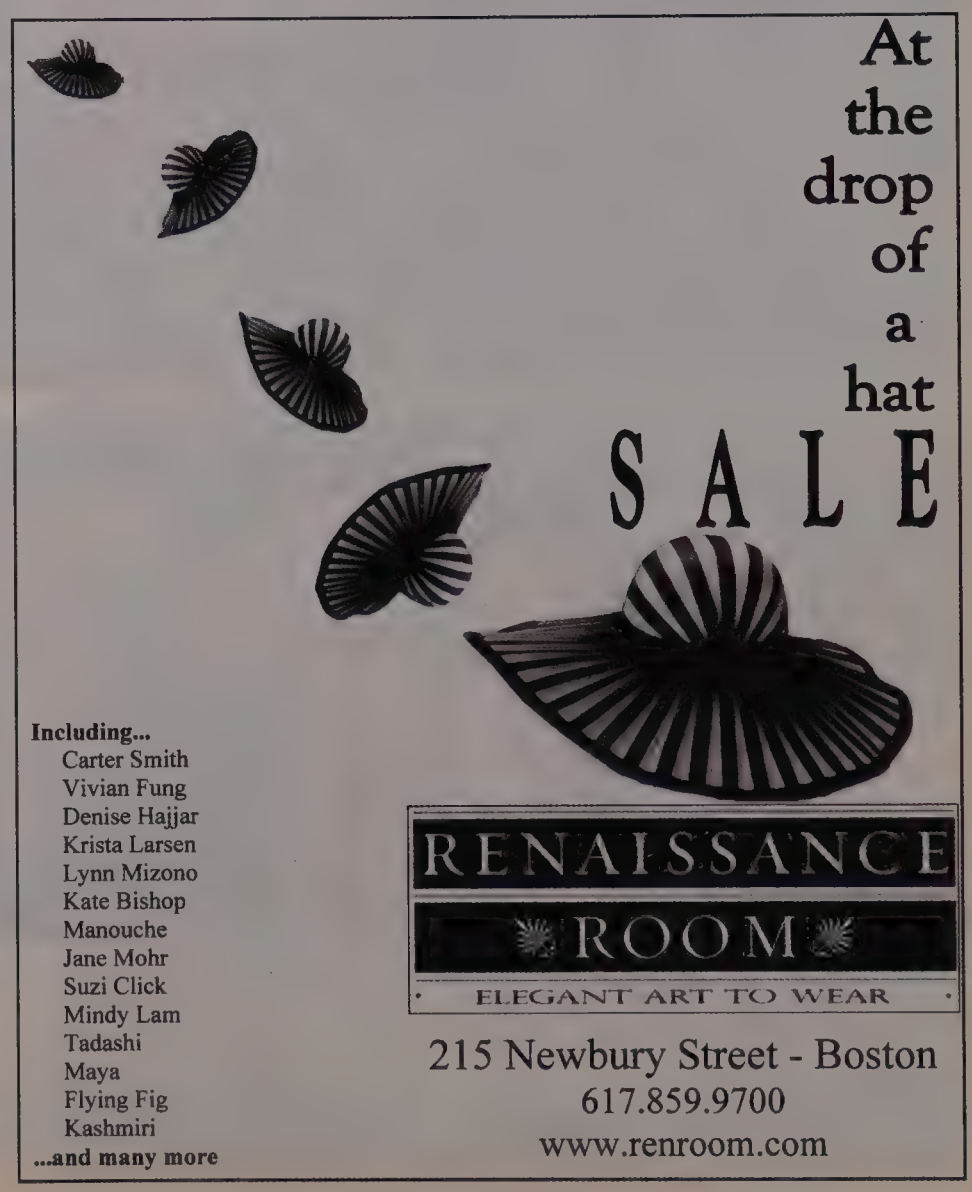
I see you once in a while. Not every day, but we always say hi and you give me that lovely smile. You work the Franklin line, sometimes in the morning or late at night on weekends. You look a bit like Helen Hunt. Anyway, you always make my day whenever I see you. I know, I know, you're just doing your job being friendly with the passengers. I don't even know your name. (I didn't see a ring.) Thanks for always being pleasant and making my day a bit better.
—walpoletrain@yahoo.com

The Sweetest Shoveler

I just wanted to thank a resident of Marlborough Street (at Arlington) for his valiant efforts in shoveling out my inept American convertible from a tremendous amount of snow. I had just returned from a lousy vacation from Florida (a cold 60 degrees) to find my car plowed in and buried in snow. While I fretted and ranted to myself that I needed to get going at I am on a Wednesday morning (December 30) and tried in vain to move my car, he appeared, with shovel in hand, insisting on helping out. He valiantly got me out, refusing a monetary gift for his efforts, and also wished me a Happy New Year. This act has renewed my faith in mankind and has reinforced my belief that Boston is the best city on the planet. Thanks again to my hero on Marlborough Street!
—Marlborough woman

Looking for Richard

High-strung waitress cannot forget former colleague, the endearing kung fu fan and aspiring actor. I moved away from Boston at the end of the summer, but my heart's stuck in one of the smocks we had to wear. If you remember me, please send it back along with an update on your life. My e-mail is sarahmarymcd@hotmail.com—or was, if I have already died of embarrassment.
—Sarah



IMPROPERAZZI

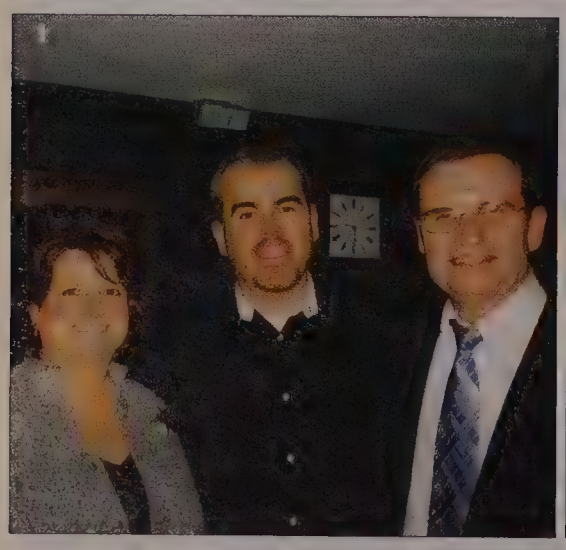
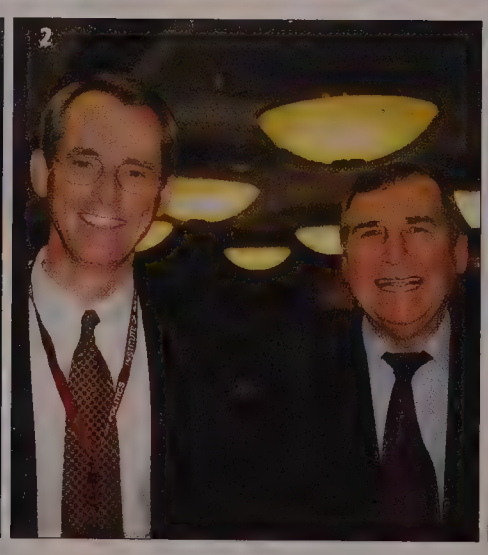
The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On December 22, **Miller Lite** kicked off its Sports Karaoke series featuring **NECN**'s Chris Collins at the **Harp**.

1. **Christine Carlo**, senior marketing manager for Miller Brewing Co.; **Brendan Dalton**, general sales manager for Miller Brewing Co.; **Tim Burke** of Burke Distributing; and **Jim Bandera**, local sales manager for NECN.
2. **Scott Gomes**, sales representative for Colonial Beverage, with **Chris Collins**, sports anchor for NECN and **Jim Panos**, financial adviser for Moors & Cabot.
3. **Tom Ryan**, on-premise sales manager for Miller Brewing Co.; **Steve Tierney** on-premise sales manager for Miller Brewing Co.; **Liza Meneades**, account executive for WBCN; **Mike Braccia**, assistant developer for Burke Distributing; and **Kristen Standish**, local sales manager for WBCN.

On December 13, **The Greatest Bar** hosted the Yankee Elimination and Humiliation Party. The night featured a replay of the Red Sox winning the ALCS Fenway Franks, the Sausage Guy and fa telling their stories of how sweet the wi was. Some proceeds benefitted the **Joey Fund/Cystic Fibrosis Foundation**.

Red Sox legend **Luis Tiant**; **Eddie Andelman**, host of 1510 AM's *The Zone*; **Joe DeNucci**, auditor for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; **Michael Kalil**, marketing and event manager for the Greatest Bar; **Colleen Reilly**, public affairs for the Red Sox; **Kevin Youkilis**, Red Sox infielder; **Lenny DiNardo**, Red Sox pitcher; **Billy Mullaly**, Red Sox security; **Steve Sween** actor and on-air personality for WZLX; **Joe O'Donnell**, owner of the Boston Culinary Group; **Joe Boike**, Massachusetts state trooper; **Errol Apostolopoulos**, c owner of the Greatest Bar.

From November 29 – December 2, **Harvard University**-Institute of Politics hosted a program for Newly Elected Members of Congress at the **Charles Hotel**.

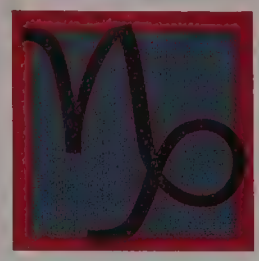
1. **Catherine McLaughlin**, executive director; **Christian Flynn**, assistant director for conferences and special projects; **Phil Sharp**, director, all of the Harvard University Institute of Politics.
2. **Bob Inglis**, South Carolina congressman; **Graham Allison**, Douglas Dillion professor of government and director of the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.
3. **Melissa Bean**, Illinois congresswoman; **Russ Carnahan**, Missouri congressman and his wife, Judge **Debra Carnahan**.
4. **Michael McCaul**, Texas congressman, and **Celeste Gregory** with her husband **Jeff Fortenberry**, Nebraska congressman.

PHOTOS: MILLER, KAREN DANA; THE GREATEST BAR, RICHARD BERTONE; CHARLES HOTEL, BOB SEMON

rockie horoscope

JANUARY 12 – 25, 2005

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

After two and a half years of working it out or giving it up, your conscientious Saturn ruler finally leaves Cancer, the sign governing your partnership matters, in mid July. Because the Leo influence is so much more enthusiastic and cheerful than the Moon Child's, you're liable to find yourself having a fine old time all the time! Protective Jupiter continues to influence the arc of your career as it expands your reputation even after it moves from Libra to Scorpio in October. The best time for romance: from right now until spring begins.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

A big year for early Aquarians as the asteroid Chiron, the wounded Centaur and New Age teacher, enters your sign in February. Prepare to be amazed by the amount of good you can do, the extent of the healing every Water-Bearer may accomplish over the next few years. Moments of divine inspiration and artistic excellence are scheduled for both Groundhog's Day and Valentine's Day, but mid April is when you'll be especially charismatic. You relearn the meaning of patience once Saturn enters your Leo marriage house in mid July.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

While independent Uranus travels through the first 10 degrees of Pisces in 2005, some aspects of your personal life that you thought were sorted out last year could become issues again. However, Fish born in March are relatively safe from any drastic changes until 2006. Starting in October, generous Jupiter's transit of friendly Scorpio for the next 15 months will help you to get your hands on other people's money. Romance, artistic inspiration and spiritual highs throughout February and March add up to a very happy birthday.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Your latest adventure winds down in early February when your Mars ruler crosses into Capricorn. While Mars travels through the sign that really wants to take care of business, that's pretty much what you'll be doing to the best of your executive ability. Further experimentation begins around Palm Sunday, when you're infused with an innovative, independent Aquarian spirit. A month later, as fiery Mars moves into Pisces, you chase after artistic and spiritual heights. But the most memorable high points fall between mid June and late July while Mars is at home in Aries. Plan ahead.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Bulls who were flying high landed in earthy Capricorn on January 9 to resume their comfortable post-holiday routine. This way, when your Venus ruler and imaginative Neptune bond on Valentine's Day, you should be sufficiently grounded in reality to take whatever Aquarian flight of fancy carries you away. Such a blatantly romantic interlude and so conveniently scheduled! Venus travels through Taurus from April 15 until Mother's Day, the best weeks to make yourself even more desirable. Strut your best stuff; ask for and receive favors.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Clip and save: Your Mercury ruler is retrograde in adventurous Aries from March 19 through April 12, in equally upbeat Leo from July 22 through August 15 and in fiery Sagittarius from November 13 until December 3 when it flips forward. This means that both Easter and Thanksgiving vacations occur while the Messenger is messing with airline tickets, phones, etc. If you intend to travel then, solidify your plans early and confirm often. Lovable Venus sweetens your disposition and heightens your appeal for most of May, ensuring a memorable Memorial Day weekend.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

The word is already spreading: Something special is scheduled for the partial eclipse of the moon on October 17. But before that phenomenon takes place, the Moon Child's personal influence will wax considerably with the solar eclipses of April 8 and October 3, and wane during the year's other lunar eclipse, on April 24 (both lunar eclipses are visible in the U.S). Mark the dates. Saturn meanders through the last 10 degrees of Cancer until July 16, when it crosses into Leo and takes the hard life lessons it's been teaching with it. Now that is a birthday gift worthy of the gods!

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Make a note of the eclipse dates in the Cancer forecast because Lions are also affected by the dramatic interplay of the moon and your sun ruler. The more opportune days of 2005 occur when, like today, the sun and lucky Jupiter align. Other fortunate days to circle: February 7, April 3, May 30, July 1, and best of all, October 21, when the sun and the jolly giant meet on the Libra/Scorpio cusp. A brand new cycle begins for you then, one focused on mind-expanding travel experiences and real estate transactions. Other red-letter days: February 3 and 25, and March 30.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Clip out the Gemini forecast and mark the periods when your Mercury ruler will be retrograde. Those are not the weeks to advance a well-thought-out agenda or travel extensively. The good news is that prosperous Jupiter remains in your Libra house of assets and values until late October and for many Virgins continues to come up with growth-oriented financial opportunities while it transits early Scorpio. When it comes to significant relationships, innovative Uranus provides awesome moments while allowing a fair measure of freedom.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

You'll continue to find opportunities to grow as a person while expansive Jupiter transits Libra, but in October the planet of prosperity will move on to Scorpio. That's when its, and your, focus shifts to financial matters, e.g., increasing your assets. Check the Leo forecast for dates that can be particularly fortunate, such as Memorial Day, and plan your celebrations accordingly. Since your Venus ruler doesn't turn retrograde this year, you can avoid the sinking feeling that nothing is progressing fast enough to suit you.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

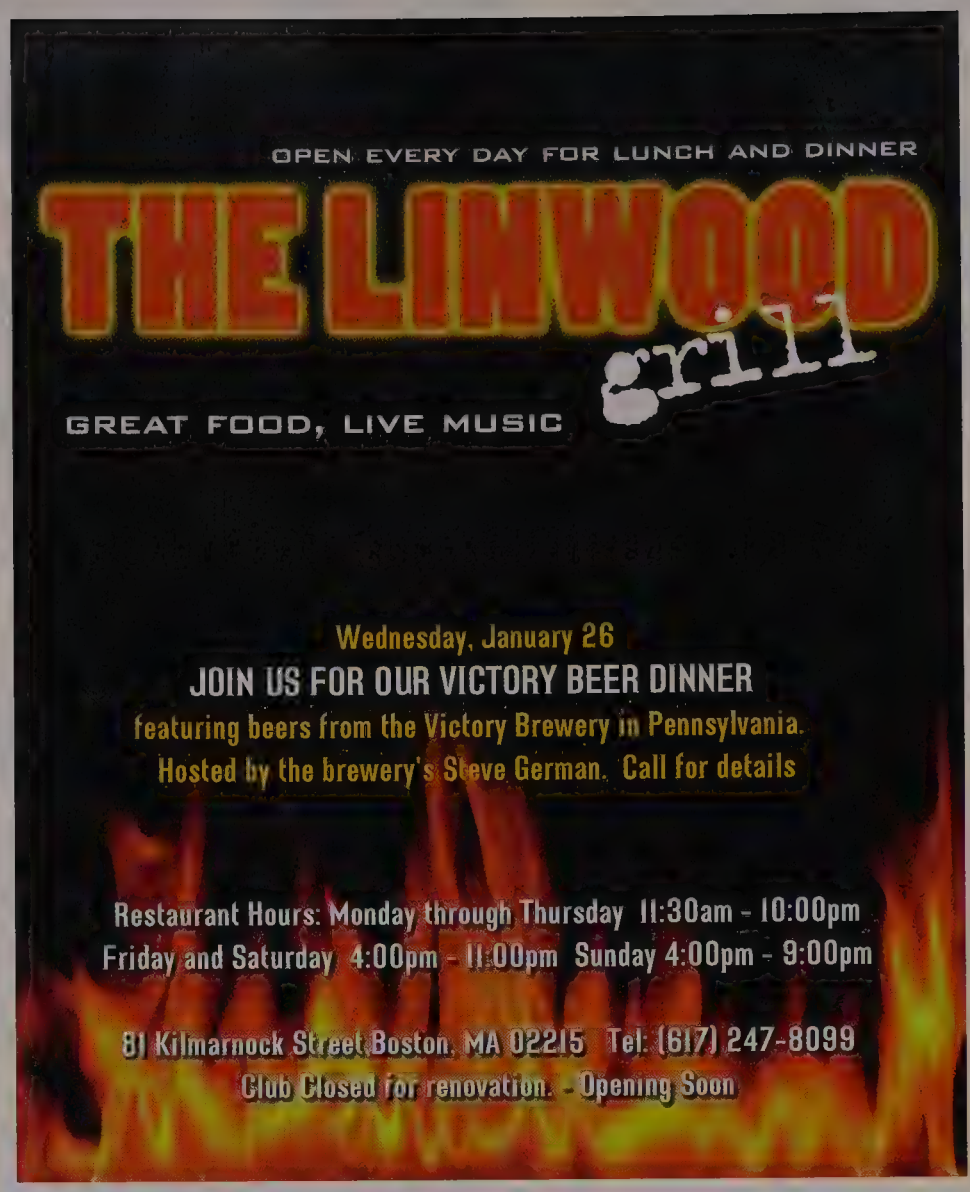
At long last, justice—possibly even a shot at sweet revenge. You've been patient and incredibly resourceful long enough, and in October, when Jupiter finally arrives in your sign after a 12-year wait, you'll be rewarded, possibly even vindicated. Before much longer you'll have the self-confidence to pursue prosperity and joy in full measure. Meanwhile, for the next two months your Mars ruler provides the energy and attention to detail you need to complete a project that has the potential to be a bona fide financial success.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Not much changes in 2005. Regenerative Pluto still meanders through the tail end of your sign, giving Centaurs born in mid December more reasons to improve their image. Last chance to get a makeover show of your own! Erratic Uranus keeps you guessing about household matters and your kookier family members. But what can make a noticeable difference is your Jupiter ruler's switch from sociable, even lighthearted Libra to suspicious, manipulative Scorpio. Will a can't-help-but-spill-the-beans Sagittarian suddenly get good at keeping secrets?

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.



RESTAURANTS

THE BLACK RHINO *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 year in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

CLERYS *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty.Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

LUCKY'S LOUNGE *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

BOSTON BEER WORKS *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you find the largest selection on the East Coa 112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic i ports. Join our beer club and enjoy every st of beer under the sun. Take advantage of t yards, cask conditioned beer, flight sample vintage and new beers, seasonals, mead ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experien our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *pizza kitchen, Be Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-78 2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FU 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers tap, outrageous signature pizzas and B MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUIL ING with our one of a kind "metro ret decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8p free rooms and pool for your next party function of any kind. Call the "Party Specia ists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizz $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come e perience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Boston 617.350.5555.* Felt is located in the shado of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to th Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed abou Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering s phisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge, hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourm dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velv booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied b live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romant dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hi atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combine with the delicious entrees is the perfect blen to satisfy all your cravings. American Contem porary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

STADIUM – CLUBHOUSE *232 Old Colon Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Sta dium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale night club featuring two bars, a hardwood danc floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxe 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety o music and beautiful people crowding th dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. A ideal place for your next bachelor, bache lorette or birthday party.

CLUB Q BOSTON *25 Union St., Boston 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesda through Saturday.What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the ar Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's With two bars, three VIP areas and pool ta bles, Club Q is the place to see and be seen Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700 www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox,"The Wildman of Comedy,"Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos,"The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

ISE MCINTYRE'S *160 Milk St., Boston i1-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican can-ia is a great escape in the financial district! /o floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool ta-es upstairs and live bands downstairs!

IE PLACE *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-)81 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. ingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on e big screen. Simply the hippest way to end a night of all-out fun in Boston's Finan-al District. Come after work. Come to dance. me to go wild with your friends. There's al-ays something exciting happening – and you ver know who you'll bump into. Join us and perience what the buzz is all about.

IE PURPLE SHAMROCK *1 Union St., oston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great od, live entertainment and relaxing atmos-ere! Menu includes American and Irish spe-alties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

IE BLACK ROSE *160 State St., Boston, 7-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub lebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the st Irish pubs in America, the menu features nerican and Irish specialties. Live Irish music ghtly.

ENNESSY'S OF BOSTON *25 Union St., oston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authen-Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great enu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A ge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, ennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. njoy live entertainment five nights a week ith pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spir-," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

REEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., righton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ire-nd with great tasting, affordable food. One the most popular nightspots in town, the reen Briar has become the area's headquar-rs for international sports viewing and live ntertainment. Live music five nights a week, aturing local bands on weekends, a tradi-onal Irish Seissun every Monday night and ime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable mosphere makes the Green Briar an excel-nt place to hold luncheons, wedding re-earsals, social gatherings and small business eetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. over charge varies on Friday and Saturday ghts and some sporting events on Sundays.

HE GREEN DRAGON *11 Marshall St., oston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters f the Revolution," this favorite after work eeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail rink special menu." A comfortable place serv-g lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed ish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 0 different bottled "brewskies" and imported ish brews. Live music and entertainment very Thursday through Sunday night.

INVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-83-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spir-ed, the staff is hospitable, the food is great nd everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the cal gathering place with authentic Irish pub avor. Live international sports viewing via atellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. ve bands entertain to a lively crowd on eekends. The mainstream pub fare menu anges from grilled sandwiches and fish & nips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative aily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a ue Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 ays a week.

MR. DOOLEY'S BOSTON TAVERN *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

THE ALLEY *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

AQUA *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

THE BLACK RHINO *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.bostonrocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex,Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

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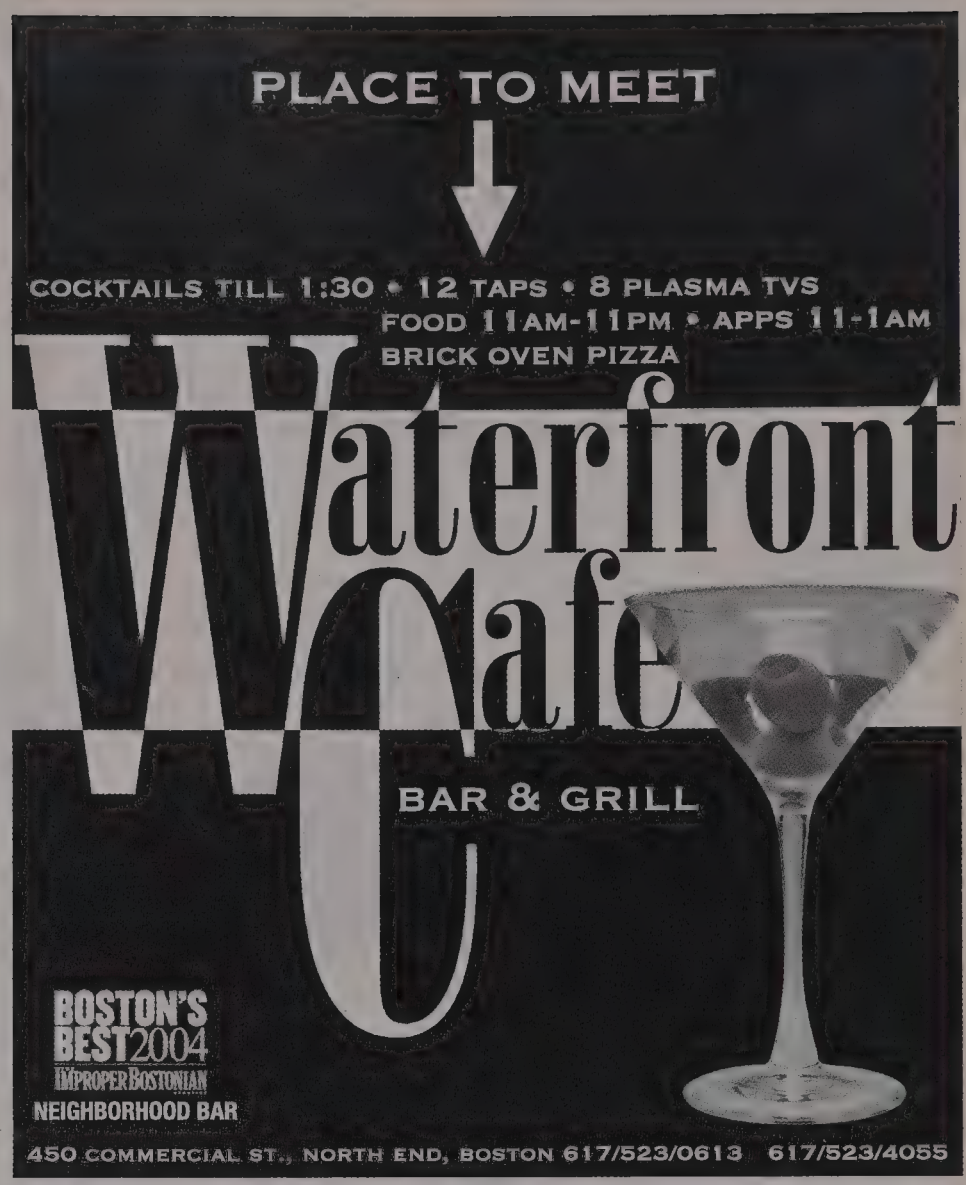

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HURRICANE O'REILLY'S *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

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PARRIS *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

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Latin

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At the Ritz holiday party, left: Marilyn Riseman and Fred Shapiro. Above: Linda Comstock and Doris Yaffe.

WHAT A SWELL PARTY THIS WAS...

It was an interesting assortment of socialites, corporate types and habitual schnorrers who gathered at the new **Ritz** when it put its proverbial self on for an annual holiday shindig.

Elaborate orchid arrangements greeted guests, who grazed on such grade-A grub as sushi prepared by the hotel's in-house master, lobster risotto, and an array of desserts that would have made a chocoholic giddy. As a thank-you to its loyal patrons, the hotel gave away raffle prizes that included glitzy trips to Ritz properties around the world.

Present and accounted for: charming GM **Erwin Schinnerl**; kabuki socialite **Marilyn Riseman**; pain specialist–about–town **Dr. Fred Shapiro**; bubbly blonde insaniac **Linda Comstock** and naturally carbonated fashion publicist **Doris Yaffe** (both wearing foofy pink scarves that looked like they might have been made out of Muppet fur); Beantown's biggest booster, **Pat Moscaritolo**; theater PR czarina **Kathy Rochefort** and her affable other half, **Bill Weber**; vivacious blonde cutie-pie **Lynne Dale**; and one beautifully dressed but extremely jaded glamour-puss who responded to a friend's compliment on her outfit by saying, "I'm so f--king fabulous I should be in a museum."

On their way out the door, guests were encouraged to leave toys for the children of the **Women's Lunch Place** (a homeless program for women and kids) and to fill little Ritz bags with assorted penny candy.

Summing it up, one man said, "That exceeded my expectations. But then again, I consider it a successful evening when I don't spill on myself or say something completely stupid."

OK, BUT DID HE REMEMBER WHERE IT WAS PARKED?

Boston's corporate chieftains and captains of industry proved they're no Scrooges with **A Company Christmas at Pops**, which raised a record breaking million-and-some-odd dollars for the **Boston Symphony Orchestra**'s education and community outreach programs.

The evening began with drinks and finger food and continued with boxed suppers and a concert led by **Keith Lockhart**, featuring network newsman **Tim Russert** reading "Is There a Santa Claus?" and a performance by New Zealand teen warbling sensation **Hayley Westenra**.

Prominent amid the high-powered throng: Staples grand poobah **Tom Stemberg**; advertising giant **Jack Connors**; real estate heartthrob **Peter Palandjian**; auto magnate **George Albrecht**; uber-do-gooder **Diddy Cullinane**; gajillionaire **Paul Verrochi** and his stunning other half, **Kelly**; tabloid top-cat **Pat Purcell**; Thurston Howell III lookalike **Bob Crowe** with the delectable **Colleen Bain**; North Shore plutocrat **Arthur Halloran**; Symphony stalwart **Chet Krentzman**; financial titan **Richard DeAgazio** and the va-va-va-voomalicious **Melissa Holt**; clothier-to-the-stars **Alan Rouleau**; and just about everyone else with serious juice in this town, all of them in high holiday spirits.

The portion of the evening that drew the loudest applause was when Russert departed from his script by saying, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus... After all, the Red Sox won the World Series."

Otherwise, it was everything you'd expect from a gathering of bigshots, a sampling of whose conversation included the following:

"I've heard of someone having too much to drink and forgetting that he drove home, but that's the first time I've ever heard of someone waking up the next morning and forgetting that he'd flown home on his private jet."

WHO KNEW IT WAS REALITY TV?

It's safe to say that when they deck the halls at the **Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum**, it's not a question of tinsel, fake snow, colored lights and mechanical reindeer.

To the contrary, everything is done in impeccable, exquisite taste, and as a result, the museum's annual celebration of the holiday season was some enchanted evening.

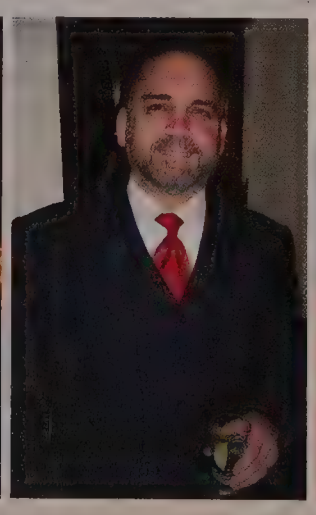
The festivities drew the likes of mega-philanthropist **Barbara Hostetter**; dapper descendant **Jack Gardner**; the delightful **Diana Rockefeller**; social doyenne **Ann Gund**; blonde glamazon **Beth Kurtin**; one-woman Mardi Gras **Maura Connolly**; Venezuelan charmer **Ricardo Jaimes-Branger**; arts patron **Allison Salke**; the museum's stunning and exceedingly chic director, **Anne Hawley**; and assorted pre- and post-facelift socialites.

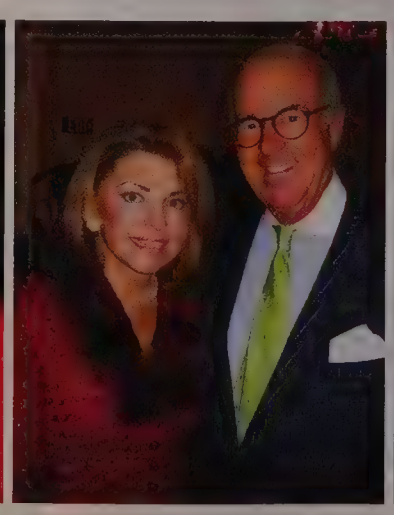
At the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, top row: Dyan Goodwin; Beth Kurtin and Maura Connolly. Middle, clockwise: Lee Claro and Jennifer Donaldson James; Peter and David Webster; Ramsey and Nicole Alsarraf. Bottom: Alison O'Neil Fischoeder.

Hors d'oeuvres and a boxed supper in the cloisters were followed by a recital in the Tapestry Room by famed tenor **Robert White**, after which a bagpiper ushered guests back downstairs for further merriment and caroling.

The evening's most amusing exchange: A group of women whose kids all attend the same prestigious private school were standing around chatting when one asked, "Did you see *Desperate Housewives* Sunday night?"

"No," said another. "But I've been one since my second child was born." IB





At the Pops Christmas event, from far left: George Albrecht and Leslie Baginski; Alan Rouleau; Carol Fulp; Colleen Bain and Bob Crowe.

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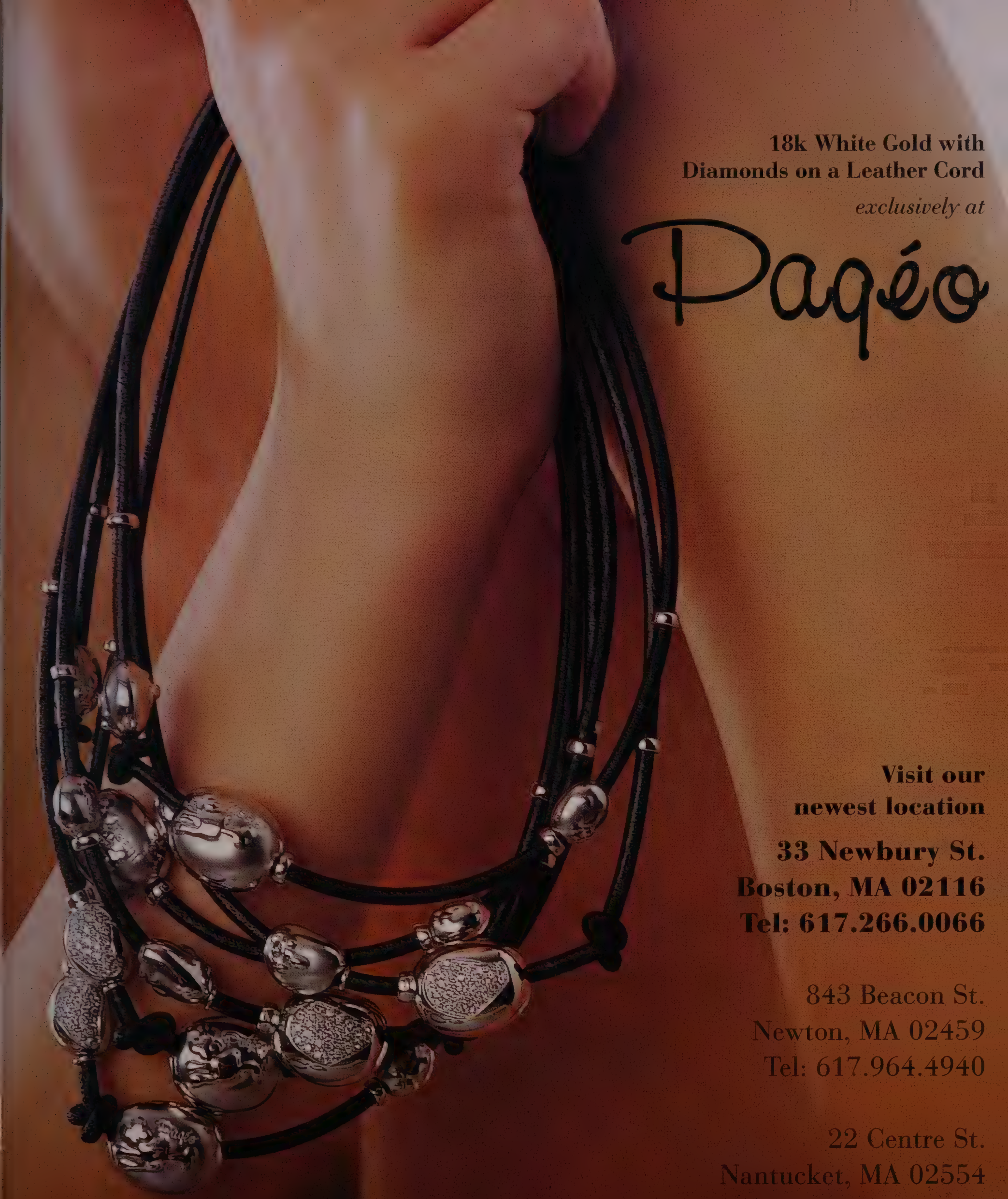
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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Peter Urban

Photographer's assistant: **Brandon Constant;** hair: **Jeffrey Lyle for G Spa;** makeup: **Dani Wagner for Trish McEvoy/Grettacole;** clothing: Gatlin and Elias, **Ermenegildo Zegna;** Monahan and Getrouw, **Polo Ralph Lauren;** Zabicki, **Escada;** jewelry: **Elysé Jewelers;** chair: **Marcoz Antiques**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

THE SINGLE LIFE

With the lion's share of IMPROPER readers being single, our annual Bachelors and Bachelorettes issue tends to disappear quickly from newsboxes. To come up with this year's list of interesting, accomplished single men and women, we sorted through hundreds of reader nominations and interviewed dozens of candidates. (If you're single, you'll be glad to hear how tough it is every year to narrow the list to just 20.)

Ranging from 20s to 40s, this year's diverse crop includes a Red Sox pitcher, a Boston Ballet soloist, an oncological surgeon, a museum curator and a kiteboarding instructor—each one proof that the good ones aren't all taken.

You can meet some of our winners and other singles—and help us celebrate the unfettered life—at our upcoming party for this issue. Check future issues or our Web site (www.improper.com) for details.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

I LOVE YOU, MAN ISSUE

On the subway this morning I found a copy of your Man Issue (Jan. 12), which was priceless. I laughed all the way into town. Some of the best writing I've seen in a long time—and the girl on the cover was quite a pleasant surprise! I've been enjoying the media wars between the *Globe*, the *Herald* and the *Metro*, but your publication is the best—the best writing, and more importantly, the best attitude.

—VAN M. STEVENS III
Sherborn

STICKING IT TO THE MAN ISSUE

I have to say I was pretty damn disappointed to open the current issue of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN to find a lingerie spread, and such a tacky one at that. I just find it unnecessary for a staff of talented, witty writers and editors to resort to such *Maxim*-like standards. I know it was the "Man Issue," but does that really have to be synonymous with base, objectifying marketing? Most of you are women; I'm a woman. Isn't it getting a little tiring? Don't you worry about your daughters or your nieces or just little girls in general? Don't you think it's about time all media started to hold both men and women alike to a bit of a higher standard? Taking the high road is so rare these days, a little class and intelligence go such a long way.

—COLLEEN CAMPBELL
Boston

REQUIRED READING

I loved the article "Surefire Ways to get a Boston Woman to Go Out with You" (Jan. 12) by Steve Almond. As a single woman in Boston, I hope a lot of men read that, and hopefully the dating scene will get better.

—WENDY NEWMAN
Cambridge

IN DEFENSE OF EZRA

Ezra Dyer's articles are hilarious, poignant and original—by far my favorite part of the magazine! Alas, after last issue's public lashing (from those who don't understand satire) I feel the need to say, Ezra, you keep on rocking the casbah! You're one funny bastard!

—LISS A. DANELLA
Boston

HOME SWEET HOME

I'm an avid reader of the IMPROPER, and Ezra's column is the one I look forward to the most. After reading about his old apartment in the Jan. 12 issue, I'm pretty sure I used to live on the same street! The column caused me to fondly reminisce about the crack whores, the pimps and the crazy guys next to my building. One of them would just sit and yell at the fire hydrant all day long. Thanks for the memories!

—NICOLE MOORE
Somerville

CORRECTION

The caption for the photo from Armenia in the Sightings section of our Jan. 12 issue should have read "Mount Ararat."

THE MAN ISSUE WAS PRICELESS. I LAUGHED ALL THE WAY INTO TOWN.

—VAN M. STEVENS III
SHERBORN

CONTRIBUTOR

PETER URBAN

Photographer Peter Urban has worked in Boston for nearly a decade, shooting for both commercial and editorial clients. Urban's fine art photographs have appeared in exhibitions in Boston, Provincetown and Toronto, and he was a major force behind Community Servings' annual calendar of chefs and recipes, shooting portraits for that project. Urban's latest work for the IMPROPER appears on this issue's cover.

MAN ISSUE COVER PHOTO: BILL STREICHER

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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new in town

CLUB HOUSE

Nestled in the cozy space that previously housed Figs in Chestnut Hill, the Metropolitan Club has all the trappings of a top-notch steakhouse: warm, elegant decor, with walnut paneling; a sophisticated but relaxed vibe, and, of course, melt-in-your-mouth beef. Owner Kathy Sidell Trustman opened the Met Club right before Thanksgiving after a complete renovation: They gutted the interior space and kitchen and created a new exterior façade and entrance.

Trustman says she'd always wanted to run a restaurant but followed other pursuits before getting into the family biz. (Her father, Jack Sidell, loaned money to chefs Todd English and Jasper White early in their careers, and her sister, Stephanie Sidell Sokolove, runs Stephanie's on Newbury.) After attending Columbia film school in the late '70s, Trustman was a founding partner of the production company Chelsea Pictures. Now, she's gone all-out with her first restaurant, bringing in executive chef Jeffrey P. Fournier, formerly of Sophia's and before that, Lydia Shire's sous chef at Excelsior, Locke-Ober, and Pignoli.

Chef Jeff Fournier

Watermelon steak

Even though the Metropolitan Club has been open only a short time, it's evident as soon as you walk in that the place has a following. The boisterous Met Bar occupies an area in the front. A far cry from many testosterone-filled steakhouse bar scenes, on a recent Thursday night, it was overflowing with a thirties-ish crowd of men and women. (One certain draw for the younger crowd is that the bar menu—with dishes like oversized burgers, Cuban steak sandwich, skewered shrimp and thin-crusted pizzas—is available until midnight.) The dining area around back is full but relatively quiet—a nice change from restaurants with acoustics that make conversation difficult on a busy night.

Popular appetizers are jumbo shrimp cocktail and seared watermelon steak with fresh feta—a vegetarian specialty that's a must-try. Entrées include beef (grilled Porterhouse steak) and seafood (monkfish ossobuco) as well as pasta (spaghetti with baby clams and shrimp). All beef entrées are available with homemade sauces (à la carte), and the homemade bread basket comes with scrumptious spreadables like garlic marmalade. Don't miss the desserts (the molten caramel-filled chocolate cake is to die for), created by pastry chef Paige Retus, who worked at Olives for seven years and co-wrote *The Olives Dessert Table*. Weekend brunch (11:30 am–2:30 pm) offers options like griddlecakes and granola-encrusted French toast, and sides of white polenta and spicy sausage, as well as the exotic caviar omelette. *1210 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-731-0600). —E.H.*

sam says

ON THE MOVE

In addition to styling for *Vogue* magazine cover shoots, Marc Harris has been a Newbury Street fixture for more than 15 years. So when he and his partners at Ecocentrix Salon decided to put Harris' name above the door, I said "Amen." Last November the Ecocentrix logo came down and Salon Marc Harris went up. In addition to a new name, the salon sports a new, modern interior and a new product line of shampoo, conditioner and styling products designed to keep moisture and color in check. Change is good. *30 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2222)*

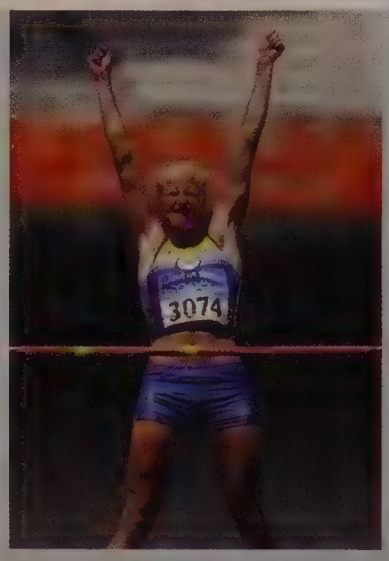
—Samantha House

Mark Harris

inner view

CAROLINA KLUFT

Who knew Sweden had its very own version of Anna Kournikova? Twenty-one-year-old track-and-field star Carolina Kluft has the same blonde locks, buff bod and national-hero status in her homeland as Kournikova. The main difference is Kluft still kicks ass in her sport, the heptathlon. Titles she's won over the past three include World Junior Champion (2002), European Champion (2002), World Indoor Champion (2003) and the 2004 Olympic gold medal. She was also named the Most Admired Woman in Sweden by the family magazine *ICA Kuriren*. Kluft competes in the Reebok Boston Indoor Games at the Reggie Lewis Track & Athletic Center in Boston January 29.



IB: *The heptathlon requires a lot of different skills. What's your favorite part?*

CK: Probably the jumping events, because I'm more of a natural jumper than a thrower.

IB: *Who's your toughest competition and whom do you most look forward to competing against?*

CK: I never think that much about my competitors. I compete with them and I try to focus on my own and do my own job.

IB: *Your mother was a long-jumper. Did she ever coach you?*

CK: She did when I was about 14 and 15. But she wasn't just my coach—she coached a lot of children, and I had a lot of different coaches when I was younger.

IB: *You're known for making faces and pounding your thighs, etc. Is that to intimidate the competition?*

CK: Sometimes I don't know that I do it. It comes by just being myself and showing how I feel and how fun it is to be on the track. Sometimes I see myself on the television after and I'm like, Oh, did I do that? It depends on what kind of mood I'm in.

IB: *You've already won an Olympic gold medal and many European awards. Where do you go from here?*

CK: I just try to continue the way I've done before. I try to motivate myself with joy. I love to train, I love to compete. I think it's very fun and that's what motivates me. The day I think it's not giving me anything I'll probably do something else. I'm doing this for myself and I try to learn and try to get to know new people see new places.

IB: *How do you feel about being named the Most Admired Woman in Sweden?*

CK: I think it's very difficult to compare different people to each other. There are a lot of different personalities and a lot of people have different qualities they can show off. But it's great to have the Swedish crowd behind you. I can be myself and try to do my best, and they will support me even if I don't do my best.

—Jessica Iredale

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a world at play

tasty tidbits

OENOPHILES IN THE MAKING

Boozing Made Easy... For the unprepared, a trip to the liquor store for a bottle of wine can be an intimidating experience. Lucky for us all, Vinodivino, a new wine shop in Newton, provides its customers with a crash course in Wine for Dummies. "We want to make it less risky for the customer," says owner Raphael Keller-Go. Vinodivino carries only rated wines and focuses on those that cost less than $20. Each bottle comes with a description and pairing suggestions. *899 Walnut St., Newton (617-527-8466).*

Mouth-Watering Mondays... From now through April, Stephanie's on Newbury is trying make the first day of the workweek a little more enjoyable. In honor of the restaurant's 10-year anniversary, owner Stephanie Sokolove is offering "Monday Night Warm-Ups"—complimentary samples of the fare that's helped make Stephanie's a Newbury Street staple over the last decade. We're not ready to promote Monday to Friday status quite yet, but with free tastes of goat cheese fritters and smoked salmon potato pancakes from 5-7 pm, it could give Tuesday a run for its money. *190 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-0990).*

New Brew... Low-carb, low-flavor beers might be all the rage these days, but we say if you're going to throw 'em back you might as well be able to taste it. Taste and taste only is what Sam Adams had in mind with the release of its new (non low-carb) brew, Samuel Adams Black Lager. The dark beer, which debuted in January, a *schwarzbier,* is rare in these parts but known in Germany as a flavorful but smooth choice. It pairs well with steak or pork chops, but we bet a couch and a big-screen TV would complement it just fine too. Six-packs go for $6.99-$7.99.

Sandwich Scoop Out... Keeping that New Year's resolution has never been so easy, at least as long as you really like bagels. All 19 Finagle a Bagel locations in the Greater Boston area are now giving customers the option to "Make It Skinny" and order their favorite bagel creation with the inside bread scooped out. By their calculations, that's about 25 percent fewer carbs and calories, which by our calculations equals roughly 75 percent less anxiety when it's time to try on that bathing suit this summer.

improper reports

SUPER BOWL XXXIX

For the Super Bowl on the 6th, you *could* order pizza and watch the big game in your living room with your pals. Or you could venture out to one of these bars/restaurants, where you don't have to worry about cleanup or providing the beer.

Croma

269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200).

If you watch the game in this pizzeria's downstairs lounge, you get a pass for free hors d'oeuvres at kickoff and $9 pizzas (a big discount) the rest of the night. All beers are $3, and Super Bowl–themed martinis are $8. Call ahead to reserve a table in front of the big-screen TV.

Dick's Last Resort

55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080).

The 5 pm Indoor Tail Gate Party kicks off Bud Bowl 2005, hosted by WZLX-FM's Amanda the Brockton Biscuit. You can win $500 in the "You Pick the Score" contest, or you might win a three-person trip to Sunday River for three days of skiing. There's also the option of chatting up Budweiser's Bud Girls while watching the game on three large-screen TVs.

Jake Ivory's

9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-247-1222).

Jake Ivory's hosts a football-themed extravaganza with the requisite prizes and giveaways, including a snowboard, Wilson footballs and T-shirts. The draw? A complimentary tailgate buffet, as well as free massages and manicures. $5 cover (a portion of proceeds goes to tsunami relief funds).

Kings

10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695).

You can watch the game in Kings' Luxury Lounge on a 10 x 7–foot screen, or on one of four big-screen TVs and 23 other sets on the premises. There are chances to win Patriots memorabilia while chowing down on free wings.

White Horse Tavern

116 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-6633).

With six plasma TVs, you have a good chance of finding a good view. The White Horse offers $4 cheeseburgers, chicken sandwiches and one-pound servings of wings. There's a raffle with cash prizes, and no cover charge, to boot.

—Rachel Walt

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Sex Ed... If you haven't already heard, student-run sex mags are popping up on college campuses around the U.S. First came Vassar's *Squirm*, followed by Harvard's *H-Bomb* and University of Chicago's *Vita Excolatur*—all branded as sex-themed literary magazines that cover such topics as condoms, sex techniques and one-night stands, and publish nudie pictures of students. Come February, Boston University's student body reveals some of their student bodies in *Boink*. The concept is the same as the rest of the pack, and *Boink* even shares the same start-up collaborator as *H-Bomb*, 38-year-old local photographer Christopher Anderson. So far there's no word on whether Tufts, Boston College or any other local schools plan to follow their lead. But if they do, may we suggest *Cum Laude* as a name?

Pets' Best Friend... Donating blood ain't just for humans anymore. On Feb. 26, Angell Animal Medical Center is hosting a pet blood drive to help dogs and cats who have cancer, have been in an accident or had major surgery. The drives take place regularly and frequent donors will get perks like free health exams, vaccinations, heartworm medication, food, a bandanna, and a free blood transfusion—if it's ever necessary. *MSPCA-Angell, 350 South Huntington Ave., Boston (617-989-1504). www.mspca.org. 10 am–12 pm.*

Girls in White Dresses... Brides-to-be and their bridesmaids have one more high-end boutique to help them look their best for the big day. New York–based bridal salon Simple Silhouettes opened a Boston showroom a few weeks ago, on Newbury Street. As the name implies, simplicity is the distinguishing characteristic here. Dresses come in variations of six different cuts—all simple (A-line, empire, natural, shells and skirts, flower girl and maternity)—of silk shantung, and you can mix and match colors. *163 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-7772). www.simpledress.com.*

Boston *Public*...It's not like Boston is lacking in Irish pubs, so if you're planning on opening a new one, you better make it good. John Joe Somers hopes to accomplish just that with his latest venture, Paddy O's, which opened January 21. Everything from the handcrafted bar and furniture to the music and menu is straight out of Ireland. Extra trimmings: a DJ booth, state-of-the-art sound system and 72-inch drop-down screen. *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). www.somerspubs.com.*

A New Deal... As the saying goes, When one door closes, another opens. Though the North End was saddened to see Hanover Street institution Varese Shoes close after decades in the neighborhood, at the same time it welcomed a new retail space, Karma, on Prince Street. The upscale consignment shop opened just as Varese closed in early January. Fashionistas looking for discount couture will find (gently) used Chanel, Louis Vuitton, Gucci and other high-end labels filling the racks. *26 Prince St., Boston (617-723-8338).*

Simple Silhouettes

Club Acclaim... With a 1:45 am last call, you might not expect Boston's club scene to compete favorably with that of other large cities. But our beloved burg's early-to-bed MO didn't stop two local clubs from scoring nominations for the third annual Club World Awards, given by Club Systems International. The nominees, Avalon (Best Super Club) and Rise (Nightstalker Award), will learn their fates at the Club World Awards ceremony, held in March during the Winter Music Conference in Miami, Florida.

Putting the "T" in "gangsta"... Is somebody at the MBTA a big fan of rapper Ice-T? A few weeks ago, we spotted a bus in the MBTA maintenance lot in Southie with the destination marquee set to read "Cold as Ice T." Shortly thereafter, we noticed this bus driving down Broadway—on its way to Ice T–ville, perhaps? MBTA spokesman Joe Pesaturo says the marquees were changed in the summer to promote the new buses' frosty air conditioning and have nothing to do with the rapper. May we suggest, given the time of year, they get changed to read "Hot in Herre"?

—Ezra Dyer, J.I., R.L

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The fifth annual **Hot Stove, Cool Music** concert took place January 9 at the Paradise Rock Club. The sold-out event featured performances by a host of Boston sports, music and entertainment all-stars including ESPN commentator Peter Gammons, Red Sox GM Theo Epstein, Kay Hanley, the Gentlemen, Dropkick Murphys and Juliana Hatfield. The event raised almost $100,000 for the Jimmy Fund.

1. The Majorettes: **Marc Slutsky**, drums; **Katarina Auster**, singer; **Andreas Ruggie**, bass; and **J3**, guitar.
2. Musicians **Kay Hanley** and **Bill Janovitz**.
3. **Billy Bud**, production manager for the Paradise, and **Mike O'Malley**, star of *Yes Dear*.
4. **Theo Epstein**, Red Sox general manager, and **Paul Barrere**, Little Feat guitarist/vocalist.
5. **Ed Valauskas**, musician/the Gentlemen, and **Brendan Haley**, sound engineer.
6. **Juliana Hatfield**, musician, and **Peter Gammons**, ESPN commentator.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay's Big Night 6 fund-raiser took place January 8 at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. More than 1,000 partygoers attended the gala, which featured food from well-known chefs plus reggae music by Ziggy Marley. The event raised more than $1 million for the nonprofit agency.

7. **Tina Paolella**, teacher at Ryerson Elementary in Madison, Conn.; **Courtney Goff**, sales associate at Mellon Private Wealth Management; and **Marissa Verrochi**, pharmaceutical sales associate for Sanofi-Aventis in Quincy.
8. **Cindy Murphy** and her husband, **Pat**, trader at JP Morgan; **Bernie Blaney**, trader at Lehman Bros., and his wife, **Tracy**.
9. **Ming Tsai**, chef/owner of Blue Ginger in Wellesley, and **Michael Schlow**, owner of Radius, Via Matta and Great Bay.
10. **Robin Brown**, partner at Mandarin Oriental, and his wife, **Marsha**.
11. **Christa Ayoub** and her husband, **Joe**, partner at Nutter McClennen & Fish and co-chair of the event.

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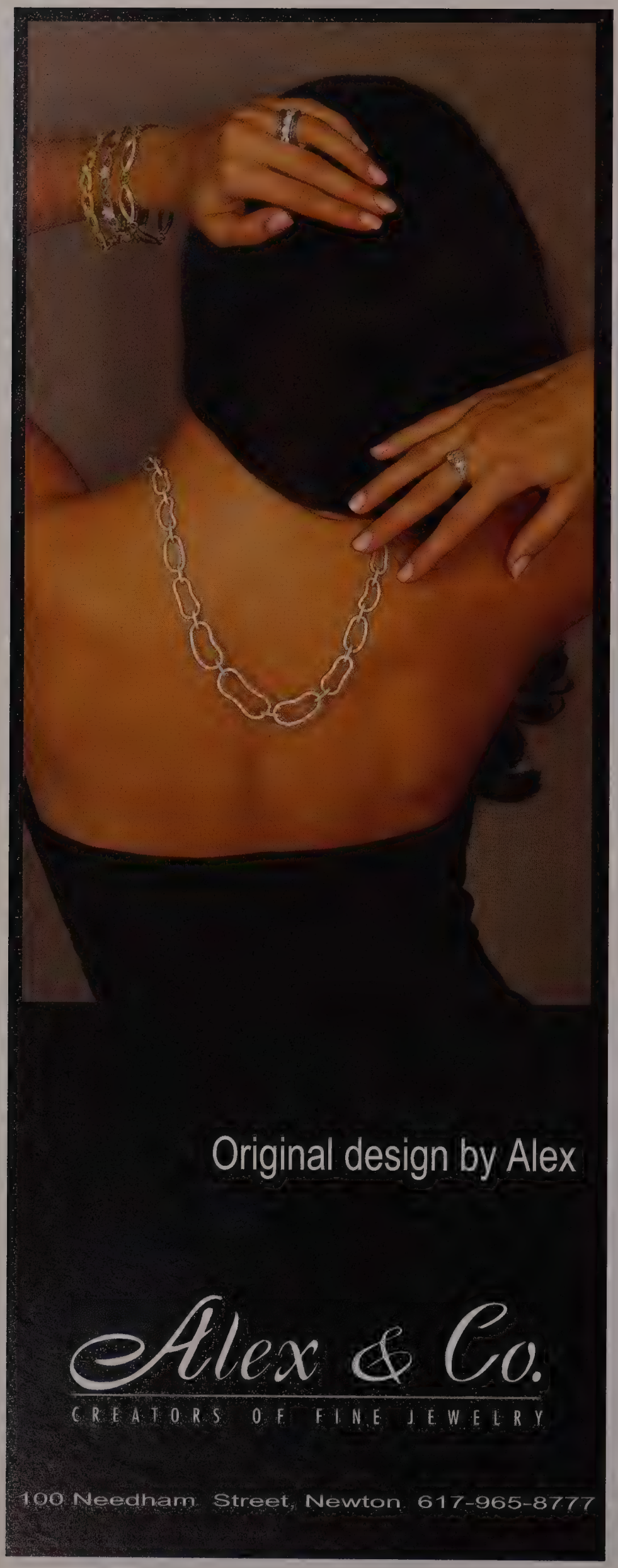

THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

LIGHTEN UP

The two sides of a champion football player

I'd like to introduce you to a big goofy kid. Well, he's not really a kid. First, he's got this skinny beard hanging from his chin. And, at 6'4" and 305 pounds, he's on the large side. But those who know 26-year-old Matt Light know there's a happy-go-lucky kid trapped inside that big body of his. Come Sundays from September through midwinter, though, the kid takes a hike for a few hours. And Mr. Hyde takes over.

For four seasons, Light has covered Tom Brady's backside, which means he plays left tackle, the blind spot behind Brady when he goes back to pass. During those years, Mr. Hyde has not only covered the Cover Boy, he's played a major role in one of the greatest runs in NFL history.

A starter since the second game of his rookie year, in 2001—the same game in which Drew Bledsoe almost died after a devastating tackle caused internal bleeding—Light has been there nearly every step of the way with Brady and his teammates.

The first time I met Light at old Foxboro Stadium, the first thing that struck me about him was his body. He wasn't fat like most offensive linemen. "Too thin. Scott Pioli blew this one," I remember thinking. Then I started talking to him. After I learned he went to Purdue, I asked him about my cousin, who also went there and played with Light.

"He was terrible," Light told me. "One of the worst football players you'll ever see. Strong? You bet, like an ox. But he couldn't play to save his life." I was about to leave with a sour puss on my face when he assured me he was joking. His playfulness caught me off guard because of the preconceptions lent by his menacing physical appearance.

Three-and-a-half years later, not much has changed, except the football games. Now, for the Patriots, every game is big. (As the IMPROPER goes to press, the AFC Championship game against the Steelers looms.) Despite the Patriots' success—the 29 wins in 31 games, the two Super Bowls in three years—the rest of the country spent the week before the Pats–Indianapolis game talking like the Colts were the team looking to win back-to-back Super Bowls. On the day I spoke with Light, three days before the Pats demolished the Colts, people were talking a lot about the guy Light would be blocking—the Colts' Dwight Freeney.

Freeney is a sack machine. He led the NFL with 16 this year, and according to those who know, he was about 12 inches from four more. He's the Peyton Manning of the defense.

Light should have been concerned. If he'd been scared, I wouldn't have blamed him. Maybe he was, a little bit, but he joked with the horde of media surrounding his locker stall: "What do you want me to do? He's probably the quickest guy I've ever gone up against. But I'll deal with it. It won't be easy. But I'm not going to stress out about it. At least not here in front of you guys."

That stress he apparently saves for Sundays. So when Light comes to his locker before practice and finds somebody has poured ink into his cleats, there's no cursing. In fact, Light is laughing and makes a beeline for teammate Joe Andruzzi's locker.

"You can't fool me," he shouts to a puzzled Andruzzi. Then he looks somewhere else for the culprit, staring at center Dan Koppen, who had earlier shot Silly String all over cornerback Eugene Wilson while Wilson was being interviewed. "Don't know what you're talking about," says Koppen.

ONE OF THE MEANEST, TOUGHEST GUYS EVERY SUNDAY IS A POLITE, HAPPY AND GOOFY GUY THE REST OF THE WEEK

While trying to get the ink out, Light only makes it worse. He throws up his arms and fires the cleats at the floor before running over to the equipment room for a new pair.

At that point Light sees a guilty-looking Tom Brady walk by. Brady, like everyone else, denies everything. "I'm going to figure this out," Light says. Eventually, he comes to the conclusion that Koppen—who else?—is the guilty party.

The fact that this kind of thing goes on in the locker room of one of the greatest franchises in NFL history says something. The public face of the Patriots is one of stolid professionalism—Bill Belichick isn't exactly known as a prankster. But there's looseness and camaraderie behind all the preparation and on-field focus. One of the meanest, toughest guys every Sunday in the fall and early winter is a polite, happy and goofy guy the rest of the week.

He can play on my team any day. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

BILLY COSTA

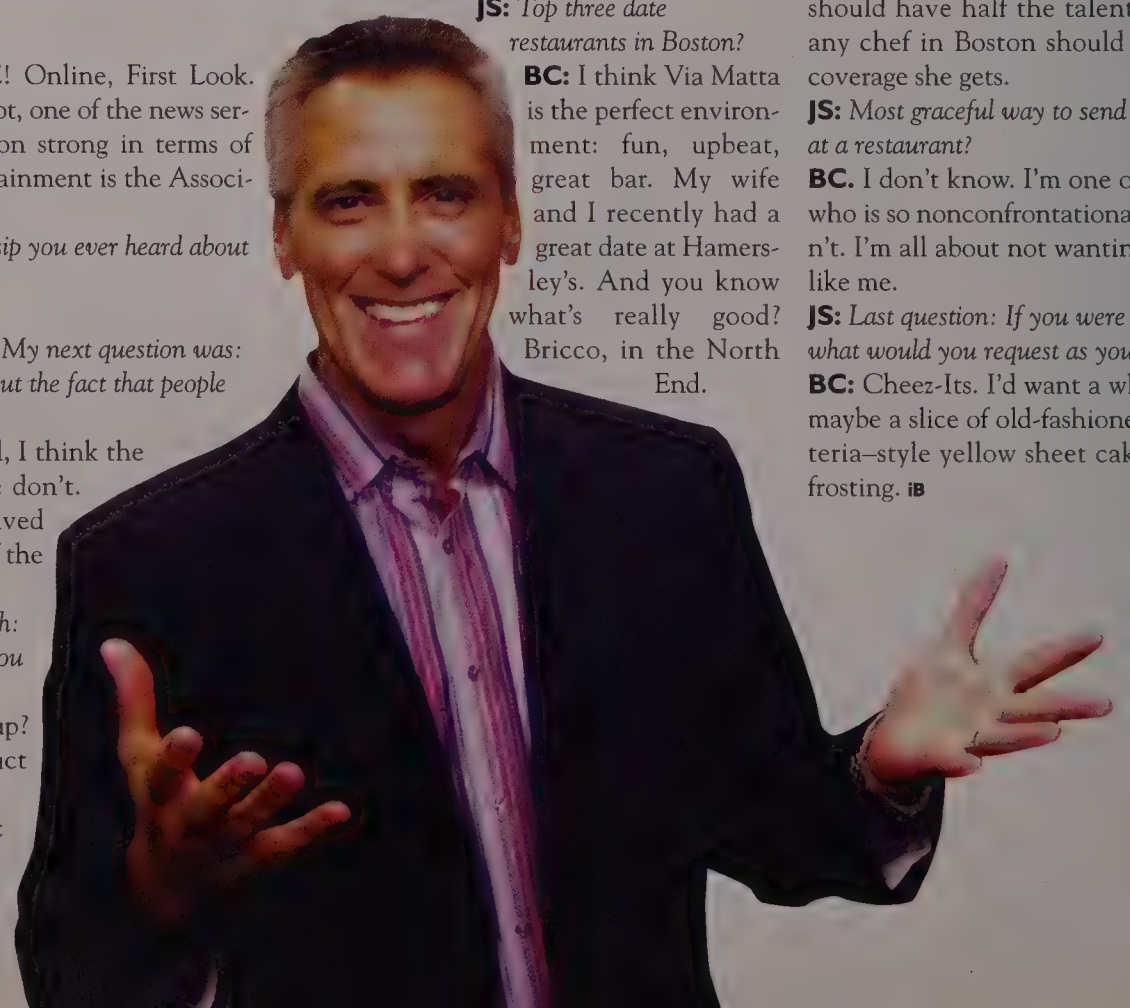
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

TV and radio personality Billy Costa was raised in Cambridge and graduated from Cambridge Rindge and Latin. He attended Merrimack College on a hockey scholarship but transferred to Emerson to study English. While there, he began hosting a live radio show from a local nightclub. After a stint as a DJ at Emerson's WERS, he graduated and landed his first professional radio job at WBOS-FM. In 1980, he joined KISS 108, covering entertainment and lifestyle news, and for the past 15 years, he's co-hosted the *Matty in the Morning* show with Matt Siegel—delivering daily entertainment updates and broadcasting live from events like the Oscars and the Grammys. He also hosts the *KISS Top 30 Countdown* on Saturday mornings. Costa's television career, meanwhile, has included covering entertainment for WBZ-4, where he won a Children's Television Award for hosting the youth-oriented talk show *Rap Around* and received an Emmy nomination for his work on *Evening Magazine*. He now hosts *TV Diner*, a restaurant review program on New England Cable News that offers critiques, industry news and cooking tips from top chefs, and which recently won an Associated Press Award. Costa lives in Lynnfield with his wife, Lisa, their three children, and his mother-in-law. On weekend mornings, he makes pancakes.

Jonathan Soroff: *First of all, does it ever bug you being known as somebody else's sidekick?*
Billy Costa: I'll avoid being a wiseass about that because Lord knows there'll be fallout. But truthfully, no, not at all. It comes with the territory. It's always been Matt's show. I didn't come on until he'd already been doing it for six or seven years.
JS: *Ever consider locking him in the closet and doing the show yourself?*
BC: It's funny you ask, because for a long time, if he was away, I would do the show, and we eventually decided that as much as possible, the two of us would be off together, because it just didn't work as well.
JS: *Favorite sidekick in history: Tonto, Dr. Watson, Danno, Sideshow Bob....*
BC: Probably Ed Norton [from *The Honeymooners*].
JS: *Single favorite food?*
BC: It'll probably shock everybody, but Cheez-Its. They're actually known around the house as "Daddy's crackers."
JS: *Most annoying thing about Matt Siegel?*
BC: He has trouble remembering my name.
JS: *Tell me an embarrassing secret about him.*
BC: He doesn't wear underwear.
JS: *Best source for celebrity gossip?*
BC: The Internet.
JS: *But how much of that is reliable?*

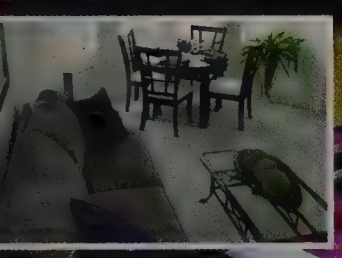
> WHO WORKS HARDER THAN CHEFS? LINDSAY LOHAN SHOULD HAVE HALF THE TALENT THEY DO, AND ANY CHEF IN BOSTON SHOULD HAVE HALF THE COVERAGE SHE GETS.

BC: Most of it. That's the first thing I do in the morning.
JS: *Which sites?*
BC: Music.com, E! Online, First Look. And believe it or not, one of the news services that's come on strong in terms of lifestyle and entertainment is the Associated Press.
JS: *Best piece of gossip you ever heard about yourself?*
BC: That I'm gay.
JS: *That's so funny. My next question was: How do you feel about the fact that people assume you're gay?*
BC: [Laughs.] Well, I think the majority of people don't. But I guess I'm saved by the invention of the word *metrosexual*.
JS: *Speaking of which: your hair. How do you get it to do that?*
BC: What? Stand up? Very good product and lots of it.
JS: *Stupidest or most vapid Hollywood news item you ever had to report?*
BC: Hmmm. Well, as dumb as so much of that stuff is, I never felt humiliated by it until I had to start talking about Lindsay Lohan. All things Lindsay Lohan. Her existence is enough to make me want to quit. There's just absolutely no substance, and yet so much coverage.
JS: *Most embarrassing on-air moment ever?*
BC: Probably when they decided to surprise me with a segment called "Dress-Up Billy." There were several costume changes, ranging from a cowboy to an action hero to, well...I don't even know how to describe. Kind of a transvestite in a thong.
JS: *Good thing you're on radio, not TV.*
BC: Not really. The pictures wound up on the World Wide Web. I'm guessing that's probably going to come back to haunt me if I ever get involved in a court fight: "By the way, your honor, have you seen these?"
JS: *Most obnoxious celebrity encounter?*
BC: Oh, that would be a toss-up between Whitney Houston and, believe it or not, Tony Curtis. He was just an absolute disappointment. I was looking forward to meeting this legend, and he comes in wearing the full satin robe and ascot, and was just so demanding. It was just horrifying.
JS: *Favorite place in Boston for a night out?*
BC: Oh, God. Thanks for putting me on the spot. How many friends am I going to piss off with this one? OK, if it's me and my wife and we're going out, I guess we tend to go two places the most: Prezza in the North End and Meritage in the Boston Harbor Hotel.
JS: *How about an undiscovered gem?*
BC: It's not in Boston, but there's a place I discovered over the course of the summer in Rockport, called My Place by the Sea. It's easily one of the most charming restaurants I've been to. It probably has one of the top three ocean views in New England.
JS: *Top three date restaurants in Boston?*
BC: I think Via Matta is the perfect environment: fun, upbeat, great bar. My wife and I recently had a great date at Hamersley's. And you know what's really good? Bricco, in the North End.



JS: *How about a special-occasion restaurant: a birthday or getting engaged place?*
BC: When I think special occasion, for some reason I almost always end up thinking of Aujord'hui at the Four Seasons.
JS: *Where would you take Matt for dinner?*
BC: Knowing Matt, and knowing that he just doesn't really give a shit, I'd probably take him to Johnny Rockets for a burger and a shake. Someplace totally casual.
JS: *Biggest restaurant pet peeve?*
BC: My longtime pet peeve is when you call the restaurant and the people who work there don't know where they are. They can't give you directions.
JS: *What matters most to you: food, service, atmosphere?*
BC: Service. You'll always go back to a place with great service if the food's OK, but you'll never go back if the food's great and the service is horrible.
JS: *What's your policy on tipping?*
BC: I overtip. And it's not even a percentage. It's just a feeling. I guess, in general, it's maybe what's expected plus 5 percent.
JS: *If you could have one Boston chef teach you to cook one thing at home, what would it be?*
BC: I'd have the head pizza-maker at Santarpio's teach me to make a pizza that would come out of my oven tasting exactly like a pizza at Santarpio's.
JS: *So how do you stay thin? The old finger down the throat, or what?*
BC: I work out every day.
JS: *Are you a good cook?*
BC: I used to be a great cook, but then I met my wife and fell out of practice. My wife is a fantastic gourmet cook.
JS: *Has the whole celebrity chef thing gotten out of hand?*
BC: I don't think so. As far as I'm concerned, I don't think it could ever be big enough for them. Who works harder than they do? You know what? Lindsay Lohan should have half the talent they do, and any chef in Boston should have half the coverage she gets.
JS: *Most graceful way to send something back at a restaurant?*
BC. I don't know. I'm one of those people who is so nonconfrontational that I wouldn't. I'm all about not wanting them to dislike me.
JS: *Last question: If you were on death row, what would you request as your last meal?*
BC: Cheez-Its. I'd want a whole box. And maybe a slice of old-fashioned school cafeteria–style yellow sheet cake with brown frosting. iB

Bachelor Pad.



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20 hit singles

BY WENDY HOLT AND LINDA LABAN

Each year, as soon as we publish our annual issue celebrating Boston's most eligible singles, we're inundated with letters and e-mails saying things like, "Those aren't the kind of guys I meet on a Saturday night at my neighborhood bar," or "These women are unattainable—why don't you include the girl next door?" The answer is that we're not just trying to highlight Boston's most available people. In other words, this isn't "my little brother who's really cute and a bit on the shy side," or "the woman in my office who has a great personality and none of us can figure out why she's still single." Forgive us if that sounds a bit harsh, but if you want regular, watch *Average Joe*.

Our purpose in our annual Bachelors and Bachelorettes issue is to show our readers that Boston is full of extraordinary, accomplished, interesting and appealing people who don't happen to be spoken for (at the moment). Pairing off isn't necessarily high on their list of priorities, either—they lead full and busy lives.

We hope you enjoy our annual roundup of the city's top singles. This list of 10 men and 10 women, including one gay man and one lesbian (in keeping with the ratio in the general population), wasn't easy to assemble. In addition to the hundreds of nominations we received from readers, we were bombarded with excellent suggestions from friends and colleagues, and every recommendation had a lot going for it. All of which is to say, our list reflects Boston's crème de la crème, but by no means is every great catch in the city here. That should offer a ray of hope for anyone looking for Mr. or Ms. Right.

—*Jonathan Soroff*

Ezra Dyer, Erin Hagedorn, Jessica Iredale and Rich Levine also contributed to this story.

KATHERINA ZABICKI, M.D.

32, surgeon

The good doctor sounds like the kind of friend everyone would like to have. Honest, loyal to a fault and a blast to be around, she's also extremely smart. But don't be intimidated, guys. She's really a Midwestern girl at heart. Born in Poland, Zabicki grew up in Troy, Mich., then graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. After studying at Wayne State University School of Medicine, she completed five years of surgical training at Chicago's Northwestern University. A fellowship in breast oncology brought Zabicki to Boston, and she immediately fell in love with the city. Now, she does clinical work for one of Boston's leading hospitals and is also an instructor of surgery at a local medical school. Don't be misled by her professional success, though: Zabicki is adventurous, funny and as personable as they get. She seems to be in constant motion. When she had two months off after her residency, she traveled to Mexico and enrolled in Spanish classes (she's also fluent in Polish). Favorite overseas destinations include the Greek Islands, Rome and Paris. This unpretentious Renaissance woman (and confessed chocoholic) is just as comfortable dining out at a five-star restaurant as she is grilling hot dogs over a campfire—in fact, anything related to the outdoors, like fishing or camping, ranks high on her list. She also enjoys volleyball and dancing—all kinds, from Latin to ballroom. Her outgoing personality and natural generosity make this hopeless romantic a rare find in Beantown. We're glad she brought her Midwestern charm out East.

JOHN ROBERTS

28, charter school assistant director

John Roberts knew what he wanted to do early on in college. That probably explains why, while still in his twenties, he's already landed a prime job at a charter school in Lowell. Roberts' school focuses on students who've dropped out of high school or are in danger of doing so, and despite the long commute from his Beacon Hill home, he considers himself lucky to do what he does. After a few years teaching in Michigan, where he was raised, Roberts realized he wanted to work in an area where he could make a bigger difference with his students and enrolled in Harvard's Graduate School of Education. (While there, his team won the school's intramural basketball championship, so add tall and athletic to his list of attributes.) It's hardly surprising, given the demands of his job, that Roberts likes to take his mind off work and chill during his down time. He loves to cook (salmon with apricot glaze is a specialty) and also enjoys eating out at Prezza and Sage in the North End, which are an easy walk from his home. But his great passion is fly-fishing. (One of his all-time favorite movies is *A River Runs Through It*.) Once a year, Roberts hooks up with some Michigan high school buds for a fishing trip to Montana. With a smile as big and warm as his heart, this strong, silent type says his students help him keep up on what's new and happening on the street. Basically, he's a sweet guy who doesn't have to try too hard to keep it real.

KRISTEN PORTER

35, executive director, Pathways to Wellness; owner, Dyke Night Productions

An equal mix of business brawn, earthy affect and party-girl spirit, this lesbian bachelorette tempers her entrepreneurial side with a holistic touch and an insatiable appetite for fun. She's spent the majority of her 35 years in Boston, graduating from college with a degree in business and moving on to pursue graduate studies in acupuncture. Save for a high school program in England and an acupuncture residency in China, Porter's kept local. For the past 14 years, she's spent her days at Back Bay holistic therapies center Pathways to Wellness, moving up from staff acupuncturist and business consultant to clinical director and, most recently, executive director. She takes great pride in the fact that during her tenure, Pathways has grown from a tiny grassroots organization to the largest program of its kind in the country, winning a Greater Boston Business Council Award for Excellence and a Mass. Council of Human Service Providers Peer Provider Award in the process. And while her job has inspired her to take up yoga, among other holistic practices, Porter isn't all chi and zen—she brings her passion for music, dance (Latin, swing and belly) and partying in general to her other business, Dyke Night Productions. For years, lesbians all over the city arranged their social calendars around Dyke Night's legendary weekly dance party (which ended last April), and Porter has promoted events and fund-raisers that have raised more than $20,000 for small community projects. She's known as a pillar of the queer community and was even asked to emcee the 2004 Dyke March. But her ambition and drive aside, Porter's friends admire her witty, sardonic sense of humor, her ability to laugh at life's difficulties, her killer shoe collection and her alabaster complexion, which she says she got from her grandmother, who's also her best friend.

MICHAEL TATELMAN

25, director of theater operations and guest services, Jordan's Furniture

At 25, most Boston men don't have many worries beyond how the Sox or the Pats will do this year. But as an executive with a company like Jordan's, Tatelman isn't your typical twentysomething. The Sudbury native joined the furniture giant's team shortly after graduating Union College, in Schenectady, N.Y., in 2002 and quickly showed a knack for the family business—his father, Eliot, is the company's ponytailed TV pitchman and president. Tatelman has played an integral role as Jordan's has added two giant IMAX theaters and other attractions to help turn its outlets into mini amusement parks. Earlier this year, he even made his television debut, in one of the company's quirky commercials. The consummate professional, Tatelman deflects inquiries about his business accomplishments with stories of the irreplaceable employees who make his job easier. He says his biggest reward is the chance to work on a daily basis with his father and his brother, Josh. Outside the office, Tatelman, who recently moved to the North End, keeps busy in a lacrosse league (he played four years at Union). He's currently training to run the 2005 Boston Marathon and is also an avid traveler who's made recent jaunts to Portugal and Ireland. Friends describe him as driven but also extremely down-to-earth and compassionate. So it should be no surprise that in addition to friends and family, charity plays a huge part in his life, especially the work he does with Camp Miracles and Magic, a facility for children affected by HIV and AIDS that the family runs every summer in Hubbardston, Mass. You'd be hard-pressed to get him to admit it, but take it from us: This guy's all right.

ROMI BEPPU

Dancer, Boston Ballet

This star performer for Boston Ballet fuels dreams and breaks hearts each time she pirouettes across the stage. Born and raised in Honolulu, Beppu trained with the Hawaii State Ballet before moving on to dance with the American Ballet Theatre. She joined Boston Ballet's corps de ballet in 1998 and since 2003 has been a soloist with the company. This dedicated charmer (who gives her age as "twentysomething") has pushed herself every step of the way to achieve her goals—and she still hasn't let up. When Beppu has free time (which isn't often, given her demanding ballet schedule), she makes the most of it. In addition to practicing yoga, she's taken a variety of classes at Harvard extension school—from Russian literature to international relations to creative writing. Interested in all aspects of the arts, Beppu adores the Gardner Museum and the MFA. And she plays as zealously as she works, enjoying dinner parties (where she and her friends play Iron Chef) and eating out. She's also taking baby steps—or should we say pas de bourrée?—toward learning to cook. But Beppu still prefers the tutu to the apron. During longer stretches of downtime, she travels home to visit family and friends in Hawaii (where she likes to surf), and she loves to pop over to London when she can. But don't be intimidated by Beppu's success. She's a regular girl like any other, admitting to a fondness for silly TV (she's a huge fan of *The Apprentice* and *Will & Grace*) and doing "girly" things with friends, like shopping and having lunches out. She describes herself as a straightforward Taurus whose friends appreciate her bluntness, honesty and, most of all, loyalty. Focused and serious at work, she changes gears as soon as the ballet slippers come off. Around friends, Beppu is playful, giggly and sweetly sarcastic. And did we mention those legs?

ALISON DARGIE

31, manager of marketing communications, Children's Hospital Boston

This Belmont native wishes she could say she's partial to sushi and martinis, but the truth is she tried lobster once and thought it was too much work for too much money. Currently living in Arlington, Dargie is deliciously down-to-earth. She keeps in touch with high school pals by meeting up once a month for dinner, golfing days and other fun diversions. But this marketing professional with Children's Hospital Boston has loftier interests too. Along with her older sister, she organizes a wine and book club, which gathers a group of their friends each week to sample different wines (though Dargie admits the book aspect has fallen by the wayside somewhat). She's an independent gal who likes to leave the comfort zone of family and friends and face her fears. Not one to shy away from supporting a cause, she's completed the Pan-Mass Challenge and volunteers with Leslie's Links, a charitable foundation that supports the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dargie hates to spend her time shopping, and unlike many members of the fairer sex, she's not into shoes—her idea of fun is a night at Vox Populi. A music fan, she says her favorite CD is probably Radiohead's *OK Computer,* but she's also taken a fancy to those other cute Brits, Coldplay. This green-eyed guy's girl has what she calls a "puerile" sense of humor (she loves the movie *Old School*) and enjoys kicking back with a glass of wine and the remote control to indulge in what she calls "really bad" reality shows, especially *The Littlest Groom* (the dating show featuring dwarfs). Her favorite pastime, though, is the movies. Wowing her friends with her ability to quote nearly any famous line, she watches two or three films a week. Anything, in fact, but chick flicks!

LENNY DINARDO

25, pitcher, Boston Red Sox

Some guys have a laundry list of requirements for their perfect mate, but there's only one real deal-breaker for Lenny DiNardo—no ABBA fans. Assuming you don't have "Dancing Queen" set on repeat on your iPod, however, this 25-year-old southpaw from down South (well, if you consider Florida the South) just might be singing your tune. The second oldest of six siblings in an Italian-Catholic household, DiNardo is close with his family (he stays with his older brother in Clearwater when he's not in Boston). He's an avid guitar player and recently performed at Hot Stove, Cool Music, a sold-out concert at the Paradise to benefit the Jimmy Fund that featured other Sox like pitcher Bronson Arroyo and GM Theo Epstein appearing along with rocker Juliana Hatfield and an array of others. When he's not practicing his licks, DiNardo can often be found outdoors, kayaking, canoeing or mountain-biking. He doesn't take himself too seriously, and while he might not seem it at first glance, he's a goofball at heart. As you might expect from his musical tastes—favorites include the Pixies and the Lemonheads—DiNardo enjoys nightlife beyond the Lansdowne/Downtown club scene. But he does frequently end up at Daisy Buchanan's with his single friends. There, he's much more likely to be impressed by a girl who approaches him without knowing he's a pitcher for the Red Sox, although standing next to one or two of his famous teammates is akin to wearing his uniform and cleats out to the bar. Considering that a lot of women go for athletes, and a lot of women have a weakness for musicians, the only downside here is that you'll probably have a lot of competition trying to strike the right note.

KIZZY GETROUW

25, singer

This Dutch national, who's called Boston home since moving here in 1998 to attend Berklee School of Music, has one helluva guilty pleasure: Krispy Kreme doughnuts. Her Fenway residence is most convenient for her regular sojourns to the Prudential Building, where she admits to putting away as many as 10 KKs at a time. But then, to keep up her busy musical career, this live wire needs all the energy she can muster. Getrouw sings with as many as four different bands, playing styles that range from hip dance to jazz standards. You might catch her fronting Unity at the nightclub Saint, the Winiker Music Orchestra at corporate functions and weddings, or maybe Soul-Phactor at Bob the Chef's Jazz Café. Born in the Netherlands and partly raised in the Dutch Antilles, as a child and teenager Getrouw cut a name for herself in pop music and on TV—she even scored a No. 1 CD in the Antilles, *Cocktail*, which made her quite a star there. Even though a career in Holland or the Caribbean would have been much easier, Getrouw has no regrets about choosing the harder route and starting over again in the U.S.—Boston, she says, is where she needs to be. Although she confesses to being a bit of a diva when performing on stage, Getrouw maintains a levelheaded approach to life, and laughs at herself easily. The giggly songstress also has a quiet side, enjoying books and museums, and admits to a weakness for shopping—she loves mall trawling. Getrouw's varied upbringing has left her worldly and open-minded. She's surprisingly nonjudgmental when meeting people, possibly because the only box she likes to "fit" into herself is the one she regularly picks up at the Pru.

CHRISTIAN ELIAS

32, corporate sales director

Much like the New England he loves, Elias is an old-school charmer. Raised in Belmont (his parents still live there in the house he grew up in) and now an Arlington resident, he believes in old-fashioned values like holding the car door open for women, and having a wife and children…someday. Until then, the 32-year-old University of New Hampshire communications graduate (he also earned a master's in PR and marketing from Emerson) keeps busy with his twin interests, music and sports, which also form the basis of his busy but fun professional life. Year-round, Elias is director of corporate sales for the Bank of America Pavilion (formerly the FleetBoston Pavilion). But during the summer months, this avid athlete, who works out five times a week, adds another job to his schedule: scoreboard operator at Fenway Park. Elias landed the position just after he left high school, and 14 years later he's still sitting behind the Green Monster. And while it means sitting in a sweaty, cramped space four or five hours a night, 81 days a year (as well as forgoing much of summer social life and vacations), he cares not a jot; he simply loves the job. Quick-witted and super loyal, Elias has just one guilty secret, his sweet tooth—he indulges in a frappe just about every day. He also loves to play cards and enjoys trips to Las Vegas and Mohegan Sun. A favorite local excursion is a visit to the North End for Italian food. Elias is a music lover who counts Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers as his all-time favorite, but he also enjoys the Gypsy Kings, classic artists like Van Morrison, and a little Guns N' Roses. Describing himself as a homebody who's very close to his small, tight-knit family, Elias says he could never see home being anywhere but Boston.

FREDERICK ILCHMAN

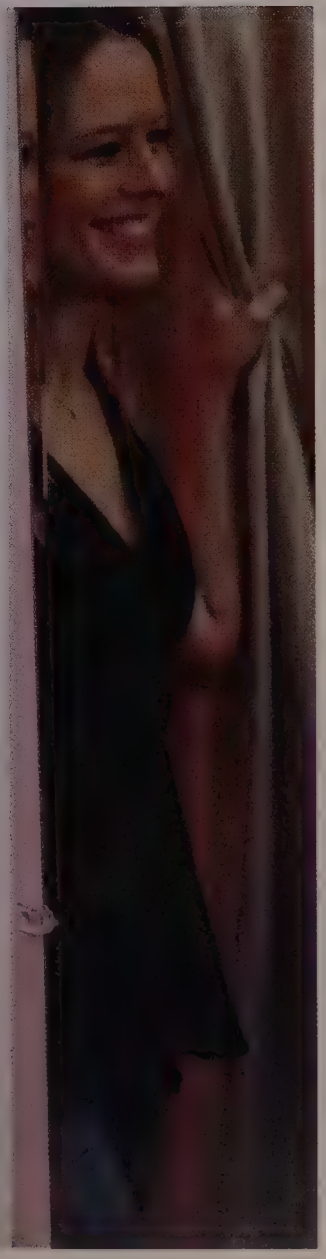
37, assistant curator of paintings, Art of Europe, Museum of Fine Arts

It wouldn't be inaccurate to describe Ilchman as a Renaissance man. He's finishing his Ph.D. on the artist Tintoretto, and his love of art is matched by his ardor for Italy. Born in California and raised in Wellesley and suburban New York, Ilchman lived in Venice for five years before moving to Boston in 2001 to take his dream job at the MFA, and he speaks Italian fluently. Speaking of *ciao*, he's also fluent in the kitchen, specializing in Northern Italian cuisine (risotto with seafood is his go-to dish). On the executive committee of the Boston chapter of Save Venice, Ilchman is a frequent traveler to his former home, making four trips last year alone. Outgoing and gregarious, he's led tours in Venice and often gives art lectures around Boston. One startling factoid: While he does make the technological concession of owning a cell phone, Ilchman has no TV, preferring a night out at the opera, a game at Fenway, or the Friday night sing-along at Jacob Wirth to vegging out in front of the tube. Despite his attraction to Mediterranean climes, Ilchman embraces the chill air of Boston winters as well, though that might simply be his natural tendency toward positivity and optimism showing through. Lest you think him all brains and no brawn, he also works out regularly and will climb aboard a ski gondola as readily as he will one of Venice's famous riverboats. While his beloved Italy might be a great place for the single traveler to visit, Ilchman doesn't see himself as a perpetual bachelor, and this art expert is ready to settle down should the right muse come along.

BROOKE GARBER

26, owner, Mint Julep boutique

This vivacious entrepreneur grew up in rural Vermont in a bohemian intellectual environment and went on to earn a degree in communications from Boston University. Recently, however, she ditched a career in advertising (too corporate and fake, she says) and, in partnership with a childhood friend, opened Mint Julep, a Brookline boutique that sells fun clothes and accessories for women. Garber places a high importance on friendship, and despite the full-time responsibility and hands-on requirements of her store, she never misses an opportunity to hook up with chums, forgoing sleep to meet up for drinks, movies or dinner, even when she's beat. Not surprisingly then, she's a Starbucks girl. On a recent trip to Seattle she even visited the caffeine-kick mecca, the first Starbucks. Garber's no stranger to the sugar buzz either—she admits to a sweet tooth and loves ice cream. Her choice for more substantial dining is Zaftigs in Brookline, but she loves to check out new places that are a little different, with Audubon Circle in Boston a recent favorite. Spontaneous and easygoing, Garber rates travel an essential part of life; in the past year or so she's visited Russia, South Africa and London. Music is paramount too—her current playlist includes indie electronic/dance troupe the Postal Service and Brit pop-jazz cutie Jamie Cullum. One thing she's extremely proud of *not* doing is accepting a casting director's offer to appear on *The Bachelor.* Again, too fake. Friendship, be it with her boutique customers, the younger brother she's very close to, or the many people she loves to chat with, is essential. As much as Mint Julep is her pride and joy, Garber won't sacrifice her social life. She sticks to the motto "All work and no play…"



HEATHER FINE

25, medical researcher, Joslin Diabetes Center

"Damn, you're fine!" Yeah, yeah, her daddy's a juicemaker and she's Veryfine. She should pay a fine for looking that good. Save it, bud—she's heard it all. To really get this bachelorette's attention, you'll need to be motivated and know what you want from life, because she certainly does. New Hampshire native Fine works in the Longwood medopolis doing diabetes research, and though only in her mid twenties, she's already explored multiple career paths to confirm that medicine is her true calling (she plans to apply to medical school in the coming year). After graduating from Colby College in 2002, Fine joined the Peace Corps and went to Tanzania, where she lived on an island in Lake Victoria without running water or electricity. The trek to get a warm beer with a friend was measured in miles, so not surprisingly, she picked up a little Swahili. Upon her return to the States, Fine took a job at a TV production company that makes historical reenactments about topics including Lewis and Clark, and she's as much a fan of watching documentaries as she is of working on them. Fine's other interests include skiing, hiking and traveling, and she enjoys finding humor in the subtly absurd moments of everyday life. Post med school, she plans to continue her altruistic ways by joining an outfit like Doctors Without Borders, a goal that will likely take her back to some of the world's most remote, neediest places. A hot doctor whose mission in life is to help the sick and poverty-stricken…and did we mention she's also a great cook? Not just fine, she's a find.

CHRIS SHINE

27, DJ, KISS 108

If the name sounds familiar, maybe it's because you've heard his rich voice over the late-night airwaves. Shine spent summers in college interning at KISS 108 and soon after graduation landed a job with the top-40 giant. And he hasn't looked back. One of the city's most recognizable gay bachelors, this South Shore native knew at a young age that he wanted to make people laugh—he grew up with the radio on constantly, listening to KISS 108 even as a kid, and loved standup comedy, especially Bill Cosby. He got his start in communications at Ithaca College, where he and a friend got the hunch that radio might be their calling. When he's not disc jockeying on the midnight shift or highlighting the week's events for the KISS Calendar, he hosts *The VIP*, a nationally syndicated lifestyle program on fashion, music and other hip topics. Shine loves the variety that comes with his work, and the different folks he meets, whether at a grocery store unveiling or a club debut. You might think someone so cool would be hard to get to know, but Shine couldn't be more down-to-earth. Like his favorite confection, the Milky Way, he's a sweetie without a hint of ostentation. He confesses he's hopelessly close to his family and says he's a romantic in the best sense. An avid moviegoer, he also loves reading (anything by David Sedaris) and is an admitted clothes-shopping fanatic—he's the first person we've met who's transformed an entire bedroom into a closet! Shine loves to eat out, enjoys a good bottle of wine with his favorite seafood, and also fits in a run a few times a week. Friends say he'd do anything for them in a pinch, and he's a terrific listener. We're completely charmed by his boyish good looks and dry sense of humor, and we're pretty certain some lucky guy will be too.

CHRISTIAN SCHLEBACH

35, sailing accessories designer and kiteboarding instructor

This South African ex-pat's bio reads like an Outward Bound brochure. After a two-year stint in the South African navy, Schlebach took off for Europe at the age of 19. There, the buff blond spent much of his time on a snowboard in the Swiss Alps and Germany, and likely broke a few hearts along the way. Ten years ago, after trading snow for the sea, he joined a yachting crew and literally sailed into New England, where he decided to stay. He fused design sense and business savvy to create his first North American business venture, Posh Yachting, a line of sailing accessories that includes durable hats, bags, belts and wallets. While vacationing in Hawaii a few years later, Schlebach discovered a new hobby, kiteboarding (an extreme combination of windsurfing, wakeboarding, surfing and paragliding). He quickly parlayed that new avocation into his second business, two Hooley kiteboarding schools, one in Nantucket and one in Newport. Not surprisingly, Schlebach's friends call him generous and driven. Between two Posh retail stores, the Hooley schools and frequent trips to St. Croix, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic for private kiteboarding lessons, he doesn't get to spend much time in his Boston apartment, which is fine by him. He has friends all over the world and counts his ability to keep in touch with them among his greatest accomplishments. Potential love interests should have their passport ready—in addition to cruising the Caribbean, Schlebach is known to jet back to the South African coast every now and again. As for his sense of humor, he's admittedly dry, and honest, conceding that it takes time for Americans to appreciate his wit. We can't see why, though. That South African accent makes just about anything he says sound good to us.

GRETCHEN MONAHAN

34, owner, Gretta Enterprises, and host, TLC's *A Makeover Story*

Cambridge native Monahan pulls off the perfect combination of smart, savvy and stylish, having been featured in *Vogue* and *Allure* magazines, to name just two. She's hardly the intimidating businesswoman you might expect, though. Monahan comes across as warm, personable and downright funny, while radiating a passion for her work, friends and family. After high school, she had a brief sojourn in New York (where she spent some time at the Fashion Institute of Technology), but she realized she'd left her heart in Boston and returned to rise quickly in the ranks of cosmetologists. Her desire to bring a New York–style, specialist approach to her hometown resulted in Grettacole, the full-service luxury salon and day spa that Monahan launched in Wellesley nine years ago. Since then, she's expanded her business to six stores, including the sleek G Spa on Newbury Street and a brand-new Grettaluxe boutique/studio slated to open soon in Copley Place. In her "spare time," she globe-trots to fashion shows in Milan and Paris and travels for her popular TLC program. If her life sounds glamorous, it is. But that doesn't prevent Monahan from appreciating the simpler things. On weekends, she likes to whip up her hair in a ponytail, pull on sweats and go out for brunch, sans makeup. She also enjoys traveling to far-flung places (think jungle safaris) and concocting exotic foods for fun. And she's just learning how to play squash. Monahan has a soft spot for animals, and friends describe her as honest to a fault, though she'll put a positive spin on the truth if it's going to hurt (and on that note, sorry fellas, she's currently dating someone). Her motto, "work hard, play hard," fits this nationally renowned fashionista who'll soon receive her executive M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

ERIN MCDONOUGH

40, vice president of public affairs, New England Baptist Hospital

If Boston has an unsung hero, it just might be Erin McDonough. A fireball of energy, fun-loving and modest, McDonough oversees public affairs for New England Baptist Hospital, an orthopedic center with a focus on sports medicine and the official team hospital for the Celtics. When this Northeastern grad (B.S. in management, M.B.A.) isn't working, you'll likely find her donating time to a charity, cheering on her son's basketball team, or running (she takes part in a 10K race with friends every Sunday). Her idea of a great first date is anything that revolves around a sporting event. In fact, sports seem to run in the McDonough blood. She's the daughter of the late famed sportswriter Will McDonough, and her brother Sean is a nationally recognized broadcaster. Born in South Boston, McDonough grew up in Hingham with her four siblings and attended the all-girls high school Notre Dame Academy. She got her start in health care at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Brighton, but McDonough's commitment to "giving back" infuses all aspects of her life. Each month, she devotes time to the NBA-sponsored Read to Achieve program, and in 2002 she and her brother launched the Sean McDonough Charitable Foundation, which this year expects to donate more than $300,000 to 44 different organizations across the state. She exudes an irresistible warmth, and you can imagine spending hours chatting and laughing with her over a bottle of wine at a nice restaurant (the Hungry i is a favorite). For her 40th birthday party, McDonough gave her friends copies of Mitch Albom's book *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* with her own personal inscription. She's that kind of a person. We think this blue-eyed belle is a huge catch for a deserving guy. Her motto, "Nothing great has ever been achieved by aspiring to be good enough," says it all.

STACY MADISON

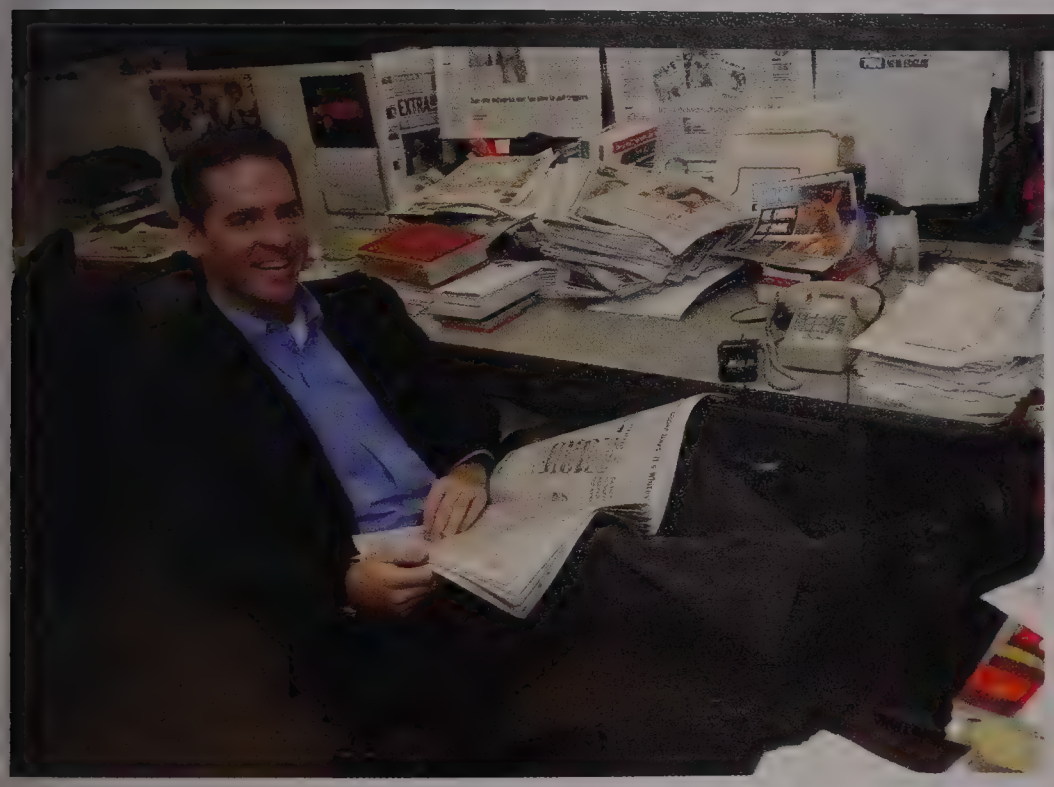
40, co-owner, Stacy's Pita Chips

This Arkansas native isn't afraid to take a risk. After graduating from UMass Amherst with a degree in psychology, Madison thought she was in for a traditional kind of life. She went into social work, and marriage followed, with kids a supposed foregone conclusion. But at age 32, unsatisfied with her lot, she quit social work to start her own company with her now ex-husband. Today, some eight years later, she presides over the highly successful natural snack company Stacy's Pita Chips. With her finances secure, two years ago Madison once again saw the need to be proactive in directing her future. Single, and wishing to have children before she hit 40, she underwent in utero fertilization treatment rather than wait for Cupid to intervene, and last year gave birth to her beloved twin girls. Currently a Canton resident, Madison says she's at a point in her life where she feels fulfilled, both professionally and personally. However, she appreciates the help she's had along the way and is that rare bird who'll help others without expecting anything back. She participates in the Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk each year, and a few years back raised $4,000 on the four-day New York–to–Boston AIDS Ride. While she enjoys skiing (water and snow), her favorite vacation destination is the beach ("cold drinks, hot beach," is her mantra). She describes herself as a "huge Howard Stern fan," shops vintage, and enjoys a night out at a nice restaurant, say, Mistral on Columbus, or the East Coast Grill in Inman Square (her biggest weakness is anything made with cheese). But her favorite thrill is riding roller-coasters—she'll always wait to get the front or back seat for the biggest kick. As with everything else she does, she wants to get the most out of the experience.

DAVID GIVENS

24, wide receiver, New Engla[illegible]

Handsome and well-rounded (not to mention [illegible] able names on the Patriots roster), Givens is th[illegible] Talk about versatile, this Notre Dame grad (200[illegible] ent positions—including wide receiver, quarte[illegible] back—for his high school alma mater, Humble High, [illegible] lettered in track. A star in college, Givens led the Fi[illegible] 25 receptions during his junior year. Since signing wit[illegible] 2002, he's had an enormous impact both on and off the fi[illegible] team's 2003 championship season, he played a key role for the offense, finishing second on the squad with 510 receiving yards. He also snared the touchdown that gave the Patriots a halftime lead in last year's Super Bowl victory over the Carolina Panthers. The fleet-footed player continued to dazzle in the 2004 season as the team's lead receiver in both receptions and yards. Off the field, he works with charities such as the Joslin Diabetes Foundation, Best Buddies, the Joshua Frase Foundation, and the South Bend Homeless Shelter, in Indiana, and also volunteers his time reading to kids in Boston schools. Maybe most impressive, the superstar's talents extend off the field and into the studio. A design major in college, Givens continues to design furniture for his home and also paints in oil and watercolor, everything from abstracts to seascapes. He likes to fish, read or take in a good movie during his down time, and he's also a huge animal lover. What's more, he can turn a mean backflip. A class act without the ego, the Patriots' No. 87 is sure to become some lucky gal's No. 1.



GREG GATLIN

37, business reporter, *Boston Herald*

All-American as apple pie and just as sweet, Gatlin is a good old boy from the East with a dash of the rough-and-tumble West. Professionally speaking, this Mass. native (Topsfield born and bred) is Northeast to the core. Upon graduating from Colby College, Gatlin scored a highly coveted spot in production with ABC News in New York City. Four years later, he set his baby blues on a writing career and headed back to Boston University to pursue a master's in journalism. He's been here ever since, and currently covers business and media while also writing a weekly column, The Messenger, for the *Herald*. He loves his job and says his number one career goal is to be the best reporter he can. Gatlin's father was the editor of a ski magazine, and apparently the winter sports gene was as dominant as the gene for writing. From Sugarloaf, Killington and Tuckerman Ravine to the French Alps, where he lived for a year, to Utah, where he got into helicopter skiing, Gatlin enjoys taking slaloming to the extreme. Hitting the slopes isn't his only outdoor interest, though. He's mountain-biked in Moab, Utah, hiked Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park, run the Boston Marathon and completed an Outward Bound expedition in the Sierra Nevadas. Golf and football rank among his other sporting interests. When it comes to culture, Gatlin can blend the high with the low. He likes divey pubs like J.J. Foley's, and the sophomoric stunts of Comedy Central's *Crank Yankers*, yet he's tuned in to classical music (Bach's *Sheep May Safely Graze* is his favorite piece) and frequents the symphony. He's dashing (check out his Hollywood megawatt smile), daring (his [illegible] exploits) and the kind of guy your mom would love to see at the dinner table.

MICHAEL SCHLOW

40, executive chef and co-owner, Radius, Via Matta and Great Bay

Have a conversation with Schlow and you'll soon discover that this culinary Romeo can't discuss food, or any other subject, without infusing it with his charming comic sensibility. If he weren't so darned famous, we'd think this New Jersey native was just the guy next door. Schlow started cooking at age 10 (omelettes were his specialty), and after training at his state's Academy of Culinary Arts, he went on to serve up savory treats for tony Manhattan restaurants and for the Hamptons set. In 1995, he took Boston by storm with his success at Café Louis, and four years later he launched Radius, ranked among *Gourmet* magazine's top 25 restaurants in 2001. Via Matta (2002) followed, and then Great Bay (2003). Among the countless feathers in Schlow's chef's cap, he received the James Beard award as Best Chef in the Northeast in 2000 and was named *Santé* magazine's best chef that same year. He served as personal birthday chef for Julia Child on two occasions and also masterminded Billy Joel's nuptial feast last summer. While Schlow may rub elbows with the famous, a prima donna he's not. With his self-deprecating sense of humor and huge smile, he'll win you over in an instant. When he's not busy running his three restaurants, Schlow likes to teach cooking classes, often globe-trotting to do so, but he never turns down an Almond Joy or a slice of New York pizza. He loves golf, is a voracious reader and has even written a cookbook, *It's About Time: Great Recipes for Everyday Life* (Steerforth), which comes out in April. He brings a sweet, *When Harry Met Sally* sense of romance to the table that any woman would welcome. Those without a sense of humor need not apply, but don't worry if you're not handy in the kitchen. We have a sneaking suspicion that this gallant gourmet with a big heart can help you out. **IB**

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bracelets, $75–$195. All at the Altered Brid

Winter white silk gown with antique beading detail, $600; French veil hat by Melissa Bergman, $450; Swarovski crystal earrings, $110; choker, $145; white crystal necklace, $275. All at the Altered Bride.

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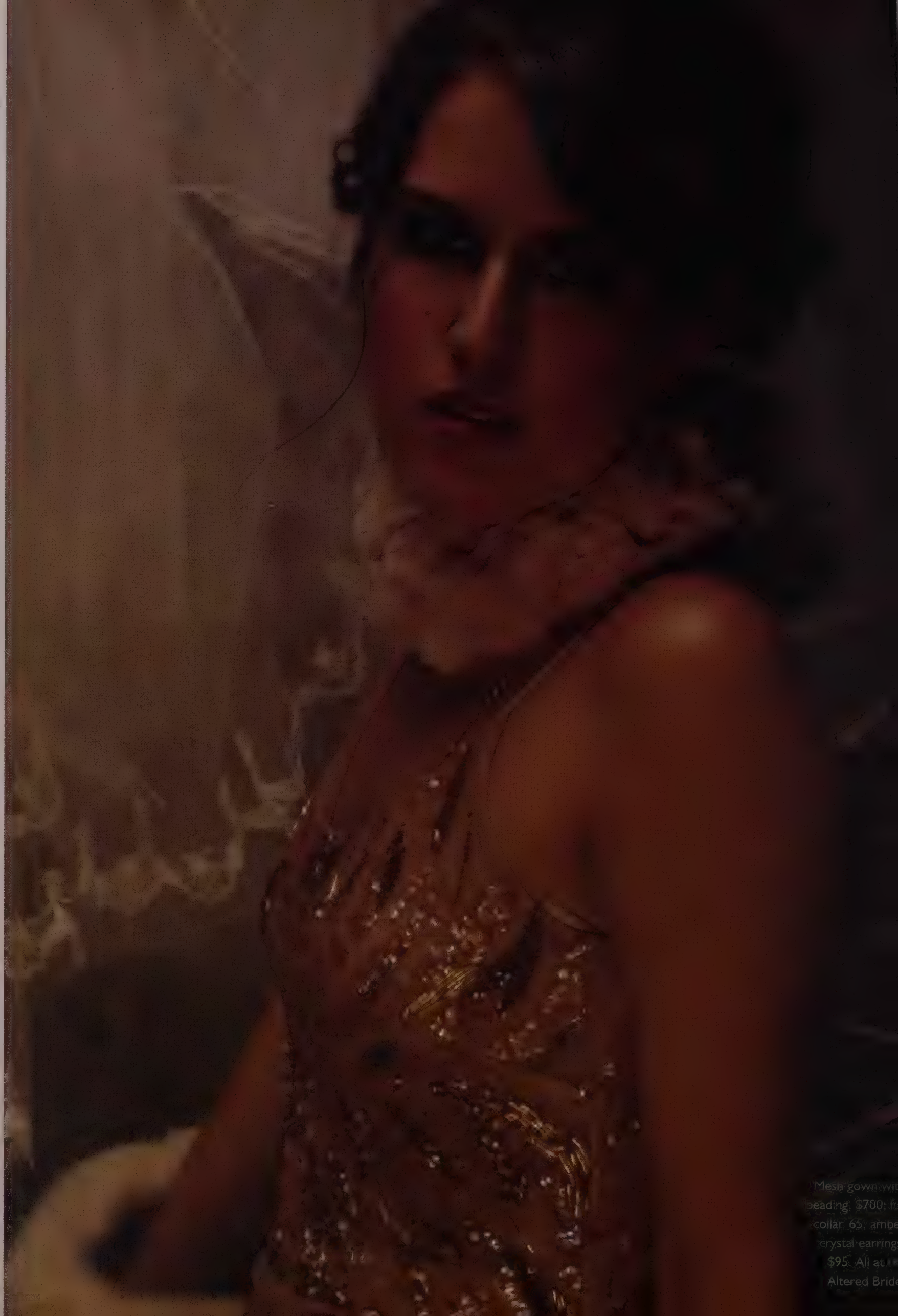

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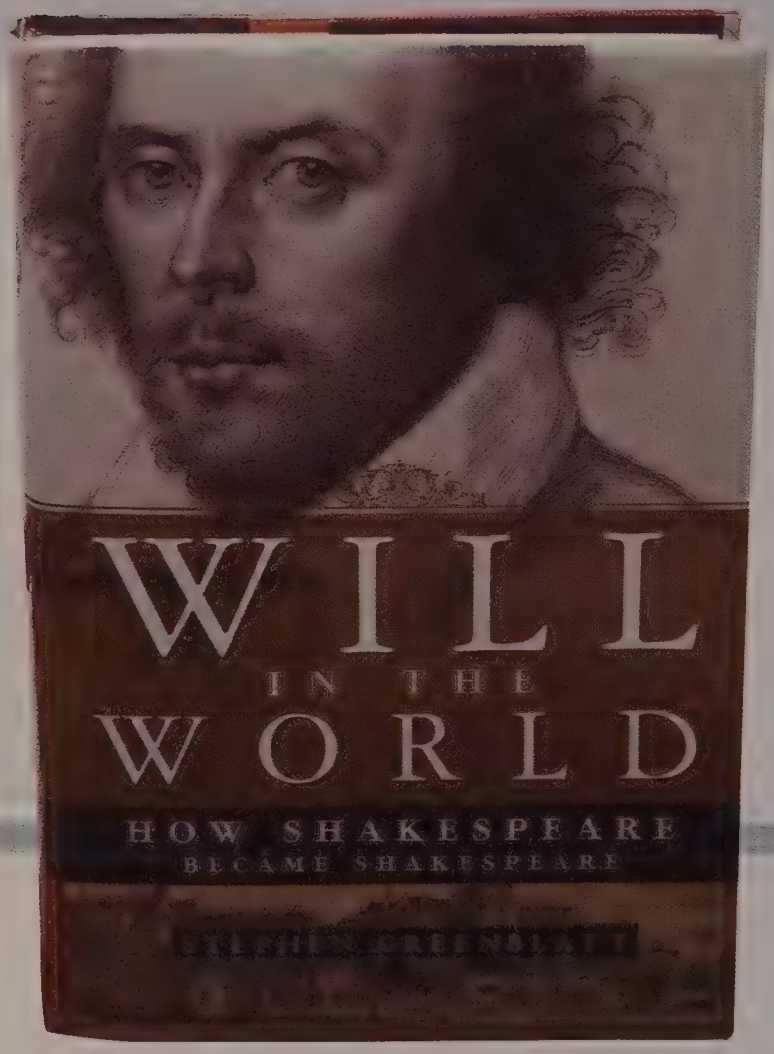


WILL'S WORLD

***Will in the World*, by Harvard professor and National Book Award winner Stephen Greenblatt, takes us through Shakespeare's times, the seedbed of his plays and poetry.**

If you're a post-academic trawling for a book that brings you back to the joys of learning, or simply a lover of Shakespeare, read *Will in the World*. Harvard professor Stephen Greenblatt has cleverly conceived a different way to wrap Shakespeare's milieu—the trends and events and political valences of his time—around the blooming Bard without writing a straight-out biography. Always lightly hypothesizing, Greenblatt presents Shakespeare as an unschooled but stupendously impressionable and brilliant magpie of a million notions. Some of the elements of the Elizabethan world that Shakespeare observed, absorbed and then embodied in his plays include Catholicism (outlawed, but secretly practiced by many, including his father), family relations (he was something of an absent father and husband himself despite the anguish and beauty he wrote into the family connections of his characters), views of the Jews (a Jewish physician named Lopez, possibly a model for Shylock, was hanged during Shakespeare's day), and everyday brutality and violence (heads of traitors were displayed on pikes along London Bridge). We meet some of the salty, extravagant people who inspired Falstaff. Are the longing and tension of the sonnets reflections of the poet's own desires?

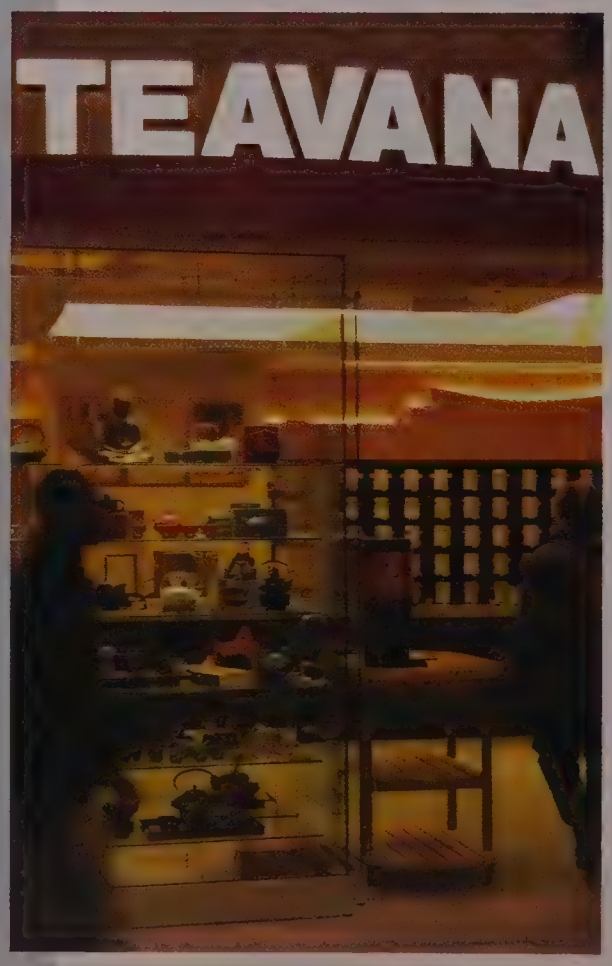
JUMPING FOR JOY WITH JESS

Certified Personal Trainer Jess Perkins of Shape Up, just outside Inman Square, will stretch and strengthen you. Call 617-497-1103. She also offers Buff Bride, a prewedding shape-up program.

Full of pepper and salt, and radiating her own healthy strength, Jess Perkins offers personal training in her big house, dedicated to exercise. "Fire up the glutes!" she calls out zippily to a client working on the floor with a ball. With goals of improving cardio, strength and flexibility, Jess helps "move people past obstacles." Her equipment, which she lithely and energetically demonstrates, includes a giant black beast on which you slide up and down, prone, working the shoulders, while bearing between 60 and 90 percent of your body weight. Perkins' clients include, among others, to a 70-year-old female surfer. A lot of her workout is dedicated to stabilizing and strengthening your "core"—the abs and back. She uses a boxer's heavy bag, some simple-looking balls (using them isn't so simple), a wobbly balancer called a Bosu (which demands canny strength and movement) and slick, lollipop-red mats you slide across to work on balance—also good for helping to heal a dance or skating injury. She's also got the more traditional jump ropes and trampolines. Men and women (including brides-to-be looking for glistening wedding day fitness), individuals in training, or those simply pushing toward a more ambitious, stronger workout come here. "She's great," says a strength-working client through her gritted teeth.

VARIE-TEAS

Teavana in the Back Bay Arcade section of the Pru sells tea leaves of all kinds. Call 617-262-1888.



At Teavana, they bring out big round silver boxes containing the shop's many teas, and shake them appetizingly. Teas like Jasmine Dragon Phoenix Pearls and Japanese Wild Cherry are so pretty you almost think they'll burst into song. In fact, some of them, made of flowers, make for a sort of edible potpourri that you can sprinkle on cereal. Teavana has a dizzying 104 varieties. There are ethereal white teas (high in antioxidants and low in caffeine) with names like Silver Needle, Precious White Peach and Scarlet Cloud. The allergy-relieving red, or rooibos, teas are good for the skin and digestion. Herbal Infusions are vitamin-rich and—apart from Mate Vana (sounds like a dangerous dame)—also caffeine-free. In contrast to cousin coffee, these infinitely various teas, sometimes scented or flavored, sometimes clear and pure, are touted as healthful, soothing visitations. Moving up from the full-bodied, fermented oolongs—such as the exotically named Monkey-Picked Oolong—you arrive at the strong punch of black teas—including the consolingly smoky Lapsang Souchong and the familiar Prince of Wales. Black teas are believed to help lower cholesterol. Tea sets—ceramic, carved into a dragon shape or tiny, wonderful cast iron ones—keep you, and your beverage, warm.

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REVIEW

WELL FED

Chef David Daniels makes the case for fine dining at the Federalist.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Tortellini of crayfish and lobster with giant Peruvian fava beans and late-harvest corn cream

The Federalist restaurant is alive and well. This Beacon Hill eatery, ensconced in an upscale boutique hotel, opened five years ago after much hype and anticipation. In the beginning, brilliant chef Robert Fathman established himself as a culinary force to be reckoned with by offering some of the most creative food Boston had ever seen. Served in a luxurious setting distinguished by Christofle tableware, Riedel stemware, and Frette linens, Fathman's handiwork fetched some of the highest prices in the city.

Fathman has long since gone on to other challenges (Trio, Anthem, Azure), as have a number of his successors, but the Fed's elegant silver, refined stemware, and sumptuous tablecloths and napkins remain. The high prices also remain, but remarkably, they're no higher than they were five years ago—a claim that few other Boston restaurants can make. The Fed's wine list, one of the more encyclopedic in town, still soars into the stratosphere (a bottle of 1924 Chateau Petrus is available for $10,000). But it continues to offer a number of decidedly more down-to-earth choices, with bottles under $30 and wine by the glass for $7.

The most important thing that's remained the same at the Fed is the commitment to excellence in the kitchen. Current executive chef David Daniels, a Boston-area native, puts his Culinary Institute of America training to good use in a style that's more classic than cutting-edge, producing dishes that look good and taste delicious.

THE FEDERALIST

15 Beacon St., Boston
(617-670-2515)

HOURS Mon.–Fri.: breakfast, 7–10:30 am; lunch, 11:20 am–2 pm; dinner, 5:30–10 pm. Sat. and Sun.: brunch, 8 am–2 pm; dinner, 5:30–10 pm

RESERVATIONS strongly recommended

CREDIT CARDS all major

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LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

One recent dinner began with an amuse gueule of smoked salmon and crème fraîche flecked with chopped chives, served on a sweet potato chip. On a subsequent evening, the chip was replaced by a miniature potato crepe under the salmon. Appetizers included superb tortellini of crayfish and lobster ($14), a generous portion of tender, velvety pasta pillows, stuffed with morsels of delicate flesh of New England's most illustrious crustacean and its diminutive freshwater cousin. The rich cream sauce, studded with sweet corn and giant Peruvian fava beans, coated and complemented the pasta without overwhelming the delicate flavor of the shellfish. Best of all, the texture of the tortellini rivaled some of the best I have had. Tortellini—patterned on Venus' navel, according to Italian culinary folklore—is a pasta that all too often ends up dense, almost hard. Here its soft tenderness made it heavenly. Another appetizer, ahi tuna tartare ($15), brought full-flavored, silky-textured raw tuna, coarsely chopped and molded into a large cylinder ever so subtly flavored with soy miso emulsion. It was accompanied by sweet potato chips that delivered a felicitous texture counterpoint.

The final appetizer I sampled, green salad of baby lettuce ($9), didn't measure up to the high standards set by the others. The baby lettuce turned out to be large leaves of red lettuce, and while the imaginative presentation—long, thin slices of cucumber were curved and molded into a bowl containing the lettuce—pleased the eye, the pedestrian greens proved merely serviceable, unworthy of the salad's well-balanced, savory brown sherry vinaigrette. During the same meal, I had a similarly mixed experience with the main course of roasted Vermont pheasant breast ($34). While boasting good, crisp skin, the bird's flesh varied from moist to dry, flawing its robustly pleasant flavor. The accompanying starch of baked "zitillini"—short lengths of miniature ziti—was dry, almost rubbery and not rescued by the small wedge of melting Camembert cheese and the spoonful of baby spinach with which it was served.

Sensing that something was amiss at the Fed's kitchen that night, upon returning home I telephoned the restaurant and learned that Chef Daniels was not on site that particular Tuesday evening, information that both annoyed and relieved me: annoyed, because my dinner had failed to satisfy my high expectations based on an earlier exposure to Daniels' craft; relieved, because that failure did not evidence a decline in Daniels' performance but rather the inability of whoever was pinch-hitting to replace him.

Fortunately, a subsequent visit to the Fed—this time I'd confirmed in advance that Daniels would be in the kitchen—restored my faith in the chef's culinary talents. The Colorado rack of lamb ($39) soared to new heights. Two magnificent chops, each almost two inches high and rare, tender, and moist, dominated the enormous oval platter on which they were served. The garnishes, one an imaginatively conceived, large ravioli filled with a savory hash of lamb shank, dried tomatoes and ricotta cheese, and the other a circular bed of mashed potatoes supporting a medley of corn beans, and fresh chopped tomatoes, turned the oversized oval platter into a feast for the eye as well as the palate. In contrast to too many restaurants that serve only Australian lamb, which I find unpleasantly strong in flavor, the Rocky Mountain provenance of the Fed's lamb made this dish sublime. Roasted Alaskan wild king salmon ($29) brought a thick, firm fillet, roasted to a perfect moist turn, served with a delicate pumpkin risotto and a pleasantly bitter crisp leaf of Belgian endive. A delicate sauce of chestnuts and white truffle oil and a sprinkling of shaved scallions finished the dish in fine fashion.

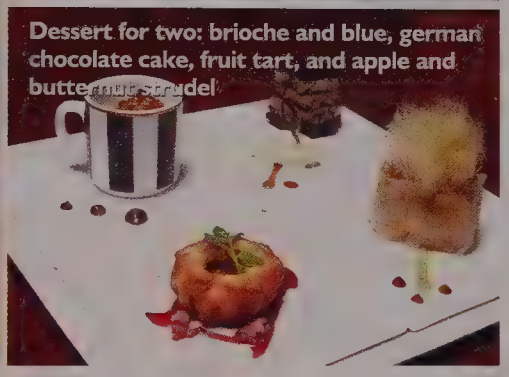
The most ambitious and impressive dish I encountered at the Fed, beef Wellington

Roasted Vermont pheasant breast with camembert, sautéed baby spinach and baked zitillini

Executive chef David Daniels

Elegant settings and a luxurious atmosphere distinguish the Federalist.

Ahi tuna tartare with soy miso emulsion and Japanese sweet potato chips

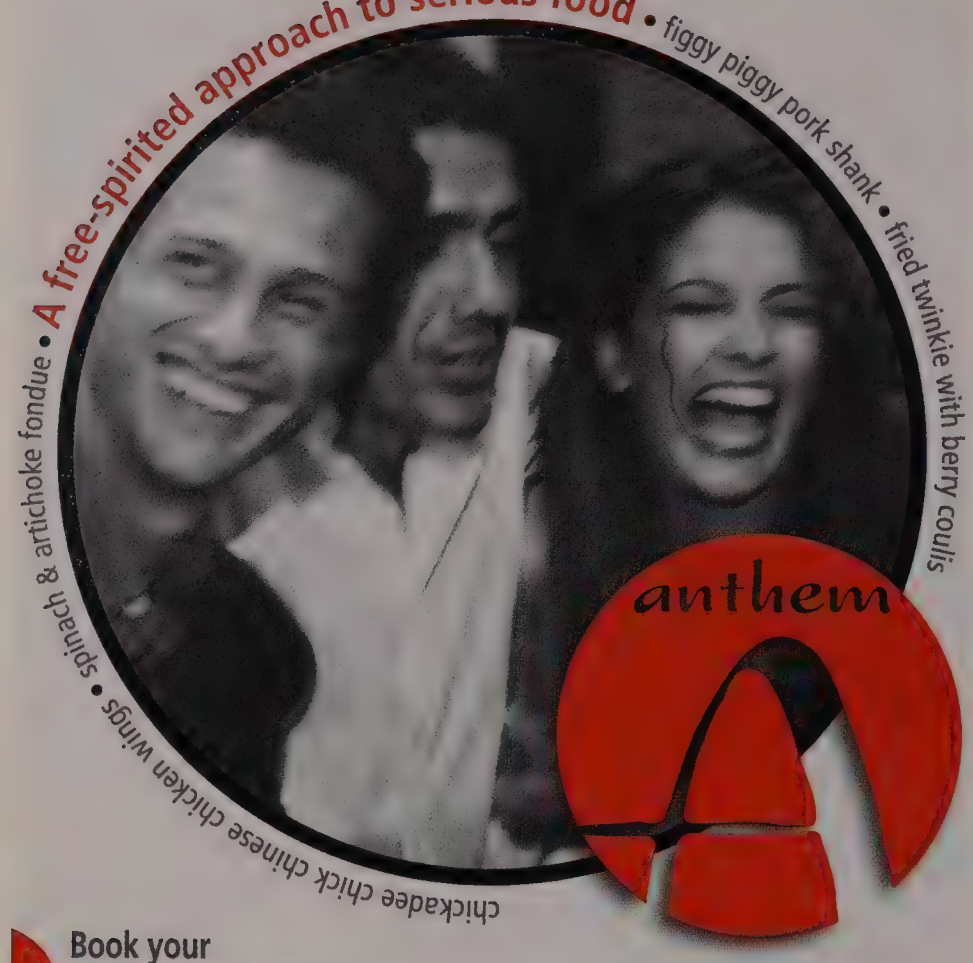


Dessert for two: brioche and blue, german chocolate cake, fruit tart, and apple and butternut strudel

($40), by itself merited a journey to the restaurant. This fork-tender, buttery-textured tenderloin, seasoned with thyme and topped by a luscious slab of Hudson Valley foie gras and a resilient, earthy portobello mushroom, came swaddled in a finely crafted pastry crust. Its garnish of braised onions and a pleasantly nutty Madeira sauce made this a remarkable and memorable dish.

The Fed's desserts all sounded terrific, making selection difficult. Fortunately, the menu offered a sampler of four of the six menu choices. This "dessert for two" ($18) was a quadruple extravaganza impressively served on a giant square platter containing four small square plates. In the brioche and blue, Massachusetts' own Great Hill blue cheese came wrapped in a small pastry turnover with pineapple, poached pear and cherry zinfandel compote, delivering an inviting combination of flavors—creamy, salty, sweet and tart. Apple and butternut strudel with roasted pumpkin glaze, poached cranberries, and cinnamon cider ice cream presented a different kaleidoscope of tastes and textures, all warm and inviting. German chocolate cake turned out to be a carefully sculpted patisserie, a layered tower of chocolate of different textures and intensities surrounded by a pool of caramel sauce. Finally, croissant bread pudding, served in a small demitasse cup, combined rich buttery croissant with chocolate, butterscotch and banana. Laced with bourbon whiskey, the bread pudding transported us to le Vieux Carre in New Orleans.

Service at the Fed was attentive, efficient and professional. One evening, our waiter, who at first seemed a tad stiff, seemed to thaw and relax as the evening wore on, but never abandoned his impeccable professionalism. On the wine front, one evening I ordered an Argentinean cabernet sauvignon, 2002 Mendoza Granvecco Reserva ($25), after the sommelier dispelled my skepticism about a wine with such a reasonable price tag. Apparently Argentina's currency woes are America's gain, and the full-bodied Argentinean went very well indeed with the rack of lamb. On another evening, when I dined alone, I enjoyed a glass of the 1998 Il Voltaio Chianti Classico Riserva ($7), a well-structured wine with a pleasant bouquet. I left the '24 Chateau Petrus for another day. iB



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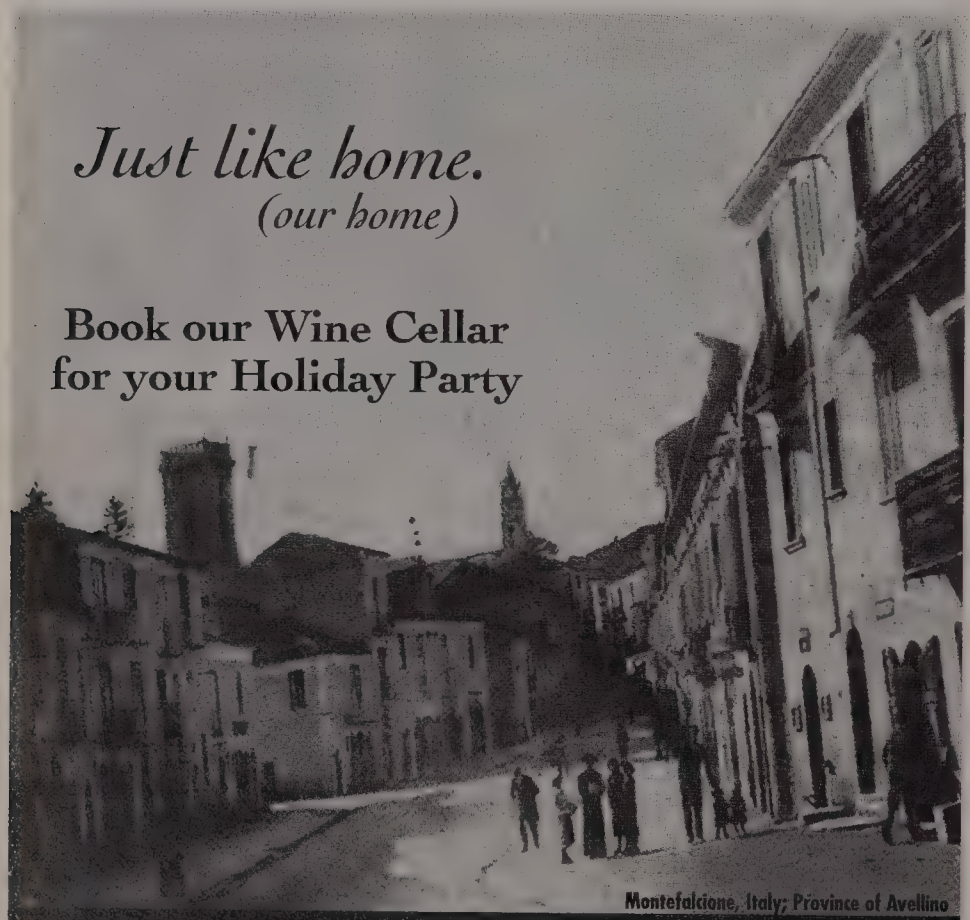
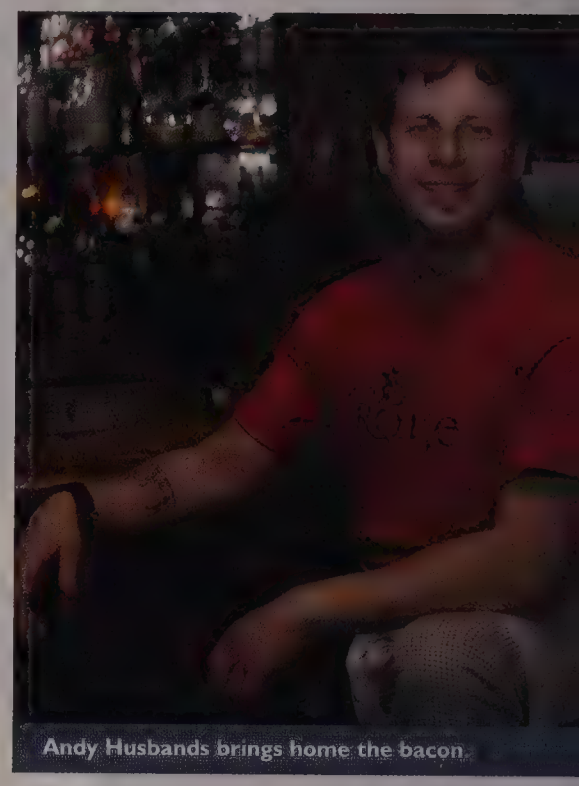


DISH

Swine and Andy

Husbands high on hogs… What's in a nombre?

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX


Andy Husbands brings home the bacon

Andy Husbands is happy as a pig in...well, you know. Although he's chef/owner of three South End restaurants, author of a well-received cookbook and recipient of multiple culinary accolades, nothing thrills him more than his most recent honor: He's been named one of five "Celebrated Chefs of 2005" by the National Pork Board.

"I'm king of the pork world!" he crows. Husbands, who was notified via a phone call from the pig people during one of **Rouge**'s "Everything Swine" dinners, at first thought the caller wanted to make a reservation. Instead, Husbands was invited to join the "Pork, the Other White Meat" tour, a traveling promotional program he describes as "every chef's dream."

Already renowned for his award-winning barbecue, this little piggy isn't sitting on his laurels. Husbands says his next goal is to make a pork belly dish that's as tasty as "the best pork belly around, at **Cafe China**." What's his favorite part of the pig?

"I'm a big fan of the Boston butt," he says. "Always have been."

SECOND COURSE

Quick—Can you name the local restaurant publicist who's been bedding down with a sleek, golden-haired model and has him literally eating out of her hand?* Answer at the end of the column.

Disbanded brothers: Although the **Olé Mexican Grill** restaurants in Arlington and Cambridge are owned by brothers, the Arlington eatery has changed its name because of "management and culinary differences with my brother," says **Ricardo Ramos**. The new name is **Zocalo Cucina Mexicana**. Ramos and co-proprietor **Armida Amor** plan to open a second Zocalo in Boston's Back Bay in the spring.

Side dishes: New chef de cuisine at **Via Matta** is **Adam Halberg**, formerly sous chef at **Caffe Umbra** in the South End. Back at Umbra, chef/owner **Laura Brennan** promoted **Jennifer Costello** to fill Halberg's sous chef shoes last September, shortly after Halberg left and almost a year after Costello starting working in the South End restaurant. Chef on the loose: **Jason Santos**, formerly executive chef at Andy Husbands' now-closed **Kestral** in Providence, is cooking around town while "looking for the ultimate chef's job," according to Husbands.

Newest restaurant on Waltham's Restaurant Row, aka Moody Street: **Tempo**. It's an ambitious undertaking by owner **Nathan Sigel** and executive chef **Peter Kuplast** (previously with the former **Matteo's** in Newton). The menu features "New American" fare with an emphasis on seafood, although pizzas and a burger on a homemade bun with homemade ketchup are also offered. The wine list is price-sensitive (75 of the 150 bottles are under $40), and the desserts are as sophisticated as you'd expect from pastry chef **Clarissa Lord**, formerly of **Le Soir** and **Ariadne**. Crème caramel with blood oranges, roasted pineapple, pistachios and crisp pecan praline phyllo, and frozen milk chocolate–passion fruit mousse with dark chocolate cake and toasted coconut marshmallows are just two examples. The 130-seat dining room is open for lunch and dinner.

*Answer: **Martha Sullivan** is the publicist, and the model's name is Teddy. He's her golden retriever, and can be admired in the pages of L.L. Bean's new spring catalog. IB

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Anthony Spinazzola Foundation Festival of Food and Wine
Seaport World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (781-344-4413). www.spinazzola.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station, Jan. 28. 7:30 pm. $200. This black-tie celebration features an impressive list of participating restaurants and winemakers.

Big Night
Grotto, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-3434). www.grottorestaurant.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Jan. 27. 7 pm. $40 without wine; $55 with house-selected wine. Enjoy a viewing of *Big Night*, a 1996 movie about the pros and cons of the restaurant business, as chef/owner **Scott Herritt** creates a classic Italian dinner, as featured in the film. Guests are encouraged to dress in 1950s attire.

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9355). www.bostonwinefestival.net MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Through April, the Boston Wine Festival features more than 50 events. •Jan. 26-27, 7 pm: Meritage Madness, $210. •Jan. 31, 6:30 pm: Sultans of Shiraz, $195. •Feb. 1, 7 pm: Forman Vineyards, $145. •Feb. 2-3, 7 pm: Super Tuscan, $195. •Feb. 8, 7 pm: Au Bon Climat, $145.

Cabin Fever: A Winter Beer Dinner
M.J. O'Connor's, 27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). www.mjoconnors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm. $30. Chef **Robert Fathman** hosts a five-course beer dinner that also features hors d'oeuvres, a beer warm-up reception and a brewer discussion.

Celebrity Chefs Culinary Program
Fairmount Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). www.fairmount.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 1-3 pm. $50. This 10th annual program hosts top local and national chefs for a two-hour cooking class and tasting. •Jan. 29: **Daryle Nagata**, from the Fairmount Washington D.C. •Feb. 5: **Paul Delios**, chef and co-owner of Meze Estiatorio.

Champagne Tasting
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 8. 6:30 pm. $50. Sommelier **Shane Lessard** leads a champagne tasting while guests enjoy fare prepared by chefs **Amanda Lydon** and **Susan Regis**.

Cheese Tuesday
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to

PREVIEW

VINTNER WONDERLAND

There certainly hasn't been much for local oenophiles to whine about this winter. Wine dinners are available on an almost nightly basis, the Boston Wine Festival is in full swing, and now, the Boston Wine Expo, the largest annual event of its kind in the country, is coming to town.

On January 29 and 30, the Seaport World Trade Center and Hotel plays host to this event that features more than 1,800 wines from over 400 wineries around the world and offers activities to suit everyone from novices to serious wine connoisseurs. Highlights include a grand tasting of wines from 13 different countries, educational wine seminars, a vintner dinner ($180) and for those with more expensive palates, a Grand Cru Wine Lounge ($75) featuring some of the world's most acclaimed vintages. The expo also includes celebrity chef demonstrations from the Food Network's Tyler Florence, the Olive Group's Todd English, and Blue Ginger chef/owner Ming Tsai, star of the PBS TV series *Simply Ming*. There are also seminars on single-malt scotches and sake.

Tickets are $70 for one day and $90 for the weekend, and a portion of the proceeds from the expo benefit the New England Medical Center's summer camp program for children with disabilities.

Seaport World Trade Center, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (877-946-3976). www.wine-expos.com/boston. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Jan. 29–30. 1–5 pm. Single day, $70; both days, $92.

Hynes/ICA. Feb. 8, 7 pm. $50. Chef **Frank McClelland** and fromager **Louis Risoli** present a three-course dinner highlighted by cheeses from **Cindy** and **David Mayor** of Vermont Shepherd.

Chef Andy Husbands
Savory Tastes Café, 601 Main St., Reading (781-942-8287). www.savorytastes.com. Jan. 26. 6:30 pm. $55. **Andy Husbands**, chef and owner of Tremont 647, hosts a benefit dinner in Reading to support the Share Our Strength Foundation. The event includes a five-course meal prepared by Husbands.

Chinatown Main Street Banquet
Empire Garden Restaurant, 690-698 Washington St., Boston (617-482-8898). www.chinatownmainstreet.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. Feb. 5. 6-10 pm. $40. Celebrate the Year of the Rooster with a nine-course traditional Chinese dinner, dancing, karaoke, live entertainment and raffles.

Divas Uncorked Wine Conference
Sheraton Boston Hotel, 39 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-2000); Westin Copley Plaza, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-262-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Feb. 5. 11 am-10 pm. Full conference, $295; day only, $175; night only, $150. Divas Uncorked Inc., a wine education and consumer advocacy group made up of 10 African-American women, host this day-long conference featuring lunch, wine workshops, a silent auction and a dinner paired with wine.

Extreme Beer Festival
The Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.beeradvocate.com/fests. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Jan. 29, 1-10 pm. $30. BeerAdvocate.com hosts this second annual celebration of some of the world's most exotic brews, such as a 50 proof beer and a beer aged in whiskey barrels.

Fat Tuesday
Grotto, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-3434). www.grottorestaurant.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Feb. 8. 7 pm. $40. Grotto chef/owner **Scott Herritt** celebrates Fat Tuesday with a "farewell to meats" dinner featuring Venetian-, Florentine- and Roman-inspired dishes.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •Feb. 5: Single Malt Scotch.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Jan. 26: Alsace.

Lucy's Scotch Dinner
Lucy's, 242 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-5829). www.lucysbrookline.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard. Jan. 27. 6:30 pm. $45. Executive chef **Eric Bogardus** prepares a four-course dinner paired with Dewar's scotches and **Evan Gunn**, a Dewar's representative from Scotland, is on hand to answer questions.

Monthlong Polenta Party
Amelia's Trattoria, 111 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-868-7600). www.ameliastrattoria.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Throughout February. Mon.-Sat., 5-10:30 pm. Appetizer, $9; entrée, $18. Chef **Delio Susi Jr.** offers a traditional, handmade polenta tastings menu in honor of Abruzzi, Italy's Polenta Celebration Month.

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Thu. and Fri., 6 and 8:30 pm. $32. Chef de cuisine **Mark Usewicz** prepares a tastings menu of classic Italian small plates in front of guests at the restaurant's Oysteria Bar. Reservations required.

Passport to Wine Country
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays through March, 6-8 pm. $25. Every Monday through March, Croma offers a tasting of four wines from different regions of the world paired with its gourmet thin-crust pizza. •Jan. 31: France. •Feb. 7: Italy.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Feb. 1: World Wide Cabernet. •Feb. 8: German Riesling.

Tuscany Comes to Tosca
Tosca, 14 North St., Hingham (781-740-0080). www.eatwellinc.com/tosca. Jan. 31. 7 pm. $100. Chianti vintner **Sergio Zingarelli** of Rocco Delle Macie Vineyards and Tosca executive chef **Kevin Long** host this five-course Tuscan-inspired tastings menu paired with wine.

WGBH Wine and Food Weekend
Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (617-300-3999). www.wgbh.org/auction. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Feb. 3-6. WGBH hosts its 16th annual Wine and Food Weekend featuring a collection of wine-inspired dinners, tastings and classes. •Feb. 3, 7-10 pm: Vintner dinner, $200. •Feb. 4, 7-10 pm: Wine tasting, $90-$100. •Feb. 5, 11 am-5 pm: Local chefs, including **Michael Schlow** and **Joanne Chang,** lead cooking classes, $50-$60 per class. •Feb. 5, 5-8 pm: Rare and fine wine auction, $50-$60. •Feb. 6, seating at 10 and 11 am, and 12 pm: WGBH jazz brunch, $75.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays, 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of wines that complement a French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Jan. 11: Red in the Face: Hearty Reds. •Feb. 7: Australia and New Zealand.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wed., 7 pm. $41. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Jan. 26: Bordeaux. •Feb. 2: Southern France.

Winter Wine Dinners
Rialto Restaurant, The Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). www.rialtorestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 8. 6 pm. $125. Chef **Jody Adams** prepares a dinner paired with California "Rhone Rangers."

SPAGHETTI Sauteed spicy tomato sauce topped with lemon dressed greens • TURKEY
LEG CONFIT Apple craisin bread pudding, sage gravy • BRAISED BEEF, SAUSAGE & PECORINO STUFFED RAVIOLI toasted pine nuts, sage brown butter • FILET MIGNON TIPS Chorizo red pepper hash
BRAISED BEEF SHORT RIBS Red wine reduction, mashed potato • ROSEMARY & ORANGE ROASTED PORK TENDERLOIN Smoky bacon & gorgonzola grits, mustard sauce • ROCK SHRIMP &

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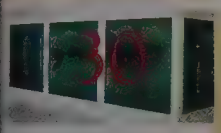
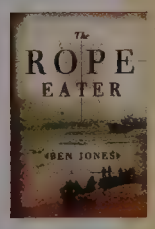
IMPROPER PICKS

january 26 - february 8

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			26 **Death from Above 1979** plays at T.T. the Bear's. *See Music on page 55.*	27	28 The **Human Rights Watch International Film Festival** opens at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. *See Movies on page 53.*	29
30  Check out **Damien Hirst's** contemporary art at the MFA. *See Museums & Galleries on page 67.*	31	1 **Paul Nardizzi** is at the Comedy Connection. *See Performing Arts on page 48.*	2	3	4 The **Emergenza Festival** of up-and-coming bands is taking place at the Middle East. *See Music on page 57.*	5
6	7	8  **Ben Jones** reads from his novel *The Rope Eater* at Newtonville Books. *See Books & Poetry on page 70.*				

SUN. JAN. 30

Music: Tsunami Relief Concert

When news arrived of the devastating Indian Ocean tsunami on December 26, Boston's classical music community came together with remarkable speed, and on the 30th of this month, Pops conductor Keith Lockhart leads a concert at Symphony Hall to benefit the victims. Musicians from the Boston Symphony Orchestra and others have joined to form the Caritas Ensemble (*caritas* is Latin for charity and harmony), a chamber orchestra led by Lockhart that will give listeners the chance to hear some of Boston's top musicians in rare collaborative performances. In addition to members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, musicians from the Lydian Quartet, Muir Quartet, New England Conservatory, Boston University, Brandeis University and more will appear. All proceeds from the concert support AmeriCares—a nonprofit disaster relief and humanitarian aid organization—and its Tsunami Relief Fund. *Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 7:30 pm. $45–$55.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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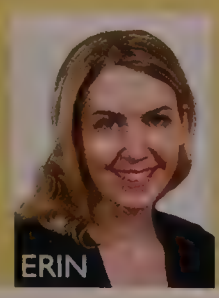
AGENDA EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale
CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn Books & Poetry, Movies
Jessica Iredale Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Performing Arts
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules



WED./JAN. 26 AND FRI./FEB. 4

CityScope: Fashion Forecast

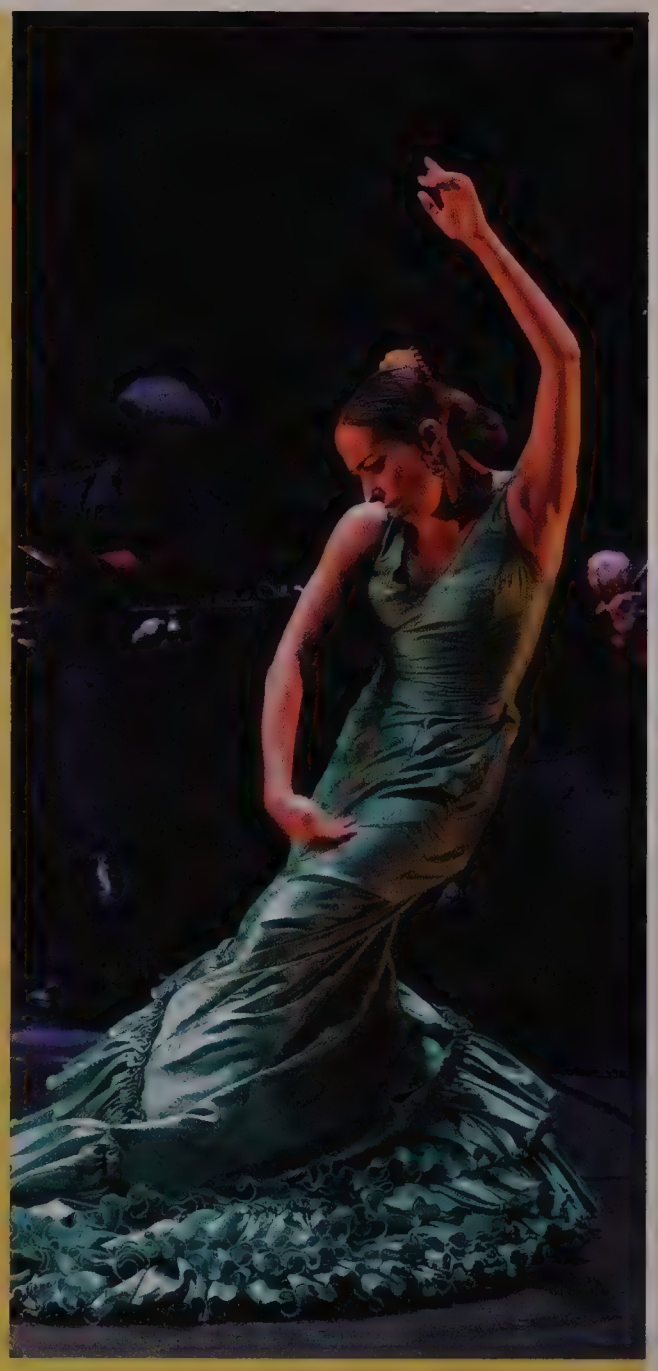
Fashionistas searching for a creative social outlet need look no further. Two upcoming events are tailor-made for the style-savvy. On January 26, 280Studios hosts the Skin Winter Fashion show at Parris in Faneuil Hall. Models will strut their stuff to the deep house music of DJ Bradford James while digital video projections and 3D animations by Illusions Interactive and VJ Phi add to the spectacle. Next up is the Thaw Charity Fashion Event, at the Rack February 4. The fashion/philanthropy combo highlights the work of up-and-coming East Coast designers and benefits the Massachusetts Children's Trust Fund. In addition to seeing the show, partygoers can rack 'em up all night for free and get the chance to win Celtics tickets and other door prizes. *Parris, 1 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-248-9900), www.280gr.com, 8 pm, $10. The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051), www.anthemevents.com, 8:30 pm, $15–$20.*

The Thaw Charity Fashion Event at the Rack features Abigail LeBay swimwear.

THU.–SUN./FEB. 3–6

Performing Arts: Flamenco Fiesta

To the Spanish-culture novice, flamenco might seem like a fairly simple entertainment (pretty girl in pretty dress strutting around a stage). But in fact, the classic performance art comprises three separate elements: *cante*, the song; *baile*, the dance; and *guitarra*, the instrumental accompaniment, all of which have been influenced by Gypsy, Andalusian and Moorish cultures over several centuries. World Music celebrates flamenco's cultural complexity with the sixth annual Flamenco Festival at the Cutler Majestic Theatre. On February 3 and 4, Ramón Oller directs dancers Carmen Cortés, Gerardo Núñez, Alejandro Granados and Rocío Molina, plus seven musicians in the Boston premiere of *The Four Elements*. And on the 5th and 6th, famed singer Mayte Martín and dancer Belén Maya's company are joined by five musicians for *Flamenco de Cámara*. Through January 30, you can also check out Boston Public Library's photography exhibition and film series, *Images of Flamenco*, which includes photographs by Zarmik Moqtaderi and films such as Carlos Saura's musical *Bodas de Sangre* and Jocelyn Ajami's documentary *The Queen of the Gypsies: A Portrait of Carmen Amaya. Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-876-4275), www.worldmusic.org, Feb. 3, 7 pm; Feb. 4 and 5, 8 pm; Feb. 6, 3 pm, $35-$50. Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400), www.bpl.org.*



FRI./JAN. 28–THU./FEB. 3

Movies: Lynch Mob

Creepy midgets, mutant infants, human ears found in a field…Laura Palmer. If you recognize any of these celluloid images, you're probably familiar with the films of David Lynch. The surrealist director's oeuvre is known as one of the darkest, edgiest, most imaginative and generally puzzling in cinema history, and the Brattle Theatre is screening eight of his best in a series entitled I Had a Dream About This Place: The Films of David Lynch. The series begins with Lynch's 1977 feature debut, *Eraserhead*, about an oddly coiffed man whose girlfriend gives birth to a deformed child while living in a post apocalyptic, industrial town. The film introduced Lynch's signature atmospheric style, with flourishes like giant machines spewing smoke. Other favorites include cult mysteries *Blue Velvet*, *Lost Highway* and *Mulholland Drive*, and the futuristic sci-fi flick *Dune*. *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk with Me*, the 1992 prequel to Lynch's hit television series *Twin Peaks*, wraps up the series and details the final days of the doomed heroine Laura Palmer. *Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837). www.brattlefilm.org.*

MON./JAN. 31

Music: Raunchy Racket

Unless you're a devoted fan, you probably haven't seen GWAR recently—this metal circus (whose moniker is short for God What an Awful Racket) hasn't played in Boston proper since the late '90s. But surely you remember Oderus Urungus on lead vocals and codpiece, Beefcake the Mighty on bass, and Balsac the Jaws of Death on guitar? First and still the best in the field they created, GWAR is a peerless choice for an evening of extreme heavy metal and celebrity-effigy impalement. The songs are fun but loud, so bring your earplugs. Also, we're not talking the Blue Man Group or Gallagher here, but the first few rows can get pretty messy, so wear an outfit that's okay for getting drenched in (fake) bodily fluids. *Avalon (617-931-2000). 8 pm. $17.75.*

B Launch Party

February 2
@ 9PM

RSVP BY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26
TO btothee@hotmail.com
WITH THE NAME(S) OF THOSE ATTENDING.
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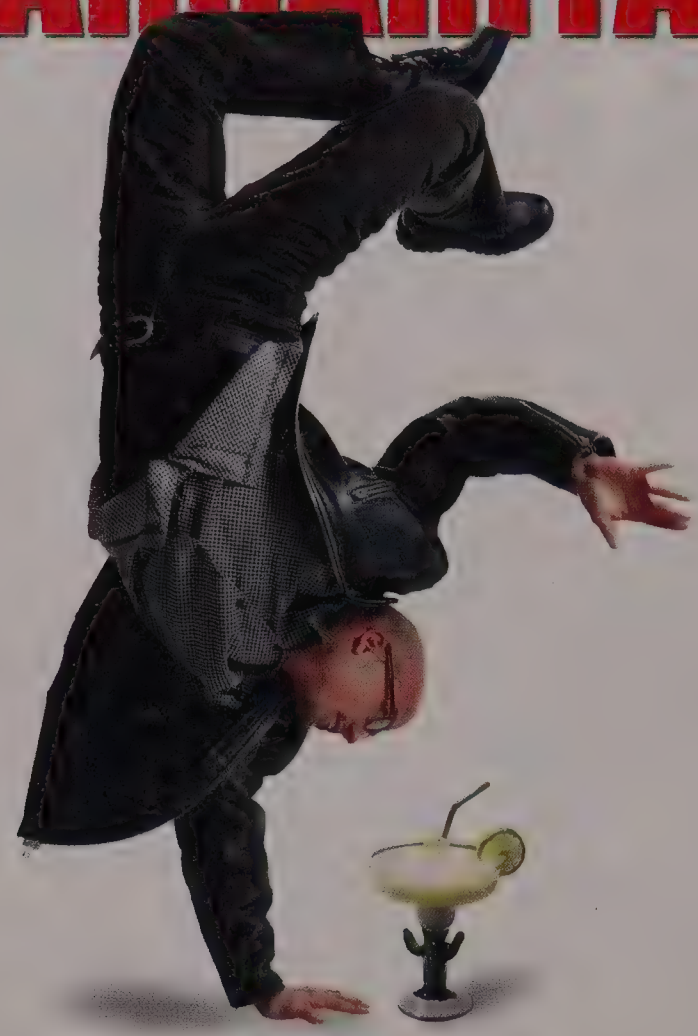

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

The Loomers CD Release/ Benefit Party
Sky Bar, 518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-262-1100, ext. 17). www.adclub.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 8 pm. $10 (includes free CD). The Loomers, a Boston-based rock group, celebrate the release of their new CD, *Shine*. Proceeds benefit the Home for Little Wanderers.

Rising Stars Gala
The State Room, 60 State St., Boston (617-636-7656). www.tufts-nemc.org/home/news/risingstars. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State Street. 6:30 p $500. This ceremony benefiting Tufts New Engla Medical Center's Floating Hospital for Child honors six area high school athletes. Presenters clude Paul Pierce, Cam Neely, Christine Lilly a Taylor Twellman.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

Art Party
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-4 7700). www.bigredandshiny.com. MBTA: Ora Line to Back Bay. 7-10 pm. $12. This one-nig event features music by Gretchen Elise plus w from 15 New York and Boston artists. Proceeds b efit *Big, Red and Shiny*, an online arts magazine.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

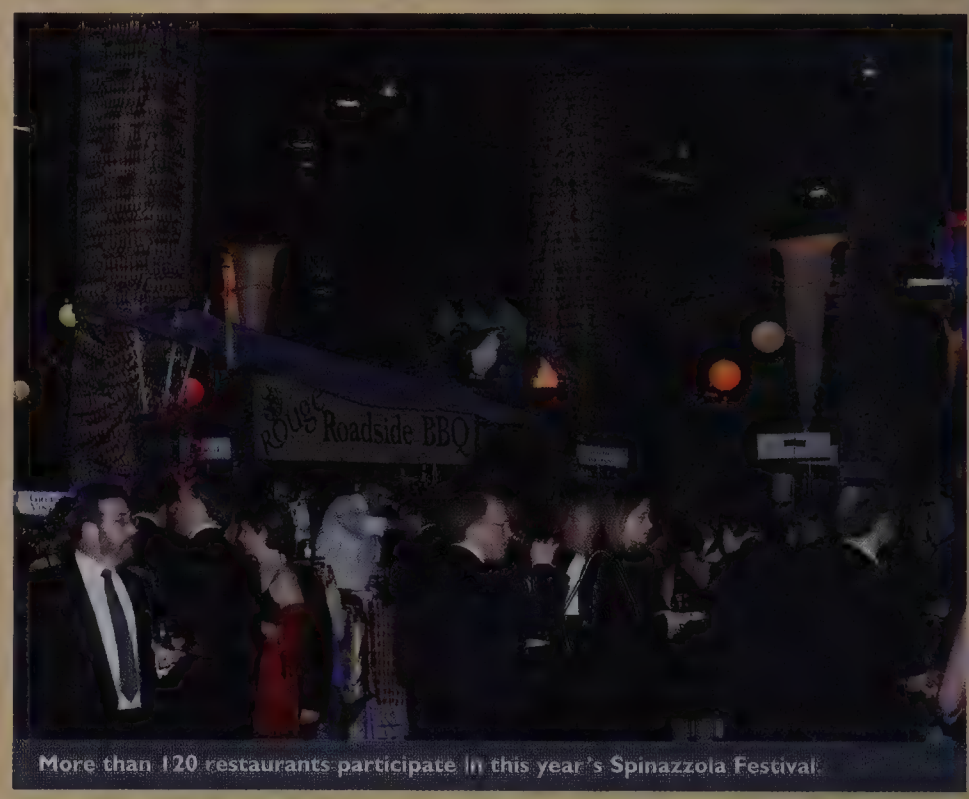
Flip Flop Fund: Benefit for Tsunami Victims
Grotto Restaurant, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-2 3434). www.maddmikes.org/flipflop.htm. MBTA: R or Green Line to Park Street. Seatings at 12 and 2 pm. $35. Grotto Restaurant and Madd Mike's Cha table Fund host two brunches to raise money to su ply flip flops to victims of the Indian Ocean tsunar

Friends of Boston's Homeless
Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-64 4849). www.regenttheatre.com. MBTA: Red Line Harvard, then #77 bus. 5-9 pm. $20-$40. T Radio Kings Orchestra headlines this benefit co

Preview

Gourmet Gala

The Spinazzola Festival celebrates its 20th year.



More than 120 restaurants participate in this year's Spinazzola Festival

The holidays are over, New Year's has come and gone, and we bet you thought it was time for at least a couple of months off from partying and overeating. Not so fast. On January 28, the mother of all Boston dining extravaganzas, the Anthony Spinazzola Festival of Food and Wine, is back for its 20th year.

The festival, as always, features an unmatched array of the city's finest victuals. Participating restaurants include the Federalist, Excelsior, Smith & Wollensky and Meze Estiatorio, while wineries like Cambria Estate, Chateau Ste. Michelle and Rodney Strong provide the beverages.

Beyond the usual collection of chefs and winemakers, this year's gala, at the World Trade Center, also includes a performance by Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops, who open the celebration with a musical arrangement written specifically for the 20th-anniversary black-tie event. New this year, the evening will also include the Spinazzola Pub, offering New England brews. Two "after-parties"—a traditional dance club and one with a jazzier vibe—carry the festivities late into the night.

Proceeds from the festival support the Anthony Spinazzola Foundation, which funds grants to hunger relief agencies, programs for the homeless and culinary apprenticeships and scholarships.

World Trade Center Boston, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (781-344-4413). www.spinazzola.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7:30 pm–12 am. $175. —Rich Levine

ert hosted by Blind Lemon Aid. Proceeds support rograms and services of the Friends of Boston's lomeless.

VEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

reater Boston Food Bank

reater Boston Food Bank, 99 Atkinson St., South oston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: ed Line to Andrew, then #10 bus to Atkinson Street. :45-8:30 pm. Free. Spend your night helping sort rough donated food at the Greater Boston Food ank, and then enjoy drinks at Stadium Sports Bar.

RIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

lelping Hearts Masquerade Ball

IIT's Morss Hall, 142 Memorial Dr., Boston (617-79-9200, ext. 2). www.breadandjams.org/ball2.html. IBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7 pm-12 am. $75 ($125 r a couple). Vice mayor of Cambridge Marjorie ecker hosts this party featuring music from Step-in' Up and comedy from Peter Dutton, as well as od and refreshments from local businesses. Pro-eeds benefit Bread & Jams, a nonprofit day shelter nat serves the homeless.

haw Charity Fashion Event

he Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). ww.anthemevents.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line Government Center. 8:30 pm. $15-$20. This bene-t for the Massachusetts Children's Trust Fund fea-ures three fashion shows and a raffle with prizes in-luding Celtics tickets, and items from the featured shion designers.

ATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

ickfest 2005

Middle East Downstairs, 472 Mass Ave., Cambridge 617-864-3278). www.mideastclub.com. MBTA: ed Line to Central. 8 pm. $12. 18+. This night of usic, featuring live performances by Cracktorch, ke Brennan and the Confidence Men, Lost City ngels and others, benefits Staci Fick, a local mu-cian who was recently the victim of a hit-and-run ccident.

Mardi Gras Date Auction

he Big Easy, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000). www.mardigrasdateauction.org. MBTA: Green r Red Line to Park Street. 6-10 pm. $45. Harpoon Brewery, 8 Minute Dating and the Big Easy sponsor this benefit where guests can bid on dates to raise money for the American Liver Foundation.

Winter Escape Dance

Ritz-Carlton Boston, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-227-1922). www.bhcinc.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dinner and reception, 7-9:30 pm; dessert and dancing, 9:30 pm-1:30 am. Dance only, $100; dance and reception, $135; dinner and dance, $250. This annual event features dinner, dessert, music from the Brian Walkley Allnighters and a chance to win a three-day, two-night trip to Boca Raton. Proceeds benefit the Beacon Hill Civic Association.

Festivals & Parties

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

"Skin" Winter Fashion Show

Parris, 1 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-248-9900). www.280gr.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 8 pm. $10. This live art and fashion show, the debut show for Boston-based 280Studios, features artwork and clothing from local artists and designers.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

Spa Bar

Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). www.anthemevents.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7:30 pm. $15-$20. Enjoy pampering as you party on Felt's third floor with manicures and massages, plus appetizers and pool.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Khoury's 10th Birthday Run

Khoury's State Spa, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square. 7:15 pm. Free. Celebrate the 10th anniversary of this weekly running group with a 4.13-mile run and free pizza.

Sports Karaoke

Clarke's, 21 Merchants Row, Boston (617-227-7800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 4:30-7:30 pm. Free. NECN sportscaster and IMPROPER BOSTONIAN columnist Chris Collins hosts this event where you can test your commentating skills and compete to win prizes by announcing play-by-plays of the past year's most exciting sports moments. The night is presented by Miller Lite.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

BikeXpo Boston

World Trade Center Boston, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (877-245-3976). www.kevmarv.com.MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Through Feb. 6. Fri., 12-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $15. The largest motorcycle expo in New England features live appearances by the Discovery Channel's Super Builders, as well as biking legends Roger Bourget, Kendall Johnson, Cory Ness, Dave Perewitz and Donnie Smith.

Bourbon Street Blowout

Big Easy Bar, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (781-444-7771). www.bourbonstreetblowout.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 8:30 pm. $25; students $10. Boston Ski & Sports Club and Club Getaway host this party featuring a DJ, a live performance by Bob's Day Off and trips awarded for best dressed and most beads.

Club Bohemia Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball

Kirkland Cafe, 425 Washington St., Boston (617-491-9640). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 8 pm. $10. This 12th annual party features performances by bands like the Max Funch Instituit, the Chicken Slacks Soul Revue and the Second Line Social Aid, as well as a complimentary Creole-Cajun buffet.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Chinatown Main Street Celebration

Empire Garden Restaurant, 690-698 Washington St., Boston (617-482-8898). www.chinatownmainstreet.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. Feb. 5. 6-10 pm. $40. Celebrate the Year of the Rooster with a nine-course traditional Chinese dinner, dancing, karaoke, live entertainment and raffles.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Mardi Gras Madness

Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). www.dickslastresort.com. MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. 5 pm. Free. Southern Comfort and Harpoon Brewery host this Mardi celebration featuring music by Soul City, a drag show, a crawfish eating contest and a raffle benefiting the SPARK Center, which supports children's AIDS programs.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

8 Minute Dating

Design Within Reach, 1030 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-319-4678). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 30-44.

Hurry Date

The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials from the Harp. For ages 21-32.

Lock & Key Party

Felt's 4th Floor Lounge, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. $15-$20. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this singles event where the girls get the locks, the guys get the keys and it's a race to see who can find their match first. Grand Prize is two tickets to the Boston Wine Expo.

Professionals in the City

Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). www.prosinthecity.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8 pm. Free. Professionals in the City hosts this mixer featuring free appetizers and a live broadcast for XY.tv hosted by KISS 108's Chris Shine.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

8 Minute Dating cupidParty

Soho, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-562-6000). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: #57 bus to Brighton Center. 7:08 pm. $35. 8 Minute Dating's third annual pre–Valentine's Day cupidParty features complimentary appetizers, prize giveaways and the chance to go on eight different eight-minute dates. There are two separate parties for singles aged 22-31 and 32-40.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Aida
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newengland conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Feb. 4, 8 pm. $20, $10 students and seniors. Marshall Hughes directs Opera unMet's production of Giuseppe Verdi's classic opera.

Alceste
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000).www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 28, 7:30 pm; Jan. 30, 3pm. $30-$90. Opera Boston and Grammy-winning Boston Baroque present Christoph Gluck's 18th Century story of love and self-sacrifice. Fully staged, sung in French with English surtitles.

The Far Side of the Moon
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 4-7, Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $36-$72. Robert Lepage directs the play he wrote, which follows two stories. One deals with the international space race, and the other focuses on two brothers struggling with a personal loss.

The Moonlight Room
Boston Center for the Arts Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 28-Feb. 19. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $40. Paul Melone directs Tristine Skyler's play about two teenagers waiting in a New York City hospital for news about a friend who may have overdosed.

The Sanctuary Lamp
Nancy and Edward Roberts Studio Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb 4-26. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $34-$38. Carmel O'Reilly directs Tom Murphy's play about three lost souls sleeping in a city church for the night.

Trumbo
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston(617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb 8-27. Tue.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $46-$50. Peter Askin directs Christopher Trumbo's play based on letters written by Dalton Trumbo, one of the famous Hollywood Ten, who was blacklisted and imprisoned in 1947.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. [illegible] Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat. [illegible] pm., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. This [illegible] production features tribal rock music, [illegible] props and three men painted blue.

Five Women Wearing the Same Dress
Abbott Theater, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). www.hoveyplayers.com. Through Jan. 29, 8 pm. $15. Gordon Ellis directs this play by Alan Ball, creator of HBO's *Six Feet Under*, about five bridesmaids in a grand Southern wedding who hole up in a bedroom and reveal their shared dislike for the bride, the dresses and more.

The Glass Menagerie
Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Feb. 5. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $19-$43. Eric C. Engel directs Tennessee Williams' classic play about an overbearing mother and her two adult children in 1930s St. Louis.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 28-29. 7:30 pm. $49. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

The Kreutzer Sonata
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. Through Jan. 29. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. The Merrimack Rep presents the world premiere of Larry and Margaret Pine's adaptation of Leo Tolstoy's book about a jealous, obsessed man with a deadly secret.

The Last Little Porn Shop in Manhattan
Durrell Hall at Cambridge Family YMCA Theatre, 820 Mass Ave., Cambridge (866-811-4111). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 3-26, Thu.-Sat., 8pm. $20. Anne Continelli's play about the last porn shop in Manhattan and its creative attempts to stay in business.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston. com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 20. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

Nothing but the Truth
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Jan. 30. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Wed., 10 am; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 pm; Sun., 7:30 pm. $36-$72. John Kani stars in his play about the aftermath of apartheid in South Africa. Janice Honeyman directs.

103 Within the Veil
Boston Playwright's Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (866-811-2111). www.companyone.org. MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul. Through Feb. 5. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25, $15 students. Company One presents the world premiere of Kirsten Greenridge's play about Hubert Collins, one of Boston's first black photographers, whose work wasn't discovered until 10 years after his death.

The Promise
Boston Center for the Arts Black Box Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 5. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm. Sat., 2 and 8 pm. Sun., 2 pm. $20.50. Lilia Levitina directs Aleksei Arbuzov's play about three youths who meet in the besieged Leningrad of 1942 and reunite 17 years later.

Quills
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Through Feb.6. Wed., 7 pm; Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $28-$48. Rich Lombardo directs Doug Wright's play about the Marquis de Sade's imprisonment in 19th-century France.

The Rivals
Boston University Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through Feb.6. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $14-$55. Nicholas Martin directs Richard Sheridan's play about an affluent naval captain who disguises himself as a lowly officer in order to woo a simple woman.

Jonathan Epstein (right) stars as Prospero in Boston Theatre Works' production of *The Tempest*, at the Cyclorama through February 13.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Tempest
Boston Center for the Arts Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatreworks.com MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 13. Thu., 7:30 pm. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm. Sun., 7 pm. No shows Jan.20 and 29. $27-$30. Students $20. Jason Slavick directs Shakespeare's classic comedy.

Thrill Me: The Leopold & Loeb Story
Stoneham Theatre, 396 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Through Jan. 28. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm. $10-$25. Stephen Dolginoff's play chronicles the events that led to the murder of a young Chicago boy by Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb in 1924.

University Theater

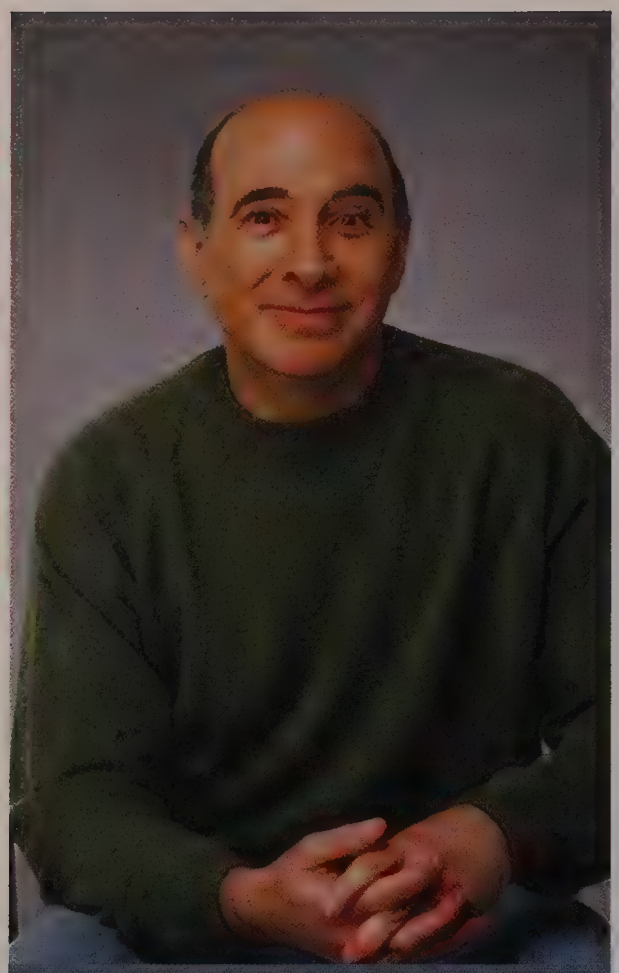
Akhnaten
Boston Conservatory Theater, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. Feb 3-5, 8 pm. $5-$16. The Boston Conservatory presents a production of Phillip Glass's opera about the relationships between Egyptian king Akhnaten and his family and subects.

The Internationalist
Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass Ave, Cambridge (617-253-2908). http://web.mit.edu/dramashop/www. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 3-5 and 10-12, 8pm. $8. MIT Dramashop presents Anne Washburn's play about an American businessman trying to fit in while doing business in an anonymous European country.

The Who's "Tommy"
*Sala de Puerto Rico, 2nd Floor Stratton Student Center, MIT, 84 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-253-6294). http://web.mit.edu/mtg/www. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Jan. 28-29, 8 pm. Jan. 30, 2 pm and Feb. 3-5, 8 pm. $10.*Students from MIT's Musical Theatre Guild present the famous musical by Peter Townshend.

Dance

Flamenco de Cámara
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-876-4275). www.crasharts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 5, 8 pm; Feb. 6, 3 pm. $35-$50. Singer Mayte Martín and dancer Belén Maya, along with five musicians, present the Boston premiere of *Flamenco de Cámara*.



Jonathan Katz performs his one-man show at Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater January 28 and 29.

The Four Elements

Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-876-4275). www.crasharts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 3, 7 pm; Feb. 4, 8 pm. $35-$50. As part of the sixth annual Flamenco Festival, Ramon Oliver directs Spanish flamenco dancers Carmen Cortés, Gerardo Núñez, Alejandro Granados and Rocío Molina in a performance of *flamenco puro* accompanied by live music.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café

All Asia Café, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. The café hosts local comedians on Tuesday nights.

Beantown Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Stand-up •Sun.: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge

738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thu., 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Jan. 27, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Jan. 28, 8 and 10:15 pm: Kevin Nealon, from *Saturday Night Live*, $25. •Jan. 29, 6 pm: Kevin Nealon, from *Anger Management*, $21.50. •Jan. 29, 8 and 10:15 pm: Kevin Nealon, $25. •Jan. 30, 7 pm: Rich Ceisler, $12. •Jan. 31, 8 pm: Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Feb. 1, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •Feb. 2, 8 pm: Rich Ceisler, $12. •Feb. 4, 8 and 10:15 pm: Christopher Titus, $25. •Feb. 5, 6 pm: Rob Bartlett and The Bartlettes, $35. •Feb. 5, 8 and 10:15 pm: Christopher Titus, $26. •Feb. 6, 7 pm: Tony V., $12. •Feb. 7, 8 pm: Kevin Knox hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Feb. 8, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Jan. 26: Tony V Experiment with Noah Garfinkel, Tim Kaelin. •Jan. 27: Benefit for the Asian Cultural Development with Tina Kim, Joe Wong, Sandy Asai and Eric Cheung. •Jan. 28: Joe Wong, Dan McCaul, Joe Cronin and others. •Jan. 29: Joe Wong, Joe Cronin, Patric Bulger and Rick Jenkins. •Jan. 30: The Erin Judge Show. •Feb. 1: Magic Lounge: Mind-reading, spoon-bending, dove-disappearing show. •Feb. 2: Tony V Experiment with Steve Macone, Maryn Herberg, Joan Magalhaes and others. •Feb. 3: The Dan Sally Show with Renata Tutko, Mark McKay, Amanda Beals and Korte Yeo. •Feb. 4: Tony Moschetto, DJ Cage, Ellen Moschetto and others. •Feb. 5: Robby RoadSteamer, Ellen Moschetto, Andrea Henry and Myq Kaplan. •Feb. 8: Magic Lounge.

DeVille Lounge

The DeVille Lounge at Kings, 50 Dalton St., Boston (617-266-2695). www.backbaykings.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Sun., 8 pm. Free. Tony V hosts "Comedy Hell," a weekly open-mike stand-up night. Sign up is at 6 pm.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). ww nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to B ston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $ $22. •Jan. 27, 8:30 pm: Rich Ceisler and Ben •Jan. 28-29, 8:45 pm: Rich Ceisler, Stacey Y netty, and John Joyce.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). ww improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Lin Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Governm Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also availab •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at m night, $10; Lies, Half Truths and the Americ Way, Wed., and Thu., 8 pm; Sat., and Sun., 8 a 10 pm, $15.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-125 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to C tral. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvi tional comedy troupe creates everything on t spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—ev the songs and dances. •Thursdays, 8 pm, $10- Unnatural Selection. A master of ceremonies ra domly eliminates players until only one is left. pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Sho Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand- and character sketches and play music and sh films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fridays, 8 p $10-12: "Carole Lombard Live!," a reverently reverent, one-woman show performed by Melin Coneys. •Saturdays, 6 pm, $10-12 (children and under accompanied by an adult admitted fre Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form impr visational show appropriate for all ages. 8 and pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blendi storytelling, music and audience participation cast of improvisers creates a show that chang with every performance. •Sundays, 7 pm, $5: S Culpepper/Open Jam. This evening combi three shows into one. Watch performances by vis ing and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-30 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line

Spirits Need a Lift?

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Warm up at the WGBH Wine & Food Weekend.

Wine Tasting: Come Pour the Wine
Friday, February 4, 7pm

Jazz Brunch
Sunday, February 6
10am, 11am and 12noon

...and more, to benefit WGBH's TV and Radio programming.

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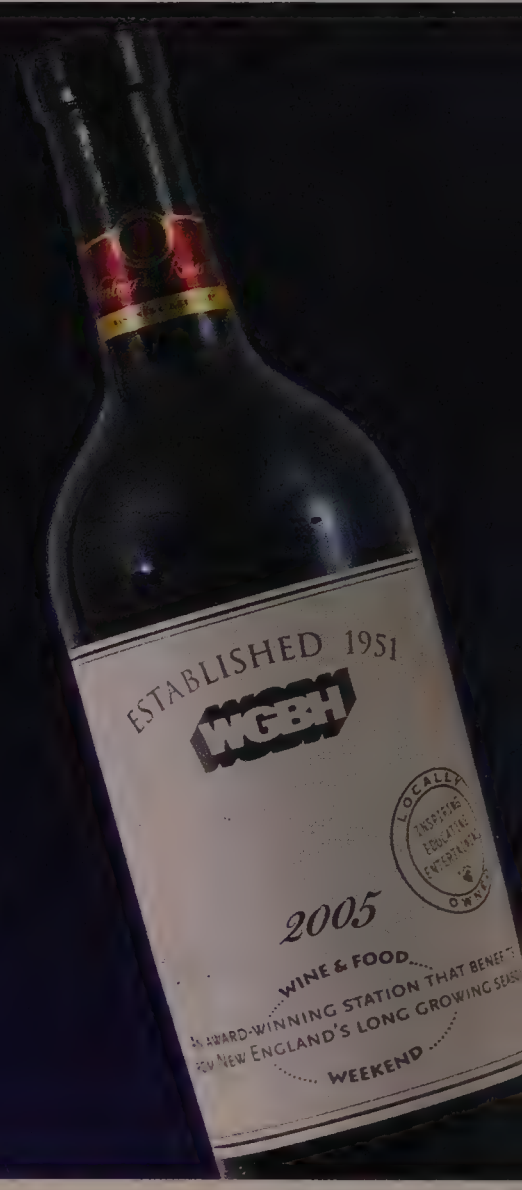
For tickets and information, call 617-300-3999 or visit wgbh.org/wineweekend
Special thanks to:



BROADWAY IN BOSTON
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The Pinehills CUSTOM HOMES
SEAPORT

Preview

Verdi Unplugged

Opera UnMet presents a no-frills production of *Aida*.

Opera UnMet performs *Aida* at Jordan Hall February 4

Some performances of Giuseppe Verdi's large-scale opera *Aida*, the story of a tragic love triangle set in ancient Egypt, have featured the onstage appearance of thousands of soldiers and slaves—and even live camels and elephants—to go along with the gorgeous music. You can expect the same great music, but forget about the beasts and bodies when the decidedly unextravagant local troupe Opera UnMet offers a concert production of Verdi's popular work at Jordan Hall on February 4.

Opera UnMet is just that—definitely not the Met. Founded in 1986 by tenor Marshall Hughes, the company began modestly, singing opera theater for dinner guests at Boston's Colonnade Hotel. "We started branching out right away though," says Hughes, who also serves as director of visual, performing and media arts at Roxbury Community College. "It wasn't long before we were singing *Porgy and Bess* at Jordan Hall. That was our first big venture."

For its upcoming concert presentation—no pit orchestra, the singers are accompanied by pianist Ellen Polansky—the company sings *Aida* in the original Italian, with Andrea Bradford providing narration of the plot. "That's a priority for us," Hughes says, "to make sure the audience can hear the original language and not be distracted by having to read subtitles to figure out what's going on." The combination makes for a performance that's accessible even to novice operagoers while still maintaining Verdi's original flavor. The practice is a big hit with UnMet audiences: "I had one regular come up to me after our *Magic Flute* a few years ago," Hughes says, "and he told me, 'All these years of enjoying *Magic Flute*, and now I finally understand it.'"

Hughes himself sings the role of the love object, Egyptian captain Radames. Mezzo Mauri Wheeler sings the part of the princess Amneris, and longtime Hughes collaborator soprano Cynthia Miles Gray sings the title role. "Cynthia and I go all the way back to the beginning," Hughes says. "I've had lots of singers who have gone on the major roles in other companies and in other cities, but we've stayed together."

Hughes and Opera UnMet have a mission to serve a multiethnic and multigenerational audience. The troupe stages an Easter performance of Handel's *Messiah* each year at St. Cyprian's Church in Roxbury and casts as many children as possible for its performances. "That's the next generation," Hughes says, "and for them, the arts make for great discipline."

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.opera-unmet.org. February 4, 8 pm. $20, $10 students and seniors. —Keith Powers

uth Station. Saturdays, 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest ort-form improv group performs skits that involve dience participation.

he Tribe

ntab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-0-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red e to Central. Every Thursday, 8 pm. $5 before 8 , $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at erything, including themselves.

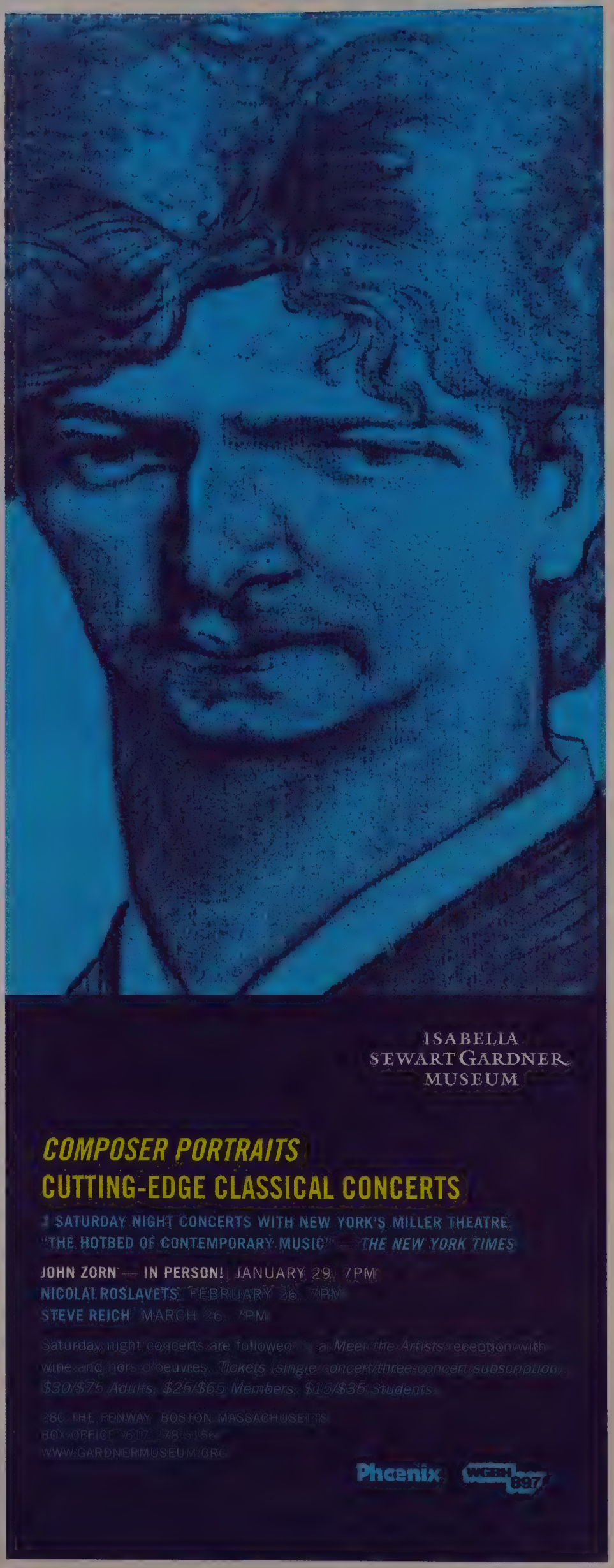
OMEDY SHOWS

n Evening with Jonathan Katz

mmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., merville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jan. 28 and 29. 7:30 pm. $25. Jonathan Katz, co-creator and star of Comedy Central's animated series *Dr. Katz: Professional Therapist*, peforms his one-man comedy show.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding

Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Jan. 28 and 29. 7:30 pm. $49 (includes dinner). Dillstar Productions presents the nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show, an interactive spoof about the Gnocchi and the Cavatelli family wedding.



A Streetcar Named Delirium

Southern clichés spread like kudzu in *A Love Song for Bobby Long*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

From left: Gabriel Macht, Scarlett Johansson and John Travolta

The cheese is more than a little overripe in *A Love Song for Bobby Long*, a Southern drama that could be loved only by someone who's never been south of the Mason-Dixon, read a Carson McCullers novel or seen a Tennessee Williams play.

It's a film prone to overly colorful first names (Purslane, after a weed with bright flowers), overblown voice-overs ("New Orleans is a siren of a city, a place of fables and illusions") and an over-the-top plot twist that's as convincing as a windblown toupee. The title character with the garden-variety name, Bobby Long (John Travolta), makes up for his less-than-festive moniker by usually being drunk and self-satisfied. And fittingly, he's played by an actor who, if not drunk, wreaks of self-satisfaction in recent performances. (Another distinctive feature here is Travolta's gray dye job.)

Bobby is a dissipated and disgraced ex-professor who lost his wife, his kids and his job and washed up in New Orleans with his lit books and his protégé–turned–drinking buddy, Lawson (Gabriel Macht). They're cohabitants of life's gutter with the unseen Lorraine—or, as Travolta overeagerly pronounces it, "Low-rain"—whose funeral opens the movie. Enter Purslane (Scarlett Johansson), the 18-year-old daughter Lorraine dumped off with her own mother years earlier. The semi-estranged high school dropout is appalled to find her mother left the rundown bungalow she owned to her, Bobby and Lawson in equal shares. But she'd rather share the place with the men then let them have it for themselves.

She barely tolerates the pair's drinking and shiftlessness, and rightly scoffs at the notion that Bobby is coaching Lawson to finish his long-in-gestation novel (which is, naturally, about a fictionalized version of Bobby). But in one of those only-in-the-movies situations, the trio of people from broken families starts to become a surrogate family of their own. Pursy sees that her mother's old copy of McCullers' *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter* was originally a gift from Bobby, so maybe he's not as jerky as he seems, while she also realizes Lawson is not as unhinged from reality as Bobby is. For their part, the men encourage Pursy to go back to school, though their main motivation for that is the hope that she'll eventually move out.

But writer-director Shainee Gabel has a high-school English student's naive notion of alcoholism, a lit-class cliché that nuzzles up to the movie's other down-home conventions, including wild accents, references to Southern writers, sudden redemption and happy endings. For instance, even though Bobby and Lawson drink all day, they get little more than glassy-eyed and the movie never convinces us that these men would have the money to get stinko in bars so often—we don't see any paychecks heading their way. Credibility hurdles such as that prevent *A Love Song for Bobby Long* from being as convincing and as involving as earlier underclass misfit tales like *Cutter's Way* or *Barfly*. Bobby, Lawson and Pursy may bond with each other, but they fail to connect with the audience.

With the drama quickly fizzling, you can at least savor the good things about *A Love Song for Bobby Long*, mainly the performances of Johansson (*Lost in Translation*, *In Good Company*) and Macht (*The Recruit*) and the scenic New Orleans locations. As the girl older than her years, Johansson is well-cast, that husky voice suggesting a maturity her girlish face doesn't, while Macht's facial expressions give us a window into Lawson's ambivalence towards the mentor he no longer admires. Travolta is Travolta and, dye job or not, he's not going to evaporate into a role as some other actors might. That's not why you cast him. Still, it's not advisable for him to play any character who's called "such a shameless ham" by another. It only brings out the actor's worst. Travolta did the Southern thing just fine in *Primary Colors* once. But his performance doesn't just go Southern this time, it goes south. iB

A Love Song for Bobby Long ★★

Written and directed by Shainee Gabel. Based on the novel by Ronald Everett Capps. With John Travolta, Scarlett Johansson and Gabriel Macht. Rated R. Opens January 28.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Are We There Yet? ★★½
Ice Cube makes a kids' movie, and it's not half
The interaction between Cube's child-averse ba
lor, Nick, and the scheming tykes (Lin
Kingston, Philip Daniel Bolden) that he offe
drive from Portland to Vancouver—to impress t
dishy mom (Nia Long)—is generally funny. C
gives a game performance as the human punch
bag for the kids' pranks. This is probably the
kid-empowerment comedy since *Big Fat Liar*, tho
its goopy sentimental moments, especially the e
ing, might make kids *and* adults gag. (At Bos
Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Assassination of Richard Nixon ★★★
Niels Mueller's semi-fictionalized movie about
Byck (called Sam Bicke here), the plotter who n
got close to achieving his 1974 plan to take out
president, is a trip into one man's doubt-feste
brain. Sean Penn makes it a fascinating plu
Sporting a moustache that recalls De Niro's Ru
Pupkin in Scorsese's *The King of Comedy*, Pe
whole demeanor captures Bicke's defeat at the g
of life. The expression on his face looks as if he
stepped in a deep mud puddle—half shame,
anger—and it's no wonder. The guy's lost his w
his kids, his job and most of his faith in his fel
man. It's an absurd tragedy that has an eerie res
blance to everyday life at its frustrating worst.
Kendall Square.)

Assault on Precinct 13 ★★★
I can't see much point in the current wave of rema
of 1970s B-movies—this retelling of John Carpen
1976 actioner follows the *Dawn of the Dead* rema
But this update is a very solid, unusually brutal mo
The basic premise of Carpenter's original (in wh
he turned the western *Rio Bravo* into an urban act
picture) is the same, with a group of intruders try
to break into a police station to free a priso
There's a major new twist to the plot and a few w
kles added to the lead characters of the po
sergeant (Ethan Hawke) and the prisoner (Laure
Fishburne). The violence is extreme, but much m
preferable than movie violence in which the actio
supposed to look "cool" (like, say, the *Resident*
movies). The colorful cast, which also includes J
Leguizamo, Brian Dennehy and Drea de Matteo, a
to the gritty entertainment. (At Boston Comm
Fenway and suburbs.)

The Aviator ★★★
Like Howard Hughes' infamous Spruce Goo
Martin Scorsese's Hughes movie is big and clun
yet it somehow manages to get off the grou
Scorsese starts his film on an iffy trajectory, w
most of the first hour dwelling on the first extra
gant foray by Hughes (Leonardo DiCaprio) i
producing movies (the World War I aerial dra
Hell's Angels) and on his romance with Kathar
Hepburn (Cate Blanchett). You're afraid Scorse
fascination with old movies is causing him to ov
look Hughes' aviation exploits. But the rest of
movie concentrates on Hughes' roles with TV
and his aviation innovations, as well as his batt
with the government and the emotional proble
that ultimately turned him into a recluse. DiCap
does a good job of bringing out Hughes' charm a
vulnerability, and Scorsese champions his subj
as a visionary who wouldn't let the bean count
dampen his ambition. The result is much more s
isfying than Scorsese and DiCaprio's previ
Gangs of New York. (At Boston Common, Harv
Square and suburbs.)

Bad Education ★★
Well, at least Pedro Almodovar's latest does
feature drama-filled women, the default Almo
ovar characters who've gotten less and less int
esting with each of his releases. There's less ca
in this layered tale about a movie director (F
Martinez) suddenly reunited with the childho
friend (Gael Garcia Bernal) who's written a st
about their schooldays spent with abusive pries
which the pair decide to make into a movie. W
its different tracks of action (the present, t
flashbacks of the past, the filming of the past), t
movie is interesting for a while, until the confli
ing layers of truth become more important th
believable character motivation. As in *Closer*,
seems as if all the layering and shifting chronolo
are just trying to pimp up a meager story. (
Kendall Square, Coolidge Corner and Emba
Waltham.)

Finding Neverland ★★
As *Peter Pan* playwright J.M. Barrie, Johnny De
nails a Scottish accent and gives his character
pent-up imagination that bursts loose when

ets a quartet of boys grieving for their late father. hard to imagine anyone else giving as rousing a formance as Depp does. Still, his movie never de me want to clap my hands in approving belief. is Edwardian fluff means to be a celebration of rrie's tale of retaining your inner child, but when lf of pop culture tells us that these days, is it really y special? Meanwhile, the film could have easily n called *The Attack of the Art Department*, and it's a big surprise from director Marc Forster, ose previous movies were the much rawer *Everyng Put Together* and *Monster's Ball*. There's also a p opera surrounding the boys' sickly mom (Kate inslet), and the entire mix is rather cheesy and epy. (At Boston Common.)

otel Rwanda ★★

rry George's docudrama chronicling the brutal andan civil war of 1994 has gut-wrenching gedy, and it also has Don Cheadle getting to play are lead. He plays Paul Rusesabagina, a hotel nager who, à la Oskar Schindler, risked his life to elter many people from sure death. Alas, George *ns and Mothers*) has a hero who's not as morally mplex as Schindler; he just gives us a noble guy to t on a pedestal. And the TV-style movie fails to gage in a cinema setting. Although it's probably ry accurate, it's also rather flat and dull. (At ndall Square.)

ouse of Flying Daggers ★★½

ere's something oddly distasteful about Zhang nou's recent artsy forays into martial arts. His lat- doesn't look so much like a perfume commercial his *Hero* did, and some of the action sequences in s 9th-century tale are imaginative and well exe- ed (though heavy on the digital effects). But if u like martial-arts movies with a gritty, rock 'n' l energy, Zhang's two most recent films have an tiseptic, classical-music sterility (this one ends in- dulously with opera diva Kathleen Battle bellow- ; a ludicrously over-the-top reprisal of a song from e tale). Storywise, this starts out with a Western- e economy, as an undercover lawman (Takeshi neshiro) befriends a mysterious female martial ist (Zhang Ziyi) who may be a member of the ti-government gang that gives the movie its me. Early complications effectively thicken the ma, but there are eventually so many people pretending to be so many fake identities that the drama, which morphs into a love triangle, gets all balled up—culminating in an emotionally overblown final action sequence that just gets silly. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Coolidge Corner, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

The Incredibles ★★★

The animation in Pixar's computer-generated movies keeps improving, and this is the first one that's had the nerve to put humans—albeit semi-abstract ones—in the foreground. That's not a problem at all, as the animation's ability to portray facial expressions is so much better than it was for past Pixar movies, in which human action was kept to a minimum (like the *Toy Story* series). Still, this is the first Pixar movie that's merely good, not great. Once again, there's an amazing mesh of voice actors and characters, with Craig T. Nelson and Holly Hunter playing retired husband-and-wife superheroes forced back into action along with their supergifted kids (Sarah Vowell and Spencer Fox). But the story is an awful lot like *Spy Kids*, with more emphasis put on the parents, and for much of the middle section, this is merely a decent animated "big" action movie, with less of a satiric twist than *Team America*. Pixar has raised the bar so high that, when taken against other animated movies, *The Incredibles* is still very creative. But it's also disappointing at times and overstretched. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

In Good Company ★★

Writer-director Paul Weitz (one half of the *American Pie* Weitz brothers) tries to make his meatiest movie yet, and while the effort is admirable, it's also rather flat. Its main characters are the 50-ish head of a magazine's ad department (Dennis Quaid) and the 25-ish hotshot (Topher Grace) who's installed over his head after the mag's parent company is sold to a Murdoch-like corporate honcho (Malcolm McDowell). In different scenes, the movie asks you to sympathize with both Quaid's kind, old-school guy and Grace's eager fast-tracker, and it's a trick the movie can't pull off. Although the young guy is sympathetic outside of the office, where he has a romance with his colleague's college-student daughter (Scarlet Johansson), in the boardroom he's smart but callous. The movie obviously wants to give him a comeuppance, and it does, but neither Weitz nor Grace makes that journey very remarkable. And with its pop-song-heavy soundtrack and conscientious eye, it feels like a knock-off of a Cameron Crowe movie that doesn't exist. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Kinsey ★★★

Scientist Alfred Kinsey became obsessed with researching the sexual habits of Americans and having his scientific findings replace myth and traditional morality in shaping people's view of "average" sexual behavior. Bill (*Gods and Monsters*) Condon's period piece does a fascinating job of capturing the fervent work of Kinsey (Liam Neeson) and showing how his findings of the 1940s and 1950s shook up the public and put the powers-that-be on high alert. Neeson's performance recalls the fixation of his Oskar Schindler, with the goal this time of getting people's sex histories on paper, while Laura Linney, Peter Sarsgaard, John Lithgow and Oliver Platt fill out the deep cast. The intensity of this rise-and-fall story starts to peter out, though, when it gets to the third act, thanks to vagueness in chronology and the sense that many events are being rushed through and oversimplified, right down to the rather mystifyingly upbeat ending. (At Copley Place, Kendall Square, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events ★★

It's sometimes obnoxious and sometimes amusing, but fortunately it's not as bad as its trailer. Jim Carrey gets to give a Peter Sellers/Jerry Lewis multi-character performance as the ham actor who repeatedly disguises himself to try to get the best of the orphans (Emily Browning, Liam Aiken) whose inheritance he's trying to steal. While Carrey's main character isn't that funny, his alter egos are. The movie's faux–Tim-Burton style is another hit-and-miss element. It's often very creative, but every scene has the same gloomy look and the same mood, an overbearing quality in which Burton would never indulge. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou ★★½

After establishing himself with the melancholy comedies *Bottle Rocket* and *Rushmore*, Wes Anderson has entered a phase where his boyish charm, low-tech clutter, cool old songs and casts of sad yet funny characters are starting to come off like schtick that's getting a little precious. Like *The Royal Tenenbaums*, his latest has that erratic feeling. Sometimes it feels genuinely inspired (having a character sing early David Bowie songs in Portuguese from time to time), sometimes it seems as if it's on automatic pilot (Bill Murray giving the same sad-sack performance he did so well in *Rushmore*). That's not to say Murray isn't very amusing at times (same goes for Willem Dafoe, Anjelica Huston, Jeff Goldblum and Owen Wilson), or that the visuals aren't very creative and Anderson doesn't have more going on than most directors. But giving Anderson's adolescent sensibility to characters who are all over 25—some well beyond—is an odd fit. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Meet the Fockers ★★

You know the humor in the *Meet the Parents* sequel is much more forced this time around when Ben Stiller's character suddenly falls over in his chair during an early scene—for no reason and with no set-up (and no laugh generated). There are a few laughs with the introduction of Dustin Hoffman and Barbra Streisand as his touchy-feely, overly nurturing parents whose ways, of course, collide with those of their uptight, WASPy in-laws-to-be (Robert De Niro, Blythe Danner). Despite the occasional laugh, this never generates its predecessor's comic momentum, which is necessary to get the weaker gags over and snowball it all into a funny movie. Disappointing. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Million Dollar Baby ★½

Clint Eastwood's latest is an odd combination of fisticuffs-filled boxing movie, surrogate father-daughter tale and tragedy. Those separate ingredients are often unconvincing, so, not surprisingly, the combination fails. Eastwood plays an aging boxing trainer, but his performance makes him little more than a crabby old coot who'd be right at home in a mediocre sitcom (ditto for the bickering between him and the old buddy played by Morgan Freeman). The coot gets hounded into training a stubborn female boxer (Hilary Swank,

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best thing in the movie) who, under his tutelage, shoots up the women's boxing rankings. She also emotionally replaces the estranged daughter who sends his letters back "return to sender," while he replaces her late father. There's little subtlety in the father-daughter tale, or anywhere else in the film, either. Paul Haggis' weak screenplay often wants things both ways—like how it has the boxer knock out most opponents in the first round, yet contrives ways for her to supposedly be the underdog. It takes some of that contrivance to shift the movie into tragedy after an in-ring injury. Where's *Fat City* when you need it? (At Boston Common.)

Ocean's Twelve ★★★
While not the effortless lark its predecessor was, Steven Soderbergh's sequel is still a scenic caper comedy that, with its Euro locations, trades Las Vegas' fake Bellagio for the real thing. Forced by the casino owner (Andy Garcia) they robbed the first time around to pay back the $160 million they stole, plus three years' worth of interest, Danny Ocean (George Clooney) and crew target the Fabergé coronation egg on display at a Rome museum. The addition to the title is due to the enlistment of Danny's former and, once again, current wife (Julia Roberts) for the job, and the sequel also adds a savvy Europol agent (Catherine Zeta-Jones) who's the sometime love interest of Brad Pitt's Rusty Ryan. An hour after the movie was over, I realized much of the last hour's twists and turns are immaterial to the caper. Still, it's hard to argue with a comedy that supplies so many laughs and that, despite its overextended length, is lighter on its feet than most thrillers. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Ray ★★★
Jamie Foxx's monumental performance dominates this fairly conventional biopic in which a talented hero (R&B/pop pioneer Ray Charles) overcomes adverse circumstances (witnessing his brother's drowning, going blind at age 7) and inner demons (a heroin habit, infidelity) to become a beloved American institution. Sometimes director Taylor Hackford's Hollywood treatment stretches credibility, particularly when the movie contrives to have Charles concoct the classic "What'd I Say?" as an impromptu time filler onstage one night. And the movie might be too forgiving of the pain Charles caused his wife. But Foxx is so immersed in the role, giving Charles a sly charisma, and the musical moments (with Foxx lip-synching to Charles' recordings) are so good that the movie's life-affirming intentions win out. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Sea Inside ★★★
The real-life tale of Spaniard Ramon Sampedro (Javier Bardem), a quadriplegic, poet and one-time sailor who fought for the right to end his life, is fortunately not presented as a strident exercise in nobility. While Bardem gives a powerhouse performance, writer-director Alejandro Amenabar (*The Others*) and co-writer Mateo Gil pepper their film with humorous moments and formidable supporting characters. The result is more than a message movie and, thanks to Amenabar's skill at putting images together, much more cinematic than you'd expect a movie about a guy stuck in bed to be. (At Kendall Square.)

Sideways ★★★
Alexander Payne's *Sideways* does for the approach of middle age what his *About Schmidt* did for the onset of old age: uses it as a springboard for bittersweet comedy and a road trip. At first, this makes the latest from the director of *Citizen Ruth* and *Election* a letdown. But Payne and writing partner Jim Taylor's riffs on male bonding make this story of two 40-ish buddies' trip to California wine country painfully funny. It's hard to say where the characters leave off and the actors begin in the hilarious little moments in which the pair goes to wineries to sample the latest vintages. Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*), who could be amusing reading a shopping list, gives a colorful tilt to wine connoisseur Miles' picky assessments of his tastings; in Giamatti's hands, sometimes Miles is being intentionally funny, sometimes not. Meanwhile, Thomas Haden Church's Jack has an endearing dumb-jock quality, and his response to Miles' "knowledgeable" wine talk is usually "tastes pretty good to me." Each man's approach to wine mirrors his approach to life and to the women they meet, of course, with Jack blindly leaping in and Miles analyzing and analyzing. (At Boston Common, Coolidge Corner, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

A Very Long Engagement ★★★
With Hollywood unwilling or unable to provide the sort of handsome epic we've come to expect at this time of the year (aside from *The Aviator*), this clever French World War I drama picks up slack. Audrey Tautou reteams with *Amelie* dire Jean-Pierre Jeunet and plays a young Fre woman searching for the soldier fiancé (Gasp Ulleil) she was told died in battle. Full of fla backs to the fateful day in which the fiancé have died, the movie veers from serendipit comedy to stark drama and zips along quickl contains Jeunet's typical visual flourishes, tho his habit of injecting visual action that liter depicts characters' anecdotes can be annoy (At Copley Place, Harvard Square and Emb Waltham.)

The Woodsman ★★★½
First-time writer-director Nicole Kassell i afraid to challenge the viewer in her directo debut. Her drama about a pedophile trying to k from hurting others again is pleasingly unadorn as is star Kevin Bacon, who bravely plays the without weird make-up or extreme tics. newly-freed ex-con moves into a plain apartm starts a plain job at the lumber mill where he to work, and tries to figure out how to functio society again. Part of that involves trying to close to his brazen new girlfriend (Kyra Sedgwi without alienating her, coping with co-work who find out his secret, and fighting the urg transgress again when his new life starts fall apart. Intimate, disturbing and, ultimately, v dramatic. (At Boston Common and Harv Square.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mai Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. De line is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Images of Flamenco Film Series
•Jan. 27, 6 pm. **Bodas de Sangre** *(Blood Weddi 1991.* Carlos Saura directs this musical versio Federico García Lorca's story about a bride w leaves her wedding to be with her lover. •Jan. 29 pm. **The Queen of the Gypsies: A Portrait of C men Amaya** *1983.* Jocelyn Ajami's film follows life of Flamenco legend Amaya. •Jan. 29, 2 pm **Turista Soy Yo: The Gypsy Song of Luis Aguj** *2003.* Director Trina Bardusco appears in person the screening of her short documentary, which lows Flamenco singer Agujeta as he tours Spa •Jan. 30, 2 pm. **Vengo** *2000.* Tony Gatlif's film lows a man who is devastated by his daughter's de and transfers his affections to his mentally ch lenged nephew.

Silence Is Silver: Silent Films from the Library of Congress
•Jan. 31, 6 pm. **Alias Jimmy Valentine** *1915.* Maur Tourneur directs this silent gangster film.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Engagements
•Jan. 26-27, 4:30 and 7 pm. **Purple Butterfly** *20* Lou Ye's thriller, set during the Japanese occupat of Shanghai in the 1930s, follows a telephone ope tor who's also a member of an underground re tance group. •Also showing, Jan. 26-27, 9:30 p **Dr. Strangelove, or How I Learned to Stop Wor ing and Love the Bomb** *1964.* Stanley Kubric satirical look at the Cold War presents a come what-if nuclear-war scenario.
•Feb. 4, 5:15, 7:15 and 9:45 pm; Feb. 5-10, 5: 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Sat. and Sun. matinees, 1 and 3:30 pm. **The Take** *2004.* Avi Lewis' doc mentary follows Argentinean workers who ta over bankrupt businesses and continue to r them in the wake of that country's economic c lapse of 2001.

I Had a Dream About This Place: The Films of David Lynch
•Jan. 28, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Eraserhe** *1977.* A man living in a surreal industrial Ame can town has a mutant child with his girlfriend Lynch's film.
•Jan. 29, 2, 5 and 8 pm. **Mulholland Drive** *200* After a car crash, a lost amnesiac wanders into t life of an aspiring actress. Together, the two try solve the mystery of the accident.
•Jan. 30, 2:15 and 7:15 pm. **Blue Velvet** *1986.* young man returns to his quiet town and finds a se ered ear in a field. He and a police detectiv daughter investigate and find a mysterious wom at the center of the action. •Also showing, 4: and 9:45 pm. **Wild at Heart** *1990.* Nicholas Ca stars as a drifter who finds stability in a girl (Lau

ern) until they end up running from her psychotic other.
an. 31, 5:15 and 8 pm. **Dune** *1984*. Lynch's film aptation of Frank Herbert's novel is set in 10191 D, a time when the earth depends on another anet's resources for survival.
eb. 1, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. **Elephant Man** *1980*. nch's film, based on a true story, stars John Hurt as a an who spends much of his life as a sideshow freak e to congenital deformities.
eb. 2, 5 and 7:45 pm. **Lost Highway** *1997*. Bill Pull- n stars as a jazz musician accused of murdering his fe (Patricia Arquette). Midway through the film illman morphs into a completely different character, ose path intersects with that of the jazz musician.
eb. 3, 5 pm and 7:45 pm. **Twin Peaks: Fire Walk th Me** *1992*. This prequel to the *Twin Peaks* televi- n series details the final days of Laura Palmer.

OOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

ox Office Babies

eb. 7, 1 pm. The Coolidge's biweekly series pro- ides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent in- rnational, independent and documentary films. Ti- s are announced the week before the screening at ww.coolidge.org.

oolidge Selects

Opens Feb. 4. **The Take** *2004*. See Brattle Theatre tings.

uman Rights Watch International lm Festival

an. 28, 6 pm; Jan. 29, 9 pm. **Persons of Interest** *03*. Alison Maclean and Tobias Perse's documen- y is a series of interview with non-U.S. nationals South Asian or Middle Eastern origin who were ken into custody by the U.S. Justice Department d held indefinitely on national-security grounds er Sept. 11.•Also showing, 7:30 and 10 pm. **ints and Sinners** *2004*. Abigail Honor and Yan zinberg's documentary follows the emotional jour- y of a devoutly Catholic gay couple determined to arry in a Catholic church.
an. 29, 1 and 3 pm. **Goodbye Hungaria** *2003*. John ealon's documentary chronicles the lives of Abed l-Sahli, a Palestinian refugee, and Charu New- use, an American volunteer, who work to make e better at a Hungarian refugee camp. •Also show- ing, 5 and 7 pm; Jan. 30, 8 pm. **Juvies** *2004*. Leslie Neale's documentary follows juvenile offenders who are tried as adults and subject to long sentences as a result.
•Jan. 30, 12:30 and 6 pm. **Deadline** *2003*. Katy Chevigny and Kirsten Johnson's documentary covers the legal process set in motion when Illinois governor George Ryan commutes the sentences of 167 prisoners on death row. •Also showing, 2:30 pm. **Repatriation** *2003*. Dong-won Kim's documentary follows two North Koreans who were held in a South Korean prison and subjected to torture for 30 years.
•Jan. 31, 7 pm. **Three Kings** *1999*. David O. Russell's film stars George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg and Ice Cube as three American soldiers on the hunt for gold at the end of the Gulf War in Iraq.

Midnight Movies

•Jan. 28 and 29, 12 am. **Night of the Living Dead** *1968*. A group of people hide from bloodthirsty zombies in a farmhouse. George Romero directs.
•Jan. 28 and 29, 12 am. **The Hobbit** *1977*. Arthur Rankin and Jules Bass direct this animated version of J.R.R. Tolkien's epic classic.

Special Events

•Feb. 7, 7:30 pm. **Profiles in Aspiration**. Andrew Silver's short film series features an international collection of portraits of female athletes and explores the mental, emotional and physical demands required for success.
•Feb. 8, 7 pm. **Hotel Rwanda** *2004*. Members of the Boston Psychoanalytical Society and Institute present a lively post-film discussion. See New Releases for a film description.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Black and White on Screen

•Feb. 7, 9:30 pm. **Black and White: Silent Shorts** A series of vintage silent film shorts that cover racial representation screens. Selection include Sydney Olcott's **The Octoroon** *1913*, Edwin Porter's **Laughing Gas** *1907*, **What Happened in the Tunnel** *1903* and **Uncle Tom's Cabin** *1903*. •Immediately following, **Veiled Aristocrats** *1932*. Oscar Micheaux's remake of *The House Behind the Cedars* (1925), follows a young black lawyer whose light-skinned sister is engaged to a dark-skinned man.

Deleuze: Philosophy and Film

•Feb. 2, 7 pm. **India Song** *1974*. Marguerite Duras' film follows a group of European aristocrats during a monsoon summer in 1930s India. •Also showing, 9 pm. **La Jetee** *1962*. Chris Marker's film, set in a war-torn future, follows a man who travels back to a more civilized time and finds a lover there. •Immediately following, **Sauve qui Peut** (*Every Man for Himself*) *1980*. Jean-luc Godard's postmodern autobiographical film stars Jacques Durac as a struggling filmmaker in failing relationships with his ex-wife and a prostitute.

Directors in Focus: The Films of Hirokazu Koreeda

•Feb. 4, 7 pm; Feb. 5, 9 pm. **Wandafuru Raifu** (*After Life*) *1998*. The deceased are asked to select one memory from life to take with them on their journey to the afterlife.
•Feb. 4, 9:15 pm; Feb. 5, 7 pm. **Maboroshi no Hikari** (*Maborosi*) *1995*. Koreeda directs this film about a woman who believes that she brings death to people.

Fashion and Film

•Feb. 8, 7 pm. **Hua Yang Nian Hua** (*In the Mood for Love*) *2000*. Wong Kar-wai's film follows a romance between two lonely professionals in industrial 1960s Hong Kong.

Frames of Mind

•Feb. 9, 7 pm. This selection of early silent features includes Louis and Auguste Lumière's **First Program of the Lumière Brothers** *1895* and Georges Méliès' **A Trip to the Moon** *1902* and **The Vanishing Lady** *1896*. •Immediately following, **Die Gebrüder Skladanowsky** (*A Trick of the Light*) *1995*. Wim Wenders directs this documentary capturing the Skladanowsky brothers of Germany and their experience in the early filmmaking industry.

Global Visions: Films from Europe

•Jan 26, 7 pm. **Interview** *2003*. A frustrated middle-aged journalist interviews a Dutch actress and is surprised to find an intellectual adversary in her. Theo Van Gogh directs. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Masnap** (*After the Day Before*) *2004*. Attilla Janisch's film follows the story of a teenage girl's brutal murder.
•Jan. 28, 7 pm. **Ae Fond Kiss...** *2004*. An English man of Pakistani descent falls for a white Catholic woman despite protests from friends and family. Ken Loach directs.
•Jan. 28 and 30, 9 pm. **Strong Soldiers** *2003*. Ursula Meier's inspirational film details the life of a teenage girl as she struggles to achieve perfection as a distance runner.
•Jan. 29, 9 pm. **Das Wunder von Bern** (*The Miracle of Bern*) *2003*. Soenke Wortmann's drama follows a former POW's struggle to adapt upon returning home to his family in a West German mining town.
•Jan. 29 and 30, 7 pm. **Le 10e Chambre: Instants d'Audiences** (*The 10th District Court: Moments of Trial*) *2004*. Renowned photographer Raymond Dépardon reveals the complexities of race, class and gender in contemporary society in his documentary capturing the proceedings of a Paris courtroom.

Global Visions: Korean Cinema

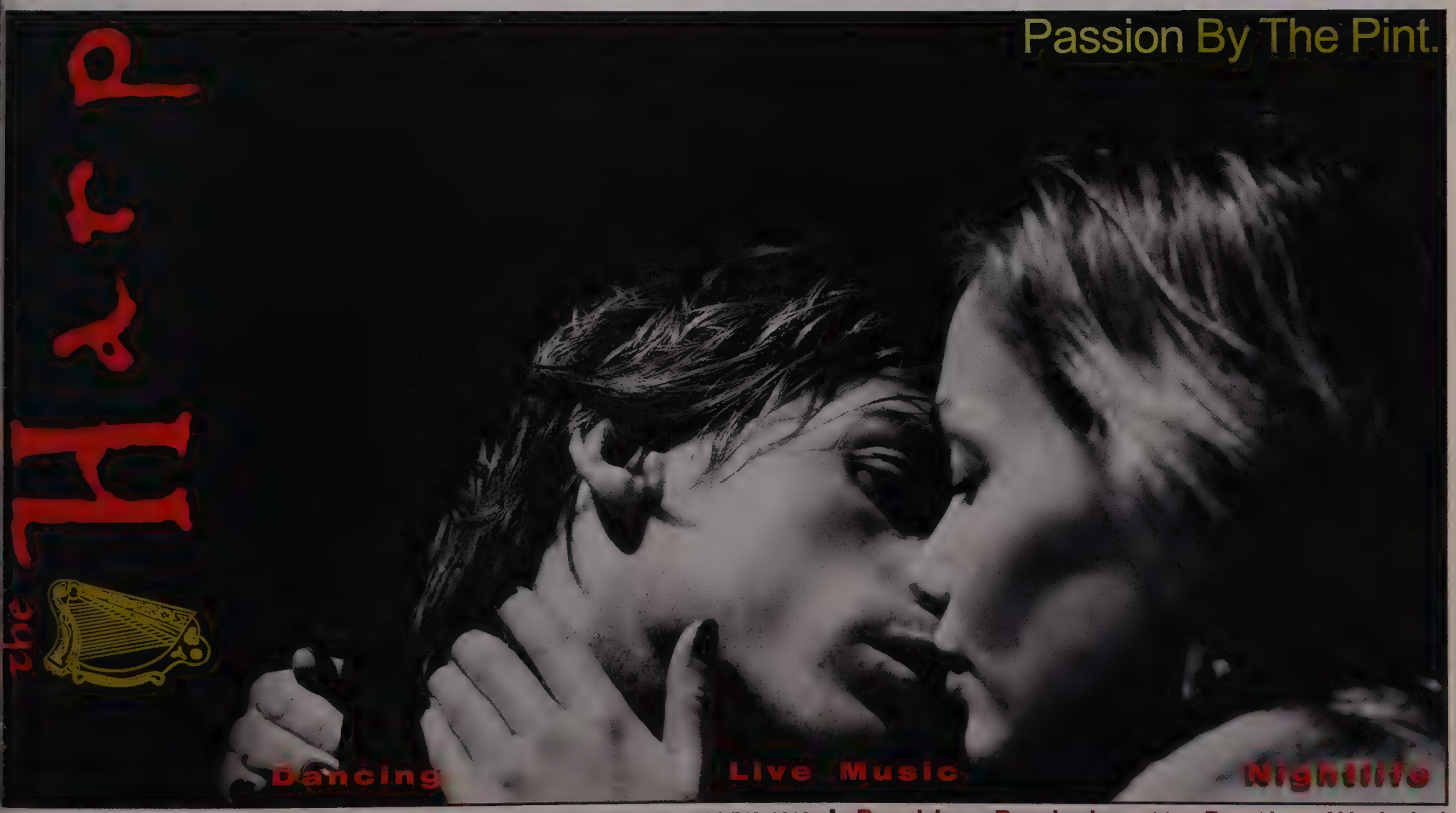
•Feb. 6, 7 pm. **Jungle Story** *1996*. An aspiring musician leads his underground band to success. Kim Hong-Jun directs. • Immediately following, **La Vie en Rose** *1994*. Three fugitives hide in a comic book store run by a beautiful woman. Kim Hong-Jun directs.
•Feb. 7, 6:30 pm. **My Korean Cinema** *2002*. Kim Hong-jun reflects on 40 years of Korean cinema and directors Im Kwon-taek, Yu Hyon-mok, Kim Ki-young and Shin Sang-ok.

Heimatfilm

•Feb. 9, 9pm. **Die Fischerin vom Bodensee** (*The Fisher Girl of Lake Constance*) *1956*. Harald Reinl directs this love story about a girl from a poor fishing family and the son of a wealthy family.

Life Stories: Film and Autobiography

•Feb. 1, 7 pm. **American Splendor** *2003*. Paul Giamatti stars as comic book artist Harvey Pekar in Shari Springer Berman and Robert Pulcini's part documentary, part animation, part narrative film about Pekar. •Also showing, 9 pm. **David Holzman's Diary** *1967*. Jim McBride's film follows the trials of a struggling young New York filmmaker who decides to make an autobiographical film.
•Feb. 8, 9 pm. **Les Années Délic** *1984*. Acclaimed photojournalist Raymond Dépardon reflects on his life using photographs from the past 25 years. Raymond Dépardon and Roger Ikhlef direct.



MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

African Film Festival
•Feb. 2, 7:45 pm; Feb. 3, 4 pm; Feb. 4, 6 pm; Feb. 5, 2:30 pm; Feb. 6, 10:30 am. **Moolaadé** *2004*. Director Ousmane Sembene chronicles a West African woman's quest to protect the girls of her village from female genital mutilation.

Art on Film
•Jan. 26, 6:15 pm; Jan. 27, 12:30 pm; Jan 30, 10:30 am; Feb. 2, 6 pm; Feb. 3, 6:20 pm; Feb. 6, 12:45 pm. **In the Realms of the Unreal** *2003*. Jessica Yu's documentary details the life of artist Henry Darger, who was also a janitor and a novelist.
•Feb. 3, 8 pm; Feb. 5, 10:30 am; Feb. 6, 2:30 pm. **POPaganda: The Art and Crimes of Ron English** *2004*. Pedro Carvajal's documentary is a guerrilla-style film about the underground artist.

Boston Human Rights Watch International Film Festival
•Jan. 27, 7:45 pm. **Born into the Brothels** *2003*. Zana Briski and Ross Kauffman's documentary follows children in Calcutta's bleak red-light district. Briski, a professional photographer, gives the children cameras, and the resulting photographs capture their experience.
•Jan. 28, 6 pm. **Khamosh Pani** *(Silent Waters) 2003*. Sabiha Sumar's film details a single mother's struggle to raise her son during the turmoil of 1970s Pakistan. •Also showing, 8 pm. **Le Cerf-volant** *(The Kite) 2003*. A teenage Lebanese girl falls in love with an Israeli soldier but is forced into an undesirable marriage. Randa Chahal-Sabbag directs.
•Jan. 29, 1:15 pm. **Dastan Natamam** *(The Unfinished Story) 2004*. Hassan Yektabanah's film looks at poverty and immigration in the Middle East through the eyes of two young filmmakers out to make a documentary about smugglers. •Also showing, 3 pm. **Ojos que no Ven** *(What the Eye Doesn't See) 2003*. Francisco J. Lombardi's political psychodrama, set in the final days of Alberto Fujimori's presidency in Peru, explores corruption through the experiences of everyday people.

Cinema Tropical
•Feb. 4, 8:20 pm; Feb. 5, 5 pm. **Bolivar Soy Yo** *(Bolivar I Am) 2002*. An actor hired to play South American general and liberator Simón Bolívar comes to believe he is the reincarnation of Bolívar and tries to complete his unfulfilled dream of creating a unified state of five Latin American countries. Jorge Alí Triana directs.

Japanese Cinema
•Jan. 27, 4:15 pm. **Akarui Mirai** *(Bright Future) 2003*. Kiyoshi Kurosawa's film explores the anger-based bond shared by two young men working in a plant.

One Man's Journey: A Trilogy by Robert Perkins
•Jan. 27, 6 pm; Jan. 30, 12:10 pm. **The Crocodile River** *2004*. Perkins embarks on a 1,000-mile canoeing expedition down the Limpopo River in South Africa. The politcal and economic suffering he and his partner observe forces them to confront stereotypes and assumptions about Africa and Africans. A discussion with the director follows.

Psychoanalysis on Film
•Jan. 26, 8 pm; Jan. 29, 10:30 am; Jan. 30, 6:30 pm; Feb. 3, 2:15 pm; Feb. 6, 4 pm. **Empathy** *2003*. Amie Siegel explores the relationship between psychoanalysts and their patients through a combination of documentary footage, interviews and fictional narratives.

Susan Sontag's Favorite Japanese Films II
•Jan. 27, 2:15 pm; Jan. 30, 3:45 pm. **Yoidore Tenshi** *(Drunken Angel) 1948*. An alluring young gangster's power over the streets and a beautiful woman is gradually undermined by tuberculosis. Akira Kurosawa directs.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater
•Through Feb. 17. **Extreme**. Audiences experience the most extreme outdoor sports, including skiing and snowboarding on perilous untouched mountain peaks; climbing frozen waterfalls and red-rock spires; surfing some of the largest waves ever surfed and windsurfing El Niño–strength winds.
•Through Feb. 17. **Roar: Lions of the Kalahari**. Journey into the Kalahari Desert as two Botswana lions battle over a water hole.
•Through May 26. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater
•Through June 5. **Galapagos**. Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.
•Through June 5. **Into the Deep**. This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California and its many inhabitants.
•Through June 5. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Watch as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and other creatures create an underwater wonderland.
•Through June 5. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

WANG CENTER

Classic Film Series
•Jan. 31, 7 pm. **A Streetcar Named Desire** *1947*. Elia Kazan's screen adaptation of Tennessee Williams' Pulitzer Prize–winning play was nominated for 12 Academy Awards and stars Marlon Brandon and Vivien Leigh.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Lin Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lin Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Lin Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gr Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBT Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: R Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gre Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Oran Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Li to Davis.

dvice to Contributors

bmit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax 17-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by ail to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, ces, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is r weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac- ted over the phone.

dvice to Readers

ormation for the Music section is compiled from dif- ent sources. Although we make every effort to provide urate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead double-check dates and times (see complete list of ues at the end of the section).

op Billings

ldison Groove Project Feb. 4, Paradise Rock Club 17-423 NEXT).

nny Cunningham Tribute Concert Feb. 4, merville Theatre (617-931-2000).

ath from Above 1979, Read Yellow, Clickers Jan. , T.T. the Bear's (617-931-2000).

. John Feb. 2, Scullers Jazz Club (617-562-4111).

nergenza Festival Feb. 3-4, Middle East Upstairs 17-931-2000).

eve Forbert Jan. 28, Club Passim (617-492-7679).

nnavon Frankenreiter, State Radio Feb. 4, Par- ise Rock Club (617-423 NEXT).

ckin' A Jan. 28, Axis (617-931-2000).

VAR Jan. 31, Avalon (617-931-2000).

e Idan Raichel Project Jan. 30, Somerville The- e (617-931-2000).

ane, Zuton, the Redwalls Feb. 5, Orpheum The- e (617-931-2000).

eve Kimock Band, Sam Kininger Band Jan. 28- , Middle East Downstairs (617-931-2000).

tty Larkin and Catie Curtis Jan. 28, Sanders The- e (617-931-2000).

rgio Mendes and Brasil 2005 Feb. 4-5, Regattabar 17-395-7757).

oving Units, Secret Machines Jan. 26, Middle East pstairs (617-931-2000).

tty Smyth Feb. 5, Paradise Rock Club (617-423 EXT).

ock, Jazz nd Blues

EDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

bbey Lounge Reports, 9:30 pm; 16 Years of Grace, 30 pm, Señor Happy, 10:30 pm; Superlow, 11:30 n, $5-$7.

e Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.

avo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.

e Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce.

ntab Lounge Blues Jam, 9 pm.

ub Passim Naomi Sommers, Karaugh Brown, 8 n, $12.

mmon Ground The Adam Ezra Band, 10 pm.

ck's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.

e Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.

rper's Ferry Jamie McLean Band, 8 pm, $5.

ennessy's The Mystics.

nny D's Will Champlin, Kevin So, 8:30 pm, $8.

zard Lounge Julie Dougherty, 7:30-8:30 pm, no ver; the Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.

ddle East Downstairs: Lucia Lie, the Vacancy, dora, $10, 18+. Upstairs: James O'Brien and the urch of the Kitchen Sink, Leon Rich Band, Car- ne Guide, Juniper's Daughter, $8, 18+.

Brien's Geoffro, Structural Integrity, Cardioac- lerator, Thousand Days, $6.

radise Peter Prince, 8 pm, $6, 18+.

's The Kissers, $3.

ough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.

gattabar New Orleans, Kermit Ruffins, 7:30 pm, 4.

les Jazz Club Sergio Brandao, 9 pm, $10.

ullers Jazz Club Steve Oliver, 8 pm and 10 pm, $18.

r na nÓg Christian McNeil.

ad Rachel McCartney, 7 pm, no cover; Max einegg, 10 pm, no cover.

p of the Hub April Hall Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.

T. the Bear's Place Death from Above 1979, Read llow, Clickers, 9 pm, $8.

eitgeist Gallery Tanya Bartevyan, 7-9pm, $10; lay, Marcello Pellitteri, 9:30 pm, $8.

uZu The Saguine, 10 pm, no cover.

s Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

HURSDAY, JANUARY 27

bbey Lounge The Yes Men, 9:30 pm; General iggs, 9:30 pm; Anushka Pop, 10:30 pm; Silent Ser- ce, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.

xis The Early November, Engine Down, Days Away, Thorn for Every Heart, 6:30 pm, $13.

Bold Play

Keane rises from modest roots with melodic, piano-based anthems.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

The past year has been huge for Keane, whose debut album, *Hopes and Fears*, was one of 2004's most acclaimed releases in the band's native England. The disc sold more than a million copies there and prompted the magazine Q to trumpet the trio as "Band of the Year" in its January cover story.

Now the band, whose members smile and wave like elected candidates in a ticker-tape parade on that glossy magazine cover, are poised to launch another campaign, in America—a place where they're relatively unknown by comparison.

"It's so much harder in the States," says pianist-songwriter Tim Rice-Oxley. "It's a big place." Nonetheless, Keane is headlining Boston's 2,800-seat Orpheum Theatre February 5, a sign that more people than might be expected have absorbed the angelic, Coldplay-meets-Queen strains of radio tracks "Somewhere Only We Know" and "This Is the Last Time."

"It's hard to describe how strange it is, a band of three friends from the middle of nowhere in England and suddenly we're playing in cities all over America and people are loving our music and singing along to it," Rice-Oxley says from a countryside studio in Sussex, where he's starting to experiment with songs for Keane's eventual followup CD.

"The small-town thing is almost part of a tradition in British music, and maybe it's the same in America," says Rice-Oxley, 28, who met drummer Richard Hughes and singer Tom Chaplin in the Sussex village of Battle during primary school, then began the band in secondary school, naming it after an elderly lady who looked after Chaplin as a child.

"Maybe we're less obsessed with the superficial glamour and the rat race that you get in a place like London," he says. "We've all lived and worked together in London, but I think there's something about going back to a small community in the countryside. It probably gives you a slightly different angle, and maybe gives you the time and space to be more reflective and have perspective on what matters in life."

In turn, Rice-Oxley writes reflective songs of heartache, stripped to bare, essential emotions that appeal to female fans, then channeled through Chaplin's voice. "I know what it's going to sound like with him singing it," Rice-Oxley says. "That only comes with time and special chemistry."

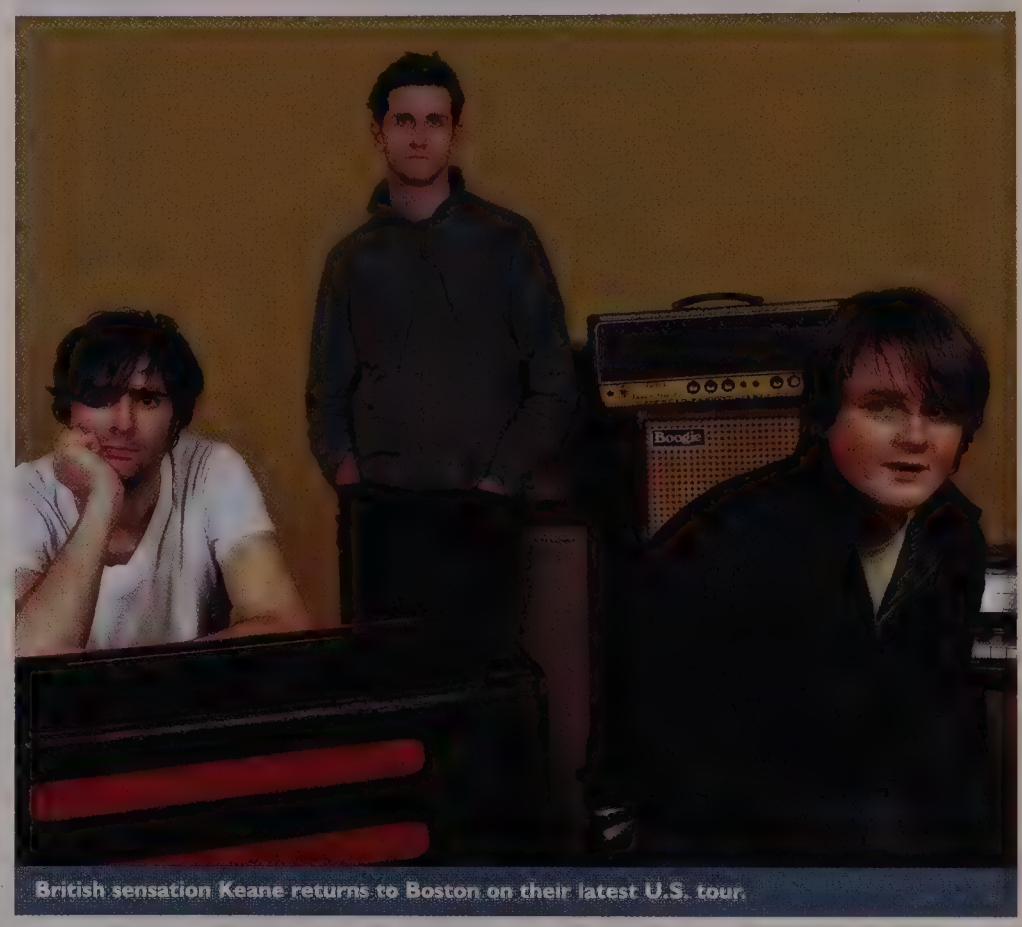
Just as intriguing is how Keane manages to create such a full sound with only vocals, piano and drums. The group originally had a guitar player, but he left in 2001, a year before Keane released its breakthrough single, "Everybody's Changing."

"We did miss the guitar to start off with, and we didn't know quite what we were going to do," the keyboardist says. "We experimented with a lot of electronic sounds, but we found in the end that we really just wanted to get back to simplicity, and a good, rocking, driving sound."

"What I've always loved doing was playing the piano, and I just reverted to doing that," says Rice-Oxley, who anchors the band with his Yamaha CP-70 electric piano, although he plays some synthesizer and bass parts, both on CD and live. "We do strip the songs back a bit [onstage], but we also have my laptop computer, which has a few bits and bobs on it, creating the bass in some of the songs. I don't have enough hands."

"When you've got so few instruments in the band, you have to make every part count," he says. "The best thing about the space is it gives us room for Tom's voice to really range up and down the melody, and I feel like I can have really bold melodies for that to happen. It eventually fitted into place rather nicely."

Certainly things have fit into place in Britain, where the press labeled Keane "the new Coldplay," a tag prompted not only by the similarity in the two bands' sound, but common roots in middle-class education: Rice-Oxley became friends with Coldplay's Chris Martin at university in London, and once considered an offer to join that other band.



British sensation Keane returns to Boston on their latest U.S. tour.

"We'd do music and we were shopping demos and all that," Rice-Oxley says. "They were a much better organized band, and had more experience. We were just kind of finding our beat and taking a long time to figure out what we were trying to do as a band. It was nice to see that it was possible for basically normal people to actually go on and make music that people all over the world really love.

"We could go out there and pretend to be people we're not, which a lot of bands seem to do, but eventually people won't believe you," he says. "We're honest about who we are, and we're very honest in our music." iB

Keane
plays the Orpheum Theatre February 5.

Kristin Hersh plays the Paradise Rock Club January 28.

Berklee Performance Center Great American Songbook: The Music of Cole Porter, 8:15 pm, $20.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shannon Aaron.
Cantab Lounge The Chicken Slacks, 9 pm.
Club Passim Zack Hickman's House of Ill Repute, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 7:20 pm.
The Green Briar Jon Frederik Band.
Harper's Ferry NBFB, Audible Mainframe, 8 pm, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's William Hut, Alastair Moock, 9 pm, $10.
Kinsale Chad Burtch, no cover.
Kirkland Café The Highway, the Hyphens, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge The Alex MacDougall Band.
Middle East Downstairs: Secret Machines, Moving Units, $14, 18+. Upstairs: Bobby Bare Jr., A-Sect, Buck 50, the Scam, $10, 18+.
Midway Café Queer Karaoke with Mo Rucker.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi.
O'Brien's New Fire, New Remorse, Din, Straight Dope Cherry, $6.
PA's Better Life, Defeat/Lost, Mile 23, Cardioaccelerator.
Plough and Stars Zipper, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Leo Nocentelli of the Meters, Stanton Moore of Galactic, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club The Brotherhood of the Groove, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Dominique Eade Quartet, 8 pm and 10 pm, $18.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad Stephen Clair, 7 pm, no cover; Jimmy Ryan, Hayride, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub April Hall Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Pitty Sing, Space Mtn, 10:15 pm, $7.
ZuZu Bling King, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Christ Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

Abbey Lounge The Incredible Casuals, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Tom Groleau, Stu Lee, no cover.
Axis Frickin' A, 7 pm, $12.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, $5. Downstairs: Sundays Well, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Steve Forbert, 8 pm, $20.
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs, 10 pm, $5.
DeVille Lounge Ray Greene, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm.
The Green Briar Cherry Orchard.
The Green Dragon Tavern Pi Alley, 9:30 pm, $5.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Bomb Squad, Kweejeebo, 8 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Incadence, 8 pm.
Kinsale Brick Park, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5 pm; Springhill Rounders, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Blue Train, Brother Mosely, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Greg Allison, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; Jacques Fontaine and the Freedom Fries, Moki, Butternut, 9:30 pm.
Marquee Plain Jane
Matt Murphy's Toussaint.
Middle East Downstairs: Steve Kimock Band, Sam Kininger Band, $25, 18+. Upstairs: Will Dailey & the Rivals, Lincoln Conspiracy, Madison, $9, 18+.
Midway Café The Peasants, Disturbing the Piece, 10 pm.
Milky Way Marinate, 9 pm, $5.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5 pm; Patsy and Tony, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Under Falling Skies, Oma, Fear of Flying, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: Kristin Hersh, Ben Weaver, 8 pm, $14, 18+. Lounge: Seeking Homer, 9 pm, $10.
Parris Burnt Sienna, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's The Midnight Collective, the Tides, Chris Peters and the Radio Cowboys, the Residence.
Plough and Stars Irish Seissun, 6-8:30 pm; Hot Day at the Zoo, 9:30.
Regattabar Olu Dara, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Young Turks, 9 pm, $10.
Sanders Theatre Patty Larkin & Catie Curtis, 8 pm, $22-$26.
Scullers Jazz Club Larry Harlow and the Latin Jazz Encounter, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad The Freelance Bishops, no cover.
Top of the Hub The April Hall Group, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Furvis, The Beatings, Mittens, Dear Leader, 9:15 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Benny Goldbin Sextet, 7-9 pm, $8; Cat Show Snapshots, 9:30pm, $7.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

Abbey Lounge The Rudds, 10:30 pm; Super 400, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, $5. Downstairs: Sundays Well, 9:30 pm, $5.
The Burren Bagboys, 5 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Greg Greenway, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground The Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, $5.
DeVille Lounge Justin Beech, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Big '80s, 8:30 pm.
The Green Briar Undercover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop, 9:30 pm, $5.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Superhoney, Alternate Routes, 8 pm, $8.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7pm.
Johnny D's Roomful of Blues, 9:45 pm, $15.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Night with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell, no cover.
Kirkland Café Eilen Jewell Band, Whoa! Man! Jesus!, Walk Don't Run, Gary Rand, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Cello Chix, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; Paul Bryan, Amy Correia, 9:30 pm.
Matt Murphy's Amalgam.
Middle East Downstairs: Steve Kimock Band, RAQ, $25, 18+. Upstairs: The Satanics, Crash and Burn, the Marvels, $10, 18+.
Midway Café Man Man, Aleck Redfearn and the Eyesores, Tiger Saw.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
O'Brien's The Faithfull, Scamper, Cecil, Bleedin' Bleedins, $6.
Paradise Lounge: A night of Motown, jazz and h hop, 8 pm, $5-$7.
Parris Burnt Sienna, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Nice and Easy, Hockey Island, Impossible H California Stadium.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint and the Road Sch ars, 5-7:30 pm; Los Diablos, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Olu Dara, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club The Boston Horns, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Larry Harlow and the Latin J Encounter, 8 pm and 10:30 pm, $22.
Somerville Theatre Habib Koité, 8 pm, $25-$30.
Tír na nÓg Eileen Jewel Band, 5-8 pm; Super G nius.
Toad Georgia Overdrive, no cover.
Top of the Hub The April Hall Group, 9 pm, cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Roh Delikat, Charlene, Bon Savants, Dear Leader, 9:15 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Imbolg, 7-9 pm, $5; the G Aharon Sextet, 9:30 pm, $10.
ZuZu Soul Le Lu Jah, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 7 pm, cover.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series w Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station
The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie R Duo, 11:30 am.
The Burren Singer-songwriter series with Daniel 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jame, 9 pm.
Club Passim Andrew Kerr, Paul and Storm, 7: pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm.
The Green Briar Finbar Doyle.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnso
Harpers Ferry Spiritual Rez, Velvet Stylus, Weath Outpost 12, 8 pm, $7.
Hennessy's Tom, 9 pm-1 am.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Tom Pendergast, La Kukers, 9 am.
Kennedy's Midtown Julie Lloyd, 12 pm.
Matt Murphy's Bud E. Green.
Middle East Downstairs: Tommy Stinson, $12, 18
Midway Café Mercy James Gang, Bloody Murde 11th Commandment.
Milky Way Paper Moon, Creepy Jones, 9 pm, $5.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8 pm.
O'Brien's Infinite Frequency, the Waking Slov Why Twist the Hair, $6.
Paradise Lounge: Slater, 8 pm, $5, 18+.
Plough and Stars Hatrack Gallagher and the R Maure' Trio, 5:30-7:30 pm, Hot Tamale Brass Ban 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Patric Adams, 10 am, no cover.
Somerville Theatre The Idan Raichel Project, 8 p $24-$34.
Tír na nÓg Bow Thayer.

The Redwalls open for Keane at the Orpheum Theatre February 5.

ad Paul Ahlstrand Band, 7 pm, no cover; Ry Canaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting, imon Kirk, Billy Beard, 10 pm, no cover.
p of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover; arty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place The Count Me Outs, Drab, ahi Mahi, 9:50 pm, $8.
eitgeist Gallery Ramona Borthwick Quintet, 7-9 n, $8; Steph Taylor and Emily White, 9:30 pm, $7.
uZu Johnny Carlevale and the Broken Rhythm ys, 10 pm, no cover.

IONDAY, JANUARY 31

valon Gwar, 8 pm, $17.75.
ne Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costello, mmy Peoples.
antab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm; ellie Lin Knott, 9:30 pm; The Kissers, 11:30 pm.
lub Passim Streetperformers' Night, benefit for the arvard Square Homeless Shelter, 7 pm, $10.
lick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
ne Green Briar Irish Sessuin.
arper's Ferry Best Bands Showcase, 8pm, no cover.
ennessy's Joe Carson.
att Murphy's Elodie.
liddle East Upstairs: Dead to Fall, the End, Raising ubrick, the Taste of Silver, $10, 18+.
'Brien's Helvete, $3.
radise Lounge: Open Mike with James Cleare, 30 pm, $5, 18+.
ough and Stars Lenny Solomon and the Solomon nd, 9:30 pm.
r na nÓg David Johnston Band.
ad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7 pm, no ver; Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
p of the Hub Mart Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place Porsches on the Autobahn, 30 pm, no cover.
eitgeist Gallery The Vortex and Todd Brunel, 9 n, $5; The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
uZu Raymond Morin, Asian May, Micah Blue naldone, 10 pm, no cover.
s Zygomates Steven Spungin, 9 pm, no cover.

UESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

ne Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Matt lover.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Alter Bridge, Silvertide, Submersed Feb. 11, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Averi Feb. 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Big Head Todd and the Monsters Feb. 25, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Brothers Past Feb. 10, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Ryan Cabrera Feb. 20, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Danzig Feb. 28, the Roxy (617-931-2000).
Dropkick Murphys March 17-20, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Flogging Molly March 3, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Goldfinger Feb. 16, Axis (617-931-2000).
Medeski, Martin and Wood Feb. 24, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Pat Metheny Group March 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Motley Crue March 5, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Jill Scott March 13, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Social Distortion Feb. 22, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Tesla Feb. 27, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Ron White, Feb. 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).

Club Passim Open Mike with Debra Cown, 7 pm, $5.
Harper's Ferry Toussaint and the China Band, 8 pm, $5
Johnny D's Rose Polenzani, Noam Weinstein, Kristin Cifelli, Peter Galub, 8:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Scuba, Ara Vora, the Pilot Light, Didi Mao, $8, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club: Third World, Keith Reggae Hurlock, Vibewise, 7 pm, 18+.
Regattabar Boston Latin Ensemble, 7:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Jinny Sagorin, 8 pm, $18.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Clampede, Desolation Bells, 9:50 pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Svengali Cabaret, 7-8:40 pm, $5; Coffeehouse, 9 pm, $5.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce.
Club Passim Tribute to Dave Van Ronk with Al Kooper, Geoff Bartley, Paul Geremia, Jeremy Wallace, David Massengill, 8 pm, $20.
Common Ground The Adam Ezra Group, 10 pm.
Johnny D's Iguanas, 8:30 pm, $15.
Middle East Upstairs: Mad Man Films, the Volume, $8, 18+.
Scullers Jazz Club Dr. John, 8 and 10 pm, $36.
Regattabar Guy Davis, 7:30 pm, $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Coracao featuring Molly Flannery, 9 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Debutantes, 10:40 pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Rasa, 7 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Scott Ryckman, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Abbey Lounge Spouse, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shannon Aaron.
Club Passim Mieka Pauley, Baratunde, 8 pm, $10.
Common Ground Love Night with DJ Brian, 10 pm, $3.
The Green Briar Jon Frederik Band.
Harper's Ferry Michael Tolcher, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's California Guitar Trio with Tony Levin, 9 pm, $14.
Kirkland Café BJ Snowden, $5.
Lucky's Lounge The Alex MacDougall Band.
Middle East Upstairs: Emergenza Festival: Porcelain, Nezmyth, Lost and Found, Harriet Street, Skill of Lying, Color and Talea, Rainsford, Micah Howeson, 8:30 pm, $15, 18+.
PA's Reserve, Static of the Gods, Dan Russo, Rich Schroder.
Regattabar Buckwheat Zydeco, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
The Roxy Arcade Fire, 8:30 pm, $15.
Ryles Jazz Club John Payne Sax Choir, 7:30 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Dr. John, 8 pm and 10 pm, $36.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Navigators, 10:15 pm, $7.
Zeitgeist Gallery Mitch Ahern, 7 pm, $5.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Abbey Lounge Jason Bennet of Suspect Device, 8:15 pm; 700 Club, 9 pm; Avoid One Thing, 10 pm; The Dents, 11 pm; the Pug Uglies, 12 am, $5-$7.
Bravo at the MFA Harry Fix, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
Club Passim Brian Webb, Deans Fields, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground The Bright Wings, 10 pm, $4.
DeVille Lounge Unity, 10:30 pm, no cover.
The Harp Drop Dead Sexy, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Jiggle, 8 pm, $8.
Johnny D's Lhasa, 9:45 pm, $14.
Kirkland Café Max Funch, Insituit, Chicken Slacks Soul Revue, 2nd Line Social Aid & Pleasure Society Brass Band, $10.
Middle East Upstairs: Emergenza Festival: Sweetfist, One-Less, Sines of Life, Brash Pepper, Minatory, Shackle, Mars Hill, Halo of Thorns, 8:30 pm, $15, 18+. Downstairs: Panacea, Angry Hill, Plank 63, Josh Logan and Nobody's Business, $10, 18+.
Paradise Addison Groove Project, the Akashic Record, 8 pm, 18+.

Mainstage
1/28 Young Turks
1/29 The Boston Horns
2/1 Ryles Artist Showcase
2/3 John Payne Sax Choir
2/4 Bebop Guitars
2/5 Herman Johnson
2/9 ZIZALA Middleeastern Ensemble
2/10 Ellen O'Brien
2/11 Patricia Vleig
2/12 Matthew Stubbs Band
2/18 Mass Tango (Downstairs!!)
2/19 Megawatt Blues Crushers
2/25 Ken Clark
2/26 Chicken Slacks Soul Revue

Dance Hall:
WED: Moves & Vibes Samba Workshop & Party
THU: Temporada Latina Salsa Lessons & Dance
FRI: Live Latin Music Every Friday Night
SAT: Four on the Floor Latin, Swing & Tango!!
SUN: WEPA Salsa Dance Lessons & Dinner Buffet

Sunday Jazz Brunch:
10 – 3 Live Jazz

Mitch's BBQ
open for dinner 5 – 9 no cover
available for private functions and catering

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Patty Larkin performs with Catie Curtis at Sanders Theatre January 28.

Parris Kristen and the Noise, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Tristan Da Cunha, the Winter Pageant, Piles.
Regattabar Sergio Mendes & Brasil 2005, 7:30 and 10 pm, $40.
Ryles Jazz Club Bebop Guitars, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Carol Sloane, Donna Byrne, Mike Monaghan, Ted Casher and Arnie Krakowski, 8 pm and 10:30 pm, $22.
Somerville Theatre Johnny Cunningham Tribute Concert with Phil Cunningham, Seamus Egan, Kevin Burke, Susan McKeown & Aidan Brennan, 8 pm, $25-$30.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Aloud, Rocketscience, Redletter, Fooled by April, 9:15 pm, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Callithumpian Consort, 7-9 pm, $7; Michael Musillami Trio, 9:30 pm, $15.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Abbey Lounge Malibu Lou, 8:15 pm; Andrea Gillis, 9 pm; Muck and the Mires, 10 pm; The Dents, 11 pm; The Coffin Lids, 12 am, $5-$7.
Berklee Performance Center Voices in Harmony, 7:30 pm, $20-$50.
Bravo at the MFA African rhythms with Randy Weston, Andrea Woods, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Bagboys, 5 pm.
Club Passim Jess Klein, 7 and 10 pm, $20.
Common Ground The Fair Enough, 10 pm, $4.
DeVille Lounge Moonshine, 10:30 pm, no cover.
The Harp Drop Dead Sexy, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Max Creek, Boogie Band, 8 pm, $12.
Johnny D's Roots Nation.
Kirkland Café Momentum, Soupbone Throne, Tracksuit, Natural Toy, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Emergenza Festival: Thyk, Droned, Starr Faithfull, Alchemilla, Seduce the Enemy, the Mark, In Itself, 8:30 pm, $15, 18+.
Orpheum Theatre Keane, the Zutons, the Redwalls, 7 pm, $20.
Paradise Rock Club: Patty Smyth and Scandal, 8 pm, 18+.
Parris Kristen and the Noise, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Regattabar Sergio Mendes & Brasil 2005, 7:30 p and 10 pm, $40.
Ryles Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Jimmy Webb, 8 and 10:30 p $26.
Somerville Theatre Low, Pedro the Lion, 8 pm, $14.5
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mardi Gras Ball: Slide, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery David Maxwell, 9:30 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Christine Fawson, 7 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series wi Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie R Duo.
The Burren Singer-songwriter series with Daniel 8 pm.
Club Passim The Lighter Side of Darkness wi Katherine Pritchard and Friends, 8 pm, $10.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko & Lar Kukers, 9 am, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Mang Dub.
Middle East Upstairs: Emergenza Festival: Lumin Jefferson Davis & the Chicken Hawks, S Prophet, Blue Collar Product, Just Before Augus Driven by Blood, Paranoid, Special Fredd, 7: pm, $15, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Patricia Adam, am, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm, cover; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sean Hayes, Jolie Hollan 9:50 pm, $12.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ayn Inserto Jazz Orchestra, 7 pm, $10; The Eric Zinman Experience, 9:30 pm, $

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costell Tommy Peoples.
The Green Briar Irish Sessuin.

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Club Closed for renovation. - Opening Soon

arper's Ferry Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Tons of ill, 8 pm, $15.
nny D's Riot Act open mike, 7 pm, no cover.
att Murphy's Will Dailey.
ddle East Upstairs: Endway, Loss for Words, Blue tter Days, A Hero Next Door, $8, 18+.
p of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no ver.
s Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 9 pm, no cover.

UESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

tis Streetlight Manifesto, Voodoo Glowskulls, u330, 7 pm, $14.
ie Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Matt over.
ub Passim Open mike with Chris Elliott, 7 pm,

arper's Ferry Toussaint and the China Band, 8 ı, $5.
nny D's Tony Bird, 8 pm, $15.
ddle East Downstairs: Sage Francis, $15, 18+. stairs: Grizzly Bear, Valerie Allen, Casey Dienel, , 18+.
radise Donovan Frankenreiter, State Radio, 7 ı, $15, 18+.
ullers Jazz Club Michael Wolff and Impure oughts, 8 pm and 10 pm, $15.
r na nÓg David Johnston Band.
p of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no ver.
s Zygomates April Hall, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

bey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-31).*
l-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-44). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
gard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-00). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
ie Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). BTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
alon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). BTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
enue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-2-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: E Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue.*
DeVille Lounge at Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Street.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC's Weilerstein Trio and Heidi Skok perform Shostakovich's Romantic Suites and Schumann's Trio No. 1 in D Minor.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $27-$95. Conductor David Zinman presents works by Michael Gandolfi, Bartok and Mussorgsky, featuring pianist Richard Goode.

Community Music Center of Boston

Allen Hall, Boston Center for the Arts, 34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-482-7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. Free. The New Gallery Concert includes performances by the Primary Duo, the Yesaroun' Duo, members of the Radius Ensemble, the Second Instrumental Unit and others.

New England Conservatory

Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. David Eure performs on the jazz violin.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $37-$57. Countertenor David Daniels performs with pianist Martin Katz.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $27-$95. Same program as Jan. 27.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $36-$46. Pianist Jonathan Biss and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra perform works by Mendelssohn, Erkki-Sven Tüür and Daniel Schnyder.

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Memorial Hall, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm, $33-$48. Guitarists Sergio and Odair Assad perform with six-time Grammy Award–winning Cuban clarinetist Paquito D'Rivera.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $27-$95. Same program as Jan. 27.

New England Conservatory

Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC's Piano Department Festival begins with performances of works by Chopin, Scriabin and Messiaen.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

BSO Community Chamber Concerts

Twelfth Baptist Church, 150-160 Warren St., Roxbury (617-638-9300). www.bso.org. 3 pm, Free. Musicians from the BSO perform Arensky's Piano Trio in D minor, Op.32 and Brahms' Clarinet Trio in A minor, Op. 114.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series

Emmanuel Church, 5 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am, Free. Scott Metcalfe conducts Bach's Cantata BWV 13.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm, Free. Cellist Tom Kraines and pianist Wayman Chin perform works by Beethoven and Debussy, and a premiere of a new composition by Kraines.

New England Conservatory

Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 11 am and 2:30 pm. Free. Same program as Jan. 29.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31

Boston University College of Fine Arts

Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 8 pm, Free. Violinist Bayla Keyes and pianist Robert Merfeld perform works by Bach, Schubert, Prokofiev and Dvorak.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.newenglandconservatory.edu . MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Free. The NEC Preparatory School Winter Concert features performances by the NEC String Chamber Orchestra and the NEC Youth Chorale.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Boston Conservatory

Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9240). www.bostonconservatory.edu. 8 pm, Free. Gilbert Kalish performs new works on the theme of Bach's Goldberg Variations by composers including William Bolcom, C. Curtis-Smith, Fred Lerdahl and others.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $27-$95. Same program as Jan. 27.

Boston University College of Fine Arts

CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 8 pm, Free. Students form solo string works by Bach

New England Conservatory

Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. The NEC's Piano Department Festival contin with performances of etudes by Chopin, Scria and Messiaen.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Boston University Symphony Orchestra

Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. A Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MB B Green Line to BU East. 8 pm, Free. Lukas conducts the ensemble in works by Brah Bernstein and Copland.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MB E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The naim String Quartet performs.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Boston Conservatory

Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemen St., Boston (617-912-9222). www.bos conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. 8 pm, $5-$16. Director Sanford Syl presents Phillip Glass' three-act op *Akhnaten.*

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (6 520-2202). http://landmarksorchestra.org. MB Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm, Free. Moscow pia Victoria Korchinskaya-Kogan performs in Midwinter Night's Concert, conducted by Cha Ansbacher, featuring works by Beethoven Rossini.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony. 8 pm, $27-$95. Rafael Fruhbeck Burgos conducts the BSO in an all-Brahms p gram with the Tanglewood Festival Chrorus, by conductor John Oliver.

onductor David Zinman leads the BSO and pianist Richard Goode in a program of works Michael Gandolfi, Bartok and Mussorgsky at Symphony Hall starting January 27.

oston University Chamber rchestra
sai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., oston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: Green Line to BU East. 8 pm, Free. Conductor avid Hoose presents Mozart's Symphony No.) in A and works by Haydn.

RIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

oston Conservatory
oston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemenway ., Boston (617-912-9222). www.boston nservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym- ony. 8 pm, $5-$16. Same program as Feb. 3.

oston Early Music Festival: Follow he Lieder
lemorial Hall, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617- 51-1812). www.bemf.org. MBTA: Red Line to arvard. 8 pm. $21-$59. Tenor Jan Kobow per- rms works by Fleischer, Wolff, Mozart and ther early composers, with Kristian Bezuiden- out on fortepiano.

oston Symphony Orchestra
ymphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266- 200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to ymphony. 1:30 pm, $27-$95. Same program as eb. 3.

Muir String Quartet
FA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave, Boston (617- 53-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green ine to BU East. 12 noon, Free. The ensemble, urrently in residence at Boston University, per- rms works by Brahms and Ravel.

Music for Viols and Friends
irst Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge(617- 76-0692). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. 14-$18. The Musique de Joye concert fea- ures soprano Anne Azema and the El Dorado nsemble playing French music from the Re- aissance.

Music on Marlborough
irst & Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston 617-267-6730). www.fscboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm, $15. The upiter String Quartet performs works by Haydn, chubert and Ruth Crawford Seeger.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Boston Conservatory
oston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemenway St., oston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconserva- ory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 m, $5-$16. Same program as Feb. 3.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
ymphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617- 66-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line o Symphony. 8 pm, $27-$95. Same program s Feb. 3.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Boston Conservatory
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm, $5-$12. Bruce Hangen conducts the orchestra and soprano Mar- guerite Krull in works by Barber, Beethoven and Strauss.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series
Emmanuel Church, 5 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am, Free. Leonard Matczynski conducts Bach's Cantata BWV 13.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
Tapestry Room, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5107). www.gardnermuseum.org MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $5-$20. Pianist Eduardus Halim presents Enrique Granados' *Goyescas*.

James Pappoutsakis Competition
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-776-6512). www.pappoutsakis.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 2 pm. Free. This 25th annual competition features flute performances by students at major local conservatories.

Somerville Museum
Museum galleries, Central Street & Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 3 pm. $10-$15. The Musique de Joye concert features soprano Anne Azema and the El Dorado Ensemble playing French music from the Renaissance.

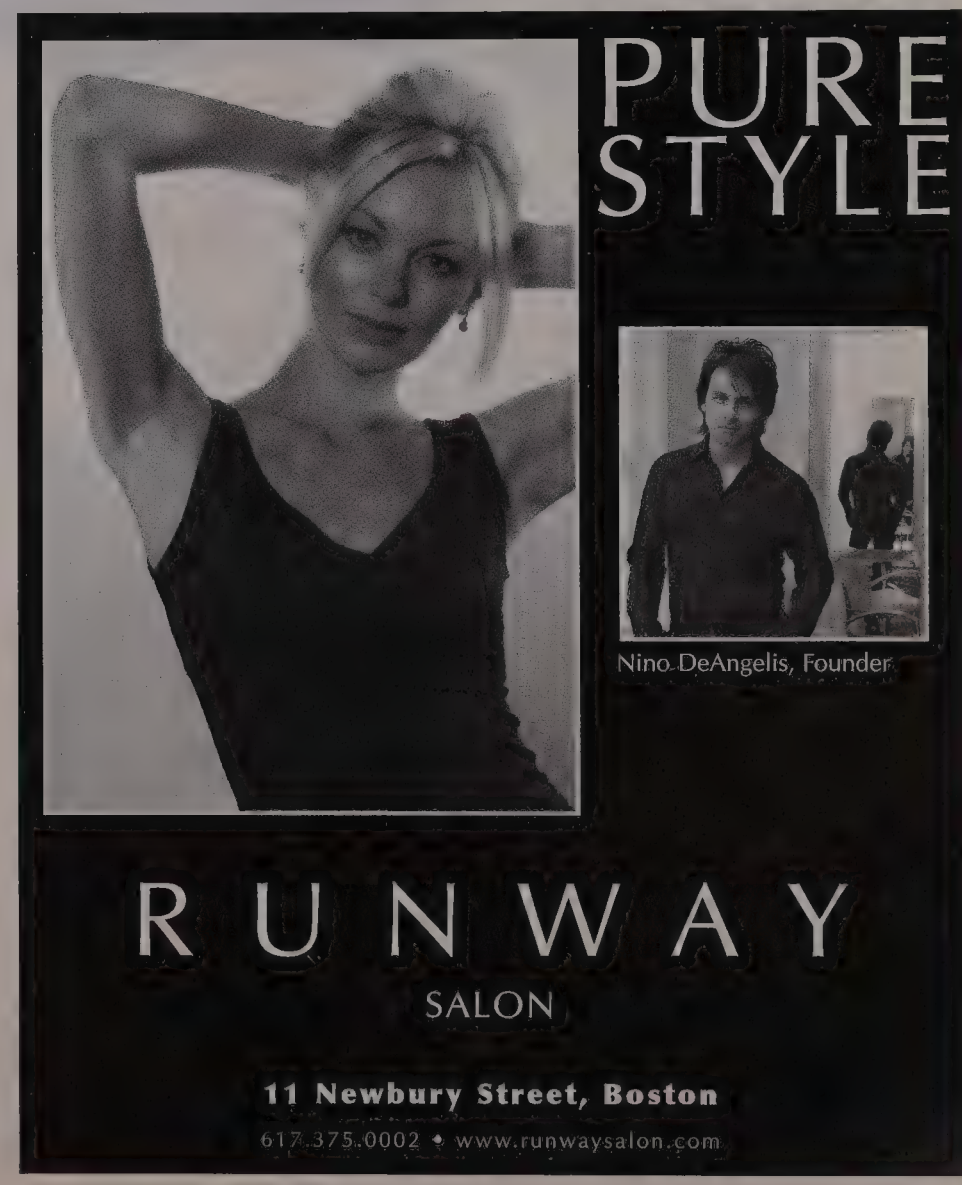
The Vox Consort
Loring-Greenough House, 12 South St., Jamaica Plain (617-281-8569). www.voxconsort.org. 3 pm. $15-$20. The first concert of the Vox Outside the Box series features mezzo-soprano Stacie Pirozzi, tenor Peter Bellomo and baritones Gabriel Alfieri and Paulo Carminati.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Boston Conservatory
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9240). www.bostonconservatory.edu. 8 pm, Free. Russian violinist Ilya Kaler and pianist Janice Weber perform works by Vitali, Beethoven, Corigliano and Paganini.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm, $27-$95. Same program as Feb. 3.

Tuesdays with Sebastian
First Church Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-547-2724). www.tuesdayswithsebastian.info. 8 pm. $10. Organist and harpsichordist Peter Sykes performs works by Bach.



dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ spins top-40, open mike, interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish Seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Signs of Life Guest DJ's spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clery's
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts live performances and spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Weekly rotation of underground dance, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Sexy Santa DJs spin top-40 music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor, while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21

Devlin's
DJ Doc spin upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 a no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance a disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, M town, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band pla reggae and funk, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dan tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes including hip-ho R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Touch DJs spin urban groove and club classics, 10: pm, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk a soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog prese drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $ 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-ho all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music a samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin part classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, n cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons an dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loung music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin pop and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro interna tional, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
DJs spin Latin, international house, hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trans music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ's spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
"Mansion Fridays" After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1am, no cover, 21+. •Jan. 28: Cherry Orchard.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Gabe spins.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Jan. 28: Peatmoss. •Feb. 4: Drop Dead Sexy.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am,21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Jan. 28: Burnt Sienna. •Feb. 4: Kristen and the Noise.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
International Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

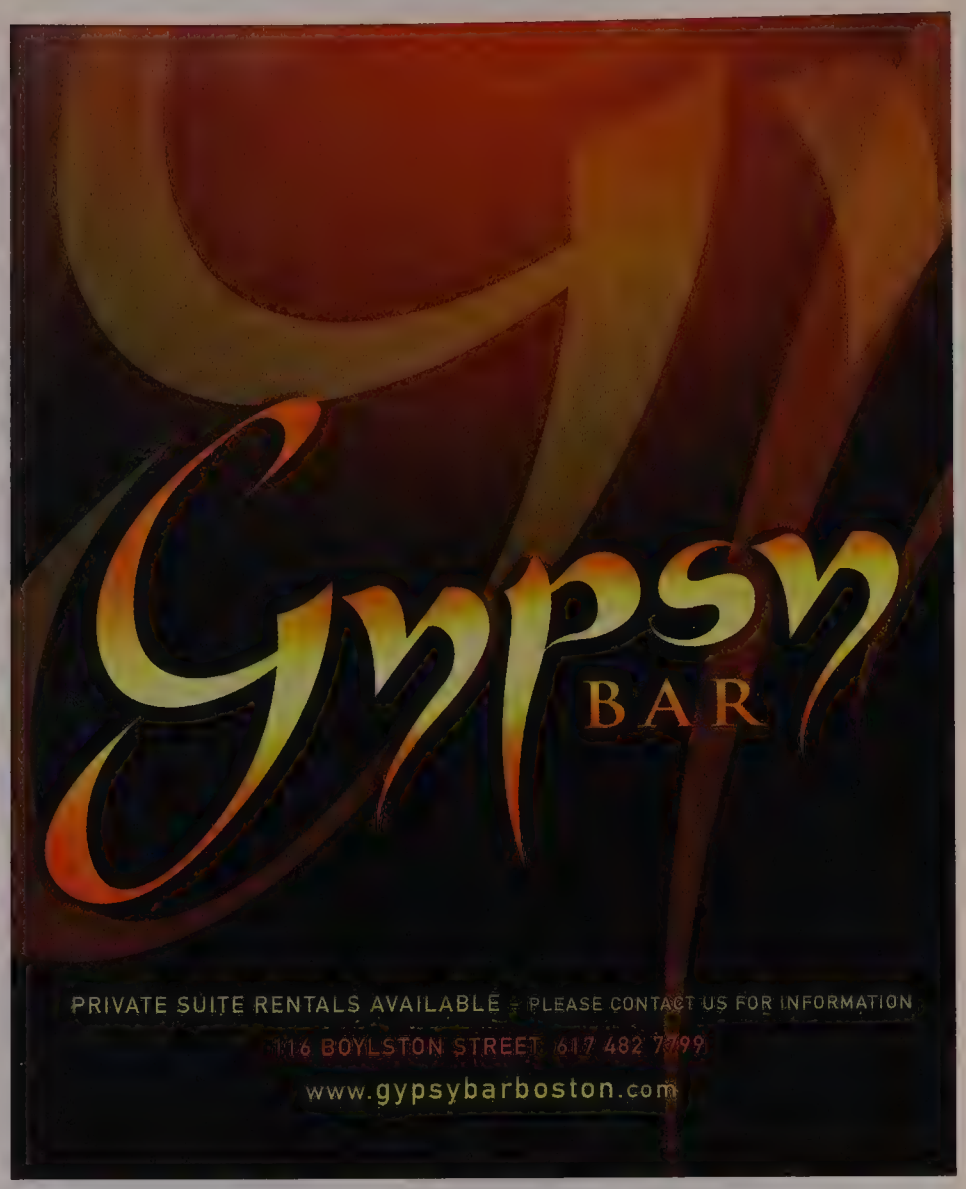
Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

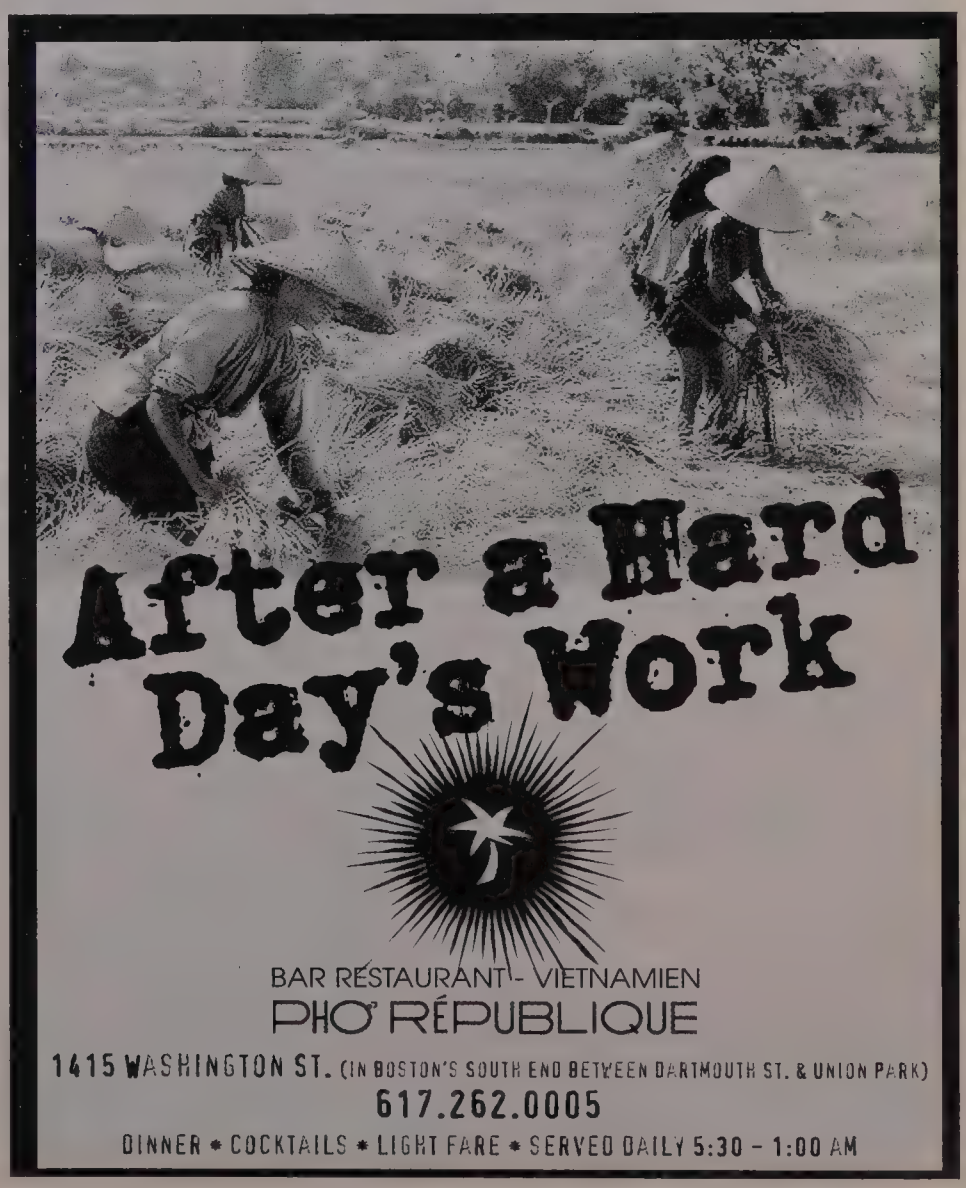
The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

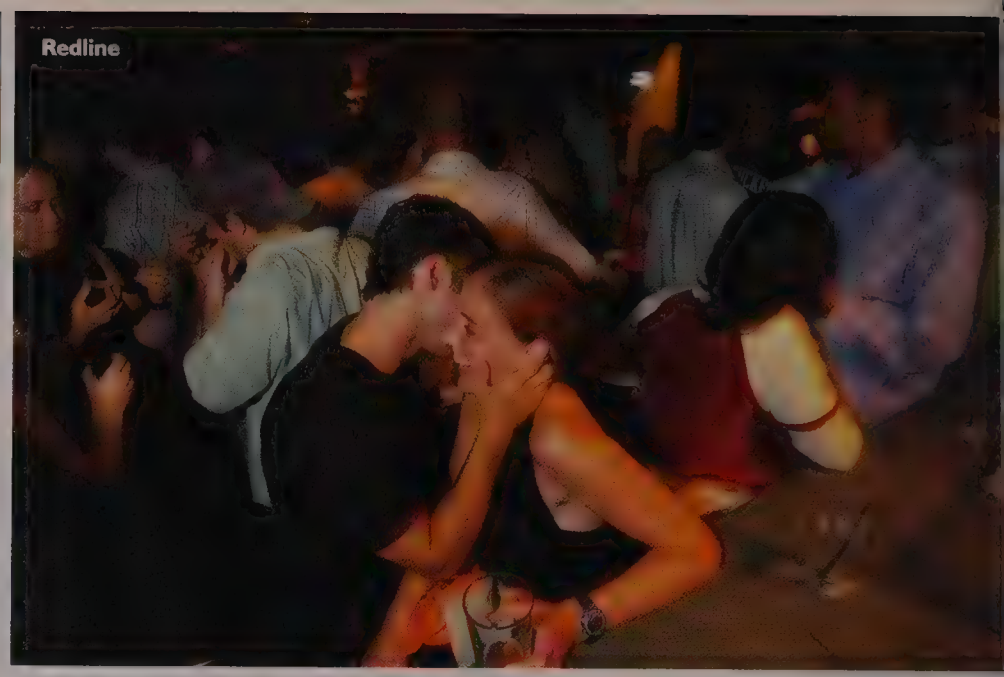
Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.







Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Gost and DJ Vagelli create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
1st Floor: DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance; 4th Floor: **"The Penthouse Club"** DJ Tanerk spins house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
•Jan. 29: Undercover, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Jan. 29: Peatmoss. •Feb. 5: Drop Dead Sexy.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Buddha spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis DJs Frank and Matty spin a mix of rock, retro and electro beats, 10 pm, $5, 18+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $ 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-ho no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ort spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $1 men; $5, women (women admitted free befo 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $1 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and to 40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by D Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $1 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longes running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21 Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-ho mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spin mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $1 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Ja 29: Burnt Sienna. •Feb. 5: Kristen and the Noise.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wor ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roch spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, n cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins moder mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs DJ Massi and DJ Play each spin thei own style of house, progressive and techno music, pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. play house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, internationa and dance, often joined by live bands and specia guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro fa vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

he Sugar Shack
Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, +.

equila Rain
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 ı, $5.

iernan's
turday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic d-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

oast
urses Wretched Design presents an evening of thic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

enu
ula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek ntabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 ı, 19+.

ertigo
Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, 5, 21+.

Vest Street Grille
te Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all ght, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

UNDAYS

valon
ıy Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and chno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

ill's Bar
ve reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

oston Rocks
s spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

uzz
azilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, 0, 19+

aprice
spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

evlin's
dustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and nixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

cco Lounge
p-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

he Enormous Room
volutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm- ım.

reen Briar
ıbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

reen Street Grill
ve Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 ı, no cover, 21+.

evel
otating DJs spin Latin and international on the ird floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, +.

hoenix Landing
ump This house-music night has a rotating roster local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, +.

he Place
had LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no ver, 21+.

he Purple Shamrock
Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

ggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

he Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, cover, 21+.

ed Line
nday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests in reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

iver Gods
ction Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic ck and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

yles Dance Hall
epa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa usic, 6-10 pm, $12.

aint
oice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night aturing Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 ı, $10, 21+.

issy K's
mu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

ophia's
Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, 0, 21+.

iki Room
ggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub ation and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

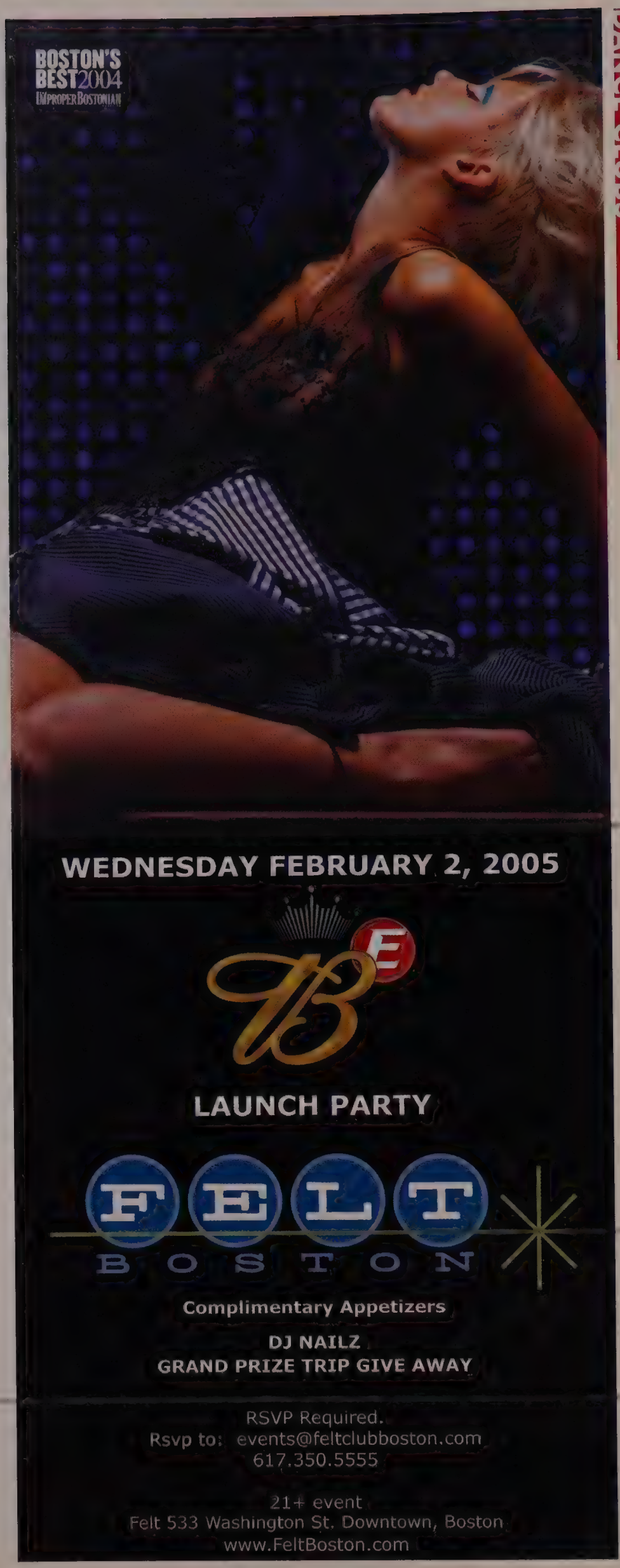
oast
ls wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and azilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

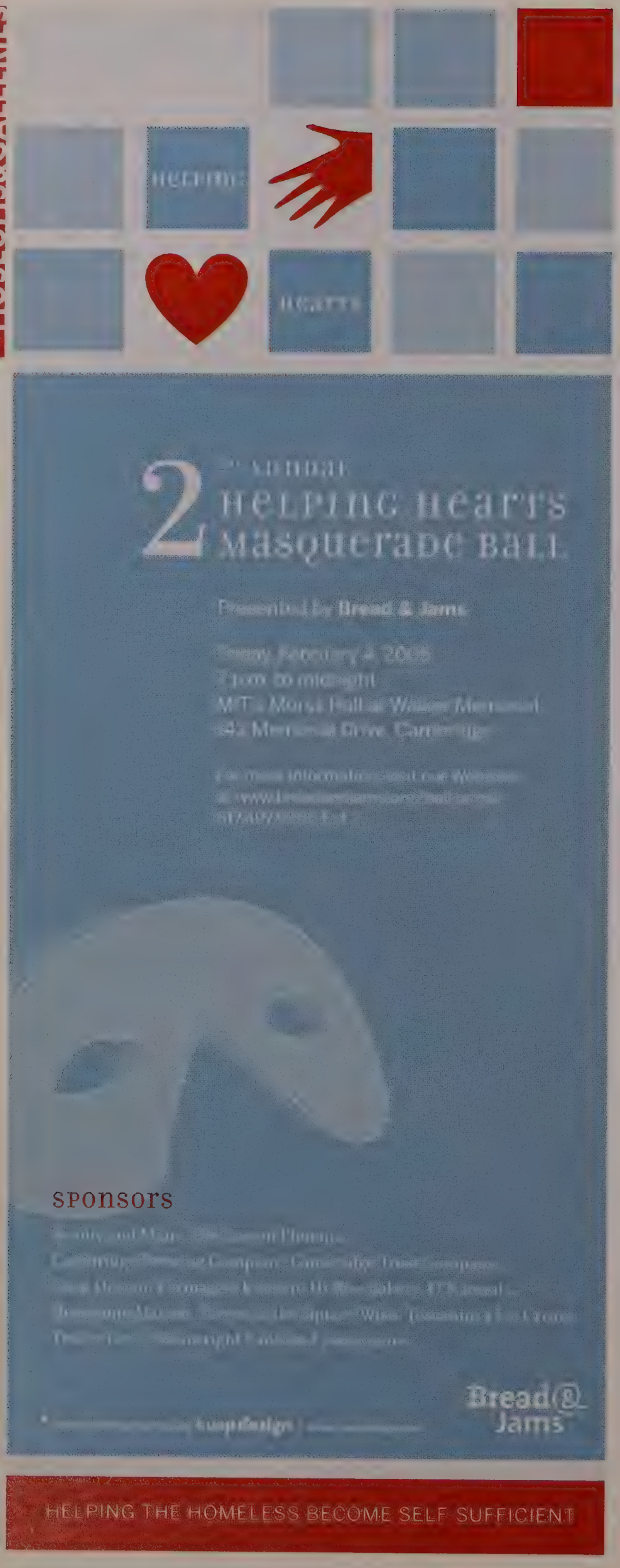
enu
arnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian ght as DJ Leandro spins, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

ertigo
aitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and orld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*





museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* includes works of Persian art from a range of centuries. Through March 13. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through March 20. •*Marks of Enlightenment, Traces of Devotion: Japanese Calligraphy and Painting from the Sylvan Barnet and William Burton Collection* features more than 70 objects from the 8th through 20th centuries, including Buddhist scriptures. Through April 17. •*The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in Iran and India* features paintings, decorative arts, and weaponry depicting hunting scenes from western and southern Asia. Through June 26.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. •*Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project* features a puppet opera, a film and a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center by artist Pierre Huyghe. Through April 17.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •*Pretty Sweet: The Sentimental Image in Contemporary Art* features more than 100 works in various media by 33 New England artists. Through April 17. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Prints: System, Style and Subject* is a history of printmaking and graphic systems. Through Jan. 30. •*Highlights from the Carpenter Center Photography Collection* is on display through March 20. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be viewed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through Dec. 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Cultural Salvage* is a show of collage work by Nana Gregory. Through Feb. 4. •*Paris Vertical* is a show of panoramic photographs by Horst Hamann. Feb. 8-March 3.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough to malines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and M orites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* tures collections documenting over two centurie scientific exploration on our planet. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. W and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Su 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; dents and seniors, $5. •*Likeness: Portraits of Ar by Other Artists* features more than 50 artists' p traits of their peers and heroes. Through Ma •Kanishka Raja shows paintings as part of ICA's *Momentum* series. Through May 1.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). ww gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to M seum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 p
•The permanent collection features more th 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furnitu manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, cluding works by Rembrandt, Michelange Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reiche embroideries depicting Biblical images borrow from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists c play online in the virtual exhibition *Madam Adam*. Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Av Boston (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseu MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-F 11am-4pm; Sat. & Sun. 12-5pm. Free. •Drawin collages, prints, watercolors and photographs assorted artists display in *Accommodations of I sire: Surrealist Works on Paper Collected by Jul Levy*. Through March 24.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tu Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. T museum's permanent collection includes more th 1,500 contemporary art works including paintin murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •*L Night Triad*, on the Media Test Wall, shows Jas Salavon's manipulation of video clips from la night television shows using the C programmi language. Through Jan. 30.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kenda Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; s dents and seniors, $3; children, $1. • *The Clipper S Era* is a collection of lithographs, plans and ph tographs illustrating the design and construction, well as the social experience, of a clipper sh Through July 10. •The interactive exhibit *Rob and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT S entists and Engineers* explores student life over t past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Lig Fantastic* displays selections from the world's large hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspir tion: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artis strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Enginee ing: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works the self-described cross between "a mechanical en neer and a choreographer." Ongoing. • *Young Inve tors at MIT* displays work of past Lemelson-M Student Prize winners. Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroa museum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Stree Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Threads of Faith: Rece Works from the Women of Color Network* is an exhib tion of quilts depicting historical, story-based, polit cal and spiritual themes. Through March 31. •*T Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition highlightin Boston's African-American community in the 19 century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 1 minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an Africa American teenager. Ongoing. •*Separate School Unequal Education* chronicles the struggles for equ school rights in Massachusetts. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). ww mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is ope Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 a under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is r duced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doe n't include special exhibitions). •*Cerith Wyn Evans* an installation of seven chandeliers flashing Mors code. Through Jan. 30. •*High Style and Hoopskirts The 1850s* features mid-19th-century men's an

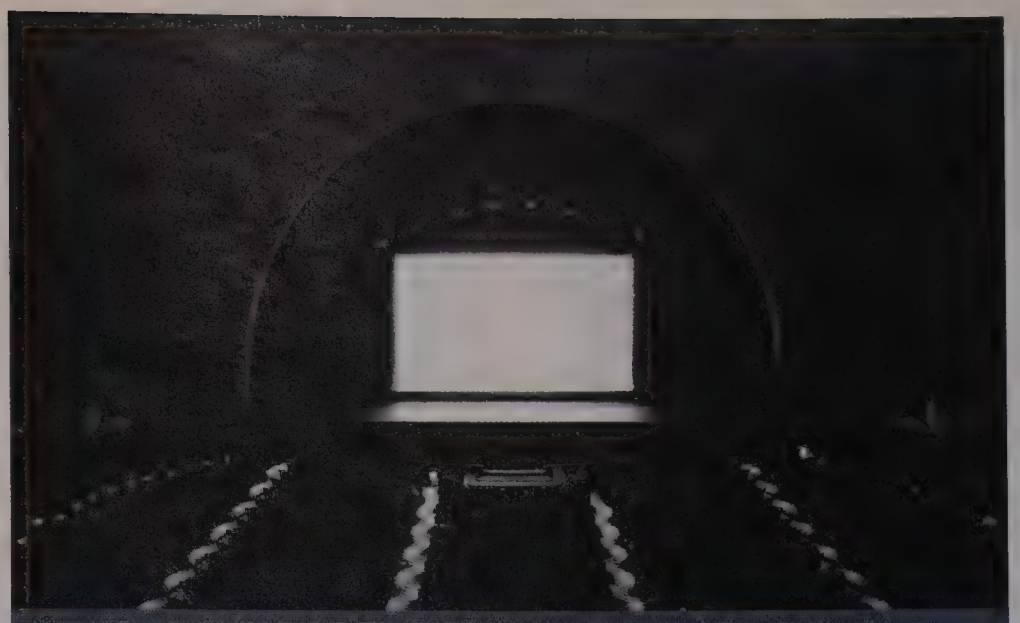
men's clothing. Through March 13. •An exhibi-
n of contemporary works by controversial Lon-
-based artist Damien Hirst is on display through
ril 24. •*Sets, Series, and Suites: Contemporary*
its features serial prints by 30 artists from 1950 to
present. Through May 29. •*Photographs by Hi-
hi Sugimoto: The Sylvan Barnet and William Burto
llection* features 20 of the Japanese photographer's
ck-and-white prints. Through June 23. •*18th
ntury French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collec-
n* features the only complete set of 18th-century
nch royal furniture in the United States. Ongo-
. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical
erican masterpieces. Ongoing.

useum of Science

ence Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.
. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun.,
*m-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; chil-
n, $11.* •*Mapping the World Around Us* is a new
going exhibition that features mapping projec-
n tools and computer map libraries. •*Roar: Lions
the Kalahari* explores vast and harsh African
dscapes and the day-to-day life and power strug-
s of the Kalahari lion. Through Feb. 17. •*Play-
with Time* features experimental tools that ma-
ulate the perception of time. Through May 1.
Bird's World explores the behavior and calls of
ds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revo-
on* traces the history of computers from the elec-
nic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest lap-
s. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic*
wcases the museum's collection of dinosaur
dels, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing.
Making Models, an interactive exhibition, features
dels of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant
sshopper. Ongoing.

ational Heritage Museum

Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.
nh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.
e. •*Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend* exam-
s artisitic depictions of American legend Paul
vere. Jan. 29-June 26. •*Deep Inside the Blues:
otographs by Margo Cooper* features 38 black-and-
ite photographs of musicians taken by Cooper
er the past 10 years during her travels through
Mississippi Delta. Through June 5. •Learn how
il-order catalogs revolutionized American shop-



Hiroshi Sugimoto's *Radio City Music Hall, New York*, at the MFA through June 23

ping in *Satisfaction Guaranteed*. Through Feb. 6. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a compilation of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, shows through April 24. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*Our Land: Contemporary Art from the Arctic*, the first major museum exhibition of contemporary art from the new Canadian territory of Nunavut, includes more than 50 works in a variety of media. Through Jan. 30. •*Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake* is an exhibition of 30 photographs by Linda Butler capturing the Three Gorges area. Through April 24. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 2005. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children, $5. •*Field Photography, The Marsh Arabs of Iraq, 1934* features 34 prints of Arab tribes in the marshlands of southern Iraq. Through Feb. 28. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward S. Morse Collection* is a rare display of Japanese artifacts collected from 1877-1879. Through April. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* features 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun. 12-5pm. $3. •*Dreaming Now* features eight mixed-media installations by a number of artists, including Marina Abramovic, Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, Sandra Cinto, Cai Guo Quiang and Chiharu Shiota. Jan. 27-April 24.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Towards Geometric Abstraction* is a show of paintings and drawings by Michael Loew. Through Feb. 5.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's annual sale of art glass, fiber arts, jewelry and ceramics continues through January.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.

L'Espalier
for the Holidays

Dinner
Monday
through Saturday
5:30pm - 10pm

Tea
Saturday
2pm - 3pm

30 Gloucester St
Boston
617 262 3023

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Boulangerie
(Mon.-Fri.) 7:30am-Midnight
(Sat.-Sun.) 9am-Midnight
Lunch (Mon.-Fri.)
11:30 to 2:30
Dinner (7 days)
5:30 to 10:00
Sat. & Sun. brunch
11:00 to 2:30

Catering and private functions
Valet parking available

255 State Street *at Long Wharf*
Boston, Massachusetts

Restaurant reservations
617 720 1300

Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Scott Prior shows landscapes, interiors and still lifes, and Kevin Wixted shows new paintings. Through Feb. 2.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Tom Paiement shows mixed-media work in *Acoustical/Visual Resonance*. Through Jan. 30. • Paul Beliveau shows two of his collections of acrylic-on-canvas works in *New Paintings*. Feb. 2-28.

Artana
1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111) www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm. • The gallery continually shows pieces by more than 30 artists from across New England.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*American Landscape* features paintings of New England landscapes by Anthony Petchkis. Through March 11.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Paper Sculpture Show* displays through Jan. 30. •*Intimachine: The Art of Intimacy, Expectation and Behavior* is a group show of interactive works in various media. Through Jan. 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A group show of gallery artists displays through Feb. 2.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New England Self-Taught Artists* is a group show of mixed-media works. Through Feb. 26.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Tanja Hollander: New Photographs* shows through Feb. 12.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*Unbecoming* features works by Pat Shannon, and *Weightless* features works by Leslie Wilcox. Through Feb. 5.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •*A Certain Journey: Meditations on Lives Passing* is a group show of works by Susanna Darling, Lois Fiore, Riki Moss, John Powell, Ted Prato, Beverly Sky and Bruce Sylvester. Through Feb. 13.

Bromfield Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5. •Natalie Loveless presents *(Co)Operation*, a wall-drawing installation, and Christopher Gardner presents *Lobbies*, a series of photographs depicting San Fransisco lobbies. Through Jan. 29.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Mammoth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. •Corinne Ulmann exhibits her oil paintings in *Bed(Room)*. Through Feb. 4.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Bill Brauer shows new work. Through Jan. 29.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions—*Edward Page and His Circle* (paintings), *Leo Meissner Drawings* and *Lithographs of Gordon Grant*—display through March 5.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •A collection of works by new gallery members shows through Feb. 5.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Michael Comina shows abstract works in *Man2Man*. Through Jan. 29.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Deborah Bohnert and Jessie Morgan show their work in *Skin*. Through Feb. 4.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. By appointment only through January. •*Last Look: 2004 Gallery Artists* shows through January.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., Garden Level, (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 pm. •*Bill Armstrong: New Work* displays the artist's abstract photographs of colorful collage. Through Jan. 29. •*Last Radio Off* and *War Games* are photographic collections by Matthew Gamber and Stephan Jacobs, respectively. Feb. 1-26.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Structure II: Drawings and Paintings* features works by Morgan Craig, Adam Davies, Gabert Farrar, Jessica Hess, Roland Kulla, Susa Logoreci and Chris Santer. Through Feb. 26.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Whatever Meredyth Wants: The Eclectic Eye of Meredyth Hyatt Moses* is a group show of paintings and works in glass and clay by 18 artists. Through Jan. 29.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Isabel Riley's wood and yarn installation, *Girl Feelings*, displays through Feb. 1.

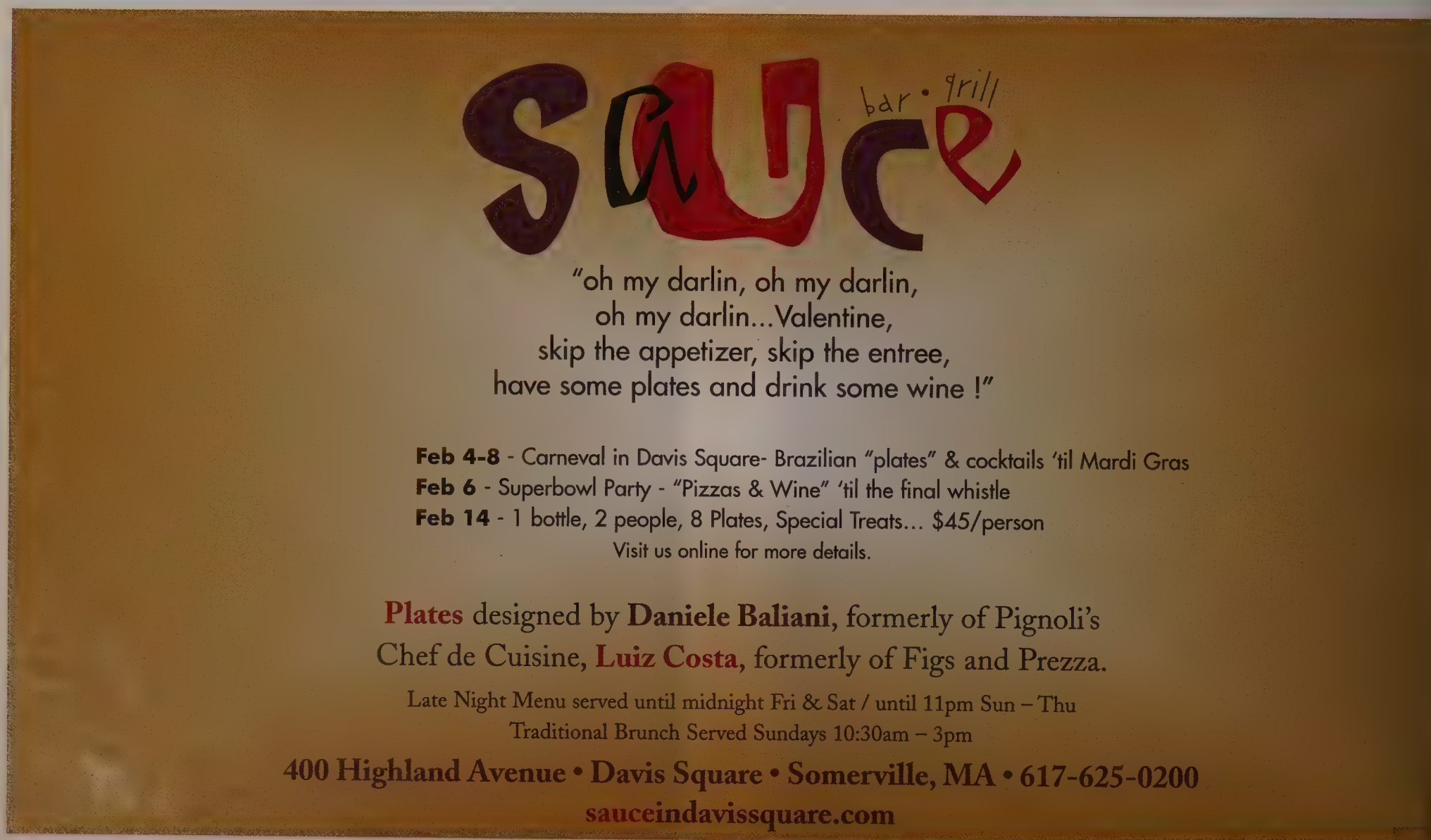
Haley & Steele Gallery
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haley-steele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., by appointment; Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. •Chantal Zakari shows new work in *WebAffairs*. Through Feb. 19.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Paul Shamboom's new exhibition, *Meetings*, is on display through Feb. 8.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Naughty and Nice* features posters depicting scenes from Paris during the Gay Nineties to London during the Roaring Twenties. Through Jan. 31.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Introductions 2005* features new work by LaVaughan Jenkins, Sean Keenan and Ben Colen. Through Jan. 29.



Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features contemporary American art and continually shows work from various artists.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment. •*Sensation* is an exhibition of works by Brigitte Brüggemann, Anne Blair Brown, Christopher Terry and Karen Luke. Through Feb. 28.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Winter Festival of the Arts* is a group show featuring mixed-media works. Through February.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Peter Harris shows photographs in *Lush*. Through Feb. 19.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Station. Tue.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm and by appointment. •South End artist Richard DeVeau shows his paintings. Through Jan. 29. •Rose Olsen shows paintings on wood in *Intimate Interaction*, and Kathleen Gerdon Archer shows new photographs. Feb. 1-26.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by international and local artists including Andrew Saftel, Ruth Block, Emil Alzamora and Carrie McGee.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Mixed Media* exhibits a selection of works by gallery artists. Through Jan. 31. • *Light up Your Night: Neon Sculptures by Alejandro & Moira Sina* displays Feb. 3-March 31.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •Abstract paintings by John Lobosco and Sandys Moore display through Feb. 13.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Phillip Jones shows new work in *Diary*. Through Feb. 16.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •William Ciccariello and Greg Parker show recent paintings. Through Feb. 15.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Blue Show* is an exhibition of multimedia works in blue. Through Jan. 29.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New Art 2005* features works from a national competition juried by Fogg Art Museum curator Linda Norden. Through Jan. 29. •New York artist Dianne Purdy displays abstract painting in *New Work*. Feb. 4-26.

Nave Gallery
155 Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville (617-625-4823) www.artsomerville.org/nave. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Thu. 4-8 pm; Sat. 1-5 pm and by appointment. •*Renewed: A Transformation of Found Objects* features work by Martha Friend, Paul Gray, Kathy Neustadt and Marcella Ann Stasa. Through Feb. 12.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •Laurel Hughes shows her work in *New Paintings*. Jan. 29-March 5.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Recent Objects* is a show of works by Steve Novick. Through Jan. 29.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Gallery artists show their work. Through January

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Peter Smuts shows his work in *All Fun and Games*. Through Feb. 5.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Phil Rogers shows pottery in *From Past to Future*. Through Jan. 31.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Beth Yarnelle Edwards shows new photographs in *Suburban Dreams*. Through Feb. 5.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Selected Paintings and Water Colors, Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Picasso. Through March.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*¡Dominicanazo!* is a group show of photography, painting, video, sculpture and multimedia installations by Dominican artists. Through Feb. 27.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. Marc Van Cauwenbergh shows abstract paintings. Through Jan. 29.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Integral*, is a group show of oils, acrylics and watercolors by William St. George, Sandy Mueller-Dick, Christina Keating, Anne Grandin and Judy St. Peter. Through Jan. 31.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Sunlight and Shadow: American Impressionism in New England and Abroad* features 19th- and 20th-century impressionist paintings. Through January.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

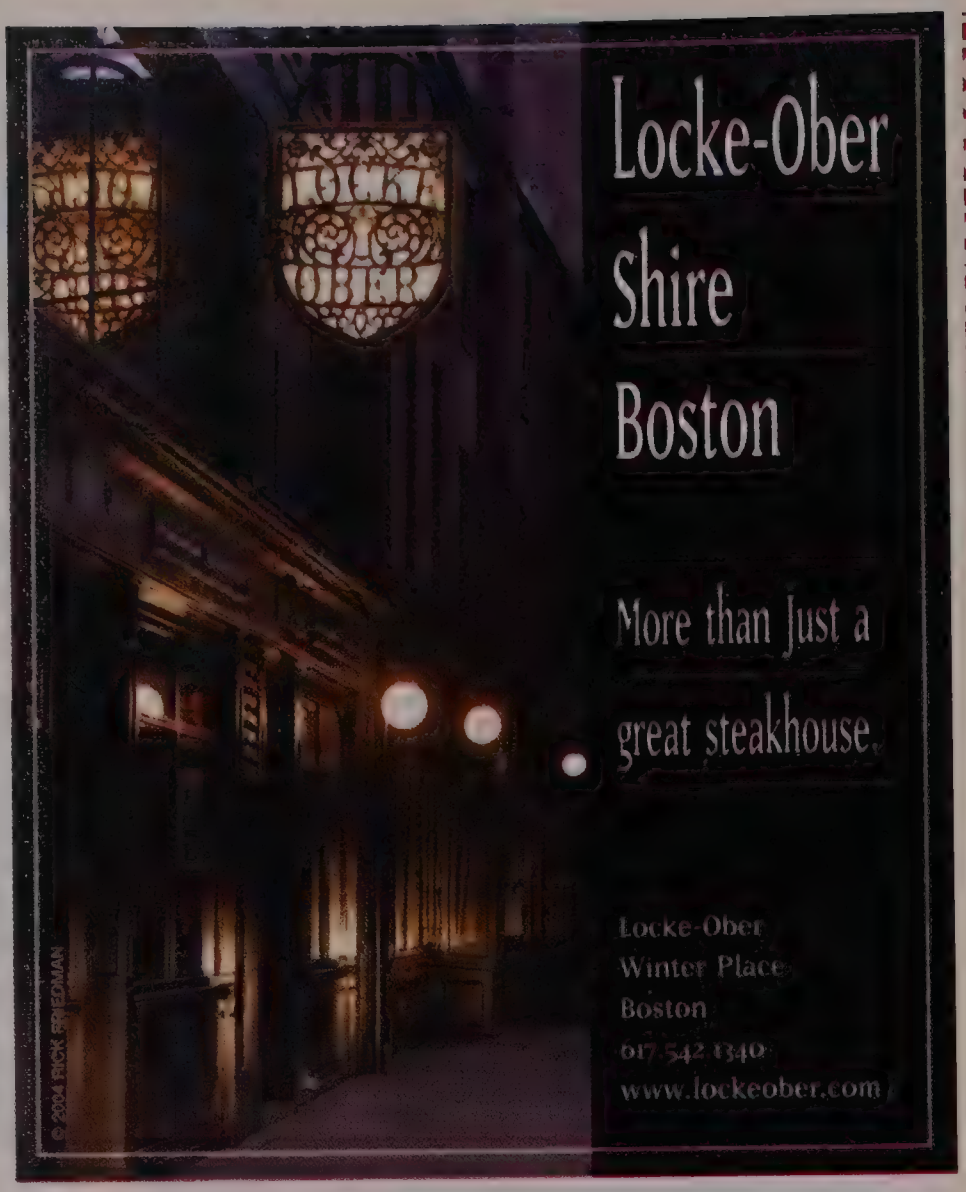
PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*We Skate Hardcore* is a collection of photographs and video images by Vincent Cianni. Through Feb. 3. •Lili Almog shows her photographs of Carmelite monasteries in *Intimacy*. Through Feb. 20.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. • The gallery specializes in fine-art photography with emphasis on black-and-white-images.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. • Photographs by Ernest C. Withers display through January.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. • The gallery features a rotating exhibition of photography.



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books & poetry

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Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

Borders Books Chestnut Hill
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill. 7:30 pm. Free. **Neil Savage** reads from his book *Extraordinary Tenure: Massachusetts and the Making of the Nation*, a look at major political figures from Massachusetts.

McIntyre and Moore Booksellers
255 Elm Street, Somerville (617-629-4840). www.mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7:30 pm. Free. Poets **Kathleen Aguero**, **Jean Flanagan** and **Richard Hoffman** read from their most recent works.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Brandeis professor **Palle Yourgrau** discusses his book *A World Without Time: The Forgotten Legacy of Godel and Einstein*, which examines the friendship between the two great thinkers.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Paul E. Doyle** discusses *Hot Shots and Heavy Hits: Tales of an Undercover Drug Agent*, his memoir about his experience as a member of the Drug Enforcement Agency in Boston in the 1970s.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Daphne Kalotay** reads from *Calamity and Other Stories*, her collection that includes many stories that take place in the Boston area.

Cambridge Public Library
45 Pearl St., Cambridge (617-349-4010). www.cambridgema.gov/~CPL. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 6:30 pm. Free. **Beatrice Fernando** discusses *In Contempt of Fate*, an account of her struggles upon leaving her family in Sri Lanka to work as a servant in Lebanon.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. Clark professor **Cynthia Enloe** discusses *The Curious Feminist: Searching for Women in a New Age of Empire*, her collection of essays looking at the impact of globalization and international politics on women's lives.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Vietnam vet **Donald Pfarrer** reads from his novel *The Fearless Man: A Novel of Vietnam*, about a U.S. marine captain and his infantry who fight in Vietnam in 1967-68.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Daily News sportswriter **Wayne Coffey** reads from his book *The Boys of Winter: The Untold Story of a Coach, a Dream and the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team*, an account of how the U.S. team beat the Soviets to win the gold medal that year.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Judah Leblang** and **Andrew Szanton** host a workshop on memoir and creative nonfiction writing.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

Unicorn Books
1971 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4448). www.unicornbooks.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 2-4 pm. Free. **Ann Drake** reads from her memoir, *Healing of the Soul: Shamanism and Psyche*, in which she discusses how she's learned to combine Western psychotherapy with shamanic teachings, beginning when she and her husband were stationed in Malaysia while serving in the Peace Corps during the 1960s.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31

Harvard Book Store Event
Askwith Forum, Longfellow Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Christine Todd Whitman** discusses her new book, *It's My Party Too: How the Radical Right Is Undermining America*, in which the Republican former EPA head suggests that her party has become too extreme.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Film critic **David Thomson** reads from his book *The Whole Equation: A History of Hollywood*, an anecdote-filled look at the American movie industry.

Harvard Book Store Event
Harvard Information Center, Holyoke Center, 1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **David Marcus** discusses his book *What It Takes to Pull Me Through: Why Teenagers Get in Trouble and How Four of Them Got Out*, which looks at the struggles of four American teens.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Journalist **Tom Bissell** reads from *God Lives in St. Petersburg*, a collection of short stories based on his experiences living in Central Asia.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Daphne Kalotay** reads from *Calamity and Other Stories*. See Jan. 27 Brookline Booksmith listing for a description.

Borders Downtown
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Dave King** reads from his novel *The Ha-Ha*, about a man who hasn't spoken in 30 years because of a severe head injury.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Dave King** reads from *The Ha-Ha*. See today's Borders Downtown listing for a description.

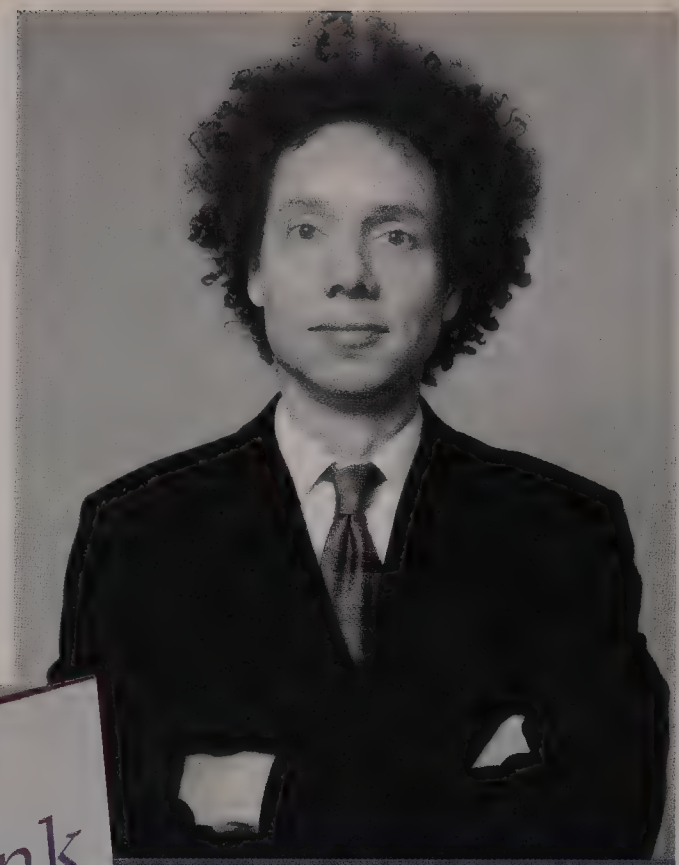
Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Nick Kotz** reads from his book *Judgment Days: Lyndon Baines Johnson, Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Laws That Changed America*, about the impact of JFK's assassination on these two historical figures and their legacies.

Hotel Marlowe
25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-395-2523). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 6:15 pm. Free. Boston Globe columnist **Ellen Steinbaum** reads from her poetry and performs her one-woman play, *CenterPiece*.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Radio commentator **Bernard Corbett** discusses two books he wrote: *The Only Game That Matters: The Harvard/Yale Rivalry* and *The Beanpot: Fifty Years of Thrills, Spills and Chills*.

Borders Books Cambridge
100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 7 pm. Free. Time magazine writer **Jeff Kluger** discusses his book *Splendid Solution: Jonas Salk and the Conquest of Polio*, a history of the polio vaccine.



Malcolm Gladwell reads at Cambridge's First Parish Church February 7

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Nina Simonds** discusses her new cookbook, *Spices of Life: Simple and Delicious Recipes for Great Health*, a collection of 175 recipes plus tips for more healthful cooking.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **William Powers** discusses *Blue Clay People: Seasons on Africa's Fragile Edge*, a memoir of his life-changing journey to Liberia.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Psychologist **Mark O'Connell** reads from his book, *The Good Father: On Men, Masculinity and Life in the Family*, a guide that gives tips for men on parenting.

Old West Church
131 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-948-6584). www.beacon.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 6:30 pm. Free. Minister **Stephen Kendrick** and his son, **Paul Kendrick**, read from the book they co-wrote, *Sarah's Long Walk: How the Free Blacks of Boston and Their Struggle for Equality Changed America*, about early black activism in Boston.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Constitutional law scholar **Mark Tushnet** discusses his book *A Court Divided: The Rehnquest Court and the Future of Constitutional Law*, about the inner workings of of today's Supreme Court.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Forest Hills Educational Trust
95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3354). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $5. In collaboration with Tapestry of Voices, Jamaica Plain poets **Susan Eisenberg**, **Elizabeth Galloway**, **Carolyn Gregory** and **Sandra Storey** read from their work.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8-10 pm. $3. **Barbara Sutton** reads from her debut collection of short stories, *The Send-Away Girl*.

Harvard Book Store Event
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Staff writer for *The New Yorker* **Malcolm Gladwell** discusses his new book, *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking*, which examines how the ways we process certain details can lead to better decision-making.

Harvard-Yenching Library
2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (781-643-0029). www.nepoetryclub.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. The **New England Poetry Club** hosts this evening dedicated to readings of love poems.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Brandeis scientist **Rosalind Barnett** and Boston College journalism professor **Caryl Rivers** discuss the book they cowrote, *Same Difference: How Gender Myths Are Hurting Our Relationships, Our Children and Our Jobs*, which purports that innate differences between the sexes are overstated.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Stephen** and **Paul Kendrick** read and discuss *Sarah's Long Walk: How the Free Blacks of Boston and Their Struggle for Equality Changed America*. See Feb. 3 Old West Church listing for a description.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Ben Jones** discusses *The Rope Eater*, his novel about Arctic exploration in the 19th century.

Wellesley Free Library
530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. 7-9 pm. Free. Harvard lecturer **Edward M. Hallowell** discusses his book *Delivered From Distraction: Getting the Most Out of Life with Attention Deficit Disorder*, a follow-up to his 1994 book *Driven to Distraction*.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies, with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and an open mike. $4 suggested donation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Poets' Asylum (Sundays)
The Java Hut, 1073-A Main St., Worcester (508-752-1678). www.poetsasylum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Worcester. 7-10 pm. Free. The Worcester Po8ry Project hosts weekly open poetry readings and slam events.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

Can Persons who are Unconscious or in the "Vegetative State" Perceive Pain and Does It Matter?

Lahey Clinic Medical Center, Alumni Auditorium, 41 Mall Road, Burlington (781-744-8355). www.lahey.org. 12:15pm. Free. **Michael McQuillen**, professor of neurology and medical humanities at University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, discusses the treatment of unconscious patients as part of the Lahey Clinic's Medical Ethics Lecture Series.

Chechnya: A Lecture on the Renewed Catastrophe

Boston College, McGuinn Hall, Chestnut Hill (617-655-4069). www.bc.edu. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 7-8:30 pm. Free. Professors **Paul Christensen** and **Cynthia Simmons** discuss the human rights crisis in Chechnya.

Learning to Look: The Three-Way Gaze

Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 5:30 pm. $15, $10 for ICA members, students and seniors. Reservations required. Art and literature lecturer **Anna Sparks** discusses the evolution of the conversation between artist, sitter and viewer.

Race and the Psychology of Integration: the Indian Personality Project in Mexico and the United States

Radcliffe Institute, Colloquium Room, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4pm. Free. Syracuse history professor and Radcliffe fellow **Karin Alejandra Rosemblatt** discusses race integration.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

Feel the Music

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext.1). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2. Actor, director, poet and saxophonist **Jeff Robinson** explains the correlation between music and method acting.

Silencing Music: A Function of Copyright Law?

Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100). www.brandeis.edu. Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. Musicologist **Liane Curtis**, founder of the Rebecca Clarke Society at Brandeis, discusses how copyright law is used to censor works.

What Is an Artist?

Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30pm. Free. Associate curator **Bennett Simpson** shares his perspective on the ICA's *Likeness* exhibition.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

A Celebration of Brookline Through Story

Brookline Adult Education, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 3 pm. $5. In celebration of the town's 300th anniversary, Brookline native and professional storyteller **Jay O'Callahan** recounts Brookline's history.

The Magic of Vermeer

Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 2pm. Free. **Ronni Baer**, senior curator of European paintings at the MFA, discusses Vermeer's art and career.

Strangled by the Tentacles of Globalization

Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6710). www.commchurch.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:45 am. Free. **Jim Harney**, artist in residence for the Bangor-based nonprofit group Posibilidad, discusses globalization's impact on the poor.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31

An Evening with Rodney Evans

Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-4700). www.harvardfilmarchive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $10. Director Rodney Evans screens and discusses his 2004 film *Brother to Brother*, about a gay black artist on the verge of success during the Harlem Renaissance of the 1930s.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Jazz Age Catholicism

Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-3705). www.bc.edu. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 7:30pm. Free. **Stephen Schloesser** of the BC history department discusses Catholicism in the period between 1919 and 1933.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

A History of the Boston Athenaeum

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:15 pm. $5. **John Lannon**, associate director of the Boston Athenaeum, discusses the building's history and its holdings, including George Washington's library and artwork by John Singer Sargent and Gilbert Stuart.

Reef Madness: Darwin, Agassiz, and the Coral Reef Mystery

Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Science writer **David Dobbs** discusses his new book, which recounts the attempt of 19th-century Harvard scientist Alexander Agassiz to solve the mystery of coral reef genesis.

The Peacemaker: Lessons from an Ancient Native American Spiritual Teacher

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789 ext.1). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2 ($1 seniors). Author and psychotherapist **Robert Gerzon** discusses the Peacemaker Epic, a recently rediscovered, historically based Native American legend about an Iroquois leader.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Land of Fire and Ice

Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. 7:45 pm. $13. Wayne Peterson of the Massachusetts Audubon Society lectures on Iceland's landscape.

The Very Long Reach of Very Large Earthquakes

Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, (617-589-0419). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 7 pm. Free. Seismologist **Susan Hough** discusses the discovery of remotely triggered earthquakes and how they affect the planet.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

First Step: Personal Local/Global Issues

Brandeis University, Rappaporte Treasure Hall, Goldfarb Library, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4205). www.brandeis.edu. Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 7-9 pm. Free. Posse Foundation founder **Deb Bial** joins a group of Brandeis alumni who speak about how local action can have a worldwide impact.

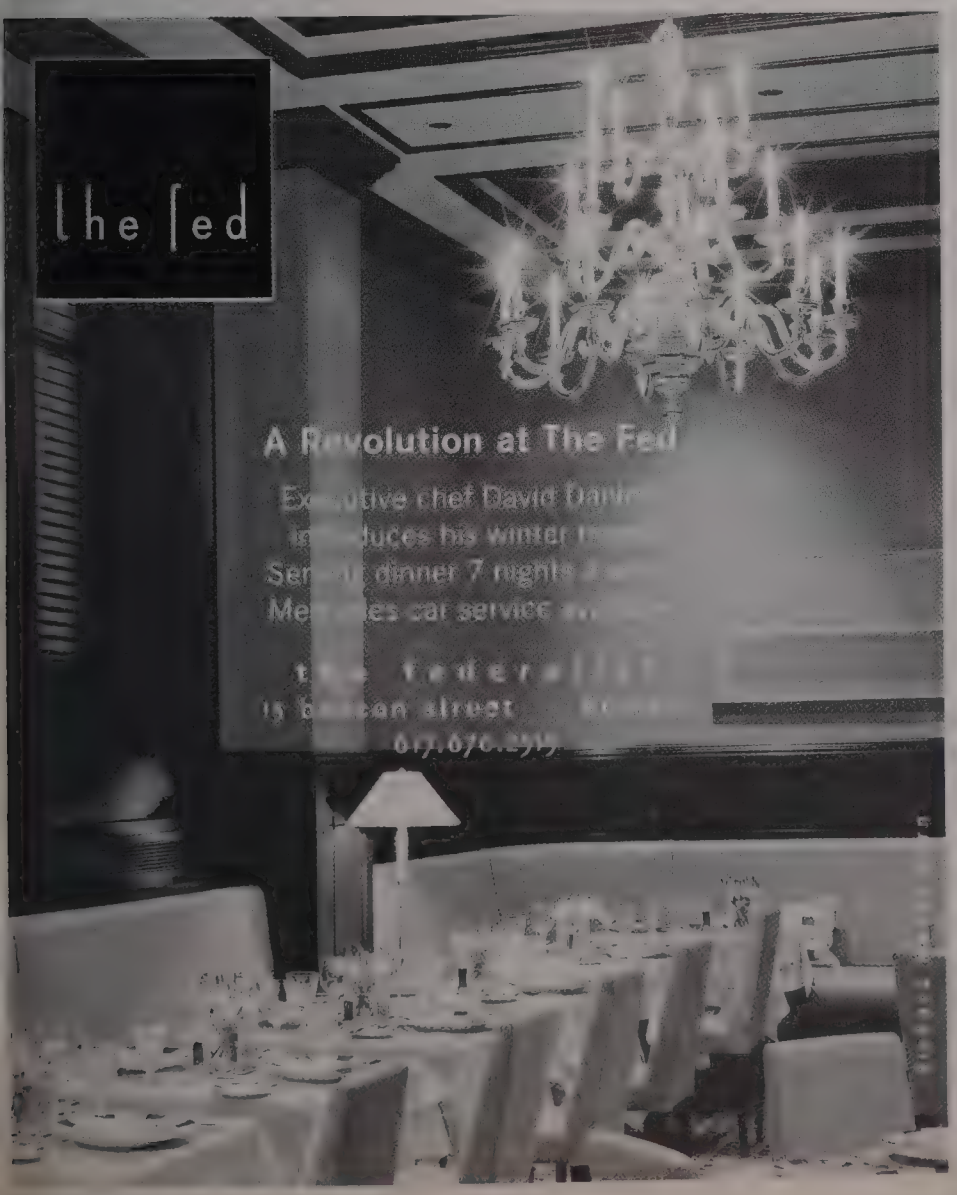
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Points on Publishing

Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100), www.brandeis.edu. Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. Authors and Brandeis scholars **Rosalind Barnett, Annabel Beerel, Mary Berg, E.J. Graff, Laurie Kahn-Leavitt and Marsha Mirkin** participate in a panel discussion on the book publishing process and offer tips on writing a book and finding a publisher.

Radical Equations: Civil Rights from Mississippi to the Algebra Project

Brandeis University, Shapiro Campus Center, 41 South St., Waltham (781-736-4205). www.brandeis.edu. Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 7-9 pm. Free. **David Dennis**, president of the Southern Initiative of the Algebra Project, discusses how mathematics empowers low-income students in technological societies.



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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door, $5 on guest list. 18+. Rotating guest DJs spin progressive house for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Ms. Kris Knievil hosts a drag show, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spin progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

The Liquid Assets swimming group meets four times a week at Northeastern's Barletta Natatorium

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for women. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-587-0000). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Feb. 7 and each following Mon. 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league starts up a new season on Feb. 7, with weekly 301, 601 and Cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz. Visit the league Web site for more information.

Brunch at Club Café
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.urbanoutings.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Jan. 30, 12:30 pm. Members, $25; guests, $30. Sign up online to join the men of Urban Outings for brunch at Club Café.

Pick-a-Flick Night
www.urbanoutings.com. Jan. 27, 7 pm. Members, $12; guests, $17. Join a group of gay Boston men for their monthly movie night out. See the Web site to sign up and vote on the movie.

Quills
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Through Feb. 6. Wed., 7 pm; Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $30-$48. In this play by 2004 Pulitzer Prize winner Doug Wright (*I Am My Own Wife*), set in 1807, the Marquis de Sade is in the Charenton Asylum for writing pornographic novels. Determined to continue his work, he struggles with the supervising abbé, who keeps removing his writing utensils.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gay Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595) www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. A informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the challenges and joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge. Call for more information.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes ICA. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array of services for the GLBT community, ranging from discussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to programs addressing domestic violence and substance abuse. Call for more information

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT flag football league for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~frontrunners. Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information, e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This confidential, toll-free hotline provides support for GLBT and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for GLBT professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Members of this social group for gay men and lesbians get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT

community are invited to share poetry, prose or performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. For information, contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Laffan
Members of this social and networking group for women receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Newly Diagnosed Group
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange line to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group offers support for gay and bisexual men who have been diagnosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support to their GLBT peers.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men age 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatino slgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.

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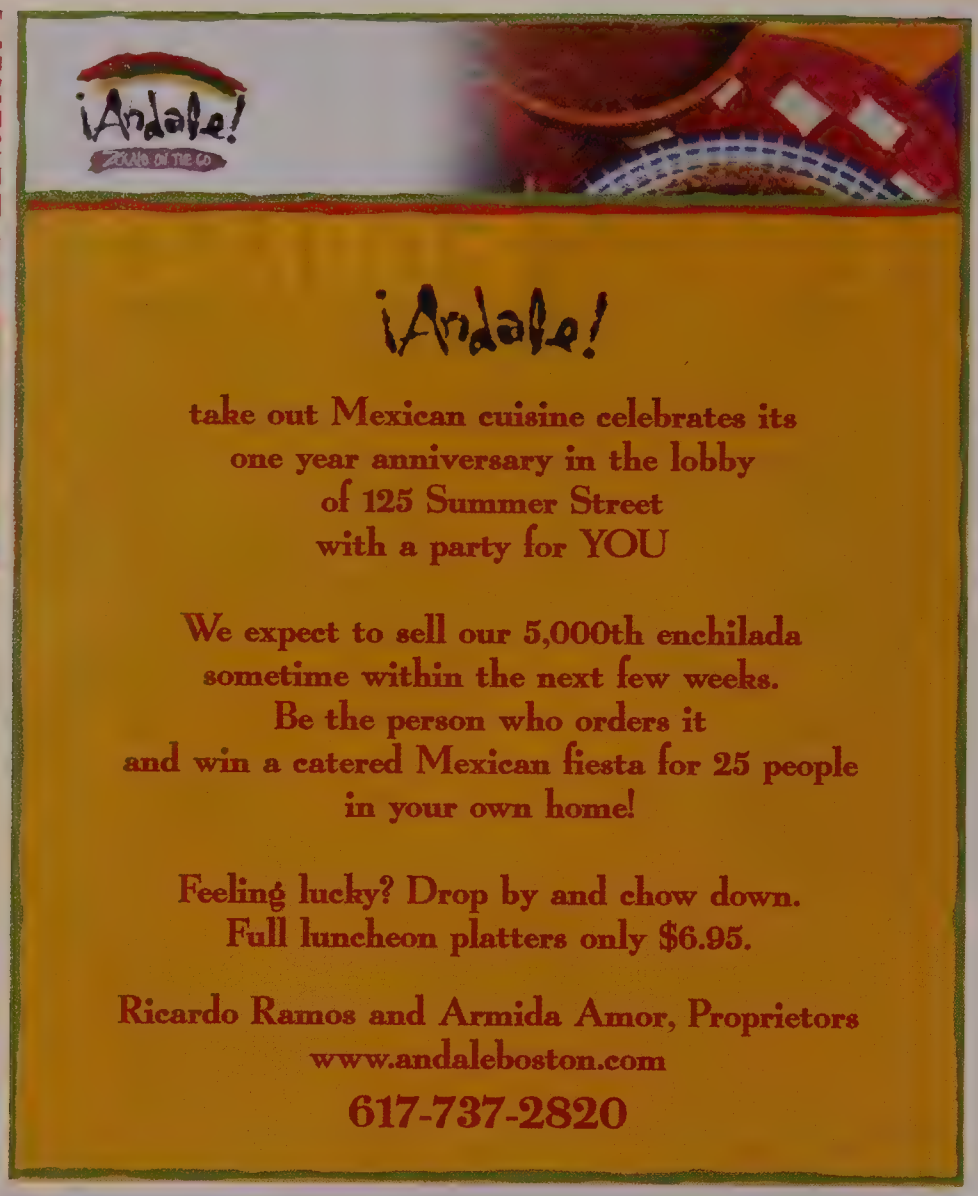

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Ann Drake: Healing of the Soul—Shamanism and Psyche
Unicorn Books, 1971 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4448). www.unicornbooks.org. Jan. 30, 2-4 pm. Free. Psychotherapist and author Drake shares her perspective on the synthesis of Western psychotherapy and Shamanic teachings. A book signing follows the lecture.

Being Wholistic
Marriott, Mall Road (off Route 128), Burlington (978-394-5166). www.myholisticnetwork.com. Jan. 29, 10 am-4 pm. $8. Meet local holistic health and metaphysical practitioners in a variety of disciplines. Also enjoy lectures, hands-on demonstrations, free samples and treatments. Proceeds benefit the MSPCA.

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 4, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Everyone is welcome to join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Dances are accompanied by live music.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Earth Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 5, 8-11:30 pm. $6. Bring drums, spoons and tambourines for this day of dance and percussion.

Sexy Open House
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Feb. 6. Free. The sexuality boutique holds an open house where attendees can learn more about their bodies.

Singles Party
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-306-1246 or 781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Jan. 29, 8-11 pm. $10-15, sliding scale. Please call ahead. Meet other singles at this holistic health center. The evening includes ice-breakers, music, dancing and light refreshments.

Lectures

Natural Health Seminar and Discussion
Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202-6333). www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Washington St. Feb. 5, 12-1:30 pm. Free. This multimedia presentation and interactive discussion aims to educate and empower participants to make effective choices about diet and lifestyle. Learn about supplements, the basics of digestion and how certain consumable products may cause damage to your body over time.

Using Feng Shui to Attract Romance
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Feb. 2, 7:15-9:15 pm. $30. Learn how feng shui can enhance your love life, from the placement of the bed to the welcome mat.

Workshops

Clarity Now
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101 or 617-522-2737). www.tsboston.org. www.claritywork.com. Feb. 5, 11-2 pm. $35. Th workshop presents ways to improve focus a insight as well as identify obstacles. Bring pap and pen.

Continuum Movement
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Rd., Cambridge (61 491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line Porter. Jan. 30, 2-4 pm. Call for details. Continuu Movement is about connecting with your self, t earth and universe, and then tapping into physi movement to express feelings and energy. Th class is taught by authorized Continuum Mov ment teacher and certified bodywork practitior Michele Mattingly.

Enhancing Vitality with Herbs
Boston School of Herbal Studies, 12 Pelham Terra Arlington (781-646-6319). www.bostonherbalstudi com. Jan. 29, 2-4:30 pm. $30. Herbalist a psychotherapist Madelon Hope teaches th workshop about plants that are believed to natura strengthen our bodies, enhance adrenal functioni and promote vitality.

Intro to Long-Life Breathing
Brookline Tai Chi, 1615 Beacon St., Brookline (61 277-2975). www.brooklinetaichi.com. MBTA: Green Line to Washington Square. Feb. 5, 2:15-4: pm. $35. Learn how to breathe with your belly, practice said to help relieve lung problems, stre and other conditions.

Intro to Shamanism
The Herb Studio of Harmony Farm, 315 North St., Medfield (508-725-4269). www.harmony-center.or Jan. 30. $85. Please preregister. Learn about this a cient spiritual tradition and experience shaman guided meditation, which provides deep relaxatio and aims to help you discover your spirit guides. Le by psychologist and shamanic practitioner Dr. E ward Yeats.

Reflexology
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA Green Line to Arlington. Jan. 29, 9 am-12 pm. $4 Reflexology is the science of working pressure poin located on the foot that correspond to every part the body. Working these areas is said to enhanc overall well-being while ridding the body of toxin Bring a pillow to class.

Reiki Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass Ave #304 Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreik com. Feb. 8, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Preregistratio required. Experience a Reiki energy healin treatment.

Self-Help for Leg and Foot Pain
Star Tech Healing and Learning Center, 14 Nason St Maynard (978-897-0110). www.startechhealing.com Feb. 6, 2-4 pm. $35. Learn a specialized healin technique designed to ease lower leg and foot pai and soreness.

Turning the Mind into an Ally
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave. Brookline (617-734-1498). www.primordialdot.org MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Jan. 29 10 am-4 pm. $60. This workshop, based on Saky ong Mipham's book *Turning the Mind into an Ally* aims to show participants how the mind can be come strong and flexible through the practice o meditation.

Ongoing

Morning Mindfulness Yoga
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broad way, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info MBTA: Red Line to Central Tue., 7-8 am. $10. Thi practice, similar to Vipas sana meditation, use breath and movement with the goal of increasing en ergy, strengthening th spine, and making medita tion more pleasurable Open to all levels. Bring a yoga mat.

Ann Drake presents a workshop at Unicorn Books January 30.

Power to Protect
Brookline Community Cente for the Arts, 14 Green St. Brookline (781-405-1248) www.powerboston.com MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sun., 1:30-3 pm. $25. This personalized defense training class offers a workout through a practical approach to hand-to-hand defense.

sports

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Celtics
FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
Jan. 26, 7 pm vs. Indiana Pacers
Jan. 28, 7:30 pm vs. Phoenix Suns
Feb. 2, 7 pm vs. New Jersey Nets
Feb. 4, 7:30 pm vs. Orlando Magic

Events

And 1 Streetball Live
FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). www.and1.com. Jan. 29, 7:30 pm. Tickets start at $17. The And 1 basketball tour brings streetball-style matchups between players like Main Event, Spyda and Half Man Half Amazing.

Khoury's 10th Birthday Run
Khoury's State Spa, 118 Broadway, East Somerville. (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Feb. 3, 7:15 pm. Khoury's celebrates the 10th anniversary of its Thursday-night 4.13-mile run with free pizza afterwards. In honor of this birthday event, runners are encouraged to get as close to wearing their birthday suits as the law allows.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

And 1 brings "street-style" basketball to the FleetCenter January 29.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now for dodgeball teams.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stage combat programs offered.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480) www.baystateskatingschool.org. Classes for adults and kids at 14 rinks around the city.

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Membership includes access to a ski lodge and ski and snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. This amateur, folk-style wrestling group is open to all skill levels.

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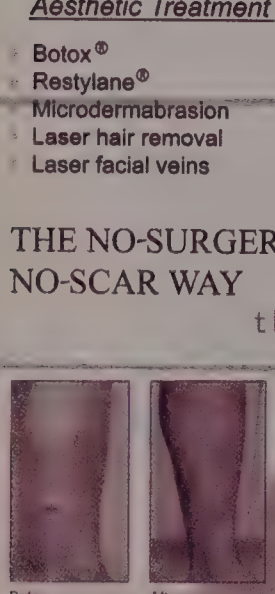


Before After

Elizabeth A. Foley, M.D.
Judith A. Hondo, M.D.

at Dedham Medical Associates
One Lyons Street, Dedham, MA 02026
781.329.1400 www.veinfix.com

children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Boston Musica Viva Family Concert

Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-354-6910). www.bmv.org. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 3 pm, *$12-$22.* BMV and guest narrator Bob McGrath of *Sesame Street* present Francis Poulenc's adaption of *Babar the Elephant*, and Michael Gandolfi's *The Piper's Tale* in Boston Musica Viva's 13th Annual Family Concert.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10; children $8. •Saturdays, 10:30 am: Saturday Morning Kids Variety Show. •Jan. 29: Magician, musician and mime Stephen Stearns performs. •Feb. 5: The Magic of David Oliver features music and comedy.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-2045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 15, 9 am-12 pm. $35 non members, $31.50 members. Saturday Scholars' presents Beetles, Bugs and Butterflies, where kids can learn about the lives of insects, and Arctic Adventure, an inside look at the Inuit tribe.

Kipling's Just So Stories

McCormack Hall, UMass Boston, 200 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Feb. 5 and 6, 2 pm. $10-$22. Children's playwright Aurand Harris adapts Rudyard Kipling's classic tales for the stage.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •Jan. 26 and 27, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Paul Vincent Davis presents *The Singing Turtle*, *The Village Lion Dance* and *The Dance of the Happy Dragon.* •Jan. 29 and 30, 1 and 3 pm, ages 3-7. Magpie Puppets presents *Eeyore's Birthday.* •Feb. 2 and 3, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Spring Valley Puppets presents *Jack & the Beanstalk.* •Feb. 5 and 6, 1 and 3 pm, ages 5-12. Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers present *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.*

Regent Theatre

7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.regenttheatre.com. MBTA: 350 bus to Arlington Center. Jan. 29, 10:30 am. $7 adults, $5 children. •Jan. 29: Children's songwriter Wayne from Maine performs his latest songs and leads a sing-along. •Feb. 5: Scott Kepnes performs his funky folk tunes and stories in Music & Storytelling for All Ages.

Silly Einstein

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jan. 30, 1pm. $10, $5 children. Jason Taylor's interactive play introduces children to Albert Einstein's theories, such as his theory of relativity, and also addresses self-esteem issues.

The Sound of Music

Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2300). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Fenway. Feb. 4-27: Fri. 7:30 pm, Sat.-Sun. 3 pm; Feb 22-25, 1pm. $12-$20. Trinity Rep's Angela Williams stars in a stage production based on the classic film.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music

Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Boston Art Tours

Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet

Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., am and 2 pm; $8. This child's-eye view of the Fr dom Trail's architecture and history is designed walkers 6 to 12 years old.

Boston Public Library

Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (61 536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 a 5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •Jan. 28, 10 am, ages 2-5 (a companied by an adult). Children listen to mus read stories and paint at Reading Readiness.

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (61 426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red L to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Dai KidsStage is an interactive theater featuring pr fessional actors and museum staff. •Fri., 3-5 p Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is hands-on science challenge culled from the P TV show *Zoom.* •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finge puppet making and more. •Wed. 1:30-2:30 p *Pint-Sized Science* offers scientific exploration f preschoolers in the Science Playground.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvar Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read ch dren's stories. Snacks and craft activities follow.

Ice Skating at Frog Pond

Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-367-2345 www.cityofboston.gov/parks/FrogPond_winter.as MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon., 10 am pm; Sun.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 p $3, free for 13 and under. Skate on Boston Cor mon's frozen Frog Pond, which offers concession skate rentals, restrooms and warming areas.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.i boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue Wed. and Fri, 12-5 pm; Thu. 12-9 pm; Sat.-Sun, am-5 pm. $7; $5 students and seniors $5. • Feb. 5, am, ages 9-12. Portrait Transfers is a workshop th allows children to create portraits of their compar ions. Registration required.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendal Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ag 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free (fr admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Hologr phy, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring th world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artifici intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Model The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship model from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Fr 3:30 pm, ages 6-12. The Children's Room is a fre gallery and workshop program featuring art project creative dramatics, poetry and music.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children $10. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and call of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modelin the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of di nosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing •*Playing with Time* explores technology that detect and manipulates time. Through April 21. •*Makin Models* is an interactive exhibition that feature models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a gian grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science in the Park is a per manent playground with a scientific spin. • *Mappin the World Around Us*, a new permanent exhibit, ex plores the evolution of maps and offers a try at map ping. Ongoing. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am. *Animals an Stories Alive* is an interactive story hour featuring foll tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am 5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors $13.95; children, $8.95. • Feb. 5, 9:30 am. *What's i a Name?* uncovers common misconceptions abou sea animals in a guided tour of the aquarium •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocear Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. On going. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition fea turing sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci. newton.ma.us/library. •Thursdays, 7 pm. Staff members read to children ages 4 and up at Pajama Storytime. •Fridays, 10:30 am. Films for preschoolers screen.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Doit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.mnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, 3-11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

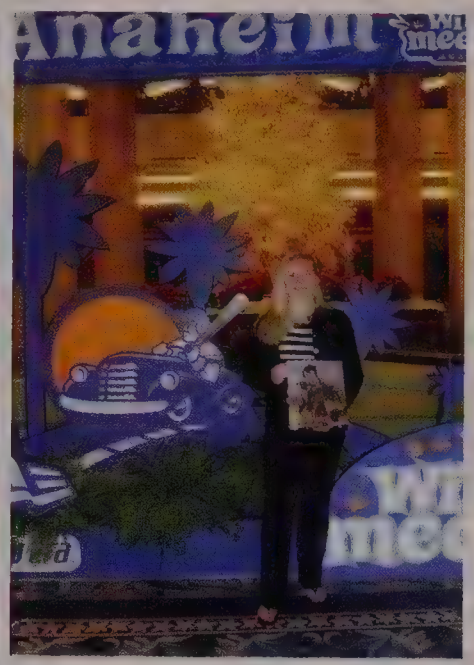
Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP.

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

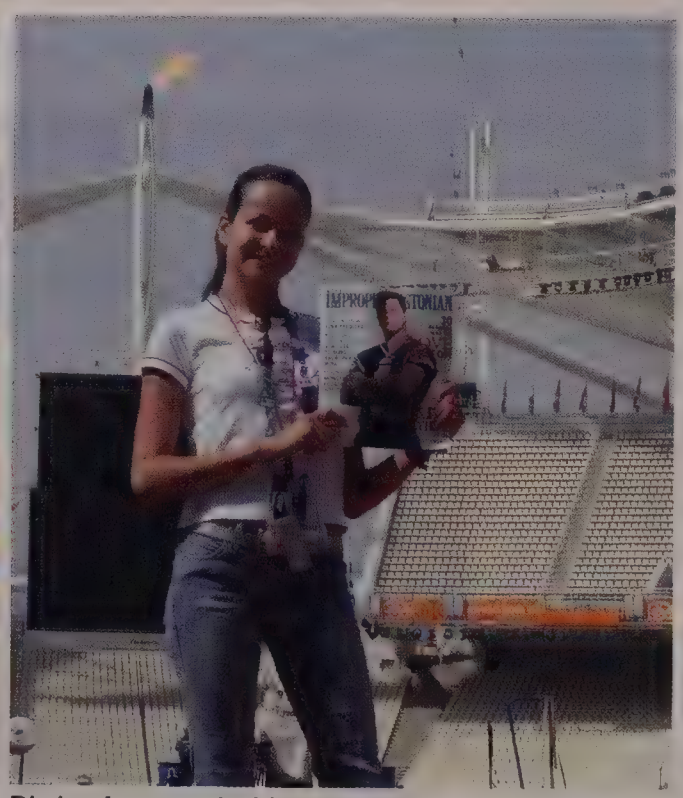
Dino and Kelly Martini met some locals outside the Colosseum in Rome. In Rome, it's customary to greet tourists by jamming a sword in their crotch. We guess nobody told Dino and Kelly that gladiators also *hate* blue ski jackets…



Kara Jeffas hit baseball's winter meetings in Anaheim, Calif., where Omar Minaya signed her to an $83 million deal.

Rodrick Safarian catches up with former IMPROPER cover guy Jay Leno in Burbank, Calif. With the retro car craze at its peak, Jay is behind the wheel of a 2005 Ford Mustang.

Christopher DeSousa and Mary Russell rode an elephant to the Amber Fort in Jaipur, India. Make that a hippie elephant.



Dimitra Lucas worked for NBC during the Olympics in Athens, Greece. Here she stands before a packed stadium eagerly awaiting the men's badminton semifinals.

Shawn Gurney and Craig Moore brought the Man Issue to Afghanistan. This photo was taken on the set of the Afghan version of *Home Improvement*, where the fellow in the center plays the role of next-door neighbor Wilson.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Putting on their best pair of chaps and setting a world-record time down the hill at the Arse-Leather Sledding World Championship, February 6 in Little Neudorf, Germany.

Send color or b&w prints (min . 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Real Men *Can* Wear Pink

What a way to start the new year! I saw you in Diesel in Davis Square the evening of January 2. You're a good-looking guy with fantastic brown curly hair and sideburns, and you were wearing a pink shirt and working on your laptop at one of the tables by the door. I walked in with a guy friend to grab some takeout, and when I turned away from the counter I saw you lookin'. (I have short curly red hair and was wearing a blue and white vintage-style coat.) I wanted to say hi on the way out, but your two friends walked in just as I got near your table and I lost my nerve. Perhaps I can treat you to a cup of Diesel's finest, and I can hear your excellent laugh again?
—jitterbug500@yahoo.com

To the Utterly Mannerless Girl Eating Thai in JP

You were at a well known Thai restaurant in JP on January 5. You requested the lights in the restaurant be turned up in order to better see the huge plates of food you should not have been eating anyway. You then proceeded to blow your nose in an obnoxiously loud manner, pick chunks of food off of your shirt which had dribbled all over you during your food fest, and then show your friend your "booger rag," chortling all the while like a trucker visiting his favorite strip club. When you finally repulsed us to the point of leaving, you made idiotic faces out the window at my boyfriend and I simply because you knew you had totally disgusted us. I want to apologize for mouthing obnoxious things to you through the window. I should not have sunk to your mannerless, pig-ridden level. A restaurant is not your dirty living room where you can be as foul as you please. We can only hope and pray that you never, ever, *ever* visit a foreign country, for you are the reason Americans are given a bad name!
—Disgusted

To the Loud Talker(s) at Coffee Shops and Restaurants

Are you truly devoid of self-awareness? It should be intuitive that the strangers surrounding you—trying to enjoy some peace, some coffee, a book or a quiet dinner—have no interest in hearing your conversation, which travels a rude and unnecessary distance across the room. Adjust your volume so that only the person you are talking to across the table or, worse, on the cell phone, can hear you and the rest of us can't. Realize that what you are saying is entirely insignificant to those around you and indeed probably makes us dislike you, if only for the irritating way you are saying it. Realize that you still have a place in this world even if only one person has to bear witness to the miserable story of your recent life. Realize that it's OK to drop the "likes" and allow small silences into your conversation. Please, for the sake of those of us who appreciate the value of public courtesy, quiet down! Truly,
—One of many Bostonians who find you exasperating

Blue Line Beauty

It was around 7 pm on the evening of January 2 when I first spotted you while waiting for the Blue Line at Government Center. You were wearing a white coat and a camouflage backpack and carrying a Pier 1 Imports bag. I was captivated by the gorgeous shade of your dark brown hair and by the abundance of your adorable freckles. When the train arrived, I deliberately got on the same car just to prolong my perusal of your beautiful face. Me: black coat, long dark blond hair, and excessive black eyeliner. I sat across from you and briefly tried to read so I wouldn't stare. I'm curious to see if you'd be interested in getting to know each other. Why not take a chance and contact me?
—gctattoo2@hotmail.com?

Hey, Miltonist

So now you know everything. I know everything too, except why you won't. Oh, I know that too, but do you really want to go to your death bed wishing you had? Do you really think that it would be better than wishing you hadn't? (And do you really think you'll wish you hadn't? I predict a warm and pleasant guilt.) So come over to the dark side for a little while. No one has to know. And this is one of those situations where once will be enough, don't you think? Fall. Just once.
—Devil's Advocate

RJ

Bud, first thing you did was follow that Gal in.
—Wet Brunette

Seat 15A

15C and I thought you should have asked for my number, what with all that delicious flirting going on at 31,000 feet and all. If the pressure in the cabin and the severe weather conditions made you too nervous to attempt such an endeavor, here's another shot. Plus, I still don't understand all that point spread stuff, and could use a refresher…
—Seat15b@hotmail.com

To the Degenerate on the 503 Bus

Winter is upon us, my friend. It's cold outside. But luckily for all us loyal MBTA riders, the city's buses are warmed to perfection, as to make an otherwise crowded, excruciatingly filthy experience a little more comfortable. But here's the tricky part. Ready? The heat doesn't work as well when you continually feel the need to open the window! I've thought about leaning over and telling you to shut it but am afraid that you wouldn't hear me over all the Backstreet Boys and show tunes you've got cranking out of your iPod Mini. May I suggest an alternative? How 'bout you lose a layer? I'm not surprised that you're sweating under that winter hat, gloves, scarf, wool socks, snow boots and, more likely than not, long underwear, but I'm also willing to bet that if you, say, put the hat and gloves on your lap for the 15 minute ride that you not only wouldn't be sweating but also wouldn't have everyone else on the bus wanting to slam your fat head into the windshield. Granted, this is just one man's opinion, but do me a favor and take heed because next time the windows open, you might have you iPod tossed out onto the Mass Pike.
—Your fellow passenger

The Sunnier Side

Sooooo, since you moved your biz over to Park (no choice), you think your weeds don't grow. Let me tell you! The Grass is much greener here at Govie, and it will stay that way, yes, forever. By the way, I've picked up all your trash and have thrown it all your way. Please, next time you have to move, don't forget the trash bags. The sun shines all day here. So much for the clouds that helped your weeds grow.
—DW

Sebring Girl

I saw you getting out of a silver Sebring outside my office in Cambridge around 1 pm on January 12. You looked peeved—I'm sensing road rage or a call from the flu? You were really cute and I'd like to cheer you up, but you look just like my sister and taking a doppelganger home to my digs would be just too strange. But remember, it takes more muscles to frown than it does to smile.
—CambridgeMD

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upcomingissues

February 9, 2005 Humor
February 23, 2005 Spring Fashion Preview
March 9, 2005 Homes

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Call 617-859-1400 ext. 244 to advertise

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Sunday, January 16, **KISS 108 FM** held an intimate concert with Lenny Kravitz. A small group of lucky winners enjoyed a performance by the singer at **Felt**.

1. **Dennis Patton**, chief operating officer for XYtv , **Lenny Kravitz**, rock star and four time Grammy Award winner; and **Chris Shine**, XYtv/Boston and KISS 108 personality.
2. **Shawn Donovan**, manager, and **Mike Shields**, bartender, both of Felt; **Taniya Nayak**, host of ABC's *Knock First*; **Lenny Kravitz**; **Teodora Bakardzhieva**, bartender, and **Vanessa Macedo**, bartender, both of Felt.

On Tuesday, January 4, Eddie Doyle of **Cheers for Children** presented a donation to the **Jimmy Fund** in honor of the 2004 World Championship **Boston Red Sox**. The World Series trophy was on display for fans to view.

1. **Pete Nesbit**, security guard for the World Championship trophy; **Nicole Nionakis**, manager of Cheers on Beacon Hill; and **Matt Driscoll**, security guard for the World Championship trophy.
2. **Tom Kershaw**, owner of the Hampshire House restaurants, and **Eddie Doyle**, founder of Cheers for Children.
3. **Kim Holmwood**, co-chair for Chee for Children; **Bob Renaghan** of Renaghan Enterprises, and his wife **Patricia**.

Win your Valentine an Enchanted Evening from Stella Artois

In 50 words or less, tell us how you would spend a romantic evening with Stella Artois and your valentine.

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presents

Valentine's Gift Guide

The gift of results this season, results for your business.

Issue Date: February 9
Advertising Deadline: January 26

Let a photo tell your story! In THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN'S February 9th Valentine Gift Guide, you will be able to showcase your gift items in a full-color advertising section. We will showcase your photographed item in a format with six items to a page. We will list your business name, address, phone number, website, item name and price. It will be simple and elegant, enhancing the image of your product or service.

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN reaches over 366,200 Bostonians every two weeks. They predominantly live in the heart of the city in Boston's most upscale neighborhoods: Back Bay, Beacon Hill, South End and North End. They yield tremendous spending power. Our readers won't just buy gifts for friends, family members and co-workers, but for themselves as well. They are your strong repeat customers. No other advertising vehicle targets this audience as effectively as THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

DEADLINE

All items to be photographed and featured in this holiday advertising section must be turned in to THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE no later than 1 week prior to the issue date the advertisement will appear in (2/9).

Call 617.859.1400 ext. 244 today for advertising rates

PHOTOS: FELT, AMY WHITE; HAMPSHIRE HOUSE, VALERIE SIL

rockie horoscope

JANUARY 26 – FEBRUARY 8, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

AQUARIUS JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

The full moon in Leo could expose the pluses and minuses of what's currently passing for a close relationship, be it with your mate, co-worker or chiropractor. Only because idealistic, imaginative Neptune is so prominently placed in your sign is fantasy fulfillment such a decisive factor in your daily life. So for the next few weeks, while perceptive Mercury and artistic, affectionate Venus visit Aquarius, be aware that, like it or not, your hidden talents and secret desires are receiving more attention than usual.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Watch out for a tyrant of a boss, a Medea of a mother-figure! Having the abusive Mars—Pluto conjunction take place in your Sagittarius midheaven suggests that an authority figure, not you, will be the idiot responsible for whatever troubles result from this collision. However, there could be an upside to this powerful punch if you aim it toward healing what hurts, repairing the damage done. The moment will pass as the month ends; after that, you'll drift back to the world of your imagination, intuition and creative visualization.

ARIES
MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Don't push it. If you're not getting the response you want, if you feel a significant someone is taking advantage of you, (all legitimate complaints this week), step back and rethink your position. Because you're capable of packing such a powerful punch right now, your actions might have a much stronger effect than you originally intend. While your impetuous Mars ruler meets up with Pluto's intense determination, you could be considered dangerous; sexy, yes but scary too. How about leading a rescue mission instead?

TAURUS
APRIL 20–MAY 20

Truly talented Bulls, not wanna-be American Idols, are more likely to be affected by the Leo full moon and the creative alternatives it offers. If there's a hue and cry from the public, so be it; this sort of attention is supposed to come your way twice a year. However, too much of a good thing, while an appealing prospect at first, may lead to a glut of promises and a shortage of actual rewards. Try to contain your expectations, consumption and spending while your Venus ruler succumbs to generous Jupiter's many charms. Lady Luck is fickle.

GEMINI
MAY 21–JUNE 20

Back off. Try not to aggravate your mate or insist on making your point when talking to allies as well as adversaries. While you're liable to encounter resistance no matter whom or what you're dealing with—your Mercury ruler is currently opposed by restrictive Saturn—the planetary energies in your Sagittarius partnership house are on the verge of spontaneously combusting. Whenever fiery Mars and passionate Pluto meet, it's wise to be on guard against a sneak attack; in your case, from a significant other determined to undermine you. Forewarned, forearmed.

CANCER
JUNE 21–JULY 22

The Leo full moon highlights your personal space, calling attention to your appearance, personality and sense of self-worth. Right now there's a glow about the Moon Child that could attract an enlightened partner, someone who's looking to the future instead of dwelling in the past. Crabs with intense work or workout schedules need to ease up because that area of your life is apt to go up in flames, making you vulnerable to infection or inflammation. Generous Jupiter turns retrograde on February 1; time to cut back on household expenses.

LEO
JULY 23–AUGUST 22

It hardly matters which person has a greater impact in your workplace, household, or even your gym, than you do. Despite a full moon in your sign, it's other people who are positioned to call the shots. The best thing you can do right now is react appropriately—e.g., don't get caught up in someone else's fantasy no matter how artistic or altruistic it may sound. However, athletes and lovers could channel the tremendous infusion of physical energy and psychological determination at their disposal toward achieving their personal best.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

If there's anything not working well at home, now is the time to fix it. Repairs and wholesale attempts at rehab could become guaranteed successes while courageous Mars and resourceful Pluto conjoin in your house of family history and real estate. (The energy is similar to what occurred during their conjunction two years ago when the whole world marched for peace.) The pursuit of romance or regenerative recreation—ah, the spa!—can also be successful, especially if you shell out for a good time without complaining.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Anticipate receiving, possibly even enjoying, a certain amount of celebrity during the days following the Leo full moon. You don't have to do anything particularly noteworthy; it could be someone else's glory rubbing off on you. Family obligations lighten up as your Venus ruler moves from conscientious Capricorn into progressive, experimental Aquarius on Groundhog Day. That's also when expansive Jupiter in your sign settles down for a long winter nap, an opportune time to go on a diet and rein in the expenses.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Feel free to lord it over the rest of us. Scorpions haven't been this effective since February '03, the last time Mars and Pluto, your co-ruling planets, joined forces. Either begin a project worthy of putting your heart and soul into, or vow to fix whatever mess is left from your most recent crusade, especially if it involves finances. However, the temptation to escape your reality could also be powerful right now. If a favorite fantasy or a bad habit is dominating your thoughts, try to redirect that energy elsewhere. Get help.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

While the Centaur usually acts as an ambassador or mentor, this week you've got enough power to carry on like a typical tyrant, not just a benevolent despot. If you don't concentrate the combined energy of assertive Mars and coercive Pluto in your sign on doing good, the destruction these forces are capable of might turn against you. Keep this in mind when you're issuing orders to whoever is loyal enough to hang around. Also be aware that your protective Jupiter ruler goes on vacation, i.e., is retrograde, from February to June.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Is it worth waiting for? Ask yourself this question when you feel thwarted or devalued simply because affectionate Venus in your sign is facing stiff opposition from your cautious Saturn ruler. If you're shopping around for something that is supposed to last a long time, like a "happily ever after" relationship, now might not be the best time to proceed. Also, since prosperous Jupiter in your career house is turning retrograde, you might not make as much progress over the next four months as you anticipate.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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RESTAURANTS

THE BLACK RHINO *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 year in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

CLERYS *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty.Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

LUCKY'S LOUNGE *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

BOSTON BEER WORKS *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast- 112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *pizza kitchen, Beer Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Boston 617.350.5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

STADIUM – CLUBHOUSE *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale night club featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

CLUB Q BOSTON *25 Union St., Boston 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday.What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700 www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox,"The Wildman of Comedy,"Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos,"The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

JOSE MCINTYRE'S *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

THE PLACE *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

THE PURPLE SHAMROCK *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

THE BLACK ROSE *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

HENNESSY'S OF BOSTON *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

THE GREEN DRAGON *11 Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

MR. DOOLEY'S BOSTON TAVERN *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

THE ALLEY *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

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THE BLACK RHINO *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.bostonrocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

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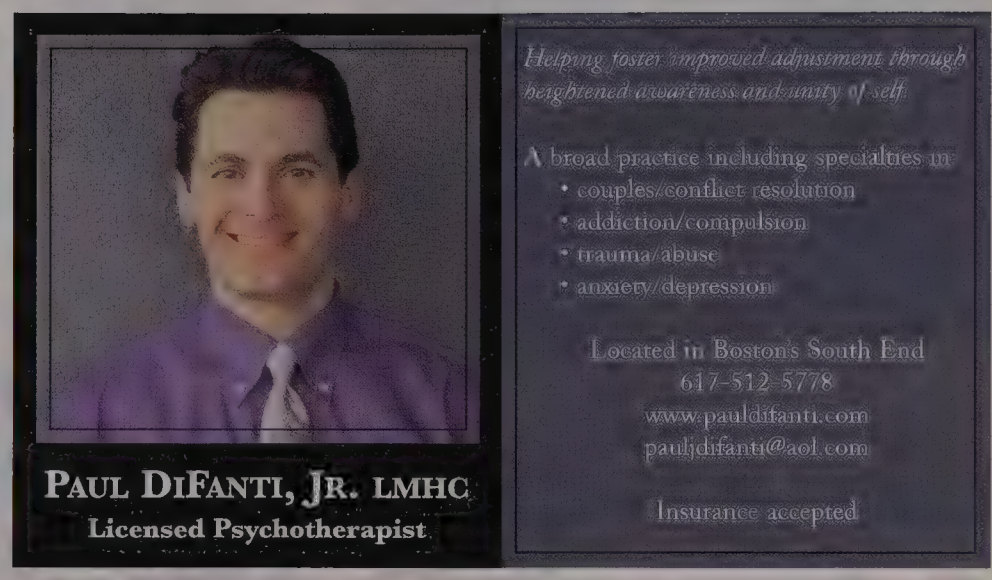

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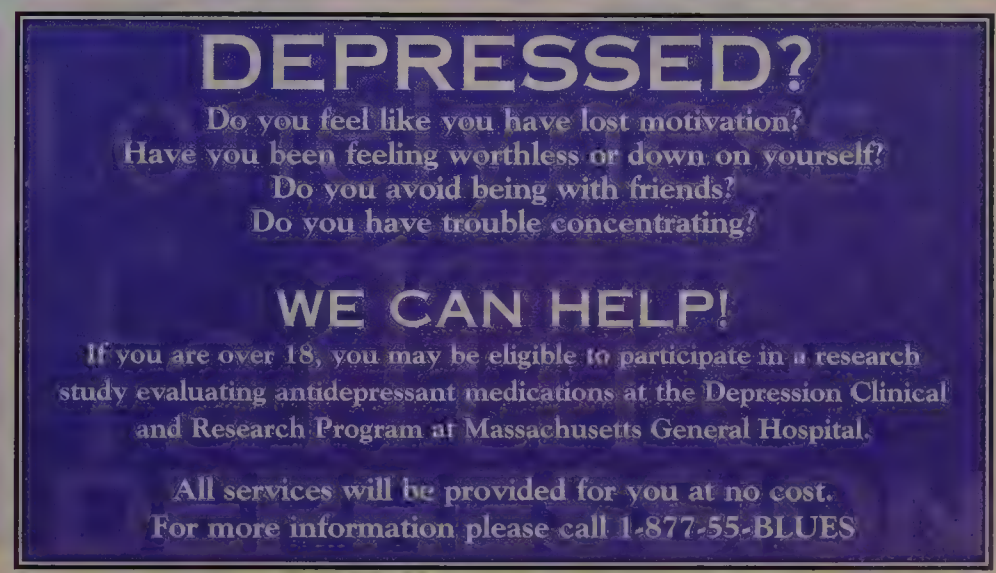

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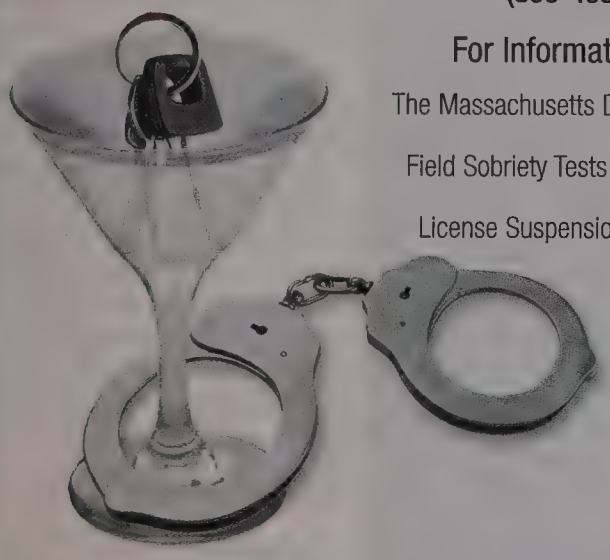

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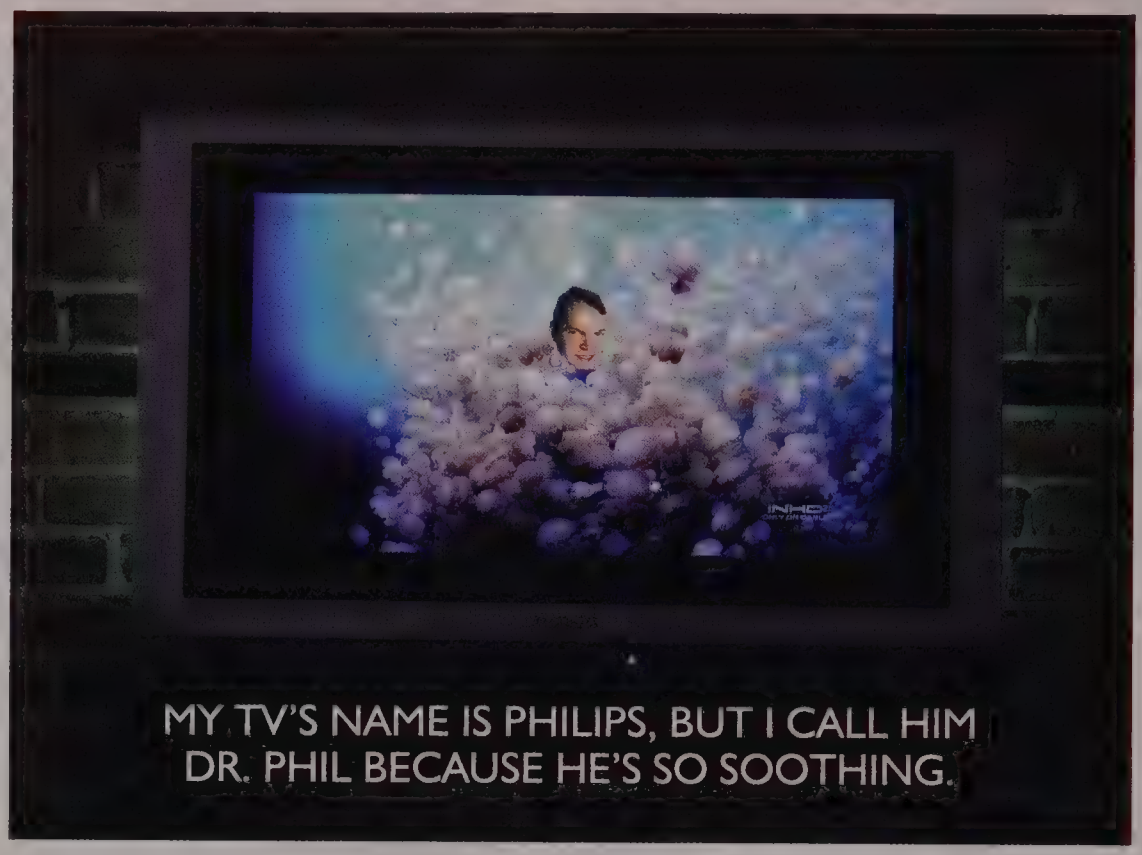
HI, DEFINITION!

You've got to do a lot of soul-searching before you settle down with the right TV



It's all my parents' fault. I was perfectly happy with regular old TV until they went out and got an HDTV. At home for Christmas, I watched a football game that was so vivid I got sacked three times and left in the third quarter with a right knee sprain. At that point I realized that my formerly nice TV was really a big piece of junk. Actually, compared to their TV, it was a small piece of junk.

I tried to talk myself out of buying an HDTV, but the rational side of my brain was overruled by the larger, dominant part that governs TV purchases. "We must have the precious!" a voice would hiss as I thumbed through the Best Buy flyer. "They don't wants us to have the the HDTV because they hates us! They wants the precious for themselves!" Incidentally, my internal monologue always sounds like Gollum, not just when I'm thinking about something precious. I know, trust me, it's annoying.

There was one roadblock on the highway to high-definition. As a general rule, girls don't take as much interest in expensive electronic toys as guys do. When I wrote for a home electronics magazine, I visited a house where a beautiful 50-inch plasma screen was hidden inside an antique cabinet because the guy's wife thought it ruined her country decor. I guess this is why I'm not an interior decorator, because I think a plasma TV goes with any room's decor, including bathrooms, garages and naves. My girlfriend, Heather, was less-than-enthused about the HDTV pursuit on financial, not aesthetic, grounds. She seemed to think there were better things to spend money on, like food and electricity. (Women!) When she raised that issue, I went to the Burke Defense, which was made possible by my friend Burke's purchase of a ski boat last summer. The Burke Defense states that no matter what silly thing you want to buy, it's not as ridiculous as Burke's ski boat, right? There's also a subtext of, "Don't give me crap about this, or I just might buy a ski boat too. After all, Burke did." Burke's ski boat goes 50 mph and is powered entirely by his girlfriend's disapproval.

Still, I need justification for this outrageous purchase, so I call my mom. If enabling were an Olympic sport, my mom would make Michael Phelps look like that guy they always show wiping out on the ski jump. When I tell her I'm considering buying an HDTV but can't really justify it, she says, "Go ahead and do it! Hey, you could get hit by a bus tomorrow." That's right. And as the tire was squishing my head, I'm sure my last thought would be, "I could've had more pixels!"

I head to Best Buy one night after work to do "research"—you know, just get a feel for prices, not actually buy anything. Of course, this questionable game plan is the reason guys end up driving home from car dealerships in orange Pontiac Aztecs with $500 floormats muttering, "What just happened?" I pace the aisles several times considering the crucial question—bigger projection screen or smaller flat-panel?—before I look at my watch and discover that an hour and a half has gone by. I've been lulled into a trance by the blazing screens. Eventually I pick the cheapest 30-inch flat-panel model and pull the trigger.

But in this game of TV Russian roulette, Best Buy's chamber comes up empty. I inquire on the next three lowest-priced models, just for the hell of it. They don't have any. Am I in the Cambridgeside Galleria or Best Buy Havana? I'm here to tell you that every article you read about the holiday retail season being soft last year was probably written by a guy sitting in front of his new LCD TV and listening to a satellite radio (they were all out of those too).

It's back to the drawing board. When I get home, I search eBay, but I'm a little sketched out by the eBay TV-shopping experience. For one thing, most of the sets are brands I've never heard of, like "ScreenVision" or "Breakssoon." Second, most of the merchandise is described as "factory reconditioned." Third, the stores tend to be places you've never heard of on the West coast that charge exorbitant shipping fees. So by the time your factory-reconditioned ScreenVision is shipped from Lenny's Internet Store in Big Sur via 10-day ground, you may as well have just sucked it up and gone to Tweeter.

• •

Which is what I end up doing.

Heather eventually resigns herself to the inevitability of the HDTV. Perhaps she realizes there's no stopping me with logic. Perhaps she realizes that she buys stuff that doesn't make any sense either, like throw pillows (pillows that are not to be used as pillows because the decorative sequins would abrade your face right off). I consider this my own decorative bauble, a 32-inch high-definition LCD version of a throw pillow. It's a throw-TV. I threw it on the wall. Then I threw myself on the couch, and things have been great ever since.

My TV's name is Philips, but I call him Dr. Phil because he's so soothing. When I get home and put my feet up on the coffee table, Dr. Phil is ready with a high-definition PBS special about ancient Egyptians and their fascination with the lotus flower. I frequently find myself watching PBS and Discovery Channel documentaries these days just because they tend to include lots of pretty colors. As a side effect, I'm learning about Antarctica and dinosaurs without even trying. I can feel my brain getting smarter by the hour. I can't prove it, but I'll bet Ken Jennings has an HDTV. Don't know who Ken Jennings is? You need to watch more TV, my friend.

Another hook of the phatty TV is that it gives my friends a reason to visit. Now that I live in Southie, getting people to come over to my apartment is harder than it used to be—you'd think I was Ernest Shackleton inviting my buddies on a ski trip. Their first question is inevitably "Where's the nearest T stop?" at which point I reply, "There are many fine Ford Crown Victoria automobiles that will take you directly to my doorstep for a small fee. They're generally yellow. Seek one out." Nobody wants to take a cab. Guys who think nothing of buying a $40 round of drinks at a bar act like taking a $10 cab ride is an unforgivable extravagance on par with commissioning a vodka-peeing ice cherub to celebrate Flag Day. However, mention that you've bought an HDTV and you'll barely have gotten to the "V" when there'll be a knock at your door. It'll be your childhood friend Jeffy who moved to Albuquerque when you were 7, standing there with a six-pack and inquiring if the pregame show is over yet. I imagine that about 40 years ago some guy who lived in my apartment bought a color TV and all of a sudden got in much better touch with his friends. Until Whitey stole the TV. And beat up his friends.

Now that I've satisfied my jones for an HDTV, I'm planning the Super Bowl party to end all Super Bowl parties. But after that, I'm worried that my 720 lines of widescreen resolution will run into the same problem I had with my old TV: There's nothing on. iB

Jonathan Soroff's Last Scene Here will return to this page soon!

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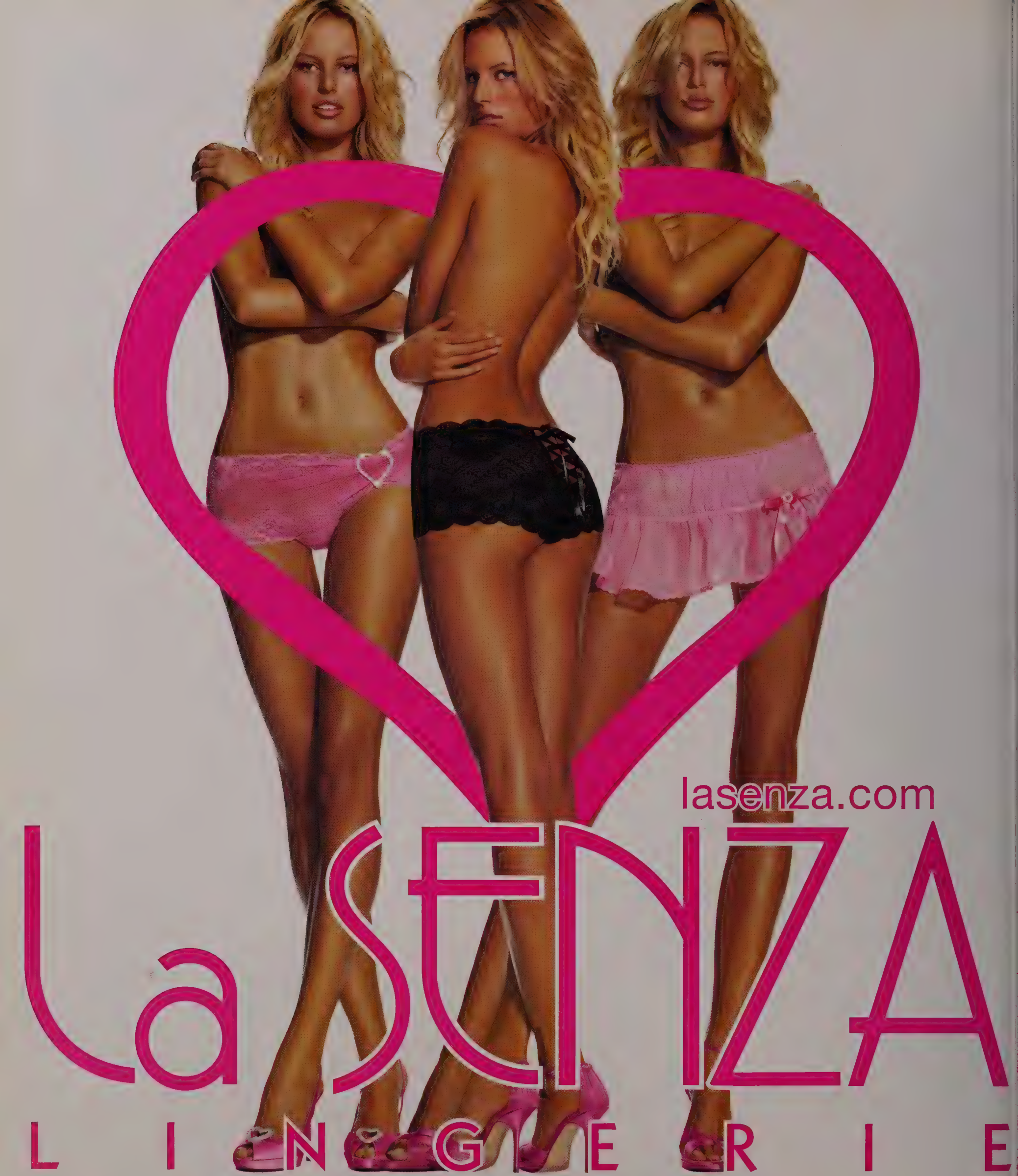

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Tracy Powell

Model: **comedian Erin Judge;** hair: **Jeffrey Lyle;** makeup: **Dani Wagener;** clothes: **Lord & Taylor;** earrings: **Lord & Taylor;** necklace: **Blair DelMonico**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

JEST OBSESSED

For our first-ever Humor Issue, we drew on one of Boston's most abundant natural resources: comedians. Yup, this town is said to have one of the top three comedy scenes in the country, so we tapped that talent pool and invited local comics to tell us what's so funny about life in Boston. Paul Nardizzi, Sam Walters and Jon Rineman cracked us up with their observations on the city's quirks—from the flighty Night Owl bus to the Big Dig's potential as a car wash.

Eight more local comedians helped out with this issue's fashion spread, re-creating famous scenes from some of the profession's all-time greats.

Ezra Dyer also took a look at Boston's illustrious history as a pranking town, while Rich Levine got some firsthand pranking experience, learning that it's not as easy as you might think to organize a Funky Bunch reunion.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

ON CHEESECAKE

After reading your Jan. 26 letters to the editor, I have to respond to the one written by Colleen Campbell in regard to the Man Issue. Please don't take her seriously. As a woman with very high standards and morals (in every aspect of my life), I thoroughly enjoyed the lingerie layout and the articles! How well you all exemplified the male persona. You learn in your high school English classes that in order to appeal to a certain audience, you must think like them. You did exactly that. Obviously, her idea of taking "the high road" in writing (as she stated) is to tell men how to hit on (or dump) a girl who has little or no personality, no sense of humor and one who is completely insecure with her physical and mental qualities. I hope that any male I date (or who tries to dump me) reads that issue and takes heed. You guys (and girls) rock! Keep it up!

—MEGHAN GAMBLE
Charlestown

To the reader who wrote to express her disgust with the lingerie model on the cover of the IMPROPER's Man Issue, I have this to say: As a lifelong student of Christianity (Boston College, Class of '82), I am with you 100 percent. Let us join hands and pray for the soul of that young girl who has permanently ruined her own life. Your brother in faith,

—GEORG DEYAB
Hingham

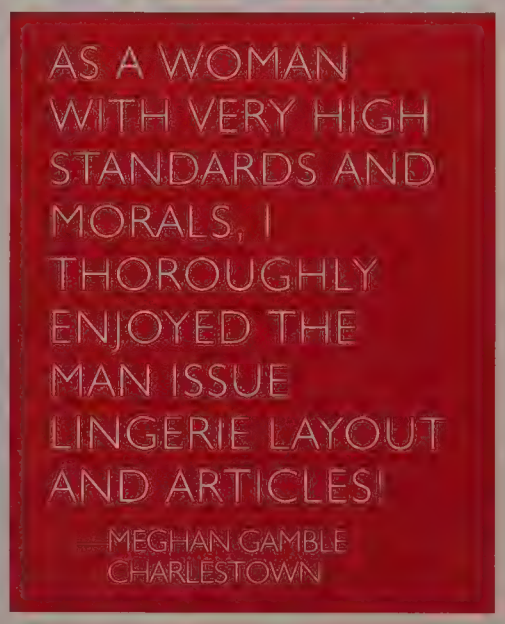
As a woman I am not offended at the use of sexy cheesecake photos for your Man Issue—in fact I loved it! What saddened me was the fact that it was so easy to find the name of the photographer and the name of the lingerie, but nowhere could I find the name of your objects—um, I mean, models. Please give these women some credit.

—LORETTA GIRON
Allston

HELP ME, RWANDA

It hurts my heart that a movie about the Rwanda civil war would get two stars (Movies, Jan. 26). Flat and dull? The problem with many Americans today is that they have no idea what is going on in the world. One million people died and that is boring? How many people take the time to read news magazines? There are many issues in Africa. Africa needs help! To give the movie *Are We There Yet* a better review then *Hotel Rwanda* is a travesty. Because of this some people may not see *Hotel Rwanda* now. This is an acclaimed movie, and hopefully will receive the awards it deserves. Grown men cried during this "dull and flat" movie. I hope people will see the movie anyway and get educated. Movies are made about these issues because it's one of the best ways to inform people.

—TRE ALEXANDER
Quincy



A MESSAGE TO THE INSIGNIFICANT CRICKET

It is unfortunate that so many readers let their blood curdle at the ignorant and mindless chirpings of the insignificant little cricket called Ezra Dyer. What he needs is to be locked inside a silent, black chamber called "obscurity" for a few months. Meanwhile, just read the hilarious and charming pieces by Jonathan Soroff. When frat boys vex you, 'tis time to move on to the juicy men!

—YUSUF NASRULLAH
Cambridge

THE LIGHT-ER SIDE

Great article on Matt Light in the latest IMPROPER (The Collins Card, Jan. 26). I haven't read much about him and the article was fun to read and enlightening.

—LANCE MULLENEAUX
Brookline

Tell Us What You Think

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MAN ISSUE COVER PHOTO: BILL STREICHER

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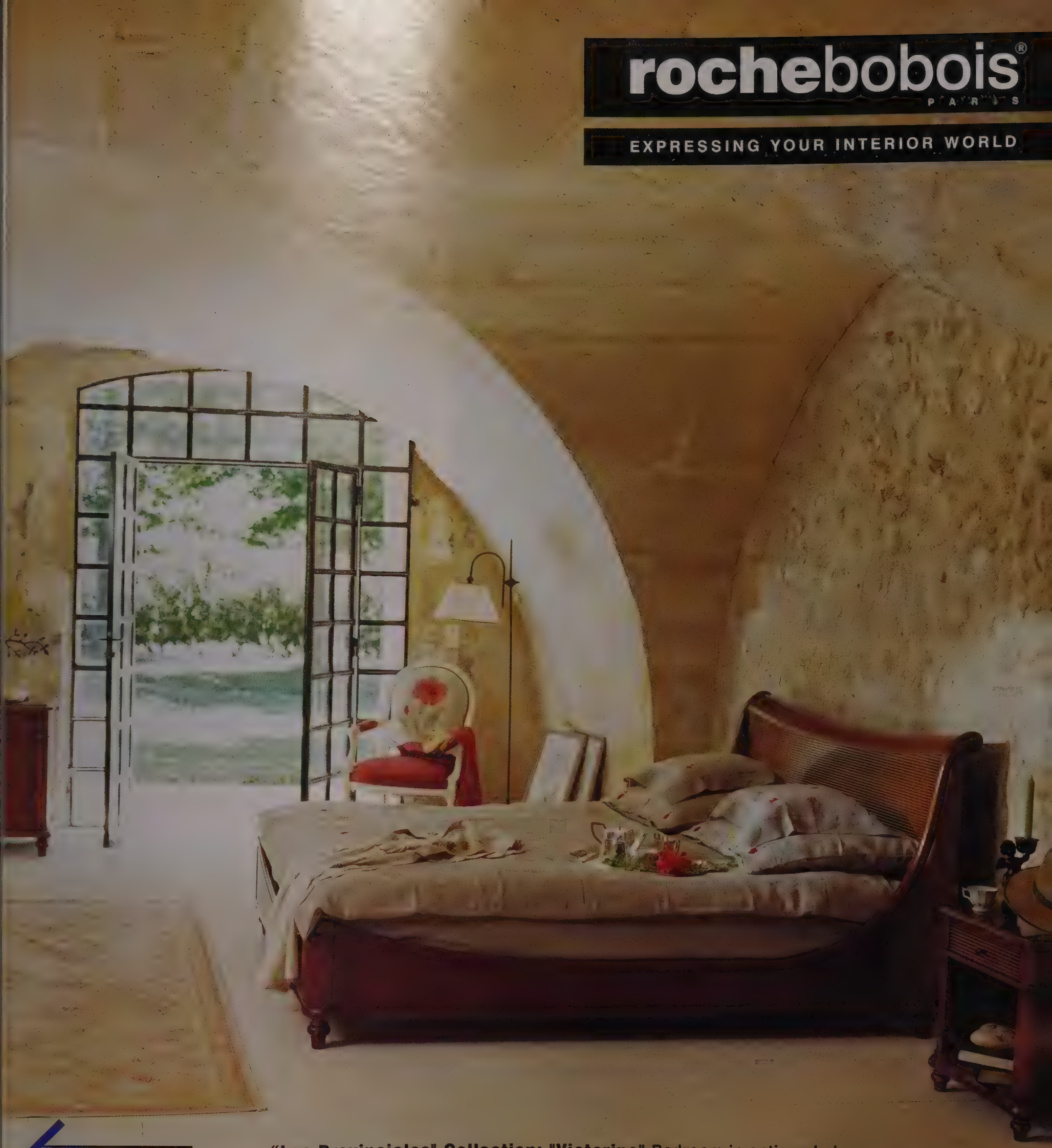

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JAPAN MANIA

Lately it seems that every time the sun rises, a new restaurant opens to offer Boston yet more food options from the land of the rising sun. In November, Osushi opened its second branch, on Arch Street. And now the owners of Coolidge Corner's popular Fugakyu are busily preparing to open another restaurant right upstairs. Kawa (which means "river" in Japanese) opens in mid February and will serve a unique fusion of French and Japanese cuisine.

Whereas Fugakyu is a traditional sushi restaurant, Kawa will offer sushi only as an appetizer option, with specials that change daily. Chef Ted Tsao, who recently moved to Boston from Taiwan, will take a fusion approach to entrées, preparing French dishes with a Japanese twist: pan-roasted Tasmanian salmon with baby pea pod leaf, mushroom and lemon scallion creamy sauce; New Zealand lamb with sautéed baby spinach, white mushroom and tomato mustard puree; caramelized Chilean sea bass made with soba noodles and Japanese *goma* cream sauce; and tempura soft-shell crab paired with Asian long beans, sweet potato cake and yam hash browns.

The space, which you reach through Fugakyu's entrance, is much smaller than Fugakyu, seating only about 40, and features a little waterfall in the back, tying in the "river" concept. More upscale than its sister restaurant, Kawa has tablecloths and candles, a more extensive wine list, and a bit of a higher price point: Entrées are in the $30 range and apps go for $10–$20.

Kawa's dining room

Meanwhile, sushi options on West Broadway in Southie just doubled with the opening of Pan Asia, which, as the name implies, offers selections from all over the East, including Chinese, Japanese and Thai options. Old-school staples like the pu pu platter are represented, along with a wide range of sushi, including specialty maki rolls like the Boston maki—yellowtail, crab stick, avocado, scallions and flying fish roe in a double-layer tempura roll ($9.25). Inside, the dining area is divided in two by a wall of glass-encased bamboo, with one side featuring a sushi bar and the other a good old-fashioned liquor bar, the latter colorfully backlit and adorned with a plasma screen. There's dining on both sides, but the bar area features sliding windows that open up to the sidewalk, which ought to provide a pleasant semi-alfresco experience in, oh, about six more months.

Kawa, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline (617-383-6578). Pan Asia, 412–414 West Broadway, South Boston (617-268-2821). www.panasiaboston.com. —Ezra Dyer and E.H.

Pan Asia's sushi bar

inner view

WENDY LIEBMAN

It's been 20 years since Wendy Liebman made the transition from administrative assistant at Radcliffe to full-time stand-up comic. Her résumé reads like every aspiring comedian's dream to-do list: guest spots on *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson and Jay Leno, *The Late Show with David Letterman*, HBO and Comedy Central specials, *The Daily Show*, HBO's *Women of the Night*, opening gigs for Ray Charles, the Smothers Brothers and Jerry Seinfeld, and in 1997 she won Best Female Stand-Up Comic at the American Comedy Awards. She's at the Comedy Connection February 11, 12 and 14.

IB: *Boston's churned out a lot of famous comedians, and you got your start here as well.*

WL: Jay Leno was before me. He saw me on TV and tracked down my telephone number. So here I am, living in Los Angeles and here's Jay Leno calling me. I'm like, "This is *not* Jay Leno." I was on his show twice. Then there was Steven Wright who was before me, who I idolize. We're in a movie together at Sundance called *The Aristocrats*, with Penn Jillette and Paul Provenza. They had 100 comedians tell the same joke.

IB: *It seems like a boys club. Is it hard to be a woman in comedy?*

WL: I've always felt like it has worked for me because there were only a few of us. I think the boys stuff I ignored. I've never felt like it's worked against me.

IB: *Do you think the local crowd has become a tougher audience over the years?*

WL: I love coming back here to perform. I'm going to tape all my shows—audiotape. I would do video, but they say the camera adds 10 pounds and I don't feel like losing the weight. And I've been doing this for 20 years, [Boston] just feels like home. Even though I didn't grow up here, my comedy grew up here.

IB: *Johnny Carson launched a lot of comedians, and you appeared on his show early in your career. What did that mean for you as a young comedian?*

WL: The show *48 Hours* was doing a piece on stand-up, and one of the segments was on me moving from my job at Radcliffe to being a comedian at night. And while they were filming me, the talent booker from *The Tonight Show* approached me and said, "Why haven't I seen you? Let's get you on the show." [The day of the show] is one of the dates I'll always remember. May 10, 1991. It's one of those things you never forget. [Carson] gave me the thumbs-up and it didn't get on camera, which is the thing that's supposed to make you. So I was not devastated, but disappointed.

IB: *What's your best source for new material?*

WL: I got married about a year and a half ago, and I've been trying to write about my family. I have two stepchildren, 9 and 13. They've kind of rounded out my life. Now I'm a soccer stepmom. No, I'm kidding. They teach me everything I need to know. They don't have my looks or my genes, but they have my personality. And my husband is hysterically funny, but really shy. Sometimes I do some of his jokes.

IB: *Is there anyone you'd really like to work with?*

WL: I love Jake Johansen. I love Ellen DeGeneres. There are some new women coming up. Stephanie Blum and Vijay Nathan, I've kind of been mentoring her. I really want to see her get her own TV show.

IB: *What's the best part about your job?*

WL: I'm not getting any younger. I'm 43 but I'm getting funnier. I guess with time I get more confident and I realize how life is even more ironic. That's the good part. The worst part is traveling.

IB: *Do you have any new projects?*

WL: I'm writing a screenplay. And coming up I'm going to be taping each of my shows, and that'll be a CD, which will hopefully be out this spring. —*Jessica Iredale*

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tasty tidbits

TOP OF THEIR GAME

Tomorrow's News... Rumors have been circulating for months, and it seems that Rene Michelena, who's helmed Saint's menu since the nightclub opened two years ago, is at last taking his culinary expertise upstairs to Domani Bar & Trattoria, a new Italian restaurant. But Saint diners needn't worry. Michelena is still executive chef at Saint, even though he'll be focusing on Domani (the name is Italian for "tomorrow"). Features include an outdoor patio (still under construction) that will seat 25 and fresh breads made daily by pastry chef Marla Redinger (of the Vault and La Bettola). Domani's opening date isn't set yet, but they're shooting for a late February launch. *51 Huntington Ave., Boston.*

Blossoming Basil... For more than 18 years, chef/ owner Valerie Shulock has been supplying the eats for everything from Boston BBQs to bar mitzvahs out of her Somerville-based Basil Tree Catering. Now Shulock and her crack culinary team are expanding, with a new take-out restaurant in Newtonville. The menu offers items like mac-and-cheese pad thai and burritos, as well as an assortment of soups, salads and sandwiches. Catering is still available, but you no longer need a special occasion to feast on Shulock's snacks. *108 Madison Ave., Newtonville (617-244-9500). www.basiltree.com.*

Craving Caviar... Champagne wishes and caviar dreams used to be, at least according to Robin Leach, unattainable for those of us who didn't spend our days playing croquet and having Jeeves fetch us lemonade. But the Westin Copley is now offering caviar for the commoner. Its new Gourmet Boutique carries a line of "affordable" sushi caviar that comes in a variety of flavors and colors, like orange, red/spicy, yellow/ginger and black/squid ink. Choices start as low as $12.99 for 3.5 ounces, and of course, there are higher price points like Beluga 000 ($199.99 for two ounces) for those with deeper pockets. *Westin Hotel, Lobby Level, 10 Huntington Ave. (617-266-2906).*

sam says

ALTERNA-STOCKING

I hate pantyhose more than anything: the bunching, the sagging, the runs and the unnatural shades of "nude." So I was thrilled to discover a viable alternative. Air Stocking is a concoction of silk, moisturizers and green tea (to firm up your skin) that sprays on your legs to look like silk stockings. Four color choices are available — natural, terracotta, bronze and coco — and each can is good for about 20 applications. Here's the best part: They wash off with soap and water and won't run in the rain or ruin your clothes. Now if only they kept you warm too. $28 at Bloomingdale's, 55 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-6617). —*Samantha House*

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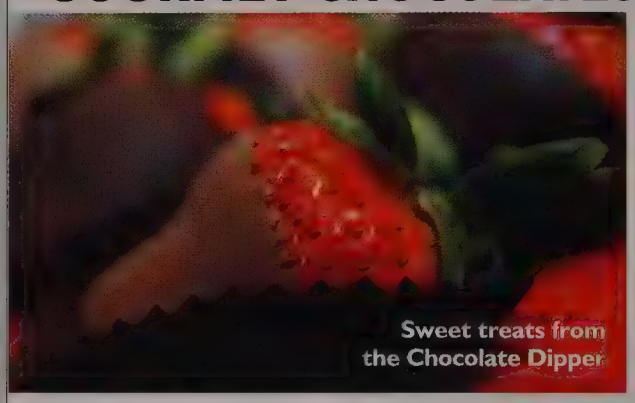

Sweet treats from the Chocolate Dipper

Wait a minute, bud. If you really want to impress her, don't reach for that cheesy foil card and Whitman's Sampler at the corner drug store. Put some class into your Valentine's Day act with any of these love-inducing options.

The Chocolate Dipper

278 Washington St., Boston ((617-227-0309); 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-969-7252). www.thechocolatedipper.com

Try the Dipper's specialty, the one-pound strawberry box ($20), which holds large-stem strawberries hand-dipped in your choice of milk, dark, white or mixed chocolate.

Godiva

Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-437-8490); Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-227-1970); Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge (617-494-9821). www.godiva.com.

Godiva offers a line of chocolates just for V-Day, and is running the "Win a Year of Passion" sweepstakes, in which one chocoholic will win a trip to NYC to shop for 52 pairs of Manolo Blahnik shoes—to go with 52 boxes of Godiva chocolates.

L.A. Burdick Handmade Chocolates

52 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-491-4340). www.laburdick.com.

Known for its signature chocolate mice (dark ganaches with almond ears and silk tails), Burdick's dark, milk and white chocolate mice are available individually or in a decorative wooden box. ($2.50–$40)

Richart

Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-262-4144). www.richart-chocolate.com

Richart's two Valentine's Day specials, bonbon hearts and petite hearts, are available in small ($21.50) and large ($59) sizes with an optional chocolate "I Love You" plaque ($7–$10) in your choice of five languages.

Serenade Chocolatier

2 South Station, Boston (617-261-9941); 5 Harvard Square, Brookline Village (617-739-0795). www.serenadechocolatier.com.

Personalize a Valentine's Day message on a piece of chocolate from Serenade's for $14, or purchase a box made of chocolate (and filled with even more chocolate) with a message for $28.

Teuscher Chocolates of Switzerland

230 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-1922). www.teuscher.com.

A safe Valentine's Day bet from this Swiss chocolatier is the Champagne Truffle, a chocolate creation dusted with confectioner's sugar and filled with champagne cream.

—*Lauren Blake*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

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Creative Space...Now that knitting has become the new Hollywood pastime, arts and crafts have been deemed hip. Davis Square's new Spark Craft Studios, a modern version of the classic crafts supplies store, is right on top of the trend. In addition to tools and supplies, Spark offers instruction on scrapbooking, rubber-stamping, beaded jewelry making, knitting and crochet, and more. Co-founders Amy Appleyard and Jan Stephenson created Spark as a place where adults can socialize and be creative in a relaxed, funky atmosphere. Beads are displayed in glass stemware, and rows of cloth shelves hold spools of wool in an industrial space as stylish as it is functional, with exposed brick, modern furniture and boldly painted walls. *50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com.*

Party Like It's 2005... If there's anything a nightclub doesn't want, it's to be labeled "so 2004." A slew of clubs have launched new nights for the new year. The Opal Lounge now hosts Future/Retro ($5 cover) on Friday nights, an electro-techno-disco music night with resident DJ Brian Merz. On January 21, Aria threw a grand opening bash for its Foundation Fridays ($15 cover) with New York DJ Klutch and resident DJ Franklin (who spins every Friday) providing the beats. Finally, Mantra just debuted Touch Thursdays ($10 cover), a night of urban groove and club music.

Amy Appleyard and Jan Stephenson of Spark Craft Studios

Chubby Challenge... Sometimes real life imitates reality TV. Case in point: WAAF-FM, Waltham's So Cal Restaurant and Watertown's Forever Fit Gym are embarking on their own version of NBC's *The Biggest Loser.* Twenty-five local contestants, including WAAF on-air personalities Spaz and LB, are competing to drop the pounds by working out at Forever Fit all month long and eating two So Cal meals a day, five days a week. Whoever's lost the most weight by February 26 scores a one-year Forever Fit membership, a ski package courtesy of WAAF and heaps of health food from So Cal. May the best loser win!

So Spa-cial... What's better than a good massage? A good excuse for a massage. And the Ritz-Carlton's got lots of 'em, with a monthlong special devoted to the art of the rubdown. Ritz massages are typically only available to guests, but this month's Enliven the Senses Festival is open to all. The massages take place in a room on the 16th floor. Offerings change weekly and are based on specialties offered at various Ritz locations. The Warm Magnolia Massage (from New Orleans), available through February 10, is followed by the Blue Spruce Stone Massage, from Bachelor Gulch, Colo.; the Citrus Massage, from Orlando, Fla.; and the Montego Sugarcane Scrub, from Jamaica. Massages are $110 each and available until 7 pm daily. *15 Arlington St., Boston (617-536-5700). —Rich Levine and J.I.*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

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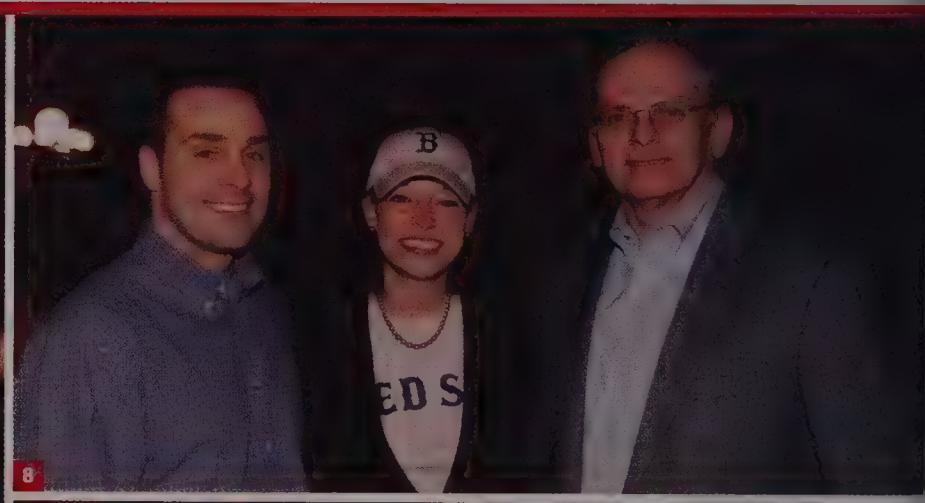
PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The **Rising Stars Gala** to benefit Tufts–New England Medical Center and its Floating Hospital for Children took place January 27 at the newly opened State Room in Downtown Boston. Nearly 500 guests joined former Boston Bruin Cam Neely, U.S. women's soccer player Kristine Lilly, former New England Patriot Randy Vataha and NBA All-Star Paul Pierce to pay tribute to six high school students who were honored for outstanding achievement in a variety of sports. The event raised almost $400,000 for Tufts–NEMC.

1. **Cam Neely**, former Boston Bruins forward; **Ellen Zane**, president and CEO of Tufts-NEMC; and **Randy Vataha**, former New England Patriots wide receiver.
2. **John Raynes**, carpenter; his wife, **Shelly**; **Donna Downing** and her husband, **Richard**, carpet installer.
3. **David Heavey**, Brookline firefighter, and **Kristine Lilly**, U.S. women's soccer player.
4. **Carol Maszeroski**, health and safety coordinator, and **Inyang Udom**, accounting clerk, both with Novartis Institute for Biomedical Research in Cambridge.
5. **Mike Foley**, director of radiology at Tufts–NEMC; **Joanne Morrissey** and her husband, **Brian**, CPA at Leone, Morrissey CPAs in Norwood.
6. **Cynthia Foster** and her husband, **Bob**, partner at Leggat McCall Properties.

The Associates of the Boston Public Library hosted **Stories from Red Sox Nation**, a celebration of the Red Sox and the Special Collections of the Library, on January 25 in the BPL's recently restored Abbey Room. About 200 partygoers attended the fund-raising event, which included a panel discussion, a raffle of autographed Red Sox items, an exhibition of baseball memorabilia, early Red Sox and Fenway photographs by the late Leslie Jones, and the opportunity for attendees to be photographed with the World Series Trophy. All proceeds benefited the David McCullough Conservation Fund.



7. **Kendra Slaughter**, assistant manager; **Phil Salmon**, manager: and **Ana Henriques**, shipping and receiving manager, all with Bromer Book Sellers.
8. **Rich Noel**, principal of Affordable Accounting Solutions in Nashua, N.H.; **Melanie Damsker**, manager of special events for the BPL Foundation; and **Michael Costello**, managing partner for PricewaterhouseCoopers.
9. **Bernie Margolis**, president of the BPL, and **Tom Payzant**, superintendent of Boston Public Schools.
10. **Tom Werner**, Red Sox chairman, and **Larry Lucchino**, Red Sox president and CEO.
11. **Claudine Eaton**, district manager for J. McLaughlin, and her fiancé, **George Lewis**, board member of the Associates of the Boston Public Library.

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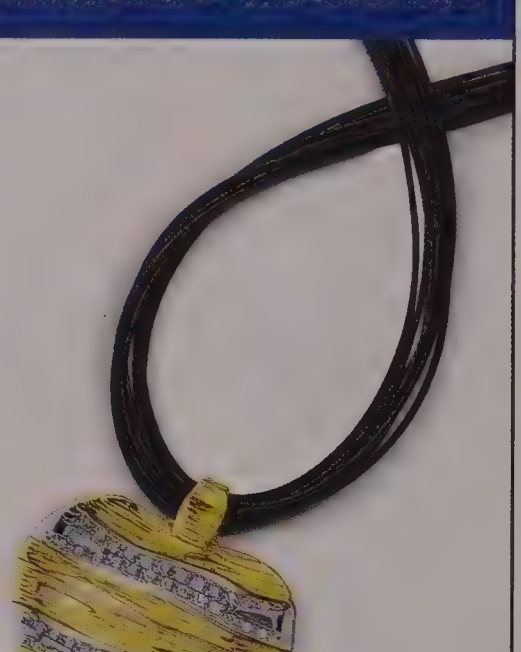

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ezra

BY EZRA DYER

STAND-UP GUY

Not everyone can be as funny as Ray Romano. But I can try.

Since we've got comedians writing essays in this issue, I think it's only appropriate that I deliver a stand-up routine. Of course, this is going to require some imagination on your part, but here's what I'd talk about if I were on stage at the Comedy Connection at Pathetic Amateur Night.

Good evening. You know what I hate about being a straight white male of average weight? I hate that that gives me nothing to talk about. Yeah, all you straight white guys of average weight know where I'm coming from with that, right? You go into a store and buy a pack of gum, and the cashier's like, "Here's your change. Have a nice day." See what I mean?

So let's talk about paper towels. I love them. You can use paper towels in place of the Kleenex, napkin and mop. Out of coffee filters? The paper towel will be glad to pinch hit. Out of toilet paper? Don't tell me you've never climbed into the slightly abrasive yet surprisingly effective arms of the paper towel in that situation. Paper towels might just be the most versatile weapon in the disposable countertop cleaning-implement arsenal. Ironically, the only thing you can't use paper towels for is toweling. Do fat Russian men sit in saunas wrapped in Bounty? No. The towels would get soggy and fall apart. Would you take a roll of Brawny to the beach and try to lie on it? No. The towels aren't wide enough, and as soon as you moved they'd blow away. And have you ever tried to stitch a monogram into a paper towel? Then you're a pretentious bastard.

So the towel itself is safe, but I don't know why paper towels haven't driven the sponge out of business—there must be a diehard sect of sponge-users who refuse to acknowledge the superiority of the paper towel, so they keep wiping their counters with a product inspired by marine life. We stopped burning whale oil for light, yet we clean our dishes with sponges? Why not make rope out of tied-together eels? Or shoes out of lobsters? That would make as much sense as sponges. You know why SpongeBob Squarepants looks the way he does, all wild-eyed, only two teeth? Because he caught syphilis from himself. Sponges are dirty.

You're always happy to find paper towels in a rest-stop bathroom. You might give the hand-dryer a try, thinking that maybe this is the time you'll have enough patience to stand there for three hours while the 82-year-old man connected to a vent hose behind the wall attempts to dry your hands with his feeble dying exhalations, but then you give up after two seconds when you realize there's still soap residue on your hands and you'll never be able to get it off with the rest-stop faucet—the Chinese get all the credit for water torture, but it actually originated at the Mass Pike Framingham McDonald's. Meanwhile, the hand dryer is trying to convince you how awesome it is with the notice on the top: "Hand dryers are more sanitary than paper towels. They save forests and reduce garbage. A roll of paper towels is hitting on your girlfriend right now. Paper towels are illegal in 17 states. Paper towels are made out of baby dolphins…by Al Qaeda." But if there's a paper towel dispenser, you know what it says about hand dryers on that? Nothing. The confident paper towel doesn't have to denigrate its competition like the insecure hand dryer.

The most ludicrous function of the hand dryer is the swiveling nozzle. Mmmm... hot rest-stop bathroom air on my face. It's like a warm sirocco wafting across the Sahara. If

YOU KNOW WHY SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS LOOKS THE WAY HE DOES, ALL WILD-EYED, ONLY TWO TEETH? BECAUSE HE CAUGHT SYPHILIS FROM HIMSELF. SPONGES ARE DIRTY.

you're washing your head or torso at a rest stop, you've probably got issues beyond proper drying—like where to bury the body, or whether hitching the ride from Worcester to Framingham with Bobby-Jim the trucker was really worth it.

Paper towels don't even need cute mascots to sell them. Brawny has a lumberjack. Why? Possibly because the lumberjack cuts down the trees to make the paper towel, but that's like putting a picture of a bloody butcher on a package of hamburger. Maybe there's supposed to be an association with the paper towel's qualities, the way toilet paper advertises its softness with a picture of a puppy or a baby. But most lumberjacks I know aren't very absorbent and will stubbornly resist being used to wipe up coffee. Maybe Brawny should think about changing its logo to something more appropriate. Like a sponge. iB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

SKINNER'S WINNERS

With the Sox and Pats hogging the spotlight, the BC men's basketball team flies under the radar.

If this were Durham, N.C., the 10-year extension would have been signed, sealed and delivered by now. If this were Lawrence, Kan., the statue would be commissioned and the block of granite trucked in. If this were Tempe, Ariz., a lifetime golf membership would come his way along with his name on a new condo development.

But this is Boston, and an "Atta boy!" will have to do for the superstar in our midst. We've been too blinded by success on Yawkey Way and Route 1 in Foxboro to notice him, but his name is Al Skinner.

In case you didn't know (and you probably don't), Skinner is head coach of the Boston College men's basketball team. His team, ranked about 50th by several college basketball publications last fall, has been near perfect for nearly three months. And in the third week of January they cracked the top 10 for the first time in my lifetime.

Before this season, Skinner's biggest claim to fame was that he was Dr. J's roommate in college. Stories abound of Erving's awe for his elder teammate, a future UMass-Amherst Hall of Famer. As great as Skinner was in Amherst, he's now quietly trumping his playing career with the Minutemen, guiding this unlikely BC team to college hoops greatness.

Two of my favorite days of the year are the first days of March Madness. That's when the tourney's top seeds take on the lowest seeds. While the lowest seed has never upset the No. 1, I love sitting back sucking on a Miller Lite and waiting for it to happen. The rest of March Madness is off the chain too, but to be honest, I've been riding the Patriots–Red Sox Express the last three or four years and haven't paid proper attention to BC's consistent tourney berths.

Remember, Skinner led the University of Rhode Island to two NCAA tourneys, not to mention a pair of NIT berths, in the 1990s. Since coming to BC in 1997, the unassuming coach has led the Eagles to three NCAA berths in the past four years. And it could be argued the team got robbed in 2003, when they finished 19–12 and didn't make the tournament.

Honestly, I didn't think much of Skinner after his early struggles at BC. (The team finished 15–16, 6–21 and 11–19 in his first three seasons.) But I wasn't being fair. The guy took over a program that had a legacy of character questions involving gambling and shady admissions practices. The fact that Skinner has put together this year's stellar season with only two seniors—Jermaine Watson and Nate Doornekamp—means his success isn't going to end soon.

He recruited junior star Craig Smith, a left-coaster, and immediately made him feel comfortable some 3,000 chilly miles away from home. And this year, Skinner again found a needle in the college basketball haystack in sophomore Jared Dudley, another overlooked California boy.

Dudley, for one, is as surprised as the local fans at the Eagles' raging success. "Before the season, to be honest with you, I didn't think we'd be undefeated more than halfway through," he says, "especially in the tough conference we're in. I definitely thought we'd be one of the top teams in the Big East. I thought we'd go above our expectations. I thought we'd crack the top 25 eventually, which we did at the end [of December]. But to say we're going to be a top-10 team in the country and be undefeated

THE VICTORY OVER UCONN CONVINCED ME THAT THIS TEAM HAS WHAT IT TAKES TO COMPETE WITH THE ELITE COLLEGE PROGRAMS.

I know you didn't think that would happen, but we are it, and we're here now."

Of all the games that got my attention, the victory over UConn in Storrs, Conn., convinced me that this team, this program and this coach have what it takes to compete with the elite college programs. Of course, even though I've been missing the boat, this is nothing new. Coach Skinner is the real deal. And it's a good thing he's putting BC on the national college basketball map, because the school will be traveling to places like Duke, North Carolina and Maryland when it moves from the Big East to the Atlantic Coast Conference next year.

I apologize for jumping on the Eagles' bandwagon so late. But it appears there's some room. So come aboard and join me for some fun come March Madness time. With Bill Belichick and Theo Epstein being called geniuses, and deservedly so, Al Skinner is also making his case for such lofty praise. I know I'm a believer. **iB**

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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ALISYN CAMEROTA

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Fox News correspondent Alisyn Camerota recently relocated to New York after many years working in Boston. Born and raised in New Jersey, she received a degree in broadcast journalism from American University (with a minor in criminal justice). She began her television career working on documentaries with legendary ABC newsman Ted Koppel. From 1991 to 1995, she was a correspondent for *America's Most Wanted*, while also covering spot news for the Fox affiliate in Washington, D.C. She relocated to Boston to serve as a host and correspondent for *Real Life*, NBC's national daytime newsmagazine, and in 1996 became a reporter for WHDH Channel 7. She joined Fox in 1998 as the network's Boston correspondent, contributing reports for the affiliate news service, Fox News Edge, and covering such stories as the 2004 Democratic National Convention, the Beltway sniper case, the Queen Mother's funeral in England and the Catholic Church sex abuse scandal. Since moving to New York in September, she's hosted the network's morning show, *Fox & Friends* as well as its live New Year's Eve coverage from Times Square and has filled in for main anchor Greta Van Susteren. Currently pregnant with twins, she lives in Manhattan with her husband.

Jonathan Soroff: *So how's the foxiest fox on Fox doing?*

Alisyn Camerota: I really miss your flattery. She's doin' well, thanks.

JS: *Biggest difference between working in New York and Boston?*

AC: The job is more exciting in New York, in that I get more opportunity, and I'm around hundreds of people every day at Fox headquarters, as opposed to the two guys I rode around with in the back of an Expedition every day up there. But I find New York more congested and dirtier and smellier and frenetic. We can't just jump in our crew car and race downtown for an interview, like in Boston. Everything's a major production here. The logistics are incredible.

JS: *What one thing do you miss the most about Boston, besides me?*

AC: Well, that's the obvious answer, of course, but, God, I can't narrow it down. I miss the charm, the beauty, the scale, the way I could walk all over the city. My feeling in Boston was always that the city was kissing my hand. In New York, I feel like I'm bent over and it's spanking me.

JS: *Most insane part of hosting the Fox New Year's Eve special live from Times Square?*

AC: I guess being propped up 10 stories above Times Square, with 750,000 people below you, and no railing. We were on a balcony, essentially, with no safety net, and I didn't realize quite how precarious it was until my co-host insisted we be roped to something in case the wind picked up.

MY FEELING IN BOSTON WAS ALWAYS THAT THE CITY WAS KISSING MY HAND. IN NEW YORK, I FEEL LIKE I'M BENT OVER AND IT'S SPANKING ME.

JS: *Last year you hosted with Ryan Seacrest. Did you kiss him at midnight, and if so, was there tongue involved?*

AC: No. We were separated by satellite, sadly, so I couldn't run my fingers through his spiky gelled hair, either.

JS: *Isn't he too pretty to live?*

AC: [Laughs.] No, I think it works for him.

JS: *Strangest response you've gotten when you tell people you work for Fox News?*

AC: I get people who thank me. That's been a different response. As a journalist, you don't often hear it, but at cocktail parties or barbeques or whatever, people often thank me for being fair and balanced and for giving them an alternative. There are lots of really devoted Fox fans out there, and they're grateful.

JS: *So you think Fox is unbiased?*

AC: It's fair and balanced. That's our credo.

JS: *Yeah, fairly balanced on the far-right, reactionary Republican, John Birch Society side of things, maybe…*

AC: [Laughs.] That's some people's opinion.

JS: *Do you call Rupert Murdoch "Uncle Rupie?"*

AC: Umm, no. At the Christmas party, I shake his hand and reintroduce myself to him for the fifth or sixth time, and call him "Mr. Murdoch."

JS: *And what does he say to you?*

AC: That I'm doing a great job. [Laughs.]

JS: *Is it true that he's Satan?*

AC: [Laughs.] No, he's a terribly friendly, avuncular, nice older man.

JS: *Most embarrassing on-air moment?*

AC: It was the period when I was at Channel 7, "the breaking news station," where I went to work without ever having done a live shot before. So it was trial by fire. I remember rushing off to cover blizzards and looking like a snowman and not having any information on what the storm was doing, or anything that was at all useful. I'm sure people thought I was drunk half the time.

JS: *Career highlight?*

AC: On *America's Most Wanted*, I had to chase after fugitives and do the jailhouse interviews, and it was always thrilling when they'd give me an on-camera confession. The prosecutors would send me bouquets for saving them years of trial preparation. The joke was that the mass murderers and serial rapists cracked under the intimidation of my 5'3" frame and mane of blonde hair.

JS: *Speaking of which, is that your real color?*

AC: [Laughs.] What do you think?

JS: *Looks good to me.*

AC: Well, I'll tell you. It costs a lot of money and takes a lot of time to achieve the natural look I'm sporting.

JS: *Do you like being dressed by the network?*

AC: God, I love it. I barely know how to dress myself. Thank God they've given me some tips over the years, so I'm sort of able to do it myself, but there's nothing like when they do hair, makeup and wardrobe I stare at my reflection in the mirror be cause I look so hot.

JS: *Is Fox trying to cover up your pregnancy?*

AC: No. I was trying to cover it up, be cause Fox fans are so, so devoted to us, an they make such a big deal of everything They e-mail us and send us presents an cards, so I didn't want to unleash that unti I couldn't hide it anymore.

JS: *So now you've got weirdos sending you booties?*

AC: It's starting.

JS: *Worst curse you ever said on air?*

AC: I've never cursed. I've only used mala props. I've said that something didn't "pas mustard," and people wrote in. Instead o saying someone had "brandished" a gun, once said they'd "garnished" it.

JS: *Describe the average Fox viewer.*

AC: I'd say very politically plugged in, ded icated, to the point of being at times rabid pretty knowledgeable about current affair and the state of the world, and I've said this before, but just incredibly devoted to us. I've worked at ABC, NBC and Fox, and I've never seen anything like it.

JS: *Is Wolf Blitzer really part wolf, and if so, is he protected by the endangered species act?*

AC: [Laughs.] Clearly something is keeping his show from being canceled, so there's no other explanation.

JS: *Michael Jackson: Guilty pedophile or misunderstood freak?*

AC: Completely guilty.

JS: *What would happen if Star Jones and Brit Hume were put on a deserted island?*

AC: [Laughs.] Star Jones would begin devouring him. Total cannibalization.

JS: *Last question: You're having twins—will you be naming them Rupert and Brit?*

AC: I was actually thinking Rupert and Roger…which is sort of unfortunate because they're both girls. IB

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FAMOUS AND UNKNOWN PLAYERS DECEIVE BOSTON, A CAPER CAPITAL

pranksalot

Did you know that Boston was rated the top pranking city in America last year by *Professional Jokester*, a trade publication for the magic and novelty industry? In its August 2004 issue *PJ* wrote, "Boston, by dint of a rich history that includes the Boston Tea Party—arguably the infant nation's first major prank—and a large, prank-happy college population, is the national capital of putting one over, leg-pulling and overall gotcha-ism. Be careful when greeting one of this city's natives, as Boston is the nation's single biggest market for hand buzzers."

OK, so there's no *Professional Jokester* magazine. But if there were, it would have to give Boston major props, lest a flaming bag end up on its doorstep. Maybe it's a backlash against our deeply ingrained puritanical culture. Maybe it's the natural playfulness of a busy intellectual community. Or maybe the city is just filled with schmucks who'll fall for anything. Whatever the case, Boston loves a prank.

BY EZRA DYER PHOTOGRAPHS BY OLIVIA GATTI

The Museum of Hoaxes Web site lists two Boston-area pranks in its Top 10 College Pranks of All Time. Coming in at No. 5 is the *Harvard Lampoon* staff's theft of the Sacred Cod of Massachusetts from the State House in 1933. The *Lampoon* kids kept the five-foot wooden fish long enough that authorities dragged the Charles in search of it. The prank gets bonus points for the use of a diversionary tactic—the kidnapping of a *Harvard Crimson* staffer to keep the *Lampoon* 's rival campus newspaper off the real story.

Further down the list, at No. 10, is Bonsai Kittens, a Web page from some MIT students purporting to sell kittens that can be stuffed into glass tubes and grown into the shape of their container. "Just as a topiary gardener produces bushes that take the forms of animals or any other thing, you no longer need be satisfied with a house pet having the same mundane shape as all other members of its species," declares the site. Animal rights activists have forced Bonsai Kittens off numerous hosts, although it seems to have found a permanent home at Rotten.com. The site also begat further pranks—including media interviews with the fictitious Dr. Michael Wong Chang, provided by the site's creators.

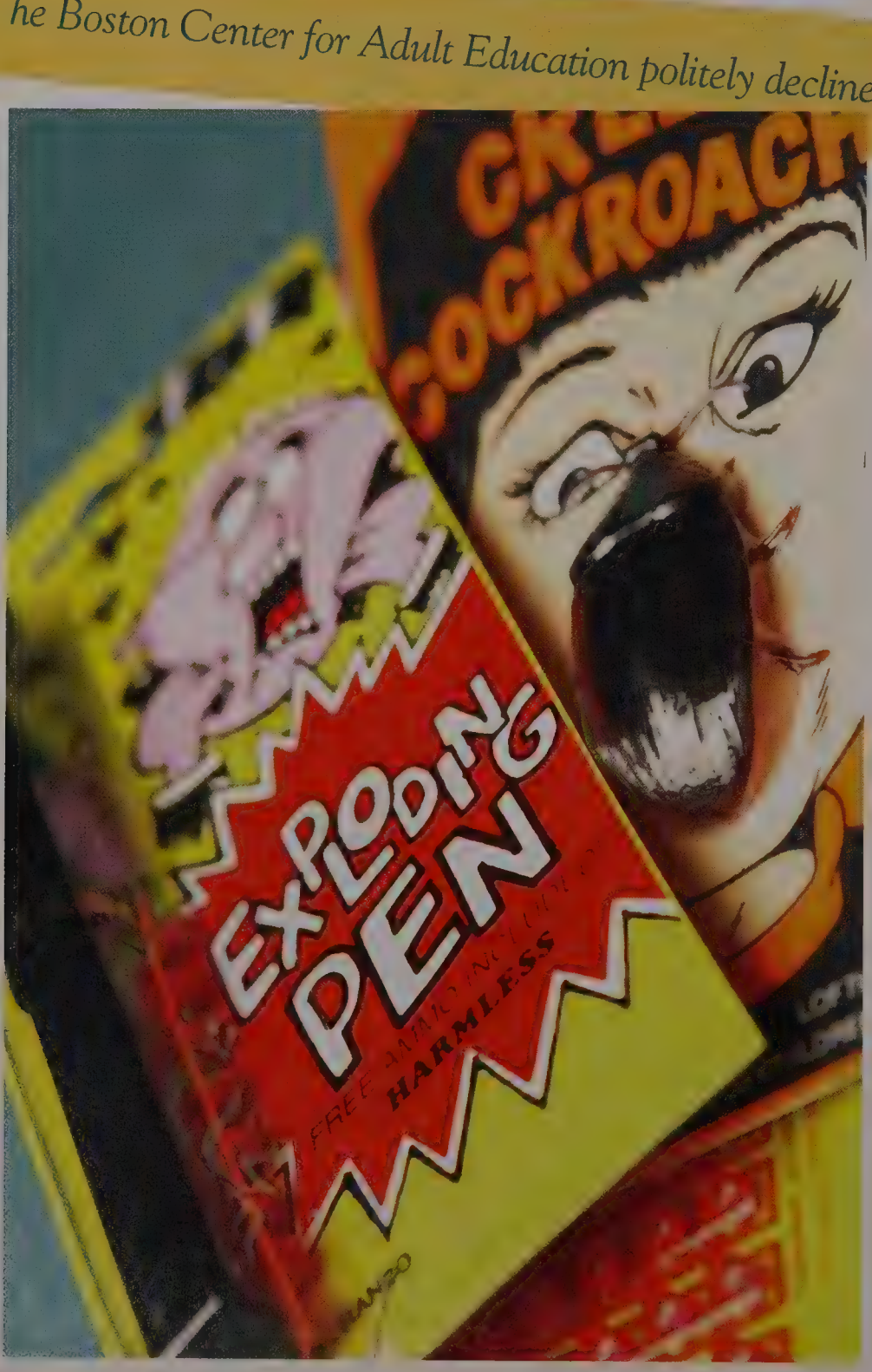
Some of the area's most memorable college pranks didn't even make the list. The police car on the roof of MIT's Great Dome in 1994 has already achieved legendary status. Students assembled the car—a shell around a wooden frame—on the roof at night, before the final day of spring classes. Inside was a dummy dressed as a police officer, sitting next to a box of doughnuts. The car also sported an MIT Campus Police parking ticket, with a citation for "no permit for this location." Over the years, various other items, including a plastic cow from the Hilltop Steakhouse and a working phone booth, have appeared atop the dome.

Kathy Thurston-Lighty of the MIT Museum recalls another famous MIT prank, thi one at the expense of Cambridge rivals Harvard University. "One of the great hacks o all time was at the Harvard-Yale football game [in 1982]," says Thurston-Lighty, autho of *Nightwork: A History of Hacks and Pranks at MIT*. MIT students were able to bury weather balloon in the center of the field that read "MIT." During the game, the balloo inflated and eventually exploded, covering everything around in talcum powder. "The pulled a bunch of other hacks at that same game," Thurston-Lighty adds. "The next day the *Herald* headline said, 'MIT Wins Harvard-Yale Game.'"

The Harvard-Yale game has been a popular vehicle for pranks aimed at Harvar over the years. At last year's tilt, 20 Yale students donned Harvard gear, pretending t be boosters. Armed with 1,800 sheets of construction paper, they went into the stand and told the crowd to flip their cards when given the signal, to display the messag "Go Harvard." Instead, the Crimson fans were tricked into spelling out not "Go Har vard," but "We Suck." (This is a variation on a famous 1961 Rose Bowl prank, i which Washington fans watching their team play the University of Minnesota wer tricked into holding up cards that displayed the name "Caltech.") Thurston-Light says that MIT and Caltech are the two leading schools in the country for pranks "They're always competing to outdo each other."

Yale senior David Aulicino, who masterminded last year's Harvard-Yale prank with classmate Mike Kai, tried to pull the same trick the year before but was thwarted when stadium security kicked them out as they placed the cards on seats. This year, the pair im proved their chances for success by handing out the cards after the crowd was alread seated. "We had to have our Harvard Pep Squad shirts made, because there is no Harvar Pep Squad," says Aulicino, who doesn't expect retribution. "I'm waiting for them to d something," he says, "but Yale is fueling the rivalry. I guess Harvard doesn't have as much school spirit as we do."

The Boston Center for Adult Education politely declined Rudy's offer to teach a class on shoplifting for seniors



Crank phone calls are a time-honored prank not specific to Boston, but flourishing here nonetheless. Even if you don't get Jam Scammed by Jam'N 94.5, or pranked by a 10-year-old asking if your refrigerator's running, be ready to get a call from Jack Nicholson, Arnold Schwarzenegger or Al Pacino. Celebrities are unwittingly breathing new life into the prank call, as crankers load MP3 sound clips from various movies into their computers and then trigger the appropriate clip based on the response.

Matt Godfrey, a South Boston graduate student, recently received a call from Jack Nicholson, circa *A Few Good Men*. "He said he was Colonel Jessep, and I'd heard an MP3 clip of this, so I knew what it was," says Godfrey. "I asked him questions back, but he just went on and on with stuff like, 'Have you ever served in a forward area?' So eventually I hung up on him. He didn't even get to 'You can't handle the truth!'" Godfrey still has no idea where the call came from.

Andy Fenenbock, who works in IT at Houghton Mifflin, doesn't make crank calls, but he has authored more than 60 prank letters sent under the pseudonym Rudy Schumann. "In the beginning, it was just something that amused me and my friends," says Fenenbock. "It was fun to come home and find mail for Rudy." But over the past seven years, Rudy's taken on a life of his own.

Some of Rudy's victims realize they're being pranked and have a sense of humor about it. In other cases, says Fenenbock, "Someone's reading it thinking, 'I think this guy's insane, but we can't afford not to write him a respectful letter.'" Prank-ees in the latter category include the Boston Center for Adult Education, which politely declined Rudy's offer to teach a class on shoplifting for seniors.

Then there are people who take Fenenbock seriously, which in the case of Mail Boxes Etc. produced his favorite response ever. He wrote requesting a price quote for 50 boxes, one inside the other, to be gift-wrapped and shipped to his girlfriend, with a note in the innermost box reading "I think we should see other people." Soon after, he received a reply from a Mail Boxes official: "I am *not* sorry to inform you that this is not a service we offer. You can go to any box shop, buy the boxes yourself, wrap them yourself and send them yourself."

Besides his letters, another favorite Fenenbock stunt is to leave some possession in a public place and watch it get stolen. He calls this practice "To Catch a Thief," and chronicles the larceny on his Web site, www.thedose.com (the site also features selections from the Rudy Letters). When he set a cell phone down in Faneuil Hall and walked away, it was picked up immediately by some kids, who were scared off when they turned on the phone and discovered Fenenbock's preprogrammed greeting message: "You = Thief!" The phone was snatched up shortly thereafter by a maintenance man. "Most of my pranks are ones that don't require direct interaction," says Fenenbock. "Call it the cowardly approach, if you will."

CRANK IT UP

It's hard to resist the simple beauty of a well-executed prank. We gave in to our sophomoric side and yanked a few chains around town. Here's how it went.

BY RICH LEVINE

GOOD VIBRATIONS

The Prank: Organizing a Funky Bunch reunion

IB: *This is Isaac Barnes with VH1. I'm trying to put together an early-'90s pop reunion concert, and I'd love it if I could get Mark and his Funky Bunch to join us. We already have a pretty decent lineup which includes Color Me Badd, Dee-Lite—you remember that song "Groove Is in the Heart," right?—and Heavy D and the Boyz.*
Leverage Management: Is this to sing?
IB: *Well, some of the artists will be singing, but if the Funky Bunch would like to just make an appearance and chill out for a second, that would be fun too.*
LM: OK. I'll have one of his managers give you a call.
IB: *If you had to guess, is this something you think Mark might want to do?*
LM: I'd prefer you speak to a manager [click].

ON ICE

The Prank: Desperately seeking tickets for the Boston Bruins

IB: *I'd like to buy 10 tickets for the March 13 game between the Boston Bruins and the New York Islanders at the FleetCenter.*
TicketMaster: I'm sorry sir, but I'm not showing any tickets available for that date, or any other date. Perhaps Ticketmaster doesn't carry Bruins tickets anymore.
IB: *Are you sure there couldn't be any other explanation? I wonder if the NHL could be on strike or something because now that I think about it I haven't heard much about the Bruins this year?*
TM: No, I'm sure we would have heard about that. Plus, I watch a lot of hockey. I even paid a little extra on my DirecTV for the NHL package. I would know if they aren't playing.
IB: *Wow, I guess I'm mistaken, so you've been watching hockey all season, huh?*
TM: Yes, sir.
IB: *OK, well you obviously know what you're talking about. Maybe I'll try something else. Thanks a lot.*

SHORT FILMS

The Prank: Can a local casting agency satisfy our peculiar request?

IB: *I'm trying to put a series of movies together, actually a series of remakes of classic movies using dwarf actors. Do you have any contacts?*
Casting agent: [long pause] Not really, we don't work much in the…
IB: *Field of little people?*
CA: Exactly.
IB: *I just think there's a pretty big market for an all-dwarf* Braveheart *or* Pretty Woman. *Do you know of any Boston dwarfs that might be interested?*
CA: Here's the local SAG hotline, that might be your best bet. Good luck.
IB: *Thanks, and here's my number. Could you do me a favor and just send any dwarfs that might come your way over to me? Only dwarfs though, no midgets.*
CA: Sure, now goodbye.

LAWN WINTER

The Prank: Requesting some post-blizzard lawn care

IB: *I'm interested in getting some lawn work done.*
Paradise Landscaping: Um, you mean for the summer?
IB: *No, I'd like to get something as soon as possible, are you all booked?*
PL: We'd probably need to wait for all the snow to melt.
IB: *Really? It's just that before the blizzard my grass was getting real long, and I can just imagine how crazy it will be if I have to wait for all this stuff to melt. I was just hoping for your guys to sort of dig around the snow and give the lawn a quick mowing.*
PL: Let me take your name and number and I'll have someone get back to you.

HORSING AROUND

The Prank: Will upscale local mag advertise equine erotica?

IB: *I'd like to place an ad.*
***Boston* magazine:** OK, what kind of company do you have?
IB: *I'm an animal breeder looking to extend my business from the Midwest to the Northeast. I'm not sure how it works on the East Coast, but I have somewhere in the neighborhood of $300,000 to spend. Is that enough to get me an ad?*
BM: Oh, definitely.
IB: *Great. Now, there's one request I have. I'm sort of a stickler when it comes to how my company's portrayed in print, and one of my requirements is that I'm able to show pictures of horses mating with each other in the ad.*
BM: I'd probably have to say no to that, we're more of a luxury type of magazine, and I don't think anything graphic could be accepted.
IB: *Really. So there's no chance of showing any animal fornication? Even though we mainly do horses, I have some smaller animals, like dogs, that we could do instead if it's all right.*
BM: No, definitely not. You'd have to send in some samples and I'd have to talk to our publisher about it. But knowing what I know, I'd say no.

Our local media also get into the pranking spirit on occasion. It used to be a tradition at this magazine to place one spoof calendar listing every year for April Fools' Day, but the practice was discontinued once we realized that no matter how ludicrous the premise, someone would always take the bait and we'd end up having to apologize. The last time we tried it, numerous people called the IMPROPER inquiring how they could get in on the April 1 Car Wash Speed-Dating event, at which singles would have a series of short dates inside cars as they made their way through the Allston Car Wash.

Radio stations are the source of Boston's most visible media pranks, such as the aforementioned Jam Scams and Mix 98.5's "Nutcrackers," in which the station's jocks crank-call people to exploit real situations provided by the victims' friends. Of course, sometimes those friends want to create a prank that blows past the realm of funny into plain maliciousness. "We do have to draw the line occasionally," says Kelly Malone of Mix's *Lander in the Morning* show. "We've had Nutcracker requests where husbands or family members have wanted us to call a pregnant woman to tell her something's wrong with the baby. Hello? Do these people not have a conscience?"

The most infamous prank by far in Boston radio history belongs to former WAAF jocks Greg Hughes and Anthony Cumia—better known as Opie and Anthony—who announced on their show on April Fools' Day 1998 that Mayor Menino had been killed in a car crash. "Opie says I blame him for everything, but this one really was all him," says Cumia.

"Instead of doing one of these lame April Fools' gags where you say there's going to be a meteor at noon, or you say you're switching formats and play five Elvis songs," Hughes (Opie) says, "we figured we'd blow the whole thing up and say Menino's dead." Hizzonah was not amused at the premature news of his demise. As retribution, WAAF's program director suggested that Opie and Anthony should be locked in stocks while Menino threw pies in their faces. (The DJs balked at this idea, but the pies had already been ordered, so they were donated to a children's hospital in the station's attempt to produce positive spin.) Not long after the incident, WAAF fired the duo.

The most infamous prank by far in Boston radio history belongs to former WAAF jocks Opie and Anthony, who announced on their show on April Fools' Day 1998 that Mayor Menino had been killed in a car crash.

Opie and Anthony's Menino misadventure highlights a problem facing pranksters: walking the tightrope between funny and felony. Fenenbock, for instance, once wrote a letter to a director at Logan airport informing him that he planned to hold auditions for a reality show in Concourse E. The show, called *All Along the Watchtower*, would chronicle the making of an all–Jehovah's Witness Jimi Hendrix cover band. The state police detective who wrote back was not amused. "I wrote the letter about a month before September 11, so I think after that they had bigger fish to fry," says Fenenbock. Since then he's curtailed Rudy letters that might cause trouble, no longer sending out notes like the (pre–9/11) missive to the TNT Driving School asking for lessons on driving a car loaded with TNT.

Still, as long as there are colleges like MIT and Harvard in town, elaborate pranks will be pulled. Perhaps someday even the schools on the other side of the river will step up to the level of their Cambridge counterparts. Cumia, for one, is doubtful. "BC kids don't have time for pranks," he says. "They're too busy getting laid." IB

LAMPOON LEGENDS

"Any good prank, you know it'll get you in a lot of trouble, but you do it anyway," says *Harvard Lampoon* president Zach Kanin. Here Kanin describes a few of the *Lampoon*'s best pranks of the past two decades.

Construction Workers: "When Conan O'Brien was president, back in '83 or '84, a bunch of *Lampoon* staff members got a jackhammer and construction worker uniforms and started jackhammering the road on Newbury Street. Conan went to a phone booth, called the Boston police, and told them that a bunch of BU kids were dressed as construction workers and were jackhammering Newbury Street. Then he called the state police and said a bunch of BU kids were dressed as police officers and were interfering with a construction crew. The two groups got to the scene each thinking that the other one was pulling a prank, and they actually came to blows. I believe Conan spent the night in jail."

Stool Samples: "When Nick Spooner was president, around 1990, he sent out letters on Harvard Health Services stationery to incoming freshmen saying there was an outbreak of botulism on campus, and all freshmen needed to bring a stool sample to the health center. He included a plastic bag with the letter that said 'stool sample kit.' When the freshmen showed up, there was a line of about 400 kids outside the health center carrying bags of stool. The receptionist there quit that day."

Monster Mutt and the Crimson Chair: "The only possession they care about at the *Harvard Crimson* is their president's chair, which has the names of all their past presidents engraved on a plaque. So we like to steal this chair. One year we sent it to Iceland and gave it to the prime minister. Last year, we had James Brown on campus, so there were four or five hundred people outside to see him. We brought out a monster truck named "Monster Mutt" [and] kept having it crush really small stuff until we brought out a replica of the *Crimson* chair that we had made from the original the previous time we stole it. This enormous truck that looks like a dog just flattened the chair. One woman who wasn't even on the *Crimson* staff screamed out, 'There goes a piece of history!' *Crimson* people ran over and picked through the pieces and realized it wasn't the real thing, but it was a good thing we'd arranged a police barricade before the chair came out so a *Crimson* person wouldn't run in front of the truck and get killed."

Kidnapping Jon Stewart*: "We invited Jon Stewart to come play Wiffle ball. He was going to do it, but his manager called to verify that he was actually talking to the *Lampoon* and not some random weirdo who was going to abduct him or something. Knowing he had this fear, we got an idea. When we picked him up at the airport, we drove him out into the woods and forced him into the trunk of the car. In the trunk with him were two items: an unloaded handgun and a locked duffel bag. We drove around Boston for about an hour, then went to the ball field. When we opened the trunk, he came out shooting at us with the gun—and soiling himself, since he really thought we were going to kill him. We just stood there looking at him very disapprovingly, and tossed him a set of keys and told him to open the duffel bag. He did, and inside was a clean pair of pants. We went on to have a great game of Wiffle ball."

*Stewart's peeps couldn't confirm this tale, so if Kanin is pulling a prank on the IMPROPER, then consider us honored to become part of *Lampoon* lore.

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BOSTON STAND-UPS WAX COMEDIC ABOUT THEIR HOMETOWN

talk

MY CITY

PLEASE

BY PAUL NARDIZZI

MASS APPEAL

Have you ever visited another city and realized how fortunate we are to live in Boston? I've been to them all, or at least the ones that count, and nothing compares. Sure the people are friendlier in other parts of the country—and even in Worcester for that matter—but the lack of civility makes our city unique.

We hear it said all the time that people are so much more likely to say hello down South or in the Midwest, and that we're rude in Boston. I say screw them. It takes more muscles to frown than it takes to smile, so maybe they're just lazier than we are. I think it shows that we're real people when we don't go out of our way to say hello or allow pedestrians to cross the street when we're in our cars and have a list of bars to get to. And these same bastards who are stuck on the island futilely pressing the "Walk" button will surely return the favor when they make it back to their cars. Philadelphia might be the city of Brotherly Love, but Boston is the City of Revenge. When I see motorists jump out of their cars and have it out under the glow of traffic lights, I don't see a sad comment on the human condition, I see culture.

With more than 500 bars and liquor stores, and countless miles of gutter, Boston is a drinking town. No matter what the event, be it a Pats game, the Regatta or the Boston Marathon, it always seems to revolve (or more accurately, spin) around drinking. I recently went on a whale watch out of Boston Harbor with my dad and we immediately went down to the lower deck to get a beer. A voice came over the intercom saying, "Whales at two o'clock." My dad, a veteran of the bar scene himself muttered, "It's only 1:30, we got time for at least two more." He pointed to the ceiling where hundreds of footsteps could be heard running to and fro. "Listen to those idiots trying to figure out how to get down here," he said. When the intercom announced whales at four o'clock he muttered, "We might not be awake for those, son."

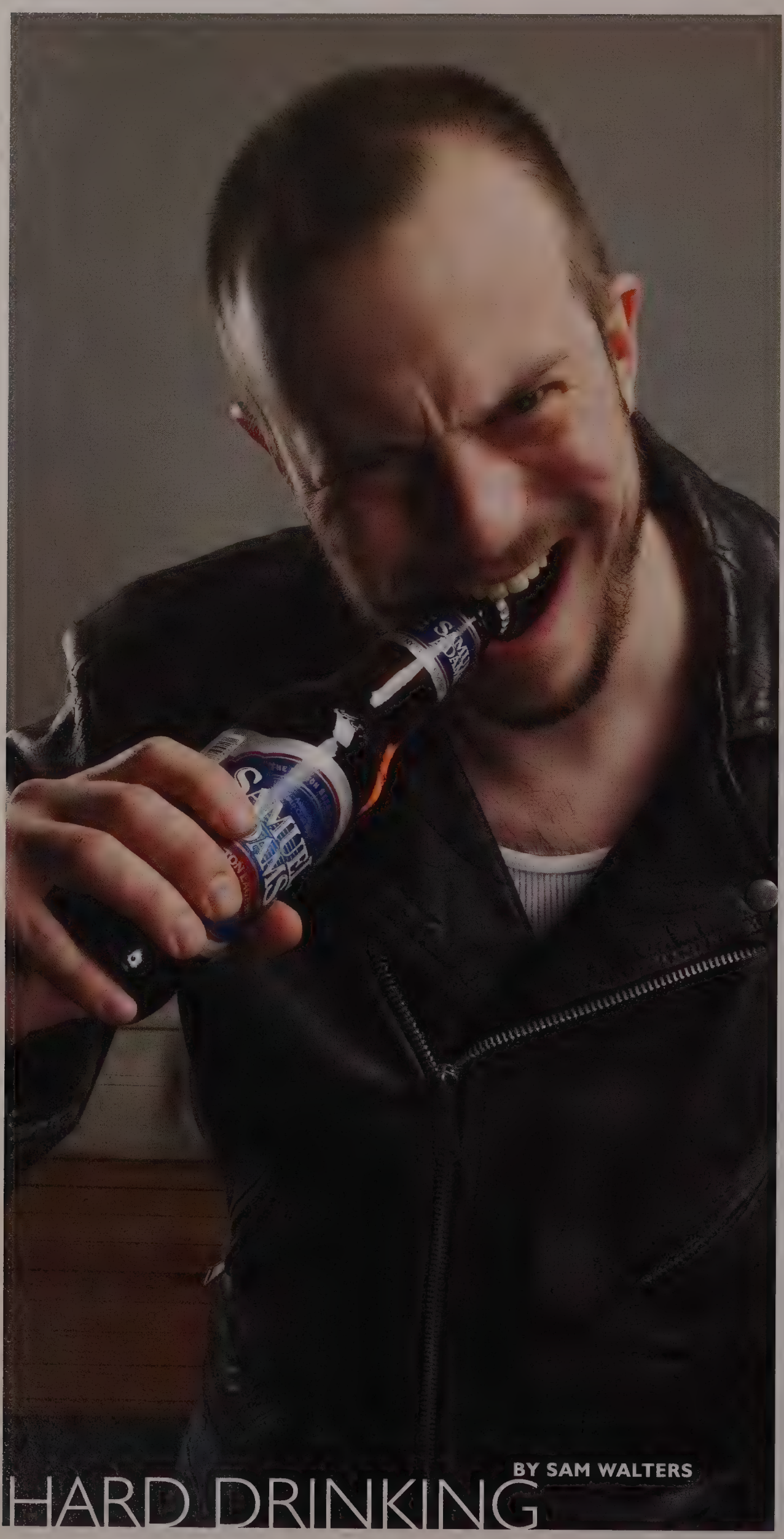
Boston is also a great sports town, with two current world champions in the Red Sox and the Patriots. (As the IMPROPER goes to press, I'm predicting Pats 41, Eagles 10 in Super Bowl XXXIX.) Meanwhile, our other two teams over at the FleetCenter are faring well—the Celtics are improving and the Bruins haven't lost a game since last May.

Local sports fans are the only ones I've ever heard call the sports talk shows and suggest trades over the air. They actually believe the team is going to catch wind of the suggestions and say, "OK, we got work to do. Frank from Milford says trade Paul Pierce. Frank knows his hoop. I saw him at a strip club on Tremont the other night tossing rolled up bills into a shot glass lodged between a hooker's ass cheeks."

The Sox fans are complete lunatics. Only in Boston would a fan stand on the corner holding a rancid sausage while yelling, "Hey pal, the Sox won on a ninth-inning dingah by Manny. Gimme a hand flipping this Buick ovah, will ya?" Personally, I recommend flipping your own car over when you go to the ballpark—that way, when these rabid fans come by on their drunken spree, more than likely they'll flip your vehicle back on its tires.

The city's political agenda reflects a great deal of what Boston is about. Things never go as planned, fingers start pointing, and then heads roll. Suddenly everybody in town has a new issue to be pissed off about. The Big Dig was supposed to be a massive construction project that would beautify the city and bring it into the 21st century, but the result looks like it was erected in the Stone Age by a pack of Neanderthals. Water is now pouring through the brand new tiles, which shows you how little they care about spending our tax money, because they could have saved millions and went with linoleum. I drove through the Central Artery tunnel the other night with my trunk open and caught seven fish. Traffic experts predict that by the end of the decade we'll all be driving duckboats. And I read somewhere that the leak is going to cost so much to fix, the city is considering hanging a sign on the tunnel entrance that reads, "Car Wash." The Big Dig might be a fiasco, but at least it's brought us all together again. Together in the city we love, under one roof, albeit a leaky one.

Paul Nardizzi is the author of 602 Reasons to be Ticked Off *(Andrews McMeel Publishing).*



HARD DRINKING

BY SAM WALTERS

Some clever fellow described Boston as a drinking town with a baseball problem. Now that we've passed our baseball trauma on to New York, we can devote ourselves to meeting our civic duty of getting "hammid." What's funny though is how hard Bostonians have to work to get their late-night groove on in a city that's so puritan our football team's cheerleaders wear tracksuits and turtlenecks.

Consider the difficulty of even getting a late-night snack here. Past midnight, it's easier to buy crack than pizza. Boston is rife with restaurants that close at 11, and shameless Store "24"s that knock off at midnight. A Store 24 that isn't open 24 hours is a false beacon for the drunk and hungry, drawing in poor souls desperate for a stale sub to sop up the poison they've now thought better of ingesting, only to break their hearts at its shuttered doorstep, leaving them no recourse but to return to the bottle for nourishment. This is how people become homeless.

But even bums have trouble finding hooch in the wee hours. For a cosmopolitan city, it's damn hard to order a Cosmopolitan after 1 am. Should you find a two o'clock bar, you're likely running there from another bar that just closed. Since you're probably weaving, the trip can take doubly long, leaving you nanoseconds to place a drink order before last call. To counter this, a Bostonian orders an average of 47 beers at last call. I don't believe Bostonians actually drink more than most, but we score high on the DAAM (Drunkenness at Any Moment) index because we have to pack our boozing into a truncated time slot.

Some Bostonians frequent after-hours clubs, where they continue to imbibe and fornicate with the devil till sunup. But these demonic societies are very exclusive, and to gain entry you generally have to bring an offering like a small child for sacrifice (or at least an eight-ball). There are also urban legends about late-night restaurants in Chinatown that serve "cold tea"—Coors in a kettle—for exorbitant sums. This has led scores of naive college kids to go hopping from restaurant to restaurant till they've gone broke, ordering endless pots of cold tea and receiving, well, cold tea. Sober and enraged, these deprived youths take to the streets and set cars on fire. This is the real reason college kids riot. If we could just get a couple beers in them, they might settle down.

Another reason college kids light cars on fire, though, is that the cars don't belong to them, it's 1 am, and they can't get home. The trains stop running in Boston at the ungodly hour of 12:30, which is earlier than most 6-year-olds turn off their Xbox for the night. It's also a full half hour before the majority of bars close, causing several billion shitfaced patrons who've blown their cab money on beer to jump in their cars and plow into the shitfaced and nonshitfaced alike. The MBTA says it can't extend train service because it does track repair during the overnight hours, and if you contest this notion, they'll cite everything from quantum physics to Deepak Chopra. Then they'll point you in the direction of their awesome Night Owl bus service. But the Night Owl shares a trait with real owls: You'll never see one. You probably have to catch it in a tree. The Night Owl should be fit with a flood light that shoots into the sky, enabling drunks to find it at any hour, or at least spend the night safely chasing it all over town. ("'S over there now!")

But despite these incredible obstacles, Bostonians persevere in partying. Like vikings, we survive in a hostile environment where weaker folk would simply sober up and go home. And while I take pride in this, I believe it's time to change our laws so that a man can grab a drink, a taco or a train well into the morning. Because I'm tired of sleeping in the Common.

Sam Walters took up stand-up comedy while in Boston after rejecting more dignified careers like being a drug mule. He's written for several magazines and newspapers, as well as a bunch of Web sites that folded and screwed him for cash. He now spends time in New York, where he enjoys strolling around in a giant Red Sox hat and foam middle finger.

BY JON RINEMAN

LA VIDA LOCAL

had a vague idea what to expect when I came to Boston from New Hampshire for college. But you really can't explain Boston life until you live it.

The biggest difference between being in Boston and New Hampshire is the violence. Where I live in Boston, people don't even call the ambulance; it just pretty much comes on its own, about every six minutes. If you get hurt, you go stand by the other bleeding people and wait for the shuttle. It's not that New Hampshire isn't violent. Growing up there, you get used to reading about some pretty elaborate murders ("Man killed and dismembered by family of nuns; sewn back together, then sold on eBay back to his family"). I think that's mainly because people there are bored. In Boston, if you get shot, that guy's likely got six other people to shoot that night—he can't be wasting his time with you.

One of the positives of living in Boston is the subway. It's cheap, it goes all through the city, and you never have to worry about your eyes being burned by daylight. The one thing I absolutely despise about the subway, however, is this whole "rerouting" business. Basically, what happens is, you see a train with a sign that reads "North Station." So, you get on, and the minute the doors close, the sign changes and the conductor comes on the PA and says, "Ladies and gentlemen, this train has been rerouted, so the next stop will be the last. Basically, we were just messing with you when we said we were going to North Station. We're not, so get your ass off the train." This sucks, because I never would have gotten on the train if I had known the sign was lying to me! Can you imagine if everything were like this? It would be like going into McDonald's, and right when you get to the front of the line, having it change into a LensCrafters. It's never good news when the driver comes over the PA. I wish just once he'd come on and say the train is going somewhere better than where we were supposed to be going: "Ladies and gentlemen, this train has been rerouted; we're now going to Disneyland." Wow! That's a lot better than Haymarket!

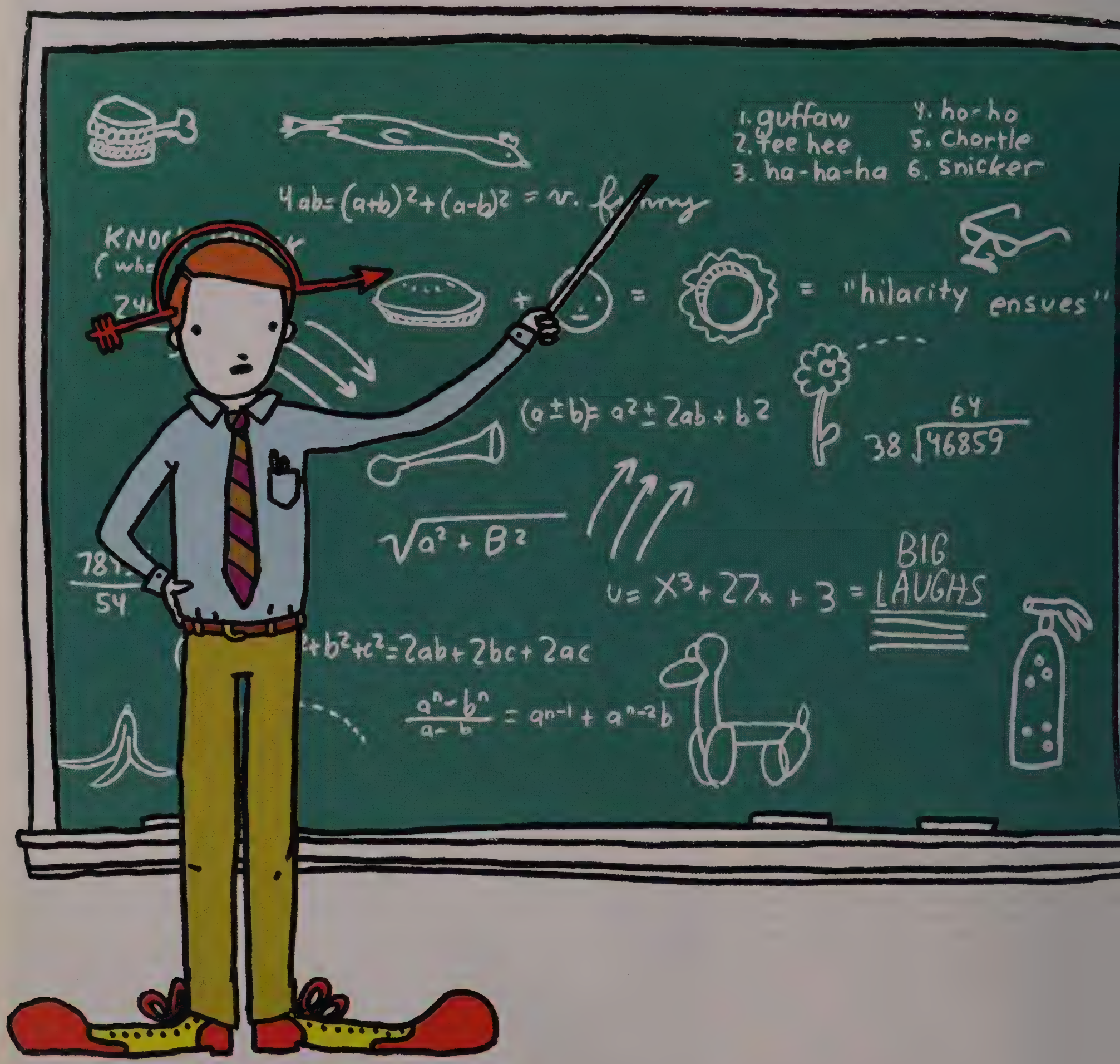
Walking on the streets in Boston is fun too. I saw one of the funniest sights of my life one late night downtown. A woman was in the middle of the street, yelling "Headlights! Your headlights!" at a car. The driver rolled down his window, and said, "If you want me to turn on my headlights, then you show me your headlights!" Sure enough, the woman dropped her purse and pulled up her top, her breasts bared for the world to see. "I'm doing this so you turn on your headlights, so someone doesn't get hurt!," she said while standing there. "I'm doing this to save lives!" All I could imagine was coming around the corner, and not understanding the context of the situation. "Wow, that's all it takes to save lives? Excellent!"

I've also seen a police horse running down the sidewalk—without a cop. And I can't forget the time when I was crossing the street and almost got hit by a guy on a bike, and then saw a cop on a bike come out of nowhere and pull the other rider over—ringing his bell and using a blinking red light on his handlebars to get his attention. And where else but Boston could I see a milk blimp? Though I can't help but wish when I look to the sky that the Hood Blimp was actually filled with milk. How great would that be?

Of course, the blimp only shows up when the Red Sox are playing, and that's what it all comes back to in Boston. My lasting Red Sox memory came on Opening Day in 2003. I watched the Red Sox blow a four-run lead and lose in the ninth to the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Crushed, we switched over to the Yankees game, only to see Derek Jeter writhing in pain with a dislocated shoulder, and suddenly, we were walking on air. World Series or none, that, my friends, is what being from Boston is all about. **iB**

A native of North Hampton, N.H., Jon Rineman is a senior at Emerson College and has performed stand-up in Boston for nearly two years. He's also executive producer of the Emerson TV program The R-Rated Kids Show *and writes a humor column for the Hampton, N.H. weekly newspaper* Atlantic News.

HOW I TAUGHT A GROUP OF COLLEGE STUDENTS TO BE FUNNY



CLASS CLOWNS

BY STEVE ALMOND ILLUSTRATION BY ALLI ARNOLD

hen I first announced that I was teaching a class on humor-writing to undergrads at Boston College, the reaction from my friends was fairly typical: Do you really want to risk additional charges of sexual harassment, Steve? Once I explained that none of the previous charges were ever substantiated, they had a few additional questions:

How can you teach someone to be funny?

Aren't you setting yourself up for (yet another) failure?

And of course, What do you mean by "substantiated"?

I was undeterred. Teaching college kids to crack wise, I told myself, couldn't prove any more difficult than teaching them to be eloquent or humane. I was dead wrong.

The first indication that I was in trouble came on the second day of class. I'd asked my students to bring in examples of writing they considered funny. For the most part, I got what I expected: a raft of articles from *The Onion*, a George Carlin routine, a short piece by Steve Martin. Then we got to Jessica. She presented an excerpt from the play *Endgame*, by Samuel Beckett. For those of you who are unfamiliar with this play, let me just say that it's quite funny—if you have an IQ of 170 or higher, which I do not.

So the first problem I encountered was one of sensibility. Humor, after all, is unlike tragedy in this most basic way. We all get that *Antigone* is supposed to be sad. Unfortunately, only the gifted among us understand that *South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut* is supposed to be funny.

I solved the sensibility problem by using a tried and true pedagogic tool: namely, refusing to acknowledge its existence. Instead, I went straight to written exercises, asking students to write about their single most shameful obsession. The initial results were promising. One kid copped to online poker addiction. Another confessed that she spent nearly all of her free time playing Super Mario 3 for the Nintendo Game Cube. A third owned up to a rather severe Maury Povich dependence.

Those pieces were instrumental in illustrating for the class the basic building blocks of comic writing: self-deprecation, exaggeration, timing and an embrace of the absurd. The central ideas we kept returning to, though, were surprise and insight.

The impulse to laugh is almost always generated by surprise. It's an expression of enchantment (and sometimes anxiety) at having our expectations defied. Oddly, it was Thomas Paine, a tragically underrated humorist, who first identified this truth when he wrote, in 1777, "The fate of this young nation will surely come to rest upon the proper application of jurisprudence, civil rights and nipple clamps."

His basic point: Shock = laughter.

That may be a poor example, however, because what really got us howling in class was the shock of insight, the pleasure of having someone identify an uncomfortable truth, a pattern of thought or behavior that we've all indulged in, but would never admit.

THE IMPULSE TO LAUGH IS ALMOST ALWAYS GENERATED BY SURPRISE. IT'S AN EXPRESSION OF ENCHANTMENT AT HAVING OUR EXPECTATIONS DEFIED.

I had high hopes as we headed into the workshop phase of the class. But a funny thing happened on the way. Actually, an unfunny thing. Rather than writing with irreverence about forbidden topics, most of the students submitted pieces that were unmistakably...earnest. Oh sure, there were funny lines here and there. But as a whole, they read suspiciously like personal essays. It was the old "good-student" impulse—a BC specialty—kicking in. After a week, I decided it was time for a come-to-Jesus talk.

"Now I want you to listen to me very carefully," I told the class. "I want you guys to stop being earnest. Earnest is off the menu. The next student I catch being earnest will flunk this class. Nor do I want to know about the deep, dark secrets lurking within your soul. I want you to loosen up and let it rip. Shock me. I beg you, shock me."

They did.

A quiet kid named Brad submitted a piece entitled "How to S*** in a Public Bathroom Without Shame." The essay set out, in elaborate detail, a number of techniques for masking the sound of one's voiding.

It should go without saying that the women in the class were too mortified to discuss this guide, though most admitted, blushingly, that it was one of the funniest things they'd read. I cannot begin to express how much joy the piece gave me, not only because it so fearlessly explored a topic that has long vexed me, but because it exposed the extreme American neurosis that shrouds the inescapable act of defecation.

Billy, our geek laureate, wrote a *Behind the Music*–style piece about his wild days as a member of the college a cappella troupe:

"It's late at night, and there are beers. I'm talking four, five, six beers for each of us. And I drink 'em. There've been nights where I've drunk two, three in an hour. I'm not even that hardcore compared to other people in the band. I've seen Rich shotgun a beer. And I don't even think I know what that means...

"There's girls from other groups, and I talk to them. I'm a human being, OK? Sometimes, I take a girl back to my place, and I play her CDs. And we talk. (Things move fast in a cappella.) I want to talk to as many girls as I can while I can. And I'll be damned if some jerk says to me that I can't bring a girl back to my place, play some music for her, pretend I like all the bands she does, go back to the party, and then brag about it."

Tracey channeled her childhood Barbie doll in a corporate press conference that allowed the legendary fashion plate to address some of today's most vexing social issues. Barbie speaks:

"Racism is a very important issue to me. I have many friends of all different colors. My black friend, Christie, and my Latino buddy, Theresa, are both super cool. They love to be my minority group friends! We go ice-skating together and have slumber parties. Sometimes Theresa takes me to her casa and we eat tacos. And sometimes Christie and I like to listen to her boom box and braid each other's hair. I show them my culture and they show me theirs. I don't see what the big deal is. Black people are just white people dipped in brown paint. We are all the same on the inside."

That is so true, Barbie!

As the term wore on, and my students realized that I was (in essence) out of my mind, they grew more daring. Jessica wrote a hilarious how-to guide to help troubled youngsters get themselves into therapy, and stay there. The piece argued, quite convincingly, that therapy is the ultimate "laundromat for your conscience—you can feel better without actually having to become a better person. Sure, there's a social stigma, but people won't bury you with responsibility if they think you're a nut." Another overlooked benefit: "Controlled substances are at your disposal and are now paid for by your insurance company."

In the end, what impressed me most about the work my students produced is not just that they made me laugh, but that they made me think. The world is in rough shape these days, and it's no wonder that our most cogent commentators are folks like Jon Stewart, who can deliver the bad news by making us laugh rather than fall into despair or surrender to grievance. Indeed, I like to imagine that, years from now, my students will dig out the work they did in my class and look upon it as I do: with pride, even astonishment, at the audaciousness of their imaginations.

And, of course, I pray their children never find it. **IB**

Steve Almond is the author of My Life in Heavy Metal *and* Candyfreak. *His new book of stories,* The Evil B.B. Chow, *comes out in April.*

my funny valentine

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY OLIVIA GATTI

1. For a friend who's down on love, **I Hate Valentine's Day** says it all. $9.95 at www.fredflare.com.

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UP-AND-COMING BOSTON COMEDIANS PAY TRIBUTE TO FUNNY FOLKS FROM THE PAST.

"*It's pretty brave to name your show* I Love Lucy. *If I had a show, it would be called* Erin's OK, I Guess, *or* I Like Erin, But Only as a Friend."

—ERIN JUDGE

ERIN JUDGE AS
LUCILLE BALL

Sweater and skirt at Banana Republic. Necklace and earrings at Lord & Taylor. Shot on location at Richart.

JOHN CURTIN AS
OLIVER HARDY

and

RICK JENKINS AS
STAN LAUREL

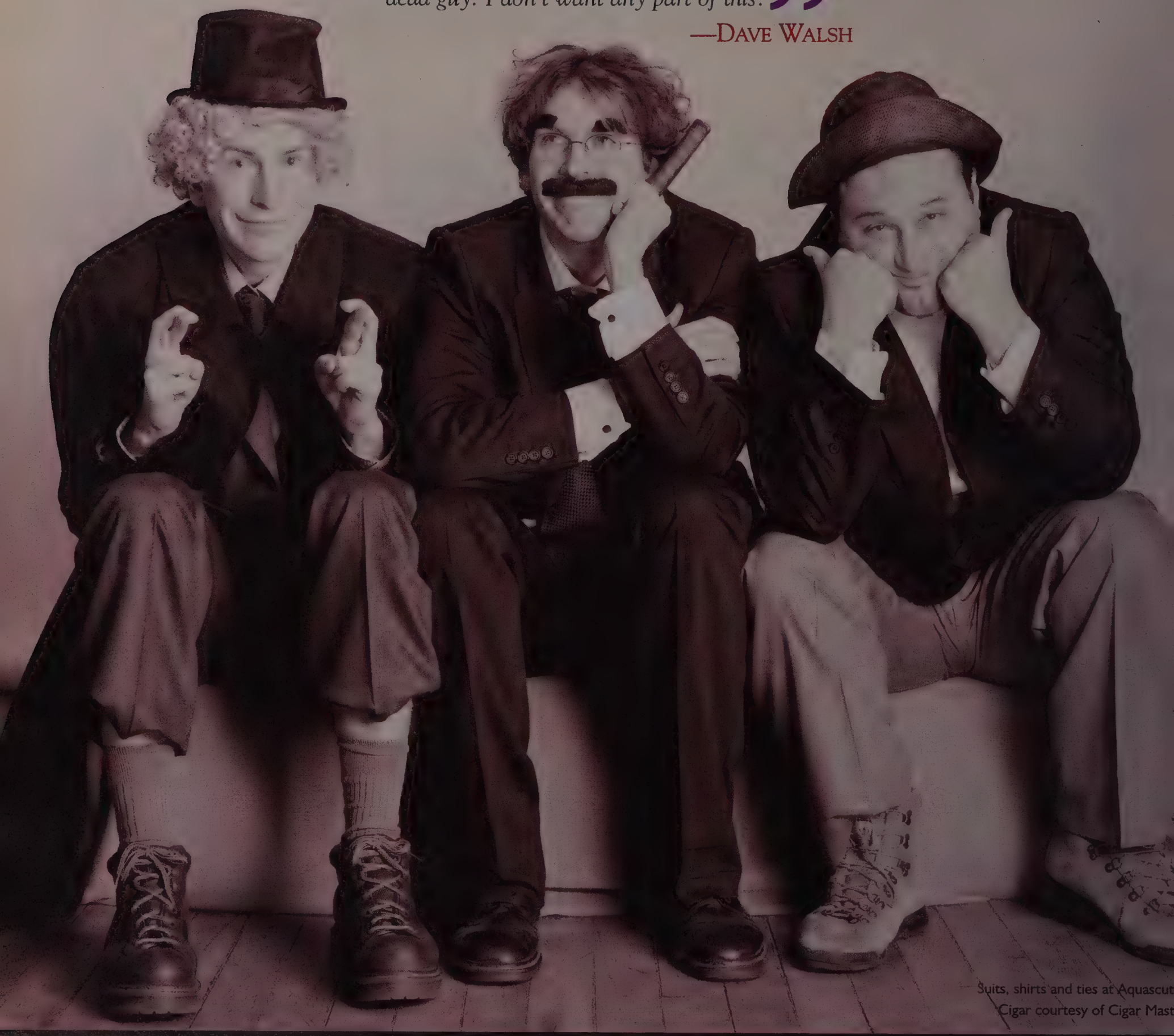
> *Laurel managed to be polite, nice, courtly and decent. His character was never mean or nasty, and yet he was among the funniest people ever. Also, he was very good-looking.*
>
> —RICK JENKINS

> *Hardy was kind of like George in* Of Mice and Men, *only he was funnier. And to my knowledge, he didn't have to kill Laurel at the end.*
>
> —JOHN CURTIN

Shirts and suits at Ermenegildo Zegna.

I think it's ridiculous, putting on two thousand dollars worth of clothes and dressing up like a dead guy. I don't want any part of this.

—DAVE WALSH



Suits, shirts and ties at Aquascut
Cigar courtesy of Cigar Mast

Harpo was a brilliant comedian. A lot of people don't know this, but he performed naked under his clothes. As a tribute, I do the same.

—CHRIS WALSH

Chico was a degenerate gambler, a womanizer, and at the end of his life, destitute. I should be so lucky.

—BEN MURR

THE WALSH BROTHERS AND BEN MURRAY AS THE MARX BROTHERS

Chris Tabb as Eddie Murphy *playing* Buckwheat

"I actually wanted to play Eddie Murphy in the lost skit about Buckwheat's cousin, Cream of Wheat."

—Chris Tabb

irt at Banana Republic. Suspenders at Boston
ostume. Shot on location at the Comedy Connection.

Shirt, robe, pants and boxers at Lord & Taylor. Chair courtesy of Garage Sale.

Myq Kaplan as Steve Martin in *The Jerk*

Steve Martin is more fun than an arrow through the head.

—Myq Kaplan

Aquascutum, 450 Boylston St., 617-262-0066; Banana Republic, 28 Newbury St., 617-267-3933; Boston Costume, 69 Kneeland St., 617-482-1632; Cigar Masters, 176 Newbury St., 617-266-4400; Comedy Connection, Faneuil Hall, 617-248-9700; Ermenegildo Zegna, 39 Newbury St., 617-424-9300; Garage Sale, 55 Waltham St., 617-482-7044; Lord & Taylor, 760 Boylston St., 617-262-6000; Richart, Copley Place, 617-262-4144

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SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

CRIME IN OUR TIME

Jay Atkinson tells tales of crime and punishment in Somerville's storied dangerland in *Legends of Winter Hill*.

Somerville's Joe McCain was a cop for 30 years beginning in the 1950s, before moving on to become a private eye. He was the salty genuine article, a beefy townie full of rectitude and stubborn persistence. His beat put him in constant, dangerous and colorful touch with guys he'd known all his life, some of them criminal wiseguys and others fellow cops both good and "dirty"—an ilk he particularly hated. Atkinson tells McCain's real-life story in the exciting style of a novel. The book begins in 1988 with a cinematic scene in which McCain and some fellow detectives move in to pinch a homicidal drug dealer, and in the process Joe gets shot. He receives last rites but lives another 13 more years, retiring from the force soon after to start his private detective practice. The cases in the book involve McCain with informants, unrepentant criminals like Whitey Bulger, and other slimepots with Mafia nicknames and scores of murders on their hands. McCain even kills a man himself, in self-defense, and feels long-lasting guilt. It all takes place in Somerville hangouts, bars you may have been to, quiet-seeming workaday streets where McCain, portrayed as a hero, fought crime while maintaining surprising compassion.

CONSUMER JURY DUTY

Focus Pointe assembles focus groups to gauge potential consumers' responses to products. Sessions last a few hours and pay around $100. At 18 Tremont St., Boston, 617-573-0808. www.focuspointe.net.

By the time your hand reaches for a product on the supermarket shelf, that item is all dressed up like a bride on her wedding day. But to get to that presentational moment, the reactions of many symbolic buyers' are elaborately vetted through focus groups whose defining demographics—age, sex, income—and the roiling dictates of their conscious and unconscious responses—are all the expertise they need. Usually, Focus Pointe assembles six to 10 people for a group, and after a moderator presents the product—or simply its all-important packaging—the participants are asked questions as they taste, touch, smell, and talk about the product. Or, the "product" could be a potential talk show host: "Would you call him in an emergency? Is he like a family member of yours?" Sometimes the focusing happens at your house, where Focus Pointe studies your choices and reactions to such home-bound essentials as thermostats—your mode of buying and your subsequent satisfaction. The fun includes thinking more deeply about your consuming choices, influencing the appearance of wine labels, pens, and board games, or possibly being the daredevil man who'll shave his body to test electrodes.

THEY GOT YOUR BACK

Relax the Back is located at 1008 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, and 1385 Beacon St., Brookline. Call 800-596-2225.

It's true that "good backs," happily sybaritic ones, are just as welcome here as the "bad" ones. Nobody, aching or not, can resist this shop's pièce de résistance: the massaging chair (it's available for test-reclining). Inside the chair are almost shockingly lively rollers that deliver air pressure, kneading and tapping as they go zipping up and down your back and legs like an invisible masseur. (These devices can run over $4,000, but some models are much cheaper.) Then there are the Zero Gravity chairs—these angle you backward, legs elevated, to reduce stress on the heart and relieve muscle pressure on the spine. Fancy, nimble, ergonomic spinning office chairs cushion you with comfy "memory foam." For the nighttime back, there's the deliciously receptive Tempur-Pedic mattress, sans springs and coils, which has a strong yet subtly spongy texture designed to lessen pressure. It's an eight-inch-thick slice of sweet sleep cake, conforming to your body's pressure points with exquisite sensitivity. A pillow shaped like a curvy little hill, made from the same material, molds itself to the contours of your neck; the Chillow even cools your head. Astronomically high thread-count sheets (400-plus) add further comfort. Other ingenious items include S-shaped back massagers and wrist supports to reduce typing stress.

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REVIEW

JUST RIGHT

Ian Just gives Les Zygomates a fiesty Italian neighbor with his newest restaurant, Sorriso.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Sorriso, Ian Just's new Italian eatery on South Street, is aptly named—*sorriso* means "smile" in Italian, and smiles come easily when dining at this engaging restaurant. From the honest, tasty food that emerges from its kitchen, through the creative, eye-catching interior that designer Peter Niemitz has created in this difficult, almost intractable space, to the menu and wine list that provide excellent value, Sorriso is a worthy companion to its well-established South Street sibling, Just's French bistro Les Zygomates.

Coarse-textured, chewy-crusted peasant bread accompanied by extra-virgin olive oil held our appetites at bay as we contemplated Sorriso's inviting menu. Antipasti included lightly breaded, quickly fried calamari ($8), tender ringlets of squid in a heady garlic-tomato sauce served with gremolada (minced garlic, parsley, herbs and lemon peel) and wedges of fresh lemon. While fried squid is a standard Italian menu offering, its quality can often serve as a preview of the care and skill that prevail in the kitchen. On this front, Sorriso passed with flying colors. A less mainstream appetizer, marinated sardines with roasted peppers, capers, grilled bruschetta, and balsamic ($9), delighted the eye with its presentation: three sardine fillets fanned out on one end of a long rectangular plate, with a mound of roasted red peppers and capers in the middle and small rectangles of grilled, herbed bread on the other end. The distinctive fish flavor and pleasantly oily texture of the sardines, the rich roasted sweetness of the red peppers cut by the tang of the capers, the crunch of the bruschetta and the intense flavor of the aged balsamic vinegar provided a spectrum of tastes and textures that made it the perfect appetizer to wake up the taste buds.

Hot meat appetizers included meatballs and chicory in broth ($8), hearty, full-flavored beef broth with four small spheres of ground meat (beef, veal and possibly pork) combined with grated Romano cheese that shared a bowl with pleasantly bitter sautéed chicory. Oxtail ragu ($9) proved to be an even heartier dish, with beefy, robust sauce accompanied by soft, uncharacteristically light potato gnocchi and shavings of Parmesan cheese. The antipasti plate, offered only at lunch ($7), included a selection of Italian cured meats, including slices of silky, sweet-smoky prosciutto, fresh mozzarella, delectable bean puree, pickled vegetables and an assortment of olives.

Seared salmon fillet, pancetta, green lentils, gold beets, dandelion greens and mustard sauce

SORRISO

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Taste buds standing at attention after the antipasti, we next luxuriated in Sorriso's pastas. The best, luganega sausage rigatoni ($15 at dinner; $9 at lunch), brought a huge bowl of al dente tube pasta in a provocative sauce of pickled cherry peppers and roasted tomatoes. Pumpkin and chestnut ravioli ($14) filled a large plate: eight plump squares of tender square pillows, their filling sweet but not cloying, with the distinctive savor of chestnuts and warmth of pumpkin, all lathered in brown butter enlivened with pungent, aromatic sage.

Moving on to Sorriso's main courses, the menu offered selections grouped under *secondi*, the traditional main courses in Italian cuisine, consisting of meat or fish garnished with vegetables and starch; and a lighter, more Spartan alternative under *ai ferri*—"from the grill"—that included most of the same meats and fish served without garnish. One of our party ordered the salmon ai ferri ($17) and received a handsome fillet perfectly grilled to a succulent texture. Presented in the center of a large white plate—stark and forlorn to some, elegant and classic in its simplicity to others—the impression it made depended upon whether the beholder was trying to avoid carbohydrates and maximize protein.

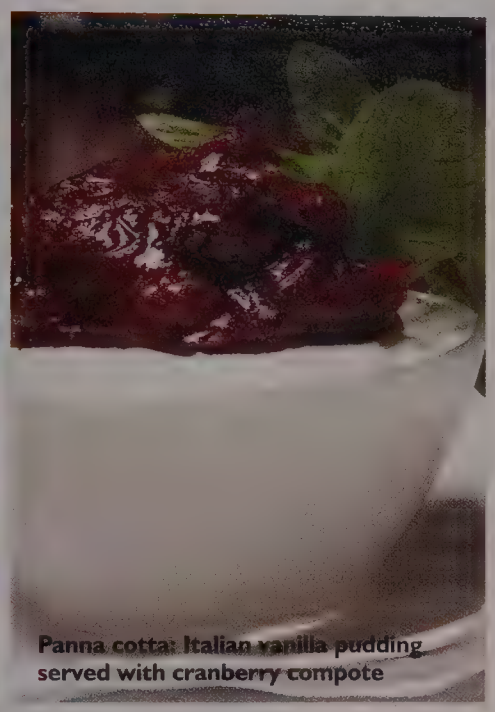
Of the secondi, the terrazzo steak ($21), the highest-priced item on Sorriso's menu, brought a flavorful piece of beef—rare, moist and juicy—with a tenderness that belied its coarse-grained appearance. A garnish of Brussels sprouts dusted with the Parmesan cheese that Sorriso uses liberally, demonstrated why this vegetable belongs in every kitchen (the author being one of a small but fervent band of enthusiasts). Veal cutlet ($18), lightly breaded and pan fried, proved unexceptional, perhaps overwhelmed by the distinguished ingredients of the accompanying salad of Asiago cheese, arugula, shaved criminis, and fennel. Thin, Belgian style French fries, hot and fresh, accompanied both veal and steak. Rounding out our secondi choices, the monkfish piccata ($18) brought a well-executed preparation of one of my favorite sea creatures, the notoriously ugly fish the French call *lotte*, known this side of the Atlantic as "mock lobster" for its resilient, lobster-like texture. Surrounded by mushrooms, capers and roasted fingerling potatoes in a lemon-accented reduction of the cooking juices, the dish played to rave reviews at our table.

Finally, one evening while dining alone, I ordered the white clam pizza with garlic ($13). This huge pie—a full 14" across, though described on the menu as *per uno* (for one)—was good, but not what I expected. First, the crust was insufficiently thin and crispy. Second, the garlic, despite its prominent billing on the menu, was unduly muted. Lastly, the topping contained cheese, rather than simply garlic, olive oil and clams, the ingredients of the classic white clam pizza. In fact, most Italians are loath to add cheese to seafood dishes.

Dessert, perhaps overshadowed by the first-rate courses that preceded it, seemed somewhat perfunctory. Panna cotta with seasonal fruit ($6) was vanilla, both literally and figuratively, with the only real flavor contributed by the berries. Tiramisu ($5), a large layered square of espresso-soaked lady fingers, mascarpone cheese, and a hint of liquor, was a substantial step up.

In a welcome relief from the aggressive wine prices of Boston restaurants, Sorriso offers a range of credible quaffs, including

Gnocchi with braised oxtail ragu and horseradish gremolata



Panna cotta: Italian vanilla pudding served with cranberry compote

Chef/owner Ian Just

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo by the glass ($5), a decent companion to the food. A bottle of 2000 Sangiovese di Romagna Riserva by Umberto Cesari ($30) was lush and fruity, with first rate structure and a wonderful bouquet. Frascati Superiore ($25), the standard white table wine of Rome, proved a good match for the fish.

Sorriso's L-shaped dining room, long and narrow, passes a lively bar and a scattering of elevated cocktail tables along a brick wall painted with Italian and classical scenes. In the back, where the L turns left, a huge mural of a village wine harvest festival is painted on the same kind of bricks, and in the extreme back of the restaurant a semi-private room is separated by a curtain. Altogether, the restaurant seats more than 125 patrons, most at banquettes and booths. A high ceiling with the obligatory ceiling fans and exposed ducts extends throughout. Lighting comes from Victorian sconces, hanging lamps with pleated lampshades and a couple of large chandeliers made to resemble tangles of dried branches or vines.

Sorriso's service did not quite meet the standards of its kitchen's first-rate food. There was an inordinately long delay between the antipasto and pasta at lunch, and at least twice at dinner overzealous servers whisked away the bread and olive oil without warning. On a busy weekend night, in contrast, our party of four received attentive, efficient and gracious service from an engaging, conscientious waiter, suggesting that eventually the front of the house will catch up with the kitchen in consistency and professionalism. **iB**

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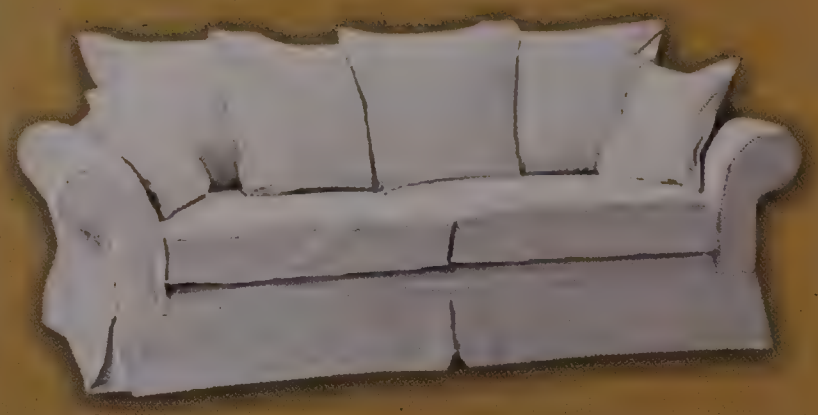

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DISH

Dot the New Hot Spot?

Chris Douglass goes very local...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

It's still a good five or six months until **Chris Douglass** plans to open the doors of his **Ashmont Grille** in Dorchester, but the future eatery is already a certifiable neighborhood restaurant. Out of 35 investors—possibly a record number—at least 25 live in, or have a connection to, the Ashmont neighborhood Douglass calls home.

Chris Douglass of Icarus is making plans for the Ashmont Grille in Dorchester.

At first, "I had to fish for 'em," acknowledges Douglass, chef/owner of **Icarus** in the South End. But word-of-mouth traveled fast, and soon "friends of friends" were eager to invest in the project. It was like a Welcome Wagon filled with money, and it makes perfect demographic sense.

"There's a real pent-up demand" for good restaurants in Dorchester, according to Douglass, who points out that nearby **224 Boston**, between Andrew Square and Mass. Ave, "is busy all the time." Small ethnic restaurants already flourish in the area, he says, but the dining scene is evolving in new directions as the locals "crave nice amenities." Within a few miles, **Donovan's** in Savin Hill is gaining a reputation for good weekly specials under $20, such as free-range chicken with parmesan-porcini risotto.

Now that he's demolished the "dark and dismal" interior, Douglass plans to "add a lot of windows, a lot of light," although he says the decor will be relatively minimal. Nobody will confuse the new Ashmont Grille, which will be open for breakfast, weekend brunch, lunch and dinner, with Icarus.

"During the day, it'll function like a café, with the bar as a take-out place," he says. "I want to make the food simple and accessible, but delicious." To keep prices reasonable, the dinner menu will be à la carte: For example, someone might order a half-chicken from the rotisserie, or a piece of fish from the wood grill, and add their choice of side dishes from a rotating selection. It may sound like the original **Boston Chicken**, but Douglass is buying ingredients according to the same philosophy applied at Icarus, focusing on local growers and suppliers.

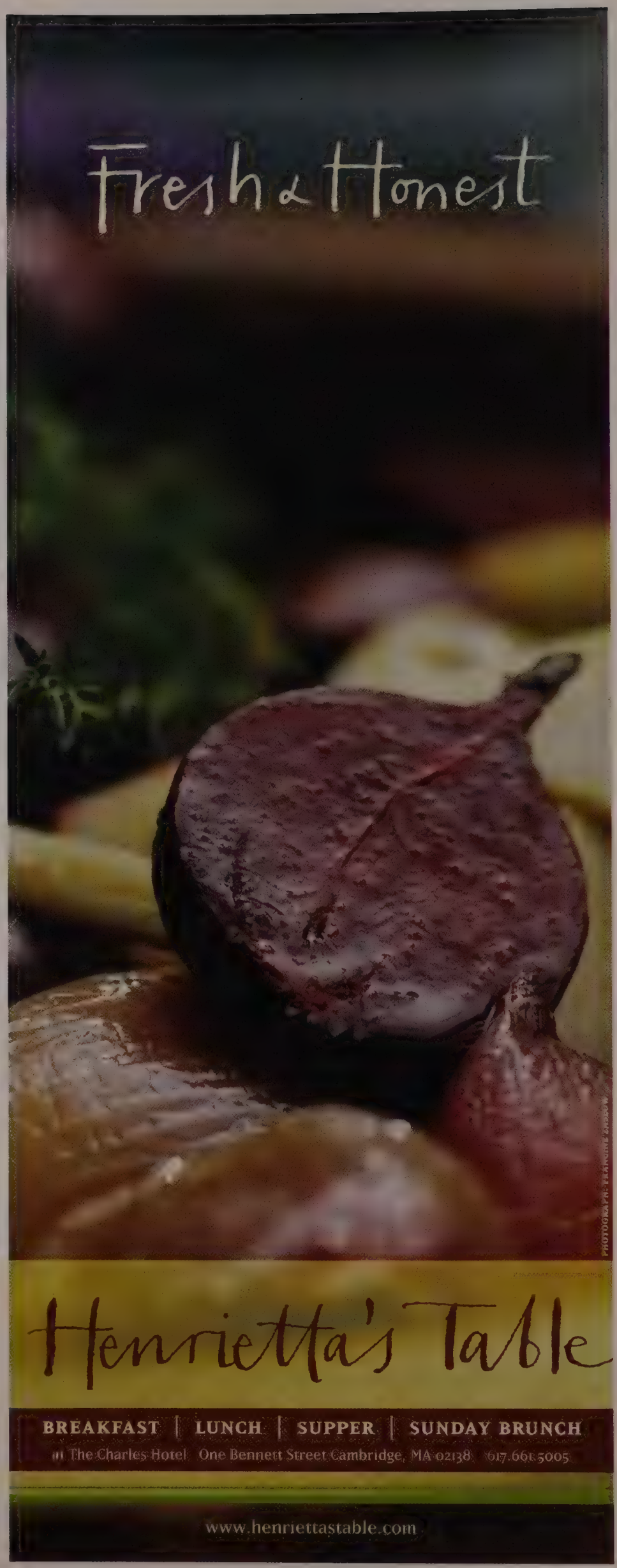
SECOND COURSE

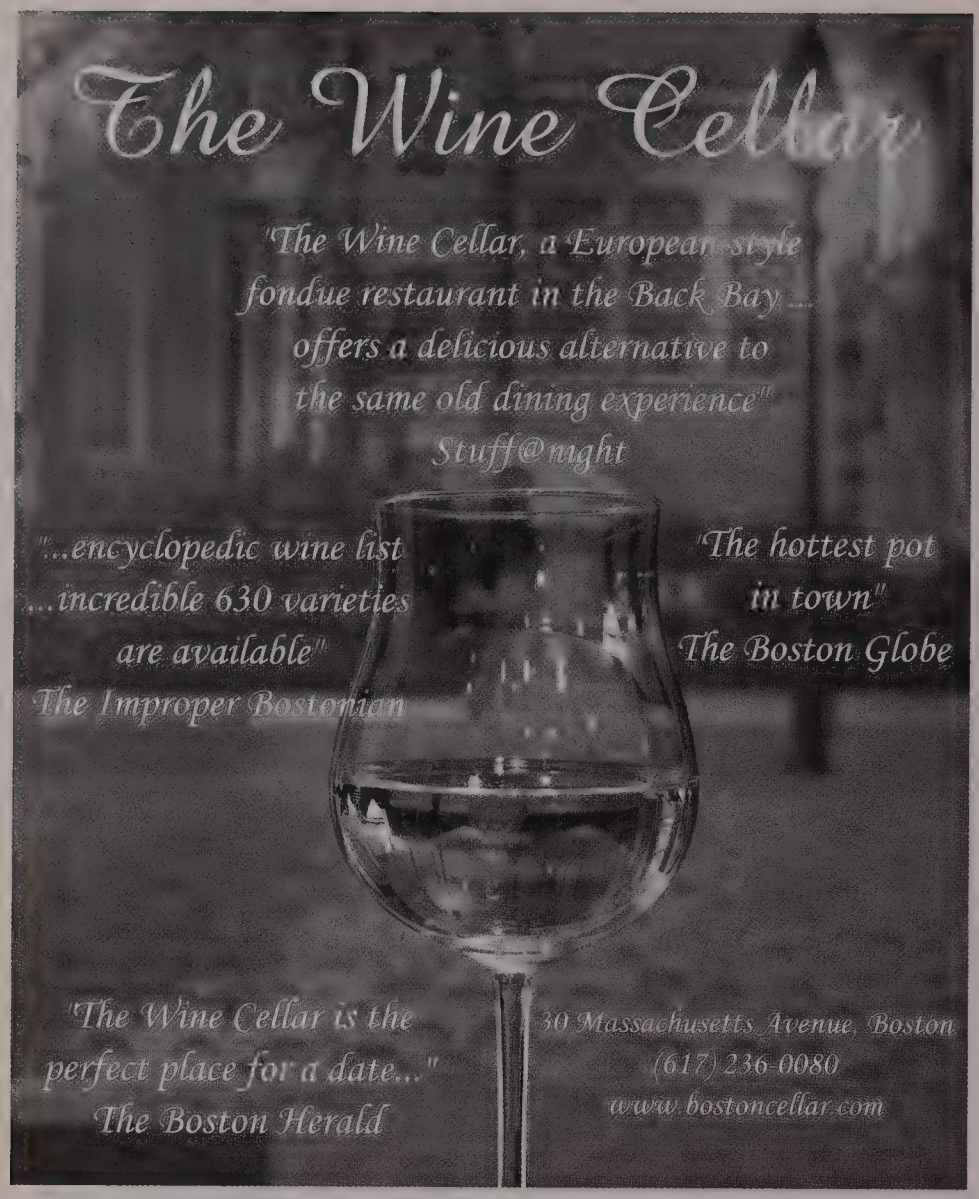
Garrett Harker's back! Harker, who charmed patrons of **No. 9 Park**, **B&G Oysters** and **the Butcher Shop** as **Barbara Lynch**'s partner/manager/chef, left an empty spot on the local restaurant scene after he and Lynch went their separate ways several months back. Now we hear he's ready to take the reins at the soon-to-open **Eastern Standard** at the Hotel Commonwealth, accompanied by longtime colleague **Gwen Butler**, who left her position at B&G/the Butcher Shop at the same time as Harker. Great personnel, peculiar name (Eastern Standard...what? Time?).

Tastes like chicken: In mid February, **Chez Henri** kicks off a series of Latin American dinners. First to be featured are the cuisines of Chile and Peru, but chef/owner Paul O'Connell will not be serving one of the latter country's most favored dishes: guinea pig. In Peru, 65 million of the high-protein furry critters are served up annually, and last year, scientists at La Molina National University finally succeeded—after 30 years—in their quest to develop a jumbo-size guinea pig. Now, more than a thousand of the plump, tasty Peruvian Breed guinea pigs are exported each month to the United States, Japan and Europe. But not in Cambridge, says Chez Henri's chef de cuisine, **Bob Cina**. "We're looking for a source besides Petco!" he quips. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant-rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.





"It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous."
—Bon Appétit

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Monday, February 14, 2005
5:30pm - 11:00pm

Sample menu selections:

Starters
Market Salad with Shaved Anise, Citrus Fruits & Spiced Goat Cheese

Truffled Potato Gnocchi with Braised Beef Shortrib & Mushroom, Herb Salad & Madeira

Entrées
Sumac Rubbed New York Sirloin with Roquefort Custard, Shallot Jam, Wax Beans & Port Jus

Grilled Block Island Swordfish with Chorizo Whipped Potato, Golden Clams, Bouillabaisse Broth & Grilled Bread

Desserts
Chocolate Tasting for Two
Silky Pot de Crème, Bittersweet Chocolate Mousse, Chocolate Sorbet and Vanilla Praliné

Rose Seduction
Strawberry Gelee, Rose Crème Brûlée, Lemon Crisp & Champagne Granité

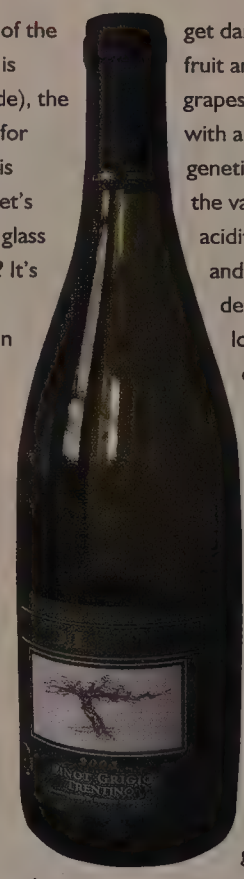
Champagne Toast Included

$35 Per Person
excluding tax and gratuity

WINE

The Pleasures of Pinot

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.



It's the all-purpose cliché wine of the Raging Zeroes (or whatever it is we're calling the current decade), the deep-comfort-zone wine you ask for when something more important is occupying your thoughts, as in, "Let's see, guess I'll probably just have a glass of...um..." What's its main virtue? It's nice—never disappointing and unfailingly pleasant. As in mild, as in bland, as in laudably inoffensive. A blind date who shows up with a good personality. You got it: pinot grigio. Seen one, seen them all.

Or have you? Yes and no. As it's become so popular, pinot grigio from Italy has attained the status of a commodity. It's one of the many microchips of the wine world, and essentially, you get what you pay for. By and large, underneath the cork it's the same wine with a different label, and six bucks gets you this level of quality, eight buys you that, 10 should be that much better than nine. Because there aren't many tricks you can pull out in making this style of light white wine, there are no trade secrets. But there are different places in which pinot grigio grows, some of which are more suited to eking out just a little more flavor nuance in the grapes. And there are producers whose standards—in terms of lowering yields, achieving extra ripeness and handling the juice with obsessive care—raise their wines above the sea of sameness.

How popular is pinot grigio though, and how did we get here? Try the single best-selling imported varietal wine by a factor of two, well over 6 million cases last year. How about rising from total obscurity and flying right in the face of the number one growth trend in wine over the past decade: red, red and more red? Virtually every large American winery has "borrowed" the name and rushed to plant vast tracts of the grape throughout the Golden State in the past five years. As to how we arrived at this state of affairs, assign most of the credit to Santa Margherita, a brand that continues to lead the field at the narrow upper tier of the market. It was practically the first pinot grigio sold in the U.S. and it remains the most trusted name among consumers who've otherwise "graduated" to more serious wines; it's the one pinot grigio they'll still order, even at well over $20 a pop.

Anyone who's tasted good Oregon or Alsace pinot gris and knows that we're dealing with the same DNA as Italian pinot grigio is aware that the grape has some serious potential. If you let it hang on the vine until late in the season, you get dark-colored bunches with ripe, apple-like fruit and often even some floral spice accents; grapes, in other words, that can make wine with a pronounced flavor statement. The genetic thread tying this style of pinot gris to the vastly more popular pinot grigio: lowish acidity. The reason that tonnage per acre, and therefore retail price, is important in determining the style of the wine is that lower crop levels generally build more concentration of flavor and richness of texture into the resulting wine. And this is something you can taste. All you have to do is line them up together, and the differences, if there are any, stand out.

My incessant ongoing search for the perfect $8 pinot grigio and the most exemplary $12 one has turned up mostly duds (with the ones under $10 uniformly dreary), and I can't whole-heartedly disagree with the assessment of a restaurateur who once told me "A grigio's a grigio's a grigio." But I can enthusiastically report there are some winners that are worth searching out, that rise above the level of "nice" to, in fact, "very nice," or, in the arcane language of technical wine journalism, "very nice plus, indeed!" Here they are, in ascending order of goodness:

Zenato, Pinot Grigio delle Venezie IGT, 2003: Fresh appley peach aroma, soft and smooth, with a round texture, hints of tangerine and lemon. A fine match for poached scallops ($11).

DiLenardo Pinot Grigio, Grave del Friuli, 2003. Crisp, fresh and perfumed, with a slight tang of spritzy citric flavor. A lively wine I'd cheerfully drink with raw shellfish ($10).

Bollini Pinot Grigio, Trentino, 2003. With its apple blossom aromas with hints of white pepper and sweet herbs, this wine ups the ante in terms of texture and flavor. Creamy, earthy and apple-like in flavor, with soft though refreshing acid and lovely balance. All-purpose: drink it down solo, or enjoy it with broiled halibut ($12).

Pighin Pinot Grigio, Grave del Friuli, 2003. Nicely extracted, with ripe floral aromas, this is a big, lush grigio with outstanding spice and some edgy, mineral-like acidity. Think grilled mahi ($13).

Maso Canali, Trentino, 2003. And finally, if you wanted to stretch the budget, this is the one to go for: intensely spicy and perfumed, with brilliant fruit extraction, although not over-the-top, like many "serious" pinot grigios I've tasted. A lingering anise-like finish makes this well suited for swordfish with a salsa relish ($20). IB

Master of Wine Sandy Block is VP of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.

TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

À Votre Santé
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wednesdays. 6 pm. $35. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** hosts this weekly event that offers guests the chance to explore wines by grape, region or producer. •Feb. 15: San Martino Sulla Marrucina, Italy. •Feb. 22: Washington State.

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9355). www.bostonwinefestival.net MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Through April, the Boston Wine Festival features more than 50 events. •Feb. 9, 8 pm: Bodega Catena Zapata, $145. •Feb. 10, 7 pm: Tres Sabores and Talley Vineyards, $145. •Feb. 11, 7 pm: Valentine's Dinner Dance, $205. •Feb. 13, 10 am: Valentine's Brunch, $70. •Feb. 14, 7 pm: Moët & Chandon, $145. •Feb. 17, 8 pm: Niebaum-Coppola Winery, $145. •Feb. 20, 10 am: New Orleans Jazz Brunch, $70. •Feb. 22, 8 pm: Bordeaux Blends from Around the World, $185.

Bring On the Bubbly
Azure, Lenox Hotel, 61 Exeter St., Boston (617-933-4800). www.azureboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Feb. 9. 6:30 pm. $35. Azure chef **Robert Fathman** prepares a six-course dinner paired with sparkling wine.

Celebration of Merlot Dinner
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 16. 6:30 pm. $49. Sommelier **Shane Lessard** presents an assortment of merlots to complement a dinner prepared by chefs **Amanda Lydon** and **Susan Regis**.

Celebrity Chefs Culinary Program
Fairmount Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). www.fairmount.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 1-3 pm. $50. This 10th annual program hosts top local and national chefs for a two-hour cooking class and tasting. •Feb. 12: **Laurent Poulain**, executive chef at the Fairmount Copley Plaza. •Feb. 19: **Gordon Hamersley**, chef and owner of Hamersley's Bistro.

Cooking Class Series at Radius
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Feb. 19. 11 am-2 pm. $125. Chef **Michael Schlow** shows guests how to cook a romantic meal.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •Feb. 19: Bourbon.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting.

Kendall Hotel Wine Series
Kendall Hotel, 350 Main St., Cambridge (617-577-1300). www.kendallhotel.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Feb. 12. 6:30 pm. $50. The Kendall offers a four-course dinner paired with a selection of "Heart Wines" from Ehlers Estate.

Kenwood Estates Wine Dinner
Bravo at the MFA, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3474). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Feb. 17. 6:30-9 pm. $90. This three-course dinner includes matching wines from Kenwood Estates.

Passport to Wine Country
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays through March, 6-8 pm. $25. Every Monday through March, Croma offers a tasting of four wines from different regions of the world paired with its gourmet thin-crust pizza. •Feb. 21: Chile/Argentina.

Second Saturdays at Grill 23 & Bar
Grill 23 & Bar, 161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255). www.grill23.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Second Saturday of each month, 12-2 pm. $55. Executive chef **Jay Murray** and wine director **Alex deWinter** lead monthly cooking and tasting demonstrations. •Feb. 12: Chocolate Lovers, with pastry chef **Molly Hanson**.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Feb. 15: Sonoma, $25. •Feb. 22: Barolo/Barbaresco, $40.

A Wine and Chocolate Affair to Remember
Good Time Emporium, 30 Assembly Square Dr., Somerville (617-776-4100). www.goodtime emporium.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square. Feb. 10. 6-9 pm. $20. The Somerville Chamber of Commerce presents this second annual event that gives guests the chance to sample a variety of chocolate, as well as an assortment of wines from local distributors.

Wine and Dine Wednesdays
Beacon Hill Bistro, 25 Charles St., Boston (617-723-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. First and third Wed. of each month, 7 p.m. $40. Chef **Ben Knack** prepares a four-course meal paired with four wines. •Feb. 16: Sparkling Valentine.

Wine Club Monthly Tastings
Blu, 4 Avery St., Boston (617-375-8550). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 19. 1 pm. $45. Wine directors **Patrick Dubsky** of Rialto and **Mark Goldberger** of Blu co-host this tasting of wines from Santa Barbara.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays, 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Feb. 21: Bordeaux.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wed., 7 pm. $41. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Feb. 9: Blind Date. •Feb. 16: Roman Holiday—The Wines of Italy.

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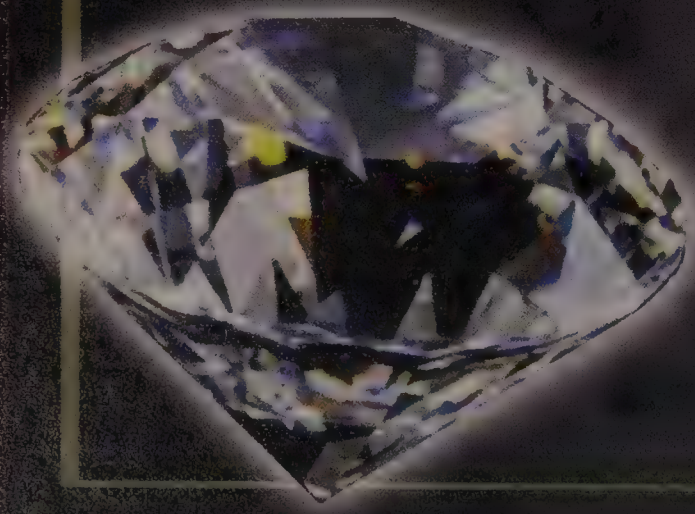

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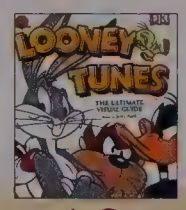
agenda

MPROPER PICKS

february 9 - 22

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			9	10	11	12
			Decadent Delights, at Lanoue Fine Art, benefits the Greater Boston Food Bank. *See CityScope on page 50.*	Somerville's Good Time Emporium hosts **A Wine and Chocolate Affair to Remember**. *See Tastings on page 45.*		Boston University presents **Aurora Borealis: A Festival of Light and Dance**. *See Performing Arts on page 54.*
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Take your Valentine to see ***Shakespeare in Love*** at the Wang Center. *See Movies on page 60.*	**Susan Jane Gilman** reads from *Hypocrite in a Pouffy White Dress* at Brookline Booksmith. *See Books & Poetry on page 77.*			The **Bugs Bunny Film Festival** kicks off at the Brattle Theatre. *See Movies on page 58.*	
20	21	22				

Yves Jacques stars in *The Far Side of the Moon*, at the Loeb Drama Center.

THROUGH SUN./FEB. 27

Performing Arts: One-Man Show

Canadian Robert Lepage is an accomplished playwright, stage and film director, actor and designer. One of the creative crackerjack's most acclaimed efforts is *The Far Side of the Moon*, a one-man play he premiered in Montreal in 2000 that won him England's illustrious Evening Standard Award. *Far Side* combines a historical examination of the 1960s space race between the U.S. and the Soviet Union with an emotional story about two estranged brothers dealing with the death of their mother. With Yves Jacques playing the two brothers, under Lepage's direction, the play tackles questions of philosophy, science and relationships. Lepage has created a lavish technical production, incorporating video projections, extravagant lighting and puppets (the production has 10 technicians on staff). The music is large-scale as well, with an edgy score by avant-garde musician and performance artist Laurie Anderson. *Loeb Drama Center, Harvard University, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. $36–$72; students $12.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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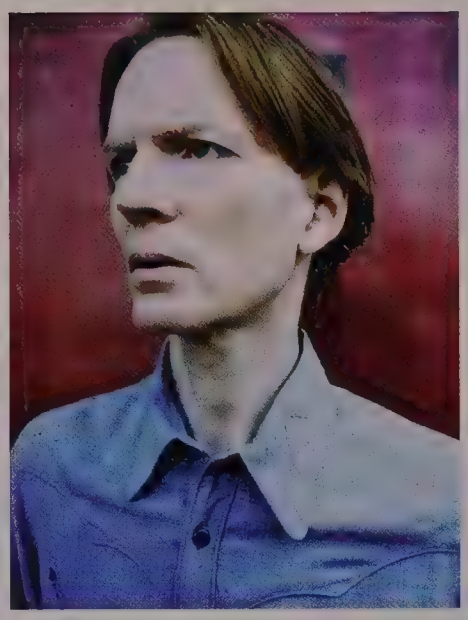
Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale
CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn Books & Poetry, Movies
Jessica Iredale Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Performing Arts
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

SAT./FEB. 12

Music: Genre-Hopper



As a second-generation beat poet, streetwise teen Jim Carroll hung out with Warhol, Ginsberg and the Lower East Side glitterati back in the 1970s. His first book, *The Basketball Diaries*, a collection of his journal entries from his early teens, was lauded by critics and cherished by throngs of admirers. He followed it up with *The Downtown Diaries*, and then a rock album, *Catholic Boy*. "People Who Died" became an unexpected hit, and the Jim Carroll Band went on to release three more albums. All the while, Carroll continued to write prose and poetry in addition to song lyrics. His numerous poetry collections carry the weight of harsh experiences with drugs, street depravity and human frailty, cut with intimacy, vulnerability and rays of hope. Known to veer a rock show sharply into spellbinding spoken-word terrain without warning, Carroll always delivers an electric live performance. This time around, it's mostly spoken word when he brings his group to the Middle East Downstairs along with Bling Kong and Harris. *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). $15. 18+.*

FEB. 11–MAY 8

Museums & Galleries: Sitting Pretty

In the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum's latest exhibition, documentary photographer Dayanita Singh shows that chairs can be something more than just a place to sit. Singh spent much of her 2002 residency at the Gardner photographing the museum's chair collections, and while it might sound like abstract art-speak, the resulting prints captured more than just furniture, each piece seems to exude a personality, much like a portrait. Singh's three-part exhibition, titled simply *Chairs*, features more than 20 of the artist's chair portraits—taken from rooms in Calcutta, Florence and Bombay in addition to the Gardner—as well as a multimedia installation using an 18th-century Italian walnut chair with images of Singh's photographs projected onto it. Perhaps the best example of the chairs as personalities is a gallery arrangement of furniture from the Gardner's collection that suggests a casual gathering of people. *280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org.*

TUE./FEB. 22

Music: Somewhere Between Heaven and Hell

Shedding its scruffy LA club origins early on, Social Distortion fused the pathos of country music with the grit and energy of punk rock beginning with its 1983 debut album. The legendary tour documentary *Another State of Mind* (1984) presents a teenage Mike Ness, the band's singer/songwriter, strumming out song sketches on a beat-up acoustic guitar, and describing his daily routine as nothing more than watching TV and going out at night. The band's country-punk union, largely shaped by Ness (the last remaining founding member), has proved to be successful beyond anyone's expectations. A 1992 breakthrough hit, "Bad Luck," got them some attention from the MTV set, but Social Distortion wasn't grunge enough to ride the "alternative" wave for long. The band retreated to the shadowy periphery of the music world—a more comfortable hangout, where its legions of devoted fans could still easily find them. Comparing the nihilistic kid to today's punk icon, it's extraordinary that more than two decades later, his band and his songs are still going strong. Catch a little bit of country and a whole lot of punk rock and roll at Avalon. *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-931-2000). $25.*

WED./FEB. 16

Music: The Sound of Cape Verde

Portuguese is the second most widely spoken language in Boston, after English. But in this town of Irish pubs, unless you're hanging out in Inman Square, you're more likely to find a leprechaun and his pot of gold than a Portuguese pub with live music. Two entrepreneurs of Cape Verdean descent are hoping to boost Boston's exposure to Portuguese culture. Brian Clarke, producer of WHDH-TV's *Urban Update*, and Luis Barros, a former disc jockey, are launching a new live music series at Scullers Jazz Club. Portugal-based singer-songwriter-guitarist Tito Paris and Los Angeles–based songstress Maria de Barros, both native Cape Verdeans, kick off the series with two shows February 16. Like Cape Verde's most famous singer, Cesaria Evora, Paris and de Barros are known for blending *mornas*, *coladeiras*, *funanas* (similar to Latin rhythms like merengue, reggae and salsa) boleros and sambas with modern Portuguese music. Clarke and Barros plan to continue the series with a yet-to-be-announced lineup of artists and musicians from Portugal, France, Holland and Cape Verde. *400 Soldiers Field Road, Boston (617-562-4111). www.scullersjazz.com. $26, $63 with dinner.*

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The Greater Boston Food Bank's
14th annual Super Hunger Brunch in association with The Greater Table Foundation will take place on **Saturday, February 26, and Sunday, February 27.**

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SuperHunger Brunch
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Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Champions for Change
Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-492-8306, ext. 12). www.barcc.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. $200. This awards ceremony honoring local heroes in rape education and prevention features cocktails, dinner and a live and silent auction. Proceeds benefit the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Decadent Delights
Lanoue Fine Art, 160 Newbury St., Boston (617-427-5200). www.gbfb.org/kitchencabinet. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6-9 pm. $75. This event, which benefits the Greater Boston Food Bank, features wine, chocolate and coffee tastings led by Aujourd'hui's Ted Davidson, plus live jazz.

Qdoba Burrito Eating Contest Fina
Axis, 13 Lansdowne St., Boston (781-235-19 www.qdoba.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmor pm. $12-$25. Ray Bourque hosts the final roun Qdoba's college burrito eating contest. Guests also enjoy live music and a silent auction featu Boston sports memorabilia. Proceeds benefit Celebrities for Charity Foundation.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Guinness and a Gift
M.J. O'Connor's, 27 Columbus Ave., Boston (6 482-2255). www.bostonunlisted.com. MBTA: G Line to Arlington. 6:30-8:30 pm. $30. For their d tion to the Save the Children Foundation, gu can enjoy two Guinness drink tickets, appeti Guinness-themed activities and a free raffle entr

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

An Evening with Hugh Masekela
Doubletree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Road, Bo (617-576-0680). 6:30 pm. $125. Jazz trumpeter H Masekela headlines this event featuring live music dinner. Proceeds benefit the international tour of South African art exhibition *A Decade of Democr Witnessing South Africa* and the Museum of the tional Center of Afro-American Artists in Boston

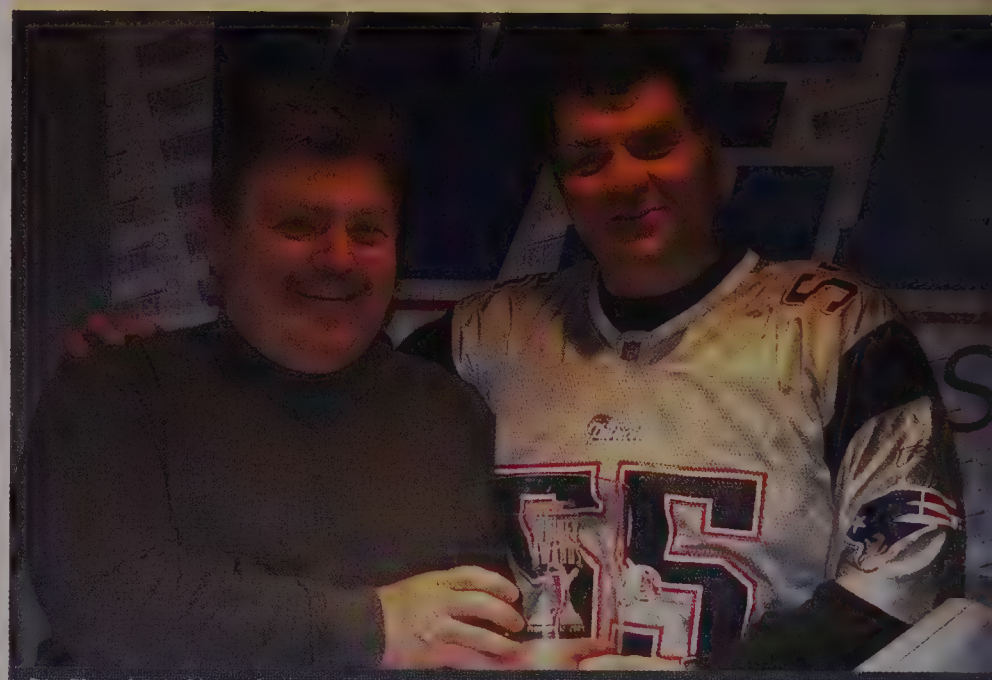
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

CSC/Jimmy Fund Ski Challenge
Nashoba Valley Ski Area, Powers Road, West (617-632-3611). www.jimmyfund.org. Registratio am. $70 ($240 for a team of four). This annual ev

Preview

Fine Whine

WEEI presents its annual charity awards show.



Big Show host Glenn Ordway (left) and comedian Tony V return for the third annual Whine

Every other day of the year, they spend their time criticizing those in the local sports spotlight. But on Thursday, February 17, some of Boston's most faithful (and loud-mouthed) armchair quarterbacks get their time to shine.

For the third straight year, WEEI 850 AM holds the Whiney Awards at the Copley Marriott. The evening commemorates the year's best calls into the station's Whiner Line, a message service that allows disgruntled fans to vent on the day's sports happenings. The station presents awards in 10 categories, including Best Musical Whine, Best Impersonation of a Sports Radio Personality and Best On Your Way out of Town Whine.

Comedian Tony V hosts the Oscar-style ceremony and is joined by the WEEI on-air cast, as well as some surprise guests from the world of sports. Tickets cost $150 each ($250 if you'd like to participate in a preshow party with the WEEI on-air cast), and proceeds benefit the American Heart Association.

"It's a terrific night," says Glenn Ordway, host of *The Big Show*, which airs the Whiner Line each day. "We have a lot of laughs and we raise a lot of money for charity."

We're not sure how much there's been to whine about in the past year, with two teams winning world championships and all, but knowing Boston sports fans, we're sure they found something.

Boston Copley Marriott Hotel, 110 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-779-3500). www.weei.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6–10 pm. $150. —Rich Levine

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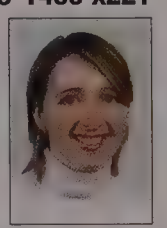

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roceeds benefit the Jimmy Fund.

unar Year Gala

mpire Garden Restaurant, 690-698 Washington St., ɔston (617-482-8898). www.aaca-boston.org. MBTA: range Line to Chinatown. 6 pm. $65 ($500 for a table 10). Mayor Tom Menino and his wife, Angela, co-ıair this annual event benefiting the Asian Ameri-n Civic Association, featuring a Chinese banquet, ie music, dancing and more than 100 raffle prizes.

UNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

ild Women Outfitters Fashion Show

ild Women Outfitters, 397 Mass. Ave., Arlington 81-641-5776). www.wildwomenoutfitters.com. BTA: Red Line to Harvard, then bus #77 to Mass. e. 11 am. Free. Proceeds from purchases at this shion show benefit the Avon and Susan G. Komen east cancer walks.

IONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

egalLove.org Benefit

T. the Bear's, 10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-2-2327). www.legallove.org. MBTA: Red Line to ntral. 9 pm. $4. Proceeds from this concert, fea-ring performers like Rachael Cantu, Rachael ıvis and Britta Wolfrum, benefit groups commit-l to upholding the Massachusetts Supreme Court's cision on gay marriage.

UESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

unami Benefit Party

ro Arrow Street Theatre, intersection of Arrow St. d Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: d Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10. The American pertory Theatre hosts this party, featuring Har-ɔn beer and music from DJ Francesco Spagna, to nefit an orphanage in tsunami-ravaged Sri Lanka.

'EDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

ream Night Fund-Raiser

ıport Hotel, One Seaport Lane, Boston (617-623-50). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm.)-$100. Patriots Hall of Famer John Hannah, SS-4's Joyce Kulhawik and comedian Tony V are among the celebrities attending this event to benefit the Dreams for Youth Foundation and other Somerville citywide charities. The night includes live music, live and silent auctions and a dinner.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Love Your Life Happy Hour

Brandy Pete's, 267 Franklin St., Boston (617-439-4165). 5:30 pm. $20. Help the Liver Foundation's "Run for Research" Boston Marathon team raise money for charity at this after-work happy hour event.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

The Benefit to End Ironic Weather

Riverside Theatre, 45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park (617-361-7024). Through Feb. 19. 8 pm. $15. Local comedian Eric Cheung performs two shows, along with Mike Bent and Rich Gustus, to raise money for CARE's Earthquake and Tsunami Relief and Rehabilitation Fund.

Go Red for Women Luncheon

Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (508-935-3906). www.heart.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 11:30 am. $150. This annual luncheon aims to educate women about heart disease, the number one killer of women in the U.S., and also includes a fashion show by local designer Denise Hajjar.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

We Take Your Health to Heart

Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-227-0012, ext. 777). www.roxcompgala.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30-10:30 pm. $175. A performance by En Vogue highlights this 19th annual fund-raiser for the Roxbury Comprehensive Community Center. The night also features dinner, cocktails and a live auction.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Tsunami Relief Benefit Party

Prudential Center Skywalk, 800 Boylston St., 50th floor, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. 8 pm. Any donation accepted at door. This night for those in the service industry features complimentary cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment and auctions. All proceeds support tsunami relief efforts.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

8 Minute Dating cupidParties

Boston Billiard Club, 126 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-536-7665), MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore, ages 27-40. Hard Rock Cafe, 131 Clarendon St., Boston (617-424-7625), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay, ages 25-35. Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-225-0888), MBTA: Red Line to Kendall, ages 25-61; Wall Street Cafe, 127 South St., Boston (617-451-0600), MBTA: Red Line to South Station, ages 35-49. www.8minute dating.com. 7:08 pm. $35. 8 Minute Dating's third annual night of pre–Valentine's Day cupidParties features complimentary appetizers, prize giveaways and the chance to go on eight different eight-minute dates.

The Heart Breakers Ball

Whiskey Park, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483). www.jetsetevents.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm-2 am. $30. This party includes two hours of open bar, from 8-10 pm, food from Meze Estiatorio and music from the Japanese Swing Cats and NYC DJ Sensae.

Where Did You Get That?

Mitchell Gold Furniture, 142 Berkeley St.,Boston (617-266-0075). www.merylbralower.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 5-8 pm. Mitchell Gold's showroom hosts local designers selling a variety of accessories.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Neiman Marcus Fashion Show

Brasserie Jo, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). www.colonnadehotel.com. MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. 12-1:30 pm. Free. This lingerie fashion show during Brasserie Jo's lunch hour features new apparel from designers like Natori, Donna Karan, Claire Pettibone and others.

Singles

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Latin Embassy

Anthem, 138 Portland St., Boston. www.thelatin embassy.com. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 9 pm-2 am. $20. This multicultural Valentine's Day celebration features a Johnnie Walker cocktail reception, salsa and merengue dancing, and a chance to meet hundreds of other singles.

Single Professionals for the Arts Tour

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-732-3920). www.mfa.org. MBTA: Green Line to MFA. 11 am-1:30 pm. $50. Tour the Museum of Fine Arts with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffee. Reservations required.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

In Purse-uit of the Perfect Mate

Anna William. 2014 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (617-547-2662). www.annawilliam.com. 7-9 pm. Admission, free; price of bags vary. Single women can spend their Valentine's Day designing their perfect mate, a handbag, while enjoying wine and hors d'oeuvres.

My Tie Valentine's Event

The Point, 147 Hanover St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 6-10 pm. $5-$10. Men put a tie representative of their personality on a basket, women then choose the tie they are most attracted to and mingle until they find the tie's original owner.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

8 Minute Dating

Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Boston (617-227-7800). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 30-40.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Hurry Date

Lir Irish Pub and Restaurant, 903 Boylston St., Boston (617-778-0089). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials from Lir. For ages 21-32.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Bob Amaral and Andy Taylor in The Producers, at the Colonial Theatre February 22–March 6

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Cats
Wang Center, 270 Tremon St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 22-27. Tue.-Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun. 1 and 6:30 pm. $25-$75. Andrew Lloyd Webber's classic is the longest running Broadway musical in history.

The Fever
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Feb. 17, 7 pm. Free. Doug Lockwood peforms Wallace Shawn's play about a nameless "first world" traveler seeking refuge in a hotel in a war-torn third-world country.

Fuddy Meers
Eliot Hall, The Footlight Club. 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3200). www.footlightclub.org. Feb. 11,12,18 and 19. 8 pm. $16. In this comedy by David Lindsay-Abairen, an amnesiac's family needs to remind her who she is every day when she wakes up.

John and Jen
Stoneham Theatre, 295 Main St., Stoneham (617-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.com. Feb. 17-March 6. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $16-$32. Andrew Lippa wrote the music for this show set in the 1960s, about two boys named John and a girl named Jen who connect their lives across the decades.

The Little Prince
Shubert Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 16-27. Wed.-Sat., 7 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. $40-$75. Boston Lyric Opera presents an adaptation of Antoine Saint Exupéry's story about a pilot's chance encounter with the Little Prince after a crash-landing in a desert.

The Producers
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 22-March 6. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $30.50-$97.50. Mel Brooks' musical is based on his 1968 film about how a theater producer and his assistant scam their way onto Broadway with a show called *Springtime for Hitler*.

Quartet
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. Feb. 10-March 12. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat, 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Four opera singers reunite for one last performence at their retirement home. Written by Ronald Harwood.

Red Herring
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Feb. 18-March 19. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $19-$43. Courtney A. O'Connor directs Michael Holling's noir comedy in which three love stories, a murder mystery and a nuclear espionage plot come together.

Who's Afraid of Virgina Woolf?
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 10-March 6. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $35-$85. Kathleen Turner and Bill Irwin star in Edward Albee's play about the trials of marriage. Anthony Page directs.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

The Far Side of the Moon
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Feb. 27, Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $36-$72. Robert Lepage's play follows two stories. One deals with the international space race, and the other focuses on two brothers struggling with a personal loss.

The Last Little Porn Shop in Manhattan
Durrell Hall at Cambridge Family YMCA Theatre, 820 Mass Ave., Cambridge (866-811-4111). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Through Feb. 26, Thu.-Sat., 8pm. $20. Anne Continelli wrote this play about the last porn shop in Manhattan and its creative attempts to stay in business.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston. com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 20. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

Miss Saigon
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through March 13. $24. Set in 1975 during the final days leading up to the American evacuation of Saigon, this musical by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg is the story of two young lovers who must decide the fate of a small child.

The Moonlight Room
Boston Center for the Arts Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 19. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $30-$40. Paul Melone directs Tristine Skyler's play about two teenagers waiting in a New York City hospital for news about a friend who may have overdosed.

The Sanctuary Lamp
Nancy and Edward Roberts Studio Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 26. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $34-$38. Carmel O'Reilly directs Tom Murphy's play about three lost souls sleeping in a city church for the night.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Sound of Music
Wheelock Family Theatre, Wheelock College, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2150). www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: Green Line to Fenway. Through Feb. 27. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 pm. $12-$20. Rodgers and Hammerstein's final collaboration asks the infamous question: How do you solve a problem like Maria? Starring Angela Williams.

The Tempest
Boston Center for the Arts Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatreworks.com MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 13. Thu., 7:30 pm. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm. Sun., 7 pm. $27-$30. Students $20. Jason Slavick directs Shakespeare's classic comedy.

Trumbo
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston(617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 27. Tue.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $46-$50. Peter Askin directs Christopher Trumbo's play based on letters written by Dalton Trumbo, one of the famous Hollywood Ten, who was blacklisted and imprisoned in 1947.

Voices in the Dark: Three Plays by Samuel Beckett
Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St. Boston (617-247-9777). www.devtheatre.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Feb. 20. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $15-$19. David J. Dowling directs three of Beckett's plays: *Krapp's Last Tape*, *Ohio Impromptu* and *Cascando*.

University Theater

Hobson's Choice
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Bost (617-824-8000).www.maj.org. MBTA: Green L to Boylston. Feb. 17-19, 8 pm. $15-21. The Emers Stage and Musical Theatre Society presents this mantic comedy about a woman who breaks free fr her possessive father in Victorian England.

The Internationalist
Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass Ave., Cambridge (6 253-2908). http://web.mit.edu/dramashop/wu MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 10-12, 8 pm. MIT Dramashop presents Anne Washburn's p about an American businessman trying to fit while doing business in an unspecified Europe country.

King Lear
Laurie Theater, Brandeis University, 415 South S Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/thea Feb. 10-20. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., Feb. 19 and Su Feb. 20, 2 pm. $16-$20. Springold Theater Cent adaptation of Shakespeare's play is about an elde man who imagines he is King Lear. While hospit ized, he interacts with an eclectic cast of character

Terms of Frontierment
Hasty Pudding Building, Harvard University, Holyok St., Cambridge (617-495-5205). www.ha pudding.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Sq. F 17-March 20. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun. pm. $26-$29. Hasty Pudding presents a Weste musical written and produced by Harvard und graduates.

The Vagina Monologues
Kresge Little Theatre, 48 Mass Ave., Cambri (617-253-6294). http://web.mit.edu/mtg/www. MBT Red Line to Central. Feb. 17-19, 8 pm. $10. T peformance is part of a national college campai to produce Eve Ensler's play for V-day. All p ceeds go to organizations that work to end v lence against women.

Dance

Aurora Borealis: A Festival of Light and Dance
Boston University Theatre Mainstage, 264 Hunting Ave., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostonthea scene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. F 11-13. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $10. School of Theatre Arts and the BU Dance Progr collaborate on three premieres by choreographer dith Chaffee, two works by Micki Taylor-Pinney contemporary ballet by Margot Parsons, and dan by student choreographers Gabrielle Orcha and La DiSerio.

Crossing
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second S Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacumsa.o MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Feb.18-20. Fri. Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $17-$25. Nine internatio choreographers and musicians collaborate.

Dance Straight Up!
Zero Arrow Theatre, Arrow St. and Mass. Ave., Ca bridge (617-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. MBT Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 10-13. Thu., 7 pm; and Sat., 8 pm. Sun., 3 pm. $30. Four local troupes Digby Dance, Hoi Polloi, Mavi Dance & Brookli Academy Performance Companies and Nic Hawkins Dance Company—perform new works co missioned by dancer and choreographer C Solomons Jr.

Three Modern Masters
Boston Conservatory Theatre, 8 The Fenway, Bos (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.e MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Feb. 17-19, 8 p Feb. 20, 2 pm. $16, $5 for students. The Boston C servatory Dance Theatre presents Alwin Nikol *Tensile Involvement* and *Noumenon Mobilius*, Mart Graham's *Diversion of Angels*, staged by former G ham dancer Yuriko, and Murray Louis' *Four Brub Pieces*.

Comedy

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STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
All Asia Café, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-4 1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. The café hosts lo comics on Tuesday nights.

eantown Comedy Vault

emington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-165). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 n. $10-$12. The Comedy Vault features local and-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and ends. •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Stand-up. Sun.: Open Mike Night.

antab Lounge

38 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). ww.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv wnstairs, no cover, 21+.

omedy Connection

5 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-00). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: reen or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or range Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club Boston draws nationally known comedians on eekends and showcases up-and-coming local tal- t during the week. •Feb. 9, 8 pm: Frank Sanrelli from *The Sopranos*, $12. •Feb. 10, 8:30 pm: ank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. Feb. 11, 8 and 10:15 pm: Wendy Liebman, 1.50. •Feb. 12, 6, 8:15, and 10:30 pm: Wendy ebman, $22.50. •Feb 13, 7 pm: Rich Ceisler, 2. •Feb 14, 8 pm: Wendy Liebman, $20. •Feb. , 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •Feb. 16, 8 pm: Mike novan, $12. •Feb. 17, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, he R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Feb. 18, 8 and :15 pm: Ralphie May, $23. •Feb. 19, 8 pm: ston Headliners, $17. 10:45 pm, Ralphie May, 7.50. •Feb. 20, 7 pm: Ralphie May, $20. •Feb. , 8 pm: Kevin Knox hosts the Amateur Showe, $12. •Feb. 22, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12.

omedy Studio

ng Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-1-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red ne to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch medy troupes and local comedians perform. eb. 9: Tony V Experiment with the Steamy Bomians, Joe Wong, Eric Cheung and others. eb. 10: The Dan Sally Show with Amy Tee, za Sarkarati, Phil Yebba, Liz Simons •Feb. 11: m Liszanckie, Orlando Baxter, Nat Towsen, ane Mauss, the Walsh Bros. •Feb. 12: Rebecca nderson, Orlando Baxter, Shane Mauss, Rick nkins. •Feb. 13: Erin Judge Show. •Feb. 15: agic Lounge •Feb. 16: Tony V Experiment, ndy O'Fish, Tom Flynn, Janet Cormier and oth-. •Feb. 17: Dan Sally Show: Ken Reid, Peter wes, Tissa Hami. •Feb. 18: Tommy Morello nanda White, the Walsh Bros. •Feb. 19: Nate nson, Tommy Morello, Rick Jenkins. •Feb. 20: Talent: Myq Kaplan with Dan Klien, Arthur yer and others. •Feb. 22: Magic Lounge

eVille Lounge

gs, 50 Dalton St., Boston (617-266-2695). w.backbaykings.com. MBTA: Green Line to nes/ICA. Every Sun., 8 pm. Free. Tony V hosts medy Hell," a weekly open-mike stand-up night. n up is at 6 pm.

ennedy's Midtown

nedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-)-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. ry Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy tival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of nd-up by local comedians.

ck's Comedy Stop

Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www. kscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Feb. 10, 8:30 pm: John Pizzi. •Feb. 11-12, 8:45 pm: John Pizzi. •Feb. 17, 8:30 pm: Ken Rogerson. •Feb. 18-19, 8:45 pm: Paul Nardizzi.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at midnight, $10; Lies, Half Truths and the American Way, Wed., and Thu., 8 pm; Sat., and Sun., 8 and 10 pm, $15.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: "Carole Lombard Live!," a reverently irreverent, one-woman show performed by Melinda Coneys. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

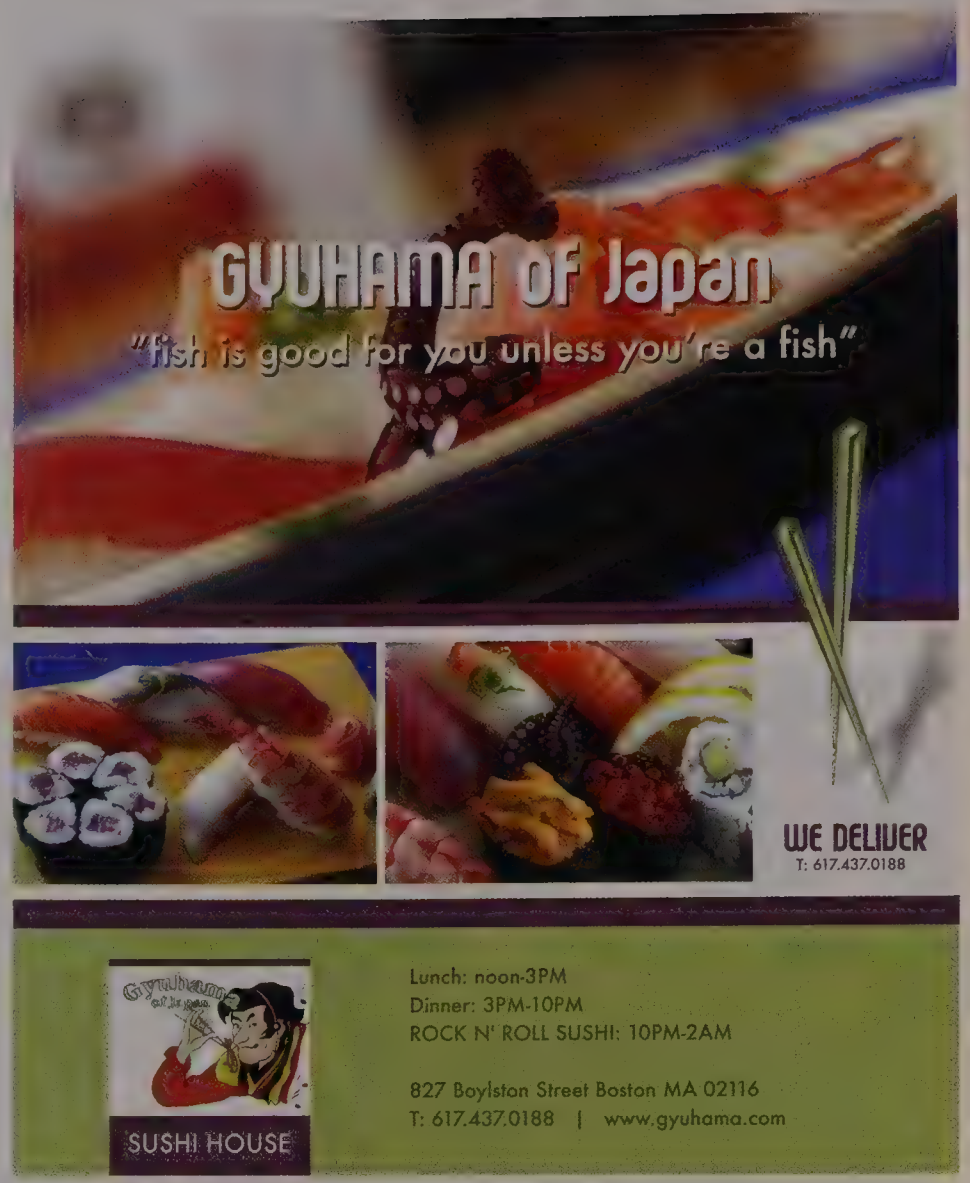
The Last Temptation of Mirza

38 Cameron, 38 Cameron St., Cambridge (617-492-4091). www.38cameron.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Feb. 16. 8 pm. $10-$18. Comic Shazia Mirza makes her Boston debut with a performance that spotlights what it's like to be a Muslim woman in the world of comedy.

Jim Morris

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Feb. 18-20. Fri. and Sat., 7:30 pm. Sun., 3 pm. $25. Political impressionist Jim Morris performs his show featuring impressions of George W. Bush, Richard Nixon, Bill Clinton and many others.

oston Lyric Opera presents *The Little Prince*, at the Shubert Theatre February 16-27



Bride of Frankenstein

Prejudice stitches its elements into a monster.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

A good musical should have a light step even when the music's turned off. Check out *Top Hat* or *Singing in the Rain* and you might be surprised by the clever bounce and sharp wit of the scenes that take place between the musical production numbers. These would be good movies without the songs. But *Bride and Prejudice*, a transformation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* into a present-day, Bollywood-inspired musical

Martin Henderson and Aishwarya Rai do a cross-cultural dance in *Bride and Prejudice*.

by director Gurinder Chadha (*Bhaji on the Beach*, *Bend It Like Beckham*), struggles to achieve any sort of bounce even when its music is playing.

You can't fault Chadha and co-writer Paul Mayeda Merges for not aiming high. With scenes in London, Los Angeles, the Indian coastal resort of Goa and the northern Indian city of Amritsar (the film's primary setting), and with Indian, English and American lead characters, *Bride and Prejudice* reaches for an eclectic mix and an eclectic appeal, a rare thing in this era of target-marketing. But it's a mix the movie can't pull off. Instead of combining elements, *Bride* usually feels as if it's watering them down or stereotyping them, and the result is flat and dull.

Amritsar is home to the Bakshi bachelorettes, four sisters whose parents are anxious to marry them off to worthy suitors. While their mom (Nadira Babbar) is most obsessed with finding well-to-do men for Jaya (Namrata Shirodkar), Lalita (Aishwarya Rai), Lakhi (Peeya Rai Chowdhary) and Maya (Meghna Kothari), their dad (Anupham Kher, the father in *Beckham*) is more likely to just throw his hands up in amused chagrin. So the arrival of Bingley (Naveen Andrews), an Englishman of Indian heritage, and his rich American friend, Darcy (Martin Henderson), is a big deal.

The two men have come to Amritsar for a wedding, and *Bride* begins promisingly enough with a battle-of-the-sexes song and dance in which the women at the nuptials taunt the men, and vice versa. Jaya and Lalita, the oldest Bakshi daughters, immediately have eyes for the handsome visitors, but come to one conclusion—Darcy is a stuck-up jerk. The romantic push and pull between Lalita and Darcy—involving her attraction and repulsion to him, his attempts to redeem himself in her eyes and the pride of both—becomes the dramatic dilemma around which the movie revolves.

But it's hard to care because that first impression about Darcy proves right—at least in the hands of the actor playing him. Henderson has all the personality of a mannequin, and rooting for him to "get the girl," or for Lalita to improbably find happiness with him, is just about impossible to do. (Henderson seemed naggingly familiar as I watched the movie; it was only later I realized he stunk up last year's obnoxious *Torque*, too.) Darcy is supposed to be the clumsy yet charismatic pivotal character, not the wooden albatross personified by Henderson. The movie doesn't help Darcy out by bringing in a ludicrously crass mother (Marsha Mason) against whom he's never rebelled; it just gives us another reason not to sympathize. Ironically, goofy Indian-American Kholi (Nitin Ganatra), the "comic relief" wife-seeker the mother foists on Lalita and Jaya when their other relationships seem to have fizzled, turns out to be the movie's saving grace, a jolt of well-needed energy in an otherwise cluttered disappointment.

The film's biggest disappointment, though, is the Bollywood-style musical numbers, and part of the reason is that it seems as if many of the actors aren't singing their characters' vocals. There are some amusing sequences—like the song "No Life Without Wife," in which the sisters mock materialist Kholi—and Rai is a big star in Indian musicals, so she may be singing. But the audio is so sterile that it creates a disconnect between the music and the action and gives the characters a schizo quality, since their speaking and singing voices don't always jibe. The musical numbers also suffer from inconsistent approach: Sometimes Chadha goes for an impromptu, "amateur" mood, but most of the time she goes for slick professionalism. So the movie never hits a stride.

Musicals, especially, have to suspend the viewer's disbelief, but with all of its flaws, *Bride and Prejudice* usually just sits there, leaden. Its worst musical moment is perhaps the least traditionally Bollywood, when guest star Ashanti sings at a club at the beachside hotel Darcy's family owns. Her song, "The Goa Groove" (like the rest of the numbers, written by lyricists Farhan and Zoya Akhtar and composer Anu Milak, Bollywood vets all), includes the unforgettably bad couplet, "India's the place for me/India will set you free." How do you say "ouch" in Hindi? iB

Bride and Prejudice ★★

Directed by Gurinder Chadha. Written by Paul Mayeda Merges and Chadha. With Aishwarya Rai, Martin Henderson, Daniel Gillies, Naveen Andrews, Nitin Ganatra and Namrata Shirodkar. Rated PG-13. Opens Feb. 11.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Are We There Yet? ★★½
Ice Cube makes a kids' movie, and it's not half ba
The interaction between Cube's child-averse bach
lor Nick and the scheming tykes (Lindsey Kingsto
Philip Daniel Bolden) that he offers to drive fr
Portland to Vancouver—to impress their dishy m
(Nia Long)—is generally funny. Cube gives a ga
performance as the human punching bag for t
kids' pranks. This is probably the best kid-empow
ment comedy since *Big Fat Liar*, though its goo
sentimental moments, especially the ending, mig
make kids *and* adults gag. (At Boston Comm
Fenway and suburbs.)

The Assassination of Richard Nixon ★★★
Niels Mueller's semi-fictionalized movie about S
Byck (called Sam Bicke here), the plotter who ne
got close to completing his 1974 plot to take out t
president, is a trip into one man's doubt-feste
brain. Sean Penn makes it a fascinating plun
Sporting a moustache that recalls De Niro's Rup
Pupkin in Scorsese's *The King of Comedy*, Pen
whole demeanor captures Bicke's defeat in the ga
of life. The expression on his face looks as if he j
stepped in a deep mud puddle—half shame, h
anger—and it's no wonder. The guy's lost his w
his kids, his job and most of his faith in his fell
man. It's an absurd tragedy that has an eerie rese
blance to everyday life at its frustrating worst. (
Kendall Square.)

Assault on Precinct 13 ★★★
I can't see much point in the current wave of rema
of 1970s B-movies—this retelling of John Carpent
1976 actioner follows the *Dawn of the Dead* rema
But this update is a very solid, unusually brutal mo
The basic premise of Carpenter's original (in wh
he turned the western *Rio Bravo* into an urban act
picture) is the same, with a group of intruders try
to break into a police station to free a prison
There's a major new twist to the plot and a few wr
kles added to the lead characters of the pol
sergeant (Ethan Hawke) and the prisoner (Laure
Fishburne). The violence is extreme, but much m
preferable than movie violence in which the actio
supposed to look "cool" (like, say, the *Resident E*
movies). The colorful cast, which also includes Jo
Leguizamo, Brian Dennehy and Drea de Matteo, a
to the gritty entertainment. (At Boston Comm
Fenway and suburbs.)

The Aviator ★★★
Like Howard Hughes' infamous Spruce Goo
Martin Scorsese's Hughes movie is big and clun
yet it somehow manages to get off the grou
Scorsese starts his film on an iffy trajectory, w
most of the first hour dwelling on the first extra
gant foray by Hughes (Leonardo DiCaprio) i
producing movies (the World War I aerial dra
Hell's Angels) and on his romance with Kathar
Hepburn (Cate Blanchett). You're afraid Scorse
fascination with old movies is causing him to ov
look Hughes' aviation exploits. But the rest of
movie concentrates on Hughes' roles with TW
and his aviation innovations, as well as his bat
with the government and the emotional proble
that ultimately turned him into a recluse. DiCap
does a good job of bringing out Hughes' charm a
vulnerability, and Scorsese champions his subj
as a visionary who wouldn't let the bean coun
dampen his ambition. The result is much more
isfying than Scorsese and DiCaprio's previ
Gangs of New York. (At Boston Common, Harv
Square and suburbs.)

Days of Being Wild ★★★
Forget about the languid art films like *In the M*
for Love that Wong Kar-wai has made since
great *Chungking Express*. His recent movies h
little of the sensual charge of that film or this 1
dazzler, which played Chinatown moviehouses
local Hong Kong series in the early 1990s. Now,
finally getting a belated national release, a
months after its U.S. DVD arrived. But thank
the most amazing cinematography so far from
talented Chris Doyle (*Hero*, *The Quiet America*
this is a definite big-screen movie. Its 1960-set
of a ladies man (the late Leslie Cheung) and
women pursuing him (including Maggie Cheun
Mood) is rife with sexual tension, and even tho
the plot peters out, this may be Wong's flawed m
terpiece. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, Feb. 17-
23, 24 and 26.)

Finding Neverland ★★
As *Peter Pan* playwright J.M. Barrie, Johnny D
nails a Scottish accent and gives his characte
pent-up imagination that bursts loose when
meets a quartet of boys grieving for their late fat

s hard to imagine anyone else giving as rousing a rformance as Depp does. Still, his movie never ade me want to clap my hands in approving belief. is Edwardian fluff means to be a celebration of rrie's tale of retaining your inner child, but when lf of pop culture tells us that these days, is it really ry special? Meanwhile, the film could have easily en called *The Attack of the Art Department*, and at's a big surprise from director Marc Forster, ose previous movies were the much rawer *Everyng Put Together* and *Monster's Ball*. There's also a p opera surrounding the boys' sickly mom (Kate inslet), and the entire mix is rather cheesy and epy. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

otel Rwanda ★★

rry George's docudrama chronicling the brutal andan civil war of 1994 has gut-wrenching gedy, and it also has Don Cheadle getting to play are lead. He plays Paul Rusesabagina, a hotel nager who, à la Oskar Schindler, risked his life to elter many people from sure death. Alas, George *ns and Mothers*) has a hero who's not as morally nplex as Schindler; he just gives us a noble guy to on a pedestal. And the TV-style movie fails to gage in a cinema setting. Although it's probably y accurate, it's also rather flat and dull. (At ndall Square.)

ouse of Flying Daggers ★★½

lere's something oddly distasteful about Zhang nou's recent artsy forays into martial arts. His lat- doesn't look so much like a perfume commercial nis *Hero* did, and some of the action sequences in s 9th-century tale are imaginative and well exeed (though heavy on the digital effects). But if like martial-arts movies with a gritty, rock 'n' energy, Zhang's two most recent films have an iseptic, classical-music sterility (this one ends indulously with opera diva Kathleen Battle bellowa ludicrously over-the-top reprise of a song from tale). Storywise, this starts out with a Western- economy, as an undercover lawman (Takeshi neshiro) befriends a mysterious female martial st (Zhang Ziyi) who may be a member of the i-government gang that gives the movie its ne. Early complications effectively thicken the na, but there are eventually so many people preding to be so many fake identities that the

Ice Cube stars in the new kids' comedy *Are We There Yet?*

drama, which morphs into a love triangle, gets all balled up—culminating in an emotionally overblown final action sequence that just gets silly. (At Boston Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

The Incredibles ★★★

The animation in Pixar's computer-generated movies keeps improving, and this is the first one that's had the nerve to put humans—albeit semi-abstract ones—in the foreground. That's not a problem at all, as the animation's ability to portray facial expressions is so much better than it was for past Pixar movies (like the *Toy Story* series) in which human action was kept to a minimum. Still, this is the first Pixar film that's merely good, not great. Once again, there's an amazing mesh of voice actors and characters, with Craig T. Nelson and Holly Hunter playing retired husband-and-wife superheroes forced back into action along with their supergifted kids (Sarah Vowell and Spencer Fox). But the story is an awful lot like *Spy Kids*, with more emphasis put on the parents, and for much of the middle section, this is merely a decent animated "big" action movie, with less of a satiric twist than *Team America*. Pixar has raised the bar so high that, when taken against other animated movies, *The Incredibles* is still very creative. But it's also disappointing at times and overstretched. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

In Good Company ★★

Writer-director Paul Weitz (one half of the *American Pie* Weitz brothers) tries to make his meatiest movie yet, and while the effort is admirable, it's also rather flat. Its main characters are the 50-ish head of a magazine's ad department (Dennis Quaid) and the 25-ish hotshot (Topher Grace) who's installed over his head after the mag's parent company is sold to a Murdoch-like corporate honcho (Malcolm McDowell). In different scenes, the movie asks you to sympathize with both Quaid's kind, old-school guy and Grace's eager fast-tracker, and it's a trick the movie can't pull off. Although the young guy is sympathetic outside of the office, where he has a romance with his colleague's college-student daughter (Scarlet Johansson), in the boardroom he's smart but callous. The movie obviously wants to give him a comeuppance, and it does, but neither Weitz nor Grace makes that journey very remarkable. And with its pop-song-heavy soundtrack and conscientious eye, it feels like a knock-off of a Cameron Crowe movie that doesn't exist. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Kinsey ★★★

Scientist Alfred Kinsey became obsessed with researching the sexual habits of Americans and having his scientific findings replace myth and traditional morality in shaping people's views of "average" sexual behavior. Bill (*Gods and Monsters*) Condon's period piece does a fascinating job of capturing the fervent work of Kinsey (Liam Neeson) and showing how his findings of the 1940s and 1950s shook up the public and put the powers-that-be on high alert. Neeson's performance recalls the fixation of his Oskar Schindler, with the goal this time of getting people's sex histories on paper, while Laura Linney, Peter Sarsgaard, John Lithgow and Oliver Platt fill out the deep cast. The intensity of this rise-and-fall story starts to peter out, though, when it gets to the third act, thanks to vagueness in chronology and the sense that many events are being rushed through and oversimplified, right down to the rather mystifyingly upbeat ending. (At Copley Place, Kendall Square, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou ★★½

After establishing himself with the melancholy comedies *Bottle Rocket* and *Rushmore*, Wes Anderson has entered a phase where his boyish charm, low-tech clutter, cool old songs and casts of sad yet funny characters are starting to come off like schtick that's getting a little precious. Like *The Royal Tenenbaums*, his latest has that erratic feeling. Sometimes it feels genuinely inspired (having a character sing early David Bowie songs in Portuguese from time to time), sometimes it seems as if it's on automatic pilot (Bill Murray giving the same sad-sack performance he did so well in *Rushmore*). That's not to say Murray isn't very amusing at times (same goes for Willem Dafoe, Anjelica Huston, Jeff Goldblum and Owen Wilson),

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or that the visuals aren't very creative and Anderson doesn't have more going on than most directors. But giving Anderson's adolescent sensibility to characters who are all over 25—some well beyond—is an odd fit. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Meet the Fockers ★★

You know the humor in the *Meet the Parents* sequel is much more forced this time around when Ben Stiller's character suddenly falls over in his chair during an early scene—for no reason and with no set-up (and no laugh generated). There are a few laughs with the introduction of Dustin Hoffman and Barbra Streisand as his touchy-feely, overly nurturing parents whose ways, of course, collide with those of their uptight, WASPy in-laws-to-be (Robert De Niro, Blythe Danner). Despite the occasional laugh, this never generates its prede-cessor's comic momentum, which is necessary to get the weaker gags over and snowball it all into a funny movie. Disappointing. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Million Dollar Baby ★½

Clint Eastwood's latest is an odd combination of fisticuffs-filled boxing movie, surrogate father–daughter tale, and tragedy. Those separate ingredients are often unconvincing, so, not surprisingly, the combination fails. Eastwood plays an aging boxing trainer, but his performance makes him little more than a crabby old coot who'd be right at home in a mediocre sitcom (ditto for the bickering between him and the old buddy played by Morgan Freeman). The coot gets hounded into training a stubborn female boxer (Hilary Swank, best thing in the movie) who, under his tutelage, shoots up the women's boxing rankings. Swank also emotionally replaces the estranged daughter who sends the trainer's letters back "return to sender," while he replaces the boxer's late father. There's little subtlety in the father-daughter tale, or anywhere else in the film either. Paul Haggis' weak screenplay often wants things both ways—like how it has the boxer knock out most opponents in the first round, yet contrives ways for her to supposedly be the underdog. It takes some of that contrivance to shift the movie into tragedy after an in-ring injury. Where's *Fat City* when you need it? (At Boston Common.)

Ray ★★★

Jamie Foxx's monumental performance dominates this fairly conventional biopic in which a talented hero (R&B/pop pioneer Ray Charles) overcomes adverse circumstances (witnessing his brother's drowning, going blind at age 7) and inner demons (a heroin habit, infidelity) to become a beloved American institution. Sometimes director Taylor Hackford's Hollywood treatment stretches credibility, particularly when the movie contrives to have Charles concoct the classic "What'd I Say?" as an impromptu time filler onstage one night. And the movie might be too forgiving of the pain Charles caused his wife. But Foxx is so immersed in the role, giving Charles a sly charisma, and the musical moments (with Foxx lip-synching to Charles' recordings) are so good that the movie's life-affirming intentions win out. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Sea Inside ★★★

The real-life tale of Spaniard Ramon Sampedro (Javier Bardem), a quadriplegic, poet and one-time sailor who fought for the right to end his life, is fortunately not presented as a strident exercise in nobility. While Bardem gives a powerhouse performance, writer-director Alejandro Amenabar (*The Others*) and co-writer Mateo Gil pepper their film with humorous moments and formidable supporting characters. The result is more than a message movie and, thanks to Amenabar's skill at putting images together, much more cinematic than you'd expect a movie about a guy stuck in bed to be. (At Kendall Square.)

Sideways ★★★

Alexander Payne's *Sideways* does for the approach of middle age what his *About Schmidt* did for the onset of old age: uses it as a springboard for bittersweet comedy and a road trip. At first, this makes the latest from the director of *Citizen Ruth* and *Election* a letdown. But Payne and writing partner Jim Taylor's riffs on male bonding make this story of two 40-ish buddies' trip to California wine country painfully funny. It's hard to say where the characters leave off and the actors begin in the hilarious little moments in which the pair goes to wineries to sample the latest vintages. Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*), who could be amusing reading a shopping list, gives a colorful tilt to wine connoisseur Miles' picky assessments of his tastings; in Giamatti's hands, sometimes Miles is being intentionally funny, sometimes not. Meanwhile, Thomas Haden Church's Jack has an endearing dumb-jock quality, and his response to Miles' "knowledgeable" wine talk is usually "tastes pretty good to me." Each man's approach to wine mirrors his approach to life and to the women they meet, of course, with Jack blindly leaping in and Miles endlessly analyzing. (At Boston Common, Coolidge Corner, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

A Very Long Engagement ★★★

With Hollywood unwilling or unable to provide the sort of handsome epic we've come to expect at this time of the year (aside from *The Aviator*), this clever French World War I drama picks up the slack. Audrey Tautou reteams with *Amelie* director Jean-Pierre Jeunet and plays a young French woman searching for the soldier fiancé (Gaspard Ulleil) she was told died in battle. Full of flashbacks to the fateful day in which the fiancé may have died, the movie veers from serendipitous comedy to stark drama and zips along quickly. It features Jeunet's typical visual flourishes, though his habit of injecting visual action that literally illustrates characters' anecdotes can be annoying. (At Copley Place, Harvard Square and Embassy Waltham.)

The Woodsman ★★★½

First-time writer-director Nicole Kassell isn't afraid to challenge the viewer in her directorial debut. This drama about a pedophile trying to keep from hurting others again is pleasingly unadorned, as is star Kevin Bacon, who bravely plays the lead role without weird make-up or extreme tics. The newly-freed ex-con moves into a plain apartment, starts a plain job at the lumber mill where he used to work, and tries to figure out how to function in society again. Part of that involves trying to get close to his brazen new girlfriend (Kyra Sedgwick) without alienating her, coping with co-workers who find out his secret, and fighting the urge to transgress again when his new life starts falling apart. Intimate, disturbing and, ultimately, very dramatic. (At Boston Common and Harvard Square.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), ma Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. D line is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Premiere

•Feb. 19, 2 pm. **Sage** *2004*. Members of Boston P lic Library's Never Too Late group, for people 60 older, participated in the making of Nicole Brods documentary about creativity later in life.

White House Women Film Series

•Feb. 14, 6 pm. **A Tour of the White House w Mrs. John F. Kennedy** *1962*. The first lady gui viewers through her home. Franklin Schaffner rects. •Immediately following. **A Visit to Washi ton with Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson** *1966*. Lady B gives a tour of the capital.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Animation Celebration

•Feb. 11-13, 4:30, 7:15, and 10 pm; Feb 12. 1:45 matinee. **Tree of Palme** *2002*. Japanese direc Takashi Nakemura's film is a sci-fi-influenced v sion of the Pinocchio fairy tale.

•Feb. 15, 7:30 pm. **Ghost in the Shell** *19* Mamoru Oshii's futuristic crime-fighting te Section 9, inspired a manga adaption and a TV ries. •Feb. 15, 5:30 and 9:30 pm. **Ghost in Shell: Innocence** *2004*. Oshii continues the sag Section 9 in his new film. The action picks three years after *Ghost in the Shell* and follows det tive Batou's investigation of the death of a liv sex doll.

•Feb. 16, 8 pm. **Grave of the Fireflies** *1988*. phaned after a WWII attack on Kobe, a 14-year- boy and his 4-year-old sister set off on their o Isao Takahata directs.

•Feb. 17, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **The Triplet Belleville** *2003*. In her search for her kidnap grandson, a French grandmother enlists the hel three elderly cabaret singers and an old dog. Sylv Chomet directs.

ugs Bunny Film Festival
eb. 18, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Feb 20 and 22, 30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **All Bugs Revue** a collection of Bugs Bunny cartoons.
eb 19 and 21, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **st of the Rest** Daffy Duck, the Tasmanian Devil d Bugs star in this installment of the Brattle's 10th nual festival.

pecial Engagements and Premieres
eb. 9-10, 5:30, 7:30, and 9:45 pm. **The Take** *2004*. i Lewis' documentary is the story of a group of Ar-ntinian auto workers who took over and restarted losed-down factory.
eb.13, 2 pm; Feb. 14, 7:30 and 9 pm. **Casablanca** *42*. Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman star in ichael Curtiz's classic romance.

HE COMMON GROUND

ort and Sweet: Best of the Short lm Series 2004
eb. 15, 7 pm. Attention Deficit Films celebrates e first anniversary of its quarterly short film screen-g and filmmaker introduction event with a screen-g of films by professional filmmakers, Boston-area dents and local film hobbyists.

OOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

cademy Award Nominated Short ocumentaries
eb. 21, 7 pm. **Persons of Interest** *2003*. Alison nclean and Tobias Perse's documentary features in-views with non-U.S. nationals of South Asian or ddle Eastern origin who were taken into custody the U.S. Justice Department and held indefinitely national security grounds after Sept. 11. •Also owing, 7:30 and 10 pm. **Saints and Sinners** *2004*. igail Honor and Yan Vizinberg's documentary fol-vs the emotional journey of a devoutly Catholic couple determined to marry in a Catholic church.

ox Office Babies
eb. 21, 1 pm. The Coolidge's biweekly series pro-es an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent in-national, independent and documentary films. Ti-s are announced the week before the screening at w.coolidge.org.

oolidge Selects
Opens Feb. 18. **Watermarks** *2004*. Seven women m the Jewish sports club Hakoah Vienna were mpionship swimmers until Hitler closed down ir arena and threw them out. Sixty years later ector Yaron Zilberman tells their story and brings team together for a reunion.
Now playing. **The Take** *2004*. See Brattle Theatre ings for description.

idnight Movies
eb. 11 and 12, 11 pm. **Lord of the Rings: The Two wers** *2002*. The saga of the ring continues in the ond installment of Peter Jackson's adaption of the .R. Tolkien trilogy.
eb. 18 and 19, 11 pm. **The Lord of the Rings: The urn of the King** *2003*. The last battle for Middle th makes up the final chapter of the trilogy. Peter kson directs.

ecial Events
eb. 14, 7:30 pm. **The Princess Bride** *1987*. ncess Buttercup is destined to marry the vile nce Humperdinck unless the Dread Pirate can e her. Rob Reiner directs.

RVARD FILM ARCHIVE

ack and White on Screen
eb. 14, 9 pm. **Borderline** *1930*. Kenneth cPherson directs this film about an affair be-en a married white man and a mulatto woman, l the devastating effects that come from their uses' desires to join the liaison.

eleuze: Philosophy and Film
eb. 13, 7 pm. **The General Line** *(aka The Old and New) 1929*. A peasant woman must deal with her lings of greed that come with the collectivization farm in this film about the economic policies of early 20th century. Sergei Eisenstein and Grigori xandrov direct. Live piano music accompanies film. •Also showing, 9 pm. **L'Atalante** *1934*. n Vigo directs this film about a young woman's iculties with married life on a river barge.
eb. 20, 7 pm. **The Passion of Joan of Arc** *1928*. rie Falconetti stars as Joan of Arc in this film de-ting her controversial 15th-century trial and the rt's ultimate decision. Carl-Theodor Dreyer di-ts. Live piano music accompanies the film. •Also wing, 9 pm. **Ordet** *1955*. Winner of Best Film at 1955 Venice Film Festival, Carl Theodor yer's movie examines the relationship between a ct father and his three sons.

rectors in Focus: The Films of rokazu Koreeda
eb. 12, 9 pm. **Kioku Ga Ushinawareta Toki** *(Without Memory) 1996*. A family struggles after a medical accident causes the father to lose his short-term memory.
•Feb. 16, 9 pm; Feb 18, 7 pm. **Distance** *2001*. A group of people who lost loved ones in a mass killing find themselves together on the anniversary of the tragedy.

Fashion and Film
•Feb. 15 and 22, 7 pm. **Hua Yang Nian Hua** *(In the Mood for Love) 2000*. Wong Kar-wai's film follows a romance between two lonely professionals in Hong Kong during the industrial 1960s.

Frames of Mind
•Feb. 9, 7 pm. This selection of early silent features includes Louis and Auguste Lumière's **First Program of the Lumière Brothers** *1895*, Georges Méliès' **A Trip to the Moon** *1902* and **The Vanishing Lady** *1896*. •Immediately following, **Die Gebrüder Skladanowsky** *(A Trick of the Light) 1995*. Wim Wenders directs this documentary about the Skladanowsky brothers of Germany and their experience in the early filmmaking industry.
•Feb. 16, 7 pm. **Germania, Anno Zero** *(Germany, Year Zero) 1947*. Through protagonist Edmund, director Roberto Rossellini examines the reasons behind Germany's actions during World War II.

Global Visions: Korean Cinema
•Feb. 14, 7pm. **Sarangbang Sonnim-kwa Omoni** *(The Houseguest and My Mother) 1961*. A young widow, her daughter and her mother-in-law share a house in the country when a friend of her late husband comes to stay. Shin Sang-ok directs.

Heimatfilm
•Feb. 9, 9pm. **Die Fischerin vom Bodensee** *(The Fisher Girl of Lake Constance) 1956*. Harald Reinl directs this love story about a girl from a poor fishing family and the son of a wealthy family.
•Feb. 12, 7pm. **Hoch Droben auf Dern Berg** *(High Up on the Mountain) 1957*. When a Viennese singer is rescued from an emergency airplane landing by a yodeling woodcutter, she brings the country boy to the big city, leaving behind the village girl who also loves him. Géza von Bolváry directs.
•Feb. 18, 9:30pm. **Die Landarztin von Tegernesee** *(Lady Country Doctor) 1958*. When a woman shows up to take over the practice of a country doctor, her patients are less than pleased until they need her help. Paul May directs.

Life Stories: Film and Autobiography
•Feb. 15, 9 pm. **In This Life's Body** *1984*. Director Corinne Cantrill uses home movies and photographs to create a version of her life story.
•Feb. 22, 9 pm. **Tarnation** *2004*. Jonathan Couette's debut is a collage of answering machine recordings, snapshots and videos chronicling his upbringing in a dysfunctional household.

Malcolm X Remembered
•Feb. 19, 7 pm. **Malcolm X** *1992*. Spike Lee's biopic tells the story of the civil rights leader from his youth in Roxbury, Mass., to his assasination. Denzel Washington plays the title role.
•Feb. 21, 7 pm. **Malcolm X** *1972*. Director Arnold Pearl uses archival footage and Malcolm X's autobiography to create a documentary about his life and his murder. •Immediately following, **Perfect Story** *1985*. Ken Jacobs presents this collection of interviews with eyewitnesses to Malcolm X's assassination.

Special Event
•Feb. 11, 7 pm. **Netaji: The Last Hero** *(Bose: The Forgotten Hero) 2004*. Director Shyam Benegal appears in person for the screening of his new biopic about Indian freedom fighter Subhas Chandra Bose.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
•Feb. 18, 8 pm. Two short films screen in conjunction with the exhibition *Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists:* **Cindy Sherman** *1991*. Michael Auder presents his wife, artist Cindy Sherman, through a series of video diaries. **Fancy** *2000*. Director Elisabeth Subrin screens her experimental fim about the life of artist Francesca Woodman.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Afghanistan on Film
•Feb 17 6:30 pm; Feb. 19 10:30 am; Feb. 20 4:10 pm. **Return to Kandahar** *2003*. Co-director Nelofer Pazira returns to her native Afghanistan to search for a childhood friend. Pazira and Paul Jay direct.

African Film Festival
•Feb. 10, 1 pm; Feb. 12, 12 pm; Feb. 13, 2:30 pm. **Mooladé** *2004*. Director Ousmane Sembene chronicles a West African woman's quest to protect the girls of her village from genital mutilation.
•Feb. 11, 6 pm. **Madame Brouette** *(Mrs. Wheelbarrow) 2002*. A Senegalese woman is a suspect in the murder of a policeman. Moussa Sene Absa directs.
•Feb. 12, 10:30 am. **Cosmic Africa** *2002*. An astronomer goes on a journey to connect his knowledge of the heavens to African astronomical history. Craig Foster and Damon Foster direct.

•Feb. 18, 6 pm. **Soldiers of the Rock** *2003*. In this film by Norman Maake, a South African business student takes a break from his studies to work in the dangerous gold mines where his father died.
•Feb. 19, 2:30 pm. **Dirt for Dinner** *2000*. Branwen Okpako's documentary tells the story of Sam Meffire, the first black East German policeman and the face for the country's multicultural ad campaign. Okpako chronicles Meffie's downfall from poster boy to criminal.

Art on Film
•Feb. 10, 5 pm. **In the Realms of the Unreal** *2003*. Jessica Yu's documentary details the life of artist Henry Darger, who was also a janitor and a novelist.
•Feb. 10, 6:30 pm; Feb. 12, 2:15 pm. **POPaganda: The Art and Crimes of Ron English** *2004*. Pedro Carvajal's documentary is a guerrilla-style film about the underground artist.

Cinema Tropical
•Feb. 4, 8:20 pm; Feb. 5, 5 pm. **Bolivar Soy Yo** *(Bolivar I Am) 2002*. An actor hired to play South American revolutionary Simón Bolívar comes to believe he is the reincarnation of Bolívar and tries to complete his unfulfilled dream of creating a unified state of five Latin American countries. Jorge Alí Triana directs.

Global Lens
•Feb. 17, 4:45 pm. **Hollow City** *2004*. When 11-year-old N'dala is separated from his caretaker he is airlifted to Luanda, a war-torn city in which he encounters a host of characters as he sinks further into its underbelly. Maria Joao Ganga directs
•Feb. 19, 12:15 pm. **La Fille de Keltoum** *(Daughter of Keltoum) 2001*. A young woman travels to the desert to find her birth mother. Mehdi Charef directs.
•Feb. 20, 10:30 am. **Kounandi** *2003*. A dwarf is rejected by her village in Apolline Traore's short film. •Immediately following, **Histoire de Tresses** *(About Braids) 2002*. Director Jacqueline Kalimunda's film is the story of the relationship between a hairdresser and her client. •Immediately following, **Pour la Nuit** *(For the Night) 2004*. A chance meeting brings two characters together. Isabelle Boni-Claverie directs.

Hong Kong Cinema
•Feb. 17, 8:15 pm; Feb. 18, 8 pm; Feb. 19, 4 pm; Feb. 20, 2:20 pm. **A Fei jing juen** *(Days of Being Wild) 1991*. Director Wong Kar-Wei's filmfollows Luddy, a handsome heartbreaker, in 1960s Hong Kong.

Japanese Cinema
•Feb. 10 and 11, 8 pm; Feb. 12, 3:45 pm; Feb. 13, 12:20 pm. **Dolls** *2002*. Director Takeshi Kitano tells three interwoven stories of characters unable to control their fate.

Psychoanalysis on Film
•Feb. 10, 3:15 pm; Feb. 13, 10:30 am; Feb. 17, 3 pm. **Empathy** *2003*. Amie Siegel explores the relationship between psychoanalysts and their patients through a combination of documentary footage, interviews and fictional narratives.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theater
•Feb. 18-24. **Amazing Journeys**. Follow butterflies, whales and zebras on their migrations.
•Through Feb. 17. **Extreme**. Audiences experience extreme outdoor sports, including skiing and snowboarding on perilous untouched mountain peaks; climbing frozen waterfalls and red-rock spires; surfing some of the largest waves ever surfed and windsurfing El Niño–strength winds.
•Through Feb. 17. **Roar: Lions of the Kalahari**. Journey into the Kalahari Desert as two Botswana lions battle over a water hole.
•Through May 26. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theater
•Through June 5. **Galapagos**. Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.
•Through June 5. **Into the Deep**. This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California and its many inhabitants.
•Through June 5. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Watch as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and other creatures create an underwater wonderland.
•Through June 5. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

REGENT THEATRE
•Feb. 10., 8 pm. **American Belly Dancer: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Dance** *2004*. Jonathan Brandeis' documentary recounts the creation and rise of the Bellydance Superstars and the Desert Roses, including high-profile performances in Bali, Indonesia, and on the Lollapalooza tour in the U.S.

WANG CENTER
Motion Picture Mondays
•Feb. 14, 7 pm. **Shakespeare in Love** *1998*. A young Shakespeare meets and falls in love with the inspiration for *Romeo and Juliet*. John Madden directs.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON
Regent Theatre
7 Medford St. (781-646-4849).

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Common Ground
85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Lin Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lin Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Lin Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gr Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MB Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gr Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Ora Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red L to Davis.

dvice to Contributors

bmit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax 17-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by ail to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, ces, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is ır weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac- ted over the phone.

dvice to Readers

formation for the Music section is compiled from dif- ent sources. Although we make every effort to provide urate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead double-check dates and times (see complete list of ues at the end of the section).

op Billings

ter Bridge, Silvertide, Submersed Feb. 11, alon (617-931-2000).
nefit Concert for Marriage Equality with itta Wolfrum, Rachael Cantu, Rachael Davis b. 14, T.T. the Bear's Place (617-931-2000).
others Past Feb. 10, Paradise Rock Club (617-3-NEXT).
an Cabrera Feb. 20, Avalon (617-931-2000).
anu Feb. 11, Somerville Theatre (617-931-00).
rron Feb. 17, Club Passim (617-492-5300).
ldfinger Feb. 16, Axis (617-931-2000).
ane Feb. 11, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
ephen Kellogg and Virginia Coalition, Matt ertz Feb. 17, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-EXT).
ngs of Convenience Feb. 11, Paradise Rock Club 17-423-NEXT).
tie Melua Feb. 19, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-EXT).
ddy Miller and Band, Ollabelle Feb. 20, Paradise ck Club (617-423-NEXT).
ne Monheit Feb. 10-12, Scullers Jazz Club (617-2-4111).
dvayne Feb. 12, Axis (617-931-2000).
ndrick Oliver and the New Life Jazz Orchestra b. 18-19, Scullers Jazz Club (617-562-4111).
lygraph Lounge Feb. 12, Somerville Theatre 17-931-2000).
e Radiators Feb. 17, Middle East Downstairs 17-931-2000).
on Russell Feb. 10, Johnny D's (617-776-2004).
e So and So's with Christian McNeil Feb. 11, lky Way (617-524-3740).
cial Distortion Feb. 22, Avalon (617-931-00).
ciano Souza with Edward Simon Feb. 14, Regat- ar (617-395-7757).
zanne Vega Feb. 3-5, Regattabar (617-395-57).

ock, Jazz nd Blues

EDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

e Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
avo at the MFA Ron Poster.
e Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce, and guests, m.
ntab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
ub Passim Laura Cortese and the McKassons, 8 , $12-$14.
mmon Ground The Adam Ezra Band, $3.
ck's Last Resort Big Time Trio, 7:20 pm.
e Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgarrd.
e Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no er.
nnessey's The Mystics, 9 pm.
nny D's Leon Russell, 8:30 pm, $25.
ddle East Upstairs: U-Melt, Creatures of Cre- on, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
radise Rock Club: The Information, the Good rth, Asobi Seksu, Emergency Music, 8 pm, $10, +. Lounge:
ddy O's Chad LaMarsh.
ullers Jazz Club Matt Wilson's Arts and Crafts, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
ough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9 pm.
gattabar Laszlo Gardony with special guest ndy Brecker, 7:30 pm, $15.
les Jazz Club ZilZALA Middleastern Ensemble, 9 , $10.
p of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no er.
the Bear's Place Thalia Zedek, Willard Grant nspiracy, Lovers, Seekonk, $9.
itgeist Gallery Nick Castro, Feathers, 9:30 pm, $9.
Zu Ware River Club.
s Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

Ghetto Child

Shemekia Copeland found the blues when she was tested as a teenager.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

When a teenaged Shemekia Copeland first hit the stage, she quickly forged a reputation as a blues belter in the mold of a young Koko Taylor. But make the suggestion that some people might have pigeonholed her, and Copeland pipes up.

"They can't do that with me," she says. "I won't allow it! I'm too young, you know. When my first record came out, I was 18. How you can you pigeonhole somebody that age?"

Now 25, with three albums under her belt and a fourth on the way in May, Copeland has done her best to break any expectations beyond her promise as a long-term force.

Copeland's last CD, *Talking to Strangers*, copped the 2003 W.C. Handy Award for Blues Album of the Year. At the hands of producer Mac Rebennack (better known as Dr. John), the disc also showed new levels of soulful sophistication in songs like Copeland's dynamic original ballad "Don't Whisper."

"Mac's idea was to do something a little more subtle, and show a bit more of my range," says the singer, who plays the Regattabar February 24 and 25. While she includes a few of her own songs on each CD, she favors tunes from a stable of steady collaborators like John Hahn and Jon Tiven. "I don't write that much. Actually, that's not true. I write a lot, but I don't use a lot of my songs. It's going to be a mixture."

"Every record, I've broadened my sound, and that comes with experience and age, and the more you learn, it just happens naturally," she says. "I'm doing my next record with Steve Cropper, and he's a big soul music guy, so I'm incorporating a lot of that."

Just don't expect Copeland to steer her funky contemporary blues into hip-hop. "I don't think so," laughs the Harlem-bred singer, whose father is the late, great Texas blues guitarist Johnny "Clyde" Copeland. He wrote "Ghetto Child" and "Pie in the Sky," two songs covered by his daughter.

"This is where I'm from, and what I'm all about," she says of the blues. "So it's virtually impossible to get too far away from the tradition.

"I just loved music as a kid, and I listened to all kinds," adds Copeland, who was partial to Aretha Franklin, Etta James, Koko Taylor, Otis Redding and Hank Williams. "My dad had great taste in music, and what my father didn't listen to, my mother did. So I had a chance to be well-rounded when it came to the music end of things.

"To do this, you've got to have good raising, and I lucked out with that," says the singer, who lived with her mother, but received nightly calls from her father to help keep her off the streets. "You need to be well-rounded and well-grounded."

Young Shemekia (pronounced sha-MEEK-ah) started singing around the house as a child, and was only 8 years old when her father called her to the stage of Harlem's famed Cotton Club. When she was 16, she began touring with her father, who was so weakened from heart disease he would encourage his daughter to sing larger portions of the set.

She didn't take to the spotlight immediately, however. "It was terrible," Copeland says. "I was nervous, and I didn't like being in front of people. I didn't know how I could possibly do it. For me, it was standing in front of a bunch of people and having them judge you, and that was weird.

Shemeika Copeland releases her fourth CD this spring

"He was definitely doing me a favor by allowing me to get up there and perform, but I couldn't see it then," she says from a Florida tour stop. "I was one of those stubborn, rebellious children. I thought he was trying to kill me by making me get up in front of all those people.

"It changed, and I've grown to love performing," says the vocalist, who never envisioned a music career for herself, but began to take it to heart in the two years before her father died in 1997, the year she signed a record deal. "It all happened around the same time," Copeland says. "I realized my father was dying. I just got the need to do it more and more, and the more I did it, the more I wanted to do it."

Her dad's illness wasn't the only sorrow she encountered at that time. In the span of a year, Copeland lost an aunt, a great-grandmother, a young cousin, and a close friend who was 14 years old. The last two had been shot.

But tragedy only reinforced her resolve. "Other friends and family dying, that's what made me get into the music," she says. "Even now, singing helps me to release a lot of stress. Some people exercise. I sing." iB

Shemekia Copeland
plays the Regattabar February 24 and 25.

La Serata Completa

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Una Bella Serata

Norwegian rockers Kings of Convenience play the Paradise Rock Club February 11

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Abbey Lounge Chesterwhite, 10:30 pm; Car Crash Show, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Helen Delaney, Peter Molloy and Shannon Aaron, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Groove Authority, 9 pm.
Club Passim Hot Day at the Zoo and Hugh McGowan, 8 pm, $8-$10.
Dick's Last Resort The Risk, 7:20 pm.
The Green Briar The Jon Frederik Band.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 9 pm.
High Street Grill Eilen Jewell, 5-8 pm, no cover.
Hyatt Regency Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30 pm.
Johnny D's Dub Is a Weapon, 9 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café Twisted Rico All Acoustic Review, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 10:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Lady of Spain, Reverse, the Nonfamous, the Gasolines, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi.
O'Brien's Larkin Brigade, Tramps Like Us, the Gobshites, TV Eye, $6.
PA's Luke Kalloch, 8:45 pm; Whistlejacket, 9:45 pm; Reigning Frog, 10:45 pm; Freefall, 11:45 pm; $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Pig Pen.
Paradise Rock Club: Brothers Past with Fluttr, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Plough and Stars Zipper, 9 pm.
Regattabar Suzanne Vega, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Ellen O'Brien, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Jane Monheit, 8 and 10 pm, $28.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9:30 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bleu, Spiraling, the Argument, the Cautions, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ameranouche, 7-9 pm, $10; Monique Ortiz, 9:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu Parker & Lily, Skating Club.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Abbey Lounge Stumbleweeds, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Avalon Alter Bridge, Silvertide, Submersed, 6:30 pm, $20-$22.
Axis Letterkills, Squad 5-0, Stutterfly, Adair, 7 p $10.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne (downstairs), Bobby Folkes (upstairs), 9:30 pm, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murr 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrille 9 pm.
Club Passim Bitch, James O'Brien, 8 pm, $12-$14
Common Ground Heather Hates You, $3.
Deville Lounge Ray Greene.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
The Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, cover.
The Harp The Zone, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Moon Boot Lover, Rana, 9 pm, $7
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5:30 pm; Swerve, 9 pm.
Johnny D's The Knot, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5 pm; Springh Rounders, 9 pm.
Kirkland Café The Lee, Soulacious, Maple Stre Project, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Middle East Downstairs: Damone, the Damn P sonals, Baby Boy H, Favorite Atomic Hero 8 p $10, 18+. Upstairs: Lamont, Superpower, t Brought Low, Radar Eyes, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way The So and So's with Christian McNe 9 pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5 pm; Co O'Brien, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Distinguised Members, Shortfilm, Lea the Body, Ugly Fucklings, $6.
Orpheum Theatre Keane, 7:30 pm, $20-$25.
Paradise Kings of Convenience, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Parris The Interns, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Jens Lekman, the Impossible Shapes, $8 21 $11 under 21 (18+ show).
Paddy O's Dick and Jane.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8 pm; the RPM 9 pm.
Regattabar Suzanne Vega, 7:30 pm and 10 p $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Club: Patricia Vlieg, 9 pm, $ Dance Hall: Brazilian Jungle Band, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Jane Monheit, 8 and 10:30 p $32.
Somerville Theatre Danu, 8 pm, $22-$28.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 8:30 p no cover.

T. the Bear's Place The Spurs, Two-Timin' Three, ohnny Carlevale & the Broken Rhythm Boys, Lau- n Marie, $10.
eitgeist Gallery Cat Show Snapshots, 7-9 pm, $7; ave Bryant Quartet, Eric Zinman Trio, 9:30 pm, $12.
uZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
es Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

ATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

bbey Lounge Benefit for the Somerville Arts ouncil, $5-$7.
xis Mudvayne, 7 pm, $20.
ie Black Rose Eugene Byrne (downstairs), Bobby olkes (upstairs), 9:30 pm, $5.
ie Burren The Bagboys, 5 pm. Tommy, Louise and elena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
antab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 n.
ub Passim Winter Campfire, 4 pm, $15.
eville Lounge Moonshine.
ck's Last Resort Big 80s, 8:30 pm.
ie Green Dragon Tavern Pi Alley.
ie Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no ver.
ie Harp The Interns, 10 pm, $10.
arpers Ferry Fighting Gravity, $8, 21 +.
ennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm; Freeze Pop, 9 pm.
ratt Regency Yasmine Iliya, 7:30 pm.
nny D's Toni Lynn Washington, 9:45 pm $8.
rkland Café Kari Nations, Girl on Top, Close at nd, Emily Daimon, $5.
ddle East Downstairs: Jim Carroll, Bling Kong, rris, 8 pm, $15, 18+. Upstairs: the Retrogrades, rry and the Potters, Amalgam, Eighty-Six, 1 pm, ; Jon Frederik Band, Seth Kallen, Brilliant Inven- ns, 9 pm, $9.
Brien's Capital Radio, Robby Roadsteamer, Bury Needle, Beware. $6.
radise Baby Strange, Violet Nine, the Howl, the ns, 8 pm; $10, 18+.
rris The Zone, 10 pm, $5-$10.
's Nothing Yet, $5-$7, 21+.
ddy O's Grumpy Jones.
ough and Stars Ed Munafo & Mountain Laurel, 5 ; One Thin Dime, 9 pm.
rple Shamrock Brick Park.
gattabar Suzanne Vega, 7:30 and 10 pm, $10.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Averi Feb. 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Big Head Todd and the Monsters Feb. 25, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Bowling for Soup, American Hi-Fi, Riddlin' Kids, MC Lars March 15, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Danzig Feb. 28, the Roxy (617-931-2000).
Dropkick Murphys March 16-20, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Marianne Faithfull March 15, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Finn Brothers March 2, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
Flogging Molly March 3, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Kings of Leon Feb. 27, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Medeski, Martin and Wood Feb. 24, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Pat Metheny Group March 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Motley Crüe March 5, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
The Perceptionists March 23, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Jill Scott March 13, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Soundtrack of Our Lives March 23, Axis (617-931-2000).
Tesla Feb. 27, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Ron White, Feb. 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).

Roxy Neko Case, 6 pm, $17.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Matthew Stubbs Band, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Jane Monheit, 8 and 10:30 pm, $32.
Somerville Theatre Polygraph Lounge, 8 pm, $25.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Seks Bomba, the Popgun Seven, Papermoon, the Tullamores $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ultra Plush, Thylacine, Amber Spyglass Robotzen, Lucretia's Daggers, Seven Sunless Days, 7 pm, $8.
ZuZu Soul le lu jah.
Les Zygomates Leah Souza, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne (downstairs), Bobby Folkes (upstairs), 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am-3 pm.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3 pm; the Americans Sessions Band, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Winter Campfire, 4 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Tom Grolieu.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Tom Pendergast & Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Matt Murphy's Zion Blood, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Lost City Angels, the Call-Up, Bayside, 1 pm, $10; Dalek, Bastille, Emok, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way The Allan Chase Quartet, the Daniel Blake Project, Sofia Kousovitis Quintet, Insight, 8 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sessuin, 4 pm; Mike Barrett, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Landing Party Valentine's Bash.
Paradise Receiving End of Sirens, Tall as Lions, Irepress, 7 pm; $10, 18+.
Paddy O's Traditional Irish Sessuin, 4 pm; Down Dog, 9 pm.
Plough and Stars Kind of Bluegrass, 5-7:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am.
Top of the Hub The Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; the Ron Murphy Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Maxxtone, Blue Ribbon Envy, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Rebecca Hall, Eric Fontana, Tom DeMille, Andreea Pauta, Audrey Ryan, Lucy Martinez, Lucy Bocchiaro, 6 pm, $5; Andrei Matorin/Gabriel Birnbaum, Eugene Lee/Ben Stepner/Brent Raskin, 9:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu Two-Timin' Three.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costello, Tommy Peoples, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm; Tracy O'Connell, 9 pm.
Club Passim Dave Palmater presents Folktracks Live, 8 pm, $5-$10.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
O'Brien's Electrosocial, no cover.
Plough and Stars Down Dog, 9 pm.
Regattabar Luciana Souza with Edward Simon 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Top of the Hub The Ron Murphy Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Benefit Concert for Marriage Equality with Britta Wolfrum, Rachael Cantu, Rachael Davis, $4.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
ZuZu Carlisle Sound.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 7 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Matt Glover, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass pickin' party, 8 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Matt Singer, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harper's Ferry Toussaint & the China Band, $5, 21+.

Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Casey Abrams, Liz Stahler, Dan Gonzales, 8:30 pm.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The Spoilers, the Dimwits, Salacious Crumb, Nobody's Heroes, 9 pm, $8.
O'Brien's Fitless, Supervain, Local Tough Guy, $6.
Paddy O's Brian Park.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thayer, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Osmany Paredes Quintet, 7:30 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm, $7.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 9:20 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Prince Bud & Don Red, Welk, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Svengali Cabaret, 7 pm, $5; The Anarchist Coffeehouse, 9 pm, $5.
ZuZu Eli Paperboy Reed.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Axis Goldfinger, the Start, 7 pm, $20.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce and special guest, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Flynn Cohen & the Chagrin River Band, 8 pm, $10-$12, 21+.
Common Ground The Adam Ezra Band, $3.
Dick's Last Resort Music Scmusic, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damagaard.
The Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's The Mystics.
Middle East Upstairs: Lucero, Northstar, Honorary Title, Circa Survive, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
O'Brien's Reserve, Hotblack, Sinister Plot, JM, $6.
Paddy O's Chad La Marsh.
Scullers Jazz Club Tito Paris and Maria deBarros, 8 and 10 pm, $26 .
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9 pm.
Regattabar Prescription Trio, Oteil & the Peacemakers with Mike Clark, 7:30 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Guy Mendilow Trio, 9 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Impromptu, 7 pm, $7; Gabriella Sadler, 9:30 pm, $5.
ZuZu Squids, ZWA.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Abbey Lounge Idle Barons, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy and Shannon Aaron, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge The Chicken Slacks, 9 pm.
Club Passim Ferron, 8 pm, $23-$25.
Dick's Last Resort Sled, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry The Duo, Free Space, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grill Eilen Jewell, 5-8 pm, no cover.
Hyatt Regency Zdenek Kansky Quartet, 5:30 pm.
Johnny D's Jimmie Dale Gilmore, 9:00 pm, $16.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café Henry, Hyphens, Default Outfit, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 10:30 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: The Radiators, 8 pm, $25, 18+. Upstairs: Count Zero, Raymond, 9 pm, $9.
Mr. Dooley's Sean Cunningham.
O'Brien's High Rocktane Karaoke, $5.
PA's Orange Nicole, 9 pm; the Bamboo Steamers, 10 pm; Chaz and the Motorbikes, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Brick Park.
Paradise Stephen Kellogg & the Sixers, Virginia Coalition with Matt Wertz, 7 pm, $14, 18+.
Plough and Stars Eilen Jewell Band, 9 pm.
Regattabar The Bruce Katz Band, 7:30 and 10 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Marcele, 9 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9:30 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Beat Circus, Gloria Deluxe, Alec K. Redfearn & the Eyesores, Cerberus Shoal, Turkish Queen, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Self-Righteous Brothers, 9:30 pm, $8.
ZuZu Vinyl Skyway.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Abbey Lounge Blue Bloods, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan (downstairs), Sean Cunningham (upstairs), 9:30 pm, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott.
The Burren Tina Leach, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Edie Carey, Amy Speace, 7 pm, $12-$14.
Deville Lounge The Allnighters, 10 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Blue Soul, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal Chad LaMarsh.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis.
The Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Beatlejuice , $10-$12, 21+.
Hennessy's Spike the Punch.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5 pm; Spring Hill Rounders.
Kirkland Café Shayne, Loser's Day Parade, Maple Street Project, Mickey Bliss Organ Project, $5.
Middle East Downstairs: Labb, EJ and the Free Association, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Upstairs: Lovewhip, Amun Ra, the Westward Trail, Cassette, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Pressure Cooker with Akashic Record, 9 pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, 5 pm; Maxi, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Not Common Records, Disengaged, $6.
Parris The Benderz, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Miles from Land, 8:45 pm; Scuba, 9:45 pm; Ara Vora, 10:45 pm; the Pilot Light, 11:45 pm; $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8:30 pm; Handsome Frank, 9 pm.
Regattabar Los Hombres Calientes, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Mass Tango, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Kendrick Oliver and the N Life Jazz Orchestra, featuring Cyrus Chestnut Kevin Mahogany, 8 and 10:30 pm, $26.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9:30 no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Beat Circus, Gloria Del Alec K. Redfearn & the Eyesores, Cerberus Sh Turkish Queen, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Taylor greenwood Quintet, 7 $7; Rob Chalfen & Subconsciouscafe New Chan Music, 9 pm, $12.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cove

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Abbey Lounge Downbeat 5, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan (downstairs), S Cunningham (upstairs), 9:30 pm, $5.
The Burren The Bagboys Bluegrass Session, 5 Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 10
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thril 9 pm.
Club Passim October Project, Gregory Doug 7 pm, $20-$22.
Common Ground The Swinging Johnsons, $3.
Deville Lounge Justin Beech Band.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time 5, 8:30 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
The Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm cover.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Kashmir, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Traditioanl Irish Sessuin, 4 pm; I dence, 9 pm.
Hyatt Regency Dominique Eade, 7:30 pm.
Johnny D's Superhoney, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kirkland Café Ochmoneks, Passing Through, 8 Buzz, $5.
Middle East Downstairs: Willie "Loco" Alexa & the Boom Boom Band, the Nervous Eaters, natural Axe, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Upstairs: Nun One Fan, Brandston, Gym Class Heroes, Val mich, 1 pm, $10; the Grift, the Bleedin Bleed Throwback, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi.
O'Brien's Lonesome Fools, Condition Blue, Fi $6.

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Alternative country singer/songwriter Neko Case performs at the Roxy February 12

dy O's Mark Morris and the Catunes.
adise Rock Club: Katie Melua, 8 pm, $12,
ris The Benderz, 10 pm, $5-$10.
s Headband, the Reports, $5-$7, 21+.
ugh and Stars Larry Flint & the Road Scholars, n; Route 44 & Kojo Abawase, 9 pm.
ple Shamrock American Made.
attabar Los Hombres Calientes, 7:30 pm and 10 $25.
es Jazz Club Megawatt Blues Crushers, 9 pm,
llers Jazz Club Kendrick Oliver and the New Jazz Orchestra, featuring Cyrus Chestnut and in Mahogany, 8 and 10:30 pm, $26.
of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no er.
geist Gallery First Annual Zeitgeist Vocal Festi- 1 pm-1 am, $10.
Zu Soul le lu jah.
Zygomates Christine Fawson, 8 pm, no cover.

NDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with istie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
Attic The Coalboilers.
lon Ryan Cabrera, Aslyn, Kyle Riabko, 7 pm, 50.
s Bar Dub Station.
Black Rose Frank Ryan, 9:30 pm.
vo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron , 11:30 am-3 pm.
Burren The Gannon Family, 3 pm; the Ameri- Sessions Band, 6 pm.
tab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
t's Last Resort Hair Club for Mensa, 7:20 pm.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
nessy's Tom Grolieu.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko & Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Matt Murphy's Mang Dub, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Via Audio, the Mitchells, Polyethylene, Model A, Telopop, 1 pm, $10. Downstairs: Plumerai, Violator, the Brokedown, Shirt, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way The Greater Good.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sessiun, 4 pm; Mike Barrett, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Bright Penny, Seabucket, $6.
Paddy O's Sunday's Well.
Paradise Rock Club: Buddy Miller and Band, Ollabelle, 7 pm, $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Hot Tamale Brass Band, 5-7:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Bobby Keys Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Picture Index, the States, $6.
Zeitgeist Gallery First Annual Zeitgeist Vocal Festival, 1 pm-1 am, $10.
ZuZu Johnny Carlevale and the Broken Rhythm Boys.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

The Burren Johnny O' Leary, Vinny Costello and Tommy Peoples, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm; Andrew McKnight, 9:30 pm.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun.
Harpers Ferry Two-Car Garage with Motherseat. $3, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Middle East Upstairs: Hangar 18 with DJ Big Wiz, One Be Lo with Majestic Legend, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

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Mudvayne comes to Axis February 12.

Plough and Stars Primitive Revue, 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Bobby Keys Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ayn Inserto Jazz Orchestra, 7 pm, $7; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
ZuZu The Jena Campaign, Choo Choo La Rouge.
Les Zygomates Steve Spungin, 7 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Avalon Social Distortion, Backyard Babies, Street Dogs, 8 pm, $25.
The Black Rose Sean Cunningham, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Matt Glover, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Chris Padolfi and the Bluegrass Mafia, 10 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Brian Fitzpatrick, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harper's Ferry Toussaint & the China Band, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The Fight, Pure Impact, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy O's Brian Park
Plough and Stars Matt Duane Griffin, 8:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Chuck Loeb, 8 pm and 10 pm, $20.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Last Conservative, Thousand Days, $6.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Svengali Cabaret, 7 pm, $5; The Anarchist Coffeehouse, 9 pm, $5.
ZuZu Eli Paperboy Reed.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: E Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
DeVille Lounge *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

Katie Melua, 2004's top-selling artist in the UK, plays the Paradise Rock Club February 1

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2/11 Patricia Vlieç
2/12 Matthew Stubbs Band
2/16 Guy Mendilow Trio
2/17 Marcele
2/18 Mass Tango
2/19 Megawatt Blues Crushers
2/20 Pocket Big Band
2/23 Nando Michelin Group
2/25 Ken Clark
2/26 Chicken Slacks Soul Revue

Dance Hall:
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THU: Temporada Latina - Salsa Lessons & Dance
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classical music

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Choir of the Church of the Advent

Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston (617-523-2377). www.theadvent.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH or Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. Free. Edith Ho conducts the choir in a performance of works by Gregorio Allegri, William Byrd and Pierre Villete.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617 585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free Conductor Diego Masson leads the NEC Philharmonia in Ravel's *Rapsodie Espagnole*, Dutilleux's *Metaboles* and Stravinsky's *Petrouchak.*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Boston Philharmonic

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-236-0999). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $15-$59. Benjamin Zander conducts Bruckner's Symphony No. 8.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10:30 am (rehearsal), $16; 8 pm. $27-$95. Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos conducts the BSO in Falla and Strauss, a program featuring two works inspired by Cervantes' *Don Quixote.* Accompanied by Bob Brown Puppets.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. This Modern American Music Series concert features world premieres from Daniel Pinkham and Reiko Yamada. Musicians include Peter Cassino and the MAM String Ensemble and pianists Sally Pinkas and Evan Hirsch.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Boston Chamber Music Society Subscription Series

Jordan Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $17-$46. BCMS artistic director Ronald Thomas presents works by Mozart, Respighi, Shostakovich and Schubert.

Boston Classical Orchestra

Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 8 pm. $25-$49. Jazz sextet Made in the Shade presents the world premiere of Stephen Halloran's Dixieland suite, *Concerto for New Orleans*, in this Valentine concert.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $27-$95. Same program as Feb. 10.

Boston University College of Fine Arts Faculty Recital Series

CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Shiela Kibbe and violinist Bayla Keyes perform Fauré's *Cinq Mélodies 'de Venise', Op. 58* and *Violin Sonata No. 1 in A Major, Op. 13* and Poulenc's *Tel Jour Telle Nuit* with guest soprano Sara Pelletier.

Handel and Hadyn Society: Classical Valentine

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-423-3883). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$60. Music Director Grant Llewellyn presents performances of Hadyn's Symphony No. 104, *London*; Mozart's Symphony No. 31, *Paris*; and Haydn's Cello Concerto in C Major featuring celloist Pieter Wispelwey.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Guest conductor James Ross leads the Longy Chamber Orchestra in a performance of works by Gerhard, Dallapiccola and Haydn.

Mass Theatrica: A Night of Love

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline (508-757-8515). www.masstheatrica.org. 8 pm. $15, general; $12, seniors/students. Perform sing favorite love songs and duets from operas classical works.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. A Boston (617-353-8725). www.celebrityseries. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University Eas pm. $20-$25. Robert Kapilow conducts a gram titled Family Musik: Fairy Tales Inside/ that retells famous fairy tales through music dance.

Boston Philharmonic

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (6 236-0999). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 8 pm. $15-$59. Benjamin Zan conducts Bruckner's Symphony No. 8 and de ers a preconcert talk, at 6:45 pm.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Lin Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same progran Feb. 10.

Boston University College of Fine Arts

CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Bos (617-353-3349) www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. Conduc Ann Howard Jones, Katherine Fitzgibbon Katie Woolf lead the Boston Univer Women's Chorale, Chamber Chorus and C cert Choir in works by Bartók, Brahms, Lig Mozart and Schumann.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden Cambridge (617-566-5218). www.longy. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $20 gene $15 students/seniors. Pianist Helen Wickett, ner of the 1980 Pro Musicis International Aw plays pieces by Beethoven, Schubert, Debussy Stravinsky.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Boston Chamber Music Society: Subscription Series

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $17-$46. Sa program as Feb. 11.

Boston Philharmonic

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (6 236-0999). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 3 pm. $15-$59. Benjamin Zan conducts Bruckner's Symphony No. 8 and de ers a preconcert talk, at 1:45 pm.

Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The F way, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardne seum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 1:30 $20 general, $14 seniors. The ensemble perfo works by Melinda Wagner, Maurice Durufle Schubert.

Concordia Consort

Old North Church, 193 Salem St., Boston (617-5 6676). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. 5 Free. The Consort performs arias and instrume music by Handel, Cesti, Vivialdi, Buxtehude Purcell.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series

Emmanuel Church, 5 Newbury St., Boston (6 536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MB Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmar Music presents Bach's Cantata BWV 33.

Handel and Hadyn Society: Classical Valentine

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-4 3883). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$60. Sa program as Feb. 11.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.e MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Fac pianist Ludmilla Lifson and Eda Shlyam form works by Bach, Saint Saens, Gershwin others.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Boston University College of Fine Arts Triple Helix: All-Schubert Program

Tsai Performance Center 685 Comm. Ave., Bos (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: Green Line to BU Central. 8 pm. Free. Per mances of Schubert's *Arpeggione Sonata; Pi Trio No. 1 in B flat Major, Op. 99* and *Trout Q*

Conductor Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos leads the BSO February 10–12.

: feature violist Michelle LaCourse and double-
ssist Edwin Barker.

ongy School of Music

olfinsohn Recital Room, 27 Garden St., Cambridge 17-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. BTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Musi-ans from Longy's winds and brass department rform works by Bach, Paul Ben-Haim and Fer-nand David.

UESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

ongy School of Music

lward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., ambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. BTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Director ne Struss and continuing studies students pre-nt a production of various scenes from Mozart's *arriage of Figaro*. Rescheduled from Wednesday, n. 12.

uir String Quartet at Boston niversity

ai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston 17-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B reen Line to BU Central. 8 pm. $10 general public, students. The quartet performs works by aydn, Shostakovich and Brahms.

othing Conservatory About It Con-rt Series: New Music Festival

rklee Performance Center, 136 Mass Ave, ston (617-747-2261). www.berkleebpc.com. BTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8:15 pm. $15; niors, $10. This event showcases original music Berklee students.

EDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

oston Symphony Orchestra

mphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-6-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony. 7:30 pm (rehearsal). $16. Robert ano conducts pianist Robert Levin in works Wagner, Mendelssohn and Haydn and a rld premiere of a piano concerto by Yehudi yner.

oston University College of Fine rts: ALEA III

ai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., ston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: Green Line to BU Central. 8 pm. Free. eodore Antoniou conducts Boston Univer-y's contemporary music ensemble in new rks by young composers written especially for EA III.

ngy School of Music

ward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., mbridge (617-566-5218). www.longy.edu. BTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Fac-y pianist Lyubov Shlain and guest artists rform works by Saint-Saens, Schumann and rtini.

HURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

oston Symphony Orchestra

nphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-00). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to nphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. See Feb. 16 listing for rogram description.

ngy School of Music

ward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., mbridge (617-566-5218). www.longy.edu. BTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The Aviv String Quartet performs works by Beethoven, Shostakovich and Brahms as part of the Gessner-Schocken Concert Series.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617 585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Charles Peltz leads the NEC Wind Ensemble in a performance of pieces from their upcoming Carnegie Hall program, including works by Magnus Lindberg, Richard Toensing and Charles Ives.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $45-$70. Soprano Renée Fleming and pianist Hartmut Holl perform works by Handel, Purcell, Berg and Schumann.

Boston Modern Orchestra Project

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617 363-0396). www.bmop.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $19-$38. Artistic director and conductor Gil Rose presents Minimalism, a program of music from the minimalist movement by composers John Adams, Philip Glass, Steve Reich and Elena Ruehr.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $27-$95. Same program as Feb. 16.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. See Feb. 16 listing for a program description.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series

Emmanuel Church, 5 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Benjamin Zander conducts Bach's Cantata BWV 46.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $12. Ensemble-in-residence Vento Chiaro, a woodwind quintet, performs pieces by Chen Yi, Julia Wolfe, Jaques Ibert and Manuel de Falla.

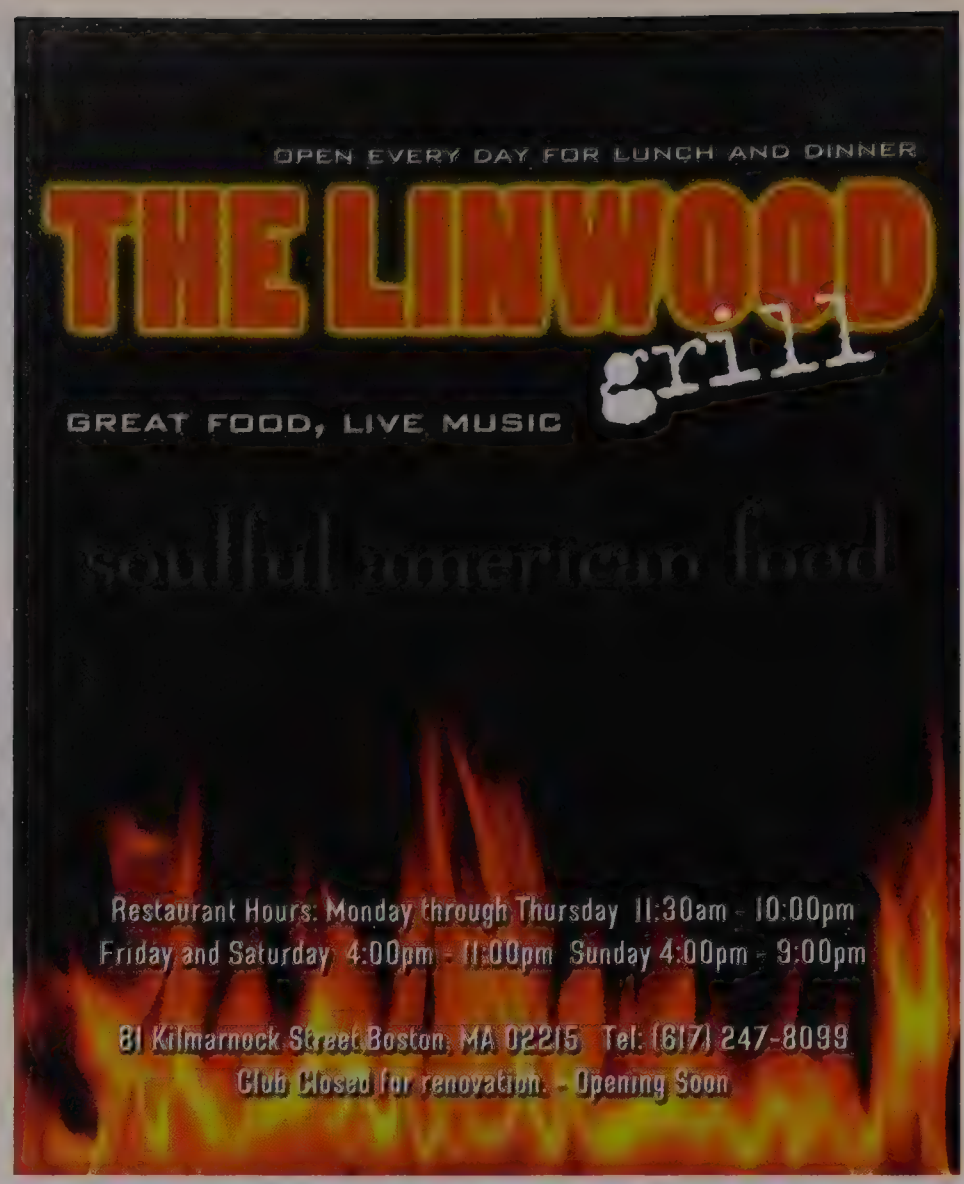
Musicians from Marlboro

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 1:30 pm. $20 general, $14 seniors. The string ensemble performs Mozart's string quintets in B-flat Major and G Minor and Hindemith's *Melancholie*.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3. Jeffrey Wood performs works by Bach, deGrigny and Durufle on the C.B. Fisk Organ.



dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ spins top-40, open mike, interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Signs of Life Guest DJ's spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clery's
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts live performances and spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Weekly rotation of underground dance, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spin upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band plays reggae and funk, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes including hip-h R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Touch DJs spin urban groove and club classics, 1 pm, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog pre drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+ 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover,

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 2

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip- all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin p classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul sp mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lou music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin p and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro inter tional, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15,

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no co

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-sc hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 f the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Foundation Fridays DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R and classics, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15,

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9p am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15,

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps s ning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with c bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 p am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presen night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spins a mix of internatio Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $ 19+, after 11 pm.

oogan's
J Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, +.

osmopolitan
uropean Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style usic, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

evlin's
J Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance usic, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ockside
Js spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, +.

kco Lounge
ie Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

mbassy
ersuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, 0, 19+.

he Enormous Room
l-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from p-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

elt
ansion Fridays After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 8's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, p-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

olden Temple
ie E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s d vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

reen Briar
FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1am, no cover, +.

reen Street Grill
ouse band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, , 21+.

ypsy Bar
Gabe spins.

ie Harp
day Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins wnstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Feb. 11: the Zone. eb. 18: the Zoo.

urricane O'Reilly's
spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 , 21+.

O
shment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

se McIntyre's
s spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am,21+.

nvara Pub
Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, &B and pop, 21+.

ie Kells
dies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance ile DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, ies free before midnight, 21+.

quor Store
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

atrix/Paradise City
Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ Steve nelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

cGann's
spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

iddlesex Lounge
Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and -hop, no cover.

ie Modern
DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

oal Lounge
ure/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno, o music, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

ie Palace
he Beach House Reggaeton: Spanish reggae sic, $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** w England's longest-running all-male dance ue, doors at 8:30 pm, show, 9 pm-12:30 am, , 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie nett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian osphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, +; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands per- m, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; 21+.

rris
at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. eb. 11: the Interns. •Feb. 18: the Benderz.

oenix Landing
ove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

ie Place
ng out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video high- ts, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

ie Purple Shamrock
-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

e Rack
Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

dline
lney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm- n, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
International Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
The Penthouse Club DJ Tanerk spins house on the fourth floor. Also, DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance on the first floor. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Feb. 12: the Interns. •Feb. 19: the Zoo.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Buddha spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis DJs Frank and Matty spin a mix of rock, retro and electro beats, 10 pm, $5, 18+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and to 40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by I Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $1 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New Englan longest-running all-male dance revue, doors 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $2 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a h hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmo phere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21 •Feb. 12: the Zone. •Feb. 19: the Benderz.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wo ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roc spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mode mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs DJ Massi and DJ Play each spin th own style of house, progressive and techno music pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. pl house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, internatio and dance, often joined by live bands and spec guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in t front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro f vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

he Sugar Shack
Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, , 21+.

equila Rain
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 ı, $5.

ernan's
turday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins clas- old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, +.

ast
irses Wretched Design presents an evening of chic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

enu
ula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek ıtabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 ı, 19+.

ertigo
Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, 5, 21+.

est Street Grille
te Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all ht, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

UNDAYS

valon
y Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and hno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

ll's Bar
e reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

oston Rocks
spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

ızz
ızilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am,), 19+

ıprice
spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

evlin's
lustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and ixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

co Lounge
p-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

ıe Enormous Room
volutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm- m.

een Briar
bar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

een Street Grill
e Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 , no cover, 21+.

vel
tating DJs spin Latin and international on the rd floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, F.

oenix Landing
np This house-music night has a rotating roster of al and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

e Place
ad Lamarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no er, 21+.

e Purple Shamrock
Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

ggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

e Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, cover, 21+.

d Line
nday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests h reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

ver Gods
ion Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic k and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

les Dance Hall
pa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday ach month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa sic, 6-10 pm, $12.

int
ce Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night uring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 $10, 21+.

sy K's
nu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

phia's
Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, , 21+.

ki Room
gae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub tion and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

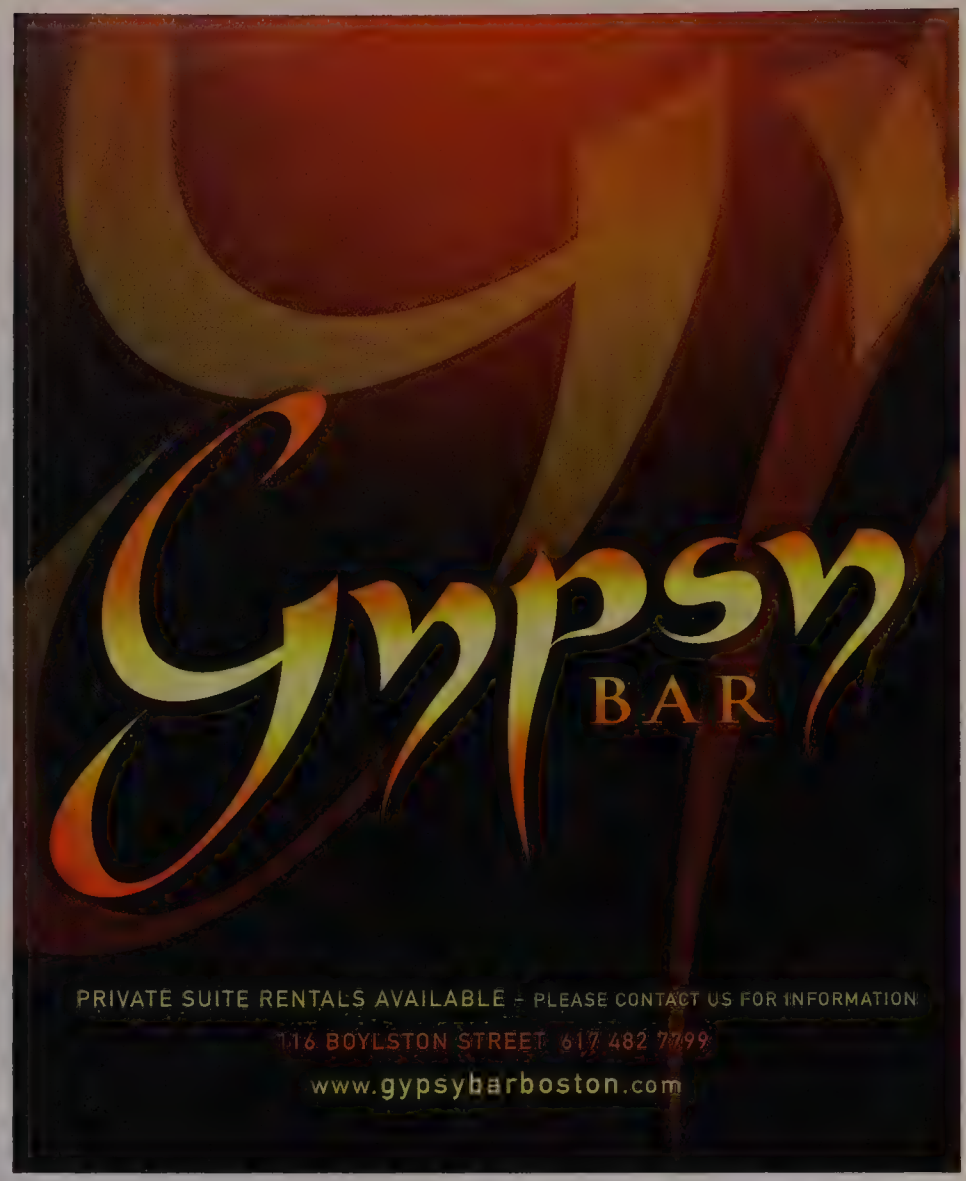
ast
wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and zilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

nu
nivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian nt as DJ Leandro spins, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

rtigo
tian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and ld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*



museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*A Compelling Legacy: Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through March 20. •*Marks of Enlightenment, Traces of Devotion: Japanese Calligraphy and Painting from the Sylvan Barnet and William Burton Collection* features more than 70 objects from the 8th through 20th centuries, including Buddhist scriptures. Through April 17. •*The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in Iran and India* features paintings, decorative arts and weaponry depicting hunting scenes from western and southern Asia. Through June 26.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts

24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. •*Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project* features a puppet opera, a film and a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center by artist Pierre Huyghe. Through April 17.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •*Pretty Sweet: The Sentimental Image in Contemporary Art* features more than 100 works in various media by 33 New England artists. Through April 17. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Crises of Representation: The Decorative and the Feminine in Fin-de-siecle Vienna* includes publications and artworks from turn-of-the-20th-century Vienna. Feb. 12-June 12. •*Highlights from the Carpenter Center Photography Collection* is on display through March 20. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center

53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Paris Vertical* is a show of panoramic photographs by Horst Hamann. Through March 3.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration on our planet. Ongoing.

The Unbearable Likeness of Being, by Damien Hirst, at the Museum of Fine Arts through April 24

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists* features more than 50 artists' portraits of their peers and heroes. Through May 1. •Kanishka Raja shows paintings as part of the ICA's *Momentum* series. Through May 1.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Chairs* brings together the photography of 2002 artist-in-residence Dayanita Singh with the museum's collection of Italian and Renaissance chairs. Feb. 9-May 8. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries depicting Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. & Sun. 12-5pm. Free. •Drawings, collages, prints, watercolors and photographs by assorted artists display in *Accommodations of Desire: Surrealist Works on Paper Collected by Julien Levy*. Through March 24.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •*Kimsooja: Seven Wishes and Secrets* is a multimedia exhibit featuring the artist's paintings and videos. Feb. 10-April 10. •*Pavel Braila* is a self-titled exhibition featuring large scale photographs, video projections and a short film by the Moldovan artist. Feb. 10-April 10. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Center for Advanced Visual Studies Artist's Presentation: Seth Price* is an open studio of the artist's work. Feb. 14-15. •*The Traveling Magazine Table* includes rare local and international magazines. Through April 15. •*Clipper Ship Era* is a collection of lithographs, plans and photographs illustrating the design and construction, as well as the social experience, of a clipper ship. Through July 10. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing. • *Young Inventors at MIT* displays work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winners. Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Threads of Faith: Recent Works from the Women of Color Network* is an exhibition of quilts depicting historical, story-based, political and spiritual themes. Through March 31. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition highlighting Boston's African-American community in the 19th century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing. •*Separate Schools, Unequal Education* chronicles the struggles for equal school rights in Massachusetts. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*High Style and Hoopskirts: The 1850s* features mid-19th-century men's and women's clothing. Through March 13. •An exhibition of contemporary works by controversial London-based artist Damien Hirst is on display through April 24. •*Sets, Series, and Suites: Contemporary Prints* features serial prints by 30 artists from 1950 to the present. Through May 29. •*Photographs by Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Sylvan Barnet and William Burto Collection* features 20 of the Japanese photographer's black-and-white prints. Through June 23. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11. •*Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* explores vast, harsh African landscapes and the day-to-day life and power struggles of the Kalahari lion. Through Feb. 17. •*Playing with Time* features experimental tools that manipulate the perception of time. Through May 1. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants t the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoi •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases t museum's collection of dinosaur models, incl ing the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models,* interactive exhibition, features models of a w tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. C going. •*Mapping the World Around Us* featu mapping projection tools and computer map braries. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). wu monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 p Free. •*George Washington: Freemason and Found Father* displays rare artifacts. Feb. 19-Ju 12.•*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a c lection of artifacts and sculpture from the Am can West, shows through April 24. •*Deep Inside Blues: Photographs by Margo Cooper* features black-and-white photographs of musicians tak by Cooper over the past 10 years during her trav through the Mississippi Delta. Through June •*Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend* exami artistic depictions of American legend Paul H vere. Through June 26. •*The Enchanted Clocks George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm* an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is going. •*Made in Massachusetts* features househ objects from the past three centuries. Ongoi •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in Ameri Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). wu pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; s dents, $9; children 16 and under and residents Salem, free. •*Yangtze Remembered: The River neath the Lake* is an exhibition of 30 photograp by Linda Butler capturing the Three Gorges ar Through April 24. •*Carved by Nature* displays cient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 20 •*In Nature's Company* features the nature-inspi works of more than 20 Massachusetts artis Through Sept. 18. •The only installation of kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chin merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, re cated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-102 www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to H vard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and studen $6; children, $5. •*Field Photography, The Ma Arabs of Iraq, 1934* is a collection of 34 prints Arab tribes in the marshlands of southern Ir Through Feb. 28. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: M bres Pottery from the American Southwest* features a facts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ru Through June 30. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artis ship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 20 •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Cla Indian Collection* features Native American artifa from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 20 •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments f* tures the museum's large Mesoamerican cast coll tion. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indi Change and Continuity* depicts the response of N tive Americans across the continent to the arrival Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Ameri* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpt and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pac Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displ artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (78 736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Co muter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun. 12-5p $3. •*Dreaming Now* features eight mixed-media stallations by various artists, including Mari Abramovic, Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, Sa dra Cinto, Cai Guo Quiang and Chiharu Shio Through April 24.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). wu acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingt Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Provincetown Painters 20* is a group show and displays the works of 20 artis Feb. 10-March 19.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). wu alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Local gl artist, Gina Poppe, shows her new work. Feb. 1 March 25.

pha Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.
hagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.
.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Gallery artists display
ir work. Through March 2.

den Gallery
) Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.
engallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
n.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Paul
iveau shows two of his collections of acrylic-on-
vas works in *New Paintings*. Through Feb. 28.

tana
'8 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111)
w.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to
lidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-
n. • The gallery continually shows pieces by more
n 30 artists from across New England.

t Attack
3 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.art
ck108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-
., 12-6 pm. •*American Landscape* features
ntings of New England landscapes by Anthony
chkis. Through March 11.

t Interactive
Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100).
w.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Cen-
. Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •Materials and
ructions for 29 projects are placed around the
ery for patrons to create their own three-dimen-
al creation. in *The Paper Sculpture Show*. Feb.
March 27.

rbara Krakow Gallery
Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490).
w.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line
Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Sally
ore displays her sculptures made from everyday
erials in *Extend*.

renberg Gallery
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.
nberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back
. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New*
land Self-Taught Artists is a group show of mixed-
lia works. Through Feb. 26.

rnard Toale Gallery
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.
ardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Tanja Hollander: New*
ographs shows through Feb. 12.

ston Sculptors Gallery
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.
onsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •David Phillips presents
Work in Space: Stone and Bronze and Dan Wills
ws his work in *Palmolive*. Through March 12.

ckbottom Gallery
tchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.
ckbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lech-
. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •*A Certain Journey: Medita-*
s on Lives Passing is a group show including
ks by Susanna Darling, Lois Fiore, Riki Moss,
n Powell, Ted Prato, Beverly Sky and Bruce
ester. Through Feb. 13.

omfield Gallery
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-360510).
w.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to
k Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5. •Karen Clarke shows
t, paper and canvas works in *Surroundings: Work*
ollage. *Transistions and Undoings: Painted Realiza-*
s showcases surrealist works by Brian O'Malley.
ough Feb. 26.

ookline Arts Center
Mammoth St., Brookline (617-566-5715).
w.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line
t. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Flâneur:*
t Photography by Anne Hwang, Jay Gaffney, and
Zheng features candid works by local artists.
ough Feb. 18.

ase Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222).
w.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •*Mélange* is a group show. fea-
g the works of gallery artists. Through Feb. 26.

ilds Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108).
w.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm.
ree exhibitions—*Edward Page and His Circle*
ntings), *Leo Meissner Drawings* and *Lithographs of*
lon Grant—display through March 5.

oley Society of Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.cop-
ciety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat.,
0 am-5:30 pm. •Stephen D. Paine Scholarship
d winners display their works. Feb. 10-March 5.
rlos Caicedo shows *Red Room Exhibition*. Feb.
March 5.

imp McCole Gallery
Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA:
Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat.,
12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Judy Hazilla displays mixed-media works in *Reverse Reality*. Through Feb. 28.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equator gallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fort pointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Light Work* is a group show featuring works by John Crowley, Tom Wojciechowski and Andrew Woodward. Feb. 11-March 15.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www. galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu., 12-5:30 pm, Fri. and Sat.,12-5 pm. Recent Paintings and Prints by Roy Dawes and Christine Neil shows through Feb. 28.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., Garden Level, (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 pm. •*Last Radio Off* and *War Games* are photographic collections by Matthew Gamber and Stephan Jacobs, respectively. Through Feb. 26.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Structure II: Drawings and Paintings* features works by Morgan Craig, Adam Davies, Gabert Farrar, Jessica Hess, Roland Kulla, Susa Logoreci and Chris Santer. Through Feb. 26.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www. gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Harriet Casdin-Silver presents *Holographic Portraits and Other Work*. Painter Reese Inman shows *Algorithm Map Series*. Through Feb. 26.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. • New cermamic sculptures by Lisa Wolkow are on display. Through March. 1.

Haley & Steele Gallery
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haley steele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (617-989-9985). www. hallspace.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., by appointment; Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. •Chantal Zakari shows new work in *WebAffairs*. *Nail to Nail* features multimedia art by Doug Bell. Through Feb. 19.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www. howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Cumming and Bill Burke show new work. Feb. 11-March 15.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www. internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www. judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. • *From A to Z* is an exhibition of oil paintings by Jennifer Amadeo-Holl and Zygmund Jankowski. Through Feb. 26.

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judy goldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features contemporary American art.

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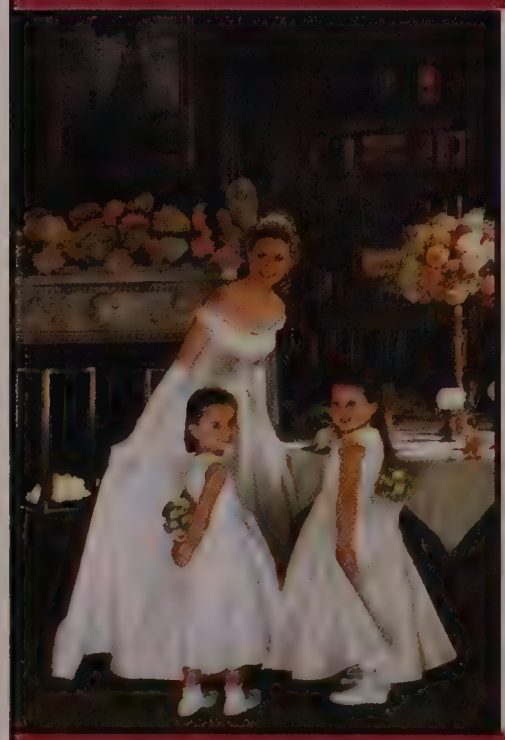

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Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment. •*Sensation* is an exhibition of works by Brigitte Brüggemann, Anne Blair Brown, Christopher Terry and Karen Luke. Through Feb. 28.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Winter Festival of the Arts* is a group show of mixed-media works. Through March 1.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Peter Harris shows photographs in *Lush*. Through Feb. 19.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Station. Tue.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm and by appointment. •Rose Olsen shows paintings on wood in *Intimate Interaction*, and Kathleen Gerdon Archer shows new photographs. Through Feb. 26.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by international and local artists including Andrew Saftel, Ruth Block, Emil Alzamora and Carrie McGee.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. • *Light Up Your Night: Neon Sculptures by Alejandro & Moira Sina* is on display through March 31.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Phillip Jones shows new photographs in *Diary*. Through Feb. 16.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •William Ciccariello and Greg Parker show recent paintings. Through Feb. 15.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •The travelling exhibit, *The Ring Show: The Grand Finale* features work by more than 100 artists.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •New York artist Dianne Purdy displays abstract painting in *New Work*. Through Feb. 26.

Nave Gallery
155 Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville (617-625-4823) www.artsomerville.org/nave. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Thu. 4-8 pm; Sat. 1-5 pm and by appointment. •*Renewed: A Transformation of Found Objects* features work by Martha Friend, Paul Gray, Kathy Neustadt and Marcella Ann Stasa. Through Feb. 12.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •Laurel Hughes shows her work in *New Paintings*. Through March 5.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Paintings by Peik Larson are on display through Feb. 26.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •*New Paintings* showcases the work of Pablo Ramella. Through Feb. 14.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features works by local-artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. • Katy Schneider shows her small-scale portraits. Feb. 10-March 19.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Achievements of Place* showcases landscapes of western Maine by painter Marguerite Robichaux. Through March 7.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Paul Ickovic shows his photographs. Feb 10-March 19.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Selected Paintings and Water Colors, Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Picasso. Through March.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*¡Dominicanazo!* is a group show of photography, painting, video, sculpture and multimedia installations by Dominican artists. Through Feb. 27.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Nancy Schieffelin and Susan Demchak display their work. Through Feb. 26.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The artist-owned gallery presents *Passages* with paintings by Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin, William St. George and Judy St. Peter. Through Feb. 28.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). u vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 •Selections from the gallery's inventory inc 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century American art.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., C nut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgal com. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collec features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-60 www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. *MBTA: Red Line to In Square. Tue.-Sun., 1-7 pm.* •*Line By Line* is a s of paintings and drawings by Matthew J. Maho Through Feb. 13.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). u griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to W chester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •Lili Al shows her photographs of Carmelite monasteri *Intimacy*. Through Feb. 20.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-89 www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenm Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*The Music Show* feat photographs of musicians and includes work Lew Allen, Nubar Alexanian, Lou Jones, Pownall, J.D. Sloan and Ernest C. Wit Through March 10.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). u panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.- 10 am-6 pm. •Ernest C. Withers shows his v through March 5.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. A Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MB B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. Sun., 12-5 pm. • The fourth annual student s features works by students from 13 regi schools. Feb. 11-March 20.

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Readings & Signings

EDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

orders Books Chestnut Hill
0 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). 7 n. Free. **Mark Kurlansky** discusses his book, *1968: e Year That Rocked the World*. See today's Borders owntown listing for a description.

orders Books Downtown Crossing
) School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders res.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown ossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Mark Kurlansky** discusses s book *1968: The Year That Rocked the World*, hich looks at historic events such as the Vietnam ar and the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.

rookline Booksmith
9 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. ooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to oolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Karen Quinn** reads m her novel *The Ivy Chronicles*, about a woman o trades in her pampered Upper East Side estyle to be a kindergarten admissions adviser.

nerson College Reading Series
nerson Room, 80 Boylston St., Boston (617-824-50). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. Free. **avid Lloyd** reads from *Boys: Stories and a Novella*, s collection of stories set in 1966 about boyhood d adolescence in upstate New York. Also, poet **ristina Pugh** reads from her work.

arvard Book Store
56 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. rvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. ee. **Adam Hochschild** discusses his book *Bury the ains: Prophets and Rebels in the Fight to Free an mpire's Slaves*, which focuses on the organization of e first grassroots abolitionist campaign, in 18th-ntury London.

arvard Coop
00 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). BTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Bob herty** reads from his novel *Puff*, a humorous story out two quirky teenage brothers who find venture in an Irish working-class suburb of Boston ring a snowstorm.

HURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

orders Books Downtown Crossing
School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Red or ange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. BC news analyst **William Arkin** discusses his book *de Names: Deciphering U.S. Military Plans, Programs l Operations in the 9/11 World*, a guide to understand-the infrastructure of U.S. defense and intelligence.

arvard Book Store
56 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. vard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. ee. Princeton University philosophy professor **ame Anthony Appiah** discusses his book *The ics of Identity*, which explores his theories about lividual identity.

arvard Coop
00 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http:// vard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 . Free. Recent Yale grad **Colleen Kinder** discusses book *Delaying the Real World: A Twenty-hething's Guide to Seeking Adventure*, which offers s for college graduates who are looking for ernatives to joining the work force.

dividual World Poetry Slam hampionships
ou Cinema, 110 Front St., Worcester (508-853-15). www.iwps2005.poetsasylum.org. MBTA: mmuter Rail to Worcester. 1-7 pm. Free after 7 ; some events require tickets. $3; students, $1. out 60 poets from around the world recite po-y throughout the day. The event also features en-mike sessions, a haiku slam and a battle of sexes. Featured poets include **Michael Brown**, **am Stone**, **Lea Deschenes** and last year's win-. **Buddy Wakefield**.

stitute of Contemporary Art
5 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.ica ton.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6:30 pm. Free. Documentary photographer **Michael Hintlian** discusses his book, *Digging: The Workers of Boston's Big Dig in Photographs*, a compilation of images of Big Dig laborers.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. **Daphne Kalotay** reads from *Calamity and Other Stories*, her collection of 12 short stories that depict the ordinary struggles of suburban living.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-948-6584). www. oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 12:15-1 pm. Free. Boston pastor **Stephen Kendrick** discusses his book *Roberts vs. the City of Boston*, which examines a little-known 1849 case in which a black father sued the city on behalf of his 5-year-old daughter.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. British politician **William Hague** discusses *William Pitt the Younger*, his biography of the youngest prime minister in British history.

Harvard Book Store
Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free tickets are required. **Richard Layard** discusses his book *Happiness: Lessons from a New Science*, which cites scientific research that suggests happiness cannot be reached solely through acquiring wealth.

Individual World Poetry Slam Championships
Bijou Cinema, 110 Front St., Worcester (508-853-6015). www.iwps2005.poetsasylum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Worcester. 1-7 pm, free; after 7 pm, $3; students, $1. See Feb. 10 for a description.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12 pm. Free. **Rosamond Vaule** signs copies of her book *As We Were: American Photographic Postcards 1905-1930*, which explores the American photographic postcard.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www. bkstore.com/bu. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 2 pm. Free. **Pasquale Scaturro**, the first person in history to navigate the Nile river in its entirety, discusses and signs his book *Mystery of the Nile: The Epic Story of the First Descent into the World's Deadliest River*.

Individual World Poetry Slam Championship Finals
Tuckerman Hall, 10 Tuckerman St., Worcester (508-853-6015. www.iwps2005.poetsasylum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Worcester. 1 pm. $10; students, $8. The top 12 poets from this three-day event vie for for this year's championship. See Feb. 10 for a description.

Newtonville Books Event
Paradise Lounge, 969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8819). www.thedise.com/lounge. MBTA: Green Line to Pleasant Street. 6 pm. 21+. An evening called Stand-Up Sex features authors **Tom Perrotta** (*Election*), **Steve Almond** (*My Life in Heavy Metal*), **Lisa Dierbeck** (*One Pill Makes You Smaller*) and **Alicia Erian** (*Towelhead*) reading comical and erotic selections from their own works while DJs spin sexy music to set the mood.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. **Connie Biewald** reads from her novel *Digging to Indochina* about a 17-year-old who runs away from home with a stranger.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Richard Pelzer** discusses *Brother's Journey: Surviving a Childhood of Abuse* his memoir that describes his childhood with an abusive, alcoholic mother.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Jennifer Haigh** reads from *Baker Towers*, her novel about members of a family who go their separate ways after the conclusion of World War II.

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Harvard Book Store

Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free; tickets required. Harvard professor **Louis Menand** discusses the book for which he wrote the introduction, *Civilization and Its Discontents* the 75th anniversary edition of Sigmund Freud's work.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Nature writer and editor of *Sanctuary* magazine **Hanson Mitchell** discusses his book *Looking for Mr. Gilbert: Reimagining the Life of an African American*, which argues that Robert Gilbert, an assistant to 19th-century ornithologist William Brewster, wasn't credited for thousands of photographs he took while working for Brewster.

Newtonville Books & Brews

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. **Susan Jane Gilman** reads from *Hypocrite in a Pouffy White Dress*, her comedic memoir about growing up in Manhattan's Upper West Side.

Peter Carey (right) reads at Harvard Book Store February 16.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Harvard Book Store

Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free; tickets are required. Booker Prize–winner **Peter Carey** discusses his book *Wrong About Japan: A Father's Journey with His Son*, a travel diary of a trip to Tokyo with his 12-year-old son.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard-educated lawyer **Laurie Puhn** discusses her book *Instant Persuasion: How to Change Your Words to Change Your Life*, which offers 35 rules for effectively communicating and getting what you want.

Wellesley Booksmith Lunch with the Author

Figs Restaurant, 92 Central St., Wellesley, (781-431-1160) www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 12-2 pm. $20. Call to register. **Elinor Lipman** discusses *The Pursuit of Alice Thrift*, her novel about a romantically challenged intern at a Boston hospital who finds herself in a relationship with a salesman. Price includes lunch with the author.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Jonathan Wilson** reads from *An Ambulance is on the Way*, his collection of short stories about middle-aged family men.

Harvard Book Store

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Harvard professor **Marjorie Garber** discusses her book *Shakespeare After All*, which analyzes all the Bard's plays in chronological order.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard professor **Edward M. Hallowell**, reads from his new book, *Delivered from Distraction: Getting the Most Out of Life with Attention Deficit Disorder*, about the newest findings in ADD research, as well as his own experience having ADD.

Newtonville Books & Brews

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Leah Hager Cohen** reads from her book *Without Apology: Women, Girls and the Desire to Fight*, the story of four female boxers told in the form of memoir, sports story and social critique.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Abby Laurel-Smith** reads from her work.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Barnes & Noble Boston University

660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bkstore.com/bu. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 2 pm. Free. Former *Globe* sports columnist **Leigh Montville** discusses his book *Why Not Us?*, which chronicles the Boston Red Sox's 86-year struggle to win the World Series.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Entrepreneur **Farrah Gray** discusses his book *Reallionaire: Nine Steps to Becoming Rich from the Inside Out*, a personal account of how he became a self-made millionaire at age 20.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Barnes & Noble Boston University

660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bkstore.com/bu. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Boston native **Koren Zailckas** discusses her memoir *Smashed: Story of a Drunken Girlhood*, which recounts her problem with binge drinking.

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Pearl Abraham** reads from her novel *The Seventh Beggar*, about a contemporary young man's passion for the work of 19-century Hasidic master Nachman of Bratslav.

Harvard Book Store

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515) MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Pulitzer Prize–winner **David Shipler** discusses his book *The Working Poor: Invisible in America*, which depicts the struggles of certain poverty-stricken families.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Director of Justice Africa **Alex de Waal** discusses his book *Famine that Kills: Darfur, Sudan*, a social history of the region and an account of the famine that devastated the area more than 20 years ago.

Newtonville Books & Brews

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. **David Anthony Durham** reads from his novel *Pride of Carthage: A Novel of Hannibal*, a fictionalized account of Hannibal's legendary march on Rome that began in 218 B.C.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)

1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)

Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies, with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery

Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outofthebluegallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Stone Soup features and an open mike. $4 suggested donation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Share or listen to poetry.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)

Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month features readings by poets and an open-mike.

education

dvice to Contributors

mit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-
: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com.
adline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

EDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

coming American: The Chinese perience

seum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston
7-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green
e to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 7 pm.
) members/students/seniors; $13 nonmembers.
rnalist **Helen Zia**, MFA assistant curator of
inese art **Hao Sheng** and State Street vice presi-
t **Madge Meyer** discuss Chinese-American his-
and identity.

HURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

am, Politics, and Reproductive alth in South Asia

ndeis University, Women's Studies Research Center,
tein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-
0). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to
ndeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. Brandeis WSRC
olar **Fauzia Ahmed** discusses reproductive rights
Muslim societies.

ve and the Ideal in Shakespeare, rvantes, Gide and Lawrence

nbridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St.,
nbridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA:
Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2 (seniors $1). In
or of Valentine's Day, **Gehrett Ellis** discusses ro-
ntic and erotic love in European literature.

ckel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting In America

ton College, Conte Forum, 140 Comm. Ave.,
stnut Hill (617-552-8528). http://events.bc.edu.
TA: Green Line to Boston College. 7:30 pm.
. Political essayist **Barbara Ehrenreich** lec-
s on her first-hand experience with a series of
-wage jobs.

Sarah's Long Walk: The Blacks of Boston and How Their Struggle for Equality Changed America

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-452-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15 pm. $5; members free. **Stephen Kendrick** discusses the historic civil rights case Brown v. the Board of Education.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Chairs: Conversation with the Artist

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-5661401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. Free with admission. Artist **Dayanita Singh** discusses the inspiration for her exhibition at the museum and explores her transition into a new style of portrait photography.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Adams in Opposition: In the Margins of His Books

Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Book historian and University of Toronto professor **Heather Jackson** discusses the notes that John Adams wrote in the margins of his 18th-century books.

A Conversation with Tim Russert

John F. Kennedy Library, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1642). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 5:30 pm. Free. Host of NBC's *Meet the Press* **Tim Russert** and NPR correspondent **Linda Wertheimer** discuss their experience covering politics as broadcast journalists.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Clues in the Cloth: Tapestries in the Gothic Room

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free with admission. Museum conservator **Tess Fredette** examines how the Gardner's collection of Gothic period textiles represents the culture and economy of the time.

Contemporary California Architecture

Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. San Francisco *Chronicle* architecture and urban design critic **John King** discusses contemporary West Coast architecture in this installment of the BPL's Exploring Design: Boston Society of Architects lecture series.

The Memphis Blues

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 7 pm. $10 members/students/seniors; $13 non members. Photojournalist **Ernest C. Withers** shares images and memories of major musical talents who performed in Memphis from the 1940s through the '70s.

Object Lessons: The Greatest Tools on Earth—MIT Slide Rule Collection

MIT Museum, 265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12 pm. Free. Curator of Science and Technology **Deborah Douglas** discusses the slide rule and the museum's extensive collection.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Black Electoral Power and the Transformation of American Democracy

Brookline Adult Education, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). ww.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7 pm. $5 (preregistration online or by phone required). **Kevin C. Peterson**, founder and director of the New Democracy Coalition, discusses black voter registration in the 40 years since the Voting Rights Act was passed.

Eye of the Beholder: Chairs

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6:30 pm. $7 adults; $5 members/seniors; students free. Artist-in-residence **Andrea Anastasio** looks at the evolution of chairs through cultural, economic, political and anthropological perspectives.

Finding Voices

Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30 pm. Free. Filmmaker **Lynn Adams** discusses her work.

Jewish Heritage on Beacon Hill

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-452-6439. www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15 pm. $5; members free. **Ellen Smith**, lecturer in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis University, discusses the history of Jewish immigration in Boston.

Moral Human Dignity: Between Quitch and Deification

Askwith Forum, Longfellow Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30 pm. Free. Hebrew University philosophy professor **Avishai Margalit** discusses human rights.

Victorian Era Art and Architecture in Boston: 1837 to 1901

Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. 2 pm. Free. **Edward Gordon** of the Victorian Society gives a slide lecture of art and design in Boston.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

A History and Demonstration of the Irish Bones

Revels, 80 Mount Auburn St., Watertown (617-972-8300). www.revels.org. 8 pm. $20. Celtic musician **Stephen Brown** explains the history of the bones, an ancient Irish musical instrument.

Ritalin on the Brain

Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0419). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 6:15 pm. Free. **Dr. William Carlezon** of Harvard Medical School discusses the chemistry of the brain and how drugs affect it.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

A Portrait So True: Civil War Photography

George A. Smith Museum, 7 Jason St., Arlington (781-648-4300). www.arlingtonhistorical.org. 8 pm. Free. **David L. Smith** explains the origins of photography in the 19th century, with an emphasis on Civil War battleground photos.

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NEWS FLASHES...

MEN'S NIGHT - Thursday February 10, 7-9 p.m.
Fashion Show and refreshments for Valentine's Day shopping.

VIVIAN FUNG TRUNK SHOW - Saturday, February 12, 11-7p.m.
Premier show of this original designer of necklaces & earrings.

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Carter Smith
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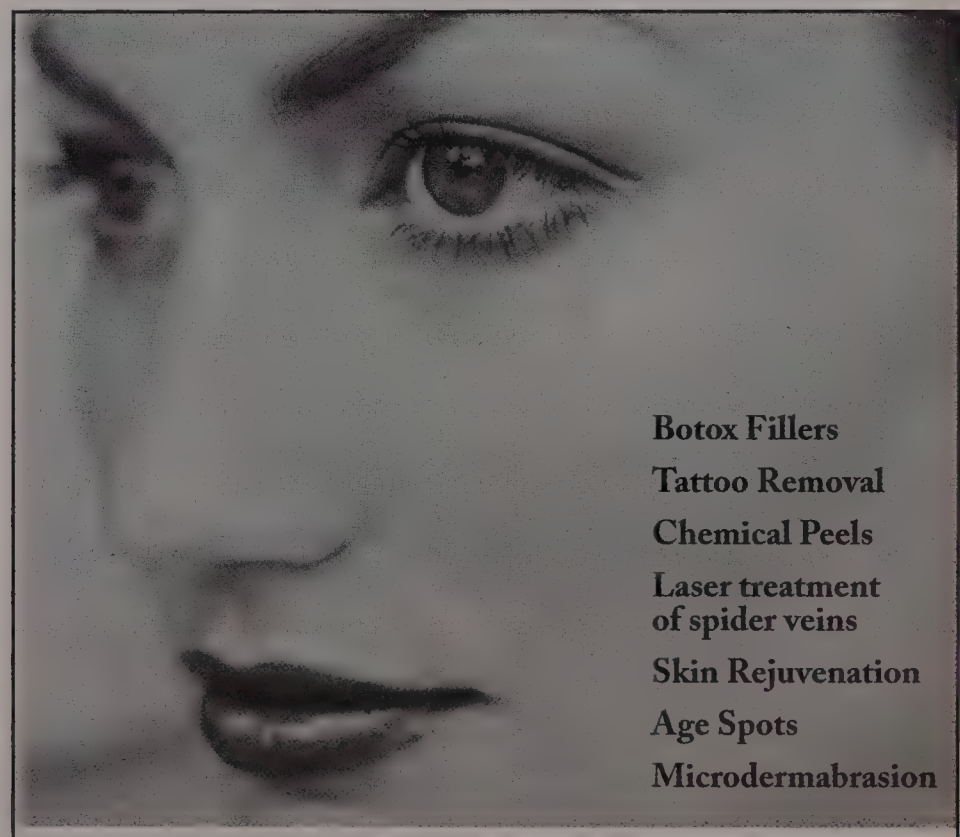

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
Sanctuary. 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door, $5 on guest list. 18+. Rotating guest DJs spin progressive house for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Kneivil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
Embassy, 36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2am, 19+.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

FreshFruit Productions presents Chix with Dixie at Club Café through March 5.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

BAGLY Winter Ball
Emmanuel Church, 14 Newbury St., Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. Feb. 19, 7-11 pm. $5. The Boston Alliance for GLBT Youth hosts its annual winter ball, featuring DJ Miss Lady J.

Fresh Fruit Plays Chix with Dixie
Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-983-2221). www.freshfruitproductions.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Feb. 10-March 5. Thurs.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $25. Fresh Fruit Productions presents this multimedia performance featuring outrageous costumes and pop culture parodies.

Gay & Lesbian Single Professionals for the Arts
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-4021). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Feb. 17. 7-9 pm. $40. Tour the Institute of Contemporary Art with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffee. Reservations required.

The Romentics
Vibes, 116 Water St., Worcester (508-753-9969). www.romentics.com. Feb. 11, 8 pm. Free. Scott & Scott, authors of Romentics, the gay romance novel series, read from their two latest novels and are accompanied by Michael Breyette, whose art is on display in Vibes' gallery.

Valentine Gala
Boston Park Plaza, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-482-1600). www.equalmarriage.org/gala.php. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 12, 6:30 pm-12 am. $125. Proceeds from this formal dinner with dancing support the Freedom to Marry Coalition of Massachusetts.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league features weekly 301, 601 and Cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz. Visit the league Web site for more information.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. email info@bgbl.com.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri., 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 47 Mass. Ave., Boston at Desp Pizza. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. w lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and t sexual-friendly, direct-action political group fo on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns A Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pr gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1, member gay club takes part in outdoor activities

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COL (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) mee Medford for support and activities and holds a current meeting for interested parents and their ners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.co

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston L Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-95 www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free informal group for people who think they may b sexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbia Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the c lenges and joys of coming out. It meets Thur nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge. Call more information.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confide place for men and women who are looking for a space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It m Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Cool Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England– support, information and social group for pe assigned female at birth who feel that is not ar curate or complete description of their gen Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFT usa.com for details.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). w eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay m wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This g welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional wo 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and soph cated to get together with like-minded women conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fen health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. way Community Health offers a wide array serv for the GLBT community, ranging from discuss about parenting and safe-sex practices to progr addressing domestic violence and substance ab Call for more information

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Boston's GLBT flag football league for a ca spring season, followed by a formal fall season. are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus A Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.c ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat. am. See Web site for locations. All are welcom join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn m about photography, socialize and meet new peop these monthly meetings. For more informatio mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in develo healthy gay relationships features alternatives for m ing and dating, communication games, singles mi and a date-matching system. email info@gaylab.or

GLBT Professionals Building Community
(866-594-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to this networking organization for GLBT professional

ender Crash
ontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica ain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. BTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the LBT community are invited to share poetry, ose or performance pieces at this open-mike ent.

irlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
mbridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. e., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line Central. This discussion group for all ages meets ery Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

affan
embers of this social and networking group for men receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. r info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

quid Assets Swimming
w.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and n. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian im team is open to both competitive and fitness immers of all ages and abilities.

he Network/La Red
17-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. The etwork is a support group working to end abuse lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender mmunities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org more information.

ewly Diagnosed Group
I Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 17-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange ne to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of h month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group offers sup- rt for gay and bisexual men who have been diag- sed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail ngtin@jri.org.

ut to Dance
17-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin d ballroom dance classes and workshops are held a gay-friendly environment.

ut TwentySomethings Boston
entysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. is social and peer support group is for lesbians, y men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning ks and their straight allies in their 20s and rly 30s.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men age 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbow boston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatino slgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.

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body & mind

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Faith, Film and Forgiveness

The Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston (617-523-2377 x32). www.friendsattheadvent.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Feb. 15 and 22, 7-9 pm. Free. Over the five weeks leading up to Lent and Easter, this film series addresses the search for understanding and forgiveness using excerpts from popular and innovative films. *The Apostle* and *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* kick off the series on the 15th with the theme of The Spiritual Quest. War and Remembrance, on Feb. 22, includes clips from *The Fog of War* and *Control Room*. Discussion follows.

The Rules of Normal Eating

Village Books, 751 South St. Roslindale (617-325-1994). www.village-books.net. MBTA: Commuter Rail Needham Line to Roslindale Village. Feb. 16, 7pm. Free. Local writer Karen Koenig reads from her book, *The Rules of "Normal" Eating*, and discusses the cognitive behavioral reasons for why we overeat, and what foods to choose when you're actually hungry.

Workshops

The Alexander Technique

Boston Center for Adult Education, 30 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430 or 617-527-7373). www.bcae.org or www.alexandertechniqueinstruction.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 19, 10 am-1 pm. $44. This class covers the history, principles and application of the Alexander Technique, a practice that aims to restore good posture and reduce strain in the neck, back and shoulders by teaching participants how to correct poor habits.

The Art of Zen Yoga

Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass. Ave., 4th Floor, Cambridge (617-868-4585). www.charlesriverschiatsu.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Two introductory classes: breathing and stretching, Feb 12, 10-11:30 am; meditation and deep relaxation, Feb 12, 12:30-2 pm. $25 each or $35 for both. These workshops combine tai chi, qi gong and shanti yoga to help participants increase energy and ease the ills of the body and mind.

Continuum Movement

CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Feb. 27, 2-4 pm. Call for details. Continuum Movement is about connecting with your self, the earth and universe and using physical movement to express your feelings and energy.

Dating 101: Creating Relationships

Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Feb. 16, 7:15-9:15 pm. $30. Participants explore the topic of what dating is really for and then learn tips on how to get dates, effectively drop anyone who is not appropriate, and enjoy themselves.

Dealing with Depression Utilizing Laughter and Meditation

Dr. Lynn Caesar, Sudbury-Concord (781-641-1353). www.joyofkidding.com. Feb. 12, 1:30-4:30 pm. $50. This workshop is designed for those seeking an alternative or complementary approach to healing depression. Learn playful and meditative exercises aimed at bringing mind, body and spirit into balance.

Essential Qi Gong

Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 15, 6 - 8 pm. Free (donations welcome). This class presents the essential elements from the different styles of the martial art qi gong. Participants learn simple seated and standing techniques from teacher Jeff Cote, a practitioner of Chinese medicine.

Finding the Inner Spirit of Laughter, Joy and Social Connection

Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101 or 781-641-1353). www.

Learn the Tibetan art of Boabom February 12 or 17 at the Boston School of Boabom.

tsboston.org or www.joyofkidding.com/laughter club. Feb. 11, 7:30-9 pm. $5 donation. This presentation focuses on the physiology of laughter as well as the latest research on its physical, psychological and spiritual benefits. Participants take part in a laughter session.

Intro to Boabom

Boston School of Boabom, 33a Harvard St., 2nd Floor, Brookline (617-852-8077). www.bostonboabom.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Feb. 12, 12 pm, or Feb. 17, 8 pm. Free. Boabom is an ancient Tibetan art of relaxation, defense, movement, breathing and meditation. Boabom's flowing style aims to exercise the body and enhance the mind.

Kirtan Devotional Singing

Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Feb 20, 7 pm. Donation suggested. Kirtan is an ancient Hindu tradition of singing to the divine that's said to help practitioners center themselves and reach a higher consciousness. Open to singers of all abilities.

Meditation

Earthsong, Marlboro (508-480-8884). www.earthsongyoga.com. Feb. 13, 7:15-8 pm. $10, drop in. Explore techniques for quieting the mind and becoming more present. Workshop includes discussion and support in developing meditation practice. No previous yoga or meditation experience required.

Meditation That Works

Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202-6333). www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Feb. 16, 7-9 pm. $35. Learn different meditation techniques and find out which ones may work for you.

Sexuality and Spirituality Network

Healing Heart Power, Newton or Arlington depending on attendance. (617-965-7846). http://boston.sexspirit.net or www.healingheartpower.com. Feb. 12, 2-5 pm. $10, suggested donation. Please call ahead. This discussion group focuses on topics related to the holistic exploration of sex. This month's topic is sexual and spiritual fantasy. Through guided meditation, find out how dreams and fantasies can be portals to the psyche, happiness and connection.

Valentine's at Arlington Center

The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.com. Partner Yoga: Feb. 12, 2-4:30 pm. $25/person; Positive Sexuality: Feb. 13, 10:30 am-4 pm. $65. On the 12th, celebrate the bond you have with a friend or loved one at this partner yoga class led by kripalu yoga teacher Kim Child, featuring massage and more. On the 13th, develop a positive mindset about your body and sexuality. Explore issues of commitment, communication, safety, fulfillment, healing and more with sex therapist Herb Pearce.

Retreat

Dunya Dance Meditation Cape Cod Winter Weekend

Cataumet (212-226-2114). www.dancemeditation.org. Feb. 12, 10 am-5 pm and 13, 10 am-2 pm. $120. (Overnight accommodations available.) Experience an exciting, refreshing and creative retreat featuring dance, stretching, breathing, movement and writing. A performance takes place Saturday evening, and vegan meals are served. Beginners welcome.

Ongoing

Yoga Essentials

Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 663 Centre St. Jamaica Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey.com. MBTA: #39 bus. Thu.., 5:45-7:15 pm. Sat., 11 am-12:30 pm. $15, drop-in. Learn classic yoga postures known as asanas along with breathing and relaxation techniques. This class is aimed at beginners or those who want to ground their current practice.

sports

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Celtics

•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
Feb. 9, 7 pm vs. Los Angeles Clippers
Feb. 11, 7:30 pm vs. New York Knicks
Feb. 13, 6 pm vs. Sacramento Kings
Feb. 16, 7 pm vs. Memphis Grizzlies

Events

CSC/Jimmy Fund Ski Challenge

Nashoba Valley Ski Area, Westford (617-632-3611). Feb. 12, 9 am. $70 individual; $240 for a four-person team. This ski race event for teams or individuals, sponsored by the Computer Sciences Corporation, includes an outdoor barbecue lunch, an apres-ski party and auction, and an appearance by freestyle great Wayne Wong. Proceeds benefit the Jimmy Fund.

WEEI Whiney Awards

Boston Copley Marriott Hotel, 110 Huntington Ave., Boston. (617-779-3500). www.weei.com. Feb. 17, 6-10 pm. $150, $250 VIP. WEEI honors its top sports whiners at this annual party, which benefits the American Heart Association.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeball teams.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-01 www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBA

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). w bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's te compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.c Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Pl Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Can New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is look for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Cl
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club s new players for games in Brookline and Cambrid

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.m rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club comes both new and experienced players who to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonh com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sun year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking singing bawdy songs, then consider joining th self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a runn problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480) www.baystateskatingschool. Classes for adults and kids at 14 rinks around the c

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Mem ship includes access to a ski lodge and ski and sn board race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. T amateur, folk-style wrestling group is open to skill levels.

The CSC/Jimmy Fund Ski Challenge takes place February 12 in Westford.

children

dvice to Contributors

bmit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to chil-en@improper.com. Include address, phone number, bway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief descrip-n of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publica-n. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

oolidge Corner Theatre

0 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). vw.coolidge.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge rner. •Kids First Film Club: Feb. 22-25, 11 am, $2. b. 22, Musical short films "Chicka Chicka Boom oom," "Trashy Town," "Changes Changes" and osie's Walk.

ipling's Just So Stories

cCormack Hall, UMass Boston, 200 Morrissey Blvd., ston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre. . MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Feb. 19-21, 2 pm. 0-$22. Children's playwright Aurand Harris adapts dyard Kipling's classic tales for the stage.

he Little Prince

ubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-00). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to ylston. Feb. 16-20 and 23-27. Wed.-Fri., 7 pm; Sat., nd 7 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $40-$75. The Wang Center d Boston Lyric Opera present an opera based on e classic French story about a pilot stranded in the hara desert who meets a young prince and learns to ok at life through the eyes of a child.

agic with the Amazing Richard

heelock Family Theatre,200 The Riverway, Boston 17-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: E een Line to Fenway. •*Feb. 21, 1 pm. $15.* Back by pular demand, the Amazing Richard performs il-ions and tricks.

uppet Showplace Theatre

Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www. ppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brook-e Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recom-nded. •*Feb. 9 and 10, 10:30 am. Paul Vincent* ivis presents Raccoon Tales, a series of three short ories inspired by the Native American Seneca ibe: "How the Fox and the Raccoon Trick Each her," "Why the Blue Jay Is Blue and the Gray olf Isn't," and "Why the Bear Has a Stumpy Tail." *eb. 15 and 16, 10:30 am.* Deborah Costine of the rwick Puppets presents "The Three Little Pigs d Other Stories." •*Feb. 19-21, 1 and 3 pm.* Ven-loquist Sylvia Markson presents "The Magic unk." •*Feb. 22-24, 1 and 3 pm.* Spring Valley ppets present "Jack and the Beanstalk."

egent Theatre

Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www. enttheatre.com. MBTA: 350 bus to Arlington Cen-. 10:30 am. $7 adults, $5 children. •*Feb. 12:* Sing d dance with Marcus Gale and his puppet friends the So Glad! family concert. •*Feb. 19:* Family n Series presents Steve's Songs, stories and partic-tory songs for children ages 3-8.

ne Sound of Music

heelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, ston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. BTA: E Green Line to Fenway. Through Feb. 27. ., 7:30 pm (except Feb. 25); Sat. and Sun., 3 pm; b. 22-25, 1 pm. $12-$20. Trinity Rep's Angela illiams stars in this stage production based on ssic film.

Things to Do

orders Books and Music

mbridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, mbridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. BTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. aff members read from new and classic storybooks.

oston Art Tours

eets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-2-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green e to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm. urs for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; ns, $15; children under 12, free. Games and stories company this walking tour of contemporary art ng Newbury Street.

oston Public Library

neuil Branch, 419 Faneuil St., Brighton (617-782-05). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Ken-re, #57 bus to Oak Square. •*Feb. 14, 10:30 am.* ories and crafts for children under 4. •*Feb. 22, 6:30 pm.* The Faneuil Pageturners, a book club for children in the fourth grade and up, and their parents, discuss *The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis. •*Feb. 9 and 16, 10:30 am.* Preschool Storytime. •*Feb. 9 and 16, 4:30 pm.* Stories and crafts for school-age children. •*Feb. 19, 10:30 am.* The Faneuil Bookworms, a book group for children ages 4-8, read a short book and discuss it.

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •*Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm.* In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge. •*Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm.* The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting and more. •*Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm.* Pint-Sized Science offers scientific exploration for preschoolers. •*Daily, 10 am-12 pm and 1-3 pm,* PlaySpace offers a messy activity for children up to 3 years of age.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories. Snacks and craft activities follow.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-2045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •*Feb. 19, 9 am-12 pm. $35 nonmembers, $31.50 members.* •Saturday Scholars presents Rainforest Roundup for second and third graders. •*Feb. 21-25, 9 am-5 pm.* Explore the HMNH and the Peabody Museum for clues to a secret message in the winter-themed family scavenger hunt.

Ice Skating at Frog Pond

Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-2120). www.cityofboston.gov/parks/FrogPond_winter.asp. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon., 10 am-5 pm. Sun., Tue.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm. Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm. $3, free for 13 and under. Skate on Boston Common's frozen Frog Pond.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring the world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. •*Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm, ages 6-12.* The Children's Room presents *Ancient Egyptian Mysteries*, through Feb. 11, and *The Mayan World*, through Feb. 18. •*Sat. and Sun., 11 am-4 pm, ages 4+.* Drop into the Family Place for a free-for-all drawing activity inspired by the collection. Materials provided. • *Feb. 21-25, 10 am-4 pm.* In celebration of school vacation, experience an array of performances and activities.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11seniors, $10 children. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models. Ongoing. •*Playing with Time* explores technology that detects and manipulates time. Through April 21. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibition that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science in the Park is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. • *Mapping the World Around Us*, a new permanent exhibit, explores the evolution of maps and offers a try at mapping. Ongoing. •*Forces of Nature, Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* and *Extreme* show at the Omni.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95. • *Feb. 10 and 17, 10-10:45 am.* Toddler Explorers presents wonders of the aquatic world for children ages 2-3. Reservations recommended. •*Feb. 14, 15 and 21, 10 am. Feb. 12 and 19, 2 pm.* Educators lead activities for Preschool Explorers. Reservations recommended. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •*Aliens of the Deep* plays in 3D at the IMAX Theatre.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory

Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum

300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall

75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum

Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery

580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation

15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church

193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum

206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk

800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church

206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum

Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program

(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee

(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society

(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay

(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay

(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association

(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares

(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees

(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center

(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education

(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS

(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers

(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc

(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy

(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch

(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS

(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice

(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline

(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers

(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative

(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers

(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program

(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts

(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services

(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers

(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.

(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium

(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line

(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn

(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.

(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic

(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.

(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place

(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink

(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston

(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

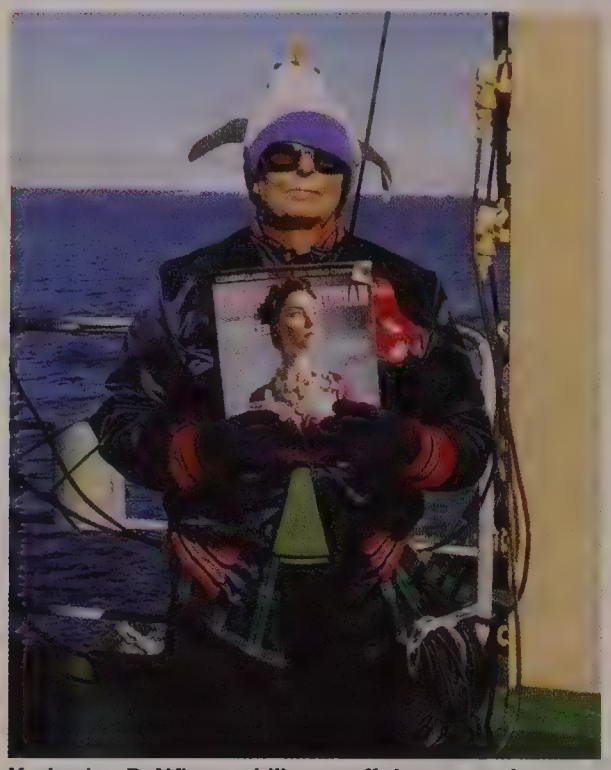
Single Volunteers Boston

www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRI

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you wer The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Katherine B. Winter chills out off the coast of Antarctica. Yes, Ms. Winter vacations in Antarctica.

Clint Campbell just received his wings as a Navy pilot in Corpus Christi, Texas. Now it's on to Top Gun Academy to take on his nemesis, Iceman.

American Samoa governor Togiola Tulafono looks for Samoa fashion tips.

Molly Egan Cramer, Nicole Tufo Pirnie and Annelise Tufo Blackwell visited Angkor Wat in Cambodia, where Jay-Z is topping the charts with his hot new release, "Angkor who? Angkor Wat?"

Jennifer McQueeney-Penamonte and Elias Kassis ran the Chicago Marathon while dressed as leftovers. When they crossed the finish line, they were unwrapped and microwaved on high for one minute.

Maryland Lieutenant Governor Michael Steele irons out his winter wardrobe, which includes many bronze ties.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Touching the "good luck" naked man who runs down the street during Inazawa's Naked Festival, held February 20 in Inazawa City, Japan.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com

THE IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

This Guy

You came into my workplace on Friday night Jan. 28 (a restaurant in Waltham) with two buddies; all in suits. Probably just grabbing a few cold ones after a week of hard work. I've seen your good-looking friends before, but not you. I swear I nearly got off just looking at you. You had this sweet smile. We almost collided and you gently touched my back and said "excuse me, sweetie." Believe me, I wanted take you right then and head into the bathroom for some action. I would have loved to join you for a drink, but of course I had a long shift to finish. Please come in again so I can stare at you and dream of what I would do to you.

—Hostess

Lunchtime Rescuer

Imagine my surprise when at lunchtime I look in my wallet and find no cash! The problem? Herrera's doesn't take credit cards. The solution? You were kind enough to lend me a few bucks. You didn't make me feel embarrassed about it, and even offered a kind word—that it had happened to you once. I just want to thank you in case I was so surprised that I forgot to at the time. When I turned around you had disappeared—and without your change too! I don't remember the last time a Bostonian male held a door open for me let alone doing anything like this. Maybe I will bump into you again sometime? Either way, thanks for giving me something to smile about.

—smilingirl999@yahoo.com

Missed Opportunity

There I was minding my own business at the Green Dragon on New Year's Eve. Then there you were, hanging out and dancing with your girlfriends. (Did one have a black eye?) You were wearing jeans, a black print top and black boots. You had light hair and a smile that absolutely lit up the room every time you flashed it (which was often). I thought you were unbelievably cute and I was very disappointed that I didn't get a chance to meet you before you were whisked away. Me: dark-haired guy with goatee, wearing dark pants, slate shirt and a silly party favor on my head. I would really like to see that smile again and wish you a Happy New Year personally.

—Mthmsim@aol.com

Bloody 'Ell

Although I was at the Hyatt Downtown in the middle of December doing the right thing and giving blood, I couldn't keep my eyes off of you. While I was waiting to get drained, you were administering a body fat test to those interested in finding out bad news. I didn't want the news, so I blew a chance to talk to you. As luck would have it, we ended up taking an elevator down together and we got to talk a little. You work at the Hyatt and seemed to be rushing to a meeting, so I didn't want to hold you up by asking for your number. If you remember, and would like to grab lunch sometime (I work right down the street) send me an e-mail. I told you why I didn't want to do the body fat test—if you can remember, then I'll know it's you.

—givinblood04@yahoo.com

Friday, Jan. 7, Going Inbound on the E Line Around 5 pm

You: female, long brown hair, early 20s, red and tan jacket. Me: white hat and scarf, tan jacket, getting up to give my seat to an elderly couple who had gotten on the train at Prudential. Before I could get the words out of my mouth to offer my seat to one of them, you dove in, sat down and shoved your nose into your copy of The Da Vinci Code, paying no attention to those around you. Not wanting to make the couple feel uncomfortable, I said nothing but stood over you glaring until I got off at Park Street. I hope you recognize yourself in this Impersonal because you should be ashamed. On a crowded T, young and healthy people such as yourself should take a good look around before taking a seat. There is no excuse for shoving aside elderly, pregnant, or handicapped people if you are capable of standing. Extreme selfishness does not qualify as a handicap.

—A courteous T rider

Green Line Guy

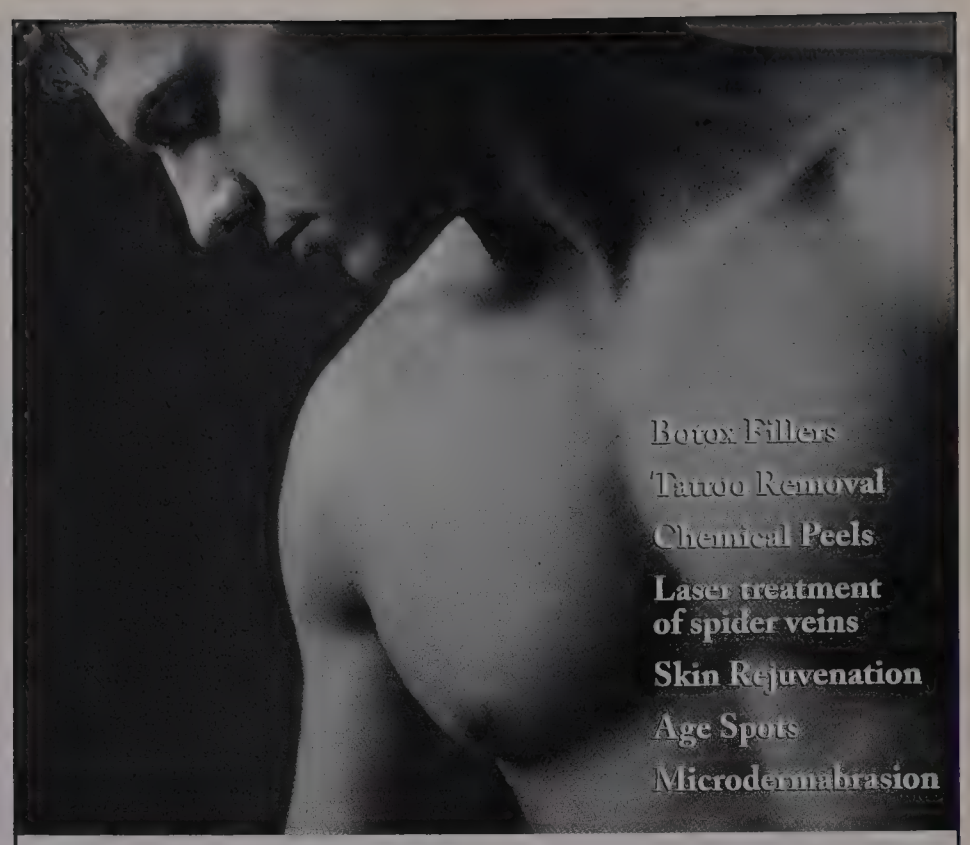
I was waiting for the Cleveland Circle train at the Arlington T stop on the afternoon of Jan. 30. You caught my eye as you walked down the stairs wearing a brown suede jacket and carrying a backpack and a LaCoste bag. I was excited when you boarded the same train as me. In an effort to capture your attention, I glanced your way several times and caught a few looks from you during the ride. Unfortunately, the train was pretty crowded and you got off at St. Paul Street before I had a chance to approach you. I was the girl with light brown hair wearing a long black coat and sitting just a few seats away from you. Unless the clothing in your LaCoste bag was for your Valentine, will you be mine?

—sweetpea092682@hotmail.com

Looking for BU Luke

I am searching for Luke, a BU guy from Maryland who I ran into on a Saturday night this past January at the Beacon Hill Pub. I'm from New Jersey and was in Boston visiting some friends. Luke and I ran into each other at the end of the night and had somewhat of a lengthy conversation. I drunkenly ran into a cab with my friends and left Luke standing on the sidewalk without saying goodbye. Luke, if you remember me and are interested, contact me.

—from_jersey@yahoo.com



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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Monday, January 24, **Les Zygomates** hosted a party to celebrate bartender Domingo-Martin Barreres' appearance in **Vogue** magazine as **Cointreau**'s selected bartender from the "Be Cointreauvercial" bartender contest.

1. **Danielle McAuliffe**, brand manager for Remy Martin; **Domingo-Martin Barreres**, bartender for Les Zygomates and contest winner.
2. **Howard Manly**, columnist for the *Boston Herald*; and **Ian Just**, chef owner of Les Zygomates.
3. **Liisa Probst**, bartender for Les Zygomates; **Melissa Thunberg**, manager for Les Zygomates; and **Patrick Heraghty**, server for Les Zygomates.
4. **Marlo Fogelman**, principal of marlo marketing/ communications; and **Andrea Rossi**, general manager of Le Soir.

On Thursday, January 27, **M.J. O'Connor's** hosted a Cabin Fever Beer Dinner sponsored by **Harpoon**.

1. **Janice Lemke**, teacher for Weston public schools, **Brandon Diabolique** distiller of spirits for Diaboliq Infusions, and Chef **Robert Fathman** of the Briar Group.
2. **Sean Newell**, general manager, and **Patrick Kielty**, manager of M.J. O'Connor's.
3. **Laura Amandolare** and **Rene Squires**, servers at Ned Devine's.

PHOTOS: LES ZYGOMATES, GRETCHEN CHAMPI; M.J. O'CONNOR'S, SHERI SADERSTEIN PIC

rockie horoscope

FEBRUARY 9 – 22, 2005

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

AQUARIUS JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

You're the star performer in this week's play—hopefully not a farce—about goodies and growth. Because generous Jupiter is the deus ex machina in this production, you should profit by its rewarding aspects to the four planets—expressive Mercury, attractive Venus, idealistic Neptune and the creative sun—in Aquarius. Is this a fabulous birthday present or what? But Jupiter is also the planet of humor and hubris, so don't lord it over those contributing to your good fortune or you're liable to fall flat on your face.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

You're in luck. The good fortune the other signs are currently enjoying might not be aimed directly at Fish, but because your Neptune ruler is smack in the middle of Aquarius, you can't help but delight in the good news Mercury delivers for Mardi Gras or the pleasurable pursuits Venus comes up with on Valentine's Day. There's nothing quite as artistic or as romantic as the marriage of Venus and Neptune that day. So, if you don't have plans yet or you won't make any for fear you'll be disappointed, rest easy.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Ambitious Rams have until the first day of Aries to use the boost in productivity you'll get while your Mars ruler transits disciplined Capricorn. The consolidation of intention and application in your career house occurs only once every two years, so don't blow the next six weeks "conceptualizing." The time to do that, an inspiring sun-Neptune junction in tech-savvy Aquarius, is right this minute. But if you want to wait until the Aquarius new moon energy has sunk in before launching your project, that's OK.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

This week's new moon in your Aquarius midheaven inaugurates another phase of your career, especially one involved in the arts, pharmaceuticals or the ocean, all part of Neptune's realm. Instead of adopting a "go with the flow" attitude, visualize the sort of progress you hope to make during the Chinese Year of the Cock. An opportunity to strut your stuff should show up soon after a romantic Valentine's Day weekend. While your Venus ruler is in a rewarding trine with lucky Jupiter, look for a double helping of good fortune.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Go all out for Mardi Gras. There are no limits to your imagination; nor, for that matter, to your intuition. While your Mercury ruler is under Neptune's mystical spell, you can be a wellspring of inspiration. That gift could pay off handsomely when Mercury finds favor with prosperous Jupiter on the 10th. Further benefits are due as the socially savvy Aquarius sun and the Messenger meet for a special Valentine's Day celebration. This is a great month to be a twin, so don't pass on any opportunity you're offered.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

The Aquarius new moon that ushers in every Chinese New Year seems to have a stronger impact on the Moon Child than most, if not all, of the other new moons. Since this lunation falls in your house of joint money matters, if you're having a financial problem, make a point of acknowledging the positive, "all things are possible" Aquarian attitude. Something else to celebrate while you're celebrating Mardi Gras. That upbeat attitude prevails through Valentine's Day, so if you can't be with the one you love, how about loving the one you're with?

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Some Lions roar with pleasure when their sun ruler is favored by prosperous Jupiter; they assume they'll receive more than their fair share, which is the royal prerogative. Others realize that they're bound to spend more than is necessary, but they enjoy the giving and the gratitude that follows. Either way, you're heading toward a rewarding situation. Expressing what's in your heart on Valentine's Day could be its own reward. Something quite special gets started whenever the sun and Mercury conjunct, this time in your Aquarius marriage house.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

While your Mercury ruler merges with idealistic Neptune, feel free to entertain high hopes for the month-long Aquarius new-moon cycle and the Chinese New Year. One of those hopes could come to fruition as early as the 10th when Mercury forms a supportive trine to lucky Jupiter. What happens on Valentine's Day, while Mercury and the sun join forces, can affect your actions until Easter. Listen closely to what is being said as well as what you're hearing in your head. That'll be your spirit guide talking.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

For you, February is usually a sweet, albeit short month, what with all that intelligent Aquarian air energy rewarding those lovable Libran attributes. However, in 2005 these weeks can be better than ever. Consider your Venus ruler's happy marriage to artistic, idealistic Neptune on Valentine's Day. How cosmic is that? A few days later, the beneficial trine from Venus in your house of risk and romance to lucky Jupiter in Libra can produce a lot of goodies or simply make you feel you've been truly blessed.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Now that your Mars ruler is in Capricorn, you can forego the good intentions and adopt good work habits instead. Nothing ensures efficiency and effectiveness as much as Mars' exaltation in the sign of the executive. This highly productive period will only last until spring arrives, so don't let yourself get sidetracked by visualizing the perfect Valentine's Day celebration. Enticing as those pictures may be, choose one and develop its potential for success. That's what the Capricorn energy excels at.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

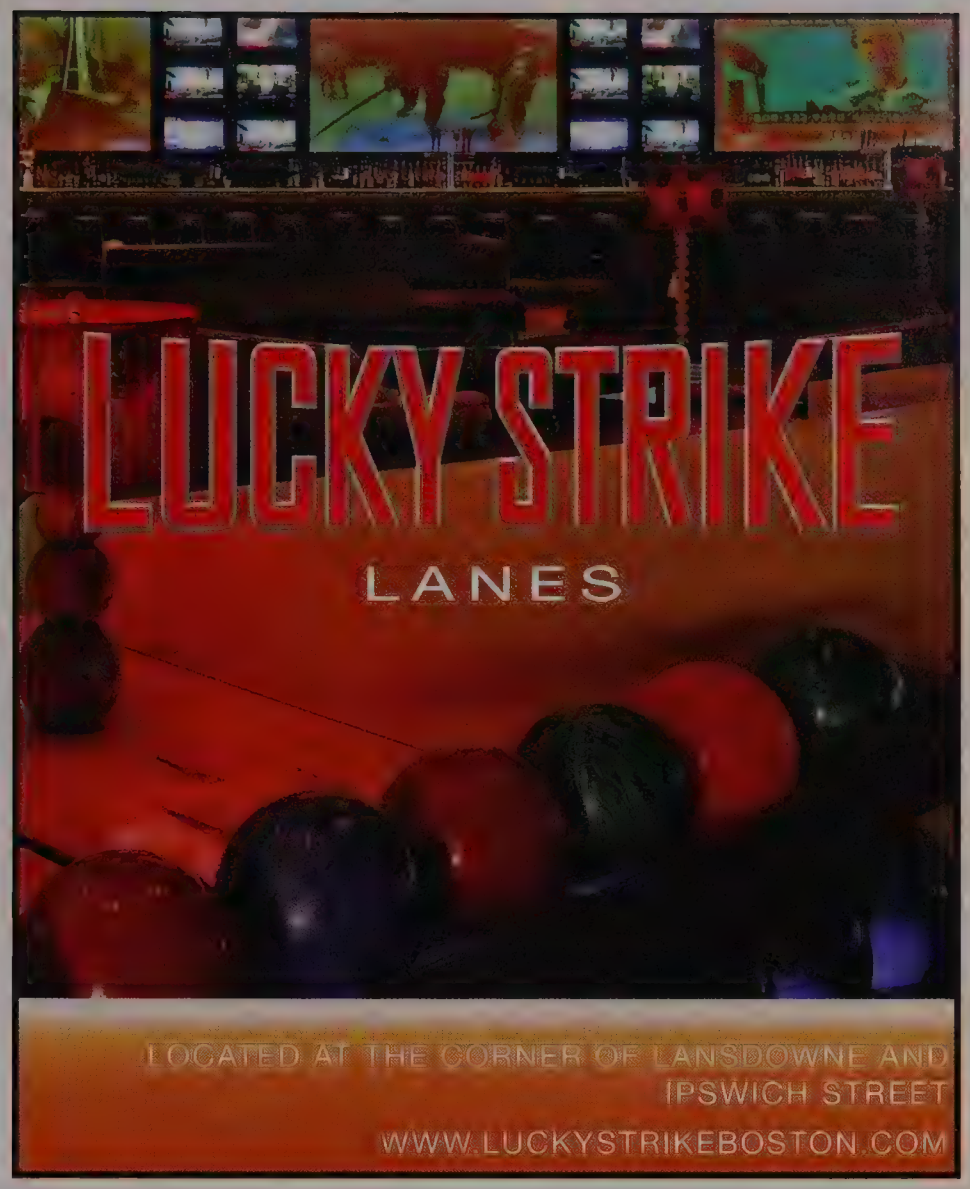
Even though your Jupiter ruler is retrograde and therefore less likely to deliver the benefits you've come to take for granted, it isn't totally dormant. Acknowledge and appreciate whatever reward appeared when the Aquarius sun and Jupiter trined on the 7th. There's more good news on the 10th while Mercury and Jupiter, the publishing planets, trine. But the best is yet to come: loving Venus trines lucky Jupiter on the 17th, just in time for the long—and for amorous Archers, potentially passionate—Presidents' Day weekend.

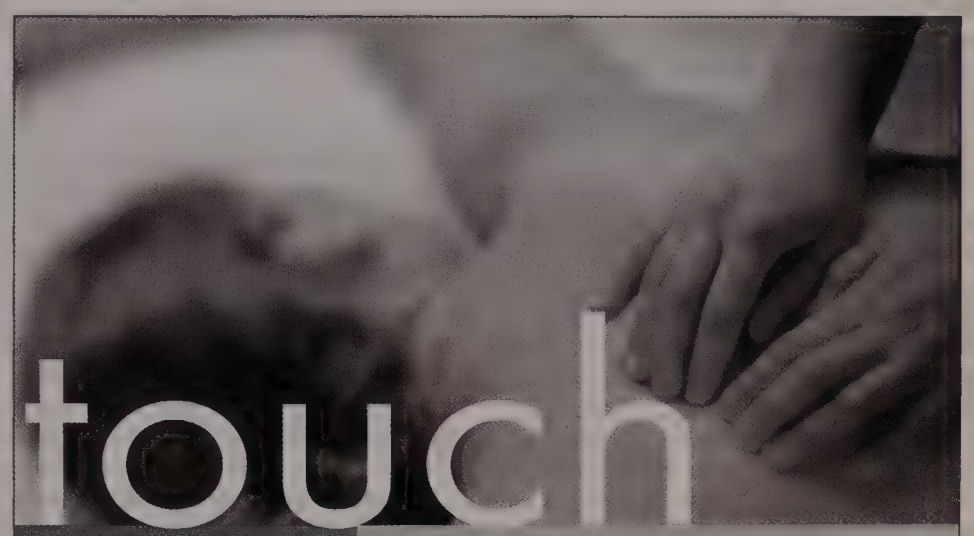
CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

The opportunities Jupiter is providing can be traced to your Libra midheaven. Because the contacts between the planet of prosperity to the planets in your Aquarius money house are so supportive, you may want to count your chickens before they hatch. Although a cautious Capricorn would rarely do such a thing, when there are so many positive connections between your money house and your career house, it's justifiable. It's also a blessing that occurs only once every 12 years. By next February, Jupiter will have moved on.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.





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BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 year in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

CLERYS *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty.Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

LUCKY'S LOUNGE *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

SCIENCE STREET CAFÉ *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

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Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *pizza kitchen, B Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-7 2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME F 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers tap, outrageous signature pizzas and MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BU ING with our one of a kind "metro re decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8 free rooms and pool for your next party function of any kind. Call the "Party Spec ists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, piz $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come perience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Bost 617.350.5555.* Felt is located in the shad of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed ab Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering phisticated billiards, NewYork style Loung hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourm dinner while lounging in a plush, red-vel booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a roma dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combi with the delicious entrees is the perfect bl to satisfy all your cravings. American Conte porary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

STADIUM – CLUBHOUSE *232 Old Colo Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The S dium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nig club featuring two bars, a hardwood dan floor and parking. An exciting yet relax 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety music and beautiful people crowding t dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. ideal place for your next bachelor, bach lorette or birthday party.

CLUB Q BOSTON *25 Union St., Boste 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesc through Saturday.What nightlife in Bost has been waiting for, this state of the Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attra a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesc through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's t DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40 With two bars, three VIP areas and pool bles, Club Q is the place to see and be see Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quin Market Place, Boston, 617-248-970 www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2 Floor of the Quincy Market Building in t

t of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven ts a week and offers the best in local national comedy. During the week, the onally renowned club offers some of on's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The man of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don in. On Thursday nights, Frank os, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes audience and on the weekends, this is only place to see the biggest names in edy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, garet Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane k and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

E MCINTYRE'S *160 Milk St., Boston -9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican can- is a great escape in the financial district! floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool ta- upstairs and live bands downstairs!

PLACE *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523- ! www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. gle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on big screen. Simply the hippest way to d a night of all-out fun in Boston's Finan- District. Come after work. Come to dance. e to go wild with your friends. There's al- something exciting happening – and you r know who you'll bump into. Join us and rience what the buzz is all about.

PURPLE SHAMROCK *1 Union St., on, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great , live entertainment and relaxing atmos- e! Menu includes American and Irish spe- es. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

BLACK ROSE *160 State St., Boston, 617- 2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub cele- s its 25th year! Considered one of the best pubs in America, the menu features Ameri- and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

NESSY'S OF BOSTON *25 Union St., on,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authen- ish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great u with daily specials and Irish traditions. A bar with an extensive beer and wine list, nessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. y live entertainment five nights a week pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's oston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spir- are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

EN BRIAR *304 Washington St., hton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ire- with great tasting, affordable food. One ne most popular nightspots in town, the n Briar has become the area's headquar- for international sports viewing and live rtainment. Live music five nights a week, uring local bands on weekends, a tradi- al Irish Seissun every Monday night and e Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable osphere makes the Green Briar an excel- place to hold luncheons, wedding re- sals, social gatherings and small business tings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. er charge varies on Friday and Saturday ts and some sporting events on Sundays.

GREEN DRAGON *11 Marshall St., on, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters ne Revolution," this favorite after work ting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail special menu." A comfortable place serv- lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to . The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, ifferent bottled "brewskies" and imported brews. Live music and entertainment y Thursday through Sunday night.

VARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617- -9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spir- ited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

MR. DOOLEY'S BOSTON TAVERN *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

THE ALLEY *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

AQUA *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

THE BLACK RHINO *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.bostonrocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex,Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

DOWNTOWN LOUNGE *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

THE HARP *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

HURRICANE O'REILLY'S *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

JILLIAN'S BOSTON / LUCKY STRIKE LANES *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300 www.jilliansboston.com.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring 16 bowling lanes, 50 pooltables, high-tech games, high definition video walls, multiple lounges and private rooms. Located on the first floor is Tequila Rain, which offers an amazing Tex-Mex menu and dancing to the hottest DJs Friday and Saturday nights.

THE JUNCTION – YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half -priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

PARRIS *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

REGATTABAR *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

SOPHIA'S *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot!

Sports Bar - Upscale

THE PLACE *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

STADIUM *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

HARVARD GARDENS *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens. com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $6, entrees $16, desserts $7 or all 3 courses for $24. Sundays: $39 adults and $17.50 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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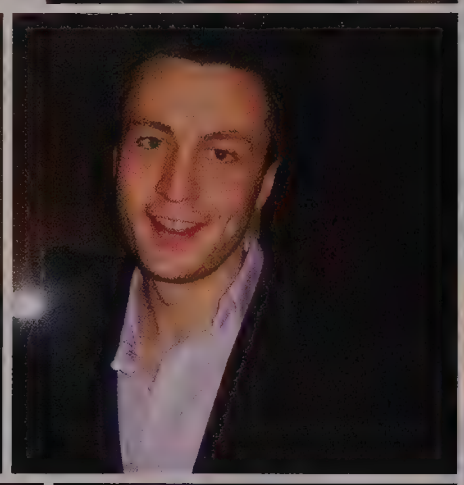
BY JONATHAN SOROFF



At Salon Marc Harris, clockwise from top left: Marina Levendis; Dan and Heidi Shvetz; Nancy Lee Dellaria and Christina Kazakis; Frank Martin; Paul Pultorak, Ferguson Heriveaux and Duncan Hughes; Jeremy Dellaria and Marc Harris; Chris Shine

HOW'S MY HAIR LOOK?

It's an iffy proposition to invite a crowd of tragically attractive, fabulously chic people to a party in a room lined with full-length mirrors. Among other things, you run the risk of having the guests simply admire their own reflections while disregarding everybody else, while waiters bearing trays of little nibbly things are pointedly ignored because, Lord knows, no one wants to see themselves eating.

There was no need for such fears at the opening party for **Salon Marc Harris**—formerly known as Ecocentrix—which raised money for **Children's Hospital** and was one of the swankiest parties of the New Year, especially since so many of the city's glitterati wait months and months to get a hair appointment there.

The guest list, hand-picked by co-owners **Marc Harris** and **Jeremy Dellaria**, reflected the rarefied clientele. Present and accounted for: Dellaria's staggeringly gorgeous wife, **Nancy Lee**; Dudley Do-Right doppelganger and interior decorator **Duncan Hughes** (who designed the salon); his startlingly blue-eyed de facto husband-type person, **Paul Pultorak**; KISS 108 hottie **Lisa Roach** and the station's drool-inducing poster boy, **Chris Shine**; snacky Back Bay real estate broker **Frank** (aka "Phranque") **Martin**; stylist-to-the-stars **Janet** "Auntie Chianti" **Warner**; Our Lady of Armani **Colette Royer**; marketing maven and slave to fashion **Martha Cox**; the blindingly dazzling **Marina Levendis**; adorable new parents **Dan** and **Heidi Shvetz** and countless other supergroovy looking people who sipped wine, gobbled delicious finger food and otherwise seemed terribly pleased to see each other.

Appropriately enough, the evening's most amusing comment occurred when someone told a notoriously fashionable woman that her hair looked wonderful, prompting her to say, "Not only haven't I had it cut or colored in over a month; I haven't even washed it," to which her friend replied, "Well, dirty looks good on you."

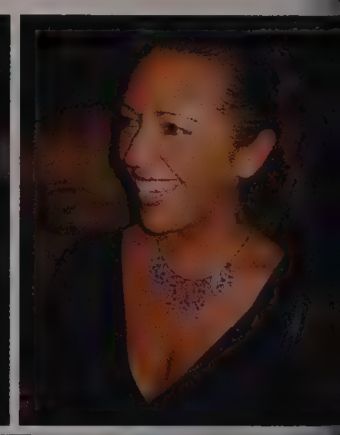
FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD...

That sucking sound you heard recently was all the people who attended the annual pig-out known as the **Anthony Spinazzola Gala Festival of Food and Wine** trying to hold in their stomachs after gorging themselves at the 20th annual fund-raiser for the foundation that supports Boston's biggest food charities.

Held at the **World Trade Center**, the evening, as always, attracted hordes of hungry foodies and a slew of celebutantes, who wandered among tables manned by assorted wineries and chefs from more than 100 of Boston's best restaurants, all of them happily doling out delicious little bits of this and that.

Prominent among the black-tie crowd were such interesting sorts as festival founder **Chris Spinazzola** and his laugh-riot wife, **Marjorie Clapprood**; best-selling author **Susan Orlean** and her husband, reformed investment banker **John Gillespie**; children's book author **Janet Tashjian** and her dashing handsome husband, **Doug**; babe-alicious news anchor **Susan Wornick** pants-wettingly funny comedian **Steve Sweeney**; puckish Pops conductor **Keith Lockhart** (dressed in chef whites); trend-setter **Michael McMurrow** and the achingly lovely **Trina Bertolino**; force of nature **Andrea Watson**; the stunningly beautiful **Amy Finsilver**; broadcasting behemoth **Pat Whitley**; and such culinary supernovae as **Daniel Boulud**, **Todd English**, **Ming Tsai**, **Lydia Shire**, **Tony Ambrose**, **Daniel Bruce**, **Chris Myers**, **Esti Benson** and so on and so forth.

In addition to free-range grazing there was a wine auction, live music and an iron chef competition pitting some of Boston's most prominent cooks against one another. However, one of the evening's most entertaining moments came when one well-known wit saw a friend who'd recently had open-heart surgery and said, "Lotta good all that yoga did...but at least you're not doing corpse pose." IB



At the Spinazzola Gala Festival of Food and Wine, clockwise from upper left: Lydia Shire; Trina Bertolino and Michael McMurrow; Amy Finsilver; Chris Spinazzola; John Gillespie and Susan Orlean; Ming Tsai

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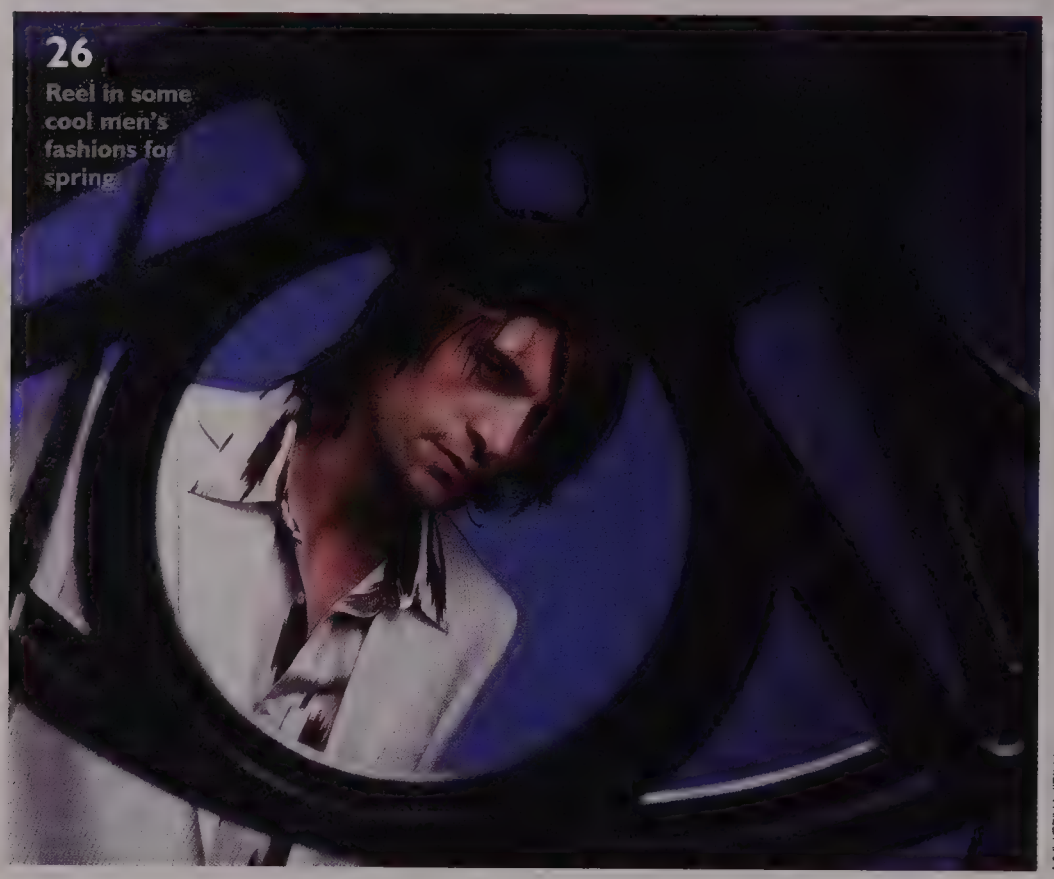

PHILIP FRIEDMAN

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

SPRING IN THE STEP

In Boston, spring's light and colorful clothes show up in stores long before those last few piles of gray snow disappear from the streets. Even if you're still trudging around in boots and a scarf, however, you can dream about sandals and floaty fabrics. Our annual Spring Fashion Preview is devoted to ensuring that you'll look good when the much anticipated season arrives.

On these pages, you can learn about the newest looks for the warmer weather, as fashion editor Samantha House shows us what caught her eye on the runways at Fashion Week. From two-tone shoes, shrunken jackets and circle skirts to the surprisingly versatile white suit for men, the spring collections are filled with fun new finds that'll have you stepping into the warmth in style.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

ROOM FOR IMPROV-MENT

Your Humor Issue (Feb. 9) mentioned Boston as one of the nation's hubs of comedy, but you neglected to write about a vital aspect of our comedy scene, namely improv. There wasn't any mention of ImprovBoston, Improv Asylum or up-and-comers the Tribe. Hopefully in a future issue, you'll showcase these talents as a part of what makes Boston's comedy scene great.

—ROBERT WOO
IMPROVBOSTON AND THE TRIBE
Somerville

ON THE COM-MUTE BUTTON

I must admit I'm a complete stranger to sending e-mails to writers in magazines, or any other writers for that matter. But I just wanted to convey my happiness when reading Ezra's articles. Besides breaking up my overcrowded and mundane commute to work, the anticipation of battling my neighbors for the last IMPROPER or breaking into hysterics on a quiet 7 am train every few weeks just doesn't seem to come often enough. I wish it were every day. Thank you for all the entertainment you provide, and I look forward to the next amusing topic.

—BRENNA SOUTHERN
Boston

MODEL CITIZEN

I'm writing in response to Georg Deyab's letter (Feb. 9) about the "young girl who has permanently ruined her own life." As someone who knows the cover model (her name is Nicole, and she's from Barre, Mass., since someone else wanted to give her proper credit), I can say she's one of the sweetest, most normal girls I know, and Deyab should be ashamed of himself, as a "lifelong student of Christianity," for being judgmental, especially considering that Nicole is a genuinely intelligent and talented young woman who would never judge a soul. She has in fact not ruined her life but rather, she recently moved to New York City after signing with the Ford modeling agency. I'm proud of what she's accomplished at such a young age, as many people never reach her level of success.

—SARAH MEDEIROS
Leominster

CORRECTION

In the Feb. 9 Dish column, Garrett Harker, former partner at No. 9 Park, B&G Oysters and the Butcher Shop, was incorrectly identified as a former chef with those establishments.

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Photographer Philip Friedman was raised in the United Kingdom and moved to New York City in 1992. He began his career as a photographer in 1999. "I got the bug for commercial photography after living beside some of the greatest fashion and still-life photographers in the world," he says. "I had previously worked as a fine art photographer but was always interested in fashion." Friedman has photographed campaigns for Snapple and Almay and shoots editorial fashion and still lifes for *Vanity Fair*, *Real Simple*, *Glamour* and *Time Out New York*. His latest work for the IMPROPER appears in "Show Stoppers," beginning on page 26.

Tell Us What You Think

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DOMANI TODAY

It always seemed a little incongruous that Saint, one of the swankiest night clubs in town, was located under a vacant sports bar. Saint's honchos have had plans for the upstairs space for a year now, and at last, they've come to fruition. The new venture is an upscale Italian restaurant, Domani Bar & Trattoria, that complements its posh downstairs neighbor, though its atmosphere is noticeably distinct.

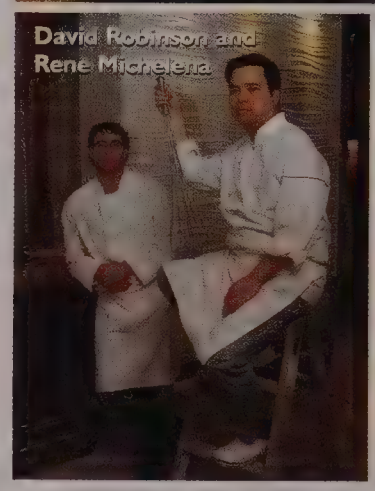
A joint effort by Saint owner Brian Lesser and Rene Michelena, the club's über chef, Domani is a bona fide restaurant, with big tables and banquettes and a full menu. And it's cozy, seating around 50, including some seats at the bar. Lesser explains that the partners are shooting for neighborhoody but stylish: "We want the old Café Louis kind of crowd," he says.

Domani's look is part of its allure. Designed by Lesser and Souza Design (who also created the decor for Saint), the restaurant is contemporary-chic, with wavelike rippled walls that offset funky papered walls, and a groovy amber color scheme. The owners have rebuilt the street-level space to be more airy, installing giant windows that open onto an outdoor patio (set to open when the weather permits).

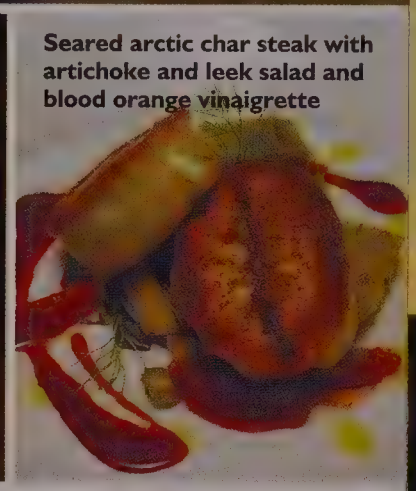
For years Michelena's Asian-influenced small bites, served in Saint's lounge-like atmosphere, have drawn praise from foodies in the know. But the French-trained chef is well versed in a broad variety of cuisines, and Domani is the sixth Italian restaurant Michelena has opened. The focus is on new Italian cuisine—appetizers like warm asparagus with truffle vinaigrette sprinkled with sliced pecorino and sea salt, and dishes like garganelli with crab meatballs, fennel cream and sliced patty pan squashes; and tortellini filled with peas and favas, fresh ricotta and bitter orange syrup.

Michelena, who's been planning Domani's menu since September, says Italian food is his favorite cuisine (even Saint's Asian-inspired dishes have Italian twists). And he's delighted to focus on Italian full-force, though he'll continue to run Saint's kitchen. Cooking alongside Michelena at Domani are some of his old pals—sous chef David Robinson, who worked with him at Centro, and pastry chef Marla Redinger, who worked with him at the Vault, La Bettola and Centro. The trattoria is set to open March 6, and reservations are recommended. Lunch entrées average $7–$16, and dinners $8–$36. *51 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-424-8500). Lunch: Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am–3:30 pm. Dinner: Mon.–Wed., 5–10 pm, and Thu.–Sat., 5–11 pm. Brunch: Sat., 11 am–3:30 pm and Sun., 11 am–4 pm. —E.H.*

Grilled steak Florentine with rosemary-potato confit



David Robinson and Rene Michelena



Seared arctic char steak with artichoke and leek salad and blood orange vinaigrette

around town

WHAT CENTER?

In the wake of the Bank of America merger, the FleetCenter will eventually get a new corporate name. Through the end of February, the FleetCenter is auctioning one-day naming rights for events at the home of the Celtics and the, um, Celtics. Proceeds from the auctions, which are hosted on eBay, go to charity, and the lucky bidder for each event receives four Premium Club seats, their chosen name displayed on the JumboTron, a one-day redesign of the "YourCenter" Web site and a customized phone message on the building's main number (among other perks). Building owners the Delaware North Cos. reserve the right to make the final decision on the name, but we're hoping that the right bidder gives us a chance to call up one more time and hear, "Hello, you've reached the Boston Garden."

—Ezra Dyer

inner view

HIS COLD FEET

Valentine's Day has come and gone. In its wake are countless would-be brides-to-be left wondering why their long-term boyfriends failed to drop rock. Newton native and relationship counselor Andrea Passman Candell's newly launched Web site, Hiscoldfeet.com, has answers for the "woman who wants to tie the knot with the guy who wants to talk about it later." Candell talked to us about where cold feet come from.

IB: *Why did you launch the Web site?*

APC: I kept hearing of so many different people that were in what I call pre-engagement limbo, which is when the woman is ready to get married and the man isn't. Yet I kept hearing from all these woman that they felt alone. I wanted to start the Web site to help women not to feel alone and give them tips so they can manage the process and recognize it so it doesn't take over their relationship.

IB: *Did you experience your own pre-engagement limbo?*

APC: Absolutely. I was going through it while I was in graduate school, and I wrote a paper on this topic.

IB: *What's some of the key advice you give women who are waiting for their guy to pop the question?*

APC: His hesitancy doesn't necessarily mean rejection. It's also important not to compare the pace of your relationship to the pace of others'. Don't let expectations get ahead of you. Have open communication in the relationship. Women tell me they can't help themselves and they bring it up several times a week or a day. What they should be doing is setting up a time to have a heart-to-heart about the next phase of the relationship.

IB: *When is it time to call it quits?*

APC: It's important to consider how reliable this person is in other areas of his life. Does he generally keep his word? How does he show up with commitment in other areas of his life? And it's important to know when enough is enough for the woman at her end.

IB: *What's the biggest mistake a woman can make when trying to get engaged?*

APC: I hear from a lot of men that when a woman's ready to get engaged she'll give off these little submessages, like she'll bring him into the jewelry store to get her ring sized. Or when they get an announcement of her friend's engagement, it's like, "When are we going to get engaged?"

IB: *Why do you think women are usually ready before men?*

APC: Both men and women say they feel pressured by society and friends and family. The pressure women get from society makes them want to start planning a wedding, and the same pressure that men get makes them want to put it off. Also, the big thing for men is that a lot of them are struggling with opportunity cost—for every choice I make, I'll be giving something up—and the bigger, better deal: If I make this choice, I might be giving up the chance to find that perfect relationship one day.

— Jessica Iredale

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tasty tidbits

MUCHO MEXICAN

Exceptional Enchilada... Birthdays are usually when you receive the gifts, not give them. Lucky for us, Andale, on Summer Street in Boston, has it backwards. In celebration of its first birthday—and the anticipated sale of the restaurant's 5,000th enchilada—Andale will cater a party for 25 people at the home of the customer who orders No. 5,000. Proprietor Ricardo Ramos predicts the sale will occur some time during the last week of February. Once the contest is over, Ramos and friends won't be taking a break. They're planning to open a second branch of another of their Mexican joints, Zocalo Cocina Mexicana, in the Back Bay in April. *125 Summer St., Boston (617-737-1057).*

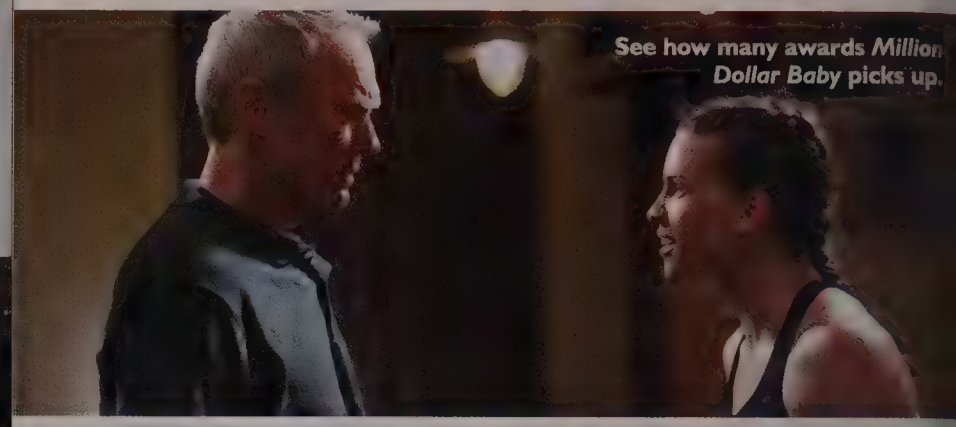
Taqueria Tech... Speaking of Mexican food, the lucky lads and lasses over at MIT have another reason to celebrate. In addition to a top-notch education and a surprisingly hip party scene, they're now blessed with unbeatable proximity to an Anna's Taqueria. The newest installment of the burrito empire opened February 10 at MIT's Stratton Student Center. This fifth location is open to MIT matriculators and regular folk alike. *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-324-2662).*

Sensible Sampling... We love a nice bottle of wine at dinner, but it's always disheartening when the price of said wine ends up accounting for 70 percent of the bill. That won't be a problem at Smith & Wollensky, when the steak haven celebrates National Wine Week, March 7-11, with a weeklong wine special. Each night, for an extra $10, S&W will serve a different sampler of 10 wines from some of the country's top vintners. The best part of all? A portion of the proceeds goes to Citymeals-on-Wheels, an organization that provides meals to the homebound elderly. *101 Arlington St., Boston (617-423-1112). www.nationalwineweek.com.*

Stamp Me, I'm Irish... The Somers Pubs conglomeration (Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern, the Green Dragon Tavern, the Grand Canal, Hennessy's of Boston, Kennedy's Mid-Town and Club Q) are holding a month-long lottery for a trip for two to Ireland. For a chance to win, all you have to do is drink lots of beer. Fill up your "Irish passport" with one stamp from each of the Somers bars, which you earn when you drink either a Guinness, Harp or Smithwicks. The drawing is on St. Patrick's Day. *www.somerspubs.com.*

improper reports

OSCARMANIA



So you'd rather get dolled up and go out to see the Academy Awards on February 27 than sit at home watching them from your couch? No problem. At several local Oscar celebrations, you get a taste of the glitz and glamour—without the fear of running into Star Jones Reynolds.

Academy Awards Viewing Party

Sister Sorel, 645 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600). $35, $45 at the door. Prizes for "Best Dressed" and "Best Nominee Look-Alike" are awarded at this red carpet affair. Appetizers and a glass of champagne are included. Of course, dress to impress.

14th Annual Massachusetts Movie Awards Gala

Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-357-0032). $250 ($5,000 for a table for 10). Join Hollywood and Boston celebs at this black-tie-optional event that features (in addition to the broadcast of the Awards) a dinner buffet, live auction and martini bar.

Oscar Night at Grotto

37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-3434). Fe 27, 7:30 pm. $80. Grotto accompanies a b screen viewing of the awards with a five-cours dinner paired with Napa Valley wines.

Oscar Gala and Pre-Party

Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (61 876-2500). The night begins with a pre-par fund-raiser ($50 minimum donation) at 5:30 p that features a silent auction, open bar and ho d'oeuvres. For the main event at 7:30 pm, th party moves to the theater, and guests can chee for their favorite nominees.

The Ellie Fund's Oscar Night America Party

Saint, 90 Exeter St., Boston (781-449-0100 www.elliefund.org. 6 pm. $40, $55 at the doo This Oscar celebration features a Sam Adams and Dewar's 12–sponsored reception, a men prepared by chef Rene Michelena, and a silen auction. Dress is Hollywood glitz. Proceeds ben efit the Ellie Fund's efforts to fight breast cancer. *—Zoe Winkler*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Holiday Boutique

Fashion Forward... Since its opening just over two years ago, Charles Street's Holiday Boutique has gained quite a following amongst local fashion plates for its bounty of pretty pieces. Not so popular, however, was the shop's cramped quarters—a mere 300 square feet. Lack of elbow room is a thing of the past now that the boutique has set up shop in a much larger space just down Charles Street. The new storefront retains all the charming appointments of the old—antique chandeliers and romantic furniture, as well as the clothes (Development, Tracy Reese and Milly to name a few labels)—with twice the room to browse. *53 Charles St., Boston (617-973-9730).*

A Major Experience... So you think you've got what it takes to be a big-league ballplayer? For a cool $13,995, the Major League Experience will send you on a nine-day road trip through six Major League parks, where you'll take the diamond with a coaching staff of former players like Bret Saberhagen and Dave Henderson, along with a team of schmucks like yourself. Players use wood bats with their name engraved on the barrel, see their name up on the scoreboard, and conduct postgame interviews with the "media." The ballparks are still being lined up, but there's a chance that by the summer of 2006 one East Coast package could start in Boston and end in Atlanta. MLE founder Mark Webb (the other prominent investor is Aerosmith's Tom Hamilton) says if that happens, one stadium that won't be on the schedule is a certain House That Ruth Built. While Webb's not ruling out a Fenway/Yankee Stadium package in the future, for now he says, "We're not going to put the Yankees on the same trip. Boston deserves to be the star of the show." *www.majorleagueexperience.com.*

Can It... News Flash: Red Bull does more than boost energy. It also inspires artistic expression. More than 400 amateur and professional artists created aluminum sculptures out of empty Red Bull cans for the energy drink's Art of the Can contest. You can view 31 of the best creations from February 26–March 6 at the Artists for Humanity EpiCenter, near Fort Point Channel. Among the featured works are a wearable corset, a mini-dragster (which took more than two months to construct) and a giant blimp that sheet metal worker Dale W. Busta created after scouring dumpsters, convenience stores and bars for empty cans. A panel of judges will choose the top three works, and first prize is a trip for two to the International Arts Festival in Venice, Italy.

Cable Courtship... Remember the days when finding a date required going out? Thanks to our friends over at Comcast, now you don't even need to get off the couch. The cable giant added fuel to the virtual-dating fire earlier this month with the launch of Dating on Demand, a channel sponsored by HurryDate.com that allows local couch potatoes to peruse video profiles of an assortment of available Bostonians. An added bonus: A blooper option that lets you check out singles' goofy sides.

Davis Square Divas... Somerville's swank gourmet Indian restaurant Diva spawns a full-on nightlife destination later this month when sibling venture Diva Lounge opens right next door. Fort Point's Studio Luz is the design force behind the nightclub's big 2,200 square foot space, done in warm amber tones and plush leather seats. A late-night Indian tapas-style menu will be offered and French lounge music will set the vibe. Perhaps Diva Lounge's most newsworthy feature will be its WC, which will boast a creative design like sibling venture Mantra's magic-mirror johns. The unisex washrooms will have an interactive waiting area, and the sculptural "pods" will be haloed in light when occupied. *—J.I., E.D., and Rich Levine*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

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Free Admission

redbullartofthecan.com

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The Greater Boston Food Bank's Kitchen Cabinet hosted **"Decadent Delights"** February 9th at Lanoue Fine Art on Newbury Street. The event featured Ted Davidson, sommelier from Aujourd'hui at the Four Seasons, who shared his knowledge of wines with guests. 100 partygoers enjoyed pairings of chocolate with both red wine and coffee, an art exhibition and live jazz. Proceeds from the event benefit Kitchen Cabinet, a group of professionals working to end hunger in eastern Massachusetts.

1. **Anita Lane**, manager for software services for Inficon in Cambridge; **James Gehan**, vice president for PTC in Needham; and **Jennifer Ligibel**, breast cancer oncologist at Dana-Farber.
2. **Carla Kindt**, director of development at the Greater Boston Food Bank, and **Susan Lanoue**, owner of Lanoue Fine Art.
3. **Jessica Dunegan**, assistant director at Lanoue Fine Art, and **Nicole Carlucci**, student development coordinator at the New England Institute of Art.
4. **Brennan Stravlo** and **Jim Hamelberg**, general manager and owner, respectively, of Joe V's.
5. **Fawn Hardison**, assistant director at Lanoue Fine Art, and **Craig Sutton**, entertainment planner for Sutton Entertainment in Framingham.

The Boston Area Rape Crisis Center held its **Champions for Change** benefit February 9 at the Charles Hotel in Cambridge. More than 200 guests attended the event, which was hosted by Beauty and Main and the Charles Hotel and raised $30,000 to support BARCC's services.

6. **Melissa Rousseau**, jewelry designer, and **Jane Ciccone** and **Mary Jo Krol**, co-owners of Jane Elizabeth.
7. **Jane Forrer**, co-owner of Beauty and Main; **Majorie Decker**, vice mayor of Cambridge; **Hillary Woodyatt**, co-owner of Beauty and Main; and **Angela Shelton**, filmmaker.
8. **Phil Woodyatt**, retail/real estate development for BJ's Wholesale Club, and **Maureen O'Connor**, artist.
9. **Nuala Nichoncubhair**, manager for Magnolia Farms; **Sharon O'Brien**, operations manager for Boston Partners; and **Tiffany Hartman**, specialty leasing manager for the CambridgeSide Galleria.
10. **Jos Nicholas**, owner of Comina Inc. in Wellesley and Marblehead; **Jocelyn Sand** and her husband, **David**, president of Access Capital in Cambridge.
11. **Jon Olshaker**, chairman of the emergency department at Boston Medical Center, and **Macarena Corral**, staff medical advocate for BARCC.

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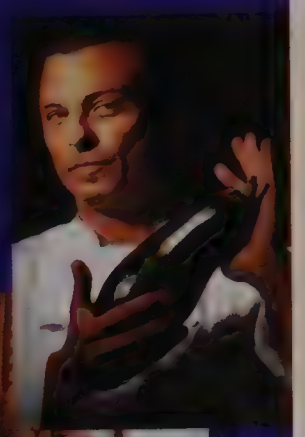

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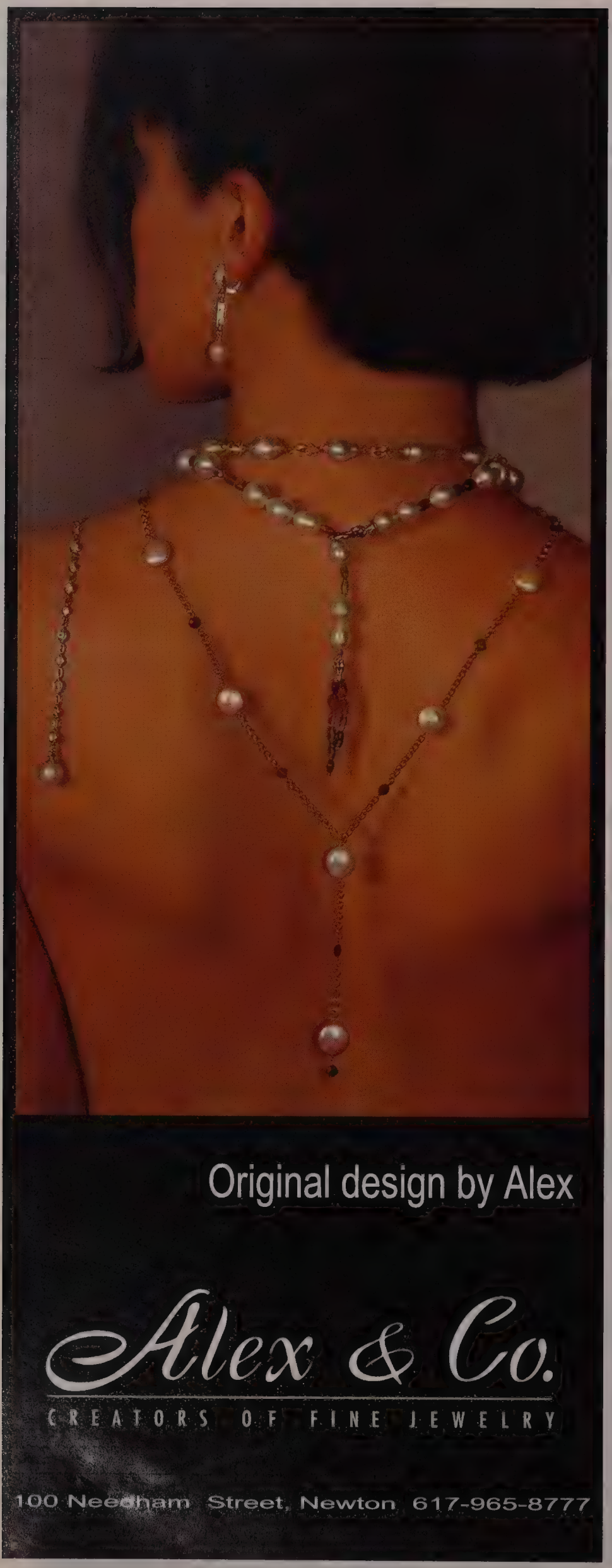

ezra BY EZRA DYER

THE CONE ZONE

Digging out your car is just the beginning.

When I moved to Southie, I knew that eventually I'd be confronted with a wintertime dilemma: to cone or not to cone. For those of you fortunate enough not to have personal experience with this particular cultural phenomenon, coning is the practice of saving your on-street parking spot after a snowstorm by marking it with a cone, chair, or any variety of psychotic-looking detritus. The idea is that if you shovel out a spot, you should get to keep it. This premise is so flawed that if it were a shirt, it would have three sleeves and get rejected by Marshalls.

First, let's deal with the issue of ownership, or, more accurately, conership. You're not shoveling a space out of a sense of civic duty. You're shoveling because there's three feet of snow on your car and you want to go somewhere. People are always quoted in newspaper articles saying stuff like, "I shoveled eight hours and I'm not having someone come along and take my space after I did all that work."

By this logic, only plows should be allowed on the roads after it snows, because everyone else is unfairly enjoying the fruits of the plow drivers' labor. Where do you get off driving on Route 93 if you didn't plow anything? Next time it snows, I'm getting a plow truck and plowing the roads on my way to work, then I'm coning them off so I can have a nice quick drive on subsequent mornings. I plowed them, so they're my roads.

When spring rolls around, I'm going to mow a patch of grass on the Common. Then I'm building a three-bedroom Cape. My house-cone ought to be immensely valuable given its prime location on historic Boston Common. If anyone tries to picnic on my house lot, I'll slash their baskets.

In my apartment, I'm putting a cone on top of the trash can after I take the trash out—if Heather didn't do the work to take that bag out of the can, she should have to throw her trash on the floor. I'm coning the toilet, too, because the Toilet Duck certainly didn't dive in there by itself. And if I make the bed, from now on it's off-limits until I un-cone it. Don't think I won't slash the duvet cover on your side if you move my bed cone, woman. Then again, if she makes dinner she could cone my plate and starve me out, so maybe I need to call an uneasy truce on intra-apartment coning.

Coning is like wearing clothes. Back in the day, everyone used to run around naked and it was all good. But somebody started wearing a palm frond over their junk and then everyone had to do it, or else they'd be the naked ones. So it is with cones. The argument that someone is "stealing" your space falls apart if nobody cones. You leave your space, then you come back and take another space, *the same way you do when there's no snow*. But if one person cones then everyone cones, then there are no spots other than the one you started in. It's the circle of cones.

Worse, most Southie people take a decidedly broad interpretation of cone etiquette. For instance, before the big blizzard in January, one of my neighbors pre-coned a spot in front of his building before the first snowflakes hit the ground. I saw this and immediately had several sick, violent cone-destroying urges, since I was looking for a parking space at the time. At the other extreme, and making me meat out even worse, are the people who continue coning until the Major League Baseball All-Star break. If there's so much as a dirty ice cube from a spilled Big Gulp in the street in Southie, there's probably a cone sitting next to it.

IF THERE'S SO MUCH AS A DIRTY ICE CUBE FROM A SPILLED BIG GULP IN THE STREET IN SOUTHIE, THERE'S PROBABLY A CONE SITTING NEXT TO IT

And I've got a neighbor who apparently coned a space and then went into the Witness Protection Program (not uncommon in Southie), because I've never seen anything but two buckets parked in that spot. Maybe I'm wrong and the buckets are actually Transformers that turn into a car. Transformers, more than meets the eye. Transformers, buckets in disguise.

So with all my animosity toward cones, you can guess what happened when the blizzard hit. When I had to move my car, I simply shoveled it out and drove out into the street... Then I stopped, got out and carefully set up the most mental-looking space-saver I could throw together in my basement: a two-by-four stuck in a Christmas tree stand. If I can't change people's minds, I can at least make them worry that I'll slash their tires. iB

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NEW ENGLAND'S LITTLE BIG MAN

Deion Branch, take a bough.

The fact that the New England Patriots drafted a receiver in the second round of the 2002 NFL draft was not a concern. The team, specifically knight in shining armor Tom Brady, needed weapons. What had us scratching our heads was the fact they selected a 5'9" wide receiver from the University of Louisville. Why another Smurf? The Patriots already had two receivers under six feet—Troy Brown and David Patten. And Louisville? What about USC, Michigan, Miami or Florida State? Well, instead of getting some big, overrated lug, they chose Deion Branch.

The calling card of Belichick's Patriots has been their ability to come up big in pressure-packed games. New England sportswriters have killed several thousand trees making that point, with Brady always in the opening paragraph. Well, move over Tom. You've been terrific, but you've got some company. Branch—sandwiched between Brady and Brown in the Patriots' media guide—won't be skipped over any longer.

Branch came into the NFL as an undersized wideout with a giant gold tooth and a bigger chip on his shoulder. My early recollection of him, going back three years, is that he was a great guy, almost too nice. I recall wondering if he was in over his head in this market—I don't think he'd ever seen a snowflake in his life. Born in a town smaller than that gold tooth, Albany, Georgia, Branch was recruited to play at Florida's big-time programs, but because of poor academics he attended a junior college before joining Louisville. He's matured significantly since Year One. He no longer speaks hesitantly. While he's still soft-spoken, he's been a guy confident in who he is, and that was before Super Bowl XXXIX.

During the 2003 season, Branch told me he was fined $7,500 for his end zone dance in Indianapolis. You might remember it: He went flat on his back and broke into a "convulsion" dance. When I asked him if Belichick or any of the veterans came down hard on him for that Terrell Owens–like exhibition, Branch said no. In fact, they re-ran his dance during the next day's film session. Everyone, including Belichick, thought it was a riot. One of the greatest things about the Patriots is that despite their workmanlike image, they quietly allow players to be themselves.

With that said, before last season Branch decided that sporting a smile featuring the gold tooth was not how he wanted to be perceived. He got rid of the tooth, on his own. It was a sign of the maturity that we've been seeing develop nearly every day.

Speaking of maturity, we measure athletes based on how they perform when the stakes are highest. Forget about the regular season. What did you do in the World Series, the Super Bowl? Well, Branch has been a good performer during his regular seasons with the Patriots. But the most catches he's had in a season is 57, in 2003. He finished the 2004 season with only 35 catches (including four TDs) in nine games due to a leg injury.

Of course, when January and February have rolled around, we've seen the real Deion Branch. In the last two Super Bowls, he's made 10 and 11 catches, for 124 and 133 yards, respectively. He easily could have been the MVP last year in Houston. This time, the voters made sure they got it right.

After he copped the Super Bowl MVP trophy in Jacksonville, I walked with Branch to the team bus. He was literally the last Pa-

> BRANCH EASILY COULD HAVE BEEN THE SUPER BOWL MVP LAST YEAR IN HOUSTON. THIS TIME, THE VOTERS MADE SURE THEY GOT IT RIGHT

triot to leave the locker room, a common occurrence. I asked him what he was going to do with the Caddy he'd been awarded by Terry Bradshaw on the field 45 minutes earlier. With a tired grin taking over his face, he said, "I haven't really thought about it. I really have been thinking about the ring I'm going to get for winning the Super Bowl."

And no matter what happens in his career from here on out, nobody will ever be able to take away what happened in Jacksonville on February 6, 2005. With everything on the line, Deion Branch was the greatest football player in the world. But the best part, as far as the Patriots and their fans are concerned, is that right there with Branch are Brady, Tedy Bruschi, Mike Vrabel, Rodney Harrison, Willie McGinest and Corey Dillon, guys who have sacrificed their individual fame for championships. Branch gets it. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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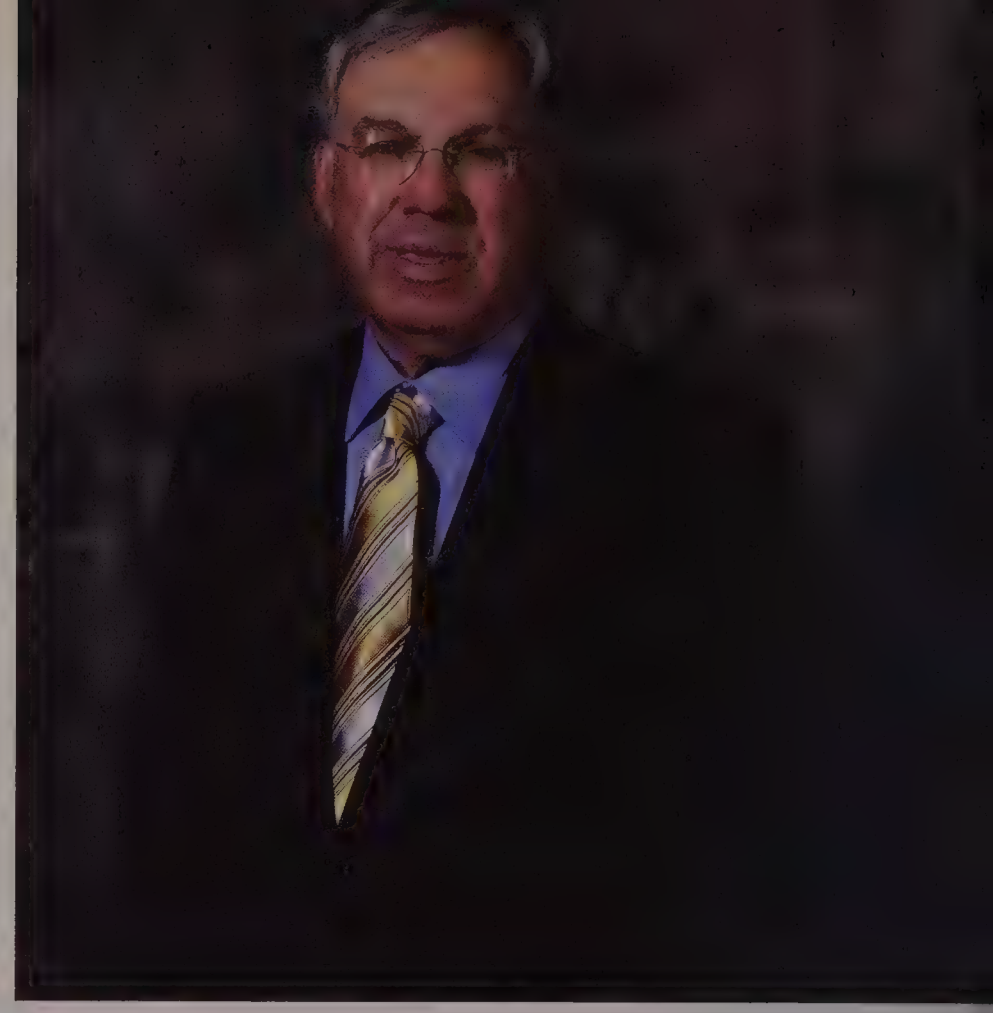
Soroff ON

THOMAS MENINO

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Thomas M. Menino is currently serving his third term as mayor of Boston. The first Italian-American to hold the office, Menino was elected in 1993 following a four-month stint as acting mayor that began when his predecessor, Ray Flynn, took up the post of U.S. ambassador to the Vatican. Before becoming mayor, Menino spent nine years as a district city councilor from Hyde Park, the neighborhood where he was born. A graduate of St. Thomas Aquinas High School, he received his associate's degree in business management and advertising sales from Chamberlayne Junior College in 1963. In 1988, he earned a degree in community planning from UMass. From 2002 to 2003, Menino served as president of the United States Conference of Mayors, and he's been an adviser to the National Trust for Historic Preservation since 1989. He lives in Hyde Park with his wife, Angela. The couple has two children—Susan Fenton and Thomas Jr.— and six grandchildren.

Jonathan Soroff: *First of all, can you fight City Hall?*

Tom Menino: Yeah! We've seen people come in and make a case that had merit and we've agreed to help 'em out—they were fined unfairly, or they got a parking ticket that wasn't right. Honestly, I think we admit when we're wrong.

JS: *If you could steal one thing from the mayor's office, what would it be?*

TM: That eagle right there [he points at a carved wooden eagle, over six feet tall]. That was on the old City Hall, and a lot of people come in here and want to make replicas of it and I will not let them do it.

JS: *Nice choice, but where would you put it?*

TM: My kitchen.

JS: *I doubt your wife would like that. If you could hit a piñata of anybody or anything in the city, who or what would it be and why?*

TM: All the litter we have in the downtown area. That's one thing that drives me crazy. Why can't people put their trash in a litter basket, or keep it in their pocket if there isn't one nearby? Why do they want to be so messy? The other one that really gets to me is cigarette butts that are stepped on or put out right in front of the door to every building, or any public place you go. If I could do anything, I'd love to solve that.

JS: *There's your controversial new ruling on saving parking spaces with objects like lawn chairs when people dig out after a snowstorm. What's the tackiest household item you've seen used to reserve a space?*

TM: A toilet seat.

JS: *What do you say to the little old lady who spent the whole morning shoveling out her car and then someone else comes along and takes her space?*

I UNDERSTAND THAT PEOPLE ARE SPENDING TIME TO SHOVEL OUT THEIR CARS, BUT AS MAYOR I ALSO HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THE VIOLENCE THAT'S RESULTING.

TM: I feel sorry for her, honestly, but you know, it's public space. I really have sympathy for them, but we live in a city that's overcrowded with cars and we don't have enough parking. And really the reason we did this was because it was resulting in violence. People were keying cars, breaking windows, slashing tires. I understand that people are spending time to shovel out their cars, but as mayor I also have to think about the violence that's resulting from this.

JS: *Ever use your motorcade to get through traffic or get home in time for dinner?*

TM: No. At our house, the favorite number is 364-1234 We Deliver. As for trying to get through traffic, that's all I need: two policemen in front and two policemen behind me and the next day's headline in the *Herald* is "Mayor Uses Motorcade to Go Wherever."

JS: *This is a city of neighborhoods. What's your favorite?*

TM: Hyde Park. The thing is, the neighborhoods are what make the city. It's important to have a great downtown, but the areas where people live are really what the city's about.

JS: *Most intimidating person you've ever met?*

TM: The Hat Sisters.

JS: *OK, 2004 we won the World Series, the Super Bowl, the Democratic National Convention. Doesn't 2005 look like a letdown by comparison?*

TM: No. We're gonna build on all that. We have the 350th anniversary of the city. We have a lot of big events. And of course, we're going to win again.

JS: *What one place would you take someone from out of town to impress them with Boston?*

TM: The Harbor Islands. They're the biggest hidden gems in this city. Just gorgeous.

JS: *Ever get lost with all the Big Dig detours?*

TM: No, but I'll tell you something—you're better off being from out of town.

JS: *One thing you'd say to someone to sell them on Boston?*

TM: We're the greatest city for culture. I really love that. Nobody understands how important it is to the city. I grew up here all my life. Until the last five years, we never had Open Studios in Hyde Park or East Boston or Dorchester. Culture and the arts bring more money into the city than people realize, and it's really important to cultivate that.

JS: *When people criticize you for the way you speak, does that hurt your feelings?*

TM: "Mayor Mumbles?" Oh, no. Listen, I've done pretty well for being called Mayor Mumbles. It will never be said that I was a great orator, but it's not about speaking well. It's about doing the work of the people in the city. The people who work for me write things down for me to say, and 99 percent of the time I speak off the cuff and they get mad at me. But it's more important how you feel about the situation and meaning what you say and what you really believe.

JS: *One thing the press has ever written about you that really made you mad?*

TM: The only time the press bothers me is when they pick on my family: my wife, my daughter, my son. Say whatever about me but don't pick on my family.

JS: *Worst part of the job?*

TM: Dealing with personnel matters. When you have to say "You're laid off," or something like that. I'm terrible at it and don't like doing it.

JS: *Is City Hall the ugliest building in Boston?*

TM: No, it's not the ugliest. But pretty damn near it.

JS: *What's your favorite building in Boston?*

TM: Just one? Well, I'll tell you that my favorite view is looking down Commonwealth Avenue in the Back Bay. It's just so beautiful. It looks like Europe.

JS: *Who's the most powerful person in Boston?*

TM: Hmm. Well, I might have a little power. But I'd say someone like the superintendent of schools, who can really effect some positive change. I mean, there are plenty of people who are really rich, but I think true power comes from being able to influence things for the better.

JS: *If you could trade places with one person, whom would it be and why?*

TM: I'd like to be the owner of the Red Sox.

JS: *Are you going to run for a fourth term?*

TM: I've got the best job in Boston, and that job's not complete.

JS: *If you do, can I be the commissioner of fashion?*

TM: You'll have to move out of the suburbs and into the city first.

JS: *You're a bit of a tie freak. How many ties do you own?*

TM: About 350. Most from Filene's Basement.

JS: *Last question: How do you want to be remembered?*

TM: As a guy who tried to improve people's lives. Not as the mayor of downtown but as the guy who tried to make things better for people all over the city. IB

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2005 forecast

SPRING FASHION PREVIEW

ake a walk down Newbury Street or a stroll through Copley Place and you'll see that spring—in the form of pastel colors and lighter fabrics—has already begun to peek out from behind the dark grays and browns hanging on sale racks. You may have begun to feel like your clothes are a little too dark and yearn for some color. These are all signs that the warmer season will soon be upon us and that you, more likely than not, need to revamp your wardrobe.

So what are the coming season's must-haves? Let's start at the top. Winter's cute cardigans give way this spring to shrunken or fitted jackets, from dressy (in sequins with charms hanging whimsically about) to casual (a worn-looking cotton that feels like you've had it since high school). Sport them over silky tanks, striped polos or your favorite cocktail dress when it's chilly out. If it gets too cold, throw on a colorful trench, a holdover trend from last year. Patterns are big. Fruit, flowers, stripes and polka dots mix and match with each other and with solids. Don't be scared…it's easy to get into—even a little bit fun! For a more casual top, opt for the bohemian look. We've seen it before—thin sheaths that hang on your form like a warm summer breeze.

As for bottoms, Bermuda shorts enter the picture this year. (A word of warning: If you never embraced capris, then you really won't understand these.) The shorts are cut straight, come to the knee and can be found even now in fabrics from denim to light wool. Some pair with matching jackets to make a suit. It's one of the most popular looks for the spring, and I plan to sport it everywhere. Miniskirts, by the way, are out, though some devotees won't give them up without a fight. This spring's skirts are to the knee or just above, the newest version being the gathered-waist or circle skirt.

Dresses run the gamut, but the top three looks are the knit-crochet combo, draping and full. The knit and crochet dress looks like it was handmade by your grandmother but a whole lot sexier. We're seeing these now in white, but the next batch (around the middle of March) will also include bright colors. Look for crocheted tops and skirts then as well. The draping dress is either empire waist or no waist at all, made of a light fabric that floats when you walk—you'll feel like a windblown 1980s fashion model. (The full dress is probably the most flattering of the three. Fitted to the waist (or slightly lower), it has a full skirt usually made of a stiff fabric, so it doesn't lose its shape. Designers are also adding elements like big bows that fold into the skirt to give it a little edge.

Toss your flip-flops and replace them with wedges or two-tone shoes. Wedges are as high as you want to go—and a lot easier to walk in than stilettos. And you won't get caught in the cobblestones either! Two-tone shoes—flats or heels—look great with just about everything.

On the menswear front, white is this season's hottest color. Buy a white suit and you can wear it a million different ways. For a formal affair, wear white on white on white. For day, pair white pants with a colored pullover top. Mix almost any shirt with the pants and flip-flops and you have yourself some Miami chic. Meanwhile, a white jacket works with dark denim or a pair of drawstring pants. The prepster look is still in style for those of you who blew your budget last year on V-neck sweaters and polo shirts. For a more creative take on the preppy look, pair up stripes in different sizes and colors (pinstripe pants with a wider-striped shirt, for example). Suits are back in a big way for the workday, and a straight-cut double-breasted version is the favorite. Think Armani meets the mob.

All in all, for both men and women, this spring holds some exciting new looks that'll add life to your wardrobe and lift your spirits after a long Boston winter. —*Samantha House*

SPRING FORWARD

GET AHEAD WITH THESE HOT LOOKS FOR THE WARMER SEASON.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STOUGHER

.ight pink linen cotton panel trumpet skirt, 238; coral georgette beaded sleeveless op, $198. Both at Chaiken. Pink Pamela andals, $210 at Coach. White gold and dia- nond cluster bracelet, $39,000; white gold nd diamond spray necklace, $18,500; white old and diamond earrings, $24,500. All at 'ageo Fine Jewelry.

White knit crochet dress, $3,690 at Chanel Boutique. Yellow gold circle link necklace with semiprecious stones, $9,000; yellow gold, citrine, tourmaline and smoky quartz bracelet, $7,950; matching earrings, $3,900; white gold, pink tourmaline and diamond ring, $21,000. All at Pageo Fine Jewelry.

Aqua Soho sateen trench, $398 at Coach. Sequined ballet flats by Rina Shah, $140 at Moth.

Blue pinstriped blazer, $345; matching fitted skirt, $245; scoop-neck tank, $95. All at DKNY. Leather, sterling silver and yellow gold necklace with carnelian beads, $2,195; yellow gold, turquoise and diamond floral bracelet, $14,000; yellow gold, turquoise and diamond necklace (worn as bracelet) $6,000; yellow, white gold turquoise and diamond earrings, $5,500. All at Pageo Fine Jewelry

Chaiken
www.chaikenclothing.com

Chanel Boutique
5 Newbury St.
617-859-0055

Coach
Copley Place
617-236-4991

DKNY
37 Newbury St.
617-236-0476

Moth
53 South St.
Hingham
781-740-1204

Pageo Fine Jewelry
33 Newbury St.
617-266-0066

Shot on location
at Miami's Nikki Beach

Belo top by Ted Baker, $135; cuffed jeans by Serfontaine, $180; tailored jacket by Ted Baker, $325. All at Moth. Gold Cassandra ankle-tie wedges, $180 at Coach. Four-strand baroque pearl bracelet with aquamarine, pink and green tourmaline center, $5,500; yellow gold Tahitian South Sea pearl ring with diamonds, $7,900. All at Pageo Fine Jewelry.

showstoppers

MEN'S LOOKS THAT SEGUE EASILY FROM CASUAL TO DRESSY—
NO MATTER WHAT ROLE YOU'RE PLAYING.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY PHILIP FRIEDMAN

White pinstriped jacket, $695 by Z. Zegna; graphic button-down shirt, $495 b
Michael Kors. Both at Bloomingdale's

y jacket with lime pinstripes, $179; matching pants, $79; lime knit top, $89. All by Kenneth
e, all at Bloomingdale's. Corsair titanium sunglasses, $395 at Morgenthal Frederics.

White jacket by Hilfiger, $295; striped shirt by Ted Baker, $17
denim pants by Adriano Goldschmied, $150. All
Bloomingdale

ite jacket by Hilfiger, $295; striped shirt by Ted Baker, $175; denim pants by
riano Goldschmied, $150. All at Bloomingdale's.

omingdale's
Boylston St.
estnut Hill
-630-6000

rgenthal Frederics
ouis Boston
Berkeley St.
-421-1705

gather round

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOE GREEN

Stash your minis from last year and opt for a more ladylike look: the gathered-waist skirt. It varies in pattern, length, silhouette and shape and can l worn high or slung low on the hips. There are many choices with this style, and certainly one to flatter every body type. Opt for a modern style, like n favorite playful print from Paul Smith, or choose the more formal striped version from DKNY or the bright orange balloon skirt from Tess & Carlos.

Left to right: Tank with bow detail by Blugirl Blumarine, $495; shoe skirt by Paul Smith, $345; strappy kitten heels by Prada, $345. All at Tess & Carlos. Silk jacket with ruffles, $275 at DKNY. Large multicolored necklace by Emily Bidar, $320 at Persona Jewelry+. Yellow silk halter by Christy Conway, $198; matching skirt, $231. Both at Moth. Victorian necklace, $4,200; matching earrings, $800. Both at Persona Jewelry+. Orange balloon skirt by Blugirl Blumarine, $565; knit top by Cividini, $625. Both at Tess & Carlos.

Left to right: blue gathered skirt, $216; white silk tank, $176. Both by Chaiken. Rhinestone handmade earrings by Emily Bider, $100; yellow gold designer chain (worn as belt) by Gary Shteyman, $3,000. Both at Persona Jewelry+.

One-button tweed jacket, $425; long striped skirt, $295; silk cami, $145. All at DKNY. Shell and turquoise ball and chain by Emily Bider, $250 at Persona Jewelry+.

Black jacket with metal buddhas, $495; black-and-white gathered skirt, $360. Both by Vivienne Tam, both at Lord & Taylor.

haiken, www.chaikenclothing.com; DKNY, 37 Newbury St., 617-236-0476; Lord & Taylor, 760 Boylston St., 617-262-6000; Moth, 53 South St., ingham, 781-740-1204; Persona Jewelry+, 508 Comm. Ave., 617-266-3003; Tess & Carlos, 1241 Centre St., Newton Center, 617-965-8377.

air: Mitch Derosa; makeup: Claudia Acevedo. Both for Mitchell John Salon.

KICK UP YOUR HEELS IN TWO-TONE SHOES, SPRING'S HOTTEST LOOK FOR YOUR FEET

TWO-STEPPIN'

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOU

PHOTOGRAPH BY BRIAN SILVERSTE

1. Farrah sandals, $220 at Coach, Copley Place, 617-262-2063
2. Green satin heels with purple suede piping by Prada, $510 at Neiman Marcus, Copley Place, 617-536-3660
3. Two-tone flats by Prada, $355 at Tess and Carlos, 1241 Centre St., Newton Centre, 617-965-8377
4. Courtney heels by Fornarina, $130 at Moth, 53 South St., Hingham, 781-740-1204
5. Gold and satin heels, $485 at Marc Jacobs, 81 Newbury St., 617-425-0707
6. Orange and yellow leather heels, $150 at Kenneth Cole, 128 Newbury St., 617-867-0836
7. Green and yellow heels with bow by Kate Spade, $275 at Neiman Marcus, Copley Place, 617-536-3660

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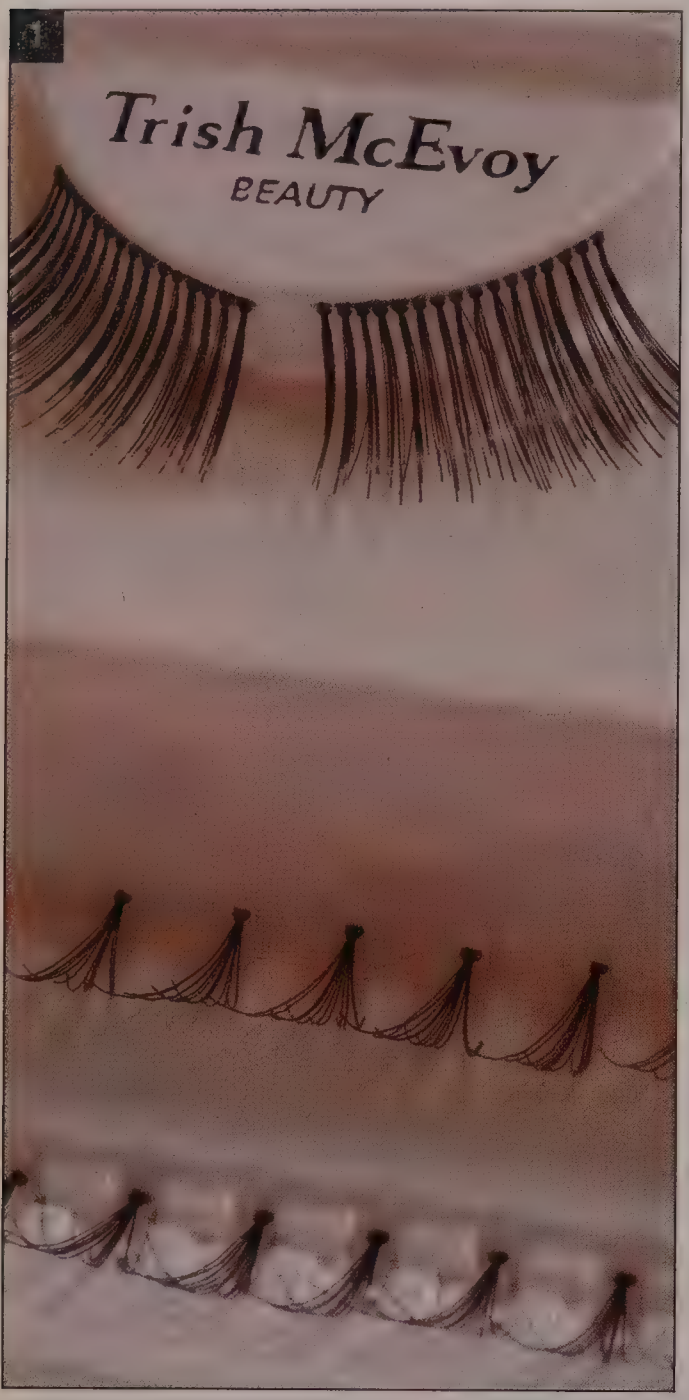
Beauty comes alive with shimmery lip colors, sorbet hues on lids and subtle false lashes.

LIGHT BRIGHT

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN



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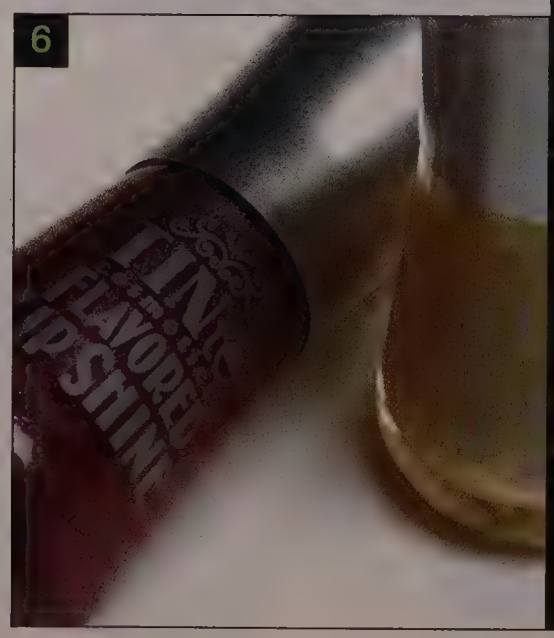

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1 Eyelash Set by Trish McEvoy, $15 at G Spa, 35 Newbury St., 617-267-4772

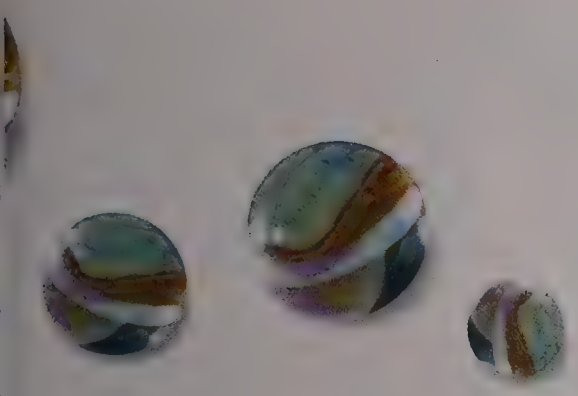
2 Duo Eye Shadow in April Fools by NARS, $28 at Sephora, Prudential Center, 617-262-4200

3 Lustreglass Lip Gloss in Garden and Love Nectar by MAC, $13.50 each at Filene's, 426 Washington St., 617-357-2100

4 Icon Eyeshadow Quads in Enigmatic Khaki and Charming Pink by Estée Lauder, $37 each at Neiman Marcus, Copley Place, 617-536-3660

5 Rouge Double Intensite Ultra Wear Lip Colour in Rose Quartz, Ruby Lite, Tourmaline and Garnet, by Chanel, $30 each at Saks Fifth Avenue, Prudential Center, 617-262-8500

6 Flavored Lip Shine in Cake and Plum-sious by Tinte Cosmetics, $17 each at www.tintecosmetics.com



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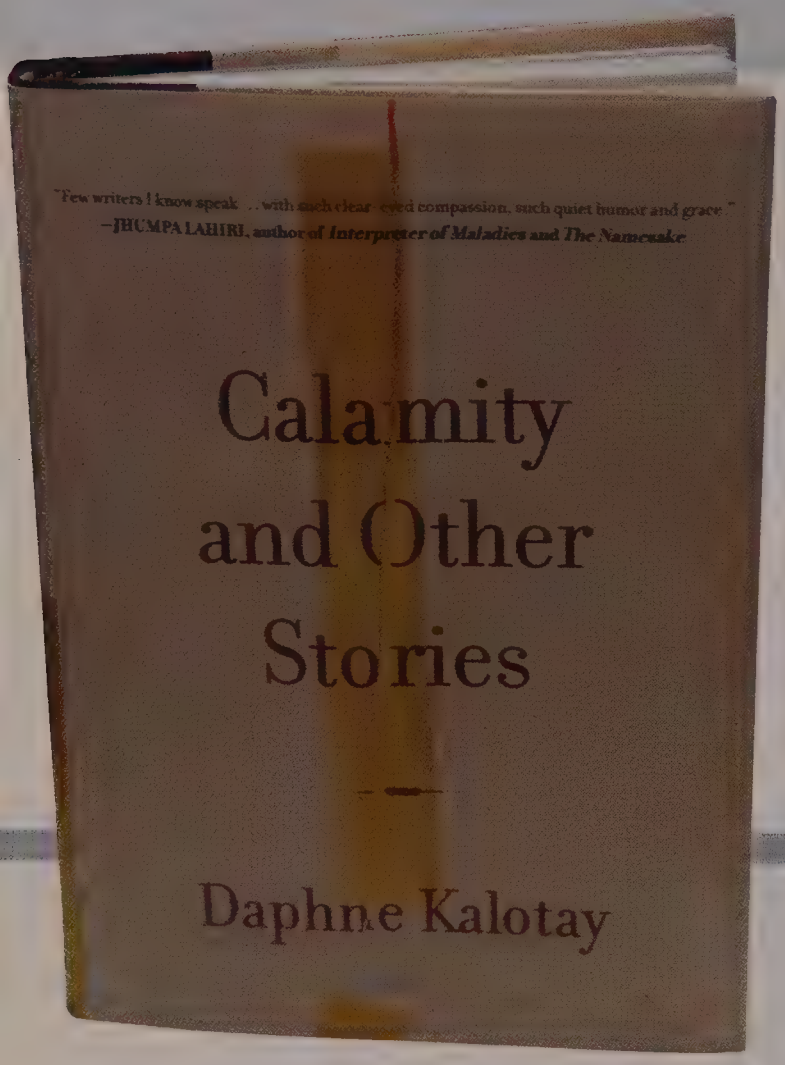
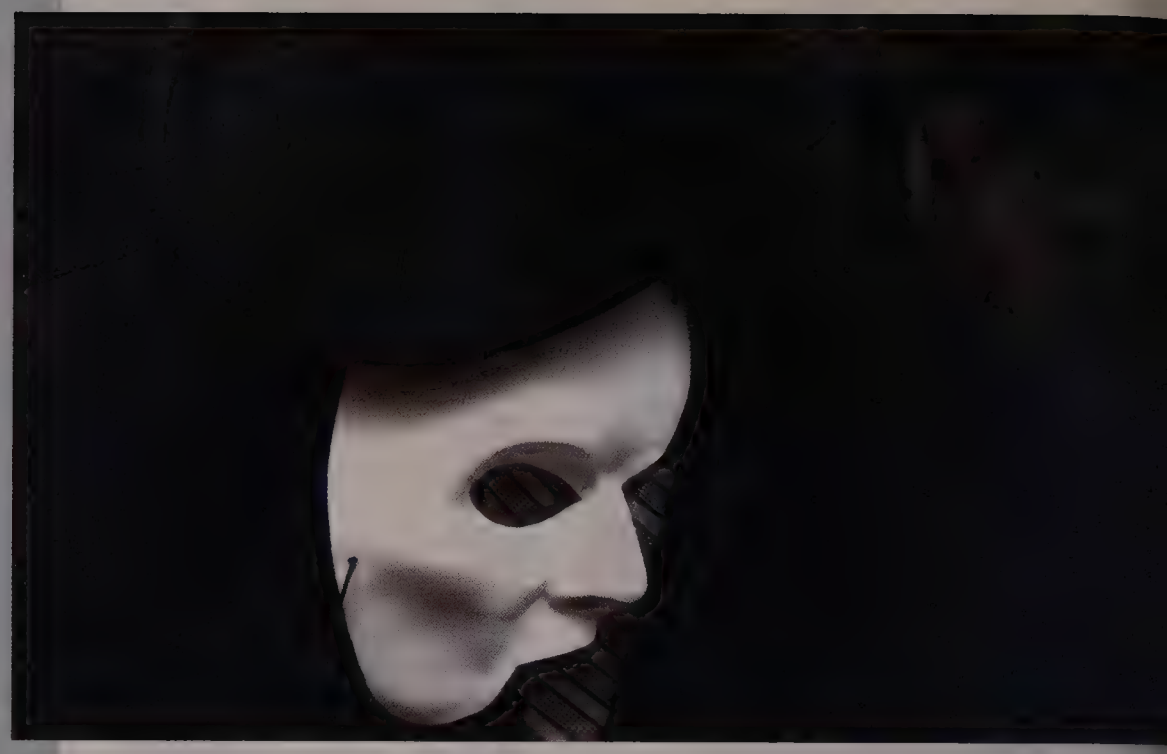
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



FRIENDS AND LOVERS OVER TIME

***Calamity and Other Stories*, by Daphne Kalotay, is a book of loosely connected tales set in and around Boston.**

Do you ever wonder where the characters in short stories go after the brief fictional appearance that traps them in one moment? Daphne Kalotay pursues the ongoing arc of her characters' lives in subtle, languid, sometimes oblique ways. Characters we've met in one story splash down in other stories having grown up, lived, sometimes adventurously, sometimes with doubts and regrets—they've loved, lost, aged, married. For instance, one character, Rhea, shows up in "The Man from Allston Electric" about her troubled love life. She breaks bread with the title character, a kindhearted guy of another social class who makes the sort of sweet connection that often eludes her. In a later story, we meet Rhea en route to the wedding of two friends on an airplane that's experiencing difficulties. She's thrown together with a chatty widow, and as they both anticipate a crash they open up to each other in crazily candid ways. Rhea's earlier romance with the groom and her terminated pregnancy from that affair contribute to a disturbingly shaky and drunken performance as the maid of (dis)honor. Other stories contain these themes of poignant chance encounters and surprising sudden intimacies.



NAPOLEON AT MARDI GRAS

The Costume Company, at 444 Mass. Ave., Arlington, on the second floor, will colorfully deck out your plays, parties and wild occasions. Some get-ups are for rent, some for purchase. Call 781-643-9422.

If you aren't a performer in King Richard's Faire, or you live so quietly as to never require a gigantic costume adorned with a sparkly playing card from *Alice in Wonderland*, you may benefit from a jolt of attire therapy from the Costume Company. Ornate Renaissance dresses, full of breadth and texture—for theatrical or party purposes—hang near disco-era duds (flashy Travolta-esque shirts, platform shoes and pimp coats), glittery, sequined '80s gear and Roaring Twenties flapper dresses. The '50s, colonized by *Grease*, are represented in poodle skirts, cheerleader costumes with a lurid diagonal team name across the sweater, and of course, things Elvis. The children's section has bright furry bumblebees and woolly bears, offering coatlike warmth. One lad of about 9 was wandering around with a graceful white wig tied with a bow, a prop for an atmospheric book report on John Adams. A swaggeringly enormous adult can dress up as Henry VIII. One clever swain rented a knight's suit so he could pitch marriage in requisite shining armor. Wigs with intricate multitudes of braids, twisty Rasta locks, or just a brazen bright blue coif are costumes in themselves. So is the gigantic Napoleon tricorn.

COMMON BONDS IN A COZY PLACE

The Group Center, at 190 Ivy St., Brookline, offers simpatico, strength-based therapy groups run by skilled therapists and focused on specific themes, for women and men. Go to www.thegroupcenter.com or call 617-739-9363.

Therapy groups serve many wonderful and surprising purposes—prompting one to look inward, then outward around the circle for hope, challenge and support, before returning to introspection. The therapists at the Group Center, located in a beautiful house in a setting that feels like a secret garden, believe in what they call "conversations at the crossroads" (a phrase adapted from the famous therapist Dostoyevsky). The separate groups, which meet from 12 to 25 weeks, focus on themes—a possibly temporary situation or transition, like "single in the city" (maybe new to town, jobless, friend-seeking), or loss. Members are given a chance to have more "psychological space," and encouraged to look at what therapist Peg Waller calls "the disowned bratty, ugly sides of ourselves." The "crossroads" concept acknowledges that often we need a "bridge" to carry us over problems, and people to walk with us. Discussions are based on members' concerns. With a focus on ideas like "camaraderie, support, laughter, wisdom," you know you're not in pathology land, but nestled in a place that helps you move along, or, if need be, sit still for a time and, says Waller, "be Gibraltar."

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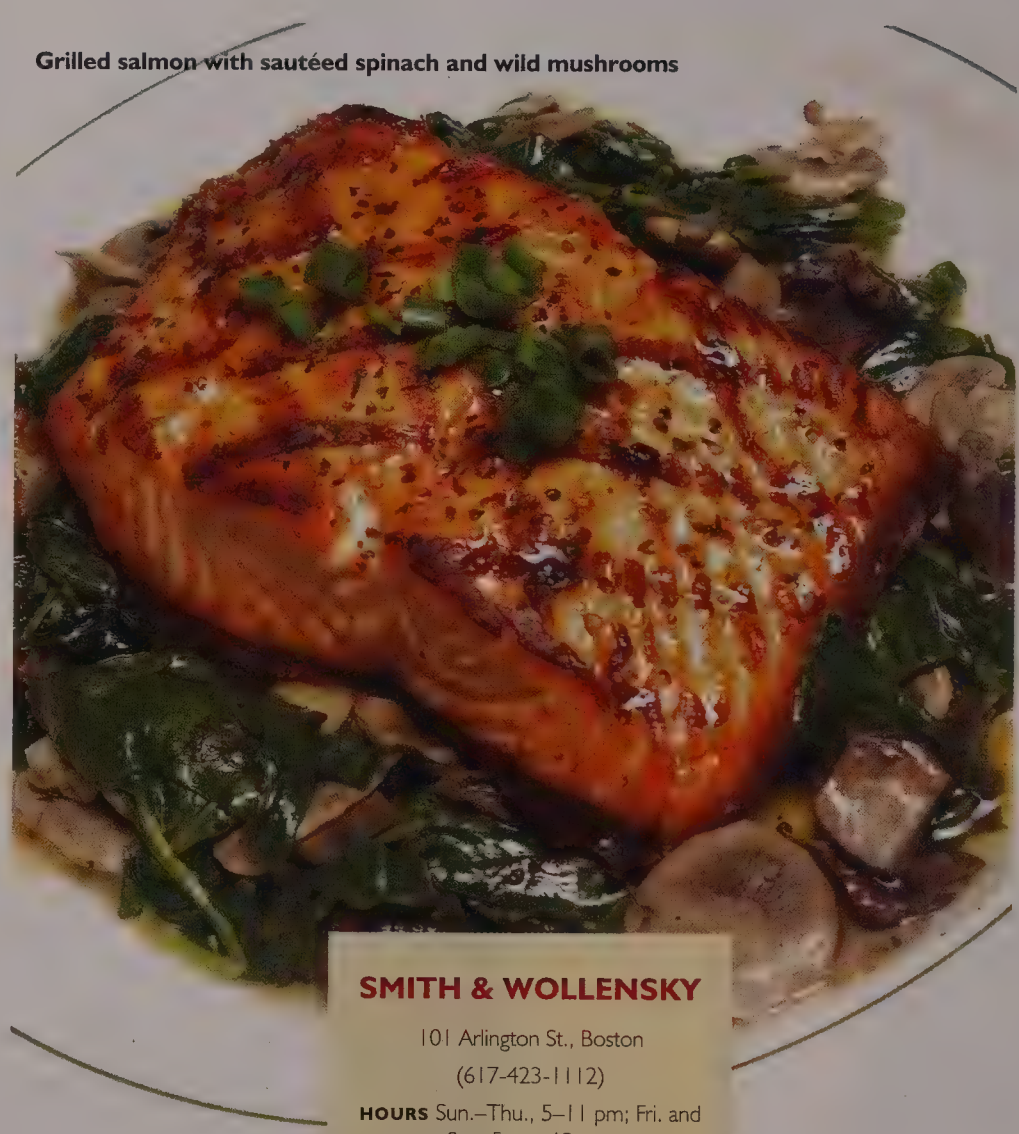
REVIEW

STEAKS ARE HIGH

Smith & Wollensky serves a royal feast in the Castle.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Grilled salmon with sautéed spinach and wild mushrooms

SMITH & WOLLENSKY

101 Arlington St., Boston

(617-423-1112)

HOURS Sun.–Thu., 5–11 pm; Fri. and Sat., 5 pm–12 am.

RESERVATIONS recommended

CREDIT CARDS all major

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes

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LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

The newest entrant in Boston's steakhouse sweepstakes may redefine the genre. The imposing venue—the Armory of the First Corps of the Cadets of the Massachusetts National Guard, an edifice known as the Castle—belies the fact that the restaurant is the 11th Smith & Wollensky around the country, for nothing in its appearance suggests chain. The scale and ornamentation of its space challenge the vocabulary to come up with words—*immense*, *monumental*, *extravagant* are contenders—that do justice to its grandeur and resplendence. The restaurant extends over four floors, each one grander than the next. As befits an armory with historic roots, military and battle memorabilia—uniforms, flags, drums—are a large part of the decor.

On the first of our two visits we dined in Smith & Wollensky's third-floor Eagle Room, a small space, though far from intimate, appointed with rich, red wall covering, windows dressed with wooden blinds and gold velvet draperies, tall oak cabinets, and ornately framed paintings, including a huge nude hung over the mantle. The second floor, home to the main dining room, includes a handful of booths cosseted in red velvet; tall, glass-front wine closets of dark oak; a huge stuffed moose head; a gold statue of an eagle, and six Victorian chandeliers suspended from a high ceiling defined by massive wooden beams. Most of the rooms, including smaller spaces like the Library, the Wine Room, and the Chef's Room—designed for private parties—include large fireplaces whose golden flames warm the soul as well as the body on a cold night. (These are so deftly engineered that the fact that they're gas-fueled rather than wood-burning escapes all but the closest inspection.)

Unlike its physical scale, Smith & Wollensky's cuisine is not haute, but it sets the bar high for steakhouse fare and may become the standard by which the ever increasing number of Boston steakhouses will be measured. The menu contains 16 salads and starters (not including two shellfish "bouquets," pricey platters of fruits of the sea served in French brasserie style on elevated serving structures), nine "dinner classics," five seafood offerings, 10 "sides," and seven desserts. This perfectly manageable repertoire covers all the necessary bases, although it's augmented by nightly specials and a number of "off the menu" regular dishes, such as the 56-ounce porterhouse ($88). Starting with the starters, the S&W Famous Split Pea Soup ($6) earned its menu billing, from its elegant service—poured into a bowl at table from a silver mug with a plate held alongside to protect against errant splashes—to its warm, savory flavor and aroma redolent of smoky hambone stock, garlic and herbs. At the price, this has to be one of the best dining bargains in the Back Bay. The crab cake ($14), the diameter of a hockey puck but twice as tall, boasted pure, sweet lump crabmeat, a minimum of filler, and a restrained hand on the seasoning; the chef kept out of the way and let the delicious crab flavor speak for itself. Extra-virgin olive oil and tartar sauce, with a hint of tomato, surrounded but did not inundate the crab cake, adding a pleasant dimension to the dish.

One of my favorite appetizers, the tomato and bufala mozzarella ($10), stood almost four inches high, with thick cylinders of creamy mozzarella three inches in diameter stacked between alternating slices of juicy and flavorful (incredibly for January in Boston) tomatoes. I'd ordered the blue cheese dressing, which was more than satisfactory, but had I known that the tomatoes were so flavorful and juicy, I'd have opted for simpler vinaigrette. Finally—and somewhat unique for a steakhouse—S&W's thin-crusted pizza ($9) delighted the younger set at our table one evening. Its impeccably thin, crisp crust put many pizzerias to shame, and its moist, cheesy sauce, studded with chunks of fresh tomato, chopped parsley and a healthy dose of garlic, brought smiles to our faces.

Main courses included the crackling pork shank ($24), a gargantuan haunch of fat-encrusted pork that arrived at table with one of S&W's massive steak knives stuck into it as if standing at attention. The pork, braised and then fried to crisp the fat that enclosed succulent, flavorful flesh, was accompanied by mellow, smoky sauerkraut, a superb garnish. Firecracker applesauce, so named for the whole chili pepper buried in it (the waitress warned us not to eat it), completed the ensemble. Fillet of wild salmon ($38—the price varies daily depending upon market) brought a thick, flavorful piece of fish that, despite having been ordered cooked through rather than rare, remained moist and tender, with a good, resilient texture. It appeared on a bed of lemony spinach surrounded by an engaging assortment of earthy, delicious wild mushrooms.

But this is a steakhouse after all, so on to the beef. Not so fast, said my wife, as she ordered lamb chops ($34), her choice rewarded with three double-thick chops of savory, medium rare, juicy lamb, each with two long rib bones protruding. By the time I got to the steaks on both evenings I dined at S&W, I was so full from the appetizers that I could manage only a few bites of the house's highly acclaimed beef. They sufficed to confirm that this steakhouse knows what it's doing in its core business. The 14-ounce sirloin ($34) arrived perfectly grilled, medium rare as ordered, charred on the outside to sear in the robust flavor and juice. A 14-ounce filet mignon ($38) mirrored the sirloin in the quality of the beef, with a silky, almost butter-tender texture, but with less flavor—the price paid for increased tenderness.

S&W's "sides" included excellent creamed spinach, in a small saucepan filled to the brim. The distinctive, pleasantly bitter flavor of fresh spinach set the dish apart from the usual steakhouse creamed spinach, an amalgam of butter and cream that has been slightly spinached. Hashbrown potatoes ($7) deserved no accolades, but the splendid breads—an assortment ranging from hard-crusted French rolls to eggy brioches to moist corn bread

Colossal lump crab cake with coleslaw, basil oil and red pepper vinaigrette

The fourth-floor Banquet Hall is one of several beautifully appointed dining rooms.

Executive chef Tindaro Losurdo

Chocolate cake

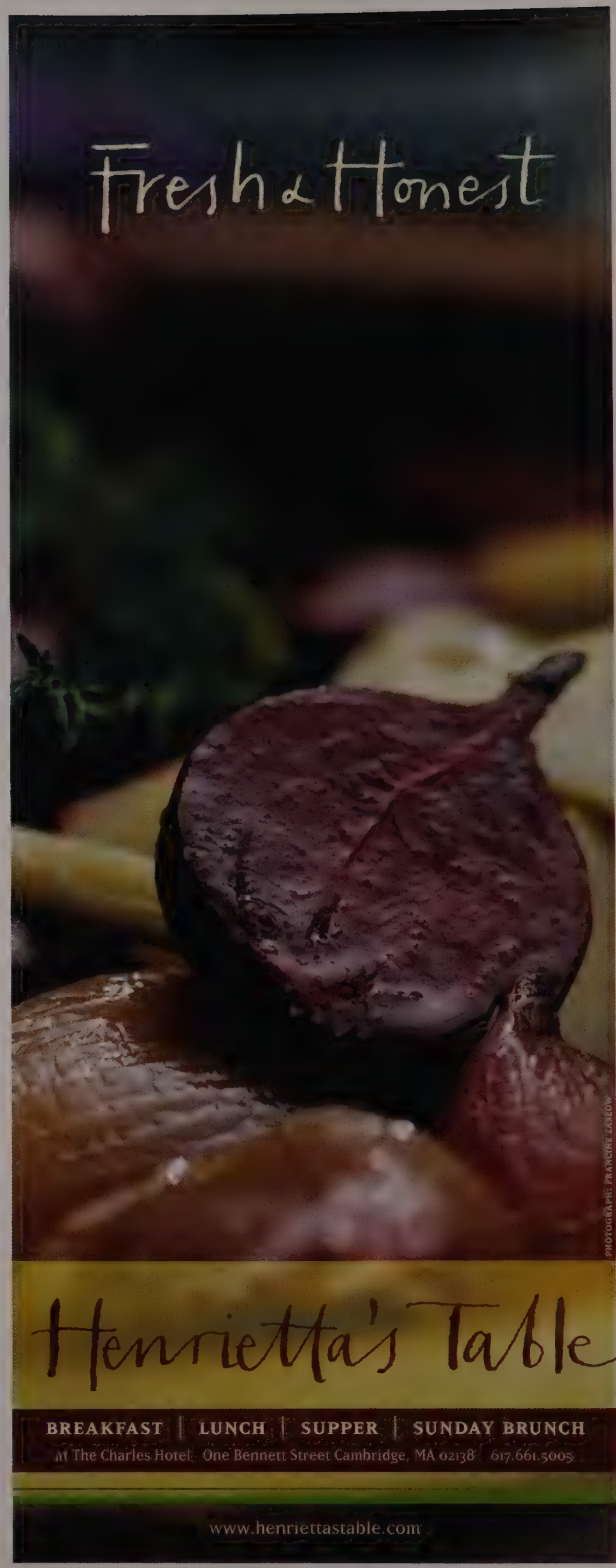
Tomato and bufala mozzarella salad with fresh basil and basil oil

fingers, some supplied by Frank McClelland's Sel de la Terre—provided all the starch one might want, gratis.

Portion sizes, particularly the appetizers, left little room for dessert—just as well, since S&W's desserts didn't measure up to the high standards of what preceded them. I found the coconut cake ($8), a gigantic wedge served with dollops of freshly whipped cream (offered with all of the desserts), pleasantly moist and rich and adorned with good, moist, coconut shavings. The banana sundae for two ($17), however, illustrated the adage that more is less. The six-plus scoops of chocolate, vanilla and strawberry ice cream; three small pitchers of chocolate, passion fruit and butterscotch sauces; four small ramekins of cookie crumbs, white and dark chocolate chips (with an almost flavorless, waxy taste), candied nuts and coconut shavings; and four frozen, white and dark chocolate–covered bananas (strangely lacking in any flavor), served alongside a bowl of the ubiquitous whipped cream, delighted our teenage boys. But this confectionary circus really didn't belong on the same table as the remainder of S&W's fare.

Smith & Wollensky, justly famous for its wine list, strikes a chauvinist and pricey note, offering American wines exclusively, with very few priced under $40 a bottle. We did discover a terrific bottle of "K," a Columbia Valley tempranillo/cabernet blend ($39), which displayed good structure and a fine bouquet. For bargain hunters, wine by the glass delivered real value, a full eight-ounce pour (most restaurants pour four or five ounces, five glasses from a bottle) halfway up the sides of the restaurant's handsome, oversized wineglasses, which are etched with the design of a grape bunch. The Wente syrah ($9), fruity but with good acid, was more interesting than the Crane Lake cabernet ($8), which I found a little too soft.

An early review in a Boston paper indicted Smith & Wollensky for chaotic, disorganized, inefficient and inhospitable service. Assuming that criticism was merited, in the four months since it appeared, there's obviously been a successful shake-up and shape-up. On both of my visits I found the service attentive, efficient, friendly and gracious. The staff, obviously well trained, avoided my pet peeve by refraining from clearing the plate of the first diner to finish a course the moment he put down his fork, a common service failing. My one quibble with S&W's service was the pacing, particularly at the beginning of our first visit, when our appetizers arrived five minutes after we placed our order and before the waiter brought our wine. Once we made our desire to linger and enjoy our meal known, we never felt pressured to hurry, although on our second visit we overheard a couple in the elevator praising the quality of the food but expressing dismay that their dinner was over in an hour. IB



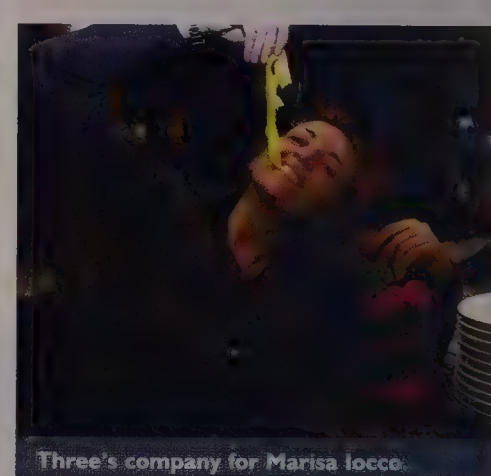
DISH

As the Planet Turns

Space exploration…Sphere of influence

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

For such a diminutive person, **Marisa Iocco** fills a lot of space with her culinary style and her energy. For several months, she's been ruling two kitchens, as executive chef at both **Bricco** in the North End and the enormous **Umbria** on Franklin Street. And now that Bricco/Umbria owner **Frank de Pasquale** plans to open another restaurant in early summer, who do you think will create the menu? Why, Iocco, of course. The new North End eatery, featuring Italian seafood dishes and a traditional antipasto bar, will take the place of the former **Armida** at the corner of Richmond and North Streets. It's called **Mare**, Italian for "ocean."


Three's company for Marisa Iocco.

Meanwhile, Iocco is teaching juggling by example to longtime Bricco chef de cuisine **Gianni Caruso**. Caruso himself is wearing two tocques, temporarily shuttling between Bricco and Umbria, where he's also serving as chef de cuisine while Iocco contends with the departure of **Michael Scelfo**, the original chef de cuisine. This is where cloning sounds like a good idea. In the meantime, there's espresso. Lots of espresso.

SECOND COURSE

Didi Emmons, whose career trajectory included stints as chef at Boston's **Delux Café** and **Pho Pasteur** before she landed at her own restaurant—**Veggie Planet** in Harvard Square—is about to go where few chefs have gone before. She's not giving up her stake in Veggie Planet; she's ceding day-to-day operations to her "trusty partner," Adam Penn, but she'll continue her series of bimonthly dinners she calls Didi's Dining Experiences. (By the way, these themed evenings, which run the gamut from a vegetarian version of Kazakh cuisine to a multicourse celebration of **Eva Sommaripa**'s herb garden, usually sell out, so get on the mailing list.)

Around the end of March, Emmons will assume the title of executive chef at the new **Haley House Bakery Café** in Roxbury's Dudley Square. Rooted in a long-term relationship between Veggie Planet and the wholesale food operations of Haley House—"They've been selling us their fabulous pizza dough for three years," says Emmons—the new venture involves Emmons in Haley House's larger mission of social justice. The new spot, according to Emmons, is "a creative bakery-café offering nutritious, affordable food to those who live and work in Dudley Square." The community, she points out, lacks access to healthy foods and to employment opportunities, and the café will fulfill several needs.

"We'll be hiring within the community," says Emmons. "There's a real need for teenagers to be employed in that area." Job training is also a focus; the venue will enable Haley House to expand the scope of its six-month culinary training program for underemployed men, women, and teenagers.

It's also a "beautiful space," says Emmons, "with high ceilings, hardwood floors, exposed brick, and a view of the wholesale business." The Haley House Bakery Café will seat 30 and serve breakfast and lunch.

On the side: **Sophia's** has closed, not a big surprise after chef **Jeff Fournier** breathed new life into the place, then left to open **The Metropolitan Club** in Chestnut Hill... Finally, a truly unexpected discovery: the fantastic homemade ice cream at **Indigo** in Needham Center. Indigo isn't new—it's been open for three years—but its Zagat rating seemed suspiciously overblown, the twin chef/proprietors kind of gimmicky. Plus, the Web site is cheesy, so a visit never seemed necessary. Well, if you're craving a really delicious, straightforward, satisfying dessert, Indigo is a find. The emphasis is on chocolate, no odd herbal experiments. The molten chocolate cake, made with Callebaut chocolate, is just right: not too bitter, not too sweet, best of breed. The ice creams—peanut butter, cappucino and mango on one day—were creamy and flavorful. And the lemon semifreddo, made with limoncello, had a fluffy-smooth texture midway between ice cream and soufflé, and a bright fresh taste that seemed a harbinger of spring. IB

Serving Dish

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Andrew Rich Wine Dinner
Caliterra Bar & Grille, 89 Broad St., Boston (617-348-1234). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. March 2. 6 pm. $95. Vintner and Massachusetts native **Andrew Rich** presents a selection of his wines, which are paired with a tastings menu prepared by chef **David Cardell**.

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9355). www.bostonwinefestival.net. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Through April, the Boston Wine Festival features more than 50 events. •Feb. 23, 8 pm: Ramey Wine Cellars, $145. •Feb. 24, 7 pm: Mayacamas Vineyards, $185. •Feb. 25, 8 pm: Châteauneuf-du-Pape, $185. •Feb. 28, 7 pm: Domaine Chandon, $145. •March 1, 7 pm: Rising Stars $145. •March 2, 7 pm: Heitz, $165. •March 3, 7 pm: Calera Wine Co., $145. •March 4, 7 pm: California Cabernets, $85. •March 7, 7 pm: Arrowood, $145. •March 8, 7 pm: Taz Vineyards, 7 pm, $145.

Celebrity Chefs Culinary Program
Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). www.fairmont.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Feb. 26. 1-3 pm. $50. The final installment of this year's program brings **Andy Husbands**, executive chef and owner of Tremont 647, Sister Sorel, Rouge, for a two-hour cooking class and tasting.

Cheese Tuesday
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. March. 8, 7 pm. $50. Chef **Frank McClelland** and fromager **Louis Risoli** present a three-course dinner highlighted by cheeses from New England cheesemakers.

Clarendon Hills Dinner
Excelsior, 272 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-7878). www.excelsiorrestaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 2. 5:30-10:15 pm. $165. A five-course dinner is paired with wines from South Australia's Clarendon Hills Winery.

Coturri Winery at Perdix
Perdix, 560 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-8070). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Feb. 23. 6 pm. $65. Chef **Tim Partridge** prepares a special menu that's paired with wines from organic winemaker **Tony Coturri**.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •March 5: Coffee, Tea and Espresso.

Frederick Wildman Wine Club
Vox Populi, 755 Boylston St., Boston (617-262-7798). www.voxboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. March 2. 6-8 pm. Free. Sample appetizers from Vox while you enjoy wines from the Frederick Wildman Portfolio. RSVP required.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Feb. 23: Test Your Wine Knowledge.

Passport to Wine Country
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays through March, 6-8 pm. $25. Every Monday through March, Croma offers a tasting of four wines from different regions of the world paired with its gourmet thin-crust pizza. •Feb. 28: New Zealand/South Africa. •March 7: Washington State/Oregon.

Selby Wine Dinner
Kingfish Hall, 1 South Market St., Boston (617-523-8872). www.toddenglish.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Feb. 28. 6 pm. $65. Winemaker **Susan Selby** presents a four-course dinner featuring wines from Selby Vineyards.

Super Hunger Brunch
Various restaurants. www.gbfb.org. Feb. 26 and 27. 11 am-2 pm. $25-$30. Proceeds from weekend brunch specials at more than 35 local restaurants benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank. Check out the GBFB Web site for a complete list of participating restaurants.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •March 1: Southern Rhone. •March 8: Right Bank Bordeaux.

Uncovering the Eggplant
Lucy's, 242 Harvard St., Brookline (877-927-7787). www.womenchefs.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard. Feb. 23. 5-8 pm. $20-$30. This meeting of the group Women Chefs & Restaurateurs is open to everyone and features a variety of eggplant dishes from chef **Eric Bogardus**.

UniChef Benefit
State Room, 60 State St., 33rd Floor, Boston (617-266-7534, ext. 105). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street. March 3. 6:30-11 pm. $250. Saint's **Rene Michelena** leads 25 local chefs who present a South Asian–inspired menu to benefit UNICEF's tsunami relief efforts.

Wine and Cheese Pairing
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 23. 6:30 pm. $45. Enjoy artisanal cheeses from around the world, paired with wines, and learn about how to make informed wine and cheese pairing decisions.

Wine and Dine Wednesdays
Beacon Hill Bistro, 25 Charles St., Boston (617-723-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. First and third Wed. of each month, 7 pm. $40. Chef **Ben Knack** prepares a four-course meal paired with four wines. •March 2: Rhone.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays, 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Feb. 28: Spain. •March 7: Alsace, Burgundy, Bordeaux and Champagne.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wed., 7 pm. $41. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Feb. 23: Alsace. •March 2: Bubble, Bubbles, Everywhere.

Winter Wine Dinners
Blu, 4 Avery St., Boston (617-375-8550). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 8. 6 pm. $125. Chef **Tom Fosnot** prepares a dinner paired with wines from Oregon.

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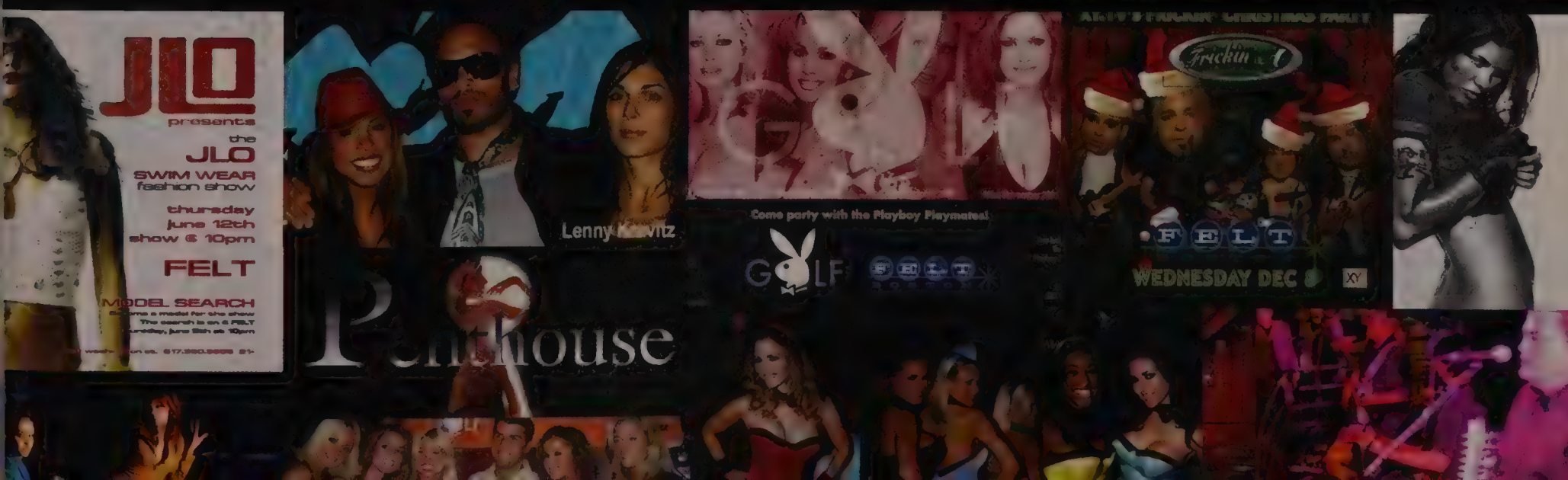

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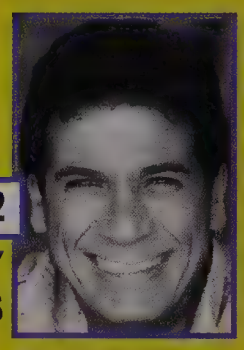

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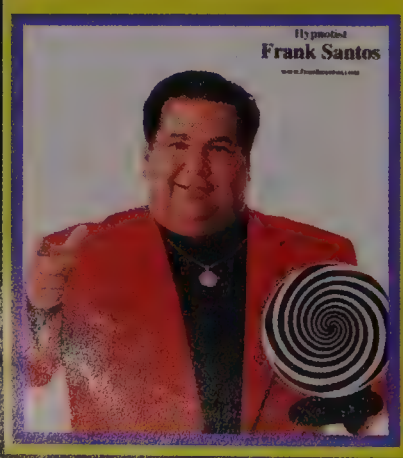

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agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

february 23 - march 8

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			23	24 **Medeski, Martin and Wood** shake things up at Avalon. *See Music on page 64.*	25	26
27 The **Orchestre National de France** plays Symphony Hall for Bank of America's Celebrity Series. *See Classical Music on page 69.*	28	1 **Tony V** hosts a show at the Comedy Studio. *See Comedy on page 54.*	2	3 Takeshi Kitano's new film, ***Dolls,*** screens at the Brattle. *See Movies on page 59.*	4	5 **Motley Crüe** plays the FleetCenter see *Music on page 67.*
6 Dance all day at CasaNia Studio's **Benefit for Oxfam America.** *See CityScope on page 50.*	7	8 Poet **Jorie Graham** reads from her work at Harvard Book Store. *See Books & Poetry on page 82.*				

SAT./FEB. 26–SUN./MARCH 6

Tastings: Dining Well

It's true, bathing suit season is just around the corner. But we have three good excuses to ditch your diet and indulge in gargantuan portions of gourmet food for a good cause. First, feast philanthropically at the 14th annual Super Hunger Brunch. On February 26 and 27, more than 30 local restaurants, including Via Matta, Union Bar and Grille and Icarus, donate 100 percent of brunch proceeds to the Greater Boston Food Bank. The following Thursday, March 3, South Asian–inspired cuisine accompanies a night of music and dancing at UniChef, at the State Room. Chefs from Blue Ginger, Bomboa, Clio, Oleana and others combine their culinary talents to aid UNICEF's efforts to help victims of December's tsunami disaster. The following Sunday, March 6, revelers who are ready for more can join some of the city's finest gourmets at Mistral, where a party and silent auction kick off Dinnerfest 2005. If you can't make the kick-off, there's plenty of time to participate—more than 60 restaurants host Dinnerfest events through May, and proceeds benefit the Boston Living Center. *Super Hunger Brunch, Feb. 26 and 27, 11 am-2 pm, $20–$50. UniChef, The State Room, 60 State St., Boston (617-266-7534, ext. 105), 6:30–11 pm, $250. Dinnerfest, March 6, Mistral, 223 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-450-1521), 5:30 pm, $20.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
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Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

FRI./MARCH 4

CityScope: Ringing in the Rooster

Partiers who missed the official ring-in to the Chinese Year of the Rooster, on February 9, have a second chance to get in on the festivities when the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center celebrates its 35th anniversary with a belated Chinese New Year party at China Pearl restaurant March 4. Attendees can whet their appetites with dim sum appetizers while they wander through artisan booths or bid on acupuncture treatment and Chinese calligraphy at the silent auction. It's all a prelude to the main event, a 10-course traditional New Year's dinner prepared by China Pearl chefs. After the dinner is a live auction, where an autographed Tim Wakefield jersey and a baseball signed by Curt Schilling are expected to win the highest bids. *China Pearl, 9 Tyler St. Boston (617-635-5129). www.bcnc.net. 5:30–10 pm. $70 per person, $650 per table.*

MON./FEB. 28

Music: Fright Night

If you caught any Sox games last season and were lucky enough to watch ace closer Keith Foulke come in to lock down the ninth inning, you might have noticed the sinister, heavy theme song that accompanied his walk from the bullpen—Danzig's "Mother" is a far cry from "Sweet Caroline." Jersey-born Glenn Danzig, the band's frontman, started his career in the late '70s as the singer and songwriter with the Misfits. Cultishly popular during their relatively short existence, the Misfits boasted a devoted Fiend Club who were rewarded with limited-run singles that now sell on eBay for unholy sums. Glenn Danzig traded in punk's faster-louder approach, first with the goth-metal-tinged Samhain, and in recent years, with his eponymous band. Equal parts AC/DC and the Doors, Danzig is embraced by punks and metalheads alike. Currently boasting Prong's Tommy Victor on guitar, a new, revamped Danzig lineup promises to wake the dead, and perhaps bring a few Fiends out of the closet. *The Roxy, 279 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2000). 8 pm. $23.*

FEB. 23–MARCH 27

Performing Arts: Brother to Brother

At best, the average case of sibling rivalry might inspire straight As or a game-winning performance. For playwright Suzan-Lori Parks (*In the Blood, The America Play*), it was the inspiration for her Pulitzer Prize–winning two-character play, *Topdog/Underdog*, which opens at the New Repertory Theatre February 23. Lead actors Joe Wilson Jr. and Kes Khemnu have big shoes to fill—Mos Def, Jeffrey Wright and Don Cheadle have all appeared in recent productions. The two men alternate in the roles Lincoln and Booth, two African-American brothers who are broke and living together in a one-bedroom New York City apartment. The brothers' names are only the beginning of their adversarial relationship. Abandoned by their parents and rejected by their wives and girlfriends, the sibs' already-bleak situation is further aggravated when Lincoln, a former three-card-monte fleecer turned legit (as an Abraham Lincoln impersonator) refuses to teach his younger brother how to hustle. The tension continues to mount until a lifetime of sibling rivalry boils over in the dramatic conclusion...which we won't spoil here. *New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands. (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. $28–$48.*

MARCH 3–6 AND 10–13

Performing Arts: Passion and Payback

Born in 1805, dancer and choreographer August Bournonville is best remembered for h tenure as the progressive director of the Royal Danish Ballet, which he ran for almost 5 years. This week, the Boston Ballet presents his most famous ballet, the romantic tale *L Sylphide*, in honor of Bournonville's bicentennial. Bournonville created his version of *La Sylphide* in Copenhagen in 1836 after being inspired by another version of it in Paris, and set it to music by composer Herman Severin Løvenskjold, which is now the standard accompaniment. The story, involving a young Scotsman, his bride, an evil witch and young temptress (the sylph), takes place in the Scottish highlands. Right before his wedding, a groom is tempted to stray when he has visions of the seductive sylph. Meanwhile, the sorceress tells the bride her fortune and the news isn't good: She's meant to marry someone other than her betrothed. Just before the wedding, the mysterious sylph pilfers the wedding ring and the groom chases her into the forest. As any reader of fairy tales (or Harry Potter books) knows, the forest is never a good place to be—it's where things get even more mixed up. *Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). $39–$96.*

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Benefits

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Betting on a Cause and a Cure
The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge (617-346-5900). www.camneelyfoundation.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $2,500. The J. Geils Band plays its first concert since 1999 at this charity event hosted by Cam Neely, Denis Leary and Michael J. Fox. The night also features a live auction and casino-style gambling, plus a chance to win a 2005 Chrysler Pacifica. Proceeds support the Cam Neely Foundation, the Leary Firefighters Foundation and the Michael J. Fox Foundation.

Casino Royale
Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (800-96[illegible] 0444). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 8 pm-1 am $50-$125. This 14th annual event benefiting cyst[illegible] fibrosis research features a silent auction, a raffl[illegible] dancing, casino-style gambling and a live perfo[illegible] mance by Mark Morris & the Catunes.

Super Hunger Brunch
Various restaurants, www.gbfb.org. Through Feb 27. 11 am-2 pm. $25-$30. Proceeds from weeken[illegible] brunch specials at more than 35 local restauran[illegible] benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank. Check ou[illegible] the GBFB Web site for a complete list of participa[illegible] ing restaurants.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

Inner-City Scholarship Fund Dinner
Boston Marriott Copley Place, 110 Huntington Ave[illegible] Boston (617-778-5981, ext. 209). MBTA: Gree[illegible] Line to Copley.6 pm. $350. All proceeds from th[illegible] 15th annual dinner support the Inner-City Schola[illegible] ship Fund, which grants scholarship assistance t[illegible] students who attend Catholic schools in the Arch[illegible] diocese of Boston.

UniChef Benefit
State Room, 60 State St., 33rd Floor, Boston (617-266[illegible] 7534, ext. 105). MBTA: Orange Line to State Stree[illegible] 6:30-11 pm. $250. Saint's Rene Michelena leads 2[illegible] local chefs who present a South Asian–inspired men[illegible] to benefit UNICEF's tsunami relief efforts.

Preview

Revolutionary Performance

Boston celebrates 235th anniversary of famous clash.

For some of us, Crispus Attucks might sound like the name of a new Kellogg's mascot. But after a little research (and a couple bowls of cereal), we found out that Attucks was in fact the unfortunate fellow on the receiving end of the "shot heard round the world" that ignited the Boston Massacre back in 1770 and forever changed U.S. history.

On Saturday, March 5, outside the Old State House, the Massachusetts Council of Minutemen and Militia join with His Majesty's 5th Regiment of Foot to celebrate the 235th anniversary of the Boston Massacre with a reenactment of the incident that John Adams termed the "night the foundation of American Independence was born."

The following day, at 2 pm, there's another Boston Massacre reenactment, but this time the professionals take a back seat to a bunch of younger history buffs, as rangers from the Adams National Historical Park lead children in attendance in their own chance to relive history. Finally, the weekend wraps up at 2:30 pm, inside the Old State House, with a reenactment of the "trial of the century," in which John Adams and Josiah Quincy defended the accused British soldiers. Was it murder or self-defense? The jury of audience members will decide.

We know what you're thinking. Spending the weekend learning about history doesn't sound that enticing. But just think, if it weren't for the Boston Massacre, you might still be part of the same country that produced the Spice Girls. Thank God for independence.

Old State House, 206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). www.bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange Line to State. March 5–6. Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Free. —Rich Levine

The Old State House plays host to a weekend-long remembrance of the Boston Massacre.

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Brian Moore BMIT INTERNATIONAL TOURS

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

BCNC 35th Anniversary and Chinese New Year Banquet

China Pearl Restaurant, 9 Tyler St., Boston (617-635-5129). www.bcnc.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 5:30 pm. $70 ($650 per table). Celebrate the Year of the Rooster with music, arts and crafts, an auction and a 10-course traditional New Year's banquet. Proceeds benefit the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center.

Friends of Franciscan Hospital Benefit

Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-779-1414). www.bhh.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7 pm-12 am. $150. The fourth annual Mardi Gras–themed Friends Ball features an open bar, live and silent auctions and a Creole dinner buffet prepared by chef Daniel Bruce. Proceeds benefit the Franciscan Hospital for Children in Boston.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

Rhythms of Peace Concert

Payson Park Church, 365 Belmont St., Belmont (617-484-1542). www.windmilllaneent.com. 7:30 pm. $10. Musicians Katie McD and Sín é put on a concert titled Celtic Crossroads to benefit the Sudan Relief Fund and Southeast Asia tsunami relief efforts.

Venetian Evening

Cambridge Art Association, 25R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $75-$100. This annual fundraiser benefiting the Cambridge Art Association features a buffet dinner, open bar, dancing, raffles, costume contests and live and silent auctions.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

Benefit for Oxfam America

CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.luciddesign.com/casania. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 1-5:30 pm. $15-$25. CasaNia hosts a daylong series of dance performances benefiting Oxfam America, a Boston-based international development and relief agency.

Dinnerfest 2005 Kick-Off Party

Mistral, 223 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-450-1521). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 5:30 pm. $20. Dinnerfest, a three-month-long event where restaurants donate meals to help fight HIV/AIDS, gets under way with this party featuring dinner, drinks and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit the Boston Living Center.

Spin for Hope

(781-314-2679). www.acsevents.org/ma/spinforhope. 9 am-12 pm. Cyclists must raise a minimum of $300 in pledges. Money raised from this three-hour indoor cycling event, which takes place simultaneously at seven Massachusetts health clubs, benefits the American Cancer Society. Check the Web site for location details.

Festivals & Parties

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Making History Fun

Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-523-1300). www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Through Feb. 27. 12-3 pm. Free. During February school vacation week, Faneuil Hall offers daily activities for children and their families, including history lessons, reenactments, games and special events.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Boston Children's Expo

Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (800-756-7606). www.bostonkidsexpo.com. MBTA: Orange Line to JFK/UMass. Through Feb. 27. Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 10 am-6 pm. Adults, $9; children, $5. This inaugural event features all types of entertainment for kids and families, including hands-on sports activities, music and dance attractions, and the creation of a 4' x 6' mural and collage depicting the kids' favorite things in Boston.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

National Golf Expo

Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (800-756-7606). www.golfexpoboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to JFK/UMass. Through March 6. Fri., 1-8 pm; Sat., 10 am-7 pm; Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $10. This event boasts nearly 250 golf-related exhibits displays and interactive features, including a large indoor driving range and instruction from trick-shot artist Peter Johncke and LPGA pro Karen Palacios-Jansen.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

8 Minute Dating

McCormick & Schmick's, 34 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-3999). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 28-38.

8 Minute Dating

Tonic, 1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699). www.8minutedating. com. MBTA: B Green Line to Long Avenue. 6:58 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 22-29.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Hop on the Bus

Pub crawl starts at McFadden's Pub, 148 State St., Boston (617-227-5100). www.prosinthecity.com/boston. MBTA: Orange Line to State Street. 6 pm.$35. Ride the Bustonian around town on this singles pub crawl featuring UV Vodka specials, appetizers at McFadden's and VIP access to all the bars and clubs along the way.

Single Professionals for the Arts Tour

Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7-9 pm. $40. Tour the ICA with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffee. Reservations required.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

8 Minute Dating

Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-min dates. Then mingle and meet the people you d n't get the chance to share a date with. For a 22-32.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

Hurry Date

The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-7 1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green or ange Line to North Station. 7 pm. $26.25 for m bers, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. ages 25-35.

Tuesday Open Networking

The Point, 147 Hanover St., Boston (617-5 1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green or Line to Government Center. 6-8 pm. $5. The Bos Young Professionals Association sponsors this working event featuring an open bar from 6-7 and complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

8 Minute Dating

The Hard Rock Café, 131 Clarendon St., Bos (617-424-7625). www.8minutedating.com. MB Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm. $35. Sam appetizers during eight different eight-min dates. Then mingle and meet the people you d n't get the chance to share a date with. For a 30-40.

MONDAY, MARCH 7

8 Minute Dating

Saint, 90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134). w 8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cople Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample petizers during eight different eight-minute da Then mingle and meet the people you didn't the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

Hurry Date

Lir Irish Pub, 903 Boylston St., Boston (617-7 0089). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Lin Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates enjoy drink specials. For ages 30-45.

Photography by Robert Peraccio

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as they come together to fight hunger in eastern Massachusetts.

The Greater Boston Food Bank's 14th annual Super Hunger Brunch in association with
The Greater Table Foundation will take place on **Saturday, February 26, and Sunday, February 27.**

517,000 people are hungry or at risk of hunger in eastern Massachusetts.
You can play a role in ending hunger by dining at one of the participating restaurants.
100% of the proceeds will help provide food for our hungry friends, neighbors, and colleagues.

For more details, visit www.gbfb.org/shb or call 617.427.5200.

We look forward to dining with you!

February 26 & 27, 2005

Appetito

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blu

Bob the Chef's
Jazz Cafe

Bridgeman's

Casa Romero

Chez Henri

Craigie Street Bistrot

Davio's Cambridge

Dockside Restaurant

The Elephant Walk

Eurostoves

EVOO

The Fireplace

Fleming's Prime
Steakhouse & Wine Bar

Garden of Eden

The Grapevine

Grill 23 & Bar

Icarus

Il Capriccio

Jasper White's
Summer Shack

Joe V's

La Morra

Laurel

L'Espalier

Lucca

Maggiano's
Little Italy

Mantra

Maynard
Publick House

Perdix

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Rialto

Sel de la Terre

Spire

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Turner Fisheries

Union Bar and Grille

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performing arts

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Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts. Or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nexttticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

American Voices: A Soldiers Play
Shubert Theatre, 270 Tremont Street, Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 7, 7 pm. $10. Charles Fuller's World War II play follows a black military lawyer in Washington, D.C., investigating the murder of a black master sargeant. Steven Maler directs.

Anna in the Tropics
BCA Roberts Studio Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 4-26, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $46-$56. Nilo Cruz's drama, set in a Cuban-American cigar factory just before the Great Depression, follows a group whose lives parallel those of the characters in Leo Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*.

Dido, Queen of Carthage
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 5-26, Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu. March 24, 10 pm. $36-$72. Neil Barlett directs Christopher Marlowe's play about Queen Dido's infatuation for Aeneas, the heroic survivor of the Trojan War and future founder of Rome.

Dora's Pirate Adventure
The Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-259-3400). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 2-6, Wed.-Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 10:30 am and 7 pm; Sat.-Sun., 11 am, 2 and 7 pm. $22.50-$42.50. The children's TV show comes to life in an interactive musical event for all ages.

Fortinbras
Vokes Players of Wayland, Vokes Theatre, Route 20 in Wayland (508-358-4034). www.vokesplayers.org. March 3-19, Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., March 12 and 19, additional show, 2 pm. Lee Blessing's comedy follows the state of affairs in Demark following the tragic ending to Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Darren Evans directs.

Homebody/Kabul
BCA's Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Feb. 24-March 19, Thu.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Sat. March 12, 8 pm. $29. Tony Kushner's play, directed by Jason Southerland, is a story about an eccentric British housewife and her mysterious obsession with Afghanistan.

Nobody Don't Like Yogi
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St. Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 8-13, Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $27.50-$67.50. Ben Gazzara stars as Yogi Berra in this play about the baseball legend's last game in Yank Stadium.

The Sea Horse
Boston Playwrights Theatre, 949 Comm. Avenu Boston (617-491-2026). www.thenora.org. MBT Green Line to Pleasant St. March 3-20, Wed.-Thu 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun. 3 pm; March 5, ad tional show, 3 pm. $21-$28. Normi Noel direc Edward J. Moore's play, a love story about a sail who returns to port to pursue his bartender gi friend.

Topdog/Underdog
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton (61 332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: Green Line Newton Highlands. Feb. 23-March 27, Wed., 7 pm Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun 3 and 7:30 pm. $30-$47. Kent Gash directs Suza Lori Parks' Pulitzer Prize–winning play about tw African-American brothers, one an aspiring stre hustler and the other a reformed hustler turn Abraham Lincoln impersonator.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (61 931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Li to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri. pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$5 This dialogue-free production features tribal ro music, humorous antics, props and three m painted blue.

Blue/Orange
Zeitgeist Stage Company, BCA Plaza Black Box Th ater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600 www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. Through March 5, Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. and 8 pm. $19.50-$25. David Miller directs Joe Pe hall's play about two British psychiatrists battli over the diagnosis of a patient who claims to be t son of an infamous African dictator.

Cats
Wang Center, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-44 7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston. Through Feb. 27, Tue.-Thu., 7 pm; Fr 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun. 1 and 6:30 p $25-$75. Andrew Lloyd Webber's classic is t longest-running Broadway musical in history.

The Far Side of the Moon
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (61 547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line Harvard. Through Feb. 27, Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fr 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $36-$72. Robe Lepage's play follows two stories: One deals with t international space race and the other focuses two brothers struggling with a personal loss.

John and Jen
Stoneham Theatre, 295 Main St., Stoneham (61 279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.com. Throu March 6, Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat. and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $16-$32. Andrew Lippa wr the music for this show set in the 1960s that chro cles the lives of a young Vietnam soldier, a young b struggling to grow up in a changing world, and Je the girl who connects their lives.

The Last Little Porn Shop in Manhattan
Durrell Hall at Cambridge Family YMCA Theatre, 8 Mass Ave., Cambridge (866-811-4111). www.thea mania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Throu Feb. 26, Thu.-Sat., 8pm. $20. Anne Contine wrote this play about the last porn shop in Manh tan and its creative attempts to stay in business.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-34 0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 20, Tue.-Thu., 7: pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm a 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this sta adaptation of the popular Disney film about young lion cub's struggle to become king of t pridelands.

The Little Prince
Shubert Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-44 7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston. Through Feb. 27, Wed.-Sat., 7 pm; Sat. a Sun., 2 pm. $40-$75. Boston Lyric Opera presents adaptation of Antoine Saint Exupéry's story abou pilot who encounters a young prince after crash-lan ing in a desert.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (61 426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBT Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed.-Fri., 8 p Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. A qu tet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale w nothing in common but memory loss and hot flash

Miss Saigon
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (6 244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through March

24. Set in 1975 during the final days leading up to ıe American evacuation of Saigon, this musical by lain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg tells the ory of two young lovers who must decide the fate of small child.

he Producers
olonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through arch 6, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 id 7:30 pm. $30.50-$97.50. Mel Brooks' musical, rected and choreographed by Susan Stroman, is ised on Brooks' 1968 film about how a theater pro-ıcer and his assistant scam their way onto Broadway th a show called *Springtime for Hitler*.

uartet
errimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., owell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. rough March 12, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Four opera singers reunite r one last performance at their retirement home. ritten by Ronald Harwood.

ed Herring
ric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston 17-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: reen Line to Copley. Through March 19, Wed. and u., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 ı. $19-$43. Courtney A. O'Connor directs ichael Holling's noir comedy that interlocks ree love stories and a murder mystery with a plot nuclear espionage.

he Sanctuary Lamp
ncy and Edward Roberts Studio Theatre, 539 emont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaon-e.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through b. 26, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 ı. $34-$38. Carmel O'Reilly directs Tom Mur-y's play about three lost souls sleeping in a city urch for the night.

ıear Madness
harles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-6-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: reen Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; t., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. ıis comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon lds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

ıe Sound of Music
heelock Family Theatre, Wheelock College, 180 The verway, Boston (617-879-2150). www.wheelock.u/wft. MBTA: Green Line to Fenway. Through Feb. , Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 pm. $12-$20. dgers and Hammerstein's final collaboration asks e timeless question How do you solve a problem e Maria? Starring Angela Williams.

umbo
rginia Wimberly Theatre, 539 Tremont St., ston(617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: een Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 27, Tue.-Fri., 30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $46-0. Peter Askin directs Christopher Trumbo's play sed on letters written by Dalton Trumbo, one of e famous Hollywood Ten, who was blacklisted and prisoned in 1947.

ho's Afraid of Virgina Woolf?
lbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-08). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through ırch 6, Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 . $35-$85. Kathleen Turner and Bill Irwin star in ward Albee's play about the trials of marriage. An-ny Page directs.

University Theater

rican-American Living History useum
T Black Theatre Gulid, Sala de Puerto Rico (2nd or, Stratton Student Center), 84 Mass Ave., Cam-dge. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Feb. 24, 6 . MIT students produce short vignettes about ious aspects of African-American history.

ty of Angels
ston Conservatory Theater, Boston Conservatory eater Ensemble, 31 Hemenway St., Boston (617-2-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: een Line to Hynes/ICA. March 3-6, Thu.-Sat., 8 ; Sat.-Sun., 2 pm. $5-$16. Under the direction of il Daigneault and musical director Janet Roma, Boston Conservatory Theater Ensemble presents usical that spoofs 1940s private-eye movies.

ew Voices: An Evening of Original ork
ston College, Robsham Theatre Arts Center, Boston llege, Chestnut Hill (617-552-4002). www.bc.edu/ces/robsham/tickets/. MBTA: Green Line to Boston llege. Feb. 23-27, Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. 0. This production, directed by Scott T. Cum-ngs, features two student-written plays: *Zoe*, by hard Lawson, and *Swimming After Dark* by Emily ndinger.

The Rape of Lucretia
Boston University College of Fine Arts, BU Theatre Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bu.edu/but. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Feb. 24-27, Thu. 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $10-$15. Boston University theater troupe presents an operatic story about how a woman's choice ignites the birth of the Roman Republic.

The Rimers of Eldritch
Boston University College of Fine Arts, BU Theatre Studio 210, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Through Feb. 26, Weds.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $10. This Lanford Wilson play, directed by Judy Braha, tells the story of a small-town community in the process of spiritual and physical decay.

Terms of Frontierment
Hasty Pudding Building, Harvard University, 12 Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-495-5205). www.hastypudding.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through March 20, Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $26-$29. Hasty Pudding presents a Western musical written and produced by Harvard undergraduates.

Dance

Afternoon of Dance Performance and Participation: A Benefit for Oxfam America
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. March 6, 1-5:30 pm. $15-$25. Area dancers perform and offer instruction. Comedy, mime and hip-hop performances follows.

Ronald K. Brown/Evidence
Zero Arrow Theatre, 720 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4275). www.crasharts.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 4-6, Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sun. 3 pm. $30. Choreographer Brown presents a blend of African, modern, ballet and hip-hop dance styles.

Invitation to the Dance
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-1309). MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. Feb. 23, 7 pm. Boston Ballet artistic director Mikko Nissinen and members of Boston Ballet perform selections from the company's spring program *Falling Angels*, and participate in a dialogue with members of the audience.

La Sylphide
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Bolyston. March 3-13, Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $39-$98. Boston Ballet performs Danish choreographer August Bournonville's 1836 love story about rural life and the legends of the Scottish Highlands.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

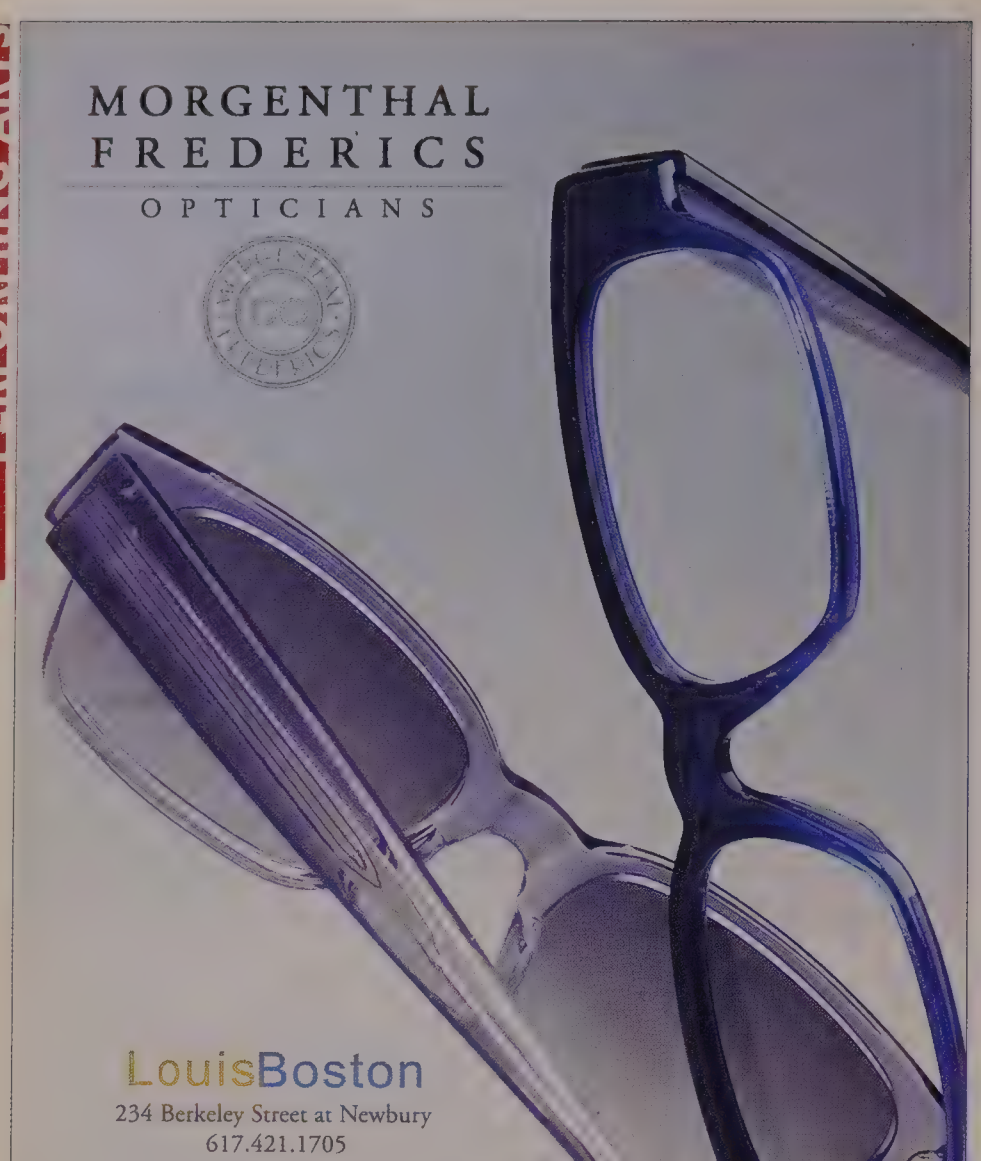
STAND-UP CLUBS

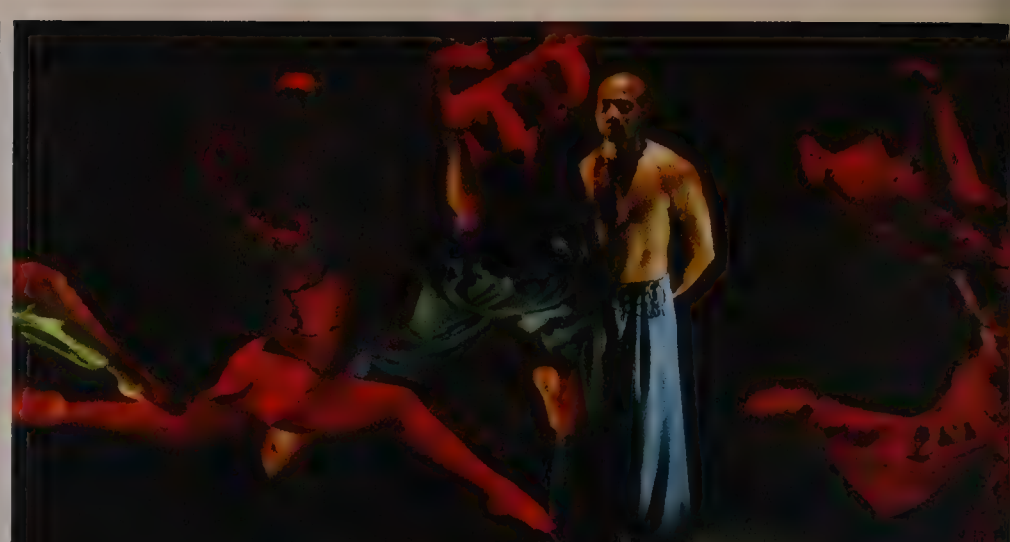
All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). http://www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians. •Feb. 24: Greg Howell and friends. •Feb. 25-26: Courtney Cronin & Boston's Best Stand-up. •Feb. 27: Courtney Cronin & Open-Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays 8 pm: The Tribe Improv performs downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local tal-





Ronald K. Brown/Evidence is at the Zero Arrow Theatre March 4–6.

ent during the week. •Mondays, 8 pm: Kevin Knox hosts the Amateur Showcase. •Feb. 23, 8 pm: Tony V., winner of Showtime Television's "Funniest Person in Massachusetts" award. •Feb. 24, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist." •Feb. 25-26, 8 pm and 10:15 pm: Jake Johannsen. •Feb. 27, 7 pm: Frank Santorelli, actor on *The Sopranos* and finalist on NBC's *Last Comic Standing 2*. •March 2, 8 pm: award-winning comedian Mike McDonald. •March 4, 8 pm: Boston Headliners; 10:30 pm: John Valby, aka Dr. Dirty. •March 8, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Feb. 23: Tony V Experiment with Courtney Cronin, Kris Earle, Kevin Neales, Steve Gulmette, Frank Rockett, Seth Earley, Tonya Dalhaus •Feb. 24: The Dan Sally Show, featuring Sarah Osteen, Mike Oster, Tom Dustin, Mary Beth Cowan, John Lincoln, Taylor Connelly, Patrick Bulger •Feb. 25: Chris Coxen, Sean Caulfied, Mike Whitman, Tissa Harni, Eric Riley Moore, Mary Beth Cowan, Brian Longwell, The Walsh Bros. •Feb. 26: Mike Whitman, Renata Tutko, Rick Jenkins •Feb. 27: Erin Judge presents Greg Rodrigues, Nic Lettic •March 1: Magic Lounge •March 2: Tony V Experiment, Amanda Beals, Phil Yebba, Steve Macone, Jesse Gersten, Shane Mauss, Rob O'Reilly, Mike Del Ilano •March 3: Dan Sally with Dan Klein, Paul Day, Charlie Hatton, Pat Boccuzzi, Dan Hirshon, Greg Thibideau, Steve Calechman •March 4: Korte Yeo, the Steamy Bohemians, Max Silvestri, Cesar Cervantes, Tandy Winn, Tonya Dalhaus, the Walsh Bros. •March 5: Tissa Hami, Max Silvestri, the Steamy Bohemians, Anthony Spencer •March 6: Erin Judge Presents Robby RoadSteamer, Tom Liszanckie, Chris Torres, Al Smith, Reza Sarkarati, Liz Simons, EJ Murphy, David Powell •March 8: Magic Lounge

DeVille Lounge

Kings, 50 Dalton St., Boston (617-266-2695). www.backbaykings.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Sun., 8 pm. Free. Tony V hosts Comedy Hell a weekly open-mike stand-up night. Sign-up is at 6 pm.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., 7:30 pm, $15: Stage Time Variety Show. Tingle hosts guests from the worlds of comedy, music and spoken word. •Fri., 10 pm, $5-$10: It's Not That Late Show. This weekly show, hosted by Peter Dutton, showcases some of the area's most talented stand-up comedians, musicians and performance artists. •Sun., 1 pm, $5-$10: Silly Einstein. A comedy of science for the whole family. 7pm, $10: Women in Comedy. This weekly Sunday night series showcases some of the area's most talented women performers.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10 $22. •Feb. 24, 8:30 pm: Al Klemick. •Feb. 25-26 8:45 pm: Al Klemick, Larry Norton.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Sat., midnight: The Midnight Show. Ongoing. Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm and 10 pm: Lies Half-Truths and the American Way. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253) www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Boston's hottest new acts appear in a weekly showcase in The Hump. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: BackStory is a comedic journey backwards through time inspired by the indie hits *Memento*, *Donnie Darko* and *Mullholland Drive* •Sat., 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Festival of Funny Songwriters

Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-625-4088). www.somervilletheatreonline.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Feb. 26. 7 pm. $19.50-$21.50. Don White headlines a host of comedic songwriters at this 13th annual festival.

Mystery Café — Finnegan's Wake

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar, 290 Congress St., Boston (617-423-6166). www.mysterycafe.com. Mar. 5-26, Fri.-Sat., 7:30 pm. $45 for dinner/show. This interactive comedy dinner reenacts the laughter, song and dance of a "proper" Irish Wake.

Ron White

Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-679-0810). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Feb. 26. 7:30 and 10:30 pm.$35-$40. Comedian Ron "Tater Salad" White performs his stand-up act

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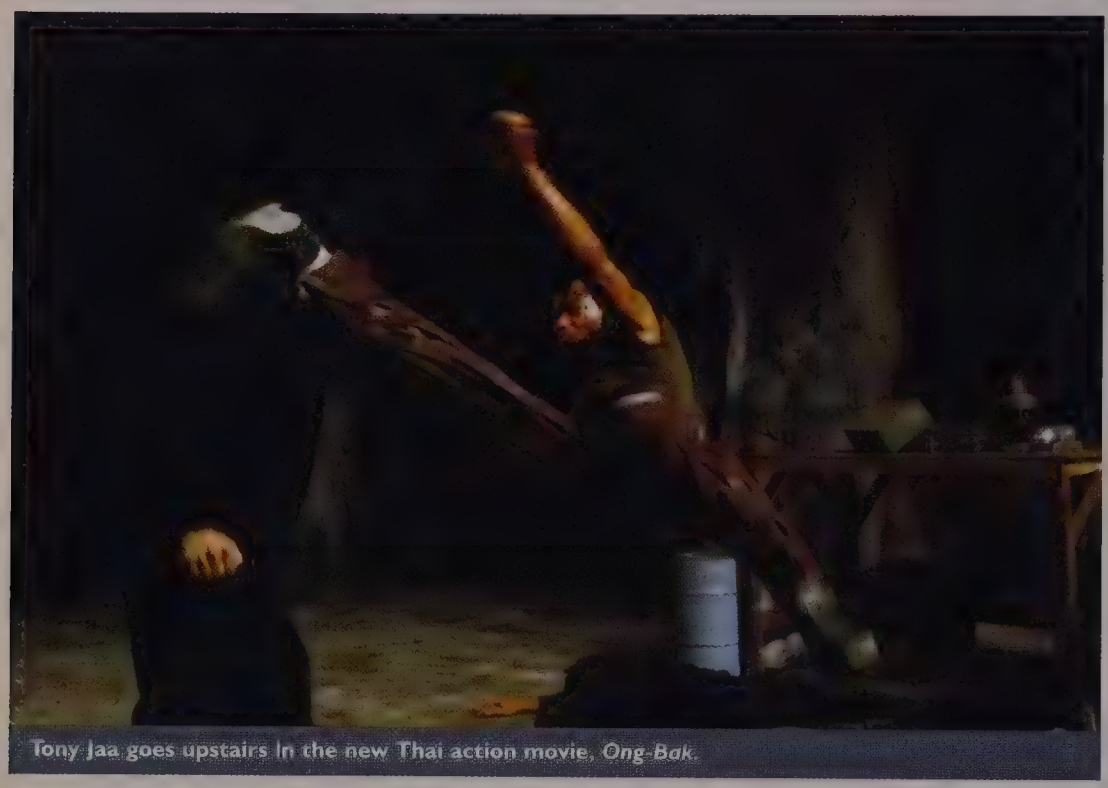
Bak to the Future

Thailand's *Ong-Bak* brings hope to the action genre.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Forget about those recent action movies for people who don't like action movies. Films like *Hero* and *House of Flying Daggers* looked like overprimped perfume commercials half the time. But there's something better out there. *Ong-Bak: The Thai Warrior*, the first movie from Thailand ever to get within five miles of the multiplex, has no need to tart itself up. It has grit, heart and a Jackie Chan–influenced dynamo named Tony Jaa.

From time to time, *Ong-Bak* uses that old device from Chan's Hong Kong heyday of replaying a spectacular stunt in slow motion from several angles, so you can savor it and see that, yes, the feat you just saw really happened and wasn't some camera trick. Such a device might be a total indulgence if it weren't for the fact that, like Chan, Jaa can slap a smile on your face and put your jaw on the floor with his sheer athleticism and agility. As Ting, a provincial villager who travels to Bangkok to recover a stolen artifact—the head of the beloved local deity that gives the movie its title—Jaa is an action hero for whom it's very easy to root.



Tony Jaa goes upstairs in the new Thai action movie, *Ong-Bak*.

Director Prachya Pinkaew and writer Suphachai Sithiamphan come up with a unique opening to make Ting's athleticism, determination and daring credible. Before we even see who our lead character is, the action opens in the village, where the young men participate in a wild competition to grab a flag off the top of a high, ornery-looking banyan tree. While the men climb on top of each other and hurl each other from the large branches—we watch them fall in continuous shots and hear the thuds as they literally hit the dirt—Ting emerges victorious, dodging his rivals on the way down as quickly as a ricocheting pinball. He hasn't just won the contest, he's won our attention.

It turns out Ting is a student of Muay Thai martial arts, who's cautioned about never using his skills by the monk who taught him (Ting's uncle later explains that the teacher killed a man in a Muay Thai fight and then became a monk). But events will require Ting to use those skills again and again. Don (Wannakit Siriput)—a thief, pusher and all-around ne'er-do-well—takes the head from a statue of the local deity a week before the village's festival paying tribute to it, and Ting volunteers to go to Bangkok to get it back.

That premise is the least interesting thing about *Ong-Bak*—similar premises have supported dozens of action movies. The good-hearted hero goes to the big city, finds that the former friend who's already moved there has become a con man, and gets mixed up in no-holds-barred fighting to further his hunt for the treasured head. This sort of action, along with a plot tailored to get the good underdog in the ring against nasty behemoths, has been the basis of the good (Bruce Lee's *Enter the Dragon*), the bad (Jean-Claude Van Damme's *Bloodsport*), the ugly (Hulk Hogan's *No Holds Barred*) and everything in between. It's a cliché, and most movies would handle it halfheartedly.

But not *Ong-Bak*. Its headlong sincerity elevates the plot, and so does Jaa. When he helps former friend George (Petchthai Wongkamlao) elude the swaggering crook (Chetwut Wacharakun) to whom he owes gambling debts, two great chases result. One, on foot, includes some of those slow-motion replays, as Ting runs through back alleys, tumbles over outdoor restaurant tables and, most amazingly, leaps through a tight coil of barbed wire being carried by two workers (replay!). The other involves a fleet of three-wheel open-air taxis, one unfinished freeway and gravity.

Then, of course, there's the fighting. The brutal fights take place in the gambling club owned by Don's lurid boss (Sukhaaw Phongwilal), a wonderfully creepy, tracheotomied sourpuss who talks through a voice box. Ting gets lured into the ring to further his search, after George gambles away the money the villagers gave Ting for his trip (George is in need of *big-time* redemption). Ting takes on gigantic Aussies, crazed Japanese and one madman who likes to shoot himself up with adrenaline before fighting, in battles that range from one-kick KOs to ordeals in which chairs and tables are broken over him. The filmmakers might have had Ting show a little more pain—I turned black and blue just watching the fights—but Jaa has an appealingly modest screen presence that differs from the smugness of most Hollywood action heroes. *Ong-Bak* ends with a monumental confrontation in a cave in which Ting delivers the knee drop heard round the world. He and *Ong-Bak* emerge victorious. iB

Ong-Bak: The Thai Warrior ★★★½

Directed by Prachya Pinkaew. Written by Suphachai Sithiamphan. With Tony Jaa, Petchthai Wongkamlao, Pumwaree Yodkamol, Wannakit Siriput and Sukhaaw Phongwilal. Rated R. At Boston Common and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Are We There Yet? ★★½
Ice Cube makes a kids' movie, and it's not half ba
The interaction between Cube's child-averse bach
lor Nick and the scheming tykes (Lindsey Kingsto
Philip Daniel Bolden) that he offers to drive fro
Portland to Vancouver—to impress their dishy mo
(Nia Long)—is generally funny. Cube gives a gam
performance as the human punching bag for th
kids' pranks. This is probably the best kid-empowe
ment comedy since *Big Fat Liar*, though its goo
sentimental moments, especially the ending, migh
make kids *and* adults gag. (At Boston Commo
Fenway and suburbs.)

Assault on Precinct 13 ★★★
I can't see much point in the current wave of remak
of 1970s B-movies—this retelling of John Carpente
1976 actioner follows the *Dawn of the Dead* remak
But this update is a very solid, unusually brutal movi
The basic premise of Carpenter's original (in whic
he turned the western *Rio Bravo* into an urban actio
picture) is the same, with a group of intruders tryin
to break into a police station to free a prisone
There's a major new twist to the plot and a few wri
kles added to the lead characters of the polic
sergeant (Ethan Hawke) and the prisoner (Laurenc
Fishburne). The violence is extreme, but much mo
preferable than movie violence in which the action
supposed to look "cool" (like, say, the *Resident E*
movies). The colorful cast, which also includes Joh
Leguizamo, Brian Dennehy and Drea de Matteo, ad
to the gritty entertainment. (At Boston Commo
Fenway and suburbs.)

The Aviator ★★★
Like Howard Hughes' infamous Spruce Goos
Martin Scorsese's Hughes movie is big and clums
yet it somehow manages to get off the ground
Scorsese starts his film on an iffy trajectory, wit
most of the first hour dwelling on the first extrava
gant foray by Hughes (Leonardo DiCaprio) int
producing movies (the World War I aerial dram
Hell's Angels) and on his romance with Katharin
Hepburn (Cate Blanchett). You're afraid Scorsese
fascination with old movies is causing him to ove
look Hughes' aviation exploits. But the rest of th
movie concentrates on Hughes' roles with TW
and his aviation innovations, as well as his battle
with the government and the emotional problem
that ultimately turned him into a recluse. DiCapri
does a good job of bringing out Hughes' charm an
vulnerability, and Scorsese champions his subje
as a visionary who wouldn't let the bean counter
dampen his ambition. The result is much more sa
isfying than Scorsese and DiCaprio's previou
Gangs of New York. (At Boston Common, Harvar
Square and suburbs.)

Boogeyman ★★
With another draft of the script and a more stylis
director, this tale of a young man (Barry Watso
who may or may not have witnessed the boogey
man dragging his father away when he was eigh
year old might have had some punch. But th
script is too vague, never establishing any interna
logic, and it doesn't really give you much reason
care about the hero. The film's strong final half
hour brings it up to a respectable level, though. (A
Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Bride and Prejudice ★★
It's clear from the start that *Bhaji on the Beach* an
Bend It Like Beckham director Gurinder Chadha'
adaptation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* as
present-day, India-set, Bollywood-inspired musi
just isn't happening. The songs aren't very catch
leading man Martin Henderson (who stunk up las
winter's hyperobnoxious *Torque*) couldn't act hi
way out of a sari, and the movie has no rhythm
musical should have a light step even between the
songs; this one plods along, often during the num
bers. None of the cast seems to be actually singin
for their characters, which makes those characte
seem schizo. And special guest Ashanti (who, pr
sumably, is singing herself) croons what might
the worst song lyrics of all-time: "India's the pla
for me/India will set you free." The movie's attem
to bridge Asian and Anglo-American cultures ju
waters everything down, from the Bollywood-l
production numbers to the cultural stereotypes
the Westerners. At least Nitin Ganatra, in
comic-relief role as a crass Indian-American seek
ing a bride, adds some life and some laughs. (A
Kendall Square.)

Constantine ★½
Did you know that Keanu is Hawaiian for "mum
jumbo"? All right, it isn't, but you might think it
after having the utter mumbo jumbo of this Keanu
Reeves movie heaped upon you. He's the title ch

25 Chefs
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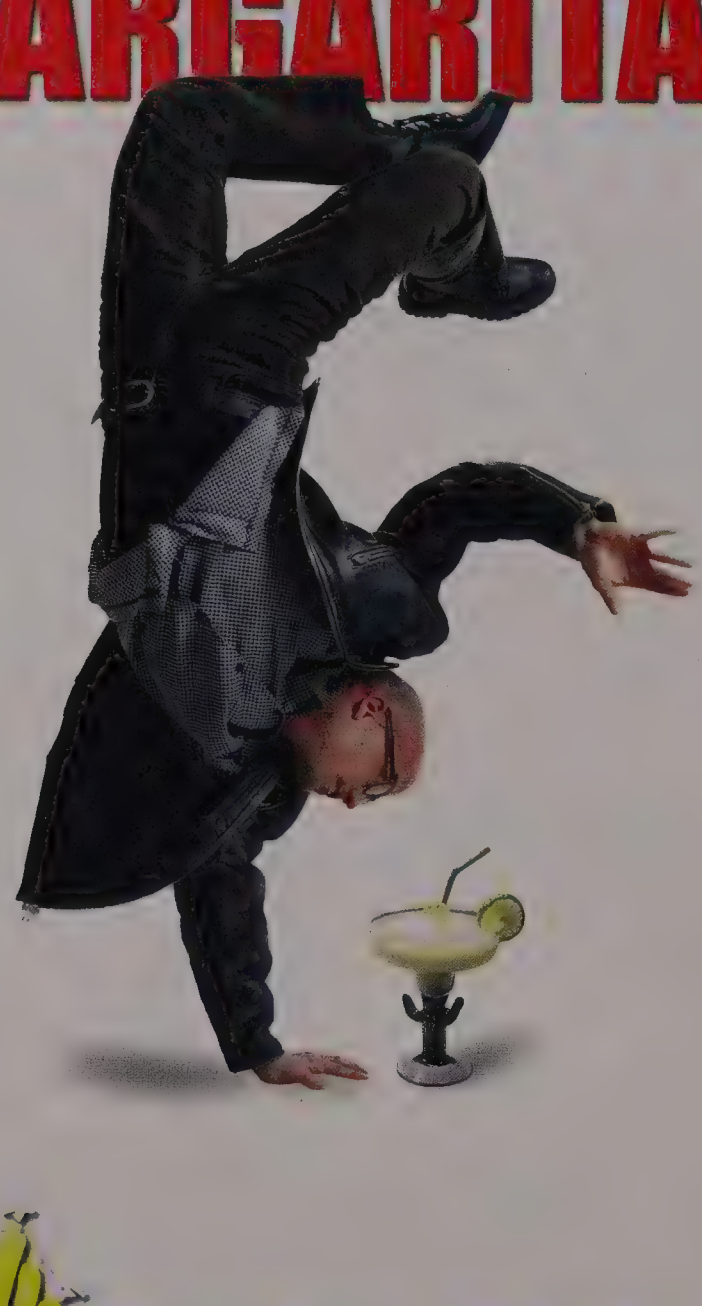

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acter in this graphic novel adaptation, an exorcist out of the private eye mold, but the nuts and bolts of the story fit together clumsily at best. There's a pair of visionary twins (Rachel Weisz), the all-powerful "spear of destiny" (which, underwhelmingly, looks more like the *dagger* of destiny), lots of scripture, archangel Gabriel (Tilda Swinton) and Satan his bad self (Peter Stormare), but the cause and effect between everybody's actions is very sketchy. Meanwhile, music video director Francis Lawrence seems more interested in over-the-top production design and special effects than credibility. The odd thing here is that Reeves' performance is decent, but little else is. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Days of Being Wild ★★★
Forget about the languid art films like *In the Mood for Love* that Wong Kar-wai has made since the great *Chungking Express*. His recent movies have little of the sensual charge of that film or this 1991 dazzler, which played Chinatown moviehouses and local Hong Kong series in the early 1990s. Now, it's finally getting a belated national release, a few months after its U.S. DVD arrived. But thanks to the most amazing cinematography so far from the talented Chris Doyle (*Hero*, *The Quiet American*), this is a definite big-screen movie. Its 1960-set tale of a ladies man (the late Leslie Cheung) and the women pursuing him (including Maggie Cheung of *Mood*) is rife with sexual tension, and even though the plot peters out, this may be Wong's flawed masterpiece. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, Feb. 23, 24 and 26.)

Finding Neverland ★★
As *Peter Pan* playwright J.M. Barrie, Johnny Depp nails a Scottish accent and gives his character a pent-up imagination that bursts loose when he meets a quartet of boys grieving for their late father. It's hard to imagine anyone else giving as rousing a performance as Depp does. Still, his movie never made me want to clap my hands in approving belief. This Edwardian fluff means to be a celebration of Barrie's tale of retaining your inner child, but when half of pop culture tells us that these days, is it really very special? Meanwhile, the film could have easily been called *The Attack of the Art Department*, and that's a big surprise from director Marc Forster, whose previous movies were the much rawer *Everything Put Together* and *Monster's Ball*. There's also a soap opera surrounding the boys' sickly mom (Kate Winslet), and the entire mix is rather cheesy and creepy. (At Boston Common and suburbs.)

Hotel Rwanda ★★
Terry George's docudrama chronicling the brutal Rwandan civil war of 1994 has gut-wrenching tragedy, and it also has Don Cheadle getting to play a rare lead. He plays Paul Rusesabagina, a hotel manager who, à la Oskar Schindler, risked his life to shelter many people from sure death. Alas, George (*Sons and Mothers*) has a hero who's not as morally complex as Schindler; he just gives us a noble guy to put on a pedestal. And the TV-style movie fails to engage in a cinema setting. Although it's probably very accurate, it's also rather flat and dull. (At Kendall Square.)

The Incredibles ★★★
The animation in Pixar's computer-generated movies keeps improving, and this is the first one that's had the nerve to put humans—albeit semi-abstract ones—in the foreground. That's not a problem at all, as the animation's ability to portray facial expressions is so much better than it was for past Pixar movies (like the *Toy Story* series) in which human action was kept to a minimum. Still, this is the first Pixar film that's merely good, not great. Once again, there's an amazing mesh of voice actors and characters, with Craig T. Nelson and Holly Hunter playing retired husband-and-wife superheroes forced back into action along with their supergifted kids (Sarah Vowell and Spencer Fox). But the story is an awful lot like *Spy Kids*, with more emphasis put on the parents, and for much of the middle section, this is merely a decent animated "big" action movie, with less of a satiric twist than *Team America*. Pixar has raised the bar so high that, when taken against other animated movies, *The Incredibles* is still very creative. But it's also disappointing at times and overstretched. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

In Good Company ★★
Writer-director Paul Weitz (one half of the *American Pie* Weitz brothers) tries to make his meatiest movie yet, and while the effort is admirable, it's also rather flat. Its main characters are the 50-ish head of a magazine's ad department (Dennis Quaid) and the 25-ish hotshot (Topher Grace) who's installed over his head after the mag's parent company is sold to a Murdoch-like corporate honcho (Malcolm McDowell). In different scenes, the movie asks you to sympathize with both Quaid's kind, old-school guy and Grace's eager fast-tracker, and it's a trick the movie can't pull off. Although the young guy is sympathetic outside of the office, where he has a romanc with his colleague's college-student daughter (Sca let Johansson), in the boardroom he's smart but ca lous. The movie obviously wants to give him comeuppance, and it does, but neither Weitz no Grace makes that journey very remarkable. An with its pop-song-heavy soundtrack and conscien tious eye, it feels like a knock-off of a Camero Crowe movie that doesn't exist. (At Boston Com mon, Fenway and suburbs.)

Inside Deep Throat ★★★
It would take a miniseries to adequately cover all th drama surrounding 1972's *Deep Throat*, the sex filr that attracted mainstream audiences and couples lik no other before or since. But Fenton Bailey and Rand Barbato, the team that brought us *The Eyes of Tamm Faye*, do a good job of touching upon the main topic in 92 minutes: drama, drama, drama. *Deep Throat* success was seen as the final victory for the sexual rev olution, yet it rallied pro-censorship forces against i stars Linda Lovelace and Harry Reems enjoyed grea fame and great infamy from their roles; and the movi was so popular that its producers were elbowed asid by the Mob, who monitored box office receipts i every Podunk porno theater that showed it. Baile and Barbato present the battle over *Deep Throat* a symptomatic of America's twisted relationship wit sexuality, and as part of the same culture wars that sti rage today between the ultra-religious and the rest c the country. It's hard to argue about them on eithe point. (At Kendall Square.)

Kinsey ★★★
Scientist Alfred Kinsey became obsessed with re searching the sexual habits of Americans and hav ing his scientific findings replace myth and tradi tional morality in shaping people's views c "average" sexual behavior. Bill (*Gods and Monsters* Condon's period piece does a fascinating job of cap turing the fervent work of Kinsey (Liam Neeson and showing how his findings of the 1940s an 1950s shook up the public and put the powers-that be on high alert. Neeson's performance recalls th fixation of his Oskar Schindler, with the goal thi time of getting people's sex histories on paper, whil Laura Linney, Peter Sarsgaard, John Lithgow an Oliver Platt fill out the deep cast. The intensity c this rise-and-fall story starts to peter out, though when it gets to the third act, thanks to vagueness i chronology and the sense that many events ar being rushed through and oversimplified, right dow to the rather mystifyingly upbeat ending. (At Ar lington Capitol and West Newton Cinema.)

The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou ★★½
After establishing himself with the melancholi comedies *Bottle Rocket* and *Rushmore*, Wes Anderso has entered a phase where his boyish charm, low-tec clutter, cool old songs and casts of sad yet funn characters are starting to come off like schtick that getting a little precious. Like *The Royal Tenenbaums* his latest has that erratic feeling. Sometimes it feel genuinely inspired (having a character sing earl David Bowie songs in Portuguese from time to time) sometimes it seems as if it's on automatic pilot (Bil Murray giving the same sad-sack performance he di so well in *Rushmore*). That's not to say Murray isn' very amusing at times (same goes for Willem Dafoe Anjelica Huston, Jeff Goldblum and Owen Wilson) or that the visuals aren't very creative and Anderso doesn't have more going on than most directors. Bu giving Anderson's adolescent sensibility to character who are all over 25—some well beyond—is an od fit. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Squar and suburbs.)

Meet the Fockers ★★
You know the humor in the *Meet the Parents* sequel i much more forced this time around when Ben Stiller's character suddenly falls over in his chai during an early scene—for no reason and with no set up (and no laugh generated). There are a few laugh with the introduction of Dustin Hoffman and Barbra Streisand as his touchy-feely, overly nurturing parent whose ways, of course, collide with those of thei uptight, WASPy in-laws-to-be (Robert De Niro Blythe Danner). Despite the occasional laugh, thi never generates its prede-cessor's comic momentum which is necessary to get the weaker gags over and snowball it all into a funny movie. Disappointing (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Million Dollar Baby ★½
Clint Eastwood's latest is an odd combination o fisticuffs-filled boxing movie, surrogate father-daughter tale, and tragedy. Those separate ingre dients are often unconvincing, so, not surprisingly the combination fails. Eastwood plays an aging boxing trainer, but his performance makes him little more than a crabby old coot who'd be right at home in a mediocre sitcom (ditto for the bickering between him and the old buddy played by Morgan

reeman). The coot gets hounded into training a ubborn female boxer (Hilary Swank, best thing in ne movie) who, under his tutelage, shoots up the omen's boxing rankings. Swank also emotionally eplaces the estranged daughter who sends the ainer's letters back "return to sender," while he eplaces the boxer's late father. There's little subtlety the father-daughter tale, or anywhere else in the lm either. Paul Haggis' weak screenplay often wants ings both ways—like how it has the boxer knock ut most opponents in the first round, yet contrives ays for her to supposedly be the underdog. It takes me of that contrivance to shift the movie into agedy after an in-ring injury. Where's *Fat City* when ou need it? (At Boston Common.)

ay ★★★

mie Foxx's monumental performance dominates is fairly conventional biopic in which a talented ero (R&B/pop pioneer Ray Charles) overcomes adrse circumstances (witnessing his brother's drowng, going blind at age 7) and inner demons (a heroin abit, infidelity) to become a beloved American initution. Sometimes director Taylor Hackford's Holwood treatment stretches credibility, particularly hen the movie contrives to have Charles concoct e classic "What'd I Say?" as an impromptu time ler onstage one night. And the movie might be too rgiving of the pain Charles caused his wife. But oxx is so immersed in the role, giving Charles a sly arisma, and the musical moments (with Foxx lipnching to Charles' recordings) are so good that the ovie's life-affirming intentions win out. (At Boston ommon, Fenway and suburbs.)

he Sea Inside ★★★

he real-life tale of Spaniard Ramon Sampedro avier Bardem), a quadriplegic, poet and one-time ilor who fought for the right to end his life, is rtunately not presented as a strident exercise in obility. While Bardem gives a powerhouse erformance, writer-director Alejandro Amenabar *The Others*) and co-writer Mateo Gil pepper their lm with humorous moments and formidable pporting characters. The result is more than a essage movie and, thanks to Amenabar's skill at tting images together, much more cinematic than ou'd expect a movie about a guy stuck in bed to be. At Kendall Square.)

Inside Deep Throat revisits the controversy that surrounded the 1972 porno film.

Sideways ★★★

Alexander Payne's *Sideways* does for the approach of middle age what his *About Schmidt* did for the onset of old age: uses it as a springboard for bittersweet comedy and a road trip. At first, this makes the latest from the director of *Citizen Ruth* and *Election* a letdown. But Payne and writing partner Jim Taylor's riffs on male bonding make this story of two 40-ish buddies' trip to California wine country painfully funny. It's hard to say where the characters leave off and the actors begin in the hilarious little moments in which the pair goes to wineries to sample the latest vintages. Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*), who could be amusing reading a shopping list, gives a colorful tilt to wine connoisseur Miles' picky assessments of his tastings; in Giamatti's hands, sometimes Miles is being intentionally funny, sometimes not. Meanwhile, Thomas Haden Church's Jack has an endearing dumb-jock quality, and his response to Miles' "knowledgeable" wine talk is usually "tastes pretty good to me." Each man's approach to wine mirrors his approach to life and to the women they meet, of course, with Jack blindly leaping in and Miles endlessly analyzing. (At Boston Common, Coolidge Corner, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

A Very Long Engagement ★★★

With Hollywood unwilling or unable to provide the sort of handsome epic we've come to expect at this time of the year (aside from *The Aviator*), this clever French World War I drama picks up the slack. Audrey Tautou reteams with *Amelie* director Jean-Pierre Jeunet and plays a young French woman searching for the soldier fiancé (Gaspard Ulliel) she was told died in battle. Full of flashbacks to the fateful day in which the fiancé may have died, the movie veers from serendipitous comedy to stark drama and zips along quickly. It features Jeunet's typical visual flourishes, though his habit of injecting visual action that literally illustrates characters' anecdotes can be annoying. (At Harvard Square.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

White House Women Film Series

•Feb. 28, 6 pm. **White House Red Carpet with Julia Child** *1968.* •Immediately following. **Barbara Bush: First Mom** *2001.*

BRATTLE THEATRE

Brattle Features

•Feb. 25 and 26. **Notre Musique** *2004.* Jean-Luc Godard's film is a philosphical meditation on war in modern times.

•Feb. 28 and March 1. **In the Realms of the Unreal** *2004.* Jessica Yu's documentary examines the life of Henry Darger, a janitor who is also a noted novelist and artist.

•March 2. **Bright Future** *2003.* Two workers in a Japanese factory bond over their uncontrollable rage. Kiyoshi Kurosawa directs.

•March 3. **Dolls** *2002.* Takeshi Kitano's film follows three stories of undying love between a young couple, a man and his ex-girlfriend, and a disfigured pop star and her biggest fan.

•March 4-10. **The Nomi Song** *2004.* Andrew Horn's documentary follows the career of avant-

garde new wave musician Klaus Nomi, who died of AIDS in 1983.

Bugs Bunny Film Festival

•Feb. 23, 1:30, 3:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Best of the Rest** Daffy Duck, the Tasmanian Devil and Bugs star in this installment of the Brattle's 10th annual festival.

•Feb 24, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **All Bugs Revue** is a collection of Bugs Bunny cartoons.

•Feb. 25-26, 1:30 and 3:30 pm. **Bugs Bunny Matinee Revue** includes cartoons not seen in this year's other festival programs.

Special Events

•Feb 27, 5:30 pm. Annual Oscar Gala. Watch the red carpet action and the awards ceremony at the Brattle's annual gala.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies

•March 7, 1 pm. The Coolidge's biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent and documentary films. Titles are announced the week before the screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **Watermarks** *2004*. Seven women from the Jewish sports club Hakoah Vienna were championship swimmers until Hitler closed down their arena and threw them out. Sixty years later director Yaron Zilberman tells their story and brings the team together for a reunion.

•Now playing. **The Take** *2004*. Avi Lewis' documentary tells the story of a group of Argentinean auto workers who took over and restarted a closed-down factory.

Midnight Movies

•Feb. 26. **The Found Magazine Video Show.** Strange and bizarre videos that had previously been discarded are revealed in this collection.

•March 5. **Wizard People: Dear Readers**. Comedian Brad Neely tells his own version of the *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* tale over the original film.

Special Events

•Feb. 28, 7 pm. **Before Sunrise/Before Sunset Double Feature** *1995/2004*. Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy star in both films set nine years apart in Europe. Jesse and Celine meet and share a night together in the first film, and are reunited by chance in Paris in the second. Richard Linklater directs.

Barry Watson is shocked by all the graffiti in *Boogeyman*.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Black and White on Film

•Feb. 23, 7 pm. **Bronenosets Potyomkin** *(Battleship Potemkin) 1925*. Sergei Eisenstein directs this Russian silent film about the 1905 mutiny on the Black Sea and the response from the town of Odessa. Includes live piano accompaniment.

•Feb. 28, 9 pm. **Imitation of Life** *1934*. John Stahl directs this Depression-era film about two mothers who make a fortune with a pancake recipe.

•March 7, 9 pm. **Within Our Gates** *1920*. Oscar Michaeux's film follows a Southern black woman who travels North to find funding for a black school in her home town.

Deleuze: Philosophy and Film

•Feb. 27, 7 pm. **Film** *1965*. This one-charact drama with no dialogue stars Buster Keaton and w written by Samuel Beckett. Alan Schneider direc

•Also showing, 9 pm. **Varieté** *(Variety, aka Vaud ville) 1925*. E.A. Dupont directs this early dran about a husband and wife acrobatic team whose r lationship is ruined by a young trapeze artist. I cludes live piano accompaniment.

Directors in Focus: The Films of Hirokazu Koreeda

•Feb. 25, 7 pm. **Kare No Inai Hachigatsu** *(August Without Him) 1994*. Koreed directs a pr file of Hirata Yukata, the first Japanese man openly admit contracting HIV through homose ual sex.

•Feb. 25, 9 pm. **Lessons from a Calf** *1991*. Th documentary follows a class of students who raise cow named Lola. •Also showing, **However** *199* Koreeda profiles Yamanouchi Yoyomori, head Japan's Social Welfare Bureau, which helps peop with Minamata disease, caused by methyl mercu poisoning.

An Evening with Julie Mallozzi

•March 6, 7 pm. **Monkey Dance** *2004*. Julie Ma lozzi appears in person for the screening of her co ing-of-age film about three Cambodian-America teenagers.

Fashion and Film

•March 1, 7 pm. **The Leopard** *1963*. Luchino Vi conti's film follows the decline of an aristocrat family in Italy.

•March 8, 7 pm. **Aufzeichnungen zu Kleidurn u Städten** *(Notebook on Cities and Clothes) 198* Wim Wenders documentary follows Japanese d signer Yohji Yamamoto.

Frames of Mind

•March 2, 7 pm. **L'Eclisse** *(The Eclipse) 1962*. woman drifts aimlessly through an urban enviro ment after breaking up with her lover in the final i stallment of Michelangelo Antonioni's trilo (which began with *L'Avventura* and *La Notte*).

Global Visions

•Feb. 26, 7 pm. **Schwarzwaldmadel** *(Black Fore Girl) 1950*. An expensive necklace changes han several times and sets off a chain of events that eve tually leads a girl to the Black Forest. Hans Deppe d

cts. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Der Meineidbauer** *(The rmer's Perjury) 1956.* A deceased farmer scorns his epbrother by leaving his property to the unwed other of his children. Rudolf Jugert directs.
Feb. 28, 7 pm. **Hanyo** *(The Housemaid) 1960.* A mposer falls for the maid who cares for his ill wife. im Ki-young directs.

orean Cinema: 1960–2005

March 2, 9 pm. **Obalt'an** *(The Aimless Bullet) 1960.* ı Hyun-mok's film follows a North Korean family at moves to the South following the Korean War.
March 4, 7 pm. **Chihwaseon** *2002.* Director Im won-taek appears in person for the screening of his m about the 19th-century Korean painter Jang eung-up.
March 5, 7 pm. **Chunhyang** *2000.* Directo Im won-taek appears in person for the screening of his m about the forbidden love between the daughter a courtesan and the son of a governor.
March 7, 7 pm. **Sopyonje** *1993.* Im Kwon-taek's m follows a family of traditional musicians who ce conflict when the son decides to pursue West- n music.

lasters of Animation

March 6, 9 pm. A series of short animated films in- ıdes Gianluigi Tocaffondo's *La Piccola Russia*, Nor- an McLaren's *Pas de Deux*, Amy Kravitz's *The ap*, the Quay Brothers' *Street of Crocodiles*, Jan nica's *Rhinoceros* and Yuri Norstein's *Tale of Tales*.

USEUM OF FINE ARTS

fghanistan on Film

eb. 24, 4:30 pm; Feb. 26, 2:30 pm; Feb. 27, 10:30 ı. **Return to Kandahar** *2003.* Co-director Nelofer zira returns to her native Afghanistan to search for childhood friend. Pazira and Paul Jay also co-direct.

frican Film Festival

eb. 23, 6 pm; Feb. 26, 10:30 am. **Agogo Eewo** 02. Tunde Kelani's film on Nigerian politics won e top prize at the Nigerian National Film Festival.
eb. 24, 2:30 pm. **La Fille de Keltoum** *(Daughter of ltoum) 2001.* A young woman travels to the desert find her birth mother. Mehdi Charef directs.
eb. 24, 8 pm. **Kabala** *2002.* Assane Kouyate's film ptures the conflict between town elders and a young wcomer in a West African village.

rt on Film

eb. 10, 5 pm. **In the Realms of the Unreal** *2004.* sica Yu's documentary examines the life of Henry ırger, a janitor who is also a noted novelist and ist.
eb. 10, 6:30 pm; Feb. 12, 2:15 pm. **POPaganda: e Art and Crimes of Ron English** *2004.* Pedro ırvajal's documentary is a guerrilla-style film about e underground artist.

inema Tropical

eb. 4, 8:20 pm; Feb. 5, 5 pm. **Bolivar Soy Yo** *(Boli- I Am) 2002.* An actor hired to play South Ameri- n revolutionary Simón Bolívar comes to believe he he reincarnation of Bolívar and tries to complete s unfulfilled dream of creating a unified state of five tin American countries. Jorge Alí Triana directs.

lobal Lens

eb. 26, 12:30 am. **Three Short Films** features rks from African directors: **Kounandi** *2003.* A arf is rejected by her village in Apolline Tra- e's short film. •Immediately following, **Histoire Tresses** *(About Braids) 2002.* Jacqueline limunda's film tells the story of the relationship tween a hairdresser and her client. •Immedi- ly following, **Pour la Nuit** *(For the Night) 2004.* chance meeting brings two characters together Isabelle Boni-Claverie's film.
eb. 27, 4:30 pm. **Hollow City** *2004.* When 11- ar-old N'dala is separated from his caretaker he's lifted to Luanda, a war-torn city in which he en- unters a host of characters as he sinks further into underbelly. Maria Joao Ganga directs

ong Kong Cinema

eb. 24, 6:15 pm; Feb. 26, 4 pm. **A Fei Jing Juen** *ays of Being Wild) 1991.* Director Wong Kar-wei's n follows Luddy, a handsome heartbreaker, in 60s Hong Kong.

panese Cinema

eb. 10 and 11, 8 pm; Feb. 12, 3:45 pm; Feb. 13, :20 pm. **Dolls** *2002.* Director Takeshi Kitano tells ee interwoven stories of characters unable to ntrol their fate.

USEUM OF SCIENCE

ugar Omni Theater

hrough March 4. **Amazing Journeys**. Follow terflies, whales and zebras on their migrations.
hrough March 4. **Mystery of the Nile.** Join ex- rers on the world's first ever attempt of a full de- nt of the Nile.
hrough March 4. **Forces of Nature**. Experience e power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as ntists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through June 5. **Galapagos**. Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.
•Through June 5. **Into the Deep**. This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California and its many inhabitants.
•Through June 5. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Watch as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and other creatures create an underwater wonderland.
•Through June 5. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

WEST SIDE LOUNGE

•Feb. 27, 9 pm. **Punch Drunk Love** *2002.* Adam Sandler stars as a downtrodden businessman who falls for his sister's friend in Paul Thomas Anderson's film.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Common Ground
85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
West Side Lounge
1680 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-5566).

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

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Postpunk Progeny

NYC's Interpol attracts an audience with its *Antics*.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Interpol is often compared to other bands, usually moody '80s postpunk outfits like Joy Division, Bauhaus and the Smiths. One Web site even offered a list: "101 bands to which you can compare Interpol besides Joy Division."

"It was a persistent kind of association," says Paul Banks, singer and guitarist for the New York–based Interpol. "We've never gotten compared to a band that I hate, but my influences have never been cited in peoples' guesses."

Like what influences? "Nirvana was when I decided I wanted to do this for a living, and I was really into Jane's Addiction," says Banks, 26. "I was into so many things, and postpunk was something that I touched upon really briefly, years after what I consider to be the influential years."

Interpol headlines the Orpheum following several Boston-area club gigs.

"People make assumptions that somehow four people all have one mind and get together to have an influence as a band," he says. "Of the bands we'd probably all cite as massive influences, the only crossover would be Sugar and the Pixies." Guitarist Daniel Kessler is a Fugazi fan, while bassist Carlos Dengler is heavily into metal, Banks says, "and I was into hip-hop before I was even into rock."

All of which makes the unified tone of Interpol's dark, sleek, atmospheric rock somewhat surprising. But ideas that the band was too derivative or would face a sophomore slump in following its acclaimed 2002 debut *Turn on the Bright Lights* were dashed by last year's slightly broader *Antics*.

"We didn't consciously attempt to make it any different from the first one," Banks says of the second album, which has generated airplay for the tracks "Evil" and "Slow Hands" and catapulted the group from multiple appearances at the Middle East and Avalon to a March 9 date at the Orpheum. "The songs are just a little more sophisticated. We've grown very naturally as a band. But there's no concept."

For one thing, Banks' vocals sound more melodic and less monotonous than in the past. "I learned how to sing when I was on tour," he says from his Manhattan home. "There were things that I wanted to try. I made an effort to work a little more with melody as opposed to entirely attitude."

The changes suggest that the quartet found freedom instead of stagnation by working at the same studio where they recorded *Turn on the Bright Lights* before securing a record deal. That would be Tarquin Studios, a 150-year-old house in Bridgeport, Conn., that was once a hospital for autistic children and now houses producer-engineer Peter Katis' collection of vintage microphones and compressors.

"We went back to the same studio for the sake of what we could achieve for production," Banks says. "You warm up to the studio. We knew we could really start where we left off, and have everything just sound that much better."

Also, he says, "We're kind of a handful to work with, so it's good if you get somebody you know can work with the whole band. There's not one person in our band at the helm, calling the shots. We're all making our own decisions."

As for the decision to wear stylish suits onstage, Banks credits the rhythm section of Dengler and drummer Sam Fogarino, who was the last to join Interpol in 2000, two years after the band formed at New York University.

"Sam was like that when we met him," Banks says. "He was in another band wearing a suit. Carlos was dressing that way. It must have been stated at one point, like 'Oh, you're going to wear a tie onstage,' but it wasn't so much of a shtick as people think. It was a little more natural. I like to approach live performance as a formal affair."

In turn, Interpol has honed its light show for the bigger stages. "We try to visually have it complement the music and atmosphere," Banks says. And if critics simply cast the quartet as forerunners of an '80s revival in rock, that's their call, especially if they view it as part of a cycle.

"I never had a particular allegiance to the '80s," says the English-born Banks, who met countryman Kessler during a summer study in Paris before they crossed paths again on the street in New York. "However, there's something about the atmosphere to a lot of '80s music that I think did probably embed itself into my own consciousness. But I don't know about the cyclical thing. That's only journalist stuff. Critics of the future can speculate on that, but from my standpoint, I just make the rock." iB

Interpol
plays the Orpheum Theatre March 9.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fa (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or b email to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from di ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provid accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahea to double-check dates and times (see complete list o venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Averi Feb. 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Big Head Todd & the Monsters Feb. 25, Avalo (617-931-2000).
Mary Black March 5, Berklee Performance Cente (617-931-2000).
Paul Brady Feb. 27, Sanders Theatre (617-931 2000).
Shemekia Copeland Feb. 24-25, Regattabar (617 395-7757).
Danzig Feb. 28, the Roxy (617-931-2000).
The Finn Brothers March 2, Somerville Theatr (617-931-2000).
Flogging Molly, Hot Water Music, River Boat Gam bler March 2, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Hot Hot Heat, Louis XIV, the Information March Axis (617-931-2000).
Jake Brennan and the Confidence Men Feb. 2 T.T. the Bear's Place (617-931-2000).
Juanes March 6, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Kings of Leon Feb. 27, Paradise Rock Club (617-423 NEXT).
The Knot (formerly Slip Knot) March 5, Harpe Ferry (617-254-9743).
Pat McGee Feb. 23, Harpers Ferry (617-254-9743).
Medeski, Martin and Wood Feb. 24, Avalon (617 931-2000).
Motley Crüe March 5, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)
New Model Army March 6, Middle East Downstair (617-931-2000).
Mark Olson, Gary Louris Feb. 25, Somerville The atre (617-931-2000).
Brett Rosenberg, Emergency Music, the So an So's, the Everyday Visuals Feb. 24, Middle Eas Downstairs (617-931-2000).
Social Distortion, Backyard Babies, Street Dog Feb. 23, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Sound Tribe Sector 9 Feb. 23, the Roxy (617-931 2000).
Tesla Feb. 27, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Ron White Feb. 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931 2000).
Mary Wilson Feb. 25-26, Scullers Jazz Club (617-562 4111).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Abbey Lounge The Juice, 9:30 pm; Indoor Recess 10:30 pm; Freefall, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The All-Asia Café Beth Paccione, 6 pm; Open mike 7:30 pm.
The Asgard Steve Giannaro's Quintet.
Avalon Social Distortion, Backyard Babies, Stree Dogs, 8 pm, $25.25.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9pm.
The Breezeway Ross Rollins Trio, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Lissa Schneckenburger, 8 pm, $10- $12.
Common Ground The Adam Ezra Band, $3.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time Trio, 7:20 pm-12am, nc cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Harpers Ferry Pat McGee & Friends, 7 pm, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's The Mystics.
Johnny D's Sandra Luna, 8:30 pm, $12.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Jennifer Kimball, 8 pm; the Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Mahi Mahi, U.V. Protection, Happy Birthday LA, Longknives, $8, 18+.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's Static of the Gods, the Shills, $6
Paradise Lounge: E Synthesis Libertas with Odeon, Raedawn, Dieslow & Rot, Sons of Liberty, 8 pm, $6- $7, 18+. Rock Club: The Music, Kasabian, Morn ingwood, 7 pm, $15, 18+.

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RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

Paddy O's Chad LaMarsh.
Scullers Jazz Club Jason Moran & the Bandwagon, 8 and 10 pm, $15
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9 pm.
Regattabar Chiara Civello, 7:30 and 10 pm, $12.
Roxy Sound Tribe Sector 9, 8 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Nando Michelin Group, Jerry Bergonzi, 9 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Night in Wyoming.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Griffin House, Brendan Little, Max Heinegg, $8.
The Western Front Post Post, 8:30pm; the Fairy Godmothers, 9:30pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Walter Wright's Electrical World, 7-9 pm, $7; 3Play, 7-9 pm, $8.
ZuZu Pants Yell, Mane.
Les Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Abbey Lounge Royal Pop Collective, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The All-Asia Café Mark Byers, 6 pm; Note to Self, 9 pm.
The Asgard Sky.
The Attic The Brand.
Avalon Medeski Martin & Wood, Tarantula, 6:30 pm, $22.25.
Avenue One Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 5:30 pm.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm-9pm.
The Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shannon Aaron, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Groove Authority 21+.
Club Passim Nadine Goellner, Colleen Sexton, 8 pm, $10-$12.
Dick's Last Resort All Dressed Up, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Harpers Ferry Pink Floyd Show with the Hugh McGowan Band, Dun Proper, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grill Eilen Jewell, 5-8 pm, no cover.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Ash and the Bravery April 15, Axis (617-931-2000).
Bowling for Soup, American Hi-Fi, Riddlin' Kids, MC Lars April 7, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Michelle Branch & Jessica Harp March 25, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Vanessa Carlton March 18, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Dropkick Murphys March 16-20, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Marianne Faithfull March 15, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Interpol, Q and not U March 9, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Ray Lamontagne, Missy Higgins April 1, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Maroon 5, the Donnas April 2, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).
Pat Metheny Group March 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Perceptionists March 23, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Rusted Root March 30, Avalon (617-931-2000).
The Samples March 20, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Jill Scott March 13, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Soundtrack of Our Lives March 23, Axis (617-931-2000).
Toots & the Maytals March 26, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Steve Vai, Eric Sardinas March 25, Avalon (617-931-2000).
The Wailers April 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Widespread Panic April 12, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).

Johnny D's House Jacks and Beel'zebubs, 9 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kinsale Brick Park.
Kirkland Café Chezwick, 8 pm; Alia, 9 pm; Emily White, 10 pm; Steph Taylor, 11 pm; $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 8 pm; Nikulydin, 9:30 pm, $7.
Lucky Lounge Alex MacDougall.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight.
Middle East Downstairs: Brett Rosenberg, Emergency Music, the So and So's, the Everyday Visuals, $10, 18+. Upstairs: Sidpa Bardo, Disorder by Design, Devoid, 16 Stitches, Blackline, Escape to Everything, Leaving Eden, 26Beers, 8:30 pm, $12-$15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi.
Matt Muprhy's Round Midnight, 10:30 pm.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
PA's The Juliet Kilo, 9 pm; Cannonball Jane, 10 pm; the Westward Trail, 11 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paradise Lounge: Tom McRae Residency with Susan Enan, 6 pm, $8, 18+. Rock Club: On Fire, Caspian with Meneguar and Paul Michel, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Patty O's Swerve.
Plough and Stars Brass Roots, 9 pm.
Regattabar Shemekia Copeland, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Temporada Latina, 8:30 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Joe Bonamassa, 8 and 10 pm, $16.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Longwave, I Love You but I've Chosen Darkness, the December Sound, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Eric Platz & James Falzone, 9:30-11:30 pm, $7; Night of the Living Hammond B3s, 9:30-11:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu Baker.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Abbey Lounge Asa Brebner, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+
All-Asia Café The Highway, 8 pm; Less Lonesom 10 pm.
Asgard Tom Groleau & Stu Lee.
The Attic Chad LaMarsh with Novacane.
Avalon Big Head Todd & the Monsters, Carbon Lea 7 pm, $22.50.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well, 9:3 pm; Upstairs: Celtic Clan, 10:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm-9pm.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis and Patrick Mu ray, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrille 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Tom Russell and Andrew Hardin, 8pr $18-$20.
DeVille Lounge Ray Greene, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Big Back Yard, 8:30 pm-1:30 ar no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Incadence.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am
The Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Guns 'n' Roses Tribute with Heathe 9 pm, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Freeze Pop.
Johnny D's James McMurtry, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kaji Aso Prana Trio, 7-9 pm, $8 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm; Sprin Hill Rounders, 9 pm-1 am.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pn Rakusin, 9:30 pm; Blue Train, 10:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Aaron Shadwe and Engine, 8 pm; Bowman and Amusia, 9:30 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Alex Macdougall.
Matt Murphy's Zion Blood.
Middle East Downstairs: Garage Dogs, Space Puss the Snaggs, TV Eye, the Collisions, $10, 18+. Up stairs: The Canucks, the Jungle Boys, Seduced b Madness, Saving Alcatraz, Common Thrill, Malic in Leatherland, the Conspiracy, Paranoid Arm, 8:3 pm, $12-$15, 18+.
Midway Café The Soupbone Throne, 9pm.
Milky Way The Foundation & Friends, 9 pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5-7 pm; Patsy an Tony, 9 pm-2 am.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.

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logging Molly headlines a show at Avalon on March 2.

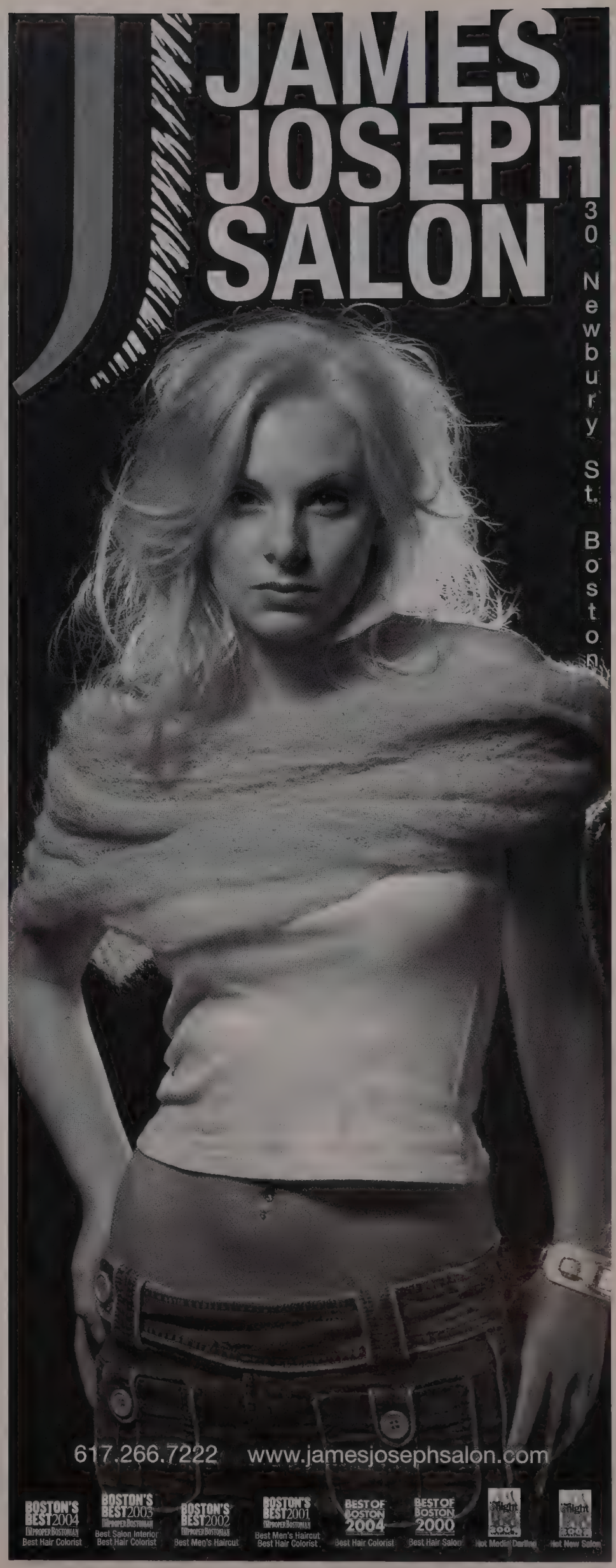
Brien's Suspect Device, the Welch Boys, 5 Shot
lit, $6.
adise Lounge: Kate Terrio with Amy Fairchild
Carla Ryder, 9 pm, $8, 21+. Rock Club: The Fu-
heads, the Shout Out Louds and High Speed
ne, 8 pm, $10-$12, 18+.
ris Split Decision, 10 pm, $5-$10.
s Greg Weeks, Viking Moses, Fern Knight, $8,
.
dy O's Syndicate.
ugh and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6 pm; Los Diablos, 9
gattabar Shemekia Copeland, 7:30 and 10 pm,
.
es Jazz Club Ken Clark, 9 pm, $10.
llers Jazz Club The Supremes' Mary Wilson, 8
10:30 pm, $40.
nerville Theatre Mark Olson and Gary Louris,
pm, $22.50.
of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
the Bear's Place Jake Brennan and the Confi-
ce Men, Unbusted, Dirty Truckers, International
Pal, $10.
tgeist Gallery Andy Pratt & Band, 7-9 pm, $7;
conscious Café New Chamber Music presents
nie Giola & Adam Lane, 9:30-11:30 pm, $15.
Zu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

ATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

bey Lounge Asa Brebner, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asia Café Lucas Carpenter Band, 7 pm; Radhy
ntero Orchestra, 9:30 pm.
Attic R.J. and the Imperatives.
nue One Leah Souza Quartet, 7-11pm.
's Bar Dub Station, 10 pm, $8 21+.
Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4-7 pm; Sunday's
ll, 9:30 pm. Celtic Clan, 10:30 pm.
Burren The Bagboys, 5-7pm; Tommy, Louise,
ena Delaney and Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
ntab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers 9
21+.
b Passim Punks Are Folks Too, Pete Depressed,
is Lamy & Wimpy, Jonee Earthquake, Lenny
hley, Malibu Lou, 8 pm, $8-$10.
Ville Lounge Evan Goodrow Band, 10:30 pm, no
er.
k's Last Resort Sol City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no
er.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
npshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Harp Split Decision, 10 pm, $10.
per's Ferry The Young Dubliners, $10, 21+.
nessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Pig Pen.
rricane O'Reilly Ryan Bis.
nny D's Babaloo, 9:45 pm, $10.
sale Christy O'Connell.
kland Café Funk 'n' Jazz Revue: Rollo Tomasi
artet, 8:30 pm, Greesome, 9:30 pm; Driftwood
zen, 11 pm, $5.
ird Lounge Soul Low featuring David Johnston,
pm; Anne Heaton, 9:30 pm, $10.
ky's Lounge Al Vega Trio, 7 pm.
t Murphy's Brian Thomas.
Middle East Downstairs: Audible Mainframe, $12, 18+. Upstairs: The Outsiders, Stryk Nine, Specimen 37, Inner Self Lost, Severance, Saturn, Eso, Jonathan's Distortion, 8:30 pm, $12-$15, 18+.
Midway Café Tokyo Tramps, Coppersonic.
Milky Way Jess Yoakum, Sarah Borges and Cara Frankowicz, 8 pm, $5.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's Random Acts of Violence, Dead Like Death, Bugs and Rats, Rummy Rumsfield and the Klopecks, $6.
Orpheum Theatre Ron White, 7:30 and 10:30 pm, $34.75-$39.75.
Paradise Lounge: Grace Potter, 9 pm, $7, 21+. Rock Club: Averi, Oval Opus, Honestly, 8 pm, $13-$15, 18+.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $5-10. .
PA's Au Revoir Simone, 8:45 pm; Ponies in the Surf, 9:45 pm, Tigersaw, 10:45 pm; Certainly Sir, 11:45 pm; $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's The Marcels.
Plough and Stars Flexible Flyer String Band, 5 pm; Hot Day at the Zoo, 9 pm.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park.
Ryles Jazz Club Chicken Slacks Soul Revue, 8 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club The Supremes' Mary Wilson, 8 and 10:30 pm, $40.
Tír na nÓg Kevin Connolly.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bags, the Konks, Antler, $10-$12.
Zeitgeist Gallery Nathaniel Hartman, 4-5 pm, $7; Invisible Cities, 7-9 pm, $8; Cirque Du Singe Brisé #9 Avant-Cabaret, 9:30 pm-12 am, $8.
ZuZu Soul le lu jah.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Abbey Lounge Asa Brebner, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Avalon Tesla, 7 pm, $25.
The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4-7 pm; Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster 11:30 am-3 pm.
The Breezeway Ross Rollins Trio, 12-3 pm.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3-6 pm; the American Session Band, 6-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Todd Martin, David Berkeley, 7:30 pm, $8-$10.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Tom Grolieu.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Mathew Dorko & Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Mark Mahar and the Al Vega Trio, 8 pm.
Matt Murphy's Bud E. Green, 10 pm.



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Hot Hot Heat plays Axis March 7 along with the Information and Louis XIV.

Middle East Downstairs: Rachels, Invert, Kevin Devine, 7 pm, $15-$18, 18+. Upstairs: The Unholy Mothers, Steal the City, Alterego, Why Versus Rome, Mondaje, CC40, Hydraulic Sandwich, the Noisy Monster Cage, 7:30 pm, $12-$15, 18+.
Midway Café Tsunami Relief Benefit #2: William Sargent, B.J. Snowden, Andres Wilson, the Leon Rich Band, Funeral Barkers, 6 pm.
Milky Way Jess Yoakum, Sarah Borges, Cara Frankowicz, 8 pm, $5.
O'Brien's Sad Marvin, Juniper's Daughter, the Residence, Cahill, $6.
Paradise Lounge: The Hidden, Disaster Strikes, 8 pm, $5-$8, 18+. Rock Club: Kings of Leon, 7 pm, $17.50, 18+.
PA's The Fiji Mermen 8 pm; Bliltzkrieg Bliss, 9 pm; the Amazing Poundcakes, 10 pm; Nobody's Heroes, 11 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Kevin Byrne Group.
Plough and Stars Hatrack Gallagher, the Ric Maure Trio, 5 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.
Sanders Theater An Evening with Paul Brady, 8 pm, $30-$75.
Scullers Jazz Club Richie Havens, 7 and 9 pm, $25
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Chainletter, Din, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Pablo Ablanedo Group, 1:30-3 pm, $8; Bedouin Tent Belly Dance Celebration, 4-6 pm, $9; Vardan Ousepian, 7-9 pm, $10; the Vortex Presents, 9:30 pm-12 am, $5.
ZuZu Wheelers and Dealers.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Axis Pepper, Authority Zero, Beautiful Girls, 7 pm, $10-12.
Berklee Performance Center From Gospel to Hip Hop II, 7 pm, $15.50.
The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costello, Tommy Peoples, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bill Passalaqua 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Paul Simon tribute night, 7 pm, $6-$12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Walkins, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Matt Murphy's State of the Art, 10pm.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm; Starhick, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Tsunami Victims Benefit: The Receiving End of Sirens, Junction 18, the Laura Glyda Band, Nalband, the Valentine Brothers, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Midway Café Midway Groove Thang.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint, 8:30 pm.
Roxy Danzig. 8 pm, $23.
Tír na nÓg The Benders.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Porsches on the Autobahn, Hurray for Earth, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sesroh, 7-9 pm, $7; The Fringe, 10 pm-12:30 am, $7.
ZuZu Ryan Walsh, Kristina Johnson.
Les Zygomates Yoki Miwa.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy and M Glover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party 8 pm, Ch Pandolfi and the Bluegrass Mafia, 10 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Pat Wictor, 7 pm, $
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Johnny D's April Verch, 8:30 pm, $10.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Alexis on Fire, Cod Emanuel, Black Maria, 7 pm, $12. Upstairs: All P allels, Baby Boy H, Fragile, the Hanging Garden, 18+.
Milky Way The Toasters, Honeycreeper, the Inst mentals.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 8 pm.
Regattabar Obbini Tumbao, 7:30 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 p $10.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub The Tony Carelli Trio, 8:30 pm, cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Svengali Cabaret, 7-8:40 p $5; the Anarchist Coffeehouse, 9 pm-12 am, $5.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Abbey Lounge Furvis, 9 pm; Fooled by April, 10 p Scamper, 12 am, $5-$7, 21+.
Avalon Flogging Molly, Hot Water Music, Ri Boat Gambler, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm-9pm.
The Burren Peter Molloy and Fabian Joyce, 9 pm
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim JJ Baron, Slaid Cleaves, 8pm, $13-$
Dick's Last Resort Music Shmusic, 7:30 pm, cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 a
Johnny D's New Birth Brass Band, 8:30 pm, $12.
Middle East Downstairs: The Toasters, Westbou Train, Stray Bullets, $10-$12, 18+. Upstairs: I Barlow, Chris Brokaw, Mark Schwaber, $12, 18+.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: The Frames with Mark Ge 7 pm, $12, 18+.
Scullers Jazz Club Geoffrey Hicks , 8 and 10 pm, $
Regattabar The David Bond Group, 7:30 pm, $1
Somerville Theatre The Finn Brothers, 7:30 p $25.
Top of the Hub The Tony Carelli Trio, 8:30 pm, cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Runner and the Thermo namics, Centro-matic, the Baptist Generals, $8.
The Western Front Kiego Hirakawa Sextet, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm-9pm.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy Shannon Aaron.

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antab Lounge Groove Authority, 9 pm.
ub Passim Rebecca Hall, The Strawbs Acoustic io, 8pm, $18-$20.
ck's Last Resort Jennerators, 8 pm, no cover.
e Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
mpshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
gh Street Grill Eilen Jewell, 5-8 pm, no cover.
rkland Café David Harold, 8 pm; Homesteaders, 9 ı; Red Shift, 10 pm; Brother Willie, 11 pm; $5.
ddle East Downstairs: Subtle, Irepress, $12, 18+. ɔstairs: Clarias, Fistagon, 48 Rooms, Sister Do- ıtilla, 8:30 pm, $12-$15, 18+.
ık Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
's La Liga, 9 pm; Blanks, 10 pm; Feldspar, 11 pm; ortfilm, 12 am, $5-$7, 21+.
gattabar Madeleine Peyroux, Sonia Kitchell, ;0 pm and 10pm, $25.
les Jazz Club Temporada Latina, 8:30 pm, $12.
ullers Jazz Club Eric Comstock, Hilary Kole, ıristopher Gines, 8 and 10 pm, $22.
- na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
p of the Hub The Tony Carelli Trio, 8:30 pm, no ver.
T. the Bear's Place Lock and Key, the Callup, age, Barlow, $8.

RIDAY, MARCH 4

is The Juliana Theory and Zao, Open Hand, ıai Beach, the Takeover, 5:30 pm, $12-$14.
e Attic Planet M.O.O.D.
avo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm-9pm.
e Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm; Bobby kes, 10:30 pm.
e Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
ntab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers 9 pm.
ıb Passim Brooks Williams, 8pm, $13-$15.
mmon Ground The Joint Chiefs, $5.
Ville Lounge Flipside, 10 pm, no cover.
:k's Last Resort Rumor Hazzet, 8:30 pm, no cover.
mpshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
nny D's Sean Costello, 9:45 pm, $8.
kland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm; ɔove of the Day, 9:30 pm, Birdface, 10:30 pm, the :, 11:30 pm, $5.
ddle East Upstairs: Tester, Salacious Crumb, Better t Unsaid, Melt, Jon Gorey Band, Shangoaxe.com, Bind, the Fellas, 8:30 pm, $12-$15, 18+.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Paradise Lounge: Shivaree, 9pm, $10-$12, 21+.
PA's Thee Electric Bastards, the Snow Leopards, Steel Poniez, Hilken Mancini, the Count Me Outs, $5-$7, 21+.
Scullers Jazz Club Roy Haynes, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22.
Top of the Hub The Tony Carelli Group, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ambulance Ltd., VHS or Beta, the Cyanide Valentine, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Tim Feeney, 7-9 pm, $7; An Evening of Fairytales, 9:30 pm-12 am, $5.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

The Attic Colorado Songwriters Circle.
Berklee Performance Center Mary Black, 8 pm, $28-$40.
The Black Rose Dave Foley, 4-7 pm; Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm; Bobby Folkes, 10:30 pm.
The Burren The Bagboys, 5-7 pm; Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers 9 pm.
Club Passim Kreg Viesselman, Carrie Newcomer, 7 and 10 pm, $13-$15.
DeVille Lounge Jose Ramos, 10 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Bangbox, 8:30 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter Motley Crue, 7:30 pm, $35-$75.
Harpers Ferry The Knot (Formerly Slipknot), $8, 21+.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Hurricane O'Reilly's Ryan Bis.
Johnny D's Tarbox Ramblers, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Natalie Flanagan Band, 9 pm; Jon Macey and the Score, 10 pm; Third Rail, 11 pm; $5.
Lucky's Lounge Al Vega Trio, 7 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Ratatat, the Double, Big Digits, $12, 18+. Upstairs: the McGunks, Fuzbuni, the Fair Enough, the Void, Sin City Chainsaw, Skin, the Bright Side, Cause of Insanity, 8:30 pm, $12-$15, 18+.
Milky Way Annie Clark, Heidi Saperstein, Pretty the Boat, Go*Machine.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Dear Leader, 8pm, $10-$12, 18+.
PA's Mittens, the Lot Six, Higgins, $5-$7, 21+.
Regattabar Omar Sosa & Mino Cinelu Duo, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Scullers Jazz Club Roy Haynes, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22.
Top of the Hub The Tony Carelli Group, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ominous Collective Avant-Cabaret, 7-9 pm, $7; Color & Talea with Cerulean City, 9:30 pm-12 am, $10.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic Jiggle the Handle.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Dave Foley, 4-7 pm; Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 11:30 am-3 pm.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3-6 pm; the American Session Band, 6-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Rushad Eggleston, 7:30, $10-$12.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm
Lucky's Lounge Mark Mahar and the Al Vega Trio, 8 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: New Model Army, $15-$17, 18+. Upstairs: Becky Make Believe, Stone Blue, Space'n, the Andres Wilson Band, It's Alright Nightingale, Motherseat, Wire Temp, Twitch27, 7:30 pm, $12-$15, 18+.
Orpheum Theatre Juanes, 8 pm, $45-$55.
PA's Mycroft, 8 pm; Piles, 9 pm; Cataract Camp, 10 pm; the Cotton Ponies, 11 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch, 10 am, no cover; Battle of the Bands, 4 pm, $5.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Beep Beep, Medication, Edie Sedgwick, Shark and Bear, $8.

MONDAY, MARCH 7

Axis Hot Hot Heat, Louis XIV, the Information, 7 pm, $15.
The Burren Johnny O' Leary, Vinny Costello, Tommy Peoples, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8 pm.
Club Passim Peter Dutton, 8 pm, $6-$8.
Dick's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Wild Blue, $3, 21+.
Johnny D's Grub Street presents Riot Act Open Mike, 7 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Luke Temple, the End of the World, Will Brierly, the Midnight Set, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Lungfish, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sesroh, 7-9 pm, $7; the Fringe, 10 pm-12 am, $10.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Matt Glover, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Peter Neuendorffe, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Middle East Upstairs: Keren Ann, A Girl Named Eddy, Rachel Cantu, $10, 18+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 8 pm.
Roxy Sugarcult, Hawthorne Heights, 6 pm, $16.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club David Sanborn, 8 and 10 pm, $40.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Café *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*

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Wednesday and Thursday evenings,
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No cover charge.

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Carbon Leaf opens for Big Head Todd & the Monsters at Avalon February 25

Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue.*
DeVille Lounge *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kaji Aso Studio *40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Str*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (61 482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617 232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Villa*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-49 9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-52 3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656 MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. Jam Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-624 MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121) MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (6 562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-880 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (61 776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051) MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambri (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623 5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-53 1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Stephen Drury leads the Callithumpian Consort in its first-ever performance of Iannis Xenakis' *Kraanerg.*

Triple Helix Piano Trio Lecture-Recital: Music from the Inside Out
Jewett Auditorium, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu/music/concerts. MBTA: D Green Line to Wellesley 12:30 pm. Free. The trio performs Ravel's *Exploring Hidden Connections.*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Ingo Metzmacher leads the BSO in the American premiere of Karl Amadeus Hartmann's 4th Symphony, plus Mozart's wind serenade, *Gran Partita.*

Boston University College of Fine Arts
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 8 pm. Free. David Martins conducts the Boston University Wind Ensemble in a performance of works by Richard Strauss, Bruce Broughton and others.

Longy Musical Evening
Mendelssohn Recital Room, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. This informal recital series features students from Longy's conservatory, preparatory and continuing Studies programs.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Longy faculty members Jayne West (soprano), Tom Gaines (cello), Robert Merfeld (piano) and guest pianist Frank Kelley present a program titled Seven Decades of Fauré.

Mary Baker Eddy Library Showcase
The Atrium at the Mary Baker Eddy Library, 200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6-8 pm. Local musicians Courtney Lee and Ethan Rowe perform on the flute and piano.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC Jordan Winds perform selections by Boris Tchchenko and Mendelssohn.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as Feb. 24.

Kynesha Patterson and Lisa DeSiro
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-461-1225). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. 2002 Longy graduates Kynesha Patterson (soprano) and Lisa DeSiro (piano) perform songs and arias.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as Feb. 24.

Chorus Pro Musica Presents Romeo and Juliette
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-497-7442). www.choruspromusica.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $25-$55. Director Jeffrey Rink leads the chorus in a performance of works by Hector Berlioz.

Composer Portraits Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5156). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 7 pm. $25-$30. Director George Steel and the Pacifica String Quartet present the music of Nicolai Roslavets, featuring soprano Elizabeth Farnum and pianist Margaret Kampmeier.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Bank of America Celebrity Series
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $37-$77. The Orchestre National de France performs Debussy's *Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra*, Ravel's *Piano Concerto in G Minor* and Rimsky-Korsakov's *Schéhérazade.*

Boston Conservatory Hemenway Strings
The Boston Conservatory, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-92222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynres/ICA. 7 pm. Free. The string ensemble performs Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 5*, Handel's *Concerto Grosso*, Noam Elkies' *Brandenburg Concerto No. 7* and Ernest Bloch's *Concerto Grosso No. 1.*

Chamber Orchestra of Boston
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.chamberorchestraofboston.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $15-$55. The premiere performance of Vuk Kulenovic's *Double Concerto Grosso* features violinist Biliana Voutchkova.

Composer Portraits Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston(617-278-5156). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $10-$20. Same program as Feb. 26.

Elite Syncopations: Ragtime Gems
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-254-1125). www.amclass.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm, $15-$20. The American Classics ensemble presents a performance of vocal and instrumental ragtime music.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356) www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music presents Bach's Cantata BMV 48.

Longy Faculty Recital
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. This faculty artist recital features pianists Deborah Beers and Shaylor Lindsay, violinist Frank Powdermaker and cellist Lynn Nowels playing works by Debussy, Brahms, Chopin, Bartók, Frazin and Beethoven.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $5. The NEC honors 19th-century composer Anatol Lyadov with a concert highlighting his works.

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra Masterpieces in Miniature
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu/~memhall/sanders.html. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $9-$45. Gunther Schuller leads the orchestra in a program featuring Copland's Appalachian Spring and Wagner's Siegfried Idyll.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC's Concert Choir, Chamber Singers and Women's Chorus perform.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

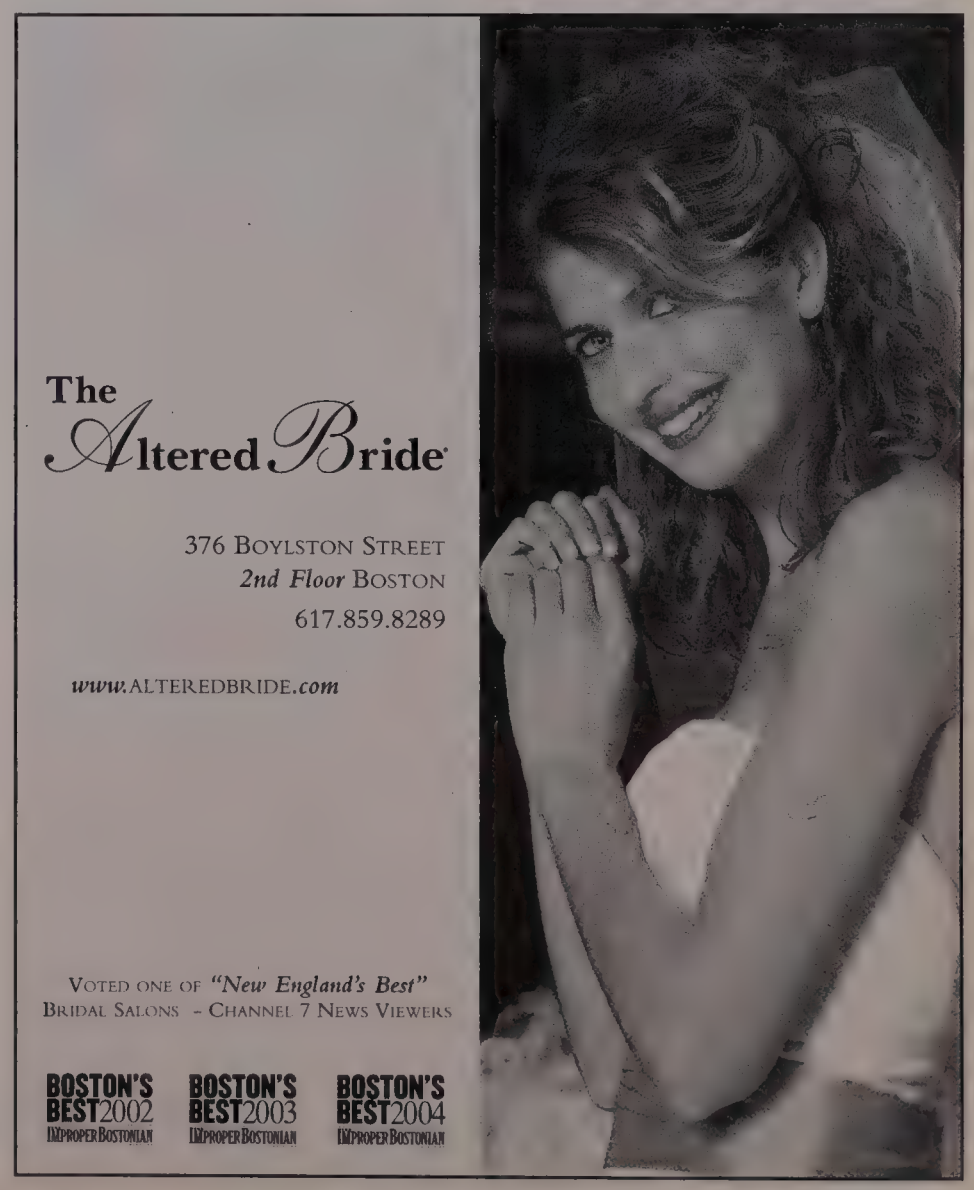
MusicMoves Boston
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae. org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15. Pianist Virginia Eskin and the CCAE present Women of Note: 400 Years of Women Composers.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7 pm. Free. The Borromeo String Quartet performs all six Bartok string quartets.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Tuesday Night New Music features works by NEC student composers.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Lydian String Quartet
Brandeis University, Rapaporte Treasure Hall, Goldfarb Library, 415 South St., Waltham. (781-736-



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Ingo Metzmacher leads the BSO in works by Mozart and Hartmann February 24.

4867). www.brandeis.edu/arts/abc. MBTA: 12 pm, free. The quartet performs works by Mozart and Beethoven.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC Chamber Orchestra performs Golijov's *Last Round for String Ensemble*, Ives' *Symphony No. 3, Camp Meeting* and Richard Strauss' *Metamorphosen*.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Pianist Alfred Brendel joins James Levine and the BSO in a performance of works by Haydn, Mozart and Schubert.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as March 3.

Church of the Advent Festival of Favorites
The Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston (617-523-2377). www.theadvent.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $25-$75. This concert, benefiting the restoration campaign for the Advent Choir of the Church of the Advent, features conductor Edith Ho and organ soloist Ross Wood.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as March 3.

New Music Brandeis: Notes for the New Century
Slosbery Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). 8 pm. Free. The New York Music Ensemble performs works by Brandeis graduate composers.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

Bank of America Celebrity Series
Sanders Theatre, Memorial Hall, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge. (617-482-2595) www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $33-48. The Los Angeles Guitar Quartet and percussionist Colin Currie perform a concert of classical, jazz and traditional world music.

Boston Early Music Festival
St. Paul Church, Bow and Arrow Streets, Cambridge (617-661-1812). www.bemf.org. 3 pm. $21-$53. The Hilliard Ensemble, an English vocal grou performs Dufay's *Missa se la Face Ay Pale*.

Boston Symphony Orchestra Community Concerts
Bethany Congregational Church, 18 Spear S Quincy (617-638-9300) 3 pm. Free. Violinists X Ding and Catherine French, violist Rebecca G ter and cellist Owen Young perform works Haydn and Schubert.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Seri
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (61 536-3356) www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBT Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanu Music presents Bach's Cantata BMV 101.

Gardner Sunday Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fe way, Boston (617-278-5156). www.gardn museum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 1: pm. $12-$20. Conductor Douglas Boyd and t Gardner Chamber Orchestra, featuring cell Laurence Lesser, present works by Hindemith a Beethoven.

MusicMoves Boston
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle S Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBT Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15. Same program March 1.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (61 585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.ed MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Fr The NEC Brass Bash features classic pieces f brass along with the premiere of NEC faculty N man Bolter's concerto, *Keeper of the Cosmic Sea*

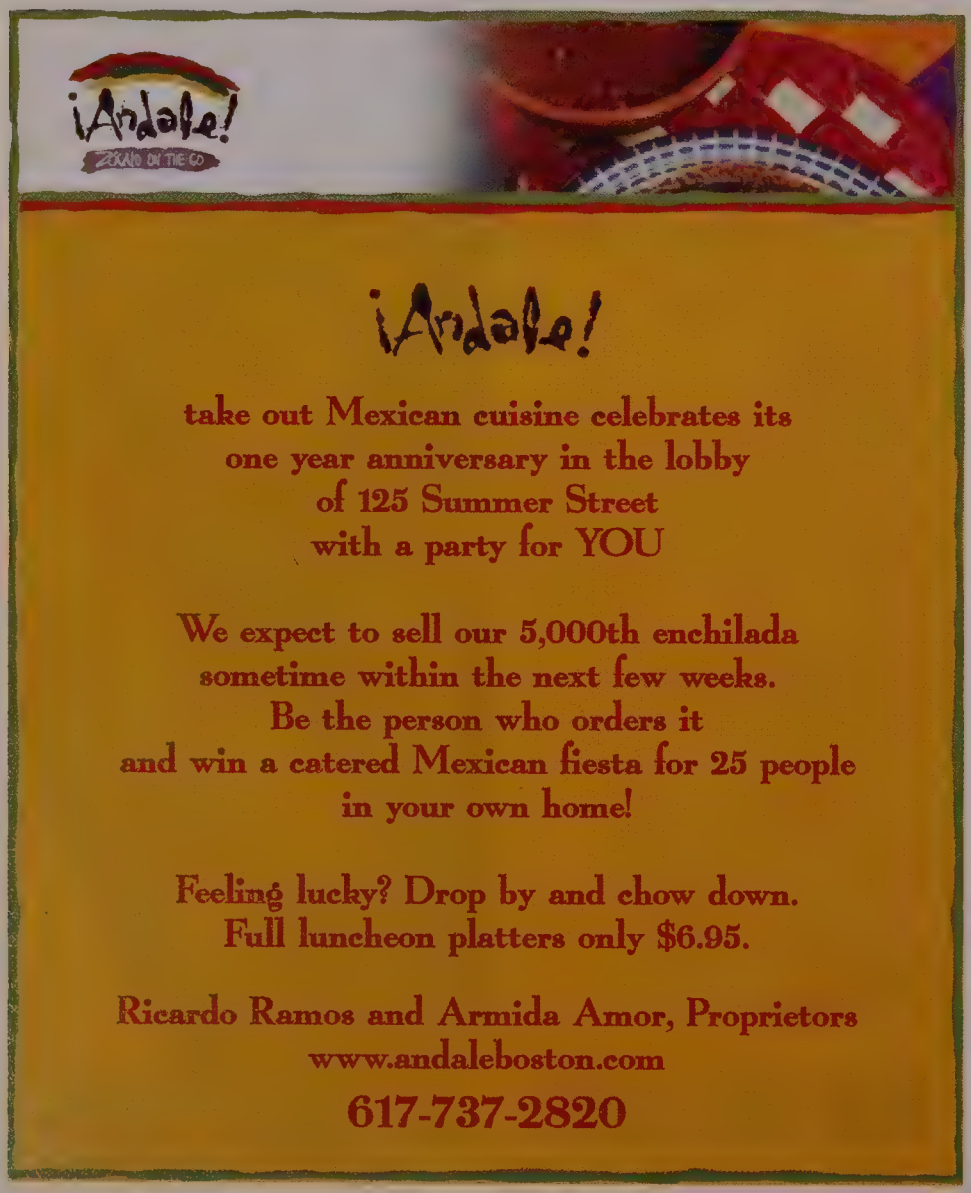
Organ Recital and Choral Evensong
Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston (61 523-2377). www.theadvent.org. MBTA: Gre Line to Arlington. Organ, 4:30 pm; choral, 5 p Free. Michael Zadig conducts the Church of t Advent choir and featured organist Andr Scanlon.

MONDAY, MARCH 7

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (61 585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.ed MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. olinist James Buswell performs the works of R manian composer George Enesco.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

Boston Conservatory Piano Masters
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-91 9240) www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBT Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Pian Michael Lewin performs works by Debus Schumann and Liszt.



dance clubs

Nights

ONDAYS

n Tua Nua
remony A night of gothic and industrial music, m, $3, 19+.

cis
atic Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, pm, $7, 19+.

oston Rocks
rtini Mondays DJ spins top-40, plus open mike d interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

aprice
ddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a x of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 , no cover, 21+.

olden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo-vn, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Green Briar
h seisiun.

reen Street Grill
arn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after les-), 21+.

hoenix Landing
kka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, pm, $3, 21+.

he Place
spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
ekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musi-face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

int
.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno ns house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no er, 21+.

JESDAYS

ia
ustry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

oston Rocks
ooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 , no cover, 21+.

aprice
Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no er, 21+.

nbassy
Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Enormous Room
ul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

olden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo-vn, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

hoenix Landing
ake" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Place
spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, .

he Purple Shamrock
aoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
vesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at m, no cover, 21+.

mor
ght varies with an assortment of performances l themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

les Dance Hall
vana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night ures an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

nu
NT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins -hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

EDNESDAYS

n Tua Nua
McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ia
ns of Life Guest DJ's spins progressive house for a and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, 19+.

oston Rocks
mp Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and ce music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no er, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clery's
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts live performances and spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Weekly rotation of underground dance, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

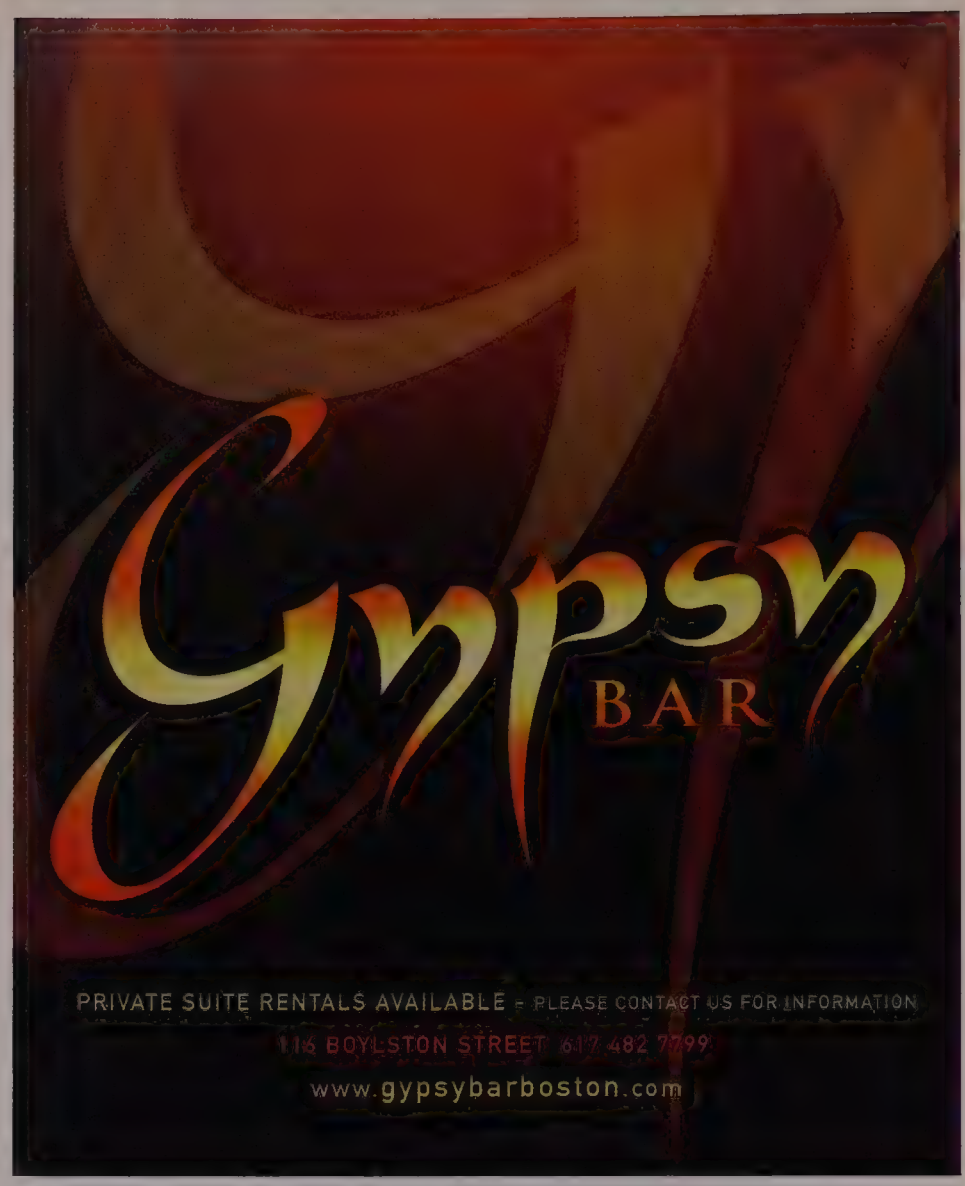
Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

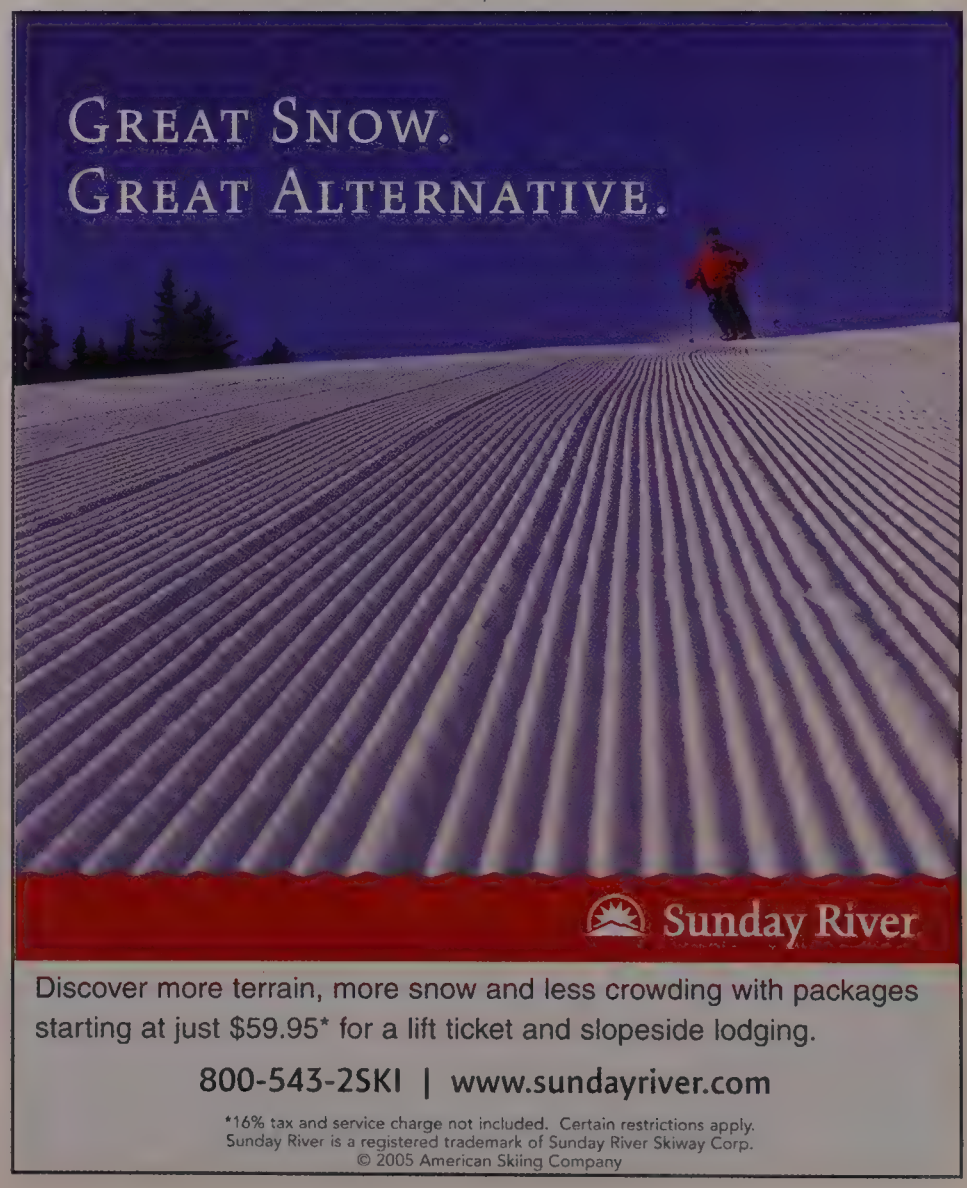
Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

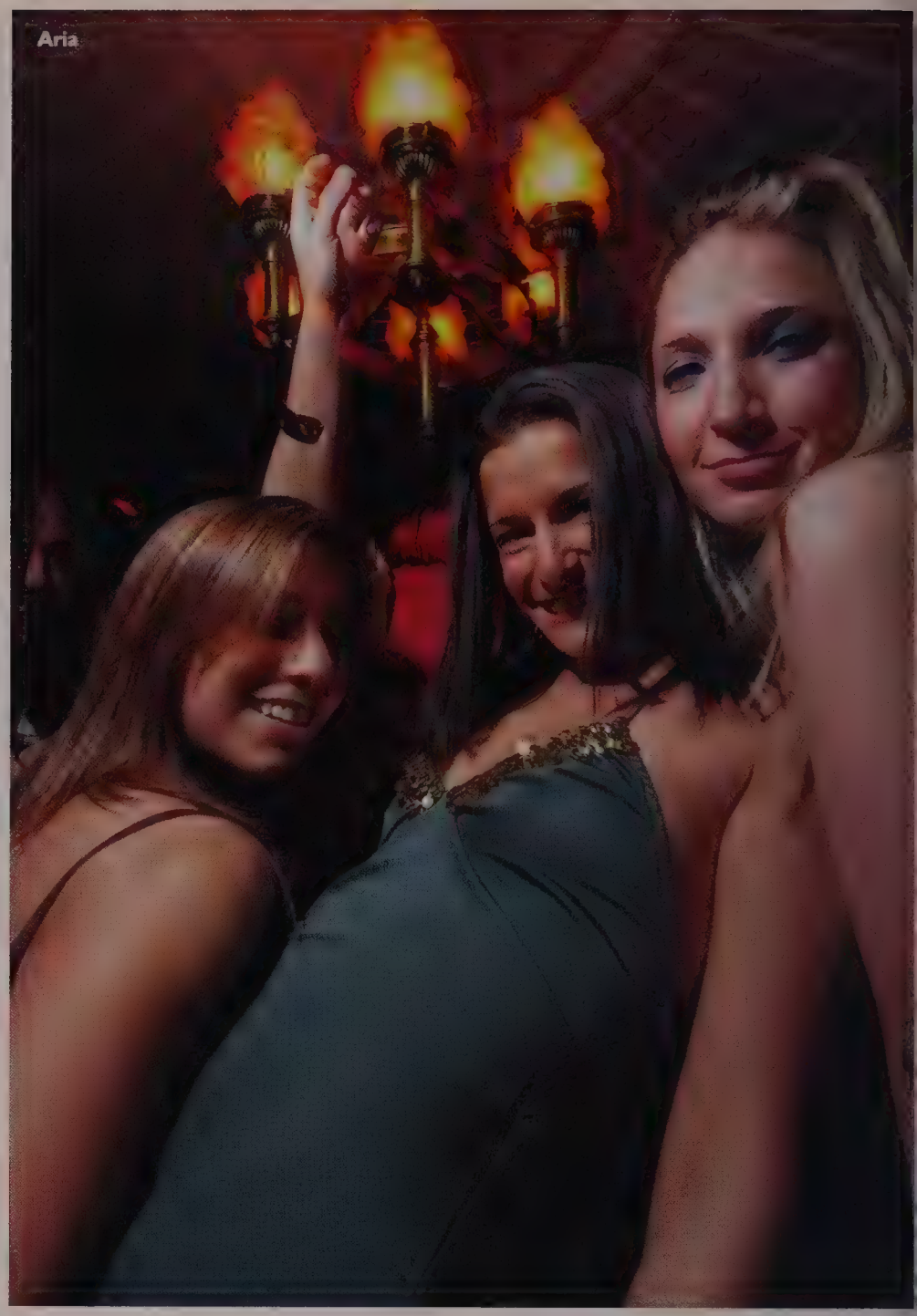
Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.







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The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band plays reggae and funk, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Touch DJs spin urban groove and club classics, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-h all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music a samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin pa classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spi mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons a dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loun music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hi hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul a rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cov

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-scho hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech a funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
uperlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from ıe '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

ıria
oundation Fridays DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R&B ıd classics, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

ıvalon
valand International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

he Avenue
J Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1 n, no cover, 21+.

ıxis
avor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15,)+.

ig Easy Bar
elebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spin- ing top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover ınds, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

ill's Bar
ve cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 n, 21+.

oston Rocks
ridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a ght of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip- op tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

aprice
J Kamal and DJ Kon spins a mix of international, ıtin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

lerys
J Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

lub Europa
vist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and 0s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15,)+, after 11 pm.

oogan's
J Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, .+.

osmopolitan
uropean Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style usic, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

evlin's
J Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance usic, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ockside
Js spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, +.

kco Lounge
ıe Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s ı the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

mbassy
ersuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, 0, 19+.

he Enormous Room
l-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from p-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

elt
ansion Fridays After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 08's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, p-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

olden Temple
ıe E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s ıd vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

reen Briar
J FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1am, no cover, +.

reen Street Grill
ouse band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, , 21+.

ypsy Bar
J Gabe spins.

he Harp
riday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins wnstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Feb. 25: Flavor.

urricane O'Reilly's
J spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 n, 21+.

D
ashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

se McIntyre's
Js spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

invara Pub
J Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, &B and pop, 21+.

he Kells
ıdies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance ıile DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, dies free before midnight, 21+.

iquor Store
J Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

latrix/Paradise City
J Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ Steve inelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

lcGann's
Js spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

liddlesex Lounge
J Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and p-hop, no cover.

he Modern
o DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno, disco music, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show, 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Feb. 25: Flavor.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
International Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

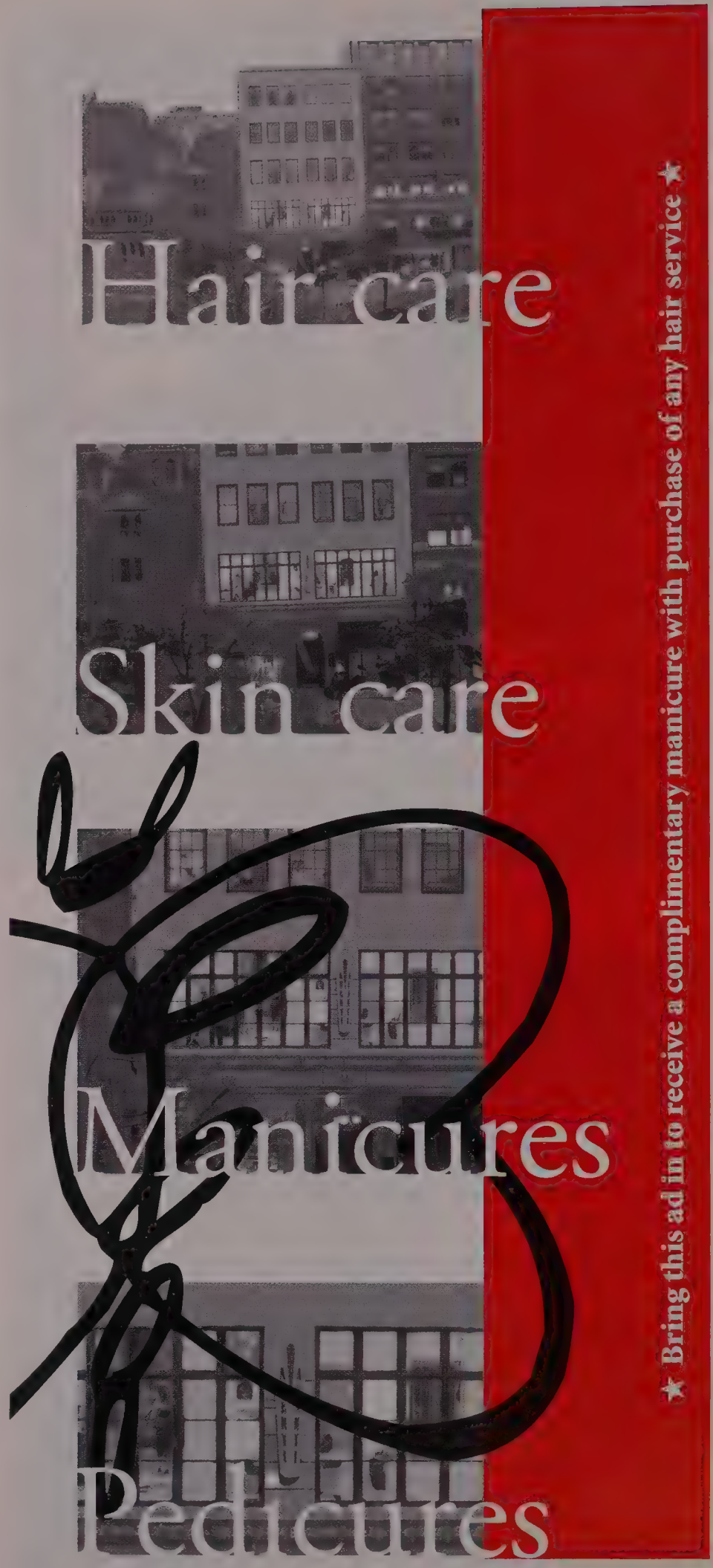
Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

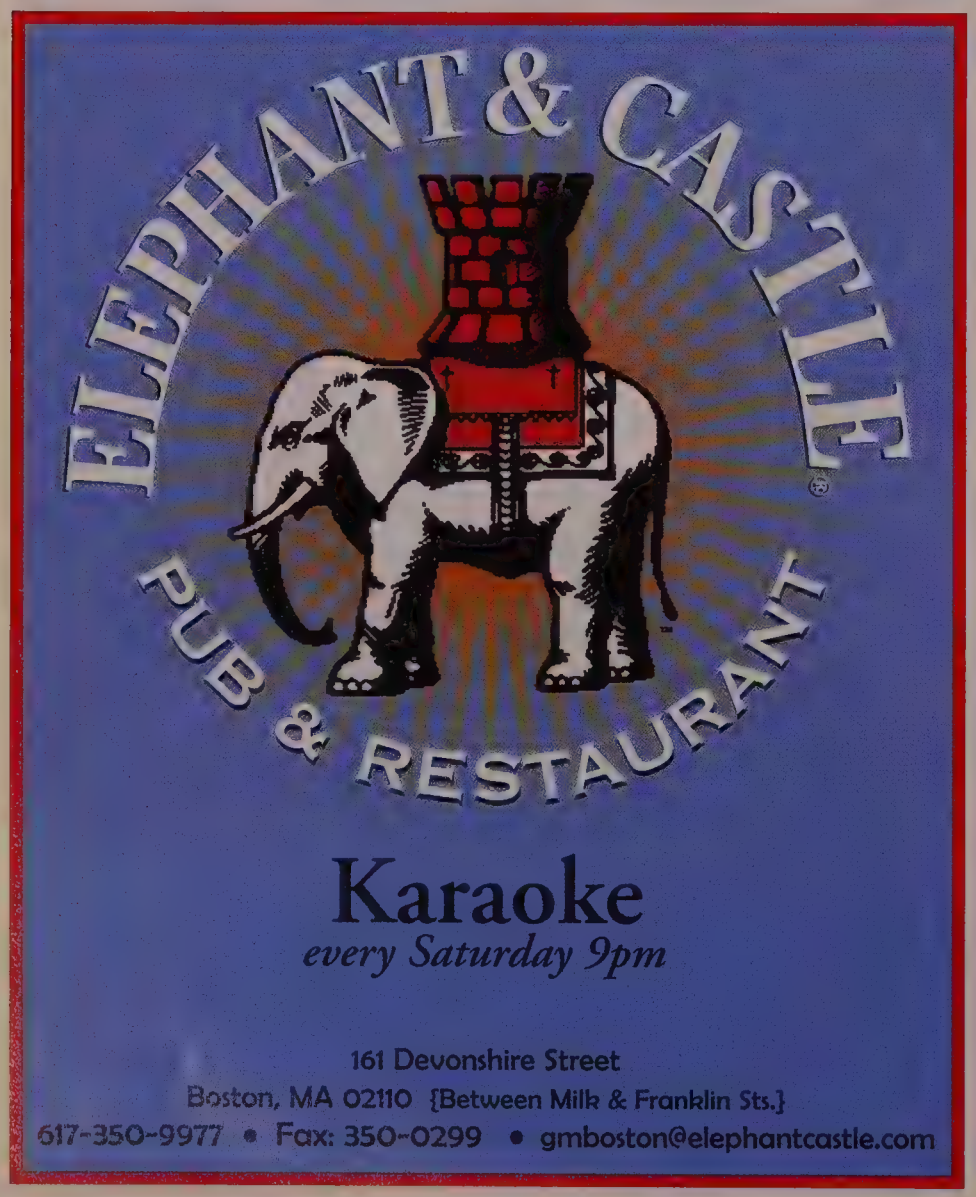
Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.





Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
The Penthouse Club DJ Tanerk spins house on the fourth floor. Also, DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance on the first floor. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Feb. 26: Split Decision.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Buddha spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis DJs Frank and Matty spin a mix of rock, retro and electro beats, 10 pm, $5, 18+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

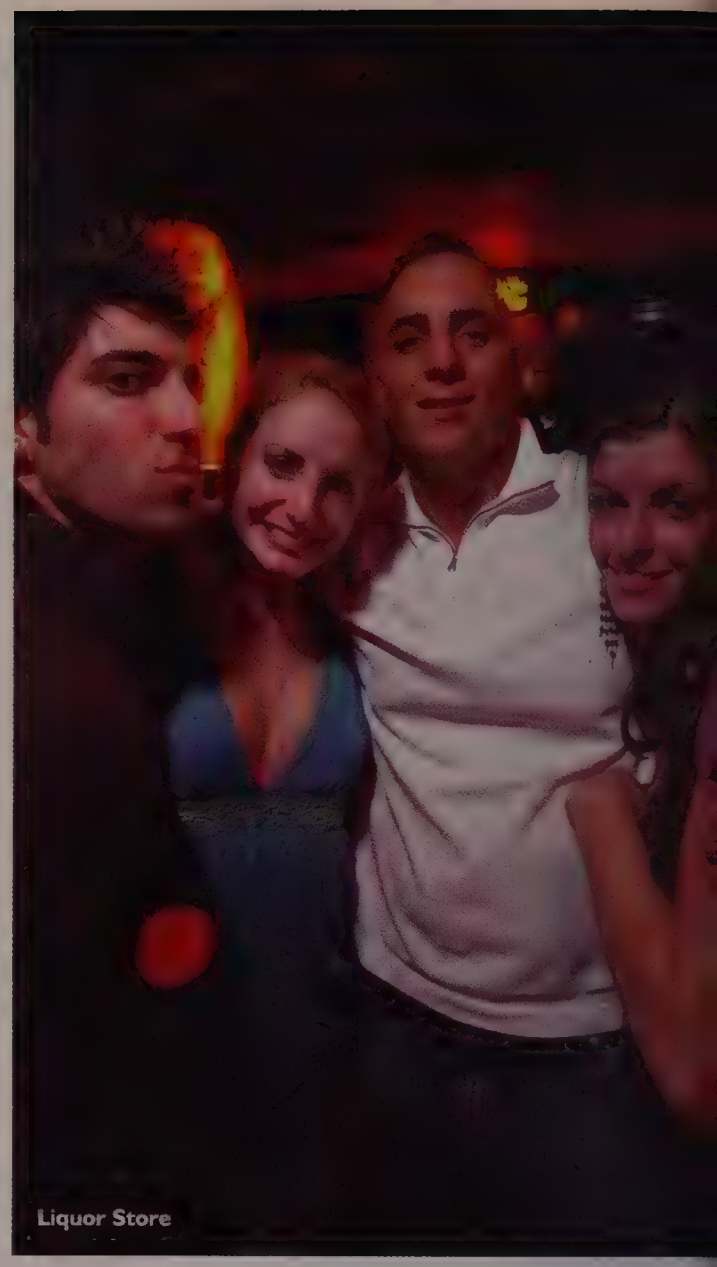
Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.


Liquor Store

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-4 $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spani and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip He nandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 befo 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Th Male Encounter** New England's longest- runnin all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies onl •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18- $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hi hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21- •Feb. 26: Flavor.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wo ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roch spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, n cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins model mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs DJ Massi and DJ Play each spin the own style of house, progressive and techno music, pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. pla house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

presents

The 11th Annual Boston's Beloved Bartender Issue

After many a night listening to the details of their patrons' lives, Boston's favorite drink slingers will tell you a little about themselves and share their professionally perfected recipes. Throughout these pages, Boston's hippest restaurants, bars, clubs and beverage companies also get a shot at the limelight. This issue is a Boston tradition and a city fave! You won't want to miss the chance to advertise in this intoxicating issue—in fact make it a double!

The Improper Bostonian is distributed to more than 250 restaurants, bars and clubs.

Our readers frequent local bars and restaurants more than 16 times a month!

The Improper Bostonian reaches more than 366,200 readers every two weeks!

Call 617-859-1400, ext. 244, to book advertising space now.

Issue date: March 23 Advertising deadline: March 9

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Live Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad Lamarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-700C*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678)*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-111C*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939)*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186)*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010)*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460)*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725)*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660)*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020)*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881)*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656)*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002)*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300)*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580)*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-4446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*A Compelling Legacy: Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through March 20. •*Marks of Enlightenment, Traces of Devotion: Japanese Calligraphy and Painting from the Sylvan Barnet and William Burton Collection* features more than 70 objects from the 8th through 20th centuries, including Buddhist scriptures. Through April 17. •*The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in Iran and India* features paintings, decorative arts and weaponry depicting hunting scenes from western and southern Asia. Through June 26.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts

24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.hmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, free students and seniors. •*Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project* features a puppet opera, a film and a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center by artist Pierre Huyghe. Through April 17.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •*Pretty Sweet: The Sentimental Image in Contemporary Art* features more than 100 works in various media by 33 New England artists. Through April 17. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Highlights from the Carpenter Center Photography Collection* is on display through March 20. •*Crises of Representation: The Decorative and the Feminine in Fin-de-siecle Vienna* includes publications and artworks from turn-of-the-20th-century Vienna. Through June 12. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center

53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Paris Vertical* is a show of panoramic photographs by German photographer Horst Hamann. Through March 3.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration on our planet. Ongoing.

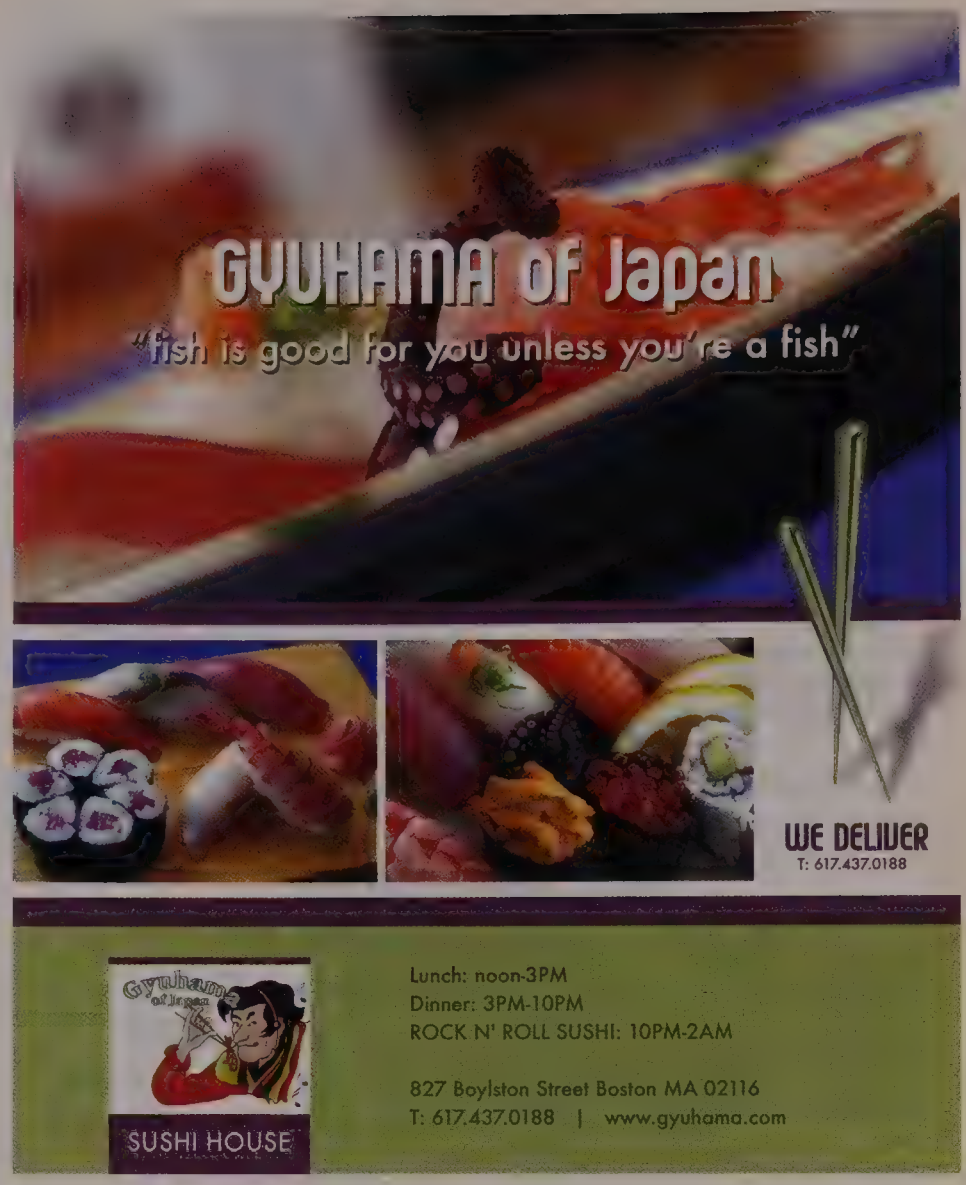
James Reick's *A Blaze of Glory*, at Samson Projects March 4–27

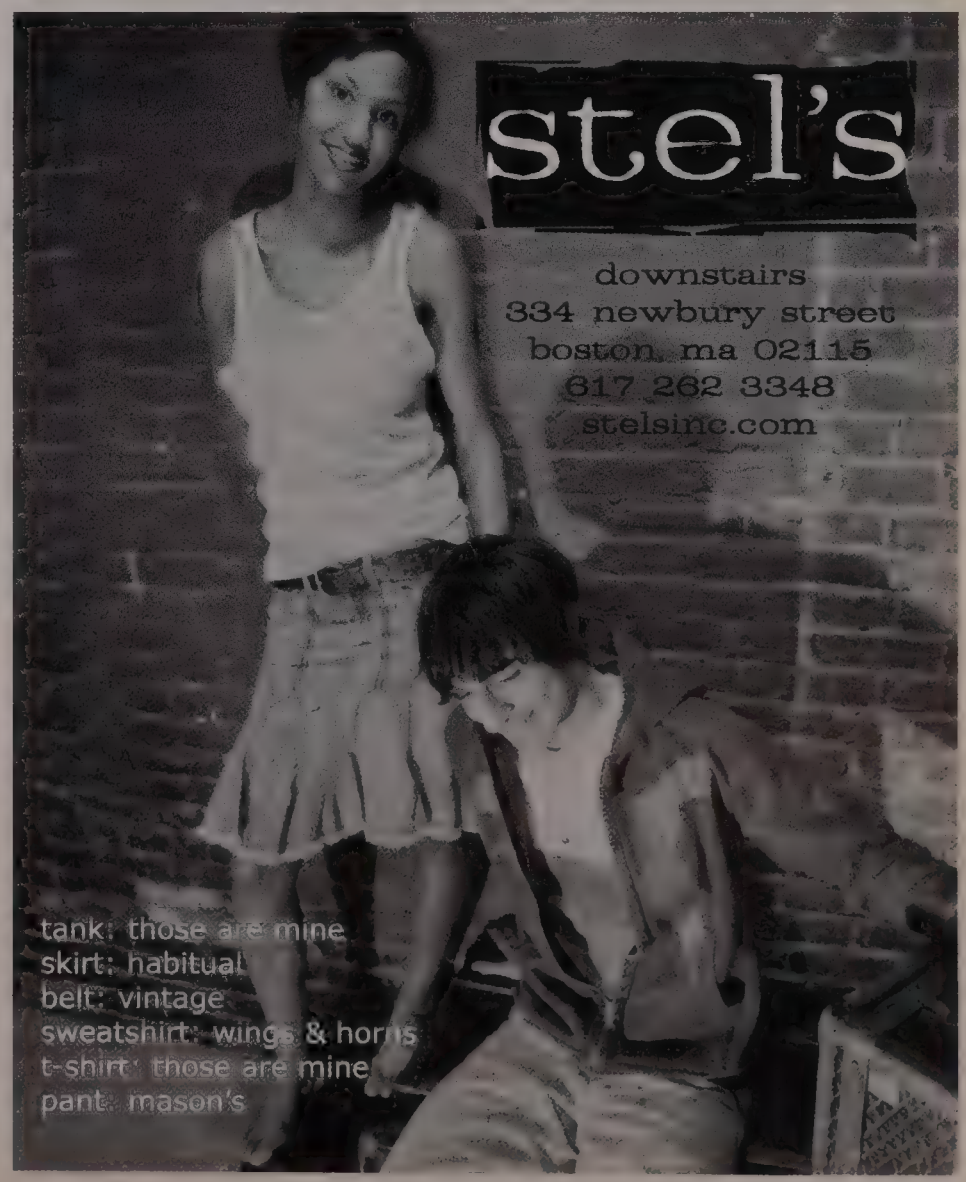
Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.ica boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists* features more than 50 artists' portraits of their peers and heroes. Through May 1. •Kanishka Raja shows paintings as part of the ICA's *Momentum* series. Through May 1.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Chairs* brings together the photography of 2002 artist-in-residence Dayanita Singh with the museum's collection of Italian and Renaissance chairs. Through May 8. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries depicting biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas.





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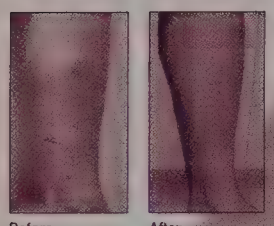

Before

After

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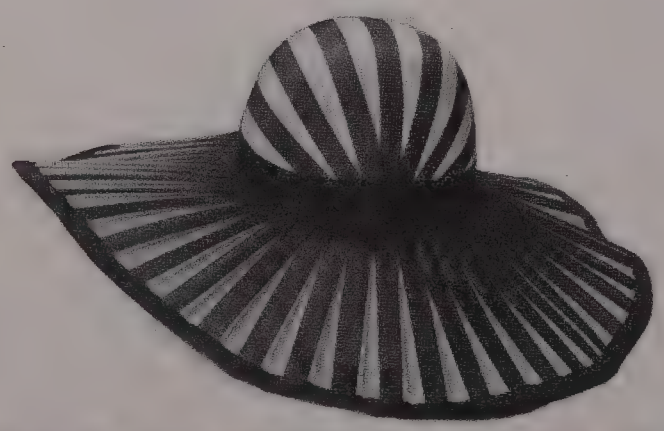

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McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun. 12-5pm. Free. •Drawings, collages, prints, watercolors and photographs by assorted artists display in *Accommodations of Desire: Surrealist Works on Paper Collected by Julien Levy*. Through March 24.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lwac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •*Kimsooja: Seven Wishes and Secrets* is a multimedia exhibit featuring Kimsooja's paintings and videos. Through April 10. •*Pavel Braila* is a self-titled exhibition featuring large-scale photographs, video projections and a short film by the Moldovan artist. Through April 10. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*The Traveling Magazine Table* includes rare local and international magazines. Through April 15. •*Clipper Ship Era* is a collection of lithographs, plans and photographs illustrating the design and construction, as well as the social experience, of a clipper ship. Through July 10. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing. • *Young Inventors at MIT* displays work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winners. Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Threads of Faith: Recent Works from the Women of Color Network* is an exhibition of quilts depicting historical, story-based, political and spiritual themes. Through March 31. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition highlighting Boston's African-American community in the 19th century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing. •*Separate Schools, Unequal Education* chronicles the struggles for equal school rights in Massachusetts. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Speed, Style, and Beauty: Cars from the Ralph Lauren Collection* displays 16 automobiles from Ralph Lauren's private collection. March 6-July 3. •*High Style and Hoopskirts: The 1850s* features mid-19th-century men's and women's clothing. Through March 13. •An exhibition of contemporary works by controversial London-based artist Damien Hirst is on display through April 24. •*Sets, Series, and Suites: Contemporary Prints* features serial prints by 30 artists from 1950 to the present. Through May 29. •*Pursuits of Power: Falconry and the Samurai, 1600-1900* offers a new perspective on players, politics, and power in early modern Japan through an unusual subject. Through June 12. •*Photographs by Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Sylvan Barnet and William Burto Collection* features 20 of the Japanese photographer's black-and-white prints. Through June 23. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11. •*Playing with Time* features experimental tools that manipulate the perception of time. Through May 1. •*A Bird's World* explo the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ong ing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the histo of computers from the electronic giants of t 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*I nosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the m seum's collection of dinosaur models, includi the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an i teractive exhibition, features models of a wa tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. O going. •*Mapping the World Around Us* featu mapping projection tools and computer map braries. Ongoing. •Four hundred butterflies a the scent of flower blossoms will welcome guests the new permanent *Butterfly Garden*, opening late February.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). ww monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 p Free. •*George Washington: Freemason and Foundi Father* displays rare artifacts. Through June 1 •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a colle tion of artifacts and sculpture from the Americ West, shows through April 24. •*Deep Inside t Blues: Photographs by Margo Cooper* features black-and-white photographs of musicians tak by Cooper over the past 10 years during her trav through the Mississippi Delta. Through June •*Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend* examin artistic depictions of American legend Paul R vere. Through June 26. •*The Enchanted Clocks George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'* an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is o going. •*Made in Massachusetts* features househo objects from the past three centuries. Ongoin •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in Americ Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). ww pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; st dents, $9; children 16 and under and residents Salem, free. •*Yangtze Remembered: The River B neath the Lake* is an exhibition of 30 photograp by Linda Butler capturing the Three Gorges are Through April 24. •*The Art of Shopping in Chi* captures China's early-19th-century internation trade market through 40 paintings on paper fro the museum's extensive collection. Through M 22. •*Island Thresholds, Contemporary Art from t Caribbean* features 13 works, including large-sca installations using wood, glass, paper, seawate salvaged shoes, coffee, coconut and vanilla, as we as paintings and drawings by four island artist Through June 5. •*Carved by Nature* displays ar cient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 200 •*In Nature's Company* features the nature-inspire works of more than 20 Massachusetts artist Through Sept. 18. •The only installation of i kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chines merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, rel cated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027) www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line t Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors an students, $6; children, $5. •*Field Photography The Marsh Arabs of Iraq, 1934* is a collection c 34 prints of Arab tribes in the marshlands c southern Iraq. Through Feb. 28. •*Painted by Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the America Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 3 •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Li* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Natio to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's India Collection* features Native American artifact from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 3 2006. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Mon ments* features the museum's large Mesoamerica cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the Nort American Indian: Change and Continuity* depict the response of Native Americans across th continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing ex hibition featuring original sculpture and plaste casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Island Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays arti facts from the Pacific Islands.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781 736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Com muter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun. 12-5pm $3. •*Dreaming Now* features eight mixed-media in stallations by various artists, including Marin Abramovic, Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, San dra Cinto, Cai Guo Quiang and Chiharu Shiota Through April 24.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Provincetown Painters 2005* a group show and displays the works of 20 artists. Through March 19.

Alianza Gallery
54 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Local glass artist Gina Poppe shows new work. Through March 5.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Gallery artists display their work. Through March 2.

Arden Gallery
29 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Paul Beveau shows two of his collections of acrylic-on-canvas works in *New Paintings*. Through Feb. 28. Anne Packard shows her oil-on-canvas paintings *Seascapes*. March 1-29.

Artana
378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111) www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm. • The gallery continually shows pieces by more than 30 artists from across New England.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*American Landscape* features paintings of New England landscapes by Anthony Petchkis. Through March 11.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •Gallery visitors contribute to three-dimensional works based on instructions from the 29 artists in *The Paper Sculpture Show*. Through March 27.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Sally Moore displays her sculptures made from everyday materials in *Extend*. Through March 22.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New England Self-Taught Artists* is a group show of mixed-media works. Through Feb. 26.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Carl Fudge shows new work, David Goldes shows photographs and Rebecca Doughty shows drawings. Through March 26.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •David Phillips presents *New Work in Space: Stone and Bronze* and Dan Wills shows his work in *Palmolive*. Through March 12.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •*The Creative Process* features design works from different fields. Feb. 24-March 26.

Bromfield Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-360510). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5. •Karen Clarke shows paint, paper and canvas works in *Surroundings: Work in Collage*. Brian O'Malley showcases surrealist works in *Transistions and Undoings: Painted Realizations*. Through Feb. 26. •Laurie Alpert shows prints in *Songs Without Words: Prints and Artist's Books*. Jonathan Palmer displays paintings in *New Paintings*. March 2-26.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Mammoth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. •Judy Kramer displays works created with terra-cotta roof tiles in *Souvenir de Provence: An Installation of Pottery Shards* through March 2.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •*Mélange* is a group show featuring works by gallery artists. Through Feb. 26. •Cynthia Packard shows oil-on-linen works. March 2-26.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions—*Edward Page and His Circle* (paintings), *Leo Meissner Drawings* and *Lithographs of Gordon Grant*—display through March 5.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Stephen D. Paine Scholarship award winners display their works. Through March 5. •Carlos Caicedo shows *Red Room Exhibition*. Through March 5.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Judy Hazilla displays mixed-media works in *Reverse Reality*. Through Feb. 28.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. By appointment only. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Light Work* is a group show featuring works by John Crowley, Tom Wojciechowski and Andrew Woodward. Through March 15.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall. •Salvador Dali works show through Feb. 27.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu., 12-5:30 pm, Fri. and Sat.,12-5 pm. *Recent Paintings and Prints by Row Dawes and Christine Neill* shows through March 26.

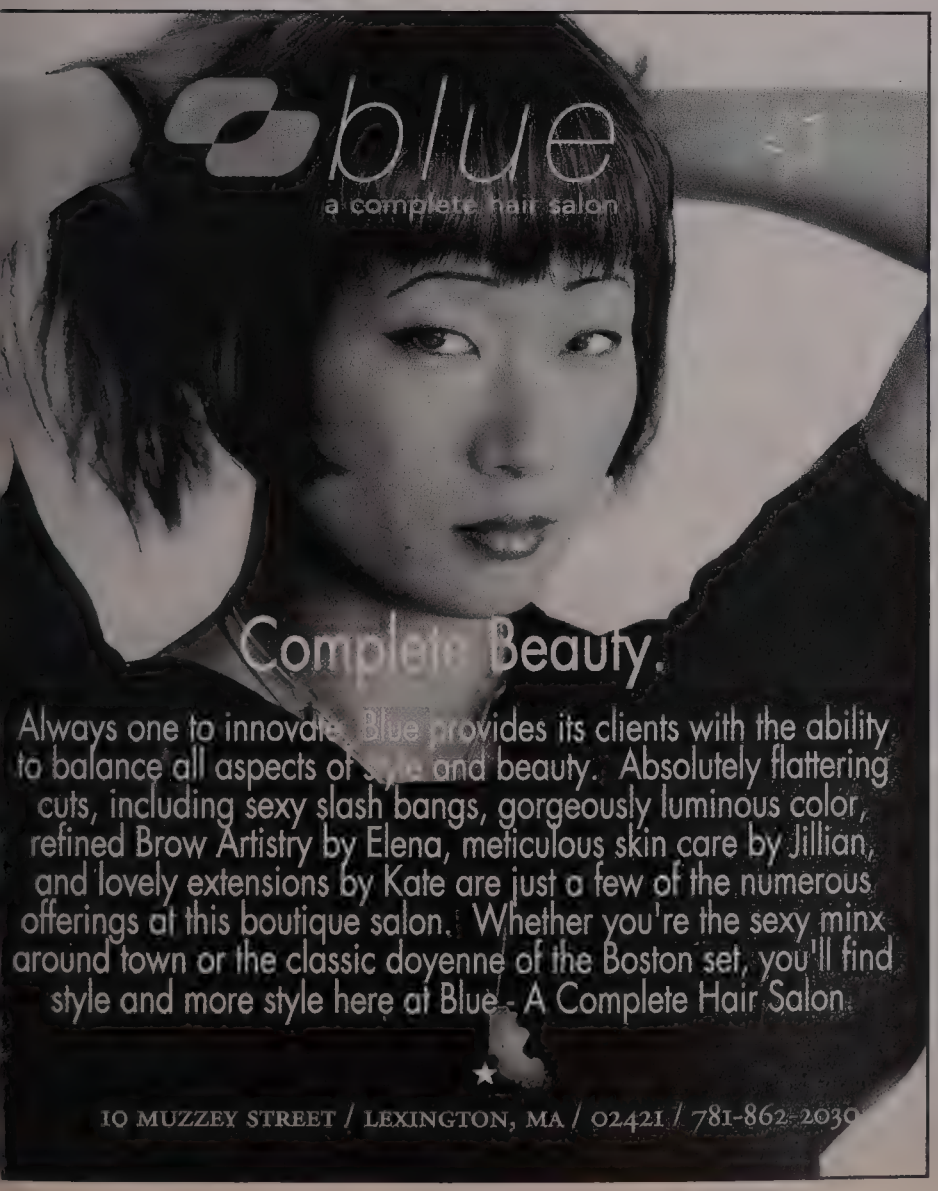
Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., Garden Level, (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 pm. •*Last Radio Off* and *War Games* are photographic collections by Matthew Gamber and Stephan Jacobs, respectively. Through Feb. 26.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Structure II: Drawings and Paintings* features works by Morgan Craig, Adam Davies, Gabert Farrar, Jessica Hess, Roland Kulla, Susa Logoreci and Chris Santer. Through Feb. 26.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Harriet Casdin-Silver presents *Holographic Portraits and Other Work*. Painter Reese Inman shows *Algorithm Map Series*. Through Feb. 26. •David Prifti shows sculpture in *Trace*, and Brenda Star shows sculpture in *Track*. March 4-26.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. • New ceramic sculptures by Lisa Wolkow are on display. Through March. 1.

Haley & Steele Gallery
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.



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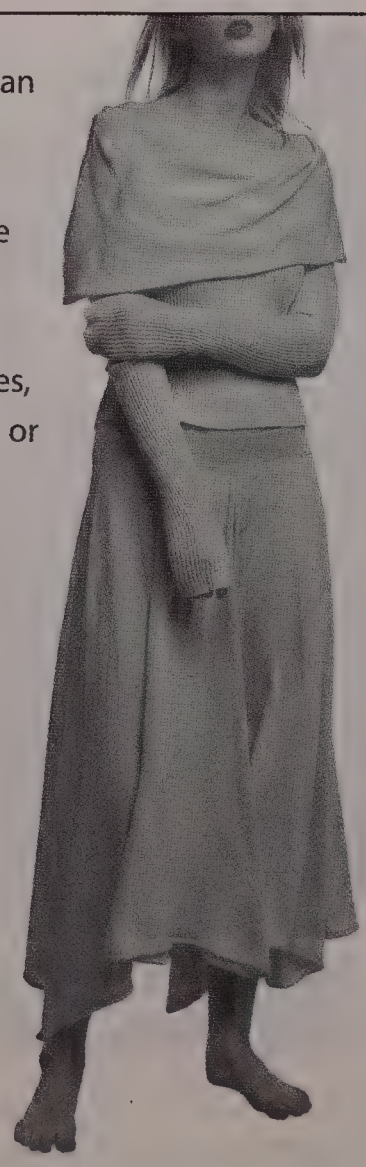

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turtle
emerging urban design

•The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Cumming and Bill Burke show new work. Through March 15.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. • *From A to Z* is an exhibition of oil paintings by Jennifer Amadeo-Holl and Zygmund Jankowski. Through Feb. 26. •David Kupferman and Stacy Quackenbush show their work in *Undercurrents*. March 3-26.

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features contemporary American art.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment. •*Sensation* is an exhibition of works by Brigitte Brüggemann, Anne Blair Brown, Christopher Terry and Karen Luke. Through Feb. 28.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Winter Festival of the Arts* is a group show of mixed-media works. Through March 1.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Matt Clark shows new abstract work in *Recent Paintings*. March 2-April 2.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Station. Tue.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm and by appointment. •Rose Olsen shows paintings on wood in *Intimate Interaction*, and Kathleen Gerdon Archer shows new photographs. Through Feb. 26. •Barbara Moody shows drawings. March 1-26.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by international and local artists including Andrew Saftel, Ruth Block, Emil Alzamora and Carrie McGee.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. • *Light Up Your Night: Neon Sculptures by Alejandro & Moira Sina* is on display through March 31.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •The traveling exhibit *The Ring Show: The Grand Finale* features work by more than 100 artists.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •New York artist Dianne Purdy displays abstract paintings in *New Work*. Through Feb. 26.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*From the Heart: A Group Exhibition* includes works on canvas from several artists. Laurel Hughes shows her work in *New Paintings*. Through March 5.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Paintings by Peik Larson display through Feb. 26. •Nava Lubelski shows her stained and stitched paintings in *Mixed Messes*. March 4-26.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •David Moore displays a collection of six paintings in *Vibes*. Through Feb. 26.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery featur works by local-artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppgalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingto Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. • Ka Schneider shows her small-scale portraits. Throug March 19.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Achievements Place* showcases landscapes of western Maine painter Marguerite Robichaux. Through March 7.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exh bition of 19th- and 20th-century American and E ropean paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997 www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 a 5 pm. •Paul Ickovic shows his photograph Through March 19.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., am-5 pm. •*Selected Paintings and Water Colors, Fi Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Chaga Matisse, Miro and Picasso. Through March.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Ba Bay. Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. • *¡Dominicanazo!* is a grou show of multimedia installations and works in ph tography, painting, video and sculpture by Domin can artists. Through Feb. 27. •Charles Park Boggs, Brad Hampton and James Rieck show pain ings in *Slice, Dice & Adhere*. March 4-27.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). MBTA Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun 1-5 pm. •Nancy Schieffelin and Susan Demcha display their work. Through Feb. 26.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The artis owned gallery presents *Passages* with paintings b Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Ann Grandin, William St. George and Judy St. Pete Through Feb. 28.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:3 pm. Selections from the gallery's inventory in clude 18th, 19th- and 20th-century America artworks.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery com. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collectio features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. • The mu seum features contemporary and historic photog raphy.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929) www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*The Music Show* feature photographs of musicians and includes works b Lew Allen, Nubar Alexanian, Lou Jones, Ro Pownall, J.D. Sloan and Ernest C. Wither Through March 12.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri 10 am-6 pm. •Ernest C. Withers shows his wor through March 5.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. an Sun., 12-5 pm. • The fourth annual student sho features the work of students from 13 regiona schools. Through March 20.

books & poetry

dvice to Contributors
bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to ılendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books mproper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to blication.

eadings & Signings

'EDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

enter for New Words
6 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). vw.centerfornewwords.org MBTA: Red Line to ntral. 7 pm. Free. **Jennifer Baumgardner**, former itor of Ms., and **Amy Richards** discuss the new ok they cowrote, *Grassroots: A Field Guide to minist Activism*, a follow-up to their first book, *mifesta: Young Women, Feminism and the Future.*

arvard Book Store
56 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). 3TA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. MIT ofessor **Alan Lightman** discusses *The Sense of the ysterious: Science and the Human Spirit*, his llection of essays that combine his observations th biographical information on famous entists.

arvard Coop
00 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. vard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 . **Martha Stout,** a clinical instructor at Harvard edical School, discusses her book *The Sociopath xt Door: The Ruthless Versus the Rest of Us*, which rports that sociopathic inclinations are nmonplace.

ewtonville Books in the Attic
ıion Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-4-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D een Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Ian nkin** reads from his novel *Fleshmarket Alley*, about Scottish homicide investigator who discovers the th behind the death of an illegal immigrant. so, **Peter Robinson** reads from his murder mystery *ange Affair.*

HURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

ırnes & Noble Boston University
0 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). http:// bkstore.com MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. :e. **Jennifer Washburn**, fellow at the New nerica Foundation, discusses her book *University : The Corporate Corruption of Higher Education*, in ich she argues that mixing business and ıcation puts universities in danger.

ookline Booksmith
9 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. oklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to olidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Vestal McIntyre** reads m *You Are Not the One*, his debut collection of ort stories.

arvard Book Store
lyoke Center, 1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-1-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. :e. Harvard law professor **Steven Wise** discusses ough *the Heavens May Fall: The Landmark Trial t Led to the End of Human Slavery*, his book out the 1772 trial of British slave trader James merset.

arvard Coop
00 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). 3TA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Tony nedon** discusses his travel memoir, *A Language rk Enough: Essays on Exile*, in which he describes verty and oppression in places such as Haiti, Cuba d Ecuador.

stitute of Contemporary Art
5 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www. boston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 0 pm. Free. Boston University film professor **Roy undmann** discusses his book *Andy Warhol's Blow* , which argues that Warhol's 1964 film *Blow Job* metaphor for the social plight of gays in the post- r era. A screening of the film follows the cussion.

ewtonville Books & Brews
6 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www. vtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to wton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Andrew Greer** reads m his novel *The Confessions of Max Tivoli*, a love ry set in turn-of-the-20th-century San Francisco out a man who ages backward.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). http:// bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6 pm. Free. WWE star **Hunter Hearst Helmsley** signs James Rosenthal and Robert Caprio's, *Making the Game: Triple H's Approach to a Better Body*, which is part biography of the wrestler and part fitness guide.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www. ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poets **Alan Feldman** and **Carolyne Wright** read from their work.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Sue Erikson Bloland** discusses *In the Shadow of Fame: A Memoir by the Daughter of Erik H. Erikson*, her memoir about life as the daughter of the celebrity psychoanalyst.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Mass. Ave., Room 6-120, Cambridge (617-253-4006). http://events.mit.edu. 7 pm. Free. **Ruth Ozeki** reads from her new novel, *All over Creation*, the story of a Japanese-American woman who returns to her hometown to take care of her ailing parents.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

Emerson College Reading Series
Emerson Room, 80 Boylston St., Boston (617-824-8750). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Betty Adcock** reads from her work.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Mary Gordon** reads from her novel *Pearl*, about a mother who tries to save her daughter from killing herself.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360) www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Buzzy Jackson**, a scholar on the history of women in music, discusses her book *A Bad Woman Feeling Good*, which explores the idea that female blues singers inspired women to be more expressive.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Darcey Steinke** reads from her novel *Milk*, about three Brooklynites who find that the line between sexual and religious desire is unclear.

Wellesley Booksmith
Zeta Alpha Literary Society, Wellesley College, Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 6:30 pm. Free. **Joan Gould** discusses her book *Spinning Straw into Gold*, which explores the connection between fairy tales and the real-life stages of womanhood, from adolescence to old age.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Hotel Marlowe
25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-395-2523). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 6:15 pm. Free. Authors **Judith Nies** (*Nine Women: Portraits from the American Radical Tradition*) and **Patricia Powell** (*A Small Gathering of Bones*) and *Breathe* magazine founder **Lisa Haines** discuss their careers and works at this event that celebrates Women's History Month.

Newtonville Books in the Attic
Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Jodi Picoult** discusses her novel *Vanishing Acts*, about a woman whose life seems perfect until flashbacks from her past begin to haunt her.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www. bkstore.com/bu. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. European history scholar **John Kelly** discusses his book *The Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death, the Most Devastating Plague of All Time*, an account of the plague that ravaged Europe and Asia in the 14th century.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Colin Channer** reads from *Passing Through*, his collection of connected stories that take place on a Caribbean Island. Also, **Rattawut Lapcharoensap** discusses *Sightseeing*, his collection of short stories set in Thailand.

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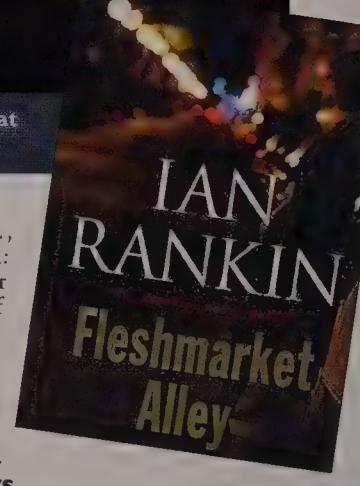
Una Bella Serata

Ian Rankin reads February 23 at Newton's Union Street Bar.



Harvard Book Store
Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Sir **Roger Penrose**, professor of mathematics at Oxford University, discusses his book *The Road to Reality: A Complete Guide to the Laws of the Universe*, about traditional principles of physics and more controversial scientific theories.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. BBC reporter **Frank Delaney** reads from his novel *Ireland*, in which a fictional storyteller takes the reader through various epochs in Irish history.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Explorers Club fellow **Lawrence Millman** reads from two books by the early-20th-century adventure writer Dillon Wallace: *Lure of the Labrador Wild*, an account of a 1903 expedition in northeast Canada, and *Kayak Full of Ghosts*, a collection of Eskimo folk tales.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 4 pm. Free. Long-distance swimming legend **Lynne Cox** reads from her memoir, *Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of Long Distance Swimmer*, which recounts her accomplishments starting with a 26-mile swim from Catalina Island to mainland California when she was 14 years old.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

Poetry in the Chapel
Forsyth Chapel, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $5. Poets **David Daniel**, **Anthony Donahoe**, **Frannie Lindsay** and **Scott Withiam** read from their work.

MONDAY, MARCH 7

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Julia Glass** reads from her novel *Three Junes*, which follows a Scottish family over the course of three dramatic summers. Also, **Jo Wickersham** reads from *The Pa Anniversary*, her novel about estranged couple who try to s their marriage.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 661-1515). MBTA: Red Line Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Ju Budnitz** discusses her st collection, *Nice Big American Ba* Also, **Elizabeth Gaffney** reads fr *Metropolis*, her novel about German immigrant in 1860s N York who's framed for a crime a forced to join a gang.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (6 566-6660). www.brooklinebooksm com. MBTA: C Green Line Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Te Reiss** reads from *The Orientalist*, biography of Lev Nussimbaum Jewish man who escaped t Russian revolution and la became a noted author wh passing himself off as a Musl prince.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 661-1515). MBTA: Red Line Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Pulit Prize–winning poet and Harva professor **Jorie Graham** reads fr her recent works.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., New (617-244-6619). ww newtonvillebooks.co MBTA: D Green Line Newton Highlands. 7: pm. Free. **Lauren Sand** reads from her novel *W or Without You*, abo adolescent alienati **Lydia Millet** reads fr *Everyone's Pretty*, her no inspired by her job worki at Larry Flynt Publicatio Also, **Maggie Nelson** rea from *Jane: A Murder Poems*, a collection of poe letters, newspaper clippi and journal entries that t the story of the author's au who was murdered by a serial killer in 1969.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 p 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cant Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in t Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). ww poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 p $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background mu for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Ca bridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.o MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Cen hosts this open mike for women and their alli with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambri (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.co MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm (7: pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, wi poetry features and an open mike. $4 suggested d nation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 su gested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-718 MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossi 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each mon offers a selection of featured poets and an opport nity for others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

The Ancient Marsh Arabs: Finding the Past in the Present at al-Hiba, Iraq
Fenching Institute, Peabody Museum, 2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. **Edward L. Ochsenschlager**, professor emeritus at Brooklyn College, leads this lecture about Arabian history.

Irish Servants and Ulster Presbyterians in 18th-Century Boston
Boston Public Library, Mezzanine Conference Room, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. Author **Michael Quinlan** gives a lecture on local history.

Medieval Hebrew Poetry: Some Texts and Problems
The Elie Wiesel Center for Judaic Studies, 2nd floor, 147 Bay State Road, Boston (617-358-1754). MBTA: Green Line to BU East. 5:30 pm. Free. **Susan Einbinder,** professor of Hebrew literature at Cincinnati's Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion, discusses medieval Hebrew poetry.

Paris: The City as Promenade
Fogg Art Museum, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-4544). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. $12 friends; $18 nonmembers (preregistration by phone required). Harvard professor **Alice Jarrard** presents a lecture on the visual and cultural aspects of Paris.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

An Evening with Willem de Rooij
Carpenter Center for Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617- 495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Filmmaker **Willem de Rooij** of the Dutch duo de Rijke/de Rooij discusses his work.

Hey! What's Next? Reconnect with Your Inner Spark
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2. **Inna Nirenburg** leads this discussion on how to find your creative side.

New Women on Beacon Hill: Social and Political Activism in the Early 20th Century
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:15 pm. Free. **Flavia Cigliano**, director of the Nichols House Museum, discusses the Beacon Hill women who began to enter the realms of business and politics at the turn of the last century.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Phillis Wheatley: Make Her Black and Bid Her Sing
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 10 am-1 pm. Free. Teacher, director and performer **Dorothy Mains Prince** discusses and screens her new educational film about the life of American abolitionist Phillis Wheatley.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

La Negritude and the Harlem Renaissance
Cambridge Public Library, Central Square Branch, 45 Pearl St., Cambridge (617-349-4010). www.ci.cambridge.ma.us. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 3 pm. Free. Author **Paul Nichols** discusses *Shorty, The Other Malcolm*, a book he co-wrote about Malcolm "Shorty" Jarvis, a jazz musician and early friend of Malcolm X.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Bodies and Souls
Harvard Science Center, Lecture Hall C, Harvard Yard, 1 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-480-8846). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Paul Bloom**, professor of psychology at Yale University and co-editor of *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, discusses how humans view physical and psychological entities.

Global Petro-Politics
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St. Newton (617-552-7145). www.ci.newton.ma.us/Library. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. **Michael Klare**, a professor at Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke and Smith colleges and UMass-Amherst, speaks about U.S. foreign policy and petroleum.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake
Peabody Essex Museum, Morse Auditorium, East India Square, Salem (617-496-1027). www.pem.org. 7 pm. $8 members; $13 nonmembers. **Linda Butler** gives a lecture on her black-and-white photographs of the Three Gorges Dam project on China's Yangtze River.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Fiction Writer as Curator
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-927-6634). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30 pm. $7. **Julia Glass**, author of *The Three Junes* and a former painter, compares the visual arts with the craft of fiction writing.

Unspeakable: Facing Up to Evil in an Age of Genocide and Terror
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Journalist **Os Guinness** bases his discussion of evil on events from human history.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

Farming in Dorchester: Samuel Pierce and His Community
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.12:15 pm. Free. Scholar **Susan Walton** discusses Revolution-era farmer Samuel Pierce.

Health Disparities and the Body Politic
Harvard Conference Center, 77 Avenue Louis Pasteur, Boston (617-266-5152). www.hsph.harvard.edu/disparities. MBTA: D Green Line to Longwood. 2 pm. Free. Online registration required. Free. The Harvard School of Public Health presents the first installment in a series of symposia on government and inequities in health care.

Life, Death, and the Post-Autobiographical Self
Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building, Brandeis University, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100). 12:30 pm. Free. **Nancer Ballard** draws from various authors' works to examine the genre of the autobiography.

To Awaken the Nation
Boston African-American National Historic Site, Abiel Smith School, 46 Joy St., Boston (617-742-5415). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 6-8 pm. Free. (preregistration by phone required). This series of lectures and conversations examines the men and women behind the 19th-century movement to abolish slavery. Boston College professor **Horace Seldon** leads discussions based on James Oliver Horton and Lois E. Horton's book, Black Bostonians.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

Highway to the Past: The Archaeology of the Big Dig
Museum of Science, Wright Theater, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0419). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 7 pm. Free. **Susan Hough**, archaeological collections manager for the Massachusetts Historical Commission, discusses archaeological finds excavated during preparation for the Big Dig.

TUESDAY MARCH 8

Exploring Chairs
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free with museum admission. Gardner educator-in-residence **Carla Hartman** discusses the museum's *Chairs* exhibition.

New Takes on Old Favorites—American Art and Film: Sargent and Venice
Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA, Orange Line to Ruggles. 10:30 am. $20 members, seniors, students; $25 general. **Erica E. Hischler**, the MFA's Croll Senior Curator of Paintings, Art of Europe, gives a lecture on John Singer Sargent's paintings and their connection to early film.

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gay & lesbian

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Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
Sanctuary. 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door, $5 on guest list. 18+. Rotating guest DJs spin progressive house for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Kneivil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
Embassy, 36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2am, 19+.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat., 10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Coro Allegro performs at the Church of the Covenant February 27.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Crossing the Channel
Church of the Covenant, 67 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4011). www.coroallegro.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 27, 3 pm. $15-$35. Coro Allegro, a chorus for members of the GLBT community, and artistic director David Hodgkins present a program of a cappella music from England and France, including works by Debussy, Britten, Poulenc and others.

Fresh Fruit Plays Chix with Dixie
Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-983-2221).www.freshfruitproductions.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through March 5. Thu.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $25. Fresh Fruit Productions presents this multimedia performance featuring outrageous costumes and pop-culture parodies.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Feb. 24 and March 3. 9 pm-12 am. Free. DykeNight Productions provides costumes and wigs for this new weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

Safer Sexucation Seminar
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6042). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. March, 5-6. 9 am-5 pm. Free. Volunteers become certified safer-sex educators to provide outreach and education efforts in local clubs and hangouts

TraniWreck
Jacques Cabaret, 79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). www.jacquescabaret.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 7. $5. Truth Serum and Heywood Wakefield present this all-gender, all-genre cabaret/variety show featuring Boston's best transvestite, drag and high-femme talent.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league features weekly 301, 601 and Cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz. Visit the league Web site for more information.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of each month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBT Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; F 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 47 Mass. Ave., Boston at Despir Pizza. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. ww lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and tra sexual-friendly, direct-action political group focu on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Av Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/l MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,40 member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLA (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets Medford for support and activities and holds a co current meeting for interested parents and their pa ners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Liv Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-959 www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back B First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. informal group for people who think they may be sexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the ch lenges and joys of coming out. It meets Thurs nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge. Call more information.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confident place for men and women who are looking for a s space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It me Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolid Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–a support, information and social group for peo assigned female at birth who feel that is not an curate or complete description of their gend Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, t group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM usa.com for details.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). ww eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay m wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. T group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professio women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic a sophisticated to get together with like-mind women for conversations, dinners, theater a networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenw health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fe way Community Health offers a wide array servi for the GLBT community, ranging from discussi about parenting and safe-sex practices to progra addressing domestic violence and substance abu Call for more information

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. J Boston's GLBT flag football league for a cas spring season, followed by a formal fall season. are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Av Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.co ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat., am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn m about photography, socialize and meet new people these monthly meetings. For more information, mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (61 742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. T group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the fi and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developi healthy gay relationships features alternatives for me ing and dating, communication games, singles mix and a date-matching system. E-mail info@gaylab.org

LBT Professionals
uilding Community
56-594-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join s networking organization for GLBT professionals.

ender Crash
ontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica in (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. BTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of h month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the LBT community are invited to share poetry, prose performance pieces at this open-mike event.

rlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian omen of Color
mbridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. e., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line Central. This discussion group for all ages meets ry Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

ffan
embers of this social and networking group for men receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

quid Assets Swimming
w.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and n. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian m team is open to both competitive and fitness mmers of all ages and abilities.

e Network/La Red
7-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. The twork is a support group working to end abuse lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender nmunities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org more information.

ewly Diagnosed Group
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 7-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange e to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of h month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group offers sup- t for gay and bisexual men who have been diag- ed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail ngtin@jri.org.

ut to Dance
7-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin l ballroom dance classes and workshops are held gay-friendly environment.

ut TwentySomethings Boston
ntysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. is social and peer support group is for lesbians, men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men age 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rain bowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatino slgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.

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Outdoor
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Outdoor
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Coed 10 vs 10

Dodgeball

Indoor
Coed 6 vs 6

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BOSTON SKI & SPORTS CLUB

body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Alternative Cancer Treatment Practices
Institute for Body, Mind and Spirituality, Lesley College, 29 Everett St., Cambridge (800-999-1959 ext. 8129). www.lesley.edu/gsass/bodymind/current_programs.html. March 5-6. $60-225. Call for details. This seminar presents information on health care methods that integrate the mind, body and spirit, including alternative treatments, herbs and nutrients, massage therapy, acupuncture and more.

Author Barbara Paul-Emile
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. Feb. 26, 2-4 pm. Free. A native of Jamaica, author Barbara Paul-Emile reads from her novel, *Seer*, about a wise shaman, Becka, and her attempt to save the life of a young village boy in a coma. Book signing follows.

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 4, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Everyone is invited to join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Dances are accompanied by live music.

Dharma Film: Hi, Dharma!
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. March 4, 7pm. $10. Co-sponsored with the Institute for Meditation & Psychotherapy, this film series explores the mind and spirit of the cinema. This South Korean movie is a comedy about a group of gangsters forced to hide out in a monastery.

Faith, Film and Forgiveness
The Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston (617-523-2377 x32). www.friendsattheadvent.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. March 1, 7-9 pm. Free. Leading up to Lent and Easter, this church presents a film series addressing the search for understanding and forgiveness, with excerpts from popular and innovative films. This week, the themes of justice and mercy are discussed in the context of *Dead Man Walking* and *Babette's Feast.*

Story-Telling: The Jataka
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 6, 2-3:30 pm. $5 suggested donation. The Jataka is a collection of stories said to be the Buddha's recollections of his former lives. Born as a monkey, an elephant, a king and an outcast, the Buddha-to-be developed qualities in these lives that led to his full awakening. All ages welcome.

What's in the Water You Drink?
Veggie Planet Restaurant at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge. http://boston.earthsave.org, www.veggieplanet.net or www.orowma.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 27, 2:30 pm. Free, $10 for dinner. Deirdre Healy, chair of Our Rights, Our Water Massachusetts, and Dr. Deborah Moore host this presentation on water fluoridation and how you can protect yourself from fluoride toxicity.

Lectures

Natural Approaches to Digestive Health
Boston School of Herbal Studies, 12 Pelham Terrace, Arlington (781-646-6319). www.bostonherbalstudies.com. March 5, 2-4:30 pm. $30. Learn how to soothe the digestive tract with healing foods and medicinal plants that may help correct underlying imbalances. Participants also learn how diet and exercise can affect digestive health.

Natural Health Seminar
Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-2 6333 or 888-763-2341). www.opendoors7.com www.rn4u2.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. March 7, 7-8:30 pm. Free. This presertion and discussion is designed to educate and power participants to make effective choices ab diet and lifestyle.

Workshops

Cash Now
Heart's Singing Healing Center, Medford (781-3 2799). www.heartssinging.com. March 4 and 5, am-5 pm. This class discusses the energies associa with money, how to overcome internal blocks, h to change your perspective, and other fisca themed exercises.

Earth-Centered Spirituality: Experiencing Our Sacred World
The Herb Studio of Harmony Farm, 315 North S Medfield. www.harmony-center.org. March 5, 10 a 4:30 pm. $80. Preregistration required. This wo shop, led by Cherokee elder grandfather Sin Alone, teaches participants about Native Americ ceremonial ways and aims to provide a sense of sacred connection to nature through a series of periential exercises.

Feng Shui for Prosperity
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circle wisdom.com. March 2, 7:15-9:15 pm. $30. Feng s utilizes one's environment to promote vitality, balan and a sense of well-being. Learn feng shui princip said to help attract wealth and prosperity. Attend are welcome to bring floor plans of a home or office

Healing Emotions Through Herbs and the Five Elements
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass. Ave., floor, Cambridge (617-868-4585). www.charlesri shiatsu.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 12-4 pm. $60. Madelon Hope, herbalist and p chotherapist, teaches this workshop about pla that may naturally help to heal depression, anxie insomnia, grief, obsession and chronic irritabil Participants also learn how to make teas and ton and what useful plants grow locally.

In-Depth Yoga Class
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St, Boston (617-523-713 www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles Green or Blue Line to Government Center. March 11 am-2 pm. $30. This three-hour class with Barb Benagh is geared toward continuing-level stude who wish to deepen their practice and study.

Power of Dialogue: Constructive Conversations About Divisive Issue
46 Kondazian St., Watertown (617-923-1216, e 13). www.publicconversations.org. March 3-5, 8 am-4:30 pm. $440-$600, sliding scale. Learn structure conversations in ways that break the ar ment habit, and practice new skills to foster mut understanding.

Relax Your Neck and Jaw with Feldenkrais
Cambridge Health Associates, 335 Broadway, Ca bridge (617-230-6320). Feb. 28, 6:30-9 pm. $ Learn simple, gentle movements designed to h participants increase physical awareness, with t aim of recognizing and reducing habits that lead jaw and neck tension.

Sweat Your Prayers Dance Jam
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 547-9363). www.dancecomplex.org or www.danc outloud.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 8-9:30pm. $8-$11 (sliding scale). This freest dance workshop with live music features deep liste ing, improvisation, theater and other exercises signed to stimulate creativity. All levels welcome.

Donna Stellhorn leads Feng Shui for Prosperity

Ongoing

Active Stretching for Everybody
Star Tech Healing and Learni Center, 14 Nason St., Maync (978-897-0110). www.starte healing.com. $10 (free for fi class). Full-body stretching: Mc and Thu., 7:30 am. Shoulders hands pain relief: Thu., 6:30 p The stretching class is designed promote overall health a muscle maintenance, while t pain relief class is for those wi neck, shoulder and arm pa headaches or carpal tunn syndrome.

sports

dvice to Contributors

ibmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Cal-dar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@ proper.com. Include address, phone number, subway)p, dates and times, and a brief description of the league event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone d must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

oston Celtics
FleetCenter, Boston
ckets: 617-931-2000
arch 2, 7:30 pm vs. Los Angeles Lakers
arch 4, 7:30 pm vs. Charlotte Bobcats
arch 6, 6 pm vs. Minnesota Timberwolves

:vents

gassiz Village Alumni Ski Event
gged Mountain Resort, Danbury, N.H. (781-860-00). www.agassizvillage.com. March 5. $50, includes ticket, tubing and BBQ lunch. Ski at Ragged Moun-n today to support the Agassiz Village Camp for dis-led and disadvantaged children.

our Points Sheraton Hyannis arathon
irt and finish at the Four Points Sheraton, Main St., yannis. www.baevents.com/hyannis. Feb. 27, 10 :. $60 marathon; $35 half marathon; $22 10K. his Cape marathon is the last qualifying event in e northeast for the Boston Marathon. The race is lowed by a post-party at the Hyport Brewery. onmarathoners can also opt to run a half-arathon or 10K course.

o Play

USTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

oston Demons
7-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club ks new players for nine-a-side competition.

ASEBALL

enry's Baseball
31-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

ASKETBALL

oston Ski & Sports Club SSC) Basketball
7-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basket-l. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Bel-nt, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals welcome.

orporate Basketball League
31-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one men's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, wton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

ever Too Late Basketball
31-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

OXING

oston Sport Boxing Club
5 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.tonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to rvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style king lessons for all levels.

ODGEBALL

SSC Dodgeball
7-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodge-l teams.

NDURANCE TRAINING

am in Training
)0-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This or-ization provides fund-raising athletes with up training and support, personalized coaching l guaranteed race entry for events.

ENCING

y State Fencers
Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-)1). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers cing and stage combat programs.

oston Fencing Club
)-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). w.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and urdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480) www.baystateskatingschool.org. Classes for adults and kids at 14 rinks around the city.

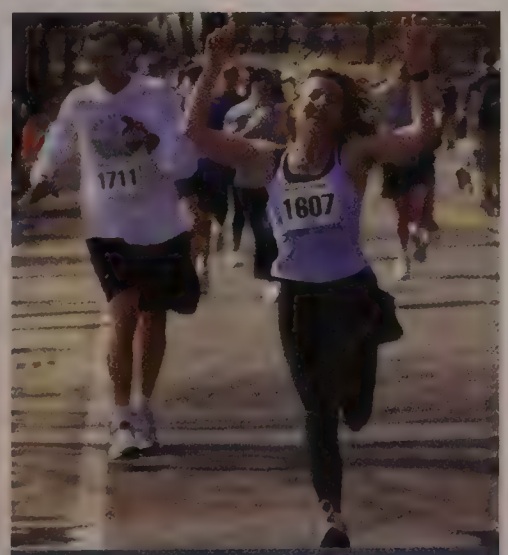
Bay State Speedskating Club
(508-697-9942) www.speedskaters.org/bssc.html. Learn to skate like Apollo Ono. Beginners welcome.

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Membership includes access to a ski lodge and ski and snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. This amateur, folk-style wrestling group is open to all skill levels.



Rachel Young finishes the half-marathon at last year's Hyannis Marathon.

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Kids First Film Club: Through Feb. 25, 11 am, $2. Feb. 23: *Corduroy*. Feb. 24: Musical shorts *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly, Musical Max, Keeping House* and *Waiting for Wings*. Feb. 25: *Miss Nelson*. •Kids Variety Shows, Sat., 10:30 am. Feb. 26: Alex the Jester performs. March 5: The Kids Variety Show Storytelling Festival.

Fleet Center
One FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). www.fleetcenter.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. Through Feb. 27. $15-$70. Disney on Ice presents a world underneath the Great Barrier Reef in *Finding Nemo*.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1600). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. •Feb. 25, 10:30 am. Crabgrass Puppet Theatre presents a story of three animal musicians who set off for the big city to try and make it in show biz.

Kipling's Just So Stories
McCormack Hall, UMass Boston, 200 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Feb. 24-27, 2 pm. $10-$22. Children's playwright Aurand Harris adapts Rudyard Kipling's classic tales for the stage.

The Little Prince
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 23-27. Wed.-Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 2 and 7 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $40-$75. The Wang Center and Boston Lyric Opera present an opera based on the classic French story about a pilot stranded in the Sahara desert who meets a young prince and learns to look at life through the eyes of a child.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •Feb. 22-24, 1 and 3 pm. Spring Valley Puppets present "Jack and the Beanstalk." •Feb. 25-27, 1 and 3 pm. Barefoot Puppets present "Galapagos George." •Mar. 2 and 3, 10:30 am. Sparky Davis presents Aesop's Fables, including "The Tortoise and the Hare," "Wolf" and "The Grasshopper and the Ant."

The Sound of Music
Wheelock Family Theatre, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway. Through Feb. 27. Fri., 7:30 pm (except Feb. 25); Sat. and Sun., 3 pm; Feb. 22-25, 1 pm. $12-$20. Trinity Rep's Angela Williams stars in this stage production based on the classic film.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Boston Art Tours
Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm. Tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10am; Sun. 2pm, $8.00. A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail designed for ages 6 to 12 years.

Boston Children's Expo
Bayside Expo and Conference Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-474-6534). www.bostonkidsexpo.com. Feb. 26, 9 am-7 pm; Feb. 27, 10 am-6 pm. $9, $5 children. Boston's largest children's event includes exhibits of children's products and services, music and dance performances.

Boston Public Library
Faneuil Branch, 419 Faneuil St., Brighton (617-[illegible] 6705). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenm[illegible] #57 bus to Oak Square. •Feb. 22, 6:30 pm. The [illegible]neuil Pageturners, a book club for children gr[illegible] four and up, and their parents, discuss *The Wat[illegible] Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis. •[illegible] 28 and March 7, 10:30 am. Lapsit Storytime is s[illegible] hour for children ages 4 and under. •Feb. 24, 2 [illegible] The Get to Know *Because of Winn-Dixie* Party c[illegible] brates the release of the movie based on K[illegible] DiCamillo's book for school-aged children.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-[illegible] 8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Lin[illegible] South Station. $8; children, $7. •Fri., 3-5 pm; [illegible] and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hand[illegible] science challenge. •Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm. [illegible] art studio is open for bookmaking, painting [illegible] more. •Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm. Pint-Sized Science[illegible] fers scientific exploration for preschoolers. •D[illegible] 10 am-12 pm and 1-3 pm, PlaySpace offers a m[illegible] activity for children up to 3 years of age.

Gore Place
52 Gore Street, Waltham (617-894-2798). www.[illegible] place.org. Take A Walk Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3[illegible] through Mar. 31; Sat. Feb. 26, 12-3 pm; Sat. M[illegible] 5, 12-3 pm. Children search for animal tra[illegible] identify trees and visit animals. Snowshoes[illegible] available.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). ht[illegible] harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harv[illegible] Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read [illegible] dren's stories. Snacks and craft activities follow.

Harvard Museum of Natural Histo[illegible]
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). w[illegible] hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harv[illegible] •Feb. 21-25, 9 am-5 pm. Explore the HMNH [illegible] the Peabody Museum for clues to a secret messag[illegible] the winter-themed family scavenger hunt.

Ice Skating at Frog Pond
Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-21[illegible] www.cityofboston.gov/parks/FrogPond_winter.[illegible] MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.[illegible] am-5 pm. Sun., Tue.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm. Fri.-Sat.[illegible] am-10 pm. $3, free for 13 and under. Skate on Bo[illegible] Common's frozen Frog Pond.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). ht[illegible] web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Ken[illegible] Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; [illegible] 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free [illegible] admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holo[illegible] phy, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring [illegible] world's largest collection of holograms. Ongo[illegible] •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artif[illegible] intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Mo[illegible] The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship mo[illegible] from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). w[illegible] mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. •[illegible] and Sun., 11 am-4 pm, ages 4+. Drop into the F[illegible] ily Place for a free-for-all drawing activity insp[illegible] by the collection. Materials provided. •Feb. 25 [illegible] am-4 pm. In celebration of school vacation, par[illegible] pate in an array of performances and activities.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.[illegible] org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-S[illegible] 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11seniors, [illegible] children. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior [illegible] calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs* sh[illegible] cases the museum's collection of dinosaur mo[illegible] Ongoing. •*Playing with Time* explores techno[illegible] that detects and manipulates time. Through A[illegible] 21. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibition [illegible] features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest a[illegible] giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science in the Pa[illegible] a permanent playground with a scientific spi[illegible] *Mapping the World Around Us*, a new permanen[illegible] hibit, explores the evolution of maps. Ongo[illegible] •*Forces of Nature, Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* and[illegible] *treme* show at the Omni.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.n[illegible] org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 [illegible] 5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; sen[illegible] $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* feat[illegible] thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •[illegible] 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sh[illegible] stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the S[illegible]* a hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, he[illegible] crabs and more. Ongoing. •*Aliens of the Deep* [illegible] in 3D at the IMAX Theatre.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-3-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. n clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-pt., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
0 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-55). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to uth Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 ı. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

aneuil Hall
State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue ne to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 ı-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. ee.

arvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www. ınh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. ɔn.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, , children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

hn F. Kennedy Library & Museum
lumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: d Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; se-rs and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

ount Auburn Cemetery
0 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). BTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

useum of Afro-American History
Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam ıseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or een Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memor-Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 -4 pm. Free.

useum of Science
ence Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. . MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-m (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, 1.

useum of Transportation
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-ı., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

ew England Aquarium
ntral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www. ıq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June · Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 . $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

ld North Church
3 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

ld State House Museum
5 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: ange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, iors and students, $4; children, $1.

udential Center Skywalk
0 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: een Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. 50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; chil-n under 3, free.

inity Church
5 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: een Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; chil-n 12 and under, free.

SS Constitution & Museum
arlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). w.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, m-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

FC Mentoring Program
7-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

DS Action Committee
7-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with V/AIDS.

nerican Cancer Society
7-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer pa-ıts to their local treatment appointments.

nerican Red Cross of ıssachusetts Bay
7-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volun-r in the administrative department.

g Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
7-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks vol-ɛers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRI

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you wer
The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Carole Martell and Martha Laugen report that the Boston pub in Wales doesn't actually welcome Bostonians, seeing as they got mooned. Although that could just be a Welsh greeting.

Leilani Johnson, a Peace Corps volunteer, poses in Mombasa, Kenya. Johnson won the local marathon, which is dominated by Americans each year.

The only thing that makes us feel better about this picture of Michael and Jill Walden in French Polynesia is that by now they're probably back in Boston, miserable like the rest of us.

Nebraska congressman Jeff Fortenberry and Michigan congressman Joe Schwarz, M.D., know a thing or two about winter.

Stephen Rodda and Kathryn Hudson check out the Australia vs. New Zealand cricket match in Adelaide, Australia. The Aussies won by 213 runs, which must've bolly'd the conker right up the skeelywobble!

Stephen Leckie, Andrea Tsai and Helen Ahn ride camels near the Sphinx in Egypt. They say that people who live near the Sphinx can join an online friends group called Sphinxster.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Losing the ostrich races and then sticking his or her head in the sand to escape the embarrassment at the Chandler Ostrich Festival, held March 11–13 in Chandler, Ariz.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

improperimpersonals

f everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over he place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the vorld to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of ourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type ıp e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com

THE IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

No. 4 Bus Driver

To the No. 4 bus driver who refused to let that woman on board when she ran like a bat out of hell to catch the bus because you blew off the prior stop: You are a sorry excuse for a man, telling her to get off the bus and taunting us passengers into blaming her for your ridiculous ego. Only a small, small man would continue to taunt a woman and then when she doesn't react, call the police to have that woman kicked off the bus. You probably would run over your own mother with your damned bus because it would make you feel like a real man. You truly are the world's littlest man.

—T'd off

Thanks for Your Chivalry

To the gracious young man who offered his hand and assistance to me on Feb. , around 9 am, on Cambridge Street ear Bowdoin Station. The brick idewalk was basically a sheet of ice, nd I was standing back on the snow to ive others room to venture and pass. I ecided to double back and take a ifferent route. I know I smiled and hanked you when you offered, but vanted to thank you again. It was very ovely of you to offer and it's nice to now we still have some gentlemen in he city.

—Nicely surprised

Special Guy

never thought I'd write an Impersonal ut I met someone and I can't get him ut of my mind. I was on a Northwest ight Feb. 3 from Boston to Detroit and as late getting on the flight. The cutest, weetest guy, with an incredible smile, ot up from a crowded flight to help me ind a place for my bag. When we anded he went out of his way to pull my heavy) bag from the overhead ompartment and brought it to my seat. was waiting for my connection and as kicking myself for not introducing nyself. Then, flying home Super Bowl unday from Detroit, I saw him getting ff the flight. I was so shocked that all I ould think of was to thank him again or his help again but couldn't bring nyself to ask his name or for his umber. We talked about my trip to apa and I was such a loser because I new he was heading out and I still annot believe that I saw him again and idn't say anything. Please help me find im! If you're that special guy, please e-ail me. I would love to buy you a drink nd give you a real thank you!

—foodchick@hotmail.com

Czech Republic Blizzard Buddy

Mark, I met you on the night of the uge blizzard at the Washington quare Tavern in Brookline. At first I was chatting with your friend you called a "professional," but I told you I only had eyes for you. We spent the night together bonding over sweet potatoes, pierogies and American idioms. Although our cultures are at war, I'd like to reach out to you. I don't want to "play this one by ear" anymore. E-mail me if you chose to care about the Slovaks!

—blizzardgirl9@hotmail.com

Apres le Ski

So, I met you at Waterville Valley a few weeks ago. Your name is Jimmy and you were with one of your friends from work, Todd. At the after-ski party, we had a few beers and talked for quite a long time. I thought you were really nice and I would really like to hang out with you again. I never heard from you after that day. Would you like to meet up for a drink in Boston? Let me know!

—Brooklinegirl24@hotmail.com

Another Day

It's 4 pm now and I have reached my end. I feel that everyone might be in the same position as I am. Right now all I want is to sit on a beach on an exotic island and be served piña coladas all day. The weather is getting to me, this snow, this rain, this snow again. Locked up in a office from 7 am until 5 pm, staring at a computer screen, can do much to one's self esteem—especially if you're bored silly and it's almost time to go home. Every day I come to the same conclusion—"I need a vacation"—but this everyday conclusion has been going on since 2001. I think it's time I went. Lo and behold, the telephone rings and I'm back to my busy self again and all is forgotten. However, tomorrow is another day.

—From one who dreams

Too Shy Shy

We met at my place of work. You come in now and then for a bite to eat and sit at the bar. The last time we talked you were going to the Super Bowl and your mother called while you were having lunch. You joked about her finding out you were going and how she would want to go with you. I said I would look for you in the stands. You have the most infectious smile and I can't help but think what it would be like to get to know you better. I am putting the intention out there to the universe through this note, and if you are free and would like to contact me please e-mail me.

—tooshyinperson@yahoo.com

Dear Boston...

I have to leave you and I can't tell you how hard it is and how sad I am. You made me feel at home far away from home. You gave me the chance to work at a great place and learn so much. You showed me that Bostonians are great people. You made me find new friends and move in with the best roommates ever. You made me share a wonderful apartment and parts of my life with special friends, who helped me to be at home here. You made me watch the World Series and made me care for and be nervous with the Red Sox—although I never watched sports on TV before. You make people show their real character, be it weak or strong, and you have a place for all of them. You are influenced by so many different cultures, religions and nationalities, and through this you are, and remain, yourself. You try to keep people away from you with your extreme climate, extreme traffic conditions, and an extremely unique and unusual public transportation system. But I like all of your seasons—you wouldn't be Boston without them. Biking through your streets is truly an adventure. And taking the T from Kendall to Charles/MGH at night always makes me realize how lucky I am and was to live here. You will always be the hub of the world for me. I have to leave you, I have to move on, but who knows—maybe I'll come back home one day.

—An Albatross

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The Boston University Center for Cosmetic & Laser Surgery
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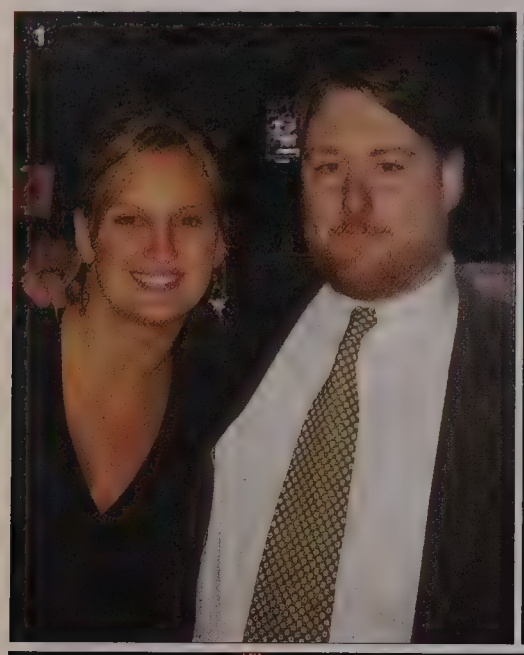
BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER

IMPROPERAZZI

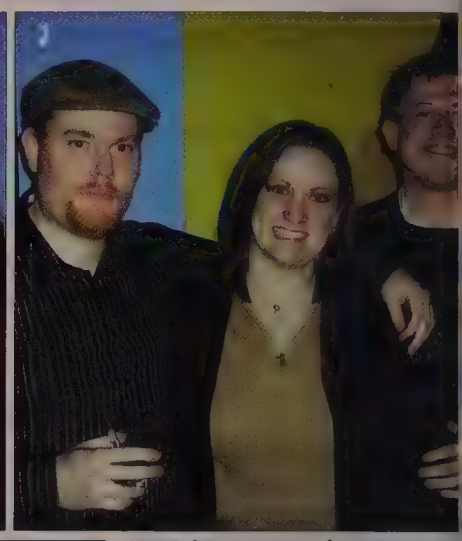
The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Thursday February 10, **The Improper Bostonian** hosted a grand opening celebration for **McFadden's** Saloon in Boston's Financial District.



1. **Sandy Tarpey**, private events manager, and **Shawn Baker**, general manager, both of McFadden's.
2. **Tom Ryan**, on-premise sales manager for Miller Brewing Company, and **Dan Bacigalupo**, bartender at McFadden's.
3. **Greer Spatz**, attorney for the State of Massachusetts; **Dawn Grimes**, paralegal at Gaulthier & Connors L.L.P.; and **Molly Campbell**, senior administrative assistant for Blackrock.
4. **Paige Rice**, marketing manager for Anchor Capital Advisors Inc.; **Nick Cappiello**, student at Suffolk Law School; **Liz Whittle**, promotions coordinator for McFadden's; and **Massimo Castellano**, financial advisor for Merrill Lynch.

On Thursday, February 3, members of the Young Professional Council gathered f a soiree at **Fire + Ice** in the Back Bay to help the Franciscan Hospital for Childrer Money was raised through a raffle that included Red Sox commemorative items.



1. **Brian Taggart** of JP Morgan, **Candy Taggart** and **Paula Sor** both RNs at FHC.
2. **Tim Cheever**, grant writer at FH **Marisa Beal**, special events manager at FHC; and **Kevin Hudson**, annual campaign offic at FHC.
3. **Jill Bigelow**, physician, Francisc Hospital for Children; **Christine Scripps**, teacher, Westwood; **Melissa Kappler**, social worke Franciscan Hospital for Children; and **Dr. Steve Kappler** of Beth Israel Hospital.

On Thursday, February 10, **The Regattabar** at **The Charles Hotel** held the kick off party for its annual Jazz Festival with a live performance by Suzanne Vega.

1. **Angela Shelton**, filmmaker, and **Marjorie Decker** , vice- mayor of Cambridge .
2. **Suzanne Vega**, Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter.
3. **Kim Firestone**, analyst for UBS Investment Ba **Corey Finjer** marketing coordinator for The Charles Hotel; and **Ryan Reynolds**, designer Korn Design.

PHOTOS: MCFADDEN'S, KATIE SCHMIDT; REGATTABAR, VINNEY TECCHIO; FIRE + ICE, ERIN TI

rockie horoscope

FEBRUARY 23 – MARCH 8, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

PISCES FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

The annual polarity between the idealistic Pisces sun and the realistic Virgo moon mid-week can accentuate your feelings about a significant relationship, be it with a co-worker or your life partner. If something needs sorting out, that would be a good time to do it. But you probably won't have to press the issue; during a full moon, these things have a way of coming to a head no matter what you do or say. Then again, you could have a complete change of heart during the Venus–Uranus conjunction in Pisces on March 4.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Cement your current connections, the cosmic as well as the mundane, as soon as you can. When Mercury turns retrograde in Aries in mid March, the ties that bind us to one another could become seriously tangled. It'll take at least until the end of April to straighten them out. Other than that, keep on keeping on with the productivity and whatever clear-cut sense of purpose you're enjoying. Because, also in mid March, your Mars ruler finishes its transit of constructive Capricorn, the sign of its exaltation, and it won't return until 2007.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Almost everything about the award season strikes a responsive chord with the artist in you. It's also the time of year when you can feel a lot more social, especially as your Venus ruler joins the Fish for the Oscars. Remember that during her three-week run through Pisces, Venus is in exaltation; her positive attributes—the affection and aesthetic appreciation, rather than the rapaciousness and bitchiness—are at their best. It's also when a Bull is willing to become a martyr for love. Be afraid, be very afraid.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Pisces, for the Twins, can turn into the season of the witch, a time when you're more likely to be presented with choices that provoke rather than satisfy. While your Mercury ruler navigates through your career midheaven, challenging your sense of accomplishment, remember that the Messenger is mercurial. It's here and then it's somewhere else and then, before you know it, it's retrograde again. Protect your interests and your good name; punctuate what happens between now and mid March with a big fat question mark.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

The simpatico Pisces sun can melt the defense mechanisms of all the wary water signs. If you're sucked into this receptive mind-set, don't forget that erratic Uranus in Pisces can change the scene unexpectedly. So much for disposing of the Crab's hard shell! And while much of the action centers on you and other people's money—borrowing and lending, taxes and credit—particularly around the full moon on the 23rd, you may become more interested in what's going on worldwide and where you fit in.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Surprises can delight or upset you; it's a double-edged sword that Uranus wields, especially while it joins forces with your sun ruler on the 24th. The full moon may also have a funny effect, and not because the critical Virgo vibe has that jolly a sense of humor. However, since this full moon falls across your financial axis, you might want to double-check all transactions this week. If someone is playing a joke, it could turn into a costly one. On the other hand, you can be the one who has a sudden change of heart.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Recovered from the chaotic situation you stumbled into last weekend when your Mercury ruler met with Uranus, planet of shock and awe? Properly prepped for the perceptive Virgo full moon on the 23rd that could resolve the issue? Or are you utterly confused and at sea, which is what can happen when Mercury is awash in deep Piscean waters. If so, a younger ally or someone more attuned to the ebb and flow of a significant relationship may come to your rescue. Ask for advice before Mercury moves on to independent Aries and your approach becomes more strident.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

While your Venus ruler cavorts through your Aquarius house of romance and risk, you're apt to take chances you otherwise wouldn't. Once Venus dives into Pisces, compassion and confusion can cloud your vision; don't be surprised if you have a sudden change of heart while Venus cozies up to unpredictable Uranus in March. Making sacrifices because Venus is exalted—being ultra-good—in the sign of the Fish could be your m.o. until you figure out where you misplaced that Libran sense of fair play.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Attention to your career, as well as to the family's good name, must be paid whenever a full moon illuminates the highest point of your natal chart. Such is the case this week, so try to anticipate the kind of antics an idiosyncratic relative or a kooky client will get into before there's a mess to clean up. Although you may sympathize with that person's predicament, remember that the devil is in the details. A precise, proper decision is easier to reach when your Mars co-ruler is in Capricorn, the sign in which it works best.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Archers born close to the Scorpio cusp could share a similar experience, having to pay a lot of attention to a screwy family member or client. The rest can focus on an educational issue, a problem about travel plans, or difficulty with a local merchant while the moon is full in fix-it Virgo. Either way, you'll find a good reason to act with uncharacteristic speed and efficiency. Could that be the additional pressure on your laissez-faire Jupiter ruler coming from Mars in your money house? Quick, before the costs add up.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

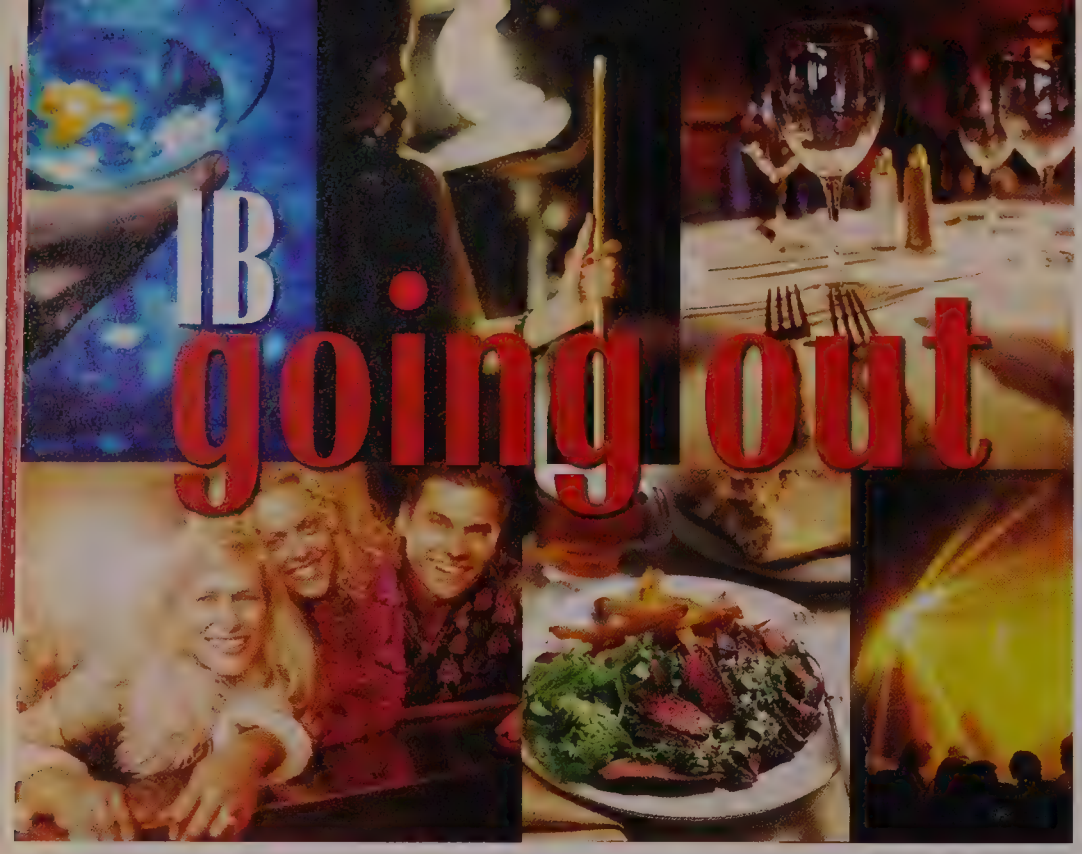
Finances may take center stage during the detail-driven Virgo full moon, a time of reckoning with tax or insurance matters. This is also the time of year when your acquisitions can have greater value. The closer we get to spring, the more your attention will be drawn to family members, family values and, of course, real estate. So gather those pretty possessions while ye may. Before much longer, assertive Mars in your sign will insist you do something about an "easy come, easy go" approach to a career concern.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

If you continue to think that the world revolves around you after Aquarius has ended, you're not altogether wrong. Until the Pisces sun comes out of its meeting with your Uranus ruler on the 24th, you'll have more than your share of flashbulbs and buzz to deal with. Your spot in the limelight might even extend past March 4, when affectionate Venus takes Uranus' arm for the weekend. How romantic, how "head-over-heels" crazy in love will it get by then? A lot depends on who shows up around the full moon.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.



RESTAURANTS

THE BLACK RHINO *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 year in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

CLERYS *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty.Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

LUCKY'S LOUNGE *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

SCIENCE STREET CAFÉ *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

BOSTON BEER WORKS *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locatio Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 Am can wines by the glass. 15 championship liards tables at our Canal Street location. Co plete party planning capabilities. Priv Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Din Late Night. Always a good time. Check out BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Av Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTIN** *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-7 8646.* Something's always brewing at Best Boston's award winning beer bar. Here yo find the largest selection on the East Coa 112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic i ports. Join our beer club and enjoy every st of beer under the sun. Take advantage of yards, cask conditioned beer, flight sampl vintage and new beers, seasonals, mea ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experier our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *pizza kitchen, B Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-78 2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FU 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers tap, outrageous signature pizzas and E MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUI ING with our one of a kind "metro re decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8p free rooms and pool for your next party function of any kind. Call the "Party Speci ists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, piz $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come perience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Bost 617.350.5555.* Felt is located in the shad of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed ab Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering phisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourm dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velv booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a roman dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combin with the delicious entrees is the perfect ble to satisfy all your cravings. American Conte porary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

STADIUM – CLUBHOUSE *232 Old Colo Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The S dium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nig club featuring two bars, a hardwood dan floor and parking. An exciting yet relax 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety music and beautiful people crowding t dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. ideal place for your next bachelor, bach lorette or birthday party.

CLUB Q BOSTON *25 Union St., Bost 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesd through Saturday.What nightlife in Bost has been waiting for, this state of the Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attra a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesd through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's t DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40 With two bars, three VIP areas and pool bles, Club Q is the place to see and be see Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quin Market Place, Boston, 617-248-97(www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2 Floor of the Quincy Market Building in t

eart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven ights a week and offers the best in local nd national comedy. During the week, the ationally renowned club offers some of oston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Vildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don avin. On Thursday nights, Frank antos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes he audience and on the weekends, this is he only place to see the biggest names in omedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane ook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

OSE MCINTYRE'S *160 Milk St., Boston 51-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican can- na is a great escape in the financial district! wo floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool ta- les upstairs and live bands downstairs!

HE PLACE *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523- 081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on he big screen. Simply the hippest way to pend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Finan- al District. Come after work. Come to dance. ome to go wild with your friends. There's al- ays something exciting happening – and you ever know who you'll bump into. Join us and xperience what the buzz is all about.

HE PURPLE SHAMROCK *1 Union St., oston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great ood, live entertainment and relaxing atmos- here! Menu includes American and Irish spe- alties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

HE BLACK ROSE *160 State St., Boston, 617- 42-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub cele- rates its 25th year! Considered one of the best sh pubs in America, the menu features Ameri- n and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

ENNESSY'S OF BOSTON *25 Union St., oston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authen- Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great enu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A uge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, ennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. njoy live entertainment five nights a week ith pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spir- s," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

REEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., righton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ire- nd with great tasting, affordable food. One the most popular nightspots in town, the reen Briar has become the area's headquar- rs for international sports viewing and live ntertainment. Live music five nights a week, aturing local bands on weekends, a tradi- onal Irish Seissun every Monday night and ime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable mosphere makes the Green Briar an excel- nt place to hold luncheons, wedding re- earsals, social gatherings and small business eetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. over charge varies on Friday and Saturday ghts and some sporting events on Sundays.

HE GREEN DRAGON *11 Marshall St., oston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters the Revolution," this favorite after work eeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail ink special menu." A comfortable place serv- g lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed sh breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to m. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, different bottled "brewskies" and imported sh brews. Live music and entertainment ery Thursday through Sunday night.

INVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617- 33-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spir- ited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

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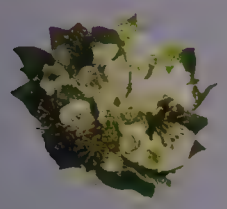

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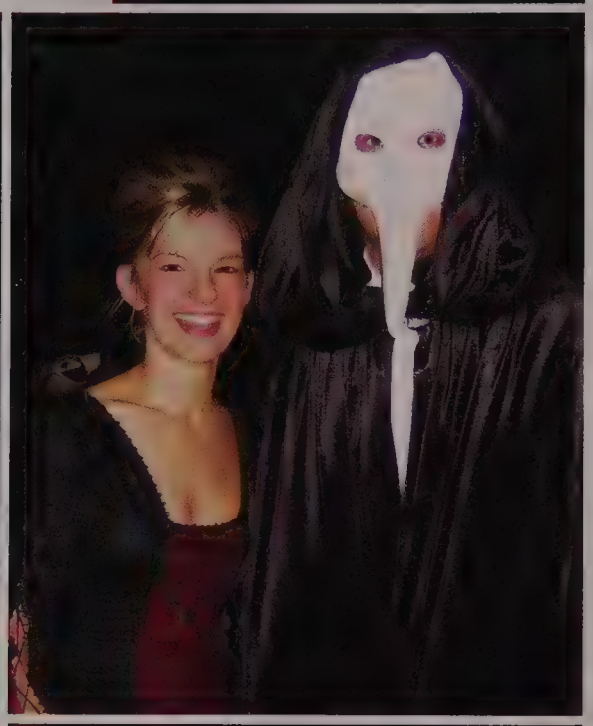

At the Helping Hearts Masquerade Ball, clockwise from top right: a masked man; Brooke Muller and Doug Harvey; Synda Mahan and Rob Maxine; Josh Weingarten and Allana Fabrikant; Lauralee Summer and Emily Sweeney

IT'S NOT RIO, BUT...

For those of us who feel like we could stand to lose a few pounds, Mardi Gras is a godsend—not only does Fat Tuesday confer the proverbial Get Out of Jail Free card for being a bit overweight, but when celebrated correctly, it also offers an excellent opportunity to dress up in ridiculous costumes, drink like a viking, and otherwise behave like a buffoon.

That the second annual **Helping Hearts Masquerade Ball** was held on a Friday night seemed to bother no one in the slightest, as **Bread and Jams** (a homeless day shelter) celebrated Mardi Gras in **Morss Hall** at MIT's Walker Memorial. The only downside to everyone showing up in elaborate and fantastic get-ups: the fact that all the masks hid some wildly attractive young revelers.

Among them: speaker **Lauralee Summer** (author of *Learning Joy from Dogs Without Collars* and the woman famous for going "from homeless to Harvard"); her punk rock chick, **Emily Sweeney**; gorgeous blonde entrepreneur **Jane Forrer** of Beauty and Main; co-chair **Brooke Muller** and the super-suave **Doug Harvey**; consummate hipsters **Synda Mahan** and **Rob Maxine**; the flagrantly fabulous **Josh Weingarten** and **Allana Fabrikant**; Boston Cares volunteers **Carolyn Cho** and **Petra Yee**; honored guest Cambridge vice mayor **Marjorie Decker** with **Stephen Sillari** (about whom she said, "He's my date, but he's single and I swore I'd tell everyone," although someone else observed, "He buys panty hose for the vice mayor"); and one guy whose muttonchop sideburns more than made up for his lack of a costume.

In addition to a delectable buffet and a slammin' band, there were silent and live auctions, and while the insanity didn't quite approach the unbridled debauchery of the French Quarter, there was a palpable whiff of Bourbon Street in the air.

Perhaps the best example: One guy who responded to a compliment on his Venetian Carnevale mask by saying, "Yeah, thanks. The only problem is that it's a bitch to drink a gin and tonic through this thing."

ROARING TWENTYSOMETHINGS...

It was like a cross between your standard black-tie gala and a frat party à la *Animal House* (minus all the piss-poor behavior, of course), when the **Steppingstone Foundation** hosted its black-tie **Crystal Ball** at the **Four Seasons**.

The evening attracted a handsome horde of bright young things—future CEOs, fund managers, and parents of kids at prestigious private schools who were having a bit of a lark in the meantime. Among them: the twinkle-toed **Timo** and **Kate Weymouth**; the absurdly gorgeous **Betsy Bingle** and **Jason Stanley**; hopeless romantics **Ian McLaughlin** and **Victoria Samuel**; gorgeous developer **Hope Galton** and financial titan **Richard Allin**; pretty-in-pink **Carolyn Loucas**; smokingly sexy surgeon **Caroline Baumal**; ubiquitous TV personality **Janet Wu**; and several of the notorious, older lecherous men who regularly attend such functions (and presumably have some luck getting lucky at them every once in a while).

While a lot of people on the dance floor seemed to be taking Rick James at his word when the band did a cover of "Give It to Me," several couples danced wildly while standing in line for the bar, and others were spotted making out in the corner.

The silent auction, meanwhile, included such irresistible items as a visit to the set of *Alias* with a signed script (kisses from Jennifer Garner pending approval by Ben Affleck, presumably). And none of the guests even seemed to notice that the party's bar bill easily rivaled the annual GNP of a smallish Latin American country.

In other words, it was a fantastic night out for the young and the restless, whose dry cleaners will undoubtedly be overjoyed to see them, once they recover from their blinding hangovers. iB

At the Crystal Ball, from top: Betsy Bingle and Jason Stanley; Timo Weymouth dipping his wife, Kate; Hope Galton and Richard Allin; Ian McLaughlin and Victoria Samuel; Caroline Baumal

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

PERHAPS PEOPLE JUST
LIKE THINGS FROM IRELAND.

ON SECOND THOUGHT...

IT COULD JUST BE THE TASTE.

LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

LIVING IT UP

In the cover story for our first-ever Homes Issue, writer Regina Cole takes us inside some of Boston's most unique dwellings: homes that were once churches. From a Catholic church turned condos in Southie to an eight-story bell tower in the Back Bay, these living spaces have architectural details you won't find in other homes.

Meanwhile, Michele McPhee takes us on a tour through today's Dorchester. With its reasonable housing prices and an influx of businesses, Boston's oldest neighborhood has become a hot up-and-coming real estate market.

Wherever you live, stylish young design consultant Kristine Irving has helpful tips for making smart choices and taking the fear out of decorating.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

CONING ORDINANCE

I just read Ezra's article, "The Cone Zone" (Feb. 23), which was quite amusing. I went to a party a couple of weeks ago in Southie and apparently took someone's parking spot. The spot wasn't marked by anything, but I was still supposed to know it was theirs! They decided it would be sweet revenge to slash all my tires. Contacting the mayor didn't prove to be much of a help. I wouldn't move to Southie in a million years!

—JULIE PEECHA
Brookline

Well, Ezra did it again. Not only does he lack the ability to write an interesting column, he lacks originality. For the past month in newspapers there have been numerous columns about the parking situation in Southie. So what does Ezra do? He jumps on the bandwagon and writes another uninteresting story about him and a parking spot. It pains me to know he gets paid to sound stupid. I could probably write a funnier article about the migration patterns of the bluefin tuna. When I see Ezra in Southie, I'm not just going to tell him he sucks. I'm going to steal his spot.

—BARRY DORION
South Boston

Ezra obviously hasn't grasped the fine art of living in Southie. For someone so new to the neighborhood, he makes some very strong presumptions. I've only been here for two years myself, but know better than to try to boycott the practice of marking spots.

But I have a solution to the winter parking problem: Why don't we treat snow storms like street cleaning? The first day after a storm, no parking on the left side of the street. Plows will come with those snow-melting machines, remove and melt down the snow. The second day after a storm, do the same for the right side of the street. There. Problem solved. No snow banks and plenty of spots to go around—even for the newcomers.

—MEGAN MURRAY
South Boston

I read Ezra's article and loved it! The cone phenomenon drives me insane too. I like to move people's cones across the street on my walk home, just to screw with them. I think next winter I'm going to set up cone space-savers everywhere. Once people realize there are no spots except coned spots, they'll move my cones. When nothing happens to their car, they'll realize they can defy the cone rule and will move real cones the next time. Once no one obeys the stupid cone rule, the madness will end! I have another eight months or so to perfect my plan.

—DAVID ROOT
Boston

FOOD FOR DOT

In her Feb. 9 Dish column, Carolyn Faye Fox poses the question, "Is Dot the New Hot Spot?" I was a little amazed that the column didn't mention the Blarney Stone.

Prior to 2001, Dorchester's 100,000-plus residents were limited to two high-end restaurants. In 2001 the Blarney Stone reopened, serving residents the high-end food we have deserved for years. Two years later the Seafood Palace opened on Adams Street. Again, another quality restaurant. We welcome Mr. Douglass and the Ashmont Grille to the neighborhood, and I hope he's one of many restaurateurs who will soon be calling Dorchester home.

—TOM GANNON
Dorchester

SHE DIDN'T GET THE JOKE

I would like to apologize to Sarah Medeiros (Letters, Feb. 23). I thought it was obvious I was joking about that beautiful model ruining her life by posing in lingerie. At any rate, Nicole is lucky to have a friend like Sarah. No more goofin' around.

—GEORGE DEYAB
Hingham

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REGINA COLE

Regina Cole is a freelance writer who specializes in period interiors, architecturally driven interior design, gardens, and the history of the American decorative arts. She's the author of *The New Flooring Idea Book*, *Perfect Legends of Design*, an architectural style book and several how-to books for homeowners. Her work appears regularly in *Old-House Interiors*, the At Home section of the *Boston Sunday Globe Magazine*, the *Old-House Journal*, *Traditional Home*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Renovation Style* and *German Life*. She is also currently working on a biography of interior designer Henry Davis Sleeper. Her feature, "The Converted," begins on page 18.

MICHELE MCPHEE

Michele McPhee is the Police Bureau chief for the *Boston Herald* and author of the book *Mob over Miami*. She recently returned to Boston after spending eight years as the Police Bureau chief for the *New York Daily News*. She's written for magazines including *Maxim*, *Stuff*, *ESPN Magazine*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Black Book*, *Gotham*, *Manhattan File* and *Boston*. McPhee lives in Dorchester, and her article, "Hot Dot," begins on page 24.

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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new in town

GLAMOURAMA

Fashion and beauty maven Gretchen Monahan doesn't slow down. She started the empire now known as Gretta Enterprises in 1995, when she was just 23, and has expanded it to include three Grettacole luxury salon/day spas, Newbury Street's sleek G Spa and Wellesley's chic clothing boutique GrettaLuxe. And even though Monahan's constantly jetting off to Europe to meet the hottest designers, the 34-year-old trendsetter still finds time to play host on TLC's *A Makeover Story*.

In the next few weeks, Monahan's business expands further when she opens her second GrettaLuxe store, near Grettacole in the swanky Copley Place mall. "Now we can have fashion and beauty in close proximity," Monahan says. Although Neiman Marcus is also nearby, Monahan doesn't see the upscale retailer as a competitor. That's mostly because she carries a limited number of each item, so "when it's gone it's gone."

The Wellesley branch of GrettaLuxe

Monahan's been looking at European designers to select brands that will be exclusive to the Copley store. "It gives us a chance to shop for the international and urban set," she says. "Out in Wellesley, it's a lot of chic mommies in the suburbs." But the Copley location also carries some of the same tried-and-true clothing, shoes and accessories that have earned the store a mini cult following in Wellesley—labels like Strenesse, Chloé, Michael Kors, D Squared, Jimmy Choo and Barbara Bui.

Unique to her Copley venture is the Grettastyle Studio, a VIP suite that offers personal shopping and custom fitting. That means if you like a gown or a dress, but would prefer it with no sleeves or a different waistline, they'll rework it for you. Another service is custom buying. "We can even go to Europe with a complete list of clients' wardrobe needs," Monahan says. *GrettaLuxe is scheduled to open in early March, but until then, you can call the Wellesley store (781-237-7010). 100 Huntington Ave., Copley Place. www.grettastyle.com. —E.H.*

sports

WHO NEW?

So you want to see the Patriots in next year's playoffs, but you don't want to shell out an outrageous amount of dough? A company called Yoo New can help hook you up for tickets at a fraction of their market value—with the caveat that you pay for tickets in advance and only get to use them if your team makes the playoffs. Yoo New, based on a concept entered in a business-plan competition at MIT's Sloan School, was founded last September, and company president (and Sloan School grad) Gerry Wilson is already applying the formula to other sports, like NCAA basketball. We're not sure how the math works, exactly, but we bet you could get Dolphins Super Bowl tickets right now for about a nickel. *www.yoonew.com*.

It's My Fantasy... Last issue, we reported that the Major League Experience was hammering out a deal to let civilians with the requisite cash play ball in Fenway. Well, the deal is done, and an East Coast fantasy-baseball road trip kicks off at Fenway July 22. The next stop is New York—in Shea Stadium. "The Yankees never even returned our call," says MLE president Mark Webb. Wow, now that's a surprise. *www.majorleagueexperience.com. —Ezra Dyer*

inner view

CHRISTINA APPLEGATE

From her 11-year stint as television's favorite ditzy blonde, Kelly Bundy, to her Emmy-winning performance as Rachel's flaky sister on *Friends* to costarring with Will Ferrell in last year's film *Anchorman*, Christina Applegate has mastered the art of comedy. Now, the funny girl is taking a break from the screen and turning to the stage, where she stars as Charity Hope Valentine in the musical comedy *Sweet Charity*. That's right. Applegate sings and dances to Bob Fosse's legendary choreography March 18–27 at the Colonial Theatre.

IB: *What made you audition for a Broadway production?*

CA: It was *Sweet Charity*, and I couldn't turn that down. I grew up with Fosse and was completely obsessed with him and inspired by him. So this was just something that I thought I needed to try, with absolutely no intention of getting the job. I just wanted a New York, Broadway audition. I thought that was the coolest.

IB: *Has Broadway always been an interest of yours?*

CA: Ever since I was a little kid. I used to go to New York a lot and my mom took me to every show that would come through there.

IB: *The part requires a lot of singing and dancing. How did you prepare for the role?*

CA: I've always been a dancer, so that part of it was easy. The vocal end of it was a bit of a challenge. After I got the job, I worked really hard on it vocally. Luckily for me though, the score was written in one octave for a woman who was unbelievably talented but her singing voice was...you know. It was much more of a character driven thing. That's why the songs for my character are very easy to do. I worked really hard on that and trained and tried to get my stamina up, because you really do need stamina. It's regarded as one of the most difficult female roles in musical comedy because you're doing all three things [singing, dancing and acting] and you don't leave the stage for three hours. But it's so rewarding.

IB: *Will you be utilizing your singing and dancing talents in any upcoming film or television projects?*

CA: My whole life is this play right now [laughs], so I don't even have anything upcoming.

IB: *You're a Hollywood actress taking on a Broadway role, and you beat out several other Hollywood actresses for the part. Does that create a lot of pressure for you?*

CA: I can't be bogged down with anything that anybody thinks, because it distracts me. I just have to do the best job I can do for me and for my audience that night. Hopefully people respond to it. And I feel like I'm in good hands. If I'm going in the wrong direction I know that my director and choreographer will pull me back and fix it. But so far so good.

IB: *From* Married with Children *to recent films like* The Sweetest Thing *and* Anchorman, *you've done a lot of comedy.*

CA: I think it's what people are drawn to me for, most of the time. There are a handful of—I'm sure there are many more—funny girls. It's a bit harder to find that. So they sort of reuse the same people. Luckily for me. I get to keep working.

IB: *Between television, film and Broadway, do you have a favorite?*

CA: I love them all the same, but right now, I will say this is the biggest thrill I've ever had in my life. I feel like I'm doing what I'm supposed to be doing at least for this moment. I've never felt better or happier, because you have instant gratification every night. It's very awe-inspiring, the whole process. *—Jessica Iredale*

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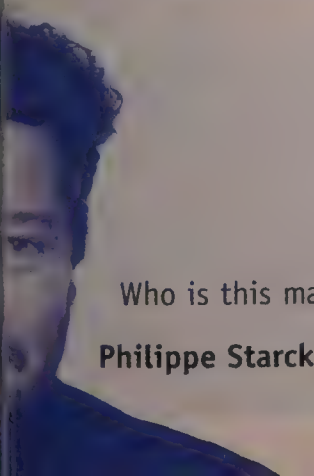

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Philippe Starck, yoo design icon.

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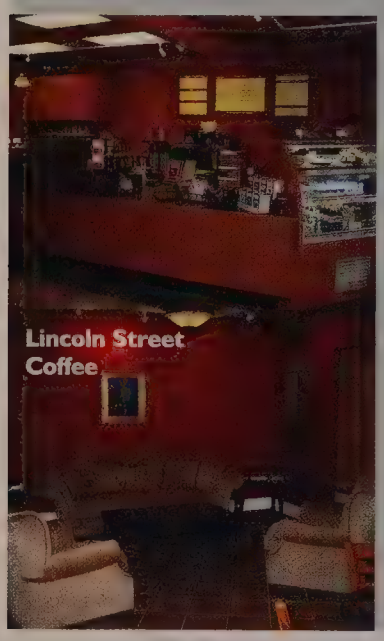
tasty tidbits

PIZZA, PIZZA, PIZZA

The Crust Thickens... Five years ago,Bruno Galardi-Este and Isabel Gamsohn opened Campo de' Fiori, a teensy take-out Roman pizza place in Harvard Square. It was so popular that Galardi-Este opened a second, larger location in Weston two years later. Now he's set to introduce Campo de' Fiori and its thin, flatbread-crust pizza to the Hub when a third spot opens on Comm. Ave. during the last week in March. The latest addition will be larger than the others, with an expanded dining area, outdoor patio and a beer and wine license—all Campo firsts. Its location on the ground floor of one of BU's newest dorms should make it a favorite amongst Terriers, but we're pretty sure that postgrads will have an equal appreciation for Galardi-Este's creations. *580 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-236-2066).*

Grape Gathering... With *Sideways* slowly making its way out of theaters, we wonder where oenophiles will turn for their next fix of wine culture. Here's one option. The Hub's newest wine club, Boston Uncorked, has launched its Web site and announced plans for its first tasting event, to take place right after Easter. Started by a group of wine enthusiasts, Uncorked hopes to bring an unpretentious, *Sideways*-esque attitude to its events (centered around wine or beer plus other select alcohol-themes), which will take place at a different local venues each time. The club is aimed at connoisseurs ages 27-43, but open to anyone who's over 21. *www.bostonuncorked.org.*

Holy Mole... For those whose knowledge of Mexican food doesn't extend much past "Yo quiero Taco Bell," the concept of mole, a spicy chocolate-based sauce, is about as foreign as sprouts are to David Wells. Every Monday in March, Olé Mexican Grill and chef Erwin Ramos offer a look at this staple of authentic Mexican food with two special mole dishes. On the 14th, there's *mole Amarillo de puerco* (chorizo apple–stuffed pork chops) and Chichilo mole (vegetable stew), while on the 21st, you can enjoy *cordero en mole verde* (Australian lamb shank) and *pozole mixteco* (pork rib) for $15–$18 a dish. *11 Springfield St., Cambridge (617-492-4495).*


Lincoln Street Coffee

Buzzing in the 'Burbs... Newtonians have a spankin' new coffee shop where they can sit and sip their double mocha lattes. Newton Highlands resident Peter Meyer parlayed his experience with luxury hotels (the Ritz and Hotel Commonwealth, locally) into Lincoln Street Coffee, a luxury coffee house that opened in early March. While java's the main draw, Lincoln Street also offers a selection of whole-leaf gourmet teas (chamomile, citrus, African nectar, vanilla bean, mint melange, black tea, green tea and herbals), as well as pastries like Belgian chocolates and homemade gelato, all of which you can consume while sitting on a cozy couch lit by a Tiffany lamp. *15 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-244-1600). www.lincolnstreetcoffee.com.*

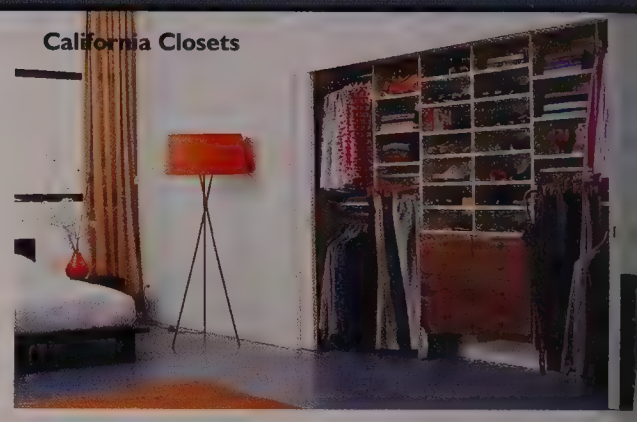
sam says

SKIN DEEP

A lot of people are pretty confused about skin care these days. There are so many products to choose from that it seems like you have to carry an encyclopedia of esthetic knowledge just to moisturize your skin! It's easy enough to walk into a department store or spa and lay down $100 for a one-ounce tube that's supposed to revitalize your complexion, but what if you don't have money to burn? The folks at Vichy Laboratories have come up with one solution: skin care centers. Located in select CVS and Brooks pharmacies, Vichy's centers are staffed by knowledgeable specialists who analyze your skin to come up with the appropriate products. If you don't want to buy all the items right away, they'll give you samples to take home. After they set you up with a perfect regimen, your information is stored in a computer, so you can return to buy the same items that made you so pretty. Available at most CVS and Brooks pharmacies. Products cost $5–$34. —*Samantha House*

improper reports

CUSTOM CLOSETS


California Closets

It's that time of year again: spring cleaning. You could tackle the mounds of mess yourself. Or you could hire a pro to reorganize your storage systems—whether it be closets for the bedroom, pantry, laundry room, garage or elsewhere. Any of these local companies will come to your home to design and install a custom closet system that just might make disarray a thing of the past.

Boston Closet Company
229 Lowell St., Somerville (800-825-8880).
A family-owned business that's been organizing Bostonians' spaces for the past 28 years, Boston Closet Co. offers a variety of custom options, from wire to wood-grain to prefinished wood closets. A minimum price for closet installation includes a consultation and design.

California Closets
873 Worcester Road, Wellesley (800-225-6901).
These self-proclaimed "space-planning experts" can help you simplify your life with a complimentary consultation. Prices range from a few hundred to several thousand dollars.

Closet & Storage Concepts
112 South St., Hopkinton (508-544-1555).
Specializing in melamine, a durable laminate, consultants will design closets with a variety of finish options. Prices range from $200 to $10,000.

Home Improvements and Repairs by Sam Brusco
(617-407-0276).
Brusco sends a consultant who'll design a closet plan for your space. A deposit between $100 and $200 covers the consultation and the design, which can be applied to your order should you decide to go ahead with it.

Kelley's Klosets
285 Dedham St., Wrentham (781-789-8115).
With a free consultation that includes a virtual picture of the space, designers create closets from $500 to $2,000.

Lynne Greene Interiors
162 Cambridge St., Burlington (781-221-8422).
Greene's consultants discuss clients' needs and draw up a close design. The $100 consultation fee applies to the new closet.

IMPROPER SPEAKING

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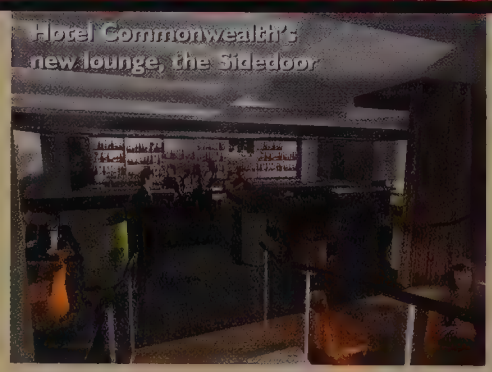
Hotel Commonwealth's new lounge, the Sidedoor

Lounging Around... Pardon the tired comparison with New York nightlife, but when it comes to swanky hotel lounges, the Big Apple does it bigger and better than Boston. But business partners George Lewis and George Wright hope to close the gap with their lounge, the Sidedoor, opening at the Hotel Commonwealth later this month. With the new venture, Lewis and Wright aim to create a destination that's conducive to conversation. In other words, both the music and the lights will be kept low. Couches and cushy chairs abound in the sleek chocolate and neutral-toned interior, and a light bites menu offers Asian-style tapas. *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-933-5000).*

Shop Talk... Joining the legions of Back Bay women's boutiques is the new Joseph Ribkoff. Shawn Maclean and his son, Michael, have been selling women's apparel for decades in their Salem, N.H.–based store, Michael's of Mainstreet. A few months ago, they decided to bring the best-selling Ribkoff line to Newbury Street's shopping mecca. Duds range from business casual to formal and can suit women ages 25 and up. *224 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-5600).*

Love Song... Musical taste can be an important factor in a couple's compatability. If you won't even consider snuggling up to someone who doesn't dig rock, try Boston's new Rock 'n' Roll Dating. Like 8-Minute Dating with a rockin' soundtrack, singles go on six five- to 10-minute dates set to a background of live performances by five different bands. The next event takes place March 20, from 6 to 9 pm, at McGann's of Boston and features a range of music by local acts. *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*

Getting the Shaft... We know bike geeks get excited over nuanced differences between shift levers, pedals and such, but to the rest of us bikes all look pretty much alike: frame, wheels, some pedals connected to a chain. Well, not so fast: Dynamic Bicycles, a new company based in Medway, chucks the chain in favor of a shaft-drive system. Advantages include low maintenance, no greasy chain slapping your leg, and the ability to change gears even when you're not moving (pretty handy when you're on a gnarly hill). Dynamic's shafty bikes include both street models and off-roaders. Check 'em out at www.dynamicbicycles.com.
—*Rich Levine & E.D.*

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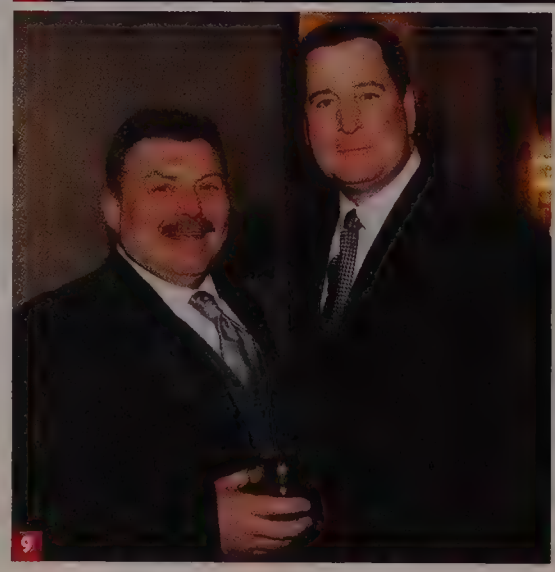
PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

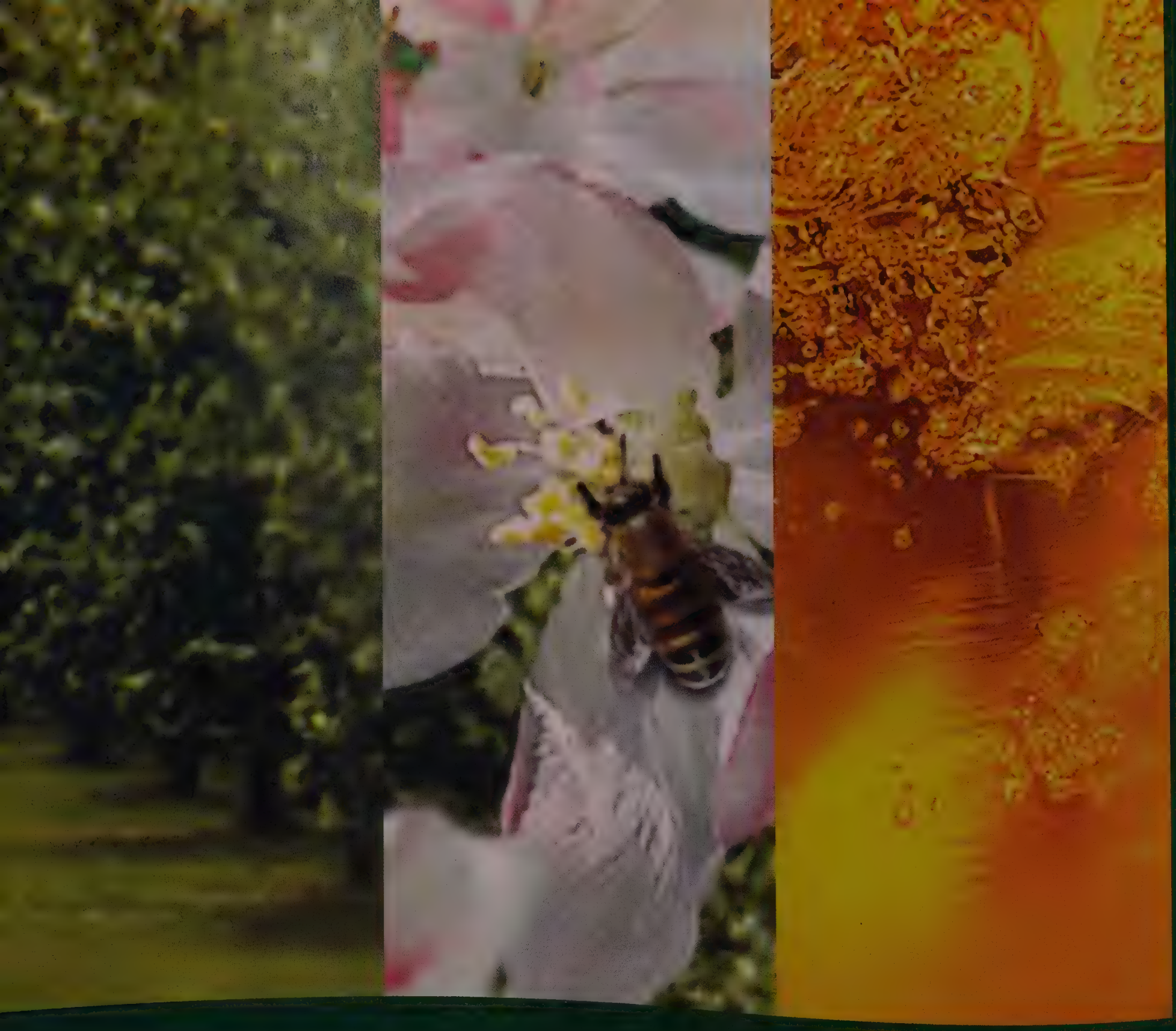
The Irish Consul General hosted a reception for Pulitzer Prize–winning Irish poet Paul Muldoon February 17 at Jurys Boston Hotel. More than 100 partygoers attended the event, which included a reading by Muldoon from his new book, *Moy Sand and Gravel*.

1. **Maeve Gilchrist**, student at Berklee College of Music; **Patricia Danaher** and **Louise Kiernan**, both Neiman Fellows at Harvard University.
2. **Dave McLaughlin**, playwright, and **Peter O'Reilly**, managing director of the Sugan Theatre.
3. **Isabel Kriegel** of the One in Three Boston Program and **John Connolly** of the office of Arts and Tourism at City Hall.
4. **Dick Concannon** and **Smoki Bacon**, producers of *The Literati Scene*, on BNN-TV 23.
5. **Marcelle Murray**, president of the Irish Networking Society; **Dan Noonan**, financial adviser for Merrill Lynch; and **Mary O'Herlihy**, director of the Irish Institute at Boston College.
6. **Niki Tsongas**, dean at Middlesex Community College, and **Jim O'Brien**, president of the Ireland Chamber of Congress for the USA.

Sports Radio 850 WEEI-AM rolled out the red carpet for the **Third Annual Whiney Awards** February 17 at the Boston Copley Marriott Hotel. The Academy Awards–style event brought together Boston media, celebrities and sports fanatics to honor the city's funniest and most creative sports "whiners." Nearly 1,000 guests joined WEEI on-air personalities, including Glenn Ordway, John Dennis, Gerry Callahan, Dale Arnold and Ted Sarandis. All proceeds benefited the American Heart Association.



7. **Andrew Hayes**, promotions director for WEEI-FM in Providence; **Bob Lynch**, account executive for WRKO-AM and **Matt Walsh**, account executive for WEEI-AM.
8. **Jay Blackwell**, director of the Boston Heart Ball; **LuAnn Bott**, regional vice president for the Greater Boston Division of the American Heart Association; and **Jon Meterparel**, sports anchor for the *Dennis and Callahan Show* on WEEI Sports Radio.
9. **Glenn Ordway**, WEEI Sports Radio host, and **John Dennis**, co-host of the *Dennis and Callahan Show* on WEEI Sports Radio.
10. **Aaron Thomas**, account executive for WEEI Sports Radio and **Dana Panepinto**, account manager for WEEI Sports Radio.
11. **Lindsey Heenan** and **Daniel Bellow**, mortgage brokers for New York Mortgage Co. in Wakefield.



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BY EZRA DYER

DUMBER AND DUMBERER

Every now and then, a man's gotta do what a man's gotta do.

Growing up, I used to do stupid things on a regular basis that could've maimed me. Not accidents, these were willful acts that usually began with an "I wonder what would happen if..." proposition and ended with a wound of some sort. For example, when I was about 10 years old, a friend and I were lighting batteries on fire when one of them exploded, sending a flaming ember directly into my eye. In retrospect, I've learned that when lighting batteries on fire in the hopes that they'll explode, you shouldn't get too close to stoke the flames. Somehow, my eye emerged from the rinsing cup with no long-term damage, and I went on to conduct further important battery research. (Since batteries explode, could they be used to dynamite a tree stump?)

These days, I watch *Jackass* and think, "Those guys are idiots. They're gonna kill themselves." But when I consider all the stupid things I did before *Jackass* even existed, the list gets pretty long: sledding on unplowed roads using a six-foot rope tied to the bumper of a car going 40 mph; filling a boat's gas tank about five feet away from a precariously balanced tiki torch; shooting fireworks out of a moving car; jumping a four-wheeler off the top of a gravel pit and having it almost land on me; getting a full-size truck airborne at 70 mph. And make no mistake, I'm a wuss compared to most guys I know.

Some of my friends' achievements include eating live smelt; accidentally burning down a cemetery; tricking a roommate into shaving his nether regions by posing as a woman on Yahoo Personals; skiing into the backcountry and getting lost overnight; getting glassed in a bar fight; falling through lake ice into a hole they cut intentionally; eating yellowjackets; and putting new joints in fingers while trying to do a 360 on waterskis. They've punched out windows, totaled brand-new cars, and one received a standing ovation after dancing on stage at a live sex show in Amsterdam.

My point? Once in a while you need to do something stupid, or you'll end up like Kevin Spacey in *American Beauty*, and snap. Since stupidity is so often bad for you either financially, physically or girlfriendally, if you can get away with doing something dumb without being sentenced to 40 hours of community service with the fire department, you may as well go for it. That was my thinking when my friend Whits called on New Year's Day and began to chant repeatedly "Get...in...the...ocean." I pleaded that I was hung over and the ocean was cold (and on New Year's Day I was about as hung-over as the ocean is cold), but Whits just replied, "I'm not taking no for an answer. I'll pick you up in 10 minutes." I donned the fashion-forward outfit of a bathing suit, bathrobe and boots and resigned myself to a winter swim.

Here's what you need to know about swimming in the ocean in the winter: Don't do it unless you're on a sinking boat, and even then you might want to just find a loaded revolver and kill yourself before the rising water reaches your nads. The sensation of cold is so intense that your nerves can't even adequately deliver the information to your brain, which is probably how people manage to do this every year—their nervous system blows the fuse for "cold" after about five seconds in the water and they're able to tolerate the "brutally unpleasant numbness" phase that follows. You know how if you go swimming in the ocean in the summer, you eventually get used to the water and then feel cold when you get

ONCE IN A WHILE YOU NEED TO DO SOMETHING STUPID, OR YOU'LL END UP LIKE KEVIN SPACEY IN *AMERICAN BEAUTY* AND SNAP

out? That's not the case in January. You know you're dealing with cold water when you're standing on the beach sopping wet and the air feels warm by comparison.

All in all, I have to conclude that swimming in the harbor in January is a completely idiotic thing to do and should be avoided if you can help it. On the other hand, I did manage to purge some stupidity without hurting anyone or getting arrested, which is preferable to letting it build until I consider truck-parasailing a good idea, as some of my father's friends once did. (A man's urge to act moronic doesn't necessarily diminish with age.) So I think I'm set for a while, but some people build up dumbness quicker than others, which probably explains Whits' new plan to swim in the ocean every month of the year. Not to tell tales, but I'm OK with that as long as it keeps him away from the yellowjackets. iB

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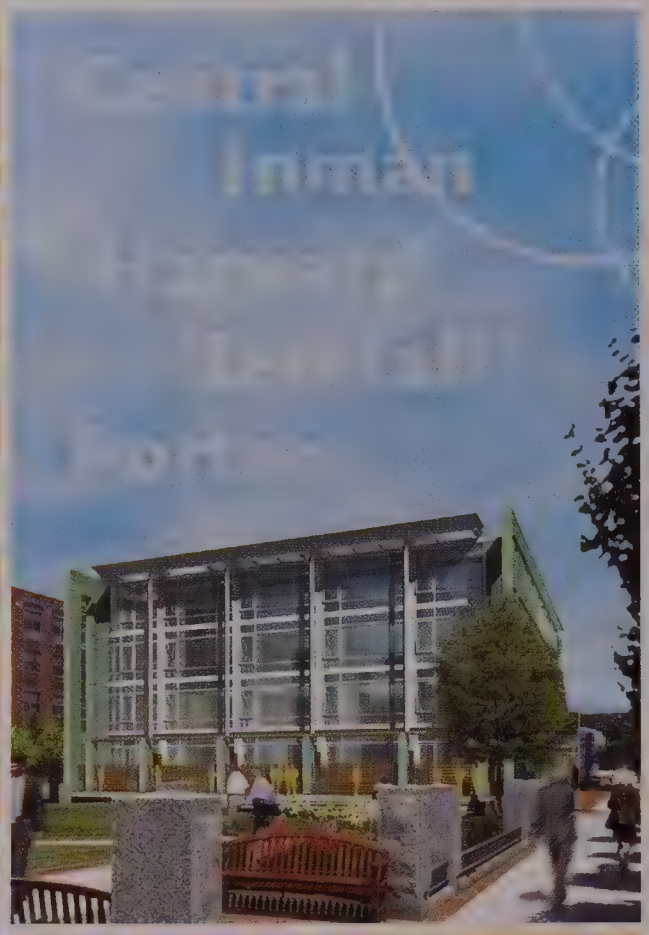

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

DAMPENING SPRING

The impact of Tedy Bruschi's stroke reaches all the way to Fort Myers.

It's my favorite time of the year. My windshield is covered with ice. The snow is falling. The windchill has dropped the temperature to about 15 degrees. And I'm boarding a plane for Fort Myers, Fla. Life is great. There's nothing like the annual trek to western Florida to hear the sound of balls hitting catchers' mitts. It's music to the ears.

But it isn't the same this time. I'm in Fort Myers, soaking it all in when devastating news hits: Tedy Bruschi suffered a stroke.

I'm floored. I don't know what to say or think. This isn't a broken leg, arm or shoulder. This is potentially life-changing—life-threatening. All of sudden, Trot Nixon's opinion of A-Rod doesn't matter. Neither does Matt Clement's run support, or lack thereof, with the Cubs last season—Tedy Bruschi is a press conference away from announcing his potential retirement from the National Football League.

About 11 days earlier I'd been at the Super Bowl interviewing Bruschi for my show on NECN. With several national news hounds looking for his time, he went out of his way to come on NECN, which is typical Tedy Bruschi. We sat down for a six-minute interview, ticking off some of my national brethren, but it didn't matter. Tedy is officially one of us and he's proud of it.

I became friendly with Bruschi during the 2003 season. He'd initially declined to appear on my Sunday talk show, saying that was his family's time, but after about six weeks of serious arm-twisting on my part, he finally agreed to an on-air interview after that December's game against Jacksonville.

As luck would have it, a major snowstorm swept through the region that Sunday, and at game's end there was about a foot of snow on the ground. I looked at my producers, and we all figured there was no way the family man was making his way to our Newton studio.

About an hour and a half after the game, I got a call from the Patriots' PR department. He's not coming, I thought. Instead the message was: "Tedy is cleaning off his wife's car and then he'll be on his way."

So in the middle of a major snowstorm, after playing in an NFL football game—which is supposed to feel something like getting in a car accident over and over again—Bruschi would not break his commitment to me. Why not, you ask? Because that's Tedy Bruschi.

And as great a football player as Bruschi has been—three Super Bowl rings—the greatest illustration of the type of person we're dealing with occurred at the next home game, two weeks after that snowstorm.

The Patriots were looking to avenge a season-opening whupping at the hands of the Buffalo Bills. The Patriots were up in the rematch at the end of the game, 31-0. But Buffalo was driving as the clock was winding down. Bills quarterback Drew Bledsoe threw the ball into the end zone looking to get some points on the board and save some embarrassment.

Out of nowhere, backup linebacker Larry Izzo jumped out and picked off the ball, sort of like Bruschi seems to do three or four times per season. At that moment Bruschi, sporting a David Ortiz–like smile, ran onto the field to hug Izzo. Talk about class. The interception meant nothing in the game at that point, but for Bruschi that garbage-time pickoff was special because it was Izzo's chance to shine. It was such a little thing,

I'M IN FORT MYERS WHEN DEVASTATING NEWS HITS TEDY BRUSCHI SUFFERED A STROKE ALL OF A SUDDEN, TROT NIXON'S OPINION OF A-ROD DOESN'T MATTER

but isn't it the little things that show a person's character?

So as the Red Sox pitchers and catchers reported for the first day, I arrived at the field bleary-eyed after not sleeping a wink, hoping and praying for a healthy Tedy Bruschi.

It's been an honor just being around the guy. I love his demeanor. I love those film clips from the Super Bowl with his kids tackling him on the field before the game. I love the way he respects people. And I love the way he plays and respects the game.

Tedy Bruschi is a true New England treasure. With that said, going after a fourth Super Bowl ring isn't as important as being a dad to three boys.

Here's hoping Bruschi never puts on a Patriots uniform again. And my hope is that it's without one regret in the world. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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THE SAUSAGE GUY

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Cult personality and culinary sensation David Littlefield, better known as the Sausage Guy, was born and raised in Foxboro. After graduating from Curry College with a degree in business, he sold pagers and radio advertising before deciding to start his own business, hawking first Buffalo wings and then sausages in the parking lot of Foxboro Stadium. After plying his trade and working round the clock at Downtown Crossing and outside several nightspots, he landed his coveted spot outside Fenway Park on Lansdowne Street in either 1996 or 1997 (he doesn't remember the date). Since then, he's become a local celebrity through clever marketing and has served not only the Fenway and nightclub faithful, but numerous celebrities. Tommy Lee Jones and Jerry Springer are past customers, and Governor Mitt Romney and celebrity chef Jasper White have taken turns working his cart. Littlefield's marketing savvy, meanwhile, has led to a line of merchandise emblazoned with his unmistakable logo—a pinup girl riding a phallic-looking rocket—and kids who recognize him from his frequent TV appearances often ask for his autograph. In 1998, he opened Salsa's, a popular Mexican restaurant, in South Boston. Today, his business also includes a storefront on Cambridge Street, his own line of sausages, and a catering company. He lives with his wife and two sons in Hingham.

Jonathan Soroff: *Ever wish you were an Oscar Mayer wiener?*

David Littlefield: [Laughs.] No. Never.

JS: *Do vegetarians hate you?*

DL: No. We have this little section on the cart where we mark off the vegetarian-busting—you know, at three o'clock in the morning, they're like, "I've been a vegetarian for five years but just gimme one." There's probably been two dozen in the last 10 years or so. People just lose it. It's great.

JS: *Do you ever eat healthfully?*

DL: Me, myself? No, I really don't.

JS: *Secret ingredient of your sausage?*

DL: I can't tell you that.

JS: *Grossest thing anyone's ever found in a sausage?*

DL: I guess little pieces of bone and so forth. But the grossest thing anyone ever requested from me was actually the grill scrapings that were charred at the end of the night. Oh, my God, it was unbelievable. He was just a little bit out there, but he didn't seem totally insane, and he demanded the grill scrapings on a bun.

JS: *Anything you won't eat?*

DL: I'm not a sushi guy. That's probably it. I'll also never be on *Fear Factor*.

JS: *Does it bug you when people say, "It's like sausage—you want to eat it, but you don't want to know where it comes from."*

DL: Yeah, that drives me a little bit crazy, because there's nothing gross about it.

JS: *OK, what's in sausage?*

DL: It's ground pork, the cuttings that were left from the butchers that can't really be used in any other way. I went to the plant once in Burlington, and it was actually much, much better than anyone might imagine. I was surprised at the quality of meat and the cleanliness and everything.

JS: *Describe your best customer.*

DL: One who comes every other day.

JS: *Do you go home smelling like sausage, and if so, do dogs follow you around?*

DL: [Laughs.] After a 17-hour day, it's pretty hellacious. I take a shower and my wife is like, "You've gotta go wash off," and I'm like, "I already did!" Sometimes, I'm taking three showers and I just can't get the smell out.

JS: *What condiment, if any, is mandatory on sausage?*

DL: I don't put anything on it. I'm a purist. But people absolutely love mustard. That's the undisputed number one.

JS: *What condiment on a sausage is punishable by death?*

DL: Mayonnaise. People who ask for it, you just want to kill 'em.

JS: *What do you think of "light" sausage—turkey sausage, etc.?*

DL: Why bother? It's just not the real thing. At our new restaurant (on Cambridge Street) we have a Chinese sausage and a garlic and cheese sausage. But they're just not the real deal. It's a rip-off trying to make it look pretty.

JS: *At breakfast, do you prefer links or patties?*

DL: Links. I love breakfast sausage links.

JS: *Ever dated a woman you thought was interested in you just for your sausage?*

DL: [Laughs.] Before I was happily married, maybe…

JS: *OK, back in your single days, how did women react when you said, "I'm the Sausage Guy?"*

DL: [Laughs.] Depends on who I was talking to. One of my favorite things I do in business is when I'm making a call to a bank or a vendor or whatever and they ask who's calling. I say, "Tell 'em it's the Sausage Guy." They never know how to react to that.

JS: *Describe the perfect sausage.*

DL: One that's been cooked absolutely enough, meaning it's hot on the inside, it's evenly browned but still juicy because it hasn't been on the grill too long. That's what we try to master.

JS: *Secret to someone cooking sausages at home on the grill?*

DL: Lower heat than you might think. Constant movement. And patience.

JS: *Where do you take your wife out to eat?*

DL: The Franklin Café is my favorite. Anchovies is another longtime haunt.

JS: *Best way to remove the stain that inevitably winds up on my shirt whenever I eat one of your sausages?*

DL: We're having new T-shirts made up that say, "If you're not wearing it, you didn't enjoy it." Don't bother.

JS: *How do you keep your own clothes clean?*

DL: I don't. I just keep buying new ones.

JS: *What percentage of your customers would you guess are drunk?*

DL: After ball games, maybe 25 percent. When the nightclubs let out, maybe 60 percent.

JS: *Strangest thing that someone who had no money offered in return for a sausage?*

DL: Absolutely everything and anything. The shirts off their back. Guys trying to give me their pants…I'm like, "I don't want to see that. Get outta here!" One time, a guy signed over a check from his grandmother for 50 bucks. It was a birthday present. That's just wrong. I felt like sending it to her and saying, "You've gotta have a talk with your grandson."

JS: *What other dishes do you make with sausage?*

DL: I do a mean pasta with sausage for my boys. The other day, my wife asked me to bring some home, which totally blew me away. It's a love/hate thing with her.

JS: *Some people bring wine or flowers to people's houses. Do you ever bring sausage?*

DL: Sure. I've been known to bring sausage.

JS: *Best sausage you ever tasted?*

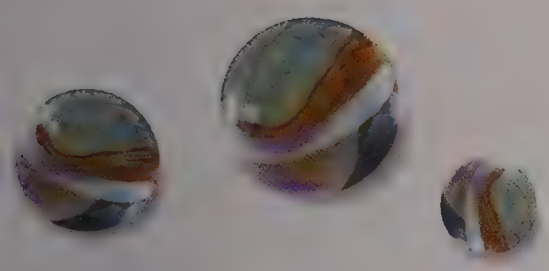
DL: The Sausage Guy sausage. We have our own brand now. We ship 'em all over the country. Just sweet Italian sausage with some fennel in it. It's dynamite.

JS: *Do you love what you do?*

DL: I do. I get spoiled by my surroundings. There are days when I sit there thinking, "Wow. This is really cool." I'm outside Fenway and all the clubs. I get to interact with all these people.

JS: *Last question: Exactly how big is your sausage?*

DL: [Laughs.] Big enough, I guess. I've got two kids. iB



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THE CONVERTED

Former houses of worship make for some inspired living spaces.

BY REGINA COLE PHOTOGRAPHS BY JONAS KAHN

Jim and Emilie Horne celebrated in the time-honored manner of young couples moving into their first home: They sat on their gleaming new hardwood living room floor and toasted the view with champagne. The lights of Back Bay and the Prudential Tower presented themselves through three clear trefoil arches topped with glowing stained glass quatrefoils and triangles, the jewel-like ornamentation set into the tracery atop a tall lancet window. It's definitely not the sort of fenestration you expect to see in a starter home.

That's because the window once lit the interior of South Boston's preeminent Roman Catholic Church, Saints Peter and Paul. Now named after its address, 45 West Broadway, the building is a recent addition to the growing number of churches–turned–living spaces that bless the Boston area. It might be a sad reflection on the state of liturgical affairs, but the trend is a boon to would-be homebuyers looking for units with architectural interest and a strong sense of history, located in established neighborhoods.

Churches converted to living spaces make for some interesting juxtapositions. The builders of Saints Peter and Paul might be shocked if they saw what's happened inside the venerable mid-19th-century Gothic Revival stone pile. Where the faithful once received Communion, today's condo dwellers cook dinner. Stained glass illuminates modern living rooms; a copper-clad bell tower houses an aerie with breathtaking views. The kinds of architectural elements that transform a plain vanilla box of a condominium into something special—Gothic arches, thick stone walls, heavy wood beams, recessed niches, soaring expanses of space—were once routine construction in all but the plainest churches. Thus, even a small unit in a converted church can have great character, with lovely stained glass windows or fine woodwork. That fact is not lost on the Hornes and other residents in the 34 new units at 45 West Broadway.

New living spaces bring new blood into neighborhoods too.

"We love it here," says Emilie, an elementary school teacher. "We walk to the Stop & Shop and the CVS; the T stop is next door. This neighborhood is in the process of being discovered by young people. We find it friendly, accessible, and there are all sorts of great shops within walking distance."

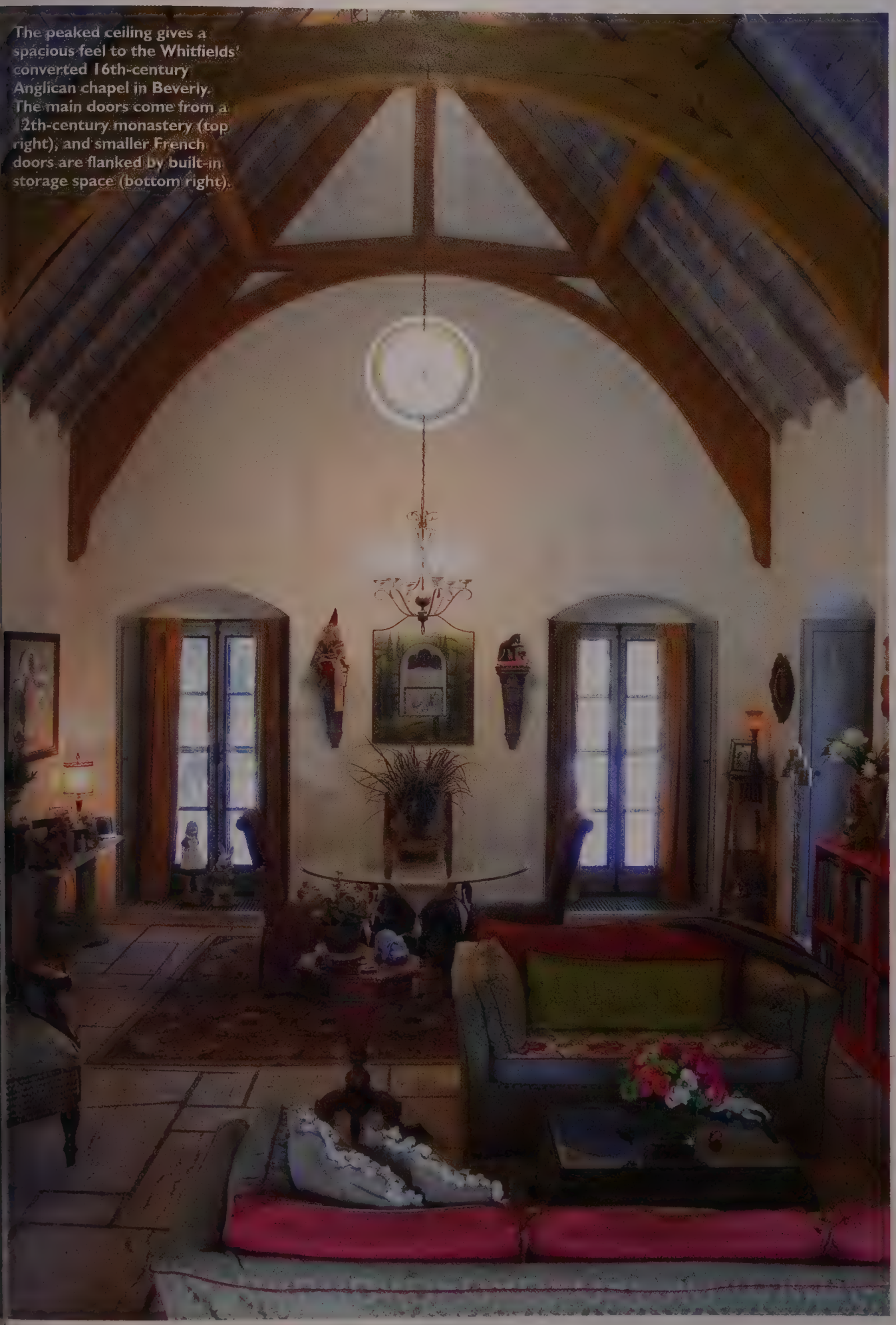
But lest we think that church conversions are a recent phenomenon, prompted by clergy scandals and parish consolidations, consider the Beverly home of Barrence nd Patti Whitfield. He's a musician and his wife is his manager. Their living room oasts crushed-coral floors, arched French doors set into thick walls on three sides, and ak rafters soaring up to a high, peaked ceiling. Formerly a diminutive 16th-century An- lican chapel, the structure was disassembled and rebuilt as part of an ambitious early- 0th-century addition to the Samuel Corning House, a First Period home that dates to 690. "We don't know where the chapel originally stood," Patti says. "Someone said it ame from Spain."

As distinguished pasts go, the Whitfields' house has another claim to singularity: ersistent rumors have it that Cole Porter lived here for a brief period, during a stint at Harvard Law School that followed the composer's celebrated years at Yale in the early 0th century.

"At times, I believe I can feel his presence," says Barrence, a vocalist who's won numerous awards, made more than 10 records, and performs blues, country and rock locally and in Europe. "There's a feeling of art and music in this building, something that seems to make celebrations happen spontaneously. It just seems to fit that Cole Porter would get a kick out of partying in what used to be a church. And, acoustically, this space is perfect. Because of the high ceiling, you could actually record in here."

The Whitfields' living room demonstrates that even a small chapel makes for a dramatic space. The fireplace surround is made of carved limestone. The huge main doors come from a 12th-century monastery, and each of the five smaller French door recesses provides built-in storage in the manner of Indian shutters. Deeply recessed windows sit high up on the walls, and a metal chandelier hangs from what looks like miles of chain. Yet, under the lofty ceiling's network of rafters, the room feels warm and cozy, the scale human and personal rather than grandiose.

The peaked ceiling gives a spacious feel to the Whitfields' converted 16th-century Anglican chapel in Beverly. The main doors come from a 12th-century monastery (top right), and smaller French doors are flanked by built-in storage space (bottom right).



“THERE’S A FEELING OF ART AND MUSIC IN THIS BUILDING, SOMETHING THAT SEEMS TO MAKE CELEBRATIONS HAPPEN SPONTANEOUSLY.”

A limestone firep
surround and crushed-c
floors are among
highlights of the for
chapel in Beverly
rumor has it was
home to Cole Por

Vast amounts of vertical square footage are one of the things developers love about desanctified churches, of course. For hundreds of years, Christian religious architecture sought to inspire reverence and awe by creating soaring interior spaces. But all that verticality, often combined with steeply pitched roofs, can present its own set of challenges when it becomes living space.

"All our friends said we were crazy when we decided to buy this, and we told them that we'd get our exercise going up and down stairs," laughs Sarah Stephens, who shares the bell tower at Church Court in the Back Bay with her husband, Cahal. "After they come to visit, they don't say that anymore."

In this groundbreaking 1983 project, architect Graham Gund designed 43 condominiums to fit into the shell of the burned-out Mount Vernon Congregational Church on the corner of Beacon Street and Mass. Ave. Three of those units inhabit original architecture, one of them in the former bell tower. Setting the American preference for sprawl on its head, the Stephenses' extraordinary home has eight floors, each stacked atop the other like so many building blocks. The house steeply defines the word "vertical."

"Each floor measures 13 feet, six inches square," says Dublin native Cahal Stephens, president of the architecture and engineering firm Einhorn Yaffee Prescott. "That measurement includes the stairs." Above the basement level, space-saving spirals replace conventional box staircases. You enter in the time-honored fashion of attic and boat entries: straight up from below.

Narrow windows cut into the granite-block walls introduce light and views into each room. The Stephenses commissioned Chestnut Hill cabinetmaker Joe Van Benten to help design the warm cherry furniture they built into the walls of the master bedroom, and study. The home has in many ways resembles the interior of a yacht. Storage is cleverly tucked into case goods, beds, bookcases, seating. "When space is at a premium, designers have to find creative solutions for storage," says Cahal.

"This feels much bigger than a 1,000-square-foot house," Sarah adds.

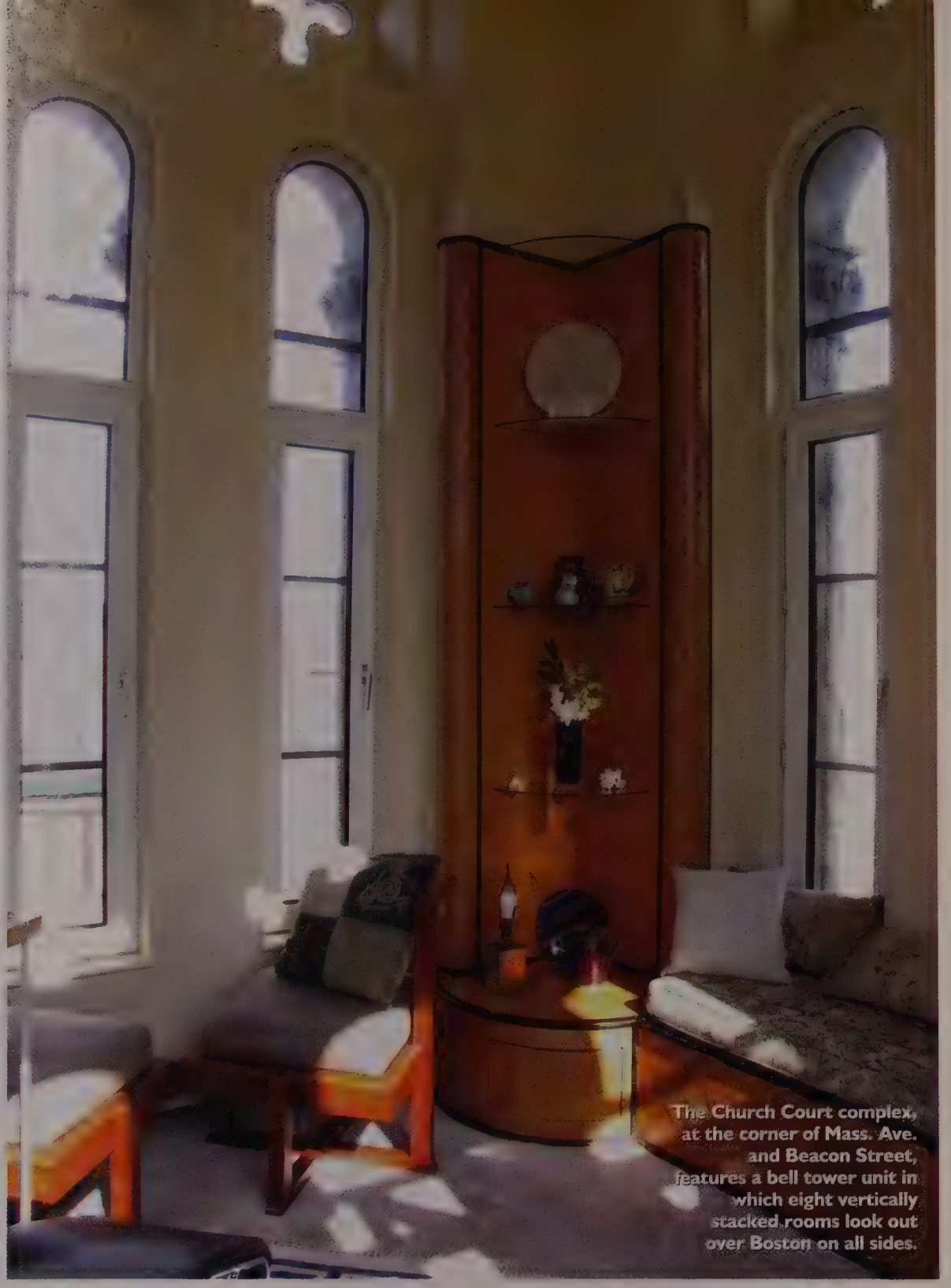
The church's three original oak entry doorways still face Beacon Street and are now permanently open and lined with glass, providing passersby with a view into a courtyard where the church's sanctuary once stood. The Mass. Ave. side of the bell tower boasts an original, massive arched door that now serves as a private entry into the Stephenses' unit. From the street level, stairs climb down to the basement or up to the kitchen. Spiral stairs lead further up to the dining room, the guest room/study, the master bedroom, the mezzanine, until finally one arrives at what the Stephenses call "the Tippity-Top."

"That's what our grandchildren call this room," Sarah says as the couple sink into comfortable chairs. "And, to tell the truth, we can't think of a better way to describe it."

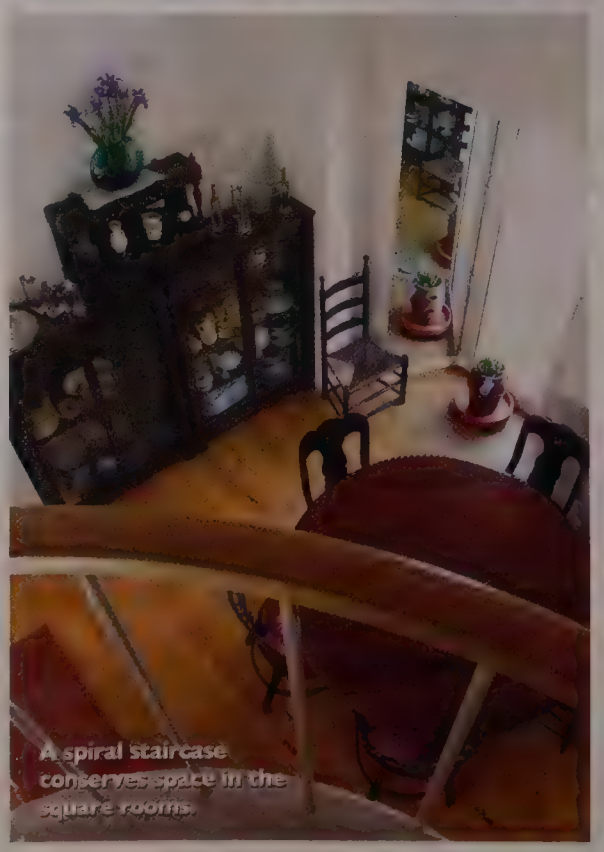
The Tippity-Top, which the Stephenses use as their living room, is the reward for all that stair climbing. The room and the views it provides are stunning. Big, open and filled with light, the top floor once provided access to the belfry (a trapdoor is still in the ceiling for would-be thrill-seekers). Today, the room holds little more than a fireplace and some comfortable built-in seating; it's for looking. Three tall, narrow, arched windows topped with quatrefoil lights puncture each thick wall. No matter where you look, there's a commanding city view. Toward the north, the Charles River is laid out like a front yard to the streets and academic buildings of Cambridge. South and west provide serendipitous city views: Mass. Ave. disappearing into a maze of Back Bay buildings, copper roofs along Beacon Street. Toward the east, the view of the city's skyscrapers arrayed behind Beacon Hill is so drop-dead gorgeous that it looks like a movie backdrop.

"At dusk, those buildings begin to glow, and it's so beautiful," says Cahal Stephens. Adds Sarah, "The lights in all those buildings provide wonderful, ever-changing night vistas. This was the room that convinced us that we wanted to live here.

"We had a long list of criteria when we were looking for an in-town home three years ago. This didn't meet any of them," she adds, laughing. "But then we came up these stairs and into this room, and we knew that we could never find anything like it in any other kind of building." IB



The Church Court complex, at the corner of Mass. Ave. and Beacon Street, features a bell tower unit in which eight vertically stacked rooms look out over Boston on all sides.



A spiral staircase conserves space in the square rooms.

The bell tower's ground floor entry

DESIGN WISE

scale

layering

AFRAID OF MAKING THE WRONG DECISIONS WHEN IT COMES TO DECORATING YOUR HOME? FOLLOW THESE SEVEN PRINCIPLES FOR A LOOK THAT WILL LAST.

BY KRISTINE IRVING ILLUSTRATION BY PHINNEY MCDOO

A home is like a giant (or in some cases, fairly small) white box just waiting for our fingerprints. If you're like many people, you can recognize a well decorated room when you see one. But putting it all together yourself—choosing interior elements like paint colors, furniture and accessories—can be a daunting task. Furnishing a space is a costly process, and naturally there's the fear of screwing up. (How do you know you'll like that orange velvet sofa in five years?) That's why many people choose to hire professional help.

In my role as buyer and creative director for Koo de Kir, a Boston-based lifestyle retail business and design consultancy, I'm regularly hired by clients to design the interior of a home or business. What many people don't realize is that an informed client makes the best partner for a designer. By informed, I mean more than simply knowing the cost of things. I'm talking about equipping yourself with a virtual toolbox of design principles—classic, tried-and-true methods that will help you guide the choices for your space.

After all, the goal in decorating should always be to create a home that reflects the people who live in it, not the decorator's taste or the trends of the moment. And who's more qualified than you to begin the process? Here are some basics to consider that will make the process easier and may prevent you from making costly mistakes, whether you work with a pro or go it alone.

SCALE

Before starting any design project, carefully eval... space. Look at the wall height, the windows, any ... ings, floorboard width and the overall size of the ... A small room with high ceilings, large windows and lo... of wall space—meaning walls aren't taken up ... doors/closets—may appear larger if you go vertical (long and thin) with window treatments. A room with a high ceiling and small windows may feel out of scale, meaning the windows are too small for the large expanse of wall. But you can create the effect of more-proportioned space without investing in new windows by hanging your curtain rod closer to the ceiling, rather than right at the window frame.

Think of filling your space the way you would fill a glass; certain rules apply. Fill it to the rim and you're sure to spill. Filling it only a little is kind of silly because you need to keep going back for more. Scale relates not only to the space but also to the things we put in it and the people who will use them.

How do you know if elements are in compatible proportion to the space? Well, why do we always laugh when we see clowns getting out of a tiny car? Why do giant shoes look silly on someone who's short? Our eye knows how shapes relate to each other.

COLOR

Everyone gets excited about color. "No more white walls, please" is a common request I hear from new clients. To me, color is the most essential element of any well-designed space. But a white wall isn't always a bad thing. Color should work with the architecture and the function of the space.

Think of the color on your wall as the backdrop for your life. Committing yourself to pale yellow walls in a living area is fine if you accept that you may be limiting your choices for fabric colors down the line. Deep colors and neutral colors allow you to build a room using several layers, with the walls being only the first. Museums often choose dark gray or dark brown for exhibition walls. Why? Other colors pop when placed on a dark background. The objects in the room become more important than the walls. Choosing more intense, deeper colors such as navy blue or chocolate brown creates contrast and interest and gives you tremendous flexibility when choosing fabrics for furniture. Can't bear the thought of brown walls? Try a deep English red for a living room. A rich red with undertones of brown will give you a great base layer and a warm, cozy room.

It's also important that you look good surrounded by the color you choose. If you can't wear a color, (for example, green makes you look sickly), don't paint a room in your house that shade. Even more essential, however, is that the colors evoke positive feelings. For instance, I refuse to use royal purple to paint a room that a person spends any significant amount of time in, like a bedroom or den. Although it's beautiful in clothing, gemstones and some furnishings, many people who study the psychology of color believe that royal purple creates frenetic or aggressive feelings. If you love purple and want to use it in your home, consider it for a powder room, a laundry room

YOUR HOME IS LIKE A THEATER SET. LOOK AT THE DIFFERENT ELEMENTS—FABRICS, LIGHTING, ACCESSORY COLORS—AND HOW THEY IMPACT THE STORY YOUR HOME TELLS.

... a hallways. Or consider toning it down to a lavender or ... about peaceful, soothing color choices.

... rooms, stay away from harsh, acid-toned col... lime green and electric orange—the color will im... everything in the room, including skin tone. Save ... like that for accents and invest your money in a ... or main piece of furniture in a neutral that will evolve with you as trends change.

LAYERING

After creating the color backdrop, the next step in decorating your space is to think about layers: fabrics, lighting zones, the furnishings you place within the space, and to a lesser degree, even the scents and sounds you fill the air with. Layering is what gives a room depth and character. Your home is like a theater set—with your life playing on the stage. Look at the different elements, such as fabrics, lighting and accessory colors, and how they impact the entire story your home tells.

Here's an easy way to approach layering: Think about your space as a whole—the sum of its many parts rather than the individual pieces. In other words, instead of focusing on finding the perfect dining table, think about how you want the entire room to feel—the atmosphere you're looking for—when it's complete. It's easy to fall in love with a piece of furniture or a piece of art, and there are times when a successful room is designed around one element. But viewing the space as a whole will lead to a more harmonious outcome.

QUALITY VS. QUANTITY

Consider the purchases you make for your home in the same way French women consider their clothing purchases. It's common in France for a woman to invest in one or two very expensive pieces for her wardrobe each year, rounding out her closet with less expensive pieces as the season progresses. In doing this, she's building a wardrobe that grows each year based on her evolving taste—not one she looks at each season and cries, "What was I thinking?" Why not approach the design of your home the same way?

You look for certain things when assessing the quality of clothing, and the principles are roughly the same with furniture and home accessories. Evaluate the fabric, the construction and the finish level of the piece. Most importantly, ask questions and be sure you can rely on the knowledge of the person you're buying from.

A recent design project I worked on called for furnishing an entire room within a strict budget. When I showed the client her options, however, she decided to invest in two substantial pieces—ones she was in love with and knew would stand the test of time—rather than take the just-do-it-all-now approach and buy more pieces she was less enthusiastic about. The best part is, even if she gets her remaining pieces at Target or at a flea market, the integrity of the space won't suffer, because she chose her foundation well.

UNITY

The design professional's main job is to work with the client to create a unified space. Balance, coherence, unity—all are aspects of the same idea. I like a person's impression of a space to slowly unfold and develop as all the beautiful details are discovered. The initial impression should be an overall sense of order, calm and unity, and only with further investigation and a curious eye do you then start to notice the details and the treats. There are several ways to achieve this result. For the layperson, I think the easiest approach is repetition.

In my own home I chose different tones of white as a motif to repeat. Using varying textures, materials and slightly mismatched shades ranging from pure, bright white to creamy, warm ivory, I made color my unifying element. In choosing my fabrics, accessory pieces, and decorative elements like a large mirror, candleholders and lampshades, I created a staccato effect with all the white elements. The eye moves from piece to piece to piece, reading each one but relating it back to the whole because nothing is fighting for attention.

A great example of unity in design can be seen in the restaurant No. 9 Park. The designers, C&J Katz Studio, used white stools and chairs, black-and-white photos and rows of amber-colored beaded light fixtures to build one of the most unified-looking commercial spaces in Boston.

TEXTURE

Texture can be seen as a continuation of layering; it's how you give your space its personality. Think about it: Your personality didn't just arrive on the day you were born, right? It took some time to develop. Our living spaces take time too. The process of texturizing our homes, or as I like to call it, "layering in the love," is the fun part. Texture comes from mementos, family photos, that old typewriter you found on eBay and had to buy. I often interview my clients to learn about their personalities, interests and secret wishes. As their designer, I try to find accent pieces that reflect what I learn. For many people, working with a design professional is a personal experience—you find yourself sharing things you never imagined!

If you're working on your own, think about what's important to you. Do you love books? Book bindings are a beautiful item to display and add warmth to any room. Or maybe music is your passion. Try finding old sheet music at flea markets and framing a set. Texture will develop as you grow to understand yourself and how you like to live in your home. If you employ the unity principal, the frames you choose will be similar in some way—maybe different sizes but the same color, and you can crop the sheet music to fit inside the different frames.

SIMPLICITY

In my opinion, there's nothing worse than an overdecorated space. But simplicity may be the toughest element of all to capture. Style and design icon Diana Vreeland has famously said that elegance is refusal. Essentially, it's all in the editing. Your home shouldn't feel like a museum, nor should it feel barren and unwelcoming. Whenever possible, keep things fresh and simple. This doesn't mean eliminate all personal effects—some "stuff" is important to make your home comfortable for you and your guests. Ask yourself why the thing is there. And if the answer is "Because I like it, it means something to me," then it's where it belongs.

Scale, color, layering, quality, unity, texture and simplicity are all classic, tried-and-true concepts that when woven together will help you create a home you'll love as much in five years as you do today. "Home is the heart of life," writes Sir Terence Conran, the British design mogul–retailer–restaurateur responsible for much of our generation's sensitivity to interior design. For city-dwellers, home is often an apartment or a first condo and not a final destination. But no matter where you live, you can employ all of the above ideas along the way because creating a home is a constantly fluid process. If you keep these principles as your guide, you'll make choices that have staying power, and you can't possibly go wrong. IB

WITH ITS BEAUTIFUL VICTORIANS AND REASONABLE PRICES, THE CONDO MARKET IS BOOMING IN BOSTON'S OLDEST NEIGHBORHOOD.

HOT

BY MICHELE R. MCPHEE

Queen Anne Victori
homes line the streets
upscale Wellesley Pa

ONE TIME, DORCHESTER WAS INFAMOUS, at least among some of Boston's snobbier Brahmins, for two things: Irish pubs and violent crime. The crime has long since diminished and these days is confined largely to a square-mile pocket known as the Morton/Talbot Corridor, which links Dorchester to Mattapan. Irish pubs still flourish, but most now are of the lofty, open-air variety, more likely to serve filet mignon than the traditional blood sausage. And with new condos being built in sprawling mansard Victorian homes that bounce kaleidoscopic light from stained glass windows onto tree-lined streets, and tidy triple-deckers being converted into six-room homes, Dorchester is fast becoming the city's hottest up-and-coming real estate market.

Boston's oldest and largest neighborhood—it was founded months before the city itself—Dorchester was once an area defined by parishes. People referred to their home not by neighborhood, but by which Catholic Church their family belonged to. Lifelong resident Ed Regal, 47, a youth hockey and baseball coach and political activist, puts it this way: "I was born in St. Kevin's, raised in St. Peter's, married in St . William's, had all my kids in St. Mark's, and finally bought a house on the St. Brendan's/St. Anne's line. I'll end up at St. Gregory's when they put me in Cedar Grove [cemetery]," he says.

Now, realtors have given burgeoning neighborhoods kitschy names, like Meeting House Hill, and expanded established neighborhoods, like Savin Hill, well beyond their old geographic boundaries. And, unsurprisingly, given so many real estate success stories, the gay community had a hand in paving the way for Dorchester's rapid rise.

But it's not only the affordable and desirable housing stock that's making Dorchester the latest hot spot. Many sections are linked to Boston by the MBTA's Red Line, and the neighborhood is also home to the University of Massachusetts/Boston, one of the city's most vibrant campuses, and the vaunted John F. Kennedy Library. Some of the lovely sandy stretches along the Neponset River—Malibu Beach, Tenean Beach (once infamous as a place where fugitive gangster James "Whitey" Bulger buried the bodies of his victims) and Victory Road Park—boast brand-new boardwalks, shiny playgrounds and views of Dorchester Bay with its landmark gas tanks painted in Crayola-bright splashes by the artist Corita. Dorchester is also home to several artists' spaces, including Pearl Street Studios, and some of the best eateries in the city, like 224 Boston Street, the homey restaurant whose name makes it easy to find.

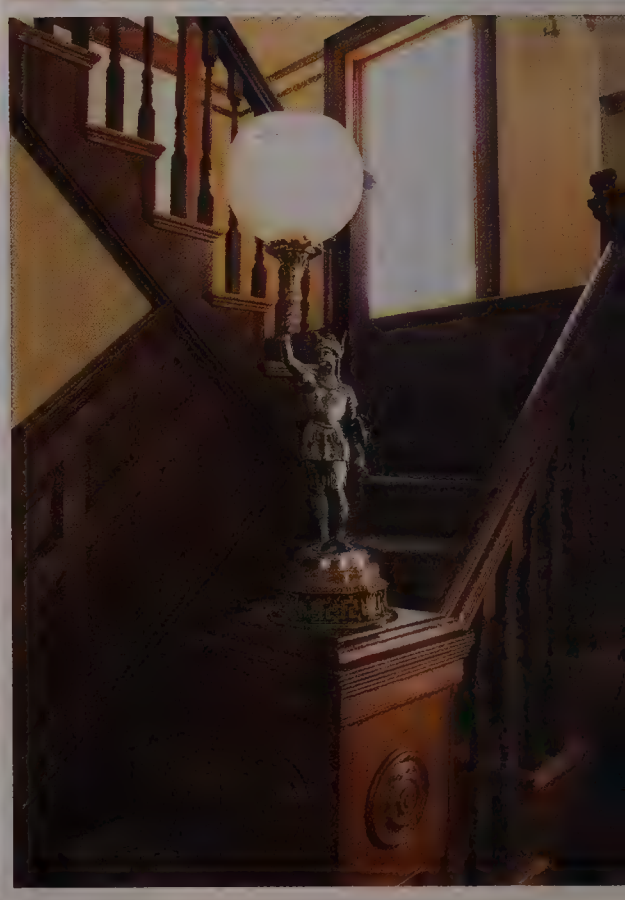
"Dot," as the neighborhood is often known, has proven more welcoming than South Boston, another area that's seen a boom of condo dwellers raising real estate prices. When the upwardly mobile invaded the turf of the entrenched Irish families in Southie, the phrase "Yuppies Go Home" famously appeared in primitive black paint on a billboard on Broadway. In contrast, some Dorchester enclaves, like Melville Park in Fields Corner, welcome newcomers with gift baskets from the neighborhood association that include a "DOT" bumper sticker.

Realtor George Alves has spent five years restoring the 14-room Queen Anne Victorian he bought on Jones Hill.

MEDIAN CONDO PRICES IN BOSTON NEIGHBORHOODS

Back Bay: $556,000
Brighton $257,000
Charlestown: $450,000
Dorchester: $270,000
Jamaica Plain $325,000
Leather District: $575,000
North End: $385,000
Roxbury: $330,000
South Boston: $334,000
South End: $499,000

Source: LINK (Listing Information Network Inc.)



"It's amazing," says Ken Osherow, owner of Dorch[illegible] based At Home Real Estate Group. "Dorchester is the [illegible] sought-after area right now. The condo market is absolutely booming. There are 150 to 200 new condos on the market. The prices are at the peak. They've never been higher."

Osherow started his company five years ago with just one employee: himself. He now has 20 realtors showing properties all over Dorchester. "I tell my friends from Boston they should look in Dorchester," he says. "It's so much better than Cambridge or Brighton or even Brookline because of the convenience to everything, the waterfront, and parking is fairly easy. Sometimes I still get the gasp, though, followed by 'Doooorchester? Why would I want to move there?'

"Five years ago, we had to convince people to move here," Osherow continues, "even when the condos were about $100,000 to $130,000. But now, people in the know are coming in from everywhere: JP, Cambridge, the South End, South Boston. It's only going to get better as more businesses move in."

Tudor Sabie, who recently bought his own three-family on Neponset Avenue, has worked for At Home just a few months, but he feels like Dorchester is his home for good: "This is the best area of Boston," he says. "All we need now is an indie bookstore, a movie theater and a yoga studio."

Unlike Boston proper's postage stamp–size one-bedroom condominiums, Dorchester's condo market largely consists of two- and three-bedroom gut renovations that still maintain turn-of-the-century detail like secreted closets, intricately carved wood moldings and built-in china closets. The Victorian houses, which fetch upwards of $1 million, boast floor plans of 5,000 to 6,000 square feet. Two- and three-bedrooms can list for under $300,000—a lower price than you'll find even in Roxbury—but some condominiums soar up to $700,000, such as a carriage house duplex on Sawyer Avenue in Jones Hill with wrought-iron detail, a mahogany bridge that leads into a private backyard, built-in bookshelves that frame a fireplace, and granite countertops.

"I have a real love for Dorchester," says real estate developer Dan Mangiacotti, who's renovated several Victorian homes, including the Sawyer Avenue carriage house. "When I first started doing them, people thought I was crazy, saying things like, 'Why there?' Then they see the style, the high ceilings and hardwood floors. The attitude about Dorchester is definitely changing."

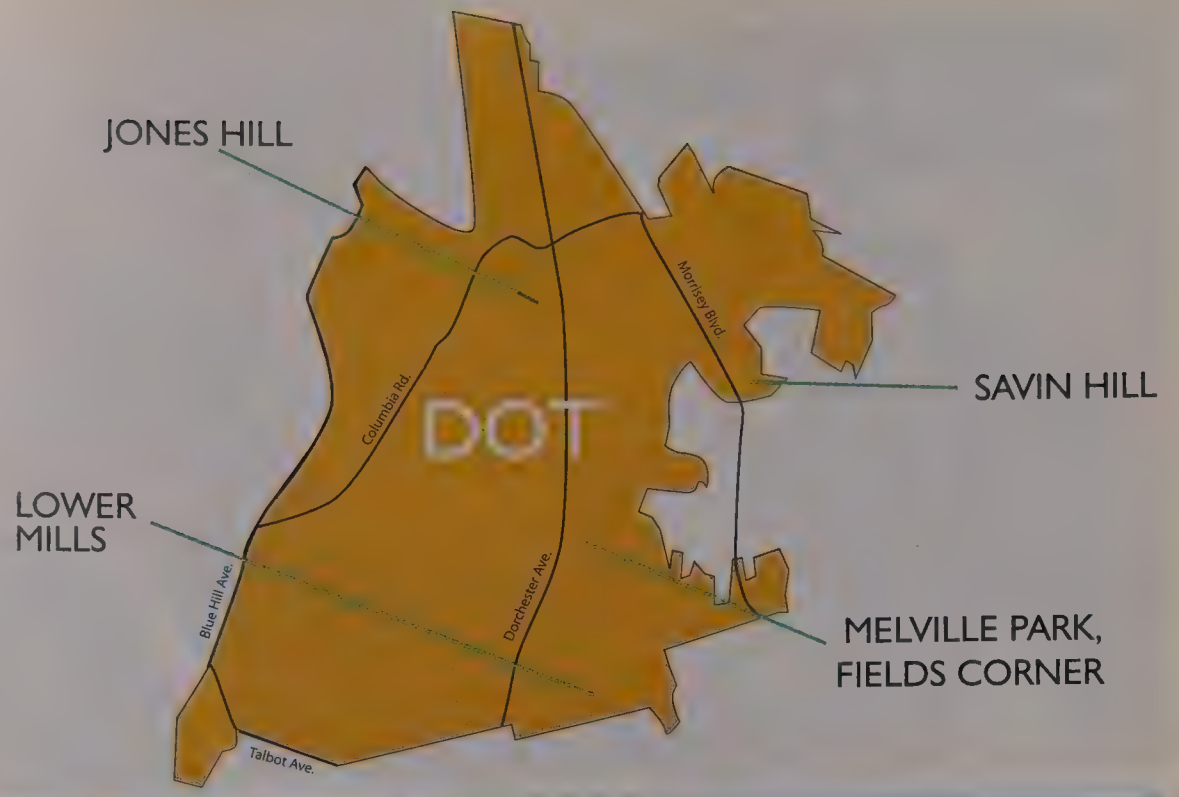
Sprawling Dorchester encompasses many distinct neighborhoods, each with its own flavor. The following are some of Dorchester's up-and-coming sections.

JONES HILL

When Doctor Bill Brandon and his partner, Ted Ellison, relocated to Boston from New Orleans after Brandon took a job with a hospital in Quincy, their friends told them there was only one area in Boston for gay couples: the South End. But Brandon, 47, needs to drive to work, and the South End isn't a welcoming place for drivers. Ellison, 34, a DJ who spins at Avalon, has equipment and records that call for a lot of space—not a common attribute of the $1 million–plus brownstones the couple's friends were steering them toward. A realtor talked the men into looking at Jones Hill, describing it to them as the "new South End, south," and in November the pair bought a duplex on Sawyer Avenue in the Griffin House, named for the giant creatures carved into the wooden inlays that welcome visitors to the three-level Victorian.

"Our friends thought we were nuts when we moved to Dorchester," Brandon says. "They asked us questions like, 'Do you hear gunshots at night?' [But] when they come out to visit, they love it. Now all of our friends are moving here."

Jones Hill boasts commanding views of the city and Dorchester Bay. The closest subway stop is Savin Hill on



C.F. Donovan's is one of several established eateries in Savin Hill.

DORCHESTER SLANG

When you drive down "Dot Ave" or stop for a beer at the aptly named "The Dot," do you ever wonder what those acronyms on bumper stickers mean? Here's a cheat sheet to the secret lingo found in the round bumper stickers.

DOT – Short for "Dawchestah," which is how the natives pronounce it

OFD – Originally from Dorchester

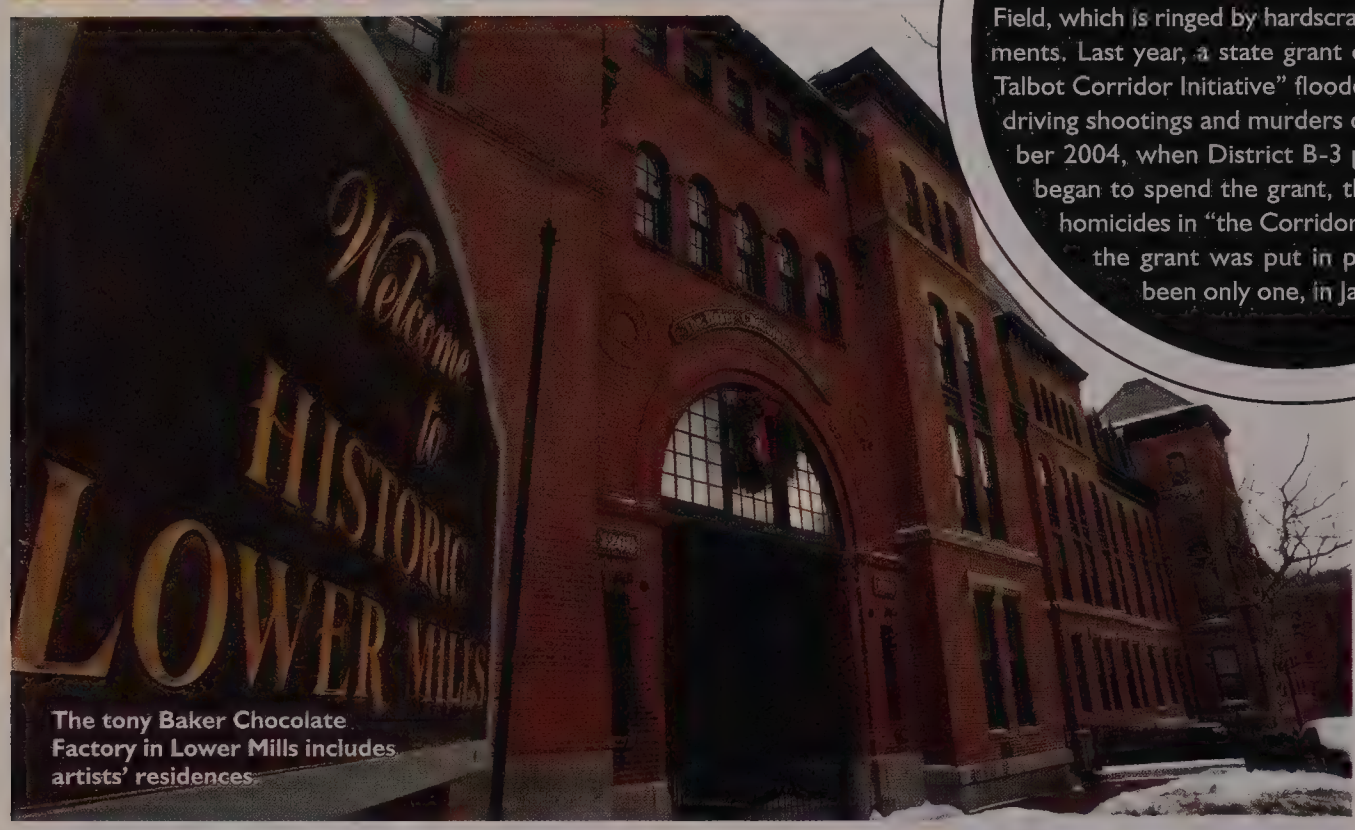
OTB – "Over the Bridge," signifies the more desirable section of Savin Hill

Savin Hill offers access to Malibu Beach, along the Neponset River.

A mural in Fields Corner

CRIME

Dorchester once held the nickname "Die-chester" because of the neighborhood's reputation for crime. In fact, most of the crime occurs in a one-square-mile pocket that runs from Blue Hill Avenue to Morton Street, essentially framing the troubled Franklin Field, which is ringed by hardscrabble housing developments. Last year, a state grant dubbed the "Morton/Talbot Corridor Initiative" flooded cops into the area, driving shootings and murders down. As of September 2004, when District B-3 police commanders began to spend the grant, there had been 16 homicides in "the Corridor" in 2004. Since the grant was put in place, there's been only one, in January.



The tony Baker Chocolate Factory in Lower Mills includes artists' residences.

Flat Black Coffee Co. in Lower Mills

the Red Line (the station is currently under renovation and slated to reopen in May). The inventory of high-end properties currently on the market includes a penthouse at 51 Sawyer Avenue with a loft bedroom, nice views and two full baths, for $459,000.

SAVIN HILL

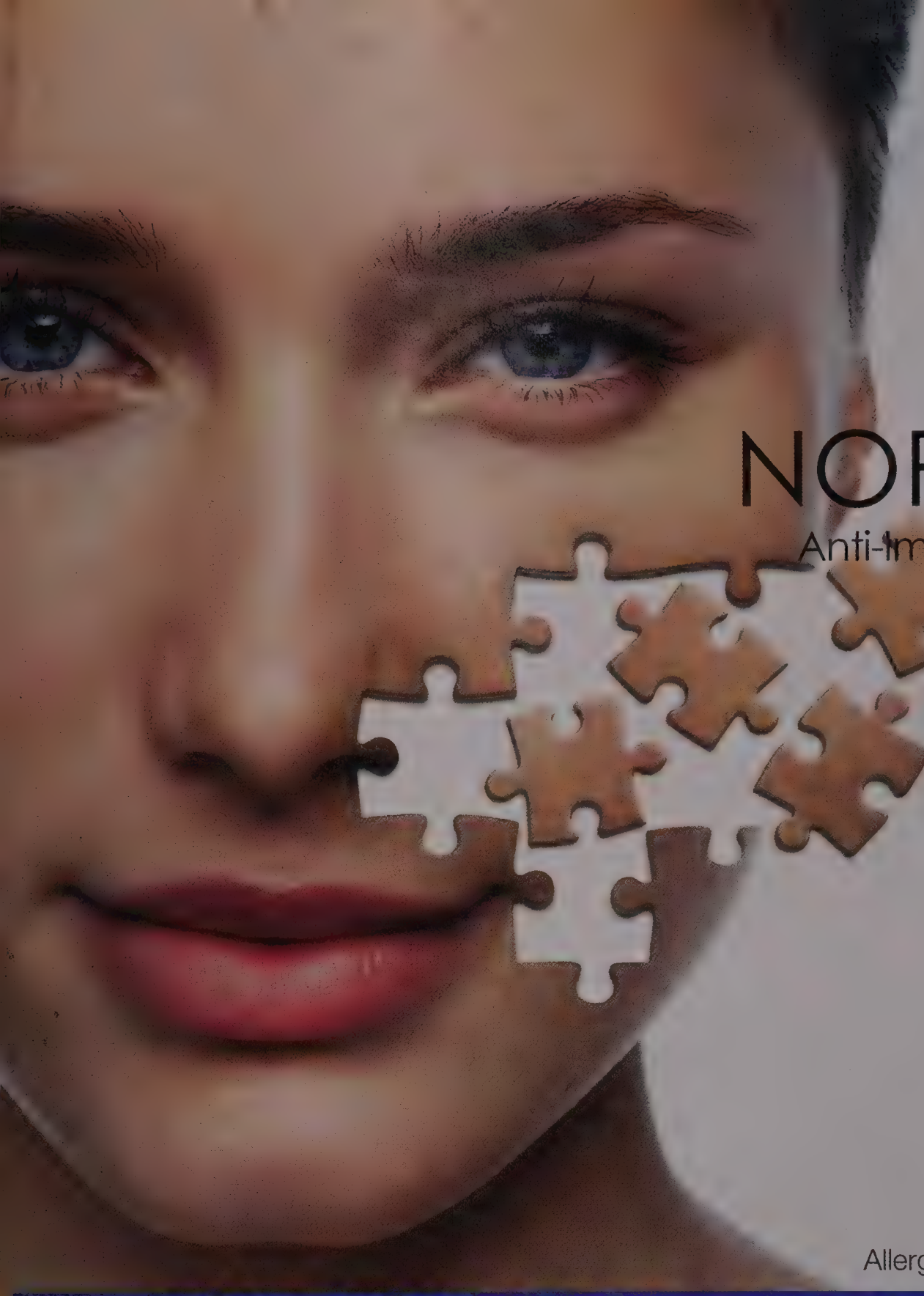
Sporting one of the city's most majestic views of the downtown skyline, Savin Hill was the first area of Dorchester settled when a group of Puritans from England built a fort on top of Rock Hill, in 1630. The area was later renamed for the red cedar (savin) trees that flanked the hill, Dorchester's highest peak. In addition to the eponymous hill, which has been immortalized by countless artists who've captured sledders racing down, Savin Hill also offers close access to Malibu Beach. Unlike some parts of Dorchester, the neighborhood is also home to some established eateries. Dorchester's most famous hotties, Mark and Donnie Wahlberg, have been sighted at McKenna's, a popular breakfast and lunch spot on Savin Hill Avenue. Across the street, trendy bistro C.F. Donovan's has earned a following for its homemade meals. Savin Hill's "OTB" neighborhood—short for "over the bridge"—is already pricey, but one two-bedroom condo available in a renovated schoolhouse on the attractive end of Savin Hill Avenue lists for $299,000.

MELVILLE PARK, FIELDS CORNER

When Anne Stein bought her condominium on the first floor of a Melville Avenue triple-decker last year, she knew she was moving into a nice area. But she was still surprised when the Melville Park Neighborhood Association rang her bell bearing a gift basket stocked with items from area businesses. "This is a great area, great investment," Stein says. Some sections of Fields Corner remain spotty, however. Residents complain of a dilapidated strip mall that houses a liquor store, a check-cashing business and a shuttered Bradlees. "Fields Corner remains the forgotten Dorchester," says Ed Regal, who manages the Emerald Isle Bar, a quaint Irish pub considered a mainstay among Dot natives. The area's diverse population is apparent from the shops that flank the Emerald Isle. Up the street, takeout restaurant Chan O'Mally's characterizes the Irish and Vietnamese who live alongside each other here. Fields Corner is next to Wellesley Park, an upscale neighborhood where gas lamps illuminate streets lined with Queen Anne Victorian homes. Condos here are snatched up before they even hit the market. But that doesn't stop hopefuls from driving around, or knocking on doors, in search of sales.

LOWER MILLS

Some would argue that Lower Mills is really Milton, the swanky start of the South Shore. But rest assured, the area that's home to Dorchester's only tony loft building, the Baker Chocolate Factory (which also includes artists' residences), is definitely Dot. It has the updated feel of a neighborhood that recognizes its trendiness, with attractions like Flat Black Coffee Co. and the Common Ground Café, a health food restaurant nicknamed the "Cult Cafe" by locals because it's run by members of the Twelve Tribes cult, which has been accused of child abuse and anti-Semitism. The area is primarily made up of tidy Cape Cod homes, but the Baker Chocolate Factory lofts are the most sought-after. Currently, a two-bedroom loft in the Chocolate Factory lists for $399,000. iB



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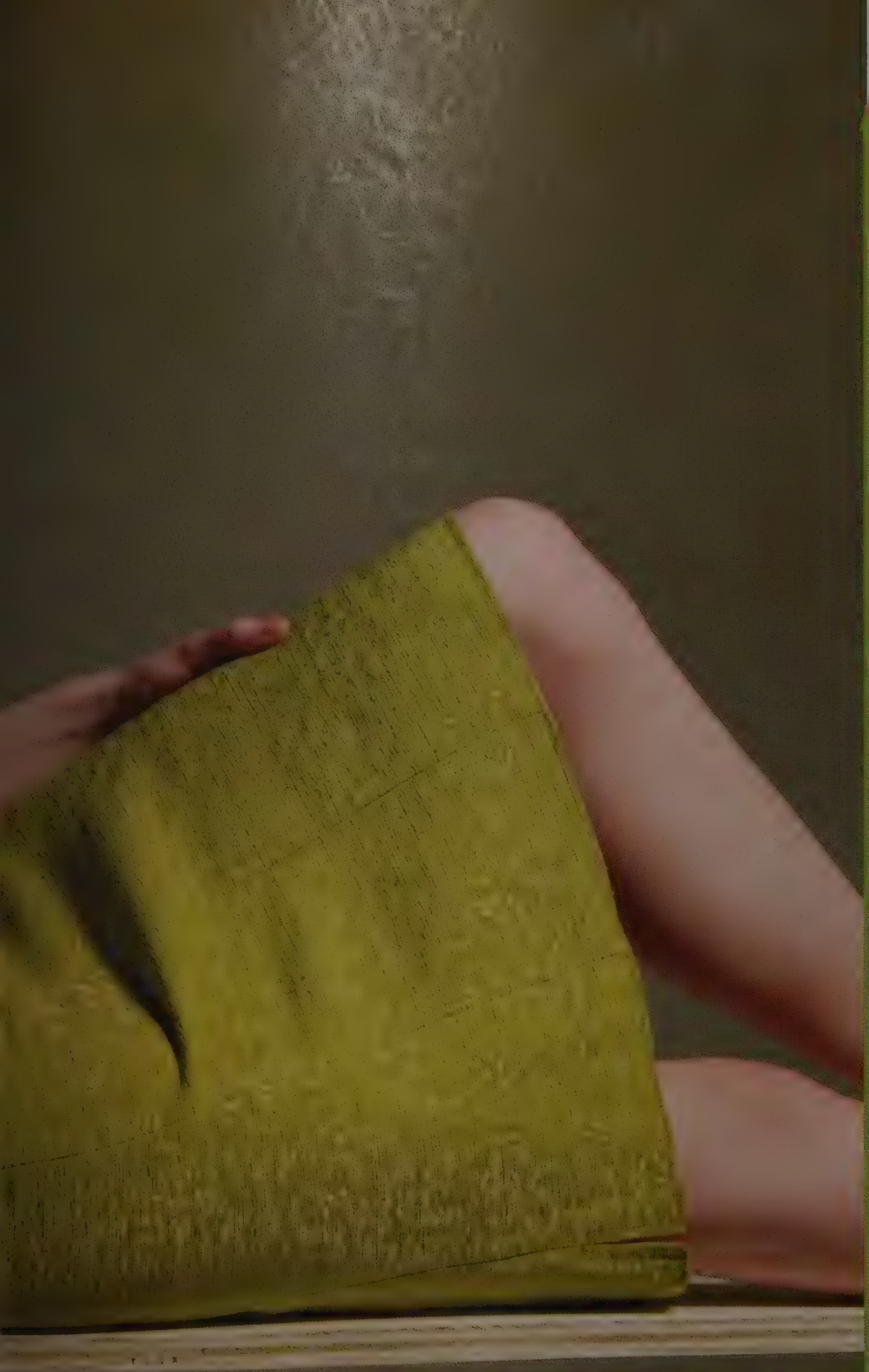
Green tweed jacket, $675, matching A-line skirt, $365. Both by Schumacher at Tess & Carlos



FOLLOW

THE STRING SUITE TAKE A TURN FOR THE UNIQUE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STRICK

Black fitted jacket, $1,525; matching pants, $775. Both by Jil Sander at Tess & Carlos.

green jacket with gold embroidery, $735; matching skirt, $325. Both by Schumacher at Tess & Carlos. Satin tangerine camisole with lace trim, $29.50 at La Senza.

Blue cotton jacket, $1,265; matching A-line skirt, $535; sheer white top with ruffle tie, $445. All by Jil Sander at Tess & Carlos.

La Senza, Burlington Mall, 781-270-4203; Tess & Carlos, 1241 Centre St., Newton Centre, 617-965-8377. Hair by Jeffrey Lyle for G Spa; makeup by Dani Wagener for Grettacole.

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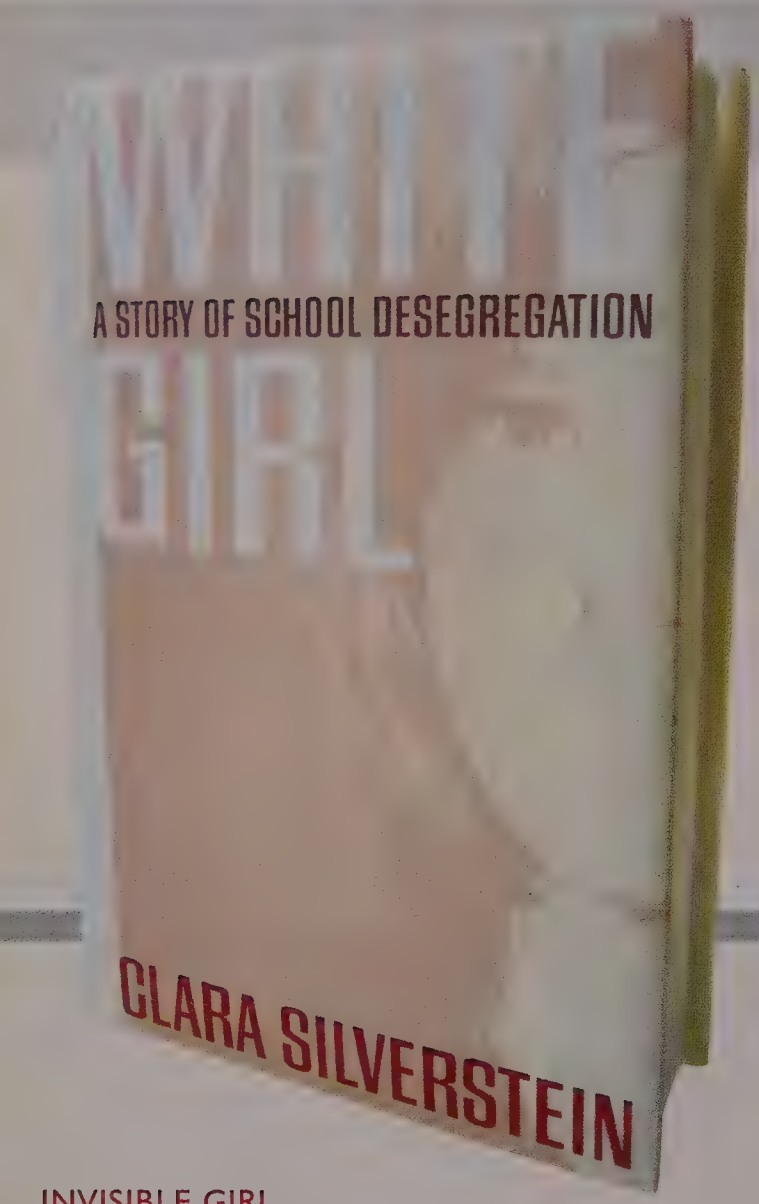
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



INVISIBLE GIRL

***White Girl*, by Clara Silverstein of Newton, chronicles the author's life in the South in the era of desegregation and busing.**

After the death of her liberal father, Clara Silverstein's idealistic mother moved Clara and her sister back to her hometown in Richmond, Va. It was the early 1970s, and busing to achieve racial integration brought sixth grader Clara to a school where, in a turnaround of the more usual scenario, she was among the small white minority. Far from blending and belonging, she was spat upon and shunned; even her teachers persecuted her. The school hunkered down, canceling sports events, dances and more for fear of racial outbursts. One mini-romance of holding hands with a black boy was conducted clandestinely behind a tower of books. Silverstein's identity was divided into many slices of nonbelonging: In summers she went to a white girls' camp where girls spoke of "jigaboos"; she was finally deemed "too Jewish" to come back. Her widowed mother, unwavering in her integrationist beliefs, also partook of the upper-class Richmond life of parties catered by the black "help." Eventually, Clara went to the loose-as-a-goose, hippie Open High School, which presented the new challenge of low academic standards. Silverstein's tone is gentle, almost melancholy, and her repeatedly enforced outsiderism gives her writing a compassionate quality that makes her a likeable narrator.

BEAUTIFUL GIFTS, PERHAPS FOR YOUR OWN HOUSE

The Red Pillar, at 6 Davis Ave. in Brookline Village, offers decorative objects with an artistic flair. Call 617-734-2696.

The Red Pillar is a sweet little shop run by four friends with simpatico tastes and talents who work in the decorative arts. New things and their antique cousins snuggle together so cleverly here that it's sometimes hard to know which is which. Molly Batchelder takes ordinary furniture and swirls it with a rich, grainy red finish that elevates it to a fancier aged state. For pig-o-philes, she sells paintings of whimsical porkers smiling and rolling in mock-exalted architectural settings. She also does house portraits. The antiques include pleasingly pure white ironstone plates, occasional items like Wedgewood ashtrays in the famous raised blue flower pattern, and some delicately painted 19th-century mugs made subtly lustrous with sprinkles of gold. Aesthetic occasionals here include things like a delicate boxwood shaving device, rosy Aubusson weave pillows, intriguingly tinged pewter pieces, a weathered tin cook box, a knife-sharpener and a pretty brass chestnut roaster—all things that carry an old-Brookline-hou flavor. Among the "crossover" items that might be old, but actually aren't, are lamps with a large c ramic lamb or rooster forming the base, topped by a black lampshade. The store's intimate sweetne hides treasures, like an old-fashioned Victorian doll's bed with antique bedding, kept underneath a tab to surprise a little shopper.

SURGICAL STRIKE

***Prepare for Surgery, Heal Faster* is a comforting audiotape with accompanying book designed to put a surgery patient a calm, positive state that's medically beneficial too. Also useful for chemo treatment and other medical aftermaths. Call 800-726-4173 or go to www.healfaster.com to order tape and book.**

There's a scary, electric zig-zag of fear that a companies the word *surgery*. Talk about viscer But Peggy Huddleston of Cambridge has help multitudes of people approach the operati table with a strong dose of soothing calm a positive imagery that some patients on the gu ney have even called "blissful." Huddleston tape, *Prepare for Surgery, Heal Faster* is narrat in her own pretty voice, inviting a meditat state and suggesting you let worries esca through a door in your foot. Once you're on th sugar cloud, Huddleston suggests you summ up healing images of loved—and loving—on (pets included!) to enhance an emotional mosphere that's the opposite of fear or pa Friends, near and far, are asked to send waves good feelings on the day of surgery, figurative wrapping you in "a pink blanket." And Huddl ston strongly urges patients to talk with t anesthesiologist and give him or her heali statements to say to you while under. Feeli good may be its own reward, but double-bli studies have also shown that this benign, n tech treatment can result in shorter hospi stays, reduced need for drugs during and aft surgery, and even diminished pain.

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REVIEW

TANTRIC TANTALIZES

Theater District spot serves sensuous, upscale Indian food.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Mirchi lasuni jhinga—tandoori-grilled jumbo shrimp

TANTRIC
123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742)
HOURS Sun.–Thu., 11:30 am–11 pm; Fri.–Sat., 11:30 am–2:30 am
RESERVATIONS accepted
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING street and lots
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Tantric Bar and Grill, according to the restaurant's Web site, is named for a philosophy of life that advocates full sensual awareness. In fact, sensual, even sexual imagery is manifest in Tantric's evocation of the tantra philosophy, spilling over into its cocktail offerings, which include one called the Kama Sutra. Is this a restaurant that should be banned in Boston? Hopefully not, for Tantric's sensuality, as expressed in the flavors, textures and aromas of its provocatively spiced cuisine, reflects the range and variety of cooking traditions across the Indian subcontinent.

Located on Stuart Street near the corner of Tremont, in the heart of the Theater District, Tantric announces its presence with a striking sign over the door, which opens to a large dining room. A high black ceiling supports spotlights that illuminate an attractive granite bar trimmed with light-colored wood. The lights also cast a glow on a huge square wall panel displaying a clocklike circle that depicts the tantra cycle celebrating the holistic nature of life and the centrality of the senses. Antique saris from India's northwest decorate one wall, and elaborate copper-work chandeliers hang from the ceiling. The dining room accommodates more than 100 at tables of light and dark wood, several of which have hinged extensions to convert from small squares for two to round tables for four or five, while handsome upholstered banquettes line the walls. A large plasma screen television on one wall was dark on both nights of my visits, but reports have it that it often runs Bollywood flicks, with recorded sitar music replacing the muted sound.

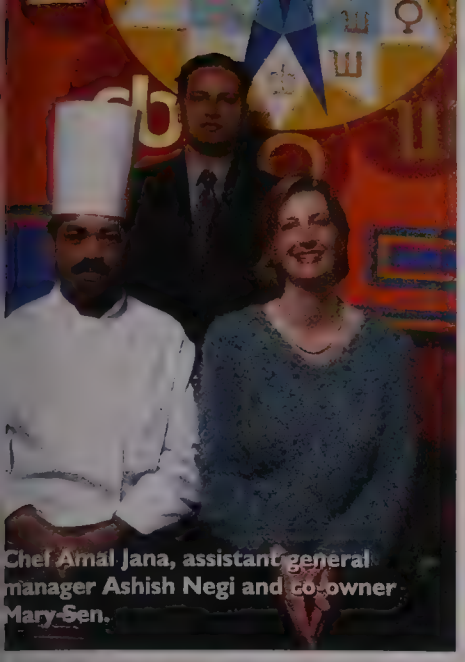
Tantric's appetizers included chicken tikka ($7.95), a large portion of hefty chunks of tandoori-roasted chicken breast, uncharacteristically moist, that had been marinated in yogurt infused with garlic and ginger. *Pudina* lamb *seekh* kebabs ($8.95) brought a generous portion of ground lamb enlivened with mint and served with *kachumber* masala, a sprightly salad of onions, cucumbers, carrots and peppers, cool and refreshing. Vegetable samosas ($4.95) took the form of two plump triangles of tender pastry stuffed with spiced potatoes and green peas, accompanied by two chutneys, one of light and perky mint, and the other of rich and fruity plum.

The five-spice salad ($5.95) included arugula, mixed greens, red bell peppers, mango slices and a five-spice vinaigrette that rivaled the masala in its cool and refreshing zest. The most provocative and memorable dish I encountered at Tantric was the chicken 65 ($7.95), a marvelous melange of caramelized onions, ginger and chunks of chicken breast with a hot but not fiery combination of aromatic spices—including cumin, contributing to its dark red color—that enchanted the taste buds.

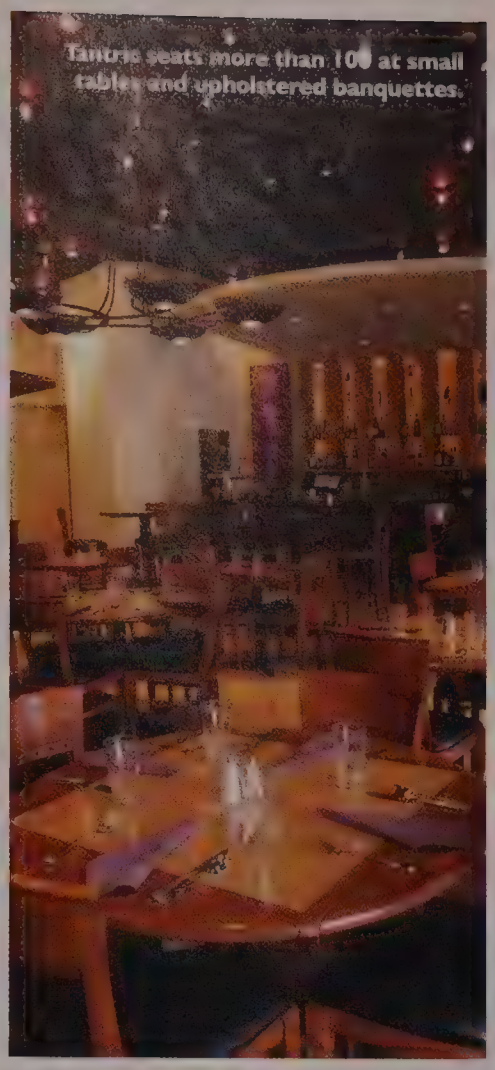
Tantric's main courses differed from its appetizers only in size. *Gobi masallam* ($11.95) seemed timid in its spicing, despite the ginger, garlic and cilantro announced on the menu. Fortunately, the intriguing flavor of the roasted cauliflower, and its al dente texture, rescued the dish. *Kumbh-palak kofta* ($12.95) was spectacular, tempting me to sign on as a card-carrying vegetarian. It consisted of three large round spinach and mushroom croquettes in a creamy yogurt sauce, soupy but excellent. Less successful was the *mirchi lasuni jhinga* ($16.95), six tandoori-grilled shrimp varying from large to jumbo, in a sauce that was surprisingly pallid despite the menu's promise of garlic, ginger, cumin and peppercorns. The piquant flavors and pleasant, resilient texture of the accompanying chili mango salsa compensated for the blandness of the rest of the dish.

A superior vegetable offering, *baingan pasanda* ($12.95) featured baby eggplant with cashews, almonds and raisins in a yogurt sauce, boasting a pleasantly smoky flavor and resilient texture. Best among the main courses, and a clear rival to chicken 65 for bragging rights, was the *nariyal* la ($14.95), a specialty of India's southwe ern coastal Kerala province. Lathered i rich coconut sauce spiced with red ch curry leaves and mustard seed, the ten morsels of lamb intrigued the palate wh satisfying the carnivorous appeti Seafood Madras ($18.95) consisted shrimp and scallops (we had asked th they hold the squid) in a toothsome sau that replicated the spices of the lamb d while adding tamarind, ginger and garl making a fine dish but for the fact that t tails had been left on the shrimp, hidden the opaque sauce.

The exotic breads of India contribu charm to its cuisine. While Tantric's *kul* ($3.95), a soft flatbread stuffed with onic or potatoes, proved a little bland a needed the moistening of chutneys, t



Chef Amal Jana, assistant general manager Ashish Negi and co-owner Mary Sen.



Tantric seats more than 100 at small tables and upholstered banquettes.

Eggplant *pasanda*

Malabar crab cakes

an with rosemary ($3.95) delighted in savory moistness, although I thought price tag a little steep. I had a more se- us issue with Tantric's à la carte prices its chutneys—condiments that in many lian restaurants are provided gratis. sserts, which I also thought aggressively ced, included *shahi tukra* ($5.95), a ad pudding from Agra (site of the Taj hal) consisting of three triangles of re- ent bread coated with honey and hed in a sweet cream with raisins and hews, served in a chilled bowl.

Remarkably, Tantric sports a decent ne list with some reasonably priced ices that go well with the food. The main d'Andezon Côtes du Rhône 03) combined good structure while de- ering pleasantly mellow flavor, lacking excessive spiciness that inexpensive thern Rhône wines often display. Not quite as good, the Alamos 2003 Malbec ($25) was fruity but less well structured than the Côtes du Rhône and not so well paired with the food.

Finally, Tantric's prices merit further mention. While somewhat higher than those of other area Indian restaurants, they may reflect the higher costs of doing business in this part of the city compared with other neighborhoods, due in part to the reinvigoration and dynamic real estate pricing that recent development projects have brought to the Theater District. Notwithstanding, Tantric brings an inviting alternative to the area's dining resources. Its pleasant and attractive ambience, interesting and sometimes remarkably tasty food, and friendly atmosphere should make this a port of call for Boston theatergoers with adventuresome instincts. **iB**

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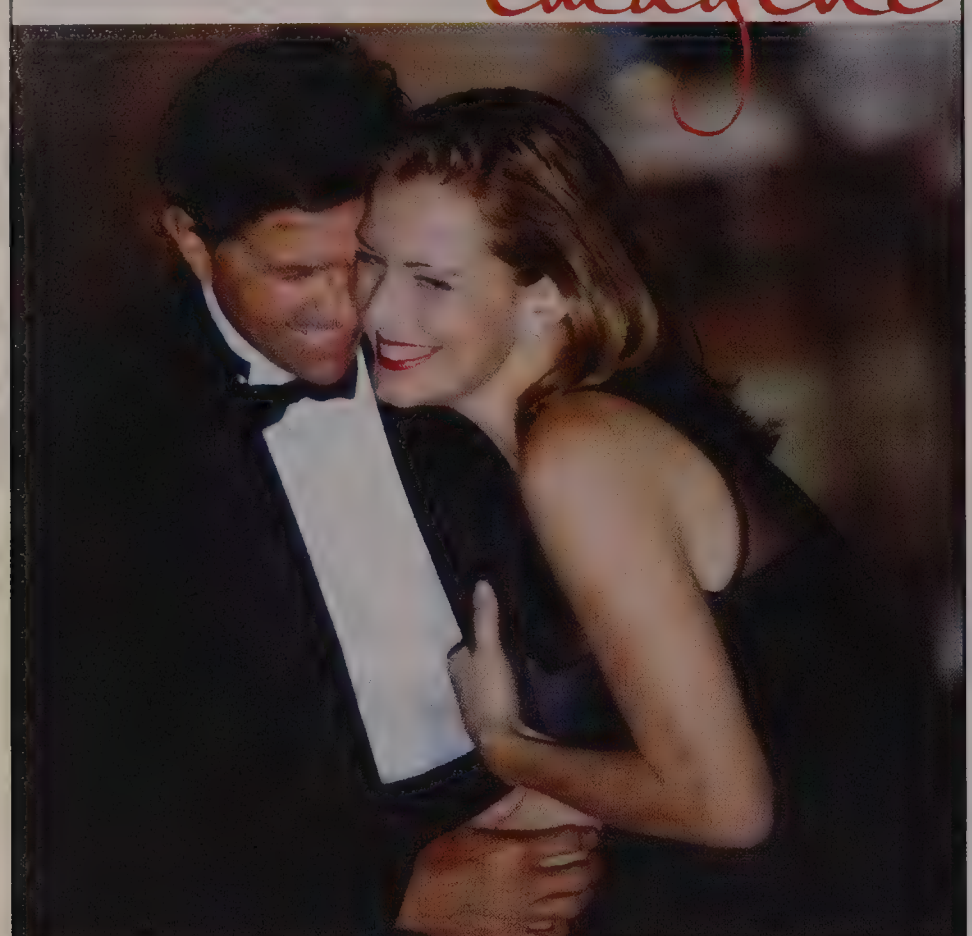

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Battle of the Sous Chefs
Lucy's, 242 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-5829). www.lucysbrookline.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. March 21. 7 pm. $50. Participating chefs **Joe Fournier** of Lucy's, **Jim Gracie** of Anthem, **Patty Gardner** of Azure, **Stephen Hoddinott** of the Metropolitan Club and **Mike Boulos** of La Morra compete in an *Iron Chef*–style competition in which all receive a bag of ingredients and must create a meal on the spot.

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9355). www.bostonwinefestival.net. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Through April, the Boston Wine Festival features more than 50 events. •March 9, 7 pm: Joseph Phelps, Insignia, $185. •March 10, 7 pm: Joseph Phelps, Backus, $185. •March 15, 8 pm: Kendall Jackson, $145. •March 16, 7 pm: Cline Cellars, $165. •March 17, 7 pm: Blind Wines, $145. •March 18, 7 pm: Off Beat Varietals, $85. •March 22, 7 pm: Truchard Vineyard, $145.

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue., 6 pm. $35. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •March 15: Green Monsters Come to Boston. •March 22: Meritage Rhymes with Heritage.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Sat., 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •March 19: Zinfandel.

Gastronomic Celebration
Boston University, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong. MBTA: B Green Line to BU. March 22. 6:30 pm. $175. Chef **Jacques Pépin** and Master of Wine **Sandy Block** host this night featuring a six-course meal prepared by top Boston chefs, including **Jody Adams**, **Rich Barron**, **Chris Douglass**, **Stan Frankenthaler**, **Barbara Lynch** and **Rich Vellante**.

Guest Master Chef Dinner
Sandrine's Bistro, 8 Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-497-5300). www.sandrines.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 14-16. 5:30-10:30 pm. $65 ($95 with wine). Sandrine's chef **Raymond Ost** and his guest, two-star Michelin chef **Fernand Mischler**, from Alsace, prepare a four-course tasting menu.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •March 9: Portugal. •March 16: Wine and food experience.

Kendall Hotel Wine Series
Kendall Hotel, 350 Main St., Cambridge (617-577-1300). www.kendallhotel.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. March 12. 6:30 pm. $50. T Kendall offers a four-course dinner paired wi wines from California's Wild Horse Winery.

National Wine Week
Smith & Wollensky, 110 Arlington St., Bost (617-423-1112). www.nationalwineweek.co MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Through Mar 11. 5-11:30 pm. $10. For $10 extra with dinn guests can sample 10 different wines from so of the country's top vintners.

Passport to Wine Country
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-320 www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line Hynes/ICA. Mondays, 6-8 pm. $25. Every Mo day through March, Croma offers a tasting of fo wines from different regions of the world pair with its gourmet thin-crust pizza. •March Southern France. •March 21: Southern Italy.

Second Saturdays at Grill 23 & Bar
Grill 23 & Bar, 161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-54 2255). www.grill23.com. MBTA: Green Line Copley. Second Sat. of each month, 12-2 pm. $5 Executive chef **Jay Murray** and wine direct **Alex deWinter** lead monthly cooking and ta ing demonstrations. March 12: Ides of March.

Stout Beer Dinner
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-6 2200). www.redbones.com. MBTA: Red Line Davis. March 21. 7 pm. $40. Brewers **Tod Mo** of Portsmouth Brewery and **Bill Covaleski** the Victory Brewing Co. are the guest speak at this dinner featuring stouts and porters.

Taste of the South End
Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-45 1526). www.aac.org/taste. MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. March 15. 6-9 pm. $75. Guests enjoy food and wine samplings from more than South End restaurants at this 10th annual event

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red L to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommel **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, a chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oe vres and offers brief cooking demonstration •March 15: Piedmont. •March 22: N Zealand Pinot.

Wine and Dine Wednesdays
Beacon Hill Bistro, 25 Charles St., Boston (6 723-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MG First and third Wed. of each month, 7 pm. $4 Chef **Ben Knack** prepares a four-course me paired with four wines. •March 16: Portugal.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-26 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johns** presents matching wines to complement a fo course French–New England meal by chef **Fra McClelland**. •March 14: Italy. •March Rhone Valley.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-72 1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line Aquarium. 7 pm. $41. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pa French cuisine with wines selected by sommel **Erik Johnson**. •March 9: Erik's Favorit •March 16: Groovy Grapes.

Winter Wine Dinners
Blu, 4 Avery St., Boston (617-375-8550). MBT Green Line to Boylston. March 19. 1 pm. $4 Chef **Tom Fosnot** prepares a dinner pair with wines from Willamette Valley.

Winter Wine Series
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambri (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.co MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 9. 6:30 p $35. Sommelier Shane Lessard provides advi on how to order off a wine list.

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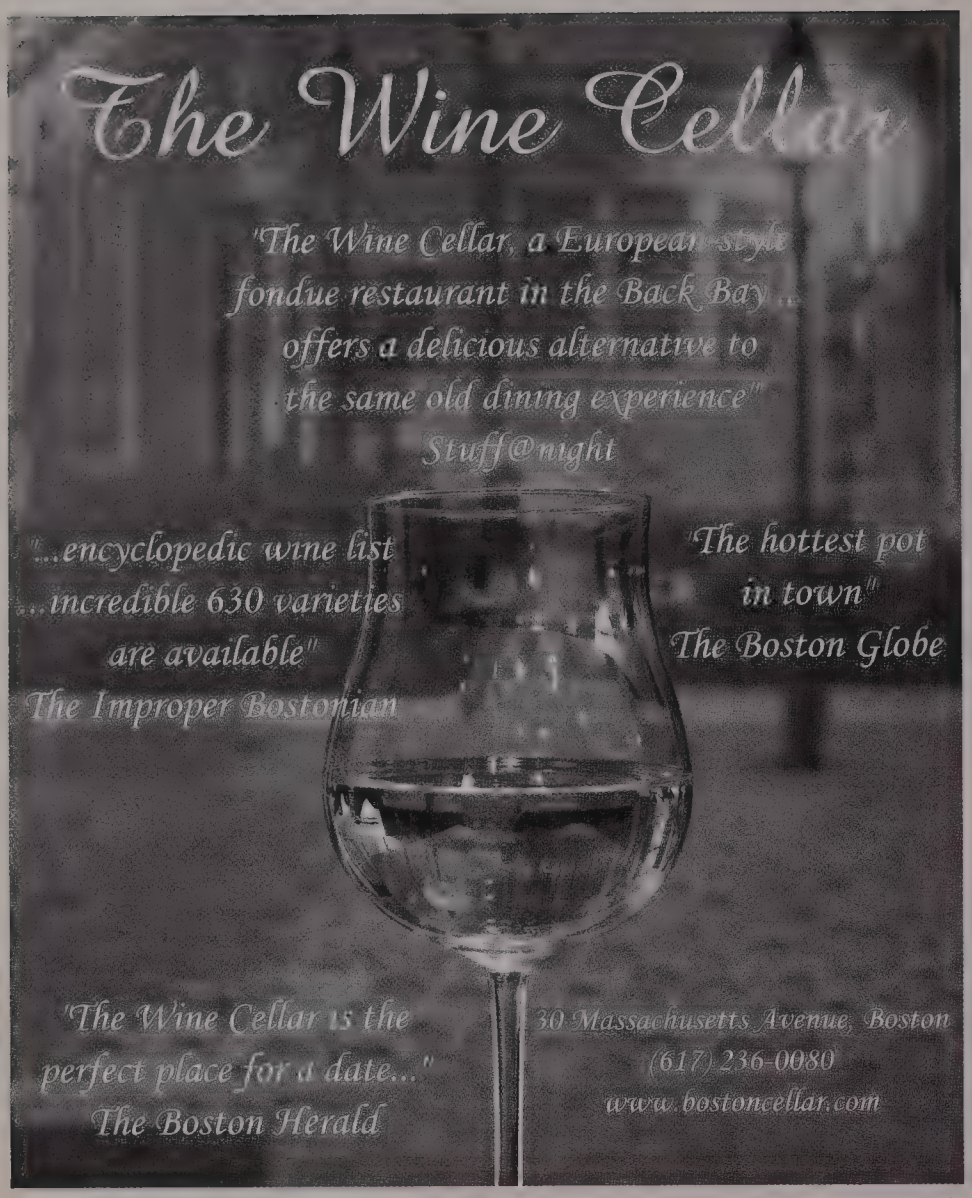

WINE

Blanc Expressions

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.

Lately, in this still largely Atkins/South Beach world, some folks are emerging who don't believe in going too far overboard in the austerity department, who are interested in reintegrating wine into their health-conscious lifestyle. One of the more common questions I've addressed: What's your favorite drink with raw vegetables? To my palate, nothing's better with crisp, fresh greens, celery, carrots, even red and yellow peppers, than a tangy, pungent New Zealand sauvignon blanc. It's also quintessential with fried or baked white fish.

After being given up for dead in the '90s, sauvignon, or fume blanc (which is its legal synonym), must surely qualify as comeback player of the decade. Its sharp, citric flavor profile is back in fashion, which is good news for me because I've always loved it. Until fairly recently, I can honestly say that I never had a sauvignon blanc from New Zealand that I didn't at least like. It was the most consistent winner for me of all wine categories, which was great because I could go to any restaurant or store, pick brand names I didn't know, basically at random, and all would be satisfying. That's no longer true. New Zealand, a tiny, sparsely populated country with a relatively small fine-wine industry (until recently at least), has virtually exploded on the U.S. wine market. From a small base, sales keep rising. And the vast majority of what we're buying is the country's signature cool-climate, stony-soil Marlborough district sauvignon blanc. But with a massive recent vineyard planting campaign in New Zealand, dilute, watery, almost tasteless sauvignon blancs now arrive from the country. I had no problem 10 years ago when people couldn't stand New Zealand wines because they were too extreme in flavor. But a dull sauvignon blanc from Marlborough seems heretical. Yet that aptly describes at least half of the bottles I've tasted lately. Some are even slightly sweet, a direction I can't endorse.

While I've had outstanding, very satisfying bottles from New Zealand, I can't say I've ever experienced the thrilling minerality and pinpoint balance that are the hallmark of great Loire Valley sauvignon blanc. New Zealand sav blancs are more consistent and brightly fruity, to be sure, but they rarely have the layers of understated flavor that a fine producer of Sancerre or Pouilly-Fume can evoke in a ripe vintage. Here's the thing though: Most of the time, with most of the vegetarian and seafood dishes I'm eating, I'll save the money and take New Zealand. It's just that you have to be more selective now.

Here's what I consider the current cream of the country's crop in a few key price categories, identified as such in the blind tastings I've conducted this year. Prediction: if they ever do a white wine version of Sideways (which is inevitable in one form or another) you're likely to hear the protagonist putting down oak and Chardonnay and comparing him or herself to a vital, zesty, life-affirming Marlborough sauvignon blanc.

As usual, in ascending order of quality:

House of Nobilo, Marlborough, 2003 ($11). Lemon peel–scented, with a whiff of green herbs, this wine takes it to the extreme in terms of tart, electrifying acidity. I like it, right down to the somewhat bitter finish, but that's because these are my kind of flavors. On the other hand, you might find this too *too*. Unless you have it with food, and I'm thinking well-salted, somewhat aggressively flavored dishes. I can think of a lot of Chinese fish and seafood dishes, with their salt/sour flavor profile, that this would stand up to beautifully.

Oyster Bay, Marlborough, 2004 ($12). This is a new brand that will be heard from, no doubt. Highly aromatic, with fresh-cut grass and grapefruit scents, the wine has a pure, vibrant, bone-dry flavor profile. It's quite lemony, on the verge of sour and abrasive, but again this works beautifully for me. This is the one I'd pick for the salad without hesitation. You won't even need a vinaigrette. And don't be scared off by the fact that it's 2004; remember, the Southern Hemisphere harvests in April, not October, and this is the kind of wine you want to drink as young as possible because it does nothing but deteriorate with age.

Monkey Bay, Marlborough, 2004 ($10). Brand new and a winner, right from the fresh grapefruit and sweet pea nose to the sharp, racy acid. This is why we do blind tastings: Although inexpensive, the wine has outstanding balance, with lots of fruit flavor serving as a backdrop for the pungent, tangy citrus notes. The finish goes on for quite a while, which is ideal for food pairing. Bring me a plate of chilled cherrystones, hold the cocktail sauce, please.

Whitehaven, Marlborough, 2003 ($17). Here's the upgrade, and it's well worth it. It has a grapey nose, evidently riper and more developed, with less pungency than its peers. Nicely extracted, a bit fuller on the palate, with deceptively ripe sweet lemon fruit and thrilling acidity, plus grace notes of green mint and tangerine. Very versatile, it will cut through almost anything lush: Thai fare, Dover sole, lobster salad. IB

Master of Wine Sandy Block is VP of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.

DISH

Sweet Things

Partners in pastry…Wine guys shift…

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Eric Brennan and Molly Hanson of Excelsior

Valentine's Day may be over, but the life and career of pastry chef **Molly Hanson** seem to get sweeter all the time. During the past year, Hanson married her sweetheart, bought a condo and adopted a puppy, and now she's enjoying the icing on the metaphorical cake with her recent appointment as pastry chef at **Excelsior**.

Hanson is thrilled to be working once again with Excelsior executive chef **Eric Brennan**, who was formerly executive chef at **Harvest** when she baked for both at Cambridge restaurant and **Grill 23**. "I was missing him at Harvest," she says. For now, Hanson also finds herself in the awkward, if delightful, position of supervising her pastry chef spouse, **Kate Henry**, in Excelsior's kitchen.

"We met at Harvest," Hanson explains, so she moved to Excelsior. It's a very Boston-Cambridge story." Henry now will change restaurants again, to preempt the potential conflicts inherent when one house supervises the other.

In the meantime, Hanson has her hands full devising an overhauled bread basket and a range of desserts that continue the high standards of former pastry chef **Killian Wiegand**, whose long-term partnership with former Excelsior chef **Lydia Shire** goes back to the early days of the former **Biba**. "Killian is a master baker," says Hanson with admiration. Excelsior's new bread basket won't include the famous roti brushed with anchovy butter because the roti oven is being replaced in the kitchen by a raw bar, but you will find a savory, crispy "feuille de bric" that Hanson promises is "delish."

When Hanson completes the transition to her new dessert menu, expect a focus on fruit desserts, such as a lemon soufflé cake with wild blueberry jam. But don't worry—you'll find plenty of chocolate and cookies as well.

SECOND COURSE

Sampling irresistible: **Jonas Atwood**, formerly wine director at **33 Restaurant and Lounge** for nearly two years, is the new wine manager at **Meritage** in the Boston Harbor Hotel. Atwood, who holds a degree in biology and resource economics from UMass Amherst, will expand the American-focused wine list to include selections from Europe—specifically, Italy, Spain, Austria and France—and "new world" Southern Hemisphere wines from Australia and New Zealand. Meanwhile, 33 has a new sommelier, **Christian Vassilev**, whom you may remember from his most recent stint at **Mantra**. And out in Deep Suburbia—specifically Norwood—you'll find **Adam Laliberte**, formerly sous chef at **The Vault** downtown, behind the stove as the new executive chef at **Bon Caldo**.

Chef update: **Steve Johnson**, formerly of **The Blue Room** in Cambridge, reports he's spending time "reading all the books and seeing all the movies on my list." But don't be mistaken, he says. "I am really, really looking" for a new restaurant space in Cambridge. We'll keep you posted.

British beverage: The beautiful **Oak Bar** at the **Fairmont Copley Plaza** is featuring three new cocktails to celebrate the opening of its sister hotel, **The Savoy**, in London. The Blushing Monarch is described as a concoction "created to be as sweet as the late Lady Diana," which begs the question: Will the latest royal news inspire a "Camilla Cosmo" or a "Raving Rottweiler"? IB

Serving Dish

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The Best…

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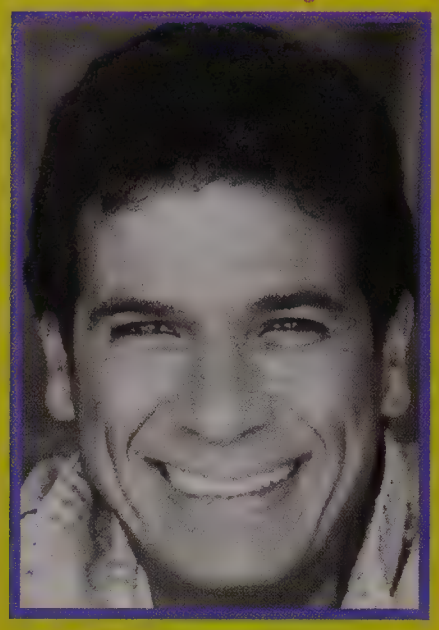


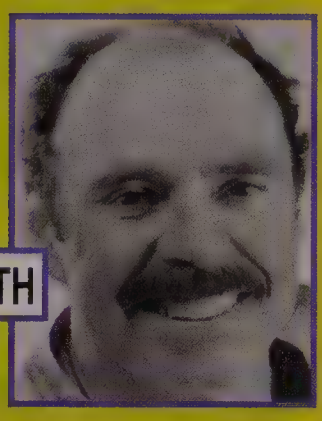
MARCH 11-12

From VH1's "Stand-Up Spotlight", "The Rosie O'Donnell Show" and HBO

BOBBY COLLINS

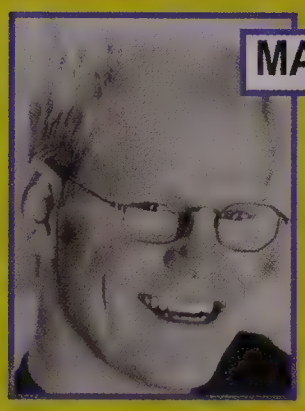
MARCH 18-20

DAVID ALAN GRIER



MARCH 19TH

STEVE SWEENEY



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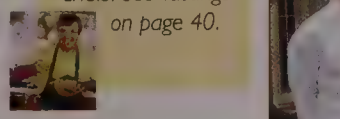
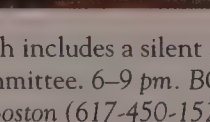
march 9 - 22

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			9	10	11	12
			Interpol headlines a concert at the Orpheum with Q and Not U. *See Music on page 58.*	Neil Bartlett directs Christopher Marlowe's ***Dido, Queen of Carthage*** at the ART's Loeb Drama Center. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*		***Speed, Style and Beauty: Cars from the Ralph Lauren Collection*** is on view at the MFA. *See Museums & Galleries on page 71.*
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Acrobats, contortionists, aerialists and strongmen perform in ***Cirque Dreams*** at the Shubert. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*	The **Dropkick Murphys** begin a five night run at Avalon. *See Music on page 58.*	AC/DC cover band extraordinaire **Beefy DC** plays at Johnny D's. *See Music on page 58.*		
20	21	22				
	It's an *Iron Chef*–inspired **Battle of the Sous Chefs** at Lucy's in Brookline. *See Tastings on page 40.*	Chef **Jacques Pépin** hosts the Gastronomic Celebration—a meal prepared by Boston's top chefs. *See Tastings on page 40.*				





TUE./MARCH 15

Tastings: Southern Comfort

These days, upscale eateries have replaced the scruffy diners and dives that once populated the South End. For one night only, fans of the South End's culinary delights can taste some of the best the neighborhood has to offer, all under one roof. On March 15, more than 40 restaurants cook up a sampling of their newest menu offerings for the annual Taste of the South End, at the Cyclorama. Among those participating are Hamersley's Bistro, Union, Aquitaine, B&G Oysters, Masa, Mistral and Perdix, and 10 wineries from around the world provide the beverages. All proceeds from the event, which includes a silent auction, benefit the AIDS Action Committee. *6–9 pm. BCA Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-450-1526). $75. www.aac.org/taste.*

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THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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Jessica Iredale Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Performing Arts
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music
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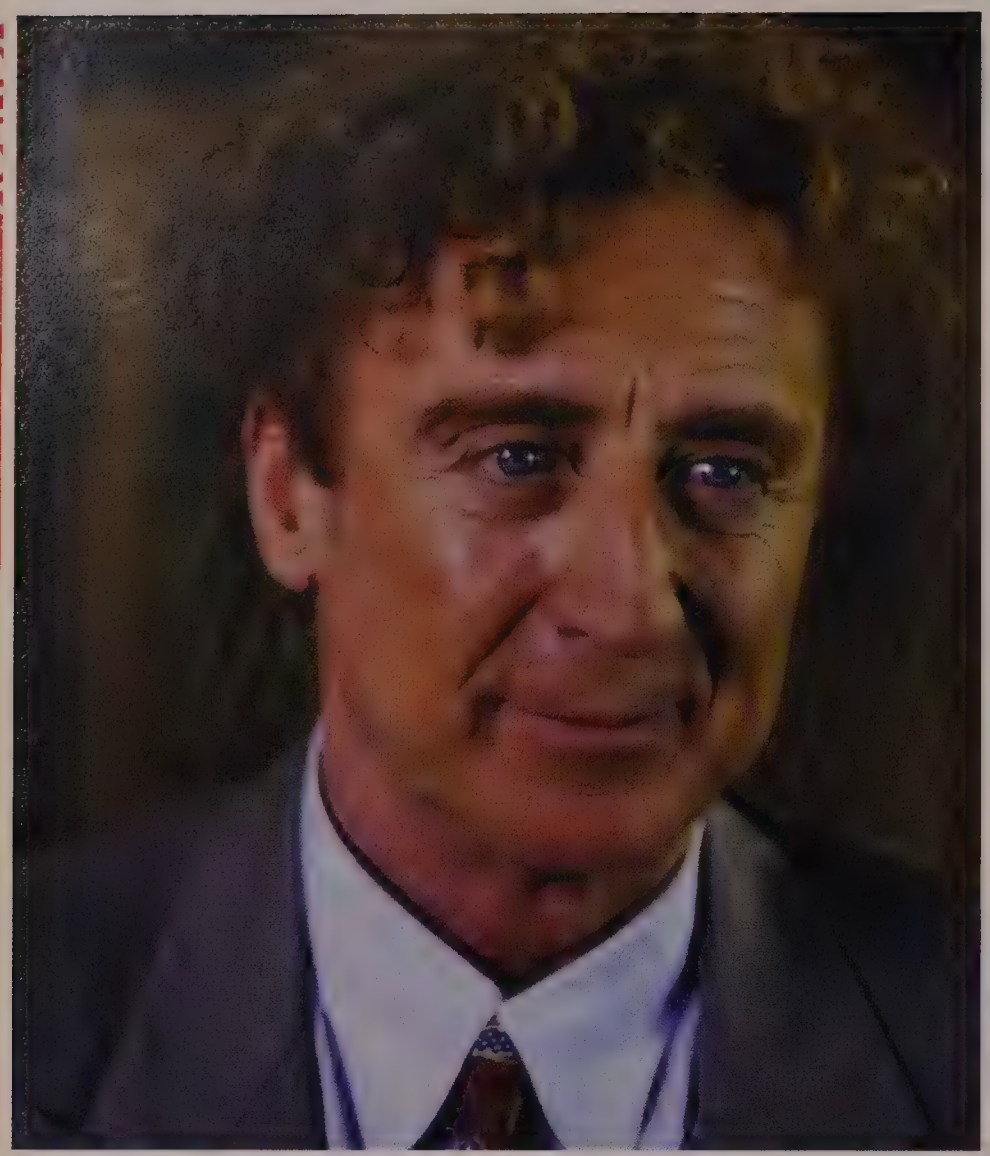
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules



WED./MARCH 16 & FRI./MARCH 18

Books & Poetry: Inside Edition

This week, Barnes & Noble at Boston University brings in two entertainers who are sure to pack the place as they read from their new books. Actor **Gene Wilder** (above) appears on March 16, and two days later it's singer **Tori Amos**. Guest host **Robin Young** of NPR's *Here and Now* interviews Wilder about his new autobiography, *Kiss Me Like a Stranger*, and then the actor will answer questions from the audience. *Kiss Me* reveals how Wilder got his big showbiz break (from a chance meeting with Mel Brooks when Wilder was in a play with Anne Bancroft). It also gives glimpses into his personal and professional life—everything from his experiences in psychoanalysis to his marriages to behind-the-scenes stories about some of his movies. Then, on March 18, singer Tori Amos comes to town to talk about *Piece by Piece*, an autobiography cowritten with music journalist Ann Powers. It's a mix of personal history (like raising her young daughter) and creative memoir (about her songwriting process). Amos also signs copies of her latest CD, *The Beekeeper*. *Wilder is at the Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston. Call to reserve free tickets (617-267-8484) starting at 5 pm the day of the event. 7 pm. Amos is at BU Barnes & Noble, 660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). 6 pm. Free. www.bu.bkstore.com.*

SUN./MARCH 13

CityScope: Star Power

When **Rosie O'Donnell** threw in the towel on her eponymous daytime talk show in 2001, she seemed to pull the plug on her public life. Aside from a little courtroom drama last year over her now defunct magazine, Ro's been noticeably absent from the gossip circuit. On March 13, with nary a subpoena in sight, O'Donnell emerges to host a communal reading benefit for literacy and learning at the Somerville Theatre. Local literati Alice Hoffman, Jill McCorkle, Susan Orlean and Lauren Slater, along with folk rocker Catie Curtis, join the loudmouthed lesbian for an afternoon of reading and rocking to support Somerville Public Schools' Choice Program and the Healey School. With more than 20 movie and television writing credits, 20-plus books, contributions to *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times*, and at least one major film adaptation deal between them, these women know their lit. If you don't hear enough from them at the event, you can go to a postshow reception at the Burren, nearby, for an extra $50. *The Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-931-2000). $24.50-$500. 3–6 pm.*

THU./MARCH 10

Music: Hard Rock with a Heart

Local bands may compete for a finite number of gigs, practice spaces and recording time, but when push comes to shove, Boston rockers are on the same side, regularly teaming up for good causes. The scene's latest do-good effort is **Rock 'n' Run: a Benefit for Cancer Research**, a concert spearheaded by local singer/songwriter Andy Milk, the former frontman of Johnny Wishbone who now leads the band New Blood (in photo, above). Milk is running in this year's Boston Marathon for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute team, and has a personal goal of raising $5,000. (The team's goal is $3.4 million.) Proceeds from the benefit concert all go toward meeting that goal. The show's got an impressive line-up of local talent. The heavy-hitting foursome Rubikon, Adam & Steve Not Adam & Eve (Cave-In's Stephen Brodsky and Adam McGrath), rowdy rocker Bleu and the edgy outfit Adrenokrome join New Blood on the bill. To sweeten the pot, some raffle prizes are up for grabs, including a Walden classical guitar; two hour-long tattoo sessions at Pino Bros. Ink; a Jagermeister skateboard; dinner at Tavern on the Water and more. *Middle East downstairs, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-EAST). 8 pm. $10. 18+. www.rocknrun.org.*

THROUGH SAT./MARCH 12

Performing Arts: Cabaret Blowout

Hyde Park nonprofit performing arts center Riverside Theatre Works is really getting into Cabaret Month. Through March 12, the theater hosts its immodestly titled **Boston's Biggest Cabaret Celebration Ever**. On Wednesday, March 9, funnyman John O'Neil performs *Not That You Asked*, a new show he calls his darkest yet ($17). On Thursday, March 10, you can see *Growing Older/Growing Stronger*, a revue with six up-and-coming female cabaret stars about the minds of women ($10). On Friday, cabaret singer Stephen McNulty presents *Love and Falling*, a romantic and dramatic set featuring standards, obscure numbers and some original songs ($15). The festival closes on Saturday with a performance by 2003 MAC (Manhattan Association of Clubs and Cabarets) award winning New York artist (and Riverside Theatre Works alumnus) **Julie Reyburn** ($17). *45 Fairmount Ave., Boston (617-361-7024).*

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Photos of Larissa Ponomarenko; Romi Beppu and Yury Yanowsky by John Deane

cityscope

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Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope @improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

Rock 'N' Run: A Benefit for Cancer Research
Middle East Downstairs, 472 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-931-2000). www.rocknrun.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $10. This fund-raiser includes musical performances from Rubikon, Adam and Steve Not Adam and Eve, New Blood, Bleu and Adrenokrome, plus a raffle featuring products nated by local businesses.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Mardi Gras Madness
Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James St., Bo (800-314-3459, ext. 11). www.ccfa.org. MB Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $95. The New Engl chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundatio America hosts this benefit party featuring a c tail reception, dinner, live auction and Mardi celebration.

Massachusetts Food Bank Benefit
The Black Rose, 160 State St., Boston (617-7 2286). www.irishconnection.com. MBTA: Gree Blue Line to Government Center. 12-3 pm. $ Guests can enjoy a pint a of Guinness and a s pling of authentic Irish fare from chef Cia Gantly at this event benefiting the Massachus Food Bank.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Charity Wine Tasting
Anthem, 38 Portland St., Boston (617-523-83 www.liverfoundation-ne.org. MBTA: Green Lin North Station. 7 pm. $25. The Run for Resea

Preview

St. Paddy's Day

The Dropkick Murphys kick off this year's St. Patrick's Day celebration at the Black Rose

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

St. Patrick's Day 8 Minute Dating
Boston Billiard Club, 126 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-536-7665). www.8minutedating. com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

Black Rose
The Black Rose, 160 State St., Boston (617-742-2286). www.irishconnection.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6 am-2 am. Free. This daylong St. Patrick's Day celebration features live performances by the Dropkick Murphys, the Joshua Tree, Sunday's Well and Celtic Clan, as well as authentic Irish fare served all day.

Grafton Street Pub
Grafton Street Pub, 1230 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-0400). www.graftonstreet cambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am-2 am. $5 after 8 pm. Grafton Street's St. Patrick's Day celebration features authentic Irish fare and live entertainment from the Ronan Quinn Duo, Shoot the Moon and DJ Cherry.

High Street Grille
High Street Grille, 200 High St., Boston (617-523- 4000). www.highstreetgrille.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 11:30 am. $10. This fund-raiser for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston features two DJs, Irish bagpipers, prizes and an Irish-themed menu served all day.

Irish Village
Irish Village, 224 Market St., Brighton (617-787- 5427). MBTA: Bus #57 to Brighton Center. 5 pm- 1 am. Free. The Jack Sparrow Band and DJ Dylan provide the entertainment at the Irish Village's St. Paddy's Day party.

Paddy O's
Paddy O's, 33 Union St., Boston (617-263-7771). www.somerspubs.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. 6 pm. Free. Paddy O's celebrates with a live performance by Nova Scotia's Stramarsh and a raffle for a trip for two to Ireland.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Boil the Breakfast Early
Springstep, 98 George P. Hassett Dr., Medford (781-395-0402). www.springstep.org. 8 pm. $12-$15. Husband-and-wife singing duo Matt and Shannon, banjo player Eamonn Coyne, storyteller Joe Hayes and former *Riverdance* performer Michael Boyle take the stage at this St. Patrick's Day celebration.

thon team hosts this night featuring food, wine
silent auction. Proceeds benefit the American
Foundation.

llegance

*l Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Pkwy., Cambridge
-523-1355). www.bostonyouthmoves.org, MBTA:
n Line to Lechmere. 7:30 pm. $100.* Boston
h Moves, a nonprofit organization providing
rofessional dance training in the Boston area,
rs the late Broadway legend Gwen Verdon with
time achievement award at this annual benefit
ring dancing, cocktails and live entertainment.

NDAY, MARCH 13

ie O'Donnell Benefit

*rville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville
-931-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 3-6 pm
$500.* Rosie O'Donnell is joined by authors
e Hoffman, Jill McCorkle, Susan Orlean and
en Slater, plus rocker Catie Curtis, at this
-raiser to support the Somerville Public
ols' Choice Program and the Healey School.

ESDAY, MARCH 15

R.O.S.E. Fund

*e's, 426 Washington St., Boston (617-482-
). www.rosefund.org. MBTA: Red or Orange
to Downtown Crossing. 6 pm. $30.* Proceeds
this fashion show, featuring designers like
in Klein, Ralph Lauren and Michael Kors,
fit the R.O.S.E. Fund's efforts to fight domes-
iolence. The night also includes hors d'oeu-
a wine and champagne bar, and live music.

DNESDAY, MARCH 16

dy to Wear

*l Marlowe, 25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cam-
e (617-395-2523). www.dressforsuccess.org.
A: Green Line to Lechmere. 6 pm. $35.* Fash-
onsultant and author Mary Lou Andre pre-
a seminar that teaches women how to assess
lifestyle and wardrobe. The night features
d'oeuvres and benefits Dress for Success
n.

diko Comedy Night

*dy Connection, 245 Quincy Market, Boston
292-9200). www.wediko.org. MBTA: Green or
Blue Line to Government Center. 8 pm. $25.* This night of comedy benefits Wediko Children's Services, a nonprofit organization committed to improving children's lives in Boston.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

20/20 Vision

Wolfers Lighting, 103 North Beacon St., Allston (617-254-0700); 1339 Main St., Waltham (781-890-5995). www.wolfers.com. 9 am-6 pm. $20. For a $20 donation to the Boston Ronald McDonald House, customers get a 20-minute consultation with an interior designer at either of Wolfers' two locations.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Benefit for the Mandela Crew

Hilton Boston Back Bay, 40 Dalton St., Boston (617-620-5773). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 2:30-4:30 pm. $50 (reception and concert), $20 (concert only). A VIP reception benefits the Mandela Crew, an inner-city youth rowing team. The reception is followed by a jazz tribute concert at the Berklee Performance Center featuring trumpeter Jon Faddis.

Friends of the Gibson House Museum

Four Seasons Hotel Ballroom, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-6338). www.thegibsonhouse.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 3-5 pm. $80. This ninth annual benefit for the preservation of the Gibson House Museum features refreshments, a performance by the New England Light Opera, a hat and bow tie contest, and a raffle.

Festivals & Parties

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

The Massachusetts Boat & Water Sport Show

The Fieldhouse at Gillette Stadium, Foxboro (800-332-3976). www.macevents.com. Through March 13. Fri., 1-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-6 pm. $6-$8. More than 200 boats, a large variety of boating and marine products and various other boating-themed exhibits are on display at this first annual show.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Armenian Network Winter Party

Sheraton Commander Hotel, 16 Garden St., Cambridge (617-547-4800). www.armnetboston.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $35. The Boston Armenian Network of America holds its annual winter party.

New England Spring Flower Show

Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-933-4963). www.masshort.org. MBTA: Orange Line to JFK/UMass. Through March 20. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-9 pm; Sat., 9 am-9 pm; Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $7-$20. This annual flower show features more than five acres of exhibit space and more than 50 gardens designed by local, national and international landscape professionals.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

8 Minute Dating

Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 35-58.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Single Professionals for the Arts

Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-266-4021). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am-1 pm. $40. Tour the Harvard Fogg Museum with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffee. Reservations required.

MONDAY, MARCH 14

8 Minute Dating

Cityside Bar and Grill, 1960 Beacon St., Brighton (617-566-1002). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle . 6:58 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 23-32.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

8 Minute Dating

Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchant's Row, Boston (617-227-7800). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 28-38.

Hurry Date

The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. For ages 25-35.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Hurry Date

Lir Irish Pub and Restaurant, 903 Boylston St., Boston (617-742-1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. For ages 21-32.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

8 Minute Dating

Orleans, 65 Holland St., Somerville (617-591-2100). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 27-40.

8 Minute Dating

The Point, 147 Hanover St., Boston (617-537-5895). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

Hurry Date

Lir Irish Pub and Restaurant, 903 Boylston St., Boston (617-742-1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 10 seven-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. For ages 40 and over.

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Monday, March 14
GARDEN-TO-GOURMET NIGHT
5:00 - 9:00pm

Tuesday, March 15
ASK THE EXPERTS: GET THE DIRT NIGHT
5:00 - 9:00pm

Wednesday, March 16
GIRLS NIGHT OUT
5:00 - 9:00pm

Thursday, March 17
ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION
10:00am - 9:00pm

Friday, March 18
CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL
4:30 - 8:00pm

Saturday, March 19
BRIDES & BLOOMS
1:00 - 4:00pm

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Cirque Dreams
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont Street, Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 15-20. Tue.-Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 2 and 7 pm; Sun., 11 am and 4 pm. $34-$159. The Wang Cener and the Poduska Family Foundation present Neil Goldberg's original production features acrobats, contortionists, aerialists and strongmen.

Culture Clash in AmeriCCa
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-7900). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. March 18-May 8. $14-$42. The three-person Latino group uses dance, poetry and humor to explore diversity in America.

Dead White Males
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $10-$20. William Missouri Downs' play is about a teenage girl caught in the bureaucracy of public high school.

The Old Man and the Sea
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200) www.stonehamtheatre.org. March 17-April 3, Wed. and Thu. 7:30 pm, Fri. 8 pm., Sat. 4 and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $16-$32. Writer Weylin Symes adapts Hemingway's Nobel-prize winning novella for this world premiere production. Greg Smucker directs.

Sweet Charity
The Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St. Boston (617-482-8616). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 18-27, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $37.50-$87.50. Christina Applegate and Denis O'Hare star in this musical comedy about the misadventures of a dancehall hostess.

Talking Heads 2
Boson Center for the Arts 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-7700). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. March 17-26. Thu.-Sat. 8 pm., Sun. 5 pm. $15-$20. The QE2 players present three monologues by Alan Bennett. Michael O'Halloran directs.

NOW RUNNING

Anna in the Tropics
BCA Roberts Studio Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescne.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through March 26, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $46-$56. Nilo Cruz's drama, set in a Cuban-American cigar factory just before the Great Depression, follows a group whose lives parallel those of the characters in Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*.

Cirque Dreams is at the Shubert Theatre March 15-20.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Boston's Biggest Cabaret Festival Ever
Riverside Theatre Works, 45 Fairmount Ave, Hyde Park (617-361-7024). www.riversidetheatreworks.org. Through March 12, 8 pm. $10-$20. A different cabaret act performs each night during this eight-day festival. Numbers include a new show by John O'Neil and an evening with award-winning artist Julie Reyburn.

Dido, Queen of Carthage
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through March 26, Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu. March 24, 10 pm. $36-$72. Neil Barlett directs Christopher Marlowe's play about Queen Dido's infatuation for Aeneas, the heroic survivor of the Trojan War and future founder of Rome.

Fortinbras
Vokes Players of Wayland, Vokes Theatre, Route 20, Wayland (508-358-4034). www.vokesplayers.org. Through March 19, Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., March 12 and 19, additional show, 2 pm. Lee Blessing's comedy follows the state of affairs in Denmark following the tragic ending to Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Darren Evans directs.

Homebody/Kabul
BCA's Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through March 19, Thu.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Sat. March 12, 8 pm. $29. Tony Kushner's play centers around an eccentric British housewife and her mysterious obsession with Afghanistan. Jason Southerland directs.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

Miss Saigon
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through March 13. $24. Set in 1975 during the final days before the American evacuation of Saigon, this musical by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg tells the story of two young lovers who must decide the fate of a small child.

Nobody Don't Like Yogi
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through March 13, Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $27.50-$67.50. Ben Gazzara stars as Yogi Berra in this play about the baseball legend's last game in Yankee Stadium.

Our Hearts as Fiction
The Actors Workshop, 327 Summer St., Boston (617-423-7313). www.1111theatre.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. March 11 and 12, 8 pm. $15. Greg Maraio directs Brian Tuttle's play about a troubled family's struggle to stay together.

Peru Negro
Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/arts/abc. March 9, 8 pm. $20, $10 students and seniors. Playing music that originated in the slave trade of colonial Peru, the Grammy-nominated ensemble brings together dances, colorful costumes and history.

Quartet
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. Through March 12, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Four opera singers reunite for one last performance at their retirement home. Written by Ronald Harwood.

Red Herring
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through March 19, Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $19-$43. Courtney A. O'Connor directs Michael Holling's noir comedy that interlocks three love stories and a murder mystery with a plot of nuclear espionage.

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Through March 12, Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; $10-$18. Tom Stoppard's existential comedy retells the story of Hamlet through the eyes of two minor characters. Devon Jencks directs.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Topdog/Underdog
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. Through March 27, 7 pm; Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $30-$47. Kent Ga rects Suzan-Lori Parks' Pulitzer Prize-winnin about two African-American brothers, one a piring street hustler and the other a reformec tler turned Abraham Lincoln impersonator.

University Theater

The Bear
Kresge Rehearsal Room B, MIT, 48 Mass. Ave, bridge (617-253-2908). http://web.mit.edu/dramd MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. March 10-12, Free. The Dramashop production of Chekov's p directed by Adam Miller.

Othello
Sala de Puerto Rico, Stratton Student Center, MI Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2903). http:/ edu/activities/ensemble. MBTA: Red Line to Ke March 11-13 and 17-19, 8 pm. $8; $6 students rtney Adams directs this Shakespeare Ense production.

Terms of Frontierment
Hasty Pudding Building, Harvard University Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-495-5205). hastypudding.org. MBTA: Red Line to Har Through March 20, Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., Sun., 3 pm. $26-$29. Hasty Pudding prese Western musical written and produced by Ha undergraduates.

Dance

Battle Works
Zero Arrow Theatre, 0 Arrow St., Cambridge 876-4275). www.crasharts.org. MBTA: Red Li Harvard. March 18-20, Thu. 7 pm., Fri. 8 pm., 3 pm. $30. Choreographer Robert Battle pre modern dance pieces.

Falling Angels
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800- 7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Li Boylston. March 17-20, Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; 2 and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $39-$96. Boston Ba spring repertory program includes a world pre by Lucinda Childs and ballets by William For and Jirí Kylián.

La Sylphide
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800- 7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green L Bolyston. March 3-13, Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; S and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $39-$98. Boston Ballet forms Danish choreographer August Bournonv 1836 love story about rural life and the legen the Scottish Highlands.

Swellegance
Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, bridge (617-523-1355). www.bostonyouthmove MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. March 12, 7:3 $100. Boston Youth Moves' fifth annual fund features live music from Eye to Eye, a buffet performance by BYM dancers.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to endar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy proper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks p publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Ce Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musica and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781 2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. M Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10 The Comedy Vault features local stand-up co ans. •Feb. 24: Greg Howell and friends. •Feb. Courtney Cronin & Boston's Best Stand-up. 27: Courtney Cronin & Open-Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4 www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ce •Thursdays 8 pm: The Tribe Improv per downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617 9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. M Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Gr

e Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club ton draws nationally known comedians on nds and showcases up-and-coming local tal- uring the week. •Mondays, 8 pm: Kevin hosts the Amateur Showcase. •March 11- and 10:15 pm: Bobby Collins, $25. •March m: Mike Donovan, $12. •March 15 and 22, Paul Nardizzi, $12. •March 18-20, Fri. 8 and pm, Sat. 10:45 pm, Sun. 7 pm: David Alan $20-$28. •March 19, 8 pm: Steve Sweeney,

edy Studio

Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch dy troupes and local comedians perform. ch 9: Dan Sally with Dan Klein, Paul Day thers. •March 10: Andrea Henry, Chrissy ner, Syndi Styles and others. •March 11: Cheung, Dan McCaul, Mark McKay, Dan and others. •March 13: Erin Judge presents ong, Orlando Baxter, Nate Johnson and oth- March 15: Margic Lounge presents profes- magicians. •March 16: Tony V Experiment, Cormier, Dave Grabiner and others. •March an Sally Show with Joe Cronin, Tuck and s. •March 18: Greg Rodrigues, Daniella ino, Rob O'Reilly and others. •March 19: Rodrigues, David Powell and Greg deau. •March 20: Erin Judge presents k Bouler and Mike Whitman. •March 22: lagic Lounge, featuring Steve Kradolfer, Erik ll and David Oliver.

ille Lounge

50 Dalton St., Boston (617-266-2695). ackbaykings.com. MBTA: Green Line to HCA. Every Sun., 8 pm. Free. Tony V hosts dy Hell a weekly open-mike stand-up night. p is at 6 pm.

y Tingle's Off Broadway

Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., ville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's Off way Theater features both established and g performers and productions •Thu., 7:30 15: Stage Time Variety Show. Tingle hosts from the worlds of comedy, music and spo- ord. •Fri., 10 pm, $5-$10: It's Not That Late Show. This weekly show, hosted by Peter Dutton, showcases stand-up comedians, musicians and performance artists. •Sun., 1 pm, $5-$10: Silly Einstein. A comedy of science for the whole family. 7 pm, $10: Women in Comedy. This weekly Sunday night series showcases some of the area's most talented female performers.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •March 9 and 16, 8:30 pm; Sierra Mist Comedy Search. •March 10, 8:30 pm: Ken Rogerson & Larry Norton. •March 11, 8:45 pm: Frank Del Pizzo, Larry Norton, and Mary Beth Cowan. •March 17, 8:30 pm: Ira Proctor, Mike Koutroubis. •March 18-19, 8:45 pm: Ira Proctor, Mike Koutroubis and John Joyce.

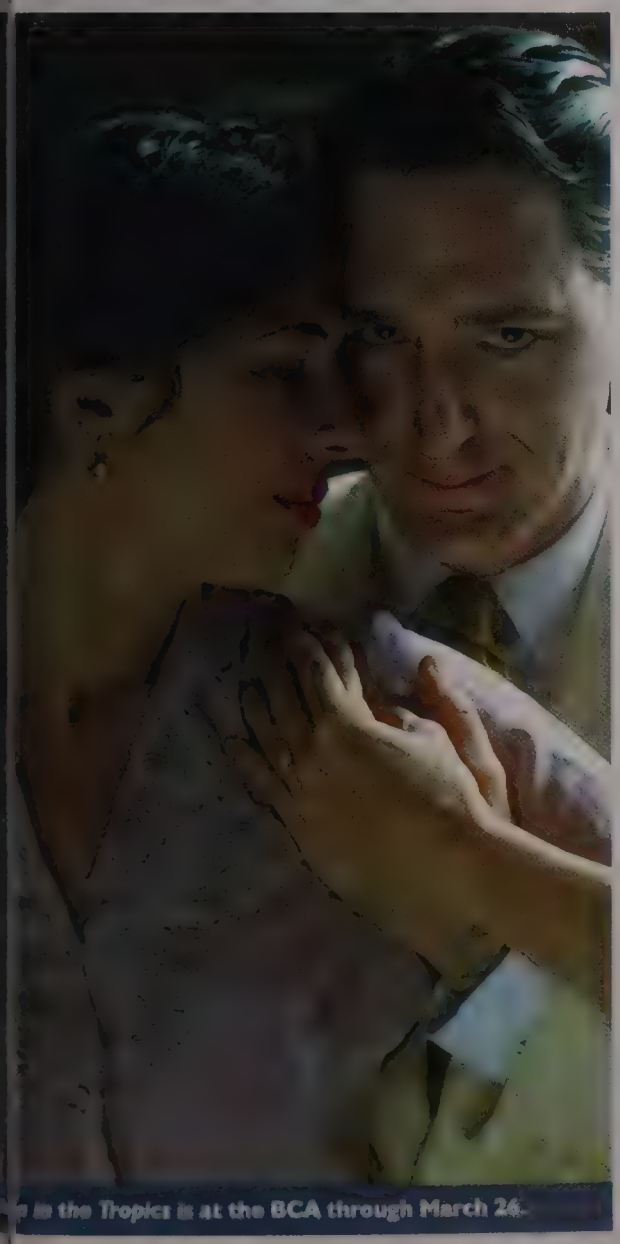
IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Sat., midnight: The Midnight Show. Ongoing. • Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat, 8 pm and 10 pm: Lies, Half-Truths and the American Way. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Boston's hottest new acts appear in a weekly showcase in The Hump. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: BackStory is a comedic journey backwards through time inspired by the indie hits *Memento*, *Donnie Darko*, and *Mullholland Drive* •Sat., 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.



e in the Tropics is at the BCA through March 26.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Mystery Café—Finnegan's Wake

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar, 290 Congress St., Boston (617-423-6166). www.mysterycafe.com. Mar. 5-26, Fri.-Sat., 7:30 pm. $45 for dinner/show. This interactive comedy dinner reenacts the laughter, song and dance of a "proper" Irish wake.

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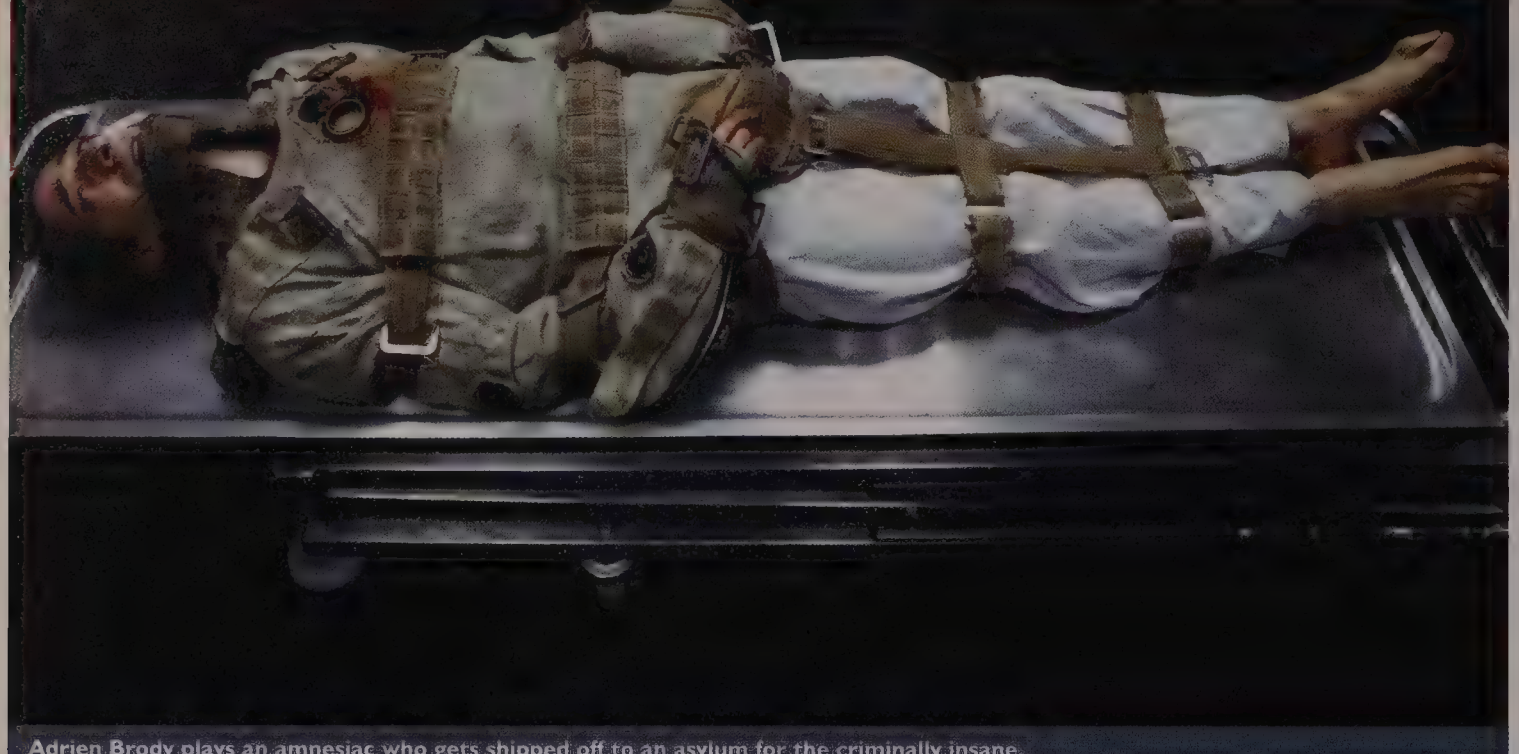
A Stitch in Time

The Jacket keeps buttoned up until its second half.

BY PAUL SHERMAN



Adrien Brody plays an amnesiac who gets shipped off to an asylum for the criminally insane.

Sometimes *The Jacket* fits, sometimes it doesn't. This supernatural thriller gets involving once its pieces start coming together, but the plot is so elaborate that it takes a long time for the film to hit that stride. I started writing a version of this review in which I detailed the plot, but the synopsis would've taken up half this space.

Suffice it to say that Adrien Brody plays Jack Starks, an amnesiac who gets picked up by a nutty redneck (Brad Renfro) while hitchhiking in 1992. The redneck gets in a gunfight with a trooper and shoots the cop, and leaves winged Jack to take the rap for the unwitnessed murder. Jack is found not guilty but shipped off to an asylum for the criminally insane. There, the head doctor (Kris Kristofferson) conducts secret experiments in which staffers put Jack in a full-body straitjacket, shoot him up with a mind-altering drug cocktail and shove him in a morgue drawer for three hours.

But Jack's hallucinations while locked away aren't so fantastic. In one, he's befriended by Jackie (Keira Knightley), a young woman who turns out to be the grown version of a little girl (Laura Marano) he helped out on the day of the cop's murder. Not only does a stunned Jack learn that he's landed in 2007, but when he tries to tell Jackie who he is, she says Jack Starks died a week after the day they met. With each new trip into the jacket, Jack returns to 2007, where he and Jackie try to find out exactly what happened to him. With help from info discovered in the future, Jack finds an ally in another of the hospital's doctors (Jennifer Jason Leigh) between his straitjacket sessions.

Despite the warmed-over *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* feel of some of the asylum action, with Jack the outspoken instigator, it's easy to see why the script of *The Jacket* appealed to actors like Brody, Knightley and Leigh, who don't have a history of doing genre movies like this. There's a fertile, *Twilight Zone* quality to the story, in which paranormal elements influence reality and you don't have to scratch the surface very hard to find something creepy. The characterizations are also deeper than you expect in a chiller; the major characters (including the little girl's alcoholic mother, played by Kelly Lynch) grow in ways that shade your impressions of them. The layering in character most deeply affects Jackie, with whom Jack interacts as both a troubled adult and a more hopeful child. Without giving too much away, the movie's resolution involves his trying to take action in the present that affects Jackie's well-being in the future. (The presence of "two Jackies" also adds unintentional creepiness when Jack begins a physical relationship with 2007 Jackie, while still relating with the 1992 little girl who, of course, knows nothing of the future.)

So if you can stick with *The Jacket* as it puts all its ducks in a row early on—there's even a prologue set during the first Gulf War—you'll be rewarded. If director John Maybury injected more atmosphere into the movie's first third, that might have supplied an eerie vibe to draw viewers into the story earlier. The same goes for the music; after the movie was over, I was surprised to learn that Brian Eno (Roxy Music) composed the score, since the music seems so downplayed and insignificant through much of the story. It's a plus that *The Jacket* avoids conventional chiller touches, presenting itself as straight drama, but it also could have benefited from more aggressive steering by Maybury.

As it is, the main reason you might stick with *The Jacket* is Brody. The star of *The Pianist* and *Dummy* has an easy, unforced charm, and you never feel he's trying to act cool at the expense of his character. Brody slips into all sides of Jack—puzzled amnesiac, protective guardian, horrified victim, clever provocateur, motivated investigator—with equal ease. *The Jacket* has too many rough spots to rate a full-fledged recommendation, but this uneven thriller is definitely more interesting than most. iB

The Jacket ★★½

Directed by John Maybury. Written by Massy Tadjedin. With Adrien Brody, Keira Knightley, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Kris Kristofferson, Kelly Lynch and Brad Renfro. Rated R. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Aviator ★★★
Like Howard Hughes' infamous Spruce G
Martin Scorsese's Hughes movie is big and c
yet it somehow manages to get off the gr
Scorsese starts his film on an iffy trajectory
most of the first hour dwelling on the first ex
gant foray by Hughes (Leonardo DiCaprio
producing movies (the WWI aerial drama
Angels) and on his romance with Katharine
burn (Cate Blanchett). You're afraid Scorses
cination with old movies is causing him to
look Hughes' aviation exploits. But the rest
movie concentrates on Hughes' roles with
and his aviation innovations, as well as his b
with the government and the emotional pro
that ultimately turned him into a recluse. DiC
does a good job of bringing out Hughes' chari
vulnerability, and Scorsese champions his su
as a visionary who wouldn't let the bean co
dampen his ambition. The result is much mo
isfying than Scorsese and DiCaprio's pre
Gangs of New York. (At Boston Common, Ha
Square and suburbs.)

Bride and Prejudice ★★
It's clear from the start that *Bhaji on the Beac
Bend It Like Beckham* director Gurinder Cha
transformation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Pre
into a present-day, India-set, Bollywood-ins
musical just isn't happening. The songs aren'
catchy, leading man Martin Henderson (who
up last winter's hyperobnoxious *Torque*) co
act his way out of a sari, and the movie h
rhythm. A musical should have a light step
when the music is off; this one plods along,
during the songs. None of the cast seems to be
ally singing for their characters, which makes
characters schizo; while special guest Ashanti
presumably is singing herself) croons what mig
the worst song lyrics of all-time: "India's the
for me/India will set you free." The movie's att
to bridge Asian and Anglo-American cultur
waters everything down, from the Bollywoo
production numbers to the cultural stereotyp
the westerners. As a crass Indian-American se
a bride, Nitin Ganatra at least adds some lit
some comic relief. (At Kendall Square and Be
Common.)

Constantine ★½
Did you know that Keanu is Hawaiian for "mu
jumbo"? All right, it isn't, but you might thi
after having the utter mumbo jumbo of this K
Reeves movie heaped upon you. He's the title
acter in this graphic-novel adaptation, an ex
out of the private-eye mold, but the nuts and b
the story fit together clumsily at best. There's
of visionary twins (Rachel Weisz), the all-pow
"spear of destiny" (which, underwhelmingly,
more like the *dagger* of destiny), lots of scrip
archangel Gabriel (Tilda Swinton) and Sata
bad self (Peter Stormare), but the cause and
between everybody's actions is very sketchy. M
while, music video director Francis Lawrence
more interested in over-the-top production d
and special effects than credibility. The odd
here is that Reeves' performance is decent, but
else is. (At Boston Common, Fenway and subu

Downfall ★★
Adolf Hitler was—surprise, surprise—an insu
able, power-mad creep until the very end. Thos
the ho-hum dramatics in this lengthy disapp
ment set mainly in the Nazi high command's bu
as the Russians advance into Berlin in April of
This German import is a sort of docudrama ve
of *Blind Spot: Hitler's Secretary*, the 2002 docu
tary in which Traudl Junge, who held that pos
during the war, detailed the final days of Hitler'
The naive young secretary (here played by Ale
dra Maria Lara) is among the large ensemb
characters, and veteran German actor Bruno
(*Wings of Desire*, *In the White City*) plays Hitle
though he's avuncular in his relationship wit
secretary, the Hitler we see is more concerned
flexing his hold over his underlings than g
them or the German civilian population a chan
survive the Russians. Sure, you shouldn't e
Hitler to be reasonable, but director Oliver Hi
biegel, who rightly doesn't make value judgmen
his characters, gives you little to identify with
Beyond Hitler, we're left with military offi
politicians and family members who bought
Hitler's policies or, like the secretary, conveni
"didn't notice" what Nazism was really all a
(the closest thing to a good guy is a doctor wh
seems to have a conscience). Once Hitler and
Braun do themselves in, the movie plods on fo

st. patrick's day

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Keanu Reeves is so overwhelmed he rests his head and stares at a bug in *Constantine*.

other hour, showing us how just about every bunker inhabitant got killed, committed suicide or escaped. But, really, why should I care about these war criminals? (At Kendall Square.)

Inside Deep Throat ★★★

It would take a miniseries to adequately cover all the drama surrounding 1972's *Deep Throat*, the sex film that attracted mainstream audiences and couples like no other before or since. But Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato, the team that brought us *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*, do a good job of touching upon the main topics in 92 minutes: drama, drama, drama. *Deep Throat*'s success was seen as the final victory for the sexual revolution, yet it rallied pro-censorship forces against it; stars Linda Lovelace and Harry Reems enjoyed great fame and great infamy from their roles; and the movie was so popular that its producers were elbowed aside by the Mob, who monitored box office receipts in every Podunk porno theater that showed it. Bailey and Barbato present the battle over *Deep Throat* as symptomatic of America's twisted relationship with sexuality, and as part of the same culture wars that still rage today between the ultra-religious and the rest of the country. It's hard to argue with them on either point. (At Kendall Square.)

The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou ★★½

After establishing himself with the melancholy comedies *Bottle Rocket* and *Rushmore*, Wes Anderson has entered a phase where his boyish charm, low-tech clutter, cool old songs and casts of sad yet funny characters are starting to come off like schtick that's getting a little precious. Like *The Royal Tenenbaums*, Anderson's latest has that erratic feeling. Sometimes it feels genuinely inspired (having a character sing early David Bowie songs in Portuguese from time to time), sometimes it seems as if it's on automatic pilot (Bill Murray giving the same sad-sack performance that worked so well in *Rushmore*). That's not to say Murray isn't very amusing at times (same goes for Willem Dafoe, Anjelica Huston, Jeff Goldblum and Owen Wilson), or that the visuals aren't very creative and Anderson doesn't have more going on than most directors. But giving Anderson's adolescent sensibility to characters who are all over 25—some well beyond—makes for an odd fit. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Man of the House ★½

This story of a butch Texas Ranger (Tommy Lee Jones) who goes undercover to protect five college cheerleaders who witnessed a murder is so much like a lame sitcom you keep waiting for the commercial breaks. The co-eds give him a make-over, he has to buy tampons for them—what a knee-slapper! Cedric the Entertainer adds a smile or two as a fe cheerleader who's stuck in Hammer time, i.e., but other than that, this is sparse comic ter (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Meet the Fockers ★★

You know the humor in the *Meet the Parents* se much more forced this time around when Stiller's character suddenly falls over in his during an early scene—for no reason and with n up (and no laugh generated). There are a few l with the introduction of Dustin Hoffman and B Streisand as his touchy-feely, overly nurturing pa whose ways, of course, collide with those of uptight, WASPy in-laws-to-be (Robert De Blythe Danner). Despite the occasional laugh never generates its predecessor's comic momen which is necessary to get the weaker gags ove snowball it all into a funny movie. Disappoin (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Million Dollar Baby ★½

Clint Eastwood's latest is an odd combinati fisticuffs-filled boxing movie, surrogate fa daughter tale, and tragedy. Those separate i dients are often unconvincing, so, not surpris the combination fails. Eastwood plays an boxing trainer, but his performance makes him more than a crabby old coot who'd be right at in a mediocre sitcom (ditto for the bick between him and the old buddy played by M Freeman). The coot gets hounded into train stubborn female boxer (Hilary Swank, best th the movie) who, under his tutelage, shoots u women's boxing rankings. Swank also emotio replaces the estranged daughter who send trainer's letters back "return to sender," whi replaces the boxer's late father. There's little su in the father-daughter tale, or anywhere else i film either. Paul Haggis' weak screenplay often things both ways—like how it has the boxer k out most opponents in the first round, yet con ways for her to supposedly be the underdog. It some of that contrivance to shift the movie tragedy after an in-ring injury. Where's *Fat City* you need it? (At Boston Common, Fenway suburbs.)

Ong-Bak: The Thai Warrior ★★★

Forget about those recent action movies for p who don't like action movies. *Hero* and *Ho Flying Daggers* looked like overprimped pe commercials half the time, but now th something better out there. This first movie Thailand to ever get within five miles of a multiplex, *Ong-Bak* has no need to tart itself has grit, heart and a Jackie Chan–influenced dy named Tony Jaa. The premise—good-hearted

ls to the big city and faces off against snarling
ins—is old-hat, but Jaa and director Prachya
aew give the move a headlong sincerity that
ates it. Speaking of elevation, Jaa's moves are
ing—much jaw-dropping ensues. (At Boston
mon and suburbs.)

ing Bull ★★★★

for a 25th-anniversary rerelease, this is the bru-
lyrical biopic to end all biopics, thanks to direc-
Martin Scorsese and writer Paul Schrader's re-
to gussy up boxer Jake LaMotta from the cruel,
nating bastard he is into the usual "heroic"
e subject, Robert De Niro's committed perfor-
ce and Michael Chapman's evocative black-
white cinematography. It doesn't get better
this. (At the Brattle Theatre.)

eways ★★★

ander Payne's *Sideways* does for the approach of
le age what his *About Schmidt* did for the onset
d age: uses it as a springboard for bittersweet
dy and a road trip. At first, this makes the latest
the director of *Citizen Ruth* and *Election* a let-
n. But Payne and writing partner Jim Taylor's
on male bonding make this story of two 40-ish
ies' trip to California wine country painfully
y. It's hard to say where the characters leave off
he actors begin in the hilarious little moments
hich the pair goes to wineries to sample the lat-
ntages. Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*), who
l be amusing reading a shopping list, gives a col-
tilt to wine connoisseur Miles' picky assess-
s of his tastings; in Giamatti's hands, sometimes
s is being intentionally funny, sometimes not.
nwhile, Thomas Haden Church's Jack has an
aring dumb-jock quality, and his response to
s' "knowledgeable" wine talk is usually "tastes
y good to me." Each man's approach to wine
rs his approach to life and to the women they
, of course, with Jack blindly leaping in and
s endlessly analyzing. (At Boston Common,
idge Corner, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

ery Long Engagement ★★★

Hollywood unwilling or unable to provide
ort of handsome epic we've come to expect at
ime of the year (aside from *The Aviator*), this
r French WWI drama picks up the slack. Au-
Tautou reteams with *Amelie* director Jean-
e Jeunet and plays a young French woman
hing for the soldier fiancé (Gaspard Ulliel)
as told died in battle. Full of flashbacks to
teful day in which the fiancé may have died,
novie veers from serendipitous comedy to
drama and zips along quickly. It features Je-
s typical visual flourishes, though his habit of
ting visual action that literally illustrates
cters' anecdotes can be annoying. (At Har-
Square.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

American Jewish Community Film Series

•March 13, 2 pm. **Movie Mavens, Jews, and the Birth of Hollywood: Hollywoodism** *1997*. Simcha Jacobivici's documentary illustrates the influence of the Jewish community in early Hollywood.

•March 20, 2 pm. **The Sephardic Experience: Island of Roses—The Jews of Rhodes in Los Angeles** *1995*. Immigrants from the Mediterranean island of Rhodes settled in Los Angeles during WWII, creating their own unique Jewish community. Gregori Viens directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Brattle Features

•March 9 and 10. **The Nomi Song** *2004*. Andrew Horn's documentary follows the career of avant-garde new wave musician Klaus Nomi, who died of AIDS in 1983.

•March 11-17, 4:15, 7 and 9:40 pm. Additional 1:45 pm screenings March 11 and 12. **Raging Bull** *1980*. See New Releases for a description.

•March 18 and 19, 5:15, 7:30 and 10 pm. Additional 2 pm screening March 19. **Wilby Wonderful** *2004*. Daniel MacIvor's comedy follows a day in the life of a small town going through big changes. Daniel MacIvor directs.

•March 21 and 22, 3, 5, 7 and 9 pm. **Sunset Story** *2004*. Laura Gabbert's documentary is about life at Sunset Hall, a retirement home for aging social activists.

Special Events

•March 10, 9:30 pm. **Change the Subject** *2004*. Shot on 16mm film and digital video, John Lynch's movie shows world-class surfers on the world's biggest waves.

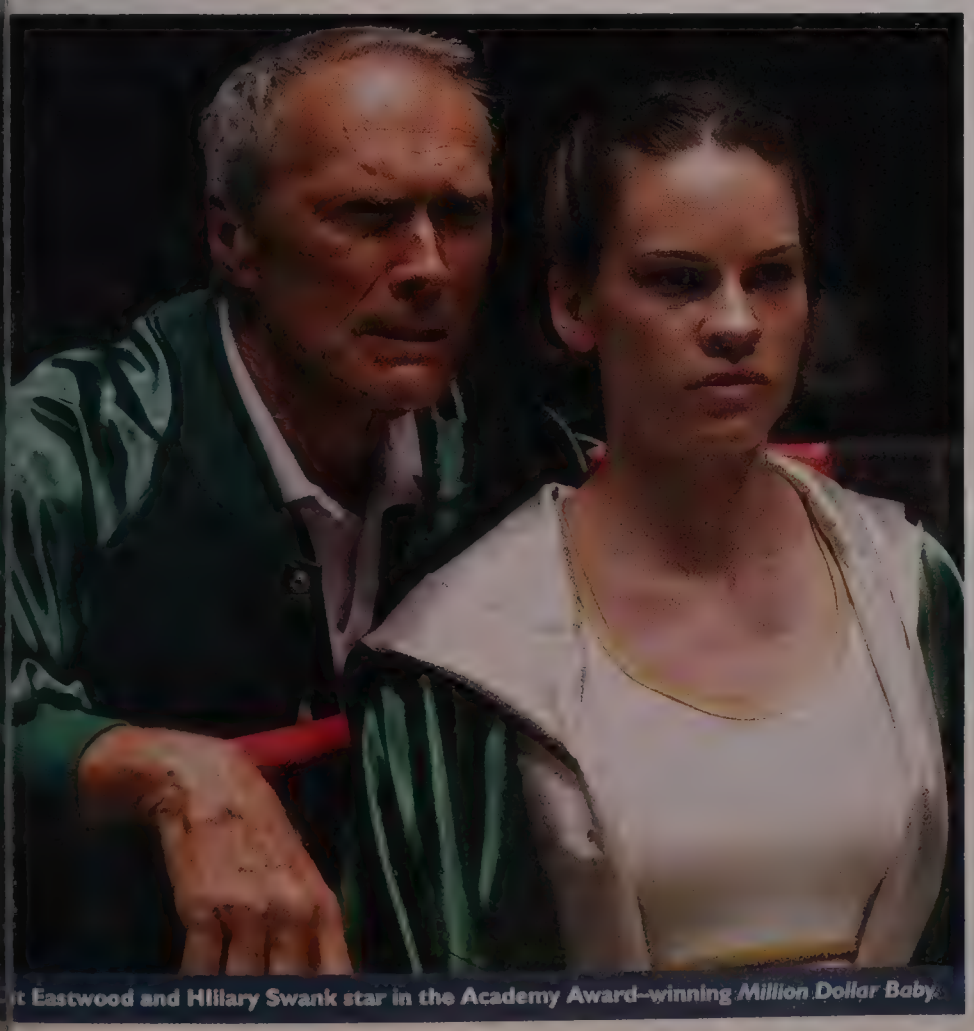
COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Boston Jewish Film Festival

•March 15, 7 pm. **Sof Ha'Olam Smola** *(Turn Left at the End of the World) 2004*. Two immigrant families, one Indian and one Moroccan, become neighbors in a village in the Israeli desert and a culture war ensues. Avi Nesher directs.

Box Office Babies

•March 21, 1 pm. The Coolidge's biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing re-



t Eastwood and Hilary Swank star in the Academy Award–winning *Million Dollar Baby*.

We are going to experience a very special day on March 17th, St. Patrick's Day at

The Kells

and we want you to be part of it. We will have Steven Ago catering his Asian menu plus also serving great corn beef and cabbage. We will have great Irish music for you all day. The O'Shea Chaplain Irish Step Dancers will entertain you at 5pm followed at 6pm by the Irish American Police Officers Celtic Pipe Band, finishing the night with Boston's best DJ's. If you miss this you do not celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

The Kells is Alive 7 nights a week with the craziest DJ's in Boston and also the craziest and Best Asian Chef Steven Ago. Lets drop the B.S., just come try us and you will really find out how crazy we really are. Festivities start at noon.

Sincerely,
From the crazy guy himself
Jerry Quinn

161 Brighton Ave., Allston
617-782-9082
www.thekells.com

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cent international, independent and documentary films. Titles are announced the week before the screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects

•Opens March 11. **Academy Award–Nominated Shorts: Live Action and Animation**. A series of short films screens. Selections include *Birthday Boy* by Sejong Park, *Ryan* by Chris Landreth, *Gopher Broke* by Jeff Fowler, *Two Cars, One Night* by Taika Waititi and Ainsley Gardiner, *7:35 in the Morning* by Nacho Vigalondo, *Wasp* by Andrea Arnold, and *Little Terrorist* by Ashvin Kumar.

•Opens March 11. **Gegen die Wand** *(Head On) 2004*. Two German Turks meet in the hospital after their separate suicide attempts, and an unconventional love-hate story begins. Fatih Akin directs.

Midnight Movies

•Fridays in March, 12 am. **Ong-Bak: The Thai Warrior** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.

•Saturdays in March, 12 am. **Wizard People: Dear Readers**. Comedian Brad Neely tells his own version of the *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* tale over the original film.

2005 Coolidge Award: Cinematographer Vittorio Storaro

•March 14, 7:30 pm **The Conformist** *1970*. In this film set during Mussollini's reign, a young man is assigned a terrible task. Bernardo Bertolucci directs.

•March 21, 7 pm **1900** *1976*. Bernardo Bertolucci's film spans the years 1900–1945 and chronicles the rise of fascism in Italy through the eyes of two men, one a peasant and the other a landowner.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Black and White on Screen

•March 14, 9 pm. **Native Son** *1951*. Pierre Chenal's adaptation of Richard Wright's classic novel follows Bigger Thomas,a poor young black man who accidentally kills the young woman he was hired to chauffeur.

•March 21, 9 pm. **Lost Boundaries** *1949*. A young doctor and his family pass for white in a New England town. Alfred L. Werker directs.

Fashion and Film

•March 15, 6:30 pm. **Vendredi Soir** *(Friday Night) 2002*. Before moving in with her lover, a woman heads out for one last dinner with her friends. On the way she gets caught in a traffic jam where she meets a stranger who changes her life. Claire Denis directs.

•March 22, 7 pm. **The Pillow Book** *1996*. Director Peter Greenaway transforms a 10th-century tale into a modern story about a fashion model-turned writer.

Film and Autobiography

•March 11, 7 pm. **La Lait de la Tendresse Humaine** *(The Milk of Human Kindness) 2001*. A new mother runs away from home and finds shelter with her neighbor upstairs. Director Dominique Cabrera presents her film in person.

•March 15, 8:15 pm. **Kim Gina-Eui Bidio Igli** *(Gina Kim's Video Diary) 2002*. Director Gina Kim's autobiographical film depicts her move from Korea to the U.S. and her struggles with bulimia and depression.

•March 19 and 20, 6 pm. **Yoman** *(Diary) 1983*. Israeli director David Perlov's documentary captures the everyday life of his family at the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War.

•March 22, 9:15 pm. **JLG/JLG** *1994*. French filmmaker Jean-Luc Godard is the subject of his own film.

Frames of Mind

•March 10, 7 pm. **Rear Window** *1954*. In Alfred Hitchcock's classic, an invalid photographer spies on his neighbors and becomes convinced one of them is a murderer.

•March 16, 7 pm. **L' Invitation au Voyage** *1927*. Germaine Dulac's film about a meeting between a bored young wife and a naval officer draws from the visual techniques of the French surrealist movement. • Immediately following. **Meshes of the Afternoon** *1943*. Maya Deren's first and best-known film is a psychodrama about a young woman and her anxious dreams. • Immediately following. **Get Your Man** *1927*. An American girl finds herself stranded overnight in a Parisian wax museum. Dorothy Arzner directs.

Philosophy and Film

•March 9, 9 pm. **Foolish Wives** *1921*. This black-and-white silent film by Erich von Stroheim explores the adulterous relationship between a smooth European and an American diplomat's wife.

•March 16, 9 pm. **Samma no Aji** *(An Autumn Afternoon) 1962*. A widower decides to marry off his only daughter, despite her protests, and then suffers from loneliness after she's gone. Yasujiro Ozu directs.

Visions from the South: Korean Cinema 1960–2005

•March 14, 7 pm. **Chilsu and Mansu** *1988*. Two young billboard painters who dream of leaving South Korea attract a crowd and the police. Kwang-su directs.

•March 21, 6:30 pm. **Songwhan** *(Repatria 2003*. Director Kim Dong-won's documentary the story of two North Koreans who were arr as spies and tortured in South Korean prisons their quest to return home.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

An Evening with Charles Atlas

•March 18, 8 pm. **Rainer Variations** *2002*. Ch Atlas turns the camera on filmmaker Yvonne R and three actors to create this genre-bending

• Immediatly following. **Teach** *1992*. This shor by Charles Atlas focuses on the life and influen performance artist Leigh Bowery. • Immed following. **SSS** *1989*. Performing artist M Abramovic and her work are the subject of A six-minute film.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

African Film Festival

•March 11, 6 pm. **La Fille de Keltoum** *(Daugh Keltoum) 2001*. A young woman travels to the c to find her birth mother. Mehdi Charef directs.

Algerian Cinema

•March 10, 3:30 pm; March 17, 10:30 am. **Rac** *2002*. After a group of youths demand that a y teacher place a bomb in her school, she moves small village with her mother. Yamina Ba Chouikh directs.

Argentinean Cinema

•March 12, 2:15 pm; March 17, 6 pm. **El Dela de Lili** *(Lili's Apron) 2004*. To make ends meet ing Argentina's economic crisis, a man dress his wife's old uniform and takes a job as a maid.

•March 17, 8pm; March 19, 1:45 pm. **H Mañana** *(Today and Tomorrow) 2003*. Aleja Chomksi's film chronicles one dramatic nigh the life of an aspiring actress. Mariano Galp directs.

Bosnian/Herzegovinan Cinema

•March 16, 8 pm. **Gori Vatra** *(Fuse) 2003*. In Zalica's black comedy set in a small Bosnian t on the Serbian border shortly after the Bos civil war, corrupt authorities are giving the pla makeover in preparation for a visit from U.S. p dent Bill Clinton.

Chinese Cinema

•March 19, 3:30 pm. **Zhifu** *(Uniform) 2003*. A y man impersonates a police officer and attracts th tention of a pretty shop girl who is also pretendi be something she's not. Diao Yinan directs.

Cinema Tropical

•March 10, 6 pm; March 12, 4 pm. **La Fiebre Loco** *(Loco Fever) 2001*. When the ban is lifte fishing the loco, a rare shellfish with aphrod powers, a small town in southern Chile beco the center of a frantic race to fish. André W directs.

Friends of Film Sneak Previews

•March 13, 7 pm. **The Upside of Anger** *2005*. MFA offers a sneak preview of Mike Binder's ne film, which stars Joan Allen and Kevin Costner.

•March 20, 7 pm. **Melinda and Melinda** *2* Woody Allen's film follows two alternating st about one woman's life.

Maurice Pialat Retrospective

•March 11, 8:15 pm. **A Nos Amours**. *1983* P directs and stars in his film about a beau teenager with a dysfunctional family and an i tiable appetite for sex.

•March 12, 10:30 am. **La Maison du Bois**. *House in the Woods) 1971*. A French gameke and his wife take in children abandoned du WWI. (Film is shown in two segments; the se part screens March 19.)

•March 13, 10:30 am; March 17, 3 pm. **Van G** *1991*. Shot on location in Auvers-sur-Oise, Pia film presents the last days of the artist's life.

•March 16, 6 pm. **Sous le Soleil de Satan** *(U Satan's Sun) 1987*. Pialat adapts Georges Berna novel about a priest's struggle with Satan.

•March 18, 8 pm. **Police** *1985*. A corrupt polic ficer's world begins to fall apart when he get volved with a woman who stole money and he from a druglord. Pialat directs.

•March 19, 10:30 am. **La Maison du Bois** *19* The second half of the film screens. (See Ma 12 for a description.)

Uruguayan Cinema

•March 10, 8 pm; March 13, 3:45 pm. **El Sigui** *(As Follows) 2004*. Federico Veiroj's short film the story of a boy's Bar Mitzvah. •Immediately lowing, **Whiskey** *2004*. Jacobo, the Jewish own a Montevideo sock factory, announces his brot return after a 20-year absence and asks the fact manager to pretend to be his wife. Juan Pablo bella and Pablo Stoll direct.

Cedric the Entertainer provides the laughs in *Man of the House*.

etnamese Cinema

arch 18, 6 pm; March 20, 3:45 pm. **Mua Len u** *(Buffalo Boy) 2004*. Minh Nguyen-Vo di- ts this coming of age story about a young boy's rney to higher ground with his family's water falos.

USEUM OF SCIENCE

ugar Omni Theater

hrough March 19. **Amazing Journeys**. Follow terflies, whales and zebras on their migrations. hrough March 19. **Mystery of the Nile.** Join ex- rers on the world's first ever attempt of a full de- nt of the Nile. hrough March 19. **Forces of Nature**. Experi- e the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and ms as scientists attempt to forecast and under- nd them.

W ENGLAND AQUARIUM

mons IMAX Theater

hrough June 5. **Galapagos**. Marine biologist Car- Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the apagos Islands' coral reefs. hrough June 5. **Into the Deep**. This film explores lp forest off the coast of Southern California and many inhabitants. hrough June 5. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. The eras go underwater to capture eagle rays, sharks, phins and other creatures up close. hrough June 5. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. e to the bottom of the sea with a team of scien- s, as they explore hydrothermal vents, ship- cked gardens, predators and bioluminescent atures.

UDIO CINEMA

lmont World Film

arch 14, 7:30 pm. **Travelers and Magicians** 3. Two men take divergent journeys in the King- n of Bhutan. Khyentse Norbu directs. arch 21, 7:30 pm. **Nothing** *2003*. A Cuban tal worker tampers with the contents of people's l to pass the time while she waits for her U.S. .Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at the Miami ernational Film Festival.

inema Venues

LMONT

udio Cinema

Trapelo Road *(617-484-1706)*.

STON

ston Public Library

Boylston St. *(617-536-5400)*.
TA: *Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to k Bay.*

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

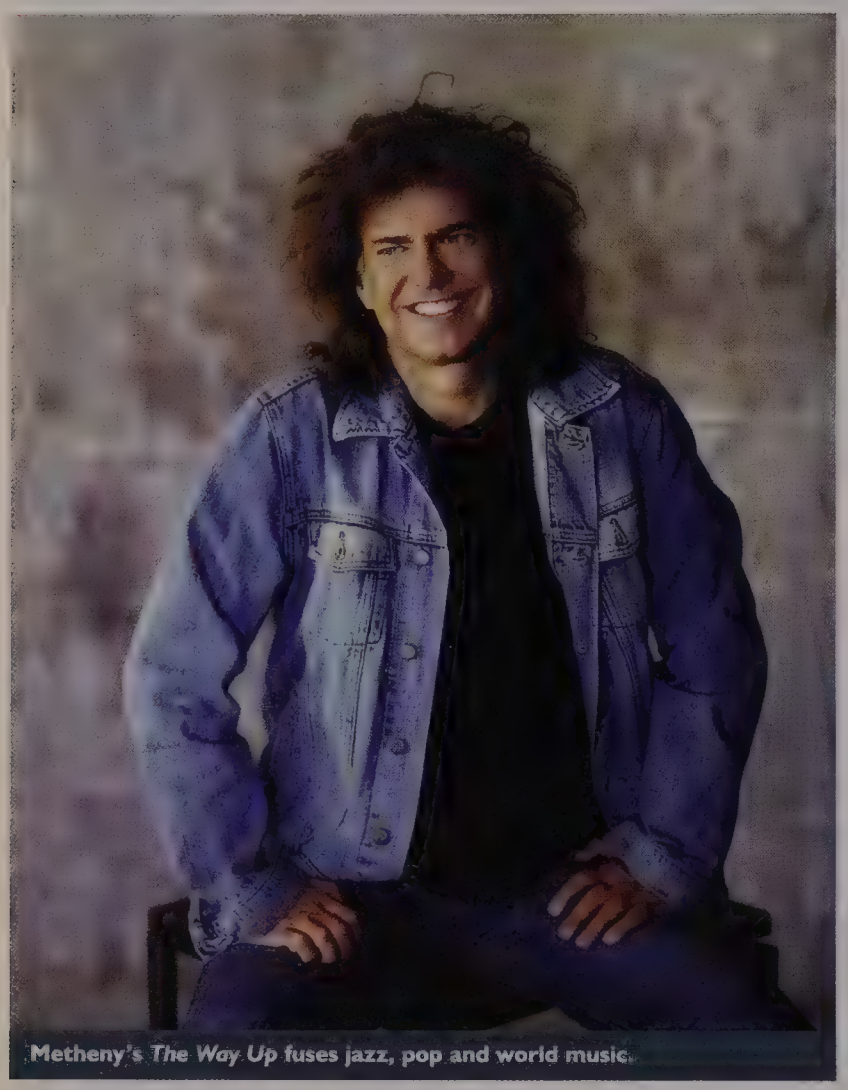
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

Way up There

Pat Metheny tackles the most ambitious work of his career.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Pat Metheny could settle back and be comfortable. After 30 years as a recording artist, the guitarist-composer has racked up 16 Grammy Awards in nine categories. He has scored films, recorded with jazz icons from Ornette Coleman to Jim Hall, and been instrumental in furthering the development of the guitar, from synthesizer models to the 42-string Pikasso acoustic.



Metheny's *The Way Up* fuses jazz, pop and world music.

Now 50, Metheny is also married with two kids, a long way from his days as a nomad workaholic whose idea of home was an answering machine in a friend's Cambridge basement.

But when the Pat Metheny Group plays the Orpheum March 26, the guitarist will be performing the most demanding composition of his career, one that forms the entirety of his new CD, *The Way Up*.

"I've never practiced so hard in my entire life as getting ready for this tour," says Metheny, in a brief stop at his Manhattan home. "It's like 68 minutes of the most complex harmonic stuff I've ever had to address as an improviser, and basically there's no repeat sign in the entire piece.

"It's like learning a John Coltrane tune times two hundred, because it's that level of harmonic activity, but it keeps going and going and going," Metheny says. "If you only listen to it once or twice, there's absolutely no way you're going to get it. It's just too much."

But casual fans shouldn't be daunted. *The Way Up* is complex yet exceedingly accessible, even on first listen. It's a sophisticated fusion of jazz, pop and world music, weaving familiar elements from past Metheny Group efforts while avoiding stark extremes for a lushly dynamic ride.

"We probably curse ourselves in a way by insisting that we get things to the point they sound easy," the Missouri-born guitarist says. "To me, the thing to do is to offer lots of different windows into the music."

Metheny offers the music of Miles Davis for an example. "You can be a musician and devote four years of your college education writing pieces about any one of 20 details in the music that are worth close scrutiny," says Metheny, who at age 19 became the youngest person ever to teach at Berklee College of Music. "Or you can be a first-time jazz buyer and put on *Kind of Blue* and it just sort of changes the color of your wallpaper. It functions very successfully on every level. You could say the same thing about Stevie Wonder. Just the craft of what he does is infinitely interesting from a musician's standpoint, but most of his audience is just digging it. We do something sort of like that."

The "we" Metheny refers to is an impressive team. The co-composer of *The Way Up* is keyboardist Lyle Mays, on board since the Metheny Group's 1977 launch. "This is the deepest, most intensely collaborative thing we've ever done," Metheny says. The rest of the core group comprises 25-year accomplice Steve Rodby (electric and acoustic bass), 2002 recruits Antonio Sanchez (drums) and Cuong Vu (trumpet), and Gregoire Maret (harmonica), recently plucked from Cassandra Wilson's band.

"As Lyle and I were writing this piece, this line kept emerging that we didn't know what to do with," Metheny says. "As it turned out, it was perfect for harmonica." The latest addition is guitarist Nando Lauria, whom Metheny hired to help reproduce *The Way Up*'s many layers onstage.

"There's almost 20 minutes of written material before there's any real soloing," Metheny says. "At the same time, one thing I really like about this piece and record is the spotlight is constantly shifting from one person to the next. We work hard on all that stuff to get it right, and live, it's paying off. There's plenty of room for people to do their thing and also play ensemble and textural stuff."

Metheny also envisions the composition—which occupies less than half of the group's sweeping, near-three-hour concerts—as a protest against today's sound-byte world.

"Before Lyle and I wrote a note, we spent about three days talking about our place in this larger culture, and how the culture itself is diminishing into a zone that's far less appealing," Metheny says. "As the title implies, it's on the way up as opposed to more dumbing down."

After the group's world tour, the guitarist plans a trio record and tour with drummer Sanchez and bassist Christian McBride. And before the end of 2005, his new label Nonesuch will release a 20th anniversary edition of *Song X*, his 1986 summit with saxophonist Ornette Coleman, with 20 minutes of previously unheard bonus material. "That's incredible," he says, "and we may do gigs at the end of the year."

Indeed, Metheny still isn't someone to rest on his laurels and just baby-sit the kids. "The biggest challenge for me," he says, "is that I sleep much less than I used to." IB

The Pat Metheny Group
plays the Orpheum Theatre March 26.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete listing of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Gato Barbieri March 10-12, Regattabar (617-3 7757).
Beefy DC March 17, Johnny D's (617- 776-2004)
Black 47 March 13, Middle East Upstairs (617-9 2000).
Vanessa Carlton March 18, Berklee Performa Center (617-931-2000).
A Celebration of the Three Kings of Trumpet, t turing Jon Faddis March 20, Berklee Performa Center (617-620-5773).
Celtic Fiddle Festival March 16, Johnny D's (6 776-2004).
Dropkick Murphys March 16-20, Avalon (617-9 2000).
Steve Earle and the Dukes, Allison Moorer Ma 15, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Emergenza Festival March 10-20, Middle East U stairs (617-931-2000).
Marianne Faithfull March 11, Paradise Rock C (617-423-NEXT).
Hothouse Flowers, Flynn March 10, Paradise Ro Club (617-423-NEXT).
Interpol, Q and Not U March 9, Orpheum Thea (617-931-2000).
Manhattan Transfer March 12, Scullers Jazz C (617-562-4111).
Matchbook Romance, Motion City Soundtra From First to Last, the Matches March 12, A (617-931-2000).
Officer May, Bullets and Octane March 9, Gr Scott (617-566-9014).
Ozric Tentacles, Lotus March 17, Middle E Downstairs (617-931-2000).
Percy Hill March 18, Paradise Rock Club (617-4 NEXT).
Rock 'n' Run Benefit with Rubikon, New Blo Adam and Steve Not Adam and Eve, Adre krome March 10, Middle East Downstairs (617-9 2000).
The Samples March 20, Paradise Rock Club (6 423-NEXT).
David Sanborn March 9, Scullers Jazz Club (6 562-4111).
Jill Scott March 13, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-200
Strangefolk, Hi8us, the Brew March 18, Mid East Downstairs (617-931-2000).
Tower of Power March 16, Scullers Jazz Club (6 562-4111).
V. Butosov, U-Piter March 19, Middle East Dow stairs (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Abbey Lounge Max Heinegg, Dave Craft, Sup murray, 7 pm; Jason Liebman and the Uprising pm; the Dents, 9:50 pm; Scamper, 10:40 pm; Brett Rosenberg Problem, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Grooves.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Tara Greenblatt, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Officer May, Bullets and Octane, 9 p $4, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hennessy's The Mystics.
Johnny D's Eric Sommer, Bonnevill, 8:30 pm.
Lizard Lounge Sarah Kimball, 8 pm; Dennis Bre nan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Blackfield, Aviv Geffe Steven Wilson, 8 pm, $15, 18+. Upstairs: Shon Knife, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
Orpheum Theatre Interpol, Q and Not U, 7:30 p $25-$30.

's Les Georges Leningrad, Lady of Spain, Prokoll, SPF Alot, 7 pm, $5-$7.
ddy O's Chad LaMarsh.
ullers Jazz Club David Sanborn, 8 and 10 pm, 0.
gattabar Syncopation, 7:30 pm, $12.
les Jazz Club Zdenek Kansky Quartet, 9 pm, $10.
r na nÓg Resonance.
ad Laura Maclean, 7 pm. Bill McQuaid, 10 pm.
p of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place Pony Up, 9 pm; Pit Er Pat, 10 ; Menomena, 11 pm, $9.
uZu The Shills.
s Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm.

HURSDAY, MARCH 10

bey Lounge Black Cloud, 10 pm; Tough and vely, 11 pm; Turpentine, 12 am, $5-$7.
gard M.O. Joe.
e Attic Colorado Songwriters Circle, $10.
e Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
avo at the MFA Ron Poster.
eezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
e Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shan- n Aaron.
ntab Lounge Groove Authority, 21+.
ub Passim Siucra, 8 pm, $14.
ck's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 7:20 pm.
eat Scott Mahi Mahi, the Mules, Blanks, 9 pm, , 18+.
e Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
rper's Ferry Blue Floyd: A blues exploration into nk Floyd, $20, 21+.
ennessy's Me and Julio.
nny D's Fluttr Effect, 9 pm, $8.
nnedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
rkland Café Fireball XL5, 8 pm; 20 Foot Halo, 9 ; Soulacious, 10 pm; Border Coyote, 11 pm, $5.
ard Lounge Matt Maneri, 8 pm; Club D'Elf, Fully lebrated Orchestra, 9:30 pm, $10.
ddle East Downstairs: Rock 'n' Run Benefit: Ru- on, New Blood, Adam and Steve Not Adam and e, Adrenokrome, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Upstairs: nergenza Festival: Gutwrench, Soulfege, the attered Remaine, the Highway, Cash, Money edusa, the Underdogs, Chillblane, Amber Alert, 0 pm, $15, 18+.

Matchbook Romance comes to Axis on March 12 as part of the Epitaph Tour.

Mr. Dooley's Sean Cunningham.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's Self-Righteous Brothers, the Animal Closet, Baker, the Impulse, $6.
PA's The Hong Kong Regulars, Desolation Bells, Everything Now, Mission Control, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Paddy O's Swerve.
Paradise Hothouse Flowers, Flynn, 8 pm, $16, 18+.
Regattabar Gato Barbieri, 7:30 and 10 pm, $24.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad The Electrolux Combo, 7 pm; David Johnston, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Fashion Flesh, 11 pm; Large Number, 12 am, $9.
ZuZu Tom Thumb, E.R.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Abbey Lounge Dave Smith, 7 pm; Mark Lind 8 pm; the Sleazies, 9 pm; the 0700 Club, 10 pm; the Marvels, 11 pm; Spitzz, 12 am, $5-$7.
Anthem Marianne Solivan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Asgard The Ripchordz.
The Attic Gary Backstrom Project.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne. Upstairs: Bobby Folkes.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Merrie Amsterberg, 8 pm, $15.
DeVille Lounge Moonshine, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal Spike the Punch.
Great Scott The Soft, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
The Harp The Zone, 10 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Scooby Snax, 9 pm.
Johnny D's James Montgomery Band, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm; Spring Hill Rounders, 9 pm.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm; Cautions, 9:30 pm; Din, 10:30 pm; Buckners, 11:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Katie Terrio, 8 pm; Judy Blackwell, Vinyl Skyway, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Downstairs: The Breakfast, Dr. Professor and Lynch, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Upstairs: Emergenza Festival: the Breathing Process, Obscurus, Bettersweet, Fleshpetal, Daylight, the Murder Elite, the Afterhour, Public, 8:30 pm, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Johnny and the Shenanigans, 5-7 pm; Inchicore, 9 pm.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's Ugly Fucklings, Mysterious Odors, $6.
Paddy O's Frank Reagan, 5-8 pm; Dick 'n' Jane, 9 pm.
Paradise Marianne Faithfull, 8 pm, $30.50, 18+.
Parris Darik and the Fun Bags, 10 pm, $10.
PA's The Soupbone Throne, Uncle Shaker, Joe Sixpack, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Regattabar Gato Barbieri, 7:30 and 10 pm, $26.
Ryles Jazz Club John Novello, 7 pm, $12; Mark Elf Trio, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club La Timba Loca, 8 and 10:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Troy, Mattacks and Brown.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rebecca Nurse, 9:15 pm; the Wands, 10:15 pm; Moki, 11:15 pm; Baby Strange, 12 am, $8.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglila.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Abbey Lounge Pickups, 11pm, $5-$7.
Axis Epitaph Tour: Matchbook Romance, Motion City Soundtrack, From First to Last, the Matches, 6 pm, $15.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Bobby Folkes. Upstairs: Eugene Byrne.

Sauce bar • grill

Half way on the journey between tapas and entrees. . .

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Chef de Cuisine, **Luiz Costa,** formerly of Figs and Prezza.

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The Burren The Bagboys Bluegrass session, 5-7 pm; Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Alix Olson, 8 pm, $15.
DeVille Lounge Sugarboot, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal Pig Pen.
Great Scott Maritime, Codetta, Bella Lea, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Pi Alley.
The Harp Darik and the Funbags, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Sam Kininger Band, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Random Axis, 9 pm.
Hurricane O' Reilly's Ryan Bis.
Johnny D's Love Dogs, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kirkland Café Gary Rand, 8:30 pm; Walk Don't Run, 9:30 pm; Line of Girls, 10:30 pm; Ricky Rocksteady, 11:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Jeff Chase, 8 pm; Sand Machine, Medina Sod, Turtle Bone, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Downstairs: Atmosphere, Grayskull and P.O.S., 8 pm, $20, 18+. Upstairs: Emergenza Festival: Plan 17, Pi Theta Pi, Matt Chase Group, Push, Audrey Can't Die, Straight to Video, Piracy, Green Acres, 8:30 pm, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's 5ive, Septic Youth Command, Anodyne, Man the Conveyors, $6.
Paddy O's Christy O'Connell, 5-8 pm; Grumpy Jones, 9 pm.
Paradise John Butler Trio, $12, 18+.
Parris The Zone, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Number Six, 9 pm, $5, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park.
Somerville Theatre Lunasa, 8 pm, $21-$27.
Regattabar Gato Barbieri, 7:30 and 10 pm, $28.
Ryles Jazz Club Joe Barger and the Soul Providers, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club The Manhattan Transfer, 8 and 10:30 pm, $40.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewel Band, 5-8 pm; Los Diablos.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 8 pm; the Coots, 11 pm.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Ash, the Bravery April 15, Axis (617-931-2000).
Bowling for Soup, American Hi-Fi, Riddlin' Kids, MC Lars April 7, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Michelle Branch & Jessica Harp March 25, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Copeland, Acceptance, Lovedrug, As Tall as Lions April 2, Axis (617-931-2000).
Bob Dylan, Merle Haggard, Amos Lee April 15-17, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Lenny Kravitz, Nikka Costa April 24, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Ray Lamontagne, Missy Higgins April 1, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Maroon 5, the Donnas April 2, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).
Pat Metheny Group March 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Mission of Burma, the Count Me Outs April 29, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Perceptionists March 23, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Rusted Root March 30, Avalon (617-931-2000).
The Soundtrack of Our Lives March 23, Axis (617-931-2000).
Sting May 5, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).
Toots & the Maytals March 26, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Steve Vai, Eric Sardinas March 25, Avalon (617-931-2000).
The Wailers April 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Widespread Panic April 12, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).

Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Lovers, 9:10 pm; Brendan Little, 10 pm; Mosquitos, 11 pm; Bettie Serveert, 12 am, $12.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
Breezeway Rollins Ross Trio, 11 am.
The Burren Brunch with the Gannon Family; Americano Session, 7 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rachel Loshak, Richard Julian, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch, 11 am-3 pm; Hair Club for Mensa, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Brains in Danger, Universal Monster Series, Permanent Damage, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Tom Grolieu, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Mathew Dorko, Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Black 47, 7 pm, $15, 18+. Upstairs: Emergenza Festival: Satellite, Mocean 8, Left Hand Does, Session, Four Weeks from Friday, the 18th of May, Lifted, Alcott, 7:30 pm, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sesuin, 4-7 pm; Mike Barrett, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Superpower, Mongrel, Trash Light Vision, Karinations, $6.
Orpheum Theatre Jill Scott, 7:30 pm, $35-$55.
Paddy O's Stramarsh.
PA's The Taste of Siver, 6 pm; Shroud of Bereavement, 7 pm; Utopia Banished, 8 pm; Ascendency, 9 pm; Abhorred, 10 pm.
Regattabar Tomasz Stanko Quartet, 7:30 pm, $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Yoko Miwa, 10 am-3 pm.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn; Matt Glover.
Toad The Paul Ahlstrand Band, 7 pm. Ses: Americana featuring Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting, Kimon Kirk, Fly Beard, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; M Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Broken River Prophet, 9 Charlene, 10 pm; Hood, 11 pm, $8.
ZuZu The Alrighters.

MONDAY, MARCH 14

The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Coste Tommy Peoples.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8 pm,
Club Passim Dave Palmater, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Sara Sweet and Little Joe's Karad 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Five Central, Roxi Monoxide, man, Fall of Transition, Easton Legacy, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Regattabar Francisco Mela Latin Quartet, 7:30 $10.
Tír na nÓg Hayride; Jimmy Ryan.
Toad Anita Suhanin, 7 pm. Tim Gearan Band, 10
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cov
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bleedin Bleedins, 9 Bowman, 9:50 pm; Ike Reilly Assassination, 1 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 9 pm.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

The Black Rose Frank Ryan.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, M Glover.
Cantab Lounge Open mike with Dan Cloutie pm, $5; Traditional American Bluegrass, 8 pm,
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Grand Canal Maggie Rose Quartet.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Johnny D's The Cottars, 8:30 pm, $10.
Lizard Lounge Kat Parsons, 8 pm; Boston Und cover featuring Pamela Means, 9:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The Medicine Line, Selfor Colin Steel and the Sports, Dialogue for Three pm, $8, 18+.

Dooley's Scott Damgaard.
Bar Rebecca Cline, 8 pm.
rien's Superchrist, Kevorkian's Angels, Candy
er Death Orgy, Hirudinea, $6.
dy O's Brian Park.
adise Steve Earle and the Dukes with Allison
rer, 7 pm, $25, 18+.
s Early Day Miners, Barn Burning, Tigersaw, 9
$5-$7.
attabar Avishai Cohen Trio, 7:30 pm, $14.
s Jazz Club Steve Smith, Buddy's Buddies, 8:30
$25.
llers Jazz Club Tower of Power, 8 and 10 pm,

na nÓg David Johnston Band.
d The Family Jewels, 8:30 pm; Asa Brebner resi-
y, 10 pm.
of the Hub The John Hazilla Group, 8:30 pm,
over.
the Bear's Place Aderbat, 9:50 pm, $6.
u Electrasocial featuring San Serac.
Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm.

EDNESDAY, MARCH 16

ey Lounge Brett Rosenberg, 7 pm; Spiraling, 9
Scamper, 10 pm, Nonfamous, 11 pm, $5-$7.
ard Katie McD.
lon Dropkick Murphys, H2O, Blood or Whiskey,
n, $20.
Black Rose Frank Ryan.
vo at the MFA Ron Poster.
ezeway Rollins Ross Trio, 7:30 pm.
Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce.
tab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
e's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm.
at Scott The Bones, 9 pm, $4, 18+.
Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
per's Ferry Indie rock karaoke, $5, 21+.
ny D's Celtic Fiddle Festival with Kevin Burke,
istian Lemaitre, Andre Brunet, 8:30 pm, $16.
rd Lounge Jennifer Kimball with Duke Levine,
in Barr, Billy Beard, 8 pm; Dennis Brennan
d, 9:30 pm.
dle East Downstairs: House of Rastaferi presents
rie and Ikahba, 8 pm, $25, 18+. Upstairs: Emer-
a Festival: Outthunk, Scram, Debris, Save Au-
, Imbalance, Mission Control, .12 Gauge Affin-
ockbox, 7:30 pm, $15, 18+.
Dooley's The Mystics.
Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
rien's Ratchaburi, Milo's Syndicate, Truth End-
Cycle, Nightstalker, $6.
dy O's Chad LaMarsh
is The Joshua Tree, 8 pm.
llers Jazz Club Tower of Power, 8 and 10 pm,

attabar Ahmad Jamal, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
s Jazz Club Deborah Rocha and Entre Amigos,
, $10.
na nÓg Resonance.
Mark Brine, 7 pm. Starhick, 10 pm.
of the Hub The John Hazilla Group, 8:30 pm,
over.
the Bear's Place The Midnight Collective, 9
Chesterwhite, 9:50 pm; Shipyard Wreck, 10:40
$6.
u Steven Brodsky.
Zygomates Sofia Koutsovitis, 8 pm.

URSDAY, MARCH 17

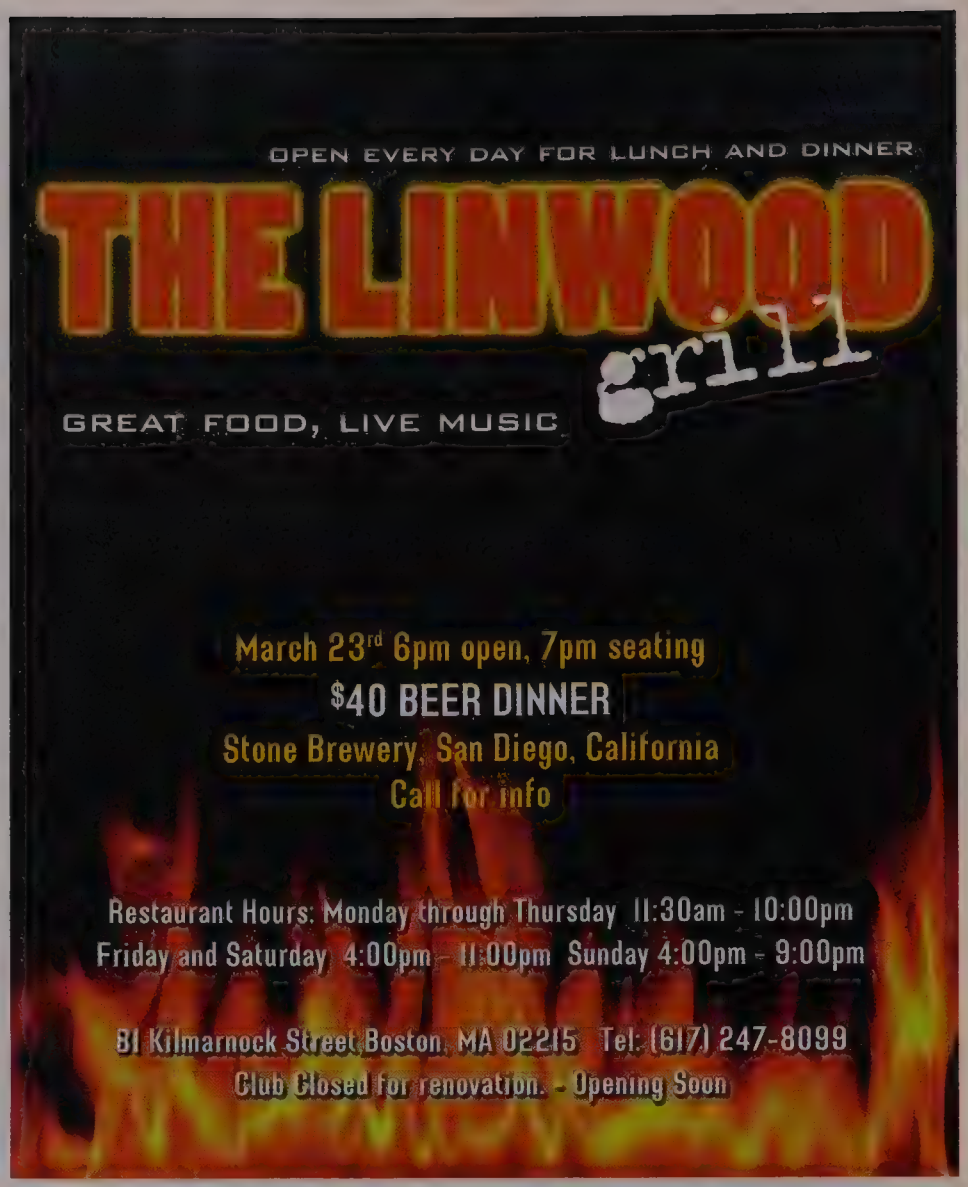
ey Lounge Irish Fiddling, 7 pm; Juliet Dagger, 9
Frank Morey Band, 10 pm; Pogues Tribute
d, 11 pm, $5-$7.
ard Oneside.
Attic Another Planet.
lon Dropkick Murphys, Jerrys Kids, the Bones, 6
$20.
Black Rose Frank Ryan.
vo at the MFA Ron Poster.
ezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shan-
Aaron.
tab Lounge Groove Authority, 21+.
Passim KlezmerShack, 8 pm, $15.
e's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7 pm.
Grand Canal Alan Loughnane.
at Scott Dysrhythmia, Conifer, Rosetta, Con-
ed Withour a Finding, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Harp Paddy's Pig, 4-8 pm; the Interns, 9 pm.
nessy's Me and Julio.
ny D's Beefy DC, 9 pm, $8.
nedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
rd Lounge Kabir, Audible Mainframe, 9 pm.
dle East Downstairs: Ozric Tentacles, Lotus, 8
$22, 18+. Upstairs: Three Day Threshold, the
shites, the Pug Uglies, Lenny and the Piss Poor
, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's Metal/punk karaoke with live band, $6.
Paddy O's Stramarsh, 12-2 am.
PA's Nica and Easy, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Parris Cherry Orchard, 4-8 pm; Flavor, 9 pm.
Regattabar Ahmad Jamal, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Scullers Jazz Club Tower of Power, 8 and 10 pm, $35.
Somerville Theatre Brian O'Donovan, 8 pm, $24-$44.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn, 10 pm.
Toad Kevin Griffin, 7 pm. The Radio Kings, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub The John Hazilla Group, 8:30 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Eli Paperboy Reed.
Les Zygomates Gabriel Guerrero Trio, 8 pm.

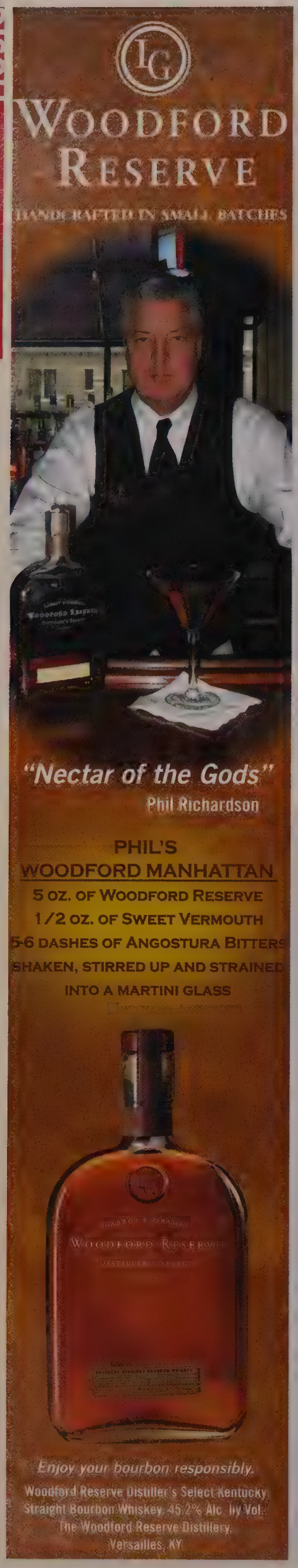
FRIDAY, MARCH 18

Abbey Lounge Gladiola, 10 pm; Kodachrome, 11 pm; Jet Plastic, 12 am, $5-$7.
Anthem Marianne Solivan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Asgard Tom Groleau.
Avalon Dropkick Murphys, the Blue Bloods, the Skells, 6 pm, $20.
Berklee Performance Center Vanessa Carlton, 7:30 pm, $17-$20.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Frank Ryan. Upstairs: Sean Cunningham.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Mark Erelli and Julie Lee, 8 pm, $14.
DeVille Lounge Unity, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Mutha's Mistake, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal Chad LaMarsh.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis.
The Harp The Zoo.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Incadence, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm; Spring Hill Rounders, 9 pm.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm; Zeb, 9:30 pm; the Hansen Sisters, Jenny Seem, 10:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Sylvie Lewis, 8 pm; Count Zero, 11J, Specimen 37, 9 pm, $7.
Middle East Downstairs: Strangefolk, Hi8us, the Brew, 8 pm, $22, 18+. Upstairs: Emergenza Festival: Lucretia's Daggers, N.O.I, Remains of Troy, Daisy-cutter, the Ginsko Method, Life's Burning, Sundown Seventy, 80 Proof, 8:30 pm, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Johnny and the Shenanigans, 5-7 pm; Patsy and Tony, 9 pm.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's We're All Gonna Die, Humanoids, Invisible, Chris Evil, the Taints, $6.
Paddy O's Christy O'Connell, 5-8 pm; Mark Morris and the Catunes, 9 pm.
Paradise Percy Hill, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris The Interns.
PA's Kweegeebo, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Regattabar Ahmad Jamal, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Chick Corea Tribute Band, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Tower of Power, 8 and 10:30 pm, $38.
Somerville Theatre Orchestra Baobab, 8 pm, $26-$34.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Fancy Trash.
Top of the Hub The John Hazilla Group, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Clandestino, 9 pm, $10.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Abbey Lounge Stumbleweeds, 11 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Six Day Slide.
The Attic Graham Neil Band.
Avalon Dropkick Murphys, Anti-Heroes, Confront, 1 and 6 pm, $20.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Frank Ryan. Upstairs: Sean Cunningham.
The Burren The Bagboys Bluegrass session, 5-7 pm; Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Teddy Goldstein, 8 pm, $14.
DeVille Lounge Blacksnake, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Nerve, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal Dick 'n' Jane.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
The Harp The Zoo.
Harper's Ferry Backseat Lover: Pearl Jam Tribute, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Swerve, 9 pm.





Vanessa Carlton performs at the Berklee Performance Center March 18.

Hurricane O'Reilly's Ryan Bis.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10.
Kirkland Café 5 kinds of Ugly, 8:30 pm; Billy Blind and the Spectacles, 9:45 pm; Blue Train, 11 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Katie Terrio, 8 pm; the Gulf, Angelic Bombs, the Less Lonesome, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Downstairs: Russian Boston Rock Club presents V. Butusov, U-Piter, 8 pm, $40, 18+. Upstairs: Emergenza Festival: Moxie, Octalien, VMF, Spawning Echoes, Frequency 7, Heretic's Fork, Papermoon, Look West, 8:30 pm, $15, 18+.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
O'Brien's Joint Custody, Madding Crowd, Tracksuit, $6.
Paddy O's Spike the Punch.
Paradise Ryan Montbleau, Band with the Bridge, Peter Prince, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Parris The Interns.
PA's Know Movement Showcase featuring the Pilot Light, Scuba, Saturday Saints, Ara Vora, International Penpal and others, 9 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock American Made.
Regattabar Ahmad Jamal, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Eguie Castrillo Group, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club G Clefs, 8 and 10:30 pm, $25.
Somerville Theatre Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill, 8 pm, $24.50.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5-8 pm; Dave Johnston, 9 pm.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm; Fancy Trash, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub The John Hazilla Group, 9 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates April Hall Quartet, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Avalon Dropkick Murphys, the Casualties, Brain Failure, 6 pm, $20.
Berklee Performance Center A Celebration of the Three Kings of Trumpet, featuring Jon Faddis, 4:30 pm, $20.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
Breezeway Michael Shea Trio, 11 am.
The Burren Brunch with the Gannon Family; Americano Session, 7 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Adrienne Young and Little Sadie, 7 and 10 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel Brunch, 11 am-3 pm; John Erikson, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Tom Grolieu, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Middle East The Spirit of Guthrie Tour, Theresa Anderson, 7 pm, $15, 18+. Upstairs: Emergenza Festival: A Sudden Silence, Dreamline, Ript, Mellophonic, Chaos Junkies, Two Finger Split, Dan Russo, Melodram, 7:30 pm, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sesuin, 4-7 pm; Mike Barrett, 9 pm.
O'Brien's The Unholy Mothers, Level Ride, $6.
Paddy O's Kevin Byrne.
Paradise The Samples, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Steve Rochinski, 10 am-3 pm; Ball in the House, 7 pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Tom Brosseau, 7 pm. Session Americana featuring: Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting, Kimom Kirk, Billy Beard, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, MARCH 21

The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costello, Tommy Peoples.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8 pm, $3.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Sweet Sarah and Little Joe's Karaoke, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Missionshifter, Boxingwater, Stolen Bike, Crusdae, Never Only Once, Shindig, 8 pm, $9, 18+.
Tír na nÓg Christian McNeil & Friends.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7 pm. Tim Gearan Band.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Stairs, 9 pm; the Minus Story, 10 pm, $7.
ZuZu Adelaide and Seekonk.
Les Zygomates Steven Spungin, 9 pm.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

Abbey Lounge Zanzo, 8 pm; Emerals, 9 pm; P pypet, 10 pm; Titan Go Kings, 10:45 pm; TsuS MaMire, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Sean Cunningham.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, M Glover.
Cantab Lounge Traditional American Bluegras pm, $5.
Club Passim Open mike with Jena Nicholls, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Grand Canal Maggie Rose Quartet.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Leah Weiss, 8:30 pm.
Lizard Lounge Cara Ryder, 8 pm.
Middle East Pinnochio Syndrome, Blanket Those Who Wait, Freefall, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 8 pm.
O'Brien's Geoffro, Crumb Sullivans, $6.
Paddy O's Brian Park.
Ryles Jazz Club Koran Hasanagic, 7:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Marcele and the Brazilian Bea and 10 pm, $15.
Somerville Theatre Jimmy Cliff, 8 pm, $30-$35.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad Angelin, Emily Grogan, Linda Viens, 8:30 p the Residency featuring Asa Brebner, 10:30 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cov
T.T. the Bear's Place Laurel Brauns, 9 pm; Sun 9:50 pm; Shaimus 10:40 pm, $5.
ZuZu Frank Morey.
Les Zygomates Scott Ryckman, 8 pm.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
Agganis Arena *925 Comm. Ave. (617-358-7000). MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul Street.*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-49 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684) MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617 422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Lin to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenu*
DeVille Lounge *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudentia*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617 624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hil Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*

Enjoy your bourbon responsibly.

Woodford Reserve Distiller's Select Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey. 45.2% Alc. by Vol., The Woodford Reserve Distillery, Versailles, KY.

Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

MIT

Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-9800). www.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm. Free. Advanced graduate student Amanda Wang performs on the violin.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. A double-header concert features songs by Randy Newman plus the NEC Jewish Music Ensemble's 25th anniversary celebration.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Harpist Franziska Huhn performs works by Bach, Roussel, Tournier and Grandjany.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

The Artist Diploma Series

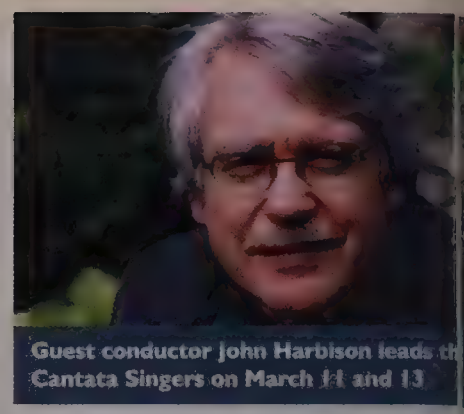
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15-1 pm. Free. Cellist Min-ji Kim performs.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. James Levine leads the BSO in Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman.*

Cantata Singers

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$48. The singers per-



Guest conductor John Harbison leads th Cantata Singers on March 11 and 13

form Bach's *St. John Passion* with guest condu John Harbison.

Community Music Center of Bosto

Allen Hall, 34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Lin Back Bay. 7 pm. Free. This concert feat Dale Henderson (cello) and Stephen Ye (piano) performing Beethoven cello son and variations.

Longy School of Music

Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Camb (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. ME Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The Longy Ch ber Orchestra performs Schumann's Symphony 1, *Spring*, plus a student composition.

MIT

Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (c 253-9800). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Line to Kendall. •5 pm. Free: A student recital tures vocalist Caitlin Smythe. *•8 pm. $5:* Dire Dante Anzolini leads the MIT Symphony chestra in works by Mozart and Brahms and world premiere of Marco Betta's *Lacrime.*

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Brandeis University

Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Walt (617-269-7171). www.brandeis.edu. 8 pm. F New Music Brandeis: Notes for the New Cen is a program of new music by the school's gr ate composers.

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del and Haydn Society
rs Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Boston (617-266-
. www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Red Line
rvard. 9 pm. $30-$60. Laureate Christopher
ood conducts his new arrangement of
n's Seven Last Words.

rwood Symphony Orchestra
n Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston. (508-
928). www.longwoodsymphony.org. MBTA:
een Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$25.
han McPhee leads the orchestra in works
Panufnik, Beethoven, Sibelius and
ofiev. Proceeds benefit the Joslin Diabetes
er.

gy School of Music
rd Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge
876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA:
ine to Harvard. •5 pm. Free. Rohan Gregory
icts the Junior Young Performers Orchestra.
n. Free. Mezzo-soprano Sara Bielanksi per-
world premieres by composers Heather
an and Vartan Aghababian.

ropolitan Wind Symphony
on Center for the Arts, Babson College, Welles-
7-983-1370). www.mws-boston. org. MBTA:
D Line to Woodland. The symphony performs
nual winter concert, featuring saxophonist
adnofsky.

Wind Ensemble
e Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-
800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. $5.
ensemble presents the world premiere of
Ziporyn's The Ornate Zither and the Nomad
along with Ives' Fugue in C and Peter Men-
Canzona.

NDAY, MARCH 13

on Symphony Orchestra
ony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-
. www.bso. org. MBTA: E Green Line to
ony. 3 pm. $27-$95. Same program as
h 11.

cata Singers
Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-
. www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: Green E
Symphony. 3 pm. $15-$48. Same program as
h 11.

del and Haydn Society
rs Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Boston (617-266-
. www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Red Line
rvard. 9 pm. $30-$60. Same program as
h 12.

gy School of Music
rd Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge
876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA:
ine to Harvard. •12:30 pm. Free. The piano
tment presents a recital featuring Lyubov
h. •3 pm. Soprano Anya Volvovsky performs
ndergraduate diploma recital. •7 pm. The
Chamber Singers perform selections by
hs and Britten.

Masterworks Chorale
rs Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Boston (781-235-
. www.masterworkschorale.org. MBTA: Red
to Harvard. 3 pm. $18-$39. Conductor
n Karidoyanes leads the chorale in a perfor-
e of Handel's The Coronation Anthems and
lé's Requiem, Op. 9.

England Conservatory
Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-
. www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA:
E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC's
nd his World Festival begins with a perfor-
e of chamber music by Charles Ives.

erto Plano
Alighieri Italian Cultural Center, 41 Hampshite
Cambridge (617-876-5160). www.dante
ri.net/cambridge. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 3
10-$15. Pianist Plano performs a classical
.

Suzuki School of Newton
y Church, 11 Homer St., Newton Centre,
964-4522). www.suzukinewton.org. 4 pm.
35. This concert series showcases local
artists and benefits the James Memorial
arship Fund.

NDAY, MARCH 14

gy School of Music
rd Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge
876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu.
A: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Faculty
t Mark Goodman performs works by Liszt,
n and Smetana.

England Conservatory
n Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-
270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu.
A: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free.
ves and His World Festival continues as the

NEC choruses and orchestras perform hymns and other traditional American music that inspired the composer, plus selections of Ives' original works.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $27-$95. Same program as March 11.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm, $3. Trumpeter Kaspar Knudsen and organist Heinrich Christensen perform works by Bach, Eben and Eliason.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony 8 pm. Free. The Ives and His World Festival continues as NEC student vocalists sing from Ives' *114 Songs*. The NEC wind ensemble also performs.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Michael Bonner, cello and Andrew Goodman, piano, perform Brahms and Fauré.

MIT
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-9800). www.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm. Free. Violinist Sherman Jia performs.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony 8 pm. Free. The Ives and His World Festival continues as Devid Lobel conducts the NEC Festival Orchestra and choruses.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. James Levine leads the BSO in a performance of works by Ives, Varese and Gershwin.

Community Music Center of Boston Faculty Recital
Allen Hall, 34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-482-7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. Free. Pianist Stephen Yenger and flutist Fernando Brandao perform.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Continuing Studies musicians present a student recital.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, 1 South Market St., Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. 8 pm. $25-$49. The Virtuoso Chamber Orchestra, featuring Juliette Kang, performs works by Haydn, Mozart and Tartini.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $29-$105. Same program as March 17.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10. Pianist Levon Hovsepian performs works by Beethoven, Chopin and Liszt.

MIT
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-9800). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm. Free. Graduate student/flutist Ole Nielson performs.

Old South Meeting House: The Artist Diploma Series
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. 12:15-1 pm. Free. Violinist Susie Park performs.

The Vox Consort
The St. Mary of the Annunciation Church, 24 Conant St., Danvers (617-281-8569). www.voxconsort.org. 7:30 pm. $20-$40. The consort performs Bach's *St. John Passion, BWV 245* in collaboration with dancers from Lorraine Chapman: The Company.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Boston Early Music Festival Concerts
First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-424-7232). www.bemf.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $23-$59. The ensemble Tragicomedia presents Roman Three Ladies, a program featuring works by Rossi, Carissimi and Mazzochi.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as March 17.

Boston University Women's, Chamber, and Concert Choirs and BU Chamber Orchestra
CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. Conductors Ann Howard Jones, Michael McGaghie and James Wilson direct various College of Fine Arts music groups in works by Mozart, Machaut, Landini and others.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $20; $15 students and seniors. Soprano Karol Bennett performs works by Brahms, Wolf, Debussy and Duparc.

Lydian String Quartet Concert
Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/arts. 8 pm. $10-$20. The quartet performs works by Mozart, Martino and Beethoven.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, 1 South Market St., Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. 8 pm. $25-$49. Same program as March 18.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 and 4 pm. $5. The Introduction to Orchestra concert highlights several instruments and showcases the talents of the Young Performers Chamber Orchestra. • *7 pm. Free.* Pianist Shizue Sano performs works by Chopin, Rachmaninoff and Schumann.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 3 pm. Free. Cellist Susanne Friedrich performs.

The Vox Consort
Church of the Immaculate Conception, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-281-8569). www.voxconsort.org. 7 pm. $20-$40. The consort performs Bach's *St. John Passion, BWV 245* featuring Jason McStoots, Matthew Hoch and Gabriel Alfieri.

MONDAY, MARCH 21

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500) www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Mezzo-soprano Carola Emrich-Fisher performs a concert titled Of Longing and Forgetting.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as March 17.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm, $3. Daniel Tappe plays the C.B. Fisk Organ.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 and 4 pm. $5. Jeremy Van Buskirk of Longy's composition department leads his class in a recital titled Wired for Sound.

Organ Recital Series
The First Church of Christ, Scientist, 175 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-450-3082). www.tfccs.com. 12 pm. Free. Works by Bach, Schumann, Mendelssohn and others are performed on the church's 13,000 pipe organ.

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAY

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Monday DJ spins top-40, plus open mike and interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Monday Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAY

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

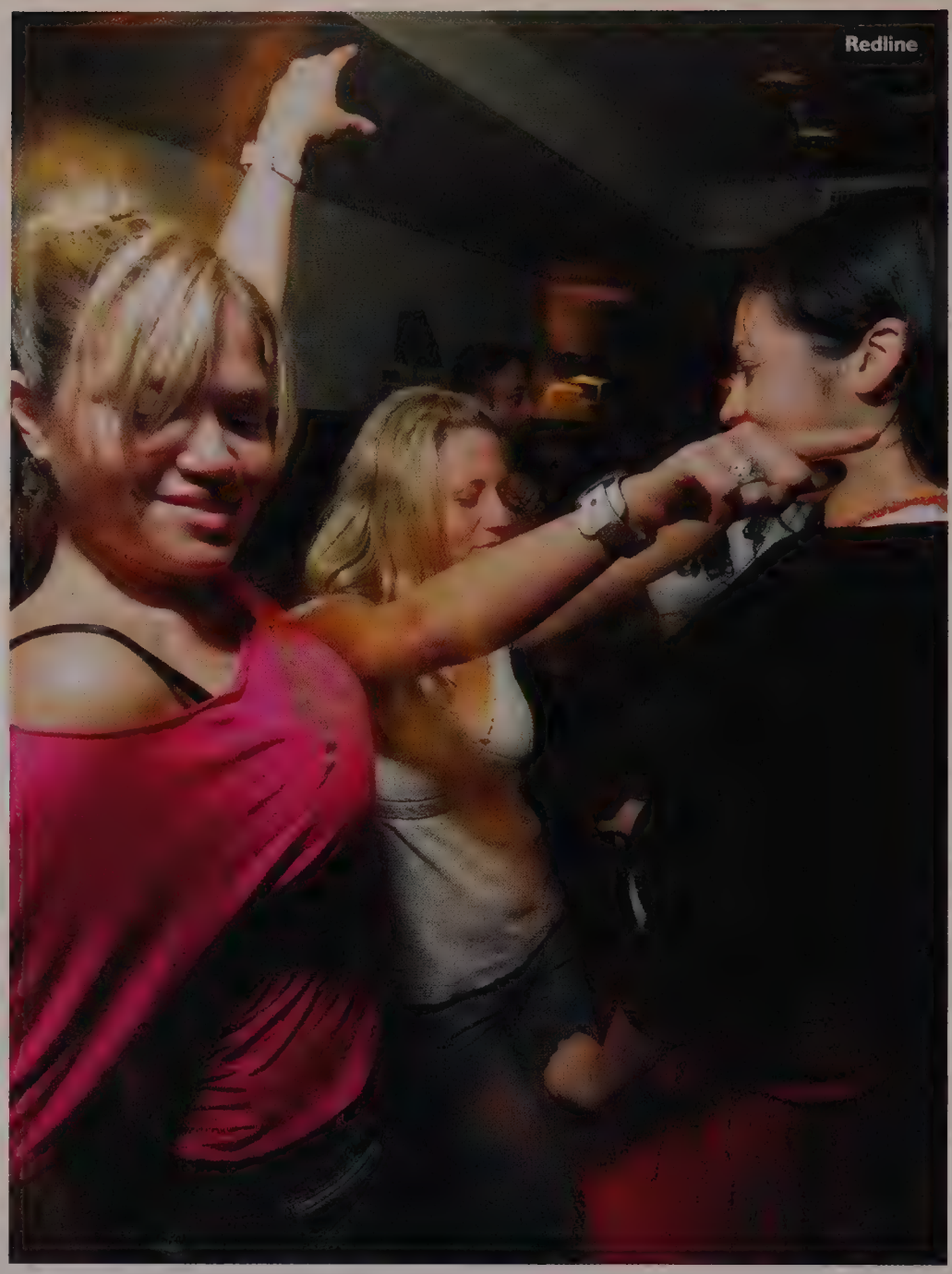
Venu
MYNT International Tuesday DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAY

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Signs of Life Guest DJs spin progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.



Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clery's
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesday DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts live performances and spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesday DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesday DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Weekly rotation of underground dance, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesday Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesday Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesday Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAY

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '8
pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm
no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-h
pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and S
Ryle host this weekly gay hip-hop and electro
10 pm, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dan
disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-h
pm, no cover, 21+. Fourth Floor: **Tribe** DJ G
spins hip-hop and top-40 at this ladies only n
pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&
town, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursday The Toussaint Band
reggae and funk, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin
tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip
R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Touch DJs spin urban groove and club classics,
pm, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school fun
soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursday DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog p
drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19
21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no
21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3

Q
Hip-Hop Thursday DJ Craig Smooth spins hi
all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with musi
samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursday The NGP All-Stars spin
classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul
mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 p
cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lesson
dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin l
music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottes
hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, sou
rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursday DJ Matty D spins old-s
hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAY

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tec
funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Tua Nua
erlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from 70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

a
ndation Friday DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R&B classics, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

ılon
and International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15,

e Avenue
Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm-, no cover, 21+.

s
or Friday DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15,

Easy Bar
brate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spin- top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover ls, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

's Bar
cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 21+.

ston Rocks
ays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a t of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip- tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

orice
amal and DJ Kon spins a mix of international, and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

rys
hythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

b Europa
t DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, after 11 pm.

ogan's
om spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5,

mopolitan
pean Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style c, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

rlin's
Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance c, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ckside
spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5,

o Lounge
Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s he second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

bassy
uassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, 19+.

Enormous Room
tars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2

sion Friday After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

den Temple
E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s ocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

en Briar
K spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1am, no cover,

en Street Grill
se band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, 1+.

sy Bar
abe spins.

Harp
y Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins stairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ricane O'Reilly's
ins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 21+.

ment Friday DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

McIntyre's
pin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Kells
es Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, s free before midnight, 21+.

vara Pub
adillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, and pop, 21+.

ior Store
im Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

trix/Paradise City
dilson spins high-energy house and DJ Steve elli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

Gann's
pin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ddlesex Lounge
lark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno, disco music, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Friday DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAY

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
International Saturday Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturday Resident DJ Adilson performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

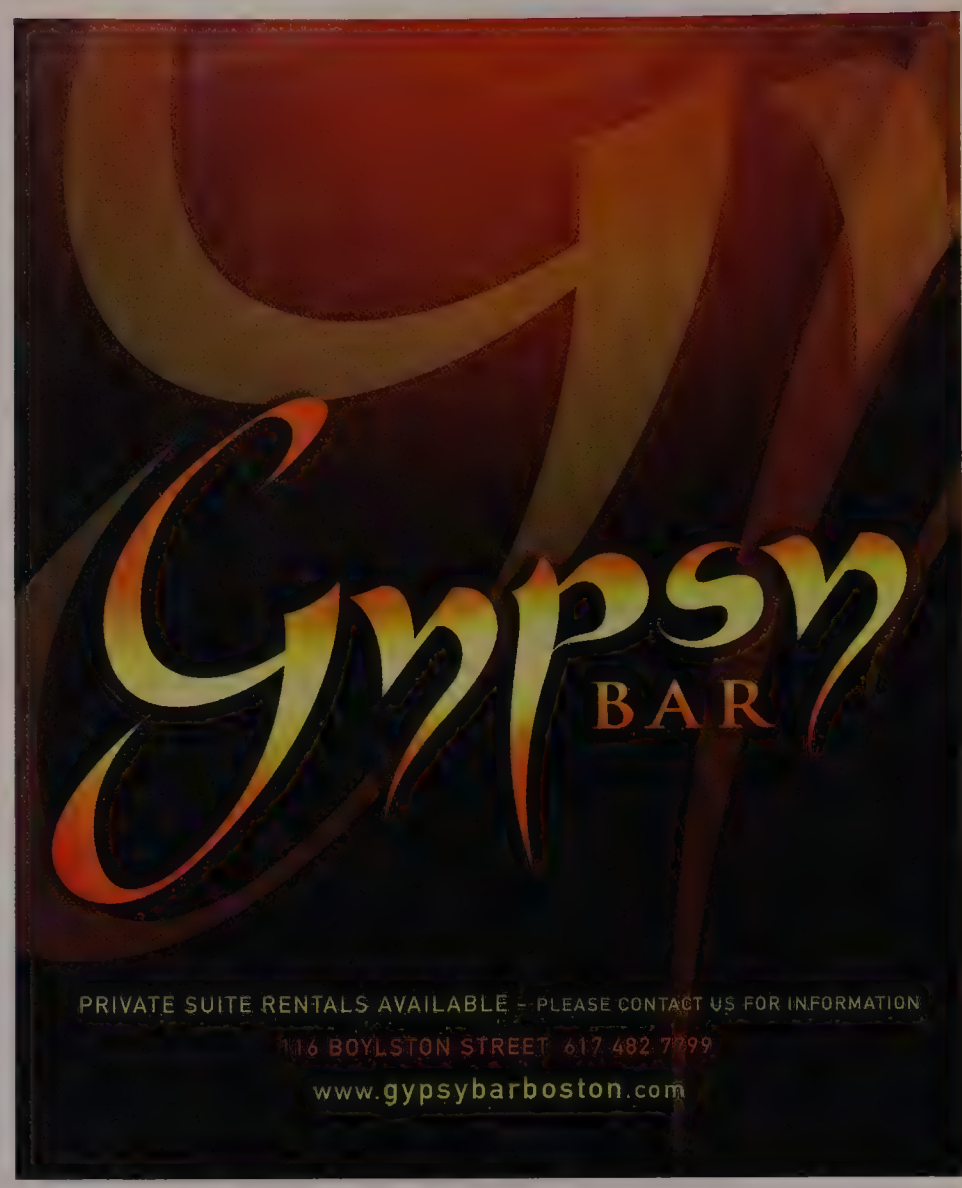
Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

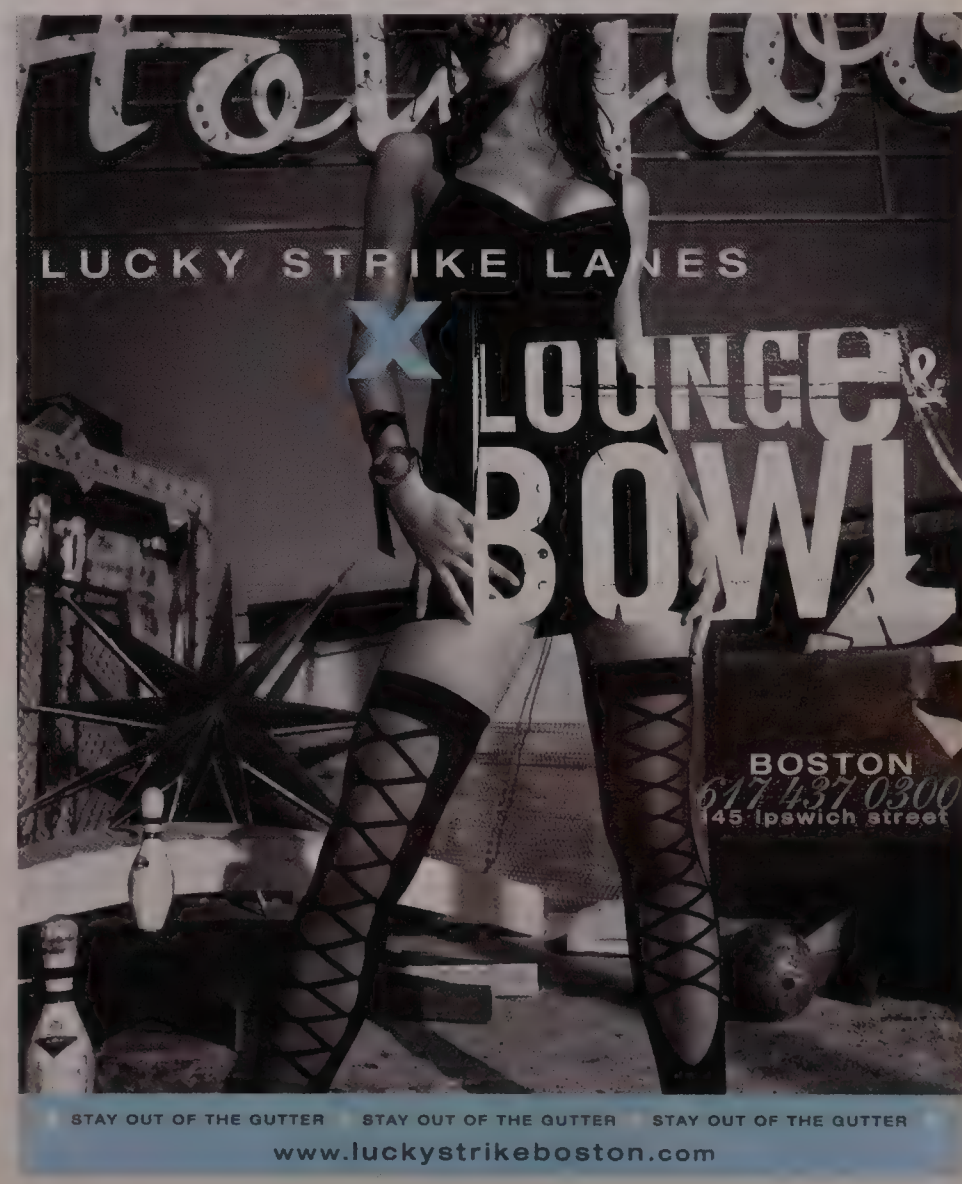
Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturday Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.





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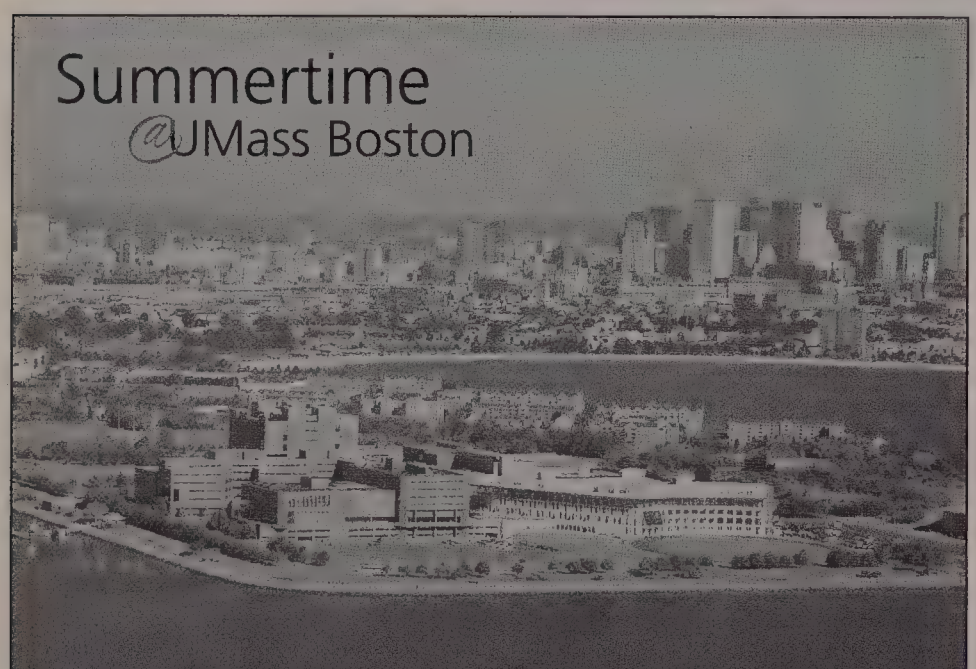

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UMASS BOSTON

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
The Penthouse Club DJ Tanerk spins house on the fourth floor. Also, DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance on the first floor. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Buddha spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis DJs Frank and Matty spin a mix of rock, retro and electro beats, 10 pm, $5, 18+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturday** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest- running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs DJ Massi and DJ Play each spin own style of house, progressive and techno m pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa da 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins re vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and hou pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spin sic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an even gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-h pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAY

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, tranc techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm- $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixe remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 1 3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Live Middle Eastern music with belly dancing pm, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international o third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and hou the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10,

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating ro local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19

The Place
Chad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 p cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm- no cover, 21+.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 2

er Gods
on Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

es Dance Hall
a Salsa Sunday The second and fourth Sunday ch month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa c, 6-10 pm, $12.

nt
e Sunday Manos and Christophe host a night ring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm- , $10, 21+.

y K's
u and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

i Room
gae Sunday Sunday night reggae features Dub on and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

st
wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and lian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

u
nivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian t as DJ Leandro spins, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

tigo
ian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and l beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ub Venues

ain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
ua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).
on *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-).*
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).
asy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
on Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).
ice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
uit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., rville (617-628-1000).*
ys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
mon Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617- 2071).*
gan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
nopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617- 9333).*
in's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-).*
cside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
assy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-).*
mous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617- 5599).*
533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).
en Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617- 9722).*
n Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617- 4100).*

Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*A Compelling Legacy: Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through March 20. •*Marks of Enlightenment, Traces of Devotion: Japanese Calligraphy and Painting from the Sylvan Barnet and William Burton Collection* features more than 70 objects from the 8th through 20th centuries, including Buddhist scriptures. Through April 17. •*The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in Iran and India* features paintings, decorative arts and weaponry depicting hunting scenes from western and southern Asia. Through June 26.

Boston Athenaeum
10½ Beacon St., Boston (617-227-0270). www.bostonathenaeum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm (8 pm for members, Mondays only); Sat. 9 am-4 pm. •*Power Line* displays the art of Leo Dee. Through April 30.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. •*Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project* features a puppet opera, a film and a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center by artist Pierre Huyghe. Through April 17.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •*Pretty Sweet: The Sentimental Image in Contemporary Art* features more than 100 works in various media by 33 New England artists. Through April 17. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*From Mind, Heart and Hand: Persian, Turkish and Indian Drawings from the Stuart Cary Welch Collection* shows from March 19-June 12. •*Highlights from the Carpenter Center Photography Collection* is on display through March 20. •*Crises of Representation: The Decorative and the Feminine in Fin-de-siecle Vienna* includes publications and artworks from turn-of-the-20th-century Vienna. Through June 12. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Bogolanfini* features the ancient art of mudpainting. Works by Dianne Zimbabwe are on display. Through March 31.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists* features more than 50 artists' portraits of their peers and heroes. Through May 1. •Kanishka Raja shows paintings as part of the ICA's *Momentum* series. Through May 1.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Chairs* brings together the photography of 2002 artist-in-residence Dayanita Singh with the museum's collection of Italian and Renaissance chairs. Through May 8. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun. 12-5pm. Free. •Drawings, collages, prints, watercolors and photographs by assorted artists display in *Accommodations of Desire: Surrealist Works on Paper Collected by Julien Levy*. Through March 24.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). H
web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.
Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •
sooja: Seven Wishes and Secrets is a multimedia
bition featuring Kimsooja's paintings and vi
Through April 10. •*Pavel Braila* is a self-titled
bition featuring large-scale photographs, videc
jections and a short film by the Moldovan
Through April 10. •The museum's permanen
lection includes more than 1,500 contempora
works including paintings, murals, sculptures,
tography and prints.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). H
web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Ke
Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5
dents and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*The Tra*
Magazine Table includes rare local and internat
magazines. Through April 15. •*Clipper Ship Er*
collection of lithographs, plans and photograp
lustrating the design and construction, as well
social experience, of a clipper ship. Through Ju
•The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: E*
ing Artificial Intelligence at MIT is ongoing. •
and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and
neers explores student life over the past 150
Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* dis
selections from the world's largest hologram c
tion. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The W*
Harold Edgerton features the artist's strobe phot
phy. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Scul*
of Arthur Ganson features works by the self-desc
cross between "a mechanical engineer and a ch
grapher." Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* dis
work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize win
Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American Histor
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.af
museum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park S
Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Threads of Faith: R*
Works from the Women of Color Network is an ex
tion of quilts depicting historical, story-based, p
cal and spiritual themes. Through March 31.
Times We Had is an ongoing exhibition highlig
Boston's African-American community in the
century. Ongoing. •*Building on a Firm Foundatio*

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Preview

Sweet Sixteen

Ralph Lauren's finest rides roll into the MFA.

Can cars be considered art? We're sorry to tell you that your 1989 Firebird Formula, while totally sick, doesn't qualify. Ralph Lauren's 1938 Bugatti Type 57SC Atlantic Coupe, however, is another story, and that's why the Museum of Fine Arts is displaying that singular set of wheels and 15 others in its new exhibition, *Speed, Style and Beauty: Cars from the Ralph Lauren Collection.*

The 1961 Ferrari 250 Testa Rossa 61 Spyder Fantuzzi (front) and the 1962 250 GTO

Lauren certainly has an eye for fine metal and the deep, impeccably tailored pockets to properly indulge it. Walking into the gallery is like tumbling upon God's personal garage: *Guten Morgen*, 1930 Mercedes-Benz SSK. Tally-ho, 1929 Blower Bentley. *Ciao*, 1962 Ferrari 250 GTO. It sounds clichéd to say they don't make 'em like this anymore, but they really don't—many of Lauren's cars, such as the gorgeous SSK, feature one-off bodies created by independent coachbuilders, a once common practice that's fallen by the wayside in an era when you can find Volkswagen switchgear in a Bentley. However, lest you think Lauren's taste skews entirely toward old iron, there's a 1988 Porsche 959 and a 1996 McLaren F1 to represent the 200 mph club (actually, in the McLaren's case, the 240 mph club). For those gearheads—and art-lovers—looking for a peek beneath the hood, the MFA is also hosting "Hoods up Thursdays," on the last Thursday evening of each month through June. People may disagree on the definition of art, but to paraphrase Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart, you'll know it when you see the engine of the 1961 Ferrari 250 Testa Rossa 61 Spyder Fantuzzi.

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. Through July 3. —Ezra Dyer

minute multimedia presentation that looks at 9-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an ican-American teenager. Ongoing. •*Separate ols, Unequal Education* chronicles the struggles qual school rights in Massachusetts. Ongoing.

seum of Fine Arts

Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www. rg. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., n-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and fter 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adults, students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include al exhibitions). •*High Style and Hoopskirts: The* s features mid-19th-century men's and women's ning. Through March 13. •An exhibition of emporary works by controversial London-based Damien Hirst is on display through April 24. , *Series, and Suites: Contemporary Prints* features l prints by 30 artists from 1950 to the present. ugh May 29. •*Pursuits of Power: Falconry and the rai, 1600-1900* offers a new perspective on play- politics, and power in early modern Japan gh an unusual subject. Through June 12. •*Pho- phs by Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Sylvan Barnet and am Burto Collection* features 20 of the Japanese tographer's black-and-white prints. Through 23. •*Speed, Style, and Beauty: Cars from the n Lauren Collection* displays 16 automobiles from h Lauren's private collection. Through July *8th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan ction* features the only complete set of 18th-cen- French royal furniture in the United States. On- g. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays histori- merican masterpieces. Ongoing.

seum of Science

nce Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.- , 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, children, $11. •*Playing with Time* features ex- nental tools that manipulate the perception me. Through May 1. •*A Bird's World* explores behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongo- •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history mputers from the electronic giants of the s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Di- urs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the mu- 's collection of dinosaur models, including giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an in- ctive exhibition, features models of a wave , Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. On- g. •*Mapping the World Around Us* features mapping projection tools and computer map li- braries. Ongoing. •Four hundred butterflies and the scent of flower blossoms welcome guests to the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www. monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a collection of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, shows through April 24. •*Deep Inside the Blues: Photographs by Margo Cooper* features 38 black-and-white photographs of musicians taken by Cooper over the past 10 years during her travels through the Mississippi Delta. Through June 5. •*George Washington: Freemason and Founding Father* is an exhibition of rare artifacts. Through June 12. •*Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend* examines artistic depictions of Revolution-era patriot Paul Revere. Through June 26. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community*. Ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www. pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake* is an exhibition of 30 photographs by Linda Butler capturing the Three Gorges area. Through April 24. •*The Art of Shopping in China* captures China's early-19th-century international trade market through 40 paintings on paper from the museum's extensive collection. Through May 22. •*Island Thresholds, Contemporary Art from the Caribbean* features 13 works, including large-scale installations using wood, glass, paper, seawater, salvaged shoes, coffee, coconut and vanilla, as well as paintings and drawings, by four island artists. Through June 5. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 2005. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students,

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$6; children, $5. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 30. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* depicts the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Rose Art Museum
Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun. 12-5pm. $3. •*Dreaming Now* features eight mixed-media installations by various artists, including Marina Abramovic, Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, Sandra Cinto, Cai Guo Quiang and Chiharu Shiota. Through April 24.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Provincetown Painters 2005* is a group show displaying works from 20 artists. Through March 19.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Local glass artist Gina Poppe shows new work. Through March 25.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* by Reed Kay shows through March 30.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Anne Packard shows oil-on-canvas paintings in *Seascapes*. Through March 29.

Artana
1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111) www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm. • The gallery continually shows pieces by more than 30 artists from across New England. •Willoughby Elliott shows landscapes of the South Shore, Cape Cod, and its islands. Through March 30.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*American Landscape* features paintings of New England landscapes by Anthony Petchkis. Through March 11.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •Gallery visitors contribute to three-dimensional works based on instructions from the 29 artists in *The Paper Sculpture Show*. Through March 27.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Sally Moore displays her sculptures made from everyday materials in *Extend*. Through March 22.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Encaustics and Metal Drawings* is a show of works by Scott Griffin. March 9-April 30.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Carl Fudge shows new work, David Goldes shows photographs and Rebecca Doughty shows drawings. Through March 26.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •David Phillips presents *New Work in Space: Stone and Bronze* and Dan Wills shows his work in *Palmolive*. Through March 12. •Lorey Bonante and Margaret Swan display their works. March 15-April 16.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •*The Creative Process* features design works from different fields. Through March 26.

Bromfield Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-360510). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Laurie Alpert shows prints in *Songs Without Words: Prints and Artist's Books*, and Jonathan Palmer displays paintings in *New Paintings*. Through March 26.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Mammoth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Passion for Pattern* features works by Bette Ann Libby and Evelyn Berde. Through March 30. •*Near and Far: New Photographs by Judy Dernburg* shows March 14-April 1.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Cynthia Packard shows oil-on-linen works. Through March 26.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions—*Werner Drewes, 1899-1985 (drawings)*, *Gertrude Beals Bourne: Artist in Brahmin Boston and Alexander Brook: Selected Drawings*—show March 14-May 15.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Manifest 2005: The Many Faces of Boston* is a group show of works by New England artists. March 10-April 2.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). M Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* feature by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and othe artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). M Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540- MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www. gallery.com. By appointment only. •The galle cializes in Latin American fine art, including ings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Galle
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). ww pointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South S Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Ligh* is a group show featuring works by John Ci Tom Wojciechowski and Andrew Woo Through March 19.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arl Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ing exhibition of paintings, sculpture an prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focu Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matis Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574- www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Back Bay. Thu., 12-5:30 pm, Fri. and Sat., 12 •*Modern Organic* is an exhibition of recent ings and prints by Row Dawes and Christine Through March 26.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., Garden Level, (617-482- www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Back Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5: •*Claire with Flowers* features photographs by Kayafas and Tama Hochbaum. Through Ap

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arl Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Trace* is a show of

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by David Prifti, and *Track* features sculpture Brenda Star. Through March 26.

eway Arts
Harvard St., Boston (617-734-1577). www. ayarts.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline ge. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm; Sat. 12-5pm. oes and Shadows is an exhibition of works by way artists. Through March 26.

ovese/Sullivan Gallery
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.- 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Kelly Spalding shows her in *Artifacts and Recent Paintings* and Rob ard shows recent ceramic works. Through h 29.

ey & Steele Gallery
ewbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haley .com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., m-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. e gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. ing.

ward Yezerski Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www. rdyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Ar- n. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Cumming Bill Burke show new work. Through March 15. la A. Essaydi shows her work in *Converging Terri-* . March 18- April 19.

ernational Poster Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www. nationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop- Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The ry's permanent collection showcases a variety of ge posters.

i Rotenberg Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www. otenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. .-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •David erman and Stacy Quackenbush show their in *Undercurrents*. Through March 26.

y Ann Goldman Fine Art
ewbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judy anfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. -Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features con- orary American art.

s Place
Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www. place.com. MBTA: Orange Line to New England cal Center. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment. zzling Emotions features works by Christy Bon- i, Karen Tusinski, Amy Maas and others. ugh April 9.

der Smith Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www. rsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop- Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Matt Clark vs new abstract work in *Recent Paintings*. ugh April 2.

gston Gallery
hayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingston y.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Station. -Sat., 12 pm-5 pm and by appointment. •Barbara dy shows drawings in *Animale*. Through March 26.

noue Fine Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www. uefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. .-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The ry's collection features works by international local artists including Andrew Saftel, Ruth k, Emil Alzamora and Carrie McGee.

ttitude Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www. udegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. .-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Light Up Night: Neon Sculptures by Alejandro & Moira* displays through March 31.

ler Block Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www. rblockgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. ical Center. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Of- Plants* features work by Brian Burkhardt. ugh March 15. •*Lost* features work by Lori Through March 22.

bilia Gallery
Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). v.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; , 10 am-5 pm. •The traveling exhibit *The Ring v: The Grand Finale* features works by more 100 artists.

G Contemporary
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www. allery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.- 11 am-5 pm. •Local artist Dimitri Cavander vs oil paintings. Through March 26.

elsen Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www. engallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. .-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •John and Damien DiBona shows new work in *New tings*. March 12-April 16.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www. ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Nava Lubelski shows her stained and stitched paintings in *Mixed Messes*. Through March 26.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •*It's Not the Heat, It's the Humidity* features 32 works on paper by Sharon Shapiro. Through April 16.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www. outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features works by local-artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.pepper galleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Katy Schneider shows her small-scale portraits. Through March 19.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www. puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •The exhibition *Inuit: Carvings and Works of Paper* displays through April 7.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Paul Ickovic shows his photographs. Through March 19.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Selected Paintings and Water Colors, Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Picasso. Through March.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www. samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •Charles Parker Boggs, Brad Hampton and James Rieck show paintings in *Slice, Dice & Adhere*. Through March 27.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Liz Leggett and Nedret Andre show paintings. Through March 26.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www. stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The artist-owned gallery features paintings by Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin, William St. George and Judy St. Peter. Ongoing.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www. vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Selections from the gallery's inventory include 18th, 19th and 20th-century American artworks.

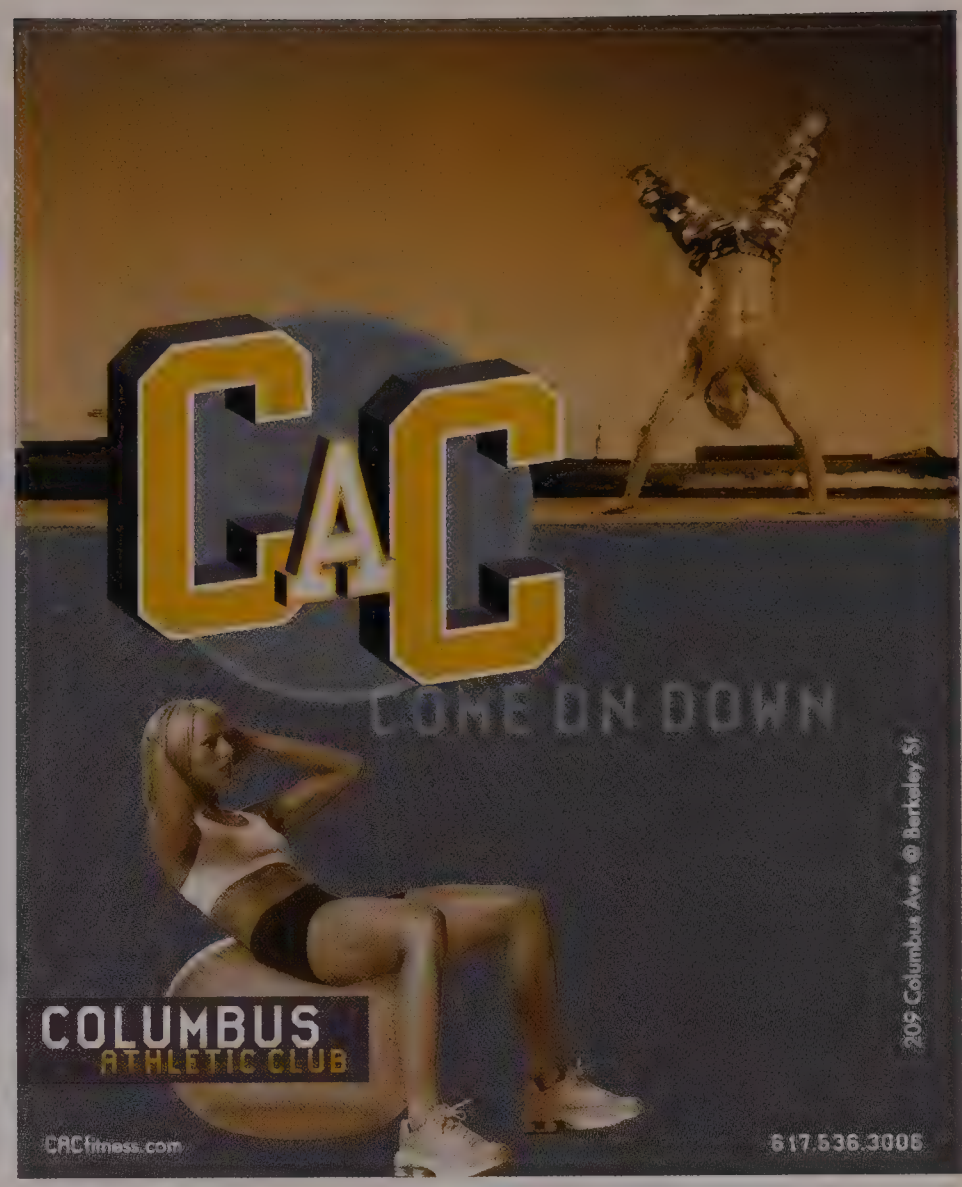
PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www. griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. • The museum features contemporary and historic photography.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www. panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*A Music Show* features photographs of musicians by Lew Allen, Nubar Alexanian, Lou Jones, Ron Pownall, J.D. Sloan and Ernest C. Withers. Through March 10.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www. panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Cuba—There Is Light and Shadow* shows March 10-April 23.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. • The fourth annual student show features the work of students from 13 regional schools. Through March 20.



books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Jennifer Haigh** reads from her novel *Baker Towers*, about members of a family who go their separate ways after the conclusion of World War II.

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. CNBC-TV host **Suze Orman** reads from *The Money Book for the Young, Fabulous and Broke*, her guide for twenty- and thirty-somethings who have college debt and don't earn much money.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Parents **Jenifer Lippincott** and **Robin Deutsch** discuss their book *Seven Things Your Teenager Won't Tell You—And How to Talk About Them Anyway*, which offers advice for parents on communicating with teenagers.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Tom O'Grady** and **Mary O'Donoghue** read from their work.

Wellesley Booksmith
Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. **Curtis Sittenfeld** reads from her novel *Prep*, about a girl from Indiana who learns the social politics of a boarding school in Boston when she changes schools.

Woodberry Poetry Room
Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). 7 pm. Free. Poet **Franz Wright** reads from *Walking to Martha's Vineyard*, his Pulitzer Prize–winning collection of poems.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Jeffrey McGowan** discusses *Major Conflict: One Gay Man's Life in the Don't-Ask-Don't-Tell Military*, a memoir of his experience as a gay man serving in the U.S. Army.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Mary McGarry Morris** discusses *The Lost Mother*, her novel about a Vermont family struggling to survive during the Great Depression after the mother abandons them.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. Essayist **Pooja Makhijani** discusses the book she edited, *Under Her Skin: How Girls Experience Race in America*, a collection of essays about the role of race in the lives of women. Also, contributors **Patricia Goodwin**, **Judith Chalmer** and **Lisa Drostova** read from their essays.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Recent Harvard graduate **Ross Gregory Douthat** discusses his book *Privilege: Harvard and the Education of the Ruling Class*, in which he critiques the elitism that he claims America's top universities perpetuate.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Jonathan Wilson** reads from *An Ambulance Is On the Way*, his collection of comical short stories about middle-aged men having family problems.

Curtis Sittenfeld reads from *Prep* March 9.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484) www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Orson Scott Card** reads from his sci-fi novel *Shadow of the Giant*, the newest installment in his Enders series, about warfare between Earth people and aliens.

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston, (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 7 pm. Free. **Chang-Rae Lee** reads from his novel *Aloft*, about a suburban middle-class widower who has has yet to find meaning in his life.

Grolier Poetry Reading
Adams House, 26 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3; students, free. Poet **John Peck** reads from his work.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Spiritual healer **Andy Caponigro** discusses his book *Miracle of the Breath: Mastering Fear, Healing Illness and Experiencing the Divine* during this talk on improving emotional and spiritual health through breath control.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Vyvyane Loh** discusses her novel *Breaking the Tongue*, about a Chinese family in Singapore during the Japanese occupation of World War II.

MONDAY, MARCH 14

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Organized crime scholar **T.J. English** reads from his book *Paddy Whacked: The Untold Story of the Irish-American Gangster*, a historical account of the Irish American mob through the 19th and 20th centuries.

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poets **Bob Hicok** and **Sophie Cabot Black** read from their work.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Geraldine Brooks** reads from her novel *March*, an imagined account of the Civil War experiences of Mr. March, the absent father from Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*.

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston, (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 7 pm. Free. **T.J. English** reads from *Paddy Whacked: The Untold Story of the Irish-American Gangster.* See March 14 Barnes & Noble Boston University listing for a description.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Richard Parker**, senior fellow of the Shorenstein Center at the Kennedy School of Government, discusses *John Kenneth Galbraith: His Life, His Politics, His Economics*, his biography of the legendary Harvard economist.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard professor of neuroscience **John Dowling** discusses his book *The Great Brain Debate*, about current research that aims to shed light on the nature vs. nurture debate.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Jean Flanagan** and **Denise Bergman** read from their work.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Barnes & Noble Boston University
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to BU East. 7 pm. Free. Actor **Gene Wilder** discusses and signs *Kiss Me Like A Stranger: My Search for Love and Art*, his autobiographical account of the moments that have shaped him artistically and personally.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brook linebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Emerson writing professor **Kathleen Rooney** discusses her book *Reading with Oprah: The Book Club That Changed America*, which explores the cultural influence of Oprah Winfrey's reading initiative.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. **Ariel Gore** discusses her book *The Essential Hip Mama: Writing from the Cutting Edge of Parenting*, which offers humorous observations from her own and others' parenting experiences.

Harvard Book Store
Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $3; tickets are required. **Marilynne Robinson** reads from her novel *Gilead*, written in the form of a letter from a sick, elderly preacher to his young son.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. UMass Amherst mathematics professor **Brian Burrell** discusses *Postcards from the Brain: The Impossible Search for Meaning in the Matter of Famous Minds*, a historical account of the cultural fascination with geniuses and madmen.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Abha Dawesar** discusses her novel *Babyji*, about a rambunctious teenage girl from Delhi.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. 7 pm. Free. **Jonathan Wilson** reads from *An Ambulance Is on the Way*. See March 10 Newtonville Books & Brews listing for a description.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484) www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6 pm. Free. Singer **Tori Amos** signs copies of her book, *Piece by Piece*, an account of how her ideas transform into music. She also signs copies of her latest album, *The Beekeeper*.

Grolier Poetry Reading
Adams House, 26 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3; students, free. **Cola Franzen** reads from her translation of *Poems of Andalusia*, a collection of work ing from the 10th through 13th centuri southern Spain.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220) portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to I pm. Free. **Margaret McLean** reads from he *Under Oath*, her latest courtroom drama.

MONDAY, MARCH 21

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547 www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard $3. Poets **Don Bogen** and **Andrew Feld** re their works.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661 www.harvard. com. MBTA: Red Line to H 6:30 pm. Free. Boston University professo **rence J. Kotlikoff** discusses his book *The Generational Storm: What You Need to Know America's Economic Future*, which suggest Americans should be concerned with imp crises in Medicare and Social Security.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

Barnes & Noble Boston Universi
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267- www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line more. 7 pm. Free. **Robert B. Parker** read the latest installment in his Spenser crime series, *Cold Service*, about a detective wh revenge on mobsters for attacking his frien

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566- www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Jou **Mitchell Zuckoff** discusses his book *Ponzi's* the true story of Charles Ponzi, who master one of the biggest financial scams in Am history in the 1920s.

Emerson College Reading Series
Emerson Room, 80 Boylston St., Boston (61 8750). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm **Jane Brox** discusses *Clearing Land: Legacie American Farm*, her book that combines mem history and pays tribute to the United States ian heritage.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661- www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to H 6:30 pm. Free. **Robert Boynton**, director York University's graduate magazine jour program, discusses his book *The New New J ism: Conversations with America's Best No Writers on Their Craft*, a compilation of int with cutting-edge journalists about their m writings and careers.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridg 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759) poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays backgroun for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St. bridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornew org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. Th ter hosts this open mike for women and thei with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Ca (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgalle MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Sou poetry features and an open mike. $4 sugges nation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or li poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3- gested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557- MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown C 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each offers a selection of featured poets and an op nity for others to take the open mike.

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nit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-
Education or e-mail to education@improper.com.
lline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

EDNESDAY, MARCH 9

e Bear and Native America: The haeology of Bear Ceremonialism
ogical Lecture Hall, Harvard University, 24 Oxford
Cambridge (617-496-0099). www.harvard.edu.
TA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. Univer-
of Minnesota scholar **David Mather** discusses
eological evidence from bear habitats and cere-
ies and how it relates to the study of modern
populations.

ond the Social Contract: Toward tice for Nonhuman Animals
liffe Institute, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-
8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red
to Harvard. 4:30 pm. Free. University of
cago law professor **Martha Nussbaum** lectures
nimal rights.

inding Mothers: The Women Who sed our Nation
on Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boyl-
St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org.
TA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Reporter,
rnnist and news analyst **Cokie Roberts** discusses
roles that the United States' earliest first ladies
ed in the nation's early days.

ovation and Its Discontents
piro Campus Center, Brandeis University, 415
h St., Waltham (781-736-4205). www.brandeis.
MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12
Free. **Adam Jaffe**, Brandeis' dean of arts and sci-
s, discusses his new book, about how the U.S.
nt system discourages innovation.

in and the Oligarchs: Hope for the ure or Echo of the Past?
bridge Forum, First Parish, 3 Church St., Cam-
ge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org.
MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. **Marshall Goldman**, associate director of Harvard's Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, discusses economic and political changes in 21st-century Russia.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

Ethics and the Ethics of Peter Singer
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2 (seniors, $1). **Chad Arnold** leads a discussion on the animal rights movement and the studies of professor and bio-ethicist Peter Singer.

Exploring *Chairs* Gallery Talks
Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free. Educator-in-residence **Carla Hartman** shares her passion for chairs in a discussion of the Gardner's special exhibition and selected seating masterpieces in the galleries.

Likeness Is Not Enough
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30 pm. Free. Columbia University professor **Richard Brilliant** discusses his theoretical studies in the field of portraiture.

The Story Behind Your Morning Cup of Coffee
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7 pm. $5. **Rodney North**, a representative from fair-trade coffee distributor Equal Exchange, goes behind the scenes of one of the world's largest commodities and discusses recent efforts to address chronic poverty in coffee-growing regions. Presented by Brookline Adult & Community Education.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

Lowell Lecture Series
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 2 pm. Free. Sociologist **Charles Willie** explores the legacy of the 1975 court ruling to implement busing to desegregate Boston public schools.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

Justifying Just Desserts: Is Retribution Necessary?
McIntyre & Moore Booksellers, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). www.mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7:30 pm. Free. **Tom Clark**, director of the Boston-based Center for Naturalism, discusses concepts of just punishment.

Lowell Women's Week: A Community Gem
Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building, Brandeis University, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100. www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. Psychology professor **Anne Mulvey** discusses examples of public art and activism from the first 10 years of Brandeis' annual Women's Week series.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Architecture and Public Life
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. **George Metzger** of the American Institute of Architects speaks as a part of the BPL's Boston Society of Architects lecture series.

***Chairs* Noontime Talk**
Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free. Author **Amitav Ghosh** discusses the photography of Dayanita Singh.

From Hovels to Castles: Finding Your Irish Ancestor's Dwelling Place
New England Historic and Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. **Marie Daly** discusses how to trace your Irish ancestors.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

In the Realms of the Unreal
Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6:30 pm. $7. Artist-in-residence and Academy Award-winning filmmaker **Jessica Yu** screens and discusses her documentary about reclusive novelist, artist and janitor Henry Darger.

Lightning, Still Mysterious?
French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30 pm. $15/$10 members. Lightning expert **Christian Bouquegneau**, a professor at Belgium's Polytechnique de Mons, discusses the myths, legends and facts surrounding lightning.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Birds: Flagships for the Planet
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free (advance tickets required). Wildlife artist **Robert Bateman** discusses his career.

MONDAY, MARCH 21

What It Takes to Pull Me Through: Why Teenagers Get in Trouble and How Four of Them Got Out
Shapiro Campus Center, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4205). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12 pm. Free. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist **David Marcus** discusses his book about a boarding school for troubled teenagers.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

Harvard Rules
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free. Author and former executive editor of George magazine **Richard Bradley** discusses the wealth and influence of Harvard University and its president, Larry Summers.

New Takes on Old Favorites—American Art and Film: Sargent and Venice
Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA, Orange Line to Ruggles. 10:30 am. $20 members, seniors, students; $25 general. **Erica E. Hischler**, Croll senior curator of paintings, gives a lecture on John Singer Sargent's paintings and their connection to early film.

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery.

So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see!

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gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
Sanctuary. 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door, $5 on guest list. 18+. Rotating guest DJs spin progressive house for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Kneivil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
Embassy, 36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2am, 19+.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge.(617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Bisexuality, Strength and Courage
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6369). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. March 9, 7-9 pm. Local bisexual activist Robyn Ochs leads a discussion exploring the unique qualities of bisexual people.

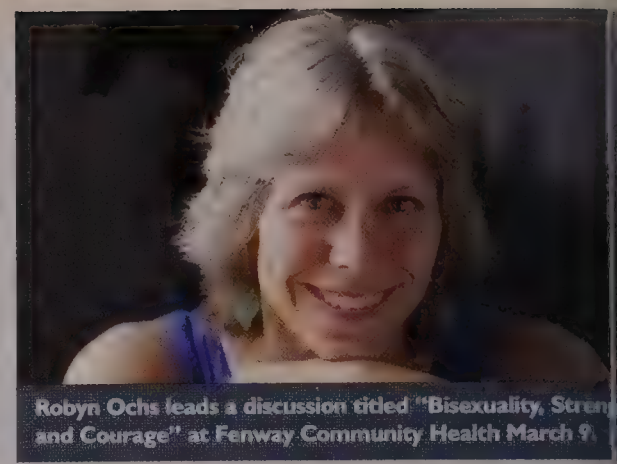
Gay & Lesbian Single Professionals for the Arts
Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-266-4021). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 19. 11 am-1 pm. $40. Tour Harvard's Fogg Art Museum with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffee. Reservations required.

Gender Nonconformity: Race & Sexuality, Charting the Connections
Department of Music and Theatre Arts @ MIT, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-6957). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. March 9, 5:30 pm. This lecture by writer, composer, scholar and activist Toni Lester is followed by a Q&A session and a reception with food.

GLAD 22nd Annual Winter Party
Boston Ballet, 19 Clarendon St., Boston (617-426-1350). www.glad.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. March 20, 4-7 pm. $125. Celebrate and strategize with the Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders at this event, which also includes a silent auction.

The Men's Event
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston. www.fenwaycommunityhealth.org. March 12, 6 pm-1 am. $150. Fenway Community Health presents its 14th annual black-tie fund-raising event, which includes a reception, silent auction, dinner and dancing.

Taste of the South End
BCA Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-450-1526). www.aac.org. March 15, 6 pm-9 pm. $75. Nearly 40 South End restaurants offer samplings of their newest menu items at this fund-raising event sponsored by the AIDS Action Committee.


Robyn Ochs leads a discussion titled "Bisexuality, Stren and Courage" at Fenway Community Health March 9.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly. org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league features weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz. Visit the league Web site for more information.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of each month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 47 Mass. Ave., Boston at Despina's Pizza. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Pride Committee
Wainwright Bank Community Room, 155 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-262-9405). www.bostonpride.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue. 6:30 pm. he Pride Committee meets every Tuesday to plan for the 2005 Boston Pride Celebration Season.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9 www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Bac First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, fr informal group for people who think they may sexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbi Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the lenges and joys of coming out. It meets Th nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge. C more information.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confid place for men and women who are looking for space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Co Corner in Brookline. Call for more informatio

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New Englan support, information and social group for peo signed female at birth who feel that is not an ac or complete description of their gender. Part FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for de

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional w 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and so cated to get together with like-minded wom conversations, dinners, theater and networkin

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.f health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA way Community Health offers a wide array se for the GLBT community, ranging from discu about parenting and safe-sex practices to pro addressing domestic violence and substance Call for more information

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Boston's GLBT flag football league for a spring season, followed by a formal fall seaso are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; S am. See Web site for locations. All are welco join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Grou
Boston (address available upon request). Learn about photography, socialize and meet new pe these monthly meetings. For more informati mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham 742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2 group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on th and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in deve healthy gay relationships features alternati meeting and dating, communication games, mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail gaylab.org.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., J Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykebo MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second T each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members GLBT community are invited to share poetry or performance pieces at this open-mike even

Friends: Bisexual and Lesbian
nen of Color
ridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line ntral. This discussion group for all ages meets Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

T Professionals
ding Community
594-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome in this networking organization for GLBT ssionals.

an
bers of this social and networking group for n receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. nfo, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

id Assets Swimming
swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian team is open to both competitive and fitness ners of all ages and abilities.

Network/La Red
.423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. The ork is a support group working to end abuse bian and bisexual women's and transgender nunities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org ore information.

vly Diagnosed Group
ealth Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange o Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group offers support or gay and bisexual men who have been diagt with HIV during the last two years. E-mail ttin@jri.org.

to Dance
363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin allroom dance classes and workshops are held ay-friendly environment.

TwentySomethings Boston
ysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks heir straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Z Social
shine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., n (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men age 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thursdays. 9 pm-12 am. Free. DykeNight Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.

body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Faith, Film and Forgiveness
The Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston (617-523-2377 x32). www.friendsattheadvent.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. March 15, 7-9 pm. Free. Leading up to Lent and Easter, the church presents this film series that addresses the search for understanding and forgiveness through excerpts from popular and innovative films. This week, travel the globe with *The Color of Paradise*, from Iran; *Long Night's Journey into Day*, from South Africa; and *To Live*, from China.

Tremont Tearoom Rites of Spring Weekend
Tremont Tearoom, 48-50 Winter St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-338-8100).www.tremont-tearoom.com. Seminar and mixer: March 18, 6:30-9 pm. $5. Ritual and celebration: March 20, 7 pm. Free. The weekend starts with a seminar on past lives and reincarnation at a social mixer with gourmet pizza and refreshments. The weekend includes past-life readings, and Sunday features a spring equinox ritual and celebration.

Lectures

Alchemy for the Human Spirit: Change Yourself and the World
New Acropolis Organization, First Parish Unitarian Church, 2000 Mass. Ave., #1, Cambridge (617-864-5720). www.newacropolis.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. March 17, 7:30 pm. $10. This seminar explores the philosophy of Plato, the teachings of Buddha, the topics of consciousness, freewill and destiny, and how positive change at the individual level affects the world.

Lunch and Learn: Taming the Cookie Monster
Healthworks Fitness Centers for Women, 1300 Boylston St./Route 9 East, Chestnut Hill (617-383-6100). www.healthworksfitness.com. March 15. 12-1 pm. Free. Bring a lunch and join sports nutritionist Nancy Clark to understand why you eat cookies and other unhealthy stuff. Participants work to develop a realistic game plan to enhance the quality of their daily diet—with or without cookies.

Natural Health Seminar
Open Doors, 395A Washington St., Braintree (781-843-8224).www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: Red Line to Braintree. March 16, 7-8:30 pm. Free. This presentation and discussion focuses on naturopathic principles and is designed to educate and empower participants to make effective diet and lifestyle choices.

Workshops

Clarity Now
Open Doors, 395A Washington St., Braintree (781-843-8224) or 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202-6333). www.opendoors7.com or www.claritywork.com. Braintree: March 10, 6:30-8:30 pm. Brighton: March 12, 10 am-12 pm. $35. Writer and "clarity consultant" Kathryn Deputat leads this workshop that designed to help participants access innate focus, insight and guidance, and identify life obstacles. Bring paper and pen.

Integrating Sexuality and Spirituality
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com or www.healingheartpower.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. March 15, 7:30-9:30 pm. $25. Through meditation, paired sharing and group discussion, this class explores participants' emotional, sexual and spiritual histories and needs, as well as what a spiritual and sexual self means.

Kathryn Deputat leads the Clarity Now workshop March 10 and 12.

Intro to Anusara Yoga
Yoga East Center for Alternative Medicine, 20 Del Carmine Street, Wakefield (781-224-0722). www.yogaeast.net. March 12, 2-4 pm. $25. This class led by Charlie Huschle, an Anusara yoga teacher and certified yoga therapist, pays attention to safe alignment.

Kirtan Devotional Singing
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. March 20, 7 pm. Donation suggested. Kirtan, an ancient Hindu tradition of singing to the divine, can be meditative and centering and is believed to open the heart and help one reach a higher consciousness. All levels welcome.

Kitchen Witchery
Boston School of Herbal Studies, 12 Pelham Terrace, Arlington (781-646-6319). www.bostonherbalstudies.com. March 10, 7-9 pm. $25. Ever wonder how much medicine sits in your kitchen cupboard? This workshop teaches the ancient use of culinary herbs and foods to heal common ailments. Handouts and hands-on instruction are included.

Medical Qi Gong
Acupuncture Therapy Institute, One Billings Road, Quincy (617-697-1477). www.thenaturalwayhol.byregion.net. March 19, 9:30 am-5 pm. $100. Learn the art of qi gong to help heal illnesses and maintain health. Using visualization, sound, breath control and movement, qi gong activates acupuncture points on the body and aids overall well-being.

Self-Help for Hand and Arm Overuse
Star Tech Healing and Learning Center, 14 Nason St., Maynard (978-897-0110). www.startechhealing.com. March 13, 2-4 pm. $35. Learn a specialized technique for relieving pain from carpal tunnel syndrome and other repetitive strain conditions.

Self-Hypnosis
Women's Center for Wellness, Milford (508-473-4244). www.womenscenterforwellness.org. March 29, 7-8:30 pm. $15-20. Learn from a certified hypnotherapist how to create positive thinking and subconscious suggestions for reducing stress, sleeping better, losing weight and more.

The Seven Master Principles of Alignment
Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, 2000 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6565). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. March 20. $40. Come learn the fundamentals of alignment, core support, breathing, postures and props and you'll also get a copy of Baron Baptiste's book *Journey into Power*.

Sexuality and Spirituality Network
Healing Heart Power, location in Newton or Arlington, depending on meeting attendance (617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. March 12, 2-5 pm. $10 suggested donation. The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network gathers regularly to discuss topics related to the holistic exploration of sex. This month's workshop focuses on tantra, a mix of music, meditation, yoga, higher consciousness and sensuality.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
March 9, 7 pm vs. Atlanta Hawks
March 11, 7:30 pm vs. Detroit Pistons
March 13, 6 pm vs. Washington Wizards

Events

Boston Ski & Sports Club Sports Challenge
Sports World Center, Tewksbury. (781-789-4070). www.bssc.com. March 13, 2-7 pm. $40 donation for competitive teams (proceeds benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Lowell). Bring a team or compete individually at soccer, dodgeball, basketball, flag football and kickball at this day of games.

Jack Williams Ski Race for Wednesday's Child
Waterville Valley, N.H. (617-542-3678). www.cbs4boston.com. March 12. Individuals, families and corporate teams compete in downhill slalom races to raise money for the Jack Williams Endowment for Wednesday's Child. The events include an evening awards ceremony, a raffle and a silent auction.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club (CRFC)
(617-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeball teams.

CRFC Dodgeball
(617-491-8989). Now accepting players and teams for a dodgeball league. Games at CRF Kendall Square.

The BSSC's Sports Challenge takes place March 13 in Tewksbury.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. Th ganization provides fund-raising athletes group training and support, personalized coac and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617 0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0 www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evening Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBA

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's t compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781- 8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eigh eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New an perienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is loo for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football C
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club new players for games in Brookline and Cambri

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.m rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club comes both new and experienced players want to play a high level of competitive rugby

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and ex enced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.boston com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday round. If you enjoy running, drinking and sin bawdy songs, then consider joining these self claimed "serious drinkers with a running proble

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun R
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly ru

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. We 2.6-mile runs.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480) www.bay skatingschool.org. Classes for a and kids at 14 rinks around the

Bay State Speedskati Club
(508-697-9942) www.speedsk org/bssc.html. Learn to skate Apollo Ono. Beginners welco

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sport Club
(508-243-7413) www.polec club.com. Membership include cess to a ski lodge and ski snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestli Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestl yahoo.com. This amateur, style wrestling group is open t skill levels.

'addy's Throwing a Party this March at Paddy O's -and you're all invited

March Music

Thurs 10th 9-cl - Swerve
Fri 11th 9-cl - Dick 'n Jane
Sat 12th 9-cl - The Risk
Sun 13th 9-cl - Stramarsh

St. Patricks Day

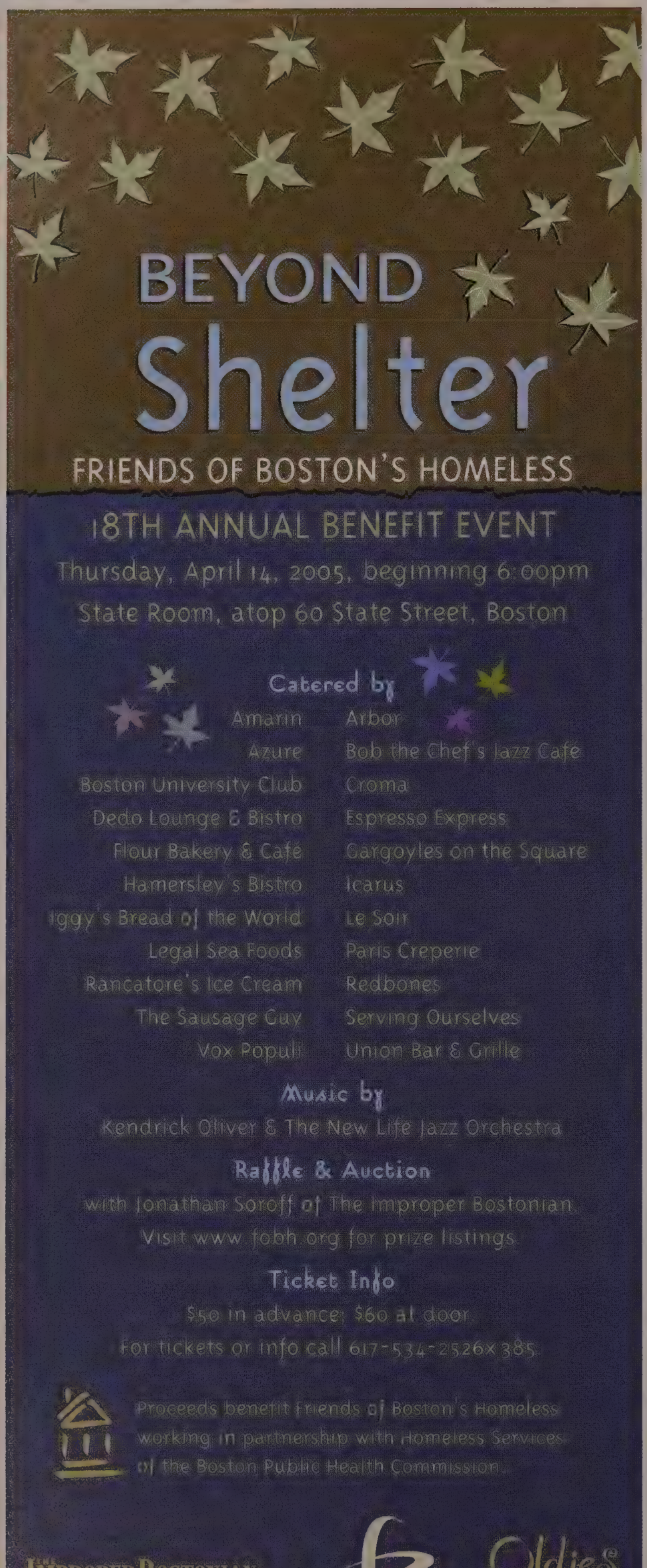
Live from Nova Scotia

Stramarsh

Fri 18th 9-cl - Mark Morris & the Catunes
Sat 19th 9-cl - Spike the Punch
Sun 20th 9-cl - Kevin Byrne
Thurs 24th 9-cl - Swerve
Fri 25th 9-cl - Syndicate
Sat 26th 9-cl - Mark Morris & the Catunes
Sun 27th 9-cl - Kevin Byrne

Every Wed - Chad La Marsh

33 Union Street
Boston
(617) 263 7771



children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Cirque Dreams
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 15-20. Tue.-Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 2 and 7 pm; Sun., 11 am and 4 pm. $34-$159. The Wang Center and the Poduska Family Foundation present Neil Goldberg's original production featuring acrobats, contortionists, aerialists and strongmen.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Kids Variety Show, Sat., 10:30 am, $8-$12. March 12: George Saterial performs magic. March 19: Alex the Jester's Comedy Festival features comic juggler Dan Foley and Kunga, the trained gorilla.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •March 9-10, 10:30 am; March12-13, 1 and 3 pm. Tucker's Tales presents Peter Rabbit Tales, including "The Tale of Peter Rabbit," "The Tale of Mrs. Tittlemouse" and "The Tale of Benjamin Bunny." •March. 16-17, 10:30 am. Romper Rhythm Puppets presents Friendly Forest Folktales, including "The Hungry Caterpillar," "The Bear and the Beehive" and "The Rabbit and the Moon." •March 19-20, 1 and 3 pm. Crabgrass Puppet Theater presents Lewis Carroll's *Jabberwocky*.

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours
Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm. Tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston By Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10am; Sun. 2pm, $8.00. This child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail is designed for kids 6 to 12 years old.

Boston Public Library
Faneuil Branch, 419 Faneuil St., Brighton (617-782-6705). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore, #57 bus to Oak Square. •March 11 and 18, 10 am. Reading Readiness features music, stories and crafts. •March 13, 2 pm. Want to Learn to Play Checkers Like a Pro? is a workshop for kids ages 6 and up.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge. •Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting and more. •Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm. Pint-Sized Science offers scientific exploration for preschoolers. •Daily, 10 am-12 pm and 1-3 pm, PlaySpace offers a messy activity for children up to 3 years of age.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories. Snacks and craft activities follow.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •March 19, 9 am-12 pm, grades 2 and 4. Examine fossils in We Dig Dinosaurs.

Ice Skating at Frog Pond
Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-2120). www.cityofboston.gov/parks/FrogPond_winter.asp. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon., 10 am-5 pm. Sun., Tue.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm. Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm. $3, free for 13 and under. Skate on Boston Common's frozen Frog Pond.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). ...icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/...
•Mar. 19, 11 am-3 pm. Family Festival Day: ... Face Space features activities for families to ex... portraiture and create their own art.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5156). ...gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to ...seum. •March 19, 9:30 am-12:30 pm. Nonmem... $40, members $35 (includes one adult and ch... *Chairs Family Workshop.* After exploring the... leries for chair ideas, participants will jointly d... rate their own child-size chairs to take home. ... 8 and above with an adult.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). h... web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Ken... Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5... 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free ... admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Hol... phy, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring ... world's largest collection of holograms. Ongo... •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's arti... intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Mo... The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship mo... from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). ...mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. ... and Sun., 11 am-4 pm, ages 4+. Drop into the ... ily Place for a free-for-all drawing activity insp... by the collection. Materials provided. •Mon.-... 3:30-4:45 pm. Children's Room is an interac... learning environment that encourages chil... ages 6-12 to take a closer look at the MFA's co... tion. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30-4:30 pm, ages five ... under. Books Bring Art Alive is a hands-on art... tivity. •Sat.-Sun., 11 am-4 pm, ages four and... Family Place and Drop-In Drawing include ga... activities and puzzles. •March 16, 4:30-6:30... Teen-to-Teen Art Talks: Light and Shadow ... opportunity for teen visitors to engage with in ... versations about the MFA's collection with t... peers. An art activity follows.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.... org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Su... am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11 seniors, $10... dren. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and ... of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs* show... the museum's collection of dinosaur models. O... ing. •*Playing with Time* explores technology tha... tects and manipulates time. Through April ... •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibition that... tures models of a wave tank, Mount Everest a... giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science in the Pa... a permanent playground with a scientific ... •*Mapping the World Around Us* explores the ev... tion of maps. Ongoing. •*Forces of Nature, Roar: ... of the Kalahari* and *Extreme* show at the IMAX T... atre. •*Mission to Saturn* is a planetarium show a... the Cassini spacecraft making a dangerous jou... toward one of Saturn's most mysterious moons. ... going.•*Catch Bugs!* is a new 20-minute 3D m... presentation at the Wright Theater. Ongoing.• ... *tery of the Nile* is a giant-screen film chronicli... daring 3,250-mile journey down the Nile River. ... going. •*Amazing Journeys* is a giant screen film o... passages of creatures from gray whales to mon... butterflies. Ongoing. •*Countdown to Supernova* ... planetarium show that illustrates the ways stars ... their demise, including the spectacular explos... called supernovas. Ongoing.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.... org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9... 5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; sen... $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* feat... thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •... 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sh... stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the S...* a hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, he... crabs and more. Ongoing. •*Aliens of the Deep* ... in 3D at the IMAX Theatre.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.... newton.ma.us/library. •Wednesdays through M... 30, 4 pm, kindergartners and first-graders. In... Arms of the Starfish explores nature through ac... ties and stories. •March 15, 4 pm, ages 7 and... Club Zoom features games based on the televi... program. •March 17, 4:15 pm, ages 5 and up. L... to stories about Australia and make a craft in W... Cultures Australia. •Mon. and Tue., 10:30 ... Wed., 9:45 am, age 2; Thu., 9:45 am, ages 2 a... Wed., 10:30 am, age 3; Mon., 3:30 pm, ages 3 an... Wed., 2 pm and Thu., 3:30 pm, ages 4 and 5; Th... pm, ages 4 and up. Library staff read stories.

round own

hts to See

on University Observatory
Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. ear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April- 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

dren's Museum
Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

euil Hall
ate St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue o State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, een Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am.

vard Museum of Natural History
xford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www. harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. -Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, ildren, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

F. Kennedy Library & Museum
nbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: ine to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; se- nd students, $8; 12 and under, free.

nt Auburn Cemetery
Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). A: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

eum of Afro-American History
y St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam m.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memor- y: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 pm. Free.

eum of Science
e Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am- (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children,

eum of Transportation
ewton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.- 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

England Aquarium
al Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: -Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1- 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. 5, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

North Church
alem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange en Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

State House Museum
Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: ge or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, s and students, $4; children, $1.

dential Center Skywalk
Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. ; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; chil- nder 3, free.

ity Church
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; chil- 2 and under, free.

Constitution & Museum
estown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www. nstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am- Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

lunteer

Mentoring Program
695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

S Action Committee
437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with AIDS.

erican Cancer Society
556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer pa- to their local treatment appointments.

erican Red Cross of sachusetts Bay
375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volun- n the administrative department.

Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks vol- rs to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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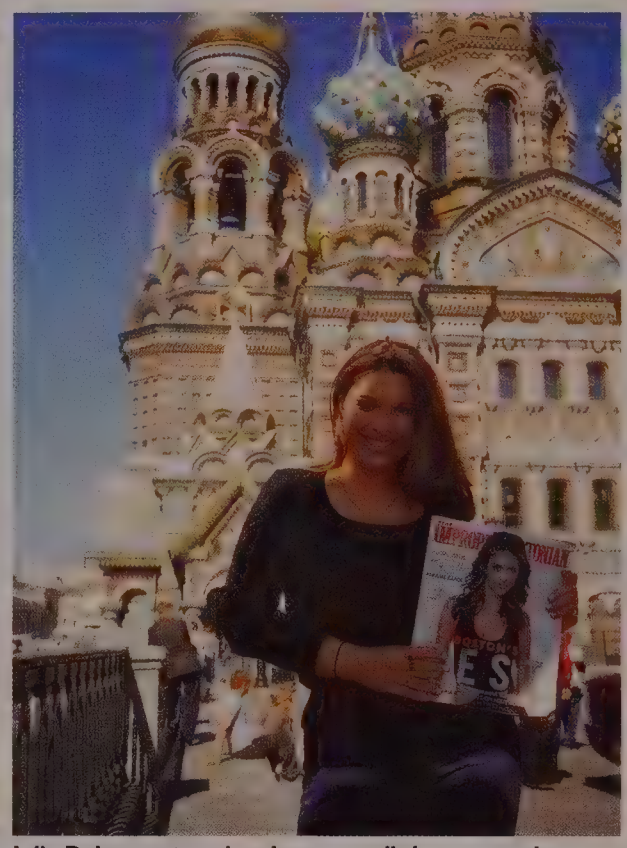
Una Bella Serata

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRI

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you we. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Gretchen Swanz found that penguins really do play on little ice slides in Neko Harbor, Antarctica. It's totally the cutest thing ever until the sea lions pop out of the water and eat them like Wheat Thins.

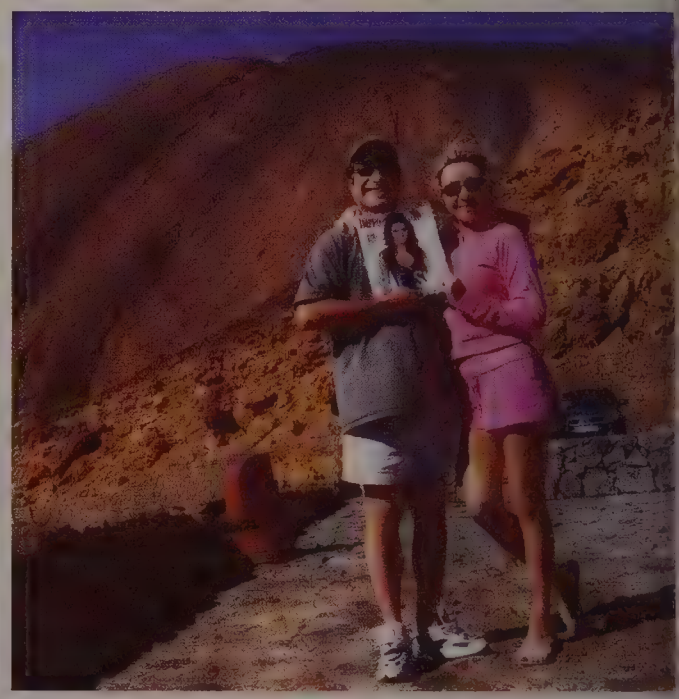


Julia Bulanova toted an IMPROPER all the way to the Church on Spilled Blood in St. Petersburg, Russia. Despite its ominous name, the COSB is made of candy.

Gilda Surette met town crier David Olie in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. He was crying "Olie Olie oxen free!" apparently because he had some oxen. Who escaped.

Alvin Gonzalez and Jessica Weeks stopped at El Morro, the fort in San Juan, Puerto Rico. El Morro is Spanish for "the day two days after yesterday."

Fida Hasan visited the Parliament House in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Parliament House was built by the same architect who designed Boston's City Hall Plaza.



James Lowenstern and Elena Selivanova stand before Moun Teide on Tenerife in the Canary Islands. They thought of climbing it, but that seemed too tedious.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Carrying so much coal that the pieces at the bottom of his or her stack turn into diamonds at the World Coal Carrying Championships, held March 28 in Gawthorpe, England.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

improperimpersonals

eryone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the rld to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of self in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type -mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

st in Marriage

' does everyone assume that eone who is married already has of friends? My girlfriend and I married over a year ago. We'd living together for four years at time, so no big deal. But as soon e were married, single friends married friends stopped ting to go out and see movies or g out with me alone. Everything to be done as couples. Why? Is e some unwritten rule I don't w about? My wife has a great al network of friends. My ork isn't so great. I'm trying to e it better. But I can't find a of finding single or married ds (who'll go singly) to see a ie ("with explosions," which my hates) or even take photos of on (another hobby we don't e). Don't get me wrong—the riage is great. But when she has ' night out, I'm stuck at home ing DVDs. Can anyone shed light his situation?
stinmarriage02122@ oo.com

st–Super Bowl lebration

ne stunning woman in the dark coat coming home from ricane O'Reilly's on the Lechmere tle after the Pats victory in the er Bowl: You were with your nds, trying to call one of their ex- riends to give him grief about ly's loss. You sat down next to and we struck up a brief versation, but unfortunately the was too short to do much else e of the few times I've ever ted that shuttle ride to last ger). Anyway, I'd certainly like to brate the Pats victory over ks, so if the euphoria hasn't ed yet, definitely drop me an ail!
lyingElvis05@netscape.net

rantulas and plorers

year, being new to Boston, I le the mistake of going online to a date for the fabulous stigious Explorers Club Annual ner. It was disastrous, as I never the guy in person, he lived in and he canceled at the last nent, leaving me stuck with a 0 ticket.
This year, I am smarter! I am ng my favorite Boston azine—the IMPROPER—to help find a Boston date for the bash. ut the dinner: It's a fabulous ortunity to hobnob with exciting ple like astronauts, Bob Ballard Sir Edmund Hillary...and to challenge yourself by tasting exotic hors d'oeuvres like crispy tarantulas and scorpions, or crickets in sushi. I am a 5'3", 38-year-old, brown-eyed blonde. I'm tri-lingual, a world traveler and a former television interviewer. I have a sparkling engaging personality and a zest for life! You should be a SWM age 38–48. Please send your photo and why I should choose you!
—neweastcoastgal@juno.com

Cornwall's

I was enjoying a pint of Old Speckled Hen at Cornwall's on Feb. 2 when my chain of thought was interrupted by a tap on the arm. I turned to see you standing to my right. You asked if anyone was sitting next to me. I replied no and thought that was the end of our conversation. Of the three empty chairs to my right, you chose to sit at the one closest to me. Before long the two of us were talking about your trips to England and France. You introduced yourself to me as Sandra. While I nursed my pint, you dined on shepherd's pie. Before calling it a night, you informed me that you had to attend a social event at Jillian's and out the door you went. Sandra, I would love to continue our conversation again someday. Maybe next time we could meet up at Kennedy's Midtown for coffee.
—reservedman2_02_05@yahoo.com

Snowy Car Help

To the couple and the handsome special education teacher working in Lexington who helped me get my car in my parking space during the post-blizzard snow storm on Jan. 26: I'm sorry that I didn't get to say thank you. To the special education teacher, I wish that I got to talk to you more, so if you remember me and would like to chat, you can e-mail me. Nevertheless, thanks for the help!
—snowylanark@yahoo.com

To RW

You are the biggest fool on this planet. I was all the desires of your heart handed to you on a silver platter. Or so you had me believe. You gave me hope that one day we could possibly get back together. I held on to that hope for a year. I wasted so many tears, prayers, love and effort over you. You made me believe that I was the one you really wanted to be with, so how the hell did you end up marrying another woman after only three months of dating?! I am certain with every ounce of my being that you have made a huge mistake. But it's certainly not the first time for you, is it? You really played that sympathy card—poor you, you've been let down and broken-hearted by people all your life. And now you've left me utterly disappointed and horribly broken-hearted. You have lost the right to call yourself a "victim" after the way you've made me feel. Enjoy your new mistake...er, I mean marriage. You deserve exactly what you get. At least now I know that you are not half the man I thought you were. I quote Alanis Morissette: "The next time I scratch my nails down someone else's back, I hope you feel it!"
—Your ex-"Sweet Angel Princess"

Charlestown Samaritan

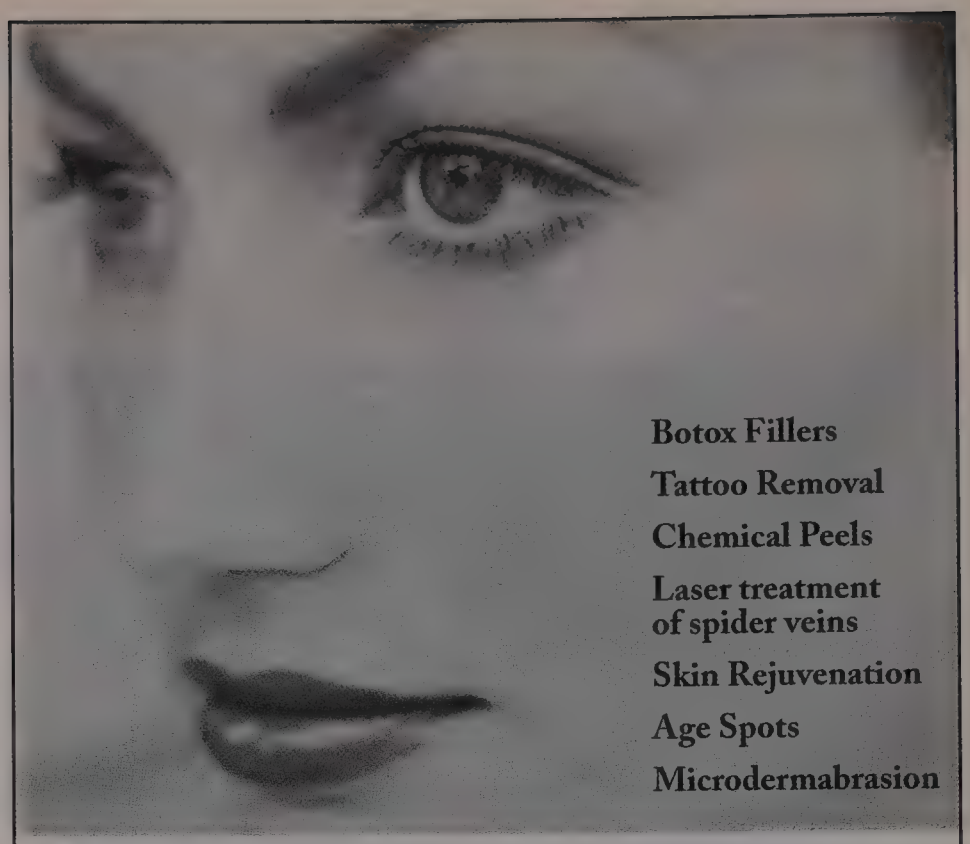
To the nameless person who sent back my lost passport *and* checkbook (untouched): Thank you so very much. I wish you put an address on the envelope so I could verbally express my appreciation, but this will have to do. I thought I lost my ID and checks for good after an obscene night of drinking and debauchery—I was expecting some sort of identity theft or blank check nightmare. Instead I was both shocked and relieved that someone was kind enough to send them back to me. This act undoubtedly ensures some really good karma for you.
—One lucky drunk chick

Can You Buy Beer at Store 24?

That's what you asked me, and I thought it was the dumbest question, so I rudely told you no, and walked with you to the liquor store a few windows down. During our short walk I found out you are a veterinary student at Tufts. You were cute, wearing a red winter hat, and you were on you way to a party with friends in Cleveland Circle. Maybe next time you're in the area could be to see me?
—dez015@aol.com

To the Guy with the Long Eyelashes...

That night when I went to the Opal Lounge, I was stuck talking to someone else most of the night, not knowing that you were about to walk into my life. When you came over, I couldn't help but notice your beautiful long eyelashes and your cute smile. We had such great conversation that I almost thought it was too good to be true and thought you might be playing me. You offered me a ride home. I want to be the only girl to ride in your car from now on.
—Your one and only



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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

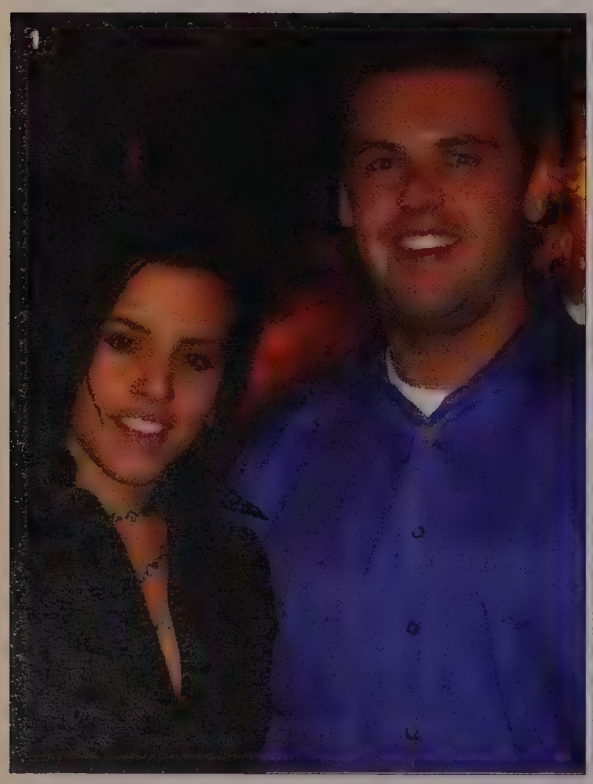
On Wednesday, February 23, the **Hampshire House** held its third annual Engagement Celebration, themed Vintage Victorian. Guests enjoyed exhibitions, food and entertainment.

1. **Patti McPartland**, owner of the Antique Vase; **Edison Chae**, principal of Madison Floral Inc.; and **Michelle Finsterwald**, senior catering sales manager of the Hampshire House.
2. **Michael Rossi**, stylist at Christopher J. Hawes Color and Design Group, and **Roseanna Martino**, president of the Altered Bride.
3. **Laura Pineda** and **Tiffany White**, owners, and **Amy Braga**, studio manager, all of Alternate Angles.

On Thursday, February 24, **Red Bull Energy Drink** launched its annual Art f the Can Contest Exhibition at the Artists for Humanity EpiCenter. The eveni featured 31 pieces selected from more than 400 amateur and professional art

1. **Victor Nguyen-Long**, coll marketing coordinator for R North America, and **Heathe Higgins**, finalist for Red Bu of the can contest, creator o *Corset*.
2. **Isabel del Valle**, sales ass and **Caroline Hardy**, publi relations and store manager of Moth.
3. **Brandy Toth**, division mark manager for Bacardi USA; **S Lilien-Zwiebel**, manager f Bacardi USA; and **Terri Cro** consultant for Pro Staff.

On Thursday, February 24, **The Improper Bostonian** and **Stadium** celebrated the one-year Anniversary of the popular sports bar. The event was sponsored by **Bushmills Irish Whiskey** and **Harpoon IPA.**



1. **Daniella La Rosa**, events manager, and **Scott Kelley**, general manager, both of Stadium.
2. **Dave Glucksman**, bartender at Anthem, and **John Madigan**, valet with Ultimate.
3. **Lisa Urso**, clerk with the United States District Court; **Sean Gaudet**, telephone splicer with Local 2222; **Sam Stoutenburg**, clerk with the United States District Court; and **Jenn Filo**, bartender at Junction.
4. **Pat Davidson**, executive sales representative for Spectrum Integrated; **Theresa Morris**, CEO for T-Licious Productions; and **Mike Ceppi**, strategic account manager for Strategic Sales.

PHOTOS: HAMPSIRE HOUSE, STADIUM, ALISON MORANT; RED BULL, CARRIE W

ockie horoscope

ARCH 9 – 22, 2005

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

SCES FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

month, take time to appreciate the stable relationships you currently enjoy, cially ones with the very young and the very old—whatever constitutes "age" these .. Experience, be it with a teammate or a lover, is truly the best teacher; a lesson ly drilled home while Saturn supports the impressionable Pisces sun. If you need more challenge, undertake a project when the sun provokes Pluto in your career neaven. But if hard work isn't the answer, try reinventing yourself one more time.

RIES

.RCH 20–APRIL 19

opposition should show up while restrictive Saturn oses your adventurous Mars ruler. Whether you have to ront a real live pain-in-the-ass person or deal with a cy situation hardly makes a difference. The impact on personally, as well as on your career plans, is what'll e the difference. If you feel like a martyr, relax. That's ly the annual rite, aka the Pisces new moon, taking e in your house of services rendered to the cosmos; the s you pay for getting to do your own thing. It'll pass.

AURUS

RIL 20–MAY 20

Pisces new moon directs attention to a matter cerning a colleague's impact on your career and how r business and social life tie together. While your Venus r transits empathetic, charitable Pisces, you could be ng way too many people the benefit of the doubt. rever, this generous attitude won't last much longer. ore spring arrives and Venus moves on to self-sufficient s, you may have to face facts, e.g., the bottom line, and nd St. Patty's Day dip into your secret stash.

EMINI

AY 21–JUNE 20

Mercury ruler doesn't flip backward until the 19th, but already paving the way for the usual retrograde crises and fusions. Make sure plans for the Easter holiday are firmly lace; also try to minimize the impact if a career matter begins with the Pisces new moon on the 10th gets tabled ing retrograde. What you might enjoy more than progress a project is the joyful spiritual high you get from the grand sign trine between idealistic Neptune in Aquarius, mistic Jupiter in Libra and your own Gemini planets.

ANCER

NE 21–JULY 22

nd fast. Stoical Saturn in your sign can help you face an laught of Martian assertiveness from either an ally or an agonist. Chances are you'll stay the course, but the rmath of the confrontation could turn out to be one of se lessons of a lifetime—thankfully, one that won't have e relearned for the next 29 years. Meanwhile the Pisces moon on the 10th offers the Moon Child an opportunity ise above the commonplace, to be inspired by a mentor, ook or a realization that'll add another dimension to r idea of the well-lived life.

EO

LY 23–AUGUST 22

ady as she goes. Your psychological ship of state won't be own off course, not while your sun ruler and stable urn form a supportive trine this week. Relish the reward, matter how subtle. The Pisces new moon could initiate a , mutually advantageous financial, or even sexual tnership. However, you'll still be determined to pursue a asurable pastime no matter what it costs or how long it es. Remember that the days marking the end of one rological year and the beginning of another can be an ecially emotional time for the Lion.

IRGO

JGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

ause your Mercury ruler will be retrograde from March until April 12, if you haven't already done so, now would 2 good time to assemble the paperwork for your tax rn. Once Mercury flips, who knows what you'll have to repair or redo. However, between a family matter that meant something in December surfacing again and the money you can earn from the art or music you're making, who knows where you'll find the time. As you may have guessed, there's a lot going on, not the least is the surge in creativity (sexuality too).

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

It's not the first time and it won't be the last that lucky Jupiter in your sign rewards, and is rewarded in turn, by imaginative Neptune in your house of creativity, recreation and romance. Besides improving a loving relationship, there is a lot you can achieve while this combination of highly intuitive, high-principled energy propels you forward. Plus your occasionally indolent, insouciant Venus ruler now favors consistency and passion, ensuring that your reputation benefits from your hard work and artistic talent.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

More information about a complicated financial matter comes to light while the Pisces sun challenges your Pluto co-ruler. Its successful resolution might not happen until Mercury finishes its retrograde trip a few days before the April 15th tax deadline. Meanwhile, patiently learn what you can from an experienced adviser, especially if rules and regulations are involved. Despite being busy with all the above, don't ignore a potentially romantic invitation issued by the sweet person you meet shortly after the Pisces new moon this week.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Like your Libra and Aquarius brethren, Sag can be rewarded by your Jupiter ruler's liaison with idealistic, artistic Neptune, especially if you're involved in a cooperative venture. This success should balance whatever uneasiness results from digging into a family affair or taking a stroll down memory lane with a childhood friend. However, with so much going on, concentrating adequately on a financial matter that thankfully won't reappear for another 29 years could be difficult. Best get your priorities in order ASAP.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Curious Caps may be granted a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to penetrate the mystery surrounding a partnership; why you're still in it or why you're not? Bold, brave Mars, exalted in your sign, helps you perceive the nature of a karmic relationship when it opposes your Saturn ruler in Cancer, your cosmic "other." A supportive trine to Saturn from the compassionate, egoless Pisces sun should cushion your reaction to whatever you discover. Make the most of this unique opportunity if and when it comes around.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Read for Libra and Sagittarius and take whatever is pertinent to heart. Speaking of hearts, lovable Venus is looking to stabilize a relationship that was recently shaken up. Let time, and the goddess, be on your side to work their healing magic; hopefully without any more prodding from folks who feel they have a vested interest. While it may be difficult to separate yourself physically from the group, for the next few weeks try to disengage psychologically. Also try expressing yourself through an art form you're unfamiliar with. You'll be surprised.

ious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise r the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE tDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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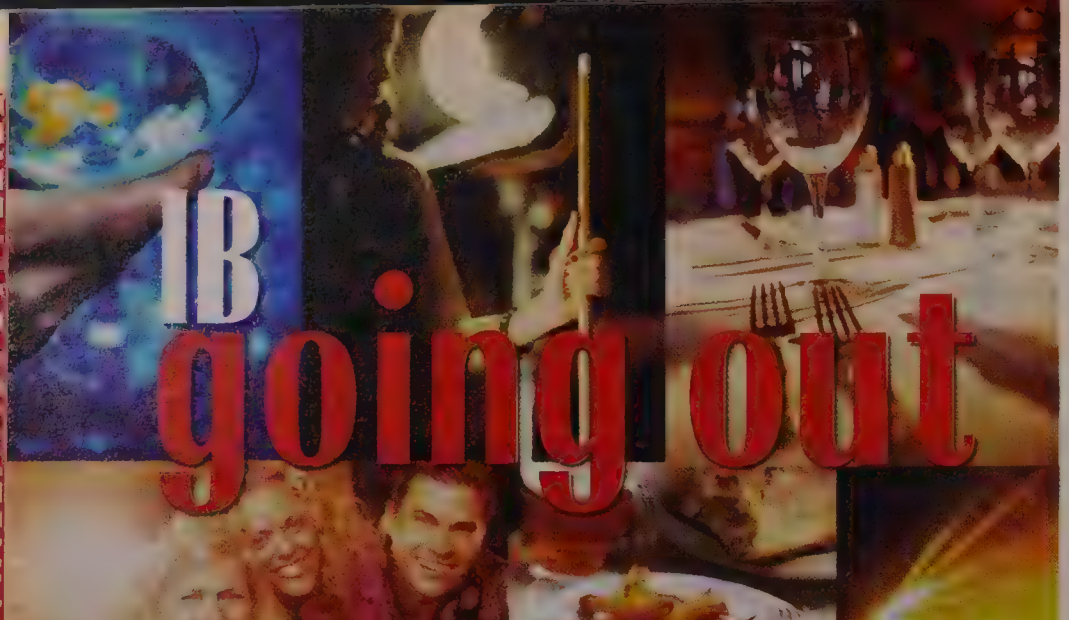

RESTAURANTS

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 year in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

CLERYS *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty.Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

LUCKY'S LOUNGE *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

TURNER FISHERIES RESTAURANT & BAR *10 Huntington Avenue, Boston 617-424-7425.* Turner Fisheries Restaurant & Bar is a Boston landmark offering Hall-of-Fame clam chowder and an assortment of fresh, native seafood dishes. Turner's private dining rooms are the perfect place to hold board meetings or larger social events up to 140 persons. One taste and you'll see why Turner Fisheries is Boston's premier seafood specialty restaurant. Opened for lunch and dinner Monday - Saturday. Closed on Sundays.

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

BOSTON BEER WORKS *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Hisn Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest largest restaurant brewery with 3 locati Bold American Food. Award Winning Bee microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 Ar can wines by the glass. 15 championshi liards tables at our Canal Street location. plete party planning capabilities. Pri Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Di Late Night. Always a good time. Check ou BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton A Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTI** *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-8646.* Something's always brewing at Be Boston's award winning beer bar. Here y find the largest selection on the East Co 112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic ports. Join our beer club and enjoy every of beer under the sun. Take advantage o yards, cask conditioned beer, flight sam vintage and new beers, seasonals, me ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experi our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *pizza kitchen, Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-7 2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME P 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beer tap, outrageous signature pizzas and MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG B BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool fro 8pm, free rooms and pool for your next p or function of any kind. Call the "Party Spe ists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pi $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come perience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Bos 617.350.5555.* Felt is located in the sha of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed a Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering phisticated billiards, NewYork style Loun hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gour dinner while lounging in a plush, red-ve booth; while listening to a DJ accompanie live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a roma dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combi with the delicious entrees is the perfect bl to satisfy all your cravings. American Cont porary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

STADIUM – CLUBHOUSE *232 Old Col Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The dium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale ni club featuring two bars, a hardwood da floor and parking. An exciting yet rela 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variet music and beautiful people crowding dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights ideal place for your next bachelor, bac lorette or birthday party.

CLUB Q BOSTON *25 Union St., Bos 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednes through Saturday.What nightlife in Bos has been waiting for, this state of the Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attr a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednes through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 4 With two bars, three VIP areas and pool bles, Club Q is the place to see and be se Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

E COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy rket Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. w.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd or of the Quincy Market Building in the rt of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven hts a week and offers the best in local national comedy. During the week, the ionally renowned club offers some of ton's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The dman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don in. On Thursday nights, Frank tos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes audience and on the weekends, this is only place to see the biggest names in edy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, rgaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane k and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

SE MCINTYRE'S *160 Milk St., Boston -9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican can- is a great escape in the financial district! floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool ta- s upstairs and live bands downstairs!

E PLACE *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523- 81 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. nce. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest y to spend a night of all-out fun in ton's Financial District. Come after work. me to dance. Come to go wild with your nds. There's always something exciting pening – and you never know who you'll np into. Join us and experience what the z is all about.

E PURPLE SHAMROCK *1 Union St., ston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great d, live entertainment and relaxing atmos- re! Menu includes American and Irish spe- ties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

E BLACK ROSE *160 State St., Boston, 7-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub ebrates its 25th year! Considered one of best Irish pubs in America, the menu fea- es American and Irish specialties. Live Irish sic nightly.

NNESSY'S OF BOSTON *25 Union St., ston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authen- Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great nu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A je bar with an extensive beer and wine list, nessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. oy live entertainment five nights a week h pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spir- " are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

EEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., ghton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ire- d with great tasting, affordable food. One the most popular nightspots in town, the en Briar has become the area's headquar- s for international sports viewing and live ertainment. Live music five nights a week, turing local bands on weekends, a tradi- nal Irish Seissun every Monday night and me Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable nosphere makes the Green Briar an excel- t place to hold luncheons, wedding re- arsals, social gatherings and small business etings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. ver charge varies on Friday and Saturday hts and some sporting events on Sundays.

E GREEN DRAGON *11 Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

MR. DOOLEY'S BOSTON TAVERN *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

THE ALLEY *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

BAR 10 *The Westin Copley Place Boston, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-424-7446.* After a long day, relax and wind down in the sophisticated style of one of Boston's most fashionable "hot spots," Bar 10, voted "Best Civilized Cocktail" by The Improper Bostonian. Enjoy creative Mediterranean cuisine with an extensive, affordable wine list, as well as a variety of specialty cocktails. Opened Monday - Friday 11:30 AM - 1:00 AM and Saturday and Sunday 12:00 PM - 1:00 AM.

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.bostonrocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex,Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

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HURRICANE O'REILLY'S *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

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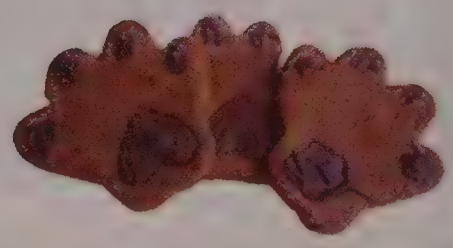

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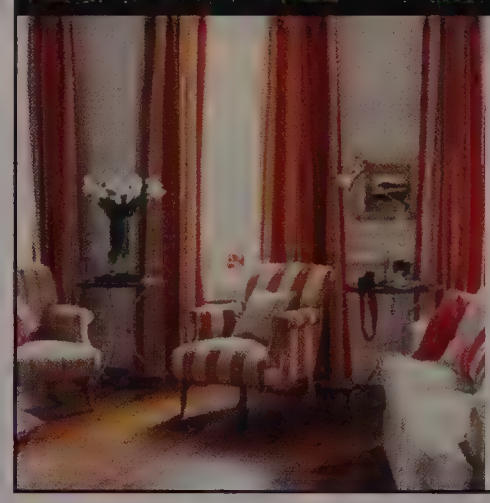

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At TomorrowNite, top: Stuart Fraass, Frances Rivera and Melissa Hurley. Bottom: Anne Tamer Hajjar and Dalia Nuwayhid

AN ARABIAN NIGHT...

The **Wang Center** was transformed into a Bedouin tent (or at least a Bedouin tent that served cocktails) for the Magic Carpet Ride—the annual **TomorrowNite** benefit for the **St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital**.

While belly dancers and Middle Eastern music entertained as the crowd circulated through the gauzy curtains decorating the lobby, guests feasted on delicacies like stuffed dates and vine leaves, lamb skewers, and saffron rice. An extensive silent auction, meanwhile, ranged from the sublime (a $10K mink) to the intriguing (the chance to join a private eye on a stakeout) to the ridiculous (a signed poster of Jessica Simpson along with a basket of her "signature edible makeup"—don't ask).

Among the gorgeous crowd: co-chairs and Charlesmark Hotel owners **Charles** and **Anne Tamer Hajjar**; the luscious **Dalia Nuwayhid** (looking way better than anyone has a right to two weeks after giving birth); bigshot attorneys **Joe** and **Paul Ayoub** (whose father helped start St. Jude's with Hollywood legend Danny Thomas); Channel 7 glamazon **Frances Rivera** and her hunky other half, **Stuart Fraass**; and one woman who looked at an auction item and said, "If you need $30,000 worth of cosmetic dentistry, you're either beyond help or more in need of $30,000 worth of psychiatry."

REDECORATING IS A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND...

The Apollo Theater's got nothing on **Roxbury Comprehensive Community Health Center** (RCCHC), the neighborhood clinic that somehow always manages to land a major headliner (last year was Chaka Khan) for its annual fund-raiser, held at the **Copley Plaza Hotel**.

This year's entertainment was courtesy of funky divas **En Vogue**, and among the racially diverse crowd getting their groove on were such prominent types as the evening's chair, uber-attorney **Walter Prince**, and his lovely wife, **Dorothy**; Channel 5's **Karen Holmes-Ward** and her affable other half, **Chip**; banking behemoth **Ron Walker**; power couple **Milton** and **Joan Wallace Benjamin**; and the charity's stunning head honcha, **Anita Crawford**, who was sporting the evening's raffle prize: a dazzling diamond necklace.

"I'm gonna win it for you, sweetheart," said one loving husband to his wife, to which she said, "Good for you, honey. And I'm gonna pawn it to do something with the house."

HOT WHEELS...

It was just like the annual car show at the Bayside Expo Center, except that everyone wore black tie, the cars were one-of-a-kind and the crowd was a bit more refined, when the **Museum of Fine Arts** held a VIP opening of its new exhibition of wheels from the collection of **Ralph Lauren**.

The diminutive designer himself was there, with wife **Ricky** and gorgeous children **Dylan**, **Andrew** and **David**, and all arrived like rock stars to mix and mingle with the likes of museum chief **Malcolm Rogers**; best-selling scribe **Robert B. Parker** and his fashion-plate wife, **Joan**; PBS icon **Charlie Rose**; Fidelity investments doyenne **Lily Johnson**; swanlike arts patron **Trevania Henderson**; the gorgeously tanned **Suki** and **Miguel de Braganza**; stunning pre-facelift socialite **Allie Drescher** and 1,500 or so others, one of whom described the show as, "Wicked cool cahs."

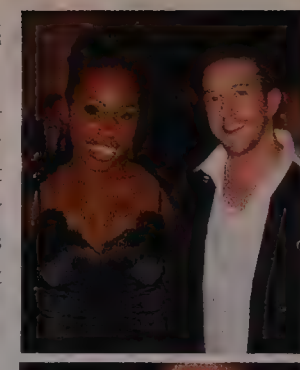
Overheard in the gallery: a man who had recently been robbed saying, "I'm very materialistic, but strangely I don't get attached to my things," to which the woman he was speaking to responded, "I feel that way about most of the men I date."

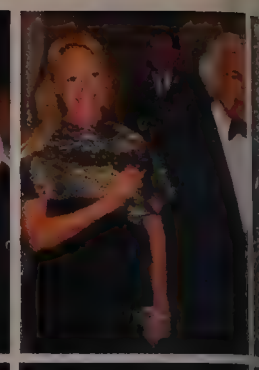
However, the evening's funniest comment came from the man who said, "I wanna have sex in every single one of those cars...even if it's by myself."

TOTO, I DON'T THINK WE'RE IN CAMBRIDGE ANYMORE....

You couldn't swing a dead cat (not that they encourage that sort of behavior) without hitting someone either very famous or fabulously rich in the ballroom of the **Charles Hotel** when Bruins great **Cam Neely**, film and TV actor **Michael J. Fox** and acerbic comedian **Denis Leary** hosted their annual casino night/rock concert, **Betting on a Cause and a Cure**, to raise money for their charitable foundations.

Spotted among the high-rollers: homey-gone-Hollywood **Donnie Wahlberg**; the wickedly funny **Lenny Clarke**; the magnificent **Nancy Friedman** and her husband, **Dick**; actor **Campbell Scott**; *White Shadow* star **Ken Howard**; Tudor investments poobah **Jim Pallota**; poker champion **Chris Moneymaker**; the absurdly wealthy **Ernie Boch Jr.**; Harrah's CEO **Gary Loveman**; Celtics owner **Wyc Grousbeck**; real estate moguls **Paul** and **Peter Palandjian**; restaurateurs **Michael Schlow**, **Chris Myers** and **Joanne Chang**; gorgeous jeweler **Nidhi Handa**; the super-groovy **Sidmans**, **Lori** and **Matthew**; and the babe-alicious **Beths** (**Kurtin** and **Dickerson**), to name a few.





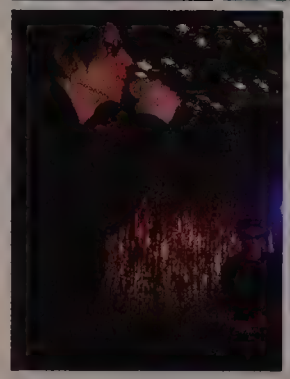
At the Museum of Fine Arts, top row: Aleisha Agard and Shawn O'Connor; Ralph and Ricky Lauren. Middle row: Jenny and Todd Rosenfeld; Sara Underwood and Michael Felger. Bottom: Brian Yee

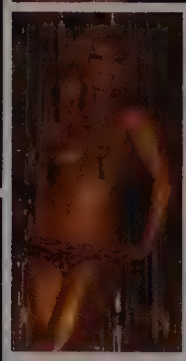
Following a spectacular dinner, so serious gambling and a live aucti where hundreds of thousands of doll were thrown around like Monop money, the **J. Geils Band**, fronted **Peter Wolf**, performed together for t first time since...well, no one knew e actly when, but a long time ago, playi all their greatest hits for the row amped-up crowd.

In short, it was the kind of evening th happens more often in places like Hol wood or Las Vegas, which is to say that at least one night, this town traded in petticoat for a thong and did a lap dan instead of the minuet. iB

At the RCCHC party, clockwise from top: En Vogue; Dorothy and Walter Pierce; Anita Crawford and Ron Walker

At Betting on a Cause and a Cure, clockwise from top right: Lenny Clarke; Campbell Scott, Ken Howard and Ann Leary; Golden Girl; Donnie Wahlberg; Peter Wolf of the J. Geils Band; Chris Moneymaker; Lenny Clarke, Ernie Boch and Campbell Scott playing craps; Nancy and Dick Friedman





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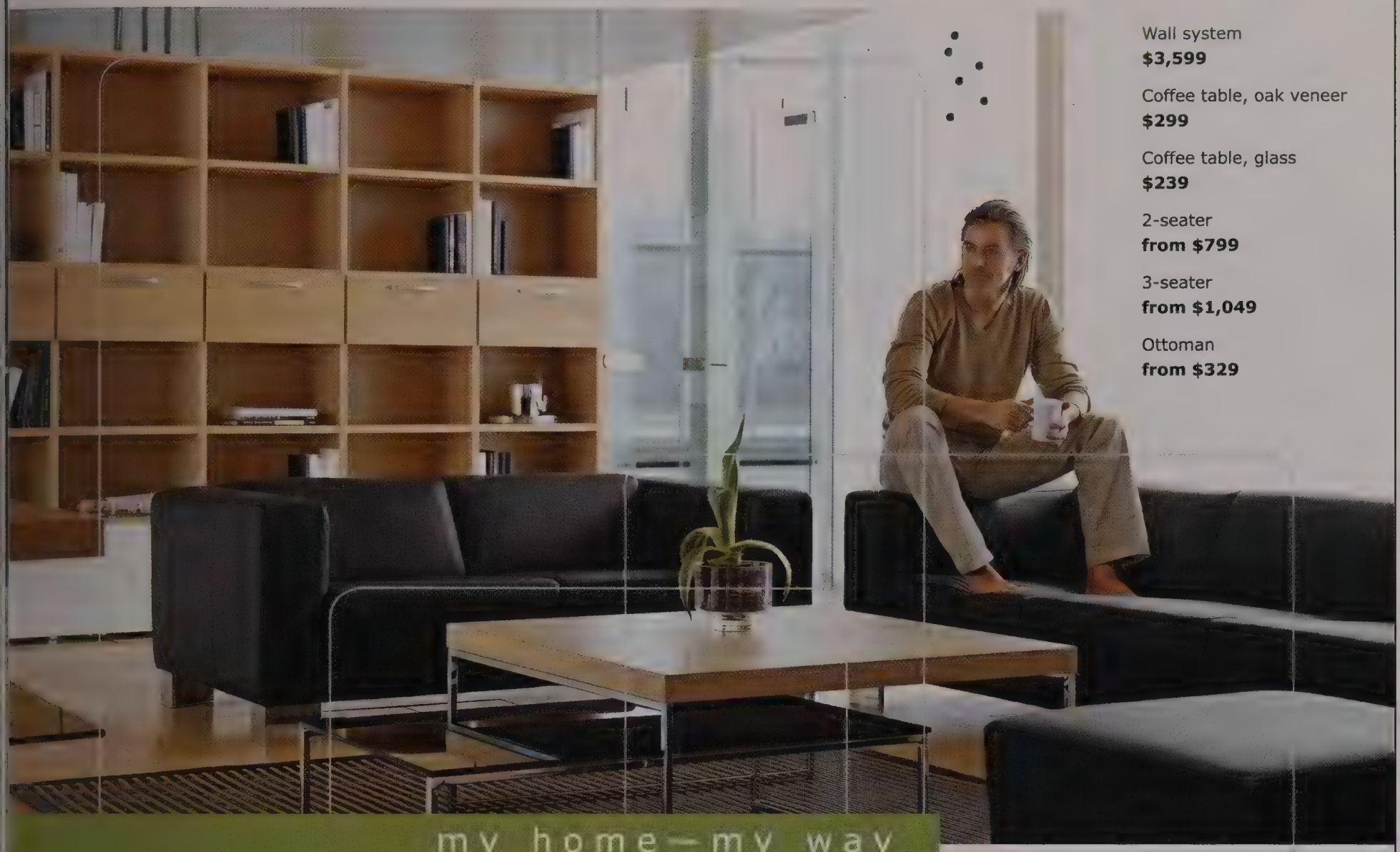

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TRACY POWELL

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PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Peter Urban

Hair: **Nhi Luu/Giuliano Spa;** makeup: **Robin Powers/Giuliano Spa;**
chair, martini glass and cocktail shaker: **Crate & Barrel**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

BEHIND BARS

For the 11th straight year, we pay tribute in this issue to the professionals that many of our readers would agree are crucial to this city's livability and indeed its very character: bartenders. We don't even want to imagine the joyless wasteland Boston would be without that cozy joint on the corner and the friendly face who knows we like our margarita salty.

And so, lest the gods think us ungrateful, we recognize our good fortune by spotlighting 27 of the most talented bartenders in the business—plus 16 legends we've designated MVBs (most valuable bartenders). Please join us in toasting this year's crop of Beloved Bartenders and all their colleagues who add a little joy to our lives.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

GUINNESS IS A PART OF WHO WE ARE, BUT SO ARE *BAHN MI* SANDWICHES AND JAMAICAN PEPPER POT.

—JAMES ARTHUR JEMISON
BOSTON

THOUGHTS ON DOT

I'm writing to highlight a missed opportunity in Michele McPhee's article on Dorchester ("Hot Dot," March 9). While Dorchester has proud Irish roots, African-Americans and Carribean-Americans settled the neighborhood in the 1970s and '80s along with the Vietnamese. It's the mixing of these and other groups, along with the gay community, that makes Dorchester such an interesting place right now.

Writers need to get this right because Boston is exporting a romantic image of itself as a town full of Irish-American roughnecks. The image is inaccurate, unfair to the city and to its detriment. Guinness is part of who we are, but so are *bahn mi* sandwiches and Jamaican pepper pot. Other Americans are ignorant of this—with the image we're projecting, no one should be surprised that the Democratic National Committee worried Boston wouldn't appeal to minority Democrats, and the New York delegation didn't want to party in Southie for the convention. They're reading what we're writing.

It's fine to write from an Irish-American perspective, so long as that view doesn't insulate you from what's really going on. Neglecting to focus on how Dorchester has changed detracts from the article and doesn't accurately describe the cultural mixture that produced a family like the Wahlbergs. Remember that the New Kids and Marky Mark didn't *Riverdance* their way to fame; they were singing, rapping and dancing. They surely didn't do this alone in an all-Irish neighborhood.

—JAMES ARTHUR JEMISON
Boston

Not only is Dorchester one of the more sought-after neighborhoods for home buyers, it's also one of the more active neighborhoods—along with Roslindale, JP and the South End—in the City-Wide Dialogues on Boston's Ethnic & Racial Diversity. Five dialogue series have taken place in different sections of Dorchester, and the neighborhood's participation was featured on Channel 5's *Chronicle*.

All the above neighborhoods reflect the amazing diversity of 21st-century Boston and residents' desire to engage each other candidly and respectfully on issues we've had difficulty talking about in the past. To the surprise and relief of many participants, both people of color and white, we're finding we can begin to chip away at the mutual stereotyping and lack of knowledge that have kept us wary and apart.

—JEFF STONE
FOUNDER, CITY-WIDE DIALOGUES ON BOSTON'S ETHNIC & RACIAL DIVERSITY
Roxbury

THE SHOT HEARD ROUND THE IMMEDIATE AREA?

In the Feb. 23 issue Cityscope preview of the reenactment of the Boston Massacre, you wrote that the "shot heard round the world" killed Crispus Attucks at the Massacre. That shot actually occurred on the Green at Lexington on April 19, 1775. Crispus Attucks missed this event, as your coverage was correct in stating that he was killed at the Boston Massacre five years earlier.

—DREW SONDLES
Boston

CORRECTION

In the Word section of the March 9 issue, we gave the wrong name for the new lounge at the Hotel Commonwealth. The correct name is the Foundation Lounge.

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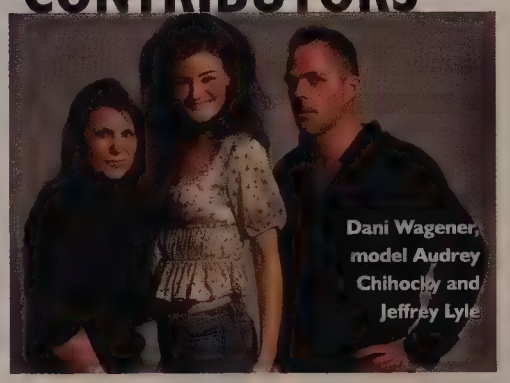

Dani Wagener, model Audrey Chihocky and Jeffrey Lyle

JEFFREY LYLE

Stylist/colorist Jeffrey Lyle divides his time between Grettacole Copley and G Spa. This past winter, he branched out to New York, working on shoots with several beauty editors, as well as shaping and hueing some 'dos at Fashion Week. His stylings can be seen in "Fade to Blue" on page 36.

DANI WAGENER

Makeup artist Dani Wagener has been putting clients' best faces forward for the past 10 years and for the past year has worked exclusively for Trish McEvoy. She also helped launch the Lash Lounge (lashes being one of her specialties) at G Spa on Newbury Street. This issue's fashion feature, "Fade to Blue," on page 36, marks Wagener's fourth collaboration with the IMPROPER.

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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the Word

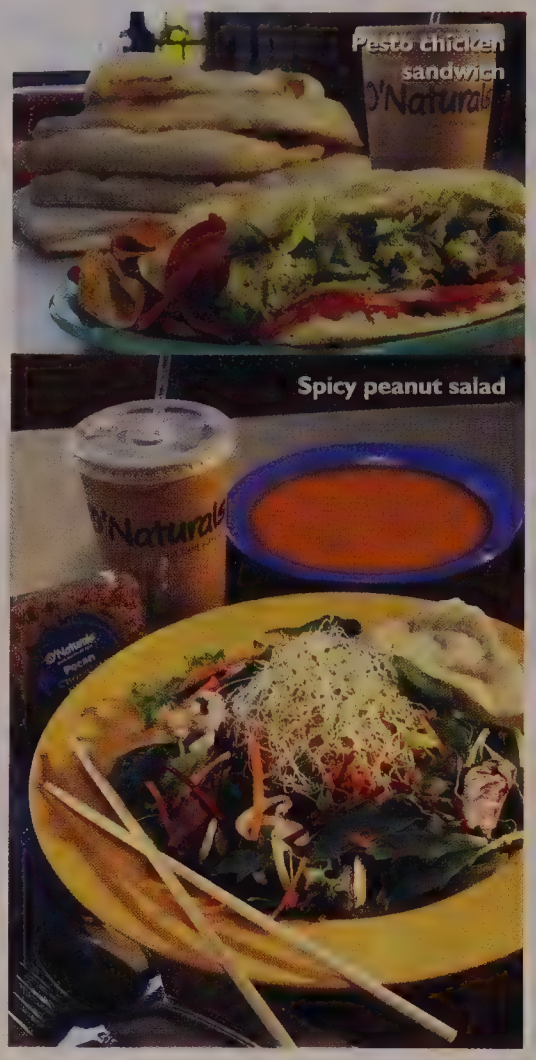
EDITED BY ERIN HAGEDORN

new in town

ALL NATURAL

Outside, it looks like a conventional, one-story brick building on the Somerville site previously occupied by a Carberry's bakery and coffee shop. But that's about all that's conventional about O'Naturals, the latest venture from Stonyfield yogurt meister Gary Hirshberg. He's determined to bring environmental responsibility and healthful dining to the takeout scene. His answer is O'Naturals, an eco-friendly, organic fast-food restaurant at 187 Elm Street, on the edge of Davis Square.

The unusual o'eatery—shall we call it eco-orgo-speedo?—offers food that's toxin-free, raised on family farms or ranches that don't use antibiotics, growth hormones, unnatural colors or chemical preservatives. Even the bison (served meatloaf-style in a $7.25 sandwich with cheddar cheese and roasted red peppers) is raised by Native Americans who graze the beasts on wild prairie. Other menu items include a wild Alaskan salmon sandwich (with brie, roasted root veggies and an Asian sauce, $7.50), salads such as the balsamic blue (with mesclun, blue cheese, raisins, walnuts and balsamic vinaigrette, $4.75 or $5.75), several Asian stir-fries ($5.75–$8.00), and dinner pizzas ($6.50–$19.75). Soups ($2.75–$5.25) and salads ($4.75–$5.75) use locally grown produce whenever possible. All the sandwiches ($5.75–$7.50) are served on freshly baked flatbread.



Food is just part of the story of this place, which seems almost as much a movement as a restaurant. The ecologically sensitive decor features sustainably harvested maple woodwork, energy-efficient lighting, and couches recycled from the building's coffeehouse days. In keeping with its recycling policy, O'Naturals has even kept Carberry's old ovens to bake its own cookies, scones, croissants and other pastries ($1–$2.25), accompanied by a line of specialty coffees ($1.40–$2.50).

O'Naturals has been open mornings until noon with a limited menu while undergoing renovations. Full breakfast, lunch and dinner service begin with the grand opening March 31. An opening weekend celebration April 1–3 will include magic, crafts and lots of live music, with proceeds benefiting the Pine Street Inn, Shape Up Somerville and Mass Bike. Once it's fully up and running, O'Naturals will have a weekly community program called Ten Percent Nights, with 10 percent of the evening's revenues going to a local nonprofit group.

Mon.–Fri., 6 am–8 pm; Sat., 7 am–8 pm; Sun., 7 am–7 pm. For a menu and other information, go to www.onaturals.com. 187 Elm St., Somerville (617-666-2233). —Judith Gaines

sports

SLAPSHOTS

Keeping the Game Alive... The cancellation of the NHL season hasn't kept the world's table hockey leagues out of action. On April 1and 2, F1 Boston in Braintree hosts a US Table Hockey Association tournament. Three of the top-ranked players in North America hail from Boston, and the F1 Boston Challenge will determine which players will travel to Riga, Latvia, for the World Cup in June. With the sport's popularity surging, let's just hope the table hockey brass manages to keep pro hockey honchos Bob Goodenow and Gary Bettman from getting involved.

Boxer Brief... Trash-talking before a pro boxing match is as common as a malaprop from Mike Tyson. But given Methuen native and WBA heavyweight champion John Ruiz's nickname—the Quietman—we were surprised to see Ruiz talking smack about his next title opponent, James "Lights Out" Toney. "I'm the king of the heavyweight division, King Kong on top of the Empire State Building," said the Quietman in a prefight press conference. "I'm going to switch his nickname around and put Toney's lights out. I am the man in the heavyweight division." Perhaps the man, but apparently no longer the Quietman. *—Ezra Dyer*

inner view

JACKIE "THE JOKE MAN" MARTLING

Best known for his 15-year stint as head writer and on-air personality for the *Howard Stern Show,* as well as his performance in Stern's biopic, *Private Parts,* Jackie Martling is the ultimate joke teller. The "Joke Man" has released five dirty joke CD's, three videos, and is featured in the independent documentary, *The Aristocrats*. He also has written the joke page for *Penthouse* magazine since 1989, and currently has a line of electronic joke gadgets he created with Excalibur Electronics in stores internationally (and at www.jokeland.com). Martling performs at the Comedy Connection April 2.

IB: *Can you remember the first joke you ever told?*

JM: When I was 10 years old, I was asked for some reason to emcee my Cub Scouts' Blue and Gold Dinner. I told a joke about the cubmaster having a dream about jumping out of a plane, pulling the rip cord for his parachute and then waking up having his pajama pants fall down.

IB: *Ok, back to present time. What's your favorite joke nowadays? Well, at least your favorite that we can print.*

JM: A joke of mine that you can print? That's a contradictory statement, but I guess it's maybe, 'Velcro was invented by an Italian woman. She was trying to take a wool sweater off her head and it got caught on her mustache.'

IB: *Ok, I have to ask at least one Howard question: How do you feel about his impending move away from terrestrial radio?*

JM: It's going to be interesting how it plays out. I mean, he'll be successful no matter what he does because he's brilliant, but it's just going to be different. Satellite radio's been great for me though, because both XM and Sirius play entire sets of mine on their dirty comedy channels. It's been like a rebirth for a lot of my material.

IB: *What's your favorite part about doing stand-up?*

JM: When I play a game at the end of my shows called Stump the Joke Man. You see, I'm a joke teller; I'm not really a stand-up comic. I tell jokes like people have been doing for years but I hopefully tell them better and funnier. But anyone can get up and rattle off a bunch of jokes, so at the end of each show I play this game where audience members get up and give me the first two lines of any joke, and if I can't come up with the correct punchline they win a t-shirt or a CD.

IB: *Least favorite?*

JM: First off, it's like any job. You've got to get up and do it, which sometimes is a pain, but there's also a lot of anxiety involved with this business. When you're young, you're always terrified about getting up and bombing, but when you reach the point I have you don't worry about that as much. Now you have to worry about making sure people get their money's worth out of you. If someone pays $40 to come see you in Vegas, you don't want them leaving disappointed.

IB: *With a nickname like the Joke Man, you've set a pretty high bar for yourself. Ever worry what might happen if you run out of jokes?*

JM: No way. How are you going to run out of jokes? You never run out of jokes, because everything's funny. Do I worry that I might go blank one night up on stage? Yeah, I've worried about that every day for the past 25 years, but it's never happened. *—Rich Levine*

This weekend, I'm plotting
a coup against practicality
and proclaiming myself the
"Duchess of Oysterland."

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tasty tidbits

ENERGY DRINK DEBUT

Got Caffeine?... Every once in a while a little energy drink can do a body good. But that medicinal taste is sometimes a hard pill to swallow. Enter Hiball, introduced six months ago by San Francisco native Todd Berardi. Hiball's club soda and tonic water taste like normal carbonated drinks but contain the active ingredients (taurine, guarina, ginseng) to put that extra hop in your step. Hiball made its East Coast debut in Boston when Gordon Distributors started providing the drink to spots like the Vault, Saint and Mantra in March. *www.hiballer.com.*

Bargain Bistro... When it comes to shopping, sales always draw attention. But bargain wines at restaurants? That brings discounting into a whole new realm. Through the end of March, Sandrine's Bistro in Cambridge sets out to satisfy wine-loving patrons with its White Sale—all white wines are 30 percent off. There's also a special White Burgundy Wine Dinner, prepared by chef Raymond Ost, on March 31 from 6 to 8 pm ($75). *8 Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-497-5300).*

Isn't He Populi... Chef Steve Ryan has displayed his cooking skills around the world, but nowadays you need only trek to Boylston Street for a taste of his talents. Fresh off a job as head chef at the Franklin Café (and before that a stint in Italy), Ryan took the reins at Vox Populi this winter and is set to release a revamped spring menu in late March. The new cuisine leans toward the kind of comfort food that's become synonymous with Ryan's cooking—dishes like chicken fajita roll-ups and flash-fried calamari. *755 Boylston St., Boston (617-424-8300).*

Star Chefs... Here in Boston, we're quite familiar with the culinary exploits of chefs Todd English and Ming Tsai, but in the coming months, the rest of the country can get a taste of what these two maestros of the menu have to offer. On April 27, English and Tsai's new PBS reality show, *Cooking Under Fire,* premieres. The show follows the two chefs (and author Michael Ruhlman) on a nationwide search for America's next celebrity chef. The documentary-style series is scheduled for a 12-episode run.

sam says

HAIR TODAY

Do you remember what your natural hair color looks like? Me neither. Whether it's at-home color or highlights from a salon, women are constantly seeking the perfect shade. Last year about this time, you could walk the streets and see women sporting drastically contrasting highlights and lowlights with chunks of color. The more daring ones opted for splashes of color throughout their hair. This year, I'm happy to say, hair color has taken a turn toward subtlety. The new trend is to use three to five different colors (such as blond, vibrant red, brown and honey) and weave them thinly throughout the hair. The look is so natural that you never notice one color alone.

—Samantha House

improper reports

JOKE SHOPS

It's April Fools' time, so you just might need some new tricks to stick up your sleeve. Visit the experts to get some ideas for fresh gags.

Condom World

332 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7233).

This is the place to find the more "personal" pranks for the bedroom only, including inflatable dolls, a remote-control fart machine and fortune cookies with X-rated messages.

Don's Joke Shop

1511 Hancock St., Quincy (617-479-8577).

A nephew of Tremont Street legend Jack (of Jack's Joke Shop), Don's learned a thing or two about the family business (the stock is similar to that of his uncle's shop). Favorites at Don's include edible underwear, candy that causes gas and smelly-feet candy made with Limburger cheese.

Four Eyes Joke Shop

296 Main St., Southbridge (508-765-0200).

At the largest joke shop in New England, the choices are endless. Their most popular prank: a motion-activated rat in a trap (complete with twitching action).

Jack's Joke Shop

226 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-9640). www.jacksjokes.co

At this shop that's been in business since 1922, traditio pranks like pepper gum and rubber doggie-doo sit next more modern fare like a computer mouse that shocks, a fart spray.

Little Jack Horner Joke and Magic Shop

61 Dorchester Ave., South Boston (617-268-2686).

Established in the early 1900s, this shop offers traditional g and original pranks under one roof. Among the novelties: fa lottery tickets and parking tickets, and whistles that you st under someone's tailpipe to make a sound like a damaged pa

—Leslie Kilgore

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTIO

Fenway Perks... As if the prospects for Opening Day at Fenway aren't exciting enough, a gigantic sports bar is set to open just as the BoSox begin defending their crown. Game On, located at Fenway Park on the corner of Lansdowne Street and Brookline Avenue, opens April 9 (the same day as the home opener). Sports fans who stop by will likely feel like Kid Rock in a strip club. The 13,000-square-foot space features two bars, a whopping 90 HDTVs, a videogame area with single- and multi-player XBox, Game Cube and PlayStation 2 consoles, plus all the tools for hosting live fantasy drafts. Yet another reason to make a trip over to Fenway? We're not complaining.

Save the Date... Among the galaxy of reality TV shows, local producer Roberto Mighty perceived an unfilled niche: dating shows aimed at an older crowd. His new show is something that might be relevant to Jessica and Nick in 10 years' time—a dating series for the older, wiser and perhaps recently divorced. Mighty calls the locally filmed show *PossLTR,* and the debut episode follows two divorced singles on a date that takes them around the city. As on *The Bachelor* friends and family weigh in on the matchup, but there's an added twist here: Those families include the daters' own children. Tune into WCVB-TV 5 March 26 at 7 pm to find out what happens when blind dating hits the bifocal crowd.

Doyle's Rules!... Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub in Cambridge has spawned a second location, in Newton, giving nearby Irish bar-lovers a place to drink Guinness while wearing their once-again fashionable Antoine Walker jerseys. The new watering hole is modeled on the original, which fostered neighborhood-bar coziness with promotions such as an annual trip to Fenway with patrons to cheer on the Sox. Tommy D's opens its doors this week, so hopefully some of the first customers will recover enough to try the Sunday brunch. *349 Watertown St., Newton (617-225-0288).*

Dog Days... They look like goodies from grandma's cookie jar, but Fido says keep your paws off. The treats that the new Just Dogs! Gourmet Bakery cooks up are for canines only. Flavored biscuits like peppermint, pizza and peanut butter–banana—made from all-natural ingredients, no less—had some of our choosiest four legged friends begging for more. Even the humans were tempted by the K-9 Kandy—treats like lollipops, peanut butter cups and cookies made from carob and yogurt. *212 Sumner St., Newton Centre (617-795-2566).*

Treats from Just Dogs!

TGIF with a Twist... Between the crowds, the noise and the tab, the bar scene isn't always the best place to meet new people. If you're looking for an alternative, check out Friday Night Out at the Boston Center for Adult Education. The idea is to get people from several one-shot classes together for a preclass cocktail reception. At the next event, April 8, those attending the evening's shiatsu massage, Greek cooking, African drumming and classic dancing classes can get together for a mingling/cocktail reception at 5:30 pm. *www.bcae.org. 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). $36–$40 nonmembers.*

—Ezra Dyer, Leslie Kilgore, Rich Levine

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

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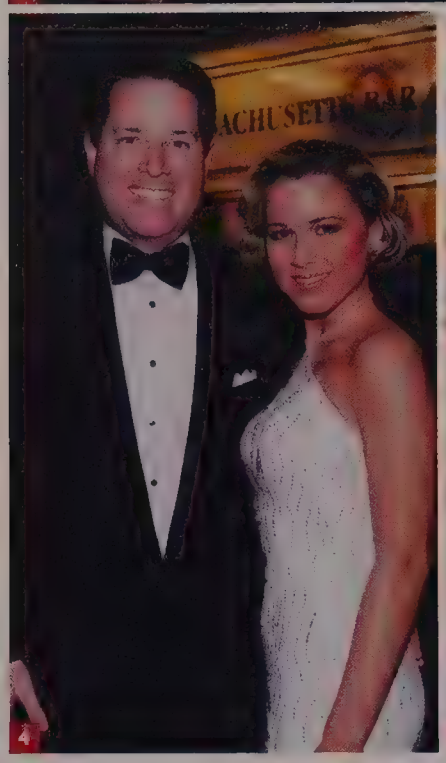
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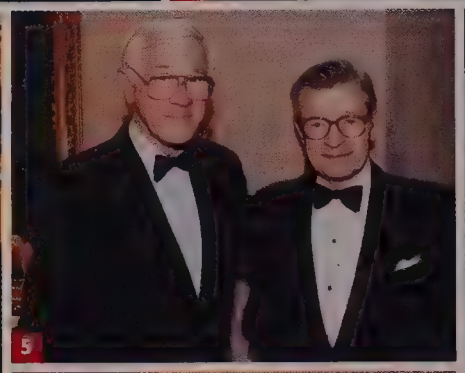
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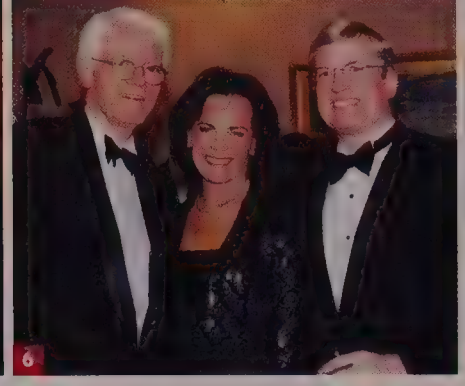
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The Catholic Schools Foundation hosted the 15th annual **Inner-City Scholarship Fund Dinner Celebration** March 3 at the Boston Marriott Copley Plac Mary Richardson, host of WCVB-TV's *Chronicle*, emceed the event, which recognized donors' contributions to programs fo at-risk children. More than 1,000 partygoers attended the gala.

1. **Tom Ryan**, vice president of Assumption College in Worceste **Brian Leary**, partner at Gadsby Hannah; and **Michael Cataldo**, independent health care consulta
2. **Sarah Wise** and her husband, **Chris**, vice president at Marsh In
3. **Whitney Lloyd**, sales associate f Bella in Newton, and her parents **William Wise**, corporate counse for Analog Devices in Westwood, and his wife, **Nancy**.
4. **John McDonough**, commercia real estate broker for Grubb & E and **Erika Ebbel**, Miss Massachusetts 2004.
5. **Tom Flatley**, CEO of the Flatley Co., and **John Silber**, president emeritus of Boston University.
6. **Peter Lynch**, chairman of the In City Scholarship Fund; his wife, **Carolyn**; and **Ralph Sweetlan** orthopedic surgeon for the North Shore Medical Center.
7. **Bob Stewart**, **Melissa Cahill** a **Brian Blanchard**, all investmen bankers at Brown Brothers Harri & Co.

More than 25 of Boston's leading chefs joined forces at **UniChef!**, a benefit in support of UNICEF, on March 3. Some 400 guests enjoyed South Asian-inspired food, music and dance in the newly renovated State Room, in the heart of the Financial District. Proceeds from the gala will support UNICEF's efforts to assist children affected by last December's South Asia tsunami.

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8. **Stan Grossfeld**, Pulitzer Prize–winning photojournalist for the *Boston Globe* and **Roger Berkowitz**, president and CEO of Legal Seafoods.
9. **Dina Selkoe** and **Colman Chamberlain**, both UNICEF volunteers; **Julia Bulanova**, account executive at Saragoni & Co.; and **Greg Selkoe**, CEO of Karmaloop.com.
10. **Michelle Easter**, realtor for Coldwell Banker, and **Frank Marinelli**, physician for Saints Memorial Medical Center in Lowell.
11. **Olivia English**, co-owner of Olives, and **Jasper White**, chef/owner of the Summer Shack.

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ezra

BY EZRA DYER

I LIKE BIG MUTTS

Let me tell you about my dog. Hey, where are you going?

A couple months ago, Heather and I decided to further our foray into domesticity by getting a dog. I've always dreamt of being the second-hairiest life-form in my apartment, and we both had dogs growing up. Sure, the female Samoyeds of my childhood, Lucy and Chopper, both contracted horrible skin conditions that made them look like pink aliens, but at least Lucy produced a litter of beautiful puppies. Well, except for Stubby. But that little pup and her club foot taught me a lot about perseverance, as well as the dangers of inbreeding.

We figured we'd go for whatever was available at the shelter, as long as it had most of its limbs and wasn't named Cujo. The only dogs we really didn't consider were pit bulls, rat dogs and greyhounds—we don't mind adopting a dog, but there's a limit to our altruism. (If you've got a greyhound, more power to you. I just have a hard enough time dressing myself without owning a dog that needs clothes too. If I owned a greyhound he'd probably be the only dog in the city wearing Zubaz pants and a sleeveless Hypercolor shirt instead of a Burberry coat.)

We started with a visit to an animal shelter on the North Shore, where we found a 6-month-old female lab mix fresh off the streets of Puerto Rico. But when we went to fill out an adoption form, the woman at the desk asked, "And what's your work situation?" When we replied that we both work full time, she shot back, "You can't have a puppy if you work full-time," the words dripping with revulsion, as if we'd said we intended to use the puppy as soup stock. You know you've been dissed at the dog shelter when you're told that you rank somewhere below the gutters of San Juan on the dog-owning pecking order. We went back to look at the puppy again anyway and apologize for the fact that she had to stay in her cage because the harpy out front would rather she live with an unemployed dog-beating crackhead who'd be home all the time.

On to plan B: If you can find a Russian bride online, surely you can find a dog, and so we perused Labs4Rescue.com. A few days after dog diva reprimand, we decided she was right and we shouldn't get a puppy. Older dogs often have the benefit of being house-trained, while puppies are no better off in that respect than Najeh Davenport.

We filled out an adoption form and one week later, Deuce, a 10-month-old lab/flat-coated retriever mix, arrived from a shelter in Tennessee. The first priority was changing his name. I understand he was named after the New Orleans Saints' Deuce McAllis but I think you can only get away with name Deuce if you're an enormous N player. Otherwise, the connotation of "dr ping a deuce" doesn't improve your first pression at the dog park. You may as well named Mr. Poops. I'd already formed opinion that Deuce's former owners w bayou-dwelling dog-abandoning cretin call me an Eastern elitist, but it's telling t he had no idea how to use stairs—so th poor choice of names was unsurprising.

Soon Deuce was rechristened Man partly after Mr. Ramirez and partly beca the name, even when divorced from its mous local owner, seems to fit the d gregarious personality. It's an added bon though, that if he chews up a bunch tampons or pees on my PlayStation—t crimes of which he's been convicted—y can say, "That's just Manny being Mann

So far, the pros of having a dog definit outweigh the cons. An editor I worked once told me that nobody wants to h about your baby or your pets, so I'll just

YOU KNOW YOU'VE BEEN DISSED AT THE DOG SHELTER WHEN YOU'RE TOLD YOU RANK BELOW THE GUTTERS OF SAN JUAN ON THE DOG-OWNING PECKING ORDER

that I recommend the dog-adoption thi The only real problem with Manny come when I've taken him into the offi There, he's been kind of like the fun dr guy at a party—cool and amusing up u the point that he goes over the edge a does something that makes everyb cringe, like throwing an empty keg throu the TV or, in Manny's case, pooping someone's office. This is a problem he o has when I bring him to work, so I recer tried to acclimate him by keeping him c fined to my office. Soon he was pawing the door and making it clear the clock ticking. I hustled him outside, where he p ceeded to set a new personal best by going the bathroom four times in one blo Maybe he had the right name after all. ■

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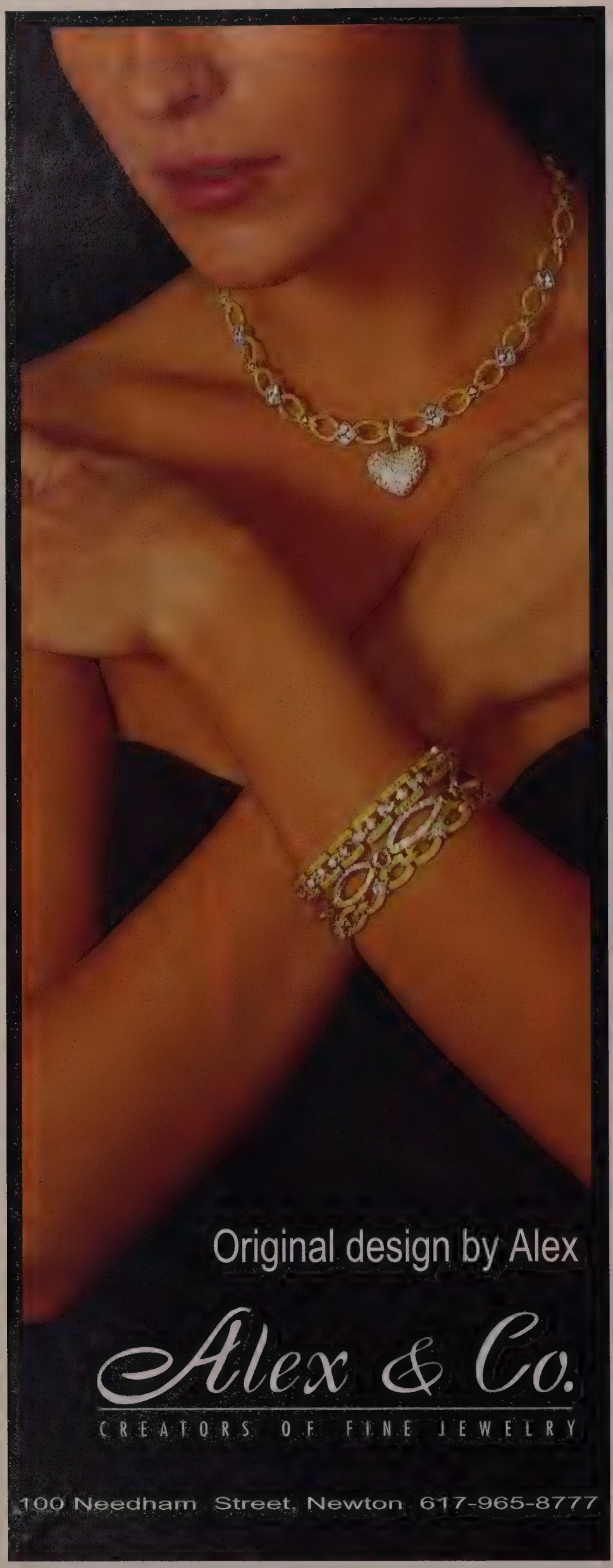

THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLIN

PRESEASONING

Unlike the Patriots, the Sox take a relaxed approach to tuning up for the season. And that's just fine.

With the New England Patriots snaring their third Super Bowl championship in four years just a couple of weeks before the world champion Boston Red Sox—man, that sounds good—began spring training, I couldn't help but think about what the preseason means for each of these winning teams.

First, my travels down to Fort Myers refreshed my memory on how good life is for a big leaguer. Baseball's spring training is supposed to be the equivalent of training camp in the NFL, but we know better. Snoop Dogg and Shania Twain have more in common than the supposedly necessary warm ups that kick off the respective seasons.

My first day down in the sun, Sox knuckleballer Tim Wakefield was present. He was early, of course. Pitchers and catchers didn't officially report until the next day. That's when new pitcher David Wells, one of the few guys on the club who could have gone to high school with 38-year-old Wake, met the media and threw some jabs at his former team, the Yankees, before becoming a ghost for the next week and half.

We spent a lot of energy in years past griping about how Pedro Martinez received special treatment when he went AWOL for bogus reasons. Wells is at least up front about his motives. He wanted to get the hell out of practice so he could play golf—it's that simple.

The boys hit the field daily at about 9:30 am, starting the day with a team stretch. If Wells was out there for an hour it was a long day. Most days, he'd be back in his truck by 10:30 am. Even bankers would be jealous of that schedule.

One day I noticed a local reporter setting up for a sit-down interview. When he told me he was waiting on Wells, I smiled. It was 12:30 pm. There was a better chance of a snowstorm falling in Fort Myers than Wells sitting down for a one-on-one at that late hour.

As the reporter waited, one of the Sox's PR guys emerged from the clubhouse. The reporter asked about Wells. The PR guy shot back with a huge smirk on his face, "He's been gone for two hours." But there are no issues here. Wells has pitched 18 years in the big leagues, and he gets the benefit of the doubt that he knows how to prepare for the season.

Think about how this scene compares with the Patriots' training camp. Say it's late July, and we're talking about someone like Rodney Harrison, who came into the Patriots fold three years ago as a respected veteran, just like Wells. Imagine if Har son showed up for just an hour of work a then proceeded to blow off nearly all inte view requests. The media would hit t roof. Then again, it would never happe because if it did Bill Belichick would tra him for a Gatorade cooler and get rig back to business.

My favorite spring training move is wh players get lost on their way from the fie to the batting cages. This is how it wor After a few rounds of live batting practic the players are scheduled for a workout the batting cages, but it's not unusual to s some of them take a detour. One day I w watching Johnny Damon and Trot Nixo First they were hitting outside, and minute later they'd disappeared inside t air-conditioned clubhouse for a 20-minu respite. Manager Terry Francona didn seem to miss the boys.

Imagine Pats running back Corey Dill sliding off into the locker room for abou

> WELLS HAS PITCHED 18 YEARS IN THE BIG LEAGUES, AND HE GETS THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT THAT HE KNOWS HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE SEASON.

half an hour just to take a breather in t middle of practice, and coach Bill B lichick wondering where he was. It'd ne happen.

Damon has made it a practice to sign a tographs between hitting sessions. It's great gesture to the fans, but can you s Tom Brady mingling with the fans wh backup quarterback Rohan Davey tak some snaps? The two championship clu are on the same pedestal, yet they're wor apart on how they got there. In spring tra ing, the only sweat worked up is the o that comes from hanging out in the su The guys on the football field are sweati before they leave the locker room.

Each sport has its own way of getti ready for a long, hard, pressure-packed s son. What matters isn't how the team sta their year, but how they end it. iB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New Engla Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

JILL MEDVEDOW

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Museum head Jill Medvedow joined the Institute of Contemporary Art as its James Sachs Plaut Director in January, 1998. A native of New Haven, Conn., she received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Colgate University and her Masters of Arts from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University. From 1991 to 1997, she was curator and deputy director of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Previously she worked as a program director at WGBH, deputy director of the New England Foundation for the Arts, and founding director of 911 Contemporary Arts in Seattle, Wash. Before joining the ICA, she was the founder and director of Vita Brevis, an arts organization that produces temporary public art projects in untraditional sites, and she also co-edited *Vita Brevis: History, Landscape, and Art 1998–2003*, a book chronicling the first five years of Vita Brevis projects. In 1998, she received an honorary Ph.D. in fine arts from the Montserrat College of Art. As the institute's head, she was instrumental in the process of developing the ICA's museum on the South Boston waterfront overlooking Boston Harbor. Construction on the widely anticipated building, designed by the architecture firm of Diller Scofidio + Renfro, began in September of 2004. Medvedow lives with her husband and children in Brookline.

Jonathan Soroff: *If you could have any artist, living or dead, paint or sculpt you, who would it be?*

Jill Medvedow: For somebody dead, I'd probably go with John Singer Sargent or Juan Munoz. For somebody living, I think I'd love to give Jim Hodges a call.

JS: *Do you feel like the ICA is the redheaded stepchild of Boston art museums?*

JM: [Laughs.] It's definitely the smallest, the funkiest, the least well-endowed. It certainly is the one with no permanent collection, so I guess by many definitions, I would say yes. But I wouldn't want to slander redheaded stepchildren.

JS: *How close are you to raising the money for the new building on the waterfront?*

JM: Well, we are close, in that we're actively raising the money for the building, and as long as we continue to go in such an aggressively forward direction, I would say we are doing very well.

JS: *Is there enough public funding for the arts in Boston?*

JM: No. We are very grateful for the little we get, but there is no support for capital facilities, for construction, maintenance or renovation, so there are hundreds of millions of dollars of deferred maintenance alone. We live in a city and state, neither of which contribute substantially to the ongoing operation or capital needs of culture, which is an extremely difficult, challenging and inappropriate situation. I think the arts deserve, require and need public support.

> EVEN THOUGH WE'RE AN OCEAN CITY, WE'VE BEEN MUCH MORE DEFINED BY THE RIVER, AND I THINK THE NEW ICA WILL HELP SHIFT THINGS BACK TOWARD THE HARBOR

JS: *Is the new ICA going to be Boston's equivalent of the Sydney Opera House?*

JM: Yes. It's got the water, which is a fantastic asset, and it means a lot to me to have that symbolic and metaphoric placement. I also think it's gonna be the postcard. It's going to be a place people go to. Even though we're an ocean city, I think we've been much more defined by the river, and I think the new ICA will help shift things back to the harbor.

JS: *Will you change the policy of acquiring as opposed to just exhibiting?*

JM: We will become a collecting institution in the new facility, and I believe that will be a bigger fundamental change for the ICA than the building itself. We'll be focusing on the art of the 21st century.

JS: *Why has Boston not been a leader in connoisseurship of contemporary art since the 19th century? We were there first with the Impressionists. We were so hip, and then we lost it.*

JM: I've thought about that a lot, and there's no way I can give you a one-line answer, but I think that it's really been since the early 20th century that Boston hasn't invested in the art of its own time, in terms of actively collecting, taking risks. And because there haven't been active institutions, the level of collecting and collectors wasn't there, the familiarity and comfort among a broader audience wasn't there. No bridges were built.

JS: *Is that because there hasn't been an Isabella Stewart Gardner or a Peggy Guggenheim or a Dia Foundation?*

JM: Well, that would have helped. Having a collector who fueled things. But other cities that have phenomenal museums were able to keep tempo and generate a whole community: San Francisco, Minneapolis. The MFA did not consistently play a major active role in acquiring contemporary art for the last 100 years, though there's certainly a renewed focus today. So it was collectors, museums, galleries, all of it together.

JS: *Was the Mapplethorpe exhibit the biggest shot in the arm the ICA ever got?*

JM: Yes and no. Yes in terms of huge attendance, national attention, visibility, profile, which are all good things, but no in the sense that it was short-lived. It didn't convert into membership or long-term support.

JS: *Define art in one sentence.*

JM: No. [Laughs.]

JS: *Most unconventional piece of art you've seen?*

JM: Hmmm. I've seen so many. I don't know which is more unconventional: a piece of art that's main component was hair dye or shirt collars, or a piece we showed last spring, where the artist found the remnants of a homeless person's dwelling and brought it inside.

JS: *Any chance you'll be showing paintings o dogs playing poker or velvet Elvis paintings?*

JM: I wouldn't be so sure we haven't in th past.

JS: *What one thing at the MFA do you covet*

JM: I covet most of the MFA. I'd b thrilled with a small Renaissance painting or something medieval, one of my favorit periods, but today I would covet an Agne Martin painting they have.

JS: *How about the Gardner?*

JM: Well, you'd have to kill me while I de bated between the Simone Martini pane painting, the small Giotto on the thir floor, or *El Jaleo* by Sargent. You could tak any of my limbs.

JS: *What would you like the role of the ICA in the city to be?*

JM: I'd like to see it be a place that's ener getic, part of the fabric of the city, not place on the margins. I'd like it to be a reg ular haunt of everyone in creative indus tries. I'd like to see it on everybody tourist list.

JS: *How tough is the competition for funding*

JM: Very. I don't think the bar is hig enough in Boston for giving.

JS: *Does everything in the museum world ultimately revolve around money?*

JM: No. Everything in the museum worl revolves around ideas.

JS: *One thing you wish most Bostonians knew about contemporary art?*

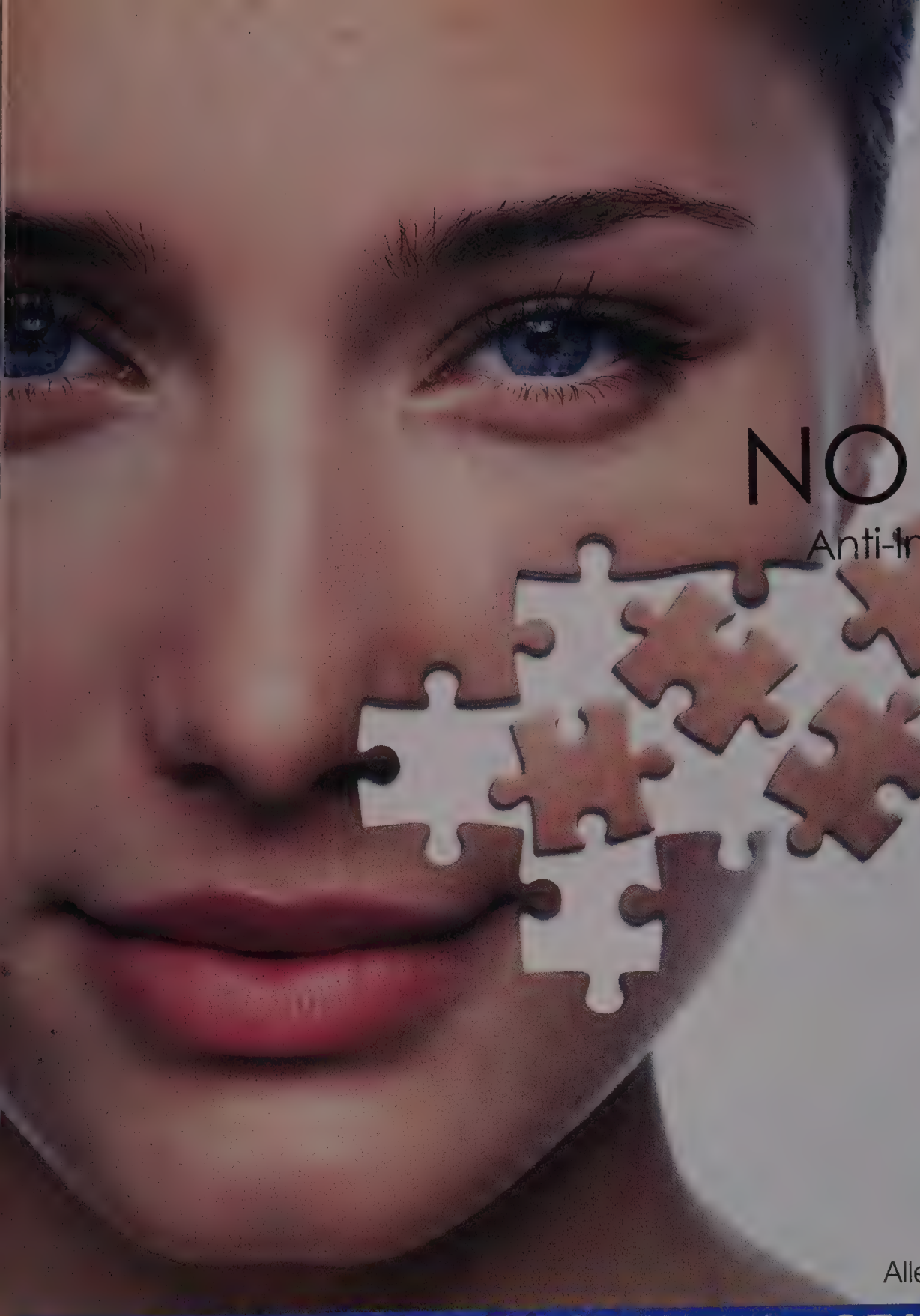
JM: That you don't need to be an expert t appreciate it. There's no right answer.

JS: *Damien Hirst: visionary or taxidermist?*

JM: Visionary. And taxidermist.

JS: *Last question: If you could own one piec of art, what and why?*

JM: One of Agnes Martin's paintings. would make my heart soar, my mind ex pand, and give me great joy. IB



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A lawyer we know sat down next to us at one of our favorite bars. As the single-malt began to take effect, his conversation grew wildly indiscreet, and he began disclosing sensitive details and privileged information about a high-profile case. Finally, someone said, "Talk like that could get you disbarred."

"I could give a rat's ass," said the lawyer. "The only place I'd care about getting disbarred from is here." Then he downed his drink and asked for another.

While we'd certainly think twice about retaining that particular attorney's services, we wholeheartedly agree with his sentiment. When it comes to bars, loyalty runs deep. Yet it's rarely a pub's bricks-and-mortar that inspire such devotion. More often than not, it's the person behind the bar. You can go to a run-of-the-mill barroom, and if the service is phenomenal, chances are you'll be back. Conversely, you can visit the grooviest lounge in town, and if the service sucks, you'll never go back. The difference boils down to the bartender, who serves as ringmaster of the circus. That's why we pay homage each year to the finest bartenders Boston has to offer. In a city with so many watering holes, it's a Herculean task to single out the crème de la crème, but hey, nobody ever said being a barfly was easy.

A few months ago, we published a ballot asking readers to nominate their favorite bartenders. Not surprisingly, given the subject matter, the votes came pouring in. (Much like the Federal Election Commission, we can't really control people from manipulating the system or stuffing the ballot box, and besides, we figure that if they care enough to do it, God love 'em.) We've also included some uniquely talented and unsung individuals discovered by our crack editorial team and our vast network of heavy-drinking acquaintances. In addition to this year's winners, our list of 16 Most Valuable Bartenders (at right) honors those who've appeared three or more times in the past. And so, we proudly present Boston's Most Beloved Bartenders, Class of 2005.

BOSTON'S BELOVED BARTENDERS

BY JONATHAN SOROF

MOST VALUABLE BARTENDERS

We've extolled the virtues of the following bartenders in these pages multiple times in the past; together, they form a pantheon of Most Valuable Bartenders, representing the very best of the best.

Srdjan Bajas The Federalist
15 Beacon St., Boston, 617-670-2515

Paul Barry Grafton Street Pub & Grille
1230 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-497-0400

Paul Christie Gargoyles on the Square
219 Elm St., Somerville, 617- 776-5300

Peter Cipriani Pho Republique
1415 Washington St., Boston, 617-262-0005
Silvertone Bar & Grill
69 Bromfield St., Boston, 617-338-7887

Cy Clark 21st Amendment
150 Bowdoin St., Boston, 617- 227-7100

Eddie Doyle Cheers
84 Beacon St., Boston, 617- 227-9605

Jon Feagin The Franklin Café
278 Shawmut Ave., Boston, 617-350-001

Kris Knievil Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., Boston, 617-262-2424

Rob Mannke 29 Newbury
29 Newbury St., Boston, 617-536-0290
Avalon 15 Lansdowne St., Boston, 617-262-2424
Machine 1254 Boylston St., Boston, 617-536-1950

Lolly Mason UpStairs on the Square
91 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 617-864-1933

Joe McGuirk B-Side Lounge
92 Hampshire St., Cambridge, 617-354-0766

Carah McLaughlin Locke-Ober
3 Winter Place, Boston, 617-542-1340

Robyn Pitchford Cottonwood Café
222 Berkeley St., Boston, 617-247-2225

Michael Ray Smith & Wollensky
101 Arlington St., Boston, 617-423-1112

Carlos Villalobos The Bar at the Ritz-Carlton Boston 15 Arlington St., Boston, 617-536-5700

Peter White Rouge
480 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-867-0600

Kurtovic (left) and Durakovic

ALEM KURTOVIC AND MEKI DURAKOVIC

Sonsie

327 Newbury St. Monday–Thursday nights (Kurtovic); Wednesday–Friday nights (Durakovic)

Like rock stars behind the bar, this dynamic duo, who both hail from Bosnia and Herzegovina but met in Boston, put on a show. Throwing bottles, finishing each other's sentences, horsing around and getting the crowd going, the two, who've been working together for six years, operate almost like Siamese twins, so attuned to each other that it's uncertain whether they could function separately at this point. Besides being best friends, they're fixtures at this enduringly popular Newbury Street hot spot. "We're like part of the inventory," jokes Kurtovic. Charming, friendly, vibrant conversationalists, they never allow the scene at their bar to grow dull, which explains the huge number of regulars—everyone from local celebrities to the young professional crowd—the pair has accumulated over the years. The ladies, especially, love them, and the fact that they can blend all the different ages, cultures and styles, from cosmopolitan out-of-towners in designer suits to college girls wearing Juicy Couture, proves how well they do their thing. There should be a cover charge just to watch them.

SIGNATURE DRINKS

Durakovic: Twilight Martini

2 parts Parrot Bay Coconut Rum, 1 part pineapple juice, 1 part Midori. Shake on the rocks and strain into a martini glass, with a float of Chambord.

Kurtovic: Hot and Dirty

3 parts vodka, ½ part olive juice, ½ part spicy hot green pepper juice. Shake on ice and serve in a chilled martini glass. Garnish with 2 olives and 1 pepper on a spear.

BRENDA MARRY

Vox Populi

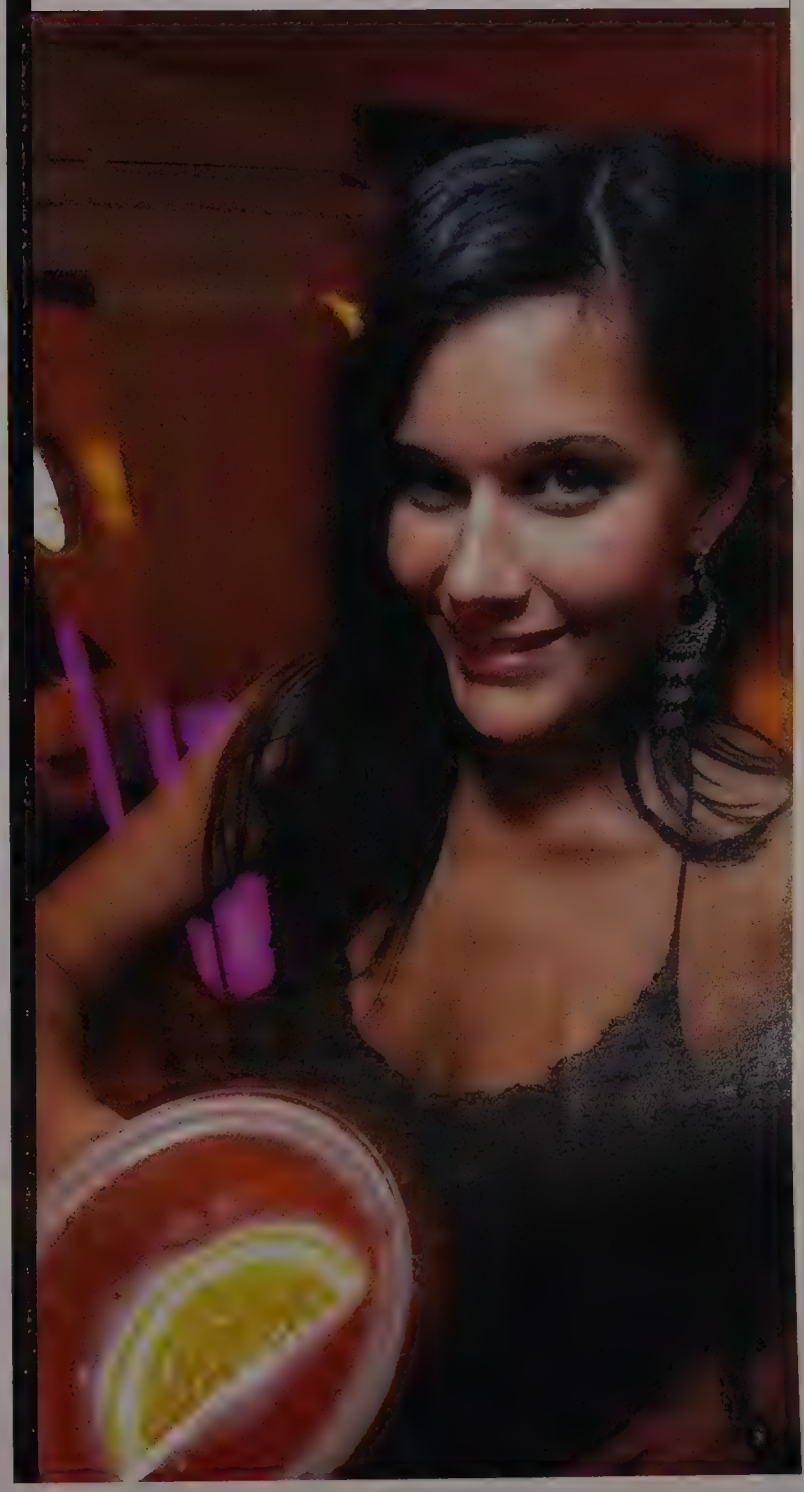
755 Boylston St. Thursday days, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday nights

Working at this high-volume Back Bay hot spot, Marry's forte is getting the drinks out fast and furious, but that doesn't stop her personality from shining through. In addition to being startlingly efficient, she systematically and reassuringly acknowledges everyone who tries to get her attention—even when the crowd is three-deep—and she makes sure her regulars always have what they need and feel coddled. A high-voltage whirling dervish behind the bar, she's chatty but has mastered the art of keeping conversations brief to service the hordes of thirsty patrons. Known for her long, black hair and thick Boston accent (for which she graciously takes some occasional grief), she's a part of what makes this Boylston Street club so warm and welcoming, whether you're wearing jeans and a T-shirt or a suit. With her excellent memory for the personal details that people confide in her, she's the ideal hybrid of super-human drink-making machine and super human. Ironically, she works by day as a muscular therapist, but it's for her skills in cocktail therapy that we raise our glasses to her.

SIGNATURE DRINK

One-Five

1½ oz. Brugal Anejo Dominican Rum, 1½ oz. pineapple juice, and a splash of cranberry juice and 7-Up. Shake on ice and pour into a chilled martini glass. Garnish with an orange slice.



SHAKEN, STIRRED OR SIMMERED

Local chefs add some spirit to their preparations.

BY LIZA WEISSTUCH

209's margarita-marinated chicken breast

For many chefs, filching ingredients from behind the bar is as much a part of the routine as dicing onions, marinating chicken and soaking beans. Beer, wine and spirits are as indispensable in their cooking as cranberry juice and lemons are in a bartender's regimen. And we're not just talking about your standard beer-battered shrimp or sherry vinaigrette dressing.

Cooks around town are using alcohol as creatively as some of the most imaginative mixologists. But the plot thickens exponentially when you start factoring in booze with heat, textures, spices, veggies and protein. Setting off on a happy-hour escapade to survey how local chefs dress up meats, fish, veggies and pastry and send them off in good spirits, we ended up with a four-course meal involving bourbon, tequila, cognac, beer and wine. And that's counting what was on the plates!

It's common knowledge that some of the most clever innovations are simply classics with a twist. (Just look how many spin-offs the martini has spawned.) For our appetizer, we opted for a new take on the notorious college standard: the Jello shot. The ones Eric Brennan whips up at **Excelsior**—called **Bloody Mary shooters** ($16)—are ivy leagues away from those sloppy college days. It goes like this: Take a chilled oyster, spoon a bit of the vodka-kissed Bloody Mary and Jello concoction onto it, and slurp it down. The sauce's sweet acidity plays well with the brininess of the East Coast oysters and the sweetness of the West Coast ones (both varieties are part of the dish). You might not have thought Jello would go with anything besides canned fruit, but the soft textures of the gelatinous shot and the oyster meat make for a perfect union.

At **209**, between the Back Bay and the South End, chef Robert Martin, who arrived last March from Austin, credits his Mexican-Texan heritage—what he calls "that little Tejano spice"—as his inspiration for adding a splash of tequila to a fairly standard chicken dish. Lime, cilantro and cumin, Martin explains, are base flavors for fajitas. Margaritas also deliver a swift kick of lime and are a common Mexican food accompaniment, so he supplies the whole gamut of flavors in one fell swoop with his **margarita-marinated chicken breast** ($14). Tequila, he says, has a fruity flavor similar to a customary lemon marinade.

Texas is also barbecue country, and Martin transports diners to his home state with his **Sam Adams baby back ribs** ($14, $21), braised in ale and finished off with the chef's homemade Jack Daniel's barbecue sauce, which combines the bourbon with apricots and typical BBQ sauce ingredients like tomato sauce, pepper and chili powder. The difference between Martin's thick, hearty creation and a standard bottled sauce is like comparing a stroll down the Champs d'Elysee with a postcard. But we were curious: Why Jack?

"Jack Daniel's has a strong flavor at the beginning, then it mellows out and leaves an oakey finish," Martin says. "I want to give it an al fresco, not out-of-the-bottle feel."

Some cooks actually double as cocktail chemists. **Azure** executive chef Robert Fathman has designed three varieties of the devilish elixir he's dubbed Diabolique Infusions—stock spirits steeped with extraordinary ingredients. The bourbon infusion, laced with vanilla, cinnamon, dried figs and currants, is a primary component in the glaze that finishes Azure's pan-seared **13-spice marinated duck breast** ($13).

Aperitifs are a favorite after dinner, and so is dessert, so a blend of the two would seem a match, like rum and Coke or PB&J. Jorge Lopes, executive chef at the **Blue Room**, exploits the natural complement to create his frozen **Cognac parfait** ($7), an ivory-colored, mousse-like mound drizzled with prunes poached in port wine and brandy. Parfait is essentially eggs and cream, a base neutral enough that it takes on whatever flavors it absorbs. Brandy and port give the prunes an unexpected depth that's sweet and woody. The liquid softens them so the succulent plums ooze a rich sap. Each spoonful is a burst of chilly sweetness jazzed up with the sophisticated kick of the aperitifs.

Maker's Mark gives ice cream a buzz at **Spire**, where Gabriel Frasca's **Manhattan float** ($10) is topped off with a scoop flavored with the bourbon. According to Frasca, Maker's is particularly appealing to chefs. "It's almost like a sauce with its different layers and notes to it," he says. But there's an explanation for the bourbon's smooth union with ice cream: Maker's contains caramel and vanilla extracts from the white oak barrels in which the whiskey is aged. And, as Dave Pickerell, master distiller of Maker's told me, the flavoring grain they use is red winter wheat, the same grain that goes into White Lily flour, which accounts for the whiskey's mellower, sweeter flavor.

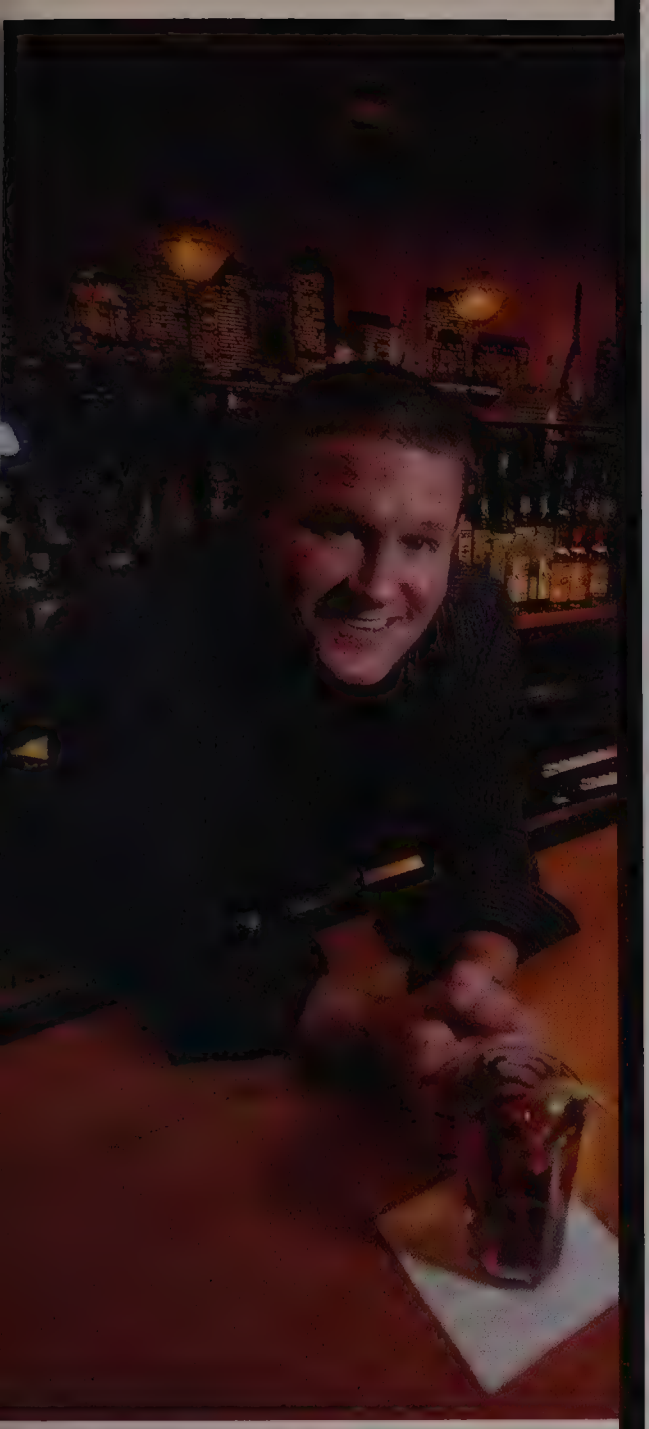
We'll toast to that. Now what should we have to drink?

Azure The Lenox Hotel, 61 Exeter St., Boston, 617-933-4800
The Blue Room One Kendall Square, Cambridge, 617-494-9034
Excelsior 272 Boylston St., Boston, 617-426-7878
Spire 90 Tremont St., Boston, 617-772-0202
209 209 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-536-0972

LARA LUKOMSKI
Felt
533 Washington St. Saturday nights

Anyone who's ever ventured through the doors of th Ladder District nightspot on a weekend knows ho achingly trendy the scene can be, with "the young ar the guestlist" piled several deep at the bar and hord more outside on the sidewalk jockeying to get past th velvet rope. Together with three close friends, Lukoms handles the fourth-floor bar, affectionately known "the penthouse," and given the quartet's good look someone with a dirty mind could be forgiven for thin ing it was a reference to the magazine. Lukomski ar company treat the whole scene a bit like a big pajan party, dancing around and cracking each other up as th mix drinks for a free-spending crowd. "A lot of the pe ple I see at my bar I usually saw the night before at 33 Whiskey Park," she says, "and a lot of them are friends The loud music and fast pace make it impossible to ho long conversations, and when there are $250 tips to b earned, you can bet Lukomski's moving as fast as she ca She's like a pied piper among the fashionable, good looking crowd. Having tended bar since age 18, inclu ing a stint in Italy while she was in college, Lukomsk knows the business inside and out and makes it all loo like a lark. "Dancing around and making drinks?" sh says. "Sounds like a good time to me."

SIGNATURE DRINK
Washington Apple
Equal parts Apple Pucker and Crown Royal, with a splash of cranberry juice. Shake on ice and serve straight up as a martini or a shot.



STEVE TOWER
The Greatest Bar
262 Friend St. Thursday–Saturday nights

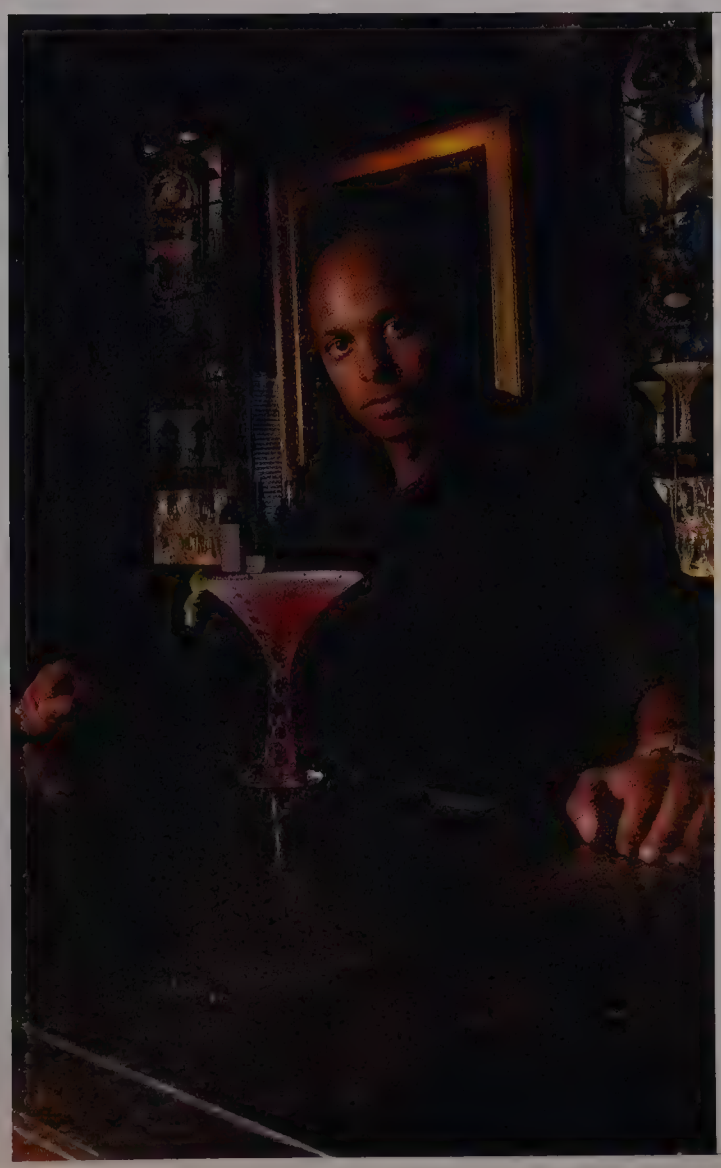
Aptly named, this tall, blond basketball coach and former player works by day as a college basketball analyst for Sporting News Radio 1510 The Zone. For Tower, bartending was initially a way to earn money to buy a house while still being out and socializing with his friends. In both of his jobs, people expect him to be up—fortunately, that comes easily to this naturally jovial guy. He says it's part of his job to get his patrons laughing, and he's equally adept at drawing out the quiet guy in the corner, making lone females feel comfortable, or taking some of the awkwardness out of first dates. The hyperbolically named bar he works at boasts four floors, and the atmosphere ranges from clubby on weekends to crammed on game days. In addition to being one of Greatest's top bartenders, Tower earned an additional bit of immortality when he manned the bar during live TV shots broadcast from the bar when the Red Sox beat the Yankees in Game 7 of last year's American League Championship Series. Oh yeah: He also mixes a mean cocktail.

SIGNATURE DRINK
Tower Tea
Equal parts vodka, gin, rum, tequila, sour mix, lemon juice and Twisted Tea, with a splash of Coke. Serve on the rocks in a pint glass.

SIGNATURE DRINK
The Summer Martini
3 oz. Ketel One Citroen, 1 oz. Campari, 1½ oz. yellow grapefruit juice. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a martini glass. Garnish with a lemon.

JEANNETTE CAULFIELD
Jasper White's Summer Shack Boston
50 Dalton St. Tuesday, Thursday–Sunday, days and nights

How could you fail to adore any woman who moved to and remained in Boston at least in part because she had Red Sox season tickets. It's easy to get a laugh from Caulfield—affectionately known to many of her regulars as Blondie—except when the game is on. Then you'll find her keeping one eye on the TV while cranking out the cocktails. Not only does she make them flawlessly, she delivers them with the speed of a fastball. Caulfield estimates she can make upwards of 20 drinks per minute, and none of her customers ever wait long. Anyone who does have to cool their heels is always greeted with eye contact, an acknowledging smile and a pleasant, "Hi. Be right with you." Not surprisingly, this bubbly beauty often finds herself fending off admirers (a move she accomplishes with a subtle flash of her engagement ring). As groan-worthy and clichéd as it sounds, she's the ray of sunshine that keeps the Summer Shack warm even on the coldest of winter nights.



CHRIS SIMMONS
Aujourd'hui at the Four Seasons
200 Boylston St. Tuesday–Saturday nights

It's a rare breed who gets tapped to serve the high and mighty clientele at one of the city's poshest hotel bars, and Simmons' blend of efficiency and finesse makes it easy to see why the powers that be chose him. Intelligent, charming, debonair, discreet—he blends all the characteristics you'd want in the man who mixes your martini while you seal the deal, toast the day or whisper sweet nothings into your mistress' ear. Unflappable even when his bar gets completely crazy, he remains calm in the eye of the storm. With a willing and sympathetic ear, he's also a scintillating conversationalist, capable of actually sustaining (rather than feigning) interest in his clients' kids or careers. Simmons' ability to go above and beyond their expectations and anticipate their every need is positively Jeeves-like, but there's nothing servile or sniveling about him. The epitome of dignity, especially in someone so young, it doesn't hurt that he's easy on the eyes too.

SIGNATURE DRINK
Peach Cobbler
1½ to 2 oz. Vermont White Vodka, ½ oz. Mathilde Peches, a splash of fresh lime juice, simple syrup, cranberry juice, and 2 tsp. powdered sugar. Shake on ice and serve straight up. Garnish with a lime twist.

MEG GLASSER

Middlesex Lounge

315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge

Thursday, Friday and Sunday nights

Gypsy Bar

116 Boylston St. Saturday nights

She's been at it only five months, but already this natural-born barkeep has developed a rabidly loyal following at the Middlesex Lounge, a slice of New York hip wedged between MIT and Central Square. The trendy hangout's minimalist and lounge-y decor attracts a smart but not geeky assortment of brainiacs and young techie types who kick back to a mix of house music and hip-hop from live DJs. On Saturday nights at Gypsy Bar, near the Theater District, Glasser caters to a more clubby, Euro-style crowd. At both venues, however, she ministers to her customers' thirst with a warm and welcoming manner that's the antithesis of both bars' Manhattan vibe. Always smiling or laughing, she's unfailingly cheerful. Even on Friday nights, when things get a bit crazy, she remains consistently upbeat as she mashes the mint for the umpteenth Mojito. A graphic design student at Massachusetts College of Art, she brings a funky art-school-chick schtick to work—she's the one with short bangs, wearing Vans and eye-poppingly colorful clothing. Glasser's artistic side also emerges with her experiments at the bar. Fond of using regulars as guinea pigs, she's constantly concocting new and unusual libations, and the chemistry of mixing drinks is one of her favorite aspects of the job. Like the lovably kooky kid sister in a sitcom, she presides over her scene with a mixture of upbeat charm and impeccable service.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Chocolate Martini

Equal parts Stolichnaya Vanil and Bailey's Irish Cream, with a splash of Frangelico and a dash of dark crème de cacao. Shake on ice, and serve straight up in a martini glass. Garnish with a vanilla bean.

DOMINGO-MARTIN BARRERES

Les Zygomates

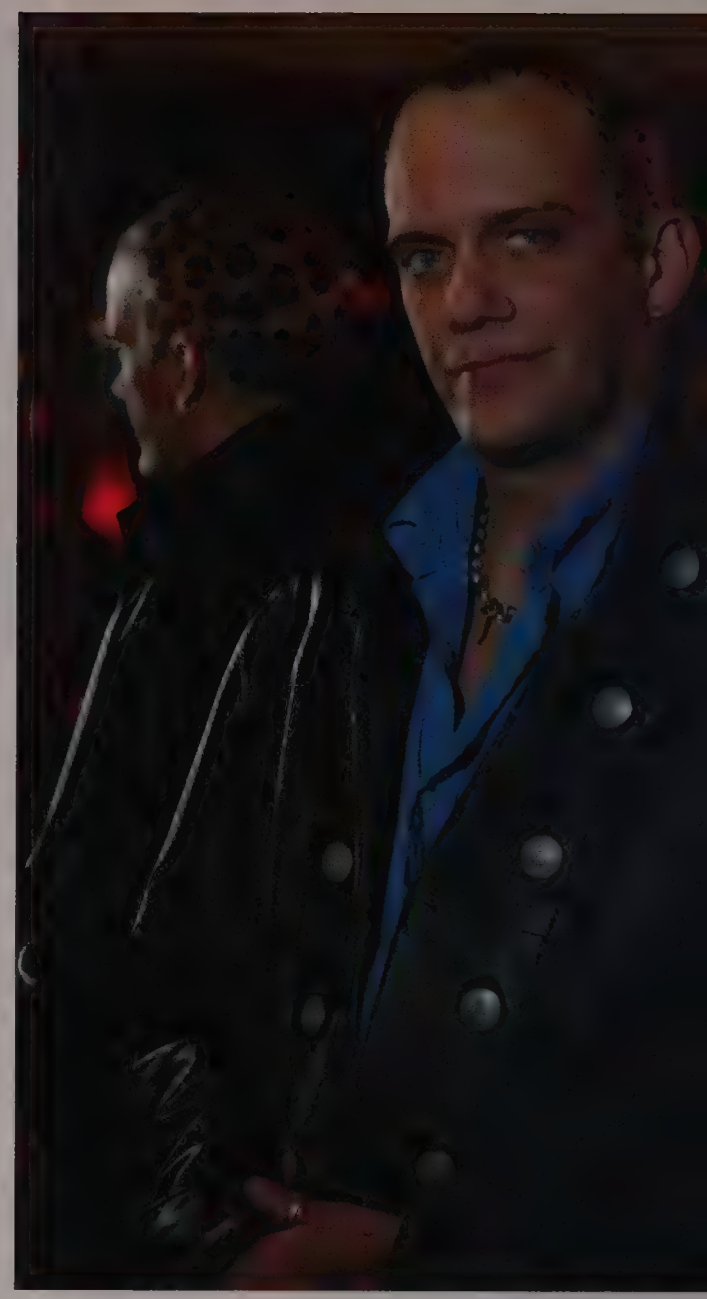
129 South St. Wednesday–Saturday nights

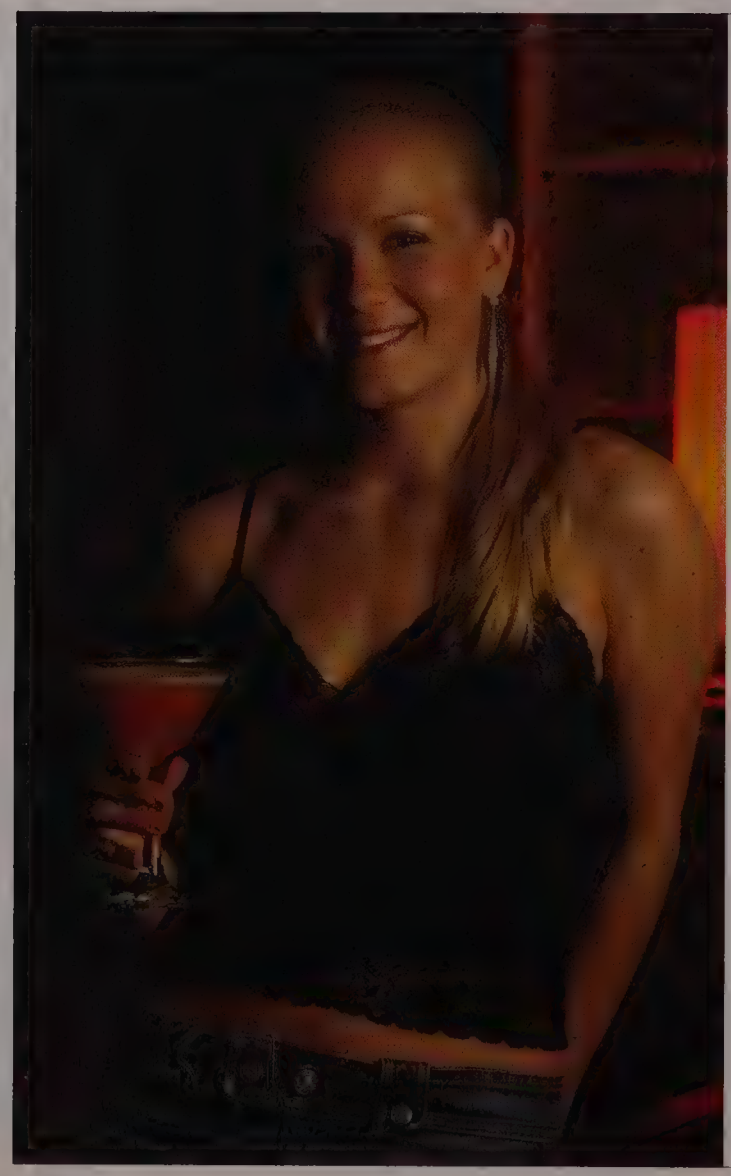
Don't let the wild style fool you: The punk rock exterior hides an old-school bartender whose impeccable manners complement a flawless attention to detail. With 15 years' experience at bars ranging from Lansdowne Street to Mercury Bar, he now lords over the long zinc bar at Les Zygomates, the Leather District bistro that hosts live jazz. The leopard-spotted hair is courtesy of his father, a painter, and despite the funky look, Barreres is as approachable and easygoing as they come. He presides over an atmosphere that's cool but not clubby, and because so many regulars opt to eat at his bar, his knowledge of wine is extensive. He knows his way around a cocktail shaker too, mixing up a mean martini and what more than one fan calls "the best Mojito I've ever had." No wonder he won a national Cointreau drink competition (an honor that got him in an ad campaign that ran in national publications including *Vogue*). By day, he does TV and radio voiceover work, but his soothingly cool voice sounds just as good asking, "What can I get you?" No matter what it is, you can bet on one thing: He puts a little love in every drink he mixes.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Coinito's Way

In a pint glass, pour 2 oz. Absolut Mandarin, 1 oz. Cointreau and a full mortar of muddled mint. Add a few splashes of simple syrup. Squeeze the juice of half a blood orange and half a navel orange. Fill with sour mix. Shake over ice and serve on the rocks in a pint glass rimmed with Sugar in the Raw. Garnish with a mint sprig and a slice of blood orange.





STEFANIE NYBERG

Lucky's Lounge

355 Congress St. Thursday–Saturday nights

Like Mary Tyler Moore on Prozac, this naturally chatty native of Michigan's Upper Peninsula—where people are known for their preternatural niceness—is unfailingly pleasant to everyone, with an amazing tolerance for jerks. Nyberg never gets angry or loses her cool, even when things at her bar heat up. "I don't feel like I'm working," she says. "It's more like social hour." She defies easy categorization, except to say she's mellow, down-to-earth and utterly free of attitude. In other words, she's willing to talk to the most off-putting oddballs and bends over backwards for her regulars, a mixture of artsy, urban bohemian types. Her bar has the groovy subterranean feel of a secret downtown rendezvous for the cool kids, and Nyberg's warm and welcoming demeanor prevents it from developing a hipper-than-thou ambience. If only we could clone her and put one in every bar in Manhattan's meat-packing district, New York would be a more pleasant place.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Mango Martini

2 parts Stolichnaya Orange, 4 parts Parrot Bay Mango Rum, a splash of triple sec and cranberry juice, and 2 splashes of pineapple juice. Shake on ice and serve on the rocks in a pint glass or as a shot.

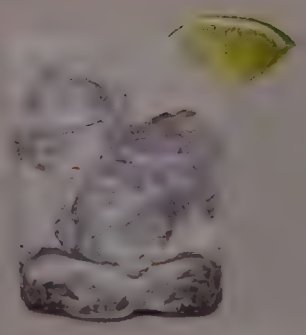
Be even more revealing than what you're wearing.

BE COINTREAUVERSIAL™

COINTREAU

COINTREAU®
The spirit of orange inside

ON ICE
pour **Cointreau**® over ice
toss in 1/2 fresh lime
shake or mix well



TANEA ROBERTS
Sweetwater Café
5 Boylston Place

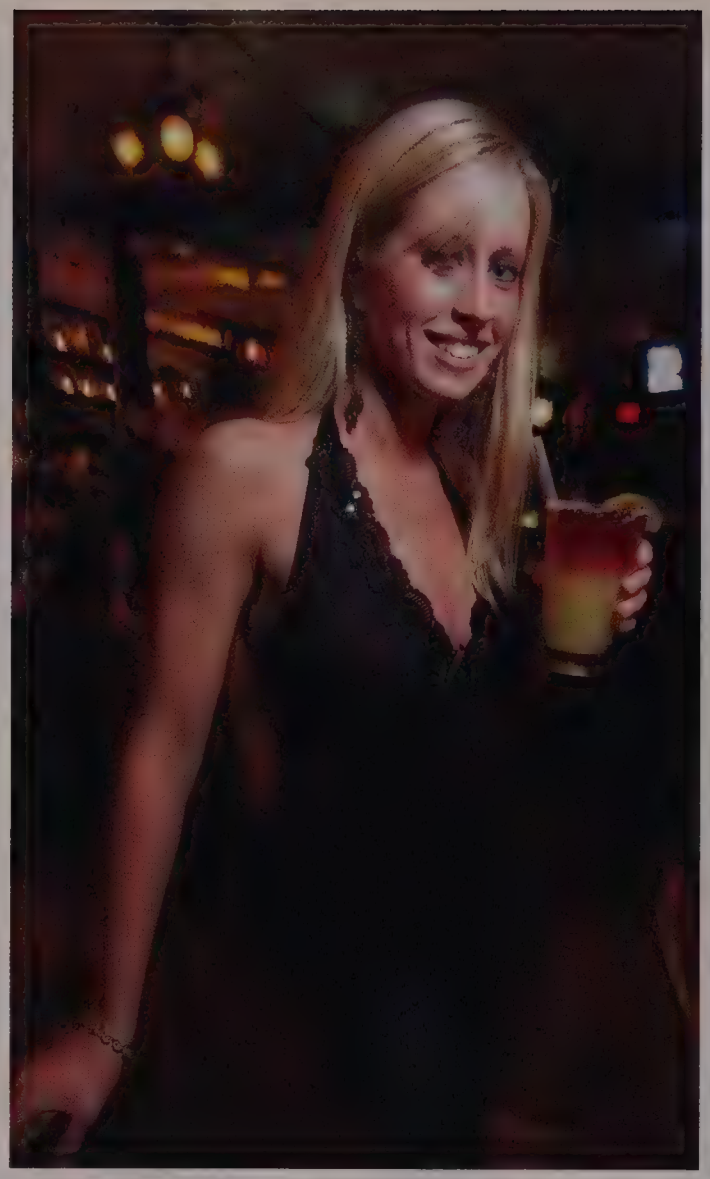
Tuesday, Thursday–Saturday nights

By day, Roberts serves as a student-teacher in Boston public schools while working toward a degree in social psychology and her teaching license, and the similarities between her day job and bartending are not lost on the South Dakota native. "In one way or another, they both involve looking after a group of unruly kids," she says. Her Midwestern openness and genuine smile are the first thing customers notice before they're treated to Roberts' exceptional and attentive service. "People don't want someone who's gonna be stuck-up or a prude behind the bar," says the fun-loving, smokingly hot blonde. "I try to be outgoing and fun." Sweetwater has a relaxed, après ski feel to it and attracts a lot of New England School of Law students and restaurant industry people. "They're in pretty much every night," Roberts says, "so it's like hanging out with friends." As for the endless parade of men who hit on her or ask for her phone number, she doesn't take it seriously. "They're harmless. They think they're being flattering. You have to take it lightly; you can't stress out or get offended." You also can't blame a guy for trying.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Pineapple–Orange Julius Martini

3 oz. pineapple-infused vodka (fruit chunks should soak in the liquor for at least a week), and a splash of orange juice. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a martini glass. Garnish with an orange slice.



PATTY MURRAY
Sel de la Terre
255 State St.

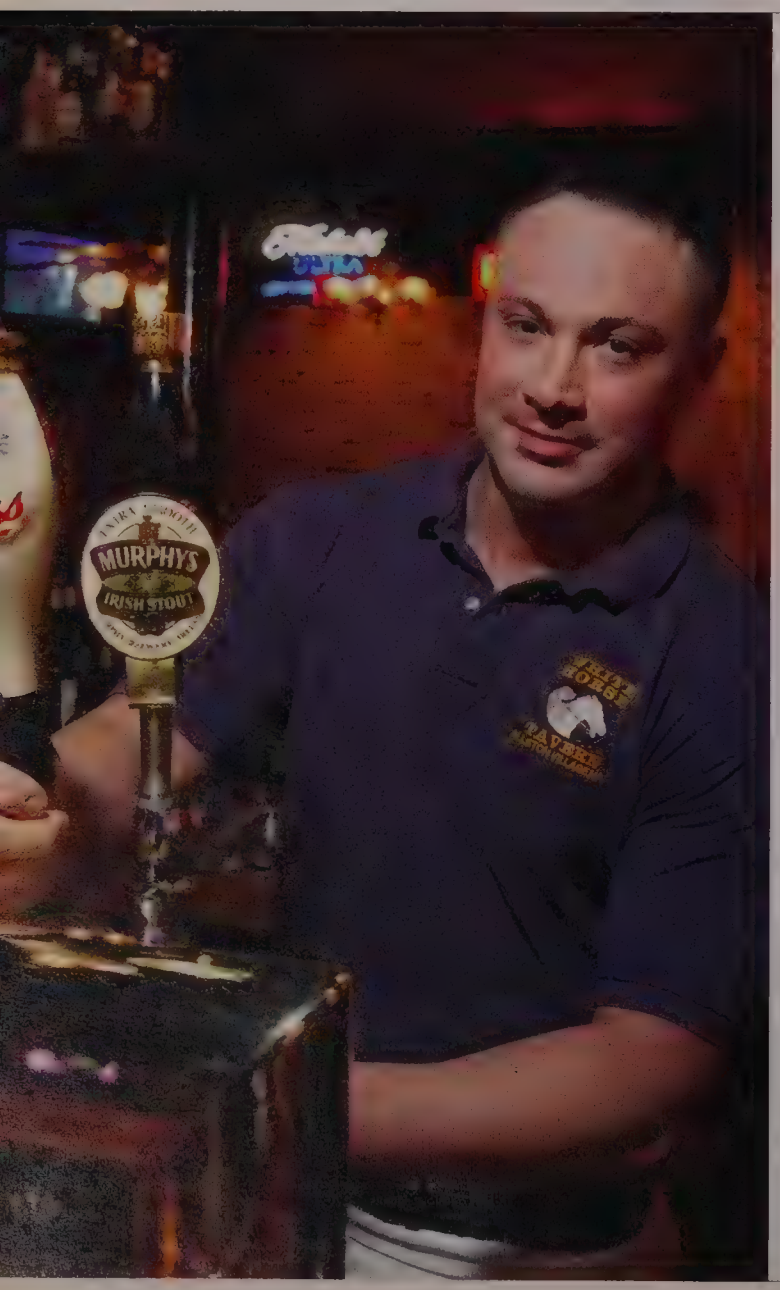
Tuesday days; Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights

Whether it's her acerbic wit, a mind like a lint trap fo trivia, or the fact that she never lets anyone sit wit an empty glass in front of them, Murray's regulars floc religiously to Sel de la Terre for some of her tende loving cocktails. Many of her customers at the Frenc restaurant on the waterfront are residents of nearb Harbor Towers who joke that their apartments hav kitchens but they don't know how to use them. How ever, Murray's just as welcoming to the odd touris who wanders in after a trip to the Aquarium. Sh began bartending in college, where she was designate drink-maker for her friends, and her subsequent expe rience has included a stint at Joe's American Bar an Grill. Her forte is concocting exactly what a custome wants based on the merest of hints, and her usua prompt for an indecisive patron is, "Give me a colo or a flavor, or a fruit." With true mastery, she'll the whip up the perfect potion. Further testament to he skill: lots of industry types from nearby places like th Chart House and Houston's choose Murray's bar a the place to hang during downtime. Her flair with th bottles is impressive too. Add the fact that she's fun nier than most stand-up comedians, and it's easy to se why her bar is always hopping.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Patty's Violet

⅔ Bombay Sapphire, ⅓ sour mix, and equal dashes of blue curacao and grenadine. Shake on ice and serve straight up. Garnish with a candied violet.



TIM MCCASLAND
White Horse Tavern
116 Brighton Ave, Allston

Wednesday–Saturday nights

This consummate pro leads a somewhat schizophrenic existence: By day, McCasland works for Bevinco, a company that monitors bars (implementing theft prevention programs, keeping ordering at an efficient minimum, etc.). By night, he reigns supreme at this bar that caters mostly to students from BU and BC, as well as some working stiffs. At 6'3", he has a height advantage that allows him to see all the customers at his bar, make eye contact with everyone, keep tabs on what they need, and get his regulars their drinks in a flash. The large crowds on weekends mean that his service has to be fast and efficient in addition to personable, pleasant and even a bit flirtatious. "The happier I am, the happier my customers are," McCasland says. "I can listen. I can talk. That's pretty much 90 percent of the job." Viewing work as his own night out on the town helps keep his mood upbeat, and he's been known to toss bottles around with a bit of flash, though he denies any Tom Cruise–like showing off. That caveat aside, he's always entertaining to watch.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Purple Haze

Equal parts Absolut Raspberry, peach schnapps and sour mix. Shake, and strain into a martini or shot glass. Sink a splash of Chambord, adding the color that gives it its name.

CATHERINE HARRIS

Tim's Tavern

329 Columbus Ave. Monday, Wednesday–Saturday nights

It takes a certain type of character to tend bar at a neighborhood institution like Tim's—a much beloved, no-frills hole-in-the-wall on Columbus Avenue in the South End. And Harris has character to spare. Having worked at such other iconic spots as the House of Blues and Wally's, she's like a den mother to the motley crew who congregate daily at her bar, and everyone, no matter how outlandish, is made to feel comfortable. "What I love about this place is the diversity," she says. "We get all walks of life: every race, sexual orientation, social strata. Literally everyone, and it's all one big happy family." Claiming that bartending is 85 percent personality, Harris is spontaneous, quick to laugh, comfortable with even the oddest of oddballs and capable of carrying on a conversation with a brick wall. Her funky fashion sense is one of her trademarks—inventing drinks on the spur of the moment is another. But what mystifies us is how she manages to mix drinks so quickly and efficiently with what have got to be some of the longest fingernails in Boston. It must just be part of her magic.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Juicy Fruit

Equal parts Smirnoff Watermelon, Smirnoff Raspberry, Smirnoff Citron and Malibu Rum, with a splash of Watermelon Pucker, cranberry juice and Sprite. Shake on ice and serve straight up, as a martini. Garnish with a cherry.

WICKED BAR OF THE WEST

Sonny McLean's brings a Boston vibe to Santa Monica.

BY TOM KIELTY

For New England transplant Jim Conners, establishing a Boston-themed sports bar in Santa Monica, Calif., was a labor of love. "Who says you're 3,000 miles away?" is the motto of his bar, Sonny McLean's, and upon stepping inside, even the most diehard Boston sports fan might take pause. From the galaxy of Boston sports stars that have been photographed at the cozy, Irish pub to the replicas of Fenway's fabled Green Monster and the legendary Celtics' parquet floor, it's obvious that Conners has put a lot of thought into creating an authentic experience for the expatriate New England sports fan.

Conners, a 34-year-old Foxboro native who was one of the Red Sox diehards captured in *Still We Believe*, the film that chronicled the Sox' heartbreaking 2003 season, works the bar with a perpetual smile. He named Sonny McLean's for his grandfather, who was born in Boston in 1914 to Irish immigrants. "He was just a wonderful, big-hearted guy," Conners recalls of the well-traveled World War II veteran. "He loved spending time swapping stories with his pals and never turned his back on a friend."

That loyalty has been passed down through the generations, and the rugged bartender pouring an impressive Guinness and preparing to deliver an authentic Maine lobster roll is living proof. Pat Roque, also 34, was a classmate of Conners' at Attleboro's Bishop Feehan High School. He's worked at Sonny McLean's since November 2003.

"You just never know who's going to come in," says Roque, a former wine salesman in the Hub. "One night [actor] Luke Wilson was in playing pool and saying how he wished the bar had been there when he lived in the neighborhood, and the next night I met a guy from Wrentham whose dad turned out to have been a drinking buddy of mine back in Massachusetts."

Sonny McLean's popularity has not been lost on the current Major League champions. Sox owner Tom Werner once stopped in to watch a game with girlfriend Katie Couric, and former Sox Dave Roberts and Gabe Kapler brought the World Series trophy for a visit that had crowds lined up around the block. Hurler Bronson Arroyo visited the bar in January and received a standing ovation from the assembled dinner crowd, an experience he describes as disorienting.

"It was like you're at the movie theater in the middle of the afternoon and you forget you came to a matinee until you come out and the sun's still up," Arroyo says with a laugh. "At Sonny's you feel like you could be on Boylston Street and you walk outside and see palm trees and it's warm and you realize you're in a whole different place."

Michael Atwood, a 33-year-old screenwriter who hails from North Attleboro, had a similar response on his first visit.

"I drove past this bar one night and about 100 people were going nuts over a Patriots victory," he recalls. "It might as well have been the parking lot at Gillette Stadium, but it was November, I was on Wilshire Boulevard and it was 70 degrees. I knew I had found a home away from Boston."

Conners acknowledges that the bar's popularity, which now to his regret sometimes means turning prospective patrons away from big games, was not instant. Among the early hurdles was educating laid-back Californians on the intensity of the New England sports fan. But between the mystical tale of the Red Sox' 86-year title drought and the Los Angeles area's absence of an NFL franchise as the Patriots were rising to prominence, he accomplished that task quickly.

Still, it's relocated Bay Staters that provide the bar's heart and soul. "We've had couples from different towns in Massachusetts that never knew each other back home meet here and fall in love and get married," Conners says. "Roommates have met here, and friendships have been established among people who never knew each other when they might have been sitting in the same section at Fenway."

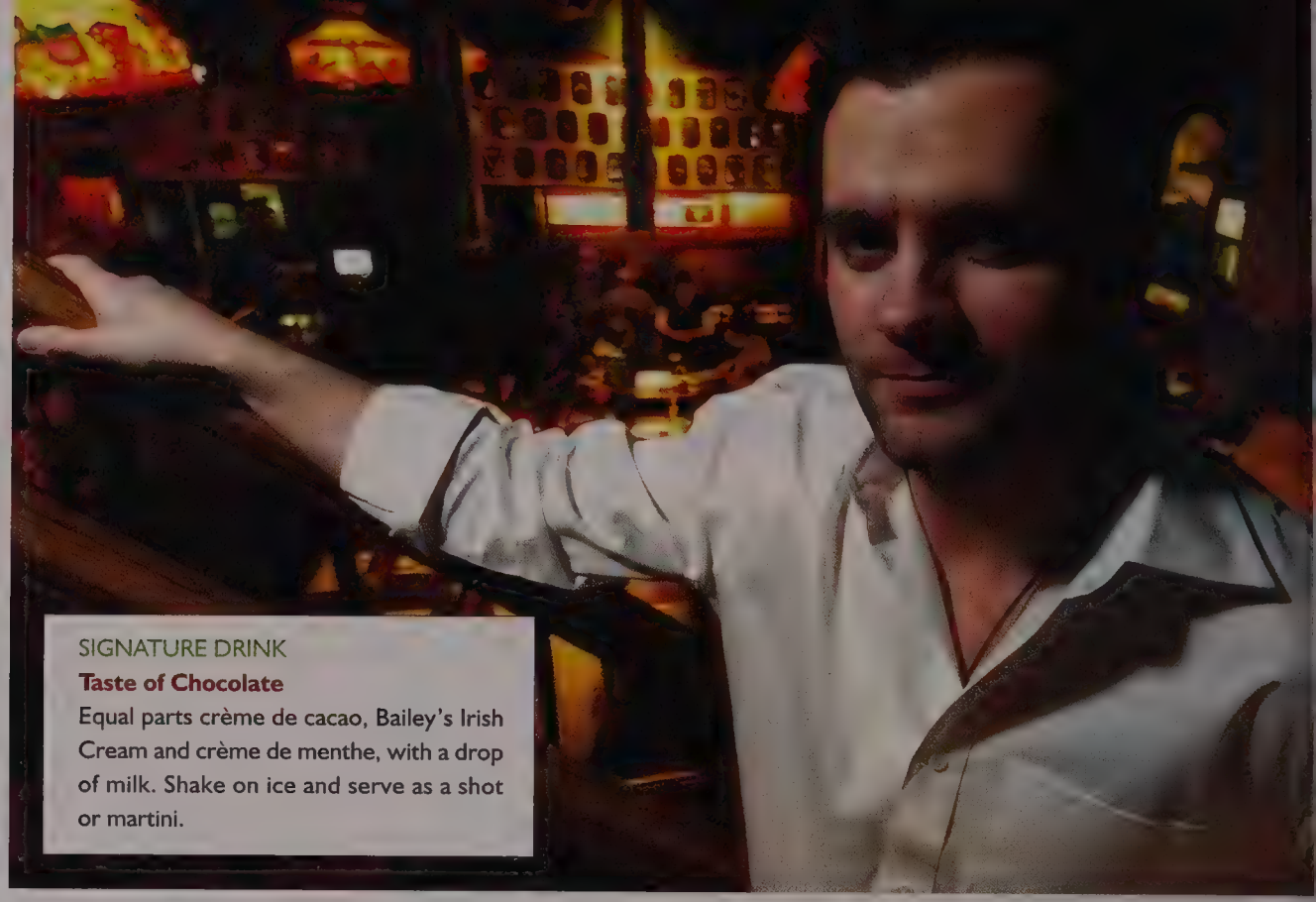
Sonny McLean's, 2615 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, Calif., 310-449-1811. www.sonnymcleans.com.

Bartender Pat Roque (left) and owner Jim Conners keep New England fever alive on the West Coast.

SHAWN AHERN
Union
1357 Washington St. Monday–Friday nights

It's impossible to imagine a more likable character, and if we had to choose a bar at which to sit and spend an evening alone, his would be it, due to his unfailingly upbeat, pleasant disposition. A Boston native who's quick to laugh, Ahern has been tending bar for eight years at a variety of venues, and while he can do flash or "turn and burn," his style at Union, the wildly popular contemporary American bistro in the South End, is more low-key. That's not to say he's too formal for a bit of showmanship, but most of his ministrations have to do with befriending the customers who sidle up to his bar. Because many of them also choose to dine there, he's developed an extensive knowledge of wine, particularly Americans (which make up the bulk of Union's list). Many of Ahern's patrons embarrass him by commenting on his extraordinary eyes: a hypnotic hazel color with long lashes that most women would spend a fortune on Newbury Street to re-create. On the side, he DJs at clubs and parties, but at Union, he's the life of the party.

SIGNATURE DRINK
Passionfruit Martini
1½ oz. Grey Goose Vodka, 1½ oz. passionfruit puree, ½ oz. Mathilde Crème de Cassis, ¼ oz. simple syrup. Shake on ice and strain into a martini glass. Top with a splash of Sprite. Garnish with a fresh blackberry.



SIGNATURE DRINK
Taste of Chocolate
Equal parts crème de cacao, Bailey's Irish Cream and crème de menthe, with a drop of milk. Shake on ice and serve as a shot or martini.

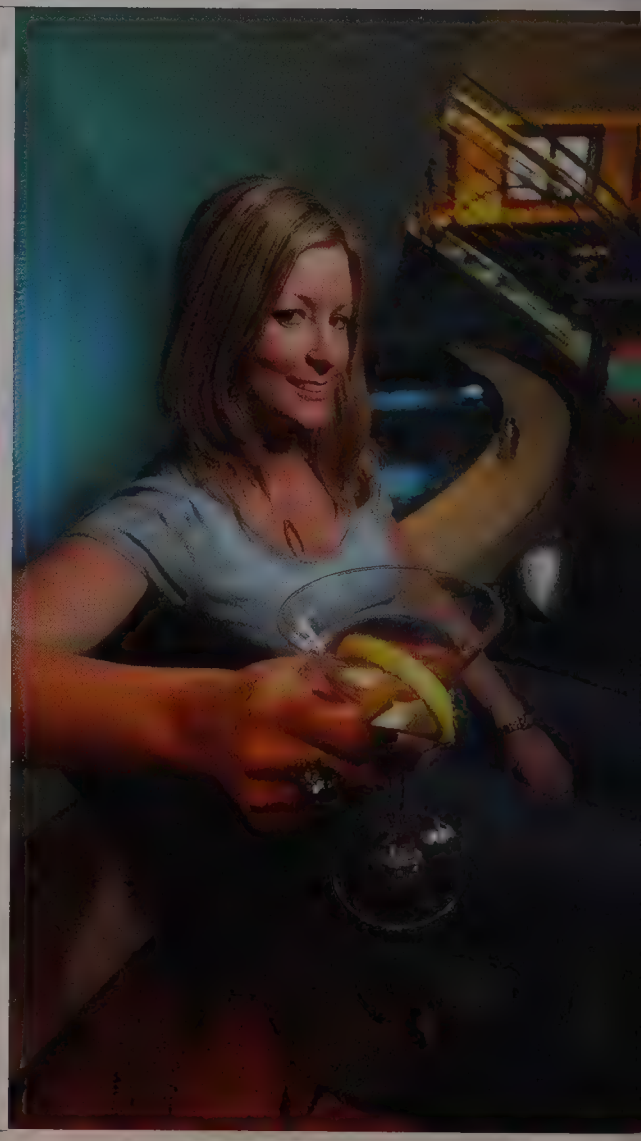
CHRIS WALSH
The Black Rose
160 State St. Wednesday–Sunday nights

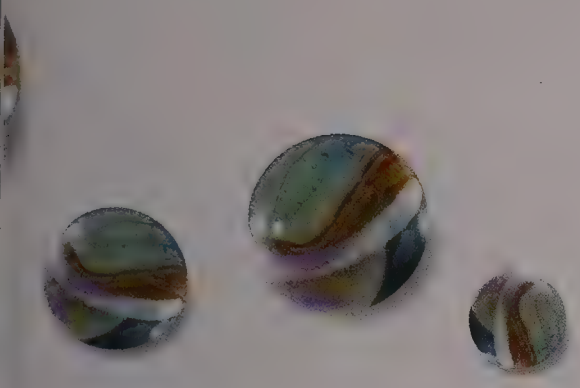
The beauty of being a legitimate Irish bartender—Walsh was born and raised in Dublin—is the gift of gab and a bit o the ol' blarney, which this publican has in spades. A former martial arts instructor who still kickboxes to stay in shape he's been tending to the thirsty patrons of this popular Faneuil Hall hot spot for six years and says he can't imagin working anywhere else. The live Irish music every night, and a roster of regulars who range from college kids to re tirees, make the Black Rose a relaxed, easygoing place to sit and tie one on, and Walsh's outgoing, happy-go-lucky de meanor complements the bar's unpretentious Irish vibe. Customers frequently compare him to Colin Farrell in th looks department, a resemblance he vehemently denies. And while his regulars don't hold back when busting hi chops, Walsh gives as good as he gets. In a city with an Irish bar on every corner, the Black Rose is the real McCoy and so is Walsh, to whom we raise a pint of Guinness and respectfully say, "*Slainge!*"

MARY KATE O'BRIEN
Cuffs—An Irish Bar
Jury's Hotel, 350 Stuart St.
Monday days; Wednesday–Saturday nights

The lounge at Boston's newest luxury hotel takes its name from the police station the building once housed, and O'Brien's uniform includes a tie emblazoned with handcuffs. Her bar is frequently crammed with an after-work crowd of upper-yuppies and hotel guests looking to unwind in a sleek lounge with Irish flair (there's a fireplace but the décor is unapologetically modern). She handles the crowds with aplomb, cranking out the cocktails at high speed when necessary, but she prefers to play the role of willing ear, listening to customers' stories and finding out what makes them tick. "That's the fun of this job," she says. "You meet some real characters." She describes herself as obsessed with the Red Sox and in love with Tom Brady, and she has a tendency to tell embarrassing stories about herself. Besides having a healthy sense of humor, she has an uncanny knack for knowing what her customers want even before they do, and a commitment to service that puts her at the very top of her profession.

SIGNATURE DRINK
Pink Martini
3 parts Stolichnaya Raspberry, 1 part Watermelon Pucker, and a splash of cranberry juice and sour mix. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a martini glass. Garnish with a lemon twist.





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MUDDY THINKING

MIT pub might have the world's brightest bartenders.

BY TERESA ESSER

Few people realize that tucked away in a signless concrete building on the MIT campus is a bar that's been a hotbed of intellectual activity for more than 35 years—a pub known as the smartest bar in the world. The Institute's no-frills Muddy Charles Pub has quietly drawn some of Boston's highest IQs since its inception in 1968. Staffed exclusively by MIT graduate students, the Muddy Charles draws a crowd that manager Bill McKinney estimates is about 70 percent MIT undergrads, grad students, alumni and professors, though it's open to anyone—if they can find it.

On a Friday afternoon, you might find 80 or 90 souls fighting for space around the pub's 12 small tables, ordering $1.50 pints of Bud and $2.50 bottles of beer. And if you're picturing lonely geeks with pocket protectors huddled over laptops, erase that image. "It's pretty social," says McKinney. "Most people don't come here to do work alone." Students and professors talk shop, while outside the front windows that look across Memorial Drive, sailboats move back and forth across the Charles. Photos on the walls—on loan from the MIT Museum—depict scenes from the Institute's history. In the warmer weather, Fridays turn into Veranda Night, where patrons can sip beer outdoors.

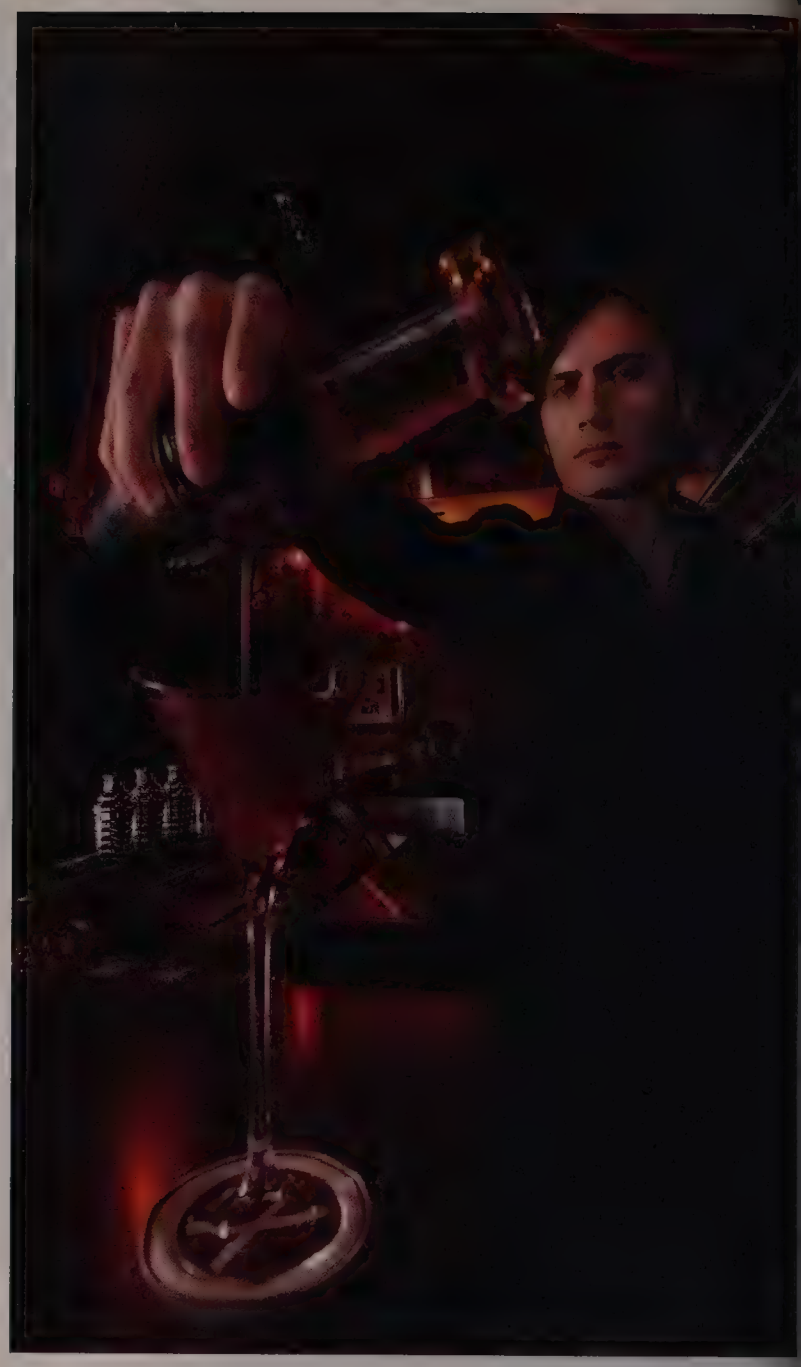
Most nights at the Muddy Charles are theme nights. The upcoming revamped Tuesday Trivia events have a techie twist: Trivia questions are projected on the wall, and contestants e-mail the answers in (the pub is wireless Internet equipped, of course) rather than shouting them out. It would be a shame to drown out conversations about software licensing, cloning, or stem cell research from patrons who McKinney says include everyone from inventors to astronauts. When tempers flare, it's not uncommon to see pub-goers engage in "Google duels," pulling our their laptops and racing to find facts to support their arguments. Brainy talk flows freely behind the bar as well. "Some of their conversations definitely go over my head," McKinney says.

Some nights, MIT groups sponsor events with beer, wine and free appetizers. Students for the Exploration and Development of Space, for example, held a Space Night, which featured UFO and Moonshot beer. "Each club promotes to their membership," explains Joost Bonsen, an MIT graduate student and "venture catalyst" who hosts networking events at the Muddy on the fourth Monday of every month.

You don't go to the Muddy Charles for food—the only regular options are pretzels and potato chips, though patrons are free to order delivery from nearby eateries. You go to grab a beer after a Noam Chomsky lecture or a student production at the Institute. Or because you heard that the Sustainable Energy Group is sponsoring an event, and you want to learn how the builders of the Australian Solar Tower will turn a sheep farm into a 200-megawatt power plant. Now that's what we call bar conversation.

Near the corner of Ames Street and Memorial Drive, 617-253-2086. 12–2 pm and 4 pm-until midnight Mon.-Thu.; 12 pm-12 am Fridays. No regular hours on weekends. http://web.mit.edu/muddy/index.html.

Teresa Esser is the author of The Venture Cafe: Secrets, Strategies and Stories from America's High-Tech Entrepreneurs *(Warner Business Books, 2002).*



ORION GOUSIE

Excelsior

277 Boylston St. Monday, Wednesday, Friday–Sunday nights

Forget, for a minute (if it's possible), his startlingly dark, smoldering good looks. (A woman we know fantasizes about him dressed as a pirate.) Beyond the beyond-cuteness is a soulful, thoughtful, genuine young gent who takes what he does extremely seriously. A Seattle native, Gousie moved to Boston six years ago and plied his trade at Newbury Street's ever-popular Sonsie before joining the original staff at this upscale eatery overlooking the Public Garden. Slinging drinks pays the bills while he studies English at UMass, with a minor in theater arts that he credits to his time behind the bar. "It's a performance every night," he says. "You come in. You get ready, and you go on. And the show must go on, no matter what." As modest as he is laidback, he attributes his phenomenal popularity with Excelsior's well-heeled regulars to a team effort, giving credit to the outstanding staff he works with. "We put extra effort into everything we do," he says, sounding sincere when he professes a genuine interest in the art of mixing drinks. "I get to meet new people every day, and they're generally these unbelievably interesting and accomplished people who come into my life for a few minutes and tell me something that's going to stick with me forever. It's the most interesting type of work you can do."

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Executive Blues

Three parts Citadel Apple Vodka, two parts Mathilde Poir, a splash of fresh lime juice and several dashes of blueberry puree. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a martini glass.

MAYBE THERE'S
SOMETHING TO
THIS WHOLE TRIPLE
DISTILLATION THING.

THEN AGAIN...

IT COULD JUST BE THE TASTE.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The High Maintenance

(named for girls who want something sweet and fruity but don't know what)

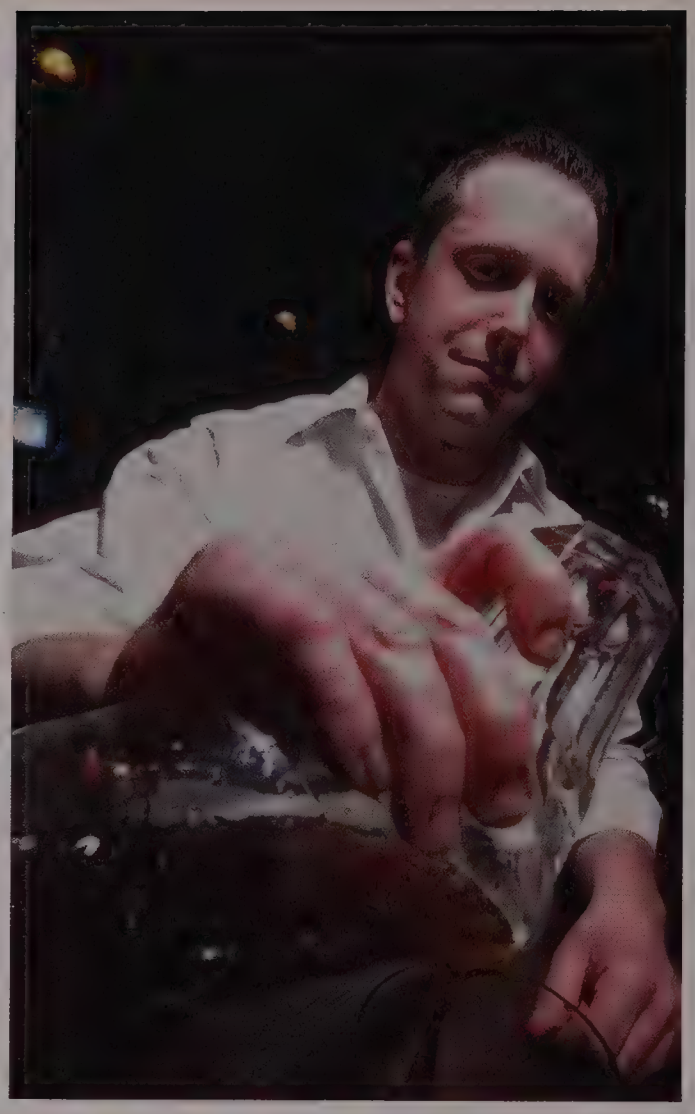
Equal parts Malibu Pineapple Rum, Malibu Mango Rum, a dash of sloe gin, a splash of pineapple juice, orange juice and grapefruit juice. Shake on ice and serve on the rocks. Garnish with a cherry.

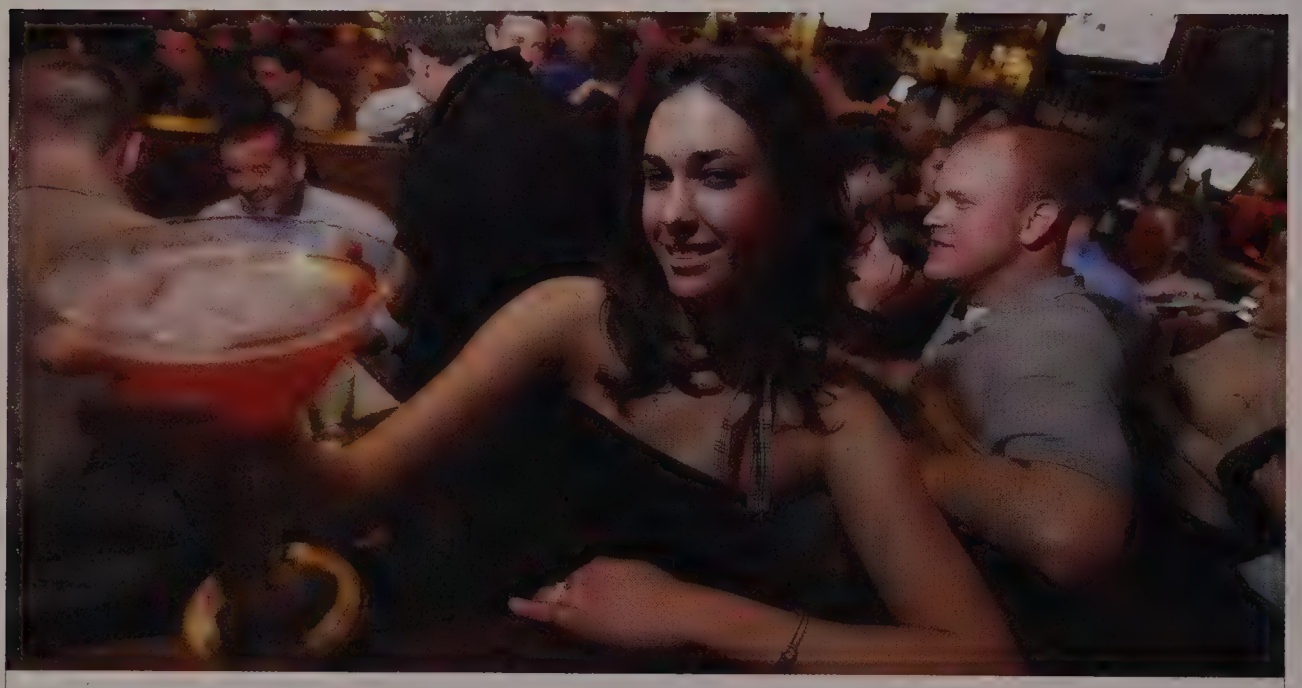
MARK TIBBETTS

The Harp

200 Portland St. Friday and Saturday nights

By day, he's a financial analyst, but on weekends, Tibbetts reigns supreme at the Harp. "I started bartending to put myself through grad school," he says, "but I just can't give it up. These people are like my family. All my friends and my girlfriend are in this business." The Harp's young college crowd can get rowdy, and Tibbetts keeps the party going by slaking their thirst. "On weekends, we're dealing with major volume, so it's like, 'Here's your beer. Here's your shot. Here's your change.'" Tibbetts' head for numbers helps in keeping customers' orders straight, and his old-school, straightforward manner doesn't prevent him from being upbeat and in a perpetually good mood. A happy-go-lucky, friendly guy, he's what central casting would send over if you said, "Get me the quintessential bartender for a college hangout."





KAT TURNER

McFadden's

148 State St., Thursday and Saturday nights

OK, so the bar is a chain, and it's in Faneuil Hall, of all places. That doesn't stop it from being more fun than the proverbial barrel of monkeys, and one reason is this tall (5'11" but her big black boots boost her up to 6'2") tornado of good times. At this crazy, upscale American saloon, anything goes, so you might find Turner on top of the bar, dancing, or encouraging one of her customers to go nuts. Always having fun behind her bar, she still manages to get the drinks for a party-hearty crowd that ranges in age from their twenties to their forties but shares one thing in common: They know how to have a good time. Vibrant, upbeat and extroverted, Turner makes sure every day is Mardi Gras at her bar, which explains why it's a favorite spot in the Financial District for young suits to cut loose. Be forewarned: She doesn't take shit from anybody, and her shots pack a wallop. Bonus points for being so sexy it hurts.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Kat's Meow

Equal parts Stolichnaya Raspberry and Stolichnaya Peach and ½ part Apple Pucker, with a splash of Malibu Rum, pineapple juice and cranberry juice. Shake on ice and serve straight up as a martini or a shot.

BRIAN FLATLEY

Parish Café

361 Boylston St. Thursday and Friday nights; Saturday and Monday days

Since growing up in Manchester-by-the-Sea, Flatley ha done a stint as a blackjack dealer at a Colorado casino an also worked at an Irish pub in Germany. So he's got a fe stories to tell. At this popular Back Bay boite, he adapts t his customers' moods: Some want someone to talk to while others prefer to be left alone, and his ease with all o them is one sign of his genius. Capable of carrying on mul tiple conversations on a range of topics from sports to phi losophy, Flatley's professional philosophy is to do all th traditional things bartenders do, and do them as well a they can possibly be done. One thing he does an awful lo of is guide customers through the Parish's Mug Club—i addition to making its own sangria and Bloody Mary mix the café serves 75 types of beer, and anyone who tries then all gets his own mug with his name on it. This Richie Cun ningham look-alike—tall, redheaded freckled and slightl goofy-looking—is as friendly as a Jehovah's Witness on X and as talented a drinksmith as you'll find.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Sazerac

In a tumbler, shake Maker's Mark with two dashes of Angostura bitters and two splashes of simple syrup over ice. Swirl Pernod in a martini glass and discard excess. Strain tumbler into glass and add the oil from a lemon twist, being careful not to let the lemon touch the cocktail.

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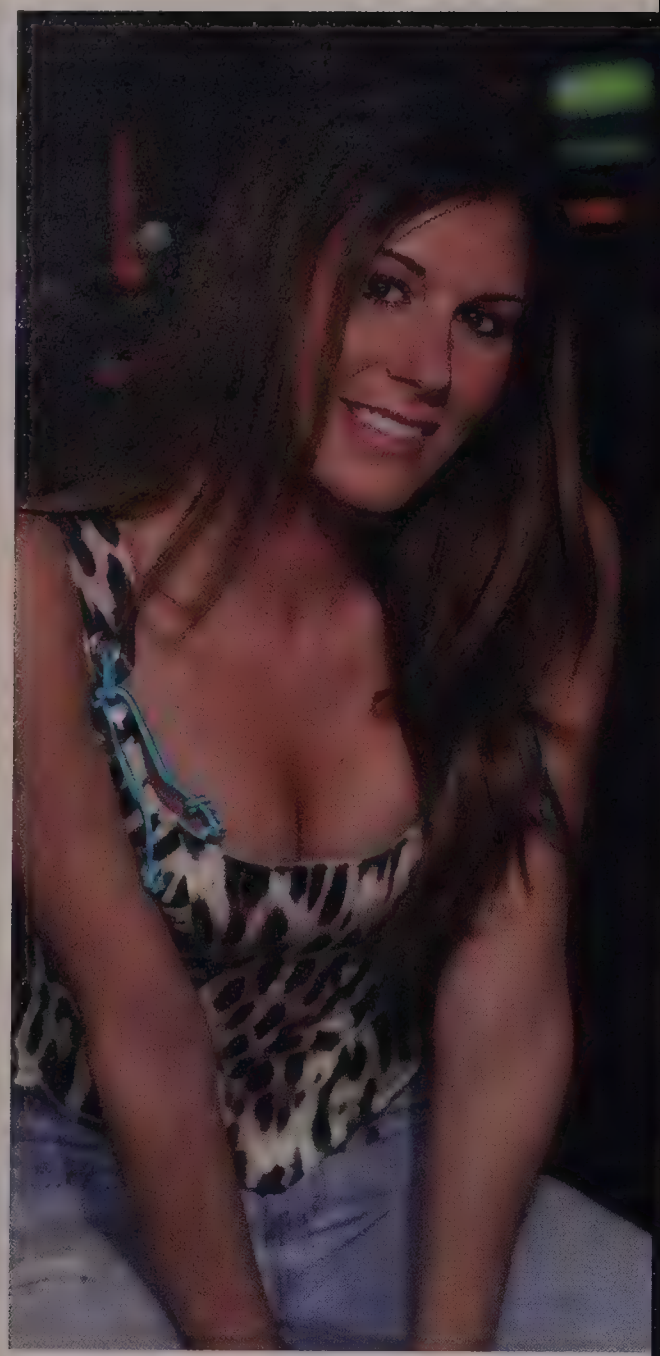

SHARON CANNAVA
Side Bar
14 Bromfield St. Tuesday–Friday nights

This issue's cover model, Cannava fits the old cliché: as nice as she is beautiful. Having grown up with the Side Bar's two owners, she's been working there for the past three years, tending to a young after-work crowd looking to release some steam after a day of entry-level-job purgatory or grueling grad school classes. The unofficial clubhouse for Suffolk Law students and young professionals from nearby companies like State Street Global, J.P. Morgan and Filene's, the Side Bar attracts a crowd who flock there for the cheap beer ($6 pitchers of Bud; $1 drafts), which Cannava serves with a smile and a welcoming remark, no matter how busy the bar gets. Not surprisingly, she witnesses all sorts of behavior. ("If we put up a hidden camera, we could sell the footage to MTV," she says.) But between the career networking and hooking up that go on, the bar also fosters genuine friendships that give it a Cheers-for-twentysomethings feel. Taking it all in from behind the bar, Cannava watches the drama unfold, slinging drinks and trying to keep everyone happy.

SIGNATURE DRINK
The Juicy Peach
Equal parts peach schnapps, Bailey's Irish Cream and orange juice. Shake on ice and serve as a shot.

SANTIAGO SAENZ
Tiki Room
1 Lansdowne St. Wednesday–Saturday nights

Looking hip in his soul patch and a Hawaiian shirt, he presides over this theme bar that can best be described as *Gilligan's Island* meets Trader Vic's: tiki torches, lots of bamboo, and kitschy Polynesian décor. Accordingly, Saenz's specialties (served in kooky novelty glassware) include Mai Tais, Scorpion Bowls, Singapore Slings, Zombies, Suffering Bastards and other rum concoctions, though he's perfectly capable of mixing a flawless Perfect Manhattan. The real secret to his success, however, is his ability to listen to his regulars, who range from twentysomething spillovers from the Lansdowne Street clubs to Red Sox fans who stop in on game days. An excellent conversationalist, Saenz gets props from patrons for his attention to detail and consistency. The hepcat persona is no pose, either; he's a bass player who's just started a reggae band. A trip to his lounge is like a midwinter escape to the tropics. If only the palm trees were real, and you could swim up to his bar.

SIGNATURE DRINK
Mojito
In a highball glass, muddle three lime wedges, five mint leaves, and 1½ Tbsp. Sugar in the Raw. Add ice, and fill with Cruzan Citrus Rum. Top with soda and a splash of Sprite. Garnish with a lime.

LAURA MCFARLAND
Temple Bar
1688 Mass. Ave., Cambridge Monday–Wednesday nights

Chameleon McFarland can go from goofy to elegant at a moment's notice, but she always maintains her cool, no matter how heated it gets at her bar. Notable for her ability to remember names, faces, and drinks of choice, McFarland promises, "If you come to my bar twice, I'll have your drink on the bar before you take your jacket off the third time you get here." Radiating positive energy, she's like the Energizer Bunny, and approaches her job like she's hosting a cocktail party in her own living room. She's also a born diplomat at dealing with customers who've been overserved or are overly interested in her, maintaining boundaries brilliantly. "I try to make it personal," she says. "I want it to be a place you constantly want to return to." And her loyal fans, who are legion, do, again and again.

SIGNATURE DRINK
The Coco Amour
Equal parts Stolichnaya Vanil, Malibu Rum, and crème de cacao, with a splash of milk. Shake on ice and strain into a martini glass. Garnish with chocolate shavings.

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RICK BROGLINO
The Rack

20 Clinton St., Thursday through Saturday nights

One of the very few men behind the bar at this wildly popular Faneuil Hall watering hole, Broglino's usually described as the "tall, dark and handsome one." His 18 years of bartending include a stint in Daytona Beach (back when the girls at spring break went wild for fun, not for video cameras), and he worked at bars in Boston's western suburbs before landing his current coveted spot. By day, he's a contractor/developer, currently working on a condo project in Everett, and between his two jobs he somehow squeezes in a workout at the gym four or five days a week, so his moonlighting gig as a bartender, oddly enough, is a form of stress relief. "I don't need much sleep," he says. "Bartending is a way for me to be out on the town, socializing, while making some money." Behind the bar, Broglino's a bit of a joker, and he fully appreciates patrons' expectations that he'll clean up after them. "After all, people go out so they don't have make the effort. So I do it for them." He also does it with charm and finesse, always going with the flow in his laid-back, glad-to-be-of-service style. No wonder he's a favorite among the professional athletes, financial types and night-crawling scenesters who consciously seek him out at the bar.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Chocolate-Covered Strawberry

1½ oz. Stolichnaya Strawberry, ½ oz. Chocolate Godiva, splash of Bailey's Irish Cream. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a chocolate-rimmed martini glass.

LISA HOLZEMER
Clarke's

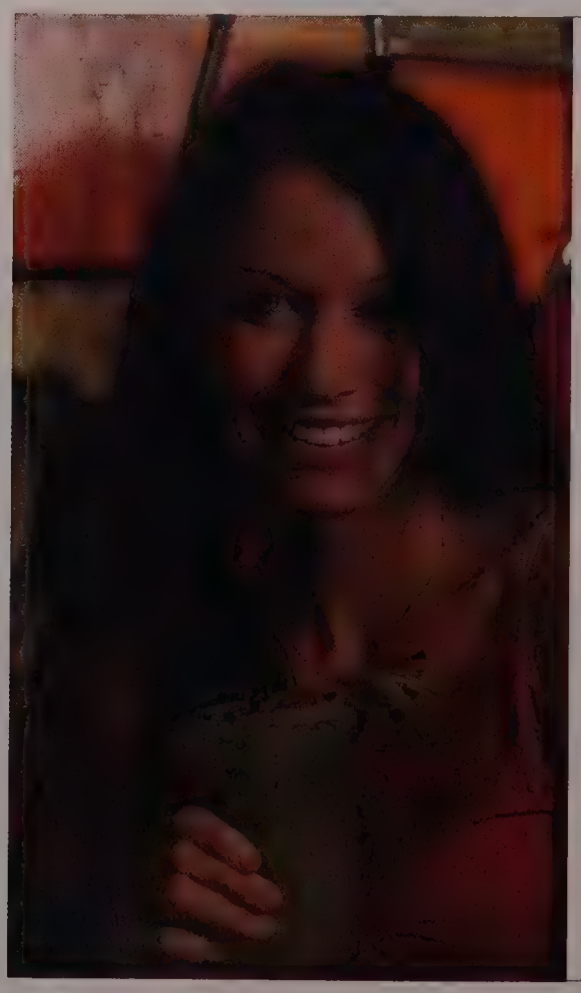
1 South Station Monday—Friday, days and evenings

Holzemer began her career as an actor and now, she says, "I do it for tips instead of applause," at this watering hole/wa station in South Station that caters mostly to an after-work commuter crowd. With over 20 years' experience and a wi quicker than the Acela train to New York, she's a seasoned pro, constantly cracking jokes behind the bar. She can b one of the guys, and when the gloves come off, she's liable to win in a war of words. She's not shy about using the four letter ones, either; for Lent, she says, she gave up swearing, but that only lasted until "*&%$#@ Thursday." As for he regulars, she's so attuned to their needs that she knows what time their trains are leaving and never fails to make sur they get their "two beers and a kamikaze, or whatever," before heading home. "Some people compare this place to th bar from *Star Wars*" she cracks, "because we get literally all kinds, But it's a great character study. I'm never bored."

SIGNATURE DRINK

Swedish Fish

Four parts Smirnoff Raspberry Vodka, one part Chambord, splash of sour mix and cranberry juice. Shake on ice and serve straight up as a martini or a shot with a grape Swedish fish swimming in the glass.



ALLY MORRILL
Cactus Club

939 Boylston St. Wednesday–Sunday nights

Calling her a "sexy brunette" doesn't really do justice to this talented drink slinger who's finishing her degree in communications at UMass Boston. Admittedly inquisitive, she likes to talk to people, and apparently, they like talking back, as Morrill is privy to all sorts of her regulars' secrets, like the couple wearing wedding rings who aren't married to each other. She's got a superb memory for names and faces, and with customers ranging from neighborhood denizens to tourists to suburbanites out on the town, she enjoys watching their lives unfold from her front row seat. One group of regulars who come in every few months from Kansas City have a drink at her bar and then head over to the Capital Grill for dinner, stopping back in afterward to drop off a steak for her. She also gets Christmas presents from regulars. As for the endless come-ons, she deflects them with characteristic humor, answering the question, "Do you have a boyfriend?" by saying, "Well, I did, but my husband killed him." IB

SIGNATURE DRINK

Mojito Margarita

Muddle mint and sugar with a dash of lemon and lime juice. Add 3 parts Cuervo Traditionale, 1 part Cointreau and a splash of sour mix. Shake and serve with or without salt on the rocks in a pint glass.

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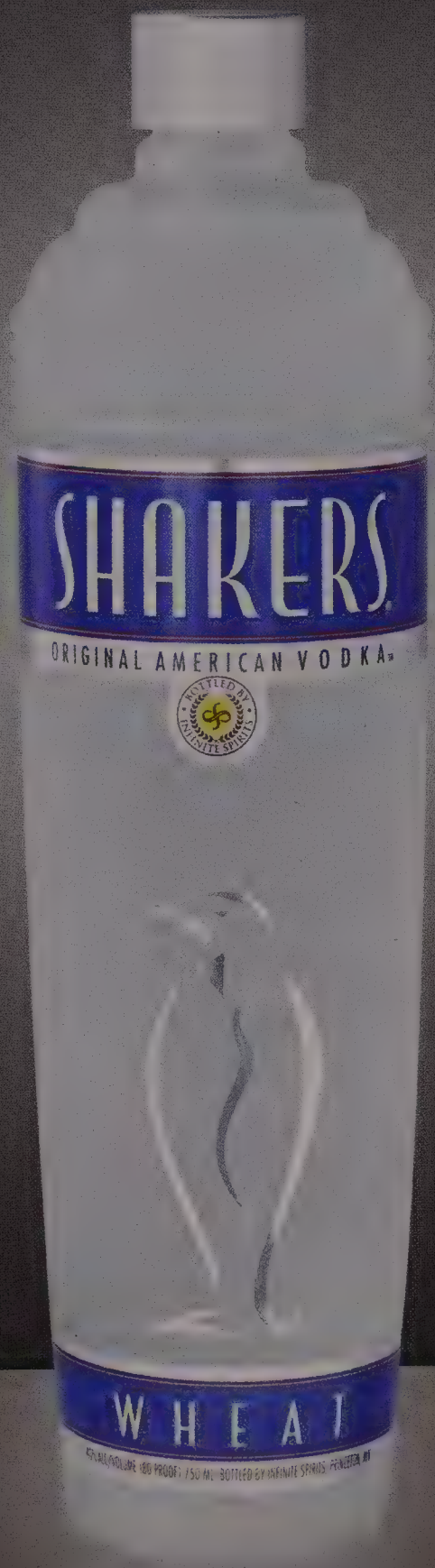

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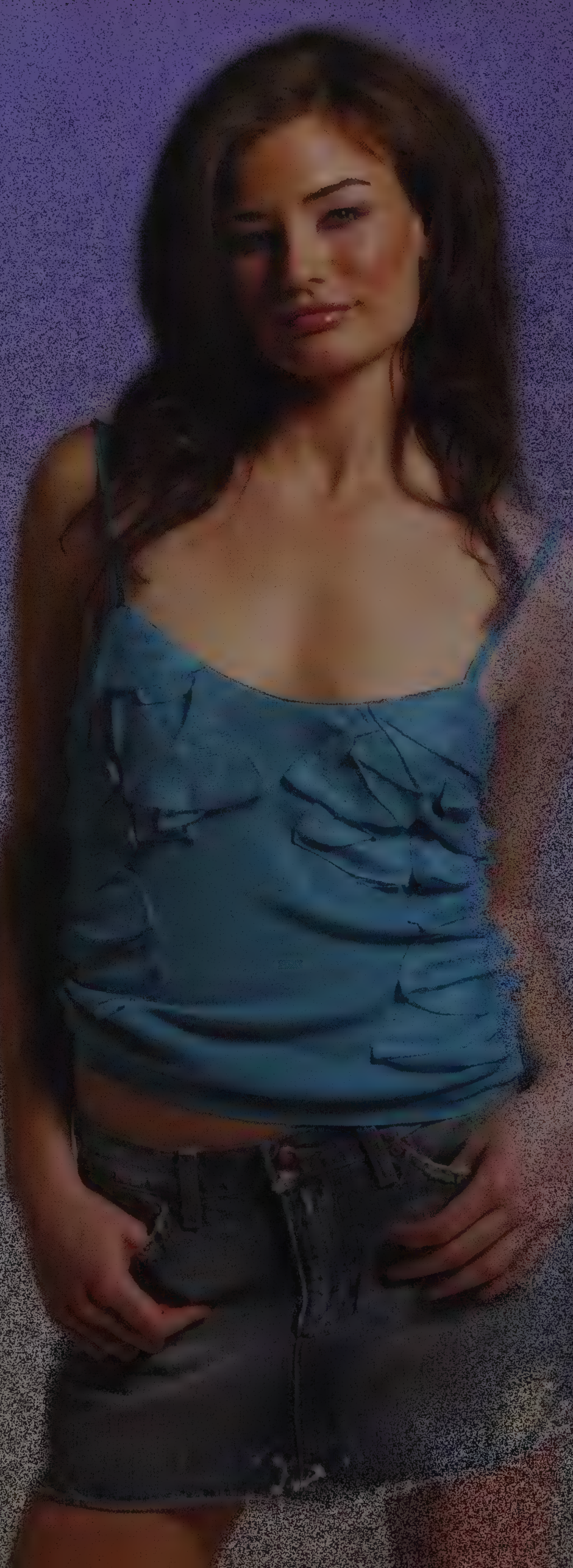

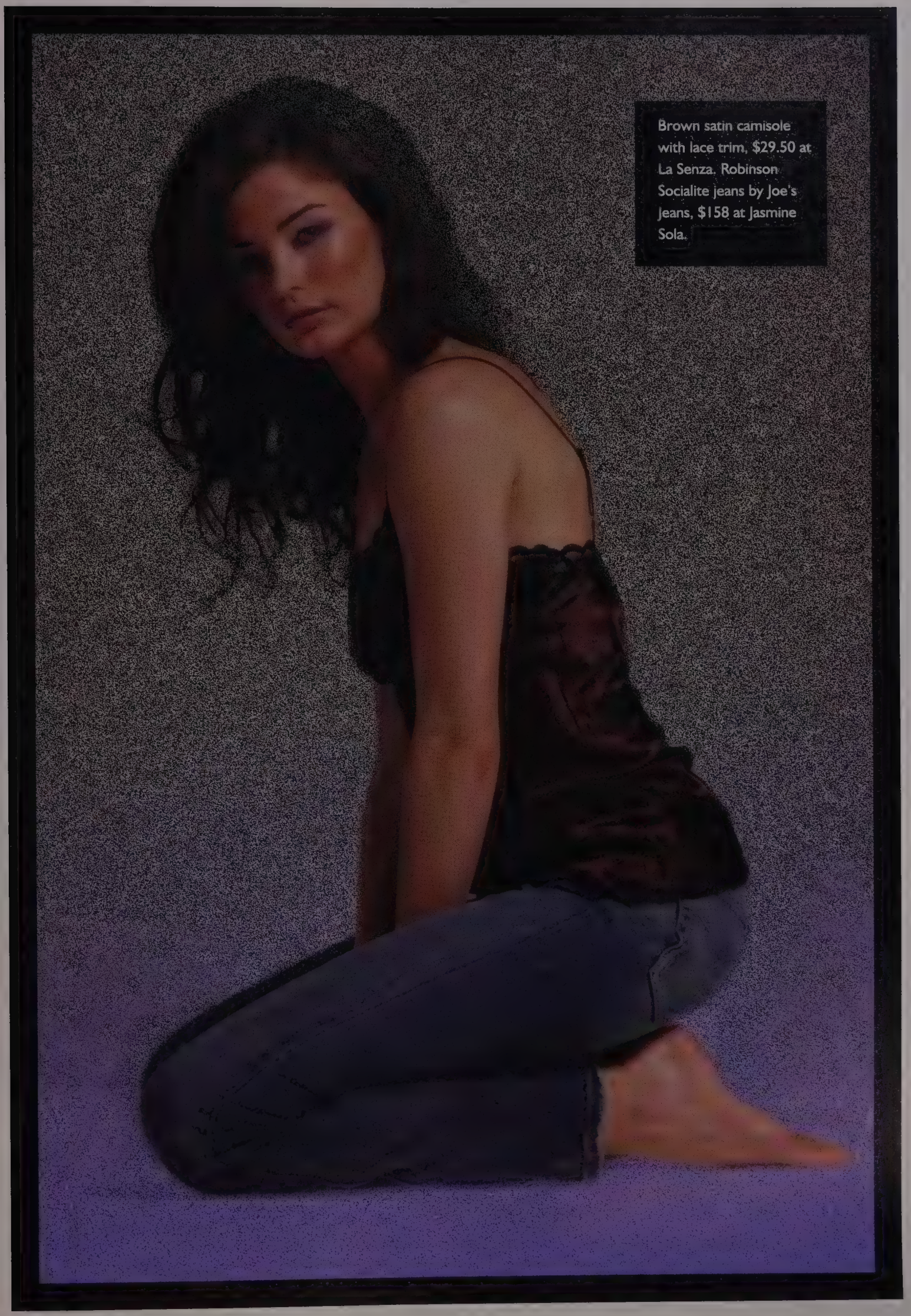

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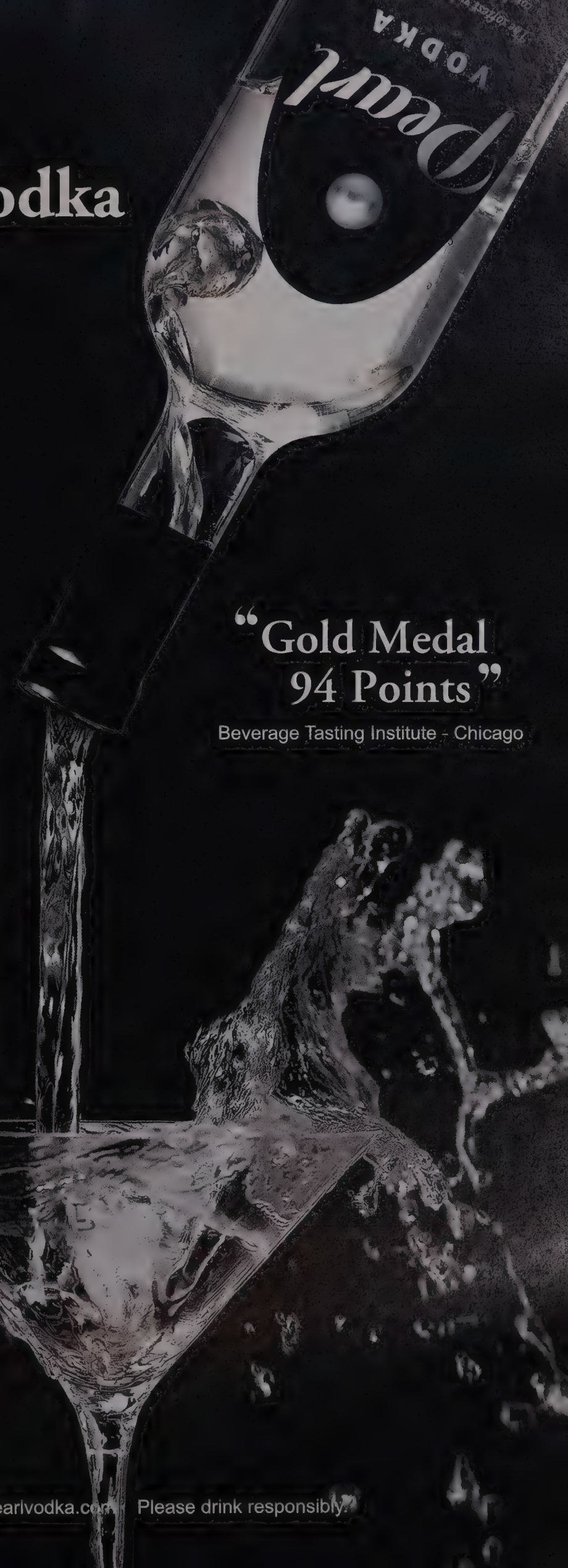

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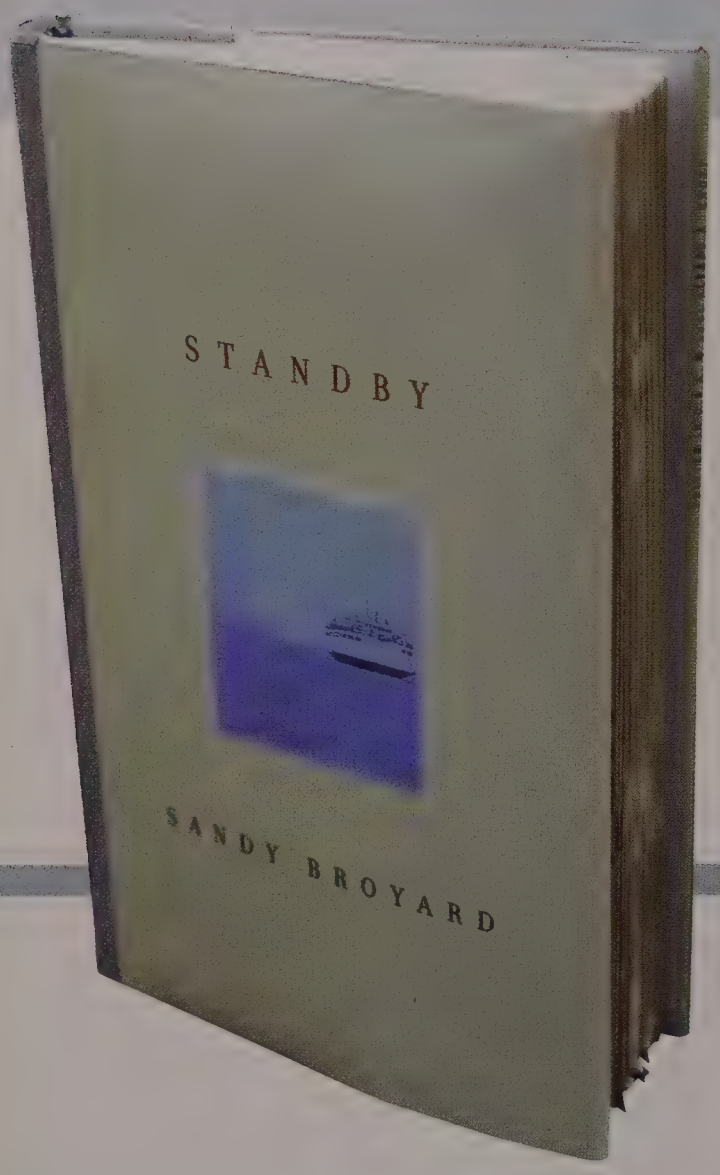


STAND BY THE MEMORY OF YOUR MAN

Sandy Broyard of Cambridge and Martha's Vineyard delivers a graceful memoir of solitude in *Standby*.

Sandy Broyard and her husband, the writer Anatole, moved to Cambridge in 1990, only to discover that Anatole had cancer. He went on to write about his ordeal with arresting wit and vivacity in *Intoxicated by My Illness*, but within a year, mortality won the day. His widow, Sandy, has grasped something different. Her book is a broad, billowing, silvery-gray sheet of the survivor's experience—her own grief, loneliness, and the long, subtle inner readjustments required—shaken out over the years that followed. Remembering other losses, such as her parents and a boyfriend, all of whom died when she was young, and her brother who passed suddenly not long after Anatole, she enters a philosophical state of pain that lasts a long time. Less stringently scheduled now, she chooses to sit for hours in the standby line for the Vineyard ferry, writing in her journal, recalling the life and decline of her curious, jazzy, bon vivant husband, and crying in her car. But Broyard, who's also a dancer, finds in the wordless poetry of movement a kind of solace, a metaphor of flexibility and strength. There's no easy "healing" here, but *Standby* has passages of grace and beauty that can take your breath away.

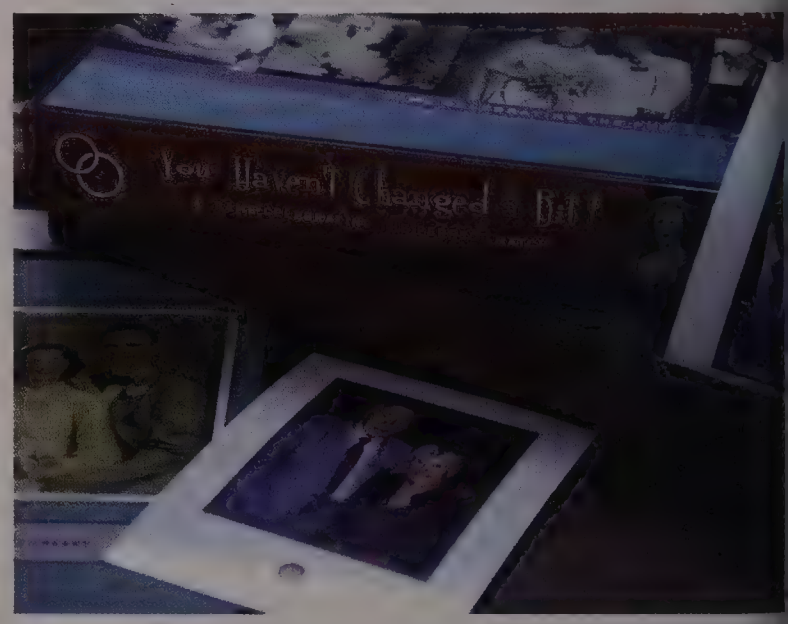
CURB YOUR CLUTTER

The Container Store, at 27 Boylston St. (Route 9), in Chestnut Hill, has jillions of items for storing or displaying elements of your life and abode. A new store, on Route 9 in Natick, opens April 9. Call 800-733-3532 or go to www.containerstore.com.

We seem to live in an age of ever-smaller nests, where the joys of organizing things abound. Using components from the huge new Container Store (it needs its own hangar!) you can create a tight ship in your apartment, closet, office or basement using the Elfa System: You attach a "top track" to the wall, and various versatile, airy shelves—made of wood, wire or whatever—chunk into the backbones (called "standards") that hang off the track. Got papers? Shiny galvanized steel boxes that support a desktop and also hold paper and weightier possessions are one solution. Rolling steel carts for files and books (they fit under a dorm-room desk) and a blinding infinity of ingenious boxes and filing cabinets serve your other storage needs. Baskets and towers—many with rolling drawers—cry out for your onions, towels, technology, toys. There are jaunty trash cans, colorful mesh standing bags for laundry, and attractive acrylic wipe-off boards for kitchen messages (or for poetry about asparagus), not to mention fun items like Hollywood-huge red acrylic hangers, a flattened metal dude who hooks to a door to hold coats, a plastic dog bone that dispenses doggy waste bags, and a little rolling plastic car that picks up crumbs. Who knew drudgery and necessity could be made so decorative?

BOARD WITH MARRIED LIFE

Local couple Erik Sebesta and Lisa Bozyan, married since 2002, designed the board game You Haven't Changed a Bit! to give the recently or about-to-be betrothed a bit of golden-anniversary inspiration. To order, call 617-577-7131 or go to www.youhaventchangedabit.com.



Move over Jessica and Nick. That glossy twosome probably won't make it 50 more weeks, in contrast to the couples featured in this board game who have been married for 50 years. Great for wedding showers, the game has you figuring out which of the brides and grooms pictured on their wedding day, so long ago, match the couples shown in their current incarnations. The wonderful title "You Haven't Changed A Bit!" is sweet because time's winged chariot has certainly moved the subjects and their clothes from one era to another. It's not easy to see which couple now was that couple then, and that provides the requisite competitive element. The back of each card tunes you into some comfy, road-tested advice from these veterans of wedlock. Some advise common interests—like cookouts, family life and golf—others cite comfortably divergent interests, complementary rather than symmetrical. One wife says she's still in love with "that grin." He says, "She's still 'The Boss,' but a very understanding one." One couple met at an "off-color St. Patrick's Day Minstrel show," which, the husband notes, "wouldn't be politically correct these days." If you know a golden couple yourself, Sebesta and Bozyan are looking for new candidates for future editions of the game.

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L'ORÉAL

REVIEW

VIVA VALVERDE

Paolo Diecedue reaches new heights with his second North End restaurant.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Paolo Diecidue's Scalinatella has long been a shrine of Sicilian hospitality in the North End. His newer Via Valverde elevates his performance as restaurateur to a new level, ratcheting up the level of grace, style and comfort. The flavors and textures of the cuisine reflect the rich traditions of Italy's gloriously varied regions, from Venezia through Campagna to Sicily, and they're rendered with authenticity and refinement. The sincere warmth that Signor Diecidue brings to his calling creates a remarkably agreeable ambience in which to savor the virtuoso performance of his kitchen. He has also ratched up his prices, although not unreasonably considering the excellence of the ingredients and the artistry of the cooking. With few exceptions, what you put in your mouth at Via Valverde is worth every penny.

The restaurant occupies two floors of a Hanover Street storefront. In the downstairs bar and wine lounge, upholstered sofas and chairs surround a lovely fireplace with gas-fired flames. A staircase leads past a classical stone statue and up to the dining room. Crisp white tablecloths and napkins, diminutive lamps on pedestals with delicate golden lacework lampshades, and handsome, long-stem wineglasses dress tables for 50 to 60 diners seated on comfortable chairs and banquettes. A wide-framed painting on cork hanging on the wall depicts the town of Sciaccia in the west of Sicily—from which the owner and his family hail—as well as an impressionistic evocation of familiar Sicilian landmarks.

Once seated, diners are treated to Diecidue's quietly enthusiastic description of the menu offerings and the evening's specials (he carefully provides the prices of the latter, a welcome contrast to far too many restaurants). Water, bottled or city, is offered, along with warm slices of deftly herbed house-made focaccia, but olive oil, grated cheese and salt are brought only on request—albeit promptly and graciously. That appears to be the kitchen's way of proclaiming that it believes the food has been seasoned and supplied with all the ingredients the discriminating diner would care to taste, a valid assertion for the most part.

Appetizers included *capesante tipiche Veneziane* ($11), a large sea scallop pan-seared to gently caramelize the outside and seal in the moist goodness, preserving its sweet flavor and velvety texture. Served in a faintly tomato-accented shellfish broth and infused with the distinctive flavor and aroma of saffron, the dish is a creation, according to Diecidue, of Harry's Bar in Venice. One evening, when I dined alone at the bar, I ordered a *pizzet al funghi* ($13) that at once satisfied my meatless-Friday Lenten obligation while providing a protein-rich, extravagantly delicious assortment of porcini and oyster mushrooms on a thin, crisp crust lavishly spread with cheese and intriguingly flavored with truffle oil.

***Tartare di Manzo*—beef tartare with *olio santo*, roasted San Marzano tomatoes and a fried quail egg.**

VIA VALVERDE
233 Hanover St., Boston
(617-742-8240)

HOURS Daily, 4:30 pm–12:30 am (lounge); 5:30–10:30 pm (dining room)
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Via Valverde's pastas, all fresh and house-made, ranked among its most stellar offerings. *Polentina con funghi* ($13), also available on the bar menu downstairs, brought a half-sphere of formed but very moist and light polenta, lightly browned, and dressed with warm fontina cheese and porcini mushrooms of exotic, woodsy flavor and al dente texture. Aromatic, delicious truffle cream gave the dish a measure of distinction that I'll long remember. *Malfatte Toscane* ($11 for a half portion, $22 as a main dish) consisted of irregularly shaped "rags" of moist, al dente pasta accompanied by large yellow fava beans, pleasantly bitter escarole, and sweet peas in a prosciutto-flavore broth well seasoned with pepper. Equall marvelous, *pappardelle al modo dei Piemonte* ($13 a half portion, $24 as a main), con sisted of long, wide noodles, perfectly fir but tender in texture, bathed in a rich sauc of portobello and oyster mushrooms and al bite (swiss chard), a creatively conceive combination of contrasting but compatibl flavors that was at once delightfully com plex and simply delicious.

Of the four main courses I tried, two stoo out. *Arrosto di vitello* ($33), fork-tender ve tenderloin roasted with white wine, shallo and wild mushrooms, demonstrated th wonders that a skilled Italian kitchen ca work with this delicate meat, showcasing i subtle flavor with a classic array of ingred ents that enhanced rather that dominate A garnish of white truffle–scented potatoe reflected further the kitchen's predilectio for these exotically aromatic fungi. *Il maia* ($29), a pan-seared loin of pork, brough two luscious, pink, three-quarter-inch slice that virtually melted in my mouth. Exquis itely creamy mashed potatoes, incompara ble, naturally sweet caramelized pea onions, and three or four tasty prunes ga nished the dish, making it a triumph.

Via Valverde didn't do as well with th red meats. Against my better judgment– since I generally shy away from beef at Ita ian restaurants—I was seduced by Diece due's description of the *bistecca di manzo co Gorgonzola dolce* ($34), which he said is signature dish of the famous restauran Caruso, in Sorrento, Italy. Finished in a dar sauce based on a reduction of the cookin juices and Taurasi wine (a notable red fro the Naples region), the dish could have hel its own at most restaurants but didn't stan up to the competition at this eatery. Th rich sauce and creamy mashed potatoe made first-rate accompaniments. But thought the beef a little tough, and lackin in the vibrant flavors and refinement o other menu offerings. *Agnello dell'Isola d Nuraghi* ($31), a lamb sirloin preparation o Sardinian origins, also suffered from bein less than tender. The robust flavor of roas garlic and the pleasantly firm texture of th giant Sardinian beans bathed in first-rat extra-virgin olive oil that garnished the dis made it enjoyable notwithstanding th shortcomings of the lamb.

Quaglia alla grigilia—grilled quail with a grilled fennel and apple salad finished with 20-year-old balsamico.

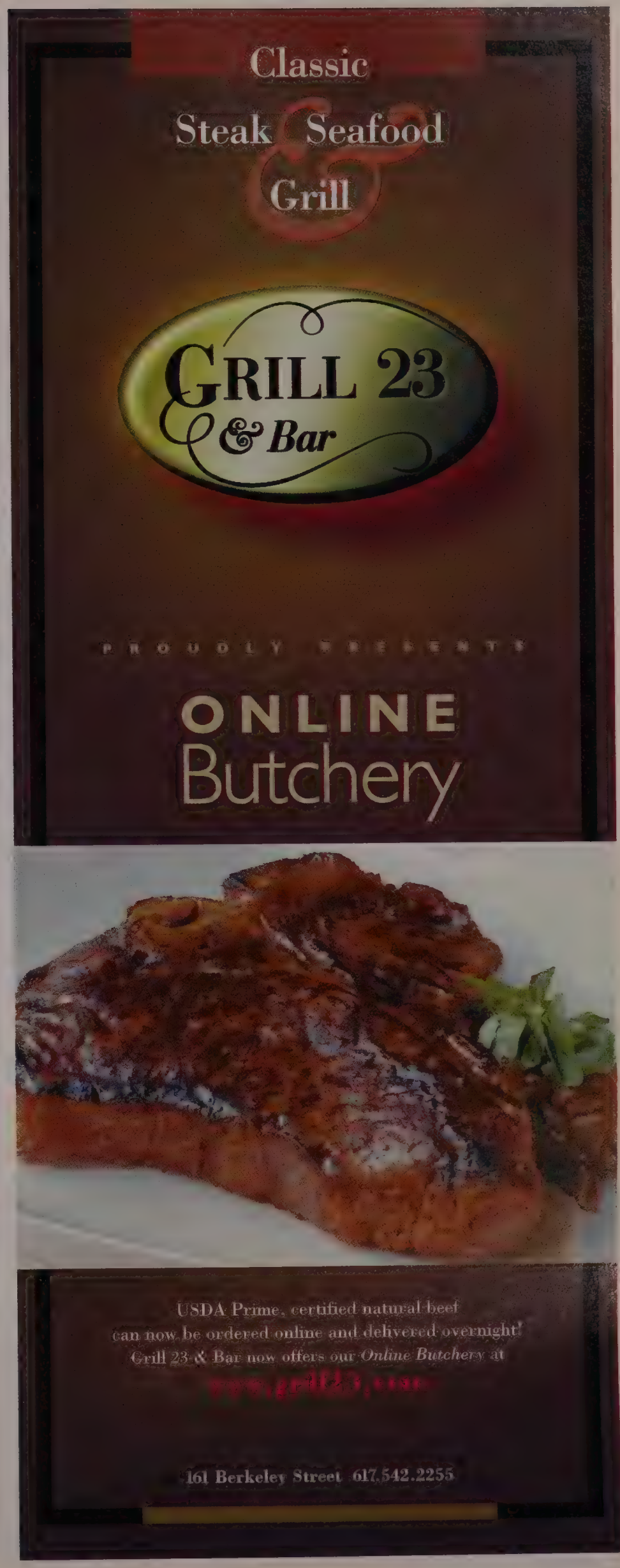
Executive chef Patrick Duffy

Tables in the dining room are adorned with a featured wine of the night.

***Cervo tipico sardo*—grilled loin of venison with braised escarole, parsnip and mirto**

Wines by the bottle at Via Valverde ere pricey (on the nights I visited, no ed wine was available for under $40), ut a number of wines by the glass pro-ided reasonable and surprisingly merito-ious alternatives. Moreover, they were oured into the restaurant's oversized lasses in generous amounts. A *sangiovese* $9) showed decent structure, a nose-fill-ng bouquet, and fine finish, as did a alpolicella ($8). Even better were a pair of Nero d'Avola's ($8), a Sicilian red made from grapes native to the island. These combined fine fruit, a rich aroma, and good balance and structure, slightly softened in a way that filled the mouth with flavor.

Portions are so generous and the food so rich at Via Valverde that I could manage dessert only once over four visits. I waited until I had an accomplice and chose the chocolate for two ($14), a platter of four different, intensely chocolate truffles and a demitasse of thick, fudgy pannacotta or mousse. These came with two light and delicate lemon shortbreads ("to cleanse the palate," Diecidue advised). We were just digging into the chocolate when the congenial host surprised us by bringing one of his favorite desserts as a *piccolo regalo* (little gift)—"spaghetti *pomodoro con Parmigiano*." This dessert, a bit of a *scherzo* (joke), parodied the standard Southern Italian cuisine of the North End of yesteryear: vanilla ice cream extruded through a pasta-maker to resemble spaghetti, covered with a tangy, bright red strawberry sauce (the "pomodoro"), and topped with fresh, shaved white coconut (the "Parmigiano"). This treat proved as toothsome and enjoyable as it was clever, a refreshing bit of self-deprecating humor. IB



TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9355). www.bostonwinefestival.net. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Continuing through April, the Boston Wine Festival features more than 50 events. •March 24, 7 pm: St. Supéry Vineyards and Winery, $145. •March 29, 8 pm: Cain Vineyard and Winery, $185. •March 30, 7 pm: Stag's Leap Wine Cellars, $165. •March 31, 8 pm: Duckhorn Vineyards, $145. •April 1, 7 pm: New World Merlots, $145. •April 5, 7 pm: Rudd, $145.

Cooking Class Series at Radius
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. March 26. 11 am-2 pm. $125. Chef **Michael Schlow** offers tips for making spring dishes with ingredients like fava beans, morels and asparagus.

Culinary Journey Through Italy
Maggiano's Little Italy, 4 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-542-3456). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Thu., 5-7 pm. Pricing is à la carte. Each Thursday in March, Maggiano's chef **Anthony Fazio** prepares dishes from particular regions of Italy. •March 24: Lombardy. •March 31: Campania.

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue., 6 pm. $35. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •March 29: When in Rhone.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Sat., 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •April 2: Basic Differences Between American Wine Regions: A Primer.

Great Chefs Cooking for a Cure
125 High St., Boston (617-632-3021). www.dana-farber.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. March 31. 6:30- 9 pm. $75. This annual benefit for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute features a silent auction and all-you-can-eat samples from restaurants like Atlantic Fish Co., Blue Ginger and La Morra.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •March 23: Austrian wines.

Passport to Wine Country
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon., 6-8 pm. $25. Every Monday through March, Croma offers a tasting of four wines from different regions of the world paired with its gourmet thin-crust pizza. •March 28: Northern California.

Popular Pinot Noirs
Lucy's, 242 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-5829). www.lucysbrookline.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. March 31. 6-8 pm. $45. Guests enjoy a tastings menu designed by Lucy's chef **Eric Bogardus** paired with a selection of pinot noirs from Best Cellars.

A Spoonful of Ginger
The State Room, 60 State St., Boston (617-732-2412). www.joslin.org. MBTA: Orange Line to State. April 5. 6-8 pm. $150. Nearly 20 local chefs including **Jasper White**, **Ming Tsai** and **Nina Simmonds**, come together for a tasting of healthful Asian-American-style cuisine. Proceeds from the event, which includes a live auction, benefit the Joslin Diabetes Center's Asian American Institute.

Taste of the Back Bay
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-7787). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 31. 6:30-9:30 pm. $75-$95. This 10th annual event features tasting portions of signature dishes from Back Bay restaurants including Bond fire, Smith & Wollensky and Restaurant L, along with beer and wine and live music.

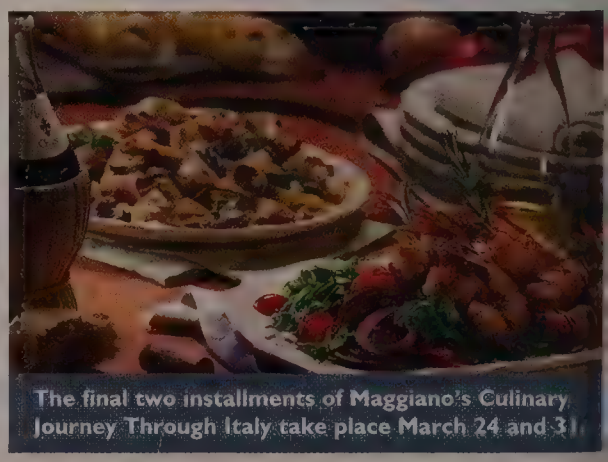
Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •March 29: Greece. •April 5: Sicily.

White Burgundy Wine Dinner
Sandrine's Bistro, 8 Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-497-5300). www.sandrines.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 24. 6-8 pm. $75. Sandrine's chef **Raymond Ost** prepares a four-course menu paired with white burgundy wines.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •March 28: Groovy Grapes. •April 4: Alsace.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •March 23: Red in the Face Hearty Reds. •March 30: Rhone.

Winter Wine Dinners
Rialto Restaurant, The Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). www.rialto-restaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 5. 6 pm. $125. Chef **Jody Adams** prepares a dinner paired with wines from Alsace.


The final two installments of Maggiano's Culinary Journey Through Italy take place March 24 and 31.

DISH

Robert Redux

acky Robert goes solo… Ruth Reichl remembers…

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Jacky Robert is cooking up an alternative to Maison Robert's prices with his new bistro.

You can take the chef out of France, but you can't take the France out of the chef. After more than 30 ears in the United States, cooking in staurants from San Francisco to Boston, xperimenting with Asian influences and ven serving as culinary director of the ankee-stodgy **Chatham Bars Inn**, chef **acky Robert** is finally opening his very wn French bistro in Kenmore Square.

Petit Robert Bistro, slated to open in pril in the bi-level former site of **Il Bico**, ill serve an "express" lunch weekdays on he lower level, and dinner upstairs ightly, in a candlelit dining room with hite tablecloths and a fireplace. But ait, there's more: brunch on Saturday nd Sunday, as well as a marble pastry bar eaturing a roster of 10-15 plated desserts aily, reasonably priced between $3–$7.

"Everything will be affordable, as it ould be for a bistro," says Robert. Dinner ntrées, such as New England bouillabaisse ith lobster, and lamb shank *printaniere*, re all priced under $20. The space itself, he chef says, "looks like a petit Maison obert, with a tiny terrace." Except this rrace is graced with a statue of the Eiffel ower instead of Ben Franklin. Unlike Maison Robert, Petit Robert Bistro will oast an open kitchen, daily blackboard pecials and far less emphasis on Robert's sian flights of fancy, though he's deter-ined to offer a dessert that involves tofu nd rhubarb. "It's something lighter, with no fat," he says. We'll have the *tarte tatin*, *s'il vous plait*.

SECOND COURSE

For **Ruth Reichl**, *Gourmet* magazine editor in chief since 1999 and formerly restaurant critic at the *New York Times*, memory lane is one well-traveled road.

She'll be reading from her third and newest memoir, *Garlic and Sapphires: The Secret Life of a Critic in Disguise*, at the Brattle Theatre on Monday, April 25. Following the reading, which is free (and you don't need to wear a disguise to attend), **Up-Stairs on the Square** co-owners **Mary-Catherine Deibel** and **Deborah Hughes** host a celebratory party in UOTS's Monday Club Bar. For $80, which includes a signed copy of the book, guests can enjoy a wine and hors d'oeuvre reception featuring recipes from Reichl's previous books, *Tender at the Bone* and *Comfort Me with Apples*. Reservations are recommended.

Fuzz buzz: It's the perfect potion for Mother's Day. **Icarus**' new signature cocktail for 2005, the Persephone, is a blend of fresh pomegranate juice, Cointreau, and champagne. Toss back a few of these and you'll be willing to go to Hades and back for dear ol' Mom. IB

Serving Dish

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MPROPER PICKS

march 23 - april 5

HOT TIPS FROM CALENDAR GURUS LESLIE AND RICH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			23 Hip-hop trio **the Perceptionists** plays the Paradise. *See Music on page 67.*	24	25 Naomi Iizuka's drama ***36 Views*** continues its run at the Boston University Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 57.*	26 **The Pat Metheny Group** plays at the Orpheum Theatre. *See Music on page 69.*
27	28 The Brattle shows ***Chinatown,*** starring Jack Nicholson, as part of its series "Dark Side of the Sun: LA Noir." *See Movies on page 64.*	29	30 The 48th annual **New England Book Show** comes to the Fairmont Copley Hotel. *See CityScope on page 54.*	31 The Four Seasons Hotel hosts the 10th annual **Taste of the Back Bay**. *See Tastings on page 46.*	1 Carrot Top stars in Joseph Stein's ***Fiddler on the Roof.*** *See April Fools' Day.*	2 The **National Poetry Month Festival** gets under way at the Boston Public Library. *See Books & Poetry on page 88.*
3 The ICA exhibition ***Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists*** features more than 50 portraits. *See Museums & Galleries on page 84.*	4	5 Andrew Lloyd Webber's ***Phantom of the Opera*** comes to Boston's Opera House. *See Performing Arts on page 56.*				

Alan Ladd in *This Gun for Hire*

SAT.–THU./MARCH 26–31

Movies: Crime Classics

Some of the most darkly riveting films to come out of Hollywood have also been set in Tinseltown, and the Brattle Theatre pays tribute to this genre with its series Dark Side of the Sun: LA Noir. On the bill are such titles as Howard Hawks' classic *The Big Sleep*, starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, and Michael Mann's recent hit *Collateral*, with Tom Cruise and Jamie Foxx. On Friday the 25th, the night before the series opens, viewers can get into the noir spirit when the Brattle hosts the area premiere of *Los Angeles Plays Itself*, a film from director Thom Andersen that depicts the city's portrayal in noirs and neo-noirs through clips from such films as *Blade Runner*, *L.A. Confidential* and *The Exiles*. *Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837). www.brattlefilm.org. —LPK*

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Erin Hagedorn Books & Poetry, Movies
Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

FRI./APRIL 1

Music: Bringin' It Back to the Old School

Back in the mid to late '80s, when names like Snoop and Puff were more synonymous with cartoon characters than legends of the rap game, a slew of lyrical wizards were out there paying their dues and laying the foundation for the next generation of hip-hop stars. On April 1, JAM'N 94.5 pays tribute to those pioneers with the Old Skool Fresh Fest, where some of rap's most influential founding fathers dust off their mikes for a show at the Orpheum Theatre. Headliners Naughty by Nature, of "OPP" fame, are joined by Slick Rick, the author of classics like "La-Di-Da-Di," and fellow Get Fresh Crew member Doug E. Fresh ("The Show"); Rob Base and DJ E-Z Rock, who teamed up on the hits "It Takes Two" and "Joy and Pain"; along with Big Daddy Kane and Kid Capri. By our count, that's more than 25 albums, at least ten No. 1 hits, and a whole lot of history. *Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com. 7:30 pm. $25. —RL*

SAT./MARCH 26

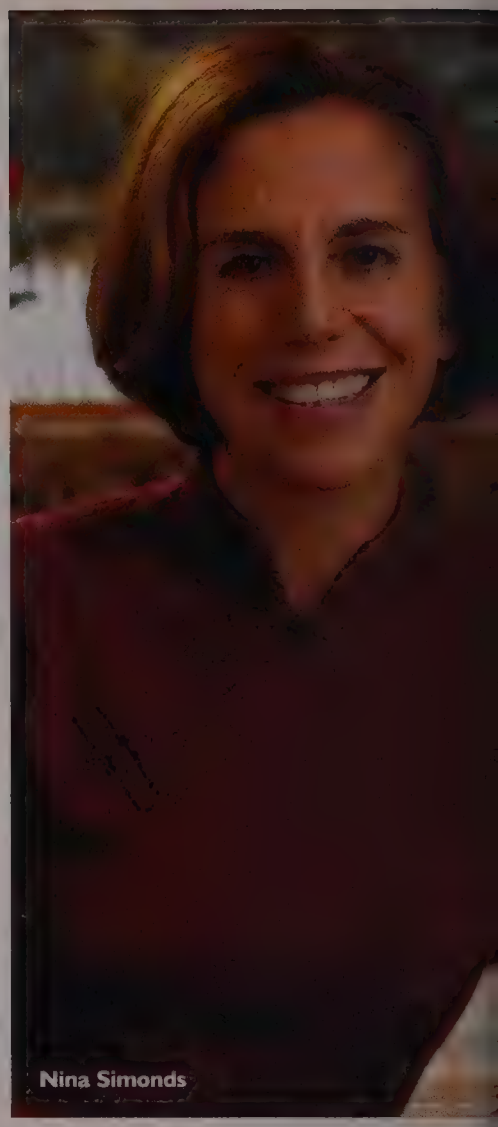
Sports: Hoop It Up

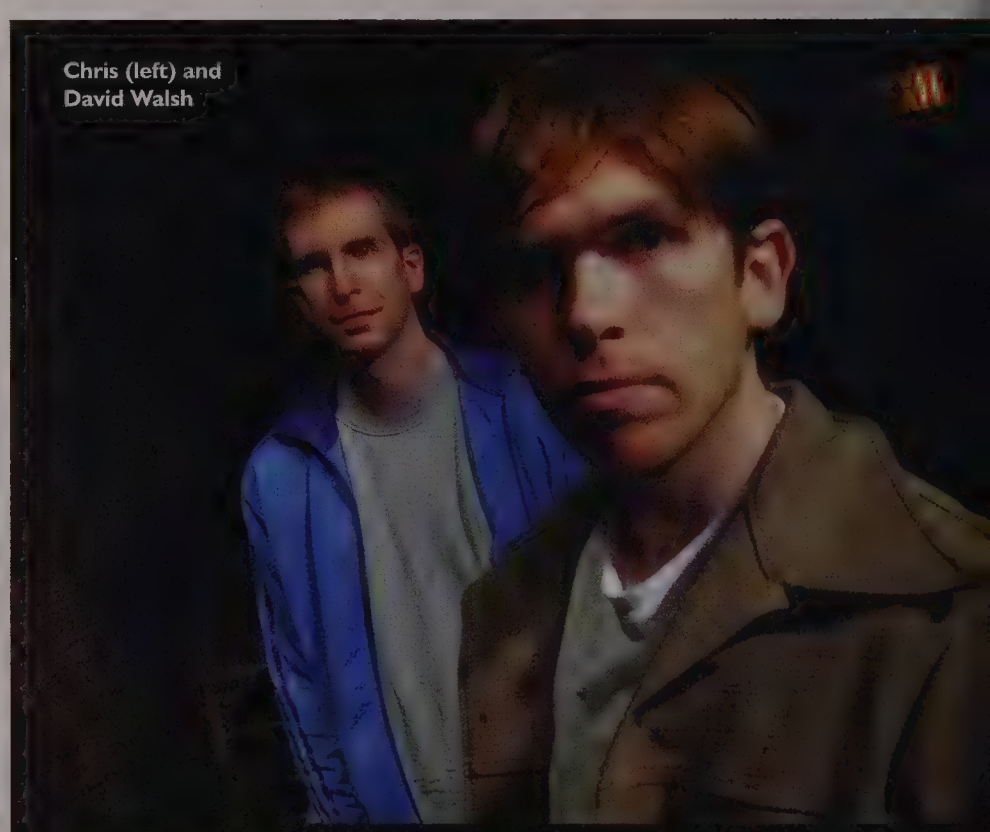
You'll have to excuse us if we get a little uncomfortable these days when a professional basketball player makes his way into the stands (see Ron Artest vs. Detroit Pistons fans). But while the players might roam into the audience once or twice on March 26, when the Harlem Globetrotters hit the FleetCenter for two shows, those in attendance need fear nothing more than maybe getting little confetti on their shirt. Since 1927, the Globetrotters have entertained more than 121 million fans in 117 countries with their creative brand of basketball—not to mention their merciless beatings of the hapless Washington Generals and New York Nationals. The team has also served as a stepping-stone for accomplished stars like Wilt Chamberlain, Connie Hawkins and Bill Cosby (yes, the comedian). The hoops is high-class, but the crazy games (like a slam dunk contest on a 12-foot hoop) and the interactive family experience are what make the Globetrotters' annual visit a favorite. *FleetCenter (617-931-2000). www.fleetcenter.com. 1 and 7 pm. $16–$125. —RL*

THU.–THU./MARCH 31–APRIL 5

Tasting: Sweet Charity

Not much beats a great meal prepared by some of Boston's best chefs. Unless, of course, it's a delicious meal that also benefits charity. In the coming weeks, philanthropic diners have two chances to take in some top-notch food while giving back to local causes. On March 31, 125 High Street is the site for the seventh annual Great Chefs Cooking for a Cure, an event featuring a silent auction and all-you-can-eat samples from local eateries like La Morra, Capital Grille, the Fireplace and the Atlantic Fish Co. Proceeds from the night benefit cancer research and care at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. On April 5 at the State Room, Jasper White, Ming Tsai and Nina Simonds are among the nearly 20 chefs collaborating on a healthy, Asian-American-style tastings menu at A Spoonful of Ginger, a benefit for the Joslin Diabetes Center's Asian American Diabetes Initiative. The night also includes a live auction. *Great Chefs Cooking for a Cure, 125 High Street, Boston (617-632-3021). www.dana-farber.org. March 31. 6:30-9 pm. $75; A Spoonful of Ginger, the State Room, 60 State St. Boston (617-732-2412). April 5. 6–8 pm. $150. —RL*


Nina Simonds


Chris (left) and David Walsh

FRI./MARCH 25 & SAT./ MARCH 26

Comedy: Laughing Out Loud

Boston is known for its comedians, and the Walsh Brothers' unique improvisational style, which incorporates stand-up, sketches and film, is something no comedy fan should miss. Chris and David Walsh, the creators of the Great and Secret Comedy Show, present their first-ever "solo" show together (just the brothers on stage, without their usual improv crew) at Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater. At Saturday's early performance, a group from the MIT Media Lab will be on hand taping the show for future lab demonstrations in a new experimental 3-D format. So if the idea of being immoralized on film in a live audience excites you, that's the show to see. Musical act the Mustn't Grumble opens all three performances. *Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). $15 (students, $7). Friday, 7:30 pm; Saturday, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. www.jtoffbroadway.com. —LPK*

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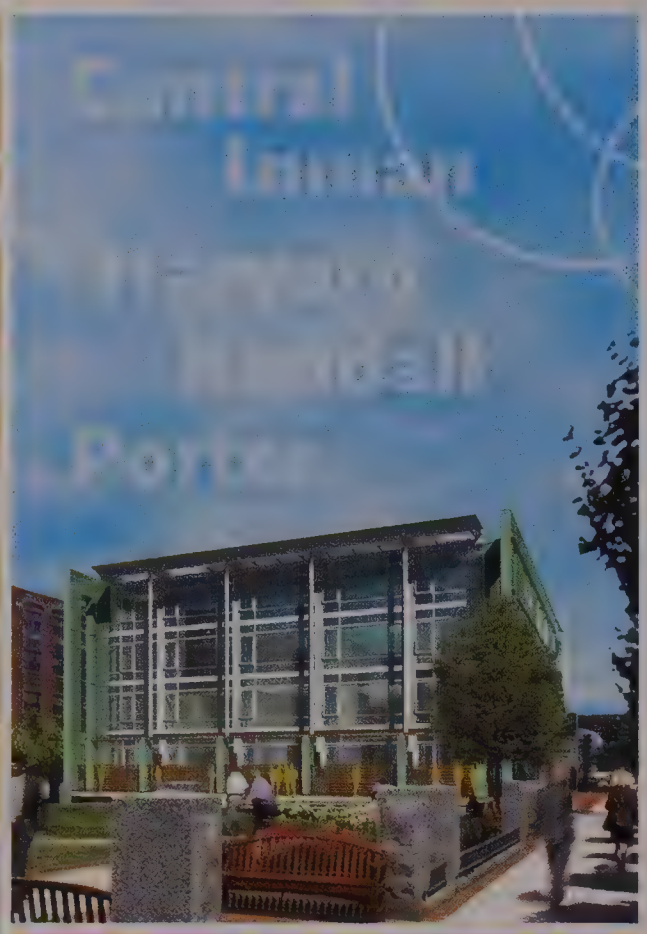

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Benefits

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

BCA's Hubbub
The Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (627-426-2750). www.hubbubevent.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6 pm. $250. Jazz saxophonist Stan Strickland, R&B and gospel singer Larry Watson and the Snappy Dance Theater are just a few of the performers at this benefit for the Boston Center for the Arts.

Tyler Hamilton Foundation Gala
Boston Park Plaza, 64 Arlington St., Boston. www.tylerhamiltonfoundation.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5 pm-12 am. $50-$5,000. Olympic gold medalist and Massachusetts native Tyler Hamilton hosts his annual gala fund-raiser to fight multiple sclerosis and advance the cause of youth cycling. The event features a silent auction, food from top local restaurants, live music and a raffle.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

Jumpstart Benefit Celebration
Marriott Copley Place, 110 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-542-5867, ext. 24). www.jstart.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley . 6-9 pm. $500. Mayor Thomas Menino is the featured speaker at this annual benefit in support of Jumpstart, a national early education organization that works to prepare poverty-stricken children for school.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

Boston Art & Antiques Show Benefit
Boston Park Plaza Castle, 101 Arlington St., Boston (617-994-4723). www.bgcb.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $250. This preview party for the 2005 Boston Art & Antiques Show includes a live auction featuring items like a Boston Red Sox fan fantasy package, a trip to Palm Beach and a celebrity chef dinner party. Proceeds benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston.

Great Chefs Cooking for a Cure
125 High St., Boston (617-632-3021). www.dan farber.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30- pm. $75. This annual benefit for the Dana-Farb Cancer Institute features a silent auction and a you-can-eat samples from restaurants like Atlan Fish Co., Blue Ginger and La Morra.

The LifeSavor Gala
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617 44 7777). www.servings.org/savor.html. MBTA: Red Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 5:30 pm-12 a Reception, $150; reception and dinner, $250. Gue enjoy a cocktail reception at the Langham Hot featuring a silent auction, before being transport to one of 85 Boston restaurants for dinner part hosted by individual donors or corporate sponsors

A Winter Relief Gala
Harriet Tubman House, 566 Columbus Ave., Bost (617-375-8137). www.uses.org. MBTA: Orange L to Mass. Ave. 6-9 pm. $100. The United South E Settlements, an organization that works towa helping local at-risk individuals, holds th fundraiser featuring fare from various South E restaurants and live jazz.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

16th Annual Unity Breakfast
Cambridge Marriott, 2 Cambridge Center, Cambri (617-541-8642). www.cbmm.net/breakfast.ht MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 9 am-12 pm. $25-$3 Proceeds from this 16th annual breakfast, hosted Concerned Black Men of Massachusetts, benefit t Paul Robeson Institute for Positive Self-Develo ment, which offers tutoring to young African-Am ican men.

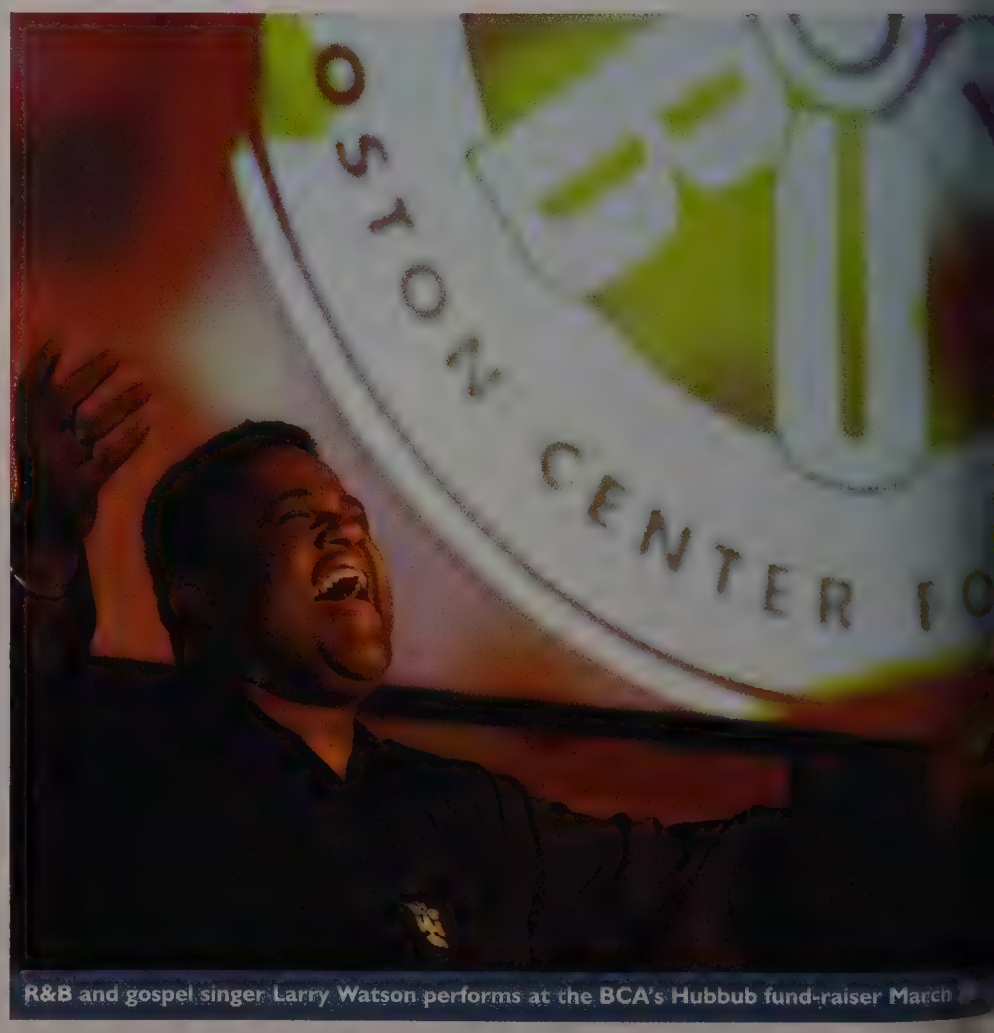
TUESDAY, APRIL 5

A Spoonful of Ginger
The State Room, 60 State St., Boston (617-73 2412). www.joslin.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Li to State. 6-8 pm. $150. Nearly 20 local chefs, inclu ing Jasper White, Ming Tsai and Nina Simond come together for a tasting of healthful Asia American-style cuisine. Proceeds from the even which includes a live auction, benefit the Joslin Di betes Center's Asian American Institute.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

1154 Lill Studio
1154 Lill Studio, 220 Newbury St., Boston (617-24 1154). www.1154lill.com. MBTA: Green Line Copley. 6-9 pm. Free. 1154 Lill Studio celebrates first year on Newbury Street with an in-store par featuring mini-makeovers, drinks and appetizers.



R&B and gospel singer Larry Watson performs at the BCA's Hubbub fund-raiser March

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The Bridal Brunch at the Gamble Mansion on April 3 features caterers, bands and gown

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

New England Book Show

Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (781-293-8600). www.bbboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 5 pm. $45-$65. This 48th annual book show highlights recent works by up-and-coming authors, as well as cocktails, a buffet and live jazz.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

Boston YPA '80s Night

The Big Easy, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 8 pm-2 am. $10-$15. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this party featuring an open bar from 8-9 pm, plus '80s-themed fashion contests and music.

Hop on the Bus

Begins at the Place, 2 Broad St., Boston (202-686-5990). www.prosinthecity.com/boston. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 6 pm. $35. Ride the Bustonian around town during this pub crawl featuring UV Vodka specials, appetizers and VIP access to all the bars and clubs along the way.

Taste of the Back Bay

Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-7787). www.nabbonline.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-9:30 pm. $75-$95. This 10th annual event features tasting portions of signature dishes from Back Bay restaurants including Bonfire, Smith & Wollensky and Restaurant L, along with beer and wine and live music.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

Boston Art & Antiques Show

Boston Park Plaza Castle, 101 Arlington St., Boston (617-994-4723). www.bgcb.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Through April 3. Fri., 11 am-8 pm; Sat., 11 am-7 pm; Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10. This annual arts show features 18th- and 19th-century furniture from around the world, accessories and decorative arts, fine American and European paintings, prints, maps and much more.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

Bridal Brunch

The Gamble Mansion, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.gamblemansion.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 11 am-12:30 pm or 12:30-2 pm. $15. Prepare for your upcoming wedding at this event where you can sample dishes from local caterers, listen to live music from local bands and view new bridal fashions from the Altered Bride.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

8 Minute Dating

Tonic, 1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-56 6699). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: B Gre Line to Long Ave. 6:58 pm. $35. Sample appetize during eight different eight-minute dates. Th mingle and meet the people you didn't get t chance to share a date with. For ages 24-36.

MONDAY, MARCH 28

8 Minute Dating

Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-79 0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line South Station. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers du ing eight different eight-minute dates. Then ming and meet the people you didn't get the chance share a date with. For ages 30-40.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

8 Minute Dating

Chart House, 60 Long Wharf, Boston (617-22 1576). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Blue Li to Aquarium. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers du ing eight different eight-minute dates. Then mi gle and meet the people you didn't get the chan to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

Hurry Date

Lir Irish Pub and Restaurant, 903 Boylston St., Bost (617-742-1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Gre Line to Copley. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 f nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates a enjoy drink specials. For ages 21-32.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

8 Minute Dating

The Asgard, 350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-57 9100). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Li to Central. 6:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers durin eight different eight-minute dates. Then ming and meet the people you didn't get the chance share a date with. For ages 32-42.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

8 Minute Dating

Hard Rock Café, 131 Clarendon St., Boston (617 424-7625). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: O ange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appe tizers during eight different eight-minute dates Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get th chance to share a date with. For ages 22-32.

Feeling Good Begins Within!

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's Health and Fitness Issue is pumped up with tips on how to stay healthy while looking and feeling great. First, we check in with the experts on how to play like a pro, and then, local trainers answer FAQs on how to stay fit, and our fashion editor shows you what happens when local exercise instructors trade in their gym wear for formal wear. As an added treat, learn how Boston's "Biggest Loser" lost the pounds and gained the dough. Plus, what's Spring without the Sox? Paul Sherman gets the skinny on the making of the Farrelly Brothers' new movie *Fever Pitch*. Step into Spring and don't miss this chance to advertise in THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's Health and Fitness Issue.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Dead White Males
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $10-$20. William Missouri Downs' play follows a teenage girl caught in the bureaucracy of public high school.

Den of Thieves
BCA Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. March 31-April 23. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25. In Stephen Adly Guirgis' black comedy, four unlikely criminals face life-threatening choices when they're taken hostage in a mobster's basement.

The Enchanted Forest
Rey-Waldstein Building, Longy School of Music, 33 Garden St., Cambridge (617-547-7819). www.cambridgeopera.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 1, 8 pm. $12-$22. Cambridge Opera presents soprano Junko Watanabe, mezzo-soprano Susan Cooke and tenor Brendon Daly singing works by Purcell, Schubert, Verdi, Strauss and others.

Eugene Onegin
Shubert Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 30-April 12. Tue., Wed., Fri., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $34-$159. Boston Lyric Opera presents Tchaikovsky's love story of a once timid girl who returns to her old love as a poised, but married, woman.

For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow Is Enuf
Boston Center for the Arts Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.animusensemble.org. March 25-April 2. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25. John Ambrosino directs Ntozake Shange's show that celebrates modern black women through story, dance and music.

Gagarin Way
BCA Roberts Studio Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 1-23. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $38. Scottish playwright Gregory Burke's black comedy takes on existentialism, the crisis of masculinity, globalization and anarchy in a kidnapping gone wrong.

Hubbub! 2005: A Sensory Sensation
Boston Center for the Arts Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2750). www.hubbubevent.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 24, 6 pm. $250. The BCA presents its annual gala benefit featuring performances by the Snappy Dance Theatre, R&B and gospel singer Larry Watson and jazz saxophonist Stan Strickland.

Living Out
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Bo (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: G Line to Copley. March 25-April 23. Wed., 2 and pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 Sun., 3 pm. $19-$43. A Latina immigrant mo struggles to find common ground with the la whose children she cares for.

On the Record
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-2787). www.broadwayinboston.com. March 30-10. Tue., 8 pm; Wed., 7 pm; Thu., 2 and 8 pm; 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $80. This new musical features more than 50 cl Disney songs.

Peter Pan
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Li Boylston. March 29-April 3. Tue.-Thu., 7 pm; 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 6:30 $25-$75. This classic musical based on James M. rie's story features Tony Award nominee and fo Olympic gymnast Cathy Rigby in her farewell pe mance in the title role.

The Phantom of the Opera
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MB Green Line to Boylston. March 30-May 22. T Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 $23-$83. Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical is b on Gaston Leroux's classic love story about a ma figure and an innocent young opera singer.

Violet
The Footlight Club, Eliot Hall, 7A Eliot Street, Jam Plain, (617-524 3200). www.footlight.org, Apr 16. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., April 12, 2 pm. $ $20. Bill Doscher directs Brian Crawley and Jea Tesori's musical adaptation of Doris Betts' short s *The Ugliest Pilgrim*, about a woman's journey of discovery while she seeks to cure her scarred face

The Zoo Story
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Che (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. March April 9. Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 7 pm; Sun., 3 $10-$18. Michael McKeogh stars in Edward Alb alternately funny and horrifying story involving men on a park bench.

NOW RUNNING

Anna in the Tropics
BCA Roberts Studio Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Bo (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescne.com. MB Green Line to Boylston. Through March 26, Wed.-8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $46-$56. Cruz's drama, set in a Cuban-American cigar fac just before the Great Depression, follows a gr whose lives parallel those of the characters in stoy's *Anna Karenina*.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Lin Boylston. Ongoing. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. dialogue-free production features tribal rock mu humorous antics, props and three men painted blu

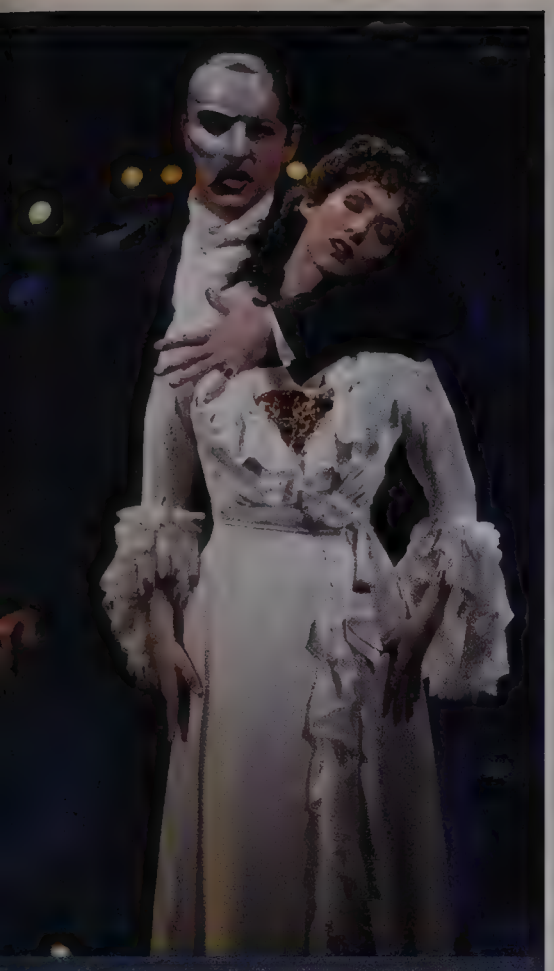
Culture Clash in AmeriCCa
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, Boston Center for the 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-7900). w huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Orange Line to B Bay. Through May 8. Tue.-Fri, 7:30pm; Sat., 2 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. $14-$42. The three-per Latino group uses dance, poetry and humor to plore diversity in America.

Dido, Queen of Carthage
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (6 547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Lin Harvard. Through March 26, Tue.-Thu., 7:30 Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 Thu. March 24, 10 pm. $36-$72. Neil Bartlett rects Christopher Marlowe's play about Qu Dido's infatuation for Aeneas, the heroic survivo the Trojan War and future founder of Rome.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (6 426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MB Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2pm. $42.50. A quarte aging baby boomers with nothing in common memory loss and hot flashes meet at a lingerie sal

The Old Man and the Sea
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-2 2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Through April Wed. and Thu. 7:30 pm, Fri. 8 pm., Sat. 4 and 8 Sun. 2 pm. $16-$32. Weylin Symes adapts Er Hemingway's Nobel prize-winning novella for t world premiere production. Greg Smucker directs

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (6 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MB



Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera* opens March 30 at the Opera House.

een Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; ., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. is comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon lds the record as Boston's longest-running the- ical show.

Sweet Charity

Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St. Boston (617-482-8616). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through March 27, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $37.50-$87.50. Charlotte d'Amboise and Denis O'Hare star in Neil Simon's musical comedy about the misadventures of a dancehall hostess. Directed by Walter Bobbie.

Talking Heads 2

Boston Center for the Arts 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-7700). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through March 26. Thu.-Sat. 8 pm., Sun. 5 pm. $15-$20. The QE2 players present three monologues by Alan Bennett. Michael O'Halloran directs.

36 Views

Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. Through April 10. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $14-55. Problems with authenticity in both art and emotion arise in Naomi Iizuka's drama of an unscrupulous art dealer and a respected professor who discover a rare and ancient Japanese "pillow book."

Topdog/Underdog

New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. Through March 27, Wed., 7 pm; Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $30-$47. Kent Gash directs Suzan-Lori Parks' Pulitzer Prize-winning play about two African-American brothers, one an aspiring street hustler and the other a reformed hustler turned Abraham Lincoln impersonator.

A Woman Alone/Self-Torture and Strenuous Exercise

Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. Through March 26. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $10-$18. Shelley Brown performs a pair of short dark comedies about housewives on the verge of attempting suicide: Dario Fo and Franca Rame's *A Woman Alone* and Harry Kondoleon's *Self-Torture and Strenuous Exercise*.

University Theater

Albert Herring

Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemenway St., Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. March 31-April 2. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $5-$12. In Benjamin Britten's opera, a naive mama's boy escapes his constraints to enjoy himself for a day.

Carmen

Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000) www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 23-26. Wed.-Sat., 7:30 pm. $35-$75. In Bizet's opera, a soldier is obsessed with a beautiful gypsy.

Footloose

Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3635). www.bu.edu/tsai/events. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. March 25-26. 8 pm. $7. BU's On Broadway student theater troupe presents a stage production of the 1980s hit movie musical.

Dance

Dance Theatre Ensemble Spring Concert

MIT Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4720). www.mit.edu/~dte/. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. April 2, 11 am. Free. Dianne Walker choreographs performances by ensemble members.

Rainbow Tribe Dance Recital

Roxbury Community College Mainstage, 1234 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-931-2787). www.rainbowtribe.org. March 31-April 3. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $15. This local dance troupe presents Destinations, a show of original works by Adrienne T. Hawkins, Carl Alleyne and company members.

Swan Lake

Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 1, 7:30 pm. $35-75. The Russian National Ballet Theatre of Moscow presents this ballet about a princess who has been transformed into a white swan.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café

334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault

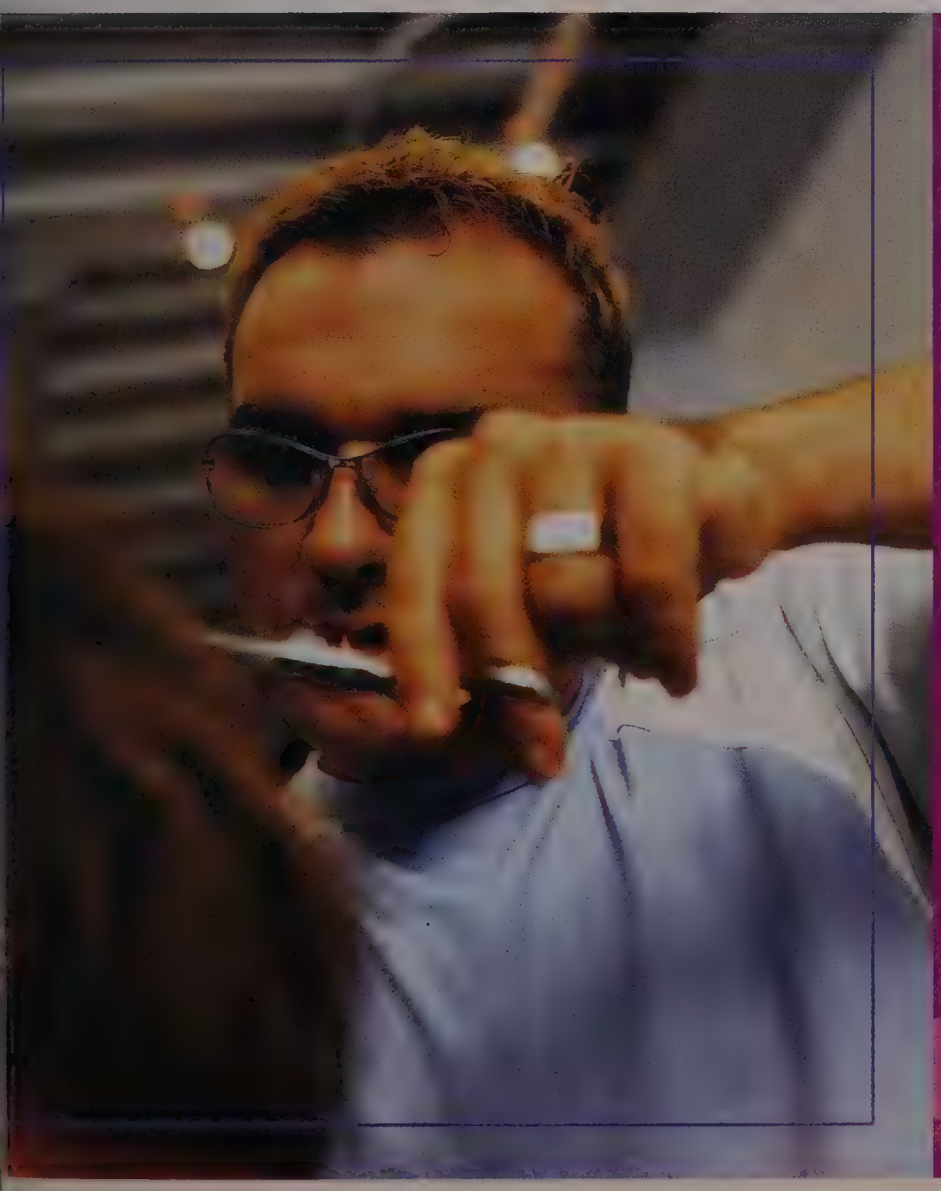
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). http://www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians.

Cantab Lounge

738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays 8 pm: The Tribe Improv performs downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Mon., 8 pm: Tony V. hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Thu., 8:30pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •March 23, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •March 25-26, 8 and 10:15pm: Jim Gaffigan, $21. •March 26, 6, 8 and 10:15 pm: Jim Gaffigan, $20. •March 29, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •March 30, 8 pm: Mike Donovan. $12. •April 1, 8, 10:15 and 11:59 pm: Dave Attell,



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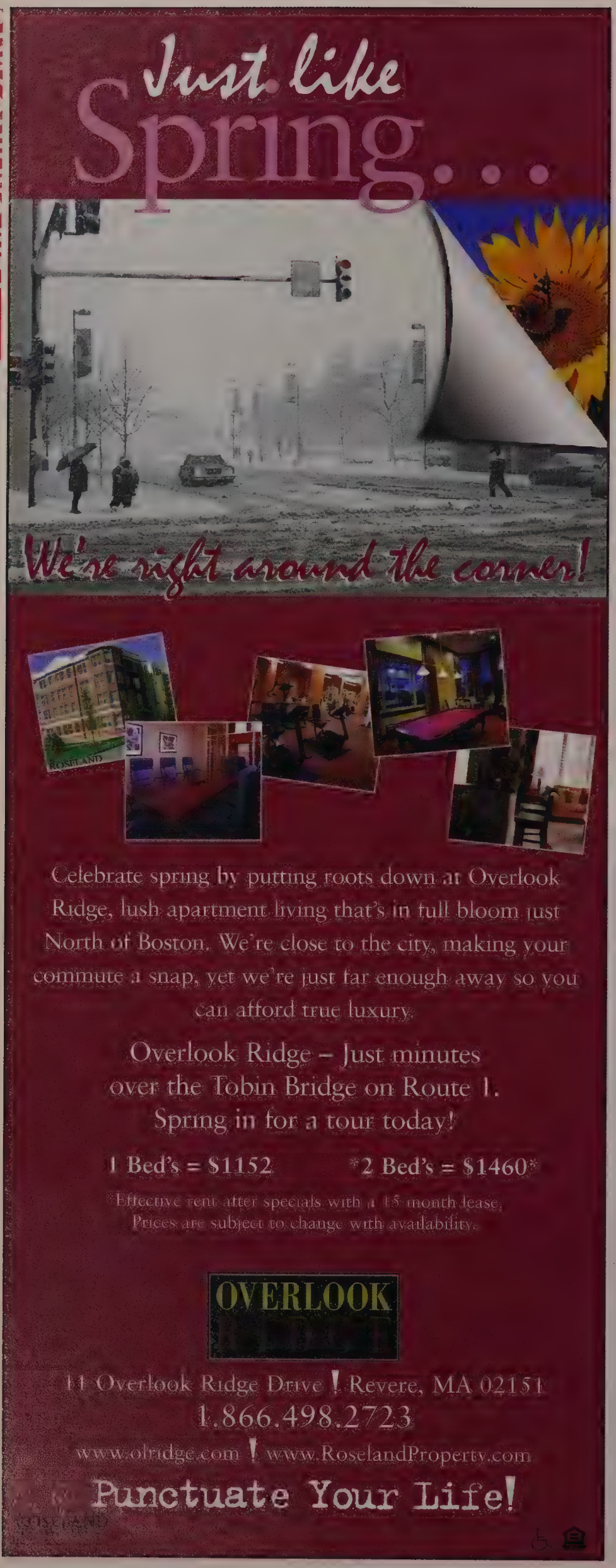

Chelsea Theare Works presents *The Zoo Story* March 31–April 9.

$32. •April 2, 8 pm: Jackie "The Jokeman" Martling, $29. •April 2, 10:15 pm: Jim Lauletta and Brian Kiley, $20. •April 3, 7 , 9 and 11:15 pm: Dave Attell, $32. April 5, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •March 23: Magic Lounge featuring Steve Kradolfer, Erik Rochell and David Oliver. •March 24: Dan Sally Show with Sean Lily and Doug Chagnon. •March 25: Tom Flynn, Myq Kaplan and others. •March 26: Myq Kaplan, Andy O'Feish and Taylor Connelly. •March 29: Magic Lounge. •March 30: Tony V. Experiment with Robby RoadSteamer, Chris Coxen and others. •March 31: Dan Sally Show with Joe Wong, Reza Sarkarati and Tonya Dahlhaus. •April 1: Paul Day, Kevin Neales, Harris Wittels and others. •April 2: Steve Calechman, Pat Boccuzzi and Paul Day. •April 3: Erin Judge Presents Jesse Gersten, Korte Yeo, Kris Earle and others. •April 5: Magic Lounge.

DeVille Lounge

Kings, 50 Dalton St., Boston (617-266-2695). www.backbaykings.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Sun., 8 pm. Free. Tony V hosts Comedy Hell a weekly open-mike stand-up night. Sign-up is at 6 pm.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., 7:30 pm, $15: Stage Time Variety Show. Tingle hosts guests from the worlds of comedy, music and spoken word. •Fri., 10 pm, $5-$10: It's Not That Late Show. This weekly show, hosted by Peter Dutton, showcases area stand-up comedians, musicians and performance artists. •Sun., 1 pm, $5-$10: Silly Einstein. A comedy of science for the whole family. 7 pm, $10: Women in Comedy. This weekly Sunday night series showcases female performers.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •March 23, 8:30 pm: Sierra Mist Comedy Search. •March 24, 8:30pm: Kevin Knox, Paul Gilligan. •March 25-26, 8:45: Kevin Knox, Paul Gilligan and Ceasar Cervantes.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Sa midnight: The Midnight Show. Ongoing. • We Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat, 8 pm and 10 pm: Lies, Ha Truths and the American Way. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvis tional comedy troupe creates everything on t spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs a dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: New acts appear in weekly showcase in The Hump. •Thu., 8 p $10-12: Unnatural Selection: A master of cer monies randomly eliminates players until on one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Co edy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh pe form stand-up and character sketches and pl music and short films in a display of sibling valry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: BackStory is a comed journey backwards through time inspired by t indie hits *Memento*, *Donnie Darko*, and *Mullholla Drive;* 10pm: TheatreSports splits up improvisers in two teams. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 a under accompanied by an adult admitted free Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form impr visational show appropriate for all ages; 8 and pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blendi storytelling, music and audience participation, cast of improvisers creates a show that chang with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sg Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening co bines three shows into one. Watch performanc by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-30 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's newe short-form improv group performs skits that involv audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: R Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 p $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Mystery Café — Finnegan's Wake

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar, 290 Congress St Boston (617-423-6166). www.mysterycafe.com Through March 26, Fri.-Sat., 7:30 pm. $45 for din ner/show. This interactive comedy dinner reenac the laughter, song and dance of a "proper" Iris wake.

The Walsh Brothers Comedy Show

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St. Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. March 25-26 Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 7:30 and 9:30 pm. $7-$15 Chris and David Walsh, co-creators of Boston's "Grea and Secret Comedy Show," perform their two-ma show.

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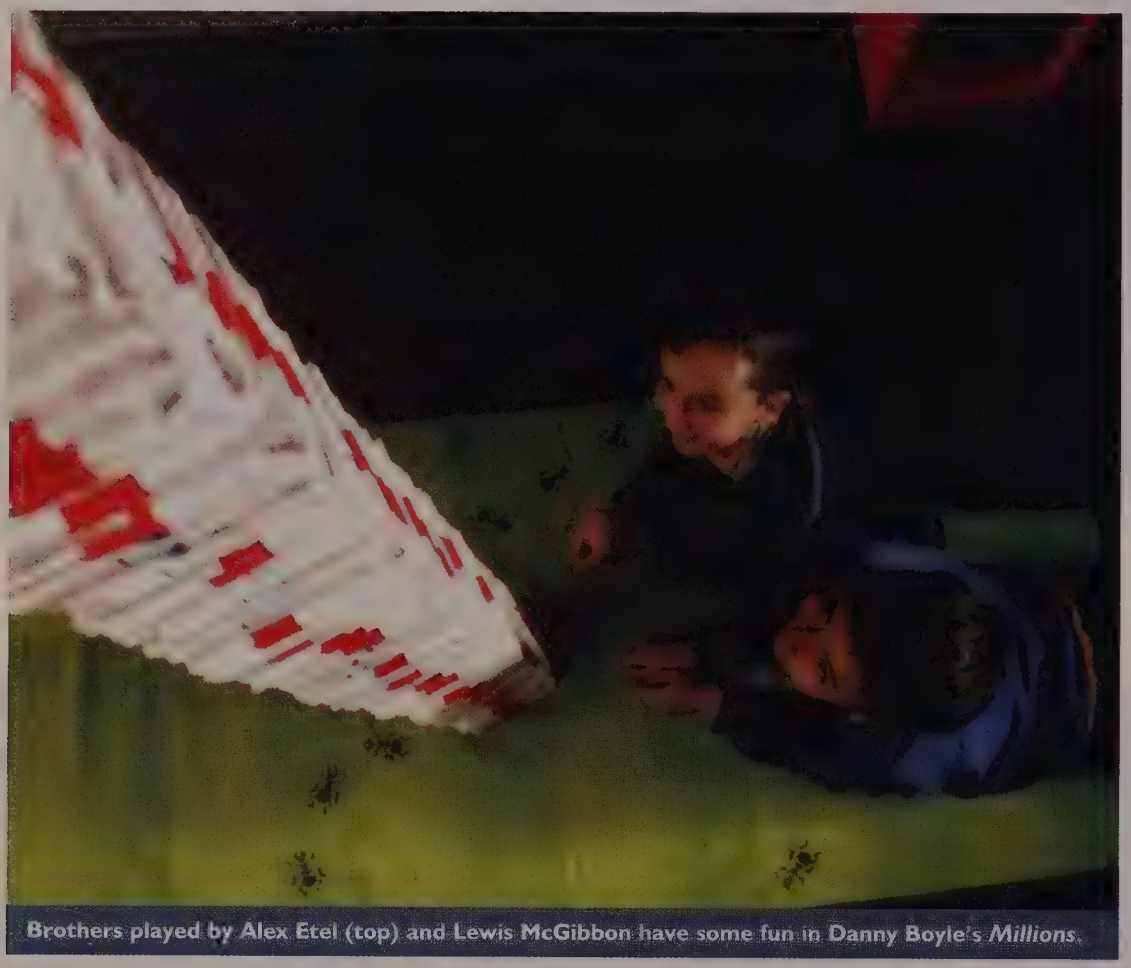
Is *Millions* a Keeper?

Competing elements dog Danny Boyle's found-money tale.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The last thing a movie reviewer should do is consider whether there's an audience out there for a movie—that's the marketing department's job. If a movie is good, it deserves to be seen, no matter how obscure its appeal might be; if it's bad, it doesn't matter if a movie aims for the broadest possible audience. Still, it's hard to walk out of Danny Boyle's ambitious headscratcher *Millions* without asking yourself, "Just who's supposed to go see this thing?"



Brothers played by Alex Etel (top) and Lewis McGibbon have some fun in Danny Boyle's *Millions*.

Boyle's best-known movies are the intense *Trainspotting* and *28 Days Later*, but those who've seen more obscure works such as *Mr. Wroe's Virgins* and *Strumpet* know Boyle has a wider range as a director (and a track record few can equal). Still, Boyle and writer Frank Cottrell Boyce (*24 Hour Party People*, *Welcome to Sarajevo*) struggle to get across the modern-day fable of *Millions*, and to find a tone that might agree with both kids and adults.

I was surprised to see the movie with a preview audience that included many kids, and to learn that *Millions* is being pushed as a family film. Surprised because Boyle hasn't usually made kid-friendly movies, and because once the movie gets started, its premise relies heavily on an understanding of recent European currency changes. The premise is indicative of the movie's blend of fantasy and reality. Set in the days before England switches its currency from pounds to Euros (a switch that is not yet scheduled), it's about what happens when two young brothers find a duffel bag with more than £200,000 inside. If they don't spend the money soon, it will be worthless; if they want to spend it, they have to figure out the best way to do so.

The ultimate question posed by the fable is, "If you had the power to perform good deeds, would you?" Damian (Alex Etel) is the brother who actually finds the money, a guileless 8-year-old who's picked up a morbid interest in saints since his mother died. When the bag lands on top of the cardboard fort he's built near the train tracks behind the new house he just moved into with his 10-year-old brother (Lewis McGibbon) and his mechanic father (James Nesbitt), Damian thinks it's a gift from God and assumes good deeds should follow. But worldlier brother Anthony has no such illusions; he just wants to buy stuff for himself, without attracting the attention of their dad.

Millions mixes semirealistic action based around the brothers' handling of their windfall with fantasies involving Damian's visions of and conversations with saints such as Peter and Francis. (He's sure to ask every saint if he or she has seen Saint Maureen, his way of referring to his dead mom.) When Damian contributes several hundred pounds to a charity drive at school and gets called to the principal's office, the father eventually finds out about the money. (The boys and their father concoct an excuse that prevents any interference from people outside the family.) Around the same time, the brothers also learn that the money was stolen from a batch on its way to be incinerated.

Unfortunately, instead of coalescing, the disparate elements of *Millions* collide like bumper cars. The movie's wide-eyed side brings in a school nativity play; the scheming leads to dad and his new girlfriend (Daisy Donovan) making the rounds of banks to buy Euros in small lots, so as not to attract attention. Meanwhile, a rather unimaginative menace emerges in the form of a snarling robber who was supposed to get the duffel. Pretty soon, the lines between fantasy and reality blur, which is often a good thing in a movie, but not here. When a line of charitable organizations forms at the front door of the house for no apparent reason, and somehow thwarts the villain's attempt to nab the money, it comes off as just lazy writing, not a clever bending of reality.

If adults might occasionally snicker at *Millions*' urge to tap the viewer's uncynical inner child, it's hard to know what kids might make of the film. There's an appealing altruism to the story, especially considering how much advertising and entertainment cater to our selfish urges. But European currency and Catholic saints weren't high on my list of priorities when I was 8, and I wonder whether today's kids have the ability or the desire to overlook those hurdles to get to the message in *Millions*. iB

Millions ★★

Directed by Danny Boyle. Written by Frank Cottrell Boyce. With Alex Etel, James Nesbitt, Daisy Donovan and Lewis McGibbon. Rated PG. Opens March 18.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Aviator ★★★
Like Howard Hughes' infamous Spruce Goo
Martin Scorsese's Hughes movie is big and clun
yet it somehow manages to get off the grou
Scorsese starts his film on an iffy trajectory, w
most of the first hour dwelling on the first extra
gant foray by Hughes (Leonardo DiCaprio) i
producing movies (the WWI aerial drama *He*
Angels) and on his romance with Katharine H
burn (Cate Blanchett). You're afraid Scorsese's
cination with old movies is causing him to ov
look Hughes' aviation exploits. But the rest of
movie concentrates on Hughes' roles with TV
and his aviation innovations, as well as his bat
with the government and the emotional proble
that ultimately turned him into a recluse. DiCap
does a good job of bringing out Hughes' charm a
vulnerability, and Scorsese champions his subj
as a visionary who wouldn't let the bean count
dampen his ambition. The result is much more s
isfying than Scorsese and DiCaprio's previ
Gangs of New York. (At Boston Common, Harv
Square and suburbs.)

Be Cool ★★
If only the *Get Shorty* sequel lived up to its ti
But as John Travolta's Chili Palmer moves fr
the movie business to the music biz, the seri
based on Elmore Leonard novels, loses much of
entertainment-is-just-a-con-game vibe. Unfor
nately, the sequel wants you to think former m
ster Chili is also unleashing great music upon
world, in the form of discovery Linda Ha
(Cristina Milian), whose cheesy tunes sound lik
latter-day Paula Abdul. And Chili's great plan
getting Linda known is to have her sing with are
schlock kings Aerosmith. That's what this mo
thinks is cool? Ouch. The most entertaining
quences here definitely involve Vince Vaughn a
wannabe-black manager and The Rock as his g
aspiring-actor henchman. The rest lacks its pre
cessor's pizzazz. (At Boston Common, Fenway a
suburbs.)

Bride and Prejudice ★★
It's clear from the start that *Bhaji on the Beach* a
Bend It Like Beckham director Gurinder Chadh
transformation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejud*
into a present-day, India-set, Bollywood-inspi
musical just isn't happening. The songs aren't v
catchy, leading man Martin Henderson (who stu
up last winter's hyperobnoxious *Torque*) could
act his way out of a sari, and the movie has
rhythm. A musical should have a light step ev
when the music is off; this one plods along, oft
during the songs. None of the cast seems to be ac
ally singing for their characters, which makes th
characters schizo; while special guest Ashanti (w
presumably is singing herself) croons what might
the worst song lyrics of all-time: "India's the pla
for me/India will set you free." The movie's atten
to bridge Asian and Anglo-American culture j
waters everything down, from the Bollywood-l
production numbers to the cultural stereotypes
the westerners. As a crass Indian-American seeki
a bride, Nitin Ganatra at least adds some life a
some comic relief. (At Kendall Square and Bost
Common.)

Constantine ★½
Did you know that Keanu is Hawaiian for "mum
jumbo"? All right, it isn't, but you might think
after having the utter mumbo jumbo of this Kea
Reeves movie heaped upon you. He's the title ch
acter in this graphic-novel adaptation, an exorc
out of the private-eye mold, but the nuts and bolts
the story fit together clumsily at best. There's a p
of visionary twins (Rachel Weisz), the all-power
"spear of destiny" (which, underwhelmingly, loo
more like the *dagger* of destiny), lots of scriptu
archangel Gabriel (Tilda Swinton) and Satan
bad self (Peter Stormare), but the cause and effe
between everybody's actions is very sketchy. Mea
while, music video director Francis Lawrence see
more interested in over-the-top production desi
and special effects than credibility. The odd thi
here is that Reeves' performance is decent, but lit
else is. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs

Downfall ★★
Adolf Hitler was—surprise, surprise—an insuffe
able, power-mad creep until the very end. Tho
are the ho-hum dramatics in this lengthy disa
pointment set mainly in the Nazi high comman
bunker as the Russians advance into Berlin
April of 1945. This German import is a sort
docudrama version of *Blind Spot: Hitler's Secreta*
the 2002 documentary in which Traudl Junge, wh
held that position during the war, detailed t

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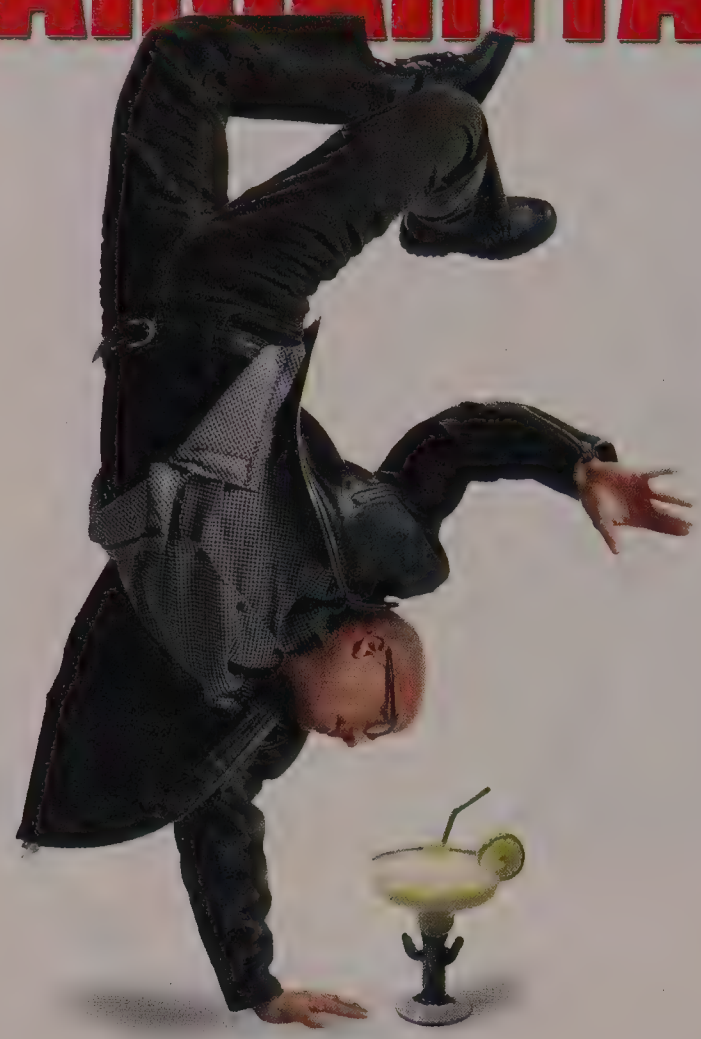

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The documentary *Gunner Palace* features U.S. soldiers stationed in Iraq

final days of Hitler's life. The naive young secretary (here played by Alexandra Maria Lara) is among the large ensemble of characters, and veteran German actor Bruno Ganz (*Wings of Desire*, *In the White City*) plays Hitler. Although he's avuncular in his relationship with the secretary, the Hitler we see is more concerned with flexing his hold over his underlings than giving them or the German civilian population a chance to survive the Russians. Sure, you shouldn't expect Hitler to be reasonable, but director Oliver Hirschbiegel, who rightly doesn't make value judgments on his characters, gives you little to identify with here. Beyond Hitler, we're left with military officers, politicians and family members who bought into Hitler's policies or, like the secretary, conveniently "didn't notice" what Nazism was really all about (the closest thing to a good guy is a doctor who still seems to have a conscience). Once Hitler and Eva Braun do themselves in, the movie plods on for another hour, showing us how just about every bunker inhabitant got killed, committed suicide or escaped. But, really, why should I care about these war criminals? (At Kendall Square.)

Gunner Palace ★★★

Co-director Michael Tucker's occasional attempts to turn this documentary about a group of U.S. soldiers in Iraq into a personal journey about his relationship with them (complete with his first-person voice-overs) doesn't work, but Tucker and co-director Petra Epperlein are smart enough to usually let their footage speak for itself. They ride along with soldiers on Baghdad patrols and *Cops*-like raids, where danger, frustration and anger are often invisible passengers. The movie captures the young soldiers' blend of bluster and vulnerability as they face death in the streets of Baghdad by day and chill out in the former palace of Uday Hussein at night. Despite the unnecessary voice-overs, the directors generally resist the urge to craft larger messages from their footage, letting the soldiers' struggle to survive dominate. (At Kendall Square.)

Inside Deep Throat ★★★

It would take a miniseries to adequately cover all the drama surrounding 1972's *Deep Throat*, the sex film that attracted mainstream audiences and couples like no other before or since. But Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato, the team that brought us *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*, do a good job of touching upon the main topics in 92 minutes: drama, drama, drama. *Deep Throat*'s success was seen as the final victory for the sexual revolution, yet it rallied pro-censorship forces against it; stars Linda Lovelace and Harry Reems enjoyed great fame and great infamy from their roles; and the movie was so popular that its p ducers were elbowed aside by the Mob, who mo tored box office receipts in every Podunk porno th ater that showed it. Bailey and Barbato present t battle over *Deep Throat* as symptomatic of Americ twisted relationship with sexuality, and as part of t same culture wars that still rage today between t ultra-religious and the rest of the country. It's hard argue with them on either point. (At Kend Square.)

The Jacket ★★½

When a nutty shrink (Kris Kristofferson) repeated stuffs one of his asylum patients (Adrien Brody) i full-body strait-jacket, shoots him up with a hall cinogenic drug cocktail and shoves him in a morg drawer, the patient imagines himself in the futu where he meets up with a woman (Keira Knightle he once knew who tells him he died 15 years befo So the two investigate his murder during his hallu nations, while he does sleuthing of his own in the pr sent-day action. Director John Maybury's movie tak a while to get going, and despite the warmed-ov *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* feel of some of t asylum action, there's often a fertile *Twilight Zo* quality to the story, in which elements beyond th norm influence reality and in which you don't have scratch the surface very hard to come up with som thing creepy. (At Boston Common, Fenway and su urbs.)

The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou ★★½

After establishing himself with the melancho comedies *Bottle Rocket* and *Rushmore*, W Anderson has entered a phase where his boyis charm, low-tech clutter, cool old songs and casts sad yet funny characters are starting to come off lik schtick that's getting a little precious. Like *The Roy Tenenbaums*, Anderson's latest has that errat feeling. Sometimes it feels genuinely inspire (having a character sing early David Bowie songs i Portuguese from time to time), sometimes it seem as if it's on automatic pilot (Bill Murray giving th same sad-sack performance that worked so well i *Rushmore*). That's not to say Murray isn't ver amusing at times (same goes for Willem Dafo Anjelica Huston, Jeff Goldblum and Owen Wilson or that the visuals aren't very creative and Anderso doesn't have more going on than most directors. Bu giving Anderson's adolescent sensibility t characters who are all over 25—some well beyond— makes for an odd fit. (At Boston Common, Fenway Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Melinda and Melinda ★★

Woody Allen's latest is not as insufferably irrelevan as his other recent movies, but his latest—whic

s a similar story twice, once as comedy and once ragedy—still has many of the bogus touches that gued those forgettable films. There are the pre-tious upper-crust characters (the sort Allen uld have skewered long ago), the overwritten dia-ue (I don't want to spend time with characters spout lines like "I haven't been to a dark bistro e college") and the unfortunate character who vly turns into Allen (here, it's Will Ferrell's). d never in my life have I seen two nonwhite men n sweaters draped over their shoulders, preppy-e, yet Allen gives us two in this movie. (At ton Common, Harvard Square and Waltham assy.)

llion Dollar Baby ★½

nt Eastwood's latest is an odd combination of cuffs-filled boxing movie, surrogate father–ghter tale, and tragedy. Those separate ingre-nts are often unconvincing, so not surprisingly, combination fails. Eastwood plays an aging ing trainer, but he's little more than a crabby coot who'd be at home in a mediocre sitcom to for the bickering between him and the old dy played by Morgan Freeman). The coot gets nded into training a stubborn female boxer lary Swank, best thing in the movie) who, er his tutelage, shoots up the women's boxing kings. Swank also emotionally replaces the anged daughter who sends the trainer's letters k "return to sender," while he replaces the er's late father. There's little subtlety in the er-daughter tale, or anywhere else in the film er. Paul Haggis' weak screenplay often wants gs both ways—like how it has the boxer knock most opponents in the first round, yet trives ways for her to supposedly be the erdog. It takes some of that contrivance to shift movie into tragedy after an in-ring injury. ere's *Fat City* when you need it? (At Boston mmon, Fenway and suburbs.)

g-Bak: The Thai Warrior ★★★½

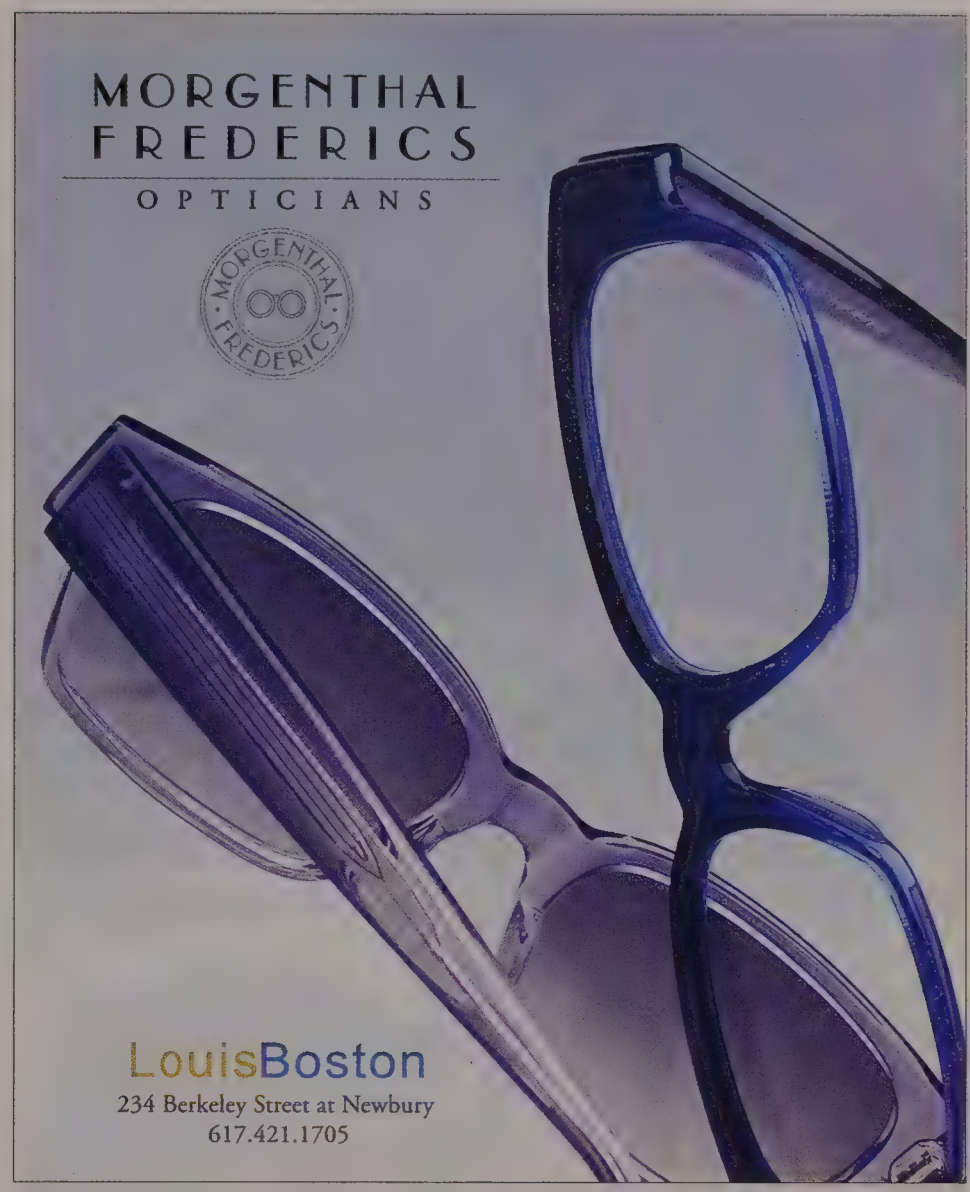
get about those recent action movies for people don't like action movies. *Hero* and *House of ng Daggers* looked like overprimped perfume mercials half the time, but now there's ething better out there. This first movie from iland to ever get within five miles of a U.S. multiplex, *Ong-Bak* has no need to tart itself up. It has grit, heart and a Jackie Chan–influenced dynamo named Tony Jaa. The premise—good-hearted rube travels to the big city and faces off against snarling villains—is old-hat, but Jaa and director Prachya Pinkaew give the move a headlong sincerity that elevates it. Speaking of elevation, Jaa's moves are amazing—much jaw-dropping ensues. (At Boston Common and Coolidge Corner.)

The Pacifier ★★½

Kung-fu-kicking Brownies and a creepy high school vice principal (Brad Garrett) make Vin Diesel's kiddie comedy better than expected. Sure, it has the required poop and puke jokes, but the script by Thomas Lennon and Robert Ben Garant (*Reno 911*, MTV's *The State*) throws in enough curves to make it interesting. Diesel is even mildly likable this time around, giving a game performance as a Navy SEAL who goes incognito to protect an unruly brood of kids. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Sideways ★★★

Alexander Payne's *Sideways* does for the approach of middle age what his *About Schmidt* did for the onset of old age: uses it as a springboard for bittersweet comedy and a road trip. At first, this makes the latest from the director of *Citizen Ruth* and *Election* a letdown. But Payne and writing partner Jim Taylor's riffs on male bonding make this story of two 40-ish buddies' trip to California wine country painfully funny. It's hard to say where the characters leave off and the actors begin in the hilarious little moments in which the pair goes to wineries to sample the latest vintages. Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*), who could be amusing reading a shopping list, gives a colorful tilt to wine connoisseur Miles' picky assessments of his tastings; in Giamatti's hands, sometimes Miles is being intentionally funny, sometimes not. Meanwhile, Thomas Haden Church's Jack has an endearing dumb-jock quality, and his response to Miles' "knowledgeable" wine talk is usually "tastes pretty good to me." Each man's approach to wine mirrors his approach to life and to the women they meet, of course, with Jack blindly leaping in and Miles endlessly analyzing. (At Boston Common, Coolidge Corner, Kendall Square and suburbs.)



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Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

•April 4, 6 pm. **Model** *1980*. Directed by Cambridge native Fredrick Wiseman, this documentary is an inside look at the fashion industry and the lives of models who walk the runways.

BRATTLE THEATRE

The Animation Show 2005

•April 1, 8 and 10 pm; April 2 and 3, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 pm; April 4 and 5, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 pm; April 6, 8 and 10 pm; April 7, 5 and 7 pm. Founders Don Hertzfeld and Mike Judge developed this short-film series that brings together some of the industry's best-known animators.

Dark Side of the Sun: L.A. Noir

•March 25-27, 4:30, 8 pm. **Los Angeles Plays Itself** *2003*. Clips from an eclectic list of movies offer a counter-history of Los Angeles and its specific landmarks. Thom Anderson directs.

•March 26 and 27, 2 pm. **The Big Sleep** *1946*. William Faulkner wrote the screenplay for Howard Hawks' film noir about an L.A. private eye hired to keep tabs on a rich girl. Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall star.

•March 28, 4:15, 7 and 9:40 pm. **Chinatown** *1974*. Jack Nicholson stars as a private eye who stumbles onto a conspiracy involving a dysfunctional family. Roman Polanski directs.

•March 29, 5:30, and 9:30 pm. **This Gun for Hire** *1942*. A killer-for-hire falls for a police detective's girlfriend when the two team up in a scheme to catch a traitor. Frank Tuttle directs.

•March 29, 7:30 pm. **Criss Cross** *1949*. In this thriller, a man returns to L.A. months after a divorce and reconnects with his ex-wife and her new gangster boyfriend. Robert Siodmak directs.

•March 30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Point Blank** *1967*. This revenge drama follows a bankrobber who learns he's been double-crossed by his gangster friend and his own wife. John Boorman directs.

•March 31, 7:15 pm. **Collateral** *2004*. Tom Cruise and Jamie Foxx star as a hitman and cab driver in this thriller. Michael Mann directs.

•March 31, 4:45, and 9:45 pm. **To Live and Die in L.A.** *1985*. A detective whose partner is killed in the line of duty vows to hunt down the murderer. T officer, played by Willem Dafoe, finds that mak distinctions between right and wrong is difficult.

•March 25-27, 4:30, 8 pm. **Los Angeles Plays Its** *2003*. Thom Anderson's film presents a count history of Los Angeles and its specific landma through clips from an eclectic list of movies.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies

The Coolidge's biweekly series provides an infa friendly setting for viewing recent films. •April 4 pm. **Millions** *2004*. See review on page 60.

Coolidge Selects

•Opens March 23. **Millions** *2004*. See review page 60.

Midnight Movies

•March 25, 12 am. **Ong-Bak: The Thai Warr** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.

Tuesday Afternoon Kids' Films

•March 29, 11 am. **Goodnight Gorilla.** •April 5, am. **Chrysanthemum** and other films from Ke Henkes.

2005 Coolidge Award: Vittorio Storaro

•March 25 and 26, 12 am. **Ladyhawke** *1985*. thief's escape from the dungeon at Aquila spark manhunt in this romantic medieval tale, with ci matography by Storaro. Richard Donner directs.

•March 28, 7 pm. **Apocalypse Now** *19* Storaro's first American production, directed Francis Ford Coppola, earned him his first Acade Award for cinematography.

•April 1, 12 am. **Ishtar** *1987*. Some now view t "dumb" comedy in this legendary big-budget fl starring Warren Beatty and Dustin Hoffman, ahead of its time. Elaine May directs.

•April 2, 12 pm. **Flamenco** *1995*. This collabo tive production between Storaro and Spanish rector Carlos Saura depicts the rhythms of the t ditional flamenco dance. •April 2, 12 am. **Bi with Crystal Plumage** *1970*. In Dario Argent slasher thriller, an American writer in Rome w nesses a murder attempt on the wife of an gallery owner.

•April 3, 1 pm. **Tango** *1998*. In this follow up *Flamenco*, Storaro and director Carlos Saura te up again to produce another dreamlike movie co prising dance performances and unique visual co positions.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

California Stars: Los Angeles on Film

•March 25, 9:15 pm and March 29, 9 pm. **Tarz and Jane Regained...Sort Of** *1964*. The first nar

ilm directed by Andy Warhol demonstrates the 's fascination with film and with Hollywood it- as he travels to Los Angeles.
rch 26 and 29, 7 pm. **Mayor of the Sunset Strip** . George Hickenlooper's documentary follows ey Bingenheimer, a Los Angeles DJ who's cred- with discovering bands of the 1970s such as die and Van Halen.
rch 27, 9 pm. **Z Channel: A Magnificent Ob- on** *2004*. Xan Cassavetes directs this docu- ary that tells the story of the Z Channel, a station that became a showcase for interna- l and independent cinema during the 1980s.
rch 28, 7 pm. **Los** *2000*. Director James Ben- 's non-narrative film intertwines the complex- Los Angeles' many societies and topographies gh 35 stationary shots.
ril 1 and 3, 7pm. **Los Angeles Plays Itself** *2003*. Brattle Theatre listing for a description. Also ing: **The Decay of Fiction** *2002*. In this film directed by Pat O'Neill, ghosts from Holly- l's past haunt the halls of an abandoned hotel.
ril 2, 7 pm. **Water and Power** *1989*. Califor- ased artist and director Pat O'Neill combines ery of his native Los Angeles with scenes of le, places and elements in nature.
ril 5, 9 pm. **Trying to Kiss the Moon** *1994*. Di- r Stephen Dwoskin pieces together home ies, video recordings from the first Gulf War ew footage for this autobiographical film.

hion and Film

rch 23, 7 pm. **The Pillow Book** *1996*. Director r Greenaway transforms a 10th-century text a modern story about a fashion model-turned- r who's obsessed with caligraphy on flesh.

losophy and Film: Deleuze

rch 23, 9:15 pm. **The Earrings of Madame** *1953*. Max Ophuls' drama follows the move- of a pair of diamond earrings back to their r from a debt-laden socialite.

SEUM OF FINE ARTS on Film

rch 27, 2 pm. **Antonio Gaudi** *1984*. Director shi Teshigahara takes a tour of landmarks de- d by architect Gaudi, including the temple of da Familia in Barcelona.

Bosnian/Herzegovinan Cinema

•March 24, 2 pm. **Gori Vatra** *(Fuse) 2003*. In Pier Zalica's black comedy set in a small Bosnian town on the Serbian border shortly after the Bosnian civil war, corrupt authorities are giving the place a makeover in preparation for a visit from U.S. president Bill Clinton.

Chinese Cinema

•March 24, 10:30 pm. **Zhifu** *(Uniform) 2003*. A young man impersonates a police officer and attracts the attention of a pretty shop girl, who is also pretending to be something she's not. Diao Yinan directs.

Maurice Pialat Retrospective

•March 24, 8 pm. **Le Garcu** *1995*. In Pialat's final film, a Parisian professional grapples with the decision whether or not to leave his wife for his mistress.
•March 26, 3:15 pm. **Passe Ton Bac d'Abord** *(Graduate First) 1979*. The drama follows a group of unhappy teenagers who dream of Paris while drifting from bar to bar in a bleak Normandy mining town.
•March 27, 11 am. **Van Gogh** *1991*. Shot on location in Auvers-sur-Oise, this film depicts the last days of the artist's life.

Prerelease Screening

•March 25, 8:15 pm; March 17, 10:30 am. **Lak-Poshtha Ham Parvaz Mikonand** *(Turtles Can Fly) 2004*. Set in the mountains of Kurdistan, on the Turkish-Iraqi border, Bahman Ghobadi's drama follows a 13-year-old boy who is a respected community leader and father figure to local orphans.

Spanish Film

•March 25, 6 pm; March 26, 1 pm; March 27, 3:30 pm. **En la Ciudad** *(In the City) 2003*. Director Cesc Gay chronicles intersecting lives and loves in Barcelona.

Turkish Film Festival

•April 1, 6:15 pm. **Susuz Yaz** *(Dry Summer) 1964*. Villagers struggle over land rights and water, and a battle ensues between two rival brothers. Metin Erksan directs.•Immediately following, 8 pm. **Selvi Boylum, Al Yazmalim** *(The Girl with the Red Scarf) 1977*. Inspired by Cengiz Aytmatov's novel, Satif Yilmaz's film follows a young married couple whose relationship becomes troubled.

•April 2, 11 am. **Gelin** *(The Bride) 1973*. A migrant Anatolian family struggles to adapt to urban Istanbul. Omer Lutfi Akad directs.

Uruguayan Cinema

•March 24, 6 pm. **Whiskey** *2004*. After a 20-year absence, Jacobo, the Jewish owner of Montevideo sock factory, announces his brother's return and asks the manager of his factory to pose as his wife. Juan Pablo Rebella and Pablo Stoll direct.

Vietnamese Cinema

•March 24, 4 pm; March 26, 11 am. **Mua Len Trau** *(Buffalo Boy) 2004*. Minh Nguyen-Vo directs this coming-of-age story about a young boy who journeys to higher ground with his family's water buffalos.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through March 31. **Amazing Journeys**. Follow butterflies, whales and zebras on their migrations.
•Through March 31. **Mystery of the Nile.** Join explorers on the first attempt of a full descent of the Nile River.
•Through April 1. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through March 23. **Galapagos**. Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the Galapagos Islands' coral reefs.
•Through March 23. **Into the Deep**. This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California and its many inhabitants.
•Through March 23. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. The cameras go underwater to capture eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and other creatures up close.
•Through June 30. **Aliens of the Deep**. Academy Award-winning director James Cameron takes viewers to the depths of the ocean to encounter some of Earth's strangest life forms.

STUDIO CINEMA BELMONT

Things We Do for Love...and Lust

•March 28, 7 pm. **Untold Scandal** *2004*. Based on Chloderos de Laclos' novel *Dangerous Liaisons*, this love story is set in aristocratic 18th-century Korea. E. J. Yong directs.
•April 4, 7:30 pm. **Ae Fond Kiss** *(The Fond Kiss) 2004*. In the final installment of director Ken Loach's Glasgow Trilogy, a second-generation Pakistani DJ who lives in Glasgow falls in love with a Catholic teacher at his sister's school.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Common Ground

85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

From left: Will Ferrell, Radha Mitchell and Steve Carell co-star in Woody Allen's *Melinda and Melinda*.

dvice to Contributors
bmit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax 17-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by ail to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, ces, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is ır weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac-ıted over the phone.

dvice to Readers
'ormation for the Music section is compiled from dif-ent sources. Although we make every effort to provide :urate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead double-check dates and times (see complete list of ıues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

ickstreet Boys March 24, Avalon (617-931-00).
ston Pop Underground One Year Anniversary arch 31, Abbey Lounge (617-441-9631).
ichelle Branch & Jessica Harp March 25, Avalon 17-931-2000).
opeland, Acceptance, Lovedrug, As Tall as Lions pril 2, Axis (617-931-2000).
racker/Camper Van Beethoven March 25, Par-ise Rock Club, (617-423-NEXT).
ooked Fingers, Liz Durrett March 29, Middle st Downstairs (617-492-9181).
ownbeat 5 April 1, Abbey Lounge (617-441-31).
araj Mahal March 23, Johnny D's (617-776-2004).
ıy LaMontagne, Missy Higgins April 1, Avalon 17-262-2424).
aroon 5, the Donnas April 2, Agganis Arena (617-1-2000).
elodeego, Jon Gorey, the Scam March 24, The ttic (617-964-6684).
ıt Metheny Group March 26, Orpheum Theatre 17-931-2000).
ıe Perceptionists March 23, Paradise Rock Club 17-423-NEXT).
ısted Root March 30, Avalon (617-262-2424).
ın Francisco Jazz Collective April 3, Berklee Per-rmance Center (617-747-2261).
ıe Soundtrack of Our Lives March 23, Axis (617-31-2000).
oots & the Maytals March 26, Avalon (617-262-24).
:eve Vai, Eric Sardinas March 25, Avalon (617-31-2000).
'BCN Rock 'n' Roll Rumble April 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and Middle East Upstairs (617-492-9181).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

bbey Lounge Orange Park, 9 pm; Fooled by April, 50 pm; Scamper, 10:40 pm; Harris, 11:30 pm, $5-7, 21+.
he Asgard Grooves.
xis The Soundtrack of Our Lives, the Dears, Ameri-ın Minor, 8 pm, $17, 18+.
ill's Bar Jeff Timmons, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
he Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
ravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30- 9 pm, no cover.
reezeway ZMQ, Zeke Martin, 7:30.
he Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce, 9 pm.
antab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
ick's Last Resort Hair Club for Mensa, 7:20 pm, o cover.
ireplace Restaurant Melissa Bolling, 9:30 pm, no ver.
reat Scott The Sleazies, Brain Failure, 9 pm, $4, 8+.
he Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
larpers Ferry Tsunami Relief Benefit Show: Infi-ite Frequency, Pocket Sauce, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
lennessy's The Mystics.
ohnny D's Garaj Mahal, 8:30 pm, 21+.
izard Lounge Soul Low featurng Jennifer Kimball, Duke Levine, Kevin Barry, Billy Beard, 7-9 pm, no over, 21+; the Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no over, 21+.
liddle East Upstairs: Slater, the Glow, the Groucho Marxists, Capital Radio, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Shootyz Groove, Publick House, Soulfege, 9 pm, 10.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's The Picture Index, Thee Electric Bas-ards, Steel Poniez, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
addy O's Chad LaMarsh.
aradise Rock Club: The Perceptionists, 8 pm.
lough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 8:30 pm, 21+.
egattabar Kurt Rosenwinkel Group, 7:30 and 10 m, $18.

Saved by Music

Late bloomer Ray LaMontagne gains control of his demons.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

A bearded troubadour from the back woods of Maine may seem out of place on the roster of oh-so-hip rock bands booked at Avalon this spring. But it's no April Fool's joke that Ray LaMontagne is headlining that ballroom on the first of the month, given his sold-out Paradise show in January and the buzz surrounding his soulful major-label debut, *Trouble*.

LaMontagne, 31, is used to being out of place. As a child, he was one of six kids traversing the country with their single mom, living in such transient spaces as cars, tents and a building in New Hampshire that once housed chickens.

"When you're a kid, you don't have a lot of control over that stuff, and my mom was just doing the best she could," says LaMontagne. "Sometimes it was exciting. Sometimes it was really scary. I didn't make friends very easily."

"It got to a point where I sort of shut down," he says of troubled years that continued past high school, fueled by alcohol and drug use. "I was really self destructive and stupid. I was very sad and not very happy with myself." Things came to a head on a railroad trestle connecting the Maine cities of Lewiston and Auburn: "I used to stand on the side with no railing when the train came by, and it was like a test. One night, I felt I went a little too far, and really came close to letting myself drop off."

Four years after high school, LaMontagne experienced an epiphany that turned everything around. One day, when he awoke at 4 am for his shift at a Lewiston shoe factory, the sound of Stephen Stills' "Treetop Flyer" on the clock radio caught his ear.

"I felt excited about music in a way that I hadn't before," he says. "It was very different than what we'd hear at work on the rock station."

LaMontagne never showed up for work that day. Instead, he began to scour record stores, first for that song, then other records by Stills (alone and with David Crosby and Graham Nash), as well as Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, Bob Dylan and Ray Charles. "I felt like I was the only one who knew about them," he says. "It was like treasure hunting."

He also began to pay more attention to the guitar he purchased at a pawn shop at age 19. "I had a tendency for instruments as a kid, but with the lack of a regular routine, I didn't stick with anything for very long," says LaMontagne, whose father was a musician. That musical influence was perhaps not 100 percent positive, since his father left the family when LaMontagne was 4. "He was a real angry, sort of violent guy. Yeah, that's a strange subject."

LaMontagne also began to sing for the first time in his life. "I hardly talked really," he says. "I just had this idea in the back of my mind that I could sing." He began to write, as well. "Writing songs is a weird thing. I never sit down with a subject in mind. I just grab the guitar and whatever happens, happens."

In 1999, the fledgling singer-songwriter recorded his first demo of 10 songs and began to perform in coffeehouses and clubs around northern New England. "It was hard at first," he says. "I was really terrified, just to be rejected."

Along the way, he was invited to play a company cookout where someone had a friend in the music business. Before long, LaMontagne not only had a publishing deal, but was booked into a studio with Ethan Johns, producer for Ryan Adams and Kings of Leon.

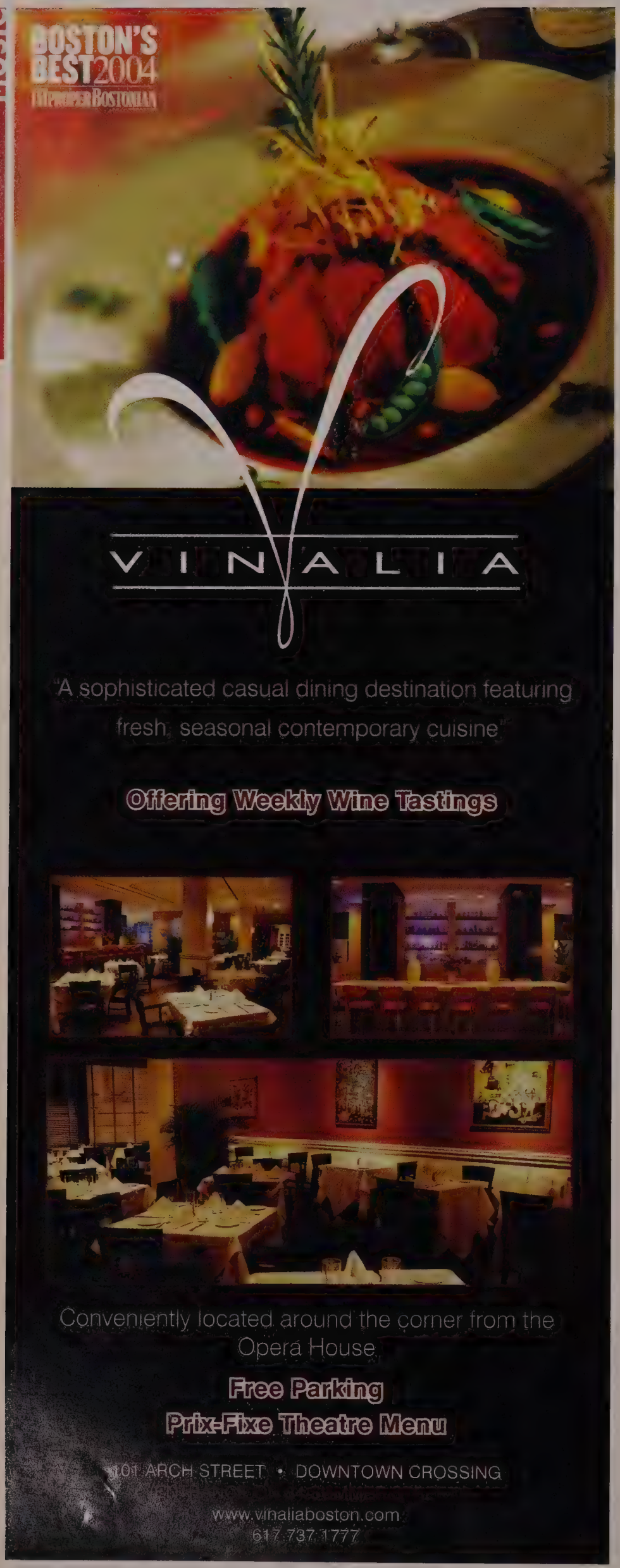
"We were given a budget to make demos. Ethan was generous and sweet and really psyched about it," LaMontagne says. RCA picked up the resulting *Trouble*, whose title track began to infiltrate the radio with its soaring, rough-hewn refrain, "I've been saved, by a woman."

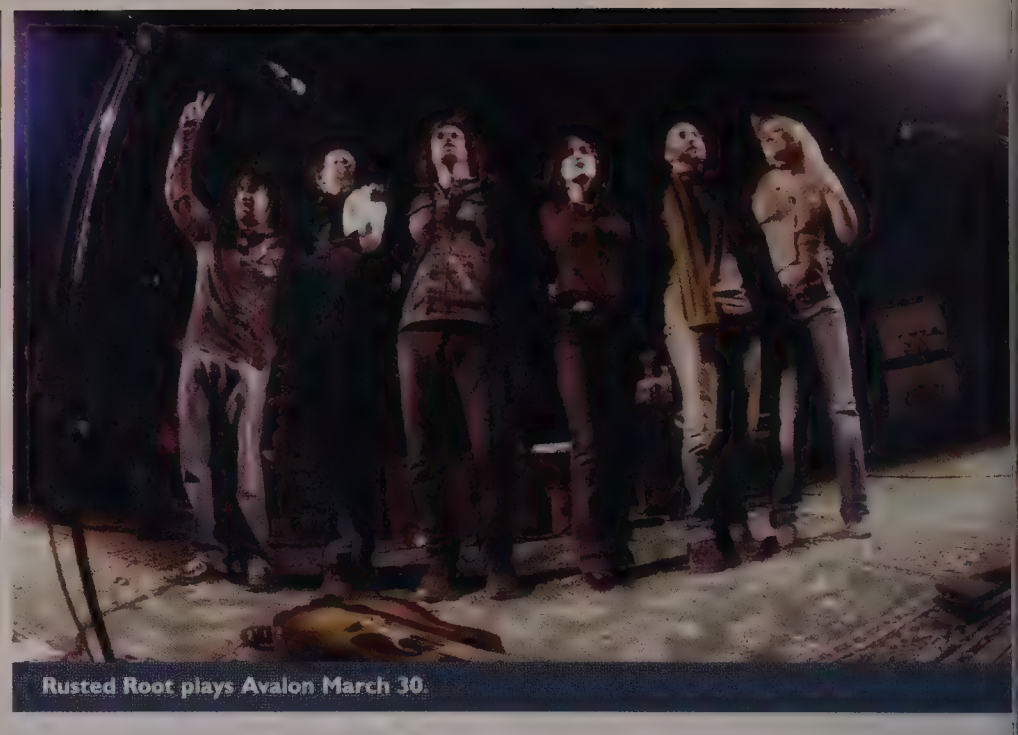
A Stephen Stills song playing on his clock radio awoke Ray LaMontagne to music.

By this time, LaMontagne was married with two kids and living in a remote cabin. But the family has since moved into a Victorian closer to civilization while dad hits the road. "I'm happy with the progress, the way things are building," he says from New York, on his way to England for another tour. "But it presents a whole new set of challenges."

For one thing, he's refusing tour support from his record label so he can keep on top of expenses. "It's a little painful right now, but hopefully it will pay off," says LaMontagne, who plans to add a drummer and string section to his usual duo with upright bassist Chris Thomas on this tour. "I just like to feel a little more in control." iB

Ray LaMontagne
plays Avalon April 1.





Rusted Root plays Avalon March 30.

Ryles Jazz Club Samba Lolo featuring Boubacar Diabate, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Scullers Jazz Club Ann Rabson, 8 and 10 pm, $15.
Tír na nÓg Resonance.
Toad Andrea Parodi, 7-9 pm; Eileen Rose Band, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place A Wish for Fire, 10 pm; Pure Reason Revolution, 11 pm, $8, 18+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Improvelocity, 7-9 pm, $10; the Caribbean, Lo Fine, 9:30 pm.
ZuZu Westward Trail, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Theresa Inez, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Abbey Lounge Eric Saulnier, 7-8 pm, no cover; Flash in Blue, 10 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
All-Asia Café Jeanne Cowell, 6 pm; Thrash Backfire and the Switchblades, 7:30 pm; Static of the Gods, 9:30 pm; Osoki & Cullen 11:00 pm.
Asgard Bay-Wa, 9 pm; The Highway, 11 pm, no cover.
The Attic "Beat the Wave" concert for tsunami victims: Melodeego, Jon Gorey, the Scam, 8:30 pm.
Avalon Backstreet Boys, 7 pm, $42.
Avenue One Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 5:30-9 pm.
Berklee Performance Center International Folk Festival, 8:15 pm, $10, all ages.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Live jazz, 7:30 pm, $3-7.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30- 9 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shannon Aaron, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Groove Authority, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Robbie Schaefer, Kate Klim, 8 pm; $13-$15.
Dick's Last Resort Pi Alley, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Live music, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Maggie Rose Quartet.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9:30 pm; $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Henry Butler, 9 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, no cover.
Kirkland Café Brenda White, 8 pm; Pony, 9 pm; One Big Mess, 10 pm; Close at Hand, 11 pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Writers with Drinks, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+; Club D'Elf, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight.
Middle East Upstairs: Chimp Simple, Say When, Loud Clappers, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Drinkfist, Haloburn, Product 62, Blackline, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sean Cunningham.
O'Brien's Lucky 57, Golden West Motor Lodge, Country Doctors, the Irreverends, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
PA's Cardioaccelerator, 20 Foot Halo, Honeycreeper, $5-7, 21+.
Paddy O's Swerve
Paradise Rock Club: Marc Broussard, Will Hoge, Griffin House, 8 pm; $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Ponticello Chris Murphy, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Redline NGP Allstars, 10 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Tiger Okoshi Quartet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Tony Gallo, 8:30 pm, $8, 18+.
Scullers Jazz Club Mili Bermejo Quartet, 8 and 1 pm, $15.
Skybar Harriet Street
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad Thief in the Night, 7-9 pm; David Johnston 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cove
T.T. the Bear's Place Fumare, 9:15 pm; Valley, 10:1 pm; Constants, 11:15 pm; Lucia Lie, 12:15 am, $ 18+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Andrew Barr and the Life Effec 9:30 pm.
ZuZu DJ Peter and VJ Robotkid, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Abbey Lounge Malibu Lou, Ray Neades, 7-9 pm (n cover); Old Money, 9 pm; Thee Monkey Butlers, 1 pm; Rick Barton & the Shadow Blasters, 11 pm; th Peasants, 12 am, $5-$7, 21+.
All-Asia Café Girls' Night Out with Jenn Oberl Jess Yoakum, 6 pm; Throwback, 8 pm; Morex Or timo, 10 pm.
The Attic Papermoon, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Avalon Bethany Joy Lenz, Jessica Harp, Michell Branch, the Wreckers, Tyler Hilton, 7 pm, $20, 18+
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Live jazz, 7:30 pm, $3-7.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30- 9 pm, n cover.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray, pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Club Passim Crooked Still, 7 and 10 pm, $13-$15.
Dick's Last Resort Blue Soul, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Brick Park.
Great Scott DJ Ken & Terrence, 9:30 pm, $7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Incadence.
The Harp The Benderz, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Freeze Pop.
Johnny D's James Montgomery, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Kinsale Brick Park.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm; Sprin Hill Rounders, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm Rollo Tomasi Quartet, 9:30; Kong, 10:30; Better sweet, 11:30, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Brian O'Connell 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+; Amun Ra, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+
Matt Murphy's Toussaint.
Midway Café Gut, Medicine 4 Tim, 21+.
Milky Way Bruce Katz Band, 3 Play, 9 pm, $10 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5-7 pm; Celtic Clan, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Pending Vespa, Girl on Top, Reckless Daughter, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Paddy O's Syndicate.
Paradise Rock Club: Cracker/Camper Van Beethoven featuring David Lowery, Johnny Hickman, Hackensaw Boys, 9 pm, $18, 18+.
PA's Mane, Welcome, $5-7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 5:30 pm, 21+; Route 44, Kojo Abawaze, the What, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Regattabar Entrain, 7:30 and 10 pm, $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Thaddeus Hogarth, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Scullers Jazz Club James Cotton, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22.

ADVANCE SEATING

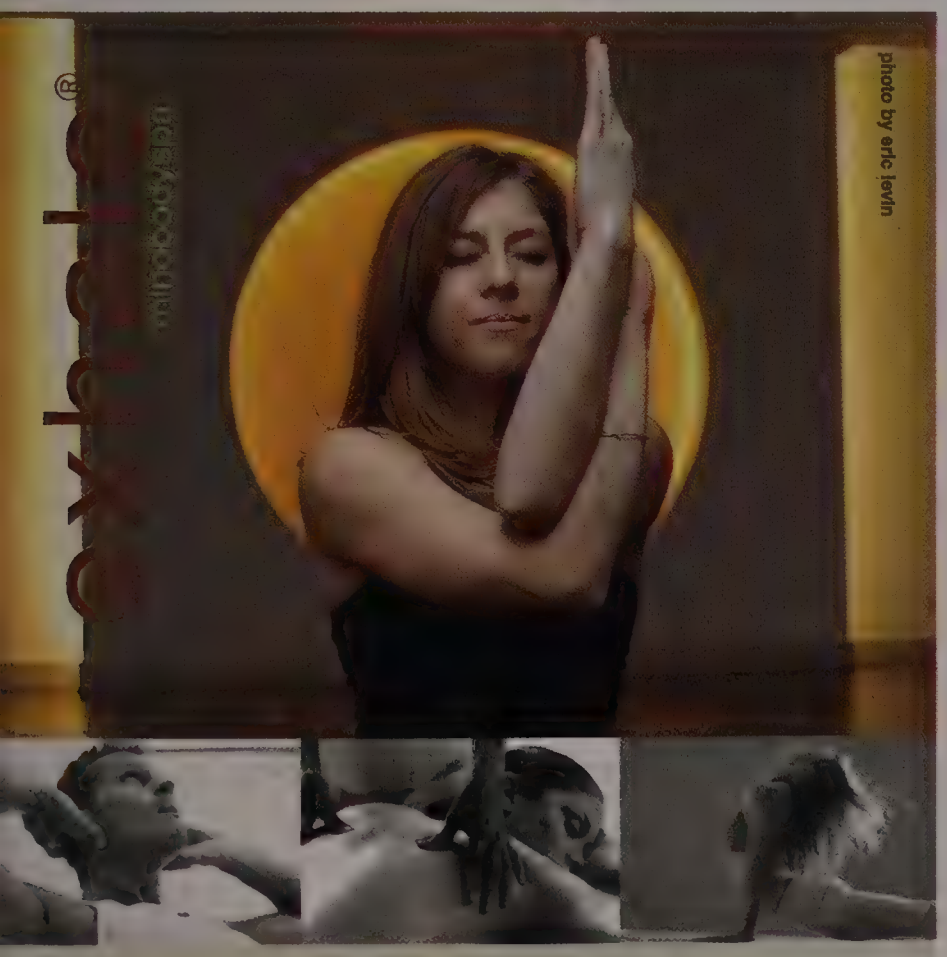
UPCOMING HEADLINERS

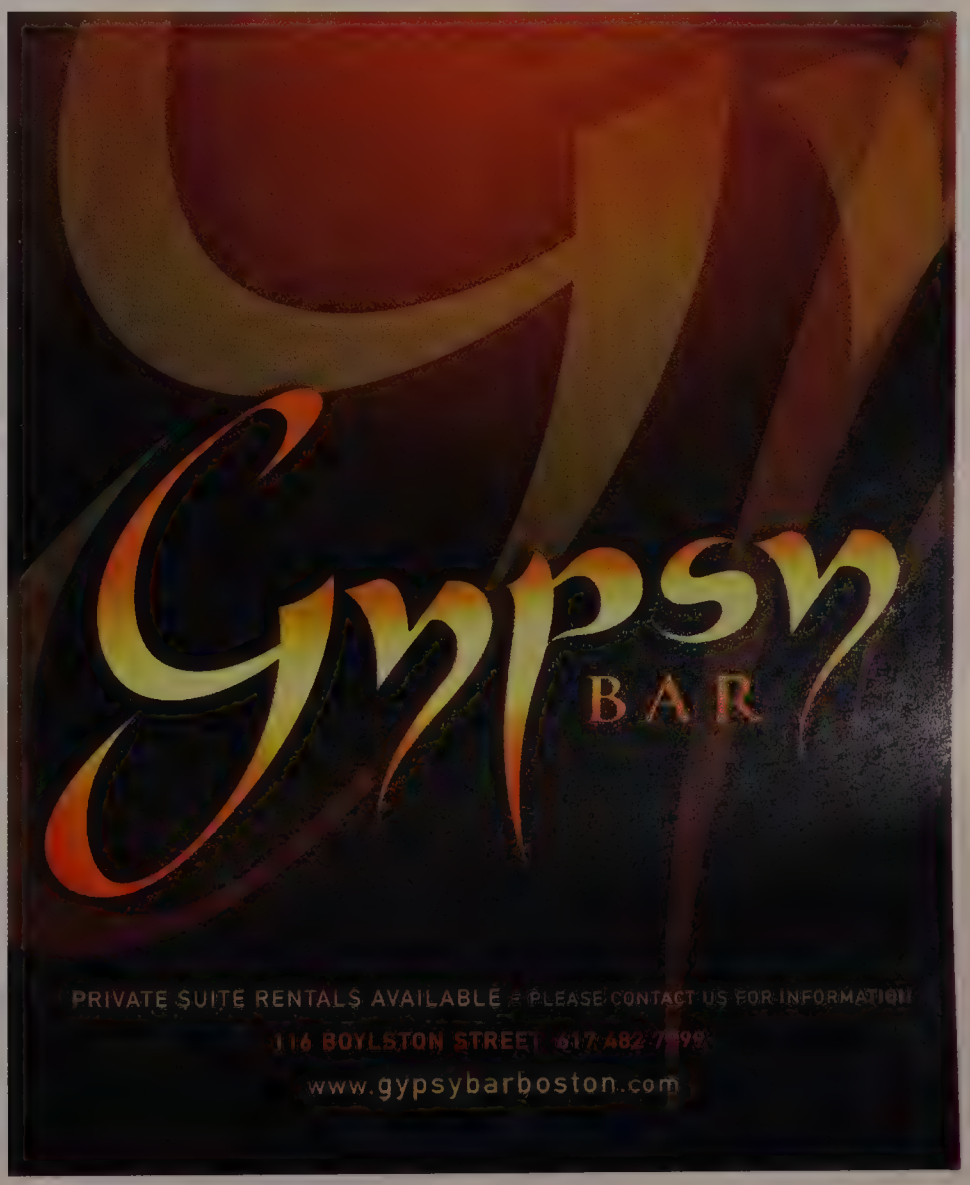
Tori Amos April 12, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Ash, the Bravery April 15, Axis (617-931-2000).
Bowling for Soup, American Hi-Fi, Riddlin' Kids, MC Lars April 7, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Kelly Clarkson, Graham Colton Band April 22, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Darkbuster, the Ducky Boys, the Skels, Far from Finished April 9, Axis (617-931-2000).
Bob Dylan, Merle Haggard, Amos Lee April 15-17, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Ben Folds May 14, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Garbage, Dead 60s April 17, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Lenny Kravitz, Nikka Costa April 24, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Mindless Self Indulgence April 10, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Mission of Burma, the Count Me Outs April 29, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
Moby, Buck 65 April 16, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Nine Inch Nails May 12-13, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Soulive May 5-6, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Sting May 5, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).
The Wailers April 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Widespread Panic April 12, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).

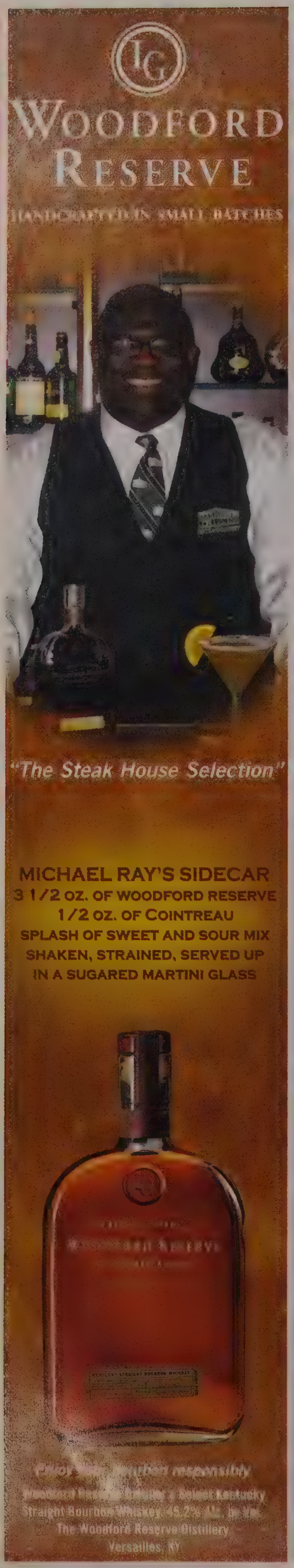
ir na nÓg Chris Murphy.
oad Boris McCutcheon and the Salt Licks.
op of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Galway, 9 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place The Debutantes, 9:15 pm; the ngels, 10:15 pm; Emergency Music, 11:15 pm; the on Savants, 12:15 am, $9, 18+.
eitgeist Gallery Dave Bryant, Gregg Bendian roup, 9:30-11:30 pm, $12.
uZu Latin Night with Glan Carlo, 11 pm, no cover.
es Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm.

ATURDAY, MARCH 26

bbey Lounge Kinks Tribute.
ll-Asia Café Count Fistula with Special Fredd, Dygforit, Wasted Chance, 1 pm.
he Attic Playin' Dead, 8:30 pm, 21+.
valon Toots & the Maytals, 7 pm, $20-22, 18+.
venue One Leah Souza Quartet, 7-11 pm.
erklee Performance Center Blind Boys of Alama, 8 pm, $28-$37.
he Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
ob the Chef's Live jazz, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
The Burren The Bagboys, 5 pm; Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Bill Morrissey, John Shain, 8 pm, $18-$20.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Dead Meadow, Jennifer Gentle, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 9:30 pm, $5.
The Harp Candlflyp, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Fast Times, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Pig Pen.
Johnny D's Nicole Nelson, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Kinsale Symbolics.
Kirkland Café Maple Street Project, 8:30; Megalodin, 9:30; Fair Enough, 10:30, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Dan Cloutier, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+; Mike Previti Band, Tom Glynn, Tommy Dempsey, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Drop.
Middle East Upstairs: The Bocks, Cyanide Valentine, the Valhalla Kittens, Campaign for Real Time,







$9, 18+. Downstairs: Kaiser Chiefs, the Information, the Good North, $10-$12, 18+.
Midway Café Vibewise, Bad Saints, Lefty, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
O'Brien's Ellipsis, Audrey Can't Die, Tiger Mountain, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Orpheum Pat Metheny Group, 7:30 pm, $42.50-$62.50.
Paddy O's The Marcels.
Paradise Rock Club: Seemless with Reverse, Of the House, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
PA's Micah Blue Smaldone, Mothers and Sons, $5-7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Flexible Flyer String Band, 5 pm, 21+; the Ray Corvair Trio, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Regattabar Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20, all ages.
Scullers Jazz Club Airto's Jam Band featuring Flora Purim, 8 and 10:30 pm, $24.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5-8 pm; Kevin Connelly.
Toad Bart Carusso.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Galloway, 9 pm; no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Gasolines, 9:15 pm; the Damnwells, 10:15 pm; the Halogens, 11:15 pm; Aberdeen City, 12:15 am, $8, 18+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Color and Talea with Oshe, 9 pm, $10, all ages.
ZuZu Soul le lu jah with DJ Ty Jesso, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Marianna Solivan, 8 pm.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

All-Asia Café Accoustic Showcase, 5 pm; Lorax 8 pm; Resident DJs Battle to the Death, 10 pm.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am-3 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Rollins Ross Trio, 11am.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3 pm; the American Session Band, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Easter Brunch Event: Silver Lining Gospel, 10 am, 12 and 2 pm, $16, all ages.
Great Scott Apollo Sunshine, Elementary Thought Process, Endless Mike and the Beagle Club, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Harpers Ferry Blind Vandal, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Tom Grolieu, 9 pm.
Matt Murphy's Bud E Green.
Middle East Upstairs: Dreamchild, Annette Farrington, Ultra Plush, Rob Byrd, Kris Thompson, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Aesop Rock, $17-$20, 18+.
Midway Café Al "The Undertaker."
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sesuin, 4-7 pm; Mike Barrett.
O'Brien's RockBoston presents Sol Profit, Crash Midnight, Ript, Endgame, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Paddy O's Kevin Byrne Group.
Plough and Stars The Hot Tamale Brass Band, 5 pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch featuring Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.
Toad The Paul Ahlstrand Band, 7-9 pm; Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting, Kimon Kirk, Billy Beard, 10 pm.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Vas Deferens, 9:15 pm; Why Twist the Hair, 10:15 pm, $5, 18+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jazz composers collective, 7 pm, $8.
ZuZu Revival Preachers, 10 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, MARCH 28

All-Asia Café Retro '80s and Disco/Indie Rock Dance Party, 10:30 pm.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costello, Tommy Peoples, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8 pm; Scott Alarik, 9:30 pm, 21+
Club Passim Christopher Williams, 7 pm, $13-$15.
Dick's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Leedz Entertainment Showcase, 8 pm; $3-$6, 18+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Matt Murphy's State of the Art.
Middle East Upstairs: Nightstick, Adolf Satan, Noose Bomb, Ocean, $8, 18+.
Midway Café Midway Groove Thang.
Milky Way Acoustic Universe with Nanci McDonald, 8 pm, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club: Graham Coxon, 22-20's, the Golden Republic, 7 pm; $12, 18+.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint, 8:30 pm.

Preview

Fables from the Hood

Def Jux's Aesop Rock spins his way to Cambridge.

"I honestly don't even believe I have a rap career," says Aesop Rock with typical modesty. But this unassuming MC has more to brag about than one might think at first glance. With three full-length albums and two EPs under his belt (not to mention two self-released CDs that now trade on eBay for three-digit sums), a fistful of singles and countless collaborations, Aesop Rock has quietly amassed a rabidly devoted fan base, who scrounge the Internet and scour record stores for copies of his most esoteric and hard-to-find releases.

His admirers also tend to scrutinize his dense, imagery-laden lyrics, looking for meanings, double-meanings and messages couched in Rock's abstract and often cartoonish metaphors. As a reward for their efforts (and possibly in an effort to correct the odd misquoted or misheard line), Rock's label, Definitive Jux, has just released an Aesop Rock enthusiast's dream combo: an EP of new material packaged with a book containing the lyrics from all of Rock's albums and EPs. A labor of love, this ambitious release put Rock under the yoke of two different deadlines: "I was trying to finish typing out all the lyrics for everything, and finish the music at the same time. I literally had due dates where the lyrics had to be in before the songs were even written," he chuckles. Rock celebrates the new release with a show at the Middle East Downstairs on March 27 (Definite Jux labelmate SA Smash joins Rock on the bill).

A student of BU's College of Fine Arts, Rock graduated as a painting major, but his skill at creating vivid pictures of everyday people wasn't limited to the canvas. A longtime love of rap—inspired by an influential older brother—had already led him to experiment with the microphone in high school. But it was in the mid 1990s at BU that he met aspiring rapper and producer Blockhead. The two became friends and both went on to indie-rap success. (Blockhead gave up rapping early on but still makes beats for Rock and recently released an album of his instrumental beats on the UK's trailblazing Ninja Tune label.) The two recorded incessantly, track after track. "That was when songs came completely, at all times of the day," he reminisces. "We'd just take a break and bang out a song. Done. It was so fun and so easy and second nature to do it. It was just part of the day."

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—Andrew Graham

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Jess Yoakum plays as part of Girls' Night Out at the All-Asia Café March 25.

Roxy Queens of the Stone Age, 7:30 pm, $22.50.
Tír na nÓg James Christiensen.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7-9 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm..
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Porsches on the Autobahn, 8:30 pm; free, 18+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sesroh, 7 pm, $7; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
ZuZu Tin Men, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

All-Asia Café Retro '80s and Disco/Indie Rock Dance Party, 10:30 pm.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan..
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy and Matt Glover, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; John Stey, 10 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike featuring Ksenia Mack, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Maggie Rose Quartet.
Great Scott Zombi, Disappearer, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Antje Duvekot, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Carla Ryder, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Public House.
Middle East Upstairs: The Big Distraction, the Klapp, 9 pm, $8. Downstairs: Crooked Fingers, Liz Durrett, 8 pm, $12.
O'Brien's Ulysses, Riding Shotgun, Let Me Introduce You to the End, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Paddy O's Brian Park.
PA's Jess McDonough, Todd Martin, Meghan LaRoque, $5-7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Reverb Joe, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Regattabar Los Changos Trio, 7:30 pm, $10, all ages.
Ryles Jazz Club Artist Showcase with Koran Hasanagic, 8, 9:30, and 11 pm, $7, 18+.
Scullers Jazz Club Sylvia Greenberg, 8 and 10 pm, $20.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad Residency featuring Asa Brebner, Pat Wallace, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Robyn Hitchcock, 7 pm, $17, 18+.
ZuZu The Bee Gentles, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

Abbey Lounge Jon Gorey, 7-9 pm (no cover); Max Heinegg & the Nervous, 9 pm; Scamper, 10 pm; Raymond, 11 pm; Unbusted, 12 am, $5-$7, 21+.
All-Asia Café Retro '80s and Disco/Indie Roc Dance Party, 10:30 pm.
Asgard Grooves.
Avalon Rusted Root, 8 pm, $18, 18+.
Berklee Performance Center Kim Plainfield an David DeCenso, 8:15 pm, $5-10.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30- 9 pm, no cove
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm; 21+.
Club Passim Zoe Lewis & Peter Donnelly, 8 pm $10-$12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Rob Mitzner, 9:30 pm, n cover.
Great Scott The Casual Lean, the Bravery, 9 pm $4, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hennessy's The Mystics.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Jennifer Kimball Duke Levine, Kevin Barry, Kris Delmhorst, Billy Beard, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+; the Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Detachment Kit, Read Yellow Shanghai Valentine, Bones Brigade, $9, 18+ Downstairs: Lyrics Born, Helruspecs, MC Kabir $15, 18+.
Midway Café Underground Flower Shop, 21+.
O'Brien's The Acrobats, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Paddy O's Chad La Marsh.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Fernando Huergo Quartet, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Tír na nÓg Resonance.
Toad The Broken Dreamers, 7-9 pm; Organ in Orbit, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Brilliant Zero, 9 pm; Tramps Like Us, 9:45 pm; Blue Letter Days, 10:30 pm; the Sterns, 11:15 pm, $7, 18+.
ZuZu The Beau Roland Band, Aqueduct, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Sofia K, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

Abbey Lounge Boston Pop Underground 1-year Anniversary, Snmnmn, 12 am, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard The RPMs.
Avalon Eric Sardinas, Steve Vai, 6:30 pm, $22.50-25, 18+.
Avenue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30- 9 pm.
Axis Tempting Fate Revue: A Benefit for Religions for Peace, 9 pm, $20, 18+.
Berklee Performance Center Tony Smith, 8:15 pm, $5-10, all ages.
Bob the Chef's Live jazz, 7:30 pm, $3-7.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30- 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30.

The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shanon Aaron, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Aftermath, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Richard Shindell, Anais Mitchell opens, 8 pm, $23-$25.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm, 21+ after 9 pm.
Fireplace Restaurant Tony Benecourt, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Breaker Breaker, Just Luke, Dust Bunnies Collective, 9:30 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9:30, $5, 21+.
Harpers Ferry The Unbelievable Meltdown, 8 pm; 8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Mikey Dread, 9 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, no cover.
Kirkland Café Kenn Ballou, 8 pm; Once Over, 9 pm; Homesteaders, 10 pm; Larkin Brigade, 11 pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Kabir, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight.
Middle East Upstairs: Indoor Recess, Focusin, Snoozebox, the Rantings of Eva, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sean Cunningham.
O'Brien's Dunc Benefit: Superpower, the Glamurous Stuntcocks, Grudgefuck, Gary Rand, 9 pm, 6, 21+.
Redline NGP Allstars, 10 pm, No cover.
PA's Parkview, Yellow Brick Ed, Timelaps, $5-7, 1+.
Paradise The Slip, Nathan Moore, Meowskers, 9 pm, 12, 18+.
Plough and Stars Brass Roots, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Regattabar Pierre Hurel Trio, 7:30 and 10 pm, $12, ll ages.
Ryles Jazz Club Greg Hopkins Quintet, 8:30 pm, 10, 18+.
Scullers Jazz Club Richard Elliott, 8 and 10 pm, 24.
Toad Blast Off, 7-9 pm; the Radio Kings, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, ll ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bishop Allen, 9:30 pm; the Sun, 10:30 pm; OK Go, 11:45 pm, $10, 18+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Quartet of Happiness, 8 pm; Mostly Other People Do the Killing, 10 pm, $10.
ZuZu Frank Smith, Freeloader, Marc Flynn, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Gabriel Guerrero Trio, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

Abbey Lounge Electroluxe, 7-9 pm, no cover; Dennis Most and the Investigators, 9:30 pm; Downbeat 5 (CD Release), 10:30 pm; Prime Movers, 11:30 pm, $5-7, 21+.
Avalon Ray LaMontagne, Missy Higgins, 7 pm, $17, 18+.
Berklee Performance Center Joe Galeota with Berklee West African Drum and Dance Ensemble, 7:30 pm, $5-10.
Bob the Chef's Live jazz, 7:30 pm, $3-7.
Bravo at the MFA Harry Fix, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray, 9 pm.
Club Passim Richard Shindell, Anais Mitchell opens, 8 pm; $23-$25.
Great Scott DJs Lem & Terrence, 9 pm, $7.
Hale Chapel Jazz Trio with Peter Stolzman, 6:30 pm, $15.
The Harp Negative Space, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm.
Johnny D's Li'l Anne & Hot Cayenne, 9:45 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm; Springhill Rounders, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30; Do Man, 10:30, $5.
Matt Murphy's Sambalolo.
Middle East Upstairs: Septic Youth Command, the Hidden, High Dunc-Tane, Rick Berlin, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Apollo Sunshine, The Lot Six, Mittens, The Beatings, $10, 18+.
Orpheum Theatre Jam 'N 94.5 Old Skool Fresh Fest, 7:30 pm, $26.50.
Paradise Radio 4, Supersystem, Baby Strange, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
PA's The Subject, the Gondoliers, Mandate of Heaven, $5-7.
Regattabar Johnny A., 7:30 an 10 pm, $15, all ages.
Ryles Jazz Club Soul Kitchen, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Scullers Jazz Club John Pizzarelli, 8 and 10:30 pm, $35.
Toad The Tom Glynn Band.

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Glen Phillips plays the Middle East Downstairs April 5 with opening act Blue Merle.

T.T. the Bear's Place Loudly Fernando & Dom, 9 pm; Nick Luca, 10 pm; Brett Rosenberg Problem, 11 pm; John Doe, 12 am, $12, 18+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jorrit Dyjkstra & the Callithumpian Consort, 7 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

Abbey Lounge The Black Clouds, 9:30 pm; Downbeat 5 (CD Release), 10:30 pm; Nervous Eaters, 11:30 pm, $5-7.
Agganis Arena Maroon 5, the Donnas.
Axis Copeland, Acceptance, Lovedrug, As Tall as Lions, 6:30 pm, $12.
Berklee Performance Center Tribute to Elvin Jones: featuring John Ramsay, Kenwood Dennard, Phil Wilson and the Rainbow Band, 7:30 pm, $5-10, all ages.
Bob the Chef's Live jazz, 7:30 pm, $7.
The Burren The Bagboys, 5 pm; Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney and Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
Club Passim The Bluehouse, 8 pm; $10-$12.
Harpers Ferry Tons of Chill (CD Release), $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Pressure Cooker, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Kirkland Café Triple Thick, 8:30; Eric Martin & the Illyrians, 9:30; Girl on Top, 10:30; Lyres, 11:30, $5, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Matt Duane.
Middle East Upstairs: Twinemen, Bourbon Princess, Snmnmnm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: The Bomb Squad, $10-$12, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club: Mason Jennings, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
PA's Paper Thin Stages, Pickax, $5-7, 21+.
Regattabar Rory Block, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20, all ages.
Scullers Jazz Club John Pizzarelli, 8 and 10:30 pm, $35.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm; the Arielle Silver Band, 10 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Taxpayer, 9:15 pm; Roots of Orchis, 10:15 pm; Bloodthirsty Lovers, 11:15 pm; The Album Leaf, 12:15 am, $10, 18+.
Zeitgeist Gallery An Evening of Improvisation, 7-9 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Joe Maneri & David Haas, 7-9 pm; Skull Sessions, 9:30 pm-12 am, $10.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

The Attic The Coalboilers.
Axis Straylight Run, Minus the Bear, the Honora Title, Gratitude, Spitalfield, 6:30 pm, $12-15.
Berklee Performance Center San Francisco Ja Collective with Josh Redman, Nicholas Payton ar Bobby Hutcherson, 7:00 pm, $27.50-35.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am- pm, no cover.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3 pm; the Amer can Sessions Band, 6 pm.
Club Passim John Stewart, 7 pm; $23-$25.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnson
Harpers Ferry The Eclectic Collective, Audib Mainframe, the Smyrk, Elemental, doors 8 pm; $ 21+.
Hennessy's Tom Grolieu, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 ar Blues Jam, 4:30; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, pm.
Matt Murphy's Zion Blood.
Middle East Upstairs: WBCN Rock 'n' Roll Run ble, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Caribou, Junio Boys, Russian Futurists, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sesuin, 4-7 pm; Mik Barrett.
Paradise Rock Club: Psychedelic Furs, 8 pm, $2 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Patric Adams, 10 am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bones, 9 pm; River Cit Rebels, 9:45 pm; the Black Holes, 10:45 pm; th Queers, 11:35 pm, $10, 18+.
Zeitgeist Gallery George Garzone/Lello Molina Duo, 7 pm, $8.

MONDAY, APRIL 4

The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costell Tommy Peoples, 9 pm.
Great Scott Lightning Bolt, 8:30 pm, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Johnny D's Riot Act, 8 pm, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Fully Celebrated Orchestra.
Middle East Upstairs: WBCN Rock 'n' Roll Run ble, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Midway Groove Thang, 21+.

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aradise Dogs Die in Hot Cars, Phoenix, 8 pm, $14, 3+.
eitgeist Gallery Sesroh, 7 pm, $7; the Fringe, 10 m, $10.

UESDAY, APRIL 5

he Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy and Matt ilover, 9 pm.
lub Passim Open mike featuring Milton, 7 pm; $5.
he Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
ennessy's Scott Damgaard.
hnny D's The Bills, 8:30 pm, 21+.
latt Murphy's Public House.
iddle East Upstairs: WBCN Rock 'n' Roll Rum-le, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Glen Phillips, Blue lerle, $17, 18+.
addy O's Brian Park.
aradise Bloc Party, the Ponys, French Toast, 8 pm, 12, 18+.
A's La Concorde, $7.
egattabar Ben Sher & TudoBem, 7:30 pm, $10, all ges.
yles Jazz Club Artist Showcase featuring the Prana rio and Andreea Pauta, 8, 9:30 and 11 pm, $7-10, 18+.
T. the Bear's Place Tristan da Cunha, 9 pm; UV rotection, 9:50 pm; Hya Kcha, 10:40 pm; Mahi fahi, 11:30 pm, $7, 18+.
eitgeist Gallery The Anarchist Coffeehouse, 9 pm 5.

Music Venues

bbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-631).*
gganis Arena *925 Comm. Ave. (617-358-7000). MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul Street.*
ll-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
sgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
he Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
valon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
venue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-22-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Grand Canal *57 Canal Street, Boston (617-523-1112).*

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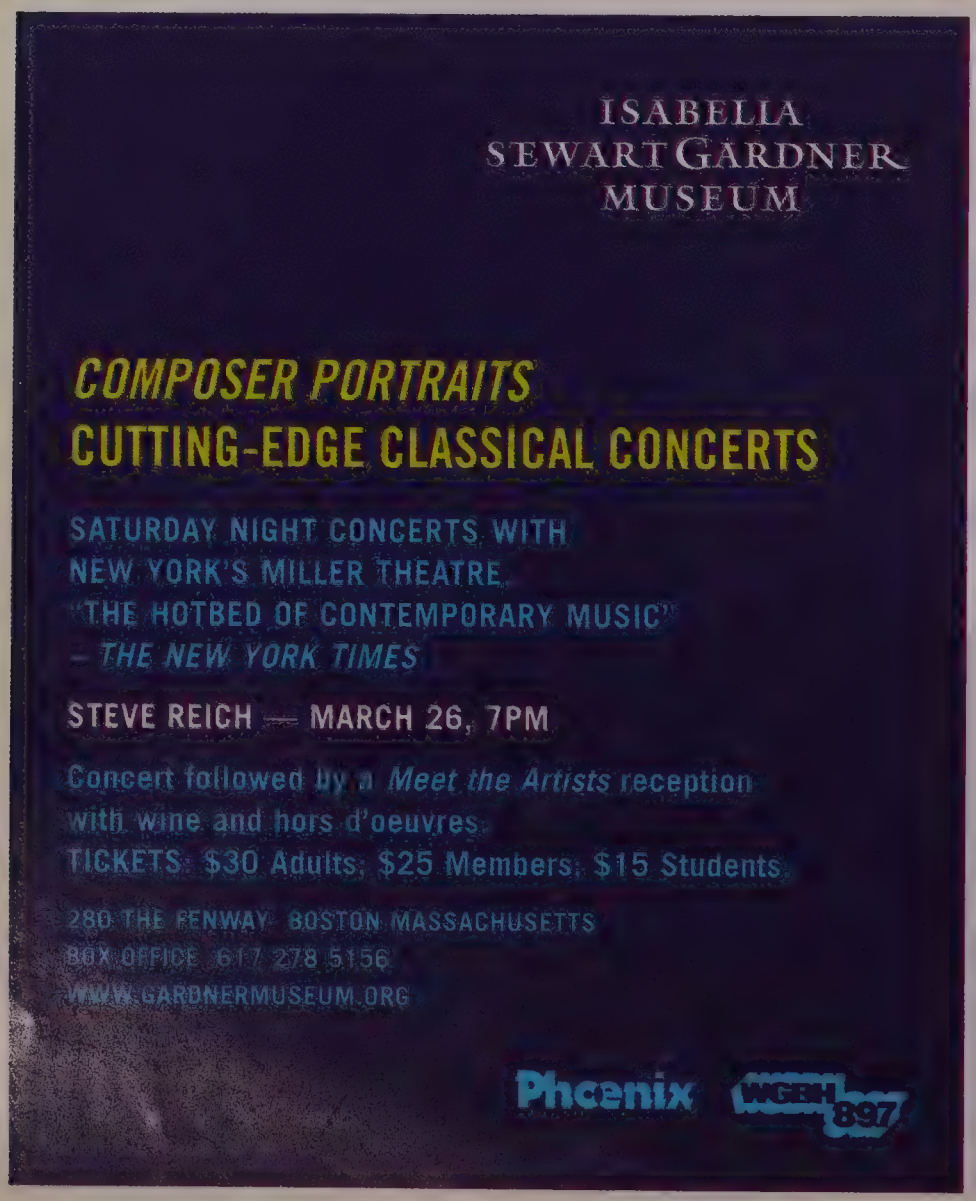


Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hale Chapel *66 Marlborough St., Boston (781-237-0153).*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 7:30 pm. $16. James Levine leads the BS in musical selections by Harbison, Stravinsk Wuorinen and Brahms.

Longy School of Music

Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambrid (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Li to Harvard. •5:30 pm. Free: Pianist Visutthi Angkatavanich presents a recital. *•8 pm. Fre* The String Department presents a recital featu ing violinist Andrew Eng.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as Marc 23.

Longy School of Music

Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambrid (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Li to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. The Winds and Brass D partment presents a recital featuring flutist Trish Craig.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

The Artist Diploma Series

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetin house.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Stree 12:15-1 pm. Free. Harpist Franziska Huhn pe forms.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym phony. 1:30 pm. $27-$95. Same program as Marc 23.

Boston University College of Fine Arts

CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Bosto (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: Green Line to BU West. 8:30 pm. Free. Nicol Mazzella (soprano) and David Richardso (piano) perform works by Poulenc, Wolf, A gento and Handel.

Handel and Haydn Society

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617 585-1270). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $30-$60. Con ductor Grant Llewellyn presents a program title Haydn's Rival Divas featuring arias sung by so prano Nancy Argenta.

Longy School of Music

Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridg (617-876-0956) www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Lin to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. World Wide Concurren Premiers presents this program featuring saxo phonist Amy McGlothlin assisted by Longy stu dent musicians and members of the Cla MacPherson Pipes and Drums.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym phony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Marc 23.

Boston University College of Fine Arts

CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617 353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Lin to BU West. 8:30 pm. Free. Katharine Quinn (so prano), Michael Sponseller (harpsichord) an Vera Rubin (violin) perform a variety of pieces in cluding Elizabethan songs by Dowland and duet by Monteverdi.

Longy School of Music

Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridg (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy. edu MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. The Voice Department presents a recital featuring so prano Angela Carr.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

Emmanuel Music

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617 617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA

Violinist Stefan Jackiw plays at the Old South Meeting House April 1.

Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music continues its Bach Cantata Series with BWV 4.

Handel and Haydn Society
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $30-$60. Same program as March 25.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. The Piano Department presents a recital featuring pianist So Oyama performing works by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin and Alberto Ginastera.

MONDAY, MARCH 28

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500) www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The String Department presents a recital featuring cellist Sophia Pao.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Russell Sherman celebrates his 75th birthday with a recital featuring works by Beethoven and Liszt.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm, $3. The program Melodies of Guzheng:Traditional Chinese Music features Shin-Yi Yang (guzheng) and Chi-Sun Chan (tuba and hand drum).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500) www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The String Department presents a Graduate Diploma Recital with Zhen Zhen Wang on cello.

MIT
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-9800). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm. Free. Sophomore violinist Serenus Hua performs a recital.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy. edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The Voice Department presents a recital of works by Bach, Schubert, Debussy, Lee Hoiby and Ned Rorem performed by Bonnie Donham (piano), Jacque Scharlach (mezzo-soprano), Sarah Glenn (violin) and Trisha Craig (flute).

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC's Honors Piano Trio—Pei-Shan Lee (piano), Korbinian Altenberger (violin) and Tao Nai (cello)—performs works by Ravel and Tchaikovsky.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

The Artist Diploma Series
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15-1 pm. Free. Violinst Stefan Jackiw performs.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso. org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. •2:30 pm. Free. This Chamber Teas program features works by Bolter, Sampson, Handel and Ewald. •8 pm. $29-$105: Conductor Ludovic Morlot presents Messiaen's *Les Offrandes Oubliées*, Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto No. 5 and Franck's Symphony in D minor.

Boston University College of Fine Arts
CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8:30 pm. Free. Lauren Blair (soprano) and Jodi Goble (piano) perform works by Handel, Chausson, Larsen, Duke and Strauss.

MIT
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-253-9800). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. Free. The ensemble Sonos features MIT professor Marcus Thompson (viola), senior lecturer David Deveau (piano), plus Mike Reynolds (cello) and Bayla Keyes (violin).

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as April 1, 8 pm.

Boston University College of Fine Arts
CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. •12:30 pm. Free: George Case (tenor) and Jodi Goble (piano) perfom works by Britten, Poulenc, Schumann and Hahn. •6:30 pm. Free: Catherine Meyers (soprano) and Anny Cheng (piano) perform works by Barber, Scarlatti, Ravel, Verdi and Schubert.

Community Music Center of Boston
Allen Hall, 34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-482-7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 1 and 3:30 pm. Free. The CMC holds its annual David Lapin Competition for piano students.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. Free. The BSO presents a Community Concert featuring works by Bolter, Sampson, Handel and Ewald.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. •10 am. Free: Emmanuel's Bach Cantata Series continues with a performance of BWV 67 conducted by James Olesen. •8 pm. $20-$50: Craig Smith conducts a concert performance of Schumann's opera *Genoveva*.

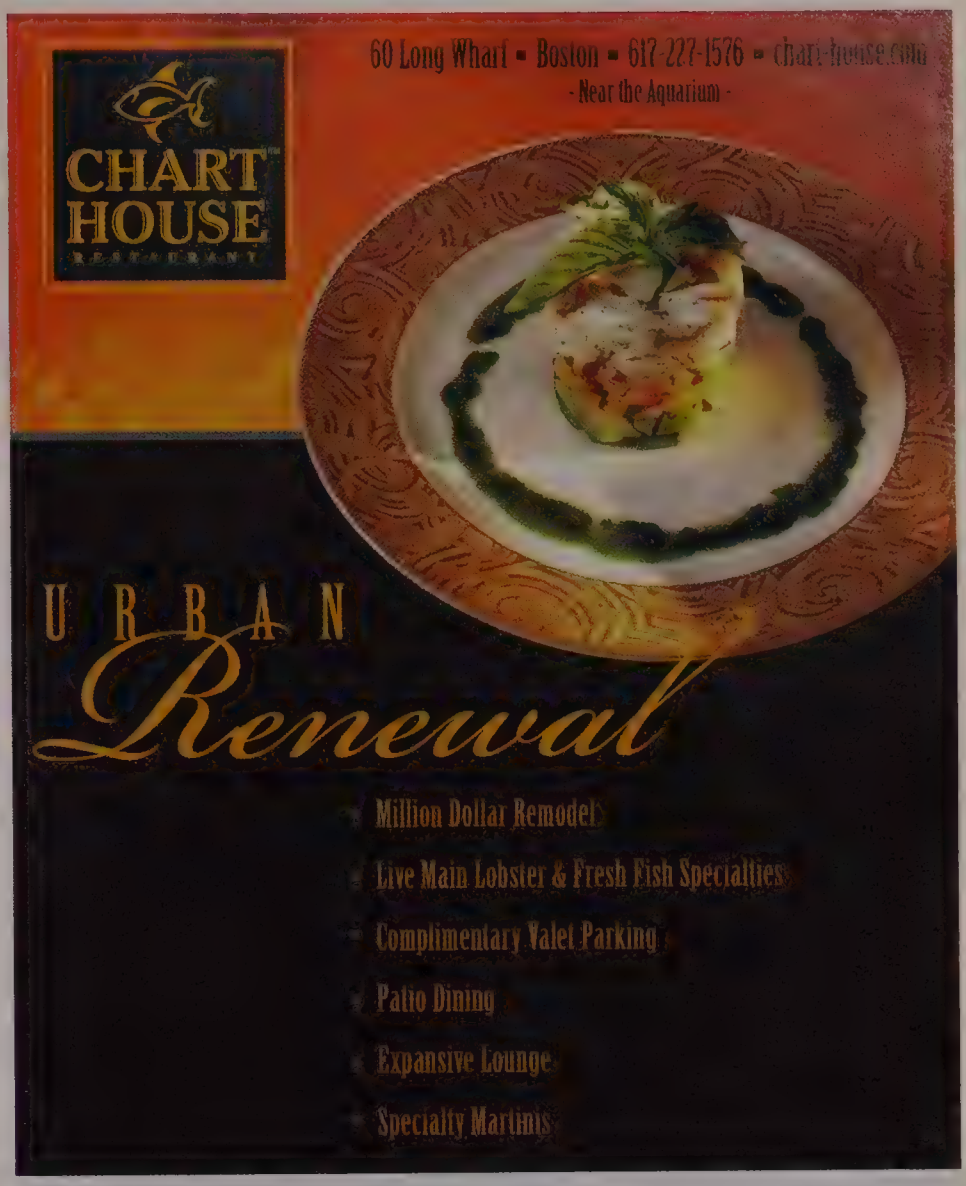
New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Violist Carol Rodland performs.

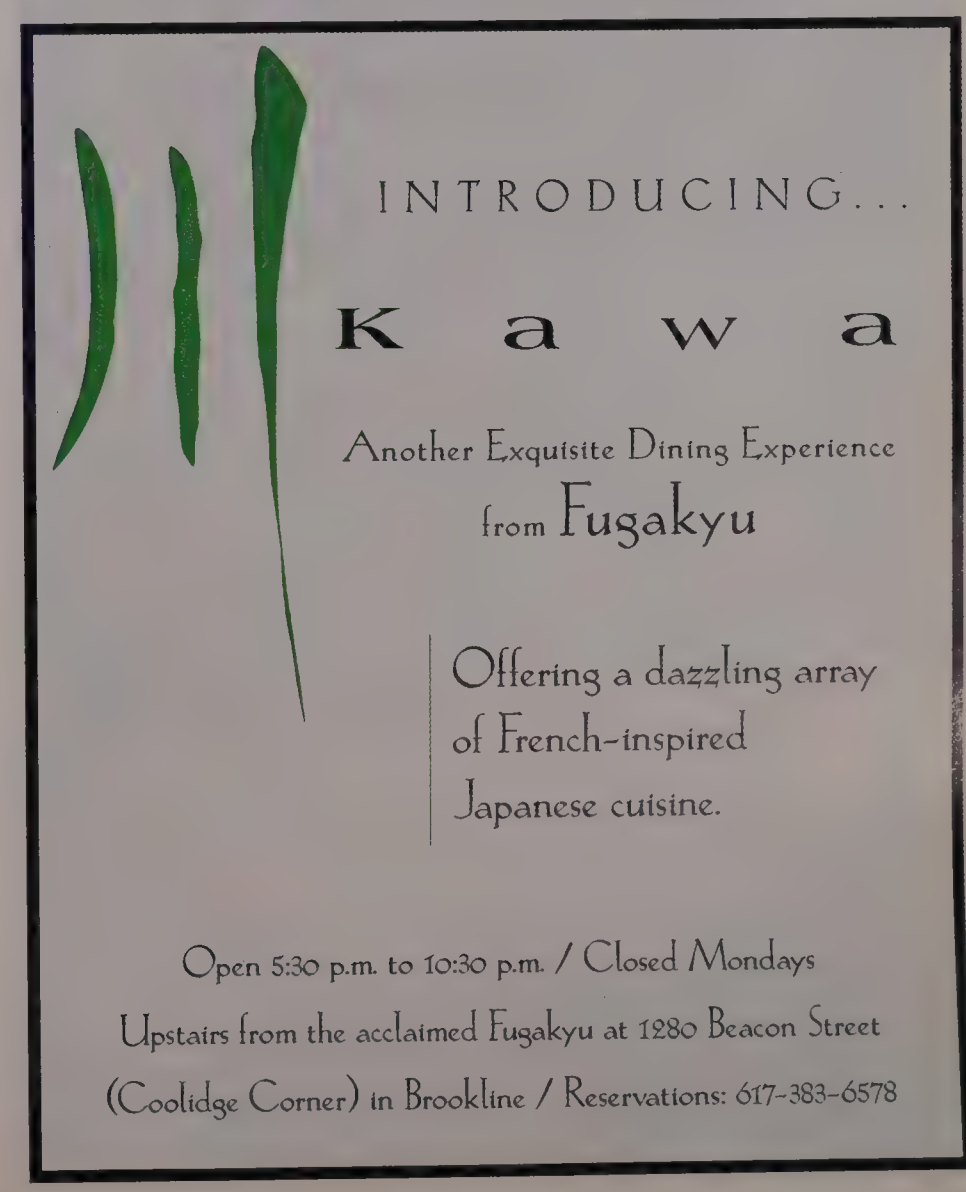
MONDAY, APRIL 4

Boston University School of Music Faculty Recital Series
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: Green B Line to BU East. 8 pm. Free. Michael Zaretsky (viola), George Kern (piano) and Ethan Sloane (clarinet) perform pieces by Henze, Brahms and Bruch.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 6 pm. Free. The Borromeo String Quartet performs.





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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ spins top-40, plus open mike and interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a mu
cal face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony More
spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am,
cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 p
2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm,
cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits fr
the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, M
town, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

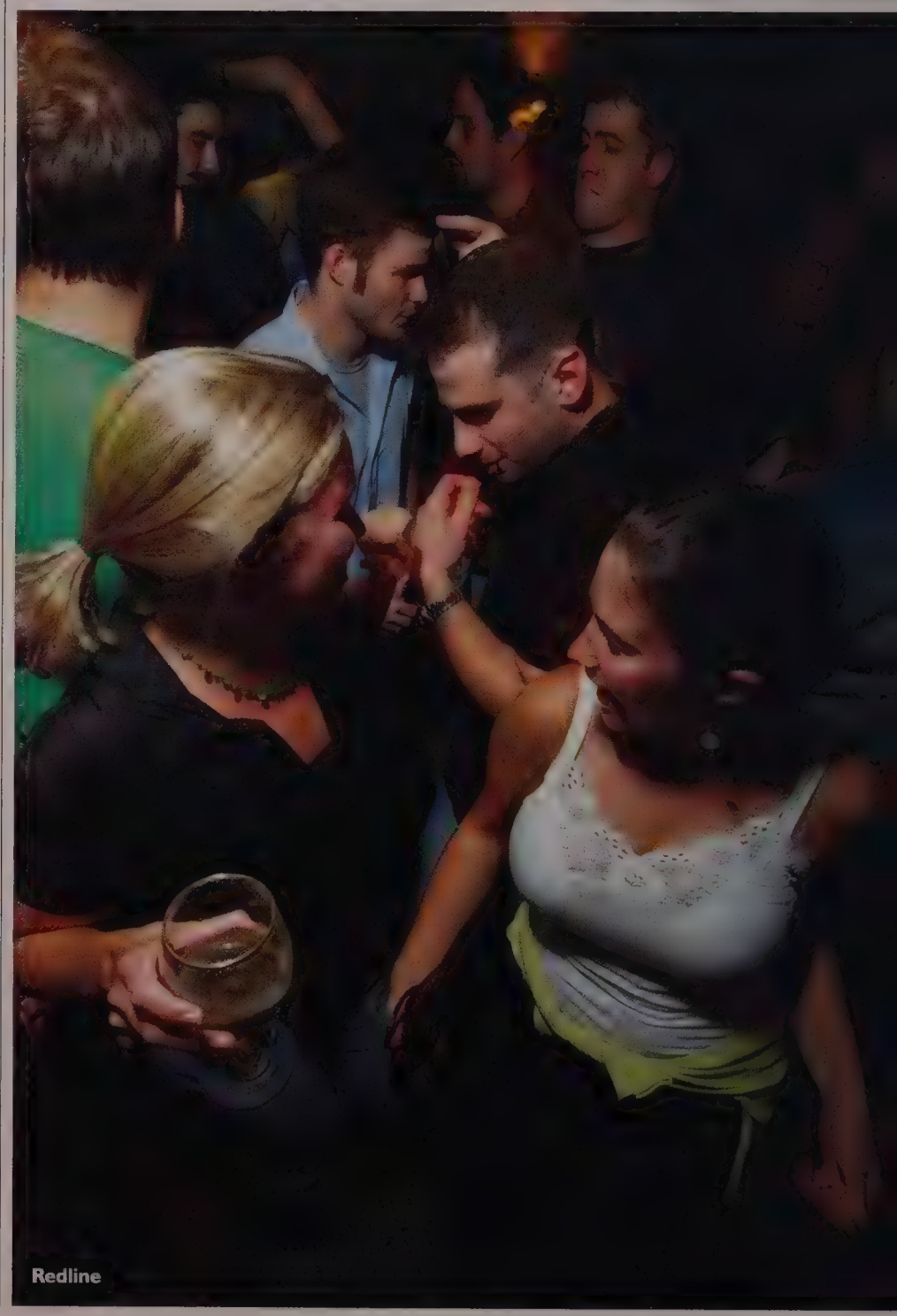
Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and elect
'80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off
9 pm, no cover, 21+.


Redline

umor
ight varies with an assortment of performances d themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

yles Dance Hall
avana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night atures an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

enu
YNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins p-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

VEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
ez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
gns of Life Guest DJs spins progressive house for a y and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, 19+.

oston Rocks
ump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and nce music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no ver, 21+.

Caprice
J Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 n, no cover, 21+.

Clery's
ive music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
ritish Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 0 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
Js spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 1+.

The Enormous Room
alactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, 3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
IP Wednesdays DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts ve performances and spins house and dance beats. pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
nternational Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of interna- onal music.

The Kells
et Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up ip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
he Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, 0s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no ver, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Veekly rotation of underground dance, 10 pm, $5, 9+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Iusician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 1+.

The Rack
tar 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, o cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of ance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
rimitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and ll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
atino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Vednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band lays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 m, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
amu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and compli- nentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Js spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, eter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 m, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 m, $3, 21+.

Aria
ashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs pin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 9+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and isco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance usic, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Hawaiian Tropic Model Search with JAM'N 94.5, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle host this weekly gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+. Fourth Floor: **Tribe** DJ Gay Jim spins hip-hop and top-40 at this ladies-only night, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band plays reggae and funk, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Touch DJs spin urban groove and club classics, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJs from Stickman Productions spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

COME OUT AND PLAY

ELEVIN PHOTOGRAPHY
Model: Sarah-Allison Lohr

An Tua Nua
RESTAURANT, BAR, NIGHT CLUB
MON: GOTHIC NIGHT 10PM-1AM
TUE: LIVE MUSIC
WED: KAREOKE IN THE BAR/SALSA NIGHT IN THE CLUB
THU: SPRING BREAK "101" PARTY
FRI: "SUPER LOVERS FRIDAY" W/ DJ VINNY
SAT: "SHAKE WHAT YOUR MOMA GAVE YOU SATURDAYS" W/DJ G2
SUN: SERVICE INDUSTRY NIGHT / LIVE MUSIC
835 Beacon Street Boston MA 617-262-2121

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Foundation Fridays DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Club Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Mansion Fridays After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

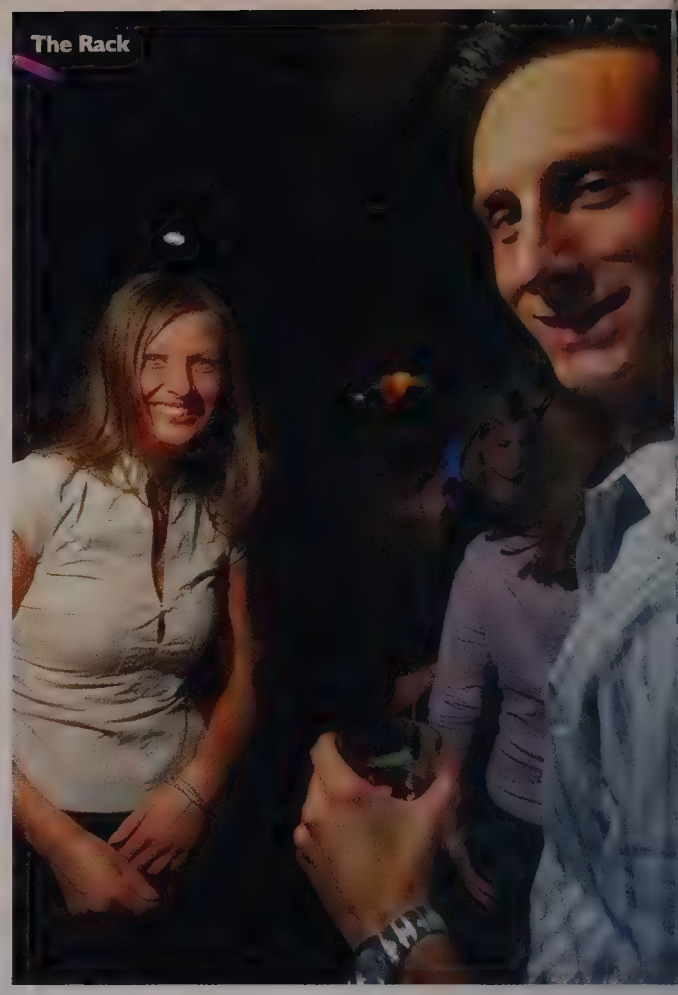
Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1am, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Gabe spins.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 25: The Benderz.



Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 1 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-ho R&B and pop, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dan while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pr ladies free before midnight, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ Ste Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo ar hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techn disco music, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish regg music, $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounte** New England's longest-running all-male dan revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 ar $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donn Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilia atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $1 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands pe form, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18 $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21 •March 25: Candiflyp.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pr no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dan and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video hig lights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pr 2 am, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
ersion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-l, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no er, 21+.

xy
Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reg-, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

mor
nge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and -school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, .

sy K's
nu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

in
l Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, .

e Sugar Shack
Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

quila Rain
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 , $5.

ast
spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

nu
mba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house le DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. xet required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

rtigo
ernational Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, in and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

est Street Grille
e Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all ht, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

ATURDAYS

Tain
-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Tua Nua
G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, pm, $5, 21+.

ia
ernational Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy al house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), (women with college ID).

alon
se Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson performs ng with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

e Avenue
Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

is
uctive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, , 19+.

g Easy Bar
ebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning -40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 , $8, 21+.

ll's Bar
e cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 , 21+.

ston Rocks
otgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 . DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interac-e video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

izz
e gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spin-g popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep se and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

price
sai-Latin International Lounge DJ Ghost and Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with inter-ional and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

erys
Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ub Q
Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

ogan's
Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, .

evlin's
Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and se, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ckside
spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

co Lounge
llywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-p and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, pm, $8, 21+.

nbassy
ence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

e Enormous Room
verberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic -hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

lt
e Penthouse Club DJ Tanerk spins house on the rth floor. Also, DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 3's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance on first floor. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

lden Temple
e E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 26: Candiflyp.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Buddha spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis DJs Frank and Matty spin a mix of rock, retro and electro beats, 10 pm, $5, 18+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest- running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •March 26: The Benderz.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles DJ PBJ presents an assortment of Boston's best DJs.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

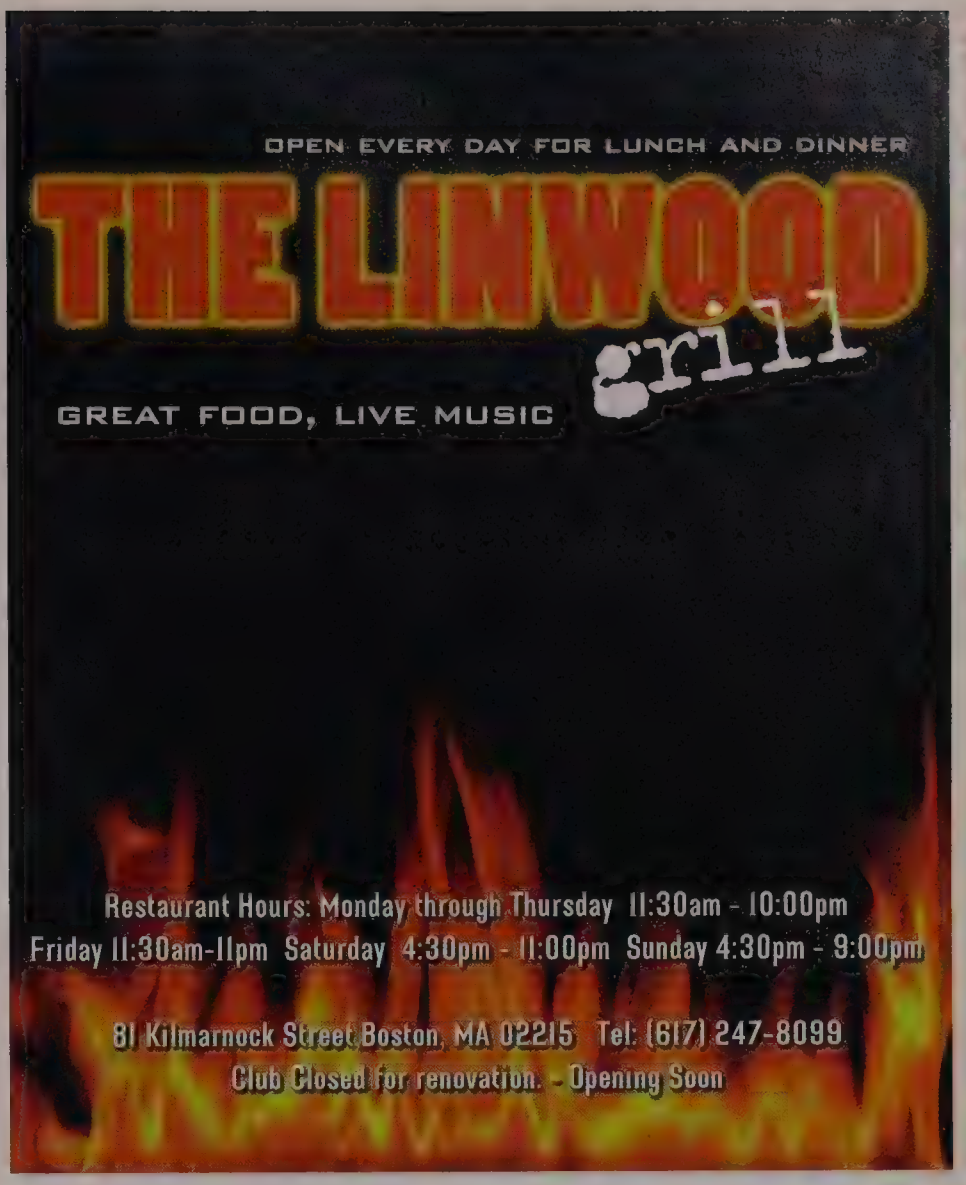
River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

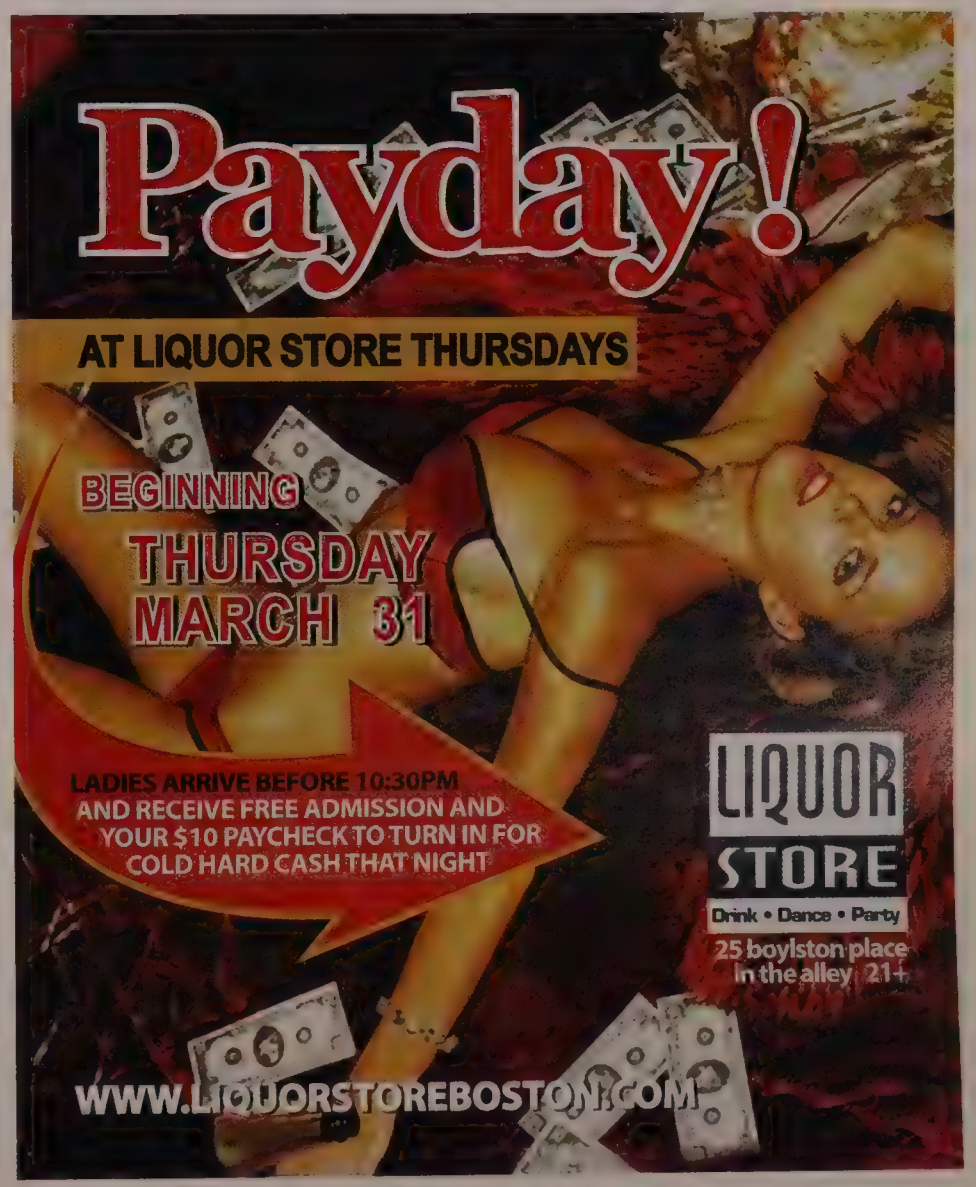
Roxy
Dueling DJs DJ Massi and DJ Play each spin their own style of house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.





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Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Noches Loco DJs spin Latin music

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Live Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-242*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-78 9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-70*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-967*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-11*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080)*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-987*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-393*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617 783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-018*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555)*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (61 876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-779*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-101*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617 722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-946*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-90*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-94*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111)*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (6 542-4077).*
McGann's *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-405*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (61 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-672*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-166*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-702*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051)*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-188*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-065*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridg (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-000*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-030*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-258*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-921*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061)*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

nuseums & galleries

lvice to Contributors

mit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-46) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-l arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop . phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to pub-tion. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

luseums

thur M. Sackler Museum

5 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.nuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har-d. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; dents and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. larks of Enlightenment, Traces of Devotion: anese Calligraphy and Painting from the Sylvan net and William Burton Collection features more n 70 objects from the 8th through 20th cen-ies, including Buddhist scriptures. Through ril 17. •*The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in n and India* features paintings, decorative arts l weaponry depicting hunting scenes from west-and southern Asia. Through June 26. •Ongo-exhibitions include *Alexander's Image and the inning of Greek Portraiture, The Art of Ancient ne*, and *Near Eastern Art*.

ston Athenaeum

½ Beacon St., Boston (617-227-0270). www.tonathenaeum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to k Street. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. 9 am-4 pm. ower Line displays the art of Leo Dee. Through ril 30.

rpenter Center for Visual Arts

Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.nuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har-d. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, students and seniors. •*Huyghe + Corbusier: Har-*

Gertrude Beals Bourne's watercolors are at Childs Gallery through May 15

vard Project features a puppet opera, a film and a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center by artist Pierre Huyghe. Through April 17.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center

Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Wed., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •*The "Master Prints" of Hendrick Goltzius and Mannerist Art* showcases work from the Dutch engraver's *Life of the Virgin* series. Through June 19. •Artist Ghada Amer depicts her definitions of "terror" and "terrorism" in her installation, *The Reign of Terror*. Through June 19. •*The Observed and Envisioned* exhibits depictions of women in Mughal art from the 16th to 19th centuries. Through June 19. •A new permanent installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •*Pretty Sweet: The Sentimental Image in Contemporary Art* features more than 100 works in various media by 33 New England artists. Through April 17. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Eighteenth-Century European Ceramics and Paintings* is a new exhibition drawing from the museums' permanent collection. Ongoing. •*From Mind, Heart and Hand: Persian, Turkish and Indian Drawings from the Stuart Cary Welch Collection* shows through June 12. •*Crises of Representation: The Decorative and the Feminine in Fin-de-siècle Vienna* includes publications and artworks from turn-of-the-20th-century Vienna. Through June 12. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe Since 1880; Art in France, 1885-1960* and *Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* are ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center

53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Bogolanfini* features works by Dianne Zimbabwe in the ancient art of mudpainting. Through March 31.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April 30. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of*

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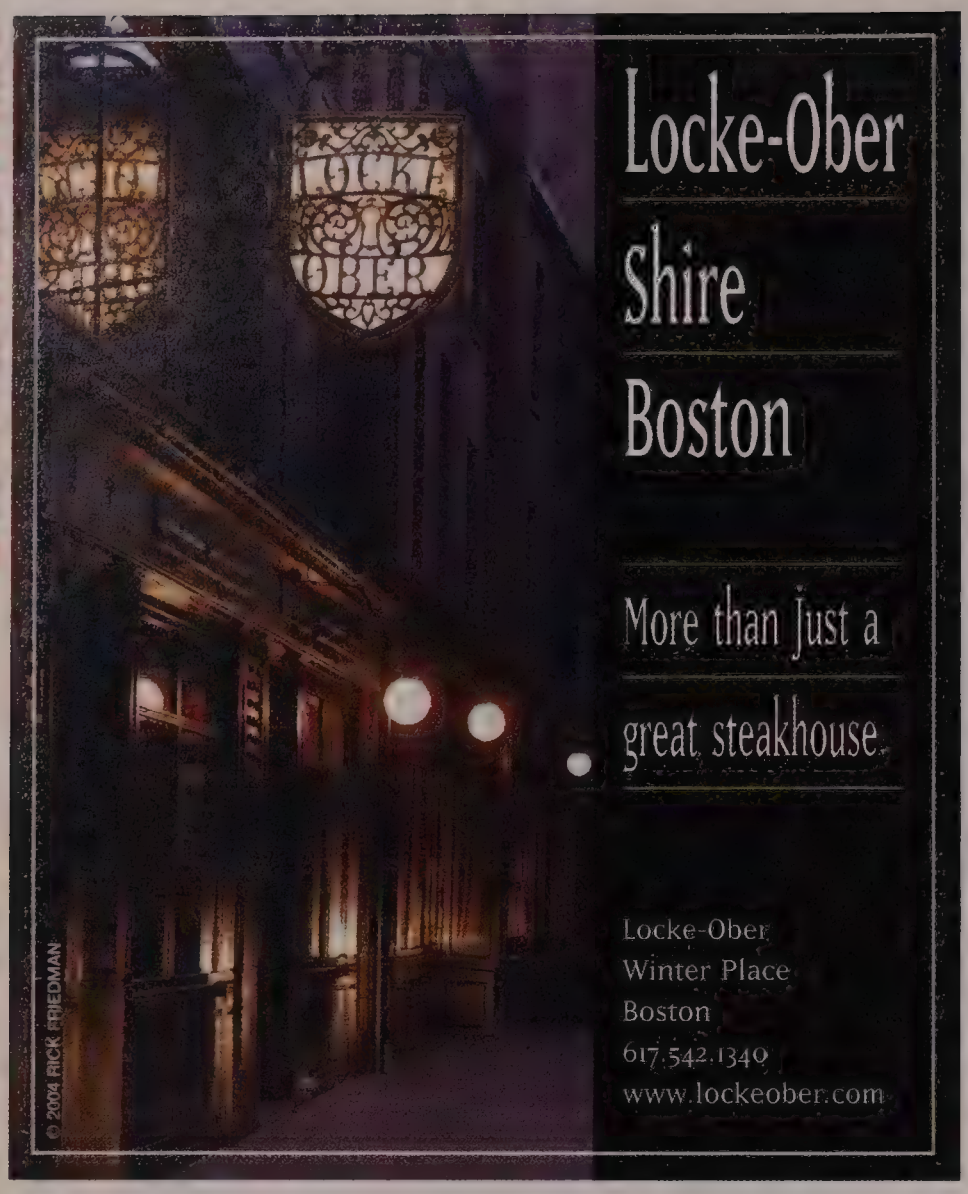

Tourmaline showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites…Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists* features more than 50 artists' portraits of their peers and heroes. Through May 1. •Kanishka Raja shows paintings as part of the ICA's *Momentum* series. Through May 1.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Chairs* brings together the photography of 2002 artist-in-residence Dayanita Singh with the museum's collection of Italian and Renaissance chairs. Through May 8. •The museum's permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun. 12-5pm. Free. •Drawings, collages, prints, watercolors and photographs by assorted artists display in *Accommodations of Desire: Surrealist Works on Paper Collected by Julien Levy*. Through March 24.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •*Kimsooja: Seven Wishes and Secrets* is a multimedia exhibition featuring Kimsooja's paintings and videos. Through April 10. •*Pavel Braila* is a self-titled exhibition featuring large-scale photographs, video projections and a short film by the Moldovan artist. Through April 10. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*The Traveling Magazine Table* includes rare local and international magazines. Through April 15. •*Clipper Ship Era* is a collection of lithographs, plans and photographs illustrating the design and construction, as well as the social experience, of a clipper ship. Through July 10. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between a mechanical engineer and a choreographer. Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* displays work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winners. Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Threads of Faith: Recent Works from the Women of Color Network* is an exhibition of quilts depicting historical, story-based, political and spiritual themes. Through March 31. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition highlighting Boston's African-American community in the 19th century. Ongoing. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing. •*Separate Schools, Unequal Education* chronicles the struggles for equal school rights in Massachusetts. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •An exhibition of contemporary works by controversial London-ba artist Damien Hirst is on display through April •*Sets, Series, and Suites: Contemporary Prints* featu serial prints by 30 artists from 1950 to the prese Through May 29. •*Pursuits of Power: Falconry the Samurai, 1600-1900* offers a new perspective players, politics and power in early modern Ja through an unusual subject. Through June 12. •*F tographs by Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Sylvan Barnet William Burto Collection* features 20 of the Japan photographer's black-and-white prints. Throu June 23. •*Speed, Style, and Beauty: Cars from Ralph Lauren Collection* displays 16 automobiles fr the designer's private collection. Through J 3.•*18th Century French Royal Furniture from Swan Collection* features the only complete se 18th-century French royal furniture in the Uni States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* plays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.m org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Su 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; c dren, $11. •*Playing with Time* features experimer tools that manipulate the perception of ti Through May 1. •*A Bird's World* explores the havior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. • *Computing Revolution* traces the history of comput from the electronic giants of the 1940s to tod smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of nosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoi •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, featu models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a gi grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Mapping the World Arou Us* features mapping projection tools and comput map libraries. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). wu monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 p Free. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a c lection of artifacts and sculpture from the Ame can West, shows through April 24. •*Deep Inside Blues: Photographs by Margo Cooper* features black-and-white photographs of musicians taken Cooper over the past 10 years during her trav through the Mississippi Delta. Through June •*George Washington: Freemason and Founding Fat* is an exhibition of rare artifacts. Through June •*Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend* examin artistic depictions of Revolution-era patriot P Revere. Through June 26. •*The Enchanted Clocks George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm* an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ong ing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household jects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. • *Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Comm nity*. Ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). wu pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; s dents, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Sale free. •*Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the L* is an exhibition of 30 photographs by Linda But capturing the Three Gorges area. Through April •*The Art of Shopping in China* captures China's ea 19th-century international trade market through paintings on paper from the museum's extensive c lection. Through May 22. •*Island Thresholds, Co temporary Art from the Caribbean* features 13 wor including large-scale installations using wood, gla paper, seawater, salvaged shoes, coffee, coconut a vanilla, as well as paintings and drawings, by four land artists. Through June 5. •*Carved by Nature* d plays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through Ju 2005. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspi works by more than 20 Massachusetts artis Through Sept. 18. •The only installation of its ki in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese m chant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocat and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-102 www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Ha vard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and studen $6; children, $5. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mi bres Pottery from the American Southwest* features a facts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ru Through June 30. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artis ship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 200 •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Cla Indian Collection* features Native American artifa from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 200 •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* fe tures the museum's large Mesoamerican cast colle tion. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American India Change and Continuity* depicts the response of N

: Americans across the continent to the arrival of opeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* n ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture l plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific nds Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays facts from the Pacific Islands.

se Art Museum

ndeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun. 12-5pm. $3. •Dreaming w features eight mixed-media installations by vari- artists, including Marina Abramovic, Maria Mag-ena Campos-Pons, Sandra Cinto, Cai Guo Quiang Chiharu Shiota. Through April 24.

ialleries

NE ART

me Fine Art

Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). w.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling-. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Dorothy Eisner, Late ressionist Paintings. Through April 30.

ianza Gallery

Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www. nzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Local glass artist a Poppe shows new work. Through March 25.

pha Gallery

Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www. agallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. -Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •New paintings by Reed . Through March 30. •New paintings by Aaron k. April 2-30.

den Gallery

Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www. ngallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Anne kard shows oil-on-canvas paintings in *Seascapes*. ough March 29. •Margaret Gerding's work is on lay in *New Landscapes*, April 1-29.

tana

8 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111) w.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to lidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 -7 pm. • The gallery continually shows pieces by more than 30 artists from across New England. •Willoughby Elliott shows landscapes of the South Shore, Cape Cod and its islands. Through March 30.

Art Attack

108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.art attack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Impressionist Geo-Fragmentism* is a showcase of works by Shanti, taken from her *Battlescenes* collection. April 1, 6-9 pm.

Art Interactive

130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •Gallery visitors contribute to three-dimensional works based on instructions from the 29 artists in *The Paper Sculpture Show*. Through March 27. •Experimentation with new techniques and concepts is behind the exhibit *Collision Collective*. April 1-10.

Barbara Krakow Gallery

10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Jonathan Seliger displays his work in *Born to Shop*. March 26-May 12.

Berenberg Gallery

4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www. berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Encaustics and Metal Drawings* is a show of works by Scott Griffin. Through April 30.

Bernard Toale Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www. bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Carl Fudge shows new work, David Goldes shows photographs and Rebecca Doughty shows drawings. Through March 26. •Abelardo Morell shows photographs, and the exhibition *LA Times* features works on paper by five Los Angeles artists. March 29-April 30.

Boston Sculptors Gallery

486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www. bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Lorey Bonante and Margaret Swan display their works. Through April 16.

Brickbottom Gallery

1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www. brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •*The Creative Process* features design works from different fields. Through March 26.

Bromfield Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-360510). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Laurie Alpert shows prints in *Songs Without Words: Prints and Artist's Books*, and Jonathan Palmer displays paintings. Through March 26.

Brookline Arts Center

86 Mammoth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www. brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Passion for Pattern* features works by Bette Ann Libby and Evelyn Berde. Through March 30. •*Near and Far: New Photographs by Judy Dernburg* shows. Through April 1.

Chase Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www. chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Cynthia Packard shows oil-on-linen works. Through March 26.

Childs Gallery

169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www. childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions—*Werner Drewes, 1899-1985; Gertrude Beals Bourne: Artist in Brahmin Boston;* and *Alexander Brook: Selected Drawings*—show Through May 15.

Copley Society of Art

158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www. copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Manifest 2005: The Many Faces of Boston* is a group show of works by New England artists. March 10-April 2. •*Legendary: Sports in Boston* is a collection of works honoring the city's great sports teams. Exhibition is at the Onyx Hotel, 155 Portland St. Through June 30.

Crump McCole Gallery

200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery

164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*Landscapes and Portraits* shows new paintings by Paul Kerepka. April 5-30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery

300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fort pointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Beyond Color* features the work of 12 artists. March 25-April 30.

Galerie d'Orsay

33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www. galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B

535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu., 12-5:30 pm, Fri. and Sat.,12-5 pm. •*Modern Organic* is an exhibition of recent paintings and prints by Row Dawes and Christine Neill. Through March 26.

Gallery Kayafas

450 Harrison Ave., Garden Level, (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 pm. •*Claire with Flowers* features photographs by Peter Kayafas and Tama Hochbaum. Through April 1. •*Roads* shows black-and-white photos by Silas Shabelewska, and *Pin-Wheel Romanticism* shows color photos by Thomas Gustainis. April 1-April 30.

Gallery NAGA

67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www. gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Trace* is a show of sculpture by David Prifti, and *Track* features sculpture from Brenda Star. Through March 26. •Scrap paintings by Sam Earle and new paintings by Masako Kamiya show April 1-23.

Gateway Arts

62 Harvard St., Boston (617-734-1577). www. gatewayarts.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline

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Village. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm; Sat. 12-5pm. •*Echoes and Shadows* is an exhibition of works by Gateway artists. Through March 26.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Kelly Spalding shows her work in *Artifacts and Recent Paintings*, and Rob Barnard shows recent ceramic works. Through March 29. •*Night Series* shows new paintings by Alice Tauber. April 1-30.

Haley & Steele Gallery
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Cumming and Bill Burke show new work. Through March 15. •Lalla A. Essaydi shows her work in *Converging Territories*. Through April 19.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •David Kupferman and Stacy Quackenbush show their work in *Undercurrents*. Through March 26. •*The Forward Edge* shows new sculptures by Jacob Kulin. March 30-April 19.

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features contemporary American art.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment. •*Dazzling Emotions* features works by Christy Bonneau, Karen Tusinski, Amy Maas and others. Through April 9.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Matt Clark shows new abstract work in *Recent Paintings*. Through April 2.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Station. Tue.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm and by appointment. •Barbara Moody shows drawings in *Animale*. Through March 26.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by international and local artists including Andrew Saftel, Ruth Block, Emil Alzamora and Carrie McGee.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Paper & Paint: New Works by Corinne Okada and Lana Gordon* displays April 3-May 15. •*Light Up Your Night: Neon Sculptures by Alejandro & Moira Sina* displays through March 31.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Local artist Dimitri Cavander shows oil paintings. Through March 26.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm. Also available by appointment. •John Lees and Damien DiBona show new work in the exhibit *New Paintings*. Through April 16.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Nava Lubelski shows her stained and stitched paintings in *Mixed Messes*. Through March 26.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •*It's Not the Heat, It's the Humidity* features 32 works on paper by Sharon Shapiro. Through April 16.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features works by local-artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. • *Recollections: Assemblages and Collages* features work from Suzi Cozzens, Marcus Kenney and Randa Newland. March 24-April 30.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •The exhibition *Inuit: Carvings and Works of Paper* displays through April 7.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Olivia Parker displays her work March 24-April 30.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Selected Paintings and Water Colors, Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Picasso. Through March 30.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •Charles Parker Boggs, Brad Hampton and James Rieck show paintings in *Slice, Dice & Adhere*. Through March 27.•*Sc New York* features the work of Wardell Milan. A 1-May 1.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). MBT Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Su 1-5 pm. •Liz Leggett and Nedret Andre show pai ings. Through March 26.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). ww stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The art owned gallery features paintings by Christina Ke ing, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin, Willi St. George and Judy St. Peter. Ongoing.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). ww vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 p •Selections from the gallery's inventory inclu 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century American artwork

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Chest Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.co Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm; Sun. 6 pm.•The gallery's permanent collection featu works by Dali, Chagall and Miro. •Winning ph tographs from the 11th annual Griffin Museum ried Show show are on display through May 15.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). ww griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winch ter Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. • The muse features contemporary and historic photography.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). ww panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tu Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Heart Gallery, 2005* shows p traits of Massachusetts chidren up for adoptio March 24-28.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). ww panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fr 10 am-6 pm. •*Cuba—There Is Light and Shad* shows through April 23.

books & poetry

dvice to Contributors

mit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to lendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books nproper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to lication.

eadings & Signings

EDNESDAY, MARCH 23

andeis University
naporte Treasure Hall, 415 South St., Waltham 1-736-2130). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commter Rail to Brandeis. 5:30 pm. Free. **Lorrie Moore** ds from her works, including her short story coltion *Birds of America*.

ench Library and Cultural Center
CC, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). w.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 . $35 members, $45 nonmembers. French chef **ques Pepin** discusses his cookbook, *Fast Food Way*. A cocktail reception featuring recipes m his book follows the discussion.

arvard Book Store
6 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. vard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. e. Princeton professor **Elaine Showalter** dises the Library of America's new anthology, ich she edited, of Louisa May Alcott's novels le Women, Little Men and Jo's Boys.

arvard Book Store Event
st Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Boston College professor **nne Guillemin** reads from *Biological Weapons: m the Invention of State-Sponsored Programs to ntemporary Bioterrorism*, her account of how and y biological weapons programs have emerged in post–September 11 era.

arvard Coop
0 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). w.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Boston Herald writer **Clara Silverin** reads from her memoir, *White Girl: A Story of ool Desegregation*, which recounts her experience ne of the few white students at a public school in early 1970s.

ewtonville Books & Brews
Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www. tonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Christopher Rice** reads m *Light Before Day*, his novel about a journalist o ends up involved in a murder case while trying to launch his career.

rter Square Books
White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www. tersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 . Free. **Kevin Guilfoile** reads from his novel *Cast Shadows*, a thriller about a bereaved doctor who nes his daughter's murderer.

ellesley Booksmith
llesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Welles- (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. BTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. e. *New Yorker* cartoon editor **Robert Mankoff** cusses *The Complete Cartoons of the New Yorker*, ollection of more than 2,000 cartoons that e appeared in the magazine since 1925.

HURSDAY, MARCH 24

ookline Booksmith
) Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www. oklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to olidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Journalist **Jay kinson** reads from *Legends of Winter Hill: Cops, n Men, and Joe McCain, the Last Real Detective*, book that combines the life story of a Boston ective with the author's own experiences as a vate eye.

arvard Book Store Event
ttle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661- 5). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free (tickets required). **Robert B. Parker** ds from *Cold Service*, the latest installment in his nser series of crime novels.

arvard Coop
0 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. vard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 Free. California Polytechnic professor **John mpsey** discusses his book *Paranoia and Contentment: A Personal Essay on Western Thought*, which defends the idea that the concept of paranoia is critical in examining the history of human thought.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Mitchell Zuckoff** reads from *Ponzi's Scheme: The True Story of a Financial Legend*, his biography of Charles Ponzi, the Bostonian who masterminded one of the greatest financial scams in American history during the 1920s.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Psychotherapist **Karen R. Koenig** reads from her book *The Rules of "Normal" Eating*, which provides tips on how to break dysfunctional eating patterns.

Trident Booksellers & Café
338 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-8688). www.tridentbookscafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7pm. Free. Economist **Richard Parker** discusses his new biography, *John Kenneth Galbraith: His Life, His Politics, His Economics*.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Jennifer Haigh** reads from her novel *Baker Towers*, about members of a family in a western Pennsylvania mining town who go their separate ways after World War II.

MONDAY, MARCH 28

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poets **Jennifer Tseng** and **Ann Keniston** read from their work.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. **Edith Pearlman** reads from her collection *How to Fall: Stories*.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Poet **Ron Slate** reads from his work.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Kelly Braffet** reads from *Josie & Jack*, her novel inspired by the Hansel and Gretel fairy tale.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Romeo Dallaire**, the Canadian former head of a U.N. peacekeeping mission in Rwanda, discusses his book *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda*, which chronicles events that transpired during the Rwandan genocide of the early 1990s.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

Harvard Book Store
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Nation correspondent **Michael Klare** reads from his book *Blood and Oil: The Dangers and Consequences of America's Growing Dependency on Imported Petroleum*, in which he critiques U.S. energy policy.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Poets **David McCann** and **Anne Fowler** read from their work.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

Brookline Booksmith Event
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $2. **Jonathan Lethem** reads from *The Disappointment Artist*, his new collection of autobiographical essays.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Former teacher **Alfie Kohn** discusses his book *Unconditional Parenting: Moving from Rewards and Punishments to Love and Reason*.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har-

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vard. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Richard Gold** reads from his work.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Wendy Mnookin** and **Barbara Helfgott Hyett** read poems written by the late Rad Smith.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Richard Marinick** reads from his novel *Boyos*, about a Southie mob boss who becomes an FBI informant.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

National Poetry Month Festival
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-273-3716). www.bpl.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10 am-5 pm. Free. Tapestry of Voices and the Kaji Aso Studio present this annual festival that features 20-minute readings by 56 poets. Through April 3.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Steve Almond** reads from his new collection, *The Evil B.B. Chow & Other Stories.*

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

National Poetry Month Festival
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-273-3716). www.bpl.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 1-5 pm. Free. See April 2 listing for a description. An open mike session is on the schedule for the festival's second and final day.

MONDAY, APRIL 4

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Matthew Stover** reads from *Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith*, his novelization of the forthcoming film.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. 7pm. Free. **Catherine Newman** reads from her memoir, *Waiting for Birdy: A Year of Frantic Tedium, Neurotic Angst and the Wild Magic of Growing a Family*, about her experiences with pregnancy and parenthood.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Alicia Erian** reads from her novel *Towelhead*, about a young girl struggling to come of age amid a broken family and the tensions surrounding the Gulf War.

Wellesley Booksmith
Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. **Mitchell Zuckoff** discusses his book *Ponzi's Scheme*. See March 24 Newtonville Books & Brews listing for a description.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays backgrou music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Ca bridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.o MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Cen hosts this open mike for women and their alli with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambri (617-354-5287). www.outofthebluеartgallery.co MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm (7: pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, whi features predetermined poets reading from th work and an open mike. $4 suggested donatio •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen to poe and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggest donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Friday)
Toast Lounge 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-62 2313). 8 pm. Free. Poet Doug Holder hosts an op mike event.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursda
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188 MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossi 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each mon offers a selection of featured poets and an opport nity for others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication date.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Café Littéraire: Le Message d' Andrée Chedid
Boston French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. 2-4 pm. Members, free; nonmembers, $5. Join library staff for coffee, tea and bisquits to discuss Chedid's novel. Presented in French.

Digging: The Workers of Boston's Big Dig
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State or Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. Photographer **Michael Hintlian** discusses and signs copies of his book *Digging: The Workers of Boston's Big Dig.*

Radcliffe Institute Fellows' Presentation Series
Colloquium Room, Radcliffe Office of Communications, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-495-8212). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Radcliffe Institute fellow **Nari Nusseibeh** delivers a presentation titled What Is the Palestinian State Worth?

Retelling the Story of Modern Art
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7-8 pm. Members, seniors, students, $10; nonmembers, $13. **Ann Temkin**, curator of painting and sculpture for New York's Museum of Modern Art, gives a behind-the-scenes view of the MoMA's new building and discusses the decision-making process behind the museum's programming.

Women's Art
New England Historic and Genealogical Society, 99 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. In honor of Women's History Month, marketing assistant **Marieke Van Damme** lectures on the importance of preserving women's art.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA : Green Line to Copley. 2 pm. Free. Musician and educator **Ayden Adler** discusses the 20th-century orchestra leader Arthur Fiedler.

Born To Run?: Walking and Running in Human Evolution
Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-0099). www.harvard-yenching.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. Harvard University professor **Dan Lieberman** discusses his recent research on the role of running in human evolution.

Naomi & Ruth, Marge and Lisa: Mother as Mentors
Epstein Building, Brandeis University, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis. 12:30 pm. Free. Women's Studies Research Center scholar **Penina Adelman** discusses how mother-daughter, woman-girl relationships can serve as a lifelong learning model for success.

Portraiture as Research and Art
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30 pm. Free. Author of *The Art and Science of Portraiture* **Dr. Jessica Davis** discusses portraiture and its importance to art education and research.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

Language of Truth: Inside the World of Sefat Emet
Hebrew College, Center for Adult Jewish Learning, 160 Herrick Road., Newton (617-559-8709). www.hebrewcollege.edu. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center. 4 pm. $18, $25 at the door. **Arthur Green**, dean of the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College, leads the third and final installment of a series exploring the spiritual significance of the Sefat Emet (Language of Truth), a Polish Hasidic interpretation of the Bible.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

Lowell Lecture Series
Old State House, The Bostonian Society, 206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). www.bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 6 pm. Free. Author **Eli Bortman** discusses the Sacco and Vanzetti murder trial of the 1920s from a historical and contemporary perspective.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

The American View: Coppola and Beatty
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Members, $10; nonmembers, $15. Filmmaker and Boston University instructor **Colin Decker** discusses cinematographer Vittorio Storaro's influence on his contemporary filmmakers.

The Best Genealogical Sources
New England Historic and Genealogical Society, 99 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. Librarian **Gary Boyd Roberts** discusses the print resources available to those researching family histories.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

Improbable Research and the Ig Nobel Prizes
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0419). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 7 pm. Free. **Marc Abrahams**, editor of the magazine *Annals of Improbable Research*, looks at some of the most memorable winners of the Ig Noble Prize, a group of awards presented annually to scientists who make people laugh while making them think.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

Sunday Encounters
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 2:30 pm. Free with museum admission. •Museum staff discuss portraits by various contemporary artists of their peers and heroes through the exhibit Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists.•Museum staff also discuss the process that goes into the work of **Kanishka Raja**, whose exhibit, Momentum 3, incorporates the museum's architectural features.

MONDAY, APRIL 4

Animate Architecture
Baker Room, Radcliffe Office of Communications, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-495-8212). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Artist Wendy Jacob discusses her sculptural exhibit *Animate Architecture*, which explores the relationship between architecture and animate bodies.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

Bead Stringing Techniques
Beadworks, 167 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-7227). www.beadworksboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30-8 pm, $35. Materials included. Participants learn basic stringing and finishing techniques for creating bead jewelry while making a bracelet to take home.

Famous Artists in Close-Up
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 2-3 pm. Members, seniors, students, $15; nonmembers/general admission, $18. Historian **Rosamond Bernier** discusses her experience as founder and editor of the art magazine *L'Oeil* through personal accounts of her friendships with artists such as Picasso, Matisse, Braque and Miro.

Conserving History
Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardenermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 9:30-11am. Continues April 12 and 14. Members, $105; nonmembers $120. Museum educator **Linda Graetz** discusses the process of art conservation and its social impact.

Shaping Our Leadership
Epstein Building, Brandeis University, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis. 12:30 pm. Free. Women's Studies Research Center scholar **Linda Pololi** discusses effective leadership strategies for women in management positions.

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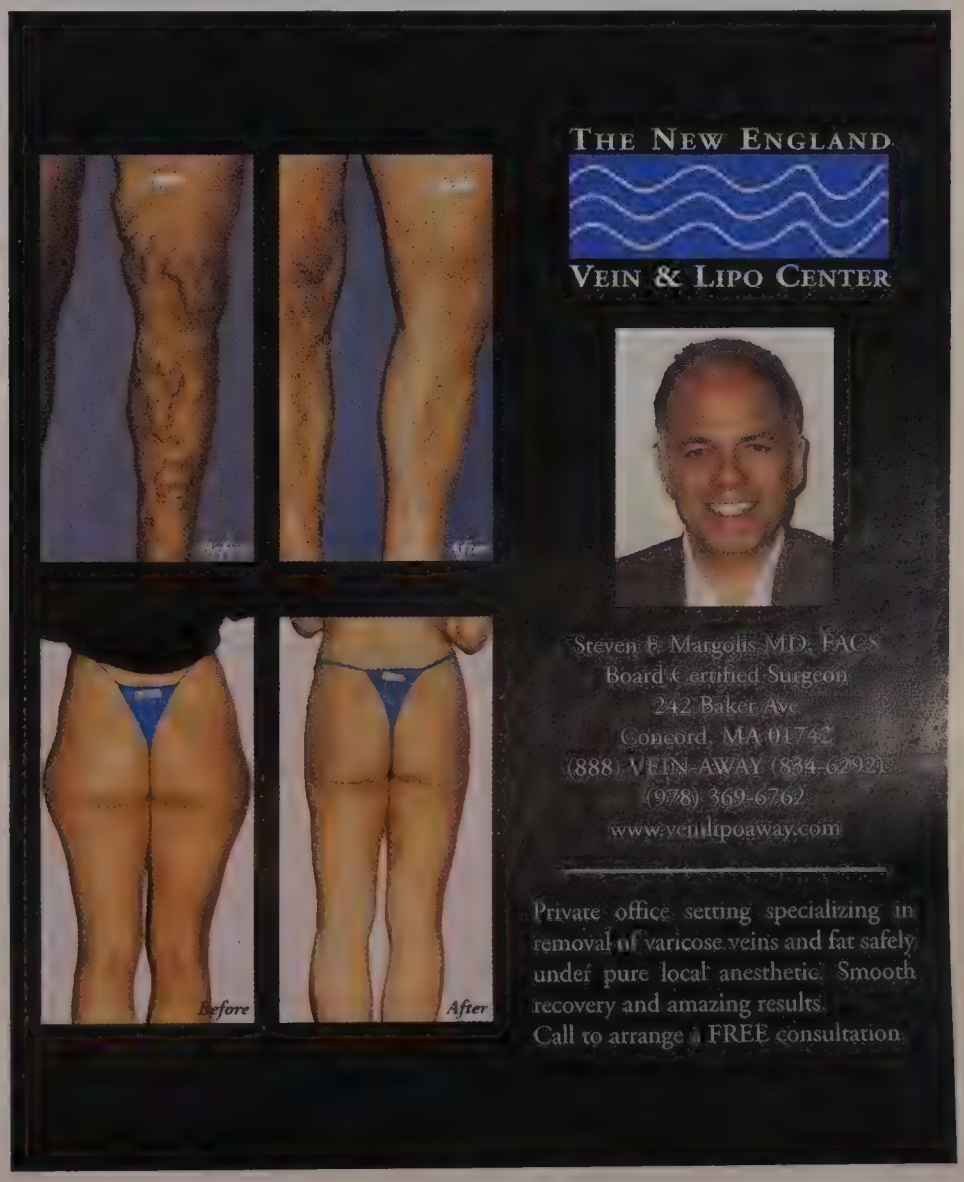


gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games, plus regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
Sanctuary. 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door, $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Felt (Thursdays)
533 Washington St., Boston (617-851-2506). www.tribenightclub.org. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am. $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2am, 19+.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Flesh, Xmortis, Fantasy Factory and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

MNBL 20th Benefit Show
Mass. College of Art, Tower Auditorium, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston. www.aac.org. MBTA: Green Line to Longwood. April 3, 6 pm. $30. PrideSports Boston's Monday Night Bowling League hosts a benefit show and raffle contests to raise money for HIV/AIDS prevention programs.

Rainbow Tribe Dance Recital
Roxbury Community College Mainstage, 1234 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-931-2787). www.rainbowtribe.org. March 31-April 3. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $15. This local dance troupe presents Destinations, a performance of original works by Adrienne T. Hawkins, Carl Alleyne and company members.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz. Visit the league Web site for more information.

PrideSports Boston's Monday Night Bowling League holds its annual benefit show at Mass. College of Art April 3.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Bar Night
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour at the Alley every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of each month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 47 Mass. Ave., Boston at Despina's Pizza. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Pride Committee
Wainwright Bank Community Room, 155 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-262-9405). www.bostonpride.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue. 6:30 pm. he Pride Committee meets every Tuesday to plan for the 2005 Boston Pride Celebration Season.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the cha lenges and joys of coming out. It meets Thursd nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge. Call f more information.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidenti place for men and women who are looking for a sa space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It mee Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidg Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–are support, information and social group for people a signed female at birth who feel that is not an accurat or complete description of their gender. Part of th FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group mee monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay mal wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This grou welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional wome 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisti cated to get together with like-minded women fo conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwahealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fen way Community Health offers a wide array of ser vices for the GLBT community, ranging from discus sions about parenting and safe-sex practices t programs addressing domestic violence and sub stance abuse. Call for more information

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT flag football league for a casua spring season, followed by a formal fall season. Al are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave. Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat., 1 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome t join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn mor about photography, socialize and meet new people a these monthly meetings. For more information, e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives fo meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail info@gaylab.org.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose or performance pieces at this open-mike event.

irlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian
'omen of Color
ımbridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. ve., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line Central. This discussion group for all ages meets ery Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

LBT Professionals Building
ɔmmunity
66-594-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome join this networking organization for GLBT ɔfessionals.

ıffan
embers of this social and networking group for ɔmen receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. r info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

quid Assets Swimming
ww.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and n. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian im team is open to both competitive and fitness immers of all ages and abilities.

ne Network/La Red
17-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. The etwork is a support group working to end abuse lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender mmunities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org more information.

ewly Diagnosed Group
l Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 17-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange ıe to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of :h month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group offers support for gay and bisexual men who have been diagsed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail ɔngtin@jri.org.

ut to Dance
17-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin d ballroom dance classes and workshops are held a gay-friendly environment.

ut TwentySomethings Boston
entysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. is social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay n, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks d their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

OZ Social
ɔonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., ston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange e to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men age 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.

body & mind

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Arlington Health and Wellness Fair

Robbins Library, 700 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-641-1102). www.arlingtonhelpingprofessionals.org. April 2, 1-4 pm. Free. Meet local Western and alternative health care professionals and receive free sample treatments and consultations.

Healing Arts Fair and Mediums Day

Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. March 26, 10 am-4 pm. $20, $15 for seniors and students. Visitors can have their aura photographed, receive spiritual readings, check out card readers, new age vendors and a book sale, and experience holistic healing.

Holistic Healing with Dr. Kam Yuen

Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. March 30, 7-9 pm. $10 suggested donation. Kung fu and tai chi grand master Kam Yuen presents his theories on healing, which combine traditional Chinese medicine with quantum field theory and focus on all levels of being: physical, mental, emotional, psychic, spiritual, ancestral, astrological, karmic and collective.

Shobu Aikido of Boston 25th Anniversary Gala

217 California St., Newton (617-332-9899). www.shobu.org. March 25, 7-11pm. $5. Join author and aikido instructor William Gleason to celebrate his 25th year of teaching aikido in Boston. This event includes aikido and Japanese weapons demonstrations, food, live music and beer.

Sweat Your Prayers Dance Jam

Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). www.dancingoutloud.com or www.dancecomplex.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 4, 8-9:30 pm. Sliding scale, $8-11. This freestyle dance workshop features deep listening, improvisation and other exercises designed to stimulate creativity and raise the spirit. All levels welcome.

Ta Ke Ti Na: Rhythm and Trance

Cambridge Masonic Hall, 1950 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.taketina.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. April 1-3, 20.5 hours. $425, $300 for students. Developed by composer and percussionist Reinhard Flatischler, Ta Ke Ti Na is a process for exploring music through stepping, clapping, shaking a Brazilian *caxixi* rattle and using one's voice. This workshop is designed to help participants integrate emotional and rational thought and expand awareness.

Lectures

Burning Questions About the Body?

Brigham and Women's Hospital, 850 Boylston St., 4th Floor Conference Room, Chestnut Hill (866-468-4373). www.gotgerd.com. March 23, 7-9 pm. Free. This seminar, hosted by local area hospitals, is designed to educate sufferers of acid reflux and gastrointestinal-related problems.

Get Ready for Spring with Acupuncture

Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 29, 6-8 pm. Licens acupuncturist Linda Davis presents a brief talk a demonstration on how acupuncture can ease t transition from winter and help energize you for t warm weather.

Classes

Disco Pilates

Studio Elle Pilates, 1318 Beacon St., Suite 1 Brookline (617-975-0100). www.studioelle.co MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. March 3 7:30-9 pm. $25. This tough Pilates mat class is s to a disco beat, complete with disco balls a spiraling lights.

Holistic Approach to Weight Loss

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBT Green Line to Arlington. April 2, 1-4 pm. $35. In a dition to nutrition and exercise, losing weight al involves emotional, mental and spiritual comp nents. This class covers the basics of nutrition, typ of diets, use of visualization exercises, and planni a long-term approach to weight loss and goo health.

Iron Shirt Chi Kung

Healing Tao Center of Boston, 440 Somerville Ave 2nd floor, Somerville (617-628-6570). www.bost healingtao.com. March 26, 2-6 pm. $90. Original developed as a self-defense martial art, this gent practice for improving the flow of chi is intend to strengthen the internal organs and provi power and a sense of grounding.

Meditation for Those Who Can't Sit Still

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBT Green Line to Arlington. March 26, 10 am-12 pm $30. Finding enough time for meditation can be di ficult for people with an active lifestyle. Learn ho to incorporate components of meditation into coo ing, cleaning, walking and other everyday activitie

Power to Protect: Self-Defense for Beginners

Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St Brookline (781-405-1248). www.powerboston.co MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. April 4, 6:3 7:30 pm. $12. This personalized defense training a fitness program aims to help participants feel tone stronger, safer, more confident and less stressed.

Psyche and Shamanism: Bridging Two Worlds of Healing

Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circl ofwisdom.com. March 25, 7-9 pm. $15. Author A Drake discusses shamanic healing practices and us experiential exercises to help participants learn shift their awareness to a "shamanic state of co sciousness."

Self-Hypnosis

Women's Center for Wellness, Milford (508-47 4244). www.womenscenterforwellness.org. March 2 7-8:30 pm. $15-20. A certified hypnotherapi teaches how to create positive thinking a subconscious suggestions for reducing stres sleeping better, losing weight and more.

Sound Pod: Healing with Music

West Somerville (617-628-1018). www.avtara.co March 27, 7:30-9 pm. Donation requested. (Please c ahead for exact location.) Explore intuitive soundin toning in the chakras, chanting and singing fro the heart as part of a group musical experien designed to be joyful and healing. All leve welcome.

Venturesome Vegetarian Cooking

Whole Foods Market, 255 Hartfo Ave., Bellingham (508-966-3331 www.wholefoodsmarket.com. Mar 26, 9:30 am. $5. (Register by Mar 24.) Learn some new flavors fro Michelle Hirsch, cookbook auth and food writer for the holist health magazine *Spirit of Change*.

Retreat

Spring Wellness Retreat

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 84 Sandwich Road, East Falmouth (508 420-5301). www.spirithaven.com March 26, 9:30 am-4:30 pm. $4 Join author and meditation teach Ruth Fishel along with yoga an qigong teacher Joel Conrad for day of relaxation, renewal an revitalizing.

sports

dvice to Contributors

ubmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Cal-ndar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@mproper.com. Include address, phone number, subway op, dates and times, and a brief description of the league event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone nd must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

oston Celtics
FleetCenter, Boston
ickets: 617-931-2000
larch 25, 7:30 pm vs. Chicago Bulls
larch 30, 7 pm vs. Dallas Mavericks
pril 3, 6 pm vs. Philadelphia '76ers

Events

larlem Globetrotters
eetCenter, Boston. (617-931-2000). www.fleetcenter.m. March 26, 1 and 7:30 pm. $16-$125. The clown inces of basketball return to the FleetCenter for vo games' worth of shorts-dropping, confetti-rowing hijinks.

To Play

USTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

oston Demons
17-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club eks new players for nine-a-side competition.

ASEBALL

lenry's Baseball
'81-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

ASKETBALL

oston Ski & Sports Club
17-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basket-ll for players at all levels. Leagues exist in Water-wn, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and dividuals are welcome.

ambridge Racquet and Fitness Club CRFC)
17-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-und leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

orporate Basketball League
'81-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one omen's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, ewton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

lever Too Late Basketball
'81-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of l ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

OXING

oston Sport Boxing Club
25 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). ww.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red ne to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers lympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

ODGEBALL

oston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
17-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodge-ll teams.

RFC Dodgeball
17-491-8989). Now accepting players and teams for a dgeball league. Games at CRFC in Kendall Square.

NDURANCE TRAINING

eam in Training
00-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This or-nization provides fund-raising athletes with oup training and support, personalized coaching nd guaranteed race entry for events.

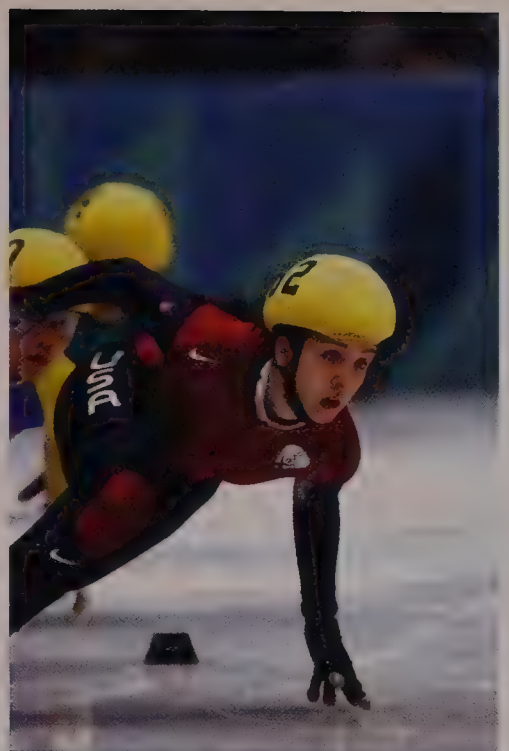
ENCING

ay State Fencers
1 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-01). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers ncing and stage combat programs.

oston Fencing Club
0-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). ww.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and turdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

LAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

SSC Football
agues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.



Learn to speedskate with the Bay State Speedskating Club.

bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480) www.baystateskatingschool.org. Classes for adults and kids at 14 rinks around the city.

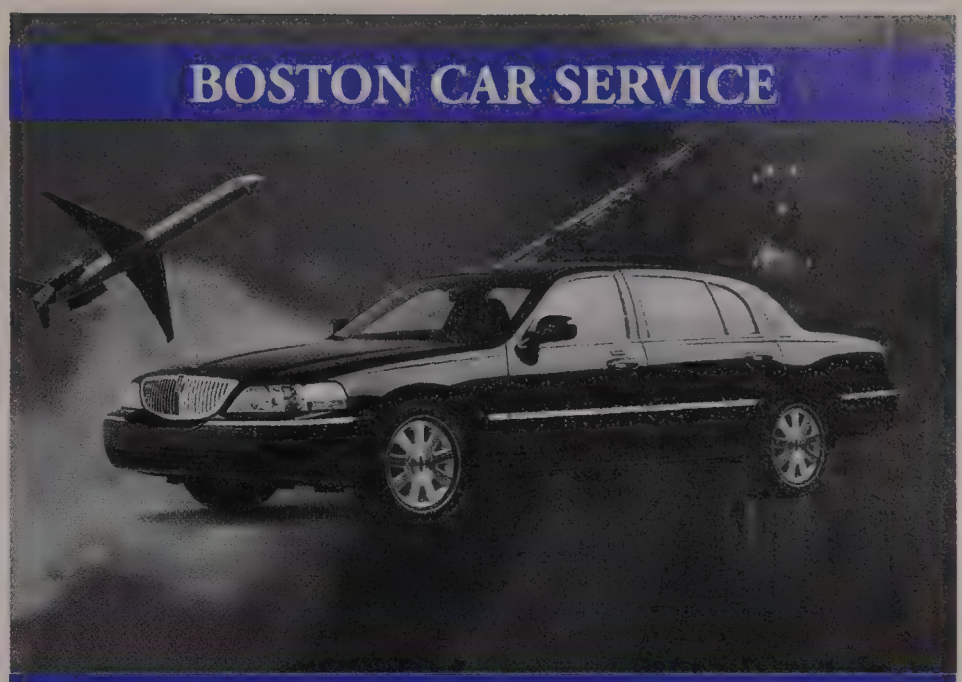
Bay State Speedskating Club
(508-697-9942) www.speedskaters.org/bssc.html. Skate competitively or take lessons. Beginners welcome.

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Members have access to a ski lodge and can participate in ski and snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. This amateur, folk-style wrestling group is open to all skill levels.



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children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Anne of Green Gables

McCormack Hall, UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to UMass/JFK. $10-$22. •April 9,10,16,17,20,21, 22 and 23, 2 pm: Boston Children's Theatre presents a musical adaptation of Lucy Maud Montgomery's novel about the adventures of foster child Anne.

Big Apple Circus: Picturesque

Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (800-922-3772). www.bigapplecircus.org. MBTA: Red Line to UMass/JFK. $13-$53. •April 2-May 8 (see Web site for show times). Big Apple Circus' 27th season features jugglers, horses, acrobats, trapeze artists and more.

Footloose

Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-6467). www.bu.edu/tsai. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. $7.•March 25, 8 pm; March 26, 2 and 8 pm. The BU student troupe On Broadway presents a musical based on the hit 1980s film.

Peter Pan

Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-922-3772) www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $13-$53.•March 29-31, 7 pm; April 3, 6:30 pm. Tony Award nominee Cathy Rigby stars in the classic musical based on James M. Barrie's story.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •March 23 & 24, 10:30 am: "Friendly Forest Folktales" by Romper Rhythm Puppets. •March 26, 1 pm: "Bingo the Circus Dog" by Paul Vincent Davis. •March 30 & 31, 10:30 am: "A Spring Surprise" by Blue Moon Puppets. •April 2 & 3, 1 pm and 3 pm: Spring Valley Puppet Theatre presents "Puss in Boots." Recommended for ages 4-9.

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours

Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm. Tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet

Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10am; Sun. 2 pm, $8. This child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail is designed for kids ages 6 to 12.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Free. •April 1, 10:15 am. Children ages 3 to 7 are invited to attend Kids Cinema in the Rabb Lecture Hall.

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge. •Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting and more. •Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm. Pint-Sized Science offers scientific exploration for preschoolers.•Thurs., 11:30-1:30 pm. Kids adapt their favorite books into plays during StoryBook Theatre on the KidStage. •Daily, 10 am-12 pm and 1-3 pm, PlaySpace offers a messy activity for children up to age 3.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •March 26, 11 am. Staff members read children's Easter stories. Snacks and craft activities follow.

Harvard Museum of Natural Histor

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). ww hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harva •March 26, 9 am-5 pm. The Mineral Madness Fa ily Festival is an interactive exhibition explor gems and minerals. •April 2, 9-11 am. Hands-on tivities and stories teach kids about baby anim •April 2, 9 am-12 pm. "On the trail with Lewis Clark" investigates the explorers' expedit through interactive exhibits.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). ww icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. adult and one child, $4 each additional child, • A 2, 10 am-12:30 pm. In an interactive event for fa lies, artist Cori Champagne teaches kids how to m Polaroid Transfers.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). htt web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kend Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; a 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free. (F admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holog phy, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring t world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoi •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artific intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Mod The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship mod from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-930 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museu •Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm. The Children's Room an interactive learning environment that enco ages children ages 6-12 to take a closer look at t museum's collection. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30-4:30 p ages 5 and under. Books Bring Art Alive i hands-on activity that introduces children to t museum's collection through literature. •Sa Sun., 11 am-4 pm, ages four and up. Family Pla and Drop-In Drawing include gallery activiti puzzles and drawing lessons. Materials provid •March 30, 4:30-6:30 pm. Teen-to-Teen A Talks: Latin Roots. Teen visitors take part i guided conversation about the MFA's collectio A performance by the Huntington Theatre Co pany follows.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.m org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Su 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11 seniors, $ children. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior a calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •Four hundr butterflies and the scent of flower blossoms welco guests to the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. •*I nosaurs* showcases the museum's collection of nosaur models. Ongoing. •*Playing with Time* e plores technology that detects and manipula time. Through April 21. •*Making Models* is an i teractive exhibition that features models of a wa tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. C going. •Science in the Park is a permanent pla ground with a scientific spin. •*Mapping the Wo Around Us* explores the evolution of maps. Ong ing. •*Forces of Nature, Amazing Journeys and M tery of the Nile* show at the IMAX Theatre. •*Ca Bugs!* is a new 20-minute 3D movie presentation the Wright Theater. Ongoing. •*Mission to Saturn* the Planetarium shows the Cassini spacecraft as makes a dangerous journey toward one of Satur most mysterious moons. Ongoing.•*Countdown Supernova* is a planetarium show that illustrates t ways stars meet their demise, including the specta ular explosions called supernovas. Ongoing.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.ne org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 a 5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; senio $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* featu thousands of jellyfish. Continues through 200 •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contai sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuring sea sta hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •*Aliens of the De* plays in 3D at the IMAX Theatre.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www. newton.ma.us/library. •Wednesdays through Mar 30, 4 pm, kindergartners and first-graders. In t Arms of the Starfish explores nature through acti ties and stories. •Thursday, March 24, 4:15 pm. T Fun with Folktales Clothing is a program that e plores the theme of clothing in world folkta through craft-making.•Mon. and Tue., 10:30 a Wed., 9:45 am, age 2; Thu., 9:45 am, ages 2 an Wed., 10:30 am, age 3; Mon., 3:30 pm, ages 3 and Wed., 2 pm and Thu., 3:30 pm, ages 4 and 5; Thu pm, ages 4 and up. Library staff read from vario children's stories for Storytime.

around town

Sights to See

oston University Observatory
oit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-53-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. m clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-pt., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

hildren's Museum
0 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-26-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 n - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 n, $1. The new *Think Tank* exhibit allows visi-rs to solve riddles, play brain games and explore tical illusions.

aneuil Hall
5 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue ne to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 n-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. ee.

larvard Museum of Natural History
5 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.nnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. on.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, , children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

ohn F. Kennedy Library & Museum
olumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: d Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; se-ors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

lount Auburn Cemetery
30 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). BTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

luseum of Afro-American History
5 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam useum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park reet. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat.,) am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

luseum of Science
ience Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. g. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-bm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, 1.

luseum of Transportation
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-n., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

ew England Aquarium
entral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. g. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: on.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-pt. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. 5.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

ld North Church
3 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

ld State House Museum
6 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: range or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, iors and students, $4; children, $1.

rudential Center Skywalk
0 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: reen Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. .50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; chil-n under 3, free.

rinity Church
6 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: reen Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; chil-n 12 and under, free.

SS Constitution & Museum
harlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.sconstitutionmuseum.org. Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 -5 pm; May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm. Free.

Volunteer

FC Mentoring Program
17-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a ter-care child.

IDS Action Committee
17-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with V/AIDS.

merican Cancer Society
17-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer pa-nts to their local treatment appointments.

merican Red Cross of assachusetts Bay
17-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volun-er in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

PHOTO BY R.E.HERGERT

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rockie horoscope

MARCH 23 – APRIL 5, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

ARIES MARCH 20–APRIL 19

So much for taking care of business; now that your Mars ruler has left prudent, productive Capricorn, it's time to take care of your friends. Commitment to social or environmental issues can increase dramatically while Mars travels through improvement-oriented Aquarius for the next six weeks. If, during the couple-centered Libra full moon, you feel overly romantic, thank Venus' problem-free attraction to Mars. Because the love goddess is in Aries for three weeks only, make hay and whoopee while you can.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Your outlook should brighten considerably now that your Venus ruler has risen from the depths of Piscean emotionalism. During its three-week trip through fiery Aries, you'll be more passionate about your likes and dislikes. A healthy dose of self-assuredness should compensate for the martyr mode you just went through, but beware of becoming arrogant or behaving like a bully. Arian energy can be rough-and-tumble and not at all concerned with keeping the peace. Step over the line as the month ends and the gods are sure to intervene.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Your social life gets a shot in the arm while the outgoing Aries sun, amiable Venus and your curious Mercury ruler, retrograde though it may be, converge around the conference and coffee tables. Old acquaintances tend to show up during retrograde sessions. However, this time they could appear en masse, and with information and advice that you might not think you need, but will come in handy soon enough. Concern over a partnership matter could vanish as the month ends and secretive Pluto in your marriage house turns retrograde.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

After spending the winter hibernating in retrograde, strict Saturn in your sign turns direct for spring. From now until mid July, when it finally leaves Cancer, the planet of responsibility and consistency intends to drum lesson after lesson into Crabs born in mid July. The others have already been pummeled into awareness or else into submission. What each Moon Child should look for now is a change in your approach to career matters, a willingness to boldly go where you haven't been before, no matter what it costs.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

The charm is practically irresistible, the research impressive. While your sun ruler is infused with Arian firepower, it'll be hard to play it safe. Whether you're preparing to set off on an adventure or investigating an investment opportunity, other people and their assets will figure prominently in your decisions. Wait until the sun and informative Mercury meet on the 29th before finalizing your choices; if there are papers to sign, better wait until Mercury comes out of retrograde on April 12.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Like Leo, considering an important decision involving other people and their resources could be uppermost in your mind. Experience shows that while your Mercury ruler is retrograde, the information you get may be questionable or, at the very least, likely to be revised after Mercury turns direct. However, you're not simply spinning your wheels or retracing your steps. These weeks won't be wasted because retrograde periods stop smart-alecks from moving too quickly and taking things for granted. Safe and slow is the way to go.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

The gifts—be they material goodies, a choice opportunity or a promise—you received around your birthday will soon command your attention again. It starts with the Libra full moon on the 25th; the next week, as the Aries sun zooms in on Jupiter in your sign, the fortunate position you're in will be illuminated for all to see. Knowing this, you may want to control some of your more generous impulses before significant others—both allies and foes—figure out how they can benefit from your largesse.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

You're currently in a different kind of pleasure zone, where laid-back, laissez-faire attitude can produce better results than that simmering Scorpionic stare. Loosening up should be easier once your powerful Pluto co-ruler turns retrograde on the 26th. You'll probably become less obsessed about money matters, less determined to resolve them to your satisfaction only. Mars, your other ruling planet, in airy Aquarius is already lightening your load, particularly some family baggage you've been hauling around.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Stringent Saturn turning direct in your house of other people's money—e.g., insurance, inheritance, investments—indicates that more of it will soon be flowing your way. Pluto turning retrograde in Sagittarius for five months should ease up on intentions to reform your wicked wicked ways. The full moon in Libra activates the far-reaching influence your Jupiter ruler has on colleagues and club members. Benign and benevolent is what to expect over the next few weeks, culminating, if you're not careful, in another bout of wretched excess.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Your Saturn ruler's flip out of retrograde is reason enough to celebrate all things new and stimulating. After five months looking backward, enough cozy domesticity! Bring in a few tasty additions to family life or other close liaisons. Just make sure that you don't start (although you could plan) a kitchen makeover during Mercury retrograde. And make sure that cockeyed idealism doesn't derail long-range financial goals. Right now, subtle shifts in the astrological climate can make for shaky ground; not a good omen for an earth sign.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

The well-balanced Libra full moon this weekend can emphasize aspirations that have been hiding out in your higher mind. Since lifelong goals and philosophical principles rarely appear on a daily basis, you don't turn to them for guidance until you've been in a difficult situation for some time. So while three planets in Aries scurry through your money house, causing a flurry of transactions and movement around town, think about what you'd rather be doing with your life at this time in your life.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

The big, wide wonderful world could get a bit bigger as constrictive, constructive Saturn comes out of retrograde and reintroduces you to pleasures you experienced, satisfactions you enjoyed last spring and summer. Meanwhile, dominating Pluto in your Sagittarius midheaven turns retrograde for the summer and takes with it a career matter that's been bothering you. The Libra full moon focuses on other people's money and resources, and what you share, or soon will, with them. The fishing is good.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Deutsch Girl Come Home!

You came to Boston and stole all three of our hearts. Now the city, and our apartment, is empty without you. We are still finding your long blonde hair on our pillows and your marzipan sweets still linger on our palates. We will never forget clinking cocktails with you high above the city at Top of the Hub, and then returning to our apartment for further nightcaps. Somehow during all those late nights in the lab you found the cure for our loneliness. Your love of photography has rubbed off on us, and we will never forget the intriguing pictures we've made together. We know that life is calling you elsewhere, and that the world is a big place full of things to discover, but all three of us in this small corner miss you desperately and hope to share your love once again. You know how to reach us.
—Your broken-hearted Americans in Brookline

To the Airport Denizen

Confessions: I always knew about the 40-second shortcut. I never told you because the worst part of any evening is when you leave. Also, I've often wished that the last thing I heard every day was your voice. And the only reason why I told you I would move to NYC is because, above all else, I can't stand the thought of losing you. I'm not really into labeling things, but the feeling I have for you is precious, beautiful and fragile. I need to let this go, just be the normal friend you want, and so, I am being a coward, doing it like this because I absolutely dread the outcome. It is what it is. If you have nothing to add then let it be.
—The Park Denizen

To the One I Love

You own my heart like I thought no one ever could. I start and finish my day thinking of you. Staring at my favorite picture (the one from New Orleans) Saturday: You rescued me from hell, pulled me to heaven. Knowing all along you love me and want me forever, you have seen the progress I've made. Just as I have seen yours. We are so close. Please help me with the last step. Pull me out of this state of limbo I am now in. Pull me back to heaven and into your loving arms. Each day can and will be better than the last. Don't be afraid. I love you K. PS.: it's nice to know I own yours too.
—Michael

To Whom It May Concern

How and where do you meet single guys in Boston? I have been single for a year now and have met nothing but jerks! My ex-boyfriend of five years moved to NYC a year ago to pursue a "modeling career" and now he's back in Boston and wants me back! What's a girl to do? I'm beautiful, fun and full of life.
—SB

To the Patient with Patience

On behalf of my friends, I'd like to apologize for upsetting you the night of March 2 at MGH. You shared a room with my friend and the four of us apparently bothered you so much that you needed to complain to the head nurse. Our intentions were good—we wanted to put a smile on our friend's face while she endured her hospital stay. What were your intentions? You didn't address the situation while we were there—you complained when you checked out. The result? Our friend got reprimanded because we came to visit. Well done. On top of having to spend a few more days in the hospital, she had to feel embarrassed for getting reprimanded like we were talking in study hall. And all because she happened to be put in a room with a spoiled brat. I want you to know that I am praying for a speedy recovery if, for no other reason, than so that no one needs to share a room with you at the hospital.
—The Venting Visitor

To the Nazi on the Red Line from Central Square to Park Street

It was around 8:15 am on March 3. Frank, do you feel like a worthless non-entity and want to vent your pathetic frustration by proclaiming that you hate Jews and "want to kill them all"? When you told your two buddies your ghastly and violent views, mocking the victims of Holocaust, were you intentionally raising your voice to shout to the world "Here I am, saying all these nasty things, and you can't do a thing about it!" or are you just plainly too stupid to have any sense in your rotting brain? Your abysmal stupidity and vulgarity truly reflect the depth of savagery to which only a human being can sink.
—Appalled Observer

To the Man with the Sweetest Lips

I wanted you to know how much I enjoyed meeting you, though it was too brief. My friends were going to Sissy K's when we met you in front of Dunkin's on Commercial Street. It was extremely kind of you to escort us into the taxi. I thanked you then with a kiss and we waved goodbye. I didn't want our evening to end there and wanted to go to the Harp. So, I pray you read this and hopefully I'll have that opportunity again.
—jafusa4475@yahoo.com

BC Game

You were at the BC hockey game, March 11 and you were wearing a black coat and a green hat. You were with a friend wearing a brighter green Red Sox hat. I was the tall redhead working the concession stand and you came back three times! I'm hoping to hear back from you!
—twiztednkrzy@prodigy.net

No. 9

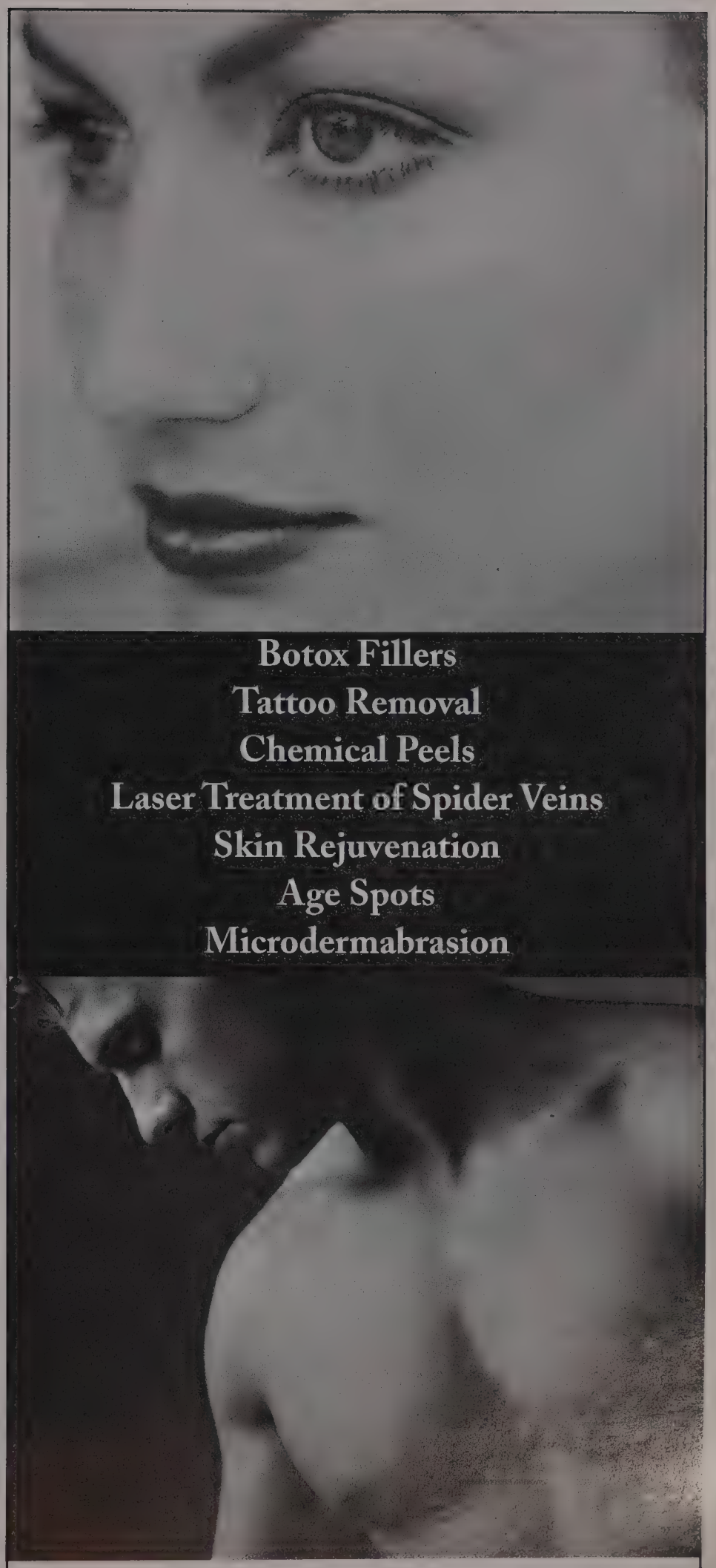
I used to see you and your boyfriend (ex?) on the No. 9 in the morning from Southie. You always looked so happy and were always laughing. Now I see you get on at different stops, or not at all—and I wonder what happened. If you're single, and reading this, please respond. He's a fool for letting you go, and someone needs to tell him he looked better with the goatee. You: late 20s, curly dark hair and eyes, dimples, medium height, beige coat, pink fuzzy hat—usually reading. Me: 31, blonde hair, green eyes, six feet tall, black peacoat, grey hat, glasses, reading the *Herald*, get off at the Tremont stop. Give me the chance to make you laugh like he did in the mornings.
—breakuponthenine@gmail.com

Orange Line Boy

You: a boy in a gray jacket and boots sitting on an Orange Line train March 12. You got off at Downtown Crossing. Me: a boy in a black pea coat, brown pants and brown shoes. Did we make eye contact?
—Riddle722@aol.com

I Lost a Redhead

I met you, Mike, a tall redhead, at Vox Feb. 23. You're sexy, have a great smile and blue eyes to die for. We talked for a little while and then I lost you at closing. I'm Cindy, the girl from New York, the model with black hair and green eyes. You told me my eyes are dreamy. Where are you? Where did you go? I can't stop thinking about you. You're a sweet guy with a great attitude and there aren't many men like that around. You're from Rhode Island but you said you're moving to Boston soon to open a tanning salon. It will make me so sad if I never see you again, so since I don't have an e-mail address yet, please meet me at Vox. I'll find you there on a Saturday. I wanted to get your number so bad; shame on me for not doing so.
—Cindy



IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP.

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Texas congressman Al Green reads up on this "snowboarding" phenomenon. Also, this "snow" phenomenon.

James Riggio (left) prepares to go on a killer whale watching trip with some new friends in Vancouver, British Columbia. Killer whale watches are different from regular ones in that you wear an orange suit and get eaten.

Christian Flynn and Dan Schutt stopped at Halong Bay in the South China Sea, off the coast of Vietnam. They're not sure how far away that is, but it sure took Halong time to get there.

David Joe Willis stands before the 1,483-foot-tall Petronas Twin Towers in Malaysia. David himself is 359 feet tall.

Gabrielle Boulton and Carrie McPherson ride an Indian elephant up the Semantan River in Kuala Gandah, Malaysia. In Malaysia there are no boats, so people use the next best thing: elephants. For really deep rivers, they perch atop the heads of giraffes.

Pennsylvania congressman Charlie Dent is no relation to a certain Bucky of the same name. We hope...

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Seeing a man with green—no, brown eyes… No, make that a woman with blue…I mean hazel eyes at the ESP Psychic Expo & Psychics, Mystics and Seers Fair, April 22–24 in Toronto.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Friday, March 4, **Boston Harbor Hotel** hosted the 4th annual Friends Ball to benefit **Franciscan Hospital for Children**.

1. **Hol Hustus**, chief operating officer of Fire and Ice; his wife, **Dianne Hustus**; and **Dustin Mevis**, design associate with Mitchell Gold.
2. **George Regan**, president of Regan Communications, and **Karen Frish** of Boston.
3. **Erin Tracy**, account manager for Regan Communications; **Peter Donohoe**, managing director of Focus Fitness; and **Leila Pejman**, intern at Regan Communications.

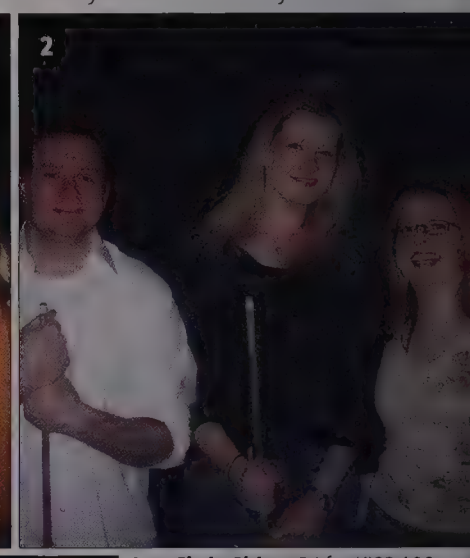
On Tuesday, March 8, the award-winning **Aujourd'hui** restaurant at the **Four Seasons Hotel Boston** hosted a new tasting event, Epicurean Evenings at Aujourd'hui. To celebrate the spacious new Bar at Aujourd'hui, Sommelier Ted Davidson and Chef de Cuisine Jérôme Legras are celebrating the casual dining atmosphere by hosting a weekly food and wine pairing.

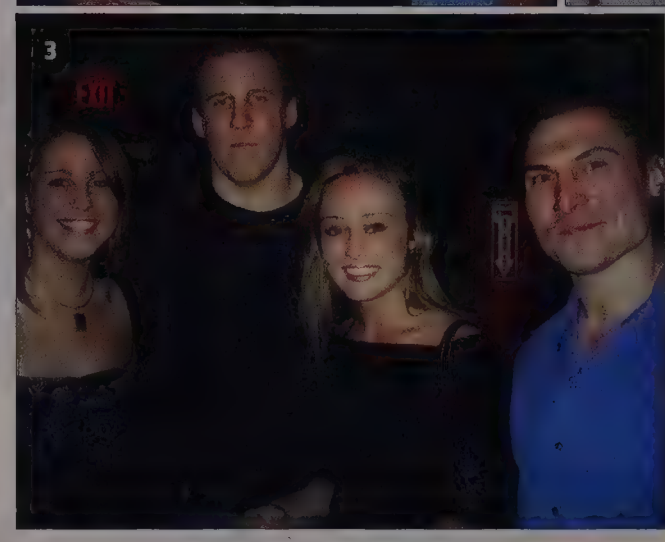
1. **Gloria Ristaino**, account executive for Mass High Tech and **Angelo Salustri**, vice president at Darwin Partners.
2. **Dan Baptiste**, account executive at Mix 98.5 FM and **Chris Poravas**, account executive for Carter/MacKay.
3. **Christina Thirkell**, director of marketing & public relations at Mutual Funds Against Cancer; **Amy Finsilver**, director of sales & special events at The Olive Group; **Brian Renaud**, vice president, business development for Darwin Partners; and **Jennifer Kinsman**, owner of J OK, Wholesale Diamonds & Exquisite Jewelry.

On Thursday, February 17, **Cambridge Innovation Center**, a community of over 100 companies in Cambridge's Kendall Square, hosted a benefit for Oxfam America's Tsunami Relief. The event, Boston-Cambridge Lends a Hand, included such sponsors as **The Glass Factory Condominiums**, **Morse**, **Barnes-Brown & Pendleton**, **Shakers Original American Vodka** and **Harpoon Brewery**.

1. **Mark McGonagle**, financial consultant at Smith Barney; **Rob Nickerson**, consultant at Siebel Systems; and **Jason Reuben**, founder of Orion Enterprises Corp.
2. **Stephen Powers**, consultant with Cornerstone Technology Inc.; **Kristen Uekermann**, marketing coordinator at Nickerson PME; and **Ben Ferber**, president of Cornerstone Technology Inc.
3. **Dr. Susannah Rowe** of Boston Medical Center; **Ian Barkin**, managing director at Financial Atoms; **Timothy Rowe**, CEO of Cambridge Innovation Center; and **Kevin Lewis**, marketing coordinator at Glass Factory Condominiums.

On Thursday, March 10, **Felt** celebrated it's three-year anniversary.





1. **Chris Shine**, DJ for KISS 108, **Megan Prypin,** hostess at Felt; **Steve Scotford**, principal for Commonwealth Property Fund; ar **Kasey Harnedy,** bartender at Fe
2. **Matt Rich**, account executive at Boston Event Guide; **Katrina Ewton**, marketing manager at 33 and **Kellie Innocenti**, assistant broadcast manager at Filene's.
3. **Laura Harrison**, student at University of Rhode Island; **Brian Arndt**, trainer at Beacon Hill Athletic Club; **Alexandra White**, student at Boston College; and **Acea Theroux**, trainer at Boston Athletic Club.

PHOTOS: BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL, FELT, JULIE KANE; FOUR SEASONS HOTEL BOSTON, DANA D' ALFONSO; CAMBRIDGE INNOVATION CENTER, NICKERSON PM

Rated
The #1 Tasting Vodka In The World.

In 1998, the Beverage Testing Institute of Chicago conducted a blind taste test of more than 40 vodkas. They awarded points based on smoothness, nose, and most importantly, taste. Of all the vodkas, Grey Goose® Vodka emerged victorious, receiving 96 points out of a possible 100.

Founded in 1981, the Beverage Testing Institute conducts tests in a specially designed lab that minimizes external factors and maximizes panelists' concentration. The Institute selects judges based on their expertise, and its tasting and scoring procedures are widely praised as the best in the industry.

Score	Vodka
96	**GREY GOOSE® VODKA**
94	Canadian Iceberg Vodka
93	Stolichnaya Gold Vodka
92	Staraya Moskva Premium
91	Van Hoo Vodka
91	Stolichnaya Vodka
90	Tanqueray Sterling Vodka
90	Rain 1995 Harvest Vodka
89	Ketel One Vodka
88	Wyborowa Vodka
87	Kremlyovskaya Vodka
86	Finlandia Vodka of Finland
86	Alps French Vodka
85	Skyy Vodka
82	Original Polish Vodka
82	Glenmore Special
82	Fleischmann's Royal Vodka
81	Mr. Boston Vodka
80	Pole Star Vodka
80	Luksusowa Potato Vodka
80	Absolut Vodka

NOTE: THIS REPRESENTS A SAMPLING OF THE 40 VODKAS TESTED
SOURCE: (BTI) BEVERAGE TESTING INSTITUTE INC.

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RESTAURANTS

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 year in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

CLERYS *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty.Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

LUCKY'S LOUNGE *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

SCIENCE STREET CAFÉ *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

TURNER FISHERIES RESTAURANT & BAR *10 Huntington Avenue, Boston 617-424-7425.* Turner Fisheries Restaurant & Bar is a Boston landmark offering Hall-of-Fame clam chowder and an assortment of fresh, native seafood dishes. Turner's private dining rooms are the perfect place to hold board meetings or larger social events up to 140 persons. One taste and you'll see why Turner Fisheries is Boston's premier seafood specialty restaurar Opened for lunch and dinner Monday - Satu day. Closed on Sundays.

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

BOSTON BEER WORKS *112 Canal St., ne the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Broo line Ave., across from Fenway Park, 61 536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Histor Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest ar largest restaurant brewery with 3 location Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 1 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 Amer can wines by the glass. 15 championship b liards tables at our Canal Street location. Con plete party planning capabilities. Priva Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinne Late Night. Always a good time. Check out th BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Ave Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA** *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-73 8646.* Something's always brewing at Best Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you find the largest selection on the East Coas 112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic in ports. Join our beer club and enjoy every sty of beer under the sun. Take advantage of th yards, cask conditioned beer, flight sample vintage and new beers, seasonals, mead ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experienc our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *pizza kitchen, Bee Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782 2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers o tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BI MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BAN BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retr decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6 8pm, free rooms and pool for your next part or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specia ists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come ex perience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Boston 617.350.5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to th Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed abou Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering so phisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge, hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourme dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velve booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied b live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romanti dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hi atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combine with the delicious entrees is the perfect blen to satisfy all your cravings. American Contem porary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

STADIUM – CLUBHOUSE *232 Old Colon Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Sta dium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale night club featuring two bars, a hardwood danc floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxe 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety o music and beautiful people crowding th dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. A ideal place for your next bachelor, bache lorette or birthday party.

LUB Q BOSTON *25 Union St., Boston, 17-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday irough Saturday.What nightlife in Boston as been waiting for, this state of the art ightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday irough Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top Js spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. 'ith two bars, three VIP areas and pool ta- es, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. redit cards accepted.

Comedy

HE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy larket Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. ww.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* ie Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd oor of the Quincy Market Building in the eart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven ghts a week and offers the best in local nd national comedy. During the week, the ationally renowned club offers some of oston's best comics like Kevin Knox,"The 'ildman of Comedy,"Paul Nardizzi and Don avin. On Thursday nights, Frank intos,"The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes e audience and on the weekends, this is e only place to see the biggest names in medy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, argaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane ook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

OSE MCINTYRE'S *160 Milk St., Boston 51-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican can- na is a great escape in the financial district! vo floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool ta- es upstairs and live bands downstairs!

HE PLACE *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523- 081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. ance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and e seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest ay to spend a night of all-out fun in oston's Financial District. Come after work. me to dance. Come to go wild with your ends. There's always something exciting appening – and you never know who you'll mp into. Join us and experience what the izz is all about.

HE PURPLE SHAMROCK *1 Union St., oston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great od, live entertainment and relaxing atmos- here! Menu includes American and Irish spe- alties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

HE BLACK ROSE *160 State St., Boston, 7-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub lebrates its 25th year! Considered one of e best Irish pubs in America, the menu fea- res American and Irish specialties. Live Irish usic nightly.

ENNESSY'S OF BOSTON *25 Union St., oston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authen- Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great enu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A ge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, ennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. joy live entertainment five nights a week th pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spir- ," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

REEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., ighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ire- nd with great tasting, affordable food. One the most popular nightspots in town, the reen Briar has become the area's headquar- rs for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

THE GREEN DRAGON *11 Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

MR. DOOLEY'S BOSTON TAVERN *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

THE ALLEY *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

BAR 10 *The Westin Copley Place Boston, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-424-7446.* After a long day, relax and wind down in the sophisticated style of one of Boston's most fashionable "hot spots," Bar 10, voted "Best Civilized Cocktail" by The Improper Bostonian. Enjoy creative Mediterranean cuisine with an extensive, affordable wine list, as well as a variety of specialty cocktails. Opened Monday - Friday 11:30 AM - 1:00 AM and Saturday and Sunday 12:00 PM - 1:00 AM.

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.bostonrocks.net. 21+.*Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it of-

fers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200*. Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex,Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

THE HARP *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010*. Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

HURRICANE O'REILLY'S *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161*. The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

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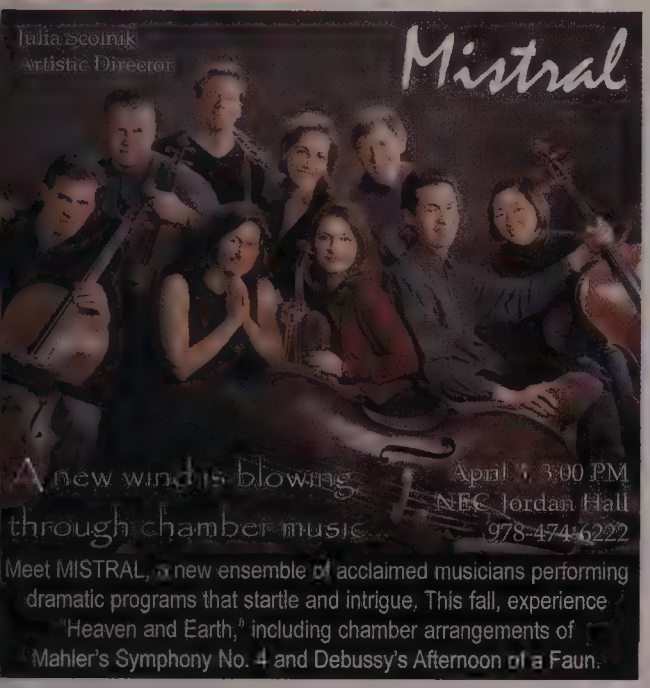

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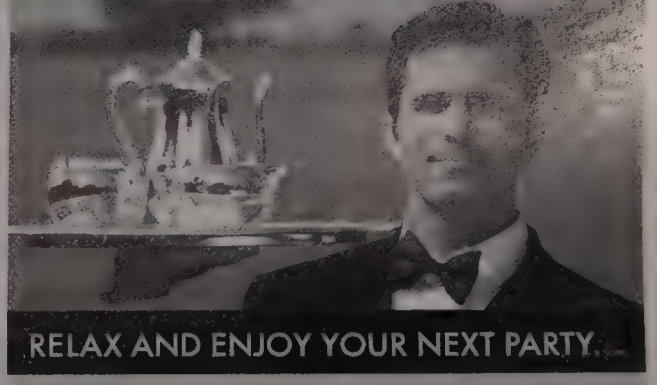

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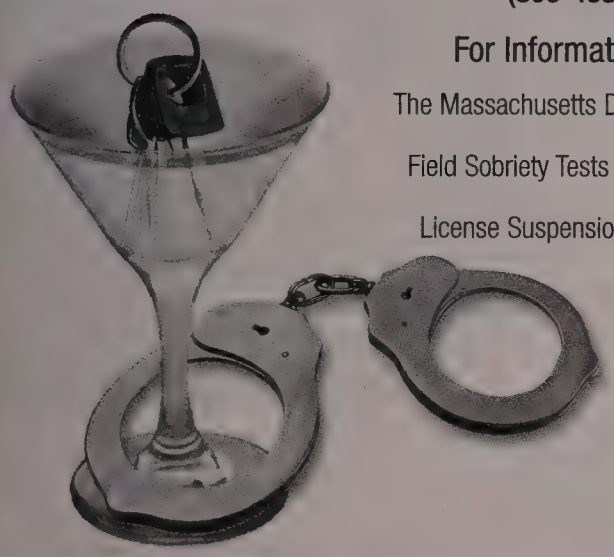

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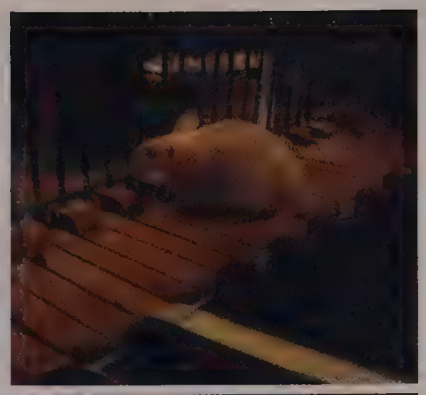
LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



At the mouse concert, top: one of the mice-icians. Middle row: Chet Krentzman and Keith Lockhart; James Levine; James and Kim Taylor. Bottom: Suzy and Jack Welch.

EINE KLEINE MICE MUSIC...

Since taking over as artistic director of the **Boston Symphony Orchestra**, iconoclastic musical genius **James Levine** has promised to shake things up by presenting more undiscovered composers, previously unheard compositions and newer, experimental works.

True to his word, Levine conducted a corker of a concert for the **Keynote Society**'s annual gala, appearing onstage as the only human, surrounded by Lucite instruments containing little white mice, which scurried around, haphazardly playing a world premiere by the Korean child prodigy **Yo Ma-Ma** (who lives in Cambridge, like all geniuses).

Spotted in the audience (and seen covering their ears at some of the shrill parts) were such staunch Symphony supporters as pop icon **James Taylor** and his stunning wife, **Kim**; acoustics avatar and mega-philanthropist **Leo Beranek** and the tres chic **Gabriella**; gazillionaires **Ray** and **Maria Stata**; corporate deity **Jack Welch** and wife **Suzy**; Aerosmith bassist **Tom Hamilton** and his wife, **Terry**; American Repertory Theatre scamp **Gideon Lester**; BSO cutie **Alexander Steinbeis**; Back Bay philanthropists **Bert** and **Rosalie Cohen**; Symphony stalwarts **Joanne** and **Charles Dickinson** and **Chet** and **Farla Krentzman**, and just about every other music lover within a 50-mile radius.

Despite the PETA protesters picketing out front, the evening unfolded smoothly, and following the performance, a reception was held in **Higginson Hall**, where cheese (naturally) was served, and reactions to the concert were mixed. "Musical sewage," concluded one patron, while *Boston Globe* critic **Richard Dyer** was overheard describing it as, "the ultimate expression of the human spirit...performed by rodents, of course."

However, the last word came from snappy, crackling Pops conductor **Keith Lockhart**, who joked, "The Pops musicians better watch out—those mice were so good I may replace some of the orchestra with them."

MARY, MARY, QUITE CONTRARY...

Spring never seems to get here quickly enough, which is why the **New England Faux Flower Show**, held at the **World Trade Center Boston**, is such a breath of fresh (albeit manmade) air.

Amid lush displays of AstroTurf, guests nibbled unidentifiable and unpalatable hors d'oeuvres, sipped cheap chardonnay, and oohed and aahed over the elaborate displays of rubber orchids and plastic roses boasting lifelike aphids and the latest in dust-repelling technology.

Seen milling about: gardening maven **Hilda Morrill**; former poet laureate **Robert Pinsky**; best-selling author **Susan Orlean** and her husband, **John Gillespie**; TV legend **Rex Trailer**; Channel 5 anchors **Liz Brunner** and **Anthony Everett**; their Channel 4 counterparts, **Lisa Hughes** and **Sarah Underwood**; interior design guru **Duncan Hughes** (who said, "fake everything is very in this year"); PR powerhouse **Kate Shamon** and her husband, **Andy Rushford**; and event-planning glamazon **Susan Callendar**.

The show's winner for most zen-like display went to a green plastic watering can for a fake Chinese rubber plant, but the highlight was undoubtedly a gigantic (if slightly hideous) bouquet created by newly sprung convict **Martha Stewart**, which demonstrated just how much you can achieve with a glue gun and a cellblock's worth of helpers.

Unfortunately, an otherwise perfect evening was marred by a mechanical Venus flytrap that bit the finger off Barbie-like do-gooder **Nicole Alsarraf**, but a speedy response by EMTs got her to the hospital in time to reattach the finger, and when last we checked, she was resting comfortably, surrounded by fake flowers sent by friends and family.

At the New England Faux Flower Show: Duncan Hughes examines Martha Stewart's bouquet; John Gillespie and Susan Orlean.

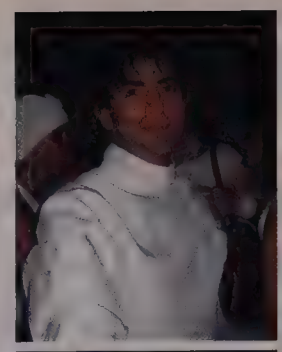
BEST-DRESSED LIST...

Boston has always been a fashion backwater, and what with the current craze for makeover TV shows, a group of civic-minded pre-plastic-surgery socialites got together and invited top fashion designers **Marc Jacobs**, **Ralph Lauren** and **Michael Kors** to come to town and give frumpy Bostonians a fashion facelift.

The evening, held at **Saks Fifth Avenue**, began with an avant-garde fashion show by the three designers. Present and accounted for: blonde kewpie doll **Courtney Forrester**; the gorgeous **Allison O'Neill Fishoeder**; lovable prepsters **Charlie** and **Betsy Gifford**; Patriots owner **Bob Kraft**, his son **Jonathan**, with wife **Patty**; **Manny** and **Juliana Ramirez** (toting **Manny Jr.**); Red Sox owners wives **Peggy Henry** and **Stacey Lucchino**; international playboy and Duran Duran frontman **Simon LeBon**; auto gazillionaire **Ernie Boch Jr.** and others too poorly dressed and badly accessorized even to notice.

Following the fashion show was a Q&A session during which Jacobs predicted this year's trend as "the total-body condom," while Lauren offered practical advice on living the good life, including the following suggestion: "Why not line your bathtub with chinchilla?"

"This is asinine," sniffed one Brahmin grande dame. "If Jimmy Choo's so goddamned smart, why didn't he invent the Bean boot?"



At the Saks fashion show, clockwise from top left: Marc Jacobs; Ricky and Ralph Lauren; Michael Kors and David Waters; Manny Ramirez and Manny Jr.; Peggy Henry and Stacey Lucchino; Simon LeBon.

PLEASE PASS THE PILLOW...

Once again, the **Sheraton Tara** played host to the **National Narcolepsy and Related Disorders Dinner Dance**, which this year, appropriately enough, featured a Sleeping Beauty theme.

The odd assortment of attendees included **Mayor Menino**; the **Hat Sisters**; bachelor playboy **Caesar Belbel**; former pro wrestler and Minnesota governor **Jesse Ventura**; former secretary of state **Alexander Haig**; and former *Baywatch* hunk **David Chokachi**, to name a few.

As if the dinner of vulcanized rubbery chicken and overcooked vegetables wasn't boring enough, the speeches went on for what seemed like an eternity, and by the time coffee was served, half the room, not surprisingly, had nodded off in their desserts.

Oh, by the way...April Fools! IB

At the Narcolepsy and Related Disorders party: Alexander Haig and Jesse Ventura.

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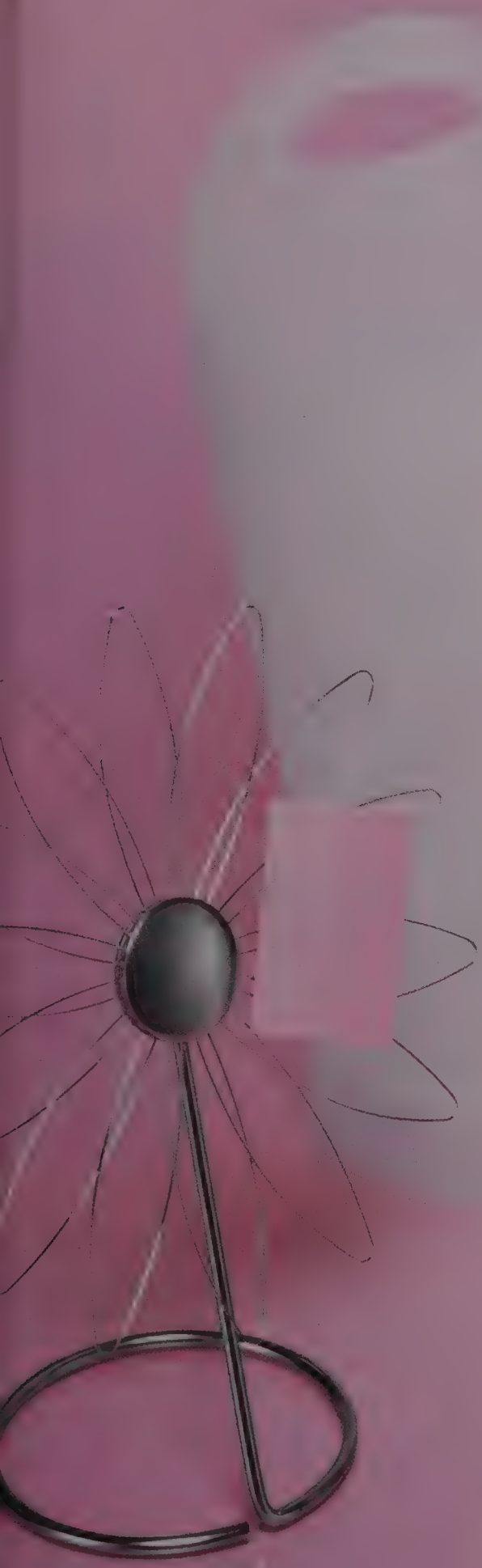

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Peter (left) and Bobby Farrelly

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

A FAN'S FANTASY

We've long pursued filmmakers Peter and Bobby Farrelly to pose for our cover, so we couldn't be happier that they agreed to do it just as *Fever Pitch*, their much-talked-about romantic comedy about a Red Sox fanatic, hits theaters—and baseball season opens. In our feature "There's Something About Fenway," the brothers, who grew up in Rhode Island and now live in Massachusetts, talk to writer Paul Sherman about making the film, and remaking its ending after the Sox clinched the championship.

When baseball season starts, swimsuit weather isn't far behind. The rest of this issue will help you shape up to look good on the beaches—and in the bleachers.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

RAISING THE BAR

I enjoyed your Boston's Beloved Bartenders issue (March 23). You missed someone, however: Eddie McGuire in the upstairs bar at the Langham Hotel (formerly Le Meridien). He's been serving 'tinis there forever. If you don't know him, you should. Great issue, though. Keep it up!

—JOHN WATTS
Boston

I respectfully suggest that your Boston's Beloved Bartenders cover model, Ms. Sharon Cannava, be given some sort of special recognition for her capabilities as a bartender. A closer examination of the cover photograph will reveal her unique ability to defy gravity and pour her cocktail upwards. For this alone, Ms. Cannava deserves special recognition.

—DEREK TOBIN
Dorchester

A PLAYER WITH HEART

I'm writing in response to Chris Collins' column about Tedy Bruschi ("Dampening Spring," March 9). It was THE BEST! I still have goose bumps as I'm getting ready to mail it to my son (one of four), who moved from Boston to Alexandria, Va., last December. We are all such Bruschi fans, and Collins' article was just so moving—thank you for really nailing it! I'm 61 years old, and have never done this sort of thing before. But you moved me to tears.

—JEAN BIANCHI
Natick

I really enjoyed Chris Collins' column on Tedy Bruschi. It summed up exactly why I am such a Bruschi fan—from his unwavering dedication to his family and his loyalty to Boston and its media, to his overall nice-guy-ness. Thanks for writing such an interesting piece—and I am also hoping for Tedy's full recovery.

—KAREN JARRICK
Brookline

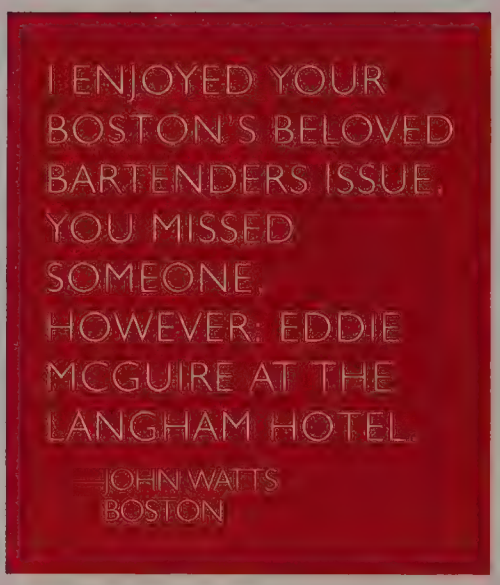
THE DAY AFTER EL MORRO

Thank you for including El Morro in San Juan, Puerto Rico, as one of your Improper Sightings in the March 9 issue.

I appreciate your tongue-in-cheek humor regarding the definition of El Morro as Spanish for "the day two days after yesterday," but there is enough misinformation regarding Puerto Rico and Puerto Ricans that I respectfully request that you clearly state that its true definition is a "promontory"—a natural elevation, especially one that juts out into the seas.

We are very proud of Castillo de San Felipe del Morro, which was constructed more than 400 years ago and was established as the San Juan National Historic Site in 1949 and declared a World Heritage Site by the United Nations in 1983.

—JOSÉ MASSÓ
REGIONAL DIRECTOR, PUERTO RICO FEDERAL AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION
Boston



Editor's Response: *Mr. Massó will be pleased to hear that the writer of that caption has been assigned to copy the sentence, "I promise not to promulgate or promote misperceptions about Puerto Rican promontories" 1,000 times on the blackboard.*

CORRECTION

In the *Boston's Beloved Bartenders* feature in the March 23 issue, we listed the wrong address for Excelsior. The correct address is 272 Boylston St.

CONTRIBUTOR

PAUL SHERMAN

IMPROPER film critic Paul Sherman has been reviewing movies for 20 years. In addition to the IMPROPER, he also reviews movies for the *Boston Herald* and DVDs for the Turner Classic Movies Web site. Formerly president of the Boston Society of Film Critics, Sherman spoke with Peter and Bobby Farrelly for this issue's cover story, "There's Something About Fenway," which begins on page 18.

BARTENDER CREDIT: PETER URBAN

Tell Us What You Think

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new in town

ALL AMERICAN

The Back Bay's stylish nouveau Indian restaurant Saffron had a lot going for it: a prime two-floor location overlooking Newbury Street, a giant outdoor patio and fine contemporary cuisine. But it never seemed to draw the crowds. So as of mid March, it's out with the old as lounge/restaurant Inq opens in the elegant space.

Its name a take on the word "incorporated," Inq is the first venture for managing partner Daniel Kaufman, who's served as manager of Abe & Louie's and McCormick & Schmick's. He's teamed up with executive chef Joshua Breen (right), formerly of Kneeland Street's News, to create what he thinks is lacking on the Newbury Street dining scene: an unpretentious lounge/restaurant serving mid-priced fare.

"I think people are getting bored with serious food," he says, "all that dark wood and the waiters in white shirts." Kaufman aims to make Inq a destination for a mainstream crowd: "We want to bring an element of fun to the street, and for people to feel comfortable, whether they make $6 an hour or $2 million a year."

You can't miss Inq's whimsical touches. If the bright decor and bubbly logo seem Disney-esque, they're supposed to. The bright red walls with blue trim are inspired by Breen's stint at the Grand Floridian hotel. (The red is for Mickey's pants; the blue for a sorcerer's hat.)

The food looks vibrant too—many menu items come stacked on oversized plates (which have shapes like triangles and hearts) and surrounded by colorful sauces. The menu is accessible, with dishes that are fully pronounceable: Maryland crab cakes ($12), a specialty house burger ($12), amaretto chicken ($18), sushi infusion ($15), pan-seared Atlantic salmon ($22) and a number of steak selections—including Breen's signature tips. Inq is also keeping Saffron's tandoori oven so Breen can use it to bake homemade twisted breads. The wine list is sizable (hovering around 50) and Kaufman says he made sure that most of the choices aren't available at any other Newbury Street restaurant.

Night owls will appreciate Inq's hours. The kitchen is open until closing time, at 1 am, and Back Bayers who sleep in on weekends will like the extended brunch hours, from 10 am–4 pm.

Looking ahead, Kaufman says he and Breen already have plans to launch two more restaurants locally—another American restaurant this year and a Japanese steakhouse next year. *279A Newbury St., Boston (617-536-9766). —E.H.*

around town

HIP-HOP EXPLOSION

You're probably aware that hip-hop has made the transition from niche musical genre to mainstream behemoth. Now, Boston's retail scene is beginning to reflect that trend. In Harvard Square, the former Second Coming record store has morphed into Massive Records, a shop devoted to all things hip-hop. In addition to music, Massive carries a line of break-dancing duds from local arts collaborative Losst Unnown and offers open-mike sessions on Friday nights and performances Saturday afternoons, as well as DJ classes. The store is also hosting a 16-man MC battle April 16 at Somerville's Good Time Emporium. Meanwhile, Adam Walder, proprietor of www.undergroundhiphop.com, is opening a new store on Huntington Avenue April 30. "There's such a need for a good hip-hop store in Boston," says Lynn Walder, UGHH's marketing director (and Adam's wife). "We're hoping to fill that void." Finally, if you think you could be the next hip-hop star, Capone and Family Records wants to hear your stuff. Founder Roy Ward and his team listen to every demo they get, and the company just opened a new recording studio in Watertown. They have four artists on their label, but they're always looking for new talent. *Massive Records, 1105 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-1887). Underground Hip Hop, 234 Huntington Ave, Boston (617-262-0200). Capone & Family Records, 324 Mount Auburn St., Watertown (617-285-8117). —Ezra Dyer*

inner view

TOM ARNOLD

Tom Arnold's résumé includes everything from writing for *Roseanne* to providing the voice for the Arby's oven mitt in commercials. His latest gig has been as host of Fox Sports Net's *Best Damn Sports Show, Period*. He's now serving as an on-the-scene reporter, and on April 11 will cover the first Fenway Red Sox–Yankees game of 2005—which also happens to be the setting for the Sox' World Series rings ceremony.

Improper Bostonian: *So, right to the point: April 11, who're you rooting for?*

Tom Arnold: I'm rooting for Boston. David Wells is my buddy. I was in his wedding. I left his bachelor party in Vegas after Day 1, because on Day 2, I would've been arrested. And Kevin Millar is a regular on the show. He's a star. He's the best guest ever.

IB: *Do you think the Sox and Yankees should shake hands before the game, as the Acton schoolchildren are petitioning?*

TA: Hell no! Maybe after the game. Before the game they shouldn't even talk to each other. It takes a real man to do it after the game. Are they doing hugs too? Do they have to shower together? They're just playing baseball. Let 'em hate each other. They don't have rocket launchers. That's why I love hockey. They shake hands after they've beaten the crap out of each other. Baseball, it's embarrassing enough that they wear tights. Unless they can guarantee it'll break out in a fight, forget the hand-shaking.

IB: *Prediction time: How do you expect Pedro to fare in New York?*

TA: The Mets are gonna be better. I wish he'd stayed with the Sox. But talk about 'roids, they should look at him. He's all puffed up.

IB: *You used to live next door to Shaq. If you could live next door to any athlete, who would it be?*

TA: Sandy Koufax. He's sort of mysterious to me. I'd say Ted Williams if he was still alive. I might still, even though he's dead. I like quiet neighbors.

IB: *So what's gonna happen at the first Sox–Yankees rematch?*

TA: Well, Schilling's saying he can't pitch, but I think he's gonna somehow do it. He'll be carried out by Marines and pitch a complete game with blood pouring everywhere. No, Wells will be great. I hope he focuses. He's great when he focuses. It's making me nervous just thinking about it. If he can fire his wife as his agent—talk about a bad day at home—he can do this.

IB: *You're covering Super Bowl XL in Detroit. Do you expect to see the Patriots there?*

TA: Detroit will be fun. It's not a place for pussies: Stay home and let the regular people go to the game. And by the way, in Jacksonville the Patriots cheerleaders put on parkas. That was a little disappointing. The Eagles cheerleaders were still out there in their hot pants. I don't expect to see the Patriots back again next year, but you can never write them off. You just don't know. And that's the great thing about sports. You're down 3–0 to the Yankees. It's impossible—mathematically, scientifically, historically, you can't do it. The whole Red Sox phenomenon gives me hope. Anything that seems impossible, you say, "Hey, at least I'm not down 3–0 to the Yankees." If they can overcome that, I can win this lottery and pay some bills.

—Ezra Dyer.

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Tasty Tidbits

BOOKS & BREWS

Boozing Bookworms...For the month of April, Trident Café and Booksellers on Newbury Street is offering a series to celebrate two of Boston's most cherished pastimes: books and beer. Each Monday night at 7 pm, a new local author comes to Trident for a reading and discussion of his or her work, which is followed by a tasting of local beers like Harpoon, Buzzard's Bay and Offshore Ale. Best of all, it's free. *338 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-8688).*

Cozy Coffee Break...It's tough to come to terms with the fact that cold days and nights may linger for a while longer. But the new North End coffeehouse Boston Beanstock can help you deal with the chilly spring weather with a wood stove, cozy couches and chairs, and free wireless Internet service. The freshly roasted coffee and the quiches, tarts and cheesecakes (all made from scratch) will keep you coming back for more during the warm summer months, when you can sit outside. *97 Salem St., Boston (617-725-0040).*

Temper Chocolates

Chocolate Nation... Much like A-Rod's ego, the world of chocolate is ever expanding. And Temper Chocolates, a new shop opening mid April at Hotel Commonwealth, shows how these days, chocolate is so much more than Hershey's Kisses, Lindt or even Godiva. Owner Caroline Yeh's traveled the world tasting chocolate and plans to offer exotic flavors like Banana Flambe, Grapefruit Caramel, Tasmanian Honey and Salted Espresso. Temper also plans to offer a series of chocolate-tasting classes and a collection of three different cocoa perfumes. *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-956-2421). www.temperchocolates.com.*

Bread Winners...The quality of the bread a restaurant serves up hardly makes or breaks a meal, but it sure sets the tone. Since opening in 2000, Sel de la Terre, the French bistro on State Street, and chef/owner Geoff Gardner have built a reputation on great bread, and they currently ship out theirs to other local restaurants like Teatro, Smith & Wollensky and L'Espalier. This month, Gardner extended his breadopoly by striking a deal with Whole Foods Markets, which now sells Sel de la Terre bread at six locations, including Newton and Cambridge.

Left: Peter Femino and Tony Massari, co-owners of Boston Beanstock; below: a wood stove keeps coffee drinkers cozy.

improper reports

RECORD YOUR OWN DEMO

So you've obsessed over *American Idol* for three tumultuous seasons and frequented karaoke night more often than you'd care to admit. Now it's time to take it to the next level by recording your very own CD at one of the Boston area's many studios.

Axiom Sound Recording Studios *1500 Blue Hill Ave., Boston (617-745-4700). www.axiomsound.com.*
Students pay $55 an hour for studio time (the rest of us pay $75). Or you can opt for a recording package, which for $1,800 includes 30 hours of studio time with a producer and an engineer, plus a three-song CD.

Blue Tone Studio *561 Windsor St., Somerville (617-625-1452). www.bluetonestudio.com.*
This once-private studio, which reopened to the public in 2003, boasts a kitchen and lounge where customers can relax in between cuts. The hourly rate is $25, with block rates starting at $210 for 10 hours.

Bristol Recording and Voice Studio *169 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-8689). www.bristolstudios.com.*
Before you hit the studio, Bristol offers the chance to polish your skills with a free consultation with a vocal teacher or a recording workshop. You also get five three-hour classes in the studio as well as a demo CD, all for $500.

Jamspot *111 South St., Somerville (617-666-7529). www.jamspot.com.*
Jamspot rents out its Player Rooms, which include amps, mikes and drums, as well as a built-in CD recording and playback system, for $30 an hour.

Limelight Stage and Studios *204 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-0785). www.limelightboston.com.*
For the recording novice, Limelight offers a self-service studio, complete with backing-track accompaniment, for $10 per person, per hour. (CDs cost $30 and DVDs that record you in the studio go for $50.) Need a couple of drinks to feel comfortable in front of the mike? Limelight serves drinks and appetizers in the private rooms.

The Moontower *2000 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (617-491-2106). www.moontowerstudio.com.*
You can get a five-hour half-day session with an engineer at this multitrack studio in Porter Square for $160 (or $35 an hour). Moontower also offers on-site digital remastering once your demo is done. —*Zoe Winkler*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Ocean spray, Boxster-style

Boxster It Up... If you've got a gearhead on your gift list, the Fairmont Copley Plaza hotel has a new package that'll make for a happy birthday (or Father's Day, or Administrative Professional's Day). The Speed and Style and Room and Zoom packages both include a two-night stay at the Fairmont, tickets to the Museum of Fine Arts' *Cars from the Ralph Lauren Collection* exhibition, and, the pièce de résistance, use of a Porsche Boxster for the duration of your stay. Prices start at $859, and the offer is slated to continue through June 26. *(800-441-1414). www.fairmont.com/copleyplaza.*

Fee Ya Later... For all the complaining we hear about the Big Dig, the MBTA and such, it's nice to see the city take a stand for its loyal subjects. In late March, Mayor Menino announced that the city had negotiated a reduction of the service fees added onto tickets purchased at local ClearChannel locations. Boston's prices have long exceeded those in other cities, but thanks to the new agreement, we can expect tickets at box offices like the Wilbur Theatre, Opera House and the Colonial Theatre to drop from 13 to 23 percent. Sounds good, but give us vomit-free T cars and we'll really be happy.

Cute Curiosities... Some people are easy to shop for, but finding a gift for your most tragically hip friends can be harder than hailing a taxi in Brookline. Luckily, vintage mavens Laura Dembski and Hilkin Mancini are aiming for an early April opening of Honeyspot, their store in Jamaica Plain that promises to satisfy even the grooviest tastes. Honeyspot's got everything from retro baby bibs to mounted butterflies and Scrub Your Butt brand soaps. *48 South St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-2444).*

Multiplying Pedalers... We first reported on the environmentally friendly pedicab trend during last summer's Democratic National Convention, and now another company has hit the streets. Ben Morris' Boston Pedicab made its debut mid-March and by the start of summer should have the city's largest fleet with six or seven pedicabs patrolling the streets. It's a dollar every tenth of a mile, or in other words, about a buck a block. Since taxis are $1.75 for the first one-eighth mile or less and $.30 for additional eighth mile,the Pedicab's a deal if you're not going far. *(617-461-5934).*

Shameless Gloating... On March 30, the IMPROPER sent a two-headed poker monster to Foxwoods to compete against other media folk in the New England Poker Classic Media Showdown. As there was one seat, Ezra "The Beekeeper" Dyer and Rich "T-Bone" Levine used a tag-team approach to beat out (among others) Tom Caron from New England Sports Network and Fox 25 news anchor David Wade—the latter in the final head-to-head showdown. Wade, the leader throughout the game, went all in on a bluff (2-4) and almost pulled it off. But a queen on the river sent all the chips—and $4,000 for the Leslie's Links fund at The Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, a charity founded in memory of former IMPROPER columnist Leslie Semonian—to the IMPROPER's side of the table. The Beekeeper and T-Bone celebrated with Frosties at Wendy's.
—*E.D., LPK and R.L.*

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

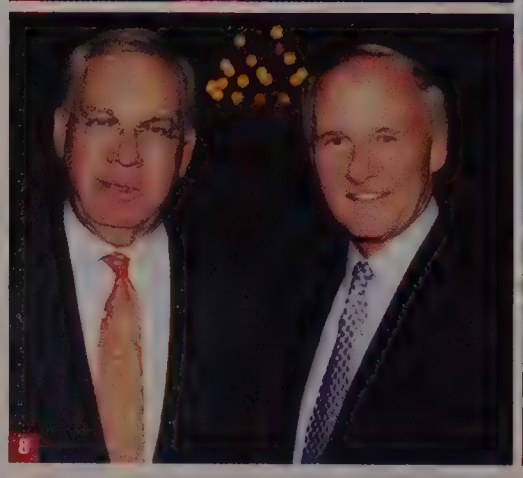
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The Greater Boston Chapter of the American Jewish Committee presented a **Tribute to Eleanor and Barry White** on March 22 at the Westin Hotel Copley Place. The Whites are recipients of the Community Service Award, an honor presented as recognition for lifelong dedication and service to the Greater Boston Jewish community. More than 350 guests attended the ceremony, which raised more than $200,000 for the AJC.

1. **Jerry Anderson**, investment advisor for Boston Investment Advisors, and **Priscilla Anderson**, interior designer for Susan Reddick Design in Cambridge.
2. **Joanne Jaxtimer**, director of corporate affairs for Mellon Financial; **Tripp Jones**, senior vice president of the Mentor Network; and **Donna Latson Gittens**, CEO of Causemedia, Inc., in Newton.
3. **Nick Littlefield**, partner at Foley Hoag; **Deval Patrick**, attorney; and state senator **Jarrett Barrios**.
4. **Peter Poras**, CFO of Chestnut Hill Realty; **Kevin Phelan**, president of Meredith & Grew; and **Dan Sullivan**, managing partner of Goulston & Storrs.
5. **Aby Alexander**, president and CEO of eXstream Solutions in Natick; **Colette Phillips**, president and CEO of Colette Phillips Communications; **Bahar Uttan**, CEO of Boston Lobsters; and **Alison Reinhardt**, account executive for Colette Phillips Communications.
6. **Suzi Schuller** (right), associate director for AJC, and **Cameron Kerry**.

More than 300 guests attended the **Spirit Awards Gala** at the Fairmont Copley Plaza March 22. The event benefited Jane Doe Inc., an organization that fights domestic violence and sexual assault. Attorney General Thomas F. Reilly and Mayor Thomas Menino spoke at the gala.

7. **Maureen Oakes**, special events coordinator for Jane Doe Inc., and **Jessica Rothchild**, senior account executive for Cone Inc.
8. Mayor **Tom Menino**, and **Tom Reilly**, Massachusetts attorney general.
9. **Karen Holmes Ward**, director of public affairs and community services and host/executive producer for WCVB-TV5's *Cityline*; and **Peter Koutoujian**, state representative for Newton, Waltham and Watertown.
10. **Gutsun Gul**, assistant professor at Tufts Dental School; **Joseph Alviani**, principal of Alviani & Associates; and **Betsy Stengel**, executive director of the Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals.
11. **Bob Gottlieb**, president of Sceptre Marketing Group; **Toni Troop**, director of development and public relations for Jane Doe Inc.; and **Ken Novack**, former vice chairman of Time Warner.



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A PAPPAS ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT

RANDOMANIA IV

The long-awaited fourth installment of the nonlinear column

It's amazing to me that Congress is concerning itself with baseball's steroids policy. Steroids are already illegal, so what's Congress got to do with it? Well, if you're normally knee-deep in scintillating stuff like H.CON.RES.95, Title IV, Section 404 (restrictions on advance appropriations for the congressional budget, fiscal year 2006), you'd probably love to take a day or two to yell at Jose Canseco too.

Let me say this, though: If I'm ever reduced to a vegetative state, don't remove my feeding tube. Leave my feeding tube in and shoot me in the head. I don't want to starve to death, people, and I certainly don't want Congress getting involved. I wouldn't want to distract them from whatever important investigation they're then conducting, such as whether or not Jimmy Spencer used an illegal carburetor in his two NASCAR Winston Cup wins in 1994.

✻I like when songs are used for advertising and everything but their catchy, mass-market-friendly jingle is edited out. The latest, and possibly greatest, example is the Carnival Cruises ads that use Iggy Pop's "Lust for Life." The main part you hear is the "I got a lust for life!" chorus, but I'm disappointed they neglected some of the other lines from the song, like "Something called love, well, that's like hypnotizing chickens," or "I'm worth a million in prizes, with my torture film," or "I'm through with sleeping on the sidewalk, no more beating my brains with liquor and drugs." Why not include those lines, Carnival? I, for one, would be more likely to sign up for a cruise if I thought it involved hypnotizing chickens. I can never get them to pay attention to my swinging pocket watch long enough to enter a trancelike state.

Here are some other songs that happen to contain ad-friendly snippets, along with products they could be used for, and the parts they wouldn't want you to hear:

Ice Cube, "Today Was a Good Day," for Applebee's:

Scene: A happy family eating Fajitas con Sizzles to the chorus of "Today was a good day."

You don't hear: "Even saw the lights of the Goodyear blimp, and it read 'Ice Cube's a pimp.' Drunk as hell but no throwing up, halfway home and my pager still blowing up."

Guns N' Roses, "Welcome to the Jungle," for Busch Gardens:

Scene: A happy family riding roller coasters and petting elephants to the part that goes, "Welcome to the jungle, we got fun and games! We got everything you want."

You don't hear: "Feel my, my, my serpentine" or "You're gonna die!"

Snoop Dogg, "Doggy Dogg World," for Purina Dog Chow:

Scene: Happy families feeding happy dogs to the cheery chorus, "It's a crazy mixed-up world, it's a Doggy Dogg world".

You don't hear: "Ho's call me Sugar Ray for the way I be stickin' and movin'." Or really, any of the rest of it.

✻Why does it cost so much to rent a tuxedo? Last time I rented one, the bill was $150. This doesn't seem proportional to the cost of the tuxedo itself. I just looked online and saw several complete designer tuxes for $350. If the tuxedo-rental price structure applied to everything, it would cost $10,000 to rent a Chevy Malibu for a weekend. And yet I don't own a tux; it just seems extravagant. Will I ever make the leap from Oscar de la Renta to Oscar de la Owna?

✻I think our greatest weapon in the battle against global overpopulation is *Nanny 911*. Watch that show some time and tell me if you ever want to have children. Translate that sucker into Hindi and in about 20 years India would look like Nebraska. Of course, other cultures might need a more literal title, but I'm sure you can translate "The World's Worst Parents" into just about any language.

✻The other morning I awoke to screaming, cursing and general mayhem. My girlfriend had opened her cell phone bill and discovered her previous month's charges, fueled by extra minutes, totaled $450. Why don't cell phone companies have to tell you when you're over your limit and getting pillaged? There's a little icon on your phone to let you know when you're roaming; I propose an icon that lights up when you're over your minutes quota. It would look like a man getting gored in the perineum by an elk. I mean, for $450, she could've rented three tuxedos, for crying out loud. I hope Congress addresses this issue as soon as they're done with their latest investigation, which shouldn't take long—everyone knows Popeye was juiced. iB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

A PARADE FOR WALKER'S RETURN?

Old No. 8 is back in town, and he brought more than the Antoine Wiggle with him.

We've had a lot of parades in Boston lately. The Sox' was long awaited, the Pats' not unexpected. Now, with the return of Antoine Walker to town, an idea that was unthinkable two months ago suddenly warrants speculation: Could the Celtics force us to throw another parade in this town?

I'm still trying to figure out how the hell Celtics poohbah Danny Ainge got the team to a point where they might as well start printing up Eastern Conference Finals playoff tickets. Yeah, that's right, your (and my!) Celtics are the second best team in the East. And as much as I hate eating my words, it's mainly because of Danny Boy's shopping spree.

The day the Celtics traded away then co-captain Antoine Walker, I gave Ainge a big fat F for "fool," and I stand by that grade. However, maybe a grade of I—for incomplete, or for "I don't know what the hell Ainge is doing"—would've been more appropriate. It was only a few seasons ago, 2000–01, that the Celtics bowed out of the Eastern Conference Finals in six games. The C's were exactly two wins away from a date with Shaq and Kobe, when those two were still talking to each other and the Lakers were winning championships. Sure, the Celtics would have been embarrassed in that matchup, but the Finals are the Finals.

Since then, the Celtics have been rebuilt and at the same time reborn. The Big Two, Antoine Walker and Paul Pierce, are back together again. Just as important, the supporting cast has changed dramatically in a short time. Gone are dependable fan favorites like Eric Williams and Walter McCarty. In their place are mainly players Ainge has obtained with draft picks, which the Celtics have typically misused for most of the last 20 years.

The Celtics' draft last summer was as close to perfect as possible. Al Jefferson, Delonte West and Tony Allen guarantee a bright future for the Green. Many people feel Jefferson is the potential All-Star in that group. Guard Gary Payton seems to think West is the best of the lot. I think the sleeper is Tony Allen. The guy is not only tough as nails, he's fearless.

We also can't forget a few of Ainge's trades. Alleged bad boy Ricky Davis, we've found out, isn't so bad after all. The guy has bought into the Celtic mystique and become one of the league's premier sixth men.

But none of these deals works unless the "Snake" (that's what Walker called Ainge after hearing that he'd been traded out of town) puts the team ahead of his ego, which is exactly what he's done. He ate crow and found it delicious.

Apart, Walker and Pierce are both fine players. Together, though, they've shown themselves to be somewhere between productive and magical. Everybody wants to say Walker is now a smarter player, and there's no question he's matured, but this guy was never dumb. After playing several summers with Michael Jordan, Walker was bright enough to take notice of the way MJ carried himself.

Walker is a gentleman off the court too. Word among waiters and parking lot attendants is that Walker, who wears the best suits in town, also tips with the best of them.

On the other hand, Pierce is a tough nut to crack. He appears to like things his way. If things aren't going his way, he can make

WHO COULD'VE IMAGINED WALKER WOULD HELP PROPEL THE C'S TO NINE WINS IN THE FIRST 10 GAMES OF THEIR SECOND MARRIAGE?

the All-Star pouting team. His demeanor, more often than not, can be very hard, and he appears uneasy when he's the center of attention.

But for the Celtics it works well having polar opposites. All of Pierce's numbers are up since Walker's return, and the team's victories keep adding up too. Who could've imagined Walker would help propel the C's to nine wins in the first 10 games of their second marriage?

Then there's the interest level. Fans are finally talking about basketball around water coolers, with many in-the-closet fans returning from the Big Three era of Larry Bird, Kevin McHale and Robert Parish.

It's nice to see No. 8 back with the Celts, smiling like never before. It's even nicer to see Celtics basketball becoming important again. **iB**

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

Leslie's Links

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Leslie's Links has raised over $800,000 since it inception in 1999
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LESLIE'S LINKS was founded in 1999 by Leslie Semonian who battled cancer and passed away in December of 1999 at the age of 22. During the eight and a half year period of her illness, until her death, Leslie never allowed cancer to stand in the way of her goal of helping others. She knew how precious life was and energetically embraced each day. She helped others to appreciate their own lives more. She wanted to be remembered as a participant in life not an observer. Her passion was boundless, and will continue in the hearts of the many friends and people whom she inspired.

Leslie's Links is a fund at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute which raises money for Ewings Sarcoma Cancer Research in various ways. One of which is through the Leslie's Links bike team associated with the 192-mile Pan-Mass Challenge bike-a-thon from Sturbridge to Provincetown. Leslie's Links has raised over $800,000 since its inception in 1999.

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ELLIS PAUL

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Singer-songwriter Ellis Paul is one of the biggest stars on the contemporary folk scene, the chief architect of what's become known as the "Boston school" of songwriting, which, in its urbane edginess, bridges modern pop and the traditional folk music of legends like Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger. Paul has released 10 CDs, a documentary/concert DVD entitled *3,000 Miles* and a critically acclaimed book of poems and stories, "Notes From the Road." An honorary citizen of Woody Guthrie's hometown of Okemah, Okla., Paul originally hails from Presque Isle, a small potato-farming community in Maine, but he earned a summer scholarship to Berklee College of Music and a track scholarship to Boston College. In 1989, sidelined by an injury and having taken up songwriting to relieve the boredom of bed rest, he began haunting local open-mike nights and quickly developed a following. During this period, he also spent five years as a social worker, working with inner-city kids. Over the next several years, he ascended from opening act to national headliner and won an unmatched 13 Boston Music Awards. His nationwide profile has grown as his songs have been heard on such hit TV shows as *Ed* and MTV's *The Real World* and in films like *Me, Myself & Irene* and *Shallow Hal*. After calling Boston home for several decades, he recently relocated to Virginia with his wife and child. His latest album, *American Jukebox Fables*, is released April 5.

Jonathan Soroff: *Your real name's Paul. What's up with calling yourself Ellis?*
Ellis Paul: Well, my last name is Plissey, and I was ridiculed so heavily as a kid, I didn't think it'd be a good stage name. I also didn't want radio people to mispronounce it. I got Ellis from a friend, and so now I guess I could be part of the FBI witness protection program.
JS: *[Laughs.] Oh yeah? Which part of the mob were you in?*
EP: The folk mafia. Dylan is actually the Don, and he got taken out. Then Joni Mitchell took over, and it was the first time a woman had ever run the folk mafia. I'm one of the captains, way, way below those guys.
JS: *Hey, but at least you're a made man. Now you seem to exist in that netherworld between mainstream stardom and underground folk popularity. What excites you more: the idea of playing the FleetCenter or the Somerville Theatre?*
EP: I prefer to keep it intimate. That way, people can see the whites of your eyes. I'd love to write a hit song and have it on the radio, like "American Pie" or something, but I'm just gonna do what I do and take what I can and run with it, because it's a hard business to have even what I have. So I don't have pie-in-the-sky Springsteen-esque hopes. I just want to write great songs.

> IT'S A HARD BUSINESS TO EVEN HAVE WHAT I HAVE. SO I DON'T HAVE PIE-IN-THE-SKY SPRINGSTEEN-ESQUE ASPIRATIONS. I JUST WANT TO WRITE GREAT SONGS.

JS: *Do you consider yourself a better songwriter or performer?*
EP: I'd say I'm a better lyricist than a singer. I wish I could sing like Ray Charles, but I can't.
JS: *Worst lyric you ever wrote—something that makes you cringe?*
EP: I had an early song with a lyric, something about "on top of my gold mine," about eating Cheez Whiz or something. Someone sent me an e-mail of that song recently, and I thought, "Oh, I didn't write that, did I?"
JS: *Is the guitar a substitute for the penis?*
EP: [Laughs.] Did I tell you I have a jumbo size guitar? I guess, in a sense, it probably is, though you'd have to ask Freud about that. It definitely is the equalizer in insecure singer-songwriters' social lives. So I guess, in a way, it does represent something penis-like.
JS: *How do you feel about being the heartthrob poster-boy for folk music?*
EP: That's funny. I just turned 40 and I'm balding, and I'm married and have a kid and live in a development. I'm not really thinking of myself as the Keith Partridge of folk music. That said, I've heard that, and I always get a chuckle out of it.
JS: *Weirdest fan encounter?*
EP: I once had a woman in Portland, Maine, come to a show with a baby and try to get backstage and she said I knew who she was, and eventually we had to call the cops and have her hauled away.
JS: *One song in history you wish you wrote?*
EP: Oh, God, there are so many. An early Rod Stewart song, "Maggie May." I love that song. I love the mandolin part. I love the drums. I'd put that at the top of my list.
JS: *Do you think of yourself as a troubadour or a wandering minstrel?*
EP: Ummm, yeah. I guess so. But I think of myself not so much wearing tights but driving around in a Honda Civic.
JS: *Do you fit the leftist, environmentally conscious, long-haired, hippy-ish, anti-establishment, don't bathe too often profile of the folkie?*
EP: I fit about half of it. I'm pretty moderate in a lot of ways. I'm inclined to stop and get a Big Mac every once in a while.
JS: *How often do you bathe?*
EP: Every day.
JS: *Do you own Birkenstocks?*
EP: Nope.
JS: *What?! And you call yourself a folkie?*
EP: [Laughs.] I'm tellin' ya, it's worse than Dylan plugging in in '65.
JS: *So how much time are you on the road?*
EP: I'd say about half the time. I do about 130, 140 shows a year.
JS: *Worst part of that?*
EP: Being away from my family. We just had a baby, and I'm trying to figure out how to reshuffle and rebalance my life around that.
JS: *Favorite part of being on the road?*
EP: Seeing the country, I kind of feel like a citizen of a country rather than just one town. I know roads in California, and great restaurants in almost every city. I know what Iowa looks like. I have friends in every town. That's the greatest part of the job, really.
JS: *If you could sing a duet with anyone, who would it be and why?*
EP: I'd love to do a really cheesy remake of that Neil Diamond–Barbra Streisand song "You Don't Bring Me Flowers," with maybe Celine Dion, and I'd be singing in the voice of Elvis.
JS: *How often do you get stoned before a performance?*
EP: I've only done it once. I was hanging out backstage with a famous musician from the '60s who appeared at Woodstock, and he said, "Ellis, would you like to get high before the show?" It was kind of like saying no to Geronimo if he was holding out a peace pipe. So I did. And I can't tune a guitar for shit when I'm stoned, so it was just awful. Then I had to suppress the urge to tell the audience that I got high with so-and-so backstage.
JS: *So would you ever tell your daughter not to date a musician?*
EP: She's only 6 months old, but I already have. I keep saying, "Think doctor. Think doctor."
JS: *You sang the anthem at Fenway, but they made you lip-synch it?*
EP: There's a dangerous delay in places that big, so you're given the option: You can do it live or you can do it to a recording, and I chose the recorded route to play it safe. But that's my only lip-synching experience.
JS: *Last question: Would you ever play a gig naked?*
EP: No, but I did recently pose for a naked folk calendar for charity. I was hiding behind a tree. But there is a nudist colony folk gig I've been asked to play at that I just said no to. I'm not sure what would be worse: looking at them or them looking at me. I just don't want to disappoint the audience. iB

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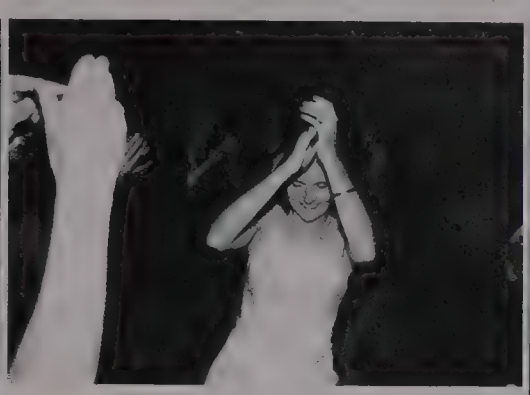

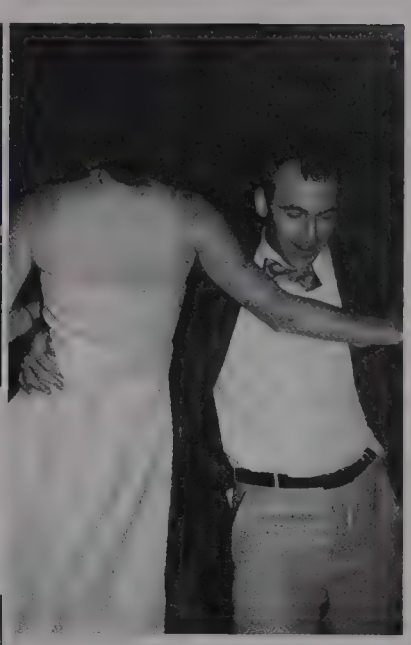

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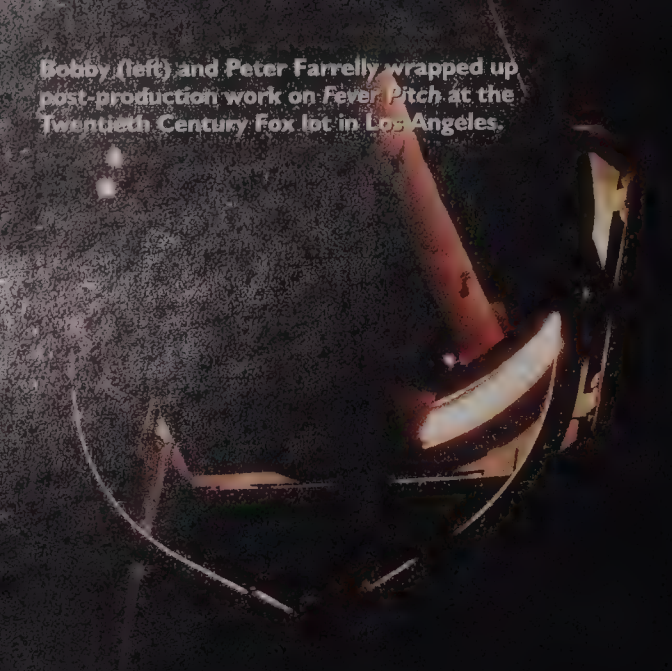


Bobby (left) and Peter Farrelly wrapped up post-production work on *Fever Pitch* at the Twentieth Century Fox lot in Los Angeles.

there's something about fenway

Peter and Bobby Farrelly keep it local in *Fever Pitch*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Imagine this scenario. The Yankees win Game 4 to sweep the Red Sox in last year's American League Championship Series, and then Hollywood rubs salt in our collective wound by releasing a fantasy movie in which the Red Sox win the World Series.

Fortunately the Sox came through. Otherwise, filmmakers Peter and Bobby Farrelly wanted no part in such a phony ending.

Before filming began on *Fever Pitch*—the romantic comedy enjoying a Boston premiere April 6 and a nationwide opening April 8, in which the Sox' championship plays a large role—some of the studio suits thought it would be a dandy idea to fudge 86 years of Sox history and craft a happy ending, regardless of what might really happen.

"I was like, 'No way. I'll drop out, I'm not making a Hollywood ending to it,'" remembers Bobby Farrelly, half of the Rhode Island–raised moviemaking tag team that directed *Fever Pitch* with the Red Sox fan in mind.

"The beauty of the Red Sox always was that you take your lumps, then you move on," he adds. "Next year starts all over, hope springs eternal. Of course, the year was such a magical year and they ended up winning. It did mean that we had to go back and change the ending and a lot of things. But it was a *really* good problem."

Fever Pitch is loosely based on a novel by British author Nick Hornby (*High Fidelity*, *About a Boy*) about a soccer fanatic trying to balance his relationships with his beloved Arsenal and his new girlfriend. It was adapted already for an English movie in 1997, and not long after that, screenwriters Lowell Ganz and Babaloo Mandel (*A League of Their Own*) Americanized the premise, with the hard-luck Red Sox taking the place of hard-luck Arsenal.

The Farrellys wanted nothing to do with it.

They'd made a name for themselves with their own brand of extreme physical comedy in *Kingpin*, *There's Something About Mary* and *Stuck on You*, and were busy enough.

"Pete and I had worked on a script about the Red Sox years ago called *Curse of the Bambino*," explains Bobby. "It was written by a couple of local guys and it was all about the curse and how to undo the curse, and I thought it was great. We worked on it for a number of years and tried to get it going, but never had any success getting a studio interested in it.

"After that, things died down, and someone came across this script, *Fever Pitch*, and sent it to us, because we're Red Sox guys and we'd already shown an interest in a similar idea. We read it, and it was pretty good. But it wasn't great. It didn't blow us away."

A year or so later, they saw the script again—much revised and improved. But the directing job was no longer there for the taking. The brothers had to fight for it.

"It was just killing me, the thought of someone else doing it with no allegiance to the Red Sox," Bobby says. "Pete had the same reaction I did—this is too good not to get in on."

"It was the first time we hadn't done the screenplay for one of our movies," Peter adds. "Usually, we've written the screenplay or have rewritten it. This time, they were talking to other directors, and we'd already passed. We were coming from a weak place. All of a sudden, we were like, 'Hey, wait a second…'"

"We weren't the natural fit for it," Bobby admits. "It's a flat-out romantic comedy. It didn't call for any outrageous humor. Ours are comedies and then a little romance. This was romance sprinkled with comedy. Their concern was whether we were going to try to make this a 'Farrelly Brothers' comedy.

"We had to convince them that we got it and saw that it was different, and that we'd direct it in the tone it was written in. Which, of course, is a struggle. But because we were local guys and we were Red Sox fans, we felt like we knew the story as well as or better than anyone else that was going to do it."

Ganz and Mandel are not New Englanders, and knew little about Red Sox hardship beyond events involving Bucky Dent or Bill Buckner. The responsibility for making *Fever Pitch* authentic fell to the two directors.

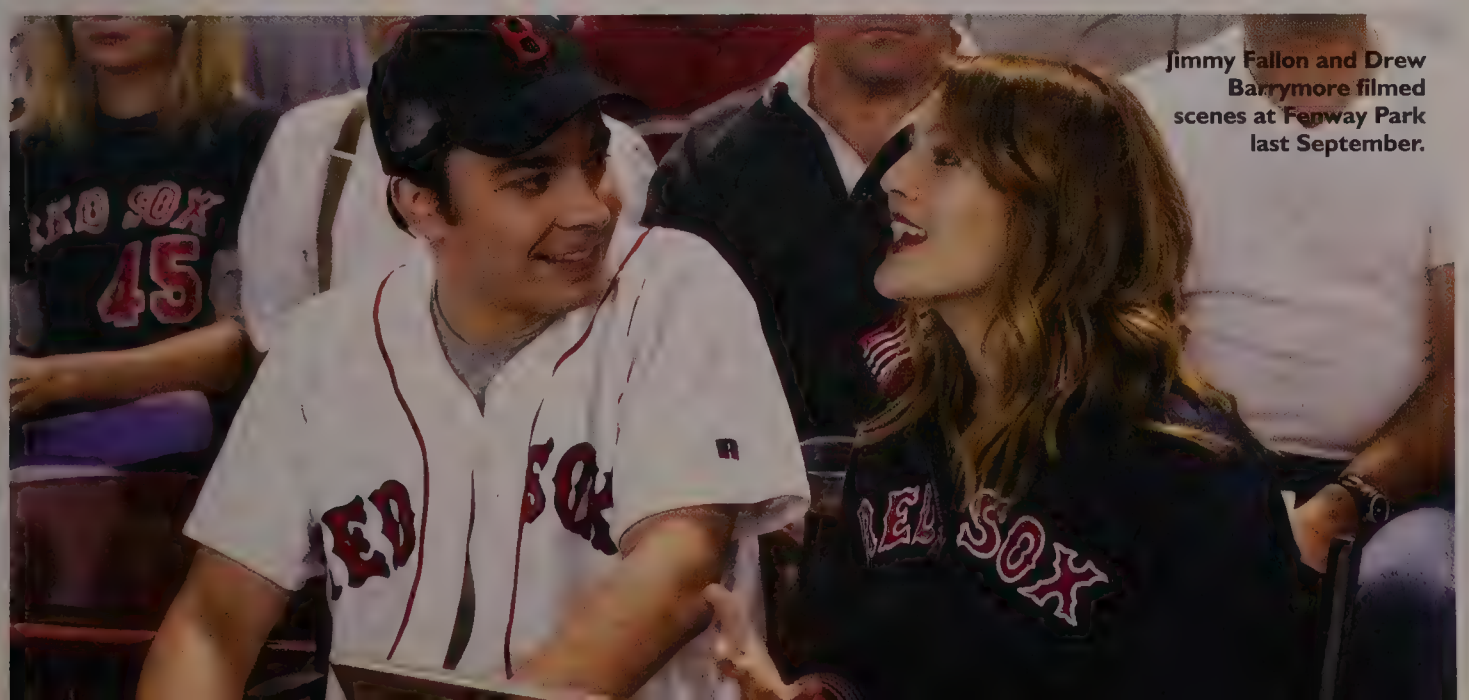
"There was no way we could mess this up and go home," says Peter. (Both brothers now live in Massachusetts.) "We didn't want a *Celtic Pride* on our hands. And also, because the Red Sox opened their arms so wide—from John Henry on down, they trusted us—we didn't want to let them down. They took a chance on us, and we wanted to come through for them. But the truth is, that's how we approach every movie. We know how lucky it is to be able to make movies."

The *Fever Pitch* script originally called for the Sox to come up short and not reach the World Series, à la 2003. That was the plan when filming began. Scenes were shot at several September games at Fenway Park before the production moved on to Toronto for six weeks.

"Luckily, we were still shooting the movie," Peter says of the Sox' historic comeback. "We had shot some of the ending, so it took some rewriting on the part of Lowell and Babaloo. Bobby and I were basically calling those guys and saying, 'Try this, try that.' There was a lot of work for those two, but it was welcome, because instead of having a bittersweet ending, now we have a fairy-tale ending. You couldn't have written that ending."

Maybe you even remember seeing stars Drew Barrymore and Jimmy Fallon celebrating on the field in St. Louis after the Sox swept the Cardinals in the World Series. It may have looked perfectly choreographed, but it wasn't.

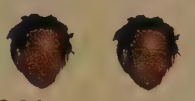
"We weren't planning on going there," Peter recalls. "We had to shut down the movie in Toronto. When [the Sox] won Game 3 [in St. Louis], we convinced the studio to give us one crack at it. If they had lost in Game 4, we would have headed back to Toronto. We went out there with just eight of us, no cameras. We borrowed cameras from Fox Sports, which was covering the game. It was incredible. So it was a blessing. Like my brother said, it was kind of like making *Pearl Harbor* during Pearl Harbor." IB



Jimmy Fallon and Drew Barrymore filmed scenes at Fenway Park last September.

BOSTON SPORTS IN HOLLYWOOD

Every so often, Boston sports teams have a brush with Hollywood. From the very limited perspective of how those movies have served our teams, here's a rundown of a few, rated on the world famous Manny scale.



2 Mannys

FEAR STRIKES OUT (1957)

If you think Johnny Damon throws like a girl, wait until you see Anthony Perkins as troubled Red Sox centerfielder Jimmy Piersall in director Robert Mulligan's biopic.

3 Mannys

GOOD WILL HUNTING (1997)

The title character in Ben Affleck and Matt Damon's breakthrough film is inspired to pursue his dream girl by his shrink's tale of passing up a ticket to Game 6 of the 1975 World Series to be with his future wife. Cue the Carlton Fisk body English home run clip.

3 Mannys

KINGPIN (1996)

In the Farrellys' bowling movie—what, no candlepins!?—Roger Clemens plays a redneck named Skidmark who harasses star Woody Harrelson. Priceless.

1 Manny

CELTIC PRIDE (1996)

This unfunny ordeal about knuckleheaded Celts fans (Dan Aykroyd, Daniel Stern) who kidnap an opposing player to help the team was one lame send-off for the Boston Garden, where much of the filming took place after the Celtics and Bruins had completed their last season there.

4 Mannys

THE FRIENDS OF EDDIE COYLE (1973)

Barrel-chested Robert Mitchum sits in the Garden balcony and roots on Bobby Orr in the best movie ever made in this burg, adapted with gusto from George V. Higgins' crackling novel. Heavenly.

—Paul Sherman

king of the *losers*

DAVID FIORAVANTI PUT HIS MONEY WHERE HIS MOUTH IS, LOSING 71 POUNDS AND WINNING $100,000 ON NBC'S *THE BIGGEST LOSER.*

BY EZRA DYER

If the weight loss regimen undertaken by contestants on NBC's hit reality show *The Biggest Loser* looked tough, Boston real estate developer (and former gym owner and personal trainer) David Fioravanti can attest that the real challenge came when he was sent home.

"On the ranch, it's a controlled environment," he says. "Out in the real world, I had to show the utmost self-control for four months." In the real world, there's no nationally televised weekly weigh-in, no cash prize for sweating off an extra pound or two. But with the guidance of Sports Club/LA trainer John Mello, Fioravanti, 40, lost another 40 pounds.

Fortunately for the former 250-pounder, the surprise twist of *The Biggest Loser* finale was that contestants sent home from the ranch were still eligible for a runner-up prize of $100,000. Fioravanti, who lost a total of 71 pounds, took home the prize.

Before he left the ranch, Fioravanti set himself a challenge by telling the producers he'd match the winner's $250,000 first prize if he didn't lose more weight than anyone else voted off the show. Back home, he had to reconcile his new, healthful lifestyle with the often conflicting demands of his job and social life. For instance, booze is not a favored element in many diet plans, and yet on his first day back in the wild, Fioravanti found himself backstage at a Pearl Jam concert. "How're you not gonna drink at a Pearl Jam concert?" he asks.

Luckily, he was prepared. He'd already asked about alcohol, and his *Biggest Loser* trainer, Jillian Michaels, had pointed him to Bacardi and diet soda (which is low on both calories and sugar) for those occasions when he has to imbibe. "I've got half of Boston drinking it," Fioravanti says. "It's hysterical."

Dining out can also be a challenge. "I go to Mistral maybe four times a week," he says. "I'm entertaining all the time, I'm out all the time, and to make it work I've learned to be very specific about what I want. When I say I want salmon with nothing on it, I mean nothing—from the paper to the pan."

Of course, now that Fioravanti has reached his desired weight—actually, he's gained a few pounds of muscle through weight training and is up to 184 from a low of 179—he doesn't have to be quite as strict about his diet and workout regimen. "I used to eat every two and a half hours to keep my metabolism going. Keep it going, you'll burn fat. I even got up twice a night to do it. Now I don't do that any more. If I worked out only three days a week and ate only 1,700 calories a day, I wouldn't gain a pound."

Even the most dedicated proponents of a healthful lifestyle occasionally lapse in either diet or workout, but if you've got to fudge one of them, Fioravanti recommends the latter. "I call it the 90-10 rule," he says. "Ninety percent of losing weight is diet and the other 10 percent is working out. If you're going to cheat on anything, cheat on the workout, not on the diet. That's less detrimental. Eating clean is so frigging important. So many people go to the gym forever and still look the same. God bless 'em cause they're there, but they eat like shit."

While the $100,000 was certainly nice (some of that has gone toward the new wardrobe his slimmer bod requires), the fact that Fioravanti is still sticking to the program on his own points to the other rewards of staying thin. "I'm more active, more energetic and definitely more positive toward everything," he says. "My friendships are stronger and work has never been more productive. I love clothes now. It's great to be able to pull something off the rack and buy it. I look forward to going to the gym; it's not a task. Everything seems a lot brighter."

Of his reality TV experience, Fioravanti says, "This show did it the old-fashioned way. Diet and hard work is the only way you're going to keep it off. It's giving someone a positive set of skills to apply to their lives. It's not a diet, it's a lifestyle." iB

FOCUS ON FITNESS

Personal trainers weigh in with their top tips for getting fit and slim.

THE TRAINERS:

Jenny Briggs, master personal trainer; pilates instructor at Healthworks Fitness Centers for Women
Peter Donohoe, owner, Focus Fitness
Bonnie Lefrak, athletic director, Wellbridge Athletic Club
Mark Linkiewicz, fitness manager, Sports Club/LA Boston
Maria Shea, regional fitness director, Healthworks Fitness Centers for Women

Were you always fit? What has worked for you?

Peter Donohoe: I never really enjoyed sports as a young lad in Ireland, but at 17 a teacher spotted me running away from a gang of thugs, and suggested I try track and field. One year later, I was the school team captain, and 10 years later, I was competing at the international level. I've found that having serious goals is the only thing that keeps me motivated.

Maria Shea: I gained a significant amount of weight with the birth of my two sons and took about a year to lose the weight. But through both trial and error, I found what works best for my body. Basically, people who are successful keeping weight off follow a diet rich in vegetables, fruits and whole grains; keep weight, food and activity records; and monitor these as closely as people monitor their budgets.

What's a basic workout recommendation for someone who only has an hour three to four times a week to work out?

Donohoe: Ideally, a good intense workout involving strength training, performed with short intervals, so you can get your cardiovascular work in at the same time. If your workouts are sparse, you should concentrate on working your core rather than a traditional "hangin' and bangin' workout."

Jenny Briggs: In general, try to shoot for three good cardio and two good full-body strength workouts per week.

Bonnie Lefrak: Three to four hours a week can be allocated with great results in hour-long blocks, or maybe, more realistically, 20- to 30-minute segments.

Can you become an early-morning workout person if you've never been one?

Briggs: My suggestion would be to just try it for one day a week at first. Once you get better at planning around it, you might be able to add more.

Mark Linkiewicz: First, plan for it. Put it in your schedule just as you would a meeting at work or a doctor's appointment. Seeing things in writing has a more profound effect than just thinking about it. Second, find a workout partner. It's much easier to sleep in when no one else is expecting you, but you'll think twice about hitting the snooze if it means letting someone else down.

What's the most inspirational fitness success story you know of?

Donohoe: Easily the most inspirational story of triumph over adversity is that of Wilma Rudolph. As a child she suffered from one illness after another: measles, mumps, scarlet fever, chicken pox and double pneumonia. After that she became slowly crippled by polio and was told she would never walk. But her mother drove her 50 miles to physical therapy twice a week for two years in hopes she might persevere. After that, Wilma performed a daily strenuous exercise routine at home. By 12, she had learned to walk without a the aid of a brace, crutches or corrective shoes. By the age of 16 she was representing the U.S. at the Olympic games in track and field. At age 20 she won three Olympic gold medals. Next time you're "too tired to work out," think of Wilma.

Shea: While working in cardiac rehabilitation, I was always inspired by people who faced death, and following rehabilitation, discovered the best health of their lives. I'm also tremendously inspired by the work of Dr. Miriam Nelson from Tufts. She wrote the Strong Women series of books and encourages women to strength-train.

What's your favorite preworkout snack?

Donohoe: Banana and a tall latte from Starbucks— something that will keep me from feeling hungry during my workout.

Briggs: I'm the one eating asparagus and turkey meatballs for breakfast—so I may be a bit atypical. The main thing I recommend against is getting too dependent on power bar–type snacks.

Lefrak: Real food is more thermogenic than drinks and bars, i.e., real food burns more calories because your body has to work harder to digest it.

What's the most common mistake you see people making in their workout approach?

Lefrak: The all-or-nothing mentality. Working out is a process, a journey. Results take time, so it's a one-day-at a time philosophy—and if you miss a workout or don't have an hour, do what you can.

Linkiewicz: Always doing the same thing. You need to have variety in your workout. If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always got.

What's your favorite fitness book and/or workout video, and why do you like it?

Donohoe: *Train Hard, Win Easy: The Kenyan Way* by Toby Tanser. The description of how hard young Kenyan athletes train in an attempt to build something better for themselves is nothing less than inspiring.

Shea: *Reversing Heart Disease* by Dean Ornish. It's sound, research-based information regarding living a balanced life through exercise, healthy nutrition and stress management/balance. I also enjoy the Stott Pilates videos for improving core strength, flexibility and posture.

How would you characterize Bostonians' attitudes toward fitness?

Donohoe: I think Bostonians pride themselves on being dedicated and hardworking in their day-to-day lives, and by generating that same drive and focusing it on their fitness, I think they'd be successful in achieving their goals.

Shea: I have lived in several cities, and Boston's attitude toward fitness is among the best. I'm disappointed in our schools, however, and their general disregard for health and fitness (not in all cases, but many). The meals provided by schools are often unhealthy and are high in calories, and I'd love to see fitness, health and nutrition taught in the public schools.

What's the best way to keep your metabolism going if you're sitting all day?

Briggs: Get up once an hour and stretch; stand and sit five times; walk to the water fountain; do whatever you can in the space of a day.

Shea: Research shows that there really are no rules here. It's good to eat several meals a day, especially breakfast, if you tend to overeat when you're hungry.

What's your best tip for losing weight?

Shea: Lots of vegetables, fruits and whole grains; keep portion sizes to a minimum, and always look for the opportunity to be active.

Linkiewicz: Get your eating habits under control. You can make a more significant difference by cutting calories and by watching what you eat than exercising an hour a day. You can also do more damage with poor eating habits than you can make up for in an hour a day of exercise.

What's your top muscle-building tip?

Donohoe: The best thing you can add to your routine is variety. Changing exercises will ensure that muscle groups will be developed evenly.

Briggs: Are you getting to the point where you body has to adapt? Are you stopping before your body feels the work? Can you do two more reps in good form? Number two: change something in your routine. Your body needs to constantly learn to adapt to the new information.

Any other advice?

Donohoe: The biggest thing is to have fun and get a partner. If you don't enjoy something, then you will most likely not do it. So make your exercise interesting and enjoyable to you.

Briggs: Try new things. Start small and build as your body gets used to it. Set up goals for yourself and go after them. Life happens. Don't let the down times stop you from getting back into good activity and eating habits.

Lefrak: Be honest with yourself. It's all mental. It's all about goal-setting and staying focused on what you want!

Shea: Please be wary of any new "quick and easy" fads, diets, exercise tips, supplements. The only secrets are to exercise regularly and eat foods with lots of colors and whole grains.

Linkiewicz: Keep at it. Remember, every little bit you do helps, but in order to make real progress you need to make a serious commitment. If it were easy, we'd all look like fitness models. IB

ADVANTAGE: YOU

GET THE EDGE OVER THE SCHLUBS IN YOUR AFTER-WORK SPORTS LEAGUE WITH THESE WORKOUTS FROM LOCAL TRAINERS.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL IVINS

You don't have to be an accomplished athlete to join one of the informal sports leagues that keep the city's playing fields and basketball courts busy throughout the year. If you've seen the movie *Gung Ho,* you know that having a George Wendt physique need not prevent one from enjoying a bit of extracurricular sport, and local football, soccer and basketball leagues include everyone from former Division I athletes to overweight weekend warriors with bum knees. If you're anything like us, you play these games to have fun, but would enjoy yourself more if you occasionally got to taste the glory of an exultant chest-bump, fanny slap, or complete mobbing by teammates drunk on the delirious elixir of last-second victory. With that goal in mind, we sought out local sports studs specializing in baseball, basketball and soccer for a few pointers to help us throw harder, jump higher and sprint faster. Because the post-softball beer tastes sweeter when you're washing down a sick outfield assist.

LIFE'S A PITCH

BY EZRA DYER

I've always harbored the delusion that I can throw an 80 mph fastball, but here in the pitching tunnel at Extra Innings Watertown, the Stalker radar gun is about to tell me how wrong I am. My coach, Brockton Rox pitcher Eddie Aucoin, preps me with a tutorial on proper arm position and leg drive to get the most stank on my throw.

Throwing a ball hard has more to do with mechanics than with sheer strength, so getting my delivery sorted out is priority number one. Aucoin says the keys are to keep your throwing elbow high—level with your shoulder—and your body closed until you're actually bringing your arm through, in effect coiling and releasing as your throwing hand whizzes past your head. So if you're standing on the mound, you don't want to deliver with your front shoulder pointing halfway down the first-base line—you want it square at the plate so you're in position to drive forward off your back leg. "If you open up your front shoulder, you're losing 20 percent off your fastball," Aucoin says. We're working from a full windup, but these main principles can be applied any time you have a chance to set your feet and want maximum velocity on a throw.

I digest all this and start dealing pitches, most of which don't even hit within the same zip code as the strike zone I'm aiming for. "Stalker guns read a few miles per hour slower than the Juggs guns they use at baseball games," Aucoin tells me as he fiddles with the gun's settings. I'm happy to have one excuse for my woeful velocity before we've even started. And the windup, the pitch... "Seventy-two miles per hour," calls Aucoin. Another pitch: "Seventy-four." I have new respect for Tim Wakefield. I try to get my elbow up higher, keep the shoulder closed, push forward off my back leg instead of using all arm. It's like a golf swing—there's a lot to remember if you're thinking about your mechanics instead of relying on muscle memory. I hit 75 mph a few times, then decide to quit while I've still got a functional rotator cuff.

I'm bummed that I didn't hit 80 mph, but that's why we're here. Aucoin breaks out a rubber resistance tube and demonstrates his favorite exercise for increasing throwing strength. "A lot of the muscles you need for throwing are in your core," he says, pulling the grip down across his body in a twisting motion. It looks a little like the Disco Stu cross-body finger-wag dance move, but with resistance. "One winter I spent a lot of time doing these, along with squats and leg exercises, and the next spring my fastball had gone from 89 to 92 mph," he adds. Interestingly, exercises for the arms themselves aren't on the menu, which makes sense when you think about how a relatively bottom-heavy, skinny guy like Pedro Martinez once threw 100 mph, yet the jacked Johnny Damon throws like a tyrannosaurus rex with elbow tendinitis.

So, I ask, given that before today I hadn't thrown a ball in six months, and the Stalker gun reads slow (about 25 mph slow in my opinion), and my mechanics need refinement, is there a chance that I could throw 80 mph with a little work? Aucoin hesitates, then says yes, but in much the same way Lauren Holly tells Jim Carrey there's a one-in-a-million chance of them getting together in *Dumb and Dumber*. So he's saying there's a chance! Look out, softball league—runners, best think twice before tagging up on a shallow fly ball: this year you're dealing with a guy who can almost throw 5 mph slower than Byung Hyun Kim.

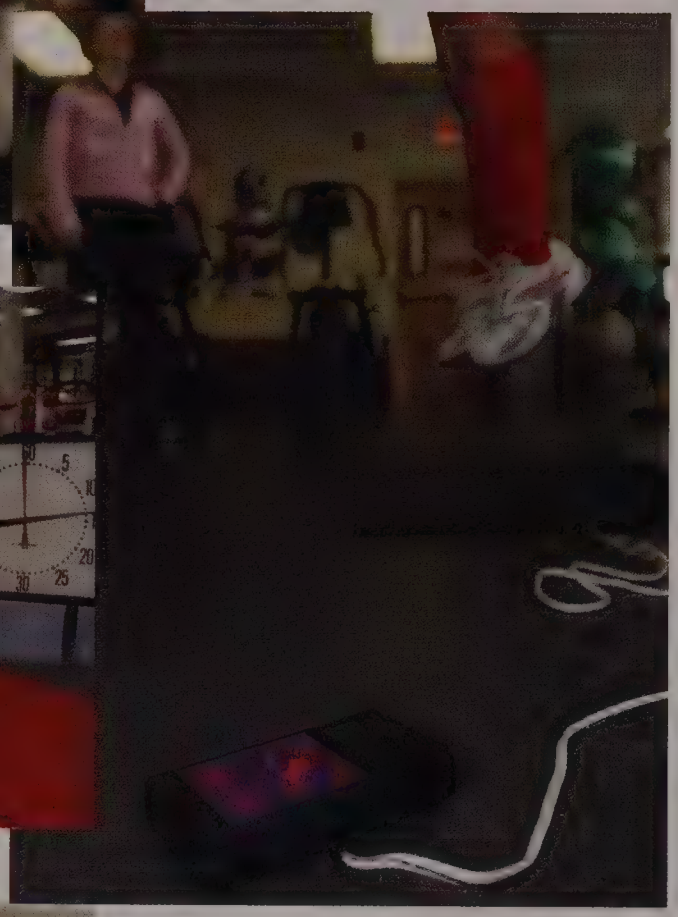
"One winter I spent a lot of time doing [resistance exercises], along with squats and leg exercises, and the next spring my fastball had gone from 89 to 92 mph."

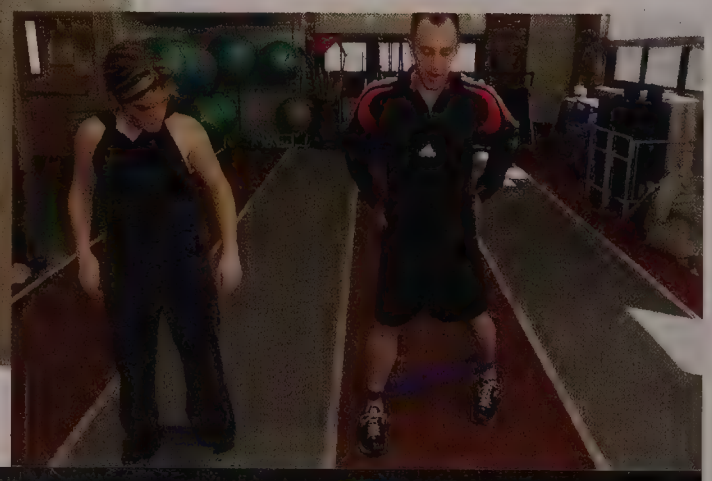
—Eddie Aucoin, pitcher for the Brockton Rox

From top: Ezra gets pointers from Brockton Rox pitcher Eddie Aucoin; Aucoin demonstrates a resistance exercise, then measures Ezra's fastball speed.

"The glutes are the most important muscle to strengthen for soccer."

—Vic Brown, Boston University strength and conditioning coach





The fitness test for soccer includes (from top) a dynamic warm-up, a 10-yard sprint, a vertical-jump test, glute bridges, wall throw-ins, and forward and sideward steps with a rubber band around the ankles.

I'M GONNA GIT YOU, SOCCER

BY LESLIE KILGORE

I thought that several hours per week of cardio and lifting weights in the gym would prepare me for a soccer workout with Boston University associate strength and conditioning coach Vic Brown. But as I embark on the women's team's regular workout, my fitness frame of reference is in for a severe adjustment, especially given that I haven't even kicked a soccer ball since my college days.

I warm up with varsity player Brooke Bingham, a junior from Duxbury, at the BU Athletic Department's private gym and indoor track. We begin with high-knee lunge walks and skips, high-knee runs, butt kicks and a range of other warm-up exercises designed to prevent injury. My favorite is the Spider-man hamstring walk: creeping around on my hands and feet with my back arched. This stretch feels amazing, but it's not something I'd be bold enough to practice in front of a crowd at the gym.

After the warm-up, Brown talks about the importance of readying the body for a training session. He says that elevating the body temperature transforms muscle into a "warm rubber band" and is essential for the lateral demands soccer entails. "It's important to turn on our nervous system so that our body is ready to be explosive and react," he says.

I definitely feel warmed up and am ready for the vertical-jump test. I step on the machine, a large rubber pad that computes jump height by measuring the impact when the jumper hits the ground. "This helps us to see how high the players can get when heading the ball," assistant coach Dave Bucciero tells me. My stats don't compare too badly with Bingham's, even though she towers over me. So far, so good.

Feeling pretty confident, I'm ready for the 10-yard sprint and the agility test, which give the coaches an idea of how fast a player can chase the ball on the field. The agility test measures how quickly I can run while changing directions, a movement that Brown says is the most important in soccer. "It's a highly lateral sport, so our athletes must have the ability to run, stop and change directions constantly," he says. During this test I begin to get some idea of the pain a Division I athlete endures. My muscles start to fatigue and the coaches tell me the next test is the most challenging—and one I can skip. Nope, I'll do it. No giving up now.

Brown explains that soccer players are tested regularly on how fast they can run two 300-yard dashes with a five-minute rest in between. If their times for both runs are similar, it shows their muscles are able to withstand the exertion, which means they're in playing shape.

Although my times are similar to Bingham's, crossing the finish line the second time around nearly kills me, as every muscle begins to shake. While I suck wind, Brown informs me that the test is even more challenging for the players, who do it on grass. "Are you ready to do some exercises to help build strength?" he asks. Well, I suppose.

"The glutes are the most important muscle to strengthen for soccer," Brown says. Perfect. Exercises for the butt will help my soccer skills and tone an area neglected from sitting all day at work. We do some forward, backward and sideward steps with a rubber exercise band wrapped around our ankles, making sure to squeeze the booty as we move. Glute bridges, which strengthen the core as well as the butt, are next. Lying on our backs, we lift our hips off the ground while pulling one leg, then the other, toward the chest. Then we practice throw-ins—passing an out-of-bounds ball back into play—and work on arm and core strength with forearm and elbow bridges.

I'm completely exhausted by the time the 90-minute workout ends, but I've picked up some of the tools I'll need to kick ass (semi-literally) on the spring sports fields. Walking back to the office, I can feel aches in muscles that I'd forgotten about since my own collegiate sports days. Tomorrow morning should be interesting.

GOT GAME?

When you're ready to try out your new-found skills in competition, check out one of these local leagues.

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

Boston Men's Baseball League
617-227-3225
www.bostonbaseball.com
The tentative tryout date for this 51-team league is April 10.

Boston Ski & Sports Club
617-789-4070
www.bssc.com
Men's, women's and coed softball leagues.

Newton Coed Softball
617-796-1529
www.ci.newton.ma.us/Parks/coedsoftball.htm
Registration deadline to sign up teams is April 15.

SOCCER

Boston Ski and Sports Club
617-789-4070
www.bssc.com
Men's, women's and coed leagues.

Eastern Massachusetts Women's Soccer League
617-464-3984
www.emwsl.org
More than 60 teams play at fields in the Boston area.

Greater Boston Indoor Sports
781-289-5700
www.bostonindoorsports.com
Men's, women's and coed teams at a variety of levels from highly competitive to recreational.

BASKETBALL

Basketball City
617-742-6700
www.basketballcity.com/boston
Numerous competitive leagues scheduled for spring and summer.

Corporate Basketball League
781-248-7811
Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas.

Never Too Late Basketball
781-488-3333
www.nevertoolate.com
Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston. Springs season starts April 10.

COURT DATE

BY RICH LEVINE

I swear, it wasn't always like this. There was a time when I could run a couple of miles without having to submerge my shins in ice for three days afterwards. I played varsity hoops in high school and intramural ball in college, and back then I used to spend my spare time doing sit-ups and push-ups at the gym, not eating Fruit Roll-Ups on the couch.

You get the point. I'm not in the greatest shape of my life, but things are about to change. It's time to get back to my roots. Whether it's running the outdoor courts like the King and Duck Johnson or joining a local hoops league, I'm going to get back into basketball. In preparation for this life-changing venture, I head over to Sports Club/LA to see private trainer Telf Murray and get some tips on transforming myself back into a seasoned player.

Right off the bat, Murray, who groomed his game in New York City leagues like the CYO and Pro-Am, stresses quickness. We start with a set of drills to help improve that facet of my game. I run back and forth, up and down the court, first with a series of high knee kicks (think skipping on steroids), then jogging backwards while kicking my legs out behind me. When I finish that round of drills, Murray utters the word all basketball players dread most: suicides. I speed to half-court, bend down and touch the line. Sprint back, touch the line. Then it's all the way down to the other end, touch line. And back. I'm spent, but there's no time to rest—it's time to work on my jump.

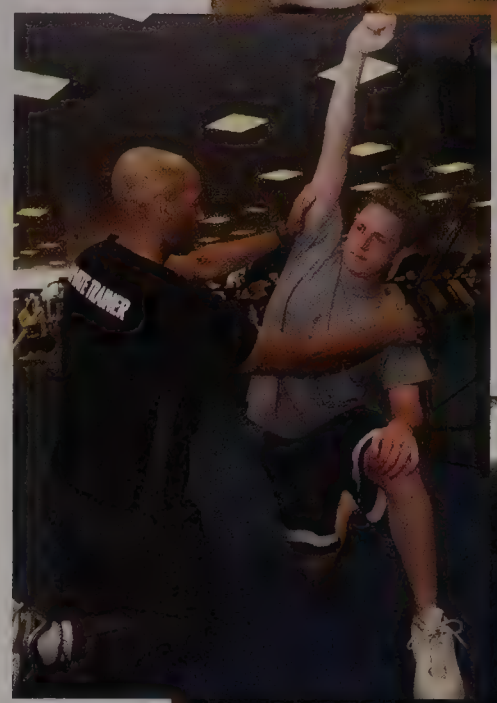
I want Murray to measure my vertical, but again, it's all about quickness. "It's not how high you can jump," he says. "It's how quickly you can react and get up in the air. Dennis Rodman didn't get all those rebounds by jumping the highest—he jumped the fastest." Murray stations me directly under the hoop, and I begin rapid-fire jumping. I bend my knees, explode up and grab the rim (OK, the net). As soon as I come down, I shoot right back up. I endure two sets of 10, all while feeling like I'm about to lose my breakfast on the court. Not bad. "Do this twice a week or so to start," he says. "You'll start to see improvements."

I'm deliriously out of breath, so Murray puts me at the foul line. "There's no better practice than shooting when you're dead tired," he says. Here, at last, we can get some empirical data on my basketball skills—many a reputation has been made or lost on crucial end-of-the-game foul shots. I toe the stripe and make five out of 10. So I'm more efficient than Shaquille O'Neal, but also worse than some 15-year-old girls. Murray spots a problem. "When you're tired, you've got to use your legs because your arms don't have the strength anymore. Bend your knees, push up and make sure you follow through." I do as he suggests, and drain three in a row.

After a few more shooting drills, it's time for the weight room. We start with plyometrics, designed to enhance both speed and strength. I spend the next 10 minutes performing various jumping exercises (one foot, two feet and alternating legs) on and off a two-foot-high box and then move over to the machines for squatting, a great exercise because it works your glutes, quads, hamstrings and calves all at once.

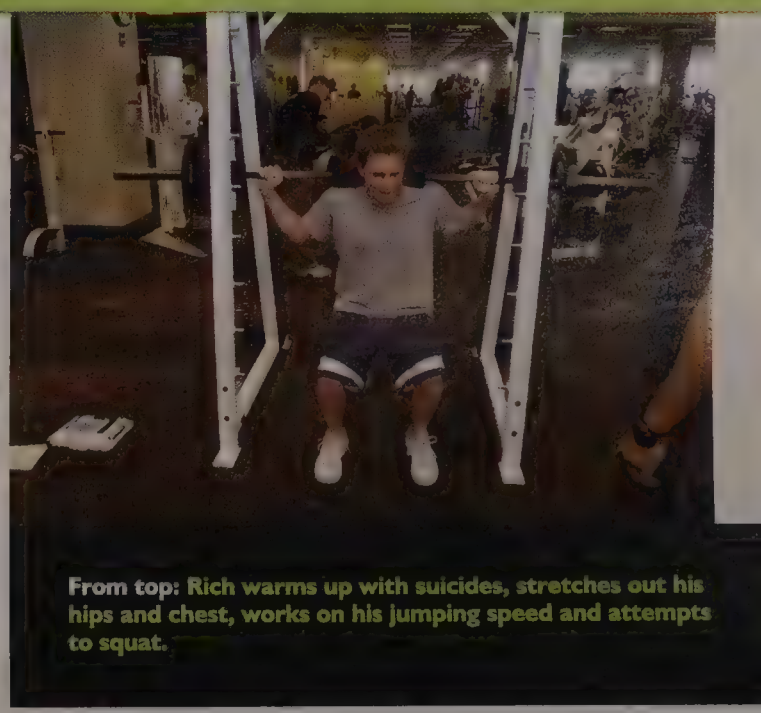
Murray loads the machine with 90 pounds and tells me how to do a proper squat: Stand with feet hip-width apart. Slowly bend the knees and lower the hips toward the floor, keeping the torso straight and the abs pulled in tight. Make sure everything's pointing in the same direction, and don't go lower than 90 degrees. But there's one problem: I have the flexibility of a two-by-four, which prevents me from squatting correctly.

Murray gives me a series of hip, leg and chest stretches to get myself more "squat ready," but the lifting will have to wait. That's OK though, because locking yourself in the gym isn't the best way for Joe Average to get ready for the season. "The key to basketball is your core strength, stability and flexibility, and the best way to improve that is by training out on the court, not in the gym," Murray says. I can handle that. So don't laugh when you see that guy sprinting back and forth by himself on the courts in Brighton next week. By the time summer rolls around, he's going to have game. iB



"It's not how high you can jump. It's how quickly you can react and get up in the air. Dennis Rodman didn't get all those rebounds by jumping the highest—he jumped the fastest."

—Telf Murray, The Sports Club/LA



From top: Rich warms up with suicides, stretches out his hips and chest, works on his jumping speed and attempts to squat.

the big

Four years ago,

Cornelia Hoskin was working as a personal chef for about 10 families living near California's Laguna Beach. Each week she'd fax or e-mail her customers healthful menu options, and they'd place their orders by Friday. Then she'd cook all weekend, deliver the food Monday morning, and spend the rest of the week at the beach. A great life, you might think. But Hoskin yearned to return to New England, where she was born and raised. She thought she saw a way home by creating her own novel niche in Boston's dynamic food scene.

When she heard about a new blast-freezing technology perfected by a French company, Hoskin flew to Paris, and after eating nothing but frozen food for a week, she decided she'd tasted the future. Now she's living in Cambridge where she heads Well, Well, Well, a company that sells frozen gourmet meals—using as many organic, locally grown ingredients as possible—delivered to the customer's doorsteps.

Hoskin started the company last May, and she already has a staff of four serving more than 250 clients, as well as five local markets and a South End health club. Her most popular dishes include osso buco, braised Moroccan lamb with couscous and haricot verts, and salmon with sweet peppercorn sauce. With prices ranging from $6.95 to $36.95 for entrées serving one or two people, food from Well, Well, Well isn't cheap. But fans say they appreciate the tasty, healthful convenience.

LOCAL ORGANIC MERCHANTS ARE KEEPING BOSTON UP TO SPEED ON THE NATION'S HOTTEST FOOD TREND.

BY JUDITH GAINES

Well Well Well's Cornelia Hoskin (right) with chef Riad Karcouche

Gone are the days when organic food was available just in hippyish co-ops or alternative health food stores—puny heads of bug-eaten lettuce, say, sandwiched between the incense and the exotic herbal remedies. Hoskin is one of hundreds of purveyors in Boston's booming organic market. Even mainline supermarkets such as Shaw's and Stop & Shop have introduced organic sections. Local staff of Stop & Shop's Peapod home delivery service say the number of customers who order organic is increasing by 4 percent per week.

Since the 1990s, in Boston as in the rest of the country, organics have become the hottest sector of the U.S. food industry, growing 20 to 24 percent annually and projected to exceed $30 billion in annual sales by 2007. No other part of the food business has anything like double-digit growth. Today major chains such as Whole Foods, Wild Oats and Trader Joe's cater to sizable organic constituencies, as do all sorts of smaller stores, farms, farmers' markets, co-ops, bakeries and restaurants around the city.

They're appealing to more than just wealthy eaters. Last year, a study by the Hartman Group research firm found that a whopping 66 percent of U.S. consumers used some organic products at least occasionally. Through a program called "Menu for Change" launched by Stonyfield Farm yogurtmeister Gary Hirshberg, students at seven public schools in Greater Boston can find organic items in their school vending machines.

The array of organic offerings is huge, and fun. Bostonians can buy organic pizza, pretzels, cookies, muffins, pies, potato chips, ice cream, cereals, soups, soda pop, tortillas, chocolate bars, bananas, sea vegetables, cake mixes, coffee, tea, beer and wine. "Almost anything you want, you can get in an organic version, and we sell most of them," says Chris Durkin, director of membership and community relations for the Harvest Co-Op Markets, which has stores in Jamaica Plain and Cambridge.

Even organic clothing is available. The Hempest on Newbury Street offers a full wardrobe for men and women, along with bedding and housewares. Sweaters, pants, dresses, shirts, sheets, towels and more are made from organically grown hemp, cotton or wool using ecologically friendly dyes. "People are realizing that what you put against your skin can be absorbed into your body," explains Hempest owner Mitch Rosenfield, "and about half the pesticides used in this country go onto cotton. Organic clothing is more healthy, like organic food, and your dollars don't support the petrochemical industry."

You can get organic fare in all sorts of ways. Hoskin's company may be unique in providing frozen, fully prepared meals to your doorstep, but others will cater ready-to-eat organic meals for you. Several

ORGANIC IN GREATER BOSTON

Here's a list of local restaurants and the organic foods they serve, plus some other local resources.

Azure
Lenox Hotel, 61 Exeter St., 617-933-4800
Uses organic whenever available—mainly vegetables, veal and chicken. Has its own pesticide-free garden on the roof.

blu
4 Avery St., 617-375-8550
Greens and herbs; many vegetables; chicken, quail, rabbit, pork.

The Blue Room
1 Kendall Square, Cambridge, 617-494-9034
Ingredients largely from local, mostly organic farms.

The Butcher Shop
552 Tremont St., 617-423-4800
Chicken, rabbit; produce in summer.

Caffé Umbra
1395 Washington St., 617-869-0707
Herbs and greens in season; pork.

Center Street Café
597 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-9217
Some organic options, especially in summer; all locally grown.

Clio
Eliot Suite Hotel, 370A Comm. Ave., 617-536-7200
Vegetables, herbs, milk and cheeses, when available.

East Coast Grill
1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 617-491-6568
Some pork, cheese, butter, when available.

Excelsior
Heritage on the Garden, 272 Boylston St., 617-426-7878
Vegetables, meat and grains.

The Federalist
15 Beacon St., 617-670-2515
Grains and herbs.

The Fireplace
1634 Beacon St., Brookline, 617-975-1900
Produce (in season).

Garden of Eden Café
571 Tremont St., 617-247-8377
Meats are naturally raised, not certified organic.

Hamersley's Bistro
553 Tremont St., 617-423-2700
Local produce, meat and fish when available.

Henrietta's Table
Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-661-5005
Mixed greens; some chicken, pork, lamb and veal; some cheeses; many vegetables in summer.

Icarus
3 Appleton St., 617-426-1790
Naturally raised products in most dishes.

Julien Restaurant and Café Fleuri
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., 617-451-1900
Chicken, pork, some cheeses; many vegetables; all herbs and greens; raspberries and strawberries, when available.

L'Espalier
30 Gloucester St., 617-262-3023
Most vegetables, veal, lamb, chicken, squab, beef, herbs, cheeses, butter and cream.

Lumiere
1293 Washington St., West Newton, 617-244-9199
Most produce, especially in the spring and summer. Also, scallops, mussels, oysters, bass, Spanish cheese, naturally raised steak, lamb and pork sausage.

Meritage
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, 617-439-3995
All lettuces; most vegetables, especially in summer; beef, pork, chicken.

No. 9 Park
9 Park St., 617-742-9991
Greens and vegetables (in summer), chicken, beef.

Oleana
134 Hampshire St., Cambridge, 617-661-0505
Produce, when available and chicken; all-natural beef and pork.

Olives
10 City Square, Charlestown, 617-242-1999
Seasonal produce, lamb, veal, eggs; free-range chicken.

Perdix
560 Tremont St., 617-338-8070
Some organic wines; produce during the summer.

Rialto
The Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-661-5050
Shrimp, chicken, greens; more organic vegetables in summer.

(continued on page 29)

Gone are the days when organic food was available just in hippyish co-ops or alternative health food stores—puny heads of bug-eaten lettuce, say, sandwiched between the incense and the exotic herbal remedies.

Each year, the Food Project donates nearly half its 250,000-pound vegetable harvest to Greater Boston shelters.

The Food Project's young workers grow food together and sell it at farmer's markets like this one in front of the Children's Museum.

services deliver raw organic ingredients to your home or to a central delivery point where you pick it up. Boston Organics, started two years ago by local native Jeff Barry, offers fresh vegetable and/or fruit boxes plus organic breads, coffees, teas and hot cocoa mix. These are delivered regularly to customers' doors along with a newsletter and recipes.

A number of local farms sell organic produce directly to the consumer. Some offer pick-it-yourself options, and many bring their wares to any of the 18 farmers' markets that operate throughout Greater Boston in the spring, summer and fall. There's also an effort under way to establish a year-round, indoor-outdoor public market at Dewey Square, by South Station, that will include some organic fare. The market is slated to open in June.

Organic ingredients are on the menu at dozens of local restaurants, from high-end splurges like L'Espalier in Boston's Back Bay to O'Naturals, a brand new organic fast-food eatery in Somerville's Davis Square. Farm-teaching programs like the Farm School in Athol show schoolchildren and adults how to grow food using organic methods, and a large cadre of professional organic gardeners will help you design an organic landscape, or do it for you.

The exact meaning of "organic" has been and remains controversial. But most consumers agree that the label should apply only to food grown or raised without the use of toxic pesticides or environmentally harmful fertilizers, chemical additives or artificial preservatives, and that it should not be genetically modified. Organic meats, poultry and seafood aren't given antibiotics or growth hormones, and the creatures are raised under more humane conditions, in less crowded, less stressful environments.

Some farmers complain that national organic standards cater to large-scale producers or are too onerous, while others say they aren't strict enough. Some decline to apply for the "organic" label and adopt alternative standards that are sometimes even stricter than the Department of Agriculture's. John Lee, farm manager at the Allandale Farm in Jamaica Plain, is one of more than 50 farmers spearheading a rebel movement for a "certified naturally grown" label, which would establish that their food is organically raised, tested and inspected, but without the USDA's burdensome paperwork.

The Food Project, a Boston and Lincoln–based nonprofit that makes regular donations to shelters and soup kitchens, grows food on reclaimed land in Roxbury and Dorchester, in school gardens, and even on the rooftop of the Boston Medical Center, as well as at more conventional farm sites outside the city. The food isn't USDA-certified organic, but the Food Project uses natural methods similar to those Lee describes.

Despite the nationwide standards, even devotees acknowledge that the quality of organic products varies considerably. Bread makers like Igor Ivanovic, for instance, who would like to bake more organically, still struggle with the uneven quality of organic flours. It's improving, he says from the Cambridge

The Food Project offers farming experience to Greater Boston youth at sites in Roxbury and this one in Lincoln.

office of his Iggy's Breads company. Ivanovic currently makes three organic loaves. But like most bakers, Iggy's best breads aren't organic.

Does it really matter whether you eat organic or not? The jury is still out on whether chemical residues on nonorganic food are seriously harmful to people. You can find studies that say they are, and others that insist they're not. Nonorganic food isn't necessarily unsafe, and organic food isn't always more tasty. It also may not be entirely toxin-free; even when a farmer doesn't spray with pesticides, produce sometimes is exposed to airborne pollutants through wind, rain and, in some cases, snow drift.

But organic foods do have fewer toxins, and for that reason are at least *more* healthful. They contain more nutrients and fewer heavy metals than their nonorganic counterparts. *The Journal of Applied Nutrition* reports that organic apples, pears, potatoes, wheat and sweet corn, for instance, typically have nearly 400 percent more selenium, which is believed to protect against cancer and heart disease.

For many people, the rub remains the price. Organic food is usually more expensive, typically 10 percent to 200 percent more. Is it worth it? "We don't necessarily buy something just because it flies an organic banner," says Audrey Dumper, East Coast vice president of marketing for Trader Joe's, which sells a variety of organic produce and packaged foods. "We want high quality and a good deal for our customers. But as the market grows, the pricing gets better. We find that most people, if they can buy it without paying much more, prefer organic."

But how much is too much more? That's for each consumer to decide. iB

The Ritz-Carlton Café
15 Arlington St., 617-536-5700
Produce, chicken.

Rouge
480 Columbus Ave.
617-867-0600
Greens in season.

Saint
90 Exeter St., Boston,
617-236-1134
Veal and chicken, some local fruits and vegetables.

Salts
798 Main St., Cambridge,
617-876-8444
Greens and specialty vegetables; chicken, beef, lamb; some cheeses; some wines. In summer, all vegetables. (Restaurant is starting its own organic farm this year.)

Sel de la Terre
255 State St., 617-720-1300
Some fruit and vegetables; free-range chicken, some lamb, veal, pork, turkey.

Spire
Nine Zero Hotel, 90 Tremont St.,
617-772-0202
Most produce; most cheeses; all beef, lamb, chicken and pork.

Stanhope Grille
Jurys Boston Hotel, 350 Stuart St.,
617-266-7200
Seafood; antibiotic- and hormone-free meats starting in April; vegetables in summer.

Tremont 647
647 Tremont St., 617-266-4600
Greens in season; cheeses, lamb, venison and pork.

Veggie Planet
47 Palmer St., Cambridge,
617-661-1513
All dough ingredients and some produce.

Via Matta
79 Park St., 617-422-0008
Chicken, beef, pork, cheeses and produce when available, especially in summer.

Haley House Inc.
23 Dartmouth St.,
617-236-8132
Organic cookies, muffins, pies, breads, pizzas; an organic farm in Winchendon Springs; new café-bakery opening soon in Dudley Square.

Nashoba Brook Bakery Café
288 Columbus Ave.,
617-236-0777
Seven-grain and whole-wheat organic breads.

ORGANIC MARKETS

Good Health Natural Foods
1627 Hancock St., Quincy,
617-773-4925,
www.goodhealthnaturalfood.com
Organic and specialty foods, vitamins, cosmetics.

Harvest Co-Op Markets
581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge,
617-661-1580;
57 South St., Jamaica Plain,
617-524-1667;
www.harvestcoop.com
A range of organic, natural and fair-trade products, including produce, cheese, meat, fish, coffee, spices, wine and beer, and bulk foods.

The Hempest
207 Newbury St.,
617-421-9944, www.hempest.com
Hemp, cotton and wool clothing and other gifts.

Trader Joe's
Various locations,
www.traderjoes.com
Some produce and packaged foods.

Whole Foods Markets
Various locations,
www.wholefoods.com
About 50 percent of the store is organic.

Wild Oats Natural Marketplace
Various locations,
www.wildoats.com
Many organic choices.

OTHER RESOURCES

BAKERIES AND CAFES

Iggy's Bread of the World
130 Fawcett St., Cambridge,
617-491-7600
Three organic breads: wheat, white and rye

Clear Flour Bread Bakery
178 Thorndike St., Brookline,
617-739-0060
Organic rye, wheat and buckwheat-walnut breads.

FOOD SERVICES

Boston Organics
978-465-8466
www.bostonorganics.com
Organic and natural foods home-delivered.

Well, Well, Well
617-945-3500
www.well3.com
Frozen, prepared meals with natural and organic ingredients, home-delivered.

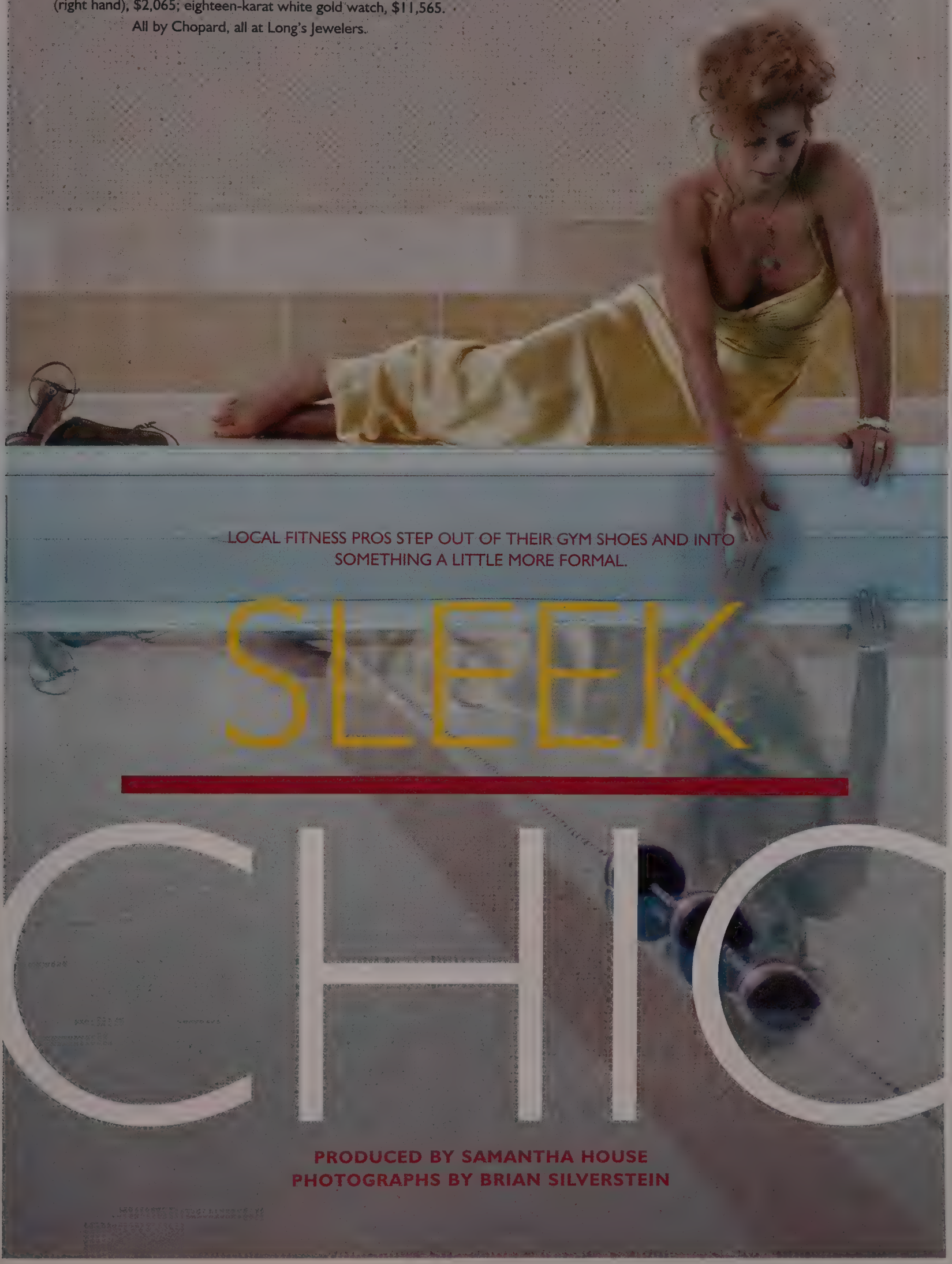
CAT CORCHADO, THE SPORTS CLUB/LA
AND HENRY RICHARDSON, EXHALE

On her: Strapless white sheer tulle gown with crystals, $2,400 at the Altered Bride. Yellow wedges, $198 at DKNY. Diamond necklace by Leslie Green $5,680; diamond bracelet $10,300; matching earrings $4,500; diamond ring, $11,570. All at Long's Jewelers.

On him: White pants by Boss Hugo Boss, $145; white top by J. Lindeberg, $225. Both at Saks Fifth Avenue.

MEREDITH ROTCHWELL, GOLD'S GYM

Yellow silk dress by Niteline, $228 at Lord & Taylor. Green wedges, $188 at DKNY. Diamond mounting ring (left hand) by Tacori, $3,240 at Long's Jewelers. Eighteen-karat white gold and diamond pendant $2,995; matching earrings $3,365; matching ring (right hand), $2,065; eighteen-karat white gold watch, $11,565. All by Chopard, all at Long's Jewelers.



LOCAL FITNESS PROS STEP OUT OF THEIR GYM SHOES AND INTO SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE FORMAL.

SLEEK CHIC

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN

PHYLLIS LONDON, HEALTHWORKS FITNESS CENTERS FOR WOMEN

White organza skirt with flower detailing plus red bustier, $1,400 at the Altered Bride.
Enamel and diamond pink gold necklace, $21,375; matching ring, $3,025. Both by Roberto Coin, both at Long's Jewelers.

CHRISTI CHRISTENSEN, EXHALE

Silk multitiered ruffle Margo gown by Escada Couture, $5,200 at Escada. Gold shoes, $188 at DKNY. Oval swirl right-hand diamond ring $3,240; diamond earrings by Leslie Green $3,930; wide diamond cuff, $13,400. All at Long's Jewelers.

JONATHAN MALONE, HEALTHWORKS FITNESS CENTERS FOR WOMEN AND THE SPORTS CLUB/LA

White suit with blue pinstripes by Armani Collezioni, $1,495; white top by Tenka 24, $190. Both at Saks Fifth Avenue. Sterling dog tags, $450; signature sterling chain, $450. Both by Scott Kay. Yellow-face chronometer by Breitling, $2,085. All at Long's Jewelers.

The Altered Bri
376 Boylston S
617-859-82

DKN
37 Newbury S
617-236-04

Esca
308 Boylston S
Heritage on the Gard
617-437-12

Long's Jewele
100 Summer S
617-426-85

Lord & Tayl
760 Boylston S
617-262-60

Saks Fifth Aven
Prudential Cent
617-262-85

Shot on location at th
Four Seasons Hot

Hair: Jeffrey Ly
Makeup: Edlyn Cl
Makeup Assistan
Kelly Voo
Photography Assistan
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JEFF DUNHAM

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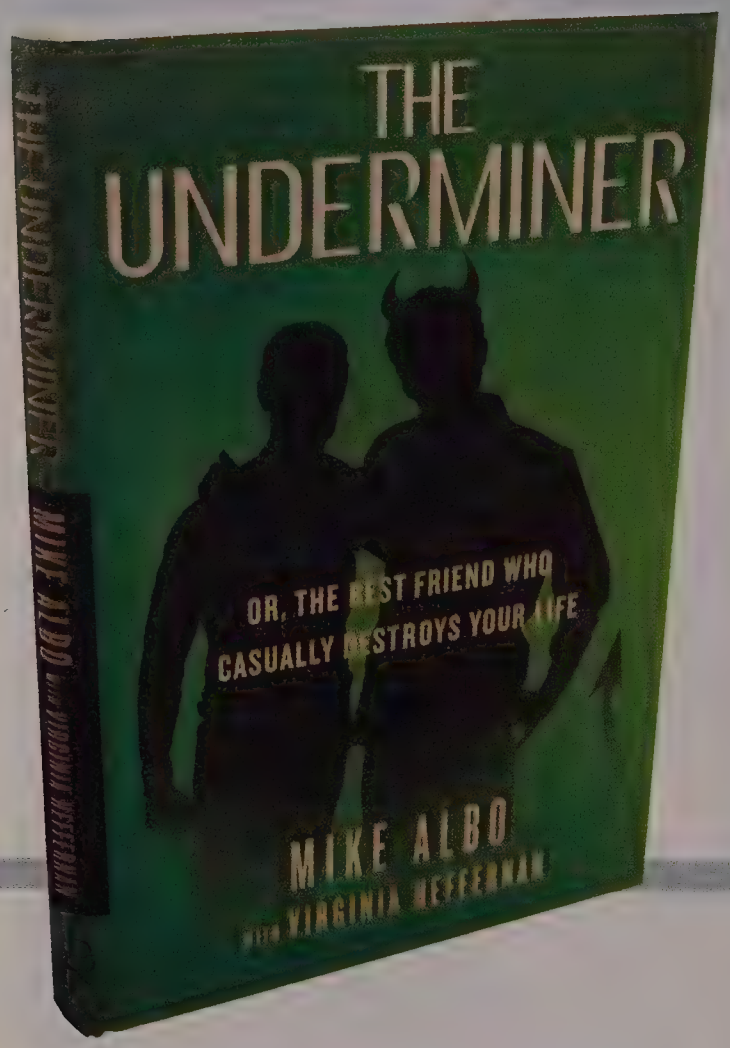
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



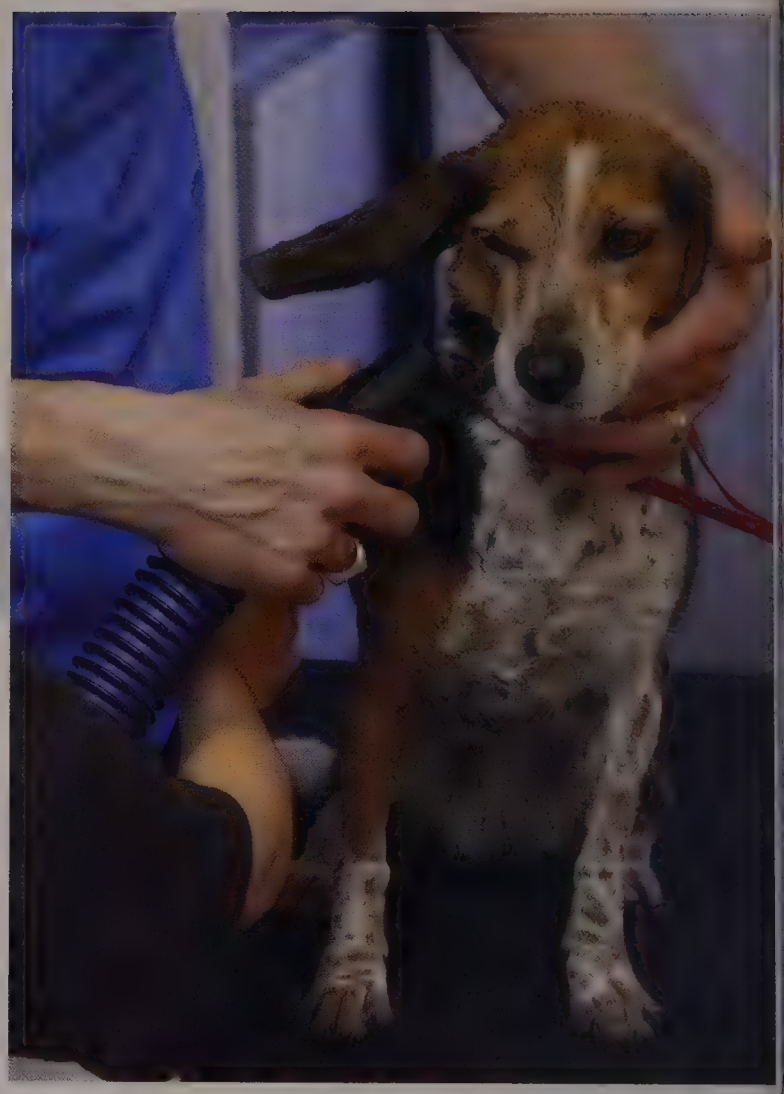
I'M OK. ARE YOU OK? YOU LOOK WEIRD

***The Underminer: Or, the Best Friend Who Casually Destroys Your Life*, by Mike Albo with Virginia Heffernan, is a novel about the ostensibly well-meaning friend who inevitably brings you down. Albo performs his one-man show, *My Price Point*, at the Boston Center for the Arts, April 7–30.**

Actor/monologuist Mike Albo and his friend Virginia Heffernan, who earned her doctorate in English literature at Harvard, have come up with a character type that will probably end up with its own bona fide psychiatric diagnosis, perhaps in the well-populated outposts of narcissism. They just call her (or him, it's vaguely ambiguous) the Underminer. From the first page, the marvelously vile and triumphalist voice of this smugly self-satisfied success machine heralds forth his own greatness to an endlessly shriveling "friend" whose own life isn't going so well. Fittingly, the Underminer does all the talking in this bubbling bragfest that's punctuated with pitying, condescending, yet pseudo-supportive statements about the deflated pal's cutely "off" choices of hairdo, crush objects, and career attempts, all saccharined over with insincerity. While our highly happening narrator gets book deals, makes millions and schmoozes with casually name-dropped friends like Kurt and Courtney and Cameron, the undermined one slips ever backward into failed ventures and out-of-date fads: "You're having a Bloody Mary? No, I'm not drinking anymore." "You got a job as an intern? Did they expand their program? I thought it was just for teens." Margaret Cho calls it "hilarious and sick." This hateful narrator will make you laugh heartily—despite yourself.

SHAMPOOCH

At LaundroMutt, 489 Concord Ave., Cambridge (at Fresh Pond Circle), you can wash your dog yourself. Call 617-864-9274 or go to www.laundromutt.com.



Picture the home rainforest disaster that washing your dog usually entails: water, water, everywhere. Now, summon up a remarkably sunny, cheerful spot where you two can go together, bonding and tail-wagging. And for less than the price of a drop-off grooming, you can do the job yourself. LaundroMutt is the first Fido self-sudsery in the Boston area, and the joint is jumping. Actually, the dogs in waist-high tubs, washed by loving hands, seem remarkably calm. Allergic dogs or the otherwise sensitive especially profit from the ease of frequent-washing that LaundroMutt provides. Post bath, they're put on a table and either towel dried or blow-dried. You can shop here for your pet's favorite brand or shampoo, or bring your own. Upstairs, there's the BarkaLounge, with droll photos of dogs swimming underwater, and a bone-shaped blackboard offering other canine attractions. You can schedule a doggie birthday party, and Social Nights, with guest dog experts, are in the works. As parents with young children know, doggie connections often forge friendship among the grown-ups, or in this case, the humans. And Fresh Pond, with its off-leash opportunities right across the street, is the perfect spot to bond with fellow pooch owners.

DRESS YOURSELF AS A GARDEN

April Cornell, at 43 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-8910), sells colorful, flowery clothes (including children's), housewares and linens. Two other stores are located in the Chestnut Hill Mall and Faneuil Hall.

In the land of April Cornell, it's always a high summer day, en route to the past. Some designs recall flapper time or Edwardian England, others hippie days. The distinctive look of Cornell's dresses is flowery and flowing too. Some are loose and "slooshy" and have a Mini-Me parallel in a little girls' fairyland dress—a combo called Mom and Me. For a wedding, a christening or a garden party, the soft little lace dresses look almost antique. Some of the grown-ups' dresses have puckered, innocently sexy tops and skirt hems that exude twisty little tendrils at the bottom. Pink and yellow and blue abound. Even creations that are more suitable for daytime, like blue jackets with a modified Mao collar, or loosely crocheted ponchos, tend to blur the boundaries of work and play, of indoors and out. Upstairs in the recently repainted store, you can find the house linens and painted pottery, with their equally dreamy floral patterns, and you'll feel that pillowcases, tablecloths, jacquard spreads and pretty dish towels are the twins and sisters of the clothes downstairs. Sparkly, delicate jewelry completes the look.

From *The Boston Globe Calendar*, March 24, 2005

Cheap Eats - 75 Chestnut "A Great Neighbor"

by Denise Taylor, Globe Correspondent

"Restaurants for me are usually all about the food. Glaring lights, bad service, impressively garish decor -- all is forgiven for, say, a perfect curry buzzing with flavor, or a luscious stew. But the bar at 75 Chestnut could win me over even with a cup of instant soup.

This sliver of a room, tucked into the side pocket of the main restaurant, is not so much a place you walk into. Rather, it's a cozy nook you sink into, like a big cushy sofa. Mind you, nothing here is upholstered. It's just that with all the dark, polished wood, the bronze-hued light warming the room, and the lantern-lit rows of Beacon Hill brownstones forming the backdrop outside, it just feels good to hang out here. Until recently, though, wiling away an evening in the bar meant either noshing on snacks or earning lots of credit card points ordering from the upscale dining room menu. So last fall, chefs Markus Ripperger and Michael Heath created a new, casual 'neighborhood menu' for the bar, with the approval of owner Tom Kershaw, who also counts Cheers, Hampshire House,and Sam's Café to his name.

Like the seating, the bar menu choices are limited. The thrust is toward American comfort food with a few Mediterranean side trips. The fun part is that even if you order a downtown dish like the fabulous turkey club with fries ($9), the service is thoroughly uptown.The juicy charbroiled bistro burger ($9) comes with the same linen napkin and fine silverware used next door. Tell the impeccable waitstaff you plan to share a dish, and they will immediately offer to split it onto two plates for you. Choose to slurp up a bowl of light chowder swimming with fresh clams in the shell ($8), and you can accompany it with a glass of the same Schloss Marienlay Riesling ($8) proffered to the fine-dining guests. In other words, at 75 Chestnut, life is good in coach class too.

We loved the huge turkey club, which gives this diner staple a gourmet makeover with apple-wood smoked bacon and sweet cranberry aioli. The exceptionally tender P.E.I. mussels ($10) were the other standout, bathed in a tasty chardonnay-tomato sauce, hopping with garlic and fresh oregano. [...]

Finally, plan ahead and synchronize your watches. It's easier to get a seat weeknights if you arrive before 7 p.m. and keep your party to no bigger than two. Neighborhood menu fans are welcome in the formal dining room Sunday through Thursday as well, and it's lovely in there, but the bar's the real place for casual, after-work relief."

75 Chestnut
BEACON HILL

75 Chestnut Street • Beacon Hill
617-227-2175 • www.75chestnut.com

A Restaurant & Bar Owned & Operated by Thomas A. Kershaw

Sam's Café
at
Cheers

Faneuil Hall Marketplace

#16 - Sam Malone in Action for the Red Sox

Sam Malone was alleged to have been a **relief pitcher** for the **Boston Red Sox** before he owned the bar that appeared on the TV Show ***Cheers.*** It is only natural that the namesake bar at Faneuil Hall Marketplace become an **UN-official headquarters** for watching the Red Sox games on TV. Especially on our **eNORMous** 10'x10' projection screen TV.

Actual picture of Jim Lomborg during his great career with the Boston Red Sox
Courtesy of The Breasley Collection, Inc.

PATIO'S OPEN!
(weather permitting)

Sam's Café at Cheers
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building
617-227-2175 • www.cheersboston.com
A Restaurant & Bar Owned & Operated by Thomas A. Kershaw

REVIEW

JOIN THE CLUB

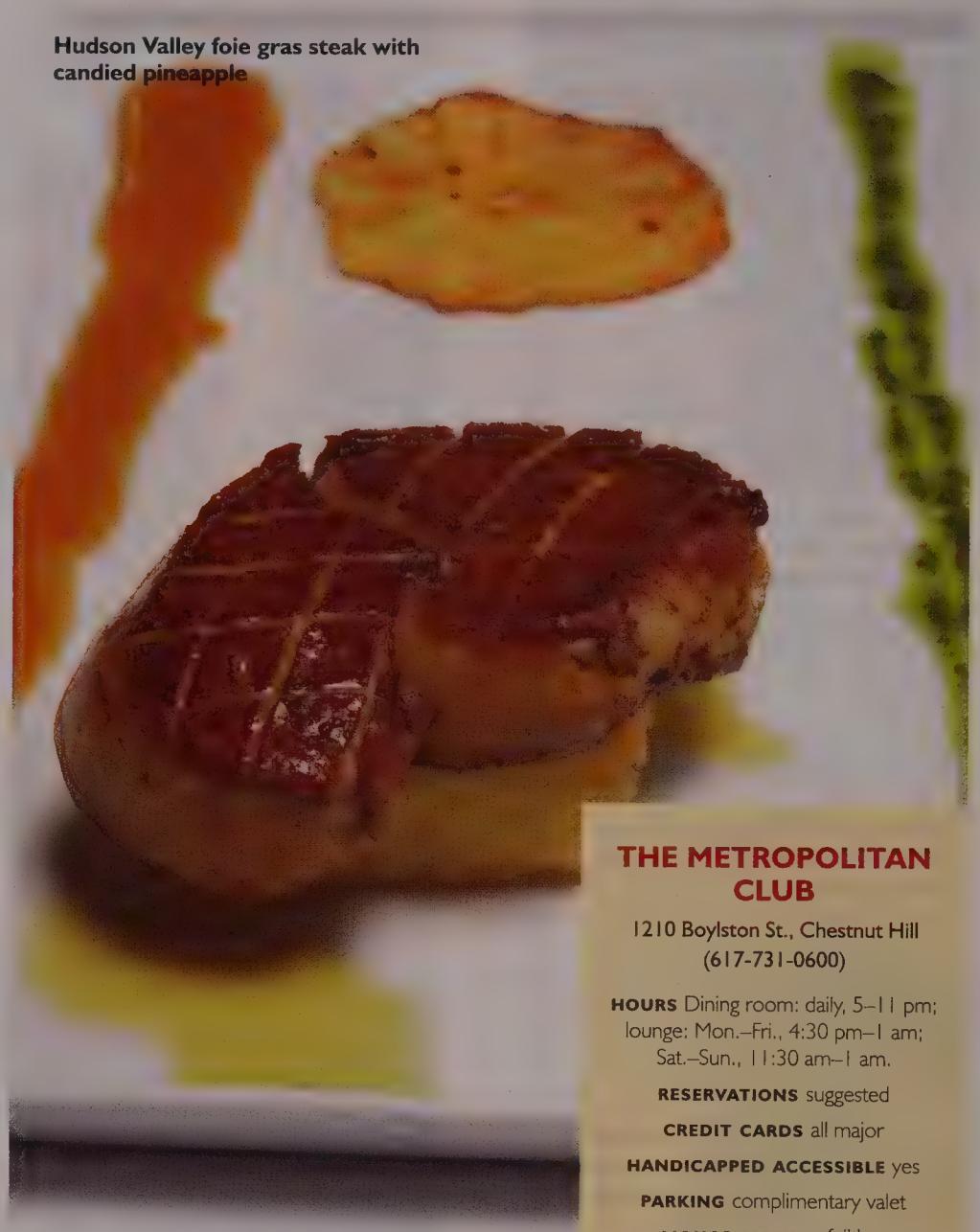
Chef Jeff Fournier provides a reason to make the trip to Chestnut Hill with the Metropolitan Club.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Jeff Fournier, a bright young star in the Greater Boston culinary firmament, has done it again. A one-time collaborator with Lydia Shire at Locke-Ober, Fournier distinguished himself when he ran the kitchen at Sophia's, in the Fenway, which unfortunately did not survive his departure. Now he presides over the creatively conceived, professionally executed food served at the Metropolitan Club in Chestnut Hill. Neither "metropolitan"—it's located in a strip mall on Route 9 at the site of the former Figs—nor a "club"—it's a public restaurant that accepts all applicants once they've negotiated an acceptable reservation time with the mildly daunting gatekeeper who answers the telephone—the Metropolitan Club combines upscale, comfortable surroundings with fine dining.

The Met does look more like a club than a restaurant, despite its location. An inviting bar and adjoining cocktail lounge furnished with high and low tables, stools and upholstered chairs flank the entrance, while a number of medium-sized dining rooms accommodate almost 150 diners in all, making this a far larger restaurant than it appears from the outside. One of the nicest dining rooms, the first one to the left beyond the entrance podium, is screened from the street by off-white draperies over the lower two-thirds of large, multipaned windows, with the upper third letting in natural light. Browns and beiges predominate in a color scheme of soothing earth tones gently illuminated by the indirect lighting emanating from the high, recessed ceiling. Comfortably spaced tables facilitate conversation. Some of the room dividers include upper portions of frosted glass that further accentuate the impression of spaciousness. Gas-fired fireplaces with handsome sconces mounted alongside provide a finishing touch.

Bare wooden tables set with woven place mats alternate with tables set with crisp, white tablecloths, while absorbent white cotton napkins prevail throughout. Oversized, high-stemmed wine glasses—two to a place setting in addition to a water glass—signaled that a serious, sophisticated dining experience was in store. The Metropolitan's copious bread basket, filled with crisp, house-made, Parmesan-encrusted focaccia fingers and moist cornbread, together with eggy brioches, crusty French baguettes, and delicious raisin pumpernickel, some of them from Sel de la Terre's bakery, came with soft butter and unusual, enjoyable spreads—a romesco of caramelized onions, dates and walnuts, and an orange-garlic marmalade.



Hudson Valley foie gras steak with candied pineapple

THE METROPOLITAN CLUB

1210 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill
(617-731-0600)

HOURS Dining room: daily, 5–11 pm; lounge: Mon.–Fri., 4:30 pm–1 am; Sat.–Sun., 11:30 am–1 am.

RESERVATIONS suggested

CREDIT CARDS all major

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes

PARKING complimentary valet

LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Appetizers included seared scallops and bacon ($12), a superb dish that surprised and delighted. Two satiny-textured scallops, seared golden brown on the outside and rare within, anchored one end of a rectangular white platter, with a block of rich, smoky, sweet-salty bacon in the middle and a square of grilled, moist polenta at the other end. Its eye-catching presentation did justice to its marvelous combination of tastes and textures. More prosaic, but in a most poetic way, was the "Met chicken soup made to order" ($7), which arrived in a lovely covered white tureen. The aroma of rich chicken stock liberally laced with garlic wafted upward when the cover was removed to reveal what looked more like a stew than a soup, full of large cubes of carrots, spherical potatoes, chunks of celery, and what seemed to be almost a half pound of white and dark chicken torn into generous shards. One night we chose our appetizer from the bar menu, a margherita pizza ($10) with vibrantly sweet-tangy tomatoes, mellow cheese and a thin crust.

The Met's main courses included the obligatory filet mignon ($32), a thick slice of top-quality beef tenderloin seared to seal in the juices and preserve its excellent, fork-tender texture. The 12-ounce piece of meat came garnished with a scallion and a sweet, earthy, perfectly cooked carrot. Offered "naked," the filet is also available au poivre—encrusted with fresh pepper—or with one of the Met's à la carte–priced ($3) sauces—not really needed, since the robust flavor of the beef stood up well on its own. A double-thick pork chop ($24) rivaled the steak in meaty goodness, and although it arrived medium rather than medium rare as ordered, its tenderness and juicy texture survived. Ribbons of beet aioli and basil puree, another of the Met's signature al dente, sweet carrots and a scoop of sweet cabbage relish proved worthy accompaniments.

The whole roast chicken ($17), almost intimidating in its girth, was presented in a black serving dish that looked like a small roasting pan, with a single sprig of parsley protruding from its breast. Unfortunately, an uncharacteristically timid hand prevailed in the garlic and herbs added to this bird, preventing it from achieving the robust flavor that makes simple roast chicken such a French bistro classic. Finally, and certainly not least of the Met's main courses, the filet of roasted cod ($24) brought a good-sized piece of firm, fresh cod, with an almost flaky, layered texture that confirmed, to my mind at least, that cod truly is the king of fish. A toothsome concasse of stewed tomatoes with garlic and Italian parsley provided the perfect garnish. Side dishes, de rigueur in a steakhouse (even though the garnishes that accompanied the main courses made sides superfluous) were worth trying. A small ramekin of caramelized pearl onions ($6) reminded us that this vegetable, like carrots, can be very sweet in its natural state, and the result here was almost cloying. Better was the sautéed spinach ($6), small, young leaves of tender spinach redolent of garlic and fresh, aromatic cracked peppercorns.

The Met's wine list included a decent selection of bottles for less than $30, a phenomenon rare in Boston area upscale restaurants. When the Côtes du Provence, listed as from the 2000 vintage, turned out to be a 2003, I selected a 1999 Rioja

Clockwise from top: the dining room; Chef Jeff Fournier; the Met molten caramel-filled chocolate cake, served with burnt caramel ice cream and drizzled with chocolate and caramel; pan-crusted tilapia with mango salsa

Riserva instead. This temprenillo from Campo Viejo ($28) combined good fruit with decent structure and made for a well-balanced companion to the food. On a subsequent visit, I ordered the Beaujolais by the glass, but I sent it back after it betrayed an off taste. The maître d' or captain acknowledged that the entire bottle had been oxidized, and he offered a glass of the Edna Valley pinot noir as a substitute. This great grape, long one of my favorites even before the film *Sideways* gave it new cachet, boasted a wonderful bouquet, intense fruit, sound structure and an uncharacteristically soft, pleasant finish.

The Met delivered some of the most consistently good desserts I've enjoyed in some time. The pineapple upside-down cake ($8), a moist, low cylinder of pleasantly sweet cake and tasty fruit, came surrounded with caramel sauce bolstered with a scoop of caramel ice cream. Molten caramel-filled chocolate cake ($10) seemed dry until I reached the exquisite, warm, chocolate-caramel sauce in the middle. Chocolate sauce, drizzled in an abstract design all over the plate, seemed such a waste that I found myself scraping it up to assuage my chocolate addiction. Perhaps the best dessert, a very retro banana cream pie ($8), included a sinfully luscious pastry cream, ripe slices of banana, salty-sweet candied pecans, and tender flaky pastry, all covered under a one-inch-thick layer of slightly sweetened whipped cream.

The Met's professional, impeccable service on Saturday night contrasted with a more lackadaisical, less crisp performance on Sunday evening, when a long interval separated the main courses from dessert. It was on the latter evening that our waitress brought the oxidized Beaujolais, a gaffe that could have been avoided with a greater degree of supervision and care. A little fine-tuning could solve these issues and make this fine restaurant even better. Even as is, however, thanks to the talents and creativity of Chef Jeffrey Fournier, the Metropolitan Club is one of the best suburban dining venues in Greater Boston. IB

DISH

Crosnes and Moans

Dedo gets a re-do…Shanghai in suburbia

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Jason Santos is revved up and ready. After mere days as the new executive chef at **Dedo Lounge & Bistro**, he's written four inventive new menus—dinner, drinks, dessert and bar—and concisely defined the Bay Village restaurant's new fare as "provocative American cuisine."

How provocative is it? Does it nibble back?

"I'd be psyched!" he laughs. One of his favorite dishes is a crispy sweetbread and black truffle "cappuccino" appetizer with pig's foot fondue, white yam mousseline, and crosnes. Crosnes, if you don't know, are tiny root vegetables that resemble tornado-shaped white grubs.

Santos, who worked with **Andy Husbands** at **Tremont 647** and the ill-fated **Kestral** in Providence, also enthuses about his lacquered Korubata pork shortribs ("actually, it's pork loin attached to baby back ribs") with sweet potato, braised cabbage, Armagnac prunes and mustard sauce. He's proud of his pan-seared sugar-crusted scallops, served with slab bacon, maple aioli, and Tabasco-soaked cherries. Recently returned from a trip to Thailand, he vouches for the absolute authenticity of his pad thai (which he calls "phat thai"). He's even jazzed about the bar menu's deviled eggs, which are topped with tuna tartare and olive tapenade, then accented with chive oil.

"Sexy, cool, original," is his mantra. Santos would like to eventually add another day to Dedo's Tuesday through Saturday schedule, and offer tasting menus. Clearly, he's thrilled to be back in Boston and has no regrets that Kestral didn't fly. "Our biggest seller was chicken," he recalls with a sigh. "That physically pains me."

Jason Santos has rewritten the menu at Dedo Lounge & Bistro with new fare, including his take on pad thai, "phat thai."

SECOND COURSE

A handful of "celebrity chefs" are known to all by their first names—**Jasper**, **Ming**, **Lydia**—but to these same chefs, two initials identify one of the finest chefs in town. **CK Sau**, who for years drew loyal fans to **New Shanghai** in Chinatown for authentic Shanghainese dishes, has finally opened his own restaurant far from the parking crunch of Hudson Street. Located in Wellesley Lower Falls, **CK Shanghai** opened very quietly, but word has spread quickly. The wood-floored dining room, whose walls are painted a cheerful bright yellow and white, is spacious and comfortable. White tablecloths are set with silverware, but have no fear: The food hasn't been Americanized for suburban tastes. In fact, says Sau, the site was chosen because the locals "have a taste for authentic Chinese food," and many of New Shanghai's patrons drove in from the Wellesley area. Although some menu items may sound fairly standard, it's the preparation and fantastic sauces that make every dish a winner. Bite into a General Gau's shrimp, and under a glaze of sweet and savory tangerine sauce is a layer of delicate crispiness encasing a tremendously flavorful, juicy shrimp. Vegetarian goose—bean curd skin wrapped around a filling of bamboo shoots and chewy mushrooms—is a culinary novelty that's also deliciously satisfying. Nice people, superb food, no parking issues... enough said.

In May, **Nelson Cognac**, chef/owner of **Kouzina** in Newton's Waban neighborhood, will open **Zesto Kafe and Bakery** in deep suburbia: Cochituate Road in Framingham, next to **Ty's Pies**. (You all know Ty's Pies, right?)

"We know it'll take a little while for people to find us," says Cognac. But he promises the trek will be worth it. Zesto Kafe (Greek for "Hot Coffee") will specialize in "all the Greek pastries, a few things people can't get anywhere else. We'll make our own croissants, our own bagels, our own challah." Challah? Cognac's brother-in-law, **Yianni Mihopoulos**, fresh from working at Newton's famous **Diamond Bakery** for 30 years, will play a key role at Zesto. In addition to the retail and wholesale bread business, Zesto's café area—which seats about a dozen—will offer breakfast (with lokaniko sausage) and lunch, including the delicious portobello burger "with homemade everything" that's so popular at Kouzina. iB

Serving Dish

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Boston Beer Summit
The Castle at Park Plaza, 101 Arlington St., Boston (888-945-2337). www.beersummit.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 15, 6-10 pm; April 16, 1-5 pm and 6-10 pm. $25 per session. The fifth annual Beer Summit offers more than 200 different beers from more than 50 breweries.

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9355). www.bostonwinefestival.net. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. The 16th annual Boston Wine Festival finishes up its three-month run. •April 6, 8 pm: Wines of Burgundy with Clive Coates, $205. •April 7, 8 pm: Wines of Bordeaux with Clive Coates, $205. •April 8, 7 pm: Closing Party, which includes a preview of the wines to be featured at next year's festival, $100.

Cheese Tuesday
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. April 12, 7 pm. $55. Chef **Frank McClelland** and fromager **Louis Risoli** present a three-course dinner highlighted by cheeses that Risoli brought back from a recent trip to Italy.

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue., 6 pm. $35. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •April 12: Piemonte and Perfect Pasta. •April 19: Beyond Pinot Noir—California's Other Grapes.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Sat., 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •April 16: New England Micro-Brewed Beers.

Grappas Tasting
Amelia's Trattoria, 111 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-868-7600). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. April 11-14. 5-10:30 pm. $4 0. Chef **Delio Susi Jr.** pairs a special five-course menu with different types of grappa, an Italian liquor.

Great American Bake Sale
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-457-2404). www.bostonparkplaza.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Through April 18. 6 am-6 pm daily. Sample a variety dishes from some of Boston's top pastry chefs, including Bonfire's **Jon McKeigue**, Davio's **Tom Ponticelli** and Finale's **Nicole Coady** at this event benefiting the Share Our Strength Foundation.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •April 6: Lebanon. •April 13: Zinfandel.

Kendall Hotel Wine Series
Kendall Hotel, 350 Main St., Cambridge (617-577-1300). www.kendallhotel.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. April 9. 6:30 pm. $50. The Kendall offers a four-course dinner paired with Robert Mondavi first-growth wines from the Napa Valley.

Second Saturdays at Grill 23 & Bar
Grill 23 & Bar, 161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255). www.grill23.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Second Sat. of each month, 12-2 pm. $55. Executive chef **Jay Murray** and wine director **Alex deWinter** lead monthly cooking and tasting demonstrations. April 9: Tastes Like Chicken…April Fools.

Spring Beer Dinner
M.J. O'Connor's, 27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). www.mjoconnors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 7. 6 pm. $40. Chefs **Robert Fathman** of Anthem and **Alvaro DelCid** of M.J. O'Connors prepare a spring-inspired five-course meal paired with a Samuel Adams–brewed beer.

Taste of Beacon Hill
Ritz-Carlton Ballroom, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-503-4140). www.bhba.biz. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 14. 6:30-9:30 pm. $60 in advance; $80 at the door. The fifth annual Taste of Beacon Hill features samples from local restaurants including the Federalist, No. 9 Park and Grotto. A portion of the proceeds benefit the Taste of Beacon Hill Scholarship Fund.

Taste of the Nation Boston
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-1187). www.bostontaste.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. April 7. 6:30-9:30 pm. $75-$125. Sample fare from participating restaurants like 33 Restaurant, Vox Populi and Rialto at this event benefiting Share Our Strength.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •April 12: California Cult Cabernets 2 ($65). •April 19: Rioja.

Wine and Dine Wednesdays
Beacon Hill Bistro, 25 Charles St., Boston (617-723-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. First and third Wed. of each month, 7 p.m. $40. Chef **Ben Knack** prepares a four-course meal paired with four wines. •April 6: California Central Coast.

Wine Club Monthly Tastings
Blu, 4 Avery St., Boston (617-375-8550). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April. 16. 1 pm. $45. Wine directors **Patrick Dubsky** of Rialto and **Mark Goldberger** of Blu co-host this tasting of wines from Alsace.

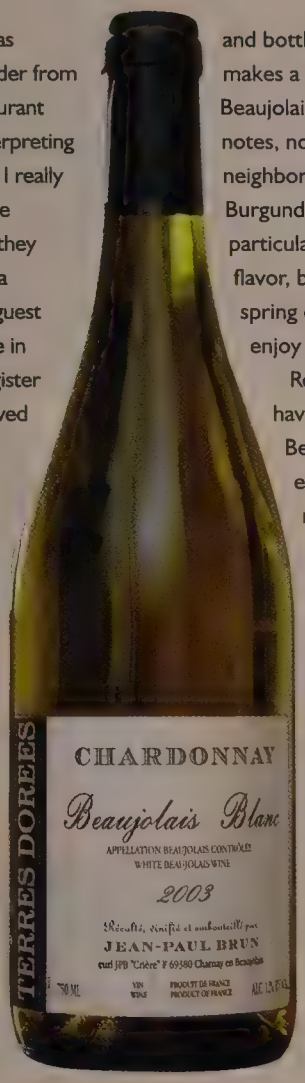
Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •April 11: Bubbles Bubbles Everywhere. •April 18: April in Paris.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •April 6: April in Paris. •April 13: Burgundy.

WINE

Beaujolais Blanc

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.



Back in the day (actually it was nights) when I used to wander from table to table offering restaurant diners whatever help I could in interpreting a mostly French-oriented wine list, I really felt I had a pulse on the kind of wine people liked to drink and the facts they wanted to know in order to make a selection. One memorably miffed guest flagged me down with great fanfare in the middle of a busy evening to register a complaint about what she perceived to be a glaring error on the page: "Young man, you have a category here you list as white Burgundy," she said. "Burgundy is a red wine."

The French will do this to you. There are all kinds of appellations that we predominantly associate with one color, and then they go and mix everyone up by also making good wine of a completely different hue. So we have red Chassagne-Montrachet (actually, a lot of it), red and rosé Sancerre, white Chateauneuf du Pape and, most surprising of all to many wine drinkers, white Beaujolais. I once operated a small restaurant list and thought it would be fun to populate it exclusively with these intriguing little oddities, but the person I worked for had more business sense and didn't particularly embrace the idea.

Of all these semi-secret wines, Beaujolais blanc is the one that's stayed with me longest over the years; the one I often seek out for more than curiosity. First of all, I must confess to liking Beaujolais of almost all kinds, and I've always had the suspicion that much of it was basically white wine masquerading as red anyway: low tannin; mouthwatering acidity; flowery, fruity and refreshing all the way through to the finish. The name Beaujolais is festive and casual, characteristics we generally associate more with white wine than red. But Beaujolais blanc, which accounts for only about 1 to 2 percent of the large region's production, is an attractive wine in its own right. Within the predominant hard rock schist and granite soils are some scattered outcroppings of chalk and even limestone, mostly in the region's north, that are particularly friendly to chardonnay vines. In total just about 500 acres are planted.

My initial experiences with Beaujolais blanc were bottles I tasted from the house of Louis Jadot, the largest producer of this specialty. The style here is sleek and delicate, the wine vinified in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks and bottled without oak aging. Jadot makes a smooth and floral white Beaujolais, with clean apple and melon notes, not unlike many wines from the neighboring Macon region. Value Burgundy. Pleasant, enjoyable, not particularly layered or mysterious in flavor, but just the ticket for an early spring dinner, perhaps the first one to enjoy on the deck or patio.

Recently, more interesting bottles have begun emerging from the vast Beaujolais region, many from small estates that are making a mark with red "cru" Beaujolais as their primary offering and also producing white wine of commensurate quality. Beaujolais is, I believe, one of the true sources of great undiscovered red wine in the world today, and it's gratifying to see that some of the producers have been making a serious effort with their white wines as well. One that's recently come my way and scored an early-round knockout punch on my palate is from Jean-Paul Brun, proprietor of Domaine des Terres Dorées in the region's unheralded, unclassified south.

Brun is hardly a nonentity, having been anointed by wine guru Robert Parker as one of the top producers of the region despite his not owning property in any of the "cru" villages. Not surprisingly Brun marches to his own beat, which is out of step with much of the region's producers but firmly in line with the rest of the world's elite estates: older vines, organic farming techniques, minimal if any chaptalization, natural yeast fermentations, etc. He planted about eight acres of Chardonnay in the early '90s on some limestone-rich clay soils on his property and has been releasing small quantities of a wonderful Beaujolais blanc onto the market (only about $12.99) which, especially in the current 2003 iteration, can give its more famous cousins to the north (Meursault, etc.) a run for their money.

This 2003 vintage in Europe, one of the hottest in recorded history, is something else for white wines. No doubt some of the wines are fat, but many of them, like Brun's Beaujolais Blanc, are also sassy. This is a somewhat honeyed, unoaked Chardonnay with beautiful flavor extraction, lush apple and earthy mineral tones, and a long, dry finish. It's a great, refreshing match for meaty grilled fish accented with sweet herbs and spices. iB

Master of Wine Sandy Block is vice president of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.

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agenda

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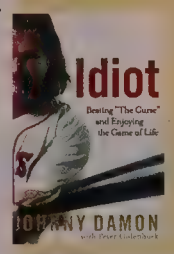
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			6	7 Boston Billiard Club hosts a **National Anthem Competition** for a chance to sing at Fenway this summer. *See CityScope on page 48.*	8 The **Boston Wine Festival** concludes with a Closing Party at the Boston Harbor Hotel. *See Tastings on page 42.*	9 **Tim Conway** and **Harvey Korman**, from the *Carol Burnett Show*, perform together at the Wang Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 51.*
10 Works by controversial London-based artist **Damien Hirst** are on display at the MFA. *See Museums & Galleries on page 68.*	11	12 **Johnny Damon** signs his book, *Idiot: Beating the Curse and Enjoying the Game of Life* at the Prudential Center Barnes & Noble. *See Books & Poetry on page 72.* 	13	14 **Beyond Shelter,** the annual benefit for the Friends of Boston's Homeless, takes place at the State Room. *See CityScope on page 48.*	15 The Brattle Theatre's **Sounds for Silence** series continues with Charlie Chaplin's *Tillie's Punctured Romance. See Movies on page 56.*	16 New England Light Opera performs **The New Moon, In Concert**, at the Tsai Performance Center. *See Performing Arts on page 49.*
17 Rockers **Garbage** and **Dead 60s** play at Avalon. *See Music on page 61.*	18 Local pastry chefs gather for the **Great American Bake Sale** at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. *See Tastings on page 42.*	19				

Harrison Stebbins at last year's Laugh It Up event

WED./APRIL 6 & FRI./APRIL 8

Comedy: Chuckling for Charity

This month brings two chances to get out and get your yuks while contributing to some worthy causes. On April 6, the Comedy Connection hosts Laugh It Up, a showcase featuring local jokesters like Paul Nardizzi, Harrison Stebbins and Don Gavin as well as a preshow reception catered by Via Valverde. Proceeds benefit Supportive Living Inc., an organization that builds homes for Bostonians suffering from head injuries. Two nights later, an assortment of Beantown bigwigs, including Mayor Thomas Menino, Aerosmith bassist Tom Hamilton and WCVB-TV's Natalie Jacobson, convenes for the 10th annual Banned in Boston musical comedy revue. The unique band of players puts on an improv comedy show to raise money for the youth violence prevention program Urban Improv. Admission includes cocktails plus hors d'oeuvres from local restaurants. *Laugh It Up, 245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700); April 6, 5:30 pm, $150. Banned in Boston, Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-524-7049), www.urbanimprov.org; April 8, 6 pm, $150 ($75 for those under 40 years old).* —R.L.

HOT TIPS FROM CALENDAR GURUS LESLIE AND RICH

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Leslie P. Kilgore **Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music**
Rich Levine **CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts**

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY

Ezra Dyer **Sports**
Laurel Kirtz **Body & Mind**
Paul Sherman **Movie Capsules**

SAT./APRIL 16

Music: Porcelain God

He's a controversial political activist, a techno-pop revolutionary and a dead ringer for a cue ball. He's Richard Melville Hall, better known to the masses as Moby (a nickname derived from his ancestor Herman Melville, author of *Moby Dick*), and he lands in Boston on April 16 for a show at Avalon alongside Canadian hip-hopper Buck 65. Moby released his first major album in 1992 and starred on the European circuit for most of the '90s, but it wasn't until his 1999 album, *Play*, spawned hits like "Porcelain" and "South Side" that he struck gold on U.S. soil. Moby's latest venture, *Hotel*, currently sits atop the charts in Europe (it's No. 1 on iTunes as well), and since the disc dropped on March 22 in the States, he's already picked up some local airplay. Nova Scotia native Buck 65, who opens for Moby on his upcoming North American tour, released his 20th solo album, *This Right Here Is Buck 65*, in January. *Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-931-2000). $22.50. www.ticketmaster.com. 7 pm. —R.L.*

TUE.–SUN./APRIL 19–24

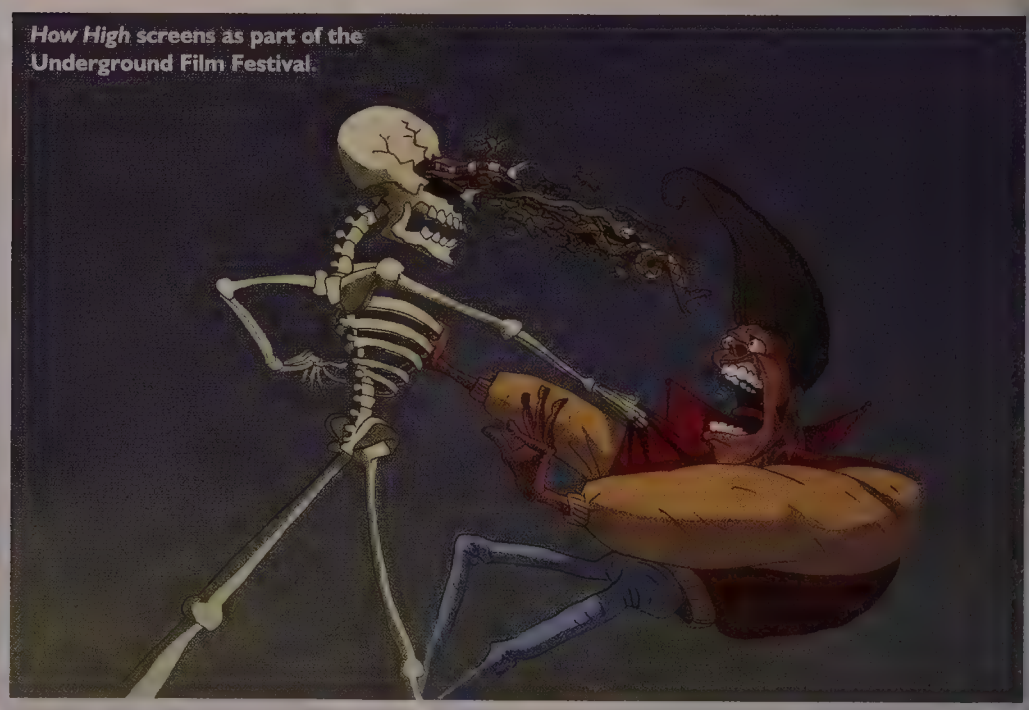
Performing Arts: Chosen One

Boston is one of the few cities to host a production of Doug Wright's 2004 Pulitzer prize winning play *I Am My Own Wife*—but for six days only. The Broadway show, which plays at the Wilbur Theatre, is based on the life of Charlotte von Mahlsdorf, a German transvestite who survived the Nazi regime and died in 2002 at the age of 74. It has received wide acclaim, including a 2004 Tony Award for best play, as well as a Best Actor Tony for its star Jefferson Mays, who plays 40 different characters. *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). $32.50-$72.50. Tue., 7:30; Wed.–Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. —LPK*

WED./APRIL 6 & FRI./APRIL 8

Museums & Galleries: Picture Perfect

Each spring, art lovers wait with bated breath for the annual MassArt Annual Benefit Auction, where enthusiasts line up to purchase pieces never seen before. More than 600 collectors gather to see works by nationally and internationally known artists, emerging talents and Massachusetts College of Art alumni, faculty and students. Novice collectors can purchase a painting, sculpture or photograph at reasonable prices, while also seeing how more experienced collectors go about it. Silent and live auctions take place April 8, and a ticket for that night also gets you into the preview reception on the 6th. *Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7014). www.massart.edu. $100–$125. April 6, reception, 6–8 pm. April 8, silent auction, 6 pm; live auction, 7:30 pm. —LPK*



***How High* screens as part of the Underground Film Festival.**

WED.–SUN./APRIL 6 – 10

Movies: Video Underground

If blockbuster overload leaves you searching for more original, experimental films, you may want to camp out at the Somerville Theatre for the second week in April. The Boston Underground Film Festival offers up a series of independent features, shorts, animated films and documentaries. As usual, the festival includes movies that push the envelope in style and content, focusing on works that are confrontational, political or otherwise controversial. The festival also doles out awards in several categories, including most promising local filmmaker. *Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-975-3361). $9; students, $6; all access pass, $75. See www.bostonunderground filmfestival.com for times. —LPK*

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Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope @improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

Back Bay Soiree
Saint, 90 Exeter St., Boston (617-247-3691). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm-12 am. $35-$40. The 3rd Annual Back Bay Soiree features food, dancing, live entertainment, a silent auction and an art exhibition. Proceeds benefit the Boston Firefighters Burn Foundation and Children's Hospital.

Laugh It Up
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 5:30 pm. $150. Local comedians including Paul Nardizzi, Harrison Stebbins and Don Gavin perform at this event benefiting Supportive Living Inc., an organization committed to building homes for head-injured residents of Boston. A preshow reception features food from Via Valverde.

Men with Heart
Maggiano's Restaurant, 4 Columbus Ave., Boston. www.menwithheart.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-9:30 pm. $20. This event features hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar and a raffle. Proceeds benefit Men with Heart's efforts against breast cancer.

Whittier Street Health Center Benefit Roast
Boston Park Plaza, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-989-3224). www.wshc.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5-9 pm. $175. Local personalities including State Senator Jack Hart roast Liberty Mutual president and CEO Ted Kelly in a benefit for the Whittier Street Health Center. Mayor Thomas Menino serves as guest auctioneer.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Joshua Frase Foundation Muscle Dream Team Gala
Boston Harbor Hotel, 110 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-715-1155). www.joshuafrase.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley . 6-10 pm. $1,500. Guests at this event have the opportunity to bid on rare sports and entertainment memorabilia during live and silent auctions. Proceeds benefit Children's Hospital Boston and the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

Taste of the Nation Boston
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-1187). www.bostontaste.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30-9:30 pm. $75-$125. Sample fare from participating restaurants like 33 Restaurant, Vox Populi and Rialto at this event benefiting Share Our Strength.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

Banned in Boston
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-524-7049). www.urbanimprov.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore or Fenway. 6 pm. $75 (under age 40)-$150. This 10th annual Banned in Boston musical comedy revue includes cocktails and hors d'oeuvres from local restaurants. Proceeds benefit Urban Improv, a youth violence prevention program that uses theater skills to help students manage a variety of issues.

New School of Music Singer-Songwriter Showcase
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-8105). www.virtuous.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 9:30 pm. $10-$11. 21+. This benefit features performances by artists including Sandi Hammond, Patrice Williamson and Rick Berlin. All proceeds support the New School of Music's Scholarship Fund.

Spring into Art Annual Auction
New Art Center, 61 Washington Park, Newtonville (617-964-3424). www.newartcenter.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7-10 pm. $50. This event benefiting the New Art Center's Exhibition and Education programs features wine, desserts and cheeses, as well as live jazz and an auction.

The Boston Ballet holds its Sleeping Beauty Ball at the Westin Copley Place on April 9.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Celebrate Success and Hope Concert
Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.regenttheatre.com. 8 pm. $25-$40. Live performances by Noel, Sam Hooper and JoJo David highlight this concert benefiting the Brain Tumor Society.

Sleeping Beauty Ball
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-456-6329). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $500. The Boston Ballet presents its black-tie and tiara spring gala, which includes live performances by Boston Ballet dancers and students, dinner, dancing and a live auction. Proceeds benefit Boston Ballet.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

Celebrity Poker Tournament
Big Easy, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (508-358-2731). www.faceofanangel.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. $250 (individual event tickets) to $1,000 (celebrity poker tickets). Celebrities including actors James Woods and Jane Krakowski play in a Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament benefiting the Face of an Angel Foundation. Individual event tickets include dinner, cocktails and entertainment, while celebrity poker tickets allow guests to sit and play with the celebrities.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Table for Ten
State Room, 60 State St., Boston, and various other Boston restaurant locations (781-272-9936). www.nfincne.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 6:30 pm. $100 (individual); $1,000-$10,000 (tables). Some of Boston's finest chefs and restaurants donate a three-course dinner for one table of 10, including wine. After dinner, guests return to the State Room for a dessert reception, entertainment, and a raffle and auction benefiting the Harvard Medical School Center for Neurofibromatosis and Allied Disorders.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

Beyond Shelter
State Room, 60 State St., Boston (617-534-2526, ext. 385 or 383). www.fobh.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 6-11 pm. $50-$60. This annual event, co-hosted by Mayor Menino and the IMPROPER's Jonathan Soroff, includes samples of fare from restaurants like Azure, Aquitaine and Legal Sea Foods, entertainment by Kendrick Oliver & the New Life Jazz Orchestra, plus an auction and a raffle. Proceeds benefit Friends of Boston's Homeless.

Heading Home 2005
World Trade Center, Boston (617-864-8140). www.shelterinc.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 6 pm. $250. This annual tailgate party showcases classic cars from the 1950s, and each car hosts cuisine from local chefs. A live auction follows, with proceeds benefiting Shelter Inc.

Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-227-4183, x121). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 7-8 am (breakfast); 8-9:30 am (speaking portion). $150. This annual event celebrates the legacy of Robert F. Kennedy and benefits the Children's Action Corps' programs for underserved youth.

Taste of Beacon Hill
Ritz-Carlton Ballroom, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-503-4140). www.bhba.biz. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-9:30 pm. $60 in advance; $80 at the door. The fifth annual Taste of Beacon Hill features samples from local restaurants like the Federalist, No. 9 Park and Grotto. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Taste of Beacon Hill Scholarship Fund.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Consuls Ball
Fairmont Copley Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-482-4587). www.unagb.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $175 (individual), $250 (patron), $1,500 (national table). This annual event, benefiting Global Classrooms, features dinner, a silent auction and live music from the Bo Winiker Orchestra.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

Center for Women & Enterprise Annual Auction 2005
Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (617-532-0237). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 6-10 pm. Marie C. Wilson is the keynote speaker at this annual auction benefiting the Center for Women & Enterprises.

SpeakEasy Stage Company Annual Benefit
BCA's Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-3279). MBTA: Orange to Back Bay/South End. 5:30-8:30 pm. Proceeds from this silent auction benefit the SpeakEasy Stage Company.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Great American Bake Sale
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-457-2404). www.bostonparkplaza.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Through April 18. 6 am-6 pm. Sample dishes from some of Boston's top pastry chefs, including Bonfire's Jon McKeigue, Davio's Tom Ponticellia and Finale's Nicole Coady, at this event benefiting the Share Our Strength Foundation.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

National Anthem Competition 2005
Boston Billiard Club, 126 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-536-7665). www.bostonbilliardclub.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6 pm. Free. 21+. New England's own star search competition features contestants performing before celebrity judges for the opportunity to sing the National Anthem at Fenway Park this summer. Contestants must pre-register at submit@nextnewengland.com.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

Uber: A Gothic Prom
Manray, 21 Brookline St., Boston. www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9 pm. $10. 19+. This event, sponsored by Xmorti features music from DJs Mothra & Shivar, Chris Ewen, and Javier, plu gothic prom photos. A strict all-blac dress code is enforced.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

Boston YPA's Two-Year Anniversary
The Liquor Store, 25 Boylston Place, Th Alley, Boston (617-591-1400). www bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green or Re Line to Park Street. 8 pm-2 am. $15 $20. The Boston Young Professional Association celebrates its second an niversary with a party featuring a bull riding contest, body painting and liv entertainment.

MONDAY, APRIL 18

Boston Marathon Madness
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave. Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Gree Line to Prudential. 11:30 am. Free. Dick' Marathon Party features Sam Adam drink deals, live performances from Clas sic Trax and the Jennerators, and an ap pearance by WEEI's Water Boys.

Singles

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

8 Minute Dating
Golden Leaf Restaurant, 20 Hudson St., Boston (617 988-8188). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Or ange Line to Chinatown. 3:28 pm. $35. Sample ap petizers during eight different eight-minute dates Then mingle and meet the people you didn't ge the chance to share a date with. For ages 30-42

MONDAY, APRIL 11

8 Minute Dating
Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Bosto (617-227-7800). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA Green Line to Haymarket. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minut dates. Then mingle and meet the people you did n't get the chance to share a date with. For age 28-38.

8 Minute Dating
Soho, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-562-6000) www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: #57 bus to Brighto Center. 6:58 pm. $35. Sample appetizers durin eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle an meet the people you didn't get the chance to share date with. For single golfers ages 35-49.

8 Minute Dating
Soho, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-562-6000) www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: #57 bus to Brighto Center. 6:58 pm. $35. Sample appetizers durin eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance t share a date with. For ages 22-29.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Hurry Date
Charley's Eating and Drinking Saloon, 284 Newbur St., Boston (617-266-3000). www.hurrydate.com MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $26.2 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 2 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. Fo ages 30-45.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

"Singles Dining Out" Dinner and Dance
Skyline Restaurant, Marina Bay, Quincy (781-283 5900). Cash bar cocktail party, 6:30-7 pm; dinner, 7 9:30 pm; dancing after dinner, 9:30 pm-12 am. $40 Enjoy dinner at Skyline while changing seats afte every course to ensure you'll meet each person of the opposite sex. For ages 40-55.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

8 Minute Dating
Orleans, 65 Holland St., Somerville (617-591-2100) www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight differ ent eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

8 Minute Dating
The Point, 147 Hanover St., Boston (617-538-5895) www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hay market. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

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mit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Cal-ar: Performing Arts. Or e-mail to performing@roper.com. Include address, phone number, subway , ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description he event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. ings cannot be accepted over the phone.

ickets

e Tickets
0-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets. . Get tickets to sold-out shows.

stix
7-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located aneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley are (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). ne-day tickets at half price.

ext Ticketing
7-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

ut of Town Tickets
7-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets old-out shows.

cket City of Boston
7-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. en seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to l-out shows.

cketmaster
7-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

heater and Opera

IST OPENED

e Bye Birdie
rwood Theatre, 109 Central St., Norwood (781-2-4060). www.fiddleheadtheatre.com. MBTA mmuter Rail: Franklin Line to Norwood Depot or rwood Center. April 8-17. $23-$27 adults, $18 dren. The Fiddlehead Theatre Company presents 1961 Tony Award winner that follows Conrad die's rise to success.

ne Grapes of Wrath
eatreZone, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-7-2336). www.theatrezone.org. April 14-23. Thu.-., 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. $10-$18. Wanda ukus directs Frank Galati's adaptation of John inbeck's classic novel.

Am My Own Wife
lbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-37). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MBTA: een Line to Boylston. April 19-24. Tue. and Sun., 30 pm; Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. 2.50-$72.50. Doug Wright's play tells the story a real-life German transvestite who survives the zi onslaught.

ass Theatrica
Paul's Episcopal Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brook-e (508-757-8515). www.masstheatrica.org. April . 8 pm. $15 general, $12 seniors and students. ss Theatrica presents Operetta Favorites, a pro-m of songs and duets from the operettas of lbert and Sullivan, Victor Herbert and others.

ne New Moon (In Concert)
ai Performance Center, Boston University, 685 mm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3635). www.bu.edu/i/events. MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. April -16. 8 pm. $5-$30. The New England Light era, under the direction of Peter Carey, presents a ged concert of Sigmund Romberg's comedic tale of nance featuring professional soloists and the new ELO Concert Chorale.

OW RUNNING

ssassins
rrell Hall, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-524-13). www.metrostagecompany.com. Through April 8 pm. April 3, 2 pm. $20 general, $15 students. ephen Sondheim's musical is a dark comedy about a oup of citizens filled with rage and compelled to ce it to the top.

linders
ston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., ston (866-811-4111). www.ootbtc.com. MBTA: B een Line to St. Paul. Through April 17. Thurs.-Sat., m; Sun., 3 pm. $10-$20. Out of the Blue Theater mpany presents Patrick Gabridge's dark comedy out a reporter who risks all to rescue America from ss delusion and a rigged election.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Culture Clash in AmeriCCa
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-7900). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through May 8. Tue.-Fri, 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $14-$42. The Latino performance trio uses dance, poetry and humor to explore diversity in America.

Danny and the Deep Blue Sea
TheatreZone, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. Through April 9. Thu.-Sat., 9 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $10-$18. John Patrick Shanley's play, directed by Matthew Kossack, documents the first encounter of Danny and Roberta in a dive bar in the Bronx and follows their funny and fascinating relationship.

Dead White Males
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. Through April 9. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $10-$20. William Missouri Downs' play follows a teenage girl caught in the bureaucracy of public high school.

Den of Thieves
BCA Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through April 23. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25. In Stephen Adly Guirgis' black comedy, four unlikely criminals face life-threatening choices when they're taken hostage in a mobster's basement.

Eugene Onegin
Shubert Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through April 12. Tue., Wed., Fri., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $34-$159. Boston Lyric Opera presents Tchaikovsky's love story of a once timid girl who returns to her old love as a poised, but married, woman.

Gagarin Way
BCA Roberts Studio Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through April 23. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $38. Scottish playwright Gregory Burke's black comedy takes on existentialism, the crisis of masculinity, globalization and anarchy in a kidnapping gone wrong.

Living Out
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through April 23. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $19-$43. In Lisa Loomer's play, a Latina immigrant mother struggles to find common ground with the lawyer whose children she cares for.

Measure for Measure
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center at Villa Victoria, 405 Shawmut Ave., Boston (866-811-4111). www.actorsshakespeareproject.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. April 6, 7, 8 and 10, 7:30 pm. $35. The Actors' Shakespeare Project, directed by Robert Walsh, presents the Bard's dark comedy that explores what happens when rigid legalism meets a permissive society.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meet at a lingerie sale.

Olly's Prison
Zero Arrow Theatre, Corner of Mass. Ave. and Arrow St., Cambridge (617-495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through April 24. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm. $12-$45. American Repertory Theatre presents Edward Bond's story about an English man driven to commit an unspeakable act.

On the Record
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayinboston.com. Through April 10. Tue., 8 pm; Wed., 7 pm; Thu., 2 and 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $30-$80. This new musical features more than 50 classic Disney songs.

The Phantom of the Opera
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through May 22. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $23-$83. Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical is based on Gaston Leroux's love story about a masked figure and an innocent young opera singer.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

36 Views
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. Through April 10. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $14-55. Problems with authenticity in both art and emotion arise in Naomi Lizuka's drama about an unscrupulous art dealer and a respected professor who discover a rare and ancient Japanese "pillow book."

The Trojan Whore
Devanaughn Theatre at the Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.mill6.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through April 16. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun. April 10, 3 pm. $15. The Mill 6 Theatre Collaborative presents the world premiere of this comedic attack on propaganda, war and the notion of precise historical truth.

Violet
The Footlight Club, Eliot Hall, 7A Eliot Street, Jamaica Plain, (617-524 3200). www.footlight.org, Through April 16. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $12-$20. Bill Doscher directs Brian Crawley and Jeanine Tesori's musical adaptation of Doris Betts' short story *The Ugliest Pilgrim*, about a woman's journey of self-discovery while she seeks to cure her scarred face.

The Zoo Story
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. Through April 9. Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 7 pm. $10-$18. Michael McKeogh stars in Edward Albee's alternately funny and horrifying story involving two men on a park bench.

Events

Big Apple Circus
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-931-2000). www.bigapplecircus.org. MBTA: Red Line to UMass/JFK. Through May 8. Check Web site for times. Sat., Sun., and April 18-22, $19-$53; weekday evenings, $13-$43; weekday matinees, $20-$25. The Big Apple Circus presents Picturesque, a performance of movement, rhythm, color, light and sound.

University Theater

Antigone
Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club, Loeb Experimental Theater, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-3800). hcs.harvard.edu/~hrdc. Through April 9. Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. Free. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Adam Zalisk directs Jean Anouilh's adaptation of Sophocles' ancient tragedy set in a modern-day American college environment.

Baby with the Bathwater
Contemporary Theater of Boston College, Robsham Theatre Arts Center, Boston College, Chestnut Hill (617-552-4002). www.bc.edu/offices/robsham/tickets. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. April 7-9. Thurs.-Fri., 8 pm. $8. Christopher Durang's play, directed by Crystal Gomes, is a twisted comedy of a boy's search for his identity.

Carousel
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-3800). www.fas.harvard.edu/tickets. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 8-16. $12 general, $8 seniors and students. The Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club presents Rodgers & Hammerstein's play about a man who's returned to Earth for one day to try and make amends for mistakes he made in his life.

The Crucible
Cutler Majestic Theatre, Emerson College, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000) www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 8 and 10. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $30-$90. Robert Ward's adaptation of Arthur Miller's parable of witchcraft in colonial Salem is directed by Jay Lesenger and conducted by Gil Rose.

Scenes from an Execution
Springold Theater Center, Laurie Theater, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/theater. April 7-17. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sat., April 16 and Sun., April 17, 2 pm. $10-$20. Adrianne Krstansky directs Howard Barker's play about 16th-century painter Galactia's imprisonment because of his controversial painting of a naval victory.

The Shadowbox
Dramatics Society of Boston College, Robsham Thea Arts Center, Boston College, Chestnut Hill (617-55 4002). www.bc.edu/offices/robsham/tickets. MBTA Green Line to Boston College. April 14-16. Thur Fri., 8 pm. $8. Michael Christofer's play, directed Ellen Pyzik, is a glimpse into the lives of three famil dealing with terminal illness.

Dance

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theate
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-44 7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line Boylston. April 19-24. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed.-Sat. pm; Sun., 3 pm. $32-$67. Alvin Ailey's compa performs to blues, jazz, gospel, folk, West Afric drumming, R&B and other musical styles.

Cudamani
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-87 4275). www.crasharts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ha vard. April 9. 8 pm. $20-$40. This Balinese gamel and dance performance features extravagant co tumes, and musical accompaniment from a gamel orchestra.

Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre
The Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambrid (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org. MBT Red Line to Harvard. Through May 1. Fri. and Sa 8 pm; Sun., 6 pm (check Web site for additional sho times). $32. The ballet troupe presents *Time B yond Time*, featuring music by French compos Olivier Messiaen.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to C endar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks pri to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). ww stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Centra Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features loc stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical ac and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-72 2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBT Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$1 The Comedy Vault features local stand-up comed ans.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447 www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Centra •Thursdays 8 pm: The Tribe Improv perfor downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (61 248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.co MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Cente Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The olde comedy club in Boston draws nationally know comedians on weekends and showcases up-an coming local talent during the week. •Mon., pm: Amateur Showcase, $12. •Thu., 8:30 p Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $1 •April 8-9, 8 and 10:15 pm: Jim Norton, from th *Opie and Anthony* radio show, $25. •April 10, pm: Fundraiser for Kevin Knox, $50. •April 15, and 10:15 pm; April 16, 10:30 pm; April 17, pm: Ventriloquist Jeff Dunham, $20-$27.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-66 6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch come troupes and local comedians perform. •April 6: To V Experiment with Dan Boulger, Greg Thibidea Daniella Capolino and others. •April 7: Dan Sal Show with Eric Riley Moore, David Powell, M. Cowan and others. •April 8: Tommy Morello, Ph Yebba, Cyndi Styles and others. •April 9: Robb RoadSteamer, Paul Day, Jeff Clarke, E.J. Murphy ar others. •April 10: Erin Judge Presents with Shar Webb, Rob O'Reilly, Steamy Bohemians and other •April 12: Magic Lounge. •April 13: Tony V Exper ment with Frank Rockett, Jon Rineman, Chrissy Ke her and others. •April 14: Dan Sally Show with Jo Spinale, Cesar Cervantes, Rachel Isenberg and other •April 15: Tim McIntire, Liz Simons, Seth Earle Constantine and others. •April 16: Erin Judge, Sand Asai, Janet Cormier and Drew Spangler. •April 1 Erin Judge Presents Tissa Hami, Christian Lynch, Joh Lincoln and others. •April 19: Magic Lounge.

nmy Tingle's Off oadway

my Tingle's Off Broad- y Theater, 255 Elm St., nerville (617-591-1616). w.jtoffbroadway.com. 3TA: Red Line to Davis. imy Tingle's Off Broad- y Theater features both ablished and aspiring formers and produc- ns •Thu., 7:30 pm, $15: ige Time Variety Show. igle hosts guests from worlds of comedy, sic and spoken word. ri., 10 pm, $5-$10: It's t That Late Show. This ekly show, hosted by er Dutton, showcases a stand-up comedians, sicians and perfor- nce artists. •Sun., 1 ., $5-$10: Silly Einstein. comedy of science for whole family. 7 pm, 0: Women in Comedy. is weekly Sunday night ies showcases female formers.

ennedy's idtown

nnedy's Midtown, 42 ovince St., Boston (617- 5-3333). MBTA: Green Red Line to Park Street. ery Mon., 8 pm. Free. ch week, Boston Com- y Festival semifinalist sica Casciano hosts a ght of stand-up by local medians.

ick's Comedy op

0 Warrenton St., Boston 17-423-2900). www. kscomedystop.com. BTA: Green Line to ylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 0-$22. •April 7, 8:30 pm: Marc Scalia, John rco. •April 8, 8:45 pm: Marc Scalia, John Turco, te Costello. •April 9, 8:45: Marc Scalia, John rco, Pete Costello •April 14, 8:30 pm: Teddy rgeron, Artie Januario. •April 15, 8:45 pm: ddy Bergeron, Artie Januario, Bennie Boime. April 16, 8:45 pm: Teddy Bergeron, Artie Janu- o, Bennie Boime.

The Huntington Theatre Company presents Naomi Iizuka's play 36 Views through April 10 at the Boston University Theatre.

MPROV COMEDY

nprov Asylum

6 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www. provasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to aymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government enter. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. Sat., midnight: The Midnight Show. Ongoing. • ed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat, 8 pm and 10 pm: Lies, alf-Truths and the American Way. Ongoing.

nprovBoston

53 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). ww.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Cen- al. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisa- onal comedy troupe creates everything on the ot: characters, stories, settings, even songs and nces. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: New acts appear in a eekly showcase in The Hump. •Thu., 8 pm, 0-12: Unnatural Selection: A master of cere- onies randomly eliminates players until only ne is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Com- ly Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh per- rm stand-up and character sketches and play usic and short films in a display of sibling ri- alry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: BackStory is a comedic urney backwards through time inspired by the lms *Memento*, *Donnie Darko* and *Mulholland rive*; 10 pm: TheatreSports splits up improvisers to two teams. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 nd under accompanied by an adult admitted ee): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form nprovisational show appropriate for all ages; and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. lending storytelling, music and audience partici- ation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that anges with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: gt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening ombines three shows into one. Watch perfor- ances by visiting and local troupes.

nprov Foundry

27 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308- 421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Banned in Boston

Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-524-7049). www.urbanimprov.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6 pm. $75 (under age 40)-$150. This 10th annual Banned in Boston musical comedy revue includes cocktails and hors d'ouevres from local restaurants. Proceeds benefit Urban Improv, a violence prevention program for youth that utilizes theater to help students manage a variety of issues.

Tim Conway and Harvey Korman: Together Again

Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 9. 5 pm. $35-$65. The comedians from TV's *Carol Burnett Show* perform together.

An Evening with Jonathan Katz

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. April 10. 3 pm. $25. The star of Comedy Central's *Dr Katz: Professional Therapist* performs.

Laugh It Up

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. April 6. 5:30 pm. $150. Local comedians like Paul Nardizzi, Harrison Stebbins and Don Gavin, perform at this event benefiting Supportive Living Inc., an organization committed to building homes for head injured residents of Boston. There is also a pre-show cocktail reception featuring food from Via Valverde.

See Barb Run

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.April 15, 8:30 pm. $20, suggested donation. Mike Whitman, Mike O'Neill and headliner Paul Nardizzi perform at this event supporting Barb Brien's marathon run (on behalf of Mass. General Hospital) and the Cystic Fibrosis Fund.

Mission Insufferable

Sahara deserts moviegoers seeking fun and smarts

BY PAUL SHERMAN

So I'm sitting through *Sahara*, star-producer Matthew McConaughey's *Indiana Jones* wannabe movie, and the action goes something like this: black person dies; bunch of black people die from disease; white people escape death; black person dies; white people escape death; whole bunch of black people die from disease; black person dies; white people escape death. Lather, rinse and repeat for 120 minutes.

What were they thinking?!

McConaughey demonstrates the script selection process that led to *Sahara*.

Granted, there's a Civil War prologue in which plenty of anonymous white guys get it, and there are blacks on the hero's side, while one of the main villains is a white Euro who eventually gets a comeuppance. But I can't remember seeing another contemporary movie that gives off the unspoken notion that blacks are expendable cannon fodder, not to be confused with the lighter-skin characters, who presumably have the grace of God on their side. Put this within the context of a movie in which you're supposed to root for the hero who's killing many of the blacks to prevail, and you've got one supremely creepy experience.

That's easily the most remarkable element of *Sahara*, an ostentatious and smug action-adventure flick that, not surprisingly, never builds up the goodwill or fun that might have gotten its cardboard characters and ludicrous story over. If there had been more substance to the script, which is credited to four writers (meaning probably twice that many worked on it), then maybe the movie's dubious racial politics wouldn't be quite so glaring.

It's an unintentional hoot that the movie tries to present McConaughey's Dirk Pitt (wasn't that a rejected *nom de porn* for *Boogie Nights*' Dirk Diggler?) as a benevolent treasure hunter, because following his intro he shows little concern for anyone but himself and his pals. That intro is when Dirk, his former Navy SEAL comrade Al (Steve Zahn) and their ex-admiral boss (William H. Macy) retrieve a golden sarcophagus from the Atlantic floor and return it to the Nigerian government.

But soon Dirk and Al are heading up the Niger and into Mali, because that's where legend says the prologue's missing Confederate ironclad battleship, which drifts to freedom in one of the Civil War's last battles, ended up. Their boss cajoles them into taking a pair of doctors from the World Health Organization upriver so the medics—among them Eva (Penelope Cruz, subscribing to the Tara Reid *Alone in the Dark* acting method of wearing glasses sometimes so you'll know she's smart and not some bimbo)—can search for the source of a spreading disease.

But neither the military dictator (Lennie James) who rules Mali nor the Euro industrialist (Lambert Wilson) who's paying the general to let him bury toxic waste in the desert want the WHO doctors or the treasure hunters snooping around. So they send in soldiers and henchmen to dispose of them in a series of showdowns, which account for several of the aforementioned black deaths and white close escapes, when Dirk and Al come to the rescue. Eva's fellow doctor (Glynn Turman) is black; what do you think happens to him?

The story takes the surviving trio of Dirk, Al and Eva into rebel country, where they bond with those opposing the general, to the toxic dump site (an industrial fortress like those where most James Bond movies culminate) and to a sandy spot that used to be a riverbed and might be covering the ironclad. Of course, the ironclad comes into play during the climax, but the coincidence-laden plotting of *Sahara* makes *National Treasure* seem clever by comparison. (For instance, in between spreading disease and propping up dictatorships the evil Euro bankrolled that opening expedition to recover the golden sarcophagus. Toxic waste… ancient treasures… it's all the same, right?)

McConaughey, having a hand in producing a vehicle for himself for the first time, had the opportunity to put his best foot forward. His spotty career has included fine work in *Dazed and Confused*, *Lone Star* and *Thirteen Conversations About One Thing*. But here he comes off as the epitome of the dreaded Ugly American, laying waste to a foreign country and then chuckling about it, because he's having fun and either doesn't notice or doesn't care about the mayhem swirling around him. Even if your thoughts don't drift beyond the multiplex during the movie, *Sahara* is just another ego-driven vanity project in which the star wants you to see how cool he is. And pay for the privilege. iB

Sahara ★

Directed by Breck Eisner. Written by Thomas Dean Donnelly, Joshua Oppenheimer, John C. Richards and James V. Hart. With Matthew McConaughey, Steve Zahn, Penelope Cruz, William H. Macy, Lambert Wilson and Glynn Turman. Rated PG-13.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Aviator ★★★
Like Howard Hughes' infamous Spruce Goose, Ma
tin Scorsese's Hughes movie is big and clumsy, yet
somehow manages to get off the ground. Scorse
starts his film on an iffy trajectory, with most of th
first hour dwelling on the first extravagant foray
Hughes (Leonardo DiCaprio) into producing movi
(the WWI aerial drama *Hell's Angels*) and on his r
mance with Katharine Hepburn (Cate Blanchett
You're afraid Scorsese's fascination with old movies
causing him to overlook Hughes' aviation exploi
But the rest of the movie concentrates on Hughe
roles with TWA and his aviation innovations, as we
as his battles with the government and the emotion
problems that ultimately turned him into a reclus
DiCaprio does a good job of bringing out Hughe
charm and vulnerability, and Scorsese champions h
subject as a visionary who wouldn't let the bea
counters dampen his ambition. The result is muc
more satisfying than Scorsese and DiCaprio's previo
Gangs of New York. (At Boston Common, Harva
Square and suburbs.)

The Ballad of Jack and Rose ★★
This 1986-set drama about the intense relationsh
between an idealistic dad (Daniel Day-Lewis) and h
teen daughter (Camilla Belle) never quite takes hol
Single father Jack's an environmentalist and, esse
tially, the last man standing at a former 1970s com
mune on a remote island, where he and daught
Rose live a seemingly idyllic life. But he's dying (bu
ticker) and invites an old lover (Catherine Keene
and her two teenage sons (Paul Dano, Ryan McDo
ald) to move in, in the hope of providing Rose wi
some transition to the outer world. Only he doesn
tell Rose about it beforehand, and she doesn't wa
the reclusive twosome broken up. But the spell is br
ken, the sexual tension snaps and much domest
conflict ensues in the movie's mid-section (whe
McDonald, as unconventional, observant Rodne
steals the movie). Writer-director Rebecca Mille
daughter of the late Arthur Miller and real-life wife
Day-Lewis, is not quite as uncinematic a storytell
here as she was in her earlier *Personal Velocity*, bu
she's still fairly clumsy. (At Harvard Square.)

Be Cool ★★
If only this *Get Shorty* sequel lived up to its title. B
as John Travolta's Chili Palmer moves from th
movie business to the music biz, the series based
Elmore Leonard novels loses much of its entertai
ment-is-just-a-con-game vibe. Unfortunately, the s
quel wants you to think former mobster Chili is al
unleashing great music upon the world, in the form
discovery Linda Hope (Cristina Milian), who
cheesy tunes sound like a latter-day Paula Abdu
And Chili's great plan for getting Linda known is
have her sing with arena schlock kings Aerosmit
That's what this movie thinks is cool? Ouch. Th
most entertaining sequences here involve Vinc
Vaughn as a wannabe-black manager and the Rock
his gay, aspiring-actor henchman. The rest lacks i
predecessor's pizzazz. (At Boston Common, Fenwa
and suburbs.)

Bride and Prejudice ★★
It's clear from the start that *Bhaji on the Beach* an
Bend It Like Beckham director Gurinder Chadha
transformation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudi*
into a present-day, India-set, Bollywood-inspired mu
sical just isn't happening. The songs aren't ver
catchy, leading man Martin Henderson (who stun
up last winter's hyperobnoxious *Torque*) can't act h
way out of a sari, and the movie has no rhythm.
musical should have a light step even when the mus
is off; this one plods along, often during the song
None of the cast seems to be actually singing for the
characters, which makes those characters schiz
while special guest Ashanti (who presumably
singing herself) croons what might be the worst son
lyrics of all-time: "India's the place for me/India wi
set you free." The movie's attempt to bridge Asia
and Anglo-American culture just waters everythin
down, from the Bollywood-lite production numbe
to the cultural stereotypes for the westerners. As
crass Indian-American seeking a bride, Nitin Gan
tra at least adds some life and some comic relief. (A
Kendall Square and Boston Common.)

Constantine ★½
Did you know that Keanu is Hawaiian for "mumb
jumbo"? All right, it isn't, but you might think so aft
having the utter mumbo jumbo of this Keanu Reeve
movie heaped upon you. He's the title character i
this graphic-novel adaptation, an exorcist out of th
private-eye mold, but the nuts and bolts of the sto
fit together clumsily at best. There's a pair of visionar
twins (Rachel Weisz), the all-powerful "spear of des
tiny" (which, underwhelmingly, looks more like th

…ger of destiny), lots of scripture, archangel Gabriel …ilda Swinton) and Satan his bad self (Peter Stor…ıre), but the cause and effect between everybody's …tions is very sketchy. Meanwhile, music video di…ctor Francis Lawrence seems more interested in …er-the-top production design and special effects …an credibility. The odd thing here is that Reeves' …rformance is decent, but little else is. (At Boston …mmon, Fenway and suburbs.)

…ownfall ★★

…dolf Hitler was—surprise, surprise—an insuffer…le, power-mad creep until the very end. Those are …e ho-hum dramatics in this lengthy disappoint…ent set mainly in the Nazi high command's bunker …the Russians advance into Berlin in April of 1945. …is German import is a sort of docudrama version …*Blind Spot: Hitler's Secretary*, the 2002 documen…ry in which Traudl Junge, who held that position …ring the war, detailed the final days of Hitler's life. …e naive young secretary (here played by Alexan…a Maria Lara) is among the large ensemble of char…ters, and veteran German actor Bruno Ganz …*Wings of Desire*, *In the White City*) plays Hitler. Al…ough he's avuncular in his relationship with the …cretary, the Hitler we see is more concerned with …xing his hold over his underlings than giving them …the German civilian population a chance to sur…ve the Russians. Sure, you shouldn't expect Hitler …be reasonable, but director Oliver Hirschbiegel, …o rightly doesn't make value judgments on his …aracters, gives you little to identify with here. Be…nd Hitler, we're left with military officers, politi…ıns and family members who bought into Hitler's …licies or, like the secretary, conveniently "didn't …tice" what Nazism was really all about (the closest …ing to a good guy is a doctor who still seems to …ve a conscience). Once Hitler and Eva Braun do …emselves in, the movie plods on for another hour, …owing us how just about every bunker inhabitant …t killed, committed suicide or escaped. But really, …y should I care about these war criminals? (At …ndall Square.)

…he Jacket ★★½

…hen a nutty shrink (Kris Kristofferson) repeatedly …ffs one of his asylum patients (Adrien Brody) in …ull-body straitjacket, shoots him up with a hallu…ogenic drug cocktail and shoves him in a morgue drawer, the patient imagines himself in the future, where he meets up with a woman (Keira Knightley) he once knew who tells him he died 15 years before. So the two investigate his murder during his hallucinations, while he does sleuthing of his own in the present-day action. Director John Maybury's movie takes a while to get going, and despite the warmed-over *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* feel of some of the asylum action, there's often a fertile *Twilight Zone* quality to the story, in which elements beyond the norm influence reality and in which you don't have to scratch the surface very hard to come up with something creepy. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Leonardo DiCaprio plays Howard Hughes in Martin Scorsese's biopic *The Aviator*.

Late Risers Club ★★★

College radio is one of the best things about Boston, and WMBR's Late Risers Club has been one of the most influential college radio shows, especially during the late 1970s and early 1980s, when it played punk bands that commercial radio totally ignored. The show pioneered the idea of college radio championing music from the fringe, which is now a given. Local filmmaker Marissa Acosta's documentary covers those early years, and it colorfully captures the show's indispensible contribution to the local music scene in the days of La Peste, the Neighborhoods, Unnatural Axe and pre-reunion, pre-break-up Mission of Burma. (At the Coolidge Corner Apr. 7, with the new Unnatural Axe documentary, *You'll Pay for This*.)

Melinda and Melinda ★★

Woody Allen's latest is not as insufferably irrelevant as his other recent movies, but this one—which tells a similar story twice, once as comedy and once as tragedy—still has many of the bogus touches that plagued those forgettable films. There are the pretentious upper-crust characters (the sort Allen would have skewered long ago), the overwritten dialogue ("I haven't been to a dark bistro since college") and the unfortunate character who slowly turns into Allen (here, it's Will Ferrell). And never in my life have I seen two nonwhite men with sweaters draped over their shoulders, preppy-style, yet Allen gives us two in this movie. (At Boston Common, Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Million Dollar Baby ★½

Clint Eastwood's latest is an odd combination of fisticuffs-filled boxing movie, surrogate father–daughter tale, and tragedy. Those separate ingredients are often unconvincing, so not surprisingly, the combination fails. Eastwood plays an aging boxing trainer, but he's little more than a crabby old coot who'd be at home in a mediocre sitcom (ditto for the bickering between him and the old buddy played by Morgan Freeman). The coot gets hounded into training a stubborn female boxer (Hilary Swank, best thing in the movie) who, under his tutelage, shoots up the women's boxing rankings. Swank also emotionally replaces the estranged daughter who sends the trainer's letters back "return to sender," while he replaces the boxer's late father. There's little subtlety in the father-daughter tale, or anywhere else in the film either. Paul Haggis' weak screenplay often wants things both ways—like how it has the boxer knock out most opponents in the first round, yet contrives ways for her to supposedly be the underdog. It takes some of that contrivance to shift the movie into tragedy after an in-ring injury. Where's *Fat City* when you need it? (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Millions ★★

The premise in Danny (*28 Days Later*) Boyle's hints at the movie's ambitious (but unsuccessful) blend of fantasy and reality: Set in the days before England switches its currency from pounds to Euros (a switch that's not currently scheduled), it's about what happens when two young brothers find a duffel bag full of more than £200,000. If they don't spend the money soon, it will be worthless; if they do, they'll have to figure out the best way to do it. The ultimate question posed by the fable is, "If you had the power to

Clive Owen in *Sin City*, adapted from of Frank Miller's graphic novel

perform good deeds, would you?" and the result is a sort of *Leave It to Beaver* good-hearted misadventure focusing on the younger brother, who's obsessed with saints and thinks the money is a divine gift. If adults might snicker at the story's urge to tap their uncynical inner child (which turns it precious at times), it's hard to know what kids might make of *Millions*. There's an appealing altruism to the story, especially considering how much advertising and entertainment caters to our selfish urges. But European currency and Catholic saints weren't high on my list of priorities when I was 8, and I wonder whether today's kids have the ability or the desire to overlook those hurdles to get to the message. (At Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

The Pacifier ★★½
Kung-fu-kicking Brownies and a creepy high school vice principal (Brad Garrett) make Vin Diesel's kiddie comedy better than expected. Sure, it has the required poop and puke jokes, but the script by Thomas Lennon and Robert Ben Garant (*Reno 911*, MTV's *The State*) throws in enough curves to make it interesting. Diesel is even mildly likable this time around, giving a game performance as a Navy SEAL who goes incognito to protect an unruly brood of kids. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Sin City ★★
Graphic novels supposedly brought adult sophistication to comic books. But if Robert (*Spy Kids*) Rodriguez's adaptation of Frank Miller's *Sin City* (with both men credited as co-directors) is any indication, that just means you get R-rated adolescent fantasy instead of PG-rated adolescent fantasy. So the episodic, overlapping tales of vice in the movie's Basin City metropolis aren't just warmed-over neo-noir (with uncinematic, incessant narration that vintage noir did not have), they're also full of over-the-top violence dished out by avenging angels and full of sexually available women (or the frequent daily double of hookers toting assault weapons). Well, at least it's not boring, and Rodriguez's use of CGI backdrops instead of sets (in most scenes) outdoes *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow* in effectiveness. It's fun sometimes, and energetic most of the time, but pretty juvenile. Of course, that's no accident (even though it's rated R). Case in point: Miramax made local critics preview the movie with an audience of comic-book fans, and I swear on a stack of Burt Lancaster DVDs I smelled peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in the crowd. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
•April 11, 6 pm. **The Store** *1983*. Director Frederick Wiseman answers audience questions before this screening of his film that contrasts consumption among the American bourgeoisie with the lives of those on welfare.
•April 17, 6:30 pm. **Sweet Old Song** *2002*. Directed by Leah Mahon, this documentary follows the courtship and marriage of musician Howard Armstrong and his wife, artist Barbara Ward Armstrong.

BRATTLE THEATRE
Brattle Features
•April 6, 8 pm and 10 pm; April 7, 5 and 7 pm. **The Animation Show 2005**. This short-film series brings together some of the industry's best-known animators.
•April 15, 4:15 pm, 7 pm, and 9:40 pm; April 16, 1:45, 4:15, 7, and 9:40 pm; April 17, 1:45, 4:15, 7, and 9:40 pm; April 18, 4:15, 7, and 9:40 pm. **Salinui Chueok** *(Memories of Murder) 2003*. This South Korean thriller set in 1986 is based on the story of the country's first noted serial killer. Joon-ho Bong directs.

Wong Kar-wai: A Retrospective
•April 9, 5:40 pm, 7:45 pm, and 10 pm. **A Tei Jing Juen** *(Days of Being Wild) 1991*. A tragic love story set in 1960s Hong Kong stars Leslie Cheung as a young man after a shopgirl's heart.
•April 10, 5:15 and 9:45 pm. **Dung Che Sai Duk** *(Ashes of Time) 1994*. Maggie Cheung takes on dual roles as a pair of sisters who fight for the affections of a swordsman and a hermit.
•April 10, 7:30 pm. **Wong Gok Ka Moon** *(As Tears Go By) 1988*. Kar-wai's debut film follows a gangster who falls in love with his cousin. Starring Andy Lau and Maggie Cheung.
•April 11, 5:30 and 9:45 pm; April 12, 8 pm. **Duo Lua Tian Shi** *(Fallen Angels) 1995*. A hitman and his agent fantasize about each other, while never actually meeting.
•April 11, 7:30 pm; April 12, 10 pm. **Chang Qing Senlin** *(Chungking Express) 1994*. Two lovesick cops address their bizarre relationship issues.

April 13, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Chueng Wong Tsa** : *(Happy Together) 1997*. Kar-wai won the Best Di-ctor award at the 1997 Cannes Film Festival for this n about a gay couple who move from Hong Kong to ienos Aires for a new begining but end up apart in eir new country.

April 14, 5:15, 7:30, and 9:45 pm. **Hua Yang Nian ua** *(In the Mood for Love) 2000*. Next door neigh-rs suspect that their spouses are having an affair in is film set in Hong Kong in the 1960s.

OOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

oolidge Selects

Now showing. **Academy Award–Nominated orts: Live Action and Animation.** A series of short ns includes *Birthday Boy* by Sejong Park, *Ryan* by ris Landreth, *Gopher Broke* by Jeff Fowler, *Two rs, One Night* by Taika Waititi and Ainsley ardiner, *7:35 in the Morning* by Nacho Vigalondo, *asp* by Andrea Arnold and *Little Terrorist* by Ashvin mar.

Now showing. **Gegen Die Wand** *(Head-On)*. This ve story directed by Fatih Akin follows a 40-year-d-man who is brought to a clinic after attempting icide, where he meets a young girl trying to escape m her strict Turkish family.

idnight Movies

Now showing, 12 am. **The Animation Show** *2005*. his short-film series brings together some of the in-stry's best-known animators. See Brattle Theatre ction for more information.

uesday Afternoon Kids' Films

April 12, 11 am. **Harry the Dirty Dog**. After run-ng away, a dog returns to his family, who doesn't rec-nize him covered with mud.

005 Coolidge Award: inematographer Vittorio Storaro

April 6, 8 pm. Storaro appears in person to accept e annual Coolidge Award.

April 7, 1:30 pm. **Writing With Light: A Discussion Cinematography.** Storaro and other filmmakers lk about their experiences.

April 7, 7 pm. **Reds** *1981*. Warren Beatty directs and rs with Diane Keaton in this love story set during e Russian Revolution. Beatty and Storaro earned cademy Awards for this film. Storaro takes part in a &A after the screening.

GRIFFIN MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Film Series

• April 10, 6 pm. **War Photographer** *2001*. This documentary follows photographer James Nachtwey on a year's journey through Kosovo, the West Bank, Indonesia and other locations around the world. Christian Frei directs.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Black and White on Screen

• April 11, 9:30 pm. **Toxi** *1952*. The daughter of a German woman and an American GI is abandoned and left with a Hamburg family. Robert A. Stemmle directs.

• April 18, 9:30 pm. **Dutchman** *1966*. A quiet black man captures the attention of a white woman on the New York City subway. The film follows their conversation as the ride progresses. (Free screening.)

An Evening with Todd Solondz

• April 8, 7 pm. **Palindromes** *2004*. Writer-director Solondz's film tells the story of a 13-year-old who wants to become a teenage mother. Also showing, **Welcome to the Dollhouse** *1996*. This comedic drama looks at the insecurities and challenges that a middle-school girl faces.

Director in Focus: Alain Resnais

• April 6, 9 pm. **Hiroshima Mon Amour** *(Hiroshima My Love) 1959*. Resnais' first feature film depicts a French woman who falls in love with a Japanese man and is haunted by memories of the war and the Hiroshima bombing.

• April 13, 9 pm. **Mon Oncle d'Amérique** *(My American Uncle) 1980*. This film, which won the Critics' Prize at Cannes, presents the theories of French behavioral scientist Henri Laborit through the lives of three French citizens.

• April 15, 7 pm. **Pas sur la Bouche** *(Not on the Lips) 2003*. This musical comedy based on a 1925 operetta by Maurice Yvai and Andre Barde stars Audry Tautou as a Parisian who marries and divorces an American. She returns to France and marries again only to be reunited with her ex-husband in an unexpected way.

• April 15, 9 pm. **On Connait la Chanson** *(Same Old Song) 1997*. Characters break into song throughout this romantic comedy about a businesswoman who hooks up with an old lover.

• April 16, 7 pm. **Je T'aime, Je T'aime** *(I Love You, I Love You) 1968*. In this science fiction film, a man travels through time after being rescued from suicide by scientists. In French with English subtitles. Immediately following, **Les Statues Meurent Aussi** *(Statues Also Die) 1953*. Chris Marker directs and narrates this documentary about Western influence on African art. The film at one time was banned by French censors for its critique of French colonialism.

• April 16, 9 pm. **La Guerre est Finie** *(The War Is Finished) 1966*. A Spanish liberal working to overthrow the Franco regime travels between Paris and Spain. A love triangle ensues as the man tries to sort out his political and life aspirations. Immediately following, **Guernica** *1950*. Using Picasso's famous painting, Resnais documents the town of Guernica after it was destroyed during the Spanish Civil War.

• April 17, 7 pm. **Providence** *1977*. John Gielgud stars as an aging writer who faces writer's block for one night as he works on a new novel.

• April 17, 9 pm. **Stavisky** *1974*. Resnais highlights a scandal in 1930s in France in which Alexandre Stavisky corrupted banks with fake vouchers.

Fashion and Film

• April 12, 7 pm; April 13, 7 pm. **Hua Yang Nian Hua** *(In the Mood for Love) 2000*. See Brattle Theatre listings for a description.

Film and Autobiography

• April 12, 9 pm. **Intervista** *(Interview) 1987*. Federico Fellini's film-within-a-film focuses on a Japanese documentary crew as they watch Fellini direct an adaptation of Kafka's *Amerika*. Italian with English subtitles.

• April 19, 9 pm. **Memoires d'un Juif Tropical** *(Memories of a Tropical Jew) 1986*. Director Joseph Morder's uses experimental, non-narrative techniques to create an account of his childhood in Ecuador after his family fled from Poland to escape the Nazi regime. French with English subtitles.

Frames of Mind

• April 6, 7 pm. **Rashoman** *1950*. Akira Kurosawa's film depicts the tale of a 12th-century murder from the perspectives of the crime's participants and witnesses.

Tremors of Forgery: Filming Patricia Highsmith

• April 9, 7 pm. **Ripley's Game** *2002*. In this adaptation of Highsmith's novel of the same name, John Malkovich plays a man who cons a terminally ill man into committing a murder. Liliana Cavani directs.

• April 9, 9 pm. **The American Friend** *1977*. Dennis Hopper plays Tom Ripley in Wim Wenders' adaptation of *Ripley's Game*. In German and English with English subtitles.

• April 10, 7 pm. **Plein Soleil** *(Purple Noon) 1962*. Rene Clement directs this French film based on Patricia Highsmith's novel *The Talented Mr. Ripley*. In French with English subtitles.

• April 10, 9 pm. **The Talented Mr. Ripley** *1999*. Matt Damon, Gwyneth Paltrow and Jude Law star in this psychological thriller about a con man who takes on a new identity as a wealthy American. Anthony Minghella directs.

Visions from the South: Korean Cinema 1960-2005

• April 11, 7 pm. **Oasis** *2002*. Lee Chang-dong directs a tale of love between a man recently released from prison for a crime his brother committed, and the sister of the victim, who has cerebral palsy. In Korean with English subtitles.

• April 18, 6:30 pm. **Untold Scandal** *2003*. This film set in Korea at the end of the Chosun Dynasty is based on Choderlos de Laclos' novel *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*. E.J. Yong directs. With English subtitles.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Artists on Artists

• April 15, 8 pm. **Visions of Warhol.** Films featuring Andy Warhol by Jonas Mekas, Willard Maas and Marie Menken screens in conjunction with the ICA's *Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists* exhibition.

Local Film/Video Artists

• April 8, 8 pm. An Evening with Lousie Bourque. The French-Canadian filmmaker shows several of her experimental short films along with new works by local filmmakers.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

• April 9, 11 am; April 10, 11 am; April 16, 11 am; April 17, 11 am. **Antonio Gaudi** *1984*. Hiroshi Teshigahara's documentary features the work of the Catalan architect Gaudi. In Japanese with English subtitles.

Cinema Tropical
•April 15, 3 pm; April 16, 3:45 pm; April 17, 1 pm. **Dependencia Sexual** *(Sexual Dependency) 2003*. Five teenagers from Bolivia and the United States discover their own sexuality and the common need for intimacy. Rodrigo Bellott directs.

Cinema Vino
•April 15, 5 pm; April 16, 1 pm; April 17, 1 pm. **Mondovino** *2004*. Jonathon Nossiter's documentary looks at the wine industry and the impact of globalization. In English, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish with English subtitles.

Pre-Release Screening
•April 7, 2 pm. **Palindromes** *2004*. See Harvard Film Archive listings for a description.

Sounds for Silents
•April 15, 8:15 pm. **Tillie's Punctured Romance** *1914*. Adapted from a Broadway musical, Mack Sennett's silent film, starring Charlie Chaplin, is widely considered the first-ever feature-length comedy. The band Tillie's Nightmare provides live musical accompaniment.

Turkish Film Festival
•April 8, 6 pm. **Umut** *(Hope) 1970*. In Yilmaz Guney's film, a man who searches for a treasure after his attempt to create a better life fails.

•April 8, 8 pm. **Anayurt Oteli** *(Motherland Hotel) 1986*. A hotel owner slowly falls apart over an obsession with a female guest he didn't know. Omer Kavur directs. In Turkish with English subtitles.

•April 9, 1:20 pm. **Suru** *(The Herd) 1979*. A peasant family goes through a crisis and must sell its most precious commodity. Zeki Okten directs. In Turkish with English subtitles.

•April 9, 3:45 pm. **Masumiyet** *(Innocence) 1997*. *Innocence* follows the stories of two men and a woman involved in a romantic triangle. Zeki Demirkubuz directs. In Turkish with English subtitles.

•April 10, 1 pm. **Yol** *1982*. Five prison convicts are allowed a week of leave to visit their families in this film by Serif Goren and Yilmaz Guney. In Turkish with English subtitles.

•April 10, 3:15 pm. **Uzak** *(Distant) 2003*. Two Istanbul cousins learn about one another for the first time and develop a friendship. Winner of the Grand Jury prize at the 2003 Cannes Film Festival. Nuri Bilge Ceylan directs. In Turkish with English subtitles.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theater
•Through April 17. **Amazing Journeys**. Follow butterflies, whales and zebras on their migrations.

•Through September 5. **Mystery of the Nile.** Join explorers on the first attempt of a full descent down the Nile River.

•Through April 17. **Forces of Nature**. Scientists attempt to forecast and understand the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theater
•Through June 30. **Sharks 3D**. Explore the ultimate predator of the ocean with Jean-Michel Cousteau.

•Through June 30. **Aliens of the Deep**. Academy Award–winning director James Cameron takes viewers to the depths of the ocean to encounter some of Earth's strangest life forms.

REGENT THEATRE
Welcome to the Club: The Women of Rockabilly
•April 7, 7 pm. Beth Harrington's film features interviews and clips of some of the great rockabilly women, including Brenda Lee and Janis Martin. This documentary was nominated for a Grammy in 2003. All proceeds will support Harrington's new project: a music documentary about Johnny and June Carter Cash.

STUDIO CINEMA BELMONT
Things We Do for Love... and Lust
•April 11, 7:30 pm. **Filantropica** *2002*. A teacher in Bucharest goes broke when he tries to impress a model, but is gets a chance to make money through the Philantropique foundation. Nae Caranfil directs.

SOMERVILLE THEATRE
Boston Underground Film Festival
•April 6-10. The seventh installment of this annual competition showcases experimental features, shorts, animations and documentaries. Awards include Most Effectively Offensive and Most Promising New England Filmmaker.

TUFTS UNIVERSITY
Global Hibakusha Film Festival
•April 15, 7 pm. **Atomic Cafe** *1982*. This post-modern documentary relies on a soundtrack instead of narration to satirize the Truman and Eisenhower era. Jayne Loader directs.

•April 16, 1 pm. **Alexei and the Spring** *2001*. Seiichi Motohashi's documentary tells the story of an elderly man living in a village in Belarus that was contaminated after the accident at Chernobyl. Immediately following, **Nadya's Village** *1997*. This documentary from Motohashi focuses on the life of an eight-year-old girl living in a village without technology.

WANG THEATRE
Free Film Series
•April 18, 7 pm. **Dirty Dancing** *1987*. A girl falls for her dancing instructor, despite strong opposition from her traditional dad.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON
Regent Theatre
7 Meford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gre Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBT Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Li to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Li to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Oran Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line Davis.

WINCHESTER
Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road (781-729-1158).

dvice to Contributors
bmit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax 17-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by ıail to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, ces, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is ır weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac-ıted over the phone.

dvice to Readers
formation for the Music section is compiled from dif-ent sources. Although we make every effort to provide :urate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead double-check dates and times (see complete list of ıues at the end of the section).

op Billings

ri Amos April 12, Orpheum Theatre (617-482-50).
ny Ray, Snow Machine April 18, Paradise Rock ub (617-562-8800)
anford Marsalis April 17, Sanders Theatre (617-6-2222)
endan Benson, the Stands, Jesse Sykes. The veet Hereafter April 13, Middle East Downstairs 17-492-9181).
ıpe Verdean Festival April 13, Scullers Jazz Club 17-562-4111).
ıb Dylan, Merle Haggard, Amos Lee April 16 and , Orpheum Theatre (617-482-0650).
di Mind Tricks, Living Legends, Pigeon John April Middle East Downstairs (617-492-9181).
mp Little Children, Ross Golan, Molehead April Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800).
ıe Wailers, deSol April 8, Paradise Rock Club 17-562-8800).

ock, Jazz nd Blues

EDNESDAY, APRIL 6

obey Lounge Palace in Thunderland, 9 pm; Suit of ıir, 9:45 pm; Static of the Gods, 10:45 pm; Swim ıam, 11:45 pm, $5-$7.
ganis Arena O.A.R., Ari Hest, Stephen Kellogg, 30 pm, $27.50.
l Asia Café Walk Forever, 6 pm; Open Mike, 7 pm.
gard The Chris Conoly Trio.
cis Rupee with the .COM Band, Sound Vibration d Everlast Sounds, 10 pm, $20, 18+.
avo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
eezeway Rollins Ross, 7:30 pm.
ıntab Lounge Joe Cook, 9 pm.
ub Passim Clare Burson and Rachel Davis, 8 pm, 2.
ck's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm.
ıe Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
ıe Green Street Grill The Coachmen, 10:30 pm.
ennessy's The Mystics.
zard Lounge Jennifer Kimball, 8 pm; Dennis ennan Band, 9:30 pm.
iddle East Downstairs: Jedi Mind Tricks, Living gends, Pigeon John, $18-$20, 18+. Upstairs: The ung Republic, the Shills, Soft Caustic, $8, 18+.
radise Rock Club: The Wonder Stuff, $15, 18+.
ddy O's Chad LaMarsh.
ough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 8:30 pm.
gattabar Kate McGarry, 7:30 pm, $12.
ver Gods Primitive Sounds, 9 pm, 21+.
les Jazz Club Alfred Cardim Trio, 9 pm, $10.
ullers Jazz Club Joey DeFrancesco, 8 and 10 pm, 0.
p of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T. the Bear's Place Out Hud, Hella, Certainly Sir, 0.
ıe Western Front Mike Pfaff with Nick Videen and an Halloin, 8:30 pm; Vaunce, Sean Berry, Brian ller, Bridget Kearney, 9:30 pm, $5.
eitgeist Gallery Willow Flute Ensemble, 7:30 pm,
s Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm.

HURSDAY, APRIL 7

obey Lounge The Coots.
l Asia Café Beth Paccione, 6 pm; Indefinite Arti-, 8 pm; Penny Red, 9:30 pm.
gard The Ken Selcer Band
alon Bowling for Soup, American Hi-Fi, Riddlin' ds, MC Lars, 6:30, $15.
enue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30-9 pm. 18+.
avo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
eezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
ıntab Lounge New Day with Lamont, 9 pm.
ub Passim Ramblin' Jack Elliott, 8 pm, $25.
ck's Last Resort Hard Drive, 7:20 pm.
reat Scott Call Me Lightning, Chariots, Mommy d Daddy, 9 pm, $7, 18+.

Grime Time

Dizzee Rascal mixes his British roots into a bold hip-hop hybrid.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Most musicians, especially singers, try not to be "off-key." But that's a term that Dizzee Rascal loves to claim when he's building a backdrop for his rapid-fire rhymes.

It's also a clue as to how Dizzee Rascal, a 20-year-old MC and producer whose real name is Dylan Mills, joins British countryman Mike Skinner of the Streets in giving hip-hop a different form and flavor than their American counterparts.

"Rapping over a hip-hop beat, I find that there's really no challenge in that," says Mills, whose computer-honed tracks mix booming bass with sonic squiggles that sound like video games. "I'll try to build something as off-key as I can."

As a teenager in the public housing or "council estates" of East London's tough Bow neighborhood, he loved the crunk style of hip-hop from America's "Dirty South." But Mills also became immersed in the electronic dance styles of drum 'n' bass and two-step garage that fed the British underground.

"I'm definitely trying to stretch the boundaries as much as I can," Mills says. "But I don't think it's ever been that intentional. It's kind of *momentarial* as well—I go with the moment. I've been open about music for a long time. I like hardcore, techno, drum 'n' bass, a lot of rock. Hip-hop obviously. Those elements come through in the music I produce. It comes naturally."

Mills' path began in school—but not in any formal sense. He was expelled from three schools (and earned the nickname Rascal) before one teacher had enough faith in his musical skills to let him compose on the computers in the back of the classroom. "I didn't go there to be taught," he says. "I went there and did my thing."

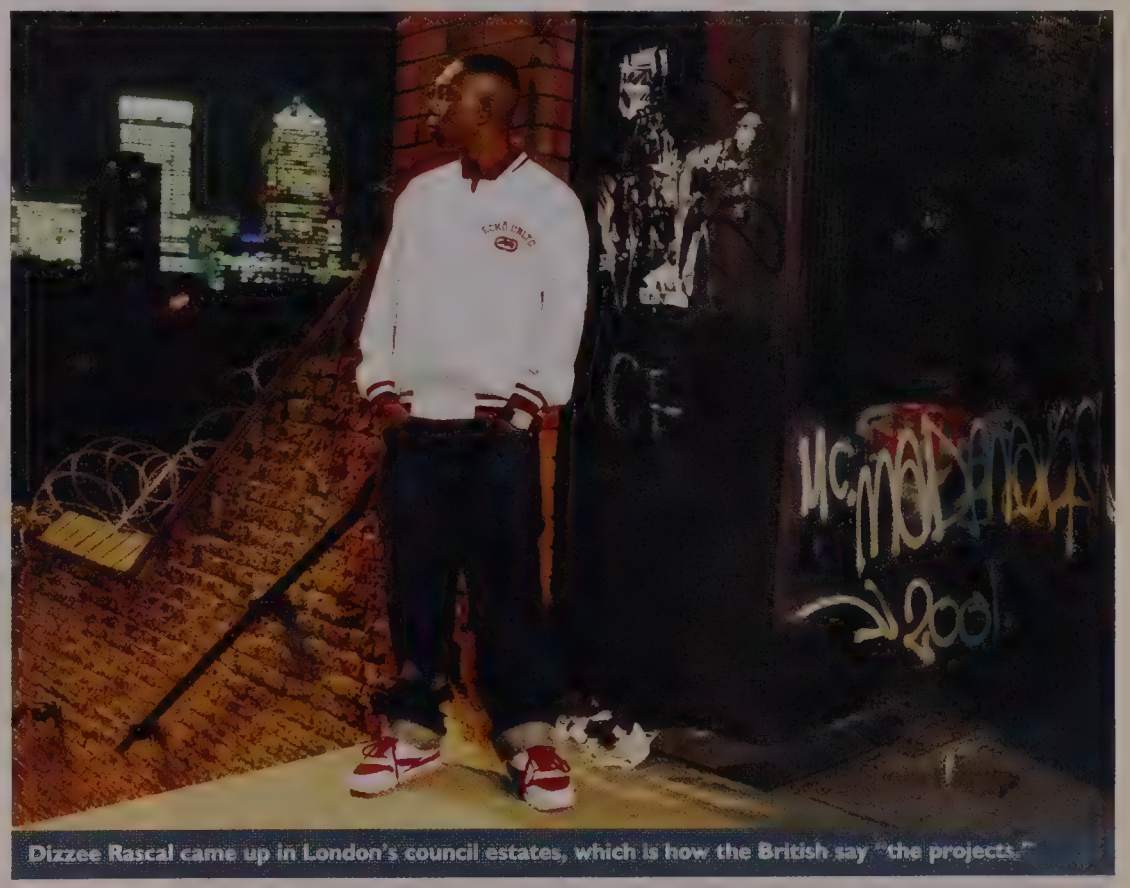
"I was just making beats with bass, making music with all tempos, and I came out with my own kind of songs," he says of a minimalist approach that he later took to the studio. "Even before that, I used to play with a drum at school."

By age 15, Mills was broadcasting on pirate radio stations, which had popped up in abandoned housing throughout London. "I set off on my own little journey, and a lot of the time, it was keeping me out of trouble," says Mills, who had sold marijuana in school. "The majority of [my time on pirate radio] was emceeing over other people's tracks and garage bands. The more I progressed, I started making tracks."

He also tapped into the club culture by playing raves. "It went hand in hand, because if you made your name in pirate radio, then all the promoters would come to you," Mills says. "You had to make people care as an MC. [Raves] are really rough places. If they don't like you, you'll know."

Then came the breakthrough. Dizzee Rascal dropped his debut, *Boy in Da Corner*, in 2003, winning the Mercury Music Prize awarded to the year's best British album (beating out Radiohead's *Hail to the Thief*, among others) and sold 250,000 copies worldwide. "It kind of rocketed me," he says. "It played a major part in my mainstream career."

His follow-up disc, *Showtime*, is even broader, cleaner and catchier. "I didn't want to make *Boy in Da Corner* again," Mills says. "It's a bit more melodic this time around. With the first one, it was a bit harsher to listen to, because I was coming out of a zone where I was doing things just for the clubs and pirate radio and extreme listening. After the first one, I realized I had come across a wider audience, so I wanted to make it at least a touch more accessible."



Dizzee Rascal came up in London's council estates, which is how the British say "the projects."

So the new CD includes the sing-songy "Dream," a remake of the 1982 Captain Sensible hit "Happy Talk" (with female vocals evoking the *Annie* sample in Jay-Z's "Hard Knock Life"), alongside darker fare. In the latter category is "Respect Me," a track with a paranoid pulse inspired by Mills getting stabbed at a Cyprus nightclub in 2003.

"They didn't stab me enough," says Mills, who still had stitches in when he recorded that song with the refrain, "You people are gonna respect me, if it kills you."

"I've never been short of having a crazy life," he says from his London home before a tour that will bring Dizzee Rascal to the Middle East April 26. He'll bring a DJ and a "hype man," who revs up the crowd and shares choruses.

"It's back to the old school with a fresh new sound and a lot of energy," says Mills, whose music is part of a scene tagged with a street-savvy name apart from hip-hop: grime.

"It's grimey music," he says. "It's the new punk." iB

Dizzee Rascal
plays the Middle East Downstairs April 26.

The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Green Street Grill John Camara and Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry In the Flesh: Pink Floyd tribute, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Westbound Train, 9 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Erin Hawks, 9 pm; Lloyd Thayer, 9:30 pm; Rosie Huntress, 10 pm; Grand Evolution, 10:30 pm. $5.
Lizard Lounge Anne Heaton, Rose Polenzani and Scotch Rocks, 9:30 pm, $8.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 10:30 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Sole, Pedestrian, Dosh, $12, 18+. Upstairs: Rock 'n' Roll Rumble with Sudden Ease, Antler, Turpentine Brothers, Beyond the Embrace, 8:30 pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamon Sheehan.
PA's Andres Wilson, B.J. Snowden, So and So, Jeff Chase, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Swerve.
Paradise Rock Club: Jump Little Children, Ross Golan & Molehead, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Cajun/zydeco with Mickey Bones, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Sonya Kitchell Band, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $10.
River Gods For Real, Too Reel, with Dali and Ross, 9 pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Ellen O'Brien, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Myanna, 8 and 10 pm, $12.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Abigal Warchild, These Thieves, Futon Police, Hong Kong Regulars, $7.
The Western Front Irepress, Giving to Grey Skies, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Charles Anastasiou, 9:30 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

Abbey Lounge The Kent 100's, 7 pm, no cover. The Konks, 9 pm, $5-$7.
All Asia Café Kite, 6 pm; J.E. Borgen, 8 pm; Melodeego, 11 pm.
Asgard Typhoon Ferri.
The Attic Jeffrey Gaines, Meet the Day, $12.
Avenue One Ronon Portley, 5:30-8 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm.
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center Juanito Pascual Flamenco Quartet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $16.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Tracy Grammer, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Mutha's Mistake, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal Noel Henry.
Great Scott Elkland and DJs Ken & Terence, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
Harper's Ferry The Pushstars, Hugh McGowan Band, the Brightwings, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm; Incadence, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Garland Jeffreys, 9:45 pm, $15.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 5 pm; Springhill Rounders, 9 pm.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8 pm; Californias, 9:30 pm; Jumblies, 10:30 pm; Motion Pictures, 11:30 pm. $5.
Lizard Lounge Engine, 8 pm; Rick Berlin, Ad Frank, 9:30 pm.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint Live.
Middle East Downstairs: The New Deal, $20, 18+. Upstairs: Rock 'n' Roll Rumble with Rubikon, Mass Hysteria, Muck and the Mires, Aberdeen City, 8:30 pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5 pm. McTaggarts, 9 pm.
Paddy O's Dick 'n' Jane.
Paradise Rock Club: The Wailers, deSol, 9 pm, $25, 18+. Lounge: Marc Friedman and Marco Benevento, 9 pm, $12, 21+.

Tori Amos plays the Orpheum Theatre April 12.

PA's Soltero, Pants Yell!, The Pathways, the Westward Trail, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 5:30 pm; Hot Day at the Zoo, 8:30 pm.
River Gods Diversion with Erik Pearson, Mello Tekno, Scsi Disko, Neusoul, 9 pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Bebop Guitars, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Najee, 8 and 10:30 pm, $28.
Somerville Theatre Battlefield Band, 8 pm, $22-$28.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mono, Eluvium, Caspian, Seneca, $10.
The Western Front Tragedy Khadafi, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Abbey Lounge Roachenders, 9 pm; Dead Pets, 10 pm; Blue Bloods, 11 pm; Suspect Device, 12 am. $5-$7.
All Asia Café Kelzmitron with Recklez, 1 pm; Alez Vilcapoma, 4 pm; Laura B Rockin, 7 pm.
Avenue One Leah Souza Trio, 7:30-11 pm.
Axis Darkbuster, the Ducky Boys, the Skels, Far from Finished, 6 pm, $12.
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center Juanito Pascual Flamenco Quartet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $16.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Susan Werner, 8 pm, $22.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City.
The Grand Canal 2U (U2 tribute band).
The Green Dragon Tavern Fenian Sons.
The Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm.
Harper's Ferry New Monsoon, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm. Swerve, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Milo Z, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kings Blacksnake, 10 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Gary Rand, 8:30 pm; Rollo Toma Quartet, 9:30 pm; Stevens and Mack, 10:30 pm; th Republic, 11:30 pm. $5.
Lizard Lounge Ziaf CD release party, 8 pm, $12.
Matt Murphy's Bangalore.
Middle East Downstairs: The New Deal, $20, 18+. Up stairs: Rock 'n' Roll Rumble with the Hidden, San Machine, the Marvels, Violet Nine, 8:30 pm, $9, 18+
Mr. Dooley's McTaggarts.
Paddy O's Pig Pen.
Paradise Rock Club: Josh Rouse with Amy Correi 9 pm, $15, 18+.
PA's The Goldenrods, Small Axe, the Dirty White $5-7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Steve Marden, 5 pm; Stan Ma tin, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar David Maxwell, 7:30 pm and 10 pm $16.
River Gods The Appliance of Science with Ur lockedgroove and Forced Exposure, 9pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Teresa Ines Group, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Najee, 8 and 10:30 pm, $28.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place John Davis of Superdrag, AM Stereo, the Lincoln Conspiracy, Morning Theft $10.
The Western Front Masspyke, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Ominous Collective, 7-11:3 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm.

UNDAY, APRIL 10

-Asia Café Songwriter Series with Christie Leigh, ım, $5. Pat Kracunsas, 8 pm.
alon Mindless Self Indulgence, 6:30 pm, $16.
avo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am-3 ı.
eezeway Rollins Ross, 11 am-3pm.
ntab Lounge Candy's Blues and Rock Jam, 9 pm..
ub Passim Steve Tibbits and Choying Dromla, 30 pm, $20.
ck's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm.
eat Scott New Idea Society, Animal Hospital, naloa, 9 pm.
e Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
e Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, :30 pm, no cover.
nnessy's Tom Groleau.
nny D's Mathew Dorko, Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 ı.
nnedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd, 12-3 pm.
tt Murphy's Akira.
ddle East Upstairs: Senator Whatley, Books on pe, Patchbay, Miss Fairchild, $8, 18+.
iky Way Creative Nation, 9 pm, $5.
. Dooley's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm. Mike Barrett, 9 ı.
ddy O's The Prodigals.
radise Rock Club: The Kills, Scout Niblett, chie Bronson Outfit, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
ough and Stars Kind of Bluegrass, 5 pm.
gattabar Harlem Gospel Choir, 12:30 pm, $15.
er Gods JJ Rassler, 9 pm, 21+.
les Jazz Club Yoko Miwai, 10 am-3 pm.
nders Theatre Hank Jones, 7 pm, $8-$15.
p of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Marty llou Trio, 8 pm.
. the Bear's Place Dial M for Murder, Ososki, llen, Research Has Shown, $6.
onder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon Trio, 8 ı.
itgeist Gallery Luminescent Orchestrii and the iyos, 9 pm.

ONDAY, APRIL 11

bey Lounge James Christensen, 7 pm, no cover.
ntab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm; nter Moore, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Dave Palmater 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Angels of Light, Honeypump, 9 pm, 18+.
Harper's Ferry Geoffro, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Starhick, 9 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's State of the Art.
Middle East Downstairs: Project/Object performing the Music of Frank Zappa, Gongzilla, $17, 18+. Upstairs: Virtuoso, Dr. Frog, Ten-Minute Turn, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club: Joseph Arthur, Tara Angell, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Plough and Stars Dig in the Dirt Band, 8:30 pm.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jesse Selengut and Noir, 8 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Abbey Lounge Eileen Rose, Seth Goodman, 9 pm, no cover.
Agganis Arena Widespread Panic, 7:30 pm, $35.
All Asia Café Michael Hirsch, 1:30 pm; Yvette Graveline, 7:30 pm; Freefall, 10:30 pm.
Axis The Sword, the Black, 8 pm, $15.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass pickin' party, 8 pm; David Long and Chris Sharp Band, 10 pm.
Club Passim Janis Ian, 8 pm, $35.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins. 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Angels of Light, Akron/Family, 9 pm, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harper's Ferry Post Panic Party featuring Jamie McLean, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Jez Lowe, 8:30 pm, $10.
Lizard Lounge Rebecca Martin, Sam Bisbee, Amy Rigby, Tim Williams, 8 pm, $8.
Matt Murphy's Public House.
Middle East Downstairs: M. Ward, Devotchka, Norfolk & Western, $12-$15, 18+. Upstairs: Scars Like Ours, Saving Alcatraz, National Fire Theory, Research Has Shown, $9, 18+.
Orpheum Theatre Tori Amos, 7:30 pm, $34.50-$45.

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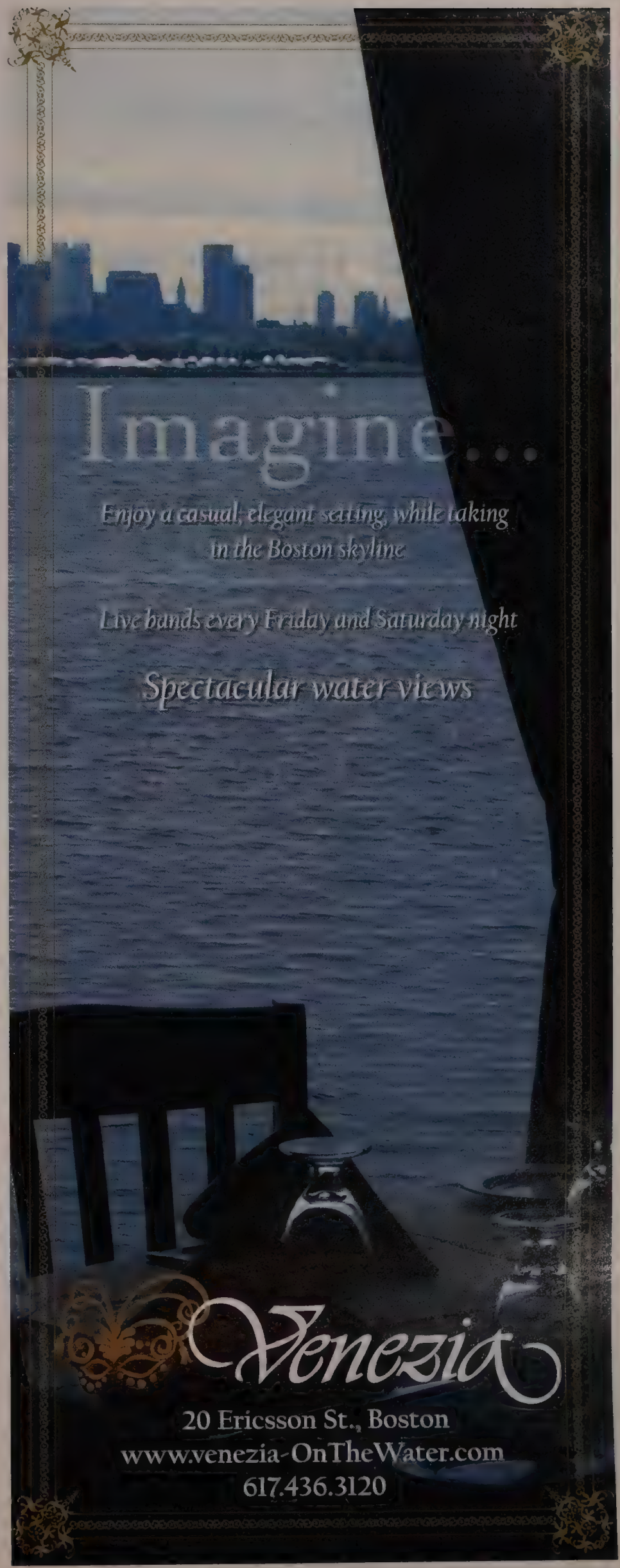

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Stephanie and Avi

O.A.R. plays a show at Boston University's Aggams Arena April 6.

Paddy O's Brian Perry.
Paradise Rock Club: M83, Ulrich Schnauss, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Lounge: Signal Path, 10 pm, $8, 18+.
Plough and Stars Steve Hurl, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Blanco's Boston Latin Ensemble, 7:30 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Artist Showcase, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Michael Ricca, 8 pm, $16.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Of Montreal, St. Thomas, Plumerai, $10.
Les Zygomates Scott Ryckman, 8 pm.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

Abbey Lounge Something Against You, 9 pm; Kite, 9:45 pm; Blitzkrieg Bliss, 10:45 pm; Jon Gorey Band, 11:45 pm. $5-$7.
All Asia Café Kyle Hurlbut, 6 pm; Open Mike, 7 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway ZMQ, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Janis Ian, 8 pm, $35.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7: 20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
The Green Street Grill The Coachmen, 10:30 pm.
Harper's Ferry Gaelic Storm, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's The Mystics.
Johnny D's Richard Buckner, 8:30 pm, $10.
Lizard Lounge Volcza, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Brendan Benson, the Stands, Jesse Sykes & the Sweet Hereafter $10-$12, 18+. Upstairs: Moller, Tracksuit, Nylon 66, Supervain, Back to Blonde, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy O's Chad LaMarsh.
Paradise Rock Club: Ben Lee, Har Mar Superstar, 8 pm, $14, 18+. Lounge: Martha Wainwright, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
PA's Tiger Bear Wolf, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 8:30 pm.
River Gods "Bluegrass Cat" Dan Fram, 9 pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Grupo Shekere, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Cape Verdean Festival, 8 and 10 pm, $26.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Pocketsauce, Sarah Pedinotti, Eureka Gold, the Rice Cookers, $8.
The Western Front Jazz Guitar Duo featuring Jesse Ward and Willie Gruefe, 8:30 pm; Cats, 9:30 pm, $5.
Les Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

Abbey Lounge Starr Faithful, 9 pm; Scott Turelli, 10 pm. $5-$7.
All Asia Cafe Katahdin's Edge, 6-9 pm, $5. Rachel Black with Chris Holcolmb, 9 pm.
Art Attack The Sanguine and Noisette, 7 pm, $5.
Asgard The Jude Nemo Band
Avalon Everclear, 7 pm, $16, 18+.
Avenue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30-9 pm. 18+
Axis Sparta, Siva, Thieves of Always, 7 pm, $14.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Groove Authority, 9 pm.
Club Passim Chris Smither and Tim O'Brien, 8 pm, $35.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Bling Kong, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Glenn Tilbrook and the Fluffers Corin Ashley, Redletter, $18, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Kirkland Café David Harold, 8 pm; Erin Harper and Henrik Lindquivist, 9 pm; Shrinking Islands, 10 pm Phantom Buffalo, 11 pm. $5.
Lizard Lounge Kabir with Savin Ill, 9:30 pm, $7.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 10:30 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Gift of Gab, Lateef the Truth Speaker, $12-$14, 18+. Upstairs: Clickers Night Rally, Carlisle Sound Reports, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Derek Keane.
Orpheum Theatre Alison Krauss & Union Station featuring Jerry Douglas, 7:30 pm, $35-$47.50.
Paddy O's Felix Brown.
PA's Saturday Saints, B.J. Snowden, the Thungs California Stadium, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Cliff Murphy and the Massachusetts Transit Authority, 8:30 pm.
Scullers Jazz Club Charles Lloyd, 8 and 10 pm, $25
Somerville Theatre Victor Wooten
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Morgan Knockers, Blood Stains, Capital Radio, Over the Edge, $8.
The Western Front Rhythm Stage hip-hop open mike, $5.
Les Zygomates Theresa Inez, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Abbey Lounge The Throttles (x-Coffin Lids), 9 pm Thee Monkey Butlers, 10 pm; the Drags, 10:45 pm the McGunks, 11:45 pm. $5-$7.
All Asia Café Fugitive Kind, 6 pm; Steve Rowan, 8 pm.
The Attic Chad LaMarsh, NovaKane.
Avenue One Ronan Portley 5:30-8 pm.
Axis Ash, the Bravery, 6:30 pm, $14.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Geoff Muldaur, 8 pm, $20.
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs, 10 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Bang Box, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal Velvet Jones.
Great Scott The Information, DJs Ken & Terence 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Stranger Than Fiction.
Harper's Ferry Mofro, Logan, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm. Syndicate, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Baby Macaroni, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 5 pm. Springhill Rounders, 9 pm.
Kings Evan Goodrow, 10 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8 pm; Groove of the Day, 9:30 pm; Soulacious, 10:30 pm; Coyotes, 11:30 pm. $5.
Lizard Lounge Christian McNeil, 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm; Jennifer Mathews 8 pm.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint Live.
Middle East Upstairs: Markscheider Kunst, 8 pm. $15-$20, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Colm O'Brien, 5 pm. Christy O'Connell, 9 pm.
Orpheum Bob Dylan, Merle Haggard, Amos Lee, 7:30 pm, $48.50-$68.50.
Paddy O's Spike the Punch.
Paradise Lounge: Marc Friedman and Marco Benevento, with Andrew Barr and Timo Shanko, $12.
PA's The Icicles, Smittens, Shumai, The Specific Heats, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 5:30 pm; Handsome Frank, 8:30 pm.

gattabar Donal Fox Trio, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $20.
les Jazz Club Lance Martin Band, 9 pm, $10.
ullers Jazz Club Charles Lloyd, 8 and 10:30 pm, 5.
merville Theatre Malouma, 8 pm, $25.
o of the Hub Chris Taylor Group, 9 pm.
s Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm.

ATURDAY, APRIL 16

bey Lounge Blowfly, 11 pm; Coffin Lids, 12 am. -$7.
Asia Café Miguel deBraganza and friends, 1 pm; les Hurlbut with Jamie Caravella, 5 pm.
e Attic John Cate with the Kickbacks.
alon Moby, Buck 65, 7 pm, $22.50, 18+.
enue One Leah Souza Trio, 7:30-11 pm.
ntab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, m.
ub Passim The Resophomics, 7 pm and 10 pm, 4.
mmon Ground Ten Mile Tide, 10 pm, $4.
ck's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm.
e Grand Canal Freeze Pop.
e Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
e Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm.
rper's Ferry Superhoney, Dwight Ritcher Band, , 21+.
nnessy's The Risk.
nny D's Luther "Guitar" Johnson, 9:45 pm, 2.
gs Justin Beech, 10 pm, no cover.
kland Café New Classics, 9:30 pm; Pheremones, :30 pm; Reckless Daughter, $5.
ard Lounge Christian McNeil, 7:30 pm and 9:30 ; Angeline, 8 pm.
tt Murphy's Weisstronauts.
ddle East Upstairs: Freezepop, Ad Frank, the xas Governor & the Totally Brokenhearted Band, ssenger, $10, 18+.
Dooley's Christy O' Connell.
pheum Theatre Bob Dylan, Merle Haggard, nos Lee, 7:30 pm, $48.50-$68.50.
ddy O's Brick Park.
radise Lounge: Jazz Mandolin Project, 9 pm, $12, +.
's Making It Right, Blue-Eyed Son, Blanketeer, , 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Audioslave April 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Basically Broadway June 9-11 Brown Middle School (617-965-7469).
Ben Folds May 14, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Crystal Method May 11, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
The Decemberists, Willy Mason May 25, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Dresden Dolls April 24, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
John Brown's Body April 23, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Kelly Clarkson, Graham Colton Band April 22, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Lenny Kravitz, Nikka Costa April 24, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Mars Volta May 10, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Mission of Burma, the Count Me Outs April 29, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
New York Dolls May 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Nine Inch Nails May 12-13, Orpheum Theatre (617-423-NEXT).
Soulive May 5-6, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Sting May 5, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).
Tom Petty June 18, Tweeter Center, Mansfield (508-339-2331).
Paul Westerberg April 24, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).

Plough and Stars Tom Hagerty Band, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Donal Fox Trio, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $20.
River Gods Minimalist Orchestra, 8 pm; the Appliance of Science with Unlockedgroove, Alan Manzi, 10 pm; 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club The Boston Horns, 9 pm, $10.
Sanders Theatre Ralph Stanley & His Clinch Mountain Boys, the Peter Rowan/Tony Rice Quartet, 8 pm, $25-$30.
Scullers Jazz Club Karrin Allyson, 8 and 10:30 pm, $20.
Somerville Theatre Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, 8 pm, $25.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Group, 9 pm.
The Western Front Get Down Band, $10.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

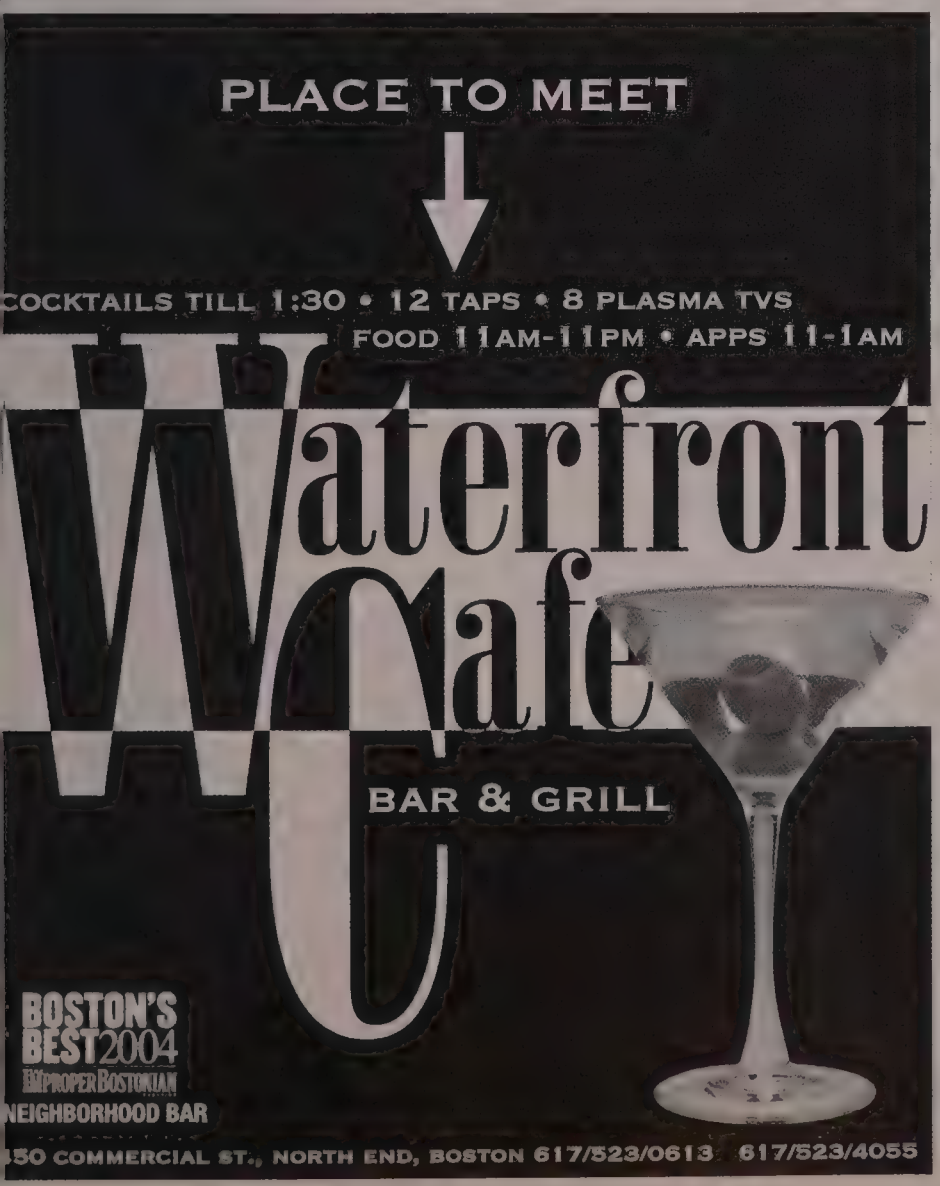
All-Asia Café Songwriter Series with Christie Leigh. 5 pm, $5. Sendero, 8 pm.
Avalon Garbage, Dead, 7 pm, $30, 18+.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am-3 pm.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 11 am-3pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues, Jazz and Rock Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Jason Myles, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
The Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau.
Johnny D's Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd, 12-3 pm.
Matt Murphy's Mang Dub.
Middle East Downstairs: Animal Collective, Aerial Pink, Night Wounds, $12, 18+. Upstairs: Superlow, Distinguished Members, Shortfilm, Suburban Sky, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm. Mike Barrett, 9 pm.
Orpheum Theatre Bob Dylan, Merle Haggard, Amos Lee, 7:30 pm, $48.50-$68.50.
Paddy O's The Prodigals.
Plough and Stars The Hot Tamale Brass Band, 5 pm.
Regattabar Harlem Gospel Choir, 12:30 pm, $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Steve Rochinski, 10 am-3 pm.
Sanders Theatre Branford Marsalis, 8 pm, $30-$37.50.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Sterns, Joke Mountain Comedy, Superiority Complex, $7-$8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon Trio, 9 pm.

MONDAY, APRIL 18

Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm; Kirsty McGee and Mat Martin, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 2 pm; Jennerators, 7 pm.
Great Scott DJ Carbo, 9 pm, $3, 18+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Starhick, 9 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Blast Off!.
Middle East Upstairs: The Vershok, Adam Ghory Band, Radio America, $8, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club: Amy Ray, Snow Machine, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint, 8:30 pm.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear, $3.
Les Zygomates Steven Spungin, 7 pm.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

Abbey Lounge Eileen Rose and Seth Goodman, 9 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass pickin party, 8 pm; Monadnock, 10 pm.
Club Passim Open Mike with Carl Cacho, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's The Duhks, 8:30 pm, $10.
Lizard Lounge Elizabeth Harper, Kevin Devine, Jeff Harris Band, Say Hi to Your Mom, 7:30 pm, $8.
Matt Murphy's Public House.
Middle East Upstairs: Asva, Conifer, Hirudinea, $12, 18+.
Paddy O's Brian Perry.
Paradise Rock Club: Handsome Boy Modeling School with K-OS and the Rondo Brothers, 7 pm, $20, 18+.



Ari Hest plays Agganis Arena April 6.

PA's Franklin Delano, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thayer, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Obbini Tumbao, 7:30 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Berklee Concert Jazz Orchestra, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club George Russell Jr., 8 and 10 pm, $15.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mary Timony, Noll, $10.
Les Zygomates Boston/Strasbourg Saxophone Duo, 8 pm.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
Agganis Arena *925 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7000). MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul.*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Art Attack *108 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-3833.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-742-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center *41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400) MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-566-9014). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy O's *95 Elm St., West Newton (617-965-6444).*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
River Gods *126 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Verizon Wireless Area *555 Elm St., Manchester, NH (603-644-5000).*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

Boston University College of Fine Arts
CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. The ensemble Time's Arrow performs works by Dominick Argento and George Crumb.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. •The Winds and Brass Department presents Sayaka Shiba on oboe. *•8 pm. Free.* The Modern American Music Concert Series features Synthia Sture (piano), Ilona Kudina (flute) and department musicians.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Violinist Susie Park performs.

New England Conservatory
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC Student Jazz Ensemble performs.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Longy School of Music
Wolfinsohn Recital Room, 27 Garden St., Cambridge(617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. The Winds and Brass Department presents a performance by Elizabeth Studer on flute.

Muir String Quartet
Tsai Performance Center, Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 8 pm. $5-$10. Guest artist Gilbert Kalish performs works by Haydn, Ravel and Edward Elgar on piano.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Harpsichordist John Gibbons performs with NEC's Bach Ensemble.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

American Classics
Longy School of Music, Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-254-1125). www.amclass.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $15-$20. Ben Sears and Brad Conner perform a program titled Irving Berlin's Music Box Revues.

The Artist Diploma Series
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15-1 pm. Free. Harpist Franziska Huhn performs.

Boston Artists Ensemble
Peabody Essex Museum, Phillips Library Auditorium, East India Square, Salem (617-964-6553). www.bostonartistsensemble.org. MBTA: Newburyport/Rockport Commuter Rail to Salem. 8 pm. $24. Jazz pianist Fred Hersch premieres a new piece and performs works by Schubert and Beethoven.

Handel and Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $30-$77. Grant Llewellyn conducts the orchestra in Brahms *Requiem*.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Boston University College of Fine Arts
CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8:30 pm. Free. The Composers' Forum features contemporary works performed by BU students.

Wellesley College
Haughton Memorial Chapel, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028).www.wellesley.edu. 8 pm. Free. The University of Virginia Glee Club performs Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* with local and faculty soloists.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

American Classics
Longy School of Music, Edward Pickman Hall, 2 Garder St., Cambridge (617-254-1125). ww amclass.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pr $15-$20. Same program as April 8.

Boston Artists Ensemble
Trinity Church, Newton Center, Newton (61 964-6553). www.bostonsartistsensemble.or MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 2: pm. $24. Same program as April 8.

Cantata Singers
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Car bridge. (617-876-0956). www.longy.ed MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $10-$1 Kayo Iwama conducts works by Brahms ar John Greer.

Dinosaur Annex Music Ensemble
First & Second Church, 66 Marlborough St Boston (617-482-3852). www.dinosauranne org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $1 $20. Guest conductor Gunther Schuller lea the ensemble in a program titled Animal/Ve etable/Mineral, featuring works by Schoe berg, Steve Reich and others.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Bosto (617-617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.or MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Fre Emmanuel Music continues its Bach Canta Series with BWV 4.

Handel and Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (61 266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $30-$7 Same program as April 8.

Wellesley College
Haughton Memorial Chapel,106 Central St Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. pm. Free. The Triple Helix Piano Trio perform a program titled Music From the Pacific Ri featuring works from China, Japan, Austral and Korea.

MONDAY, APRIL 11

Boston University Symphony Orchestra and Symphonic Chorus
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617 266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Lin to Symphony. 8 pm. $10-$35. Ann Howar Jones and David Hoose conduct Verdi's *Quat Pezzi Scari* and Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambrid (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Re Line to Harvard. •12:30 pm. Free. The Win and Brass Department performance feature Megan McBride (horn), David McGro (piano) and Janny Lackey (horn). *•8 pm. Fre* Conservatory students of the Winds and Bra Department perform a recital.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617 585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free Winners of the NEC's Piano Department hon ors auditions perform works by Beethover Bach, Rachmaninoff and others.

New England Conservatory
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617 585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free The NEC's Freshman and Sophomore Jazz En sembles feature student players in ensembl groupings.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Boston Conservatory
8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www bostonconservaory.edu. MBTA: Green Line t Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Michael Shep pard performs John Corigliano's *Etude-Fantasy* Earl Wild's *Grand Fantasy on Porgy and Bess* and one of his own compositions.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227 2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green L Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm, $3. Shin-Y Yang (guzheng) and Chi-Sun Chan (tuba an hand drum) perform traditional Chinese music.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridg (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Re Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The moder American Music department presents a perfor mance by guitarist Ryan Leaver.

New England Conservatory
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617 585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu

BTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Composi-
on Department chair Lee Hyla directs works
NEC student composers.

VEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

ongy School of Music
dward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge
17-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red
ne to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. The String Depart-
ent presents a performance by Onur Dilisen
violin.

lew England Conservatory
rdan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-
35-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu.
BTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free.
he NEC's philharmonic performs Barber's
hool for Scandal Overture, Tchaikovsky's Sym-
ony No. 5 in E Minor, Op. 64 and Haydn's
rumpet Concerto.

HURSDAY, APRIL 14

oston Symphony Orchestra
mphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-
66-1200). www.bso. org. MBTA: E Green Line
Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$105. Conductor Kurt
asur conducts Shostakovich's Violin Con-
rto No. 1 and Bruckner's Symphony No. 4,
mantic.

ongy School of Music
dward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge
17-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red
ne to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The String Depart-
ent presents Nick Upton on cello.

lew England Conservatory
rdan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-
35-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu.
BTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free.
onald Palma coaches a conductorless NEC
hamber Orchestra performance of a Mozart
ncerto featuring Jennifer Yeh on bassoon.

RIDAY, APRIL 15

oston Classical Orchestra
neuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883) www.boston-
assicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Gov-
nment Center. 8 pm. $25-$49. Steven Lipsitt
nducts Beethoven's *Eroica*. Featured soloists in-
ude Kathleen O'Donnell and Alan Weiss
lutes) and Sandra Stecher Kott (violin).

oston Symphony Orchestra
mphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-
200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to
ymphony. 1:30 pm. $29-$105. Same program as
pril 14.

ongy School of Music
dward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge
617-623-3966) www.balmus.com. MBTA: Red
ne to Harvard. 8 pm. $12-$15. International mu-
cians perform new music by Nikola Radan, Sil-
estre Revueltas and Igor Tkachenko.

ATURDAY, APRIL 16

lue Heron Renaissance Choir
irst Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cam-
ridge (617-924-7501) www.blueheronchoir.org.
1BTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15-$35.
cott Metcalfe directs a program titled Iberia
America, featuring sacred and secular music
om 16th-century Spain and Mexico.

oston Symphony Orchestra
ymphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-
66-1200). www.bso. org. MBTA: E Green Line
Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as
pril 14.

oston University Women's and Chamber Choirs
FA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston
617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B
reen Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. Matthew
nderson and Barbara Wild conduct works by
rahms, Debussy, Hildegard and Stravinsky.

ommunity Music Center of Boston
llen Hall, 34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-482-
494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Line to
ack Bay. 1 and 3:30 pm. Free. The CMC
olds its annual David Lapin Competition for
iano students.

ongy School of Music
dward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge
617-566-5218). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red
ine to Harvard. 8 pm. $20 general, $15 students
nd seniors. David Leisner (guitar), Luiz Man-
ovani (guitar) and Lance Suzuki (flute) per-
rm works by Heitor Villa-Lobos, William
Walton, Johann Kaspar Mertz, Chester Bis-
ardi, William Bolcom and Osvaldo Golijov.

Vellesley College
Haughton Memorial Chapel,106 Central St.,
Vellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. 8
pm. Free. The Wellesley-Brandeis Orchestra performs works by Lily Boulanger, Ravel, Brahms and Bernstein.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Blue Heron Renaissance Choir
First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-924-7501). www.blueheronchoir.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15-$35. Same program as April 16.

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 3 pm. $25-$49. Same program as April 15.

Boston Conservatory
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. $5-$12. Bruce Hangen conducts works by Bolcom, Bartok and Sibelius.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. •10 am. Free: Emmanuel's Bach Cantata Series continues with a performance of BWV 84. •4 pm. $10-$60: Danielle Maddon (violin), Kendra Colton (soprano), and Leslie Amper and Randall Hodgkinson (piano) continue Emmanuel's ongoing series of the complete piano, vocal and chamber works of Schumann.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $25 general, $15 students and seniors. The Providence String Quartet performs works by Haydn, Golijov and Dvorak for the Amnesty International USA spring benefit concert.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Cellist Min-Ji Kim performs sonatas for cello and piano by Mendelssohn, Britten and Rachmaninoff.

New England String Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenlandstringensemble.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $19-$37 general, $10 students. The ensemble presents a program titled Ancient Spirits, New Voices with works by CPE Bach, Schubert (accompanied by the Harvard Glee Club) and Richard Strauss, and the Boston premiere of a new work by Betty Oliviero.

MONDAY, APRIL 18

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Ran Blake's 70th birthday celebration includes performances by friends, colleagues, students and special guests.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $27-$95. Same program as April 14.

Boston University Wind Ensemble
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 8 pm. Free. David Martins conducts works by Henry Fillmore, Jack Stamp, Vaughan Williams and Bob Margolis.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. John Heiss directs the NEC Contemporary Ensemble in two works by Ligeti: String Quartet No. 2 and Ten Pieces for Wind Quintet.

New England Conservatory
*Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free.*Director of Opera Studies John Greer leads a program titled Perkin Opera Scenes.

Wellesley College
Haughton Memorial Chapel,106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. 8 pm. Free. The Collegium Musicum, directed by Tom Zajac, performs music from 16th- and 17th-century colonial Mexico.

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Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ spins top-40, plus open mike and interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

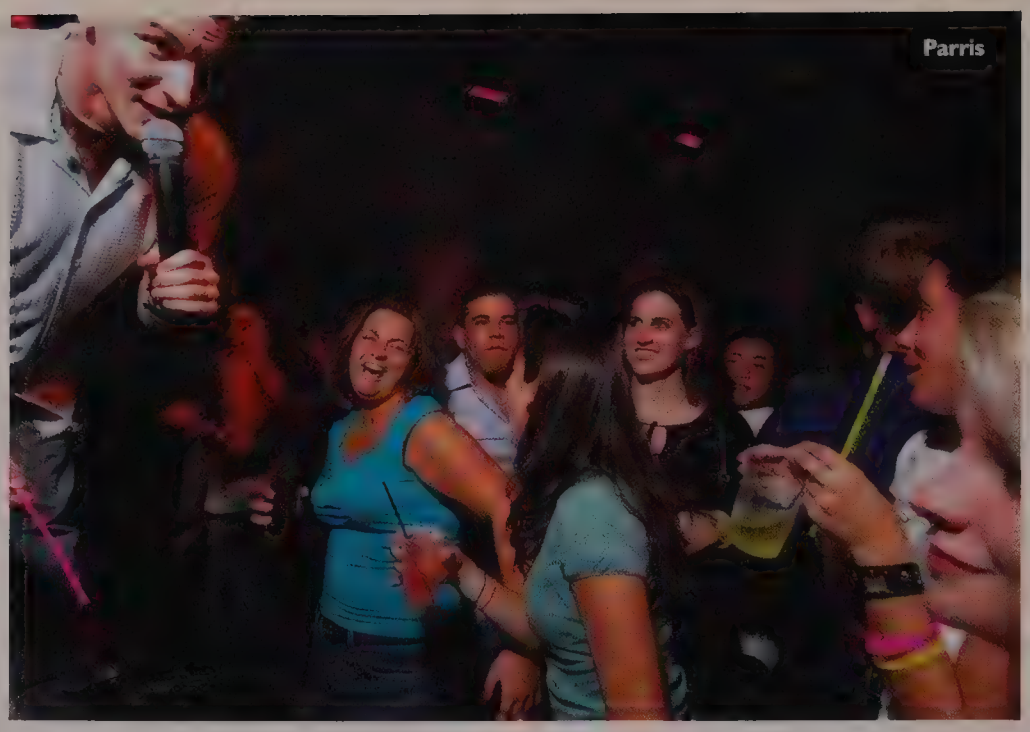
Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Signs of Life Guest DJs spin progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.


Parris

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clery's
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts live performances and spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Weekly rotation of underground dance, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Hawaiian Tropic Model Search with JAM'N 94.5, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle host this weekly gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+. Fourth Floor: **Tribe** DJ Gay Jim spins hip-hop and top-40 at this ladies only night, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band plays reggae and funk, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Touch DJs spin urban groove and club classics, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21

The Point
DJs from Stickman Productions spin dance and hi hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music a samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin par classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons a dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loun music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hi hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul a rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cov

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-scho hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech a funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 fro the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Foundation Fridays DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R& and classics, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm 1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $1 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spi ning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cov bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hi hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spins a mix of internationa Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s a '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $1 19+, after 11 pm.

Club Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $ 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-sty music, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and tranc music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $ 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '6 on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

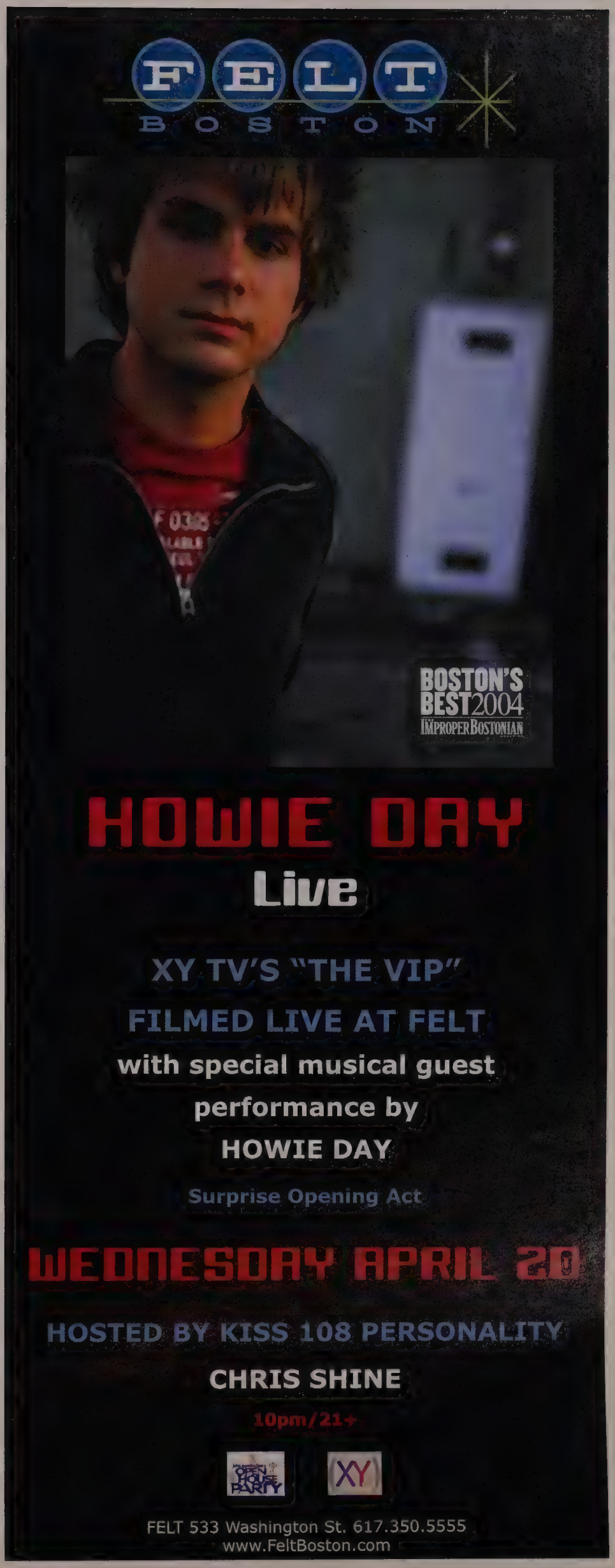
Embassy
Persuasion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm $20, 19+.

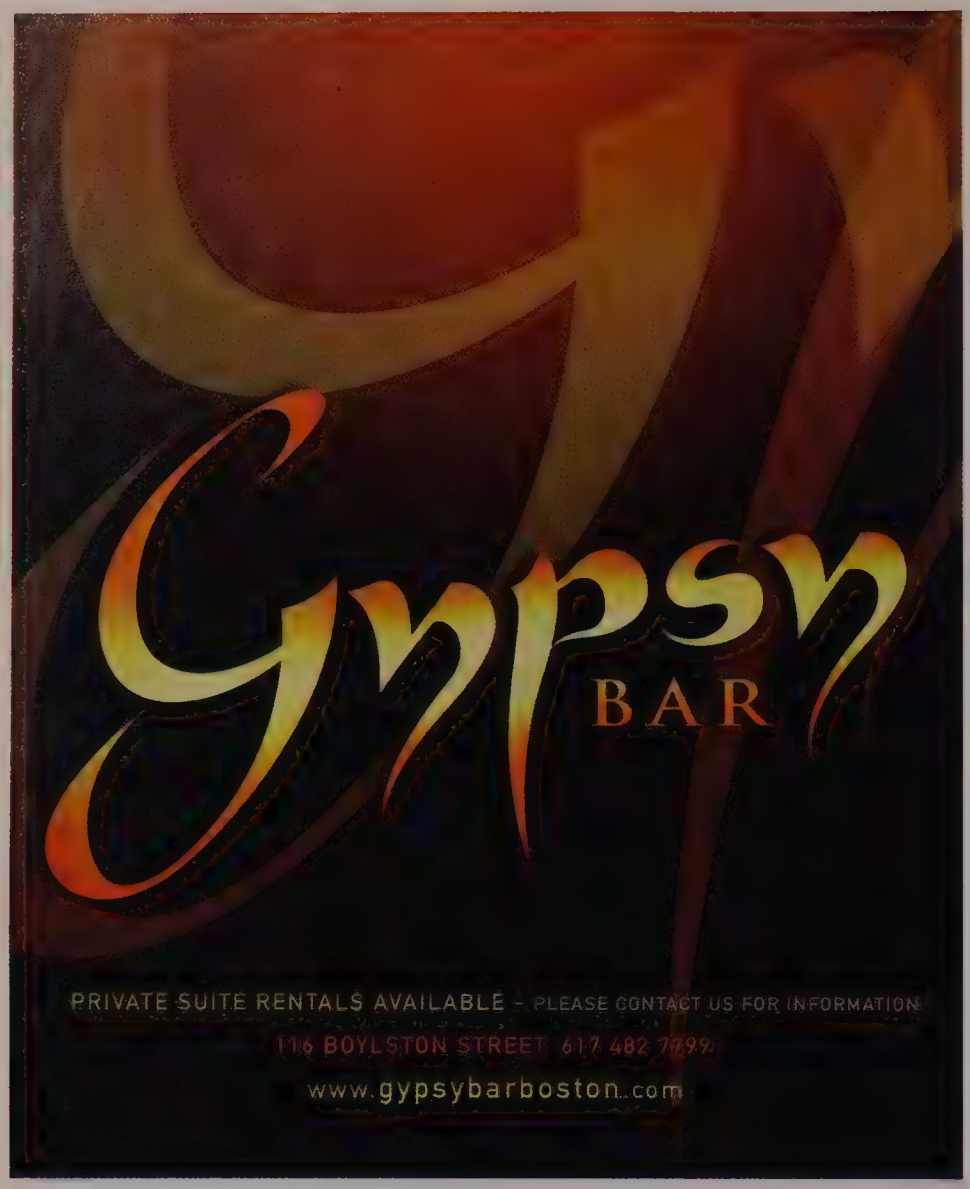
he Enormous Room
l-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from p-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.
elt
ansion Fridays After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 08's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, p-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
olden Temple
ıe E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s d vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.
reen Briar
FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1am, no cover, +.
reen Street Grill
ɔuse band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, , 21+.
ypsy Bar
Gabe spins.
he Harp
iday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins wnstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
urricane O'Reilly's
spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 ı, 21+.
D
ıshment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.
se McIntyre's
s spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.
invara Pub
Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, &B and pop, 21+.
he Kells
dies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance ıile DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, lies free before midnight, 21+.
quor Store
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.
atrix/Paradise City
Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ Steve inelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
cGann's
s spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
iddlesex Lounge
Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and ɔ-hop, no cover.
he Modern
o DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.
pal Lounge
ture/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno, ɔco music, 10 pm-2 am, $5.
he Palace
he Beach House Reggaeton: Spanish reggae ısic, $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** ew England's longest-running all-male dance ⁄ue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, +; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett ns mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, lies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. **ockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free fore 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.
arris
at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.
hoenix Landing
oove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, cover, 21+.
he Place
ıng out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance d hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video high-hts, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
he Point
t Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P.
he Purple Shamrock
p-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.
he Rack
Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
edline
ɔdney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-ım, no cover, 21+.
ver Gods
version DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-ıl, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no ver, 21+.
oxy
Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reg-e, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.
ımor
unge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-ıool, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.
ssy K's
mu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.
ɔin
d Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.
he Sugar Shack
Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
equila Rain
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 ı, $5.
ast
s spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

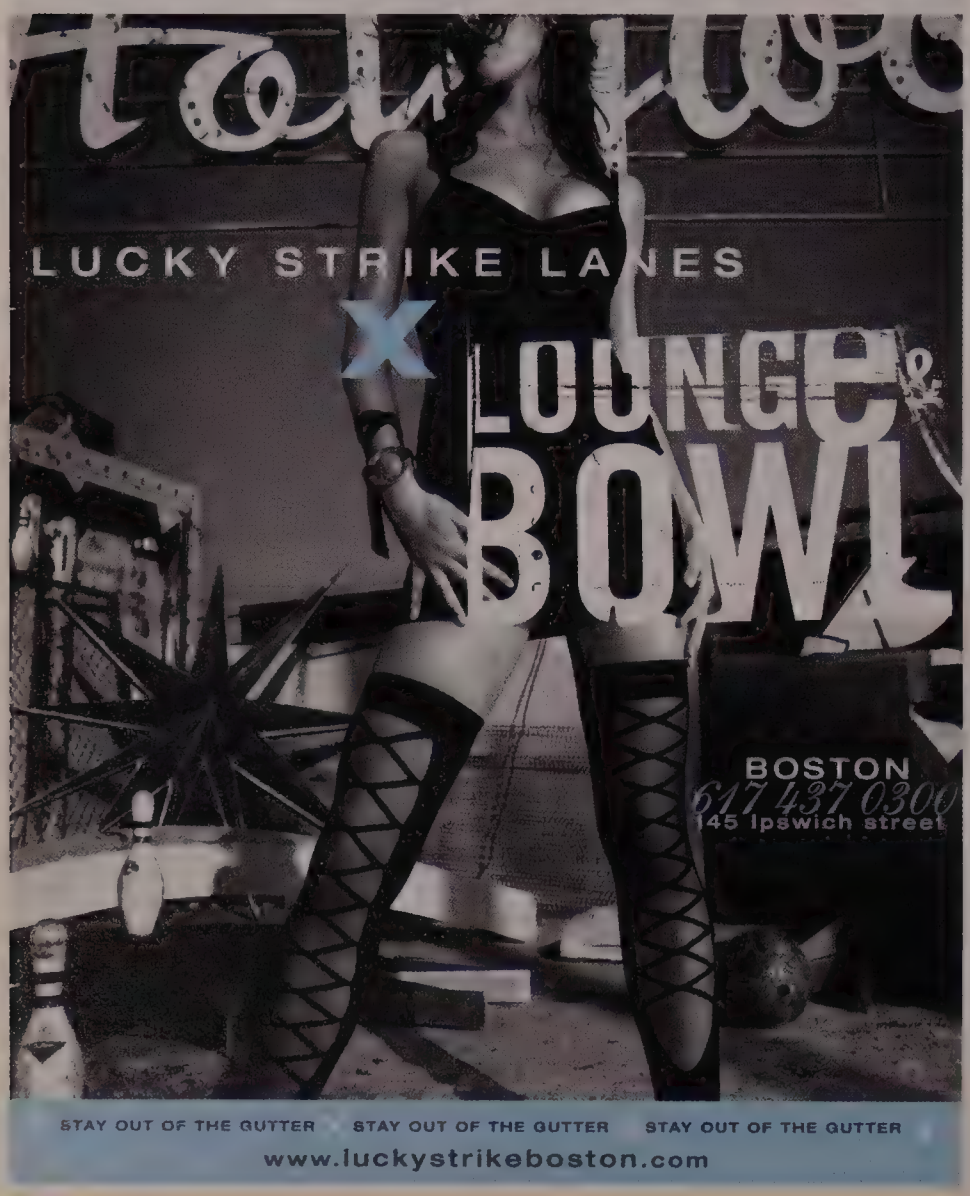
Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.
Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.
West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Aria
International Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).
Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.
The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.
Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.
Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.
Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.
Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.
Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.
Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.
The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.
Felt
The Penthouse Club DJ Tanerk spins house on the fourth floor. Also, DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance on the first floor. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.
The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Buddha spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
I//D
Identity Crisis DJs Frank and Matty spin a mix of rock, retro and electro beats, 10 pm, $5, 18+.
Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.







An Tua Nua

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies only night features DJ missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance music. 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest- running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Stickman Productions hosts different DJs each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roc spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 a no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mode mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs DJ Massi and DJ Play spin their o styles of house, progressive and techno music, 9 p $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancin 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in t front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and hou 10 pm, $5.

ernan's
turday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins clas- old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, +.

ast
irses Wretched Design presents an evening of thic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

enu
ula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek ntabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 n, 19+.

ertigo
Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 n, $15, 21+.

'est Street Grille
te Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

UNDAYS

valon
y Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and hno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

ll's Bar
ve reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

oston Rocks
s spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

uzz
azilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, 0, 19+

aprice
tatind DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, no ver, 21+.

ub Q
mingos Latin DJs, like Michael Mercado, J.R. ga and Willie D, spin dance music. 8 pm-2 am. 0.

evlin's
dustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and nixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

co Lounge
p-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, +.

he Enormous Room
volutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 -3 am.

reen Briar
bar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

reen Street Grill
e Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 , no cover, 21+.

vel
tating DJs spin Latin and international on the rd floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, +.

hoenix Landing
mp This house-music night has a rotating roster local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, +.

he Place
ad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

he Point
Itchy P.

he Purple Shamrock
Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 , no cover, 21+.

edline
nday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests n reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover +.

ver Gods
tion Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic k and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

yles Dance Hall
pa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sun- of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play sa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

int
ice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night turing Latin and International grooves, 10 pm- m, $10, 21+.

ssy K's
mu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

ki Room
ggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub tion and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

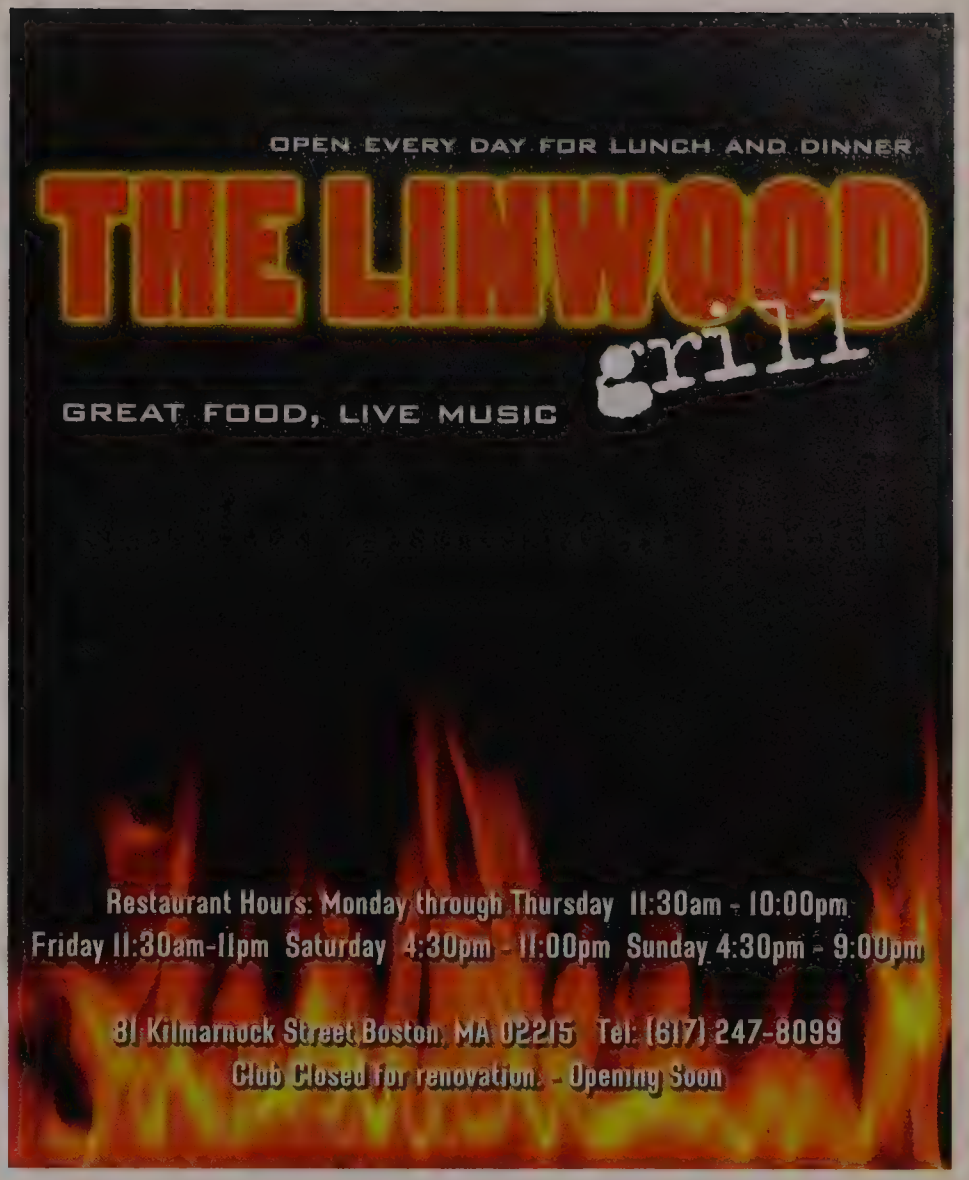
ast
s wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop i Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

nu
rnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian ght as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance s, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

rtigo
itian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and rld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*



museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Marks of Enlightenment, Traces of Devotion: Japanese Calligraphy and Painting from the Sylvan Barnet and William Burton Collection* features more than 70 objects from the 8th through 20th centuries, including Buddhist scriptures. Through April 17. •*The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in Iran and India* features paintings, decorative arts and weaponry depicting hunting scenes from western and southern Asia. Through June 26. •Ongoing exhibitions include *Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Greek Portraiture, The Art of Ancient Rome* and *Near Eastern Art.*

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. •*Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project* features a puppet opera, a film and a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center by artist Pierre Huyghe. Through April 17.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue..-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Wed., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 12 pm-4 pm. Free. •*The "Master Prints" of Hendrick Goltzius and Mannerist Art* showcases work from the Dutch engraver's *Life of the Virgin* collection. Through June 19. •Artist Ghada Amer depicts her definitions of "terror" and "terrorism" in her installation, *The Reign of Terror.* Through June 19. •*The Observed and Envisioned* exhibits depictions of women in Mughal art from the 16th to 19th centuries. Through June 19. •A new permanent installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •*Pretty Sweet: The Sentimental Image in Contemporary Art* features more than 100 works in various media by 33 New England artists. Through April 17. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*From Mind, Heart and Hand: Persian, Turkish and Indian Drawings* from the Stuart Cary Welch Collection shows through June 12. •*Crises of Representation: The Decorative and the Feminine in Fin-de-siecle Vienna* includes publications and artworks from turn-of-the-20th-century Vienna. Through June 12. •*Eighteenth-Century European Ceramics and Paintings* is an exhibition drawing from the museums' permanent collection. Ongoing. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe since 1880* and *Art in France, 1885-1960.* Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Vibrant Impressions of Monaco and Scenes of France* is an exhibit of Claude Gauthier's paintings of Monte-Carlo, the French Riviera and Provence. Through May 2.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). ww hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harva Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; f Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Bill Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth throu paleontological, molecular-biological and geocher cal research. Through April 30 . •*The Glass Flow* features the Ware Collection of glass models plants, including more than 830 plant species, Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Roma ing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* sho cases the museum's collection of fine jewelry a rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, a Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harv* features collections documenting more than t centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www. boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. W and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Su 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; s dents and seniors, $5. •*Likeness: Portraits of Artists Other Artists* features more than 50 artists' portra of their peers and heroes. Through May 1. •Ka ishka Raja shows paintings as part of the ICA's M *mentum* series. Through May 1.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). ww gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to M seum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; s dents, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and th under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Cha* brings together the photography of 2002 artist-i residence Dayanita Singh with the museum's colle tion of Italian and Renaissance chairs. Throu May 8. •The permanent collection features mo than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furr ture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative piec including works by Rembrandt, Michelange Raphael, Botticelli and Degas.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •*Kim sooja: Seven Wishes and Secrets* is a multimedia exh bition featuring Kimsooja's paintings and videc Through April 10. •*Pavel Braila* is a self-titled exh bition featuring large-scale photographs, video pr jections and a short film by the Moldovan arti Through April 10. •The museum's permanent cc lection includes more than 1,500 contemporary a works including paintings, murals, sculptures, ph tography and prints.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kenda Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; st dents and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*The Travelin Magazine Table* includes rare local and internation magazines. Through April 15. •*Clipper Ship Era* is collection of lithographs, plans and photographs i lustrating the design and construction, as well as th social experience, of a clipper ship. Through July 1 •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Explo ing Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Min and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Eng neers* explores student life over the past 150 year Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displa selections from the world's largest hologram colle tion. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photogr phy. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculptu of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-describe cross between "a mechanical engineer and a chore grapher." Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* displa work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winner Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:4 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing open. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; childre 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admi sion is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •An exhib tion of contemporary works by controversial Lor don-based artist Damien Hirst is on display throug April 24. •*Sets, Series, and Suites: Contemporar Prints* features serial prints by 30 artists from 195 to the present. Through May 29. •*Pursuits of Powe Falconry and the Samurai, 1600-1900* offers a ne perspective on players, politics, and power in earl modern Japan through an unusual subject. Throug June 12. •*Photographs by Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Syl van Barnet and William Burto Collection* features 2 of the Japanese photographer's black-and-whit prints. Through June 23. •*Speed, Style, and Beauty*

Nicole Cherubini's G-pots display at Samson Projects through May 1.

ars from the Ralph Lauren Collection displays 16 au- omobiles from the designer's private collection. hrough July 3. •*18th Century French Royal Furni- re from the Swan Collection* features the only com- ete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in ie United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial mericas* displays historical American masterpieces. ngoing.

luseum of Science

cience Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. g. MBTA: *Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; chil- en, $11.* •*Playing with Time* features experimental ols that manipulate the perception of time. hrough May 1. •*A Bird's World* explores the be- avior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. *The Computing Revolution* traces the history of mputers from the electronic giants of the 1940s today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: odeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's col- ction of dinosaur models, including the giant T. x. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive ex- bition, features models of a wave tank, Mount verest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Map- ng the World Around Us* features mapping projec- on tools and computer map libraries. Ongoing. Four hundred butterflies and the scent of flower ossoms welcome guests to the new permanent *utterfly Garden*. Ongoing.

lational Heritage Museum

Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www. nh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. ee. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a col- ction of artifacts and sculpture from the American est, shows through April 24. •*Deep Inside the ues: Photographs by Margo Cooper* features 38 ack-and-white photographs of musicians taken by ooper over the past 10 years during her travels rough the Mississippi Delta. Through June 5. *George Washington: Freemason and Founding Father* an exhibition of rare artifacts. Through June 12. *Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend* examines tistic depictions of Revolution-era patriot Paul evere. Through June 26. •*The Enchanted Clocks of eorge McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongo- g. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household ob- cts from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To uild and Sustain: Freemasons in American Commu- y.* Ongoing.

eabody Essex Museum

ast India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www. m.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; stu- nts, $9; children 16 and under and residents of lem, free. •*Yangtze Remembered: The River Be- ath the Lake* is an exhibition of 30 photographs Linda Butler capturing the Three Gorges area. hrough April 24. •*The Art of Shopping in China* ptures China's early-19th-century international ade market through 40 paintings on paper from e museum's extensive collection. Through May . •*Island Thresholds, Contemporary Art from the aribbean* features 13 works, including large-scale stallations using wood, glass, paper, seawater, vaged shoes, coffee, coconut and vanilla, as well paintings and drawings, by four island artists. hrough June 5. •*Carved by Nature* displays an- nt Chinese wood carvings. Through June 2005. n *Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children, $5.* •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 30. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* depicts the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: *Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun. 12-5pm. $3.* •*Dreaming Now* features eight mixed-media installations by various artists, including Marina Abramovic, Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, Sandra Cinto, Cai Guo Quiang and Chiharu Shiota. Through April 24.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Boston Cyberarts Festival

Events at various Boston-area locations. www.bostoncyberarts.org. April 22-May 8. This biennial festival for art in all media features visual and performing arts and explores how artists around the world are using computers to advance traditional disciplines.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Dorothy Eisner, Late Expressionist Paintings*. Through April 30.

Allston Skirt Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Home Sweet Gated Home* features installations by Magda Fernandez, and *Nowhere I Really Need To Be* features paintings by Daniel Chen, Francis Holstrom, Sharon Kaitz, Jim Lee and Beth Reisman. Through April 30.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*Recent Paintings* features new works by Aaron Fink. Through April 30.

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Margaret Gerding's paintings are on display in *New Landscapes* through April 29.

Ars Libri

Mario Diacno Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Dan Walsh's paintings display in *Sentence*. Through May 4.

Artana

1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111) www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: *C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm.* • The gallery continually shows works by more than 30 artists from across New England.

Art Attack

108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm.* •*Battlescenes* is a solo exhibition of work by Shanti that documents the events of 9/11 and the war in Iraq. Through May 11.

Art Interactive

130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Central. Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm.* •The exhibit *Collision Collective* focuses on experimentation with new techniques and concepts. Through April 10.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border Street, Boston (781-853-0017). www.atlanticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Thu., 6-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-6 pm. •Elizabeth Hathaway and Kasia Bytnerowicz show their paintings in *Surface Tension*. Through April 29.

Bakalar and Paine Galleries at MassArt
621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-232-1555). www.massartauction.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Brigham Circle. April 8, 6 pm. $100; $125 at door. •MassArt's 16th annual benefit art auction features more than 300 works by nationally and internationally known artists.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Jonathan Seliger displays works in various media in *Born to Shop*. Through May 12.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Encaustics and Metal Drawings* is a show of works by Scott Griffin. Through April 30.

Eric Tobin's landscape paintings are at South Street Gallery through April 7.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Abelardo Morell shows photographs, and the exhibition *LA Times* features works on paper by five Los Angeles artists. Through April 30.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Thu. 12-5 pm; Fri.-Sat. 12-10 pm; Sun. 12-5 pm. •Sculptor Bruce Bemis showcases his works at his solo exhibition. April 8-June 5.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Lorey Bonante and Margaret Swan display their works. Through April 16.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •More than 50 artists use dictionary pages as part of their work in *The Dictionary Project*. Through May 14.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. • *Our Town: New Works by Isabella Frost* showcases Boston-inspired works on fabric. April 11-May 6. •*Photographs by Lori Taveroff* displays April 11-May 7.

Cambridge Arts Council Gallery
344 Broadway, Cambridge (617-349-4380). www.cambridgeartscouncil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon., Wed., Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm; Tue., 8:30 am-5 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-12 pm. • *Walking Central Square* features photos by Karen Davis and John Taguri. Through April 22.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall Square. Mon.-Fri., 10 am- 6 pm. •*Gravity's Reign* showcases Roger Colombik's photographs of the Republic of Georgia. Through May 3. •*A Melody of Curves and Angles* features works by Arabic calligrapher M.J. Alhabeeb. Through May 4.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St.,-Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •The gallery displays Dozier Bell's paintings of the cosmos, paired with paintings and drawings of geological events. Through April 30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions—*Werner Drewes, 1899-1985 (drawings)*, *Gertrude Beals Bourne: Artist in Brahmin Boston* and *Alexander Brook: Selected Drawings*—show through May 7.

Claygo Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue..-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Ceramic artists David Changar and Marc Mancuso explore innovative drinking vessels. Through May 14.

Copley Society of Art
Onyx Hotel, 155 Portland St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Legendary: Sports in Boston* is a collection of works honoring Boston's great sports teams. Through June 30.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*Landscapes and Portraits* shows new paintings by Paul Kerepka. Through April 30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Beyond Color* features the work of 12 artists. Through April 30.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery @ The Piano Factory
791 Tremont St., Boston (617-421-0095). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri. 6-8 p.m., Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. •*Reincarnation* features ceramics by Katya Apekina and paintings by Samuel Gareginyan and Alexander Gassel. Through April 27.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu., 12-5:30 pm, Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. • Roger Goldenberg and Joseph Barillaro display recent assemblage and collage works. April 7-May 21.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 pm. •*Roads* shows black-and-white photos by Silas Shabelewska, and *Pin-Wheel Romanticism* shows color photos by Thomas Gustainis. Through April 30.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Scrap paintings by Sam Earle and new paintings by Masako Kamiya show through April 23.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Night Series* shows new paintings by Alice Tauber. •*Sea Surface Full of Clouds* features new digital prints by Fred Faudie. Through May 3.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Cumming and Bill Burke show new photographs. Through March 15. •Lalla A. Essaydi shows her prints in *Converging Territories* through April 19.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. Wed.- Sat. 12 pm-6 pm; Thu. 12 pm- 7 pm and by appointment. •*Pre-Hispanic Masterpieces* features ancient pottery and sculpture from Mexico, Central America and South America. Through May 7.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*The Forward Edge* features new sculptures by Jacob Kulin. Through April 19.

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Cut Paper Drawings* by Juliann Cydylo and *Recent Paintings* by Michael Wetzel show through April 30.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment. •*Dazzling Emotions* features paintings by Christy Bonneau, Karen Tusinski, Amy Maas and others. Through April 9.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Harbor Abstracts* is a display of Gil Mares' paintings. Through April 30.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by international and local artists including Andrew Saftel, Ruth Block, Emil Alzamora and Carrie McGee. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Paper & Paint: New Works by Corinne Okada and Lana Gordon* displays through May 15.

Mercury Gallery
2nd Floor, 8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • *Prelude: Music in Painting* features works by Oliver Balf, Louis Schanker, Joseph Solman and Karl Zerbe. April 16-May 22. • Miranda Thomas showcases ceramics in *Arrangements*. Through April 13.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Scratching the Surface*, a group exhibit featuring contemporary furniture, displays through May 21. Sculpture and jewelry by Nancy Michel and Alexandra Watkins show through May 21.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New Work* features paintings by San Francisco–based Gage Opdenbrouw through April 30.

NAO Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naogallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Thu.-Sat. 12 pm-5 pm. •*Incremental Disruption* features video and installation by Vaughn Bell, paintings by William Betts, and object sculpture and installation by Jamey Morrill. Through April 30.

Newton Free Library Gallery
330 Homer St., Boston (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. MBTA: Green D Line to Newton Highlands. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri., 9 am- 6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Babel Series: Ancient Artifacts* features Marilyn Tarlow's paintings.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm, and by appointment. •John Lees and Damien DiBona show new work in *New Paintings*. Through April 16.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •*It's Not the Heat, It's the Humidity* features 32 works on paper by Sharon Shapiro. Through April 16.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery featu works by local-artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.p pergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arli ton. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm *Recollections, Assemblages and Collages* featu works by Suzi Cozzens, Marcus Kenney and Rar Newland. Through April 30.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). ww puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •T exhibition *Inuit: Carvings and Works of Pa* displays through April 7. •*David Aronson: Pai ings and Sculptures* features the artist's new works in encaustic, bronze, pastels and c Through April 11.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBT Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 p Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoi exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century Americ and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). ww robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to A lington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am pm. •Olivia Parker displays her photograp through April 30.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). ww samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Ba Bay. Tue..-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointme • Nicole Cherubini, Lamar Peterson and Pab Vargas Lugo showcase a variety of works. •*Sc New York* features installations by Wardell Mila Through May 1.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-181 www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 p •*.925 + Ingenuity = Art Jewelry* is a collection silver jewelry open for public viewing a purchase. Through May 1.

South Street Gallery
149 South St., Hingham (781-749-0430). ww southstreetgallery.com. •Vermont native Er Tobin displays landscape paintings. Throu April 7.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-077 MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Andrew Sovjani and Andre Xenios display their photography. Through Ap 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). ww stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cople Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The artis owned gallery features paintings by Christina Kea ing, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin, Willia St. George and Judy St. Peter. Ongoing.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). ww vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cople Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 p •Selections from the gallery's inventory featu 18th, 19th and 20th–century American artworks

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Ches nut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgaller com. MBTA: Green Line to Chestnut Hill. Mon Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm; Sun. 12 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection featur works by Dali, Chagall and Miro. •Winning ph tographs from the 11th annual Griffin Museum J ried Show show through May 15.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). ww griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wi chester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. • The m seum's ongoing exhibition features contempora and historic photography.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). ww panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri 10 am-6 pm. •*Cuba—There Is Light and Shado* shows through April 23.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. a Sun., 12-5 pm. •The exhibition *Land/Mark: GP and Photography* is part of the Boston Cyberar Festival (see Special Events). April 8-May 5.

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

Boston University School of Law
Barrister's Hall, 765 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-2778). MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. 6 pm. Free. Poets **Piotr Sommer**, **Rosanna Warren** and **Emma MacLachlan Metcalf** read from their work.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. **Michael Wiecek** reads from his latest novel, *Exit Strategy*, a thriller about an assault on a high-tech corporation.

Emerson College
Bill Bordy Theatre, 216 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8750). www.emerson.edu/ecampus. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. Free. **Linda Hogan** discusses her memoir *The Woman Who Watches Over the World*, which addresses the plight of American Indians.

Harvard Book Store
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-2515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Tickets required. **Jonathan Safran Foer** discusses his second novel, *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, about a 9-year-old boy who searches for the lock that fits a key his father left behind when he was killed on 9/11.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Vyvyane Loh** reads from her novel *Breaking the Tongue*, a coming-of-age story set in Japanese-occupied Singapore during World War II.

PEN New England Author Series
Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin Lane Blvd., Cambridge (617-395-2523). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 6:15 pm. Free. Harvard professor **Ross Terill** discusses the seven books he's written about China.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Stephanie Wellen Levine** reads from her book *Mystics, Mavericks and Merrymakers*, which describes her observations from a year spent living in the Lubavitcher community in Brooklyn studying the lives of Hasidic teenage girls.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.bordersstores.com MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Jay Atkinson** reads from his new book, *Legends of Winter Hill: Cops, Con Men, and Joe McCain, the Last Real Detective*, a true-crime story about a legendary Boston detective.

Boston College
Gasson 100, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-3705). www.bc.edu/lowell. MBTA: Green B Line to Boston College. 7:30 pm. Free. **Jonathan Safran Foer** reads from his novel *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*. See April 6 Harvard Book Store listing for a description.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Berg** reads from her 13th novel, *The Year of Pleasures*, about a Boston widow who rediscovers happiness by learning to appreciate life's ordinary events.

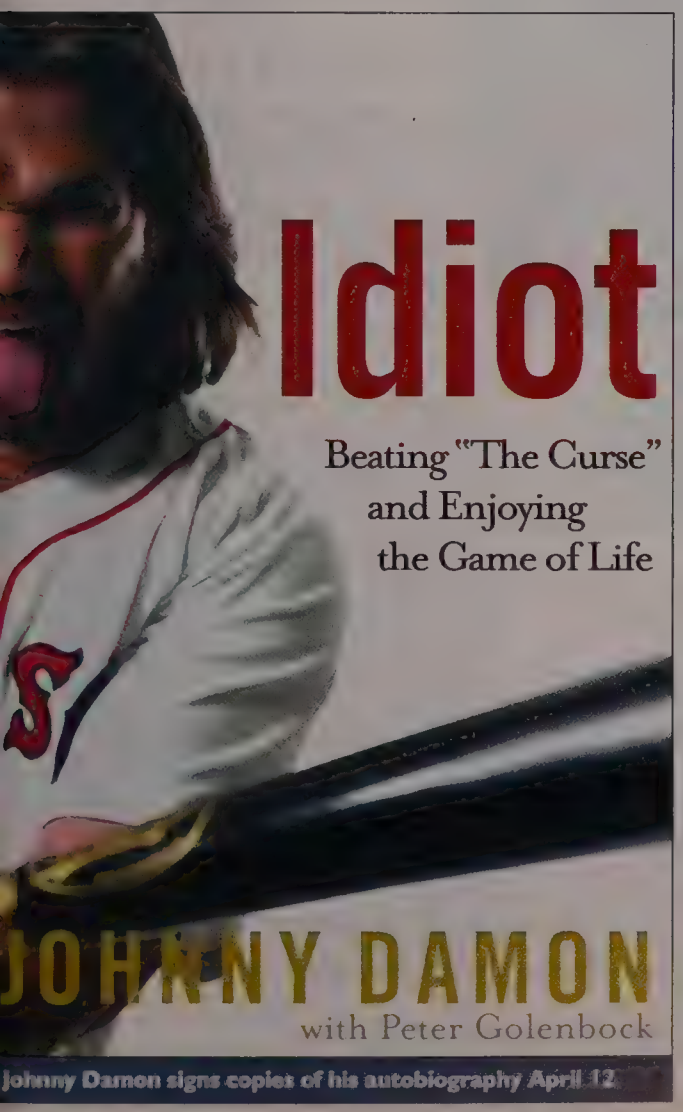
Poetry at MIT
MIT Room 6-120, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-7894). www.web.mit.edu/humanistic/www/poetry. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Eleni Sikelianos** reads from her work.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Joan Reardon** discusses her biography *Poet of the Appetites: The Lives and Loves of M.F.K. Fisher.*

Wellesley Booksmith Event
Wellesley College's Collins Cinema 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 6:30 pm. Free. **Alicia Erian** reads from her novel *Towelhead*, the coming-of-age story of an Arab-American girl in Texas during the Gulf War.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Leah Hager Cohen** discusses her book *Without Apology: Girls, Women and the Desire to Fight*, about three girls who cope with aggression through learning to box.



SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 5 pm. Free. **Alice Hoffman** reads from her new novel *The Ice Queen*, about a quiet woman who experiences an awakening when she's struck by lightning.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

Forest Hills Educational Trust
Forsyth Chapel, Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3354). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $5. Poets **Franz Wright**, **Barbara Helfgott Hyett**, **Harris Gardner** and **Jean Flannagan** read from their work.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. Physics Nobel laureate **Richard Laughlin** discusses his book *A Different Universe*, which outlines a

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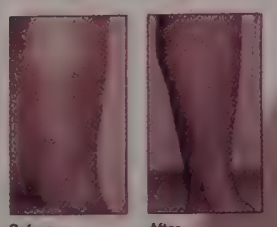
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MONDAY, APRIL 11

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Tim Ross** and **Morgan Frank** read from their work.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. New York Times correspondent **R.W. Apple Jr.** discusses his guidebook, *Apple's America: The Discriminating Traveler's Guide to 40 Great Cities in the United States and Canada.*

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Boston University professor **Lance Morrow** discusses his book *The Best Years of Their Lives: Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon in 1948—Learning The Secrets of Power*, which focuses on the three future presidents' lives as young congressmen.

Barnes & Noble Prudential Center
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-1914). www.barnesandnoble.com. 12 pm. Free. Red Sox outfielder **Johnny Damon** signs copies of his autobiography, *Idiot: Beating the Curse and Enjoying the Game of Life*, about growing up with dreams of becoming a baseball star and seeing them come true.

Borders Books
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 8 am. Free. General Electric CEO turned business writer **Jack Welch** discusses the book he co-wrote with Suzy Welch, *Winning*, which gives advice on how to succeed in business.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. **Neal Bascomb** reads from his book *The Perfect Mile*, about three men who competed to be the first to run a four-minute mile.

Harvard Book Store Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Tickets required. **Camille Paglia** discusses the new poetry anthology she edited, *Break, Blow, Burn: Camille Paglia Reads Forty-Three of the World's Best Poems.*

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12 pm. Free. **Michael Warschawski**, founder of the Alternative Information Centre in Jerusalem, discusses his memoir *On the Border: Memoir of a Militant Jew*, about his involvement in radical politics.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Meg Wolitzer** reads from her novel *The Position*, about a family that becomes famous in the 1970s when the parents write an explicit sex manual.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton Center (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. MBTA: Green D Line to Newton Center. 7 pm. Free. The Poetry Festival features readings from **Diana Der-Hovanessian, Nancy Kassel** and **Franz Wright**.

Zeitgeist Gallery
Zeitgeist Gallery, 353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. 7:30 pm. $7. Every Tuesday in April, a dozen local poets perform under the direction of slammaster Michael R. Brown in Dr. Brown's Traveling Poetry Show.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. **Bill McKibben** reads from his book *Wandering Home: A Long Walk Across America's Most Hopeful Landscape: Vermont's Champlain Valley and New York's Adirondacks*, which chronicles a three-week walk from Vermont to upstate New York.

Harvard Book Store Event
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. **Jeanette Winterson** reads from her novel *Lighthousekeeping*, about a young orphan girl who is taken in by a lighthouse keeper.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12 pm. Free. Former executive editor of *George* magazine **Richard Bradley** discusses *Harvard Rules: The Struggles for the Soul of the World's Most Powerful University*, an insider's perspective of the tumultuous presidency of Lawrence Summers.

Alice Hoffman reads April 9 at Newtonville Books.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **James Zug** discusses *American Traveler: The Life and Adventures of James Ledyard, the Man Who Dreamed of Walking the World*, about Ledyard's travels in the 18th century.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Haven Kimmel** reads from her novel *Something Rising (Light and Swift)*, about a young woman who supports her family by hustling at pool.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. The Academy of American Poets presents readings from **Stephen Dobyns, Ron Slate** and **Pat Fargnoli**.

Emerson College
Emerson Room, 80 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8750). www.emerson.edu/ecampus. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Martha Rhodes** reads from her work.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Amherst College professor of Latin-American and Latino culture **Ilan Stavans** discusses his new book, *Dictionary Days*, which explores how language has changed throughout history.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Former dean of admissions at University of Chicago Law School **Anna Ivey** discusses her book, *The Ivey Guide to Law School Admissions*, which gives insight into the admissions process.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6:30 pm. Free. **Rosalind Krauss** and **Yve-alain Bois** read from the new book they partially co-wrote, *Art Since 1900: Modernism, Antimodernsim, Postmodernism*, a year-by-year analysis of a century's worth of art.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 4 pm. Free. **Lauren Myracle** reads from her young-adult novel *Rhymes with Witches*, a story set in a high school where popularity can be stolen

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 4 pm. Free. **Bill McKibben** discusses *Wandering Home: A Long Walk Across America's Most Hopeful Landscape: Vermont's Champlain Valley and New York's Adirondacks.* See April 13 Brookline Booksmith listing for a description

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. pm. Free. **Bryan Rigg** discusses his book *Rescued From the Reich: How One of Hitler's Soldiers Saved the Lubavitcher Rebbe*, about the rescue of a Jewish leader during World War II.

MONDAY, APRIL 18

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Stacy Schiff** reads from her book *A Great Improvisation: Franklin, France and the Birth of America*, about Benjamin Franklin's time spent in France and its influence on the American Revolution.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. 7 pm. Free. **Joe Finder** reads from his novel *Company Man*, a thriller about a man whose life is turned upside-down when a stalker menaces his family.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Adam Mansbach** discusses his new novel, *Angry Black White Boy*, which looks at race and identity in America.

Somerville Public Library
79 Highland Ave., Somerville (617-623-5000). www.somervillepubliclibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm. **Jay Atkinson** reads from his book *Legends of Winter Hill: Cops, Con Men and Joe McCain, the Last Real Detective.* See April 7 Borders Books Downtown Crossing listing for a description.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies, with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, which features predetermined poets reading from their work and an open mike. $4 suggested donation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Friday)
Toast Lounge 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-628-2313). 8 pm. Free. Poet Doug Holder hosts an open-mike event.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

From Idea to Bookshelf: Authors Share Their Publishing Stories
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $6. In the first of a four-part discussion series, The Writer's Life: Living and Working as a Writer in Boston, fiction writers **Samantha Chang, Joe Hayes,** and **Barbara Paul-Emile** discuss what they learned in publishing their novels.

Jewish Ethics: Modern Warfare and Terrorism
Hebrew College, Berenson Hall, 160 Herrick Road, Newton Center (617-559-8798). www.interreligious center.org/events. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center. 7:30 pm. $10 early registration, $15 at the door. Brandeis University professor of Rabbinic Literature **Reuven Kimelman** discusses Israel's war practices, viewed through the lens of Jewish texts and law.

Public Policy and HIV-AIDS in the Caribbean
Brandeis University, Hassenfeld Conference Center, Levine-Ross Room, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3090). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 2 pm. Free. Executive Director of Jamaica AIDS Support **Dr. Robert Carr** discusses the human rights issues associated with fighting the AIDS epidemic.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

History and Contemporary Imaginaries of Indigenous America at the National Museum of the American Indian
Harvard University, Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-406-1027). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. Smithsonian guest curator **Jolene Rickard**, a University of Buffalo associate professor of art history, discusses the development of the Smithsonian's newly opened National Museum of the American Indian.

Innate Confusions: Nature, Nurture, and All of That
Harvard University Askwith Lecture Hall: Longfellow Hall, Radcliffe Yard, Cambridge (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30 pm. Free. Radcliffe fellow and MIT professor of history and philosophy of science **Evelyn Fox Keller** discusses the difficulties of distinguishing innate and acquired characteristics.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

Cy Twombly: Why Sculpture Is Boring
Harvard University, Sackler Lecture Hall, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-4544). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Jeffrey Weiss** from the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., gives a lecture on the works of American painter Cy Twombly.

Friday Night Out Series
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave. Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30 pm. $36-40. As part of the monthly series, single-session classes in subjects including African drumming, wine tasting, dancing, forensic science and Tex-Mex cooking are offered. A cocktail reception takes place before the classes.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

Desperate Feminists: Let's Talk!
Cambridge College, 1000 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall, 4 pm. Free. **Cynthia Enloe and Jean Hardisty** moderate a debate entitled Are We Watching the Emergence of a National Security State? as part of a series of discussion, debate and feminist exploration of the state of the nation.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Café Scientifique
Redline, 56 JFK St., Cambridge (617-558-4943). www.newscientist.com MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free MIT physics professor **Max Tegmark** discusses cosmology and the meaning of life.

Cult of Power: Sex Discrimination in America and What Can Be Done About It
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 6:30 pm. Free. The Ford Hall Forum presents chair of the National Committee of Women **Martha Burk**, who discusses her new book on gender discrimination and the controversy over Augusta National, a prominent golf club that doesn't accept female members.

Levine and the BSO
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm, $5. Pulitzer Prize–winning critic **Lloyd Schwartz** discusses maestro James Levine's work in his first year with the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Looking Southward: The Southern Travelogue from Frederick Law Olmsted to the Present
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (617-566-1689) MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. American University professor **Charles Beveridge**, Bowdoin College professor **Anthony Walton** and Harvard University professor **John Stauffer** discuss the American South through the lens of travel writers including Frederick Law Olmsted, Mark Twain and James Agee.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

Mystery Writing
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $6. In part two of the four-part series The Writer's Life: Living and Working as a Writer in Boston, mystery writers **Susan Oleksiw, Dane Cameron** and **Andrew MacAleer** discuss the differences and similarities between mystery and other types of fiction

Violence and the Sacred in Islam
Andover Newton Theological School, Stoddard Hall, 210 Herrick Road, Newton Center (617-559-8798). www.interreligiouscenter.org/events. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center. 7:30 pm. $10 early registration, $15 at the door. Tunxis Community College dean of academic affairs **Colleen Keyes** discusses Islamic views on violence.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

George Doriot Business Lecture Series
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm. $20 members, $35 nonmembers. **W. Chan Kim** and **Renée Mauborgne**, authors of *Blue Ocean Strategy: How to Create Uncontested Market Space and Make Competition Irrelevant*, discuss their best-selling book.

Health Disparities and the Body Politic
Harvard Conference Center, 77 Avenue Louis Pasteur, Boston (617-266-5152). www.hsph.harvard.edu/disparities. MBTA: Green D Line to Longwood, 2 pm. Free. Online registration required. Representatives from various health organizations discuss research on social inequities in health worldwide.

Voices of Public Intellectuals Lecture Series: Feminisms Then and Now
Radcliffe Institute of Harvard, Askwith Lecture Hall in Longfellow Hall, Radcliffe Yard, Cambridge. (617-495-8609). www.radcliffe.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30 pm. Free. Author, activist and co-founder of the Third Wave Foundation **Rebecca Walker** gives a lecture titled Revisioning the Battlefield: The Role of Gender in the Project of Human Liberation.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

John Kenneth Galbraith: His Life and Times
John F. Kennedy Library, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 2 pm. Free. **James Carroll** of the *Boston Globe* moderates a discussion with **Richard Parker**, author of *John Kenneth Galbraith: His Life, His Politics, His Economics.*

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

Cuba on the Edge
Brandeis University, Epstein Building, Women's Studies Research Center, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. Professor of Latin American literature **Mary Berg** looks at the works of 20 contemporary Cuban writers in her discussion of Cuban life and society.

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gay & lesbian

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
Sanctuary. 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door, $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Felt (Thursdays)
533 Washington St., Boston (617-851-2506). www.tribenightclub.org. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2am, 19+.

Tristan Taormino headlines the *Best Lesbian Erotica 2005* Book Release Party April 7.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Flesh, Xmortis, Fantasy Factory and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Friday)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, Thursday is lesbian night and Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Bayard Rustin Breakfast
JFK Library, Columbia Point, Boston (617-450-1644) www.aac.org. April 16, 10 am. Free. The AIDS Action Committee sponsors the 16th annual Bayard Rustin Community Breakfast. This year's theme is Bitter Sweet Sixteen; Wake Up Everybody!

Best Lesbian Erotica 2005 Book Release Party
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St, Jamaica Plain. (617 524-9038). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. April 7, 7:30 pm. Free. Celebrate the 10th-anniversary edition of the best-selling lesbian erotica series with readings from featured writers including Tristan Taormino, S. Bear Bergman and Zane Jackson.

Cocktail Hour
Milky Way, 405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain. http://web.mit.edu/solheim/www/femmes.htm, MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7-9 pm. $5 after 8 pm. The Milky Way hosts this social and cocktail hour for femmes and their supporters in a dyke- and trans-positive environment

Hike at Fitzgerald Lake
Women Outdoors, Fitzgerald Lake, Northampton (617-868-9274) www.women-outdoors.com. April 10, 1 pm. Free. Explore paths, bridges, waterfalls and creeks of the Fitzgerald Lake area on this hike lasting two to three hours.

Indulgence
Finale, 1 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-695-0877) www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 7, 6:30 pm, $50. This evening of hors d'oeuvres and desserts from Finale benefits the Network/La Red.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly. org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz. Visit the league Web site for more information.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of each month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities f questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 47 Mass. Ave., Boston at Despina Pizza. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. ww lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and tran sexual-friendly, direct-action political group focus on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Pride Committee
Wainwright Bank Community Room, 155 Dartmou St., Boston (617-262-9405). www.bostonpride.or MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue. 6:30 pm. Th Pride Committee meets every Tuesday this spring plan for the 2005 Boston Pride Celebration Seasor

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/b MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,40 member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAG (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) mee in Medford for support and activities and hol a concurrent meeting for interested parents ar their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Livi Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595 www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Ba First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. A informal group for people who think they may be b sexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the challeng and joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, fro 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge. Call for more information

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidenti place for men and women who are looking for a sa space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It mee Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidg Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–are support, information and social group for people a signed female at birth who feel that is not an accura or complete description of their gender. Part of th FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group mee monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This grou welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional wome 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophist cated to get together with like-minded women fo conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwa health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fen way Community Health offers a wide array of se vices for the GLBT community, ranging from discus sions about parenting and safe-sex practices t programs addressing domestic violence and sub stance abuse. Call for more information

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Joi Boston's GLBT flag football league for a casua spring season, followed by a formal fall season. A are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat., 1 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome t join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn mor about photography, socialize and meet new people these monthly meetings. For more information, e mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617 742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. Thi group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the firs and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developin healthy gay relationships features alternatives fo meeting and dating, communication games, single mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail info@ gaylab.org.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaic Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com

BTA: *Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of ch month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10.* Members of the LBT community are invited to share poetry, rose or performance pieces at this open-mike vent.

irlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Vomen of Color
ambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. ve., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line Central. This discussion group for all ages meets very Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

LBT Professionals uilding Community
866-594-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome join this networking organization for GLBT ofessionals.

iquid Assets Swimming
ww.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and n. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian vim team is open to both competitive and fitness vimmers of all ages and abilities.

he Network/La Red
17-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. The etwork is a support group working to end abuse lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender ommunities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org r more information.

lewly Diagnosed Group
I Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 17-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange ne to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of ch month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group offers support for gay and bisexual men who have been diagosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail ongtin@jri.org.

ut to Dance
17-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin d ballroom dance classes and workshops are held a gay-friendly environment.

ut TwentySomethings Boston
entysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. his social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay en, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks d their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

OZ Social
oonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., oston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

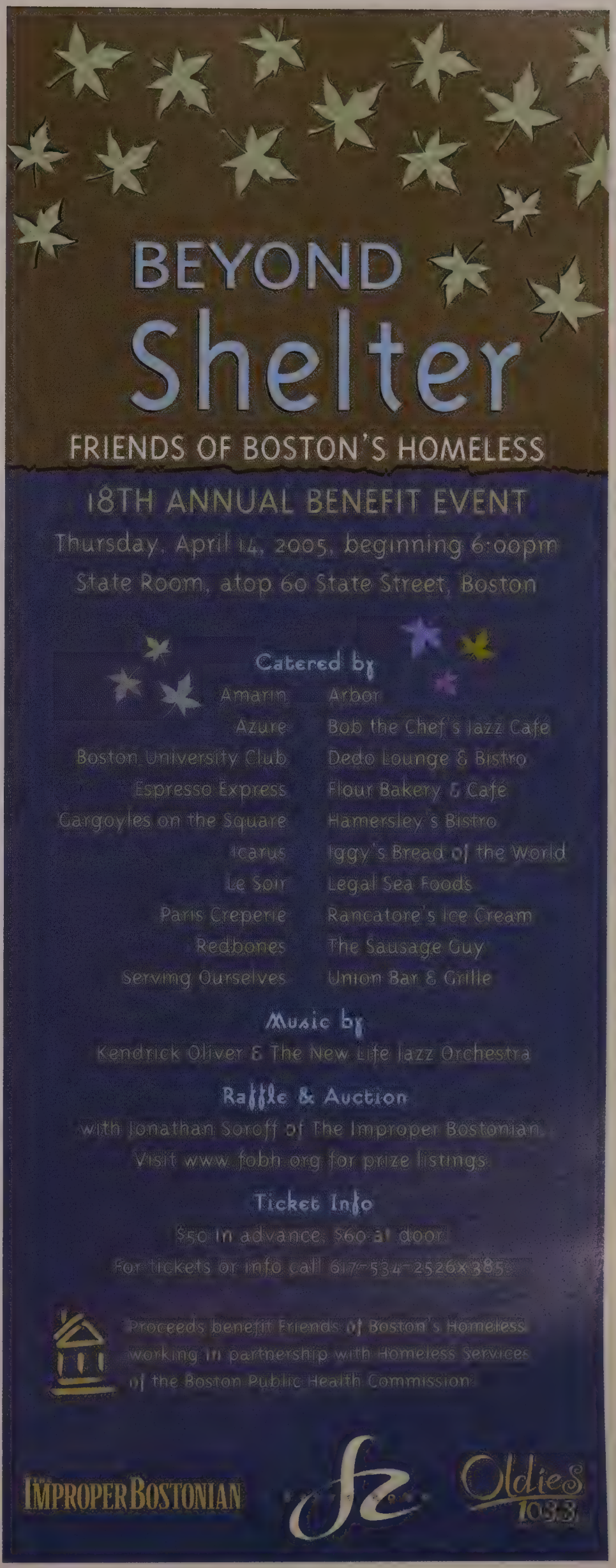
The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

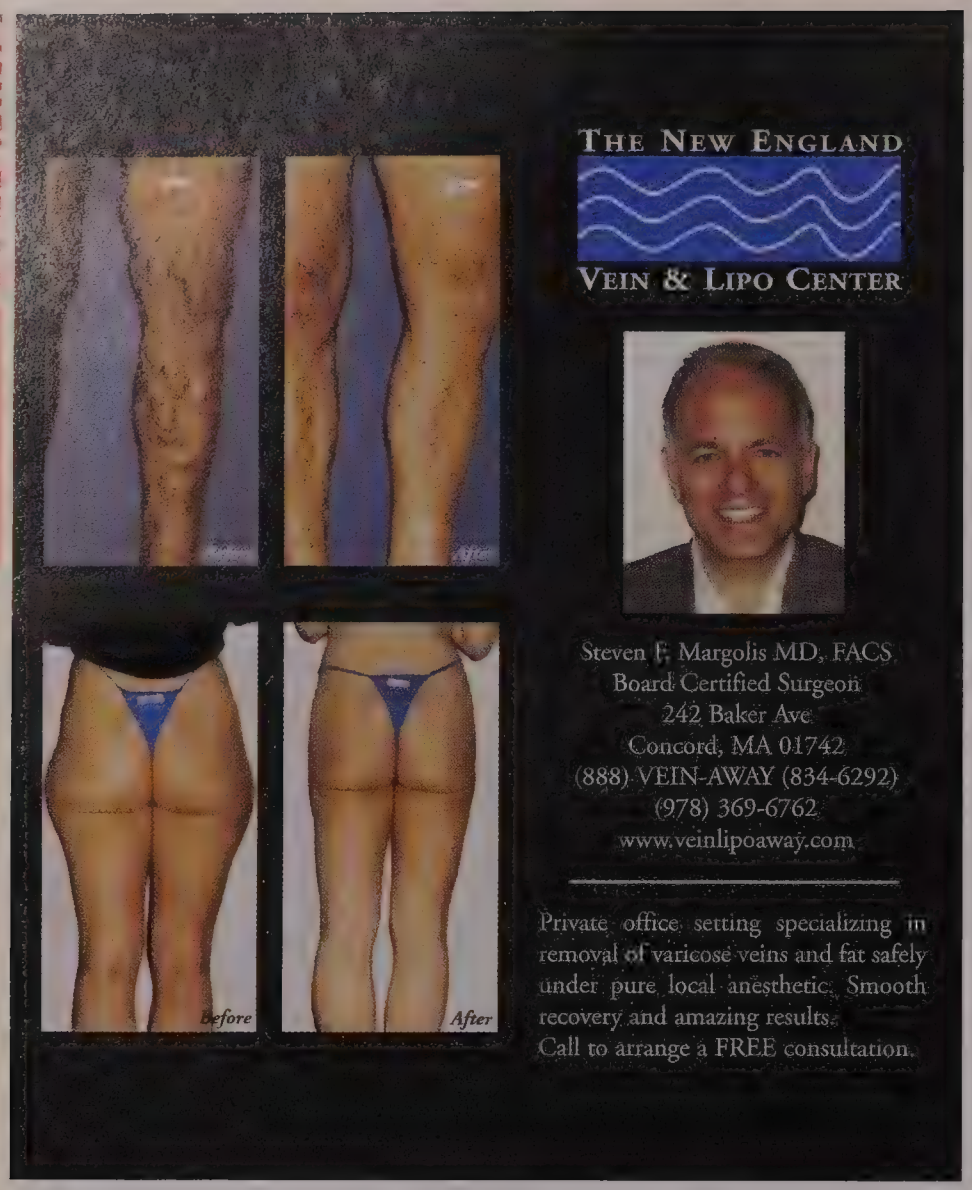
Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

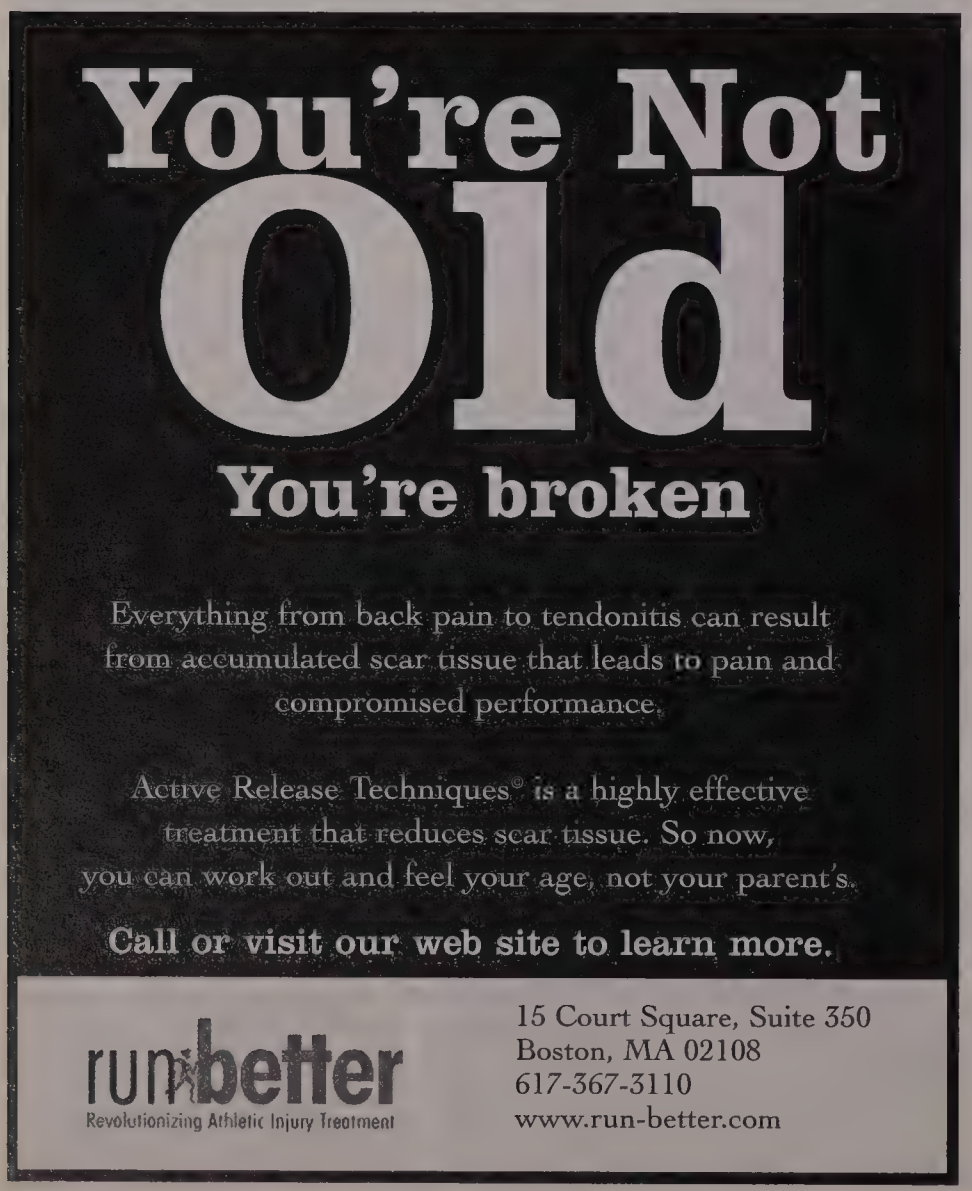
Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts a series of activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.







body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to body-mind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Being Wholistic
Sheraton Ferncroft, Danvers (978-394-5166). www.myholisticnetwork.com. April 10, 10 am-4 pm. $8. Meet local holistic health and metaphysical practitioners from a variety of disciplines. The day also includes lectures, hands-on demonstrations, free samples and treatments. Proceeds benefit the MSPCA.

Boston Marathon Legend Uta Pippig
Wild Women Outfitters, 397 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-641-5776). www.wildwomenoutfitters.com. April 15, 3:30 pm. Uta Pippig discusses her running career, training techniques, motivation, nutrition, fitness, yoga and the correlations between health, athletics and one's spiritual being.

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 15, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Everyone is welcome to join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Dances are accompanied by live music.

An Evening with Robert Bly
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. April 11, 7-9 pm. $15. In his recent book *The Winged Energy of Delight*, Robert Bly translates works by 22 international poets. At this event, Bly reads from four of the featured poets: Pablo Neruda, Jalaluddin Rumi, Federico Garcia Lorca and Hafez.

Sacred Sounds Concert
Unitarian Church, Locke St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. April 15, 8 pm. $15. This evening of musical healing includes the spiritually uplifting, meditative, and comforting sounds of Himalayan singing bowls, Tibetan singing bells, tingshas, gongs, bonpo shang and more.

Sexuality and Spirituality Network
Healing Heart Power, location in Newton or Arlington depending on attendance. (617-965-7846). http://boston.sexspirit.net or www.healingheartpower.com. April 9, 2-5 pm. $10 suggested donation. Please call ahead. This network gathers regularly to discuss topics related to the holistic exploration of sex. This month focuses on spirituality and how it relates to the body.

Shambhala Post-Marathon Celebration
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.primordialdot.org or www.shambhalaboston.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. April 18, 6-12 pm. $15. Author and spiritual leader Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche is the first lama to enter the Boston Marathon. Join Rinpoche for a post-race celebration with momos and sake.

Singles Party
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-306-1246). www.arlingtoncenter.org. April 16, 8-11 pm. $12-15, sliding scale. Please call ahead. Meet up with other singles at this holistic health center. The evening features ice-breakers, music, dancing and light refreshments.

Lectures

Healing Ourselves and the World Through Mindfulness
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 8, 7-9 pm. Doors open at 6:30 pm. $30. Meditation teacher, writer and scientist Jon Kabat-Zinn describes mindfulness practices for restoring perspective and increasing a sense of freedom, integrity, wisdom and compassion in the face of pain, fear and stress. The lecture is followed by a book signing.

The Stress, Low Blood Sugar and Back Pain Connection
Yoga East Center for Alternative Medicine, 20 Del Carmine Street, Wakefield (781-224-0722). www.yogaeast.net or www.waldmanchiropractic.com. April 8, 7:30-8:30 pm (lecture), free; April 9, 2-4 pm (workshop), $40. Gain a better understanding of how stress affects the body and how alternative therapies, including nutrition, chiropractic methods and applied kinesiology, can help counteract the effects of stress.

Lama and runner Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche holds a Boston Marathon celebration April 18

Classes

The Alexander Technique
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave. Boston (617-267-4430 or 617-527-7373). www.bca.org or www.alexandertechniqueinstruction.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 9, 10 am-1 pm. $45. This class covers the history, principles and application of the Alexander Technique, a practice that aims to restore good posture and reduce strain in the neck, back and shoulders by teaching participants how to correct poor habits.

Chakra Expert Anodea Judith
Holiday Inn, Boxboro (781-393-4416). www.commongroundcenter.com. April 9, 7-9 pm. $40. Judith, the author of *Seven Jewels of the Inner Realm: A Journey Through the Chakras* demonstrates simple exercises designed to show how chakras interplay in our daily lives. Event includes reception and book signing.

Love Your Liver, Live Your Life
Earthsong Yoga, Marlboro. (508-480-8884 or 617-263-3735). www.earthsongyoga.com. April 13, 10:30 am. Free. Dr. Devorah Feinbloom helps participants create a plan to eliminate toxins, stimulants and sugar from the diet in order to cleanse the body and build health.

Reiki Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass Ave #304, Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. April 8, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Come experience a reiki energy-healing treatment.

Relaxation for the Stressed
Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-208-6333). www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Washington St., April 12 and 19, 5:30-6:30 pm. $4. Guided meditation occupies the mind while letting the body get the relaxation it needs. This style is recommended for those who've had difficulty with meditation.

Relax Your Neck and Jaw with Feldenkrais
Watertown Center for Healing Arts, 22 Mount Auburn St., Watertown (617-230-6320). www.awarenessinaction.com. April 17, 10:30 am-1 pm. $20-30, sliding scale. Learn simple, gentle movements designed to increase physical awareness and help you recognize and reduce habits that lead to jaw and neck tension.

Restorative Yoga
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. April 10, 3-5:30 pm. $25. This workshop is designed for anyone experiencing stress, fatigue, sickness or problems with sleep, as well as those looking for a quiet, centering retreat.

Ongoing

Intro to Ashtanga Yoga
South End Yoga, 111 W. Concord St., Boston (617-247-2716). www.southendyoga.com. MBTA: Orange to Silver Line to Mass Ave. Thurs., 6-7:15 pm. $15, drop in. Ashtanga Yoga is a system of postures and breathing that may help detoxify and strengthen the body, build flexibility and enhance awareness.

Rejuvenate and Rejoice Fridays
Beacon Light Yoga, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-562-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. or #57, 64, 66 and 501 bus line. Fri., 6-7:30 pm. $15, drop in. If you're attending for the first time, please call ahead. This class begins with gentle stretching, followed by vinyasa yoga to sweat away stress, then onto tension relieving stretches and ending with relaxation.

sports

Advice to Contributors

ubmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calndar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@mproper.com. Include address, phone number, subway op, dates and times, and a brief description of the league r event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone nd must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Celtics
FleetCenter, Boston
ickets: 617-931-2000
pril 6, 7 pm vs. Milwaukee Bucks
pril 15, 7:30 pm vs. Miami Heat

Boston Red Sox
Fenway Park, Boston
ickets: 617-482-4769
pril 11, 3:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
pril 13, 7:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
pril 14, 7:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
pril 15, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
pril 16, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
pril 17, 2:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
pril 18, 11:05 am vs. Toronto Blue Jays
pril 19, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays

Events

09th Boston Marathon
opkinton to Copley Square, Boston. www.bostonarathon.com. April 18, 12 pm. Watch the world's ite runners (and lots of less-elite but still amazingly etermined people) make their way from Hopkinton the Boston Public Library on Boylston Street. Varning: Crossing Boylston Street is a tough roposition today.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club eks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club
617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketall for players at all levels. Leagues exist in Waterown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and dividuals are welcome.

Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club (CRFC)
617-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Yearound leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

Corporate Basketball League
781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one omen's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, ewton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of l ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
25 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.ostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to arvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style oxing lessons for all levels.

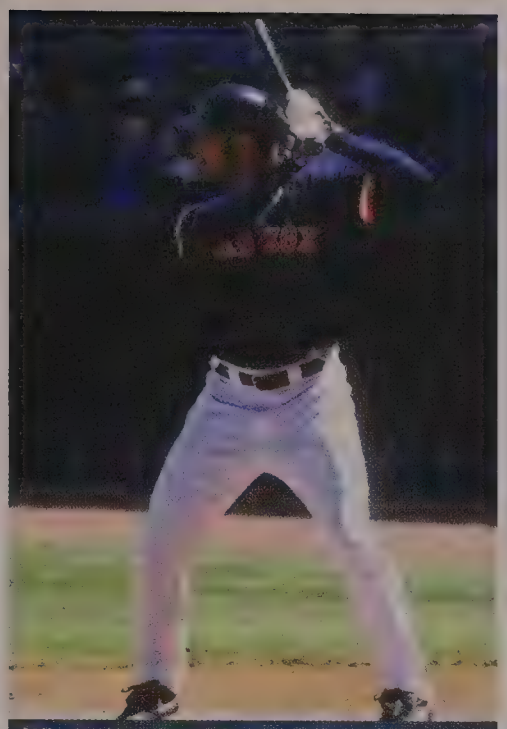
DODGEBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeall teams.

CRFC Dodgeball
617-491-8989). www.crfcdodgeball.com. Now accepting players and teams for a dodgeball league. ames at CRFC in Kendall Square.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with roup training and support, personalized coaching nd guaranteed race entry for events.



Who's that clean-shaven man? Johnny Damon and the Sox come home April 11.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday yearround. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Members have access to a ski lodge and can participate in ski and snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Anne of Green Gables
McCormack Hall, UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to UMass/JFK. $10-$22. •April 9, 10, 16 and 17, 2 pm. Boston Children's Theatre presents a musical adaptation of Lucy Maud Montgomery's novel about the adventures of foster child Anne.

The Beanstalk, the Giant and Jack
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway. $12-$20. •April 8-May 8; Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 pm. April 19-22, 1 pm. Wheelock presents a commedia dell'arte style performance of the classic children's tale.

Big Apple Circus: Picturesque
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (800-922-3772). www.bigappplecircus.org. MBTA: Red Line to UMass/JFK. $13-$53. •April 6-May 8 (see Web site for show times). Big Apple Circus' 27th season features jugglers, horses, acrobats, trapeze artists and more.

On the Record
The Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-8616). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $35.00-$87.50. •April 6-10; Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sunday, 2 and 7:30 pm. From the producers of the *Lion King*, comes a new musical with more than 50 songs from some of Disney's most popular films, including *The Little Mermaid, Aladdin, Sleeping Beauty, Pinocchio* and *Lady and the Tramp.*

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •April 6 and 7, *Three Pigs and Other Tales* by Deborah Costine of the Gerwick Puppets. Recommended for ages 3-6. •April 9 and 10, *Moccasin Stew* by Maggie Whalen. •April 13 and 14, *The Singing Turtle* by Paul Vincent Davis. •April 16 and 17, *Arabian Adventure* by Tanglewood Marionettes. •April 18, *The Magic of Hans Christian Andersen* by Applause Unlimited. Recommended for ages 4-9.

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours
Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm. Tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10am; Sun. 2 pm, $8. This child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail is designed for kids ages 6 to 12.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Free. •April 10, 2:30 pm. Traditional Chinese music and dance will be performed by the Chinese Chamber of Music, Dance and Acrobatics.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting and more. •Mon., Wed. and Fri., 11am-12 pm. Music & Movement is a chance for children ages 3 and under to dance to popular tunes. •Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm. Pint-Sized Science offers scientific exploration for preschoolers. •Wed., 2-3 pm. Musical Moments allows participants to explore instruments, music and dances from cultures around the world. •Thu., 11:30-1:30 pm. Kids adapt their favorite books into plays during StoryBook Theat on the KidStage. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science cha lenge. •Daily, 10 am-12 pm and 1-3 pm, PlaySpa offers a messy activity for children up to age 3.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvar •April 9, 9 am-12 pm. While exploring miniatu life forms through hand lenses, microscopes a micro video cameras, kids also can meet live anima and take part in a scavenger hunt in the galleries.

Massachusetts Audubon Society: Vernal Pool Night
280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. Members, $10; nonmembe $12; children members, $6; children nonmember $7. •April 19, 7-8:30 pm. Visit Broadmoor night and observe some of the animals that liv in vernal pools, including fairy shrimp, spotte salamanders and dragonfly nymphs.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kenda Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ag 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free. (Fr admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Hologr phy, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring th world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoin •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artifici intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Model The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship model from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum •Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm. The Children's Room an interactive learning environment that encou ages children ages 6-12 to take a closer look at th museum's collection. •Tue. & Wed., 3:30-4:3 pm, ages 5 and under. Books Bring Art Alive is hands-on activity that introduces children to th museum's collection through literature. •Sat 11am-3 pm, ages 4 and up. Art Inside Out: Dutc Paintings shows how works are made through cu tural activities and theatrical interpretation •Sat.-Sun., 11 am-4 pm, ages 4 and up. Drop-I Drawing includes gallery activities, puzzles an drawing lessons. Materials provided.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mo org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11 seniors, $1 children. •*Playing with Time* explores technolog that detects and manipulates time. Through Apr 21. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and cal of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs* show cases the museum's collection of dinosaur model Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhib tion that features models of a wave tank, Mour Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Sc ence in the Park is a permanent playground with scientific spin. •*Mapping the World Around Us* e plores the evolution of maps. Ongoing. •*Forces Nature, Amazing Journeys, Mystery of the Nile*, an *Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* show at the IMAX Th ater. •*Catch Bugs!* is a new 20-minute 3D mov presentation at the Wright Theater. Ongoin •*Mission to Saturn* at the Planetarium shows th Cassini spacecraft as it makes a dangerous journe toward one of Saturn's most mysterious moon Ongoing. •*Countdown to Supernova* is a Planeta ium show that illustrates the ways stars meet the demise, including the spectacular explosions calle supernovas. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm $9. •April 12, 10 am-12 pm. Learn about the hi tory of local shoemaking and make your own sho out of paper, cloth, feathers, plastic, foil and leathe Recommended for ages 7-12.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.nea org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; se niors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* fea tures thousands of jellyfish. Continues throug 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tan contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoin •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featurin sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •*Alien of the Deep* plays in 3D at the IMAX Theater.

Tadpole Playground
Boston Common, adjacent to Frog Pond (508-820 1151). www.tadpoleplayground.org. Open fro dawn until dusk. •The playground offers kids chance to enjoy art, water features, and game Check Web site for special events.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
oit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-53-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. n clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-larch, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
00 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-26-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 n - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 n, $1.

aneuil Hall
5 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue ine to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or reen Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
6 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.nnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, 6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

ohn F. Kennedy Library & Museum
olumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: ed Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; se-ors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
80 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). IBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
6 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam useum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park reet. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 0 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
cience Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. g. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, 11.

Museum of Transportation
5 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-un., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
entral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. g. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: lon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-ept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. 15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
93 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
06 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: range or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, niors and students, $4; children, $1.

rudential Center Skywalk
00 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: reen Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. 9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; chil-en under 3, free.

rinity Church
06 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: reen Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; chil-en 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
harlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ssconstitutionmuseum.org. Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 n-5 pm; May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
617-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a oster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with IIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer pa-ents to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volun-eer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks vol-nteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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IMPROPER sightings

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Don't cry for Jean Marc Nelson, the truth is he's at the Nuestra Señora de la Merced church in Alta Gracia, Argentina.

Tru-Nell Oosthuizen and Hanh Bach caught the Tulum Slam Dunk Competition at the Pyramid and Civic Center in Tulum, Mexico, where "It's time for the birdman to fly" really means something.

The crew of the USS Constitution takes a break from fighting off pirates, the British and scurvy to read the IMPROPER in Spokane, Wash.

Maria Almond and Sharyl Wong are all smiles at Argentina's Perito Moreno Glacier, where they attended a concert by the country's biggest R&B tribute act, Argentina Turner.

Shannon Botte, pictured here 14,000 feet above the North Shore of Oahu, Hawaii, didn't intend to go skydiving, but this guy she was strapped to decided to jump out of the plane.

Taimur Khan took his IMPROPER to Islamabad, Pakistan, where he had an operation to remove this blue sign from his ear.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Steaming his or her buns at the annual Bun Festival, held May 15 in Hong Kong.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

improperimpersonals

f everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Joe D—Good Riddance

You wooed me with your sweet words and gestures and didn't stop until you had me. Once you roped me in, I eventually saw what you truly are—a pathetic, self-involved, hating, low-class, lying, cheating, idiot scumbag. Sometimes I am reminded of you and I want to vomit into a box and send it to you. It makes me nearly physically ill to also think of any new girls you may set your sights upon. You exist in the filth that you create and surround yourself with. By the way, I lied, it is small, in fact, the smallest I have ever seen. Dick.

—Kitten

Oh, Come On!

I'm not sure if it's a result of the women's lib movement gone wrong or what. ("I don't want to offer help, she might think I don't think she's capable" or "She looks mean, I might get slugged for helping her."). But I (a fully independent, petite woman) am personally disgusted by the lack of chivalry/manners of everyone in this city. Would it really be a bother to offer some help? Sure, maybe my friends and I can be blamed because we never asked for help...and I thought you'd say that, so I am going to personally ask for your help with the following:

1. If the suitcase that I am carrying looks heavy, and I am visibly struggling (grunting, biting my lip, looking at you with puppy eyes etc..) to get it on/off the T, please help me lift it into/out of the car. Thanks.
2. If you decide that helping me get my luggage into the T is not part of your moral responsibility, I understand—so in that case, if you don't mind, please move out of the stairwell leading onto the T, so that I may get my bags into the T myself. Thank you.
3. If I'm running towards the elevator and you hear the pitter patter of my size 6 ankle boots getting louder as the elevator doors begin to close, please hit the button that looks like this </>, to OPEN the elevator doors so that I can get onto the lift. Much appreciated.
4. If I'm leaving my building at work dragging a large box, don't sit behind your security desk and say "Wow, that looks really heavy" then turn to your friend and say "Don't mess with that one, she'll do some damage!" Instead, please get up and either offer to help me or just help me. Merci!

Now believe me, I am not just preaching these things, I also practice. Whenever I reach out to give a helping hand...I think about how grateful I would be if someone actually helped me!

—improperboston@hotmail.com

To the Mysterious Knitter on the Hill

Thank you for being a terrific neighbor and knitting the caps for the ducklings in the Public Garden. It brings a smile to my face every time they have new hats.

—Appreciative Neighbor

St. Patrick's Night in Sanctuary

This is to the jerk who told me the reason I don't have a boyfriend is because I am not anorexic. Who do you think you are? You and guys like you are a huge part of all of the women who have eating disorders and are neurotic about the gym. You are also probably the guy who when he dates, hates when women order salad. What else can we do? If we eat, you may be disappointed because we won't be skinny like someone with anorexia! Before the comment, I listened to your sad story of your divorce (thank God that poor woman got out!) and how your girlfriend of a year is pressuring you to marry her. (I hope she reads this and rethinks that decision!) I listened to you as you slurred your words and swayed from side to side because I felt bad. It was obvious you had been out since 5 pm and you had a lot more to drink than I did. Never once did I ask your opinion about my single status but you decided to give it anyway. To think, you didn't tell me you had a girlfriend for the first half hour we talked and you didn't seem to mind my "non-anorexic body" when we were dancing on the dance floor! To all the women in Boston, if you meet this man, run! I have to admit, he is handsome, similar to Andrew Firestone but once he opens his mouth, it's over. He lives in Charlestown but used to live in Southie.

—Beware!

Knight in Shining Armour

Us: Brit chick in silver jacket and cute lady in cap and suede coat. You: Angelic, gentlemanly guy with jumper cables and SUV. Where: Comm. Ave, Brighton, on 19 March, illegally next to a fire hydrant. My starter was a non-starter. We had to move the illegally parked car and you came to our rescue. We want to make it up to you and say thank you—let us buy you dinner? Gratefully, the damsels in distress.

—commave_1032pc@yahoo.com

Looking for B.C.

I can't get you out of my mind. We met March 17 at a Hertz rental car agency in Medford around 11 am. Then we ran into each other about an hour later in a different location. They say that the third time is a charm. If you want to meet again and your initials are B.C., contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

—melodyisthewoman@hotmail.com

Re: The Patient with Patience

As someone who has spent a lot of time in hospitals, I'd like to point out something you may not have been aware of. When you were "trying to put a smile on your friend's face," you weren't in an apartment, a hotel, or a dorm room. You were in a hospital, surrounded by sick people who need (among other things) sleep. Why did he complain to the head nurse instead of you? Maybe he thought talking to you wouldn't do any good. If you had experienced a few rounds of "Who the hell do you think you are telling me what to do?" you'd go to the head nurse too. If you want to put a smile on the face of someone in the hospital, try to do it quietly. If you can't manage that, send flowers. A little consideration goes a long way.

—The "Quiet zone" signs are there for a reason

Tall Irish Guy Wearing Leather Jacket at the Field March 17

I was on my way out of the Field on St. Patrick's Day when your stare totally drew me in. We talked for a bit and you told me you were there with friends from R.I. I was the cute black chick who should've stayed a little longer to talk to you. If you read this, contact me. I would love to have a few pints with you.

—writergrrl_76@yahoo.com

Looking for Alaina

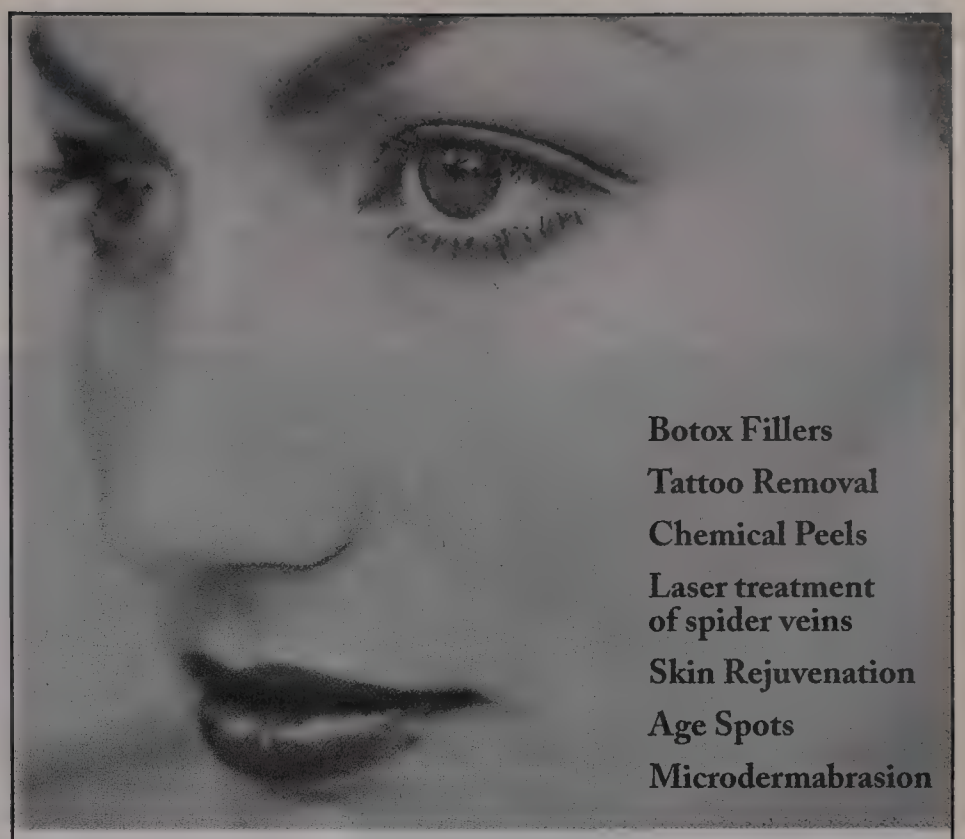
I bumped into you on the dance floor at Trinity on St. Patty's Day. After chatting, you gave me your number and said it was the first time you had done that at a bar. Little did you know, it was the first time I had asked for one, and being a total idiot I pressed delete instead of save on my phone. You said you worked for a nonprofit outside of Boston and you were wearing a lime green polo and jeans. Anyway, I'd love to hang out and I promise not to delete you this time.

—iworkwithnumbers@hotmail.com

At Maltese Falcon

You were the woman with dark hair wearing black and red, writing sheet music. I was the tall guy in black who sat in front of you, and we talked about Bogart. I thought that guy with the popcorn was your date, so I left you alone, but he may have just been an overly familiar pest! It was hard to tell. You're really charming—please write so we can talk more.

—hizzoner@earthlink.net



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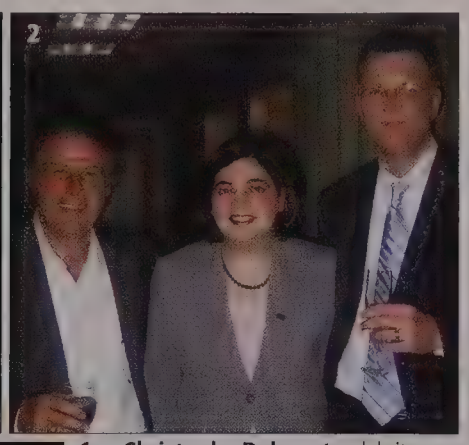
IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Thursday, March 24, **210 South Street Condominiums** and **Roche Bobois** hosted an event together celebrating Boston's Leather District with renowned designer Christophe Delcourt as he presented his Rive Droite Collection.



1. **Christophe Delcourt**, celebrity designer; **Amy Dumas Mall**, sales manager/interior designer, and **David Zein**, consultant, both of Roche Bobois.
2. **Edmund Shamsi**, owner, Boston Group Development Inc.; **Veronica Bay**, store manager at Roche Bobois; and **Timothy O'Brien**, vice president asset management, Boston Group Development Inc.
3. **TJ O'Brien**, developer for Dannin Management; **Jill Miller**, student at Quincy College; **Julie Miller**, manager at J.Crew; and **Elad Weizmann**, developer for EW Real Estate Management.

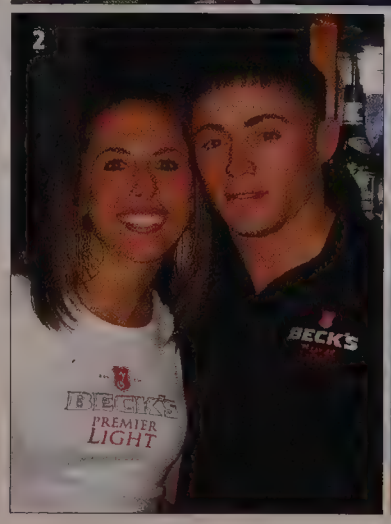
On Thursday, March 3, **Linwood Bar and Grill** hosted a **Stone Brewery** beer dinner.

1. **Annie Kyler**, server; **Michae Oliver**, chef; **Judith Soule**, server; and **Andrew Jackson** server, all from The Linwood B and Grill.
2. **Mickela Wolariolge**, assistant buyer at Filene's; **Seth Donlin**, editor at large for the *Weekly Dig*; and **Matt Dohanian**, general manager at Linwood Bar and Grill.
3. **Todd Meaney**, principal electrical engineer for Pollak North America; **Michelle Blair**, budget analyst at Northeastern; and **Eric Reustle**, bartender at Croma.

On Thursday March 24, **The New Yorker** magazine and **Grey Goose Vodka** hosted a private showing of 80 years of *New Yorker* cartoons with special guest, *New Yorker* cartoonist Danny Shanahan. The event was held at the **Bernard Toale Gallery** in the South End.

1. **Mike Nazzaro**, pop promotions for Epic Records, and **Mark Spence**, GM of Saint.
2. **Danny Shannahan**, cartoonist for *New Yorker* magazine.
3. **Michael Robie**, portfolio manager and **Glenn Lawler**, key account manager, both of Horizon Beverage Co.

On Friday, March 18, the official launch party for Beck's Premier Light was held at **The Big Easy**. Guests enjoyed a special performance by Eye 2 Eye.



1. **Melissa Cole**, retail account manager for InBev USA; **Kelly Bingham**, district manager for InBev USA; **Ashley Thatcher**, graphic artist for L. Knife & Son; **Sarah Craighead**, territory sales manager for InBev USA; **Rich Grabowsky**, district sales manager for InBev USA, **Liz Owens**, publicist for Allied Advertising; **Carol Francolini**, territory sale manager for InBev USA; **Michael Braccia**, business development manager for Burke Distributing, and **Kevin Ford**, retail account manager for InBev USA.
2. **Jessica Sparks**, marketing manager for Cruzan Rum and **TJ Yuico**, bartender at the Big Easy.
3. **Jen Weston** and **Allison Stevens**, graduate students in Boston.

PHOTOS: ROCHE BOBOIS, FIRE & ICE, JULIE KANE; BERNARD TOALE GALLERY, CARRIE WALLACE; THE BIG EASY, JESSICA RYA

rockie horoscope

MARCH 23 – APRIL 5, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

ARIES MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Your personal savior could show up this week wearing an assortment of white hats, promising to provide the answer to your prayers. Wondering exactly who has your best interests at heart may become the guessing game you play until the dramatic solar eclipse in Aries on the 8th clarifies the situation. While fanciful Neptune stirs your imagination and optimistic Jupiter paints a very pretty picture, you'd be wise to keep closer tabs on the tab you're running up. Just in case one of those heroes is running a mini-scam.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

A generosity of spirit, a reasonable contribution to a worthy cause is one thing; the uncontrollable urge to indulge is another. Because it comes up every year, albeit in various guises and circumstances, Bulls need to find a way to handle the uncomfortable competition between expansive, expensive Jupiter and your aesthetic Venus ruler. Sometimes it's an artwork you have to own, other times a luxury vacation you can't not take. Hope that this year you're challenged by nothing more outrageous than a major shopping spree. Yes, you'll soon regret the indulgence, but so what?

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Your Mercury ruler's retrograde trip through recent history can land a career matter you thought was finished back on your plate. Take your sweet time with it, because further changes may appear between now and the 12th, which is when the Messenger faces forward again. However, don't dawdle if a fresh opportunity to proceed with an educational or entrepreneurial business matter arises. Growth-oriented Jupiter won't be in a supportive air sign forever; neither will energetic Mars. Together, they'll provide an intelligent, rewarding support system.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

As a group, it's the artists, especially the sculptors, who value the heightened sense of form they get whenever Venus faces a challenge from Saturn. Hopeless romantics will complain about the chill that sets in when the love goddess is denied. Bargain hunters may find what they want at the time; whether they remain satisfied is doubtful. No matter what your special gift, be sure to acknowledge it during the Aries new moon on the 8th; a stunner of a solar eclipse occurring in your midheaven, the place where your reputation is made.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

One of those cherished values that you share with a significant other can turn into quite the valuable asset when the dynamic duo—adventurous Mars in your house of partners and fortunate Jupiter in your money house—are aligned this week. A project or learning experience that began in September is about to reward you handsomely. While the solar eclipse on the 8th might clip your wings a bit, don't let a growing sense of frustration stop you. It's simply your sun ruler approaching another testy square to stern Saturn. It too shall pass.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

The judicious pursuit of other people's money, even collecting money owed you, can engage your attention for far longer than you anticipate. Blame the solar eclipse in Aries for disrupting the orderly progress of your efforts or, worse, setting you off in the wrong direction. Because your Mercury ruler doesn't shift out of reverse until the 12th, and doesn't return to the point at which your current odyssey started until the 30th, it makes sense to take baby steps until you're sure of your footing. The big strides follow.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Despite the prospect of a new-moon diversion, paying attention to partners and partnership agreements will continue to take center stage. However, don't count on making real headway until Mercury leaves your Aries marriage house in May. What to do in the meantime? Cut a CD, keep a dream journal, work on a screenplay or figure out the easiest way to achieve what you, an incredibly fortunate individual, want. If folks say your ego is inflated, relax. It's simply expansive Jupiter in your sign providing the boost of confidence you need.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

On one hand, you're tempted to use your imagination to dream up a new way to achieve domestic bliss, perhaps by redecorating a room that has outlived its original purpose. On the other hand, there's all the work outside the house that needs to be done, plus the promise of having a good time accomplishing the task you set for yourself. Since you know in your heart of hearts that you'll be well rewarded for doing the right thing, now would be a good time to chair a charity event. Not much of a conflict when you come down to it.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

You'll soon find out just how helpful your colleagues or fellow party members are. However, if they don't come through the way you imagined they would, don't make a fuss. Another reward is on the way, something sexier, more adventurous and personal. Chances are someone's cockeyed idealism (yours?) may have colored the vision you shared in the pre-election days of September when take-action Mars first got together with your enthusiastic Jupiter ruler. Now that these planets are forming a supportive trine, something positive should follow.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

If, despite Mercury being retrograde, you're still determined to fix up the house or whisk the family off on an adventure, do yourself a favor and hold off until the solar eclipse in your Aries home base has delivered its message. More sobering thoughts when the Aries sun tests your Saturn ruler and adds stress to an uneasy partnership matter. While what happens might not strike you as a reason to rejoice, the waning square signals the end of two-plus years of dealing with restrictive Saturn in your Cancer complement.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

You have all the incentive you'll need to proceed with plans to pursue a purely personal goal. While take-action Mars is in Aquarius this month, your physical energy level increases as does the intensity of your most heartfelt desire. Since Mars visits your sign only once every two years, now would be a good time to have minor surgery, check your hearing or fix your teeth. But wait until Mercury turns direct midmonth before going under the knife. At that time, Martian courage gets diluted by Neptunian elixirs, so a little sedation can go a long, long way.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Get used to it. For years to come, or as long as your Neptune ruler is in Aquarius, April is going to be a month of cosmic happenings. Artistic inspiration comes fast and furiously, but it can go "poof" in the twinkle of an eye. Do what you can as quickly as you can. You're also in a position to, if not launch, then certainly benefit from a partnership venture, preferably one based on a lofty ideal. Who, this time, is rescuing whom? The one area that isn't flowing smoothly is the kiddie corner; throwing money that way might help, might not.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

RESTAURANTS

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature is cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes its mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.best-margaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty.Visit our website at www. theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the Motor-Mart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

TURNER FISHERIES RESTAURANT & BAR *10 Huntington Avenue, Boston 617-424-7425.* Turner Fisheries Restaurant & Bar is a Boston landmark offering Hall-of-Fame clam chowder and an assortment of fresh, native seafood dishes. Turner's private dining rooms are the perfect place to hold board meetings or larger social events up to 140 persons. One taste and you'll see why Turner Fisheries is Boston's premier seafood specialty restaurant. Opened for lunch and dinner Monday - Saturday. Closed on Sundays.

VENEZIA RESTAURANT *20 Ericsson St., Boston (617-436-3120).* For authentic Italian fare, impeccable service and an atmosphere unmatched on Boston's Waterfront, Venezia provides one of the city's most unique and pleasurable dining experiences. Your destination for everything from a relaxing midday lunch to a romantic dinner for two, Venezia can also accommodate private affairs like wedding receptions and business functions, and features live music on Friday and Saturday nights.

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *Pizza Kitchen, Beer Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

STADIUM – CLUBHOUSE *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox,"The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos,"The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am, 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

General

BAR 10 *The Westin Copley Place Boston, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-424-7446.* After a long day, relax and wind down in the sophisticated style of one of Boston's most fashionable "hot spots," Bar 10, voted "Best Civilized Cocktail" by The Improper Bostonian. Enjoy creative Mediterranean cuisine with an extensive, affordable wine list, as well as a variety of specialty cocktails. Opened Monday - Friday 11:30 AM - 1:00 AM and Saturday and Sunday 12:00 PM - 1:00 AM.

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110 www.bostonrocks.net. 21+.*Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.best-margaritas.com.

THE HARP *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

JILLIAN'S BOSTON / LUCKY STRIKE LANES *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300 www.jillians-boston.com.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring 16 bowling lanes, 50 pool tables, high-tech games, high definition video walls, multiple lounges and private rooms. Located on the first floor is Tequila Rain, which offers an amazing Tex-Mex menu and dancing to the hottest DJs Friday and Saturday nights.

PARRIS *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters and steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring live music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

REGATTABAR *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.*The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Sports Bar - Upscale

STADIUM *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks.

BRUNCH

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouth watering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $6, entrees $16, desserts $7 or all 3 courses for $24. Sundays: $39 adults and $17.50 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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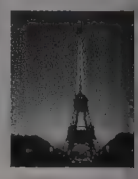

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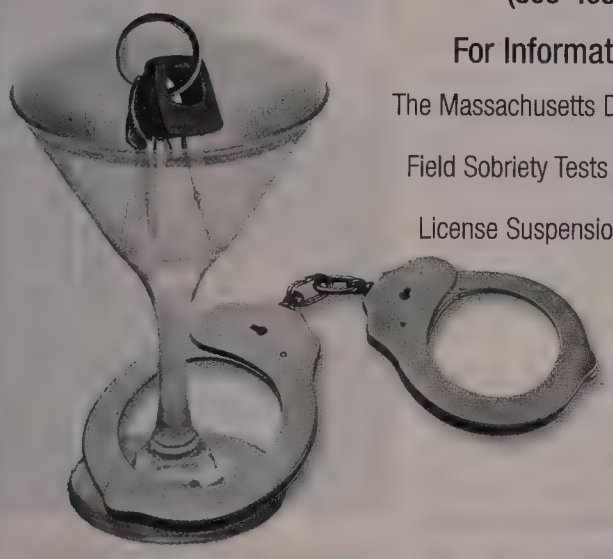

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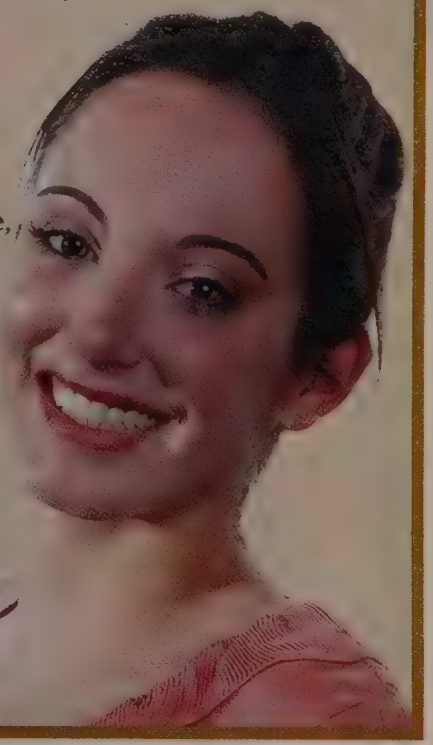

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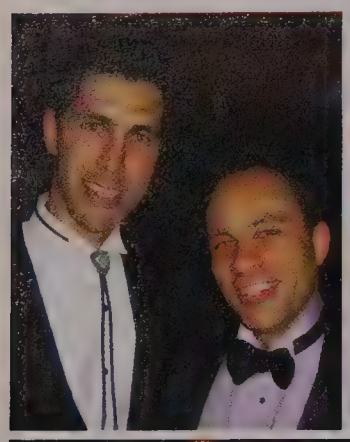
LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



At the Men's Event, top: David Collins and Michael Williams. Middle row: Jarrett Barrios and Paul Puttorak; David Paul and Darin Wedel; Phil Swain and Brandon Kozar. Bottom: Andy Bigelow, Byron Rushing and Brian Lighty.

CAN YOU SAY MEOW?

What's facetiously known as the Gay Prom but otherwise known as the **Men's Event** raised gajillions of dollars for the **Fenway Community Health Center** and crammed upwards of 1,400 predominantly (yeah, right, or yeah, whatever) gay men who had crammed themselves into formal wear for the evening into the ballroom of the **Westin Hotel**.

Present and accounted for: the event's guests of honor, absurdly gorgeous TV- and film-producing couple **David Collins** and **Michael Williams** (of *Queer Eye* fame); pioneering congressman **Gerry Studds** and his other half, **Dean Harra**; unfairly attractive couple **Andy Bigelow** and **Brian Lighty**; the very sparkly **Stewart Clifford**; political activist and icon **Byron Rushing**; super-cute state senator **Jarrett Barrios**; arousing real estate broker **David Paul** and condom mogul **Davin Wedel**; the fairy godfather of Boston, **Harry Collings**; and hetero Adonises **Brandon Kozar** and **Phil Swain**, both trainers at the Sports Club/L.A., who agreed to attend, presumably so that everyone could drool over them.

As always, the evening included cocktails, dinner, speeches and disco cha-cha into the wee hours, along with plenty of witty persiflage, including the following comments:

Three men, discussing someone they'd all dated. One said, "He's a great guy." Another said, "A great guy for a roommate, not a boyfriend." And the third said, "I like to describe him as a dish best viewed through the restaurant window."

However, the *Will & Grace* award for snarkiest remark went to the guy who said, "We used to call him the biggest bottom in Topsfield."

THE YOUNG AND THE GUESTLIST....

It looked a bit like one of those Gap ads where everyone is stupidly cute and impossibly stylish at **Taste of the South End**, a fundraiser for the **AIDS Action Committee** held at the **Cyclorama**, where the neighborhood's best restaurants doled out delicious little morsels to guests, who nibbled, sipped and flirted shamelessly.

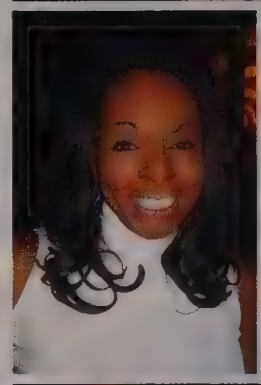
Spotted among the throng: the city's handsomest restaurateur, **Matt Burns**; glamazon **Jennifer Winn** with the gorgeous **Evan Kuschner** and the equally gorgeous **Ann Trautenberg;** improbably tall playboy and scratch golfer **Jay Gordon**; Back Bay fashion plate **Cici Seth** and the super sweet **Kristen Casey**; hot, hot meteorologist **David Brown**; much beloved smartass **Geoff Hargadon** (who recently gained worldwide fame by spoofing Christo with his "Somerville Gates" project); Karmalube model **Chris Raymond** and the naturally carbonated **Briana Dworkin**; uber-hipsters **Leah Ikeda** and **Adam Rozan**; techno-hottie **James Jorgensen** and tastemaker **Paul Niski**; and numerous members of the Imperial Court of Massachusetts, which is essentially the drag queen equivalent of the Rotary Club.

Not surprising, given one of the better-looking crowds we've seen in a long time, there were plenty of sexually suggestive comments, including one lesbian who said, "Ewwww! Look! Straight people kissing!" and one man who responded to a friend's complaint about a minor physical ailment by saying, "Well, the only known cure for that is hot male tongue."

WHAT'S ALL THE HUBBUB, BUB?

The word *groovy*—uttered in earnest, Marcia Brady style—is perhaps the best way to describe **Hubbub**, the sensory overload that raised money for the **Boston Center for the Arts**, held (where else?) at the **Cyclorama**.

What seemed like every event planner on the planet created a kaleidoscopic succession of food stations and bars, while performers wowed the crowd with everything from circus tricks to virtuoso sax playing, and everyone wandered around muttering some variation of "Wow!"



At Hubbub, clockwise from top: Suzanne Daley and Meg Gordon; Jack Bardy; Linda Paone and Oedipus; Susan Callendar.

Present and accounted for: benefit chair **Jim Apteker** and his co-chair, **Bonny Katzman**; super-suave restaurateur **Jack Bardy**; City Hall hepcat **Tony Nunziante**; the achingly beautiful **Jennifer Iovino**; star of stage and scream **Abe Rybeck**; Harvard factotum **Philip Lovejoy**; alarmingly famous architect **David Hacin** and his other half, **Tim Grafft**; rock icon **Oedipus** and the very sexy **Linda Paone**; arts patron **Bill Nigreen** (sporting a newly grown beard); Chestnut Hill socialite **Kathy Taylor**; yummy mummy **Meg Gordon** and her "heterosexual life partner," **Suzanne Daley**; **Janet** (aka Princess Zhanay) **Goff**, and at least one Elton John look-alike looking pissed that the line for the bar was so long.

An auction of platters decorated by well-known artists went better than anyone could have imagined, the food and entertainment were superb, and everyone seemed to have a marvelous time. In fact, our only major complaint was that if we'd known it was going to be so trippy, we would've ingested some hallucinogens first. IB

At Taste of the South End, top row: Adam Rozan and Leah Ikeda; D.J. Matthews, Verna Turbulence and Joe Thomas. Bottom row: Jennifer Winn and Ann Trautenberg; Chris Raymond and Briana Dworkin.

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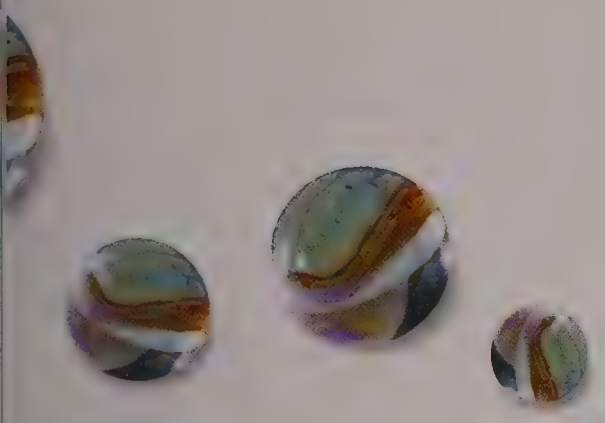

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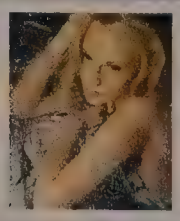

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Matthew Jordan Smith

Model: **Joy for Click, N.Y.**; hair: **Mitch Derosa for Mitchell John Salon**; makeup: **Jenny Brown**; clothes: **Carolina Herrera at Saks Fifth Avenue**; jewelry: **Long's Jewelers**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

TRUTH, BEAUTY

Our newest columnist, John D. Spooner, is the kind of guy you feel lucky to sit next to at a dinner party. An investment advisor, award-winning nonfiction author and novelist, Spooner's a wry observer of human nature, with fascinating, funny stories to tell about the people he's met, their life philosophies and the lessons he's learned from them.

You'll meet some of those characters in Spooner's new column for the IMPROPER. We're calling it The Dance, and each month, he'll focus on the dance of life in all its absurdities—the quirky, colorful people, provocative ideas and offbeat places that give Boston its personality. He launches the column with some musings on this issue's theme—beauty.

We're delighted to bring Spooner's graceful, insightful writing to our readers.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

BEANTOWN'S WEST SIDE

Thanks for your sidebar on West Coast Boston bar Sonny McLean's in the Beloved Bartenders issue (March 23). I lived in LA for five years and discovered "Red Sox Nation West" soon after they opened. Let me tell you, you've not watched a Red Sox game until you've been part of their annual "Wicked Pissa Beantown Bus Brigade." Next time you're in LA and need a little dose of "Yankees Suck" chanted by the drunken, displaced and rowdy, head to Sonny's.

—KERRY SHEA
Boston

MANNY THANKS

I know Ezra's dog, Manny, and as a Labs4Rescue volunteer helped fight to get him out of that hellhole Roicy Duhon Animal Control in Lafayette, La., where he ended up last December ("I Like Big Mutts," March 23). I don't know if Ezra realizes how close to the gas chamber Manny came—I consider him one of the luckiest big black dogs to have escaped the jaws of Roicy. It's so nice to see the wonderful life he has now.

I agree it's unfortunate that many shelter workers belittle people with good intentions—and good homes. It happens a lot, and the dogs suffer being left in kennels instead. Also, nearly all our Labs are afraid of stairs. For some reason most of the homes in the South are single-story, so even house-trained dogs are often petrified of a full flight of stairs. I now advise adopters of adult Labs to make trails of cut-up hot dogs on the stairs—works like a charm!

—ERIN SMITHIES
Lafayette, La.

HE'S AT 98.6 DEGREES

I was surprised to see the Farrellys gracing your April 6 cover. You completely missed the pulse of the "Nation" on this one. These guys are no longer darlings. What they did on Wednesday, October 27, 2004, was unforgivable. They took one of this city's most anticipated, pure and improbable moments and tainted it by running out their Hollywood cameras, Jimmy Fallon, and Drew Barrymore to join in the historical, almost mythical celebration. A sacred moment that people waited 86 years for was scarred. Bewildered fans had to watch the mockery of Fallon and Barrymore jumping around behind a tear-ridden Jason Varitek.

I imagine if they'd been around, they would've crashed the Boston Tea Party, the Battle at Bunker Hill, and JFK's acceptance speech with their cameras and money-first motives. These guys did a huge disservice to generations of real Red Sox fans everywhere. I hope the movie bombs, and so do grandfathers everywhere.

—MIKE BURNS
Charlestown

I IMAGINE IF THEY'D BEEN AROUND, THE FARRELLYS WOULD'VE CRASHED THE BOSTON TEA PARTY AND THE BATTLE AT BUNKER HILL.

—MIKE BURNS
CHARLESTOWN

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Michael Malone is a New York–based freelance writer whose work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Playboy*, *New York Magazine* and the *Village Voice*. A URI grad, he despises the Yankees, loves the Mets, and roots for the Sox as well—especially when his Bostonian in-laws are around. He was in Section 12, Row 9, Seat 25 when Varitek gave A-Rod a mouth full of mitt. Malone's story on ESPN sportswriter Bill Simmons, "A Guy for All Seasons," begins on page 36.

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Tell Us What You Think

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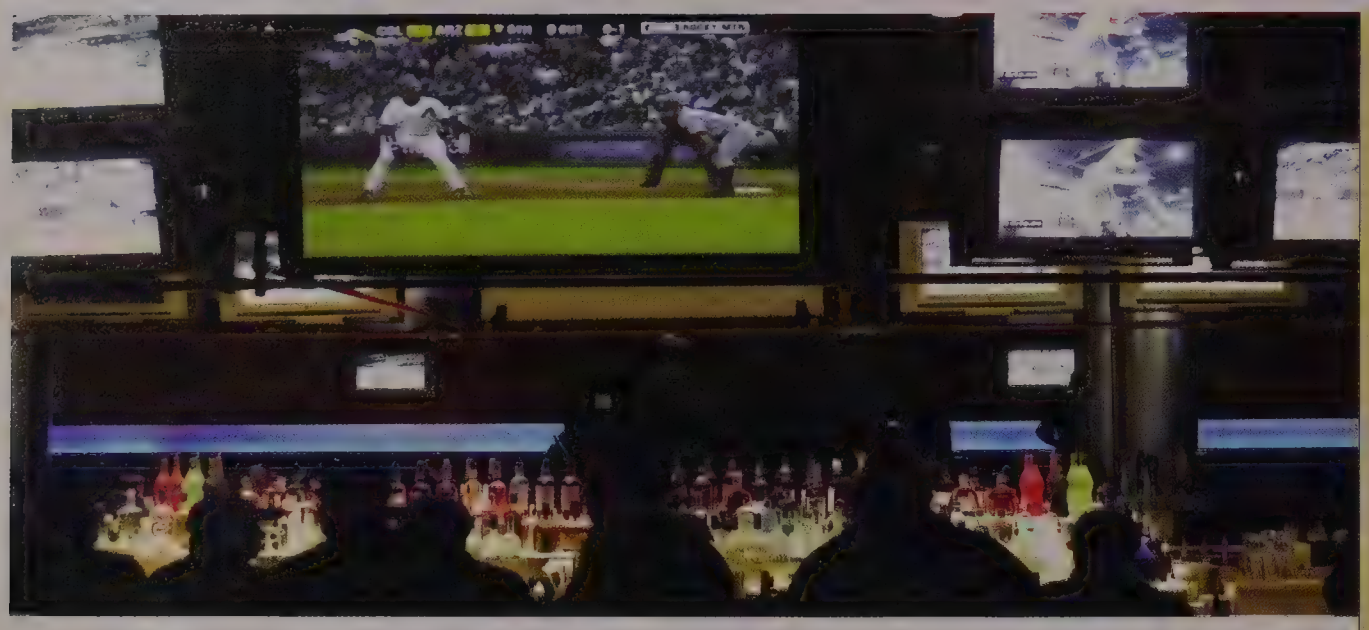

new in town

GAME TIME

This past off-season, the Red Sox added a box of shiny rings and two fat trophies to their collection. Now, as the team starts its new season, a state-of-the-art sports café opens up in the shadow of Fenway. Game On!, the latest venture from nightlife impresario Patrick Lyons, sits on the corner of Lansdowne Street and Brookline Avenue, and its amenities read like a die-hard sports fan's Christmas list. The 12,000-square-foot, two-story facility boasts more than 90 plasma and LED high-definition TV screens (over 52,000 square inches' worth of picture) stationed around two bars, four private "skyboxes" and a video-gaming area.

The ground floor has a classic sports bar feel, with a long bar adorned with hi-def screens and a multitude of tables and booths for diners. But a trip downstairs brings out the full Game On! experience. An 80-seat circular bar occupies the center of the space, while a seven-foot dropdown projection screen covers the wall on one end. On the opposite end from the screen is the Crib Room, a three-screen video-gaming area with single- and multiplayer consoles where Xbox, GameCube and PlayStation2 gamers can convene to take on their buddies in a game of John Madden Football or MVP Baseball. The private "skyboxes" along the perimeter are equipped to host everything from corporate meetings to live fantasy drafts. It's like renting a box at the TD Fleet Waterhouse Boston Garden Center, but without having to take out that second mortgage.

Game On! pays as much attention to the food as it does to sports. Chef Art Welch, formerly of Sonsie and the DeVille Lounge, offers a menu that caters to the Fenway crowd as well as more upscale diners. Comfort classics like clam chowder ($5.50) and nachos ($8.75) are on the menu along with more sophisticated fare like filet mignon ($35) and market-fresh fish (priced daily). Plus, there's al fresco dining on the Lansdowne Street side, part of a million dollar off-season renovation project to make the neighborhood around Fenway Park more fan-friendly. —*Rich Levine*

sam says

FORM FITTING

As the South End retail market continues to boom, new stores are popping up faster than spring flowers. Among them is the men's boutique Uniform, located on the ground level of Atelier 505—the first clothing store in the building. The boutique, which opened April 6, features designers like True Religion, Ben Sherman, An Original Penguin and Freitag, and owner Gary Ritacco is open to further suggestions: If you want to see a line in his shop, just let him know. Ritacco has also started a customer recognition program that lets patrons earn gift certificates based on how much they spend. As if that weren't enough, Uniform hand-delivers frequent-shopper's purchases (within the South End). Like Peapod for the style-hungry. *511 Tremont St., Boston (617-247-2360).* —*Samantha House*

inner view

DJ HAZARD

Boston comedian DJ Hazard nabbed a major role in the new film *Blackballed: The Bobby Dukes Story*, a mock documentary starring *The Daily Show*'s Rob Corddry as a former paintball superstar banned for cheating ("wiping"). Hazard plays coach and mentor Bill Henry, who helps Bobby get back into the game. *Blackballed* screens at the Somerville Theatre April 22 and April 24 as part of the Independent Film Festival of Boston.

Improper Bostonian: *Have you ever played paintball?*

DJ Hazard: No, and throughout the shooting of the film I only picked up a gun once. Everyone says it's addictive, and I don't want to get addicted.

IB: *Tell me about your character, Bill Henry.*

DJH: Bill Henry was Bobby Dukes' former mentor, from back when he was coming up the ranks as an international paintball phenom. They had us all write our characters' bios, so the first day, all our characters knew each other.

IB: *What did yours say?*

DJH: It begins, "Bill Henry just missed the Vietnam era and totally regrets it." He's an over-the-top, psychobabble-crazy guy. Some of the reviews I've read call him the Patton of *Paintball*.

IB: *And what about Rob Corddry?*

DJH: Rob Corddry is unbelievable. He's so different from his *Daily Show* persona here. He's sympathetic, good-natured. Corddry let me holler, scream and chew up the scenery until I walked out of the scene, and then he'd react.

IB: *So a lot of the script was ad-libbed?*

DJH: About 90 percent was ad-libbed. It's shot documentary-style, so they told us where to go, but not how to get there, except for a couple points. Most of the cast are alumni from the Upright Citizens Brigade. I had to hit the ground running because these guys are extremely quick on their feet. They're all very funny guys.

IB: *What's your favorite line from Bill Henry?*

DJH: My character has this unnatural hatred of Canadians. (I hope Canadians realize I was acting.) At one point Bill Henry is setting up a match between Bobby Dukes' team, the Rounds, and the Canadian team, Mayhem, and he says, "Oh Bobby Dukes, please kick their asses so hard that their asses go up their asses."

IB: *Are you afraid that after this role, you'll be typecast in future films?*

DJH: How many more paintball mockumentaries will there be? Maybe I'll become a Shatner/Nimoy kind of figure and make a career out of playing an overenthusiastic paintball instructor. A gig's a gig. —*Ezra Dyer*

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tasty tidbits

FRENCH TWIST

Frugal French... Fine French food is a delicacy, though some of the satisfaction can get lost when the hefty bill arrives (usually for a few dime-size entrées). But Petit Robert Bistro, the new Kenmore Square café from Loic LeGarrec and Jacky Robert (of Maison Robert fame) that opened April 1, offers French cuisine without the astronomical prices. None of the entrées at Robert's new digs exceeds $15 at lunch or $20 at dinner, but the menu stays true to authentic French fare, with items like onion soup gratinée, escargot and crêpes suzette. In addition, pastry chef Kristen Lawson whips up more than a dozen daily dessert plates—all under $7. *468 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-375-0699). www.petitrobertbistro.com.*

Sweet Inspiration... There's a new sweets company in town that combines fresh-baked goodness with your very own personal touch. Wicked Good Cookies can put any image on their treats. Baby pictures? Check. Wedding shots? Check. Your favorite sports hero? Check. The digital decorating system they call Sweet Art prints the image directly onto the cookies in frosting. So these snacks look as good as they taste. All you have to do is e-mail the image of your choice and they'll deliver the treats to your doorstep. *(508-393-6665). www.wickedgoodcookies.com.*

Cuisine with Character...A Bay Village hangout that goes back nearly 20 years has new owners and a new vibe. Husband and wife Alon and Rachel Munzer have opened Rachel's Kitchen in the space formerly occupied by Krystal's Cafe. They've gutted the place and added their own touches that are keeping the regulars happy—hot lobster rolls, pastrami sandwiches, chopped salads and bite-size sweets are part of the extensive menu. Espresso is now served, and Rachel has included family favorites like her mom's crustless quiche. Breakfast is available all day, and free wireless Internet will keep you sipping a latte for hours in the new sunny space. *12 Church St., Boston (617-423-3447).*

improper reports

BOSTON BBQ

Nothing beats barbecue when the weather warms. So we've scoped out some of the best restaurants tha serve the saucy stuff, from traditional Southern fare to ethnic alternatives. Tie on the bib and dig in.

Brother Jimmy's BBQ

96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-547-7427).

This Harvard Square joint practices the art of slow-cooking, smoking its Carolina-style barbecue in-house. Other Southern-style favorites include three different kinds of ribs, hush puppies, and (real) fried green tomatoes.

East Coast Grill and Raw Bar

1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-491-6568).

This Inman Square restaurant, open since 1985, is known for the saucy kick of its Caribbean barbecue, though the heaping plate of Carolina-style shredded pork is a must.

Jake's Boss BBQ

3492 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-983-3701).

Owner Kenton "Jake" Jacobs serves up Texas-style barbecued pork, chicken or beef in Texas-sized portions at this no-frills Jamaica Plain spot. Cap off your dinner with homemade desserts like coconut cake and sweet potato pie.

Linwood Grill & BBQ

81 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-247-8099).

Located in the heart of Fenway, this pre–Red Sox hot spot features live rock in the summer to accompany a barbecue menu that goes way beyond bar food. Items include Memphis-style pork ribs and BBQ shrimp in debris sauce, with molasses bread.

Midwest Grill

1224 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-354-7536).

Family-owned and -operated for 12 years, the Midwest Gri specializes in traditional Brazilian barbecue. Skewered steal pork, lamb and chicken are brought to your table until you sa "No more." Pick up some sides from hot and cold buffets tha include veggies, cheeses, rice, beans, plantains and potatoes.

Redbones

55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200).

This longtime favorite in Davis Square ha been dishing it up Southern style sinc 1987. Dinners for four to six peopl include choices like beef ribs, BBC chicken, pulled pork or chicken, coleslaw cornbread, beans and four differen barbecue sauces. Wash it all down witl one of the 24 beers on tap.

Rouge

480 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-867-0600).

Owner/chef Andy Husbands has wor awards throughout New England for hi BBQ spot that brings the South to the South End. Drop in to try his North Carolina pulled pork with heaping sides o watermelon, baked beans, collards and cornbread.

Village Smokehouse

1 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-3782).

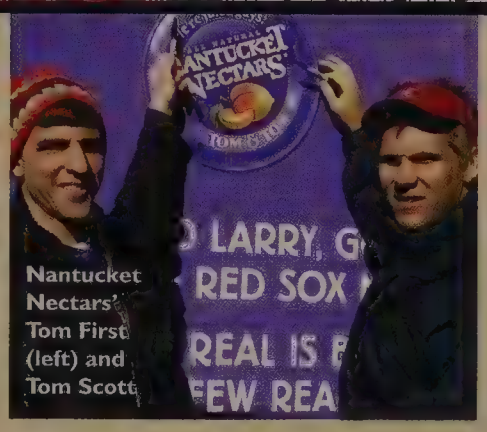
Step inside and you're no longer ir Brookline Village. The Smokehouse serves up tangy and tender barbecue brisket, pulled pork and much more or tables set with paper towels instead of napkins.

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Kenmore Hip... Former Brookline boutique Fanny & Delphine has new Kenmore Square digs and a new concept. Owner Eve Kohlman says the store, now located in the Hotel Commonwealth, is considerably more daring than its previous incarnation. "I was buying for the Brookline community," she says. "I'm taking much bigger risks now with what I'm doing, and it's much better." That means new designers Kohlman scouted out in Paris. "For spring, I'm bringing in three or four French lines," she says. "For fall, I went with independent European and Asian lines that aren't brokered anywhere else, so this is the only place people will be able to get these clothes in the States. These designers aren't yet part of the label world, so the value is amazing." As for the clientele she expects to serve in the reborn F&D, Kohlman says, "It'll be people who know what they like without having to see it in *Lucky*. Those are the people who'll love my store." *(617-266-2006).*

A Hallmark Moment... During the Red Sox' first homestand, Nantucket Nectars gave fans a chance to sign a 25-foot good luck card outside Fenway Park. "We are idiots not cowboys. Lose the 'Cowboy Up'," wrote Sully from Dorchester. (Apparently, Sully was in a coma last year.) "Rehire Ghostbusters for a second year," wrote 11-year-old Jerry T. Hmmm, David Wells does look a bit like Slimer. And Sharon of East Boston's missive, "Marry Me! I'll guarantee a home run every game" (presumably addressed to the whole team), was one of the tamer female-submitted well-wishes. Guess the boys don't need any luck *off* the field.



Nantucket Nectars' Tom First (left) and Tom Scott

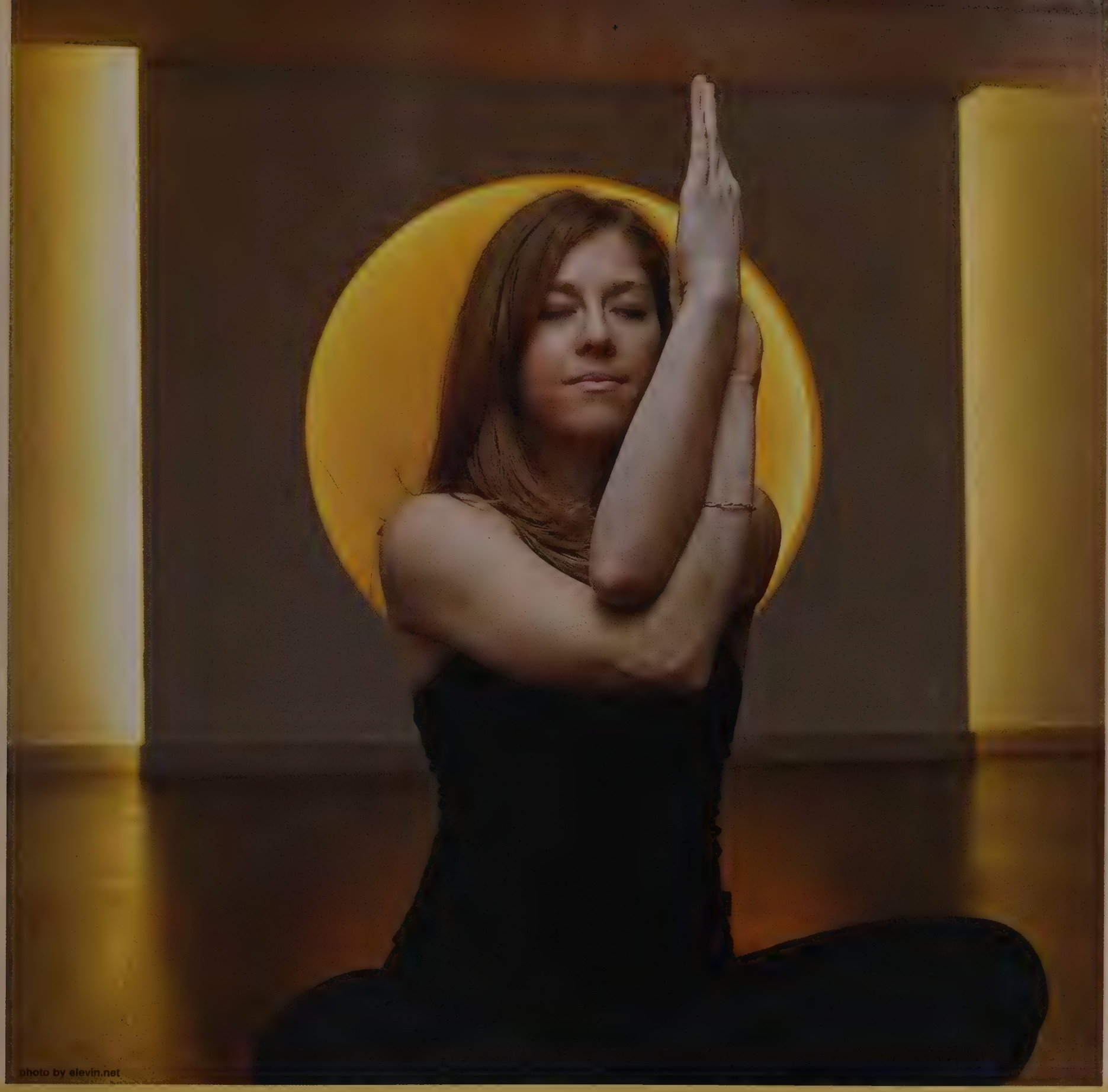
Thursday Throwdowns... The Opal Lounge merges spirits and the spirit world with its new Thursday night venture, Psychic Libations, sponsored by Tanqueray 10 and Ciroc Vodka. Since late March, the Opal has partnered with psychics from the Original Tremont Tea Room who provide personal 15-minute palm or tarot card readings for partygoers from 5–9 pm ($15); our crystal ball is showing a series of Friday morning hangovers. Meanwhile, the Onyx Hotel has its own new Thursday night venture, hosting Martini Thursday in its Ruby Room lounge. The party runs from 7 pm–12 am and features half-price martinis, with the Ruby Room's DJs supplying R&B and downtempo beats. Admission is free and dress is casual but chic, so leave your sneakers and your Tom Brady jersey in the closet. *Opal Lounge, 48-50 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725), www.opalboston.com; The Ruby Room, 155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950). www.rubyroomboston.com.*

Let 'er Rep... After searching for a decent online forum devoted to Boston-related topics and coming up with zilch, local programmer Andy Fenenbock took matters into his own hands and created Rep617.com. The site has topic threads on arts, sports, traffic, restaurants and more, and will evolve as more users respond to one another. "Other major cities have strong Web discussion sites, why not Boston?" Fenenbock says. "I didn't launch the site to compete with anyone. If anything, I think Rep617 could be a nice complement to other sites, like Craigslist and Chowhound." And why the name? "Well the area code is obvious, but the 'rep' is open to interpretation. It could mean Republic, it could mean Reputation, or it could mean Representin'. Personally, I think of it as the latter."

—E.D., L.P.K. and R.L.

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.



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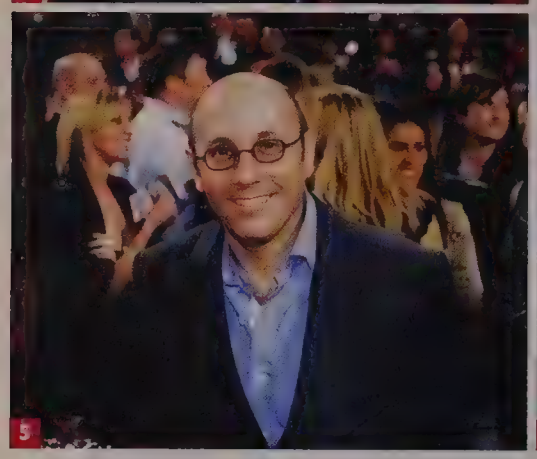
PROPER BOSTONIANS

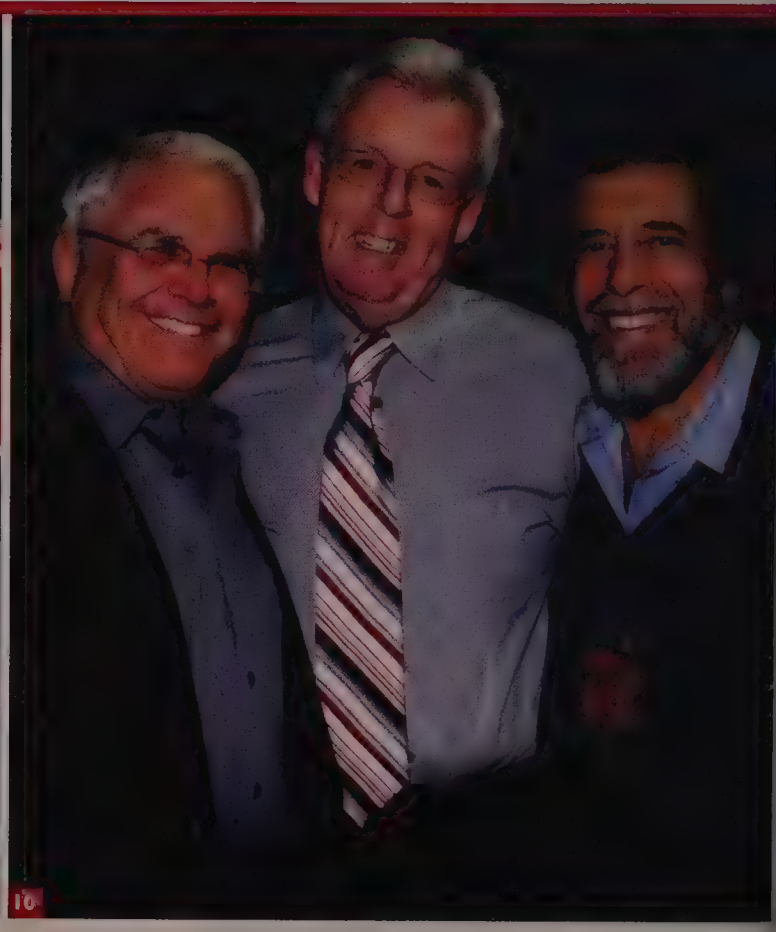
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY



More than 5,000 fans gathered at Fenway Park April 6 to celebrate the world premiere of Peter and Bobby Farrelly's latest film, **Fever Pitch**. Stars Jimmy Fallon and Drew Barrymore were on hand, along with members of the Red Sox and other elite Boston athletes including Tom Brady. The screening took place later in the evening at the nearby AMC Fenway cinema.

1. Actors **Jimmy Fallon** and **Drew Barrymore**
2. Red Sox outfielder **Johnny Damon** and his wife, **Michele Mangan**
3. Red Sox pitcher **Tim Wakefield** and his wife, **Stacy**
4. *Fever Pitch* directors **Bobby** (left) and **Peter Farrelly**
5. *Sex and the City* actor **Willie Garson**
6. From left: **Marc Orrell**, **Ken Casey**, **Al Barr** and **Matt Kelly** of the Dropkick Murphys
7. Patriots quarterback **Tom Brady**

Local celebrities got **"Banned in Boston"** on April 8 to raise money for Urban Improv. The 10th annual comic musical revue, which has become legendary for its antics, drew 650 people to Avalon for the chance to see Boston luminaries act up. Proceeds from the show benefit Urban Improv, a school-based violence prevention program.



8. From left: **Susie McIntosh**, principal of Susie McIntosh Special Events; **Lisa Schmid**, head of the board for Urban Improv; **Brooke Chamberlain Cook** of the Environmental Protection Agency; and **Carol Fulp**, vice president of community relations for John Hancock Financial Services
9. From left: **Kasey Kaufman**, news anchor for WBZ-TV 4; **Sara Campbell**, clothing designer; and **Milton Little**, president and CEO of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay
10. From left: **Dick Friedman**, president of Carpenter & Company; **Peter Gammons**, baseball analyst for ESPN; and **Ron Druker**, president of the Druker Co.

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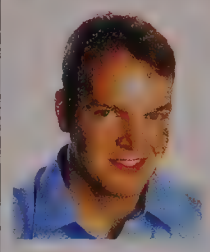
ezra

BY EZRA DYER



MEAT OUT

Things that make me go Hrrrrmmmmm!

I'm normally a peaceful soul. If I were a lake in upstate New York, I'd be Lake Placid. If I were one of the Three Tenors, I'd be Placido Domingo. If I were weather, I'd be partly sunny. But certain external influences cause me to lose my usual studied, sexy air and turn into a giant raging meathead like a werewolf under a full moon. It's a phenomenon called "meating out," or simply, "meating." They say you can't solve your problems until you admit them, so I'm admitting right here that I'm a serial meat-out waiting to happen.

Participatory games are probably my biggest weakness. I'm a sore loser. I'm not happy unless I win, which is problematic because I'm also not very good at anything. Once, in a poker game in the far reaches of Brookline, Roommate Scott beat me by drawing the one card he needed. I didn't react well. Scott, who had ridden his bike to the game, was supposed to get a ride home with me. Suffice it to say, he put a few more miles on his bike that night.

Scott foiled me again last weekend, when we were playing some low-stakes skins golf. It looked like I had one hole locked up. I had a stroke lead on Scott as he lined up a 25-foot putt over the cratered moonscape of a Saugus public-course green. Since I'm as bad at golf as *American Idol* winners are at being American idols (the only thing idol-like about Kelly Clarkson is her fat Buddah arms), I was already exalting in my golfing glory when Scott sunk his putt. I then had to actively remind myself that I was outside, playing a game with friends on a beautiful day, to drive away the dark fantasies of Scott being attacked by turkey vultures. I managed an outward congratulations, but I think stifling my meat-out only made it worse, like holding in a fart.

From these two examples, you might think I could solve my problems by simply not hanging out with Scott anymore, and believe me, I wish it were that simple. But lighthearted, fun games aren't the only things that send me on a one-way trip to the butcher shop to pick up a few pounds of meat.

Getting in the wrong toll booth line makes me meaty. Given two toll booth lines of equal length, I will pick the one that contains: a car that's going to break down; someone who doesn't have any money but will manage to negotiate a complex I.O.U. with the cashier that involves a credit application, a federal background check and a notary public's seal; someone who, despite being headed east at the Newton tolls, is trying to get to Idaho and will need completely new directions (fortunately, the toll-taker will hail from Boise and know the route by heart); someone who will drop their money on the ground; and someone whose power windows are broken, so they need to open their door and reach around it like they're afraid the toll-taker has SARS (I'm trying to win a Pulitzer in the Outdated Reference category this year). As I glance over at the adjacent lane to see the Yugo driving on four space-saver spares that I passed back in New York, I can't help but wonder why monster trucks are illegal, while I punch my dashboard over and over and over again.

Once you get past the toll, you'll eventually have to park. I hate parking in Boston so much that I rented a spot purely to lower my blood pressure and lessen incidences of meating out (or being meated-upon, as I've written about before). So imagine my meatiness when I went to pull into my lot recently and found a car parked

I'M NOT HAPPY UNLESS I WIN, WHICH IS PROBLEMATIC BECAUSE I'M ALSO NOT VERY GOOD AT ANYTHING

in front of the gate. Hoping this was a temporary mistake, I found a meter spot and returned two hours later. The offending vehicle was still there. Not only was it still there, but now I couldn't find a meter, either, and after driving around for half an hour becoming increasingly frustrated, I gave in and called 911. I felt nervous dialing those three famous digits, but that's actually what you're supposed to do to get a car towed in Boston. "What's your emergency?" asked the operator. I told her I needed to get a car towed. She said she'd take care of it. I drove by later and the car was gone. Problem solved.

I had no idea it was so easy to take care of life's little annoyances. Thanks, 911. You're gonna come in handy next time someone in Souper Salad tries to sneak in front of me from the wrap line to the sandwich line. **iB**

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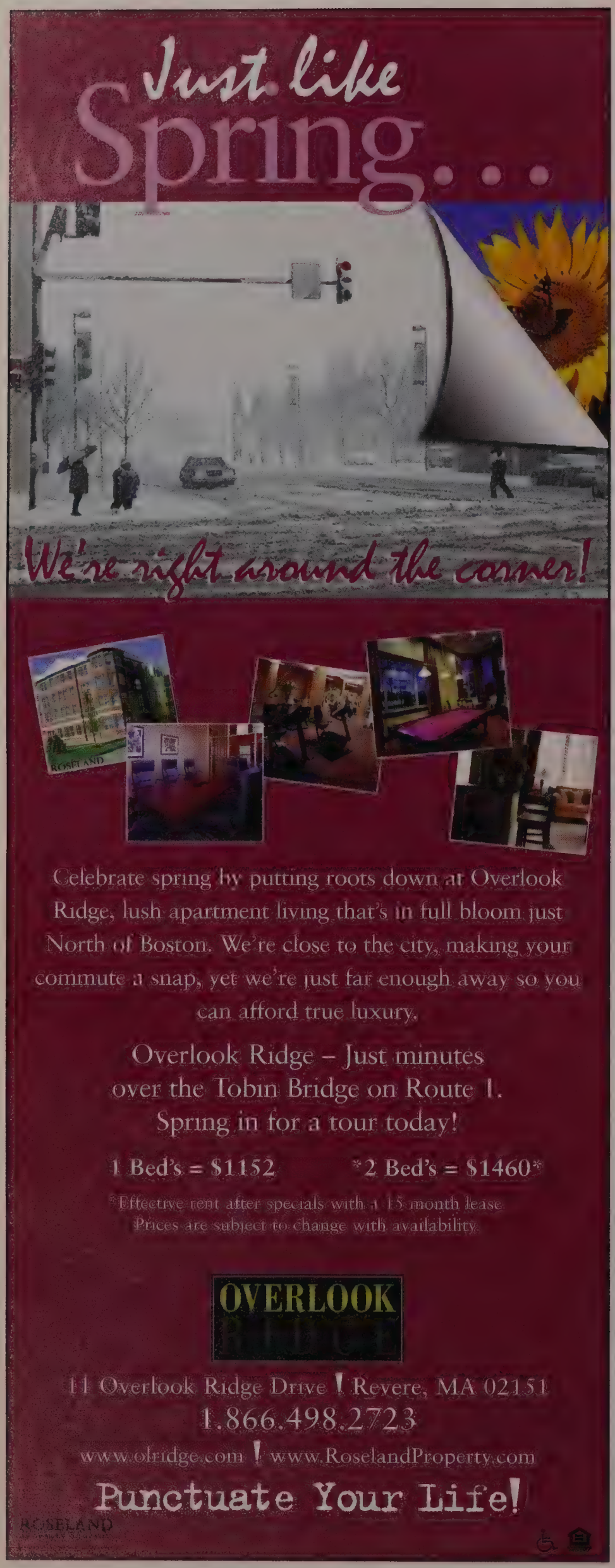

THE DANCE

BY JOHN D. SPOONER

Skin Deep

D.H. Lawrence knew what he was talking about. Beauty is a mystery.

My father used to say to me, "Marry funny." "Did you say, 'Marry money?'" I'd respond.

"No," he'd insist. "Marry funny. A sense of humor will last longer than anything else in a relationship; if you're lucky enough to find it."

"Boy," I remember thinking at the time, "beautiful is where I should be concentrating. Happiness is dating a cheerleader. What does Dad know?" Turns out he knew a lot. He also taught me that, essentially, life is absurd and you should surround yourself with friends who share this ironic view of the world. So when I want a conversation about beauty, I immediately think of my buddy in Hollywood, Harry the Producer. "Beauty isn't the problem out here," Harry says, "It's the decline of beauty; and how they handle it. And they all handle it terribly. I know actresses who are afraid to come out of the house. Why? They don't want to be seen in comparison with the girls working in the spas, the art galleries, at hotel pools like the Chateau Marmont, the Sunset Marquis.

"Remember," he adds, "I live in a place where our dog trainer is better looking than anyone you ever saw. When we go on location for a movie, we're always shocked by how ugly everyone is everywhere else, outside of LA. And the media airs their political opinions? You know what I'm sayin'?" Harry goes on, always deep. "If everyone is good-looking, then there is no good-looking." Harry grew up in Brookline so he knows what he's talking about.

I had a date with a model once and invited her to drinks at my apartment. She told me she had recently done an ad for Boston Gas Co., in which she was featured on water skis. I put the TV on and amazingly, her ad began, with a speedboat. My date jumped from the couch, stood in front of the screen, and pushed the "Off" button. She turned and said, "It's way too soon for you to know how fat I am." She had as much body fat as the anorexic Olsen twin.

Interested in her career as well as her charms, I asked her about the process of getting jobs as a model. "As in any other business," she said, "not an overabundance of people actually 'get it.' In modeling here, there are dozens of really attractive girls. But most of them are so needy, prima donnas, neurotic, show up late, have a zit, a bad-hair day. I'd show up in my agent's office, even if I didn't have a job that day. Just be there, in the agent's face, make friends with the staff, the receptionist. The phone would ring, work coming in. Just by being on tap, properly made up, dressed up, I'd get more assignments than anyone. Simple stuff, but it works." She was full of life advice, also. "If the world thinks you're beautiful, they have assumptions that you're a snob as well. Always be interested in other people. And if you do get married as a so-called good-looking woman, never marry anyone more beautiful than you."

As for male beauty, my friend Don provided me more ironic insights into the subject. Don was a ballet dancer who sidestepped into the investment business and became my chief lieutenant. He was handsome in a rugged way, with a strong presence and a British military handlebar mustache. Socially, Don played the field, no permanent arrangements for him. He haunted the Lansdowne Street clubs, attracting people with his dancing. As the years went by, Don said to me, "You know, in business and in our various acts in life, you have to change or die. I'm not the young blood anymore. Now I go to my favorite club and sit on a bench circling a pole in the dance floor and bang on a tambourine for attention and they call me the Tambourine Man. You have to pace yourself. If you think you're losing it in any way; reinvent yourself." More time passed and Don became ill. It was the early days of AIDS, even before it had a name. He would come to work, and in the afternoons, while I was on the phone doing business, he would nap on the couch in my office, a beautiful guy spiraling down. Before he died he was philosophical. Quoting D.H. Lawrence, he said, "Beauty is a mystery. You can neither eat it nor make flannel out of it." He also told me, "Don't forget the tambourine."

I suppose my ultimate take on the subject is a lady lawyer friend of mine, a corporate lawyer who used to dine with clients and occasionally bring them and their fellow attorneys back to her house for a nightcap. She'd disappear for a bit and return wearing her old high school drum majorette costume and proceed to twirl two batons. She always got the business and used to send me postcards from vacations, usually with the same message. Most people used the old lines, "It's beautiful; wish you were here." She would say, "I'm here; wish you were beautiful."

We could all say the same. IB

The IMPROPER's newest columnist, John D. Spooner, is an investment advisor, author and novelist. Contact him at thedance@improper.com.

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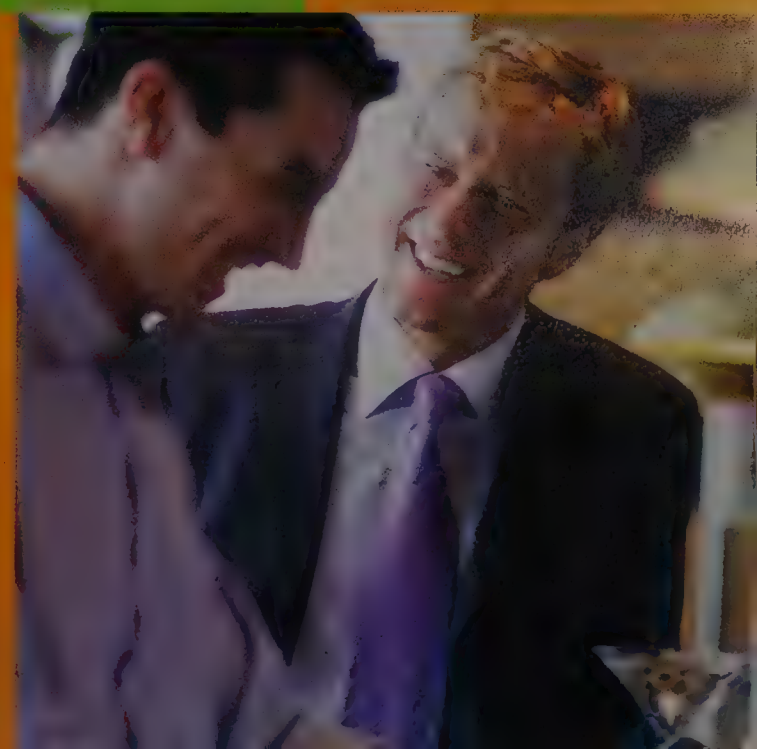

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

SOX NATION HAS CAUSE FOR CONCERN

The core is solid, but the Red Sox have a lot of question marks.

The rings were beautiful. They really were. So was the celebration at Fenway Park for the Red Sox home opener. It was a special day. Now that I got that out of the way, let's cut to the chase. I'm concerned. Very concerned.

Sox-Yanks in April is a sneak peek at all the fun that baseball can be in the fall. Yes, the rivalry is back. The much hyped and anticipated first game of the season versus those damn Yankees has come and gone. Things didn't go exactly as planned for the hometown team in an embarrassing 9–2 loss, but a season isn't won or lost on Opening Day. Still, my 3½ hour drive back home to God's country, aka Boston, gave me time to think about this season's what-ifs.

What if David Wells falls flat (or perhaps, fat) on his face? At some point it has to happen. We saw what happened to him opening night in the Bronx. Let's be realistic. He's had a very good career (212-137, 4.03 ERA), but he's 41. And he is, not to mince words, fat. Is this the year Wells flops? His spring training ERA was close to 8.00. Spring training isn't always a true indicator of what will happen during the regular season, but Wells my man, you're too old and too out of shape to keep flicking the switch when a big game arises.

What if Johnny Damon's Johnny Bravo image makes him the life of the party everywhere except the Red Sox clubhouse? His shoddy fielding in New York was, I hope, an exception and not the rule. Damon's struggles will be magnified with his new high profile. And when you consider the fact that he's in the midst of a contract year, the pressure will be a little more than what he gets at a book signing or photo shoot.

I repeat, I'm concerned.

What if Edgar Renteria ends up laying an egg, like he did in New York the first couple of games? What if he isn't the slick-fielding shortstop that Orlando Cabrera was for the Sox last season? Does anyone remember "Cabby" making an error? I don't. He was so steady under the bright lights of the hottest rivalry in sport. Renteria has been to the World Series with two teams, but he's never performed under the circumstances of this rivalry.

What if Wade Miller, who appears to be on track to return around in May, regains his form too late? When this guy is healthy, the experts say he's one of the top 10 pitchers in baseball. But hurt, he's worthless.

What if Mark Bellhorn's season is a letdown? Last year he performed above and beyond the call of duty despite striking out a Red Sox record 177 times. He was as productive as any second baseman in baseball: His 82 RBIs, 93 runs and 88 walks were all career bests. What if those numbers turn out to be a fluke? Remember, this guy was supposed to be a backup player last season until he started producing like a starter.

I'm concerned.

Now, with all that said, the Sox' foundation is a model of stability. The rock of this franchise is Jason Varitek. He's so good because he doesn't cut corners. Watch him prepare before a game. It's the same exact routine: He comes out early; takes extra hitting; comes back out and places his bag in the same spot in the dugout; warms up throwing with his backup, Doug Mirabelli; meets with his pitchers, and then, last but not least, he plays nine innings.

Varitek's postgame routine is the same every time too. He ices just about every part

IS THIS THE YEAR DAVID WELLS FLOPS? AT SOME POINT IT HAS TO HAPPEN.

of his body (He looks like those old *Saturday Night Live* characters, Hans and Franz). And when he sits down with the media he's always very forthcoming (until, of course, somebody throws a dumb question his way).

The Sox were cautious with Curt Schilling's ankle, which is smart. They're going nowhere if this guy isn't the ace. But he'll get wins.

David Ortiz is just awesome. The guy continues to amaze. Watch how he gobbles up those inside fastballs that pitchers try to get into his kitchen. Big Papi eats them up like meatballs at the postgame food table.

Manny Ramirez is priceless too. I'm not worried about him. He's the best all-around hitter in baseball.

But none of that changes the way I feel. The Red Sox are very good. Their lineup is probably the best in baseball. But defending champions or not, the team has some question marks, too many in my mind.

Theo, Theo… Help.

I'm concerned. iB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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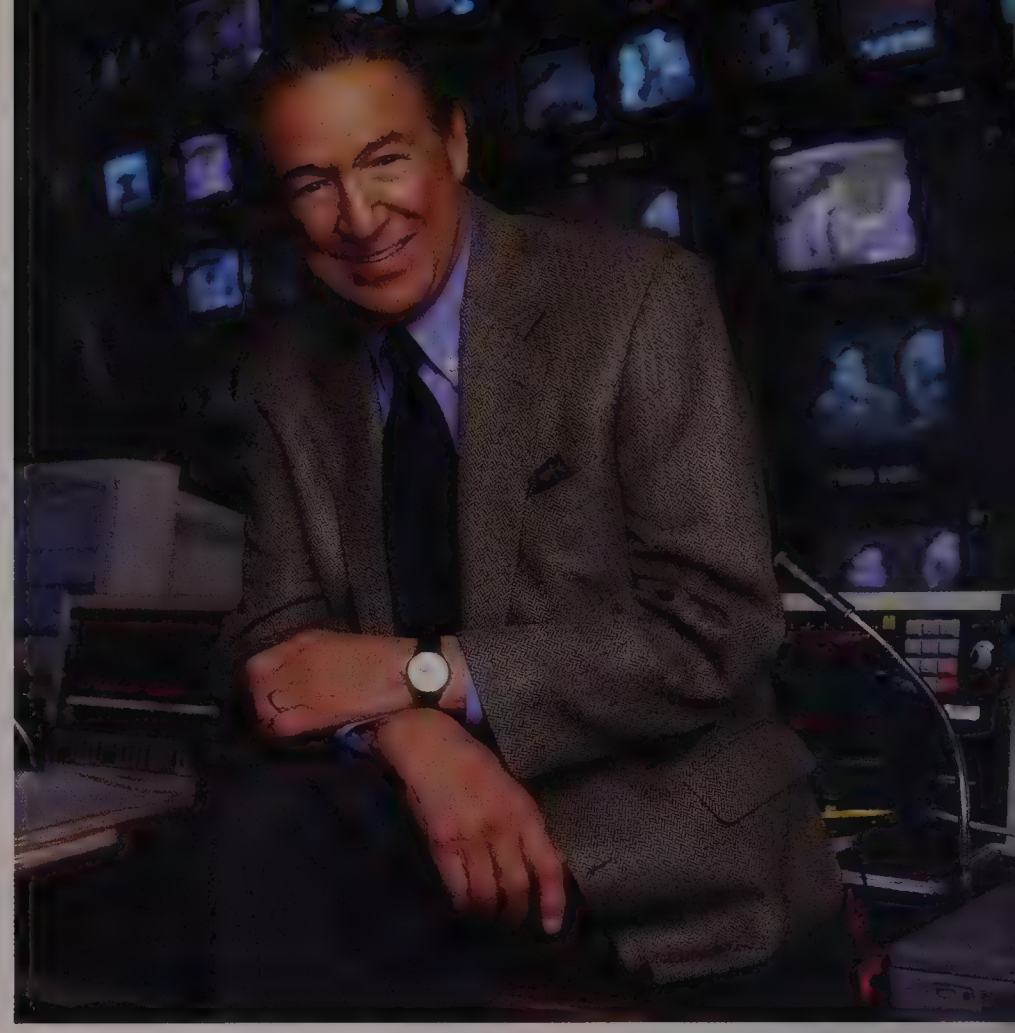
MIKE WALLACE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

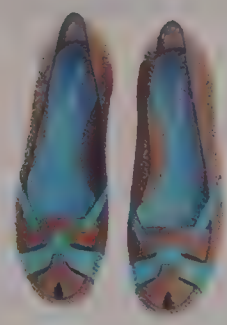


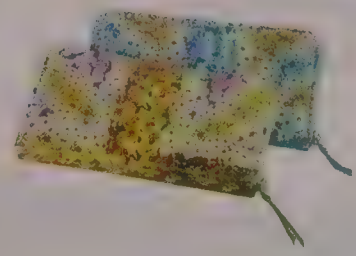
Iconic TV newsman Mike Wallace, co-editor of *60 Minutes* and a correspondent for CBS since the days when it was known as the "Tiffany network," was born in Brookline in 1918. After graduating from Brookline High, he earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan in 1939. During the 1940s, he was a news writer and broadcaster for the Chicago *Sun*'s radio outlet before serving as a naval communications officer during World War II. He later became a news reporter for Chicago radio station WMAQ and first joined CBS in 1951. Wallace has been co-editor of *60 Minutes* since its premiere on September 24, 1968. During more than 40 years in the business, he's conducted his famous, no-holds-barred interviews with most of the major historical and political figures of the time. His newsmaking interview of the high-ranking tobacco executive turned whistle-blower Jeffrey Wigand was turned into a film, *The Insider*, and in 1998, Wallace scored one of the year's biggest scoops by becoming the only reporter to accompany U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan to Iraq. In 2003, he received a Lifetime Achievement Emmy, which marked his 20th Emmy award. He has a son, Chris, and a daughter, Pauline, and lives in New York and Martha's Vineyard with his wife, Mary Yates.

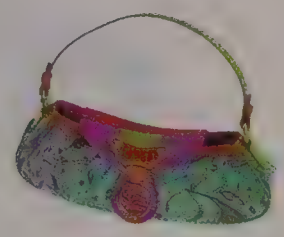
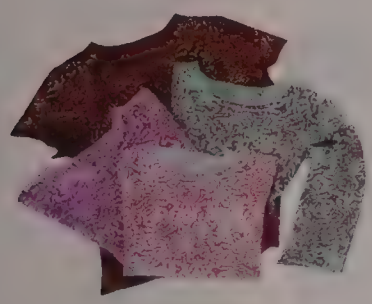
Jonathan Soroff: *Has journalism as a profession lost the respect it deserves?*
Mike Wallace: Hmm. Good question. It's beginning to.
JS: *Do you see a lessening of standards from the time you started out?*
MW: Hell, yes.
JS: *CNN or Fox?*
MW: CNN, although my son works for Fox, so I do watch it. Also, [Fox chief] Roger Ailes is a friend of mine. But for me, I'm old-fashioned, and CNN does it for me.
JS: *Is the current state of journalism in America healthy?*
MW: The fact of the matter is that certain stories are overcovered out the gazoo. We're talking television news (at least as far as I'm concerned) and we are slaves to the 18-to-49 demo.
JS: *One story from your career you felt most unprepared to cover?*
MW: [Laughs.] I'm sure there have been many, but I'd say Spiro Agnew.
JS: *In what way?*
MW: Well, what is a Spiro Agnew?
JS: *[Laughs.] Biggest bluff you ever pulled in a professional situation?*
MW: I'm sure I did, but I'm damned if I can remember a specific instance. I guess probably when I talked to the Ayatollah Khomeini during the hostage crisis.

THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT CERTAIN STORIES ARE OVERCOVERED OUT THE GAZOO WE ARE SLAVES TO THE 18 TO 49 DEMO

JS: *Do you think comparisons between the Vietnam and Iraq wars are fair?*
MW: No. The fact of the matter is that I don't think we were lied to as much in Vietnam as we have been about Iraq.
JS: *Is there a time that you remember truly fearing for your life on assignment?*
MW: The only time that I ever was physically in danger, I think, was when I was working on a story in Iran, and I got into a political fight with an Iranian colonel. I was seriously thinking he was going to kill me. He actually threatened to kill me. So that was probably the worst.
JS: *Any story you regret?*
MW: Sure. Overkill. I can remember doing a story about the president of a chemical company that I was ashamed to watch on the air. After it got through the whole process—everybody here had seen the damn thing, the story was done—but by the time the piece was half over, the story was told, and for whatever reason, I have no idea why, I kept going. And it was simply overkill, and I was ashamed.
JS: *Is there any such thing as journalistic objectivity?*
MW: Sure there is. Hell yes! It isn't that you don't have biases, but if you're a professional, you can be objective.
JS: *Any trick to taking your personal emotions out of it?*
MW: A good editor.
JS: *I imagine there have been plenty, but name one person in public life whom you had to hide your contempt or dislike for to do your job?*
MW: Well, the guy that I least liked was [Israeli prime minister] Menachem Begin. He was, in my estimation, stuffy, self-righteous, humorless.
JS: *What's worse than humorless? So if I were you, I would ban the sound of clocks in my house. Doesn't the sound of "tick, tick, tick" drive you crazy?*
MW: No. It's the sound of going to the bank.
JS: *How did you feel about Christopher Plummer's portrayal of you in* The Insider*?*
MW: It was typecasting. [Chuckles.] You know—good-looking, cultivated…
JS: *[Laughs.] British accent?*
MW: Exactly.
JS: *Most impressive U.S. president you ever met, or the one who made you think, "It's a good thing this guy's in charge."*
MW: Aaaaah...despite all….probably Bill Clinton.
JS: *Most evil dictator?*
MW: That I talked to?
JS: *Yeah. Bill Clinton?*
MW: [Laughs.] No.
JS: *OK, who most intimidated you?*
MW: Saddam Hussein. The force of his personality. Kofi Annan took me with him to meet him, so I got fairly close. He [Annan] had gone there to try to defuse things, and I simply did not like Hussein. There was something in his manner.
JS: *Which are you more proud of—your 20 Emmys or the Fred Friendly First Amendment award from Quinnipiac University?*
MW: With an Emmy award, you've got to nominate yourself. You've got to pay to be considered. It's fool's gold.
JS: *What professional achievement are you most proud of?*
MW: 37 years of *60 Minutes*.
JS: *One thing I'd be surprised to learn about Barbara Walters?*
MW: Well, as far as I'm concerned, she's a helluva lady. She's smart. She's capable, determined, and, I'd imagine, lonely.
JS: *How about something people would be surprised to learn about you?*
MW: That I'm a compassionate reporter. You know, people always said I was tough, and they called me "the Terrible Torquemada," and in fact, I'm sympathetic.
JS: *A pussycat?*
MW: Yeah, of a sort. I can be had.
JS: *Really? How does one tickle your whiskers?*
MW: [Chuckles.] I'm a lousy guy to ask that. You might try asking my colleagues.
JS: *Greatest lesson you learned at Brookline High School?*
MW: In retrospect, I had such a damned good time there, and it was a wonderful education. I just loved Brookline High. And it's even better now.
JS: *Here's an easy question: Is Martha's Vineyard God's own backyard?*
MW: You're damn right.
JS: *And what about Nantucket?*
MW: It's a sand spit.
JS: *Last question: Brokaw, Rather, Koppel—everyone of your generation seems to be retiring. Any plans to hang it up?*
MW: I wouldn't know what else to do. Seriously, I'm about to be 87…
JS: *Wow!*
MW: That's correct. Exactly the way I feel about it. But I simply love to work, and I don't know what I'd do if I didn't. IB





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THE BEAUTY ISSUE

nce again, our annual Beauty Issue brings you the lowdown on the year's best looks. Beauty editor Samantha House kicks it off with a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the makeup trends that made a splash at New York's Fashion Week and tips for updating your own hair and makeup this spring with the latest colors and styles. Two product guides focus on the shampoos, balms, moisturizers and more that can take the panic out of any beauty emergency—and deliver bang for the buck. Finally, IMPROPER staffer Leslie Kilgore surveys Boston guys and gals to find out just what looks they go for.

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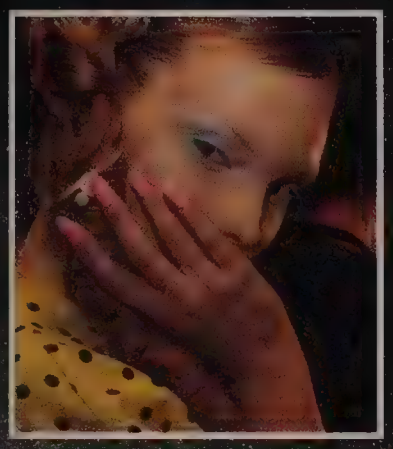

LIVE FROM NY

FOR A FRESH-FACED LOOK THIS SPRING, TAKE YOUR CUES FROM FASHION WEEK'S SPARKLIEST GEMS

SMALL PHOTOGRAPHS: BRIAN SILVERSTEIN; LARGE PHOTOGRAPHS: CANNONIERI & FORTIS FOR MAC

In February at New York's Fashion Week, I was lucky enough to get an all-access pass to follow the MAC Pro team of makeup artists around the shows for an early glimpse of this spring's beauty trends.

If the season has a unifying theme, it's color. On eyes, vibrant blues, pinks, purples and yellows ruled the day. Makeup artists paired these bright colors for drama on the runway—applying them with a light hand, for a sheer, sorbet-like effect, or with a heavy hand for megawatt hues. Even mascara took a turn for the colorful, either matching or contrasting with eye shadow.

Meanwhile, lips ran the gamut from nude to super-brights like pinks and corals. Styles were mostly matte but very sheer, and when gloss was used, it was laid on lightly and had a see-through quality.

Blush sparkled with shimmer to create a flattering, natural-looking highlight. Once again, sorbet colors prevailed, and the subtle shine gave the effect of glowing skin.

You might think all these colors would clash or compete, but somehow it worked. Everything was so sheer, it looked like spring was blooming all around, with the season's fresh colors reflecting on the skin.

Away from the runways, the key to finding your look this spring is to choose a color that inspires you and have fun with it. —*Samantha House*

BRONZE GODDESS
MAKEUP
A golden glow keeps you looking naturally radiant.
HAIR
Reveal natural bouncing curls with a diffuser.
ON BARBARA
Flame eye mousse; All Over Shimmer Eyes #2; Shade 1 bronzer; Praline lip glaze. All by Stila.
Sterling silver and carnelian three-strand necklace, $400 at Long's Jewelers.
HAIR AND MAKE-UP TAKE A TURN FOR THE SIMPLE THIS SEASON WITH PRETTY COLORS FOR EYES AND LIPS AND SLEEK OR FULL LOOKS FOR YOUR LOCKS.
THE ELEMENTS OF
BEAUTY
PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY MATTHEW JORDAN SMITH

AQUA-DISIAC

MAKEUP

Seduce in brightly colored eyes complemented by a wash of peach on cheeks and lips.

HAIR

Think Sophia Loren and try big round curls and tons of body.

ON JOY

355 eye shadow duo, 639 blush, 161 lip gloss, 025 Mambo Pink lipstick. All by Dior. Swimmer's gown by Carolina Herrera, $2,990 at Neiman Marcus.

PRETTY IN PINK

MAKEUP

Go ultra-feminine with shades of pink on cheeks, lips and eyes.

HAIR

Make a strong part, and slick hair straight back to a bun for a sophisticated après-beach look.

ON BARBARA

No. 24 Air eye shadow, Tabou eye shadow, No. 60 Be-Bop blush, Infrarouge lipstick, No. 60 Satinette Glossimer lip gloss. All by Chanel Cosmetics.
Pink and white dress by Milly, $311 at Neiman Marcus. Sterling silver, 18 karat gold, pink quartz and diamond heart necklace by Judith Ripka, $600; matching earrings, $1,050. Both at Long's Jewelers.

Eyes stand out and invite stares with metallic shimmer.

Opt for large curls at the end of a straight look to channel the sexy '70s.

Silverstroke Fluidline eyeliner, Electra eye shadow, Peachiness/Blushbaby blush duo, Flutterby lipstick. All by MAC. Lavender chiffon dress by BCBG Max Azria Collection, $640 at BCBG Max Azria.

BERRY BRIGHT

MAKEUP

Strong, berry-colored lips and subdued eyes make for a playful spring.

HAIR

Forget low ponytails and opt for a higher version with a little texture at the top.

ON BARBARA

All About Eve eye shadow duo, Montenegro cream blush, Damned lip pencil, Russian Doll lipstick, Boogie Nights lip gloss. All by Nars.
Button-down top, $145 at DKNY.
Sterling pave heart necklace, $1,200; matching earrings, $550. Both by Scott Kay, at Long's Jewelers.

MODELS: Joy for Click, New York; Barbara for Ford Models
HAIR: Mitch Derosa for Mitchell John Salon
MAKEUP: Jenny Brown

BCBG Max Azria, 71 Newbury St., 617-536-7182; DKNY, 37 Newbury St., 617-236-0476; Long's Jewelers, 40 Summer St., 617-426-4862; Neiman Marcus, Copley Place, 617-369-5000

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rescue me!

HAIR CARE

1. KIEHL'S CREME WITH SILK GROOM
$29.50 at Kiehl's (8 oz. bottle), 617-247-1777
A favorite of celebrities such as Jennifer Aniston and Gwen Stefani, this cream smooths any hair type to shiny perfection and won't weigh it down.

2. KERASTASE VOLUMACTIVE SPRAY
$29 at Gretta Cole, 617-266-6166
Spray on to protect hair from the harmful heat of styling, while boosting volume.

3. CURLFRIENDS TAME SMOOTHING SERUM
$15 at www.curlfriends.com
For those blessed with curly locks, this anti-frizz serum is perfect for taming flyaways.

4. KERASTASE SHAMPOOS AND CONDITIONERS
$24-$31 at G Spa, 617-267-4772
Whether you're looking to heal dry brittle hair or thicken thin hair, Kerastase's products are worth the splurge, providing the perfect balance of moisture and body.

5. AVEDA COLOR CONDITIONER
$13 at Aveda, 617-720-4222
Need a color boost between trips to the salon? Aveda's Color Conditioners restore just a hint of what you lost down the drain, without damaging your hair.

6. BUMBLE AND BUMBLE PREP
$14 at James Joseph Salon, 617-266-7222
You have five minutes and need to look like you spent an hour on your hair. Spray on Prep to dampen, and style as usual. It has light conditioners to soften the hair and also helps get rid of unwanted oil at the roots.

7. BUMBLE AND BUMBLE HAIR POWDER
$27 at Mitchell John Salon, 617-951-0122
Daily washing can dry hair and cause breakage—a problem especially when you're trying to grow it out. If you're shampooing less frequently, you can keep hair looking clean with Bumble's powder. When applied to your roots, it magically absorbs excess oil. It comes in four colors—so admirers will never know it's there.

8. PANTENE PRO-V CLASSIC HAIRSPRAY
$3.99 at drugstores
This classic spray holds while allowing movement, so you won't look like a tacky anchorwoman from the '90s. And the light fragrance won't overpower your perfume.

9. SAHAG REVITALIZING DROPS
$24 at Maksou Salon, 617-443-8633
When your hair looks dull, turn to Sahag's drops—they're all you need to finish off curly, straight, fine or thick tresses. A dime-size dot warmed up in the palm of your hand makes your locks as shiny as a freshly waxed BMW.

10. PHYTO PHYTOCITRUS VITAL RADIANCE MASK FOR COLOR-TREATED OR PERMED HAIR
$36 at James Joseph Salon, 617-266-7222
Phyto's mask offers a cure for seriously overprocessed hair. Use up to twice a week on damaged hair to repair and to prevent further breakage.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN

SKIN CARE

1. KIEHL'S ULTRA FACIAL MOISTURIZER
4 oz.- $28 at Kiehl's, 617-247-1777
As basic as moisturizers come, this lotion has no color or fragrance and works for most skin types. If you have sensitive skin, this will most likely be your favorite product.

2. VICHY FACIAL EXFOLIANT
$28 at drugstores
Just the thing for clearing the pores when your complexion needs deep cleaning, this dense scrub leaves you feeling cleansed and fresh.

3. EXHALE 28 DAY SKIN CARE TRANSFORMATION
$70 at Exhale Mind Body Spa, 617-532-7011
After a long winter, the best thing you can do to brighten dull skin is get rid of the first couple of layers and start over. Swipe Exhale's pads drenched with low-level acid peel and neutralizer over your face every night for 28 days, and you'll end up with a gorgeous glow.

4. CELLEX-C BETAPLEX SMOOTH SKIN
$59 at Splash Spa in the Sports Club/LA, 617-375-8200
This deeply penetrating cream with vitamin C sloughs away dead skin and super-hydrates to make your skin radiant.

5. LA MER EYE BALM
$120 at Saks Fifth Avenue, 617-262-8500
It's true that La Mer has a cult following to rival the Olsen twins, but which product is worth the small fortune you'll have to shell out? The Eye Balm is it. This amazing cream dramatically reduces fine lines and wrinkles in the eye area as well as bothersome dark circles.

6. ORIGINS CLEAR IMPROVEMENT MASK
$18.50 at Filene's, 617-357-2100
Here's your quick fix if you've got stubborn blackheads but no time for a facial. Just slap on this thick mask, wait 15 minutes and scrub off with a washcloth. The active charcoal makes it effective. Your skin will be clearer and smoother.

7. KIEHL'S IMPERIALE REPAIRATEUR TREATMENT LINE FORMULA "MM" MOISTURIZING MASQUE
2.5 oz.- $37.50 at Kiehl's, 617-247-1777
In Boston's harsh climate, most of us could use a little extra hydration to stay young looking. This mask drenches skin with moisture. Just layer it on thick and watch as your face drinks it in. Tissue it off if you're like the Sahara; otherwise, rinse.

8. CETAPHIL GENTLE SKIN CLEANSER
$9.99 at drugstores
Recommended by dermatologists, this is the gentlest of all cleansers. If you have sensitive skin, or just haven't been so good to your face lately, it works miracles, and though developed for very dry skin, it works on all skin types. (The same can't be said for Cetaphil's moisturizer, however—that one's for very dry skin only.)

9. DIOR SMOOTH-AWAY WRINKLE TREATMENT
$39 at Sephora, 617-262-4200
Bye-bye crow's feet. This five-minute treatment sends a surge of moisture to your eye area for a fix that's both quick and long-lasting. Use once a week for optimal results.

10. CHANEL EYE PATCH TOTAL
$65 at Saks Fifth Avenue, 617-262-8500
The sculpted eye mask delivers a cocktail of powerful ingredients that tone, revive and brighten the eye area. Great for days when you need a little pick-me-up.

11. SONYA DAKAR OMEGA-3 REPAIR COMPLEX
$35 at Exhale Mind Body Spa, 617-532-7011
If you have a problem with redness, try applying this complex before you moisturize. It smooths and softens and calms red skin.

THE SMART GIRL'S GUIDE TO SPENDING

ARE YOU A BRAND-NAME JUNKIE, OR DO YOU JUST WANT PRODUCTS THAT WORK? WE TESTED SOME DRUGSTORE BEAUTY ITEMS AND COMPARED THEM WITH SIMILAR DEPARTMENT STORE FINDS. SPLURGE ACCORDINGLY.

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN

1

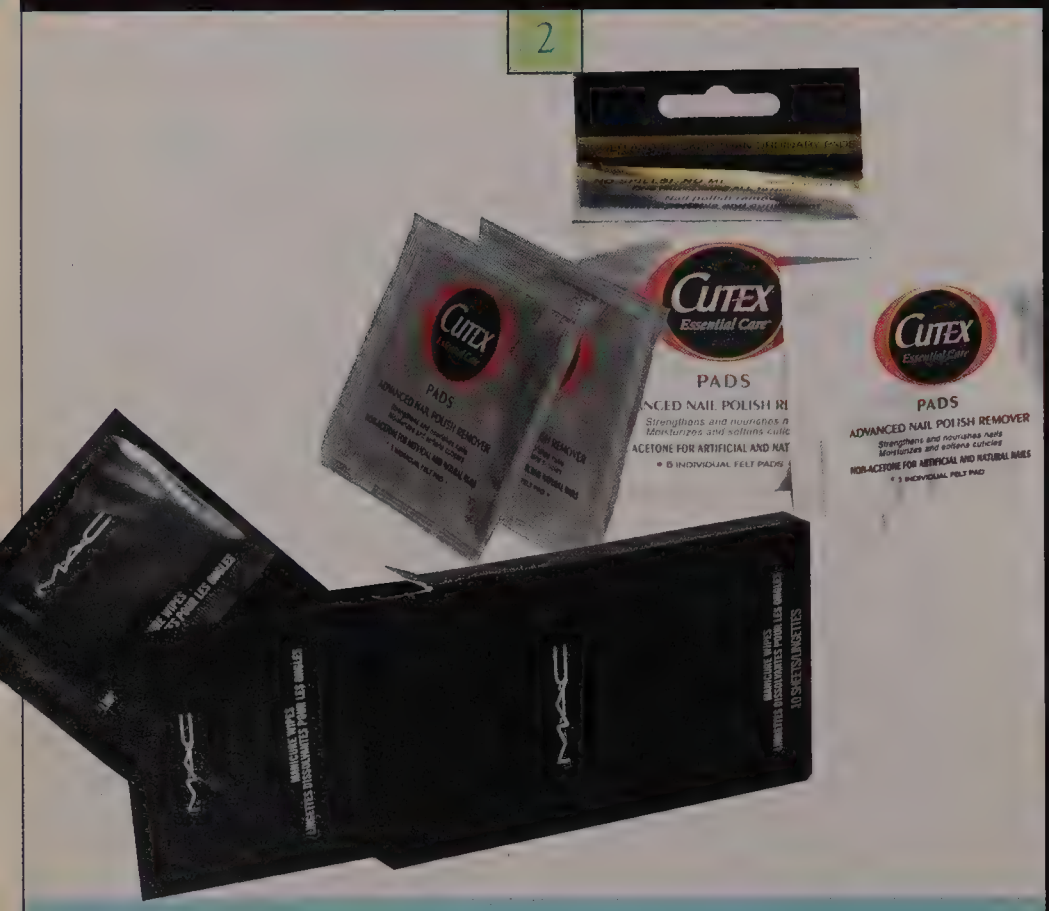
L'OREAL SUBLIME BRONZE SELF-TANNING TOWELETTES, $9.99

VS.

ESTÉE LAUDER SUN PERFORMANCE SELF TAN GO TAN, $28

These products are similar right down to the packaging. The ingredients aren't an exact match, but the results are pretty much the same. If you have medium coloring naturally, you'll need only one application with either product. If you're fair-skinned, a double dose gives you a beautiful, natural-looking glow. At a third the price, the L'Oreal's a find.

2



CUTEX ESSENTIAL CARE ADVANCED NAIL POLISH REMOVER PADS, $3.69

VS.

MAC MANICURE WIPES, $8.50

Both products effectively remove all the polish—even in the sometimes hard-to-get-at corners. In the end, however, the Cutex wipes are a lot more drying than the MAC ones. The extra few dollars are worth it, especially if you travel frequently and like the added convenience of single-serve.

3

MAX FACTOR LIPFINITY EVERLIGHTS ALL-DAY LIP COLOR, $11.99

VS.

CHANEL ROUGE DOUBLE INTENSITE, $30

Though Max Factor has a much larger color selection, the Chanel product is a better buy in the long run because it holds more moisture in the lips. The Max Factor version seems to dry lips out almost instantly.

4

WET SHINE DIAMONDS BY MAYBELLINE, $6.49

VS.

DIOR ULTRA SHINE SHEER LIP COLOR, $23

Both lipsticks use bits of glitter to simulate high shine. The glitter in Maybelline's product is smaller and subtler, while Dior's lipstick is packed with more of it. If you're looking for big effect, splurge on the Dior.

5

REVLON LASH CURLER, $5.49

VS.

SHU UEMURA LASH CURLER, $16.50

The only difference between these two lash curlers seems to be longevity. When new, they do an equal job of curling the lashes. Upon closer inspection, it's clear the Shu Uemura curler is better made and will last longer. With the Revlon, you'll be buying a new one in six months to a year.

6

L'OREAL COLOUR JUICE, $7.49

VS.

LANCÔME JUICY TUBES, $16

The only difference between these products is the color selection, so if you can find a shade you like, save some bucks and opt for the L'Oreal

7

REVLON SKINLIGHTS INSTANT SKIN BRIGHTENER, $13.93

VS.

ORIGINS HALO EFFECT, $16

I prefer Revlon's skin brightener to Origins' version. It absorbs more deeply into the skin, for a more natural dewy look, while Origins' product produces a bright, almost oily-looking, high-watt shine.

HEAD-TO-TOE HOTTIES

WHAT LOOKS GET BOSTON BOYS AND GIRLS ALL FIRED UP? WE TOOK A POLL TO FIND OUT.

BY LESLIE KILGORE

Take note ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls: The features that turn Boston singles on and get heads swiveling and eyes popping may surprise you. But then again, we're not Southern California, where medically enhanced chests and reengineered teeth are as ubiquitous as palm trees and smoothie stands. We're not the Midwest, where blondes always have more fun. And we're certainly not New York—looks-obsessed, high-maintenance fashionistas need not apply here.

But if you're sporty, preppy or even edgy, with perfect hair; if you've got a body like Brad Pitt, Nicole Kidman or Kate Hudson; if your shoulders are as broad as Tom Brady's or your backside's as perfect as J Lo's, then according to our informal survey of about a hundred twenty- and thirtysomethings, you've got an appreciative audience here in Beantown—and possibly an edge over the competition. And remember, even if your beauty résumé includes none of the above, a killer smile is what Boston men and women respond to the most. So work those pearly whites for all they're worth.

WE KNOW WHAT BOYS LIKE

IDEAL HEIGHT

5'3" and under: 4%
5'4": 19%
5'5": 11%
5'6": 30%
5'7": 11%
5'8": 13%
5'10" and up: 12%

BUILD

Pamela Anderson: 9%
Nicole Kidman: 38%
Drew Barrymore: 18%
Kate Hudson: 35%

EYE COLOR

Blue: 40%
Brown/black: 15%
Gray: 0%
Hazel: 9%
Green: 36%

HAIR COLOR

Blonde: 29%
Brown: 44%
Black: 23%
Red: 4%
Gray/salt-and-pepper: 0%

HAIRSTYLE

Long: 43%
Short: 0%
Shoulder-length: 57%
Pixie: 0%
Hipster do: 0%

MOST IMPORTANT FACIAL FEATURE

High cheekbones: 11%
Killer smile: 53%
Straight white teeth: 11%
Full lips: 9%
Dimples: 2%
Pretty eyes: 9%
Other responses: 5%

MOST IMPORTANT BODY FEATURE

Cute butt: 28%
Ample chest: 21%
Small waist: 3%
Shapely legs: 11%
Flat stomach: 26%
Hourglass figure: 11%

MAKEUP

Movie star glam: 5%
Noticeable but not overdone: 27%
Just a touch: 52%
None/natural: 16%

STYLE

Preppy: 19%
Executive: 4%
Sporty: 33%
Edgy/hipster: 17%
Fashionista/trendy: 17%
Bohemian: 5%
Other responses ("tomboy," "punk"): 5%

WE KNOW WHAT GIRLS WANT

IDEAL HEIGHT

5'9" and under: 8%
5'10": 9%
5'11": 11%
6': 36%
6'1": 22%
6'2": 6%
6'3": 4%
6'4" and up: 4%

BUILD

Brad Pitt: 77%
Topher Grace: 23%
Jim Belushi: 0%
The Rock: 0%

EYE COLOR

Blue: 56%
Brown/black: 15%
Gray: 5%
Hazel: 13%
Green: 11%

HAIR COLOR

Blond: 17%
Brown: 78%
Black: 5%
Red: 0%
Gray/salt-and-pepper: 0%

HAIRSTYLE

Crew cut: 15%
Executive: 53%
Shoulder-length: 0%
Long: 4%
Hipster do: 22%
Other responses ("tousled"): 6%

MOST IMPORTANT FACIAL FEATURE

High cheekbones: 2%
Killer smile: 60%
Straight, white teeth: 11%
Strong chin: 4%
Strong jaw: 14%
Dimples: 4%
Other responses: 5%

MOST IMPORTANT BODY FEATURE

Cute butt: 14%
Big biceps: 8%
Muscled chest: 12%
Broad shoulders: 38%
Athletic legs: 16%
Six-pack: 4%
Nice hands: 4%
Other responses: 4%

CHEST HAIR

None: 46%
Sparse: 52%
Forest: 2%

STYLE

Preppy: 32%
Executive: 11%
Sporty: 15%
Edgy/hipster: 29%
Bohemian: 4%
Other responses ("punk," "outdoorsy"): 9%

PHOTOGRAPHS: SHANNON MOFFITT AND CAT HORTON

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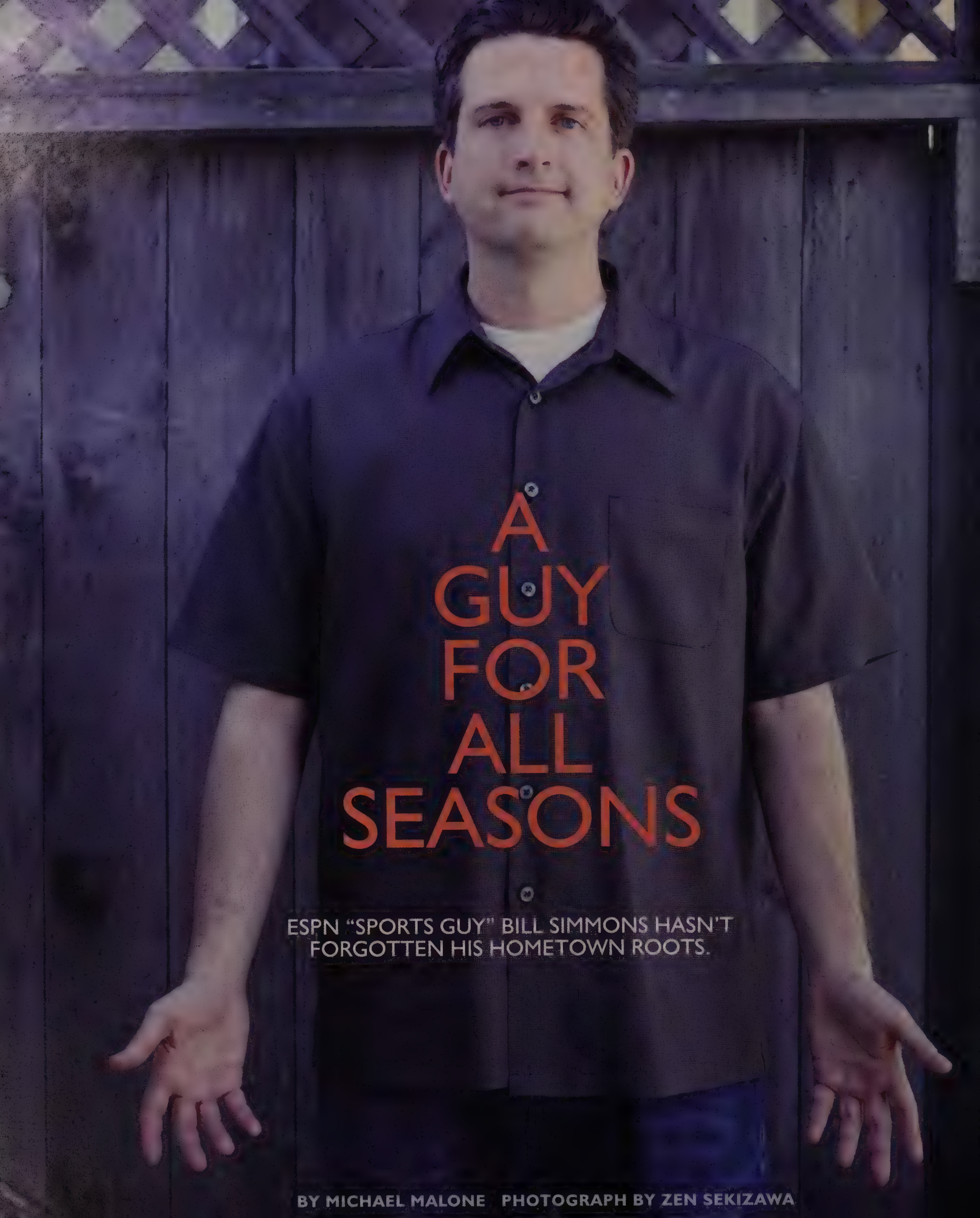


A GUY FOR ALL SEASONS

ESPN "SPORTS GUY" BILL SIMMONS HASN'T FORGOTTEN HIS HOMETOWN ROOTS.

BY MICHAEL MALONE PHOTOGRAPH BY ZEN SEKIZAWA

Without Bill Simmons, the Boston-bred scribe better known as "The Sports Guy" at ESPN, the world might be a richer place.

It's frightening to think just how much one man can affect America's gross national product. Think about the legions of cubicle rats who read Simmons' online column—breathless rants that meander for thousands of words before coming around to a perfectly crystallized point—their collective mouse poised to click on actual work should the boss happen by. It adds up.

Then again, the world is far richer with Simmons to look forward to every day. For even the most eloquent citizen of Red Sox Nation, there were no words to describe what it felt like to watch Doug Mientkiewicz put the squeeze on that fateful toss from Keith Foulke on that fateful October night. Yet Simmons nailed it, as he always seems to:

"Outsiders made up fake curses, called us losers, pointed to a legacy of failure, questioned our sanity," he wrote. "We kept hoping. We kept the faith. We kept passing this team down from generation to generation, hoping it would be worth it. And it was."

Until Simmons came along, there was nothing like the Sports Guy in the ink-stained history of sportswriting. No writer does a better job of playing the guy next to you in the bar, burping up Bud while chatting about the local teams. If Everyman had a smarter, funnier brother with a bottomless reservoir of sports knowledge and Gen X pop culture minutia, that'd be Simmons. Call him Everyfan: His column appeals to mouth-breathing mooks and sabermetric sophisticates alike, as long as they're on Simmons' wavelength.

Before there was the Sports Guy—and years before anyone had dreamed up the word "blog"—there was the Boston Sports Guy and an unlikely blogs-to-riches story. The Brookline native wrote a column called "The Ramblings" for *The Crusader* while at Holy Cross and was on the traditional sportswriter's career path. After getting a master's in print journalism at BU, he covered high school sports for the *Herald*, all the while realizing the life of a young beat writer was, well, pretty beat.

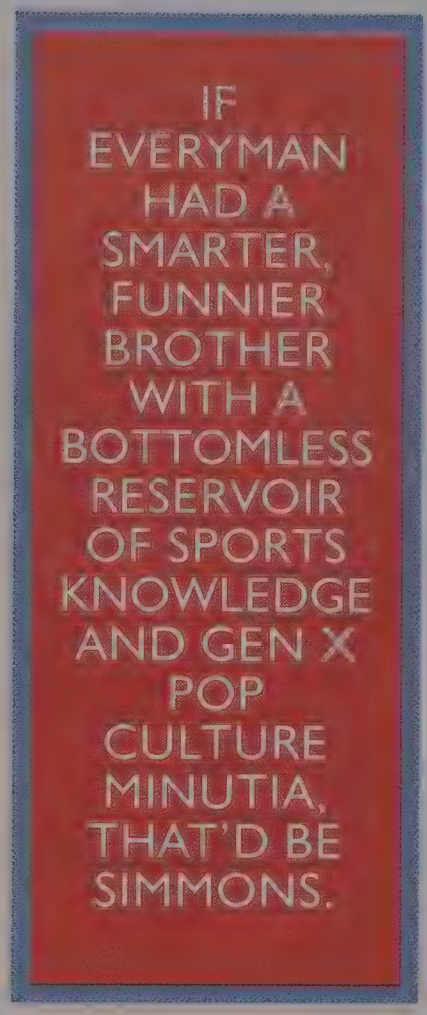
"There was no way to break into the biz no matter how good you were," Simmons says. "You either had to know someone or pay your dues for like 12 years so you had the chance to be the backup beat writer for the Bruins when you were 35."

So Simmons quit the paper to work as a bartender and threw his creative energy into BostonSportsGuy.com, which he launched in 1997. Free from the shackles of editors, column inches and the rules of conventional journalism, Simmons wrote about the Sox, Pats, Celtics and Bruins like a rookie ballplayer on Red Bull. Before long, his distinctive "everything, including the kitchen sink" style established a cult following.

By 2001, ESPN had caught wind of Simmons' work and brought him on board for the fledgling Page 2 section of its Web site, where columnists offer up essays, heavy on opinion and humor, tied to current sports happenings. "Bill has a unique eye that allows him to view something (a sporting event, a TV show) from a variety of different angles," says his editor at ESPN.com, Kevin Jackson. "He can watch a TV commercial and then write a 2,000-word piece on it, and in that piece, he'll point out five thoughts that you had while watching that commercial on your couch. And you didn't even realize that you had experienced those thoughts. It's uncanny. It looks easy, but it's really incredibly difficult."

The only catch with Simmons' new high-profile gig was that the Boston Sports Guy had to drop the Boston and focus on a national market. While his most impassioned writing continues to be inspired by the local teams, Simmons says he regularly hears from Bostonians who feel he sold out. "I don't blame them," he concedes. "But I had done that BSG gimmick for four years, and wanted to see if I could appeal to people beyond New England."

He appealed, alright. Before long, printouts of the Sports Guy were lining men's room stall floors throughout corporate America. He rapidly emerged as the most popular columnist on Page 2, at one point receiving some 700 e-mails per day. (The site actually removed the direct e-mail link from Simmons' page to cut down on the traffic.) Recognizing a young star in the making, ESPN gave Simmons a column in its print magazine and his own page on the Web site, featuring, among other things, a cartoon in which his animated likeness indulges in various sporting shenanigans. Currently, he gets more than half a million unique visitors each month, and earlier this year, when he started a contest to select a new intern, almost 5,000 people e-mailed essays before ESPN shut down that link too.



They sent him to Super Bowls ("The Pats just won the [2002] Super Bowl, we were celebrating in New Orleans, and we were belting out the lyrics to 'The Greatest American Hero.' Some moments you just don't forget. I'm not ashamed to admit that this was one of the five or six happiest days of my life," he wrote.) and NBA All-Star Games ("My favorite part about Denver was seeing some of the people who lived there—you know, those laid-back guys you went to high school with, the ones who played hacky-sack, followed the Dead around, smoked tons of pot and took eight years to graduate from college. Now they're wandering around downtown wearing 'Peace' T-shirts, sipping from a Jamba Juice and wondering how they can find the dude who stole their skis."). He detailed a game of P-I-G with Shaq ("Then I pull out an old classic—the 12-foot bank shot from my knees—and nail it for the 'Pele's bicycle kick in *Victory*' moment of the contest.") and his 250th viewing of *Hoosiers* ("Hackman and Hershey just had the most awkward, uncomfortable kissing scene in movie history, even worse than Michael Caine and Christopher Reeve French-kissing in *Deathtrap*."). Suddenly, the rest of America had a new best buddy to discuss last night's game with.

Given the synergistic might of ESPN/ABC/Disney, it's not hard to imagine *The Sports Guy—The Sitcom* coming down the pike. But don't count on it. While Simmons, 34, did spend 18 months writing for *Jimmy Kimmel Live* after the late-night funnyman, a Sports Guy fan, recruited him to come to LA, he doesn't crave the camera.

"I never wanted to be one of those guys who's screaming out opinions on Terrell Owens on 20 different shows," says Simmons, who stayed in West Hollywood with his wife after quitting the Kimmel show. "I'd rather pick my spots and concentrate on things I'm good at."

While many so called "dream jobs" turn out to be anything but—video game testers, for example, periodically develop carpal tunnel syndrome—Simmons admits he's got a plum deal. "I get to choose my own columns, and I don't have to deal with evil copy editors at newspapers who start slamming me the moment I leave the room," he says. "What's better than that?"

Yet not everyone in the press box appreciates Simmons' success. Sportswriter Dan Shaughnessy declined to comment for this article, but his *Globe* colleague Bob Ryan offered this: "Simmons is a great writing talent, but it's very easy to do it his way. He's not in the locker room forging relationships, he's not accountable to anyone. It's not so easy to do it our way."

So be it. Simmons will take on the old guard with his first book, an as-yet untitled homage to, yup, the Sox that's due out around Christmas. "I just hope it's 20 times more entertaining than Shaughnessy's new book," he says. "Anything less than 20 times, and I'm going to be disappointed."

With much of his family still in Boston, Simmons is planning several trips home this summer, splitting time between Section 116 at Fenway and a stool at the Baseball Tavern. He's guardedly optimistic about the Sox' chance to repeat. "I like the nucleus of solid guys—Ortiz, Renteria, Foulke, Damon, Manny, Schilling," he says. "No superduperstars, but a ton of All Star–caliber players—maybe the most we've ever had."

Regardless of how the team fares this season, Simmons, like the rest of Red Sox Nation, has the stifling weight of the Bambino lifted off his chest. The morning after the Series wrapped, he spoke for all the fans, as only the Boston Sports Guy can:

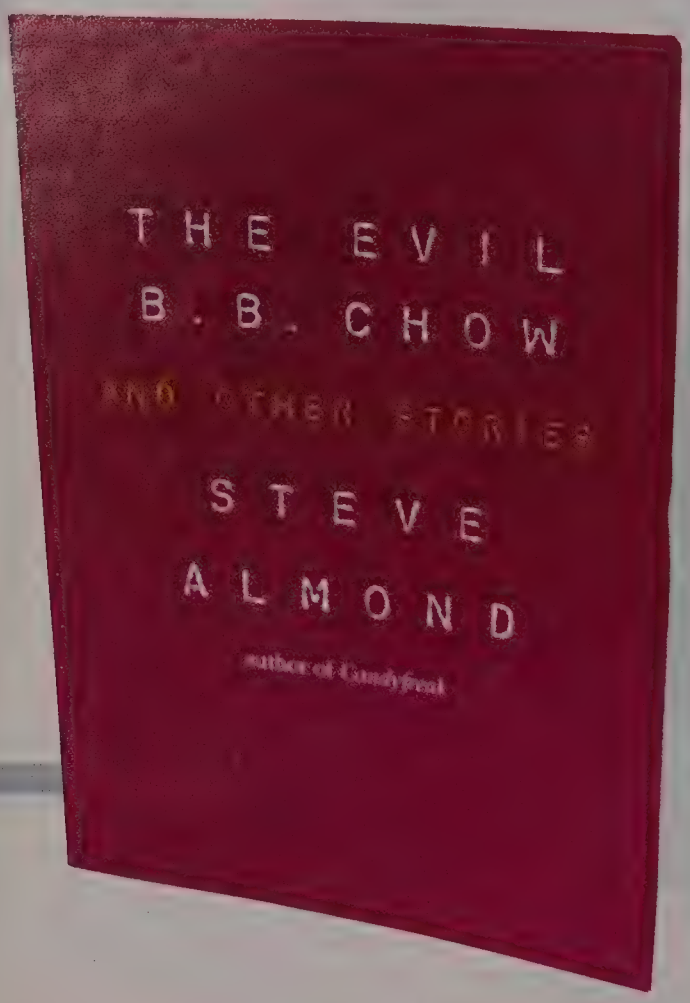
"We're like those ugly contestants who show up on *The Swan*, get fifty grand worth of plastic surgery, then start sobbing in front of a full-length mirror when they see themselves," he wrote. "That's every Red Sox fan now. Eighty-six years, wiped away. Just like that." iB

Michael Malone is a New York–based writer whose work has appeared in the New York Times, Playboy, *the* Village Voice *and* Details. *He loathes the Yankees, loves the Mets, and appreciates the Sox that much more since marrying into a Boston family last year.*

MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



SEX, SPACE AND ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Steve Almond, Somerville resident, Boston College creative writing teacher and author of *Candyfreak: A Journey through the Chocolate Underbelly of America*, releases a new short-story collection, *The Evil B.B. Chow*, April 22.

Everyone knows that the Candyman (aka Steve Almond) can expound on the thrilling particulars of chocolate, but that quirky gene of appreciation extends far beyond sweets. The stories in his new book are full of lyricism dashed with vinegar, and the characters who are swept along in that tide are often perverse in some arresting way. We find Abraham Lincoln in a surreal, dreamy voyage with Frederick Douglass, and Honest Abe is both dominated by and lovingly entwined with this former slave, as he broodingly forecasts his own death. A man whose wife died, leaving one daughter, finds his wife's wedding ring in their daughter's room. Swinging it on a strand of hair, he's interrupted by the girl—and the subtlest of hugs evokes their collective compressed history of love, sex, loss, teenage eroticism and middle-aged loneliness. Meat-eating vs. vegetarianism throws its symbolic weight into the mix. The wonderful masculine energy of Almond's writing keeps even the darkish stories funny, and the one about a man's forbearing politeness while meeting a friend's parents who believe they contain chips from space aliens—"the old cartridge in the head, the old implant-a-roony"—is laugh-out-loud funny. In another, a writing professor struggles to maintain his professionalism while a seductive student lets rip with her wildly sexy story about a horse.

CHIC EATS CHEZ VOUS

Cooking in the Kitchen offers home-cooking classes and home-catered meals. Call 978-853-1014 or visit www.foodwineandherbs.com.

Sean Pike leads an in-home cooking class.

Stay-homing pigeons will appreciate this no-trip-necessary variation on fine dining. Peggy and Sean Pike (he's a graduate of Johnson and Wales) will come to your house in one of their various culinary guises. They can teach a cooking class for you and up to 25 friends, bringing a basketful of fresh food, à la Little Red Riding Hood. Side by side with you, they'll coach and educate as you cook a custom-designed meal—involving, for instance, swordfish, soup and a dessert—to create a full, fancy spread. Or they'll serve smaller groups; one client called in the couple to make a meal for his marriage proposal. You can choose from about 17 dishes, including luscious spicy appetizers, that always emphasize freshness. Alternatively, the Pikes will make your place into a mini-restaurant for one evening—they bring the food, deck out the place with linen, fine china and flowers, serve you an elegant meal and even clean up afterwards. Blind wine tastings are another at-home possibility. When the earth gets squishy again, they'll instruct you on planting an herb garden, or a moon garden, all green-blue-silvery, including plants designed to repel bugs.

PUTTING THE HOSPITALITY IN HOSPITAL

Hospitality Homes provides a sympathetic place to stay, for free, to families of patients who come to Boston for medical treatments. Host families are needed (West Roxbury area, and no-stairs housing) and volunteer opportunities are available. Call 617-482-4338.

Sheryl Cotney opens up her Brookline home.

Boston's medical resources are world-famous—that's why more than 200,000 people come here each year to be treated at local hospitals. Obviously these visits are no vacation—they're stressful and prohibitively expensive. Touchingly, an organization called Hospitality Homes provides free lodging and comfort, through host families, to visiting loved ones of patients—and in some cases, to patients themselves. Some lodgings are diagnosis-specific, but Hospitality Homes welcomes the families of patients receiving treatment for any illness at any area hospital. (Most guests have a family member in a Boston facility, but Hospitality provides accommodations for families of patients as far away as Burlington's Lahey Clinic and the South Shore Medical Center.) Families tend to stay at least a few days, sometimes a week, and provide their own food and transportation. One man whose sight was restored stayed with a family whose children made him a birthday cake for his extraordinary eye-opening day. The sensitivity and kindness of another host family, Diane Butkus and husband Mark Bourbeau, who put up flags and make dishes from the visiting family's country, is well known, and the couple has made many friends of their grateful visitors. Guests have called the service "an inspiration" and "a life saver." One wrote, "You add kindness to the world."

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REVIEW

FRANKLY SUPERB

After a fitful start, Frank DePasquale's new Italian destination, Umbria, hits its stride.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Italy's Umbria region is bordered on the north by Tuscany and on the south by Latium, the province of Rome. Umbria's idyllic rolling hills and gentle mountains are associated with St. Francis, whose hometown of Assisi draws thousands of tourists every year. Boston's Umbria restaurant, inspired by the natural beauty and bounty of the peaceful Umbrian countryside, can at times transport the discriminating diner to raptures worthy of a St. Francis.

Umbria inhabits a multistory building on Franklin Street, the site of the former Il Panino. Restaurateur Frank DePasquale closed Il Panino to make way for the newest upscale addition to his collection of Italian restaurants in the city, and he's enlisted Marissa Iocco and Rita d'Angelo, passionate missionaries of authentic Italian cuisine, to manage (they also manage his Bricco, in the North End). Private dining and a nightclub occupy Umbria's upper levels, while its fine-dining venue graces the ground floor. A handsome brick wall with graceful arched openings separates the front of the dining room from the back, where an open kitchen, with a rotisserie filled with skewered chickens and other roast meats, catches the eye and stimulates the taste buds. A high ceiling with exposed beams supports large hanging light fixtures of marbled, off-white glass. A tall glass divider etched with the Umbria name and draped with a heavy red velvet throw shields the dining room from the restaurant's front entrance. If the tables, dressed with crisp white napery and oversized wine glasses, were just a little less crowded, this would be a very pleasant dining room.

Umbria opened its doors last fall. An early visit yielded a mediocre dining experience, with less-than-stellar food, fluctuating menu prices that were out of sync with the restaurant's Web site, and uneven service. Apparently my experience was not unique, and when word of customer dissatisfaction got back to the restaurant's management, changes were made. Iocco brought in a new chef de cuisine, d'Angelo helped mold the waitstaff into shape, and Umbria began to realize the potential implicit in Iocco's and d'Angelo's strong track record as local restaurateurs, dating back to their much loved Galleria Italiana.

Cozze *alla terracotta*—mussels, chickpea fritters and roasted-garlic tomato sauce

UMBRIA RISTORANTE
295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000)

HOURS Mon.–Fri., 11:30 am–2:30 pm; 5:30–11 pm; Sat., 5–11 pm
RESERVATIONS accepted
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING valet/street
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Excellent breads baked in house included a delightful focaccia with roasted red peppers, sun-dried tomatoes and pecorino cheese as well as crunchy-crusted slices of coarse peasant bread, both worthy vehicles for a robust chickpea and olive oil spread. An appetizer called roasted pepper prawns ($14), a roasted red pepper stuffed with a brandade of white-fleshed fish and garlic, came with a small skewer of shrimp. The savory sweetness of the pepper, the rich stuffing—at once mellow and piquant—and the extra-virgin olive oil dressing so eclipsed the shrimp as to make them superfluous. Bufala mozzarella and tomatoes ($15) brought a combination of fresh, creamy mozzarella; superb, flavorful heirloom tomatoes flown fresh from California; slender spears of herbaceously delicious asparagus; slices of roast almonds, and truffled dressing—all top-notch ingredients that justified its rather aggressive price. On one of my visits, the kitchen sent me a small assortment of antipasti not on the regular menu, including a slice of *burrata*, a premium mozzarella formed from the richest top layer of the cream—quite literally the crème de la crème—and a slice of moist bruschetta topped with earthy mushrooms, both first-rate.

Umbria's light shone most brightly in its pasta courses. The ravioli stuffed with artichoke hearts and shrimp ($19) copped top honors. These rectangles of green pasta would have been delicious for the quality of the velvety, tender pasta alone. The unusual combination of artichoke hearts and shrimp—two distinctive flavors that I would have though incompatible until I tasted them here—proved extraordinary. Most noteworthy was the flavor of the shrimp, whose vibrancy and clarity made a greater impression on me than any specimen of this often banal, sometimes flavorless crustacean ever had. A second dynamite pasta, ravioli stuffed with beef *brasaola*, bufala ricotta, and wilted spinach ($17), replicated the texture of the green ravioli, this time in square, plump pillows filled with meat, cheese, and greens, bathed in a lovely butter sauce seasoned with sage.

Lasagna ($19), a regular menu offering, boasted a filling of sautéed spinach, buffalo mozzarella, wild mushrooms and Parmesan cheese, all enhanced by the exotic bouquet of saffron. This saffron lasagna deserved a place in the pantheon of pasta *al forno* (oven-baked) preparations. Finally, but certainly not least, Umbria's risotto (variably priced) evidenced a mastery of this labor-intensive preparation, which must be stirred constantly over a high heat, rapidly absorbing the stock to produce a creamy texture carefully balanced between soupy and sticky. To its impeccable texture Umbria's risotto added the distinctive, lingering flavor of porcini mushrooms, a taste that never ceases to delight me.

Umbria's extraordinary pastas set a high standard that I worried could not be matched by its main courses. The *costata di vitello* (veal chop, $33) dispelled that fear. In upscale Italian restaurants, the veal chop serves as a bellwether of the kitchen's skill. For an Italian restaurant in the Financial District, where steaks and chops have a large and demanding constituency, a good performance in this department is critical to success. Umbria passed with flying colors. Its veal chop, "roasted" in a cast-iron pan so that after both sides were seared and the interior cooked to a red-pink, highlighted the quality of the meat as the chef let this luxurious, tender, juicy carnivore's delight stand on its own, accented with a sprinkle of salt and a few grindings of fresh pepper.

With nature in charge of the veal chop, the kitchen injected its art into the garnishes, especially a savory little cylinder of moist, flavorful mushroom bread pudding. Lamb *scottadito* ($28) equaled the veal in the quality of the meat, with two thick, grilled chops of mildly flavored lamb, juicy and tender, felicitously accompanied by warm lentils, braised lamb shank and a frisée salad.

Seafood included a dish called *pescatrice* ($25), a loin of monkfish wrapped in Parma prosciutto and served with a celery root puree and Swiss chard sautéed in garlic and olive oil. Resembling a bacon-wrapped scallop, the fish absorbed inviting flavors from

Eggplant timballo—with parmigiana, ricotta, basil, tomato and olives

Raspberry *grattini*—fresh raspberries, sambuca zabaglione and orange mango sorbet

the sweet-salty prosciutto. In my first visit to Umbria late last year, this preparation used cod instead of monkfish, but the texture of the cod left much to be desired. The monkfish, on the other hand, pan-seared rather than grilled, emerged moist but resilient.

Umbria's wine list is lengthy and pricey, with no red priced under $32 a bottle. However, as is increasingly the case in area restaurants, Umbria offers wines by the glass that are reasonably priced and liberally poured. A red from Tuscany, Collezione di Marchi ($7), showed fine fruit balanced by good acidity. A 2001 Ezio Franco Primitivo ($7) from southern Italy—the primitivo grape is said to be an ancestor of zinfandel—was more full-bodied and boasted a particularly good nose, with sufficient structure to stand up well to the food. The 2002 Carraia Sangiovese ($7), a light but pleasant quaff, and 2001 Villa Poggiola Cabernet Sauvignon ($8), more substantial and complex, with a fine bouquet, rounded out the repertoire of red wines by the glass.

In many Italian restaurants, desserts often prove a disappointment—not a big deal since the large portions that usually precede dessert make it almost superfluous. But at Umbria, one would do well to save room. Accomplished pastry chef Lee Napoli (whose past credits include Maison Robert) produced one confectionery triumph after another (all priced at $8). Chocolate chestnut beignets, three or four munchkin-size spheres filled with toothsome chocolate-and-chestnut mousse, shared a rectangular platter with vanilla bean ice cream and a dollop of buttery chestnut sauce enlivened with brandy. Raspberry *grattini*—a warm zabaglione (egg yolks, sugar and sambuca) and a handful of plump, ripe raspberries—filled a small ramekin, topped by a small scoop of sherbet that combined the sweet-tart flavor of orange with the mellowness of mango. Hazelnuts (*noci*) play a major role in Italian desserts, and on one evening this prosaic but engaging ingredient graced two of Napoli's creations. Her *torta di noci*, a tiny, moist hazelnut cake, was the soul of simplicity, highlighted by a brandy cream sauce and hazelnut ice cream. A special dessert that same evening consisted of a large, crispy orange-almond *tuile* formed into a bowl and filled with layers of fresh berries, gianduia (hazelnut-chocolate mousse), and more hazelnut ice cream, a treat that delighted the palate while its presentation charmed the eye.

Service at Umbria on my last two visits was beyond reproach. Black-clad waiters and waitresses demonstrated energy, attentiveness, and an informed appreciation of the kitchen's handiwork. My observations of other apparently satisfied diners suggested that good service prevailed throughout the dining room. The front of the house, under the direction of d'Angelo, demonstrated a sense of professionalism and grace, creating an atmosphere of Umbrian hospitality that maximized enjoyment of Iocco's cuisine. IB

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DISH

Applause for Maws

Fame, fortune and...Pam Anderson!

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Craigie Street Bistrot chef/owner Tony Maws is garnering national acclaim.

For a chef who's spent most of the past couple of years toiling in a basement kitchen in Cambridge, **Tony Maws** made a surprisingly telegenic appearance on NBC's *Today* show. Recently named one of *Food & Wine* magazine's "Best New Chefs," Maws seemed entirely at ease in the presence of a large crowd of onlookers as he and two other winners engaged in a cook-off with a trio of alumni winners, including **Todd English**.

"We're a little more focused," he told host **Matt Lauer**. "We're cooking in our restaurants every single day."

An hour later, Maws' team was declared the winner, although the victory wasn't televised. But that doesn't matter to the self-effacing Maws, the chef/owner of **Craigie Street Bistrot**. The honor is "good for the restaurant," he says. "You know what we are, we're the place in the basement. We're about our neighborhood, about our community. I love being in my line, in my kitchen."

Of course, Maws is also looking forward to cooking with the other "Best New Chefs" at the *Food & Wine* Classic in Aspen in June. And he thoroughly enjoyed his brief stint in the limelight in New York. "It was a very surreal experience," he says, noteworthy for a close encounter with **Pam Anderson**, who appeared on *Today* as a new model for MAC cosmetics. "She looks like a comic book figure," he laughs.

Maws has just one regret about his nationally televised appearance: "I wanted to get a Yankees jab in there, but I couldn't find a way to make it happen," he sighs. All together, everybody: Wait till next year!

SECOND COURSE

From pickpockets to pots and pans: It's a career switch that's more than a token move. After four years as a crime analyst for the MBTA, **Mark Bachta** is cooking up an entirely new career as a full-time personal chef. He's been easing into his new line of work part-time since last spring, after months of attending classes at the Cambridge School of Culinary Arts, and now the transition is complete. Bachta says his **Comfort Food Kitchen** (comfortfoodkitchen@hotmail.com) will specialize in providing homemade, healthful meals to clients in the Greater Boston area.

Gorgeous gastronomy: Edible Art 2005 takes place April 28 at the **Skywalk at the Top of the Hub**.

Elsewhere: The dining scene in Roslindale Square is heating up with another new restaurant. **Joe** and **Sonia Garufi** have opened **Sophia's Grotto** in a brick courtyard off Birch Street. Joe Garufi, who most recently worked for restaurant designer **Peter Niemitz** as a project manager, is the brother of **Mark Garufi**, who owns the nearby **Birch Street Bistro**. **Alfredo Maravi**, formerly of **Terramia** and **Antico Forno** in the North End, is chef at Sophia's Grotto.

Et cetera: **Kilian Weigand**, most recently pastry chef at **Excelsior**, and before that, longtime pastry chef at **Biba**, is now the pastry chef of record at **Sibling Rivalry** in the South End. IB

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Cookbook Author Molly Stevens
Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (781-431-1470). April 26. 6 pm. $45-$60. **Molly Stevens**, author of *All About Braising: The Art of Uncomplicated Cooking*, leads a demonstration on braising meats, fish and vegetables. The event is preceded by a cocktail reception and followed by a buffet of braised entrées selected by Stevens.

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue., 6 pm. $35. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •April 26: Spanish Inquisition.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Sat., 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •April 30: Chardonnay.

High Five Dinner
Prezza, 24 Fleet St., Boston (617-227-1577). www.prezza.com. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. April 25. Reception, 6 pm; dinner, 7 pm. $150. Chef/owner **Anthony Caturano** celebrates Prezza's fifth anniversary with a five-course dinner featuring food and wines from Italy's Piemonte region.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •April 20: The Wine Challenge. •April 27: Reception Spectacular.

Ice Cream Social
Cold Stone Creamery, 100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-0100); 8 Park Plaza, Boston (617-523-1020); 201 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-266-2653). April 25. 5-8 pm. Donations vary. During this nationwide fund-raiser, customers receive a slice of the newly created Make-a-Wish cake in exchange for a donation to the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

New England Real Ale Exhibition
George Dilboy Post, 371 Summer St., Somerville (617-625-5225). www.nerax.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. April 27-30. Wed.-Fri., 6-10:30 pm; Sat., 12-4 pm and 6-10:30 pm. $6 (plus cost of food and beer). This ninth annual festival features English and American ales rarely offered in the U.S., as well as food from Redbones BBQ. Proceeds benefit the George Dilboy VFW Post.

Spring Cooking Classes at the Langham Hotel
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Orange Line to State. Every Wed., 5:30 pm. $125. Chefs **Daniel Kenney, Mark Sapienza** and **John Quinn** deliver a weekly cooking class followed by a three-course meal paired with wine. •April 20: From Macintosh to iPods...Apples Rule! •April 27: Berkshire Pork...Old World Fare with New World Flair.

Taste of Allston Village
DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Road, Allston (617-254-7564). www.allstonvillage.com/events. May 3. 6-8 pm. $25-$30. Allston Village Main Streets, New Balance and THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN present this eighth annual event featuring a silent auction, live jazz music and fare from Allston restaurants like Big City, Sunset Grill & Tap and Rangoli.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •April 26: Petite Syrah. • May 3: Sardinia.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •April 25: California Dreamin'.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •April 20: California Dreamin'. •April 27: Loire Valley.

PREVIEW

SPICE IT UP

Two of Cambridge's most prominent grills, the East Coast Grill and Green Street Grill, have enjoyed their fair share of friendly competition over the years, and the rivalry recently intensified during an e-mail war in which Green Street Grill owner John Clifford challenged the spicy supremacy of the East Coast Grill's popular Hell Nights. The question will be resolved April 25 at the Hell Night Challenge. The Green Street Grill plays host to this cook-off in which diners take part in a blind, three-course taste test featuring dishes from chefs Mark Romano (Green Street) and Chris Schlesinger (East Coast). After each course, customers rate the food in categories like spiciness, flavor and overall quality, and at the end a winner is crowned. There's one seating, at 7 pm, and the Hot Tamale Brass Band is slated to perform. *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). $35*

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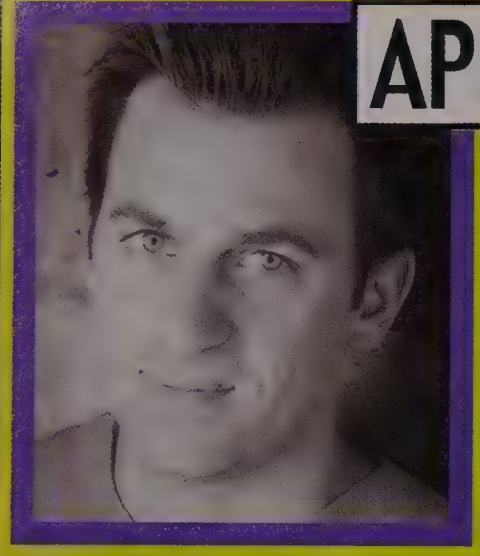

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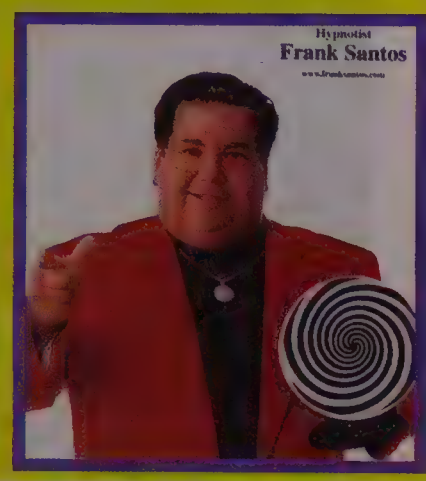

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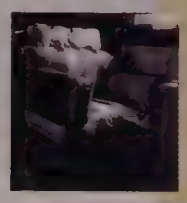
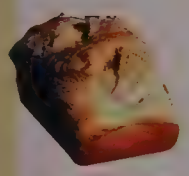
agenda

MPROPER PICKS

april 20 - may 3

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			20	21	22	23
				*Chairs*, featuring photographs by Dayanita Singh, is at the **Gardner Museum**. *See Museums & Galleries on page 79.*	The **Independent Film Festival of Boston** takes place at multiple venues around the city. *See Movies on page 60.*	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Karyshma rocks the Middle East. *See Music on page 65.*	**Alice Hoffman** reads from her new novel, *The Ice Queen*, at Brookline Booksmith. *See Books & Poetry on page 79.*		The **New England Real Ale Exhibition** gets under way in Somerville. *See Tastings on page 44.*	Frontman Chris Cornell and **Audioslave** play Avalon with opening act Jonny Polonsky. *See Music on page 67.*	The Tony Award–winning play ***Take Me Out*** premieres at the BCA's Roberts Studio Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 54.*	
1	2	3				
The 20-mile *Walk for Hunger* raises money to support **Project Bread's** efforts to fight hunger. *See CityScope on page 50.*		Michael Z. Keamy's play ***Body/Works*** is at the Theater at Machine. *See Gay & Lesbian on page 82.*				

TUE./MAY 3

Tastings: Feeding Frenzy

Some nights you just can't decide what you feel like eating: Chinese or Italian? Indian or Thai? We say you just head over to the eighth annual **Taste of Allston Village** at the DoubleTree Guest Suites May 3. The event, which runs from 6-8 pm, features samples from Allston's eclectic array of restaurants, including Big City, Café Belo, Carlo's Cucina Italiana, the Kells, Rangoli and the Sunset Grill & Tap. The night also includes live entertainment from jazz pianist Adam Pepper, dance demonstrations by Mass Motion Dance and Samarra Oriental Dance Studio and a silent auction. It's all sponsored by Allston Village Main Streets, New Balance and THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN. *DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Road, Allston (617-254-7564). www.allstonvillage.com/events. $25–$30. —RL*

HOT TIPS FROM CALENDAR GURUS LESLIE AND RICH

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PERFORMING ARTS 54
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ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

SAT./APRIL 23

Music: Must Be the Honey

Before we ever had the pleasure of smelling Teen Spirit or hearing about Jeremy's schoolyard antics, a group of ragtag Seattle rockers were plugging away and setting the stage for the early '90s garage band explosion. **Mudhoney**, whose 1989 self-titled album was the first major success for Seattle indie label Sub Pop, visits the Middle East Downstairs for a show April 23. Singer Mark Arm and guitarist Steve Turner first got together in 1980 under the name Mr. Epp and the Calculations, and the two went through a series of bands, like Green River and the Thrown Ups, throughout the '80s before hitting it big with Mudhoney (named after a Russ Meyer movie no one in the band had even seen). Sub Pop released the group's first single, *Sweet Young Thing Ain't Sweet No More*, in 1988, and by 1989, *Mudhoney* was in the stores, and Sub Pop, which was soon to release albums from Nirvana and Soundgarden, was firmly on the map. Mudhoney's been mostly off the radar since dropping their eighth album, *Since We've Become Translucent*, in 2002, so that's a lot of pent-up grunge to unleash on the Middle East. *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). 8 pm, $15. —RL*

ONGOING

Museums and Galleries: Social Butterflies

You don't have to be a kid to enjoy the Museum of Science's new Butterfly Garden. The plant and butterfly–filled greenhouse just might be Boston's new number one first-date spot. The exhibition, which debuted April 13 and is open indefinitely, is filled with free-flying butterflies from around the world. You can watch them land on colorful flower blossoms and tropical plants or, if you're lucky (and keep very still), on you. Add a waterfall trickling in the background, and you've got all the makings of a romantic date. *Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. Hours vary but exhibition is open to the public every day. Adults, $4; children, $3 (prices are in addition to museum admission). —LPK*

SAT./APRIL 30

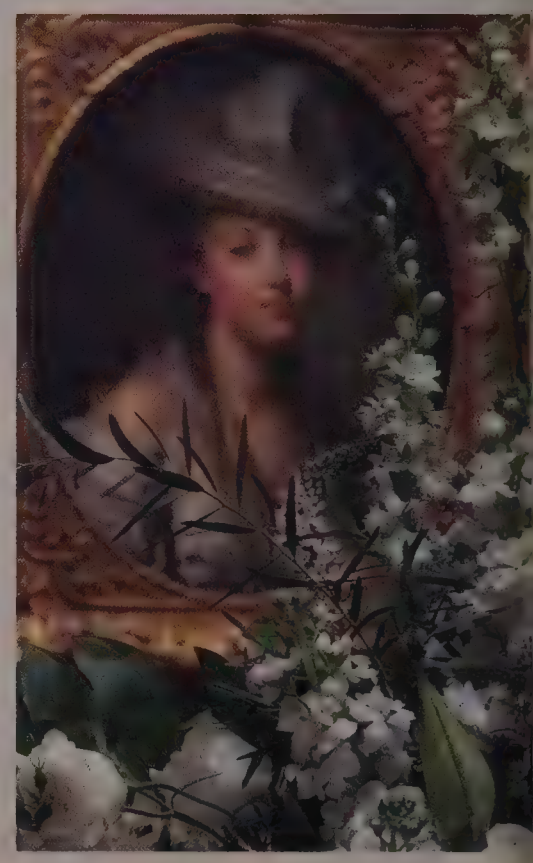
CityScope: Earth to Boston

Despite what certain relationship books might claim, all of us, both men and women, are from Earth, so we might as well celebrate it. In honor of the 35th anniversary of Earth Day (which this year falls on April 22) WBOS-FM is hosting EarthFest, a free, daylong event at the Hatch Shell on April 30. The celebration gets under way at 10 am and includes a slew of live performances from national bands like the Wallflowers, 5 for Fighting, Carbon Leaf and Ari Hest. There are also nearly 100 interactive booths—staffed by event sponsors and local environmental and nonprofit organizations, including the Charles River Watershed Association, Nature Conservancy, MassBike and Greyhound Friends—offering a variety of activities to help educate us on ways to keep the world healthy. With all the snow this year, it's been months since the Earth's even been visible in Boston. So why not get reacquainted? *Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston (617-822-9600). www.earthfest.com. 10 am–6 pm. Free. —RL*

SAT.–TUE./APRIL 30–MAY 3

Museums and Galleries: Springtime in Bloom

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then the Museum of Fine Arts' annual **Art in Bloom** event must be worth a lot more. Now in its 29th year, the springtime tradition features works, made entirely out of flowers, that re-create some of the MFA's masterpieces—more than 60 arrangements by garden clubs and floral experts from around the world. It's a place to see and be seen—especially at the opening reception April 30. For $175, visitors can get a guided tour without the crowds while also snacking on hors d'oeuvres, sipping cocktails and listening to live music. In honor of May Day (which falls the next day), this year the MFA is installing a flower-wrapped Maypole for the event that extends above the museum's upper and lower rotunda. *Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3395). 10 am–4:45 pm; opening reception, 6–9:30 pm. Adults, $15; seniors and students, $13; opening reception, $175. www.mfa.org. —LPK*



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Benefits

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

MassBike Harpoon Brewery Social
Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (617-542-2453). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5:30-7:30 pm. $5-$10. Guests can enjoy Harpoon Beer and food from the Blue Frog Bakery at this fundraiser for MassBike.

Tsunami Appeal for Animals
Jurys Hotel, 350 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-9170). www.arlboston.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6-8 pm. $45. Enjoy cocktails and appetizers while listening to veterinarian Bosmat Gal's stories of her trip to rescue animals affected by the South Asia tsunami. Proceeds benefit the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

American Red Cross Awards Gala
Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-375-0700, ext. 277). www.bostonredcross.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $225. WBZ-TV news anchor Liz Walker hosts this annual awards gala that honors individuals and organizations who best represent humanitarian ideals. This year's honorees include former secretary of defense William S. Cohen and his wife, former broadcaster Janet Langhart Cohen.

See, Be Seen
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-927-6613). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8-11:30 pm. $150. This fifth annual fund-raiser, hosted by the ICA's New Group, honors founding member Ken Deitz and features food, cocktails, music from DJ Julio Terra and art from the *Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists* exhibition. Proceeds benefit an ICA program to help international artists create temporary works around Boston.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Lend a Helping Hand
Campus Center at UMass Boston, Third floor, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-287-7982). MBTA: Red Line to UMass/JFK. 7 pm. $10. This 20th annual fashion show, sponsored by UMass Boston's Black Student Center benefits various nonprofit organizations that have given back to Boston's African-American community.

MONDAY, APRIL 25

Ice Cream Social
Cold Stone Creamery, 100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-0100); 8 Park Plaza, Boston (617-523-1020); 201 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-266-2653). 5-8 pm. Donations vary. During this nationwide fund-raiser, customers receive a slice of the newly created Make-a-Wish cake in exchange for a donation to the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Edible Art 2005
Top of the Hub's Skywalk, Prudential Tower, 50th floor, Boston (617-267-8862). www.aiboston.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 6 pm. $125. Support the Art Institute of Boston's scholarship fund at this benefit party featuring vintage wines, culinary creations inspired by works of art, and a silent auction.

The Silver Lining
The Liquor Store, 25 Boylston Place, Boston (617-727-8957). www.mctf.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 5:30-9:30 pm. $20. The Children's Trust Fund's Young Professionals Preventing Child Abuse committee holds this second annual fund-raiser, featuring a raffle, a mechanical bull-riding contest, music and appetizers. Proceeds benefit the Massachusetts Children's Fund.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Golden Door Award
Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-695-9990). www.iiboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $250. This gala dinner honors Dr. Victor Dzau, a former professor at Harvard Medical School and chairman of the Department o Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Pro ceeds benefit the International Institute of Boston which helps immigrants and refugees integrate int New England.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Benefit Concert for Newton Symphony Orchestra
Eliot Church, 474 Centre St., Newton Corner (617 965-2555). www.newtonsymphony.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Newton Centre. 8 pm. $35-$40. Mu sical theater and cabaret singer Jinny Sagorin per forms a program titled From Durban to Broadwa to benefit the NSO.

Citizen Schools 10th Anniversary Gala
Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, 415 Summe St., Boston (617-695-2300). www.citizenschools.org MBTA: #7 bus to City Point. 6 pm. $250. This celebra tion features a silent auction, dinner and dancing an benefits Citizen Schools, an organization that cares fo and guides students during after-school hours.

Ice Chips 2005
Walter Brown Arena, 275 Babcock St., Boston (617 782-5900). www.scboston.org. MBTA: B Green Lin to BU West. Through May 1. Sat., 1 and 7 pm; Sun. 2 pm.$20. U.S. pairs champions Katie Orscher an Garrett Lucash headline a group of ice skaters per forming to raise money for Children's Hospita Boston and the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

SUNDAY, MAY 1

Project Bread Walk for Hunger
Walk begins and ends at Boston Common, Bosto (617-723-5000). www.projectbread.org. Registra tion, 7-9 am. This 20-mile pledge walk raises mone for Project Bread's efforts to fight hunger.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

After-Work at Limelight Stage and Studios
Limelight Stage and Studios, 204 Tremont St., Bosto (617-423-0785). www.limelightboston.com. MBTA Green Line to Boylston. 5-9 pm. $7. This event in cludes appetizers and gives visitors the chance t record their own CD at Limelight's karaoke lounge.

Alumni Tax Time After Hours
Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Bosto (617-227-7800). www.umassbostonclub.org. MBTA Green Line to Haymarket. 6-8 pm. Free. Compli mentary appetizers are served at this networkin event for UMass Amherst alumni.

Bay State College Fashion Show
Dorothy Quincy Suite, John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkele St., Boston (617-236-8017), MBTA: Orange Line t Back Bay. 7 pm. $12-$15. This show features design from Bay State College fashion students, as well a music from DJ Bruno.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Earth Day
American Legion Marsh Post, 5 Greenough Blvd. Cambridge. www.clydesdale.org/marshpost/index.html 9 am-3 pm. Free. Enjoy a complimentary BBQ sponsored by the Somerville Striders Athletic Clu while helping to landscape, plant flowers, repai park benches and make new flower boxes at th American Legion Marsh Post.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Run of the Charles Canoe and Kayak Race
Race begins in Dedham and ends at Herter Park, Soldier Field Road, Brighton (508-698-6810). www charlesriver.org. More than 1,800 paddlers take to th Charles River in this annual relay race. The Finis Line Festival features food, music and awards.

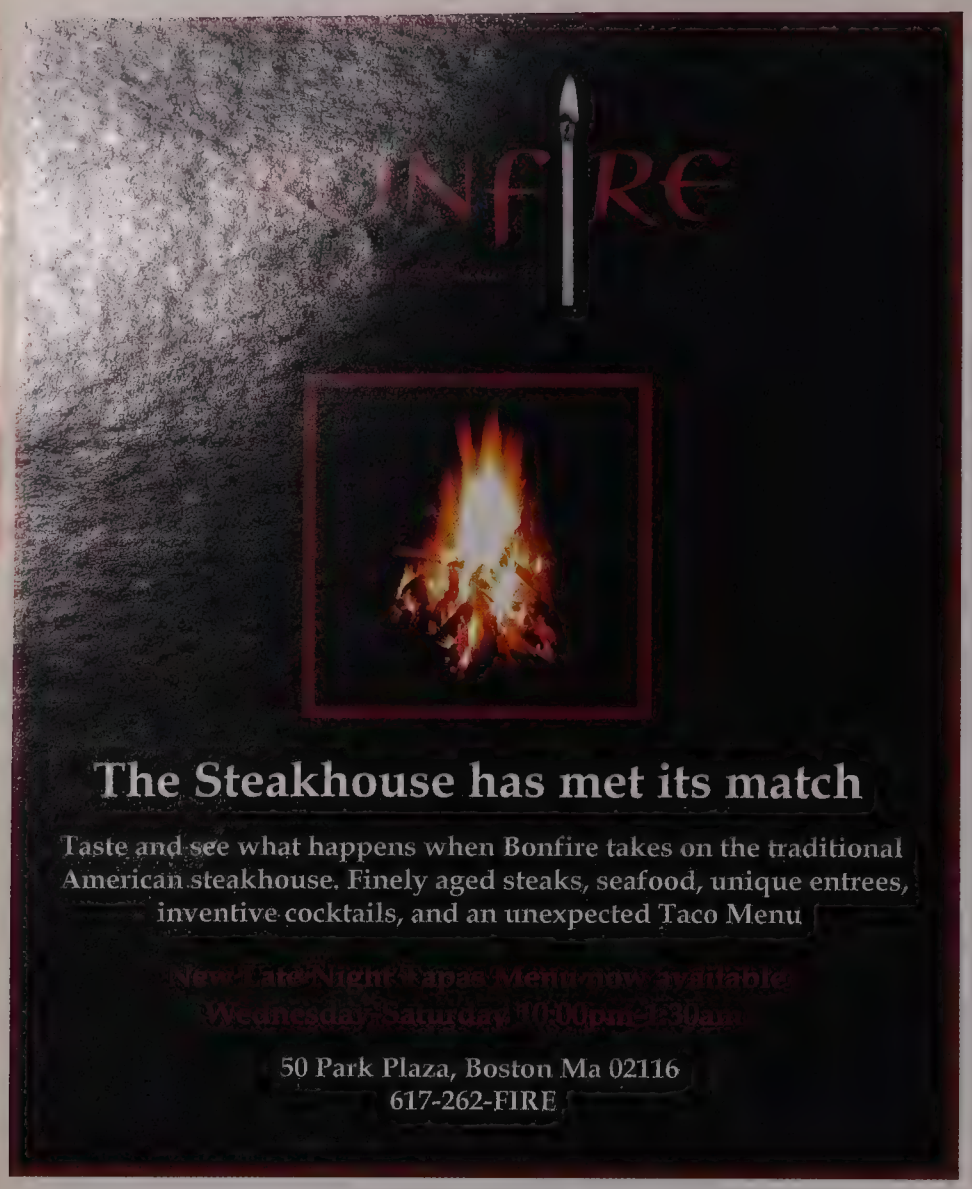
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

New England Real Ale Exhibition
George Dilboy Post, 371 Summer St., Somerville (617 625-5225). www.nerax.org. MBTA: Red Line t Davis. Through April 30. Wed.-Fri., 6-10:30 pm Sat., 12-4 pm and 6-10:30 pm. $6 (plus cost of food and beer). This ninth annual festival serves Englis and American ales rarely offered in the U.S., as we as food from Redbones BBQ. Proceeds benefit th George Dilboy VFW Post.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Tropical Oasis
Umbria, 295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000) 11:30 pm. MBTA: Orange Line to State. $15 Designer Angela Brandenburg presents her spring 2005 runway show.

MEET
27
OF THE CITY'S
MIX MASTERS
SHARON CANNAVA
OF SIDE BAR
BOSTON'S
praise for the pro
In celebration of
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN'S
11th Annual
Boston's Beloved Bartenders Issue
Join us as we
salute your
favorite elixir fixers
MONDAY, MAY 2, 6pm - ALL NIGHT
The Rack
24 Clinton Street, Faneuil Hall 617.725.1051
With music by DJ Mike Janedy. The Improper's Jonathan Soroff, and KISS 108's
Chris Shine will host a night of awards, competitions, specialty drinks and surprises.
Complimentary appetizer buffet provided by The Rack and pizza from Upper Crust.
See who rises to the top in our 4th annual Bartenders Competition.
Professional
Bartending
School of
New England
Mohegan Sun a world at play
UPPER CRUST



Top of the Hub hosts the 12th annual Edible Art fund-raiser April 28.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Ruby Door Anniversary Party

The Ruby Door, 92B Pinckney St., Boston (617-720-2001). www.therubydoor.com. 3-6 pm. Free. The Ruby Door celebrates its one-year anniversary with free drinks and appetizers, as well as a raffle for a necklace from Miller Grove Designs. RSVP to info@therubydoor.com.

WBOS EarthFest

Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston (617-822-9600). www.earthfest.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 10 am-6 pm. Free. 92.9 WBOS-FM sponsors this free Earth Day celebration featuring performances from bands like the Wallflowers and 5 for Fighting, as well as interactive booths and food samples.

TUESDAY, MAY 3

Taste of Allston Village

DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Road, Allston (617-254-7564). www.allstonvillage.com/events. 6-8 pm. $25-$30. Allston Village Main Streets, New Balance and THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN present this eighth annual event featuring a silent auction, live jazz music and fare from Allston restaurants like Big City, Sunset Grill & Tap, Carlo's Cucina Italiana and Rangoli.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

8 Minute Dating

Fire & Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-482-3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 22-32.

8 Minute Dating

Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 35-49.

MONDAY, APRIL 25

8 Minute Dating

Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 28-38.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

Hurry Date

Lir Irish Pub and Restaurant, 903 Boylston St., Boston (617-742-1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. For ages 25-35.

MONDAY, MAY 2

8 Minute Dating

Cityside Bar and Grill, 1960 Beacon St., Brighton (617-566-1002). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. 6:58 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-31.

TUESDAY, MAY 3

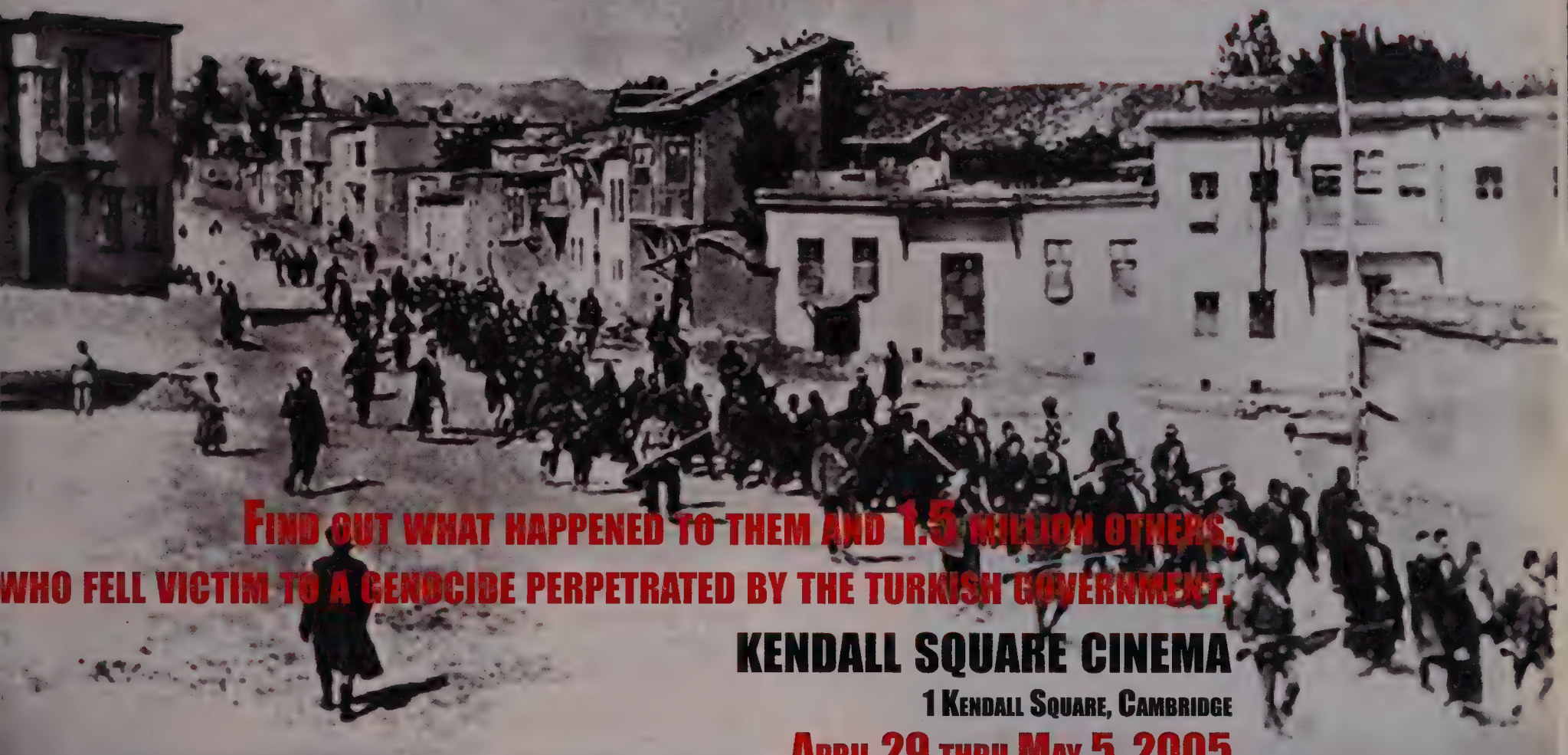
8 Minute Dating

Boston Billiard Club, 126 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-536-7665). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For baseball lovers ages 22-29.

These People Never Saw Their Loved Ones or Homes Again.

WHY?

Because They Were ARMENIANS.



Find out what happened to them and 1.5 million others,
who fell victim to a genocide perpetrated by the Turkish government.

KENDALL SQUARE CINEMA

1 Kendall Square, Cambridge

April 29 thru May 5, 2005

Films by J. Michael Hagopian

Germany and the Secret Genocide

Mon thru Thurs 2:20 PM

Fri thru Sun 12:20 PM

Run Time: 86 minutes

Voices from the Lake

Mon thru Thurs 1:00 PM

Fri thru Sun 11:00 AM

Run Time: 57 minutes

oto Courtesy of Project SAVE Armenian Photograph Archives

The Road to Redemption: Memories of the 1915 Armenian Genocide

A Special Multi-Media Documentary Featuring Live and Recorded Survivor Accounts

Thursday, April 21, 2005, 7:30 PM

Morse Auditorium, Boston University

602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston

Dr. Aram Chobanian, Honorary Chairman

Free Admission | Limited Seating | No Late Entry

reater Boston Committee to Commemorate the Armenian Genocide

www.weremember1915.org

performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts. Or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Body/Works
The Theater at Machine, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-4691). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. April 28-May 14. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $20. Boston-based playwright and actor Michael Z. Keamy debuts his comedic play about a man seeking to balance his mind, body and soul while attempting to find his place in society. Curt Miller directs.

La Cage aux Folles
Cambridge Family YMCA Theatre, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (866-811-4111). www.longwoodplayers.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 22-23, 28-30. 8 pm; Sat., 2 pm. $14-$25. Based on the film by Jean Poiret, Jeffrey Herman and Harvey Fierstein's play tells the story of a gay drag club owner and his flamboyant husband.

Flight
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 27-May 10. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $34-$159. Boston Lyric Opera presents the East Coast premiere of Jonathan Dove's comic opera set in an airport.

Into the Woods
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. April 27-May 29. Steven Sondheim's musical depicts the lives of familar fairy-tale characters after their "happily ever after" endings.

Little Shop of Horrors
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-880-2400). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 3-15. Tue., Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Wed., 7 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $37.50-$82.50. This musical comedy about a scientist, a woman and a man-eating plant features a score by Howard Ashman and Alan Menken.

Mackenzie
The Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St., Boston (781-724-0316). www.southcitytheatre.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 22-May 1. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $10-$12. In John Michael Manship's play, three Americans in Edinburgh try to confirm stories of a poltergeist. Colleen Rua directs.

The Ocean Room
The Actors Workshop, 327 Summer St., Studio 4, Boston (617-851-8321). www.1111theatre.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. April 29-30, May 6-7. 8 pm. $15. Brian Tuttle's play about a couple determined to keep their romance alive gets its Boston premiere.

Take Me Out
Roberts Studio Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.speakeasystage.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. April 29-June 4; Wed.-Sat., 8 pm, Sat., 4 p Sun., 3 pm. $35-$40. Paul Daigneault direc Richard Greenberg's 2003 Tony Award–winni play about a successful baseball player who com out of the closet.

Thoroughly Modern Millie
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Be erly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. April 26-M 15. Tue., Thur. and Fri., 8 pm; Wed. and Sat., and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm; $30-$60. Berry Ivan direc and choreographs the Tony Award–winning mu cal about a small-town girl in the big city duri the Jazz Age.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-93 2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line Boylston. Ongoing. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pr Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. Th dialogue-free production features tribal rock mus humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Culture Clash in AmeriCCa
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, Boston Center for the A 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-7900). ww huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Ba Bay. Through May 8. Tue.-Fri, 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 a 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $14-$42. The Latino perfo mance trio uses dance, poetry and humor to explo diversity in America.

Den of Thieves
BCA Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (61 933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA Orange Line to Back Bay. Through April 23. Thu Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25. Stephen Adly Guirgis' black comedy, four unlike criminals face life-threatening choices when they' taken hostage in a mobster's basement.

Gagarin Way
BCA Roberts Studio Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Bosto (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Through April 23. Wed.-Fri 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $38. Scottis playwright Gregory Burke takes on existentialism, th crisis of masculinity, globalization and anarchy in black comedy about a kidnapping gone wrong.

The Grapes of Wrath
TheatreZone, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617 887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. Through April 2 Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. $10-$18. Wand Strukus directs Frank Galati's adaptation of Joh Steinbeck's classic novel.

I Am My Own Wife
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-93 2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Through April 24. Tue. an Sun., 7:30 pm; Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., pm. $32.50-$72.50. Doug Wright's play tells th story of a real-life German transvestite who su vives the Nazi onslaught.

Living Out
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Bosto (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Gree Line to Copley. Through April 23. Wed., 2 and 7:3 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm Sun., 3 pm. $19-$43. In Lisa Loomer's play, a Latin immigrant mother struggles to find common groun with the lawyer whose children she cares for.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617 426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet o aging baby boomers with nothing in common bu memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

Olly's Prison
Zero Arrow Theatre, Corner of Mass. Ave. and Arrow St., Cambridge (617-495-2668). www.amrep.org MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through April 24. Tue. Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:3 pm; Fri., 8 pm. $12-$45. American Repertory The atre presents Edward Bond's story about an Englis man driven to commit an unspeakable act.

The Phantom of the Opera
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-931 2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Through May 22. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $23-$83 Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical is based on Gaston Leroux's love story about a masked figure and an inno cent young opera singer.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38 This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Events

Big Apple Circus
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-931-2000). www.bigapplecircus.org. MBTA: Red Line to UMass/JFK. Through May 8. Check Web site for times. Sat., Sun., and April 18-22, $19-$53; weekday evenings, $13-$43; weekday matinees, $20-$25. The Big Apple Circus presents Picturesque, a performance of movement, rhythm, color, light and sound.

University Theater

The Demolition Downtown
Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2908). http://web.mit.edu/dramashop. MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 21-23, 28-30. 8 pm $8. Jay Scheib directs Tennessee Williams' play that explores American materialism and the civil rights movement.

Once in a Lifetime
Boston University TheatreLab @885, 885 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-617-353-3390). www.bu.edu MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. April 27-May 1. Free. Dan Weinerman directs a farce about three vaudeville actors who head to Hollywood in 1927.

Roberta
Boston Conservatory Theatre, 31 Hemenway St., Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. April 21-23, 8 pm. $16. The theater ensemble performs Jerome Kern's 1933 musical comedy about an American man who inherits a dress shop in Paris.

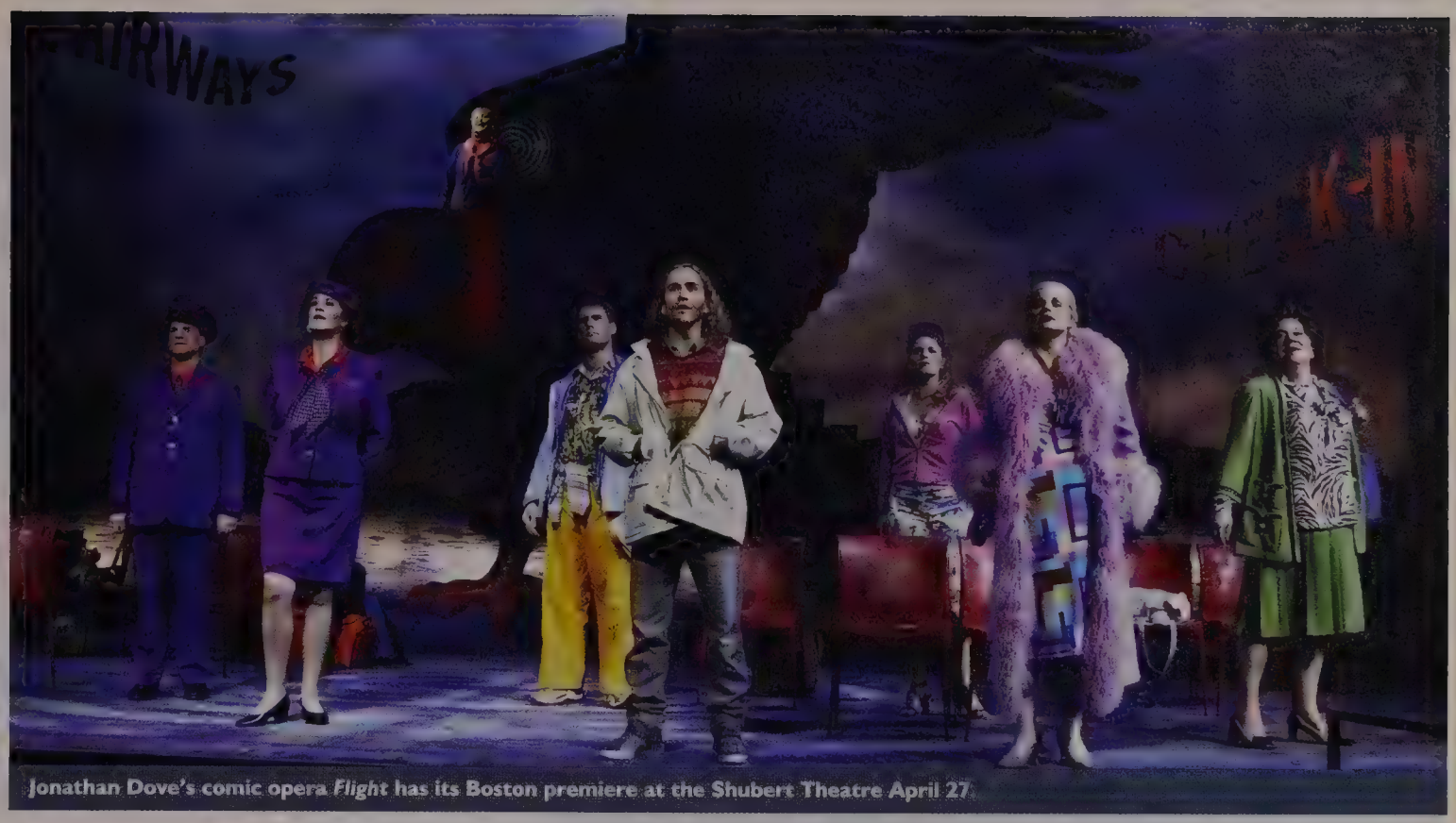
Dance

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through April 24. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $32-$67. The company performs to blues, jazz, gospel, folk, West African drumming, R&B and other musical styles.

Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre
The Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through May 1. Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 6 pm. $32. The ballet troupe presents *Time Beyond Time*, featuring music by French composer Olivier Messiaen.

Nrityagram Dance Ensemble
Zero Arrow Theatre, Arrow St. and Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 29-May 1. Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $30. The ensemble performs Odissi, a classical dance style from India.

Ten's the Limit
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge. (617-876-4275) www.crasharts.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 22 and 23, 7 and 9 pm. $15. This contemporary dance showcase features short works from eight Boston-based artists.



Jonathan Dove's comic opera *Flight* has its Boston premiere at the Shubert Theatre April 27

Comedy

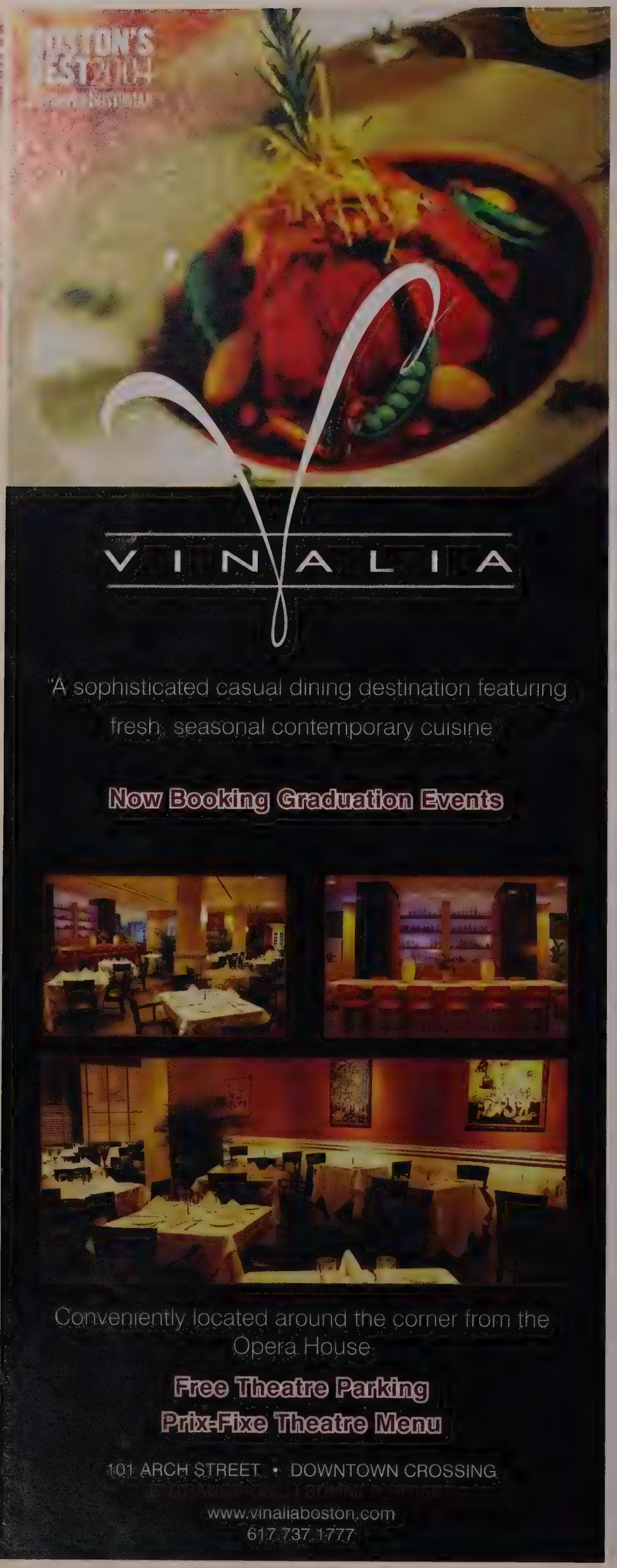
Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

SHOWS

Dave Attell
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. April 27. 8 pm. $35. Attel performs stand-up on his Comedy Central–sponsored *Insomniac* tour.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to



The Nrityagram Dance Ensemble performs at the Zero Arrow Theatre, April 29–May 1.

Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians.

Cantab Lounge

738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thursdays 8 pm: The Tribe Improv performs downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •April 20, 8 pm: D.J. Hazard, $12. •April 21, 8:30: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •April 22, 8 pm. John Heffron, $25. •April 23, 6 pm, 8:15 pm and 10 pm. John Heffron, $22.50-$27. • April 24, 7 pm. John Heffron. • April 25, 8 pm. Amateur Showcase with Kevin Knox, $10. •April 26, 8 pm. Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12. • April 28, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •April 29, 8 and 10:15 pm. Jim Norton, $25-$26. •April 30, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. Jim Norton, $26. •May 1, 7 pm. Adele Givens, $25.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •April 20: Tony V Experiment with Sarah Osteen, Matt Wininger, Mike Whitman, Sandy Asai, Paul Day, Michael Brooks and Arielle Goldman. •April 21: Dan Sally Show with Peter Dutton, Brian Longwell, Dan Hirshon, Emily Singer, Dave Grabiner and Chris Torres. •April 22: Ira Proctor, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Elisha Yaffe, Ben Murray, Tissa Hami, Tim Kaelin and the Walsh Bros. •April 23: Ira Proctor, Tissa Hami, Ken Reid, Elisha Yaffe and Deb Farrar-Parkman. •April 24: Erin Judge Presents Tommy Morello and Andy O'Feish. •April 26: The Magic Lounge. •April 27: Tony V Experiment with Mike Bent, Peter Dutton, Scott Loring, Dan McCaul, Joe Cronin and Tom Dustin. •April 28: Dan Sally with Robby RoadSteamer, Mike Oster, Patrice Vinci, James Goff and Kevin Neales. •April 29: Dr. MaGoGo, Sean Lily, Doug Chagnon and the Walsh Bros. • April 30 Dr. MaGoGo, Peter Bowers and Bob O'Reilly. •May 1: Erin Judge Presents Anthony Spencer, Paul Day, Chris Coxen, Amanda White, Phil Yebba, EJ Murphy and MB Cowan.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., 7:30 pm, $15: Stage Time Variety Show. Tingle hosts guests from the worlds of comedy, music and spoken word. •Fri., 10 pm, $5-$10: It's Not That Late Show. This weekly show, hosted by Peter Dutton, showcases area stand-up comedians, musicians and perfor mance artists. •Sun., 7 pm $10: Women in Com edy. This weekly Sunday night series showcases fe male performers. •April 22-23, 7:30 pm, $20 Jimmy Tingle and Tony V co-headline a show •April 29, 7:30 pm, $20. Todd Barry performs a stand-up show.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night o stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •April 21, 8:30 pm: Kevin Knox and Jim Coli ton. •April 22-23, 8:45 pm: Kevin Knox, Jim Coli ton and Ben B. •April 28-30, 8:30 pm: Jim McCue.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Sat., midnight: The Midnight Show. Ongoing. • Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat, 8 pm and 10 pm: Lies Half-Truths and the American Way. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston

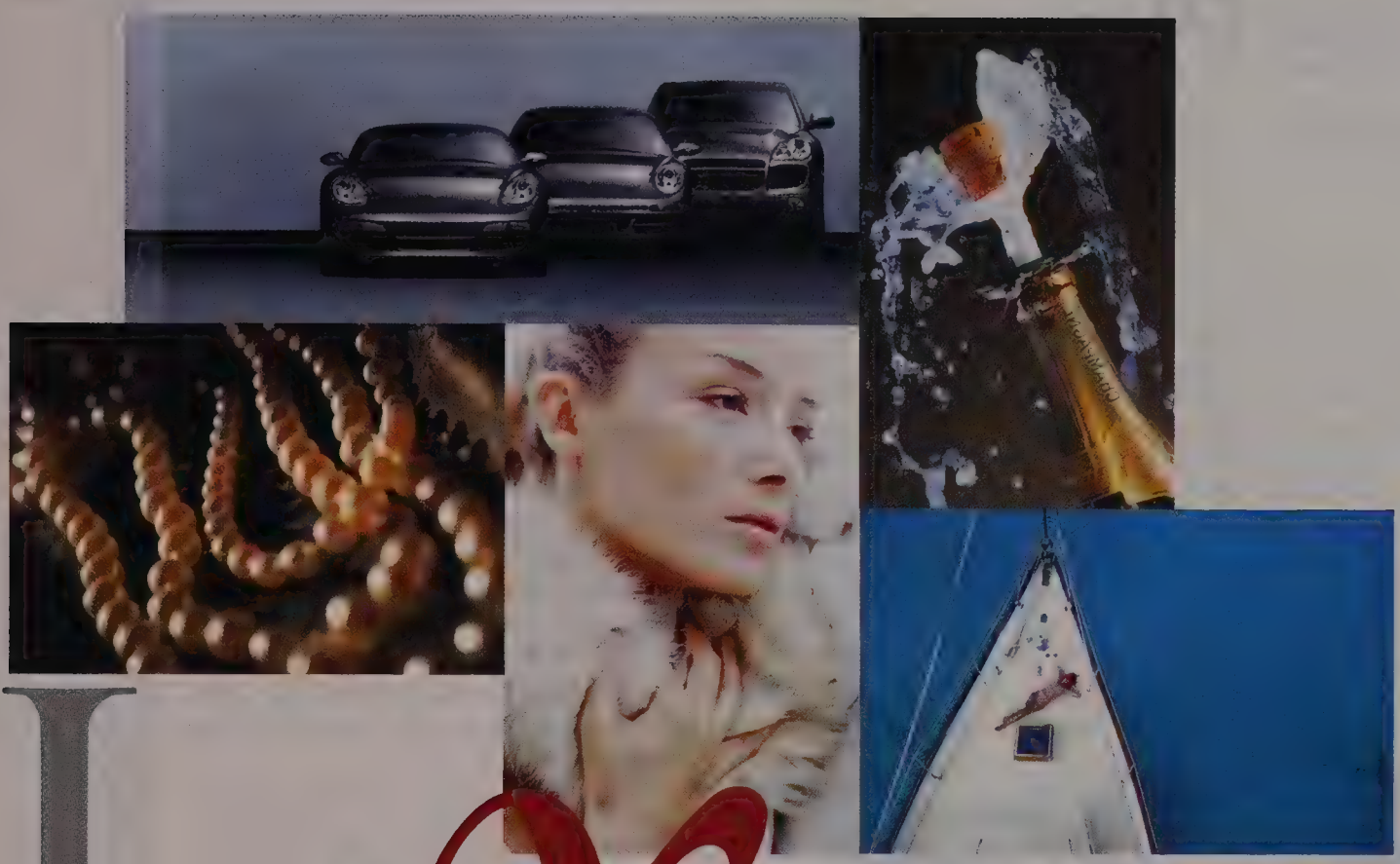
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253) www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: New acts appear in a weekly showcase in The Hump. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: BackStory is a comedic journey backwards through time inspired by the films *Memento, Donnie Darko* and *Mulholland Drive;* 10 pm: TheatreSports splits up improvisers into two teams. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening features performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.



Luxury

Wanna be Queen for a Day? Sit, back, relax and indulge yourself while *The Improper Bostonian*'s Luxury Issue dazzles you with Boston's finest.

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Issue date: May 4
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Double Play

Barrymore and Fallon click in Fenway-friendly *Fever Pitch*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

It's a compliment to say *Fever Pitch* is a better movie, period, than it is a "Boston movie" or "Red Sox movie." After all, beyond the borders of Red Sox Nation is a larger nation of moviegoers who come to it just wanting a good time, not a lot of screen time for Johnny Damon, David Ortiz or Lansdowne Street. If you want a Red Sox documentary, you can track down any of the dozen that have come out on DVD in the past year; if you want to see wall-to-wall Boston, open your front door.

But since there's a fair amount of the Sox and Boston, particularly Fenway Park, in Peter and Bobby Farrelly's movie, some might approach *Fever Pitch* solely as a celebration of the Red Sox' World Series victory and be disappointed to get a mere romantic comedy. Much was made of how the plot, about a romance between a workaholic Bostonian and a Red Sox fanatic, had to be reworked when the Sox defied the odds and, for once, got more than

Ben (Jimmy Fallon) shares his passion for the Red Sox with Lindsey (Drew Barrymore).

close to winning, and how the viewing public saw stars Drew Barrymore and Jimmy Fallon, in character, celebrating the Sox' victory on the field in St. Louis. But it turns out the unlikely Sox comeback is a small part of the movie, almost an afterthought. Win or lose, the main objective of the script by Lowell Ganz and Babaloo Mandel (*A League of Their Own*), loosely based on Nick Hornby's novel about a soccer fan, was getting its romantic couple back together, which it does rather convincingly.

With most romantic comedies, you'd call that the "boy wins girl back" resolution. But that presumes the story is more interested in the man than the woman, making him the active character and her the reactive character. *Fever Pitch* achieves a much more interesting balance of its male and female leads. Barrymore's production company, Flower Films, was behind the movie, so you know she wasn't going to play just a "girlfriend" character. And Flower ultimately hired the Farrellys, the Rhode Island brothers whose movies as directors (from *Dumb and Dumber* through *Stuck on You*) have all focused on men. So *Fever Pitch* offers strong female and male perspectives without shortchanging either, and the combination makes for a rare romantic comedy both men and women can like.

For most of the movie, we view its events through the eyes of Lindsey (Barrymore), a mathematician at a business consulting firm who meets 9th grade math teacher Ben (Fallon) in October 2003 when he brings his students to hear Lindsey talk about her career. The kids dare Ben to ask Lindsey out, saying she's out of his league. She says no at first, because Ben is not like the competitive yuppies she normally dates, but when her friends (KaDee Strickland, Ione Skye, Marissa Jaret Winokur) see that quality as a positive, she reconsiders. So begins a fine relationship, until spring training starts.

That's when Lindsey sees the true extent of Ben's Red Sox obsession: season tickets behind the dugout; not a game missed in 11 years; much Bucky Dent–Bill Buckner–Aaron Boone heartache, much accursed New England fatalism. She has to compete for his affection with the team. Most of the time, their relationship withstands the stress Ben's baseball devotion puts on it, except when he acts as if the Sox are more important to him than Lindsey, which happens semi-regularly—especially when the Yankees are in town.

The story forces Ben to question whether his Sox jones is loyalty or arrested development and forces Lindsey to ponder whether giving in to Ben's Sox fanaticism is betraying her own priorities (she's up for a big promotion at work). The issue of whether a man can grow up and commit to a woman is common fodder for a romantic comedy, but *Fever Pitch* endows the theme with enough realism to make it work. Unlike in last year's *Taxi*, Fallon is actually amusing. When he makes Lindsey laugh, you can see how she'd appreciate being with him; and, as Ben's students say, he is indeed moving up in class by dating attractive, successful Lindsey. These two seem real enough, and their chemistry is palpable enough to make you care about what happens to them and laugh along with them.

Lindsey takes to the Red Sox enough to place most of the Fenway action in the couple's box seats, not on the field. Despite the occasional cut-ins to game action and cameos by a few local media personalities, the movie's primary local color comes from the Greek chorus of Sox fans in their section along the first-base line, including old-timer Al (Jack Kehler), who narrates the story. (Another of the fans is played by real-life Red Sox die-hard Jessamy Finet, who some will recognize from last year's Sox doc *Still, We Believe*.) Obviously, the Farrellys injected the Sox references that pepper these fans' conversations, but otherwise the brothers stick to romantic comedy instead of their customary physical humor (though there's one body-shaving gag that has their fingerprints all over it). The film's ending feels rushed, with the climax actually coming before the Sox' comeback against the Yanks, and the World Series. But it's refreshing to see the woman be the active character going to extremes for the relationship, as happens here. *Fever Pitch* isn't a home run, but it's not really swinging from its heels. It's a very welcome stand-up double. **iB**

Fever Pitch ★★★

Directed by Peter and Bobby Farrelly. Written by Lowell Ganz and Babaloo Mandel. Based on the novel by Nick Hornby. With Drew Barrymore, Jimmy Fallon, KaDee Strickland, Ione Skye, Evan Helmuth and Jack Kehler. Rated PG-13. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Abel Raises Cain ★★★½
The Independent Film Festival of Boston brings co-director (and Emerson grad) Jenny Abel's lovi portrait of her father, longtime media pranks Alan Abel. The elder Abel has long made the pub aware of the media's foibles by hoaxing newspap and television shows, getting straight coverage such put-ons as a movement to clothe animals (nonexistent) school for street beggars and, more cently, an anti-breastfeeding campaign. (He also directed the funny 1971 mockumentary *Is There S After Death?* with wife Jeanne.) Like Andy Ka man, Abel is mostly out to engage people and, in case, make them question things they might p sively accept. The guy's a national treasure, and t movie charts daughter Jenny's childhood confusi over "what daddy does" and her gradual apprec tion of her father's wiles. (At Somerville Thea April 22 and 23; at the Coolidge Corner Thea April 24.)

The Ballad of Jack and Rose ★★
This 1986-set drama about the intense relatio ship between an idealistic dad (Daniel Day-Lew and his teen daughter (Camilla Belle) never qu takes hold. Single father Jack's an environment ist and, essentially, the last man standing at a f mer 1970s commune on a remote island, where and daughter Rose live a seemingly idyllic life. B he's dying (bum ticker) and invites an old lov (Catherine Keener) and her two teenage so (Paul Dano, Ryan McDonald) to move in, in t hope of providing Rose with some transition the outer world. Only he doesn't tell Rose about beforehand, and she doesn't want the reclusi twosome broken up. But the spell is broken, t sexual tension snaps and much domestic confli ensues in the movie's middle section (where M Donald, as unconventional, observant Rodne steals the movie). Writer-director Rebecca Mill daughter of the late Arthur Miller and real-li wife of Day-Lewis, is not quite as uncinematic storyteller here as she was in her earlier *Person Velocity*, but she's still fairly clumsy. (At Harva Square.)

Blackballed: The Bobby Dukes Story ★★★
Weymouth's Rob Corddry (of *The Daily Show*) the title character in director-cowriter Bra Sarsen's amusing comedy, which plays like indie version of *Dodgeball*. He's a disgraced upsta New York paintball legend who, a decade after shamed himself by cheating during a match, back for physical and moral redemption. The pl is fairly by-the-numbers (Dukes gathers a ragt team for a tournament), yet it somehow manag to keep its comic momentum, thanks to its daf characters, including a belligerent ex-Mari (Rob Riggle), Duke's arrogant nemesis (R Huebel) and the Canadian-hating tournament d rector (Boston comic D.J. Hazard). (At Somervil Theater, April 22 and 24.)

Childstar ★★½
Quintessential Canadian actor, writer and direct Don McKellar (*Last Night, Highway 61*, TV's *Twit City*) brings a quintessentially Canadian perspe tive—outsider looking in—to this tale of a lim driver (McKellar) who gets sucked into the dram involving a 12-year-old American movie st (Mark Rendall) and the kid's opportunistic mo (Jennifer Jason Leigh). The boy's in Canada to fil a ludicrous Hollywood fantasy in which, as th president's son, he foils a terrorist attack. Th movie within the movie supplies some amusin parody, and the three leads all have their moment though McKellar's wry tale doesn't get as funny involving as it might have. (At Somerville Th ater, April 22 and 24.)

Eros ★★
There have been many lively anthology movies which a trio of directors each tells a short stor This is not one of them. Wong Kar-wai, Steve Soderbergh and Michelangelo Antonioni—th last from the 1960s generation of Italia moviemakers that made many of the good an thologies—are the directors, and they offer on two so-so entries and one stinker. Wong's *Th Hand* is probably the best, telling of the descent a prostitute (Gong Li) from luxurious kept woma to lowly streetwalker through the eyes of her smi ten tailor (Chang Chen). Still, Wong sticks to h familiar combination of early-1960s fashions an sexual tension, around which he's already built couple of features. Soderbergh's *Equilibrium* fe tures an amusing performance by Alan Arkin, b

t's very slight stuff, despite going down easy. Antonioni's *The Dangerous Thread of Things*, although it's the shortest of the three, is unintentional art-film parody, from the overwritten dialogue to the posed staging, dubbed voices and serious" nudity. It would be funny if it weren't so ull of itself. (At Kendall Square.)

House of D ★★

This is just a hunch, but it seems as if the backers of David Duchovny's first movie as writer-director insisted he be in it, and it pretty much spoils the film. At its heart, this is a 1973-set coming-of-age tale bout a 13-year-old Manhattan boy, very well layed by Anton Yelchin, dealing with puberty and n emotionally needy mom (Tea Leoni). Although t's the sort of tale that's been told onscreen 300 imes, it overachieves and has a lot of heart. The rouble? There's a much less convincing, present-ay "frame" story with Duchovny as the kid, now iddle-aged, that starts and finishes the movie on um notes. Just when you get used to the big false eeth Robin Williams wears as the boy's retarded dult pal, the movie throws old-age makeup on him or the present-day conclusion. Less would have een more. (Opens April 29.)

Lonesome Jim ★★★

teve Buscemi's latest as a director—the Independent Film Festival of Boston's opening night selection—is a dour, endearing comedy about a morose 7-year-old (Casey Affleck) returning to his Indiana parents' home to, as he tells one friend, "have nervous breakdown." There, he finds a mom Mary Kay Place) who's full of industry and denial, n ineffectual dad (Seymour Cassell), an older rother (Kevin Corrigan) who's even worse off han he is, and, in a sweet nurse (Liv Tyler) who sks little from life, a potential path to a brighter ıture. The grim rural setting can be depressing arly on (we feel our hero's pain) but, like him, the ıovie finds healing power there. Yes, Casey Affeck's Liv Tyler movie handily outdoes brother en's two movies with her. (At Somerville Theter, April 21.)

Major Dundee: The Extended Version ★★

m glad this new restoration replaces the musical core Columbia Pictures slapped on to director am Peckinpah's 1964 western, a score the late irector despised. But adding 12 minutes to the ıovie, which Columbia trimmed to two hours gainst Peckinpah's wishes, doesn't do it any ıvors. This tale of a cavalry officer (Charlton eston) leading a misguided mission into Mexico) hunt a renegade Apache chief is most ateresting in how it foreshadows the Peckinpah eyday to come, which yielded *The Wild Bunch* nd *Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia*, among thers. But it's not among the maverick oviemaker's best. It's slow, and its title character ales next to later Peckinpah protagonists, while eston can be stiff. The rest of the cast (including ichard Harris, Warren Oates, Slim Pickens, R.G. rmstrong and Ben Johnson) adds fire, but like ıe shorter version, this reissue failed to rope me. At Kendall Square.)

Me and You and Everyone We Know ★★★½

he Independent Film Festival of Boston's closing-ight movie is sure to be among the year's best. ewcomer Miranda July, who wrote and directed , plays Christine, an aspiring artist who begins an ıdball romance with a shoe salesman (John awkes) whose marriage has just split up. But plot n't what drives July's movie. It's the funny-sad ood that's both dreamy and starkly real. July's ript offers a group of characters—also including ı elitist gallery manager (Tracy Wright), two xually inquisitive teens (Natasha Slayton, ajarra Townsend) and a secretive girl (Carlie 'esterman)—who elude pigeonholing, and her esentation avoids gimmickry. July has a great ıack for poking into the secret recesses of her ıaracters' brains, making those characters three-mensional and emotionally involving. (At the useum of Fine Arts, April 24.)

Melinda and Melinda ★★

'oody Allen's latest is not as insufferably irrele-ınt as his other recent movies, but this one—hich tells a similar story twice, once as comedy ıd once as tragedy—still has many of the bogus uches that plagued those forgettable films. here are the pretentious upper-crust characters he sort Allen would have skewered long ago), ıe overwritten dialogue ("I haven't been to a ırk bistro since college") and the unfortunate ıaracter who slowly turns into Allen (here, it's 'ill Ferrell). And never in my life have I seen two onwhite men with sweaters draped over their oulders, preppy-style, yet Allen gives us two in this movie. (At Boston Common, Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Millions ★★

The premise in Danny (*28 Days Later*) Boyle's latest hints at the movie's ambitious (but unsuccessful) blend of fantasy and reality: Set in the days before England switches its currency from pounds to Euros (a switch that's not currently scheduled), it's about what happens when two young brothers find a duffel bag full of more than £200,000. If they don't spend the money soon, it will be worthless; if they do, they'll have to figure out the best way to do it. The ultimate question posed by the fable is, "If you had the power to perform good deeds, would you?" and the result is a sort of *Leave It to Beaver* good-hearted misadventure focusing on the younger brother, who's obsessed with saints and thinks the money is a divine gift. If adults might snicker at the story's urge to tap their uncynical inner child (which turns it precious at times), it's hard to know what kids might make of *Millions*. There's an appealing altruism to the story, especially considering how much advertising and entertainment caters to our selfish urges. But European currency and Catholic saints weren't high on my list of priorities when I was 8, and I wonder whether today's kids have the ability or the desire to overlook those hurdles to get to the message. (At Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

Palindromes ★★

There are sound notions behind the tragic journey of troubled New Jersey 13-year-old Aviva: that people perhaps never change, forever carrying their flaws and inner demons, and that damaged parents rear damaged children, ad infinitum. But writer-director Todd Solondz (*Welcome to the Dollhouse*, *Storytelling*) treats Aviva's tribulations (unwanted pregnancy, abortion, running away from home, moving in with fundamentalist Kansans, and taking up with a lecherous trucker) as a chance to rub our noses in American freakiness. He puts such a premium on the grotesque that the tale feels more like an ostentatious art project than a movie. Part of the way the movie calls attention to itself is by having Aviva played by eight actresses, mostly teen girls, but also by Jennifer Jason Leigh and Sharon Wilkins (the last is roughly double the age and weight of the teen actresses). Most of the actresses do well—including Leigh and Wilkins, who eventually make you believe they're vulnerable youths—but the stunt casting doesn't exactly make the story flow, and makes Aviva feel more like a pawn for Solondz to toy with than a real person. Typically, Solondz strains to be controversial, and fails. (At Harvard Square and Embassy Waltham.)

Sahara ★

What were they thinking? The number of black victims and whites who escape from death is the most remarkable thing about director Breck Eisner's smug action-adventure that, not surprisingly, never builds up the goodwill or fun that might have gotten its cardboard characters and ludicrous story past. If there had been more substance to this *Indiana Jones* wannabe, then maybe the dubious racial politics wouldn't be quite so glaring. It's an unintentional hoot that the Mali-set movie tries to present Matthew McConaughey's hero as a benevolent treasure hunter, because he shows little concern for anyone but himself and his pals. He's the quintessential "ugly American," laying waste to a foreign country and then chuckling about it, because he's having fun and either doesn't notice or doesn't care about the mayhem swirling around him. Yicch. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Sin City ★★

Graphic novels supposedly brought adult sophistication to comic books. But if Robert (*Spy Kids*) Rodriguez's adaptation of Frank Miller's *Sin City* (with both men credited as co-directors) is any indication, that just means you get R-rated adolescent fantasy instead of PG-rated adolescent fantasy. So the episodic, overlapping tales of vice in the movie's Basin City metropolis aren't just warmed-over neo-noir (with uncinematic, incessant narration that vintage noir didn't have), they're also full of over-the-top violence dished out by avenging angels and full of sexually available women (or the frequent daily double of hookers toting assault weapons). Well, at least it's not boring, and Rodriguez's use of CGI backdrops instead of sets (in most scenes) outdoes *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow* in effectiveness. It's fun sometimes, and energetic most of the time, but pretty juvenile. Of course, that's no accident (even though it's rated R). Case in point: Miramax made local critics preview the movie with an audience of comic-book fans, and I swear on a stack of Burt Lancaster DVDs I smelled peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in the crowd. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

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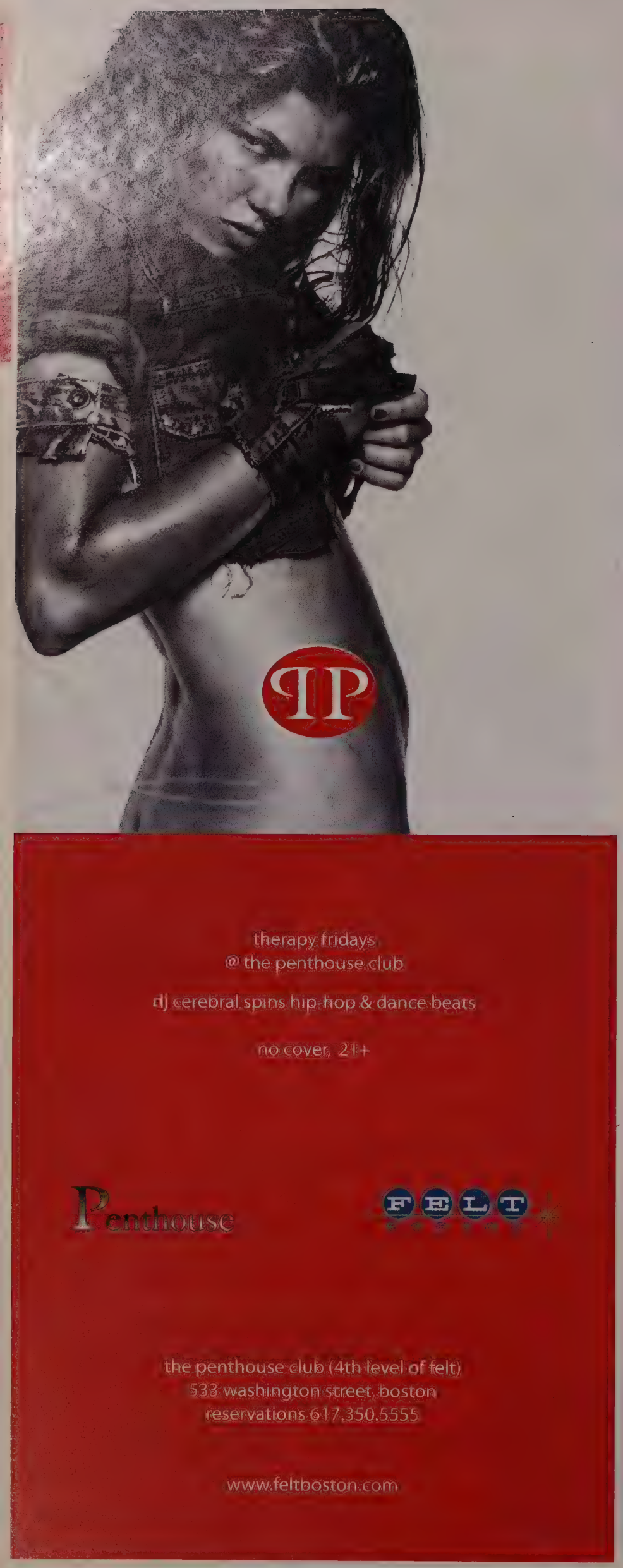


Special Events

Independent Film Festival of Boston

More than 60 films screen at four venues. The festival also hosts 40 filmmkers plus sponsor parties, panel discussions and award cermonies at various venues. See listings below for the Brattle Theatre, the Coolidge Corner Theatre, the Museum of Fine Arts and the Somerville Theatre. For tickets and a complete schedule, visit www.iffboston.org. April 21-24.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

•April 25, 6 pm. Filmmaker Frederick Wiseman answers audience questions after the viewing of his documentary **Aspen** *1991*, about the life of John Denver.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Brattle Features

•April 20, 7 and 9:30 pm. **The 48 Hour Film Project.** Teams of filmmakers present movies they wrote, shot and edited in one weekend.

•April 21, 3:30, 5:30 and 8 pm. **A Night at the Opera** *1935*. The Marx Brothers try to help their friends get into the opera business in Sam Wood's classic film. Meditation instructor, film critic and author Dean Sluyter introduces the film at the 8 pm showing.

Independent Film Festival of Boston

•April 22 1 pm. **Shakespeare Behind Bars** *2005*. Hank Robertson directs this documentary about a production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* in a Kentuckey prison. •4 pm. **Mutual Appreciation** *2005*. A singer-songwriter searches for a band, the right girl, and rent money in Andrew Bujalski's film. •7 pm. **Closed on Sundays** *2005*. Rudi Schwab directs and produces this documentary about the closing of local parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston. •10:30 pm. **Allison** *2005*. Jeff Drew's eight-minute film tells the story of a disintegrating marriage through animated collages and music. Immediately following, **The Heart Is Deceitful Above All Things** *2004*. Asia Argento directs and stars in the adaption of J.T. Leroy's autobiographical short-story collection about a child pulled from foster care into a world of drugs, prostitution and violence by his 18-year-old mother.

•April 23, 12 pm. •**Magda** *2004*. A man reminisces about an old flame in Chel White's six-minute, stop-animation film. Immediately following, **The Future of Food** *2004*. Deborah Koons Garcia's documentary explores the effects of biotechnology on farmers, scientists and consumers. •3 pm. **After Innocence** *2005*. Jessica Sanders' documentary follows the stories of wrongfully imprisoned people who, with DNA evidence, have had their convictions reversed. •7 pm. **Murderball** *2005*. Henry Alex Rubin and Dana Adam Shapiro direct this documentary about a quadriplegic rugby team's quest for gold at the Paralympics. •9:30 pm **Popaganda: The Art and Crimes of Ron English** *2004*. Pedro Carvajal's documentary looks at guerilla artist Ron English, who hijacks advertising campaigns and reimages them to create new messages. •12 am. •**The Netherbeast of Berm-Tech Industries** *2004*. Dean Ronalds directs this six-minute comedy about corporate living. Immediately following, **Dead Birds** *2004*. After pulling a bloody bank robbery, a band of fugitives seek refuge on an abandoned plantation.Tensions between the group begin to build as they suspect their shelter is haunted. Alex Turner directs.

•April 24, 12 pm. •**The Adventures of Slater's Friend** *2005*. Joshua and Benjamin Safdie direct this 16-minute abstract experiment in film. Immediately following, **The Girl from Monday** *2005*. Hal Hartley directs this science-fiction film about an extreme capitalistic society. •2:30 pm. **Stolen** *2005*. Rebecca Dreyfus directs this documentary about the 1990 art heist at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. •5:30 pm. **Same Sex America** *2005*. Henry Corra directs a documentary about the recent history of homosexuality in Boston. •8 pm. **Buddy**. The longest-serving mayor of Providence, R.I., Buddy Cianci, is the subject of Cherry Arnold's documentary.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Selects

•Now showing. **Academy Award–Nominated Shorts: Live Action and Animation.** A series of short films includes *Birthday Boy* by Sejong Par*Ryan* by Chris Landreth; *Gopher Broke* by Je Fowler; *Two Cars, One Night* by Taika Waititi a Ainsley Gardiner; *7:35 in the Morning* by Nach Vigalondo; *Wasp* by Andrea Arnold and *Lit Terrorist* by Ashvin Kumar.

•Now showing. **Watermarks** *2004*. Director Yar Zilberman's documentary tells the story of t women's champion swimmers of the Jewish spo club Hakoah Vienna, who were forced to fl Austria after Hitler's occupation. Zilberman fil their reunion 60 years later. In Hebrew and Germa with English subtitles.

Film Appreciation Seminar: Unhinged Cinema

•April 20, 7 pm. **El Topo** *1970*. A gunfighter and h son endure an epic mission in Alejandr Jodorowsky's cult classic.

•April 27, 7 pm. **Putney Swope** *1969*. In direct Robert Downey's satire, a black man is mistaken put in charge of the executive board at a advertising firm.

Independent Film Festival of Boston

•April 22, 5 pm. **Brief Encounters** is a collection six short films. •7 pm. **Subjective Reality** featur four short films by festival directors. • 9 pm. **Dar Matter** is a collection of short films. •12 am. **Dea Birds** *2004*. See Brattle Theatre, April 23, for description.

•April 23, 12 pm. **Finnish Experimental Shorts** is collection of short documentaries, narratives an performance films made between 1978 and 2005 b Finnish directors. •2 pm. **Inside Out**. Cindy Klein directs this documentary about yard art and i collectors. Immediately following, **The World Competitive Debate**. Director Steven Kun examines the world of high school debaters at th Dartmouth Debate Institute summer camp. •4:3 pm. **The Fall of Fujimori** *2005*. Ellen Perry direct this documentary about the ex-president of Peru Alberto Fujimori. •7 pm. **Mardi Gras: Made i China** *2005*. David Redmon's documentary follow the lives of four Chinese teenagers who work in factory making plastic bead necklaces. •9 pm **Jovenes Rebeldes** *(Young Rebels) 2005*. Anna Bode and Ryan Fleck's documentary looks at th burgeoning Cuban hip-hop scene. Co-presented b the Boston Latino Film Festival. • 12 am. **Th Heart Is Deceitful Above All Things** *2004*. Se Brattle Theatre, April 22, for a description.

•April 24, 1 pm. **Popaganda: The Art and Crime of Ron English**. See Brattle Theatre, April 23, for description. •3:15 pm. **Abel Raises Cain** *2005*. Se New Releases for a description. •5 pm. **Amazin Grace: Jeff Buckley** *2004*. Laurie Trombley an Nyla Blalek Adams co-direct this documentar about the musician Jeff Buckley and his fans, an the musician's mysterious death. •5:45 pm. **Filmi Achievement** *2005*. Kevin Kerwin directs thi mock documentary about a film school. •8 pm **The Hole Story**. Alex Karpovsky directs thi comedy about a Boston man producing a TV sho in Minnesota.

Kids' Films

•April 20, 11 am. **Pete's a Pizza** *2001*. Willia Steig's favorite storybooks come alive in this sho film.

•April 21, 11 am. **Two Brothers** *2004*. Twin tige cubs are forced apart when one is sold to the circu and the other becomes the pet of a governor's son Later the brothers reunite and try to find their wa home.

•April 22, 11 am. **Sandlot 2** *2005*. Ten years after th original story, the sandlot is home to a new bunch o neighborhood kids.

•May 1, 11 am. **Mad Hot Ballroom** *2005*. The Coolidge presents a sneak preview of this documen tary about a group of New York City 11-year-old who enter the world of ballroom dancing.

Midnight Movies

•April 29-30, 12 am. **Live Freaky, Die Freaky** *2003*. Charles Manson returns in the year 3069 and music, mayhem and murder ensue. With a all-puppet cast of characters and the backing voices and music of Kelly Osbourne, Green Day's Billie Joe Armstrong and others.

Screening Room

•April 28, 7 pm. The Judi Rotenberg Gallery and Videospace present **Public Spaces**, a collection o short videos and films from local artists. Included are a public service announcement for starving artists and the "animated documentary" **Met State** *(2001)*.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Black and White on Screen

•May 2, 9 pm. **Jungle Fever** *1991*. In Spike Lee 's film, a black New York architect has an affair with

Robin Williams and Anton Yelchin in David Duchovny's coming-of-age drama *House of D*

is Italian-American secretary. Starring Wesley nipes and Annabella Sciorra.

Buried Treasures: Film Archives in Focus

April 29, 7 pm. **Essential Cinema**. Archivist Andrew Lampert of the Anthology Film Archives introduces a selection of works from the archives in New York. Immediately following, Lampert presents **Unessential Cinema**, film reels that archives will not save. •9 pm. **Return of the Blue Shorts**. HFA Conservator Julie Buck introduces a collection of erotic cinema usually shunned by academia.

•April 30, 7 pm. **Panorama Ephemera** *2004*. Rick Prelinger's work is a collage of sequences from several types of film, including industrial, educational and amateur works. •9 pm. Archivist Mark Toscano of the Academy Film Archive presents a selection of recently restored 16mm avant-garde films.

•May 1, 7 pm. **Le Fantome d'Henri Langlois** *(Henri Langlois: The Phantom of the Cinematheque) 2004*. One of the fathers of modern film archiving, Henri Langlois, co-founder of the Cinémathéque Francais, is the subject of this documentary.

Fashion and Film

•April 26, 7 pm. Four short films screen for free: Man Ray's **Emak-Bakia** *1926*, Kenneth Anger's **Puce Moment** *1949*, Norman McLaren and Evelyne Lamart's **Lines Horizontal** *1962*, and Sarah Pucill's **You Be Mother** *1990*.

Film and Autobiography

•April 26, 8 pm. **Bright Leaves** *2003*. Ross McElwee explores his home state of North Carolina and its tobacco production, with commentary on cigarettes and their troubling legacy to the state.

•May 2, 9 pm. **Cowards Bend the Knee** *2003*. Guy Maddin's semi-autobiographical film tells a story about a Winnipeg hockey star and his relationship with an oversexed Chinese woman.

Frames of Mind

•April 20, 7 pm. **Lost in Translation** *2003*. In Sofia Coppola's film, a washed-up American actor visiting Tokyo forms a friendship with a fellow bored hotel guest. Starring Bill Murray and Scarlett Johansson.

•April 27, 7 pm. **The Matrix** *1999*. In Andy and Larry Wachowski's science-fiction film, the future looks like the present, but with a surreal twist.

Philosophy and Film: Deleuze

•April 20, 9 pm. **Fortini/Cani** *1976*. Jean-Marie Straub and Danéle Huillet direct this reflection on the Nazi occupation of Italy during World War II and the Israeli-Palistinian conflict, based on Franco Fortini's book *The Dogs of Sinai*. In Italian and German with English subtitles.

•April 27, 9:30 pm. **Prénom Carmen** *(First Name: Carmen) 1983*. The heroine of this film, based loosely on Bizet's opera, robs a bank in order to fund a film she's interested in making. Directed by Jean-Luc Godard. In French with English subtitles.

Topics in Film: The Death of the Sixties

•April 22, 7 pm. **Gimme Shelter** *1970*. This documentary captures a chaotic 1969 Rolling Stones concert at Altamont Speedway where members of the Hell's Angels were hired for security. David Maysles, Albert Maysles and Charlotte Zwerin direct. •9 pm. **Performance** *1970*. A psychotic gangster seeks refuge in the house of a former rock star (Mick Jagger) after a failed hit. Directed by Nicholas Roeg and Donald Cammell.

•April 23, 7 pm. **Maidstone** *1970*. This film within a film features director Norman Mailer as Norman T. Kingsley, an experimental filmmaker and presidential candidate. Kingsley works on a movie at a huge mansion in the Hamptons under the protection of his brother (Rip Torn) until their relationship faces a great confrontation. •9 pm. **Coming Apart** *1969*. Rip Torn plays a psychiatrist who sets up a camera in his apartment to capture his sexual encounters with female visitors. Milton Moses Ginsberg directs.

•April 24, 7 pm. **Zabriskie Point** *1969*. In Michelangelo Antonioni's film set during the counterculture movement of the 1960s, two youths cross paths and traverse the American desert. •9 pm. **The Last Movie** *1971*. After a film's production stalls in Peru, a stuntman and his prostitute girlfriend decide to stay in the village and build a hotel, with violent consequences. Dennis Hopper directs.

Visions from the South: Korean Cinema 1960-2005

•April 25, 7 pm. **Camel(s)** *2002*. An undertaker and a pharmacist have a weekend affair in a coastal town. Park Ki-yong directs. In Korean with English subtitles.

•May 2, 7 pm. **A Tale of Two Sisters** *2003*. Kim Ji-woon directs this psychological horror film about

MAKSOU

HAIR & MAKE UP ARTISAN – BAY [illegible]

BOSTON'S BEST 2004

Charles Maksou

Women's Haircut

Once you go dry you'll never go back. [illegible] dry hair are trimmed, instead of large wet clumps [illegible] see the haircut taking shape right before you [illegible] Result is a cut that works with your hair's natural [illegible] movement and requires very little styling. Many [illegible] emulate the dry-cut but in Boston, there's only one [illegible] Charles MAKSOU

Bring in this ad for 20% OFF

first time hair and spa services

two girls who are sent to the country to live with their evil stepmother. Kim Ji-woon directs. In Korean with English subtitles.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film
•April 28, 8:30 pm. **Antonio Gaudi** *1984*. Hiroshi Teshigahara's documentary looks at the work of the Catalan architect Gaudi. In Japanese with English subtitles.

Black Maria Film and Video Festival
•April 21, 8 pm. This traveling festival has presented independent film and video works since 1981.

Choreographing Cinema: Dance Film
•April 30, 11 am. **Choreographing Cinema I** is a collection of short films that communicate dance ideas. Several performers create a dance that exists only within the film space. A collection of shorts wherein filmmakers become choreographers follows at 1:30 pm with a program titled **Choreographing Cinema II**.

Cinema Vino
•April 21, 3pm; April 28, 2 pm; April 30, 3:30 pm. **Mondovino** *2004*. Jonathon Nossiter's controversial documentary looks at the wine industry and the impact of globalization. In English, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish with English subtitles.

Independent Film Festival of Boston
•April 22, 4 pm. **Casting About** *2005* Barry Hershey's documentary uses audition footage to show the process behing casting a film. •8 pm. **The Girl from Monday** *2005*. Hal Hartley's science fiction film receives its New England premiere. See Brattle Theatre, April 24, for a description.
•April 23, 11 am. **Stolen** *2005*. See Brattle Theatre, April 24, for a description. •1:30 pm. **Rhythym Is It!** *2005*. Grube and Enrique Sanchez Lansche direct this documentary about a group of troubled teens who train to dance for a production of *The Rite of Spring*. • 4:30 pm. **Closed on Sundays** *2005*. See Brattle Theatre, April 22, for a description. •7:30 pm. **Same Sex America** *2005*. See Brattle Theatre, April 24, for a description. •10 pm. **Stranger: Bernie Worrell on Earth** *2005*. Phil di Fiore directs this documentary about Bernie Worrell, who influenced contemporary music through his keyboard playing for George Clinton, Parliament-Funkadelic and Talking Heads.
•April 24, 1 pm. **Jovenes Rebeldes** *(Young Rebeldes) 2005*. See Coolidge Corner Theatre, April 23, for a description. •4:30 pm. **Rois et Reine** *(Kings and Queen) 2005*. Two narratives converge into a story about former lovers, betrayal among family members, and the distinction between mental health and insanity. Arnaud Desplechin directs. •8 pm. **Me and You and Everyone We Know** *2005*. See New Releases for a description.

Museum School Film Annual
•April 21, 5:30 pm. This juried program screens films and videos produced by students of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts during the past year.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater
•Through May 6. **Amazing Journeys** *1999*. Follow butterflies, whales and zebras on their migrations.
•Through September 5. **Mystery of the Nile** *2005*. Join explorers on the first attempt of a full descent down the Nile River.
•Through May 6. **Forces of Nature**. Scientists attempt to forecast and understand the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater
•Through June 30. **Sharks 3D** *2004*. Explore the ocean with Jean-Michel Cousteau.
•Through June 30. **Aliens of the Deep** *2005*. Academy Award–winning director James Cameron takes viewers to the depths of the ocean to encounter some of Earth's strangest life forms.

REGENT THEATRE

•April 30, 1 pm. **American Bellydancer** *2005*. Jonathon Brandeis directs this feature documentary on the art and practice of belly-dancing in the U.S. •7 pm. **Spaghetti and Matzoballs** Dave Lewis directs this film about the son of an Orthodox Jewish housewife and a mobsteresque Italian milkman.

SOMERVILLE THEATRE

Independent Film Festival of Boston
•April 22, 2 pm. **Home** *2005*. Matt Soiler Seitz writes and directs this film about an all-night party. •2:15 pm. **The Fall of Fujimori** *2005*. See Coolidge Corner Theatre, April 23, for a description. •9 pm (also showing April 24, 7 pm). **Childstar** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.
•April 23, 12:30 pm. **Sundowning** *2005*. Three generations of Maine lobster fisherman face illness and financial troubles in James Cole's film. •3 pm. **In A Nutshell: A Portrait of Elizabeth Tashjian** *2005*. Director Don Bernier tells the story of the founder and curator of the Nut Museum in Old Lyme, Conn. •10:45 pm. **Mysterious Skin** *2004*. Gregg Araki directs this film based on a novel by Scott Heim about two small-town boys searching for love and self-discovery.
•April 24, 1 pm. **Liberia: An Uncivil War** *2004*. Jonathan Stack and James Brabazon team up to create a two-pronged documentary about Liberian president Charles Taylor and the rebels who are fighting against him. •9 pm. **Blackballed: The Bobby Dukes Story** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON

Regent Theatre
7 Meford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gree Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Li to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Li to Chestnut Hill.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Oran Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line Davis.

dvice to Contributors

bmit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax 17-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by ail to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, ces, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is ır weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac-pted over the phone.

dvice to Readers

ormation for the Music section is compiled from dif-ent sources. Although we make every effort to provide urate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead double-check dates and times (see complete list of ues at the end of the section).

op Billings

idioslave April 28, Avalon (617-423-6398).
esden Dolls April 24, Paradise Rock Club (617-3-6398).
in Brown's Body April 23, Paradise Rock Club (17-423-6398).
lly Clarkson, Graham Colton Band April 22, Or-eum Theatre (617-931-2000).
nny Kravitz, Nikka Costa April 24, Orpheum eatre (617-931-2000).
ssion of Burma, the Count Me Outs April 29, merville Theatre (617-931-2000).
ul Westerberg April 25, Avalon (617-423-6398).

ock, Jazz nd Blues

EDNESDAY, APRIL 20

bey Lounge The Half Nelsons, Tracksuit, Larry nilow Project, Saving Alkatraz, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Asia Café Laura Bullock, 6pm; open mike, 0 pm.
gard M.O. Joe.
is Saul Williams, 8 pm
rklee College of Music The Band for the Job, m.
e Black Rose Eugene Bryne Band.
avo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9 pm.
eezeway Ross Rollins Trio, 7:30 - 10:30 pm.
e Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm.
ntab Lounge Joe Cook's Jam, 9 pm.
ıb Passim Sonia, 8 pm, $13.
k's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
e Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
een Street Grill The Coachmen, 10:30 pm- 1 am.
nnessy's The Mystics.
ard Lounge Gordon (of Fooled by April), 8 pm, cover; Michael Penn, 9:30 pm, $12.
cky's Lounge Jam with Alex & Friends, 9 pm.
Brien's Sean Aylward and the Awkwards, the f-Righteous Brothers, the Animal Closet, $6.
's Freefall, Corina and the Gilbride Band and rocket.
ddy O's Chad LaMarsh.
ullers Jazz Club The John Stein Quartet, $18.
ugh and Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
gattabar Tord Gustavsen Trio, 7:20 pm, $12.
es Jazz Club Pedro Ito Quintet, 9 pm, $10.
na nÓg Resonance.
o of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
the Bear's Place Asher Melodic, ElijahWyman, sie Huntress, Guilford, $6.
e Western Front Split Stream Quintet, 8:30; The oubt It Quartet, 9:30; $5.
itgeist Gallery Nat Mugavero's Spontaneous Sex-$5.
Zygomates Sofia K.

HURSDAY, APRIL 21

bey Lounge Rooftop Suicide Club, Duresse, the in Janes and Furvis, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Asia Café Conlen, 6:30 pm; Kite, 9:30 pm; Mike rara Band, 11 pm.
gard Default Outfit.
enue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30-9 pm.
is Battle for Ozzfest with Cyn, Manntis, A Dozen ies, 6:30 pm.
rklee College of Music Arepa and the 1-20's, 1:45 ; the Gang that Swang, 2:30 pm; CompuFest, m.
e Black Rose Eugene Bryne Band.
avo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9 pm.
eezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30-10:30 pm.
e Burren Swinging Johnsons.
ntab Lounge Groove Authority, 9 pm.
ıb Passim Jake Armerding Band, 7 and 10 pm, .
k's Last Resort Cosmic Igloo, 7:20 pm.
e Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
een Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, 10:30 -2 am, no cover.

Sound Investment

Label mother Alison Brown pulls different strings.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Grammy Award–winning banjo player Alison Brown has pursued a double life since high school. "Monday through Friday, I was a nerdy student and on the weekends, I was a nerdy banjo player," the Connecticut native says of high school in San Diego during the late '70s. "I was also Spock in the *Star Trek* club, so I wasn't exactly trying to be Miss Popular."

Then came college at Harvard, where Brown played bluegrass with the band Northern Lights and on the radio as a DJ at campus station WHRB. "My parents were lawyers," she says. "They encouraged me to think of playing as an avocation. I was pre-med for a while, and decided to go to business school."

After a B.A. in history and literature, Brown earned her M.B.A. from UCLA and went to work as an investment banker for Smith Barney in San Francisco. "I didn't really do too much with the banjo, 'cause as soon as I mentioned it, overnight assignments would appear," she says. "You didn't want it to seem like you had too much of a personal life. It still amazes me that I get to do music professionally."

The planets aligned in 1988 when Brown took a sabbatical to learn jazz guitar and compose. "I took a small leap of faith," she says. "I was underwriting tax-exempt bond issues, which is about as exciting as it sounds. I just decided, not that I'd never do it again, but I wanted some time off."

That was when she heard from fiddler-singer Alison Krauss, who asked Brown to join her band Union Station, based on an early record that Brown had made in California with fiddler Stuart Duncan. "Her [previous] banjo player had that record," Brown says. "How weird is that? It's such a small world."

"Believe it or not, there were actually people in some Appalachian states that we played in that thought we were sisters because we had the same name," she says. "I always felt fortunate that she didn't make me change my name to Brad like Bill Monroe did with Bill Keith." Indeed, the father of bluegrass made banjo player Keith go by his middle name (Brad) to avoid confusion in Monroe's band.

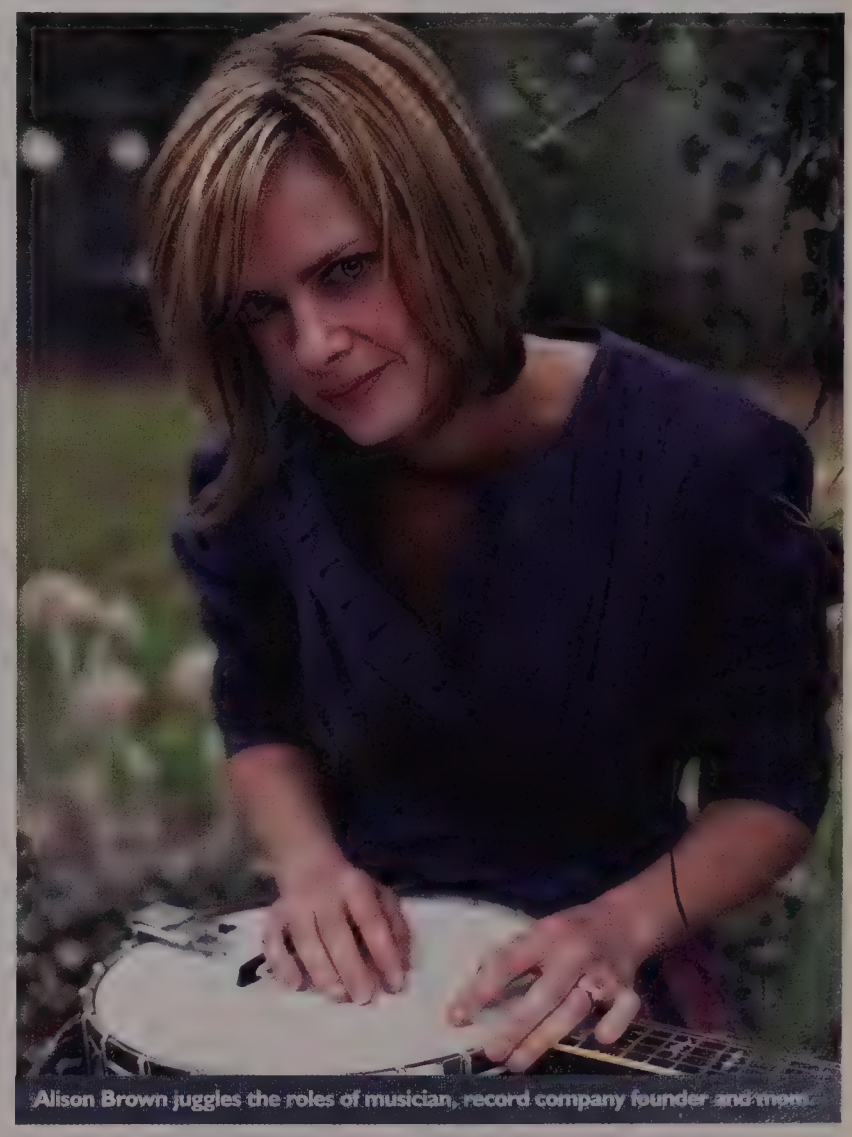
Brown went on to record Krauss' Grammy-winning 1990 album, *I've Got That Old Feeling*, then left Union Station for a solo career in 1991. That year, she became the only woman in the 11-year history of the International Bluegrass Music Association to win an instrumentalist of the year award.

Brown has continued to win accolades for her jazz-inflected bluegrass, from her 1991 solo debut, *Simple Pleasures*, to her new *Stolen Moments* (which includes tracks with the Indigo Girls and Mary Chapin Carpenter). Her 2000 disc, *Fair Weather*, yielded a Grammy for Best Country Instrumental thanks to "Leaving Cottondale," a duet with banjo ace Bela Fleck.

"It's impossible to be a banjo player these days without being influenced by Bela just because he's broken so much ground," says Brown, who picked up the banjo at age 10, inspired by a Flatt and Scruggs record. "It's such a hackneyed instrument in so many people's estimations. They can't get past *Deliverance* or *Hee Haw* or something, but it had a long history before that. It's a very cosmopolitan instrument if it's used in the right way."

Cosmopolitan aptly describes the smooth, sophisticated sound of Brown's band—in contrast to the chops-slanted fusion of Fleck's eclectic Flecktones. "Our music tends to be more melodic and song-form oriented," says Brown, whose band plays May 5 at Lexington's National Heritage Museum. "The Flecktones' music can lean toward the experimental."

Since 1995, Brown has focused her business skills on Compass Records, a roots label she co-founded in 1995 with her husband, bassist Garry West. They've released 200 records, from folk and bluegrass to Celtic music, including discs by Flecktones bassist Victor Wooten, Paul Brady, the Waifs, and Dervish, as well as Brown's band.



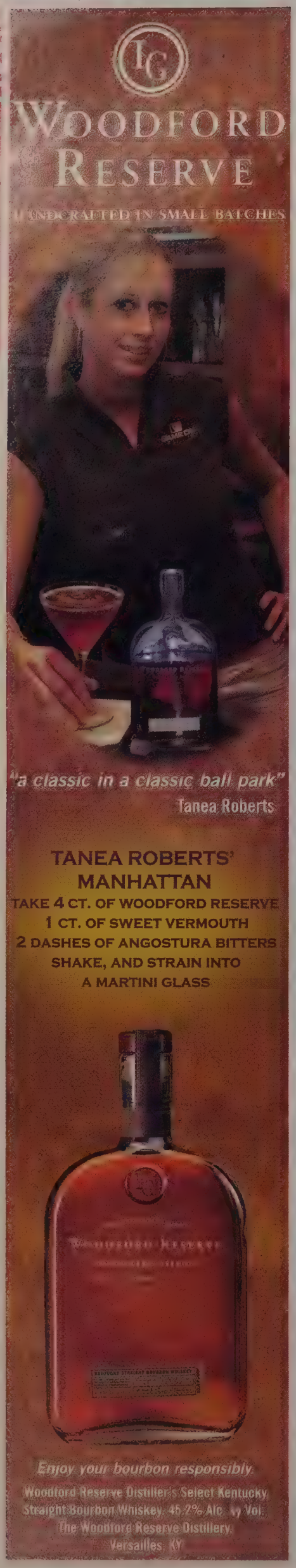
Alison Brown juggles the roles of musician, record company founder and mom.

"We wanted to be the best artist-run, artist-oriented label that we could be, and that is still our goal," Brown says from Compass' Nashville office. "We try to put out records that have a lot of artistic depth, but that don't turn you off because of that."

Her public-finance experience with Smith Barney didn't hurt either. "It really helped us at the beginning when we had our business plan and were looking for an investor," she says. "To this day, the basic business skills that I've learned have helped keep this company alive for 10 years while we've seen a lot of other indie labels come and go."

Now she's tackling a triple life with toddler Hannah in tow—even on tour. "How did I ever think I was busy before?" Brown says. "She loves to sing, and always comes out and dances with us. She's a real road warrior."iB

Alison Brown
plays the National Heritage Museum May 5.



Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Kirkland Café Graduals, John Felice and Billy Cole, Hyphens and Oskura, 8 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Alex Macdougall.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight.
Middle East Downstairs: Melt Banana, An Albatross, Fat Day. $10, 18+. Upstairs: The Indefinate Article, 33 Hz, Ordinary K, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi.
PA's The Jazz Requirement, B.J. Snowden, Morex Optimo and Wujai, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Swerve.
Paradise Rock Club The Codetalkers, $17, 18+.
Plough and Stars Zipper.
Regattabar Dave Holland Big Band, 7:30 pm, $25.
Scullers Jazz Club Andy Bey, $20.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Union Ares, the Reputation, Radar Bros., $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Burt Lafonatine Trio, $8.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Abbey Lounge The Irresponsibles, 9 pm, $5-$7.
All Asia Café Lucas Carpentar, 5:30 pm; Top Heavy, 9:30 pm.
The Attic Lou.
Avenue One Ronan Portley, 5:30-9 pm.
Berklee College of Music The Del Jueves, 3:15 pm; Los Guys, 4:45 pm; Georgi Sareski, 7 pm.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne Band.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30-9 pm.
The Burren The Brightwings.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Cary Pierce, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort The Nerve, 8:30 pm.
Grand Canal Spike the Punch.
Great Scott Fragile, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Pi Alley.
Harpers Ferry Jeff Coffin Mutet featuring Jeff Coffin of Bela Fleck & the Flecktones, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5:30-7 pm; Scooby Snax, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Dwight Ritcher, 9:45, $8.
Kings Groove Authority, 10 pm, no cover.
Kinsale Chad Burtch.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 5-7 pm; Springhill Rounders, 9 pm.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, Gavin House, Forget the Girl and Brother Willie, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Brian O'Connel, 8 pm, no cover; Jordan Carp, 9:30, $7.
Lucky's Lounge Alex Macdougall.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint Live!.
Middle East Upstairs: Sail, On Sailor!, Two Gallants and Damien Jurado, $12, 18+.
Midway Café Julie Lloyd, Steph Taylor, Hugh McGowan.
Milky Way Mass Movementz CD-release party.
Mr. Dooley's Eamon Sheehan, 5-7 pm; Sunday's Well, 9 pm.
O'Brien's The Dirty Truckers, Lorntell, the Buckners and the Less Lonesome, $6.
Orpheum Theatre Kelly Clarkson, 7:30 pm, $39.50.
Paradise John Brown's Boy with Dub is a Weapon, $16, 18+.
Parris Loud Mouth.
PA's Coolzey, Schaffer the Dark Lord, Arecee and Prine Bud and Don Reed, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's The Risk.
Plough and Stars Irish Sesiun, 5:30 pm; Armadillos, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Dave Holland Big Band, 7:30 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club El Eco, 9 pm, $15.
Scullers Jazz Club David Sanchez, $20-$22.
Sky Bar Uncle Billy's Smokehouse, 8 pm.
Somerville Theatre Altan, 8 pm, $24.50-$34.50.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Clandestino, $10.
The Western Front Haiti Kanpe, 9 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates April Hall Quartet.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Abbey Lounge Impossible Hair, Choo Choo la Rouge, 10:45 pm, $5-$7.
All Asia Café Foundation and Friends, 1 pm; Dave Camacho Band, 4 pm; Mason, 7 pm.
Asgard Named by Strangers.
The Attic Chris Canty.
Avenue One Leah Sousa Trio, 7:30-11 pm.
Axis Tiger Army, the Unseen, Lost City Angels, 6:30 pm, $12. All ages.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne Band.
The Burren Old School.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim John Renbourn and Jacqui McShee, 8 pm, $25.

Lenny Kravitz plays the Orpheum Theatre April 24 with Nikka Costa opening.

Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm.
Grand Canal Terre it Up.
Great Scott Shipping News, Taxpayer and Shark and Bear, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax.
Harpers Ferry Marie's Children, The Joshua Tree (U2 tribute), $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Random Axis.
Hurricane O'Reilly's Ryan Bis.
Johnny D's Velvet Elvis, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kings Jose Ramos, 10 pm, no cover.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell.
Kirkland Café SPF-4, Undertows, 9th Wave an Preston Wayne IV, $5.
Lizard Lounge Charlie Chesterman and the Le endary Motorbikes, 9:30 pm, $7.
Lucky's Lounge Supper Club with Al Vega an Trio, & pm, Free; DJ Ben, 10 pm.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Basically Broadway June 9-11, Brown Middle School (617-965-7469).
Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo June 25, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000)
Tony Bennett June 24, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Collective Soul June 21, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Elvis Costello, Emmylou Harris July 23, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Crystal Method May 11, Axis (617-423-6398).
The Decemberists, Willy Mason May 25, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Earth, Wind & Fire, Chicago July 16, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Ben Folds May 14, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Gov't Mule June 3, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Gypsy Kings May 25, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Billy Idol May 20, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Alan Jackson, Sara Evans, the Wrights May 22, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Judas Priest, Queensryche June 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Keane June 4, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Rilo Kiley, Nada Surf May 22, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Lifehouse May 4, Axis (617-423-6398).
The Mars Volta May 10, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Dave Matthews Band, G. Love & Special Sauce July 9-10, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Reba McIntyre, Brad Paisley, Terri Clark May 6, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Nine Inch Nails May 12-13, Orpheum Theatre (617-423-6398).
Oasis, Jet June 24, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Papa Roach May 11, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, the Black Crowes June 18, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Robert Plant June 17, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Lisa Marie Presley May 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-6398).
Soulive May 5-6, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-6398).
Bruce Springsteen May 20, Orpheum Theatre (617-423-6398).
Sting May 5, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).
Sum 41 May 19, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Donna Summer July 7, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
James Taylor June 28-29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).

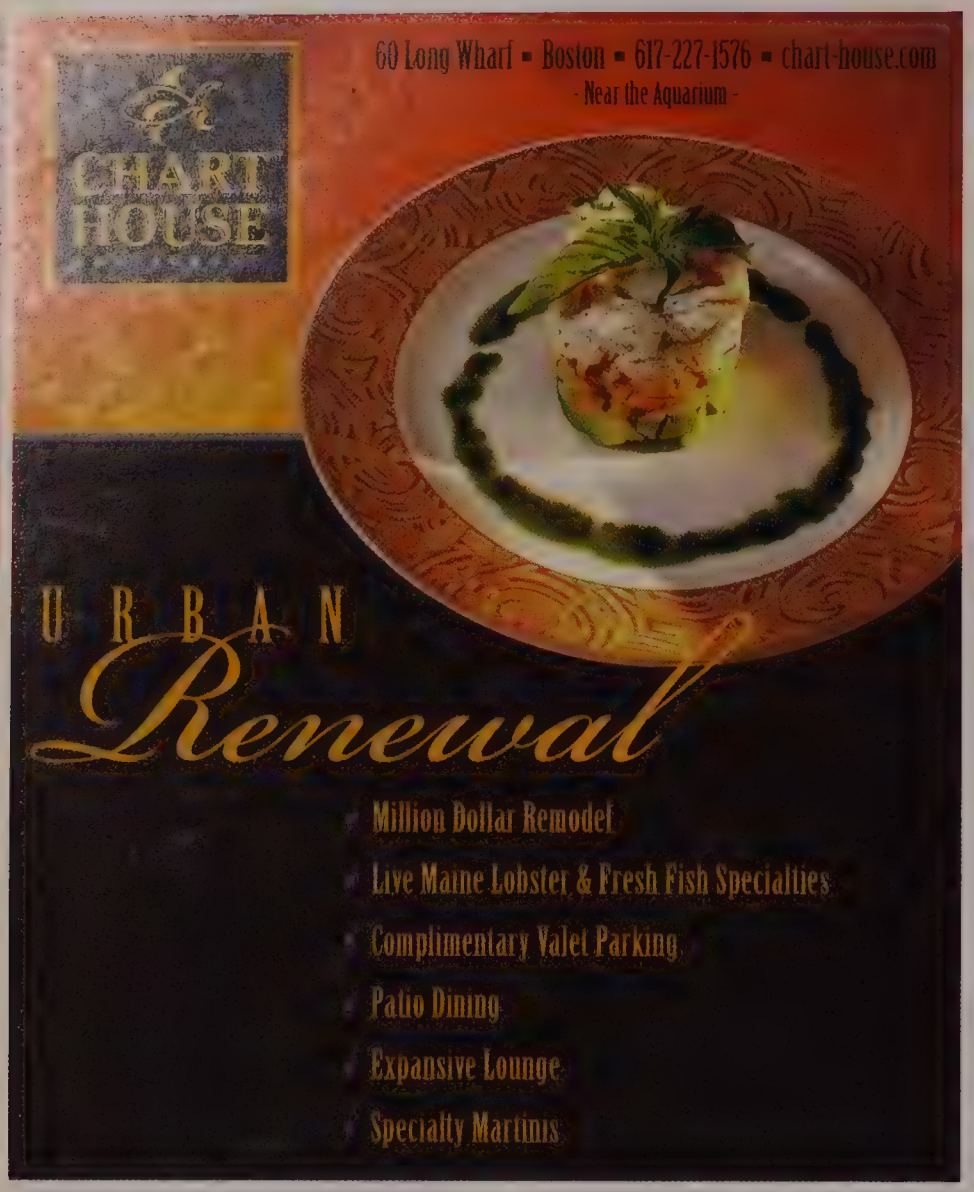
Matt Murphy's The Well.
Middle East Downstairs: Mudhoney, $15, 18+. Upstairs: Pure Fiction CD-Release, the Halogens, Baby Strange, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Sugabomb, Amigazo, Lipstick Killers, Cherry on Dragon.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Paradise Rock Club: John Brown's Body, 8 pm, $14-$16, 18 +.
Parris Loud Mouth.
PA's Static of the Gods, Grandevolution and Why Twist the Hair, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Mark Morris and the Catunes.
Plough and Stars The Flexible Flyer String Band, 5 pm; Kevin Connolly, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Dave Holland Big Band, 7:30 pm, $25.
Roxbury Community College Ezperanza Spalding, 8 pm, $7.
Ryles Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club David Sanchez, $20-$22.
Tír na nÓg Jordan Carp.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Fitless, Bury the Needle and Baby Boy H $7.
The Western Front Bennett Miller Band, 9 pm, $10.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Abbey Lounge Bleach and Gorch Fock, 9:45 pm, $5-$7.
All-Asia Café Songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm; Jamie Tredwell, 8 pm; What's Up Night, 10 pm.
Avalon Fall Out Boy, 6 pm.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne Band.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am-3 pm.
Breezeway Ross Rollins Trio, 11-3 pm.
The Burren Singer Songwriter Series with Danielle
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jazz & Rock Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Nini Camps, Meghan Toohey and Adrianne, 7:30 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Daughters, Purity's Failure and Best Death Ever, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, 9:30 pm-1 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Harpers Ferry Plan B, Ten Times a Day, Brilliant Zero, Fall for Scarlet, Say When, Fade in Silence, $10-$12, all ages.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Mathew Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd, 12-3 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Sonatra Sunday.
Matt Murphy's Bud E Green.
Middle East Downstairs: Karyshma, $10, 18+. Upstairs: The Assault, Dynasty Electric Duo, the Clicks, the Count Me Outs and Parker Hill, $8, 18+.
Midway Café The Leon Rich Band & Pals.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Mike Barrett, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Red Invasion, the Gunman, the Villains, the Old Men, $6.
Orpheum Theatre Lenny Kravitz, Nikka Costa, $41.50-$49.50, 7:30 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Dresden Dolls, Fluttr Effect, 7 pm.
Paddy O's Sunday's Well.
PA's The Wayward, Hitler's Wheelchair, the Heuristic, Side Effects, Superpower, Self Abuse.
Plough and Stars Hatrack Gallagher and Ric Maure, 5 pm.
Regattabar The World Famous Harlem Gospel Choir, 12:30 pm, $13.
Ryles Jazz Club Yoko Miwa, 10 am-3 pm.
Tír na nÓg Kevin Byrne.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Marty Ballaou Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place St. Helena, the Shills and-Moller, $5.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon Ensemble, 9 pm-1 am.
Zeitgeist Gallery Pablo Ablanedo Jazz Octet, 2-4 pm, $10; the Boston Jazz Composers Collective, 9:30 pm, $7.

MONDAY, APRIL 25

Avalon Paul Westerberg, 7 pm, $28, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm.
Club Passim Hot Buttered Rum String Band, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm.



Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Starhick, no cover.
Matt Murphy's State of the Art.
Middle East Downstairs: Louis XIX, $12, 18+. Upstairs: The Popsters, Even in Blackouts, Tramps Like Us CD-release, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Midway Groove Thang.
Milky Way Open mike with Nanci McDonald, no cover.
O'Brien's Matt Kerstein, $5.
Plough and Stars Ken Selcer and Shazam, 8:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg Christian McNeill.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballaou Trio, 8:30 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sesroh, 7 pm, $7; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

Abbey Lounge Elleen Rose and Seth Goodman, 9 pm, no cover.
All Asia The Matt Germak Band, 6:30 pm, $2; Foever's Foreign Gate, 10:30 pm.
Axis Underoath, the Chariot, These Arms Are Snakes, Fear Before the March of Flames, 7 pm, $15. All ages.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Freewheelin', 10 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Leesa, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harpers Ferry Matt Wertz, $10-$12, 18+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Chuck Brodsky and Heather Waters, 8:30 pm, $8.
Lizard Lounge Jim Campilongo Electric Trio, Alex Dezen, Richard Julian and Andrew Vladeck, 8 pm, $8.
Lucky's Lounge Accoustic After Dark, 10 pm.
Matt Murphy's Public House.
Middle East Downstairs: Dizzee Rascal, $20, 18+.
Midway Café Indefinite Article & Friends.
O'Brien's Mission: Control, $6.
Paddy O's Brian Perry.
Plough and Stars Gaku Murata Quartet, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Osmany Paredes, 7:30.
Ryles Jazz Club The Paul Speidel Band, 9:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Jazz Club Gary Burton, $22.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Jen Kearney and the Lo Onion, Red Elvises, $12.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

Abbey Lounge Clampede, 20 Foot Halo, Cory Ba tic Band, 9 pm, $5-$7.
All Asia Café Open Mike, 7:30 pm.
Asgard The Mike Tucker Quartet.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9 pm.
Breezeway ZMQ 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Pastures of Plenty, Tim Gearan, Kimo Kirk, Ry Cavanaugh and Jennifer Kimball, 8 pm, $1
Dick's Last Resort Hair Club, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Green Street Grill The Coachmen, 10:30 pm-1 am
Harpers Ferry Phix, Chuch, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's The Mystics.
Johnny D's Dave Alvin and Tim Gearan, 8:30 pr $12.
Lucky's Lounge Jam with Alex & Friends, 9 pm.
Middle East The Neon Calm, Bril, Flickerstic $12, 18+.
Milky Way Sanghai Valentine, no cover.
O'Brien's Stephanie's ID, Tyler Trudeau Attempt, $
Paddy O's Chad LaMarsh.
PA's Les Angles Morts.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 8:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Lamine Touré & Group Saloum, pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Resonance.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Danko Jones, the Coma Mando Diao, $10.
The Western Front Mike Winograd/Joe Moffet 8:30; Rebels of Slobia, 9:30; $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Nat Mugavero's Spontaneou Sextet.
Les Zygomates Theresa Inez.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Abbey Lounge The Weisstronauts, 7 pm, no cove Amun Ra, the Tint, Dollyrots, Sugabomb, 9 pr $5-$7.

Ani DiFranco plays at the Orpheum Theatre April 29.

All Asia Café Juliet Lloyd, 9:30 pm.
Asgard The Times.
Avalon Audioslave, 7 pm.
Avenue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30-9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9 pm.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons.
Club Passim The Weepies, 7 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Fast Forward, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Dynasty, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm-2 am.
Harpers Ferry Parker House and Theory CD Release, $10 for 18+, $7 for 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Westbound Train, 9 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Jamie Treadwell, Letterik, Fleming and the Failures, Junk Funkies, $5.
Lizard Lounge Kabir, 9:30, $7.
Lucky's Lounge Alex Macdougall.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight.
Middle East Downstairs: The Wedding Present, Crystal Skull, $15. Upstairs: Anne Heaton, Joe Perrice, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamon Sheehan.
O'Brien's Never.Only.Ones, the Underdogs, $6.
PA's B.J. Snowden, the Carlisle Sound, Headband, International Penpal, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Swerve.
Plough and Stars Brass Roots, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar JR Records release party with Northern Lights Band, Nir Felder's Junk Poetics, Fikira; 7:30, 10.
Ryles Jazz Club Syncopation, 9:30 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sarah Borges, Jimmy Ryan CD-release and Chris Scruggs.
The Western Front Rhythm Stage, 9 pm, $5.
Les Zygomates Brian Gertz Quartet.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Abbey Lounge The Rudds' CD-release party, 9 pm, $5-$7.
All Asia Café Kevin So, 7 pm.
Asgard The Ripchordz.
The Attic Katrin Band.
Avalon Rob Thomas, 7 pm.
Avenue One Ronan Portley, 5:30-8 pm.
The Burren Swerve.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim The Weepies, 7 and 10 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Back Yard, 8:30 pm.
Grand Canal The Prostitunes.
Great Scott Morning Theft, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Complaints.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Freeze Pop.
Johnny D's Walfman, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kings Jose Ramos, 10 pm, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 5-7 pm; Springhill Rounders, 9 pm.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, Maria DeMaio, AJ Crowe and the Airconditioners, Bettersweet, $5.
Lizard Lounge Bourbon Princess's CD-release, 9:30 pm, $7.
Lucky's Lounge Evan Goodrow's Band.
Matt Murphy's Zion Blood.
Middle East Downstairs: Langhorne Slim, Clem Snide, $12, 18+. Upstairs: Jetlagger, Scamper, Max Heinegg and the Nervous, the Bon Savants, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Pako, The XO's & Pals.
Milky Way James O'Brien and the Church of the Kitchen Sink, the Audrey Ryan Band, the Irreverends.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, 5-9 pm; Patsy and Tony, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Antler, Reverse, LP, $6.
Orpheum Theatre Ani DiFranco, Hamell on Trial.
PA's Smogmonster.
Paddy O's Syndicate.
Parris Mr. Green Genes.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 5:30 pm; Route 44, Kojo Abawaze, the What, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Chris Potter Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Carl Fischer Organic Groove Ensemble, 9 pm, $15.
Somerville Theatre Mission of Burma, 7:30 pm, $24.50.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rory Breaker, the Glow, the Dents, Damn Personals, $10.
The Western Front Cunninlinguists, Soular Winds, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sweet Nonsense, 7 pm, $2. Otis Grove record release, 9 pm-1 am, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio.

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Una Bella Serata

Altan plays at the Somerville Theatre April 22.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Abbey Lounge The Rudds CD-release party, 9 pm, $5-$7.
All Asia Café The Shift, 1 pm; Below Carmine, 7 pm; Kino Proby, 10 pm.
The Attic Fox Pass, with Reddy Teddy, 8 pm.
Avenue One Leah Souza Trio, 7:30- 11 pm.
The Burren Vangoghart.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Sam Shaber, 8 pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort Big '80s, 8:30 pm.
Grand Canal Dick 'n' Jane.
Great Scott Seneca and Junius, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
Harper's Ferry Paul Green School of Rock, 1 pm, $15, all ages; The Knot, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Pig Pen.
Hurricane O'Reilly's Ryan Bis.
Johnny D's Mango Blue, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kings Justin Beach, 10 pm, no cover.
Kinsale Tom Courtney.
Kirkland Café Triplethick, $5.
Lizard Lounge Mads Mouritz, 7:30 pm, no cover; the Common Thrill CD-release party, 9:30, $7.
Lucky's Lounge Supper Club with Al Vega and Trio, 7 pm, Free; DJ Ben 10 pm.
Matt Murphy's Meowskers.
Middle East Downstairs: Genders, Gold Chains and Sue Cie, Adult, $12, 18+. Upstairs: Animal Hospital, Officer May, Helms, Big Bear CD-release, $9, 18+.
Midway Café The Jumblies, Mercy James Gang, the Line.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
O'Brien's Drinkfirst, A Different Self, Farewell Radiance, Breathe, Wreckoning, $8.
Paddy O's Joshua Tree.
Parris Mr. Green Genes.
PA's The Nonfamous, Silent Service.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint and the Road Scholars, 5 pm.
Regattabar Chris Potter Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Scullers Jazz Club Hiromi, $22.
Somerville Theatre Libana, 8 pm, $19.50-$24.50.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewel, 5:30-8 pm; Mike Barry 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Andrea Gillis, Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings, $10.
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Christine Fawson.

SUNDAY, MAY 1

The Burren Singer Songwriter Series with Danielle.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues and Rock Jam.
Great Scott U.V. Protection, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau.
Johnny D's Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd.
Middle East Downstairs: Death from Above: 1979, Uncut, Controller Controller, $12.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Mike Barrett.
Ryles Jazz Club Patricia Adams, 10 am.
T.T. The Bear's Place Mahjongs.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon Ensemble, 9 pm-1 am.

MONDAY, MAY 2

Axis The All American Rejects, 6:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Johnny D's John Payne Saxophone Choir, 8:30 pm, $10.
Midway Café Midway Groove Thang.
T.T. the Bear's Place Matters and Dunaway, Boot Bip, Mice Parade, $9.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sesroh, 7 pm, $7; the Fring 10 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa.

TUESDAY, MAY 3

The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm.
Club Passim Open Mike with Joe Kowan, 7 pm, $5
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harper's Ferry Paper Moon, $4, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Middle East Russian Futurists, Junior Boys and Car bou, $12, 18+.
Paddy O's Brian Perry.
Ryles Jazz Club Artist Showcase, 8:30 pm, $7.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ulysses, 8mm Fuz Ochmonks.
Les Zygomates Gabriel Guerroro.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bank of America Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
Brown Middle School *125 Meadowbrook Road, Newton (617-552-7409).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hill Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Great Scott *1222 Commonwealth Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*

Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (61-357-5825). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Bosotn (617-263-7771). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tweeter Center *885 S. Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2333).*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

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classical music

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. The BSO performs selections from Lutoslawski, Schumann and Ravel under the direction of Christoph von Dohnanyi with cellist Alban Gerhardt.

Boston University College of Fine Arts
Boston University Theatre Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $8-$15. Members of the Opera Institute, Opera Theatre, the Opera Workshop and the BU Chamber Orchestra perform *La Finta Giardiniera*, with music by Mozart, in Italian with English supertitles.

Mary Baker Eddy Library Showcase
The Atrium, Mary Baker Eddy Library, 200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 6-8 pm. Free. Local pianist Bryan Eyberg performs.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as April 21.

Boston University College of Fine Arts
Boston University Theatre Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $8-$15. Same program as April 21.

Chamber Orchestra of Boston
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$55. The Chamber Orchestra of Boston presents Song of the Earth, a program including Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde*, featuring mezzo-soprano Jessica Bowers and tenor James Ryan.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Boston University College of Fine Arts
Boston University Theatre Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $8-$15. Same program as April 21.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 1 pm. $5. The Zeitgeist presents a weekly one-hour classical concert.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Boston University College of Fine Arts
Boston University Theatre Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $8-$15. Same program as April 21.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Sunday Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5156). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $5-20. The Gardner Chamber Ensemble, under the direction of Paula Robison, presents a program titled The Great Vivaldi, featuring six of the composer's works.

Kalistos Chamber Music Group
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Cambridge (617-393-1960. www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $10-$20. The Kalistos Chamber Music Group performs the music of Andrew List and John McDonald.

King's Chapel Concert Series
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 5 pm, $8-$12. Columbia's Musick, the ensemble in residence at King's Chapel, presents the premiere of Music of Colonial Boston, a program of poular music of the 18th century.

Newton Free Library Piano Concert
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 2 pm. Free. Pianist Oni Buchanan performs a concert featuring works by Couperin, Mussorgsky, Debussy and Alberto Ginastera.

Wellesley College
Haughton Memorial Chapel, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. 7 pm. Free. The ensemble Musicians of the Old Post Road performs Bach's *Virtuosi* and instrumental works by Buffardin, Hasse and Pisendel.

MONDAY, APRIL 25

Boston University College of Fine Arts
Tsai Performance Center, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3341). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 8 pm. Free. Winners from the Richmond Piano Competition perform, featuring So-Youn Kim.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as April 21.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3. Megan Gray (soprano) and Lisa Sheppard Hadley (mezzo-soprano) perform works by Bach, Purcell and Vivaldi with organist Heinrich Christensen.

Organ Recital Series at First Church of Christ, Scientist
The First Church of Christ, Scientist, 175 Huntingon Ave., Boston (617-450-3082). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 12:15 pm. Free. This concert is part of a series of Tuesday organ recitals.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. The All-Schubert Recital features the composer's Fantasie in F Minor, Allegro in A Minor, and Sonata in C.

Wellesley College
106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. 12:30 pm. Free. George Steel and Nico Muhly perform John Cage's Complete Music for Carillon, No's. 1-5.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Boston Philharmonic
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $15-$69. The Boston Philharmonic performs *Krzysztof Penderecki's Threnody for the Victims of Hiroshima*, Frank Bridge's *Oration* and *Prokofiev's Symphony No. 5.*

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. The BSO performs Birthwistle's *The Shadow of Night* and Mahler's Symphony No.1 in D under the direction of Christoph von Dohnanyi.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso. org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $27-$95. Same program as April 28.

Mary Baker Eddy Library Showcase
Mary Baker Eddy Library, 200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 6-8 pm. Free. Local group the Copley Cats performs a cappella music.

Wellesley College Chamber Music Society
Jewett Auditorium, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. 7:30 pm. Free. The society performs under the direction of Nancy Cirillo and Isabelle Plaster.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Boston Philharmonic
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-585-1260). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$69. Same program as April 28.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as April 28.

Christoph von Dohnanyi conducts the BSO in two programs, leading six performances between April 21 and 30.

Boston University College of Fine Arts
Marshall Room, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3341). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 4:30 pm. Free. Mezzo-soprano Meghan McGinnes performs works by Purcell, Webern, Respighi, Chausson and Boulanger with piano accompanist Eve Budnick.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 1 pm. $5. The Zeitgeist presents a weekly classical concert.

SUNDAY, MAY 1

Boston Philharmonic
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $15-$69. Same program as April 28.

Newton Symphony Orchestra
Rashi Auditorium, 15 Walnut Park, Newton Corner (617-965-2555). www.newtonsymphony.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. $20-$30. The orchestra performs Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D Minor, Op. 125, with soloists from Chorus Pro Musica.

The Vox Consort
Carr Organ Room, New England Conservatory, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-281-8569). www.voxconsort.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 2 pm. The show Vox Outside the Box II" features sopranos Brenna Wells, La'Tarsha Long and Heidi Kenschast-Vass, with Leslie Kwon on the harpsichord.

TUESDAY, MAY 3

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso. org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos conducts Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 5 and Respighi's *Fountains of Rome* and *Pines of Rome*, with featured pianist Stephen Kovacevich.

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Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ spins top-40, plus open mike and interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Signs of Life Guest DJs spin progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clery's
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts live performances and spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Weekly rotation of underground dance, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

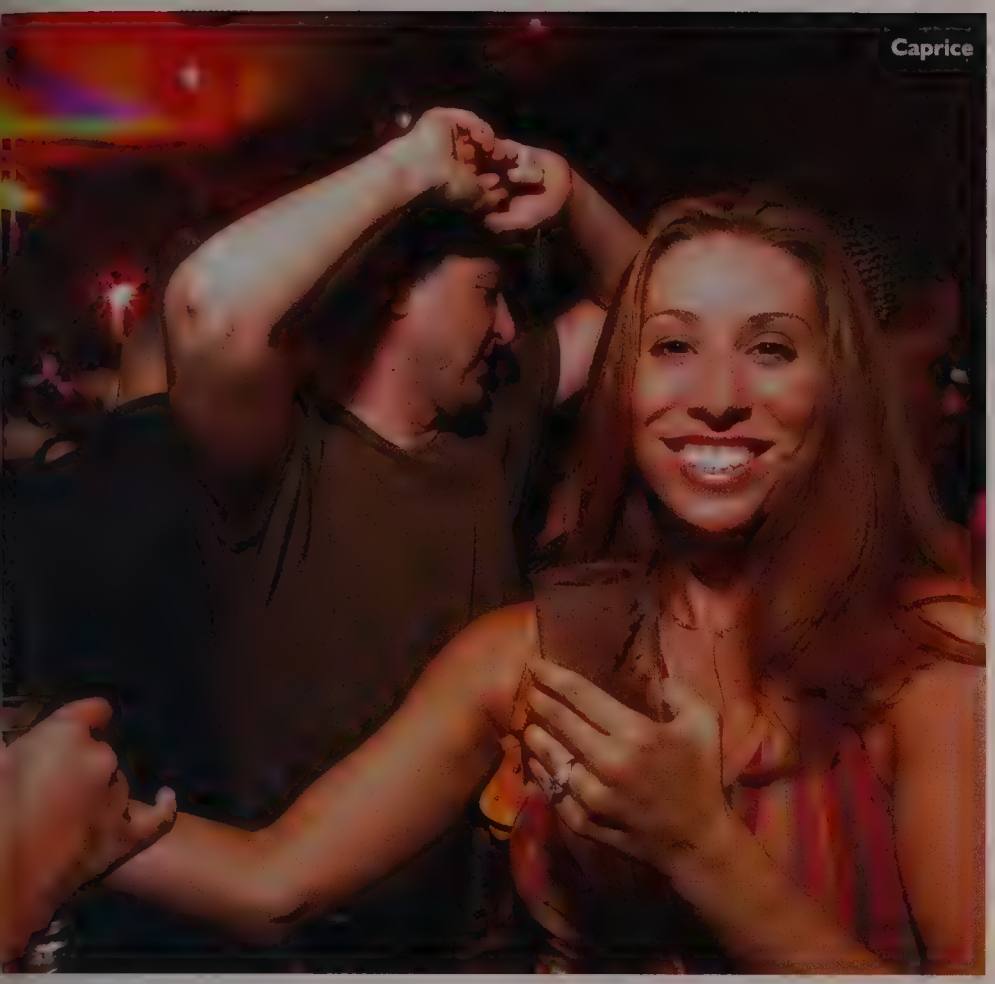
Club Q
Hawaiian Tropic Model Search with JAM'N 94.5, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.



nbassy
e Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle st this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm, 21+.

ne Enormous Room
p-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and co, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

elt
Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 ı, no cover, 21+. Fourth Floor: **Tribe** DJ Gay Jim ns hip-hop and top-40 at this ladies only night, 9 ı-2 am, $5, 21+.

olden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo-vn, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

ne Green Briar
.e Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

reen Street Grill
rowdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band plays gae and funk, no cover, 21+.

se McIntyre's
'e band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ne Kells
e Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance ıes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

nvara Pub
Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, &B and pop, 21+.

quor Store
dies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

antra
ıch DJs spin urban groove and club classics, 10:30 , $10, 21+.

ilky Way
uanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and il, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ırris
Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

hoenix Landing
ments DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present ım 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3.

he Place
Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Point
s from Stickman Productions spin dance and hip-o music, 10 pm-2 am.

he Purple Shamrock
ı Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

he Rack
otic Midnight Brazilian night with music and ıba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

dline
union Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party ssics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

ver Gods
- Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no er, 21+.

mor
Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Foundation Fridays DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

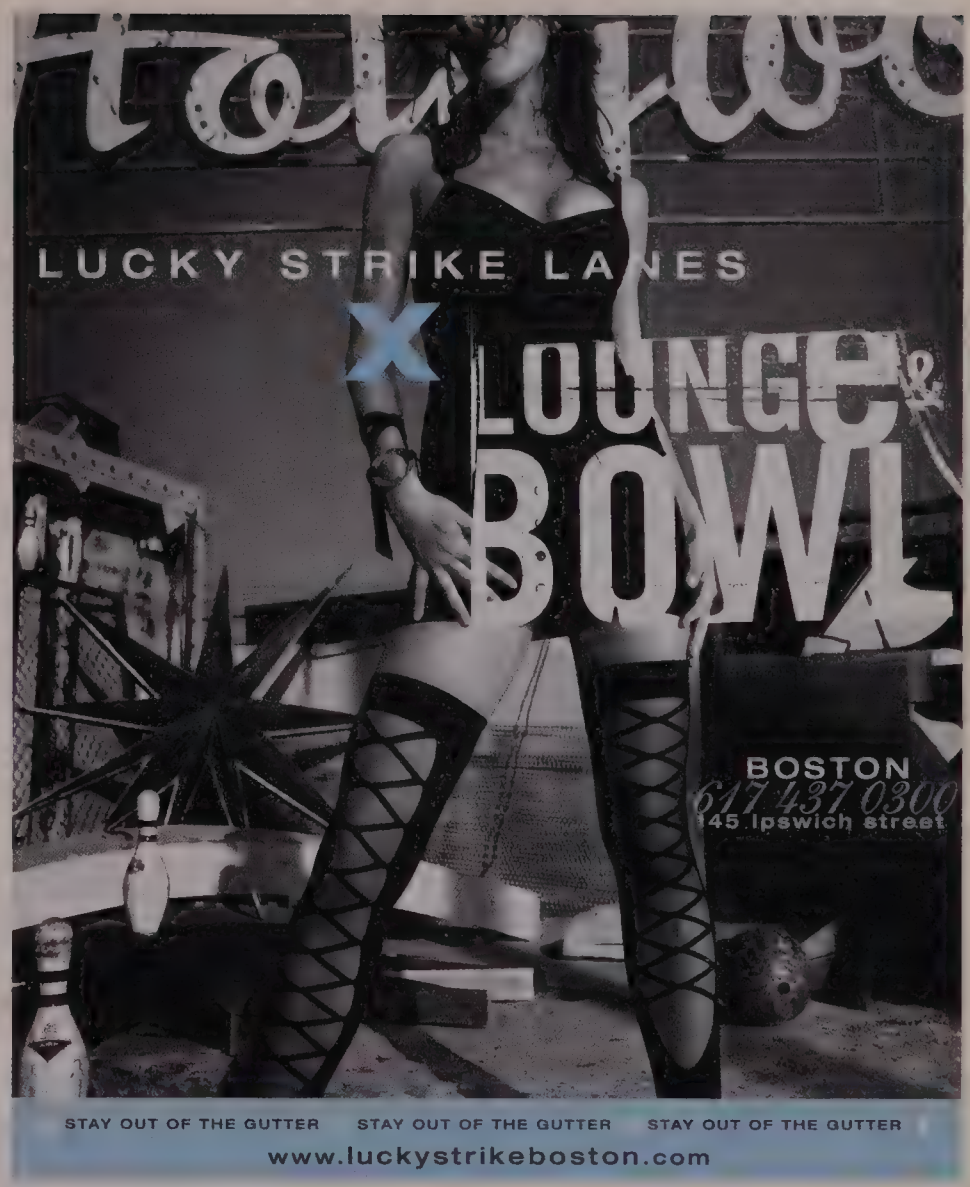
Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

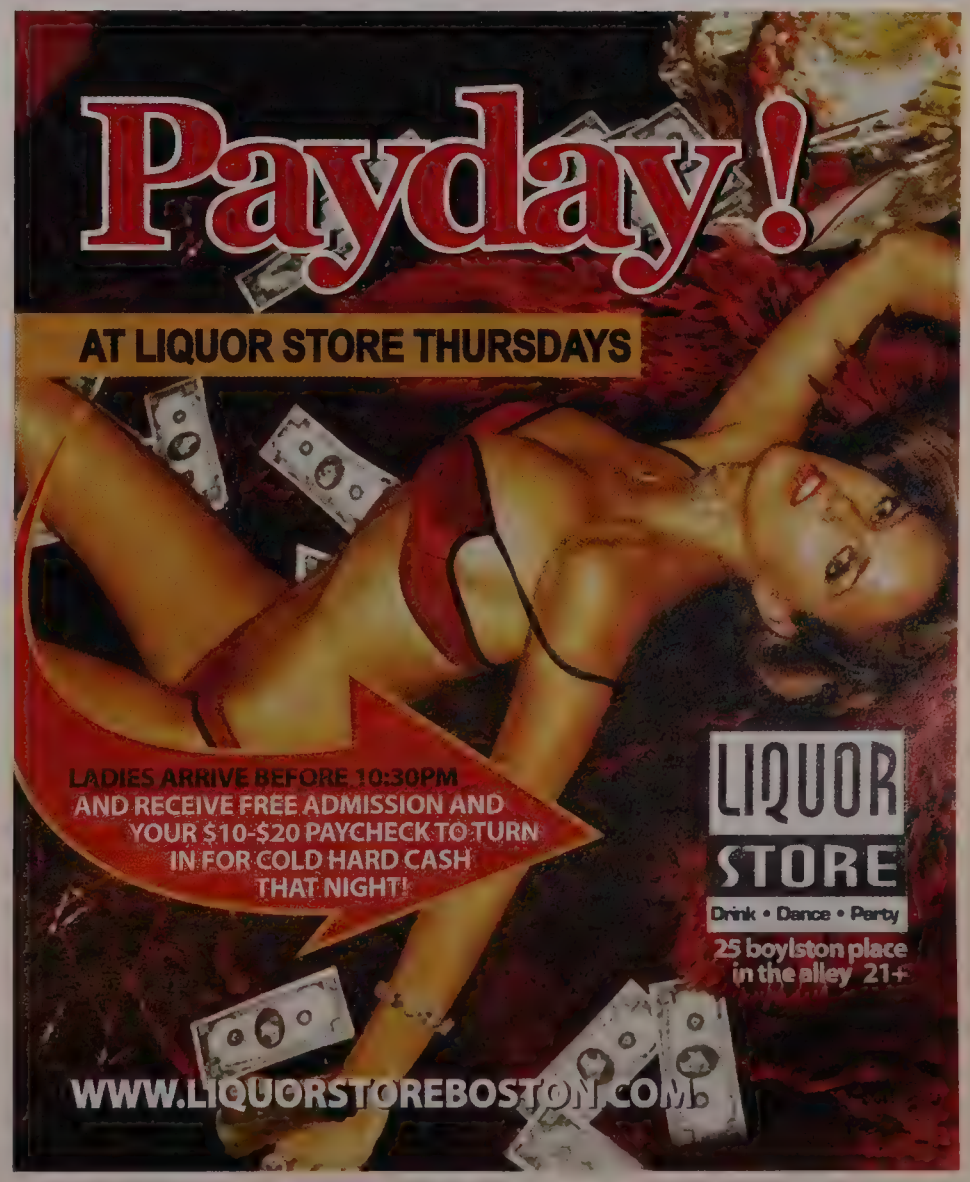
Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.





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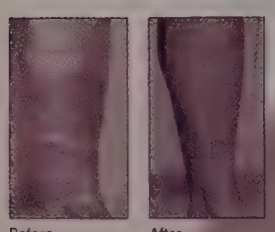

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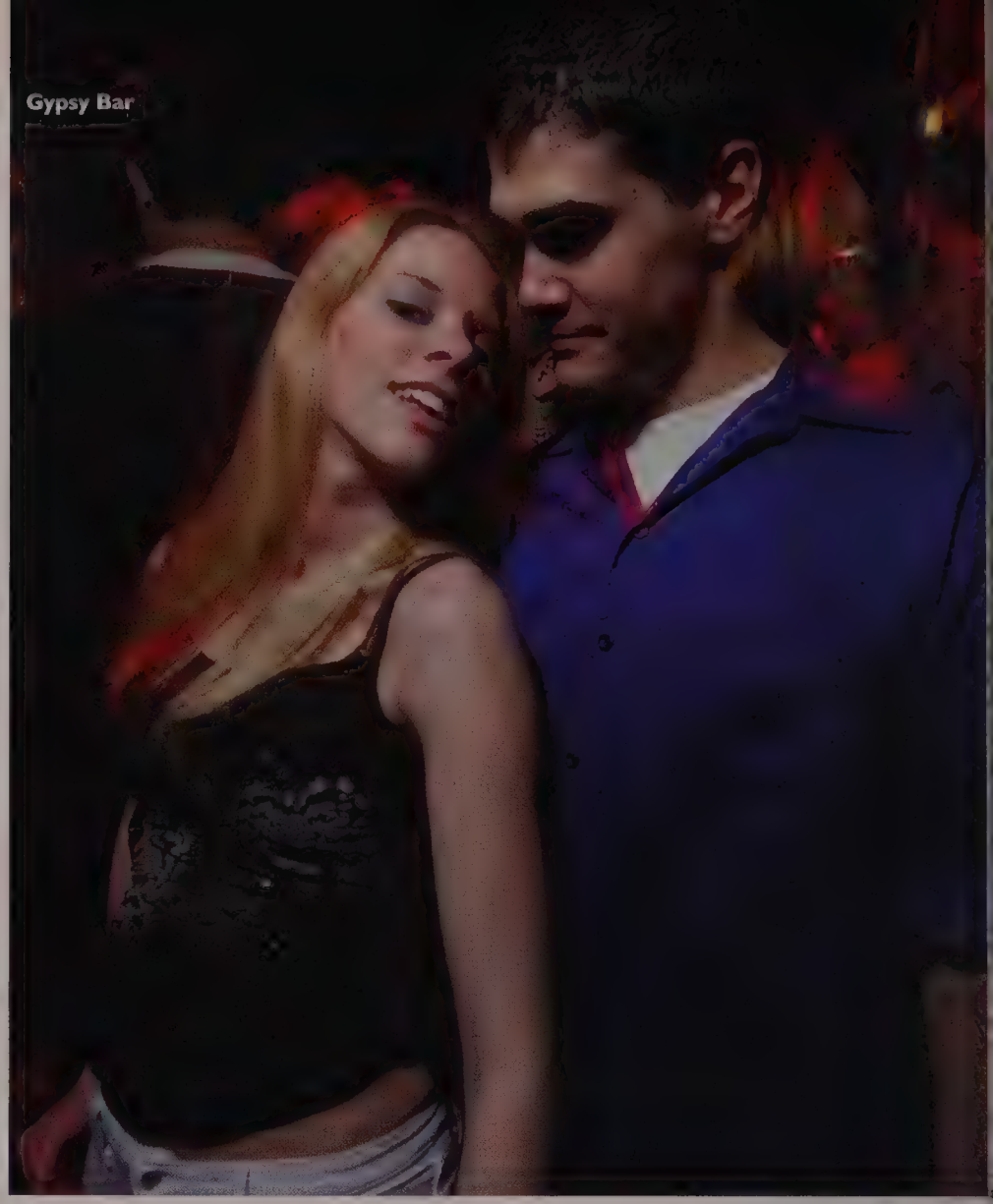


Club Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuasion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Mansion Fridays After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1am, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Gabe spins.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dan while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pr ladies free before midnight, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ Stev Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo ar hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techn disco music, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish regg music, $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounte** New England's longest-running all-male dan revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $2 (18+), $20 (21+). Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donn Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian a mosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10 (21+ $15 (18+). •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12 (18+), $ (21+).

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dan and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video high lights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm 2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes nec soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, n cover, 21+.

oxy
Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reg-
e, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

umor
unge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-
hool, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

ssy K's
mu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

in
d Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

ne Sugar Shack
Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

quila Rain
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10
, $5.

ast
s spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

enu
omba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house
ile DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe.
ket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

rtigo
ernational Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B,
in and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

est Street Grille
e Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all
ht, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

ATURDAYS

n Tain
d-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

n Tua Nua
G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul,
pm, $5, 21+.

ria
ernational Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy
cal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men),
+ (women with college ID).

valon
ase Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson performs
ng with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15,
+.

ne Avenue
Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

xis
ductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm,
), 19+.

g Easy Bar
lebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning
-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9
, $8, 21+.

ll's Bar
e cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2
, 21+.

ston Rocks
otgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11
. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interac-
e video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

zz
e gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spin-
g popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep
se and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

price
sai-Latin International Lounge DJ Ghost and
Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with inter-
ional and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

erys
Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ub Q
Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

ogan's
Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

evlin's
Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and
se, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ockside
spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5,
.

co Lounge
llywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-
and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs,
m, $8, 21+.

nbassy
ence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

e Enormous Room
erberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic
-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

lt
Penthouse Club DJ Tanerk spins house on the
rth floor. Also, DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS
's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance on
first floor. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

lden Temple
E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites,
o, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and
al house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

een Street Grill
se band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm,
21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Buddha spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis DJs Frank and Matty spin a mix of rock, retro and electro beats, 10 pm, $5, 18+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies only night features DJ missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance music. 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15 (18+); $10 (21+). •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest- running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15 (18+), $10 (21+). •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15 (18+), $10 (21+).

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Stickman Productions hosts different DJs each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles of house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

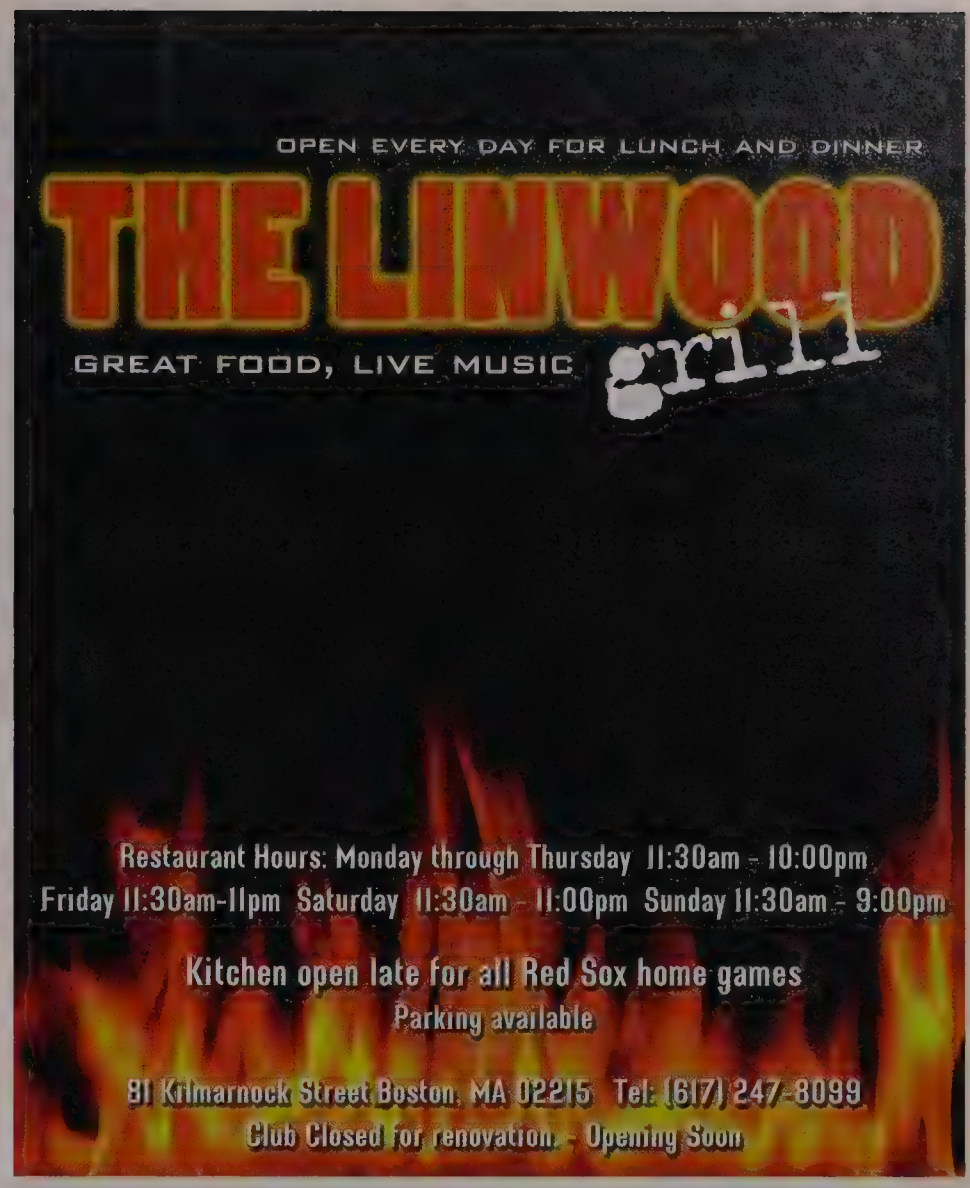
Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8.



Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
Rotatind DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Domingos Latin DJs spin dance music. 8 pm-2 am. $10.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Live Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance hits, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-212*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-700*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-111*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-987*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-393*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-018*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (61 876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-101*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-946*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-908*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (61 542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-702*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-188*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-000*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-258*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211)*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-030*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

ubmit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-nail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop nd phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to pub-cation. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

85 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.rtmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har-ard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; tudents and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in Iran and ndia features paintings, decorative arts and reaponry depicting hunting scenes from western nd southern Asia. Through June 26. •Ongoing xhibitions include Alexander's Image and the Be-inning of Greek Portraiture, The Art of Ancient ome and Near Eastern Art.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center

Vellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue..-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Ved., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 12 pm-4 pm. Free. •The Master Prints" of Hendrick Goltzius and Mannerist Art howcases work from the Dutch engraver's *Life of the Virgin* collection. Through June 19. •Artist Ghada Amer depicts her definitions of "terror" and "terror-m" in her installation *The Reign of Terror*. Through une 19. •*The Observed and Envisioned* exhibits depic-ons of women in Mughal art from the 16th to 19th enturies. Through June 19. •A new permanent in-tallation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

1 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). ww.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; udents and seniors, $6. •Abstract Elements: The r. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art is a selec-on of abstract works by regional and interna-onal 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

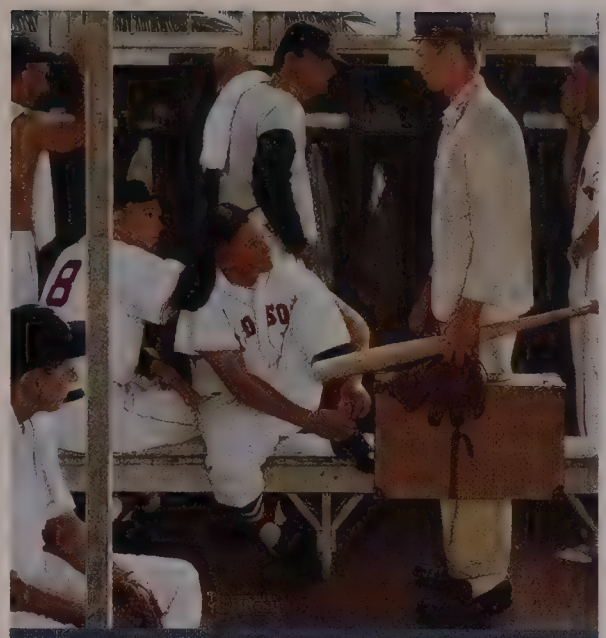
2 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.rtmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har-ard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; udents and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. From Mind, Heart and Hand: Persian, Turkish and ndian Drawings from the Stuart Cary Welch Col-ection shows through June 12. •*Crises of Repre-ntation: The Decorative and the Feminine in Fin-e-siecle Vienna* includes publications and artworks om turn-of-the-20th-century Vienna. Through ne 12. •*Eighteenth-Century European Ceramics nd Paintings* is an exhibition drawing from the useums' permanent collection. Ongoing. •*Ro-oco Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ngoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of eauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. The exhibits *Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe since 1880* and *Art in France, 885-1960*. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center

3 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.renchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. lon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 n. Free. •Vibrant Impressions of Monaco and cenes of France is an exhibition of Claude Gau-nier's paintings of Monte-Carlo, the French Riv-ra and Provence. Through May 2.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

5 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.nnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. aily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; ee Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •Origins: Life's First Three illion Years explores the evolution of life on Earth rough paleontological, molecular-biological and ochemical research. Through April 30 . •*The lass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass odels of plants, including more than 830 plant ecies, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongo-g. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of ourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of ne jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. *Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of*



Norman Rockwell's *The Rookie*, part of the MFA's *Rockwell and the Red Sox* exhibition.

Nature & Science at Harvard features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists features more than 50 artists' portraits of their peers and heroes. Through May 1. •Kanishka Raja shows paintings as part of the ICA's *Momentum* series. Through May 1.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •Chairs brings together the photography of 2002 artist-in-residence Dayanita Singh with the museum's collection of Italian and Renaissance chairs. Through May 8. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •Clipper Ship Era is a collection of lithographs, plans and photographs illustrating the design and construction, as well as the social experience, of a clipper ship. Through July 10. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* displays work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winners. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •Creating Milestones in Education is an exhibit that explains the history of the Abiel Smith School. Through July 31.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •An exhibition of contemporary works by controversial London-based artist Damien Hirst is on display through April 24. •*Rockwell and the Red Sox* features Norman Rockwell's painting *The Rookie* and 50 objects of Red Sox memorabilia. Through May 8. •*Sets, Series, and Suites: Contemporary Prints* features serial prints by 30 artists from 1950 to the present. Through May 29. •*Pursuits of Power: Falconry and the Samurai, 1600-1900* offers a new perspective on players, politics and power in early modern Japan through an unusual subject. Through June 12. •*Photographs by Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Sylvan Barnet and William Burto Collection* features 20 of the Japanese photographer's black-and-white prints. Through June 23. •*Speed, Style, and Beauty: Cars from the Ralph Lauren Collection* displays 16 automobiles from the designer's private collection. Through July 3.•*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11. •Playing with Time features experimental tools that manipulate the perception of time. Through May 1. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Mapping the World Around Us* features mapping projection tools and computer map libraries. Ongoing. •Four hundred butterflies and flowers are on display in the new permanent *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •Western Pursuit of the American Dream, a collection of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, shows through April 24. •*Deep Inside the Blues: Photographs by Margo Cooper* features 38 black-and-white photographs of musicians taken by Cooper over the past 10 years during her travels through the Mississippi Delta. Through June 5. •*George Washington: Freemason and Founding Father* is an exhibition of rare artifacts. Through June 12. •*Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend* examines artistic depictions of Revolution-era patriot Paul Revere. Through June 26. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community*. Ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake is an exhibition of 30 photographs by Linda Butler capturing the Three Gorges area. Through April 24. •*The Art of Shopping in China* captures China's early-19th-century international trade market through 40 paintings on paper from the museum's extensive collection. Through May 22. •*Island Thresholds, Contemporary Art from the Caribbean* features 13 works, including large-scale installations using wood, glass, paper, seawater, salvaged shoes, coffee, coconut and vanilla, as well as paintings and drawings, by four island artists. Through June 5. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 2005. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children, $5. •Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 30. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* depicts the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun. 12-5pm. $3. •Dreaming Now features eight mixed-media installations by various artists, including Marina Abramovic, Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, Sandra Cinto, Cai Guo Quiang and Chiharu Shiota. Through April 24.

Special Events

Boston Cyberarts Festival

Events at various Boston-area locations. www.bostoncyberarts.org. April 22-May 8. This biennial festival features visual and performing arts and explores how artists use computers to advance traditional disciplines.

Somerville Open Studios

255 Elm St., Somerville (617-764-2287). www.somervilleopenstudios.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 12-6 pm. •300 artists in 98 venues open their homes and studios to the public for the seventh annual event. April 30-May 1.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Dorothy Eisner, Late Expressionist Paintings displays through April 30.

Allston Skirt Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Home Sweet Gated Home features installations by Magda Fernandez, and *Nowhere I Really Need to Be* features paintings by Daniel Chen, Francis Holstrom, Sharon Kaitz, Jim Lee and Beth Reisman. Through April 30.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Recent Paintings features new works by Aaron Fink. Through May 4.

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Margaret Gerding's paintings are on display in *New Landscapes*. Through April 29. •New works by Lynda Love. May 2-30.

Ars Libri

Mario Diacno Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Dan Walsh's paintings display in *Sentence*. Through May 4.

Artana

1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111) www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm. • The gallery continually shows works by more than 30 artists from across New England.

Art Attack

108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •Battlescenes is a solo exhibition of paintings by Shanti that document the events of 9/11 and the war in Iraq. Through May 11.

Art Interactive

130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •Shadowplay displays interactive projections by Scott Snibbe. April 22-July 3.

Atlantic Works Gallery
Border St., Boston (781-853-0017). www.atlantic...ics.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Thu., 6-9 ...; Fri.-Sat., 12-6 pm. •Elizabeth Hathaway and ...da Bytnerowicz show their paintings in *Surface ...sion*. Through April 29.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
...Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). ...www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line ...Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Jonathan ...ger displays works in various media in *Born to ...p*. Through May 12.

Berenberg Gallery
...Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Encaustics and Metal Drawings* is a show of works by Scott Griffin. Through April 30.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Abelardo Morell shows photographs, and the exhibition *LA Times* features works on paper by five Los Angeles artists. Through April 30. •New works by Lesley Dill. May 3-June 11. •New works by Larimer Richards. May 3-June 11.

Beth Urdang Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Cut Paper Drawings*, by Juliann Cydylo, and *Recent Paintings*, by Michael Wetzel, show through April 30. •Joe Brubaker displays recent sculptures May 4-28.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Thu. 12-5 pm; Fri.-Sat. 12-10 pm; Sun. 12-5 pm. •Sculptor Bruce Bemis showcases his works in a solo exhibition. April 8-June 5.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Peter DeCamp Haines and Larry Polons display their works. Through May 21.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •More than 50 artists use dictionary pages as part of their work in *The Dictionary Project*. Through May 14.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. • *Our Town: New Works by Isabella Frost* showcases Boston-inspired works on fabric. Through May 6. •*Photographs by Lori Taveroff* displays through May 7.

Cambridge Arts Council Gallery
344 Broadway, Cambridge (617-349-4380). www.cambridgeartscouncil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon., Wed., Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm; Tue., 8:30 am-5 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-12 pm. • *Walking Central Square* features photos by Karen Davis and John Taguri. Through April 22.

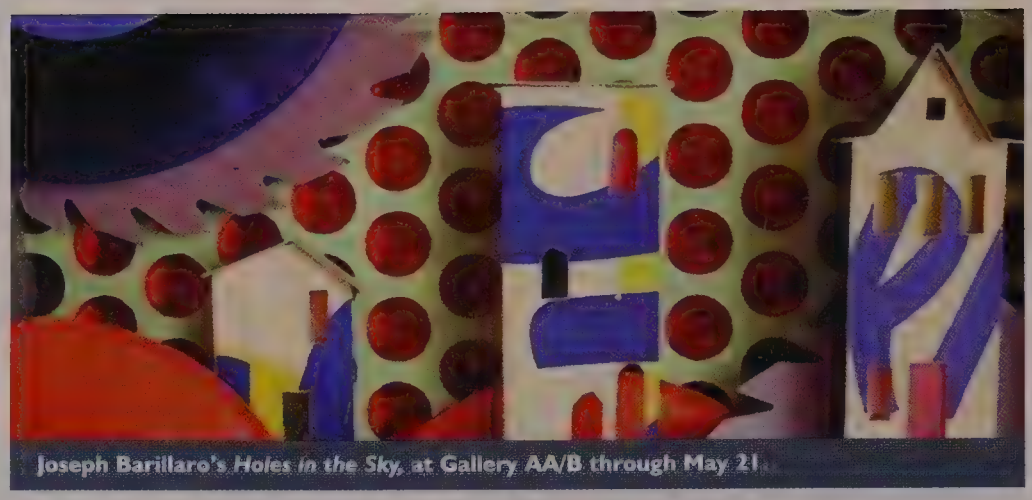
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 10 am- 6 pm. •*Gravity's Reign* showcases Roger Colombik's photographs of the Republic of Georgia. Through May 3. •*A Melody of Curves and Angles* features works by Arabic calligrapher M.J. Alhabeeb. Through May 4.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •The gallery displays Dozier Bell's paintings of the cosmos, paired with paintings and drawings of geological events. Through April 30. •The gallery displays Aurora Canero's sculptures May 4-28.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions—*Werner Drewes, 1899-1985 (drawings)*, *Gertrude Beals Bourne: Artist in Brahmin Boston* and *Alexander Brook: Selected Drawings*—show through May 7.

Claygo Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue..-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Ceramic artists David Changar and Marc Mancuso explore innovative drinking vessels. Through May 14.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Fresh Paint* displays works created by various local artists in one day. May 1-7.


Joseph Barillaro's *Holes in the Sky*, at Gallery AA/B through May 21

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*Landscapes and Portraits* shows new paintings by Paul Kerepka. Through April 30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Beyond Color* features collaborative works from 12 artists. Through April 30.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery @ The Piano Factory
791 Tremont St., Boston (617-421-0095). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri. 6-8 p.m., Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. •*Reincarnation* features ceramics by Katya Apekina and paintings by Samuel Gareginyan and Alexander Gassel. Through April 27.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu., 12-5:30 pm, Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. • Roger Goldenberg and Joseph Barillaro display recent assemblage and collage works. Through May 21.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 pm. •*Roads* shows black-and-white photos by Silas Shabelewska, and *Pin-Wheel Romanticism* shows color photos by Thomas Gustainis. Through April 30.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Scrap paintings by Sam Earle and new paintings by Masako Kamiya show through April 23. •Paintings by Todd McKie display April 29-May 21.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Night Series* shows new paintings by Alice Tauber, and *Sea Surface Full of Clouds* features new digital prints by Fred Faudie. Through May 3.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Denise Marika displays new work in various media. April 22-May 24.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat. 12 pm-6 pm; Thu. 12 pm- 7 pm and by appointment. •*Pre-Hispanic Masterpieces* features ancient pottery and sculpture from Mexico, Central America and South America. Through May 7.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*The Nudes*, by Mary Ellen Strom, and *Intenerant*, by Teri Rueb, are part of the Boston Cyberarts Festival. April 22-May 7.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment. •*Dazzling Emotions* features paintings by Christy Bonneau, Karen Tusinski, Amy Maas and others. Through May 1.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Harbor Abstracts* displays paintings by Gil Mares. Through April 30.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by international and local artists including Andrew Saftel, Ruth Block, Emil Alzamora and Carrie McGee. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Paper & Paint: New Works by Corinne Okada and Lana Gordon* displays through May 15.

Mercury Gallery
2nd Floor, 8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • *Prelude: Music in Painting* features works by Oliver Balf, Louis Schanker, Joseph Solman and Karl Zerbe. Through May 22.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Scratching the Surface*, a group exhibit featuring contemporary furniture, displays through May 21. •Sculpture and jewelry by Nancy Michel and Alexandra Watkins shows through May 21.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New Work* features paintings by San Francisco–based artist Gage Opdenbrouw. Through April 30.

NAO Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naogallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Thu.-Sat. 12 pm-5 pm. •*Incremental Disruption* features video and an installation by Vaughn Bell, paintings by William Betts and a sculptural installation by Jamey Morrill. Through April 30.

Newton Free Library Gallery
330 Homer St., Boston (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. MBTA: Green D Line to Newton Highlands. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri., 9 am- 6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Babel Series: Ancient Artifacts* features Marilyn Tarlow's paintings.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Between Dream and Memory* features Sachiko Akiyama's sculptures. April 23-May 28. •*Spring Works on Paper* shows April 23-May 28.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •*It's Not the Heat, It's the Humidity* features 32 works on paper by Sharon Shapiro. Through April 16.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287 www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing display of works by local artists in various media.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Recollections, Assemblages and Collages* features works by Suzi Cozzens, Marcus Kenney and Rand Newland. Through April 30.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Paintings by Alison Cann Clift and Marco Abarca display through May 30.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Olivia Parker displays her photographs through April 30.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue..-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. • Nicole Cherubini, Lamar Peterson and Pablo Vargas Lugo showcase a variety of works. •*Scope New York* features installations by Wardell Milan. Through May 1.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*.925 Ingenuity = Art Jewelry* is a collection of silver jewelry open for public viewing and purchase. Through May 1.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •Andrew Sovjani and Andrew Xenios display their photography. Through April 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The artist-owned gallery features paintings by Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Ann Grandin, William St. George and Judy St. Peter. Ongoing.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century American artworks.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Chestnut Hill. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm; Sun. 12 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features Dali, Chagall and Miro. •Winning photographs from the 11th annual Griffin Museum Juried Show are display through May 15.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. • The museum's ongoing exhibition features contemporary and historic photography.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Cuba—There Is Light and Shadow* shows through April 23.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •The exhibition *Land/Mark: GIS and Photography* is part of the Boston Cyberarts Festival (see Special Events). Through May 5.

books & poetry

Sarah Vowell reads at Northeastern's Blackman Auditorium April 20.

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Fourth-generation NYPD police officer **Edward Conlon** reads from his memoir, *Blue Blood*, which chronicles his career from early days working the Bronx projects through events such as 9/11.

Center for New Words Event
Blackman Auditorium, Ell Hall, Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-373-5800). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern. 7 pm. Free. Commentator for NPR's *This American Life* **Sarah Vowell** discusses her book *Assassination Vacation*, which explores stories behind presidential assassinations and looks at their impact on American culture.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Poet **Alicia Ostriker** reads from her work.

Harvard Book Store Event
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. 7:30 pm. Economic journalist **Alan Tonelson** discusses his book *The Race to the Bottom: Why a Worldwide Worker Surplus and Uncontrolled Free Trade Are Sinking American Living Standards*, a critique of globalization.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Marie Myung-Ok Lee** reads from *Somebody's Daughter*, her novel about an adopted Korean-American teenager who visits her homeland to to look for her birth mother.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Boston Herald columnist **Beth Teitell** discusses her memoir *From Here to Maternity: The Education of a Rookie Mom*, a humorous account of her experiences as a new mother.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. NPR commentator **Chuck Goldstone** reads from his book *This Book Is Not a Toy: Friendly Advice on How to Avoid Death and Other Inconveniences*, a collection of essays about people's tendency to act without common sense.

Center for New Words
736 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. **Marie Myung-Ok Lee** reads from her novel *Somebody's Daughter*. See April 20 Newtonville Books & Brews listing for a description.

Harvard Book Store Event
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. 6:30 pm. MIT scientist **Neil Gershenfeld** discusses his book *Fab: The Coming Revolution on Your Desktop, from Personal Computers to Personal Fabrication*, which argues that personal fabricators (an invention that allows people to produce products from home) are about to revolutionize society.

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). www.katesmysterybooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 6 pm. Free. **Jan Brogan** signs *A Confidential Source*, her new mystery novel about a New England reporter struggling to revive her flagging career.

Newtonville Books in the Attic Series
Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. $5. **Bill Janovitz** reads from his book *Exile on Main Street*, about the Rolling Stones album of the same name. His band, Crown Victoria, performs after the reading.

Wellesley Booksmith
Wellesley Historical Society, 229 Washington St., Wellesley (781-431-2220). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. **Charlotte Gordon** discusses *Mistress Bradstreet: The Untold Life of America's First Poet*, her biography of Anne Bradstreet, one of the first Puritan poets in the New World.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Sports Illustrated writer **Leigh Montville** discusses his book *Why Not Us?: The 86-Year Journey of the Boston Red Sox Fans from Unparalleled Suffering to the Promised Land of the 2004 Worlds Series*, which celebrates the dedication of Red Sox fans.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. **Carol Bundy** discusses *The Nature of Sacrifice: A Biography of Charles Russell Lowell, Jr. 1835-64*, her biography of a privileged Bostonian who became a respected Civil War officer.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Psychiatrist **Robert Jay Lifton** discusses his book *Home from the War: Learning from Vietnam Veterans*, which critiques American militarism during the Vietnam War.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Wellesley Booksmith
Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. 2 pm. Free. Boston Herald sportswriter **Tony Massarotti** discusses his book *A Tale of Two Cities: The 2004 Yankees-Red Sox Rivalry and the War for the Pennant*, which gives an insider's perspective on both teams.

MONDAY, APRIL 25

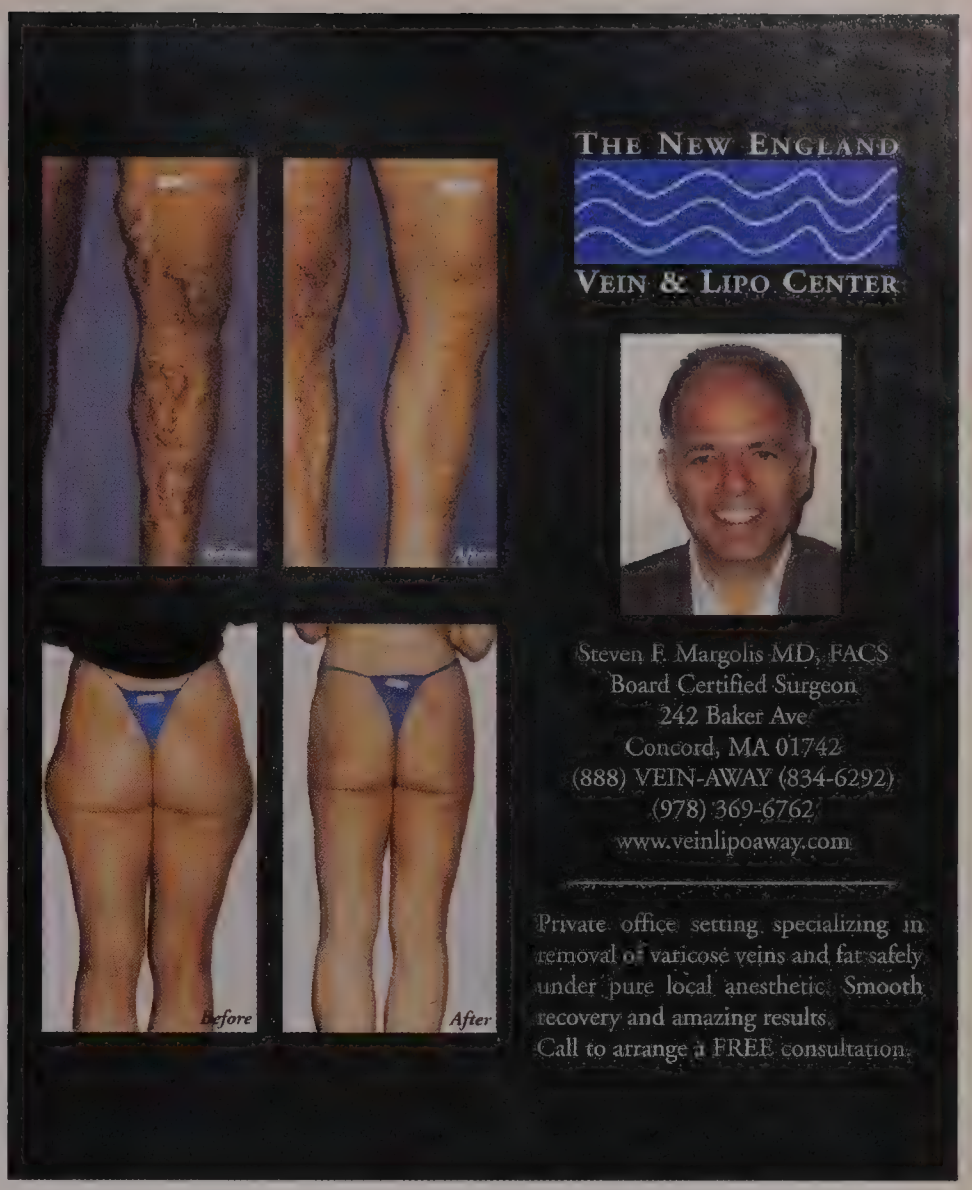
Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poet **Maxine Kumin** reads from her work.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Alice Hoffman** reads from her new novel, *The Ice Queen* about a small-town librarian who gets struck by lightning.

Harvard Book Store Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Former *New York Times* food critic **Ruth Reichl** reads from her memoir *Garlic and Sapphires: The Secret Life of a Critic in Disguise*, about her career as a professional food critic. Following the reading, at 7:30, Reichl attends a reception at UpStairs on the Square, at 91 Wintrhop St. ($80, includes wine, hors d'oeuvres and a signed copy of the book).

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Suffolk University and Harvard Extension School professor **Robert Allison** discusses his book *A Short History of Boston*, which covers Boston history from the Puritans to the Big Dig.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Roméo Dallaire**, the Canadian former head of a U.N. peacekeeping mission, discusses his



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Please join us for this special event!

Last December's tsunami affected all living things South East Asia. The Animal Rescue League of Boston reached out to help – not only by raising money thorough its loyal family of donors, but by sending critical veterinary aid to a severely impacted area. Join us for an intimate reception honoring those who gave so generously and hear an inspiring account from the League's Dr. Bosmat Gal who traveled to Southern India and helped in the relief effort. It is an evening that will warm your heart.

"I WAS GREETED BY SOME 20 DOGS THAT LIVED AT THE SHELTER THAT CAME TO INTRODUCE THEMSELVES TO ME. IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF TWO WEEKS THAT WOULD CHANGE ME FOREVER."

- Dr. Gal, on her trip to India

DATE: **Thursday, April 21st**

TIME: **6:00pm - 7:15pm, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres**
7:15pm - 8:00pm, presentation and discussion

PLACE: **Jurys Hotel, 350 Stuart Street, Back Bay, Boston**

TICKETS: **$45, all proceeds to benefit our Disaster Relief Fund**

RSVP: **617-426-9170, ext. 150 or whitehead@arlboston.org**

Thank you to the Jurys Hotel for their generous support of this event

Animal Rescue League of Boston
Helping Animals Since 1899

book *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda*, which chronicles events surrounding the Rwandan genocide of the 1990s.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

Porter Square Books

25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Laura Waterman** discusses her memoir *Losing the Garden: The Story of a Marriage*, which recounts 30 years she spent living in the mountains of Vermont with her husband.

Zeitgeist Gallery

Zeitgeist Gallery, 353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. 7:30 pm. $7. Every Tuesday in April, a dozen local poets perform under the direction of slammaster Michael R. Brown in Dr. Brown's Traveling Poetry Show.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

Harvard Book Store

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. **Molly Jong-Fast** discusses *The Sex Doctors in the Basement: True Stories from a Semi-Celebrity Childhood*, her memoir about growing up as the daughter of author Erica Jong.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Northeastern University economics professor **M. Shahid Alam** discusses his book *Is There an Islamic Problem? Essays on Islamicate Societies, the U.S. and Israel*, in which he argues that the war on terror is based on misconceptions about Islam.

Harvard University

John F. Kennedy Forum, 79 JFK St., Cambridge (617-495-3611). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. The W.E.B. DuBois Institute for African and African American Research presents A Season of Laureates: Readings in Honor of the 70th Birthday of Wole Soyinka, featuring authors **Nadine Gordimer**, **Toni Morrison**, **Wole Soyinka** and **Derek Walcott**.

Newtonville Books & Brews

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244 6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. 7:30 pm. Free. Writing instructor at Emerson College **Kathleen Rooney** discusses her book *Reading with Oprah: The Book Club that Changed America*, in which she presents Oprah Winfrey as a contemporary intellectual force.

Porter Square Books

25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www. portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Sophie Wadsworth** reads from her work.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Barnes & Noble Boston University

660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. NPR commentator **Chuck Goldstone** reads from *This Book Is Not a Toy: Friendly Advice on How to Avoid Death and Other Inconveniences*. See April 21 Brookline Booksmith listing for a description.

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Photographer and professor at the Rhode Island School of Design **Henry Horenstein** discusses his latest book, *Humans*, a collection of photographs of the human body.

Harvard Book Store Event

Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, 79 JFK St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. **Romeo Dallaire** discusses his book *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda*. See April 25 Porter Square Books listing for a description.

Newtonville Books & Brews

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244 6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Holley Bishop** discusses her book *Robbing the Bees: A Biography of Honey, the Sweet Liquid Gold that Seduced the World*, a history of honey over several millennia.

Porter Square Books

25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Sam Apple** discusses his memoir, *Schlepping Through the Alps: My Search for Austria's Jewish Past with Its Last Wandering Shepherd*, in which he recounts his adventures following a nomadic shepherd through anti-Semitic regions of Austria.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Kate's Mystery Books

2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). www.katesmysterybooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6 pm. Free. **Dirk Wyle** signs his novel *Bahamas West End Is Murder*, the new installment in his Ben Candidi series, about a murder near Grand Bahama Island.

Post Road Party

Middlesex Lounge, 315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 868-6739). www.postroadmag.com. MBTA: Red Lin to Central. 5-7 pm. Post Road Magazine celebrate the release of its 10th issue with readings by **Elizabeth Searle**, **Chris Castellani** and other authors.

MONDAY, MAY 2

Blacksmith House Poetry Series

56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poet **Jane Miller** and **Denise Duhamel** read from their work.

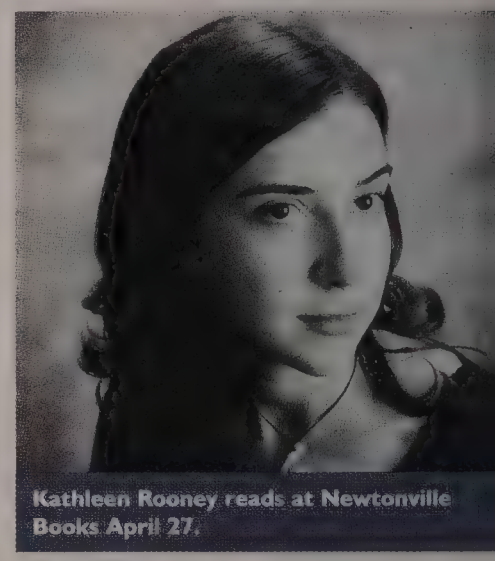
Brookline Booksmith Event

Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $ (tickets required). **Marjane Satrapi** reads from *Embroideries*, her semi-autobiographical novel about several generations of Iranian women who get together to discuss love, sex and men.

TUESDAY, MAY 3

Barnes & Noble Boston University

660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm The Boston Women's Health Book Collective lead a panel discussion about the most recent edition of *Our Bodies, Ourselves*. The event covers health issues facing women in the 21st century. Panelists include **Judy Norsigian**, **Julia Brody**, **Margare Lazarus** and **Anne Merewood**.



Kathleen Rooney reads at Newtonville Books April 27.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Canta Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in th Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)

1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759 www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. pm. $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays backgroun music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)

Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cam bridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewword org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Cen ter hosts this open mike for women and their allie with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery

106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). ww outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Cen tral. •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Pov ers hosts Stone Soup, which features predetermine poets reading from their work and an open mike. $ suggested donation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come sha or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly host $3-$5 suggested donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Friday)

Toast Lounge 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-62 2313). 8 pm. Free. Poet Doug Holder hosts an open mike event.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)

Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188 MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossin 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each mont offers a selection of featured poets and an opportu nity for others to take the open mike.

education

dvice to Contributors
ıbmit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-ır: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. eadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

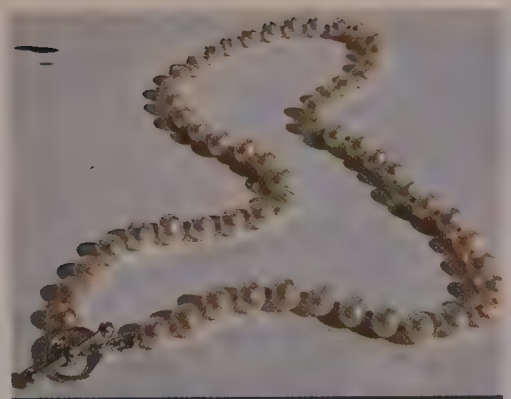
VEDNESDAY, APRIL 20
hristianity and Just War
ebrew College, Berenson Hall, 160 Herrick Road, ewton Center (617-559-8798). www.interreligious nter.org/events. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton enter. 7:30 pm. $10 early registration, $15 at the or. Harvard Divinity School professor **Harvey Cox** ctures as part of the series In God's Name: Waging /ar for the Sake of Heaven.

lonsters, Dwarfs, and Everything in etween
luseum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science ark. 7 pm. Free with museum admission. **Sallie Baliu-as** of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astro-ıysics lectures on the largest and smallest stars.

adcliffe Institute Fellows Presentation eries
adcliffe Institute of Harvard, Colloquium Room, 34 oncord Ave., Cambridge. (617-495-8212). www. ıdcliffe.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. ree. Radcliffe Institute fellow **Jane J. Mansbridge** ·itiques electoral accountability.

he Role of Literary Journals
ambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., ambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: ed Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $6. In Part Two of the ur-part series The Writer's Life: Living and Work-ıg as a Writer in Boston, **William Pierce,** senior litor of the literary journal *Agni*, and novelist **atherine Vaz** discuss how literary journals thrive ı a world of mainstream magazines.

'HURSDAY, APRIL 21
omposing an International Life
randeis University, Women's Studies Research Cen-r, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-2090). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. **Linda Brimm,** professor of organizational behavior at In-sead, an international business school, leads a dis-cussion on the impact of international mobility on the lives of women.



Learn to make a necklace at Beadworks' Knotting with Silk class, April 26.

John Landrum Bryant Lecture/ Performance Series
Harvard Graduate School of Education, Larsen Hall G08, 14 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-495-9068). www.gse.harvard.edu/aie. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1 pm. Free. **Dick Deasy,** executive director of the Arts Education Partnership, lectures on the importance of arts education.

Stargazing 101
Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Phillips Auditorium, 60 Garden St., Cambridge (617-495-7461). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Sky and Telescope editor **Joshua Roth** leads a lecture followed by a telescope viewing.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23
Bead Stringing Techniques
Beadworks, 167 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-7227). www.beadworksboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:30 am-12 pm, $35. Materials included. Participants learn basic stringing and finishing techniques for creating bead jewelry while making a bracelet to take home.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26
Knotting with Silk
Beadworks, 167 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-7227). www.beadworksboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30-8:30 pm, $50. Materials included. Participants learn how to use silk cord to make jewelry and create a necklace from freshwater pearls to take home.

Voices of Public Intellectuals Lecture Series: Feminism Then and Now
Radcliffe Institute of Harvard, Askwith Lecture Hall in Longfellow Hall, Radcliffe Yard, Cambridge. (617-495-8609). www.radcliffe.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30 pm. Free. Authors **Rebecca Walker, Susan Faludi,** and **Barbara Ehrenreich** examine critical issues and shifts in feminist thought over the few decades.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27
Café Littéraire
French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 2 pm. Free. Jean-Paul Sartre's *Regards Sur Sa Vie et Son Oeuvre* is today's topic at this monthly discussion of French literature.

Scanning 101
New England Historic Genealogical Society, 10 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.newengland ancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10:15 am. Free. The Genealogical Society hosts this lecture and demonstration on scanning documents.

31st Annual W. A. Dwiggins Lecture
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (617-566-1689) MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. As part of a centennial celebration for the Society of Printers, designer and illustrator **Milton Glaser** speaks on design work and its ambiguity.

Writing Profiles
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $6. In Part Three of the four-part series The Writer's Life: Living and Working as a Writer in Boston, authors **Carlo Rotella, Vanessa E. Jones** and **Nan Levinson** discuss their experiences writing about other people and talk about how to make stories compelling.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28
The Allure of the Story
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2. Author **Jane Katims** reads selections from her short stories and discusses why we are motivated to read and write fiction.

Socioeconomics and Survival: Neanderthal Women and Children
Harvard University, Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-406-1027). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. Associate professor of anthropology at the University of Arizona-Tucson **Steven L. Kuhn** lectures on the history of human survival.

SUNDAY, MAY 1
From Counterculture to Cash Culture
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 2 pm. Free. Yale University historian **Daniel Kevles** speaks about the 1970s, the genesis of the personal computer and the biotechnology industry.

Sunday Encounters
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. 2:30 pm. Free with museum admission. ICA docents and staff lead tours and lectures on the exhibits *Likeness: Portraits of Artists by Other Artists* and *Momentum 3: Kanishka Raja.*

TUESDAY, MAY 3
In Pursuit of Images and Shadows
Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-2090). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. Women's Studies Research Center scholar **Tema Nason** reads from her short story collection and discusses her current work on her family's biography.

Mother's Day Knotting Project
Beadworks, 167 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-7227). www.beadworksboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30-8:30 pm, $50. Materials included. Participants learn European knotting and simple wire work to create a freshwater pearl necklace and matching earrings in an organza gift bag for Mother's Day.

gay & lesbian

You want to be listed
...information, including telephone numbers and ...s of T stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-...@gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
Sanctuary. 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door, $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Felt (Thursdays)
533 Washington St., Boston (617-851-2506). www.tribenightclub.org. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

Actress Heather Matarazzo is the keynote speaker at GLSEN's annual conference.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Flesh, Xmortis, Fantasy Factory and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen, and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Friday)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, Thursday is lesbian night and Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999 MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstai lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano b and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Lati groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and con plimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House musi 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with hous music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Servic Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Class movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos scree 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

BAGLY Fundraiser
Bernard Toale Gallery, 450 Harrison Ave., Bosto (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green Li to Copley. April 28. 6 pm. $50. WHDH-TV7 new anchor Randy Price hosts this annual cocktail fund raiser for the Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender Youth.

Body/Works
The Theater at Machine, 1254 Boylston St., Bosto (617-266-4691). www.theatermania.com. MBTA Green Line to Kenmore. April 28-May 14. Thu.-Sat 8 pm. $20. Playwright and actor Michael Z. Keam debuts his comedic play about a man seeking to ba ance his mind, body and soul while attempting t integrate himself into society. Curt Miller directs.

GLSEN Conference
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brooklin (617-536-9669). www.glsenboston.org. MBTA: Line to Brookline Hills. Sat. April 30. Adults, $70 college students, $30; middle and high school student $12. More than 40 workshops are offered by th Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network a this all-day conference addressing sexuality i school communities. Actress Heather Matarazzo the keynote speaker.

The Women's Dinner Party
The Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Bosto (617-927-6350). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA Green Line to Copley. April 30. 6 pm. $125. Th annual event raises funds for Fenway Communit Health's Women's Care Fund and includes a silen auction, dinner and entertainment by Kate Clinto and DJ Ann Rogers.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Bosto (617-227-4313) www.bagly. org. MBTA: Green L Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Bosto Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgende Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events fo young people seeking community, support and place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 27 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 2 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Or ange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:3 pm. $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889 1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and les bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cam bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of eac month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to al bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blu or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Sat urday of each month and also hold a happy hou every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym phony. The league comprises gay and lesbian player and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of each month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Pride Committee
Wainwright Bank Community Room, 155 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-262-9405). www.bostonpride.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue. 6:30 pm. The Pride Committee meets every Tuesday this spring to plan for the 2005 Boston Pride Celebration Season.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the challenges and joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge. Call for more information.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org.MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array of services for the GLBT community, ranging from discussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to programs addressing domestic violence and substance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT flag football league for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat., 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information, e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail info@gaylab.org.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose or performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

GLBT Professionals Building Community
(866-594-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for GLBT professionals.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Newly Diagnosed Group
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group offers support for gay and bisexual men who have been diagnosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts a series of activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Friday of every month.

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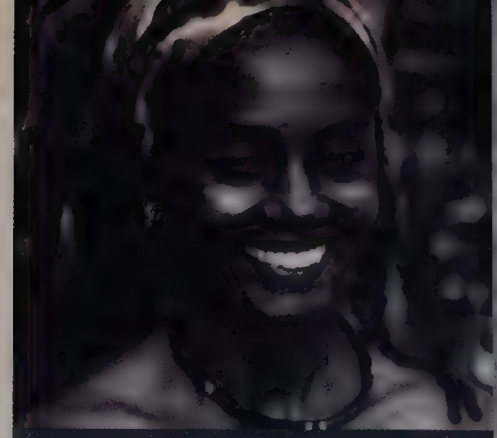

Wyoma leads a session on African Dance at the Arlington Center April 20.

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Buddhist Practice and Everyday Life
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.primordialdot.org or www.shambhalaboston.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. April 25. Doors open at 7:30 pm; event takes place 8-9:30 pm. Suggested donation: $10. The meditation center hosts Khandro Rinpoche, who speaks to participants about Buddhist practice and everyday life. A question-and-answer session follows the talk.

Local Food Farming
Veggie Planet Restaurant at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-824-4225 or 617-492-5300). http://boston.earthsave.org or www.massfarmersmarkets.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 24. Doors open at 2:30 pm; dinner follows lecture. Lecture, free; dinner, $10. Attendees get a general overview of agriculture in New England, then hear the specific perspectives of two local farmers: one organic, one conventional. Learn how each farmer's philosophy impacts their decisions about what and how to grow. Hosted by the Federation of Massachusetts Farmers Markets.

World Tai Chi Day
Teamworks Sports Center, 185 Otis St. (508-842-1236). www.tai-chi-arts.com. April 30, 10 am-12 pm. Free. This event hosted by the Tai Chi Arts Association brings local practitioners and teachers together to celebrate the health benefits of this ancient Chinese martial art form.

Lectures

Natural Health Seminar
Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202-6333). www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Washington St. April 23, 10-11:30 pm. Free. This multimedia presentation and interactive discussion aims to educate and empower participants to make effective choices about diet and lifestyle. Learn about supplements, the basics of digestion, and how certain consumable products may cause damage over time.

Relationships: Buddhist and Western Psychotherapeutic Perspectives
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 1, 1:30-5:30 pm. $70. Relationships influence the quality of our lives and can be the reason a person seeks therapy and/or meditation. Explore these two ideas, as well as the teacher/student relationship in meditation and the therapist/client relationship in therapy.

Classes

African Dance
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-306-1246). www.arlingtoncenter.org. April 30, 2-4 pm. $25. Learn traditional African, Caribbean and Brazilian dance from Wyoma, instructor and dancer featured in the video *African Healing Dance*. Learn about culture, get a workout, gain strength and stamina, and practice articulation skills. Beginners welcome.

Breathwork
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. April 24, 7-8:30 pm. $10. Renew, relax and discover the power of breathing at this workshop with David Vendetti, breathwork facilitator and yoga teacher.

Clarity Now
Brookline Adult and Community Education, Driscoll School, 64 Westborne Terrace, Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org or www.clarity work.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. April 26, three Tuesdays, 6-9 pm. $91. If you're feeling confused or mentally blocked, this workshop presents ways to access innate focus, in sight and guidance, and identify obstacles in you life. Bring paper and pen.

The Food Made Me Do It: Food Craving, Compulsion and Addiction
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 9 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010 or 781-595-9911) www.circlesofwisdom.com or www.mind-body-therapies com. April 30, 1-4 pm. $60. This class provides holistic approach for people who are struggling wit food. Through self-exploration, guided imagery an relaxation, participants can learn techniques to dis cover and overcome hidden mental, emotional o spiritual problems related to eating.

The G-Spot and Female Ejaculation Explained
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St. Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626) www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line t Coolidge Corner. April 27, 7:30-9:30pm. $34. Usin books and videos, participants discuss the myth ver sus reality of this mysterious spot, and what exactly i can do. Open to all.

In-Depth Yoga with Barbara Benagh
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St, Boston (617-523-7138) www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles o Green Line to Government Center. May 1, 11 am- pm. $30. This three-hour class is for continuing level students who wish to deepen their practice an study of yoga.

Intro to Taoist Longevity Breathing
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (617-876 4448). www.unicornbooks.org. April 29, 6:30-8:4 pm. $35. This course, focused on improving health and increasing longevity, teaches participants how to use breath to improve physical stamina, menta focus and vitality and decrease stress.

Kirtan with Shubalananda
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781 306-1246). www.arlingtoncenter.org or http://shubal ananda.weblogger.com. April 23, 7-9 pm. Donatio suggested. Kirtan, a simple from of Hindu devotiona music, is designed to resonate with one's chakras t help move the energy up the spine and allow the par ticipant to enter a higher plane of consciousness.

Moon Salutations
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661 7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line t Kendall. April 24, 6-8 pm. $20. This asana, or pos ture, stirs and stimulates the core energy of the body and aims to ground the practitioner while providing a feeling of expansion.

Sound Pod: Healing with Music
West Somerville (617-628-1018). www.avtara.com April 24, 7:30-9 pm. Donation requested. (Please cal ahead for exact location.) Explore intuitive sounding, chanting, and singing from the heart as a part of group musical experience designed to be joyful and healing. All levels welcome.

The Yoga of Sound
Yoga East Center for Alternative Medicine, 20 Del Carmine St., Wakefield (781-224-0722). www. yogaeast.net or www.omkailash.com. April 30, 7-9 pm. $12. In some of the world's wisdom traditions, speech and song are seen as a bridge between body, mind and soul. Participate in devotional chanting with musician and yoga instructor Kailash to explore your voice as tool for spiritual development.

Retreat

Healing Retreat
Silver River Institute, 294 Pleasant St. Stoughton (781-344-9814). www.silverriverinst.com. May 1, 9:30 am–3 pm. $85, includes vegetarian lunch. Please pre-register. Practice being present with yourself, and learn contemplative and creative practices to break out of limited self-image, discover strengths, connect with guidance and reconnect with your ideals.

sports

dvice to Contributors

ubmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calen-ar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@nproper.com. Include address, phone number, subway op, dates and times, and a brief description of the league event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone nd must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

oston Celtics
FleetCenter, Boston
ickets: 617-931-2000
pril 20, 7 pm vs. New Jersey Nets

oston Red Sox
Fenway Park, Boston
ickets: 617-482-4769
pril 25, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
pril 26, 7:05 am vs. Baltimore Orioles
pril 27, 1:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles

Events

oston Sailing Center's Free Sailing Weekend
ewis Wharf (off Atlantic Avenue), Boston. www.stonsailingcenter.com. April 30, 1-6 pm; May 1, 1-6 m. Get a taste of sailing at this annual event where isitors can take rides with experienced sailors round Boston Harbor aboard boats ranging in ngth from 23 to 40 feet.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

oston Demons
517-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club eeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

enry's Baseball
781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

oston Ski & Sports Club
517-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basket-all for players at all levels. Leagues exist in Water-own, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and ndividuals are welcome.

Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club (CRFC)
617-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-ound leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

Corporate Basketball League
781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one omen's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, lewton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of ll ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

oston Sport Boxing Club
25 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.ostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style oxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

oston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodge-all teams.

CRFC Dodgeball
617-491-8989). www.crfcdodgeball.com. Now ac-epting players and teams for a dodgeball league. ames at CRFC in Kendall Square.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

eam in Training
800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This or-anization provides fund-raising athletes with roup training and support, personalized coaching nd guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
61 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers encing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games on Saturdays. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Members have access to a ski lodge and can participate in ski and snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

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The competition will last approximately three minutes for each bartender. Semifinals for the top six competitors will take place at 8pm. Finals for the top three competitors will be at 10pm.

To compete, call Tom Abisso at 978-726-5675 by April 27.

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For tickets & additional information contact
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children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Anne of Green Gables

McCormack Hall, UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrens theatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to UMass/JFK. April 20-23, 2 pm. $10-$22. Boston Children's Theatre presents a musical adaptation of Lucy Maud Montgomery's novel about the adventures of foster child Anne.

The Beanstalk, the Giant and Jack

Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway. Through May 8; Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 pm. (April 20-22, daily, 1 pm). $12-$20. Wheelock presents a commedia dell'arte style performance of the classic children's tale.

Big Apple Circus: Picturesque

Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (800-922-3772). www.bigapple circus.org. MBTA: Red Line to UMass/JFK. $13-$53. Big Apple Circus' 27th season features jugglers, horses, acrobats, trapeze artists and more. Through May 8 (see Web site for show times).

Coolidge Corner Theatre Vacation Week Film Festival

29 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). www. coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 11 am, $2. •April 20: *Pete's A Pizza.* •April 21: *Two Brothers.* •April 22: Sandlot 2. •May 1: *Mad Hot Ballroom.*

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www. puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •April 21 and 22, 1 and 3 pm. *The Legend of the Banana Kid* by the Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers. Recommended for ages 4-12. •April 23 and 24, 1 and 3 pm. *Raccoon Tales* by Paul Vincent Davis. Recommended for ages 3-8. •April 27 and 28, 10:30 am. *The Frog Prince* by Pumpernickel Puppets. Recommended for ages 3-6.

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours

Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm. Tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet

Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-367-2345). www.boston byfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun. 2 pm, $8. This child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail's architecture and history is designed for walkers ages 6 to 12.

Boston Public Library

700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www. bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Free. •April 21, 2 pm. Photographer Guenter Wehrmann presents photos and shares stories from his travels on the ship the Christian Radich in the exhibit *Tall Ships in Bremerhaven.* •April 22, 10:30 am. Music fun with Wayne Potash. •April 24, 2 pm. Introduction to karate in the Rey Children's Room. For ages 4 and up.

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting and more. •Mon., Wed. and Fri., 11 am-12 pm. *Music & Movement* is a program that lets children ages 3 and under dance to popular tunes. •Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm. *Pint-Sized Science* offers scientific exploration for preschoolers. •Wed., 2-3 pm. *Musical Moments* allows children to explore instruments, music and dances from cultures around the world. •Thu., 11:30 am-1:30 pm. Kids adapt their favorite books into plays during StoryBook Theatre on the KidStage. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. *the Zoom Zone* is a hands-on science exhibit. •Dail 10 am-12 pm and 1-3 pm, PlaySpace offers a mes activity for children up to age 3.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253, www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Centra $12 adults, $5 children. Sat., 6 pm. The whole fami is invited to perform and play interactive gam with the ImprovBoston crew every Saturday night.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Mu seum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5pm. $10; seniors, $7; stu dents, $5. Members, patrons named Isabella and thos under 18 free. April 20, 9:30 am-4 pm. The Callin All Isabellas celebration includes a breakfast part for guests named Isabella, plus a storytelling perfo mance, craft activities and a scavenger hunt for a guests.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http: web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendal Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; age 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free. Fre admission the third Sunday of every month. •*Hologra phy, the Light Fantastic* features the world's larges collection of holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Be yond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence re search labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution o Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships t clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. •Mon. Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm. The Children's Room is an inter active learning environment that encourages chil dren ages 6-12 to take a closer look at the museum collection. •Tue. & Wed., 3:30-4:30 pm, ages 5 an under. *Books Bring Art Alive* is a hands-on activit that introduces children to the museum's collectio through literature. •Sat., 11 am-3 pm, ages 4 an up. *Art Inside Out: Dutch Paintings* uses cultural ac tivities and theatrical interpretations to show hov art works are made. •Sat.-Sun., 11 am-4 pm, ages and up. *Drop-In Drawing* includes gallery activities puzzles and drawing lessons. Materials provided.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun. 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11 seniors, $1 children. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior an calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*Dinosaur* showcases the museum's collection of dinosau models. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibition that features models of a wave tank Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing •*Science in the Park* is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. •*Mapping the World Around Us* ex plores the evolution of maps. Ongoing. •*Forces o Nature, Amazing Journeys, Mystery of the Nile,* an *Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* show at the IMAX The ater. •*Catch Bugs!* is a new 20-minute 3D movie presentation at the Wright Theater. Ongoing •*Mission to Saturn* at the Planetarium shows the Cassini spacecraft as it makes a dangerous journey toward one of Saturn's most mysterious moons. On going. •*Countdown to Supernova* is a planetarium show that illustrates the ways stars meet their demise, including the spectacular explosions called supernovas. Ongoing. •Four hundred butterflies and flowers are on display in the new permanent *Butterfly Garden.* Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm $9. •April 21, 10 am-12 pm. Learn how to use a compass to illustrate your own maps. Also highlight the path of Lewis and Clark. Recommended for ages 7-12. •April 22, 10 am-4 pm. Free. Kids can play board games with family and friends on Game Day and see an exhibit of locally made toys and games.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Continues through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •*Aliens of the Deep* is a 3D film showing at the IMAX Theater.

Tadpole Playground

Boston Common, adjacent to Frog Pond (508-820-1151). www.tadpoleplayground.org. Open from dawn until dusk. This outdoor area is a place where kids can enjoy art, water features and games. Check Web site for special events.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.mnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-9 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm; May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. This volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focuses on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen and office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast or dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

Sample award-winning specialties from Allston Village eateries, including

Aneka Rasa Malaysian Cuisine, Bazaar on Cambridge/Berezka, Big City, El Burrito Taqueria, Café Belô, Camino Real, Carlo's Cucina Italiana, Grasshopper, Greenfield, Herrell's Renaissance Café, Infusions Tea Spa, The Kells Asian Cuisine, Rangoli, Reef Café, Sami's Wrap 'n' Roll, Scullers Jazz Club/Boathouse Grille, Seoul Bakery, Shaw's Supermarket, Spike's Junkyard Dogs, Sunset Grill & Tap, Thai Place and V Majestic

Cash bar/Silent auction

Live music with jazz pianist **Adam Pepper**

Dance exhibitions by **Euroballroom Dancesport Studio, Mass Motion Dance Academy** and **Samarra Oriental Dance Studio**

Tickets are $25 in advance, $30 at the door; available on-line at www.allstonvillage.com/events

All proceeds benefit **Allston Village Main Streets**, a non-profit revitalization program

Information at 617.254.7564

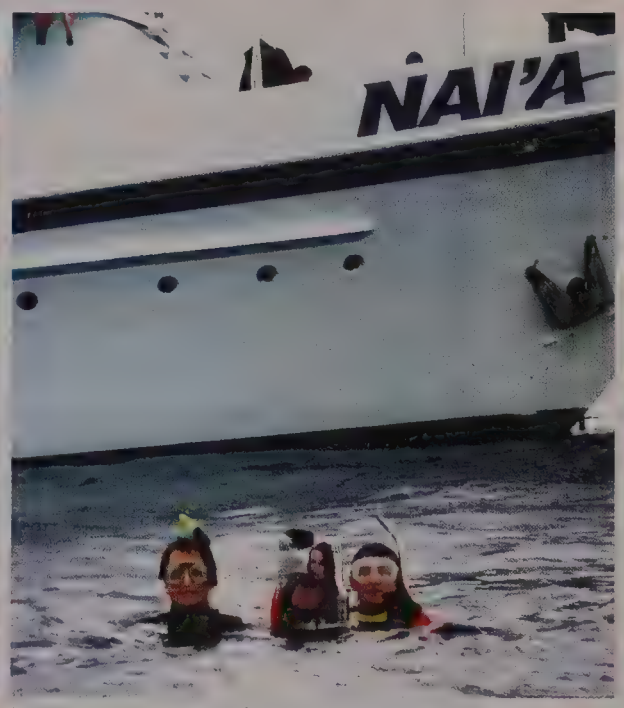
All leftover food will be donated to the Greater Boston Food Bank's Second Helping Program

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP.

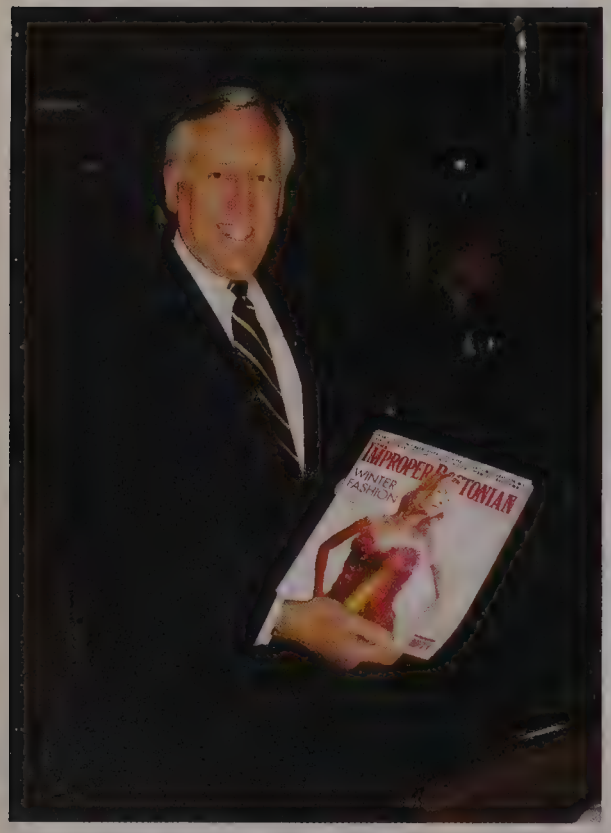
Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Major Paul Dynan poses at a mural of Saddam Hussein in Kirkuk, Iraq. Saddam was muddy the day the mural was painted.



Derek Threinen and Steven Bailey take a break from filming an IMAX movie off Fiji. They didn't have to dive very deep, as the title is *Secret Life of the Barnacle*.

Leslie Darmanian, Joan Ahmadjian, Jenny Baer and Justine Darmanian visit Stanford University in Palo Alto, Calif. Stanford is a fine school and should not be confused with Stamford, Conn., which is a post-apocalyptic suburban wasteland.



Maryland Congressman Steny Hoyer has no Georgetown University posters in the entrance to his house. No, there are no Hoyas in Hoyer's foyer.

Jaime L. Young brought the Dating Issue to the "natural bridge" in Aruba. Old-timers on the beach remarked that those Burberry raincoats used to be a lot bigger back in their day.

Irene and Tammy Fan stop at the Dragon and Tiger Pagodas in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. They did in fact enter the dragon.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Showing off their barbecued fondue at the World Barbecue Gold Cup, held in Interlaken, Switzerland, May 7–9.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com

THE IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

To the marketing department for Axe Longer Lasting Body Spray:

You may have convinced all the teenage boys in Cambridge to douse themselves with your product, but thanks to your insulting, obnoxious and ubiquitous T ads, I will never, ever, sleep with anyone who uses it. If I were involved in the most loving and passionate relationship of my life and discovered Axe Body Spray among my beloved's possessions, I would have no choice but to end the relationship on the same terms that I am driven to end relationships with people who are rude to waiters. I would not only have to stop sleeping with them, I would have to tell anyone who ever considered dating them that they use that product, and it's just so wrong. Your customers will not need shock absorbers on their couches or refrigerators full of whipped cream. They will need strong arms and flexible fingers to keep themselves company on cold, lonely nights, and warm, lonely nights, and lonely nights of indeterminate temperature, because lonely nights are the only kind they would ever have, if I had anything to say about it.

—RV

Hottie on B Line

It was March 24 and I was on the B Line when I noticed a very cute guy get on at Packard's Corner. It was a snowy morning around 7:30 and he got on the T and stood across from me. I hadn't had my usual Dunkin Donuts coffee to jolt my senses into a clever pick up line. You were wearing a warm black Patagonia jacket and you had on a khaki baseball hat with no logo on it. You were about 5'9" or 5'11" and you had dark-framed glasses. I was across from you on the left side of the train with a warm purple down coat on and black pants. I too wear glasses and they are black. You gave me the butterflies when you switched sides and stood next to me on the T. I was hoping to get off at the same stop as you but I had to get off at Park Street and you were still on the train. If you would like to go out for that morning coffee that would be great.

—qtonbline@hotmail.com

Mike and Chris at Our House West

I'm looking for Mike and Chris, who were at Our House West in Allston March 26. We are the blonde and brunette that you hung out with that night. You guys cracked us up but unfortunately things got confusing towards the end of the night as we were leaving Tonic. You left without our numbers but with our tan Patagonia fleece jacket. E-mail us so we can not only get the fleece back but see you guys again!

—patagoniafleece@yahoo.com*

Improper Response

This is for the beautiful, fun woman who has been single for a year, but only meets jerks (March 23 issue). My stunning and very nice former girlfriend who moved to the West Coast complains of the same thing. When I spoke with her, I said, "Why didn't you just choose the nice guys in the first place?"

Perhaps it's where you are expecting to meet them. A beautiful woman in a club naturally brings out the hormones in men. Otherwise-nice people are often much ruder in a club.

Or perhaps you're not giving the nice ones a chance to talk to you. If you just ignore all the guys and don't smile, often only the most brazen will have the confidence to approach. Your beauty and aloofness can bring out aggressiveness.

You wonder where to meet single guys. If you wanted to meet me, you would find me sailing at CBI, at a Harvard Sanders Theater concert, at a film festival, or Rollerblading along the Charles. Or, as so many others write about in the Impersonals, on the T. Occasionally, when I get out for drinks, it will be at an elegant place with martinis, not too loud, where jeans are out of place.

And if you are so inclined, you can also find me at church. I'm sure there would be many eligible men there who would love to introduce themselves. A great church for young people with fabulous modern music is the Sunday evening service at the Park Street Church, near Boston Common and Downtown Crossing.

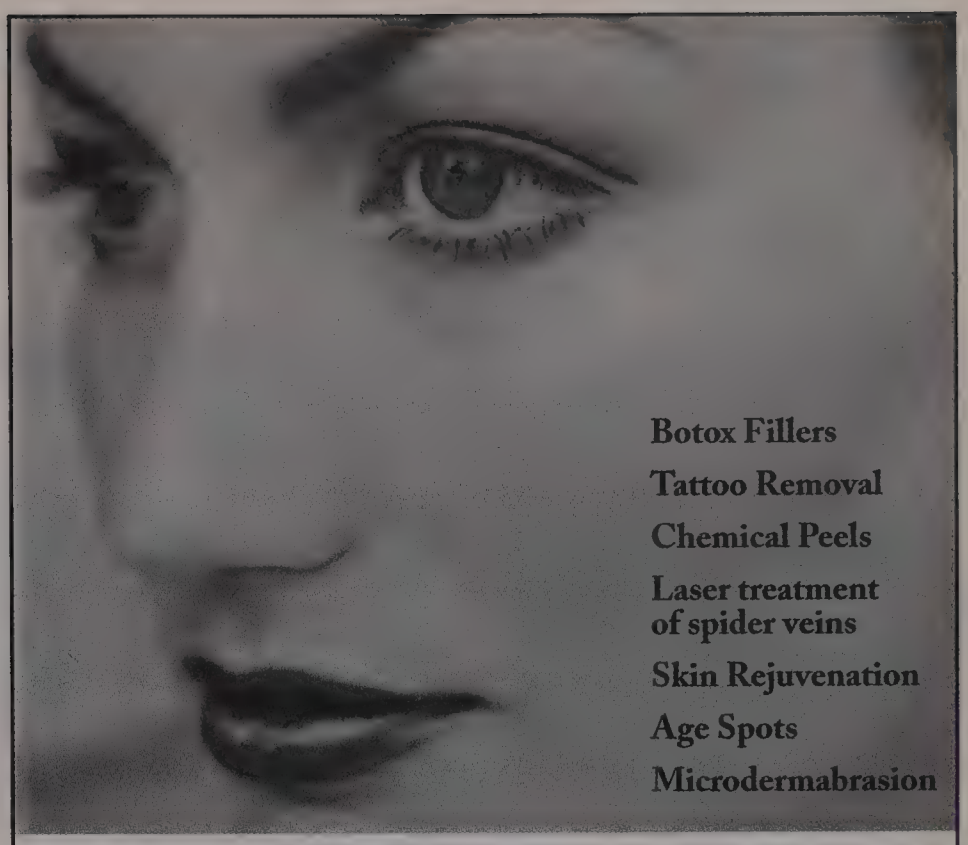
I've recently met some women at a different church. I can't figure out which one of four very lovely ladies to ask out. Unfortunately, they are all friends, so it is problematic to go out with all of them, at least at the same time. Any suggestions?

—Good luck!

Delta Delta Delta

You: Brunette girl with glasses, BC sweatshirt. Me: Brunette guy, tan pullover, baseball cap. Where: Delta gate for flight to Orlando, late March. We got in a conversation while waiting for our plane to depart, with subjects ranging from the small child transfixed by my sandwich to airline photography to your night job at the psychiatric ward of a local hospital. Unfortunately, I lost track of you after that and our seats on the plane weren't close to each other. I'd like to continue that conversation. If you can recall what we said about Delta's "boarding game," I'll know it's you.

—planetoorlando@hotmail.com



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BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

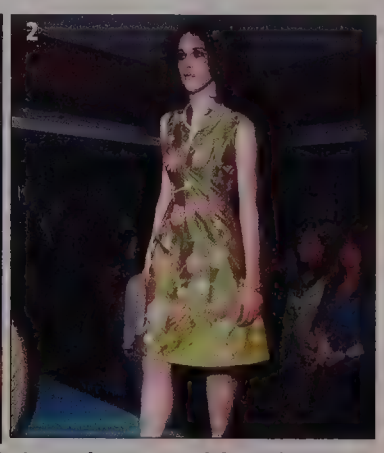
On Thursday, March 31, **Saks Fifth Avenue** held "The Star Scene," a store event featuring the season's hottest trends in women's contemporary sportswear .

1. **Nicole Van Dernoot,** marketing manager for Reebok, and **Janet Gorgone,** account executive at *Forbes* magazine.
2. **Monica Irani,** student at Boston University, and **Tara Buccino,** student at Boston University and waitress at Felt.
3. **Marcia Mitchell, Olga Gomonova,** and **Anna Morano** all models for Dynasty Models at Saks Fifth Avenue.

On Saturday, April 9, **8 Minute Dating** hosted an event for fun Boston singles. The event took place at the welcomed new addition to Chinatown, the **Golden Leaf Restaurant**.

1. **Kelly McMorrow,** event assistant, and **Angela Nuss,** event organizer, both for 8 Minute Dating.
2. **Robin Andrade,** business banker at Bank of America, and **Robyn Gilchrist,** network systems engineer at M.I.B. Inc.
3. **James Ho,** general manager at Golden Leaf Restaurant; **Jason Chung,** director of food and beverage at East Ocean Enterprises; and **Eva Wu,** waitress/server at Golden Leaf Restaurant.

On Tuesday, March 29, the **Improper Bostonian** hosted it's Spring Fashion Event at **Excelsior**. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres from Excelsior's new spring menu by executive chef Eric Brennan, cocktails by **Ketel One Vodka** and beer by **Stella Artois**. The fashion show featured clothing by **Stil** boutique, jewelry by **Long's Jewelers**, hair by **Mitchell John Salon**, makeup by **Edlyn Clay and team**, and models by **Click**.



1. **Rebecca Garnick,** marketing director for Long's Jewelers; **Betty Riaz,** owner of Stil; **Jackie Raffi,** vice president of sales for Long's Jewelers; and **Wesley Karger,** CFA for UBS Financial Services Inc.
2. **Katie Mulrey,** model for Click.
3. **Theresa Defalco,** makeup artist at MAC Cosmetics; **Steve Ballard,** regional sales manager for Ketel One Vodka; and **Jennifer Defalco,** teacher at South Row Elementary School.

On Tuesday March 29, **Fire and Ice** hosted a Celtics Celebrity Chef event.

1. **Marcus Banks,** player for the Celtics and **Hol Hustus,** chief operating officer at Fire and Ice.
2. **Erica Lopez,** host, and **Patrick Michaud,** server, both of Fire and Ice.
3. **Nicole Glor,** television director for Regan Communications; **Janet Wu,** anchor for Channel 7; and **Ed Berliner,** host of CN8's "Sports Pulse."

PHOTOS: SAKS FITFTH AVENUE, VALERIE SILVER; 8 MINUTE DATING, KATIE SCHMIDT; EXCELSIOR, DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN, JULIE KANE; FIRE & ICE, JULIE KANE

rockie horoscope

APRIL 20 – MAY 3, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

TAURUS APRIL 20–MAY 20

Since Venus on Friday and the sun on Tuesday left excitable, impetuous Aries for the serenity and sensuality associated with Taurus, you may already have become the center of attention, whether you want it or not. Thankfully, the buzz shouldn't go to your head because, after many weeks of pure air and fire energy, the practical earth element has been reintroduced. Prudence, feasibility plus a sincere appreciation of what feels, smells, tastes, sounds and looks good can change the tone of whatever occasion you and your cronies are celebrating. Birthday? May Day?

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Slowly, step by step, the horror movie that played during the recent Mercury retrograde session is fading into history. While your Mercury ruler redefines the path it led you to in early March, you'll make the necessary adjustments and excuses for what has happened between then and now. However, probably not until April is over will you make fresh inroads. Although the cast of characters, e.g., a colleague or a client, may change, the career objective you set for yourself, with a few "I can live with that!" modifications, remains the same.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

What was set in motion at the new moon/solar eclipse/papal funeral becomes dramatically visible right after the full moon/lunar eclipse on the 24th. Until then, a career-conscious Moon Child should continue on course, plugging away at his or her chosen mission of the month. However, keep an eye out for information you might have missed or misinterpreted and connections that weren't made while Mercury was retrograde. This is the optimum time to catch up, fill in the blanks and rectify whatever misconceptions were formed.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Lions and Crabs tend to stake out common ground during periods of significant change, e.g., the soli-lunar eclipses. If, fascinated by the pageantry of the papal funeral, you missed something else that coincided with the solar eclipse, you should recover it around the time of the lunar eclipse on the 24th. The Taurus sun–Scorpio moon polarity is a metaphysical high point celebrated around the world as the Buddha Festival. Why not use this as a reason to rise to the occasion?

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Virgins along with the other earth signs breathed a sigh of relief once the sun got to practical Taurus on the 19th. The firmer your grasp of reality, the more common sense pervades the atmosphere, the better you can function. It's enough to have to tiptoe your way through the remnants of Mercury's recent retrogression without worrying if so many planets in excitable fire and air signs will ignite another heart-wrenching conflagration. Go slow; find time to pick up every stitch dropped in the last six weeks.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Rather than confront someone outright, you could opt for a more gentle approach now that your Venus ruler has left feisty Aries for Taurus, a sign like your own that prefers to live in harmony. Another advantage: a heightened awareness of purely sensual pleasures you sometimes neglect in order to pursue interesting ideas and mind games. Wait until the Scorpio full-moon eclipse is over before undertaking a full-fledged review of your finances. Otherwise, you might not get the complete picture or realize where the potential for growth lies buried.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Significant as well as insignificant others play a more prominent part in your life the deeper into Taurus we get. Starting with Venus' entry on the 15th and the sun's shift on the 19th, you should look forward to greater cooperation from co-workers and a stronger attachment to a health care professional. Quick, book a massage, sign up for yoga, get your eyes examined. By the time the Scorpio full moon arrives, you could be totally infatuated, and yet—as Mars and Pluto, your co-ruling planets, align—remarkably well-balanced.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

A little extra work, a fair amount of play and lots of off-the-wall conversations: The possibilities may seem endless when you finally start doing some of the things you wanted to, but had the foresight not to do, while Mercury was retrograde. As the Messenger and you revisit your original wish list, you may sense that safety and security are a lot more critical issues than they were before, and that, out of nowhere, you've become a practical person. The closer we get to the mysterious Scorpio full moon, the stronger your intuition. Follow it.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

The down-to-earth attitude that value-conscious Taurus adds to the astrological atmosphere can restore your sense of balance and well-being. Especially when dealing with folks in the family as well as the people you choose to have fun with. Amenable, appreciative Venus' transit of sensuous Taurus gives the often-aloof Goat an invitation to experience pleasures denied at other times of the year. Make the most of the goddess' trip through your house of romance and recreation. After Mother's Day, she'll be gone.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Persons of interest and your area of interest may shift from the neighbors and the neighborhood to the relatives and real estate. Such is the nature of safety-first Taurus and its bullish natives. So if growing a garden suddenly seems like a good thing to do, or Grandma demands more of your time, chalk it up to a renewal of conservative earth energy. And don't be surprised if you decide to buy an experimental, ecologically sound product while your future-oriented Uranus ruler receives encouragement from the Taurus planets.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

If, following the Aries new moon eclipse, you noticed a shift in your value system, a similar avenue of expression can open up after the Taurus–Scorpio full-moon eclipse on the 24th. A talent you underappreciated may become recognized, an asset you downplayed might be worth a lot more in today's market. A new day is dawning, a new era for the Fish, as the symbol of the Roman Catholic Church, is about to be launched. And just last week, while Mars met your Neptune ruler, you received your semiannual energy boost. Where to put it?

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

The focus is on your value system—the attitudes, assets and material goods that still mean something and those that you've outgrown. While Mercury, finally direct in your sign, is retracing the steps it recently walked you through, you'll come across an opportunity to evaluate where you are and what the immediate future holds. Despite a generosity of spirit that may overwhelm you, a co-worker and your favorite charity case as the month ends, feel free to recycle. Keep telling yourself: What goes around comes around.

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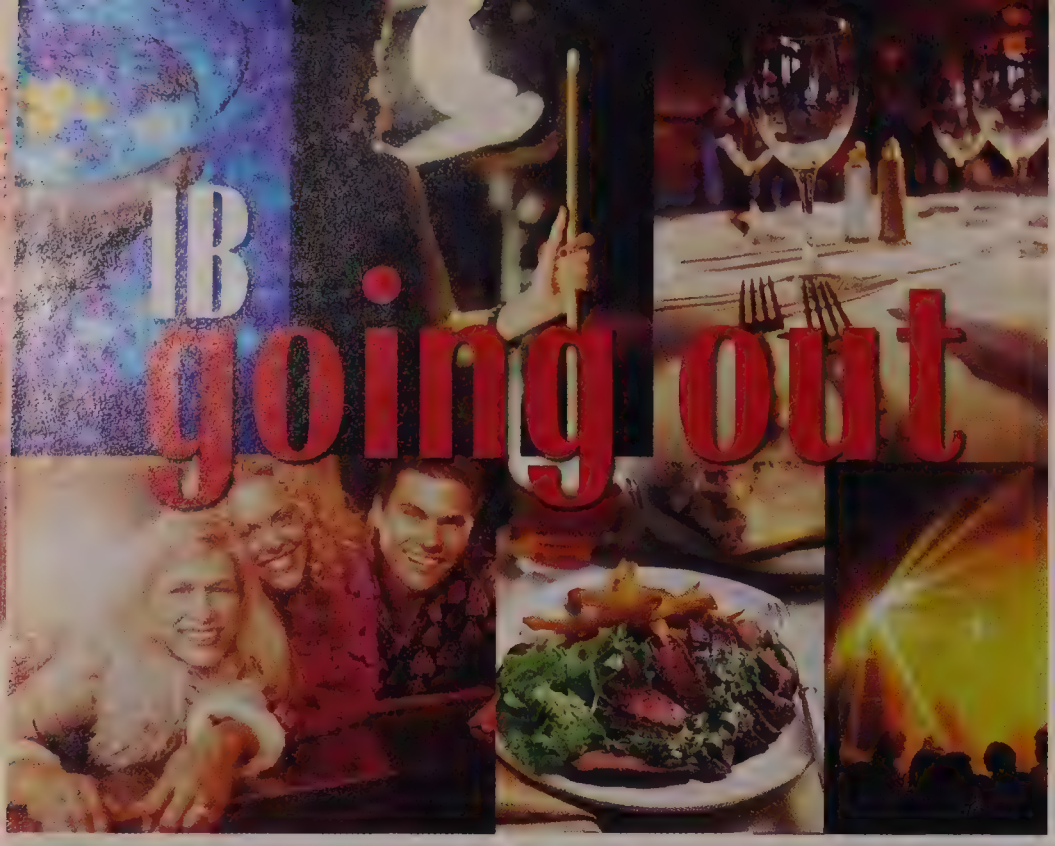

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BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature is cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes its mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

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HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty.Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

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NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SCIENCE STREET CAFÉ *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breath-taking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

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SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

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BARS & CLUBS

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Billiards

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STADIUM – CLUBHOUSE *232 Ol Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269 5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a bran new, upscale nightclub featuring tw bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmos phere with wide variety of music and beau tiful people crowding the dance floo on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal plac for your next bachelor, bachelorette o birthday party.

Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700 www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2n Floor of the Quincy Market Building in th heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is oper seven nights a week and offers the best i local and national comedy. During th week, the nationally renowned club offer some of Boston's best comics like Kevi Knox,"The Wildman of Comedy,"Pau Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursda nights, Frank Santos,"The R-Rated Hypno tist" mesmerizes the audience and on th weekends, this is the only place to see th biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stew art, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington St. Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste o Ireland with great tasting, affordable food One of the most popular nightspots i town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands or weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am, 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

General

BAR 10 *The Westin Copley Place Boston, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-424-7446.* After a long day, relax and wind down in the sophisticated style of one of Boston's most fashionable "hot spots," Bar 10, voted "Best Civilized Cocktail" by The Improper Bostonian. Enjoy creative Mediterranean cuisine with an extensive, affordable wine list, as well as a variety of specialty cocktails. Opened Monday - Friday 11:30 AM - 1:00 AM and Saturday and Sunday 12:00 PM - 1:00 AM.

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110 www.bostonrocks. net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas. com.

CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR *Boston Marriott Copley Place; 110 Huntington Ave. Boston, 617 937-5658.* Come join us at Boston's premier Sports Bar where you can enjoy all you local and national sports action on one of our 33 tvs, including 2 big screens. We have draft beers as well as a huge selection of domestic and imported bottle selections for you to choose from. We also have a full bar and menu serving all your favorite traditional American cuisine. Planning your next party or corporate event? We have room for parties ranging from 25-325. Our hours are from Sunday through Thursday 11:30-1am, and Friday and Saturday 11:30-2am.

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JILLIAN'S BOSTON / LUCKY STRIKE LANES *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300 www.jilliansboston.com.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring 16 bowling lanes, 50 pool tables, high-tech games, high definition video walls, multiple lounges and private rooms. Located on the first floor is Tequila Rain, which offers an amazing Tex-Mex menu and dancing to the hottest DJs Friday and Saturday nights.

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Jazz

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BRUNCH

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouth watering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $6, entrees $16, desserts $7 or all 3 courses for $24. Sundays: $39 adults and $17.50 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 300+ microbrews.

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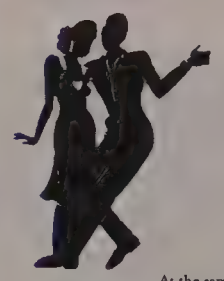

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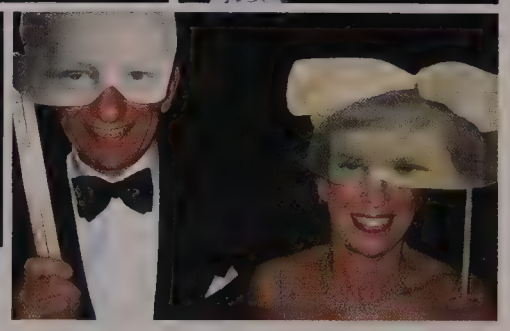


At the Handel & Haydn Society party, top: Ceridwen and Grant Llewellyn. Middle row: Kathy and Wally Weld; Karen and Joanne Levy; Michael Tilley and Debbie First. Bottom: David Begelfer and Bette Ann Libby

GOING FOR BAROQUE...

The **Handel & Haydn Society** set the Way-Back Machine to the 1780s for its annual black-tie gala, **Mozart Unmasked**, held in the **Four Seasons**' appropriately rococo ballroom.

A champagne reception was followed by a dinner featuring such historically accurate fare as roast pheasant (a ballsy thing to serve to a crowd), Viennese potato soup and a Mozart torte. Guests danced to the strains of the **Winiker Orchestra**, bid on extravagant items in the silent auction, and listened to performers singing snatches of Donizetti and the like, all the while raising oodles of cash for the society's education and outreach programs.

Present and accounted for: the evening's achingly lovely honoree, **Karen Secunda Levy**; maestro **Grant Llewellyn** and his stunning daughter, **Ceridwen**; party chair **Debbie First** and her cut-up of a husband, **Bob**; beyond-fabulous Brahmin **Sylvia Pope**; newlyweds **Richard Dalton** and **Mary Dalton Greer**; the delightful duo of **David Begelfer** and **Bette Ann Libby**; irresistible Adonis **Brian Saipe**; blue-blooded party pair **Wally** and **Kathy Weld**; gazillionaire philanthropist **Bill Achtmeyer**; the definitively sexy **Michael Tilley**, and others wearing everything from black tie to flowing saris to homemade masks to 18th-century garb (complete with powdered wigs).

Despite the fact that it's been around since Boston was home to no more than a dozen pianos (a fun fact offered up during one of the speeches), someone joked that they'd recently heard H&H referred to as the Hansel and Gretel Society, making the need for the evening all the more apparent.

In the most amusing exchange, one guest asked a friend, "Do I have silly red lines on my face from my mask?" to which the friend replied, "No. Do I have silly red lines on my face from getting my eyebrows waxed?"

LOOK WHO'S COMING TO DINNER...

Boston's glitziest dinner party began, as always, with a cocktail reception of Biblical proportions at the **Langham Hotel** before guests dispersed for sit-down suppers at restaurants, homes and catered venues throughout the city. The occasion: **Life Savor**, the major fund-raiser to benefit **Community Servings**.

The evening attracted such card-carrying members of the meritocracy as Pucci-clad PR powerhouses **Colette Philips** and **Jan Saragoni**; fashion plate and patron lady bountiful **Joan Parker**; insanely attractive couples **Steve Donald** and **Malcolm Gray**, **Gary Sullivan** and **Mark Young**, and **Matt Greer** and **Leona Buckley**; food scribe **Corby Kummer**; noted scribbler **John Sedgwick**; lawyer/writer/provocateur **Alan Dershowitz**; tie designer **Tony Corey**; the tall, dark and devastatingly handsome **Rich Merritt**; BSO boy wonder **Alexander Steinbeis**; the delectable **Jane Denis**, whose husband, Langham GM **Serge**, generously hosted the pre-dinner shindig; B-52's frontman **Fred Schneider**; advice columnist (and daughter of Ann Landers) **Margo Howard**; music industry giants **Oedipus**, **Jonathan Lev** and **Jeff Marshall**; the impossibly adorable **Ty Dowd**; comme il faut interior designer **Eileen Patterson**; the shockingly sexy **Denise DeGidio**; expectant father **Preston McSwain**, and so on and so forth.

After imbibing for an hour or two, everyone scattered to their respective dinner parties, where countless toasts were offered, including this one: "To hard-bodied men... If only one could come equipped with a brain."

Following dinner, many guests were so stuffed and exhausted that they called it a night. However, the hardcore reconvened at **One Post Office Square** for some ass-shaking to burn off the calories, while those who bowed out were overheard loudly promising to spend extra time at the gym the next day.

At Life Savor, top row: Alexander Steinbeis; Leona Buckley and Matt Greer. Middle row: Joan Parker and Margo Howard; Steve Donald and Malcolm Gray. Botton row: Fred Schneider; Gary Sullivan and Ty Dowell

EVERYTHING BUT THE DOUBLE-WIDE...

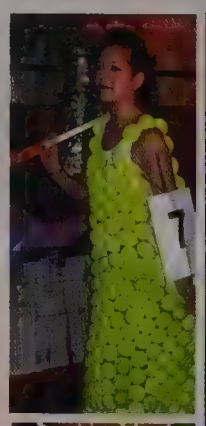
Who could resist an invitation to something called the **Trash Bash** at the **Fuller Craft Museum** in Brockton? Besides offering an opportunity to spend some quality time in a town we've only sped through going about 80 miles an hour, the evening boasted a dress code of "flashy, trashy, whatever," a silent auction of museum-quality crafts, lethal-looking specialty drinks, and the opportunity to vote on the most "fantrashtic" outfit in a fashion show of dresses made from things like cupcake holders, Q-Tips, tennis balls, Sprite cans, cassette tapes, garden hoses, swizzle sticks and other detritus.

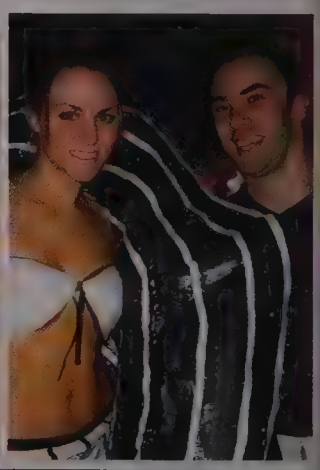
It also offered the opportunity to rub elbows with such intriguing types as MIT development bigwig **Martha Ballard** and her other half, restaurant design guru **Steve Matthews**; fashion plate **Francesca Piper Koss** (in a super-groovy **Jean Paul Gauthier** dress); junior socialite **Alison Fischoeder** with her charming mother, **Elinor O'Neil**; Maine-based assemblage artist **Dan Dowd**; interior designer **Fred Fiandaca**; New York short-story writer **Cynthia Weiner** (sporting a very cute Missoni miniskirt); and insanely hot RISD sophomore **Theodore Yemc**, whose gorgeous sister, **Louisa**, graciously modeled the gown he fashioned out of garbage bags in return for a promise that he would make her prom dress.

The evening's only disappointment: The food didn't match the theme. Instead of corn dogs, fried dough, etc., guests nibbled sophisticated fare from a well-known caterer.

In at least one other significant way, the party mimicked similar evenings in the big city, like when one guest waved at a well-known committee member who said, "Hi! How are you?"

"Who was that?" asked someone standing nearby, to which the committee member replied, "I have absolutely no idea." IB





At the Trash Bash, top row: the winning dress; Dan Dowd; Louisa and Theodore Yemc. Bottom: another entry

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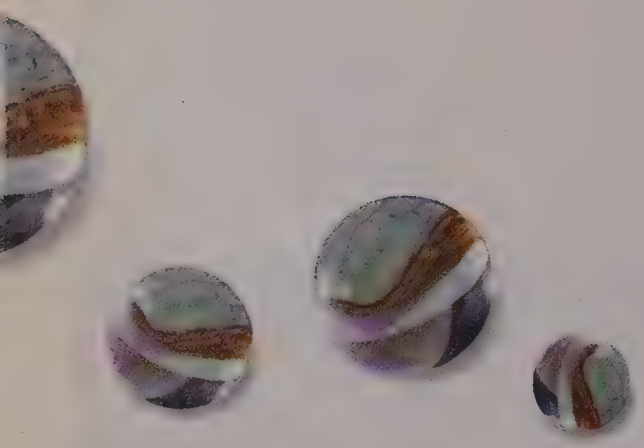

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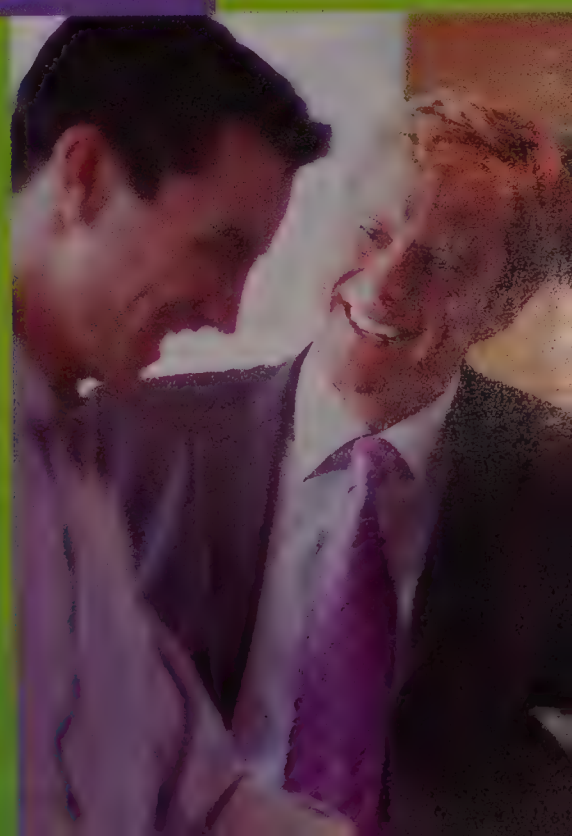

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

THE GOOD LIFE

What does luxury mean to you? Is it a $96,000 diamond ring or an Hermès scarf? A perfect Dover sole meunière served by a waiter in a crisp white jacket? Or maybe something as mundane as paying to park in a garage instead of hunting for a metered spot?

In our first Luxury Issue, we look at the topic from a few different angles. Jonathan Soroff kicks it off with a fantasy piece called "Revenge of the Housewife Scorned" in which he imagines, What if you were trying to burn as much money as possible over a weekend in Boston? Join us for an over-the-top spending frenzy—and check out Soroff's sidebar asking some of Boston's most successful citizens what they'd do with the ultimate luxury gift: a full day to themselves, free of any obligations.

The features that follow focus on luxe jewels, high-end fashions and some classic items that have defined elegance.

Even if you're on a tight budget, consider indulging yourself once in a while. Ezra Dyer proposes small splurges that can make you feel like a big spender.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

THE SPOONER THE BETTER

Brilliant choice adding columnist John Spooner to THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN. Spooner's wit, style and content affirm to this reader that exceptional writing can still tease, humor and offer examples of irony to balance our often pedestrian lifestyle. Congrats!

—JIM BRIDE
Dedham

WE ARE BEAUTIFUL

Great job on the Beauty Issue (April 20). I especially loved the thorough article on 21 beauty must-haves entitled "Rescue Me." There are so many different "miracle" products on the shelf these days that it makes your head spin. Hopefully, "Rescue Me" will rescue me from hours at the mall and wasted cash!

I also adored the cover. It elicits thoughts of spring days to come. Keep up the good work!

—NICOLE KANNER
Boston

I really enjoyed the "Rescue Me" article in your Beauty Issue. It encouraged me to take another look at my hair and skincare products—I'm hooked on Lancome and it's nice to know that there are alternatives. Your fashion and beauty sections have really spiced up the magazine. The IMPROPER wins the race!

—JANE SOLLOGUB
Boston

KATHY LEE GIFFORD MUST BE ALL UP IN OUR HEADS

A colleague in Boston sent Ezra's "Randomania IV" column from the April 6 issue of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN my way. Carnival Cruise Lines' commercials do not use the Iggy Pop song. That's a Royal Caribbean Cruise Line ad campaign. Thought you'd like to know.

—JENNIFER DE LA CRUZ
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
CARNIVAL CRUISE LINES
Miami, Fla.

HOPEFULLY, "RESCUE ME" WILL RESCUE ME FROM HOURS AT THE MALL AND WASTED CASH.

—NICOLE KANNER
BOSTON

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SCOTT MAGOON

Scott Magoon is an illustrator who by day designs children's books at Candlewick Press in Cambridge. His first illustrated picture book, *Ugly Fish* (written by Kara LaReau and published by Harcourt), is due out next spring. He lives with his wife and son in Medford, and he thinks parking his car in a garage is luxurious. Magoon's latest work for the IMPROPER accompanies the story "Little Luxuries," on page 30.

TONY SCARPETTA

Boston native Tony Scarpetta has more than 20 years' experience behind the lens. His diverse portfolio includes still-lifes, interiors and portraits, with clients ranging from Houghton Mifflin and Clark's Shoes to HP Hood. The former director of digital imaging at United Lithograph, Scarpetta now works out of his studio in Union Square in Somerville. To check out Scarpetta's work, turn to "Fresh Picks," on page 32.

BEAUTY COVER: MATTHEW JORDAN SMITH

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: **The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446.** Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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IMPORTED PAMPERING

Cambridge's new Breathe Spa has all the services you'd expect: manicure/pedicures ($49), facials ($65–$95) and eyebrow waxing ($14). But the hot pink subterranean spa's claim to fame is an imported Italian contraption called La Culla—sort of a high-tech waterbed that spews steam. The bed, only the second in the U.S. according to Breathe owner Michelle Buonopane, is the foundation for a multisensory massage.

Once in the treatment room, you have some scene-setting options. First, choose a hue for the room's lighting—soft blue or pink for example. Next, select the fragrance that an esthetician will splash on your pressure points, and finally some music—options are along the lines of Enya and other mellow tunes. Hop onto the soft, heated, water-filled bed, which looks something like an MRI machine, and you're ready to begin the treatment.

As steam emanates from the bed, enveloping you and opening your pores, the esthetician gets to work. After a full-body rub and exfoliation, you get a relaxing facial and full-body massage—all using La Culla products. When you emerge clean and soft (about two hours and $200 later), you can browse the lobby's selection of La Culla products—from massage creams and moisturizers to shampoo—to try at home.

Buonopane, who was a spa therapist in Winchester for five years, says she first heard of the La Culla bed a few years ago and planned to buy one when she opened her own spa. "I wanted something different," she says.

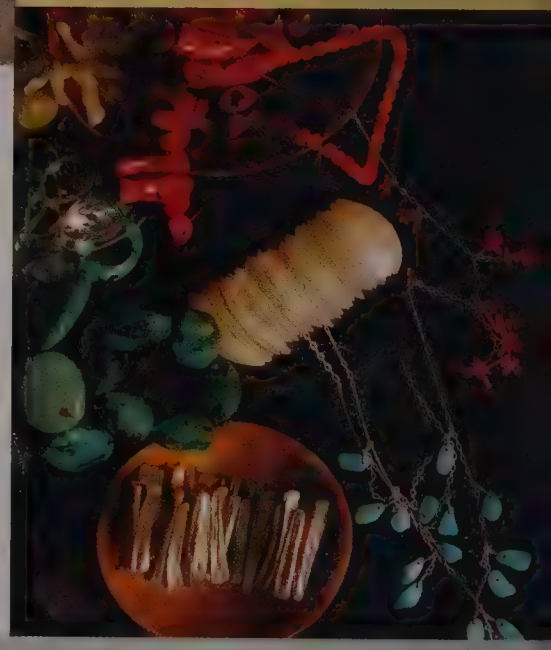
1696 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-871-6608). Wed., 10 am-7 pm; Thu., 10 am–8 pm; Fri., 10 am–5 pm; Sat., 10 am–4 pm; Sun., 11 am–3 pm. —E.H.

sam says

TIMELESS PIECES

It seems like everyone and their sister has come out with a line of jewelry these days. Unfortunately, there's often little to distinguish them from one another. But now and then you find a designer with something new to offer. One example: Adriana Jenkins, who began making jewelry when she couldn't find unique pieces for her own wedding. Jenkins launched her line—called Sterling Jones, after one of her great-grandmother's beaus—last year, and it's already featured in stores around the country (locally, K Ko and Good in Boston, and Gretta Luxe in Wellesley). What makes Jenkins' pieces so different is that they're a little asymmetrical. Blending materials like pearls, wood, coral, seashells and turquoise with silver or gold, her line is fun and flirty—and you won't see it all over town. Prices range from $55–$365. *www.sterlingjonesdesign.com.*

—Samantha House



inner view

AL JEFFERSON

The Celtics are battling the Pacers in the playoffs, and one year removed from high school, 20-year-old rookie Al Jefferson finds himself in the spotlight of the NBA postseason. At the beginning of the season, Jefferson was a question mark—sure, he put up some ridiculous numbers at Prentiss High in Mississippi (62 points, 21 rebounds and 11 blocks in one game), but that was against scrubby little high schoolers, not Shaq—who, incidentally, is one of the guys Jefferson has had to guard in the low post this season. Welcome to the NBA! In his debut season, Big Al has responded well to the NBA learning curve and shown the makings of a dominating rebounder and inside presence, which the Celtics sorely need. We caught up with Jefferson at the Celtics' practice facility the day after Game Two against the Pacers.

IB: *How're you dealing with the transition from big fish in a small pond to the other way around?*

AJ: You're just playing against a lot of guys who are stronger and have been around a long time. That's the biggest thing that's different, the experience level.

IB: *Who's the toughest guy you've guarded this year?*

AJ: Shaq. You really can't handle him. You just do the best you can.

IB: *Has the success of the Red Sox and Patriots put pressure on the Celtics?*

AJ: No, not really. It'd be great if we could continue it, but there's no pressure.

IB: *After blowing out the Pacers in Game One, did you guys get the sense this would be an easy series?*

AJ: The Pacers are a good team. I knew they weren't gonna let us roll 'em out like that. In Game Two, we made a couple of mistakes that cost us the game.

IB: *What's the single nicest thing you treated yourself to when you made it to the NBA?*

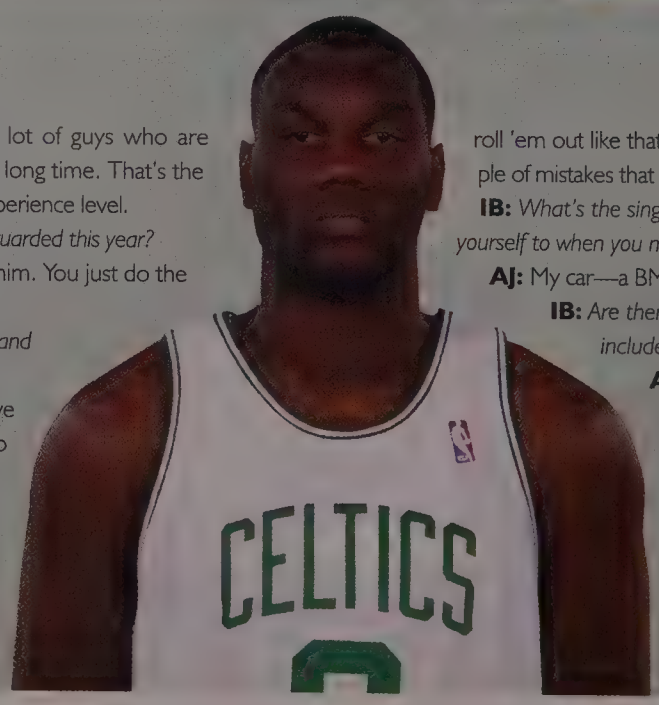
AJ: My car—a BMW 745.

IB: *Are there any video games out yet that include you as a player?*

AJ: Yeah, a couple. I haven't played them. I'm not a video game person, you know.

IB: *How're you liking living in Boston?*

AJ: It's nice. Great city, great fans. They really support you. It's cold, but that's something you get used to.



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tasty tidbits

NEW BREW TIMES TWO

Cheers for Beers... Looks like it was a busy winter for some of our local brewmasters, as two new Boston-based beers debuted this spring. Boston Beer Works' new brew is a pale ale blended with tea. The lemon-tinged Boston Tea Party Ale has 6 percent alcohol, and, we hear, is best served over ice. Traditionalists who don't like to branch out too far can try Cape Ann Brewing Company's new Fisherman's Brew. The family-owned brewer makes batches of the rich, amber lager through a process that takes more than six weeks. Find Boston Tea Party Ale at Boston Beer Works' Fenway location; Fisherman's Brew is available at Tia's.

New Dot Spot... After months of anticipation, Icarus owner Chris Douglass is about to debut his new Dorchester restaurant. The Ashmont Grill, set to open in June, will feature American fare that Douglass calls "everyday food," prepared on a wood-fired grill. Douglass, who's aiming to make the Grill a local hangout, will serve up breakfast and lunch all day, starting at 7 am. Dinner will be available until 10 pm, and the bar will be open until 1 am. Laptops are welcome: The restaurant will also feature wireless access. *555 Talbot Ave., Dorchester (617-825-4300). www.ashmontgrill.com.*

Kayem's new breakfast sausages

Pastry Pledge... For the week leading up to Mother's Day, more than 100 pastry chefs in and around the city have come together for the "Boston Bakes for Breast Cancer" fund-raiser. Participating restaurants like Bonfire, 33 and Pigalle have added special desserts to their menus, with 100 percent of the proceeds going to the Eva Brownman Cancer Fund, a nonprofit organization that supports breast cancer research at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Visit www.bostonbakesforbreastcancer.org for a complete list of restaurants.

Chick on This Link... Bacon is bacon, but sausage can surprise you. Case in point: local meat purveyor Kayem's fully cooked Al Fresco chicken breakfast sausages, in apple maple and mango honey flavors. These suckers are all-natural, so the aforementioned flavors come via the apple orchard and the honey bee, rather than, for instance, wherever Froot Loops flavoring comes from. And they have 75 percent less fat than pork sausages, which means you can eat four times as many of them! Mmmm. Available at your local supermarket. *www.alfrescoallnatural.com.*

improper reports

ON THE WATERFRONT

Some of the city's best views can be found at the restaurants and bars that line the wa front, and spring and summer are the best time to soak them in. Here's a sampling of terview spots where the young and hungry gather on Boston summer nights.

Boston Harbor Hotel

The Barking Crab

Fort Point Landing, 88 Sleeper St., Boston (617-426-2722). www.barkingcrab.com

This seafood restaurant and bar offers informal harborside dining at the edge of Fort Point Channel. The menu includes New England clam chowder and fried clam platters, as well as pastas and curries for non-fish-eaters. Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday night there's live music ranging from calypso and reggae to blues.

Boston Harbor Hotel

70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-3995). www.meritagetherestaurant.com

For fine dining, try the hotel's lauded Meritage—although it doesn't have a patio, the seating at Meritage is designed to maximize the water views from Rowes Wharf. Chef Daniel Bruce's seasonally changing, wine-friendly menu includes offerings like Kobe beef, ostrich, foie gras and Nantu scallops. For casual outdoor ing with water views, check the hotel's Intrigue Café.

The Sail Loft

80 Atlantic Ave., Boston (61 227-7280).

The Sail Loft's nautical decor fits its location on the North waterfront. The menu inclu staples like fried shrimp burgers, as well as its specia house-made clam chow served in a big ceramic m Cookie jars filled with Oreos the bar's hallmark.

Tavern on the Water

1 Pier Six, 8th St., Charlestown (617-242-8040). www.tavernonthewater.com

Here, diners can see the city from the vantage po of Charlestown's Navy Yard. The restaurant serv casual fare: burgers, fried seafood and daily fish sp cials, as well as their specialties, grilled haddock an salmon Caesar salad. Stretch your legs with a sh post-prandial walk over to Old Ironsides.

Tia's on the Waterfront

200 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-227-0828). www.tiaswaterfront.com

Classy cocktails such as the signature Flirtini (ras berry vodka, Grand Marnier, cranberry and pinea ple juice) and beers (they offer 15 varieties) draw young professional crowd to Tia's 55 outdoor tab on cool summer evenings.

IMPROPER SPEAKING

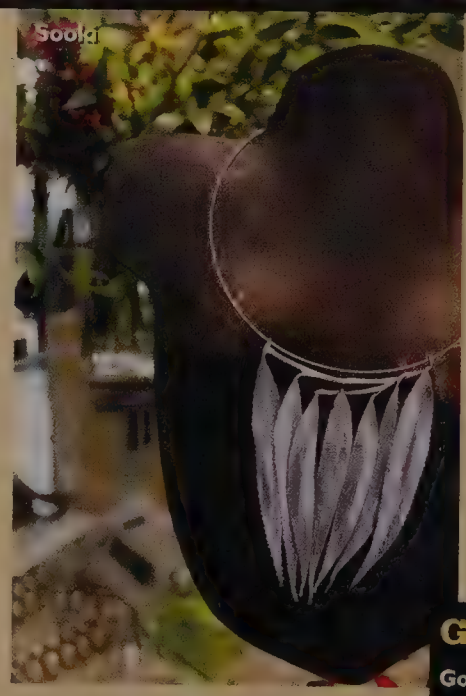
SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTIO

DJ You... Have you ever been that guy moping in the corner of the club because they aren't playing your kind of music? Well it's time to put your money where your music is. Every Wednesday at 10 pm, Common Ground in Allston is hosting iPod DJ Night. Wannabe "mp3J's" get 15-20 minutes to play whatever they want from their iPod (or any mp3 player). Sign-ups start around 9 pm, or you can beat the rush and sign on via e-mail at www.commongroundbarandgrill.com. *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*

Stop Bugging Us... First the World Series, then the Super Bowl, and now the city of Boston adds a third title to its résumé: Buggiest City in America. That's right, according to the *Farmers' Almanac*, our fair city is the country's biggest mosquito magnet, beating out the other top-five hubs: Houston, L.A., Atlanta and New York. Factors like weather, precipitation records and mosquito population reports from local representatives all contributed to this dubious distinction. While that's certainly disheartening news, try this on for size: Mosquito control experts across the country are warning that 2005 could be one of the worst mosquito seasons on record.

Dooley Noted... Mr Dooley's Tavern on Broad Street is closing in on a milestone—its millionth pint of Guinness poured. The pub has installed a beer counter to notch off the brews until the big pint, which will earn a lucky drinker an all-expenses-paid trip to the Guinness brewery in Ireland. Mr. Dooley's expects the celebratory pint to pour out of the tap sometime in May. (For the record, a million pint glasses laid end-to-end would reach almost one-tenth the way to Ireland.) *Mr. Dooley's, 77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656).*

Eclectic Luxury... The retail space at 505 Tremont Street in the South End has given life to yet another boutique this spring, but in the words of owner Suzan Griffith, Sooki is more of a boutique department store. "I want locals to feel they can pop in whenever they need something and we'll have it," she says. Sooki offers everything from dog collars, hand-knit baby shoes, Italian leather goods and cashmere throws to T-shirts, silk tunics and shoes. Space is limited, so Griffith says she carries only the best of the best lines—like Adam and Eve, Grace Chuang and Olivia Rose Tal—but she'll special-order nearly anything. *505 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-0809).*



Visualize This...A new pair of specs can completely change your look, and the trendy new Vizio Optic in Brookline Village carries styles and high-end European brands you won't find in many other stores. You can browse frames from Face à Face, Mykita and Etnia, as well as popular, classic brands like Armani, Gucci and Prada. If you're looking for something unique for the beach, optometrist Galina Rabkin says Vizio is the only eyeglass store in Boston to carry Porsche sunglasses. *11 Harvard St., Brookline (617-739-4141). www.viziooptic.com.*

—E.D., L.K. and R.L.

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BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

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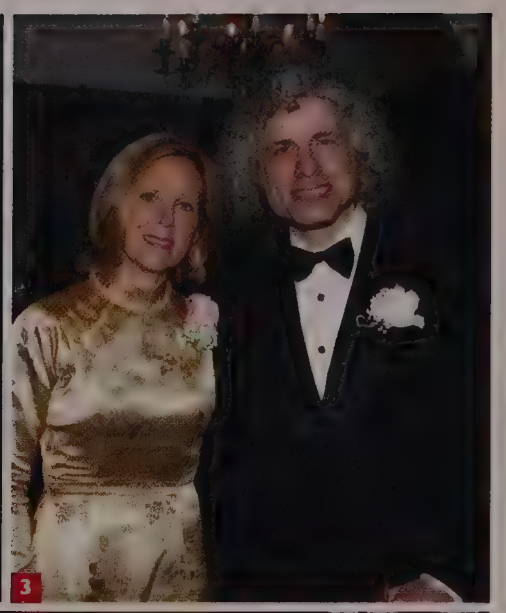
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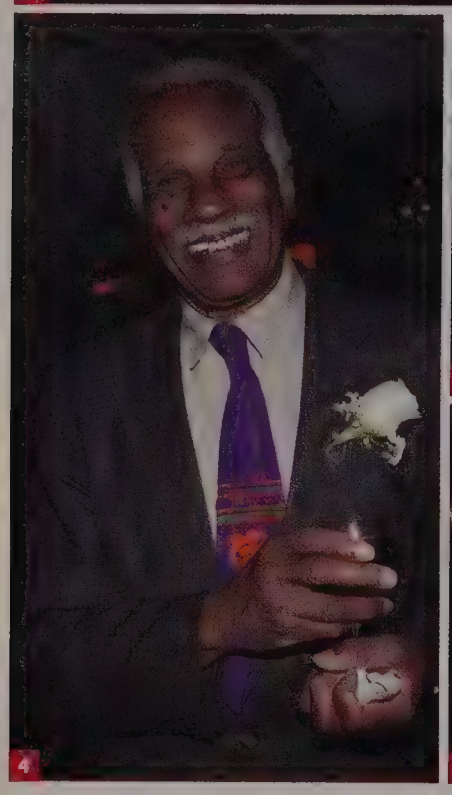
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More than 400 partygoers attended the Associates of the Boston Public Library's 17th annual **Literary Lights Dinner** April 17 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. Guests mingled with past and present "Lights" and local celebrity authors.

1. **David Macauley**, writer and illustrator; **Ada Louise Huxtable**, author and writer for the *Wall Street Journal*; and **John Norton**, former banker
2. **Joseph Ellis**, historian, and his wife, **Ellen**
3. **Vivian Spiro**, chair, Board of Directors of the Associates of the Boston Public Library; and **Stephen Pinker**, Johnstone Family Professor of Psychology at Harvard University
4. **Ashley Bryan**, author
5. **Susan Fried**, chief officer for recruitment and development for Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP, and **Jeff Rudman**, partner at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP
6. **Bernard Margolis**, president of the Boston Public Library, and his wife, **Amanda Batey**, of the New England Historic Genealogical Society
7. **Margot Salisbury**, board member of Literary Lights; **Christopher Knight**, children's book photographer, and his wife, **Kathryn Lasky**, children's author

About 300 people attended the fifth annual **Pre-Marathon Celebration** to benefit **Leslie's Links,** a charitable foundation in memory of former IMPROPER columnist Leslie Semonian. Held April 17 at Vox Populi, the event included a performance by the Alex MacDougall Band, a raffle and a silent auction. All proceeds from the evening benefitted the Leslie's Links Ewing's Sarcoma Fund at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

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8. **Debra Gold**, IBM manager; **Judy Levine**; **Kristina McKay**, IBM manager; and **Kerry Reilly**, student at Suffolk Law
9. **Evan Kushner**, partner at Kushner & Marano, and **Jaimie Paine**
10. **Karen Keaney**, director of event planning for Morgan Stanley, and **Lisa Riordan**, sales training consultant for Iron Mountain
11. **Vickie Sohigian**, teller for Bank of America in Watertown, and her husband, **Jason**, deputy director of the Armenia Tree Project in Watertown
12. **Nicole Zola**, business analyst for Wellington Management, and **Michael Conlon**, partner of Peking Tom's, the 21st Amendment, the Paramount, West and the Blarney Stone

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A PAPPAS ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT

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BY EZRA DYER

MINGLING SENSATION

Jack and Jill went up the hill and spawned 50 more wedding parties.

The proliferation of pre-wedding parties is getting out of hand. Of course, I'm talking about pre-wedding parties in general. If I was at your specific Jack and Jill party, bridal shower, engagement-announcement party or pre-shower six-months-till-the-big-day Jack and Jill rehearsal karaoke cocktail mixer, I assure you it was wonderful. I couldn't believe how radiant those two young lovebirds looked, and I look forward to seeing you at the next 19 events leading up to the actual exchange of vows.

I blame Williams-Sonoma. The other day I went into a Williams-Sonoma in search of a blender, and left empty-handed when I discovered that they didn't have anything for less than $100. For $100, a blender should not only mix up a margarita, it should walk over to the couch, salt your glass and then wave palm fronds while playing a steel drum. I don't even know what I'd expect from the $230 KitchenAid Pro Line Chef's Blender, but it would probably be illegal.

Why do these mundane items cost so much? Because nobody actually buys anything for themselves in Williams-Sonoma. The only way you can own so much as a garlic press from Williams-Sonoma is to get engaged and have your friends buy it. Williams-Sonoma knows that registry shoppers barely look at what they're buying, they just know they need to spend enough money to not seem cheap. You don't think, "Gee, $150 seems like a lot for a butter tray," you think, "Yes! Nobody's taken the butter tray! Now I don't have to cobble together $150 worth of snifters." And since people bring registry gifts to wedding-related parties, the best way to ensure you get that olive de-pitter you need is to throw as many parties as possible. Note: If you're afraid of seeming greedy, you can say, "Please don't bring gifts to this party." People will bring them anyway, in order to make those fools who read that message literally, like myself, feel like bastards.

But it's not the perpetual gift-buying that bothers me, it's the chatting. If you're at any kind of a matrimonial function, you'd better bring your small-talk A-game, because you're inevitably thrust into a social situation with aunts, uncles, neighbors, cousins, cousins' neighbors, and neighbors' cousins' dentists. You won't know these people, and you'll have as much in common with them as David Duke has with Malcolm X. So you'll have to chat, and I'm not good at that. For example, at my friend Wilson's engagement party, it took roughly five minutes for me to somehow get the conversation on to sex-change operations and make a joke about inverted penises that silenced half the room. A good social rule of thumb, I've since learned, is, If you're eating shrimp, don't say "inverted penis."

Another one is, Don't lure the governor into walking in on you in the bathroom. This one I figured out on my own, probably much to the relief of Mitt Romney. He was a surprise guest at a recent pre-shower party (the party actually had no official name, but I guess that's what you'd call it) for one of my girlfriend's friends. As the party wound down, Mitt started edging toward the door. I had to take a leak, so I made my way to the men's room in the hallway outside the function room, and opened the door to discover the dreaded one-hitter. It occurred to me then that if I left the door unlocked, there was a decent chance that the governor of Massachusetts would walk in on me taking a leak, which would be hilarious. But maturity

A GOOD SOCIAL RULE OF THUMB, I'VE LEARNED, IS, IF YOU'RE EATING SHRIMP, DON'T SAY "INVERTED PENIS."

(and not wanting to get in trouble on the home front) won out, and I locked the door. Sure enough, someone tried the door while I was pouring the foundation for a little Salt Lake City. Was it Mitt? I don't know, but when I returned to the party, he was standing in a corner by himself, scrutinizing a painting, looking much like a guy killing time waiting for the john.

But you can't expect all pre-wedding parties to have great moments like that, which is why I think we need to scale this trend back to what it once was: a wedding shower that only the women would go to. Unfortunately, guys don't usually care enough to exert their influence on the wedding-planning process, and so we travel in the opposite direction, toward weekends filled with perpetual wedding parties and polite small talk. There oughta be a law, I say. Whaddaya think, Governor? iB

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THE DANCE

BY JOHN D. SPOONER

Luxury: In the Lap

Lessons learned at the Plaza Hotel

Luxury is a moveable feast and means many different things to different people.

I always thought true luxury came as something unexpected, a fabulous freebie. For instance, my wife and I spent our wedding night at a suite in the Plaza Hotel in New York. This was luxury: champagne, steak and eggs and God-knows-what at 2 am. But it was expensive. After that, we decided the Plaza would be our hotel when visiting New York. For our next trip, a year later, we booked an ordinary double room. At check-in I was told, "All our rooms are full." Then a pause before I could say I had a confirmed reservation. "However," the clerk said, "we can give you a suite, naturally for same price as a double room, for inconveniencing you." We were taken up to the largest hotel room we had ever seen, looking out at Central Park. As soon as the bellman left we launched into an impromptu dance, a klutzy waltz around the suite.

This game, miraculously, went on for several years. Every time we visited, we were upgraded to a suite at the Plaza. Until one trip, at check-in, the clerk said, "Right. The bellman will show you to your room."

"Wait a minute," I said. "What about the upgrade to a suite for the same price?" He peeked at me over half glasses as if to say, "You've got a nerve." What he did say was, "I'm sorry. You reserved a room. We have your room." I told him my history in the Plaza, and he smiled. "Once I went into a pay phone booth," he said, "and I picked up the receiver, stuck a dime in, and the coin return slot trembled and spewed out five dollars in change to me. I took the money. The next day I came back to the phone, and, wonder of wonders, it didn't happen again."

"Snooty bastard," I thought. But my luxury days at the Plaza were over.

Robin Brown, former general manager of the Four Seasons Boston and a partner in the consortium building the new, ultra-high-end Mandarin Oriental Hotel complex, is one of this city's upholders of standards and great taste. I asked him what came to mind when I mentioned luxury and he said, "It's an image and sense of glorious smell and impressions and taste. My first job, in 1970, was as a washer and grill cook at a four-star hotel in Lincolnshire, England—the White Hart. I will always remember the scene in the kitchen: waiters in crisp white Dutch jackets; the chef preparing Dover sole meunière—our specialty—slicing the fish, poaching it in white wine; the pageantry, taking it so seriously, a work of art. I can still see it, smell it, taste it. Taking these images and presenting them to others with impeccable presentation and attention to the smallest detail. That's my idea of luxury."

Serge Denis has been general manager of the Langham Hotel (formerly Le Meridian) for 11 years and has visited or worked in most of the great hospitality establishments in the world. He was brought up in his family's inn, the Pension Rollet, on the Normandy coast.

After a long discussion of real luxury (the Hôtel de Crillon in Paris) versus the repetitious faux grandeur in hotels around the planet, so much alike that you have no sense of being in a place foreign to you, Denis got down to it. "If we're talking about the true stratosphere, really old money, almost indefinable in its special niche," he said, "I think it's the very few people in the world who can have extraordinary wines for lunch and dinner, and never comment upon them as they are served and tasted. Just a nod of the head, as if it were the natural order of things, and has been for generations. These people would typically buy directly from the wine-maker, from small producers who only sell to individuals. For lunch it could be a cabernet sauvignon from the Loire Valley, either Cheverny or Chinon. And for dinner—more time to relax and enjoy, more elaborate—from the Graves region of Bordeaux, a Château Haut-Brion. When this is done on a daily basis, not as a special occasion, and no one thinks it's anything but normal, that's my true definition of luxury."

I said, "Just like 'Let 'em eat cake,' I suppose." Denis just smiled, as if to tell me that I'd never know.

Shameka Gamble works in the financial world helping people plan for their future. She juggles an intense business career with raising two children. Asked about luxury, she thinks about it and laughs. "My man and I have been trying for years to break away and just stay at a hotel. You know, an escape. It's never happened." She leaned back and sighed. "But I'll tell you what luxury is. It's getting into a really hot bath after the kids have been tucked in. I've got a few candles going, bubbles, oils in the tub, really hot water. Things we've been told about forever are the truest things: simple pleasures can be the sweetest." A lesson for all of us. IB

The IMPROPER's newest columnist, John D. Spooner, is an investment advisor, author and novelist. Contact him at thedance@improper.com.

I always come to Play, (But Pause and Rewind are pretty good, too.)

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

RINGING IN THE NEW BASEBALL YEAR

The Red Sox' Ring Ceremony was a beautiful thing, but it's time to look forward.

How cool was the Ring Ceremony? Yes, that's capital letters because that's now a proper name. The final step is complete. The 2004 season is officially a thing of the past. My thoughts remain this: Whatever happens in my lifetime in the sports profession, whatever happens in my tenure as a life-long Red Sox fan, I'll always have 2004.

When I broke into sports journalism my only real goal was to eventually get a job working in Boston. I never thought about whether it would come to fruition, or that someday I might be able to watch history from mid February in Florida to late October in St. Louis, and later, the Ring Ceremony. Talk about a local kid, from Peabody no less, living his dream. Hell, if I retired today I would have enough memories to feed a family of 500.

I was among the fortunate to have secured tickets for Opening Day at Fenway Park this year and also managed to get a pair of Ring Ceremony tickets for close friends—a Peabody buddy and his dad, who used to coach me in American Legion baseball and youth football. Like the rest of us, they're devout members of Red Sox Nation.

My Peabody boy was telling me how his dad never thought he'd see the day the Sox won the whole thing and how, when it happened, well, he cried of course.

No doubt the Ring Ceremony was a day of giving back. The players to the fans, the fans to the team, or in my case, me to a couple of people who've always gone out of their way to be good to me. It was special.

And how cool was it that two now departed stars from the World Series run, Derek Lowe and Dave Roberts, flew into town to pick up their rings and take part in the ceremony, both wearing Red Sox uniforms?

My mind wandered when Roberts came up to get his ring from owners John Henry and Tom Werner. Wouldn't it have been great if Roberts simply took his ring, which he received right near first base, and took off for second base in a dead sprint? Talk about bringing the house down. That might have been too much for even the Yankees, who were good soldiers in the visitors' dugout, to bear.

I also thought about how Derek Lowe is no longer a member of the Red Sox. The guy wanted to stay here. He loved the area. He loved the fans. He loved the pressure of playing before a packed house every night. Yes, despite the lows, and we're talking really low, he told me that he wanted to be here the rest of his career. Even after all his tribulations, if the Red Sox traded for Lowe today, he'd be the happiest man in America.

Talking with him that day, about 45 minutes after he received the ring—yes, he let me try it on—it was evident Lowe was in the midst of a bittersweet day. In a few hours, he had a flight to catch back to Los Angeles. When a reporter asked him how the Giants–Dodgers rivalry stacks up against the Sox–Yankees, he politely chuckled. There is, of course, no comparison.

He said he found it strange that after Dodgers games, about a dozen reporters hovered around the clubhouse. He told his new teammates there were a dozen or so writers at each *locker* in Boston. For one brief moment after the Ring Ceremony, scores of media pounced on Lowe. It felt like he was back in Red Sox country, where he belonged, but it wasn't so.

WOULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN GREAT IF ROBERTS TOOK THE RING AND BOLTED FOR SECOND BASE IN A DEAD SPRINT?

After the Sox finished off the day by beating the Yankees, 8-1, general manager Theo Epstein was kicking around the clubhouse, as he typically does after a game. Epstein came out of manager Terry Francona's office and saw a mass of media like the one that was there during the World Series.

Epstein looked surprised. I said, "This [coverage] is what you wanted." He just shrugged his shoulders while giving a look that said, "I guess so."

It's been an amazing run since the new owners and new management took over. They've done what many people thought was impossible: brought us a World Series title. They put on the rings.

Wait till next year. **iB**

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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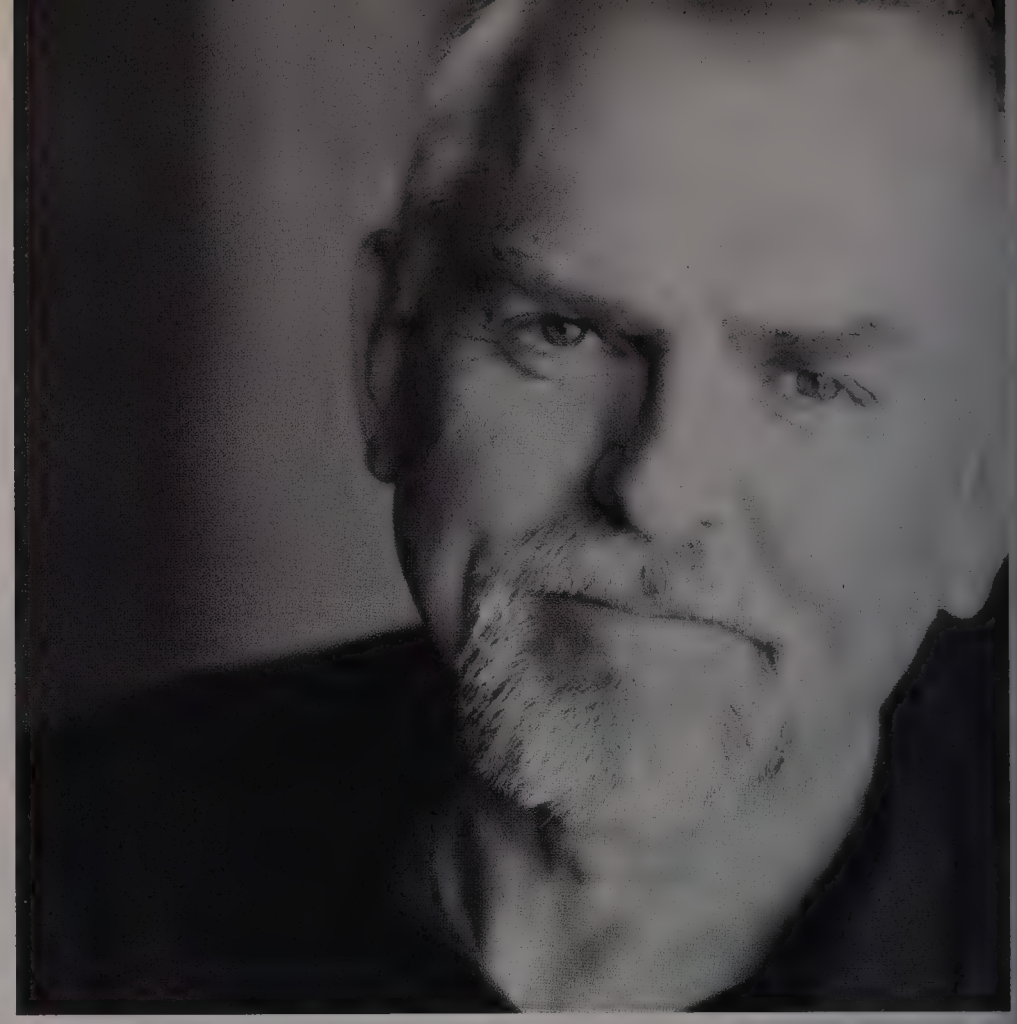
JOHN RATZENBERGER

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Best known as barfly-postman Cliff Clavin in the phenomenally successful sitcom *Cheers*, John Ratzenberger was born and raised in Bridgeport, Conn. After attending parochial school, he majored in English literature at Sacred Heart University and then moved to northern Vermont (with a short sojourn in Boston), where he performed and served as artistic director at the Stowe Playhouse. In 1971, he relocated to London, England, where he remained for the next 10 years, honing his craft. In 1982, while on a writing assignment in Los Angeles, he auditioned for a sitcom set in a neighborhood bar and asked the producers if they had a resident know-it-all character. Using his improv skills, he created Cliff on the spot, assuring his place in TV history. For the next 11 years, he portrayed the lovable yet annoying mailman on the hit series, which garnered 28 Emmys. His other film credits include *Superman*, *Reds*, *Ragtime*, *Gandhi* and *A Bridge Too Far*, and he's the only actor who's voiced a character in every Pixar animated film so far. His other TV credits include hosting *John Ratzenberger's Made in America*, which highlights products produced in the U.S., on the Travel Channel. His extensive charitable endeavors also include work on behalf of diabetes causes. In September, he'll host Newport Under the Stars—a regatta, dinner auction and golf tournament to benefit the Joslin Diabetes Center. A board member of Pepperdine University, Ratzenberger has a daughter and a son (who is afflicted with juvenile diabetes), and he divides his time between L.A. and San Diego.

Jonathan Soroff: *Do you resent the fact that you're identified with a single character, and a somewhat annoying one at that?*

John Ratzenberger: I've obviously given that a lot of thought, but here's how I look at it: I started my career living in an abandoned building. My children now go to private school. I don't have a whole heck of a lot to complain about.

JS: *It must get a little annoying.*

JR: I remember early on, when I started getting recognized as Cliff a lot, I was in someplace like Colorado, and I saw a guy throwing a Frisbee to a dog. The dog had three legs, but it was catching that Frisbee every time. Being a celebrity is kind of like being a three-legged dog. If one of your arms represents your privacy, you've lost an arm. You've got two choices: either get on with your life, or sit down and die.

> TO STEP BACK AND BE OBJECTIVE, [*CHEERS*] WAS SO WELL WRITTEN. YOU DIDN'T SEE THE JOKES COMING, THE WAY YOU DO ON MOST SITCOMS. NO SET-UP, JUST BOOM!

JS: *As an actor, you've got an interesting background: 10 years in London…*

JR: Yeah, I did my own shows. I was an apprentice blacksmith in northern Vermont, and then I went to London with five dollars in my pocket, so I was in a squat for two years and ended up building and doing carpentry work for food money.

JS: *Biggest difference between British humor and ours?*

JR: None. Vocabulary, maybe. But if it's funny, it's funny. There are cultural differences, but that myth started with famous American comedians who would go over to England without doing any research. They were doing the same jokes, "How about them Yankees?" and the audience would be like, "What's he talking about?" If they'd just said, "Manchester United" or "Arsenal," everybody would've laughed.

JS: *You're the only non-native actor I know who truly nailed the Boston accent.*

JR: Thank you. I lived in the Combat Zone for a while. A friend of a friend owned a moving company, and I owned a truck at the time. He needed someone to take over while he was gone for a month or two, so I ended up living in the Combat Zone, over a hardware store. I never knew there were that many beer bottles to be broken every night.

JS: *Would you ever stand between Kirstie Alley and a doughnut?*

JR: You know, I haven't seen her in a long time, but I saw her on the cover of TV Guide and I think she looks gorgeous. I haven't seen her show [*Fat Actress*] but you really gotta hand it to her for making lemonade out of lemons. That's genius.

JS: *Ever watch reruns of* Cheers*?*

JR: On occasion. When I'm channel-surfing. And I gotta say, it's a funny show. To step back and be objective, it was so well written. You didn't see the jokes coming, the way you do on most sitcoms. No set-up, just Boom!

JS: *Did you guys ever actually drink on the set?*

JR: Do you remember Jay Leno did a big show the night of the final episode? Well, there was a party prior to that and everyone was knockin' 'em back, and I kept saying, "We still have to do the show. What are you guys doing?" Anyway, if you notice on that show, everybody's plastered, and then afterwards, someone said, "Hey Ratz, how come I never seen you drunk?" And I said, "I don't drink with amateurs."

JS: *You came up with the idea of the know-it-all character on* Cheers*, which the show didn't have until you invented Cliff. Ever been accused of being a know-it-all?*

JR: I am one. When you leave home at 18 or 19 and travel the world and get involved in a lot of different things, you can't help but learn a lot, so sometimes I have to stop myself from saying something.

JS: *Would you beat me in Trivial Pursuit?*

JR: I probably would. But oddly enough, my worst category is Show Business.

JS: *OK, Bridgeport, Conn. Is that the armpit of New England?*

JR: It's a very unique place. P.T. Barnum was the mayor at one time, and it's a deep-water port with beautiful beaches, surrounded by some of the fanciest towns on the East Coast. I always scratch my head and wonder why it's so rundown. But growing up there was interesting. There was a kid in my third grade class who was 16 years old. I remember thinking, "He's the only third-grader driving his own car."

JS: *On your Travel Channel show, you featured American products. Which one impressed you the most?*

JR: Maybe Airstream trailers. But across the board what impresses me is the people who get up every morning at six, whether they're hungover or not, go to work, and do the same job for 20 or 30 years, and they're doing something with a very narrow margin for error. They screw up, the whole thing is scrapped. These people are true artists. The manual arts take precedence, I think, over the fine arts, because before you can have that fabulous ballet troupe, someone's got to build the stage.

JS: *Who are you sleeping with at Pixar to get into every single one of their movies?*

JR: [Laughs.] Yeah, I also do their gardening. I clean up after everyone…

JS: *Is working on a Pixar film easier or harder than live action?*

JR: Easier. It depends on who's at the helm with any movie, and with Pixar films, the director has been working on it for so long, usually a few years, so it's like a symphony being conducted by the composer. I've done a lot of other films where the guy behind the lens isn't quite sure what he's doing, and that's excruciating.

JS: *You hosted a show called* Wow! The Most Awesome Acts on Earth…

JR: I did that as a favor for a producer friend of mine and he still hasn't paid me back.

JS: *Name one awesome act you'd like to see.*

JR: Prince Charles juggling chainsaws.

JS: *Last question: Will you come to Cheers and let me buy you a beer?*

JR: Next time I'm in town? Sure! IB

PERHAPS IT'S THE
SEXY, CUTTING EDGE
LABEL DESIGN.

THEN AGAIN...

IT COULD JUST BE THE TASTE.

HOW MUCH CAN SHE SPEND ON A WEEKEND OF BOSTON'S ULTIMATE LUXURIES?

REVENGE OF THE HOUSEWIFE SCORNED

What is it they say about revenge? Living well is the best kind? It's a dish best served cold?

Well, you're about to find out, now that you've calmed down a bit after last night's heart-stopping shocker. Following a long day of charity committee meetings and beauty treatments, you came home to find a woman's voice on the answering machine, whispering in a breathy contralto, "Frank, you animal, it's Misty! I'm completely covered in bruises from last night! Call me!"

Frank—your adoring, attentive, pillar-of-the-community husband, whom you married not because he's insanely rich (although it certainly didn't hurt)—cheating on you with someone named Misty of all things. (Uncharitably, you note that only dogs and prostitutes are called Misty.) And here you were, thinking he was in Hong Kong on business!

After spending a sleepless night, you've suddenly achieved perfect clarity on what to do. Hit him where it hurts: his wallet. You're leaving the sonofabitch, and you're going to spend as much of his money as you possibly can before he gets home to find you gone.

Taking nothing else with you, you grab the Hermès Birkin bag he gave you last Christmas ($32,000 for the model with crocodile and 24-karat gold hardware) and head for the door, all the while hearing Gloria Gaynor surviving at top volume inside your head.

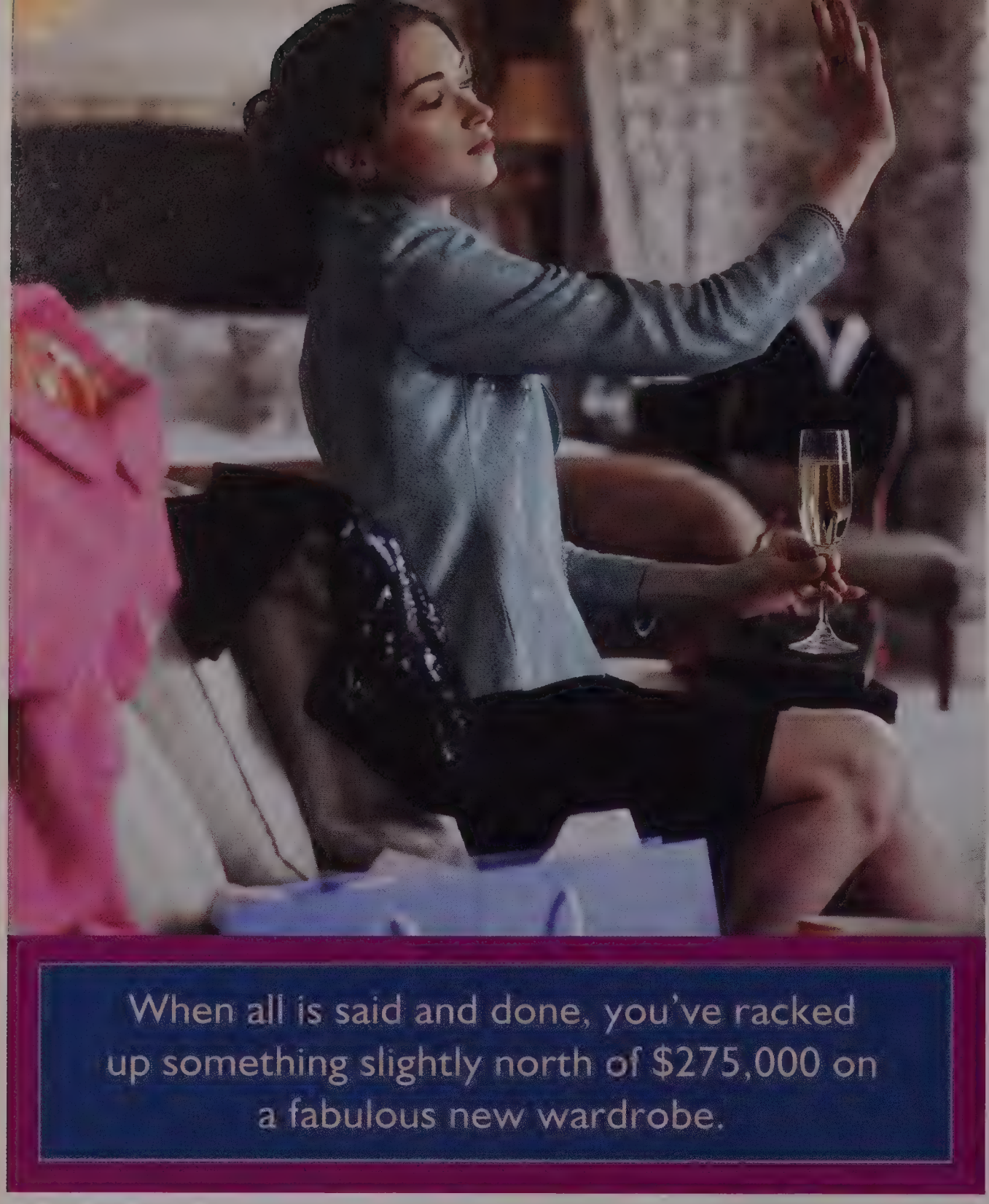
Outside, there's a homeless man on the sidewalk, and without flinching, you slip off your five-carat D-flawless diamond engagement ring from Shreve, Crump & Low and hand it to him, saying, "The bastard who gave me this spent $650,000 on it. Don't accept a dime less than $300,000 from a pawnbroker."

Suddenly, you feel 10 pounds lighter.

BY JONATHAN SOROFF
PHOTOGRAPHS BY TRACY POWELL

MODEL: OLGA GOMONOVA; MAKEUP: JILLIAN HARWICH; HAIR: DARRYL CHRISTOPHER SALON, NEWBURY STREET
LOCATION: PRESIDENTIAL SUITE, FOUR SEASONS HOTEL; CLOTHING: ST. JOHN CLOTHING; JEWELRY: SHREVE, CRUMP & LOW

ST. JOHN



When all is said and done, you've racked up something slightly north of $275,000 on a fabulous new wardrobe.

Your first stop is the Four Seasons. Pulling up to the door in your Range Rover, you find yourself feeling like a middle-aged, suburban soccer mom and resolve to do something about getting a new set of wheels—something young, sporty and stupidly expensive—as soon as you check in.

The man behind the desk is as deferential as a eunuch at a wet T-shirt contest when you sign into the Presidential Suite—at $6,000 per night, Boston's costliest hotel room. And no wonder. The opulence is staggering.

Nearly 2,600 square feet of over-the-top yet tasteful decadence, it boasts a study; a media room with a plasma TV, Bose stereo system and Wi-Fi access; a dining room that seats 10; a living room and library alcove; and a balcony with sweeping views of Back Bay and the Public Garden, not to mention a full kitchen (which is nice, but as if!). The living room boasts such niceties as two separate seating areas and a baby grand piano, while the dining room has mirrored panels and hand-painted wallpaper depicting a bucolic French landscape.

You collapse for a nice little lie-down on the king-size bed, luxuriating in the 400-thread-count Rivolta linens and taking note of the walk-in closet, dressing table and cute little seating area. But what really appeals to you is the master bathroom, which is big enough to host a polo match. A sea of salmon-colored marble with a shower you could throw a cocktail party in and a separate soaking tub that someone thoughtfully equipped with an LCD TV—in other words: heaven.

After freshening up, you realize you're a bit peckish, not having eaten a thing since yesterday, and two of your favorite words ring in your ears: room service! You're not quite sure what you're in the mood for—a bite of this, a nibble of that, and calories be damned! So you settle on the six-course tasting menu ($100 per person) from Aujourd'hui, the hotel's dining room, paired with its rarest and most expensive wines, which are available only by the bottle. But what the hell. It's not your dime.

An armada of food carts arrives, bearing a lunch that already has you calculating the time you'll need to spend at the gym. As each dome is lifted, a different delicacy is revealed: cured Sonoma Valley foie gras with a milk jam, port reduction, green lentil salad and brioche toast, paired with a 1986 Chateau d'Yquem ($950). Crustacean ravioli and wild mushroom duxelles with sauce Americaine, accompanied by a 2001 Pouilly-Fume, Pur Sang from Didier Dagueneau ($165). The turbot is served "en papillote," with a 2001 Montrachet Domaine Romanée-Conti ($2,400). Then there's a seared rib eye with roasted asparagus, wild mushrooms and a Choron sauce, served with a 1991 Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon Risg ($455). A cheese selection comes with an $85 glass c port, and for dessert, there's the Valrhona chocolate sou flé with Grand Marnier crème anglaise and a $54 glass c port. After picking at each dish, you sign the room se vice bill, satisfied at having managed to run up a $4,20 lunch tab single-handedly. The waiter, of course, gets $1,000 tip.

Whoops! Some crème anglaise and a few drops of th Romanée-Conti spilled on your cashmere twin se and you suddenly realize you have literally nothing t wear. Time to go shopping for a whole new wardrobe! Bu you can't possibly be seen in public with stains on you clothing.

"No problem," the concierge reassures you when yo dial down to him. Many of the city's better shops wi send over racks of clothing for you to try on, he explains For a minimum purchase of $20,000, for example, sale consultants from St. John will bring their collection t you. Pleased, you pick out a few $2,000 suits and a pair c $990 jeans.

Feeling a bit of a chill, you dial up the fur salon Neiman-Marcus and have them send over a selection c Russian sables by designers Giuliana Teso and Jerry Sor bara. The price tag for the one you pick: $80,000 an change. But at least now you can leave the hotel, whic you do, adopting a scorched-earth policy as you hit ever designer boutique on Newbury Street, from Giorgio Ar mani to Alan Bilzerian, to Louis to Ralph Lauren to Sak Fifth Avenue, practically wearing the numbers off you black American Express card. (Good thing Frank is i the habit of spending at least $100,000 per year wit them.) When all is said and done, you've racked up some thing slightly north of $275,000 on a fabulous ne wardrobe, and you resolve to hit Escada, Burberry, Gucci Louis Vuitton and Akris tomorrow.

One thing you're missing is a bit of jewelry, now tha you've given away your engagement ring. You've neve been too big on bling, but you do feel a bit naked with out some diamond thingamabob. Besides, you've hear about that new trend of emancipated single women buy ing diamond rings for themselves to wear on their righ hands. So you head over to Shreve's and fall instantly i love with a "twin ring": a 3.86-carat canary yellow dia mond and a flawless four-carat white stone set in 18 karat gold and platinum, which sets Frank back anothe $300,000. The other jewels are tempting, and of course Cartier, Firestone and Parsons, Dorfman, and Tiffan are all within walking distance (if you change fro Manolos into Tod's, that is). But you're absolutely ex hausted, so you head back to the hotel, dizzy from th retail high.

Now to deal with the car issue. The matronly SUV has got to go, but what to replace it with? Torn between two especially kicky models—the Aston Martin Vanquish ($234,260) and the Ferrari 612 Scaglietti ($259,855)—you contact the dealerships and buy one o each. In other words, Frank's out another $533,615, and frankly, my dear, you don't give a damn.

So far, you've done everything by yourself, but by now you're starting to miss your girlfriends. You can't believe you've waited this long to tell them what a heel Frank turned out to be! If hell hath no fury like a woman scorned, listening to a scorned woman bitch about it is enough to make even Satan's toes curl.

A truly great bitch session requires an appropriate setting, however, so you decide to invite six of your best girlfriends out the next day of to be treated like human poodles at Boston's newest deluxe day spa, Exhale. For

nething in the neighborhood of $30,000, you rent the place out the day (who wants strangers listening to you swear like a long-oreman?), and together with your closest friends, you wallow in atments like facials ($110), mani/pedis ($40/$75) and body ox therapies ($125). But the ultimate luxury turns out to be Ex-le's signature mind/body treatment, the Four-Handed Massage, in ich two practitioners work on you in synchronized movement ormally a $220 service). And while the hour-long session leaves a feeling zen and blissed out, you're still pissed off enough at nk to accept a few of your girlfriends' wicked suggestions as to w to further piss on his parade.

"Isn't he allergic to dogs?" says one. "Well, I know a breeder who ls Bernese mountain dog puppies." With one call from her cell one, five of the slobbering little brutes (at roughly $1,200 each) set for delivery to the home you used to share with Frank.

Then another of the girls pipes in with an equally devilish ggestion.

"My cute brother always had the hots for you. What about a little id pro quo?"

That night, you find yourself at L'Espalier, quite possibly Boston's most elegant restaurant, and while the fine French cuisine is thin the affordable range for many people, you've arranged with ef-owner Frank McClelland to take over the whole Back Bay ctorian townhouse for a private dinner, just you and your date.

The starting cost is $10,000, but things quickly spiral upward as u each order the caviar-tasting menu (a different caviar accompa-es each item on the evening's tasting menu, $165 per person). cClelland customizes each dish with exotic ingredients like black ffles, and you sip your way through several bottles of 1989 ateau Petrus (at $4,500, only seven have sold in the past year). the time the check arrives, dinner has cost upwards of $20,000. u propose a toast: To Frank!

After a couple of days in the hotel, you're ready to start moving on. Frank is due home from his business trip the next morning, d you want to be well on your way to having a place of your own the time he arrives.

Consulting a few brokers, you look at some pricey listings: a ree-bedroom penthouse on the 17th floor of Trinity Place for $5 llion. A parlor-level duplex with six fireplaces on Marlborough reet for $6,450,000. A 4,000-square-foot floor-through on Comm. e. for $9 million, and a slightly larger (6,477 square feet) but less pensive ($7.9 million) one on Beacon Street.

None of them really sings to you, though, so you spend the after-on with Beth Dickerson, the gorgeous blonde real estate broker own for dealing in some of Boston's costliest residential proper-s. First she shows you a bargain: a cozy 12th floor penthouse at eritage on the Garden for a mere $2,695,000. Nice, but nothing knock your socks off. Then she takes you to 51 Comm. Ave. to ow you a seven-bedroom, eight-bath penthouse with five fire-aces and parking for six cars. Listed at $13,995,000, it's currently oston's most expensive residential property on the market, and stantly, you know you're home. You offer a few hundred thou ove the asking price, and your offer is accepted. You can't wait to art decorating.

The only thing left for you to do now is to go back one last time to the home you shared with Frank and retrieve the few belong-gs you can't live without.

Turning your key in the lock gives you the jim-jams, and going side, you get a bad case of the heebie-jeebies, so you collect every-ing in a hurry. But on your way out the door, you can't resist lis-ning to the answering machine, blinking with one new message.

You press Play.

"Umm, Hi. This is Misty. I left a message on this machine a few ys ago. I'm really sorry, but I had the wrong number. I hope I dn't cause any problems, but Frank Smith is a pretty common me, and, anyway, I'm really sorry."

You swallow hard. Somehow, you realize, you're going to have come up with a better apology than that by the time Frank ar-ves home. IB

Most of us would agree that time is the ultimate luxury, so we decided to ask a group of prominent Bostonians who know a thing or two about luxury and living well—philanthropists, business-people, patrons of the arts—the following question: If you had 24 hours in which you could do absolutely anything, with no consequences and no consideration for the realities of your life (e.g., "I have to pick up the kids," "my board members would never approve") what would you do? Here are their answers:

Trevania Dudley Henderson

I would spend the day curled up with a book and the night dancing under the stars. I might want to move the whole thing to a warm clime with an orange blossom–scented breeze wafting around me.

Joanne Walton Dickinson

For the daylight portion of my 24 hours, I'd like to be in a hammock in the woods—a bit of wind rustling through the trees, a bubbling brook nearby, chilled Chardonnay at my side—rereading *Swann's Way*. No telephone. Completely alone. For the nighttime portion of my time, I'd like to be ensconced in a billowy sofa—a gentle fire crackling in the fireplace, all doors and windows open to night sounds—listening to arias of love and longing to which I can fall asleep with no thought of tomorrow.

Susan Poduska

True luxury, to me, is the simple pleasures, like an early-morning walk on our beach [on Martha's Vineyard], a dip in the ocean and then a day that stretches before me with no agenda, other than a long read in the hammock, an afternoon swim, cocktails on the deck and an early sunset dinner with my husband and daughter, family and friends.

Richie Balsbaugh

I would get four of my best golf buddies, with their wives or girlfriends, rent a Citation X—the fastest jet (seats eight passengers)—leave early in the morning, and fly to Monterey, Calif., and go to Pebble Beach. I'd send the girls to Carmel to go shopping, while the guys played golf. Then we'd have a beer and lunch at the Tap Room at Pebble Beach, get on a plane, and fly to L.A., where we'd have a couple of hours of shopping and then eat dinner at Ago or the Ivy. Afterwards, we'd go out to a couple of clubs and wind up in the Beverly Hills Hotel Polo Lounge for drinks, and finally, go to sleep in the bungalows.

Paul Palandjian

I'd wake up early in the Presidential Suite at the St. Regis in New York, and have some Texas-cage-match style wrestling in bed with my children. Coffee would be delivered to the room, and I'd relax a bit while listening to Coldplay, Mellencamp and Jethro Tull on my iPod. After catching the morning class of Jivamukti Yoga in the West Village, I'd have breakfast in Nantucket at Black-Eyed Susan's with family and friends. Then back to New York, with stops at Chrome Hearts store galleries and the new MOMA (with some hang time in the MOMA Bookstore). After that, I'd shoot over to London for shopping and to have a late lunch at Nobu in the Metropolitan Hotel. Following a major sushi-gasm, I'd hop a cab to Mount Street to the custom tailor shop of Doug Haywood. There, I'd be fitted head to toe by perhaps the best custom tailor in the world today. (Doug and his team make all of Ralph Lauren's suits for him—if that's not the seal of approval!) The rest of the afternoon would be spent at the Mandarin Hotel (located across the street from Harrods of Knightsbridge), which has the ultimate in luxury spa services. I'd go for a deep-tissue massage, steam, and cold plunge, followed by a nap in the Tranquility Room. Next, my wife and I would revisit our honeymoon locale by dining at Don Alfonso on the Amalfi Coast—one of only three Michelin three-star restaurants in Italy. After dinner, we'd head home to Nantucket for an evening stroll up and down Main Street (tempted, but too stuffed, for the dairy delights at the Juice Bar ice cream shop). Finally, I'd turn on *Saturday Night Live* and hit the sack with a pile of architecture books, design mags, and of course...THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

Jonathan Seelig

My ideal for a 24-hour day would be: no cell phone, Blackberry, computer, TV or radio. Sleep in until 10, and wake up to the sound of the surf and the warm ocean air blowing into our cabana on the Fijian waterfront. Have a leisurely breakfast with [my wife] Maggie, read for an hour, play an hour of tennis and then take a nap. Next, I would be magically transported to Val d'Isere, where I would ski for a few hours before checking in to a cozy chalet, sipping some spiced wine and having a French Alps feast.

Ricardo Jaimes Branger

Luxury, to me, is to idly sit on a terrace overlooking the Port de Centuri in Corsica with family and friends, without a phone to answer, nor e-mails to respond to, or meetings to worry about. If you add to that a great bottle of wine from Patrimonio, and homemade cheeses and sausages from our neighbor's kitchen, that's truly heaven on earth, my friend. Luxury, as well, is to be able to "send someone to hell" without ever worrying about the consequences.

J.K. Nicholas

The two largest luxuries I crave are "free time" and solitude. It's not that I'm antisocial, but I spend all of my time with family, friends and work colleagues, and quality solo time is very rare. To complete the fantasy, I'd want to be someplace with an overwhelming natural beauty—the kind of beauty that gets you thinking about forces larger than us mere mortals. Throw in a bit of adrenaline, like a ski run down 4,000 feet of untouched, dry, waist-deep powder, and we're done...all the while just being sure to hold out for at least two hours of totally uninterrupted contemplation time.

icons of ELEGANCE

TRENDY, EXPENSIVE CONSUMER PRODUCTS COME AND GO, BUT SOME ITEMS REMAIN TIMELESS.

BY REGINA COLE

The lap of luxury is wide and welcoming—once you find its sumptuous embrace, you'll want to stay. Certain objects have achieved iconic status; they embody true luxury, which doesn't go out of style. Year after year, these things flatter and comfort, while their classic designs continue to look fresh and new. These are a few of our favorite things:

THE THREE-STONE RING

"In the jewelry industry, the three-stone ring is called the Boston Ring," says Merritt Mayher, CEO and president of Shreve, Crump & Low. "In the 19th century, when the diamond became a symbol of marriage, Boston was the center of wealth and culture, and this design became popular. By the 1920s it was a staple."

The iconic three-stone ring has a central round diamond with a round sapphire on either side. "You can sell anything in Boston as long as it's blue," laughs Mayher. And why not? Diamonds and sapphires look smashing together.

Shreve Crump & Low, in Boston and in the Mall at Chestnut Hill, sells three-stone rings that begin at $2,500. The average cost of a ring with a one-carat diamond is $14,000.

THE THOS. MOSER CONTINUOUS ARM CHAIR

The eponymous Maine furniture company first made this updated version of the Windsor chair in 1977, and it quickly became Moser's signature piece. American black cherry and ash form a chair that's equally at home in a Back Bay townhouse or a loft. With its elegant, minimalist design, it's the rare piece of furniture that won't look wrong when you redecorate or move. This chair will seat your biggest relative again and again without complaint. Versatile (it makes a dandy desk, dining or occasional chair) and beautiful, this is the piece your grandchildren will be glad to inherit.

The Continuous Arm Chair is available for $1,060 at the Thos. Moser showroom at 19 Arlington St., or via www.thosmoser.com.

THE SILK TWILL SCARF BY HERMÈS

Shorthand for refined good taste, the Hermès silk scarf is the epitome of stylish versatility. Princess Grace of Monaco used one as a sling to hold up a broken arm, Madonna's served as a bustier.

However worn, the Hermès silk scarf is the ultimate fashion accessory. Since the first was made in 1937, it has never become passé. The French company issues about 12 new designs each year and regularly updates the colorways of classics. Each three-foot-square scarf is printed with at least 25 screens (one for each color) and the hem is rolled and stitched by hand, which makes the scarf fall prettily across the shoulders. The quality and weight of the silk feel so good that young fashionistas continue to invent new ways to wear it.

Available at Neiman Marcus and at the Hermès boutique at Heritage on the Garden. $320, including the cool orange box.

TOD'S DRIVING SHOES

Tod's makes 15,000 pairs of shoes a day, but wearers swear that theirs were made just for them. That's how comfortable these Italian moccasins are. First designed for Fiat magnate and race car driver Gianni Agnelli, they have nubbins that grip the accelerator, a pad at the back to cushion your heel, and book-matched leather tops that cradle your feet. And perhaps best of all, the natural patina of these shoes is almost impossible to knock off. This is low-key luxury: nobody's big initials, no equestrian hardware, just quality workmanship and unadulterated comfort. But for those who believe that shoes are shorthand for style, class and income (don't we all?) these send all the right messages.

Tod's shoes are available at Saks Fifth Avenue at the Prudential Center. The driving shoes cost $295.

DOM PÉRIGNON CHAMPAGNE

Legend has it that the blind 17th-century Benedictine monk Pierre Pérignon discovered the secret of champagne and cried, "Come brothers, hurry, I am drinking stars!"

Other vintners make bubbly, many of them superb, but Dom Pérignon is the standard by which they are judged. (Incidentally, to the connoisseur, only French wines from the Champagne region are properly called "champagne." If it's from California, Spain or elsewhere, it's a "sparkling white wine," even if it's made by the traditional method of fermenting once in the cask, and then again in the bottle.)

Unlike most champagnes, Dom Pérignon is produced only in exceptional vintage years. A rigorous selection process in both the vineyard and winery ensures that only the best grapes go into the legendary bubbly. Chardonnay and pinot noir are used in roughly equal proportion, without one variety dominating. All bottles are aged a minimum of seven years, and some—the wines from the Oenetheque line—continue to age in the cellars of the Hautvilliers abbey, where Pierre Pérignon was cellar master in the late 17th century. Moet et Chandon bought the monastery in 1794 and later gave the name Dom Pérignon to the cream of their crop of champagnes.

The hallmarks of this wine are the tiny, pinpoint bubbles and a lush, creamy feel on the palate. In youth, Dom Pérignon tastes smooth and fruity, with perfect balance and weight. As it ages, it takes on wonderfully complex aromas that evoke toasted hazelnuts, figs, minerals, chalk and wet earth. Not to mention stars.

Find your bottled stars at your local wine shop. Prices vary, depending on the vintage year. A 1995 bottle costs about $150, older vintages range from $200 for the 1993 Dom Pérignon Rosé to $400 and more for bottles that date back to the 1970s.

THE CHANEL SUIT

Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel got women out of corsets and into jersey when that material was only used for men's underwear. She pioneered the "little boy" look and the "little black dress" and, in 1925, debuted a cardigan jacket that was the forerunner of the iconic suit of women's fashion.

First introduced in 1954, the Chanel suit has raised or lowered its hem, brightened or muted its colors, deconstructed the concept and torn the lapels according to the temper of the times, but it always remains its recognizable and wearable self. It's a boxy tweed knit ensemble that flatters just about every woman with its strategically placed pockets. Deceptively simple, the suit is a marvel of craftsmanship. Hems are finished by hand, the trims are carefully coordinated, the lining is silk, and chains are stitched into the jacket hem so that it hangs perfectly. Both jacket and skirt are narrow, in keeping with Mademoiselle Chanel's minimalist philosophy, "Always remove, never add." In the 50 years since the Chanel suit was introduced, it has never stopped appealing simultaneously to bright young things and to ladies who lunch. To communicate ultimate style while feeling supremely chic, it doesn't get any better than this.

Depending on the material and other factors, a Chanel suit runs around $5,000. Find yours at the Chanel Boutique in the Ritz-Carlton, or at Neiman Marcus. IB

LITTLE LUXURIES

Treat yourself like a king without busting your budget.

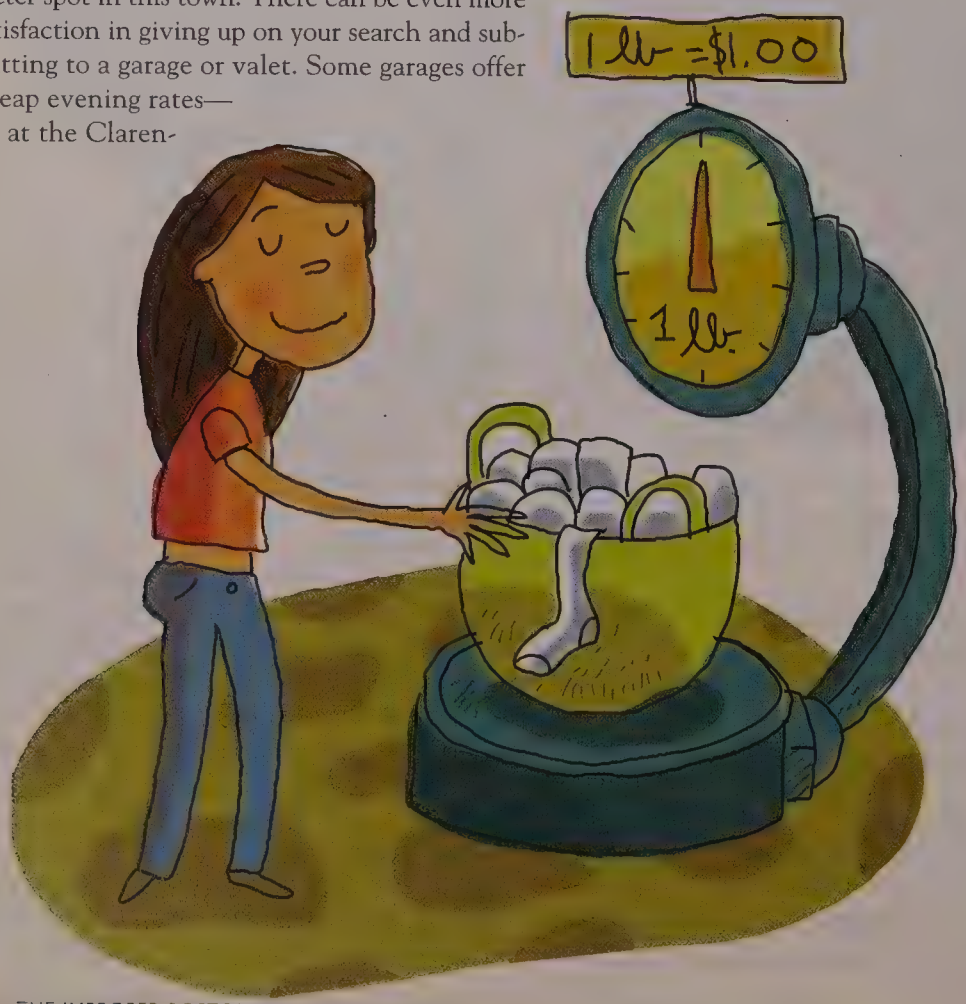
BY EZRA DYER

ILLUSTRATIONS BY SCOTT MAGOON

Even the most parsimonious among us probably pries open the wallet now and then to buy a big-ticket item, like a piece of furniture or an electronic gizmo. But as a rule, we fall into certain everyday purchasing habits that cumulatively save us money—for instance, it wouldn't kill you to take a taxi now and then, but if you always took cabs instead of the T it would eventually add up. However, breaking out of your normal spending pattern every now and then for the right reason can offer a gratifying dose of convenience and luxury, and won't delay your retirement by more than a day or two. So go ahead, indulge in these little luxuries and live it up every once in a while. Just don't get used to it.

KING OF GARAGISTAN

There's sublime satisfaction to be had in finding a meter spot in this town. There can be even more satisfaction in giving up on your search and submitting to a garage or valet. Some garages offer cheap evening rates—$9 at the Claren-



don Street Garage, for example—and others, such as the Common Garage, provid weekend deals. But even a full-price ticket can be worth it once in a while. We're no saying you should take the easy way out every time—that would be contrary to you duty, as a Bostonian, to drive around looking for a spot until you finally find one 30 sec onds before the stress of your fruitless odyssey would've caused a massive coronary. Bu try it, say, once a month, and consider it like shore leave from the military—you're no going AWOL on the parking war, you're just taking a bit of much needed R&R befor returning, rested and fresh, to fight another day.

LAUNDROPHAT

Is any chore less fun than doing laundry? We hate it so much that sometimes we fanta size about moving to a place where nobody ever does laundry, such as a nudist colony o France. Well, if you're going to spoil yourself on the laundry front, there are a coupl ways you could go: Either stave off the laundry beast for as long as possible, or slay it al together. We've always found that the weak wardrobe link is socks. You can get awa with wearing a shirt a couple of times before you wash it, but you can't recycle socks (o at least, you shouldn't). What you can do, however, is buy a mess of them on eBay We're serious. Here's one example we found: 36 pairs of Tommy Hilfiger ankle socks fo $27.88, including shipping. For less than $30, you can buy yourself a month of laundry freedom. A bargain, we'd say, assuming you like Tommy Hilfiger ankle socks.

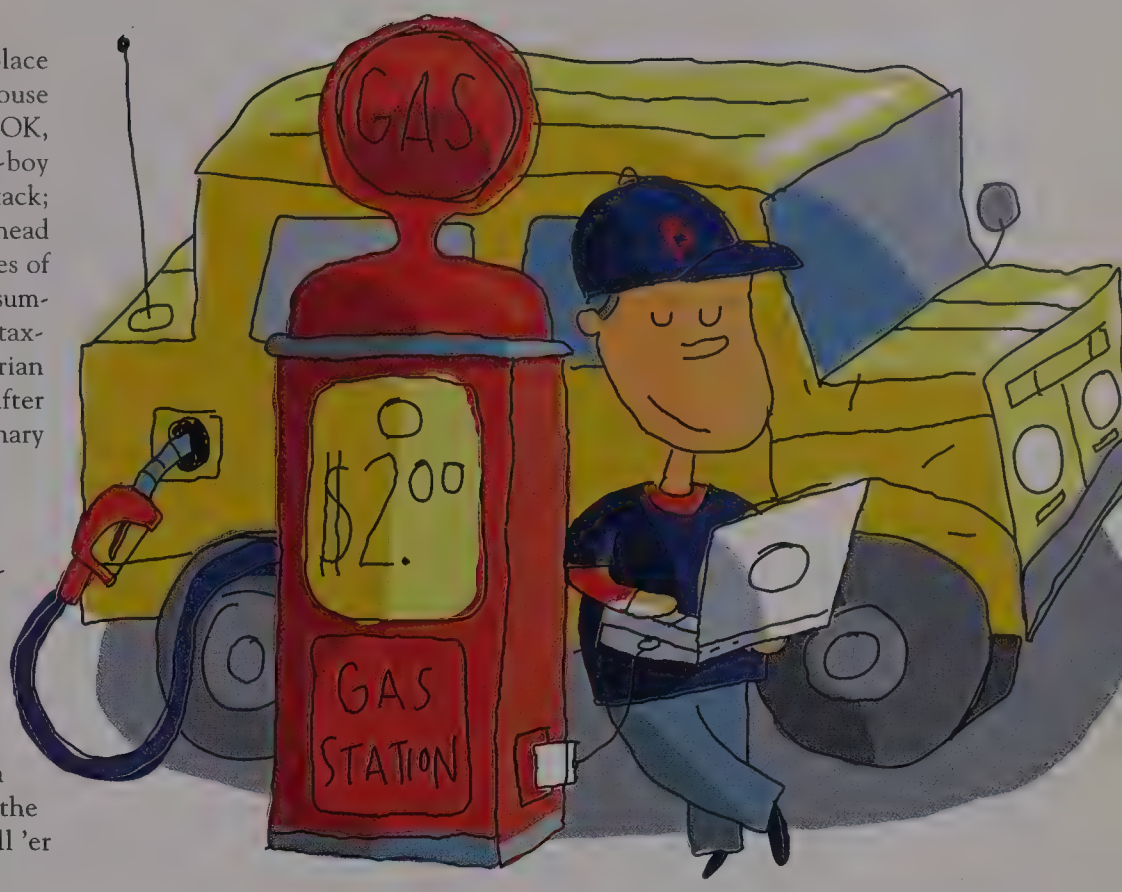
In tandem with your sock project, why not pawn your laundry off on someone else Appleton Street Laundromat, for example, charges $1 per pound to wash, dry and fold your dirty duds. Particularly in the summer, when you're wearing lightweight clothes, that sounds like a worthwhile extravagance to us. How much could 36 pairs of socks weigh?

BECOME JUDGE SMAILS FOR A DAY

You're happy enough paying $20 to hack around on a local par-3, the kind of place where the fairways have muddy areas that smell funny and the biggest clubhouse culinary decision is mustard or relish. But suppose you could pay a little more—OK, quite a bit more—and play at a place where you can get a taste of the big-boy lifestyle: a posh clubhouse; greens that don't look like Fallujah after a mortar attack; tee times, for gosh sakes. To find two such fine courses, make like a pilgrim and head to Plymouth, where Waverly Oaks and the Pinehills serve up a total of 36 holes of golf that'll make you feel like a playa. A game on either course costs $85 during summer weekends. That's not a huge amount of money to feel like you're in the top-tax-bracket crowd, but for a better deal, head west to Boylston and take on the Cyprian Keyes championship course, which offers a twilight rate of $35 for tee times after 3:30 pm. Cyprian Keyes ain't an easy course, but don't be afraid: You're no ordinary slouch. In fact, you're a tremendous slouch.

FULL-SERVE IT UP

If you're like us, you typically opt for self-serve over full-serve gas stations. Full-serve costs more, right? Well, full-serve costs more if a given station offers both choices, but if you're not running on fumes, a gallon of full service at one station could actually cost less than a gallon you pump for yourself elsewhere. At www.bostongasprices.com, you can research the lowest and highest area prices within the past 60 hours, and at press time local pump prices ranged from $2.03 to $2.44 per gallon. Within that range, some of the cheaper stations (a Gulf in Peabody, at $2.07 per gallon, for instance) are full-serve, while some of the more expensive stations (a Gulf in Natick, $2.39) are self-serve. So just say fill 'er up, you big old pimp.



HALF-BENJAMIN BOTTLES

Normally when you're shopping for wine, the biggest question is whether you should get the two-for-$10 bottles or really ante up and go with the two-for-$12. But have you ever considered tasting the good life, literally, and buying a $50 bottle of wine? Why would you spend that much on a bottle, and if you did, how would you have any idea what to buy? To answer those questions, we turned to the IMPROPER's wine columnist and master of wine Sandy Block. "Theoretically, there is a relation between quality and demand, but not always," Block says. "Wine is subject to the same fashion and lust for status that all other products are. But let's say it's a really authentic $50 bottle. What do you get that you don't get with the twofers? Concentration of flavor, intensity, aromatic complexity, layering of texture. More nuance. More satisfying. More of the 'wow' experience. Liken it to the difference between a nice honest roast chicken and the culinary artistry of your favorite chef with the same ingredients."

OK, now say we're going to shell out for a $50 bottle of wine. Which one to get? "You should expect something impressive for $50," Block says. "Something that's really fine and a little obscure, that has some brand sex appeal but is not your everyday wine, is the Niebaum Coppola Cabernet Franc, from Napa Valley, 2002. Yes, Coppola as in Francis Ford. Cabernet Franc as in first cousin to cabernet sauvignon but a little more aromatic, a little less robust. Smooth and delicious, and people will sit up and take notice because they've probably never had it before." There you go. Now try not to swill it like a flask of Mad Dog 20/20.

YOU'VE GOT IT MAID

Having a maid may seem up there with the Bentley and the in-home Starbucks on the rock-star/old-money scale of spendthrift indulgence, but the stereotype of the maid-employer as monocle-wearing, Monopoly-guy sort is way off—at least in this town. "Most of our clients are young professionals, yuppie kind of people," says Karen DeBiasse, who, along with her husband, David Simmons, has run the housecleaning service Maid 4 You for the past 20 years. And these young professionals must live in...mansions? "We do a lot of condos, a lot of apartments," DeBiasse says. The typical service covers all that crap that you have good intentions of cleaning but don't keep up with: baseboards, window sills, rugs, couches, bathroom. The price depends on how much of a slob you are and whether you have pets, but DeBiasse estimates that a 1,000-square-foot abode, sans pets, probably runs about $90 for a proper scrub. Most people do it twice a month, but you can call in the housecleaning artillery as needed, depending on your production of and tolerance for filth. About $90 a whack to avoid living in squalor—or spending your weekend fighting shower grime. Sounds like a temptingly attainable luxury to us.

So, say you play golf at Cyprian Keyes ($35), fill up at a full-service station (possibly actually saving money compared to self-serve, say $30), pick up a megaload of clean, folded laundry ($50) return home to park in a garage for the night ($9), then cook dinner in your maid-cleaned apartment ($90) while sipping a glass of 2002 Niebaum Coppola Cabernet Franc ($50). That's living large for $264. **IB**

FRESH PICKS

DAZZLING GEMS PUT THE BLING IN YOUR STEP THIS SEASON

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE *PHOTOGRAPH BY TONY SCARPETTA*

White gold and diamond earrings,
$28,700 at Cartier

Platinum and diamond drop earr
$53,000 at Persona Jewelry+

White gold and diamond ring,
$ 47,500 at Cartier

Yellow and white gold spring cuff with
diamonds, $27,500 at Pageo Fine Jewelry

Platinum, white gold and diamond bracelet
by Louis Glick, $69,995 at Long's Jewelers

Gold earrings with green garnet and
diamonds, $3,100 at Pageo Fine Jewelry

Cartier, 40 Newbury St., 617-262-3300; Long's Jewelers, 100 Summer St., 617-426-8500; Pageo Fine Jewelry, 33 Newbury St., 617-266-0066; Persona Jewelry+, 504 Comm. Ave., 617-266-3003; Shreve, Crump & Low, 330 Boylston St., 617-267-9100. Flower provided by Ilex Designs.

Gold and diamond fashion earrings by
Hasbani, $8,700 at Long's Jewelers

Platinum and diamond flower brooch,
$44,000 at Pageo Fine Jewelry

ıral fancy yellow radiant cut diamond ring,
$96,000 at Shreve, Crump & Low

Purple dress by Prada, $2,715 at Saks Fifth Avenue. Platinum, sapphire and diamond ring, $37,500; platinum and diamond necklace by Capri Collection, $33,000; platinum and diamond earrings, $53,000; white gold and diamond bracelet, $14,000. All at Persona Jewelry+.

the jet set
HIGH FASHION LOOKS THAT RULE ANY RUNWAY
PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY MATTHEW JORDAN SMITH

Green dress with weaved neckline by Strenesse, $795 at Gretta Luxe. Multicolored purse by Etro, $565 at Tess & Carlos. Gold and diamond bangles by Yossi Harari, $6,000; gold, spessartine and diamond ring by Gary Shteyman, $2,750; gold and diamond earrings by Capri Collection, $26,000. All at Persona Jewelry+. Carmen oversize sunglasses, $395 at Morgenthal Frederics. Pinstripe suit by Armani Collezioni, $1,695; mint green shirt by Gucci, $280; blue striped tie by Gucci, $140; navy suit by Armani Collezioni, $1,695; yellow tie by Gucci, $140; yellow shirt by Gucci, $195. All at Saks Fifth Avenue. Corsair aviator sunglasses (left), $395; Excalibur aviator sunglasses, $485. Both at Morgenthal Frederics. Luggage by Coach, available by request. 1995 Veuve Clicquot La Grande Dame champagne, courtesy of Brix Wine Shop.

rquoise dress by Jeffrey
now, $1,500 at Barney's
ew York. Gold and
amond bangles by Yossi
arari, $6,000; gold,
rquoise and diamond
oker, $5,400; gold,
essartine and diamond ring
Gary Shteyman, $2,750
at Persona Jewelry+.

Ivory dress with bustier
and lace skirt by Lela Rose,
$1,250 at Saks Fifth Avenue.

Barney's New York
99 Boylston St.
Chestnut Hill
617-969-5354

Brix Wine Shop
284 Washington St
617-524-2749

Coach
Copley Place
617-236-4991

Gretta Luxe
Copley Place
617-536-1959

Morgenthal Frederics in Louis Boston
234 Berkeley St.
617-421-1705

Persona Jewelry +
504 Comm. Ave
617-266-3003

Saks Fifth Avenue
The Prudential Center
750 Boylston St.
617-262-8500

Makeup by Jenny Brown

Jet courtesy of Marquis
www.marquisjets.com

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MOPSY

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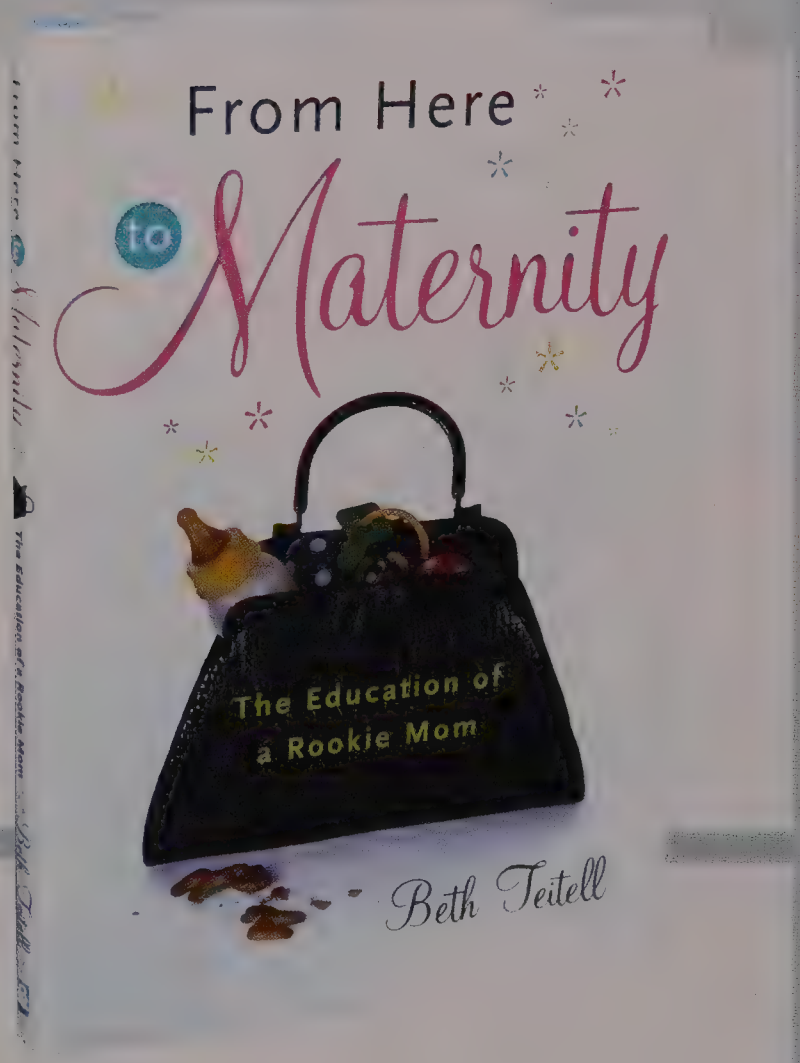
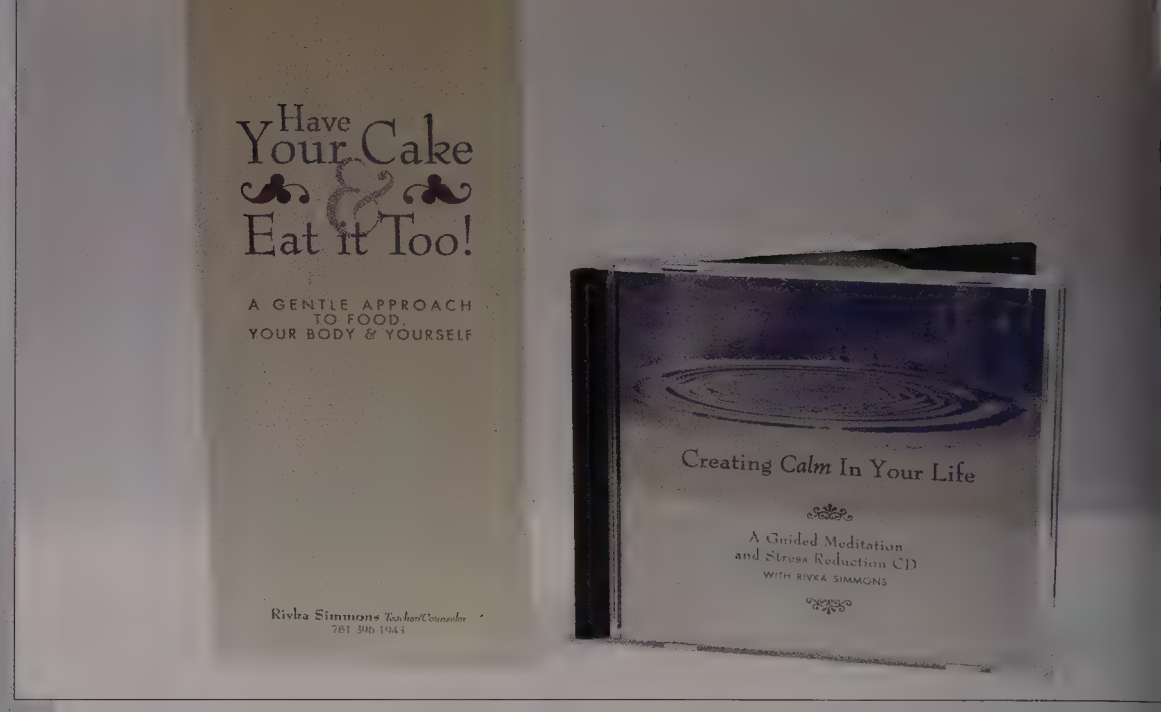
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



TEITELL TELLS IT LIKE IT IS

Beth Teitell of the *Boston Herald* writes about life as a new mom in her book *From Here to Maternity*.

Taking a different tack than the current spate of sourpuss mothering books (which make one consider buying an electronic dog in place of having a child) mother of two Beth Teitell takes on her maternal bemusements through crackup humor. While her little non-nappers are the inspiration, Teitell mostly drops a dime on herself. More like a spirited, irreverent teenaged baby-sitter than a stuffy mom, she invites TV-watching, pretends it's Halloween while telling her kids she's giving vitamins to a little Cinderella at the door, and tries to induce naps by driving her kids around, comparing herself to a Sopranos character "taking care of a rat" under the guise of "going for a ride." When baby-sitting grandma is coming down with a cold, Teitell's husband suggests a zoo visit, when what she needs is some shoe shopping: "How could my alleged soulmate be thinking about zebras—or the children and their little health concerns—at a time like this?" Work is easy compared with motherhood. After all, she doesn't have to fly her editor around the room cooing "Who's the best editor in the whole world? Columnist loves her little editor." Teitell's outrageousness is only matched by her comic timing.



SPOONFEEDING THE SOUL

Rivka Simmons teaches a class called "Have Your Cake And Eat It Too! A Gentle Approach to Food, Your Body, and Yourself" and also works one-on-one with people who have food and body-image problems. Her meditation CD is called *Creating Calm in Your Life* ($16.50). Call 781-396-1943 or e-mail askrivka@aol.com

Twisted "like a sugary Danish" into our consciousness are many tempting and tortured strands relating to food: delicious/fattening, pleasure/self-punishment and so on. The real relationship between hunger, pleasure and satiation can easily get lost in a sea of chocolate and diets. Rivka Simmons works with people to improve their food-body relationship, but mercifully her approach is not about dieting. Rather, with some meditation and her CD as an underpinning, Simmons helps people explore their feelings about (and often their terror of) food. Sometimes hangups date back to childhood panic, or some variation on what she calls the Food Police. Simmons helps people identify and rate their level of actual hunger, so they can authentically calibrate what they need and want to eat; they also discover and name their moods. Many feelings are gently invited and explored on this fraught topic, including the ways that people lose touch with the intuitive pleasure of food, and its true right-sizing. Other bedeviling emotions aren't even about eating, but rather pertain to sadness, disappointment and other feelings that swim underneath the mood-mouth axis. Simmons strives to bring out and redirect these negative emotions to outlets other than eating: napping, venting, crying, reading, exercising. Putting one's own life first, beyond food obsession, means finding other nourishment and learning to "be in one's body mindfully."

DECO THE HALLS

Twentieth Century Provenance, at 348 Broadway in Cambridge, sells designer furniture of the early to mid 20th century, as well as paintings and illustrations. Call 617-547-2300. Wed.–Fri., 11 am–7 pm; Sat., 10 am–6 pm; Sun., 12–5 pm.

This is the sort of place where the designer furniture you see may have the pedigree of a Christie's catalog of the past. That past wafts across the 1920s and '30s with the chicly sliced, square shapes of Deco, through Art Moderne, a bit more curvy, to the end of the World War II, and on through the '70s. You'll find huge 1930s Arundel Clark chairs with tycoon-sized arms you could sit on, and smaller boudoir chairs with hoop-shaped wooden arms. A big, lacquered wood table made of decisive rectangles chunked on each other is also from the '30s. A "snail table" with a glass top and a big, graceful swirly skirt of Lucite underneath surprisingly dates back only to the '60s. Another item full of variety and interest is the Widdicomb vanity that incorporates a big round mirror with drawers and a hefty wooden base. One dreamy, sophisticated coffee table is covered with an intriguing "reverse painted" mirror, covered with darkish gold decoration. Complex-shaped chandeliers, and lamps with the vertical champagne-bubbles of swinging lights, would be arresting presences. Very big-time: the magnificent flame-grain mahogany "bibliotheque" with beveled-glass doors and ivory handles.

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COCKTAILS

REVIEW

ON THE FRITZ

The Café at the Ritz-Carlton fails to live up to the legendary hotel's reputation.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Profiteroles with vanilla ice cream and chocolate sauce

Within the last few years, fine hotel dining has caught on in Boston big-time. Meritage at the Boston Harbor Hotel, Azure at the Lenox in the Back Bay, the Oak Room at the Fairmont Copley Plaza, and Spire at Nine Zero on Tremont Street have joined Aujourd'hui at the Four Seasons with serious dining rooms that make their establishments bastions of multifaceted hospitality. What a shame and irony that Boston's grand old dame, the Dining Room of the Ritz-Carlton, is no longer a player in this distinguished league.

Before the Ritz closed its Dining Room for renovations in 2001, it had been one of the finest dining venues in Boston. Traditional, classic dishes like Dover sole and chateaubriand for two had long marked celebratory occasions for well-heeled Boston families. The Ritz's incomparable maitre d' made them feel like royalty. Toward the end of its run, the Ritz had brought in a young, Culinary Institute of America–trained chef who introduced modern culinary techniques and creative flourishes. Both of these talented professionals departed for other opportunities during the shutdown, and when the renovated Dining Room reopened a year later, things were never the same. It closed for good last year.

The Ritz Dining Room fell inevitable victim to changing tastes and times. Casual dress, having conquered the office, bled over into upscale restaurants. Silver cloches and table-side plating became relics of a bygone era. What's left of Ritz culinary hospitality strives to live on in the Café, a venerable institution in its own right. Unfortunately, recent visits reveal that inconsistency, food and service that can sometimes seem perfunctory, and egregiously aggressive prices dog that effort. Only a shadow of the Ritz's once proud culinary tradition remains.

Physically the Café enchants with its refined, classic decor. Queen Anne chairs with floral upholstery match the banquettes, while well-spaced tables with crisp white napery, blue glass water goblets, oversized wine glasses, a silver bread basket and a single, voluptuous fresh white rose on each table signal restrained elegance. Indirect lighting from the recessed ceiling illuminates richly textured wall coverings and a scattering of framed paintings. Bay windows dressed with gold-colored draperies gathered at the top look out onto Newbury Street. The only jarring note is the restrooms, located down a dingy flight of stairs and in need of serious attention.

THE CAFÉ AT THE RITZ-CARLTON
15 Arlington St., Boston
(617-536-5700)

HOURS Sun.–Thu., 5:30–10 pm; Fri.–Sat., 5:30–11 pm.
RESERVATIONS suggested
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING valet
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

My first visit started auspiciously. Seared sea scallops ($22) brought three giant scallops, seared and sautéed to an appetizing shade of golden brown, carefully cooked to bring out their nutty, sweet flavor. Sun-dried tomatoes, escarole and balsamic vinegar joined orzo risotto with marzipan cheese and Parmesan shavings as garnishes. The quality and size of the dish made it ample enough to be a main course and merited its elevated price despite its being offered as an appetizer. Crab cakes ($17) yielded another triumph. Two moist cakes, almost two inches square and one inch high, delivered flavorful, fresh crabmeat with little filler, accompanied by a slightly garlicky aioli and shavings of fresh fennel. Unfortunately, this dinner came off the rails with a selection from the side of the Ritz menu labeled "The Classics": broiled New England scrod ($27). In stark contrast to the first-rate appetizers, the cod had a soft, mushy texture. It arrived on a plate inundated with liquid and suffered the added iniquity of being served over a bed of mashed potatoes. That a classic institution like the Ritz has succumbed to the annoying custom of using starches as a base for meat and fish courses dismayed me. It would have been better had the kitchen gone all the way, deployed a food mill, added minced garlic, and turned the cod and potatoes into brandade.

My second dinner at the Café, shar with a business colleague from out town, revealed the restaurant at its mo perfunctory. It started well enough, with handsome white tureen of clam chowd ($11) that had good flavor and creat consistency. Unfortunately, both ma courses at this dinner left much to be d sired. Roast rib-eye of lamb ($36) broug three medallions of boneless lamb, one them irremediably dry and flavorless wh the other two were passable at best, no of them on the rare side of medium rare, ordered. An accompaniment of pearl ba ley molded into a hockey puck–size ca with chopped red peppers and Kalama olives, topped by a few sprigs of fris greens, improved the dish, but not cor mensurately with its price. Oven roast rack of veal ($36) underwhelmed, its tw undersized chops and wholly forgettab garnish unworthy of the substantial tari In a side dish of asparagus ($7), four sm spears sat forlornly on a small plate, u sauced and almost devoid of flavor.

Puzzled by the inconsistency of the Rit kitchen, but encouraged by the quality of m first visit's scallops and crab cakes, I decid to give it another try, this time on a Frid evening. In contrast to the uninspired, pe functory weeknight performance that w had shared with captive hotel guests, Frida dinner actually brought back memories the Ritz of old. For the first course we o dered the seared foie gras ($20). Our wait brought a marvelous pair of ethereally te tured but intensely flavored lobes of fat liver, carefully seared and presented on thi pancakes of banana flower, the texture ar consistency of formed polenta, but witho the corn flavor. The silky texture of the liv and the sweet-savory flavor of the port r duction sauce made the dish a triumph. Tw very credible main courses followed. Ove roasted chateaubriand with asparagus, pot toes, and béarnaise sauce ($40) yielded large, full-flavored fillet, cooked perfect rare as ordered, with velvety, fork-tend texture. The lively, lemony tarragon flav of the perfectly constructed béarnaise sau enhanced both the beef and the accompan ing jumbo asparagus spears (a far cry fro the à la carte asparagus of the night before

Seared jumbo sea scallops served with artichoke and sun-dried tomato orzo risotto, fresh Parmesan and herb oil vinaigrette

The Café at the Ritz-Carlton retains its refined, classic decor.

Chef Olivier Ramos

ıe light, puffy potato "soufflees," though teresting, seemed a little on the greasy le. Seared striped bass ($32) had been ıtéed so that its skin emerged golden own and its texture firm and flaky. With it me six delightfully light and tasty sautéed inach gnocchi, a ratatouille of julienne ced eggplant, peppers and onions, and a rlic oil sauce studded with little pink cubes andouille sausage.

Desserts, all priced at $11, included the assic and the fanciful. Classic was the ofiterole, a pastry puff filled with ice eam and served in a large martini glass ac- mpanied by a pitcher of warm chocolate uce and a generous bowl of whipped eam for do-it-yourself indulgence. The nciful brought a Boston cream pie that zzled the eye with its geometrically precise round shape and glossy chocolate covering and charmed the taste buds with moist cake and liqueur-soaked pastry cream, all garnished with slightly sweetened whipped cream and candied grapefruit.

The inconsistent performance of the Ritz, both in terms of service and cuisine, would be more excusable had its prices been less stratospheric. With appetizers, including the soups and salads, averaging over $15, and main courses averaging over $32, patrons deserve something better than a game of culinary chance. At its worst, the restaurant supplies coffee shop eats at haute cuisine prices. Outrageous wine prices exacerbated the situation. On our first visit, we enjoyed a respectable bottle of DeBoeuf Beaujolais Village ($30), a pleasant, unassuming wine. Inexplicably, on our last visit, that wine had been eliminated from the list, leaving no bottles for less than $35 and precious few under $50. The price of wine by the glass stung even more, starting at $11, and the pour was among the stingiest I've experienced in some time.

Perhaps the Ritz's wine-pricing rationale proceeds from the assumption that the average Ritz diner, whether a business person on an expense account or a family throwing budget to the wind in celebrating a major life event, will pay whatever the restaurant asks. Whether it can attract and retain loyal patrons with this kind of approach to the pricing of both its food and beverages, especially given the inconsistency that plagues its kitchen, remains to be seen. iB

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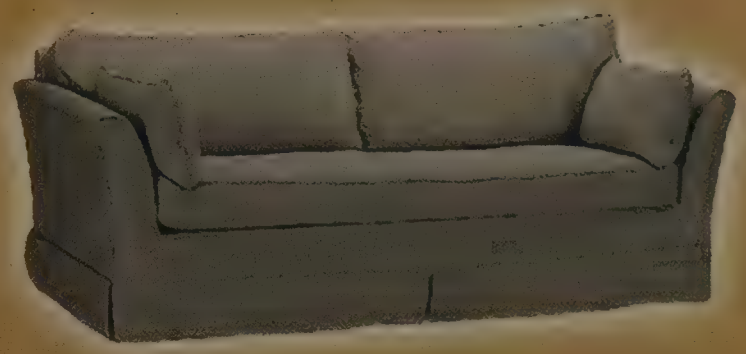

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DISH

Stelllaaaaaa!

Deluty doubles up…Boston & Beard

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Stella executive chef Joseph Cassinelli (left) and owner Evan Deluty

Celebrity chefs are made, not born. They get educated, get noticed in the right kitchens, and eventually get it together to open their own restaurant. In other words, they work toward a goal and enjoy the (mostly) hard-earned fruits of their labor as they (mostly) continue to work. But how does one prepare a child of such a chef to grow up in the glory generated by her namesake restaurant? We'll check back with little Stella Deluty in about 10 years, a decade or so after her father **Evan Deluty** (chef/co-owner of **Torch** on Beacon Hill) opens the doors of **Stella** restaurant in a few weeks.

When Deluty and wife **Candace**—both young, talented and successful—first opened Torch, their confidence bordered on brashness. Today, after five years of running the well-respected bistro, Evan is more polished, more focused, and just as ambitious and hardworking as ever. In fact, it's his personal charm that makes the strongest impression now. He says the new spot, located in the former **Gallia** space on Washington Street in the South End, will be a "*real* neighborhood restaurant." The menu will be mostly Italian, with "some New World, some Asian," he says, and will include his signature gnocchi. Also featured will be linguine with clam sauce, a steak with Tuscan fries and herb salsa (Tuscan fries? Deluty says they're "very herbaceous"), a starter of "crudo misto" made up of raw fish with limoncello vinaigrette and grissini, and a *piatto del giorno* that will range in price from $16 to $22.

Deluty has taken great care in hiring his staff. Stella's executive chef is **Joseph Cassinelli**, the former executive sous chef at **Mistral** who's also worked at both **Teatro** and **Excelsior**. Manager **Kate Moore** has a résumé that runs the gamut from the **Boston Harbor Hotel** to **the Cheesecake Factory**, which should pretty much prepare her for any kind of guest. Stella will be open for dinner seven nights a week from 5:30 to 11 pm. The bar, which will be open from 5 pm to 2 am, will offer a bar menu from 11 pm to 1:30 am. As for desserts, expect "simple pastries" such as "chocolate tartufo, gelato, assorted cookies," says Deluty. And expect to be seated soon: with 128 seats indoors and 52 on the patio, there's plenty of room for you to show off any star quality you might have.

SECOND COURSE

Beard in Boston: Nominations for the annual James Beard Foundation awards are here, and the candidates for Best Chef, Northeast, are: **Marc Orfaly** of **Pigalle** in the Theater District; **Michael Leviton** of **Restaurant Lumiere** in Newton; **Frank McClelland** of **L'Espalier** in the Back Bay; **Ana Sortun** of **Oleana** in Cambridge's Inman Square; and the dynamic culinary duo of **Clark Frasier** and **Mark Gaier** of Arrows in Ogunquit, Maine. Other notable local nominees include author **Lora Brody**, whose *Chocolate American Style* is up for a cookbook award in the Baking and Desserts category; journalist **Scott Haas** of WBUR, for his food-related contributions to *Here & Now*; and **The Butcher Shop** in the South End, recognized for Outstanding Restaurant Graphics by design firm James Barondess. iB

Serving Dish

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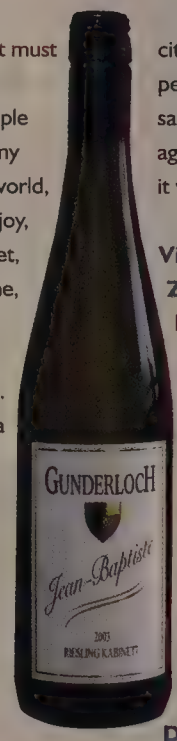
WINE

Riesling Stars

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.

Spring's finally here, I think, so it must be time for the annual riesling roundup. Time was when people would run and hide when I started my riesling rap: best white wine in the world, most food-compatible, easiest to enjoy, alluring aromas, not necessarily sweet, chill it down and take it to a ball game, blah-blah-blah. It's no longer the grape so far out that it's in; there's a new openness to its obvious charms. By next spring we may have to find a whole new wine crusade—something so obscure it's still underground. Until then though, here are some of the rieslings we've uncovered in blind tastings that are worth dropping whatever else you're doing to run right out and buy. As usual, in ascending order of quality without reference to price:



Meilen Riesling Kabinett, Mosel-Saar-Ruwer, Germany, 2003 ($11)
Meilen's is definitely what I'd call an entry-level riesling for someone who's not afraid to drink a slightly sweet wine and doesn't want or need a lot of complexity in the glass. Its mild and peachy aromas are quite pleasant. Medium sweet with lowish acids, this wine from the great, super ripe 2003 vintage in Germany is a bit softer than you might expect for a Mosel, but cool it down and it makes a most appealing aperitif.

Columbia Cellarmaster's Riesling, Columbia Valley, Washington, 2003 ($10)
Not to be unpatriotic, but most American riesling is forgettable at best, candy-sweet, flat in texture, or so lean, early-harvested and stripped of flavor that it's painful to drink. But Columbia Cellarmaster's—made by friend and longtime unselfish mentor David Lake, M.W.—is a ridiculous bargain. A really well-balanced wine in a sweeter style, it's great with spicy food: Indian curries come to mind. Chill it down a lot and it's refreshing on a picnic with fruit and some cheese, or some cold roasted tandoori chicken.

Wynn's Estate Riesling, Coonawarra, Australia, 2003 ($11)
Yes, Australia's gotten in on the riesling renaissance, and they're making some classy wines in a drier Alsatian mode. Most come from the Clare or Eden Valleys, but this wine from Coonawarra, perhaps the country's most prestigious red wine district, is a show-stopper. Bottled with a Stelvin closure, as most Aussie rieslings are, it's got an interesting aroma of lime and green leafy herbs. Fresh, dry and very positive apple flavors, accented by mint and citrus, make it a real flavorful bargain. Its personality has some overlap with cool-climate sauvignon blanc, although it's not quite as aggressive in style. But I wouldn't hesitate to try it with white fish sizzling right off the grill.

Villa Maria Riesling, Marlborough, New Zealand, 2003 ($13)
New Zealand's been on a real roll lately, and almost everything Villa Maria does is first-class. Less known for its rieslings, the Marlborough district provides a clear stylistic alternative: gentle and mild, but with lots of flavor. The Villa Maria has a nice flowery, sweet herb aroma and the understated flavors basically walk a tightrope between dry and sweet. There's a spring blossom fruity apple flavor that's light and delicate and suggests pairing with pad Thai in particular.

Dr. Thanisch Riesling Classic, Mosel-Saar-Ruwer, Germany, 2002 ($15)
Dr. Thanisch's riesling originates on one of the many great old estates in the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer—my favorite German wine region. The winery makes pinpoint, crisp, beautifully aromatic wine in a somewhat understated mode. "Classic" is a new category that's becoming very popular. It conveys a style of wine that's medium dry, basically right on the border. You get lovely apricot, sweet herb and floral perfumes, leading you to think sweet and ripe, but the minerally sharp acid and fresh, snappy apple fruit are crisp and clean on the palate. Smoked fish makes a good accompaniment.

Gunderloch Jean Baptiste Riesling Kabinett, Rheinhessen, Germany, 2003 ($17)
An absolute winner. Yes, we know that German wines are too complicated for most of us to remember and buy, that the names go on forever, but let's acknowledge that they're trying. As with the aforementioned Thanisch, the simplified labeling and packaging here guide you to a beautiful, modern-style riesling (packaged in Stelvin closure to boot). But this one is from the flatter Rheinhessen vineyards, where much less riesling is planted, and the wines tend to have a gentler, softer feel than their counterparts from the Mosel. There's a charming oily complexity to the aroma that often only develops after several years in the bottle, along with scents of wintergreen and spring apple. Just sweet enough, with pure, fine pinpoint fruit acids, one sip of this inevitably leads to another. I love great riesling with boiled lobster, and this one qualifies. IB

Sandy Block is VP of Beverage Operations for Legal Sea Foods. He is one of 21 Masters of Wine in the U.S.

TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

dvice to Contributors

bmit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to stings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket ce, dates and times, and a brief description of the ent. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. stings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

vents

auer Wine & Spirits Tastings

uer Wine & Spirits, 330 Newbury St., Boston 17-262-0363). www.bauerwines.com. MBTA: reen Line to Hynes/ICA. May 5, 5-7 pm. Free. uer Wine & Spirits celebrates Cinco de Mayo th an appearance by **Michael Saklad** of Stone ewing and a tasting of various Stone brews.

heese Tuesday

Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-23). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to ynes/ICA. May 10. 7 pm. $50. Chef **Frank McIelland** and fromager **Louis Risoli** present a ree-course dinner accompanied by cheeses m Spain and Portugal.

romatini Tuesdays

roma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-'00). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green ne to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each iesday, Croma features three specialty martinis 8 each) plus complimentary Pizzatinis (spelty pizzas).

picurean Evenings

ujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., ston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. BTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue., 6 pm. 5. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **rome Legras** host this weekly event that offrs guests three light courses built around a eme, region or grape variety. •May 10: That hich We Call a Rosé.

ireside Chats

he Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-75-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C reen Line to Washington Square. Every other ut., 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** sts experts who discuss subjects from wines to ods to microbrews. •May 7: Mixing Martinis.

ot off the Vine at 33

3 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green ne to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. in chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **hristian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines ired with a complementary food tasting. May 4: Sauvignon Blanc. •May 11: California . France.

ICV Celebrity Chef Cooking Series

uestra Culinary Ventures, 31 Germania St., uildings I & J, Jamaica Plain (617-522-7900). ww.nuestracdc.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ony Brook. 7 pm. $60. Nuestra Culinary Ventures hosts a weekly class for people interested in getting started in the cooking industry. •May 10, **Peter Merrill** of Sel de la Terre: Breads of Sel de la Terre. •May 17, **Joanne Chang** of Flour Bakery: Crusts, Quiche and Apple Pie.

Second Saturdays at Grill 23 & Bar

Grill 23 & Bar, 161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255). www.grill23.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Second Saturday of each month, 12-2 pm. $55. Executive chef **Jay Murray** and wine director **Alex deWinter** lead monthly cooking and tasting demonstrations. May 14: Around the World in Chardonnays.

Spring Cooking Classes at the Langham Hotel

Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900, ext. 7092). MBTA: Orange Line to State. Every Wed., 5:30 pm. $125. Chefs **Daniel Kenney, Mark Sapienza** and **John Quinn** present a weekly cooking class followed by a three-course meal paired with wine. •May 4: Memorial Day Barbecue.

Taste of the North End

New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (617-367-2353). www.totne.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. May 6, 7:30-11:30 pm. $75. Speaker of the House **Sal Dimasi** is honored as Man of the Year at this 12th annual event featuring fare from various North End restaurants including Bricco, Sage, Mike's Pastry and Fratelli Pagliuca. The night includes live jazz music, and proceeds benefit Casa Monte Cassino children's and seniors' programs in the North End.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting

Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Thu., May 5: Special Cinco de Mayo Tequila Tasting. • May 10: Mother's Day Merlot Mixer. •May 17: Chardonnay.

UpStairs on the Square Spring Wine Events

UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. This spring, UpStairs on the Square offers a series of wine events featuring cuisine from chefs **Amanda Lydon** and **Susan Regis**. •May 10, $45: Wine and Cheese Pairing.

Wine Dinners at Aujourd'hui

Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. During the month of May, sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host special guests for two multicourse wine dinners. •May 6, 6:30 pm, $125: Four-course dinner with La Spinetta winemaker **Giorgio Rivetti**. •May 17, 6:30 pm, $120: Five-course Alsatian wine dinner with **Jean Trimbach**.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier

L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •May 9: Rosé-Colored Glasses. •May 16: Burgundy.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre

Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •May 4: Southern France. •May 11: Bordeaux.

The annual Taste of the North End comes to the New England Aquarium May 6.

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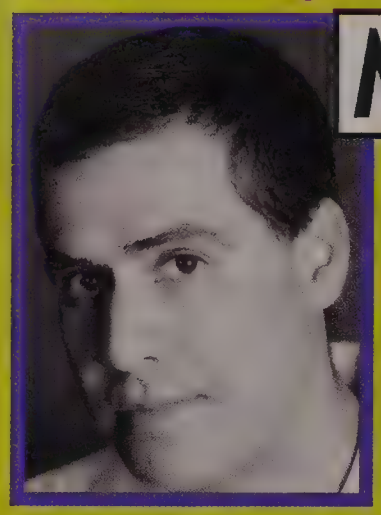


MAY 13-14

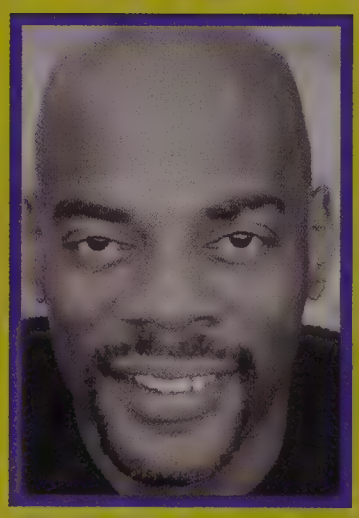
From Comedy Central and NBC's "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno"

PABLO FRANCISCO

MAY 20-21

From the final episode of "Seinfeld"

JOHN PINETTE



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may 4 - 17

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			4	5	6	7
				Educating the Senses, a benefit for the Boston Center for Adult Education, takes place at the Gamble Mansion. *See CityScope on page 54.*	**Goldie Hawn** signs copies of her new memoir, *The Lotus Grows in the Mud*, at Barnes & Noble in the Pru. *See Books & Poetry on page 85.*	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Lisa Marie Presley plays the Paradise Rock Club. *See Music on page 71.*	*Guys and Dolls* screens at the Wang Theatre as part of the **Free Film Series**. *See Movies on page 67.*		Dance-based electronic duo **Crystal Method** plays Axis. *See Music on page 71.*	The annual shopping extravaganza **StyleFixx** is at the Cyclorama. *See CityScope on page 56.*		***Desire Under the Elms*** opens at the Loeb Drama Center in Cambridge. *See Performing Arts on page 58.*
15	16	17				
View works from local artists at **North Cambridge Open Studios**. *See Museums & Galleries on page 82.*		***Chicago*** begins a one-week run at the Wang Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 58.*				

THU./MAY 12

Film: In a Galaxy Not So Far Away

We know you're out there, *Star Wars* fans, and it's OK to admit you're counting down every second until *Episode III: Revenge of the Sith* hits theaters. But if you're willing to fork out a few bills for a good cause, you won't have to wait as long as the rest of the world. City Year (you know the infamous red jacket do-gooders you see around the city) is hosting a premiere at Loews Boston Common cinema. Pony up $250 and you can see the film a week before it opens nationwide. There's even a surprise gift bag at the end of the night for attendees. Proceeds support City Year's community service initiatives, which include mentoring and tutoring programs for public schools as well as after-school and vacation programs. *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). —LPK*

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BODY & MIND 90
SPORTS 91
CHILDREN 92
AROUND TOWN 93

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Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts

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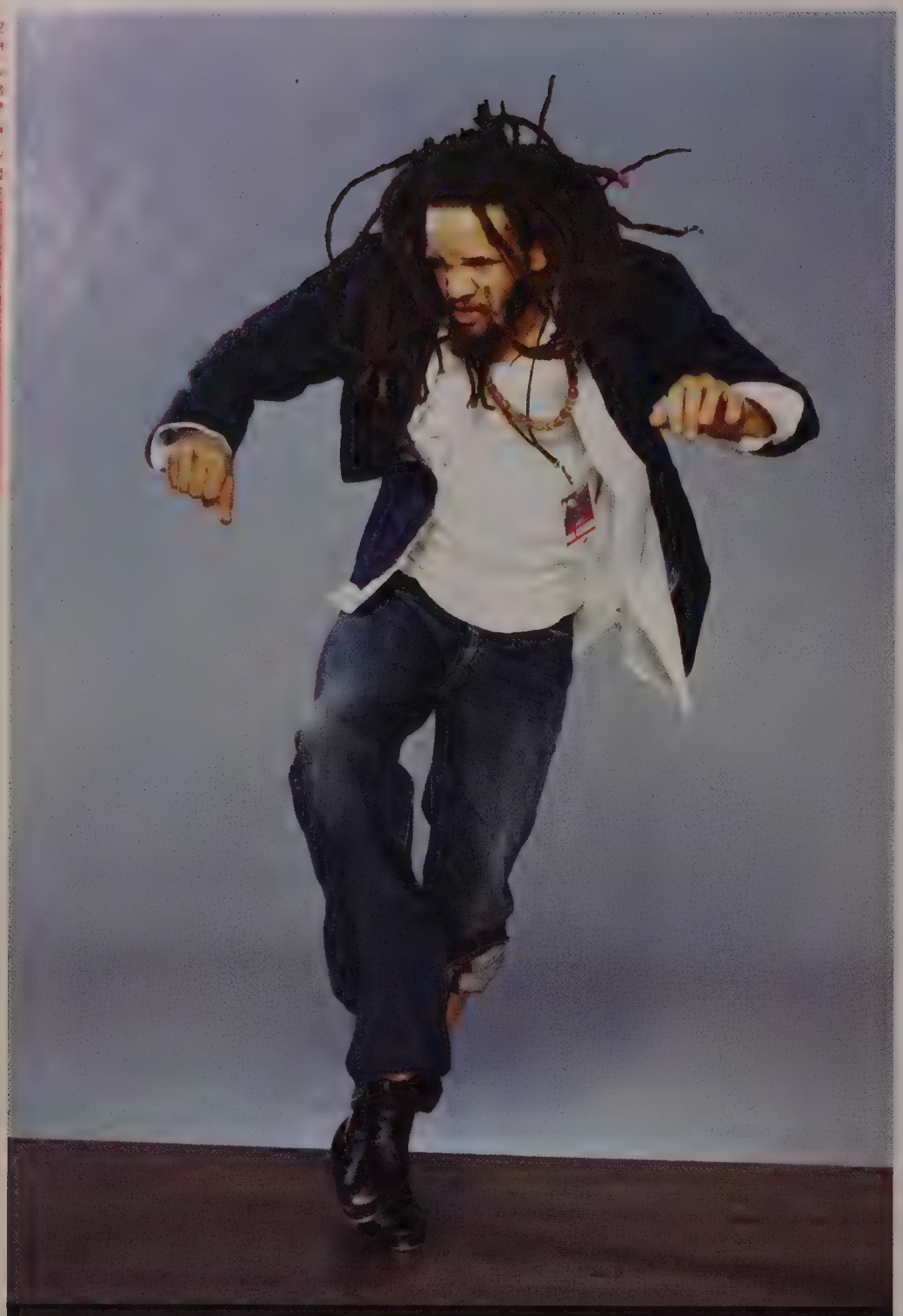
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules



FRI.–SUN./MAY 6–8

Dance: What's on Tap

He's probably best-known for bringing the noise and the funk, but this month, tap dancing sensation Savion Glover brings his new troupe, TI Dii, and his latest show, *Improvography*, to the Cutler Majestic Theatre for four performances. Glover made his Broadway debut in 1988 at age 12 as the title character in the *The Tap Dance Kid* and hit the big screen a year later opposite tap legends Gregory Hines and Sammy Davis Jr. in *Tap*. But it wasn't until 1996, and the Broadway debut of *Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk*, that Glover solidified his spot among the all-time greats. For his choreography and performance in that production, Glover brought home a 1996 Tony Award, as well as two Obies and two Fred Astaire Awards, and was named *Dance* magazine's Choreographer of the Year. In *Improvography*, he takes the stage with a live jazz/funk band and an ensemble of young tappers—and performs solo dances—in a show that alternates improvisation with choreography. *219 Tremont St., Boston (617-876-4275). Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $30–$50. —RL*

WED./MAY 11

Music: Culture and Class

Pop goes the bubbly as Keith Lockhart and the band kick off the 120th spring Boston Pops season with their annual opening shindig at Symphony Hall this month. The evening starts with a champagne reception and hors d'oeuvres, followed by a concert featuring R&B singer Lou Rawls and last year's POPSearch winner Tracy Silva. The lucky ones who attend the Benefactor Dinner at the Fairmont Copley Plaza after the performance can bid on items at a live auction to benefit symphony outreach programs. Festive attire is requested. *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). Reception, 5:30 pm; concert, 6:30 pm, dinner 8 pm . $50–$150. —LPK*

THU.–SUN./MAY 5–8

Art: Spring for This One

Wake up, Bostonians. Winter's over and it's time to peel yourself off the couch. The Arts First Festival, sponsored by Harvard's Office for the Arts, offers a reason to get up and out of the house. After all, how often can you take in an outdoor jazz concert, Indian bhangra fusion, Korean drumming, South African gumboot dancing, Mozart, hip-hop, documentaries and an art show all in one weekend? The festival, in Harvard Square, stretches over four days, and the more than 200 events include films, concerts, dance productions, art exhibits and theatrical performances. Best of all, it's free. *Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-495-8676). Visit www.fas.harvard.edu/~arts for a complete schedule of events. —LPK*

MUSIC; SAT./MAY 14

Ben Folds One

Can you imagine a band hitting it big without a guitar player? Well, a piano-playing Ben Folds did, back in 1994 when he put together Ben Folds Five with bassist Robert Sledge and drummer Darren Jessee. The trio, which described its music as "punk rock for pussies," earned a fair amount of acclaim in 1995 after the release of its self-titled debut album, and then blew up in 1997 with *Whatever and Amen*, which sported bona fide hits like "Brick" and "Song for the Dumped." Folds dropped his two bandmates for his latest venture, *Songs From Silverman*, which hit stores April 26, and on May 14 he'll take the stage with his piano at Avalon as part of his new tour. *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com. May 14. 7 pm. 18+. $20. —RL*

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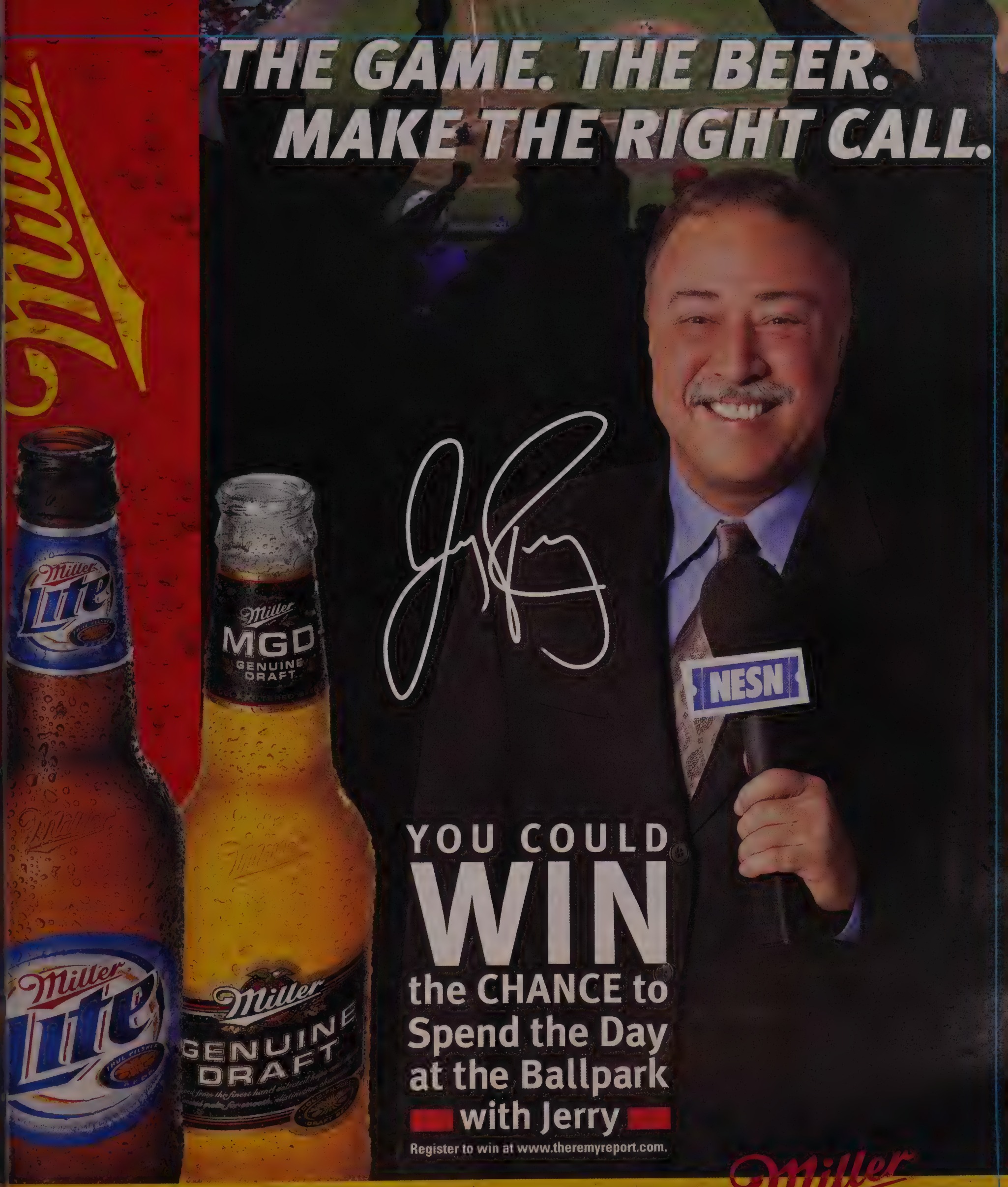

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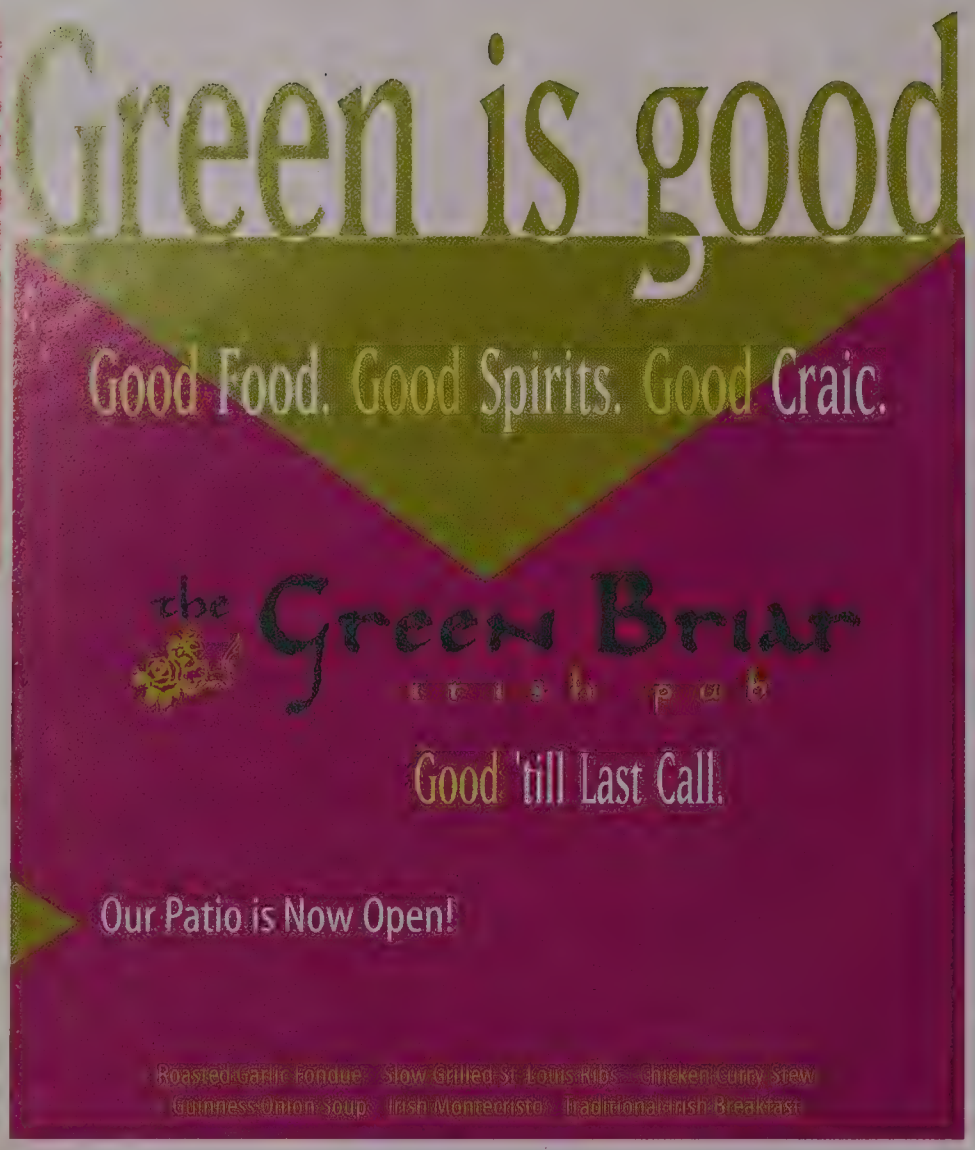

cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope @improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

Franciscan Hospital Benefit
The Greatest Bar, 262 Friend St., Boston (617-779-1414). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 6-9 pm. $10. This event, sponsored by the Young Professionals Council, includes a free appetizer buffet, a raffle and music. Proceeds benefit the Franciscan Hospital for Children.

WEEI Annual Bowling Challenge
Kings, 10 Scotia St., Boston (781-575-1260). www.weei.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6-10 pm. $25. WEEI morning co-hosts John Dennis and Gerry Callahan, along with comedian Lenny Clarke, host this annual event to raise money for the Genesis Fund, which supports New England–area children born with birth defects.

THURSDAY, MAY 5

AIDS Action Committee of Boston Benefit Concert
Axis, 13 Lansdowne St., Boston (800-356-1155, ext. 223). www.aac.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9 pm. $25. 18+. The Tempting Fate Revue plays live music to raise money for the AIDS Action Committee of Boston.

Avon Foundation Fund-Raiser
Bell in Hand Tavern, 45 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 7 pm. $15. This fund-raiser features cocktails, appetizers, a raffle and prizes. All proceeds support the Avon Foundation for breast cancer research. E-mail nmbolinski@yahoo.com for ticket information.

Educating the Senses: A Benefit Gala
The Gamble Mansion, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430, ext. 708). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-10 pm. $125. The Boston Center for Adult Education hosts this night featuring a three-course dinner, wine, art exhibits and auctions to raise funds for the BCAE's Tuition Voucher program, which provides free classes to clients of social-service agencies. Sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

Nexus Cinco de Mayo Fiesta
Ned Devine's Pub, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-374-3740). www.greenroundtable.org. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 6 pm. $50; $25, students. Proceeds from this night of food, drink, Latin music and dance support the Green Roundtable's new Nexus Green Building Resource Center, which promotes environmentally sound construction.

Wild Women Unite for the Cure: A Benefit Concert
Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-483-3556). www.hipharp.com. 8 pm. $30. Harpist Deborah Henson-Conant performs a concert to benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and the Avon Foundation.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

T.E.A.M. Sports Fund-Raiser
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston. www.worldteamsports.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $175. This event features a reception, dinner and silent and live auctions benefiting T.E.A.M Sports, an offshoot of the Special Olympics.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Boston Heart Ball: Hearts in Motion
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (508-935-3960). www.americanheart.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $2,500-$10,000. The American Heart Association hosts the 2005 Boston Heart Ball, a charity gala featuring auctions, dinner and dancing.

Pan-Massachusetts Challenge Fund-Raising Gala
Fidelity Investments Clubhouse West, Gillette Stadium, Foxboro (508-846-3955). www.teamvanderbilt.org. 7 pm-12 am. $75. This gala features a DJ, dancing, hors d'oeuvres and R-rated hypnotist Frank Santos. For $250 a person, guests can participate in a Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament, and the event benefits the Massachusetts Challenge, a 192-mile cycling e that raises money for the Jimmy Fund.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

Art Attack Gallery Silent Auction
Art Attack Gallery, 108 Beacon St., Somerville (441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 6 pm. $10. This charity art auc showcases paintings from local artist Shanti features a silent auction to raise money for Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Y and the Somerville Arts Council.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts Benefit
School of the Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington A Boston (617-369-3659). www.smfa.edu. 6 pm. $ The SMFA honors alumnus Jim Dine with the annual Medal Award at this gala dinner. All proc benefit student scholarship aid at the SMFA.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

Rockin' for Life: A Benefit Concert
Middle East Upstairs, 480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (492-9181). www.geocities.com/npreciosa. MBTA: Line to Central. 8 pm. $10. This concert featu performances by Roark, Savil Ill, Kotter, Sticky Harriet Street raises money for Dana-Farber.

***Star Wars: Episode III* Benefit**
Loews Boston Common, 175 Tremont St., Boston (423-5801). www.cityyear.org. MBTA: Green or Line to Park Street. 7:30 pm. $250. All proceeds the Boston premiere of the newest *Star Wars* m benefit City Year. Felt, at 533 Washington St., parties before and after the screening.

FRIDAY, MAY 13

A Night of Jazz
State Room, 60 State St., Boston (617-632-30 www.dana-farber.org/how/friends. MBTA: Gre Blue Line to Government Center. $250. The D Farber Cancer Institute hosts a night of jazz and featuring vocalist Lavay Smith, the Victor Men Trio and the Red Hot Skillet Lickers.

Women & AIDS: Hope for the Fut
Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-6106) www.aids.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Li Harvard. $200. 6-10 pm. Darryl McDaniels of DMC hosts this fund-raising event that incl dinner and a silent auction benefiting the Har School of Public Health AIDS Initiative.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Avon Walk for Breast Cancer
UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., South Bo (617-576-3113). www.avonwalk.org. MBTA: Line to JFK/UMass. Through May 15. 6:30 am-4 Participants must raise at least $1,800. This f raising walk begins and ends in South Boston raises money for breast cancer research.

Cruise for a Cause
Cruise leaves from Long Wharf, Boston (617-3848). www.justgiving.com/pfp/cruiseforacause. pm. $25, 21+. This Boston Harbor cruise on Fort Independence features a DJ, free appetizers a cash bar. All proceeds benefit the Ellen Ga Breast Cancer Fund.

Glimmer Gala
The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, 15 Arlington St., Bo (617-778-5981). www.csfboston.org. MBTA: G Line to Arlington. 8 pm-12 am. $100. This roc gala includes cocktails, appetizers, dancing a silent auction. Proceeds benefit the Inner- Scholarship Fund.

Lama Surya Das Benefit
Episcopal Divinity School, 99 Brattle St., Camb (617-522-0072). www.dzogchen.org/retreats. MB Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $35. This event fe ing a gourmet buffet, wine, chamber music, and and silent auctions raises money for the const tion of six new hermitages at Lama Surya Das treat center in Austin, Texas.

MONDAY, MAY 16

Redbones Bike Party Benefit
Redbones BBQ, 55 Chestnut St., Somerville (617-2200). www.redbones.com. MBTA: Red Line to D 5-10 pm. $15. Redbones hosts its annual bike party turing sandwiches, beer and a raffle, to benefit Mass and the New England Mountain Bike Association.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, MAY 5

Boston YPA Cinco de Mayo Celebrat
Fajitas 'n' Ritas, 25 West St., Boston (617-591-14 www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green or Red Li Park Street. 9 pm-2 am. $10. This party feature

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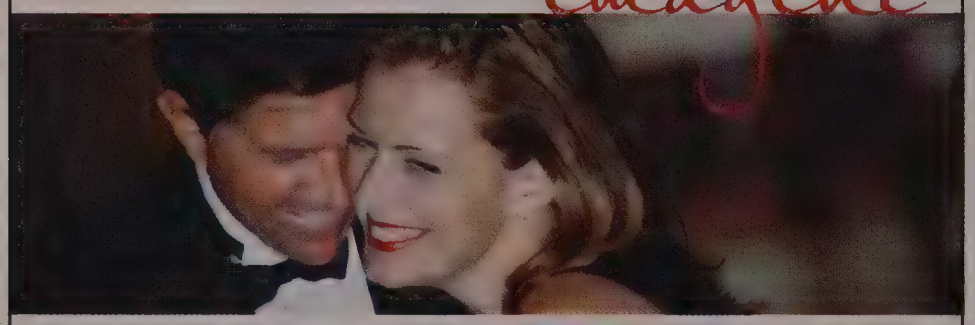

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Harpist Deborah Henson-Conant performs at the Wild Women Unite for the Cure benefit concert at Arlington's Regent Theatre, May 5.

Baby Boricua spinning top-40, hip-hop and Latin dance music, a tequila tasting and graffiti artist painting murals.

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

Dick's Last Resort, 58 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 7-11 pm. Free. Dick's, WBCN-FM and Corona host this Cinco de Mayo celebration featuring specials on nachos and 22 oz. Coronas ($5.55 each) as well as prize giveaways every hour on the fives.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

Taste of the North End

New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (617-367-2353). www.totne.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. May 6, 7:30-11:30 pm. $75. Massachusetts Speaker of the House Sal Dimasi is honored as Man of the Year at this 12th annual event featuring fare from various North End restaurants including Bricco, Sage, Mike's Pastry and Fratelli Pagliuca. The night includes live jazz music, and proceeds benefit Casa Monte Cassino children's and seniors' programs in the North End.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

StyleFixx

Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St. Boston. www.stylefixx.com/boston.htm. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 5-9 pm. $25. This event co-sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN features cocktails, giveaways and gift bags and more than 50 designers offering the latest fashion and beauty accessories.

FRIDAY, MAY 13

Renaissance Dance Evening

Jewett Hall, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-661-3353). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $8. Join dancer Maris Wolff and members of the Renaissonics for an evening of social Renaissance dancing.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Boston Art Tours

Call 617-732-3920 or e-mail info@bostonarttours.com for meeting location. 4-6 pm. $40. Enjoy a tour of various local art galleries and mingle over post-tour coffee.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

8 Minute Dating

Fire & Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-482-3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 32-42.

Hurry Date

Charley's Eating and Drinking Saloon, 284 Newbu St., Boston (617-266-3000). www.hurrydate.co MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $26. for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. F Jewish singles ages 25-35.

Spicy Singles Salsa Party

Loews Boston Common, 175 Tremont St., Bost (617-423-5801). www.lavalife.com/flick. MBT Green or Red Line to Park Street. Party, 6:30; movie pm. $9.75. Enjoy a screening of the new film *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* with other singles.

MONDAY, MAY 9

8 Minute Dating

Soho, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-562-600 www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: #57 bus to Bright Center. 6:58 pm. $35. Sample appetizers duri eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle a meet the people you didn't get the chance to shar date with. For Red Sox fans ages 22-30.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

8 Minute Dating

Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Bost ((617-227-7800). www.8minutedating.com. MBT Green Line to Haymarket. 6:30 pm. $35. Samp appetizers during eight different eight-min dates. Then mingle and meet the people you d n't get the chance to share a date with. For a 28-38.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

8 Minute Dating

Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Ca bridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.co MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Samp appetizers during eight different eight-min dates. Then mingle and meet the people you d n't get the chance to share a date with. For a 37-52.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Social Dance Party

Whitney Hall, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Bro line (781-444-7771). www.tjcboston.com. 8 pm am. $20. The J Connection hosts this party for Je ish singles age 35+ featuring dancing, appetize door prizes and martini drink specials.

MONDAY, MAY 16

8 Minute Dating

Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-7 0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line South Station. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers d ing eight different eight-minute dates. Then min and meet the people you didn't get the chance share a date with. For ages 22-32.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Chicago
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 17-22. Tue., Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Wed. and Sun. 7 pm; Sat., 2 pm; Sun., 1 pm. $28-$75. Murderers Velma Kelly and Roxie Hart compete for the spotlight with the help of lawyer Billy Flynn in this musical by Bob Fosse. Walter Bobbie directs.

A Chorus Line
The Winthrop Playmakers, 60 Hermon St., Winthrop (617-539-1175). www.winthropplaymakers.com. May 13-21. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $15. A stage director tries to make the final cuts during a chorus dancers' audition.

Desire Under the Elms
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 14-June 12. Tue.-Thu. and Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. $36-$72. In this Eugene O'Neill play, a man brings his young bride home to his New England farm, and her arrival rocks the peaceful countryside. János Szász directs.

Shakespeare in Hollywood
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. May 6-June 4. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Wed., 2 pm. $19-$45. When a filmmaker's remake of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* loses its leading men, Shakespeare's Oberon and Puck magically arrive to play themselves. Spiro Veloudos directs.

Sleeping with Straight Men
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (800-965-4827). www.ronnielarsen.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. May 12-June 5. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. $25-$30. Based on a true story, this play, written and directed by Ronnie Larsen, tells the story of a gay man who is killed after revealing on national TV that he has a crush on a straight man.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Body/Works
The Theater at Machine, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-4691). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Through May 14. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $20. Boston-based playwright actor Michael Z. Keamy debuts his comedic p about a man seeking to balance his mind, b and soul while attempting to find his place in s ety. Curt Miller directs.

Culture Clash in AmeriCCa
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, Boston Center for the A 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-7900). ww huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Orange Line to B Bay. Through May 8. Tue.-Fri, 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $14-$42. The Latino per mance trio uses dance, poetry and humor to exp diversity in America.

Damn Yankees
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (6 244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. MBTA: Comm Rail to Newton. Through June 5. Thu.-Sat., 8 Sun., 2 pm. $24. A Washington Senators fan ma a pact with the devil to help his baseball team the pennant.

Flight
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-4 7400). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boyls Through May 10. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 7:30 Sun., 3 pm. $34-$159. Boston Lyric Opera pres the East Coast premiere of Jonathan Dove's co opera set in an airport.

Into the Woods
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton H lands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA Green Line to Newton Highlands. Through May Steven Sondheim's musical depicts the lives of fa lar fairy-tale characters after their "happily ever af endings.

Little Shop of Horrors
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-8 2400). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: G Line to Boylston. Through May 15. Tue., Thu. and 8 pm; Wed., 7 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $37.50-$82.50. This musical comedy about a entist, a woman and a man-eating plant featur score by Howard Ashman and Alan Menken.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (6 426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MB Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quarte aging baby boomers with nothing in common memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sa

The Ocean Room
The Actors Workshop, 327 Summer St., Studio 4, Bo (617-851-8321). www.1111theatre.com. MBTA: Line to South Station. Through May 7. 8 pm. $15. B Tuttle's play is a story about a couple determine keep their romance alive.

The Phantom of the Opera
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-9 2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MB Green Line to Boylston. Through June 4. Tue.-Fri pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $23-$ Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical is based on Gas Leroux's love story about a masked figure and an in cent young opera singer.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (6 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MB Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $ This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair sa holds the record as Boston's longest-running p

Take Me Out
Roberts Studio Theatre, Boston Center for the A 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). ww speakeasystage.com. MBTA: Orange Line to B Bay. Through June 4; Wed.-Sat., 8 pm, Sat., 4 Sun., 3 pm. $35-$40. Paul Daigneault dire Richard Greenberg's 2003 Tony Award–winn play about a successful baseball player who co out of the closet.

Thoroughly Modern Millie
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, B erly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through M 15. Tue., Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Wed. and Sat., 2 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm; $30-$60. Berry Ivan directs choreographs the Tony Award–winning musi about a small-town girl in the big city during Jazz Age.

Events

Big Apple Circus
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Bos (617-931-2000). www.bigapplecircus.org. MBTA: Line to UMass/JFK. Through May 8. Check Web site times. Sat., Sun. $19-$53; weekday evenings, $13-$ weekday matinees, $20-$25. The Big Apple Circus sents Picturesque, a performance of moveme rhythm, color, light and sound.

niversity Theater

:s First Festival 2005
:ard University, Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-8676). www.fas.harvard.edu/~arts/. MBTA: Red to Harvard. May 5-8. Free. The 13th annual val features over 200 concerts, theatrical and :e productions, and art exhibitions by Harvard ents and faculty.

e Laramie Project
on University Mainstage, 885 Comm. Ave., on (617-617-353-3390). www.bu.edu. MBTA: reen Line to BU West. May 4-8. $10. Moisès fman's play dramatizes the events surrounding 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard in Laramie, . Jim Petosa directs.

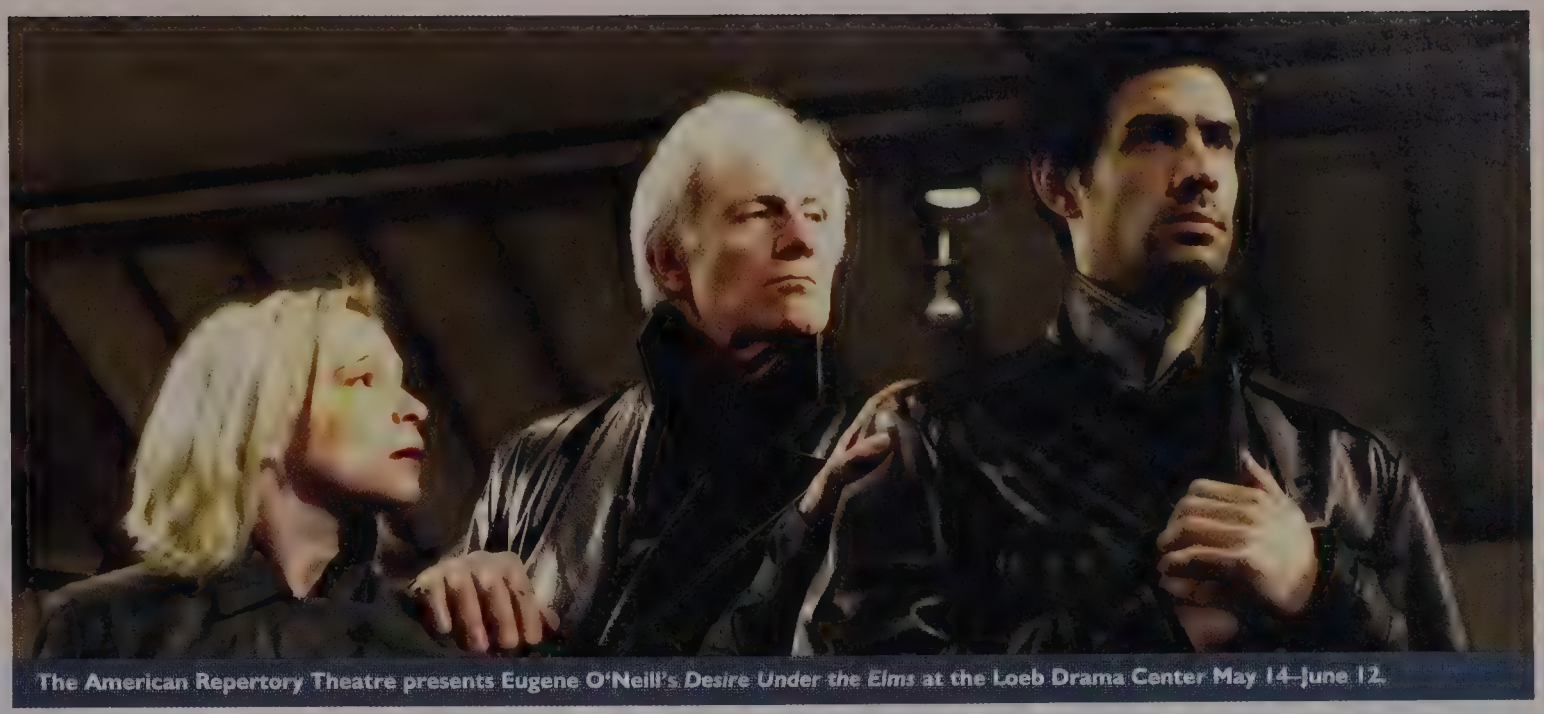
e Orestreia
vard University, Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.fas.harvard. ~tickets/. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through 7. $12. Mike Donahue directs this classic story d on the trilogy by Aeschylus.

nior Theatre Showcase
on Arts Academy, Black Box Theatre, 17 Ipswich Boston (617-594-7948). www.boston-arts-lemy.org. MBTA: Green Line to Fenway. May 4. $5. The BAA graduating class presents a val of five plays including *Anna in the Tropics*, by Cruz; *Disability Is an Art*, by Jaime Wellington; *Vendidos*, by Luis Valdez; *Fool 4 Love*, by Sam pard; and *Said Mr. Spike Lee*, by Paloma nzuela.

ance

provography
ler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston 7-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: :n Line to Boylston. May 6-8. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., d 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $30-$50. Tap dancer Savion ver and his new company, Ti Dii, present an night usic, dance and sound. Glover also performs a minute solo set.

eping Beauty
ıg Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-0). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 5-15. $18-$98. Boston Ballet's season finale includes the famous score by Tchaikovsky and choreography by Marius Petipa.



The American Repertory Theatre presents Eugene O'Neill's *Desire Under the Elms* at the Loeb Drama Center May 14–June 12.

Snappy Dance Theater
Zero Arrow Theatre, Arrow St. and Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4275). www.snappydance.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 6 and 7. Sat., 4 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 7:30 pm. $35. Snappy Dance performs its repertory and also incorporates the audience to create a new piece.

Comedy

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SHOWS

Margaret Cho
Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. May 7. 7 and 10 pm. $30-$45. The comedian performs two shows.

Colorstruck!
Florian Hall, 10A Burt St., Dorchester (617-825-3846). www.smams.org. MBTA: Red Line to Ashmont. May 5, 7 pm. $30. Boston comedians Deb Farrar-Parkman, Tissa Hami, Malissa Hunt and Coleen Galvin perform to raise money for St. Mark's Area Main Street. The event also includes dinner.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thursdays 8 pm: The Tribe Improv performs downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center,

Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •May 4, 8 pm. Frank Santorelli, $12. •May 5, 8:30 pm. Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •May 6, 8 pm and 10:15 pm. Artie Lang, $38.50. •May 7, 8 pm and 10:15 pm. Artie Lang, $38.50. •May 8, 7:30 pm. Jim Dunn, $12. • May 11, 6:30 pm. Advent School Benefit, $20. •May 13, 8 pm and 10:15 pm. Pablo Francisco, $22. • May 14, 8 pm. Tony V and Artie Januario, $20. •May 14, 10:30 pm. Pablo Francisco, $25.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •May 4: Tony V Experiment with the Out-Takes, JJ Leslie, Joe Mande and others. •May 5: Dan Sally Show with the Steamy Bohemians, Patrick Bulger, Jeff Clarke and others. •May 6: Peter Dutton, Steve Calechman, the Walsh Bros., Randy Winn and others. •May 7: Mark McKay, Chrissy Kelleher. Morgan Gold and others. •May 8: Erin Judge presents Joe Wong, Charlie Hatton, Pat Boccuzzi, Nat Towsen and others. •May 10: The Magic Lounge. •May 11: Tony V Experiment with Eric Cheung, Tom Flynn, Myq Kaplan, Cyndi Stiles and others. •May 12: Dan Sally Show with Erin Judge, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Drew Sopangler, Ben Murray and Kevin Neales. •May 13: The Walsh Bros., Amy Tee, Nate Johnson, Tissa Hami and Arielle Goldman. •May 14: Amy Tee, Mike Whitman, Liz Simons and others. •May 15: Erin Judge presents Rachel Isenberg, Professor Bromberg, Dan McCaul and others. •May 17: The Magic Lounge.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway. com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., 7:30 pm, $15: Stage Time Variety Show. Tingle hosts guests from the worlds of comedy, music and spoken word. •Fri., 10 pm, $5-$10: It's Not That Late Show. This weekly show, hosted by Peter Dutton, showcases area stand-up comedians, musicians and performance artists. •Sun., 7 pm $10: Women in Comedy. This weekly Sunday night series showcases female performers.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •May 5, 8:30 pm: George MacDonald, Mark Riley, Larry Lee Lewis. •May 6-7, 8:45 pm: George MacDonald, Mark Riley, Larry Lee Lewis. •May 12, 8:30 pm. Larry Miles, PJ Walsh. •May 13-14, 8:45 pm. Larry Miles, PJ Walsh, Myq Kaplan.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Sat., 12 am: The Midnight Show. Ongoing. • Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat, 8 pm and 10 pm: Lies, Half-Truths and the American Way. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: New acts appear in a weekly showcase in The Hump. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: BackStory is a comedic journey backwards through time inspired by the films *Memento*, *Donnie Darko* and *Mulholland Drive*; 10 pm: TheatreSports splits up improvisers into two teams. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening features performances by visiting and local troupes.

Snappy Dance Theater performs at Cambridge's Zero Arrow Theatre, May 6–7.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-30 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's new short-form improv group performs skits that invo audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 p $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun everything, including themselves.

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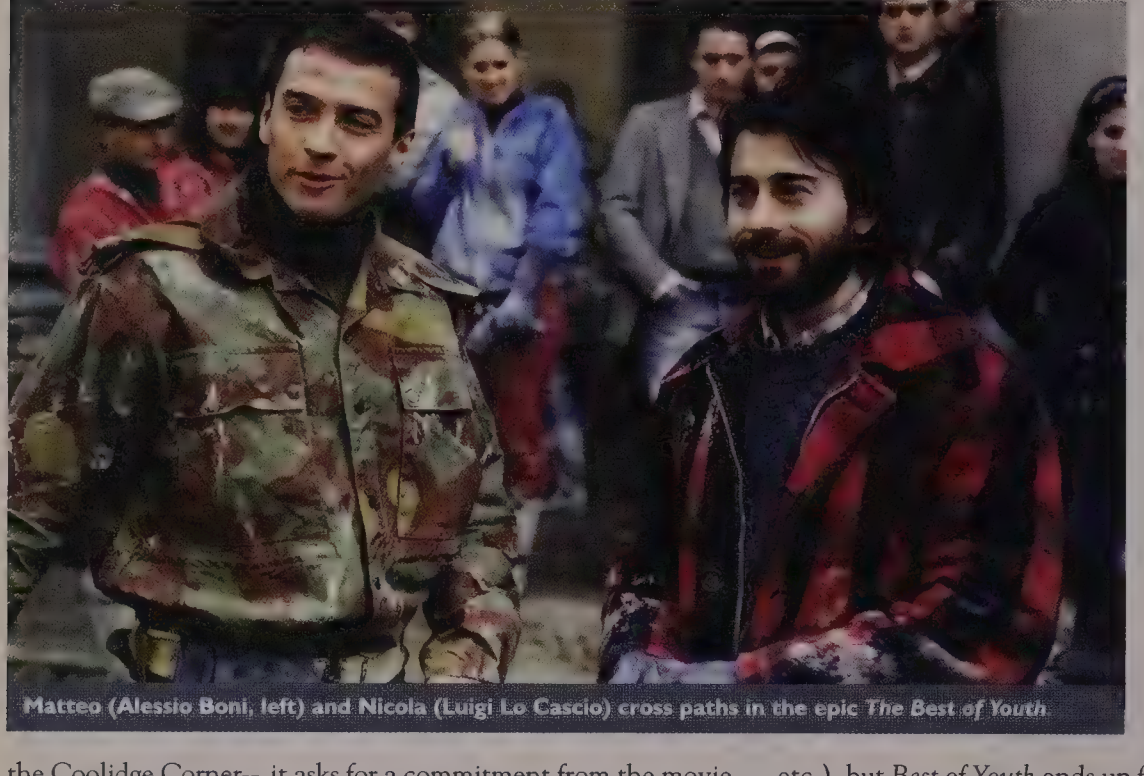
Italian Ice

Best of Youth fails to heat up.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

One trouble with moviegoing lately is that it's hard for a new release to seem special. Nearly every multiplex movie is marketed with the same overkill, with the trailers and ads striving to make even the potentially imaginative ones look like all the rest. Meanwhile, the sheer number of independent and foreign movies that blow through town is numbing. You get the feeling many aren't meant to connect with audiences so much as to fulfill contractual obligations to open in large cities.

The six-hour Italian epic *Best of Youth* promised by its very nature to be special. Shown in two parts—between May 6 and 15 at the Coolidge Corner—it asks for a commitment from the moviegoer in time and money (each half requires a separate admission). Since the first three-hour chunk has only 11 showings and the second only nine, you also have to figure out just when and how to see it. And unless you go to the back-to-back showings of both parts (with free pasta dinner in between) on May 6 or 14, chances are you'll have to go to the movie house twice to see all of *Best of Youth*. That's a tall order, but a refreshing challenge, and a change from the usual disposable movie.



Matteo (Alessio Boni, left) and Nicola (Luigi Lo Cascio) cross paths in the epic *The Best of Youth*

So is *Best of Youth*, with a story that stretches from 1966 to 2003, ambitious and impressive at times? Yes. But is it worth giving up a precious spring weekend for? Nope.

The main action of the film, originally shot as an Italian TV miniseries, centers around two brothers from Rome, Matteo (Alessio Boni) and Nicola (Luigi Lo Cascio), who we first meet as college students about to set off on a summer trip with friends. Those plans change when they liberate abused patient Giorgia (Jasmine Trinca) from the psychiatric hospital where Matteo's been working and try to reunite her with her family. But their noble attempt doesn't work, and it sends the brothers down different forks in the road—older Matteo quits school and impulsively joins the army, while Nicola ends up in the student protest movement.

Those choices continue to shape the brothers. Nicola goes on to become a psychiatrist, has a daughter with an idealistic radical (Sonia Bergamasco) and is the movie's Everyman. One-time literature student Matteo goes from the army to the police, where he appears to be the most well-read cop in all of Italy but is plagued by violent outbursts that lead to one transfer after another to avoid scandal, and reflect his miserable moodiness and reluctance to socialize with others (his unhappiness has a ripple effect on the other characters as the action progresses).

Unfortunately, screenwriters Sandro Petraglia and Stefano Rulli—who, like the brothers, are from the late-1940s baby-boomer generation (do they call it that in Italy?)—are content to merely let Matteo be an enigma. And that's where my main gripe with *Best of Youth* comes in. For a six-hour film it, in *Seinfeld* parlance, yada-yadas way too many things. That's because, despite director Mario Tullio Giordana's straightforward storytelling style, *Best of Youth*, like many European movies, fails to shape its drama very much. The camera work, editing and mood never seem to change, regardless of what's happening onscreen, which lends a flatness to the action. A father buys a balloon for his kid, a character becomes a terrorist, Giorgia re-enters the story—it's all so much water under the bridge after a while.

As the story skips through the years like a stone on a pond, the writers dovetail the fictional characters with real events (World Cups, a flood, the violence of the 1970s, etc.), but *Best of Youth* ends up feeling like an aerial photo of its characters' times when it should be a close-up. Often just superficial, *Best* certainly didn't make me feel I was watching a rich, layered tale unfold, like, say, *Deadwood* or *Six Feet Under*. The movie also can be a tease, especially when, in the middle section, one character has become a terrorist, a friend of the brothers (Fabrizio Gifuni) has become a banker who's the terrorists' target, and Matteo has been transferred to an anti-terrorism squad. Does this situation coalesce into something dramatic? Not really. The writers seem to feel they've done their job merely by setting up this situation. Yada-yada.

The similarly underdeveloped ending pushes an amiable "circle of life" theme that gathers steam in the last hour or so, and involves the next generation of the brothers' extended family. But the astonishingly flat, perfunctory resolution makes you pine for a less restrained, more emphatic payoff for your six hours of moviegoing. *Best of Youth* challenged itself in its very conception and in the vastness of its production; I only wished it could have mustered more boldness onscreen. iB

Best of Youth ★★

Directed by Marco Tullio Giordana. Written by Sandro Petraglia and Stefano Rulli. With Luigi Lo Cascio, Alessio Boni, Adriana Asti, Sonia Bergamasco, Maya Sansa and Jasmine Trinca. Not Rated. At the Coolidge Corner Theater, May 6–15.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Assisted Living ★★★
This genuine independent movie—no stars, dis tributed by its makers—starts out like a comed about a stoner (Michael Bonsignore) who work (as little as possible) in a nursing home. It turn out to be an affecting story of his relationship wit an elderly patient (Maggie Riley) who knows she' on the verge of getting Alzheimer's. That doesn' sound like the most appealing movie, but writer director Elliot Greenebaum's deadpan style an his very effective use of a real nursing home as backdrop keep it free of sentimentality or cliché Its charms are modest, but they're definitely there (At Kendall Square.)

Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room ★★★
No doubt, the movie most likely to get your bloo boiling this year. If there weren't enough reasons t criticize Ken Lay, Jeff Skilling and their infamou energy corporation, this documentary based on th book of the same name gives you a new reason: Th company culture at Enron recalls nothing so muc as the jerky Omega House frat in *Animal House*. D rector Alex Gibney (producer of *The Trials of Henr Kissinger*) does a nifty job of making all this muc entertaining, throwing in songs (including severa by Tom Waits) and imparting a cinematic visua sense to his interviews with authors and former em ployees. The ins and outs of the fraudulent account ing still aren't totally fathomable; the moral feste ing is, though. (At Kendall Square.)

Fever Pitch ★★★
Peter and Bobby Farrelly's latest comedy, an Amer icanization of a Nick Hornby novel, offers stron female and male perspectives, without sacrificin either, and the combination makes for a rare ro mantic comedy that both men and women ca like. Hornby's original man-woman-soccer triangl has been adapted to last year's Red Sox season with Drew Barrymore as the woman who unsus pectingly falls for an obsessive Sox fan (Jimmy Fal lon, thankfully much more amusing than he's bee in previous movies). Despite the occasional cut-in to game action and the cameos by a few loca media personalities, the emphasis is rightly mor on the romantic comedy than the Boston theme But there are enough local references to satisf anyone within 128, including a colorful Gree chorus of Sox fans in the lead characters' sectio along the first-base line at Fenway. (At Bosto Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

House of D ★★
This is just a hunch, but it seems as if the backer of David Duchovny's first movie as writer-directo insisted he be in it, and it pretty much spoils th film. At its heart, this is a 1973-set coming-of-ag tale about a 13-year-old Manhattan boy, very wel played by Anton Yelchin, dealing with puberty and an emotionally needy mom (Tea Leoni). Al though it's the sort of tale that's been told on screen 300 times, it overachieves and has a lot o heart. The trouble? There's a much less convinc ing, present-day "frame" story with Duchovny a the kid, now middle-aged, that starts and finishe the movie on bum notes. Just when you get used t the big false teeth Robin Williams wears as th boy's retarded adult pal, the movie throws old-ag makeup on him for the present-day conclusion Less would have been more. (Opening April 29.)

The Interpreter ★★
The thriller sequences come off a lot better tha those concentrating on the characters in Sydne Pollack's drama, the tale of a United Nations inter preter (Nicole Kidman) who overhears the plottin of the murder of a foreign leader soon to speak there and the Secret Service agent (Sean Penn) who's try ing to unravel the plot and protect her. With thre writers credited—two of them heavy hitters Scot Frank (*Get Shorty*) and Steve Zaillian (*Schindler List*)—the script tends to just layer on more of th same (plot twists, talky dialogues between the tw leads) instead of honing its drama. So the assassina tion plot becomes so all-inclusive that it strain credibility, while the relationship between the titl character and the agent, both smarting from the los of loved ones, bogs down and overflows with conve nient coincidence. At least the two thriller se pieces, one on a bus and the other at the UN, ar well-assembled nail-biters. And what's the deal with Penn…he stars in *Mystic River* and now he plays character who's first name is Tobin? (At Bosto Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Kung Fu Hustle ★★★
I'm not crazy about veteran Hong Kong actor-di rector Stephen Chow's reliance on special effects

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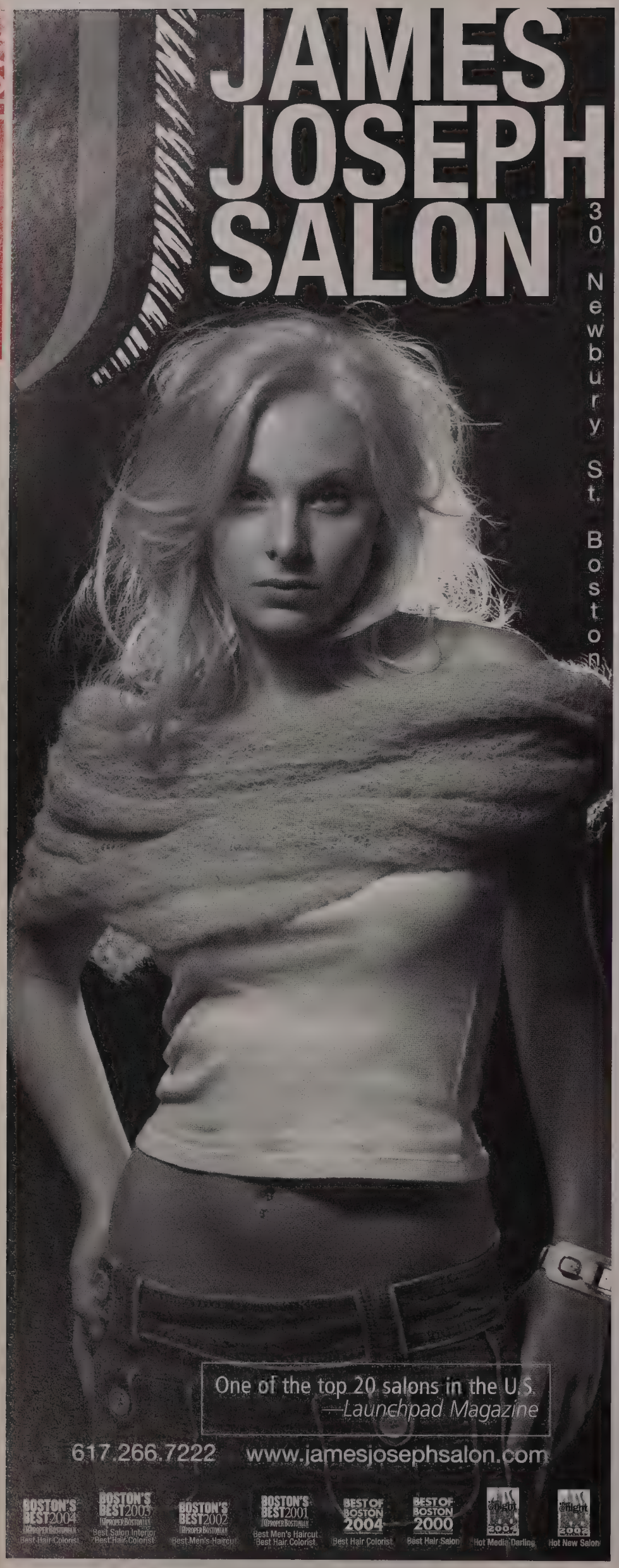


but I love his comic imagination. In last year's *Shaolin Soccer*, his gags were split about 50-50 between "bad goofy" and "good goofy." This time, in a 1950s-set story of a feud between the residents of a slum and a local crime gang, the gags are just about all good. Chow's character, a drifter trying to get into the gang, unwittingly starts the feud. But he's just one of the unconventional characters to dust off secret martial-arts powers; others include the slum's lecherous landlord (Wah Yuen) and housecoat-and-curlers landlady (Qiu Yuen), and serial killer "The Beast" (Siu Lung Leung), who looks more like an old accountant. The wholesale special effects can sometimes be distracting and devalue climactic moments, since Chow doesn't save the "spectacular" events for such moments, but this is entertaining stuff. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Late Risers Club ★★★

College radio is one of the best things about Boston, and WMBR's *Late Risers Club* has been one of the most influential college radio shows, especially during the late 1970s and early 1980s, when it played punk bands that commercial radio totally ignored. The show pioneered the idea of college radio championing music from the fringe, which is now a given. Local filmmaker Marissa Acosta's documentary covers those early years, and it colorfully captures the show's indispensible contribution to the local music scene in the days of La Peste, the Neighborhoods, Unnatural Axe and pre-reunion, pre-breakup Mission of Burma. (At the Coolidge Corner May 7, with the new Unnatural Axe documentary, *You'll Pay for This*.)

Melinda and Melinda ★★

Woody Allen's latest is not as insufferably irrelevant as his other recent movies, but this one—which tells a similar story twice, once as comedy and once as tragedy—still has many of the bogus touches that plagued those forgettable films. There are the pretentious upper-crust characters (the sort Allen would have skewered long ago), the overwritten dialogue ("I haven't been to a dark bistro since college") and the unfortunate character who slowly turns into Allen (here, it's Will Ferrell). And never in my life have I seen two nonwhite men with sweaters draped over their shoulders, preppy-style, yet Allen gives us two in this movie. (At Boston Common, Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Ong-Bak: The Thai Warrior ★★★½

The first movie from Thailand ever to reach U.S. multiplexes has grit, heart and a Jackie Chan–influenced dynamo named Tony Jaa. The premise—good-hearted rube travels to the big city and faces off against snarling villains—is old-hat, but Jaa and director Prachya Pinkaew give the movie a headlong sincerity that elevates it. Speaking of elevation, Jaa's moves are amazing, and much jaw-dropping ensues. (At the Brattle Theater, May 6 and 7.)

Palindromes ★★

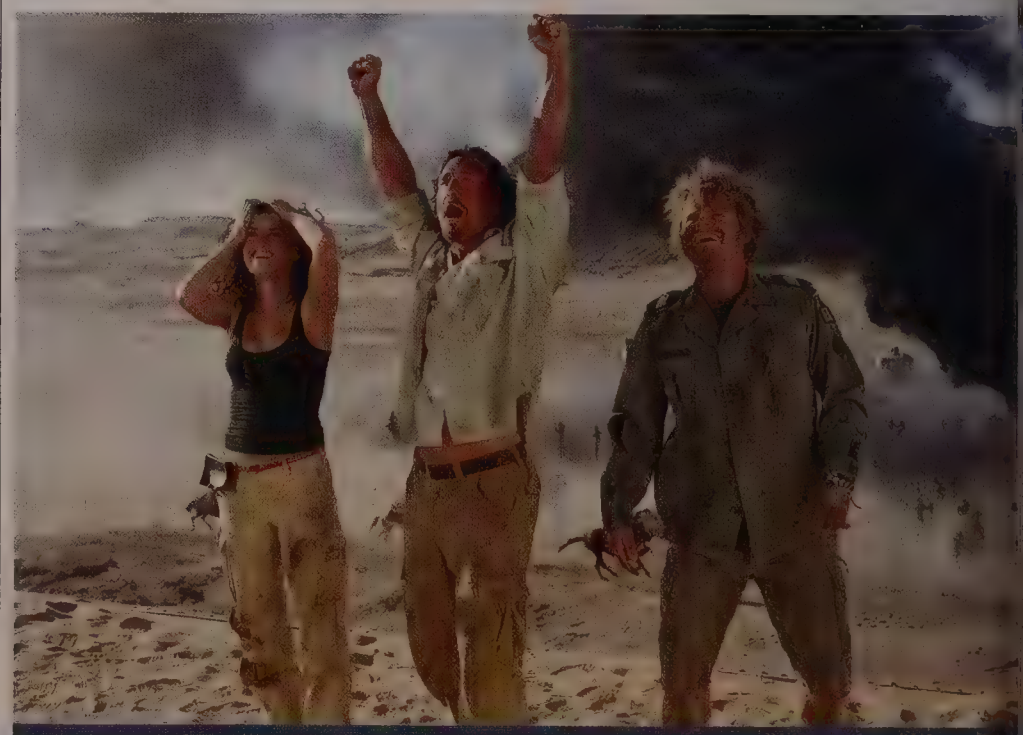
There are sound notions behind the tragic journey of troubled New Jersey 13-year-old Aviva: that people perhaps never change, forever carrying their flaws and inner demons, and that damaged parents rear damaged children, ad infinitum. B writer-director Todd Solondz (*Welcome to the Do house*, *Storytelling*) treats Aviva's tribulations (u wanted pregnancy, abortion, running away fro home, moving in with fundamentalist Kansar and taking up with a lecherous trucker) as chance to rub our noses in American freakine He puts such a premium on the grotesque that th tale feels more like an ostentatious art proje than a movie. Part of the way the movie calls a tention to itself is by having Aviva played by eig actresses, mostly teen girls, but also by Jennif Jason Leigh and Sharon Wilkins (the last roughly double the age and weight of the teen a tresses). Most of the actresses do well—includi Leigh and Wilkins, who eventually make you b lieve they're vulnerable youths—but the stu casting doesn't exactly make the story flow a makes Aviva feel more like a pawn for Solondz toy with than a real person. Typically, Solon strains to be controversial and fails. (At Harva Square and Embassy Waltham.)

Sahara ★

What were they thinking? The number of bla victims and whites who escape from death is th most remarkable thing about director Breck Ei ner's smug action-adventure that, not surprisingl never builds up the goodwill or fun that migh have gotten its cardboard characters and ludicro story past. If there had been more substance to th *Indiana Jones* wannabe, then maybe the dubio racial politics wouldn't be quite so glaring. It's a unintentional hoot that the Mali-set movie tri to present Matthew McConaughey's hero as benevolent treasure hunter, because he shows li tle concern for anyone but himself and his pal He's the quintessential "ugly American," layir waste to a foreign country and then chucklir about it, because he's having fun and either doe n't notice or doesn't care about the mayhe swirling around him. Yicch. (At Boston Commo Fenway and suburbs.)

Sin City ★★

Graphic novels supposedly brought adult sophist cation to comic books. But if Robert (*Spy Kid* Rodriguez's adaptation of Frank Miller's *Sin Ci* (with both men credited as co-directors) is any in dication, that just means you get R-rated, instea of PG-rated, adolescent fantasy. So the episodi overlapping tales of vice in the movie's Basin Cit metropolis aren't just warmed-over neo-noir (wit uncinematic, incessant narration that vintage no didn't have), they're also full of over-the-top vi lence dished out by avenging angels and full sexually available women (or the frequent dail double of hookers toting assault weapons). Wel at least it's not boring, and Rodriguez's use of CG backdrops instead of sets (in most scenes) outdo *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow* in effective ness. It's fun sometimes, and energetic most of th time, but pretty juvenile. Of course, that's no acc dent (even though it's rated R). Case in point: M ramax made local critics preview the movie wit an audience of comic-book fans, and I swear on stack of Burt Lancaster DVDs that I smelle peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in the crow (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)



Penelope Cruz, Matthew McConaughey and Steve Zahn in *Sahara*

e Year of Yao ★★½
produced by the NBA, this chronicle of Hous- Rockets center Yao Ming's first year in the ue falls somewhere between a promo film and a ıine documentary. From the start, it's clear the ıe won't offer any big dramatic surprises. But it's clear directors Adam Del Deo and James D. n know how to competently assemble their age. Such threads as Yao's culture shock and his court battles with Shaquille O'Neal are ex- ed, while the look at his relationship with erican interpreter Colin Pine, who narrates, . If you're up for behind-the-scenes basketball on more than imaginative moviemaking, this probably do the trick; if vice versa, it probably 't. (At Boston Common and suburbs.)

epertories nd Revivals

vice to Contributors
mit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Cal- r: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is weeks prior to publication.

STON PUBLIC LIBRARY
ay 4, 6:30 pm. **Sugihara: Conspiracy of Kind- s** *2000*. Robert Kirk directs this documentary ut Chiune Sugihara, a Japenese diplomat in uania who helped European jews escape the olocaust. A discussion with Samuil Manski, a olocaust survivor, follows the screening.
ay 10, 6:30 pm. **Building the Alaska Highway: a umentary** *1993*. Filmmaker Tracy Heather Strain uments one of the most ambitious construction ects in human history.

ATTLE THEATRE
ay 4, 5:15 and 7:30 pm. **1991: The Year Punk ke** *1992*. David Markey directs this documen- about a European tour with the bands Sonic th and Nirvana in 1991.•9:45 pm. **The Fear- Freaks** *2005*. A documentary on the evolution he Oklahoma band The Flaming Lips. Bradley sley directs.

Sean Penn plays a secret service agent and Nicole Kidman plays a United Nations worker in the new thriller *The Interpreter*.

•May 5, 7:30 pm. **Radiohead: Meeting People is Easy** *1999*. Grant Gee directs this documentary about the band Radiohead. •9:45 pm. **The Fearless Freaks** *2005*. See May 4 listing.
•May 6, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. May 7, 12:45, 3, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Ong Bak: The Thai Warrior** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.
•May 9, 5:30, 7:30, and 9:30 pm. **Inside Deep Throat** *2005*. Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbatrant direct this documentary examining the scandal that surrounded the 1970s adult film *Deep Throat*.
•May 10, 5:15, 7:30, and 9:45 pm. **Eros** *2004*. Three short films address themes of love and sex. Michelangelo Antonioni's segment is entitled *Il Filo Pericoloso Delle Cose*, Steven Soderbergh's is *Equilibrium*, and KarWai Wong's is *The Hand*.
•May 11, 4:45, 7:15, and 9:45 pm. **Gegen die Wand** *(Head-On) 2004*. Fatih Akin directs this nontraditional love story about a Turkish woman who convinces a man to marry her to escape her parents' rules.
•May 12, 4:15, 7 and 9:45 pm. **Steamboy** *2004*. Katsuhiro Ôtomo directs this movie about a young man who finds an invention called the steam ball and uses it for his own means.
•May 13, 4:30 and 9:45 pm. **The Searchers** *1956*. John Ford directs this Western drama about a man looking for his niece who was kidnapped by Indians.
•7 pm. **Rio Bravo** *1959*. Howard Hawks directs this film about a small-town sheriff in the American West who enlists the help of a cripple, a drunk and a

young gunfighter to help his efforts to imprison the brother of a local bad guy.
•May 14, 1:45 and 7 pm. **Rio Bravo** *1959*. See May 13th listing. •4:30 and 9:45 pm. **The Searchers** *1956*. See May 13 listing.
•May 15, 1 and 3:30 pm. **Shane** *1953*. George Stevens directs this film about a weary gunfighter who attempts to settle down with a homestead family and is forced to act to settle a settler/rancher conflict.
•May 16, 7:30 pm. **3:10 to Yuma** *1957*. The first of half the Elmore Lenard double-feature is a Western gang saga. Directed by Delmer Daves. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:30 pm. **The Tall T** *1957*. This Western stagecoach drama based on an Elmore Lenard novel is directed by Budd Boetticher.
•May 17, 7:30 pm. **High Plains Drifter** *1973*. Clint Eastwood directs a Western mystery story about a small town with a big secret. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:45 pm. **Winchester '73** *1950*. Anthony Mann directs this Western about a shooting competition.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Selects

•Opening May 13. **Double Dare** *2004*. Amanda Micheli directs this documentary about Hollywood stuntwomen Jeannie Epper and Zoë Bell.

Features

•Opening May 6. **La Meglio Gioventu** (*The Best of Youth*) *2003*. Shows in two three-hour parts (separate admission required). See review on page 62.

Midnight Movies

•Now showing, 12 am. **Late Risers Club**. *2005*. See New Releases for a description. Immediately following: **You'll Pay for This**. *2005*. Tommy White directs this look at his band Unnatural Axe, Dorchester's first punk rock group.

Stephen Chow (in the white shirt) takes on the bad guys in his new action movie *Kung Fu Hustle*.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Philosophy and Film:Deleuze

•May 4, 9 pm. **Mulholland Drive** *2001*. Naomi Watts stars in David Lynch's film about the Hollywood dreams of an actress and an amnesiac.

Global Visions: Toru Takemitsu and the Japanese New Wave

•May 6, 7 pm. **Music for the Movies: Toru Takemitsu** *1994*. Charlote Zwerin directs this documentary about the life and career of the prolific Japanese composer.
•May 6 and 8, 7 pm. **Ran** *1985*. Akira Kurosawa's adaptation of *King Lear* is set in 16th-century Japan.
•May 7 and 10, 7 pm. **Woman in the Dunes** *1964*. In Hiroshi Teshigahara's film, a young widow imprisons an entomologist in a sand pit.
•May 7, 9:15 pm; May 9, 9 pm. **The Man who Left His Will on Film** *1970*. A video of a radical's last will and testament haunts the young liberal who finds it and begins to retrace the filmmaker's past. Nagisa Oshimas directs.
•May 15, 7 pm; May 16, 9:15 pm. **Dodes'ka-den** *1970*. Impoverished inhabitants of a Tokyo dump live inside their fantasies in this film by Akira Kurosaw
•May 16, 7 pm; May 18, 9:15 pm. **Hymn t Tired Man** *1968*. A quiet office worker is for to deal with his war time memories when son falls in love with the daughter of the army o cer he served under during World War II. Mas Kobayashi directs.

ons from the South: Korean Cinema 0-2005
y 9, 7 pm. **Gongdong Gyeongbi Guyeok** (*Joint rity Area*) *2000*. Park Chan-wook's drama ex- ies the effects of the Cold War through the of five characters.

SEUM OF FINE ARTS
on Film
y 5, 12:15 pm; May 15, 10 am. **Tall: The Ameri- Skyscraper and Louis Sullivan** *2004*. Director fred Kirchheimer documents America's frenzy aller and taller buildings and the rise of sky- ers. The film traces the experiments of Chicago itect Louis Sullivan, who pioneered a new, -framed building technique in the late 19th ury.

ema Vino
ay 5, 4 pm; May 6, 3:45 pm; May 7, 10:30 am; 8, 11 am; May 12, 2:15 pm; May 14, 10:30 am. **adovino** *2004*. Jonathan Nossiter directs this imentary that looks at the modern world of and the impact of globalization. In English, ch, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish, with Eng- subtitles.

ginal Cinema
ay 5, 6:30 pm; May 7, 2:40 pm; May 12, 4:40 May 14, 1 pm. **Cowards Bend the Knee** *2003*. Maddin directs an autobiographical film. ceded by three new Maddin shorts: **Sissy Boy Party** (2004), **Sombra Dolorosa** (2004), and **ip To the Orphanage** (2004).
ay 5, 8:10 pm; May 7, 4:10 pm; May 11, 6 pm. **Bad** *2001*. Kim Ki-duk directs this story of obsessive set in the red-light district. In Korean with Eng- subtitles.
ay 6, 6:15 pm; May 7, 1 pm; May 12, 6:15 pm; 15, 12:10 pm. **Jesus, You Know** *2003*. Ulrich l directs this documentary in which six Austrian holics of different ages and backgrounds are ed in church while praying.

t Annual Boston Gay & Lesbian n/Video Festival
ay 11, 8 pm. **Saving Face** *2004*. Alice Wu directs romantic comedy about living life honestly dst the expectations of a traditional community. nglish and Mandarin with English subtitles. A ption with Wu and actress Lynn Chen follows screening.
ay 12, 8 pm. **Dorian Blues** *2004*. Writer-direc- Tennyson Bardwell's directorial debut portrays pangs and triumphs of staying true to one's self. ception with Bardwell follows the screening.
ay 13, 6:15 pm. **The Joy of Life** *2005*. Jenni on's documentary combines the verbal diary of itch lesbian with a historical examination of Golden Gate Bridge as the number-one suicide dmark in the world. •8:15 pm. **Girl Play** *2004*. Friedlander directs this romantic comedy ed on the true love story of its two stars.
ay 14, 2:45 pm. **Jim in Bold** *2003*. Glen Hol- directs this documentary about a gay teenager n a small town in Pennsylvania who comitted ide in 1997. The program also includes a ening of video work from Boston GLASS, a ormance from True Colors, and a discussion on BT youth activism in Boston. •5 pm. **The Ag- ssives** *2004*. Daniel Peddle's film features inter- ws with various gender-benders who define mselves as "aggressives" and are struggling to t according to their own rules of gender iden- . •7:30 pm. **The Journey** *2004*. Ligy J. Pullap- y directs this story about a childhood friend- turned attraction. In Malayalam with English titles. A discussion with the director follows screening.
ay 15, 1:50 pm. **Keep Not Silent** *2004*. This documents the clandestine struggle of three nen fighting for their right to love within their hodox communities in Jerusalem. Ilil Alexan- directs. In Hebrew with English subtitles. A cussion follows the screening. 7:30 pm. •3:40 **Dangerous Living: Coming Out in the Devel- ng World** *2003*. John Scagliotti directs this umentary that highlights GLBT movements in eloping countries. Congressman Barney Frank oduces the film.

ISEUM OF SCIENCE
igar Omni Theater
hrough June 17. **Amazing Journeys.** Follow terflies, whales and zebras on their migrations.
hrough June 17. **Forces of Nature.** Scientists empt to forecast and understand the power of thquakes, volcanoes and storms.
hrough Septemter 9. **Mystery of the Nile.** Join plorers on the first attempt of a full descent vn the Nile River.
hrough June 17. **Roar: Lions of the Kalahari**. A real-life lion king defends his turf against a young challenger.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theater
•Opens May 12. **Wild Safari 3D: A South African Adventure**. An adventure through wild South Africa in search of dangerous and spectacular animals.
•Through June. **Aliens of the Deep**. Academy Award–winning director James Cameron takes viewers to the depths of the ocean to encounter some of Earth's strangest life forms.
•Through June. **Galapagos 3D**. Marine biologist Carole Baldwin explores the Galapagos Islands.
•Through June. **Sharks 3D**. Explore the ultimate predator of the ocean with Jean-Michel Cousteau.

WANG THEATRE
Free Film Series
•May 9, 7 pm. **Guys and Dolls** *1955*. Frank Sinatra and Marlon Brando co-star in the film adaption of the classic Broadway musical. Joseph Mankiewicz directs.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON
Regent Theatre
7 Meford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

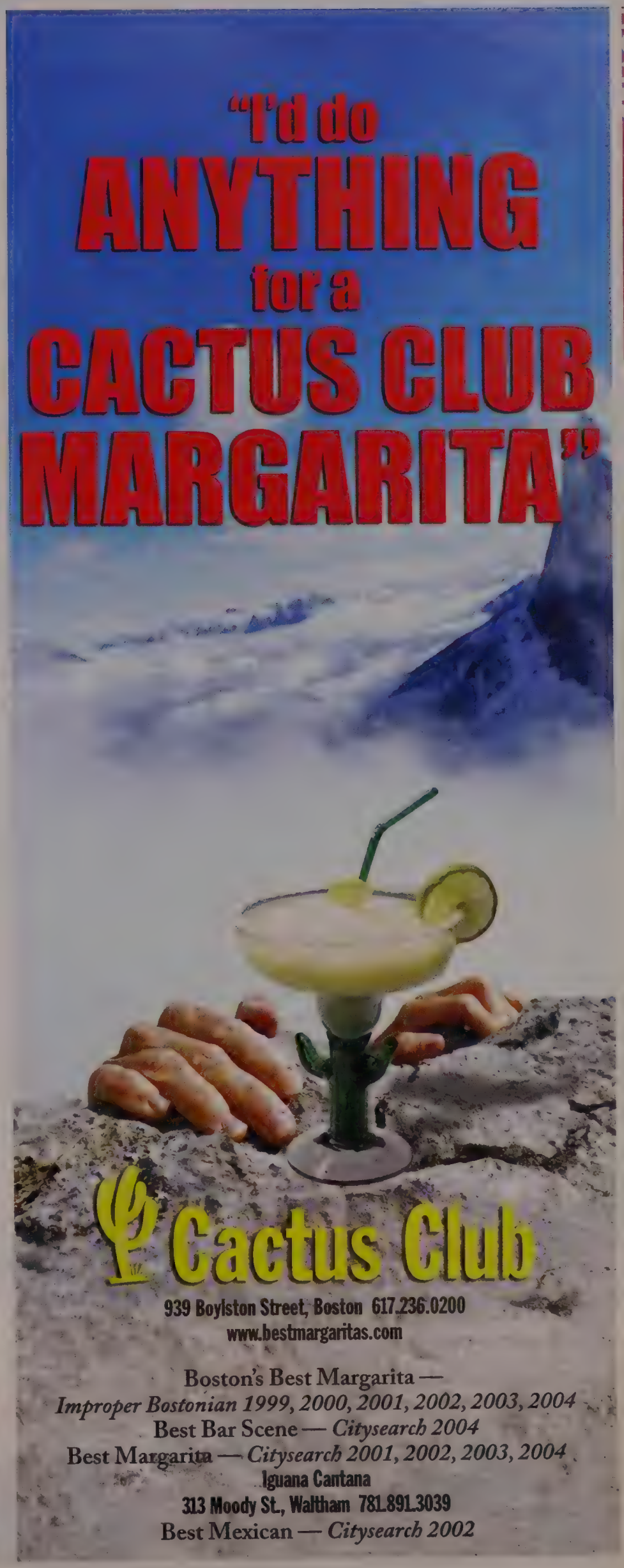
BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

WINCHESTER
Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road (781-729-1158).



Real deal

England's influential Gang of Four revives its volatile balancing act.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

The reunited Gang of Four (from left): Jon King, Andy Gill, Dave Allen and Hugo Burnham

In the early '80s, only U2 rivaled Gang of Four's contrapuntal chemistry and charisma as a live act.

Singer Jon King danced on one foot like a spastic puppet, blew life into a melodica or whacked time with a piece of metal. Andy Gill was King's straight-faced foil and sonic architect, inserting his deadpan voice and stuttering guitar shards over the foundation of bassist Dave Allen's heart-pumping funk and drummer Hugo Burnham's terse backbeat.

"It just hangs together by a thread," Burnham says as the original lineup of the English post-punk band prepares to launch its first U.S. assault in 24 years (the tour pulls into Avalon May 16). "Yet it's like filament wire. It's thin, but strong."

Strong enough for imitation. New bands like Franz Ferdinand and the Futureheads echo the quartet, and the bridge of the Red Hot Chili Peppers hit "Otherside" is even more overt.

"It's either an homage or a complete ripoff," Allen says. "But whatever. I hear that a lot, especially in the past five years."

"It doesn't matter if the Chili Peppers want to lift a part of our song for a bridge, because it still goes back into the good old Chili Peppers la-di-da melody, bass line and vocal," says Allen, who quit the Gang after two albums and co-founded the band Shriekback, and now works in digital music distribution. "Nobody has taken our sound to a different level, which is what I would have liked to have seen. For us to come back around reaffirms that what we do is pretty amazing. We still do it better than anyone else right now.

"All of these bands that have been name-checked are quite distant from us really, especially when it comes to lyrics and politics," he adds. "We were quite happy to wear our political hearts on our sleeves. These days, bands are way more conservative."

Indeed, in songs like "At Home He's a Tourist" and "Damaged Goods" from the band's 1979 debut, *Entertainment!* (named one of the 500 greatest albums of all time by *Rolling Stone*) or the anthemic "To Hell with Poverty," Gang of Four iced its stark songs with lyrics about societal conditioning.

"We had angry, choppy music, so it couldn't be anything else—it had to have a message," Allen says. Burnham adds, "What we were saying is, essentially, think about your own decisions in life, challenge the status quo, and don't sit meekly by and have your potential squandered."

The big decision for the group members was whether to respond to promoters' increased interest in a reunion. "We've had many requests in the past to get together, but there didn't seem to be any particular reason," Allen says from his home in Portland, Ore. "All four members could never agree whether they wanted to do it or not."

They finally met up in London last year and agreed to reform for a British tour. "The dynamics were the same," says Burnham, who was fired from the band after 1982's *Songs of the Free* (which yielded the hit "I Love a Man in a Uniform"), leaving King and producer Gill to continue in a slicker, soul-oriented direction for three albums. "Just the edges had been smoothed off a bit. I left there excited."

However, it was a challenge for Burnham—who moved to the Boston area in 1998 and now teaches English at the New England Institute of Art—to pick up the drumsticks again. "I spent November and December in the practice room, going, 'Jesus, I really played this fast?' But it got easier."

In January, the first shows drew rave reviews from the fickle British press. "We weren't faking anything," Burnham says from his Gloucester home. "That's what was important about us originally, and what is valid about us now.

"This is not just a nostalgia trip," he adds. "We're not here to re-create a carbon copy, but to re-create the vibe that made us strong. Obviously we're different physically and emotionally at 49 and 50 than we were at 23, but that doesn't mean it's any less authentic."

The group doesn't intend to produce new material but has rerecorded early favorites for an upcoming double CD with remixes by other bands such as the Futureheads and Massive Attack. "We didn't think for a minute that people would be interested in new material," Burnham says. "We're not a new band. We're an old band, but doing contemporary things."

In turn, the reunion will not last. "We're ending on a good note, cause things didn't end well the first time around," he says. "But the strength of what we did and what we had took us past some of those hurts and memories to say this is better than being pissy and moany. This is fantastic." iB

The Gang of Four
plays Avalon May 16.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, tim prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadlin four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from ferent sources. Although we make every effort to pro accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ah to double-check dates and times (see complete lis venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Ben Folds May 14, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Black Crowes May 10-11, Orpheum Theatre (6 482-0650).
Crystal Method May 11, Axis (617-423-6398).
Patty Griffin May 6, Orpheum Theatre (617-4 6398).
Alicia Keys Agganis Arena (617-358-7000).
Lifehouse May 4, Axis (617-423-6398).
Nine Inch Nails May 12-13, Orpheum Thea (617-423-6398).
Papa Roach May 11, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Lisa Marie Presley May 8, Paradise Rock Club (6 423-6398).
Soulive May 5-6, Paradise Rock Club (617-4 6398).
Sting May 5, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

Abbey Lounge The Family Jewels, 9:45 pm; De Doll, 10:45 pm; the Peasants, 11:45 pm.
Agganis Arena Alicia Keys, 8pm, $45-$75.
All Asia Café Natali, 6 pm; Open Mike with Chr ian Samatis, 7:30 pm.
Axis Lifehouse, 8 pm, $20.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9 pm.
Breezeway Rollins Ross Trio, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Flynn Cohen & Liz Simmons, Eve Lilly & the Lilly Mountineers, 8 pm, $18.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Sex Positions, DJ Mark V, 9 pm, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hennessys Absolute Acoustics.
Johnny D's Tim Miller Band, 8:30 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Gogol Bordello, $12, Upstairs: Fluttr Effect, Asect, Left-Handed Thiev Chezwick; $10; 18+.
Milky Way The Basement with the Prowl, 9 pm.
Paddy O's Fast Times.
Paradise Rock Club: Prefuse 73, Battles, Beans pm; $15; 18+.
Scullers Jazz Club Stanley Jordan, 8 pm, $22.
Somerville Theater Melissa Ferrick.
Ryles Jazz Club Anna Borges Group, 9 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
The Western Front Jesse Ward, Jacob Zimmer and Mike Pfaff, 8:30 pm; Kiego Hirakawa, Brid Kearney, Nicole Rampersaud, Henry Jessup Kathy Olson, 9:30 pm.
Les Zygomates Leah Souza, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 5

Abbey Lounge Fractious, 9 pm; Kickbacks, 9:45 Dirty Truckers, 10:45 pm.
Agganis Arena Sting, 7:30 pm, $40-$61.
All Asia Café Talk Radio, Jonny vs. the Ninjas, 6 pm.
The Attic Dr. Awkward, $5.
Avenue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30-9 pm.
Axis Punchline, A Thorn for Every Heart, Matches, This Day and Age; 6 pm, $10.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9 pm.
Club Passim Pierce Pettis & Tom Kimmel, 8 pm, $
Dick's Last Resort Draw the Line, 7:20 pm.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, 10 pm.
Harpers Ferry Cardinal Direction, $7-$10, 18+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Tons of Chill, See Peoples, 9 pm, $10.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: The Reverend Hort Heat, Supersuckers, $22, 18+.
Milky Way Aquanet, 9 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Colm O'Brien.

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ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Clay Aiken August 28, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo June 25, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000)
Tony Bennett June 24, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Jimmy Buffet & The Coral Reefer Band June 20 and 22, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Mary Chapin Carpenter June 4, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Collective Soul June 21, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Elvis Costello, Emmylou Harris & The Imposters July 23, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Earth, Wind & Fire, Chicago July 16, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Gov't Mule, Robert Randolph & the Family Band, Xavier Rudd June 3, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Gypsy Kings May 25, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Billy Idol May 20, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Alan Jackson, Sara Evans, the Wrights May 22, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Elton John September 16-17, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Keane June 4, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Avril Lavigne, Gavin DeGraw, Butch Walker August 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis & the News August 18, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Dave Matthews Band, G. Love & Special Sauce July 9-10, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Reba McIntyre, Brad Paisley, Terri Clark May 6, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Meat Loaf August 17, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Oasis, Jet June 24, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, the Black Crowes June 18, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Robert Plant June 17, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Judas Priest, Queensryche June 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Santana, Salvador Santana Band, Los Lonely Boys June 17, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Bruce Springsteen May 20, Orpheum Theatre (617-423-6398).
Sum 41 May 19, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Donna Summer July 7, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
James Taylor June 28-29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
U2 October 3-4, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Weezer July 9-10, Avalon (617-931-2000).

PA's Noel Weber, 9:30 pm; Nice & Easy, 10:30 pm; L Contra, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Brick Park.
Paradise Rock Club: Soulive, 7:30 pm, $18, 18+.
Plough and Stars EJ Ouellette and Crazt Maggey.
Ryles Jazz Club Bob Sinicrope and the World Leaders, 7:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club The Funk Brothers, 8 pm, $35.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluff" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Superlow, Distinguished Members, Short Film, Suburban Sky, $8.
The Western Front Lobo, Swissivory, $5.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Carter Little & Joe, 7-9 pm; Main Stage: Stumbleweeds.
All Asia Café Jen Oberle, 6 pm; Steve Rowan, 8 pm; the Highway with Baywa and Friends, 10 pm.
The Attic Jody Grind, 9:30 pm, $5.
Avenue One Ronan Portley, 5:30-8 pm.
Axis Big D and the Kids Table, Westbound Train, Stray Bullets, Monty's Fanclub, 6 pm, $13-$15.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Ryan Montbleau, 7pm, $12.
Common Ground Peter Prince, Moon Boot Lover, 10 pm, $6.
Dick's Last Resort Bang Box, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal Audio Underground.
Great Scott Mittens, DJs Ken & Terrence, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Briar Maxie Courtney.
The Green Dragon Tavern Grumpy Jones.
The Harp Animal House.
Harpers Ferry Fast Times, $6, 21+.
Hennessy's Spike the Punch.
Jacob Wirth Mel Stiller Piano Sing-Along.
Johnny D's Superhoney, 9:45 pm, $10.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Stereo Soul Future, the December Sound, Cyanide Valentine, Aloud, $9, 18+.
Midway Café John the Conquerer.
Milky Way Secret Cock, L.P., 9 pm, $9.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, 5-9 pm; Sunday's Well, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet.
Orpheum Patty Griffin, 7:30 pm, $29-$33.
Paddy O's Chad LaMarsh, 4-7 pm; Last Laugh, 9 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Soulive, 7:30 pm, $18, 18+.
Parris The Loop.
PA's Crystal Understanding, Texas Governor, Lovewhip, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun.
Ryles Jazz Club Live World Music Dance Party, 8 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club The Funk Brothers, 8 pm, $35.
Somerville Theatre Melissa Ferrick, 8 pm, $19.50
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group with Maggie Galloway, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bleu, Rocketscience, Auto Interiors, Deep Purple Helmet, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Bhob Rainly, 7 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Two-Timing Three, 7 pm-9 pm. Main Stage: Eli Reed & The True Loves, 9 pm; The Gobshites, 9:45 pm; Muck & the Mires, 10:45 pm; Lenny & the Pisspoor Boys, 11:45 pm.
All Asia Café Throwback, 1 pm; Four Letter Words, 4 pm; Lee Wilson's Acoustic Showcase, 7 pm.
The Attic Playin' Dead, $5
Avenue One Leah Souza Trio, 7:30-11 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thril
9 pm.
Club Passim Edie Carey & Anne Heaton, Bre
Weiler, 7 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort The Fakers, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal Incadence.
Great Scott The Beatings, Black Helicopter, I
of Spain, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Briar Cherry Orchard.
Green Dragon Tavern Velvet Jones.
Green Street Grill Kiloombo Mambo, 11:30
$5.
The Harp The Loop.
Harpers Ferry Maktub, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Fast Times.
Johnny D's Funky White Honkies, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kings Reaganomics.
Kirkland Café tk
Lucky's Lounge Al Vega Trio, 7 pm - 10 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Mike Doughty, $15,
Midway Café The Fathoms.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet.
Paddy O's Mark Morris and the Catunes.
Parris Animal House.
PA's Pipas, 9:30 pm; The Ladybug Transistor, 1
pm; The Lucksmiths, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Tom Hagerty Band.
Ryles Jazz Club Bellevue Cadillac, 9 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group with Ma
Galloway, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Auktyon, Amun Ra, $30.
The Western Front Roots Nation, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Specimen 37, 7 pm, $6; De
Warren's Full Metal Jazz Ensemble, 9:30 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 8

All-Asia Café Sunday Night Songwriter Se
with Christie Leigh, 5 pm; A Close Second, 8
The Attic Coalboilers, 10 pm, $5.
Avalon Weezer, 7 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30
3 pm.
Breezeway Rollins Ross Trio, 11 am-3 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Anne Heaton & Edie Carey, Bre
Weiler, 7 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Silver Lining, 11 am-3
Brian Locher, 7:20 pm.
The Green Briar Inchicore.

The Mars Volta plays Avalon May 10.

en Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, 0 pm.
nessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Danny Tucker he Vibe Tribe, 9 pm.
ny D's Mathew Dorko, Larry Kukers, 9 am-2 pm.
y's Lounge Frank Sinatra Tribute with the Al Trio and Mark Maher, 8 pm-12 am.
dle East Downstairs: The Mountain Goats, rwater, Eric Friedlander; $12; 18+. Upstairs: flyer 59, the Pale, Jupiter Sunrise, Harris; $9- 18+.
Dooley's Traditional Irish Sesuin, 4-7 pm; Mike ett, 9 pm.
ly O's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm; Kevin Bryne, 9 pm.
dise Rock Club: Lisa Marie Presley, 7 pm, $25,

gh and Stars The Dig in the Dirt Band.
s Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Harvey Feinstein, m, no cover.
of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Marty ou Trio, 8 pm.
der Bar Johnny Horner, Jo McMahon Ensem- 9 pm-1 am.
geist Gallery Roseth/Tepfer Duo, 4 pm, $7 ents, $10 general; Boston Jazz Composers Col- ve, 7 pm, $7.

ONDAY, MAY 9

tab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm.
o Passim Dave Palmater presents Folktracks , 7 pm, $5.
's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm.
nessy's Joe Carson.
dle East Upstairs: Cephalic Carnage, Cryptic rning, Random Acts of Violence, Abhorred, 18+.
way Café Midway Groove Thang Jazz and k.
y Way Acoustic Universe, 9 pm.
dise Rock Club: Autechre, 7 pm, $18, 18+.
gh and Stars Spider John Koerner.
es Jazz Club Boston Arts Academy, 6:30 pm 8:30 pm, $25.
of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm..
geist Gallery Sesroh, 7 pm, $7; The Fringe, m, $10.
Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

All Asia Café Venus Bullet, 6:30 pm.
Avalon The Mars Volta, 8 pm, $25.25.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm.
Club Passim Open Mike featuring Craig Robertson, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Thunderbirds Are Now!, Reports, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Grand Canal Maggie Rose Quartet.
Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Brave Records Showcase, 8:30 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Lucky's Unplugged.
Middle East Upstairs: The Brown Bells, Angry Beautiful, The Northstar Session, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Midway Café Jess Yoakum.
Orpheum Black Crowes, 7:30 pm, $33.50-$38.50.
Paddy O's Brian Belcker.
Paradise Rock Club: Kathleen Edwards, 7 pm, $17, 18+.
Plough and Stars Steve Hurl.
Regattabar Mass Tango, 7:30 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Bill & Bo Winiker with Estelle Katz, 8 pm, $16.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Liars Academy, Medicated Kisses, The Firebird Band, A Hero Next Door, $8.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

Abbey Lounge Willie Nelson tribute with Beau Roland Band, Patrons, Slim Jim & the Mad Cows, Burning Colonels, Ad Frank and others.
All Asia Café Open Mike with Christian Samatis, 7:30 pm.
Avalon Papa Roach, 8 pm
Axis The Crystal Method, Evil Nine, 8 pm, $20-$22, 18+.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9 pm.
Breezeway Ron Carter, Jr, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Kris Delmhorst, Sarah Siskind, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm.

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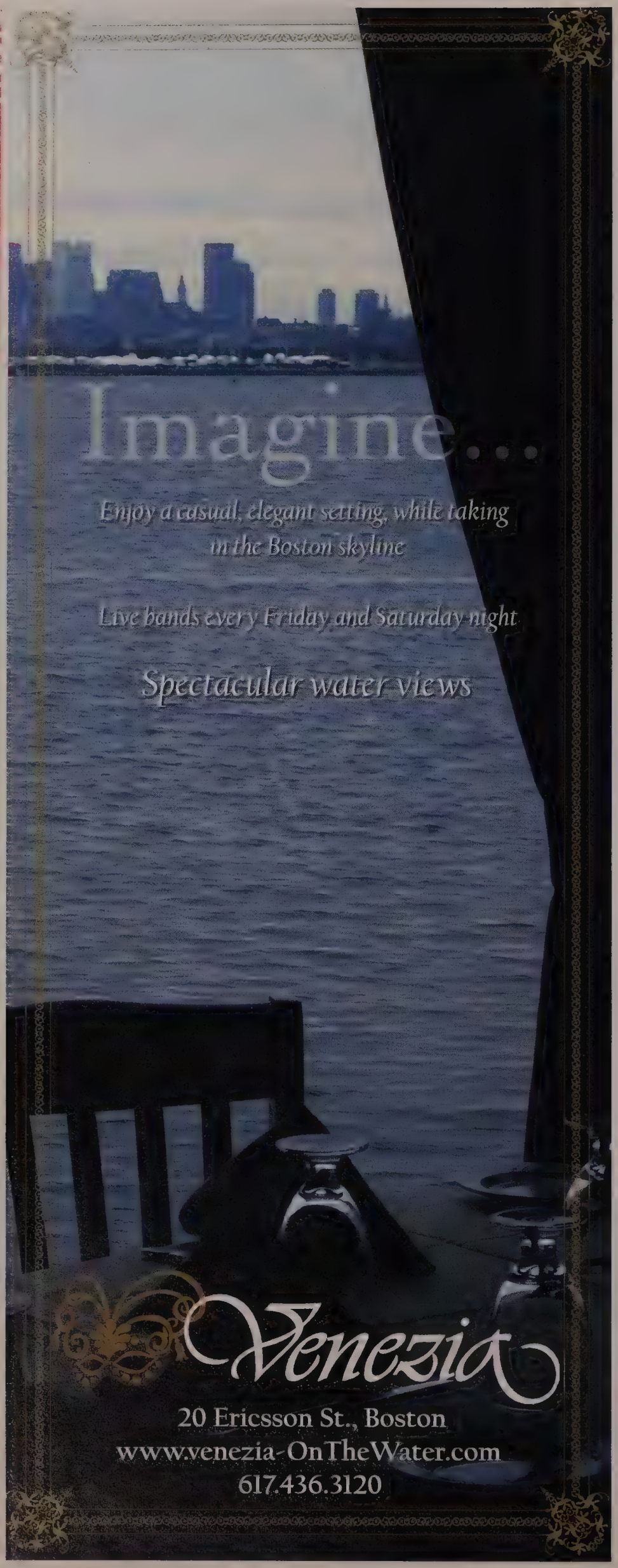

Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harpers Ferry Tea Leaf Green, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's Absolute Acoustics.
Johnny D's Alicia Svigals, 8:30 pm, $10.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: James O'Brien and the Church of the Kitchen Sink, Leon Rich Band, Caroline Gulde, Juniper's Daughter; $8; 18+.
Milky Way The Basement, 9 pm.
Orpheum Black Crowes, 7:30 pm, $33.50-$38.50.
Paddy O's Fast Times.
Paradise Rock Club: Aqualung, Cary Brothers, 7 pm, $12, 18+.
Scullers Jazz Club Doug Wamble, 8 pm, $14.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
Regattabar Robert Glasper, 7:30 and 10 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Ramona Borthwick Quintet, 9 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm..
Les Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

Abbey Lounge Rattle Battle, 9 pm; Ultravixen, 9:45 pm; Radar Eyes, 10:45 pm; Count Me Outs, 11:45 pm.
Art Attack The Sanguine, Noisette, 7 pm, $5.
Avalon New York Dolls, 7 pm.
Avenue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30-9 pm.
Axis Tempting Fate Revue, 9 pm, $20, 18+
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9 pm.
Club Passim Kris Delmhorst, Sarah Siskind, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Desmond, 7 pm.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Great Scott High Rocktanes, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Sam Kininger Band, 9 pm, $8.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: The Slackers, $10-$12, 18+. Upstairs: Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Benefit featuring Harriet Street, Sticky, Kotter, Roark, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Aquanet, 9 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Eamon Sheehan.
Orpheum Nine Inch Nails, 7:30 pm, $30.
PA's Cordouroy, 9:30 pm; Nice & Easy, 10:30 pm; The Brett Rosenberg Problem, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's The Risk.
Plough and Stars SPF 4.
Regattabar Bilal Oliver, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Nate Aronow Nextet, 8:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Jazz Club Howard Tate, 8 pm, $24.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Stereo Total, Les Georges Leningrad, Boy in Static, $14.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, MAY 13

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Audrey Ryan Band, 7-9pm. Main Stage: Cheaper Faster, 9 pm; Hayseed Prophets, 9:45 pm; Goldenwest Motorlodge, 10:45 pm; The Irreverends, 11:45 pm.
The Attic Chad LaMarsh, $5
Avenue One Ronon Portley, 5:30-8 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Harry Fix, 5:30-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Jim's Big Ego, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm.
Great Scott The Good North, DJs Ken & Terrence, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Grand Canal Magnus.
Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
The Harp Crystal Roxx.
Harpers Ferry Allman Brothers Tribute, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Swerve, 9 pm.
Jacob Wirth Mel Stiller Piano Sing-Along.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10.
Kings Jose Ramos.
Lizard Lounge Jennifer Matthews' CD-release, 9 pm, $7.
Lucky's Lounge Evan Goodrow Band, 10 pm-2 am.
Middle East Downstairs: DJ Spooky's Drums of Death, $15 advance, $17 door, 18+. Upstairs: The Explosion, Throw Rag, Loved Ones, Shanghai Valentine, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Secret Cock & Friends, 9 pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5-7 pm; Patsy and Tony 9 pm.
Orpheum Nine Inch Nails, 7:30 pm, $30.
Oak Room Bill Laughlin Quartet.
Paddy O's Dick 'n' Jane, 9 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Super Diamond, 8 pm, $20,
Parris Kristen and the Noise.
PA's Foundation, Cannonball Jane, 9 pm, $5-$7,
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun.
Regattabar Bilal Oliver, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Black Sea Salsa, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club The Yellowjackets, 8 pm, $22
Somerville Theatre Taraf de Haidouks, 8 pm, $2
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group with Ma Galloway, 9 pm.
The Western Front J-Rize, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Abbey Lounge Polka Party
Avalon Ben Folds, 7 pm.
Avenue One Leah Souza Trio, 7:30-11 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9
Club Passim Tony Bird, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big '80s, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal The Complaints.
Great Scott Neil Hamburger, Pleaseeas 9 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar John Frederick Band.
Green Dragon Tavern Magnus.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm,
The Harp Crystal Roxx.
Harpers Ferry Spookie Daly Pride, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Freeze Pop.
Johnny D's III Kings, Meet the Day, 9:45 pm, $8
Kings Grumpy Jones.
Lucky's Lounge Al Vega Trio, 7 pm-10 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Antibalas Afrobeat chestra, $13 advance, $15 door, 18+. Upstairs: H and the Potters, Ed and the Refridgerators, Ur Mosterface, Ponies in the Surf, 1 pm, $8, all a Lyres, the Marvels, the Howl, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Thoze.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Oak Room Bill Laughlin Quartet.
Paddy O's Syndicate.
Parris Kristen and the Noise.
Ryles Jazz Club Dominique Eade, 9 pm, $10.
Somerville Theatre Angelique Kidjo, 8 pm, $27-
Scullers Jazz Club The Yellowjackets, 8 pm, $22
Tír na nÓg Hot Day at the Zoo
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group with Ma Galloway, 9 pm.
The Western Front Don Minot, $10.
Les Zygomates Karin Parker Group, 8 pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 15

Axis Dredg, 7 pm, $10-$12.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30-3 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Jason Harrod, Karaugh Bro 8 pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Navies, A Day in Black and Whit pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Briar Finbar Doyle.

Alicia Keys plays the Agganis Arena May 4.

n Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, 10:30

essy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.
y D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 am-
)m.
y's Lounge Sinatra tribute with Al Vega Trio
Mark Maher, 8 pm-12 am.
le East Upstairs: The Sun, Rolling Blackouts,
ed 'n' Loaded, Cheaper Faster, $9, 18+.
Way Robo Sapien, 8 pm.
ooley's Traditional Irish Sesuin, 4-7 pm; Mike
tt, 9 pm.
y O's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Kevin Bryne, 9 pm.
Protokoll, Air Guitar Magazine, Minimata, 9
5-$7, 21+.
lise Rock Club: The Good Life, Make Believe,
;, 7 pm, $12, 18+.
Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Steve Rochinski,
ı, no cover.
f the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Marty
u Trio, 8 pm.
he Bear's Place Self-Righteous Brothers, the
ıal Closet, JP05, $6.
der Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon Ensem-
pm-1 am.

NDAY, MAY 16

n Gang of Four, 8 pm
ab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm.
Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12.
s Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm.
essy's Joe Carson.
le East Downstairs: British Sea Power, Feist, the
Savants, $12, 18+. Upstairs: Steel Poniez, Eyes
Knives, Mommy & Daddy, Welcome, $8, 18+.
ay Café Midway Groove Thang Jazz and Funk.
Way Acoustic Universe, 9 pm.
gh and Stars Spider John Koerner.
a nÓg Jimmy Ryan & Hayride
f the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm.
eist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
Zygomates Lance Martin, 7 pm.

ESDAY, MAY 17

n Ryan Adams & The Cardinals, 8 pm
Butch Walker, 6:30 pm, $13.
ab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm.

Papa Roach plays Avalon on May 11

Club Passim Open Mike featuring Rose Gerber, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Grand Canal Maggie Rose Quartet.
Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Tony McManus, 8:30 pm, $12.
Lucky's Lounge Lucky's Unplugged.
Middle East Upstairs: The States, On the Surface, the Minus Scale, Russian Circles, $9, 18+.
Paddy O's Brian Belcker.
PA's Zak May, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club: Stereophonics, Augustana, 7 pm, $16.50, 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
Regattabar Ben Sher and Tudo Bem, 7:30 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, Honey Mack, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Amanda Carr, 8 pm, $15.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm.
Les Zygomates Evan Gutierrez Group, 8 pm.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
Agganis Arena *925 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-358-7000).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bank of America Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mas s Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*

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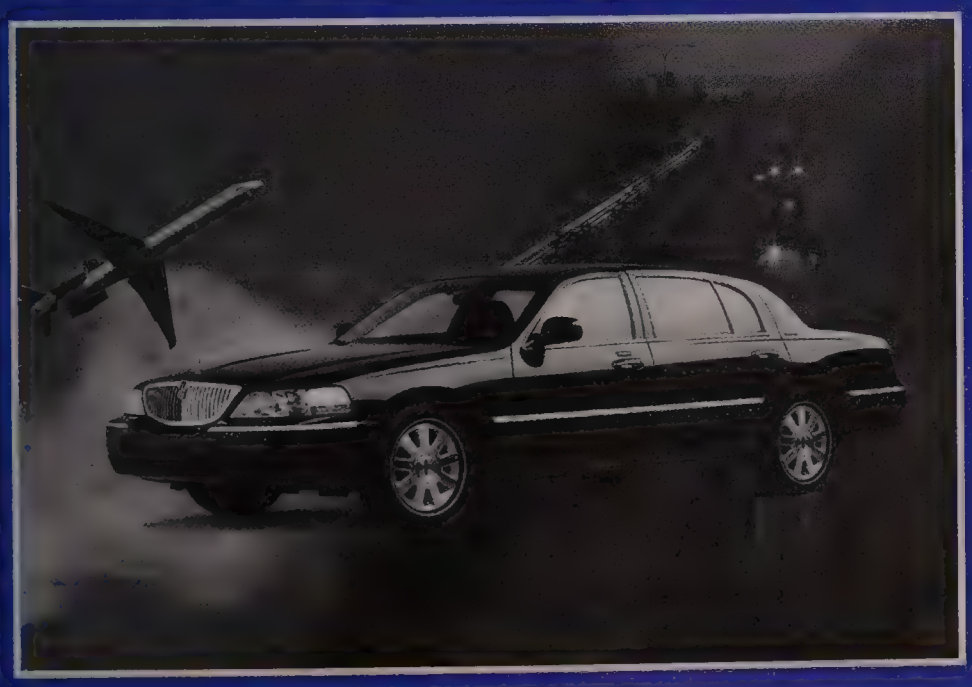

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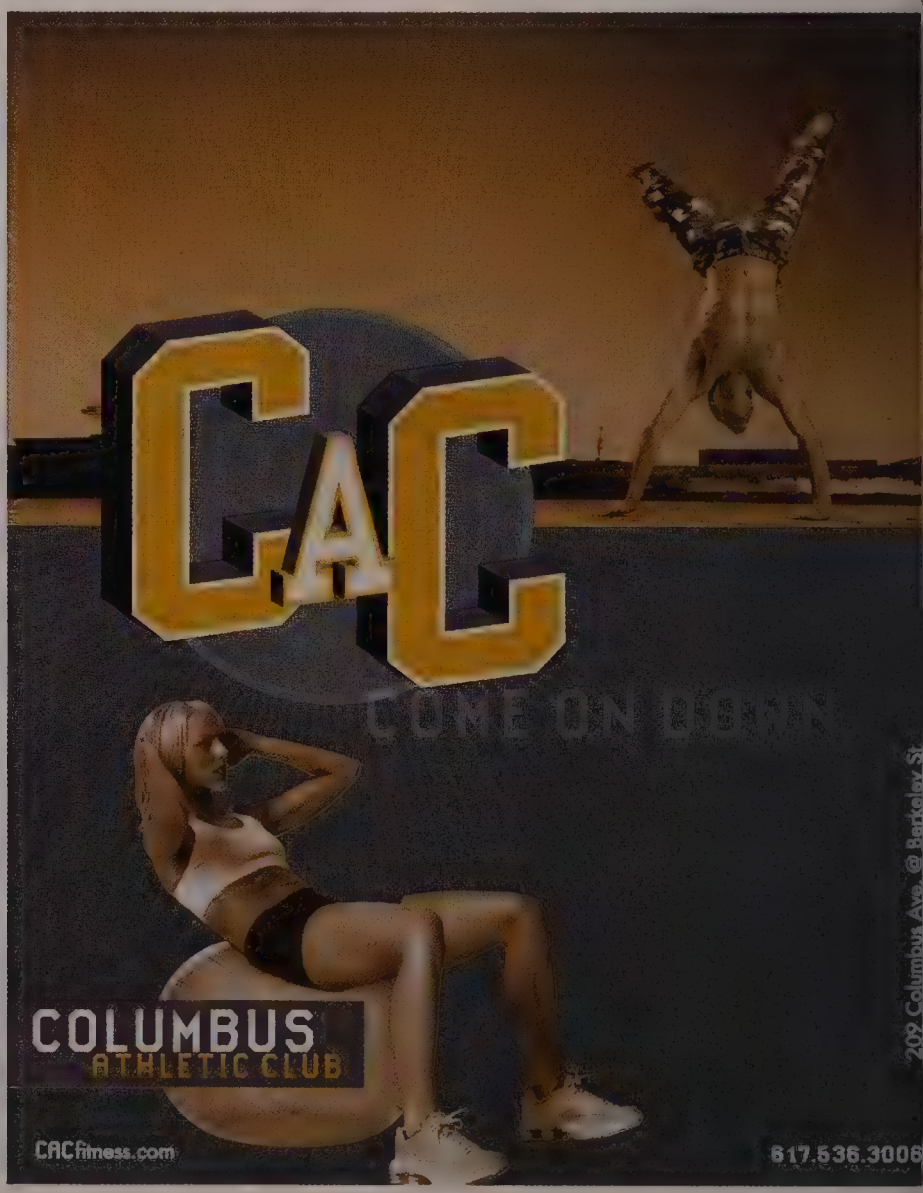
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-BOWL). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*

The Black Crowes play the Orpheum Theatre May 10–11.

Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*

Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*

Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (61[illegible] 482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-212[illegible] MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Plea[illegible] Street.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8[illegible] MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Cent[illegible]*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (6[illegible] 776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge ([illegible] 441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051[illegible] MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851) MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (61[illegible] 496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cam[illegible] bridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Cen[illegible]*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-62[illegible] 5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617[illegible] 628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-5[illegible] 1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambrid[illegible] (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-35[illegible] 2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambrid[illegible] (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-327[illegible]*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-[illegible] 5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*



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DNESDAY, MAY 4

ic in the Cathedral
edral of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston -482-4826 ext. 1103). MBTA: Red or Green to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3. Guitarist Kevin ard performs.

v England Conservatory
n Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. A: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Pi- Stephen Drury performs Ravel's *Valses No- t Sentimentales*, Beethoven's *Eroica Varia-*, John Zorn's *Carny* and works by Ligeti, enmann, Feldman, and Cage.

URSDAY, MAY 5

ton Symphony Orchestra
hony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym- y. 8 pm. $27-$95. Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos ucts Respighi's *Fountains of Rome* and *Pines me* and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5, *ror*, featuring soloist Stephen Kovacevich, e BSO's final program of the season.

French Library and Cultural ter
Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 $35. Michael Bahmann (harpsicord), Nell lers (violin) and Craig Trompeter (viola de a) perform works by Jean-Philippe Rameau.

gy School of Music
rd Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge -876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. The Conservatory mber Ensembles perform works by Schu- Schumann, Beethoven, Haydn, Dvorak, art, Poulenc, Britten, Erwin Schulhoff and Harbison.

Symphony Orchestra
ge Auditorium, 48 Massachusetts Ave., Cam- (617-253-9800). www.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Line to Kendall. 8 pm. Dante Anzolini con- Mahler's Symphony No. 6.

v England Conservatory
m Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. A: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Borromeo String Quartet Guest Award Con- eatures selected student performers.

DAY, MAY 6

ton Boys Choir
aul Church, Bow and Arrow Streets, Cambridge -868-8658). www.bostonboyschoir.org. A: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10-$25. John ne conducts John Rutter's *Gloria* and Her- n Schroeder's *Magnificat*.

ton Musica Viva
Performance Center, Boston University, 685 m. Ave., Boston (617-354-6910) .bmv.org. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 8 $12-$22. Boston Musica Viva performs From ern Europe with Love, a program featuring s by American composers of Eastern Euro- descent.

ton Symphony Orchestra
phony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line mphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as 5.

gy School of Music
ard Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge -876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line arvard. 8 pm. Free. Lorna Cooke deVaron ducts the Longy Chamber Singers in works ired by Shakespeare's plays, including songs rank Martin and Vaughn Williams.

Symphony Orchestra
ege Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge -253-9800). www.mit.edu/arts MBTA: Red to Kendall/MIT. 8 pm. $5. Dante Anzolini ducts Erkki Sven Tuur's *Passion* and ler's Symphony No. 6.

sic at the Immaculate
aculate Conception Church, 775 Harrison , Boston (617-536-8440) www.immaculate m.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 8 The Back Bay Choral performs Schu- n's *Paradise and the Peri*.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266 -1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as May 5.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •4 pm. Free. Judith Kotok conducts the Youth Chorale in a concert featuring the original works of faculty member Paul Brust. *•8 pm. $10-$20.* The Auros Group for New Music presents Tango: Then and Now, a program exploring the history of tango through song and dance.

Metropolitan Wind Symphony
Sorenson Center for the Arts, Babson College, Wellesley (617-983-1370). www.mws-boston.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. 8 pm. $12. The Metropolitan Wind Symphony's Spring Concert features Alfred Reed's *A Jubilant Overture*, Bach's *Toccata and Fugue in D Minor* and Leonard Bernstein's "Danzon" from *Fancy Free*.

MIT Concert Choir
Kresege Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-9800). www.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. William Cutter conducts Bach's Cantata No. 50, Beethoven's *Elegy* and Mozart's *Requiem*.

Wellesley College
Jewett Auditorium, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. MBTA: D Green Line to Woodland. 7:30 pm. Free. Director Kera Washington leads the ensemble Yanvalou in the traditional music of Africa and the Caribbean.

SUNDAY, MAY 8

Boston Symphony Chamber Players
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $17-$30. The 2004-05 season finale concert includes works by Mozart, Britten, Fine and Prokofiev.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel's Bach Cantata Series continues with a performance of BWV 109 conducted by James Olesen.

MIT 2-Piano Concert
Kresege Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-9800). www.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 2 pm. Students and faculty perform piano duets by Mozart and Anton Arensky.

Somerville Museum
1 Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 3 pm. $15. Duo Maresienne, featuring Carol Lewis (viola de gamba), and Olav Chris Henriksen (vihuela and theorbo), presents a program titled Galanterie: Elegant Sonatas and Paritas from Bach's Time.

Wellesley College Chamber Singers
Jewett Auditorium, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Woodland. 7:30 pm. Lisa Graham conducts Bach's Cantata 140, *Wachet Auf*.

MONDAY, MAY 9

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956) www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Same program as May 5.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The Quintet Royale, featuring Nana Aomori (flute), Elizabeth England (oboe), Amy Advocat (clarinet), Natalya Rose Vrbsky (bassoon) and Johanna Lundy (horn), performs Francaix's Quintet No. 1, Ligeti's Ten Pieces for Wind Quintet, and Bach's Concerto No. 2.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 64 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12:15 pm. $3. Organist Etienne Walhain performs works by Bach and Prokofiev.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Same program as May 5.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu.

Where it happens.

JDate.com

MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC Composer Series features works by NEC faculty and alumni.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass., Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 6:30 pm. $50-$100. Keith Lockhart opens his 10th-anniversary season with the Pops, with special guest Lou Rawls and POPSearch 2004 champion Tracy Silva.

Longy School of Music

Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Shoko Baba performs Piano Pieces for the Left Hand.

Music in the Cathedral

Cathedral of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826, ext. 1103). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3. Julia Balestracci and Friends perform in a Longy Showcase concert.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The Hudson Honors String Quartet, coached by Will Fedkenheuer, Paul Katz, and Lucy Stoltzman, features Insun Jang and Alexis Sykes (violins), Jung-Yeon Kim (viola) and Susie Yang (cello).

New Music @ Studio 234

234 Columbia St., Cambridge (617-901-4624). www.ericzinman.com 8 pm. $12. Eric Zinman of Boston and Dietrich Eichman of Berlin present Piano of Two Continents, with percussionist Jeff Arnal.

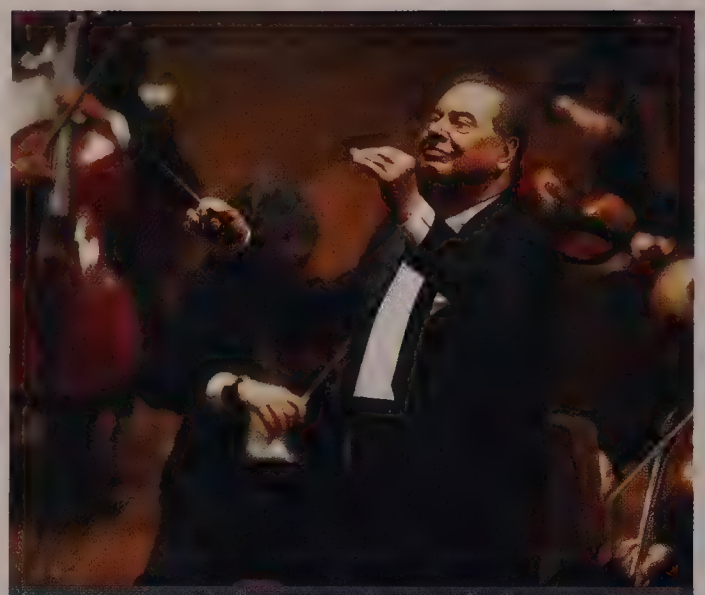
THURSDAY, MAY 12

Longy School of Music

Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The Conservatory Chamber Ensemble performs.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu.



Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos conducts the final concerts of the BSO's 2004–05 season, through May 7.

MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The Brando Honors String Quartet, coached by Laurence Lesser, features Jae Young Cosmos Lee and Megumi Stohs (violins), Frank Shaw (viola) and Courtenay Vandiver (cello).

FRIDAY, MAY 13

Boston Choral Ensemble

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 15 Sellers St., Cambridge. www.bostonchoral.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $10 general; $7 students and seniors. Boston Choral's season finale, *...With Immortal Fire* features works by Britten, Vaughn Williams, Randall Thompson and Gerald Finzi.

Boston Early Music Festival Concerts

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-7232). www.bemf.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm.$21-$59. Akademie fur Alte Musik Berlin presents the program Music of the Italian and German Baroque, including works by Vivaldi, Geminiani and Bach.

Cantata Singers

All Saints Parish, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline (617-868-5885). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: Green D Line to Beaconsfield. 7 pm. $20-$48 general, $15 students and seniors. David Hoose directs Boston Bred, a program of works by local composers.

Music at the Immaculate

Immaculate Conception Church, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-536-8440). www.immaculateboston.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Organist Etienne Walhain performs works by Bach, Mozart, Liszt and Prokofiev.

Renaissonics

Jewett Hall, First Church Congressional 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-661-3353). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $8. The Renaissonics and Charles Garth present Renaissance Dance for All featuring music from the 16th century.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Cantata Singers

All Saints Parish, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline (617-868-5885). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Beaconsfield. 7 pm. $20-$48 general, $15 students and seniors. Same program as May 13.

Chameleon Arts Ensemble

Goethe-Institut, 170 Beacon St., Boston (617-427-8200). www.chameleonarts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $16-$35. Chameleon's season finale, While Our Music Wild and Sweet, features Mozart's Oboe Quartet, Hindemith's Sonata for Viola and Piano, and the Boston premiere of Paul Ruder's *Vox in Rama*, for electric violin, clarinet and piano.

Longwood Symphony Orchestra

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (6 585-1260). www.longwoodsymphony.org. MB Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $25 general, $15 dents and seniors. Special guest conductor F cisco Noya directs Longwood's season fin featuring pianist Maurizio Barboro perform works by Rachmaninoff, Sibelius and Rossi

Longy School of Music

Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambr (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The Longy Ch ber Orchestra performs with the winners of annual concerto competition.

MIT

Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge. (6 253-9800). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Line to Kendall. 2 pm Free. The MIT Fac Composers Concert features Suellen Hersh on flute and others.

SUNDAY, MAY 15

Boston Choral Ensemble

St. John the Evangelist, 35 Bowdoin St., Bos www.bostonchoral.org. MBTA: Red Line to Street. 2 pm. $10 general; $7 students and niors. Same program as May 13.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (6 585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.e MBTA: Green E Line to Symphony. 8 pm. F The NEC Honors Horn Quartet performs.

Emmanuel Music

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Bos (617-617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. F Emmanuel's Bach Cantata Series contin with a performance of BWV 67.

TUESDAY, MAY 17

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 64 Beacon St., Boston (617-2 2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green L to Arlington. 12:15 pm. $3. Soprano Diana Bre mezzo-soprano Miranda Loud and organist He rich Christensen perform arias and duets by Ba Handel and Purcell.

ance lubs

ights

ONDAYS

Tua Nua
emony A night of gothic and industrial music, ı, $3, 19+.

s
ic Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, m, $7, 19+.

ston Rocks
tini Mondays DJ spins top-40, plus open mike interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

price
dha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 no cover, 21+.

den Temple
E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, own, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover,

e Green Briar
seisiun.

een Street Grill
n to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after les- , 21+.

oenix Landing
ka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, m, $3, 21+.

e Place
spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

e Rack
spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

er Gods
kly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musi- ace-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

nt
N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno s house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no r, 21+.

JESDAYS

a
stry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

ston Rocks
ooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm- n, no cover, 21+.

price
Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no r, 21+.

bassy
Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

e Enormous Room
I'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

lden Temple
E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix in- ling R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, cover, 21+.

e Kells
ally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

oenix Landing
ke" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro , 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

e Place
spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover,

e Purple Shamrock
aoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

e Rack
spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
esdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at n, no cover, 21+.

mor
ht varies with an assortment of performances themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

les Dance Hall
vana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night ures an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am,

nu
NT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins -hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15,

EDNESDAYS

Tua Nua
McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Signs of Life Guest DJs spin progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clery's
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After Work Wednesdays Sam Adams sponsors Game Night with free appetizers and Red Sox ticket giveaways, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Weekly rotation of underground dance, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

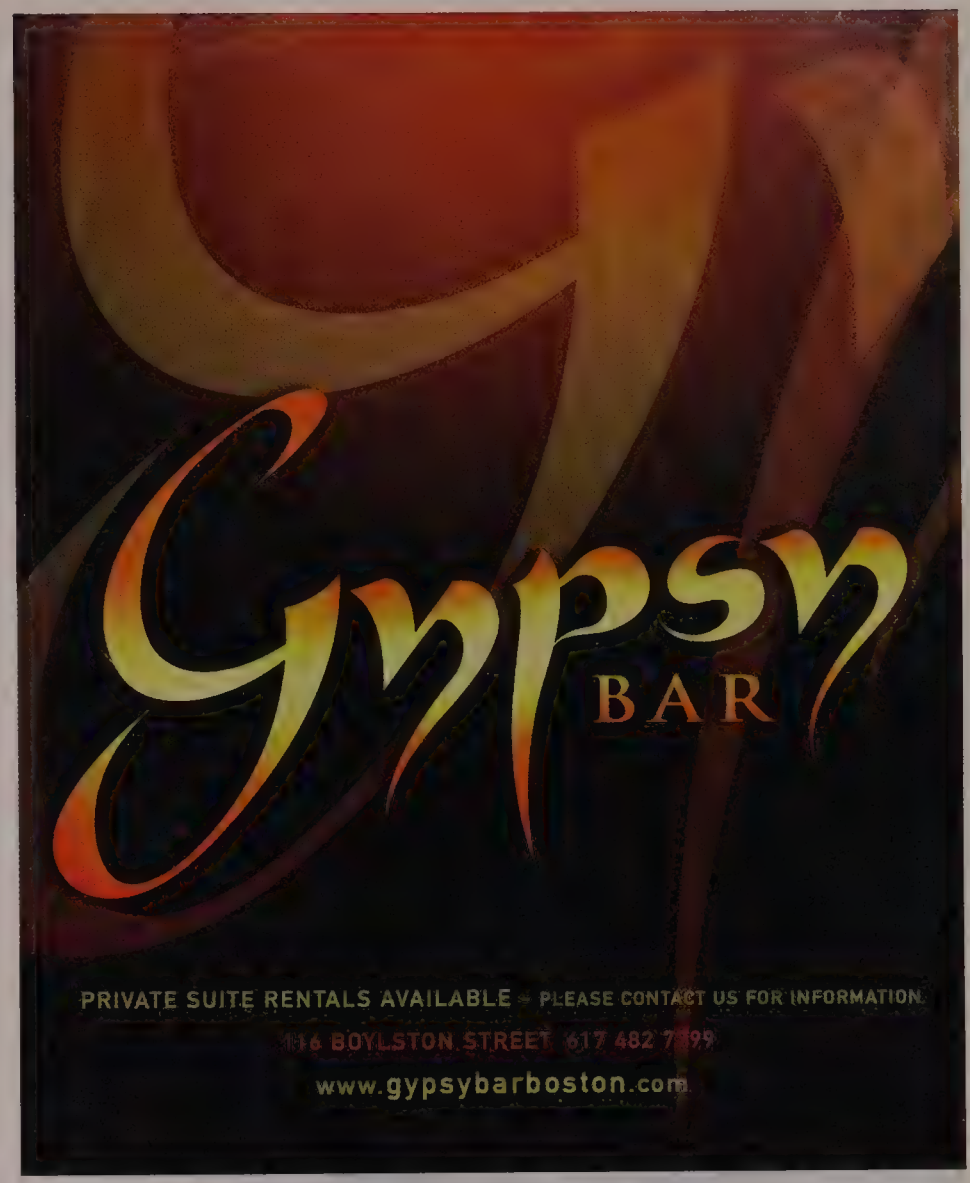
Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Hawaiian Tropic Model Search with JAM'N 94.5, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.



ON THE OTHER HAND...

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Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After Work Lounge Rotating DJs spin jazz and lounge music, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band plays reggae and funk, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Touch DJs spin urban groove and club classics, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offeer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJs from Stickman Productions spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Martini Thursdays Enjoy half-priced martinis while resident DJs spin R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons a dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loun music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest h hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul a rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cov

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-sch hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech a funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 fr the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Foundation Fridays DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R& and classics, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 p 1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spi ning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with co bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions present night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and h hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of internation Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s a '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $1 19+, after 11 pm.

Club Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-st music, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and tran music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+

:o Lounge
Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s
he second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

bassy
suasion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm,
19+.

e Enormous Room
Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything
hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10
2 am.

t
rapy Fridays DJ Cerebral spins dance, hip-hop
top-40 in the fourth-floor Penthouse, 9 pm, no
r, 21+.

lden Temple
E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s
vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

een Briar
K spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1am, no cover,

een Street Grill
se band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm,
21+.

psy Bar
Babe spins.

e Harp
ay Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins
nstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

rricane O'Reilly's
pins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10
21+.

hment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

e McIntyre's
spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

ıvara Pub
Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop,
B and pop, 21+.

e Kells
ies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance
le DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm,
es free before midnight, 21+.

quor Store
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

ıtrix/Paradise City
Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ Steve
nelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

:Gann's
spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ddlesex Lounge
Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and
-hop, no cover.

e Modern
DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

bal Lounge
ure/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno
disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

e Palace
ne Beach House Reggaeton: Spanish reggae
sic, $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter**
w England's longest-running all-male dance revue,
rs at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, (18+),
(21+). Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett
ıs mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere,
ies free before 11:30 pm; $10 (21+), $15 (18+).
ockpile Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free
ore 11:30 pm; $12 (18+), $8 (21+).

rris
at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

ıoenix Landing
oove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm,
cover, 21+.

ne Place
ng out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance
l hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video high-
ıts, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

ne Point
t Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P.

ne Purple Shamrock
p-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

ne Rack
Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

edline
dney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-
m, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
version DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-
il, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no
ver, 21+.

oxy
Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reg-
, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

umor
unge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and
l-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm,
+.

yles Dance Hall
lsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night
e third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
International Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

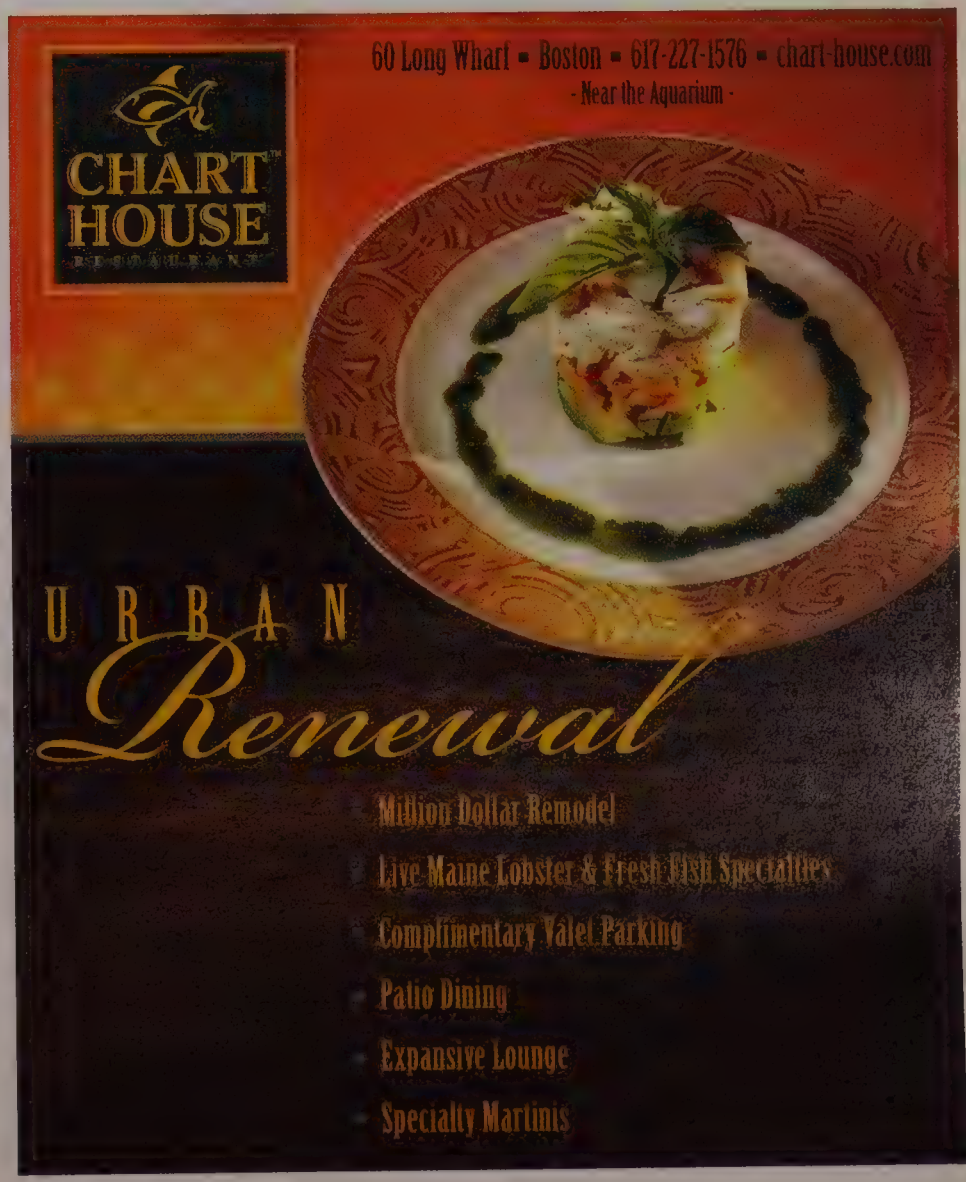
Felt
The Penthouse Club DJ Tanerk spins house on the fourth floor. Also, DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance on the first floor. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+.



Friday Night is
Ladies Night
No Cover Charge for Girls before midnight
Half price admission for guys before 11pm
Upstairs DJ Doc (top 40 dance, hip-hop)
The Lounge downstairs DJ Grasshopper
(Reggae, hip-hop)

KELLS
cocktails ▪ club ▪ asian cuisine
161 Brighton Ave., Allston
617-782-9082 • www.thekells.com

Celebration Saturdays
Half price admission before 11pm
Upstairs DJ Darren Drag (top 40 dance, hip-hop)
The Lounge downstairs DJ Kieran
(Hits of the '80s, '90s & '00s)

Music from 9pm-2am
21+ after 9pm
Serving Asian Cuisine until 2am

OPEN EVERY DAY FOR LUNCH AND DINNER
THE LINWOOD grill
GREAT FOOD, LIVE MUSIC
Restaurant Hours: Monday through Thursday 11:30am - 10:00pm
Friday 11:30am-11pm Saturday 11:30am - 11:00pm Sunday 11:30am - 9:00pm
Kitchen open late for all Red Sox home games
Parking available
81 Kilmarnock Street Boston, MA 02215 Tel: (617) 247-8099
Club Closed for renovation. - Opening Soon

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Buddha spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis DJs Frank and Matty spin a mix of rock, retro and electro beats, 10 pm, $5, 18+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Celebration Saturdays DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features DJ Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance music. 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip H nandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15 (18+); $10 (21+). •**The E Encounter** New England's longest-running all-m dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15 (18+), $10 (21 •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Bra ian atmosphere, $15 (18+), $10 (21+).

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wo ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Stickman Productions hosts differe DJs each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roc spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 a no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mode mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancin 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in t front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and hous 10 pm, $5.

nan's
day Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic
:hool, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover,

t
s Wretched Design presents an evening of
:/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

J
DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek
bi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11
9+.

igo
on Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10
15, 21+.

t Street Grille
Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40
ght, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

NDAYS

lon
Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and
o, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

's Bar
reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

ton Rocks
in hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

z
lian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am,
19+

rice
ind DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, no
, 21+.

o Q
ngos Latin DJs spin dance music. 8 pm-2 am.

lin's
stry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and
es, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

o Lounge
hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5,

Enormous Room
lutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11
am.

en Briar
ur Doyle, no cover, 21+.

en Street Grill
Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30
no cover, 21+.

Kells
Spot DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house
, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

el
ting DJs spin Latin and international on the
floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on
urth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

enix Landing
p This house-music night has a rotating roster
cal and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5,

Place
d LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm,
ver, 21+.

Point
chy P.

Purple Shamrock
hom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2
no cover, 21+.

lline
day Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests
reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

er Gods
on Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic
and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

es Dance Hall
a Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sun-
of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play
music, 6-10 pm, $12.

nt
e Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night
ring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-
, $10, 21+.

y K's
u and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

i Room
gae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub
ion and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

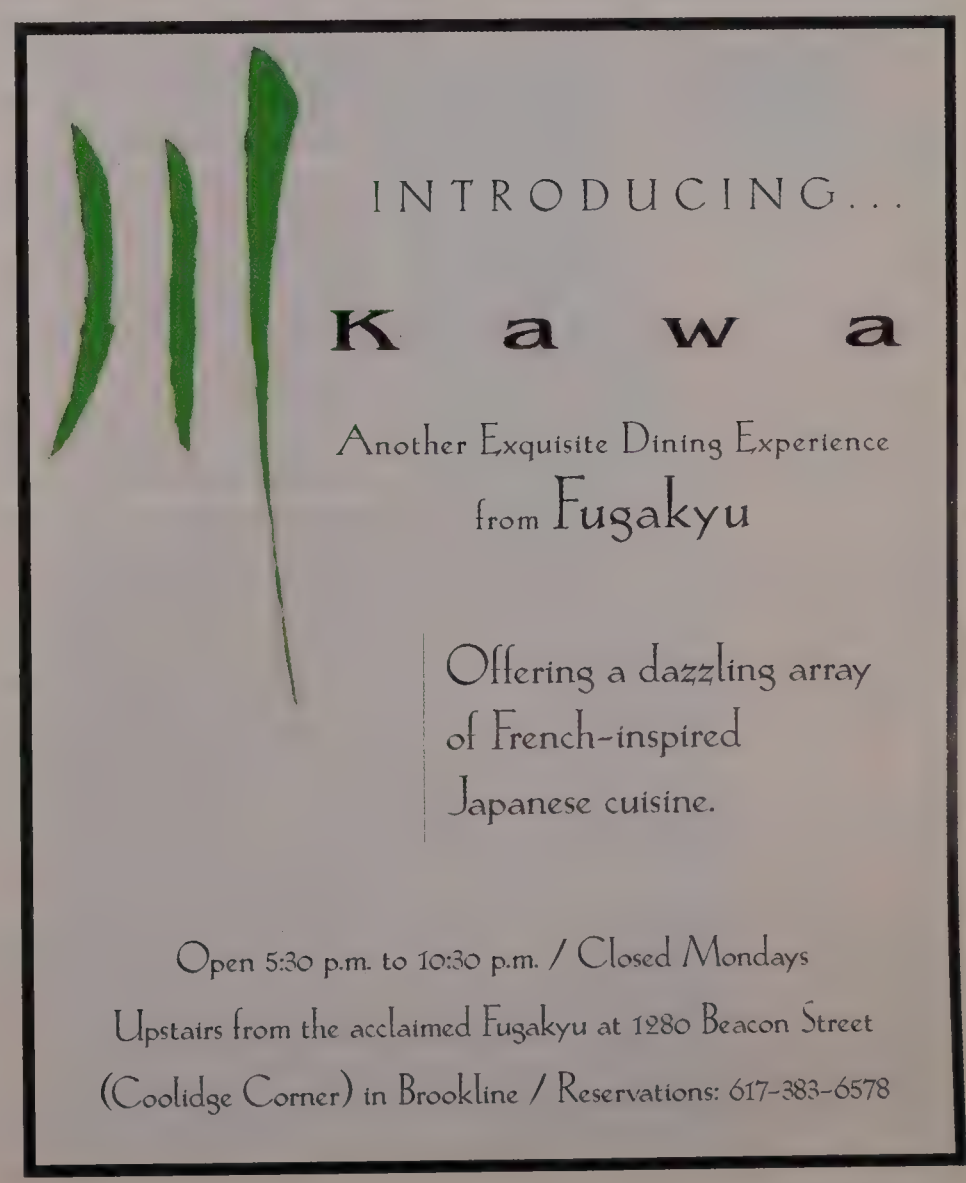
st
wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop
Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

iu
nivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian
t as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance
11 pm, $15, 19+.

tigo
ian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and
d beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*



museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in Iran and India* features paintings, decorative arts and weaponry depicting hunting scenes from western and southern Asia. Through June 26. •Ongoing exhibitions include *Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Greek Portraiture*, *The Art of Ancient Rome* and *Near Eastern Art*.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center

Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue..-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Wed., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 12 pm-4 pm. Free. •*The "Master Prints" of Hendrick Goltzius and Mannerist Art* showcases work from the Dutch engraver's *Life of the Virgin* collection. Through June 19. •Artist Ghada Amer depicts her definitions of "terror" and "terrorism" in her installation *The Reign of Terror*. Through June 19. •*The Observed and Envisioned* exhibits depictions of women in Mughal art from the 16th to 19th centuries. Through June 19. •A new permanent installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. • Art from China, Japan and Korea is featured in a new permanent collection.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*From Mind, Heart and Hand: Persian, Turkish and Indian Drawings* from the Stuart Cary Welch Collection shows through June 12. •*Crises of Representation: The Decorative and the Feminine in Fin-de-siecle Vienna* includes publications and artworks from turn-of-the-20th-century Vienna. Through June 12. •*Eighteenth-Century European Ceramics and Paintings* is an exhibition drawing from the museums' permanent collection. Ongoing. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe since 1880* and *Art in France, 1885-1960*. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center

53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Origins* is an exhibit of photographic collage by Donna Hamil Talman. Through June 2.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun. from 9 am-12 pm. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Mark Sheinkman's drawings are on display at the OSP Gallery through May 28.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Chairs* brings together the photography of 2002 artist-in-residence Dayanita Singh with the museum's collection of Italian and Renaissance chairs. Through May 8. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100) www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*GONE: Site-Specific Works by Dorothy Cross* is a mixed-media exhibition. Through July 12. •*Tree: A New Vision of the American Forest* features photographs by James Balog. Through July 12.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lwac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •*Sturtevant: The Brutal Truth* is the first comprehensive exhibition by American artist Elaine Sturtevant. May 11-July 10. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Clipper Ship Era* is a collection of lithographs, plans and photographs illustrating the design and construction, as well as the social experience, of a clipper ship. Through July 10. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* displays work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winners. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam museum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Creating Milestones in Education* is an exhibit depicting the history of the Abiel Smith School. Through July 31.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Rockwell and the Red Sox* features Norman Rockwell's painting *The Rookie* and 50 objects of Red Sox memorabilia. Through May 8. •*Sets, Series, and Suites: Contemporary Prints* features serial prints by 30 artists from 1950 to the present. Through May 29. •*Pursuits of Power: Falconry and the Samurai, 1600-1900* offers a new perspective on players, politics and power in early modern Japan. Through June 12. •*Photographs by Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Sylvan Barnet and William Burto Collection* features 20 of the Japanese photographer's black-and-white prints. Through June 23. •*Speed, Style, and Beauty: Cars from the Ralph Lauren Collection* displays 16 automobiles from the designer's private collection. Through July 3.•*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Mapping the World Around Us* features mapping projection tools and computer map libraries. Ongoing. •Four hundred butterflies and flowers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Deep Inside the Blues: Photographs by Margo Cooper* features 38 black-and-white photographs of musicians taken by Cooper over the past 10 years during her travels through the Mississippi Delta. Through June 5. •*George Washington: Freemason and Founding Father* is an exhibition of rare artifacts. Through June 12. •*Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend* examines artistic depictions of Revolution-era patriot Paul Revere. Through June 26. •*Air Lines* showcases photographs by Alex MacLean, who for the past 25 years has taken pictures of the United States from an airplane. Through January 22, 2006. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition spotlighting 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community*. Ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*The Art of Shopping in China* captures China's early-19th-century international trade market through 40 paintings on paper from the museum's extensive collection. Through May 22. •*Island Thresholds, Contemporary Art from the Caribbean* features 13 works, including large-scale installations using wood, glass, paper, seawater, salvaged shoes, coffee, coconut and vanilla, as well as paintings and drawings, by four island artists. Through June 5. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 22. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •*Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and stud $6; children, $5. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: M bres Pottery from the American Southwest* features facts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch R Through June 30. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Art ship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifac North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2 •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Cl Indian Collection* features Native American arti from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2 •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* tures the museum's large Mesoamerican cast co tion. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American In Change and Continuity* depicts the response of tive Americans across the continent to the arriv Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Ame* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculp and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*P Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, disp artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Special Events

Boston Cyberarts Festival

Events at various Boston-area locations. www.bo cyberarts.org. Through May 8. This biennial fest features visual and performing arts and expl how artists use computers to advance traditi disciplines.

North Cambridge Arts Open Studi

Maps available at Vineyard Fellowship, 170 Ri Ave., Cambridge; and Frameworks, 2067 M Ave., Cambridge (617-547-4441). www.n arts.org. May 14-15, 11 am- 5 pm. Free. •F artists open their studios to the public display their works in various media.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). w acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Art from the collectio William Freed and Lillian Olowsky displays Ma June 11.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385) w alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Color Glass* features sculpture and jewelry by more tha artists. May 5-June 25.

Allston Skirt Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). w allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. W Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Shelter from the Storm: Ar Make Forts and Panchos* displays works by Sarah man, Ellen Brooks, Chris Duncan, Tori Fair Emily Isenberg. May 6-23.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). w alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Brooklyn Paintings* tures new works by Gideon Bok. May 7-June 1.

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). w ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •N works by Lynda Love display through May 30.

Ars Libri

Mario Diacno Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Bo (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orc Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat. am-5 pm. •Steve DiBenedetto displays his paint in *Codex Maximus*. Through May 31.

Artana

1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-31 www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Lin Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu. am-7 pm. •*Encore III* displays oil paintings by Hass Feldman. Through May 31. •The gallery tinually shows works by various artists from N England.

Art Attack

108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www attack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. T Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Battlescenes* is a solo exhibitio paintings by Shanti that document the event 9/11 and the war in Iraq. Through May 11.

Art Interactive

130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-010 www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Cent Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Shadowplay* displays teractive projections by Scott Snibbe. Through Jul

Barbara Krakow Gallery

10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-449 www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green L

rlington. *Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Jonathan ger displays works in various media in *Born to* . Through May 12. •*Horizons and Interuptions* ures landscape photographs and sculptures by M. Kahn. May 4-31.

renberg Gallery
larendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www. nberggallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back . Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* tism to Asperger's: The Artistic Phenomenon is a ıp exhibition featuring the work of 11 artists. 4-June 18.

rnard Toale Gallery
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www. ardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. .-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Lesley Dill displays new ks. Through June 11. •Larimer Richards displays works. Through June 11.

ston Center for the Arts
s Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to k Bay. Wed.-Thu. 12-5 pm; Fri.-Sat. 12-10 pm; . 12-5 pm.* •Sculptor Bruce Bemis showcases his ks in a solo exhibition. Through June 5.

ston Living Center
t and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., ton (617-901-5992) *www.bostonlivingcenter. Sun., 11 am-1 pm. Free.* •Artists from the ton Living Center, a community center for ple living with HIV and AIDS, display their k. Through May 31.

ston Sculptors Gallery
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). w.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: *Green Line to* ley. *Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm.* •Peter DeCamp nes and Larry Polons display their work. ough May 21.

ickbottom Gallery
tchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www. kbottomartists.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Lech-e. Thu.-Sat., 12-5.* •More than 50 artists use ionary pages as part of their work in *The Dictio-Project.* Through May 14.

ookline Arts Center
Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). w.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: *C Green to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm.* • *Our n: New Works by Isabella Frost* showcases ton-inspired works on fabric. Through May 6. *hotographs by Lori Taveroff* displays through y 7.

ase Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www. segallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.* •The gallery displays Au-Canero's sculptures through May 28.

ilds Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www. ldsgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-, 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm.* •Three ibitions show through May 15: *Werner Drewes, 9-1985 (drawings); Gertrude Beals Bourne: Artist Brahmin Boston* and *Alexander Brook: Selected wings.* •The exhibitions *Chauncey Ryder—Printer, Art of the Mid-Century* and *Art from Province-n* feature works in various media from multiple sts. May 16-July 10.

aygo Gallery
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). MBTA: *nge Line to Back Bay. Tue..-Sat., 11 am-6 pm.* eramic artists David Changar and Marc Mancuso lay new works. Through May 14.

pley Society of Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www. leysociety.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. .-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •*Fresh Paint* displays ks created by various local artists in one day. rough May 7.

ump McCole Gallery
Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: *Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 5 pm.* •*Painters of the New Boston* features works Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local sts. Ongoing.

lipse Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: *en Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm.* •*The : of Exposure, Uncovering the Nude* features ck-and-white photographs by Julia Zhogina and ia Matar. Through May 28

rt Point Arts Community Gallery
Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fort ntarts.org. MBTA: *Red Line to South Station. n.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*Below the face* showcases works in various media by local sts. May 6-June 11.

lerie d'Orsay
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www. erie-dorsay.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery @ The Piano Factory
791 Tremont St., Boston (617-421-0095). MBTA: *Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri. 6-8 p.m., Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m.* •*A Tribute to Norman Wallace* includes scultpures and photgraphs by the artist. Through May 8. •Louisa Bertman, Joshua Miller and Louis D'Angio display drawings and paintings in *Portraits.Perceptions.* May 13-30.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu., 12-5:30 pm, Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm.* • Roger Goldenberg and Joseph Barillaro display recent assemblage and collage works. Through May 21.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., (617-482-0411). www. gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 pm.* •*Roads* shows black-and-white photos by Silas Shabelewska, and *Pin-Wheel Romanticism* shows color photos by Thomas Gustainis. Through May 6. •*Ration for a Generation* features photographs by Toru Nakanishi. May 6-June 3.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328) www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Time Out* features works by seniors and graduate students from the Rhode Island School of Design's Furniture Department.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www. gallerynaga.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Paintings by Todd McKie display through May 21.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Inventing the Wheel (Subsequently and Furthermore)* features new paintings by Bert Antonio. May 6-31.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www. howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Denise Marika displays new work in various media. Through May 24.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat. 12 pm-6 pm; Thu. 12 pm- 7 pm and by appointment.* •*Pre-Hispanic Masterpieces* features ancient pottery and sculpture from Mexico, Central America and South America. Through May 7.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www. internationalposter.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judy Goldman Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judy goldmanfineart.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Cut Paper Drawings,* featuring works by Juliann Cydylo, displays through July 31.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www. judirotenberg.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*The Nudes,* by Mary Ellen Strom, and *Intenerant,* by Teri Rueb, are part of the Boston Cyberarts Festival. Through May 7. •*Passages* features digital collages by Dorothy Simpson Krause. May 12-June 4.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www. julesplace.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment.* •*Beyond the Surface* features paintings by Laura Bowman, Robin Denevan, Craig Mooney, Peter Roux and other artists. May 5-June 3.

Kathryn Shultz Gallery
25 R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-867-0246). info@cambridgeart.org. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. Free. •The Cambridge Art Association presents its annual National Prize Show featuring 113 artists from 28 states. (Also see listing for University Place Gallery.)

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www. kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •Johnny Robertson displays *New Paintings.* May 4-28.

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www.blo.org

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Bonita Sennott and Hilary Hutchinson display collages and sculptures through May 28.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works in various media by international and local artists including Douglass Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarse and Carrie McGee. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Paper & Paint: New Works by Corinne Okada and Lana Gordon* displays through May 15. •*Point Counterpoint: Kit Karbler and Dora Hsiung* features glass and woven-fiber sculptures. May 15-June 24.

Mobilia Gallery
33 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109) www.mobilia-gallery.com Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Scratching the Surface: Art and Content in Contemporary Wood* features works from furniture artists and sculptors. Through May 21. •Nancy Michel and Alexandra Watkins display new jewelry and sculpture. Through May 21.

Mercury Gallery
2nd Floor, 8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • *Prelude: Music in Painting* features paintings by Oliver Balf, Louis Schanker, Joseph Solman and Karl Zerbe. Through May 22.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Sloane Tanen displays paintings and prints. May 6-28.

NAO Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naogallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Thu.-Sat. 12 pm-5 pm. •Andy Zimmerman displays new mixed-media works. Through June 30.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Between Dream and Memory* features Sachiko Akiyama's sculptures. Through May 28. •*Spring Works on Paper* shows through May 28.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5:30 pm. •*Mercurial States* features large-scale digital photographs by Judith Scott Larsen. May 6-28.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •Mark Sheinkman displays recent drawings. Through May 28.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing display of works by local artists in various media.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Phyllis Berman, Stanley Bielen, Judith Belzer, Ben Frank-Moss and Howard Silberthan display selected paintings. May 5-June 11.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Paintings by Alison Cann Clift and Marco Abarca display through May 30.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Tom Baril displays photographs. May 5-June 1.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898) MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. The gallery features rare and fine 20th-century master classics. Ongoing.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue..-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. •Joan and Liz Linder showcase works in various media. May 6-29.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Grossman Gallery, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718) www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Thurs. 10am-8 pm. Through May 7. •Twelve artists showcase works in various media to compete for the school's Traveling Scholar Awards in *Fifth Year Exhibition.*

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Things Your Momma Said* is a multimedia exhibition featuring works from 18 artists. May 7-July 31.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Looking Up* features new paintings by Meredith Fife Day and Lisa Reindorf. May 4-28.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The artist-owned gallery features paintings by Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin, William St. George and Judy St. Peter. Ongoing.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-867-0246). info@cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm, Saturday, 9 am -1 pm. Free. •The Cambridge Art Association presents its annual National Prize Show featuring 113 artists from 28 states. (Also see listing for the Kathryn Shultz Gallery.)

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:3(•The gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- 20th-century American artworks.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Che Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery. MBTA: Green Line to Chestnut Hill. Mon.-Fr am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. gallery's permanent collection features paintin Dali, Chagall and Miro. •*Colors of a Better V* features paintings by Peter Max. Free to the p on May 6 and 7. The gallery hosts a reception the artist May 6.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). w griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to chester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. • The seum's ongoing exhibition features contemp and historic photography. • Rachel Papo and Melton display photographs through May •Winning photographs from the museum's ju exhibition are on display through May 15.

Panopticon Gallery Boston
502 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-8 www.panopt.com MBTA: Green Line to Kenm Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. • *The Color of Baseball* tures photographs by Bill Chapman and Erne Withers and a selection of historical baseball ages. Through May 28.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). w panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Walt Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*The Tree in Landscape* group show featuring works by more than 20 ar May 12-June 15.•*Cuba—There Is Light and Sha* shows through May 7.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). w prcboston.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston versity West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. • exhibition *Land/Mark: GPS and Photography* is of the Boston Cyberarts Festival (see Spe Events). Through May 5.

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eadings & Signings

DNESDAY, MAY 4

okline Booksmith
Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www. dlinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to idge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Psychiatrist **Robert Jay** n discusses his book *Home from the War: Learn- om Vietnam Veterans*, which critiques American arism during the Vietnam War, comparing vet- s' experiences with those of soldiers in Iraq.

nter for New Words Event
ral Square YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge -876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.com. A: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. A panel of rs and contributors to the women's health book Bodies, Ourselves discuss the latest edition.

rvard Book Store
Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. rd.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Tufts history professor **Martin J. Sherwin**, dis- s the book he cowrote, *American Prometheus: Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer*, t Oppenheimer's life before he helped develop world's first atomic bomb.

wtonville Books & Brews
Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. onvillebooks.com. 7:30 pm. Free. Local author **an Marshall** discusses *The Peabody Sisters: e Women Who Ignited American Romanticism*, biography of Elizabeth, Mary and Sophia ody.

N New England Author Series
l Marlowe, 25 Edwin Land Blvd., Cambridge -395-2523) www.pen-ne.org. MBTA: Green to Lechmere. 6:15 pm. Free. Poet **Steven ner** reads from his work.

URSDAY, MAY 5

rnes & Noble Boston University
Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www. kstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 Free. **Rachel DeWoskin** discusses her book *For- Babes in Beijing: Behind the Scenes of a New a*, about her move to Beijing in 1989 after col- to pursue work in public relations and acting.

rders Books Downtown Crossing
chool St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders s.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown ssing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Mitchell Zuckoff** reads Ponzi's Scheme: The True Story of a Financial nd, his biography of Charles Ponzi, the Boston- who masterminded one of the greatest financial s in American history during the 1920s.

ookline Booksmith
Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www. klinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to lidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. *Herald* columnist **Beth ell** discusses her memoir *From Here to Maternity: Education of Rookie Mom*, a humorous account er experiences as a new mother.

nter for New Words Event
rell Hall, Cambridge YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., bridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords. . MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. Poet **a Neely** reads from her work.

rvard Book Store
6 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. ard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. . **Danielle Ofri** discusses her book *Incidental lings: Lessons from My Patients in the Art of Medi-*, a collection of true stories from her experiences physician.

wtonville Books & Brews
Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. tonvillebooks.com. 7:30 pm. Free. **Wesley Stace** ls from his novel *Misfortune*, which takes place in -century England and tells the story of an aban- ed baby boy who is raised as a girl

odberry Poetry Room
ont Library, Harvard University, Cambridge (617- -2454). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. . Poet **Jane Miller** reads from her work.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

Barnes & Noble Prudential Center
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-6959). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:30 pm. Actress **Goldie Hawn** signs copies of her memoir, *The Lotus Grows in the Mud.*

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Harlan Coben** reads from his latest novel, *The Innocent*, about a recently released convict whose life is on the right track until mysterious photos are sent to him and he ends up on the run from police again.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Harvard professor and Pulitzer Prize winner **Bernard Bailyn** discusses *Atlantic History: Concept and Contours*, his collection of essays about the importance of studying Atlantic history.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Globe sports columnist **Dan Shaughnessy** signs his book *Reversing the Curse*, which chronicles the Red Sox' 2004 season that culminated in the team's first World Series victory since 1918.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www. portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 2 pm. Free. **M.T. Anderson** reads from *Whales on Stilts*, the first installment of a new fantasy series for fifth- through seventh-graders about characters who must save the world from brainwashed, laser-wielding whales on stilts.

MONDAY, MAY 9

Barnes & Noble Boston University
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to BU East. 7 pm. Free. Tickets required. Two-time Oscar-winning actress **Jane Fonda** discusses and answers questions about her autobiography, *My Life So Far.*

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www. ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Sue Miller** signs and discusses her novel *Lost in the Forest*, about a family that breaks down after a tragic accident.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www. bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Brown University psychiatry professor **Peter D. Kramer** discusses his latest book, *Against Depression*, in which he argues that depression ought to be treated as a disease despite romanticized depictions in the arts.

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Judy Norsigian** and **Heather Stephenson** of the Boston Women's Health Collective discuss the latest edition of *Our Bodies, Ourselves.*

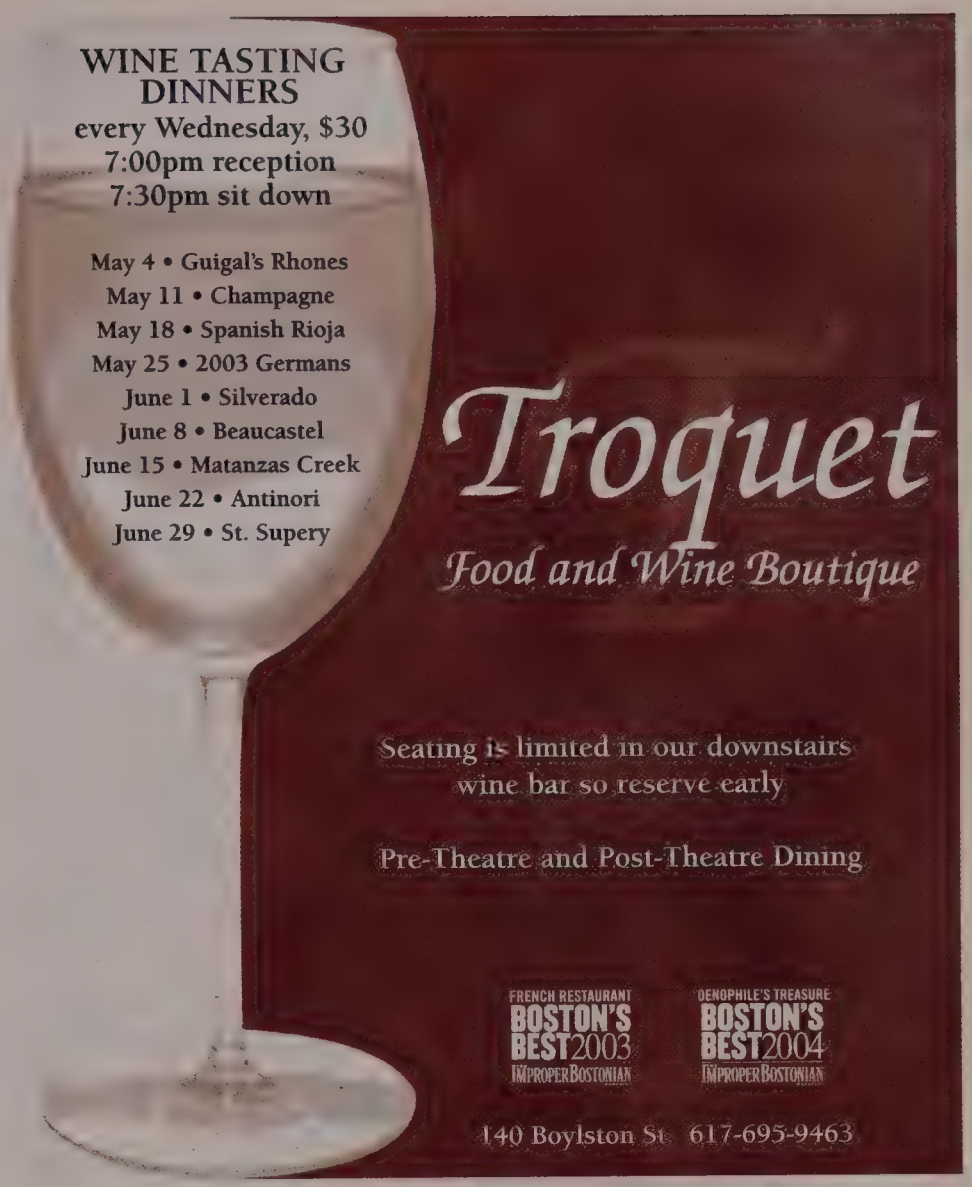
Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Poet **Donald Hall** reads from *The Best Day The Worst Day: Life with Jane Kenyon*, a memoir of his wife's battle with terminal leukemia.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Nicole Krauss** reads from her novel *The History of Love*, about a man who discovers that a novel he wrote in Poland more than 60 years earlier was published in Spanish under another man's name.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

Brookline Booksmith Event
Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $2. **Eric Bogosian** discusses his novel *Wasted Beauty*, about two people who abandon their former lives, meet in Manhattan and become lovers.

Harvard Book Store Event
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. **Judith Martin** discusses her new book, *Miss Manners' Guide*



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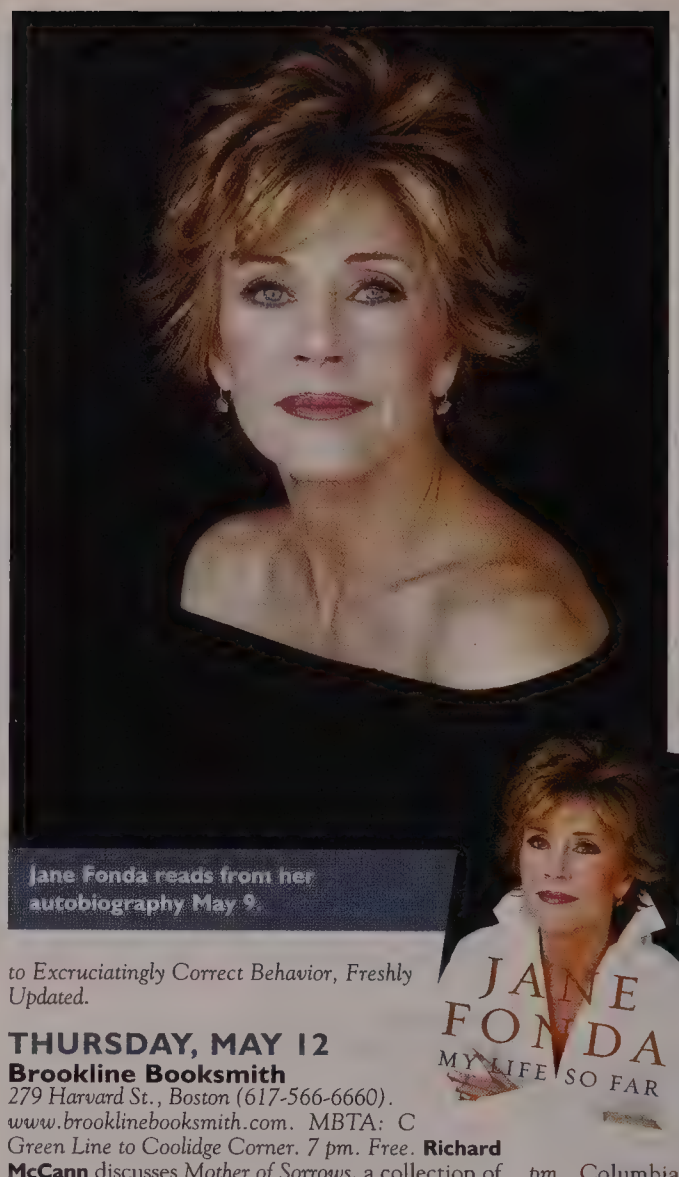

Jane Fonda reads from her autobiography May 9.

to Excruciatingly Correct Behavior, Freshly Updated.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Richard McCann** discusses *Mother of Sorrows*, a collection of 10 related short stories about self, sexual identity and family bonds.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Wellesley College professor **David Ferry** discusses *The Georgics of Virgil*, his new translation of the Roman poet's epic.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Paula Kamen** reads from *All in My Head: An Epic Quest to Cure an Unrelenting, Totally Unreasonable and Only Slightly Enlightening Headache*, a memoir about the unusual treatments she has undergone for a headache that she's endured for 15 years.

FRIDAY, MAY 13

Brookline Booksmith Event
Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 4 pm. $2. **Sue Monk Kidd** discusses her novel *The Mermaid Chair*, about a woman who meets an attractive monk and questions her relationship with her husband.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Andrew Carroll** discusses *Behind the Lines: Powerful and Revealing American and Foreign War Letters and One Man's Search to Find Them*, a collection he edited of letters written during major American wars that he gathered during travels to more than 35 countries.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Local writer **Edith Pearlman** discusses *How to Fall*, her collection of short stories featuring a cast of unpredictable characters.

MONDAY, MAY 16

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Professor of history at Ohio State University **Kevin Boyle** discusses his book *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age*, which tells the story of Ossian Sweet, a black man in 1920s Detroit who was charged with the murder of a white man.

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 491-2660). www.katesmysterybo com. MBTA: Red Line to Davi pm. Free. **Ken Bruen** signs co of *The Magdalyn Martyrs*, his n about a man who finds himself gled in a complex plot while d a favor for an estranged friend.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-7 1360). www.ci.snewton.ma MBTA: D Green Line to New Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Jonat Wilson** reads from *An Ambulanc on the Way: Stories of Men in T ble*, his collection of comical sh stories about middle-aged m having family problems.

TUESDAY, MAY 17

Barnes & Noble Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-2 8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MB Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. F **Michele Claire Lucas** reads from novel *A High and Hidden Place scription*, about children's view the Holocaust.

Brookline Booksmi
279 Harvard St., Boston (6 566-6660). www.brookl booksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Cor 7 pm. Free. **Roxana Robins** discusses *A Perfect Stranger*, collection of short stories ab family dynamics between ger ations, and husbands and wive

Harvard Book Store Event
Askwith Hall, Longfellow Hall, Appian Way, Cambridge (6 661-1515). www.harvard.co MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Columbia University professor **Jeffrey Sachs** discusses *The End of Poverty: Economic Po bilities for Our Time*, his book that outlines a plan eliminate global extreme poverty within the n 20 years.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). ww newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **James Salter** reads fr *Last Night*, a collection of 10 short stories about d functional relationships.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 p 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Can Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in t Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-075 www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard pm. $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays backgrou music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Ca bridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwor org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Ce ter hosts this open mike for women and their alli with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). ww outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to C tral. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Powers hosts Sto Soup, featuring predetermined poets. $4 suggest donation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 su gested donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Friday)
Toast Lounge 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-62 2313). 8 pm. Free. Poet Doug Holder hosts an ope mike reading.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursda
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-718 MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossi 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each mon offers a selection of featured poets and an opport nity for others to take the open mike.

ducation

vice to Contributors

nit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. lline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

:DNESDAY, MAY 4

ebrating the Red Sox

F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, on (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Line to JFK/UMass. Journalist **Mike Barnicle** erates a discussion on the Red Sox' World Series on with team CEO **Larry Lucchino**.

Future of Arts in Massachusetts

bridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., bridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. **Susan Hartnett**, on's director of the Mayor's Office of Arts ism and Special Events, leads a discussion on current state of affairs in the arts and their im-tions from society.

y Matters: Negotiating Race, Gender Region at a Southern Military College

liffe Institute, 34 Concord Ave., Second Floor oquium Room, (617-495-8212) www.radcliffe. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Har- anthropology professor **Mary Margaret dly** leads a discussion based on her research at Citadel Military College of South Carolina.

URSDAY, MAY 5

ing for Your Family's Documents, rks on Paper and Photographs

gfellow National Historic Site, 105 Brattle St., 7-876-4491). www.nps.gov/long. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Christopher olowski** of the Northeast Document Conser-on Center discusses the process of preserving ly heirlooms.

ion and Human Experience

ndeis University, Women's Studies Research Cen-Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-2090). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. Brandeis women's studies scholar **Tema Nason** reads from her short-story collection, A Stranger Here Myself, and discusses the process of writing fiction.

John Landrum Bryant Lecture/ Performance Series

Harvard Graduate School of Education, Gutman Library Conference Center, 6 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-495-9068). www.gse.harvard.edu/aie. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. **Norman Brosterman**, author of Inventing Kindergarten, lectures on the history of kindergarten and its importance in the educational process.

Records from the Ivory Tower

New England Historic Genealogical Society, 10 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10:15 am. Free. The Genealogical Society hosts this lecture and demonstration on the importance of academic institutions.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

Designing Biology

Longfellow Hall, Radcliffe Yard, Cambridge (617-495-8212) www.radcliffe.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 9 am-5 pm. This all-day conference examines the future possibilities in designing and controlling biology. Speakers from different areas of biology will discuss their research and their opinions on where scientific advances will take the field.

SUNDAY, MAY 8

Shirin Ebadi Lecture

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 2003 Nobel Peace Prize winner, author and activist **Shirin Ebadi** speaks on human rights and freedom of speech in her native Iran and throughout the world.

Who Pays?: The Poverty, Housing and Justice Cost of Perpetual War

Cambridge College, 1000 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 4 pm. Free. The Center for New Words hosts a forum for feminist analysis of current world affairs.

MONDAY, MAY 9

Bob Herbert Lecture

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. The award-winning New York Times op-ed columnist discusses his new book, Promises Betrayed, and the gap between American ideals and realities.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

A Book in Hand

Boston Public Library, 666 Boylston St., Boston (617-566-1689). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3 pm. Free. **Roberta Zonghi**, keeper of rare books at the Boston Public Library, and **John Kristensen** of the Firefly Press demonstrate book-making skills as part of the Boston Ink exhibition.

Mother's Day: Performing Motherhood

Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-2090). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. Members of the Brandeis University Theater Arts Department and Women's Studies Resource Center scholars present dramatic readings on motherhood.Immediately following, WSRC scholar **Ruth Nemzoff**, will lead an audience discussion of the featured works.

Voices of Public Intellectuals Lecture Series: Feminism Then and Now

Radcliffe Institute of Harvard, Askwith Lecture Hall in Longfellow Hall, Radcliffe Yard, Cambridge. (617-495-8609). www.radcliffe.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30 pm. Free. Author **Barbara Ehrenreich** delivers a lecture, Weird Science, Challenging Sexist Ideology Since the 1970s, that examines critical issues and shifts in feminist thought over the past few decades.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

Religious Absolutism and Secular Normativity

Radcliffe Institute, 34 Concord Ave, Second Floor Colloquium Room (617-495-8212) www.radcliffe.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. University of Kent professor of law and current Radcliffe Institute fellow **Sylvie Delacroix** discusses the relationship between morals and laws.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

A Book in Hand

Boston Public Library, 666 Boylston St., Boston (617-566-1689) MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3 pm. Free. See May 10 listing for a description.

How Strong Is This Image?

Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-2090). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. WSRC scholar **Emily Corbató** displays her photography and discusses the importance of an artist's point of view.

Perfume Through the Ages

Wellesley Historical Society, 229 Washington St., Wellesley Hills (781-235-6690). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. 3 pm. Free. **Josette André**, owner of Patina-Provence, lectures on the history and making of perfume.

FRIDAY, MAY 13

Friday Night Out

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30 pm. $36-$40. Classes at this evening event include Cooking for Singles, Wine Tasting, Vegetarian Italian Cooking and other subjects. A cocktail reception starts the evening.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Druker Lecture Celebrating Design and Architecture

Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (617-566-1689) MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3 pm. Free. **Maya Lin**, architect of the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C., discusses art and architecture in an urban environment.

Exploring Biodiversity

Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 9 am. $30; $27 members. Learn about rainforests, coral reefs and more during this mini class on the diversity of life on earth.

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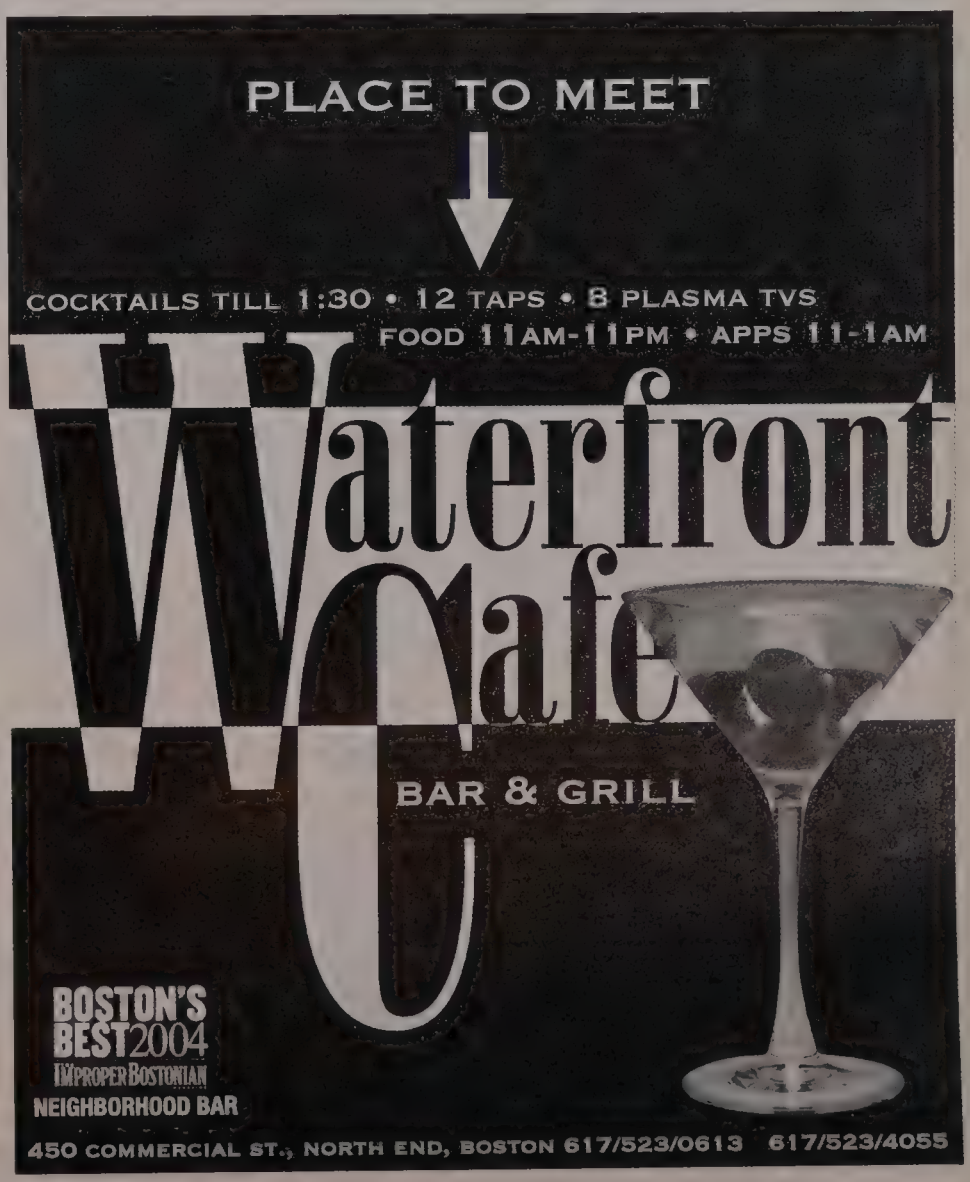

gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
Sanctuary. 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door, $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Felt (Thursdays)
533 Washington St., Boston (617-851-2506). www.tribenightclub.org. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Flesh, Xmortis, Fantasy Factory and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen, and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Friday)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, Thursday is lesbian night and Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.:Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy. The Boston video jockey trio hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Body/Works
The Theater at Machine, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-4691). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Through May 14. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $20. Playwright and actor Michael Z. Keamy debuts his comedic play about a man seeking to balance his mind, body and soul while attempting to integrate himself into society. Curt Miller directs.

Boston Gay & Lesbian Film/Video Festival
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org/film. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. May 11-22. Check Web site for times and prices. This 21st annual festival features films celebrating gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues and culture.

Express Yourself
Toast, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.dykenight.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 6. 8-9 pm. Free. The back room at Toast is set up as a dressing room for this event where women are invited to wear and share femme attire and accessories.

Gay Outdoors
Hunnewell Center, Arnold Arboretum, 125 Arbor Way, Jamaica Plain. www.gayoutdoors.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. May 14, 2-5 pm. Gay Outdoors leads a leisurely and informational walk through the country's oldest arboretum at peak flowering time.

Sleeping with Straight Men
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (800-965-4827). www.ronnielarsen.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. May 12-June 5. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. $25-$30. Based on a true story, this play, written and directed by Ronnie Larsen, tells the story of a gay man who is killed after revealing on national TV that he has a crush on a straight man.

The Witness Cantata
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-236-4011). www.coroallegro.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 13, 8 pm. $15-$60. Coro Allegro artistic director David Hodgkins leads the chorus in a performance of Cambridge native Swanee Hunt's *The Witness Cantata*, as well as works by Norman Dello Joio and Darius Milhaud.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly. org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of each month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Pride Committee
Wainwright Bank Community Room, 155 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-262-9405). www.bostonpride.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue. 6:30 pm. The Pride Committee meets every Tuesday this spring to plan for the 2005 Boston Pride Celebration Season.

Mink Stole portrays a TV talk show hos in *Sleeping with Straight Men*

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns A Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.or MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 p
gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1, member gay club takes part in outdoor activitie

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COL (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) in Medford for support and activities and h a concurrent meeting for interested parents their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston L Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-95 www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free
informal group for people who think they may b sexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Ad
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confide place for men and women who are looking for a space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It m Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coo Corner in Brookline. Call for more information

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England- support, information and social group for peopl signed female at birth who feel that is not an a rate or complete description of their gender. Pa the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group m monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for det

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This g welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional wo 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and soph cated to get together with like-minded wome conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fe health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fen Community Health offers a wide array of service the GLBT community, ranging from discuss about parenting and safe-sex practices to prog addressing domestic violence and substance abu

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Boston's GLBT flag football league for a ca spring season, followed by a formal fall season are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus A Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring. ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat am. See Web site for locations. All are welcom join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn about photography, socialize and meet new peop these monthly meetings. For more informatio mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in develo healthy gay relationships features alternatives meeting and dating, communication games, sin mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail in gaylab.org.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jam Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Th each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of

community are invited to share poetry, prose formance pieces at this open-mike event.

riends: Bisexual and Lesbian nen of Color
ridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line ntral. This discussion group for all ages meets Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

T Professionals Building mmunity
594-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome in this networking organization for GLBT ssionals.

id Assets Swimming
swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian team is open to both competitive and fitness mers of all ages and abilities.

Network/La Red
-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. The ork is a support group working to end abuse bian and bisexual women's and transgender nunities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org ore information.

vly Diagnosed Group
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston -457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group offers support for gay and bisexual men who have been diagd with HIV during the last two years. E-mail gtin@jri.org.

to Dance
-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin ballroom dance classes and workshops are held gay-friendly environment.

TwentySomethings Boston
tysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks heir straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Z Social
shine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., n (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange line ck Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

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body & mind

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Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 6, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Accompanied by live music.

Sexuality and Spirituality Meeting
Newton (617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower. com. May 14, 2-5 pm. $5-10 suggested donation. The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network hosts monthly meetings related to exploring sex holistically. This month's workshop focuses on sex play.

Yoga Salon
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St., Boston (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. May 14, 1-3 pm. $25. This "salon" is a venue for yoga practitioners to gather and discuss yoga-related topics.

Lectures

Healing Energy: Facts, Fallacies and Fun
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circles ofwisdom.com. May 12, 9 am-3 pm $75. This program aims to introduce theories and practices related to auras, chakras, intuition, chi, and how energy treatments may help heal disease.

History of Medical Hypnosis
Osher Institute, Landmark Center, Suite 22a, 401 Park Dr., Boston 617-991-0102). www.osher.hms.harvard. edu. May 12, 4 pm. Free. Led by Dr. Lisa Scharff, assistant professor of psychology at Harvard Medical School, this event sponsored by the Mind Body Journal Club explores the history of medical hypnosis and its use in pain management.

Classes

Ashtanga Yoga With Manju Jois
Yoga East Center for Alternative Medicine, 20 Del Carmine St., Wakefield (781-224-0722). www.yoga east.net. May 6, 6:30-8 pm. May 7-8, 9:30 am-2 pm. $225. Manju Jois, son of Ashtanga yoga creator Sri K. Pattabhi Jois, discusses the ancient teachings of yoga. Ashtanga yoga is a system of postures and breathing designed to help detoxify and strengthen the body, build flexibility and enhance awareness.

Beginners Meditation Workshop
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 14, 10 am-4 pm. $40. This workshop features meditation instruction along with group discussion and is designed for people with no meditation experience or who are relatively new to Vipassana (insight meditation).

Exploring Your Life Mission
Institute for Body, Mind and Spirituality, Lesley College, 29 Everett St., Cambridge (617-349-8129 or 800-999-1959, ext. 8129). www.lesley. edu/gsass/bodymind/current_programs. html. May 14-15. In this workshop, participants are encouraged to explore their life's passion, expand their outlook, identify steps to fulfillment, create a life mission statement and learn ways to keep inspiration alive.

Free Belly Dance Class
The Goddess Dancing, 550 Mass Ave., Cambridge (781-641-1396). www.thegoddessdancing.com. Please register prior to class. May 17, 7:45-9 pm. Free. I ebration of Dance Month, one of the area's belly dance companies offers free classes. Belly ing's moves are said to naturally exercise m without strain and aid digestion.

Take a free belly dancing class at the Goddess Dancing.

Integrating Sexuality and Spiritu
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (617 4448). www.unicornbooks.org. May 6, 7-8:3 $15. May 7, 10:30-5:30 pm. $100. Through m tion and discussion, explore your spiritual and background and needs in order to learn how to grate the two. Taught by Linda Marks, founder Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Networ

Intro to Anusara Yoga
Yoga East Center for Alternative Medicine, 2 Carmine St., Wakefield (781-224-0722). www east.net. May 14, 2-4 pm. $25. Charles Hu teaches Anusara yoga, combining elegant align principles with the shakti energy that comes practicing yoga from the inside out.

Liver Purification Program
Higher Ground Chiropractic, 209 Harvard St., 204, Brookline (617-266-3735). www.drde feinbloom.com. May 8, 15, 22, 30 and June 5 pm. $369, includes supplements and supplies. U diet and journal writing, participants will learn the liver works and explore the connection bet emotions and toxins in the body.

Reiki Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass Ave #304 lington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki. May 13, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Come experience laxing Reiki energy healing treatment.

Relax Your Body, Calm Your Mind
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MB Green Line to Arlington. May 9, four sessions, 7:45 pm. $160. Practitioners from Harv Mind/Body Medical Institute present their rese on the relaxation response. Speakers discuss physiologic changes that occur when a perso gages in a repetitive word, sound, phrase, or p and are said to be beneficial for mind and body an effective therapy for several physical ailment

Soothing Summer Skin Care
Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Camb (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA Line to Central. May 10, 6-8 pm. Free. Sum means fun in the sun, along with irritations lik sect bites, sunburn and poison ivy or oak. L some simple herbal methods to prevent and these problems. Participants will also learn ho make a useful lotion.

Under-30 Meditation Night
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline A Brookline (617-734-1498). www.primordialdot MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Ma and 17, 7-8:30 pm. Free. For young adults who p tice meditation or are just beginning, this nigh chance to join with peers, discuss the teachin Buddha and relax.

Women's Healing Love
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlin (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. May 10:30 am-4 pm. $80. The spiritual function of ual energy is explored in this workshop for wo only. Participants are taught chi kung and me tion exercises to help build on the strength of f nine yin power. The practice promotes self-l contentment and greater compassion.

Ongoing

Sweat Box Exercise
Sweat Box, 125 Summer St., Boston (617-905-36 MBTA: Red Line to South Station, Fri., 1:55 Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, MBTA: Line to Charles/MGH, Sat., 11 www.sweatbox.com. $15 (first is free). The Sweat Box Remi class combines physical train kickboxing, urban dance, aero martial arts and boot camp. levels welcome.

Yoga for Fitness/ Waltham
Prospect Hill Fitness Center, 100 Ave., Waltham (781-648-07 www.innerfocusyoga.com/class prospect_hill.htm. Thu., 5:30 $5. This moderately paced cla suitable for all levels. No registration is required, yoga m are provided and cost inclu usage of all gym equipme weights and sauna. Taught Kripalu certified instructor Greenberg.

ports

ice to Contributors

it listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calen- Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@ per.com. Include address, phone number, subway dates and times, and a brief description of the league ent. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone nust be received at least four weeks in advance.

ome Games

ton Red Sox
nway Park, Boston
ets: 617-482-4769
6, 7:05 pm vs. Seattle Mariners
7, 7:05 pm vs. Seattle Mariners
8, 2:05 pm vs. Seattle Mariners
9, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland Athletics
10, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland Athletics
11, 1:05 pm vs. Oakland Athletics

vents

D.M's Run
y V.F.W. Post, 371 Summer St., Somerville. www. rg. May 8, 10 am. $20. This 5K Mother's Day race raises money for the Claudia Adams Barr ram in Innovative Basic Cancer Research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Barbecue and provided post-race by Harpoon and bones.

Play

STRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

ston Demons
-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club s new players for nine-a-side competition.

SEBALL

nry's Baseball
1-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

SKETBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club
7-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basket- for players at all levels. Leagues exist in Water- n, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and viduals are welcome.

mbridge Racquet and Fitness Club (RFC)
7-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year- nd leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

rporate Basketball League
1-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one men's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, wton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

ever Too Late Basketball
1-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

OXING

ston Sport Boxing Club
Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www. tonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to rvard, then #71 bus. The club ers Olympic-style boxing ions for all levels.

ODGEBALL

ston Ski & Sports ub Dodgeball
7-789-4070). The BSSC is ruiting for dodgeball teams.

RFC Dodgeball
17-491-8989). www.crfc lgeball.com. Now accepting yers and teams for a dodgeball gue. Games at CRFC in ndall Square.

NDURANCE RAINING

am in Training
00-688-6572). www.teamin ining.org. This organization ovides fund-raising athletes th group training and sup- rt, personalized coaching d guaranteed race entry for ents.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Sat. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

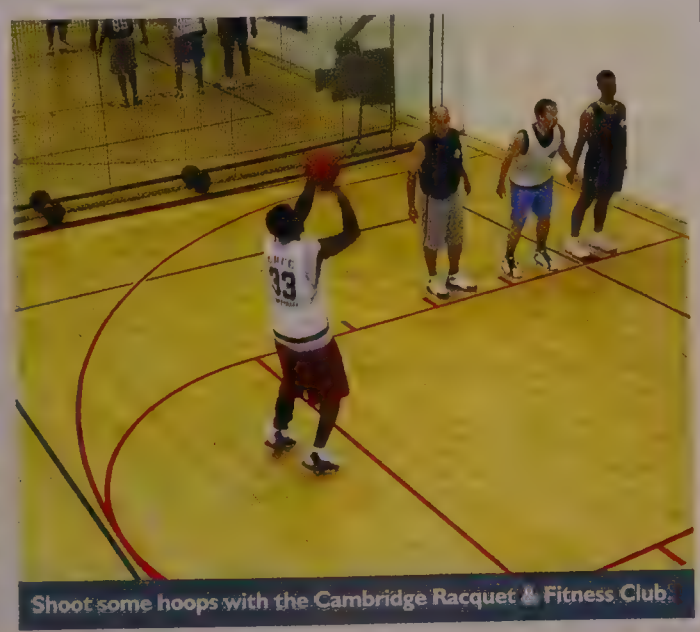
Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Members have access to a ski lodge and can participate in ski and snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.



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children

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Things to See

The Beanstalk, the Giant and Jack
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway. Through May 8. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 pm. $12-$20. Wheelock presents a commedia dell'arte style performance of the classic children's tale.

Big Apple Circus: Picturesque
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (800-922-3772). www.bigapplecircus.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Through May 8 (see Web site for show times). $13-$53. Big Apple Circus' 27th season features jugglers, horses, acrobats, trapeze artists and more.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •May 4 and 5, *The Kingdom of Riddles*, by Sparky Davis. Recommended for ages 3-6. •May 7 and 8, *Hansel and Gretel*, by Tanglewood Marionettes. Recommended for ages 5-12. •May 11 and 12, *Cinderella, A Woodland Fairy Princess*, by Deborah Costine. Recommended for ages 3-6. •May 14 and 15, *Three Pigs and Other Tales*, by Deb Costine. *Rumplestiltskin*, by Paul Vincent Davis. Recommended for ages 4-9.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Free. 11 am. Listen to children's stories every Saturday morning.

Boston Art Tours
Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm. Tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting and more. •Mon., Wed. and Fri., 11 am-12 pm. Music & Movement is a chance for children ages 3 and under to dance to popular tunes. •Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm. Pint-Sized Science offers scientific exploration for preschoolers. •Wed., 2-3 pm. Musical Moments allows participants to explore instruments, music and dances from cultures around the world. •Thu., 11:30-1:30 pm. Kids adapt their favorite books into plays during StoryBook Theatre on the KidStage. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge. •Daily, 10 am-12 pm and 1-3 pm, PlaySpace offers a messy activity for children up to age 3.

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students/children. Short-form improv performance for the whole family includes interactive games.

Lowell National Historical Park
67 Kirk St., Lowell (978-970-5000). www.nps.gov/lowe. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Lowell. Free. •Become a Junior Ranger and receive a badge and certificate after completing activities thro the park. •Discover the story of Lowell' through the Boott Discovery Trail, which ir hands-on activities and a 1920s weaving Free with admission to Boott Cotton Mil seum, $6. •Visit the Children's Corner and pate in activities that explain Lowell's mil nology with gears and pulleys.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to K Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $ 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*H phy, the Light Fantastic* is a display featurin world's largest collection of holograms. On •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's ar intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship M The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship m from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Mu •Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm. The Children's Ro an interactive learning environment that en ages children ages 6-12 to take a closer look museum's collection. May 4-6, Nature's El Design: Collage. May 9-13, Art From th malayas: Bookmaking. •Tue. & Wed., 3:30 pm, ages 5 and under. Books Bring Art Aliv hands-on activity that introduces children t museum's collection through literature. • 11am-3 pm, ages 4 and up. Art Alive, Art I Out: Printmaking uses cultural activities and atrical interpretations to show how work made. •Sat.-Sun., 11 am-4 pm, ages 4 an Drop-In Drawing includes gallery activities zles and drawing lessons. Materials provided.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. M Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $1 niors, $10 children. •*Playing with Time* exp technology that detects and manipulates Through April 21. •Four hundred butterflie flowers are on display in the new permanent *terfly Garden*. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs* showcase museum's collection of dinosaur models. O ing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhib that features models of a wave tank, Mount E est and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Scien the Park is a permanent playground with a s tific spin. •*Mapping the World Around Us* exp the evolution of maps. Ongoing. •*Virtual Tank* features 12 large projection screens form a 400-square-foot virtual tank with than 50 brightly colored fish and sharks. O ing. •*Forces of Nature, Amazing Journeys, My of the Nile*, and *Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* sho the IMAX Theater. •*Bugs!* is a 20-minute movie presentation at the Wright Theater. O ing. •*Mission to Saturn* at the Planetarium sh the Cassini spacecraft as it makes a dange journey toward one of Saturn's most myster moons. Ongoing. •*Countdown to Supernova* Planetarium show that illustrates the ways s meet their demise, including the spectacular plosions called supernovas. Ongoing.

Music and the Not-So-Savage Bea
Miriam and Sidney Stoneman Playground, Ch River Esplanade, Boston (617-227-0365). w esplanadeassociation.org. •May 15, 2 pm-4 This event features a performance by Evan Ha Kindermusik plus some visitors from the Fran Park Zoo.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.n org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seni $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* feat thousands of jellyfish. Continues through 20 •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank cont sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edg the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuring sea st hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •*Aliens of the D* plays in 3D at the IMAX Theater.

New School of Music
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-492-8105). ww cambridgemusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harva May 6, 6 pm. $5 per person/$15 per family. Celebr the end of the school year at the Family Friday ries Farewell Sing Along and Pizza Party, the fi event in this year's series.

Tadpole Playground
Boston Common, adjacent to Frog Pond (508-8 1151). www.tadpoleplayground.org. Open from da until dusk. The playground offers kids a chance enjoy art, water fountains, and games. Check W site for special events.

round
own

hts to See

on University Observatory
Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. ear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

dren's Museum
Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-3855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line uth Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 :1.

euil Hall
ate St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue o State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am- Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

vard Museum of Natural History
xford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www. harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. -Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, hildren, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

n F. Kennedy Library & Museum
nbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: ine to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; se- and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

unt Auburn Cemetery
Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). A: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

seum of Afro-American History
oy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam um.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park t. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., n-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

seum of Science
ace Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am- (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children,

seum of Transportation
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-, 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

w England Aquarium
tral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: .-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1- . 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. 95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

d North Church
Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange reen Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

d State House Museum
Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: nge or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, ors and students, $4; children, $1.

udential Center Skywalk
Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: en Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. 50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; chil- under 3, free.

nity Church
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: en Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; chil- 12 and under, free.

S Constitution & Museum
rlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www. onstitutionmuseum.org. Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 5 pm; May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm. Free.

olunteer

C Mentoring Program
7-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a er-care child.

DS Action Committee
7-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with V/AIDS.

nerican Cancer Society
7-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer pa- nts to their local treatment appointments.

nerican Red Cross of assachusetts Bay
17-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volun- r in the administrative department.

g Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
17-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks vol- teers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast or dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

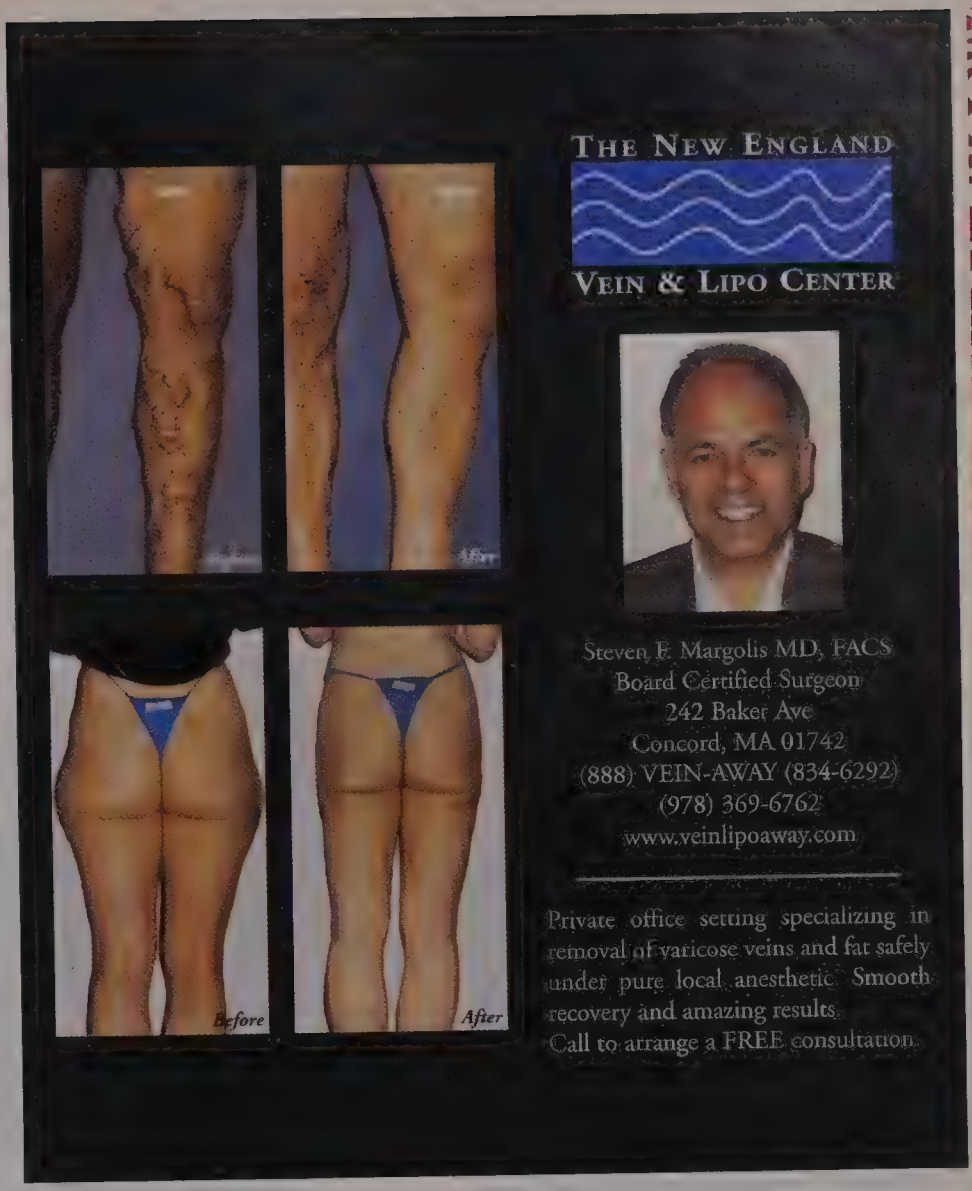
Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.



IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRI

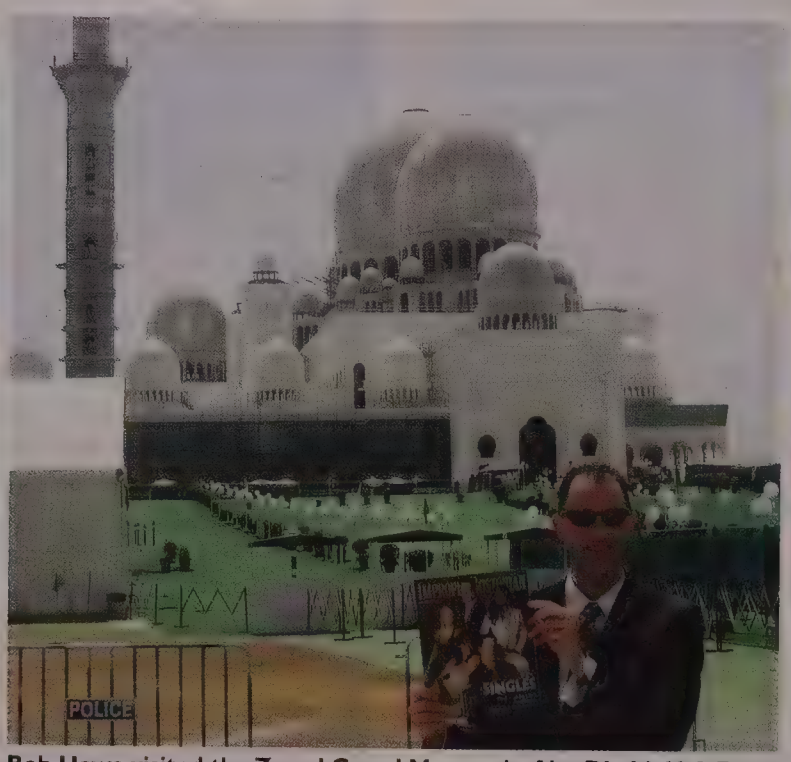
Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you wer The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Specialists King, Lovasco, Elden and Joyce get their hands on a few IMPROPERS at Camp Patriot in Kuwait. Random question: Can we get these guys some camouflaged guns?

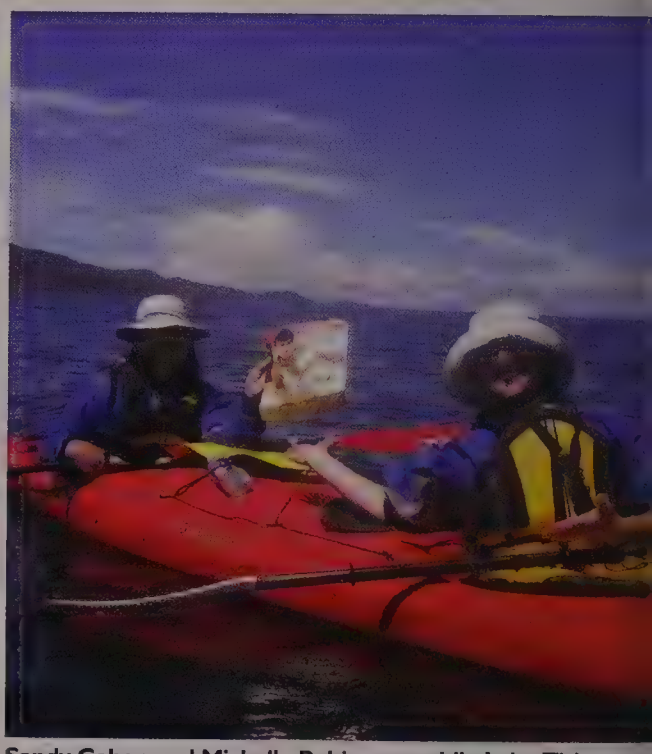
Angie Vargas took a cab to Monterrey, Mexico, to see the tallest flag in Mexico. By night, SuperMexicanMan uses it as a cape.

Run Runstein, Al Larkin, Newt Trevens and Mike Hallal prepare to tee off at Coral Canyon in Washington, Utah. Al started hittin longer drives after hole 8, when he removed his club cover.

Maxim Anderson and Bianca Krizek pose at the Ultra Music Fest in Miami. Behind them is hot new act Two Stiltwalkers and a Paunchy Guy in Spandex.



Bob Howe visited the Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. The Zayed is converting from AstroTurf to natural grass, which should make for fewer knee injuries and a slower praying surface.



Sandy Cohen and Michelle Robinson paddle Lake Titicaca, between Peru and Bolivia. Sandy Cohen... the dad on *The OC*... Titicaca... we can't decide what to joke about here.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Chasing a wheel of cheese (preferably a very hard and consequently fast cheese) down a steep hill at the Cooper's Hill Cheese Rolling, held May 30 in Brockworth, England.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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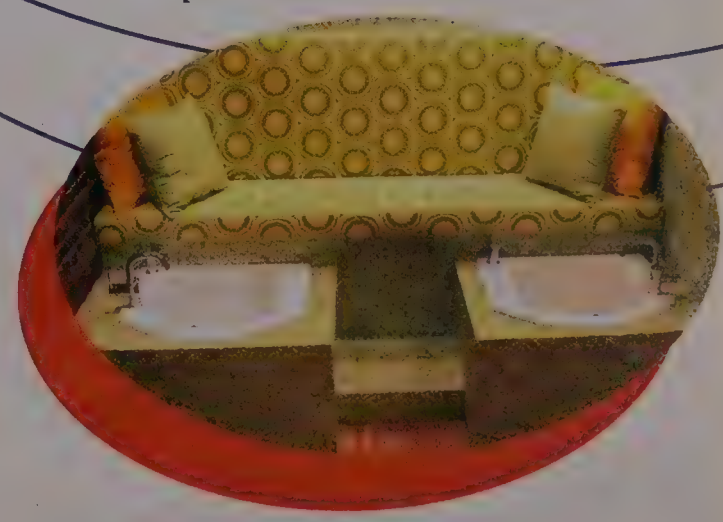

BOSTON'S BEST 2002 — IMPROPER BOSTONIAN — Best Colorist

BOSTON'S BEST 2003 — IMPROPER BOSTONIAN — Best Eyebrow Shaping

BOSTON'S BEST 2004 — IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

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design/layout: boston shaker media design : bostonshaker.com

improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all ov the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to t up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

THE IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

Slimy Ponytail, Slimy Manners

At the Rusted Root Concert at Avalon: You first appeared to be a gentleman, holding your girlfriend's place on the crowded floor. But then the lights dimmed and your inner jackass emerged. You unleashed your slimy, two-inch ponytail (which you were clearly proud of for some ridiculous, Neanderthal reason) and as the band began to play, you began to have an immature hissy fit. Or maybe it was a seizure. Hard to tell. You threw elbows, flung said nasty hair and threatened to punch women around you (not embellished). We were confused—was this a Slayer show? Such behavior was not to be expected at a Rusted Root concert. We hope you had a fantastic night, hopping ridiculously offbeat and asserting your little-man syndrome to those around you. Nothing is sexier than a stumpy plump man spastically jumping and willing to assault women to maintain his dance-floor status. No one was fooled. You are a jackass. And a short one. Grow up. We hope things work out with your girlfriend because she is as sleazy as you are.

—We'd like to send you on YOUR way

Tell It Like It Is!

I'm new to the Boston online dating scene and I have to admit, I have one grievance: Gentlemen, if you're not 5'11", don't say you're 5'11". Ladies, I'm sure that there are a few of you out there who have experienced a similar thing. I met a guy in NYC a few weeks ago who I had been chatting with for months. He said he was 5'8", so I arrived in heels as I am pushing 5'4". Let's just say I was towering over him in my boots, so he couldn't have been more than 5'6". This was the third date I went on where the man felt it was best to lie about his height. A word of advice boys—do what you want on your license, but women hate it more when you lie about your height than if you're completely honest. Give us a break! I'm not looking for Yao Ming, but if you lie and I'm looking down at you, it won't only be because I chose to wear my 3" heels.

—Frustrated female

Man at H&R Block April 9

You came in and sat next to me while you were waiting for your tax appointment. You have brown or black hair, a little bit of gray, are about 5' 11", and sound as if you may be from Europe. I think we were both feeling too shy or awkward to talk, but I noticed how worn out your shoes were and I just knew you didn't have a girlfriend. I got called before you, and thought that would be it, but then when I went out to pay, you were there signing out. Again, I thought you were going to talk to me, but you didn't. I'm just tired of always making the first move, but I guess I blew it. My name is Aby, and I think your name is David ...nki, something Polish-sounding (I peeked at your form). I have a big refund coming my way, so if you'd like to let me buy you a drink, or sheesh, a new pair of shoes, you can e-mail me.

—hrblockwoman@hotmail.com.

School Bus on Bowdoin Street

You: Looked like Josh Hartnett, rounding the corner from Bowdoin Street to Beacon. It all happened so fast...You had a gray jacket, and a scarf, I think. You were carrying a bag and were very cute. Me: I caught your eye. I was actually riding on a school bus (I'm a teacher): Front seat, sunglasses, brown hair, blonde highlights. It's one of those split-second moments that you wished lasted at least a second longer, if anything out of curiosity. And now I can't help but wonder who you are.

—schoolbuschickis@yahoo.com

To the Man in the Tan Blazer

I saw you in Francesca's on April 11 and I thought you were quite attractive. You were wearing jeans and a blue T-shirt and a tan blazer that you put on when it got cold. You were writing on a pad, and you laughed at my friend and me when we tried to sing "Total Eclipse of the Heart." You turned around as you were leaving because I said bye a little loudly under my breath, and when I went to pay, my friend tried to run after you to say hi and hand out my number. But she missed you, and whe we tried again, you were gone. If you' out there, I want to say hi and maybe grab coffee. See you in Francesca's again hopefully—I'll try to try at the same time another week!

—Keith

April 16 Bachelorette Party, Ned Devine's/ Parris

I wish I could describe what you were wearing, but I was preoccupied with your eyes—very corny, but true. I wa wearing a white shirt and we traded multiple looks on the dance floor. Because of a disagreement with a friend, I was forced to choose the more mature of two alternatives and leave the situation. But it also meant leaving before having the chance to speak with you. Even though your feet were tired, you got up from the couch in the corner and said hi in an attempt to stop me from leaving as I grabbed my jacket. I had always been told regrets sucked. Now I know firsthand. If you feel like helping a guy out, e-mail me and I'll make it up to you with a Class A date. I even do weddings.

—nutherchance@hotmail.com

Met You at the Harp

You: Reading me the Impersonals in between trying to get me drunk. Me: Waiting on someone who wore Axe. I thought you might like to see one of these with you as one of the characters. E-mail me if you want to continue the conversation.

—metatharp@gmail.com

rockie horoscope

MAY 4 – 17, 2005

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

TAURUS APRIL 20–MAY 20

The best birthday present, or the biggest surprise, could be the attention the public will pay to your latest accomplishment. Although you might not be completely comfortable with the glare of the spotlight, the buzz surrounding your name can inspire better work. It'll also present interesting opportunities to strut your stuff. The path you're currently on could veer off in another direction shortly after the Taurus new moon on Mother's Day initiates a new cycle of growth and consolidation.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

How dramatic does a surprise have to be before a Gemini admits that one, if not both, of its Twin personalities is properly impressed? Do you need more than one or two minishocks to realize that things are in flux, and that you're facing some interesting, if not outright intimidating, choices? Parents behaving badly can put you closer to the edge, but while your Mercury ruler is in outspoken Aries, you won't brook their bullshit. The world will feel more comfortable if you can connect to folks on a spiritual as well as an intellectual level.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Say it loud, say it proud. Vocal Mercury at the top of your chart is campaigning for an announcement of sorts, e.g., word about a work-in-progress. At the moment, the Messenger is your main motivational force, so if you're reaping a reward for a deed already done or simply enjoying a respite from the daily grind, consider putting pen to paper (so to speak) and giving shape to whatever is in the forefront of your mind. Whether you get an opportunity to put your money where your mouth is depends on how your Mother's Day goes.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Feel free to break a few rules and regulations, to try out something new and different, even thrilling. While you're exploring activities influenced by barrier-breaking Uranus, the call will be "no harm, no foul." Maybe you'll have an opportunity to take a money-making idea someplace where it's never been before? Do it sooner rather than later because over the Mother's Day weekend nebulous Neptune in your house of partners may cast a spell on your sun ruler and replace brilliance and breakthroughs with delusions or doubts.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Smart yet sensible, seductive and scintillating. Appreciative Venus in Taurus can be a comfort for the nitpicking, hair-splitting Virgin. Because the goddess sensitizes you to beauty in its many forms, a well-constructed concept could be as appealing as a well-prepared meal. And no matter what the language, the songs will all sound good. Look outside a significant relationship for a source of satisfaction; with Mars in your Pisces house of partnerships, chances are he or she is becoming more aggressive, more unpredictable, too.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Just when you thought you'd had it with the martyr bit, Venus, your amenable ruling planet, reaches out yet again to self-sacrificing Neptune. A situation that began around Valentine's Day, when these die-hard romantics initiated another phase of an idealistic relationship, can reach a turning point this week during their first big test, the waxing square. You would be a saint indeed if you could resist the temptation to follow where their overwrought spiritual devotion or overhyped artistic inspiration leads.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Will you be the foil who lets your partner pull the wool over your eyes? Pretending already? How many times can you buy into the victim routine? Who in the family is so delusional that they believe their own publicity? "The willful suspension of disbelief," the credo of those crazy Romantics, can drown the current atmosphere in fantasy-fulfillment and fabulousness. Just know that even if the hype doesn't affect you personally, it's a force to be reckoned with. P. S.—The Taurus new moon might bring another ally to the table.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Somehow the Archer can ignore the comings and goings, the subtle changes scheduled for the period that ends with the new moon on Mother's Day. Until loving Venus gets to your Gemini house of partners on the 9th, there's nothing or no one special enough to attract your attention, engage your interest or, more importantly, tug at your heartstrings. Solidify what you've been building on so far, enjoy the springtime celebrations, and steel yourself for the problem that crops up when Mars meets Uranus mid-month and disrupts your domestic scene.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Your romantic and recreational pursuits may get a new lease on life from the Taurus new moon on the 9th, but until then, secure what you've already laid claim to. Right now, loving Venus and your Saturn ruler are on friendly terms as they close a chapter of the partnership matter that began last summer. This harmonious interlude will last until June 25, when the two planets meet once more in your Cancer complement. After that, who knows? Once Saturn moves on to fiery Leo in mid July, a significant relationship could change dramatically.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Do something nice for the house, ditto for the people in it. Artistic Venus, encouraged by the sensual Taurus sun and moon merger, is determined to make your domicile more attractive. Since right now Venus is appealing to impressionable Neptune in your sign, this would be the appropriate time to stop resisting and unleash your aesthetic sensibilities. Maybe the results will be bizarre, maybe just "different" enough to attract notice, maybe so out-and-out gorgeous that our perception of you is altered forever.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

The tense romantic atmosphere could be palpable as Venus issues demands to your Neptune ruler. You might be able to alleviate the pressure by running for the hills, perhaps to smell the flowers. An equally effective alternative would be to hide out at your neighborhood spa. Wandering through art galleries could help, as long as your aesthetic appetite is constantly fed. Don't be shy; having militant Mars in your sign, from April 30 until June 11, adds the air of authority to your requests. Take it easy though, Mars may make you irritable, and irritating to be with.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Money and material goods are usually not major issues for Rams, but there are times, primarily during Taurus and Scorpio, when they appear to be of utmost importance. Figure out the return you're getting on the time and thought you've invested and, while Mercury is still in Aries, speak up. You might become even more aggressive in June when your Mars ruler is no longer floating through supersensitive Pisces absorbing soulful feelings. Until then, consider dabbling in other art forms, finding other uses for your imagination.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

Clifford Michael DESIGN

SPECIAL OCCASION

Join us to Celebrate our
Grand Opening
Open House 1pm - 7pm

Thursday, May 5th
Friday, May 6th

Informal Modeling
Refreshments

Spring/Summer Collections
Gowns, Dresses
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401-846-8175

What Goes Around, Comes Around

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Thursday, April 7, **The Container Store** held a private preview party celebrating the Grand Opening of their newest store in Natick MA.

1. **Thea Peck**, sales associate, and **Christina Kim**, sales associate, both for The Container Store, Chestnut Hill, and **Nairi Aprahamian**, account coordinator at O'Neill and Associates.
2. **Megan Dubas**, intern at NECN, and **Sam Reidy**, student at Boston College.
3. **Alisa Miles**, visual merchandising at The Container Store, Chestnut Hill; **Garrett Boone**, chairman and co-founder of The Container Store; and **Gloria Thompson**, visual merchandising at The Container Store, Chestnut Hill.

On Thursday, April 14, **The Improper Bostonian Magazine** proudly sponsored **Beyond Shelter**. The 18th annual benefit event for the Friends of Boston's Homeless was held at **State Room**.

1. **Amy Schlom**, federal/national policy analyst for the Massachusetts Office of Medicaid, and **John Saccardo**, vice president of operations at RTAS Systems.
2. **Joe O'Brien**, principal at O'Brien enterprises; **Heather Walker**, director of marketing for The Rack; and **Mariann Bucina**, executive director fo Friends of Boston's Homeless.
3. **Jim Apteker**, owner of The State Room, and his mother, **Lily Apteker**.

On Wednesday, April 13, **Crescent Heights** hosted 400 real estate brokers and local press representatives to celebrate the grand opening of the **Regatta Riverview Residences**. The hors d'oeuvres were created by **Capers Catering**. Michael Schlow was also there signing copies of his new cookbook, *It's About Time*.

1. **Lisa DonFransesco**, principal at Saint James Real Estate Advisors; **Lisa McGonagle**, principal at Nickerson PME; **Jonathan Kosow**, vice president at GuardHill Financial; and **Kristen Uekermann**, marketing coordinator at Nickerson PME.
2. **Michael Schlow**, chef and owner of Radius, Via Matta and Great Bay restaurants, and **Geoff Goldfarb**, project manager for Crescent Heights.
3. **Tara Sacony**, regional marketing director at Crescent Heights; **Kevin Lewis**, local marketing coordinator at Crescent Heights; and **Mitchell Freedland**, principal for Mitchell Freedland Design.

On Monday, April 18, **Vox Populi** held a marathon party for the social athlete.

1. **Joe Quattrocchi**, owner of Vox Populi, and **Christina Tannian**, bartender for Back Bay Restaurant Group.
2. **Bryan E. Ellis**, vice president, and **Reid Oslin** managing director, both o Blue Star Jets.
3. **Jay Roberts**, network engineer for Allied Technology, and **Mark Foley**, VP for Foley Food Service.

PHOTOS: THE CONTAINER STORE, BILL EPPICH; BEYOND SHELTER, JULIE KANE; CRESCENT HEIGHTS, KATIE SCHMIDT; VOX POPULI, DANA D'ALFON

RESTAURANTS

IE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at vbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A restaurant with a jazz-infused atmos- re, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature is cool tunes and American classics menu. Select n items such as the Grilled Portabella inni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. Blue Cat Cafe also makes its mark with que martini selections such as the now-fa- us Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City rch's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. en daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

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Dance Bars

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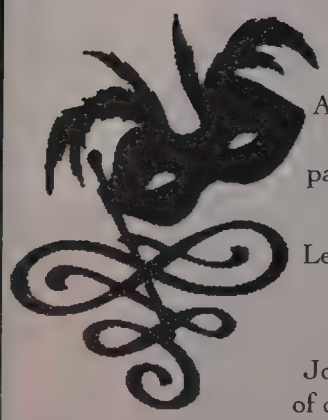

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At the Sleeping Beauty Ball, top: Susan Poduska and Mary Jean Keany. Bottom row: Trevania and John Henderson; John and Andrea Osbon; a wig and a tiara.

YOU CAN NEVER BE TOO GRACEFUL OR TOO THIN...

Boston Ballet's Sleeping Beauty Ball, held at the **Westin**, could've been a total snooze were it not for the scintillating company, fabulous food, free-flowing booze and magical decor.

In fact, it was a fairy tale of a night, beginning with cocktails and a silent auction where savvy types might have spotted such super-socialites as the gorgeous **Susan Poduska** and **Mary Jean Keany** with their respective spouses, **Bill** and **Paul**; party planner extraordinaire **Bryan Rafanelli**; real estate mogul **Arthur Winn**; publishing grand poobah **Nader Darehshori**; developer and hotelier **Robin Brown** with the luscious **Marcia**; bright young things **Caleb** and **Elizabeth Clapp**; the achingly lovely **Trevania Dudley Henderson** and her husband, **John**; philanthropic fun couple **Nina** and **David Fialkow**; ballet stalwarts **Pamela** and **John Humphrey**; Beacon Hill denizens **Chris** and **Hilary Gabrielli**; stunning former dancer **Andrea Osbon** and her improbably tall other half, **John**; arts patrons **Hod** and **Cassandra Irvine**; beguiling Brown professor **Melinda Rabb**, and other, equally sparkly celebrants.

The sit-down dinner was accompanied by performances from the ballet's upcoming production, and after coffee and dessert, a curtain parted to reveal a reasonable facsimile of Studio 54 circa 1977, where most everyone took to the dance floor and shook their groove thangs until way past their bedtimes.

Regarding the dress code, which specified "Black Tie and Tiara," numerous guests (including several men) purchased a $100 rhinestone version, which entered them in the raffle to win a pair of drop-dead diamond earrings from Tiffany's, but there were plenty of ladies there who own the real McCoy and offered excuses for not wearing them:

"It's in the vault. There was traffic. I couldn't be bothered."

"Mine's at the cleaners."

And best of all: "Camilla Parker-Bowles borrowed mine for her wedding."

As for the evening's snarkiest remark, the prize went to the woman who said, "The ballerinas are so skinny. Maybe we should host a fund-raiser to feed them."

ANTE UP...

It was part celebrity petting zoo, part trip to Vegas, with shades of Mardi Gras in New Orleans, when the **Big Easy** hosted a **Celebrity Poker Tournament** to benefit the **Face of an Angel Foundation**.

The brainchild of venture capital gazillionaire–turned-film–producer **Todd Dagres** and Boston Scientific's **Jim Curtis** and wife, **Katie**, the evening attracted a cavalcade of bold-faced names, among them: homeboy-gone-Hollywood **Donnie Wahlberg**; **Seth Meyers** of *Saturday Night Live* and his brother, **Josh**, of *Mad TV*; *That 70s Show*'s **Danny Masterson**; *Cheers* alum **John Ratzenberger**; MTV uber-babe and former Miss USA **Susie Castillo**; Godsmack frontman **Sully Erna**; *7th Heaven* heartthrob **Geoff Stults**; top-ranked poker player **Annie Duke**; film producers **Jimmy Cummings** and **Dot Aufiero**; and such prominent locals as hairdresser-turned-comedian **Patrice Vinci**; broadcasting legends "Coach" **Willie Maye** and **Gregg Hill**; entertainment mogul **Richie Balsbaugh**; high-tech plutocrat **Jonathan Seelig** and the babe-a-luscious **Maggie**; gazillionaire car salesman **Ernie Boch Jr.**; real estate mack-daddy **Paul Palandjian**; dashingly handsome entrepreneur **J.K. Nicholas** and his gorgeous other half, **Virginia Shannon**, and others of an equally awe-inspiring ilk.

Whether Lady Luck was on the guest list is anyone's guess, but judging by the number of players who ponied up between $1,000 and $25,000 to play, Faith, Hope and Charity certainly were.

"Not bad for a first-time event," said Katie Curtis, with admirable understatement. A casino should only do so well.

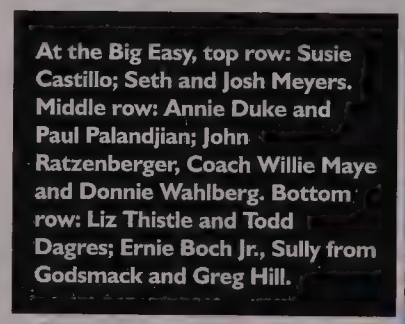
At the African Presidential Dinner, clockwise from top left: Phylicia Rashad; Arese and Walter Carrington; Jodi Charles; John Scanlan and Agnes Bundy Scanlan.

ALL HAIL THE CHIEFS...

It's not often that you find yourself in the same room as 11 former heads of state, not to mention Claire Huxtable from *The Cosby Show*, so the **African Presidential Dinner** at the **John F. Kennedy Library**, hosted by BU's African Presidential Archives and Research Center, falls squarely into the category of highly memorable evenings.

It began, as all great occasions do, with cocktails and the chance to rub elbows with guests like former ambassador to Nigeria **Walter Carrington** and his magnificent wife, **Arese** (who's both an M.D. and a princess); lieutenant governo **Kerry Healey**; former ambassador t Tanzania **Charles Stith** and his M.D. wife, **Deborah**; her mother, the incompa rable **Mildred Prothrow**; real estat titan **Marvin Gilmore**; consul general o Finland **Leonard Kopelman**; Caribbea queen **Colette Phillips**; staffing tycoo **Earl Tate**; Sovereign Bank CEO **Joh Hamill**; DNC bigwig **Gail Jackson** Boston Camerata head **Sandra Bagley** the delightful **Ernestine Randall-Smit** with her husband, **Lawrence**; an Martha's Vineyard bigwig and chief of th MBTA Transit Police **Joe Carter**, among distinguished others.

After an hour or so, guests were ushered into the dining room, where the incomparably elegant **Phylicia Rashad** introduced Their Excellencies **Nicephore Soglo** of Benin, **Sir Q. Ketumile Masire** of Botswana, **Antonio Mascarenhas Monteiro** of Cape Verde, **Aristides Maria Pereira** of Ghana, **Daniel Arap Moi** of Kenya, Major **Pierre Buyoya** of Burundi, Flight Lieutenant **Jerry John Rawlings** of Ghana, **Joaquim Alberto Chissano** of Mozambique, **Karl Auguste Offmann** of Mauritius, **Ali Hassan Mwinyi** of Tanzania and **Dr. Kenneth David Kaunda** of Zambia, all without mispronouncing a syllable. As if all that weren't heady enough, the after-dinner entertainment was courtesy of legendary Cape Verdean musician **Bana**, who had the crowd on their feet, and lest the whole evening sound a bit stuffy, it ended with Kaunda grabbing a guitar and microphone to belt out a few tunes and Jerry Rawlings showing everyone exactly how he got elected by doing an impromptu stand-up routine. IB



At the Big Easy, top row: Susie Castillo; Seth and Josh Meyers. Middle row: Annie Duke and Paul Palandjian; John Ratzenberger, Coach Willie Maye and Donnie Wahlberg. Bottom row: Liz Thistle and Todd Dagres; Ernie Boch Jr., Sully from Godsmack and Greg Hill.

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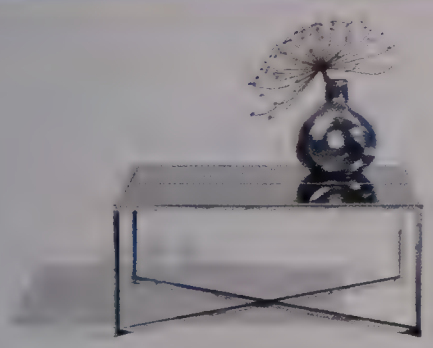

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86	Finlandia Vodka of Finland
86	Alps French Vodka
85	Skyy Vodka
82	Original Polish Vodka
82	Glenmore Special
82	Fleischmann's Royal Vodka
81	Mr. Boston Vodka
80	Pole Star Vodka
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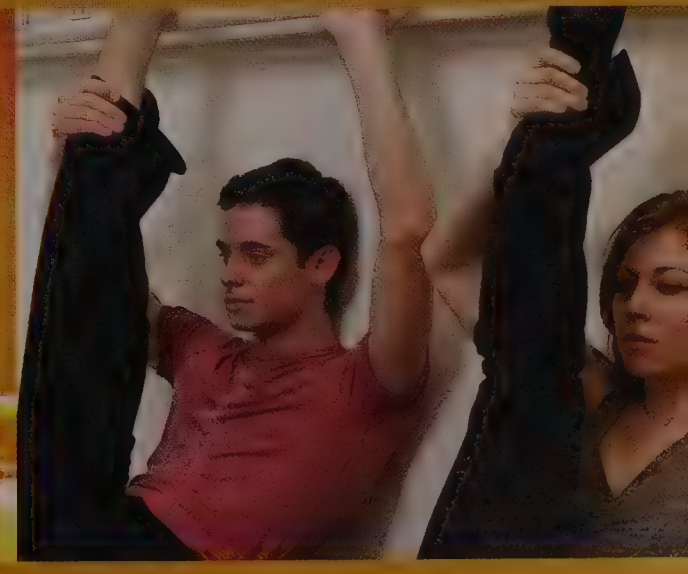

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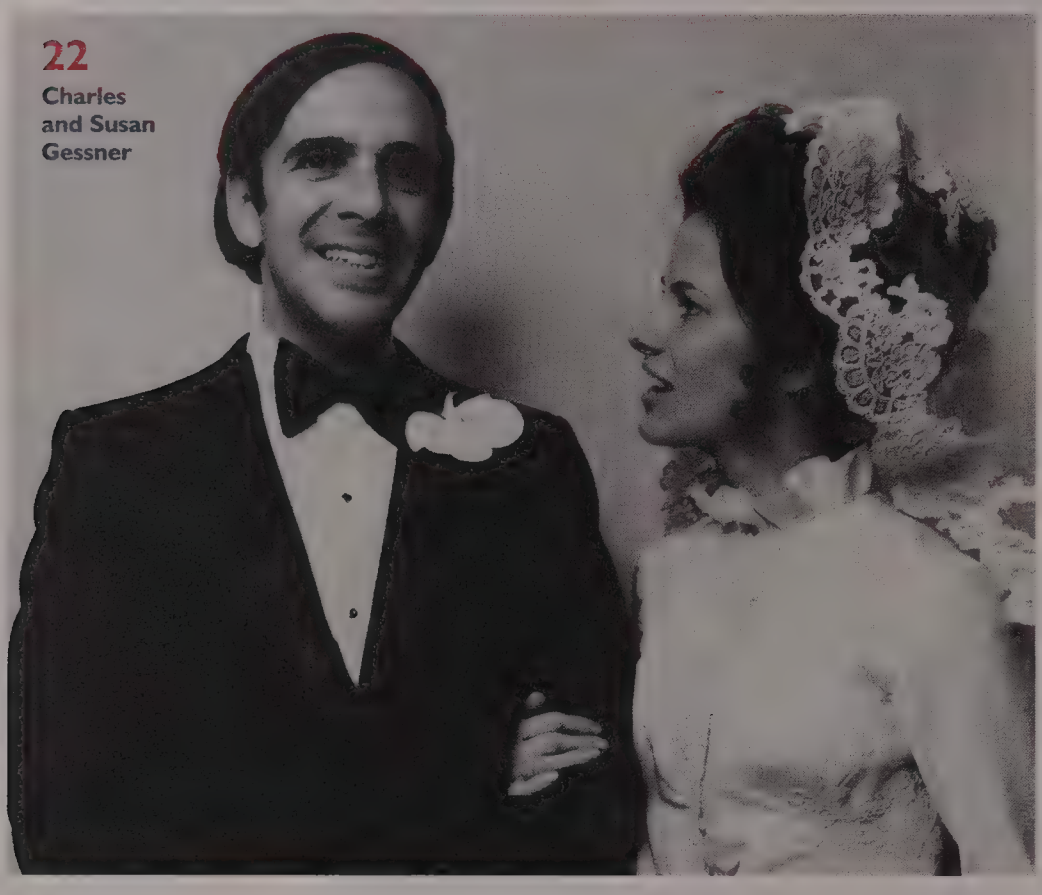

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Brian Silverstein

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

SEALING THE DEAL

Which scenario sounds more appealing, a candlelit wedding in an elegant historic home or a barefoot ceremony on the beach? If you're newly engaged, the where of your wedding is one of the first questions to answer. So we've devoted two features in this issue to options that are abundant in Massachusetts—historic homes and seaside spots.

Wendy Holt's story "Happily Ever After" offers practical advice of a different sort for couples about to head down the aisle—or for anyone in a romantic relationship. Holt talked to seven local couples who've been happily married for decades and asked them, What makes a marriage successful?

Everyone's heard a few wedding disaster stories, and Ezra Dyer takes them to the extreme in "Worst-Case Wedding Scenarios," offering up some horrific what-ifs and advice for guests on how to nip them in the bud and save the day. (Advice to anxious brides: Don't read this story.)

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

LUXURY TIME

I read Jonathan Soroff's story "Revenge of the Housewife Scorned" (May 4) with my new friend from Kenya. We discussed how one luxury item on the list would support his family at home for a year. Then we speculated on how we would spend as much money as possible in one weekend, agreeing on the premise of spending without scruples or altruism—just for a few days. Although we'd never do it in real life, that dream kept us going for a few hours on a rainy Sunday. The decadence, the greed, the fun! As usual, Soroff keeps us imagining and laughing.

—LEIGH WEATHERLY
Boston

JE SUIS CLEAN

I love your magazine but was disappointed when I read the article "Little Luxuries" (May 4), especially the part on laundry. You wrote, "We hate it so much that sometimes we fantasize about moving to a place where nobody ever does laundry, such as a nudist colony or France." Well, I am French and I can tell you that I and all the French people I know do their laundry. I guess there will always be people (especially in the USA) who say French people smell or don't wash, but I'll never understand why. Keep up the good job anyway!

—CAROLINE TOKLU
Somerville

SO MANY PARTIES... FOR SO FEW WEDDINGS

I'm a wedding planner and just returned from doing a destination wedding on Sanibel Island in Florida. I grabbed the Luxury Issue for the plane trip down, laughing the whole way as I read Ezra's column ("Mingling Sensation"). Ezra's right about wedding party proliferation—we crammed all 50 pre-pre, pre, during, and post events into three days—including a morning-after daiquiri-by-the-pool party, a simultaneous fishing competition for the groom and 25 buddies, and a Louisiana-style crawfish party the next evening!

—ALISON BUCK
Boston

CORRECTION

The handbag shown on page 36 in the Fashion section of the Luxury Issue should have been credited to Tess & Carlos, 1241 Centre St., Newton Centre (617-965-8377).

CONTRIBUTORS

BOB FLYNN

Illustrator Bob Flynn moved to Boston from Maine about a year ago and says he's slowly coming to terms with the transition from Mainiac to Masshole. A graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, Flynn draws and makes cartoons for the educational multimedia company FableVision in Watertown. In this issue, he brings wedding disasters to life for the story "Worst-Case Wedding Scenarios," on page 24.

WENDY HOLT

Wendy Holt, the author behind "Happily Ever After" (page 22), is a freelance writer and a book editor who's worked in the publishing industry for the past 10 years. When it comes to matters of the heart, she trusts in serendipity—she met her beau after stepping onto the elevator one day. Holt lives in Somerville.

LUXURY COVER: MATTHEW JORDAN SMITH; BOB FLYNN; DAWN HALEY

Tell Us What You Think

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BUZZ BISTRO

Every year around this time, activity in Kenmore Square starts to pick up with the Red Sox season, but this spring, the hometown nine aren't the only Kenmore attraction. In addition to the new developments at the Hotel Commonwealth (including the Foundation Lounge, which opened in late March, and Garrett Harker's new restaurant Eastern Standard, set to open later this month), the French restaurant Petit Robert Bistrot just opened in what's being called Kenmore's "Left Bank." (We're hoping the name will go the way of the "Ladder District" and disappear.)

Chef and co-owner Jacky Robert (who's résumé includes Maison Robert, Locke-Ober and Pierrot) teamed up with general manager and co-owner Loic Le Garrec, who hails from Brittany, to create the two-floor French bistro. They've outfitted the cozy space with linens, candles, warm yellow walls that offset the exposed brick, and even a fireplace—plus a small patio below street level. The food is traditional French bistro fare: onion soup gratinée, escargot bourguinon, mussels marinieres, grilled saddle of lamb, cheeses and soufflés, all of which are priced under $20. Express lunches offer up soups, salads, sandwiches, crepes, omelets and quiche. Wines are also reasonably priced: $6–$10 by the glass, with bottles $19 and up.

Petit's downstairs level, which offers as much seating as the upper level, is where you'll find the bar. But this one's a pastry bar. You can sit and drink (wine and beer only) while watching delectable-looking desserts be prepared and handed off to servers. There are more than a dozen desserts to choose from—including a miniature chocolate Eiffel Tower—all under $7. *468 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-375-0699). www.petitrobertbistro.com. Open every day, 11 am–11 pm, including Saturday and Sunday brunch.—E.H.*

inner view

DAVID SEDARIS

David Sedaris is the author of several best-selling essay collections, including *Naked*, *Barrel Fever* and most recently, *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim*. He was recently awarded the Wheelwright Prize for Excellence in Humor Writing by the *Harvard Lampoon*, and he kicks off a national book tour with a sold-out reading at the Harvard Book Store May 31, at 6:30 pm. We spoke with Sedaris over the phone from his home in France.

Improper Bostonian: *Do you ever write something, then decide it's crap and toss it? And if so at what point do you come to that realization?*

David Sedaris: I do that all the time, and I usually know by page three. I have a whole folder of things that are three pages long. A lot of times, you have a great beginning, but then you realize a beginning is all you've got.

IB: *Your book tour itinerary seems to make no sense. You go from Detroit to Chicago via Vermont, for instance. Do you have a lot of frequent-flier miles?*

DS: I'm registered for frequent-flier miles, but I've never used them. I don't look at the mail from the airlines. I must have a lot of them! This is my eighth book tour. I've got to think of something to do for this one.

IB: *How so?*

DS: Well, something to make it interesting. One tour I had a tip jar, and I made pretty good money. Last tour, I gave priority signings to smokers.

IB: *If the signings were indoors, how did people prove they were smokers?*

DS: I made them show me their cigarettes. A real smoker wouldn't leave their cigarettes in the car. They'd bring them in, thinking, "Well, if the library burns down, maybe I'll at least have time for a smoke."

IB: *Have you and your partner ever thought about adopting a child?*

DS: We did, but we thought about it too late. I'm 48 now. That doesn't mean I'm necessarily too old, you could get a child who's like 10. But Hugh and I had a cat, and we disagreed so much on how to raise the cat that I can't imagine a child.

IB: *What's the next country you'd like to move to where you don't speak the language?*

DS: Poland. I'm just dying to go to Poland. That alphabet is great. You meet someone with a really Polish last name and wonder how even they pronounce it themselves. I'll bet there are some beautiful places in Poland. Plus, I like a really cold winter.

IB: *How actively do you put yourself in uncomfortable situations because you know they'll make a great writing topic?*

DS: I haven't really done that since *Naked*, when I went to a nudist colony. The problem is, I don't do very much. I stay in my room, maybe later I go to the movies. Not much happens to me. But I'd like to go to the Chimposium. It's a meeting in Washington of people who like monkeys. I'm taking nine months off next fall, so maybe I'll go to some things like that.

IB: *What are you working on now?*

DS: A new book. I revise things by reading them out loud on tours and seeing how people react. I have one thing right now that I absolutely love to read, but it's better in theaters, where everyone's there to see you, than in a bookstore, where there are random people around. You can't say "pussy" 15 times in a bookstore. Maybe you could say it once.

IB: *So I take it that problem comes into play with this particular piece?*

DS: Oh yeah, it's filthy. It's great.

IB: *If you could have a taxidermied person to display in your living room, who would it be?*

DS: That's a good question. What would it be?... Christine Todd Whitman, former governor of New Jersey. Because people would come in and say, "Is that Christine Todd Whitman?" *—Ezra Dyer*

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SUMPTUOUS SEAFOOD

Coastal Cuisine... Restaurateur Frank De Pasquale is about to add a third member to his family of local Italian restaurants, and this time there's a healthy twist. Mare, slated to open in late May, boasts the city's first 98 percent organic seafood menu. Executive chef Marisa Iocco and GM Rita D'Angelo—both of Bricco and Umbria fame—along with chef de cuisine Jeffrey Michaud, are at the helm of this new 60-seat establishment, located just a few feet from Paul Revere's house in the North End. Mare will serve organic coastal Italian fare like Mediterranean halibut, Paccheri Napoletani in lobster-crab ragu, and octopus and zucchini pudding. *135 Richmond St., Boston (617-723-6273).*

What About Bob?... For almost 50 years, Bob the Chef's served as an institution for South End diners, but the times are a changing, and Bob's recently had a makeover. On May 6, owner Darryl Settles re-opened the Columbus Avenue hot spot under a new moniker, Bob's Southern Bistro, and the changes don't stop with the name. The menu features new healthy items plus, in keeping with its former all-Southern theme, a selection of premium bourbons. On the entertainment front, there's an upgraded sound system to spice up Bob's nightly live music, and two new flat-screen TVs (including a drop-down projection screen for special sporting events). *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). www.bobssouthernbistro.com.*

Sox and Steaks... Can't get your hands on a pair of tickets to Fenway? Just go eat some steak. No, seriously. From May to September (and hopefully October) Morton's Steakhouse plans to give away a pair of Yankees–Red Sox tickets at each of its monthly wine events. Guests sample wine and dine on filet mignon sandwiches, and at the end of the night, one lucky winner gets tickets to an upcoming game and a game-day dinner at Morton's. Best of all? Every penny raised is donated to the Red Sox Foundation, the team's charitable organization. The next event takes place May 25, from 5:30–8 pm, and the capacity is 50. *Morton's, 1 Exeter Plaza, (617-266-5858).*

Twice as Sweet... Athan's Bakery, the Brookline pastry paradise, is expanding. Owners Aristides and Angela Athanasopoulos plan to open a second, much bigger, location on Washington Street in Brighton by late May. "Brookline was getting so busy," Aristides says. "The first location just couldn't accommodate us anymore." While keeping the high-end desserts that made the Beacon Street location such a hit, the new bakery/café, which will seat 80, will also offer soups, salads, panini and other light dishes. *407 Washington St., Brighton. www. athansbakery.com.*

sam says

HERE COMES THE BLING

Nowadays, most jewelers follow the theory that engagement rings should focus primarily on the stone—and the setting is of second importance. It all started in 1855, when Louis Cartier found a way to maximize the stone's sparkle by setting it atop tall prongs. Now, years later, Cartier is unveiling its new collection of jewelry designed with brides in mind. The delicate features of each ring, pendant necklace and pair of earrings ensure the wearer an elegant look on her wedding day. And you can bet Cartier has pioneered some unique designs that others will eventually try to emulate. *$8,000–$80,000. Cartier Inc, 40 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-3300).* —*Samantha Hou*

improper reports

RENT A BIKE

A bike ride is one of the best ways to take in Boston's scenery when the weather's warm. Unfortunately, owning and storing a bike in the city can be a challenge. We scoped out places to rent a two-wheeler for some outdoor adventure.

ATA Cycle

1773 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-0907). www.atabike.com.

The full-service shop offers adult bicycles for $25 per day. Rental bikes are also available for sale, and if you decide to buy one, they'll deduct the $25 off the cost.

Back Bay Bicycles

366 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-247-2336).

Back Bay offers a wide selection of hybrid, mountain and road bikes for adults and kids. Rates are $20 for two hours or $35 for the whole day, and rental includes a helmet and lock. A tandem bike goes for $100 a day.

Boston Bicycle

842 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-0752).

For off-road trips outside of the city or along the river, adult mountain bikes are available for $25 per day, which includes a helmet and lock.

Cambridge Bicycle

259 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-6555).

For $25, you can rent a hybrid or mountain bike on the other side of the river. The staff can recommend routes of varying length and difficulty.

Community Bicycle Supply

496 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-8623); www.communitybicycle.com.

The 30-year-old store offers a variety of adult bikes for $25 per day. The staff of avid cyclists can help you pick the right bike for your ride. —*Zoe Winkler*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Dressed for Success... Judging from the number of guys we see checking themselves out in the reflection of the Hancock building, we suspect that most Boston men fancy themselves pretty slick dressers. But are you America's best-dressed man? On May 19, editors from *Esquire* magazine, local celebrities and fashion experts converge at Macy's Downtown Crossing from 5:30–7:30 pm for the Boston leg of *Esquire*'s search for the Best-Dressed Real Man in America. Five finalists from across the country will be featured in an upcoming issue of the magazine, and the winner, to be announced live on NBC's *Today* show, scores a new 2005 Chrysler Crossfire. *450 Washington St., Boston (617-357-3000).*

From Pain to Paint... Each year, Major League Baseball commissions a painting of the World Series victors celebrating, and it's finally the Red Sox' turn to be immortalized on canvas. The painting, by artist Opie Otterstad, includes lots of hidden details (Babe Ruth's porky face is in there somewhere) and will be officially unveiled on May 19, at 7 pm, at Newbury Fine Arts. Only 204 prints are being made (in honor of the fateful year 2004), so if you want one, head to the party, arty, and pony up $1,295 (admission to the event is free). *29 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-0210).*

Clubbub... The revolving door that is Boston's club scene continues to turn, and two new venues recently made their debut. The once-popular Leather District club Trio has been remade into the 180 Lounge, with a cool blue lighting scheme and a variety of themed nights, from hip-hop to house music. Over at i/d on Lansdowne Street, Saturday nights are devoted to—as the flyer so succinctly puts it—girls who love girls. The night is called Life, and a pair of lucky gals at the opening won front row tickets to see (ah, it's almost too cliche!) Ani DiFranco. *180, 180 Lincoln St., Boston (617-426-0180); i/d, 13 Lansdowne St., (617-314-6550).*

Get a room!... If you're interested in remodeling a room in your crib but lack the time, talent or money, why not let someone else do it for free? HGTV is looking for Boston-area rooms in which to turn loose design students from Mt. Ida College, Endicott College and the New England School of Art and Design at Suffolk University. After you approve the design, the budding pros have two days to make your floor into a fish-tank (or whatever—that's just something we'd want) while the cameras roll for the HGTV show *Designer Finals*. Unless you're holding out for *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*, go to www.hgtv.com/hgtv/be_on_hgtv to apply. The shoots are scheduled to take place though September.

Happily Ever After... Edi Pasalis, a Kripalu yoga teacher, survived her own prewedding anxiety by practicing yoga regularly before the big day. Now she's helping other wedding parties relax through I Do Yoga. These regular workshops, held at the Back Bay Yoga Studio, focus on breathing techniques that help squash wedding day jitters. But she'll also do private house visits for entire wedding parties, so everyone involved can learn to eat, drink and be merry while breathing in the through the nose and out through the mouth. *(781-258-9187). www.backbayyoga.com or info@i-do-yoga.com.*

—*E.D. and R.L.*

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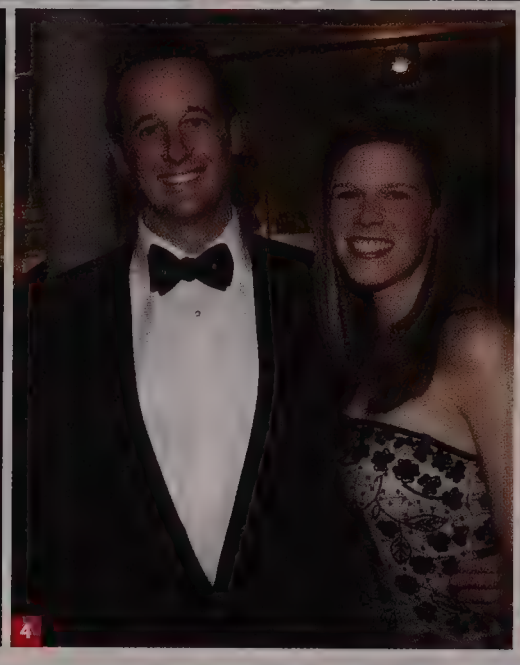
PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

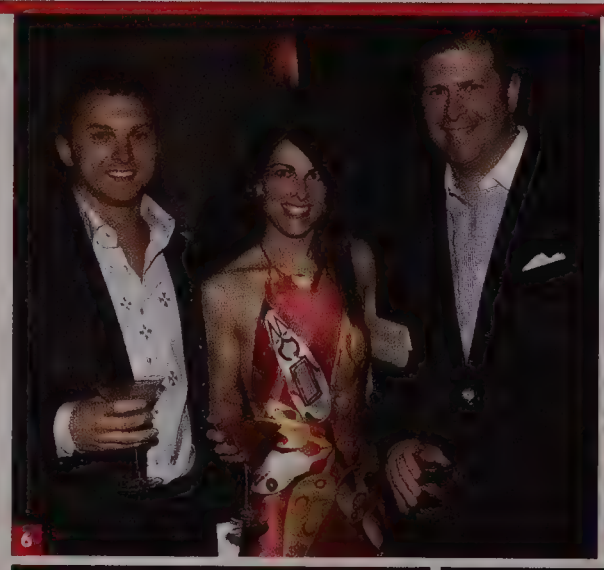
Braving the rain, artists displayed gorgeous paintings of Boston and the surrounding areas for the annual **Fresh Paint** benefit, hosted by the Copley Society of Art on May 7. The evening included an auction of paintings, with proceeds supporting the Copley Society of Art. Billy Costa from KISS 108 and NECN's *TV Diner* hosted.

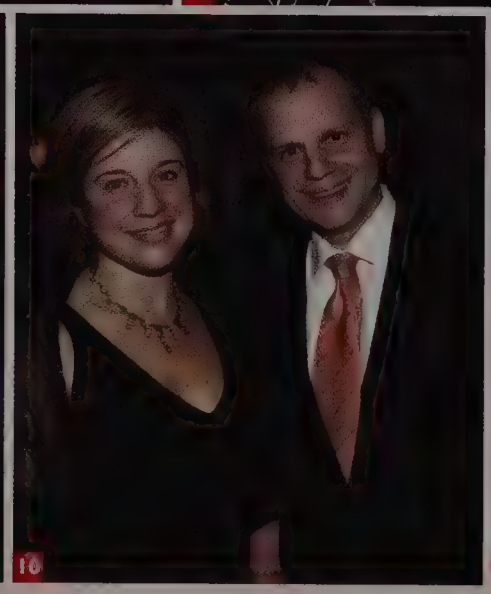
1. From left: **Stephanie Duquette** and **Caroline Vokey**, both gallery managers for the Copley Society of Art, and **Candace Lovely**, artist
2. From left: **Donna Fessler** and **Janet Rosenblatt**, co-chairs of the event; **Suzan Redgate**, president of the board of governors for the Copley Society of Art; and **Anne Rowe**, co-chair
3. **Pete Laird**, financial advisor for Merrill Lynch, and his wife, **Jane**, marketing consultant for Nielsen Marketing
4. **Patrick Moriarty**, financial consultant for Smith Barney, and **Danielle Boudreau**, investor relators manager for New Profit in Cambridge
5. **Geoff Chalmers**, artist, and **Bonnie Kirchner**, independent financial consultant

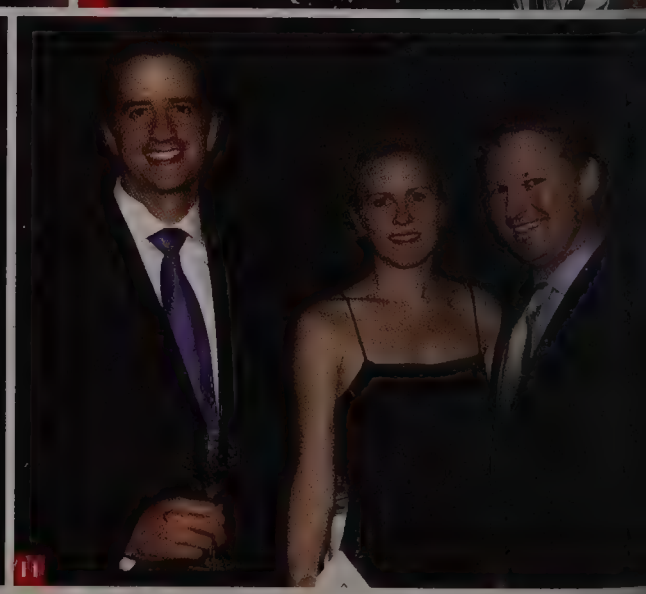


More than 400 party-goers gathered to support Horizons for Homeless Children at the group's **16th Annual Spring Gala,** at the Seaport Hotel on May 7. The event raised more than $800,000 for homeless children and their families in Massachusetts.

6. From left: **Doug Gordon**, money manager for Vinik Money Management; **Carolyn Rodeno**, owner of Hey Baby children's clothing line, and her husband, **Mike**, managing director of JNK Securities
7. **Jaimee Rizzo**, event coordinator for Emerson College, and **Erika Nardini**, group director at MPG
8. From left: **Glenn Forger**, real estate broker for Olde Forge Realty in the South End; his fiancée, **Melissa Tuthill**, director of major gifts for Horizons for Homeless Children; **Jerrod DeShaw**, national account manager for John Hancock, and his wife, **Sarah**, preschool teacher for the Shady Hill School in Cambridge
9. **Christa Hawkins**, co-chair of the event, and her husband, **Jeff**, senior vice president at Bain Capital
10. **Kirsten Ahearn** and her husband, **Bill**, school manager for the Melmark School in Woburn
11. From left: **Brendan Ward**, software consultant at Sensitect Corporation in Beverly; **Jamie** and **Damon Brown**, president of Dentovations Inc.







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ezra

BY EZRA DYER

GETTING BURNED

It is time for me to use my amazing influence to benefit a very special person: me

As a pretty major celebrity, I feel it's my duty to use my high profile to advance causes I believe in. That's why I give speeches at rallies for my political party (being retro-ironic, I'm a Whig); it's the reason I do TV spots for my favorite nonprofit organization, Bring Back Corporal Punishment in Schools, and it's why I'm now throwing my estimable influence behind medical research. Skin cancer—specifically, basil cell carcinoma—better look out, because I've got its number and I won't rest until this epidemic has been eradicated. Why am I doing this? Because I've had enough of people needlessly contracting skin cancer. It upsets me that so many people have this. Most importantly, it upsets me that I have it. I am, in a very literal sense, a redneck, as my neck is home to a small red patch of skin that is chock full o' cancer—but don't worry, it's the wimpy kind that doesn't kill you, so there's no need to find a new host for my weekly Frog Pond roller-dancing party just yet.

The main component of my newfound activism is a charity I'm launching to fight skin cancer: the Skin Care Alliance of Boston (SCAB). If SCAB can help just one person avoid premature death or disfigurement from skin cancer, I hope that person is me. But if I can help people other than myself, that's really icing on the cake.

Here are some skin health tips: A good way to prevent skin cancer is to avoid the sun. If it calls, have your roommate say you're away for the weekend, even if you're sitting right there on the couch. After that happens a few times, the sun will get the message that you're just not interested.

An even better way to dodge skin cancer is to not inherit pasty English genes that give you the solar resistance of a jellyfish. My dad had malignant melanoma, a type of skin cancer so bad that when I tell dermatologists that my father had it, they ask me if I've ever dreamed of going sky-diving. When I say yes, they say maybe I should try it. Soon.

Somehow, my dad lived. If skin cancer were bullets he'd be 50 Cent. In fact, maybe he could come out with a rap video and start a public beef with the sun. "You thought you got me when it metastasized/ But you're weaker than a Value Meal without the fries." His name is Charlie, so he could call himself Chuck D and maybe Public Enemy fans would get confused and buy his album.

Unlike me, you might be one of those people with a perfect complexion who tans easily and never has to worry about skin cancer, in which case, congratulations. You won't die, you'll just look like you should have a Coach logo branded on your forehead by the time you're 32. I might be pale, but at least I don't look like I crawled out of a giant bag of Oberto beef jerky. Sour grapes? Perhaps. But you're a sour raisin.

Back to SCAB. Why should you pick SCAB for your next charitable donation? Because unlike some so-called charities, all money raised by SCAB goes directly to helping the cause. By the way, did I mention that I've had my name legally changed to The Cause? Please support The Cause.

If SCAB has any money left over after an upcoming trip to Jamaica to research the effect of rum and marijuana on sun resistance, we're plowing the rest of our money into stem-cell research. Pundits will point out that my last pet project, the teen missionary foundation People Reforming Atheist Youth (PRAY), raised money to *fight* stem-cell research. Well, I changed my mind, OK? What, you've never changed your mind about something?

A GOOD WAY TO PREVENT SKIN CANCER IS TO AVOID THE SUN. IF IT CALLS, HAVE YOUR ROOMMATE SAY YOU'RE AWAY FOR THE WEEKEND

It's time to turn our attention from the past and look to the future. I'm afraid for my kids. With the hole in the ozone layer, and ultraviolet rays raining ever-greater doses of radiation down on our heads, my children will almost certainly face the same problems as me unless action is taken. Fortunately, I know what must be done: I need to score those future Dyers some pigment. If I have kids with someone as pale as me, they'll spontaneously combust before the age of 3. So, if any ladies of color reading this like the cut of my jib, I'll be happy to give you the address of the underground lair that I'll never be leaving from now on. Come on over and let's get to know each other. I just ask that you please bring sunblock. I'm down to my last 55-gallon drum of it. iB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

TIME FOR CLEMENCY

Roger Clemens might get dealt this summer. The Red Sox need pitching. Let's make it happen.

Roger Clemens. See, just mentioning the guy's name conjures up emotion, which over the last couple of years has softened a bit. Sure, the guy fiddled with the truth a few times in his career here—"I want to play closer to home" and "I would never play in New York for the Yankees"—but that should never trump what he did for Boston. Clemens put pitching on the map.

For what seems like several decades before Clemens came to town, we thought winning (and exciting baseball) had more to do with home runs than shutouts. The Rocket introduced us to a brand of baseball we had never seen before, sort of like what Bill Parcells introduced on the football field to New Englanders.

Neither Clemens or Parcells won a championship in Boston, but both played a role in setting a foundation that eventually led to one. While Parcells isn't walking through that door, not ever, don't be so sure about Clemens. That's right: Clemens might indeed be the guy on the mound, wearing red stockings, come late October.

Not only does it make perfect sense, it has to happen. The Sox starting pitching staff is shaky and injured right now. Worse, it's old.

True, Clemens is old too (he turns 43 in August). But forget his age. Clemens still brings energy to the mound, and it appears the Sox are going to need an infusion of energy at some point, even when Curt Schilling and David Wells are healthy (cross your fingers).

The fact is Clemens can still pitch—and he can do it about as well as he could when he left here acrimoniously after the 1996 season. In his first five starts this season, he averaged seven innings per tilt, with an ERA of just over 1.00.

Clemens nemesis Dan Duquette is gone, jealous Pedro is gone, and Clemens would and could acquiesce to Schilling. In fact, Schilling says meeting Clemens changed his course as a pitcher in baseball. Clemens basically told Schilling he was wasting his talents, for the best pitchers not only have talent but unmatched work ethic.

And of course let's not forget about the Rocket's current club, the Astros, who've struggled out of the gate. They need to keep on falling right out of the pennant race so they'll feel free to dump all their assets and trade Clemens right here to Title Town. Please, Houston, cooperate and continue your losing ways.

The 2005 season was only a month old when Clemens battled fellow 300-game winner Greg Maddux and the Cubs. Clemens ended up losing the game, but a big factor was the luck of run support he's dealt with all season. The pitcher, who rarely batted in 21 American League seasons, got two hits in the game. And he still owned the best ERA in the National League after the loss.

With a rejuvenated Pedro still getting some criticism from Boston fans, The Rocket is officially off the hook. There's no more anger toward the guy. With a championship now in tow, he's forgiven. (Who knows if he ever really did anything wrong?)

Clemens should go full-circle and end his career in Boston, like Doug Flutie. This was Clemens' first baseball home and it should be his last. He won 192 career games with the Sox and pitched a record two 20-strikeout games as a member of the team. It may be hard to remember now, but he had a lot of fans here.

> THERE IS NO MORE ANGER TOWARD CLEMENS. WITH A CHAMPIONSHIP IN TOW, HE'S FORGIVEN (WHO KNOWS IF HE EVER DID ANYTHING WRONG?)

As for concerns about his durability, the numbers show he's not slowing down. Warren Spahn won 23 games at the age of 42 with the 1963 Braves. Cy Young won 19 games as a 42-year old. You could argue that Clemens not only is in better shape than those guys were at the same age, but might be the best pitcher ever to play the game.

Personally, I'm done doubting the guy. I was there with Duquette in 1996, with bells and whistles, when he said Clemens was in the "twilight" of his career. Clemens, we later found out, was barely half done.

Forget 1996. This is for now. This is for 2005. This is to do right by Clemens and his fans. And who knows, maybe it would be a fitting end to a great career in late October, helping the Red Sox win back-to-back World Series titles. iB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

JONATHAN TOGO

NATHAN SOROFF

The newest cast member of the hit series *CSI Miami*, Jonathan Togo, 27, was born and raised in Rockland and graduated from Rockland High School. He received a B.A. in theater from Vassar College and went on to study at the National Theater Institute of the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. His stage credits include *Romeo and Juliet*, *Bird and Dog* and *Murder in the Cathedral*, and he's appeared in such films as *Mystic River*, *Raccoon* and *Up*. On TV he's co-starred in *Special Unit 2*, played a recurring role on the series *Ed*, and guest-starred on *Judging Amy*, *Law & Order* and *The Jury*. On May 21, he'll be a celebrity participant in the Volvo Hyannis Port Challenge (a charity bike ride from the JFK Library to the Kennedy compound on Cape Cod) to raise money for Best Buddies International. He lives in Los Angeles.

Jonathan Soroff: *First of all, what can you tell me about the country of Togo?*

Jonathan Togo: It's on the Ivory Coast of Africa. I'm its benevolent dictator. I don't know if you can include this in your interview, and I'm not proud of this, but it's one of the last places where they practice female circumcision.

JS: *There's also been a civil war going on, so you're not doing such a great job.*

JT: If I didn't want to be controversial, my family would have taken the last name "Canada."

JS: *What's it like being the new guy and joining a cast that's been together for a few seasons?*

JT: I'd compare it most closely to going to someone else's house for Thanksgiving dinner, mixed with being a foreign exchange student. You're there, and you recognize the holiday, and everyone's really nice, but it's sorta not your house, so you just have to smile and say the turkey's really good.

JS: *So on a scale of 1 to 10, how realistic do you think the show is?*

JT: As far as the science and some of the lab work we do, it's pretty realistic. We have a great technical advisor who was a homicide detective and worked on the bomb squad. As far as the clothes we wear, I'd say maybe we're about a 1. I don't think police officers really dress that way.

JS: *How did you prepare for the role—start consuming lots of coffee and doughnuts?*

JT: Because it's set in Miami, I went on the South Beach diet.

JS: *So in Miami, do you prefer a Speedo, a thong or boxers on the beach?*

JT: I have the full-on, one-piece unitard, head-to-toe, made of a heavy wool material, complete with a swimming cap. And besides that, I like to go bare-knuckle boxing.

> WHEN YOU AUDITION FOR COMMERCIALS, THEY'LL SAY, "SHOW UP WEARING A SPELUNKER'S HELMET AND A PETER PAN OUTFIT." THERE WERE [TIMES] WHERE I WAS THE ONLY ONE DRESSED UP

JS: *Have you ever actually seen a dead body?*

JT: When my dog died, I saw that, and at open-casket funerals. The side of the roads in Rockland have a lot of roadkill, too.

JS: *What would you do if you actually came upon a crime scene?*

JT: I'd probably run. I'm sort of a pussy. I don't like blood and have a really low tolerance for all things gross.

JS: *Creepiest thing you've had to do on the show?*

JT: We had to draw ocular fluid from someone's eyeball. I got to see a severed, headless guy. We got to boil someone's head. The big joke on the show is that my character is always getting grossed out by the coroner. But the women who do the special effects—who are like three-time Emmy Award winners and did *The X-Files*—are all like moms. They're weirdly maternal.

JS: *So they say, "Here's your boiled head, sweetie?"*

JT: Yeah, basically, and then right after, "Here's a peanut butter and jelly sandwich."

JS: *Worst crime you ever committed?*

JT: Well, in Los Angeles, people don't jaywalk, whereas on the East Coast it's practically your duty as a pedestrian, so I've been doing a lot of jaywalking here in L.A. It's my subversive act, how I represent for the people of the Northeast.

JS: *Is Sean Penn the greatest actor you've ever worked with?*

JT: Yeah, either him or Carmen Electra. It's probably a tossup.

JS: *OK, then, most talented actor without fake tits and a nose job?*

JT: Well, that would actually disqualify both of them.

JS: *Did you go to Vassar specifically for the high female-to-male ratio?*

JT: It was actually before they admitted men, so I went with a friend, and the show *Bosom Buddies* was based on us. Yeah. We sold that to NBC. It was my first foray into television.

JS; *I'm sure Tom Hanks will be interested to hear that.*

JT: Gave him his start. And y'know what? That kid's got a future.

JS: *Which* CSI Miami *cast member would you most like to have a sex scene with?*

JT: Definitely not any of the dead bodies. That's against the law. Umm, I think it would be interesting for me to have sex with Ryan Wolfe.

JS: *That's you. Prime time's first masturbation scene? OK, does David Caruso glow in the dark, or what?*

JT: Yes, I think he does.

JS: *Who has a better butt: him or Kim Delaney?*

JT: I would have to say the guy who played Screech on *Saved by the Bell.*

JS: *Dream acting job?*

JT: I sorta got it in *Mystic River*. When I read that, I said, "I would do anything to be in this movie," and it surpassed any sort of fantasy I had. Other than that, I'd love to play any member of the Clash when they film that story.

JS: *One role you'd never play, under any circumstances?*

JT: Well, they're remaking *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and I wouldn't want to be an Oompa Loompa. Veruca Salt would be OK. That would be genius cross-gender casting if they were daring enough to do it.

JS: *Stupidest thing you ever did for a role?*

JT: Oh, God, there are millions. When you audition for commercials in New York they'll say, "Show up wearing a spelunker's helmet and a Peter Pan outfit," and I had one of those agents who really thought that would give me an edge, so there were plenty of things like that, where I was the only one dressed up for something. Then there was the time I had to pretend I was being drowned in a lake while standing up. I wish I had a tape of that. And the time I auditioned for this very hoity-toity British director, where the scene called for me to be walking down the street. He told me I was really bad at walking in place. That was his constructive criticism.

JS: *Biggest lie on your acting résumé?*

JT: I won this award for directing a play in college, and I couldn't remember whether it was the Margaret Kazan award or the Thatcher Kazan award, so I wrote Margaret Thatcher Kazan, and I think it's hilarious that no one's ever called me on it.

JS: *You always get the guy on* CSI. *Don't you think you should do an episode where you're like, "Blood on the floor! Hmm... We're stumped!"*

JT: No, that's the episode where we'd actually look like cops.

JS: *Ooooh! That'll make you real popular with the police!*

JT: I love the police! I work with lots of them and they're wonderful people!

JS: *Yeah. Good luck on your next speeding ticket.*

JT: Thanks a lot. IB

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WANT TO HAVE YOUR WEDDING AT A GRAND OLD MANSION BUT LACK ROBBER-BARON RELATIVES? NEVER FEAR—YOU CAN RENT ONE.

BY REGINA COLE

The best possible site for the wedding, of course, would be the ancestral estate, lush with emerald lawns and ancient, clipped yew hedges. There would be distant, glorious vistas, a sweeping circular drive to welcome guests, a grand staircase lined with ancestral portraits to bless the bride's descent. The crystal chandeliers that illuminate acres of parquet flooring—installed just for dancing, over a hundred years ago—would be freshly cleaned for maximum festive sparkle.

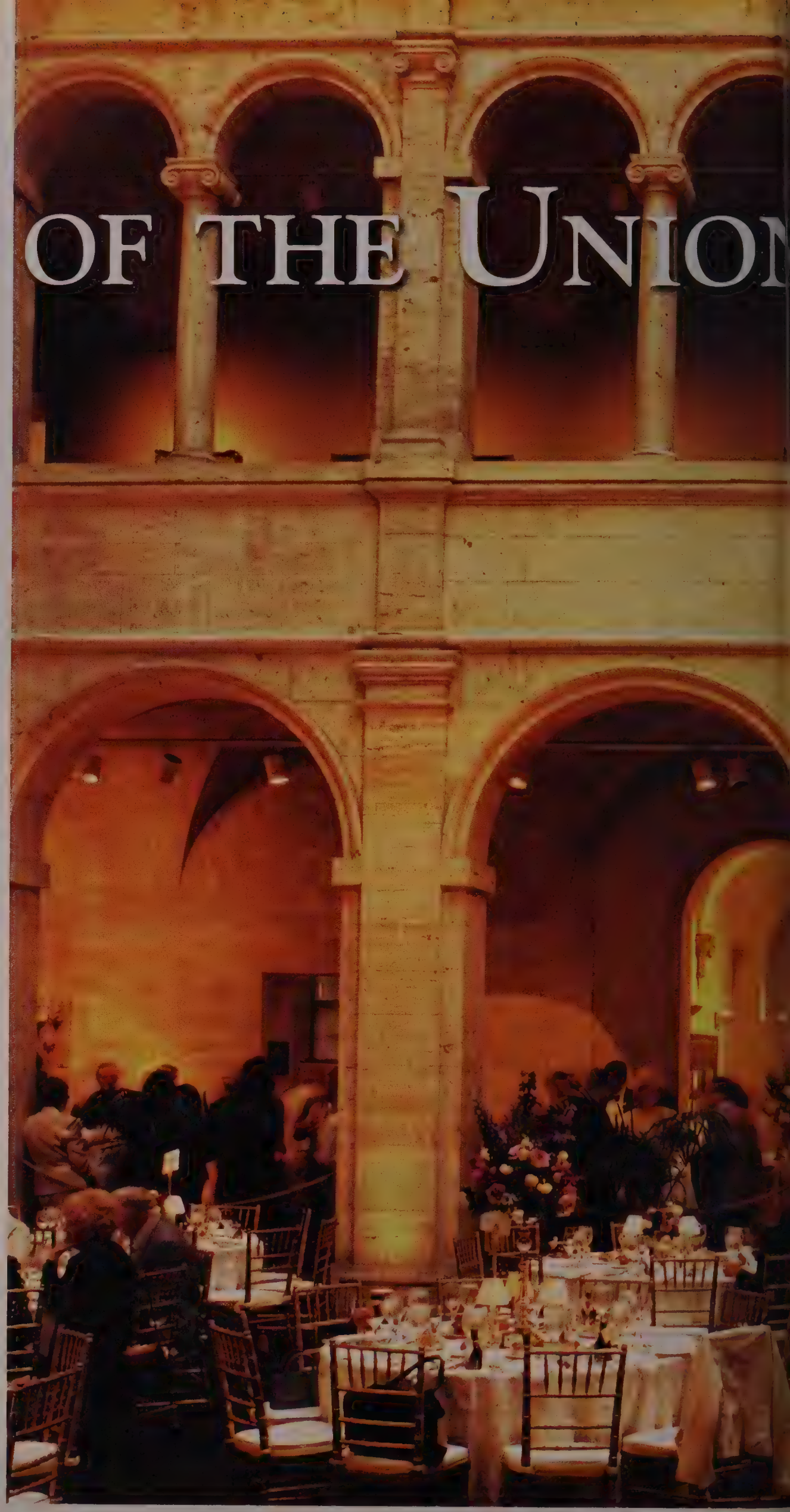
That would be ideal. Of course, most of us make do with something else: a hotel ballroom, a pretty piece of park or beach, a favorite restaurant. But there's no denying the spell an atmospheric, architecturally impressive setting casts on a wedding.

The good news is that you don't need relatives with a convenient ancestral mansion to get married in one. Boston and its suburbs are simply crawling with splendid pieces of history, superb showpieces by great architects, venerable piles and beautiful survivors of the storied past. And a number of them are available to rent. Ranging from the city's earliest public buildings to Gilded Age summer houses, they represent the history and the great variety of architectural styles that reflect the city itself.

Because most of these places have primary functions other than wedding rentals, their schedules can be surprisingly flexible. And in some cases they provide resources no function hall can. Guests can view great art exhibitions, for instance, or stroll through stunning period rooms. There might be a vast veranda for predinner drinks, intimate nooks and crannies, or a garden.

Generally, caterers deal with alcohol and issues of liability. Most venues keep lists of preferred caterers who know the individual systems (most have helpful Web sites as well). Function managers walk clients through the process; they encourage would-be clients to visit and to ask lots of questions. Occasionally, you'll encounter rules unique to historic houses—don't push-pin decorations into the 300-year-old plaster walls; discourage your guests from wearing stilettos on the beautiful old floorboards. But the compensating benefits are all about beauty, grace, elegance and atmosphere.

While this list is only a sample of the possibilities, it hints at Boston's wide and varied cultural, historic and architectural heritage. A wedding in any one of these places will make for beautiful photographs. Can married bliss be far behind?



COURTESY OF THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS

THE CALDERWOOD COURTYARD AT THE FOGG ART MUSEUM

If you've always yearned for the romance, beauty and sheer drama of a Renaissance palazzo surrounded by galleries full of fine art, then you've been dreaming of the Fogg Museum's Calderwood Courtyard. Built in 1927, the Fogg is one of Harvard's splendid museums that transforms into a sumptuous space for private entertaining. The neoclassical arches evoke Old World Europe, and galleries provide wonderful vantage points from which to gaze down at the festivities below.

Where: 32 Quincy St., Cambridge
When: Available seven days a week, 5 pm to midnight
How much: Courtyard and first-floor galleries: $5,900; courtyard and the first- and second-floor galleries: $6,900. Fees cover rental for up to seven hours or until midnight.
How many: 180 guests seated for dinner, 130 seated for dinner with dancing, 400 for a cocktail reception
Unique elements/limitations: You can enjoy the art, but leave your Cosmopolitan at the table while browsing the galleries. Parking spaces are available for rent at the nearby Broadway Garage on Felton Street; contact Harvard University's parking office at event_parking@harvard.edu.
Contact: Jason Rogers, coordinator of events planning, 617-495-1275 or jrogers@fas.harvard.edu

Calderwood Courtyard at Harvard's Fogg Art Museum has the feel of a Renaissance ballroom.

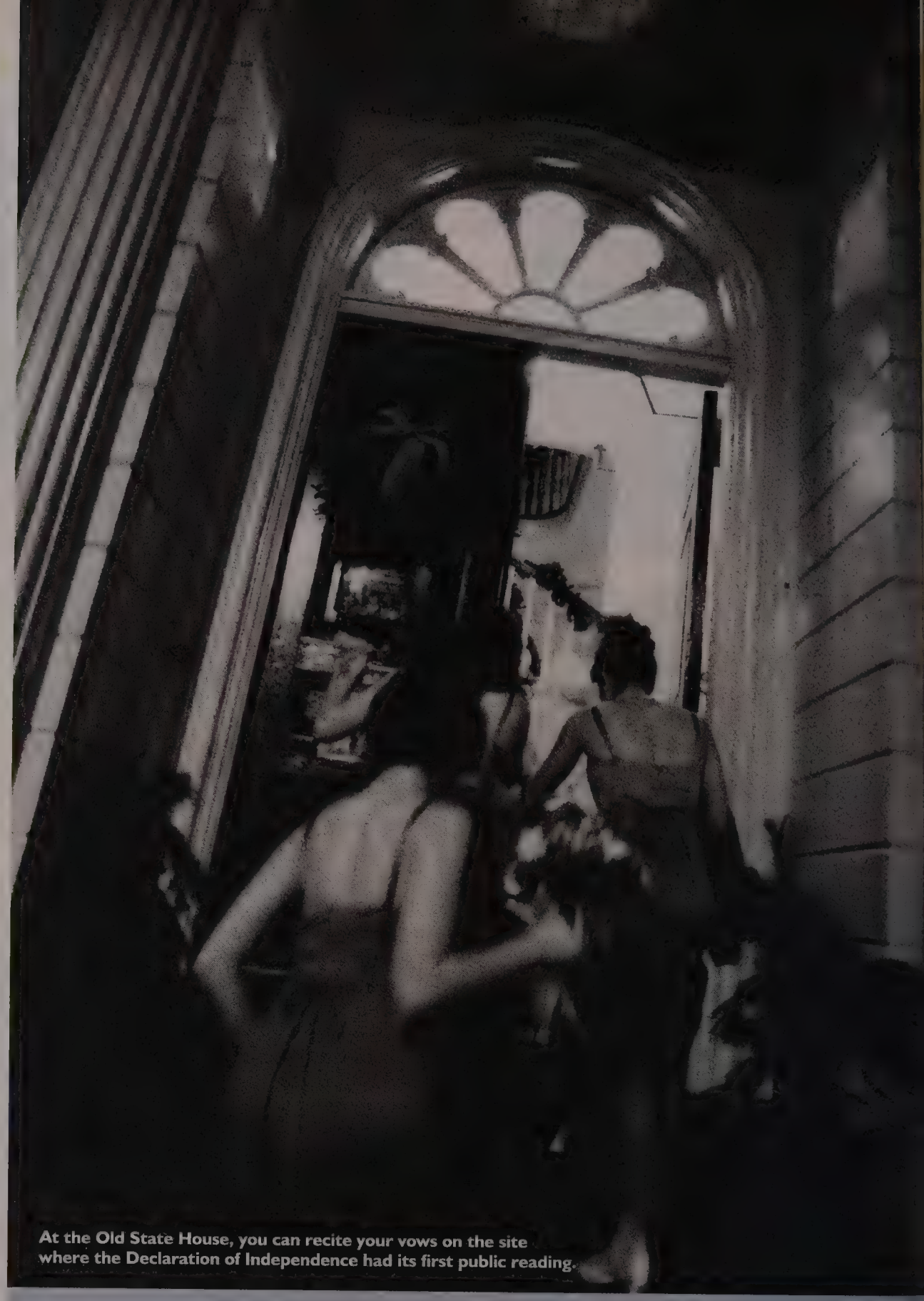
THE SHIRLEY-EUSTIS HOUSE

One of Boston's little-known jewels, William Shirley's Georgian mansion, built in 1747, is the only remaining country house in America built by a British Royal Colonial governor. Peter Harrison, often called "America's first architect," is reputed to have designed this delightful piece of local history. The house is surrounded by a contemporary urban neighborhood and offers lovely neoclassical architecture filled with original furnishings and fascinating glimpses into Boston history. It is, of all the properties described here, the most historic and authentic.

Three areas make for elegant weddings: the Great Hall of the house, the grounds, which include a formal garden, and the Federal-era Gardner Carriage House, built in 1806.

Where: 33 Shirley St., Roxbury
When: The house, which is not heated, is open from June 1 to October 1. During those months it's available anytime.
How much: Grounds only: $50 per hour. House and grounds: $125 per hour. Carriage house and grounds: $100 per hour. Entire estate: $150 per hour. For all options, there's a four-hour minimum.
How many: The house accommodates 50; the carriage house holds up to 99.
Unique elements/limitations: The carriage house and the grounds are handicapped-accessible; the main house is not. Lighting is limited, and candles aren't allowed in the house's museum rooms, so daytime weddings are best. There's no air-conditioning, and stiletto heels are discouraged on the historic floorboards. On weekends, there's plenty of free parking in the school parking lot across the street.
Contact: Andrea Taaffe, executive director, 617-442-2275

The Shirley-Eustis House in Roxbury was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1960.



At the Old State House, you can recite your vows on the site where the Declaration of Independence had its first public reading.

THE OLD STATE HOUSE

Celebrate your historic day within walls once occupied by John Hancock and John Adams; seat your guests amo relics of the Revolutionary War. The Boston Massacre took place here, and the Declaration of Independence w first read to a jubilant crowd from the balcony on the east side of the building, on July 18, 1776. Scrimshaw, a fo foot model of the U.S.S. Constitution built in 1910, and paintings by Fitz Hugh Lane and Robert Salmon ma the Council Chamber the most Bostonian of Boston rooms, and a glorious place for a wedding celebration.

The Old State House is the oldest public building in Boston, built in 1713 to house the government offices the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Dwarfed by architecture that has grown up around it over nearly 300 years, t brilliant red brick building has stepped Georgian gables, staging for the gilded lion and unicorn of British royal The white-painted neo-classical steeple, however, speaks of New England's independent past.

Where: 206 Washington St., Boston
When: The building is available year-round, seven days a week, preferably after the museum's regular busine hours (9 am to 5 pm, extended hours in summer). For weddings during museum hours, there's an extra charge cover admissions and sales lost during those hours.
How much: $75 per hour for the ceremony, $200 per hour for a reception (two-hour minimum), plus staff cost
How many: There's room for 75 if it's a stand-up reception; 50 for a sit-down dinner or luncheon.
Unique elements/limitations: A circular staircase provides for dramatic bridal entries, but there's no elevato Area garages offer parking, but public or hired transportation is a better bet.
Contact: Sue Goganian, site director, 617-720-1713, ext. 19, or functions@bostonhistory.org

THE GAMBLE MANSION

lt in 1904 for wealthy textile merchant lter C. Baylies, the Gamble Mansion boasts ultimate in historic glamour: a Louis XV lroom. Baylies built the mansion for his ghter's debutante ball, and it's equally appriate for a grand wedding. The landmark lding at 5 Commonwealth Avenue is famil- to many Bostonians as the home of the ston Center for Adult Education.

here: 5 Comm. Ave., Boston
hen: Available at all times, year round (in at demand between May and December).
w much: May to December, Friday enings: $3,300; Saturdays: $4,500; Sundays: 300. January to April, Friday evenings: 900; Saturdays: $3,900; Sundays: $2,900 tes are for a five-hour rental.)
w many: 100 to 150 guests for sit-down ner, 150 to 175 for a cocktail buffet
ique elements/limitations: Wedding pho- in the Public Garden across the street, king at the Boston Common Garage or the k Bay Garage. Valet can be arranged.
ntact: Susan Sambrano, director of funcns and rentals, 617-267-4430, ext. 711, or ansambrano@bcae.org

The Gamble Mansion's Louis XV ballroom was built as a venue for a debutante ball.

Gore Place can accommodate a Gatsby-esque extravaganza on its 45 acres.

GORE PLACE

Do you thrill to the stateliness depicted in *Emma* and *Pride and Prejudice*? Do you wish to stroll the emerald lawns of a truly great early American house? Do you have a not-so-secret yen to impersonate the Empress Josephine or Dolly Madison?

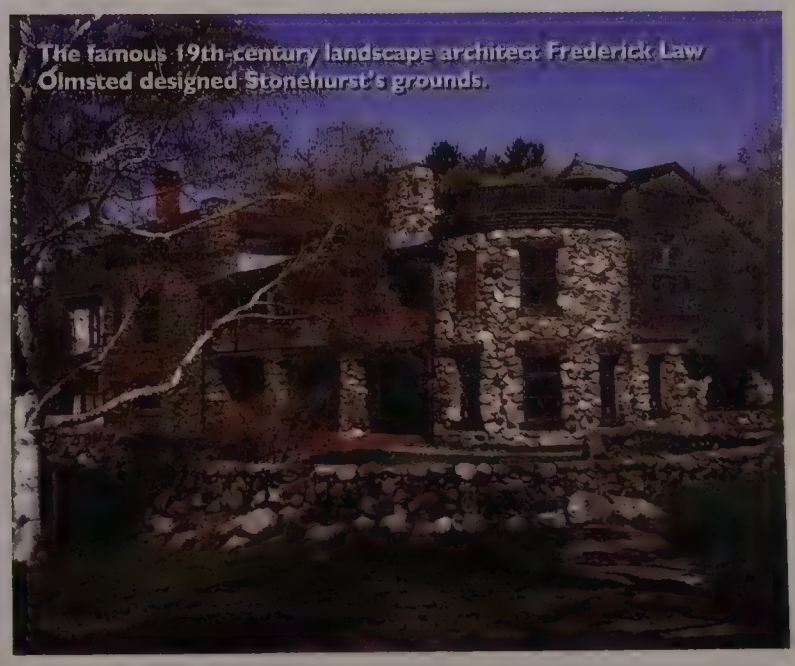
Gore Place, built in 1806, is a rare surviving exemplar of pure high style Federal architecture. The Great Hall and Oval Parlor look as they did when Rebecca Gore entertained the Marquis de Lafayette, James Monroe and Daniel Webster here. Interiors are stunning and refined, 45 acres of lawns offer sweeping views and formal gardens, and the 1793 carriage house is an architectural gem in itself.

Where: 52 Gore St., Waltham
When: April 15 to November 15. Like many area museum houses, Gore Place closes during the winter months.
How much: Prices vary according to whether the wedding is in the mansion, in the Carriage House, in one of several lawn areas, or uses several of those. The price for renting the mansion's Great Hall is $2,500 plus a $5,000 refundable security deposit. There is also a $1,000 tax-deductible fee to become a Patron or Corporate member of Gore Place.
How many: In the Great Hall or Oval Parlor: 60 seated for dinner, 100 for a cocktail reception. In the Carriage House: 110 for dinner and dancing. Tented on the lawns: On 45 acres, you can entertain a lot of people.
Unique elements/limitations: There's unlimited free parking. The pianoforte in the Oval Parlor is available for use by professional musicians (a tuning fee is required).
Contact: Rebecca Booth-Fox, coordinator for weddings, 781-894-2798 or goreplace@goreplace.org

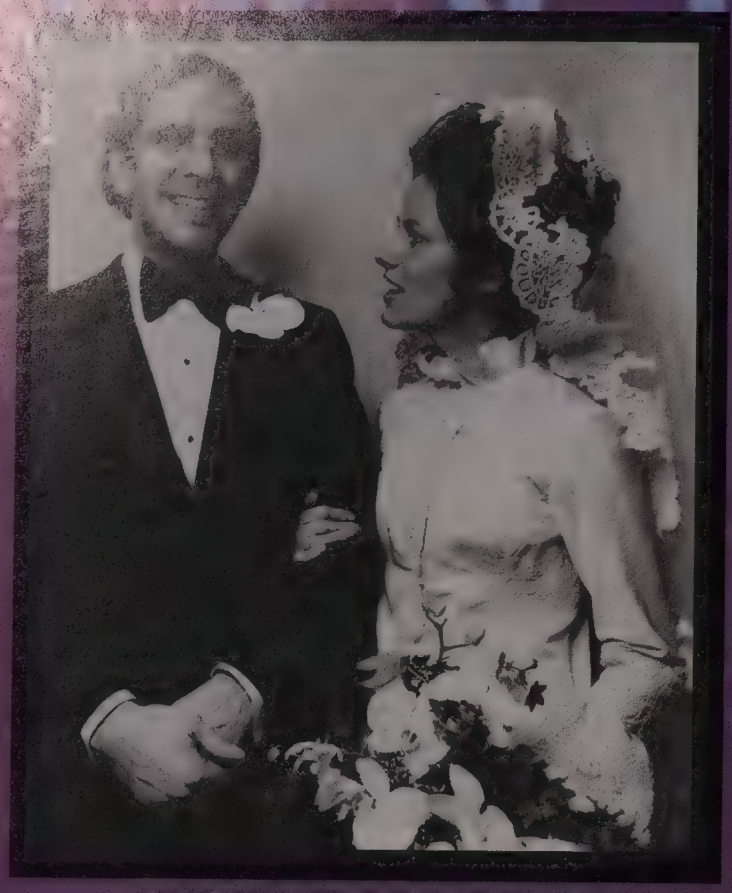
STONEHURST

A few years after he designed Copley Square's Trinity Church, the great H. H. Richardson designed a huge addition for this country house in Waltham. That house and its 110 bucolic acres are now a museum open to the public, and for weddings the site offers rooms full of massive fireplaces, stained glass, oak wainscoting, carved architectural ornamentation and an unparalleled sense of history and majesty. Every room provides splendid settings for photographs and opportunities to play at lord and lady of the manor. Even if grandmum had a mansion, it probably wasn't as grand as this.

Where: 100 Robert Treat Paine Drive, Waltham
When: Available for rentals year round
How much: $3,200 (peak-season weekend rate)
How many: 150 guests for dinner and dancing
Unique elements/limitations: The brick terrace and the East Lawn are favorite spots for outdoor ceremonies. There are parlors and studies for the bride and for family members, and there is plenty of free parking.
Contact: Marcia Goodwin, function director, 781-314-3292 IB


The famous 19th-century landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted designed Stonehurst's grounds.

HAPPILY EVER



CHARLES AND SUSAN GESSNER

JUDY AND PAUL SWETT

Do you hear wedding bells in your near future? Are you secretly poring over bridal magazines during your lunch hour? Or are you in the first blush of love, wondering if this person could be "the one"? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you might have wondered what makes a relationship work over decades. Is it common interests? Similar temperament? Or something harder to pin down, pure chemistry? We spoke with seven local couples who've built happy, lasting marriages. Wed for decades, they generously shared with us their stories of how they first met, what drew them to each other in the first place, and what's kept them together all these years. One thing we heard again and again is that love deepens and grows over time, but that marriage takes work as well—it demands heaps of understanding, compassion, patience, great listening skills, and, more often than not, a dash of humor. Here are their stories of true love; tips on how to nurture a good marriage; and some secrets you might want to hear before you walk down the aisle.

CHARLES AND SUSAN GESSNER

Married 33 years

Talking to the Gessners, you're immediately struck by what a grounded, thoughtful couple they are. A mutual friend introduced these transplanted Midwesterners, and after dating a few years, they married in the MIT chapel. An interfaith couple (Charles is Jewish, Susan Catholic), they note how their differences have brought them closer and made their marriage stronger. "We came at things from very different places," Charles explains. "We both had to learn and stretch." But for all their stretching, they've arrived at an enviable spot. They hike and sail the world over, including Patagonia and Switzerland. And they devote hours to local charities in their Marblehead community. The real key to their success, both agree, is mutual respect. They freely admit that marriage is hard work. "It's as tough as any job you'll ever get," Charles says. "If you don't think of it at that level, I think you get in trouble." Surprises are also key, he adds. And if a man does the ironing, that especially gets big points. One last piece of wisdom from Susan: "You've got to keep the magic alive," she says, because your relationship grounds your family. Remember why you got married in the first place. And don't forget to tell them you love them.

EDDIE AND ADDIE DAVIDSON

Married 39 years

Notice the uncanny symmetry in this couple's first names? They did, right off—how could it not be a sign? D.C. native Addie met Eddie, originally from Worcester, when she was at George Washington University and he was at Georgetown Law. He fell in love with her beauty and her cool MG; she says his Boston accent was irresistible. What's kept them together all these years? Addie cites "his sense of humor, and his devotion to his family. He loves his kids." And then there's the Red Sox. Everyone in the family is a huge fan. But there's much more than Fenway home runs driving this Framingham couple's happy marriage: "You always need to see life in a positive way," says Eddie, and you need to be willing to give an inch. Their advice to newlyweds: Everything begins with "we." You have to think beyond yourself and your needs, Addie explains. You can "give your opinion," Eddie adds, "but don't demand certain results" from your spouse. Eddie gives a hint of the couple's humor when he jokes that he and Addie have been happily married for 39 years: "37 for her and two for me." We'd put money down on decades more.

PAUL AND JUDY SWETT

Married 34 years

Former college sweethearts Judy and Paul describe their first meeting as if it were yesterday. It was at a Northeastern mixer: "I didn't really want to go," Judy recalls, but her friends insisted. Paul invited her friend to dance first (though he claims his eye was on Judy). "Next thing I know he asked me to dance." The Hyde Park couple cite their first movie, *To Sir, With Love*, starring Sidney Poitier, as a turning point in their relationship. "It became clear that we had so much in common," Judy says. It was the '60s: "We had seen so much. We were very inspired to try to make a difference"—an impulse that's evident in their career paths, religion and education. The foundation of their marriage: a strong commitment to family and their Catholic faith—and communication: "Both of us have an intuitive sense, but you have to clarify," she says. Their advice: "Every day you get up, you have to commit again. Marriage is about giving—and forgiving." Paul adds: "One of the beauties of our marriage is that we've allowed ourselves to grow. The person you marry at 21 is not the same person 35 years later, and it shouldn't be. People change, and life changes you." The couple renewed their vows for their 25th anniversary and just might return to their honeymoon locale, Bermuda, for their 35th.

AFTER

BY WENDY HOLT

EDDIE AND ADDIE DAVIDSON

FRANK AND EVELYN ESTEY

ANNE AND ELTON ELPERIN

FRANK AND EVELYN ESTEY

Married 24 years

A career and life coach, Evelyn Estey has spent plenty of time thinking about the important things in life. "Learn how to be yourself first; then you're more capable of deciding whom you're right for," she says right off the bat. "No one can make you happy. You have to be happy with yourself first." Sage advice for those of us who might believe we'll find the answers in another person. Both previously married, the Esteys are a testament to the fact that love the next time around can be the grandest. Their first encounter sounds right out of the movies: Frank spied "a beautiful woman" through a restaurant window and decided to go in and buy her a drink. The rest, as they say, is history. "I feel that no matter what happens in life, we'll stand shoulder to shoulder," says Evelyn. "That gives me a lot of strength." Their advice for marriage once you're in it? "Every day you have to be on the balls of your feet and be ready to handle whatever's happening in your life and in your marriage," says Evelyn. Be sensitive to each other, she adds, and boost each other's spirits, especially during times of change. And don't be afraid to commit in the first place. "Enjoy yourself," she concludes. "If you can take a happy person to the marriage, you really bring the best gift that you can."

THOMAS AND ELLEN WHITE

Married 45 years

"Let there be spaces in your togetherness." It's a quote from Kahlil Gibran's "The Prophet," a poem Ellen's mother gave her and whose message she now says is essential to a strong marriage (Tom jokes it's the first he's heard of it). They happily highlight their differences, from musical tastes to sports (she loves golf; he prefers tennis). Yet for a couple who respects each other's spaces, they do plenty together, including hiking, snowshoeing, traveling and taking classes. You also get the refreshing sense that they don't put a premium on pomp and circumstance: Tom, a pediatrician, proposed when he was in New Orleans for his residency and Ellen was in Boston. A diamond ring arrived by regular post, uninsured, without a note (he had already told her it was en route). The couple, who now reside in Milton, lived for 40 years in Florida, raising four children while his work in medicine often kept him working into the night's wee hours. "I've admired Tom's honesty through the years," Ellen says. "We don't really talk a lot about our relationship—it's just sort of there. It's comfortable." He agrees. When they married, her mother pronounced: "You deserve each other." "For 45 years," Tom says, "I've been trying to figure that one out." We're pretty sure it was intended in the best possible sense.

JOHN AND CAROL NOLAN

Married 36 years

Leave it to a Latin teacher to get to the etymology of "compatibility": its root, *patior*, means "to endure," "to suffer together." "Oh, that's going to sound good," Carol says. She's joking, of course, but there's some truth to this: Between all the highs and lows of marriage, you have to be able to get along with each other. What really makes the marriage work for these high school sweethearts? "Each other—and our daughter," John says. "We enjoy each other's company," says Carol, "and we agree on most things." "And if I don't agree," adds John, "I just say, 'Yes dear.'" It's easy to see that this Lynn couple, a retired high school teacher and a pediatric nurse, are just as in love today as on the day they met. They're always game to dance, Rollerblade, ice skate—any sport will do. "Laughter and humor," Carol adds, are "a really big component" to a happy marriage. "And he listens to me." she jokes. On a more serious note, both acknowledge that you never know what life might throw your way, and it's important to be there for each other at every crossroads. You do things for your spouse, Carol explains, "that aren't that pleasant, but you do them because they're the right thing to do." John's other secret: he's a good cook. "The one thing guys should learn how to do," he philosophizes, "is cook because when the romance wears off, you need something to fall back on."

ELTON AND ANNE ELPERIN

Married 30 years

For the past four years, Elton Elperin has commuted between Brookline and New York every week for work—gone on Monday, back on Friday. It's a modern twist on a long-distance relationship that would test many couples. But as he explains, "Because we're apart so much, when we're together, we're more together." Simply put, they don't take each other for granted (they still talk three times a day during his work weeks). The pair met handing out political leaflets in New York in the '70s. How did she know he was the one? "For some reason, we just really clicked. There wasn't any doubt in my mind. I used to go to his place and I would just be joyful. I felt so lucky." Elton is her "grounding force," she says. "We just like to make each other happy," he adds. And if someone has had a rough day? "I try to walk in his shoes," Anne says. She's hit on one of the most important keys to a successful relationship: empathy. Elton underscores that couples connect not just out of love, but because they need each other. "You're there to help each other," he reminds us, whether for economic support, child-raising, or cooking for each other. His last piece of advice: "Go have an adventure together," however you define it. Because time, when you're in love, goes by awfully fast. ■

STAY ONE STEP FASTER THAN DISASTER WITH OUR HANDY GUIDE TO PREVENTING COMMON CEREMONIAL CALAMITIES.

worst-case wedding SCENARIOS

BY EZRA DYER

It's getting to be wedding season again, which means that from now until Labor Day you're going to be spending at least a few weekends sitting through rehearsal dinners, ceremonies and receptions. Along the way, much can go wrong, from swarms of killer bees infiltrating the church ventilation system to the groom dropping the ring, then bumping heads with the priest when they both bend down to pick it up, subsequently causing the priest to develop amnesia and the groom to think he's Harry Houdini. As a guest, it's your responsibility to the couple, to honor and yourself to see that things go as smoothly as possible. Because when disaster strikes, it's not just the wedding that's in jeopardy—it's your chance of hooking up, or in fact, having any fun at all at the reception. And when you're spending this much time and money going to other people's parties, you simply can't allow that to happen. Your best chance to ensure smooth matrimonial proceedings and a good time for all is to prepare for any wedding-wrecking scenario that may arise, and snuff it out before the pilot light of chaos explodes into a full-blown conflagration of anarchy. Here, then, are some common problems that can turn a blessed union into a blasted union, and how to neutralize these threats and win the day.

When disaster strikes, it's not just the wedding that's in jeopardy—it's your chance of hooking up, or in fact, having any fun at all at the reception.

Scenario: Best man is boning hardcore on the speech.
Solution: While we all know Benny's best man, Moe, as a good buddy, one who'll streak at the drop of a hat and back up your story about how you came to possess a halter top bedecked with the phrase "Strippin' Ain't Easy," you suspected he didn't have the right stuff for the wedding speech. And you were right. First, he's been drinking like a homeless Siberian. Second, he openly resents the bride because Benny never comes over to play Madden 2004 any more. Third, he's one of those people who habitually swears and can't disengage the part of his brain that spices up every sentence with liberal helpings of the F-bomb. So you're not surprised when his speech turns a bit blue. But when he starts talking about how the bride and groom first met (he roofied her and blamed it on the bartender), then slurs the C-word, you know it's time to act. Simply stopping Moe's speech isn't gonna cut it, as that will only draw more attention to the fact that the bride is nearly in tears and the groom is turning a sickly shade of green. No, you need to do something that will supplant Moe's speech as the topic of discussion later on, and so you turn toward the kitchen and tug your ear twice. This signals the waiter, whom you've paid off beforehand, to head down to the basement and flip the main circuit breaker, plunging the room into darkness—and cutting Moe's mike. As the crowd wonders what's going on, you pull out your pocket flashlight, illuminate yourself, campfire story–style, and finish the speech in eloquent and flattering fashion.

Scenario: The bride is so drunk she's chundering at the reception.
Solution: Uh-oh...barely an hour into the reception and the lady of the hour looks like she's modeling for a cover shoot for *Blitzed Bride*. You see her stumble outside to "get some air" and know this is your cue. You grab the groom and the two of you lead his betrothed to a discreet corner of the parking lot, where she experiences the kind of reverse peristalsis that only comes from downing eight vodka and sodas in an hour. She's gonna be all right for the cake-cutting, but she'll need to take a little breather and have a Tic Tac or two before returning to the fracas. In the meantime, people are going to wonder where she is. She needs an alibi. Climb inside the bridal limo and take one for the team by trading clothes—you'll get that gown to fit if you put your mind to it. Now go out on the lawn, close enough to the reception that people can make out the gown, but far enough away that they can't tell that it's not Mrs. Right stuffed inside it. Have the groom snag one of the disposable cameras sitting on the tables inside and start taking pictures. This early in the night, the assembled crowd will glance out the window and assume that yet another tedious photo session is in progress, and, not wanting to be forced into unnatural poses by a guy with a ponytail, will happily stay inside and eat bacon-wrapped scallops. By the time you're done, the real bride should be presentable again, and all you've got to do is trade clothes—and smash that camera with a big rock.

Scenario: Uncle Louie is hitting on everything with a skirt, including the bride.
Solution: Uncle Louie has been out of control since his fifth divorce went through. "Hello, hosses," he says as he enters the reception, "get ready to meet the stallion." In the first hour, he hits on all the bridesmaids, offers to buy Aunt Ethel a drink at the open bar, and regales the younger lads with the list of venereal diseases he's acquired, which he views as a badge of honor, like war wounds. He must be stopped before he loses whatever small amount of inhibition lurks deep within that hairy chest. As any martial arts master will tell you, you don't stop a punch—you counter your opponent by redirecting the energy. And that's what must be done here. Before Louie can set his sights on the bride, steer him over to the bar and challenge him to a chugging contest. The bartender, as instructed, will provide Louie with a Long Island iced tea and you with a ginger ale with an umbrella in it. After several rounds of this, you introduce Louie to the comely Jody, a cousin of the bride's who up until three months ago was the comely Joey. "I can't believe how much she knows about sports!" Louie gushes as he beats an early retreat to his hotel room, his uncannily tall lady on his arm.

Scenario: The band starts playing the "Banana Boat Song," unaware that that the father of the bride choked to death on a plantain just a month earlier.
Solution: As the first cry of "Daaay-oh!" rings out, a pallor falls across the room. The normally innocuous Harry Belafonte standard has taken on ominous connotations, as just the month before, the father of the bride went the way of Mama Cass, only with a fried, caramel-covered plantain instead of a ham sandwich as the windpipe-clogging foodstuff. The band couldn't have known, but still, action must be taken or else everyone will wanna go home long before daylight come. So you rush the stage, grab the mike, and begin singing any song that doesn't involve fruit. That means no "Blueberry Hill," no "Tutti Frutti," no "Strawberry Fields Forever," and whatever you do, don't put da lime in da coconut.

Scenario: Just as vows are about to be exchanged, a lothario from the bride's past storms into the church, intent on stopping the proceedings.
Solution: Nobody wants their wedding ruined by the desperate machinations of an old flame, especially since, as we know from watching movies, said old flame always succeeds in winning over the bride, who will apologize quickly to the groom, gather up her train and run down the aisle to her One True Love, almost certainly ruining any chance of your scoring at the reception. But the old lover's predictability is your ally. You know that he's going to barge in at the end of the aisle prior to shouting out "Wait!" When he does, you'll be prepared with a Taser gun hidden inside your jacket, and as soon as the doors burst open, you'll hit him with 50,000 volts, dropping him instantly to the floor. While he lays there, flopping like a fish, yell at him, "Cousin Larry, I told you not to bother showing up if you're on the bottle again!" Glance around apologetically as you drag "Larry" outside and handcuff him to a Dumpster out back. The ceremony will resume, albeit amongst much curiosity over which side of the family produced Cousin Larry. The bridesmaids will be duly impressed with your take-charge demeanor.

Scenario: Someone rips a stinky fart in the church, lending a whole new meaning to the word "pew."
Solution: No couple wants their wedding photos marred by guests making the scrunched-nose, wrinkled-brow, universal facial expression for "Who let one?" Unfortunately, in order to neutralize this threat you'll need to ruin someone's reputation. Since there's no practical way to find out who truly dealt it, the only course of action is to blame it on the dirty kid. If the real dirty kid—the one with the runny nose and food somehow smeared on his face even though nobody's eaten anything yet—isn't nearby, simply grab the most culpable-looking youngster and lead him out the door. Everyone will notice and assume the dirty kid did it, and even if the true culprit strikes again, others won't register the olfactory stimulus because you've psychologically manipulated them into thinking the guilty party has been removed. If the dirty kid objects to being taken away, threaten that noncompliance will result in a thorough washing.

Scenario: A tornado touches down near the function hall, jeopardizing the success of the only fun part of a wedding: the reception.
Solution: Round up all attractive bridesmaids and female guests and as much beer as can be carried. Head down to the basement and make a rousing speech about civilization starting anew, right here. Claim that you're against polygamy but are willing to modify your value system for the good of mankind. If anyone points out that tornadoes aren't permanent, tell them that's what the ancient Greeks thought, too, and look what happened to them. IB

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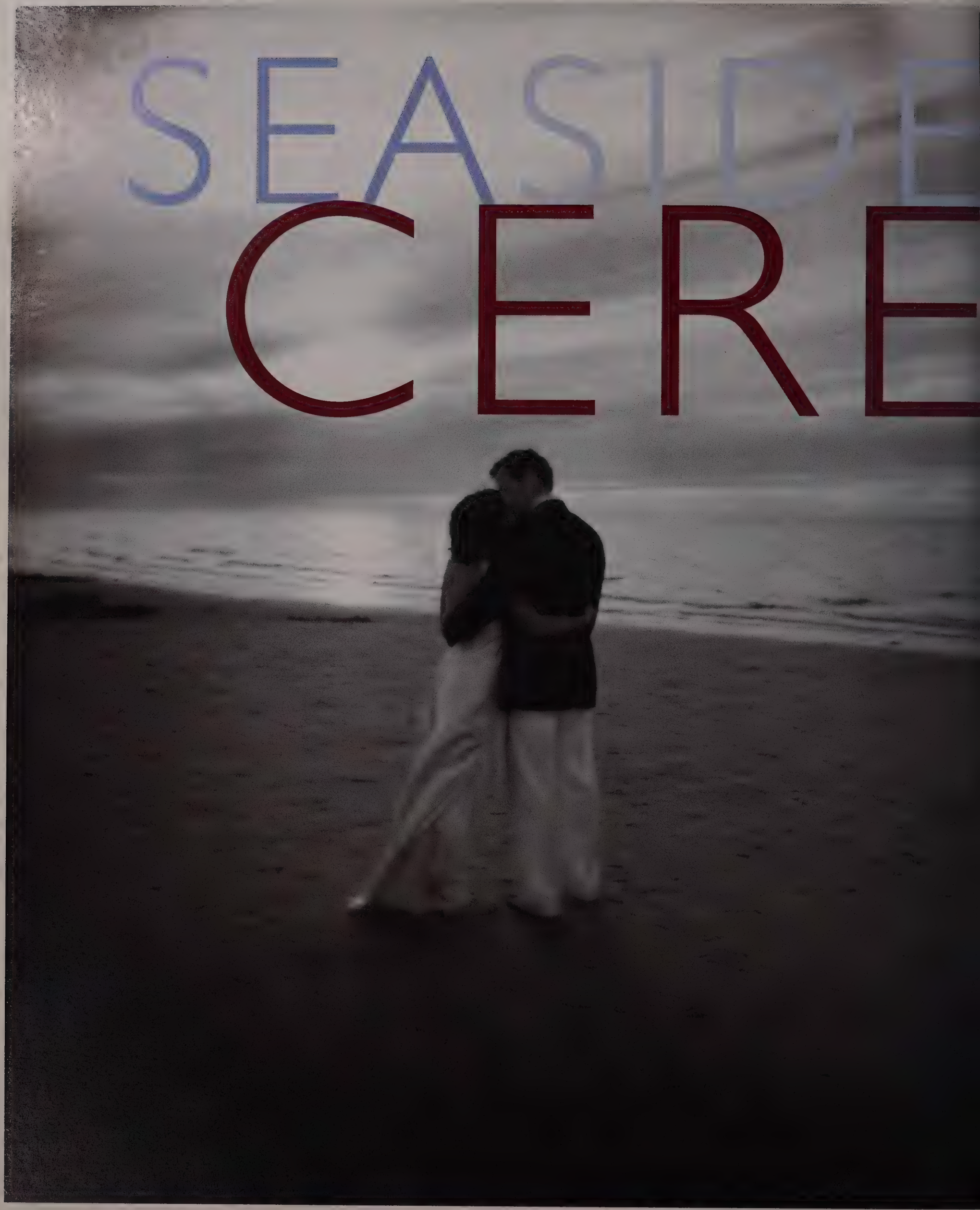
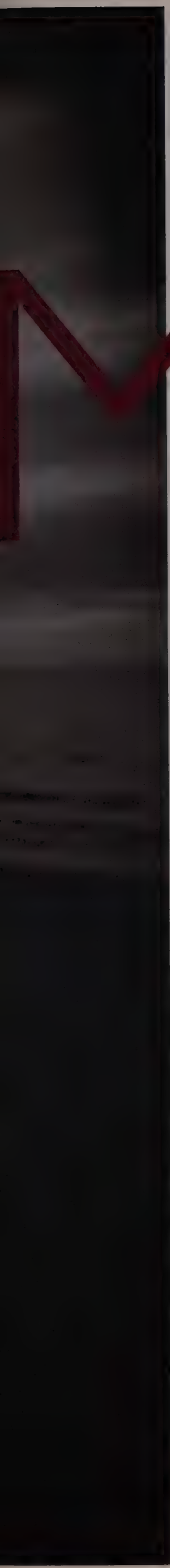

SEASIDE
CERE



MONY

THE MASSACHUSETTS COAST BOASTS MANY EXCELLENT VENUES, BUT WATCH OUT FOR THE PITFALLS OF GETTING MARRIED OUTDOORS.

BY SCOTT LAJOIE

When it came to planning our wedding, my fiancée Wendy and I had one stipulation: We wanted to get married on the water. To be totally truthful, Wendy wanted to get married in flip-flops, so we figured a beach was the most appropriate setting for her choice of footwear.

We were living in San Francisco when we met, and many of our first memories together are of the Pacific coast. Now that we live in New England, we figured we'd take advantage of the region's miles of coastline for our September wedding. Just to be thorough, we looked into a few places on ponds, lakes and rivers. Beautiful and serene, yes. But they just weren't the same. Not to sound too clichéd, but the sea kept calling us back.

What is it about the ocean that makes a wedding truly memorable? Many brides and grooms point to the symbolism of the sea—how small and humble we feel when we stand beside it. For others, it's the comfort of the sand, which gives a more casual feel to any event—from an ordinary dinner to the most important day two people will share.

Then, there are the picturesque views that accompany the meeting of sky and ocean at the horizon—just ask any photographer. On the practical side, a ceremony in a natural setting can have financial pluses too. "The great thing about having a ceremony on a beach is that there's not a huge cost," says Lisa Anderson, co-owner of Two Friends, a wedding consultancy servicing Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire and Rhode Island. Brides and grooms don't have to rent a hall or pay fees for a church.

A seaside wedding means different things to different people. For couples whose only requirement is a water view, a few venues in Boston fill the bill, including the State Room, the Seaport Hotel, the Wharf Room at the Boston Harbor Hotel, and the Hyatt Harborside. For a more unique venue, look into the Commandant's House, in Charlestown.

Many people prefer to be a little closer to the water, however. For that, you'll have to go outside the city. Plenty of beautiful venues are available on the North Shore, the South Shore and the Cape. "There are a range of options," says Kristen Weiss, co-owner of I Thee Wed wedding consultants, "from the rustic, where you might take your shoes off, to the elegant, on a terrace." (See sidebar for a partial list.)

How do you choose the setting that's right for you? You can start your research online: The nicer venues almost always have a presence on the Internet. Or you can hire a wedding consultant who's familiar with the Boston area, has an institutional knowledge of the local venues, and can steer you in the direction of your particular interests.

Never select a venue based only on a recommendation, however. "You need to visit the place," says Tasha Bracken, of Simple Details in Newton. "All of these places are beautiful, but they just may not be what you want."

If you're going to pay for the water view, you'll want to feel comfortable with the full surroundings. My fiancée and I looked into a couple of places with beautiful pictures on their Web sites, but when we checked them out in person, we discovered problems: While one had a beautiful harbor view, it sat in the shadow of a power plant's smokestack. Another site looked out over a quaint town cove, but also had views of a strip mall across the street. The water view that a venue on the South Shore boasted of turned out to be down the street and over a bunch of parked cars. "If a venue is hurting for business," says Two Friends' Anderson, it might exaggerate some amenities.

Although the costs for a ceremony on the beach may be reduced, you'll pay a premium for a reception located on the water. Many of the premier sites cost well over $100 per guest. You can get the same level of quality and service at a country club or function room for under that amount. What's more, a venue on the water can turn out to be nondescript, or worse, a little run down. "Some places can get away with that because of their location," says Pamela Chase, of Sophisticated Brides in West Roxbury.

If you're set on a water wedding, there are other options. That's why, according to Weiss of I Thee Wed, a lot of couples are starting to think outside the box. "Some try to find a relative who has property on the beach," she says. If a couple has such a connection, it often shaves a few thousand dollars off the tab because they avoid the extravagant site fee.

But just because you have access to grounds near the water doesn't mean your wedding is going to be cheap. Tents, chairs and linens cost $3,000 to $4,000, even before the caterer comes around with the first of the hors d'oeuvres. And expect to do a lot on your own. Do-it-yourself, says Simple Details' Bracken, "can be a lot of work."

If you plan to invite a lot of guests, a better bet may be to go with a grand ballroom or function room that isn't on the water. Many seaside reception spots lack the capacity their larger inland counterparts have.

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The clubhouse sits atop a 350-foot cliff and looks out over Plymouth and Cape Cod Bay.
1 East Cliff Drive, Plymouth
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YANKEE CLIPPER INN

Located right on Rockport's shore, this bed and breakfast has hosted celebrities such as John and Jackie Kennedy and John Lennon and Yoko Ono.
127 Granite St., Rockport
978-546-3407
www.yankeeclipperinn.com

Then, of course, you must consider the weather. "You have to have a rain plan," says Weiss "Put down a deposit on another place in case of rain, and be prepared that you might lose ou on a few hundred dollars." My fiancée and I were lucky enough to find a minister who'd b willing to marry us on the beach, but who could, in the case of rain, move the ceremony t his parish.

Even if there's no rain in the forecast, be sure to take the elements into account for a seaside wedding. "There are a lot of things that you might want in a church," says Sophisticated Brides Chase, "that just aren't going to work outside." Chase cites as a possible hazard the wind, which by the beach can be quite strong and blow anything that's loose—isle runners, rose petals, et cetera. Bracken of Simple Details recommends placing flowers near ground level, in nonbreakable containers, so if the wind knocks them over they can simply be set upright again. Also keep the wind in mind as you choose dresses and hairstyles, opting for simpler lines.

With the sound of wind, seagulls and boats common distractions, you should also pay special attention to your sound system—you may even consider seating guests closer to the spot where you will say your vows. "It's important that the officiant, bride and groom be miked," adds Bracken.

Lastly, there's the temperature. "Even in the dead of summer, it can get cold at sundown when you're by the water," says Chase. Think ahead and equip the bridesmaids with shawls if possible. "In the information you give your guests," says Carolyn Perlow, owner of Event-makers, in Swampscott, "make sure that they know it's outdoors so they dress appropriately." On the other hand, a tent can get pretty hot if the ceremony takes place in the daytime. "Even in Gloucester, it can get up to 95 degrees right there on the water," says Nikki Wescott of the Bastet Event Group in Winthrop, who recommends either some sort of air-conditioning or fans (which also make great party favors). In addition, to offset the dampness inherent at a beach ceremony—even a tented one—Wescott advises, "Spring for a built-up floor."

Despite the downsides to a seaside wedding, if the day goes as planned, the setting helps make it truly memorable. Come September, I'll be able to tell you about it first-hand. IB

Clockwise from top: Clarion Nantasket Beach Hotel, Cohasset Harbor Resort, the State Room, Hyatt Harborside, Castle Hill at Ipswich

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fth Avenue. Alencon lace bustier top
ith full tulle skirt, $1,700; pencil edge
il, $165; flower hair comb, $175. All
the Altered Bride. White gold and
amond earrings, $20,250; platinum
amond bracelet with drop, $13,995.
oth at Long's Jewelers. Bouquet by
/inston Flowers.

Gold jacket by Dolce & Gabb
$1,450; gold tie by Armani, $105; w
shirt by Dolce & Gabbana, $295. A
Saks Fifth Avenue. White South
graduated strand of pearls by Mikim
$44,000; white South Sea pearl and
mond earrings by Mikimoto, $13,
Both at Long's Jewelers. Bouque
Winston Flow

Beaded lace gown with organza skirt, $2,200. Bias-edge mantilla veil, $325. Both at the Altered Bride. Black South Sea pearl and diamond earrings, $6,800; platinum pave-set engagement ring by Ritani, $3,795. Both at Lang's Jewelers. Black suit jacket by Armani, $945; matching pants, $375; white tuxedo shirt, $135; white bow tie by Molly Rodgers, $65. All at Saks Fifth Avenue.

Hair: Janet Warner for S

Marc Ha

Makeup: Edlyn

Makeup assistant: Kelly Vo

Models: Molly Dodge, Christ
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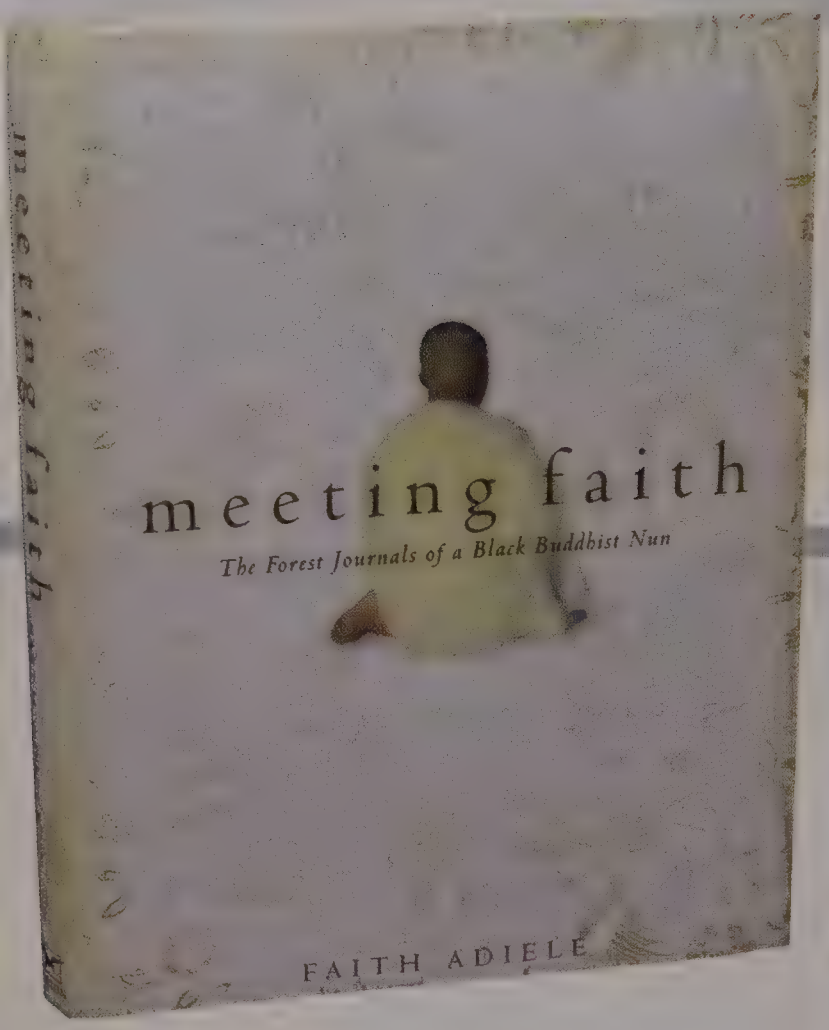


EAST MEETS WEST IN A THAI NUNNERY

Faith Adiele's memoir, *Meeting Faith*, chronicles the Harvard graduate's year of austerity and contemplation in Thailand.

After a childhood of high ethical correctness—she was the kind of little girl who aspired to emulate Harriet Tubman and Martin Luther King—and following undergrad years at Harvard more heavy on the social service than on schoolwork, Faith Adiele traveled to Thailand to become a "black Buddhist nun." (Her father is African, her mother American.) Though she shaves her head and eyebrows, wears complexly draped robes and sequesters herself in a *wat* (temple) in the forest, meditating mindfully on Buddhist principles, the spirituality Adiele embraces is heavily sprinkled with Western ambivalence and tendencies. Although she's "ordained" as a nun, her joltingly extreme sojourn—undertaken partly in the spirit of an anthropological inquiry, though in sync with her spiritual side—is short-lived, lasting about a year. Still, meditating for up to 19 hours a day, enduring solitude and contemplating that "the god is in the practice" takes focus and discipline. Adiele's lushly loose narrative is peppered with footnotes (printed on the side) that detail the evolving cats-cradle she weaves in her spirit, between discipline and lack thereof, and between the clamorous claims of the consciousness and practices of the West, and her nun-for-now austerity.

MARK IT CHEAP, SELL IT FAST, PRETTY!

Sewfisticated, at Twin City Plaza, 14 McGrath Hwy., in Somerville (617-625-7996), and Lambert's Plaza, 735 Morrissey Blvd, in Dorchester (617-825-2949), sells discount designer fabrics.

The joint is jumping here with the spice of color, the exoticism of silky, lacy, beaded fabrics—and with families, many of them immigrants, buying beautiful yards to send back home. (Famed quiltmaker Clara Wainwright has been known to shop here as well.) Sewfisticated features ends of bolts, samples and overstocks at unbelievable prices (like $1.99 per yard). Complexly textured, sophisticated upholstery and drapery fabrics, elsewhere valued at $35 to $100 per yard, flirt with you here for, say, $6.99. (Sewfisticated stocks briefly appearing buy-or-goodbye specials as well as some that are always available). One bright yellow bolt has a Pierre Deux flavor. There are silks—dragon-bedecked red ones, swishing Asian styles with contrapuntal colors (green, with subtle blue undertones), and others gorgeously woven palm trees. One bolt slithers with fine green "snakeskin." There are all sorts of embroidered lacy fabrics (the New York City Ballet has used some) looking to be made into fancy party or wedding dresses, many of them crunchy with texture, or twinklingly ornamented with beads. They have lots of pretty, sheer *peau-de-soie*, but also peppy patterns in poly-cotton or pure cotton, including some substantial cloth printed with ethnic patterns, bright and bold. A line of cheerful children's fabrics has a droll cuteness, with patterns of animals and clouds.

BOOKS BOUND FOR BEAUTY

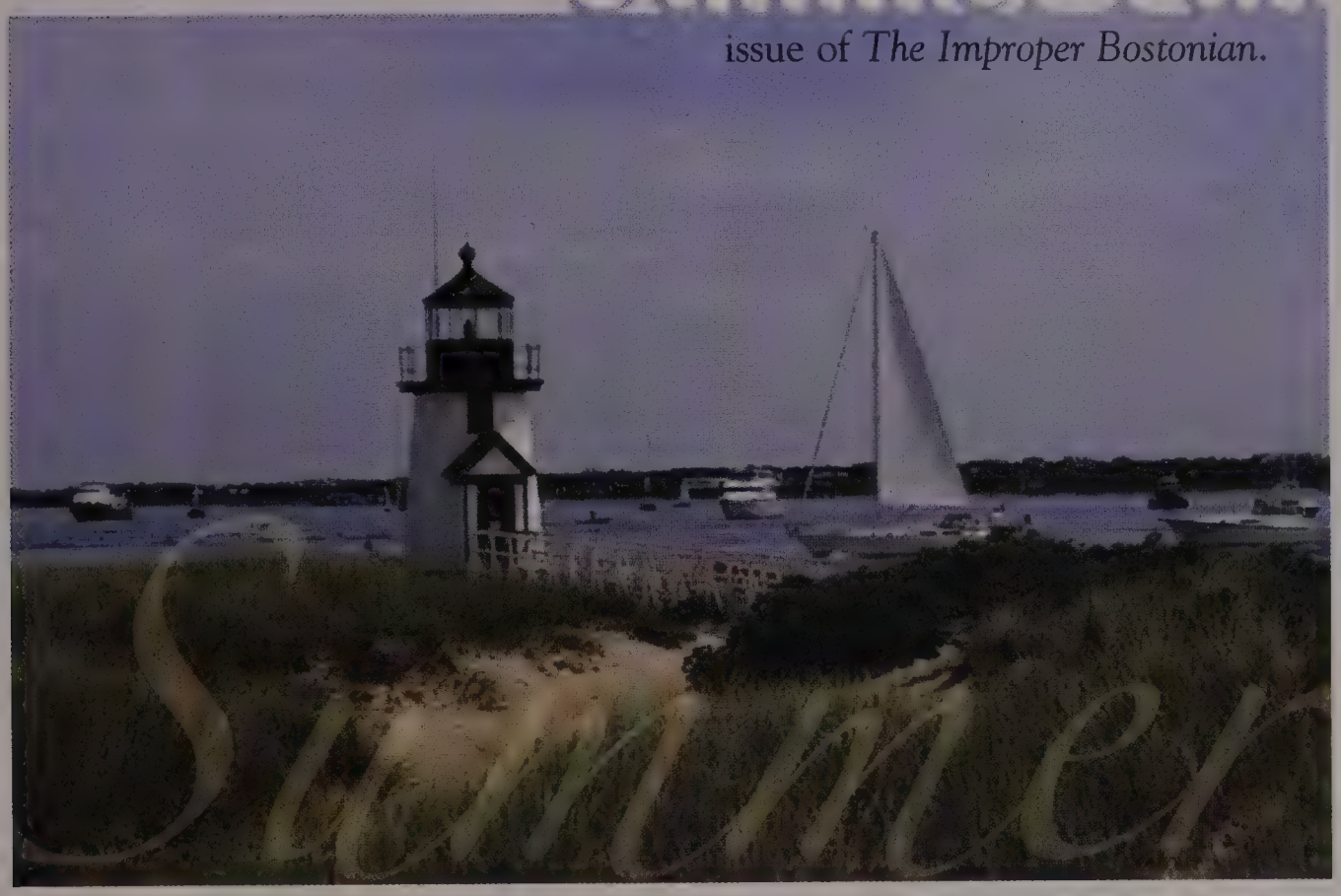
The Harcourt Bindery, at 51 Melcher St., Boston (617-542-5858), does fine leather bookbinding by hand. Leather-bound books in disrepair can be restored to respectability here, and some ready-bound books are also for sale.

How fitting that an establishment that's done fine leather binding since 1900 should be found in a matchingly beautiful environment. The Harcourt Bindery is housed in an old loft with slatted brown moldings, wind-up clocks, old-school lamps, and—ah, the peaceful past!—no computers. Using decorative brass tools, Harcourt can do edge-gilding and gold leaf tooling to give the requisite presentational gravitas to a Walt Whitman first edition, or your own. Fanny Farmer Cookbooks and bibles containing precious genealogies have been contained in Harcourt's bindings. They also do portfolio boxes for artists. No less a trio than artist Michael Mazur, former poet laureate Robert Pinsky, and Dante himself converged on an illustrated translation of *The Inferno* that received Harcourt's lavish treatment. (Pinsky translated the edition; Mazur provided illustrations.) Slipcases, those box-like structures that protect a book, add another tinge of specialness. Some schools and colleges highlight their literary prize-winners by encasing their books in one of these ornamented leather bindings. First editions, documents and photographs can also warrant this fine attention. And if you need another occasion for a trip to their beautiful quarters, Harcourt has for sale several hundred bound books by such leather-and-gold writers as Emily Dickinson and Herman Melville.

Things are beginning to heat up in the

Summer Fun

issue of *The Improper Bostonian*.



Ocean breeze, warm sand, the smell of BBQ...we'll reveal this summer's great getaways that don't require a long commute. Next, ready to unwind? Cool down and start planning a relaxing retreat at one of the local destinations we spotlight. Then, Ezra Dyer shows you how tee time can turn into vacation time. In addition, we'll hit the waves and get the rundown on sea kayaking. Lastly, we'll give you a temperature read on summer books that are true page-turners.

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REVIEW

FOR RICHER OR PORTER

Can Bill Bradley's Rustic Kitchen rise to the challenge in Porter Square?

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

It has always struck me as ironic that one of the best Italian chefs in the Boston area is of Irish descent. Bill Bradley burst upon the scene a few years ago as executive chef of Bricco, a trailblazing upscale eatery in the North End. He then moved on to Carmen on North Street to help launch a charming Venetian wine bar, and followed that up with stints at Rustic Kitchens in Quincy Market, Porter Square, and most recently, Hingham. Porter Square posed a significant challenge because that site has housed a parade of short-lived restaurants, most of which started with hope and hype and then went south. With his culinary talents, his instinct for what attracts, pleases and retains patrons, and his recognition that good Italian food results when the chef chooses compatible combinations of good ingredients and gets out of the way to let them speak for themselves, Bradley may be just the person to make the Porter Square Rustic Kitchen a keeper.

Grilled and chilled shrimp with cannellini beans, arugula, citrus and lobster oil

RUSTIC KITCHEN
1815 Mass Ave., Cambridge
(617-354-7766)

HOURS Mon.–Fri., 11:30 am–4 pm and 5–10 pm; Sat., 11:30 am–4 pm and 5–11 pm; Sun., 10 am–11 pm
RESERVATIONS accepted
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING lot
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Rustic Kitchen may be misnamed, for aside from the handsome flat fieldstone wall that merges into a large corner pizza oven, its decor and ambience are not rustic but Cambridge eclectic, with a touch of art deco. The restaurant seats just over 150 diners in three distinct spaces. A dining room to the left of the entrance is lined with upholstered banquettes with high backs of dark painted wood paneling, small wooden tables, spiral teardrop-shaped hanging light fixtures that look like inverted amber-colored Tastee-Freez cones, and a window treatment consisting of almost 250 bottles of unopened wine standing in rows one over the other to filter the afternoon sun. When I expressed surprised at this cruel and unusual treatment of the fruit of the vine, the waiter assured me that this wine was only for show, not for consumption. *Che peccato!* The second dining area includes a long bar that seats almost 30 on high stools and a cocktail lounge with a scattering of high tables to the right and in front of the bar, and a number of low tables and easy chairs to the left. In the back of the restaurant a large square dining room accommodates 50, including 12 in two booths with draperies that afford some privacy. Beyond, on the way to the rest rooms, an anteroom furnished with Empire sofa and settee is festooned with colorful Italian posters on the walls. An embossed metal ceiling extends throughout the restaurant.

Likewise, the food at Rustic Kitchen can hardly be characterized as rustic, except among those who associate rusticity with robust flavors as compared with the refinement and subtlety of the urban table. In fact, the food here partakes of both sets of characteristics. An unsubtle pizza of homemade Sicilian-style lamb sausage, roasted pepper, tomato, and ricotta ($12) made its entrance with bold assertive flavors: well-spiced, flavorful sausage, mellow ricotta, fleshy tomatoes, and palate-pleasing red peppers nicely balanced between piquant and sweet, all enhanced with a slightly smoky flavor imparted by the wood-burning oven. This ample, oval-shaped pie, packed densely with its variegated topping, could have served as a meal for one, or as a snack or appetizer for a party of four. On the other end of the rustic-urbane spectrum, the asparagus Milanese ($9), six fresh, flavorful spears steamed to a perfect firm, al dente texture, delivered maximum flavor, enhanced by a soft poached egg and shavings of rich, sweet-salty Parmesan cheese.

Fried calamari ($12) replicated the splendid Sicilian riff on this familiar dish that Bradley created for his Quincy Market Rustic Kitchen. Light, tender ringlets of squid tossed with thin slices of jalapeños, pine nuts, scallions, chopped olives and sauteed greens, all drizzled with aioli, make this offering a standout. Roasted pear and Maytag blue cheese salad ($9) combined succulent cooked pear, sharp but creamy blue cheese, crunchy walnuts and pleasantly bitter endive in a well-balanced vinaigrette. Unfortunately, a thicket of stemmy, inelegant watercress had been thrown on top—this annoying excrescence unfortunately also appeared on another of the kitchen's offerings later in the evening—detracting from both the appearance and my enjoyment of the dish. More endive and less or none of the watercress would have been far better. Finally, among the starters, the shrimp with cannellini beans and arugula ($12) boasted five perfectly textured shrimp that had been marinated with minty herbs and then grilled and chilled, served with tasty white Tuscan beans. Mandarin orange segments added mellow, refreshing sweetness.

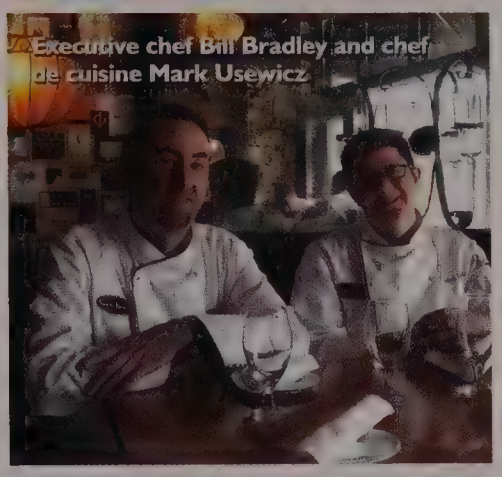
Pastas, one of Bradley's strong suits, do not fall short here. *Agnolotti del plin* ($17) brought a large bowl of irregularly shaped pieces of pasta, each enveloping veal and ricotta filling and then pinched together around its perimeter—hence the name *del plin*, the pinch. The ravioli, together with large, enjoyably textured, extremely flavorful wild mushrooms, including the incomparable porcini, came submerged in a light but tasty Parmesan broth made from veal stock. Tagliatelle Bolognese ($16), another triumph, consisted of rich, fresh egg noodles dressed in a meat sauce of savory beef and pork with an intriguing combination of herbs and spices—was that cinnamon or nutmeg I tasted?

The menu's labeling of the main courses, Rustic Comfort Classics, made me uncomfortable since I don't visit restaurants for what has to come to be known as "comfort food"; I can easily make that at home. This

Scialatielli and clams with basil and pecorino pasta

Sardinian herbed tuna with cucumber salad

Rustic Kitchen seats about 150 in three dining rooms.



Executive chef Bill Bradley and chef de cuisine Mark Usewicz

t included the Sardinian seafood stew 19), a terra-cotta casserole of fish, (salmon e night I had it), clams, mussels, bay oys- rs, large shrimp, and squid in a heady broth tomato and garlic, studded with olives, per berries, sultanas (small yellow seedless apes), scallions, *fregola sarda* (large-grained rdinian couscous) and two grilled crou- ns. This concoction was robust, filling and sty, except for a couple of the mollusks, hich had a strong, ripe flavor. Roast free- nge chicken al Mattone ($18) brought a nall but plump, tender bird that had been ttened and cooked "under a brick" (al lattone), seasoned with rosemary and mon, and served with splendid fresh young rtichokes that combined their distinctive avor with the cooking juices of the nicken. Unfortunately, another tangled eap of stemmy watercress had been thrown n and around the chicken, ruining its pre- ntation and adding nothing of value. rilled flatiron steak ($23), a huge hunk of re, resilient but reasonably tender beef, me with a mountain of spicy French fried otatoes, a delightful tomato compote and n entire half head of roasted garlic. Finally, illed lamb chops *scottaditto* ($23) turned ut to be two hefty loin chops, grilled edium rare as ordered, and served with a aponata of eggplant and strips of marinated d peppers and halves of large, lusciously avorful brown olives.

Of the very limited dessert menu, cin- amon crème brûlée ($8) filled a high- ded oval ramekin with mellow, subtly easoned custard, at once firm and creamy. Warm chocolate cake ($8) was more like a ousse than a cake—smooth, creamy, and ntensely chocolate, complemented by a enerous scoop of house-made cappuccino ce cream. Rustic Kitchen's ample wine list included a number of selections by the glass, and bottles priced as low as $20. I tried a glass of an old favorite, Centine ($7.50), a Tuscan blend of cabernet sauvignon and sangiovese with good fruit, pleasant bouquet and decent structure, and a glass of Primitivo ($6), grapey and full-flavored but without the heaviness sometimes encountered in wines from Italy's Mezzogiorno. On another visit I chose the Maretima 2001 Nero d'Avola ($24), a red grape variety from Sicily, which produced a light but pleasantly flavored wine with good acid balance that made it go well with the food.

Over three visits, service from a smartly black-clad waitstaff varied from satisfactory and reasonably informed to perfunctory and uninspired. When we ordered the agnolotti one night to share as a pasta course between the starter and the main course, the waiter brought it in one large bowl rather than having it divided in the kitchen, a courtesy I've grown to appreciate and expect, and a reasonable request when pasta is ordered as an additional course. The pasta service lapse may have been caused by a recalcitrant kitchen rather than the waiter, for it occurred on the same night that the mountains of stemmy watercress appeared as an unpleasant surprise on two different dishes. This coincidence concerned me, because it raised the question of whether Mr. Bradley may have spread himself too thin, spending insufficient time in each of the restaurants under his stewardship to ensure quality control. Based on my past meals in Bradley-run operations—the old Bricco, Carmen, and the Quincy Market Rustic Kitchen—I found these lapses surprising, but hopefully isolated and non-recurring, aberrations. IB

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Bauer Wine & Spirits Tastings
Bauer Wine & Spirits, 330 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363). www.bauerwines.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. May 19, 5-7 pm. Free. **Rob Tod** of Allagash Brewing leads a sampling of beers, including Odyssey, a barrel-aged dark wheat brew.

Celebrate Local Asparagus
Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). www.verrillfarm.com. May 21. 11 am. $15. Resident chef **Kevin Carey** and **Gordon Hamersley** of Hamersley's Bistro prepare several asparagus dishes, including soup, quiche and grilled asparagus.

Cookbook Author Ann Cooper
Union Bar & Grille, 1357 Washington St., Boston (877-927-7787). www.womenchefs.org. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. May 24, 12-3 pm. $55-$65. Women Chefs and Restaurateurs host this luncheon featuring a book signing by **Ann Cooper**, co-author of *In Mother's Kitchen: Celebrated Women Chefs Shared Beloved Family Recipes.*

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) plus complimentary Pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue., 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •May 24: Aussie Style. •May 31: 101 Alsatians.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Sat., 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •May 21: Reisling/ Gewürztraminer.

Grateful Palate Wine Dinner
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). www.harvestcambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 24, 6:30 pm. $75. Wine Director **Jason Irving** hosts a four-course dinner featuring wines from Grateful Palate, an importer from Australia.

Greek Wine Dinner
Meze Estiatorio, 100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-6393). www.mezeboston.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. May 24, 7 pm. $60. Chef **Paul Delios** and wine director **Fotios Stamos** present a five-course dinner paired with various wines from Northern Greece.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •May 18: The Wine Cocktails. •May 27: Global Red Wines.

Kendall Hotel Wine Series
Kendall Hotel, 350 Main St., Cambridge (617-57[illegible] 1300). www.kendallhotel.com. MBTA: Red Line Kendall. May 28. 6:30 pm. $50. The Kendall [illegible]fers a four-course dinner paired with wi[illegible] from the Sonoma Valley's Rodney Stro[illegible] Vineyards.

Nantucket Wine Festival
Downtown Nantucket (508-228-1128). ww[illegible] nantucketwinefestval.com. May 18-22. Check [illegible] Web site for times and prices of individual even[illegible] The ninth annual Nantucket Wine Festival fe[illegible]tures seminars, cooking demonstrations, fo[illegible] and wine dinners, lunches and tastings.

NCV Celebrity Chef Cooking Series
Nuestra Culinary Ventures, 31 Germania S[illegible] Buildings I & J, Jamaica Plain (617-522-790[illegible] www.nuestracdc.org. MBTA: Orange Line [illegible] Stony Brook. 7 pm. $60. Nuestra Culinary Ve[illegible]tures hosts a weekly class for people interest[illegible] in getting started in the cooking industr[illegible] •May 24, **Jody Adams** of Rialto: Spring Me[illegible] from a Modern Pantry.

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambrid[illegible] (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBT[illegible] Red Line to Porter. Thu. and Fri., 6 and 8:30 p[illegible] $45. Chef de Cuisine **Mark Usewicz** prepares [illegible] tastings menu of classic Italian small plates [illegible] front of guests at the restaurant's Oysteria Ba[illegible] Reservations required.

Spring Cooking Classes at the Langham Hotel
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-45[illegible] 1900, ext. 7092). MBTA: Orange Line to Stat[illegible] 5:30 pm. $125. Chefs **Daniel Kenney, Mar[illegible] Sapienza** and **John Quinn** present a cookin[illegible] class followed by a three-course meal paired wit[illegible] wine. •May 25: Mediterranean Cuisine.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-54[illegible] 5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Lin[illegible] to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommeli[illegible] **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, an[illegible] chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvr[illegible] and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Ma[illegible] 24: Spanish Reds (Beyond Rioja). •May 3[illegible] Oregon Pinot Noir.

UpStairs on the Square Spring Wine Events
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambrid[illegible] (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com[illegible] MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. This sprin[illegible] UpStairs offers a series of wine events featurin[illegible] cuisine from chefs **Amanda Lydon** and **Susa[illegible] Regis**. •May 18, $85: Sideways Pinot Noir Re[illegible] vival. •May 25, $39: Chardonnay Tasting.

Wine Dinners at Troquet
Troquet, 140 Boylston St., Boston (617-695[illegible] 9463). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.,[illegible] pm. $30. Every Wednesday night, Troque[illegible] hosts a dinner paired with a different kind o[illegible] wine. •May 18: Spanish Rioja. •May 25: 200[illegible] Germans.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262[illegible] 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line t[illegible] Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik John[illegible] son** presents matching wines to complement [illegible] four-course French–New England meal by che[illegible] **Frank McClelland**. •May 23: Southern France[illegible] •May 30: Loire Valley.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720[illegible] 1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Lin[illegible] to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardne[illegible]** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by som[illegible] melier **Erik Johnson**. •May 18: Rosé Colore[illegible] Glasses. •May 25: Summer Sippers.

ISH

Cave Men, Meet Cave Women

What a friend we have in cheeses…

CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Whether your taste runs to lush and ripe, or pungent and sticky, you may discover an ticing slice at **Le Soir**'s monthly cheese sses. Big cheese **Mark Allen**, chef-owner the Newton bistro, has tapped **Brian asik** of Wellesley's **Wasik's Cheese op** to bring in up to a dozen seasonal, ve-ripened cheeses for each session. Each eese is paired with a different wine and rved up with professional commentary d appropriate accompaniments, which ay include bread, crackers, fig cake, jams, ts, roasted tomatoes. "A bunch of differ- t things," says Allen.

But no grapes. "I don't use grapes that uch," he says. "It's too, um....."

Cliched?

"Yeah," he says, with a laugh. It's all about ploring new tastes, from young, fresh, goat eese wrapped in grape leaves, to artisanal eese from a French monastery, to super- h triple-cremes and robust blue cheeses. A ngtime cheese lover, Allen offers a daily eese cart at Le Soir that features eight to cheeses, and he hates to play favorites. "I ve so many favorites, it's hard to choose," says. "Vella Dry Jack from Sonoma, Berk- ire Blue...I love that one."

A bargain at $35 per person, cheese asses take place on the third Tuesday of ch month from 6 to 8 pm in Le Soir's ine cellar. You'll go home with a faux ploma certifying that your status as a Cheese Whiz," even if you don't go home ith your date, or "persona non gratine."

Mark Allen of Le Soir

ECOND COURSE

aw, raw, raw: Although he makes it clear at he's not trained to prepare sushi, execu- ve chef **Eric Brennan** of **Excelsior** can an- ver virtually every question you might have out raw seafood…except one. Enthusing out one of the new offerings at Excelsior's ew raw bar—"They're live till they're ened!"—he's at a loss when asked just how ng the shellfish is alive in the moments be- veen its exposure and its consumption.

"I don't have a small enough stetho- cope!" he jokes. What he does have, how- ver, is an abiding enthusiasm for pristinely esh oysters, clams, mussels—the usual sus- ects—as well as more exotic items offered s daily specials. Three times a week, heads- n Guatemalan white shrimp are FedExed o Brennan. His current favorite preparation to brine them, roast and peel them, then serve dressed with dill, avocado, jalapeño, sherry vinegar, and ruby red grapefruit. (Roast? At a raw bar? Apparently Brennan believes it's more important to be true to the spirit, rather than the letter, of the raw.) West Coast sea urchin with Oregon wasabi was another recent special. Four kinds of oysters are always available. Yellowtail (hamachi) is sliced, served up with sliced artichokes and a tapenade of olives, lemon peel, pistachio oil, 20-year-old sherry vinegar, roasted red and yellow peppers, and a sprinkle of Maldon sea salt. You'll see Pat's famous Wellfleet clams, Taylor Bay scallops, and razor clams from Duxbury that are painstakingly collected in the dark of night.

Fenway Franks are dead meat: In a striking coincidence, **Smith & Wollensky** is introducing a special Red Sox pregame menu at the same time that a new health study ties hot dogs and other processed meats to an increased risk of pancreatic cancer. Eat safely! The S&W prix-fixe menu features a choice of starters, entrées, and dessert (New York cheesecake? Ha!) for $39, about the same price as a couple of hot dogs or sausages, a few beers, and sundry other nibblies at Fenway Park. It's available on all Red Sox game nights starting at 5 pm, up until game time—which of course runs later when the Sox play on the West Coast.

One **Jer-Ne** ends, one continues: The restaurant with the strangest name in Boston history has closed at the Ritz on the Common, but the name lives on at its bar. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.

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MAY 20-21

From the final episode of "Seinfeld"

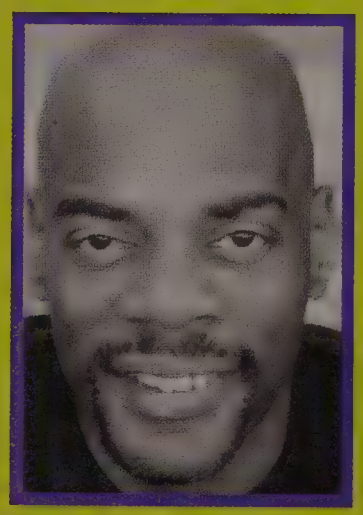
JOHN PINETTE

From the upcoming movie "The Honeymooners"!

JUNE 3-5

'Day Day' from the movies "Friday After Next" and "Next Friday"

MIKE EPPS



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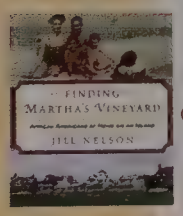
agenda

MPROPER PICKS

may 18 - 31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			18 UpStairs on the Square hosts a ***Sideways* Pinot Noir Revival,** inspired by the popular film. *See Tastings on page 42.*	**19**	**20** The Lizard Lounge hosts a benefit concert for **AIDS Orphans in Africa**. *See CityScope on page 48.*	**21** **Upper Crust, the Dents** and **Track Rabbit** perform downstairs at the Middle East. *See Music on page 60.*
22	**23** **Falsettos**, directed by Daniel Goldstein, premieres at the Boston University Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*	**24** Chef Paul Delios hosts a five-course **Greek Wine Dinner** at Meze Estiatorio. *See Tastings on page 42.*	**25**	**26**  Author **Jill Nelson** discusses her book *Finding Martha's Vineyard* at the Center for New Words. *See Books & Poetry on page 78.*	**27**	**28** Pearl Jam cover band **Backseat Lover** plays a show at Harpers Ferry. *See Music on page 62.*
29 **Into the Woods** ends its run at the New Repertory Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*	**30**	**31** ***Anya In and Out of Focus*** screens as part of Coolidge Corner Theatre's **Director's Cut** series. *See Movies on page 55.*				

Karen Varitek (left) and Kathryn Nixon (second from left) host a fashion show of Carolina Herrera's new fall collection.

THU.–FRI./MAY 19–20

Cityscope: Philanthropic Fashion

Fashion, food and hanging with the fellas from Fenway. That formidable display of alliteration describes Couture for Hope, an event that raises funds for the Women's Cancers Program at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Everything gets under way on Thursday, May 19 with a dinner at the State Room where guests include Trot and Kathryn Nixon, Jason and Karen Varitek, and New York fashion designer Carolina Herrera. The next afternoon, while the boys are at Fenway taking on the Braves, a group of Sox wives and Herrera are in the Grand Ballroom at Hyatt Regency Boston, along with WBZ-TV arts and entertainment reporter Joyce Kulhawik, for a luncheon and runway fashion preview of Carolina Herrera's fall 2005 collection. *The State Room, 60 State St., 33rd Floor, Boston (617-632-5091), May 19, 7 pm, $1,000. Hyatt Regency Boston, Grand Ballroom, 1 Lafayette, Boston (617-632-5091), 11:30 am–2 pm. $350–$500. www.jimmyfund.org/fashion. —RL*

HOT TIPS FROM CALENDAR GURUS LESLIE AND RICH

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Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

THU./MAY 26

Music: Punk'd

Juliette Lewis' film career has erred on the side of comedy as of late, with lighthearted flaky parts in *Old School* and *Starsky and Hut* but her punk rock music persona is more reminiscent of her *Natural Born Killers* role. May 26, Lewis and her band, Juliette and th Licks, bring their explosive, high impact on-stage act to Boston for a show at T.T. the Bear's. Juliette and the Licks— featuring guitarists Todd Morse and Kemble Water bassist Paul Ill and drummer Jason Morris in addition to the ferocious frontwoman—can together in 2003 to make music that, in Le words, would serve as an "antidote to self-doubt, apathy and fear." They released thei first EP, *...Like a Bolt of Lightning*, in Octobe 2004, and the performance at T.T.'s is part tour promoting the group's full-length albu *You're Speaking My Language*, which droppe on May 17. *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617 492-2327). 11:30 pm, $10 advance, $12 doo* —RL.

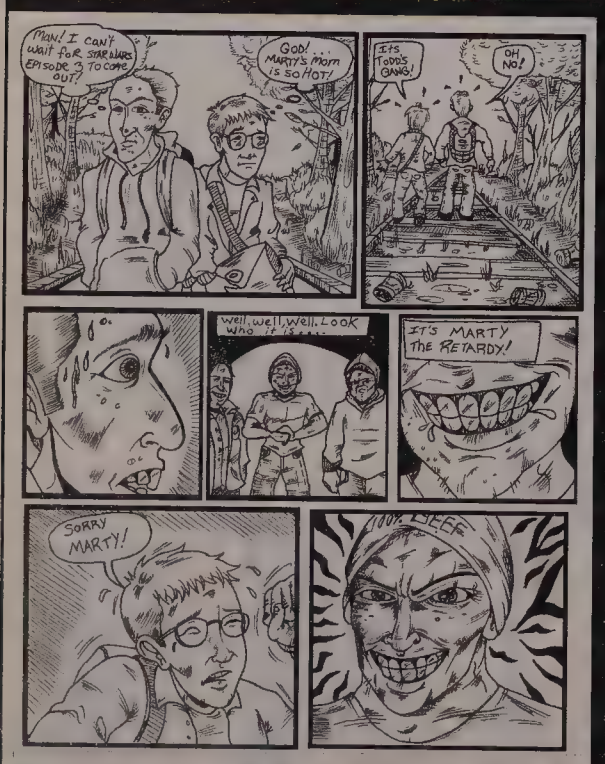
SAT–SUN./MAY 21–22

Art: Well Hello, SoWa

How well do you know SoWa? For a crash course in what this area—south of Washington Street in the South End—has to offer, join the throngs for the SoWa Art Walk, May 21 and 22. The festival, hosted by various South End artists, restaurants and boutiques, includes open studios in the artists' buildings along Harrison Avenue and surrounding streets, and discounts at neighborhood shops and eateries. Coinciding with the Art Walk, the South End Open Market opens for the season. The New York–style open-air market, at 540 Harrison Ave., features everything from art, clothing and jewelry to antiques, housewares and farmer's produce. Just down the street, at 460 Harrison, Trash Fashions hosts a trunk sale and runway fashion shows with clothes made from recyclable materials. *Maps are available online and free parking is available at designated locations. May 21–22. 11 am–6 pm. 617-481-2257. www.sowaartwalk.com. Free. —LPK*

TUE./MAY 24

Movies: Thirsty for More



Liquid Lunch Productions gained an immediate following last year with its comedy *Overserved*, a film based on the daily happenings at a typical Boston bar. Now, the company is gearing up to bring its next film to the big screen with a night of libations and laughter at the Paradise Rock Club. The comedy film *#2 Pencil* blends animation and live action while paying homage to *The Twilight Zone* and *Creepshow*. Following the premiere, stand-up comedian Lamont Price and the band Cherry S/T perform. To make it a true Boston celebration, Sam Adams is sponsoring the night, which also features beer specials, a raffle and door prizes. *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). www.liquidlunchproductions.com. 7 pm. $15 (tickets available online only). —LPK*

WED.–SUN./MAY 18–22

Tastings: Island of the Oenophiles

There once was a wine festival from Nantucket...OK, you can stop us if you've hear this one, but after that, pack your bags, hop on the ferry and head over to the Nantucket Wine Festival, May 18–22. The ninth annual event brings together some of the world's biggest names in wine and food for a four-day celebration of everythin oenological. Winemakers like Marchese Ferdinando Frescobaldi, Alessia Antinori and Laurent Drouhin, and local chefs like Bob and David Kinkead (Sibling Rivalry) Ming Tsai (Blue Ginger) and Lydia Shire (Excelsior) are all on hand to lead a series of seminars, tastings, cooking demonstrations and wine dinners. The festival culminates with the epic Grand Tasting (May 22, 3–5 pm, $80) where guests can sample the good stuff from more than 150 wineries. Downtown Nantucket (508-228 1128). *www.nantucketwinefestval.com. May 18–22. Check the Web site for times and prices of individual events. —RL*

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

cityscope

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Send listings for benefits, festivals, activities [illegible] or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar Editor. Or e-mail information to cityscope [illegible]. Include address, phone number, ticket [illegible] and times, and a brief description of the [illegible]. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Boston Lyric Opera closes the 2004–05 season with its annual benefit gala on May 20.

Benefits

THURSDAY, MAY 19

Couture for Hope Dinner
The State Room, 60 State St., 33rd Floor, Boston (617-632-5091). www.jimmyfund.org/fashion. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $1,000. Trot and Kathryn Nixon and Jason and Karen Varitek host a dinner with fashion designer Carolina Herrera. Proceeds benefit the Women's Cancers Program at Dana-Farber.

Gilda Radner Awards Dinner
Westin Copley Plaza, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-698-6616). www.wellnesscommunity.org/spevents.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $250. This annual dinner benefits the Wellness Community-Greater Boston and pays tribute to families in the community who have been affected by cancer.

Man and Woman of the Year
Boston Park Plaza, 64 Arlington St., Boston (800-688-6572). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-10 pm. $60. This event honors Boston's Man and Woman of the year and includes a silent auction, hors d'oeuvres and dancing. Proceeds benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Red Sox–Autographed Harley-Davidson
www.ebay.com/redsoxharley. Auction ends May 19, 6 pm. All proceeds from the winning bid on this Harley-Davidson branded with the Red Sox team logo and signed by the 2004 World Series champions benefit Bridge Over Troubled Waters, an organization that helps homeless and runaway youths.

FRIDAY, MAY 20

Asian & Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
Tremont Boston Wyndham Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-6755, ext. 214). www.mapforhealth.org. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 6-8 pm. Free. This first annual event features light refreshments, an awards ceremony and the presentation of two HIV public service announcements.

Benefit Concert for AIDS Orphans in Africa
The Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-625-2749). www.virtuous.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Local folk, country, roots rock, and blues musicians perform to raise money for Precious Angel Inter national, an organization that provides AIDS orphans with medicine, food and clothing.

Couture for Hope Fashion Show
Hyatt Regency Boston, Grand Ballroom, 1 Lafayette, Boston (617-632-5091). www.jimmyfund.org/fashion. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 11:30 am-2 pm. $350-$500. Neiman Marcus presents a luncheon and runway fashion show of Carolina Herrera's fall collection. Proceeds benefit the Women's Cancers Program at Dana-Farber.

Flights of Fancy Gala
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-542-4912) www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. $500. This black-tie event celebrates the conclusion of Boston Lyric Opera's 2004-05 season and includes dinner, an auction, performances, dessert and dancing. Proceeds benefit the Emerging Artists Fund.

Ralph Lauren Fashion Show
Marriott Hotel, Copley Place, Boston (617-782-0500). www.aidforcancer research.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10 am. This event, sponsored by Aid for Cancer Research, includes a luncheon reception and a look at the summer 2005 collection from Lauren by Ralph Lauren. Proceeds benefit cancer research.

SUNDAY, MAY 22

Walk for Music
Back Bay Fens, Boston (617-290-6216) www.walkformusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Fenway. 12-4 pm. $10. Dunkin' Donuts, Grail Technology Group and Pepsi Bottling Group sponsor this two-mile walk. Proceeds benefit more than 64 local music programs.

TUESDAY, MAY 24

Children's Action Corps Benefit
Hampshire House, 84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-4183). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30-8 pm. $25. Items up for bid at the charity auction include sports memorabilia, rounds of golf and brunch with Mike and Kitty Dukakis. Proceeds benefit the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps's Island of Hope Program, which supports adolescent cancer survivors and their families.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

Choice Is Always in Style Wrap Party
Vox Populi, 755 Boylston St., Boston (202-293-6200 ext. 209). www.prochoicemass.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6-9 pm. The president of NARAL Pro-Choice America speaks at the wrap party to conclude the organization's Pro-Choice Week. The event includes a raffle and refreshments. Proceeds benefit NARAL Pro-Choice America.

Circle of Friends Auction
Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Pkwy., Cambridge (617-876-4210). www.helpfamilies.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Community College. 6:30 pm. $6
This annual auction benefits Cambridge Fam and Children Services and features over different items.

The auction for this Harley-Davidson signed by the 2004 Red Sox runs until 6 pm on May 19.

THURSDAY, MAY 26

The Blues Run and Walk
American Legion Marsh Post, 5 Greenough Bl Cambridge (617-576-2646). http://baevents.co bluesrun. 6:30 pm. $20. This 5K race and 2.6 m walk takes participants along the Charles River a features live music by the Cat Sass Blues Ban Proceeds benefit the American Legion.

Festivals & Parties

SATURDAY, MAY 21

Beacon Hill Sidewalk Sale
Beacon Hill, Boston. MBTA: Red Line or Green Li to Park Street. The Beacon Hill Business Associatio hosts the neighborhood's annual sidewalk sale.

SOWA Art Walk
540 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-481-2257). ww southendopenmarket.com MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. 10 am-5pm. Free. The South End's ope market kicks off its season with the annual a walk.

SUNDAY, MAY 22

City Park, Ocean Breezes
East Broadway and Farragut Road, South Boston (61 566-1689). 1 pm. Free. The Frederick Law Olmste National Historic Site hosts a walking tour of th South Boston Waterfront.

New England Hair Expo
The Roxy, 279 Tremont St., Boston (617-892-3778) www.newenglandhairexpo.com. MBTA: Green Lin to Kenmore. Hair show, 5-10 pm; after-party 10:3 pm-2 am. $30, show only; $50, show and after-par More than 3,000 hair, beauty, entertainment an fashion professionals from New England gather fo salon presentations and competitions.

TUESDAY, MAY 24

An Evening of Pampering
Sheraton Lexington Inn, 727 Marrett Road, Lexingto (802-672-4370). www.bostonwome network.com. 6-8 pm. $25, member $30, first-time guests; $40, nonmember The Boston Women's Network host this evening that includes a dinne buffet, chair massages, skin-ca product presentations and networkin opportunities.

Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus Kick-off Party
Vox Populi, 755 Boylston St., Boston (617 4512-9294). www.mwpc.org. MBTA Green Line to Copley. 6:30-8:30 pm $10. This event celebrates the debut o the Massachusetts Women's Politica Caucus' Young Professionals of th MWPC.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Hurry Date
Charley's Eating and Drinking Saloon, 28 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3000) www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Lin to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $26.25 for mem bers, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 2 five-minute dates and enjoy drink spe cials. For Jewish singles ages 30-45.

SUNDAY, MAY 22

8 Minute Dating
Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendal Square, Cambridge (617-225-0888). ww 8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line t Kendall. 5:08 pm. $35. Sample appeti ers during eight different eight-minut dates. Then mingle and meet the peo ple you didn't get the chance to share date with. For ages 35-49.

TUESDAY, MAY 24

Hurry Date
Lir Irish Pub and Restaurant, 903 Boyl ston St., Boston (617-742-1010). ww hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line t Copley. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $3 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five minute dates and enjoy drink specials For ages 25-35.

10 SCOTIA ST.
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performing arts

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Boston Theater Marathon
Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bu.edu/btm. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. May 22. 12-10 pm. $30. The Boston Playwrights' Theatre presents 50 ten-minute plays written and performed by local talent.

Duplex
Boston Center for the Arts, Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. May 27-28, June 1-5 and 8-11. 8 pm. $12-$15. Peter Fernandez's play examines love, fidelity, community and other everyday issues through the interactions of four ordinary adults.

Falsettos
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Symphony. May 20-June 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; June 5 and 12, 7 pm; May 23, 7:30 pm. $14-$74. A man starts a new family after divorcing his wife and running away with a male companion. Directed by Daniel Goldstein.

Fame
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. May 31-June 19. Tue., Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Wed. and Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $30-$64. Richard Stafford directs and choreographs this musical based on the movie about students at New York's High School for the Performing Arts.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Chicago
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through May 22. Tue., Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Wed. and Sun. 7 pm; Sat., 2 pm; Sun., 1 pm. $28-$75. Murderers Velma Kelly and Roxie Hart compete for the spotlight with the help of lawyer Billy Flynn in this musical by Bob Fosse. Walter Bobbie directs.

A Chorus Line
The Winthrop Playmakers, 60 Hermon St., Winthrop (617-539-1175). www.winthropplaymakers.com. Through May 21. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $15.

The North Shore Music Theatre prese

John McGee directs this classic Broadway mus about the audition process and the actors tryin make it in New York.

Damn Yankees
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (6 244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. MBTA: Comm Rail to Newton. Through June 5. Thu.-Sat., 8 Sun., 2 pm. $24. A Washington Senators fan ma a pact with the devil to help his baseball team the pennant.

Desire Under the Elms
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (6 495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Lin Harvard. Through June 12. Tue.-Thu. and Sun., pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. $ $72. In this Eugene O'Neill play, a man brings young bride home to his New England farm, and arrival rocks the peaceful countryside. János S directs.

Into the Woods
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton H lands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA Green Line to Newton Highlands. Through May Steven Sondheim's musical depicts the lives of fa lar fairy-tale characters after their "happily ever aft endings.

Julius Ceasar
Cambridge Family YMCA Theatre, 820 Mass. Av Cambridge (866-811-4111). www.actorsshakespe project.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Through Ju 5. $25. Robert Scanlan directs Shakespeare's clas tragedy about politics and assassination.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (61 426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBT Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 p Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet aging baby boomers with nothing in common b memory loss and hot flashes meets at a linge sale.

The Phantom of the Opera
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-93 2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MBT Green Line to Boylston. Through June 4. Tue.-Fri., pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $23-$8 Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical is based on Gast Leroux's love story about a masked figure and an inn cent young opera singer.

Shakespeare in Hollywood
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Bost (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA Green Line to Copley. Through June 4. Fri.-Sat., pm; Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 3 pm Wed., 2 pm. $19-$45. When a filmmaker's remak of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* loses its leadin men, Shakespeare's Oberon and Puck magicall arrive on the scene to play themselves. Spir Veloudos directs.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA

May 31–June 19

…en Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; …, 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. …s comedic whodunit set in a crazy unisex hair …n holds the record as Boston's longest-running …y.

…eeping with Straight Men
…itute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., …ton (800-965-4827). www.ronnielarsen.com. …TA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Through June 5. …-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. $25-$30. …ed on a true story, this play, written and di- …ted by Ronnie Larsen, tells the story of a gay …n who is killed after revealing on a nationally …evised talk show that he has a crush on a …ight man.

…e Sunshine Boys
…neham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781- …-2200) Through May 22. Tue., Wed. and Thu., …0 pm; Fri. and Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and …0 pm. $42 adults; $37 seniors; $21 students. …k Van Patten stars in Neil Simon's comedy …ut two aging vaudeville actors who reunite for …levision special.

…ke Me Out
…berts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the …ston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston …7-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene. MBTA: …ange Line to Back Bay. Through June 11; Wed.- …, 8 pm, Sat., 4 pm, Sun., 7 pm. $35-$40. Paul …igneault directs Richard Greenberg's 2003 …ny Award–winning play that tells the story of a …cessful baseball player who comes out of the …set.

…oth and Claw
…ston Center for the Arts, Plaza Black Box, 539 …mont St., Boston (617-933-8600) www.boston …atrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. …rough May 21. Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 4 and 8 …, Sun., 7 pm. $25. David J. Miller directs …chael Hollinger's play about a clash between na- …e fishermen and environmentalists in the Galápa- …s Islands.

…ance

…nna Karenina
…tler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston …17-876-4275). www.maj.org/ballet. MBTA: …reen Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. …edical Center. May 18-22. Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., …m. $35-$75. The Eifman Ballet performs a new …l-length ballet inspired by Leo Tolstoy's novel.

…ul Taylor Dance Company
…ubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447- …00). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Green Line to …ylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. May …-22. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $42- …0. The Paul Taylor Dance Company, apremires a …w work, *Klezmerbluegrass*, and also performs Tay- …'s choreography for *Le Sacre du Printemps*.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

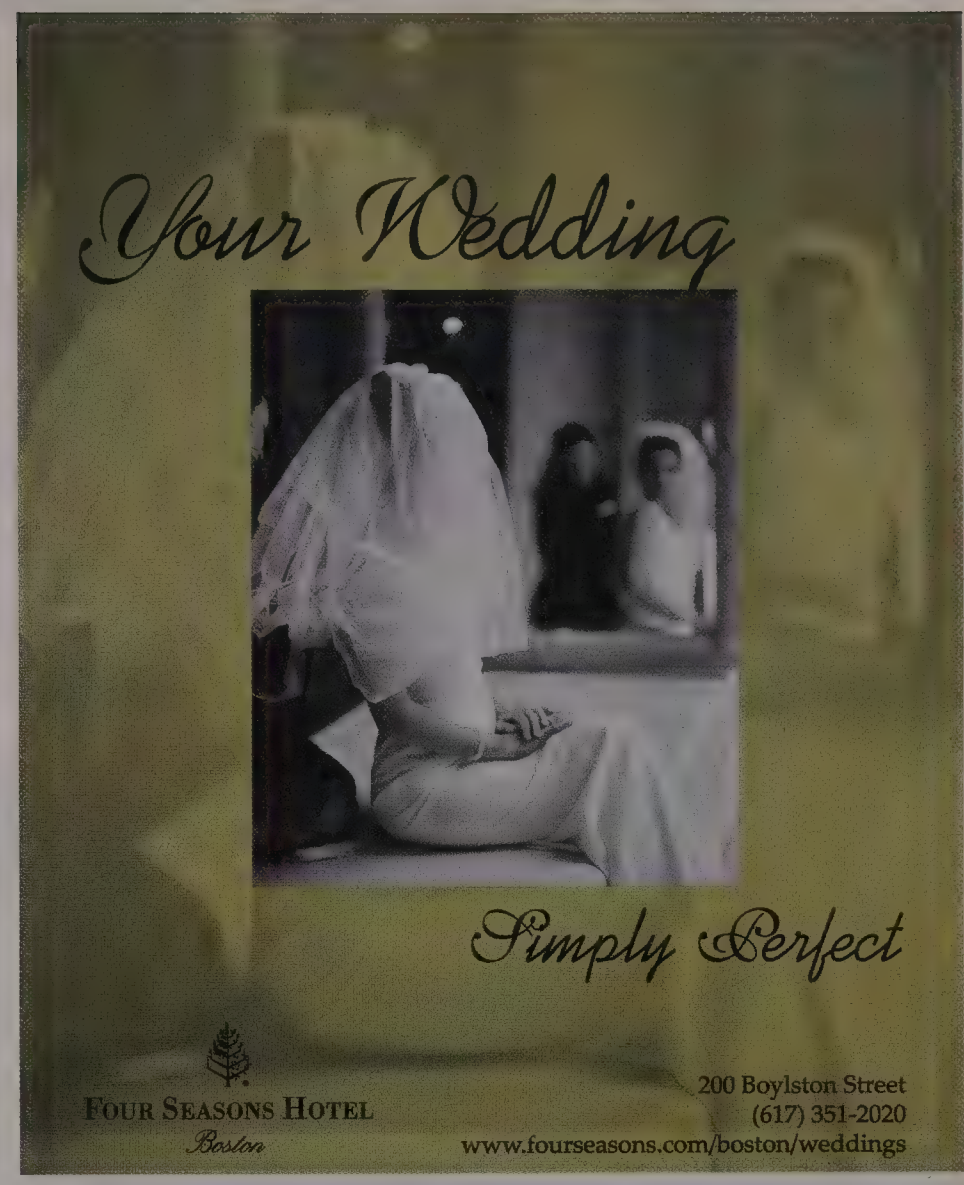
STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features an assortment of local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •May 19, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •May 20, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Mike McDonald, $20; 10 pm: John Pinette, $25.•May 21, 6, 8:15 and 10:30 pm: John Pinette, $22.50-$27.50. •May 22, 7 pm: Mike Donovan, $12. • May 23: 8 pm Amateur Showcase with Kevin Knox, $12. •May 24, 8 pm: Paul Nardizza and Robbie Printz, $12. •May 25, 8 pm: Jim Dunn, $12. •May 26, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •May 29, 7 pm: Jim Lauletta, $12. •May 30, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase with Kevin Knox, $12. •May 31, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •May 18: Tony V Experiment with Peter Gustin, Tissa Hami, Jen Griffith, John Lincoln, Alvin David, Tuck and Dan Boulger. •May 19: Dan Sally Show with Shane Webb, Frank Rockett, Andy O'Feish, Janet Cormier, Mike Del Ilano and JJ Leslie. •May 20: Kelly MacFarland, Anthony Jeselnick, Sarah Osteen, Mary Beth Cowan, Chris Torres, Shaun Bedgood, San Sally and Walsh Bros. •May 21: Jim Lauletta, Anthony Jeselnick, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Mary Beth Cowan, Randy Winn, Mat Wininger, Dan Sally and Al Smith. •May 22: Ira Proctor, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Elisha Yaffe, Ben Murray, Tiss Hami,



Dick Van Patten (right) in *The Sunshine Boys*, at the Stoneham Theatre through May 22

Tim Kaelin and the Walsh Bros. •May 24: The Magic Lounge. •May 25: Tony V Experiment with Mike Oster, Shaun Donovan, Louie Flacetti, Noah Garfinkle, Steve Macone, Charlie Hatton and Nick Lettic. •May 26: Dan Sally Show with Jon Rineman, Liz Simons, Renata Tutko, Jason James, Greg Thibideau and Seamus Carabine. •May 27: The Walsh Bros., Phil Kloehn, Shane Web and Myq Kaplan. •May 28: Myq Kaplan, Korte Yeo, Steven Donovan and Ben Murray. •May 29: Erin Judge presents Joe Cronin, Taylor Connelly and James Goff. •May 31: The Magic Lounge.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway. com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., 7:30 pm, $15: Stage Time Variety Show. Tingle hosts guests from the worlds of comedy, music and spoken word. •Fri., 10 pm, $5-$10: It's Not That Late Show. This weekly show, hosted by Peter Dutton, showcases area stand-up comedians, musicians and performance artists. •Sun., 7 pm $10: Women in Comedy. This weekly Sunday night series showcases female performers.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www. nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •May 19, 8:30 pm: Al Klemick and Pete Costello. •May 20-21, 8:45 pm: Bob Gautreau, Al Klemick and Pete Costello.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www. improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also availa •Sat., 12 am: The Midnight Show. Ongoin Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat, 8 pm and 10 pm: Fried Clowns. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-125 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to C tral. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improv tional comedy troupe creates everything on spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: New acts appear weekly showcase called the Hump. •Thu., 8 $10-12: Unnatural Selection: A master of ce monies randomly eliminates players until o one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Co edy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh p form stand-up and character sketches and p music and short films in a display of sibling valry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: BackStory is a come journey backwards through time inspired by films *Memento*, *Donnie Darko* and *Mulholl Drive*; 10 pm: TheatreSports splits up improvis into two teams. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-12 (children and under accompanied by an adult admit free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-fo improvisational show appropriate for individu of all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBost Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and au ence participation, a cast of improvisers create show that changes with every performan •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jambor This evening features performances by visiti and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-30 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's new short-form improv group performs skits that invol audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: R Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 p $10 after. 21+. The Cantab hosts a collection improv comedians who poke fun at everythir including themselves.

lew Releases

PAUL SHERMAN

ron: The Smartest Guys in the om ★★★

doubt, the movie most likely to get your blood ling this year. If there weren't enough reasons criticize Ken Lay, Jeff Skilling and their infa- us energy corporation, this documentary based the book of the same name gives you a new : The company culture at Enron recalls noth- so much as the jerky Omega House frat in *Ani- House*. Director Alex Gibney (producer of *The ils of Henry Kissinger*) does a nifty job of making this muck entertaining, throwing in songs (in- ding several by Tom Waits) and imparting a ematic visual sense to his interviews with au- rs and former employees. The economic ins l outs of it all still aren't totally fathomable; the ral festering is, though. (At Kendall Square.)

ver Pitch ★★★

er and Bobby Farrelly's latest comedy, an Amer- nization of a Nick Hornby novel, offers strong nale and male perspectives, without sacrificing her, and the combination makes for a rare ro- ntic comedy that both men and women can e. Hornby's original man-woman-soccer triangle been adapted to last year's Red Sox season, h Drew Barrymore as the woman who unsus- tingly falls for an obsessive Sox fan (Jimmy Fal- , much more amusing than he's been in previous vies). Despite the occasional cut-ins to game ion and the cameos by a few local media person- ies, the emphasis is rightly more on the roman- comedy than the Boston theme. But there are ough local references to satisfy anyone within 3, including a colorful Greek chorus of Sox fans the lead characters' section along the first-base e at Fenway. (At Boston Common, Fenway and urbs.)

tchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy ★½

hard to tell what the uninitiated might make of s belated movie version of the late Douglas lams' beloved sci-fi absurdity about the destruc- n of Earth to make way for an interstellar bypass, intergalactic travels of wide-eyed Earthling thur Dent (Martin Freeman of *The Office*) and number 42. Following the radio series, books d, best of all, the 1981 BBC-TV miniseries, the vie is surely the glossiest rendition yet, lacking lo-fi charm of the miniseries. But the movie is ll cast (Mos Def, Sam Rockwell and Zooey De- nanel also star), with Stephen Fry dryly voicing cut-ins from the guide. Though John alkovich creepily plays the new character Adams ote into the screenplay (before Adams' death in 01), his rival to Rockwell's Zaphod Beeblebrox esn't really have an impact on things. Bring a wel. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

he Interpreter ★★

he thriller sequences come off a lot better than ose concentrating on the characters in Sydney llack's drama, the tale of a United Nations inter- eter (Nicole Kidman) who overhears the plot- ng of the murder of a head of state soon to speak ere, and the Secret Service agent (Sean Penn) no's trying to unravel the plot and protect her. ith three writers credited—two of them heavy tters Scott Frank (*Get Shorty*) and Steve Zaillian *chindler's List*)—the script tends to just layer on ore of the same (plot twists, talky dialogues be- een the two leads) instead of honing its drama. the assassination plot becomes so all-inclusive at it strains credibility, while the relationship be- een the title character and the agent, both narting from the loss of loved ones, bogs down id overflows with convenient coincidence. At ast the two thriller set pieces, one on a bus and ie other at the UN, are well-assembled nail- ters. And what's the deal with Penn…he stars in *ystic River* and now he plays a character who's rst name is Tobin? (At Boston Common, Fenway id suburbs.)

ontroll ★★★½

nades of *Trainspotting* and especially *Fight Club* run rough this adrenaline-charged Hungarian import t within the massive Budapest subway system. here are rival squads of ticket inspectors, pursuits of n-paying riders, a death-defying underground hicken run" known as railing, a charismatic anti- ero (Sandor Csanyi) who leads one of the squads, id director Nimrod Antal's skillful blend of dark umor and drama. The antihero, a smart, handsome y who's gone into a self-imposed exile, becomes ie focus during the second half, and the movie oves deeper inside his head, where surrealism and manticism fight to the finish. (At Kendall Square.)

Semi-Sweet

Gangsters fight for the frosting in *Layer Cake*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Matthew Vaughn, the producer of Guy Ritchie's *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* and *Snatch*, directed *Layer Cake*, a similar sort of English gangster picture that improves on its predecessors by being less smug and focusing on a strong central character. The McQueen-ish Daniel Craig, who had a choice role in this year's *The Jacket*, is the focus of our attention, as a link in the drug-trade chain who, we realize halfway through the movie, is never referred to by name.

The credits refer to him only as XXXX, and this drug distributor—a middle-man between the well-heeled suppliers and the lowly street dealers—keys us in to his philosophies during his voice-over narration. "I'm not a gangster," XXXX explains, "I'm a businessman whose commodity happens to be cocaine." He soon adds rules to do drug business by, "Never be too greedy" and "Stay away from the end user" among them. This sharp-dressed man's philosophies get tested over the course of the movie as he tries to appease those with more power than him and deal with those beneath him.

Those relationships are what the film's title refers to, the levels of power in criminal society, as described to XXXX by another character. But XXXX wants no part of it. He's planning on quitting, though *Layer Cake* fortunately is not a clichéd "one last score" movie. XXXX hasn't told anyone he's going to quit; he just plans on quietly fading away. He only has to take care of some loose ends for crime boss Jimmy Price (Kenneth Cranham). One is to make a deal with Duke (Jamie Foreman) for a million Ecstasy pills just smuggled in from the continent; the other is to find Charlie (Nathalie Lunghi), the strung-out daughter of one of Jimmy's high-powered acquaintances.

Daniel Craig (right) knows where at least some of the bodies are buried in *Layer Cake*.

Both of these tasks turn out to be more than they seem. Duke is a hooligan who, it turns out, was dropping XXXX's name when he stole the pills from a gang of ruthless Serbs. And Jimmy's motives in wanting his pal's daughter in hand aren't very altruistic.

These circumstances turn XXXX into more of a gangster than he wants to be. When the Serbians send a crafty hit man (Dragan Micanovic) to London and XXXX brings in his own flaky hit man (Don McCorkindale), the resulting cat-and-mouse game is unpredictable, amusing and satisfying in its intricacies. XXXX's handling of Jimmy, after he's tipped off to the man's hidden agenda, isn't so special, but I was glad to see Jimmy take a powder. His dressed-up, rich old gangster who's still crass in demeanor is a British gangster movie stock character, as is Eddie (Michael Gambon), the even more powerful, even more outwardly civilized father of the strung-out daughter, who helps XXXX out but also has his own plans for the guy.

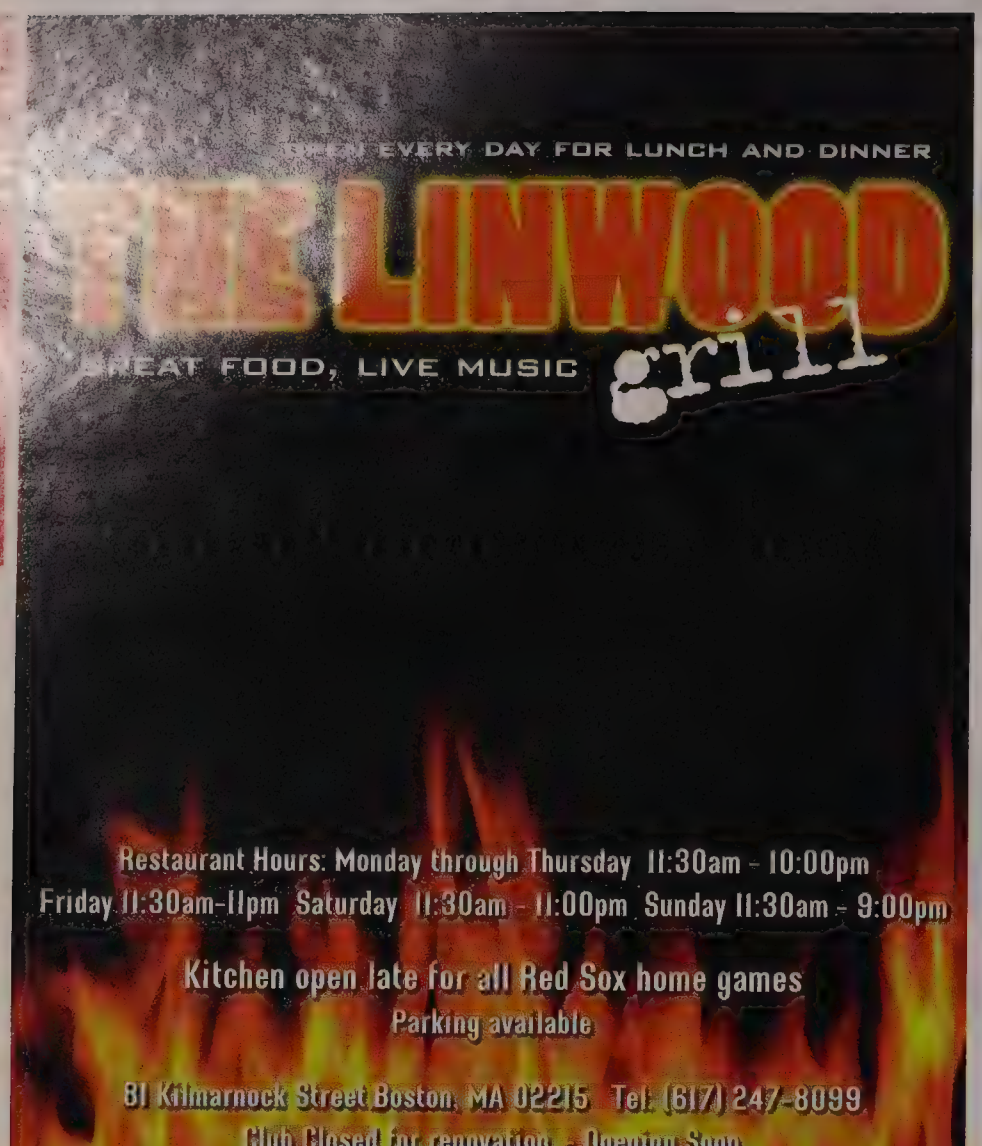
Those tangled relationships among the rich and criminal at the top of *Layer Cake* have nothing on the alliances and rivalries lurking just beneath. The characters clawing around this mid-level with XXXX include loyal foot soldiers Morty (George Harris) and Gene (Colm Meaney), and less-connected Cody (Dexter Fletcher). Sometimes you wish you had a scorecard to keep track of it all—much of the film's power struggle is explained in a series of 1970s flashbacks—and as a first-time director, Vaughn occasionally takes a step in the wrong direction.

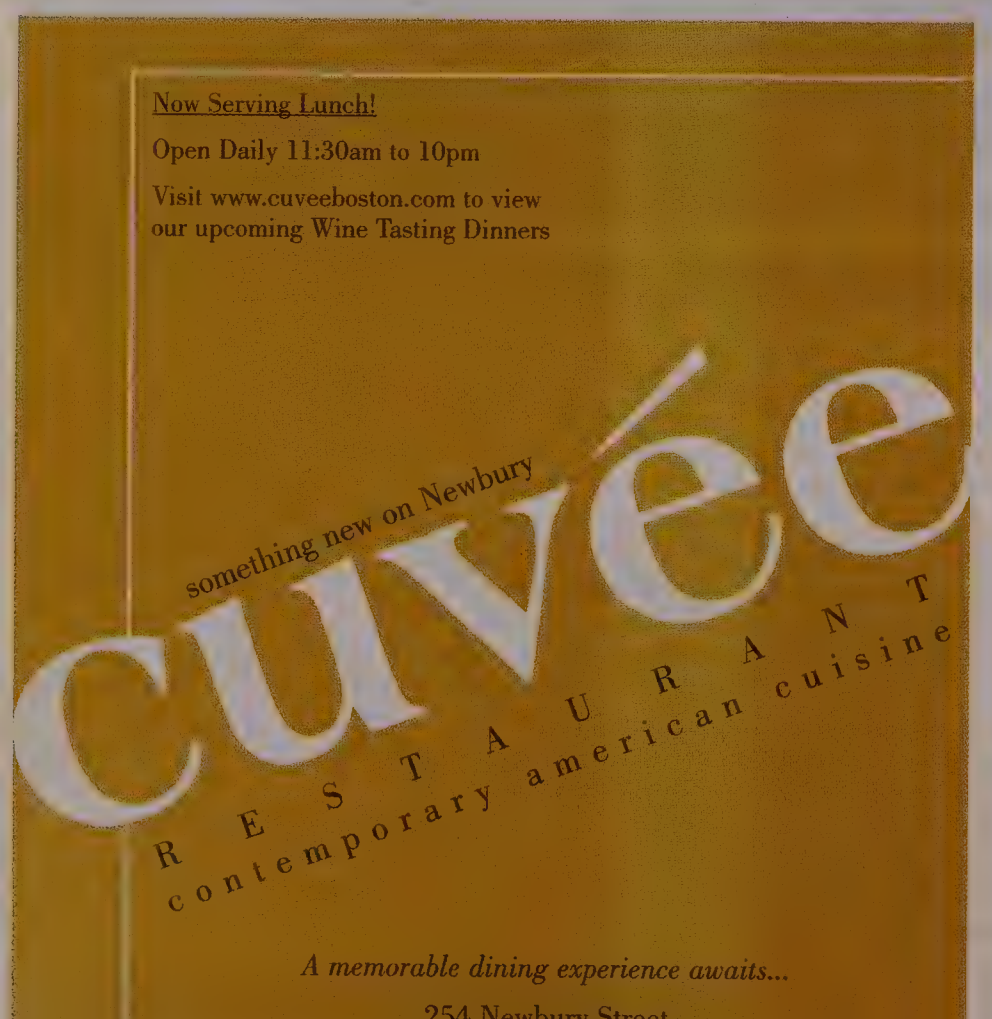
He dwells on one violent scene involving Morty long after the point is made, taking the sophomoric, easy way out as a director and giving the scene the obnoxiousness that often marked the Guy Ritchie movies. Later, two juxtapositions of music and image (the Rolling Stones' "Gimme Shelter" over a love scene, religious music during a cleansing post-violence shower) have an over-the-top, film-student-with-a-budget quality. But Vaughn's straightforward storytelling, avoiding flashy editing that calls attention to itself, is a big plus for the story, though it's a little puzzling to learn this movie got Vaughn the *X-Men 3* directing gig.

Fortunately, *Layer Cake* has Craig's understated performance to anchor it. He looks smart, but not brainy, and rugged, but not oafish. The movie's production design is usually hyperactive, with Meaney's character living in what, I kid you not, can only be described as a designer Quonset hut. But such refinements sit well on XXXX, whose drug office is behind a real estate agency he owns part interest in as a cover. *Layer Cake* makes plenty of small missteps along the way—down to the showy, clever ending—but I ultimately was glad it wasn't totally slick. Messy cake is often the best kind. iB

Layer Cake ★★★

Directed by Matthew Vaughn. Written by J.J. Connolly. With Daniel Craig, Colm Meaney, George Harris, Jamie Foreman, Kenneth Cranham and Michael Gambon. Rated R. At Kendall Square and Embassy Waltham.





Kung Fu Hustle ★★★

I'm not crazy about veteran Hong Kong actor-director Stephen Chow's reliance on special effects, but I love his comic imagination. In last year's *Shaolin Soccer*, his gags were split about 50-50 between "bad goofy" and "good goofy." This time, in a 1950s-set story of a feud between the residents of a slum and a local crime gang, the gags are just about all good. Chow's character, a drifter trying to get into the gang, unwittingly starts the feud. But he's just one of the unconventional characters to dust off secret martial-arts powers; others include the slum's lecherous landlord (Wah Yuen) and housecoat-and-curlers landlady (Qiu Yuen), and serial killer "The Beast" (Siu Lung Leung), who looks more like an old accountant. The wholesale special effects can sometimes be distracting and devalue climactic moments, since Chow doesn't save the "spectacular" events for such moments, but this is entertaining stuff. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Palindromes ★★

There are sound notions behind the tragic journey of troubled New Jersey 13-year-old Aviva: that people perhaps never change, forever carrying their flaws and inner demons, and that damaged parents rear damaged children, ad infinitum. But writer-director Todd Solondz (*Welcome to the Dollhouse*, *Storytelling*) treats Aviva's tribulations (unwanted pregnancy, abortion, running away from home, moving in with fundamentalist Kansans, and taking up with a lecherous trucker) as a chance to rub our noses in American freakiness. He puts such a premium on the grotesque that the tale feels more like an ostentatious art project than a movie. Part of the way the movie calls attention to itself is by having Aviva played by eight actresses, mostly teen girls, but also by Jennifer Jason Leigh and Sharon Wilkins (the latter is roughly double the age and weight of the teen actresses). Most of the actresses do well—including Leigh and Wilkins, who eventually make you believe they're vulnerable youths—but the stunt-casting doesn't exactly make the story flow, and Aviva seems more like a pawn for Solondz to toy with than a real person. Typically, Solondz strains to be controversial and fails. (At Harvard Square and Embassy Waltham.)

Sahara ★

What were they thinking? The number of black victims and whites who escape from death is the most remarkable thing about director Breck Eisner's smug action-adventure that, not surprisingly, never builds up the goodwill or fun that might have gotten its cardboard characters and ludicrous story over. If there had been more substance to this *Indiana Jones* wannabe, then maybe the dubious racial politics wouldn't be quite so glaring. It's an unintentional hoot that the Mali-set movie tries to present Matthew McConaughey's hero as a benevolent treasure hunter, because he shows little concern for anyone but himself and his pals. He's the quintessential "ugly American," laying waste to a foreign country and then chuckling about it, because he's having fun and either doesn't notice or doesn't care about the mayhem swirling around him. Yicch. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Sin City ★★

Graphic novels supposedly brought adult sophistication to comic books. But if Robert (*Spy Kids*) Rodriguez's adaptation of Frank Miller's *Sin City* (with both men credited as co-directors) is any indication, that just means you get R-rated adolescent fantasy instead of PG-rated adolescent fantasy. So the episodic, overlapping tales of vice in the movie's Basin City metropolis aren't just warmed-over neo-noir (with uncinematic, incessant narration that vintage noir didn't have). They're also full of over-the-top violence dished out by avenging angels and full of sexually available women (or the frequent daily double of hookers toting assault weapons). Well, at least it's not boring, and Rodriguez's use of CGI backdrops instead of sets (in most scenes) outdoes *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow* in effectiveness. It's fun sometimes, and energetic most of the time, but pretty juvenile. Of course, that's no accident (even though the film is rated R). Case in point: Miramax made local critics preview the movie with an audience of comic-book fans, and I swear on a stack of Burt Lancaster DVDs I smelled peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in the crowd. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith ★★

The third *Star Wars* prequel is the first that's respectable. Now that the time has finally come for the transformation of Anakin Skywalker from "chosen" Jedi knight to master of disaster Darth Vad writer-director George Lucas at least gives this more narrative push, instead of the meander dullness of the first two prequels. There's still awful lot of council meetings and bureaucratic n sense and too much Yoda and his annoying inver syntax (he's a spot player, George, not a go-to gu And Hayden Christensen's performance is und whelming. He was great in *Shattered Glass*, but t experience doesn't translate in making the in torment raging inside his character very compelli But Ewan McGregor is just right, as always, as hu ble Obi-Wan Kenobi, whose reaction to his yo cohort's betrayal is both hurt and introspecti about where he failed as a mentor. (At Boston Co mon, Fenway and suburbs.)

Travellers and Magicians ★★

There's sometimes an appealing pop Buddhism writer-director Khyentse Norbu's latest. It's less Himalayan minstrel show than his earlier *The C* (it's the first movie filmed in his native Bhuta but unfortunately it doesn't earn its wisdom. hero (Tshewang Dendup) is a civil servant wh secretly leaving his village to move to the We But he misses the daily bus, and ends up walki and waiting around the roadside with a group of cals, including a monk (Sonam Kinga) who spin cautionary, *Postman Always Rings Twice* sort of t about another man who left his village for a "bet life." The story-within-a-story offers little insig into its young man, which isn't a major proble but the main story offers little insight into t movie's hero, which is a huge problem. It mak the movie rather shallow, while its means of temp ing Dondup to stay in Bhutan—a doe-eyed 1 year-old (Sonam Lhamo) who has a crush him—is more convenient and scenic than co vincing, like much here. (At the Museum of Fi Arts, May 26, 28 and June 2.)

xXx: State of the Union ★

If you spend good money and time on this steam you deserve everything you get. (At Boston Cor mon, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Year of Yao ★★½

Co-produced by the NBA, this chronicle of Hou ton Rockets center Yao Ming's first year in t league falls somewhere between a promo film ar a genuine documentary. From the start, it's cle the movie won't offer any big dramatic surprise But it's also clear directors Adam Del Deo ar James D. Stern know how to competently assen ble their footage. Such threads as Yao's cultu shock and his on-court battles with Shaquil O'Neal are expected, while the look at his rel tionship with American interpreter Colin Pin who narrates, isn't. If your out for behind-th scenes basketball action more than imaginativ moviemaking, this will probably do the trick; vice versa, it probably won't. (At Boston Commo and suburbs.)

Special Events

Liquid Lunch Productions Premiere

Paradise Rock Club, 967 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-562 8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. •Th local film company Liquid Lunch Production premieres the film **#2 Pencil**. Performances b comedian Lamont Price and local band Cherry S follow the screening.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Cal endar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline i four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

•May 23, 6 pm. **My Sister Eileen** *1955*. When tw sisters go to New York to seek fame and fortune the elder writes a story that attracts the attentio of a playboy publisher. Richard Quine directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

•May 18, 4:45 and 8 pm. **Once Upon a Time i the West** *1968*. Sergio Leone directs this classi western film starring Henry Fonda, Jason Robard and Charles Bronson.

•May 19, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **The Quick an the Dead** *1995*. Sharon Stone stars in this film about a gunfighting competition in a small prairi town. Sam Rami directs.

•May 20, 21, 24-27: 5 and 8 pm; May 22, 28 an 29: 2, 5 and 9 pm. **Kings and Queen** *2004*. Arnau

Ewan McGregor (left) and Anakin Skywalker in *Star Wars Episode III—Revenge of the Sith*

splechin directs this film about a single mother, r terminally ill father and her suicidal fiancé. May 21, 3 pm. **Mujaan** *2005*. Christopher McKee ects this short film about the lives of Mongolian mads.

May 30, 3, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Maya** *2001*. gvijay Singh's coming-of-age film addresses ild abuse in rural India through the eyes of a 12-ar-old girl who must go through a deflowering ual at the hands of local priests after she begins her first menstural cycle.•May 31, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. **Arisan!** *2003*. Nia diNata directs this film about three friends facing crises in their personal lives.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Selects

•Now Playing. **Double Dare** *2004*. Amanda Micheli directs this documentary about two Hollywood stuntwomen.

Director's Cut

•May 31, 7:30 pm. **Anya in and out of Focus** *2004*. Marian Marzynski focuses the camera on his daughter in this film that chronicles her life from childhood to her mid thirties.

Features

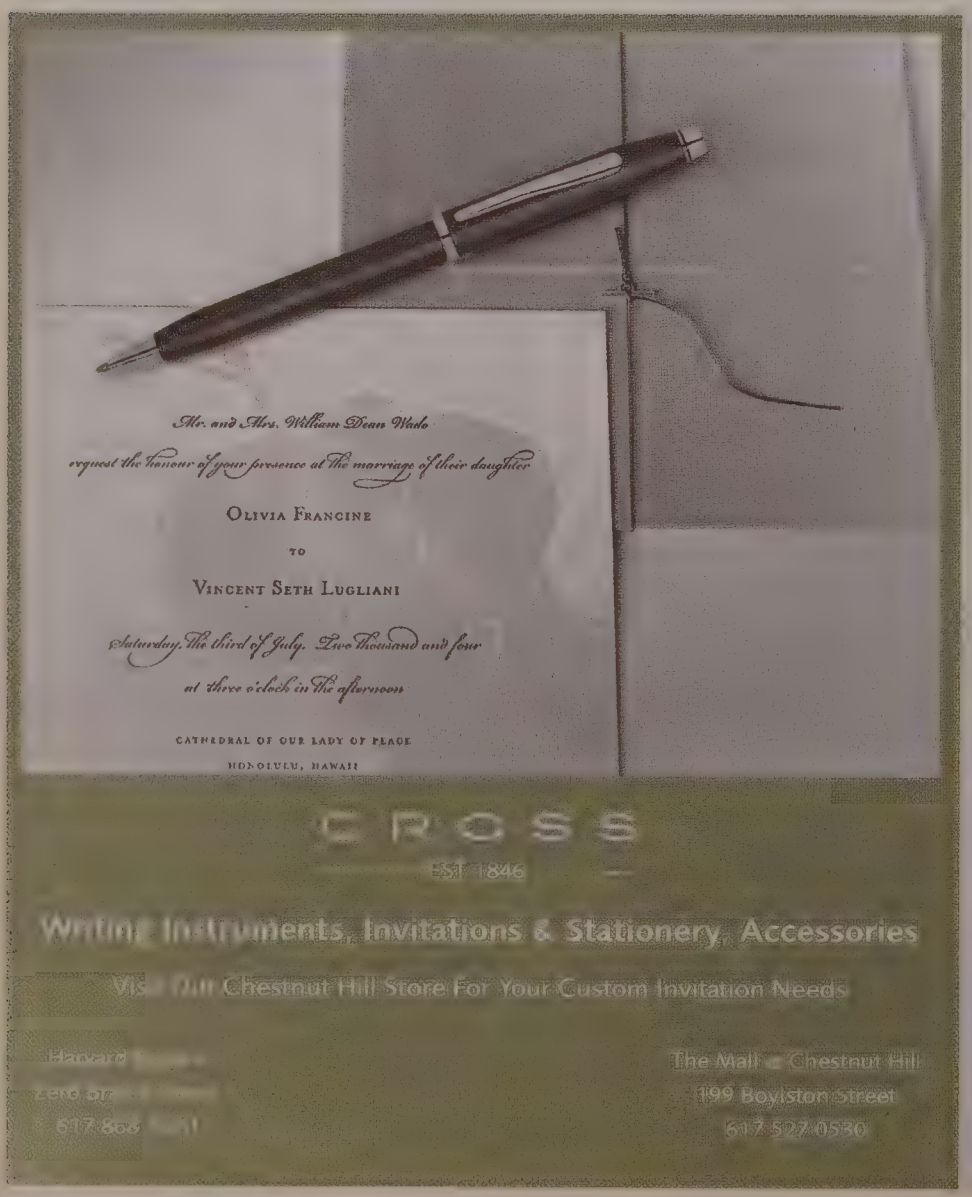
•Through May 19. **La Dolce Vita** *1960*. In Federico Fellini's classic film, a journalist covering Rome's social elite falls for an actress.

•Opens May 20. **Mad Hot Ballroom.** *2005*. Marilyn Agrelo directs this documentary about a group of 11-year-olds from New York City in the world of competitive ballroom dancing.

Midnight Movies

•May 21 and 22, 12 am. **Freaks and Geeks Pajama Party**. Two episodes of the series screen each night. Cast member Samm Levine appears in person for both programs.

•May 27, 12 am. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer Sing Along**. Joss Wheldon's musical episode of the *Buffy*



TV series, *Something to Sing About*, screens, with subtitles for audience participation.

Special Events

•May 18, 5 pm. **Brookline High School Film Festival** is an free program of short films by local high school students.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

All Together Now: The Cinema-terpsichorean World of Busby Berkeley

•May 20, 7 pm; May 22, 9 pm. **42nd Street** *1933*. Lloyd Baxter directs this musical, featuring choreography by Berkeley, about the production of a Broadway play.

•May 20, 9 pm; May 22, 7 pm. **Footlight Parade** *1933*. James Cagney stars in this film about a stage musical producer struggling to compete with the silver screen. Lloyd Bacon directs.

•May 21, 7 pm; May 23, 9 pm. **Gold Diggers of 1933** *1933*. When a young aristocrat falls in love with a showgirl, his two disapproving friends step in to break them up, only to fall in love with her co-stars. Mervyn Leroy directs.

•May 21, 9 pm; May 23, 7 pm. **Gold Diggers of 1935** *1935*. A medical student falls for the daughter of a millionaire in choreographer Berkeley's directorial debut.

•May 24, 7 pm. **Dames** *1934*. Berkeley and Ray Enright co-direct this film about the backstage lives of musical showgirls and their love interests.

•May 24, 9 pm. **Gold Diggers of 1937** *1936*. Lloyd Bacon directs this film about an insurance salesman working as a theatrical producer to prevent his client form going bankrupt.

•May 25, 7 pm. **Roman Scandals** *1933*. A history buff is transported to ancient Rome and gets mixed up in a plot to kill the emperor. Frank Tuttle directs.

•May 25, 9 pm **Palmy Days** *1931*. Edward Sutherland directs this film about a bakery shop heist.

•May 27, 7 pm. **Babes in Arms** *1939*. Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland star in this film about the son of a vaudeville actor and his attempts to produce a show to save his family. Busby Berkeley directs.

•May 27, 9 pm. **Babes on Broadway** *1941*. Berkeley directs this film about an actor whose fame goes to his head after a successful charity show.

•May 28, 7 pm. **In Caliente** *1935*. Lloyd Bacon directs this film about a Mexican dancer and a magazine editor who gives her a bad review and then falls in love with her.

•May 28, 9 pm. **For Me and My Gal** *1942*. Judy Garland and Gene Kelly star in this film about a performer who injures his own hand to avoid fighting in WWI. Berkeley directs.

•May 29, 6:30 pm. **Ziegfeld Girl** *1941*. James Stewart, Judy Garland and Hedy Lamarr star in this Hollywood musical about three showgirls. Robert Z. Leonard directs.

•May 29, 9 pm. **Girl Crazy** *1943*. Norman Taurog and Berkeley co-direct this film about a playboy who moves west to clean up his act and falls for a local girl training to be a rodeo queen.

•May 30, 7 pm. **The Gang's All Here** *1943*. A wealthy soldier falls for a showgirl, and his parents disapprove until she puts on a show for the servicemen. Berkeley directs. •9 pm. **Small Town Girl** *1953*. Berkeley and Leslie Kardos co-direct this film about an aristocrat arrested for drunk driving, and the judge's daughter who tries to reform him.

•May 31, 7 pm. **Million Dollar Mermaid** *1952*. Esther Williams stars in this film about a swimmer and her manager. Mervyn Leroy directs. •9 pm. **Easy to Love** *1953*. Charles Walters directs this film starring Esther Williams as the main attraction in an aquacade.

Global Visions: Toru Takemitsu and the Japanese New Wave

•May 18, 7 pm. **Himatsuri** *1985*. Mitsuo Yanagimachi directs this film based on a true event about a small fishing village facing a marine park development plan. Immediately following. **Hymn to a Tired Man** *1968*. A quiet office worker is forced to deal with his wartime memories when his son falls in love with the daughter of the army officer he served under during World War II. Masaki Kobayashi directs. Both films feature scores by Takemitsu.

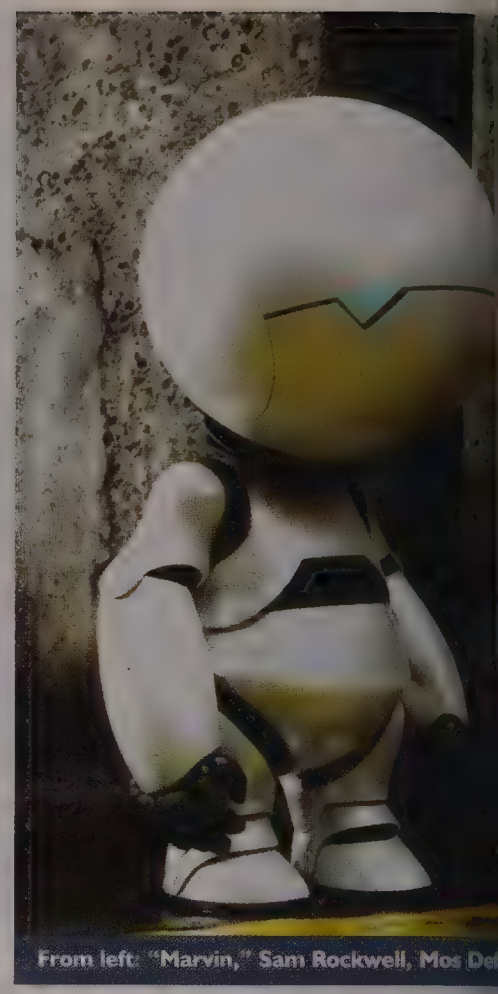
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•May 19, 2:15 pm; May 26, 2:30pm; May 29, 10:30 am; May 31, 10:30 am. **Tall: The American Skyscraper and Louis Sullivan** *2004*. Manfred Kirchheimer directs this documentary about architect Sullivan and the development of the American skyscraper.

Boston Gay & Lesbian Film/Video Festival

•May 18, 6:15 pm. **Men's Short Films** include six works by various directors. •8:15 pm. **Ja Lublju**



Tebja (*You I Love*) 2004. Olga Stolpovskaya and Dmitry Troitsky co-direct this film about a couple whose relationship is turned upside-down when one finds a new love interest.

•May 19, 6:30 pm **The Time We Killed** *2004*. A bisexual writer struggles to finish her assignment in post 9/11 New York City. Jennifer Reeves directs. •8:15 pm **Superstar in a House Dress** *2004*. Lily Tomlin narrates this film about Jackie Curtis, a drag queen, artist, playwright and Warhol Factory personality. Craig Highberger directs.

•May 20, 6:30 pm **Women's Short Films** include seven works by various directors. •8:30 pm. **The "D" Word** *2005*. Cherlen Dabis, Maggi Burkle and Noelle Brower team up to direct this satire of the Showtime television show *The L Word*.

•May 21, 1:30 pm. **Making Grace** *2004*. Catherine Gund's documentary follows a lesbian couple's attempt to adopt a child. •3:30 pm. **Butterfly** *2004*. Yan Yan Mak directs this film about a Hong Kong woman's attempts to understand her lesbian desires.

•May 22, 6 pm. **Do I Love You?** *2004*. Lisa Gornick's romantic comedy features a struggling lesbian writer and her friends and ex-girlfriends. •8 pm **Noah's Arc** *2004*. Patrik Ian Polk directs the pilot episode of the first black gay television series, about four men in L.A.

•May 30, 7 pm. **My Summer of Love** *2004*. Pawel Pawlikowski directs this film about two teenage girls and their summer relationship.

Buddhist Cinema

•May 26, 4:15 pm; May 28, 1 pm. **Travellers and Magicians** *2004*. Khyentse Norbu directs this film about a government official from Bhutan who dreams of escaping to America and ends up on the road with an eclectic group of hitchhikers.

Cinema Tropical

•May 26, 8:20 pm; May 27, 5:45 pm; May 28, 3:15 pm; May 29, 4:10 pm. **Mas alla dal Mar** (*Beyond the Sea*) *2003*. Lisando Pérez-Rey's documentary examines the far-reaching effects of the 1980 Mariel Boatlift, when 130,000 Cubans fled their homeland.

Cinema Vino

•May 19, 4 pm; May 21 and 22 11 am. **Mondovino** *2004*. Jonathan Nossiter's documentary examines how the wine industry copes with modernization.

Kira Muratova Retrospective

•May 25, 8:15 pm; May 28, 11 am. **Korotkiye Vstrechi** (*Brief Encounters*) *1967*. Muratova directs and stars in this film about a love triangle between a woman, her housemaid and a geologist.

•May 26, 6:20 pm; May 29, 12:10 pm. **Dolgiye Provodi** (*Long Farewells*) *1971*. A teenage Soviet boy dreams of his father in Siberia while his mother struggles to make a living.

•May 27, 7:20 pm. **Nastroyschik** (*The Tuner*) *2004*. Muratova's newest release, based on the memoirs of a

Martin Freeman in *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*.

-of-the-centuy Russian detective, tells the story piano tuner and his lover.
ıy 29, 2 pm. **Uvlecheniya** *(Passions) 1994*. A cir- performer falls in love with a jockey and his d of horse racing.

ɔute to Ricky Leacock
ay 25, 6 pm. **A Musical Adventure in Siberia** 3. Leacock directs this documentary about a sian orchestra's world premiere of *Eugene gin*, a Prokofiev piece banned by the Stalin ne.

SEUM OF SCIENCE

ıgar Omni Theater
ırough June 17. **Amazing Journeys.** Filmmakers ɔw butterflies, whales and zebras on their mi- ions.
ırough June 17. **Forces of Nature**. Scientists mpt to forecast and understand the power of hquakes, volcanoes and storms.
ırough June 17. **Roar: Lions of the Kalahari**. A -life lion king defends his turf against a young llenger.
ırough September 9. **Mystery of the Nile.** Join lorers on the first attempt of a full descent down Nile River.

W ENGLAND AQUARIUM

mons IMAX Theater
hrough June. **Wild Safari 3D: A South African venture.** Follow an adventure through wild ıth Africa in search of the most dangerous and ctacular animals.
hrough June. **Aliens of the Deep**. Academy ard-winning director James Cameron takes wers to the depths of the ocean to encounter ıe of Earth's strangest life forms.
hrough June. **Galapagos 3D**. Marine biologist role Baldwin explores the Galapagos Islands.
hrough June. **Sharks 3D**. Explore the ultimate dator of the ocean with Jean-Michel Cousteau.

ANG THEATRE

ee Film Series
lay 9, 7 pm. **Guys and Dolls** *1955*. Frank Sinatra d Marlon Brando co-star in the film adaption of classic Broadway musical. Joseph Mankiewicz ects.

Cinema Venues

LLINGTON

gent Theatre
Aeford St. (617-646-4849).

LMONT

udio Cinema
6 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Pkwy. (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

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New Adventures

Rilo Kiley looks past indie-rock expectations to craft a broader, bolder identity.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Let's get the trivia out of the way. Jenny Lewis and Blake Sennett, singer-songwriters for the Los Angeles band Rilo Kiley, were both child actors. Lewis graced such awkward vehicles as *Troop Beverly Hills* and *The Wizard*, while Sennett appeared in *Boy Meets World* and Nickelodeon's *Salute Your Shorts* as well as episodes of *Family Ties*.

The auburn-haired Lewis—called an "indie-rock crush queen" by *Rolling Stone*—has also dated actor Jake Gyllenhaal, long after she and Sennett had ceased to be a couple.

"I try not to pay too much attention to it," Sennett says of the nonmusical residual interest that follows the pair like baby photos. "Hopefully the music transcends it. I don't think the kids I see at the shows are there for that."

From left: Rilo Kiley's Pierre de Reeder, Jenny Lewis, Blake Sennett and Jason Boesel

The size of that fan base is growing—even though people on the street might ask who Rilo Kiley is. "There's no real good story about that," Sennett says. "It's just a random name."

"It's probably more word of mouth," he says of the building buzz surrounding the band. "If we're getting any radio play, I don't know about it. College stations, like always, have been supportive of our music. And overall, I would say we've had good press."

That's an understatement. *Rolling Stone* called Rilo Kiley, which plays Avalon May 22, one of "10 Artists to Watch" in the wake of the quartet's third album, *More Adventurous*. The disc was also named one of 2004's top 10 by critics of that magazine, *Blender* and others.

The songs on *More Adventurous* range from literate, folk-pop laments about love and loss to crisp, radio-ready rock tunes. In "Portions for Foxes," Lewis coos, "The talking leads to touching, then the touching leads to sex, and then there is no mystery left," only to whip out the hooky chorus "And it's bad news. Baby, I'm bad news."

Lewis has split the singing with Sennett on past albums, but this time the focus falls squarely on her. Sennett's only lead vocal turn is his solo acoustic ditty "Ripchord." "It just felt more like a Jenny record to me, and I had just made a record with the band that I do, where I did all the singing," says Sennett, referring to his side project the Elected. "It just seemed better timing-wise to do a record where Jenny was the primary voice. It came from a singular perspective, and that was more interesting."

Interesting is one word to describe the sonorous vocals Lewis lets loose in the twangy torch ballad "I Never." The song is capped by a string-bending guitar solo from Sennett that sounds more arena-rock than indie.

"I wouldn't want to not be able to do a guitar solo because it's inappropriate for indie-rockers," Sennett says from a Las Vegas tour stop where the group opened for Coldplay.

The band is clearly distancing itself from the independent-label ranks. Rilo Kiley released its 2002 second album, *The Execution of All Things*, on Saddle Creek, the Omaha über-indie that's home to Bright Eyes. Rilo drummer Jason Boesel also recorded and toured with that Conor Oberst collective, while Lewis sang for underground supergroup the Postal Service.

Rilo Kiley recorded *More Adventurous* with Saddle Creek mainstay Mike Mogis as producer, and initially planned to stay with the label. But the band chose to release the disc on their own Brute/Beaute label, with distribution through Warner Bros. Some fans criticized that move, along with the disc's more commercial sound. Sennett says they made the decision because it will get European exposure for the CD.

"I don't think the music changed in any way that was not organic, because we made the record on our own before [changing labels]," the guitarist says. "There was a natural progression as artists to make something that sounded a little more clean and deliberate and classic.

"Particularly in the production, we were trying to make something that hearkened a bit more to some of our heroes," Sennett adds, citing Jim Croce, Laura Nyro, Tom Waits, Tammy Wynette and the Beatles among inspirations. "We opened up the spectrum more in respect to each song."

Producer Mogis added pedal steel, vibraphone, mandolin, banjo and synthesizer to augment the band's core lineup of Sennett, Boesel, bassist Pierre de Reeder and Lewis (who played keyboards, guitar and harmonica), while Bright Eyes' Nate Walcott contributed horn parts and string arrangements. On tour, the group is fleshing out its sound with a second guitarist and a horn player. Just don't expect Lewis to give as naked a delivery to "I Never" as she did in the studio.

"She was having a hard time with the lyric, so she took off all her clothes and sang it that way," Sennett says. "I was the only person there. I was recording her. It was pretty unspectacular from where I was sitting." iB

Rilo Kiley
plays Avalon May 22.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. b (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, c email to music@improper.com. Include dates, ti prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadli four weeks prior to publication date. Listings no cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from ferent sources. Although we make every effort to pr accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call a to double-check dates and times (see complete li venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

The Decemberists, Willy Mason May 25, Ava (617-931-2000).
Gipsy Kings May 25, Bank of America Pavi (617-931-2000).
Billy Idol May 20, Bank of American Pavilion (6 931-2000).
Alan Jackson, Sarah Evans, the Wrights May Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Juliette & the Licks May 27, T.T. the Bear's Pl (617-492-2327).
Rilo Kiley May 22, Avalon (617-931-2000).
B.B. King May 21, North Shore Music Thea (978-232-7200).
Bruce Springsteen May 20, Orpheum Theatre (6 423-6398).
Sum 41 May 19, Avalon (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Abbey Lounge Col. Knowledge & Licketty Spl 9 pm; Acro-Brats, 9:45 pm; Rotten Lovers, 10 pm; Red Army, 11:45 pm, $5 - $7, 21 +.
Asgard Live jazz/funk featuring The Chris Conn Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Axis Finch, 7 pm, $13.50.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne Band, 9:30 p no cover.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
Breezeway After-work jazz jam, 7:30 pm, no cov Wine Up with DJ Junior Rodigan, 11 pm, $10.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9 pm, cover, 21+.
Club Passim Nightingale, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Melissa Bolling, 9 pm.
Great Scott No Things, Sex Positions, DJ Mark 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's Absolute Acoustics, 6 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Tony McManus, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no cov
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Jennifer Kimball pm; Todd Thibauld, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 p no cover.
Man Ray Pigface, Sheep with Drugs, Nocturne, Y Shriek Live Show, 8 pm, $15, 18 +.
Middle East Upstairs: Transistor Transist Akimbo, Disappearer, Doom Riders, $8, 18 +.
Milky Way The Basement with Lesser Evil, 9 p no cover.
O'Brien's Jamaican Ska and Rocksteady, Motow and Northern, $5.
PA's Heathen Shame, Sunburned Hand of the Ma Vampire Belt, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+
Paddy O's Fast Times, the Buzz Live Band Karaok
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9 pm, $2, 21
Regattabar McCoy Tyner, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $3
Ryles Jazz Club Balla Tounkara & the Kora Ja Trio, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Cape Verdean Festival featuri Grace Evora & Boi Ge Mendes, 8 pm, $25.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 p no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Milo Jones, 9 pm; the Zinc 10 pm; Monade featuring Laeitita Sadler of Stere lab, 11 pm, $12.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, r cover, 21 +.
Zeitgeist Gallery Middle Eastern music, 7:30 pr $10.
Les Zygomates Sofia K, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, MAY 19

Abbey Lounge Nor I, 9 pm; Gasolines, 10:45 pr Scott Law Band, 11:45 pm, $5 - $7, 21 +.
Asgard The Arielle Silver Band, 9 pm, no cover.
The Attic Coalboilers.
Avalon Sum 41.

ue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30pm.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne Band, 9:30 pm, no
at the MFA Ron Poster.
zeway After-work jazz jam, 7:30 pm; San o Thursdays with DJ Pena, 10 pm, no cover.
Burren Swinging Johnsons, $5.
ab Lounge New Day with Chris Waller, 9 pm, ver, 21 +.
s Last Resort The Gulf Boys, 7:20 pm, no cover.
lace Restaurant Toussaint, 9:00, no cover.
t Scott Lucia Lie, Those Who Wait, Van A r, Blanketeer, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
n Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, 10:30 o cover.
ers Ferry The Flutie Brothers Band, Roadside nets, $20 advance, $25 door, 8 pm, 21+.
sessy's Me and Julio.
hy D's Markus James, 9 pm.
and Café Close at Hand, 8 pm; Charlotte rick, 9 pm; Banana Hands; 10 pm; BJ Snow- 11 pm, $5.
d Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm; Club D'Elf, 9:30 10, 21+.
y's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm, ver.
le East Upstairs: Faux-way-sis, Saintface, The ges, Passenger, $10, 18+.
w Way Aquanet, 9 pm, no cover.
Dooley's Sean Cunningham.
ien's The 8mm Fuzz, the Silent Service, $6.
Pants Yell!, 8:45 pm; the Count Me Outs, 9:45 Nice & Easy, 10:45 pm; Dave Aaronoff and the ils, 11:45 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
y O's Swerve.
dise Grace Potter and the Nocturnals, 7 pm, 8+; the Bubble Up with DJ Bud E. Green, 10 5 over 21, $7 under 21, 18+.
gh and Stars Zipper.
ttabar McCoy Tyner, 7:30 pm and 10 pm.
o Fernando Holz, 8 pm.
s Jazz Club José deSantos, 8:30 pm, $12.
lers Jazz Club Cabaret Jazzy International nteuse, Annie Royer, les Garcons Musettes, 8 $18.
a nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Emergency Music, 9:30 pm; Headphones featuring David of Pedro the Lion, Crystal Skulls, 11:45 pm, $9.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Latin Jazz, 9 pm.
The Western Front Roots Rock Hip-Hop with Libra Project, 9 pm, $10.
White Rainbow Linda Amero, John Hyde, 7:30 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ben Schwendener, 9:30 pm, $10.
ZuZu '60s garage rock with DJs Gina & Andrea.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, MAY 20

Abbey Lounge World's Greatest Sinners, 10:45 pm; Mung, 11:45pm.
Asgard Sun Five.
The Attic Caroline Gulde, the Tides.
Avalon DJ Elie Wilkie.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet on piano, 5 pm.
Bank of America Pavilion Billy Idol, 6:30 pm.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne Band.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott.
Breezeway Old-school R&B with DJ Gary, 10 pm, $10.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, DJ TurnTaBill, 9 pm, $8, 21 +.
Club Q DJ Massi.
Dick's Last Resort Mutha's Mistake, 8:30 pm.
The Green Briar Undercover, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Grand Canal Low Priority.
Great Scott The Pill, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Four Inch Stud.
Green Street Grill Latin DJ, 11:30 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Low Priority.
The Harp Last Man Standing, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Velvet Elvis featuring members of Beatlejuice and the Fools, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Scooby Snax; Me and Julio, 5 pm.
Johnny D's Radio Kings, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kings Jose Ramos.
Kinsale Sirsy.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 6:30 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Organ Combo, 8:30 pm; Stevens & Mack, 9:30 pm; White Widow, 10:30 pm; Ulysses, 11:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Jabe, 8 pm; Benefit for Precious Angel, $10 advance, $15 door, 21+.

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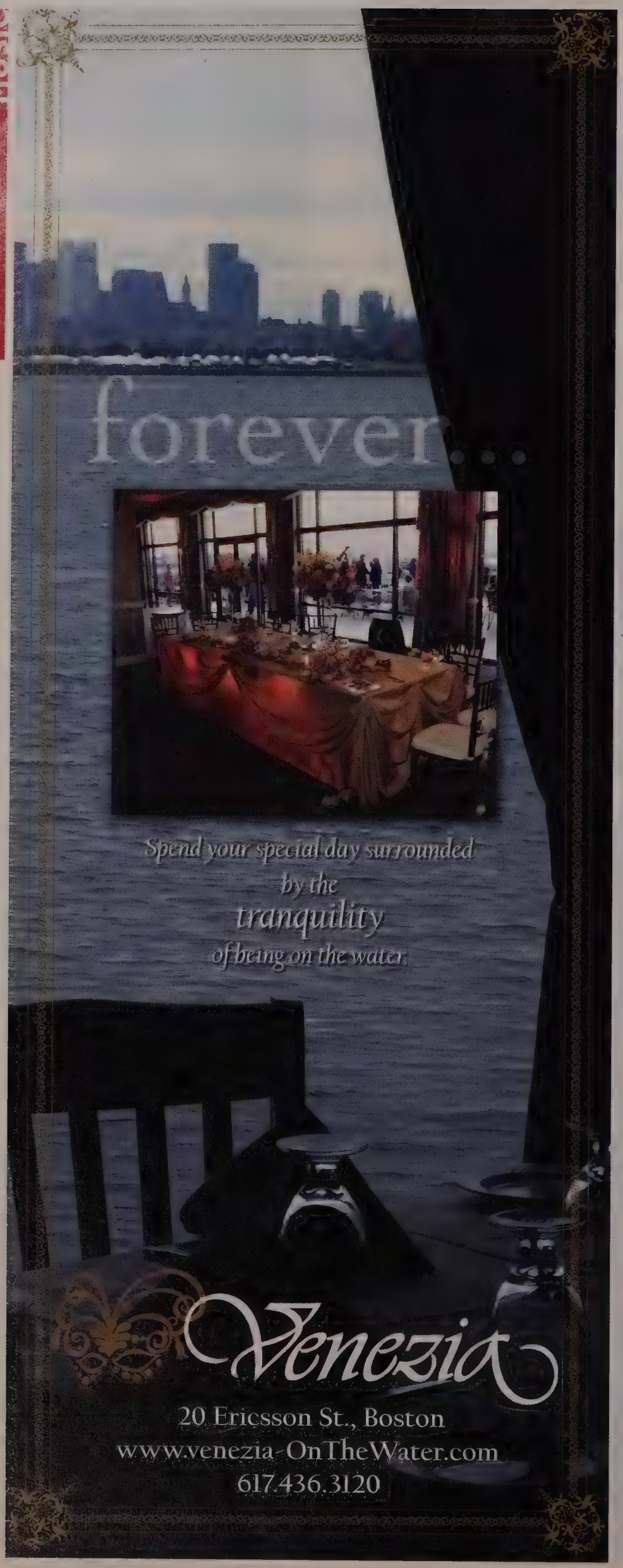

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Clay Aiken Aug. 28, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Allman Brothers Band, moe. Aug. 20, Tweeter Center, (617-931-2000).
Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo June 25, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Tony Bennett June 24, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Mary Chapin Carpenter June 4, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Collective Soul June 21, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Elvis Costello, Emmylou Harris & the Imposters July 23, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Earth, Wind & Fire, Chicago July 16, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Erasure June 3, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Gov't Mule, Robert Randolph & the Family Band, Xavier Rudd June 3, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Chris Isaak Aug. 19, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Crosby, Stills, & Nash July 30, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Elton John Sept. 16-17, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson Sept. 15, Campanelli Stadium, Brockton (508-559-7070).
Tom Jones July 15 -16, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Judas Priest, Queensryche June 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Keane June 4, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Avril Lavigne, Gavin DeGraw, Butch Walk Aug. 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis & the News Aug. 18, Bank America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Dave Matthews Band, G. Love & Special Sau July 9-10, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Meat Loaf Aug. 17, Bank of America Pavili (617-931-2000).
John Mellencamp, John Fogerty July 7, Tweet Center (617-931-2000).
Moody Blues July 12, Bank of America Pavili (617-931-2000).
Oasis, Jet June 24, Tweeter Center (617-93 2000).
Ozzfest 2005 July 15, Tweeter Center (617-93 2000).
Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, the Bla Crowes June 18, Tweeter Center (617-93 2000).
Robert Plant June 17, Bank of America Pavilic (617-931-2000).
Santana, Salvador Santana Band, Los Lone Boys June 17, Tweeter Center (617-931 2000).
Donna Summer July 7, Bank of America Pavi ion (617-931-2000).
James Taylor June 28-29, Tweeter Center (617 931-2000).
Wilco, My Morning Jacket June 24, Aggan Arena (617-931-2000).
Brian Wilson Aug. 9, Bank of America Pavilio (617-931-2000).
Women of Soul July 13, Bank of America Pavil ion (617-931-2000).

Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 10 pm.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Appleseed Cast, Chin Up Chin Up, Lock and Key, Constants, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Garik Sukachev & the Untouchables, 9 pm, $35 advance, $40 door, 18+.
Milky Way Secret Cock & Friends, 9 pm, $11.
Mr. Dooley's Eamon Sheehan, 5 pm; Celtic Clan, 9 pm.
NAO Gallery OpenSound music series, 8 pm.
Oak Bar Bill Loughlin Quartet.
O'Brien's Watchmaker, Lair of the Minotaur, Ocean, Sin of Angels, Continued Without a Finding, $10.
Orpheum Bruce Springsteen, 7:30 pm.
Paddy O's Spike the Punch.
Paradise Red Letter, Faces on Film, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
PA's Male Blood, 8:45 pm; Sah, 9:45 pm; Calmut Hecla, 10:45 pm, Piles, 11:45 pm; $5-$7, 21+.
Parris Manic, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 5:30 pm; the Armadillos, 9 pm.
Regattabar McCoy Tyner, 7:30 pm and 10 pm.
Sanders Theatre Living Legends Awards Concert, 7 pm.
Scullers Jazz Club New York Voices, $25.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rock 'n' Roll Soldiers, 9:15 pm; the Charms, 10:15 pm; Heartless Bastards, 11:15 pm; the Sights, 12:15 am, $10.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Jazz, 9 pm.
The Western Front Soulfege's Emergenza Afterparty, 9 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ruthie Ristich, 7 pm, $10; Michelle Lewis, Silent Mind and Gabby Young, Sarah Blacker, 9 pm, $5.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Duo, 8 pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 21

Abbey Lounge White Trash Fest 2005.
Anthem Ron Murphy, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Asgard DJ Azul.
Avenue One Leah Aouza, 7:30 pm.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne Band.
Breezeway Latin Nite with DJ Pena, 10 pm, $10.
The Burren The Bagboys, 5 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, DJ TurnaTaBill, 9 pm, $8, 21 +.
Club Q DJ Profenna.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm.
The Grand Canal Grumpy Jones.
Great Scott The Wrens, the Information, DJs Victoria & Carl, 9 pm, $15, 21+.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo live sa 11:30 pm, $5, 18+.
The Harp Manic, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Entrain, 21+.
Hennessy's Brick Park, Irish Sessuin, 4 pm.
Johnny D's Swingin' Johnsons, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell.
Kirkland Café Gary Rand, 8:30 pm; Sam Fish 9:30 pm; Groove of the Day, 10:30 pm; 5 Kind Ugly, 11:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Jay Feinstein, 7 pm, Sam Bigelow, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Saturday Supper Club with the Vega Trio, 7 pm; DJ Ben, 10 pm.
Matt Murphy's Kram Dangle, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Hudson Falcons, Suspect Device, Pug Uglies, the Bloodshot Hooligans, $10, 1 Downstairs: Upper Crust, the Dents, Track Rab $12, 18+.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Night, 9 pm, $10 men, women.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
North Shore Music Theater B.B. King, 8 pm.
Oak Bar Bill Loughlin Quartet.
O'Brien's The Forlorn Hope, 18 Wheels of Justi Bipolarcoaster, Captain Cutthroat, $6.
PA's Peter from Melodeego, 8:45; the Midnight C lective, 9:45 pm; Reverend Bob and the Darkn 10:45 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Parris Last Man Standing, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Paddy O's The Risk.
Plough and Stars The Tom Hagerty Band, 5 pm; Twilight Ranchers, 9 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Clark Organ Trio, 9 pm, $10
Scullers Jazz Club New York Voices, $25.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Cheater Pint, 9:15 p Benzos, 10:15 pm; Hero Pattern, 11:15 p Aberdeen City, 12:15 am, $8.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Jazz, 9 pm.
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-jah.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 22

Avalon Rilo Kiley, 7 pm.
Axis Midtown, 9 pm, $12.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne Band.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ron D
Breezeway El Matinaso with DJ Jorge, 3 pm, women, $10 men; DJ Pookie, 10 pm, $10.
The Burren Brunch with the Gannon Fami Americano session, 7 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jazz & Rock Jam pm, 21 +.
Club Passim Falcon Ridge Preview Tour, 8 pm, $
Club Q Latin Night.

k's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm.
:at Scott Eximious & Jarboe, Amber Asylum, to Ashes, 9 pm, 18+.
e Green Briar Inchicore & DJ JFK 10 pm, $5-$7.
:en Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, 9:30 pm, cover.
rpers Ferry Force the Fallen, Unscarred, Shat-proof, 1 pm, $10 advance, $12 door, all ages; vin Castleton, One Drop, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
nny D's Jazz Brunch with Mathew Dorko & ry Kukers, 9 am; Blues Jam, 4:30 pm.
nnedy's Midtown Julia Loyd, 12 pm.
:ky's Lounge Sinatra Sunday featuring the Al ga Trio and Mark Maher, 8 pm.
ddle East Upstairs: The Whoors, Frank Smith, ve Cave, $8, 18+. Downstairs: The Dij, ndafied, Driving East, Robots in Love, 1 pm,), all ages.
lky Way Closed for a Wedding, 9 pm, no cover.
Brien's The Sterns, Larkin Brigade, Lowlife, $6.
's Keys to the Streets of Fear, Bang! Bang!, rches on The Autobahn, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
radise Static: Local rock showcase, 8 pm, $8 der 21, $5 over 21, 18+.
ddy O's Pig Pen, Irish Sessuin, Celtic Rock h Kevin Byrne.
ough and Stars Fishkin & Groves.
les Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 , no cover.
e Point Danny Tucker & the Vibe Tribe, 9 pm.
p of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Marty llou Trio, 8 pm.
. the Bear's Place Amy Miles, 9:50 pm; Robert oro, 10:50, $8.
eeter Center Alan Jackson, Sarah Evans, the rights, 7:30 pm.
lly's Jazz Cafe Jam Session, 4 pm; Wally's epchildren, 9 pm.
onderbar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon En-mble, 9 pm.
itgeist Gallery Jaz-Mobi Project, 9:30 pm, $8.
Zu Revival Preachers.

ONDAY, MAY 23

e Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
eezeway Musica Tipica with DJ Pena, 10 pm, 0.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike with Jaquie Barnaby, 7 pm $5; Judith Owen, 8:30 pm, $10-$12.
Dick's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Amusement Parks on Fire, DJ Carbo, 9 pm, $3, 18+.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 10 pm, $5 - $7.
Green Street Grill Havana Club salsa dancing, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge The Cello Chix, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: A Loss for Words, Medicated Kisses, Devola, Video Pigeon, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Acoustic Universe, 9 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Today Is the Day, Circle of Dead Children, $6.
Out of the Blue Art Gallery Stone Soup Beat Poets Poetry, Music with poet Jack Powers, 7:30 pm, $4-$5.
Paradise Joshua Tree, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint.
Roxy Thievery Corporation, 8:30 pm.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Jim Vaness, 8:30 pm; Andrew Parker-Renga, 9:20 pm; Steve Njavro, 10:10pm, $3.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Blues, 9 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Staaf Quartet, 7 pm, $7.
ZuZu Reports, Ponies in the Surf.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm.

TUESDAY, MAY 24

The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Dirty Knees, 8:30 pm; Durango Reinhardt, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
Harpers Ferry RA the Rugged Man, Slaine, Porn Theatre Ushers, TD3 Camp, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Karen Savok.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Angeline, 8 pm; the Carla Ryder Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Lucky's Unplugged, featuring local acoustic rock musicians.

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Middle East Upstairs: The Fucking Champs, Zombi, Boy Jazz, $11, 18+.
Milky Way Classic Karaoke with Ricky McLean, 9 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's The Art of All, 4 Degrees Warmer, $6.
Paddy O's Brian Belcker.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thayer.
Regattabar Aquiles Baez, 7:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Artist Showcase, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Oregon, $22.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Coffin Lids, 9 pm; Downbeat 5, 9:50. Legendary Shack Shakers, 10:50 pm, $10.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Swing, 9 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jazz & Poetry, 9:30 pm, $5.
ZuZu Chris Warren.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

All Asia Cafe Nick Santostefano, 6 pm; Open mike with Christian Samatis, 7:30 pm; Retro '80s, Disco and Indie Rock Dance Party, 10:30 pm.
Asgard Live jazz/funk featuring the Nick Antollini Sextet.
Avalon Decemberists, Willy Mason.
Bank of America Pavilion Gipsy Kings.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
Breezeway After-work jazz jam, 7:30 pm, no cover; Wine Up with DJ Junior Rodigan, 11 pm, $10.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Ryanhood, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Music Shmusic, 7:20 pm.
Fireplace Restaurant Gypsy Shaffer, 9:00.
Hennessy's Absolute Acoustics.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Lisa Bastoni, 8 pm; Todd Thibad, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Impaled, Aborted, Rotten Sound, Leng Tch'e, Kevorkian's Angels, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way The Basement, 9 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Jamaican Ska and Rocksteady, Motown and Northern, $5.
Paradise Adam Richmond & Guests, 8 pm, $8 advance, $10 door.
PA's Bill Trevaskis and Tanya from Drab, 8:30 pm; John O'Hara, 9:30 pm; Joe Lies, 10:30 pm; the Silver Lining, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Fast Times, the Buzz (live band karaoke).
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
Ryles Jazz Club Alejandro Cimadoro Quintet, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Arturo Sandoval, $26-$30.
Sky Bar Open mike with Craig Robertson, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Robot Zen, 9 pm; Cyanide Valentine, 10 pm; Lifestyle, 11 pm; Commodore Vic LLC, 12 am, $8.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Neo-Classical Middle Eastern Nights, 7:30 pm, $10.
ZuZu Kahoots with Chris Brokaw.
Les Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 26

Abbey Lounge Johnny Pape, 9 pm; the Oggs, 9:45 pm; Debutantes, 10:45 pm.
All Asia Cafe Ians Artistic Showcase, 6 pm; Precious Productions Series, 9 pm.
Asgard Oneside.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
Breezeway After-work jazz jam, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, $5.
Club Passim Tim Collins, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm.
Fireplace Restaurant Tony Benecourt, 9:00 pm.
Great Scott Dynasty, Glass Candy, DJ Comfortable Matt, DJ Just Luke, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Harpoon, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Kirkland Café Justin Jones, 8:30 pm; Zen Lunchbox, 9 pm; Reagan Babies, 10 pm; Dreamline, 11 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with DJ Axel Foley, 8 pm; Kabir, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Beat Circus, Barbez, Sxip Shirey, Gutterhelmet, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Aquanet, 9 pm, no cover.
Mr. Dooley's Eamon Sheehan.

Billy Idol plays the Bank of America Pavilion May 20

O'Brien's Sasquatch and the Sick-A-Billys, Two Timin' Three, Thee Monkey Butlers, BBQ Texas Bob & the Honey, $6.
PA's The Tardy, 8:45 pm; UV Protection, 9:45 pm; Nice & Easy, 10:45 pm; Rocketscience, 11:45 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Fat Tuesday.
Paradise Grace Potter and the Nocturnals, 7 pm, $5 with student ID, $7 general, 18+; The Bubble Up with DJ Bud E. Green, 10 pm, $5 over 21, $7 under 21, 18+.
Plough and Stars Brass Roots.
Regattabar Diane Schuur & Caribbean Jazz Project, 7:30 pm and 10 pm.
Rialto Fernando Holz, 8 pm.
Scullers Jazz Club Arturo Sandoval, $26-$30.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Beatings, 10:30 pm; Juliette & the Licks, 11:30 pm, $10 advance, $12 door.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Latin Jazz, 9 pm.
ZuZu Micka Bros.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, MAY 27

All Asia Cafe Tim Blane & Friends, 6 pm; Parkview, 9 pm.
Asgard Stained Glass Eye.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet on piano, 5 pm.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter.
Breezeway Old School R&B with DJ Gary, 10 pm, $10.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, DJ TurnaTaBill, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Q DJ Massi.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm.
The Green Briar Random Axis, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Grand Canal Joshua Tree.
Great Scott DJs Ken & Terence, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax.
The Harp Candiflyp, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry The Low Dogs, Jiggle, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's The Risk, Me and Julio, 5 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 6:30 pm, no cover.
Kings Blacksnake.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 p
Once Over, 9:30 pm; Birdface, 10:30 pm; Broth
Willie, 11:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Dan Cloutier, 8 p
Tom West and the Franc Graham Band, 9:30 pm,
advance, $10 door, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Justin Beech Band, 10 pm.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Ho-Ag, Shore Leave, Nig
Rally, Tristan Da Cunha, $9, 18+. Downstai
Beyond the Embrace, Stoic, Screams of Eri
Kobalt, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Marinate Hip Hop, 9 pm, $12.
Mr. Dooley's Colm O'Brien, 5 pm; Tommy a
Alan, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Blackout Shoppers, Suzuki Smith, $6.
Oak Room Bill Loughlin Quartet.
Paradise Typhoon Ferri & Guests, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Princess, Miss Fairchild, Plunge into Death
pm, $5-$7. 21+.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, Mickey Bon
Zydeco, 5:30 pm.
Regattabar Diane Schuur & Caribbean Jazz Proje
7:30 pm and 10 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Zilzala, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Arturo Sandoval, $26-$30.
Toad tk.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio with Maggie Ga
loway, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Dance Party, 9 pm; Clande
tino, 9 pm, $10.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Jazz, 9 pm.
The Western Front Pressure Drop's May Meltdow
9 pm, $5.
White Rainbow Brian King & Friends, 7:30 pm.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 28

Abbey Lounge Trashlight Vision, 9 pm; Biopo
10:45 pm.
All Asia Cafe The Mudhookers & Friends, 4 pr
Baywa & Friends, 7 pm.

rd Named by Strangers.
ıue One Leah Aouza, 7:30 pm.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
zeway Latin Nite with DJ Pena, 10 pm, $10.
Burren The Bagboys, 5 pm.
:ab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, urnaTaBill, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Q DJ Profenna.
's Last Resort Dick 'n' Jane, 8:30 pm.
Grand Canal Live Wire.
ıt Scott Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, Dolour, Catch, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Green Briar Pi Alley, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Green Dragon Tavern Swerve.
ın Street Grill Kilombo Mambo live salsa dance , 11:30 pm, $5, 18+.
Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
ɔer's Ferry Backseat Lover (Pearl Jam tribute), .1+.
nessy's Incadence, Irish Sessuin, 4 pm.
ny D's Nicole Nelson.
's Justin Beech Band.
ale Symbolics.
land Café Johnny Plankton & the Sea Mon- of Soul, 9 pm; Slumberfunk, 10 pm; Gut, 11 $5.
ird Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm; the Push Star, Frances Maher, 9:30 pm, 21+.
y's Lounge Saturday Supper Club with the Al Trio, 7 pm; DJ Ben, 10 pm.
t Murphy's AV.TRIO, 10 pm, no cover.
dle East Upstairs: Why Versus Rome, Human ıt Committee, Easton Legacy, Ambry, 1 pm, $9, ges; Audible Mainframe, Fear Nuttin' Band, On Drop, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Dick Dale, ıt Bjork and the Bros., $20, 18+.
y Way Mango's Latin Night, 9 pm, $10 men, $5 ıen.
Dooley's Tommy and Alan.
Bar Bill Loughlin Quartet.
rien's Zippo Raid, the Hymen Maneuver, Bad- hafuzz, Fenwick, $6.
ris Candiflyp, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Apothecary Hymns, Milo Jones, Sleeping ıther with Eli Queen, Raymond Morin, 9 pm, 7, 21+.
igh and Stars The Flexible Flyer String Band, 5 pm.
Regattabar Diane Schuur & Caribbean Jazz Project, 7:30 pm and 10 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Soul Ambition, 9 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio with Maggie Galloway, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ace Brown & the Helldivers, 9:15 pm; Johnny Carlevale & the Broken Rhythm Boys, 10:15 pm; Two Timin' Three, 11:15 pm; The Rockats, 12:15 am, $10.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Jazz, 9 pm.
The Western Front Stepper's Heaven, 9 pm, $10.
White Rainbow Steven Spungin, 7:30 pm.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-jah.
Les Zygomates Karin Parker Group, 8 pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 29

All-Asia Café Songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm; Bad-ass Teenage Mustache, 8 pm; What's Up? Night, 10 pm.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
Breezeway El Matinaso with DJ Jorge, 3 pm, $5 women, $10 men; DJ Pookie, 10 pm, $10.
The Burren Brunch with the Gannon Family; Americano Session, 7 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jazz & Rock Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21 +.
Club Q Latin Night.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott Friends of Lady K, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
The Green Briar Sunday's Well & DJ JFK, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Dr Mindbender, Ninja Vanish, Good Fences Make Good Neighbors, Verloren, Mikado, Porky's Midnight Riders, 1 pm, $10 advance, $12 door, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd, 12 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Sinatra Sunday featuring the Al Vega Trio and Mark Maher, 8 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Children on the Corner, a Miles Davis Tribute featuring Michael Henderson, 7 :30 pm, $15 advance, $20 door, 18+.
O'Brien's Wrong Side of the Tracks, the Suicide Kings, Sinister Plot, JMT, $6.

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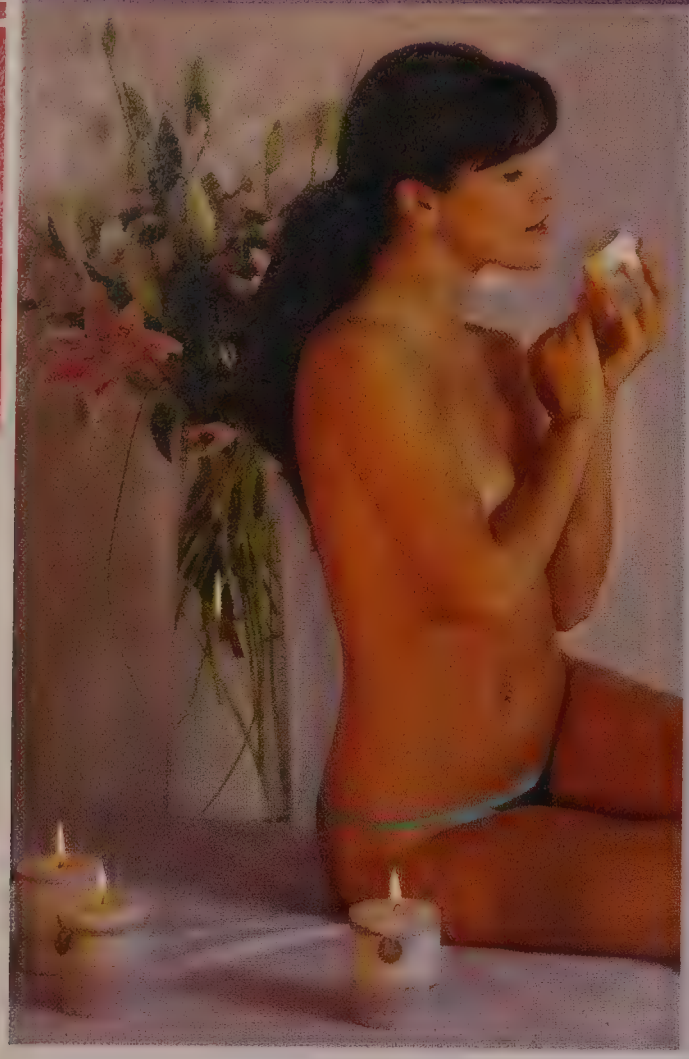

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Paradise Static: Local rock showcase, 8 pm, $8 under 21, $5 over 21, 18+.
PA's Alto Reform School, the Shrinking Islands, Nethers, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Irish Sessuin, Celtic Rock with Kevin Byrne.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Jam Session, 4 pm; Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon Ensemble, 9 pm.
ZuZu Johnny Carnevale & Guests.

Thievery Corporation plays the Roxy May 23

MONDAY, MAY 30

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Breezeway Musica Tipica with DJ Pena, 10 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott The 22-20s, DJ Carbo, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 10 pm. $5-$7.
Green Street Grill Havana Club salsa dancing, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Cello Chix, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Joke Mountain, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Joseph Hill, Dub Station Band, $20 advance, $25 door, 18+.
Milky Way Acoustic Universe, 9 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Metal DJs, $5.
Out of the Blue Art Gallery Stone Soup Beat Poets Poetry, Music with poet Jack Powers, 7:30 pm, $4-$5.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Blues, 9 pm.
ZuZu Full Gospel Army, Yoko Homo, Blurred Visionary.

TUESDAY, MAY 31

The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Reunion Band, 8:30 pm; the Pegheads, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 8 pm; the Carla Ryder Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Chesterwhite, Endway, Kidnapkin, Brilliant Misstake, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Live band karaoke, 9 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Serious Face, Electric Donkey, the Impulse, Melvern Taylor & His Fabulous Melo-Tones, $6.
Paradise Patti Rothberg with Kim Taylor, Thousand Days, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy O's Brian Belcker.
Regattabar Teresa Ines, 7:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Artist Showcase, 8 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Victor Mendoza, $15.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Stepanian, 9 pm; the Shift, 9:50 pm; My Little Radio, 10:40 pm; Sidewalk Driver, 11:30 pm, $6.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Swing, 9 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jazz & Poetry, 9:30 pm, $5.
ZuZu The Lovers with Soltero.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeria, 8 pm.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bank of America Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Sout Station.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Bost (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/IC*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplac Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Li to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-228 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Cente*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338 4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (61 734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washing ton Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Bos (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (61 624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest H Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Par Street.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (61 789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617 876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227 9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010 MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254 9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (61 440-6022).*

Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-*
). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
y D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-*
). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.
edy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston*
426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park
.
10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-BOWL).
A: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
de *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577).*
A: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.
and Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-*
920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.
ge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge*
253-1000).
d Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-*
)759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
y's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-*
).
Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-*
)188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline
e.
le East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-*
). MBTA: Red Line to Central.
vay Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain,*
-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.
y Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-*
). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.
Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656).*
A: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.
Gallery *535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-*
). MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles.
h Shore Music Theater *62 Dunham Road, Bev-*
978-232-7200).
Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James*
ue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green
to Copley.
ien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245).*
A: Green Line to Harvard Ave.
neum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-*
0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park
t.
of the Blue Art Gallery *106 Prospect St.,*
bridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to
ral.
ly O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
A: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.

Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). Red Line to Davis.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wally's *L427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$72. The ensemble Pink Martini performs with the Pops..

The Community Music Center of Boston
Allen Hall, 34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-482-7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. Free. The Arcadian Winds perform the world premiere of a double woodwind quintet by Daniel Pinkman.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Soprano Nicole Naumann performs with pianist Bonnie Donham. *•8 pm. Free.* Continuing Studies musicians perform.

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826 ext. 1103). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3. Eric Haas (baroque flute) and Olav Chris Henriksen (english guitar) perform.

THURSDAY, MAY 19

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Violinist Jessica Helie performs. *•8 pm. Free.* Countertenor Steven Serpa performs.

FRIDAY, MAY 20

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Conductor George Ogata leads the Young Performers Chamber Orchestra in works by Aaron Jay Kernis, Mendelssohn, Griffes and De Falla.

SATURDAY, MAY 21

Boston City Singers
Parish of All Saints, 209 Ashmont St., Dorchester (617-825-0674). www.bostoncitysingers.org. MBTA: Red Line to Ashmont. 7 pm. $5 individuals, $10 families. Boston City Singers presents *Shine On!*, a program commemorating the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps, with music from the Torres Strait, Ghana, the U.S. and Scotland

Cambridge Chinese Choral Society
Kresge Auditorium, MIT, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. http://cambridgechinesechorus.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:30 pm. Free. Local composer Charles Turner premieres pieces based on classical Chinese poems from the Tang Dynasty.

International Music at MIT
Wong Auditorium, MIT Tang Center, 2 Amherst St., Cambridge. (617-258-7971). http://web.mit.edu/mithas. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 4 pm. $20 general, $10 students. MIT presents the MITHAS Celebration of Indian music, featuring Padma Talwalkar, Sudhanshu Kulkarni and Satyajit Talwallar.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Free. The NEC Commencement Concert features student performances of concertos, chamber music and jazz.

SUNDAY, MAY 22

Mili Bermejo Trio
Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeistgallery.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 4 pm.$15. Vocalist and composer Bermejo performs selections from her 2004 release *A Time for Love* .

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave. Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$72. The Pops perform a program titled Broadway Legends with guest conductor Bruce Hangen.

Convivium Musicum
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline (617-773-6913). www.convivium.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 7 pm, $15 ge $8 students, seniors, and limited income. Convi Musicum presents Laments of the Quee Carthage, a program featuring works by Mo Josquin, Willaert and Lasso.

International Music at MIT
Wong Auditorium, MIT Tang Center, 2 Am St., Cambridge. (617-258-7971). http://web edu/mithas. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $20 general, $10 students. The MITHAS C bration of Indian music features Tara Anand K.V.S. Vinay. *•4 pm. Free.* The MITHAS C bration of Indian music continues with T.M ishna, R.K. Sriram Kumar, K. Arunprakash B. Purushottam.

Longy School of Music
Wolfinsohn Recital Room, 27 Garden St., Camb (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Violinist Karen Oo baan performs.

New Notes Young Musicians Concert Series
Mary Baker Eddy Library, 200 Mass. Ave., B (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 3 pm. $5. del and Hadyn Society's Youth and Y Women's Choruses and the Boston Child Chorus perform.

The New School of Music
25 Lowell St., Cambride (617-492-8105). w cambridgemusic.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har 7 pm. Free. The New School of Music pres music for clarinet, viola and piano by Mozart bussy, Penderecki and Brahms.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). w ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to N ton Centre. 2 pm. Free. Barbara Englesberg (lin) and Esther Ning Yau (piano) perform m by Gershwin, Ives and Bolcom.

Project Step
Higginson Room, Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. A Boston (617-267-5777). www.projectstep. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 pm. The annual Parent Benefit Spring Recital tures solo violin performances by students ag to 17.

MONDAY, MAY 23

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Camb (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Violinist Bram Golds performs. *•8 pm. Free.* Soprano Sara Ofner forms.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (6 585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.e MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 Free. Michael Mucci leads the Massachus Youth Wind Ensemble in works by Yasuhide Darius Milhaud, Norman Dello Joio, In Dahl, Michael Daugherty and John Adams

TUESDAY, MAY 24

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass., Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. 8 pm. $16-$72. The Pops perform a p gram titled Classical Countdown, featuring pie by famous composers.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambr (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Pianist Paul Jac performs.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$72. The Pops perfo Hooray for Hollywood, a program of music fr popular films.

Community Music Center of Boston
Allen Hall, 34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-4 7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. 7 pm. Free. Jennifer Elowsky a William Fickes perform Rachmanioff's Suite N 1 Opus 5 and Suite No. 2 Opus 17 for two pian

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (6 482-4826 ext. 1103). MBTA: Red or Green Line Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3. Organist Mark Eng hardt performs.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBT

k Martini performs with the Pops May 18.

The BMOP presents a tribute to composer Tora Takemitsu.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass., Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$72. Same program as May 25.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Catherine Meyer performs on the baroque oboe. *•8 pm. $5.* Lisa DeSiro and Friends present a concert of art songs featuring Longy alumni.

SATURDAY, MAY 28

Boston Musical Theater
Maxwell Auditorium, National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road., Lexington (617-327-2433). www.bostonmusicaltheater.org. 3 pm. $20. Boston Musical Theater presents We'll Meet Again, a tribute to the music of World War II, in a USO canteen–style setting.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$72. Same program as May 25.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Violinist Dainius Puoziukas performs. *•7 pm. Free.* Pianist Sally Pinkas performs in an all-Schumann program.

TUESDAY, MAY 31

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$72. See listing for May 24.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12:15 pm. $3. Lino Tanaka, Peter Cama-Lekx and Yong Liu perform Dvorak's *Terzetto*, Opus 74.

een Line to Symphony. 3 pm. Free. Violinist Allen performs. *•7 pm. Free.* Longy School usic's Continuing Studies Event presents rt's *Marriage of Figaro*, directed by Jane s.

URSDAY, MAY 26

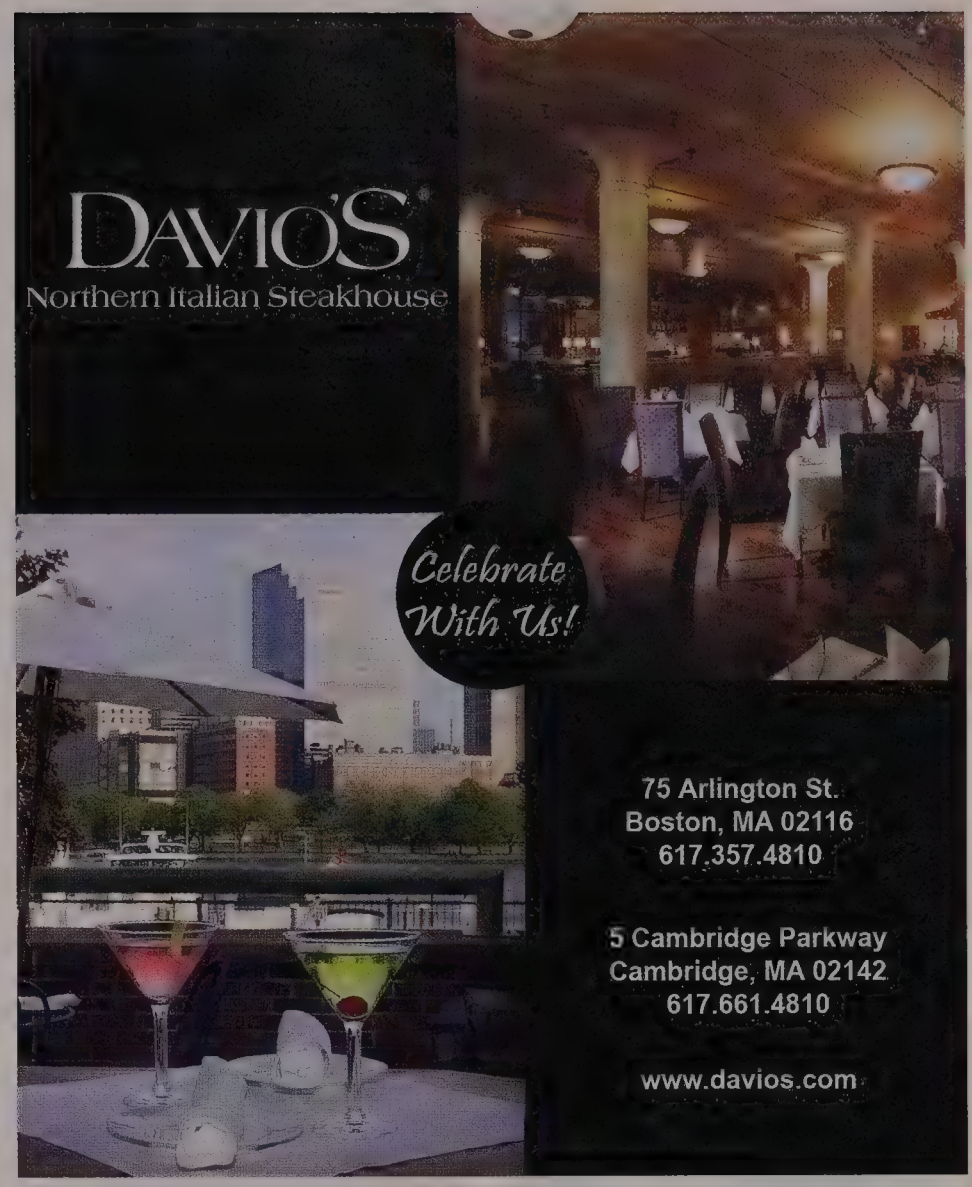
ton Pops
hony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym-. 8 pm. $16-$72. Same program as May 25.

gy School of Music
rd Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., ridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. A: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Broschinsky performs on the trombone. *n. Free.* Bassist Panagiotis Terzakis performs.

vton Free Library
.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to on Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. The Transconti-al Duo perform a concert of traditional Russ-usic.

DAY, MAY 27

ton Modern Orchestra Project
n Hall, New England Conservatory, sborough St., Boston (617-363-0396). .bmop.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym-y. 8 pm. $19-$38 general, $10 students.



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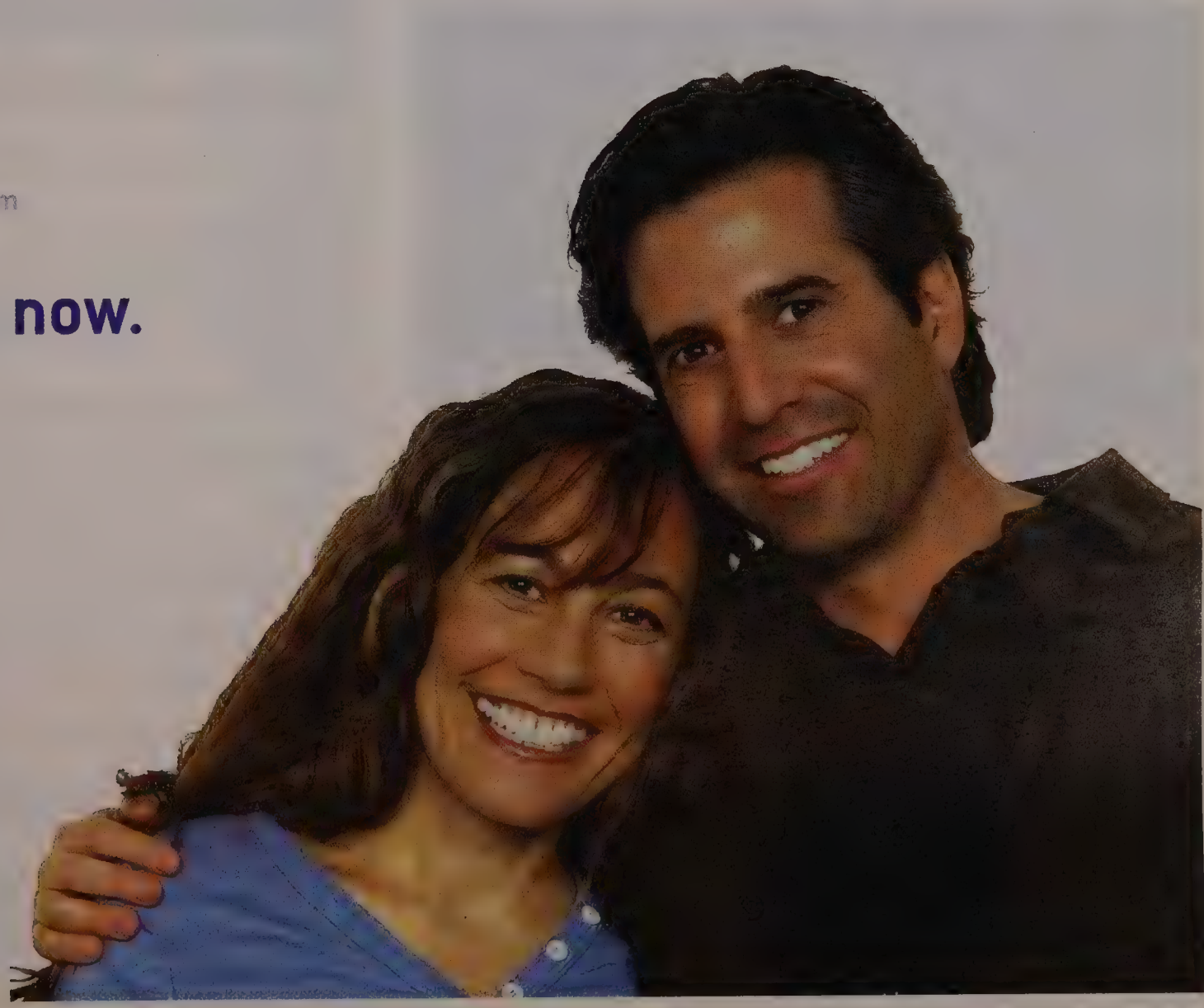


Stephanie and Michael

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ spins top-40, plus open mike and interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Totally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic '80s music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Signs of Life Guest DJs spin progressive hous
gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&
dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 p
cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstai
pm, no cover, 21+.

Clery's
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave
10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm
21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and
$3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After Work Wednesdays Sam Adams spo
Game Night with free appetizers and Red
ticket giveaways, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of
national music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cu
hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 2

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of
'70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm
cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3,

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover,

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-
no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collecti
dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 2

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock
roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley
plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9
am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and co
mentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special
Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10
21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-h
pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest
spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men);
(women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night
Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 1

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk
disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and d
music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 p
am, $15, 19+

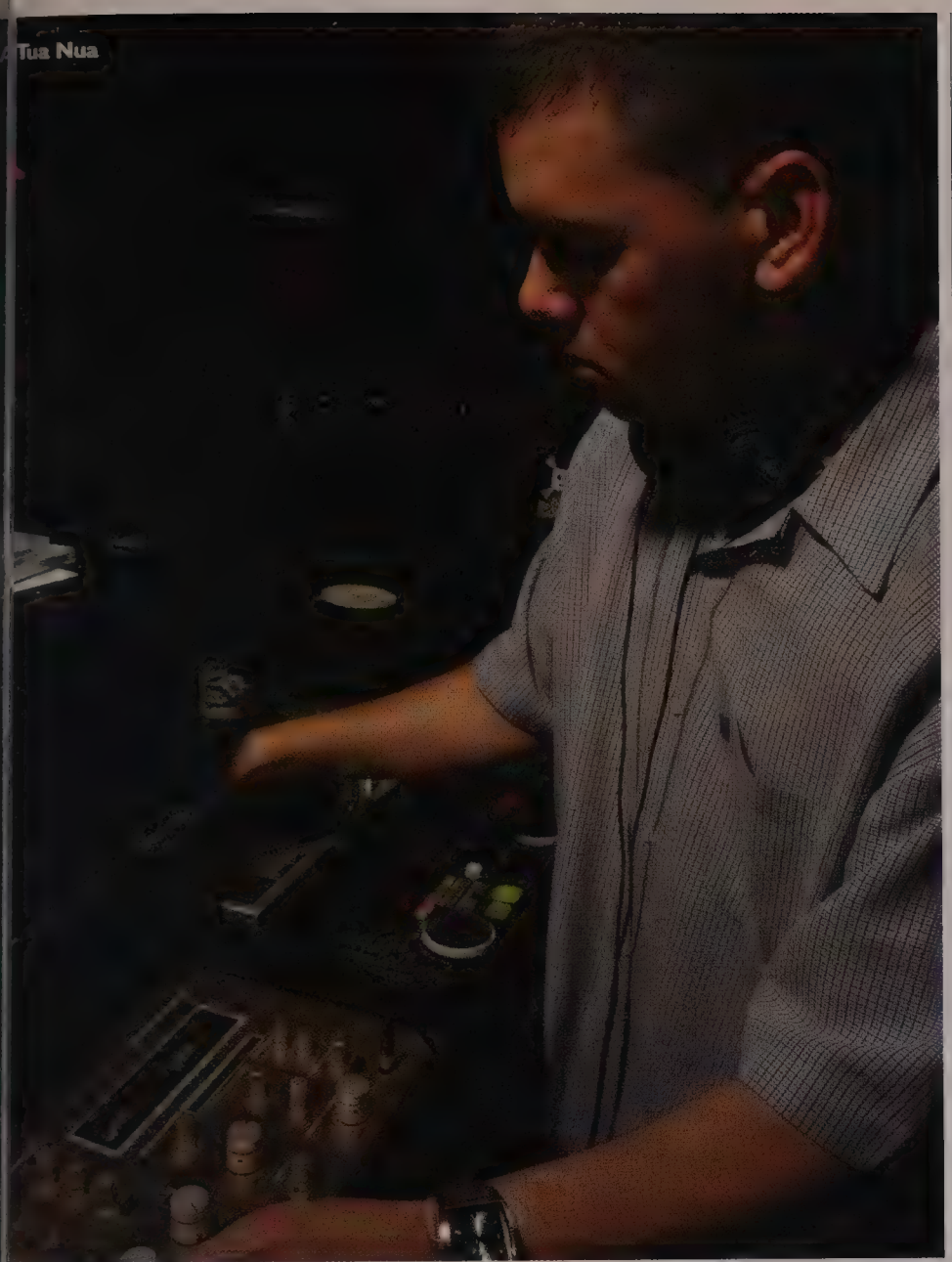
Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins In
and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Hawaiian Tropic Model Search with JAM'N 94
pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s
pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm,



rlin's
oc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, over, 21+.

ckside
teve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 $5, 21+.

bassy
Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm,

e Enormous Room
Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and $, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

t
r Work Lounge Rotating DJs spin jazz and ge music, no cover, 21+.

den Temple
E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo-n, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

e Green Briar
Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

een Street Grill
owdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band plays ae and funk, no cover, 21+.

e McIntyre's
band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

e Kells
Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance s and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ivara Pub
Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, B and pop, 21+.

uor Store
ies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

ntra
ch DJs spin urban groove and club classics, 10:30 $10, 21+.

lky Way
anet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and , 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

al Lounge
chic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea m offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc lka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

rris
Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJs from Stickman Productions spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Martini Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while resident DJs spin R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

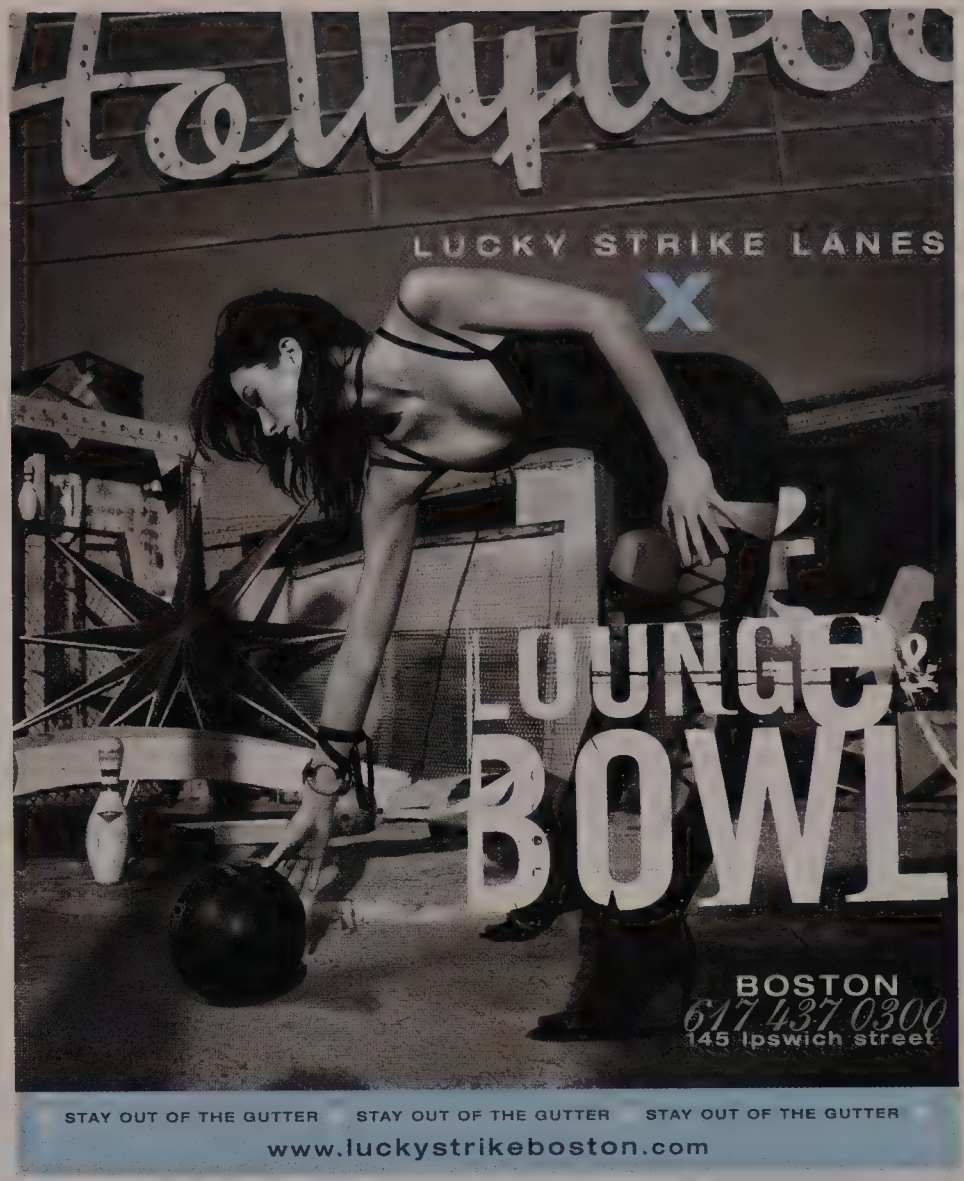
Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.



INTRODUCING...

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West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Foundation Fridays DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Club Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuasion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Therapy Fridays DJ Cerebral spins dance, hip-hop and top-40 in the fourth-floor Penthouse, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Gabe spins.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free befor pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 1

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip- R&B and pop, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and da while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 ladies free before midnight, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock,

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ S Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, tec and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish re music, $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encou** New England's longest-running all-male dance re doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, (1 $20 (21+). Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Ben spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosph ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10 (21+), $15 (1 •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies before 11:30 pm; $12 (18+), $8 (21+).

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 no cover, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes r soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and r gae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21

SATURDAY NIGHTS IN SPRING 2005

TOO MANY CHICKS* AT DICK'S?!?

BACHELORETTE PARTIES BRINGIN' WAY TOO MANY BABES*
THESE GALS* COME IN READY TO PARTY, HAVE A COUPLE OF MAI TAI'S AND TURN INTO ROCK 'N ROLL [censored] FROM [censored] !?!
SO WE NEED A FEW GOOD MEN TO GIVE DICK A HELPING HAND..... HEY HOW HARD CAN IT BE!?!... YOU GOT A BUNCH OF BABES* LOOKIN' FOR A GOOD TIME AND NOT ENOUGH GUYS TO SHOW EM ONE!! DICK WILL TRY TO HANG ON TIL YOU GET HERE!?!

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(AND PROUD OF IT!?)

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es Dance Hall
Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night
hird Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

y K's
and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

Sugar Shack
oss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

uila Rain
im Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10
55.

st
pin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

u
nba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house
e DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe.
t required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

tigo
rnational Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B,
and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

st Street Grille
Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all
t, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

TURDAYS

Tain
school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Tua Nua
Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul,
n, $5, 21+.

a
rnational Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy
l house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men),
(women with college ID).

lon
e Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson spins along
international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

e Avenue
lurray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

s
uctive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm,
19+.

Easy Bar
brate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning
40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9
$8, 21+.

's Bar
cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2
21+.

ston Rocks
tgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11
DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interac-
video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

zz
gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spin-
popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep
se and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

price
ai-Latin International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ
ellis create a lounge atmosphere with interna-
al and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

erys
Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ıb Q
osh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

ogan's
Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5,

vlin's
Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and
se, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ckside
spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5,

co Lounge
lywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-
and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs,
m, $8, 21+.

ıbassy
ence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

e Enormous Room
rberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic
-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

lt
e Penthouse Club DJ Tanerk spins house on the
rth floor. Also, DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS
's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance on
first floor. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

lden Temple
e E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites,
o, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and
al house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

een Street Grill
use band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm,
21+.

psy Bar
Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance
sic.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Buddha spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis DJs Frank and Matty spin a mix of rock, retro and electro beats, 10 pm, $5, 18+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Celebration Saturdays DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features DJ Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance music. 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15 (18+); $10 (21+). •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15 (18+), $10 (21+). •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15 (18+), $10 (21+).

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Stickman Productions hosts different DJs each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles of house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

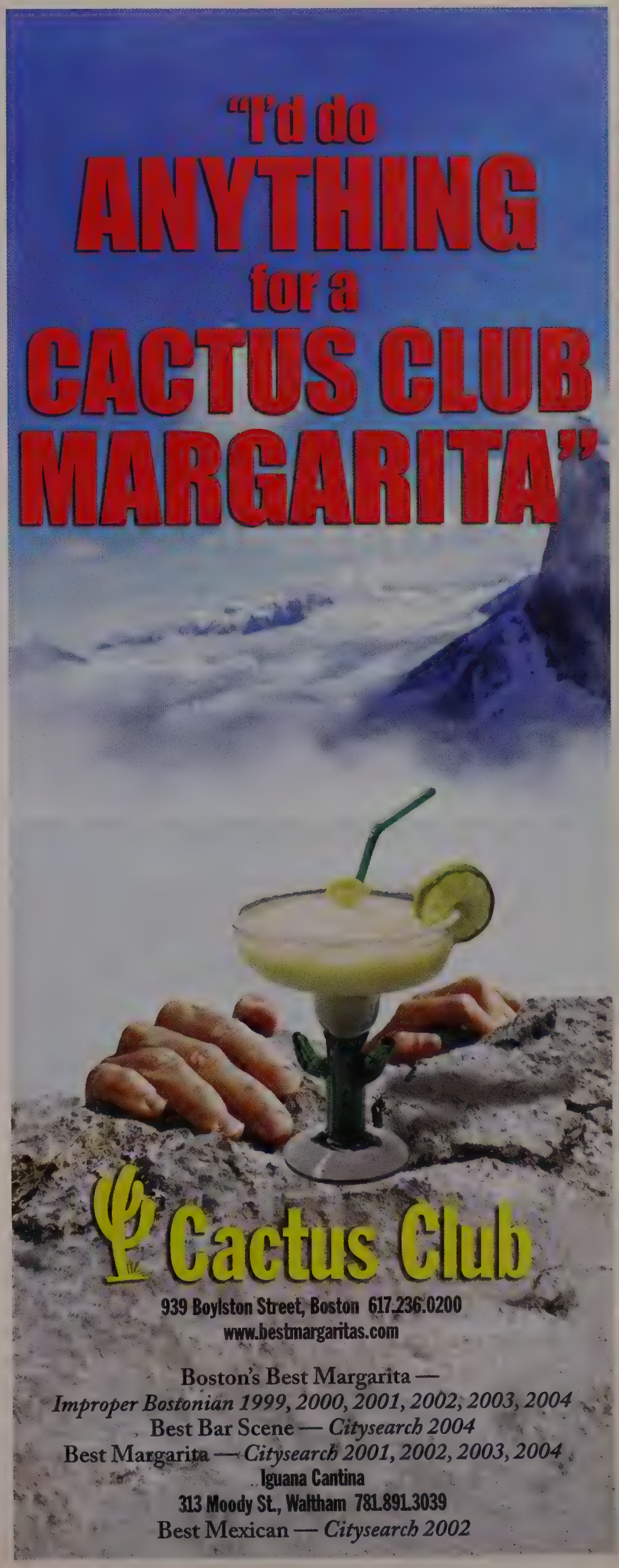
Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

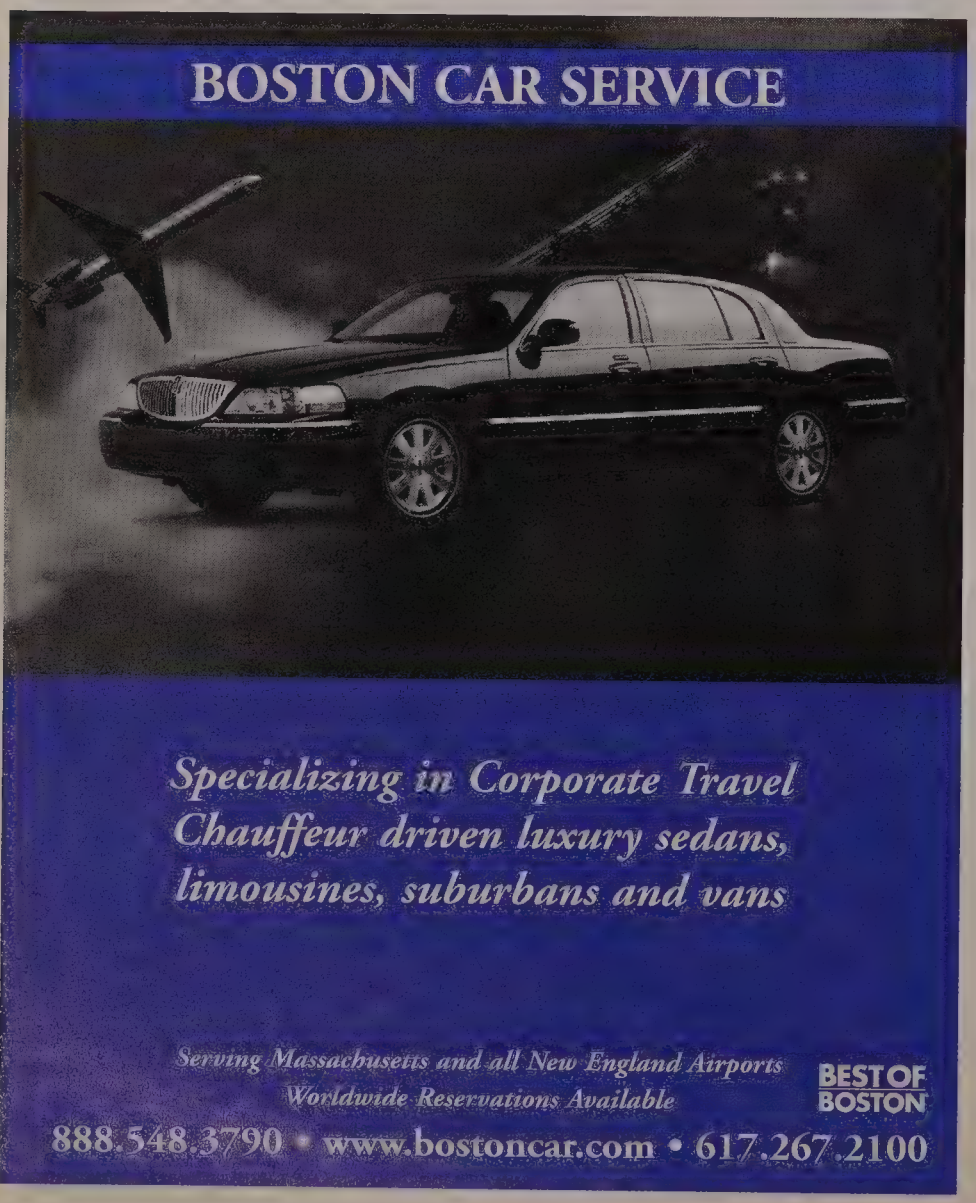
Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.





Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
Rotatind DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Domingos Latin DJs spin dance music. 8 pm-2 am. $10.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Live Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Spot DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance hits, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-21*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-242*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-78 9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-70*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-967*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-11*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-98*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-39*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617 783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617- 695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-88*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-018*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536- 2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555)*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617 494-9565).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617- 277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617- 789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (61 876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-779*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-101*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000)*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617 722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-946*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-908*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783- 9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (6 542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227 4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (61 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617- 351-2581).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-672*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-166*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-702*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617- 227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-188*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-995*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-065*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-000*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-258*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-669*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-030*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542- 1483).*

museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-2446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in Iran and India* features paintings, decorative arts and weaponry depicting hunting scenes from western and southern Asia. Through June 26. • East Asian art is exhibited in *Forging the New: East Asian Painting in the Twentieth Century*. Through October 6. •Ongoing exhibitions include *Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Greek Portraiture*, *The Art of Ancient Rome* and *Near Eastern Art*.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue..-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Wed., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 12 pm-4 pm. Free. •*The Master Prints" of Hendrick Goltzius and Mannerist Art* showcases work from the Dutch engraver's *Life of the Virgin* collection. Through June 19. •Artist Ghada Amer depicts her definitions of "terror" and terrorism" in her installation *The Reign of Terror*. Through June 19. •*The Observed and Envisioned* exhibits depictions of women in Mughal art from the 16th to 19th centuries. Through June 19. •A new permanent installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. • Art from China, Japan and Korea is featured in a new permanent collection.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*From Mind, Heart and Hand: Persian, Turkish and Indian Drawings* from the Stuart Cary Welch Collection shows through June 12. •*Crises of Representation: The Decorative and the Feminine in Fin-de-siecle Vienna* includes publications and artworks from turn-of-the-20th-century Vienna. Through June 12. •*Eighteenth-Century European Ceramics and Paintings* is an exhibition drawing from the museums' permanent collection. Ongoing. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe since 1880* and *Art in France, 1885-1960*. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Origins* is an exhibit of photographic collage by Donna Hamil Talman. Through June 2.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun. from 9 am-12 pm. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100) www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*GONE: Site-Specific Works by Dorothy Cross* is a mixed-media exhibition. Through July 12. •*Tree: A New Vision of the American Forest* features photographs by James Balog. Through July 12.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •*Sturtevant: The Brutal Truth* is the first comprehensive exhibition by American artist Elaine Sturtevant. Through July 10. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Clipper Ship Era* is a collection of lithographs, plans and photographs illustrating the design and construction, as well as the social experience, of a clipper ship. Through July 10. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* displays work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winners. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Creating Milestones in Education* is an exhibit depicting the history of the Abiel Smith School. Through July 31.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Sets, Series, and Suites: Contemporary Prints* features serial prints by 30 artists from 1950 to the present. Through May 29. •*Pursuits of Power: Falconry and the Samurai, 1600-1900* offers a new perspective on players, politics and power in early modern Japan. Through June 12. •*Photographs by Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Sylvan Barnet and William Burto Collection* features 20 of the Japanese photographer's black-and-white prints. Through June 23. •*Speed, Style, and Beauty: Cars from the Ralph Lauren Collection* displays 16 automobiles from the designer's private collection. Through July 3.•*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount

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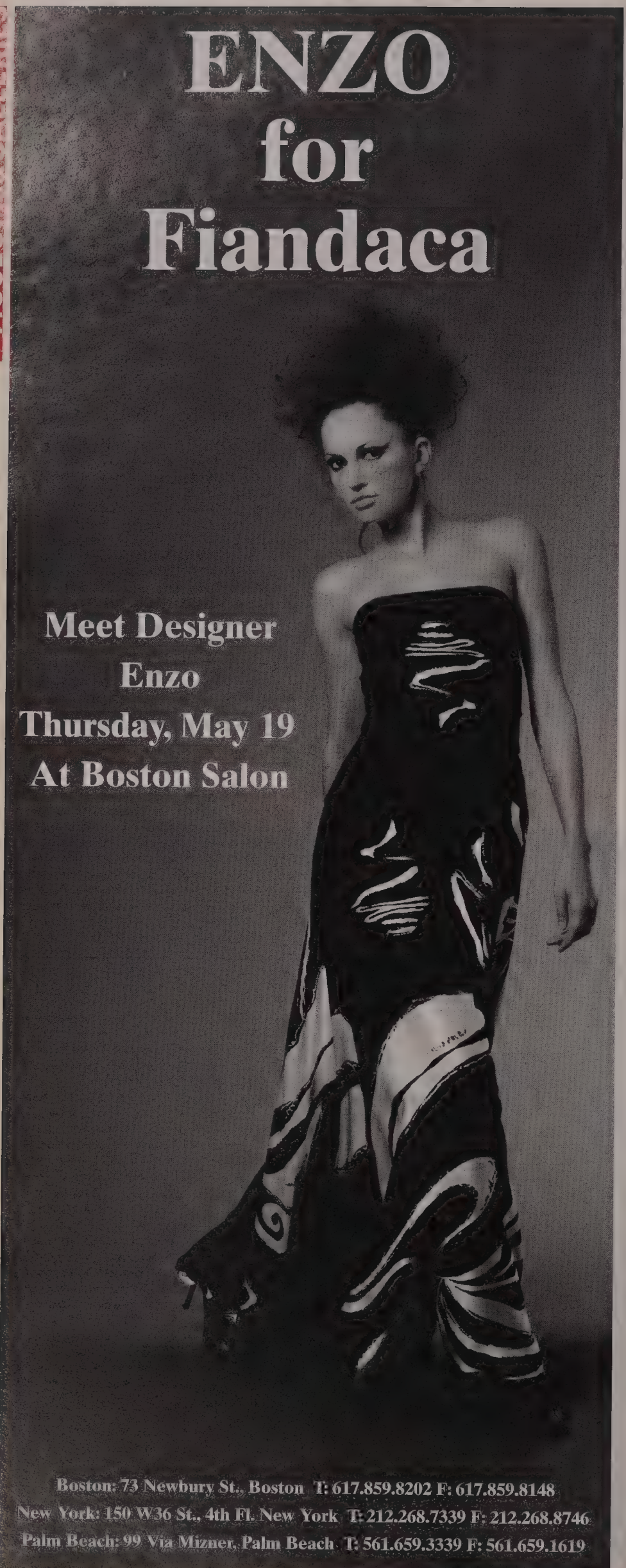
Personal Training Yoga Pilates XpressLine Group Fitness



Douglas Freed's landscape painting *Seeks*, at Lanoue Fine Art

Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Mapping the World Around Us* features mapping projection tools and computer map libraries. Ongoing. •Four hundred butterflies and flowers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Deep Inside the Blues: Photographs by Margo Cooper* features 38 black-and-white photographs of musicians taken by Cooper over the past 10 years during her travels through the Mississippi Delta. Through June 5. •*George Washington: Freemason and Founding Father* is an exhibition of rare artifacts. Through June 12. •*Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend* examines artistic depictions of Revolution-era patriot Paul Revere. Through June 26. •*Air Lines* showcases photographs by Alex MacLean, who for the past 25 years has taken pictures of the United States from an airplane. Through January 22, 2006. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition spotlighting 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community*. Ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*Island Thresholds, Contemporary Art from the Caribbean* features 13 works, including large-scale installations using wood, glass, paper, seawater, salvaged shoes, coffee, coconut and vanilla, as well as paintings and drawings, by four island artists. Through June 5.•*The Art of Shopping in China* captures China's early 19th-century international trade market through 40 paintings on paper from the museum's extensive collection. Through Sept. 5. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18.•*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through Aug. 3, 2006. • *Air Lines* features photographs by Alex MacLean. Through April 23, 2006. • *Air Lines* features photographs by Alex MacLean. Through April 23, 2006. •*Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children, $5. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 30. •*Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations in Washington, D.C* features a selection of photographs of Native American delegates to the U.S. government. Through October 13. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006. •*Change and Continuity: Hall of the North American Indian* depicts the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's lar Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Encou ters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition fe turing original sculpture and plaster casts Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall* d plays artifacts from the Pacific Islands. Ongoing.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-73 3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commu Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun. 12-5 pm. $ •Xavier Veilhan's *The Photorealist Project* showcas paintings by Robert Bechtle, Robert Cottingha Richard Estes, Ralph Goings and Richard McClea Through July 31. •*Double Take: Photorealism from t '60s and '70s* showcases examples of photoreal works from the Brandeis Universeity Art Collecti and other notable collections. Through July 31.

Special Events

SoWa Art Walk

460 Harrison Ave., 1st Floor, Boston (617-23 4218). www.trashfashions.com or www.sowa walk.com. MBTA: Orange line to Back Bay. May 2 22, 11-6 pm. •South End artists, galleries, resta rants and boutiques participate in this annual even which also includes Trash Fashion's trunk sale a fashion show at 1 pm and 3 pm each day. The Sou End Open Market also opens for the season in ta dem with the event.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). ww acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingto Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Paintings and drawin from the collection of William Freed and Lillia Olowsky display through June 11.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385) ww alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cople Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Color a Glass* features sculpture and jewelry by more than 1 artists. Through June 25.

Allston Skirt Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). ww allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Shelter from the Storm: Artis Make Forts and Panchos* displays sculptures, draw ings, installations and photographs by Sarah Bra man, Ellen Brooks, Chris Duncan, Tori Fair an Emily Isenberg. Through May 28.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). ww alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Brooklyn Paintings* fea tures new works by Gideon Bok. Through June 1.

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). ww ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Ne paintings by Lynda Love display through May 30.

Ars Libri

Mario Diacno Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Bosto (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orang Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 1 am-5 pm. •Steve DiBenedetto displays his paint ings in *Codex Maximus*. Through May 31.

ırtana
378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). ww.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to oolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am- pm. •Encore III displays oil paintings by Nan Hass ldman. Through May 31. •The gallery continually ows works by various artists from New England.

ırt Attack
08 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.art tack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.- un., 12-6 pm. •Ceramics, paintings and drawings y Tim Murley, Shawn Weaver and Heather Adels isplay through July 1.

ırt Interactive
30 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). ww.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. hu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Shadowplay* displays nteractive projections by Scott Snibbe. Through ly 3.

Baak Gallery
5 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-0407) www. aakgallery.co. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.- at., 10:30 am-8 pm; Sun., 1-6 pm. Michael Bryce isplays oil paintings inspired by the Rhode Island ountryside. Through May 25.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
0 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). ww.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line o Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Horizons nd Interruptions* features landscape photographs nd sculptures by Jesse M. Kahn. Through May 31.

Berenberg Gallery
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www. erenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. *Autism to Asperger's: The Artistic Phenomenon* is a roup exhibition featuring the work of 11 artists. Through June 18.

Bernard Toale Gallery
50 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www. ernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop- ey. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Lesley Dill displays new works. Through June 11. •Larimer Richards lisplays new works. Through June 11.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426- 8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Thu. 12-5 pm; Fri.-Sat. 12-10 pm; Sun. 12-5 pm. •Sculptor Bruce Bemis showcases his works in a solo exhibition. Through June 5.

Boston Living Center
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-901-5992). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. Sun., 11 am-1 pm. Free. •Artists from the Boston Living Center, a community center for people living with HIV and AIDS, display their work. Through May 31.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Peter DeCamp Haines and Larry Polons display their work. Through May 21.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. *Collateral Damage:When the Battles Lost and Won* displays multimedia works by Rob Roy, Jose Santos, Cliff Evens, Ken Ruby and Linda Gao. Curated by Joanna L. Gao. May 26-June 26.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. *The Sticker Show* displays Karl Frey's acrylic paintings on plastic stickers. Through June 3.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •The gallery displays Aurora Canero's sculptures through May 28.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions—*Chauncey Ryder: Printmaker, Art of the Mid-Century* and *Art from Provincetown*—feature works in various media from multiple artists. Through July 10.

Claygo Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue..-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. Ceramics and other media by Brian Knep, Rahul Bhargaua and Andy Howarth. May 18-June 24.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. The Spring Member show features 50 juried paintings by Copley Society artists. May 22-June 18.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*The Art of Exposure, Uncovering the Nude* features black-and-white photographs by Julia Zhogina and Rania Matar. Through May 28.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Below the Surface* showcases works in various media by local artists. Through June 11.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery @ The Piano Factory
791 Tremont St., Boston (617-421-0095). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri. 6-8 p.m., Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. •Louisa Bertman, Joshua Miller and Louis D'Angio display drawings and paintings in *Portraits, Perceptions*. Through May 30.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu., 12-5:30 pm, Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. • Roger Goldenberg and Joseph Barillaro display recent assemblage and collage works. Through May 21.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 pm. •*Ration for a Generation* features photographs by Toru Nakanishi. Through June 3.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328) www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Time Out* features works by seniors and graduate students from the Rhode Island School of Design's Furniture Department. Through June 18.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Paintings by Todd McKie display through May 21.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Inventing the Wheel (Subsequently and Furthermore)* features new paintings by Bert Antonio. Through May 31.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Denise Marika displays new work in various media. Through May 24.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judy Goldman Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Cut Paper Drawings*, featuring works by Juliann Cydylo, displays through July 31.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Passages* features digital collages by Dorothy Simpson Krause. Through June 4.

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Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment. •*Beyond the Surface* features paintings by Laura Bowman, Robin Denevan, Craig Mooney, Peter Roux and other artists. Through June 3.

Kathryn Shultz Gallery
25 R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-867-0246). info@cambridgeart.org. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. Free. •The Cambridge Art Association presents its annual National Prize Show, featuring 113 artists from 28 states. (Also see listing for University Place Gallery.) Through June 23.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Johnny Robertson displays *New Paintings*. Through May 28.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Bonita Sennott and Hilary Hutchinson display collages and sculptures through May 28.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works in various media by international and local artists including Douglass Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarse and Carrie McGee. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Point Counterpoint: Kit Karbler and Dora Hsiung* features glass and woven-fiber sculptures. Through June 24.

Mobilia Gallery
33 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Scratching the Surface: Art and Content in Contemporary Wood* features works from furniture artists and sculptors. Through May 21. •Nancy Michel and Alexandra Watkins display new jewelry and sculpture. Through May 21.

Mercury Gallery
2nd Floor, 8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • *Prelude: Music in Painting* features paintings by Oliver Balf, Louis Schanker, Joseph Solman and Karl Zerbe. Through May 22.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Sloane Tanen displays paintings and prints. Through May 28.

NAO Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naogallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Thu.-Sat. 12 pm-5 pm. •Andy Zimmerman displays new mixed-media works. Through June 30.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Between Dream and Memory* features Sachiko Akiyama's sculptures. Through May 28. •*Spring Works on Paper* features works by various artists through May 28.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5:30 pm. •*Mercurial States* features large-scale digital photographs by Judith Scott Larsen. Through May28.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •Mark Sheinkman displays recent drawings. Through May 28.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing display of works by local artists in various media.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Phyllis Berman, Stanley Bielen, Judith Belzer, Ben Frank-Moss and Howard Silberthan display selected paintings. Through June 11.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Paintings by Alison Cann Clift and Marco Abarca display through May 30.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Tom Baril displays photographs. Through June 1.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue-Fri., 11 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. The gallery features rare 20th-century master classics. Ongoing.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. •Joan and Liz Linder showcase works in various media. Through May 29.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Grossman Gallery, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718) www.smfa.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Museum. Mon-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu. 10 am-8 pm. •*Students Curate Students: Fresh Fiction – A Photographic Exploration of Narrative* is an exhibition of work by SMFA students and recent graduates using the camera to create artifice and invent a story. Through May 22. •*In Between* is part of a continuing series of exhibitions of works created by students at the SMFA. Through July 2005.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Things Your Momma Said* is a multimedia exhibition featuring works from 18 artists. Through July 31.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Looking Up* features new paintings by Meredith Fife Day and Lisa Reindorf. Through May 28.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The artist-owned gallery features paintings by Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin, William St. George and Judy St. Peter. Ongoing.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-867-0246). info@cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm, Saturday, 9 am -1 pm. Free. •The Cambridge Art Association presents its annual National Prize Show featuring 113 artists from 28 states. (Also see listing for the Kathryn Shultz Gallery.) Through June 23.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century American artworks.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. • The museum's ongoing exhibition features contemporary and historic photography. •Winning photographs from the museum's juried exhibition are on display until May 30.

Panopticon Gallery Boston
502 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. • *The Color of Baseball* features photographs by Bill Chapman and Ernest C. Withers and a selection of historical baseball images. Through May 28.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*The Tree in Landscape* is a group show featuring works by more than 20 artists. Through June 15.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www.prcboston.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •The Annual Members Exhibition features works by PRC members through June 26.

books & poetry

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ubmit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to alendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to ublication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

arnes & Noble Boston University
50 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www. .bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 n. Free. **Barbara Kline** of the Capitol Hill agency White House Nannies discusses new book, *White ouse Nannies: True Tales From the Other Depart- ent of Homeland Security*, a memoir about her expe- ences providing child-care for DC politicians.

larvard Coop
400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. rvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. pm. Free. Northeastern University journalism pro- ssor **Laurel Leff** discusses her book *Buried by the imes: The Holocaust and America's Most Important ewspaper*, about why she thinks the *The New York imes* failed to adequately report on the atrocities of he Holocaust.

orter Square Books
5 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www. ortersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter quare. 7 pm. Free. Poets **George Stalker**, **Jean eskulla** and **Sue Ellen Kuzma** read from their work.

Vellesley Booksmith
irst Parish Church, 349 Boston Post Road, Weston 781-431-1160) www.brooklinebooksmith.com. 7:30 m. Free. **Stuart McLean** discusses *Home From the inyl Cafe: A Year of Stories*, his collection of short ories about the ups and downs of a young Toronto ouple.

THURSDAY, MAY 19

Barnes & Noble Boston University
60 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www. u.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 m. Free. **M.J. Andersen** discusses her memoir *Portable Prairie: Confessions of an Unsettled Midwest- rner*, in which she discusses her nostalgia for the mall South Dakota town where she grew up.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www. rooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Dan Chaon** reads from his novel *You Remind Me of Me*, about a troubled young man who is scarred for life as a result of grow- ng up in a household with a suicidal mother.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Journalist **Cristina Rathbone** discusses her book *A World Apart: Women, Prison and Life Behind Bars*, about the lives of inmates at MCI Framingham, a medium-security correctional facility for women.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. **Martha Cooley** reads from her novel *Thirty-Three Swoons*, about a middle-aged woman who comes to terms with issues of mistaken paternity and other unusual family circumstances.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Irmgard A. Hunt** discusses her memoir, *On Hitler's Mountain: Overcoming the Legacy of a Nazi Childhood*, about her youth in Nazi Germany and her time as a member of the Hitler Youth.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Kate Flora**, **Toni Kelner**, **Elizabeth Armstrong** and **Barbara Ross**, contributing authors to *Rip Tide: Crime Stories by New England Writers*, read from the anthology.

FRIDAY, MAY 20

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Historian and New England scholar **Megan Marshall** discusses her biography *The Peabody Sisters: Three Women Who Ignited American Romanticism*, about the three Boston women who changed the landscape of American literature.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www. portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Elijah Wald** reads from *The Mayor of MacDougal Street*, a memoir by 1960s folk musician Dave Van Ronk that Wald co-wrote.

SATURDAY, MAY 21

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www. portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. 3 pm. Free. Boston Globe sports columnist **Dan Shaughnessy** signs copies of his book *Reversing the Curse*, which chronicles the Red Sox' championship season of 2004.

MONDAY, MAY 23

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Neil Olson** reads from his novel *The Icon*, about the parties competing to acquire a relic that surfaces in the home of a Swiss banker.

Harvard Book Store Event
Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free, tickets required. **Victor Navasky**, editor of *The Nation*, discusses his memoir, *A Matter of Opinion*, which recounts his experiences as the editor of the liberal journal.

TUESDAY, MAY 24

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Marie Myung-Ok Lee** reads from her novel *Somebody's Daughter*, about a Korean-American teenager who visits her homeland to look for her birth mother.

Harvard Book Store Event
Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free, tickets required. **Amy Butler Greenfield**, who studied Renaissance Europe as an Oxford Scholar, discusses her book *A Perfect Red: Empire, Espionage and the Quest for the Color of Desire*, about the social and historical implications of the Spanish discovery of cochineal, a pigment made from insects.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Fulbright Fellow **Jeffrey Meyers** discusses his book *Impressionist Quartet: The Intimate Genius of Manet and Morisot, Degas and Cassatt*, a composite biography of four 19th-century impressionist painters who lived interconnected lives.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Amity Gaige** reads from her novel *O My Darling*, about newlyweds who become estranged after a family member unexpectedly commits suicide. Also, **Gillen D'Arcy Wood** reads from his novel *Hosack's Folly*, which takes place during the yellow fever epidemic of 1820s New York.

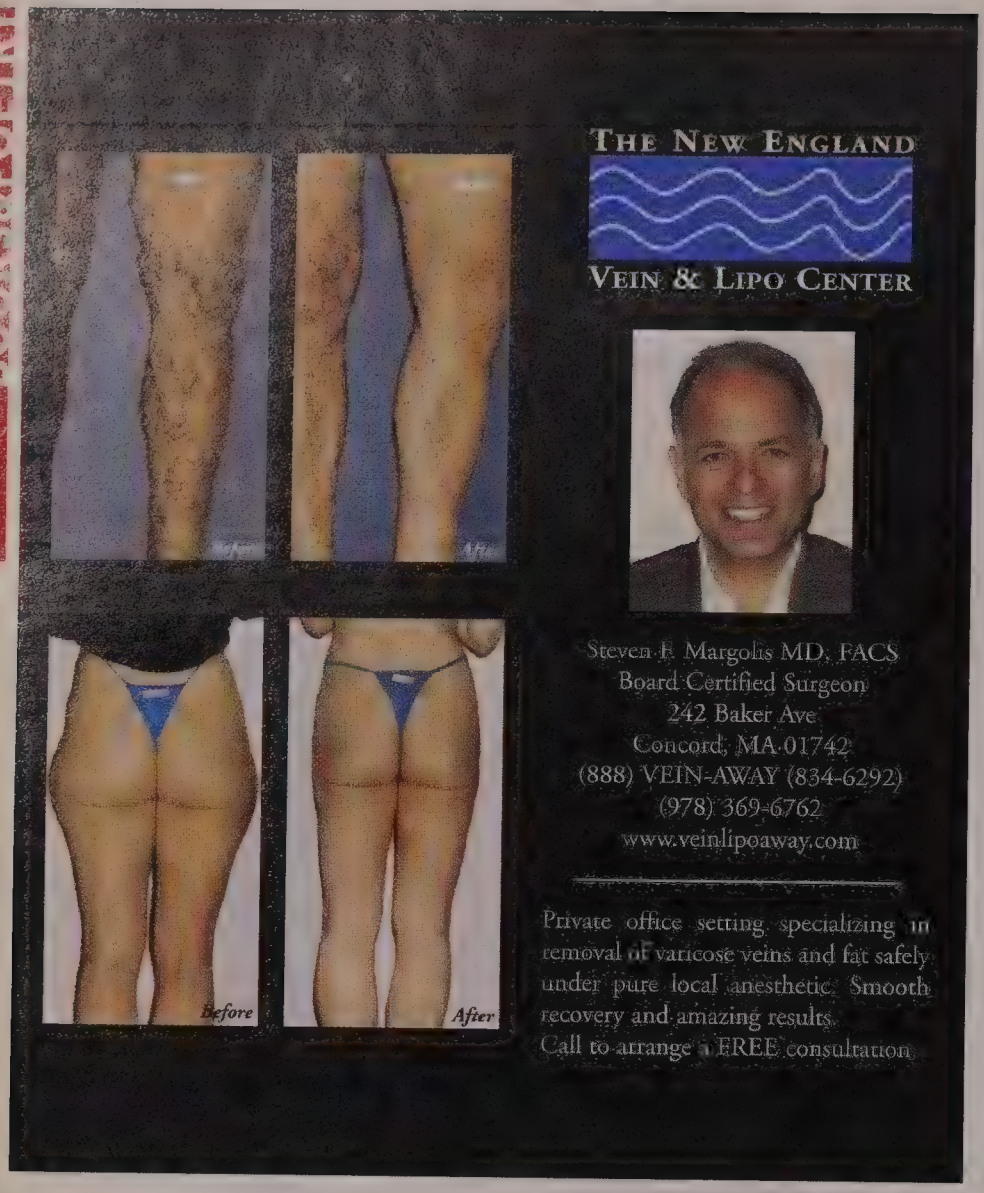
Wellesley Booksmith
Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. 7 pm. Free. **Steve Leveen** discusses his book *The Little Guide to Your Well-Read Life*, which offers advice on getting the most out of reading books.

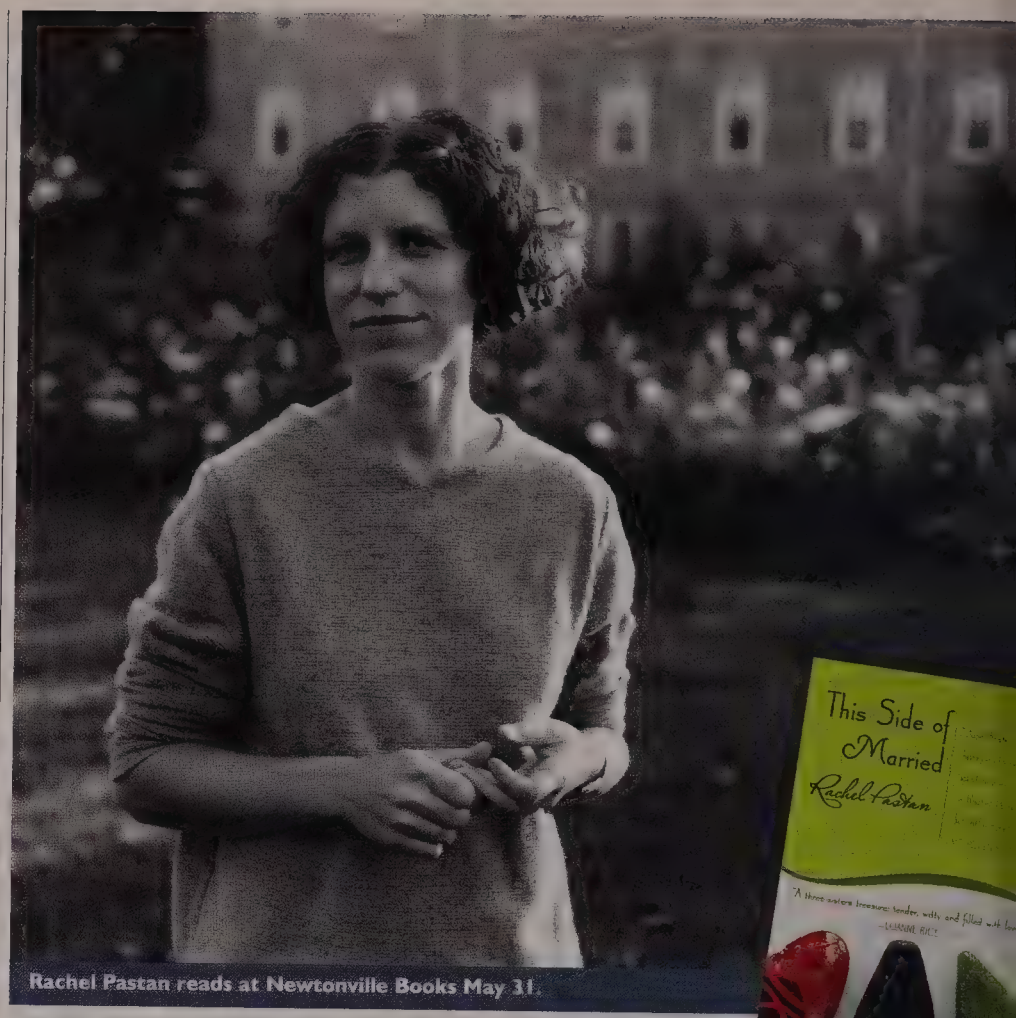
WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Mike Marriner**, **Nathan Gebhard** and **Brian McCallister**, members of Road Trip Nation, discuss their book *Finding the Open Road: A Guide to Self-Construction Rather than Mass Production*, an account of their travels in an RV in pursuit of informational career interviews.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Nancy Zafris** reads from her novel *Lucky Strike*, about a family that becomes involved with the business of uranium prospecting after moving to Utah.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www. portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Steve Leveen** discusses *The Little Guide to*




Rachel Pastan reads at Newtonville Books May 31.

Your Well-Read Life. See May 24 Wellesley Booksmith listing for a description.

THURSDAY, MAY 26

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Rene Steinke** reads from her novel *Holy Skirts*, a fictionalized account of the life of Baroness Elsa von Freytag-Loringhoven, an eccentric poet and performing artist in early-19th-century New York.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Freelance journalist **Jill Nelson** discusses her book *Finding Martha's Vineyard*, about the history of middle-class black families on the island.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Religious history scholar **Mark Oppenheimer** discusses his book *Thirteen and a Day: The Bar and Bat Mitzvah Across America*, which chronicles two years he spent traveling to learn about the history of the b'nai mitzvah.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Historian **Charles C. Calhoun** discusses *Longfellow: A Rediscovered Life*, a biography of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, the 19th-century American poet who helped define Victorian-era culture.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. 7 pm. Free. **Ron MacLean** discusses his novel *Blue Winnetka Skies*, about two friends who decide to leave their conventional lives behind as middle age approaches. Also, **Sherrie Flick** reads from her short-story collection *I Call This Flirting*.

TUESDAY, MAY 31

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Boston (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Emmanuel Dongala** reads from his novel *Johnny Mad Dog*, about two teenagers who grow up on opposing sides of West Africa's civil war.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **David Sedaris** reads from his new collection of comical essays, *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim*.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Virginia Bradley, J. Lorraine Brown, Nancy Tupper Ling, Marcia Szymanski, Jean Tupper** and **Fran Witham** from Fine Line Poets host an evening of open-mike poetry.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Rachel Pastan** reads from her novel *This Side of Married*, about three sisters who approach love in different ways while being pressured to marry by their overbearing mother.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies, with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, featuring prescheduled poets. $4 suggested donation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Friday)
Toast Lounge 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-628-2313). 8 pm. Free. Poet Doug Holder hosts an open-mike reading.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education

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bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-r: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. adline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

'EDNESDAY, MAY 18
natomy of a Story
l Saints Church, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline (617-7-8965). www.carywolinsky.com. MBTA: D Green ne to Beaconsfield. 7:15 pm. $50. National Geographic otographer **Cary Wolinsky** gives a slide talk about e behind the lens. Proceeds benefit Troubadour c.'s arts programs. A reception follows the talk.

enealogy in a Nutshell 2005 Lecture eries
ew England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 ewbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.nehgs. g. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. omputer expert **Dick Eastman** discusses the use technology in genealogical research in a lecture led Grandpa in Your Pocket: Using High-Tech evices to Simplify Your Research.

adcliffe Institute Fellows' Presentation eries
ving Room, Cronkhite Graduation Center, 6 Ash ., Cambridge (617-495-8212). www.radcliffe.edu. BTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Radcliffe stitute fellow **Tarik O'Regan** of the University Oxford discusses and performs selections from s chamber opera *Heart of Darkness*, based on the 02 novel by Joseph Conrad.

'HURSDAY, MAY 19
ntuition and Feelings of Rightness
randeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, pstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-100). www.brandeis.edu. 12:30 pm. Free. Women's udies scholar **Dr. Lois Isenman** discusses her expe-ences with intuition, her current findings in cogni-ve science and her upcoming book, *Understanding ntuition: A Journey In and Out of Science.*

Massachusetts Schools: Can They Meet the Demand for Qualified Educators?
Cambridge College School of Education, 80 Prospect St., Cambridge (800-877-4723). www.cambridge college.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 6:30 pm. Free. Moderator **Salvatore Petralia** and a panel of teaching professionals lead a discussion about the dilemma of teaching vacancies in area schools.

The Place of the Eagle's Nest: Interpreting a Mexican Codex
Geological Lecture Hall, Harvard University, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Boone,** chair of Latin American Art at Tulane University, presents an analysis of Mexican art as part of the Mesoamerican Archive Spring Conference.

Risking Hope: Women, Prison and Life Behind Bars
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Journalist **Cristina Rathbone** discusses the lives of incarcerated women at MCI Framingham prison.

FRIDAY, MAY 20
Kennedy Library Forums
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Columbia Point., Boston (617-514-1642). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 5:30-7 pm. Free. Former *NBC Nightly News* anchor **Tom Brokaw** discusses his career in journalism and his experience writing his book *The Greatest Generation.*

Neuroscience and the Soul: How Free Are We?
L'Essence Art Gallery, 1723 Centre St., West Roxbury (617-325-0140). 7 pm. Free. **Tom Clark** of the Center for Naturalism moderates a discussion on the functions of the brain and its relation to free will and the idea of the "soul." Part of the West Roxbury Philosophy Discussion series.

SATURDAY, MAY 21
Genealogy in a Nutshell 2005 Lecture Series
New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.nehgs.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. See listing for May 18.

Schmoozing with Sophie Tucker
The Paul Revere House, 19 North Square, Boston. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 1 pm; 1:45 pm; 2:30 pm. $3. As part of the Boston Spring Lecture Series, actress **Linda Meyer** portrays vaudeville star Sophie Tucker, a Russian Jewish immigrant who lived in the North End in the early 1900s.

Secret Asian Man
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $5. **Tak Toyoshima** discusses his nationally acclaimed comic strip.

SUNDAY, MAY 22
Self-Publishing Workshop
Mezzanine Conference Room, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2 pm. Free. The Boston chapter for the National Writers Union hosts this workshop on writing and publishing your own fiction and nonfiction pieces.

Worker Intimidation and Brazilian Immigration
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6710). www.commchurch.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10:45 am. Free. **Fausto Da Rocha,** executive director of the Brazilian Immigrant Center, discusses the detainment of 100 undocumented Brazilians in Boston as part of the Sunday Forum series.

TUESDAY, MAY 24
Letterpress Printing
Boston Public Library, Copley Square, Boston (617-536-5400). www.societyofprinters.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3 pm. Free. John Kristensen of Firefly Press teaches how to set type and print on a Vandercook press.

Three Decades Reaching Men: What Have We Learned?
Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100). www.brandeis.edu. 12:30 pm. Free. Women's studies scholar **Nick Danforth** discusses how to improve male sexual health behaviors.

What Is Emotion?
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30 pm. $7. A panel of experts from the fields of psychology, medicine, politics and religion discusses how emotions affect our daily lives.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25
Café Littéraire
French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 2 pm. Free. Michel Houellebecq's *Extension du Domaine de la Lutte* is the topic at this monthly discussion of French literature.

Genealogy in a Nutshell 2005 Lecture Series
New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.nehgs.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. Join the Genealogical Society for a walking tour of the Massachusetts Transportation Library, which holds many resources for family historians.

A Musical Adventure in Siberia
Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: Green Line to MFA. 6 pm. $12. Documentary filmmaker **Richard Leacock** discusses his film *A Musical Adventure in Siberia*, which follows Russian musicians as they prepare for the world premiere of Prokofiev's *Eugene Onegin.*

THURSDAY, MAY 26
Finding Martha's Vineyard
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Author **Jill Nelson** leads a discussion of her book, *Finding Martha's Vineyard*, which is a historical account of black middle-class life in Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard.

Regardisregard: Art with the Homeless
Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100). www.brandeis.edu. 12:30 pm. Free. Women's studies scholar **Mary Oestereicher Hamill** describes her work, which includes video and audio footage of conversations with 33 homeless adults in Boston and Cambridge.

gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door, $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Felt (Thursdays)
533 Washington St., Boston (617-851-2506). www.tribenightclub.org. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Flesh, Xmortis, Fantasy Factory and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen, and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Friday)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, Thursday is lesbian night and Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.:Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary afterwork buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

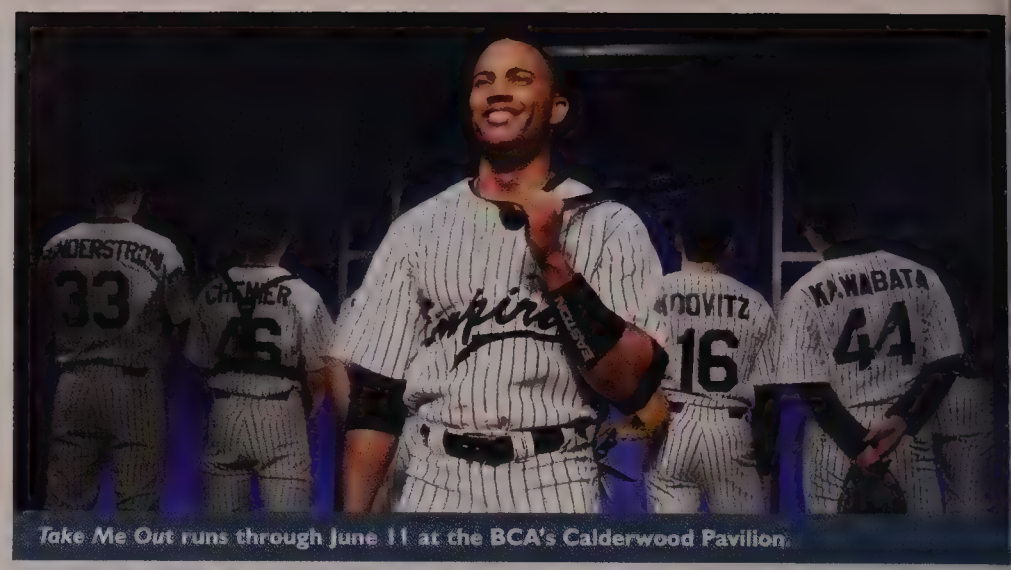
Shows & Events

Boston Gay & Lesbian Film/Video Festival
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org/film. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Through May 22. Check Web site for times and prices. This 21st annual festival features films celebrating gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues and culture.

Gays and Lesbians for the Arts Tour
Call 617-732-3920 or e-mail info@bostonarttours.com for meeting location. May 21. 4-6 pm. $40. Enjoy a tour of various local art galleries and mingle over post-tour coffee.

Sleeping with Straight Men
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (800-965-4827). www.ronnielarsen.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Through June 5. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. $25-$30. Based on a true story, this play, written and directed by Ronnie Larsen, tells the story of a gay man who is killed after revealing on national TV that he has a crush on a straight man.

Take Me Out
Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through June 11; Wed.-Sat., 8 pm, Sat., 4 pm, Sun., 7 pm. $35-$40. Paul Daigneault directs Richard Greenberg's 2003 Tony Award–winning play about a successful baseball player who comes out of the closet.



Take Me Out runs through June 11 at the BCA's Calderwood Pavilion.

Youth Pride Festival
Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 21, 12 pm. Author and activist Leslie Feinberg, this year's guest speaker, leads a rally, followed by a march through the streets of Boston and ending with a festival from 2-5 pm featuring emcee Michelle Tea and music by Girlyman, JenRo, Katastrophe, the Butchies and PUSH.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly. org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Pride Committee
Wainwright Bank Community Room, 155 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-262-9405). www.bostonpride.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue. 6:30 pm. The Pride Committee meets every Tuesday this spring t plan for the 2005 Boston Pride Celebration Season

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/b MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,40 member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAG (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) mee in Medford for support and activities and hol a concurrent meeting for interested parents an their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Livi Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595 www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Ba First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. A informal group for people who think they may be b sexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adult
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidenti place for men and women who are looking for a sa space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It mee Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidg Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–are support, information and social group for people a signed female at birth who feel that is not an accu rate or complete description of their gender. Part the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group mee monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This grou welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional wome 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophist cated to get together with like-minded women fo conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwa health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fenwa Community Health offers a wide array of services fo the GLBT community, ranging from discussion about parenting and safe-sex practices to program addressing domestic violence and substance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Joi Boston's GLBT flag football league for a casua spring season, followed by a formal fall season. A are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave. Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat., 1 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome t join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn mor about photography, socialize and meet new people these monthly meetings. For more information, e mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617 742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. Thi group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the firs and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developin healthy gay relationships features alternatives fo meeting and dating, communication games, single mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail info@ gaylab.org.

der Crash
aneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. A: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the T community are invited to share poetry, or performance pieces at this open-mike

friends: Bisexual and Lesbian nen of Color
ridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line ntral. This discussion group for all ages meets Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

iid Assets Swimming
.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian team is open to both competitive and fitness mers of all ages and abilities.

Network/La Red
-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This sup- group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisex- vomen's and transgender communities. E-mail @thenetworklared.org for more information.

wly Diagnosed Group
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston -457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line owntown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each h, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and ual men who have been diagnosed with HIV ng the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

t to Dance
-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin ballroom dance classes and workshops are held gay-friendly environment.

t TwentySomethings Boston
tysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay , bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Z Social
nshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., on (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, ic and drinks benefits people affected by /AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

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Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Ancient Wisdom for Modern Times: The Science of Mind/Body Healing
Boston College, Robsham Theater, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-504-4077). www.artofliving.org/boston. May 18, 9 am-12:30 pm. $15-30. This conference explores ancient healing techniques that are still used today and can have positive effects on a person's overall health. Keynote address delivered by His Holiness Sri Sri Ravi Shankar.

Being Intuitive/Making Connections
Place of Light, 374 Main St., Cherry Valley (508-892-8928). www.makingconnectionsconferences.net or www.placeoflight.net. May 21, 8:30 am-5:15 pm. $150 for all activities and lunch, $75 for the children's playshop. This conference offers a chance for those who have intuitive abilities or believe their child does to gather together. The day features a keynote address by Dr. Sonia Choquette, alternative health practitioners, lecturers, and a children's playshop.

An Evening with Marianne Williamson
Blackman Theater, Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston. (866-468-7619 or 617-349-3440). www.unitycambridge.org. E Green Line to Northeastern. May 19, 7:30 pm. $25. ($100 includes cocktail reception and reserved seating). Author and spiritual teacher Marianne Williamson speaks at this event to celebrate the opening of the Unity Center Cambridge, a holistic Christian community.

Mediums Day
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. May 28, 11 am-3 pm. $20 general admission, $15 for seniors and students. Visit the book sale and experience the skills of psychic mediums, including spiritual readers and healers.

Philosophy Salon
L'Essence Art Gallery, 1723 Centre St., West Roxbury. (617-325-0140). www.naturalism.org. May 20, 7-9 pm. Free. L'Essence and the Center for Naturalism welcome visitors to their Philosophy Salon for coffee and conversation. This month's discussion, Neuroscience and the Soul, revolves around the question of how free we really are.

Shiatsu and Tuina Open House
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-868-4585). www.charlesrivershiatsu.com. May 20, 6-8 pm. Free. Preregistration is requested. Come learn about chi fitness and view demonstrations. Meet shiatsu and qi gong practitioners, acupuncturists and Chinese herbalists, and experience short classes in a variety of disciplines. Complimentary refreshments provided.

Spring into Summer Health Fair and Wellness Program Kick-Off
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-643-6080). www.renhealth.net. May 21, 11 am-3 pm. Free. Renaissance Health sponsors this fair that aims to promote healthier lifestyles in the community by raising awareness of opportunities for healthy eating and exercise.

Lectures

Healing Depression with Herbs and Food
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. May 21, 1-5 pm. $45. Learn how herbs can be used to reduce anxiety and stress, relieve depression and alleviate insomnia. The session will also look at the strengths and limitations of the biochemical model of depression.

Classes

Breathwork
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Fl Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.c MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. May 22, 7-8 pm. $10. Renew, relax and discover the powe breathing at this workshop.

Disco Pilates
Studio Elle Pilates, 1318 Beacon St., Suite 16, Bro line (617-975-0100). www.studioelle.com. MBTA Green Line to Coolidge Corner. May 26, 7:30-9 $25. This Pilates mat class set to a disco beat, cc plete with disco balls and spinning lights, ble kitsch and exercise.

Meditation for Everyone
Incantations, 36 Cordage Park Circle, Suite 1 Plymouth (508-746-8316). www.incantationsotw. cc May 25, 6:30-8:30 pm. $25. This workshop introdu a variety of meditation techniques and encoura participants to explore which practice suits them be

Opening to Breathe
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circ ofwisdom.com. May 25, 7-9 pm. $35. Learn the "c cular breathing" and "full wave breathing" tec niques associated with transformational brea Using one's conscious awareness, participants pra tice breathing fully to increase oxygen in the bloc stream and enhance the body's natural heali processes. All levels welcome.

Sound Pod: Healing with Music
West Somerville (617-628-1018). www.avtara.co May 22, 7:30-9 pm. Donation requested. (Please c ahead for exact location.) Explore intuitive soun chanting, the tones of chakras, and singing from t heart as a part of a group musical experience d signed to be joyful and healing.

You Go Girl: Sex Tips for Gals!
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 308A Harva St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopenin com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. M 23, 7:30-9:30 pm. $34. In this popular class, open women only, Kim Airs shares tricks to try on yo man for increasing pleasure and fun.

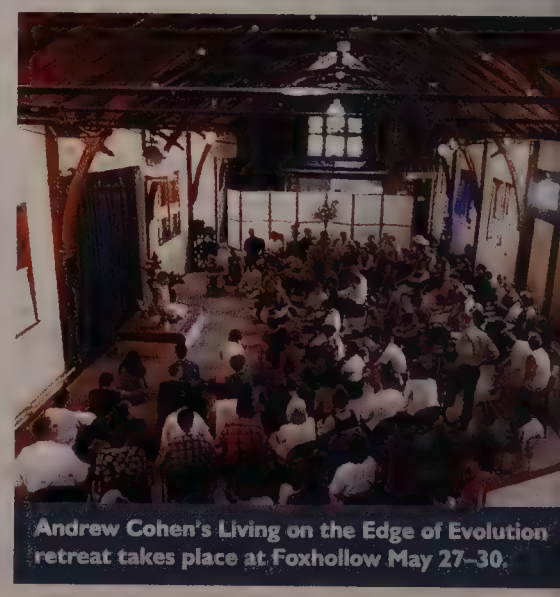
Retreats

Living on the Edge of Evolution
IEF Foxhollow Retreat Center, 4 Foxhollow Dr., Len (800-376-3210). www.andrewcohen.org/retrea May 27-30. $475. Andrew Cohen, spiritual teach and founder of *What Is Enlightenment?* magazin leads this retreat for exploring the concept evolutionary enlightenment.

Mind/Body Infertility Retreat
Mind/Body Medical Institute, 824 Boylston St., Chestn Hill (617-991-0102x213). www.mbmi.org. MBTA: # or #51 bus. May 21-22, $400/person or $750/coup This retreat for individuals or couples teaches a varie of stress management strategies and other methods lessen the depression and distress of infertility.

Ongoing

Kripalu Yoga: Vinyasa Flow Style
Wed., 7:15 - 8:30 pm. $10. Cambridge Racquet Fitness, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-648-0722 www.cambridgefitness.com. MBTA: Red Line Kendall. Free validated parking. This class focuses breathing and emphasizes proper alignment ar safety in all postures. Some vigorous flows ar challenging postures are featured.



Andrew Cohen's Living on the Edge of Evolution retreat takes place at Foxhollow May 27–30.

ports

ice to Contributors
*it listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calen-
Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@
per.com. Include address, phone number, subway
dates and times, and a brief description of the league
ent. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone
nust be received at least four weeks in advance.*

ome Games

ston Red Sox
nway Park, Boston
ets: 617-482-4769
20, 7:05 pm vs. Atlanta Braves
21, 7:05 pm vs. Atlanta Braves
22, 2:05 pm vs. Atlanta Braves
30, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
31, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles

vents

w England Open National Karate ampionships
al Plaza Hotel and Trade Center, Marlborough. v.newenglandopen.com. May 20-21. Events start pm Fri., 9 am Sat.. $10-$20. This karate rnament features 28 rings of fighting in karate, g fu, tae kwon do and other martial arts. North erica's top black belts headline the Black Belt erstar Finals Saturday night.

o Play

USTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

ston Demons
7-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club ks new players for nine-a-side competition.

ASEBALL

enry's Baseball
1-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

ASKETBALL

oston Ski & Sports Club
7-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basket- l for players at all levels. Leagues exist in Water- n, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and ividuals are welcome.

mbridge Racquet and Fitness Club (RFC)
7-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year- nd leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

orporate Basketball League
31-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one men's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, wton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

ever Too Late Basketball
31-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

OXING

oston Sport Boxing Club
5 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www. stonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to rvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style xing lessons for all levels.

ODGEBALL

oston Ski & Sports Club odgeball
17-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting r dodgeball teams.

RFC Dodgeball
617-491-8989). www.crfcdodgeball.com. ow accepting players and teams for a odgeball league. Games at CRFC in endall Square.

RAGON BOAT RACING

ragon Boat Club of Boston
ww.dbcb.org. Practice at the Hatch Shell, ually Fri. at 7 pm. Rowers wanted to rep- sent Boston in regional dragon boat ces.

NDURANCE TRAINING

eam in Training
800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. his organization provides fund-raising thletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Sat. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www. bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mystic rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Members have access to a ski lodge and can participate in ski and snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

The New England Open Karate Championships come to Marlborough May 20–21

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through Saturday
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Tea
Saturday
2 pm – 3 pm

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Club Getaway Weekends

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •May 18 and 19, *Funny Bone Tales*, by Sarah Lamstein. Recommended for ages 3-6. •May 21 and 22, *Shoemaker and the Elves*, by Poobley Greegy Theatre. Recommended for ages 4-9. •May 25 and 26, *Bingo the Circus Dog*, by Paul Vincent Davis. Recommended for ages 3-6. •May 28 and 29, *Cinderella, A Woodland Fairy Princess*, by Deborah Costine. Recommended for ages 3-6.

Red Dogs and Pink Skies: A Musical Celebration of Paul Gauguin
Forsyth Chapel, Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain (617-524-3354). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. May 22, 2 pm. Free. Chameleon Arts Ensemble performs this interactive concert. Afterwards, children can ask the performers questions and look at the instruments.

Sundays in the Park
The Miriam and Sidney Stoneman Playground, Charles River Esplanade, Between the Fairfield Street and Mass. Ave. footbridges, Boston (617-227-0365). www.esplanadeassociation.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 2 pm. Free. •May 22, River Studies. Join the Charles River Watershed Association and the Kingsley Montessori School for demonstrations and activities around the Charles River.

20th Annual Street Performers Festival
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. May 28-30, 12 pm-7 pm. Free. Street performers from around the world, including magicians, comedians, and human statues, perform throughout Memorial Day weekend.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Free. 11 am. Listen to children's stories every Saturday morning.

Boston Art Tours
Call for reservations and meeting locations. (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children and teens: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm. Adults, $25; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting and more. •Mon., Wed. and Fri., 11 am-12 pm. Music & Movement is a chance for children ages 3 and under to dance to popular tunes. •Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm. Pint-Sized Science offers scientific exploration for preschoolers. •Wed., 2-3 pm. Musical Moments allows participants to explore instruments, music and dances from cultures around the world. •Thu., 11:30-1:30 pm. Kids adapt their favorite books into plays during StoryBook Theatre on the KidStage. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge. •Daily, 10 am-12 pm and 1-3 pm. PlaySpace offers a messy activity for children up to age 3.

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Sat., 6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students/children. A short-form prov performance for the whole family incl interactive games.

Lowell National Historical Park
67 Kirk St., Lowell (978-970-5000). www.gov/lowe. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Lowell. F •Become a Junior Ranger and receive a badge certificate after completing activities through the park. •Discover the story of Lowell's n through the Boott Discovery Trail, which incl hands-on activities and a 1920s weaving ro Free with admission to Boott Cotton Mills seum, $6. •Visit the Children's Corner and par pate in activities that explain Lowell's mill te nology with gears and pulleys.

May Fair
Wellesley High School, 50 Rice St., Wellesley (7 235-6690). www.welleselyhsoc.com. MBTA: C muter Rail to Wellesley. May 21, 8 am-1 pm. F The Wellesley Historical Society hosts the ni annual fair that features crafts, games, music, painting and more.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-444 http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Lin Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 1 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and under 5, free. (Free admission the third Sunda every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* display featuring the world's largest collectio holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offe look at MIT's artificial intelligence research la Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship sign* features 40 ship models, from warships to c pers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-930 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Muse •Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm. The Children's Roo an interactive learning environment that enco ages children ages 6-12 to take a closer look at museum's collection. •Tue. & Wed., 3:30-4 pm, ages 5 and under. Books Bring Art Alive hands-on activity that introduces children to museum's collection through literature. •Sa 11am-3 pm, ages 4 and up. Art Alive, Art Ins Out: Printmaking uses cultural activities and t atrical interpretations to show how works made. •Sat.-Sun., 11 am-4 pm, ages 4 and Drop-In Drawing includes gallery activities, p zles and drawing lessons. Materials provided.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.m org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mo Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11 niors, $10 children. •*Animals and Stories Alive!* an interactive storytelling hour in the Discov Center, every Saturday and Sunday, 11 am-12 p •Four hundred butterflies and flowers are on d play in the new permanent *Butterfly Garden*. O going. •*Dinosaurs* showcases the museum's coll tion of dinosaur models. Ongoing. •*Making Mod* is an interactive exhibition that features models a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grassho per. Ongoing. •Science in the Park is a permane playground with a scientific spin. •*Mapping World Around Us* explores the evolution of ma Ongoing. •*Virtual Fish Tank* features 12 large p jection screens that form a 400-square-foot virtu tank with more than 50 brightly colored fish a sharks. Ongoing. •*Forces of Nature, Amazing Jou neys, Mystery of the Nile*, and *Roar: Lions of Kalahari* show at the IMAX Theater. •*Bugs!* i 20-minute 3D movie presentation at the Wrig Theater. Ongoing. •*Mission to Saturn* at the Plan tarium shows the Cassini spacecraft as it makes dangerous journey toward one of Saturn's m mysterious moons. Ongoing. •*Countdown to S pernova* is a Planetarium show that illustrates t ways stars meet their demise through the explo sions called supernovas. Ongoing.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.nea org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; s niors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* fe tures thousands of jellyfish. Continues throug 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tan contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoin •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featurin sea stars, hermit crabs and other creatures. Ong ing. •*Aliens of the Deep* plays in 3D at the IMA Theater.

Tadpole Playground
Boston Common, adjacent to Frog Pond (508-82 1151). www.tadpoleplayground.org. Open fro dawn until dusk. The playground offers kids chance to enjoy art, water fountains, and game Check Web site for special events.

round own

ghts to See

ston University Observatory
Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-ch, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

ildren's Museum
Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line outh Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 $1.

neuil Hall
State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or en Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-n; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

rvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.h.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. n.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

n F. Kennedy Library & Museum
umbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; se-s and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

unt Auburn Cemetery
Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). TA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

useum of Afro-American History
Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam seum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park eet. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

useum of Science
ence Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. . MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-m (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, l.

useum of Transportation
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-n., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

ew England Aquarium
ntral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. . MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: n.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-t. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. 5.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

ld North Church
3 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

ld State House Museum
6 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: range or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, iors and students, $4; children, $1.

rudential Center Skywalk
0 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: reen Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. .50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; chil-en under 3, free.

rinity Church
06 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: reen Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; chil-en 12 and under, free.

SS Constitution & Museum
harlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www. sconstitutionmuseum.org. Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 n-5 pm; May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a ster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer pa-ients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volun-eer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks vol-nteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast or dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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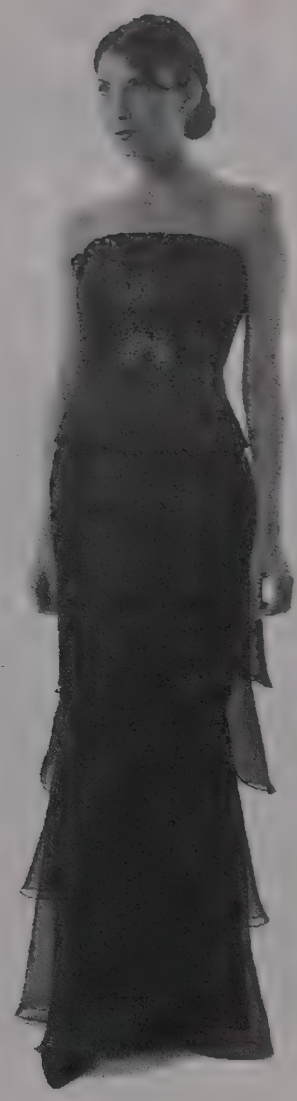


IMPROPER sightings

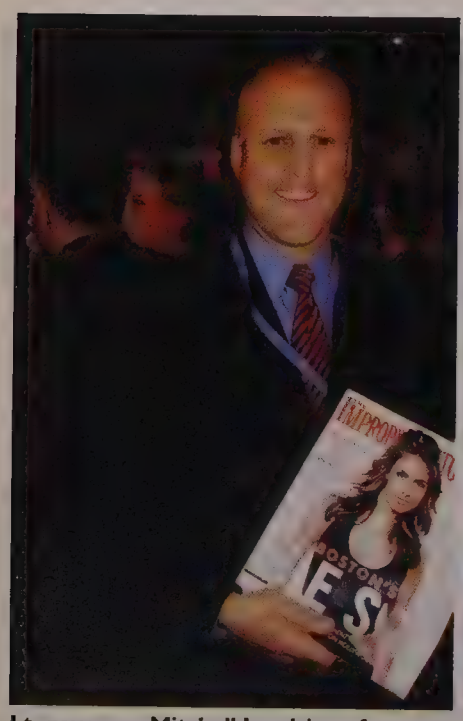
UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRI

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you we The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Sam and Alison Gersten flaunt their IMPROPERS at the Australian Tennis Open in Melbourne. They took this photo on their way out, after the Open was closed.

Jennifer and Bill Cayle eloped on the beach in the British Virgin Islands. "You eloped? How could you do this to us?" asked Crate & Barrel.

Carrie Simmons and Derek Martyn stopped by the creativel named Hole in the Rock, in New Zealand's equally original Bay of Islands. They ate lunch at Docks and Boats Marina.



Lt. governor Mitchell Landrieu of Louisiana says that mowing your lawn is a party when you plant La. Mardi Grass.

Nurses Holly Reich, Cynthia Lovell, Roslyn Spence, Betty Bazzarini and Phyllis Class visited the Great Wall of China, which they say was great, but was not, as the name implies, made of china.

Kiki Strasburg and Roxanne Belle ponder the wisdom of asking for Mr. Whippy's Double Head in Mount Maunganui, New Zealand. Mr Whippy competes with an all-organic ice-cream truck, Mr. Hippy.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Winning one for the bipeds in the Man vs. Horse Marathon, held June 11 in Llanwrtyd Wells, Wales.

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improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all ov the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to t up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

iPod Thief in Downtown Crossing

To whoever felt compelled to steal my iPod the evening of April 19 after my first workout, thanks for the warm welcome to the gym. It was a gift from my husband and was worth much more to me than the retail cost. It has my name and e-mail address engraved on the back, so if you have a change of heart and decide to be a decent person, please leave it at the front desk, or e-mail me and we can make arrangements for its return, no questions asked. I appeal to your conscience. I hope you have one. If not, please look at the name on the back of your new iPod every once in a while and think about your life.
—Tuneless

Trader Joe's Cutie

I saw you the week of the Boston Marathon. You were in Trader Joe's on Boylston Street in the late afternoon. I was the guy with the black rain trench and short brown hair. You were a beautiful Asian woman, about 5'. You had flowing black hair past your shoulders, and were wearing black dress slacks. I noticed you at the checkout and you were at the top of the stairs fixing your hair as I left. We both headed down Boylston Street toward Copley Square. As we walked, I thought of how I might approach you. I went in Store 24 briefly and you were gone. I would love to treat you to a nice evening sometime. If you feel the same, please contact me.
—TraderJoesCutie@yahoo.com

Lost and Found

Did you lose a gift certificate on April 29? I found it! If you can identify the name of the establishment and the amount of the gift certificate, e-mail me. There is a name on the envelope and that also needs to be identified. I hope I can find the rightful owner.
—Ingrid2005_a@hotmail.com

Bowled Over

My sister was visiting me and we went bowling with some friends at Kings April 9. You had on a sweater that had a flag of the UK on it. I think you also had a tattoo and earrings. You and your friends (one girl and one guy who told us it was his birthday) were bowling in the lane next to us and were very nice to clap for my sister when she finally got a strike. Unfortunately, the bowling gene doesn't run in our family. After your game was over, you guys headed over to the pool tables, but my sister thought you had left, so she was caught off guard when your friends came over to talk to her as we were waiting for our bill. You really made an impression on her, and she regretted being too shy to come over to talk to you that evening. She has no idea I am writing in, but as her older sister, I couldn't let an opportunity pass by for a guy to be able to meet my awesome sister. (Plus I've always wanted see if the Impersonals really do work, but never met the man of my dreams on the T or at a crosswalk.) If the inability to bowl isn't a strike against someone for you, and you want to find out if my sister can play pool, please e-mail me.
—matchplay99@hotmail.com

Dear Fellow Five for Fighting Fan

Who are you? You had a great smile and you knew the words to the songs. I wanted to talk to you but the only thing I could muster was about your slacking with the beach ball. This is probably a note to thin air or to an involved individual. But if this reaches you, and you remember me, and you like music as much as it seemed that you do, drop me a line.
—EarthFestBostonGirl@yahoo.com

Thanks to Bostonians

You: riders on the D Line heading to and from Braintree on the afternoon of March 18. Us: a dramatically handsome, dark-eyed young French-Canadian of 14 months, in Oshkoshes and impeccable navy tee, accompanied by a bedraggled mom and grandma in apple juice–stained and Fig Newton–smeared denims. The three of us were travelling to Woodland to cheer on our Marathoner—it never occurred to us that half of Boston would be doing the same. We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for the kindness of our fel passengers. A big thank-you to all t men who quietly carried the stroller up and down jam-packed flights of stairs, and to all the women who helped entertain a hot and tired litt boy on the overcrowded trains. Although he howled mightily much the way home, not one person gave vent to any well-justified irritation, nor did we notice a single dirty look directed our way. We can report tha although our Marathoner crossed th finish line at 3 hours 11 minutes, all he remembers is waking up in the hospital tent—he too benefited fro the kindness of strangers. After a re everyone got on their feet again, showered, and headed out to enjoy your wonderful city.
—Appreciative Visitors

Brown Eyes at Earthfes

I walked onto the lawn with my friends during Five for Fighting. I [illegible] you and you saw me. A few times. W stood right behind you and your friend, but you didn't say a word, ju kept glancing back. You wore a yello and gray raincoat and jeans that fit you perfectly. Your big brown eyes floored me. Me: white raincoat and jeans, green eyes, brown hair. Don't shy, let's try it again.
—earthfestgirl@hotmail.com

To the "newguyinboston" J-Dater

You were the star among all other guys on the JDate Web site. I "teased you. Ever since, I have been hoping that you would sign online and tease me back. I doubt you're a member, and I'm not either, so please e-mail s we can meet up and chat. I think we could make a perfect match.
—newgirlinboston@hotmail.com

rockie horoscope

AY 18 – 31, 2005

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

AURUS

RIL 20–MAY 20

e and luck, the dynamic duo, are scheduled to make a long-awaited appearance while sperous, protective Jupiter favors your Venus ruler around the 17th. Do your part to ure that the appropriate reward is delivered to the right party; buy the damn lottery et already. Speaking of parties, this is also one of the best times of the year to celebrate thing that makes you happy. But factor in a surprise on the 18th that could prove either uptive or delightful. Perhaps both. Hot night for lovers: the 22nd.

EMINI

AY 21–JUNE 20

re's no denying that having magnetic Venus in your sign decided advantage. While the goddess makes you more ractive and fun to be with, do not blow any chance to bitalize on your pleasing appearance, charming manners d excellent taste. Come June 3, when Venus moves on to ncer, this too shall pass. Expect a surprise while Venus ls around with erratic Uranus midweek; but try to stay ounded and grateful for what you have. Once Gemini gins you can count on the warmth of the sun to boost ur creative impulse and lust for the good life.

ANCER

INE 21–JULY 22

metimes a shy Moon Child needs a jump-start, a shock to e system to propel you forward, not sideways. If this unds like a reasonable solution to your present dilemma, u'll make the most of what happened when Mars and anus connected in Pisces, a water sign compatible with ur own. Although noisy and unexpected, friendly fire need t be destructive. Mars can also turn up the heat when it ovokes a romantic response from a casual acquaintance ho just wanted to be "friends." Another full-moon solution.

EO

ULY 23–AUGUST 22

ayment in full? The lucky Lion might be licking its chops, mewhat satisfied, but not totally thrilled about receiving a bstantial reward for something you accomplished without reaking a sweat. While easygoing Venus in your career ouse is favored by expansive Jupiter in your financial sector, ese two planets, the "benefics," might slip all sorts of loodies into your bag. Whether they're truly pretty or simply leasing, potentially or presently profitable, the swag can eep you smiling until Labor Day weekend.

VIRGO

UGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

et ready to get busy. After coasting along on the smooth, ensuous Taurus vibe, it's time to put the pedal to the metal nd decide how you're going to use speedy and expressive emini energy to advance your career. Concentrate on ways f breaking into virgin territory, landing another outlet for our product. The tension generated between two mutable igns can be a little nerve-wracking, but because your Mercury ruler cruises through safe and relatively sane Taurus until Memorial Day weekend, you won't get totally frazzled.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Libra can be lucky at love, at cards or just plain lucky—especially while your magnetic Venus ruler perfects a rewarding trine with generous Jupiter in your sign. Enjoy whatever boon comes your way since you're likely to have a sudden change of heart sooner rather than later. A romantic relationship could also be subject to ups and downs around the full moon. That's when assertive Mars demands more of Venus than she and you may be willing to give. The friction generated could be red hot, but it can be irritating as well. Decision time.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

A couple of times a year Scorpio may get an urge to make yet another pass at a Libra or a Taurus, even one who's part of your past. When your Mars co-ruler and Venus, their ruling planet, form a recognizable pattern, you can't help but be attracted. How do I lust after you? Let me count the ways. Start the seduction by fulfilling a desire to do something wild and crazy this weekend; then follow up with an out-and-out chase scene next weekend, preferably one that takes place close to the water.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Is it love or is it Memorex? Affectionate Venus in your double-duty Gemini marriage house may make it difficult to differentiate between your current feelings for someone and your fascination with the thought of reviving an old romance. All things seem possible this week while Venus smiles on your optimistic Jupiter. That the goddess can change her mind without warning and do a complete about-face is testimony to the power of unpredictable Uranus busily creating a disturbance at home. The next two weeks are tantalizing, albeit tricky times.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

You could try to downsize, but while pleasure-seeking Venus and enthusiastic Jupiter focus on your fondness for life's little luxuries, you're fighting a losing battle. You might as well indulge now and pay the piper later, say next week, when Venus has a chance of giving Mars in your money house the cold shoulder. You probably won't feel as kindly disposed to the folks you're obliged to buy presents for or toward people who know how to play on your sympathies. Blame an ugly rumor and a slightly suspicious nature.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

It's a subtle shift, but by now you should be accustomed to having impressionable, idealistic Neptune in your sign. After the 19th, when the planet of faith and fanaticism turns retrograde for the summer, you might not be quite as imaginative or as tuned in to other people's vibrations. Retrograde, however, is a good time to return to a project dear to your heart, to reassess your position, and perhaps best of all, to let go and let the chips fall where they may. Consider yourself if not on vacation then on sabbatical.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Suggestible Pisceans don't need to be reminded that worlds can collide when angry Mars is on a crash course with unruly Uranus in their sign. Fish born near the Aquarius cusp sat through their disaster movie two Junes ago. Natives born in early March may sense that something is about to go down in flames or that they're on the verge of exploding. If possible, take a time-out. Put your life on pause, head for the hills, indulge your sweet tooth and pray that the winds of this war pass you by. A full-moon reconciliation?

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

After the shock of recognition that may have rocked your world when your Mars ruler bumped heads with electric Uranus, take time to recover. Don't go rushing off. Even a headstrong Ram occasionally needs to look at life with a fresh perspective before responding to a much-needed wake-up call. That disturbing encounter could also prepare you for the change of heart due when affectionate Venus sends mixed signals next weekend. While Mars is in supersensitive Pisces, other people's feelings tend to come across too easily for your comfort.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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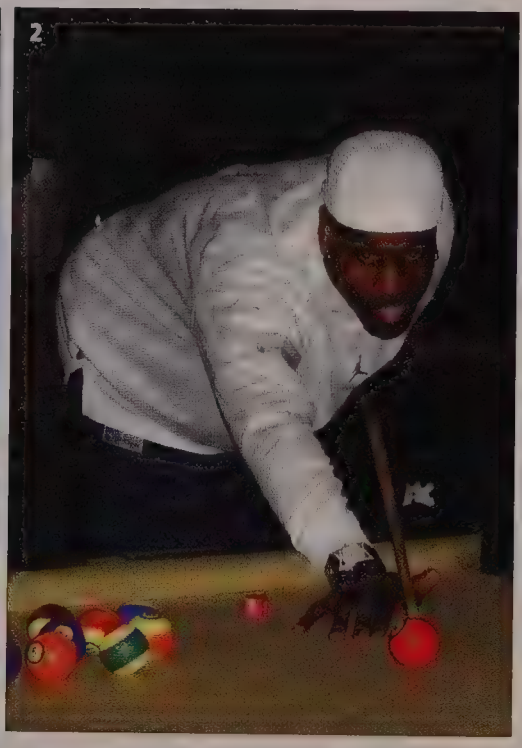
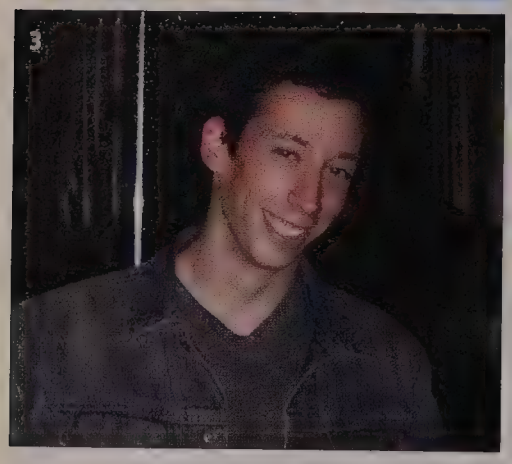
IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Monday, May 2, **The Improper Bostonian** held the 11th annual Boston's Beloved Bartenders event at **The Rack** hosted by The Improper's Jonathan Soroff and **KISS 108**'s Chris Shine. The event was sponsored by **Miller** beer, **Mohegan Sun**, **Upper Crust** pizza, and **The Professional Bartending School of New England**.



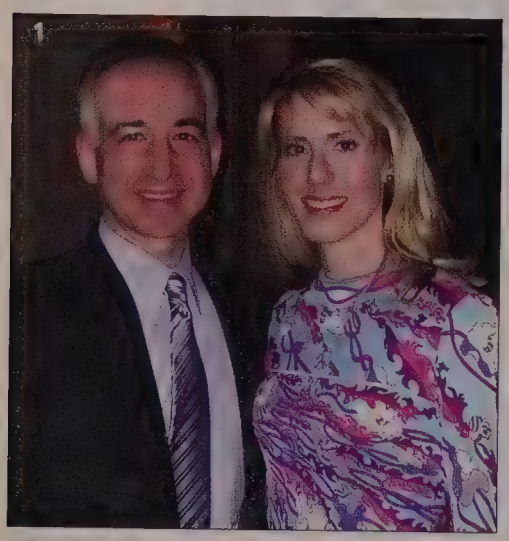


1. The Improper's **Jonathan Soroff** and KISS 108's **Chris Shine**.
2. **Gary Payton**, Boston Celtics point guard.
3. **Nick Geraldo**, grand prize Mohegan Sun Winner of the Bartenders competition.

On Tuesday, May 3, **The Improper Bostonian** proudly sponsored the eighth annual Taste of Allston Village at the **DoubleTree Guest Suites**. This heavenly event featured samples from Allston Village's award-winning restaurants.

1. **Devin Abramowitz**, sales manager Konica & Minolta; **Jocelyn Sherma** speech pathologist for Boston Public Schools; and **Patrick Bossart**, sales executive for Konica & Minolta.
2. **Rinaldo Lima**, chef; **Melissa Korovich**; manager; and **Marc Kadish**, owner, all of Sunset Bar & G
3. **Val Pajer**, district manager for Staple **Jennifer Rose**, executive director fo Allston Village Main Streets; **Jen Lenicheck**, nanny/writer of Cambrid and **Jonathan Lenicheck**, Deputy District Director for **Honorable Michael E. Capuano**.

On Thursday, May 5, **The Improper Bostonian** sponsored Educating the Senses; An Immersion into Wine, Food and Fashion. The benefit was for the **Boston Center for Adult Education**'s tuition voucher program, and was held at **The Gamble Mansion**.



1. **Stephen Spector**, money manager for Wachovia, and **Kindra Spector**, founder of Wine Sisters USA.
2. **Kim Whitney**, author, and **Matt Whitney**, board member for BCAE.
3. **Kerie Musumeei**, **Emily Guertin**, and **Meg Davidson**, all event staff for BCAE.

On Wednesday, April 27, the Launch Party of **Damrak Gin** was held at **Mantra**

1. **Sean Gibbons**, Red Bull sales representative for Bur Distributing; **Andy Brow**, account manager for State Street Financial; and **Mike Rice**, firefighter for the Hull Fire Department.
2. **Chris Clarke**, manager of Siegal Productions, and **Danielle McAuliffe**, on-premise manager-MA for Remy Amerique.
3. **Jennifer Moter**, **Joshua Cardin**, **Jason McAuliffe**, **Marissa Dziama**, and **Joshua Ryder**, all sales representatives for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals.

PHOTOS: BOSTON'S BELOVED BARTENDERS, STACEY SHANE; TASTE OF ALLSTON, CARRIE WALLACE; BCAE, JULIE KANE; DAMRAK GIN, DANIELLE MONNETTE

RESTAURANTS

UE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at wbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature is cool z tunes and American classics menu. Select m items such as the Grilled Portabella inni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. e Blue Cat Cafe also makes its mark with ique martini selections such as the now-faous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City arch's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. en daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

ACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-00.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, ted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our uthwestern specialties include Sizzlin' jitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the ring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. en daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our burban Iguana Cantina restaurant in altham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. ww.bestmargaritas.com.

ENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The harles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett ., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is resh and honest", creates a lively menu that atures the freshest market produce daily. od at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and holesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor ining in season. Reservations strongly recomended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, aturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-0:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; unch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily :30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and infornation, please call 617.661.5005.

GUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina erves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and outhwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and he food is tasty. Visit our website at ww. theiguanacantina.com.

EGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-66-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 17-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our naugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or ny of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'-Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

SCIENCE STREET CAFÉ *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

TURNER FISHERIES RESTAURANT & BAR *10 Huntington Avenue, Boston 617-424-7425.* Turner Fisheries Restaurant & Bar is a Boston landmark offering Hall-of-Fame clam chowder and an assortment of fresh, native seafood dishes. Turner's private dining rooms are the perfect place to hold board meetings or larger social events up to 140 persons. One taste and you'll see why Turner Fisheries is Boston's premier seafood specialty restaurant. Open for lunch and dinner Monday - Saturday. Closed on Sundays.

VENEZIA RESTAURANT *20 Ericsson St., Boston (617-436-3120).* For authentic Italian fare, impeccable service and an atmosphere unmatched on Boston's Waterfront, Venezia provides one of the city's most unique and pleasurable dining experiences. Your destination for everything from a relaxing midday lunch to a romantic dinner for two, Venezia can also accommodate private affairs like wedding receptions and business functions, and features live music on Friday and Saturday nights.

THE WATERFRONT CAFÉ BAR-GRILL *450 Commercial Street, Boston 617-523-0613* A North End neighborhood hot spot, serving up sizzling steak tips and the best burgers around! Featuring a big screen TV and plasmas to catch all your favorite teams in action. Come for dinner, stay for a drink! *Open 7 days, Lunch & Dinner 11am–11pm, Apps. 11pm–1am.*

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 300+ microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *Pizza Kitchen, Beer Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

STADIUM – CLUBHOUSE *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am, 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling.

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Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

General

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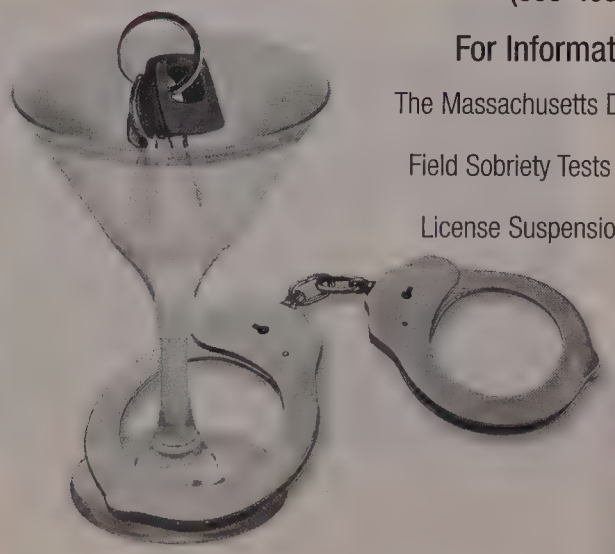

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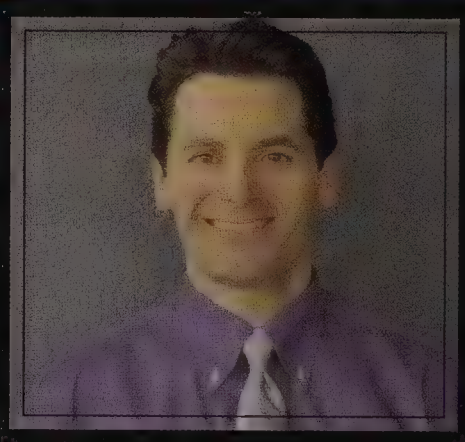

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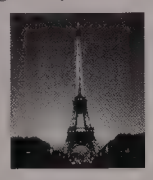

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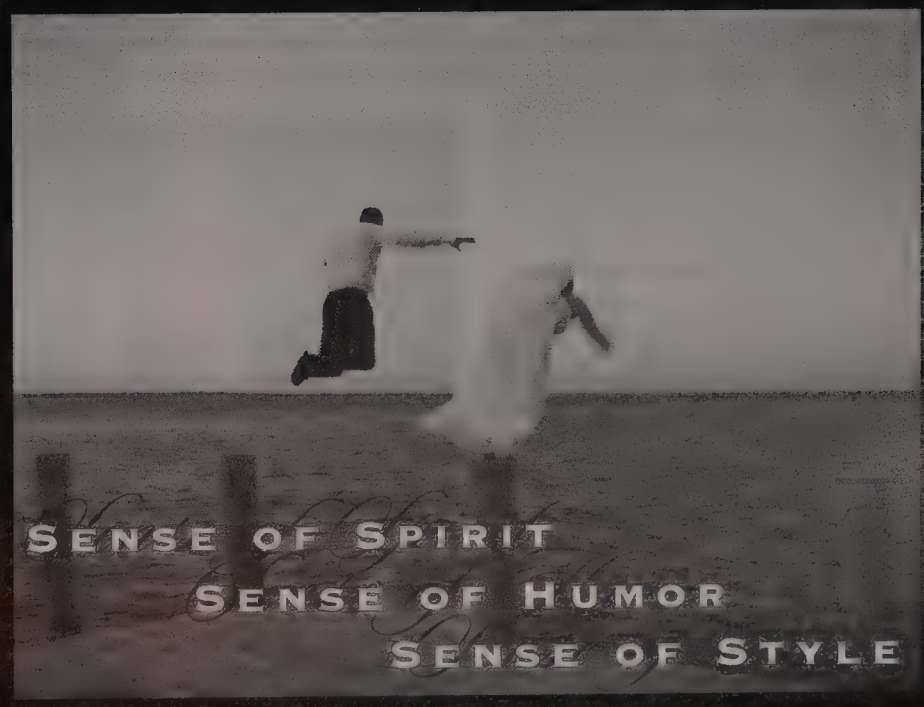

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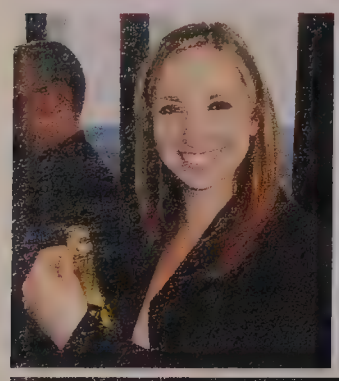

At Edible Art, top: Lucy Rivera and Ellie O'Keefe. Middle row: Jessica Pinn; Collette Royer, Peg Rusconi and Lisa Hughes. Bottom row: Dante de Magistris; Paul O'Connell and his Fry-o-lator.

ART IMITATES DINNER...

Some foods look like works of art, and some works of art are made out of food (for example, the macaroni mosaics your average preschooler drags home, or the dress made from flank-steak that was exhibited at the Museum of Fine Arts a few years back, both of which have roughly the same artistic merit). Then there's **Edible Art**, the annual rite of spring to benefit the **Art Institute of Boston**, held this year at the **Top of the Hub's Skywalk**.

Admiring the work of local chefs who interpreted well-known works of art with things edible (at least in theory) while simultaneously serving up tasty little tidbits, were the evening's judges, food scribblers **Annie Copps** and **Victoria von Biel** (of *Bon Appetit*) and the DeCordova Museum's **Paul Master-Karnik**; WBZ-TV anchorbabe **Lisa Hughes** and reporter **Peg Rusconi**; sexy wine wench **Jessica Pinn**; Harvard Med School factotum **Marissa Summersgill**; gazillionaire car dealer **George Albrecht**; Our Lady of Armani **Collette Royer**; Chestnut Hill power couple **Matthew** and **Kim Kozol**; and such chefs as Chez Henri's **Paul** and **Lisa O'Connell** (who interpreted Jamie Wyeth's *Gull with Fries* using crushed shells, ketchup and some other stuff, while serving up finger-lickin' good grub from a Fry-o-lator); Tremont 647's **Andy Husbands** (whose real-life recreation of Andy Warhol's giant hamburger painting was as disturbing as his cooking is delicious); and blu's **Michelle Vernier** (who copied Christo's *Gates* Project using breadsticks, prosciutto and fig jam).

In between all the sipping and nibbling and "oohing" and "aahing," there was plenty of jawing, and the more amusing comments included the following:

"Whaddya mean, where did her money come from?! She divorced well!" And one woman who saw a friend and said, "I just met So-and-So, who went on and on about how fabulous you are. Then again, everyone's exaggerating tonight."

ART IMITATES FTD...

In another artistic rite of spring, the **Museum of Fine Arts** hosted its annual **Art in Bloom Gala**, at which garden clubs, florists and other devilishly clever green-thumbed types pay homage to the museum's artworks through creative (and sometimes startling) flower arrangements.

On hand for the opening night festivities were such sparkly socialites as chairperson **Sharon Stephan**; museum director **Malcolm Rogers**; mega-philanthropists **Cokie** and **Lee Perry**; sexy young things **Diane** and **Allan Gray**; Kennedy-esque man-about-town **Fred Ehrsan**; gardening maven **Hilda Morrill** with her colleague, **Ellen Wells**; and the incomparable **Ann Geupel** of Boston, Hobe Sound (Fla.) and Carbondale (Colo.)—looking comme il faut in navy blue and diamonds—to name-drop just a few.

At the Big Pig Gig, top row: Javier Cortes; Denise Korn, Nancy Friedman and Mamadou. Bottom row: Jonathan Seelig; Dick Friedman; Brock Bair.

While some of the floral creations had a certain Dr. Seuss–on–acid quality, others were simply too stunning to describe, but perhaps the most impressive part of the whole affair was a two-story maypole that transformed the normally staid rotunda into a riotously colorful party space.

In fact, maybe they should rethink the lyrics to that old song:

"Though April showers may come your way,
They bring fresh flowers to the MFA..."
Or not.

OINK...

One might expect a party called the **Big Pig Gig** to be hosted by a morbidly obese person, but in fact, it's a fund-raiser held at **Henrietta's Table** in the **Charles Hotel** to raise money for **The Farm School** (a working farm in Athol where students and adults learn about sustainable agriculture and responsible stewardship of the earth).

Amusingly, the hotel was also hosting General Catalyst Partners' Entrepreneur Forum V upstairs, and one of the evening's chief pleasures lay in watching a bunch of high-strung type-A high-tech millionaires mistakenly wander into a party where the prevailing vibe was decidedly boho and the dress code even more lax than your average dot-com start-up, before realizing that they were supposed to be one floor up.

Among those spotted tying on the feedbag and enjoying the convivial atmosphere were puckish plutocrat **Dick Friedman** and his spectacular wife, **Nancy**; restaurateurs **Michela Larson** and **Paul O'Connell**; stunning design mogul **Denise Korn** with cohort **Javier Cortes** (a direct descendant of the Mexican conquistador); PR cutie **Steve Pellegrino**; countless Cambridge types sent over from central casting, numerous men with unkempt beards and/or egregiously long ponytails, several notorious party crashers who show up anywhere there's free food, and one man who made the uncharitable remark about another guest: "She's taking one helluva risk being seen out before dark."

There was some confusion over exactly which **Charlie Rose** was serving as the auctioneer; it turned out not to be the PBS talk show host, but then again, as one guest pointed out, "A rose by any other name..." However, there was no confusing the band that rocked the house, Ratdog, fronted by former Grateful Dead member **Bob Weir**, who had the crowd pushing back their chairs and dancing, making it the closest thing to a Dead concert that's ever taken place in a AAA Four Diamond hotel.

Overheard by the bar: One woman who said, "Last year, I got drunk and sponsored six students, so my husband's on his way here to do some damage control." iB

At Art in Bloom, top: Diane and Allan Gray. Bottom row: the two-story maypole; a flower arrangement; Sharon Stephan and Malcolm Rogers.

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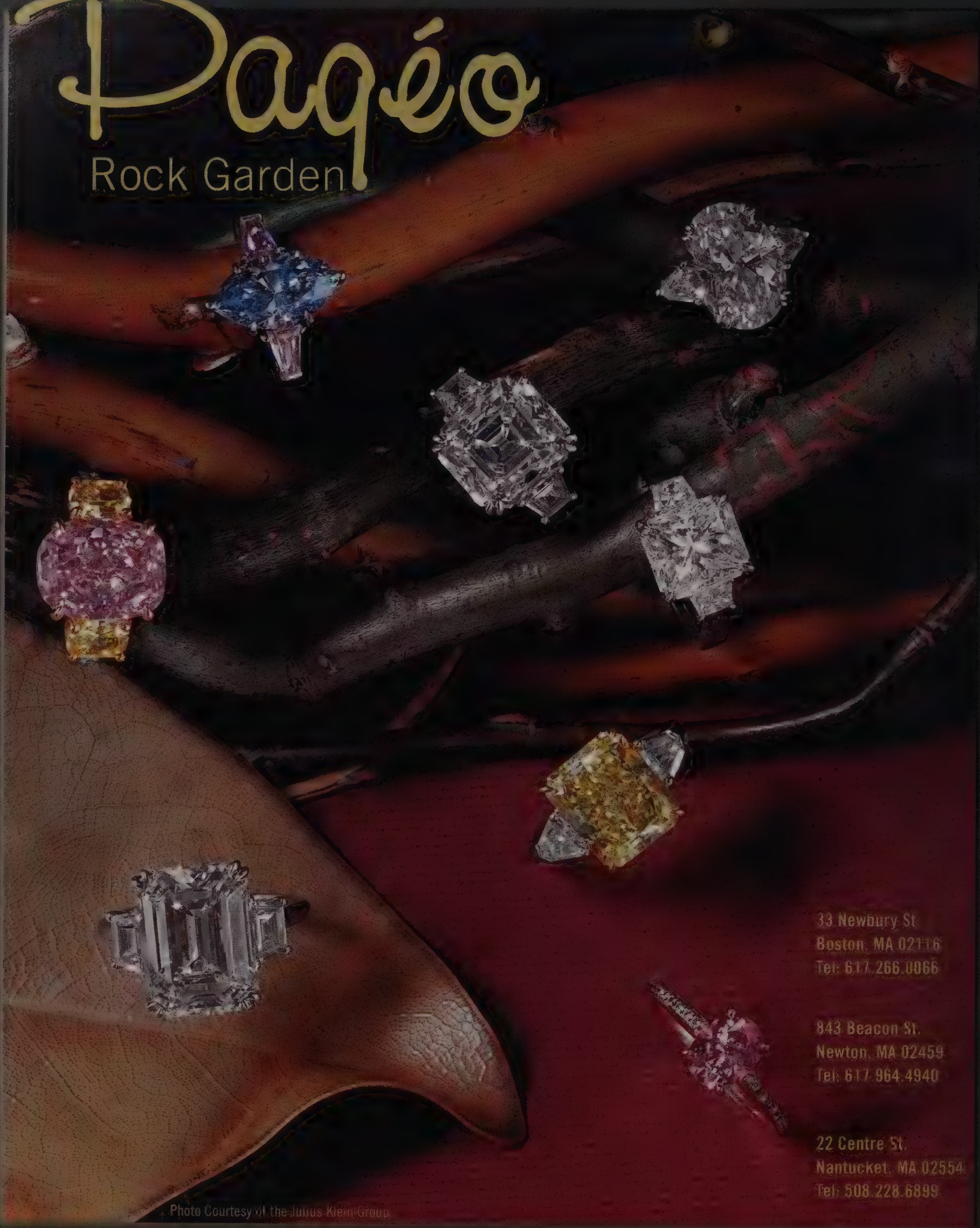

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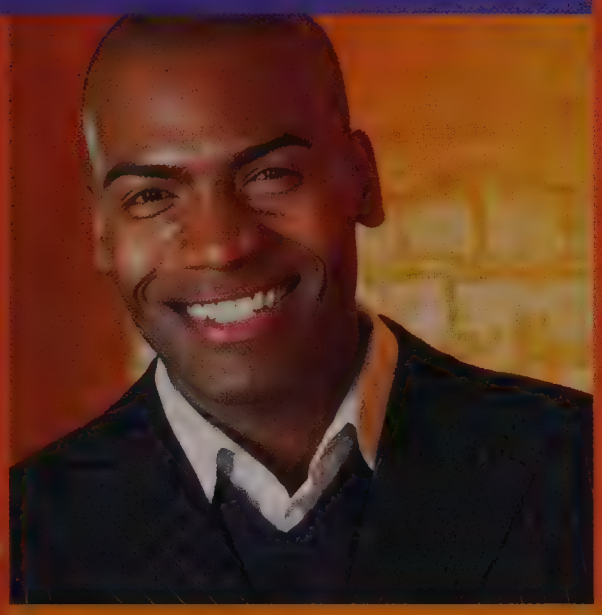

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ET CETERA

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Rockie Horoscope
Improper Impersonals
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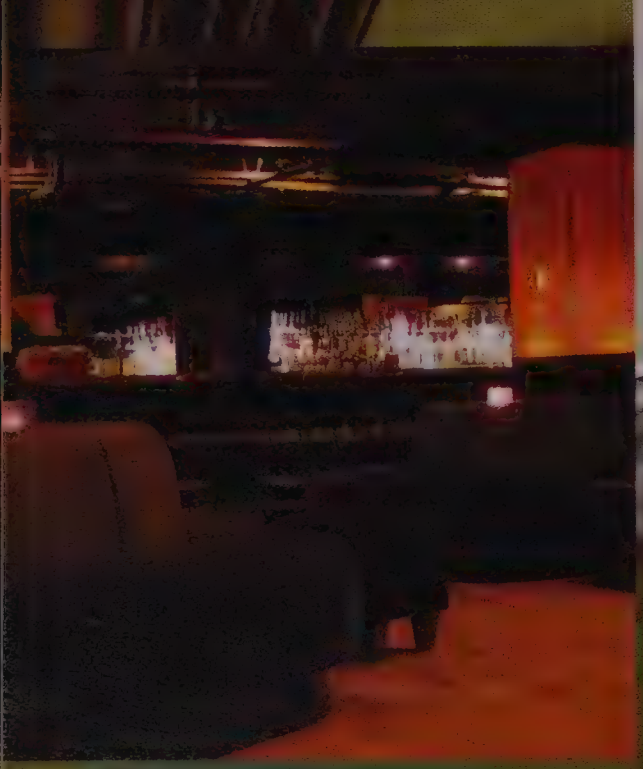

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

SAVORY SUMMER

If you've never checked out Ana Sortun's gem of a restaurant, Oleana, in Cambridge, put it on your list for this summer. Sortun's just won the James Beard Award for Best Chef in the Northeast, and Oleana has one of the prettiest garden patios in the area, making it a perfect spot for summer dining. (Six months pregnant, Sortun posed in that setting for this issue's cover and the portrait that accompanies her interview.)

Our summer dining issue's got plenty of other suggestions for culinary adventures this season—from raw bars to the city's newest outdoor seating to some of New England's tastiest summer food festivals.

Finally, take a look through the eyes of longtime waiters at how the dining scene has changed in Boston over the decades. With their old-school dedication to service, they'll give you a glimpse of elegant days gone by.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

OH MY DARLIN', CLEMENS TIME?

I agree with Chris Collins that it'd be a great idea for the Red Sox to trade for Roger Clemens (The Collins Card, May 18). However, I don't think they should give up too much to get him. He's a great pitcher, and reuniting him with Wells would probably benefit Boomer, but Clemens is no young buck, and the question remains of whether he's worth trading for when he'll probably only be on the team for a couple of months. I also wonder how he'd be received in the clubhouse. I think someone like Trot Nixon, who has been with the Sox his entire career, would feel weird playing on the same team with Clemens—who he owns, by the way. I guess only time will tell, but anything is possible in an era when the Sox traded Nomar and won the World Series in the same year.

—CARL FIEREMONTE
Westwood

FOR RICHER OR RICHER

Regarding the story "Happily Ever After" in the Bridal Issue (May 18): Do you know what else these couples have in common besides long-term marriages? They're white and prosperous. This is not a rant but really a hope that you will look a little harder when you publish articles that claim to share the secrets of staying happily married.

Show me the money: When you talk to couples that have split, money is often the top reason. I'm not saying being wealthy guarantees a happy marriage, but poverty and financial woes can be destructive forces. I'd like to hear from couples who've survived hard times—not just ones living in Marblehead, Framingham and Brookline. After all, with housing prices at record highs, most of us don't foresee such a future.

—CHRISTINA BETHKE
Cambridge

I'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM COUPLES WHO'VE SURVIVED HARD TIMES—NOT JUST ONES LIVING IN MARBLEHEAD.

—CHRISTINA BETHKE
CAMBRIDGE

ATTENTION, FICTION WRITERS!

Listen up: We want your stories. Submit a short piece of 2,500 words or less by July 25, and you could be the next Improper Fiction Contest winner and get your story published in this fall's Literary Issue. Send two copies of your story, along with your name, phone number, address and e-mail to:

The Improper Bostonian, Attn: Fiction Contest,
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116

The contest's for Mass. residents only, and the winner takes home a slew of prizes.

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JUDITH GAINES

Judith Gaines has been eating her way around New England since 1988, when she left chile-wise Santa Fe for seafood-savvy Beantown. She served on the staff of the *Boston Globe* for 14 years and has contributed to many newspapers and magazines—the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *London Sunday Times*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Yankee Magazine* and more. On the culinary front, she has written restaurant reviews and portraits of well-known chefs, surveyed home brews and oddball ice creams, sought out the city's best sommeliers, communed with local organic farmers and reveled in restaurants where the food is as good as the view. She also has two cookbooks of her own in the works. For her story "Kitchen Companions" (page 32), she tested recipes from each of the cookbooks she reviewed.

GALEN MOORE

Galen Moore is a reporter for a weekly newspaper north of Boston. That means most of his eating is done in the car. Even with three napkins tucked in his collar, he still manages to get mustard on his shirts and, every once in a while, a little ink on the food pages of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN. His story "On Ice," on the growing popularity of raw bars around the city, begins on page 22.

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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new in town

KENMORE COMFORT

Eastern Standard Kitchen & Drinks opened with little fanfare in late May. But that hasn't stopped it from generating more buzz than a dump truck full of Africanized honey bees. That's partly because Garrett Harker (who's the "G" in B&G Oysters and formerly a partner at the Butcher Shop and general manager of No. 9 Park) is at the helm. And it's partly because Eastern Standard's smack in the middle of the Kenmore Square revitalization, in the Hotel Commonwealth complex. (It also helps that he's got a crack team: Joining Harker are executive chef Jamie Bissonette, formerly of Pigalle and Tremont 647, and general manager Gwen Butler, who worked with Harker at B&G.)

When you see the swank, sexy space, you realize how times have changed: It's hard to imagine this was once the seedy Rathskeller (aka The Rat) night club. The Rat was demolished, but Eastern Standard's got its liquor license. Harker says his office is where the stage used to be.

A 1940s postcard of Grand Central Station provided inspiration for the restaurant's name. "Light was streaming through the station, and it had a giant clock with 'eastern standard' on it," says Harker. "We'd had another name for the restaurant, but I didn't love it. Looking at the grandeur of the space, I thought it felt like a train station." While doing some research on Kenmore Square's history ("I was betting my professional career on this restaurant," he says), he found it was once a train hub for Boston.

The restaurant has an all-American feel: airy and open, with big red booths and a menu of comfort food galore.

"I'm tired of overwrought, intellectualized menus," Harker says. "I like a menu that reads simply and is very modest. Lots of menus are so self-congratulatory these days, they might as well say, 'We use arugula picked at midnight by virgins.' Here, the integrity of food speaks for itself."

So he tempers dishes like foie gras with green lentils, making it more down-to-earth. High-flavored fare like pork chops, braised lamb shanks, roasted half chicken and baked rigatoni dominate the menu—most coming in at under $20. There's also a raw bar, plus 11 sides to choose from (like creamed spinach, mashed potatoes, mac and cheese) all for $5 or $6, as well as an array of salads and sandwiches. Whatever you do, don't pass up the Boston Cream Pie.

The main dining room seats 110, plus more along a 46-foot marble bar, and the patio (full the first week) has room for 40.

528 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-532-9100). Open for dinner 5-11 pm Sunday-Thursday, and 12 am Friday and Saturday; lunch starts mid-June. Sunday brunch begins on Father's Day, 7 am-3 pm.—E.H.

inner view

SHAWN MANNING

Twenty-four-year-old Quincy native Shawn Manning was working the door one night at WaterWorks in Quincy when representatives from a TBS reality show called *The Real Gilligan's Island* came to the bar to recruit. After hitting it off with one of the casting directors, Manning went to Copley Plaza the next day, where he beat out thousands of potential Gilligans and was asked to fly out to L.A. for another audition. Once again, Manning bested the competition and now stars on the reality hit every Wednesday night at 9 pm.

Improper Bostonian: *What was your perception of reality TV before you were on it?*

Shawn Manning: I watched it once in a while, but I never really loved it like other people. I actually thought it was pretty stupid. I just remember watching the people do all the events and thinking, 'Man, I could smoke them if I were out there,' but it really is a lot harder than it looks.

IB: *What was the toughest thing about being on the show?*

SM: It was probably after the cameras stopped rolling, because even though they weren't filming, I still had to sleep on an uncomfortable hammock every night and still had to eat the same food every day. By the end, I had had enough.

IB: *So now that you have some experience, what's the one thing you'd want to have with you if stranded on a deserted island?*

SM: It would definitely be food. I'm a diabetic, so it got pretty hard out there sometimes. I asked the producers before I went on if my diabetes would be a problem, and they said that their nutritionist said I would be fine. I just didn't know that they had asked the nutritionist from hell. It was tough.

IB: *Do you think the real Gilligan could have worked crowd control at WaterWorks?*

SM: God, he wouldn't have lasted a night. Not a chance.

IB: *Mandatory Gilligan question: Mary Ann or Ginger?*

SM: Growing up it was always Ginger, but to be honest, I had a little thing going with one of the Mary Anns on the show, so from personal experience, and in case she ever reads this, I have to say Mary Ann.

IB: *Good move. So what are you going to do now with this newfound stardom?*

SM: I'm thinking about moving out to L.A. to see if I can get something going out there, but also Ty-e—one of the Professors on the show—is putting together an off-Broadway play that he wants me to act in, so I might do that. It would look great on my résumé.

—Rich Levine

This weekend, I'm plotting a coup against practicality and proclaiming myself the "Duchess of Oysterland."

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tasty tidbits

PIZZA PALLOTTA

Will do anything for a slice... Sisters Carla and Christine Pallotta, who co-owned a spa on the North Shore for 27 years, felt frustrated with the lack of upscale pizza options in Boston. So on June 2, they took matters into their own hands. The Pallottas opened Nebo, a high-class pizzeria/enoteca on North Washington Street in the North End (right by the TD Banknorth Garden) that boasts a 28-seat bar, a 160-bottle wine list and, of course, a wealth of pizza options served on dough made daily in-house by *pizzaiolo* (that's Italian for pizza maker) Nando Gentile. A plain 11-inch cheese pizza runs you about $11. *90 North Washington St., Boston (617-723-6326).*

Food for Phatt... The space that used to house the Brew Moon Café in Harvard Square had been vacant for two years, but in early June restaurateurs Fred Rash and Scott Hartford finally filled the void by opening Phatt Boys. It's the guys' second Phatt Boys location (the other is in Stoughton), and the menu offers a diverse selection of fare, including seafood, BBQ, steaks and chops. They serve lunch and dinner seven nights a week and plan to add live music on the weekends starting in July. *50 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-2005).*

Let them eat steak... If you're hosting a barbecue, the last thing you want to do is upset your guests (and embarrass yourself) with a batch of thin, wimpy steaks. This summer, Smith & Wollensky relieves some of the pressure with "Steak-To-Go." Through September 5, chef Tindaro LoSurdo offers a trio of cuts (a 14-ounce filet, 18-ounce sirloin and 28-ounce rib steak) for $38 apiece. Place your order (at least 24 hours in advance) and head over to S&W, where your steaks will be waiting in an ice pack-filled, insulated bag. Just grill and serve. *101 Arlington St., Boston (617-423-1112).*

sam says

TOP CROC

Lacoste, the clothing line known for its little embroidered croc, has always been a retail pioneer. In 1933, the company unveiled its tennis shirt, which took the sport by storm. In 1963, company cofounder René Lacoste invented the world's first ever steel tennis racquet. This year, the company adds denim to its repertoire—designs include a denim jacket, a hat, skirts and jeans. The skirts come in two washes, indigo and vintage; jeans are low-rise boot cut with just a little bit of stretch and a slim leg. The best part is the large croc on the back pocket of every piece. So cute! The hat retails for $65, the jeans are $125, and the jacket is $195. *The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-1081).* —*Samantha House*

improper reports

SELL YOUR CLOTHES

Closet space is precious in this city, so if you're hanging onto things that no longer fit or you've never worn (that green sweater that makes you look seasick, those tiny, junior high jeans), why not make some room for a new wardrobe—and make a few bucks to boot? Here's where to sell your stuff.

Cadia Vintage
148 Salem St., Boston (617-742-1203).
This North End boutique buys vintage clothes, jewelry, accessories and home goods. It's only open on Saturday and Sundays, but call for an appointment during the week.

Garment District
200 Broadway, Cambridge (617-876-5230). www.garment-district.com.
Make an appointment before heading here to sell men's and women's work clothes, evening wear, vintage and current styles. Just make sure the clothes are clean and in good condition. The Garment District gives you 50 percent of the price each piece sells for.

Howie Mack
957 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-254-6225). www.howiemack.com.
With merchandise geared to please the college crowd, this is the place to get rid of jeans, t-shirts and those trendy items you've bought but never wear. Howie Mack buys contemporary designer brands like Levis and Seven jeans. Mack pays cash for clothes on sight.

Karma
26 Prince St., Boston (617-723-8338).
At this boutique, tucked away in the North End, you get a 50 percent cut of what they sell. Call ahead to set up an appointment with the owners, who prefer clothes and accessories in current styles and high-end brands such as Miss Sixty, Seven Jeans, Prada and Gucci.

Oona's
1210 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-491-2654).
Funky, pre-1980s vintage clothing is Oona's specialty, but buyers also accept contemporary jeans and leather jackets. Call to set up an appointment to sell your vintage wares—those that are stain- and rip-free. Oona's pays on the spot, as long as you have your ID.

Second Time Around
Three locations; www.secondtimearound.net.
This high-end consignment store accepts only designer-brand clothes that were bought within the last two years. You'll receive 50 percent of the selling price. They offer a drop-off and mail-in service if you can't make it to the store.
—*Leslie Kilgore*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Spy Guy... Local interior designer Kenn Gray is about to turn undercover reality star with the Travel Channel's latest show, *Travel Spies*. Operating under the assumption that most travel experts receive special treatment when reviewing destinations, *Travel Spies*, which premiered June 13 and runs for the next 14 weeks (Mondays at 8 pm), follows Gray and two other snoops—*Travel & Leisure* editor Nilou Motamed and hospitality consultant Jeff Gurtman—as they travel incognito around the world. The show takes Gray and the gang to Bermuda, Mexico City and Hawaii, just to name a few. A tough job, but someone's got to do it.

Calling Matthew McConaughey and his Chevelle... Got a classic car and want to show it off, but you've found Boston lacking in the drive-in burger

joints that are the typical venue for such events in other parts of the country? Well, fire up the '57 Chevy and head to the American Legion Marsh Post #442 in Cambridge some Saturday at noon, where like-minded car nuts will convene throughout the summer to flaunt their iron. The inaugural event last month saw cars ranging from a 1968 Plymouth Sport Fury to a 1955 Mercedes 190 SL. All hot rods and classic cars are welcome, but, since we know you're wondering, your 1979 Camaro with the Yosemite Sam "Back Off" mud flaps is not a classic. Sorry. *American Legion Marsh Post #442 parking lot, 5 Greenough Blvd., Cambridge. www.clydesdale.org/marshpost/classiccars.html.*

Pure Pampering... Despite the abundance of spas and salons in this city, there's always room for new services and a little more indulgence. Pyara Spa and Salon in Harvard Square is the most recent salon offering Aveda products and services and the first such salon on the other side of the river. Treatments are given by staff trained at Aveda Institutes and feature Aveda signature products. The "Caribbean Retreat" includes three hours of pampering with a Vichy shower water massage, seaweed masks, a manicure and pedicure and an exfoliating body wrap. Pyara (which is a Hindi term that means to hug or embrace) also offers monthly workshops on do-it-yourself treatments to try at home. *104 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-497-9300). www.pyaraaveda.com.*

Tour de Hollywood... If you can't stand to follow one more out-of-town guest around the Freedom Trail, here's a new option. Jeff and Rachel Coveney have started Boston Movie Tours, a walking tour of spots where more than 30 movies and TV shows have been filmed. Stops include the Bull & Finch Pub (the inspiration for *Cheers*), the park bench where Robin Williams and Matt Damon sat in *Good Will Hunting* and the street famous for the runaway car crash in *Blown Away*. Later this summer, you can opt for a trolley tour in lieu of walking. *(866-668-4345). www.bostonmovietours.net.*

Courier Hurrier... Back in 2003, Boston bike courier (and bartender at Pho Republique and Silvertone) Adam Ford reigned supreme at the Cycle Courier World Championships in Seattle, but last year his title was usurped by a speedy Swiss cyclist. In the 2005 competition, held July 4th weekend in New York, he's hoping to regain his spot atop the world courier heap. His chances look good: Ford already won the 2005 North American championship, held in Portland, Oregon. While the official competition contains some simulated couriering on a closed course along with a real-life delivery stage, Ford says he's most looking forward to the "Alleycat," a dangerous, unoffical nighttime race across the city. "If you're an adrenaline junkie," he says, "there's nothing better." —*E.D., L.P.K. and R.L.*

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BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

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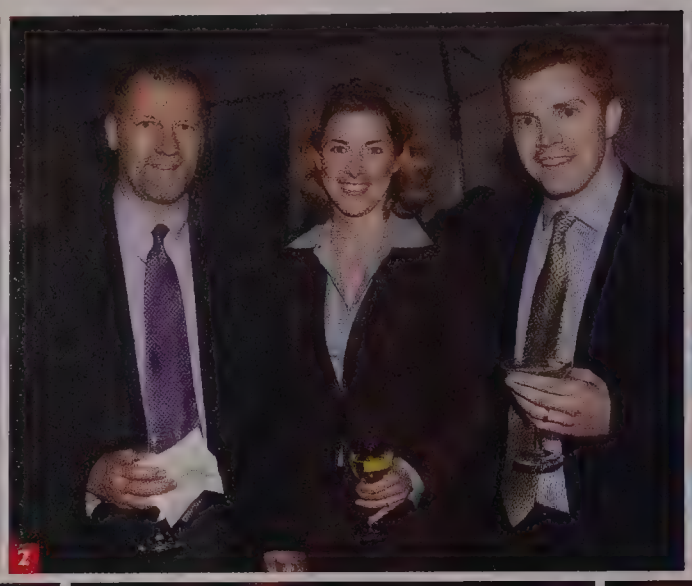
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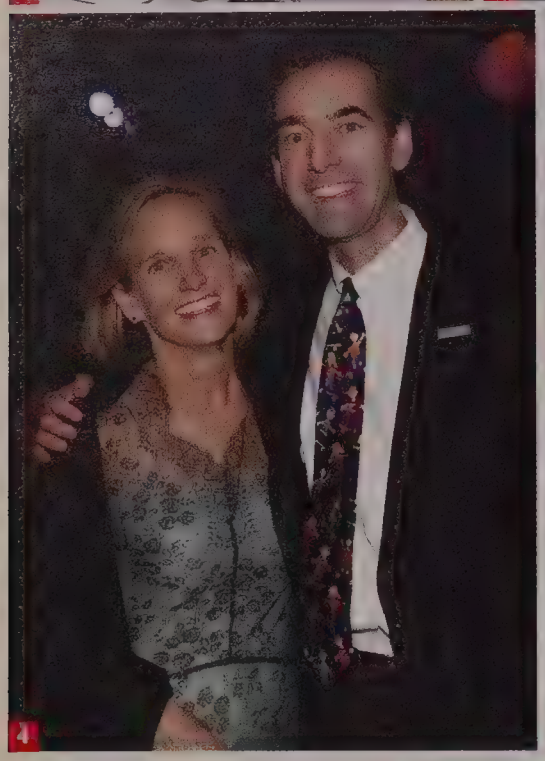
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More than 900 business and community leaders and City Year Boston corps members gathered together for City Year's annual benefit gala, **Starry Starry Night 2005**, on May 26 at the Boston Common. Guests enjoyed dinner and dancing under the stars. The keynote speaker was Tim Russert, NBC Washington bureau chief and moderator of *Meet the Press*. Starry Starry Night is City Year's biggest annual benefit, raising more than $1 million.

1. **Isabelle Loring** (left) and **Ashley Linell**.
2. From left: **Tom Pickette**, **Carrie Reepmeyer** and her husband, **Will**, partner, HR manager and director, respectively, at PricewaterhouseCoopers.
3. **Paige Kane**, national corporate partnerships director for City Year, and **Tim Russert**, NBC news correspondent and host of NBC's *Meet the Press*.
4. **Kristen Atwood**, board member of City Year, and **Ned Rimer**, cofounder of Citizen Schools.
5. **Gordon Silver**, private investor, and **Mitzi Papoyans**.
6. From left: **Alan Khazei**; **Corrine Ferguson**, City Year Boston board chair; and **Jonathan Lavine**, event cochair and City Year Boston board chair.
7. **Heather Witte** (left) and **Liz Ringler**, marketing and client services manager and administrative associate, respectively, for the trading department at Westfield Capital Management.

The Boston Main Streets 10th Anniversary Gala was held June 2 at the Cyclorama at the Boston Center for the Arts. More than 500 people attended the silent auction and dinner, which celebrated 10 years of work toward revitalizing Boston's commercial districts.

8

9

8. **Diana Signori** (left) and **Ericka Shepard**, both district pharmacy supervisors for CVS.
9. From left: **Craig Runyan**, graphic designer for Tanjereen Design, **Andrea Acevedo**, graphic designer for the Office of Business Development for the City of Boston and **Stephen Gilman**, neighborhood business manager for Boston Main Streets.
10. From left: **Tyler Chapman**, attorney at Todd & Weld; **Kate Wilson**, senior director of corporate relations at Blue Cross Blue Shield; and **Lucas Guerra**, principal and creative director of Argus.
11. **Charlie Vasiliades**, housing specialist for the state of Massachusetts and board member of Brighton Main Streets, and **Jennifer Stovo**, board member of Brighton Main Streets.

10

11

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GIVE IT AWAY NOW

Giving away your possessions just feels good.

Roommate Scott finally moved out of our old apartment, meaning that it was time to undertake the long-delayed Stage II of my moving schedule: getting rid of stuff. Chief among the problem items was our old leather sectional couch, which neither of us wanted. After debating whether or not the trash man would take a giant couch and eventually coming to the sensible conclusion that we'd have to commit couchicide—cut it up with a saw and put it in trash bags—I hit upon an epiphany: we could give it away. A few hours and a slew of Craigslist "Free for the Taking" respondents later, our battered old sofa was off to start a new life with an MIT kid. Always a smart-looking piece of furniture, it finally has smart people sitting on it.

As I strolled around the old crib, I realized that the couch was just the beginning of my problems. It turns out that roughly half my possessions fall into the category of "I never use this, but it'd be a shame to just throw it away." Fortunately for you, I've come down with a full-blown case of the feels-good-givin'-stuff-away bug, and the only cure is giving away more of my crap—I mean, valuable belongings. So here are a few other items from my inventory that you can have:

A small ceramic naked man that I got in China

He's supposed to fill up with water and then pee when you tip him at the right angle, but I could never get him to fill properly, and by the time I found out he had permanent stage fright, I was 7,000 miles away from the scoundrel who sold me this defective peeing figurine. (If you're ever in Shanghai, he's about five-foot-seven, Chinese and sells souvenirs. You can't miss him. Avoid this man, as his wares are faulty.) I can't bring myself to throw the little guy away, though. If you're mechanically inclined, maybe you could drill a hole in his head and install a stopper—it could be disguised with a tiny hat—and then he'd be hours of fun.

A selection of tapered pants

If tapered jeans come back in style, as they're sure to do, you'll be psyched to have my old pants. Most of them are well broken-in, but be aware that the cuffs are so small that you'll have to grease your foot up past the ankle to get them on. I think I missed the boot-cut trend and went straight from tapered pants to the current style, jeans featuring cuffs so wide that a family of squirrels can move in below your knees and you won't notice. Omigod, horrible thought: What if my old pants aren't actually tapered, but my ankles have just gotten fatter? Do I have cankles? Do I? You can tell me.

Many fine books

Books are a striking element of decor if your collection consists of leather-bound Shakespeare and other nattily attired classics. John Grisham paperbacks and battered volumes of *Uncle John's Bathroom Reader*, however, don't make quite the same statement on the shelf over your mantle. Also, it's impractical to hang onto a copy of *The Kama Sutra* given to you by an ex-girlfriend, because nothing sets the mood like the question, "Where the hell did you get THAT?" And that's not the only impractical thing about *The Kama Sutra*, either. If you don't believe me, just try the Maharajah's Birthday Party Utmost Pleasure Delight Cantilever 88 (Inverted). This book was written by a previous, Indian incarnation of Ashton Kutcher, who would lure couples into attempting anatomically impossible feats and then jump out from behind a bush and yell, "You got tantricked!"

IF TAPERED JEANS COME BACK IN STYLE, AS THEY'RE SURE TO DO, YOU'LL BE PSYCHED TO HAVE MY OLD PANTS

Can cozies

Up for grabs are several styrofoam can cozies emblazoned with witty phrases like, "Don't flatter yourself—I was looking at your friend" and "Your village called: Their idiot is missing." I'd say that I'm getting rid of these because I've outgrown their level of sophistication, but the simple truth is that I have too many coldie-holdies already, and I'm certainly not getting rid of my orange Hooters cozy or the one with a big rig on it, which I found in a parking lot. I guess I ought to give away the one I use at work now, though. My annual review is coming up, and the boss probably doesn't agree with the sentiment that it's hard to soar like an eagle when you work with turkeys. iB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

TURNING THE TABLES

It's nice being on the other side of the Sox-Yanks rivalry.

I am officially happy with the 2005 Boston Red Sox season, at least through the end of May. And I have one weekend, Memorial Day weekend, to thank for that. That was when, after several bouts of panic, fear and thoughts that the 2005 season was ready to implode, along came the red-hot New York Yankees.

The Yankees, once 11-19, had won 14 of 16 games. They had passed the Red Sox in the standings—by a measly half game. They had their pitching in order, with Randy Johnson, Carl Pavano and Mike Mussina on the docket against our local team.

In fact, the Yankees stole the first game with Johnson on the hill. The Red Sox ran into outs on the bases. They left the bases loaded a few times. They all but handed the win to Johnson and the Yankees on a platter. If you say you weren't thinking sweep, like I was, you're not telling the truth.

But during the next game, something happened. The Red Sox, contrary to several decades of history, didn't cave in. In fact, they came out hitting like almost never before. The Sox got a great pitching performance from Matt Clement, who didn't allow a run in six innings, and they hit seemingly every pitch the Yankees threw. It was a pleasure to see Edgar Renteria, only a few weeks removed from having his reputation tarnished by his former manager Tony La Russa—who was on a book tour in Boston—hit a grand slam, part of a torrid hitting streak that brought his batting average up near .300, where it should be.

The Sox not only won the game 17-1, rapping an all-time Red Sox-high 27 hits in Yankee Stadium, but they gave us a quick lesson in how this matchup has changed since last October.

The Sox also won the next game 7-2, making it look almost as easy and in the process making the Bronx feel like it was our home. As Yankees fans left in droves, Red Sox fans got closer to the action. And they yelled and chanted. It was beautiful.

While the Red Sox gained only a game on the Yankees, more importantly they reminded us that the hex is no more. They reminded us that championships are not won in April, May or even June. And having the lead at Memorial Day or Flag Day doesn't mean a damn thing.

These Sox are cool, sometimes appearing too cool from afar. But in reality, they understand that this is a marathon—that spending "more days in first place" means absolutely nothing. The regular season is the time to get your house in order. Get your pitching staff going. Get your aces throwing like aces in late July, August and September.

The weekend in the Bronx was an interesting one. I can't remember how many times over the past 20 years the Red Sox have gone into Yankee Stadium with the momentum, only to have their bubble burst. But here we were watching the Yankees' bubble burst instead. They looked vulnerable. And this was with their three top pitchers on the hill.

The Yankees are obviously a very good team, and they'll be there in late September. But they just don't seem anything like the unit that dominated the game in the late 1990s. They don't have that swagger that in the end turned into a dagger. They're spending a lot of money on talent that ranges from downright mediocre to merely pretty good.

Compare that with the Red Sox, who seem to make twice as many right decisions as wrong ones. Bringing in Clement looked like a risk, yet he's more than lived up to his end of the bargain. While it's much too early to call David Wells a success (though his outing in New York was spectacular), he was a low-risk acquisition. If he ends up being a 10-12, 5.00 ERA pitcher, at the price he was paid ($8 million over two years) it's a no-brainer. And maybe the Sox overpaid for Renteria, but it's obvious he's going to be a steady performer in the field and at the plate.

THE SOX RAPPED 27 HITS IN YANKEE STADIUM, GIVING US A LESSON ON HOW THIS MATCHUP HAS CHANGED SINCE LAST OCTOBER

Recently it was revealed that Yankees third baseman and lightning rod Alex Rodriguez is seeing a therapist regularly. How ironic. For years, didn't we all need therapists while following the Red Sox, especially after their annual Yankees tumble?

The bottom line is this: During the Memorial Day series, the Yankees got a wakeup call. Last October was no fluke. The Red Sox are for real. And right now, they're your daddy. **iB**

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

ANA SORTUN

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Born and raised in Seattle, chef Ana Sortun spent two and a half years after high school studying French with a private tutor so that she could pass the fluency test necessary to study for free as an apprentice at La Varenne Ecole de Cuisine in Paris. After earning her degree there, she joined Boston's culinary scene in 1990 at the opening of Moncef Meddeb's Aigo Bistro in Concord. She then brought her innovative Mediterranean flair to 8 Holyoke in Cambridge and later took over the kitchen at Casablanca, restoring its reputation as a place to dine. In 2001, she opened Oleana, which was nominated for Best New Restaurant in America by the James Beard Foundation. Known for her unique Arabic-Mediterranean style, Sortun has garnered numerous accolades and this spring won the James Beard award for Best Chef in the Northeast. She has lectured at Boston University, Rhode Island School of Design, the New England Culinary Institute and Greystone in Napa Valley. She lives in Lincoln.

Jonathan Soroff: *As a kid, did you have an Easy-Bake Oven?*

Ana Sortun: I did! I haven't thought of that for years, but yeah. That was the one where you cooked cakes with a lightbulb, right?

JS: *Yup. Were you a kid who made mud-pies or played in the kitchen a lot?*

AS: I definitely was born loving to eat. In every picture of me as a kid, I always had something smeared on my face.

JS: *When did you realize that you wanted to be a chef?*

AS: When I was 14, I got my first real job in a little neighborhood restaurant that served Pueblo Indian cooking. I started out washing dishes, and six months later they put me in the kitchen. From that point on, I couldn't get enough. The owners were so cool, they sent me to cooking classes. I couldn't even cook an egg at that point! I only had that Easy-Bake Oven experience. [Laughs.]

JS: *What does winning the James Beard award mean to you?*

AS: Well, on the one hand, it's extremely exciting, and on the other, it's completely scary. All my life, I've sort of dreamed of being a candidate for it, and it's always been a goal that I thought, "Wow! I wonder if someday I'll get to that point." And when I did, I thought, "Oh my God, does that mean I'm done? It's over? I should retire?"

JS: *Easiest recipe you can think of?*

AS: The easiest things to make are things you don't need a recipe for, and if the ingredients are great, anything is easy.

JS: *What's hard for you to cook?*

AS: Pasta. I've called my friend Barbara Lynch 10 times maybe, frustrated after throwing the whole thing in the garbage. I can't make gnocchi or pasta. I mean, I can do it, but it's not as good as I want it to be, so it's frustrating.

JS: *Do you find the professional cooking world sexist?*

AS: Y'know, people ask me that all the time, and I've had some sexist experiences, but not in this country. I think we as women have to get over this whole thing because I think we sometimes put ourselves in that situation. I mean, there are certainly jerks who treat women badly, but women can do anything they want to do.

JS: *What's in your refrigerator right now?*

AS: Right now? Not a lot. There's yogurt—the thick, tart, Greek kind, which I have with honey for breakfast almost every day. I can't live without it. Then there's lemons. I can't cook without them, and it's the one thing I wish we could grow here in New England, because they'd be so much better. There's cheese of some kind, and there's always eggs from my mother-in-law, who has a bunch of chickens. I'm spoiled. I always have fresh eggs. I can't eat the regular kind anymore.

JS: *Do you enjoy going out to dinner, or is it work?*

AS: It depends. I usually enjoy it, but it's work when I have a bad experience. It also becomes work if the meal is too long, like an eight-course tasting menu.

JS: *Favorite dessert?*

AS: Anything caramel.

JS: *Which has more adventurous diners: Cambridge or Boston?*

AS: I don't know much about Boston, but I do know that in Cambridge, we have a very international clientele, so I get a lot of different nationalities. There are always a few tables every night of people from far away, which is great.

JS: *One person you'd most like to cook for?*

AS: I get starstruck really easily. I once had to cook for Jack Nicholson and Dennis Hopper, and when they told me, I had to sit down. It was the biggest deal in the whole wide world. Let's see. I'd love to cook for Taj Mahal. I love him, and every time he's in town, I wish he'd come into the restaurant.

JS: *You're writing a cookbook. How will yours be different than all the others?*

AS: I wanted to teach people about the use of spices, not in the sense of the very heavily spiced cuisines, like Thai or Indian. I want to teach them an Eastern Mediterranean use of spices, how they combine, how to use them creatively and also the rules of what makes something taste Moroccan or Greek. What are the key flavors in Turkish food? So in the book, I've organized the chapters by spices, which is sort of unusual.

JS: *One thing customers do that drives you crazy?*

AS: When they lie about an allergy. We take allergies very seriously, and we're hyper-careful about the handling and preparation of that person's food. So it's annoying when they ask if a dish can be made without something because they're allergic, and we come back and say, "It's really integral to the dish," and they say, "Well, it's not that much of a problem." That's annoying, and so is when someone doesn't cancel a reservation.

JS: *Well, I sometimes say I'm allergic to cilantro, for instance.*

AS: That's a proven biological thing. Cilantro tastes like soap to some people. It's not something you can control. It's genetic.

JS: *Thanks for the validation. One thing everyone should know how to make?*

AS: A great, simple vinaigrette. We're coming into salad season, and you can get great greens from the farmer's market.

JS: *Single most important tool or implement in the kitchen?*

AS: Besides a knife? I rely a lot on a blender, even more than a food processor. It's the only way to get a really tight, smooth puree. But at home, I use a mortar and pestle a lot, for all my vinaigrettes or mashing garlic. Nothing else tastes like garlic from a mortar and pestle.

JS: *One ingredient you use the most?*

AS: Salt, lemons, olive oil and a little butter. Not a lot. But I can't live without some of my spices.

JS: *Which do you use the most?*

AS: Zahtar or sumac.

JS: *I don't even know what those are. Don't salt and butter make everything taste better?*

AS: Well, yeah, but it doesn't make you feel better. That's my number one complaint about most cooks is that they use a lot of butter. Sometimes, I leave restaurants feeling awful because of it. The butter hangover.

JS: *Grossest thing you ever ate?*

AS: Well, recently? Canned grilled vegetables. In my life, I've had things like bull's testicles, which are pretty gross, and then there are things that sound gross but taste delicious. In Rome, I once had calves' intestines after the calf had some milk, so they were still full of it. They twist them and cook them, and it's like fresh ricotta inside of tripe, and it's really good.

JS: *Single most important thing to remember while cooking?*

AS: Season as you go. Don't wait until the end.

JS: *Worst kitchen disaster?*

AS: The most embarrassing thing was when I worked for Moncef, who's Tunisian, and I was first learning to cook Arabic food. He went away for a few weeks, and I ran some specials, including a dish with pork, and when he found out, he just flipped. I had no idea. I was so ignorant about the religious aspect of serving pork in something that was Arabic-inspired. I try to be really careful about learning the rules before I break them.

JS: *Now that you're a big celebrity chef, how do you feel about the celebrity chef phenomenon?*

AS: I'm really grateful, because we work very hard, and for a long time we had an image as just a cook. It's nice that it's now a respected profession and that Americans are more appreciative of their food. But I think of chefs less as celebrities than designers. We each have a style that people are attracted to.

JS: *Last question: What's for dinner?*

AS: Tonight? Probably sushi. IB

"I THINK OF CHEFS LESS AS CELEBRITIES THAN DESIGNERS. WE EACH HAVE A STYLE THAT PEOPLE ARE ATTRACTED TO."

Neptune Oyster in the North End serves an array of East and West Coast oysters on the half shell.

on ice.

Raw bars are the coolest thing around.

Neptune has the casual feel of a market café.

BY GALEN MOORE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY TONY SCARPETTA

"Consider the oyster,"

food writer M.F.K. Fisher directed the culinary-curious in her book of the same title.

People seem to be taking her advice. Raw bars have sprung up in several Boston restaurants. Of course, ceviche, steak and tuna tartare and outlandish sashimi are on the menu. But oysters are, too, in increasing varieties, and sometimes at center stage.

Maybe young diners obsessed with eating things raw have discovered for themselves the mysterious, sexy, adult flavor of a raw oyster on the half shell—a flavor that Fisher, upon sampling her first ever raw oyster in 1942, at the age of 16, described as a sensual delight.

"I hate to say it's a trend, because it's been around for a long time," says Legal Sea Foods owner Roger Berkowitz. "It's always been sort of the older generations that have appreciated raw shellfish. The intrigue is that it's hitting younger people this time around."

Few chefs are more invested in the appeal of a plain, raw oyster than David Nevins at Neptune Oyster, which opened last November in the North End.

"We have people who come in —'Do you want to see a menu?' 'No, we're just here for oysters,' " Nevins says. "These are the fun people," he says. "They come in, order one of everything, then write down their favorite and order 12 of that."

Raw oysters don't leave much for a chef to create, other than gourmet cocktail sauces and mignonettes. But Nevins and other chefs have little trouble getting fresh with raw bar menus. At Neptune, innovation takes the form of a crudo, in which raw fish and other fresh ingredients are combined to make a salad. In June, Nevins features yellowtail cut into thin ribbons, with spring peas, pea shoots and Parmesan.

Nevins credits New York chef Mario Batali with inventing the concept of a crudo, which means literally "raw" in Italian, at his southern Italian seafood restaurant, Esca, in midtown Manhattan. "Their intent was to have something like sushi, without calling it sushi," Nevins says.

At Excelsior in Boston's Back Bay, new chef Eric Brennan (formerly of Harvest) has similar intentions with the raw bar menu he debuted there on April 1. Of sushi and sashimi-style presentations, "There's too many great Japanese places where you can get that kind of preparation," Brennan says. "I'm not going to try to mimic that."

Accordingly, Brennan offers dishes like big-eye tuna sashimi with wild asparagus and chinook salmon tartare with jalapeno-lime dressing. A Dungeness crab cocktail comes with a gazpacho gélée and green goddess aioli. Most of these items, if not all, appear in the raw bar's "Grand Ocean Tower," a vertical raw platter that arrives at the table like a living monument to lost Atlantis. Brennan says this titanic preparation is moving out of his kitchen at a generous clip.

Calling it "the tartare generation," Brennan agrees with Berkowitz that younger diners are now relishing everything from oysters on the half shell to steak tartare. "A lot of younger diners now are really going crazy for any raw presentation that we do," he says.

At Great Bay in Kenmore Square, open since 2003, the "island" raw bar seems to float in the center of the restaurant. It rises well above a sea of low, candlelit tables, and the ends of the bar curve like an archipelago. The bar only has 10 seats, five on each side, and at first received little attention. But Wine Director Brick Loomis says with an adventurous menu and a hand-picked list of imported sake, the island bar has recently become the coveted seat. Here, South American and Asian flavors appear in innovative combinations. Japanese octopus is dressed with sweet pepper, jalapeno and cilantro; spicy halibut tacos include mango salsa, pickled onions and avocado.

Neptune offers simpler fare. Here, oysters are the centerpiece, and the decor seems to match. The small, circular tiles in the floor, the mirrors and the plain, painted wood on the wall as well as the marble bar give the place the feel of a market café. The handful of tables sit a few inches higher than normal, next to a high banquette with a footrest. You don't sit so much as you perch. On display behind a wide front window, a cook clad in a t-shirt and safety-orange bib waders shucks oysters and clams. He works in front of an ice bed full of unopened knobby shells. Behind him is a mirror where oyster prices are listed the old-fashioned way, in fractions, in white erasable marker: "Wellfleet—2 4/10; St. Simon—1 9/10; Kumamoto—2 7/10."

Excelsior's Grand Ocean Tower comes with green goddess aioli and gazpacho gélée.

Great Bay in Kenmore Square offers an adventurous menu and a selection of imported sake.

On an ordering card that lists oyster types alongside check boxes, like a sushi à la carte menu, Nevins' tasting notes appear, highlighting the sometimes astonishing flavors that a cold, fresh oyster can exhibit on its own. Some of his comparisons raise an eyebrow: Rome point oysters are said to show a finish of "sweet raw pea." In others, he notes outlandish flavors from shiitake mushroom to roasted peanut. But a blind taste of the rome points confirms Nevins' description. The briny oysters from Rhode Island do indeed finish up on a sweet, vegetal note.

Another oyster variety, the kumamoto, explodes with non-oyster-like flavors, including fresh cucumber skin, watermelon and asparagus. These tiny West Coast oysters are recommended for "virgins," who've never tried a raw oyster before, Nevins says. Kumamotos are dainty, their shells pretty, and at Neptune their meat is near-white. With a texture almost like a tender cut of veal, they lack the intense seawater flavor that most East Coast oysters have.

West Coast oysters can have complex, unexpected flavors, indeed, but Nevins says he often prefers the more straightforward, briny flavor typical of the East Coast oyster. Prodded a little further, the chef reveals where his true preferences lie.

"If it had been up to me, we'd have called the restaurant Neptune Clam," he says. "Littlenecks are the best thing on the face of the earth — fried, raw or any way." iB

Excelsior, 272 Boylston St., 617-426-7878, www.excelsiorrestaurant.com; Great Bay, 500 Commonwealth Ave., 617-532-5300; Legal Sea Foods, www.legalseafoods.com; Neptune Oyster, 63 Salem St., 617-742-3474

O POWER

Oyster myths are prolific. We hear raw oysters are an antidepressant; they prevent muscle cramps; they give you energy; they give you strength; they make you live longer; they heighten sexual stamina in men; they're an aphrodisiac; eaten for breakfast before exams, they boost your left-brain function.

"I heard oysters are an aphrodisiac," the old joke goes, "but last night I ate 12 of them—and only 11 worked!"

We have our doubts, but if former Patriots receiver Don Hasselbeck's experience in a 1981 game against the New York Jets is any indication, there may be something special about raw bivalves on the half shell. According to Hasselbeck, he ate something in the neighborhood of six-dozen oysters just before the Pats played New York on October 11, 1981.

It was a career game for Hasselbeck, who led the Patriots that year with 46 catches for 808 yards. He totaled 139 yards in the October 11 game alone.

"We used to take a lot of vitamins before games, but that stuff tasted like garbage," Hasselbeck says in a phone interview from his office at Reebok, where he is a senior director of footware and field sales. He says he'd heard many of the nutrients in the vitamin pills were extracted from shellfish and figured, "Why not have the shellfish itself?"

According to the Web site nutritiondata.com, raw oysters are a "good source" of protein, vitamin C, thiamin, niacin, magnesium and phosphorus and a "very good source" of vitamin B12, iron, zinc, copper, manganese and selenium.

Legal Sea Foods owner Roger Berkowitz, who provided the oysters that day in 1981, says he thinks it was the zinc. USDA statistics say the average 85-gram oyster has 32.2 mg of the immune system-boosting mineral.

"He was on a zinc high," Berkowitz says of Hasselbeck's performance during the game. "He was catching everything in sight."

REST YOUR FEET AND ENJOY THE PEOPLE WATCHING FROM BOSTON'S NEWEST AL FRESCO DINING DESTINATIONS.

patio premieres

Eastern Standard

Audubon Circle

BY RICH LEVINE PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL IVINS

It's a beautiful summer day. And whether you've spent the afternoon shopping, screaming from the bleachers, biking, hiking or simply sleeping off the aftereffects of a night of partying, it's time for a break. Maybe you need a quick bite to eat. You definitely need a cocktail. Luckily, you don't have to travel very far before reaching one of Boston's many outdoor patios.

From April to October—the legal time for patios leased through the city to operate—Boston boasts 185 spots for your soaking up the sun and people-watching convenience, and each year more are popping up. Wonder why? In a word (or two): Patios pay. "We can do an average of 75 percent more business when the patio's open during the summer," says Bill Fortune, manager of Newbury Street's Armani Café, whose 100-seat patio is the granddaddy of Boston's al fresco options. "We sometimes have a wait of up to three and a half hours when it's really nice. And people will always wait."

With weeks of rain, we had to wait a little longer this spring for the new patios of 2005 to emerge, but with another summer on the horizon, it's time to get out and enjoy Boston's latest outdoor dining destinations. Here are some of the new ones we think you'll enjoy.

AUDUBON CIRCLE

838 Beacon St., Boston, 617-421-1910

Joni Mitchell had it all backwards, or maybe Audubon Circle was just inspired by her lyrics. This winter, the Beacon Street restaurant unpaved its parking lot and turned it into paradise with a new 36-seat patio. The Back Lot (as it's called) is surrounded by wooden epé walls, lined with bamboo trees, and features six slate, bar-height tables. You'd better bring your appetite, though, because the Back Lot is strictly for diners. If you're interested only in a beverage, you'll have to drink it with a roof over your head.

CASK 'N' FLAGON

62 Brookline Ave., Boston, 617-536-4840

Always a fiscally sensible alternative to Fenway's astronomical prices, the Cask 'n' Flagon is looking to build on its already lively pregame atmosphere with a 22-table, 59-seat patio—on the corner of Lansdowne Street and Brookline Avenue—which debuted in early April. It's open every day at 11:30 am (weather permitting) and features the same burgers and brews that the Fenway Faithful have enjoyed since the joint opened back in 1969.

DOMANI BAR & TRATTORIA

51 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-424-8500

The floor-to-ceiling windows at chef Rene Michelena's new Italian restaurant—which launched this winter above Saint—open out to a 24-seat patio where you can enjoy an eclectic mix of summer beverages, like the Tarragon Julep (bourbon, simple syrup and tarragon) and the Tuaca Sidecar (Tuaca, Triple Sec, fresh lemon juice, splash of simple syrup), to accompany Michelena's designer-style pizzas and pastas. The patio's slightly off the beaten path, on the restaurant's Huntington side, but there are still plenty of people to watch thanks to hotel traffic.

EASTERN STANDARD KITCHEN & DRINKS

528 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-933-5000

Let's call Eastern Standard Kitchen's outdoor seating the pampering patio. Is the sun a little too strong for your liking? Relax in comfortable lounge seating under Eastern Standard's large red canopy. Forgot to pack a sweater for that chilly summer night? Cozy up on the heated patio that seats 40. Still not satisfied? Chef Jamie Bissonnette, formerly of Pigalle and Tremont 647, serves up new American cuisine at this brand-new restaurant in the Hotel Commonwealth nightly until 11 pm, 12 am on Friday and Saturday. If that doesn't work, stay home. You're too high maintenance.

FOUNDATION LOUNGE

500 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-859-9900

Set in the shadow of the Boston's beloved CITGO sign and right next door to Eastern Standard, the Hotel Commonwealth's Foundation Lounge features a 25-seat side-

walk patio where Chef Kenichi Iwaoka, a partner at Boston's two Osushi locations, serves up Japanese zensai (snacks and appetizers) both days and nights. One perk to its location on Hotel Commonwealth's property: The patio stays open year-round until 2 am, making it a great place to indulge in a late-night cigar or, in about six months, a spirited vodka and tonic–induced snowball fight. And it's WiFi accessible.

GAME ON!

82 Lansdowne St., Boston, 617-351-7001

The newest addition to the Fenway and Lansdowne Street family, this ubersports café features just about everything a sports fan would need (HDTVs, video games, burgers, beers and wings), but if you feel like taking advantage of the weather or taunting a random Yankees fan that wanders by, the patio's a great option. With its six tables and 24 seats, it's an ideal spot to absorb the full Fenway experience. But stake your claim early on game day, because the seats fill up fast.

PICCO

513 Tremont St., Boston, 617-927-0066

There's a serious buzz among foodies in the know about local pastry patriarch Rick Katz's casual pizza joint at the South End's stylish new Atelier 505 complex. Picco opened last August and offers a European-style patio featuring nine umbrella-covered tables, surrounded by planters filled with yellow geraniums. The umbrellas are likely to come in handy, too, since this patio receives full-day sun (when it decides to come out). Picco's menu includes a variety of specialty pizzas, sandwiches, soups and salads, as well as a wealth of ice creams and chocolate sauces all made in-house.

SIBLING RIVALRY

525 Tremont St., Boston, 617-338-5338

Chefs Bob and David Kinkead brought a little brotherly love (and competition) to the South End when they opened Sibling Rivalry on the ground floor of Atelier 505 last fall. The restaurant's all-brick patio sits on the Tremont Street side and features 23 sturdy, aluminum-finished bistro tables surrounded by wood and aluminum chairs. Plants decorate the perimeter, and the Kinkeads offer up a summer drink selection of strawberry mojitos, watermelon martinis and other light aperitifs.

STELLA RESTAURANT AND BAR

1525 Washington St., Boston, 617-247-7747

With a pretty view of the South End's Blackstone Park, this new Italian restaurant from chef Evan Deluty offers up one of the city's more aesthetically pleasing al fresco opportunities. The landscaped patio seats 52 and remains open until 12 am, allowing you to enjoy a menu from Deluty and executive chef Joe Cassinelli that features classic Italian pasta and fish dishes, grilled pizzas and some of the city's best crispy frites. Canvas umbrellas shade each of Stella's tables, and there's a retractable yellow canopy that can cover the entire patio, if necessary. iB

ALSO NEW WITH A VIEW

CUVÉE

254 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-7077)

This Newbury Street restaurant, which opened in April at the former site of the Jewel of Newbury, offers contemporary American cuisine on its 20-seat patio.

INQ BISTRO & BAR

279 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-9321)

INQ opened this spring in the former home of Saffron and took over the 60-table patio where chef Steven Beattles serves up dishes like pan-seared salmon and rosemary chicken.

PETIT ROBERT BISTRO

468 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-375-0699)

The latest venture from restaurateur Jacky Robert, this affordable French bistro features a cozy 10-seat patio slightly below street level.

PIATTINI WINE BAR

162 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-423-2021)

The second location in the Piattini family, this wine bar at the corner of Berkeley Street and Columbus Avenue boasts a 25-seat patio that's open every night until 10 or 10:30 pm.

Jimmy Kantanas of Jimmy's Harborside has been waiting tables for 47 years.

VETERAN SERVERS AT CLASSIC BOSTON RESTAURANTS TELL ALL

the Q-fessionals

BY ETHAN GILSDORF

Oysters, $1.50 for a half dozen. Three-martini lunches. Steaks and chops on the grill. Sinatra on the hi-fi. Not only waiters in their black and white best, but diners decked out in jackets and ties.

The regular table. The regular customer. "Thank you, Frankie. I'll have the usual."

The usual was good enough in Boston restaurants for a large chunk of the last century—a period bookended by the arrival of the first "ethnic" cuisine: Italian at one end and Julia Child's warbling voice promoting French food at the other. Ever since city dwellers learned the difference between catch of the day and cacciatore, they've bid farewell to that golden, if more naive, era of Boston's dining past.

But not necessarily the waitstaff. Spend time in some of the Hub's more venerable dining rooms, and you'll find an old-school cadre of servers who've been on the job, serving area patrons faithfully and cheerfully, since before many of you readers were born. They have 20, 30, 40 or more years of double shifts under their belts. Their notepad scribbles are the missing link to our culinary prehistory. And their tracks from the kitchen to the dining room are imprinted on Boston's gastronomic memory.

I came here in 1948," says John Ferrari, long-time fixture at the Union Oyster House. "It was pretty bad in Italy those days." He worked at two other Boston restaurants before landing his oyster-shucking gig in 1970. The wisecracking Ferrari and his partner still open between two and four thousand oysters, littlenecks and cherrystones a day. Yet 35 years later, he still beams from encounters with bewildered tourists and hardened Bostonians alike.

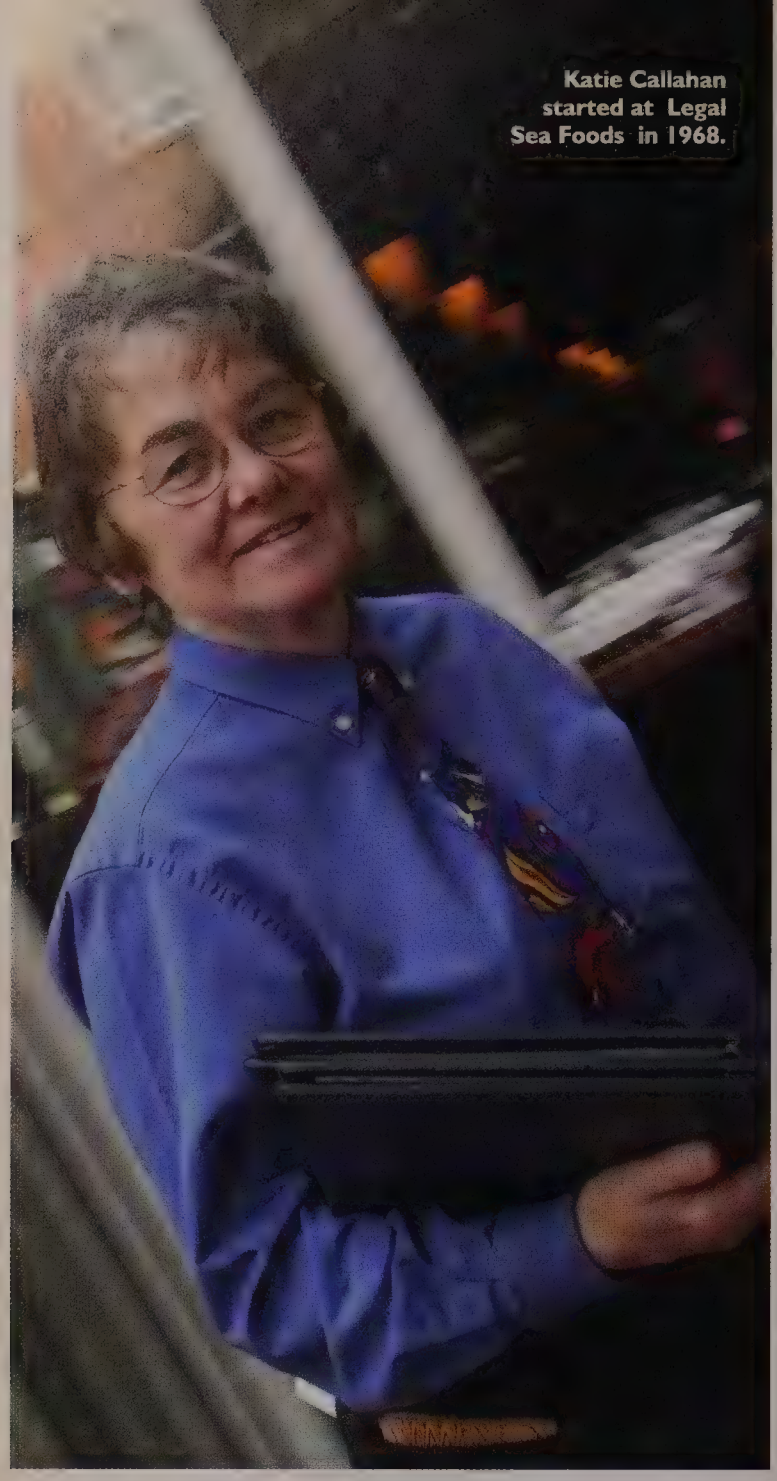
As it happens, every waiter, waitress and maitre d' interviewed for this story is an immigrant. But that's because Ferrari's story—from farm in Parma to Boston dining room—is not uncommon. Among longtime servers in his age group, the majority are first-generation Italians, Greeks, Spaniards and Irish who fled the ravaged landscape of postwar Europe and arrived in the States in the '40s and '50s. They found jobs as dishwashers and bus boys and worked their way up. And, unlike most employees today, the John Ferraris of the world tend to remain loyal to a single employer. The restaurant biz wasn't a summer job or stepping stone to somewhere else: It was considered good work. You could dedicate a life to it. Few make a career out of the serving biz anymore—certainly not Ferrari's son.

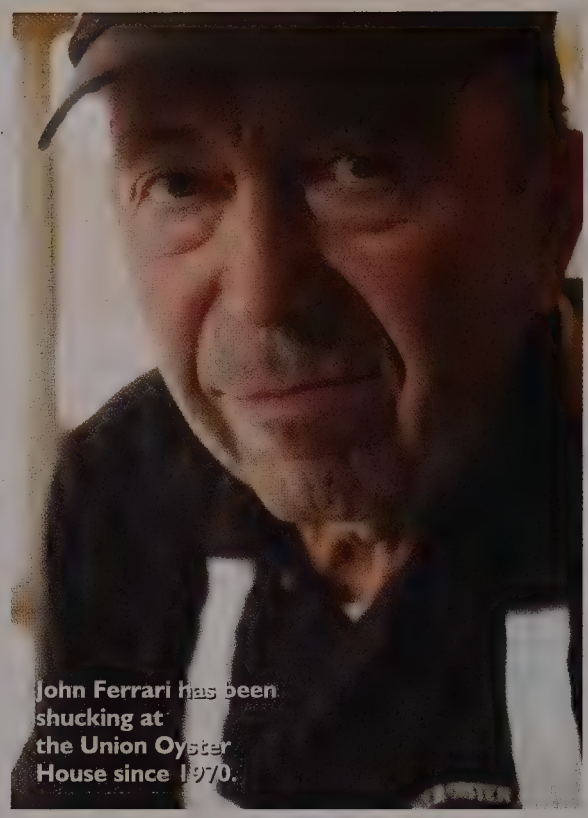
When Ferrari got his start, no restaurant had an HR department or employee training program. Risks were part of the job. Early on, shucking oysters, he stabbed "right through the palm of my hand" but never told the chef or went to the hospital. "In those days they fired you for nothing."

Katie Callahan began working at the original Legal Sea Foods in 1968, back when it was a "hole in the wall" on Inman Square. Now 70, the Irishwoman remembers the training she received from founder George Berkowitz: "Go out there and treat my diners like they were at your own table." End of seminar.

But while the instruction for employees was delivered via seat-of-the-pants, the dining experience was more formal. Over at Jimmy's Harborside, 47-year veteran waiter Jimmy Kantanas recalls that until the 1970s, men arriving without proper attire would be given a red jacket to wear, as if to stick out in the dining room like a sore thumb. "Even shorts are OK now," he remarks.

Locke-Ober is one of the few dining rooms that haven't skimped on the dress code. While coats and ties aren't required anymore, jeans and sneakers are forbidden. "Friday casual day ruins everything," complains Frank Carballeira, a waiter since 1968. "We have to refuse them."


Katie Callahan started at Legal Sea Foods in 1968.


John Ferrari has been shucking at the Union Oyster House since 1970.

Gianfranco Verri has served at the Ritz for 30 years

Antonio Accardi and Frank Carballeira have worked at Locke-Ober since the '60s.

Another casualty of the casual trend: table-side service. For 30 years, Gianfranco Verri, 66, took pleasure in filleting a Dover sole or flambéing a crepe for his clientele in the Ritz's 80-year-old dining room, which closed its doors this January. "That was satisfying," says Verri, who now waits in the Ritz café. "You wanted to show that you have a skill, that you are capable." That tradition is gone.

But paradoxically, as the clientele and dining experience has become more informal, diners also have become savvier. "People travel more," says Verri. "They are definitely more knowledgeable. Most of the time, they know exactly what they're talking about." Drinking habits have changed, too. More than one old-timer agrees that wine is in, hard liquor is out. No longer do diners simply want a glass of red wine, either; they'll request Pinot Noir. Waiters like Verri have to study up to stay ahead of their customers.

The trickiest balancing act for Boston's most revered dining spots is how to attract younger crowds without turning off the old. But woe to the chef who tries to meddle with old faves. When hot-shot chef Lydia Shire came on board at Locke-Ober in 2001, she dared to switch out classic dishes for more contemporary fare. Some of those changes didn't go over so well with the regular bankers, lawyers and stock brokers. They'd ask, " 'Why did you take the steak off the menu?' " says Carballeira. In a flash, the sirloin steak au poivre and broiled Boston scrod were back.

At the more tourist-frequented Union Oyster House, staying current is less of an issue. People come for the menu that patrons from Daniel Webster to JFK have enjoyed: the raw shellfish, broiled fish and cornbread that haven't changed for decades, perhaps centuries. (Kennedy wannabe "John—what's his name? He ran for president?—Kerry," John Ferrari says, sits at the 180-year-old semicircular oyster bar on election night.) Customers know what they like, and they like what they know. Ferrari's uniform has shifted colors a few times, from blue to brown to black, and "ladies" are now allowed at the bar. Otherwise, he says, it "stays pretty much the same. Except the prices go up."

At Legal Sea Foods, what was once a small family restaurant has become, in Katie Callahan's words, "a huge conglomerate." She seems to accept the changes that have occurred since the days when shrimp and garlic for $3.95 was the most expensive item on the menu. "It's grown in leaps and bounds." The company's growth and changing times have bred another side effect: staff turnover. Members of recent generations don't seem to consider waiting on tables a viable, or desirable, career. "Young people come and go," Callahan says with her faint Irish brogue. "It's fast money."

Does today's get-rich attitude mean the art of serving is under threat? Perhaps. So, how can it be saved? "You have to love what you are doing. You have to like to please people," suggests Gianfranco Verri. "That is hard to instill."

If this seasoned generation of servers seems nostalgic for the past, it's not born of bitterness for today's working climate. On the contrary, these servers remain exceptionally passionate about what they do. "It's the best place to work," says Locke-Ober's Antonio Accardi, a one-time waiter and now maitre d'hotel who can spot an out-of-place drinking glass from across the dining room. He arrived in Boston from Sicily in July 1965, began work at Locke-Ober that September and hasn't looked back. His four decades of pride come down to one principle: exceptional service. "The customers are right all the time. I don't care how wrong they are. They are right, we are wrong."

Whether or not the new generation of restaurateurs heeds this advice, the old guard shows no sign of flagging. Katie Callahan says she'll continue her semi-retirement of three dinner shifts. "I'll be working till they take me out feet first," she pledges.

And at age 77, Jimmy Kantanas still comes in five days a week to work, just like he has since 1958. His restaurant may be only haunted by the ghosts of A-list celebs like Ted Williams, Alfred Hitchcock and Tip O'Neill. The front of the house may no longer be 100 percent Greek. But unlike at the latest, hippest, celebrity-chef–driven dining rooms, repeat customers keep coming back to Jimmy's Harborside to be served by Kantanas.

"For me, it's a pleasure to work. I enjoy what I do," says Kantanas. "I'm going to work a couple more years until I'm 80. Then I'm going part-time." IB

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kitchen companions

Five new cookbooks by New England authors and chefs add local flavor to your culinary repertoire.

BY JUDITH GAINES

If you ask me, there are three main reasons why most of us read cookbooks: 1) To get practical advice for delicious dishes we actually might make; 2) to get glimpses of ethereal dishes we'd love to taste, even though we'd never attempt them; and 3) in rare cases where the recipes have been devised by someone we admire or want to know better, to savor the way they reflect the personality of and give us new insights into their creator.

In the first instance, we want clarity and logical organization of information and recipes that seem trustworthy and easy to follow, with ingredients that aren't too difficult to find. In the second, we want to be captivated by the sensual pleasures we conjure up in our imaginations. In this case, the cookbook should be as lush as possible, with beautiful photos and inviting prose assuring us that each dish is as fabulous as it seems. In the third, anything is possible. A dish can be exotic or even surprisingly bland—as long as it's interesting. In any case, the writing should convey sincerity and authority. During the last year, several local authors have produced new cookbooks, all interesting for quite different reasons.

Left to right: Tina Miller, Christie Matheson, and Judith Barrett

ALL ABOUT BRAISING: THE ART OF UNCOMPLICATED COOKING

by Molly Stevens

By my criteria, I'd say Stevens' is the best new cookbook by a New England author. The author, who lives near Burlington, Vt., has collaborated in the past on several cookbooks, including the revised *Joy of Cooking*, but this is her first solo project: a collection of about 150 recipes for braised, one-pot meals.

One of the most interesting things about meat is that cuts that are naturally the least tender are also the tastiest. Tough shoulder butts, chuck roasts and briskets are much more flavorful than, say, tenderloins. The more rugged cuts are also less expensive. But precisely because they're gristly and coarse-grained, they require special treatment. There's no better way to bring out their complex flavors, Stevens claims, than through a long, slow braise—which she calls "the art of uncomplicated cooking."

Braising, she explains, basically means searing this meat in an oven-proof container, adding some liquid, covering the pot and putting it in a slow oven. A few hours later, that tough, fat-mottled roast or lamb shank is tender and aromatic. Finish the dish with some cream or fresh herbs or a squeeze of lemon, and the result is supreme comfort food.

The book also includes recipes for a few fast braises—for seafood, for instance—and some surprising braised vegetable dishes. Typically spanning two or three pages, the recipes are often quite elaborate—not a cooking style that every reader would consider "uncomplicated." But the book is clear, detailed and thorough. It won the coveted James Beard award this year for the best single subject cookbook in the country. Stevens, a contributing editor for *Fine Cooking* magazine and an enthusiastic teacher, tells us not only how to cook these dishes but what pans to use, how to shop for the ingredients, what beverages to serve and more.

Try the exquisite braised endive with prosciutto or the ale-braised short ribs with a maple-rosemary-horseradish glaze.

THE FEARLESS CHEF: INNOVATIVE RECIPES FROM THE EDGE OF AMERICAN CUISINE

by Andy Husbands and Joe Yonan

There's nothing beautiful about this cookbook by Husbands of Rouge, Tremont 647 and Sister Sorrel restaurants with writing help from Joe Yonan, a reporter at the *Boston Globe*. This is strictly a workbook. One chapter is devoted entirely to rice and beans, for instance, and the book begins with what Husbands considers essential prep work: making the spice mixes, sauces, salsas and chutneys that are integral to his cooking.

With its funky orange and brown graphics, the book radiates a sense of energy and fun and the special spirit that Husbands, once dubbed Boston's "irreverent, punk-rock chef," brings to the kitchen. Husband's recipes are edgy mainly in that the food is highly spiced and unconventional, with dishes like Polenta Fries, Tibetan Momos (bitesize dumplings filled with pork or turkey and dipped in a soy sake sauce) and Birrea (a Mexican, many-meat stew whose name means "grotesque").

This cookbook is for eaters—not necessarily gourmets—who like their flavors bold and adventurous. I do, and I found myself returning repeatedly to his Basic BBQ Rub, which I now use religiously for smoking meats (it's much more tasty than just grilling them, Husbands notes), his Pineapple-Glazed Roast Pork and his Garlicky Squid with Wilted Greens.

FAGIOLI: THE BEAN CUISINE OF ITALY

by Judith Barrett

Beans have had a bad rap ever since Catherine de' Medici tried to Frenchify Italian cooking, snubbing them as "the meat of the poor." But they're on the road back to respectability, says Cambridge food writer Judith Barrett. In her new cookbook, she offers 120 easy-to-make recipes to show why.

Unlike the other cookbooks mentioned here, whose chefs mainly dreamed up the recipes in their collections, Barrett reports on her findings after roughly 20 years of traveling and eating throughout Italy where, she says, beans are as central to the cuisine as pasta and pizza. She offers a solid, restrained, well-organized little guide to beans of all types: how to buy them, cook them and make the most of their various properties, as well as tricks for minimizing their gas-producing properties. (Always dispose of water that beans soak in, and always cook them thoroughly, she advises.)

This is Barrett's sixth cookbook, and she knows how to write with authority. Photos might have made this book more appealing, but in their place, good graphics and intelligent design suffice.

VINEYARD HARVEST

by Tina Miller with Christie Matheson

Miller, a private chef on Martha's Vineyard, describes her cooking style as "very simple and straightforward. I use great ingredients with beautiful, vibrant color, and I don't handle them too much," she says. Her new cookbook, written with Christie Matheson, a Boston-based food and lifestyle writer, explores this beauty, with spectacular photos by Alison Shaw. The cookbook also is firmly rooted in its place: the Vineyard, where Miller was raised.

Vineyard Harvest is a paean to the local farmers, fisherman and others who grow, catch or hunt ingredients that are at the heart of Miller's dishes. She tells many of their stories, and gives addresses of farms and farm stands. To take advantage of local produce at its peak, her recipes also are listed and organized by season. Barbequed ribs, for instance, are located in the chapter called "spring." But don't most folks bring out their grills in the summer?

Still, this cookbook clearly is a labor of love. It would be a helpful resource to anyone who frequents the Vineyard. IB

THE MAIN INGREDIENTS

Michael Schlow, executive chef and co-owner of Radius, Via Matta and Great Bay restaurants in Boston, has just finished his first book, "It's About Time: Great Recipes for Everyday Life." Its focus is time—the time it takes to prepare his dishes and the times or occasions when one might serve them. We asked Schlow about the ins and outs of the cookbook writing process.

JG: *Was your new book's title a way of saying it's about time that you wrote a cookbook?*

MS: It's a spin on the word "time" in every sense of the word. But yeah, sure, there are a bunch of hidden meanings. Mainly I wanted something that would work for the home cook today, when so many people are so busy, with overscheduled lives spinning out of control. Some of the recipes can be on the table in less than 30 minutes, and others are for times when you can savor a meal and really take your time cooking it.

JG: *Readers are often interested in the process involved in creating something like this. When did you work on it? Did you have any special rituals or routines?*

MS: The book was completely written in my house. I tested the recipes at home. The format came from what was happening in my life. The publisher had set a deadline and I put myself on a schedule—like five recipes or so a week. I'd do a little something every day.

JG: *How did you decide what recipes to use?*

MS: That was easy. They're my favorite foods, what I would make for you if you were coming to my home.

JG: *How did you test the recipes? Did you have a gang of volunteer tasters?*

MS: I tested them all myself and sent them to all kinds of cooks, pros, even novices. I think good food doesn't have to be complicated. Creative can be simple.

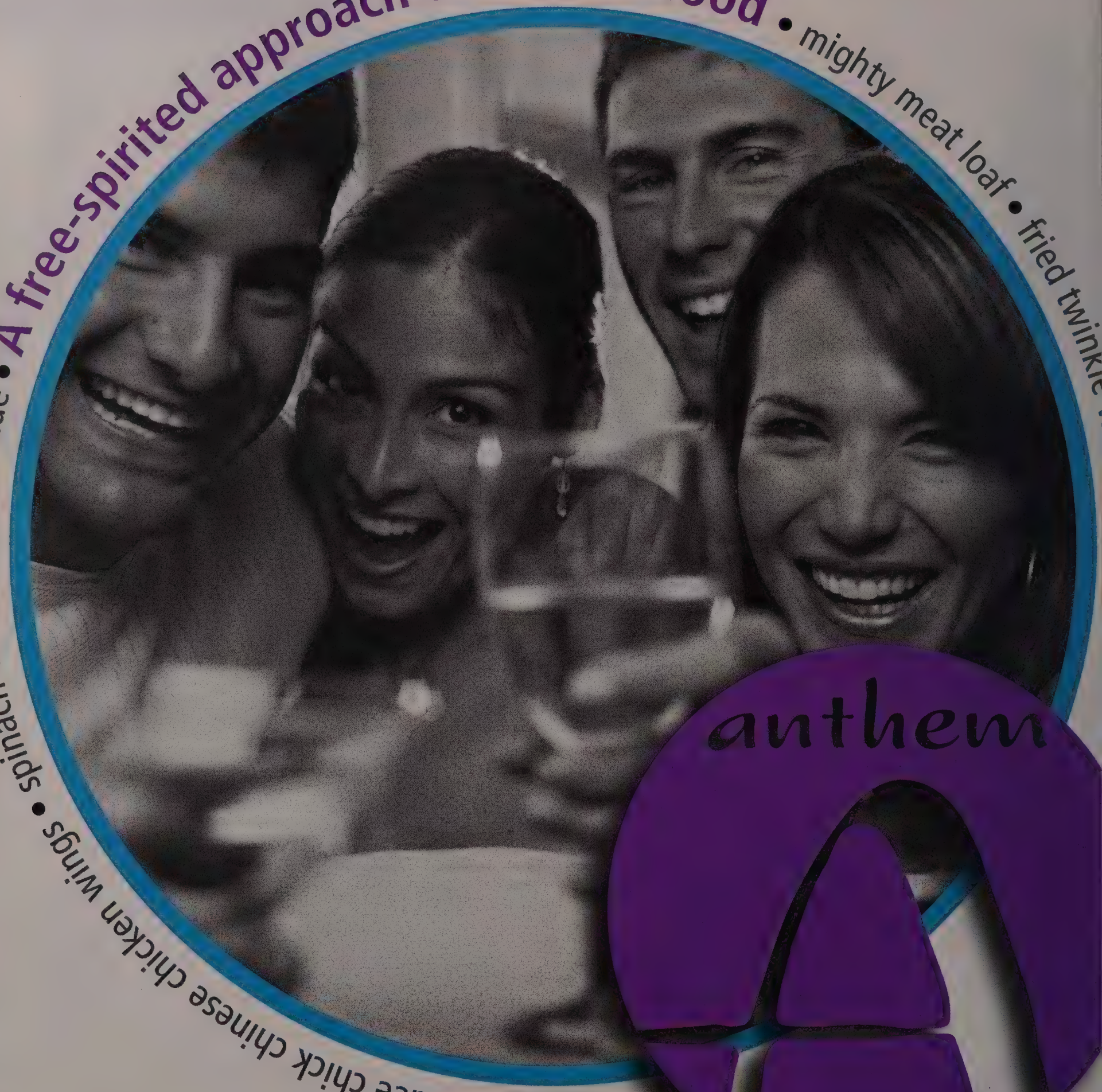
JG: *What surprised you most about the whole cookbook-producing process?*

MS: I was surprised by my own ignorance, how naive I was to the process. When I finally sent it to the publisher, I thought I was done. But I was amazed by how long and tedious the editing was. It took a long, long time. But in the end the editor really made the book.

JG: *What do you like most about your cookbook?*

MS: That it's finished, that I actually wrote one! I enjoyed writing the stories, the little anecdotes. I wanted the book to be whimsical. I think everybody who was involved is pretty happy. Actually, the greatest part was watching the look on my parents' faces when they saw it. I dedicated it to them.

—Judith Gaines



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a taste of new england

IN THE CITY AND BEYOND, FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVALS FETING EVERYTHING FROM THE MIGHTY LOBSTER TO LOCAL WINES AND BREWS OFFER A REASON TO INDULGE THIS SUMMER.

BY SARAH FELDBERG

All over New England, tents are being hoisted, chefs are hitting the road and foodies are skipping breakfast. Why? It's time for summer's food festivals, where diners can chow on an array of tasty samples that puts even the vastest smorgasbord to shame. This year's gastronomic celebrations also feature live music, fireworks and road races for when you're done digesting. So tune up your appetite—some of the season's liveliest eats are in the streets this season.

Green Mountain Chew Chew Festival... Can't decide between Kung Pao chicken and pasta primavera? You don't have to. The Green Mountain Chew Chew Festival offer three tents' worth of booths from more than 40 of Vermont's restaurants and food producers, which offer tastes of everything from sushi to Belgian waffles. Your only challenge will be saving room for the goodies in tent three. Entertainment bonus: Twenty bands will perform this year in honor of the festival's 20th anniversary. Food tokens cost $5 for nine. June 24–26. Waterfront Park, Burlington,VT(802-864-6674). www.greenmountainchewchew.com.

Chowderfest... Boston has always been known for its "chowda," but where can you get the best cup in a city full of the stuff? As part of Boston's Harborfest celebration, the 24th Annual Chowderfest attracts more than 10,000 chowder lovers to sample recipes from a slew of Boston restaurants as they compete for the title of "Boston's Best Chowder." $5–$7. July 4. City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-523-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com.

Moxie Festival... Come see why "Moxie makes Mainers mighty" at this festival named after the bitter bubbly that's Maine's official soft drink. Activities include a car show, a Moxie recipe contest, a fireman's muster, trivia and bubble gum contests, pony rides, a 5K foot race and a pancake breakfast. A two-hour parade on Saturday is the main event, and a canoe race caps things off on Sunday. Food is $3–$6; races are $8–$12. July 8–10. Lisbon, ME (207-353-5354). www.moxiefestival.com.

Vermont Brewers Festival... July is American beer month, and the Vermont Brewers Festival offers a chance to celebrate. Sample local suds from breweries in Vermont and all over the Northeast, from traditional lagers to fruit beers, barley wines and Belgian-style white beers. Views of Lake Champlain and the Adirondack Mountains provide scenery worthy of a toast. $20. July 15 and 16. Waterfront Park, Burlington, VT (802-244-6828). www.vermontbrewers.com/festival.html.

Yarmouth Clam Festival... The clams are coming! The clams are coming! Clams take Yarmouth, Maine, by storm during the 40th Annual Yarmouth Clam Festival, where hungry visitors can scarf down the beloved bivalve at various locations around town. The event also includes a parade, road and canoe races, and an arts and crafts fair. July 15–17. Yarmouth, ME (207-846-3984). www.clamfestival.com.

Stonington Vineyards Wine and Food Festival... Jump on the wine-lover's bandwagon and head to Stonington Vineyards for a weekend of wine cellar tours and

wine tastings accompanied by gourmet snacks from local vendors. July 16 and 17. 523 Taugwonk Rd., Stonington, CT (860-535-1222). www.stoningtonvineyards.com.

Tanglewood Wine and Food Classic... Escape summer in the city and head to the Berkshires for an elegant event featuring wines from more than 100 vintners and artisanal food products—all set against the beautiful mountain backdrop. Make a night of it and go see James Levine conduct the BSO on Saturday evening. $95. July 21–23. Tanglewood, 297 West St., Lenox (508-228-1128). www.tanglewoodwineandfoodclassic.com.

Maine Lobster Festival... With some 12 tons of lobster being prepared for the event, there's plenty to go around. Once you've had your fill, listen to live music or watch the parade and Sea Goddess pageant. Two major musical acts are on the bill for this year: Country star Jo Dee Messina headlines Thursday night and cajun band Beausoleil on Saturday night. Comedian Don Rickles performs on Friday night. $7–$10 for the festival; concert tickets are $20–$30. Aug. 3–7. Harbor Park, Rockland, ME (1-800-562-2529). www.mainelobsterfestival.com.

Charlestown Seafood Festival... When the August heat and humidity get unbearable, head for the coast and the nearest seafood festival. In Rhode Island, Charlestown's annual event features just about every kind of seafood under the sun boiled, fried, baked or raw. If you've got a taste for shrimp and a large appetite, give the shrimp-eating contest a try. $5–$6. Aug. 5–7. Ninigret Park, Charlestown, RI (401-364-4031). www.charlestownrichamber.com.

Chocolate and Jazz Festival... Waterville Valley's slopes are now green, and entertainment in town is heating up. Stop by the Annual Chocolate and Jazz Festival, in its sixth year, where you can satisfy your craving for all things cool by listening to live jazz while nibbling on rich chocolate desserts. Aug. 13. Town Square, Waterville Valley, NH (603-236-8175). www.nhliving.com/events/chocolatejazz/index.shtml

August Moon Festival... Legend has it that in 1368 the Chinese overthrew the Mongol Yuan dynasty using messages hidden in sweet flaky pastries called mooncakes. Today, the treats are not part of military strategy, but they are a delicious part of Chinatown's annual festival that celebrates the moon and the end of China's harvest season with food from local vendors and traditional martial arts and dance performances. Aug. 21. Chinatown Gate, Chinatown, Boston (617-542-2574).

Fisherman's Feast... When the streets of the North End fill with live music and the aroma of Italian sausage, it's time for the Fisherman's Feast. In its 95th year, the festival includes a procession of the Madonna del Soccorso, performances by Frankie Avalon, a cheese building contest and, of course, plenty of food. Aug. 18–21. North St. and Fleet St., Boston. www.fishermansfeast.com.

Saint Anthony's Feast... Bostonians young and old will be heading to the North End this August, and not just for a plate of pasta and a glass of Chianti. With live music, carnival games, food from local vendors and the religious processions that are its hallmark, the historic Saint Anthony's Feast will keep you entertained, whether you come for the culture or the cannolis. Aug. 26–28. Endicott St., Thacher and North Margin St., Boston (617-723-8669). www.stanthonysfeast.com.

Hampton Beach Seafood Festival... Don't forget your bib when you join the 200,000 hungry New Englanders that flock to New Hampshire's Hampton Beach to dine on fresh seafood prepared by more than 50 Seacoast restaurants. If the plentiful seafood isn't enough to keep you busy, the festival also features performances by the U.S. Navy Big Band, a fireworks display and a skydiving demonstration. $4 one day, $6 two-day pass. Sept. 9–11. Hampton Beach, NH (603-926-8718). www.hamptonbeachseafoodfestival.com.

Norwalk Oyster Festival... You'll find a lot more than oysters at this event, first held in 1978. More than 60,000 visitors can gorge themselves at the 18 food booths, take a tour of a tall ship, listen to live music from national and local acts or hop on a carnival ride in Kid's Cove. The action gets competitive at the festival's oyster shucking and slurping contests. $3–$10. Sept. 9–11. Veteran's Park, Norwalk, CT (203-838-9444). www.seaport.org.

Taste of Boston... With all the fabulous restaurants in Boston, there's never enough time to try them all. Unless, of course, you stop at Taste of Boston 2005, where you can redeem "taste tickets" for a yummy snack from many of the city's premiere restaurants and watch chefs demonstrate how they create their signature dishes. Taste Tickets $1. Sept. 17 and 18. City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-779-3496). www.tasteofboston.com.

Bourne Scallop Festival... Heading to the Cape this summer? Stop by the largest scallop festival on the East Coast and fill up on its famous breaded scallops while listening to a live music acts that range from Irish folk to traditional jazz. An arts and crafts show and carnival rides round out the festivities. $4–$15. Sept. 23–25. Buzzards Bay Park, Main St., Buzzards Bay (508-759-6000). www.capecodcanalchamber.org.

Schnitzelfest... You say you're sick of summer's salads and veggies? Schnitzelfest satisfies. Come for the schnitzel (veal cutlets breaded and deep-fried), stay for the bratwurst, and maybe even dance to the sounds of a live Oom-pah band. Germany's closer than you think. Sept. 24. Central St., Hillsborough, NH (603-464-5858). IB

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Floral bikini by Salinas, $188; orange sarong, $24. Both at Canyon Beachwear. Vintage beads on ribbon necklace (worn as belt) by Emily Bider, $170 at Persona Jewelry +

HEAD TO THE BEACH

IN BRIGHTLY COLORED

SUITS THAT INSPIRE

A SUNNY MOOD

sea worthy

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER

Pink and green bikini by Letarte, $148 at Canyon Beachwear. Vintage bead and ribbon necklace by Emily Bider, $210 at Persona Jewelry +.

Snake print bikini by Michael Kors, $325 at Gretta Luxe. Multistrand chain-link necklace by Alexis Bittar, $395 at Persona Jewelry +.

Canyon Beachwear
229 Newbury St.
617-375-7848

Gretta Luxe
Copley Place
617-536-1959

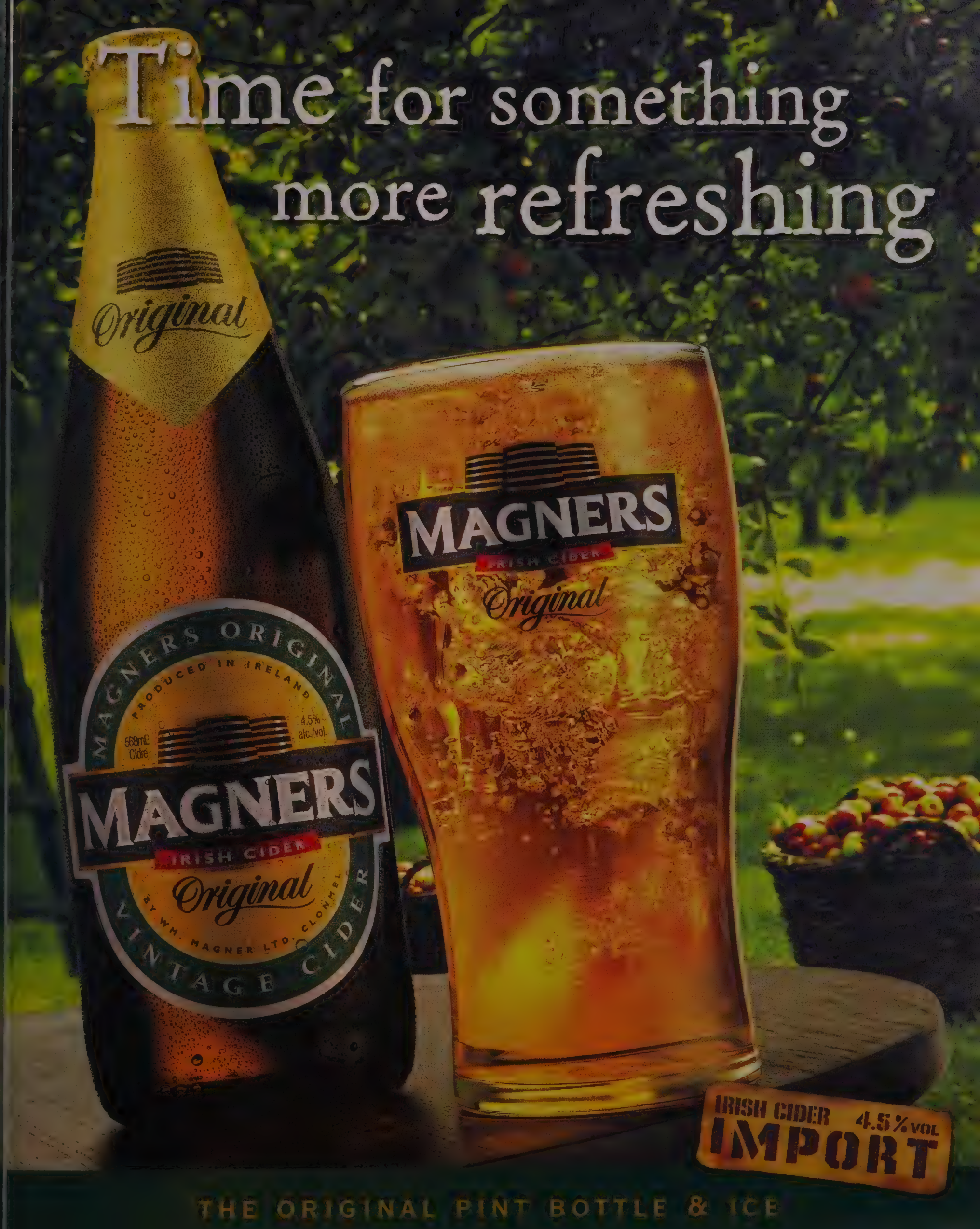
Persona Jewelry +
504 Commonwealth Ave.
617-266-3003

Hair:
Mitch Derosa for
Mitchell John Salon

Makeup:
Lisa Derosa for
Mitchell John Salon

Teal bikini by Michael Kors, $175 at Gretta Luxe. Mother-of-pearl choker, $210, mother-of-pearl necklace, $160, both by Olgara; shell earrings by Erica Bica, $45

Time for something more refreshing



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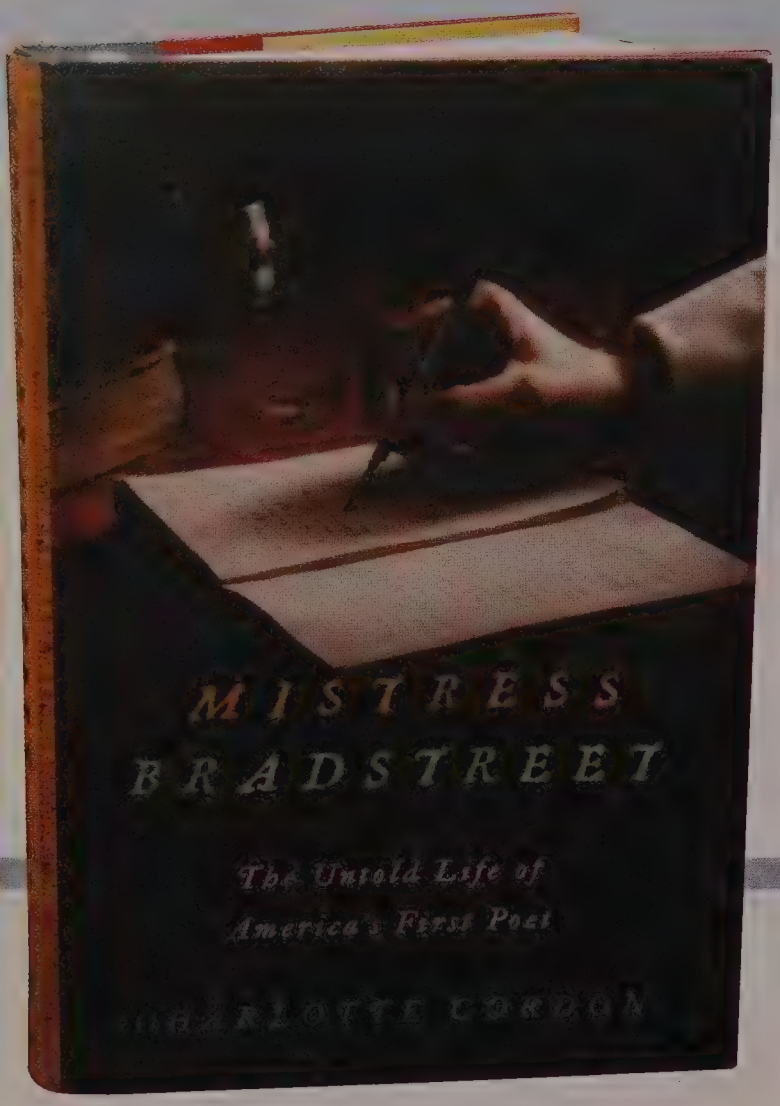
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



PURITAN, POET, BOSTONIAN

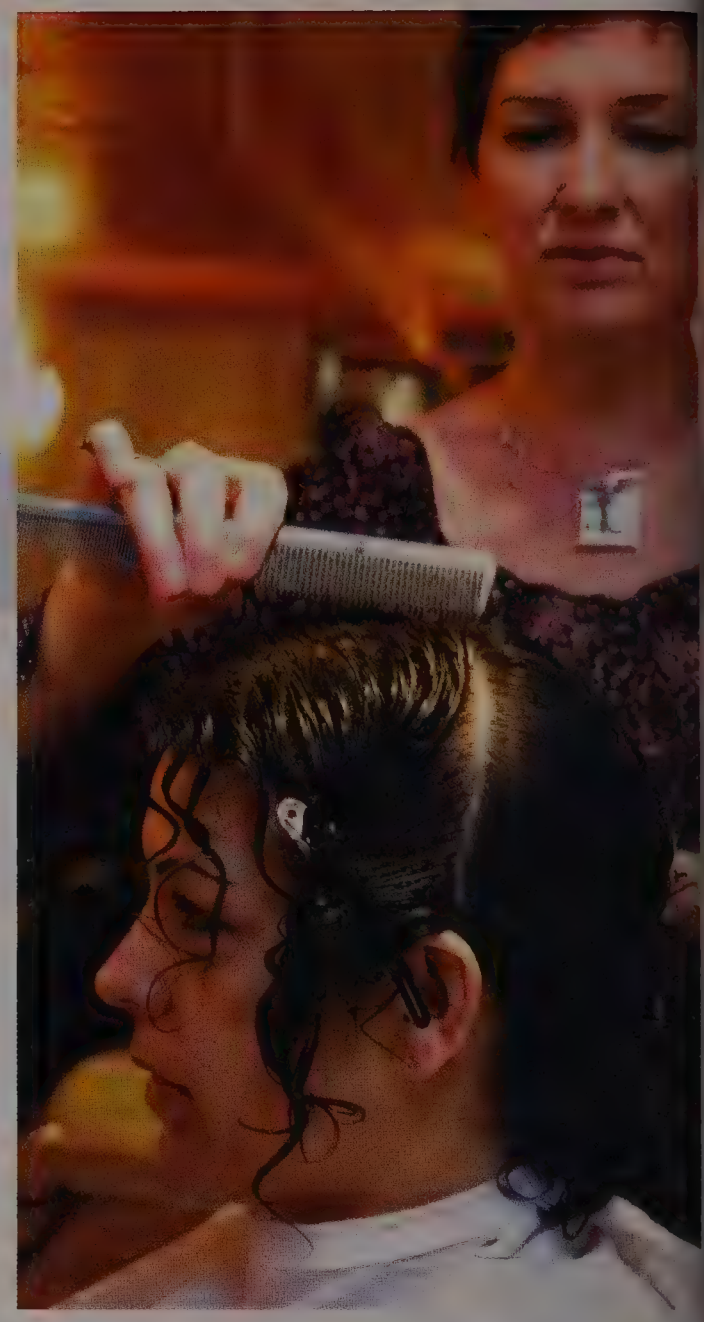
***Mistress Bradstreet—The Untold Life of America's First Poet* is by Gloucester poet and biographer Charlotte Gordon.**

Each momentous thing that happened to Anne Bradstreet would be accomplishment enough. Along with her disciplined, high-toned, militantly Puritan father, Thomas Dudley, and her young husband, Simon Bradstreet, she sailed from England to the New World in 1630. After briefly settling in Boston and Cambridge, she found her home in Ipswich, "seeking more frontier in the frontier." There she became a member of a punishingly pious Puritan community (some imagined sin often resulted in misfortune). A midwife and the mother of eight herself, it's a wonder she considered poetry at all. But Bradstreet straddled the worlds of rectitude and discreet rebellion. Along with her more comfortingly peaceful, domestic poems, she "brandished a biting poetic sword," prodigiously researching and writing of "the ruthless women of antiquity." In another allegorical work, female characters stood for the elements of water, air, fire and earth. In a sort of Puritan Lib spirit, Bradstreet imbued these women with greater juice and boldness than male poets afforded them. But she also portrayed them as rational mediators, dropping a fortified-feminine hint to battling leaders in Old and New England to do likewise. In 10 years Bradstreet wrote more poetry than almost any English-language writer on either side of the Atlantic.

CURLY EARLEY

At 1018 Beacon St. in Brookline (617 734-247) J. Earley's hair salon specializes in curly hair. She is developing a makeover event for cancer survivors. Also on the menu are updos for a wedding.

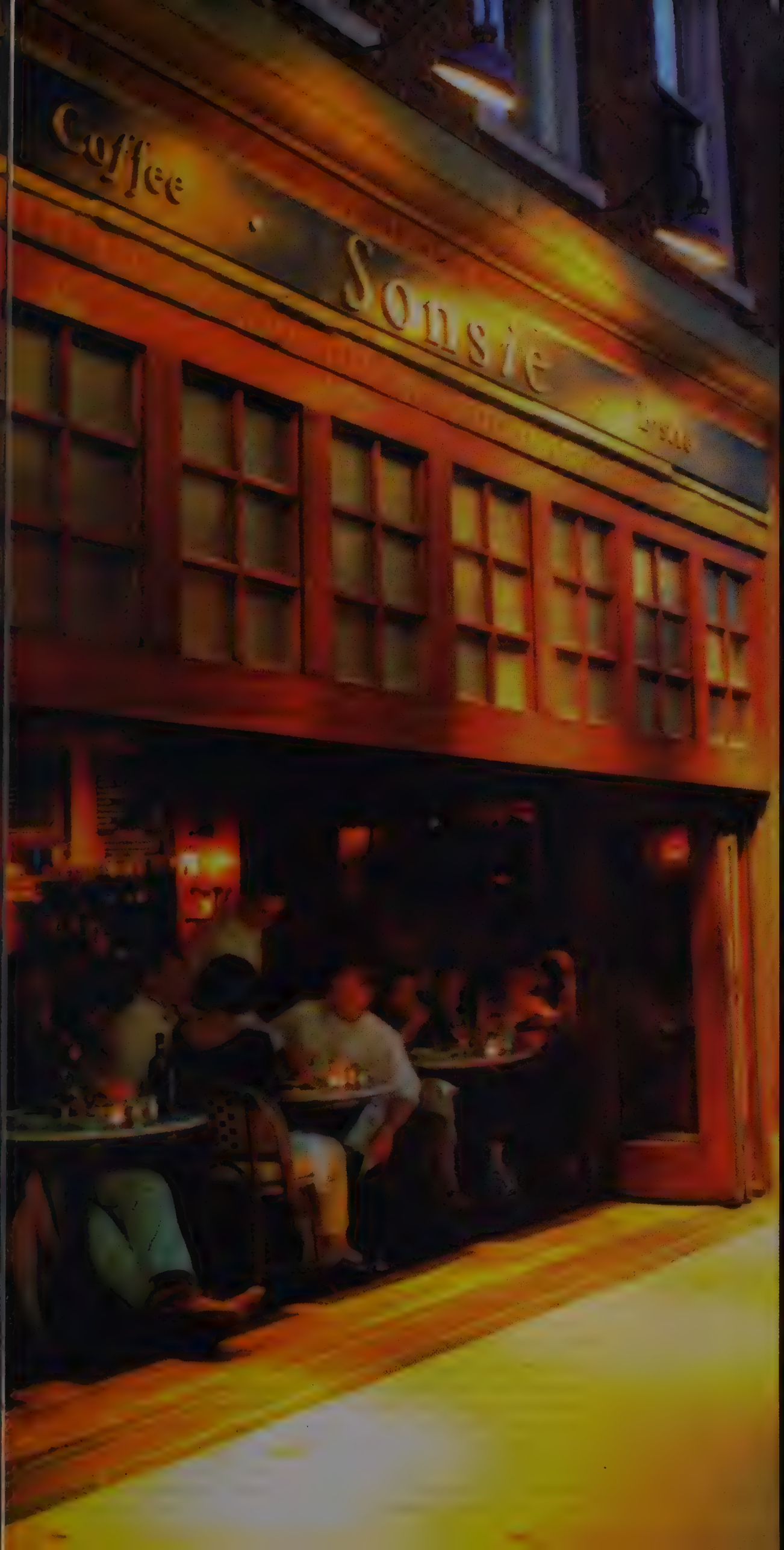
This refreshing salon is unburdened by those sharp, nose-crinkling hairdressery smells. Jackie Earley—who's English, cheerful and as it happens, possessed of short, red, straight punky locks—specializes in curly hair. More than in England, she says, she sees loose locks hereabouts that shouldn't be straightened out but should be allowed to go with their own loose and sexy flow. Heat, stress and hormones cause such hair, if rigidified with product, to simply assert its rebellious flounce anyway. Earley works with curls in a manner that is down to earth, un-gloppy and yet cutting-edge and sexy. Though she says, "I'm on the side of nonfussy," Earley also keeps an eye on London's West End trends, visiting twice yearly. She notes that actresses like Nicole Kidman and Meg Ryan, who she calls "cute and quirky," are in the Curly Club. Moreover, so are some men like Brad Pitt, tossing their locks and swashbuckling through antiquity in recent films. Flaring flowy fashions go well with curly hair's sweet disorder, and Jackie reports upticks in confidence—not to mention compliments—among people who cultivate their natural kinky hair. "Curly hair makes you look younger," she says. "It has its own dynamic. People notice you."



BRUTAL, TRAGIC AND SURPRISINGLY BEAUTIFUL

"Hearing Voices" is a performance piece by Michael Mack about his mother's schizophrenia, which surfaced when she was in her late twenties, the mother of four small children under age five. He is available to perform his work in theatrical and mental-health settings. E-mail mmack@alumni.mit.edu for performances and booking opportunities.

The painful experience and the wide-ranging fallout from his mother's schizophrenia has blown like a lifelong wind through the heart and soul of Michael Mack. His performance piece, evolved through poetry slams, concerns the whole 9,000 yards, full of mournful period detail of what the family endured. Michael, looking rather like an archangel, becomes his mother's empathic inner and outer voice, constructing her fractured, tortured experience. ("Lucifer rules this house/he knocks the light/it swings from the ceiling/glass and shadows fly at the walls.") The lives of the husband and children are sent skittering around the illness as Mack poignantly describes countless hospital visits ("Dad? Why is Mama here?"), the helpmeet, otherwise-chaotic neighbors with 13 kids of their own ("Mrs Cramer, huge, buttery, sat in a permanent squat, one wet kid or another hammering on her seat") and nutty Uncle Bill's letters "plastered with stickers: happy moons, funny hats." At one point, Mack faces away and has audience members close their eyes, while he whispers, hisses and shouts an approximation of the sounds of the voices, often threatening, he imagines his mother hears. Mack manages to find "something artful in a subject people might think of as awful and nothing else."



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REVIEW

BARGAIN BISTRO

Maison Robert's haute Boston culinary pedigree takes an affordable guise in Petit Robert Bistro.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Robert is a name to reckon with in Boston restaurant land. For more than three decades, the Robert family offered singular hospitality and refined cuisine at Maison Robert in the elegant setting of Boston's old City Hall. In the '90s, Jacky Robert, nephew of founder and chef Lucien Robert, took over the reins in the kitchen, departing in 2002 to join Lydia Shire in her re-creation of Locke-Ober. Maison Robert finally closed its doors for good when the talented Andrée Robert, who had succeeded Jacky in its kitchen, hung up her toque and apron, while her mother, Ann, the restaurant's gracious hostess, joined Lucien in retirement.

After assisting Shire at Locke-Ober, Jacky Robert returned to his classic French roots, assisting Pierre Sosnitsky in the founding of Pierrot, a bistro on the back side of Beacon Hill. Now, Jacky has struck out on his own with the opening of Petit Robert Bistro.

Francophiles rejoice! This gem of an eatery, ensconced in the bottom two levels of a bay window–fronted building at Kenmore Square, touches all the bases of authentic French bistro cuisine at what used to be—before the Euro hit $1.35—bistro prices.

Among five appetizers selected from Petit Robert's varied but wieldy menu, five winners emerged. Particularly memorable, the assiette charcutiere ($8.50) brought an assortment of six meaty treasures. Bayonne ham, France's answer to Parma prosciutto, boasted a silky texture and salty-sweet-smoky flavor. Saucisson sec, ultrathin slices of dry but rich red salami-type sausage with nuggets of flavorful fat and thicker, pink slices of blood and garlic sausage resembling mortadella, covered the sausage front. A trio of pâtés consisted of first, a *rillette*, a dense but moist and flavorful pork pâté; second, a country pâté of uncertain provenance—perhaps pork combined with game birds—memorable for its superb herbs and spices, which included a rare species of paprika; and last, a smooth, refined, mellowly sweet chicken liver. Traditional *cornichons* (small pickles) and robust mustard accompanied this ensemble. The homemade pâté with condiments ($7), a subset of the charcutiere, featured the three aforementioned pâtés in larger portions, again accompanied by mustard and cornichons.

Mussels *marinieres*

PETIT ROBERT BISTRO

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Crustaceans made an appearance as mussels *marinieres* ($7.25) and escargots *bourguignon* ($6.50). The mussels, served with a proper *poubelle de la table* (receptacle for depositing the empty shells) numbered 16 plump and sweet specimens swimming in a toothsome broth of wine and shallots enlivened with herbs. The escargots had been removed from their shells and broiled with the customary garlic butter. They had a clean, fresh flavor—none of that musty aftertaste that sometimes afflicts snails. Our final appetizer, the romaine heart salad with Roquefort vinaigrette ($6.25), dressed the crunchy inner leaves of romaine lettuce with a well-balanced vinaigrette liberally punctuated with nuggets of France's incomparable blue sheep cheese from the small southeastern town of Roquefort-sur-Soulzon.

Petit Robert offered 14 main courses, which it inexplicably listed under the word "Entrées"—a jarring resort to American menuese, since on French menus "entrée" means first course. Confit ($15.25), duck preserved in its own fat, is a favorite of mine, whether in cassoulet or on its own. This one proved first-rate, a thigh and drumstick with crisp skin encasing succulent, flavorful flesh. Sweet-savory cabbage and a sauté of onions, julienne carrots and *haricots verts* (slender green beans of perfect al dente texture) served as fitting accompaniments. Only the overcooked boiled potatoes missed the mark. Braised rabbit ($18.95), remarkably moist and meaty for this often bony creature, suffered from too heavy a hand on the mustard, which overwhelmed its mildly gamey flavor, but the garnish of delicious leeks cooked in the juices rendered by the rabbit more than compensated. The grilled saddle of lamb ($19.95) was flavorful, pink and tender, in a sauce of tomatoes, mushrooms and white wine, which cried out to be mopped up with the restaurant's credible French baguettes.

Pork chop Robert ($16.75), the pork counterpart to a T-bone steak, arrived medium rare as requested and accompanied by an interesting cornichon sauce that contributed a savory tang. *Boeuf bourguignon* ($14.95), classic Burgundian beef stew simmered in wine, combined chunks of beef, carrots, onions and mushrooms that had been cooked long enough to tenderize the beef and allow it to exchange flavors with its vegetable complements. Finally among the main courses, broiled cod on jasmine rice ($16.25) brought a large slab of impeccably textured, firm but flaky fish that came apart in layers at the touch of a fork. A lemon butter sauce with garlic and onion enhanced without dominating the fresh cod flavor. Except for the duck, which came with cabbage, all the main courses came with the same garnishes: mashed potatoes, carrots and green beans. While the mashed potatoes got boring, I could not get enough of the delicate, splendidly textured, buttery *haricots verts*, whose fresh vibrant flavor belied the cold, damp, early spring weather. Side dishes of asparagus ($4.75), French fried potatoes ($3.50) and spinach ($4.50) all hit the spot: the asparagus accompanied by a well-turned hollandaise in which to dip the firm, flavorful spears; the French fries hot, fresh and crispy and the spinach pleasantly bitter and buttery.

Petit Robert's desserts, produced by Kristen Lawson, a talented young pastry chef who apprenticed under Lee Napoli at Sandrines, constituted a tour de force. An array of huge, ripe, succulent strawberries crowned her lemon curd tart ($4), a thyme-scented pastry shell filled with deliciously tart lemon cream. Crème brûlée ($5.50) boasted creamy texture and good vanilla flavor. A trio of sorbets ($4.50) brought three good

Fromage blanc cheesecake with grape confit

Salade niçoise

Grilled wild salmon filet with sorrel butter

Chef/co-owner Jacky Robert and general manager/co-owner Loic Le Garrec

ized scoops of intensely fruity, house-made orbets in seldom-encountered flavors—pricot, kumquat and rhubarb—separated y meringues or tuilles. The ubiquitous profterole ($5) turned out to be a single giant astry puff filled with ice cream and drizzled vith dark chocolate sauce—too meager a drizzle to satisfy my chocolate craving. Much nore impressive was the gâteau Petit Robert, a dark chocolate cake, dense but noist, with a mini Eiffel Tower molded from dark chocolate standing next to it.

The restaurant's wine list offered a range of wines, both Californian and French, at reasonable prices. The Domaine d'Andezon 2003 Côtes du Rhône ($28) showed good fruit, decent structure, and a fine finish, lacking that peppery aftertaste of too many lower-priced Côtes du Rhône. Wine by the glass, generously poured, included a grapey but pleasant Bona Vista Zinfandel ($6.50).

Despite Petit Robert's almost instant popularity—an early newspaper article apparently caused it to get slammed with overflow crowds the following evenings—service proved remarkably efficient, reasonably informed and friendly but professional. Of its two dining rooms, the upstairs level, dominated by the big bay window looking out on Commonwealth Avenue, seems brighter and cheerier, with a number of colorful prints of vegetables on a wall of exposed bricks. The below-ground lower level, on the other hand, pays a dividend centered on the not inconsiderable talents of the house's dessert chef. There a handsome, wood-trimmed granite pastry bar furnished with a half dozen bar stools allows patrons to dine while watching Kristen Lawson put the finishing touches on the confectionary creations that will conclude their meals. IB

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

American Beer Fest
The Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston. www.beeradvocate.com/fests. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. June 17-18. Fri., 5-10, $37; Sat., 1-4:30 pm and 6-9:30 pm, $22.50. The annual American Beer Fest features more than 125 beers from more than 35 American breweries, as well as food from the Sunset Grill & Tap and the Sausage Guy.

Author Susanna Hoffman
Meze Estiatorio, 100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-6393). www.mezeestiatorio.com. June 22, 7 pm, $50. Meze chef Paul Delios presents a dinner featuring recipes from Hoffman's cookbook *The Olive and the Caper*. Hoffman signs copies of her book after dinner.

Bauer Wine & Spirits Tastings
Bauer Wine & Spirits, 330 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363). www.bauerwines.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. June 16, 5-7 pm. Free. Bauer hosts the launch of the Smuttynose Big A IPA 2005 edition.

Boston Uncorked Summer Solstice Tasting
Sports Club/LA, 4 Avery St., Boston (617-283-8712). www.bostonuncorked.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 23. 7-9 pm. $29.50. Boston Uncorked hosts this event featurin summer white and red wines, as well as hors d'oeuvres served by blu Restaurant.

Chefs in Shorts
Eastport Park at World Trade Center East, 2 Seaport Lane, Boston (617-385-5955). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. June 24. 7-9:30 pm. $60. This eighth annual event brings together some of Boston's top chefs, including Spire's **Gabriel Frasca**, Bonfire's **Jenny Cates** and Tremont 647's **Andy Husbands** for a night of barbecue, beer and wine tastings.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) plus complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue. and Thu., 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event, which offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •June 16: Greece Is the Word. •June 21 and 23: A Survey of Italian Reds. •June 28: Blind Tastings Night.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Sat., 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •June 18: Early Summer Harvest.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •June 15: Loire Valley's Underrated Wines. •June 22: Why not Cabernet Franc?

Kendall Hotel Wine Series
Kendall Hotel, 350 Main St., Cambridge (617-577-1300). www.kendallhotel.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. June 18. 6:30 pm. $50. The Kendall offers a four-course dinner paired with wine from Trinchero Family Estates.

Second Saturdays at Grill 23 & Bar
Grill 23 & Bar, 161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255). www.grill23.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Second Saturday of each month, 12-2 pm. $55. Executive chef **Jay Murray** and wine director **Alex deWinter** lead monthly cooking and tasting demonstrations. •June 18: We Take the Ill Out of Grill.

Smith & Wollensky Charity Dinner
Smith & Wollensky, 101 Arlington St., Boston (617-423-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. June 22. 6:30 pm. $500. PGA golfer Craig Stadler hosts this night featuring a cocktail reception, dinner and silent auction of sports memorabilia to benefit the Genesis Fund and Disabled Sports USA.

Spring Cooking Classes at the Langham Hotel
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900, ext. 7092). MBTA: Orange Line to State. 5:30 pm. $125. Chefs **Daniel Kenney, Mark Sapienza** and **John Quinn** present a cooking class followed by a three-course meal paired with wines. •June 15: Fathers' Day Barbecue Festival. •June 22: New England Coastal Fish.

A Tasteful Pursuit
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 16. 6:30 pm. $185. This seven-course dinner, prepared by chefs like Sibling Rivalry's **David Kinkead**, Pigalle's **Marc Orfaly** and Spago's **Sherry Yard** is paired with wines and benefits Share Our Strength Boston.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •June 21: Australian Reds. •June 28: Bordeaux Whites.

Vineyard Harvest
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). www.harvestcambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 16. 6 pm. $65. **Tina Miller** and **Christie Matheson** celebrate the release of their new cookbook, *Vineyard Harvest*, with a book signing and five-course tasting menu at Harvest.

Wine and Dine Mondays
Beacon Hill Hotel & Bistro, 25 Charles St., Boston (617-723-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. First and third Mon. of each month, 7 pm. $45. Chef **Ben Knack** prepares a four-course meal paired with four wines. •June 20: Burgundy.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •June 20: Australia/New Zealand. •June 27: Erik's Favorites.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •June 15: The French ABCs: Alsace, Burgundy, Bordeaux & Champagne. •June 22: Erik's Favorites.

DISH

The talents of Tilley; Why Hell is chilly

Hot in here...Harvard Square fare...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

You may know that **Owen Tilley**, the new executive chef at **Tremont 647** in the South End, was executive chef at Cambridge's **East Coast Grill** from 1999 to 2000. You might recall that the Texas native started cooking as a boy and honed his skills at various hot spots in Kansas City before coming to New England. You might even remember that Tilley left ECG for a warmer climate—Puerto Rico—where he ran his own restaurant for a couple years, until, he says, "9/11 shut us down, so we drank up the inventory and came home."

But there's more to Owen Clyde Tilley Jr. than a passion for "hot zone" cuisine from the Caribbean and Latin America. His first love was music. From age 5 to 22, he says, he was a professional R&B and soul vocalist. "Actually, it was really cool," he remembers. "I opened for the Fabulous Thunderbirds on tour. I sang back-up for The Four Tops at a benefit for The Children's Miracle Network."

Music and food have a lot in common, says Tilley. A dish is "like a perfect bar of music: high notes, low notes, a theme..." And a catchy tune demands a reprise.

Owen Tilley at his new home, Tremont 647.

SECOND COURSE

There must be a nip in the air in Hades: Is Harvard Square, a onetime outpost of eclecticism, doomed to eventual cultural conformity? Perhaps not. Maybe, just maybe, resistance isn't futile after all. By the time you read this, **Hoffa's Swiss Alps Restaurant, Bar and Lounge** will have opened in the space formerly occupied by **Chili's**, across the street from the post office.

If the name has a familiar ring, that's because owner **Eric Imholtz** is the son of the restaurateur who owned and ran the former Swiss Alps restaurant in the same space for about 10 years, until the mid-1980s. When his father, **Erich Imholtz**, was increasingly debilitated by ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), the family leased the space to Chili's, and the elder Imholtz's three sons cared for him until his death last year. Days later, Chili's closed, and oldest son Eric resolved to reopen the Swiss Alps as a tribute to his father.

"It's me and my uncle [**Benny Imholtz**], who's retired from the restaurant business and flew back from Switzerland" to help, says Eric. "It's in the blood."

It's also been a labor of love. The "Hoffa" in the new restaurant's name was his father's nickname. The executive chef, **Paul Modoono**, comes from the **Lexington Golf Club** and has ambitious goals for the large (268 seats, two levels) space. He envisions the upstairs lounge will eventually be "a happening place on the weekends, maybe with a deejay" and will serve lunch, dinner and a late-night bar menu. Modoono sums up the Swiss Alps experience as "fine dining but not at huge prices." The menu will feature "Swiss food, eclectic European...risottos, pastas, game meats at a price point of about $20." He promises "big portions" and high quality; beef will be purchased from **Savenor's**.

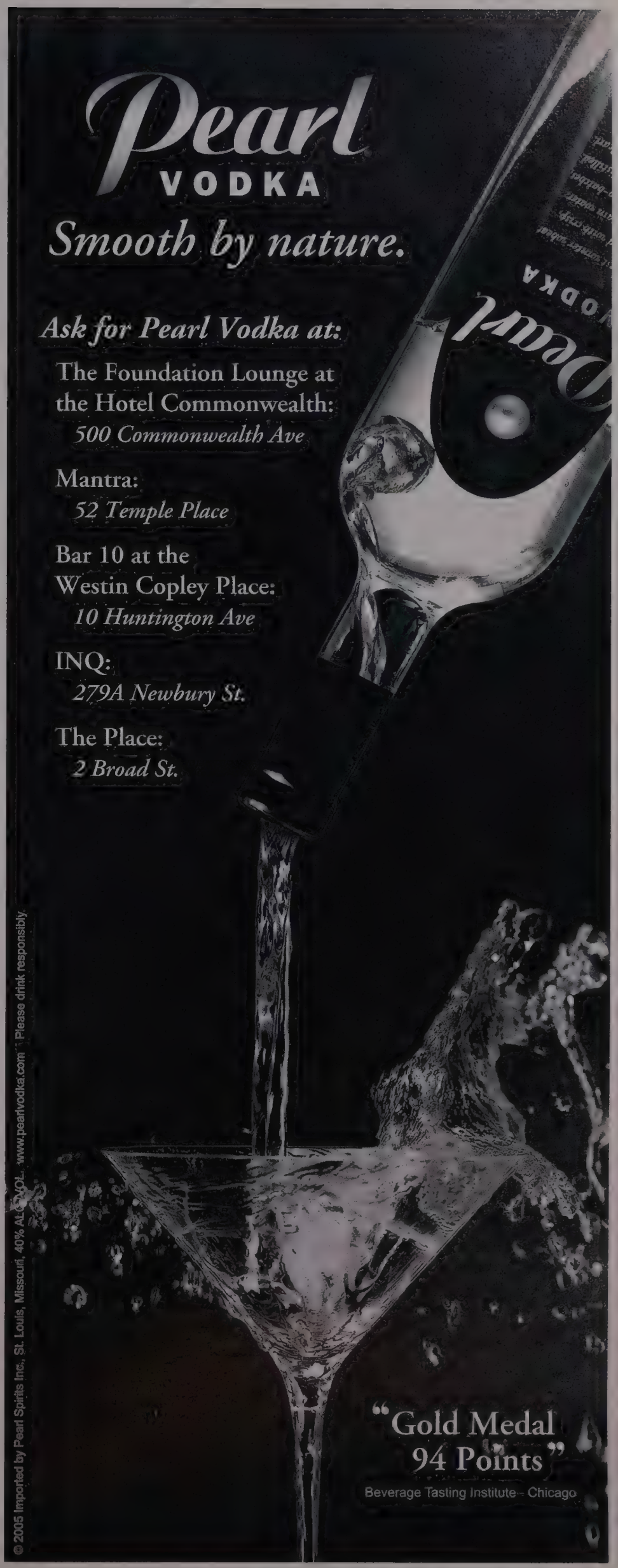
Summer may be quiet in the Square, but festivities are in the future: "We're putting off a grand opening till Fall," says Modoono.

Also in Harvard Square, **Brother Jimmy's** has abruptly closed its doors. No word on any prospects that might take over the venue of the former **House of Blues**.

Organic origins: How can you tell if a fish is organic? You can't, exactly, but you can limit your menu to fish from the cleanest possible deep waters, certified seafood and cultivated shellfish. That's what executive chef **Marisa Iocco**, restaurateur **Frank de Pasquale** and chef de cuisine **Jeff Michaud** are doing with their new venture, **Mare** (pronounced MAH-ray, Italian for "sea"), on Richmond Street in the North End. The concept is "coastal Italian seafood," and the opening menu includes items such as organic potato crème brûlée with cultivated crayfish and organic chive oil; skate Milanese with organic arugula, baby tomatoes and lemon-caper aioli; barbecued octopus and a dessert made with cashew mousse and Italian beer. Hmmm. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.



PATIO AND OPEN AIR DINING

BAYRIDGE CLUB

Bring Your: Friends
Fun Summer Drink: Cold Draft Beer
Style File: Casually cool
Celebrity Sightings: Ron Wood, Brian Dennehy, Bronson Arroyo
The Best Place to: Relax

CACTUS CLUB

Bring Your: Friends & appetite, not your day planner
Fun Summer Drink: The Mojito Margarita
Style File: Bare what you dare
Celebrity Sightings: Bronson Arroyo, Theo Epstein, Mike Timlin, Cal Ripken Jr.,
The Best Place to: Lick, shoot & suck

CAFFE DECA

Bring Your: Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Blood Orange Mimosa
Style File: Casual dining for friends and family
Celebrity Sightings: Joey Kramer
The Best Place to: Dine outside on the South Shore

CHART HOUSE

Bring Your: Appetite and sunglasses
Fun Summer Drink: Green Envy Martini
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Bill Clinton, John Ashcroft, Steven Spielberg, Tom Hanks
The Best Place to: See John Hancock's ghost

CIVÉE

Bring Your: Palate and taste buds
Fun Summer Drink: Pinots on the patio
Style File: Casually stylish
Celebrity Sightings: Celebrity sport figures
The Best Place to: Share fine food and wine

DAVIO'S NORTHERN ITALIAN STEAKHOUSE

Bring Your: Sun block and sensual appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Key Lime Martini
Style File: Casual attire for an elegant experience
Celebrity Sightings: The Pretenders, Howard Dean, Christie Brinkley, Lyndon Byers, BareNaked Ladies, US Secret Service, Carter Alan, Dave Brubeck, General Wesley Clark, Alan Alda
The Best Place to: Enjoy "The Total Package;" fantastic view, great food and drink, good friends and warm summer breezes

DICK'S LAST RESORT

Bring Your: Friends down to enjoy $1.99 Happy Hour menu Monday through Friday, 3:30-6:30 p.m.
Fun Summer Drink: Hurricane
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Jerry Springer
The Best Place to: Hang out on a large patio and watch people

DOMANI

Bring Your: Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Tarragon Gimlet
Style File: Chic & trendy to jeans and a t-shirt
Celebrity Sightings: If you're known, we've seen you
Best place to: Feel like you are on a Roman holiday

EASTERN STANDARD

Bring Your: Friends, family and loved ones
Fun Summer Drink: Whiskey Smash
Style File: Classic brasserie with a vintage flair
Celebrity Sightings: Heads of States, and sports figures
The Best Place to: Get great food and drinks while experiencing a high energy, urban feel

EMPORIO

Bring Your: Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Madame X
Style File: Chic
Celebrity Sightings: Mark Wahlberg, Christina Aguilera
The Best Place to: FLIRT!

FIREPLACE

Bring Your: Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Strawberry Mint Martini
Style File: Smart Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Michelle Branch, Kevin Nealon, Ellis Burk, Liz Walker, Bernie and Phyllis Rubin
The Best Place to: Enjoy yourself

FLASH

Bring Your: Singles for the jukebox
Fun Summer Drink: Lap Dance
Style File: Fun, funky and laid back
Celebrity Sightings: Manny Ramirez
The Best Place to: Hang with the industry types

FLORENTINE CAFÉ

Bring Your: Smiles and come have a party or just some lunch
Fun Summer Drink: Watermelon Martini
Celebrity Sightings: Frank Sinatra
The Best Place to: Go in the North End

GAME ON!

Bring Your: Foam Finger
Fun Summer Drink: Apple Bay Breeze
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Johnny Damon, Keith Foulke
The Best Place to: Watch any game that's on

GREEN BRIAR

Bring Your: Shorts
Fun Summer Drink: The Craic
Style File: Shorts and tees
Celebrity Sightings: Jason Varitek
The Best Place to: Join in an Irish seisun

HARVEST

Bring Your: anything pink, it's the new black
Fun Summer Drink: Gin Blossom
Style File: Jasmine Sola. Done.
Celebrity Sightings: Bill Clinton, Yo Yo Ma, John Malkovich, Chris Cooper
The Best Place to: have a Bridal Shower

HENRIETTA'S TABLE

Bring Your: Friends and Family
Fun Summer Drink: Berry Sangria
Style File: Casual and chic
Celebrity Sightings: Dan Aykroyd, Mitt Romney, Glenn Close
The Best Place to: Eat, drink and relax

KINVARA

Bring Your: Bikinis
Fun Summer Drink: The Craic
Style File: Sandals and sunglasses
Celebrity Sightings: Future Apprentice
The Best Place to: Catch international soccer and GAA games

PATIO AND OPEN AIR DINING

SUMMER STREET GRILLE

Bring Your: Best friend
Fun Summer Drink: Mango Orange Sunkiss
Style File: Lots of healthy choices with lots of flavor
Celebrity Sightings: The best in shape
The Best Place to: Park for free, have a drink and a burger or salad

SUNSET CANTINA

Bring Your: New Summer Fling
Fun Summer Drink: Horny Margarita
Style File: Relaxed, hip casual
Celebrity Sightings: Johnny Damon
The Best Place to: Drink margaritas and eat cool appetizers

SWEETWATER CAFÉ

Bring Your: Flip-flops and Saturday night shirt
Fun Summer Drink: Fresh Squeezed Margaritas and fresh Mojitos
Style File: Straight from work or straight from the beach and everything in between
Celebrity Sightings: None; a regular place for regular people
The Best Place to: Pre-game, people watch, get late night eats, catch a reggae band on the patio Thursday after work and never pay a cover!

TEQUILA RAIN

Bring Your: Party attitude
Fun Summer Drink: Frozen piña colada served in a yardstick
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Godsmack, Red Sox, Ben Affleck
The Best Place to: Re-live spring break

TIA'S

200 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 617-227-0828

Bring Your: Personality and best look
Fun Summer Drink: Tia's Flirtini
Style File: Shabby Chic
Celebrity Sightings: Patriots and Red Sox
The Best Place to: Eat Lobsters, steamers and clams

TIKI ROOM

Bring Your: Friends to share pu-pu platters with
Fun Summer Drink: 60-ounce Green Monster Bowl
Style File: Lei'd back
Celebrity Sightings: Oliver Stone, Gabe Kapler
The Best Place to: Catch a tropical vibe

WATERWORKS

Bring Your: Sunglasses and dancing shoes
Fun Summer Drink: Bikinitini
Style File: Tropical outdoor fun
Celebrity Sightings: Professional athletes, Playboy Playmates
The Best Place to: Dance, smoke, hang out by the water and meet a professional athlete

[illegible]

Bring Your: Future Ex
Fun Summer Drink: 50 Carat with a diamond sugar stick
Style File: Short skirts and striped shirts
Celebrity Sightings: We'll never tell
The Best Place to: Get your Vox off

[illegible] LANDING

ing Your: Shades
n Summer Drink: The Landing's signature
oz fish bowl cocktails in Ocean Potion and Red Tide
yle File: Anything goes
lebrity Sightings: Ben Wrightman's favorite players
e Best Place to: Sea and be seen

[illegible] TAPHOODS

ing Your: "First Mate"
n Summer Drink: Frozen Mango-Peach Passion
yle File: Nautical
lebrity Sightings: Lenny Clarke
e Best Place to: "Eat Fish"

[illegible]

ing Your: Appetite for soul food
n Summer Drink: Watermelon Margarita
yle File: Fenway funky
lebrity Sightings: Red Sox
e Best Place to: Catch the game on the big screens

[illegible] CONNOR'S

ing Your: Smile and appetite
n Summer Drink: Emerald Isle
yle File: Smart and casual
lebrity Sightings: Kevin Millar
e Best Place to: Enjoy the Craic

[illegible]

ing Your: Smiles
n Summer Drink: The Monkey Juice
yle File: Casual elegant
lebrity Sightings: Bruins and Red Sox
e Best Place to: Dance and enjoy live bands

[illegible]

ing Your: Appetite
n Summer Drink: Zinger
yle File: Cool & Casual
lebrity Sightings: Stevie Nicks
e Best Place to: Try the best chefs in Boston without seeing them

[illegible]

ing Your: Desire for fun
n Summer Drink: Margaritas
yle File: Casual, but sexy
lebrity Sightings: Rod Stewart
e Best Place to: Fall in love

[illegible]

ing Your: Thirst
n Summer Drink: The Craic
yle File: Everything
lebrity Sightings: Red Sox and Angels
e Best Place to: Have a good beer and chat

[illegible]

ing Your: Appetite
n Summer Drink: Mango Mojito
yle File: Cool and stylish
lebrity Sighting: George Clooney, Tom Brady, Steven Tyler
e Best Place to: Be

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agenda

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IMPROPER PICKS

june 15 - 28

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			15	16	17	18
			Roar: Lions of the Kalahari, an IMAX film, is in its last week at the Museum of Science. *See Movies on page 70.*		***Deathwatch***, directed by Lisa Hackman, premieres at the Devanaughn Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 60.*	The annual **American Beer Fest** winds down at the Cyclorama. *See Tastings on page 48.*
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	The Boston Public Library's **Big Leagues on the Big Screen** series shows *The Jackie Robinson Story*. *See Movies on page 68.*		The Fireplace Restaurant in Brookline hosts a **Block Party** to benefit the Brookline Police Department. *See CityScope on page 56.*	**Dub is a Weapon** and **the Well** play a show at Johnny D's in Somerville. *See Music on page 76.*		**The Revels** perform their annual summer show at the Boston Children's Museum. *See Performing Arts on page 60.*
26	27	28				
Hugh Masekela plays two shows at Scullers Jazz Club. *See Music on page 76.*		*Slate Magazine* contributor **Emily Yoffe** reads from her new memoir at Newtonville Books & Brews. *See Books & Poetry on page 94.*				

FRI./JUNE 17, FRI./JUNE 24

Movies: Star Gazing

The days of drive-in movies may be over, but thankfully there's still a way to catch a film outdoors on a warm summer night in Boston. The Boston Harbor Hotel's annual Movies by Moonlight series screens classic films beginning at dusk every Friday night in summer on a giant screen by the waterfront. The series kicks off on June 17 with *The Sting*, followed by *A Place in the Sun* on June 24. The series continues through September 2, with some of the most memorable films from the days of drive-in theaters past. Get there early for limited free seating. For the best view, grab a seat in the cafe for drinks or dinner. *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). June 17 and June 24, 7:30 pm. www.bhh.com. —LPK*

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CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn Books & Poetry, Movies
Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

Moody, at right, with the Wingdale Community Singers

SAT./JUNE 25

Music: Rockin' Writers

It looks like the Rock Bottom Remainders, the all-author rock band whose members include Stephen King, Amy Tan, Dave Barry and Matt Groening, might have to make way for a new bookish band. Rick Moody, author of books like the *Ice Storm* and *Purple America*, has made the transition into music, and on June 25, his band, the Wingdale Community Singers, a folk/rock infusion trio, plays a show at cozy PA's Lounge in Somerville. It's no one-time thing, either. The show celebrates the April release of Moody and co.'s self-titled debut album. This marks the first album for Moody, who recently chaired the 2004 National Book Award for Fiction and will release his long-awaited third novel later this year. We'd suggest you act fast on tickets, though: There are only two East Coast performances this summer (and the other's in New York City). *PA's, 345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557). June 25. 9 pm. $5-$7. —RL*

FRI./JUNE 24

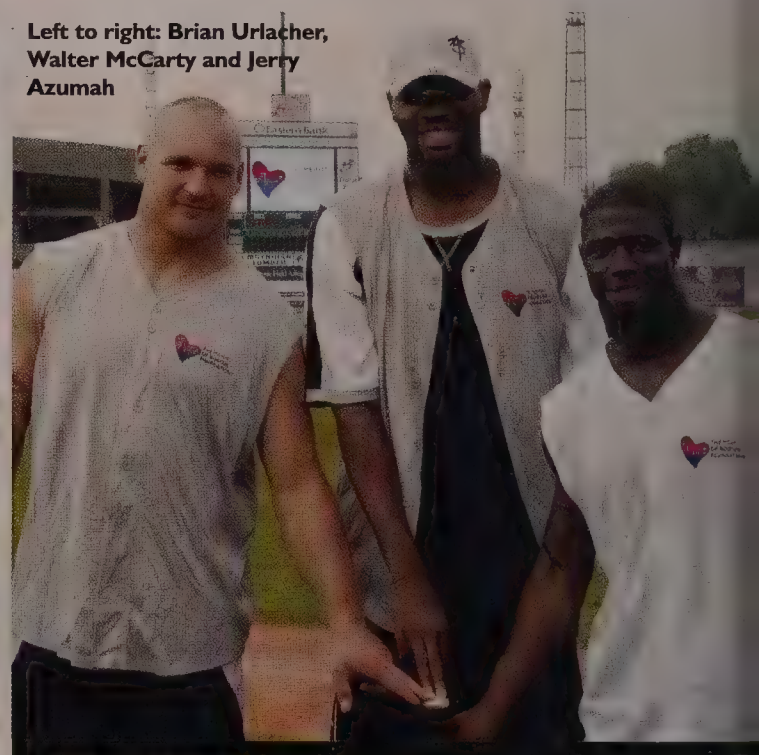
Tastings: Summer Sizzler

Everyone loves to kick back by the grill and enjoy some barbecue, but after a while, your roommate's undercooked chicken and overcooked burgers can wear on your taste buds (and stomach). For a cookout that's a few cuts above all that, check out the eighth annual Chefs in Shorts event at the World Trade Center's Eastport Park on June 24. Local chefs like Olives' Todd Winer, the Fireplace's Jim Solomon and the Metropolitan Club's Paige Retus are on hand from 7-9:30 pm to prepare their favorite dishes. Guests can enjoy complimentary beer and wine tastings, and all the proceeds benefit Boston MedFlight, which provides critical care transport to injured patients throughout eastern Massachusetts. *Eastport Park at World Trade Center East, 2 Seaport Lane, Boston (617-385-5955). June 24. 7-9:30 pm. $60. —RL*

SAT./JUNE 18

CityScope: A Blossoming Benefit

Ever find yourself peeking through people's fences or gates to check out a sweet piece of property in the city? Now's your chance to do so up close without looking like a Peeping Tom. The South End Garden Tour invites people on a self-guided exploration of 20 backyards, roof decks and community gardens in the neighborhood. The tour benefits the South End/Lower Roxbury Open Space Land Trust, which protects and maintains community gardens and parks in the area. Volunteers that include landscape architects, artists, local gardeners and home owners will be at each location to answer questions on designs, plant choices and growing tips, so your backyard can be the next envy of your neighborhood. *Tickets are available at the South End branch of the Boston Public Library, 685 Tremont St., Boston (617-437-0999). June 18, 10 am-4 pm. $17 in advance, $20 on the day of the tour. —LPK*



Left to right: Brian Urlacher, Walter McCarty and Jerry Azumah

SUN./JUNE 26

CityScope: Switch Hitting

You're very aware of what some NFL stars can do. Take down a scrambling quarterback? Check. Run circles around 300-pound giants? Check. Hit a softball? Well, we'll see on June 26, when a collection of professional athletes and celebrities, including Chicago Bears Pro-Bowlers Jerry Azumah and Brian Urlacher and Patriots running back Kevin Faulk, take the field against each other in the third annual Heart of Boston Celebrity Softball Classic. After the game, at BU's Nickerson Field, the stars sign autographs and take photos with fans, and there's also a silent auction featuring memorabilia from the Red Sox and the Patriots. All proceeds benefit the Heart of Boston Scholarship Fund, which helps outstanding minority students pay for college. *Nickerson Field, Boston University, Harry Agganis Way, Boston. www.nextticketing.com. June 26. 12:30 pm. $15. —RL*

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope @improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

A Tasteful Pursuit
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. $185. This seven-course dinner, prepared by chefs like Sibling Rivalry's David Kinkead, Pigalle's Marc Orfaly and Spago's Sherry Yard is paired with wines and benefits Share Our Strength Boston.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

A Night at the Casbah
Bella Luna Restaurant, 403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-2424, ext. 261). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 8 pm. $25. This night, benefiting the Jamaica Plain Development Corporation, features music by Stretch and DJ Antonio Ortiz, Middle Eastern dancers, a silent auction and a buffet of Middle Eastern cuisine.

Silent Auction and Dinner Dance
Anthony's Pier 4, 140 Northern Ave., Boston (617-927-0495). www.pfrr.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 pm. $100. Marjorie Claprood and James Taylor serve as the honorary chairs for this annual benefit for the Children's Holiday Gift Fund. The night features a cocktail reception, a silent auction, dinner, an awards presentation and dancing to the music of the Marsels.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

Friends for Harmony Concert
Bank of America Pavilion, 290 Northern Ave., Boston (978-929-9800). www.friendsofharmony.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5:30 pm. $20-$150. This concert, featuring performances by Freda Battle and the Temple Worshippers, the Eastern Nazarene College Choir and New Breed benefits Friends for Harmony's urban and suburban community initiatives.

MFA Summer Party
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3268). www.mfa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Museum. 9 pm-12 am. $75-$125. The Museum Council hosts this black-tie gala featuring music by the Winiker Orchestra, dancing, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and an auction. Proceeds benefit the MFA.

Miles for Miracles
Lederman Field at the Esplanade, Boston (866-303-9255). www.childrenshospital.org/walk. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 9 am. $15 (plus $100 minimum in sponsors). Take part in a two- or seven-mile pledge walk benefiting Children's Hospital.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Celebrity Sunglasses Fashion Show
The Greatest Bar, 262 Friend St. Boston (978-524-9500). www.pbmass.org. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 6 pm. $50. This annual sun-

The Red Sox ownership group (l to r), John Henry, Tom Werner and Larry Lucchino are honored at The Tradition on June 21.

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JUNE 24-25

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JULY 1-2

From FOX-TV's "That 70s Show," NBC's "Ed" and Comedy Central

JIM GAFFIGAN

JULY 8-9

From NBC's "Law & Order," ABC's "The Job" and Comedy Central

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glasses fashion show raises money for Prevent Blindness Massachusetts and features complimentary food from the Greatest Bar.

Fireplace Block Party

The Fireplace Restaurant Parking Lot, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. 6-9 pm(outside); 9 pm-12 am (inside). $20. The Fireplace Restaurant hosts its second annual block party featuring live music by Grupo Fantasia, barbecue, drink specials, face painting and desserts. Proceeds benefit the Brookline Police Department.

Susan G. Komen Benefit

Sky Bar, 518 Somerville Ave., Somerville(617-623-5233). www.skybar.us. 8 pm. $6. This event to benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation features performances by Micah Howeson, H, the Walking Shows and Grayspot, as well as a variety of local comedians.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

Girls' Night Out

WaterWorks at Marina Bay, 333 Victory Road, Quincy (617-423-6000). www.waterworksboston.com. 6 pm. $35-$45. KISS 108's Lisa Roach hosts this women-only fashion and beauty event featuring fashion shows from Gretta Luxe and National Jean Company, as well as martini and wine tastings, food, music, beauty consultations and shopping. Proceeds benefit the Ellie Fund.

Jose McIntyre Block Party

The entire block of Central Street behind Jose McIntyre's, 160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street. 5-11 pm. $5. This block party, featuring live performances by the Joshua Tree, Dick and Jane and DJ Dan McCarthy raises money for cystic fibrosis research.

Spirit of Kindness 2005

Top of the Hub, 800 Boylston St, Boston (617-859-0648). www.mspca.org/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. 7 pm. $45. NECN's Steve Safran hosts this third annual dinner and silent auction benefiting the MSPCA's Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center.

United Way Hotel Tag Sale

City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-624-8174). www.uwmb.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 10 am-2 pm. More than 30 Boston hotels put items on sale at City Hall Plaza with proceeds benefiting the United Way. Participating hotels include the Westin Copley, Lenox Hotel, Marriott Long Wharf and Ritz-Carlton.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

Wilderness Heals Pledge Hike

New Hampshire's White Mountains (round-trip transportation from Boston provided). (617-522-3659, ext. 207). www.elizabethstone.org. Through June 26. Hikers must raise a minimum of $1,200. This weekend hike through the White Mountains in New Hampshire benefits the Elizabeth Stone House for mental health issues and domestic violence.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Against the Tide

Hopkinton State Park, 71 Cedar St., Hopkinton (800-649-6222). www.mbcc.org/swim. 7:30 am (registration). Participants must raise a minimum of $150. Take part in a one-mile swim, two-mile kayak or three-mile walk to benefit the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition.

Celebrity Softball Classic

Nickerson Field, Boston University, Harry Agganis Way, Boston. www.nextticketing.com. 12:30 pm. $15. Chicago Bears Pro-Bowlers Jerry Azumah and Brian Urlacher, as well as Patriots running back Kevin Faulk take the field for the third annual Heart of Boston Foundation Celebrity Softball Classic. Proceeds benefit the Heart of Boston Scholarship Fund.

Festivals & Parties

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

American Beer Fest

The Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston. www.beeradvocate.com/fests. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through June 18. Fri., 5-10, $37; Sat., 1-4:30 pm and 6-9:30 pm, $22.50. The annual American Beer Fest features over 125 beers from more than 35 American breweries, as well as food from the Sunset Grill & Tap and the Sausage Guy.

Indoor Beach Party

The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). www.harpboston.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 9 pm. Free. Come dressed in beach attire for this indoor beach party featuring Jam'n 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo and a raffle with prizes like Jimmy Buffett tickets and roundtrip flight to Aruba.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

South End Garden Tour

Tickets available at the Boston Public Library, South End Branch. 685 Tremont St., Boston (617-437-0999). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 10 am-5 pm. $20. This self-guided tour of more than 2 South End private back yards, gardens and ro decks features the works of local landscape architects and artists.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Boston Celebrates Israel

Walk starts at Copley Square, Boston. www.cjp.org/celebrateisrael. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Registration, 9:45 am. Free. This walk from Copley Square to City Hall Plaza is sponsored by Combined Jewish Philanthropies and features a postwalk celebration including music from the Israeli rock band Mashina and other family entertainment.

Dads Make a Difference

Boston Common, Boston (617-451-0049, ext. 285 www.dadsmakeadifference.com. MBTA: Green Red Line to Park Street. 1-5 pm. Free. The Super Dad Awards and the For Fathering Project of the Medical Foundation honor local fathers, with hands-on and interactive games, as well as fathering resources.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

The Tradition

FleetCenter, Boston (617-624-1236). www.sportsmuseum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 5:30-8:30 pm. $150-$250. The Boston Sports Museum holds its fourth-annual gala event to celebrate great moments in New England sports history. Honorees include Bob Cousy, Terry O'Reilly, the ownership group of the Celtics and members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

The Best of the Best

Whiskey Park, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1482). www.jetsetevents.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm-2 am. $20. Jet Set Events hosts the party featuring complimentary cigars from One C Cigars, samples of Dewar's 12 and live entertainment from the Japanese Swing Cats and Sensae.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

8 Minute Dating

Tonic,1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6695 www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Long Ave. 6:58 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For fitness-oriented singles ages 25-33 and African-American and Latino singles ages 30-40.

MONDAY, JUNE 20

8 Minute Dating

Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-790720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 32-42.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

8 Minute Dating

Fire & Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-482-3477 www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 22-32.

Hurry Date

Lir Irish Pub and Restaurant, 903 Boylston St, Boston (617-742-10101). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $ for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. For ages 25-35.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

8 Minute Dating

Soho, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-562-6000 www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Bus #57 to Brighton Center. 6:58 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 24-31.

The Improper Bostonian Magazine, Kiss 108's Lisa Roach
and Boston's Hottest Fashionistas
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Sample Boston's trendiest fashion and beauty retailers,
including a fashion show featuring the hottest summer looks from Gretta Luxe and
National Jean Company with a guest appearance by New England Revolution players.
Proceeds to benefit the Ellie Fund.

Date: Thursday, June 23rd
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Tickets: $35 in advance, $45 at the door
Place: WaterWorks, Marina Bay, Quincy MA
Tickets available through www.waterworksboston.com or by calling 617-423-6000

Girls Night Out at Waterworks is a unique upscale night of fashion, beauty, shopping & cocktails for women at a great outdoor location. Experience makeovers, color assessments, clothing advice and lots of great shopping deals! Complimentary roundtrip transportation provided by The Bustonian from Legal Seafoods at Long Wharf beginning at 5:30 pm. The event will also feature fabulous complimentary appetizers, martini and wine tastings from Boru vodka and Red Bicyclette wines, plus great gift bags!

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*National Jean Company
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*Luna Boston
*Ek Designs
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*Saks Fifth Avenue
*Aveda Joi Salon
*Grettacole
*Salon Marc Harris
*Pyara Salon & Spa
*Mitchell John Hair Salon
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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Amerika or The Disappearance
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 18-July 10, Tue.-Thu. and Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. $72. Playwright Gideon Lester adapts F Kafka's novel of a young European man's com experiences in New York City. Dominique Ser directs.

Deathwatch
Devanaughn Theatre, 791 Tremont St., Bo (617-499-1908). www.willactforfood.com. MB Red Line to Mass. Ave. June 17-July 2, Thu.-Sa pm; June 19, 3 pm. $15; $1 off with non-perish food donation. Two convicts on death row tr impress a third and discover the true value o spect in this play written by Jean Genet. Hackman directs.

Frogz
Zero Arrow Theatre, Intersection of Arrow St. Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-8300). w amrep.org/venues/zarrow. MBTA: Red Line to H vard. June 21-July 10, Tue.-Thu. and Sun., pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. $50. A new comedy from Carol Triffle and J Mouawad, this revue includes penguins, mus chairs, a cat trapped in a giant paper bag and fi

Summer Revels
Boston Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Bo (617-972-8300). www.revels.org. MBTA: Red to South Station. June 25-June 26, 7:30 pm. This participatory stage performance features formers from across the world collaborating i outdoor family celebration of the summer solst

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green to Boylston. Ongoing, Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fr pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $56. This dialogue-free production features t rock music, humorous antics, props and three painted blue.

Falsettos
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington A Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtonthe org. MBTA: D Green Line to Symphony. Thr June 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 $14-$74. A man starts a new family after divor his wife and running away with a male compa in this musical by William Finn and James La Directed by Daniel Goldstein.

Amerika or The Disappearance premieres at the Loeb Drama Center on June 18.

ne
h Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly -232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through June 19, , Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Wed. and Sat., 2 and 8 Sun., 2 pm. $30-$64. Richard Stafford directs choreographs this musical based on the movie t students at New York's High School for the rming Arts.

irand Night for Singing
cester Stage, 267 East Main St., Gloucester -281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Through 26, Wed.- Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 5 $20-$30. The Gloucester Stage Company pre- s this musical from the songbooks of Rodgers Hammerstein. Tony McLean directs.

ghing Wild
ington Theatre Company, Calderwood Pavilion at the n Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston -266-0800). www.bostontheatrescene. com. MBTA: ge Line to Back Bay. Through June 26, Tue.-Fri., 8 Sat., 5 and 9 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $14-$50. stopher Durang and Debra Monk star in the re- of Durang's comedic 1987 play. Nicholas Martin ts.

le Women
Boston Opera Project, First and Second Unitarian versalist Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston. TA: Green Line to Arlington or Copley. June 18, 8 $10-$15 by email: bosopera@ yahoo.com. Mark ms adapted this opera from the classic novel by sa May Alcott.

nopause: The Musical
rt Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617- 4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: n Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; , 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of g baby boomers with nothing in common but ory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

ces of Whitey
lerwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, Tremont Street, Cambridge (617-933-8600). v.rough-and-tumble.org. MBTA: Red Line to Har- . Thu-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $12-$15. ick Gabridge satirizes race and well-meaning e people through scenes such as Rent-a-Homey the Black or White game show in this Rough & ble theatre group production.

Pride and Prejudice
Wellesley Summer Theatre Company, Alumane Hall, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-891-1158). www.wellesleysummertheatre.com. Through June 25, Mon.-Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. $10-$20. Playwright Andrea Kennedy adapts Jane Austen's novel about a young woman who finds herself admired by a man she's determined to hate.

Pride's Crossing
Wellesley Summer Theatre Company, Alumnae Hall, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-891-1158). www.wellesleysummertheatre. com. Through June 19, Thurs.-Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 2 pm and 8 pm. $10-$20. Nora Hussey directs Tina Howe's 1997 Pulitzer Prize finalist and 1998 New York Drama Critic Award–winning drama about the status of women in the early 20th century.

A Run in the Park
The Actors Workshop, 327 Summer Street, Boston (866-811-4111). www.1111theatre.com. Through June 18, Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $15. Theatre troupe 11:11 presents this comedy of errors set in a park. Brian Tuttlestein directs.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This legendary comedic whodunit set in a crazy unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Take Me Out
Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatre scene.com MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through July 2; Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $35-$40. Paul Daigneault directs Richard Greenberg's 2003 Tony Award–winning play that tells the story of a successful baseball player who comes out of the closet.

That Championship Season
Stanley B Theatre, BCA Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatre scene.com. Through June 26, Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25. Four friends reunite with their high school basketball coach 25 years after their championship season in Jason Miller's Pulitzer Prize–winning play.

Dance

Boston Tango Festival
Venues in Boston and Cambridge (617-699-6246). Visit www.bostontangofestival.com for full schedule and locations. June 15-19. The second annual Boston Tango Festival features more than 60 classes and performances at different venues in the Boston area.

Unsettled States: Dance under Democracy
Green Street Studios, 185 Green Street, Cambridge (617-864-3191). www.greenstreetstudios.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 17-June 18, 8 pm. $12-$15. Josie Bray and Dawn Davis Loring explore social issues in 21st-century America through dance.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features an assortment of local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •June 15, 8 pm: Mike Donovan, $12. •June 16, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •June 17, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Ed Helms, $22. •June 18, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Ed Helms, $22. •June 19, 7 pm: Boston Comedy Showcase, $12. •June 20, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •June 21, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •June 22, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •June 23, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •June 24, 8 and 10:15 pm: Bob Marley, $22.50. •June 25, 8 and 10:15 pm: Bob Marley, $22.50. •June 26, 7 pm: Jim Lauletta, $12. •June 27, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •June 28, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •June 29, 8 pm: Tony V., $12.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •June 15: Tony V Experiment with Al Smith, Ben Murray, Jeff Clarke, Gregg Thibideau and others. •June 16: The Dan Sally Show with Mike D, Jen Griffith, Brian Longwell, Mike Bent, Dan Boulger, Rachel Isenberg and Nic Lettic. •June 18: Brian Longwell, Amanda White, Ira Proctor. •June 19: Erin Judge Presents: Joe Wong, Kris Earle, Tim Kaelin, Korte Yeo, Chris Torres, Phil Yebba and Shaun Bedgood. •June 21: Magic Lounge: Long-running professional magic show. • June 22: Tony V Experiment with Tonya Dahlhaus, Nate Johnson, Louie Falcetti, Eric Handler and Janet Cormier. •June 23: Diversity Showcase. •June 24: Tim McIntire, Joe Cronin, Sarah Osteen and Ian Harvey. •June 25: Tim McIntire, Joe Cronin, Cesar Cervantes, Emily Singer, Charlie Hatton. •June 26: Erin Judge Presents: Deb Farrar-Parkman and Mike Morrell. •June 28: Magic Lounge: Professional magicians perform. •June 29: Tony V Experiment with Bob Hagearty, Ellen Moschetto and Frank Rockett.

PERFORMING ARTS

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PHOTOGRAPH: FRANCINE ZASLOW

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Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway. com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., 7:30 pm, $15: Stage Time Variety Show. Tingle hosts guests from the worlds of comedy, music and spoken word. •Fri., 10 pm, $5-$10: It's Not That Late Show. This weekly show, hosted by Peter Dutton, showcases area stand-up comedians, musicians and performance artists. •Sun., 7 pm $10: Women in Comedy. This weekly Sunday night series showcases female performers.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www. nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •June 16, 8:30 pm: John David and John Joyce. •June 17 and 18, 8:45 pm: John David, Charlie K and John Joyce.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www. improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. • Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat, 8 pm and 10 pm: Pork Fried Clowns. Ongoing. •Sat., 12 am: The Midnight Show. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvi tional comedy troupe creates everything on t spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs a dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: New acts appear in weekly showcase called the Hump. •Thu., 8 p $10-12: Unnatural Selection: A master of ce monies randomly eliminates players until only o is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Come Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perfo stand-up and character sketches and play music a short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 p $10-12: BackStory is a comedic journey backwa through time inspired by the films *Memento, Don Darko* and *Mulholland Drive;* 10 pm: TheatreSpo splits up improvisers into two teams. •Sat., 6 p $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Sh A short-form improvisational show appropriate individuals of all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: I provBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, mu and audience participation, a cast of improvis creates a show that changes with every perf mance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Ja boree. This evening features performances by vis ing and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-30 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Lin South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Boston-bas short-form improv comedy group performs ma skits that involve participation from members of t audience.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 p $10 after. 21+. The Cantab hosts a collection of i prov comedians who poke fun at everything, inclu ing themselves.

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AMERICAN EXPRESS

Garden of Good and Evil

Girls go wild in *My Summer of Love*

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The intense relationships of youth have made for some powerhouse movies over the last decade. *Zero Day*, *Fun*, *Heavenly Creatures* and *Odile & Yvette at the Edge of the World* were all unusually engaging trips into the private worlds of their teen characters. In most of these movies, the bonds of the central relationship become so tight that they pull the characters away from the outer world. Inevitably, conflict between the intense friends and the world they've rejected arises, and violence is never too far from the surface.

Mona (Natalie Press) and Tamsin (Emily Blunt) go for a moped ride in *My Summer of Love*.

Pawel Pawlikowski's *My Summer of Love* follows the formula laid down by its predecessors very closely. Granted, most of those other movies were seen by about 19 people, so you have to cut the English import, based on Helen Cross' 2002 novel, some slack. It's not too hard to see where the tale is heading when Mona (Natalie Press), a bored teen in a sleepy northern England village, meets Tamsin (Emily Blunt), a statuesque, to-the-manor-born beauty who lives in a mansion outside the village and has just returned from boarding school.

Mona has no one who takes her seriously. Her parents are dead or gone, her brother Phil (Paddy Considine of *In America*) has returned from jail as a born-again religious fanatic and she's just been used for sex by a local married man, who unceremoniously dumped her after their short affair. Meanwhile, the implicitly erotic Tamsin, who's seen straddling two objects in her first two scenes (a horse and then a cello), can't get the attention of her self-involved parents or get over the death of her older sister.

It's a match made in movie heaven. With Tamsin, Mona can be the funny, self-deprecating person no one else around her understands. When her new friend asks her what she wants from life, she replies with a stone face, "Get a job in an abattoir, a boyfriend who's a bastard and churn out all these children with mental problems." From Mona, Tamsin can have the emotional support the dramatic girl desperately needs. When Tamsin takes Mona to the quaint suburban neighborhood where her dad is cheating on her mom with his secretary, Mona helps her distraught pal by smashing in his Jaguar's window.

As the girls run off, half delighted at what they did and half scared of being caught for it, *My Summer of Love* perfectly captures the adrenaline charge of their friendship. Pawlikowski and cowriter Michael Wynne also thankfully refrain from any reflective first-person voice-overs, the bane of the art house, while Press and Blunt are totally convincing as Mona and Tamsin. Press nails the outer shyness and inner brashness of Mona, while Blunt embodies Tamsin's outer confidence and inner insecurity.

Pretty soon, Mona and Tamsin are inseparable, finking on Mona's ex-lover to his wife, splashing around Mona's favorite secluded swimming hole, riding around the hills on Mona's moped and having sex in Tamsin's big bed. Like a lot of good movies, though, *My Summer of Love* has a sexual kick even when it's not being overtly sexual. Mona and Tamsin's intoxication with each other peaks when they take mushrooms and make out in a local bar, getting kicked out in the process, and the two pledge everlasting love to each other.

The outer world inevitably strikes back, in the form of Mona's brother Phil. Mona and Tamsin deflect his early attempts to cool off their relationship, but when Tamsin sweet talks him and then laughs in his face for falling for her phony seduction, he drags Mona back home as retribution. However, this expected wedge between Mona and Tamsin actually leads to a less predictable climax than expected.

You expect something more predictable because, to its detriment, *My Summer of Love* is ultimately too similar to Peter Jackson's brilliant *Heavenly Creatures* to rate a full-fledged recommendation. It has the same pretty-outsider/plainer-townie combination (though, like Melanie Lynskey in *Creatures*, Press is no ugly duckling). Its central relationship is similarly codependent and also includes a fascination with fantasy (here, the girls do a Ouija session to communicate with Tamsin's dead sister). And Blunt could easily be cast as the little sister of Kate Winslet, who played the prettier girl in *Creatures* in her breakout role. Blunt has the same round face, shapely body and upper-middle-class bearing.

In just about all of its overlap with *Heavenly Creatures*, *My Summer of Love* holds its own. There's much to like in it. But if you've seen Jackson's meatier movie, still his best, it's hard not to feel déjà vu during Pawlikowski's movie. And if you haven't seen *Heavenly Creatures* but you enjoy this film, you should definitely catch up with its predecessor. **iB**

My Summer of Love ★★½

Directed by Pawel Pawlikowski. Written by Pawlikowski and Michael Wynne. Based on the novel by Helen Cross. With Natalie Press, Emily Blunt and Paddy Considine. Rated R. At Kendall Square Cinema.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Adventures of Shark Boy and Lava Girl in 3-D ★

Robert Rodriguez made a smart, inspired mov with preteen heroes in *Spy Kids*. Now he's made stupid, lame one. It's based on an idea by h grade-school son and boy, does it show. This sto of a 4th-grade wimp (Cayden Boyd) who ge picked on by everyone because of his "dream jou nal," in which he chronicles the exploits of th title characters (Taylor Dooley, Taylor Lautner boards the express train for Goofyville when th duo with superpowers whisks the kid off to Plan Drool, the place constructed from his imagining There they all fight evil in places like the Land Milk and Cookies. It sounds like a parody of a b kids' movie, but I'm not making any of this u The gimmicky 3-D effects are headache-inducin and camouflage a sorry story that feels as if it las three hours. After the hopelessly juvenile *Sin Ci* and this fizzled kidvid, could Rodriguez start ac ing his age again? (At Boston Common, Fenwa and suburbs.)

The A/V Geeks ★★★½

North Carolina film archivist Skip Elsheimer pr grams two local compilations of weird, wonderf and sometimes just plain creepy educational film made in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. *Blackboa Bungle* (June 24) includes several classroom film about, well, getting to and being in class—like th fire safety film *Our Obligation*, the schoolb tragedy *And Then It Happened* and the perenni favorite *Lunchroom Manners* (anyone who's see Pee-wee Herman's old HBO special should kno this one). *The Kids and Kritters* program (June 2 includes the dog-starring racial tolerance parab *Skipper Learns a Lesson*, the freaky *Kitty Kleans U* and the truly creepy *Ro-Revus Talks About Worm So Don't Be a Mr. Bungle*, and check out these s cial guidance oddities. (At the Coolidge Corn Theater, midnight shows June 24-25.)

Batman Begins ★★★½

The *Batman* prequel outdoes all the series' previo entries and, like the more recent *Spider-Man* movie is a really strong, character-based movie that catch the flavor of comics but is not cartoonish. Christia Bale has the dramatic chops to fill out Bruce Wayn who watches his philanthropist/industrialist fath and his mother be murdered and grows up full vengeful plans against criminals. The movie tak him from Gotham to the Himalayas, where he fal under the influence of a mentor he ultimately reje (Liam Neeson), and back to Gotham, where he tri to clean up his corrupted hometown. Neeso Michael Caine (as loyal butler Alfred), Kat Holmes (as childhood friend turned prosecut Rachel), Gary Oldman (as future police Commi sioner Gordon) and Morgan Freeman (as an al within the Wayne Corporation) all match Bal while *Memento* director Christopher Nolan skips th flash and opts for emotional realism instead. We done all around. (At Boston Common, Fenway ar suburbs.)

Brothers ★★★½

Director Susanne Bier may have been one of Den mark's Dogma moviemakers, making films lik 2002's *Open Hearts* under a "vow of chastity" th put the emphasis on story rather than technical wi ardry. But, like that film, her latest is the sort of b emotional drama Hollywood only bothers with no when it makes them (badly) to get Oscar nomin tions. The tale of two brothers—one a solid citize (Ulrich Thomsen) married to a gorgeous wife (Co nie Nielsen), the other a shiftless ex-con (Nikol Lie Kaas)—and how their lives change after th first's army unit is shipped off to Afghanistan, reser bles *The Deer Hunter* in general structure but is u predictable, filmed in an intimate, realistic style ar full of uniformly powerful performances. At a tin when most movie dramas distance you from them, if they're afraid to get really serious, Bier shows t fear. (At Kendall Square.)

Cinderella Man ★★½

There are tough, dramatic boxing movies like *Ra ing Bull* and *The Set-Up*, and there's boxing hoku like *Rocky* and this, Ron Howard's latest. But th story of James J. Braddock (Russell Crowe), a fail contender who came out of retirement and, again all odds, captured the heavyweight title, is ofte *good* hokum. It's much better than its trailer, whic makes the movie seem like *Seabiscuit*-with-a-ma and even though Renée Zellweger is super-anno ing as Braddock's flinty wife, Crowe's restrain performance is very endearing. He just plays th part and doesn't take a star turn, as some other a tors might. There's also the humor and heart Pa

piattini

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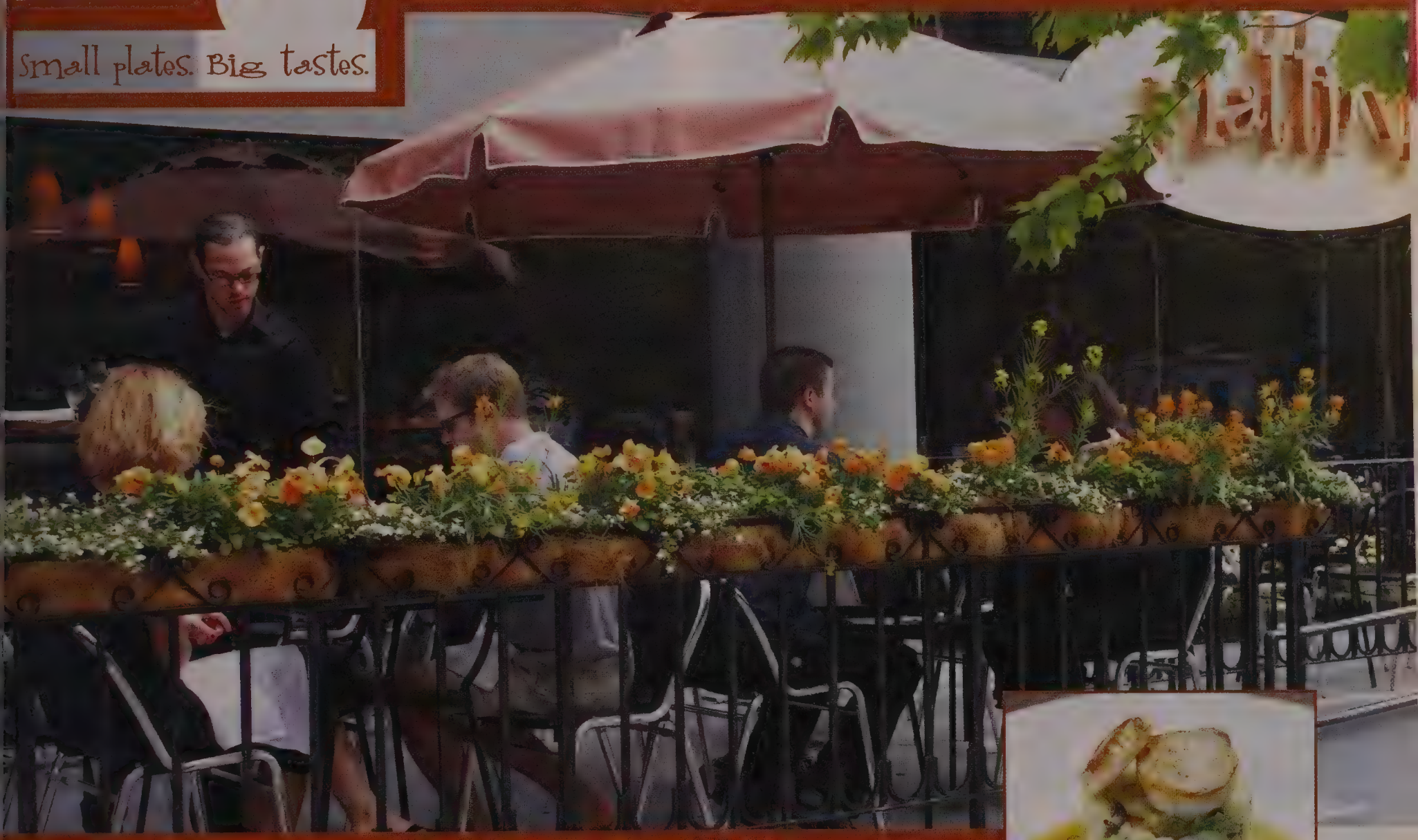

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CROSS

Giamatti provides as Braddock's loyal manager. The movie exceeds expectations until its big fight, when it decides to portray reigning champ Max Bear (Craig Bierko) as a swaggering, leering, bloodthirsty heel because it makes Braddock seem that much more noble by comparison. It turns into a big cartoon and shows such a contempt for credibility that you then have to question the credibility of the entire fact-based story. How much does it fudge *before* the big fight? (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room ★★★

No doubt, this movie is likely to get your blood boiling. If there weren't enough reasons to criticize Ken Lay, Jeff Skilling and their infamous energy corporation, this documentary based on the book of the same name gives you a new one: The company culture at Enron recalls the jerky Omega House frat in *Animal House*. Director Alex Gibney (producer of *The Trials of Henry Kissinger*) does a good job of making the scandal entertaining, throwing in songs (including several by Tom Waits) and using a high-quality cinematic sense in his interviews with authors and former Enron employees. The economic ins and outs of it all are never totally fathomable; however, the immoral festering is quite apparent. (At Kendall Square.)

Fever Pitch ★★★

Peter and Bobby Farrelly's latest comedy, an Americanization of a Nick Hornby novel, offers strong female and male perspectives, and the combination makes for a rare romantic comedy that both men and women can enjoy. Hornby's original man-woman-soccer triangle has been adapted to last year's Red Sox season, with Drew Barrymore as the woman who unsuspectingly falls for an obsessive Sox fan (Jimmy Fallon). Fallon proves to be much more amusing than he's been in his last few movies. Despite the occasional cut-ins to game action and the cameos by a few local media personalities, the emphasis is more on the romantic comedy than the Boston theme. But there are enough local references to satisfy anyone within Route 128, including a colorful Greek chorus of Sox fans in the lead characters' section along the first-base line at Fenway. (At suburbs.)

High Tension ★½

It's almost like some bad anti-French joke: "
you hear the one about the French horror m
that's a tribute to *The Texas Chainsaw Mas*
but can't resist getting all artsy and pissing
away?" Alas, it's true. Alexandre Aja's gr
splatter film features axes, straight razors and
pieces of furniture doing all sorts of fatal dar
as a family gets wiped out in a French farm h
It's not pretty, but it's often well don
moviemaking. When the visitor who escape
assailant's grasp, played by Cecile de Franc
Around the World in 80 Days, mounts a count
tack, a promising showdown begins, but then
throws it all away with a very bogus metaphy
plot twist. Perhaps fittingly, the twist drain
the blood from the movie. (At Boston Comm
Fenway and suburbs.)

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy ★★½

It's hard to tell what the uninitiated might mak
this belated movie version of the late Dou
Adams' beloved sci-fi absurdity about the dest
tion of Earth to make way for an interstellar by
the intergalactic travels of wide-eyed Earth
Arthur Dent (Martin Freeman of *The Office*)
the number 42. Following the radio series, b
and, best of all, the 1981 BBC-TV miniseries
movie is surely the glossiest rendition yet, lac
the lo-fi charm of the miniseries. But it's well
(Mos Def, Sam Rockwell and Zooey Deschanel
star), with Stephen Fry dryly voicing the cu
from the guide. Though John Malkovich cre
plays the new character Adams wrote into
screenplay (before Adams' death in 2001), his
to Rockwell's Zaphod Beeblebrox doesn't r
have an impact on things. Bring a towel. (At Bo
Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Layer Cake ★★★

In this English gangster movie, McQueen
Daniel Craig scores as a middle man in the
trade who looks at himself as purely a business
but who has to turn to gangster brutality to sav
hide. Matthew Vaughn, the producer of
Ritchie's *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*
Snatch, directs this similar tale that improves o
predecessors by being less smug and by focusin

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a dry cut from the master himself?

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hn Smith (Brad Pitt) and Jane Smith (Angelina Jolie) do a sexy tango in *Mr. & Mrs. Smith*.

ig's strong central character. Among the guy's tacles are Serbian hit men, English thugs 've tried to refashion themselves into country ts and loyal crime foot-soldiers like himself. Of rse, he can't even trust the "good" guys for very g. Vaughn's directorial touches sometime over-h, as does the overeager production design, but is a colorful trip into the London underworld. Kendall Square and suburbs.)

e Longest Yard ★★

ngs go pretty much as expected in this second re-e of the Burt Reynolds 1974 prison football ie (the other being the English soccer movie, *n Machine*). Adam Sandler is less believable as x-NFL MVP than Reynolds, but the supporting , which is heavy on jocks and wrestlers, is often sing, and the remake is a whole lot slicker (there wall-to-wall hit songs on the soundtrack, and the convicts–guards game is actually televised on N2—I guess ESPN8 "The Ocho" was booked). If you haven't seen the original, which for its was a much edgier comedy, then hopefully this send you back to that. If you have, you probably e no expectations that this will live up to its pre-ssor. Reynolds returns in a different role, as the r ex-footballer who coaches the cons' squad. Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

rds of Dogtown ★★★

not as exhilarating as the 2001 documentary *town and Z-Boys*, which also tells the tale of the ential 1970s skateboarders of the Zephyr team. this dramatized version from Catherine Hard-ke (*Thirteen*), written by Z-Boys director and hyr team member Stacy Peralta, does a rousing of turning the cultural phenomenon of the doc-ntary into a character-based story. It chronicles rise of such Zephyr skateboarders as Peralta n Robinson), Tony Alva (Victor Rasuk) and Adams (Emile Hirsch), who are brought to-er in a flurry of post-1960s idealism by surf owner Skip Engblom (Heath Ledger, chan-ng Val Kilmer) and crash the staid gates of petitive skateboarding. But once the sport ms and the young men fall to such temptations ig-money corporate sponsorships, which also pit them against each other at tournaments, the three struggle to hang on to the fun and their friendship. The three leads are great, the music blasts and, after seeming like a rehash at first, the movie gets the "birth of the extreme" job done. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Mr. & Mrs. Smith ★★

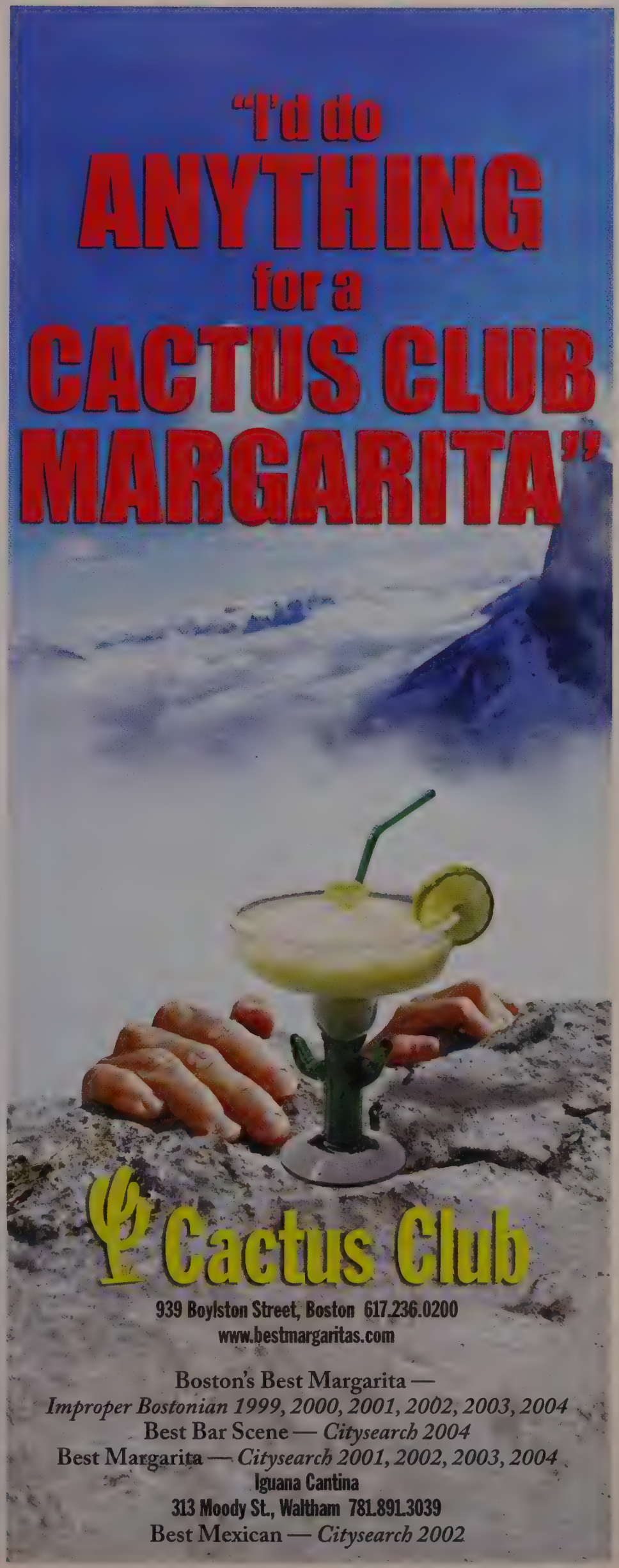
They're in the same business—assassination—for competing agencies. This comic exaggeration of spouses who keep secrets from each other is good for a few laughs, as is the stars' playful chemistry and the supporting performance of Liman's *Swingers* buddy, Vince Vaughn. But the script by Simon Kinberg (*XXX: State of the Union)* is definitely of the "when in doubt, blow something up" school. When professional circumstances pit husband against wife, the movie uncorks an amusing, Tom-and-Jerry-style blowout of violence, but it's then silly and delusional that Liman constructs a go-out-in-a-blaze-of-glory climax when there's no chance of the leads getting mowed down. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

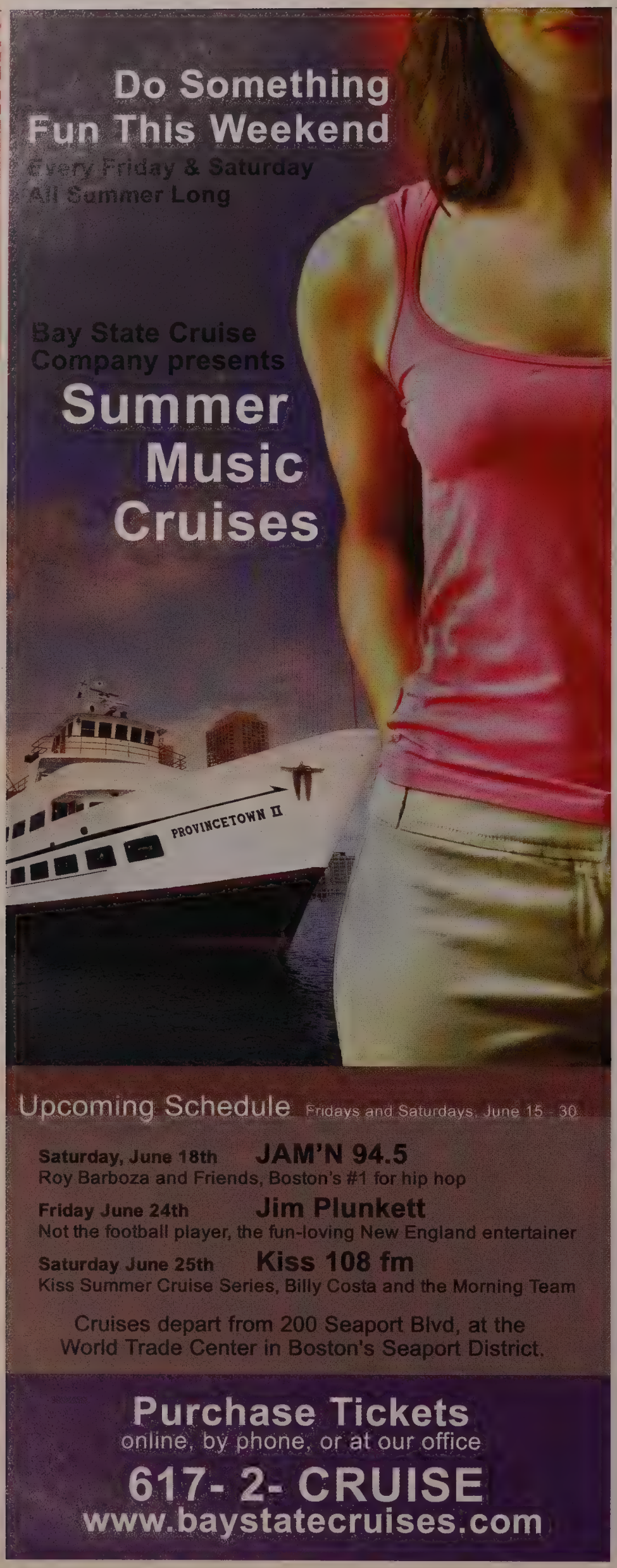
Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith ★★

The third *Star Wars* prequel is the first that's respectable. Now that the time has finally come for the transformation of Anakin Skywalker from "chosen" Jedi knight to master of disaster Darth Vader, writer-director George Lucas at least gives this one more narrative push, instead of the meandering dullness of the first two prequels. There's still an awful lot of council meetings and bureaucratic nonsense and too much Yoda and his annoying inverted syntax (he's a spot player, George, not a go-to guy). And Hayden Christensen's performance is underwhelming. He was great in *Shattered Glass*, but that experience doesn't translate in making the inner torment raging inside his character very compelling. But Ewan McGregor is just right, as always, as humble Obi-Wan Kenobi, whose reaction to his young cohort's betrayal is both hurt and introspection about where he failed as a mentor. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Swamp ★★

Have you ever slowly waded through a long line at a buffet, only to find scraps and crumbs when you reached the front? Then you know what it's like to sit





Christian Bale stars as Batman in the new action adventure movie *Batman Begins*.

through this 2001 Argentinean comedy-drama. If director Lucrecia Martel, who also made the more recent *Holy Girl*, was hoping to convey *only* aimlessness in her movie about two hapless middle-class families, she succeeded. A hundred-odd minutes of aimless scenes has a tendency to do that. But if making the audience connect emotionally with any of her characters ever crossed Martel's mind, that notion failed to reach the screen. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, June 16-19.)

Travellers and Magicians ★★

There's sometimes an appealing pop Buddhism to writer/director Khyentse Norbu's latest. It's less of a Himalayan minstrel show than his earlier *The Cup* (it's the first movie filmed in his native Bhutan), but unfortunately it doesn't earn its wisdom. Its hero (Tshewang Dendup) is a civil servant who's secretly leaving his village to move to the west. But he misses the daily bus and ends up walking and waiting around the roadside with a group of locals, including a monk (Sonam Kinga) who spins a cautionary, *Postman Always Rings Twice* sort of tale about another man who left his village for a "better life." The story-within-a-story offers little insight into its young man, which isn't a major problem, but the main story offers little insight into the movie's hero, which is a huge problem. It makes the movie rather shallow, while its means of tempting Dondup to stay in Bhutan—a doe-eyed 19-year-old (Sonam Lhamo) who has a crush on him—is more convenient and scenic than convincing, like much here. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, June 23, 25.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Big Leagues on the Big Screen

•June 20, 6 pm. **The Jackie Robinson Story** *1950*. Alfred E. Green directs this biography that stars baseball legend Jackie Robinson.

•June 27, 6 pm. **A League of Their Own** *1992*. Geena Davis and Tom Hanks star in this classic about The All American Girls Professional Baseball League. Penny Marshall directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

•June 15 and 16, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Tell Them Who You Are** *2002*. Mark Wexler directs this documentary about his father, cinematographer and filmmaker Haskell Wexler.

Celebrating James Dean!

•June 24 through June 30, 3 and 7:30 pm. **East of Eden** *1955*. Elia Kazan adapts the ending of John Steinbeck's novel as he directs a film about t
sons battling for their father's affection in p
WWI California. •5:15 and 9:45 pm. **Rebel W
out a Cause** *1955*. Nicholas Ray directs this f
about a trio of teenage boys battling their angs
everyday suburbia.

The Films of Harold Lloyd

•June 17, 3:30 and 7:30 pm. **The Freshman** *19*
This satirical comedy stars Sam Taylor and Har
Lloyd as a football-crazed, people-pleasing coll
freshman. Fred C. Newmeyer directs. •5:30
9:30 pm. **Speedy** *1923*. Harold Lloyd stars oppo
Babe Ruth in this comedy about a NYC cabbie.
Wilde directs.

•June 18, 3:30 and 7:30 pm. **Safety Last** *1923*. Ha
Lloyd gets stuck in a curious predicament in this c
edy featuring infamous scenes atop NYC skyscrap
Fred C. Newmeyer directs. •1:30, 5:30 and 9:30.
Shy *1924*. Fred C. Newmeyer directs Harold Ll
and Sam Taylor in a comedy featuring chase sce
and a desperate attempt to stop a wedding.

•June 19, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30 and 10:00. **W
come Danger** *1929*. This newly restored sil
version of Clyde Bruckman's film stars Ha
Lloyd as a botanist working alongside San Fr
cisco cops.

•June 20, 4 and 7:30 pm. **Kid Brother** *1927*.
Wolfe directs Harold Lloyd, who faces trials
tribulations in his quest to gain respect from
lover's father. •6 and 9:30 pm. **Dr. Jack** *1922*.
C. Newmeyer directs Sam Taylor and Harold Ll
in this short film about a doctor making a house
to help an ailing woman.

•June 21, 3:45 and 7:30 pm. **The Cat's Paw** *19*
Inspired by 1930s idealism, Sam Taylor directs
film about a Chinese missionary's son running
mayor. •6 and 9:45 pm. **Hot Water** *1924*. Fred
Newmeyer directs a comedy about a man havi
bad day, including crowded streetcars, a mother
law and household chaos.

•June 22, 5 and 8 pm. **For Heaven's Sake** *19*
Sam Taylor directs Harold Lloyd in this com
about a zillionaire and his trials and tribulati
•3:30, 6:30 and 9:30 pm. **Why Worry?** *1923*. Ha
Lloyd plays a wealthy hypochondriac on a he
cruise. Fred C. Newmeyer directs.

•June 23, 3:30 and 7:30 pm. **Movie Crazy** *19*
Harold Lloyd stars in this Clyde Bruckman film
man who finds himself at a formal party after be
mistakenly recruited at a Hollywood talent sea
•5:30 and 9:30 pm. **Feet First** *1930*. Clyde Bru
man directs Harold Lloyd in this comedy abo
shoe clerk who goes to great lengths to try to win
affections of a girl.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Brookline Booksmith Presents

•June 21, 9:30 pm. **The Man with the Scream
Brain** *2005*. Bruce Campbell writes, directs

in his first feature film, which follows an rican industrialist who becomes the experi- of a mad scientist.

night Movies
e 17, 18 and 24. 12 am. **Deep Throat** *1972*. rd Damiano directs a pornographic movie in- d by the free love culture of the 1970s.

3-D Film Festival
•June 15, 5, 7:00 pm. **Gorilla at Large** *1954*. Harmon Jones directs this thriller about the world's largest gorilla, the main attraction at the Garden of Good and Evil carnival. •9:30 pm. **Miss Sadie Thompson** *1954*. Rita Hayworth stars in this drama about a nightclub singer who gets to know a squad of marines on a South Pacific island. Jerry Wald directs.
•June 16, 5 and 9 pm. **It Came from Outer Space** *1953*. Jack Arnold directs this science-fiction fantasy about a research scientist in Arizona who believes a fallen meteor is actually a spaceship. •7 pm. **Creature from the Black Lagoon** *1953*. Jack Arnold directs this suspense film about a research team digging in the Amazon.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE
The Films of Bruno Ganz
•June 15, 7 pm. **Wings of Desire** *1987*. Wim Wenders directs this film about an angel, played by actor Bruno Ganz, who wishes to become human when he falls in love with a mortal. •9:15 pm. **Faraway So Close** *1993*. Wim Wenders's sequel to **Wings of Desire** follows angels in Germany who longingly look upon human life.
•June 17, 7 pm; June 19, 9 pm. **Eternity and a Day** *1998*. Theo Angelopoulos directs the story of a dying writer's quest to find the meaning of life through his friendship with an Albanian boy. •9:15 pm; June 19, 7 pm. **Truth and Lies** *2002*. Piergiogio Gay directs this mystery about a man who decides to reinvent his life after losing his memory in an accident.
•June 18, 7 pm; June 20, 9 pm. **Bread and Tulips** *2000*. In Silvio Soldini's film, a housewife stranded by her tour group in Venice decides to explore the city. •9 pm; June 20, 7 pm. **Epstein's Night** *2002*. Urs Egger's film focuses on the story of a Jewish man who is released after 15 years of imprisonment.
•June 21, 7 pm; June 22, 9 pm. **The Lazy Days of Chez Nous** *1992*. Gilliam Armstrong directs this film about strained family relationships set in the Australia. •9 pm; June 22, 7 pm. **Strapless** *1989*. Two sisters meet the man of their dreams, but things take a wrong turn as their fantasies become obsessions in this film directed by David Hare.

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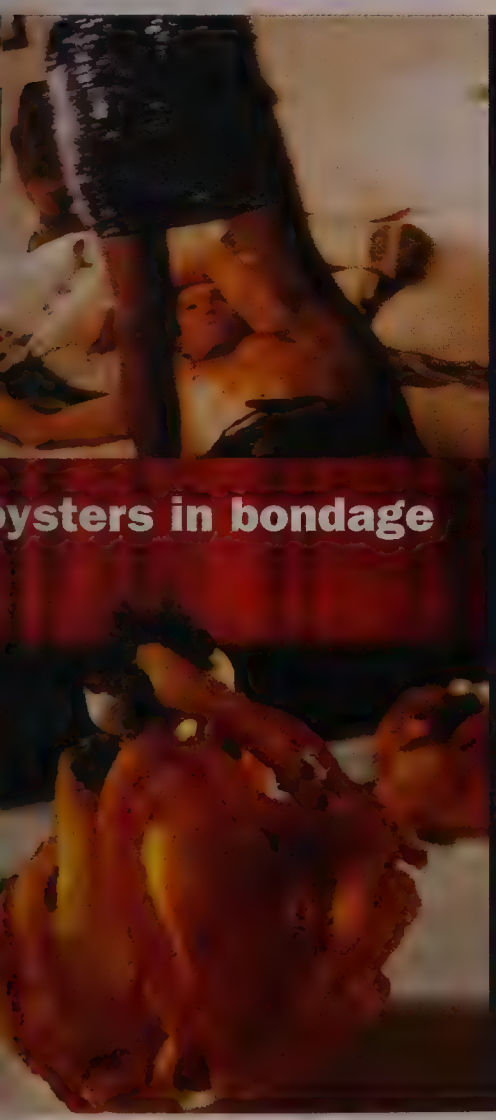

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INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Family Matinee

•June 25, 2 pm. **Le Ballon Rouge** *(The Red Balloon) 1956.* Albert Lamorisse directs this film about a Parisian boy who befriends a red balloon.

Friday Reel Rush

•June 24, 8 pm. **Keep Not Silent** *2004.* Ilil Alexander documents the secret struggles of three women fighting for their right to love within their Orthodox community in Jerusalem. •**Love** *2004.* Tracey Moffat and Gary Hillberg create an exploration of passion through a series of clips from classic films. •**Nice Colored Girls** *1987.* Tracey Moffat directs this short film that examines the exploitation of Aboriginal women by white men. •**Night Cries** *1989.* This short tells the story of a middle-aged Aboriginal woman who nurses her dying white mother on an isolated Australian homestead. Tracey Moffat directs.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•June 19, 12:10 pm. **Tall: The American Skyscraper and Louis Sullivan** *2004.* Manfred Kirchheimer directs this documentary that traces the experiments of early skyscraper architects.

Birds on Film

•June 18, 10:30 am; June 19, 10:30 am; June 23, 4:20 pm. **The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill** *2003.* Judy Irving's documentary looks at a street musician who has become an expert on the cherry-headed birds of San Francisco.

Boston Jewish Film Festival

•June 16, 3:30 pm; June 17, 8 pm; June 18, 1:45 pm; June 19, 1:50 pm; June 23, 2:20 pm; June 24, 6 pm; June 25, 1:15 pm. **Le Tango des Rashevski** *(The Rashevski's Tango) 2003.* Sam Garbarski directs a film about a matriarch who thinks tango is better than organized religion. In French with English subtitles.

•June 23, 8:10 pm; June 24, 8 pm; June 25, 3:30 pm; June 26, 1:30 pm. **Or** *(My Treasure) 2003.* Karen Yedaya directs this Cannes Camera d'Or winner about a 17-year-old girl in Tel Aviv who attempts to wean her mother off a life of prostitution.

•June 26, 11 am. **Alila** *2003.* Amos Gitai directs this film about how the turbulent lives of 12 people intersect. In Hebrew with English subtitles.

•June 26, 3:45 pm. **Ve Lakechta Lecha Isha** *(To Take a Wife) 2004.* Ronit and Shlomi Elkabetz direct this emotional portrait of a failing marriage held together by religious and social convention.

Buddhist Cinema

•June 23, 6 pm; June 25, 11 am. **Travellers and Magicians** *2003.* Khyentse Norbu directs this film about a government official from Bhutan who dreams of escaping to America and eventually hits the road with a group of hitchhikers.

Cinema Tropical

•June 16, 1:30 pm; June 17, 6 pm; June 18, 3:45 pm; June 19, 3:50 pm. **La Cienaga** *(The Swamp) 2001.* Lucrecia Martel's directing debut depicts the decadence of the Argentine middle class through one family's story. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Do It Your Damn Self!! Festival

•June 18, 12:10 pm. **Do It Your Damn Self!!** Inner-city teens from across the country screen 13 self-made videos and films that explore themes of family, violence and culture.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through June 17. **Amazing Journeys.** Butterflies, whales and zebras are followed on their migrations.

•Through June 17. **Forces of Nature.** Scientists attempt to forecast and understand the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms.

•Through June 17. **Roar: Lions of the Kalahari.** A real-life lion king defends his turf against a young challenger.

•Through June 23. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West** chronicles the explorers' journey to the Pacific Ocean and back.

•Through June 23. **Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure** features the legendary explorer and his crew who managed to survive after glacial ice crushed their wooden ship.

•Through July 4. **Coral Reef Adventure.** Howard and Michele Hall embark on a 10-month voyage in the South Pacific, creating a cinematic record of coral reefs as they exist today.

•Through July 4, **Everest** depicts the true story of a team of climbers who find hope, strength and triumph in the wake of tragedy.

•Through Sept. 9. **Mystery of the Nile.** Explorers make the first attempt of a full descent down the Nile River.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through June 30. **Galapagos 3D.** Marine biogist Carole Baldwin explores the Galapagos lands. •Through June 30. **Sharks 3D.** Jean-Mic Cousteau tracks the ocean's ultimate predators. •Through July 1. **Wild Safari 3D: A South Afri Adventure.** An adventure through wild So Africa searches for the most dangerous and sp tacular animals.

•Through July 1. **Aliens of the Deep 3D.** Academy Award–winning director James Came takes viewers to the depths of the ocean to counter some of Earth's strangest life forms.

Special Events

MOVIES BY MOONLIGHT

Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (6 439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. •Ju 17. At dusk. **The Sting** *1973.* Set in 19 Chicago, the film follows a young con man seek revenge for his partner's murder. George Roy H directs. •June 24. **A Place in the Sun** *1951.* T film centers on a young man thrust into blue-co life who gets caught up in a love triangle. Geo Stevens directs.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON

Regent Theatre
7 Medford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gree Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Gr Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green L to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lin Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gr Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBT Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-499-1996). MBTA: Red L to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green L to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Ora Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Lin Davis.

vice to Contributors
nit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax '-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music or by l to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, s, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac-d over the phone.

vice to Readers
rmation for the Music section is compiled from dif-t sources. Although we make every effort to provide rate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead ouble-check dates and times (see complete list of es at the end of the section).

op Billings

Benatar and Neil Giraldo June 25, Bank of erica Pavilion (617-931-2000).
y Bennett June 24, Bank of America Pavilion '-931-2000).
ny Buffett June 20 and 22, Tweeter Center (617-2000).
ective Soul June 21, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Dylan, Willie Nelson June 23, Waconah Park '-931-2000).
Get Up Kids June 25, the Palladium (617-931-)).
Summer Nights Tour: Chris Walker, Al Jar-, Boney James, Cassandra Wilson June 16, k of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
tion: the Underground Music Festival June 18, sasoit Elks Lodge, Cambridge (617-987-2224).
ule, June 27, Avalon (617-423-6000).
Shell Ndegeocello, Joshua Redman's Elastic d June 25, Paradise Rock Club 617-562-8800).
is, Jet June 24, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Petty and the Heartbreakers, the Black wes June 18, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Pixies June 15, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).
ert Plant June 17, Bank of America Pavilion 7-931-2000).
Big Fish, American Hi-Fi June 22, the Palla-n (800-477-6849).
tana, Salvador Santana Band, Los Lonely Boys e 17, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
nds of the Underground June 24, Tsongas Arena 7-931-2000).
es Taylor June 28, Tweeter Center (617-931-0).
co, My Morning Jacket June 24, Agganis Arena 7-931-2000).

ock, Jazz and Blues

EDNESDAY, JUNE 15

ey Lounge Pub Stage: Audrey Ryan Band, 7 pm, cover, 21+. Main Stage: Doom Buggies, the Fair ough, Echoset, Prescription America, 9 pm, $5-21+.
ganis Arena The Pixies, 8 pm, $37.50.
gard The Ken Selcer Invitational Jam, 9 pm, no er.
e Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne Band, 0 pm, no cover, 21+.
vo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
eezeway P.J. Adamson, 7:30 pm, no cover.
stol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover.
e Burren Accoustic Alchemy, 10 pm, no cover.
ntab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, no er, 21+.
k's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
dge Street Bar & Grill Mamadou Diop, 9:30 pm, cover.
eplace Restaurant Will, 9:30 pm-12 am, no cover.
een Street Grill Live Jazz, Lawrence D. "Butch" rris Conduction Performances, 10:30 pm, $7.
nnessy's Absolute Acoustics, 9 pm.
nny D's CJ Chenier, 8:30 pm.
ard Lounge James Blunt, 8-9 pm, no cover; Asa bner, Angeline, 9:30 pm, $5.
cky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm-12 no cover.
ddle East Upstairs: Aberdeen City, Furvis, Satel-7, Ridde of Steel, $8, 8 pm, 18+. Downstairs: the mpbell Brothers with John Medeski, $15, 9 pm, .
fway Café Musk, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
ky Way Live music, 9 pm, no cover.
k Bar Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
dy O's The Buzz (live band karaoke).
radise Lounge Pixies Pre Show Party, 5 pm, no er, 18+.
radise Rock Club Tempting Fate Review and Eu-e Castrillo's Tribute to the Mambo Kings, 7 pm, .
oenix Landing Paul Dailey, Mike Walsh, 10, $3, .

Wright Time

Whether singing covers or original tunes, Lizz Wright is forging her own style.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

She is a folk-jazz singer who has worked with producer Craig Street and percussionist Jeff Haynes, wrapping her dusky voice around unusual interpretations of material by Neil Young and other popular artists. But we're not talking about Cassandra Wilson. She prefers an intimate, sensual vocal approach and has cowritten music with guitarist Jesse Harris. But we're not talking about Norah Jones.

Get to know Lizz Wright. Despite comparisons to Wilson and Jones, a close listen to Wright's new CD *Dreaming Wide Awake* shows the 25-year-old vocalist is finding her own identity quite nicely, without losing her focus.

"I just don't worry about those things," says Wright, who performs at Scullers Jazz Club July 1. "By covering music, it's almost like an actor in having a role. I'm taking on all these different possibilities and exploring them."

On her critically lauded 2003 debut, *Salt*, the Georgia-born vocalist explored broad, soulful vistas that reflected her background in gospel and opera as well as her recent jazz experiences. "I call it the buffet line," she says of that CD. "I love it because it's a real picture of where I was, which was in mid-air, and I didn't know where I was going."

She has found where she's going on *Dreaming Wide Awake*, a second outing that finds Wright in more of a comfort zone.

"Gospel and opera are about power and muscle and technique, and it took indulging in that to realize that it wasn't really me," says Wright, who first sang gospel in a church where her father was pastor and her mother organist. She had some opera training later, while in college. "I can't sing my lungs out every night and be OK. That expression isn't in me all the time. I'm becoming more settled and calm."

One can attribute that mellow shift to Wright's gravitation toward singer-songwriters, from Sarah McLachlan and Damien Rice to current favorites Joni Mitchell and Bonnie Raitt.

"I like to listen to singer-songwriter stuff and folk music," she says. "I like to know about people's lives and times."

She sought to work with producer Street on *Salt* but found the right timing with *Dreaming Wide Awake*. "I know what my ideals are, but they're still new to me," Wright says. "I think he works from some of those same ideals and has for years: of being free, of really knowing what a song is, of stripping things down, of inhabiting a song."

"I love Cassandra and love the records that Craig produced with her," Wright says. "She definitely has been a light for me. I remember when I first heard her music, her and Dianne Reeves, even though they're quite different. [With] the simplicity that Cassandra goes for, and the openness and freedom that Dianne Reeves has, I just felt at home."

Wright adapts those qualities to her own music, whether singing originals or covers that include the chestnut "A Taste of Honey" and Young's "Old Man" on her new disc. "I am young and I am very new in this," she says. "So it's really fun to explore other people's music, and that makes me a better writer, because I'm aware of what you can do."

Surprisingly, her most successful cover on *Dreaming Wide Awake* may be the peace-and-love anthem "Get Together," a '60s hit for the Youngbloods. "People are funny about that one, because they're so attached to the old one," she says. "The one thing about being so young and so green is I pick things up more playfully, without so much association and knowledge of where it's been and who did what with it. I might find out right before I do it —and I love it for what it is. But I'm not rooted in some heavy reverence."

Wright brings a focused approach to her second album, *Dreaming Wide Awake*.

As for her original tunes, Wright cowrote "Hit the Ground" with well-known Jones collaborator Jesse Harris (who also lent his song "Without You") and folk-rocker Toshi Reagon.

"Jesse's great, [with a] great work ethic and rhythm to the way he does things," Wright says. "And Toshi Reagon was a great find. Craig just introduced us and thought we might really connect, and she's like one of my best friends now. And one of the things that she told me, that really hit me deep and I used for my music writing and life, was to just commit yourself to one story you can tell right now, and other people will find their own stories inside of it."

While Wright will do her share of summer festivals, she'll be sharing those stories up close and personal at Scullers, backed by two guitars, bass and drums. "It's so much more comfortable in the club scene where you're not looking that far and can see people's eyes," she says. "There's a kind of imposed openness when I'm that close to the audience." iB

Lizz Wright
plays Scullers Jazz Club July 1.

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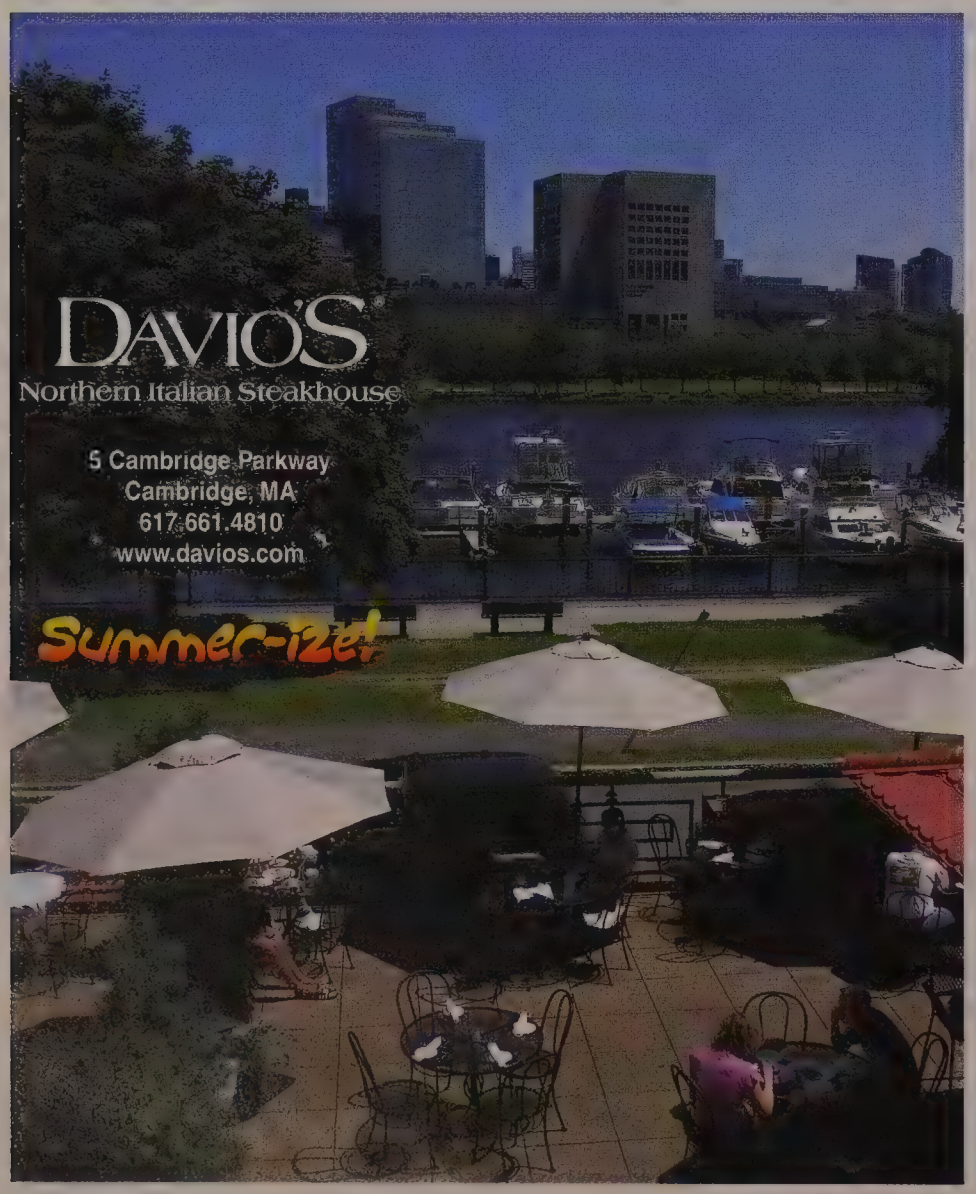

The Pixies play Agganis Arena June 15

Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble cabaret, 9 pm, $3, 21+.
Rivergods Primitive Sounds, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sloan, the Capitol Years, 10 pm, $10-12.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 am.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Mideast Jam, Mehmet Sanlikol, Cem Mutlu, 7 pm, $10; Wednesday Night Jam, 10 pm, $5.
ZuZu Pants Yell!, Squids, The Culottes, 10 pm.
Les Zygomates April Hall Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Phil Lynott, Thin Lizzy Tribute, 21+.
Asgard The Chris Conoly Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
The Attic Serena Ryder, 8:30 pm, $7, 18+.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Axis Sasha and Paulo Mojo, 10 pm, $15, 19+.
Bank of America Pavilion Hot Summer Nights Tour: Al Jarreau, Boney James, Cassandra Wilson, 7:30 pm, $38.50, $50, $65.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
blu The Sarah Brindel Trio, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Nat Simpkins, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Boston Harbor Hotel Toni Lynn Washington, 6 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge the Chicken Slacks, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Five Fab Fiddlers, Jake Armerding, Hanneke Cassel, Laura Cortese, Jeremy Kittel, Eric Merrill, 8 pm, $15 regular, $13 member.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm.
Dodge Street Bar & Grill Lincoln Conspiracy, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Sarah Brindell, 9:30 pm-2 am, no cover.
Great Scott Bulletproof Plan, Swim Team, The 8mm Fuzz, La Faccia Brutta, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Green Street Grill Live Jazz, Lawrence D. "Butch" Morris Conduction Performances, 11 pm, $8.
Harpers Ferry Rebirth Brass Band, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, cover.
Kirkland Café Pony, One Big Mess, Close at Ha
Jim & Sean, 8 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Spooky Ghost, 8-9 pm, no cov
Club D'Elf, 9:30 pm, $10.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm
am, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Pub Round Midnight, 10:30 pm, cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The And Whutz, $9, 8 p
18+. Downstairs: Johnathan Richman, $15, 9 p
18+.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5 pm, no cover..
O'Brien's Suspect Device, The Bloodshot Ho
gans, Swaggerin Growlers, Morgan Knockers,
Oak Bar Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Grey Spot.
Paradise Lounge Asa Brebner's Family Jewels R
dency, 6 pm, $7, 18+; The Bubble Up: Rub a D
wise Reggae Night, 10 pm, $5-7, 18+
PA's The Thungs, Scuba, 9 pm, $5-7, 21+.
Phoenix Landing Seishi, 10 pm, $5, 19+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9 pm.
Rialto Fernando Holz, 8 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Guitar Therapy feat. Mike Kenea
7 pm, $15; Ellen O'Brien, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Andre Ward, 8 pm, 10 pm $20-$
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rogue Wave, Sam Champi
Jennifer O'Connor, 9:15 pm, $10-12.
Tweeter Center Rascal Flatts, 7:30 pm, $30 and $
Wally's Live Latin Jazz, 9 pm-2 am.
Zeitgeist Gallery Darkprog, Enuma Elish, 7 pm,
B3 Jazz, Sam Gilman, 9:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu Tom Thumb, 11 pm.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8pm, no cov

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Fury III, the Outsider
pm, no cover, 21+; Main Stage: Thee Monkey Butl
Johnny Carlevale & the Broken Rhythm Boys,
"Paperboy" Reed, the Cobra-Matics, 9 pm, $5-
21+.
All Asia Cafe Tim Blane, 7 pm.
Asgard Sky, 10 pm, no cover.
The Attic Juniper's Daughter, 8:30, $5, 21+.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet on piano, 5 pm, no co

ık of America Pavilion Robert Plant, 8 pm, .50, $50, $65.
ck Horse Tavern Groove Authority, 9:30 pm, no er.
: Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne Band, 9:30 Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan, 10:30 pm, $5, 21+.
› the Chef's Soul Phactor, 7:30 pm, $3-5.
ıvo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no er.
stol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover; Live ıo and bass duo, 9 pm, no cover.
ıtab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, n, $8, 21+.
b Passim Nerissa, Katryna Nields, 8 pm, $15 reg- , $13 members.
b Q DJ Massi, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
k's Last Resort Fakers, 8:30 pm.
dge Street Bar & Grill the Klapp, 9:30 pm, no er.
e Green Dragon Tavern Grumpy Jones.
een Street Grill Lawrence D. "Butch" Morris nduction Performances, 11:30 pm, $10.
rpers Ferry Rebirth Brass Band, $15, 21+.
nnessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Scooby Snax, m, $5, 21+.
e Independent Lenlow and DJbc, 10 pm, no er, 21+.
ob Wirth Mel Stiller, 8 pm, no cover.
nny D's Pressure Cooker, 9:45 pm, $8.
e's Mexican Restaurant DJ Buddha, no cover.
nnedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cover.
gs Justin Beech, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
kland Café Max Funch Instituit, Groove of the , Maria DeMaio, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 0 pm, $5.
ard Lounge Shiner Jones, 8-9 pm, no cover; Por- lavis, Rose Polenzani, 9:30 pm, $7.
cky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 10 pm-2 no cover.
n Ray Club Tim Ryan, Chris Ewen, 9 pm, $10, .
tt Murphy's Pub Toissant, 10 pm, no cover.
ıdle East Upstairs: Rock En Espanol with Mod- 78, $10, 8 pm, 18+; Downstairs: NBFB, Hi8us, Hey, Analog Method, $10, 9 pm, 18+.
Dooley's Sean Cunningham, 5-9 pm, no cover; m O'Brien, 9 pm, $5.

Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Group, 8:30, no cover.
Paddy O's Black 47.
PA's Reports, Pretendo, Headband, 9:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 5:30 pm, $3, 21+; Handsome Frank, 9 pm, $3, 21+.
Rivergods The Appliance of Science, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Bill Connors, 9 pm, $20.
Scullers Jazz Club Andre Ward, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $20-58.
Tír na nÓg Every Day Visuals, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place WFNX Off the Radar Show, 8 pm.
Tweeter Center Santana with Los Lonely Boys, 7 pm, $23-$56.
Wally's Live Jazz, 9 pm-2 am.
Zeitgeist Gallery Big Band Jazz, the Either/Orchestra 1, 7 pm, $10; Live Jazz, the Benjamin Sharoni/Steve Silverstein Quartet, 9:30 pm, $10.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Jonee Earthquake, 7 pm, no cover, 21+; Main Stage: Midnight Creeps, the Jabbers, the Bamboo Kids, Red Invasion, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Avenue One Leah Souza 7:30 pm, no cover.
Axis Tyler Hilton, 7 pm, $15.
Bank of America Pavilion Friends for Harmony Concert: Israel, New Breed, 6 pm, $20, $30, $50.
Black Horse Tavern Stubbies, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's BlackSole, 7:30 pm, $3-5.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne Band, 9:30 pm. Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan, 10:30 pm, $5, 21+; Tom O'Carroll, 4:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover; live piano and bass duo, 9 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Paul Rishell, Annie Raines, 8 pm, $15 regular, $13 members.
Club Q DJ Profenna, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Desmond O'Malley's Maxi Courtney, 9 pm, no cover.

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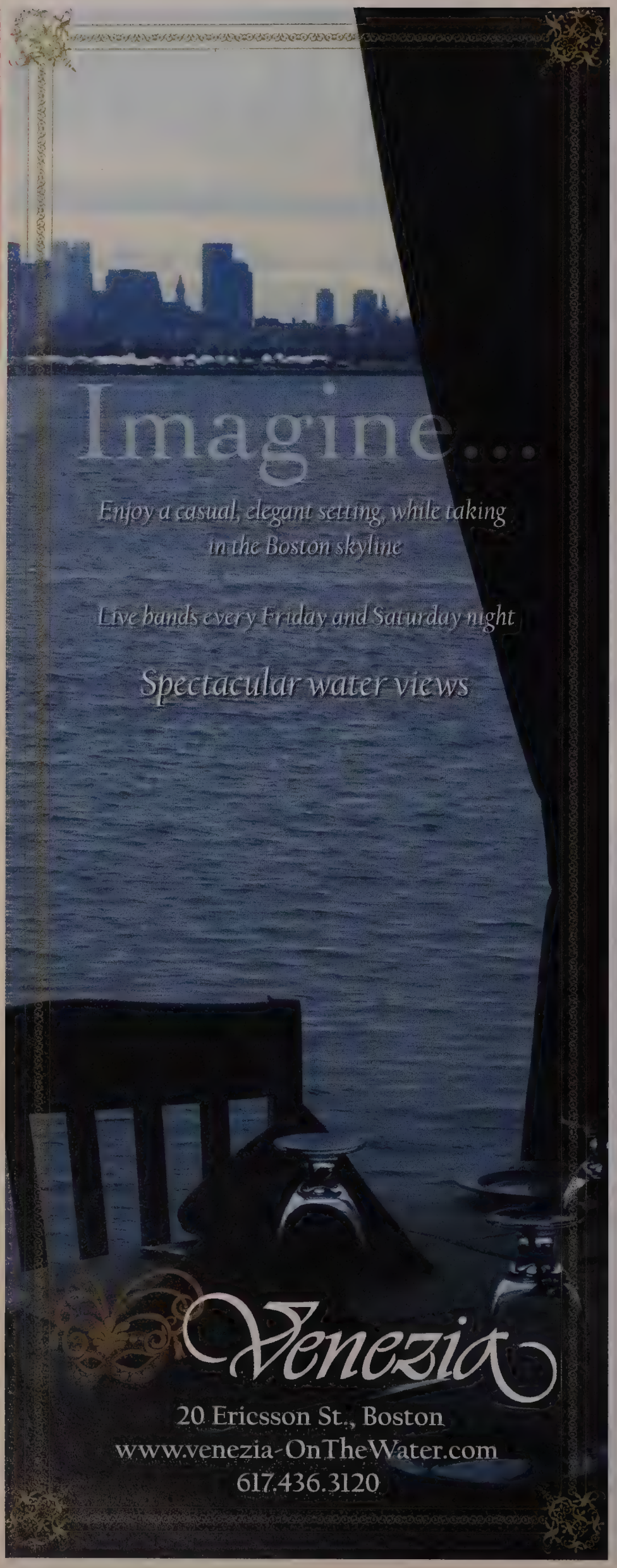


Morning Jacket plays with Wilco at the Agganis Arena June 24.

Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 8:30 pm.
Dodge Street Bar & Grill Chapter in Verse, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Night Rally, Helms, Polaris Mine, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, no cover.
The Harp Zoom, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Respect Duo, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; the Risk, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Ann Peebles, Eli Reed, 9:30 pm, $18.
Kings Jose Ramos, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kirkland Café Driftwood Citizen, Greesome, Rollo Tomasi Quarter, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Brian O'Connell, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; J Dub Records Showcase: So Called, Balkan Beatbox, 9:30 pm, $10 advance, $12 at door.
Lucky's Lounge Al Vega Trio, 7-10 pm
Matt Murphy's Chuch, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Pilot to Gunner, Officer May, the Bismark, Appomattox, $10, 8 pm, 18+; Downstairs: Labb, Pure Fiction, Topheavy, Supervain, $9, 9 pm, 18+.
Midway Café Lizzie Borden, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy & Alan, 9:30 pm, $5.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin group, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Audio Underground.
Paradise Lounge Nice Jewish Girls Gone Bad, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Cafe Tacuba, 8 pm, 18+
Parris the Rockets Band. 10 pm, $5-10.
PA's Handstand Community Anniversary Show, 9 pm, $5-7, 21+.
Plough and Stars The Tom Hagerty Band, 5 pm, $3, 21+; Steve Mardon, 9 pm, $3, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Rivergods Live orchestra, 8 pm, no cover, 21+; All and Sundry, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston Horns, 9 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Eileen Jewel band, 5 pm; Kevin Connolly, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bon Savants, the Plain Janes, Roh Delikat, Valley, 9:15 pm, $8.
Tweeter Center Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers with The Black Crowes, 7 pm, $27.50-$55.
Wally's Live Jazz, 9 pm-2 am.
Zeitgeist Gallery Relief Concert for the Children and Families of Darfur: The Audrey Ryan Band, The Jennifer Greer Ensemble, Gary Fieldman and Friends, 7-9 pm, $15 suggested donation; Michael Hurley, Apothecary Hymns, 9:45 pm, $10 donation.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-jah, 11 pm.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

The Attic Coal Boilers, 8:30, $5, 21+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Groove Authority, 10 am.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 11 am.
Bristol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jazz & Rock Jam, pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Amelia White, Joe Rathbone, 7:3 pm, $12 regular, $10 member.
Club Q Suave Sunday, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, 9:3 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Caribbean Cruise Reggae, 9 pm-1am.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko, Lar Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumb Nama, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd, 12 pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, Future, pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Sinatra Sunday: the Al Vega Tri Mark Maher, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint, Akira, Lady Lee, Kir Jimmy T, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Ravage, Adolf Satan, Al horred, Hirudinea, Heksan, 8 pm, 18+.
Midway Café Indefinite Article, 9 pm, no cove 21+.
Milky Way Black Market Militia, The Foundatio Exposition, DL, Colony Underground, Agyeman, pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Session, 4-7pm, r cover; Mike Barett, 9 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Sunday's Well.
Paradise Lounge Frequency Needs a Mate wit guests, 8 pm, $5-8, 18+.
Phoenix Landing DJ Sneake, 9 pm, $10, 19+.
Plough and Stars Katie McD, 5 pm, $3, 21+.
Rivergods Dinos and Amy, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Steve Rochinsk 10 am-3 pm, no cover; Ball in the House featurir Bob Malone, 7 pm, $12.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Mar Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Supagroup, 11:15, $8.
Wally's Live Jam Session, 4-7 pm; Wally's Stepchi dren, 9 pm-2 am.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rus Scott, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Improv. and Composed Liv Music, the Mad Hatter's Tea Party, 2 pm, $5; Liv Jazz, 7 pm, $7.
ZuZu Rockabilly, 10 pm.

MONDAY, JUNE 20

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Brett Rosenberg, Just Catalino, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pr Lloyd Thayer, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12 regular, $1 member.
Dick's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm.
Dodge Street Bar & Grill Beverly Hillbillies Ope Jam, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Kelly Buchanan, Melissa Ivey, $ 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 9 pm.
Lizard Lounge Starhick, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Pub State of the Art, 10 pm, r cover.

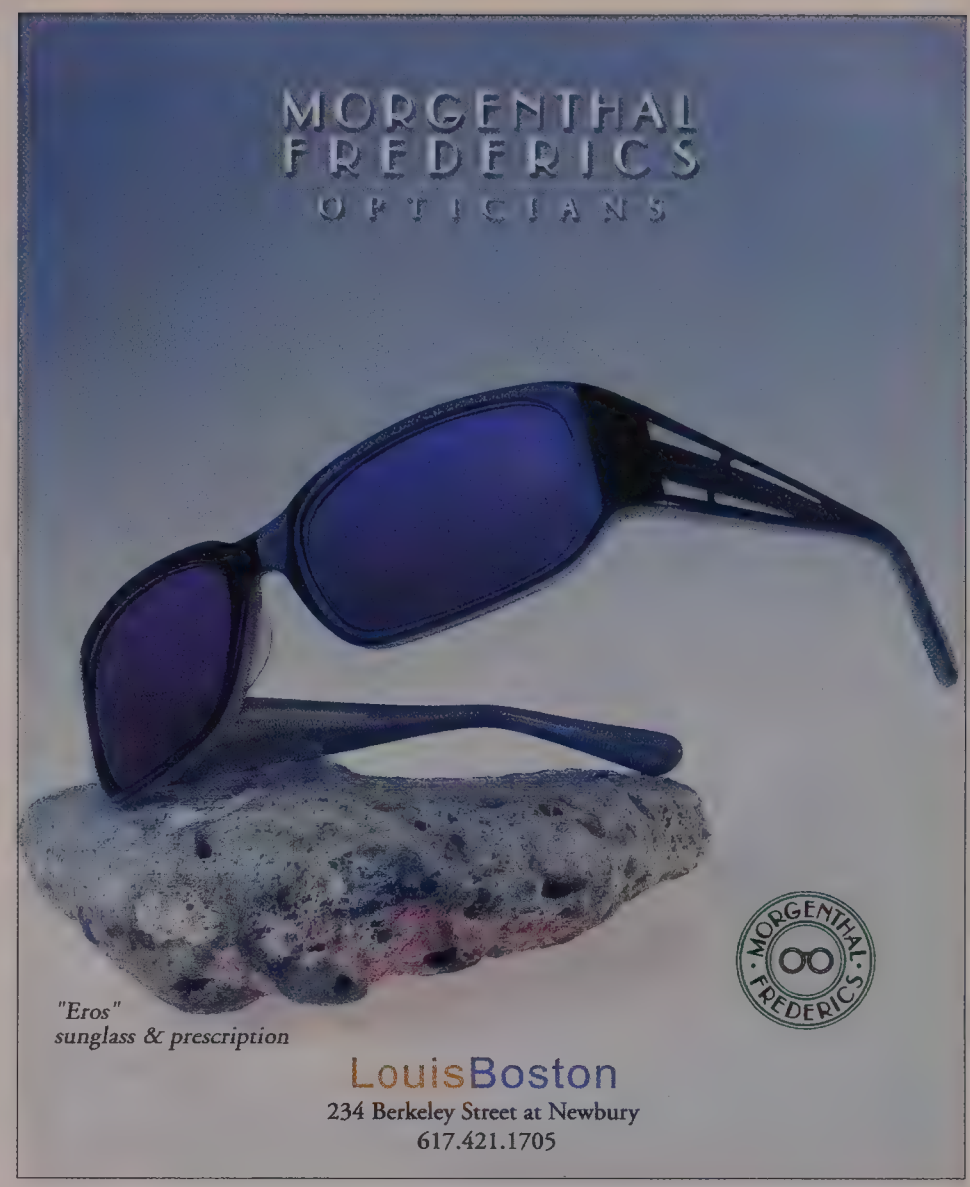
way Café Midway Groove Thang.
y Way Acoustic Universe Open Mike, 8 pm, no r.
idise Lounge Emiliana Torrini with David Kitt, n, $5-8, 18+.
gh and Stars Steve Hurl, 8 pm, $3, 21+.
erville theatre Harrier Angel, 7:30 pm, $20.
ıa nÓg Jesse Ciarmataro, 10 pm.
of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm.
eter Center Jimmy Buffett & The Coral Reefer l, 7 pm, $36 and $86.
y's Live Blues, 9 pm-2 am.
ıder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty t, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
u Rachael Cantu, Moon, 10 pm.
Zygomates Steven Spungin, 7 pm, no cover.

JESDAY, JUNE 21

ey Lounge Pub Stage: Greenstar, Pete Richard, n to Shore, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
ard Pub Trivia, 9 pm, no cover.
lon Collective Soul, Silvertide, 8 pm, $20-$22.
Black Rose Downstairs: Frank Ryan, 9:30 pm, over, 21+.
Burren Open Mike, 10 pm.
tol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover.
tab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; True Bluegrass, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
o Passim Open Mike, Victoria Vox, 7 pm, $5 lar, free for members.
k's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
lge Street Bar & Grill Fats Hammond, 9:30 pm, over.
en Street Grill Two Timin' Three, 10:30 pm, no er.
pers Ferry Carmen's Condition, $4, 21+.
nessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm.
nny D's Mac McAnally, 8:30 pm, $20..
sale Tom Courtney, 7 pm, no cover.
ard Lounge Beth Boucher, 8-9 pm, no cover; re Burson, Bow Thayer, 9:30 pm, $5.
ky's Lounge Lucky's Unplugged, no cover.
t Murphy's Pub Public House, 10 pm, no cover.
ldle East Downstairs: The Chittlin Circuit 1.5 r, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
lway Cafe Trinity Test, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
k Bar Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Brian Belcher.
Paradise Lounge the Reese Project, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
PA's the Count Me Outs, the Bun Winkles, Bell Ringer, Heavy Creatures, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Reverb Joe, 8:30 pm, $3, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club John Payne Sax Choir, 7:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Jazz Club Sophia Bilides, 8 pm, 10 pm, $18-$56.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Oranges Band, Kahoots, Choo Choo Larouge, Impossible Hair, 9 pm, $7.
Wally's Live Swing, 9 pm-2 am.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
ZuZu Electrosocial with Blue Ribbon, Mystechs, Casette, 10 pm.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Abbey Lounge Cult of Point Break, 21+.
Asgard The Ken Selcer Invitational Jam, 9 pm, no cover.
Avalon Sleater-Kinney, Dead Meadow, 8 pm, $18.25.
Bill's Bar the Motet, $12-$15, 18+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Frank Ryan, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Ron Carter Jr., 7:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover.
The Burren Accoustic Alchemy, 10 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Christopher Williams, 8 pm, $15 regular, $13 members.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
Dodge Street Bar & Grill Mamadou Diop, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Summer Block Party, 9:30 pm-2 am.
Green Street Grill Mamoudou DJ World Unite, 11:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Absolute Acoustics, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Gato Malo, the Collisions, 8:30 pm.



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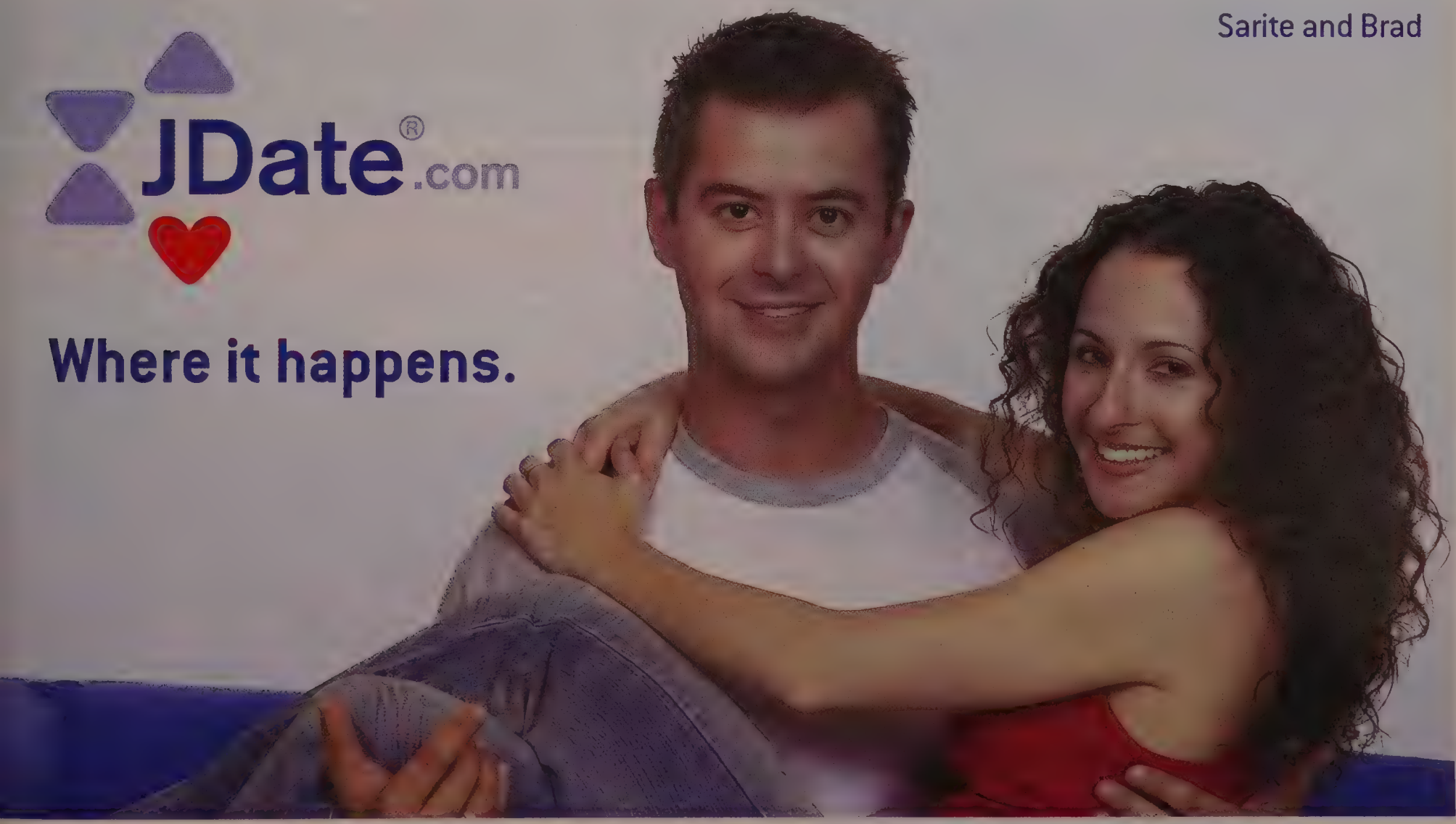

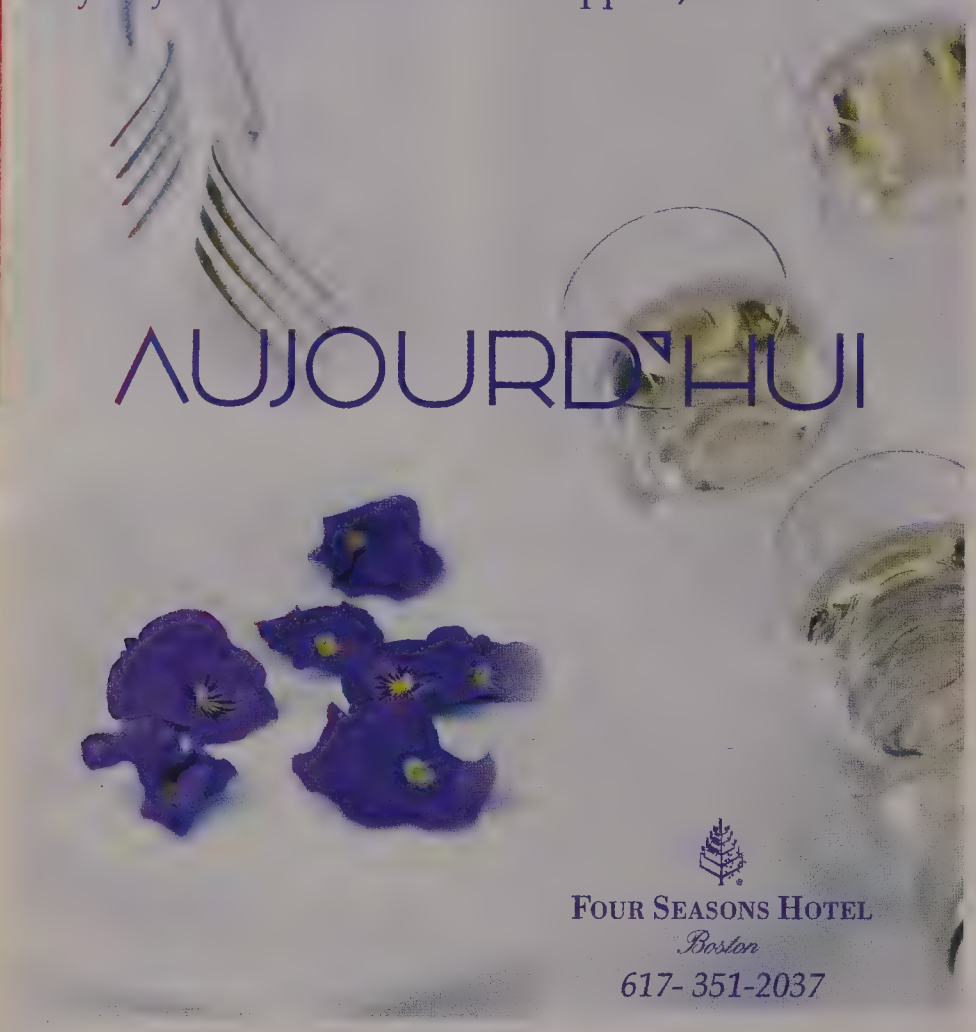

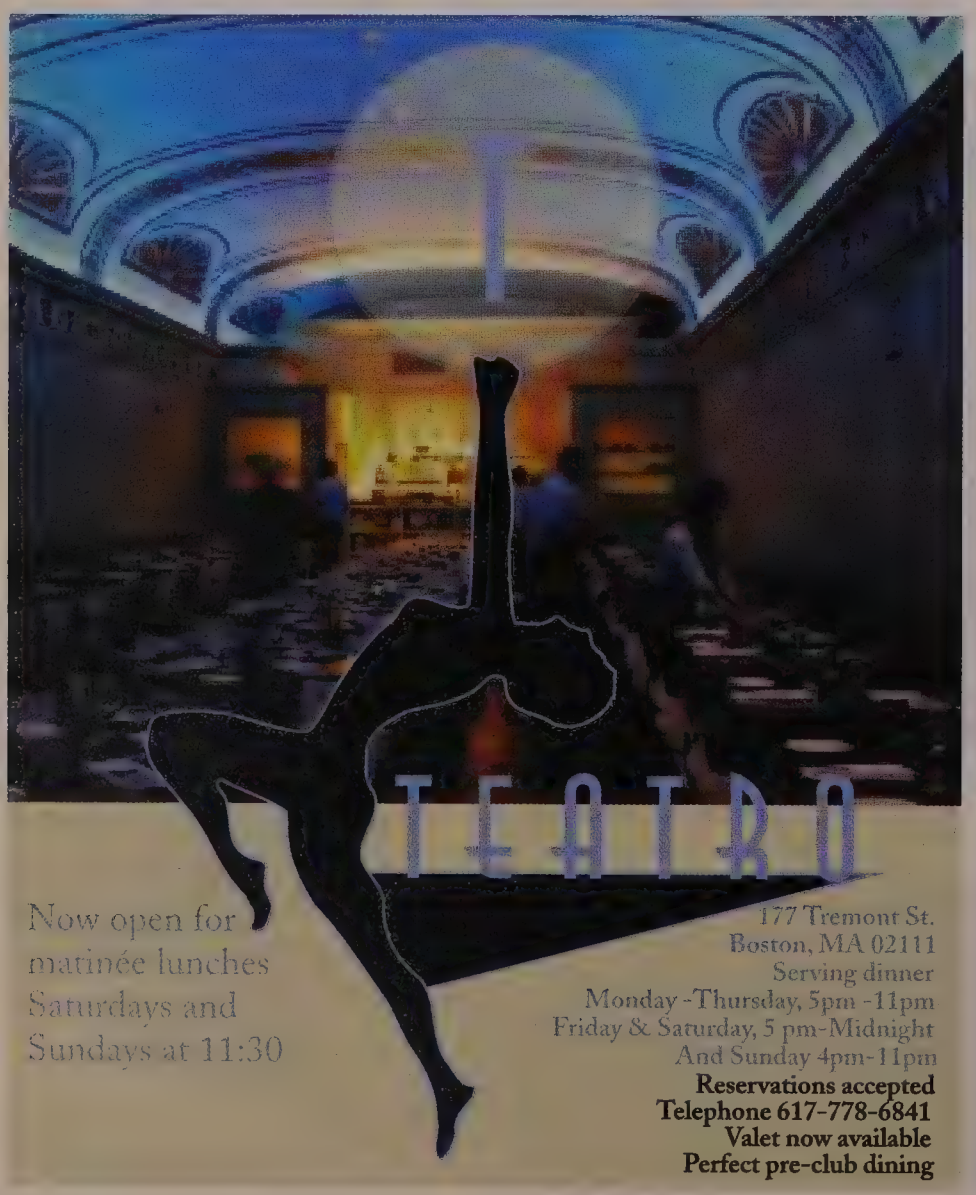

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Clay Aiken August 28, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Allman Brothers Band, moe. August 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Coldplay August 6, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Billy Corgan June 30, Avalon (617-423-6000).
Elvis Costello, Emmylou Harris & The Imposters July 23, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Crosby, Stills, & Nash July 30, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Earth, Wind & Fire; Chicago July 16, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Daryl Hall and John Oates, Tears for Fears August 23, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Chris Isaak August 19, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Elton John September 16-17, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson September 15, Campanelli Stadium (508-559-7070).
Tom Jones July 15-16, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Journey August 20, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
KC and the Sunshine Band August 20, Hatch Shell City Park.
Mark Knopfler July 1, Fleet Boston Pavilion (671-931-2000).
Avril Lavigne, Gavin DeGraw, Butch Walker August 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis & the News August 18, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Lyle Lovett July 22, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Dave Matthews Band, G. Love & Special Sauce July 9-10, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Paul McCartney September 26-27, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Meat Loaf August 17, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
John Mellencamp, John Fogerty July 7, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Moody Blues July 12, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
O.A.R. July 27-28, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Ozzfest 2005 July 15, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Rolling Stones August 21-23, Fenway Park (617-931-2000).
Sugar Water Festival: Erykah Badu, Jill Scott, Queen Latifah, Floetry July 13, Bank of America Pavilion (671-931-2000).
Donna Summer July 7, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
James Taylor June 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
3 Doors Down, Staind, Breaking Benjamin June 30, Verizon Wireless Arena (617-931-2000).
U2 October 3-4, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Rufus Wainwright, Ben Folds August 5, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Weezer July 9-10, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Brian Wilson August 9, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).

Lizard Lounge Matt Hebert, 8-9 pm, no cover; Sun 5, Chapter in Verse, 9:30, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm-12 am, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Greesome, the Klapp!, Guy Malone, $8, 8 pm, 18+.
Midway Café Musk, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Milky Way Live music, 9 pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's The Buzz (live band karaoke).
The Palladium Downstairs: Reel Big Fish, American Hi-Fi, 6:30 pm, $15 advance, $17 at door.
Paradise Lounge Dylan and the Movies with guests, 8 pm, $7, 18+.
PA's The Splendid Nobodies, Union Label, the Ray Mason Band, the Hayseed Prophets, 8 pm, 9 pm, $5-7, 21+.
Phoenix Landing Jeff Grousse, Pat Fontes, 10, $3, 19+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble Cabaret, 9 pm, $3, 21+.
Rivergods Primitive Sounds, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Scullers Jazz Club Debby Boone, 8 pm, 10 pm, $30-$68.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan, 10 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Comets on Fire, Growing, Sunburned Hand of the Man, Magik Markers, 9 pm, $10.
Tweeter Center Jimmy Buffett & The Coral Reefer Band, 8 pm, $36 and $86.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 am.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Improv. Live Jazz Music, Kris Tiner. Mike Baggetta, 7 pm, $7; Live Jazz, the Wednesday Night House Band, 10 pm, $7.
ZuZu Micah Blue Smaldone, Old Scratch Revival Singers, 10 pm.
Les Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Casey Abrams, Jonathan Donaldson, 7 pm, no cover, 21+; Main Stage: C.O.P.S, Dave Aaronoff & Corin Ashely, Keys to the Streets of Fear, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard M.O. Joe, 9 pm, no cover.
Avalon Alkaline Trio, Rufio, Thieves Like Us, 7 pm, $16-19.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Frank Ryan, 9:30, no cover, 21+.
blu The Sarah Brindel Trio, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Evan Gutierrez, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Boston Harbor Hotel Terrance Simian and the Zydeco Experience, 6 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge The Chicken Slacks, 9 pm, cover, 21+.
Club Passim Jon Svetkey and the Loomers, Qu and O'Connor, 8 pm, $15 regular, $13 members.
Dodge Street Bar & Grill Littlerock CannonB 9:30 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Shore Leave, Skyline Rodeo (NY The Subject, Paper Thin Stages, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi. 10 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Dub is a Weapon, the Well, 9 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no co
Kinsale Smuttynose, Event Patio, 7 pm.
Kirkland Café Death by Fame, Hyphens, Folkc David Harold, 8 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Chris and Dave of Tennessee H low, 8-9 pm, no cover; Jordan Carp, 9:30 pm, $10
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm- am, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Pub Round Midnight, 10:30 pm, cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Harris, Junius, Shortfil Chromelodeon, $9, 8 pm, 18+; Downstairs: Ecl tive Collective, Sucka Brown, Paranoid Soc Club, Grey Star Morning, $9, 9 pm, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, 5 pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Grey Spot.
Paradise Lounge Asa Brebner's Family Jewels Re dency, 6 pm, $7, 18+; The Bubble Up: Rub a Du wise Reggae night, 10 pm, $5-$7, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Greg Behrendt & Liz Tuccillo pm, 18+.
Parris The Rockets Band. 10 pm, $5-10.
PA's Saturday Saints, Das Happening, 9 pm, $5 21+.
Phoenix Landing Lee, 10 pm, $5, 19+.
Plough and Stars Zipper, 9 pm, $3, 21+.
Rialto Fernando Holz, 8 pm, no cover.
Rivergods Wicked Wicked Thursday Reggae, 9 p no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Spectrums, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Eldar, 8 pm and 10 pm, $1 52.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place the Sterns CD release, t Glow, Drab, 10:15 pm, $8.
Waconah Park Bob Dylan and His Band, Wil Nelson and Family, 6:30 pm, $49.50.
Wally's Live Latin Jazz, 9 pm-2 am.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Either/Orchestra 1, 7 pm, $
ZuZu Raymond Morin, Ryan Lee, 11 pm.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no co

IDAY, JUNE 24

bey Lounge Pub Stage: C. Leger & Friends, 7 , no cover, 21+; Main Stage: Fox Pass, Natalie nagan Band, Third Rail, Mardo, 9 pm, $5-$7, .

ganis Arena Wilco, Morning Jacket, 7:30 pm, .

Attic Jody Grind, 8:30, $6, 21+.

dion Game Riot Tour, 7 pm, $10-12.

enue One Ronan Portlet on piano, 5 pm, no er.

s Theory of a Dead Man, Submersed, Breaking nt, 6:30 pm, $18-25.

nk of America Pavilion Tony Bennett Quartet, ie Shaw Orchestra, 7:30 pm, $38.50, $65, .

ck Horse Tavern Lisa Marie's and All Shook Up,) pm, no cover.

e Black Rose Downstairs: Frank Ryan, 9:30 pm. stairs: Bobby Folkes, 10:30 pm, $5, 21+.

o the Chef's Pat Loorais, 7:30 pm, $3-5.

wo at the MFA Harry Fix, 5:30 pm, no cover.

stol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover; Live no and bass duo, 9 pm, no cover.

ntab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, n, $8, 21+.

ib Passim Session Americana, 8 pm, $12 regular,) members.

ib Q DJ Massi, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

k's Last Resort Hit Squad, 8:30 pm.

dge Street Bar & Grill The Irreverends, 9:30 pm, cover.

e Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax.

rpers Ferry The Joshua Tree, $8, 21+.

nnessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Incadence, $5, +.

e Independent Commodore Vic vs DJbc, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

ob Wirth Mel Stiller, 8 pm, no cover.

nny D's Tarbox Ramblers, 9:45 pm, $8.

e's Mexican Restaurant DJ Buddha, no cover.

nnedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cover.

gs Reaganomics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

sale Velvet Jones, 9 pm, $5.

kland Café Barrance Whitfield & the Savages, ctrolux, Lucky 57, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8 , $7.

Lizard Lounge Milo Jones, 8-9 pm, no cover; Mittens, Weistraunauts, Rick Berlin, 9:30 pm, $7.

Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Matt Murphy's Pub Toussaint, 10 pm, no cover.

Middle East Upstairs: Crash and Burn, Septic Youth Command, Rock City, Crimewave, Morgan Knockers, $9, 8 pm, 18+; Downstairs: Rubikon, Stoic, Drinkfist, Sinapse, Unhinged, $10, 9 pm, 18+.

Midway Café Hugh McGowan and friends, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way Snowleopards, The Unbusted, Cyanide Valentine, Marc Pinansky, 9 pm, $10.

Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5 pm, no cover; Christy O'Connell, 9:30, $5.

Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Group, 8:30 pm, no cover.

Paddy O's Spike the Punch.

Paradise Rock Club Addison Groove Project, 8 pm, 18+.

Parris Monkey Bus.

PA's The Union Ares, Swiss Army, Pending Disappointment, 9 pm, $5-7, 21+.

Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 5:30 pm, $3, 21+; Route 44, Kojo Abawaze & What, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Rivergods The Appliance of Science, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Jazz Club Tony Gallo CD release, 9 pm, $8.

Scullers Jazz Club Hugh Masekela, 8 pm and 10:30 pm, $28-$66.

Somerville Theatre Robert Fripp, 8 pm, $28 and $33.

Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.

T.T. the Bear's Place Mary Timony, Finian McKean, Medications, License, 9:15 pm, $10.

Tweeter Center Oasis, Jet & Nic Armstrong, The Thieves, 7 pm, $26.

Wally's Live Jazz, 9 pm-2 am.

Zeitgeist Gallery Kassel, Zicarelli, Grenadier, 7 pm, $10; Harris Newman, Esmerine & Triple Burner, 9:30 pm, $15.

ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Electrolux, 7 pm, no cover, 21+; Main Stage: Slim Jim & the Mad Cows, the Bamboo Kids, Super 400, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.

Avalon Emergenza Finals, 4 pm, $18-25.

Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.

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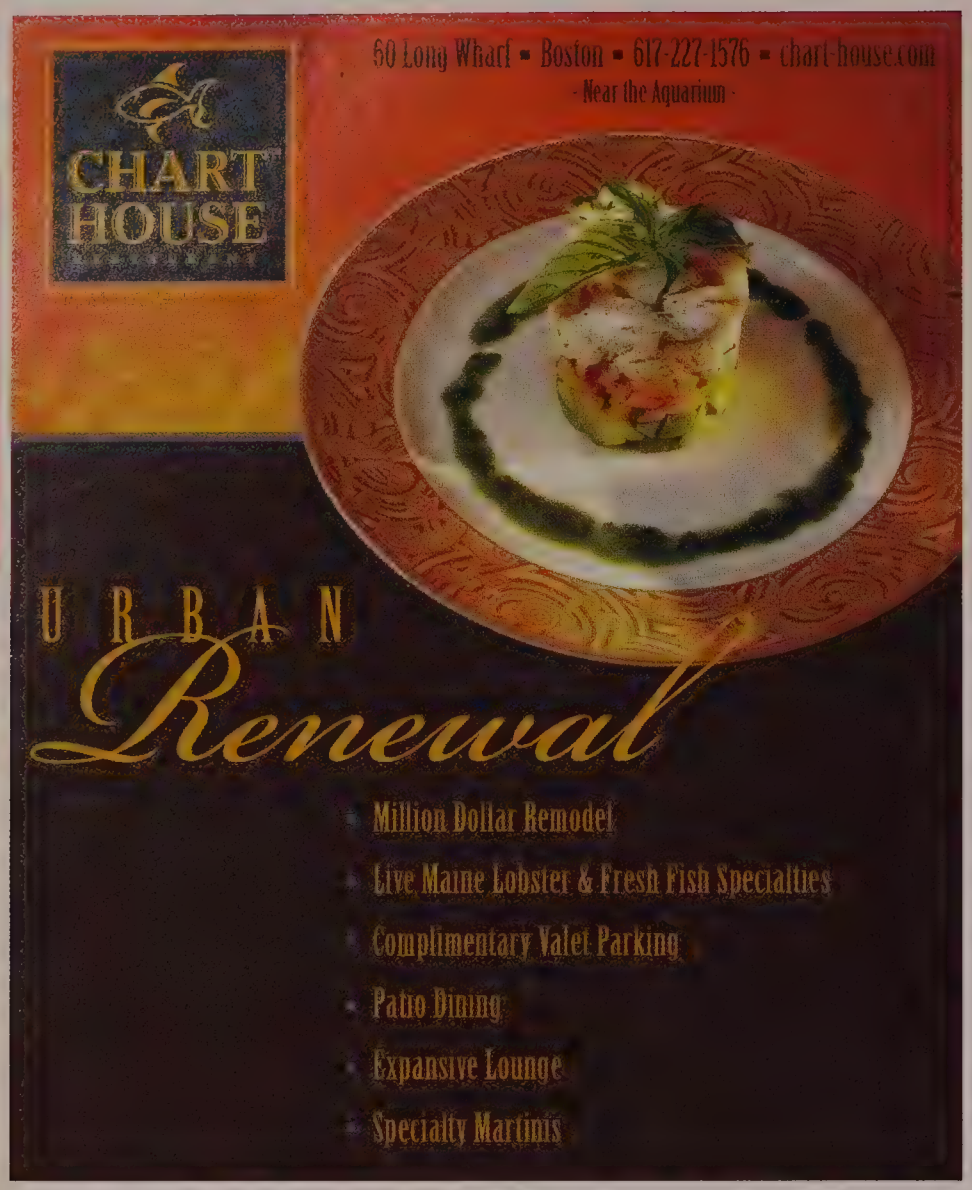

Bank of America Pavilion Pat Benatar, Neil Giraldo, 7:30 pm, $28.50, $38.50.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Frank Ryan, 9:30 pm. Upstairs: Bobby Folkes, 10:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Bob the Chef's BlackSole, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Bristol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover; Live piano and bass duo, 9 pm, no cover.
The Burren Roadside Prophet, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Session Americana, 8 pm, $12 regular, $10 members.
Club Q DJ Profenna, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Desmond O'Malley's Ripchordz, 9 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Fakers, 8:30 pm.
Dodge Street Bar & Grill Gobshites, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Velvet Jones.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, no cover.
The Harp Hipnotic, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Hairbanger's Ball: The Led Zeppelin Experience, Asect, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Grey Spot, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
The Independent DJ Aaron Perrino, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Toni Lynn Washington, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kings Jada, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kinsale Symbolics, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Charlie Chesterman & the Legendary Motorbikes, AJ Crowe & the Air-conditioners, Girlfriend 2000, Eric Sommer, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Daniel Gonzalez, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; Ad Rank and the Fast Easy Women, Adventures in Tourism, Auto Interiors, 9:30 pm, $10 advance, $12 at door.
Lucky's Lounge Al Vega Trio, 7 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's El Gringo, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Fluttr Effect, Count Zero, the Cautions, $9, 8 pm, 18+; Downstairs: Steve Kimock Band, Luke Patchen, Erik Glockler, $25, 9 pm, 18+.
Midway Café Tokyo Tramps, 10 pm, no cover, 21+; Coppersonic, 12 am, no cover, 21+.
Milky Way Snowleopards, The Unbusted, Cyanide Valentine, Marc Pinansky, 1 pm, $5, children free.
Mr. Dooley's Colm O'Brien, 9:30, $5.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Group, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Mark Morris & the Catunes.
The Palladium Downstairs: the Get Up Kids, 8 pm, $17.50 advance, $20 at door.
Paradise Lounge Trent Dabbs, Kate York, Disappointed by Candy, Tyler James, the Lonely Hearts, 9 pm, $8-10, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club MeShell Ndegeocello, Joshua Redman's Elastic Band, 8 pm, 18+.
Parris Monkey Bus, 10 pm, $5-10.
PA's Wingdale Community Singers, Claudia Gonson and Shirle Simms, Chris Brokaw, 9 pm, $5-7, 21+.
Plough and Stars the Flexible Flyer String Band, 5 pm, $3, 21+; Los Diablos, 9 pm, $3, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 9:30 pm, no ocver, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Hugh Masekela, 8 pm and 10:30 pm, $28-66.
Somerville Theatre Ted Leo & The Pharmacists, 8 pm, $14.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
Tsongas Arena Sounds of the Underground: Lamb of God, Clutch, Opeth, Unearth, 12-11pm, $29.50. advance; $33.50. day of.
T.T. the Bear's Place Eisley, Lovedrug, Pilotdrift, Ginsko Method, 9:15 pm, $10.
Wally's Live Jazz, 9 pm-2 am.
Zeitgeist Gallery Benefit for the Boston Bantu Project: Mary Lou Lord, Juliana Hatfield, Brendan Little, 9:30 pm-12:30 am, $15 donation.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-jah, 11 pm.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8pm, no cover.

MeShell Ndegeocello plays the Paradise Rock Club June 25.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

The Black Rose Downstairs: Frank Ryan, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Paulo Danay, 10 am.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jazz & Rock Jam, pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Karaugh Brown, Dean Fields, 7:3 pm, $10 regular, $8 members.
Club Q Suave Sunday, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Dodge Street Bar & Grill Bruce Bartlett Trio, 9:3 pm, no cover.
Great Scott The Stairs, Ho-Ag, Aaron Perrin Morex Optimo, 9 pm, no cover, 18+.
Harpers Ferry 3 Minute Theory, Stillfro, Claymor $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Caribbean Cruise Reggae, 9 pm-1 am.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 a 2:30 pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba Nama, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd, 12 pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, Christia McNeill, 7 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Sinatra Sunday: Al Vega Trio, Ma Maher, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint, Akira, Lady Lee, Kir Jimmy T, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Scars Like Ours, Research h Shown, Loon & Buggy, Looker, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Live music, 9 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Session, 4-7 pm, r cover; Mike Barett, 9 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Kevin Byrne Group.
Paradise Lounge Tristan Da Cunha with guests, pm, $5-8, 18+.
PA's Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cove Downtown Crossing, Random Chants, TBA.
Phoenix Landing John Pacheco, 10 pm, $5, 19+.
Plough and Stars Hatrack Gallagher & Ric Maur 5 pm, $3, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, am-3 pm, no cover.
Scullers Jazz Club Hugh Masekela, 7 pm and 9 pr $28-$66.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Mar Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place the Blue Sky Traffic, 9:15 pm, $
Wally's Live Jam Session, 4-7 pm; Wally's Stepchi dren, 9 pm-2 am.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rus Scott, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Hayes Greenfield's Jazz-a-ma-ta 2 pm, $8 donation; Nick Castro, Fern Knight, Gowan Ring, 9:30 pm, $8 donation.
ZuZu Rockabilly, 10 pm.

MONDAY, JUNE 27

Avalon Ja Rule, 8 pm, $22.50. 18+.
Bristol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pr the everybodyfields, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm.
Dodge Street Bar & Grill Beverly Hillbillies Ope Jam, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Statue Park, Bella Lea, Plumerai, 9 pr $7, 18+.

nessy's Joe Carson, 9 pm.
rd Lounge Starhick, 9:30 pm, no cover.
t Murphy's Pub The Shanko, 10 pm, no cover.
dle East Upstairs: Cotton Ponies, Bug, the Hy-
ıs, $8, 18+.
y Way Acoustic Universe Open Mike, 8 pm, no
r.
ıdise Lounge Brazilian Girls pre/post Party with
g Dub, 5 pm, no cover, 18+.
ıdise Rock Club Brazilian Girls, Tortured Soul, 7
18+.
gh and Stars Larry Flint, 8:30 pm, $3, 21+.
of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm.
the Bear's Place the Other Side of the Bear-
ches on the Autobahn, 8:30 pm, no cover.
y's Live Blues, 9 pm-2 am.
ıder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty
t, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
u Keith Fullerton Whitman, Geoff Mullen, Jes-
Rylan, Brenday Murray, 10 pm.
Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm, no cover.

UESDAY, JUNE 28

ard Pub Trivia, 9 pm, no cover.
Blindside, ShowBread, the Showdown, 8 pm,

Black Rose Downstairs: Sean Ryan, 9:30 pm,
over, 21+.
tol Lounge Live piano, 5 pm, no cover.
Burren Open Mike, 10 pm.
tab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party 8 pm;
is Stuart & Backcountry, 10 pm, no cover,

's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
ge Street Bar & Grill Fats Hammond, 9:30 pm,
over.
at Scott They Shoot Horses Don't They, Leisure,
, 47, 18+.
en Street Grill Two Timin' Three, 10:30 pm, no
r.
bers Ferry Carmen's Condition, $4, 21+.
ny D's Paul Geremia, Peter Lang, 8:30 pm, $8.
ale Christy O'Connell, 7 pm, no cover.
rd Lounge Eric Schmider (Mollycoddle), 8-9
no cover; Lindsay Mac, 9:30 pm, $7.
y's Lounge Lucky's Unplugged, no cover.
t Murphy's Pub Public House, 10 pm, no cover.

Middle East Upstairs: A Day at the Fair, the Big Screen, Lucky Caderra, Stimulus, Headline, 8pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
Paradise Lounge Shannon McNally with guests, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Meat Beat Manifesto, Dub Trio, 7 pm, 18+.
PA's Koran Hasanagic, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thayer, 8:30 pm, $3, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Makoto Ozone, 8 pm and 10 pm, $22-$60.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Nash Lane, Akrasia, Last of the Wicked, 9 pm, $6.
Tweeter Center An Evening with James Taylor, 8 pm, $26-$69.50.
Wally's Live Swing, 9 pm-2 am.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Bourbon Princess, 9:30 pm, $5.
ZuZu Dorkbot, 10 pm.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bank of America Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-931-2000) MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

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esome Beer-Steamed Burgers - All-U-Can Eat Lunch Taco Bar - Giant Fiesta South-of-the-Border Nachos - Sizzlin' Smokin' Fajitas

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617.426.9988
Mon.-Fri. 7am-5pm, Sat. & Sun. 10am-2pm

Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Dodge Street Bar and Grill *7 Dodge St., Salem (978-745-0139).*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920).*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*

Robert Plant plays Bank of America Pavilion June

Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Pl (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Gree*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Governm Center.*
The Nameless Coffeehouse *3 Church St., Camb (617-864-1630). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (6 482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Out of the Blue Art Gallery *106 Prospect Stre Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line Central.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-212 MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (6 562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-880 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-15*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 576-6260).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (6 876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cam bridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Cen*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somervil (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (6 628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambri (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-3 2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambri (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

Boston Early Music Festival

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-661-1812). www.bemf. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 5 pm. $20-$48. •Kristian Bezuidenhout performs From Salzburg to St. Petersberg: A Fortepiano Travelogue. *8 pm. $20-$48.* Sequentia Ensemble for Medieval Music performs songs from the German Rhineland. *•11 pm. $20-$48.* Andrey Reshetin, Maria Krestinskaya and Peter Sykes perform 18th-century Russian violin music.

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through June 18. Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 8 pm. $16-$120. Stephen Sondheim's 75th birthday tribute with guests Barbarin Mazzie, Faith Prince and others.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

Boston Early Music Festival

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-661-1812). www.bemf. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 5 pm. $20-$48. Boston Early Music Festival Orchestra performs the German-inspired *Five Concerti* and a Magnificat with soloists on violin, recorder and harpsichord. *•8 pm. $20-$48.* Boston Early Music Festival Orchestra performs five German concerti and a Magnificat. *•11 pm. $20-$48.* Paul O'Dette and Stephen Stubbs perform on the Baroque lute.

Russell College

Yamawaki Arts and Cultural Center, 49 Myrtle St., Newton (617-243-2143). www.yamawaki. MBTA: D Green Line to Riverside. 7:30 pm. New Underground String Quartet and the jazz bi project integrate contemporary electric fu- n into traditional instrumental music.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

Boston Early Music Festival

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-661-1812). www.bemf. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. •8 pm. $20-$48. Joel Cohen directs the Boston Camerata as ts 50th anniversary celebration. *•11 pm. $20-$3.* Tragicomedia and Friends present Dueling ntatas: an evening of Italian cantatas inspired the rivalry between Mattheson and Handel.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Boston Early Music Festival

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-661-1812). www.bemf. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 12:30 pm. $20-$48. Violinists the King's Noyse perform Ger- n Renaissance folk music.

Longy School of Music

Pickman Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-354-6910). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15 general; $10 students and seniors. Nestry performs songs from their album Come o My Garden: Song of Songs.

St. Cecilia Church

Belvidere St., Boston (617-536-4548). www. ciliaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. 6 pm. Free. Timothy Smith conducts First Congregational Church in a choral festival cert highlighting Clark, Bruckner and others.

MONDAY, JUNE 20

Longy School of Music

Pickman Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-354-6910). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15 general; $10 students and seniors. Liber Usualis performs Unrequited: Guillaume de Machaut and the French Ars Nova, 14th-century songs of love and battle.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$120. Bruce Hangen conducts a program of Big Band favorites from the 1930s to today.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 64 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12:15 pm. $3. Grace Notes Handbell Ensemble, a group of high-school bellringers, performs its repertoire.

Longy School of Music

Pickman Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-354-6910). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15 general; $10 students and seniors. Medieval Strings performs La Dolce Vista, featuring Burgundian music.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through June 23. Wed., 8 pm; Thur., 8 pm. $16-$120. Pops on the Edge experiments with traditional classical music featuring special guest Guster.

New England Conservatory

Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1270). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern. Through June 25. Wed., 8 pm; Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 8 pm. Free. Composer-in-residence Frederic Rzewski performs contemporary music on the piano.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

Longy School of Music

Pickman Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-354-6910). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Sarah Davies, Grant Herreid, Laurie Monahan and Shira Kammen perform 15th-century organ songs from the Buxheimer Orgelbuch.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

Longy School of Music Reveilles Vous

Pickman Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-354-6910). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15, general; $10, students and seniors. Reveilles Vous: Arise and Celebrate is a variety of secular and sacred music by 15th-century composer Guillaume Du Fay.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

First and Second Church

Hale Chapel, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). www.fscboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. Free. This two-hour event features chamber music by Beethoven.

Forsyth Chapel

95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3354). www.foresthillstrust.org. 8 pm. $8-$10. Riverview Players Chamber Ensemble performs music by artists buried in Pere Lachaife from Chopin to Jim Morrison.

Longy School of Music

Pickman Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-354-6910). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. Early Music Institute musicians perform a selection of Guillaume Du Fay's work.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$120. Charles Floyd conducts the Boston Pops Gospel Choir with soloist Jennifer Holliday.

Zeitgeist Gallery

Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist gallery.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 9:30 pm. $8. Nick Castro, Fern Knight and In Gowan Ring perform a night of experimental folk music.

MONDAY, JUNE 27

Tanglewood Music Center

297 West St., Lenox (413-637-1600). www.bso.org. 10 am, 1 pm and 4 pm. $11-$26. A String Quartet Marathon featuring violinists and cellists from the Cleveland and Concord Quartets.

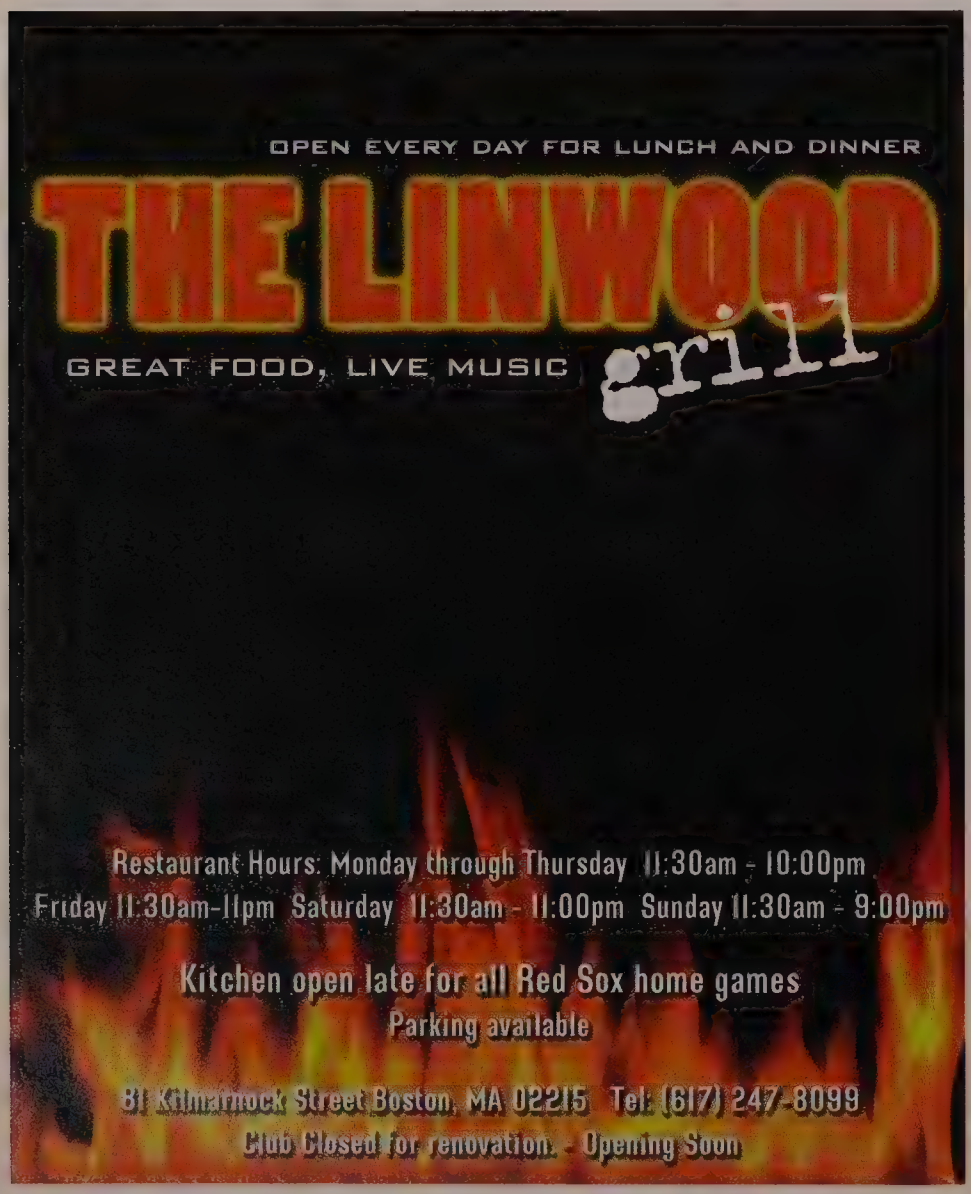
TUESDAY, JUNE 28

Berklee World Percussion Festival 2005

Berklee College of Music, 136 Mass Ave., Boston. (617-747-2261). www.berkleebpc.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. 8:15 pm. $1-$10. Rythmusa with Dave Samuels joins Nan Mercader and Mike Ringquist for a percussion concert.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 64 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12:15 pm. $3. Robert Thwaits and Yun Zhang perform traditional Chinese music.



dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with rotating DJs and drag performances, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ spins top-40, plus open mike and interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
360 Dance to hip-hop and R&B, $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Live bands as well as rotating DJs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Tuesday Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10-2 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Two Timin' Three performs rock-a-billy jazz music, 10:30 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Totally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic '80s music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa night, DJ Hernan, DJ D. Martinez, DJ Antonio Ortiz, and guest DJs spin salsa music. Inclu beginner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk music bands, pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave sp 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Spoken Word A night of poetry.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and fu $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After Work Wednesdays Sam Adams spons Game Night with free appetizers and Red S ticket giveaways, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
DJ World Unite spins, 11:30 pm-1 am, no co 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of in national music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of pu '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no co 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no co 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley B plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 p am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and com mentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special P Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21

THURSDAYS

Aria Lounge
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest spin vocal house, 11 pm, $20, 21+ (men); (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 1

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, f and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and da music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 p am, $15, 19+.

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins In and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

erys
Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
ub Q
's Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ Mike arro, 9 pm, $5.
mmon Ground
e Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 $3, 21+.
ogan's
Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm,
smopolitan
ight of jazz, 10 pm.
vlin's
Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, over, 21+.
ckside
Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 $5, 21+.
bassy
Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm,
e Enormous Room
-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and o, $3, 10 pm-2 am.
t
r Work Lounge Rotating DJs spin jazz and ge music, no cover, 21+.
lden Temple
E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo- n, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
e Green Briar
Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
een Street Grill
Camara and Jama-jigi play afropop highlife, 0 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
e McIntyre's
band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kells
Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance s and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
vara Pub
Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, and pop, 21+.
uor Store
es' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.
ntra
una Club's Latin Lounge DJs Cuban Jeff and D. inez spin a mix of Latin and Latin house, 11 pm, 21+.
y Way
net Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 o cover, 21+.
al Lounge
nic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea a offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc a and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.
is
ursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
enix Landing
ents DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5; 19+,

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.
The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.
The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.
River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Ruby Room
Martini Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while resident DJs spin R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.
Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.
Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.
Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.
The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.
Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.
Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.
Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.
West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.
Aria
Vanity DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 pm, $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.
Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.
The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

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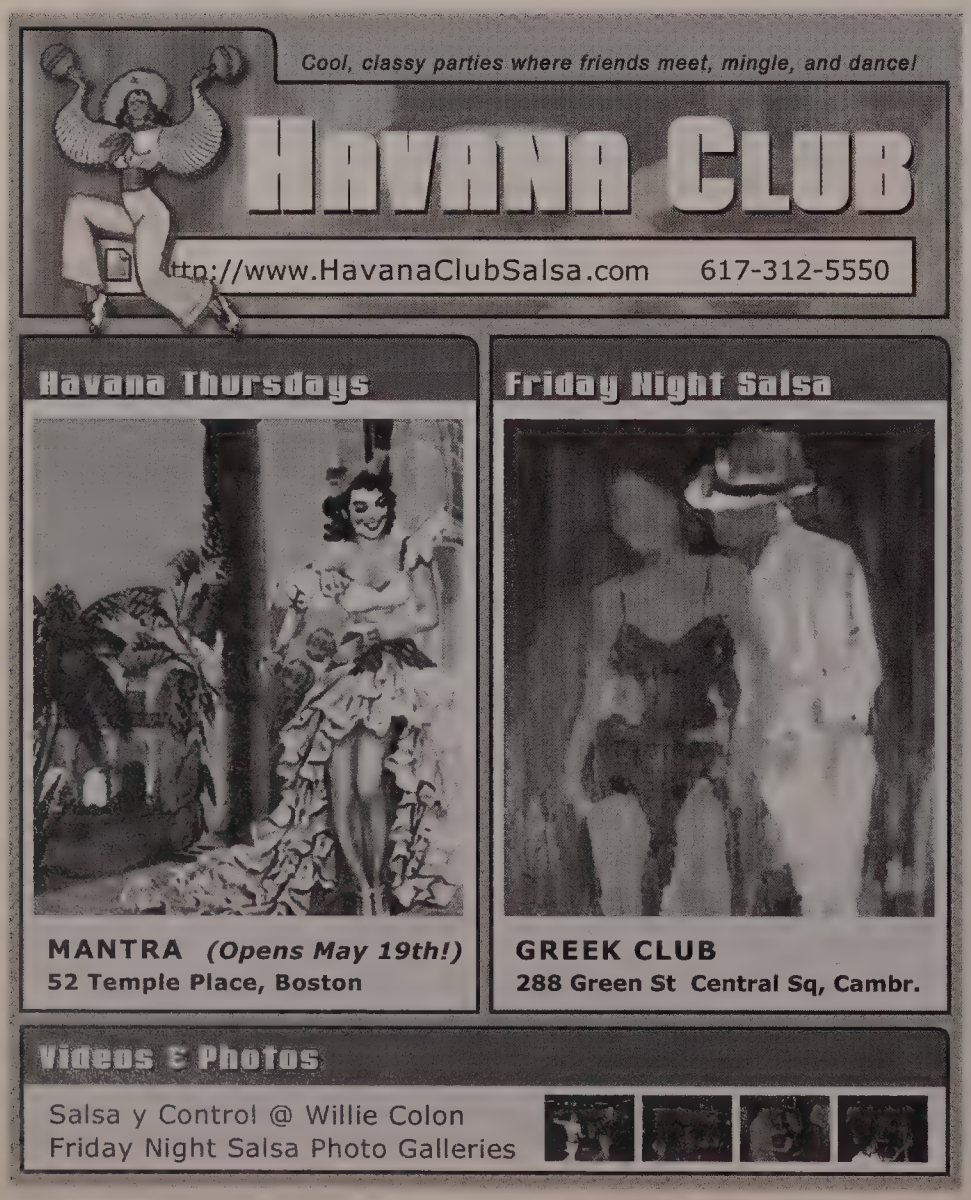


Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Hot Fridays Hip-hop, Merengue, Salsa, Reggae, and Bachata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Club Q
Forbidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Zender spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Chris Kung of KISS 108 spins dance, top-40 and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Niso and DJ Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe Jam'n 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo s downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free befor pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15,

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and da while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-h R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock,

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ S Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, tec and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae m $15, +18; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New land's longest-running all-male dance revue, doo 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins m stream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** tating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 1 pm; $12, 18+; $8 , 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+

The Penthouse Club
DJ Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 no cover, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy

he Purple Shamrock
ip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

he Rack
Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

edline
dney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-
m, no cover, 21+.

iver Gods
version DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-
ul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no
ver, 21+.

oxy
Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reg-
e, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

umor
unge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-
hool, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

yles Dance Hall
lsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night
e third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

ssy K's
mu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

oin
d Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

he Sugar Shack
Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

equila Rain
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10
, $5.

oast
s spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

enu
omba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house
ile DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe.
ket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

ertigo
ernational Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B,
in and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

est Street Grille
e Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all
ht, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

ATURDAYS

n Tain
l-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

n Tua Nua
G Squared and friends mix top-40, hip-hop, house
l soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

nthem
in Fever DJs spin Salsa Clasica, Merengue,
hata, Salsa de Hoy and Latin House at this
kly theme party, 10 pm-2 am, $10.

ia
estyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11
, $20, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

alon
se Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson spins along
h international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

e Avenue
Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

is
h Life DJs Frank and Matty spins hip-hop, 10
, $8, 19+.

g Easy Bar
ebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning
-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9
$8, 21+.

l's Bar
y Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and
-40 music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

ston Rocks
tgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11
DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interac-
video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

zz
gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spin-
g popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep
se and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

price
rnational Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis cre-
a lounge atmosphere with international and
se sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

erys
Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ub Q
Profenna spins top-40, no cover, 21+.

ogan's
Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

smopolitan
ight of hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

vlin's
Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and
se, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ckside
spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

co Lounge
ywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-
and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs,
m, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
KLIK DJs on Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons spin minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features DJ Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance music. 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-energy dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Different DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles of house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

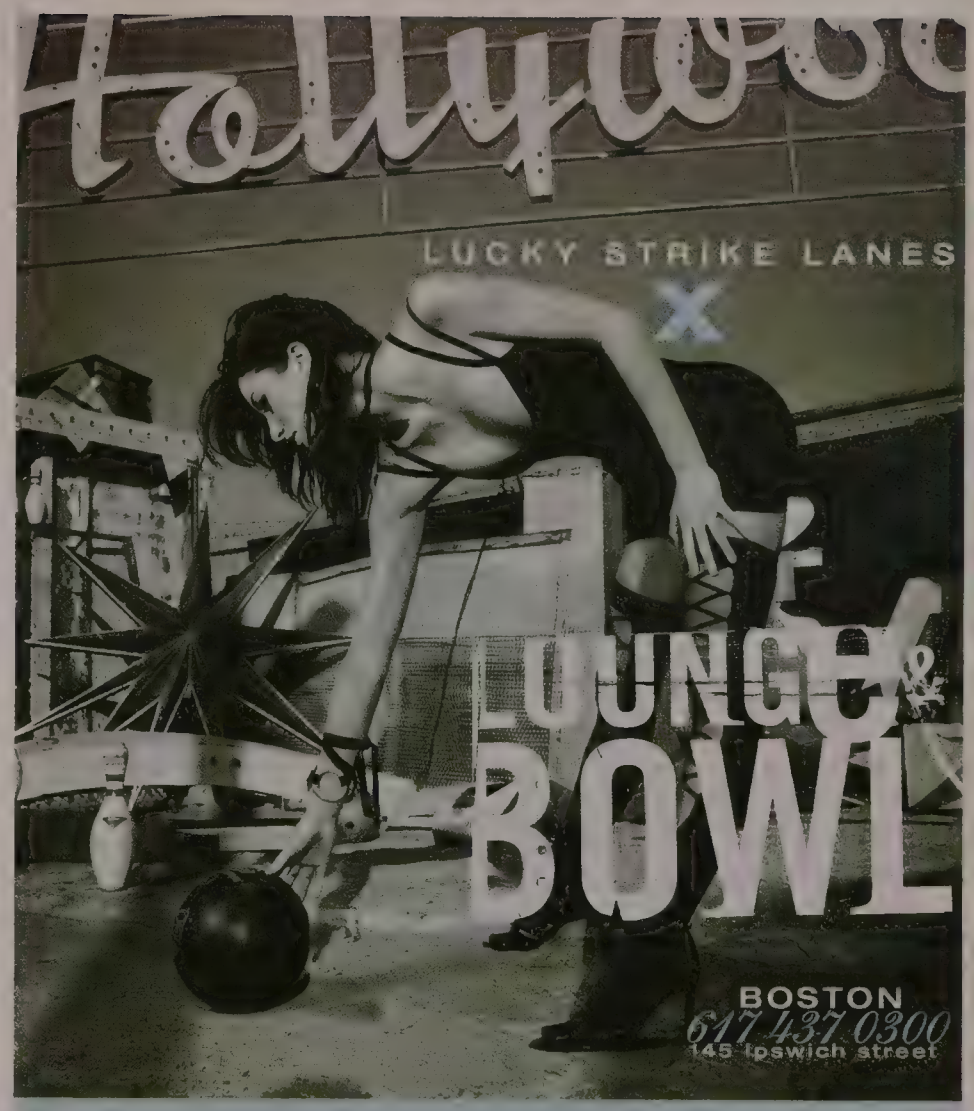
Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

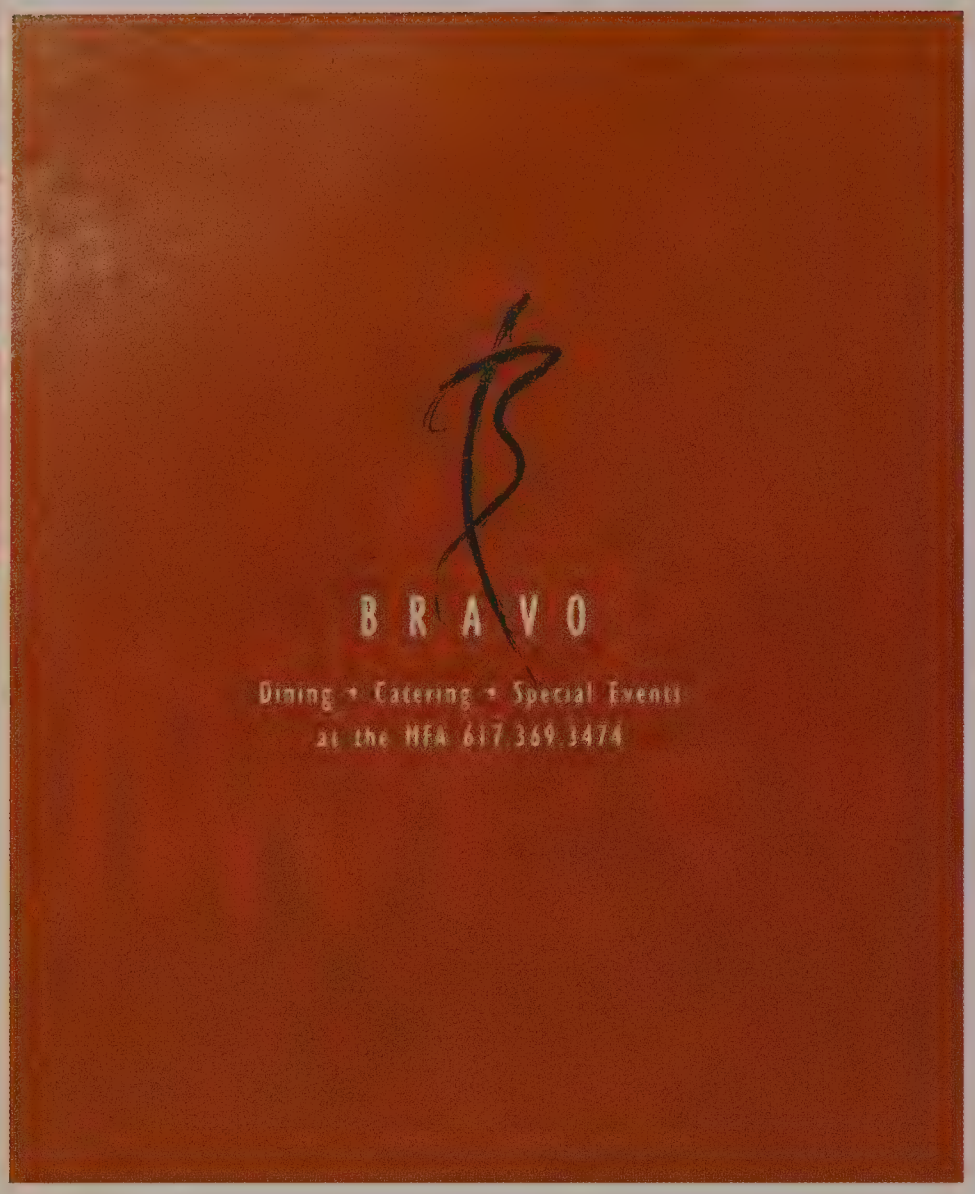
The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.





Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Dance Hall Reggae music, 11pm, $10-15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11pm, $20, 19+ (women), 21+ (men).

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+.

Caprice
Rotating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Club Q
Suave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and the 45 Crew spin dance music. 8 pm-2 am. $10.

Cosmopolitan
Caribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Spot DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and international grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance hits, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-212*
Anthem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383)*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080)*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-700*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-111*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080)*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-987*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-393*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-882*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-210*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (61 876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-101*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-946*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-908*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-940*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (61 542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-405*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-672*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-166*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-702*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-188*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-995*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-065*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-651*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-00*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-000*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-030*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-258*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-669*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-030*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

museums & galleries

dvice to Contributors

ubmit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-146) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-ail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop d phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to pub-ation. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

rthur M. Sackler Museum

5 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.tmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har-rd. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; udents and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. The Sport of Kings: Art of the Hunt in Iran and dia features paintings, decorative arts and eaponry depicting hunting scenes from western d southern Asia. Through June 26. • East Asian t is exhibited in *Forging the New: East Asian inting in the Twentieth Century*. Through Octo-r 16. •*Alexander's Image and the Beginning of reek Portraiture, The Art of Ancient Rome* and *ar Eastern Art* are on display. Ongoing.

avis Museum and Cultural Center

ellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley 31-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. BTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue..-Sat., 11 am-m; Wed., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 12 pm-4 pm. Free. •*The laster Prints" of Hendrick Goltzius and Mannerist Art* owcases work from the Dutch engraver's *Life of the gin* collection. Through June 19. •Artist Ghada ner depicts her concepts of "terror" and "terrorism" her installation *The Reign of Terror*. Through June . •*The Observed and Envisioned* exhibits depictions of men in Mughal art from the 16th to 19th centuries. rough June 19. •A display of art from China, Japan d Korea runs through June 2006. •A new installa-n of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, n Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

eCordova Museum and ulpture Park

Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). w.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; stu-ts and seniors, $6. •*The 2005 Annual Exhibition* tures works from 10 New England artists. Through y 31. •*Collection Highlight: Makoto Yabe* features ce-ics. Through July 31. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. trice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of ab-ct works by regional and international 20th-cen-y artists. Through Sept. 26. •*Great Buys: Museum rchases* highlights works purchased over the last ade. Through August 2006.

gg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger useum

Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.nuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. n.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*American Art Harvard* includes paintings and sculptures of Har-d's notable members since the early 17th century. going. •*American Art since 1950* displays the nges that occurred in American art in the mid-h century using paintings and sculptures. Ongoing. *ghteenth-Century European Ceramics and Paintings* ibits some of the museum's permanent collection. going. •*Rubens and His Collaborators* exhibits the seum's 17th century baroque style paintings by er Paul Rubens and other artists of the period. On-ng. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: High-ts from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* dis-ys 19th-century art. Ongoing. •The exhibits *Art Design from Central and Northern Europe since 1880* *Art in France, 1885-1960* are featured. Ongoing.

nch Library and Cultural Center

Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.chlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon., . and Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 10 am-8 pm; Fri. and , 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Bastille Day Promotional* ers celebrates the 30th anniversary of The French rary's Bastille Day Street Dance. Through 30th.

rvard Museum of Natural History

Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.h.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. y, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; free from 9 am-12 pm. • *Thoreau's Walden: A Journey hotographs by Scot Miller* displays a five-year picto-of Walden Woods. Through Oct. 2. •*The Glass vers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features the Ware Collection of glass models for more than 830 plant species. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 12 pm-5 pm; Thu., 12 pm-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; free Thu. after 5 pm. •*Getting Emotional* is an exhibition focusing on the expression of feeling through various media. Through Sept. 5. •*Momentum 4: Roe Ethridge* is an exhibition of contemporary photography inspired by fashion and advertising. Through Sept. 5.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. •*The Seasonal Courtyard* offers floral displays. Through July 31. •*Stray Dogs* features Croatian artist Danijel Zezelj's drawings from June 22-August 21. •*A Closer Look: An Introduction to the Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum* offers museum tours. *Tue.-Fri, 2:30 pm*, Ongoing.•*Special Exhibition Gallery Talks* provides context to museum exhibits. *Sat., 12 pm*. Ongoing. •The collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture pieces, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100) www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*GONE: Site-Specific Works by Dorothy Cross* is a mixed-media exhibition. Through July 12. •*Tree: A New Vision of the American Forest* features photographs by James Balog. Through July 12.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lwac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •*Sturtevant: The Brutal Truth* is the first comprehensive exhibition by American artist Elaine Sturtevant. Through July 10. •Photographs from the collection of 1969 MIT alumni Gus and Arlette Kayafas are displayed. Through Aug. 5. •The museum's collection features over 1,500 contemporary art works, including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. Ongoing.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. •*Clipper Ship Era* is a collection of lithographs, plans and photographs illustrating the design, construction and culture of a clipper ship. Through July 10. •*Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* displays work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winners. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Revisiting the Abeil Smith School* chronicles the history of equalizing education on Beacon Hill. Through July 9.•Four exhibits depict the history of the African-Americans in Massachusetts. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17 school days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all other times, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Photographs by Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Sylvan Barnet and William Burto Collection* features 20 of the Japanese photographer's black-and-white prints. Through June 23. •*Speed, Style, and Beauty:*

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The exhibit Op.. *ish* displays at Samson Projects through August 5.

Cars from the Ralph Lauren Collection displays 16 automobiles from the designer's private collection. Through July 3. •*Future Retro: Drawing from the Great Age of American Automobiles* is an exhibition of innovation in automobiles after World War II. Through July 18. •*The Quilts of Gee's Bend* displays over 60 quilts made from 1930 until 2000. Through Aug. 21. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11. • *Brain: The World Inside Your Head* features a giant model brain. Through Sept. 10. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibit, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Mapping the World Around Us* features mapping projection tools and computer map libraries. Ongoing. •400 butterflies and flowers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Revere's Ride and Longfellow's Legend* examines artistic depictions of Revolution-era patriot Paul Revere. Through June 26. • *Memories of World War II: Photographs from the Archives of the Associated Press* features photographs from World War II. Through August 7. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* examines historic Masons. Ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* explains why the town was part of the Revolutionary War. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*The Art of Shopping in China* captures China's early-19th-century international trade market through 40 paintings. Through Sept. 5. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from the Mississippian Culture through March 30, 2006. •*Lines* features photographs by Alex MacL through April 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature* disp ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through Aug 2006. •*Yin Yu Tang* is a reconstructed Chinese r chant's home from the late Qing Dynasty. Ongo

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-10 www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Lin Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and dents, $6; children 3-18, $6; children under 3, •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery the American Southwest* features artifacts from N Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June •*Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth-Century In Delegations in Washington, D.C* features a selec of photographs of Native American delegate the U.S. government. Through October 13. •C *of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from Edwin Curtis Collection* is on display through N 30, 2006. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanshi Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 20 •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis Clark's Indian Collection* features Native Amer artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through J 31, 2006. •*Change and Continuity: Hall of North American Indian* depicts the Native Am cans' response to the arrival of Europeans. On ing. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monum* features the museum's Mesoamerican cast col tion. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* tures original sculpture and plaster casts Mesoamerican cultures. Ongoing. •*Pacific Isl Hall* displays artifacts from the Pacific Isla Ongoing.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (7 736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: C muter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun. 12-5 $3. •Xavier Veilhan's *The Photorealist Pr* showcases paintings by Robert Bechtle, Ro Cottingham, Richard Estes, Ralph Goings Richard McClean. Through July 31. •*Do Take: Photorealism from the '60s and '70s* showc examples of photorealist works from several lections, including Brandeis'. Through July 31 •A self-guided tour of more than 20 South private back yards, community gardens and decks features the works of landscape archit artists and residents of the area. Ticket sales port the South End/Lower Roxbury Open S Land Trust.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The Summer Salon features paintings by various artists. June 16-Aug. 20.

Alianza Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385) www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Color and Texture* features sculptures and jewelry by more than 12 artists. Through June 25.

Boston Skirt Gallery
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.bostonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Judy Kermis Blotnik displays paintings and works on paper in *Running Out.* Through June 25.

Alpha Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am- 5:30 pm. •*New Talent* features paintings by local art school graduates. Through July 1.

Arden Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Paintings by Deborah Van Haaren are on display through June 29.

Ars Libri
Mario Diacno Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Andy Cross' paintings on styrofoam are on display through July 6.

Artana
338 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Kenmore Corner. Tue.- Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Summer Salon Show* displays over 100 paintings through July 30. •The gallery shows paintings, sculptures and glass by artists from New England. Ongoing.

Art Attack
Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 3-8 pm. •*Sophisticated Whimsy* features ceramics, paintings and drawings by Tim Murley, Shawn Weaver and Heather Adels. Through July 1.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Shadowplay* displays interactive projections by Scott Snibbe. Through July 3.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., Boston (781-853-0017). www.atlanticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Thu., 6-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm. •*Orange* is a members' exhibition of paintings, photography and jewelry. Through July 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A group show features paintings, prints and sculptures by Josef Albers, Daniel Buren, Ellsworth Kelly, Sol Lewitt, Robert Mangold, Fred Sandback and Peter Wegner. June 18-July 28.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*Autism to Asperger's: The Artistic Phenomenon* features drawings, paintings and sculptures by 11 artists. Through June 18.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Lesley Dill displays poetry through sculptures. Through June 30. •Larimer Richards displays new works. Through June 30.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Thu. 12-5 pm; Fri.-Sat. 12-10 pm; Sun. 12-5 pm. •*Sifting the Inner Belt* is research art that focuses on the South End community. June 17-July 31.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Matthew T. Hinckman's paintings and scupltures are on display in *Radio*

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Towers. Through June 25. •Nancy Selvage's sculptures made of diverse materials are on display in *Material Witness*. Through June 25.

Brickbottom Gallery

1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •*Collateral Damage: When the Battle's Lost and Won* displays multimedia works by Rob Roy, Jose Santos, Cliff Evens, Ken Ruby and Linda Gao. Joanna L. Gao is the curator. Through June 26. •*Brickbottom Summer Member's Exhibition: BIG* exhibits large paintings created by gallery members. Through Aug. 31.

Brookline Arts Center

86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklinearts center.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. •*The Gadsby Awards* features framed paintings by middle school students. Through June 30.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center

41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Out of Indonesia: Brahma Tirta Sari Studio Batik* features Indonesian art by Agus Ismoyo and Nia Filam. Through June 29.

Chase Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •The gallery displays paintings by Carolyn Evans. Through June 25.

Childs Gallery

169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Art of the Mid-Century* features oil and water color paintings. Through July 2. •Two exhibitions, *Chauncey Ryder: Printmaker* and *Art from Provincetown*, feature drawings, prints and pictures by several artists. Through July 10.

Claygo Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue..-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. Ceramics and other media by Brian Knep, Rahul Bhargaua and Andy Howarth are on display. Through June 24.

Copley Society of Art

158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. The Spring Member Show features 50 juried paintings by Copley Society artists. Through June 18. •*Copley Masters' Show: A Juried Exhibition* is on display. June 23-July 16.

Crump McCole Gallery

200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Wed and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thur. 10 am-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •Paintings by marine artist Jeff Eldridge are on display through July 15. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery

164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*Bull in Spain* features paintings by Alan Bull of Andalusia. Through July 2.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery

300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Séance* features paintings by Jane Marsching and Deb Todd Wheeler. June 17-July 30.

Galerie d'Orsay

33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Luminicia* features Royo's French impressionist paintings. Through July 3. •An exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries is ongoing.

Gallery @ The Piano Factory

791 Tremont St., Boston (617-421-0095). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Sat., 12-5 p.m.; Sun., 12-5 p.m. Free. •African-American quilts display as part of the exhibit *Sisters in Stitches—Joined by the Cloth*. Through June 30.

Gallery AA/B

535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Fri., 12-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5

Melinda Hackett's paintings display at Pepper Gallery

•*New Talent of New England, 1st Juried Group Exhibition* displays work on paper and canvas, sculpture photographs by emerging New England ar Through July 15.

Gallery Katz

450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6 www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Time Out* features by seniors and graduate students from the R Island School of Design's Furniture Departn Through June 18.

Gallery Kayafas

450 Harrison Ave., (617-482-0411). www.g kayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 •William Machado's paintings are on di through July 1.

Gallery NAGA

67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Beyond the Bone: Salt Wate Rust* exhibits drawings and installations by E Solondz. Through June 18. • *The Repetitive Mark* display from June 24-July 22.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery

47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.- 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Silver Lake* features drawing sculptures by Mira Cantor. Through July 9.

Howard Yezerski Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line t lington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Interiors* tures color photographs by Sarah Mala Through July 5. •Peter Tollins displays pain through July 5.

Hurst Gallery

53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6 www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har Wed.-Sat., 12 pm-6 pm; Thu., 12 pm-7 pm and b pointment. •Pre-Columbian artwork is on di through July 4. •African artwork is on di through July 4.

International Poster Gallery

205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to C Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The g showcases a variety of vintage posters. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery

130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cc Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Pri Emotions* features Patricia Jo Peacock Stephen Sheffield's explorations of self-po ture through various styles including textured lage, oil on canvas and photography. Thr July 2.

Judy Goldman Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www goldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlir

.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Provocations* features prints by lah Ali, Ellen Berkenblitt, Julia Jacquette, An-te Lemiex, Clare Rojas and Shazia Sikander. ough June 25. •*Les Sirenes* features pen and ink on er by Susan Shup. Through June 25.

es Place
0 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.splace.com. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical ter. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment. •*Summer Cele-ion* features paintings by Camilla Armstrong, ly Hauser, Susie Pryor, Dan Robertson and more. ough July 22.

thryn Shultz Gallery
R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-867-0246). info@bridgeart.org. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. Free. •The nbridge Art Association presents its annual *Na-al Prize Show* featuring 113 artists from 28 states. ough June 23.

lder Smith Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.ersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. ı.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Daniel Blagd's new in landscape paintings display through July 2.

ngston Gallery
Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstone ry.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-, 12-5 pm and by appointment. •*Relay* features mul-dia works by Eva Sawyer. Through July 2.

noue Fine Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.uefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. ı.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The ry's collection features works in various media by rnational and local artists including Douglass d, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarse and Carrie Gee. Ongoing.

ttitude Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.udegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. ..-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Point Coun-int: Kit Karbler and Dora Hsiung* features glass and en-fiber sculptures. Through June 24. •*Color Con-ons* displays patterned and textured sculptures. 25-Aug. 18.

bilia Gallery
Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mo-gallery.com Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Dorothy Caldwell displays her textile arts through July 2.

Mercury Gallery
2nd Floor, 8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Urban Landscapes* features paintings by Daniel Robinson, Louis Schanker, Joseph Solman and Karl Zerbe. Through June 30.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mp-gallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •In *Solar Time*, Eva Navarro displays col-orful semiabstract paintings. Through June 25.

NAO Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.nao-gallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Thu.-Sat. 12 pm-5 pm. •Andy Zimmerman displays new work in *Light From Two Sides*. Through June 25.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Reaching Into the Sky: Sunrise/Mid-Day/Sunset* is a free standing in-stallation of tree forms made from rolls of canvas, jute, burlap, silk, organza and cotton veil. Through July 2.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5:30 pm. •New paintings by Ryan Steadman display through June 25.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.osp-gallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •*My Perspective: The Phenomenon Faux Naive in Contemporary Painting* shows works by eight artists. Through Aug. 20.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features works by local artists in various media. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Summer Selections* features paintings by Nana

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Carolyn Evans displays paintings at Chase Gallery through June 25.

Gregory, Melinda Hackett, Lisa Lemeland and Sam Tan. June 16-Aug. 13.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*New Possibilities: New Work* displays photographs by Paul Cary Goldberg, B. A. King, Maria Muller and Cary Wolinsky through July 3.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings. Ongoing.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The Salon Show displays photographs by a number of artists. Through August 27.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. The gallery features rare 20th-century paintings. Ongoing.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. •*Op...ish* exhibits abstract works of art that are visually inspired by constructivist and futurist ideas. Through Aug. 5.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Grossman Gallery, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718) www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu. 10 am-8 pm.• The *Staff Art Exhibition* displays work in various media by staff members June 21-July 15. •*In Between* features works in various media created by students at the SMFA. Through July 31.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Things Your Momma Said* revisits childhood through multimedia. Through July 31.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. • Alan McCord and B. Bashlow Guzman display landscape paintings. Through July 2.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Urbar* features oil paintings by William St. G through June 30. •The artist-owned gallery fe paintings by Christina Keating, Sandra Mu Dick, Anne Grandin, William St. George an St. Peter. Ongoing.

University Place Gallery
124 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-867-0 info@cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Ha Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm, Saturday, 9 am-1 pm. •The Cambridge Art Association presents its a *National Prize Show* featuring 113 artists from 28 (Also see listing for the Kathryn Shultz Ga Through June 23.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to C Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:3 •*Shadow Boxes: Assembled Tales of Magic, Fa Wit; The Art of Maureen McCabe* features g ings of various items McCabe has colle Through July 2. •The gallery's inventory in 18th, 19th and 20th-century American art Ongoing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to chester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*The Between Us* features photographs by Re Norris Webb. Through July 10. •*Then Agai* tures images created by Maggie Taylor us flatbed scanner. June 17-Sept. 10.•The museu tures a collection of historic and contemporar tographs. Ongoing.

Panopticon Gallery Boston
Hotel Commonwealth, 502 Comm. Ave., Boston 267-8929). www.panopt.com MBTA: Green L Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm.•Photograp Norman Fortier feature private and commercia ing vessels. Through Sept. 10.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham. Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*The Tree in Landscape* fe works by more than 20 artists. Through July 15.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). prcboston.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston U sity West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Th am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •The *Annual bers' Exhibition* features works by 14 PRC mer Through June 26.

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Readings & Signings

EDNESDAY, JUNE 15

orders Books Downtown Crossing
School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www. rdersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to wntown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Beth itcheon** reads from her novel *Leeway Cottage* out the ups and downs of a marriage between a ealthy socialite and a Dutch resistance fighter dur- World War II.

arvard Book Store
st Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-1-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to rvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Benedict** discusses r novel *The Practice of Deceit* about a Manhattan chelor turned family man whose idyllic life changes ien he discovers his wife's secret past.

ewtonville Books & Brews
6 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. wtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to wtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. Editor of the *New Haven vocate* **Mark Oppenheimer** reads from his book *irteen and a Day: The Bar and Bat Mitzvah Across nerica*, in which he discusses his time spent travel- the country and attending bar and bat mitzvah remonies.

rter Square Books
White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.porter tarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. m. Free. **Joseph Kanon** reads from his novel *Alibi*, about an American GI assigned to find Nazi war criminals while living with his mother in Venice.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www. bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6 pm. Free. **David Hosp** discusses his novel *Dark Harbor*, in which a serial killer leads an attorney and a cop to begin an investigation that involves Boston socialites.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Sean Wilsey** reads from his memoir, *Oh, the Glory of It All*, which focuses on his childhood experience of being raised by a millionaire, a drama queen and an evil stepmother.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Neurobiologist **David Hubel** discusses his book *Brain and Visual Perception: The Story of a 25-Year Collaboration*, about research he conducted with scientist Torsten Wiesel for which they won the Nobel Prize in 1981.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Edward Schwarzschild** reads from his novel, *Responsible Men*, about a crooked salesman returning to his former home to attend his son's bar mitzvah. Also, **Elizabeth Graver** reads from her novel *Awake* about a woman forced to become nocturnal to take care of her son, who has a rare light sensitivity disorder.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.porter squarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7:30 pm. Free. The **Grub Street Writers** read from their works.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www. bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12 pm. Free. Boston Herald sports writer **Tony Massarotti** discusses his book *A Tale of Two Cities: the 2004 Yankee–Red Sox Rivalry and the War for the Penant*, which gives an insider's look into the 2004 season.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Daniel Clowes** signs copies of his graphic novel *Ice Haven*, a mystery set in a small town populated by strange citizens.

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamus books.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7 pm. Free. **Iory Allison** reads from his novel *The Family Jewels* about a wealthy, gay brother and sister who inherit jewelry along with their family's Back Bay home and get involved in a mystery when the jewels are stolen.

La Luna Caffé
403 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-3400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Chris Brandt**, **Patrick Sylvain**, **Kevin Morrissette**, **Crystal Burney** and writer **Tehlia Lieberman** read from their works.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

Brookline Booksmith Event
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. Reading $2. B-movie actor **Bruce Campbell** reads from his autobiographical novel, *Make Love the Bruce Campbell Way*, about a low-budget movie star working with and alienating Hollywood's A-listers.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Michael Chorost** discusses his memoir, *Rebuilt: How Becoming Part Computer Made Me More Human*, in which he describes the process of learning to hear after he went deaf and had his hearing replaced by a cochlear implant.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **David Hosp** reads from his book *Dark Harbor*. See June 16 Borders Books listing for description.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Paul Theroux** discusses his novel *Blinding Light*, in which an aging author uses an exotic drug to fight writer's block.

Harvard Book Store
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Steve Almond** reads from his collection of short stories *The Evil B.B. Chow*, which explores the awkwardness of love and relationships. Also, **Kelly Link** discusses her collection of short stories *Magic for Beginners* about everything from zombies to marriage.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Tova Mirvis** reads from her novel *The Outside World* about two Orthodox Jewish families. One tries to find their daughter a husband and the other hopes to end their son's obsession with reading the Talmud.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.porter squarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Historian **Megan Marshall** discusses her biography *The Peabody Sisters: Three Women Who Ignited American Romanticism* about the Peabody sisters' lives and roles in the intellectual circle of the 19th century.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www. bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Scott Pomfret** and **Scott Whittier** read from the novel they cowrote, *Hot Sauce*, about a tumultuous relationship between a gay fashion designer and his chef boyfriend.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Eugénie Seifer Olson** reads from her novel *The Pajama Game*, about a middle school teacher turned lingerie saleswoman.

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MAGAZINE

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstorecom. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3:30 pm. Free. **Roger Burkholder** reads from his novel *How Did That Sun Get Out*, a coming-of-age tale about a boy in the 1960s and '70s who thinks about nuclear warfare and the values of the society he lives in.

McIntyre & Moore Booksellers

255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). www.mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 3 pm. Free. Correspondent for the *Jewish Advocate* **Susie Davidson** discusses her book *I Refused to Die: Stories of Boston Area Holocaust Survivors and Soldiers who Liberated the Concentration Camps of World War II*, which includes writings on and by Holocaust survivors and liberators.

Newtonville Books Lizard's Tale Series

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 2 pm. Free. **David Yoo** reads from his young-adult novel *Girls for Breakfast*, in which a Korean-American boy recounts his childhood experiences on the day of his high school graduation.

David Hosp reads from his new thriller June 16.

MONDAY, JUNE 27

Porter Square Books

25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.porter squarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. 7 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Graver** reads from her novel *Awake*. See June 16 Newtonville Books listing for description. Also, **Lauren Slater** reads from her collection of fairy tales for adults, *Blue Beyond Blue: Extraordinary Tales for Ordinary Dilemmas.*

the Dog Did: Tales from a Formerly Re tant Dog Owner, about her transfor tion from a "cat person" to a dog lo through caring for her family's adopted beagle.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Nancy Clark** reads from her novel *A Way From Home*, about an American family living with the mother's infidelity when she is reunited with her former lover.

Doyle's Cafe

3484 Washington St., Boston (617-524-2345). www.muddyriverpress.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 7 pm. Free. **Clinton Richmond** signs copies of his book *Political Places of Boston: From the Backrooms to the Golden Dome*, in which he recounts the political history of Boston by examining buildings and landmarks throughout the city. Also, former member of the Massachusetts State Archives Commission **Neil Savage** signs his book *Extraordinary Tenure: Massachusetts and the Making of the Nation*, about the men and women of Massachusetts who have served in the federal government. Also, Bostonian Society member **Jim Vrabel** signs copies of his book *When in Boston: A Time Line & Almanac*, in which he chronicles the most unusual and entertaining events in Boston's history.

Harvard Book Store

First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Coauthors **Judy Norsigian**, **Marlene Gerber Fried** and **Susan J. Roll** discuss the book they contributed to, *Our Bodies, Ourselves: A New Edition for a New Era*, in which they examine contemporary women's health issues in America.

Newtonville Books & Brews

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. Contributor to *Slate Magazine* **Emily Yoffe** discusses her memoir, *What*

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 2 $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lou hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Ra

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)

1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-075 www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harv 7:30 pm. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays backgro music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)

Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambr (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MB Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts open mike for women and their allies, with five- 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery

106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). ww outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to C tral. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Powers hosts St Soup, featuring prescheduled poets. $4 suggested nation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or liste poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 s gested donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Friday)

Toast Lounge 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-6 2313). Second Sunday of the month. 3 pm. Free. P Doug Holder hosts an open-mike reading.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)

Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-718 www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange L to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The sec Thursday of each month offers a selection of f tured poets and an opportunity for others to t the mike.

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nit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. dline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

EDNESDAY, JUNE 15

w to Figure Out Your Digital mera

io 122, 122 Arlington St., Boston (617-267-4430). v.bcae.org. 6 pm. $49 nonmembers. Photographer Dumas instructs students in how to use their dig-cameras. A CD of shareware software instruction ual is provided, but you must have your own cam-nd manual in order to participate.

asures of the Norman B. venthal Map Center

on Public Library, McKim Conference Room, ley Square, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-0). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 30 pm. Free. Curator of the map center **Ronald n** discusses military maps and Boston's pivotal in the quest for independence in a lecture ti-*Mapping the Rebellion: Boston during the Revolu-ary War.*

IURSDAY, JUNE 16

ergenerational Quilters: Tradition the Scott-Caldwell Family and in e's Bend

eum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, Avenue of Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston (617-369-6). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to A. 7-8 pm. Free. Multimedia artist **Joyce J. tt**, daughter of quilter Elizabeth Talford Scott, usses how generations and traditions intersect er work, her mother's and the quilts of Gee's d.

pical Desserts and Drinks

kline High School, 115 Greenough St, Brookline -730-2700).www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: reen Line to Brookline Hills. 6-9 pm. $60. Learn how to prepare a variety of tropical desserts and drinks made with exotic fruits and fragrant spices.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

Blooms in Art: Works on Paper

Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 12-1 pm. Free with museum admission. Museum educator **Barbara Martin** discusses 19th and 20th century floral art-work on paper.

Flame-Worked Glass

Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 10 am-4 pm. $150. Learn how to transform colorful Pyrex and Morretti glass into small beads and marbles.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Treasures of the Asian Collection

Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 2-3 pm. Free with museum admission. Museum staff member **Martha Wright** hosts a talk on treasures of the Asian collection.

MONDAY, JUNE 20

D-Day to Berlin

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1600). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 5:30-7:30 pm. Filmmaker **George Stevens Jr.** introduces and discusses his documentary, featuring footage of his father, director George Stevens, filmed across Europe at the end of World War II.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

Both Sides of the Street: The Brothers Bulger

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). www.fordhallforum.neu.edu. MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 7:00 pm. Author **Howie Carr** discusses Whitey and Billy Bulger and his novel about the brothers.

Paper Flower Power

Paper Source, 338 Boylston Street, Boston (617-536-3444). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-9:30 pm. $45. Learn how to make paper fringe flowers and magnolias.

Transgressing Nature: What's Wrong with Chimeras?

McIntyre & Moore, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). www.mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 7:30-9:30 pm. Director of the Center for Naturalism **Tom Clarke** moderates a discussion on the possibility of creating viable hybrids among animal species.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Art of the Ancient World

Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 6-7 pm. Free with museum admission. Senior curator of Greek and Roman art **Christine Kondoleon** hosts a talk about the Marine Mosaic from Antioch.

Business Success Stories

Boston Public Library, the Mezzanine Conference room, Copley Square, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-523-0860). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:30 pm and 6 pm. Free. Small business owners discuss what it takes to succeed. Preregistration required.

Treasures of the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center

Boston Public Library, McKim Conference Room, Copley Square, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:30 pm. Free. Curator of the map center **Ronald Grim** discusses the progression of city maps from the late 18th century through the 19th century in a lecture titled *Filling in the Map: Boston Takes Shape.*

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

Viewpoints: Roe Ethridge and Bennett Simpson

Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston Street, Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30 pm. Free. ICA associate curator **Bennett Simpson** talks with artist Roe Ethridge about his work *Momentum 4*, the photographer's first one-person museum exhibition.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

Forensic Evidence: From the Crime Scene to the Lab

Boston Center for Adult Education. The Gamble Mansion at 5 Comm. Ave., Boston, (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. 6-9 pm. $45 members; $49 nonmembers. Learn how a used bullet, fingerprints or a tire track can help to connect a criminal to a crime.

Wine & Craft

Spark Craft Studios, Davis Square, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 6-9 pm. $25 members; $35 nonmembers. Learn the process of wire wrapping beads on a sterling silver band to make rings of semiprecious stones and crystals. Wine, cheese and crackers included.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

Shaker Oval Boxmaking

North Bennet Street School, 39 N Bennet St., Boston (617-227-0155). www.nbss.org. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 8:30 am-4:30 pm. $150. Learn a brief history of the Shakers while learning how to make crafted, wooden oval boxes.

Stray Dogs: Conversation with the Artist

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 1:30 pm. Free with museum admission. Curator of contemporary art **Pieranna Cavalchini** talks with artist-in-residence and illustrator Danijel Zezelj about his work.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Basic Rubberstamping

Paper Source, 1361 Beacon Street, Brookline (617-264-2800). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 1-4 pm. $45. Paper artist and book binder **Lyn Brown** teaches the basics of embossing, masking and more.

MONDAY, JUNE 27

Meet me at the Meze

Meze Estiatorio, 162 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. 6-8 pm. $35. Learn about the traditions of Greece through a lecture that accompanies wine and authentic Greek dishes.

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.aria-boston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door; $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat., 10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+; $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Flesh, Xmortis, Fantasy Factory and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen, and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Friday)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, Thursday is lesbian night and Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). www. tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top-40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.:Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

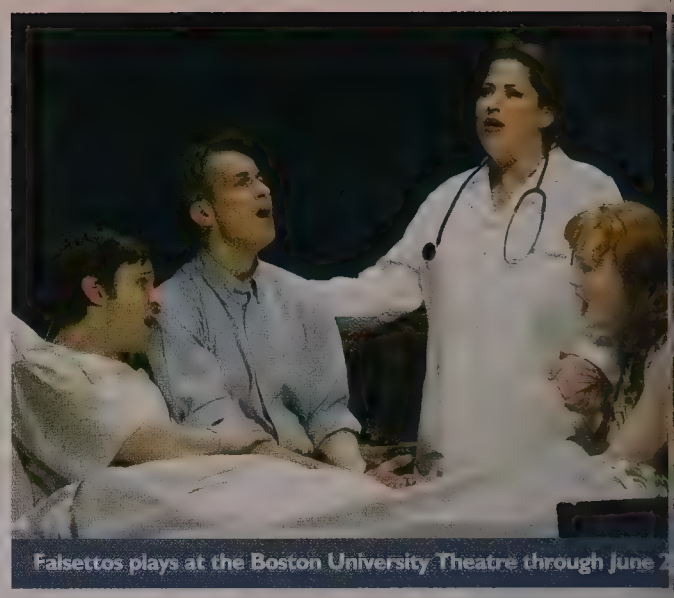
Celebrating Same-Sex Marriage in Massachusetts
Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville (617-625-4823). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. June 19,12-2 pm. Free. State Representative Carl Sciortino Jr. and Boston College Professor John McDargh are the featured speakers at this event entitled "Married in Massachusetts: An affirmation of same-sex marriage and reflections on its future."

Falsettos
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Symphony. Through June 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Wed., Sat., and Sunday, 2 pm. $14-$74. A man starts a new family after divorcing his wife and running away with a male companion. Directed by Daniel Goldstein.

Take Me Out
Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through July 2; Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $35-$40. Paul Daigneault directs Richard Greenberg's 2003 Tony Award–winning play about a successful baseball player who comes out of the closet.

Wedding Anniversary: One Year of Equal Marriage in Massachusetts
Rabb Lobby of the Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-1350). www.glad.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through June 17. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders commemorates the one-year anniversary of gay marriage in Massachusetts with an exhibition featuring photographs by Marilyn Humphries and Susan Symonds.

Wreckage: The Contest Show!
Jacque's Cabaret, 79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). www.jacquescabaret.com. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. June 20, 10 pm. $6, 21+. This show features transsexual and drag performances from the TraniWreck cast and guests, as well as a Gong Show/American Idol-like talent contest judged by three celebrities.


Falsettos plays at the Boston University Theatre through June 2

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Pride Committee
Wainwright Bank Community Room, 155 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-262-9405). www.bostonpride.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue. 6:30 pm. The Pride Committee meets every Tuesday this spring to plan for the 2005 Boston Pride Celebration Season.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,4 member gay club takes part in outdoor activities

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLA (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) m in Medford for support and activities and h a concurrent meeting for interested parents their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.c

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston ing Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-4 9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Lir Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each mont pm, free. An informal group for people who th they may be bisexual or are attracted to more t one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adu
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confider place for men and women who are looking for a space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It m Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Cooli Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England– support, information and social group for pe assigned female at birth who feel that is not an curate or complete description of their gender. of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this gr meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com details.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professio women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic sophisticated to get together with like-min women for conversations, dinners, theater networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fen health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. way Community Health offers a wide array of vices for the GLBT community, ranging from dis sions about parenting and safe-sex practice programs addressing domestic violence and stance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Boston's GLBT flag football league for a ca spring season, followed by a formal fall season. are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus A Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.c ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat. am. See Web site for locations. All are welcom join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn about photography, socialize and meet new peop these monthly meetings. For more information mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (6 742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in develop healthy gay relationships features alternatives meeting and dating, communication games, sin mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail in gaylab.org.

nder Crash
ntaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica n (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. TA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. ach month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the BT community are invited to share poetry, se or performance pieces at this open-mike nt.

lfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian
men of Color
bridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line entral. This discussion group for all ages meets y Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

uid Assets Swimming
v.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian n team is open to both competitive and fitness nmers of all ages and abilities.

e Network/La Red
7-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This sup- group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisex- women's and transgender communities. E-mail @thenetworklared.org for more information.

wly Diagnosed Group
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 7-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports and bisexual men who have been diagnosed HIV during the last two years. E-mail ngtin@jri.org.

t to Dance
7-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin ballroom dance classes and workshops are held gay-friendly environment.

t TwentySomethings Boston
ntysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. s social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay , bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

OZ Social
nshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., on (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange line ack Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. . This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

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body & mind

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Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Author Nancy Brady Cunningham
Unicorn Books, 1971 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4448). www.unicornbooks.org. June 19, 1 pm. Free. Nancy Cunningham, yoga and meditation instructor, will discuss her book *Snow Melting in a Silver Bowl*, which details active meditations as ceremonies of intention. Denise Geddes, the book's illustrator, joins her.

Experience the Power of Grace with Cheryl Richardson
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston. www.cherylrichardson.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. June 17, 7-9 pm; June 18, 9 am-5 pm. $195. In this workshop, author Cheryl Richardson discusses the topic of grace and how to relax and cultivate a trust in divine timing.

Harvard Square Health Fair
Origins, 8 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-8090). www.yogainharvardsquare.com/harvardsquarehealth fair. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 17, 4-7 pm. Free. Meet local alternative health care professionals and receive free sample treatments and consultations.

Medium's Day
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. June 25, 11 am-3 pm. $20, $15 for seniors and students. Visit the book sale, get a private reading from a psychic medium and experience the skills of spiritual readers and healers.

Philosophy Salon
L'Essence Art Gallery, 1723 Centre St., West Roxbury. (617-325-0140). www.Naturalism.org. June 17, 7-9 pm. Free. This local art gallery and the Center for Naturalism welcome visitors to their philosophy salon for coffee and deep conversation. This month's discussion revolves around the question, "Playing God: Should we limit self-design?"

Theology on Tap
M.J. O'Connor's Irish Pub, 27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). www.friendsattheadvent.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. June 21 and 28, 7 pm. Free. People in their 20s or 30s discuss theology and pop culture in a casual atmosphere at this bar night. The next two meetings explore the Gospels according to *The Sopranos* and *The Da Vinci Code*.

Tibetan Music Performance with Penpa Tsering
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). www.tsboston.org. June 16, 7:30 pm. $10. Penpa Tsering performs traditional sacred songs, dances, stories and chants, playing a variety of string and wind instruments.

Lectures

Wednesday Night Dharma Talk
Boston Shambhala Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline. www.shambhalaboston.org. June 15, 22 and 29, 7:30-9:30 pm. $5. All levels welcome. Dharma teachers lecture and lead discussions on basic human emotions and how meditation relates to our daily experiences. The themes for the next three lectures are "Beyond Hope and Fear," "Daring to Be Who We Are," and "Hearing, Contemplating, and Meditating." Refreshments follow.

Workshops

The Alexander Technique
Boston Center for Adult Education, Gamble Mansion, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430 or 617-527-7373). www.bcae.org or www.alexandertechnique instruction.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. June 18, 10 am-1 pm. $45. This class covers the history, principles and application of the Alexander technique, a practice designed to restore good posture and reduce muscle strain by teaching participants how to correct poor postural habits.

Cheryl Richardson leads "Experience the Power of Grace" June 17-18.

Easier Sitting: A Feldenkrais Intro
Yoga Now, 282 Bussey St., Dedham (617-230-6320). June 18, 1-2:30 pm. $15. Early registration is recommended. Feldenkrais is designed to increase physical awareness, helping participants recognize and reduce habits of tension. This workshop uses sitting as a beginning point for finding a balanced posture that is more comfortable, fluid and dynamic.

FreeDance Nia Playshop
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. June 25, 11:30 am-1:30 pm. $20. Nia is a form of body-centered, creative movement awareness. This class invites participants to connect more deeply to their own movement, music and energies. No experience necessary.

High Frequency Yoga for Women
Carmela Cattuti, 151 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. June 25, 10-12 pm. $35. This class focuses on developing the abdominal muscles and will also address techniques for increasing stamina and transforming negative thought patterns. Beginners welcome.

I Do Yoga: Living Happily Ever, Before, During and After
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., Boston (781-258-9187). www.i-do-yoga.com. June 16, 7:30-9:30 pm. $35. Use yoga to manage wedding stress and be fully present for the Big Day. This workshop includes gentle yoga practice, discussion and personal reflection. No yoga experience necessary.

Integrating Sexuality and Spirituality for Couples
Newton (617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. June 25, 1-5 pm. $5-10 suggested donation. The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network hosts monthly meetings to cover topics related to exploring sex holistically. Couples are the focus this month.

Learn to Meditate
Spirit Earth Reiki and Energy Healing, 661 Mass. Ave., Suite 8, Arlington (617-515-8826). www.spiritearth healing.com. June 16, 7-8:30 pm. $20. Can't stay focused during meditation? Learn four different meditation styles to help you connect, stay focused and find out what methods work for you.

Philosophy Discussions and Group Hypnosis
Integral Hypnosis, 279 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-1589). www.integralhypnosis.com. Stress Reduction: June 20, 7-9 pm. $50. Philosophy group: June 27, 7-9 pm. $15. Call ahead to register. This center hosts monthly hypnosis sessions and philosophical gatherings. Stress reduction is the next hypnosis group topic, where participants explore "letting go" and personal empowerment. The philosophy discussion addresses thinking outside the box and the transcendence of preconditioned thought.

Sacred and Erotic Touch
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 308A Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening. com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. June 28, 7:30-9:30 pm. $25. Using meditation, exercise and discussion, participants explore turn-ons, healthy boundaries, presence, verbal and nonverbal communication, pacing, and emotional safety with both erotic and nonsexual touch.

Sound Pod: Healing with Music
West Somerville (617-628-1018). www.avtara.com. June 26, 7:30-9 pm. Suggested donation $10-25. Call ahead for location. Explore intuitive sounds, chanting, the tones of the chakras and singing from the heart as a part of a group musical experience designed to be joyful and healing. All levels welcome.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 617-482-4769
June 15, 7:05 pm vs. Cincinnati Reds
June 17, 7:05 pm vs. Pittsburgh Pirates
June 19, 2:05 pm vs. Pittsburgh Pirates
June 27, 7:05 pm vs. Cleveland Indians
June 28, 7:05 pm vs. Cleveland Indians

Boston Cannons
•Nickerson Field, Boston
Tickets: 888-847-9700
June 18, 7 pm vs. Long Island Lizards
June 25, 7 pm vs. New Jersey Pride

Event

New Charles River Run
Start/finish at Artisani Park, Boston. www.baevents.com. June 26, 9 am. $22. These 7.5-mile and 5K races benefit several charities and are followed by a barbecue with cash bar.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball for players at all levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club (CRFC)
(617-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

Dogtime Boxing
527 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). www.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This boxing club offers training for competition, conditioning and recreation.

DODGEBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeball teams.

CRFC Dodgeball
(617-491-8989). www.crfcdodgeball.com. Now accepting players and teams for a dodgeball league. Games at CRFC in Kendall Square.

DRAGON BOAT RACING

Dragon Boat Club of Boston
(617-441-0330). www.dbcb.org. Practices at the Hatch Shell. Paddlers wanted to represent Boston in regional dragon boat races. Beginners are welcome.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This ganization provides fund-raising athletes w group training and support, personalized coach and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-5 0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club of fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-011 www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings Sat. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBA

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). ww bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's tea compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-3 8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight- eight flag football each week.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www.worldkickball.com. Coed ki ball leagues beginning in June in Boston Somerville.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the natio women's championship six times. New players welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cult Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is look for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Cl
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club se new players for games in Brookline and Cambrid

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.my rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club comes both new and experienced players want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and exp enced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonh com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-ro
If you enjoy running, drinking and singing ba songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-6 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. We 2.6-mile runs.

SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Mem have access to a ski lodge and can participate i and snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. A teur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill le

Play kickball with the World Adult Kickball Association.

children

Advice to Contributors

mit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to chil-n@improper.com. Include address, phone number, way stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief de-ption of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to lication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

hings to See

chanted Sleeping Beauty

llesley Summer Theatre for Children, Alumane ll, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Welles-(781-283-2000). June 18 and 25, 9:30 and 30 am; June 19, 1 and 3 pm. Adults, $10; dren and seniors, $5. This adaptation of the ssic fairy tale features dancing, singing and rd fighting.

ppet Showplace Theatre

Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www. petshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to okline Village. 10:30 am and 1 pm. $8.50; nbers, $7. Reservations recommended. •June and 16, *Jack and the Beanstalk* performed by ing Valley Puppet Theatre. Recommended ages 4-8. •June 22 and 23, *Rumplestiltskin* with l Vincent Davis. Recommended for ages 4-8.

hings to Do

refoot Books

1 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-349-1610). www. efootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri. Sat., 10:30 am. Free. •Story hour for children families. Ongoing.

ston Art Tours

l for reservations and meeting locations. (617--3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green e to Arlington. Tours for children and teens: Tue.-., 1-2 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children er 12, free. Games and stories accompany this king tour of contemporary art along Newbury St.

ston by Little Feet

euil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston 7-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: en or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and , 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. A child's-eye view of Freedom Trail designed for young walkers ages 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide.

ston Public Library—Dudley anch

Warren St., Roxbury (617-442-6186). www.bpl. branches/dudley.htm. MBTA: Orange Line to Rug-. Free. •June 21, 10:30 am. Come Sing with Eric: cle Time Singing provides a hands-on, interac-learning environment. •Every Wed., 10:30 am. school Storytime includes book readings and ac-ties for children ages 2 to 4. Ongoing.

ookline Adult & Community ucation

5 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). w.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: C Green Line to lidge Corner. June 18, 10 am-12:30 pm. $47 per lt/child pair. Join instructor Katie Wilton for s in the Kitchen: Cool Summer Desserts. nited Parish Church, 210 Harvard St., Brookline. TA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. June 22 June 29, 6-8 pm. $49 per adult/child pair, ages 9 older. Jean Graham teaches jewelry making for lts and kids.

ildren's Museum

seum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-5). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to th Station. $9; children, $7. •Mon.-Thu., m-4 pm; Fri., 11 am-8 pm. The art studio is open bookmaking, painting and more. •Mon., Wed. Fri., 11 am-12 pm. Music & Movement is a nce for children ages 3 and under to dance to ular tunes. •Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm. Pint-Sized Sci-e offers scientific exploration for preschoolers. u., 11:30 am and 12:30 pm. Kids adapt their fa-te books into plays during StoryBook Theatre he KidStage. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 ZOOM Zone is a hands-on science challenge explores inventions, experiments and scientific overies through various activities. •Daily, 10 12 pm and 1-3 pm, PlaySpace offers a messy ac-y for children up to age 3.

op Kids

0 Mass. Ave., Lower Level, Cambridge (617-499-2). www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har-vard. Free. •June 18, 11 am. Make a chicken craft and hear local author Erica Perl read *Chicken Bedtime is Really Early*. •June 25, 11 am. Listen to summer stories and make summer-themed crafts.

ImprovBoston Family Show

1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students/children. This short-form improv performance for the whole family includes interactive games.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. June 25, 2 pm. Free with museum admission. The family matinee program features Albert Lamorisse's film *The Red Balloon*, followed by crafts.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18; students and seniors, $2; MIT students and kids under 5, free. (Free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring the world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; $12, seniors; $11, children. •*Animals and Stories Alive!* is an interactive storytelling hour in the Discovery Center, every Saturday and Sunday, 11 am-12 pm. •*Brain: The World Inside Your Head* takes you inside the cranium for an in-depth exploration of the body's neural center. Discover brain anatomy, evolution and the nature of dreams. Ongoing. •Four hundred butterflies and flowers are on display in the new permanent *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibition that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Science in the Park* is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. •*Mapping the World Around Us* explores the evolution of maps. Ongoing. •*Science Live!* features live animals and multimedia presentations surrounded by natural history dioramas. •*Virtual Fish Tank* features 12 large projection screens that form a 400-square-foot virtual tank with more than 50 brightly colored fish and sharks. Ongoing. •*Mystery of the Nile* shows at the IMAX theatre. Ongoing. •*Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* explores a real-life Lion King. Through June 17. •*Bugs!* is a 20-minute 3D movie presentation at the Wright Theater. Ongoing. •*Mission to Saturn* at the Planetarium shows the Cassini spacecraft as it makes a dangerous journey toward one of Saturn's most mysterious moons. Ongoing. •*Countdown to Supernova* is a Planetarium show that illustrates the ways stars meet their demise through the explosions called supernovas. Ongoing. •Beginning June 18, *Summer of Adventure Film Series* at the IMAX theatre combines exotic locations and explorations with films such as *Everest*, *Lewis & Clark: Great Journey West* and *Mystery of the Nile*.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children 3-11, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Continues through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •*Wild Safari 3D: A South African Adventure* plays at the IMAX Theater. Through June 16.

Pan-Massachusetts Challenge

John Glenn Middle School, 99 McMahon Road., Bedford (781-275-2448). kids.pmc.org/bedf. June 18, 11 am, $10, ages 14 and under. This family bicycle ride raises funds for cancer research and features two- and six-mile routes and a party with music and refreshments. Rides are also in Medfield and Upton on June 25. See the Web site for more information.

Tadpole Playground

Boston Common, adjacent to Frog Pond (508-820-1151). www.tadpoleplayground.org. Open from dawn until dusk. The playground offers kids a chance to enjoy art, water fountains and games. Check Web site for special events.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory

Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum

300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall

75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum

Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery

580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam museum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park Street. Summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation

15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95.

Old North Church

193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House

310 Washington Street, Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. April-October, 9:30 am-5 pm; November to March, 10 am-4 pm. $5; seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Old State House Museum

206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5; seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk

800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church

206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum

Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm; May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program

(617-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee

(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society

(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay

(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association

(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares

(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees

(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center

(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education

(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS

(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers

(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc

(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy

(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch

(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS

(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice

(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline

(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers

(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative

(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers

(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program

(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts

(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services

(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers

(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.

(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium

(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line

(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn

(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast or dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.

(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic

(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.

(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place

(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for this homeless shelter.

SafeLink

(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston

(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston

www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

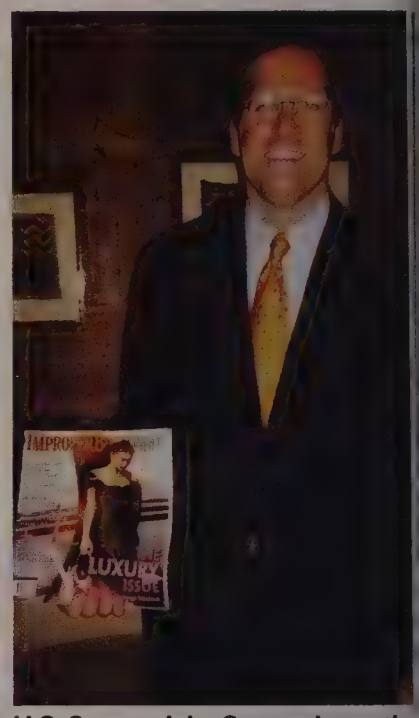
IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRI

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you wer. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Ryan Joseph, a dive instructor at Sandals in Gros Islet, St. Lucia, does a little underwater reading. We're not divers, ourselves, but it looks like he put his goggles on wrong. Ditto with the breathing-tube thingie.

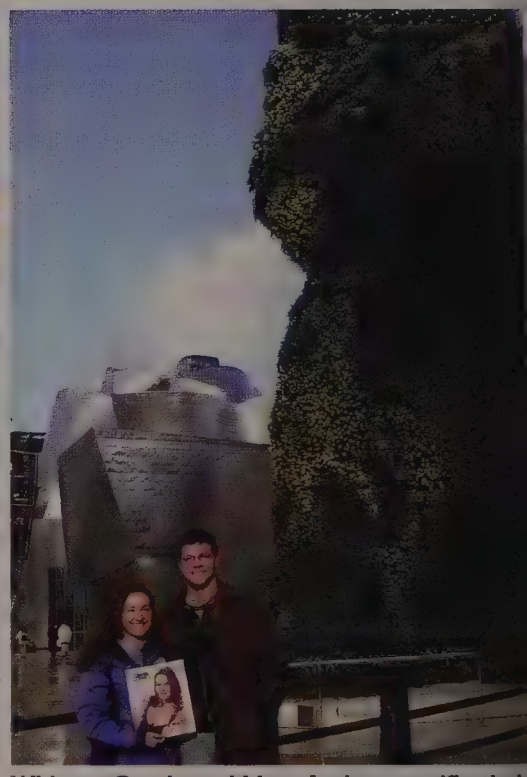
Jane Tinlin somehow tolerates being used as a perch for birds in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. She is not the least concerned about their flesh-rending, razor-sharp claws and beaks.



U.S. Senator John Sununu knew the new IMPROPER Luxury Issue would be a fine read full of homonyms.

Sarah Beasley and John D'Souza visited the Arecibo Radio Telescope in Puerto Rico, which finds aliens and does a great perm.

Caroline Casey (back row, center) and a gaggle of college pals tore it up in West Palm Beach. People in West Palm Beach are so rich they use $100 bills to wipe the dipstick when they check the oil on their Prada helicopters.



Whitney Goode and Matt Anderson stifle their allergies in front of this dog made of petunias at the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Taking a gold medal in the Hubcap Hurl, Armpit Serenade or Mud Pit Belly Flop at the Summer Redneck Games, held July 9 in East Dublin, Georgia.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

mproperimpersonals

everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over ie place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the orld to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of ourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type o e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

o the brave girl who roke up the fight on he Mass. Ave. bridge une 3

asked you if you were OK and have een thinking of you since. You're a nockout. Round two?
–mikebike359@yahoo.com

triving for Gmail tatus

ello, my Gmail friend. Since we're oth cutting-edge (technologically dvanced, some may say) I too would ke to jump on the cool-people Gmail count bandwagon. I realize this may like climbing the social ladder in iddle school—direly important and ery cutthroat. So if you would like me discontinue e-mailing all other ess cool" e-mail addresses upon ntering into the G-world clique, I ould totally be willing to do this, ecause we all know having a cool e- ail address is a status of its own, and upon making my Gmail account, I'll have no need for my "Hotmail" friends, who will no longer seem "hot." They're merely peons striving for Gmail status. Please take my plea as a serious consideration and know that I admire you and everything you stand for, around or on.
—Striving for Gmail status Jenny

Me Miami

It was an idyllic late night in Miami in the hotel jacuzzi. Who could have asked for more...and then she showed up! Oh, you're from the Boston area too, you're here for the conference, smalltalk smalltalk smalltalk. But then it seems it was a different conference after all, and the smalltalk wandered to bigtalk of other countries and other things. Acronyms abounded—MRI, IVF, etc. But the chance to exchange contact details seemed to pass—perhaps you were scared away by the cockroach! So I'm trying Improper methods...come on, IB, work your magic!
—miami_collision@yahoo.com

That's the Ticket

You: Very attractive lady leaving Saint May 28. You had an orange tank top, jeans, shoulder-length dirty-blonde hair. Me: (Apparently) attractive guy also leaving Saint, black short-sleeve shirt, jeans, closely cropped dark brown hair. You were talking to a guy as I walked down Exeter Street, and as I passed, you smiled and waved at me. A few minutes later, at the intersection of Boylston and Exeter, there you were again. My windows were down, and you looked at me and exclaimed, "I can't believe I got a ticket." You walked back to the guy (I'm hoping he was only a friend) and as you did you blew me a kiss. I was flattered by the attention and am interested in seeing you again. Don't worry...I'll do the parking.
—firehydrantguy@yahoo.com

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Champions®

As part of our fourth annual Literary Boston issue, we invite all local authors (residing in Massachusetts) to submit a short work of fiction, no more than **2,500 words, to us by Monday, July 25.** Entries should be original works that have never been previously published.

CALL FOR FICTION

The winning author's story will be published in our September 14 issue. Plus, the skilled scribe will receive a slew of fun prizes.

Please send two copies of your story, including your full contact information (name, phone and email address) to:

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Attn: Fiction Contest
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116
(Manuscripts cannot be returned)

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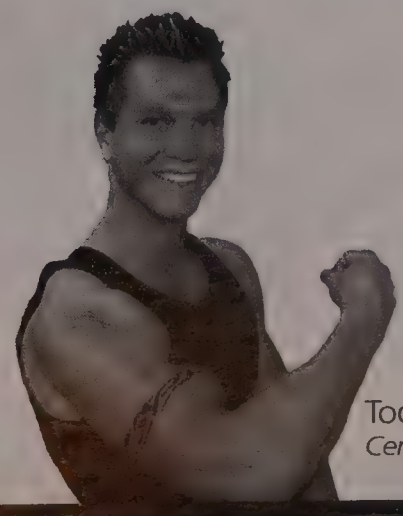

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Todd Schleicher, cell: 561.306.5283

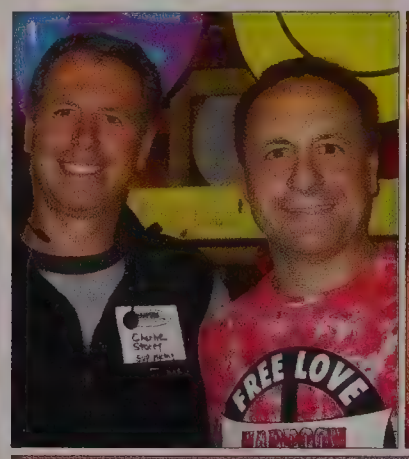
IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, June 1, **Stil** boutique celebrated its one year anniversary with a cocktail party, complete with models from **Models Group**, at **The Foundation Lounge** in the **Hotel Commonwealth**.

1. **Amy Ireland-Laukli** of Wellesley; **Betty Riaz**, owner of Stil, and **Miguel Sciaudone**, web designer for stilinc.com.
2. **Caroline Luney** and **Adria Cicillini**, both models for Models Group.
3. **Christina Neuman**, curator of John Raimondi Gallery for Vitale Caturano & Company; **Kristen Baylis**, event planner for Vitale Caturano & Company; **Betsy Bingle**, real estate broker for Kimball Borgo Real Estate; and **Michaela Brothers**, event planner for the MIT Center for Cancer Research.

On Friday, June 3, **Harpoon Brewery** held Brewstock Festival, the annual summer celebration of local Boston beer, bands and BBQ.



1. **Charlie Storey**, senior vice preside of marketing at Harpoon Brewery, ar **Richard Doyle**, CEO of Harpoon Brewery.
2. **Tonya Eaton**, accountant at Vitale Caturano & Company; **Melissa Lup** accountant at Vitale Caturano & Company; **Leah Ayer**, accountant a Vitale Caturano & Company; **Darlen Massery**, recruiting manager for KPMG, LLP; and **Monica Meunier**, accountant at Vitale Caturano & Company.
3. **Kelley Walsh**, legal intern at Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc.; **Jaime Kullberg** and **Seth Waltz**, both financial advisors for AMEX.

On Friday, June 3, **Felt** hosted a Maxim Party Live Photo Shoot and Model Search.

1. **Andressa Loopes** and **Andressa Morais**, both students in Boston.
2. **Duncan Scott** and **Chris Carty**, both students at Boston College.
3. **Jeff Hoffman**, manager, business analytics at Boston Scientific; **Kacy Harnedy**, bartender at Felt; and **Mike Earls**, media sales for Yahoo! Inc.

On Saturday, May 28, the **Three Amigos** presented the kick-off of "Latin Fever, which will take place every Saturday night at **Anthem**.

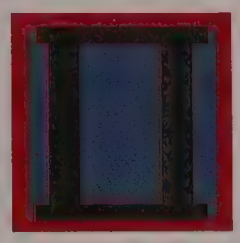
1. **Glenda Maldonado**, appeals coordinator at Network Health; **Brenda Maldonado**, reimbursement liaison for New England Health Care Foundation; **Alberto Pachec** information systems for Hewlett Packard; **Jocelyn Valderama**, associate at Adams Harkness; **Alex Valderama**, alternate dispute mediator specialist at the Massachusetts Trial Court; and **Angel Rivera**, chef at th Bostonian.
2. **Gissella Montanez**, family planning counselor at Lowe Community Health Center; **Jemilee Montanez**, executi assistant for the Vice Chancellor of Academic Services at University of Massachusetts-Lowell; and **Andrea Ortiz**, loan processer for Finance Express.
3. **Gabriela Cincotta**, managing partner of The Latin Embassy, and **Sue Barbieri**, business analyst for Fidelity Investments.

PHOTOS: STIL, ALISON MORANT; HARPOON BREWERY, MERINDA PATTULLO; FELT, MAURA BENNARDO; ANTHEM, RAYMOND HETTING

rockie horoscope

UNE 15 – 28, 2005

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



EMINI MAY 21–JUNE 20

eed is of the essence: Stay on your toes. While your Mercury ruler races through your Cancer use of assets and acquisitions from June 11-25, more ideas and information might come your y than you thought possible. The answer to your financial angst is out there: an assortment offbeat opportunities, especially when barrier-breaking Uranus in your career house changes rection midmonth. If you find that you're being invited out a lot, thank sociable Venus for nding you, via Mercury, more grace and graciousness. Remember to reciprocate.

CANCER

JNE 21–JULY 22

ke advantage of Mercury's annual visit to your sign by eaking or writing what has been on your mind. Verbal fts are not that easily come by; however, for the next two eeks, not only might your message have greater import, t popular Venus, also in Cancer, could make it more adily acceptable. Eager-to-please Venus does other nice ings for Crabs, especially the hermit types. As the month nds, the goddess can soften some of the more difficult life-ssons having Saturn in your sign has subjected you to.

LEO

JLY 23–AUGUST 22

ore often than not, Leos manage to get their own way. rd of the jungle as well as of the zodiac propaganda! owever, when your sun ruler—in adaptable Gemini, no ss—opposes power-hungry Pluto, prepare to give in to meone else's demands. It might be a tough call, but since luto is busily revitalizing some aspect of your pleasure ne, in the long run, e.g., around your birthday, you'll enefit from the sacrifice. Put that pride aside and don't well on what a casual acquaintance might consider a sounding defeat.

VIRGO

UGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

epairing a messy situation could become your top priority, articularly while the creative sun in your Gemini idheaven opposes Pluto in the bowels, the nadir, of your atal chart. If you've been through the wringer lately, either t home or on the job, welcome any opportunity to set hings straight, even if, for the time being, you have to ake concessions. As your Mercury ruler races to catch up ith loving Venus in Cancer, contention morphs into ompassion and, especially for critical colleagues, you ecome the flavor of the month.

LIBRA

EPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

f you can think of a way to capitalize on the family name or ts history, do it. While media-friendly Mercury focuses on agnetic Venus at the top of your chart, attention must be aid. The only question is: by whom? How the story you want to tell gets spun depends on the image that you, ourtesy of your popular Venus ruler, project. But if not you, hen choose a strong female presence. Only the Scales have maternal, nurturing Cancer tending their house of areer/community recognition, so make the most of this easonal support system.

SCORPIO

CTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Once you get past a money problem aggravated by the sun's pposition to your Pluto coruler on the 13th, it's clear sailing or the next two months. With nothing in the foreseeable uture to worry about, why not plan a summer holiday? Or would that expose you to the fickle middle finger of fate? If getting laid is an issue, key into the heat your energetic Mars coruler offers while it visits your house of recreational sex, un and risky games. But be quick about it; by July 27th, Mars is gone.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

The argument may be sound, the alternatives equally acceptable, but when the sun in your Gemini house of partners opposes Pluto, entrenched in Sagittarius, you won't relent with your customary, "Sure, why not?" Chances are you won't give an inch. Are you standing on principle or does the Seer foresee how the conflict can be resolved? Before the month is out, there could be enough provocation—call it either incentive or irritation—from hot-headed Mars to get you off your high horse and into the fray.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Sweeter and gentler conversations have transpired since Mercury joined affectionate Venus in your Cancer complement. Feel free to take what is said—more likely, whispered in your ear—to heart. Once the sun crosses into Cancer and summer officially begins, you'll have greater support (from the cosmos) than you've enjoyed since Christmas. Share it; let your allies, coworkers and fellow classmates shield you from whatever temperamental trainers (or teachers with precarious positions to defend) are preparing to dump on you.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

This year Flag Day might well be a red-letter day; that's when your Uranus ruler turns retrograde for the next five months. In the interim, try to remain finely attuned to your own ESP so you can recognize what a subdued Uranus wants to you to know. Right now there's passionate and plentiful activity as fiery Mars traveling through fiery Aries inflames your desire for getting what you want the moment that you want it. No problem until the 25th, when overextending can land you in financial hot water. Romantic disappointment to follow?

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Having self-sufficient Mars in your Aries money house provides energy and incentive to go after your heart's desire now. You just have to decide what it is you want—no small feat once unpredictable Uranus in your sign goes retrograde on the 14th. Call it the summer slump, but until Uranus and your Neptune ruler turn direct in November, there's little chance that you'll make much progress, other than on the spiritual plane. However, your romance could grow cozier, more permanent and safer, the deeper into Cancer we get.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Sarcasm works; so does satire. While Mars, your cutting-edge ruler, travels through Aries from June 11 until July 27, impatience and insistence once more become your stock in trade. You also won't get as distracted by the beauty of whatever you perceive at the moment, like you did when Mars was in poetic Pisces. Speaking of beauty, the time to schedule cosmetic or dental surgery is when the planet in charge of injections, knives and skin peels transits your first house, a once-every-two-years opportunity. Think about it.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Even if you're in a crappy mood, you're still likely to force a few laughs when your amenable Venus ruler is put to the test by expansive Jupiter. Assume that everything will cost more than you figured, that you won't get lucky and that the diet will go down the tubes. However, as the week progresses, you could have a welcome change of heart. Enjoy the thrills and chills while you embrace the differences: At the month's end, you should feel as comfortable and as confident in the new situation as you did in the old.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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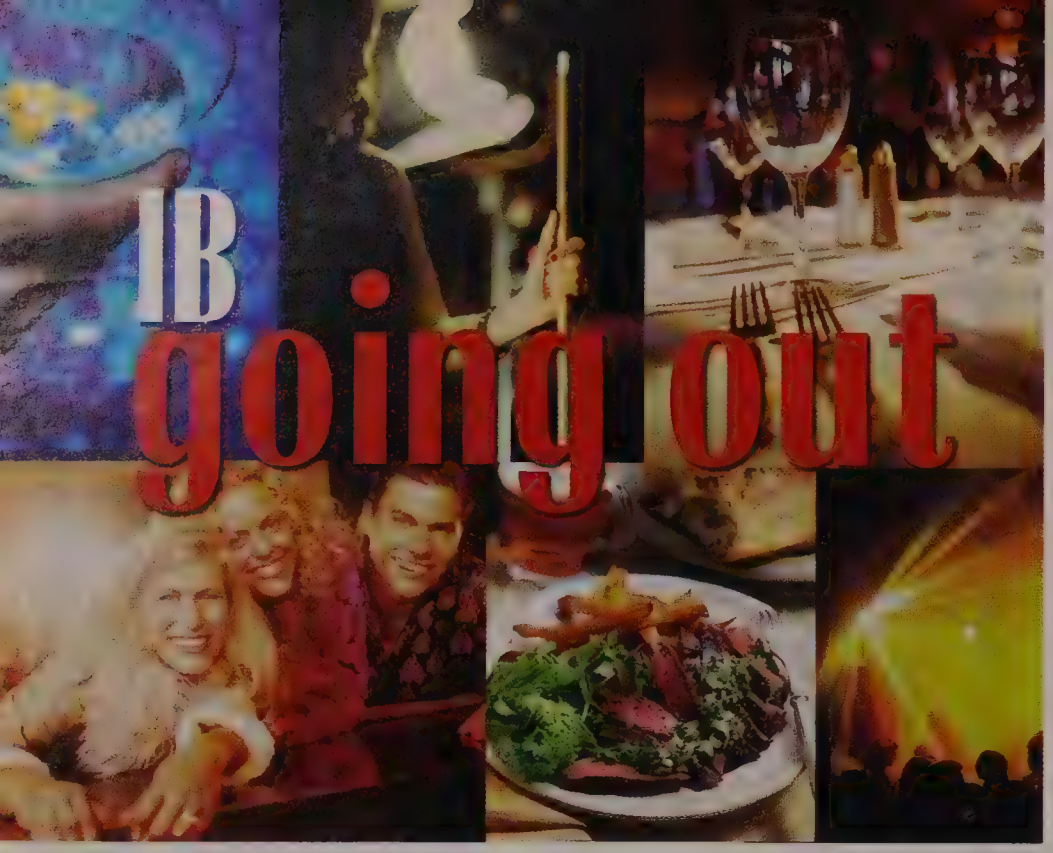

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BARS & CLUBS

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Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248 9700.www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building ir the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is oper seven nights a week and offers the best ir local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevir Knox,"The Wildman of Comedy,"Pau Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights Frank Santos,"The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

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ne local gathering place with authentic Irish ub flavor. Live international sports viewing ia satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurlng. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on veekends. The mainstream pub fare menu anges from grilled sandwiches and fish & hips to traditional Irish dishes and innovave daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - am, 7 days a week.

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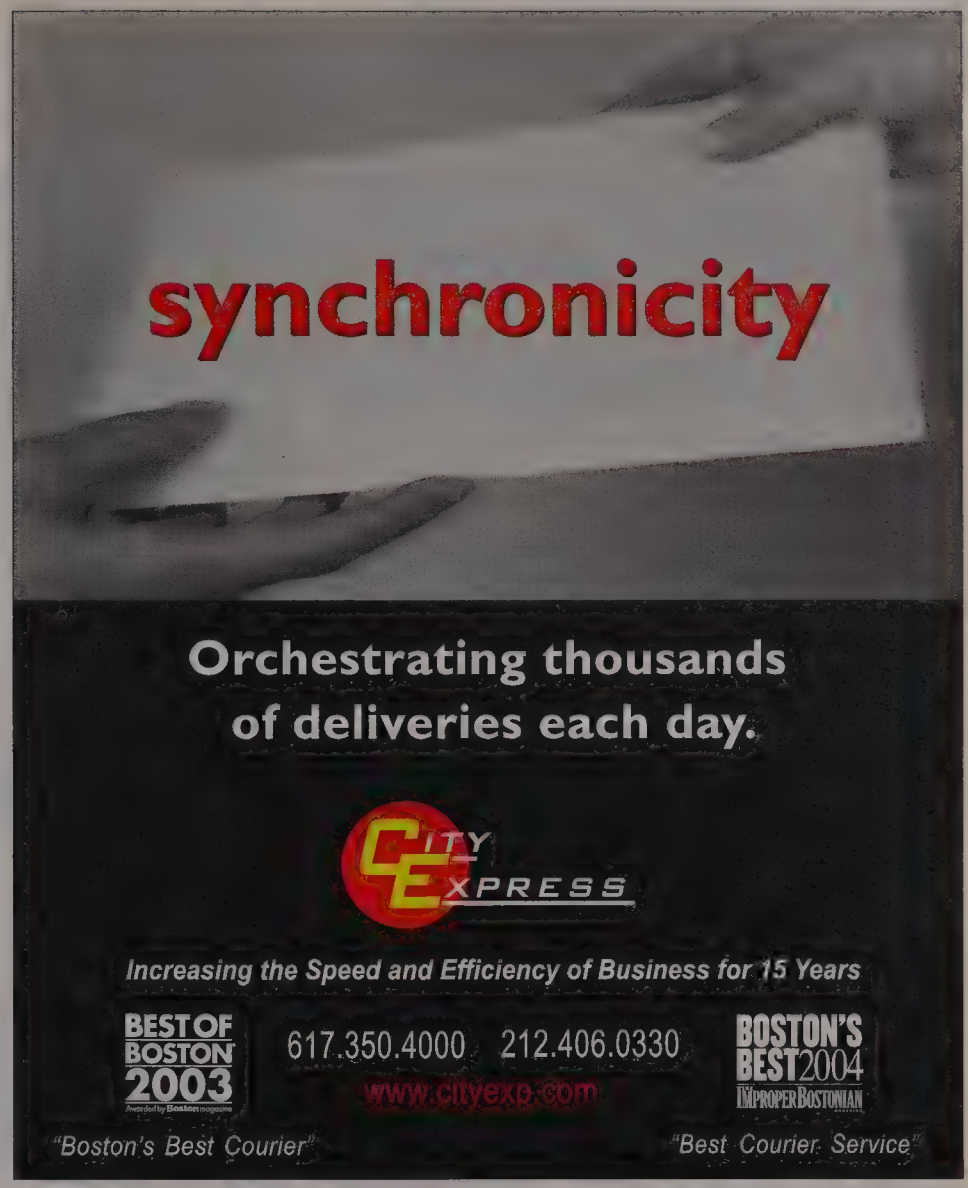

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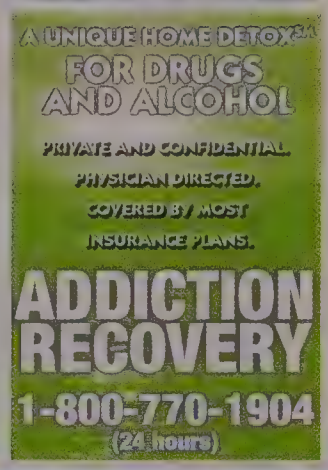

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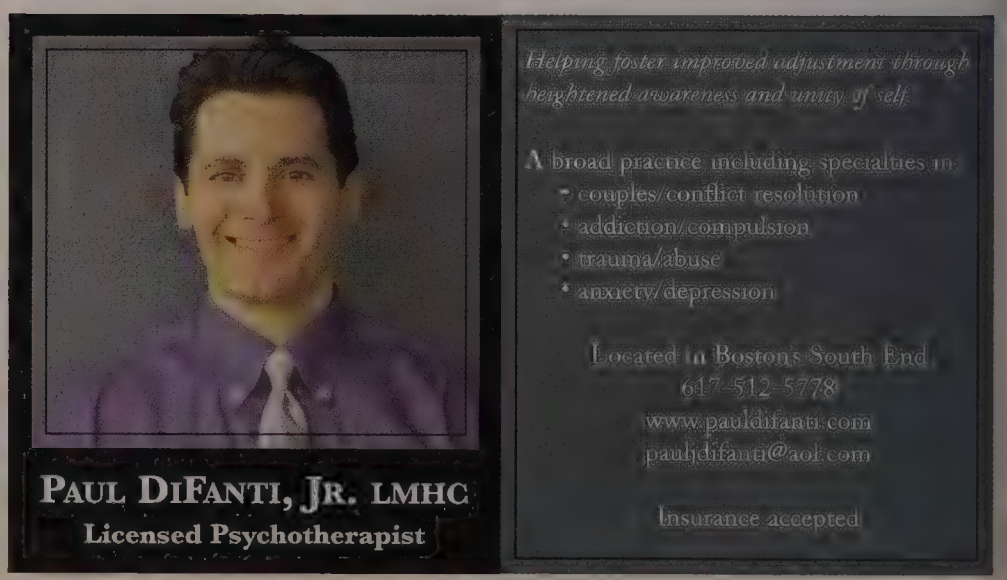

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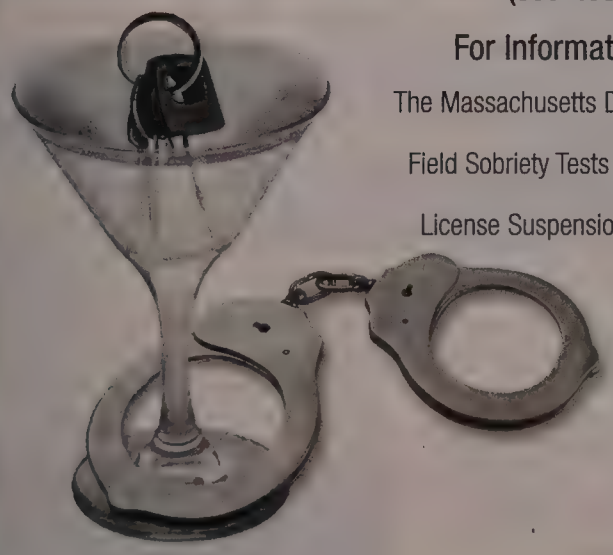

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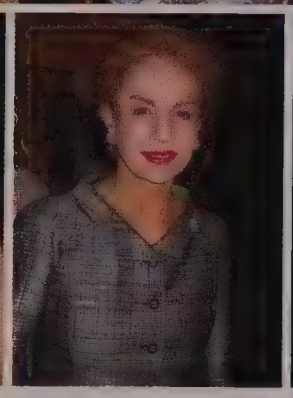


At Couture for Hope, top: the fashion show. Middle row: Joyce Kulhawik; Stacy Wakefield, Karen Varitek and Kristin Mirabelli. Bottom row: Mehta Coughlin and Pam First Martin; Carolina Herrera.

PRET-A-PARTY...

To quote Aretha Franklin, "Sisters are doin' it for themselves." A particularly stylish example was set by **Couture for Hope**—a luncheon and fashion show to benefit the **Women's Cancers Program** at **Dana-Farber**, hosted by **Neiman Marcus** in the grand ballroom of the **Hyatt Regency**.

Conspicuous among the crowd were Venezuelan-bred fashionista **Carolina Herrera**, who flew up from New York to debut her Fall 2005 collection, and the afternoon's honoree, Channel 4's luscious entertainmentatrix **Joyce Kulhawik**. On-hand to fete them were such high-profile types as benefactor **Susan Smith**; cochair **Debbie First** and her daughter, **Pam First Martin**; stunning Red Sox wives **Karen Varitek**, **Kathryn Nixon** and **Stacy Wakefield**; blonde uberbabe **Mehta Coughlin**; the aptly named **Grace Slosberg**; the utterly lovely **Bette Green**; the utterly pregnant **Emily Webster** and one woman who diplomatically inquired of another, "So you had a practice husband?"

The salmon was scrumptious, with most of the women opting for Diet Coke over white wine, and while everyone clapped for the stunning clothing as it floated down the runway, the following observations were overheard:

"The models actually have figures!"

"I know—for once, I don't feel like tackling them and shoving a cracker down their throats."

Demonstrating that someone will always find something to criticize, there was one woman who asked, "But do you think their boobs are real?"

Nevertheless, it was a completely ladylike affair and further proof that the Ladies Who Lunch are also the Ladies Who Raise a Bunch of Dinero for extremely worthwhile causes.

CAREFUL WHAT YOU BID ON; YOU MIGHT GET IT...

The opera season's not over until the fat-cats sling money around, which was essentially the story at the **Boston Lyric Opera's Flights of Fancy Gala**, held at the **Four Seasons**.

At the BLO party, top row: a table setting; Susan and Bill Poduska. Bottom row: Suki and Miguel de Braganza; Yvonne and Stuart Madnick.

The ballroom was transformed into a dreamy, magical setting, with flowering branches of cherry blossoms that nearly reached the ceiling and hung with votive candles that were reflected in the champagne, which flowed as freely as wine ought to.

Reveling in the festivities: the evening's honorees, the astoundingly generous **Dorothy** and **David Arnold**; redheaded siren **Doreen Donovan Corkin** and her beau, **Chris Mitchum** (who strongly resembles his father, Hollywood legend Robert); broadcasting mack-daddy **Jack Williams**; tireless arts patrons **Bill Nigreen** and **Kathleen McDermott**; the ever-enchanting **Faith** and **Joseph Tiberio**; blue-blooded opera buff **Linda Cabot Black**; real estate titan **Don Chiofaro** and the unbelievably chic **Yvonne Madnick** with her other half, **Stuart**, who said, "We have a medieval castle in England that we donated to the silent auction." (Presumably, he was referring to a week's stay, as opposed to the deed to the place.)

Before dinner, guests were treated to a performance by soprano **Lisa Daltirus**, who introduced one aria by explaining, "The diva dies in an avalanche," which prompted someone to mutter, "I hate when that happens."

Meanwhile, things took a decidedly opera buffo turn when gala chair **Daniel Prigmore** offered to auction off the sequined dress worn by his wife, **Tania Zouikin**, who, earlier on, had taken the microphone and wrangled $25,000 pledges from four of the guests.

No wonder, then, that once the auction got underway, one guy said to his date, "OK, no hair adjustments until it's over."

RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY....

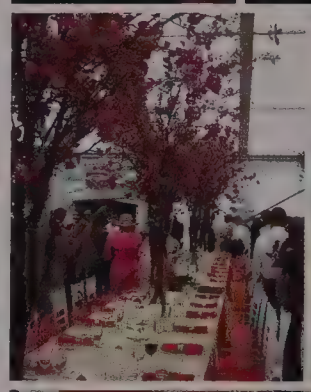
The weather couldn't have been less cooperative—with pounding rain and the mercury hovering somewhere near freezing—but that did little to dampen the **Emerald Necklace Conservancy's Party in the Park**, which was held under a gorgeously decorated tent in the **Back Bay Fens**.

Most of the women in the predominantly female crowd donned elaborate hats worthy of Royal Ascot and, after shaking off the wet chill of outside, settled like exotic birds at long tables laden with peonies, roses and tall branches of pink flowers that made it seem more like springtime inside than out.

Present and accounted for were such social stalwarts as the party's chair, **Jane Roy**, and her sister, environmental affairs secretary **Ellen Roy Herzfelder**; Belmont beauty **Pat Rodgers** and her niece, Beacon Hillion **Meg Gordon**; the exquisitely chic **Karen Rotenberg**; PR princess **Wendy Pierce**; the impossibly elegant **Marcia Brown** and **Betsy Demirjian**; Chestnut Hill chatelaine **Vicky Whitney**; ubiquitous do-gooder **Wendy Shattuck**; fun-loving blue-blood **Sylvia Pope**; silver fox **Pamela Humphrey**; the eternally lovely **Amy Harden**; bewitching brunette **Jane Denis**; the impossibly beautiful **Beth Madison**; former senatorial spouse **Joan Kennedy**; super-philanthropist **Joan Benard Cutler**; a handful of men—among them conductor/ composer **Charles Ansbacher** and affable prepster **Chad Jackson**—along with honorees **Norman Leventhal** and **Eugenie Beal**, who received the first Justine Mee Liff Spirit Award (named for the dearly departed Parks Commissioner).

A Judith Leiber evening bag fetched $4,000 in the live auction, prompting one guest to say, "I would've bid, except I wouldn't want every woman in town knowing how much I paid for it"—a sentiment as quintessentially Bostonian as the rain outside.

"Hey, it's spring in New England," said someone. "If you don't like the weather, wait five minutes—it'll get worse." iB



At Party in the Park, top row: Lisa Pierpont; Amy D'Arbeloff and Trevania Dudley Henderson. Middle row: the tables; Nina Fialkow. Bottom: Penelope Savitz; Stacey McCarthy and Page Wallace.

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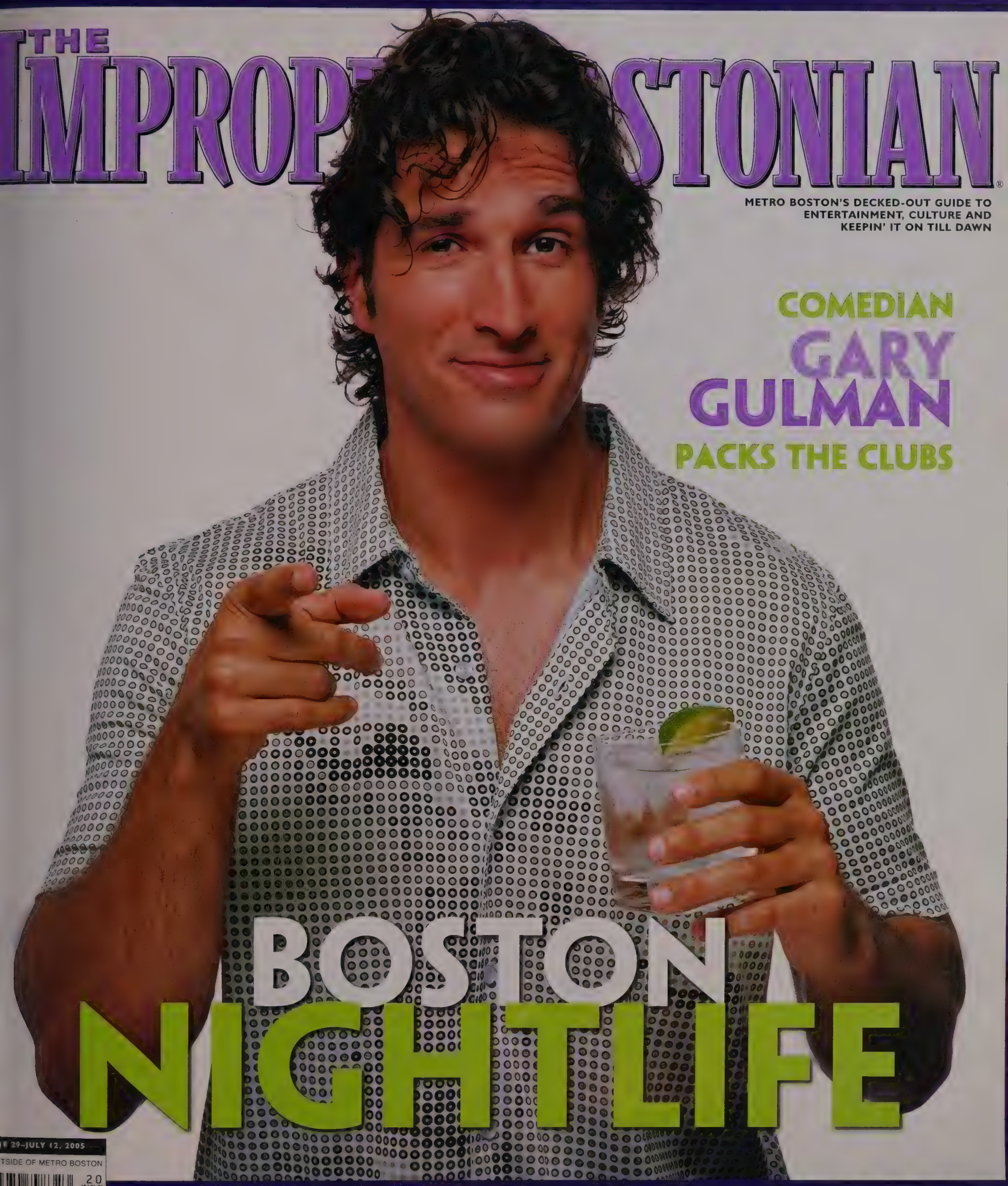

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ALLI ARNOLD

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Kevin Scott Hees for LaMoine Photo Group

Stylist: **Tony Villanueva;** shirt: **Inc.**

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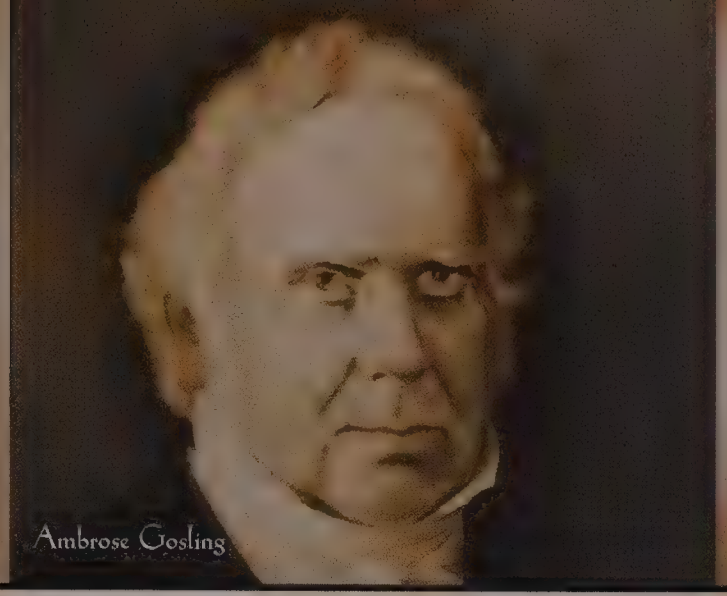

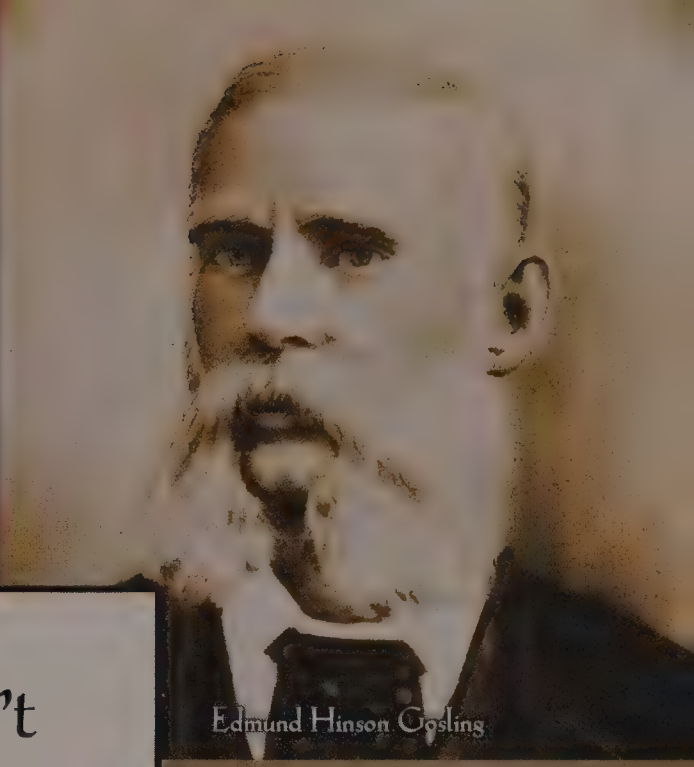

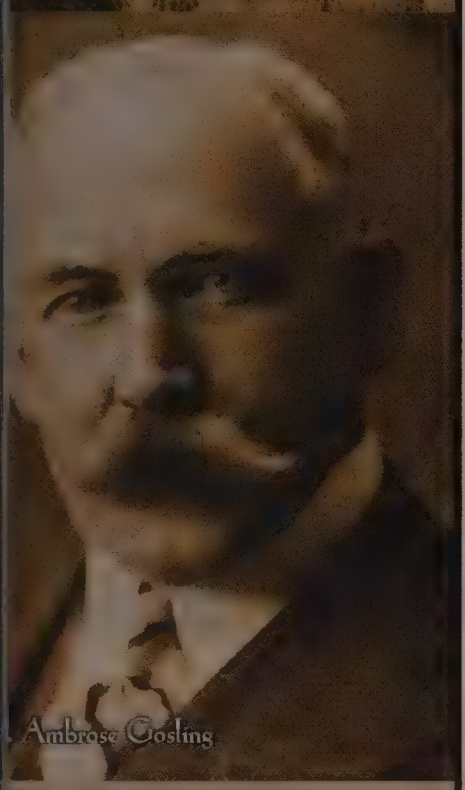

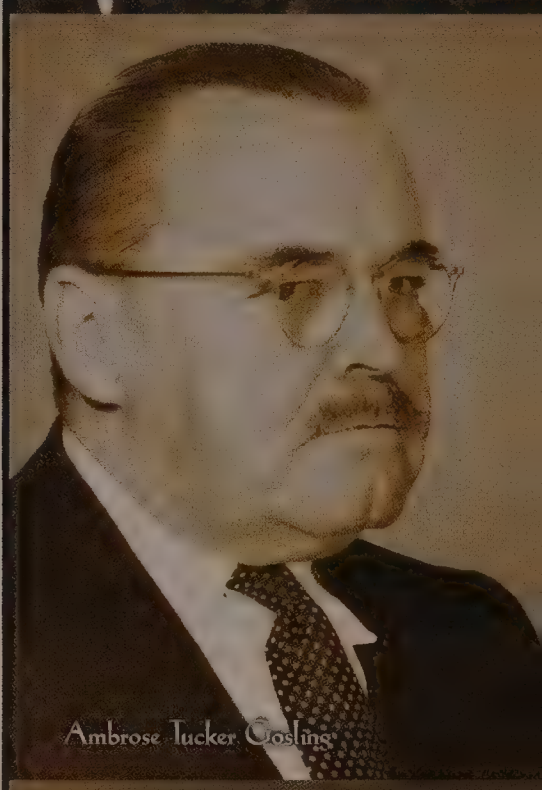

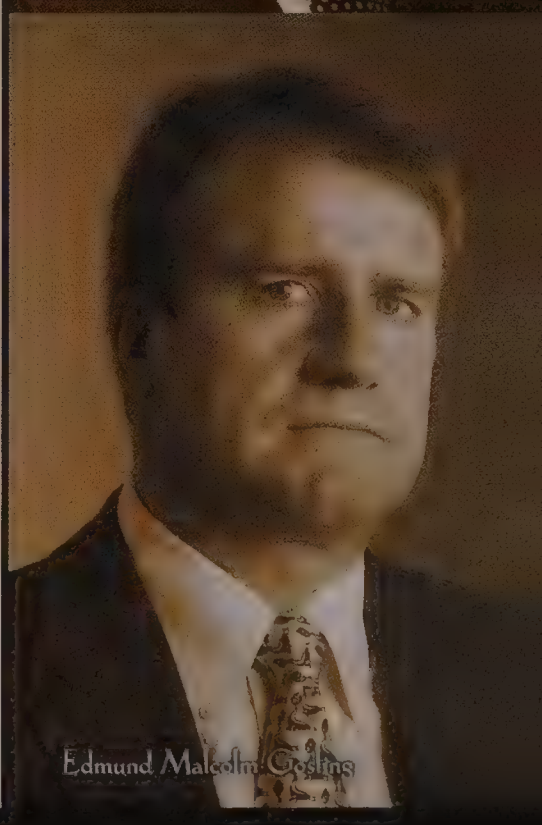

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

BRING ON THE NIGHT

In a serious city like Boston, where many of us spend far more than eight hours a day in the office, playtime is precious. This summer, adopt the "work hard, play hard" motto and make the most of those after-work hours and weekend nights.

Our second annual nightlife issue helps ensure you're up on the exciting after-dark options our city has to offer, with stories on hip happenings at bars and clubs and girls-only nights on the town, and tips for throwing a house party they won't forget. We hope you find inspiration to live it up.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

NOT IRRELEVANT, FOR ONCE!

Thank you for the great June 1 issue. My usual complaint about THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN is that while the graphics are wonderful, the writing can border on irrelevant. This issue's tribute to Massachusetts parks, and in particular, the Boston Harbor Islands, had depth and beauty. From the superb graphic layout of photography of the islands and parks close to the city, to the tangibly scripted words of Tracy Mayor and Ethan Gilsdorf, your staff managed to put the summer in Boston in focus. Add to this the summer beach reads, and a tour of the local golf courses, and you have one spectacular IMPROPER!

As a followup, I humbly suggest you do a series on boating in the harbor, and on the Charles, including maps and contact information. A more in depth interview with the Coast Guard and the Boston Harbor Islands National Park rangers would be great. Perhaps you could even spearhead a movement to get our state government to develop Georges Island as a resource!

—RICHARD CAMPBELL
Boston

CRITIQUING THE CRITIC

I read with real dismay your recent review of Petit Robert Bistro (June 15). It appears to prove at least one of two things: that the dining reviewers are well known to the restaurants they review, or that they have little or no experience of good food and service.

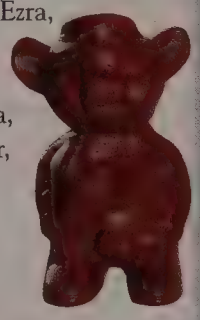
My wife and I have eaten at this restaurant three times. We will never do so again. While the food was passable, even marginally respectable in part, the service and the spacing of courses was among the worst I have ever experienced. With guests one night (and after we were reasonably well known to the staff), three of our main courses finally appeared more than an hour after our first courses had been cleared. The fourth dish, coming by way of Armenia I think, arrived 10 minutes later without a blush of embarrassment from the staff.

We have lived in Boston for three years and have decided to move, in large part because of the enormous number of restaurants that treat their customers like cattle. It is a shame that your reviewers moo.

—LEONARD CASS
Boston

WE HAVE A WINNER

If Ezra's serious about giving away his naked figurine from China (Ezra, June 15), I'd be glad to take it off his hands! And I promise, when I go to China, I'll find that Chinese vendor, and scold him big-time, on Ezra's behalf.



—CHRIS COX
Boston

Editors' response: For stepping up to the plate, Chris will soon receive this defective peeing Chinese figurine in the mail. (Which, as Ezra discovered once he dug it out of his closet, is actually a pig, not a man. Whatever—it still doesn't work as advertised.)

CORRECTIONS

In the June 15 Mopsy column, the name of the featured hair salon is JEarley's (617-734-4247). To contact performance artist Michael Mack, call 617-868-6804.

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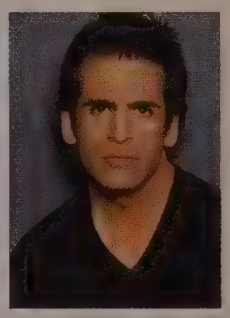

Kevin Scott Hees has worked as a fashion/celebrity/beauty photographer for 12 years. His work is regularly seen in publications such as *Cosmo Girl*, *Glamour* and *Allure*, and his subjects have included everyone from Kelly Clarkson and N-Sync to Amy Smart. Hees lives in Los Angeles, where he shot comedian Gary Gulman for this issue's cover. The accompanying feature, "Standing Tall," begins on page 18.

THIS ISSUE'S TRIBUTE TO MASSACHUSETTS PARKS, AND IN PARTICULAR, THE BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS, HAD DEPTH AND BEAUTY.

—RICHARD CAMPBELL
BOSTON

SUMMER FUN COVER: BILL STREICHER, LITTLE MAN; KATIE NOBLE

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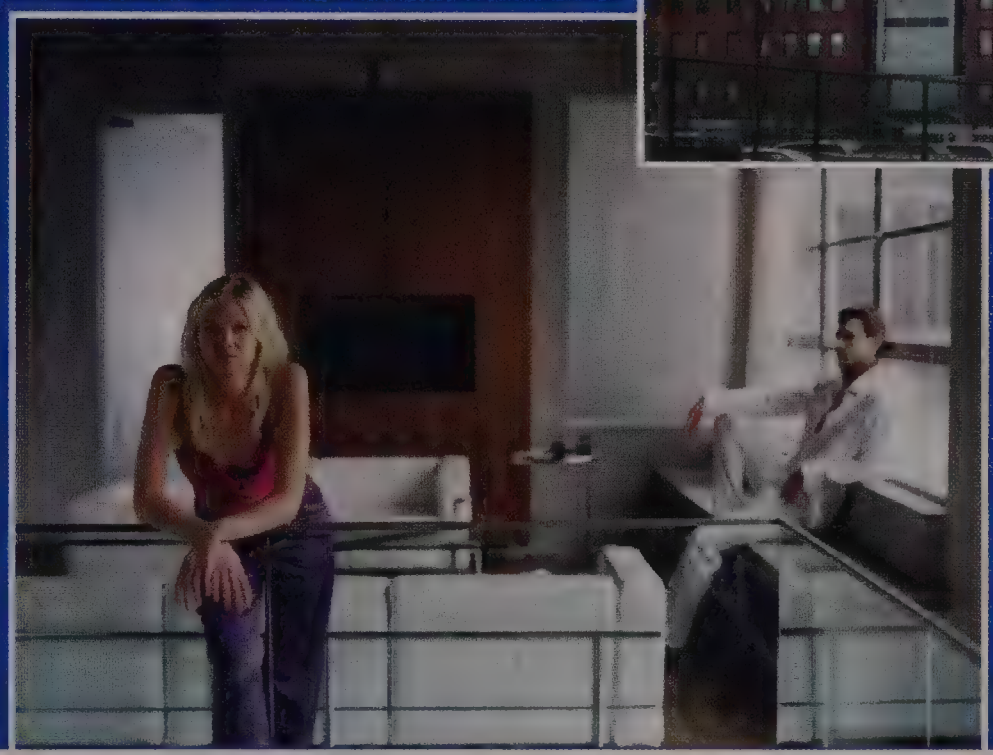

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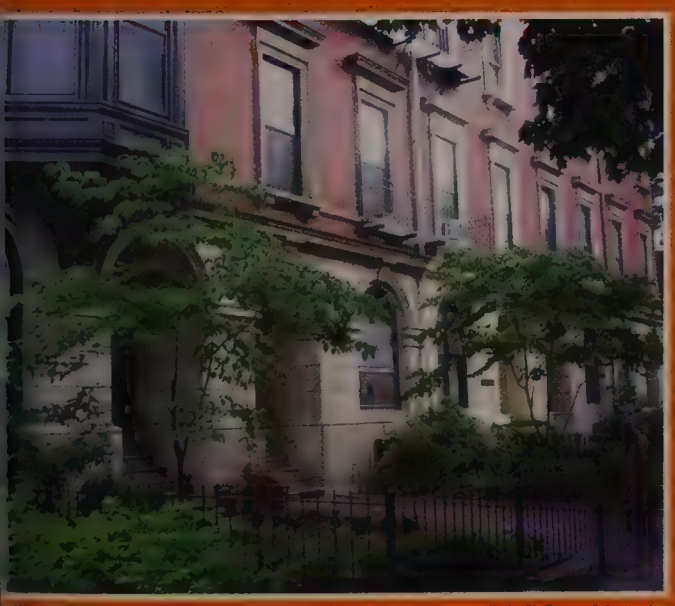

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EDITED BY ERIN HAGEDORN

new in town

STEEPED IN SEAFOOD

With so many Italian eateries in the North End, it can be hard for a restaurant to separate itself from the pack. A trip to Mare, the latest venture from restaurateurs Frank De Pasquale, Marisa Iocco and Rita D'Angelo, provides a very different North End experience.

First, there's the ultra modern décor. Mare (pronounced mah-ray) sits on the corner of Richmond and North streets with floor-to-ceiling windows on two sides that open out onto the street. A four-seat bar faces an open kitchen, and on the restaurant's only wall, you won't find your typical paintings of old Tuscany or black and white stills of Italian ancestors. Instead, there's a huge LED light panel that sets the mood by slowly changing color, flanked by three small TV screens that show tropical beaches and aquatic life. The dining room seats 52 people at 16 candle-lit tables dressed with white tablecloths.

Then there's the menu. This isn't your typical loosen your belt-buckle at the end of the meal Italian restaurant. Iocco, who also heads up the kitchens at Bricco and Umbria, has compiled a menu they're calling "98 percent organic," featuring lighter Italian seafood dishes. There's plenty to choose from, like the deep-fried soft shell crabs, the potato crème brulée or New England Clam Chowder Scomposto (decomposed). The chowder, one of Mare's specialties, is served with all the components—clams, broth and potatoes—separated so you can put them together to your liking. Main courses range from a Mediterranean salt-crusted branzino (a Venetian fish) for two, a seafood antipasto, grilled swordfish and Alaskan King salmon, plus a dessert menu featuring a chocolate polenta souffle with vanilla gelato and a crème brulée di tiramisu. The wines are all organic too, which makes the next morning's hangover a little easier to handle, because hey, you were being health-conscious. *Prices run $10-$20 for appetizers, $18-$24 for pastas and $24-$32 for entrees. Dinner's served nightly from 5-11 pm and lunch is Fri., Sat. and Sun., 11:30 am-4 pm starting on July 4. 135 Richmond St., Boston (617-723-6273). —Rich Levine*

inner view

THE QUEST FOR FITNESS

Rebecca Anne Swimmer was a high school soccer star with plans of playing Division I ball before an ACL injury ended her career. She turned her attention to academics and made her way to Harvard in 2001 to pursue a master's in neurobiology. Earlier this year, Swimmer, 25, decided to start training for a national fitness competition, and around that time, producers from MTV casting came to her Walpole gym, looking for a star of a new show called *True Life: I Want the Perfect Body*. The rest is history. The show, which premieres July 7 at 10 pm, follows Swimmer's transformation from Harvard student to bikini babe. She's also hosting a viewing party that night at the Rack. (See more at www.rebeccaswimmer.com.)

Improper Bostonian: *So what inspired you to start training for a fitness competition?*

Rebecca Anne Swimmer: I was just looking for some balance in my life. For so long it had only been about academics, and I just needed more.

IB: *What was the hardest part of the process?*

RAS: Well, there are two parts to a fitness competition. There's the actual physical critique and then the routine, which involves dance and gymnastics moves. I had no former dance or gymnastics training, so getting that down was definitely the hardest.

IB: *How often did they have you working out?*

RAS: I was in the gym six days a week for about three hours a day. But that doesn't even include time I spent working on the routine.

IB: *Everyone's always looking for workout tips. What's the most important thing you learned from the trainers on the show?*

RAS: I'd say it's all about consistency. Even if you don't have time to work out for a long time, it's so important to get yourself into the gym so that you can develop some sort of routine.

IB: *Do we see you compete on the show?*

RAS: Sure, the purpose of the show was that I was training to compete in a national competition. It was supposed to be in Miami in late April but an injury set me back. The show ends with me competing in Chicago at the beginning of June.

IB: *Now that you've earned your master's from Harvard, what does the future hold? Are you going to focus on science or competition?*

RAS: I don't think anyone out there considers themselves a professional fitness competitor, so I'm looking for something where I can put that degree in neurobiology to use. So if anyone out there's looking, let me know.

—R.L.

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*Proper identification required. Must be 21 or older.

tasty tidbits

GAME BACK ON

New on Newbury... Last fall, before Game 1 of the World Series, Tracie Clark and Robert Anderson sat at dinner in the old Jewel of Newbury and wondered where everyone was. It was a terrific space but wasn't drawing customers. They thought they could do better. So the pair met with the owner, put down a deposit and, this spring, opened Cuvée, a new contemporary American restaurant. With chef Paul Hyman, formerly of Azure, cooking up specialties like Cuvée crab cakes, poached filet and Peking duck, and a wine list composed almost entirely of Anderson's 20-year personal collection (cuvée is French for a special collection of wine), they already seem on track to outdo their predecessors. *254 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-7077). www.cuveeboston.com.*

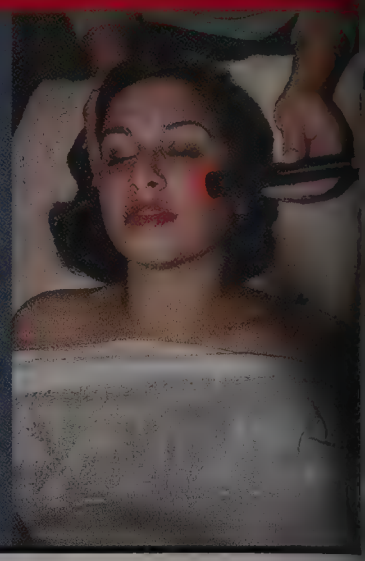
Snacking on Science... The Museum of Science has always been a great place for we Bostonians to exercise our minds. Before long, it'll also be a prime spot to give our stomachs a workout. Earlier this spring, the MOS teamed up with celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck, who not only now runs a catering service out of the museum, but also opened Puck's, the museum's new quick-service café which also happens to boast a great view of the Charles. But the MOS won't stop there. By this fall, Puck's will be surrounded by a collection of other eating options like the Boston Fish Market, Taqueria and Ben & Jerry's to add to the existing Starbucks and Au Bon Pain. *Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org.*

Brainy Brews... Boston beer drinkers are about to get a whole lot smarter thanks to PHD Beer, a new distributor serving the Metro and Greater Boston area. In early July, owner Gail Simon, with the help of some local star hops heads, will host a series of educational beer tastings and classes at various beer drinking institutions to help us better appreciate everyone's favorite late-night beverage. www. phdbeer.net.

sam says

SO COOL

If you're like me, you're wary of treatments that promise to deliver the fountain of youth by cutting or injecting something into your face. I'll admit I was a little skeptical at first about the cool laser treatment at Exhale Mind Body Spa. But after trying it, my skin felt more hydrated and toned. Six treatments are recommended, and the goal is visibly firmer, more plumped skin with fewer fine lines and a more even color tone. Here's how it's designed to work: Cell growth slows down as you get older. The production of collagen and elastin slows too, which help make your skin firm, full and resilient. Using concentrated light energy, the cool laser targets the cells on all layers of the skin and basically wakes them up, stimulating them to produce more of what you need to look younger. Don't worry, it doesn't hurt. In fact it just feels like a light facial massage. $125 for a 30-minute treatment, or $80 as an add on with other services. *28 Arlington St., Boston (617-532-7000). —Samantha House*



improper reports

PARTY TIME

Looking for a creative party venue? Try one of these locales, for gatherings of a few hundred friends to a few thousand.

Agganis Arena

925 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7000). www.agganisarena.com

So you say Neil Diamond's your best bud, and you've talked him into giving a private concert for a few thousand of your closest friends—but where to have the show? Yes, you can rent out the entire Agganis arena, seating up to 8,000 people. For smaller concerts (or your own theater production), you can opt for a smaller part of the space: The club room holds up to 400 people, with large windows and views of Comm. Ave. *Club Room, $1,500; Arena, $12,500.*

Commonwealth Museum

220 Morrissey Blvd. (617-727-9268). www.sec.state.ma.us/mus/museum/index.htm

As one of the only oceanfront properties for rent in the city, the museum and its grounds can host up to 700 guests for a summer clambake or cocktail party. For smaller gatherings (up to 175 guests), the Patriot Room offers a balcony and full-length windows that overlook the Harbor. *$400 per hour; $250 per hour for the Patriot Room.*

IMAX Theater at the Aquarium

Central Wharf (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org

Did you know the aquarium's IMAX theater is available for private screening parties? The theater seats up to 400 people, and you can choose from current films such as *Sharks-3D* and *Wild Safari-3D*. Rental prices start at $2,100.

Old South Meeting House

310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org

Possibly the most historic party location in town, the Old South Meeting House is where Samuel Adams gave the signal to begin the Boston Tea Party. Here, the staff caters to more elegant events in the main hall, which can seat up to 250 guests. A balcony is also available. *$1,250-$2,500.*

USS Constitution Museum

Building 22, Boston National Historical Park, Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org

The party may not technically be on the USS Constitution, but the ship's museum is available to rent right next to the naval vessel. Both the museum gallery and its theater are open for seated dinners and receptions for a total of 350 guests, and dancing is permitted in the theater. It's available starting at 6 pm and costs $1,750 for four hours. *—Leslie P. Kilgore*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

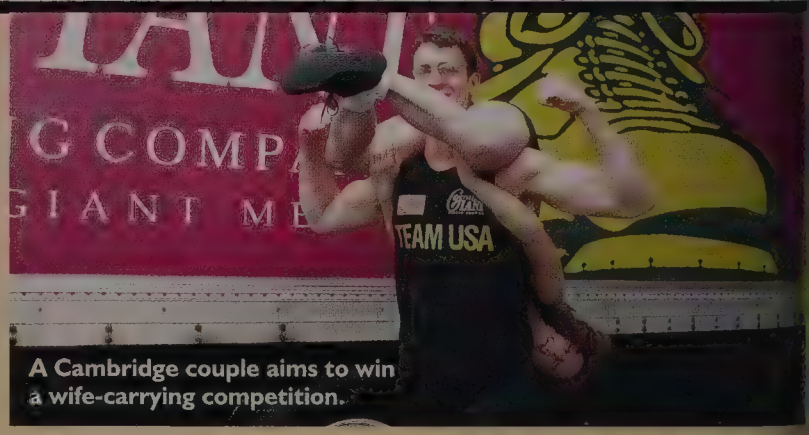
SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Blossoming Boutique... Twenty-five year old designer Linh Nguyen, owner of Calla Zae boutique in Brookline Village, is singlehandedly boosting the reps of local fashion designers. A former Massachusetts College of Art student, she aims to support the little guys (including friends from college), stocking her store with lots of locally made clothes and accessories. You'll find vintage-style skirts, dresses and denim, and novelty handbags, some of which are made entirely from zippers. And then there's the original Calla Zae line designed by Nguyen herself, which includes everything from purses and tops to skirts and dresses. The shop's already open, but has a grand opening July 30 with a fashion show and sale. *284 Washington St., Brookline Village (617-735-0009). www.callazae.com.*

Living the Good Life... Those of you who know and love the brand Life Is Good now have easy access to its-famous logo-emblazoned t-shirts, hats and assorted sporty attire. Owners and brothers Bert and John Jacobs have opened a retail store on Newbury Street: a giant 3,200 square foot shop filled with clothes for men, women and children, as well as LIG dog products, home accessories, outdoor gear and beach wear. "It's a big monkey," Bert says. To celebrate, the brothers plan to host summer parties for the neighboring businesses with keg beer, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and plenty of Oreo cookies. Now that's the good life. *285 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4160).*

High Times... With all that's come our way in the last year, whether it's the DNC, Super Bowl, World Series, etc., you'd think Bostonians would be on a pretty high-horse. In fact, we are. A recent federal study by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration revealed that Boston is the country's leading city when it comes to cheeba. That's right, we're the No. 1 marijuana consuming city in the nation. Some might chalk it up to our dense college population, others may blame the fact that we're forced home from bars at 1:30 am with nothing else to do, but any way you cut (or roll) it, the feds say that five percent of the national population gets high, while a whopping 12 percent of Bostonians know Mary Jane. Intimately. No word on where we rank in the sale of black lights or Bob Marley posters.

Get off my back... From July 1-3, a local athletic team will take on the world in a contest that can only be described as moving. The sport is wife-carrying, and Cambridge's John Lund, a Gentle Giant mover, and his partner, Julie Berson, aim to take their American wife-carrying title worldwide at the World Championship in Sonkajärvi, Finland. Wife-carrying, as the name implies, involves a man carrying the ol' ball and chain on his back through a 250-meter obstacle course (the rules have been relaxed to allow non-married teams like Lund and Berson). The prize: the lady's weight in beer. We know this whole scenario raises a very obvious question, and the answer is yes, Dennis Rodman is competing this year. However, we don't know whether he'll be playing the role of man or wife. *—E.D., L.P.K., R.L.*



A Cambridge couple aims to win a wife-carrying competition.

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

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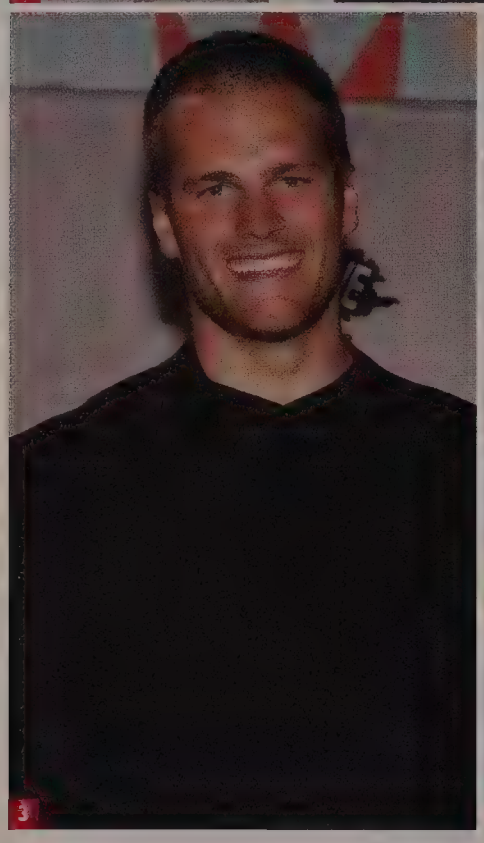
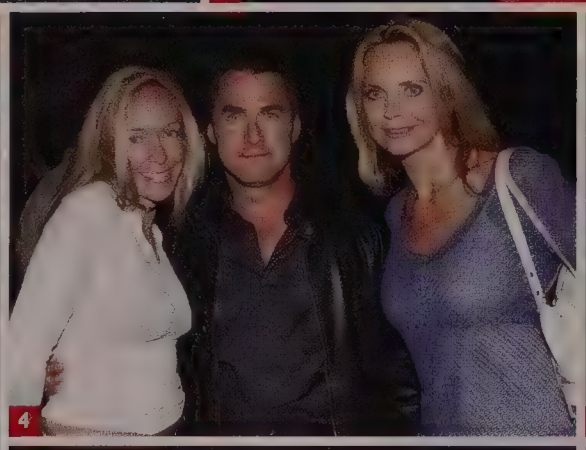
PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

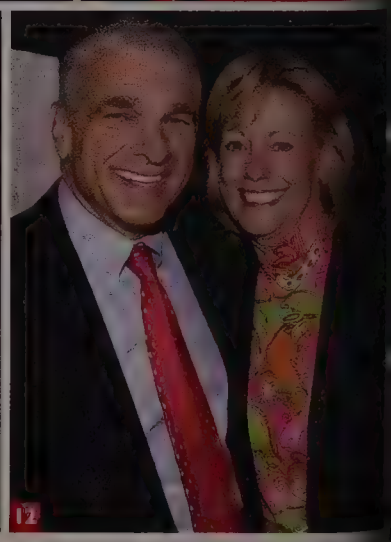
Governor Mitt Romney, Lt. Governor Kerry Healey, Senate President Robert Travaglini and local athletes, celebrities and representatives of the Boston sports community kicked off the inaugural celebrity-bowling fund-raiser "**Stars & Strikes**," at Kings June 16. The event, which raised roughly $300,000, included a live auction which raised money for the Massachusetts Governor's Committee on Physical Fitness & Sports. Proceeds from the event benefit EveryBody Move! a program dedicated to increasing awareness of the importance of physical fitness.





1. **Denis Leary** and **Lenny Clarke**, both actors/comedians and stars of *Rescue Me*
2. From left: **Joseph Abboud**, fashion designer; **Mathew Lalin**, vice president of Steiner Sports Marketing in New York; Boston Red Sox first baseman **Kevin Millar**; and **Mitch Modell**, CEO of Modell's Sporting Goods
3. New England Patriots quarterback **Tom Brady**
4. From left: **Beth Kurtin**, **David Drubner** and **Beth Dickerson**
5. Governor **Mitt Romney** and his wife, **Ann**
6. **Mike Dee** (left), chief operating officer for the Red Sox, and **Patrick Lyons**, president of the Lyons Group
7. From left: **Tom Werner**, chairman of the Boston Red Sox; **Lucinda Treat**, chief legal officer of the Boston Red Sox; and **Jord Poster**, venture capitalist for Genesis Capital

"**Two if by Sea**," the Old North Foundation's first-ever major fundraising event, was held June 16 in the State Room. The event honored former Mayor Kevin White, who was the recipient of the Foundation's first Third Lantern Award. Proceeds from the evening will launch new educational programs at the Old North Church.



8. From left: **Paul Foster**, vice president of Reebok; his wife, **Cecily**, real estate broker for Millennium Partners; and **Alina** and **Jim Apteker**, owner of the State Room
9. **Jack Murphy**, attorney for Issues Management Group, and **Natalie Jacobson**, news anchor for WCVB-TV5
10. From left: **George Regan**, president of Regan Communications; former mayor of Boston **Kevin White**, and **John Nucci**, Suffolk County clerk of courts
11. **Debbie DiMasi**, co-chair of the event and Reverend **Stephen Ayres**, vicar, Old North Church
12. **Charlie Sarkis**, president of the Back Bay Restaurant Group, and **Nancy Murphy**

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PLANE SENSE

A few ideas to improve everyone's traveling experience

The other day I was reading an article about United Airlines, and somewhere around the fifth paragraph the writer casually dropped the phrase, "the bankrupt carrier." What?! I wasn't aware that United is bankrupt, but I find this highly disturbing as all of my frequent-flyer eggs are in that particular basket. Of course, I've never redeemed any of my miles, because according to the reward system I still only have enough miles to fly from LaGuardia to JFK, and then only if I stand, holding onto a subway strap in a special area reserved for people using frequent-flyer miles. I believe the fine print says I might also have to serve drinks and drop off the pilots' dry-cleaning afterwards. But I still don't want to lose my hard-earned miles due to bankruptcy, so I've come up with some tips to help the bankrupt carrier.

First of all, rename self check-in "VIP Check-In" to encourage more people to use it, thus lowering your labor costs. Every time I go to the airport, there's a huge line of people waiting to get boarding passes from an obsolete human being, usually right next to a row of empty self check-in kiosks. I'm not sure if the people waiting in line are technophobes, or, to use a more old-fashioned term, idiots. Come to think of it, don't encourage self check-in. I enjoy walking past that huge line too much. We'll save money elsewhere.

Here's another idea to improve service: Planes should always board the front rows first. This is faster because the back of the plane is filled with people who aren't smart enough to get their seats moved to the front. Thus, the people near the back will also be the ones who spend 10 minutes rearranging the luggage over their own seat in order to fit their carryon there instead of just slinging it in the empty bin across the aisle, stuffing it under the seat, or cramming it in the beverage cart—whatever needs to be done. Board from the front, and strictly enforce the policy that it doesn't matter where you put your luggage, just so long as you do it quickly and get the hell out of the aisle.

Also in the name of speeding things up, anyone removing flip-flops at security will be bitten in the groin by a German shepherd immediately upon passing through the metal detector. This whole shoe-removal thing has gotten way out of control. Exercise judgement: If your shoes have less sole than Lance Bass has soul, leave them on. If they want you to take them off, they're not shy about saying so. Also, to keep things moving, avoid using the following phrases at security: "Did you pack my balm?" and "That guy has *guns*!" If you notice your old friend Jack King on the plane, do not yell out, "Hi, Jack King!"

Another tip for United is to stop tricking people by farming out flights to US Airways. The other day I was dropped off at Terminal C at Logan because I'd bought a ticket from United. However, I soon discovered that the flight was "United Operated by US Airways," which meant I had to go to Terminal B. This is like ordering a cheeseburger at the McDonald's drive-through and getting around to the window to find that you've actually ordered a McDonald's cheeseburger operated by Burger King, so you're going to need to drive a few more miles to pick it up.

If you've never walked between terminals B and C at Logan, it's a surreal experience. You get to see where federal employees park and there's an eerie hallway lined with white rocking chairs. Since this part of Logan is where the Oompa-Loompas work, roughly

ANYONE REMOVING FLIP-FLOPS AT SECURITY WILL BE BITTEN IN THE GROIN BY A GERMAN SHEPHERD

nine miles from any terminal, the rocking chairs are always empty. It's easy to imagine they're filled with dead grandmas. It's bad enough that I'm inconvenienced, now you're scaring me with grandma ghosts, United? This must stop. Operate your own damn flights. No wonder you're bankrupt. You could probably learn a thing or two from US Airways—what? They're bankrupt too. Maybe I'll just take the Acela. If I happen to be going to New York. And they've fixed it so the brakes aren't falling off anymore.

OK, I give up on my frequent-flyer miles. I have a new idea. Let's stop bailing out airlines and invest our money in some proper autobahns. You may say that U.S. drivers are too clueless to handle going from Boston to D.C. at 150 mph, to which I offer an ingenious solution: In order to be allowed on the U.S. autobahn, you'll have to go through a toll booth—a self check-in toll booth. IB

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CHRIS-CROSSING BOSTON SPORTS

Midsummer thoughts on Richard Seymour, Sean McDonough and Paul Pierce

Summer is here and apparently so is a plethora of issues, stories and opinions. Here are some of mine:

Richard Seymour

I realize it's not PC to say anything bad about Bill Belichick—three rings in four seasons—and it's easy to criticize a guy under contract, like Richard Seymour, but let's hold the stones a minute. To put it bluntly, Seymour is underpaid. And unlike another holdout, Terrell Owens, he has given the organization a lot of blood, sweat and tears en route to becoming a man here in Greater Boston.

Seymour has been to the Pro Bowl three times in four seasons with the Patriots. He has also watched as his defensive lineman brethren are hauling in contracts in excess of $50 million. Owner Robert Kraft doesn't typically re-do contracts of players who have two or more years left on their current deal. Of course, those rules are bent a bit when superstars enter the equation.

You'll recall that Tom Brady, Mr. Franchise Quarterback, made subtle hints about wanting a new deal a few months ago, and he got one. He had two years remaining, too.

Add in the fact that the Patriots also reworked the contract of Corey Dillon, who had been with the team only one year, and the bottom line is this: I don't condone what Seymour did in foregoing mini-camp. But I understand. Here's hoping the Patriots do the right thing and extend him a few years and give him the eight-figure signing bonus he deserves. We've got other matters to worry about.

Sean McDonough

Walking into Fenway the other day, I ran into former Sox play-by-play broadcaster Sean McDonough, who was stopping by the press credential window to pick up his game day pass. He was there to do some prep work for an ESPN call he was doing a few days later.

It didn't seem right that McDonough was grabbing a game day credential as if he was a foreigner to Fenway. But that's what he has become—after being the voice of the team since I was a teenager.

It wasn't that long ago that McDonough was a fixture in the Red Sox booth, bigger than Jerry Remy, the Rem Dawg.

This particular day was his first trip back to Fenway since he was relieved of his TV duties. I guess it's a fact of life that people change jobs and move on. But McDonough's release wasn't as amiable as it should have been for a guy who was s closely identified with the team for so lon Fenway should always feel like home t him, job or no job.

Current Sox play-by-play man Don O sillo has been great as McDonough's lon term replacement. In fact, I can't tell yo how many times I've heard an Orsillo ca and wondered, "Is McDonough back in th booth?" That's a compliment. I realize he gone and moved on, but I do miss McD nough.

Paul Pierce

The rumors have been swirling around o beloved Green Team captain, Paul Pierc saying Pierce was going to be a traded to th Portland Trailblazers. Ask yourself this: I the recent history of Boston sports, has the ever been a sadder excuse for a captain?

His bonehead elbow in Game Five the playoffs against the Pacers was a micr cosm of his career. Whatever Pierce is-

KRAFT DOESN'T TYPICALLY RE-DO CONTRACTS WITH TWO YEARS LEFT BUT THOSE RULES ARE BENT WHEN SUPERSTARS ENTER THE EQUATION

enigma, hothead, not-quite-superstar—h should not be the captain of one of th proudest franchises in professional sports.

There was a time when Paul Pierce w not just a good player but also a humb guy that everyone wanted to be aroun Those days are long gone and stories abo him demanding red carpet treatme around Boston and publicly embarrassi his teammates by demeaning them in pu lic leave a sour taste in one's mouth.

The future of this franchise, if inde the goal is to win a championship, is Jefferson. He's a worker. He's a talen And, best of all, he's a fine young man.

As for Pierce, Portland, Oregon, wou be a nice place for him. At least it wou be 3,500 miles away from us. If we had NBA franchise in Siberia, I'd suggest shi ping him there. iB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New Engla Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

"...the pizza is to die for; you could faint just describing the flavor of the sauce, and the crust puts you over the edge."

— Jack Welch, *Winning*

Jordan Tobins
— *Owner, founder*

Soroff ON

GIDEON LESTER

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Playwright Gideon Lester has been the associate artistic director of the American Repertory Theater since 2002 and previously served as the theater's resident dramaturge for five years. Born in London in 1972, he attended Westminster and studied English Literature at Oxford. In 1995, he came to the states on a Fulbright scholarship to study at the ART, and upon graduating was hired by the theater and as a lecturer in playwriting and dramatic technique at Harvard. He created the one-woman show, *Enter the Actress*, for Claire Bloom, who has performed it in theaters throughout the U.S. and abroad, and his recent translations include Marivaux's *La Dispute* and Bertolt Brecht's *Mother Courage*. His adaptation for the stage of Franz Kafka's *Amerika* is running at the ART through July 10. He lives in Cambridge.

Jonathan Soroff: *So what's a nice upper-class British twit like you doing in a place like this?*

Gideon Lester: [Laughs.] There's nothing upper-class about me. I come from a long line of Central European Jewish peasants, so I fit right in.

JS: *But you do have that posh accent and your parents are Lord and Lady Lester, which makes you Little Lord Fauntleroy. Do you wear those cute little britches?*

GL: [Laughs.] Only on the beach. No. My father is a human rights lawyer who was made legal affairs spokesman to the Liberal Democrats, so that's where the title came from. The House of Lords is one of the world's last remaining meritocracies.

JS: *Very funny. So how much mileage do you get out of the accent?*

GL: More than I care to admit.

JS: *Cambridge, USA vs. Cambridge, England. Who would win in a battle of the wits?*

GL: Cambridge, USA, because I'm an Oxford man and therefore can't say anything good about Cambridge, England.

JS: *Logistically, what's the single hardest thing to stage?*

GL: Well, what we're discovering right now is that the single hardest thing to stage is a subjective point of view, and that's what Kafka is all about. The stage is an entirely objective place, where everything is on view, so staging everything from one character's point of view is the beautiful and difficult part of this play we're doing.

JS: *Do you hate working with animals and children?*

GL: As long as the animals don't shit on the stage and the children behave themselves, I'm fine with it.

JS: *Are Brits naturally better playwrights than Americans?*

> BRITS OFTEN HAVE A MORE IRONIC, PLAYFUL RELATIONSHIP WITH LANGUAGE THAN AMERICANS DO.

GL: No, but Brits often have a more ironic, playful relationship with language than Americans do.

JS: *Do you think men should still be playing women's parts, like in Elizabethan days?*

GL: Only if they have the legs to support it.

JS: *One play you wish you'd written?*

GL: That's really difficult. *Woyzeck* by Georg Büchner.

JS: *You just wanted to say someone with an umlaut in their name. So why do you wish you wrote that play?*

GL: Because it was maybe the greatest stylistic innovation of the last 200 years. It's a tragedy in fragments about the fate of an ordinary and persecuted man rather than a hero or a god or a king, and it completely refocused the way people thought about what you could put on the stage. Maybe the single most influential play of the last 200 years.

JS: *Interesting, yet so very esoteric. OK, Shakespeare's greatest weakness?*

GL: His sense of humor. It's lame.

JS: *Shakespeare or Marlowe?*

GL: Well, we loved producing Marlowe this year because no one's ever seen it before, so there's a great sense of adventure, and you don't feel in any way tied down by the weight of tradition. But ultimately, Shakespeare was probably the greater playwright, although Marlowe was killed at something like the age of 26, so who knows what he might have done. Marlowe only wrote five or six plays.

JS: *Didn't he get killed in a bar brawl?*

GL: No one really knows, but it was unmentionable circumstances. He might have been killed by a lover, or a spy. He was spying for the Dutch and the English at the same time.

JS: *Naughty Marlowe. Greatest living playwright?*

GL: Howard Barker, who is a wrongfully neglected playwright who lives in Brighton, England. He writes and produces a play every year, and they are hilarious, and dangerous and scary, and I wish he was produced more often.

JS: *Greatest playwright ever?*

GL: I'll be boring and say Sophocles.

JS: *Where do you consider yourself by comparison?*

GL: [Laughs.] A eunuch in a harem.

JS: *You're associate artistic director at the ART. What's your plan for bumping off Robert Woodruff and taking over?*

GL: [Laughs.] I have no desire to elbow him aside. I'm very happy learning from him.

JS: *Aren't you the right little bum kisser. OK, Franz Kafka was a miserable bastard living a miserable existence at a miserable time in history…*

GL: No. A man who had an extraordinary imagination and sense of fun but also understood that all human beings ultimately persecute each other.

JS: *Kafka's not exactly up for the Kings of Comedy Tour.*

GL: I actually don't agree, and I think that anybody who comes to see *Amerika* will be pleasantly surprised by how outrageous his sense of humor is.

JS: *Ever feel like a cockroach when you wake up in the morning?*

GL: Only the morning after opening night

JS: *I've always hated the word dramaturge…*

GL: Me too.

JS: *It sounds dirty.*

GL: [Laughs.] It's a dirty business. I've actually cut it from my title.

JS: *So what exactly is a dramaturge?*

GL: The first one I ever met was a woman at Yale who said she was going to have a card printed, and when people asked her what a dramaturge was, she'd hand it to them, and it would say, "None of your damned business."

JS: *Favorite line from any play?*

GL: Well, it's not from a play but Oscar Wilde wrote: "We're all lying in the gutter but some of us are gazing at the stars."

JS: *One line from a play you wish you could use in real life?*

GL: Let's go with something from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*: "I am your spaniel."

JS: *Kinky. Current state of the theater?*

GL: Astonishingly healthy, given that the government has withdrawn virtually all funding for it.

JS: *Who would you most like to star in an English sex farce with?*

GL: Joanna Lumley.

JS: *You teach play writing. Isn't that something you either have a gift for or you don't?*

GL: Well, you can teach form, a sense of craft, a toolkit so that young playwrights begin to think about what works efficiently on the stage. Once they have a sense of form, they can really unleash their imaginations and break the rules.

JS: *Final question: Any chance of you going Hollywood?*

GL: They would never have me. I have nothing to offer them. IB

you're going to be just a bit picky about how it is served. Which is why we like bartenders to follow a carefully organized ritual when they pour it. This includes everything from rinsing the glass, to cutting the excess foam from the head. And even making sure the logo on the coaster and chalice are turned to face the customer. Which might sound fussy to you. But then we're fussy about everything when it comes to our beer.

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standing tall

AFTER PARLAYING HIS EXPOSURE ON *LAST COMIC STANDING* INTO NONSTOP NATIONAL CLUB DATES, PEABODY NATIVE GARY GULMAN LOOKS TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP.

BY EZRA DYER

ary Gulman might've gone through life as the funny guy at the accounting office. After growing up in Peabody, playing football at Boston College and landing an accounting job at Coopers & Lybrand, Gulman was following a typical trajectory into a career in the Financial District. At least, he would've been if he hadn't spent his days working on jokes instead of numbers. "I never took the CPA exam," he says. "I knew pretty early on that I'd be incompetent, so I just sat at my desk and wrote jokes." After two years of furtive joke-writing, Gulman quit accounting and began working part-time jobs to allow more time to work on his act.

"I was a waiter, a doorman, I worked at Starbucks. I was a substitute teacher at my old high school," he says. "I think if I realized at the time how desperate that was, I would've been upset about it. The key to show business is not knowing how far you are from getting somewhere, because if you did you'd be really discouraged."

Gulman has gotten somewhere. After impressing industry big-shots at the 1999 Montreal Comedy Festival, he landed on Letterman, Leno and, most recently, seasons two and three of NBC's *Last Comic Standing*. Being on *Last Comic* got Gulman noticed by a national audience, and he now sells out comedy clubs around the country. "I took a huge leap. I was doing the same material before the show that I'm doing now," he says. "But now people are coming out."

That material most famously includes a bit deriding sugar cookies for not trying hard enough ("All cookies are sugar cookies. A cookie without sugar is a cracker.") that has become Gulman's comedic calling card, for better or worse. "I fell into the cookie routine because one joke worked, and the next thing I knew I was doing 15 minutes about cookies," Gulman says. "But it's a blessing and a curse. People know the cookie joke and want to hear them, and that's good, but I can picture myself someday being like, 'I had a dream, once...' I'll be this 75-year-old man in a dark nightclub, talking about what cookies have done to me."

The reason food jokes are so appealing, Gulman says, is that food is rare common ground in a fractured culture. "You used to be able to talk about TV, but now nobody watches the same shows. It's hard to find subjects that everyone identifies with."

Back in Boston at the Comedy Connection last winter (he performs this year at Mohegan Sun July 15-16 and at the Comedy Connection Dec. 15-17), Gulman tailored his act to take advantage of a bit of local common ground—the habit among local furniture store owners of starring in their own TV ads—by singing his own twist on the Bernie & Phyl jingle. The bit gets big laughs. "They do it in L.A., too, but the excessiveness in Boston is unique," he says. "Bernie and Phyl are on constantly, and Bob seems very desperate. He'll do whatever he can to make you like him. Bob's coming on strong lately."

L.A. might not have Boston's selection of attention-starved furniture store owners, but it does have something more important to a comedian on the rise: auditions. Gulman's still touring, but he has an eye on taking his career to the next level, hopefully with further TV work. That means living in L.A., which, incidentally, has one other major advantage over Boston: "I came home in May," says Gulman, "and the weather in Boston was so depressing that I wanted to drive into my garage and fill it up with carbon monoxide. But gas is so expensive these days..." IB

hip

ick of sitting in the joint on the corner sipping cheap sangrias that invoke the refrain, "Hey, Kool-Aid?" Over listening to the tired '80s music your local DJ spins with one eye closed—and the other eye on his steel wristwatch?

Check out these hippest-of-the-hip hangouts for a few extraordinary—dare we say fabulous?—nights of live music (anything-goes karaoke, anyone?), performance poetry (you might find yourself slammin' with the pros), visual arts (join Boston's hippest artists and provocateurs off Harrison Avenue in SoWa) or, for you dance enthusiasts, a selection of uberfriendly hip-hop and disco-dancing nights on the town.

7 NIGHTSPOTS OFFER TOO-COOL-FOR-SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT

haunts

BY RICCO VILLANUEVA SIASOCO

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN

Coolidge Corner Theatre hosts
dnight events, from movies to live
usic, every Friday and Saturday.

MIDNIGHT EVENTS @ THE COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

For a city that announces last call at 1:30 (at the latest) and where the T makes its final screeching stops soon after, nothing in Boston actually starts at midnight. But the folks at the Coolidge Corner Theatre have thunk up an alternative for all you night owls craving adventures other than the usual sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll (not that there's anything wrong with those old standards!). Midnight at the Coolidge happens every Friday and Saturday night and brings events ranging from off-the-wall musical lampoons like Leslie and the Lys (a hilarious, gold-laméd female rapper whose outrageous performances give Margaret Cho a run for her money) to "weird and wild 16 mm classroom films" (culled from a collection of more than 14,000 originals) by the A/V Geeks, headed by Raleigh-based Skip Elsheimer.

Recent midnight movies have included a *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* sing-along, and ushering in July is Bruce Campbell's *The Man With the Screaming Brain*, a B-movie bonanza in which, as the Coolidge's movie listing puts it, "William Cole (Bruce Campbell himself), wealthy industrialist, goes looking for a tax shelter in the wrong part of the world and winds up the guinea pig for a mad scientist, having his brain merged with that of Yegor, a former KGB operative." *Coolidge Corner Movie Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org. Every Friday and Saturday at midnight.*

SOUL REVIVAL @ VILLA VICTORIA

Boston's very own version of the famous Limelight (that legendary Manhattan club where scenesters grooved under the arches of a deconsecrated cathedral) visits an awe-inspiring, stained-glass building in the South End on the Saturday night closest to the full moon. At Soul Revival (an event dreamed up by North of New York and Revive Your Soul), rotating DJs command an evening of lights and smoke, hip-hop and break-dancing with an all-around chill vibe.

The most impressive part of Soul Revival may be its digs: a white-brick building known as Villa Victoria, a former church nestled on a side street off Columbus Ave. Though the building can hold 500 people and is stocked with several bars (not to mention the mezzanine views of the dance floor from the theater balcony), Soul Revival somehow retains the intimacy of a trusted friend. Here you'll meet club kids, salsa lovers and dredlocked and body-pierced folks chilling out to the ambient and hip-hop be There's no air conditioning, so be ready to get a little "glow." *Center for Latino Arts, West Newton St., Boston (888-239-1054). www.reviveyoursoul.com. Each month, the S urday closest to the full moon (next is July 30). Poet's Lounge 8:30 pm, Latin-Infused S 10 pm. $10 for members, $15 for their guests until 11:30 pm. RSVP to rsvp@reviveyo soul.com. 21+.*

POETRY SLAM @ CANTAB LOUNGE

If the word "poetry" conjures up feet-dragging stanzas of Robert Frost or second-gra haikus (how many syllables again in each line?), then you need to hop on the Red Li scoot your butt up the stairs at Central Square, head across Mass. Ave. to the Can Lounge (so named after *Cantabrigiensis*—a Latin word meaning "of Cambridge"), a

Club D'Elf and a changing roster of guest musicians take over the Lizard Lounge most Thursday nights.

CLUB D'ELF @ THE LIZARD LOUNGE

Club d'Elf might sound like some kind of esoteric *Lord of the Rings* fan club or a sadly named wholesale club for short French people. But in the downstairs digs of the Lizard Lounge, Club d'Elf proves itself to be cutting-edge musicians Mike Rivard on bass, Erik Kerr on drums and Brahim Fribgane on the oud (a stringed Persian instrument that resembles—somewhat—a mandolin). This is only d'Elf's core group, however, and lead musician Rivard mines his artist connections for diverse musicians and instruments ranging from John Medeski on keyboards and Dr. Didg (Graham Wiggins) on the didjeridoo (a doleful Aboriginal wind instrument) to DJ Flack and DJ C on turntables. This groundbreaking trio's full list of players is a who's who of more than 100 "special guests," "rotating cast members" and "occasional conspirators."

Although habitués of New York City's famous Knitting Factory, Club d'Elf is firmly rooted in the Cambridge music scene. If you've never heard this sound-blowing ensemble, you're missing a group often compared to Miles Davis in his *Bitches' Brew* glory. Head over to the Lizard Lounge on most Thursday nights for a chill sampling of their music, or listen to their unique sound before the real thing at www.clubdelf.com. *The Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). Most Thursday nights (call for schedule). $10. 21+.*

en descend another flight of stairs to a small, intimate space to sit in awe of ston's best slam poets. Since 1992, this exposed-brick room has hosted a ekly slam where New England's most raucous poets recite, exclaim, harmo-e, rant and politicize everything from the crappy weather to race relations. ne Cantab even has its own slam team, which has competed in the National etry Slam in Albuquerque, N.M., for the past 10 years.

Kicking off at about 8 pm every Wednesday with hosts Valerie Lawson, Ryk cIntyre, J*me and slammaster Simone Beaubien, the rules for the literary mpics are simple: "Poems are the poet's original work of three minutes or s, no props, no costumes, no musical accompaniment." And here's the best rt: A panel of judges chosen from the audience decides the winner (over e course of several rounds), and you just might get in on it. Choose care-ly, the winners often join the Boston Poetry Slam Team. Need to know ore? A whole heap of poetry slam history awaits you at www.slamnews.com. *ntab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). Every Wednes-y, 7:30 pm. $3-$5. 21+.*

FIRST FRIDAYS @ SOWA ARTS DISTRICT

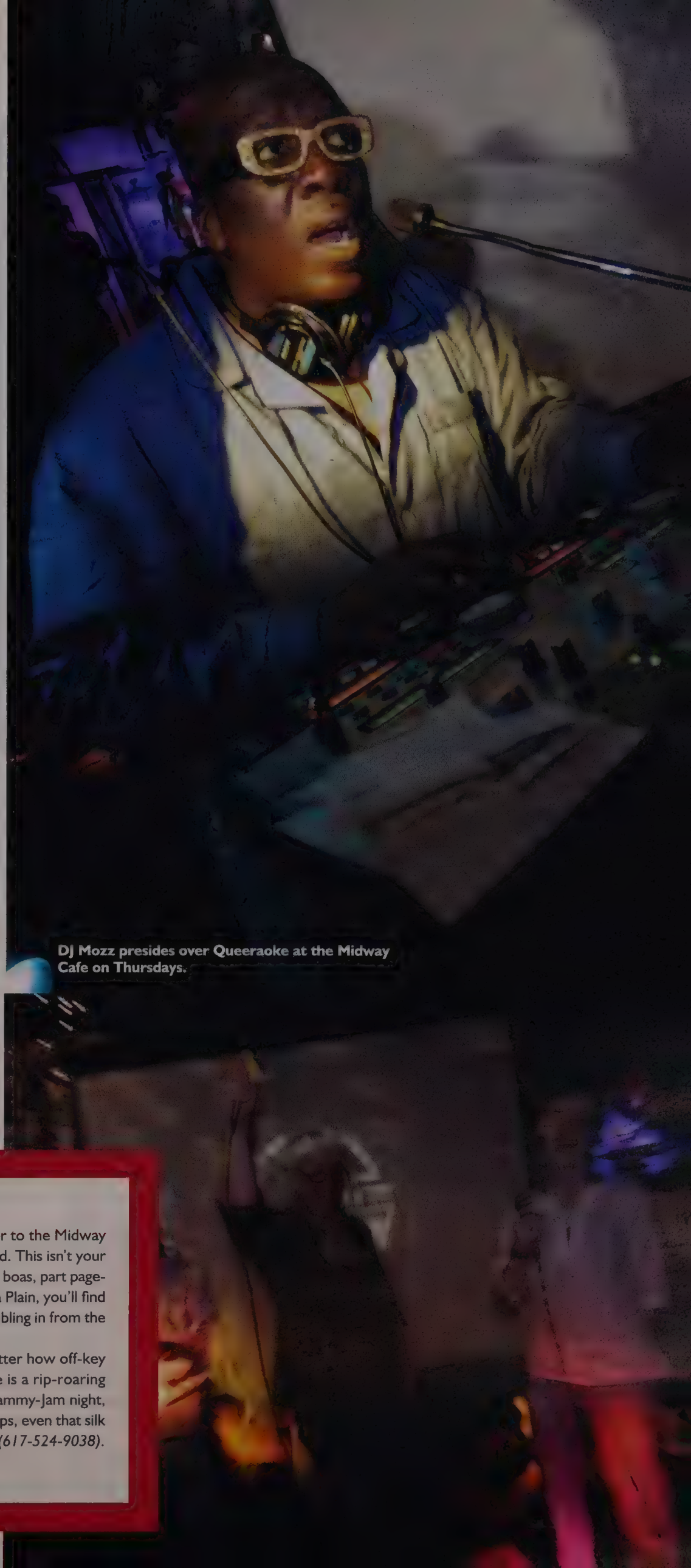
the art world, a good acronym can make or break hipness. Think SoHo. oMa. The MFA. Then there's SoWa, Boston's very own corner of cool outh of Washington" Street, anchored by a massive, converted factory at 0 Harrison Avenue in the South End. The first Friday of each month at 5:30 , nearly 20 galleries and artist studios in the converted industrial space open eir light-filled interiors to hipsters, tricksters and wine-tasting art lovers. ough the official festivities end at 8 pm, crowds often linger on the side-lks a little while longer before clearing out for the restaurants.

On Thayer Street, a curvy brick sidewalk fronting the Harrison Avenue mplex, an overflowing crowd talks Matthew Barney. This is an evening for th art-impaired and art-versed alike—just be sure to hit the galleries early, cause by 6:30, the narrow hallways and exposed-beam studios draw hun-eds of art lovers. *SOWA Arts District. www.SoWaArtWalk.com. First Friday very Month except July and August. 5:30-8 pm. Free, with $5 parking at 500 d 540 Harrison Ave.*

FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE CRAZE @ CAMBRIDGE CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION

you know about the new film *Mad Hot Ballroom*, you know that ballroom ncing has fleet-footed prepubescents finding confidence, coordination and ce from bringing fancy footwork into their everyday life. That might be the petus behind "Friday Night Dance Craze," a four-part series at 42 Brattle eet in Cambridge, where no experience is required (though a desire to try mething new is). Every Friday night in July, you can "shake your groove ng" with master teachers in four distinct dance styles.

Up first is Irish Step Dancing ("ceili" dances of lines, circles and figure hts), then Argentine Tango (a dramatic dance begun in 19th century enos Aires), before mid-July's evening of Swing (featuring big band swing sic like Benny Goodman and Big Bad Voodoo Daddy) and finally, every-e's much-mocked-but-nonetheless-playful '70s classic: disco (you know at your arms-akimbo Grapevine isn't quite up to par). Interested dance fa-tics can sign up for one class or all four. *Cambridge Center for Adult Educa-n, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. Every Friday in y. 7-9 pm.* iB



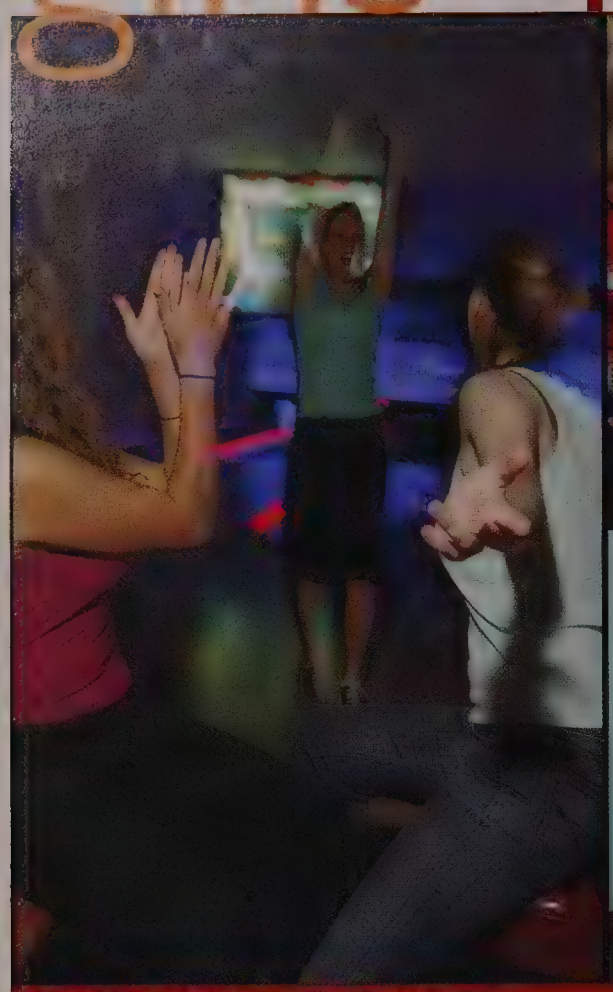
DJ Mozz presides over Queeraoke at the Midway Cafe on Thursdays.

QUEERAOKE @ MIDWAY CAFÉ

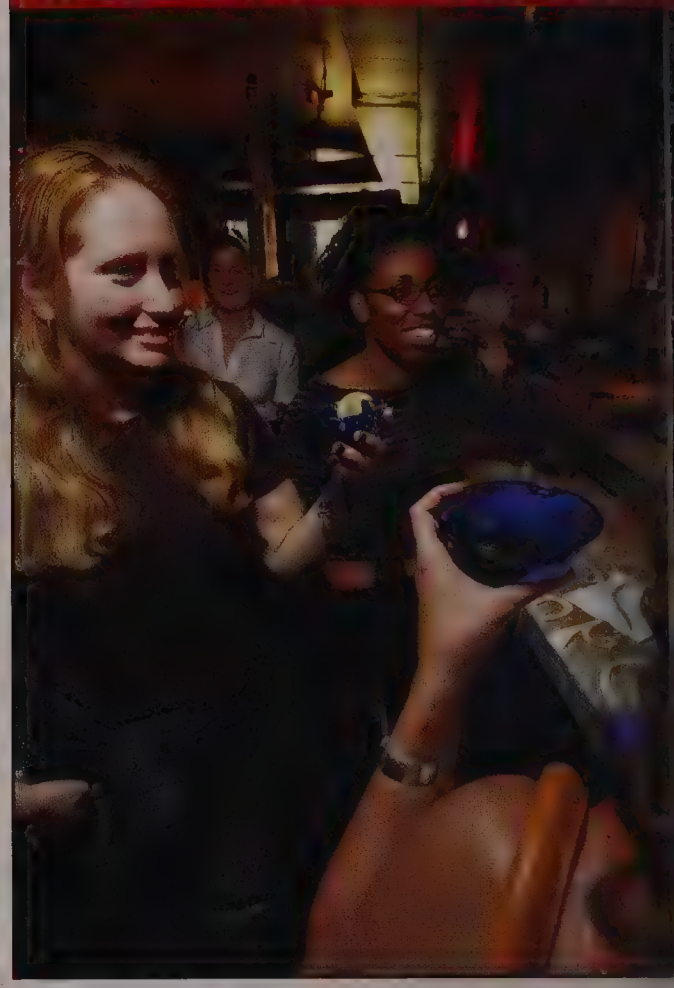
Wanna sing your heart out but afraid of what your friends will think? Head over to the Midway Café every Thursday night, where you'll probably be the squarest person around. This isn't your usual sound system piped over an old boom box. Queeraoke is part pink feather boas, part page-boy wigs and totally attitude-free. In a tiny storefront bar on the edge of Jamaica Plain, you'll find a raucous crowd of baby dykes, pony-tailed punk rockers and working joes stumbling in from the famous Doyle's across Washington Street.

Hosted by DJ Mozz, a hulking guy whose enthusiasm for sing-alongs (no matter how off-key the songster or -stress) will make you want to stand up and sing, Queeraoke is a rip-roaring evening of unpretentious singers and their adoring friends. On the docket is a Jammy-Jam night, where the audience is encouraged to dress down instead of up: pajamas, tank tops, even that silk bathrobe and bunny slippers. *Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.theworldofmozz.com. Thursdays, 9 pm-2 am. No cover. 21+.*

girls' night out



TUESDAY NIGHT AT KINGS



WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT OPAL LOUNGE

BY MICHELE MCPHEE PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

The very term Ladies Night can conjure up images of sitting at cheesy, dimly lit bars, sipping fruity drink specials from plastic cups, as paunchy single men whose tarnished gold chain are tangled in unruly chest hair approach with pick-up lines like, "Hey Doll, where's your man tonight?"—a sickening scene ripe for backdrop music like that techno/disco song th entreats, "Baby don't hurt me… no more."

Luckily, Boston has much more appealing and original options for a girls' night out. From low-key ways to unwind with pals—with cheap bowling, free billiards or even a visit to a old-style bath house—to more exotic options like manicures at a martini bar or Latin dance instructions. Boston might not be the city that never sleeps, but if you're looking to har with your best gals, there's something to do every night of the week. Try these ideas on for size.

MONDAY

Dillons Russian Steam Bath, 77 Chestnut St., Chelsea (617-884-9434)

Every Monday night, throngs of tony women in the know make a pilgrimage over the Tobin Bridge to a rapidly gentrifying waterfront neighborhood. In Chelsea, Dillons Russian Steam Bath has been using heat and *platza* to raise the metabolism and reduce the stress of its visitors for 120 years. On Monday nights from 4–9 pm the steam room, scalding-hot sauna, and massage therapy floor are open to females only, making Dillons one of the best-kept secrets around for inexpensive spa therapies. Admission, which includes a locker plus steam room and sauna access, is only $17. You can add a *platza* massage—using a brush made of oak tree leaves soaked in hot soapy water—for $11 or a 30-minute deep tissue massage for only $20. The best part of Monday nights is the camaraderie. Women tend to come in groups but end up making new friends as they soak and steam their way into near-nirvana.

TUESDAY

Carmen, 33 North Square, Boston (617-742-6421)

Kings, 10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695)

Occasionally, getting together with the girls is more of a necessity than just a night out, whether you need to rehash a dating disaster or glean advice on an overwhelming domestic dilemma. An ideal spot for girl talk is Carmen in the North End. This cozy restaurant gets high marks for the food and is often referred to as Boston's most romantic spot, but it's also a terrific place for an intimate chat. The eatery is named for its owner, Carmen, who immediately makes you feel comfortable by stopping by the table with a plate of lightly grilled fiddlehead ferns when they're in season, or homemade mozzarella and a basket of bread. She also has an infallible memory for repeat diners, and when she recognizes them they're greeted with a European two-cheeked kiss. Carmen's husband is b hind the unbelievably good homemade pasta, which is impossible to pass up, no matt what low-carb diet you're trying to adhere to. Watching the recently married couple r their dream restaurant is sweet, giving even the most discouraged singles hope of lo (and visions of returning to one of the delicately lit tables with that newfound romance Splurging feels better when followed by exercise, so the perfect way to end this night is lob some balls down the alley at Kings, the Back Bay entertainment emporium that i vites ladies to bowl for free from 8 pm every Tuesday night. (If you think bowling isn't r ally exercise, try it and note how your thighs and glutes feel the next day.)

WEDNESDAY

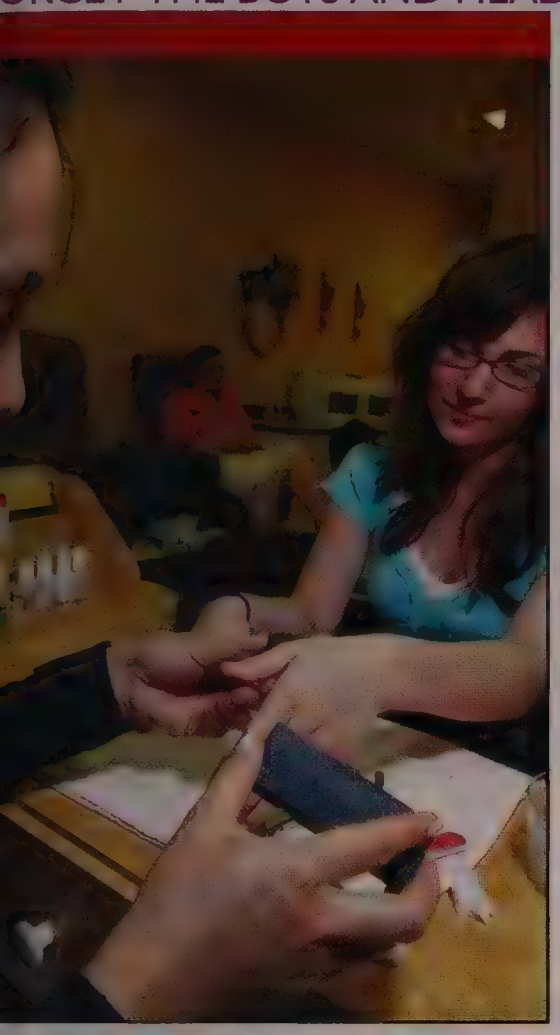
Martinis and Manicures at Opal Lounge, 48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725)

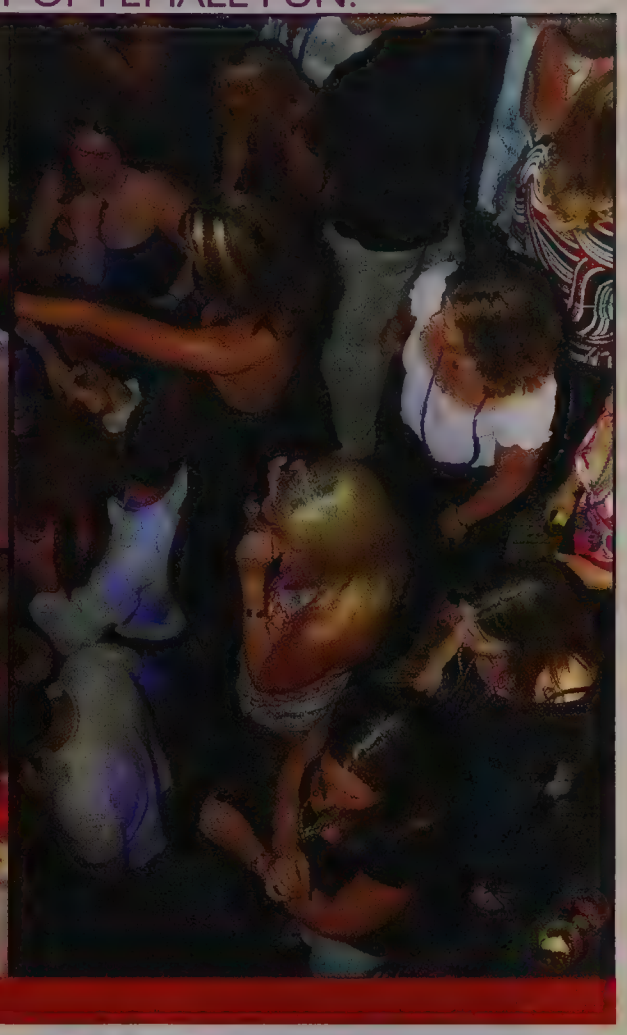
Boston Billiard Club, 126 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-536-POOL)

Wednesday's girls' night is a compromise-free bargain from elegant start to mellow fi ish. Kick off the night in Downtown Crossing at Opal Lounge, where seven bucks w get you a manicure that's accompanied by a five-dollar martini. There's even free food nibble. You can lounge on a plush sofa while you wait for a manicurist to clean up yo hands so they'll look good cradling your delicate martini glass. The only thing missing Opal Lounge's Manicure and Martinis night is men. (Note to guys: Competition scarce and the bar's crowded with young corporate women.)

A good way to show off your newly painted nails is to wrap them around a pool stic And after saving so much at the bar and scoring an inexpensive manicure, it only mak sense to keep saving money at Boston Billiard Club's Ladies Night. Every Wednesd night, women receive 25 percent off their pool time, unless they stroll in with three more friends and then everyone plays for free.

ORGET THE BOYS AND HEAD OUT WITH YOUR GAL PALS FOR A NIGHT OF FEMALE FUN.





SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE BIG EASY

THURSDAY

Commonwealth Shakespeare Company at the Parade Grounds on the Boston Common from July 16 to August 7

Blu Restaurant at the Sports Club/LA, 4 Avery St., Boston (617-375-8550)

ston in the summer feels like the best city in the world, no matter what time the bars se and the T stops running. The Commonwealth Shakespeare Company has become nonymous with summertime, bringing the yearly sight of theatergoers spreading gged sheets over the scrubby grass to stake out spots for their friends. And what could better for girls' night than a chick-flick in theatrical form like *Hamlet*, the epitome of sfunctional family madness? There's a free show every night except for Monday, but hursday nights are perfect because although the weekend warriors haven't made the ene yet, the crowd is still thick enough to create the requisite performer/audience ctricity.

When you've had your fill of the great outdoors, make a beeline for the Ritz complex, t off the Common. Check your blankets at the Sports Club/LA's coat check on the ird floor and head to Blu for after-theater drinks. The modern restaurant and bar is pular with celebrities who have settled into the Ritz for a visit to Boston and serves gh-end snacks like lobster sandwiches until 10 pm.

FRIDAY

Umbria, 295 Franklin St.,Boston (617-338-1000)

n Friday nights after 8 pm, Boston's Financial District is eerily quiet—that is until the ne forms outside Umbria on Franklin Street. The restaurant's a girl's dream, with althful meals dreamed up by one of Boston's hottest female chefs. Marisa Iocco uses sh vegetables and imported truffles to create her artistic plates, which are inspired by e hillside village the eatery is named for. Meeting friends at Umbria serves a dual pur-se because after dinner, it's a quick walk up a flight of stairs to an elegant nightclub pular with well-heeled Europeans.

SATURDAY

Mardi Gras Night at the Big Easy, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000)

Latin Fever at Anthem, 138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383)

er had a secret desire to dance around like a stripper, wanton as a teenager in a Girls Gone Wild" video, with a gaggle of your best girlfriends getting soused and ncing alongside you? The Big Easy's the place to do that on Friday and Saturday nights, and if you're a bride-to-be, you can take advantage of the "Bachelorette Bag" that guarantees free entry through the VIP entrance for the bachelorette and her maid of honor ($25 for bridesmaids). Everyone in the bridal party gets a free Hurricane in a souvenir glass, and DJ Matt Phipps will take "shout outs" and song requests from even the most stressed-out bridezillas.

Craving a walk down the red carpet wearing those chandelier earrings you've saved for the perfect night out? Anthem, the airy restaurant often cited as one of the city's best eateries, has just the theme party for that kind of jet set. Every Saturday night at 10 pm, Anthem offers an upscale affair that literally rolls out a red carpet. "Latin Fever" is a bash that plays the latest in salsa clasica, merengue, bachata, and salsa de hoy music. The party's promoters, Three Amigos, urge everyone to "dress for success," which makes it the perfect night to wear that *Sex-and-the-City*-worthy cocktail frock. The plush, velvety settees in the lounge are ideal for leggy women to rest their high-heeled feet, just until a swarthy Antonio Banderas look-alike pulls them onto the dance floor. Admission to the party is usually $10, but women get in free before 11 pm.

SUNDAY

Red Sox game at Fenway followed by cocktails at **Foundation Lounge**, 500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900)

No matter how fancy females' tastes get as they grow older, there's still something sexy about a beefy Boston guy in a battered Red Sox baseball cap. What better sunny summer day out with the gals could there be than ogling cute boys (including hulking hunk, No. 33 Jason Varitek, crouching behind home plate) while catching rays in the bleacher seats? And gone are those days when the only cocktail option after the ninth at Fenway Park was to cram in with scores of sweaty college students at the Cask 'n Flagon. There's no set dress code at the Foundation Lounge, but you may want to leave your "Yankees Suck" t-shirt at home. This cosmopolitan spot has transformed the formerly beer-soaked rock club, fondly called the Rat, into what the punkers that once inhabited the place would call a "fancy-schmancy joint."

Okay, we admit it, a girl feels decidedly snobby sipping elegant cocktails while sprawled on one of the expensive leather chairs that decorate this posh spot. But with the well-dressed dudes, it's a nice respite from the baseball-cap set. Besides, there's something cool about picking on snacks so high-end that they've been promoted to *Zensai*. You go girl. IB

in praise of house parties

WHY THE NEW HOTSPOT MIGHT JUST BE YOUR VERY OWN LIVING ROOM

BY STEVE ALMOND ILLUSTRATIONS BY ALLI ARNOLD

here comes a moment in the life cycle of all serious partiers when they realize it's time for a fundamental paradigm shift. For me, this moment came last summer. I was in New York City, at a bar on the Lower East Side, where I went at the behest of a friend (who, in turn, went at the behest of a friend, as befits the relentless neuroses of Manhattanites).

The place was crowded with urban villagers, many of whom were screaming at the top of their lungs so as to be heard over the music, which was probably something like Nine Inch Nails. I finally worked my way to the bar, but the bartender—a sullen girl with dyed black hair and a ring through her lower lip—ignored me. She had a prospect to blush over, some groggy punk rock hero who would no doubt give her the gift of heartbreak in days to come.

She finally got around to pouring my drinks, a couple of gin and tonics, and I laid down 15 bucks on the bar.

"It's 18," she said. "Nine and nine."

I considered the prospect of slapping down another five and nudging my way through the crowd to drink my watery gin and tonic with my friend. We'd stand with our arms pinned to our sides, both of us gazing out at the sad, angry congregation, feeling overmatched and not nearly drunk enough, waiting stupidly for something magical and social to happen.

Instead, I asked the bartender to excuse me while I got more money from my friend. Then I slithered over to him and told him I was leaving and not ever coming back.

And this is how I came to my new paradigm—the house party—which really, if you think about it, is an old paradigm, in the sense that pretty much everyone under the age of 21 parties in a house of some kind.

For the past year, I've chosen to spend more of my late-night leisure hours in private residences. This has been a ridiculously positive development by all standards. Here's why. To begin with, everything at a house party is way more chill. I realize that part of the thrill of going out to a bar/club is dressing up and joining in some big, glamorous public scene.

But if you want to actually, you know, relate to people, talk to them, find out what they're about, a private residence is the place to do it. In a house, you get to control the vibe. You can play whatever sort of music you want, at the volume you want, and if you don't like the music, you can move to a different room. You can also exert some measure of control over the guest list.

At a house party, you've already done some filtering. Chances are the friends of your friends are people with whom you have something in common—besides the basic desire to get naked and indulge (an impulse I wholeheartedly endorse). You also have the time and setting required to get into a more substantive conversation.

And if you should feel some spark, asking for a phone number or an e-mail shouldn't be that awkward because, after all, you have a mutual friend in common; you're not just some stranger hoping to get naked and indulge.

Another advantage: At a house party, you can get just as drunk—or whatever—as you want. This is not to say that you should consider vomiting on the drapes to be good form. Trust me, it is not, but at the very least, you are in a safe space where you won't get arrested. And the chances of waking up in the gutter with your front teeth scattered on your shirtfront are, if not eliminated, drastically reduced.

Everything at a house party is way more chill... In a house, you get to control the vibe

I'm not suggesting that every house party is a guaranteed winner. No. We've all been to bad house parties, and they can be excruciating, as the sense of communal failure and guilt feels far more intimate.

This is why I want to share a few vital tips for throwing successful house parties.

First, plan early. In this era of social balkanization and ADD, people need to be reminded about three times before a party goes on their calendar. And you need to do this reminding far enough ahead of time that you don't become one of those obnoxious serial e-mailers.

Second, cast a wide net. The whole idea of a house party is to meet people you don't already know. Insist that friends bring friends. Women generally get this intuitively; men need to be reminded.

This brings us to tip three: gender balance. The ideal party (in my view) has slightly more women than men. I say this not just because I'm a horndog, but because women do better with group play. There's nothing quite as dismal as walking into what my friend Karl calls a sausage factory. Of course, the same thing goes for women who walk into a party that's filled with lots of other women. The point being that, at a house party, the host can exert some measure of control over who shows up. Note: It is also vital that the host makes sure there are enough single/available folks for the other single/available folks.

As a host, my goal is always to get people dancing. This takes some work. You need to set aside one room expressly for getting down, with low light. You need to keep people lubricated. And you need to establish other, quieter rooms, where people can smoke and nosh and, if necessary, make-out. (An optional make-out room is key.)

You also need to make sure you've invited your neighbors and/or gotten clearance from them. The last thing you want is the cops showing up just when things get rolling.

Now I can hear people at this point complaining about the cost of throwing a party. But let's be serious. If you require guests to bring a little something—most of them should be amenable—you're only going to wind up paying for a few bottles of hard liquor, wine, some chips and dip. Not exactly a hardship, especially compared with what drinks cost out there in the mean world. Another vital and often overlooked factor: leftovers. I'm still drinking vodka from a party I threw four years ago.

I realize that some people may view the house party as a betrayal of traditional nightlife mores, such as overpaying for drinks and going home miserable. But I prefer to think of the house party as a return to the roots of nightlife, that glorious era when a citizen could drink to excess, break some furniture, make a few sloppy passes and still wake up in his own bed the next morning, with no consequence more serious than a splitting headache, and his very own cat licking his forehead. iB

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AFTERDARK

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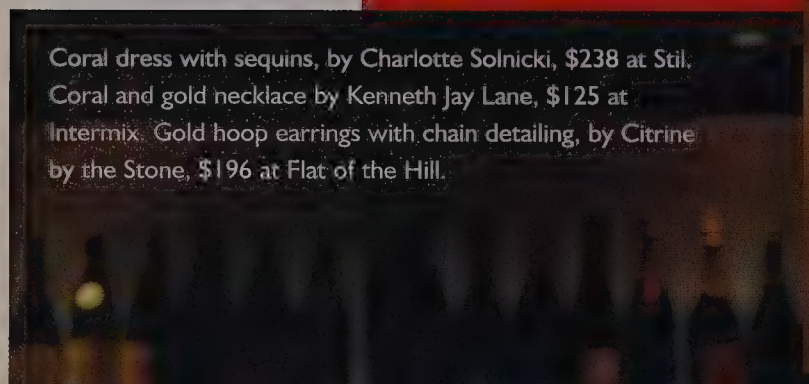
PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY TIM LLEWELLYN

Brown striped blazer by An Original Penguin, $280; striped western-style
by Gsus Industries, $77; denim jeans by Wrangler 47, $140. All at Unifo

White linen dress with eyelets, $345 at DKNY. Wood necklace with blue beads $90, blue beaded necklaces, $90 each. All by Arielle Designs at Flat of the Hill. Wood cuff with blue accents, $22 at Flat of the Hill.

Khaki blazer, $180; striped polo, $49. Both by An Original Penguin at Uniform.



Coral dress with sequins, by Charlotte Solnicki, $238 at Stil. Coral and gold necklace by Kenneth Jay Lane, $125 at Intermix. Gold hoop earrings with chain detailing, by Citrine by the Stone, $196 at Flat of the Hill.

Blue chain-drop earrings, $104; gold and blue bead necklace, $210.
Both by Sogoli, at Flat of the Hill. Pink silk halter top, $165;
matching pleated skirt, $195. Both at J. McLaughlin.

Shot on location at The
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Hotel Commonwealth
617-859-990

Models
Sam Benson, Una Green
Brett Bashaw, Nicole
Johnson, Teisha Foreshaw
for Dynasty Models

Hair by Jeffrey
for G

Makeup by Dani Wagen
for Gretta Go

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Flat of the Hi
60 Charles S
617-619-997

Intermix
186 Newbury
617-236-51

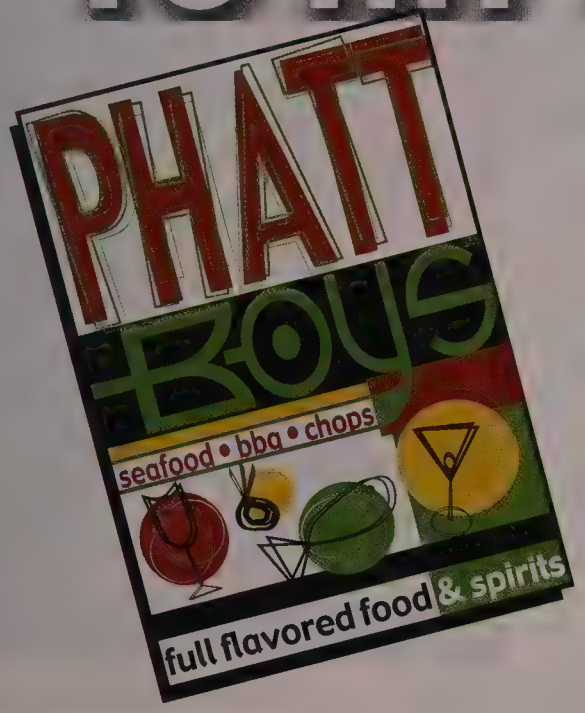
J. McLaughlin
34 Charles S
617-228-419

170 Newbury S
617-859-784

Uniform
511 Tremont S
617-247-236

Lavender dress with beading detail, by Manoush, $450; charm necklace by Marni, $475. Both at Intermix. Gold hoop earrings with chain detailing, by Citrine by the Stone, $196 at Flat of the Hill.

THE PHATTEST THING TO HIT THE SQUARE



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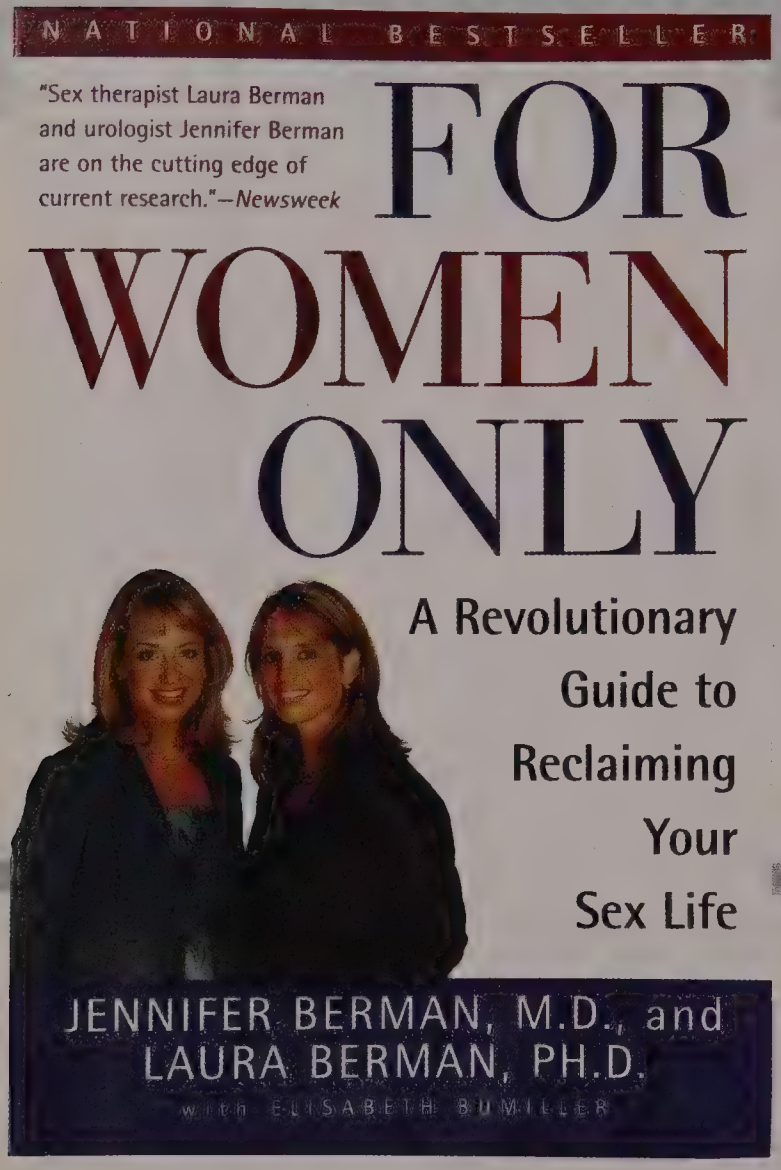
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



BLOOD FLOW TO THE LAND OF LOVE

Originally working out of BU, the Berman sisters' book *For Women Only* is subtitled *A Revolutionary Guide To Reclaiming Your Sex Life*.

Who could have more Listen-Up authority on the topic of women's sexuality than two sisters, one a sex therapist (Laura Berman) the other a urologist (Jennifer Berman)? Unlike some earlier sex therapists who hid behind the scientific rectitude of white coats and chignons, frankly, they're babes. Their book, written with Elisabeth Bumiller of the *New York Times*, takes a comforting, accessible—also well informed—attitude towards women's sexuality. Whatever the problem—low desire, faint or nonexistent orgasms, sexual abuse, childbirth, the pausings of menopause, injuries from such innocent-seeming causes as a bicycle seat, illness, a marriage or relationship whose negativity precludes all floating of boats and lighting of fires—the Bermans bring hope. Even when sex toys are in order, or medications—estrogen or even possibly Viagra—the Bermans never lose sight of the human dimension, putting that first. However important sex is, couples, or women alone, are encouraged with lots of practical information to link their "issues" to the bigger picture, but to expect and encourage a rich erotic life.

BEN WAS THRIFTY THEN—YOU CAN BE THRIFTY NOW

Ben Franklin, at 89 Trapelo Road, Belmont (617-484-6656) satisfies many old Five and Ten needs, and more. Friendly, motherly employees are glad to wait on you.

Those comforting and affordable Woolworth-y things, so often buried in fluorescent malls, live on in Belmont's Ben Franklin. Its aisles are canted outward, to display wares invitingly and to allow shopping pals to congregate chattily. Their slice of "everything" includes a notions aisle with a vast slew of homey sewing things, from needles and needle threaders on to elastic, bra extenders and wooden darning eggs. Prettiness abounds: decorative, old-fashioned-looking round hat boxes, old gold "treasure chests" of the pirate ilk and slightly traveled-looking old square suitcases, now antique. You'll find picturesque wallpaper cutouts, including old luggage labels you can paste on lampshades or walls (or luggage!).They also offer craftiness of many sorts, paints, brushes and pertinent doodads, and yarns including the frisky Fun Fur and Eyelash. Sere twiggy and grapevine wreaths have a stylistic kinship with fatigued-green curly cast iron floor mats—also useful as Victorianizing garden ornaments. A cupboard of affordable ($1-$15) dollhouse furniture, including pretty little sofas, dining room sets, even a mini guitar could, empoweringly, be bought with a child's allowance. Splash into summer with Ben Franklin's boogie boards, plastic balls and a red, wide-brimmed sun hat ($11). And wait! Flamingos.

PIECES OF PAPER MEET AND MARRY

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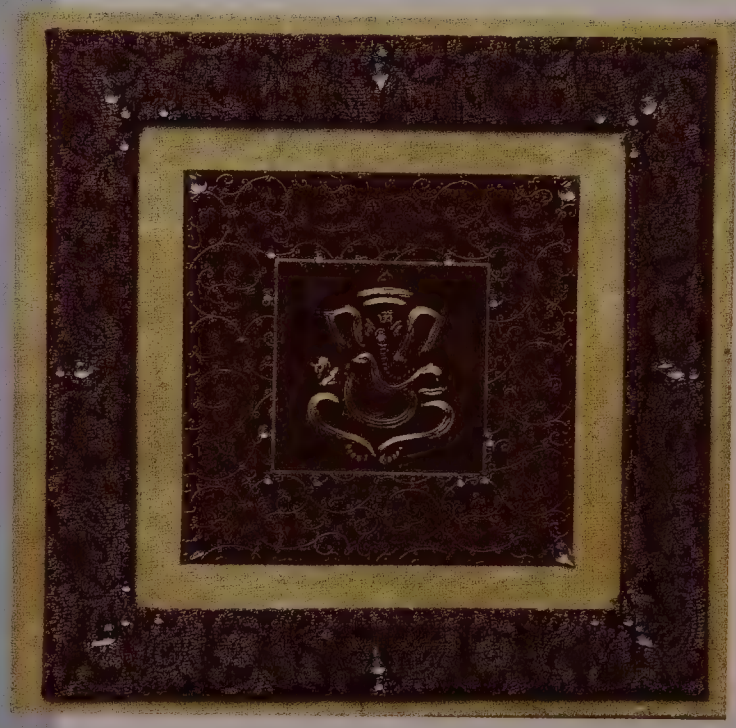

The day Lauren and Kavita met, they discovered they'd gotten married on the same June day. Soon they began working together to make lush, complex keepsake invitations. Their stock-in-trade is variety, color and texture, imparting the feeling that you're somehow entering the secret garden of the invitation when you open it up. Flowery papers, always nice and thick, add scrumptiousness inside envelopes and elsewhere on the invites. One invitation presents a dignified fold-out gray cardboard packet with a ribbon threaded through an eyelet. Inside, layered, bordered squares set off the words arrestingly printed on the right. A cute side pocket has pages neatly arranged like credit cards in a billfold, displaying the RSVP, schedule of events and directions in different colors. One of their fonts is an arty typeface based on Cezanne's dancing script. Some invites combine colors and varying fonts to highlight, for instance, the bride's name. Lauren's own elaborate invitation, adorned with ribbons, includes a booklet with each family member's specially tailored wedding prayers, readings, and the cast of characters. Kavita's thick, many-paged booklet, announcing several days of celebrations, is covered by red Indian fabric, dripping with teardrop beads, and inside are raised gold drawings of the elephant Ganesh on sheer, crinkly paper.

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REVIEW

MASTER OF ITS DOMANI

At Domani Bar and Trattoria, everything is upscale but the prices.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Baked black cod with gold potato and sweet onion gratin, with carrot truffle glaze

Rene Michelena is a chef who keeps turning up, to invert an old expression, like a good penny. Making his mark several years ago in the South End at La Bettola in league with Marisa Iocco and Rita D'Angelo (the Galleria Italiana duo), then on to Centro in Cambridge and briefly the Vault, both with Brian Maxwell, and most recently at Brian Lesser's Saint, Michelena has generated a buzz with his first rate, often exciting food. In Domani Bar and Trattoria, another joint venture with Lesser located around the corner and upstairs from Saint, Michelena has created a hip trattoria, anchored in traditional Italian cooking, but with fusion elements. So much of Michelena's cuisine is informed by his cultural background—his own Philippine ethnic heritage bespeaks Asian-European fusion—giving the food an additional dimension, usually successful, sometimes not.

Domani sits at the corner of Huntington Avenue and Exeter Street, connected to the lobby of the Copley Square Hotel. The restaurant's design and décor evidence the flair and thought that went into appointing this engaging space, which wraps around a lively 14-stool bar, from the rough-finished oaken floors to the chocolate brown hammered metal ceiling. Large floor-to-ceiling windows open to the street, and an unusual white-plaster wall sculpted into shallow waves gives way to a dramatic splash of color contributed by a flashy red motor scooter mounted in a niche, all bathed in light from strategically placed mini spots and an eclectic array of hanging light fixtures. More color is added by orange and black upholstery on the bar stools. Black wooden tables dressed with simple, off-white runners, well spaced and furnished with contoured black resin chairs, provide surprising comfort. In all, the restaurant accommodates almost 65 diners, including those at the bar and others at banquettes in the more crowded back room. Additional tables on an outdoor patio can seat up to 24 more for alfresco dining, New England weather permitting.

DOMANI
51 Huntington Ave., Boston
(617-424-8500)

HOURS Lunch, Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-3 pm; Sat., 11 am-3 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm; Dinner, Mon.-Wed., 5-10 pm; Thu.-Sat., 5-11 pm.
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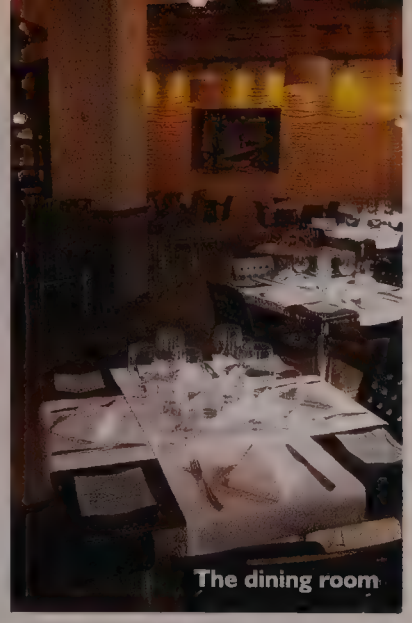
At dinner, soft, sweet butter studded with sea salt accompanied breads baked in-house, including a superb, hard crusted light rye and a slightly dry, almost austere focaccia. Of the appetizers, the warm asparagus and truffle vinaigrette ($12) made a perfect antipasto. Ten spears of fresh, full-flavored asparagus, the ultimate spring vegetable, boasted texture on the crunchy side of al dente, with creamy, salty highlights contributed by shavings of Pecorino, Italy's incomparable sheep cheese, and a small, tapered cylinder of almond *panna cotta*. Caesar salad alla Domani ($10) brought crisp, bite-sized pieces of Romaine lettuce hearts, shards of purple cabbage, well seasoned, crunchy croutons, brined tomatoes, grated cheese, and a well-balanced, classic Caesar dressing with just a hint of mustard and anchovy. The crowning glory on this salad was an "8-minute egg," whose runny yolk gave this refreshing, healthy ensemble a delectable infusion of protein and rich eggy flavor. (I suspect the egg's cooking time was misstated, since eight minutes would turn any egg yoke hard and dry.)

After the antipasti, Domani's menu lists four *pizzette*, large, irregularly-shaped pizzas ranging from the unusual—shrimp and pea stems with roasted garlic and ch flakes ($12)—to the conventional. T latter, a Margherita pizza with tomato a mozzarella ($11) rivaled any pizza the c has to offer: crisp yet chewy crust, lusci San Marzano tomatoes, creamy buff mozzarella, and a liberal garnish of th minty strips of fresh basil leaf. Pastas Michelena forte, included *tagliolini* w pesto and black pepper ($14 full; $8 ha and tortellini filled with peas and fa ($15 full; $9 half). The *tagliolini*, ultra th noodles with a texture that was soft a sticky but pleasant nonetheless—not u like Thai noodles—suffered from a hea hand on the pepper, which overwhelm the pesto as well as the asparagus, bu generous sprinkling of toasted pignoli n proved a delightful surprise dividend. T tortellini brought an unqualified smile my face. The delicate, tender satiny te ture of the pasta contrasted with t warm, earthy but subtle flavor of legume filling and the unsubtle assertiv ness of a pleasantly bitter orange sauce.

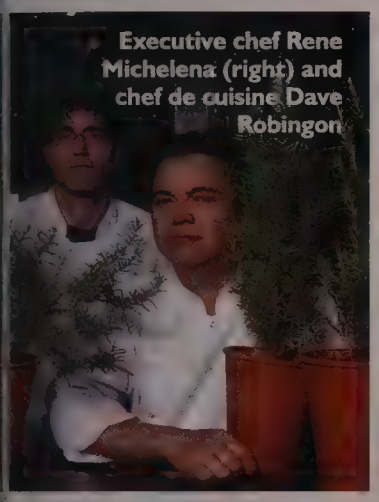
Of the main courses, over three visit ranged from cod, through chicken and ra bit, to steak. Starting with the last first, t steak ($32) almost blew me away. I usua avoid steak in Italian restaurants, since be does not play a large role in classic Itali cookery. On the other hand, Tuscany a its premier city of Florence in particul (my apologies to Siena) are justly famed *bistecca Fiorentina*, rib steak. One of t priciest items on Domani's menu, a 1 ounce rib eye marinated with sage and b leaf, brought a thick, well marbled, i tensely flavored hunk of meat—unbelie ably tender in contrast to many rib steak which can be tough—that had been grill over a very hot flame that seared in its jui goodness. Domani provides no salt shake on its tables, and none was needed for th perfectly-seasoned extravaganza. Its garni of tangy-sweet (agrodolce) red onions a halves of small potatoes roasted with gar and rosemary would have enhanced t dish had they not been presented under t steak in slavish obeisance to the annoyi practice of layering that must be taught a required course in most contemporary cu nary schools.

Domani's braised rabbit ($20) combin a crispy skinned, succulent hindquart

Banana butterscotch Napoleon with roasted banana cake, butterscotch mousse and malted chocolate sauce



The dining room



Executive chef Rene Michelena (right) and chef de cuisine Dave Robingon

Bistecca Fiorentina, USDA prime [illegible] oz. rib eye, [illegible] marinated with sage and bay leaf, rosemary [illegible]tato confit [illegible]d red onion agrodolce

th an imaginative treatment of the loin, hich was encased in a wonton wrapping th moist spinach to avoid the dryness m which the white meat of a rabbit can ffer if not properly handled. Halves of all turnips, baby carrots and a rich red ne sauce studded with olives and golden sins made the dish a triumph. Roasted icken ($18) rivaled the rabbit in quality, skin a crisp golden brown, its flesh moist d juicy, with exotic lemongrass and nut-g conferring herbal notes that consti-ted a successful expression of culinary fu-n. Only the accompaniments—tough, rous broccoli rabe and a dry, bland, rice ke—disappointed.

Domani's baked black cod ($21) had od texture, but I was taken aback by e sweet miso flavor. With certain afood preparations—for example, eel lled in the Japanese style—such sweet-ss compliments and balances the rich-ss of the flesh. Here the cod lacked at robustness and balance. As with the bbit, the cod's garnish, a gold potato d sweet onion gratin that was limp in xture and gray in color, would have en better left off the plate.

Desserts ($6-$8), the handiwork of pas- chef Marla Redinger (who also bakes mani's breads), included a multi-tiered nana butterscotch Napoleon consisting a slice of moist, roasted banana cake, a sp, praline-type cookie, light mocha usse laced with liqueur, and tasty alted chocolate sauce. Its half-life on my ate was measured in seconds. The other ssert, a pistachio *millefoglie*, which the nu called "Italian baklava," had sweet, tty, coarse-grained pastry in place of the ual phyllo. Cardamom sauce contributed Asian accents, while a small scoop of apricot gelato cooled and refreshed.

Domani's wine list provided a good range of options, at remarkably reasonable prices, especially for downtown Boston. A glass of the primitivo-cabernet blend ($7) combined the full-bodied grapiness of the southern Italian primitivo with more structured cabernet. A bottle of 2003 Merum temprenillo proved a lighter, more fruity but still well-balanced wine at the almost unprecedented price—at least for the Back Bay—of $18.

Occasionally chef Michelena pushes the culinary envelope in a labored effort to be creative. For example, the brined cherry tomatoes did not enhance the otherwise marvelous Caesar salad and seemed to me a waste of this exquisite, sweet fruit. The heavy hand on the black pepper in the *tagliolini* almost swallowed that dish. The bitter orange sauce of the tortellini impinged on the felicitous combination of the luxuriously tender pasta and its imaginative pea and fava filling. The sweet miso flavor of the cod also missed the mark.

But these are minor quibbles far outweighed by Michelena's efforts, usually quite successful, to keep things fresh and interesting. And bottom line, he has created a remarkably chic, lively trattoria in the tony Back Bay, where first rate food can be enjoyed at eminently reasonable prices. Where else in that neighborhood can a couple share a first rate pizza, a bowl of designer pasta, and a bottle of decent wine and escape for less than $50 total, tax and tip included? Perhaps the competition will have a salutary effect on the neighborhood. iB

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WINE

Beaujolais Breakdown

BY SANDY BLOCK M.W.

Some of the best value and most charming red wine in the world is coming out of France's Beaujolais region. Alongside some of the dreariest. It's a real mixed bag, but if you choose carefully, you can find Beaujolais with flavors that are deliciously distinctive and incomparable to those found in wine from anywhere else. At its finest, this is the quintessential summertime red: loaded with grapey berry flavor, briskly refreshing, great with all kinds of food, including fish, and light in tannin. It's even chillable. So now's the time.

In Burgundy's southernmost district, French law permits only one grape variety in the production of red Beaujolais: Gamay. Made properly it tends to yield a highly scented, brightly fruity wine. Much of the region's wine is made in a "Nouveau" style, where grapes hanging on the vine in early October are processed in an unusual manner that allows the new wine to be bottled and sold before the end of November. At best Nouveau is a pleasant drink, but its popularity has apparently been waning in recent years. At one point it was so ubiquitous that over half of the region's production was done in this style. Beaujolais produced by more traditional methods tends generally to be more interesting and is always more substantial. The finest wines most often originate in one of 10 villages in the district's north, the so-called "Cru" of Beaujolais, each of whose names can appear on the label if the grapes producing them are harvested solely within the village boundaries.

Regardless of origin, Beaujolais is always a casual wine. There's no ceremony about it—pop the bottle and pour. The flavors should be vital and exuberant. Sales have remained robust in part because it's well known and widely available. In past decades the saying was that of the 15 million gallons of Beaujolais produced each vintage, the French somehow exported 20 million. But the great thing about top Beaujolais may well be the surprise element. Serve a bottle and people will be amazed when you tell them what they're drinking, because the quality is going to be about as far removed from one of the region's more common lackluster wines as possible. Following is my list of recent blind tasting winners, presented in ascending order of quality.

Chateau de la Chaize, Brouilly, 2003
Fresh and strawberry-like in aroma, with some herbal, vegetal accents, this estate-bottled wine is textbook Brouilly—fresh, flowery and berry-like in flavor. Brouilly is the largest of the 10 Cru in terms of production and probably the most variable in quality, but tends to be among the lighter and easier drinking of all. This wine is an old reliable. It's got nice bright almost sweet cherry fruit, tart acidity in abundance and a clean, lingering finish. A wine to drink within the next year, serve it a bit cool with salads or cheese. ($14)

Louis Jadot, Chateau de Bellevue, Morgon, 2002
Louis Jadot produced the most full bodied, earthiest, most Pinot Noir-like of the wines tasted. It features a strong scent of wild berries and gamey, mushroom-like aromas. Powerful and spicy, with relatively strong tannins, this wine would actually show its best with a little bit of aeration, served with roast chicken, turkey or veal. Made at a single estate in the village of Morgon, by the great Burgundy producer Louis Jadot, it exemplifies the more robust, meaty style of Beaujolais often encountered in the village of Morgon. It also has the potential for three to five years of aging. ($17)

Joseph Drouhin, Morgon, 2003
Quite a contrast to the preceding wine, this one is even more impressive: raspberry scented, floral and beautifully perfumed, with succulent, richly extracted red fruit flavors. Drouhin's wines are generally among the most elegant of Burgundy, but this Morgon is big, bold and sumptuous in texture. It has quite a long aftertaste as well. A wine of real intensity and versatility: grilled fish comes to mind first as an accompaniment, but spicy stews or burgers are another option. Serve it just cool to the touch. ($16)

Chateau de la Terriere, Brouilly, 2003
Definitely the class act of the field, it combines the fresh wild fruit elements of some of the other wines with a more complex, earthy, smoky range of aromas and flavors. The cherry flavors taste more roasted here, although there's plenty of balancing acidity. The lush silky texture also sets this estate-bottled wine apart. Rich and lingering, with nutlike, gamey, spicy accents, this Brouilly is an extremely adaptable wine that you can serve with red meats, chicken or seafood. It's a great solution to the restaurant question: What should I order when my guests are each having a different dish? ($18) IB

Master of Wine Sandy Block is vice president of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.

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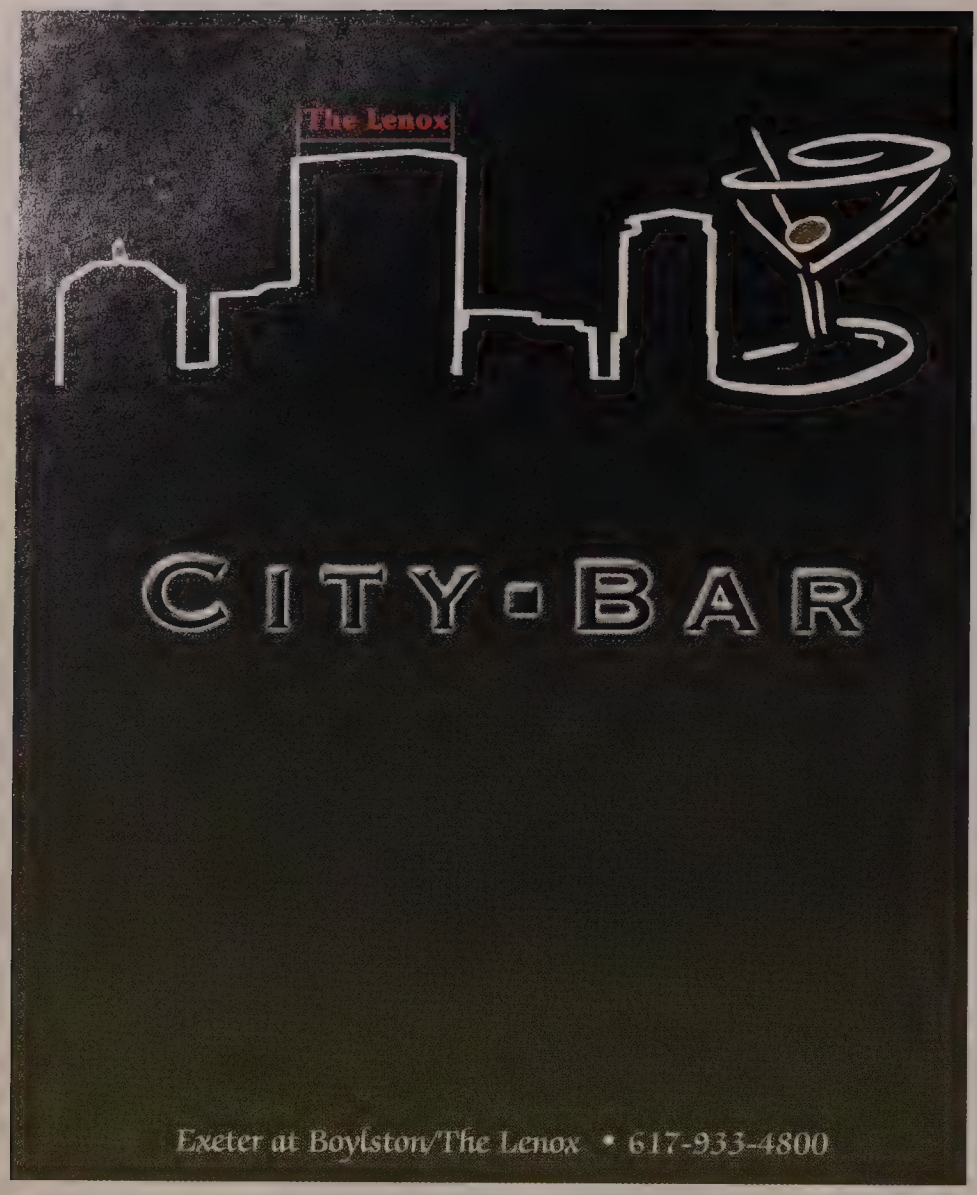
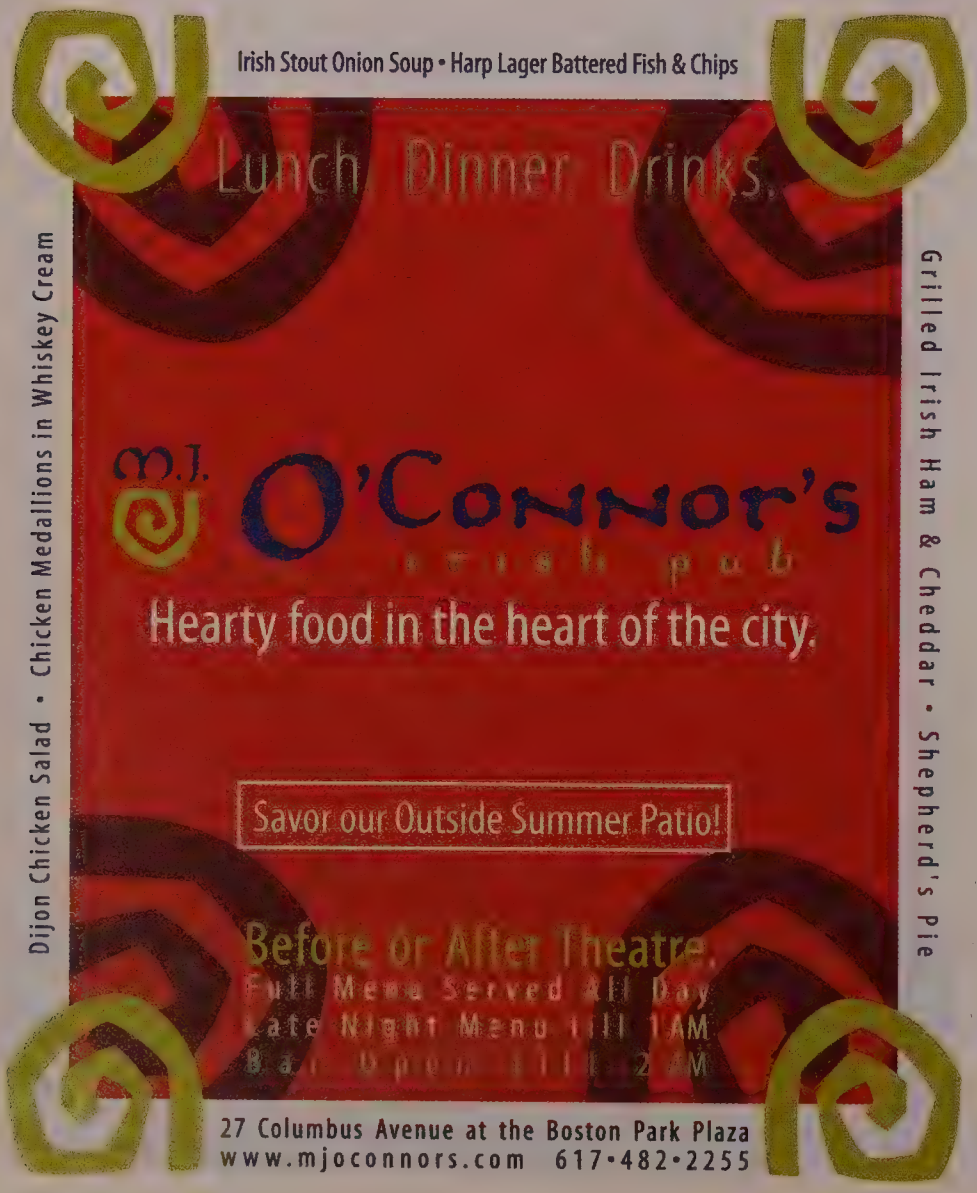




TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

All Star Break Baseball Dinner
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). www.redbones.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. July 11, 7 pm. $25. Watch the MLB Home Run Derby while enjoying a ballpark-themed dinner and trivia from Redbones baseball guru, **Pete Allen**.

Bauer Wine & Spirits Tastings
Bauer Wine & Spirits, 330 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363). www.bauerwines.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. June 30, 5-7 pm. Free. Brewer **David Keating** presents a collection of some of his favorite beers.

Berry Fest
Not Your Average Joe's, 645 Mass. Ave., Arlington (617-643-1666). www.notyouraveragejoes.com. Through July 13. 11:30 am-11 pm. Prices vary. Not Your Averages Joe's hosts its first annual Summer Berry Fest, featuring a collection of local grown strawberries, raspberries, blueberries and cranberries in creative dishes and beverages.

Blueberries for Breakfast
Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). www.verrillfarm.com. July 16. 9 am-12 pm. $6. Verrill Farms hosts a blueberry-themed breakfast featuring blueberry pancakes, a blueberry pie eating contest, hay rides and live music.

Chowderfest
City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-523-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. July 3. 12 pm. $5-$7. This 24th annual event pits some of Boston's best restaurants against each other in a competition to see who's soup is named this year's "Boston's Best Chowder."

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) plus complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •June 29: Chardonnay: France vs. California. •July 6: Red Wine with Fish.

Martini Mondays
Ariadne, 355 Walnut St., Newton (617-332-4653). www.ariadnerestaurant.com. Mondays. 5-10 pm. $5 each cocktail. Every Monday night, Ariadne Restaurant & Bar offers specialty drinks (for $5 each) like the Sweet Tart (mandarin vodka, Chambord and fresh lemon juice) or the MoJo (citron vodka, triple sec, cranberry juice, lime juice and champagne).

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambri (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBT Red Line to Porter Square. Thursdays and Frid 6 and 8:30 pm. $35. Chef de Cuisine **Ma Usewicz** prepares a tasting menu of classic I ian small plates for guests at the restaura Oysteria Bar. Reservations required.

Sake Dinner
Kawa, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline (617-3 6578). MBTA: C Green Line to St. Paul. June 5:30-10:30 pm. $85. Kawa hosts its monthly s event featuring a four-course dinner paired w four different types of sake.

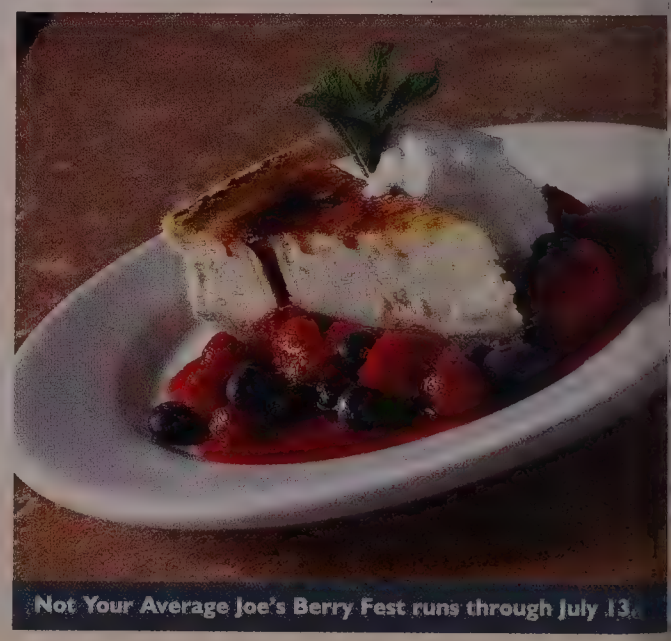
Second Saturdays at Grill 23 & Ba
Grill 23 & Bar, 161 Berkeley St., Boston (6 542-2255). www.grill23.com. MBTA: Gr Line to Copley. Second Saturday of each mon 12-2 pm. $55. Executive chef **Jay Murray** a wine director **Alex deWinter** lead montl cooking and tasting demonstrations. July Spice is the Spice of Life.

Spring Cooking Classes at the Langham Hotel
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-4 1900, ext. 7092). MBTA: Orange Line to Sta 5:30 pm. $100. Chefs **Daniel Kenney, Ma Sapienza** and **John Quinn** present a cooki class followed by a three-course meal paired w wines. •June 29: July the Celebration.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red L to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommel **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, a chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuv and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •July Reds, Whites and Bleu. •July 12: Washingt State.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-26 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Li to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Er Johnson** presents matching wines to compl ment a four-course French–New England me by chef **Frank McClelland**. •July 11: Fren ABCs: Alsace, Burgundy, Bordeaux a Champagne.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-72 1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Li to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardn** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sor melier **Erik Johnson**. •June 29: Alsace. •July SDLT Clam Bake.


Not Your Average Joe's Berry Fest runs through July 13.

ISH

Make room for Phatty

ed meat for Red Sox…

CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Answer: My, what a big butt you have. Question: How does Phatt Ass Ale "compliment all our appetizers" at the new restaurant called **Phatt Boys**? And just who are these Phatt guys whose menu features the shamelessly named "Phatt Ass Sampler" and "Phatt, Hunk, and Dirty Club Steak?"

One owner is **Fred Rash**, a former senior vice president and COO at **Brew Moon Enterprises**, whose restaurant was located in the very same spot on Church Street now occupied out by Phatt Boys. The other owner is **Scott Hartford**, who worked as general manager at the Harvard Square Brew Moon back before it was bought by **Rock Bottom Brewery** and re-opened as Rock Bottom for a brief and unsuccessful run. What makes the partners optimistic that they can succeed in a place that's been vacant for two years?

"I don't think it's about the location," says Hartford. "As we know, the Square is a little finicky" about "outside chains," such as the Midwest-based Rock Bottom. In contrast, Hartford is a hands-on kind of guy. At his place, "the two guys who own it run it," he says. "I'm pulling beers behind the bar right now."

The second Phatt Boys (Hartford and Rash opened the first Phatt Boys in Boughton almost two years ago) boasts customized decor that includes theatrical lights to warm the atrium space, plasma televisions and "the only pool table in Harvard Square," says Hartford. As for the food, the partners promote a Brew-Moon-influenced menu that's executed by chef **Josh Cook**, who formerly worked at **Legal Sea Foods** and most recently ran a catering service on Nantucket. Three kinds of ribs—Kansas City, Asian, and baby-back—are smoked in-house and sauces are made from scratch. There are the usual burgers and salads, and the unusual choice of 25 wines by the bottle and by the glass. It's all "good stuff, everything's fresh," says Hartford, who expects Phatt Boys to fill the need for a quality, casual, mid-priced eatery in the Square.

Scott Hartford (left) and Fred Rush of Phatt Boys

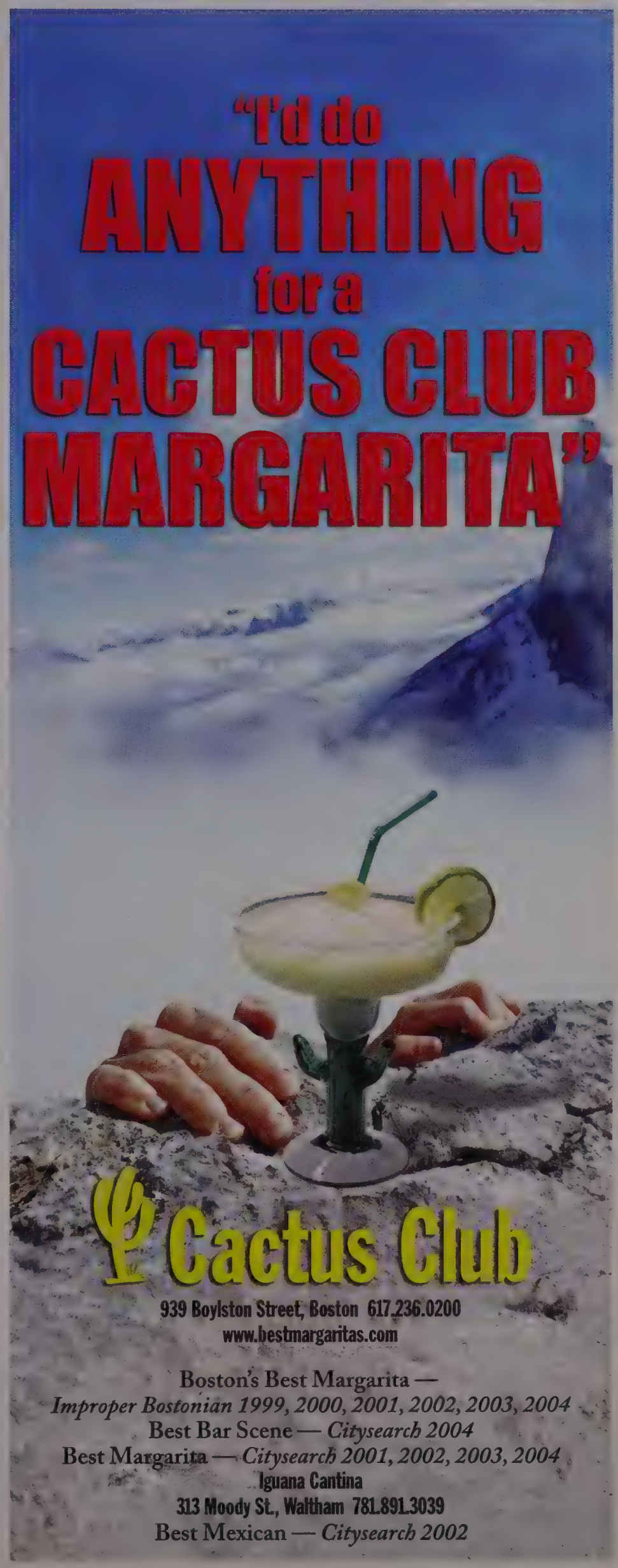
SECOND COURSE

Right over the plate: Legally, its name is still **Morton's of Chicago**, but the steakhouse we all call Morton's in Boston is also the Official Steakhouse of The Boston Red Sox. "We're not the Official Steakhouse of the White Sox," says Morton's general manager **Scott Crain**. And to prove its good intentions, Morton's is hosting a monthly event that hits all the bases: fine wine, a good time, money raised for a good cause, plus a possible pair of tickets for you to attend a Red Sox/Yankees game. Here's the deal: from May through September (OK, October, too), attend a wine tasting ("upper end wines," says Crain) complete with hot and cold hors d'ouevres such as filet mignon sandwiches. Your $50 ticket will benefit The Red Sox Foundation and enter your name in the drawing for Fenway Park tickets. But wait, there's more: because ticket sales are limited, your odds of winning are actually realistic (50:1). And the prize includes dinner at Morton's on game day, complimentary valet parking, a pair of Morton's baseball caps and heaven knows what else. Just don't expect Crain to share your fraternal frenzied fandom. "I'm a recovering Atlanta Braves fan," he says. "But if it brings people into my restaurant, I'll name my next child Yaz… or my puppy."

Happy Birthday, **Icarus**! To celebrate 27 years in the business, owner **Chris Douglass** is featuring a special prix fixe $27 for the entire month of July. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com



PATIO AND OPEN AIR DINING

BUFFALO GRILL
[illegible]

Bring Your: Friends
Fun Summer Drink: Cold Draft Beer
Style File: Casually cool
Celebrity Sightings: Ron Wood, Brian Dennehy, Bronson Arroyo
The Best Place to: Relax

CACTUS CLUB
[illegible]

Bring Your: Friends & appetite, not your day planner
Fun Summer Drink: The Mojito Margarita
Style File: Bare what you dare
Celebrity Sightings: Bronson Arroyo, Theo Epstein, Mike Timlin, Cal Ripken Jr.,
The Best Place to: Lick, shoot & suck

CAFE POSCA
16 North Street Hingham, 781-749-9400

Bring Your: Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Blood Orange Mimosa
Style File: Casual dining for friends and family
Celebrity Sightings: Joey Kramer
The Best Place to: Dine outside on the South Shore

CHART HOUSE
[illegible]

Bring Your: Appetite and sunglasses
Fun Summer Drink: Green Envy Martini
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Bill Clinton, John Ashcroft, Steven Spielberg, Tom Hanks
The Best Place to: See John Hancock's ghost

CUVEE
264 Newbury Street Boston, 617-[illegible]

Bring Your: Palate and taste buds
Fun Summer Drink: Pinots on the patio
Style File: Casually stylish
Celebrity Sightings: Celebrity sport figures
The Best Place to: Share fine food and wine

DAVIO'S NORTHERN ITALIAN STEAKHOUSE
[illegible] Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 617-661-4810

Bring Your: Sun block and sensual appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Key Lime Martini
Style File: Casual attire for an elegant experience
Celebrity Sightings: The Pretenders, Howard Dean, Christie Brinkley, Lyndon Byers, BareNaked Ladies, US Secret Service, Carter Alan, Dave Brubeck, General Wesley Clark, Alan Alda
The Best Place to: Enjoy "The Total Package," fantastic view, great food and drink, good friends and warm summer breezes

DICK'S LAST RESORT
[illegible] Huntington Avenue, Boston, 617-[illegible]

Bring Your: Friends down to enjoy $1.99 Happy Hour menu Monday through Friday, 3:30-6:30 p.m.
Fun Summer Drink: Hurricane
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Jerry Springer
The Best Place to: Hang out on a large patio and watch people

DOMANI
[illegible] Huntington Avenue, Boston, 617-[illegible]

Bring Your: Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Tarragon Gimlet
Style File: Chic & trendy to jeans and a t-shirt
Celebrity Sightings: If you're known, we've seen you
Best place to: Feel like you are on a Roman holiday

EASTERN STANDARD
[illegible] Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, 617-[illegible]

Bring Your: Friends, family and loved ones
Fun Summer Drink: Whiskey Smash
Style File: Classic brasserie with a vintage flair
Celebrity Sightings: Heads of States, and sports figures
The Best Place to: Get great food and drinks while experiencing a high energy, urban feel

EXCELSIOR
272 Boylston Street Boston, 617-426-7878

Bring Your: Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Madame X
Style File: Chic
Celebrity Sightings: Mark Wahlberg, Christina Aguilera
The Best Place to: FLIRT!

FIREPLACE
1634 Beacon Street Brookline, 617-[illegible]

Bring Your: Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Strawberry Mint Martini
Style File: Smart Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Michelle Branch, Kevin Nealon, Ellis Burk Liz Walker, Bernie and Phyllis Rubin
The Best Place to: Enjoy yourself

FLASH'S
[illegible] Stuart Street Boston, 617-574-8888

Bring Your: Singles for the jukebox
Fun Summer Drink: Lap Dance
Style File: Fun, funky and laid back
Celebrity Sightings: Manny Ramirez
The Best Place to: Hang with the industry types

FLORENTINE CAFE
[illegible] Hanover Street Boston, 617-227-[illegible]

Bring Your: Smiles and come have a party or just some lunch
Fun Summer Drink: Watermelon Martini
Celebrity Sightings: Frank Sinatra
The Best Place to: Go in the North End

GAME ON!
[illegible] Lansdowne Street, Boston, 617-[illegible]

Bring Your: Foam Finger
Fun Summer Drink: Apple Bay Breeze
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Johnny Damon, Keith Foulke
The Best Place to: Watch any game that's on

GREEN BRIAR
304 Washington Street Boston, 617-[illegible]

Bring Your: Shorts
Fun Summer Drink: The Craic
Style File: Shorts and tees
Celebrity Sightings: Jason Varitek
The Best Place to: Join in an Irish seisun

HARVEST
44 Brattle Street Cambridge, 617-[illegible]

Bring Your: anything pink, it's the new black
Fun Summer Drink: Gin Blossom
Style File: Jasmine Sola. Done.
Celebrity Sightings: Bill Clinton, Yo Yo Ma, John Malkovich, Chris Cooper
The Best Place to: have a Bridal Shower

HENRIETTA'S TABLE
1 Bennett Street Cambridge, 617-[illegible]

Bring Your: Friends and Family
Fun Summer Drink: Berry Sangria
Style File: Casual and chic
Celebrity Sightings: Dan Aykroyd, Mitt Romney, Glenn Close
The Best Place to: Eat, drink and relax

KINVARA
[illegible] Harvard Avenue, Allston, 617-[illegible]

Bring Your: Bikinis
Fun Summer Drink: The Craic
Style File: Sandals and sunglasses
Celebrity Sightings: Future Apprentice
The Best Place to: Catch international soccer and GAA games

PATIO AND OPEN AIR DINING

LANDING
[illegible] Wharf, Boston, 617-227-4021
Bring Your: Shades
Fun Summer Drink: The Landing's signature fish bowl cocktails in Ocean Potion and Red Tide
Style File: Anything goes
Celebrity Sightings: Ben Wrightman's favorite players
The Best Place to: Sea and be seen

[illegible] SEAFOODS
[illegible] State Street, Boston, 617-742-8300
[illegible] Cambridge Street, Cambridge, 617-864-3400
[illegible] 20 University Road, Cambridge, 617-491-9400
Bring Your: "First Mate"
Fun Summer Drink: Frozen Mango-Peach Passion
Style File: Nautical
Celebrity Sightings: Lenny Clarke
Best Place to: "Eat Fish"

[illegible]
[illegible] Hancock Street, Boston, 617-247-8099
Bring Your: Appetite for soul food
Fun Summer Drink: Watermelon Margarita
Style File: Fenway funky
Celebrity Sightings: Red Sox
Best Place to: Catch the game on the big screens

[illegible] CONNOR'S
[illegible] Avenue, Boston, 617-482-2262
Bring Your: Smile and appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Emerald Isle
Style File: Smart and casual
Celebrity Sightings: Kevin Millar
Best Place to: Enjoy the Craic

[illegible] VINE'S
[illegible] Boston, 617-248-8800
Bring Your: Smiles
Fun Summer Drink: The Monkey Juice
Style File: Casual elegant
Celebrity Sightings: Bruins and Red Sox
Best Place to: Dance and enjoy live bands

[illegible] CAFE
[illegible] Street, Boston, 617-247-4777
Bring Your: Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Zinger
Style File: Cool & Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Stevie Nicks
Best Place to: Try the best chefs in Boston without seeing them

[illegible] SNAKE
[illegible] Street, Boston, 617-859-3585
Bring Your: Desire for fun
Fun Summer Drink: Margaritas
Style File: Casual, but sexy
Celebrity Sightings: Rod Stewart
Best Place to: Fall in love

[illegible]
[illegible] Street, Boston, 617-933-4803
Bring Your: Thirst
Fun Summer Drink: The Craic
Style File: Everything
Celebrity Sightings: Red Sox and Angels
Best Place to: Have a good beer and chat

[illegible]
[illegible] Street, Boston, 617-351-2500
Bring Your: Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Mango Mojito
Style File: Cool and stylish
Celebrity Sighting: George Clooney, Tom Brady, Steven Tyler
Best Place to: Be

SUMMER STREET GRILLE
[illegible] Summer Street, Boston, 617-[illegible]
Bring Your: Best friend
Fun Summer Drink: Mango Orange Sunkiss
Style File: Lots of healthy choices with lots of flavor
Celebrity Sightings: The best in shape
The Best Place to: Park for free, have a drink and a burger or salad

SUNSET CANTINA
916 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, 617-731-8646
Bring Your: New Summer Fling
Fun Summer Drink: Horny Margarita
Style File: Relaxed, hip casual
Celebrity Sightings: Johnny Damon
The Best Place to: Drink margaritas and eat cool appetizers

SWEETWATER CAFE
[illegible] Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-2515
Bring Your: Flip-flops and Saturday night shirt
Fun Summer Drink: Fresh Squeezed Margaritas and fresh Mojitos
Style File: Straight from work or straight from the beach and everything in between
Celebrity Sightings: None; a regular place for regular people
The Best Place to: Pre-game, people watch, get late night eats, catch a reggae band on the patio Thursday after work and never pay a cover!

TEQUILA RAIN
[illegible] Lansdowne Street, Boston, 617-[illegible]
Bring Your: Party attitude
Fun Summer Drink: Frozen piña colada served in a yardstick
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Godsmack, Red Sox, Ben Affleck
The Best Place to: Re-live spring break

TIA'S
200 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, [illegible]
Bring Your: Personality and best look
Fun Summer Drink: Tia's Flirtini
Style File: Shabby Chic
Celebrity Sightings: Patriots and Red Sox
The Best Place to: Eat Lobsters, steamers and clams

TIKI ROOM
[illegible] Lansdowne Street, Boston, 617-351-2580
Bring Your: Friends to share pu-pu platters with
Fun Summer Drink: 60-ounce Green Monster Bowl
Style File: Lei'd back
Celebrity Sightings: Oliver Stone, Gabe Kapler
The Best Place to: Catch a tropical vibe

WATERWORKS
[illegible] Harbor Road, Marina Bay, [illegible]
Bring Your: Sunglasses and dancing shoes
Fun Summer Drink: Bikinitini
Style File: Tropical outdoor fun
Celebrity Sightings: Professional athletes, Playboy Playmates
The Best Place to: Dance, smoke, hang out by the water and meet a professional athlete

VOX POPULI
[illegible] Street, Boston, [illegible]
Bring Your: Future Ex
Fun Summer Drink: 50 Carat with a diamond sugar stick
Style File: Short skirts and striped shirts
Celebrity Sightings: We'll never tell
The Best Place to: Get your Vox off

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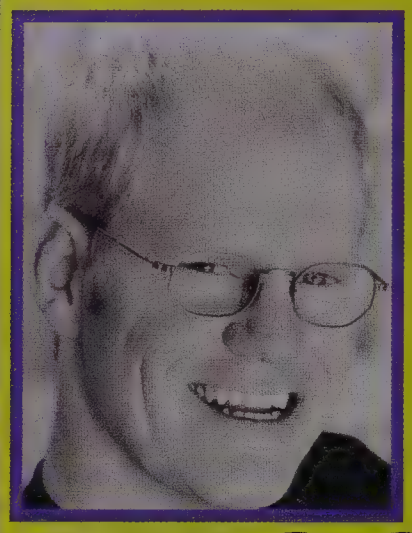


JULY 1-2

From FOX-TV's "That 70s Show," NBC's "Ed" and the movie "13 Going on 30"

JIM GAFFIGAN

JULY 8-9

From NBC's "Law & Order," ABC's "The Job" and Comedy Central

ADAM FERRARA

"The Lovemaster" Returns!

JULY 16TH

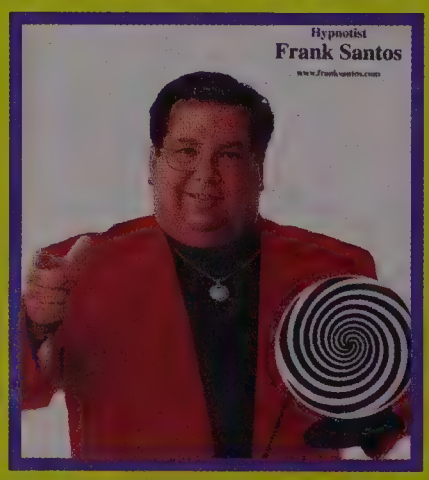
Star of the half-hour special "Comedy Central Presents... Craig Shoemaker"

CRAIG SHOEMAKER

EVERY THURSDAY!

"The R-Rated Hypnotist"

FRANK SANTOS



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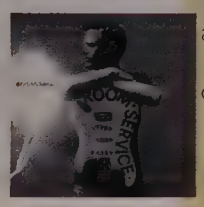
IMPROPER PICKS

june 29 - july 12

HOT TIPS FROM CALENDAR GURUS LESLIE AND RICH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			29	30	1	2
				Kawa, in Brookline's Fugakyu, hosts its four course monthly sake dinner. *See Tastings on page 42.*	Comedian **Jim Gaffigan** performs for the first of two nights at the Comedy Connection. *See Comedy on page 52.*	**Speed, Style, and Beauty: Cars from the Ralph Lauren Collection** is in its final weekend at the MFA. *See Museums & Galleries on page 69.*
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
The 24th annual **Chowderfest** gets under way at City Hall Plaza. *See Tastings on page 42.*	Boston's annual **Fourth of July** celebration features a performance by the Boston Pops. *See CityScope on page 49.*		**Bryan Adams** is at the downtown Borders to sign copies of his new CD and book. *See Books & Poetry on page 71.*		**To Kill a Mockingbird** shows at the Boston Harbor Hotel as part of the Movies by Moonlight series. *See Movies on page 55.*	Rockers **Superhoney** and **the Evolved** play a show at Harpers Ferry. See Music on page 58.
10	11	12				
Mystery of the Nile is showing at the Museum of Science's Mugar Omni Theatre. *See Movies on page 56.*		**Puppetry of the Penis** premieres at the Lyric Stage on Clarendon Street. *See Performing Arts on page 51.*				

FRI.-SUN./JULY 8-10

Music: Get Out and Listen Up

If you're one of the many Bostonians who vows to take the drive out to Lenox each summer to catch a concert at Tanglewood but never has, make this your year. The opening weekend performances are always the ones to see: It's where the classical music heads go to see and be seen. This year, opening weekend's lineup features James Levine conducting the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus in Mahler's Symphony No. 8 on Friday night; Kurt Masur conducting works by Mendelssohn and Bruckner on Saturday night; and pianist Emanuel Ax joining Masur and the BSO on Sunday afternoon in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3. But even if these three performances mean absolutely nothing to you, just think green grass, tall trees, beautiful music and a little bubbly—the perfect place to relax away from the city. *Tanglewood, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. $18-$79. —LPK*

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CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn **Books & Poetry, Movies**
Leslie P. Kilgore **Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music**
Rich Levine **CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts**

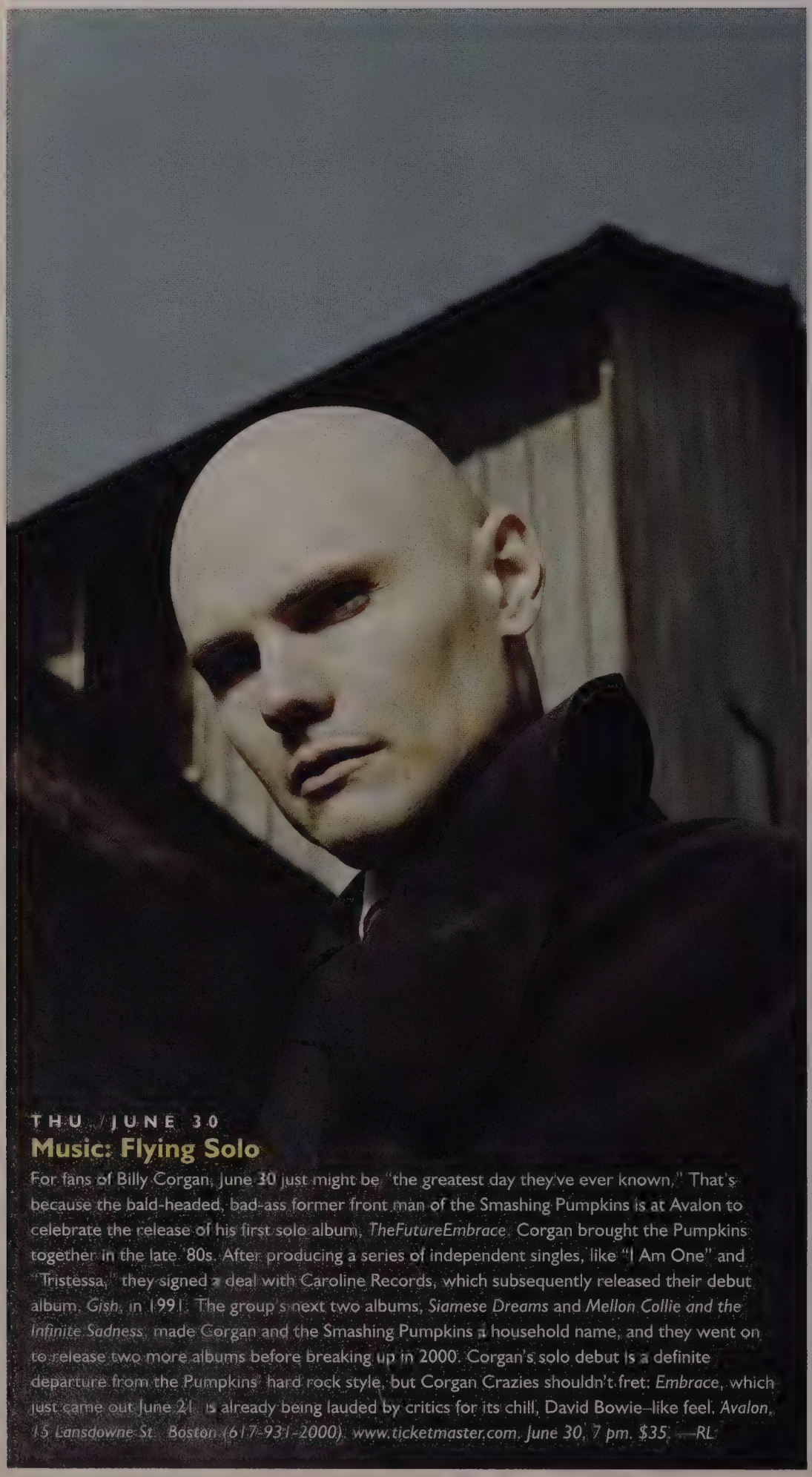
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer **Sports**
Laurel Kirtz **Body & Mind**
Paul Sherman **Movie Capsules**

STU ROSEN

SAT./JULY 2

Art: Something Old, Something New

Jerry Beck, the Institute of Contemporary Art's artist in residence, has been busy in the Charlestown Navy Yard. His new exhibit there, called *The Secret Ark of Icon Park*, is a giant sculpture (64 feet tall) made up of maritime artifacts, recycled materials and artwork by local high school students. Displayed among the Navy Yard's historical ships, the installation ties in contemporary and historic objects that include crew mate bunks, oars, a helm, sails and captain's quarters. The massive artwork is meant to be a commentary on current United States military conflicts and the depiction of violence in American pop culture. While the exhibition runs through October, there's an added bonus if you attend on opening day, July 2: Boston composer Evren Celimli leads a horn quartet for the premiere of his composition *The Secret Ark*, which he composed for the exhibit. *Charlestown Navy Yard, 55 Constitution Road, Charlestown (617-242-5601). www.ica.org. July 2, 2-4 pm. Free. —LPK*



THU./JUNE 30

Music: Flying Solo

For fans of Billy Corgan, June 30 just might be "the greatest day they've ever known." That's because the bald-headed, bad-ass former front man of the Smashing Pumpkins is at Avalon to celebrate the release of his first solo album, *TheFutureEmbrace*. Corgan brought the Pumpkins together in the late '80s. After producing a series of independent singles, like "I Am One" and "Tristessa," they signed a deal with Caroline Records, which subsequently released their debut album, *Gish*, in 1991. The group's next two albums, *Siamese Dreams* and *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness*, made Corgan and the Smashing Pumpkins a household name, and they went on to release two more albums before breaking up in 2000. Corgan's solo debut is a definite departure from the Pumpkins' hard rock style, but Corgan Crazies shouldn't fret: *Embrace*, which just came out June 21, is already being lauded by critics for its chill, David Bowie–like feel. *Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com. June 30, 7 pm. $35. —RL*

TUE. AND WED./JULY 12–AUG. 17

Movies: Films That Rock

It ain't easy to find a great movie with an equally great soundtrack. The folks at the Brattle Theatre feel your pain. Their Summer Rocks series will fill the void left by lackluster movies and their subpar soundtracks. Throughout July and August, you can see films that have you rocking in your seat: *A Hard Day's Night, Repo Man, The Breakfast Club, Almost Famous* and *Dazed and Confused* are some of the movies that screen as part of the Tuesday and Wednesday night series. The fest kicks off on a retro note July 12 and 13 with screenings of *Blackboard Jungle* and *Rock Around the Clock*. Who knows, maybe it's time to bring back hoop skirts, monogrammed sweaters and saddle shoes too? *40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837). July 12–Aug. 17. $9; $7.50, students; $6, seniors and children under 10. —LPK*

MON./JULY 11

Tastings: Redbones in Relief

Once Opening Day comes around, Red Sox Nation breathes a sigh of relief, knowing that for the next six months they won't have to endure more than on night a week without their beloved BoSox. Except, of course, for the All-Star break, which brings the lights down at Fenway for three straight days (July 11- This season, Redbones BBQ helps fans fill the void with an All-Star Break Din on July 11. Starting at 7 pm, the barbecue offers a selection of ballpark fare like hot dogs, cheese steak subs, sausages with peppers and onions, french fries and beer, which you can enjoy while watching MLB's Homerun Derby, live from Detroit. Also in the lineup for the night is Pete Allen, Redbones delivery guy a resident baseball expert, who will run a trivia contest testing knowledge of All-Star games past and present, with prizes awarded to the biggest baseball nerds (sorry, we mean fans). Manny, Papi, Damon and the boys might be gone for a little, but it doesn't have to feel like it. *Redbones BBQ, 55 Chester St., Somervill (617-628-2200). www.redbonesbbq.com. July 11, 7 pm. $25. —RL*

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ce to Contributors

updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities nts by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: ope. Or e-mail information to cityscope @im- .com. Include address, phone number, ticket dates and times and a brief description of the Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. List- nnot be accepted over the phone.

nefits

ONESDAY, JUNE 29

Department of Peace and y Tingle

Tingle's Off Broadway, 255 Elm St., Somerville 591-1616). www.jimmytingle.com. MBTA: ne to Davis. 7:30 pm. $20-$25. This dinner- heatre evening event features comedy and by Jimmy Tingle and benefits the creation of a Department of Peace, in association with sev- itionwide peace groups.

URSDAY, JUNE 30

elebration of Our Independence

mes Restaurant, 112 Broad St., Boston (617-357- MBTA: Orange Line to State Street. 8 pm. $10 um donation. In honor of the fourth of July this raises money for the Freedom Alliance, which ts wounded soldiers with expenses and the chil- f fallen soldiers with a scholarship fund. There o giveaways, free food and live music.

URDAY, JULY 2

Sox Wives' Can & Cash Drive

y Park, Yawkey Way, Boston (617-427-5200). gbfb.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. gh July 3. Sat., 5-8 pm; Sun., 12-3 pm. Bring erishable canned food or cash donation to y Park in exchange for an autographed photo player of your choice. Procceds benefit the er Boston Food Bank.

stivals & Parties

ONESDAY, JUNE 29

cheon on the Harbor

s from Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-654-9700). A: Blue Line to Aquarium. 12-2 pm. $35-$45. uncheon cruise aboard the Odyssey cruise ship s through the harbor as part of Boston's rfest 2005. Reservations required.

FRIDAY, JULY 1

Chowderfest

City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-635-4500). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 11 am- 6 pm. $5-$7. Come taste a variety of New England clam chowder from Boston chefs competing for the title "Boston's Best Chowder."

SATURDAY, JULY 2

Ben Franklin's Boston: Seedbed of Rebellion Walking Tour

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.11 am. $15-$20. The Old South Meeting House hosts historical walking tours by costumed 18th century interpreters through colonial neighbor hoods surrounding the Freedom Trail.

SUNDAY, JULY 3

Abigal Adams: Eyewitness to the American Revolution Walking Tour

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Orange and Blue Line to State. 11 am. $15-$20. Actress and historian Linda Myer assumes the role of Mrs. Adams and leads the tour through Faneuil Hall, reliving some of the events of the American Revolution.

MONDAY, JULY 4

Cape Verdean Festival

North Stage, City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-442-6644). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Free. The 17th annual festival includes various foods, music, martial arts and more. As part of Boston's Harborfest the festival is a celebration in honor of and remembering Boston's history.

Declaration of Independence

Old State House, 206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 10 am. Free. The Declaration of Independence is read by William J. O'Brien, Captain Commanding of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, from the balcony of the Old State House.

Fourth of July on the Esplanade

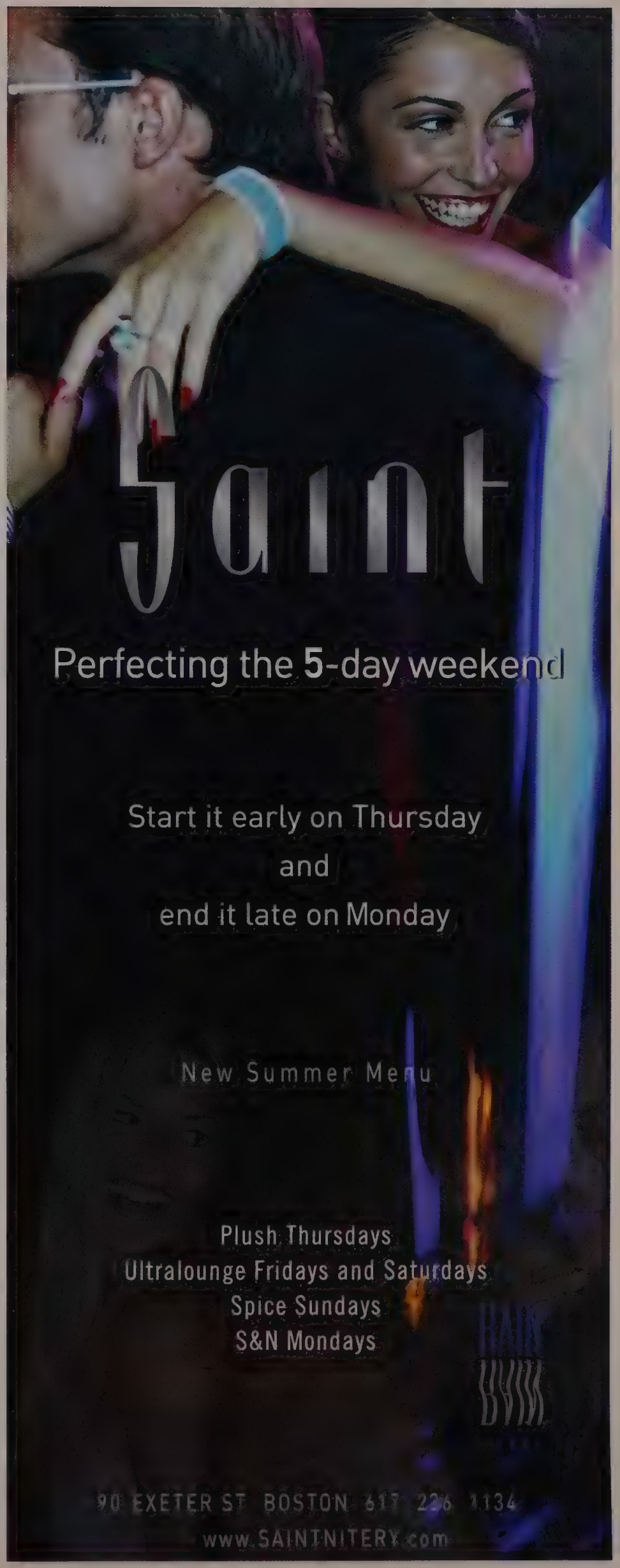
Esplanade, Boston (888-484-7677). www.july4th.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 8-10:30 pm. Free. People crowd the Boston side of the Esplanade all day long, but come by at night to hear Keith Lockhart conduct the Boston Pops Orchestra. A fireworks spectacular immediately follows.

THURSDAY, JULY 7

Bostonians on the Brink of Rebellion: A Freedom Trail Walking Tour

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 3 pm. $15, $8.50 children. This 90-minute walking tour covers one mile on Boston's Freedom

rworks display over the harbor is an annual attraction at Boston's July 4th celebration



Trail. The tour's led by historian Gary Gregory, dressed in full colonial attire, who discusses, among other events, the Boston Massacre, the Boston Tea Party and the battles of Lexington and Concord.

SUNDAY, JULY 10

Haitian Festival

Franklin Park Zoo, 1 Franklin Road, Dorchester (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.com. This festival offers a day of Haitian culture, food, music and more.

TUESDAY, JULY 12

Harbor Walk Tours

Moakley Federal Courthouse, Fan Pier, South Boston (617-482-1722). www.tbha.org. MBTA: Silver Line Bus to Moakley. 5:30 pm. The Boston Harbor Association, with support from the Boston Public Health Commission, leads a walk from the Moakley Federal Courthouse to the Aquarium along the harbor. Call for reservations.

The Boston Harborfest runs from June 29-July 1.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

8 Minute Dating

Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 33-43.

Hurry Date

Charley's Eating and Drinking Saloon, 284 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3000). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. W ages 30-40. Men: ages 35-45.

THURSDAY, JUNE

Singles Table Hop Martini Tasting

Vinalia, 101 Arch St., B (617-737-1777). www.boste com. MBTA: Red or Orang to Downtown Crossing. 7- Registration begins at 6:3 $60-$65. At this singles e participants can taste up martinis and meet nine people of the opposite sex. hors d'oeuvres are served a recipes for Vinalia's martin available.

MONDAY, JULY 4

Fourth of July Cruise

Boarding from the Seaport H Seaport Lane, Boston (61 1400). www.bostonypa.com. 11:30 pm. Boarding starts a $115-$125. Mingle with a cr young professionals during a harbor cruise aboa Spirit of Boston complete with gourmet buffet two drink tickets, DJ and dancing.

MONDAY, JULY 11

Couples: Mid-Summer's Night W Tasting

Navy Yard Bistro and Wine Bar, 1 First Charlestown (617-242-0036). www.bostonyp 7-9 pm. $25-$30. This sit down cocktail rec offers a selection of three wines accompani three appetizers.

TUESDAY, JULY12

8 Minute Dating

Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, (617-227-7800). www.8minutedating.com. 6: $35. Sample appetizers during eight dif eight-minute dates. Then mingle and me people you didn't get the chance to share with. For ages 28-38.

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erforming rts

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it listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Cal-: Performing Arts, or e-mail to performing@ per.com. Include address, phone number, sub-top, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief de-on of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to ation. Listings cannot be accepted over the

ckets

Tickets
*MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetick-*m. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

tix
723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths lo-at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and outh). Same-day tickets at half price.

t Ticketing
423-NEXT). www.nexttticketing.com.

of Town Tickets
247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tick-sold-out shows.

et City of Boston
787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets d-out shows.

etmaster
931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

heater and Opera

T OPENED

adia
Publick Theatre, 1400 Soldiers Field Road, ton (617-782-5425). www.publicktheatre.com. 30-July 21, Wed.-Thu. and Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri. Sat., 8 pm. Aug. 3-Sept. 10, first and third s of the month. $30. Set in the English coun-le, Tom Stoppard's play addresses a range of s including history, science, philosophy and Diego Arciniegas directs.

derella
n Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Bev-978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. July 12-31, July 12, Wed. July 13,Thu. July 14, and Fri., ; Tue. July 19 and 26, Wed. July 20 and 27, July 21 and 28, 7:30 pm; Sat. July 16, 23 and 2 and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $26.25-$68. Greg kas directs Rodger and Hammerstein's musi-ased on the classic fairy tale.

ner With Friends
cester Stage, 267 East Main St., Gloucester 281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. June 30-17, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $15-$30. Donald Margulies' play tells the story of two couples facing the ups and downs of marriage as they enter middle age. Scott Edmiston directs.

Double Plays
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. July 1-2, 8 pm. $10. Three plays are perfomed twice with different casts and directors.

Pippin
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newton. July 8-Aug. 14, Thu.-Sat. 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $24. A young prince sets out to find his calling in life in this play by Stephen Schwartz. James Tallach directs.

Puppetry of the Penis
Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.ticketmaster.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. July 12-Aug. 14. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 7 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $35-$38. This show features two naked penis puppeteers performing the ancient Australian art of genital origami.

NOW RUNNING

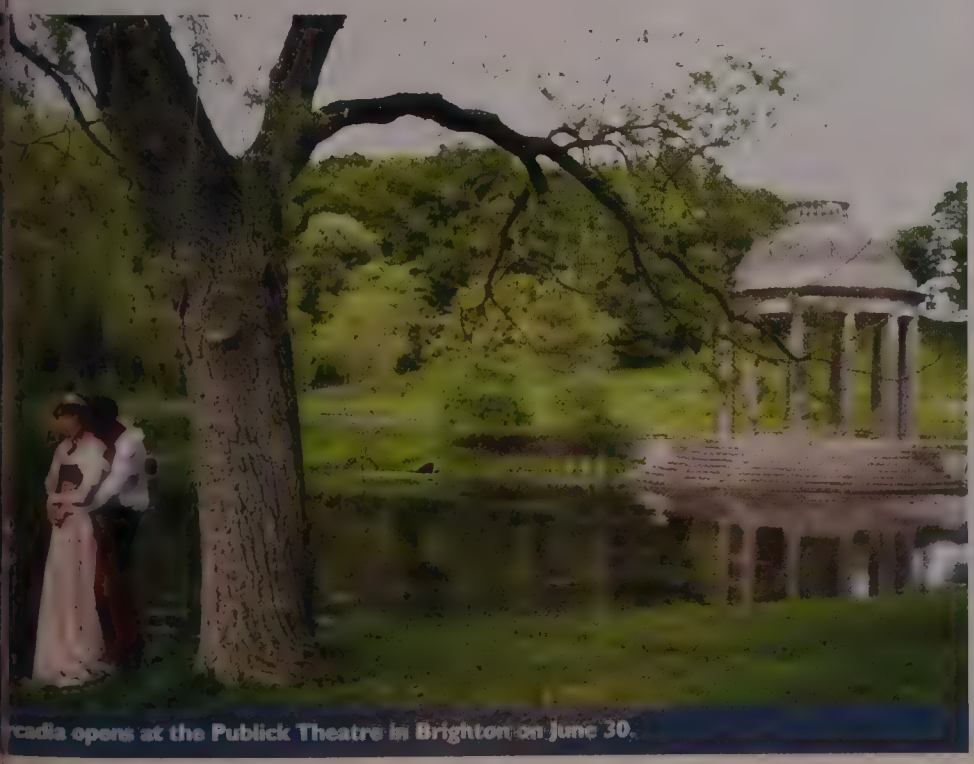
Amerika or The Disappearance
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through July 10, Tue.-Thu. and Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. $36-$72. Playwright Gideon Lester adapts Franz Kafka's novel of a young European man's comedic experiences in New York City. Dominique Serrand directs.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Deathwatch
Devanaughn Theatre, 791 Tremont St., Boston (617-499-1908). www.willactforfood.com. MBTA: Red Line to Mass. Ave. Through July 2, Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; June 19, 3 pm. $15; *$1 off with non-perishable food donation.* Two convicts on death row try to impress a third and discover the true value of respect in this play written by Jean Genet. Lisa Hackman directs.

Frogz
Zero Arrow Theatre, Intersection of Arrow St. and Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org/venues/zarrow. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through July 10, Tue.-Thu. and Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. $40-$50. A new comedy from Carol Triffle and Jerry Mouawad, this revue includes penguins, musical chairs, a cat trapped in a giant paper bag and frogs.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers with nothing in



cadia opens at the Publick Theatre in Brighton on June 30.

common but memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This comedic whodunit set in a crazy unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Take Me Out
Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www. bostontheatrescene.com MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through July 2; Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $35-$40. Paul Daigneault directs Richard Greenberg's 2003 Tony Award–winning play that tells the story of a successful baseball player who comes out of the closet.

Wharton One-Acts
Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 4, 4 pm. $30-$44. Eleanor Holdridge directs two Edith Wharton adaptations, *The Mission of Jane* and *The Promise*.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features an assortment of local stand-up comedians.

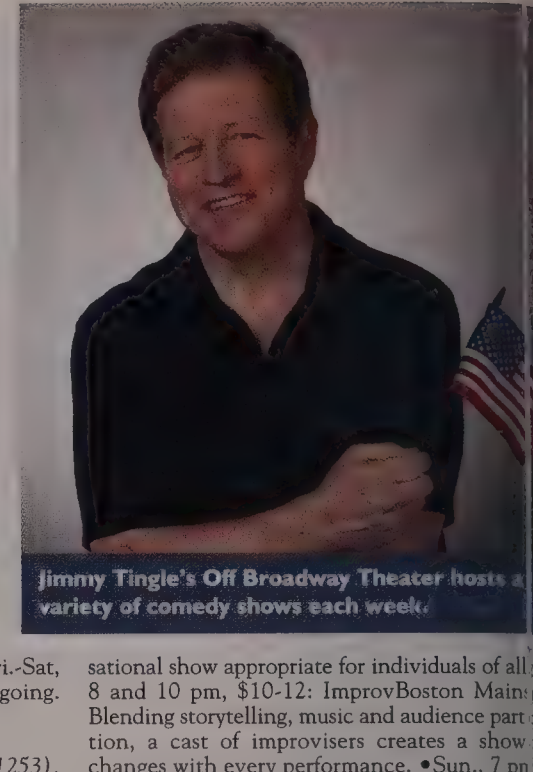
Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston. com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •June 30, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •July 1, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Jim Gaffigan, $22. •July 2, 6 pm, 8:15 pm, 10:30 pm: Jim Gaffigan, $20. •July 3, 7 pm: Tony V., $12. •July 5, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •July 6, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •July 7, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos the "R-Rated Hypnotist", $15. • July 11, 8 pm: Kevin Know hosts amateur Showcase, $12.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •June 29: Tony V Experiment with Bob Hagearty, Matt Soni, Frank Rockett, David Palmeri and others. •June 30: DanSally Show with Tommy Morello, Amanda Beals, Seth Earley, Mandy Donovan and Ellen Moschetto. •July 1: the Walsh Bros, Josh Lerner, David Powell, Sean Sullivan, Patrick Bulger, Gary Sohmers. •July 2: Rick Jenkins and Bob Hagearty. •July 3: Erin Judge Presents: EJ Murphy, David Powell, Shane Webb, Aderito Andrade. • July 5: Professional magic show. •July 6: Tony V Experiment with David Thompson, Chris Fleming, Arielle Goldman, Arik Marks and Krissy Kelleher. •July 7: Dan Sally Show with Dave Rettigan, Baratunde and others. •July 8: The Walsh Bros, Bob Hagearty and Tom Liszanckie. •July 9: Chibuzo, Bob Hagearty and Rick Jenkins. •July 10: Erin Judge Presents: Mike Oster, Joe Wong and others. •July 12: Magic Lounge magic show.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway. com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., 7:30 pm, $15: Stage Time Variety Show. Tingle hosts guests from the worlds of comedy, music and spoken word. •Fri., 10 pm, $5-$10: It's Not That Late Show. This weekly show, hosted by Peter Dutton, showcases area stand-up comedians, musicians and performance artists. •Sun., 7 pm $10: Women in Comedy. This weekly Sunday night series showcases female performers.

Kennedy's Midtown
Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •June 16, 8:30 pm: John David and John Joyce. •June 17 and 18, 8:45 pm: John David, Charlie K and John Joyce.


Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater hosts a variety of comedy shows each week.

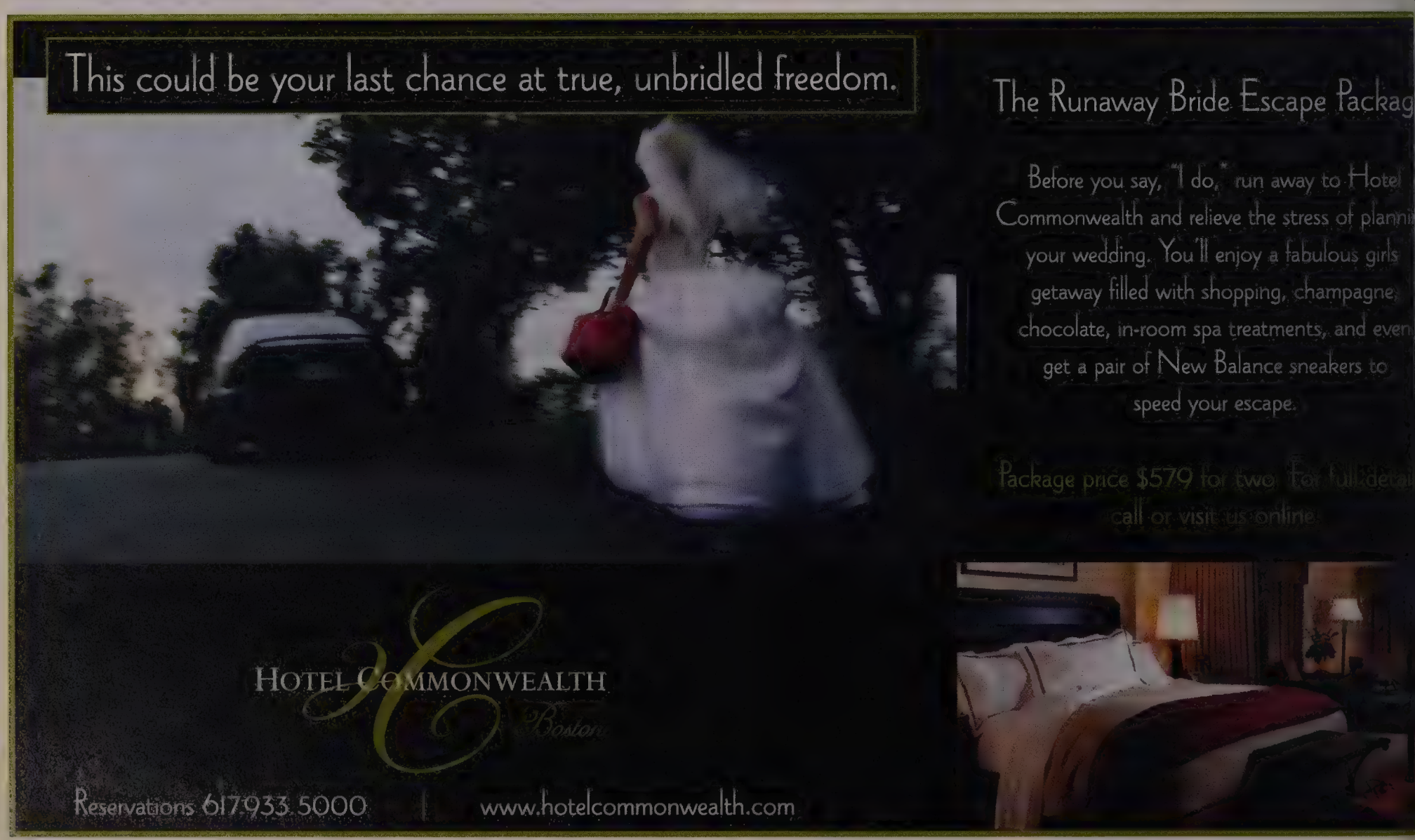
IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. • Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat, 8 pm and 10 pm: Pork Fried Clowns. Ongoing. •Sat., 12 am: The Midnight Show. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: New acts appear in a weekly showcase called the Hump. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$12: Unnatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Pirate Lives; 10 pm: TheatreSports splits up improvisers into two teams. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for individuals of all 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mains Blending storytelling, music and audience part tion, a cast of improvisers creates a show changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pn Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evenin tures performances by visiting and local troupe

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Rea to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Bo based short-form improv comedy group perf many skits that involve participation from bers of the audience.

The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before $10 after. 21+. The Cantab hosts a collecti improv comedians who poke fun at everythin cluding themselves.



Adventures of Shoe Boy & Lovesick Girl

Miranda July's oddball comedy rocks the arthouse.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

There were potential warning signs in *Me and You and Everyone We Know*. It was a prize-winner at both the Sundance and Cannes film fests, and its writer-director and star is a performance artist making her first commercial feature.

John Hawkes and Miranda July stumble toward romance in July's release.

But these red flags don't result in the disappointment the first quality often brings or the precious self-indulgence or post-modern arthouse glibness the second might supply.

Instead, the result is one of the more creative and hypnotic movies of the year. As its title suggests, like such other American independent movies as *Thirteen Conversations About One Thing* and *Lovely & Amazing*, writer and director Miranda July's *Me and You and Everyone We Know* is about the tenuous links that join people together in sometimes funny, sometimes eerie ways. The main human connection the movie makes is between aspiring multi-media artist Christine (July) and just-dumped shoe salesman Richard (John Hawkes of TV's *Deadwood*), and the unconventional way in which these two bond is indicative of how the movie celebrates human frailty.

The two actually meet when Christine, who works as a driver for a service that provides transportation to senior citizens, brings a client (Hector Elias) to the department store where Richard works. Christine ends up buying a pair of shoes, too, for reasons she can't quite explain (they're just like ones she already has), and she soon becomes obsessed with Richard. In one scene, she visits the store and hovers by the shoe department. Later in the film, she sees Richard having an argument there with his estranged wife (Jonell Kennedy), which Christine amusingly imagines as a lovey-dovey conversation that will thwart her crush on him. She even walks down the street outside the mall with Richard, a wondrous little scene in which the pair imagine that each intersection they cross marks a different phase in their relationship. They're hitting it off, until Richard gets offended when she gets into his car, and he kicks her out.

It's not that Richard isn't interested. He's played with a cockeyed optimism in the face of adversity by Hawkes, who at one point gushes the memorable line of dialogue, "I'm prepared for amazing things to happen. I can handle it." Richard is just stressed out from involuntarily moving out of his family home, getting a new apartment and sharing custody of his 14-year-old (Miles Thompson) and six-year-old (Brandon Ratcliff) sons. Most of the characters in the movie live in or around the apartment complex to which Richard and the boys have moved. There's Richard's big-lug co-worker Andrew (Brad Henke), who starts an ongoing flirtation with two sexually curious 15-year-old girls (Najarra Townsend, Natasha Slayton) who assure him they're 18, and then there's also the less sexually mature Sylvie (Carlie Westerman), who's accumulating a secret stash of home appliances for her dowry.

Over the course of the movie, relationships crisscross this community, with Richard selling shoes to Sylvie's mom, Richard's oldest son showing up in the same grade at school with the two girls and that same son unpredictably becoming friends with Sylvie. July's script is full of subplots that travel to intimate corners of all her characters, finding vulnerability and sympathy in each one (one of the best such moments comes when July's own character lies in bed and circles the letters r, i, n and then g on the page of a book, in hopes that it will get Richard to phone). Like Richard and Christine's walk down the street, these subplots often unfurl like nifty little set pieces. Christine's art project, in which she voices narration for people in still photos, is one. The scene where she and her client drive home from the department store and try to prevent a bagged fish left on the roof of another car from falling is another. A scene in which Richard talks about shoe salesman etiquette is a third sequence that could easily be pulled out of context and made into an askew short film. And Christine's uncomfortable interactions with an icy gallery curator (the wonderfully deadpan Tracy Wright) are just hilarious.

But it's the way all these subplots and characters jigsaw together that makes *Me and You and Everyone We Know* so intriguing. As Christine does by adding dialogues to still pictures, almost all of the movie's characters are trying to make something special out of the ordinary, or even out of the negative. That's what makes them universal. We know Christine and Richard are a possible match because we first see him acting just as she might, when he tries to "celebrate" splitting with his wife (his misguided attempt results in a hand injury). But their romance isn't the main concern of *Me and You and Everyone We Know*. It's the mental bond that makes possible the romance—which happens after the movie ends, if at all. IB

Me and You and Everyone We Know
★★★½
Written and directed by Miranda July. With July, John Hawkes, Miles Thompson, Brandon Ratcliff, Brad Henke, Hector Elias and Tracy Wright. Rated R. Opens July 1 at Kendall Square Cinema; opens July 15 at Coolidge Corner Theater.

ew Releases

AUL SHERMAN

Adventures of Shark Boy and Girl in 3-D ★
t Rodriguez made a smart, inspired movie with n heroes in *Spy Kids*. Now he's made a stupid, one. It's based on an idea by his grade-school id boy, does it show. This story of a 4th-grade (Cayden Boyd) who gets picked on by everyecause of his "dream journal," in which he icles the exploits of the title characters (Taylor y, Taylor Lautner), boards the express train for rville when the duo with superpowers whisks d off to Planet Drool, the place constructed his imaginings. There they all fight evil in like the Land of Milk and Cookies. It sounds parody of a bad kids' movie, but I'm not makny of this up. The gimmicky 3-D effects are che-inducing and camouflage a sorry story that is if it lasts three hours. After the hopelessly ju- *Sin City* and this fizzled kidvid, could Roez start acting his age again? (At Boston Com- Fenway and suburbs.)

man Begins ★★★½
Batman prequel outdoes all the series' previous s. Like the more recent *Spider-Man* movies, *Bat-Begins* is a really strong, character-based movie atches the flavor of comics but is not cartoon-Christian Bale has the dramatic chops to fill out Wayne, who watches his philanthropist/indust father and his mother be murdered. He grows l of vengeful plans against criminals. The movie him from Gotham to the Himalayas, where he nder the influence of a mentor he ultimately re- (Liam Neeson), and back to Gotham, where he o clean up his corrupted hometown. Neeson, ael Caine (as loyal butler Alfred), Katie Holmes ildhood friend turned prosecutor Rachel), Gary an (as future police Commissioner Gordon) Morgan Freeman (as an ally within the Wayne oration) all match Bale, while *Memento* director topher Nolan skips the flash and opts for emol realism instead. Well done all around. (At n Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

vitched ★★
tor and cowriter Nora Ephron was smart to not a straight big-screen adaptation of the old sit- which hasn't aged very well (it was never de- d to). She's reconfigured it as a romantic com- about the sitcom's return to TV, starring a ping movie star (Will Ferrell) and the unknown actress he discovers as his female lead who, unownst to him is, like her TV character, a witch g to go straight (Nicole Kidman). But, unfortuy, life imitates art in an unintended way in the e. Its main thread of comedy is the ego-driven, movie star hogging the camera and conspiring ep his co-star in his shadow. Unfortunately, 's too much Ferrell acting the jerk, to the point you don't just get sick of his character, you get of him—especially seeing proven talent like d Alan Grier and Stephen Colbert stand nd with little to do. And Ephron (*Sleepless in le*), whose literal use of old songs (like Sinatra's chcraft" or "Ding Dong, the Witch is Dead" *The Wizard of Oz*) continues to be painful. She ld be forced to make only movies without oldies dtracks from now on. (At Boston Common, ay and suburbs.)

derella Man ★★½
e are tough, dramatic boxing movies like *Raging* and *The Set-Up*, and there's boxing hokum like y and this, Ron Howard's latest. But this story mes J. Braddock (Russell Crowe), a failed con- er who came out of retirement and, against all , captured the heavyweight title, is often *good* m. It's much better than its trailer, which es the movie seem like *Seabiscuit*-with-a-man, even though Renée Zellweger is super-annoying addock's flinty wife, Crowe's restrained perfor- ce is very endearing. He just plays the part and n't take a star turn, as some other actors might. e's also the humor and heart Paul Giamatti pros as Braddock's loyal manager. The movie exs expectations until its big fight, when it decides ortray reigning champ Max Baer (Craig Bierko) swaggering, leering, bloodthirsty heel because it es Braddock seem that much more noble by parison. It turns into a big cartoon and shows a contempt for credibility that you then have uestion the credibility of the entire fact-based . How much does it fudge *before* the big fight? Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

ron: The Smartest Guys in the om ★★★
doubt, this movie is likely to get your blood ng. If there weren't enough reasons to criticize

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Ken Lay, Jeff Skilling and their infamous energy corporation, this documentary based on the book of the same name gives you a new one: The company culture at Enron recalls the jerky Omega House frat in *Animal House*. Director Alex Gibney (producer of *The Trials of Henry Kissinger*) does a good job of making the scandal entertaining, throwing in songs (including several by Tom Waits) and using a high-quality cinematic sense in his interviews with authors and former Enron employees. The economic ins and outs of it all are never totally fathomable; however, the immoral festering is quite apparent. (At Kendall Square.)

High Tension ★½

It's almost like some bad anti-French joke: "Did you hear the one about the French horror movie that's a tribute to *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* but can't resist getting all artsy and pissing itself away?" Alas, it's true. Alexandre Aja's grungy splatter film features axes, straight razors and even pieces of furniture doing all sorts of fatal damage as a family gets wiped out in a French farm house. It's not pretty, but it's often well done as moviemaking. When the visitor who escapes the assailant's grasp, played by Cecile de France of *Around the World in 80 Days*, mounts a counterattack, a promising showdown begins, but then Aja throws it all away with a very bogus metaphysical plot twist. Perhaps fittingly, the twist drains all the blood from the movie. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Layer Cake ★★★

In this English gangster movie, McQueen-ish Daniel Craig scores as a middle man in the drug trade who looks at himself as purely a businessman but who has to turn to gangster brutality to save his hide. Matthew Vaughn, the producer of Guy Ritchie's *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* and *Snatch*, directs this similar tale that improves on its predecessors by being less smug and by focusing on Craig's strong central character. Among the guy's obstacles are Serbian hit men, English thugs who've tried to refashion themselves into country gents and loyal crime foot-soldiers like himself. Of course, he can't even trust the "good" guys for very long. Vaughn's directorial touches sometimes overreach, as does the overeager production design, but this is a colorful trip into the London underworld. (At Kendall Square and suburbs.)

The Longest Yard ★★

Things go pretty much as expected in this second remake of the Burt Reynolds 1974 prison football movie (the other being the English soccer movie, *Mean Machine*). Adam Sandler is less believable as an ex-NFL MVP than Reynolds, but the supporting cast, which is heavy on jocks and wrestlers, is often amusing, and the remake is a whole lot slicker (there are wall-to-wall hit songs on the soundtrack, and the big convicts–guards game is actually televised on ESPN2—I guess ESPN8 "The Ocho" was booked solid). If you haven't seen the original, which for its time was a much edgier comedy, then hopefully this will send you back to that. If you have, you probably have no expectations that this will live up to its predecessor. Reynolds returns in a different role, as the older ex-footballer who coaches the cons' squad. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Lords of Dogtown ★★★

It's not as exhilarating as the 2001 documentary *Dogtown and Z-Boys*, which also tells the tale of the influential 1970s skateboarders of the Zephyr [illegible]. But this dramatized version from Catherine H[illegible]wicke (*Thirteen*), written by *Z-Boys* director Zephyr team member Stacy Peralta, does a ro[illegible] job of turning the cultural phenomenon of the [illegible]mentary into a character-based story. It chron[illegible] the rise of such Zephyr skateboarders as Pe[illegible] (John Robinson), Tony Alva (Victor Rasuk) an[illegible] Adams (Emile Hirsch), who are brought togeth[illegible] a flurry of post-1960s idealism by surf shop o[illegible] Skip Engblom (Heath Ledger, channeling[illegible] Kilmer) and crash the staid gates of compet[illegible] skateboarding. But once the sport booms an[illegible] young men fall to such temptations as big-m[illegible] corporate sponsorships, which also pit them ag[illegible] each other at tournaments, the three strugg[illegible] hang on to the fun and their friendship. The [illegible] leads are great, the music blasts and, after see[illegible] like a rehash at first, the movie gets the "birth o[illegible] extreme" job done. (At Boston Common, Fe[illegible] and suburbs.)

Mr. & Mrs. Smith ★★

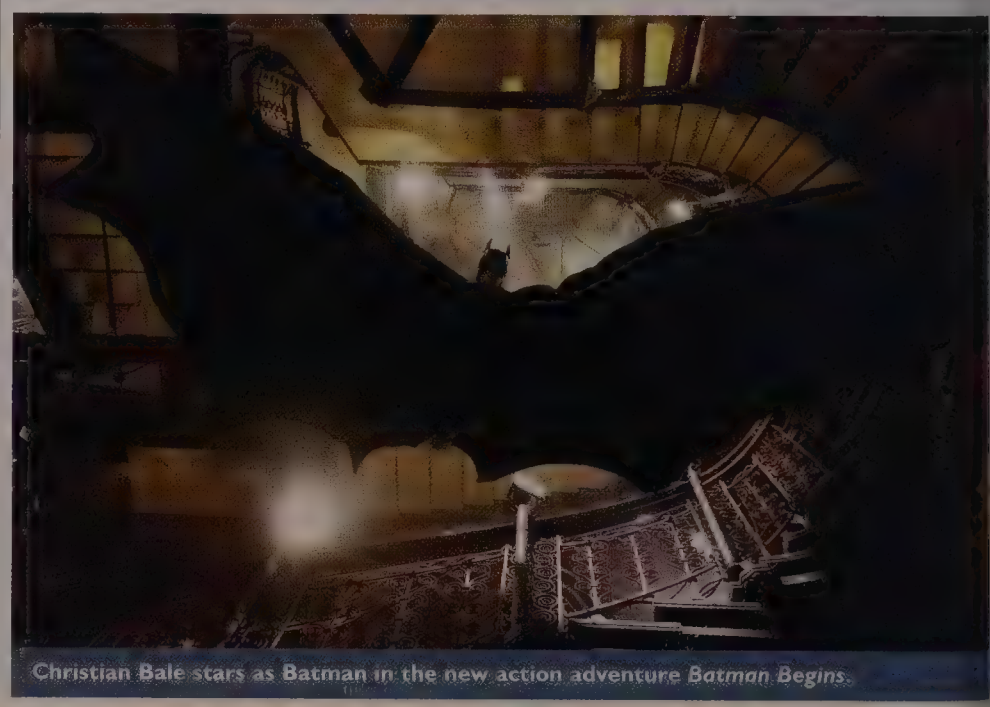
They're in the same business—assassination—[illegible] competing agencies. This comic exaggeratio[illegible] spouses who keep secrets from each other is goo[illegible] a few laughs, as is the stars' playful chemistry an[illegible] supporting performance of director Liman's *Swi*[illegible] buddy, Vince Vaughn. But the script by Simon [illegible] berg (*XXX: State of the Union*) is definitely o[illegible] "when in doubt, blow something up" school. W[illegible] professional circumstances pit husband against [illegible] the movie uncorks an amusing, Tom-and-Jerry-[illegible] blowout of violence, but it's then silly and delus[illegible] that Liman constructs a go-out-in-a-blaze-of-[illegible] climax when there's no chance of the leads ge[illegible] mowed down. (At Boston Common, Fenway [illegible] suburbs.)

My Summer of Love ★★½

Writer-director Pawil Palikowski's English m[illegible] closely follows the formula laid down by such [illegible] tense teen relationship movies as *Zero Day*, [illegible] and especially Peter Jackson's *Heavenly Creat*[illegible] As in those movies, the bonds between b[illegible] blue-collar Mona (Natalie Press) and posh, ov[illegible] dramatic Tamsin (Emily Blunt) become so c[illegible] that conflict inevitably arises between their [illegible] vate world and the outer world they've rejec[illegible] and violence is never too far from the surfac[illegible] will be very familiar to anyone who's seen J[illegible] son's movie, but it's still decently done. The m[illegible] captures the sexual and emotional charge of [illegible] girls' mutual infatuation, while the young actr[illegible] are both perfectly convincing. (At Ken[illegible] Square.)

Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith ★★

The third *Star Wars* prequel is the first that'[illegible] spectable. Now that the time has finally com[illegible] the transformation of Anakin Skywalker f[illegible] "chosen" Jedi knight to master of disaster D[illegible] Vader, writer-director George Lucas at least g[illegible] this one more narrative push, instead of the m[illegible] dering dullness of the first two prequels. Th[illegible] still an awful lot of council meetings and bur[illegible] cratic nonsense and too much Yoda and his [illegible] noying inverted syntax (he's a spot player, Gee[illegible] not a go-to guy). And Hayden Christensen's [illegible] formance is underwhelming. He was great in *S*[illegible] *tered Glass*, but that experience doesn't trans[illegible] to this role—one of inner torment. But Ewan [illegible] Gregor is just right, as always, as humble Obi-[illegible]



Christian Bale stars as Batman in the new action adventure *Batman Begins*.

arrogant actor (Will Ferrell) finds an unknown (Nicole Kidman) to cast in a revival of the *Bewitched* sitcom in the movie of the same name.

obi, whose reaction to his young cohort's be-l is both hurt and introspection about where iled as a mentor. (At Boston Common, Fen-nd suburbs.)

epertories d Revivals

ice to Contributors

it film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Cal-: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is veeks prior to publication.

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Movies By Moonlight

•July 1, at dusk. **The Yearling** *1946*. Clarence Brown directs the story of a young boy in post-Civil War Florida who convinces his parents to allow him to adopt a young deer. •July 8, at dusk. **To Kill a Mockingbird** *1962*. Robert Mulligan directs the movie version of Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

•July 11, 6 pm. **Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde** *1931*. Fredric March directs this classic film based on the story by Robert Louis Stevenson about a doctor who experiments with the good and evil of man by ingesting chemicals to transform himself into a criminal.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Celebrating James Dean!

•June 29-30, 3 pm and 7:30 pm; July 1-3, 3 pm. **East of Eden** *1955*. Elia Kazan adapts the ending of John Steinbeck's novel as he directs a film about two sons battling for their father's affection in pre-WWI California. •June 28-30, 5:15 pm and 9:45 pm; July 1, 5:15 pm; July 2-3, 12:45 pm and 5:15 pm. **Rebel Without a Cause** *1955*. Nicholas Ray directs this film about a trio of teens battling their angst in everyday suburbia. •July 1-3, 7:30 pm. **Giant** *1956*. Dean's last film, an epic depicting the life of a Texas cattle rancher and his family and associates. George Stevens directs.

Hitchcock Weekend

•July 8-11, check website for times.
North by Northwest *1959*. A middle-aged advertising executive is pursued by a gang of spies and the government after being mistaken for a government agent. Alfred Hitchcock directs.
•**Rear Window** *1954*. A photographer confined to his New York City apartment begins spying on his neighbors, leading to his suspicion that the man opposite of his apartment may have murdered his wife. Alfred Hitchcock directs.
•**To Catch a Thief** *1955*. In this new print, a string of jewel robberies on the French Riviera lead police to suspect a retired jewel thief who employs the help of others to clear his name. Alfred Hitchcock directs.
•**Vertigo** *1958*. A retired San Francisco police detective is hired to watch his friend's wife, who is obsessed with her ancestor's ghost. Alfred Hitchcock directs.

Premier Screening

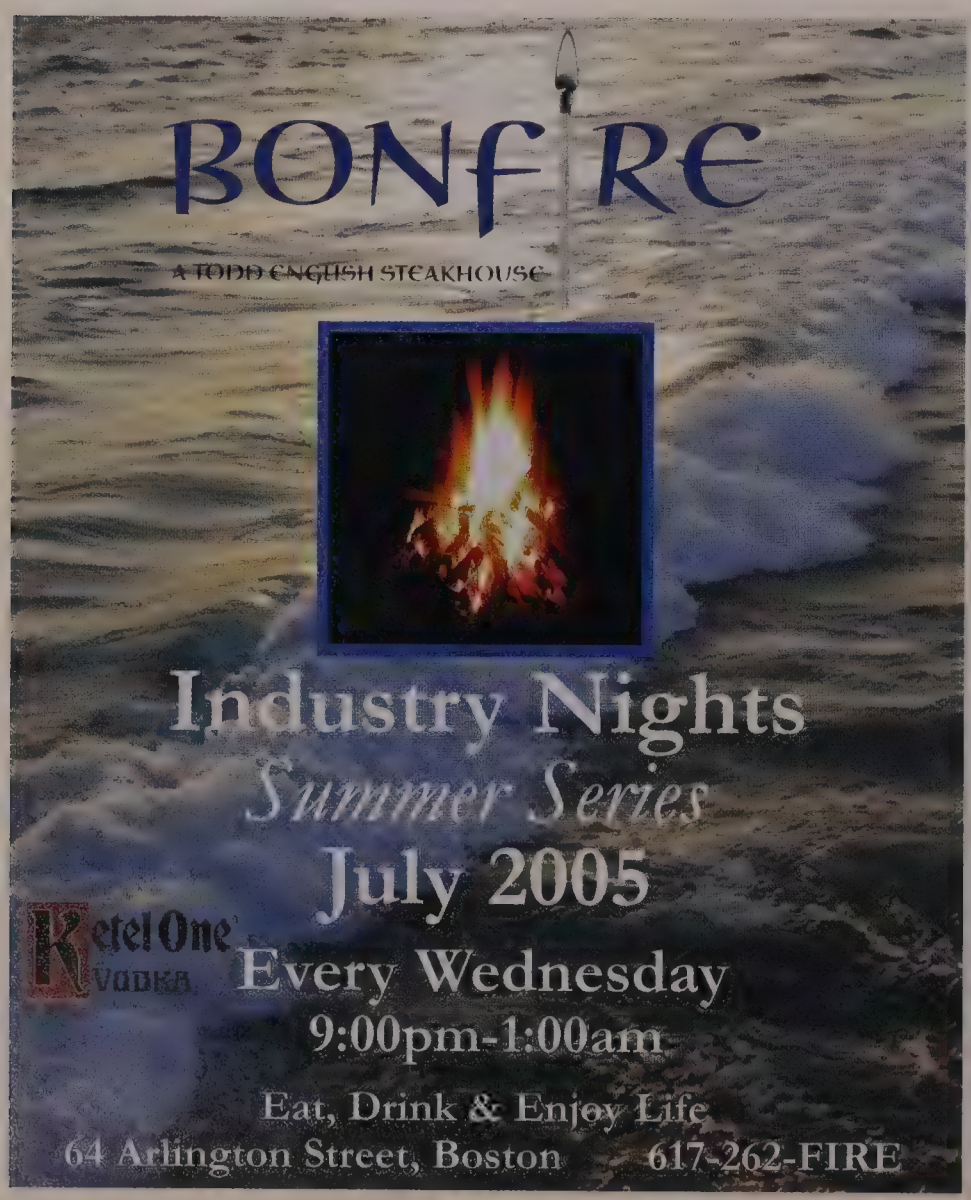
•July 7, 7:15 pm. **We Jam Econo: The Story of the Minutemen** *2005*. This documentary chronicles the history of 80's punk rock band the Minutemen. Tim Irwin directs. Immediately followed by **Punk: Attitude** *2005*. Don Letts directs this documentary about the music, attitude and distinctive look that made up the punk rock genre.
•July 11, 9:30 pm. **Dangerous Crosswinds** *2005*. A Pulitzer Prize-winning writer is involved in the killing of a friend. Bill Millios directs.

Special Event

•July 6, 4:45 pm, 7:15 pm, 10 pm. **Tibet: Cry of the Snow Lion** *2003*. Filmed during 10 years of travel through Tibet, India and Nepal, this documentary includes personal stories, interviews and highlights lesser-known traditions and rituals. Tom Piozet directs.

Special Screening

•July 4-5, 2:15 pm, 4:45 pm, 7:15 pm, 9:45 pm. **Raiders of the Lost Ark** *1981*. In this new print, archeologist Dr. Indiana Jones is hired by the U.S. Government to find the Ark of the Covernant before the Nazi's discover it and the power it holds. Steven Spielberg directs.



(Heath Ledger, in tank top) gathers a skateboarding team together in *Lords of Dogto*

Summer of Rock Series

•July 12, 3:30 pm. **Blackboard Jungle** *1955*. A middle aged school teacher is assigned to an unruly high school where his attempt to exert authority is met with much hostility from both students and faculty. Richard Brooks directs. •7:30 pm. **Rock Around the Clock** *1956*. Fred F. Sears directs this fictionalized account of promoter Steve Hollis' discovery of rock and roll when he runs in to Bill Haley and the Comets at a small-town dance. Restored print.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Midnight Movies

•July 2, 8, 9, 12 am. **The Man With the Screaming Brain** *2005*. Bruce Campbell directs and stars in the story of a wealthy industrialist who has half of his brain replaced with that of a Latino street hustler.

Senior Matinees

•June 29, 3 pm. **Stolen Childhoods** *2005*. Len Harris directs this documentary based on his travels around the globe interviewing child laborers and those who dedicate themselves to aiding them.

Summertime Blues

•July 11, 7:30 pm. **Spider John Koerner: Been There Done That** *2005*. Director Don McGlynn's documentary follow's one of America's great folk artists.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Kafka Goes to the Movies

•June 29, 9 pm. **Klassenverhaltnisse** *(Class Relations) 1984*. Jean-Marie Straub and Danièle Huillet direct this film about a middle-class German immigrant in New York City. Based on Franz Kafka's unfinished novel *Amerika*.

•June 29, 7 pm. **Labyrinth** *1991*. An investigation of the connection between the imaginary world of Franz Kafka and the actual persecution of the Jews that peaked in the Holocaust. Jaromil Jires directs.

Treasures from the Harvard Film Archive

•July 1, 7 pm; July 3, 8:30 pm. **Our Daily Bread** *1934*. King Vidor directs an overtly leftist drama portraying the impact of the Great Depression on working class Americans.

•July 2, 7 pm; July 4, 8:45 pm. **Á Nous la Liberté** *(To Our Liberty) 1931*. René Clair directs the story of two convicts who attempt a jailbreak; only one succeeds, living a comfortable life until he is revisited by his former inmate.

•July 5, 8:45 pm. **Sorok Pervyi** *(The Forty-First) 1956*. A remake of a silent classic, this film tells the love story of a revolutionary soldier and her prisoner. Grigori Chukraj directs.

•July 6, 9 pm. **La Caza** *(The Hunt* a.k.a. *The Chase) 1966*. Director Carlos Saura places his criticism of Franco's regime in the context of a rabbit hunt.

• July 7, 7 pm. **Nightfall** *1957*. Jacques Tourneur directs the tale of a man on a hunting trip who inadvertently becomes part of a botched bank robbery.

•July 8, 8:45 pm. **The Lusty Men** *1952*. Robert Mitchum stars as a former rodeo rider who mentors a difficult young star of the circuit.

•July 9, 7 pm. **Verboten!** *1959*. Samuel Fuller directs the tale of the forbidden relationship between a German woman and an American serviceman stationed in postwar Berlin.

•July 10, 7 pm; July 12, 8:45 pm. **The South** *1945*. Director Jean Renoir tells the story of a i mined Southern farm family whose struggle is ig by the local townspeople.

•July 10, 8:45 pm; July 12, 7 pm. **Diary of a C bermaid** *1946*. Jean Renoir directs the talu chambermaid determined to use her position v wealthy family to advance her social status.

• July 11, 7 pm. **The Firm** *1988*. Alan Clarke portrays a football player trying to organize gangs, known as "firms," before the upcoming pean championships.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•July 7, 2:15 pm; July 9-10, 11 am. **Goya en Bu** *(Goya in Bordeaux) 1999*. Director Carlos Saura at the last days of Spanish artist Francisco Goya

Boston French Film Festival

•July 7, 8 pm. **36 Quai des Orfèvres** *2004*. O Marchal directs this thriller set in the worl Parisian police force fighting organized crime.

•July 8, 8 pm. **Les Temp Qui Changent** *(Cho Times) 2004*. André Téchiné's film portrays an neer overseeing the construction of a television pany in Tangiers while concurrently re-establi contact with a former love.

•July 9, 8:15 pm. **Lila dit ça** *(Lila Says) 2004*. Doueiri's film, which analyzes the relations bet France and its growing immigrant population of a French teen and the Arab boy who falls in with her.

•July 10, 7 pm. **Le Promeneur du Champ de** *(The Last Mitterand) 2004*. Robert Guédiguian d a fictional look at the last days of France's form cialist president, Francois Mitterand.

Boston Jewish Film Festival

•June 30, 8:15 pm; July 1, 6:45 pm; July 2, pm; July 3, 11 am; July 7, 6 pm. **Der Neunte** *(The Ninth Day) 2004*. Director Volker Sch dorff examines the Catholic church during Nazi era. •June 30, 6:15 pm. **To Take a Wife** Shlomi Elkabetz and his sister Ronit direct film potraying a marriage failing under the sures of Israeli customs.

•July 1, 4:45 pm; July 2, 2:30 pm; July 3, 3:30 pm. **Trésor** *[Or (My Treasure)] 2003*. Keren Yedaya d the tale of a young woman in Tel Aviv trying t her mother from a life of prostitution. •July 2, pm. **Late Marriage** 2001. Dover Koshashvili di this film about a man and his arranged marriage. 3, 1 pm. **Alila** 2003. Amos Gitai directs this film 12 Israeli working-class citizens.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through July 4. **Coral Reef Adventure**. Howar Michele Hall embark on a 10-month voyage i South Pacific, creating a cinematic record of reefs as they exist today.

•Through July 4. **Everest** depicts the true story team of climbers who find hope, strength and triu in the wake of tragedy.

•Through July 9. **Lewis and Clark: Great Jou West** tells of the explorers' famous expedition Illinois to the Pacific Ocean.

hrough July 9. **Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure.** n crews trace Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1914-1916 edition.
hrough Sept. 9. **Mystery of the Nile.** Explorers ke the first attempt of a full descent down the e River.

W ENGLAND AQUARIUM
nons IMAX Theater
hrough June 30. **Galapagos 3D.** Marine biolo- Carole Baldwin explores the Galapagos Is- ds. •Through June 30. **Sharks 3D.** Jean- chel Cousteau tracks the ocean's ultimate dators.
hrough July 1. **Wild Safari 3D: A South African venture.** An adventure through wild South ica searches for the most dangerous and spectac- animals.
hrough July 1. **Aliens of the Deep 3D.** Academy ard–winning director James Cameron takes view- to the depths of the ocean to encounter some of th's strangest life forms.

Cinema Venues

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edford St. (617-646-4849).

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udio Cinema
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ston Public Library
Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green e to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
nway 13 Theatre
Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D en Line to Fenway.
ews Boston Common
Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green e to Boylston.
useum of Fine Arts
Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E en Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-499-1996). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

Horns of plenty

Veteran session stars Tower of Power still tear it up on stage.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

The 10-piece band Tower of Power keeps it going after 35 years on the road.

The soul-funk band Tower of Power has released 28 albums over the past 35 years, ranging from such early pop hits as "What is Hip?" and the ballad "You're Still a Young Man" to the still-sizzling grooves of its 2003 disc *Oakland Zone*. Yet the group's horn section has made even more of a mark.

The Tower of Power horns have played on hundreds of albums, through the '70s (Santana, Little Feat, Elton John), '80s (Huey Lewis, Heart) '90s (Bonnie Raitt, Phish) and into the new millennium, including Aerosmith's *Just Push Play*.

"We've got these nutcase fans, and one of them has compiled this list of every session we ever did," tenor saxophonist and bandleader Emilio Castillo says. "I'm amazed at how many I don't even remember doing."

In fact, Castillo's memory easily stretches back to 1968, when he co-founded the group with baritone saxman Stephen "Doc" Kupka. They dubbed themselves the Motowns and sported sharkskin suits and razor-cut hair that stood in contrast to the Bay Area's psychedelic scene—though they changed the band name and look before they auditioned at the famed Fillmore Auditorium.

"We were a pretty motley-looking crew and the last of five bands, and the whole audience started to walk out until we hit that first horn lick and it was an about face," he says. "Everybody walked back in, and [promoter] Bill Graham stuck his head out of the office. He always dug horns and rhythms. We were fortunate to hit at just the right time."

The influential Graham and rising Bay Area guitarist Carlos Santana both put their support behind the band, which lent horns to several records by Santana (starting with 1971's "Everybody's Everything") and Little Feat, culminating with that group's live classic *Waiting for Columbus*.

"The actual night that they kept [for the record] was one of the worst nights, because a couple of the guys had stayed up all night and got really loaded," says Castillo, adding that Little Feat's inner-band tensions boiled over into some pre-show fisticuffs with leader Lowell George.

Keeping an even bigger group on keel for 35 years may seem like a towering achievement unto itself, but Castillo shrugs off that idea. "I get that all the time, that it must be so hard, with all the personnel changes, and the uptimes and downtimes and changes in the music industry," he says from his home in Scottsdale, Ariz. "But I can think of nothing better to do. I've got the perfect job. I make a good penny, traveling all over the world, and stay at nice places and have wonderful fans."

Indeed, Tower of Power continues to seal its reputation on the road, playing about 150 dates a year, from jazz clubs like Scullers (already booked for a four-night return next April) to supporting bills like a tour with singer Tom Jones that hits the Bank of America Pavilion July 15-16.

And no, Castillo doesn't plan to compete for the ladies' attention on that tour. "I'll take the humble route and say there's no contest," he says. "Tom's got us beat."

"I knew we would see a lot of different people than we'd normally see at our own concerts, so I was excited about that [bill]," Castillo says. "But since we booked the tour months ago, I've heard from countless people about how great [Jones'] show is—including some people whose opinions I really respect in terms of soul music."

"We get all different ages at our shows, but it's definitely younger now," he says. "In Europe and Japan, it's all young people. Like in Japan, we just did three weeks over there in February, and it was totally 20-year-olds. They've got all the CDs lined up for autographs."

If the 10-piece band is churning out material as crisply honed as *Oakland Zone* in addition to live performances, it's no wonder that new and old fans alike are lining up. New lead singer Larry Braggs is a powerhouse. And behind a horn section still anchored by Castillo and Kupka, veteran drummer David Garibaldi is back in the pocket to forge the group's tight, syncopated rhythms with original bassist Rocco Prestia, a tandem that Castillo calls "priceless."

The same goes for health when one gets older. Prestia took a turn on the sidelines for a liver replacement, and now keyboardist Roger Smith is back from prostate surgery.

"Rocco was as close to death as you can get," says Castillo, 54. "And I remember the day that Roger came and told us he had prostate cancer. They were telling him there wasn't a very good chance of recovering. You definitely hear stories with not so happy endings. We're blessed." iB

Tower of Power
plays the Bank of America Pavilion July 15 and 16.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete listing venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Billy Corgan June 30, Avalon (617-262-2424).
Dave Matthews Band July 9-10, Tweeter Cen (508-339-2333).
The Eels June 29, Somerville Theatre (617-8 4275).
Mark Knopfler July 1, Bank of America Pavil (671-931-2000).
The Moody Blues July 12, Bank of America Pa ion (617-300-3300).
Donna Summer July 7, Bank of America Pavil (617-300-3300).
James Taylor June 29, Tweeter Center (508-3 2333).
John Mellencamp, John Fogerty July 7, Twee Center (508-339-2333).
3 Doors Down, Staind, Breaking Benjamin June Verizon Wireless Arena (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

Abbey Lounge Sellershot, 8 pm, The Vershok pm, The Punk Monkees, 9:45 pm, The Sil Lining, 10:45 pm, Rooftop Suicide Club, 11:45 p
Asgard The Ken Selcer Invitational Jam, 9 pm, cover.
Avalon Badfish, 7 pm, $15.
Bill's Bar Germinatrix, 9 pm, $7, $10, 18+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cove
Breezeway Carribean Cruise Band, 7:30 p
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Joe Cook's Blues Jam pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Emm Gryner, Rose Cousins, the Eve bodyfields, 8 pm, $12, members $10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Dodge Street Bar and Grill Mamadou Diop, 9 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, 9:30 p
Hennessy's Absolute Acoustics, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Antje Duvekot and Matt Morrow, 8 pm, $10.
Lizard Lounge Sarah Rabdau, 8-9 pm; Judd a Maggie, Jim Boggia, Kate Gaffney, 9:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm am, no cover.
MFA Concerts in the Courtyard, Omar Sosa, 7:30 p
Middle East Upstairs: Abigail Warchild, Mad M Films, Reports, Boo Radly Bruises Badly, 8 pm, 18+.
Midway Café Awesome Brothers, 9 pm, 21+.
Oak Bar Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's The Buzz Live Karaoke, 8:30 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Erin McKeown, Hem, 8 p $12, 18+; Lounge: Tracy Bonham, 8 pm.
PA's Tracey Read, 8:30 pm; Gilmore Tamny, 9 pm; Mia Schoen, 10 pm; Boyracer, 11 pm, $5- 21+.
The Purple Shamrock Live Karaoke with Brick Pa 10 pm, no cover.
Scullers Jazz Club Jerry Portnoy Trio, String Qu tet, 8 pm, 10 pm, Show $16, Dinner and Show $
Somerville Theatre The Eels, 7:30 pm, $21.50.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9 pm.
Regattabar the Vijay Iyer Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Obinni Tumbao, 9 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Butterknife, 9 pm; Reckl Daughter, 9:50 pm; Crash Midnight, 10:40 pm Theta Pi, 11:30 pm, $6.
Tweeter Center James Taylor, 7 pm, $26-$69.50.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 am, no co 21+.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Br Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Mehmet Sanlikol, Cem Mutl pm, $10; Gill's Wednesday Night Jam, 10 pm, $5

u My Courageous, E.R., 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zygomates April Hall Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

URSDAY, JUNE 30

ey Lounge Jeremy O'Neill, 7 pm; New Blood, 9
the Texas Governor, 9:45 pm; Nice n' Easy,
5; UV Protection, 11:45 pm.
ird the RPM's, 9 pm, no cover.
on Billy Corgan, 7 pm, $35.
nue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no
r.
Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well, 9:30
no cover, 21+.
the Chef's Soul Phactor, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
on Harbor Hotel the Duke Robillard Band, 6-
m.
ezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
tab Lounge Upstairs: Feature band of the week,
, no cover.
Passim Jeremy Kittel, Matt and Shannon
ton, 8 pm, $12, members $10.
's Last Resort Cusack, 7:30 pm, no cover.
ge Street Bar and Grill Chris Fritz Blues Band,
pm, no cover.
place Restaurant Tony Benecourt.
Green Dragon Tavern the Spitting Vinnies,
pm.
en Street Grill Joh Camra and Jama-Jiji, 10:30
no cover.
pers Ferry Syd, Todd Martin, Akiva, Eric
chinson, 9:30 pm, $5, 18+.
nessy's Me and Julio, 9 pm, 21+.
ny D's Four Piece Suit, 9 pm.
nedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 8 pm, no
r.
land Café Fireball XL5, 8 pm; Obasi, 9 pm;
n Ballou, 10 pm; Bajuco, 11 pm, $5.
rd Lounge Chris Brokaw, 7:30-9 pm, no cover;
Last Chauncey Show Ever, 9:30 pm.
ky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm-12
no cover.
t Murphy's Round Midnight, 10:30 pm, no
r.
dle East Upstairs: Mishima USA, Duresse, Blan-
er, Tsui, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Unscarred, Grave
hine, Crowne Vict, No One's Kind, $9, 18+.
Dooley's Maxi, 9:30 pm.

Third Rail plays the Paradise Rock Club June 30.

Oak Bar Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Thrillride, Glamourous Stuntcocks, the Acro-Brats, Gene Dante & the Future Starlets, $6.
PA's Superawesome, 9:30 pm; Flow, 10:30 pm; Diamond Mines, 11:30 pm, 8 pm Fuzz, $5-$7, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club: Third Rail, Reload, Asa Brebner, Classic Ruins, 8 pm, $12.50-$15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Brass Roots, 9 pm.
The Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Ryles Jazz Club Bruno Raberg Group, 8:30 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club the Persuasions, 8pm, 10pm, $20.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place This Blue Holiday, 9:15 pm; Taxpayer, 10:15 pm; the Good North, 11:15 pm; the Nonfamous, 12:15 am, $8.
Verizon Wireless Arena 3 Doors Down, Staind, Breaking Benjamin, 7:30 pm, $40.50-$43.50.
Wally's Live Latin jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Night of the Living Hammond B3's, 9:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu Mittens, The Awesome, Teeth, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, JULY 1

Abbey Lounge Sparkola, 9 pm; Welcome, 9:45 pm; the Knee Hi's, 10:45 pm, Orange Park, 11:45 pm.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Bank of America Pavilion Mark Knopfler, 8 pm, $35-$65.
Berklee College of Music Berklee World Percussion Festival Faculty Blowout Concert, 7:30 pm.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well, 9 pm. Upstairs: McTaggarts.
Bob the Chef's BlackSole, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Maeve, Brooke Campbell, 8 pm, $14, $12 members.
Common Ground Lincoln Conspiracy, $4.
The Grand Canal Incadence, 10 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Free Pop, 9:30 pm.
Hennessy's Spike the Punch.
Johnny D's Alto Reform School and Bad Saints, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 8 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Dr. Nancy, Ever, Once Over, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Kevin Friffin, 8-9 pm, no cover; Chris Brokaw, Kahoots, Moonshot, 9:30 pm, $7.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Goodfoot, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Hirax; Municipal Waste, Coliseum, Defcon 4, $10 in advance, $12 at door. Downstairs: the Grift, Kweejeebo, $9, 18+.

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The Landing at Long Wharf

Milky Way Pressure Cooker, Instrumentals, 9 pm, $9.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5 pm; Christy O'Connell, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club: Cowboy Mouth, Spookie Daly Pride, 9 pm, $16, 18+.
PA's the Debutantes, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21 +.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Clark Organ Trio, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Lizz Wright, 8 pm, $20.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Frank Morey, 10:15 pm; Kings of Nuthin, 12:15 am, $10.
Wally's Live jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
WaterWorks Chad LaMarsh, 8 pm, $5, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Glenn Jones, Chuck Anastasio, 7 pm, $7; Bob Gallgher, 9:30 pm.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm.

SATURDAY, JULY 2

Abbey Lounge Summer Villians, 9 pm; Lorntell, 9:45 pm; the Irreverends, 10:45 pm; the Country Doctors, 11:45 pm.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Axis the Aquabats, the Epoxies, Phenomenauts, 6:30 pm, $14.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well, 9 pm. Upstairs: McTaggarts; Tom O'Carroll.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, $8, 21+.
The Grand Canal the Brink, 10 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern the Swinging Johnsons, 9:30 pm.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Typhoon Ferry.
Johnny D's Meet the Day, 9:45 pm, $8, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge The Al Vega Trio, 7-10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Cheater Slicks, Hunches, Turpentine Brothers, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Aster Aweke, 9 pm, $30, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Christy O'Connell, 9:30 pm.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
Paddy O's the Risk, 9 pm.
The Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 10 pm, $5.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Clay Aiken August 28, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Allman Brothers Band, moe. August 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Coldplay August 6, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Elvis Costello, Emmylou Harris & The Imposters July 23, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Crosby, Stills, & Nash July 30, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Destiny's Child August 6, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Earth, Wind & Fire, Chicago July 16, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Daryl Hall and John Oates, Tears for Fears August 23, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Chris Isaak August 19, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Elton John September 16-17, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson September 15, Campanelli Stadium (508-559-7070).
Tom Jones July 15-16, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Journey August 20, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
KC and the Sunshine Band August 20, Hatch Shell City Park.
Mark Knopfler July 1, Fleet Boston Pavilion (671-931-2000).
Avril Lavigne, Gavin DeGraw, Butch Walker August 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis & the News August 18, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Lyle Lovett July 22, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Paul McCartney September 26-27, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Meat Loaf August 17, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
O.A.R. July 27-28, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Ozzfest 2005 July 15, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Rolling Stones August 21-23, Fenway Park (617-931-2000).
Sugar Water Festival: Erykah Badu, Jill Scott, Queen Latifah, Floetry July 13, Bank of America Pavilion (671-931-2000).
James Taylor June 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
U2 October 3-4, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Rufus Wainwright, Ben Folds August 5, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Brian Wilson August 9, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).

Ryles Jazz Club Mr. Nick Blues Mafia, 9 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
Wally's Live jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
WaterWorks Fasttimes, 8 pm, $5, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Color and Talea, 7 pm, $10.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-Jah, 11 pm.

SUNDAY, JULY 3

Bill's Bar Dub Station, 10 pm, $10, $12, 19+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Sunday's Well, 9 pm. Downstairs: Tom O'Carroll.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay, 10 pm-2:30 am, $3-$5.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Crooked Still, 8 pm, $17, members $15.
DCR Hatch Memorial Shell Boston's Fourth of July Preview Concert, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Hip Hop Anonymous, Omega I Mighty Mystic, Lee Wilson, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Live Jazz Brunch with Matthew D and Larry Kukers, 9 am.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lyodd, 3 pm, no cove
Lucky's Lounge The Al Vega Trio, Mark Mah pm-12 am, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Mang Dub, 10 pm, no co 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Steal the City, Straigh Video, Animal Suit Driveby, Two Minute War 1 pm, $9. Downstairs: Capital Ra Never.Only.Once, Frequency Needs A Mate, St Bike Crusade, Parker Hill, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
Wally's Live jam session, 4-7 pm, no cover, Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+
WaterWorks Taint, 8 pm, $10, $20.
Wonder Bar Johnny Homer, Joe McMahon, F Scott, 9 pm, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jazz in Five, 7 pm, $8.

MONDAY, JULY 4

Bill's Bar The Jam Broasis, The Nigel Hall Qui 9 pm, $8, $10, 18+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Geoff Bartley and C Mike Fol Music, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
DCR Hatch Memorial Boston's Fourth of July, pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Mem Shannon and the Member 8 pm, $8, 21+.
Matt Murphy's State of the Art, no cover, 21+.
Wally's Live blues, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Homer, Joe McMahon, F Scott, 9 pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, JULY 5

Abbey Lounge James Christensen and Fri 7 pm.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Blue Grass Pickin' Pa pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, R billy Jazz From the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, Cahill 21+.

...in McKeown plays the Paradise Rock Club June 29.

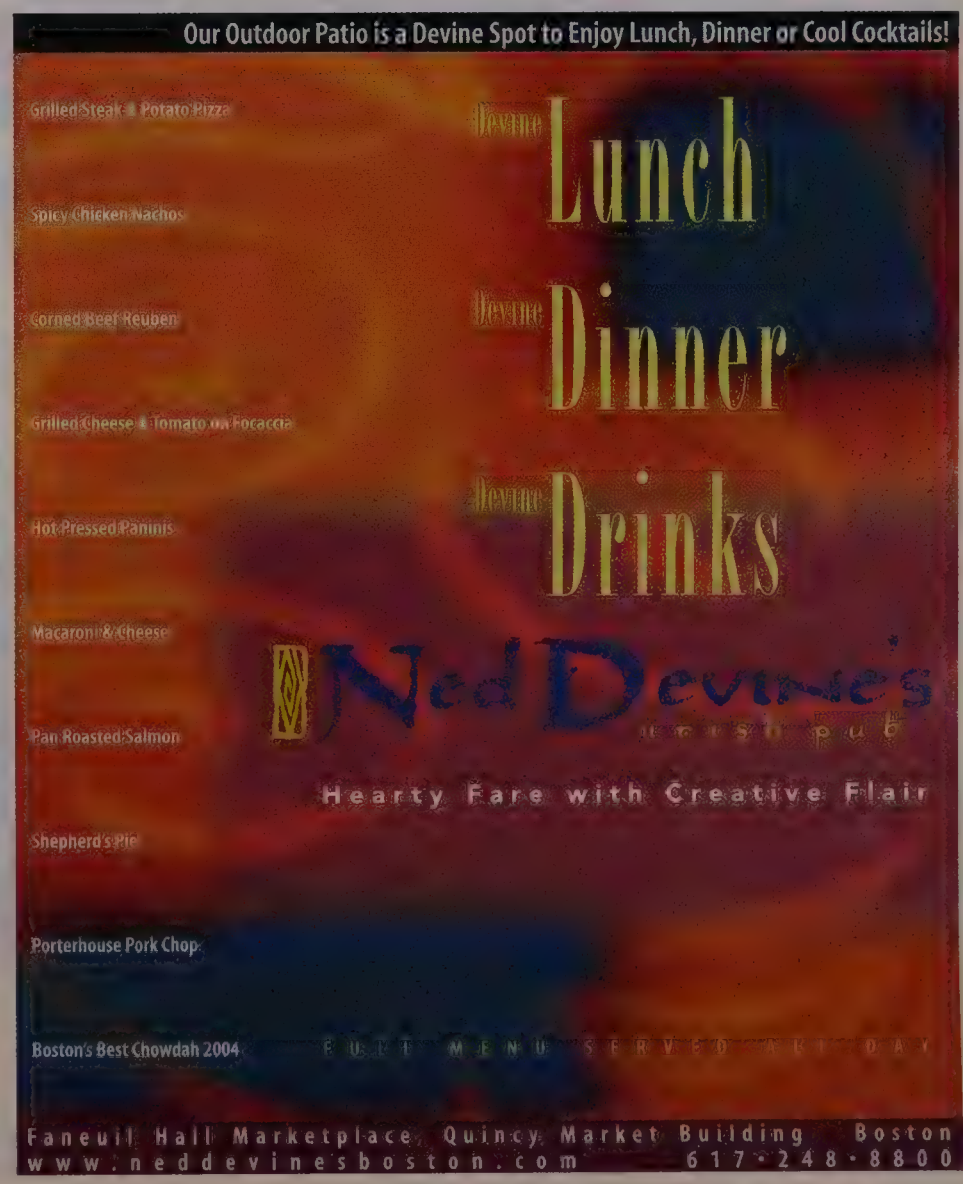
...nessy's** Scott Damgaard.
...t Murphy's** Public House, 10 pm, no cover.
...dle East** Upstairs: Fellow Project, the Animal ...set, Monet Madrid Madagascar, Poolabomb, 8 ...$8, 18+.
...k Bar** Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
...dy O's** Brian Belcher, 8:30 pm.
... Purple Shamrock** Karaoke with Dana Z, 10 ... no cover.
... of the Hub** Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
... the Bear's Place** On The Surface, 9 pm; the ...ture Index, 9:50 pm; Lannen Fall, 10:40 pm, $6.
...ly's** Live swing, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
...nder Bar** Johnny Homer, Joe McMahon, Rusty ...tt, 9 pm, 21+.
...Zu** Electrosocial featuring Nate Browningham ... Fight or Flight, 10 pm.

...EDNESDAY, JULY 6

...ey Lounge** Chris Bono, 7 pm; Nylon 66, 9 pm; ... Shift, 9:45 pm; Henry, 10:45 pm; 8mm Fuzz, ...45 pm.
... Black Rose** Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
...vo at the MFA** Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
...ezeway** PJ Adamson, 7:30 pm-10:30 pm, no ...er.
...ntab Lounge** Upstairs: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9 ..., no cover, 21+.
...b Passim** David Berkeley, 8 pm, $12, members ...).
...k's Last Resort** Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no ...er.
...place Restaurant** Pete Barr.
...A** Four Tet, Sunburned Hand of the Man, 7:30 ...
...ddle East** Upstairs: Big Bear, the Nein, Tiny ...ips, $8, 18+.
...k Bar** Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
...dy O's** The Buzz Live Karaoke, 8:30 pm.
...e Purple Shamrock** Live Band Karaoke with ...ck Park, 10 pm, no cover.
...les Jazz Club** Live music, 9 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Third Life, 9 pm, Casey Desmond, 9:50 pm, Chris Grace, 10:40 pm, $6.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, 21+.
ZuZu Dan Blakeslee, 10 pm.

THURSDAY, JULY 7

Abbey Lounge the List Exits, 9 pm; Pennyred, 9:45 pm; Static of the Gods, 10:45 pm; Swim Team, 11:45 pm.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Axis GBH, the God Awfuls, 7 pm, $15, 18+.
Bank of America Pavilion Donna Summer, 7:30 pm, $38.50-$75.00.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Evan Gutierrez, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Boston Harbor Hotel Bob Margolin and the Willie "Big Eyes" Smith Band, 6 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Feature band of the week, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim John Renbourn, Jacqui McShee, 8 pm, $25, members $23.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Irie Roots.
Great Scott Constantines, Oxford Collapse, Get Him Eat Him, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jiji, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Red Rooster, Charolette Kendrick, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 8 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Scrum, $5.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Rocketscience, Harriet Street, Honor By August, Souls For Lease, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Do Make Say Think, Blame Game, $12, 18+.



Mr. Dooley's Sean Cunningham, 5 pm.
Oak Bar Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.
PA's Tristan Da Cunha, Shore Leave, Spheres, Paper Thin Stages, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club: Rachid Taha, 9 pm, $15, 18+; Lounge: Luciano, Mikey General, Joint Chiefs, 9 pm, $7-$9, 18+.
The Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
Tweeter Center John Mellencamp, John Fogerty, 7 pm, $26-$65.
Wally's Live Latin jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
ZuZu Headband, 11 pm.

FRIDAY, JULY 8

Abbey Lounge the Coffin Lids, 11:45 pm.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne. Upstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Part-Time Lovers, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, no cover.
Club Passim Meg Hutchinson, 8 pm, $14, members $12.
The Grand Canal Magnus, 10 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Accent, 9:30 pm.
Harpers Ferry Sam Kininger Band, 9:30 pm, $8, 21 +.
Hennessy's Swerve.
Kinsale Manny Martinez, 9 pm, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 8 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Gavin House, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Matt Murphy's Chinaband, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Emergency Music, Dirty Whites, Blythe Hollow, $9, 18 +.
Milky Way Lovewhip, 9 pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy & Alan, 5 pm; Sunday's Well, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
Paddy O's Last Laugh, 9 pm.
PA's O'Death, Ponies in the Surf, Milo Jones, Skeletonbreath, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Regattabar Ron Carter Golden Striker Trio, 7:30 pm & 10 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Dancehall: the Brazillian Jungle Band, 8:30 pm, $10. Mainstage: Soul Kitchen, 9 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group with vocalist Maggie Galloway, 9 pm.
Tweeter Center 3 Doors Down, 6:30 pm, $24-$66.
Wally's Live jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
WaterWorks Frequency 7, 8 pm, $5, $10.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm.

SATURDAY, JULY 9

Abbey Lounge Sarah Rabdau, 7 pm; Heap, 9 pm; Jetlagger, 9:45 pm; Museum of Sciencze, 10:45 pm; Cyanide Valentine, 11:45 pm.
The Attic the Splendid Nobodies CD Release party.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne. Upstairs: Celtic Clan; Tom O'Carroll.
Bob the Chef's Aaron Burnett, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Garnet Rogers, Dave Gunning, 8 pm, $15, $13 members.
DCR Hatch Memorial Shell WODS Oldies in Concert, Johnny Rivers, 7 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Friday Episode, 10 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Velvet Jones, 9:30 pm.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, $5.
Harpers Ferry Superhoney, the Evolved, 9:30 pm, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Fat Tuesday.
Kinsale Brehan Law, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Spitzz, Detonations, Curses, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Haloburn, White, Endway, Contagion, Those Who Wait, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Bettie Serveert, $12, 18+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
Mr. Dooley's Colm O'Brien, 9:30 pm.
Paddy O's Incadence, 9 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Mr. Brownstone, Lingo, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
PA's the Octave Museum; Thee Electric Bastards, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The Purple Shamrock Syndicate, 10 pm, $5.
Regattabar Ron Carter Golden Striker Trio, 7:30 pm & 10 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Melvin Sparks, 9 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group with vocalist Maggie Galloway, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Baby Strange, the Break Mission, the Ferns, $8.
Tweeter Center Dave Matthews Band, 7 pm, $40.00-$57.50.
Wally's Live jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
WaterWorks Joshua Tree, 8 pm, $5, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Color and Talea, 7 pm, $10.
ZuZu Sol-le-lu-Jah, 11 pm.

SUNDAY, JULY 10

Berklee College of Music Tower of Power, 3 pm.
Bill's Bar Dub Station, 10 pm, $10, $12, 19+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne. Upstairs: Tom O'Carroll.
Bob the Chef's Lori Dow Gospel, 10 pm-2:30 am, $3-$5.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Rachael Davis, 8 pm, $12, members $10.
Johnny D's Live Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 am.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lyodd, 3 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's The Well, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: A Hero Next Door, Fallen From The Sky, 1 pm, $9; Us Verses Them, Apothecary Hymns, St. Helena, Noah Maxner, 8 pm, $8, 18 +. Downstairs: Powerman 5000, $16 in advance, $18 at door, 18+.
Milky Way Cirque de Singe Brise
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
Tweeter Center Dave Matthews Band, 7 pm, $40.00-$57.50.
Wally's Live jam session, 4-7 pm, no cover, 21+; Wally's Stepchilren, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
WaterWorks The Pak, 8 pm, $10, $20.
Wonder Bar Johnny Homer, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, 21+.

MONDAY, JULY 11

Abbey Lounge Kate McDonnell and Friends, 7 pm.
Bill's Bar Jam Broasis, Sara Brindell, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Geoff Bartley's C Mike and Folk Music, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Folktracks Live!, 8 pm, $10, member
Great Scott Backyard Babies, Chelsea Sm Halos, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Johnny D's Riot Act Open Mic, 7 pm.
Matt Murphy's Brian Thomas Group, no co 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Piles, Daniel Striped T The Sanguine, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Acoustic Universe open mike, 8 pm cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Pants Yell, 9:05 pm; Lov Laughter, 10 pm; Cass McCombs, 11 pm, $10
Wally's Live blues, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Homer, Joe McMahon, R Scott, 9 pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, JULY 12

Bank of America Pavilion The Moody Blues, pm, $35-$5.
Berklee Performance Center Birdsongs of Mesozoic, the Berklee Techno-Rave Ensemble, pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Blue Grass Pickin' Pa pm, no cover, 21+. Downstairs: Bluegrass Jam, 9 no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike with John Troy, 7 pm members free.
The Green Dragon Tavern the Two Timin' T Rockabilly Jazz From the Hills, 10:30 pm cover.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, Fickle, pm, $4, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Red Stick Ramblers, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kinsale Tom Courtney, 9 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East the Jumblies, Soft Caustic, Our La Bells, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Karaoke with Ricky McLean.
Oak Bar Live piano, 8 pm, no cover.

ave Matthews plays the Tweeter Center July 9-10.

dy O's Brian Belcher, 8:30 pm.
e Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Dana Z, 10
.
es Jazz Club Syncopation, 8:30 pm, $10.
of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
lly's Live swing, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21 +.
nder Bar Johnny Homer, Joe McMahon, Rusty
tt, 9 pm, 21+.
Zu Rachel Cantu and Feverfew, 10 pm.

lusic Venues

bey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-31).*
-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-44). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
gard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-00). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
e Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). BTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
alon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). BTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
enue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-2-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
is *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). BTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
nk of America Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., ston (617-931-2000) MBTA: Red Line to South tion.*
rklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston 17-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
rklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., ston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to nes/ICA.*
l's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-78). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
e Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, ston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line Government Center.*
e Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). BTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
avo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston 17-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
istol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-00). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
b the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-3-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
ston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston 17-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*

Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*

Breaking Benjamin plays Verizon Wireless Arena June 30.

Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-BOWL). MBTA: Green LIne to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Out of the Blue Art Gallery *106 Prospect Street, Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Road, Quincy (617-423-6000).*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through June 30. 8 pm. $16-$120. Composer, conductor and pianist Marvin Hamlisch performs a concert in salute of Broadway composer Richard Rodgers.

Bravo @ the MFA

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $20-$25, $30 tables. Pianist Omar Sosa performs African- and Latin-inspired musical pieces.

FRIDAY, JULY 1

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through July 2. 8 pm. $16-$120. Vocalist Liz Calloway sings with the Boston Pops in Boomer Bash, a salute to the baby boomer generation.

Tanglewood Music Center

Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. The Julliard String Quartet performs Haydn's Quartet in D.

SATURDAY, JULY 2

Tanglewood Music Center

Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 5:45 pm. $17.50-$66. Garrison Keillor hosts *A Prairie Home Companion* as the radio show tapes its live season finale.

Zeitgeist Gallery

Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist gallery.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 1 pm. $10. Live classical music.

SUNDAY, JULY 3

Boston Pops

Charles River Esplanade, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. Through July 4. 8 pm. Free. Keith Lockhart conducts the Boston Pops Orchestra in this yearly performance celebrating Independence Day. Guest performers join throughout the evening.

Tanglewood Music Center

Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. Kurt Masur conducts the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra as it performs Henri Dutilleux's *The Shadow of Time.*

TUESDAY, JULY 5

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 64 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12:15 pm. $3. AGO Young Organists Initiative performs its 9th annual showcase recital.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6

Bravo @ the MFA

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $20-$25, $30 tabl
Solo performer Four Tet performs his newly dev oped neo-classic sounds with special gu Sunburned Hand of the Man.

WCRB Classical Concert Series

Hatch Shell, Storrow Dr., Boston (617-626-497 7 pm. Free. Tonight's concert starts the summ series of live classical music concerts hosted by Department of Conservation and Recreation.

THURSDAY, JULY 7

Tanglewood Music Center

Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-516 www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. The San Francisco-ba male choir Chanticleer performs a concert w pieces inspired by womanhood.

FRIDAY, JULY 8

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Boston Common Parkman Bandstand, Boston (6 626-4970). Green Line to Park St. Through July pm. Free. Charles Ansbacher conducts the Landm Orchestra as it performs a three-part baroque conc

Newport Music Festival

44 Ochre Point Ave., Newport, RI (401-846-113 www.newportmusic.org. 8 pm. $40. The Open Night Concert features organist Hector Oliv Located at The Breakers mansion.

Tanglewood Music Center

Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-516 www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. James Levine c ducts the Boston Symphony Orchestra as t perform Mahler's Symphony No. 8 with e vocalists for the opening night performance.

SATURDAY, JULY 9

Newport Music Festival

44 Ochre Point Ave., Newport, RI (401-846-11 www.newportmusic.org. •4 pm. $35. The Comp Series features Debussy and Haydn pieces at Wakehurst tent. •9 pm. $40. Marc Laforet perfo pieces by Chopin at the Breakers mansion.

Tanglewood Music Center

Shed Building, 297 West St., Lenox (413-6 5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$85. Masur conducts the Boston Symphony Orche and violinist Joshua Bell.

SUNDAY, JULY 10

Newport Music Festival

16 Ochre Point Ave., Newport, RI (401-846-11 www.newportmusic.org. •11 am. $35. Schindler's features piano transcriptions by Franz Liszt. Loc at the Elms Mansion. •2 pm. $35. The Victor B Composer Series features the chamber work Haydn and Debussy. Located at Ochre Court.

Tanglewood Music Center

Shed Building, 297 West St., Lenox (413-6 5165). www.bso.org. 10 am and 8:30 pm. $17-
The Boston Symphony Orchestra performs. concert features conductor Kurt Masur and pia Alex Emmanuel.

TUESDAY, JULY 12

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 64 Beacon St., Boston (617- 2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green Li Arlington. 12:15 pm. $3. Live music concert.

Tanglewood Music Center

Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-51 www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. Soprano si Deborah Voigt performs songs by Schul Strauss, Ives, Tchaikovsky and Bolcom with anist Brian Zeger.

Ozawa Hall at the Tanglewood Music Center

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ghts

NDAYS

Tua Nua
nony A night of gothic and industrial music, $3, 19+.

: Gay night with rotating DJs and drag perfor-es, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

:on Rocks
ni Mondays DJ spins top-40, plus open mike nteractive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

rice
ha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a f Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 o cover, 21+.

den Temple
E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, wn, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
eisiun.

en Street Grill
to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after les-21+.

enix Landing
a Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, n, $3, 21+.

Place
in top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rack
in dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

r Gods
dy Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musi-ce-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

it
. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no , 21+.

ESDAYS

t
Dance to hip-hop and R&B, $20, 19+ ladies, nen.

ton Rocks
oth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-, no cover, 21+.

rice
bands as well as rotating DJs, 10 pm, no cover,

mopolitan
day Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10-, $5, 21+.

bassy
e spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no , 19+.

Enormous Room
'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from 70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

den Temple
E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix in-ng R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, ver, 21+.

een Street Grill
Timin' Three performs rock-a-billy jazz music, 0 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Kells
lly '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

oenix Landing
e" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, n, no cover, 21+.

Place
pin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Purple Shamrock
oke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rack
pin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

er Gods
sdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at , no cover, 21+.

nor
t varies with an assortment of performances and ed events, 10 pm-2 am.

es Dance Hall
ana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night res an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

u
NT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa night, DJ Hernan, DJ D. Martinez, DJ Antonio Ortiz, and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes beginner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk music bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Spoken Word A night of poetry.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After Work Wednesdays Sam Adams sponsors Game Night with free appetizers and Red Sox ticket giveaways, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
DJ World Unite spins, 11:30 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

Aria Lounge
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $20, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

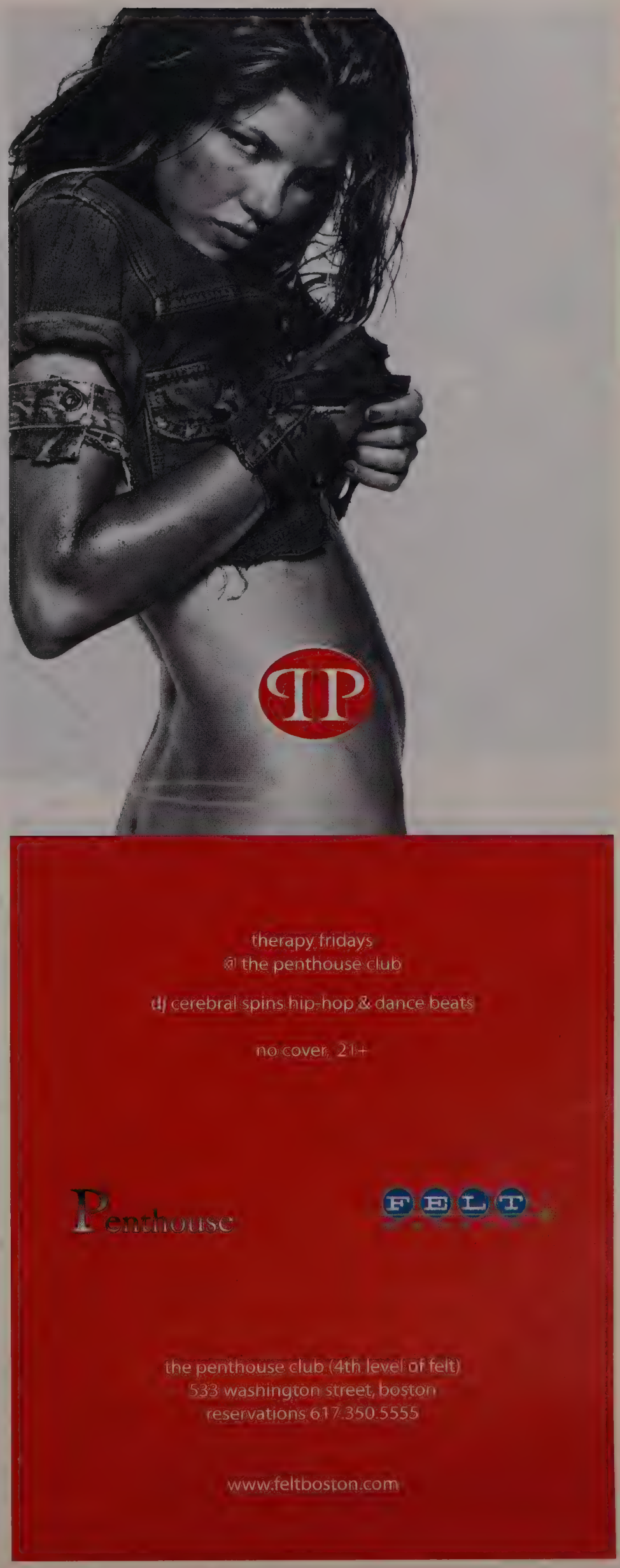
Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+.

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.



Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Miss Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ Mike Navarro, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of jazz, 10 pm.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After Work Lounge Rotating DJs spin jazz and lounge music, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama-jigi play afro-pop highlife, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club's Latin Lounge DJs Cuban Jeff and D. Martinez spin a mix of Latin and Latin house, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

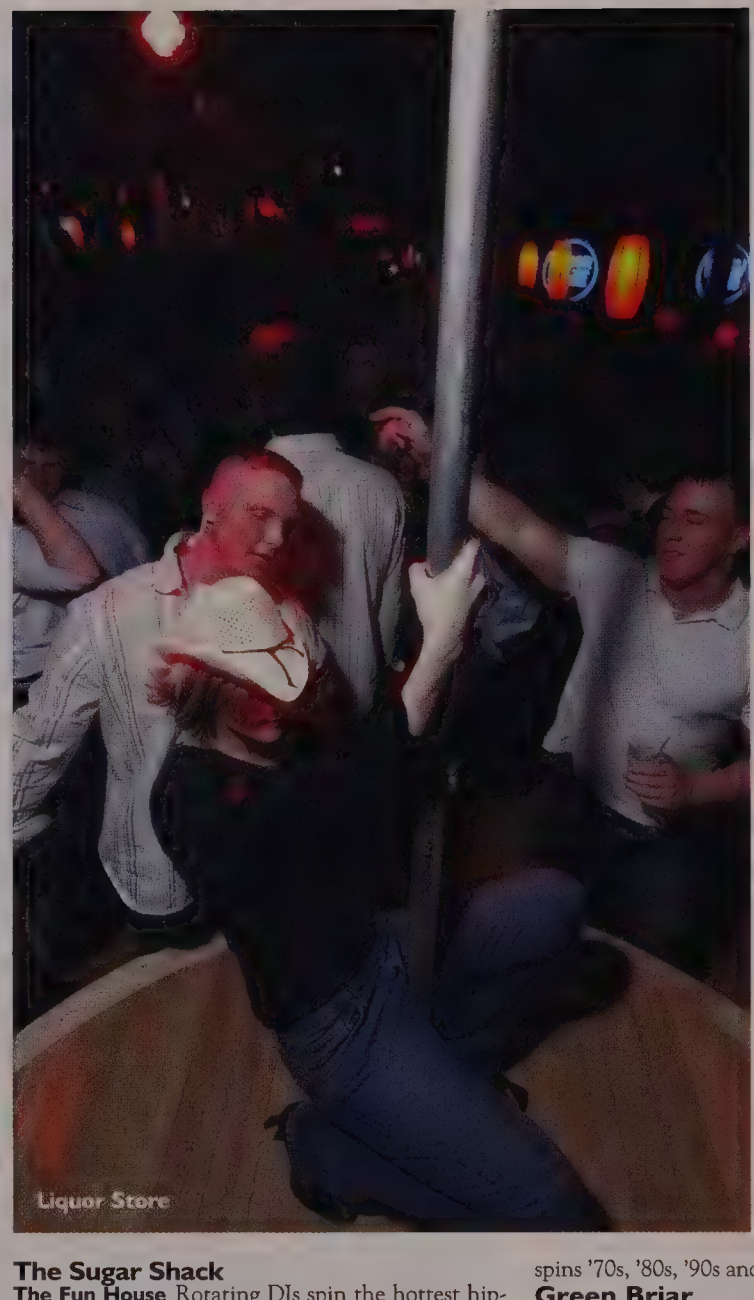
The Ruby Room
Martini Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while resident DJs spin R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.



The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Steve spins top-40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Vanity DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 pm, $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Hot Fridays Hip-hop, Merengue, Salsa, Reggae, and Bachata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Club Q
Forbidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Zender spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Chris Kung of KISS 108 spins dance, top-40 and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Niso and DJ Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe Jam'n 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 2

The Penthouse Club
DJ Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beat cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 1 no cover, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, ar screens show Boston sports video highlights, 1 $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itch

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pr cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B an gae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&E old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 1 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm,

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and h 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top- night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21

Anthem
Latin Fever DJs spin Salsa Clasica, Merer Bachata, Salsa de Hoy and Latin House at weekly theme party, 10 pm-2 am, $10.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared and friends mix top-40, hip-hop, and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 1 $20, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Adilson spins with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life DJs Frank and Matty spins hip- 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps ning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop top-40 music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-1 DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop intera video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice ning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagelli ate a lounge atmosphere with international house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

rs
ythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
fenna spins top-40, no cover, 21+.

gan's
iig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5,

nopolitan
it of hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

in's
in Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and
9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

kside
in R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Lounge
vood Women's night, with two floors of hip-
id house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs,
, $8, 21+.

assy
:e DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Enormous Room
berate Mark Estrada spins current and classic
op, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

:ky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no
21+.

idation Lounge
ward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s
80s disco and Motown, plus international
and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

l
Square Russian Lounge DJ Albertik spins
in and international music on the third floor,
-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ
D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal
, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth
10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

or Store
n Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

rix/Paradise City
ins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8,
$15 for ladies 18+.

iann's
in dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

dlesex Lounge
nan Productions presents golden-era hip-hop,
ver.

y Way
o's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins
ngue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men;
omen (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

Modern
DJs on Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons spin
nal techno and electro microhouse, 10 pm,
9+.

l Lounge
y Shop This ladies-only night features DJ
adyj spinning hip-hop and dance music,
-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Palace
Beach House Classic party music and top-40,
8+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish
atin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Her-
z and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30
fter 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male**
unter New England's longest-running all-male
revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-
am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen**
naos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.
DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazil-
mosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

ris
8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Penthouse Club
Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-energy
beats, no cover, 21+.

enix Landing
n Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit won-
'80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

Place
ptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Point
styles Different DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm,

Rack
rday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche
9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

line
herry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am,
ver, 21+.

r Gods
Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern
s, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

y
ng DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles of
, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

nor
ender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C.
house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Dance Hall Reggae music, 11 pm, $10-15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $20, 19+ (women), 21+ (men).

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+.

Caprice
Rotating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Club Q
Suave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and the 45 Crew spin dance music. 8 pm-2 am. $10.

Cosmopolitan
Caribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Spot DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

The Office
Utopia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests play deep soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

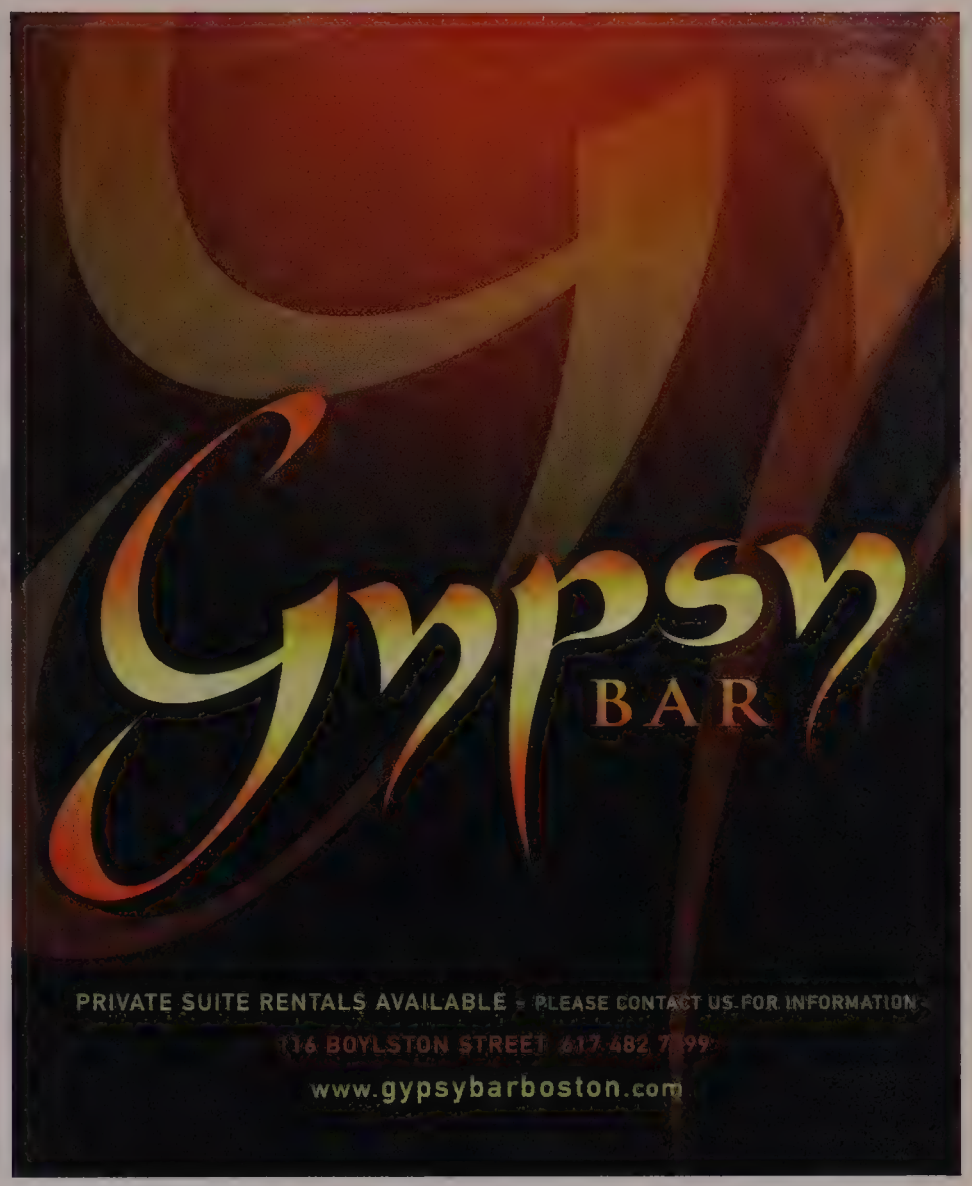
The Point
DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.



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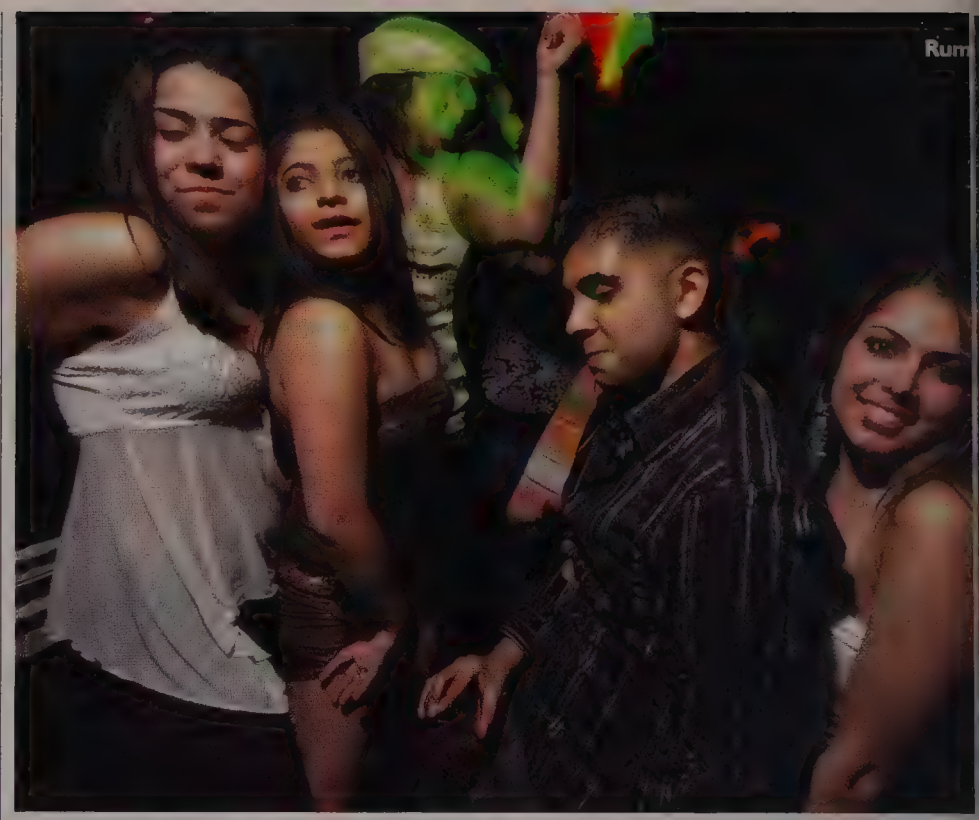

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and international grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance hits, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Anthem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-77*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1(*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-400(*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (61 722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-94*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782 9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-811(*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-2 4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (6 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617 351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-67*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-16*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washingt St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-70*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617 227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-73 3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-18*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-06*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambrid (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-65*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-0*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0(*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-03(*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-921*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-66*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-03*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542 1483).*

SATURDAY NIGHTS IN SPRING 2005
TOO MANY CHICKS* AT DICK'S!?!

BACHELORETTE PARTIES BRINGIN' WAY TOO MANY BABES*
THESE GALS* COME IN READY TO PARTY, HAVE A COUPLE OF MAI TAI'S AND TURN INTO ROCK 'N ROLL [censored] FROM [censored] !?!
SO WE NEED A FEW GOOD MEN TO GIVE DICK A HELPING HAND..... HEY HOW HARD CAN IT BE!?!... YOU GOT A BUNCH OF BABES* LOOKIN' FOR A GOOD TIME AND NOT ENOUGH GUYS TO SHOW EM ONE!! DICK WILL TRY TO HANG ON TIL YOU GET HERE!?!
FREE PARKING AFTER 5P.M.
W/ VALIDATION AT THE PRU GARAGE
LUNCH + DINNER!
NO CLASS!
*POLITICALLY INCORRECT (AND PROUD OF IT!?)
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museums & galleries

ice to Contributors
it gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859- or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e- rts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop one number. Deadline is four weeks prior to pub- n. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

useums

ur M. Sackler Museum
rd University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617- 400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: ne to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 East Asian art is exhibited in *Forging the New: Asian Painting in the Twentieth Century.* Through ber 16. •*Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Portraiture, The Art of Ancient Rome* and *Near n Art* are on display. Ongoing.

s Museum and Cultural Center
esley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley 283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. A: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 Wed., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 12 pm-4 pm. Free. •A y of art from China, Japan and Korea runs gh June 2006. •A new installation of modernist atures works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sar- nd Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

ordova Museum and pture Park
andy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; stu- and seniors, $6. •*The 2005 Annual Exhibition* es works from 10 New England artists. Through 31. •*Collection Highlight: Makoto Yabe* features ics. Through July 31. •*Abstract Elements: The eatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection tract works by regional and international 20th- ry artists. Through Sept. 26. •*Great Buys: Mu- Purchases* highlights works purchased over the ecade. Through August 2006.

g Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger eum
uincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www. useums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har- Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; nts and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. erican Art at Harvard includes paintings and tures of Harvard's notable members since the 17th century. Ongoing. •*American Art since* displays the changes that occurred in Ameri- rt in the mid-20th century using paintings and tures. Ongoing. •*Eighteenth-Century European mics and Paintings* exhibits some of the mu- 's permanent collection. Ongoing. •*Rubens and Collaborators* exhibits the museum's 17th cen- baroque style paintings by Peter Paul Rubens other artists of the period. Ongoing. •*To Stu- of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the ction of Grenville L. Winthrop* displays 19th-cen- art. Ongoing. •The exhibits *Art and Design Central and Northern Europe since 1880* and *Art ance, 1885-1960* are featured. Ongoing.

vard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www. n.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. , 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; free from 9 am-12 pm. • *Thoreau's Walden: A Jour- n Photographs by Scot Miller* displays a five-year rial of Walden Woods. Through Oct. 2. •*The s Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka fea- the Ware Collection of glass models for more 830 plant species. Ongoing. •*Romancing the e: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the eum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tour- nes. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Mete- ...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* fea- collections documenting more than two uries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

itute of Contemporary Art
Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.ica n.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., and Fri., 12 pm-5 pm; Thu., 12 pm-9 pm; Sat. and , 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; free after 5 pm. •*Getting Emotional* is an exhibition sing on the expression of feeling through various ia. Through Sept. 5. •*Momentum 4: Roe Ethridge* exhibition of contemporary photography in- d by fashion and advertising. Through Sept. 5.

The *Momentum 1: Roe Ethridge* exhibit displays at the Institute of Contemporary Art through Sept. 5.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www. gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Mu- seum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; stu- dents, $5; members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. •*The Seasonal Courtyard* offers floral displays. Through July 31. •*Stray Dogs* features Croa- tian artist Danijel Zezelj's drawings. Through August 21. •*A Closer Look: An Introduction to the Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum* offers museum tours. *Tue.- Fri, 2:30 pm.* Ongoing.•*Special Exhibition Gallery Talks* provide context to museum exhibits. *Sat., 12 pm.* Ongoing. •The collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture pieces, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelan- gelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http:// web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.- Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •*Sturte- vant: The Brutal Truth* is the first comprehensive exhibition by American artist Elaine Sturtevant. Through July 10. •Photographs from the collection of 1969 MIT alumni Gus and Arlette Kayafas are displayed. Through Aug. 5. •The museum's collec- tion features over 1,500 contemporary art works, including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. Ongoing.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http:// web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; stu- dents and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. •*Clipper Ship Era* is a collection of lithographs, plans and photographs illustrating the design, construction and culture of a clipper ship. Through July 10. •*Ro- bots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongo- ing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selec- tions from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a chore- ographer." Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* dis- plays work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winners. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www. afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Revisiting the Abeil Smith School* chronicles the history of equalizing education on Beacon Hill. Through July 9. •Four exhibits depict the history of the African-Americans in Massachusetts. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.- Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17 school days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all other times, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Speed, Style, and Beauty: Cars from the Ralph Lauren Collection* displays 16 automobiles from the designer's private collection. Through July 3. •*Future Retro: Drawing from the Great Age of American Automobiles* is an exhibition of innovation in automo- biles after World War II. Through July 18. •*The Quilts of Gee's Bend* displays over 60 quilts made from 1930 until 2000. Through Aug. 21. •*Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia* features over 100 musical instruments. July 9-Jan. 5, 2006.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; chil- dren, $11. • *Brain: The World Inside Your Head* fea- tures a giant model brain. Through Sept. 10. •*Di- nosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •400 butterflies and flow- ers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garden.* On- going. •*The Light House: Beaming, Bouncing and Bending Light* explores the science behind color and light. Ongoing. •*Human Body Connection* explores the physiology and evolution of the human body. Ongoing. •*Welcome to the Universe* investigates the stars and planets along with cosmic theories. Ongo- ing. •*Playing by the Rules: Fish, Fad and Fireflies* in- vestigates complex systems such as the tendency of fireflies to light up in unison. Ongoing. •*Beyond the X-Ray* looks at ways doctors look into the human body without cutting and where the technology will go in the future. Ongoing. •*Messages* explores re- gional languages and other aspects of communica- tion. Ongoing. •The Gillian Observatory is open for free viewings of the sky for *Friday Night Stargaz- ing.* Ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www. pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; stu- dents, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*The Art of Shopping in China* captures China's early-19th-century international trade market through 40 paintings. Through Sept. 5. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from the Mississippian Culture through March 30, 2006. •*Air Lines* features photographs by Alex MacLean through April 23, 2006. •*Carved by Na- ture* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through Aug. 3, 2006. •*Yin Yu Tang* is a recon- structed Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www. peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; chil- dren 3-18, $6; children under 3, free. •*Painted by a Dis- tant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American South- west* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 30. •*Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations in Washington, D.C* features a selection of photographs of Native American delegates to the U.S. government. Through October 13. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtis Collection* is on display through Mar. 30, 2006. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Arti- sanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006. •*Change and Continuity: Hall of the North American In- dian* depicts the Native Americans' response to the ar- rival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Distinguished Casts: Cu- rating Lost Monuments* features the museum's Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* features original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. Ongoing. •*Pacific Is- lands Hall* displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands. Ongoing.

Special Events

The Secret Ark of Icon Park
Charlestown Navy Yard, 55 Constitution Road, Charlestown (617-242-5601). www.nps.gov/bost. MBTA: Orange or Green Line to North Station. June 2, 2-4 pm. Free. The launching of the new tempo- rary outdoor exhibit created by The Institute of Contemporary Art's artist-in-residence Jerry Beck opens with the premier of Evan Celimli's horn quar- tet *The Secret Ark.* The exhibit addresses the impact of the current military conflicts in our everyday lives, and violence in American pop culture. Con- tinues through Oct. 10, 12-5 pm daily.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www. acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The Summer Salon features 20th cen- tury paintings from New England's summer art colonies. Through Aug. 20.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385) www. alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tea and Fan- tasy* features sculptured teapots created by 28 artists. July 2-Aug. 31.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alpha gallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.- Thu., 10 am- 5:30 pm. •*New Talent* features paintings by local art school graduates Kyle Bown, Jennifer L. Caine, Hannah Cole and Jenny Nelson. Through July 1. •*Summer Selections* displays paintings by gallery artists. July 6-Sept. 7.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www. ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Paintings by Deborah Van Auten are on display through June 29. •*Still Lifes* features abstracted still lifes by Stephen Dins- more. July 5-30.

Ars Libri
Mario Diacno Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Andy Cross' paintings on styrofoam are on display through July 6. •Shelley Reet displays oil on canvas paintings July 8-August 31.

Artana
1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Summer Salon Show* displays over 100 paintings through July 30. •The gallery shows paintings, sculptures and glass by artists from New England. Ongoing.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www. artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.- Sun., 3-8 pm. •*Sophisticated Whimsy* features ceramics, paintings and drawings by Tim Murley, Shawn Weaver and Heather Adels. Through July 1. •*Organic Expressions* features oil based abstracts. July 8-Aug. 19.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Shadowplay* displays in- teractive projections by Scott Snibbe. Through July 3.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., Boston (781-853-0017). www. atlanticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Thu., 6-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm. •*Orange* is a members' exhibition of paintings, photography and jewelry. Through July 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A group show features works by Josef Albers, Daniel Buren, Ellsworth Kelly, Sol Lewitt, Robert Mangold, Fred Sandback and Peter Wegner. Through July 28.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www. berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back

Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*A Right of Passive* features paintings by Clint Griffin. Through July 30.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Once Over and the Art of Scrutiny* features a group photography show. Through July 30. •Paintings by Robert Amesbury display through July 30.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Thu. 12-5 pm; Fri.-Sat. 12-10 pm; Sun. 12-5 pm. •*Sifting the Inner Belt* is research art that focuses on the South End community. Through July 31.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Brickbottom Summer Member's Exhibition: BIG* exhibits large paintings created by gallery members. Through Aug. 31.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9-4:30 pm. •*The Gadsby Awards* features framed paintings by middle school students. Through June 30. •*Photographs by Mark Richards* displays through July 8.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Out of Indonesia: Brahma Tirta Sari Studio Batik* features Indonesian art by Agus Ismoyo and Nia Filam. Through June 29. •*ph15* features photographs by students from a low income neighborhood in Buenos Aires. July 7-Sept. 2.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •A group show features paintings by gallery artists. July 6-Aug. 29.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Art of the Mid-Century* features oil and water color paintings. Through July 2. •Two exhibitions, *Chauncey Ryder: Printmaker* and *Art from Provincetown*, feature drawings, prints and pictures by several artists. Through July 10.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Copley Masters' Show: A Juried Exhibition* is on display. Through July 16.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Wed and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu. 10 am-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •Paintings by marine artist Jeff Eldridge are on display through July 15. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*Bull in Spain* features paintings by Alan Bull of Andalusia. Through July 2. •Jay Gaffney displays black and white photography. July 5-30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Séance* features paintings by Jane Marsching and Deb Todd Wheeler. Through July 30.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Luminicia* features Royo's French impressionist paintings. Through July 3. •*A Retrospective Exhibition* features paintings by Luc Leestemaker. July 8-Aug. 7. •An exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries is ongoing.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Fri., 12-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*New Talent of New England, 1st Juried Group Exhibition* displays work on paper and canvas, sculptures and photographs by emerging New England artists. Through July 15.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 pm. •William Machado's paintings are on display through July 1. •*...it's how you play the game* features

Carolyn Swiszcz's *Shear Pleasure* displays at OSP Gallery through August 20.

photographs including some by Lou Jones, William Chapman, Jim Down, Harold Edgerton and Mike Malayszko. July 5-30.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • *The Repetitive Mark* is on display through July 29.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Silver Lake* features drawings and sculptures by Mira Cantor. Through July 9.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Interiors* features color photographs by Sarah Malakoff. Through July 6. •Peter Tollins displays paintings through July 6. •The *Group Summer Show* features color photographs. July 8-Aug. 20.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm and by appointment. •Pre-Columbian artwork displays through July 11. •African artwork displays through July 11.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery showcases a variety of vintage posters. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Primary Emotions* features Patricia Jo Peacock and Stephen Sheffield's explorations of self-portraiture through various styles including textured collage, oil on canvas and photography. Through July 2. •*100 Year Retrospective of Paintings* displays American impressionist works by Harold Rotenberg. July 9-30.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Sat. 1-4 pm and by appointment. •*Summer Celebration* features paintings by Camilla Armstrong, Holly Hauser, Susie Pryor, Dan Robertson and more. Through July 22.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Daniel Blagd's new urban landscape paintings display through July 2. •*Finding Our Place* features organic abstracts by Aaron Petersen. July 6-30.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstonegallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •*Relay* features multimedia works by Elif Sowyer. Through July 2. •New Art '05 features paintings and sculptures by various artists. July 1-31.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works in various media by international and local artists including Douglass Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarese and Carrie McGee. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Color Connections* displays patterned and textured sculptures. Through Aug. 18.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). www.martinlawrencegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Wed., 10 am-6 pm; Thurs.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-7 pm. •*Contemporary Surrounding* is a group exhibition of interiors and landscape paintings. July 1-31.

Mobilia Gallery
33 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Dorothy Caldwell displays her textile arts through July 2. •A group exhibition of sculptural jewelry displays July 2-Aug. 15. •Dorothy Feibleman displays ceramic sake cups July 2-Aug. 15.

Mercury Gallery
2nd Floor, 8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Urban Landscapes* features paintings by Daniel Robinson, Louis Schanker, Joseph Solman and Karl Zerbe. Through June 30.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Ruth Fields displays paintings and Olivia Bernard displays sculptures. July 8-30.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Reaching Into the Sky: Sunrise/Mid-Day/Sunset* is a free standing installation of tree forms made from rolls of canvas, jute, burlap, silk, organza and cotton veil. Through July 2. •The *Summer Show* features paintings, drawings and sculptures. July 9-Aug. 6.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •*My Perspective: The Phenomenon Faux Naive in Contemporary Painting* shows works by seven artists. Curated by Steven Zevitas. Through Aug. 20.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outofthebluegallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features works by local artists in various media. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Summer Selections* features paintings by Gregory, Melinda Hackett, Lisa Lemeland Sam Tan. Through Aug. 13.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*New Possibilities: New Work* displays photographs by Paul Cary berg, B. A. King, Maria Muller and Cary Woli through July 3. •*Fine Choices 2005* features p ings, drawings and sculptures selected by artists who made them. July 9-Sept. 4.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features 19th- and century American and European paintings. Ong

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlin Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. Salon Show displays photographs by a numb artists. Through Aug. 27.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). M Green Line to Copley. Tue-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat am-5 pm. The gallery features rare 20th-century p ings. Ongoing.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. •*Op...is* hibits abstract works of art that are visually inspir constructivist and futurist ideas. Through Aug. 5.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Grossman Gallery, 230 The Fenway, Boston (369-3718) www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Li Museum. Mon-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu. 10 am-8 The *Staff Art Exhibition* displays work in va media by staff members. Through July 15. *Between* features works in various media create students at the SMFA. Through July 31.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-18 www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to C Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Things Momma Said* revisits childhood through multim Through July 31.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-07 www.soprafina.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. • McCord and Barbara Bashlow Guzman dis landscape paintings. Through July 2. •Re paintings by Resa Blatman and Zsuzsanna Sze display July 8-Aug. 13.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •U *Vista* features oil paintings by William St. Ge through June 30. •The artist-owned gallery tures paintings by Christina Keating, Sa Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin, William St. Ge and Judy St. Peter. Ongoing.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 •*Shadow Boxes: Assembled Tales of Magic, Fate Wit; The Art of Maureen McCabe* features group of various items McCabe has collected. Thr July 2. •The gallery's inventory includes 18th, and 20th-century American artwork. Ongoing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Panopticon Gallery Boston
Hotel Commonwealth, 502 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-8929). www.panopt.com MBTA: Green Li Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Photograph Norman Fortier feature private and commercial ing vessels. Through Sept. 10.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham. M Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*The Tree in Landscape* feat works by more than 20 artists. Through July 15.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). prcboston.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston Un sity West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The 2005 Le Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards* honor t showing excellence in contemporary color photo phy. July 8-Aug. 8.

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vice to Contributors
nit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to ndar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books roper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to cation.

eadings & Signings

EDNESDAY, JUNE 29

rders Books Downtown Crossing
School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www. ersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to ntown Crossing. 12 pm. Free. Providence Journal writer **G. Wayne Miller** discusses his new book, *Xeno Chronicles: Two Years on the Frontier of icine Inside Harvard's Transplant Research Lab*, in h he examines the controversies surrounding -species organ transplants.

wtonville Books & Brews
Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. onvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to tonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Dawn Clifton Tripp** reads her novel *The Season of Open Water*, about a England family who gets involved in the rum- ing trade during prohibition.

IURSDAY, JUNE 30

ookline Booksmith
Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. klinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to lidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Former correspondent he *Sunday Telegraph* **Christy Campbell** reads his book *The Botanist and the Vintner: How e was Saved for the World*, about an aphid infesta- in the late 19th century that threatened to roy European wine production. A wine tasting, tesy of Best Cellars, accompanies the reading.

EDNESDAY, JULY 6

rders Books Downtown Crossing
School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www. lersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to ntown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Musician and tographer **Bryan Adams** signs copies of his CD *m Service* and his book of photography, *American nen*, a collection of photographs of influential erican women dressed in Calvin Klein.

ookline Booksmith
Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. oklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to lidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Creator of the televi- show *Freaks and Geeks* **Paul Feig** reads from his noir *Superstud: Or How I Became a 24-Year-Old in*, about his awkward adolescence.

wtonville Books & Brews
Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. tonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to wtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. Poet **Catherine Reid** ls from her book *Coyote: Seeking the Hunter in Our lst*, which compares various aspects of coyote human behavior. Also, **Katie Willard** reads from novel *Raising Hope*, about the bond between thers and daughters as seen by a 12-year-old ng raised by her aunt and her father's ex-lover.

HURSDAY, JULY 7

ookline Booksmith
Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. oklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to lidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Sports Illustrated writer **gh Montville** discusses his book *Why Not Us?: 86-Year Journey of the Boston Red Sox Fans from paralleled Suffering to the Promised Land of the 2004 rld Series*, which featurs stories from fans about recent victory.

rvard Book Store
t Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617- -1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to rvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Book critic **Ken Smokler** usses the collection of essays he edited, *Bookmark v: Writing in Unreaderly Times*, written by emerging erican writers.

RIDAY, JULY 8

re Series Event
t of the Blue Art Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge 7-354-5287). www.outofthebluearttgallery.com. TA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $5. **Steve Almond** ds from his collection of short stories, *The Evil B.B. Chow and Other Stories*, which follows a variety of characters through the awkwardness of relationships. Also, poet **Sarah Getty** reads from her work.

TUESDAY, JULY 12

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Owen King** reads from his debut collection of short stories, *We're All in This Together*, which follows an assortment of odd characters in weird and occasionally violent situations.

Harvard Book Store
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Former *New York Review of Books* staffer **Marc Romano** discusses his book *Crossworld: One Man's Journey into America's Crossword Obsession*, which examines the history of crosswords and includes anecdotes about tournaments and professional players.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Former *National Public Radio* commentator **Steven D. Stark** reads from his book *Meet the Beatles: A Cultural History of the Band that Shook Youth, Gender and the World*, about the Beatles' influence on culture and trends as well as their personal histories.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $5. The **Jeff Robinson Trio** plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies, with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www. outofthebluearttgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, featuring prescheduled poets. $4 suggested donation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Friday)
Toast Lounge 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-628-2313). Second Sunday of the month. 3 pm. Free. Poet **Doug Holder** hosts an open-mike reading.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the mike.

Paul Feig reads from his memoir July 6.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

A Furniture Maker's Tour
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA 6:30-8:30 pm, $27. Furniture designer **Stephen Maurer** leads a tour and speaks on the MFA's American furniture collection. Sponsored by the Boston Center for Adult Education.

Huguenot Refugees in New England
New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.newengland ancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:30 pm. Free. Local historian **Patrick Leehy** discusses the role of Huguenots in New England.

The Quilts of Gee's Bend
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston (671-267-9300). www. mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 6-7 pm. Free. Assistant curator of the department of textile and fashion arts **Lauren Whitley** discusses the quilts of Gee's Bend.

Treasures of the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center
Boston Public Library, McKim Conference Room, Copley Square, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:30 pm. Free. Curator of the map center **Ronald Grimm** speaks on the library's collection of panoramic views of late 19th century New England, titled Imagining New England Through Bird's Eye Views.

FRIDAY, JULY 1

Bostonians on the Brink of Rebellion: A Freedom Trail Walking Tour
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeeting house.org. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 3 pm. $15 nonmembers, $12 members, $8.50 children. Historian **Gary Gregory** leads visitors through historic sites of Boston's past, including the Boston Massacre, the Boston Tea Party and the battles of Lexington and Concord.

SUNDAY, JULY 3

Beginning Knitting I
Spark Craft Studios, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 10:30 am-1 pm. $25. Instructor **Beth Gaertner** teaches the basics of knitting, including the knit and purl stitches.

MONDAY, JULY 4

No Tax On Tea!
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 11 am. Free with $5 museum admission. Visitors are invited to take an active role in a re-enactment of the tea tax debate at the Old South Meeting House, which in 1773 led to the Boston Tea Party.

TUESDAY, JULY 5

Classic Indian Cuisine
Brookline High School, 15 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 6-9 pm. $59. Learn about Indian culture and how to make a variety of Indian dishes.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6

African American Quilts: From the Historical to the Innovative
Museum of Fine Arts, Riley Seminar Room, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 6-7 pm. Free. **Jennifer Gilbert**, executive director of the New England Quilt Museum, lectures on the history of African American quilt making from the quilts of slaves to contemporary quilters.

Getting Started in Genealogy
New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.newengland ancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:30 pm. Free. Library director **Marie Daley** presents an introduction on how to track your ancestors while leading a tour of the society's library.

Paper Flower Power
Paper Source, 338 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-3444). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-9:30 pm. $45. Learn how to create original paper flower designs.

THURSDAY, JULY 7

Wireworking I
Spark Craft Studios, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6:30-9 pm. $30. Learn the basics of beaded jewelry making while completing a pair of earrings. Materials included.

SATURDAY, JULY 9

Design in the Landscape: A Walking Tour
Brookline High School, 15 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 9:30 am-12:30 pm. $30. Professional landscape designers **Sonja Kenny** and **Selina Rossiter** lead a walk through various gardens while teaching the fundamentals of landscape design.

Hexagonal Lampshade
Paper Source, 338 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-3444). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 2:30-5:30 pm. $65. Instructor **Lyn Brown** shows participants how to create unique lampshades. Price includes materials for one lampshade.

Passenger Arrival Lists
New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www. newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:30 pm. Free. **Walter Hickey** of the National Archives lectures on how to find people's names from the past.

Salem and the China Trade
Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (617-745-1876). www.pem.org. 12 pm. Free with museum admission. Local historian and author **Jim McAllister** leads a walking tour of Salem and discusses the relationship between Salem and China during the East India trade period.

SUNDAY, JULY 10

Sunday Encounters
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 2:30 pm. Free. On the first Sunday of every month museum staff lead informal tours and discussions on various exhibits.

MONDAY, JULY 11

Ace the Interview
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30-7:30 pm. $25 nonmember, $23 member. Human resources manager **Patricia Sweeney** teaches this motivational workshop on how to build your confidence and successfully present yourself in an interview.

The Fine Art of Cheese Tasting
Formaggio Kitchen, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $59 member, $63 nonmember. Formaggio Kitchen owner **Ihsan Gurdal** speaks on the maturation process of cheese and the differences between artisan and farmhouse cheeses.

The Japanese Koto
Museum of Fine Arts, Riley Seminar Room, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston (671-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 11 am-12 pm. Free. Local performer and scholar **Cathe Read** talks about the history and repertoire of the koto, a traditional Japanese instrument.

Temper, Temper!: How to Keep Your Cool While Making Chocolates
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30-9:30 pm. $61. Learn how to create a variety of candies in an introduction to the technique of chocolate tempering.

TUESDAY, JULY 12

Cooking with Locally Grown Fresh Produce
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30-9:30 pm. $71. Learn how to cook recipes using local fresh vegetables, meats and wines.

French Vegetarian Cooking
Brookline High School, 15 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineedultad.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 6-9 pm. $59. Learn basic French cooking techniques and how to prepare various vegetarian dishes.

gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealley-bar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door; $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill, 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat., 10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+; $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Resident DJ Tym Ryan spins for rotating themes that include Flesh, Xmortis, Fantasy Factory and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen, and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am, $15, 21+. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Friday)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Wednesday is gay night, Thursday is lesbian night and Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera.

The annual Gaylaxicon convention and Masquerade Ball is at the Hyatt Regency in Cambridge, July 1-4.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., Fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top-40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Gaylaxicon 2005
Hyatt Regency Hotel, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-319-0442). www.gaylaxians.org/gaylaxicon2005. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. July 1-4. $60. This gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and friends convention on science-fiction, fantasy and horror includes seminars, fashion and art shows, game rooms and a Masquerade Ball.

Take Me Out
Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through July 2; Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 7 pm, $35-$40. Paul Daigneault directs Richard Greenberg's 2003 Tony Award–winning play about a successful baseball player who comes out of the closet.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm, $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony.* The league comprises gay and lesbian pla and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league off full regular season and playoff schedule each E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Cente
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MB Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; 3-5 pm. The center provides social activitie questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- transsexual-friendly, direct-action political grou cuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Pride Committee
Wainwright Bank Community Room, 155 Dartm St., Boston (617-262-9405). www.bostonpride MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue. 6:30 The Pride Committee meets every Tuesday spring to plan for the 2005 Boston Pride Cele tion Season.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns A Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pr gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1, member gay club takes part in outdoor activities

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLA (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) m in Medford for support and activities and h a concurrent meeting for interested parents their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.c

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston L Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-95 www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free informal group for people who think they may b sexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adu
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confide place for men and women who are looking for a space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It m Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Cool Corner in Brookline. Call for more information

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England– support, information and social group for peopl signed female at birth who feel that is not an rate or complete description of their gender. Pa the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group m monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for det

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This g welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional wo 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and soph cated to get together with like-minded wome conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fen health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. way Community Health offers a wide array of vices for the GLBT community, ranging from dis sions about parenting and safe-sex practice programs addressing domestic violence and stance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Bos GLBT flag football league for a casual spring sea followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome gardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus A Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring. ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat am. See Web site for locations.* All are welcom join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn about photography, socialize and meet new peop these monthly meetings. For more informatio mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in develo healthy gay relationships features alternative meeting and dating, communication games,

mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail @gaylab.org.

nder Crash
ntaneous Celebrations, *45 Danforth St., Jamaica in (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. TA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of h month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10.* Members of the BT community are invited to share poetry, prose erformance pieces at this open-mike event.

rlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian omen of Color
nbridge Family and Children's Services, *929 Mass., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line Central.* This discussion group for all ages meets ry Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

quid Assets Swimming
w.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and n. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian m team is open to both competitive and fitness mmers of all ages and abilities.

ie Network/La Red
-7-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This sup- t group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisex- women's and transgender communities. E-mail @thenetworklared.org for more information.

ewly Diagnosed Group
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 7-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each nth, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and exual men who have been diagnosed with HIV ing the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

ut to Dance
7-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin l ballroom dance classes and workshops are held a gay-friendly environment.

ut TwentySomethings Boston
ntysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. is social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay n and bisexual, transgendered and questioning cs and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

OZ Social
onshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., ston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange line Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. e. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music d drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

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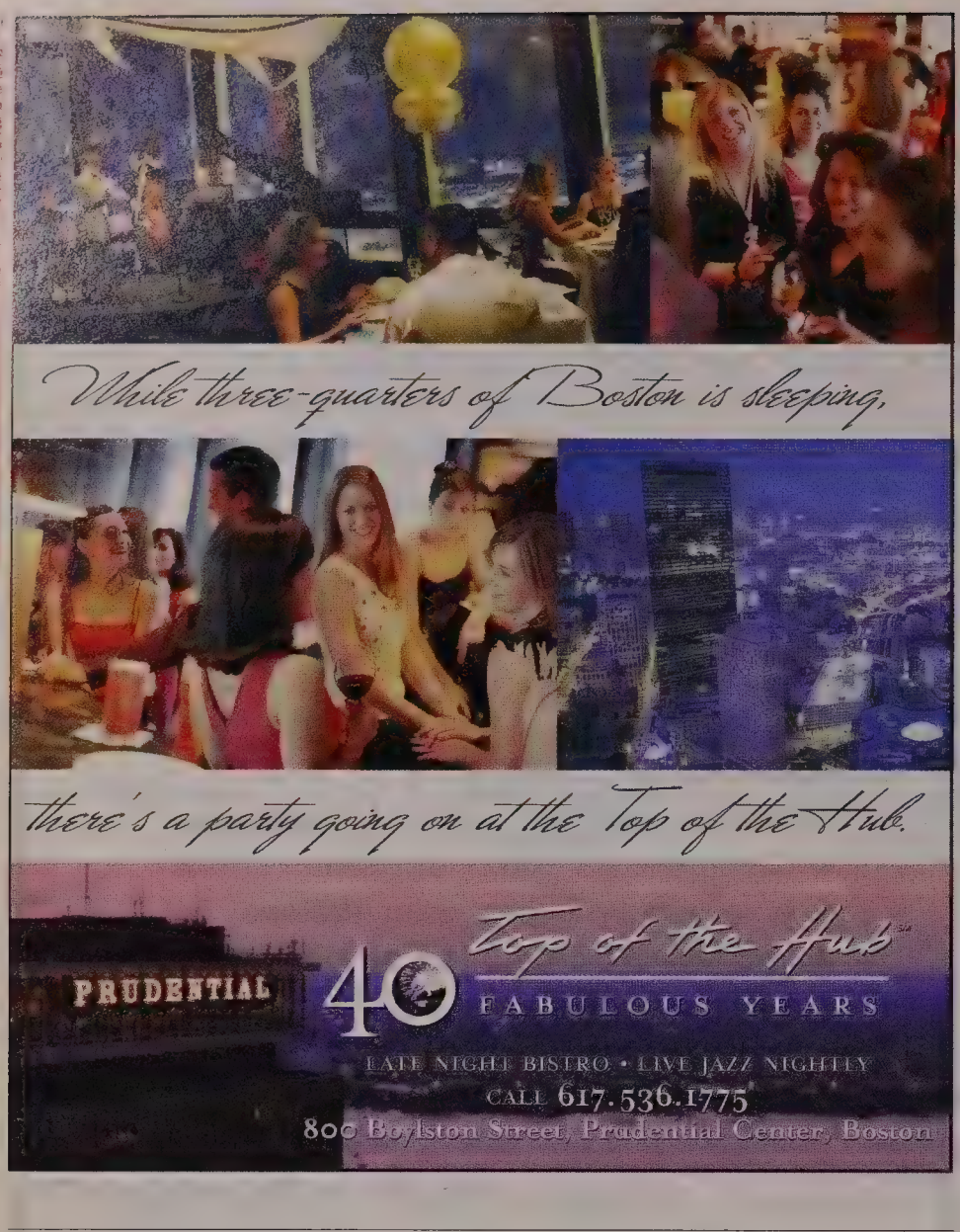
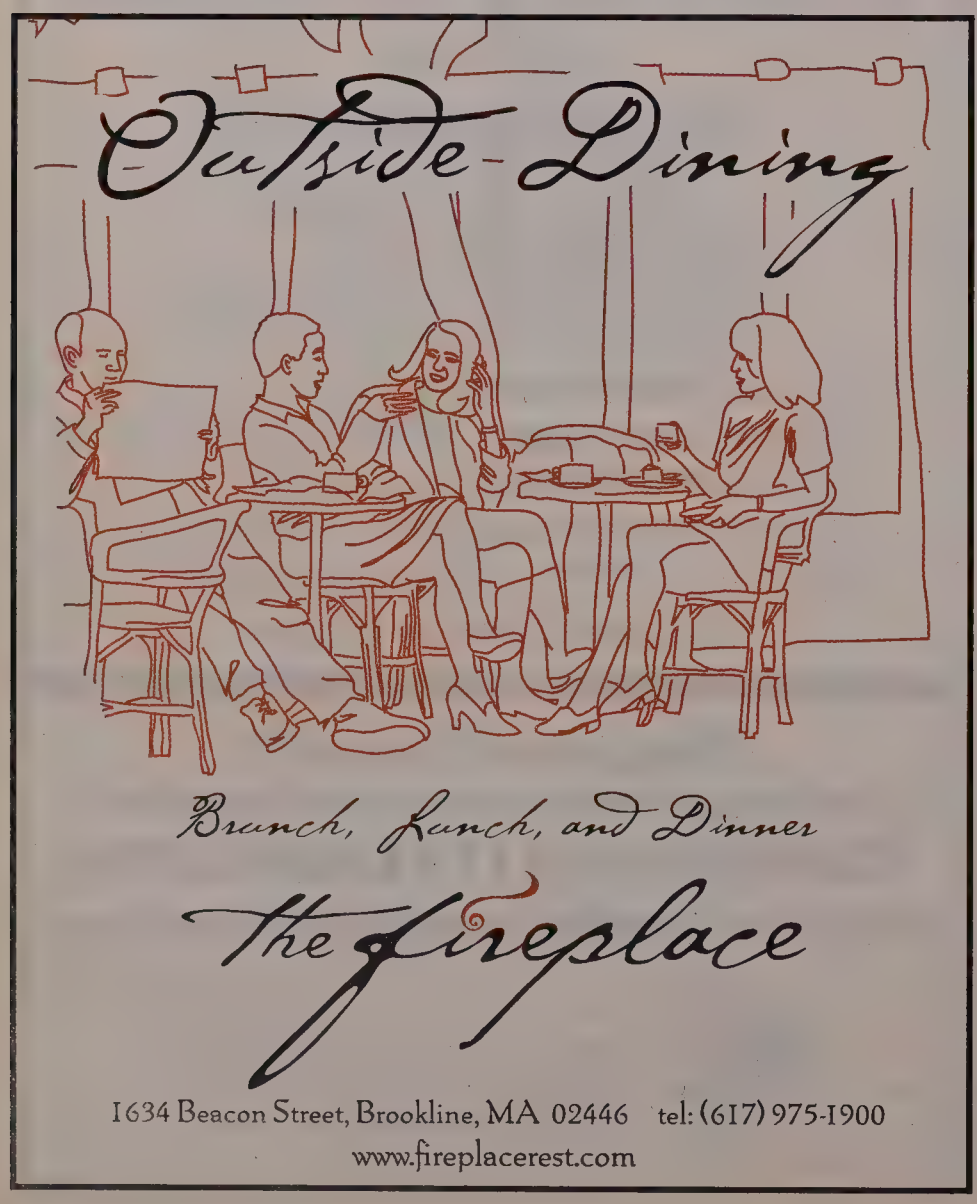




body & mind

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Arlington Laughter Club

Church of our Savior, 21 Marathon St., East Arlington (781-641-1353). www.joyofkidding.com/laughter club. July 11, 11:30-12:30 pm. $5 donation requested. Lynn Caesar leads participants in sessions of group laughter. Laughter clubs are popular in India and laughing could enhance physical health. All ages welcome.

Medicinal Plant Walk

Rock Meadow, off of Mill St. Belmont. www.boston herbalstudies.com. July 10, 1-3 pm. $15, free for children. Medicinal plants can be found growing in the park your own backyard. Learn to identify healing plants in your area, and which parts of various plants are used medicinally. Led by herbalist Madelon Hope.

Sexuality and Spirituality Network Potluck

Newton (617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. July 9, 2-5 pm. $5-10 suggested donation. The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network hosts monthly meetings to cover topics related to exploring sex holistically. This month the group welcomes attendants to a summer picnic.

Shiatsu and Tuina Open House

Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-868-4585). www.charlesrivershiatsu.com. July 8, 6-8 pm. Free. Pre-registration is requested. Learn about chi fitness and view demonstrations. Meet Shiatsu and Qi Gong practitioners, acupuncturists and Chinese herbalists, and experience short classes in a variety of disciplines. Complimentary refreshments provided.

Lectures

Menopause: A Natural Approach

Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 308A Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. July 11, 7:30-9:30 pm. $25. Open to all. Many women seek relief from menopausal symptoms with natural remedies, vitamins, food supplements and herbs. Bring your questions and find out which remedies are most effective.

What is Karma?

The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. July 3, 10:30 am-4 pm. $55. Karma is the ancient, Indian philosophy of causality. Participants are encouraged to explore what it means to be mortal and the concept of free will, and to ask questions.

Classes

Anusara Yoga: Cultivating the Sacred in the Everyday

Exhale Spa, 28 Arlington St., Boston (617-532-7000). www.exhalespa.com. July 9-10, 1:30-3:30 pm. $35 for each day. Please pre-register. Explore how Anusara yoga and Rajanaka Tantra's philosophy can inspire changes in your life. Led by instructor Sue Elkind.

Cooking with Wild Seasonal Foods

Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. July 12, 6-8 pm. Free. Attendees learn safety guidelines for foraging for wild foods, how to identify some of these plants and try some recipes.

Early Morning Yoga Intensive

Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. July 11-15, 7-9 am. $120. These classes are designed to help practitioners get into yoga or deepen their existing practice. Focus is on asanas (poses) and pranayama (breathing).

Feng Shui for Prosperity and Wealt

Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.cir ofwisdom.com. July 12, 7:15-9:15 pm. $30. Le how to use the flow of Chi energy to create a w coming environment for money and prosper along with some quick techniques.

Meditation For Everyone

Unicorn Books, 1971 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 876-4448). www.unicornbooks.org. July 6, 7-9 $20-25, sliding scale. Guided meditation in a grou often easier than solo practice. This class teache combination intended for later home use.

Soul Focus Workshop

Unicorn Books Spiritual Center, 1971 Mass Av Cambridge (617-876-4448). www.yogame.com/pa soul.html or www.unicornbooks.com. MBTA: Line to Porter. July 11, 1-4 pm. $65. This worksh based on the book *What is Soul Focus?*, aims to h participants develop their dreams into reality. T class combines yoga postures, visualization and ativity, focusing on the individual.

Ongoing

Beginning Tai Chi and Qigong

Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-2 6333 or 617-480-8237). www.opendoors7.co MBTA: B Green Line to Washington St., Tues., 7: 8:30 pm. $12, drop-in. Learn about the fundam tals of Tai Chi and Qigong, how to acquire physi and emotional balance, and how to clear yoursel negative energy.

Dance Friday

Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn Watertown (617-876-3050). MBTA: Buslines #57 #70. Fri., 8-12 pm. This evening starts with a wa up and continues with freestyle dancing to DJs sp ning. Dancing barefoot is allowed, but drinking smoking are not. All ages and levels welcome.

Philosophical Open House

The Philosophy Foundation, Worcester House, Worcester Lane, Waltham (781-647-0020). wu philosophyfoundation.org. Thurs., 7:30-9 pm. suggested donation. Check out this gathering discuss ancient and modern philosophy, talk w peers and practice silent meditation.

Under 30 Meditation Night

Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Av Brookline (617-734-1498). www.primordialdot.c MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Tue 7-8:30 pm. Free. For young adults who pract meditation or are just beginning, this night i chance to join with like-minded souls, discuss teachings of Buddha and relax.

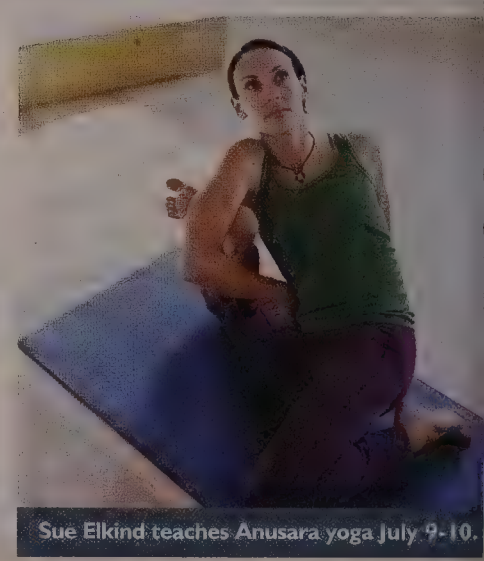
Yoga Essentials

Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 663 Centre St. Jama Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey.co MBTA: #39 bus. Thurs., 5:45-7:15 pm. $15, dr in. Learn classic yoga postures (asanas), breath and relaxation techniques. This class is aimed beginners or those interested in grounding th current practice.

Retreats

Tai Chi Chi Kung Short Form

Dao Mountain Retreat Center, Catskill Mountai New York (888-999-0555). www.healingtaoretrea com. July 6-11. $440. Master Chia's easy-to-lea yang style Tai Chi form incorporates relaxati alignment, centering and breathing with to mind-body awareness. Detailed teaching a personal attention provided. All levels welcome.



Sue Elkind teaches Anusara yoga July 9-10.

ports

vice to Contributors
nit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calen- Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@ oper.com. Include address, phone number, subway , dates and times and a brief description of the ue or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the hone and must be received at least four weeks in nce.

ome Games

ston Red Sox
nway Park, Boston
kets: 617-482-4769
29, 1:05 pm vs. Cleveland Indians
1, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
2, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
3, 2:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays

ston Cannons
ckerson Field, Boston
kets: 888-847-9700
30, 7:30 pm vs. Philadelphia Barrage

vent

oury's Summer Steamer
ury's State Spa, 118 Broadway, East Somerville 7-524-1121). www.srr.org. July 10, 10 am. $18. s annual 4-mile road race through Somerville is owed by a hotdog-eating contest, live music, and a k tank with Somerville mayor Joe Curtatone.

o Play

USTRALIAN RULES OOTBALL

ston Demons
7-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club s new players for nine-a-side competition.

ASEBALL

nry's Baseball
1-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

ASKETBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club
7-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basket- for players at all levels. Leagues exist in Water- n, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and ividuals are welcome.

mbridge Racquet and Fitness Club RFC)
7-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year- nd leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

rporate Basketball League
1-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one nen's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, wton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

ever Too Late Basketball
1-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

OXING

ston Sport Boxing Club
Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www. tonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to rvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style ing lessons for all levels.

gtime Boxing
Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). w.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. is boxing club offers training for competition, ditioning and recreation.

ODGEBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club
dgeball
7-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodge- l teams.

RFC Dodgeball
7-491-8989). www.crfcdodgeball.com. Now accept- players and teams for a dodgeball league. Games at FC in Kendall Square.

RAGON BOAT RACING

ragon Boat Club of Boston
17-441-0330). www.dbcb.org. Practices at the tch Shell. Paddlers wanted to represent Boston regional dragon boat races. Beginners are wel- me.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Sat. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www.worldkickball.com. Coed kickball leagues beginning in June in Boston and Somerville.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

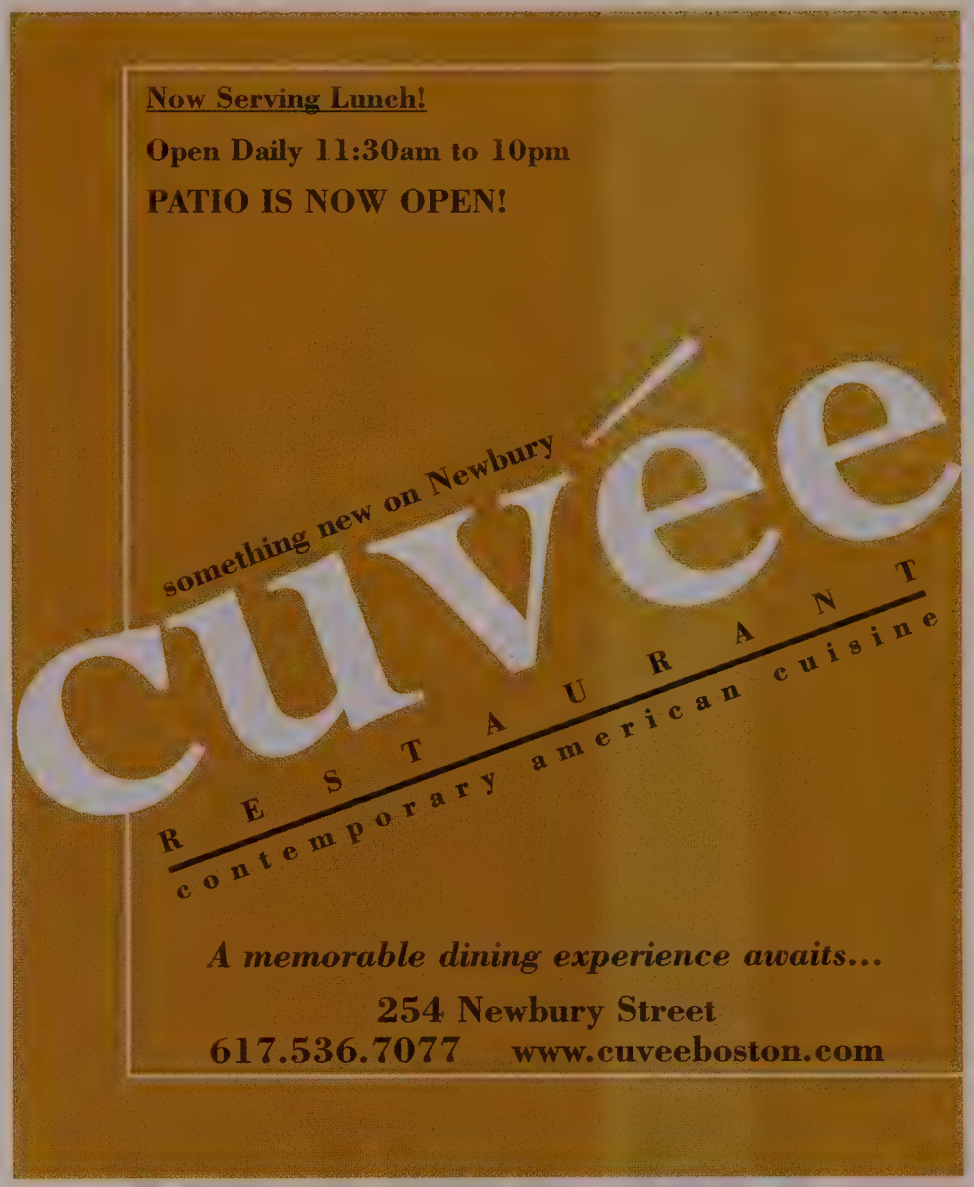
SKIING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
(508-243-7413) www.polecatskiclub.com. Members have access to a ski lodge and can participate in ski and snowboard race teams.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

Khoury's Summer Steamer runs through Somerville July 10.



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children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Boston Children's Theatre

Seaside on Georges Island, Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. 12 pm and 1:30 pm. Free. Plays in the Park presents a different story every Friday through September 2. •July 1, *Salute to the Sea.* •July 8, *Chinese Folktales.*

ImprovBoston Family Show

1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students/children. This short-form improv performance for the whole family includes interactive games.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 10:30 am and 1 pm. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •June 29 and 30, *The Case of the Missing Wood Pile* by Lenny Gerwick. Recommended for ages 4-8. •July 6 and 7, Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers perform *Everybody Loves Pirates*. Recommended for ages 5-12.

Things to Do

Arlington Center for the Arts

41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. The Summer Creative Arts Vacation Program lets children explore art, music and drama in nine different sessions. •July 5-8, 8:45 am-3:30 pm. *Dragons and Such.* •July 11-15, 8:45 am-3:30 pm. *Animalia!*

Barefoot Books

1771 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri. and Sat., 10:30 am. Free. •Story hour for children and families. Ongoing.

Boston Art Tours

Call for reservations and meeting locations. (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children and teens: Tue.-Sat., 1 pm-2 pm. $30, adults; $15, teens; children under 12, free. Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet

Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide.

Boston Public Library—Dudley Branch

65 Warren St., Roxbury (617-442-6186). www.bpl.org/branches/dudley.htm. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Free. •July 12, 10:30 am. *Peep! Science Program* is a Hands-On Science event for prekindergartners. •Every Wed., 10:30 am. Preschool Storytime includes book readings and activities for children ages 2 to 4. Ongoing.

Brookline Adult & Community Education

United Parish Church, 210 Harvard St., Brookline. MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. July 6, 13, 20 and 27, 6-8 pm. $92 per adult/child pair, ages 10 and older. Miriam Sokoloff teaches sewing machine basics to families in four Wednesday sessions.

Charles River Public Internet Center

154 Moody St., Waltham (781-891-9559). www.crpic.org/summer. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham. July 5-22, 8:30 am-1:30 pm. $25, for students entering the 6th, 7th and 8th grades. The Summer Kid's Computer Challenge Program teaches children the skills necessary to earn the new Internet and Computing Core certification.

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $9; children, $7. •Mon.-Thu., 11 am-4 pm; Fri., 11 am-8 pm. The art studio is o for bookmaking, painting and more. •Mon., W and Fri., 11 am-12 pm. Music & Movement chance for children ages 3 and under to dance popular tunes. •Wed., 1:30-2:30 pm. *Pint-Sized ence* offers scientific exploration for preschool •Thu., 11:30 am and 12:30 pm. Kids adapt their vorite books into plays during *StoryBook Theatre* the KidStage. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 ZOOM Zone is a hands-on science challenge t explores inventions, experiments and scientific coveries through various activities. •Daily, 10 12 pm and 1-3 pm, *PlaySpace* offers a messy activ for children up to age 3.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (6 495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Line to Harvard. July 9 and August 27, 10 am-3 $20, adults; $15, children; $13.50, children ages and up; members, $18. Finding Your Own Walden Family Day Trip that allows families to learn ab Henry David Thoreau by exploring historic and ural spots around Walden Pond.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-930 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum Fine Arts. July 11-14, 3:30 pm- 4:45 pm. Free admission to museum, ages 6-12. A Fiber Arts W shop will follow a gallery talk on the Quilts of G Bend exhibit.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-444 http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 $5, ages 5-18; students and seniors, $2; MIT stud and children under 5, free. (Free admission on t Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light F tastic* features the world's largest collection of ho grams. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoi •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* featu 40 ship models. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.m org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Th 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; $12, senio $11, children. •*Animals and Stories Alive!* is an teractive storytelling hour in the Discovery C ter, every Saturday and Sunday, 11 am-12 p •*Brain: The World Inside Your Head* takes you side the cranium for an in-depth exploration the body's neural center. Discover brain anato evolution and the nature of dreams. Ongoi •Four hundred butterflies and flowers are on play in the new permanent *Butterfly Garden.* going. •*Dinosaurs* showcases the museum's coll tion of dinosaur models. Ongoing. •*Making Mo* is an interactive exhibition that features models a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grassh per. Ongoing. •*Science in the Park* is a perman playground with a scientific spin. •*Mapping World Around Us* explores the evolution of ma Ongoing. •*Science Live!* features live animals multimedia presentations surrounded by natu history dioramas. •*Virtual Fish Tank* features large projection screens that form a 400-squa foot virtual tank with more than 50 brightly c ored fish and sharks. Ongoing. •*Mystery of the M* shows at the IMAX theatre. Ongoing. •*Bugs!* 20-minute 3D movie presentation at the Wri Theater. Ongoing. •*Mission to Saturn* at the Pla tarium shows the Cassini spacecraft as it make dangerous journey toward one of Saturn's m mysterious moons. Ongoing. •*Countdown to pernova* is a planetarium show that illustrates ways stars meet their demise through the exp sions called supernovas. Ongoing. •The *Sum of Adventure Film Series* at the IMAX theatre cludes films like *Everest* and *Shackleton's Antar Adventure*. Through September 10. •The M seum's Summer Course program, a series of we long classes like *Make It Fly* and *Digital Dinos Greetings*, begins July 11.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.ne org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; senio $13.95; children 3-11, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* tures thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •T 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains shar stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Se* a hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, hern crabs and more. Ongoing.

Tadpole Playground

Boston Common, adjacent to Frog Pond (508-8 1151). www.tadpoleplayground.org. Open from da until dusk. The playground offers children a char to enjoy art, water fountains and games. Check W site for special events.

round own

hts to See

ton University Observatory
Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. lear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-h, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

ldren's Museum
Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 $9; children ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1-2 year $2; under 1 year old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

euil Hall
ate St., Boston. MBTA: Blue Line to State, Or- or Green Line to Haymarket or Green Line to rnment Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., n-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

rvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www. .harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. .-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, hildren, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

n F. Kennedy Library & Museum
mbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; se- and college students with valid ID, $8; ages 13-17, 12 and under, free.

unt Auburn Cemetery
Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). TA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

seum of Afro-American History
oy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam eum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park et. Summer: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day gh Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

seum of Science
nce Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

seum of Transportation
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., m-5 pm. $5; children 16 and under and seniors, $3; ren under 6, free.

w England Aquarium
tral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: n.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1- . 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. .95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95; members, free.

d North Church
Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Or- e or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-6 pm. e.

d South Meeting House
Washington Street, Boston (617-482-6439). TA: Orange or Blue Line to State. April-October, 0 am-5 pm; November to March, 10 am-4 pm. $5; ors and students, $4; children, $1.

d State House Museum
Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: ange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; ors and students, $4; children ages 6-18, $1; chil- n under 6, free.

udential Center Skywalk
Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: een Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm, ays call ahead to make sure it's open. $9.50; $7.50 h college ID; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, 50; children under 3, free.

inity Church
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: een Line to Copley. Open daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5; chil- n 12 and under, free.

SS Constitution & Museum
arlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www. constitutionmuseum.org. Nov. 1-Apr. 30: Thurs.- n., 10 am-3:50 pm; May 1-Oct. 15: Tues.-Sun., 10 -6 pm. Free.

olunteer

FC Mentoring Program
17-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a ter-care child.

IDS Action Committee
17-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with V/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools. Recruiting throughout the summer for volunteers to start in September.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org Volunteer as an aquarium guide, work with the penguins and more.

Parental Stress Line
(617-267-8077). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve lunch to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed to this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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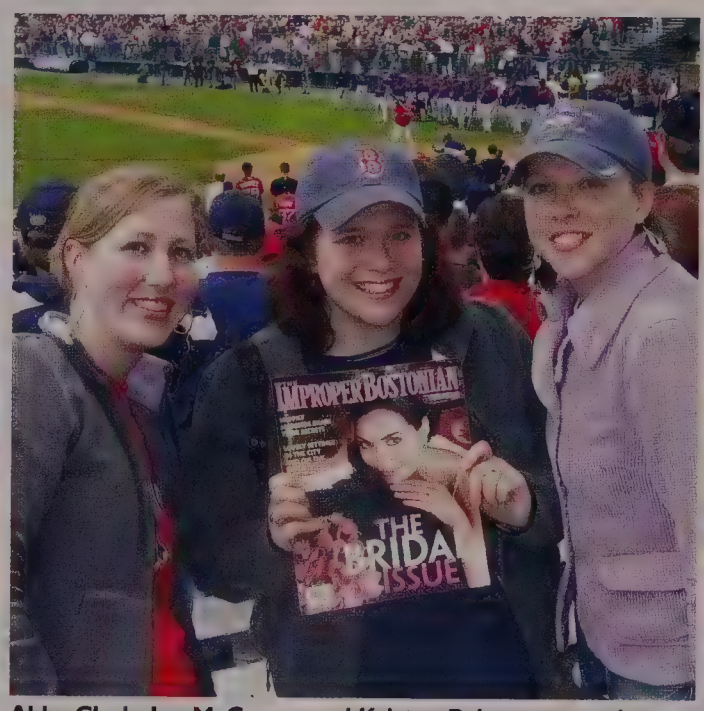
IMPROPER sightings

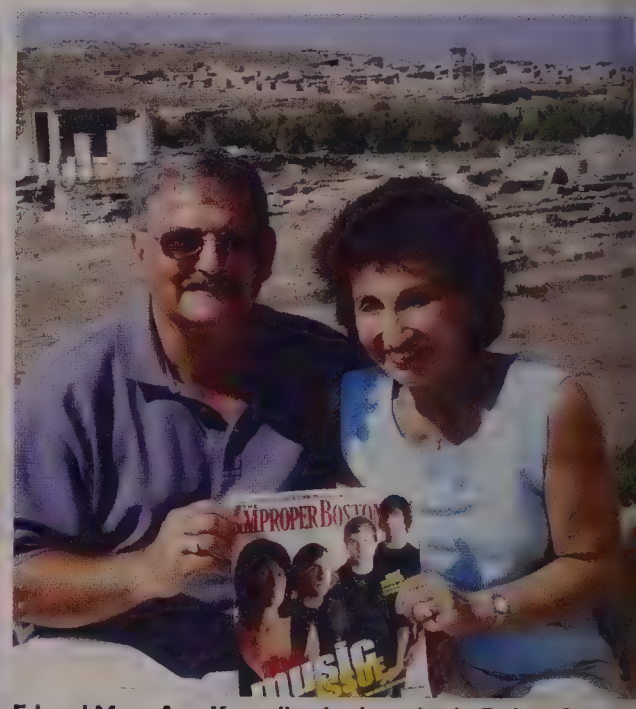
UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRI

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you wer The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Sisters Alison and Melissa Lee pose at the Great Wall of China. The Great Wall of China is often confused with a nearby wall made of curly plantlife, the Great Wall of Chia.



Abby Clark, Jen McCreary and Kristen Reinertsen ought to be paying more attention with Papi at the plate in the Home Run Derby at the Hall of Fame Game in Cooperstown, N.Y.



Ed and Mary Ann Kazanjian in the ruins in Delos, Greece. Delos was a teeming, vibrant metropolis as recently as 1975, but they don't make 'em like they used to.

Jason Sota, Eric Getkin, Edward Fallon and Amy Beauchman stopped by the pagoda forest at the Shaolin Temple in China. A resident of one building came out and said, "Stop staring at my pagoda!"

Holly Shuman and Michelle Tricca feed a kangaroo at Steve Irwin's Australia Zoo in Beerwah, Queensland. Irwin, also known as the Crocodile Hunter, is collecting other animals to play with after his arms are bitten off.

Jeff Ziskowski visited Easter Island, Chile. The figures there symbolize eating too much at Easter dinner.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Tacking to and fro in a boat made entirely of beer cans at the Darwin Beer Can Regatta, held July 17 in Darwin, Australia.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

improperimpersonals

veryone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the rld to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of rself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

Disgusted

Actually change that—I must say you make me laugh every evening. I see you late at night on the Franklin line. You're fat and obnoxious. You always choose an attractive female to sit near or next to. I can almost hear them cringing when you move in and try your attempts at flirting. I hope you get the hint one of these days that you're just being a pain in the ass and, from what I can tell, these women DO NOT want your company.

—Franklin Guy

o my Boyz at Capital

ve been hanging around your coffee op for a few years now and thought was about time I gave you the preciation you deserve! To my vorite guy who is always looking for s own Improper Impersonal, here it ! But being the lady that I am, I'll ep it clean. Where would I be ithout you guys? No matter what the eather, you always bring sunshine to y day. You keep me laughing and miling even on my bad hair days! You erve great coffee and food but I come here mostly to see your smiling andsome faces! I know I'm not the nly one! Don't forget to ask my niece en the next time she's in... How 'bout hem Red Sox?

—A fan

To the Sleek Brunette in the Silver Jag

We were on 95 north, before the split, nd you had Rhode Island plates. Now hat I have your attention, my Kia and have a bone to pick with you. You are ery lucky that I recently had the rakes repaired, otherwise your shiny ew silver Jag might not have been so hiny and new anymore. It's quite bvious that you were in a hurry ecause the nose of your car was so ar up the rear bumper of my own car hat I couldn't see your headlights, hich means that at 75 mph you were ollowing too closely. There's no way hat I would subject the driver in front f me to the same disrespect you howed me. Believe me when I say hat I was looking to get out of your way. I realize now that my hand gesture to you was in poor taste. nstead of letting that go, though, you ntentionally swerved into my path. You're obviously mentally instable and a danger to yourself and the other drivers with whom you're supposed to share the road. I seriously hope that you get some professional guidance before you hurt yourself, someone you care about or a complete stranger with your road rage.

—purplekiama@gmail.com

Hot Guy on 93

Seeking the guy in a new black Dodge Ram: I always end up shamelessly flirting with other commuters on 93 but today (June 16) was much different. I was heading southbound and so were you. You were in a black Dodge Ram with lots of chrome and two stickers—a four leaf clover and a West Coast Choppers cross. I was the girl with curly blonde hair and blue eyes driving the Tracker. You pulled alongside me and we chatted at 65 mph. I told you I liked your truck and that I thought you were cute. You said you thought I was cute, too. I got off at exit 12 and you couldn't get over quick enough to get off, but I'd love to finish our chat.

—blueyzon93@yahoo.com

B.Good Girl

June 14, around 7:45 or 8 pm, you were having dinner with a girlfriend at b.good. You are blonde, beautiful and were wearing green sweatpants, a white t-shirt and the most beautiful smile anywhere. I was the brown-haired guy wearing a dark green shirt and a Red Sox cap, sitting across the room from you reading the Improper. We didn't make any eye contact until I was leaving, but your glance swept me away like nothing else. Of course, I wish I'd said hello, but that's what the Improper Impersonals are all about! You have a beautiful smile and, I imagine, a great heart too. I'd love to find out. I hope I'll hear from you sometime. I would love to get to know you.

—p74c@msn.com

Hey, Tough Guy!

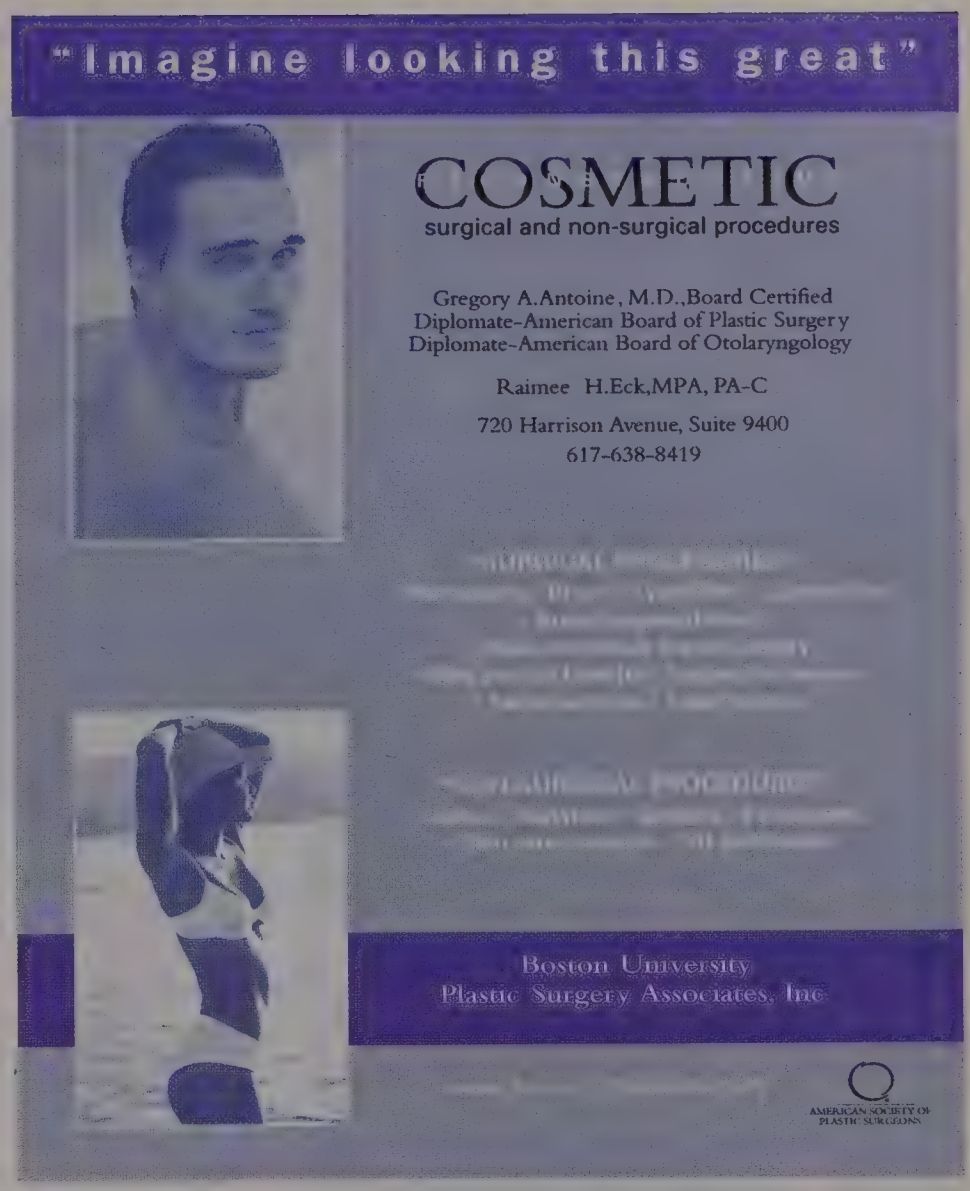
Here's a little F.Y.I.: We all know that a scrawny, shrimpy little boy dwells underneath those tight black jeans and bright blue muscle shirt. Your beady little eyes can't hide behind those dark wrap-around sunglasses and your spiky hair isn't going to get any of the ladies. None. Please stop "juicing," "roiding," or "pumping," or whatever it is you kids call it these days (and yes, creatine IS a steroid), and let us normal-folk look better by comparison. I think it's high time you all made a collective move back to the zoo, or Texas, or wherever giant animals are grown, and start intimidating someone your own size (like a bear). And always remember—Bostonians love proportional-looking objects, people included.

—Not-So-Tough Guy

Coning

Question: Why are people STILL putting cones in parking places in the summertime? Okay, handicapped spots I understand. In the North End, the people with handicapped plates park in the same spot every day so they can be near their apartments... totally understandable. But for everyone else, there is no excuse! You don't have to dig your car out of SAND in the summer so there is no reason to put cones in parking spaces, ESPECIALLY visitor spaces like I saw last week! If this were the third grade, we'd all be able to save the spot that we want. But the days of both third-grade report cards and mile-high snow banks are gone... so put your cones away, park a little further away from your front door and walk in the sunshine. I promise, it won't kill you.

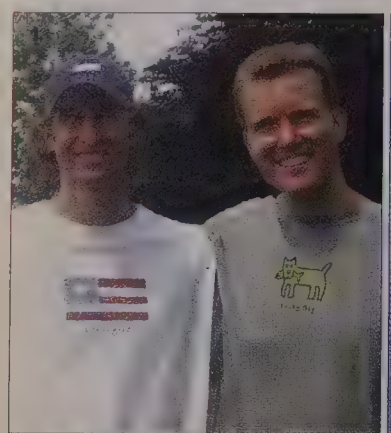
—Snoopy the No Cone Machine



IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, June 11, the **Improper Bostonian** proudly sponsored the **Life is good®** Backyard Festival. The event was held at Lederman Field on the Charles River Esplanade in Boston, and included classic backyard games, picnic food and live music, and benefited **Project Joy**.

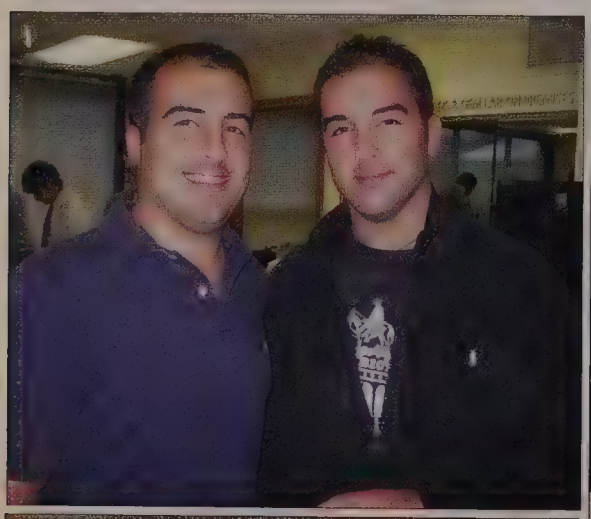


1. **Bert** and **John Jacobs**, both co-founders of Life is good®.
2. **Steven Gross**, executive director for Project Joy, and **Anthony Toombs**, outreach coordinator for Children's Trauma Recovery Foundation.
3. **Stephanie Moore**, human resources generalist at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, and **David Morra**, implementation specialist, Northeast Market Venture.

On Tuesday, June 7, the **Animal Rescue League** hosted Mutts 'n Martinis, a f filled evening for Bostonians and their dogs at **Nine Zero Hotel**.

1. **Bridget De Angel** medical aesthetician Bella Sante, and **Ka Cuggino**, project analyst for State Str Corporation.
2. **Amy Siegel**, execu assistant at Siegel E Inc., and **Erica Corsano**, Boston e for *Lucky* magazine
3. **Daniel Gregg**, freelance photograp of Boston, and **Amy Tracey**, financial an for Modernista!

On Thursday, June 16, **Elysé Jewelers** celebrated the Month of the Pearl in style at their annual Sushi, Sake and Pearls event. Guests enjoyed complimentary wine by Elysé's own private label, sake from **Ruby Wines**, and traditional Japanese sushi and tea.



1. **John O'Leary**, trader at Beanpot Financial Services, and **Greg O'Leary**, president of Greg O'Leary Painting Services.
2. **Toshiya Watanabe**, sales manager, and **Susumu Yamada**, purchasing assistant, both of New York Mutual Trading, Inc.
3. **Richard Berberian**, owner/gemologist; **Christine Berberian,** owner; **Elyse Berberian**; and **Haig Berberian**, accountant, all of Elysé Jewelers.

On Saturday, June 18, **The Improper Bostonian** was a proud sponsor of **Mile for Miracles**. Thousands of walkers came together to celebrate children's healt with **Children's Hospital Boston**. Miles for Miracles brings patient families, friends and hospital staff together for a day of fun, food and exercise along the Charles River.

1. **Jeffrey Webster**, senior public relations specialist, a **Andrea Marlar**, manager, special events, both of Children's Hospital Boston.
2. **Al Jefferson** and **Tony Allen**, both players for the Celtics.
3. **Iris Martinez**, ambulatory service representative; **Stephanie Bristol**, resear assistant; and **Jessica Och** administrative assistant, all Children's Hospital Boston.

PHOTOS: MILES FOR MIRACLES, STACEY SHANE; MUTTS 'N MARTINIS, VALERIE SILVER; LIFE IS GOOD®, STACEY SHANE; ELYSÉ JEWELERS, DANI DALEY

rockie horoscope

JUNE 29 – JULY 12, 2005

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

CANCER JUNE 21-JULY 22

e cautious Crab may feel trapped between the alternatives offered by an aggressive mployer and an enthusiastic parent, unable to decide whether to pick one over the other or eddaddle away from both. The opportunity to make this critical choice between career and mily probably won't repeat for another six years, so take all the time you need. But if it mes down to attending a birthday celebration, even a major one, or taking on a challenging signment, remember that you can always invent a reason to get together and eat.

LEO

ULY 23-AUGUST 22

good deal of karmic debt gets paid back while Mercury, enus and Saturn meet in your twelfth house of cosmic onsciousness and past lifetimes. Chances are you won't now that the books are being balanced or, just as likely, ooked! Still and all, keep an eye out for a forward-looking nancial opportunity from prosperity-minded Jupiter. But if seems too much like pie-in-the-sky, opt for a joint venture acked by trend-setters, inventors or New Age promoters. utting your paws on other people's money is the better bet.

VIRGO

UGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

Whatever colleagues and casual acquaintances are planning an take a back seat to the potentially rewarding experience xpansive Jupiter offers as July begins. Difficult as it may eem to pull out of a group project, keep the prospect of aining a personal advantage uppermost in your mind. Soon nough generous Jupiter will exit your Libra money house aking easy opportunities for growth and success with it. his is also the time to support a partner's out-of-the-box dea or unusual career choice. Beneficial for you both.

LIBRA

EPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

ou might have as fortunate a stroke of luck around your irthday, but right now, while the Cancer sun and beneficial upiter in your sign align, it's your career and reputation hat's attracting attention. What follows from all this noise hould sustain you through the rest of the summer, but as eo begins, there may be further obstacles to overcome. hese can be similar to the snag you ran into while your enus ruler met Saturn last weekend. Have you suddenly ecome a prudent, practical person?

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

The teacher with a devoted following, the young chef with a growing reputation, the care-giver who actually cares—they are the sort of people who can influence what you do this summer. Whether you also embrace their commitment to service and try to be the best you can be depends in large part on whether there's a big enough payoff in the end. Not only of money; boosting your reputation at work or adding luster to the family's name are benefits you can't put a price on. It's also important to cultivate the good will of your peers. Aren't we the busy bee?

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

Pressure from a partner can affect your decision about a career matter; however the sun's provocative square to your Jupiter ruler also works both ways. His or her career could have a marked influence on your relationship. And if not relegated to the career sphere, then either person's parent might be the one twisting the screws this week. Interdependence, co-dependence, interference? Call it what you will. Just know that once the July Fourth holiday is history, a new phase of the relationship, mutually supported by both parties, begins.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

What has transpired during the past two years, while your Saturn ruler traveled through your empathetic Cancer complement, reaches its conclusion in the next few weeks. For a preview of how this phase of your life ends, whether with a bang or a whimper, take a look at what happened and how you felt when expressive Mercury and appreciative Venus merged with Saturn last weekend. The new moon in your marriage house on the 6th brings a fresh perspective about some time-honored, traditional values.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

The rewards trickle in slowly—a compliment on a hidden talent, appreciation for a charitable act you didn't mention—until July 2 when the Cancer sun beams directly on your Uranus ruler. (FYI: Uranus is the planet that accounts for a high TV-Q rating! Ask Oprah and Ellen, the Aquarians.) Assume that you'll star in the Fourth of July weekend festivities and plan accordingly. Even if you're working hard, since romantic Venus has just entered your Leo marriage house, you'll make time for serious canoodling.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

Once again the Fish and the Water Bearer are on track, each enjoying the benefits provided to and by the other. This reciprocity should be self-evident when the nostalgic Cancer sun trines independent Uranus in your sign over the July Fourth holiday. There'll be lovely cherished memories, but interesting and exciting alternatives as well. The watery Cancer new moon on the 6th reinforces the sense that all things are possible, especially when it comes to recreation and romance. No sign does summer romance better than Pisces.

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

Push can come to shove while headstrong Mars in Aries provokes a response from optimistic Jupiter in your house of allies. No matter if the arrangement seems mutually beneficial to the people involved, some family members will be against it. The chances of reaching an agreement depends more on how patient you're willing to be than on your determination to beat down the resistance. Also, try to understand that family tradition is important and that it wouldn't hurt—e.g., you won't compromise your integrity or individuality—to pay it lip service.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

Your need to flee the scene may be strong, but this isn't a good time to slip away. Since your affectionate Venus ruler and sobering Saturn have joined forces, responsibility for a soul sibling or a close neighbor can weigh heavily on your heart—your shoulders too. If money is involved, expect to encounter regulations, restrictions or roadblocks both in the gathering and the dispensing of it. No matter how sad or frustrating the situation, remember that the Cancer new moon on the 6th will bring positive elements and other caring people.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

The purely pleasant association with amiable Venus that you and your Mercury ruler are enjoying may take a downturn while heavy-duty Saturn joins the duo. If you're depressed for no obvious reason, blame sad sack Saturn. Your annual run-in with the planet of "No!" may also result in a disappointing financial outcome or more work and worry than the object of your efforts is worth. However, there's an outside chance you'll be rescued by an unexpected gesture of good will from your boss or a powerful person who is not the typical authority figure.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

RESTAURANTS

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature is cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes its mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshes raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a suc culent lobster or any of your favorite dishe in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere Legal also offers an award-winning win list at the best value in town. Stop by for taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have table waiting for you.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., a Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclecti Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staf and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

)NEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cam-dge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors,)d friends, and a great bar at Sidney's lle in Central Square. Discover why *Bon pétit* magazine says "It's almost shock- to pay this little for food this good, in roundings this gorgeous." Memorable sine combines international flair with ional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, ner and weekend brunch. Private dining ailable. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

)LAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 7-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in elic and comfort is exactly what you ll find here, along with a lot of "Irish" od fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an sh soul, illustrates its Irish influences in e architectural styles and furnishings. e menu is influenced by a traditional, t decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And u'll always find a warm, hospitiable aff looking to pour you a cold pint.)en 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

JNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton e., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET ANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave.,)ston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come r Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 2 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also enjoy Boston's award winning steam er burgers and famous curly fries, origi- l buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still ngry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, illed fish, homemade pastas, tender nkee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full enu until 1 am.

ENEZIA RESTAURANT *20 Ericsson St.,)ston 617-436-3120.* For authentic Ital- n fare, impeccable service and an atmos- here unmatched on Boston's Waterfront, enezia provides one of the city's most nique and pleasurable dining experi- nces. Your destination for everything from relaxing midday lunch to a romantic din- er for two, Venezia can also accommo- ate private affairs like wedding recep- ons and business functions, and features ve music on Friday and Saturday nights.

HE WATERFRONT CAFÉ BAR-GRILL *50 Commercial Street, Boston 617-523-613* A North End neighborhood hot spot, erving up sizzling steak tips and the best urgers around! Featuring a big screen TV nd plasmas to catch all your favorite eams in action. Come for dinner, stay for a rink! *Open 7 days, Lunch & Dinner 1am–11pm, Apps. 11pm–1am.*

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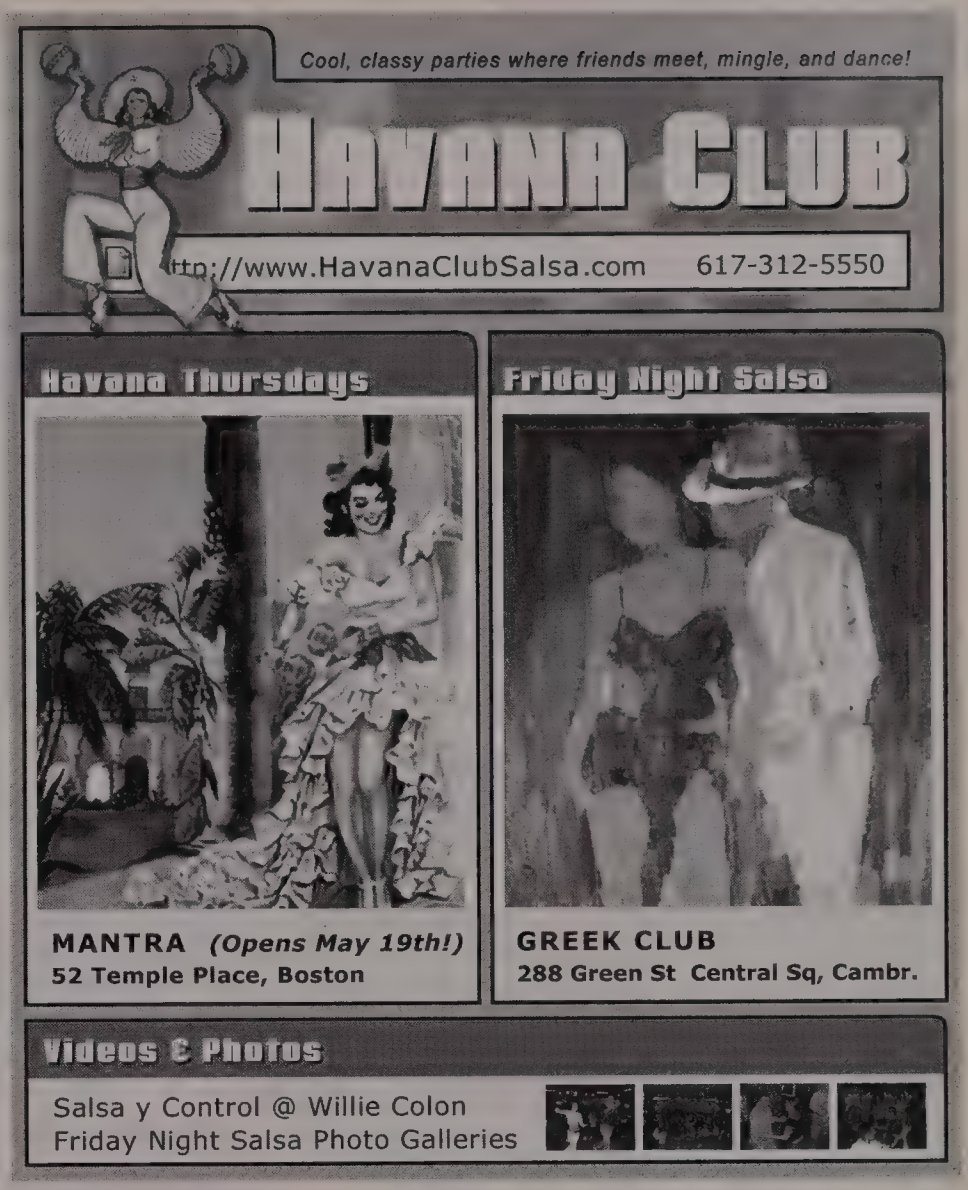

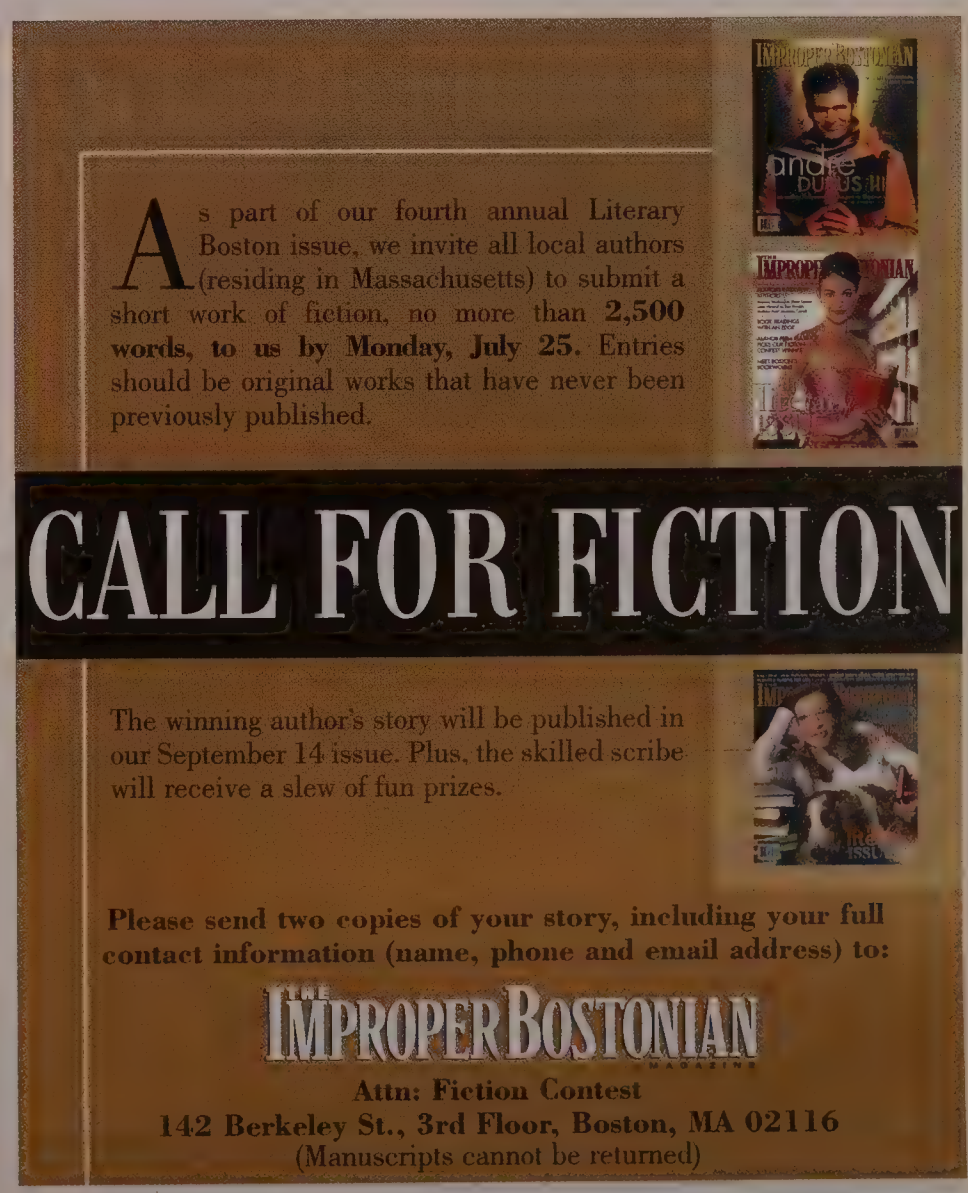

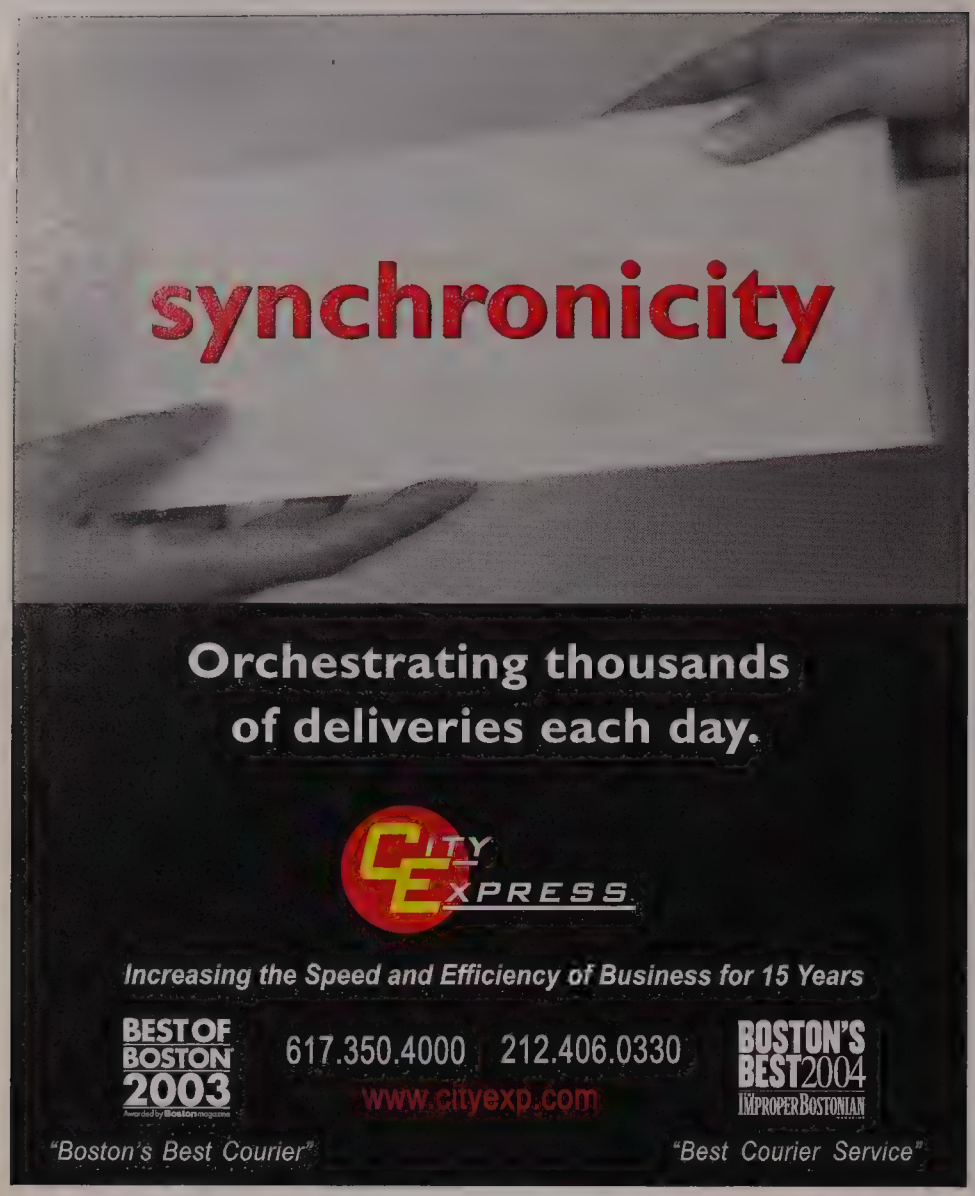

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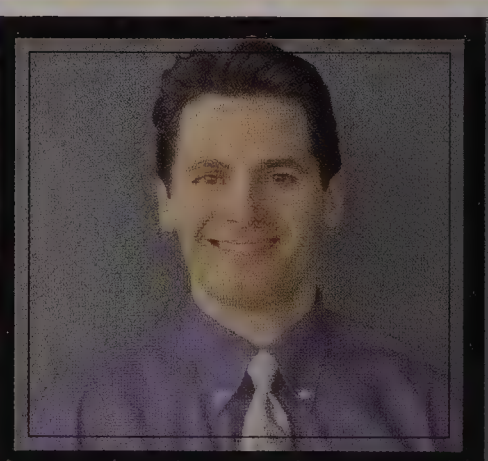

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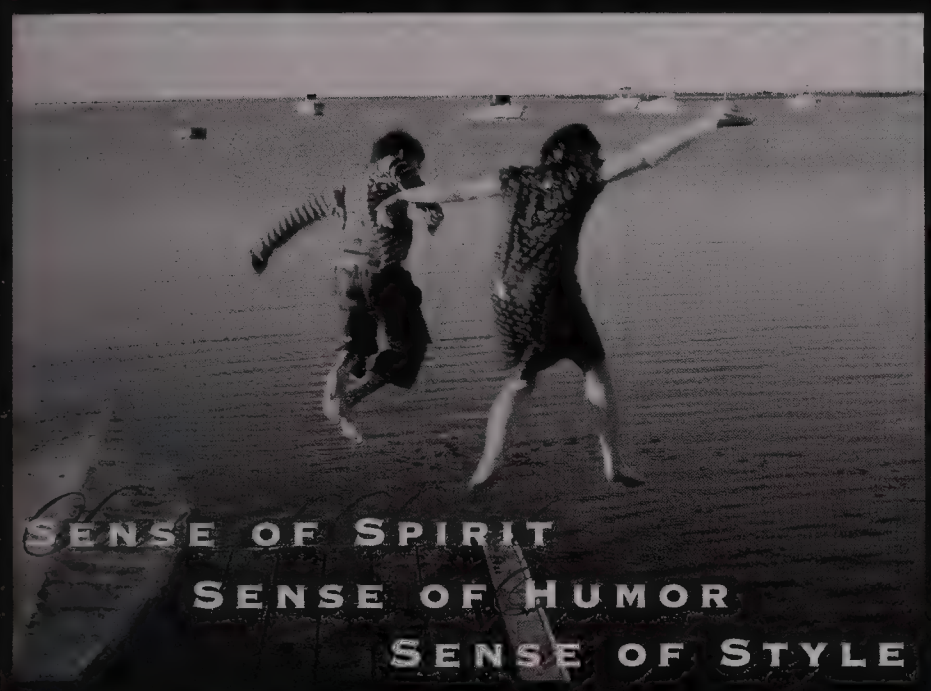

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At the Cotillion, top: Alex Malt and Teddy Talbott. Bottom row: Amory and Gale Minot, Juan Bastos; Doris Yaffe

GIRLS FROM GOOD HOMES...

Thank heaven for little girls, for some of them grow up to be debutantes who get presented at the **Boston Cotillion**—a charmingly Waspy anachronism held at the **Park Plaza Hotel**.

This year's crop of gorgeous young things included **Caroline Hollingsworth Baker**; **Siena Antonia von Tscharner Fleming**; **Julianna Clarke Howland**; **Devlin Amanda Hughes**; **Amory Cummings Minot**; **Katherine Elizabeth Minton**; **Chynna Baury Pope** and **Avery Wilson Winn**, who were formally presented to society at the ball, which benefited the **Vincent Memorial Hospital**.

The Receiving Committee, made up of prominent women who shook hands with each girl after she was presented by an older male relative and two escorts, included the likes of **Ceelie Beacham**; **Cokie Perry**; **Stephanie Warburg** and **Molly Cook** (a Greenwich, Conn. grande dame who, incidentally, had hosted a perfectly lovely and terribly elegant dinner for her granddaughter, Amory Minot, at the Chilton Club, earlier on in the evening).

Meanwhile, the guestlist was chock-a-block with such Brahmin names as **Mr. F. Gardner Jackson Jr.**; **Mrs. James F. Hunnewell Jr.**; **Mr. Michael Robbins**; **Mrs. Hope Lincoln Baker** and **Mrs. Thomas Handasyd Perkins Whitney Jr.**, and it's a wonder there were enough white gloves to go around.

Also present and accounted for: Auntie Mame-like character **Doris Yaffe**; the very glamorous **Khaki Austin**; Back Bay blueblood **Deborah Babson** (as in the college); all the **Cottinghams** in Cambridge; organizing force of nature **Mary Kay Holder**; Chestnut Hill chatelaine **Michelle Talbott**; and famed portrait painter **Juan Fernando Bastos** of Los Angeles, whom one guest compared to John Singer Sargent while another whispered, "He's painted Charlize Theron."

Other snatches of conversation overheard during the evening included one of the debs saying, "Imagine if we'd pulled up in a stretch Hummer," while another woman admired a friend's ring—a 7-carat emerald flanked by two canary diamonds—and said, "Y'know, you could wear that every day. People would assume it was fake."

However, the award for trenchant social commentary went to the woman who referred to the noticeable changes taking place in the town where she lives by saying, "I know, it's very sad. The very rich keep getting richer, while the normal rich are getting poorer."

YOU ARE WHAT YOU WEAR...

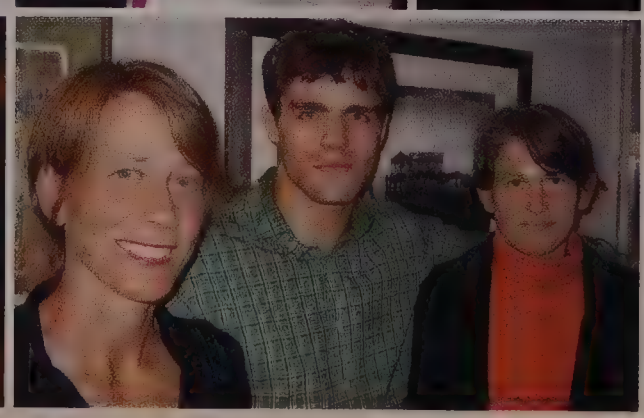
Although there were more guests wearing Manolo Blahniks and Jimmy Choos than flip-flops or Birkenstocks, **Step Into Summer** was nevertheless an aptly named evening, held at the **Four Seasons** to benefit the **Greater Boston Food Bank**.

Among the young, stylish and exceptionally good-looking crowd were such junior movers and shakers as mom-to-be **Emily Webster**; the super-stylish **Suzanne Daley**; absurdly sexy interior designer **Eric Roseff**; executive babe **Marian Kassler**; Irish fashion plate **Del O'-Callaghan**; party monster **Craig Sutton**; Fidelity prepster **Jim Febeo** and the perky **Katie Connelly**; vision in white **Fatima Freitas**; stylists to the stars **Belinda Jaundoo** and **Monika Ramizi**; the ubiquitous **Lynne** and **Gary Smith**; gorgeous newlyweds **J.B.** and **Tiffany Dowd**; and one couple who emerged from a neighboring conference room wearing sheepish grins. When questioned about what they'd been up to, they responded, "Finishing our drinks."

Meanwhile, one guest complained that he "couldn't get near a cocktail," while another couple left early because they were flying to Chicago for the baseball game (following the Red Sox to away games is the latest equivalent to spending New Year's on St. Bart's or having a house on Nantucket).

"There are a lot of great handbags here," observed one fashion maven, and presumably, great handbags make for a great crowd.

At Step into Summer, top row: JB and Tiffany Dowd; Emily Webster and Eric Roseff. Bottom: Belinda Jaundoo and Monika Ramizi



At the Provincetown Art Association and Museum party, top row: Ken Dietz and Cici Seth; Keith Ravaioli. Bottom row: Michael Barnum; Jean Wilcox, Michael Mayne and Debbie Merriam

HOW MUCH IS THAT WATERCOLOR IN THE WINDOW...

Long before it became a beach blanket bingo parlor for the gay and lesbian set, Provincetown was an artists' colony that attracted some of the world's most talented painters. It was a blot on the town's reputation, therefore, that the **Provincetown Art Association and Museum** didn't have an adequate facility to display its impressive collection, which even a Bible-thumping right-winger would admire if he could get beyond all that "Sodom and Gomorrah" malarkey.

Enter **Skinner Auctioneers**, who graciously hosted an auction to benefit the capital campaign that will allow the organization to move into a new facility by Labor Day.

Among those waving bidding paddles around wildly for works of art ranging from a 1970s nude to a pair of William Hogarth prints were such collectors and enthusiasts as Skinner VP **Stephen Fletcher** and the company's head honcha **Karen Keane**; art dealer **George Comenos**; interior designers **Ned Jalbert**, **Michael Barnum** and **Ken Dietz**, with the incomparable **Cici Seth**; graphic designer **Jean Wilcox** and her other half, **Debbie Merriam**; distinguished historian **Stephen Jerome**; the wildly sexy **Michael Mayne**, and others of an equally intriguing ilk.

By the time the gavel came down, more than $100,000 had been raised and lucky guests went home with some remarkable works of art, as well as items like the black-lacquered mid-century vanity that one decorator snatched up for a song, saying, "I'm not sure where I'm going to put it, but if worse comes to worst, I can sell it to a client for more than what I paid." IB

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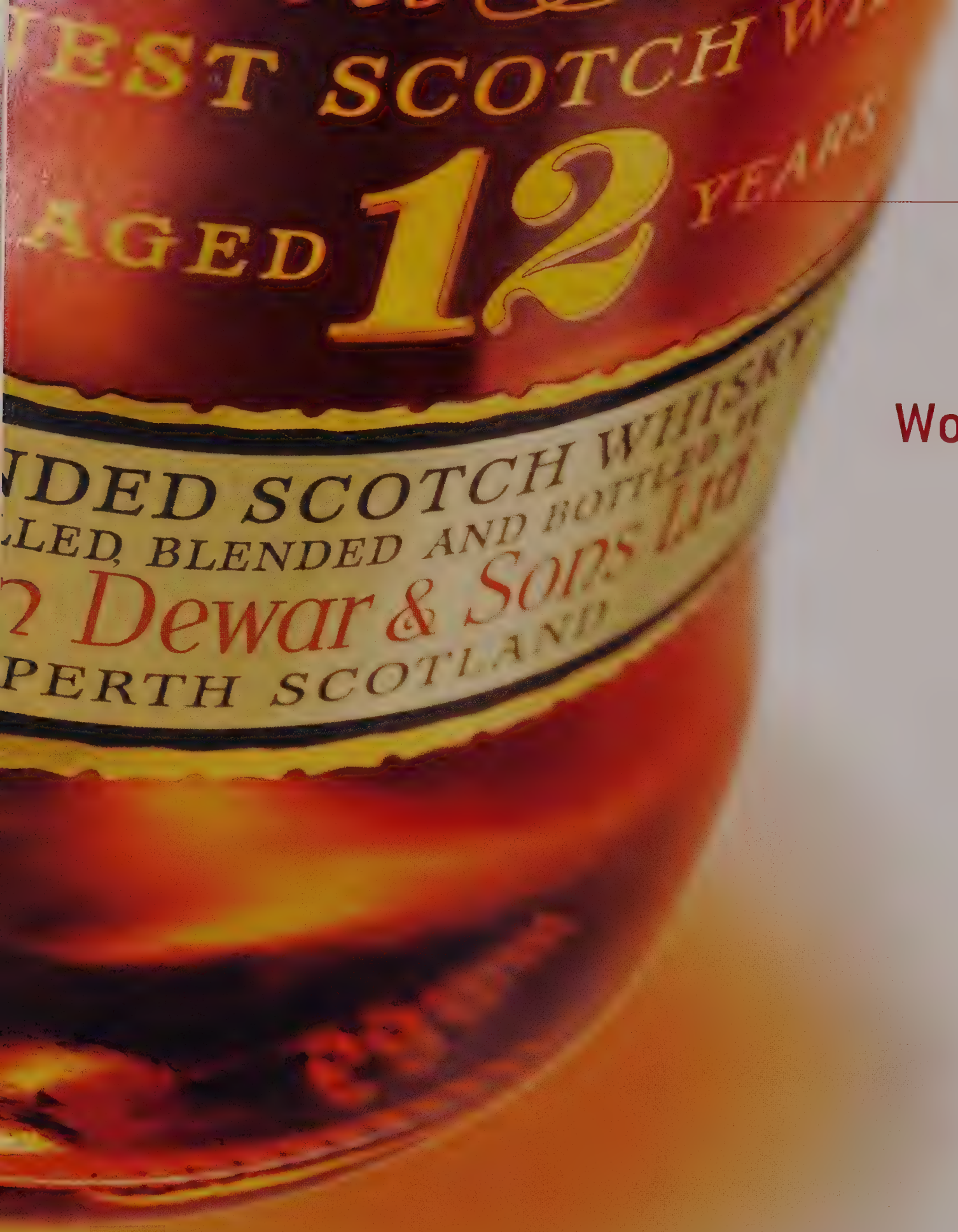

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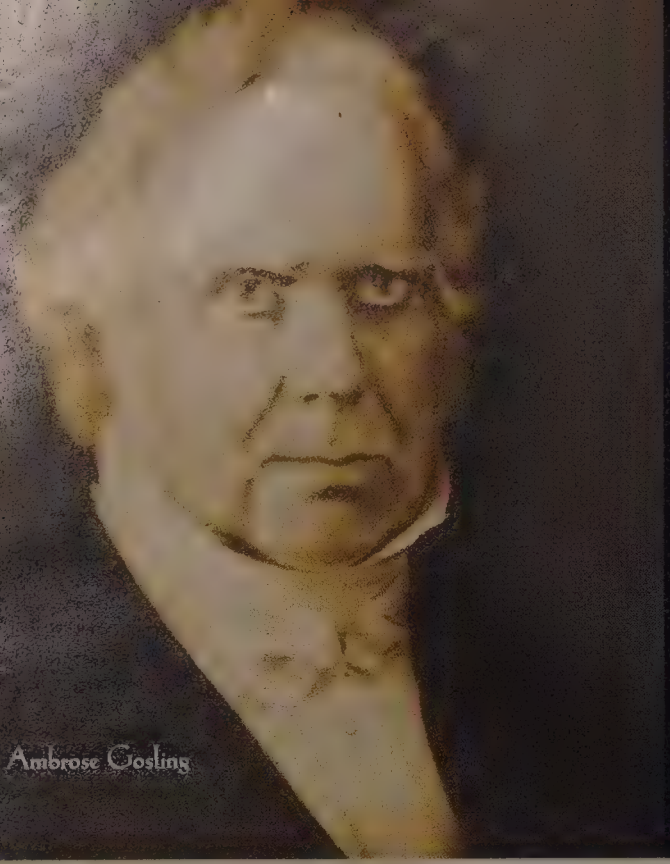
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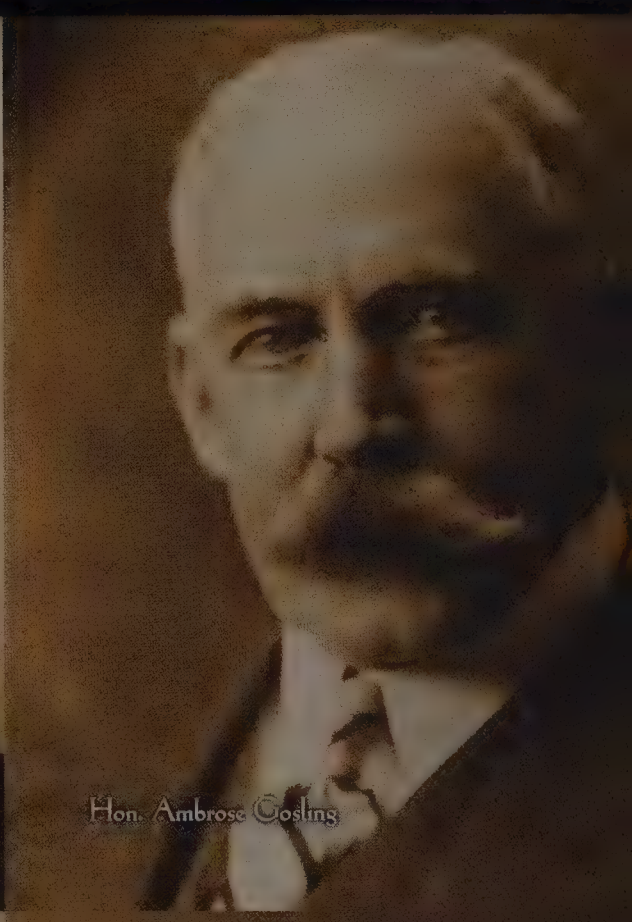
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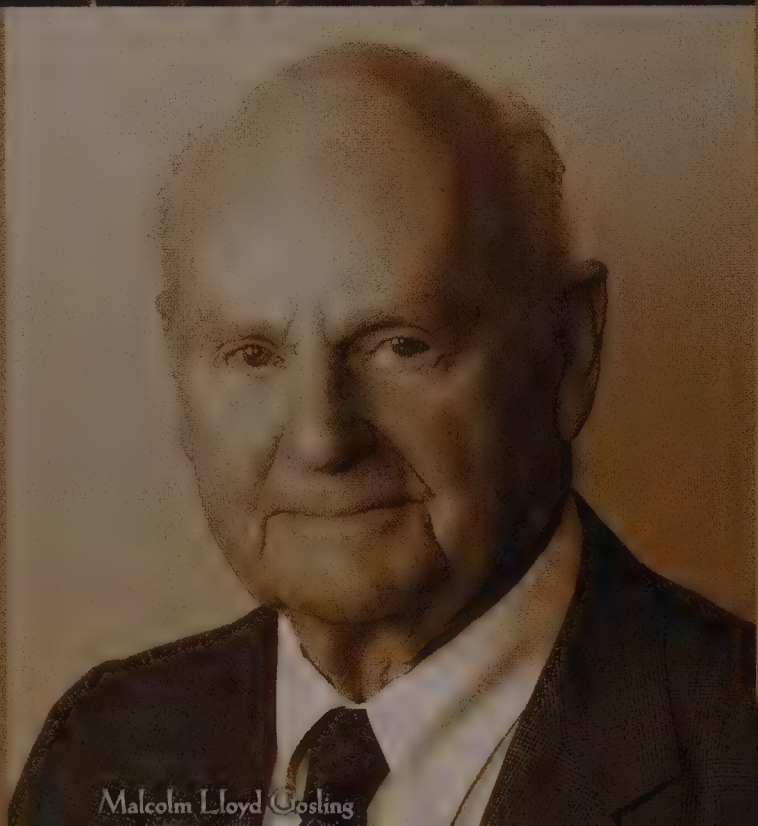
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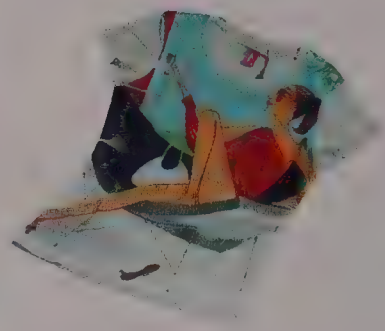

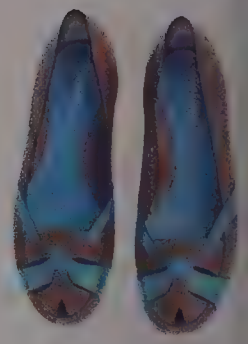

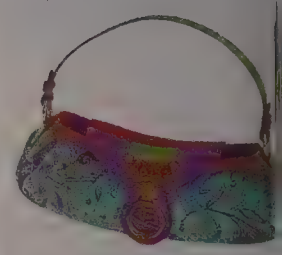

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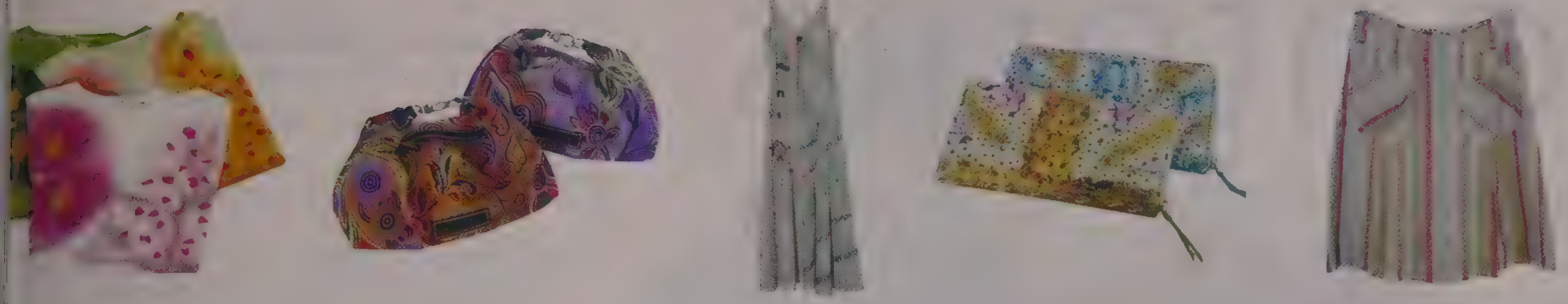

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Michael Indresano

Photographer's assistants: **Ruston Spencer and Katie Suczynski;** grooming: **Alex Jacobacci for Avanti Salon;** shirt: **Thomas Pink;** watch: **Long's Jewelers**

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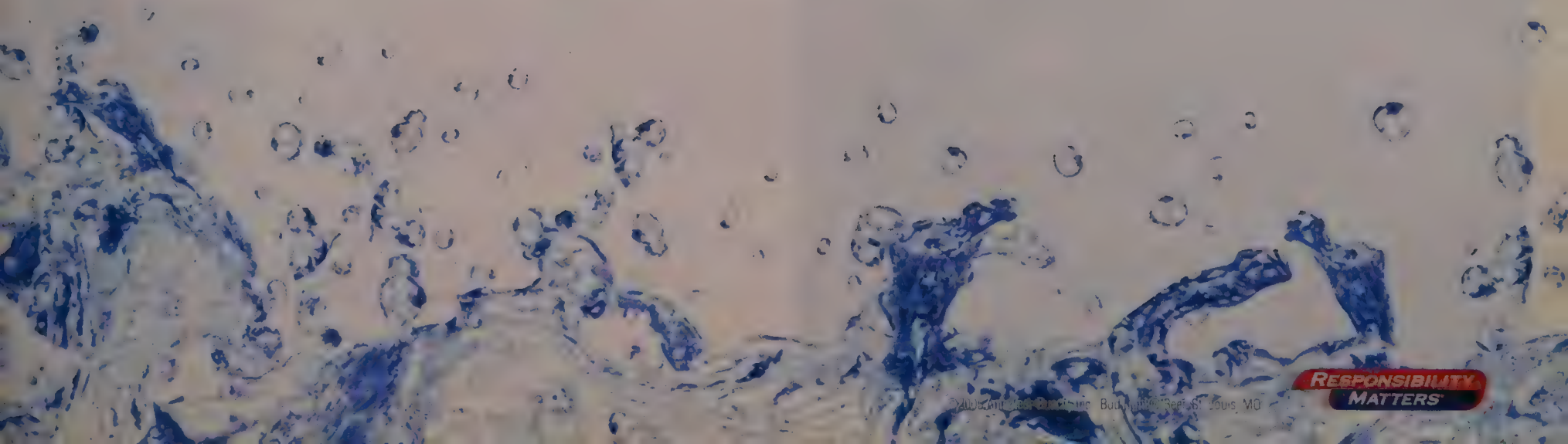

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

SIMPLY THE BEST

It goes like this. In March, we host a dinner for a group of local movers and shakers and ask them who they think has the best sushi in Boston and what's their favorite health club, along with hundreds of other crucial questions. We gather up their ballots and our notes, research the responses, break tie votes and call in other experts where the decision is tough. Then we start writing, to capture for our readers why these places, services, happenings and people are superlatives in their class.

In July, we unveil our magnum opus: the issue you hold in your hands. As a guide to the city's standouts, it has all kinds of info to help you get more out of life in Boston, make new discoveries and take stock of the past year's milestones.

With his outstanding popularity quotient, we think New England Patriot Tedy Bruschi is the perfect cover model for our most popular issue. You can find out what he likes best about Boston in Ezra Dyer's story "Tedy Bear" (pg. 36).

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

BOSTON'S BEST CONTRIBUTORS

ANDREW GRAHAM

Andrew Graham has written about music from punk to pop to electronica, but his primary focus is hip-hop. His stories have appeared in the *Dig*, the *Noise* and THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN. Graham penned the Arts & Entertainment section.

JULIE HATFIELD

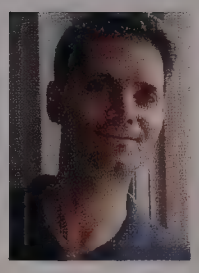
Julie Hatfield, who wrote up our Goods & Services winners, was fashion editor at the *Boston Globe* for 18 years and has covered fashion for *Women's Wear Daily* and the *Boston Herald*. The author of two books, Hatfield is currently a freelancer writing for the *Globe* travel section and features for the *Boston Courant*. In October she begins a column on philanthropy for the Sunday *Globe* business section.

LINDA LABAN

Born in London, raised in Seattle, Hub girl-about-town Linda Laban covers rock and pop, food and fun, travel and animal issues for the *Boston Herald*, THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and more. Her storied past includes stints at *Kerrang!* and *New Musical Express*, and she has worked with the *Seattle Times* and *Seattle Weekly*. Laban contributed to this issue's Food & Drink section.

ANDY LEVINSKY

Boston's Best Media writer Andy Levinsky is a segment producer for *Nitebeat with Barry Nolan*, a topical talk show available to Comcast viewers nationwide on CN8. An avid foodie, he also writes about restaurants and other topics for a wide variety of publications. This is his sixth year writing for the Best issue.



GALEN MOORE

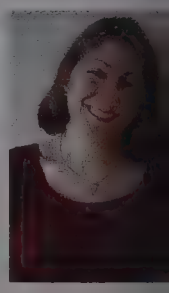
Food & Drink contributor Galen Moore has spent 10 years in Boston, four of them as a freelance food writer. All those nights of grease-coated Styrofoam containers, those years of scouring Boston's streets for the best meatball sub, the many fine linen napkins discarded tableside, wine-stained beyond the help of any laundry, have been brought to bear on this issue's Food & Drink section.

KEITH REGAN

Keith Regan, who wrote our Business & Technology section, has chronicled the arrival, and the sometimes hasty departure, of the next big thing for the past decade for publications such as the *Boston Business Journal* and the *E-Commerce Times*. His short fiction has appeared in the *Alaska Quarterly* and *Mississippi Review*. He holds degrees in journalism from Northeastern University and creative writing from Emerson College.

LIZA WEISSTUCH

Liza Weisstuch, who contributed to the Bars & Clubs section, has traveled from the fringes of London and Nottingham to the beer gardens of Prague and Berlin to the honky-tonk heart of Nashville and blues bars of Chicago—not to mention watering holes in Boston. She has written about her travels, as well as about dining, theater, literature, music and style, for the *Boston Globe*, WBUR.or and the *Christian Science Monitor*. Her wor has also appeared in the *Chicago Tribune* an *New York Times*.



MICHAEL INDRESANO

Photographer Michael Indresano had plenty of experience with the Boston's Best issue even before he shot Tedy Bruschi for this issue's cover. His previous Boston's Best cover subjects include Denis Leary, Nomar Garciaparra, Jay Leno and even a few football players—he shot Troy Brown, Adam Vinatieri and Lawyer Milloy for our 2002 Boston's Best issue after the Patriots won their first Super Bowl. You could say that by the time he got to Tedy Bruschi, he had this down Pat.

Tell Us What You Think

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TREMONT TAVERN

Michael Connors knows a thing or two about the Theater District. He's worked in Boston as a stagehand his whole life, as did his father and his father's father. When he was a kid, he loved to pull the curtains for his dad, who worked at the now-defunct Gary Theatre. These days, Connors works as property master at the Colonial Theatre. So when the longstanding friendly-yet-divey bar on Tremont Street (in its latest incarnation called Charlie Flynn's) went up for sale, he knew just what to do with it: Keep it an unpretentious favorite for theater roadies, but revamp it to draw the theater crowd.

Now dubbed the Intermission Tavern, the restaurant/bar opened in late June after an (ahem) dramatic renovation. The much-needed seven-month sprucing-up project has resulted in a spiffy yet snug 64-seat space, with a new bar, and posters of the shows Connors has traveled with decorating the exposed brick walls.

Manning the kitchen is Kyle Garell, formerly of the South End's Flux (which abruptly shut its doors June 25). His menu includes entrees in the $13–$16 range—peppercorn-encrusted pork tenderloin with sweet demi glaze; half a free-range chicken with lemon rosemary jus; and pan-seared salmon with raspberry dill beurre blanc. Or you can opt for an $8 burger or $8.50 build-your-own sandwich. (Connors promises a quick turnaround on orders, so you'll get to the show before the curtains go up.) Among the cocktail choices are a stunning 17 varieties of martini.

So far, a casual crowd fills the bar during the lunch and after-work hours. The slow summer months in the theater world mean that show-goers are few and far between for the time being. But that's fine with Connors, who says he'll use the slow season to get the tavern running smoothly before the action starts up again in the fall. *Open for lunch and dinner daily, 11 am-2 am. 228 Tremont St., Boston (617-451-5997). —E.H.*

inner view

NILMA CANNARD

Last month, Boston Park Plaza chief concierge Nilma Cannard received the 2005 Silver Plume Award, which honors the top concierge in the city. Born in Brazil, Cannard has lived in the U.S. for the past two decades, and she started working at the Boston Park Plaza 14 years ago selling trolley tickets. Now one of the 12 Massachusetts members of the Clefs d'Or, an elite concierge group, Cannard's been holding down the desk as chief concierge since 1999. We caught up with her to talk about strange requests, the Fetish Fair and worthwhile touristy things to do even if you actually live here.

Improper Bostonian: *What's the most unusual thing anyone's ever asked you to do?*

Nilma Cannard: I guess it would be throwing a birthday party for a dog. I got a cake, balloons and a dog masseuse. For me, being Brazilian, the dog stays outside, never mind having a birthday party, so that was pretty unusual.

IB: *It's 3 am and I need a clown. Can you help me out?*

NC: I sure can. I'll call an entertainment company that's open 24 hours a day. If I had my Rolodex handy right now, I'd give you the number.

IB: *Do people ask you for things that are illegal, and if so, how do you handle that?*

NC: People ask for drugs, I tell them I can't help them. People ask for prostitutes, I just give them a copy of the *Phoenix*.

IB: *Are you a human Mapquest? Is there anywhere in the city you wouldn't be able to give directions to?*

NC: The biggest problem I have is when people are calling asking for directions, and they're on the right street but in the wrong town. For instance, Mass. Ave. in Arlington causes a lot of confusion for people, even with navigation systems. They'll call and say, "Where am I? I'm in front of a Dunkin' Donuts," believe it or not.

IB: *Does the number of unusual requests go up during the annual Fetish Fair at the Park Plaza?*

NC: The requests during that event get very, very unusual. These are the ones where you need to do a little research, because sometimes people forget their chains, or they need leather or a whip.

IB: *Have you had any good celebrity encounters?*

NC: The celebrity encounters here tend to be politicians, and usually they're just rushing through the lobby with their Secret Service. But during the DNC last year, they liked to hang out in the lobby, which was cool. Kerry, Edwards, Al Sharpton...

IB: *What's your most common request?*

NC: Restaurant recommendations. Or, "I have two days in the city, what should I see?"

IB: *So what should I see?*

NC: The Freedom Trail, because there's so much history here. Newbury Street. And Charles Street.

IB: *Are there any restaurants where it's tough to get a reservation?*

NC: Abe & Louie's is always tough, No. 9 Park on Fridays. But in general, it's Fridays and Saturdays that are tough, and during the week it's no problem.

IB: *So can you get me Red Sox-Yankees tickets?*

NC: I sure can. You're gonna get bleachers for $65–$70, front-row for $500, but I can get them. And that's a very common request.

IB: *What are some things that people who live in the city think of as touristy but they should really try for themselves?*

NC: Take a tour of Fenway Park. Go on a whale-watch. If you've never taken the ferry to Provincetown, do that. And go on a gondola ride on the Charles. It's romantic. *—Ezra Dyer*

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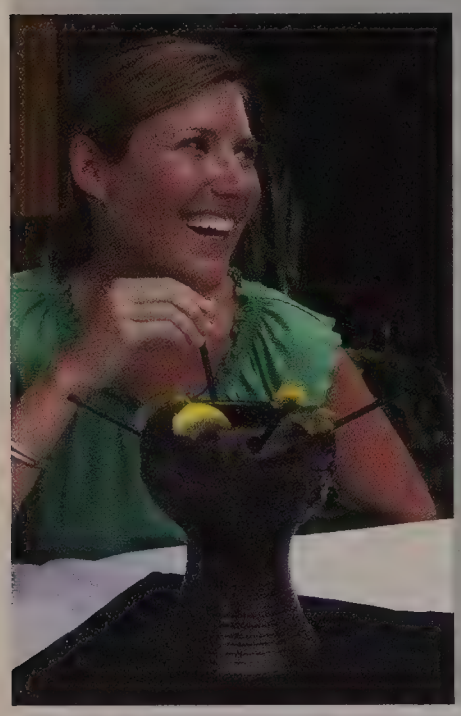
tasty tidbits

READY, SET, CHOW DOWN

Eatin' and Competin'... If you're aching for some competition this summer, but the thought of lacing up the cleats or tennis sneakers feels a little ambitious, we've got a suggestion. On July 16, East Boston's Italian Festival plays host to the first annual Italian Sausage Eating Championship, where you can face off against living (and eating) legends like Gentleman Joe Menchetti and Dominick "The Doginator" Cardo for a $500 grand prize. Now that your stomach's stretched out, head over to Maggiano's on July 19 for a Meatball Eating Competition: Gobble three large meatballs the fastest and you get a private dinner for 15, a case of wine and the title of Maggiano's Meatball Master. Now that's a mouth full.

Making his Marco... Pigalle owner Marc Orfaly goes the Italian route with his forthcoming North End eatery, MarcO. Located on Hanover Street, MarcO is slated to open by August. "We're signed up for Restaurant Week, so that's the deadline," Orfaly says. Pigalle veteran Matt Abdoo will serve as chef de cuisine and the pair will cook up small plates, antipasti, handmade pasta and an à la carte grill selection. MarcO's calling card, however, will be salumi, meats that will be cured on-premises in the basement—once temperatures cool off.

Sam Hell!... Put down your Fin du Monde: Sam Adams has a new brew, Sam Adams Utopias 2005, which makes other so-called high-alcohol beers look like O'Doul's. Only 8,000 bottles of Utopias are being brewed, which is for the best because drinking a lot of this stuff would probably put you in the hospital with a severe case of death—the alcohol content is a liver-licking 25 percent. Then again, this is a beer for sipping, not chugging, an idea that's underscored by the price: $100 per bottle, available at your local liquor store and the Capital Grille.



O'Scorpion Bowl... You may think of Scorpion Bowls as the exclusive territory of Asian restaurants, but you knew it was only a matter of time before the Irish got involved. Grafton Street Pub and Grill now offers its own take on the multistrawed liquor bomb, called the Grafton Goblet. The 48-ounce ceramic bowls are filled with a whiskey-based concoction created by a professor at the Culinary Institute of America. Let's see, a Scorpion Bowl filled with whiskey, right next to Harvard... If you need to get in the mood to beat up some smaht kids, your drink has arrived. *1230 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-0400).*

sam says

PHILOSOPHIES

If you need to confide in someone, pick a drunk friend.

After graduating from BU, Joanna Alberti got a job at Hill Holliday and had every intention of working as a copy writer for the rest of her life. One night, she had a little too much fun and stumbled home. Unable to sleep, Alberti started writing random phrases in her journal. Looking at the words in front of her, she got an idea that soon blossomed into a line of greeting cards called PhiloSophie's, based on the "philosophies" of a fictional character named Sophie. The first dozen cards were drinking-related (for obvious reasons), but the line has since expanded into 90 cards with categories like confidence, love and celebration. The line also includes tanks and tees emblazoned with the greeting-card sayings. My favorites are: Wear Pumps-Take Taxis, and Shop 'til the Cards Won't Swipe. Price point: cards $5.50-$18 for a box set; tanks $26, tees $29. www.sophiesphilosophies.com. *—Samantha House*

improper reports

BEYOND BASIC BREWS

There's more to the Hub's pub scene than classic ales and stouts. In honor of National Beer Month, we've rounded up some of the most inventive beer flavors currently on tap.

Boston Beer Garden
732 East Broadway, Boston (617-269-0990).
A light, sweet summer ale, Sea Dog's Blueberry beer, true to its name, has a subtle berry flavor. Pints go for $4.50 and come garnished with fresh blueberries.

Boston Beer Works
61 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-536-2337).
Created in celebration of their 13th anniversary, the Beer Works' Boston Tea Party Ale is brewed with tea to produce a hybrid of tea and beer. Served over ice with a lemon wedge and straw, it's $4.25 for 16 oz.

Blueberry beer at Boston Beer Garden

Bukowski's Tavern
50 Dalton St., Boston (617-437-9999).
Referred to by Bukowski regulars as the sausage beer, Schlenkerla is a German beer made with a malt smoked in a beech wood fire for a BBQ-like taste. Admittedly "a little weird" on its own, says one employee, the beer works well with food. $8.95 for a 6.9 oz. bottle.

Cambridge Brewing Company
1 Kendall Square (617-494-1994).
Fermented in French oak barrels, brewed with a wild wine yeast, and flavored with lemongrass and Kaffir lime leaf, the Brewing Company's Tiger Bite beer available at the end of July, tastes more like a sauvignon blanc than a pale ale. $4.50 for 14 oz.

John Harvard's Brew House
33 Dunster St., Cambridge (617-868-3585).
Those who like beer with a kick might appreciate John Harvard's Espresso Stout. Made with a chocolate malt and espresso from the Starbucks upstairs, the dark, velvety beer is less bitter than most stouts and runs $5 a pint.

Redbones
55 Chester St., Somerville, (617-628-2200).
For something that's anything but trendy, try gruit—a Scottish beer made with herbs, spices and berries rather than hops. It originated more than 800 years ago, and Redbones offers the Cambridge Brewing Company's take on the brew called Heather Ale. It's $5 for 10.5 oz.

Sunset Grill and Tap
130 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-1331).
Usually sweet, fruit beers have a girly rep. Dogfish Head's Apri hop is an exception to the rule. Full-bodied and slightly bitter, has only a hint of apricot flavor. A pint goes for $3.95.
—Margaret Fuhrer

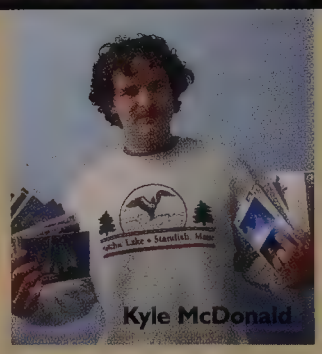
IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Feeling a Little Green... The Green Street Grille, formerly Charlie's Tap and a staple of the Cambridge dining scene for more than 70 years, has just changed hands. After owning the space for 22 years, John Clifford signed the GSG over to bartender Dylan Black, who currently slings the suds over at Chez Henri. The sale likely won't be official until early fall, but Black's already made it known that changes are imminent. First off, the grill will be known simply as Green Street, and the current offerings of nightly entertainment will be tinkered with. This just in: Current chef Mark Romano will stay on as chef at Black's new venture.

Tru Playa 4 Real... What if you could score big points every week with your gal without even having to think about it? Beyond Blossoms' Player Package hooks a brother up with a fresh bouquet of a dozen roses delivered every Friday. The four-week package costs $139.95, a 26-week setup is $969.95 and the year-long deal costs $1,939.95. If you go for that last one, we imagine you're not only a player in the dating scene, but also the NBA. Note: condoms sold separately. www.beyondblossoms.com.

I, i, iiiiiPooooddddd!... How many times have you been savagely grinding your iPod against your privates to the beat of your favorite music and thought, "There has to be a better way?" Finally someone has read your mind and produced a vibrator that hooks up to your iPod and kicks the beat while you beat your...fingers upon the table. The $89.95 Audi-Oh will be sold in the Boston area at Grand Opening, and we predict its introduction will coincide with an iTunes download spike for Moby's thousand-beats-per-minute classic, "Thousand." Of course, once Audi the carmaker hears about Audi-Oh the vibe-maker, someone might be getting their pants sued off. And liking it.



Kyle McDonald

Grand Opening, 308 A Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626).

World Tour... So there's this barrel in the Galapagos Islands where people leave addressed postcards. Other people dig through them, find one they like, and hand-deliver it. Montreal resident Kyle McDonald, however, couldn't stop at just one: Armed with more than 30 postcards, he's traveling the world making deliveries—and meeting people who didn't know they had a postcard waiting with their name on it. McDonald was recently in Boston making three New England deliveries, which garnered him breakfast and a sweet sweatshirt in Maine, but a chilly reception at a mansion in Weston. "Apparently the guy's daughter left the postcard, and she wasn't home, and he didn't know anything about it," says McDonald. "Our conversation was brief." McDonald plans to write a book about his adventures, described so far on www.messageinabarrel.com. *—E.D. and R.L.*

Got scoop?

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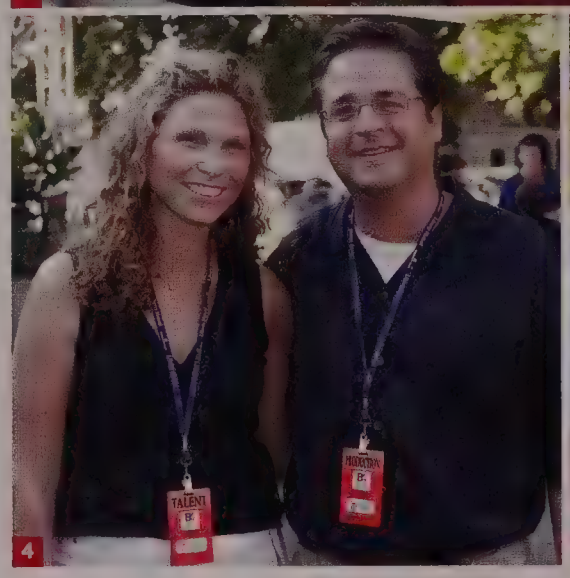
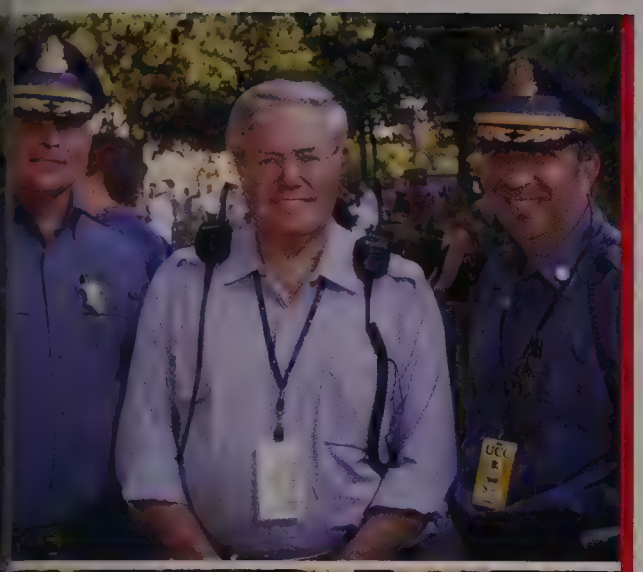
IMPROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

David Mugar, executive producer of the Boston Fourth of July celebration, hosted his annual **Independence Day Celebration at the Hatch Shell** on the Esplanade. More than 500,000 music lovers gathered for the Boston Pops Fourth of July concert. The evening began with a fly-over by fighter jets. Highlights included performances by country singers Gretchen Wilson, Big & Rich, and Cowboy Troy. Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra entertained the crowd with patriotic favorites including *The Stars and Stripes Forever* and Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*. A 30-minute fireworks display over the Charles River capped off the night.



1. From left: **Tom Duffy**, technical consultant for *The Departed*, **Darlene Decaire**, **Janet Sheen**, and **Martin Sheen**, actor, star of *The West Wing* and of the upcoming film *The Departed*.
2. **Sean Kerrigan**, associate director of media relations for the BSO and **Jana Gimenez**, operations manager for the Boston Pops.
3. From left: **Charles Noyes**, Massachusetts State Police Lieutenant Colonel; **David G. Mugar**, executive producer of the Boston Fourth of July and **Thomas Walsh**, Massachusetts State Police Lieutenant Colonel.
4. **Hillary Mandel**, executive in charge of production for TWI, the television division of IMG, and **Steve Mayer**, producer for TWI.
5. **Adam Airhart** and **Stephanie Reither**, district adjudication officers for the Department of Homeland Security's Bureau of Citizenship and Immigrations.
6. **Guy Bressette**, campus police sergeant for Fisher College and **Katja Werner**, marketing consultant for Olson Zaltman.
7. From left: **Helen Scorsese,** and **Martin Scorsese**, director and producer of *The Godfather, Gangs of New York,* and upcoming film *The Departed*.



Tom Kershaw, owner of the Hampshire House and Cheers, hosted his **annual rooftop party at 84 Beacon Street** July 4. About 75 party-goers gathered to take in the sights and festivities of the Fourth of July celebration.

8. From left: **John Hamilton**, **Cindy Conroy**, **Tom Kershaw**, owner of the Hampshire House and Cheers, and **Peggy Williamson**.
9. **Jerry Finnerty**, banker for South Coastal Bank, and **Terri Cannady**, controller for the Hampshire House Co.
10. From left: **Shawn P. Ford**, vice president of sales for Historic Tours of America, **Rosemary Milano** and **David Balfour**, former MDC commissioner.
11. **Judy Boudreau**, business consultant and **Dave O'Brien**, director of properties for the Archdiocese of Boston.

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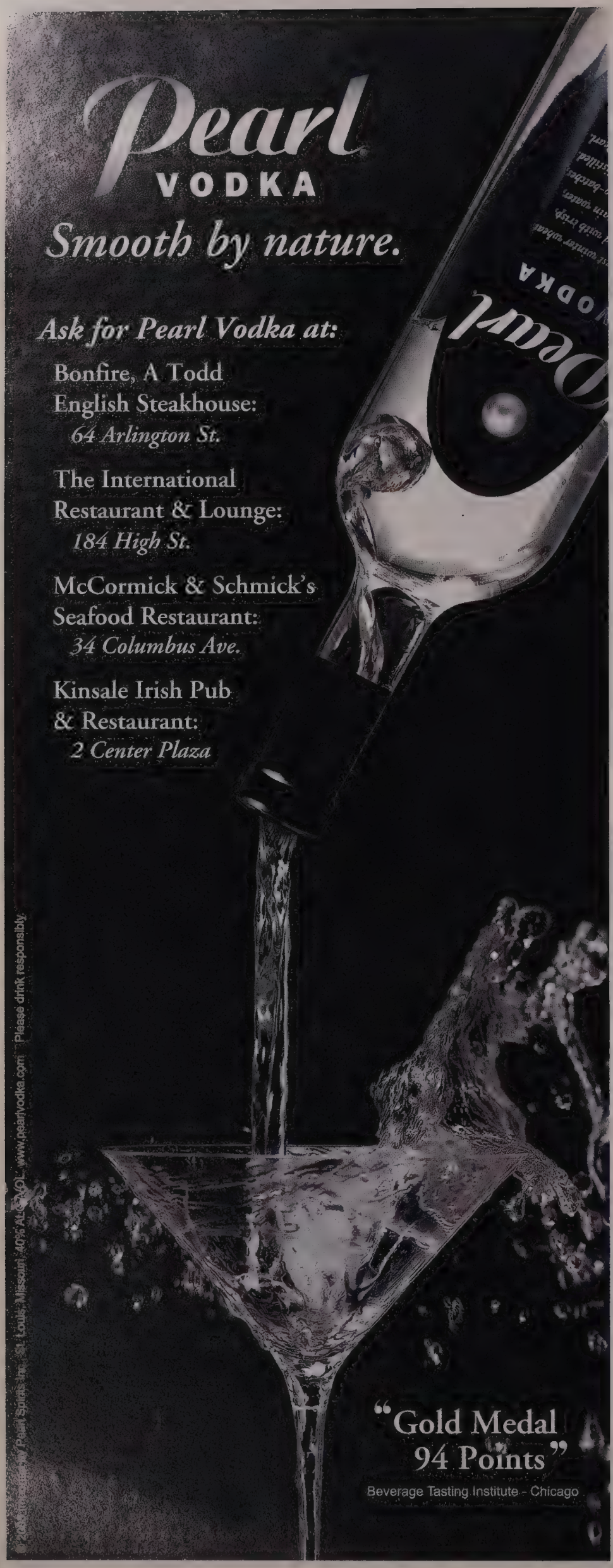

PURSUIT OF COOL

Take my advice: Don't wait till a heat wave to look for an air conditioner.

After a month of weather more suited to Newfoundland than Boston, I welcome the heat wave that arrives in early June. At least, I welcome it until the relentless sun reveals a heretofore undiscovered idiosyncrasy of my apartment: The skylight that lets in a bit of sunshine in the winter also turns our apartment into Dante's Inferno's kitchen's electric oven's heating element in the summer. My apartment is so hot, palm trees grow in my refrigerator. My apartment is so hot, I drilled a hole in the wall and lava came out.

I'm actually OK with being hot, but during one 95-degree day I become worried about my dog. I convince myself that if I don't go find an enormous air conditioner, right that moment, I'll come home to find Manny lying on a platter with an apple in his mouth and a basted glaze covering his crispy hide. I actually have one small air conditioner already running, but I fear its feeble output won't be enough to stave off tragedy, and the next thing you know I'll be on the news slamming my door on a Fox reporter as a graphic scrolls across the screen reading, "Man doesn't buy second air conditioner, dog spontaneously combusts."

Hey, we live in the most consumer-driven country in the world, right? Surely I'll be able to buy an air conditioner at my choice of stores, and for the best possible price. I might go to three or four merchants before settling on an air conditioner that strikes my fancy. I head to Target first, thinking maybe I'll buy one designed by Michael Graves that looks like an iMac. Also, I need toilet paper, an ottoman and the enhanced letterbox DVD edition of Sylvester Stallone's seminal arm-wrestling film *Over the Top*. In Cambodia, you'd probably have to go to four different stores to get all those things. It's sad.

I'm sad, too, because the Target air conditioner section is as empty as a crazy Michael Jackson fan's box of doves after all the not-guilty verdicts were read. I ask an employee when there'll be more and he says, "Maybe in a day or two, comrade," and then offers to trade me a dozen eggs for a bar of soap.

I head next door to Home Depot. They'll have air conditioners. They do. However, each one is roughly the size of a Honda Civic and about as expensive. With the amount of electricity this thing would require, you could either cool your apartment or power up your flux capacitor and go back to the future. I ponder where to try next.

Air conditioners are weird items. There's no other household appliance that shows up in more random places. You wouldn't say, "Hey, the refrigerator's out, we need a new one. Let's see if they've got any at CVS." Yet, there in Stop & Shop, I find the Holy Grail: a stack of air conditioners sitting there in the "seasonal" aisle. However, upon closer inspection, these are 5,000 BTU models, which I gather from the illustration on the box means that they're capable of cooling a room roughly the volume of my pants—my pants, that is, after they've come out of the wash and shrunk up a bit. I consider buying two of them and stacking them on top of one another until I realize that I'm losing the capacity to reason.

Eventually, I find a stack of 6,000 BTU models in Brooks Pharmacy. While I'd decided that buying the 5,000 BTU air conditioner at Stop & Shop was unthinkable, 6,000 BTUs sounds just about right. To be honest, I have no idea what a BTU is anyway, and I no longer care. As far as I'm concerned, it means Buy This Urgently.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT A BTU IS, AND I NO LONGER CARE AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, IT MEANS "BUY THIS URGENTLY"

About 15 minutes later I have the thing in the window. As it turns out, 6,000 BTUs is roughly the cooling output you get if you put an ice cube in your mouth and blow softly on your hand. The air conditioner came with a remote, which is kind of redundant given that you need to sit within 6 inches to feel it working. But I have my AC, and damned if I'm not going to sit there, 6 inches away, and make a remark every five minutes about how nice and cool it is in the living room.

The day after my epic, frustating, semi-fruitless quest for cool, the temperature in Boston drops 40 degrees. It's June, I have a new air conditioner, and people in the grandstands at Fenway are wearing winter jackets, hats and gloves. I really can't end this story with a better joke than that. iB

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THE DANCE

BY JOHN D. SPOONER

Boston's Best Brahmin

John Sears knows this town like no one else.

It seemed like a haunted night, mist drifting around the streetlamps as if it were Jack the Ripper's London. It was near Halloween, and my wife and I were walking home from a dinner on Beacon Hill. As we neared our right off of Beacon, a voice behind us asked, "Want an escort?" in accents out of a time when WASPs seemed to rule the planet. A man emerged from the mists, beaming, as if walking in night fog on Beacon Hill was the most glorious adventure. The man was John Sears, former sheriff of Suffolk County, former chairman of the Metropolitan District Commission and a one-time candidate for mayor.

But those are just ticking off the specifics. John Sears is one of the few Bostonians who makes it a treat to be in the room with him. Every time you spend time with him you learn something.

As we walked up Spruce Street, Sears said, "Stop." We did. He pointed to a manhole cover on the corner of Spruce and Branch. "Bend down and listen," he said. We did. And heard the running of water; a stream beneath the street. "This is the site of the first fresh water discovered in Boston. William Blackstone, a hermit who lived in Charlestown on the Shawmut Peninsula, rowed across it, found the stream and built a thatched hut right next to it on what is now Beacon Street. It was named Blackstone Spring by Gov. Winthrop, who enlisted the hermit in his hunt for good water."

"You've got to poke about this city on foot and look around to love it best," says Sears. "Go to visit the Shirley House in Roxbury. William Shirley was one of our greatest governors. He mobilized the 'Pitchfork Patriots' in the 1760s and besieged the French Fort Louisburg in Atlantic Canada. The British crown granted him a wish and he asked for a summer house to be built for him in Roxbury. His governor's mansion was the Province House, now gone, on Province Street. You can still see the original steps, now leading to the Marliave Restaurant. When Governor Shirley died, his last words remind me of what people say today about others new to our scene... 'Who are these Adamses, and where did they come from anyway?'" Nothing ever changes.

Sears is a large man who smiles a lot, the smiles reflecting his sense that the world is mad, but that he forgives it. His voice is one future generations will never know, the voice of the Patrician. And you want him to ramble on, fearful that no one will remember the Boston stories he knows, snippets of our past and our character.

I met Sears one day for lunch at the Langham Hotel on Post Office Square. As he was eating his salad, he told me, "Monsieur Julien was the first great chef in Boston, opening a French restaurant here, called 'Julien's Restorator.' His employer was a double spy for the French."

"What happened to him?" I asked.

Typical of Sears, he grinned and said, "As Mr. Twain remarked, 'He was a good cook. And as good cooks go…he went.'"

John Sears loves the city as few Bostonians do. I asked him about politics and the current mayor, Tom Menino.

"Oh, I keep writing to the mayor about bricks, and about not weighing the city down with huge buildings. Years ago I decided not to be a curmudgeon. Of course, now I find I am one. Mr. Menino is the best mayor, however, since Josiah Quincy, whose main accomplishment was getting the horse apples off the streets." Sears was on a roll. "Speaking of Italian," he said. "Among my favorite places in the city is the garden next to the Old North Church. A beautiful enclave for contemplation and wonder. And did you know that Italian workers built most of the city? In the old North End apartments, you won't see family photographs. You'll see photos of the buildings they built. And now the city and the state legislatures are Italian-run. The ever-changing power structure in a democracy." And, not skipping a beat, back to the North End: "A man in the 18th century jumped off the steeple of the Old North Church several times with an open umbrella. He was stopped by the authorities on the grounds that he interrupted people's lunches."

I walked back with Sears to Beacon Hill, listening to him as my own private Duck Tour. He pointed out the stele in front of the JFK Building, commemorating the place where Alexander Graham Bell made the first phone call. Sears paused at the State House, nodding up at the statue of John F. Kennedy. "We were both in the same club at Harvard," he said. "Jack would come back for club dinners before he was president and tell the bawdiest jokes of anyone there." He was silent for a minute, then began walking again, saying, "A shame they don't build statues anymore for tellers of bawdy tales." John Sears strode along, master of this old Boston turf. IB

John D. Spooner is an investment advisor, author and novelist. Contact him at thedance@improper.com.

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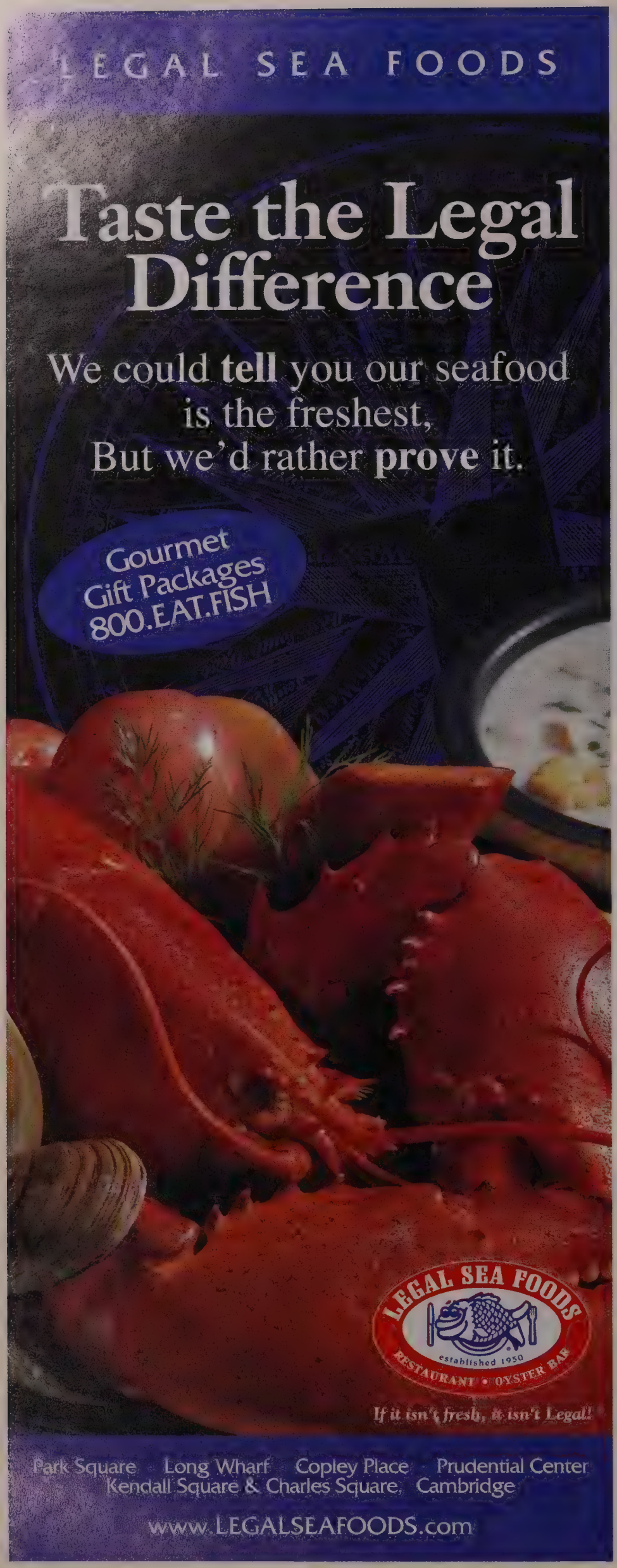

THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

ARROYO'S ROWS

Summer in Boston means corn on the cob at cookouts and cornrows on Bronson Arroyo's head.

It was an extremely early wake-up call, at least for a late-night sports show host, when I crawled out of bed at 7 am recently. I had a long day ahead of me, but it would be worth it. Red Sox pitcher Bronson Arroyo was getting his hair cornrowed again, and I was going to be there while it happened.

Arroyo's story is a fascinating one. He always knew he was going to be a Big Leaguer. At age 8 he was already on a strict diet, working out with weights and running hills, a training regimen some multimillionaires in their early 30s still haven't figured out.

That work ethic has paid off, for both Arroyo and the Red Sox. With his performance on the mound, especially while working out of the bullpen last October, Arroyo played a pivotal role in getting the Red Sox into those Duck Boats for the parade to end all parades.

But what many people noticed more about Arroyo, more than his big-breaking, slow curveball and his swooping leg kick on every pitch, was his hair.

I was curious about his—and our—fascination with his hair. So I made my way downtown and met up with Arroyo for an 8 am hair appointment.

I arrived at Arroyo's place and started knocking on the door. After about 10 minutes of pounding, I'd gotten no response. As it turns out, Arroyo has double doors. He wouldn't have heard me if I'd had a hammer.

I was saved by his hairdresser, Shanika. She called his cell, and Arroyo finally arrived at the door, a tad sleepy.

Shanika has become something of the cornrower to the stars on the Boston sports scene. Some of her other clients include Willie McGinest of the Patriots, Ricky Davis of the Celtics and Arroyo's former teammate Pokey Reese. If she could get Joe Thornton to take the dare, she'd have all four major sports covered—assuming we ever have four major sports again.

We sat there chatting while Shanika did her thing. It took about an hour to lay in all those rows. Arroyo remembered back to the first time he had it done. The reaction from his teammates was not what he'd hoped. Ace Curt Schilling simply looked at Arroyo and said, "Don't talk to me!" Schilling and most everyone else thought it was ridiculous. But guess what? That hair turned out to be Arroyo's trademark.

When you can pitch like Arroyo can pitch, you can do anything you want to your hair. During our discussion, Arroyo touched on many subjects. He mentioned that Manny Ramirez, despite his $20 million a year deal, prefers to shop in discount clothing stores. The guys, said Arroyo, think it's ridiculous that Manny is all about Marshall's. Arroyo just laughed.

Baseball isn't the only thing that Arroyo is passionate about. He loves music. He picked up his guitar and strummed something by Pearl Jam. He said he's about to release a CD. Forget about *American Idol*, winning a World Series championship can do something for a singing career.

When the name Kevin Millar came up, Arroyo rushed to his defense with this nugget: A baseball clubhouse can easily turn into a room full of cliques—a lunchroom, is how he put it. But the Sox have been able to steer clear of that bad karma because of Kevin Millar. "He's the one guy who brings all of the cultures together," said Arroyo. "Millar is awesome."

WHEN YOU CAN PITCH LIKE ARROYO CAN PITCH, YOU CAN DO ANYTHING YOU WANT TO YOUR HAIR

Millar isn't the only one helping to keep the Red Sox on the right track this season. Arroyo has been there every step of the way, ably filling in at the top of the pitching staff while Schilling is nearing his return.

By the time the hour was up, Arroyo's hair was done. The cornrows were in. He was starting to put on his game face, which happens to be the same expression he usually sports, game day or not—the look of a happy individual.

It was time to head to the ballpark for a 1 pm game. He threw the shades on and headed to Fenway without, it seemed, a worry in the world.

It's nice to be Bronson Arroyo these days. **iB**

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

RON DELLA CHIESA

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Broadcasting legend Ron Della Chiesa made his radio debut at the age of 10 in his hometown of Quincy. He attended Boston University's School of Public Communication, where he worked at WBUR, before hosting a variety of programs on WBOS and then serving as musical host and program director at WBCN (then an all-classical station). He also worked as a TV announcer for WBZ Channel 4 and WNAC (now WHDH) Channel 7. In 1966, he joined WGBH as a news and promo announcer for Channel 2, and three years later switched to radio, as host of two classical programs, *Prelude* and *Morning Pro Musica*, on 89.7. Before long, he was hosting afternoon classical and jazz shows, a late-night jazz show and an overnight show. During his three decades at WGBH Radio, he has continued to explore the relationship between classical, jazz and other musical forms, hosting such programs as the *Classical Hour*, *Great Voices*, live broadcasts of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and WGBH *SymphonyCast*, presenting concerts by some of the world's top orchestras. He has interviewed virtually every major classical and jazz artist alive. He now hosts *Classics in the Morning*, *SymphonyCast* and the *Jazz Songbook*, and this July inaugurates another season as host of *Live from Tanglewood*. Active with numerous charities, he serves on the boards of several arts organizations. He and his wife, Joyce, live in Boston.

Jonathan Soroff: *What one adjective would you use to describe your voice?*
Ron Della Chiesa: Mellow.
JS: *I'd say velvet. There's a certain Mel Torme-ness to it.*
RDC: Thanks. When I was a kid, it was higher, and I didn't like it. When I listen to some of my early things, from 40 years ago, I sound like I swallowed helium.
JS: *Everybody hates the sound of their own voice when they hear it recorded.*
RDC: I've grown accustomed to it. At this point, it's become sort of like an instrument.
JS: *Which one?*
RDC: A cello. I had Yo-Yo Ma in the other day, and I think the cello is the closest instrument to the human voice.
JS: *Composer you most would have liked to meet?*
RDC: Puccini. I think he reaches out to people who aren't necessarily into classical music in a way that few other composers do. It's visceral. People who have never heard an opera have called me at the station, in tears, while I'm playing *Butterfly*, *Bohème*, *Girl of the Golden West*, *Tosca*…

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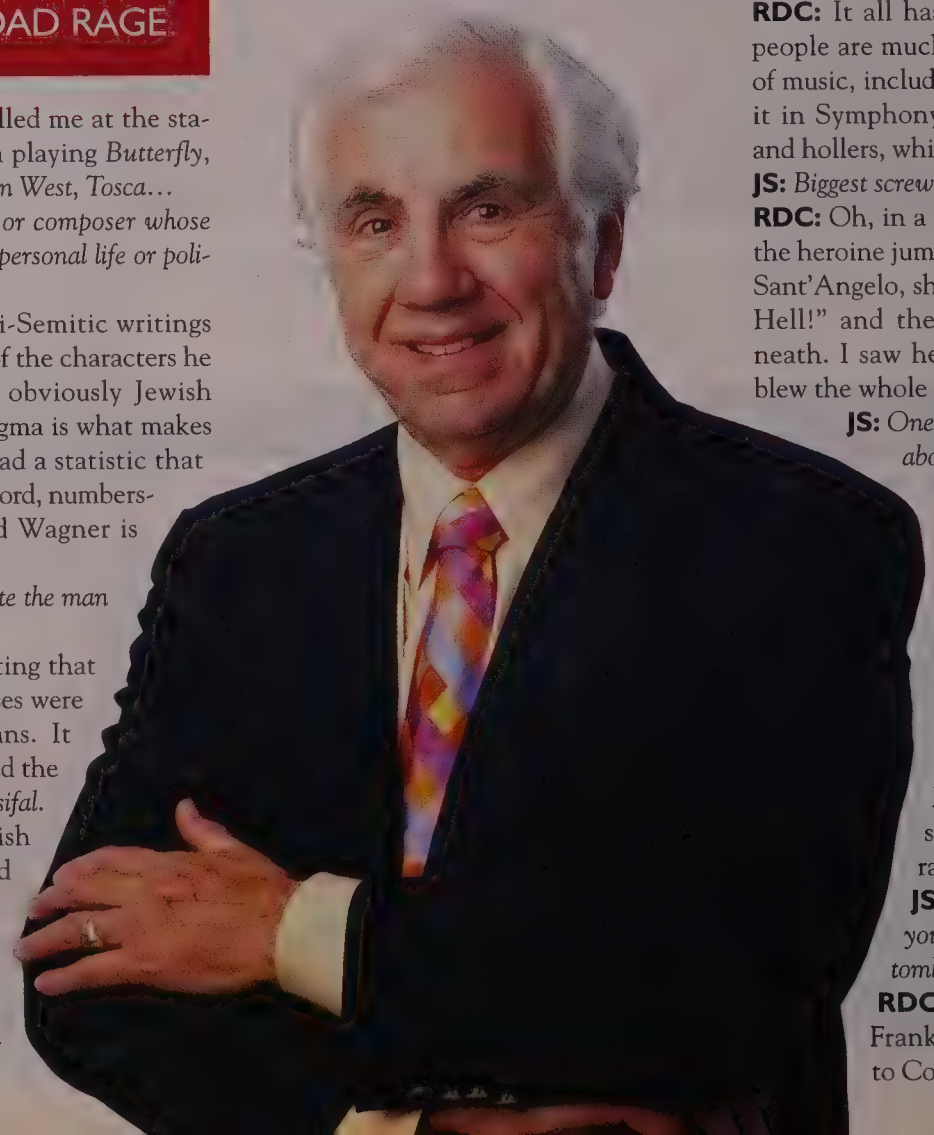
JS: *How about an artist or composer whose work you love but whose personal life or politics you abhor?*
RDC: Wagner. His anti-Semitic writings are horrible, and some of the characters he put in his opera were obviously Jewish stereotypes, but the enigma is what makes him so fascinating. I read a statistic that in terms of the written word, numbers-wise, Christ is first and Wagner is second.
JS: *So how do you separate the man from his work?*
RDC: Well, it's interesting that most of his early successes were due to Jewish musicians. It was a Jew who conducted the first performance of *Parsifal*. The ability of the Jewish intellect to look beyond the fact that he clearly looked down on them and appreciate his genius is a testament to how misguided his anti-Semitism was.
JS: *You think he was a genius?*
RDC: Maybe the musical genius of all time. I put him ahead of Bach and Beethoven.
JS: *Is Symphony Hall the greatest hall in North America?*
RDC: No question.
JS: *Your worst moment on radio?*
RDC: A bad interview, probably, like Eartha Kitt. I had prepped and gotten an old LP out of the library. She came in and said, "That's the worst record I ever made. Why'd you play that?" And I said, "Well, Miss Kitt, I enjoyed you in *Timbuktu*," and her response was, "This coffee is horrible. It's bad coffee. Tastes like it's been sitting around a long time." It was just a disaster.
JS: *You started in radio at the age of 10? Ever wonder what else you might have done?*
RDC: As a youngster I used to play priest a lot. With a name like Della Chiesa, which means "of the church"….
JS: *Favorite conductor to watch?*
RDC: I think James Levine. I've watched him so much at the Met, in the pit, where you can only see half of him, and I knew when he came to Boston, it would be different. His beat is so small, and there's so little effort, and yet…He gets more with that small beat than all the conductors who are so flamboyant and outrageous put together.
JS: *Ever get laryngitis?*
RDC: Yeah. We have a cough button for those momentary things, but one time it was so bad I had to be relieved. I just completely lost my voice. But fortunately with classical music you've got long pieces, so it's not like you have to talk every four minutes.
JS: *Do you have any vocal tricks to keep your diction limber?*
RDC: Yeah, I talk to myself a lot while I walk. I walk for miles, and I'll do a whole pseudo-broadcast.
JS: *Favorite jazz performer?*
RDC: I'd have to say Dave McKenna, the pianist, whom I've known for years, and I think is one of the most underrated musicians of all time. When you hear him play, it's like hearing two pianos, because he has this rolling bass he plays with his left hand. He does these long thematic melodies, and he has thousands and thousands of tunes in his head.
JS: *My fantasy jazz combo would be Stan Getz on sax, Django Reinhardt on guitar and Billie Holiday singing. Who would yours be?*
RDC: You just named three of mine. I'd take Stan Getz on tenor sax, Buddy Rich on drums, Dave McKenna on piano, Tommy Dorsey on trombone, and my singer would be Tony Bennett.
JS: *He's your friend, isn't he?*
RDC: Yeah, but he's also a man who probably changed singing more than anybody besides Sinatra, in terms of the American songbook, and now that Frank is gone, Tony Bennett is the best singer alive.
JS: *Do you always have music on at home?*
RDC: All the time.
JS: *What do you think of WBCN now?*
RDC: Well, as far as the talk is concerned, I'm grateful that for every Howard Stern there's an Isaac Stern.
JS: *What do you think of rap, hip-hop and electronica?*
RDC: It all has its place. I think young people are much more open to new kinds of music, including classical. You can hear it in Symphony Hall. There are whoops and hollers, which you didn't used to hear.
JS: *Biggest screw-up you ever saw on stage?*
RDC: Oh, in a production of *Tosca*, when the heroine jumps off the balcony of Castel Sant'Angelo, she screams "I'll meet you in Hell!" and there was a mattress underneath. I saw her bounce back up. It just blew the whole thing.
JS: *One thing everyone should know about classical music?*
RDC: It has an uplifting quality that can sustain you through anything in life.
JS: *So it truly soothes the savage breast?*
RDC: Oh, yeah. If you're listening to Debussy's *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun* or *La Mer*, it's impossible to experience road rage.
JS: *Last question: What do you want it to say on your tombstone?*
RDC: I'll borrow a line from Frank Sinatra. "The Best Is Yet to Come." iB



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Tedy Bruschi gets our pick for Best All-Around Guy

BY EZRA DYER

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL INDRESANO

TEDY BEAR

FEARSOME ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD, A SOLID FAMILY MAN OFF IT, TEDY BRUSCHI MAKES THE MOST OF LIFE.

When we get Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi on the phone in early July, he's in Las Vegas visiting friends. On the face of it, this sounds like the makings of an episode of ESPN's seedy miniseries *Playmakers*—a pro athlete with a name pronounced "brew-ski" goes to Vegas and hijinks ensue. The reality is much different. "I'm usually staying home with the kids," Bruschi says. "When you've got three kids under the age of five, it changes things. I think the coolest thing is to be a good family man, and that's all I want to be. I don't purposefully shy away from going out with the guys—if they plan something, I try to make an effort to do it—but it's got to fit within the framework." Bruschi even stays away from the brewskis, which may be disappointing news for the platoons of fans who'd like to buy him a beer. "I think I'd be a good endorser for O'Doul's," he says.

In an era when the NFL salary cap causes players to shuttle between teams as management continually juggles its cap space, Tedy Bruschi is the rare player who's spent his entire career in one place. Drafted by New England in 1996, he's played under three head coaches and won three Super Bowls—and unlike most of the current team, he's also had the experience of losing one, when the Bill Parcells Patriots of Super Bowl XXXI lost to Green Bay in 1997. "After that game I thought we'd have a chance to get back to the Super Bowl, but I knew a lot of good football needed to be played," Bruschi says. "Parcells left, then Pete Carroll came in, then Bill Belichick. That's the biggest transition a team can go through, losing the head coach." Bruschi points out that even Belichick, he of the three Patriots Super Bowl titles, finished his first season at the helm with a record of 5-11. "That's indicative of the change you go through."

But the Patriots eventually found their way, and so did Tedy Bruschi, a man who was originally thought to be too small to play linebacker in the NFL. After years of on-field heroics capped by a selection to the 2005 Pro Bowl, it's safe to say Bruschi has proven the doubters wrong.

While No. 54 has served up plenty of great plays for the Patriots over the years, Bruschi's favorite on-field moment wasn't a sack, interception or fumble recovery. It wasn't celebrating any of the three Super Bowl victories that he's helped bring to New England. It was a moment before the last Super Bowl, when he found himself joyously playing with two of his kids on the field at Alltel Stadium in Jacksonville. Caught up in the business of being tackled by his two boys, Bruschi didn't realize that the father-sons scrum was caught on camera, but that widely televised image became as emblematic of Bruschi as any of his game-time feats. It seems a contradiction that, with the Super Bowl looming, a man tasked with physically stopping some of the most fearsome athletes on the planet could be so relaxed—gentle, even. But there is a correlation between Bruschi's devotion to his family and his performance as a Pro Bowl–caliber linebacker. "Off the field, they're my reason for living," he says. "On the field, they're my reason for succeeding. I look at the photos of my wife and kids in my locker before a game and think, 'Daddy's gotta go to work now.'"

When the work is done, Bruschi doesn't get bored. "I love to play golf. Me and a few other guys play at the TPC Boston. I'm an 18 handicap. Most of the guys are an 18, except QBs and kickers. They have more time to practice—and they're not as sore!"

Bruschi is also a big jazz fan and enjoys listening to music—and playing it. "I like to blow on my saxophone. Music is something that's stuck with me," says Bruschi, who has performed at Symphony Hall to benefit the Longy School of Music. In fact, Bruschi was a member of his high school marching band before he became captain of the football team. Besides playing, Bruschi makes a point to get out and experience Boston's live music scene as a spectator. "I love to go see live music," he says. "I saw U2 a few weeks ago at the Fleet. I love to go to Scullers, that's my spot. They know me there. Hearing live music in an intimate setting is something I love to do. I saw Wynton Marsalis at Symphony Hall with my wife, and it hasn't gotten any better than that. Those are the places I go when I go out."

When you're seeing Wynton Marsalis at Symphony Hall or a nationally renowned act at Scullers, you can't just hit Mickey D's on the way home. "We like starting the night off with music and finishing it with good food," he says. "A few weeks ago I went to Olives with Christian

Fauria and his wife, Rhonda, and the courses just kept coming, each one better than the last. At the end of the night, we were giving Todd English a standing ovation. Excelsior, Lydia Shire's place, is another favorite."

The Patriots veterans also enjoy an annual trip to a Boston steak house, courtesy of the rookie players. Previous venues have included Morton's and Abe & Louie's, but last season the destination was Smith & Wollensky. "We used to do it in small groups, but now the rookie class takes out the whole team all at once. That way we run up more of a bill. Last year at Smith & Wollensky, I don't remember what the total was, but it was a record."

If it sounds like Bruschi appreciates the good life, he does, but he also makes a conscious effort to get the most out of living here. Bruschi is a lot like anyone with three kids in that he doesn't have a surplus of free time, but he believes in the importance of taking advantage of all that Boston has to offer. "My wife, Heidi, and I try to go out probably once a month, line up a babysitter and do it. We try to get out and experience the great city that we live so close to. If you don't get out there and experience it, you're crazy. I was born and raised in San Francisco, and it was a city where people would always ask me if I'd done all these things, but I was too busy, too caught up with life. So when I moved to Boston, another great city, I decided not to make that mistake again."

There is one aspect of life in Boston that took some getting used to, however. Growing up in California and going to college in Arizona, Bruschi wasn't exactly acquainted with the realities of a New England winter when he was drafted by the Patriots. "It took a couple of years," he says. "Living in California and Arizona, I was definitely West Coast. Now I look forward to the snow. Because when that snow comes down, there's no way we lose. The colder it gets, the more confident I feel, the stronger I feel, and I know that there's no team that can beat us." However, Bruschi shares the pain of Patriots fans once the season ends and two (or three) more months of football-less winter bleakness await. "Once football stops and winter still goes, it gets tough," he says. "But when football's still going, I'll dance in that snow."

When warmer weather finally rolls around, Bruschi is all about spending time with his kids—no trips to the Caribbean with Heidi while the boys stay home with a nanny. "Right now we look for family-oriented vacations. We go to the Cape, we go to Edaville USA and see Thomas the Tank Engine. My goal is to show them a good time and make sure they're seeing things they haven't seen before. If, later in life, Heidi and I can take vacations by ourselves, that's fine. But for now, it's all about them."

While Bruschi obviously cares deeply for his kids, he doesn't want to become the oppressive dad, trying to force them to follow in his footsteps and taking a hyper-aggressive role in their athletic careers. "I don't want to steer them," he says. "Football is my passion, but I want them to find their own passions...But the way they tackle me around the house, it's inevitable that they're gonna find a helmet."

As we go to press, Bruschi's football future is still unclear. But he says that the stroke he suffered last February shortly after the Pro Bowl elicited a reaction from the city that has touched him deeply, and the outpouring of support has contributed to his recovery. "After I had the stroke, the people of Boston rallied around me," he says. "They helped me get back on my feet, to the point I'm at now where I'm feeling great. I'm still getting mail from people wishing me well. That's one thing Boston has that other cities don't: people giving you genuine support. This is the Boston's Best issue, and I'm being honest here: The best thing about Boston is the people." iB

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MEET THE JUDGES

BOSTON'S BEST 2005

Our Boston's Best judges, Front row, from left: Joe Sciacca, Howard Manly. Second row: Gretchen Monahan, Joanne Chang, Bianca de la Garza, Jorge Quiroga, Jacqueline Liebergott, Tim Huggins, Jonathan Soroff. Third row: Michael Holley, Kelly McFarland, Stacey Shane, Wendy Semonian, Chris Collins, Veronica Chao, Erin Hagedorn. Fourth row: Susan Orlean, Leslie Kilgore, Jim Gordon, Malcolm Rogers, Rich Levine, David Littlefield, Samantha House. Back row: John Gillespie, Joel Benjamin, David Josef, Gideon Lester, Ezra Dyer, Leon Semonian, John Spooner.

Anyone who works for a city magazine will tell you: It's impossible to count the number of times someone asks us, "Where should I go for dinner with my parents/to buy new shoes/to find a good brie/to buy tickets for Cirque du Soleil/to pick out a lawn jockey?"

Usually, these inquiries are prefaced by some form of flattery, like, "You know this city better than anybody," or "You've eaten everywhere…"

And, truth be told, they're right.

We do keep our finger on the city's pulse. After all, that's our job, and it forms the basis for our annual Best issue, in which we offer you our hard-earned wisdom and insider knowledge of the best Boston has to offer. But it's not quite as cut-and-dried as that. In compiling this issue, we not only tap into our own resources, but we scour our social and professional networks and handpick an eclectic group of major players whom we invite to dinner and ply with booze to pry from them their secret favorite places to eat, drink, shop, do, etc.

In keeping with the "best" theme, our dinner this year was graciously hosted by the Four Seasons (the best place to do any number of things, in addition to hosting a dinner of big shots). Our distinguished panel of judges—to whom we offer our heartfelt thanks—included the following:

Joel Benjamin, fashion and editorial photographer; Joanne Chang, owner of Flour Bakery + Café; Bianca de la Garza, Fox 25 News anchor; John Gillespie, executive vice president of The MENTOR Network; Jim Gordon, president of Cape Wind Associates; Michael Holley, sports columnist and author; Tim Huggins, owner of Newtonville Books; David Josef, fashion designer; Gideon Lester, associate artistic director of the American Repertory Theater; Jacqueline Liebergott, president of Emerson College; David Littlefield, a.k.a. The Sausage Guy; Howard Manly, *Boston Herald* columnist; Kelly McFarland, stand-up comedian; Gretchen Monahan, owner of Grettacole, Gretta Luxe and G Spa, television personality; Susan Orlean, *New Yorker* staff writer and author of such best-selling books as *The Orchid Thief*; Jorge Quiroga, WCVB Channel 5 reporter; Malcolm Rogers, the Ann and Graham Gund Director of the Museum of Fine Arts; and Joe Sciacca, *Boston Herald* columnist.

Over a convivial dinner hosted by our staff, our judges hashed out winners in various categories, discounting any votes where a conflict of interest arose. Perceptive readers may notice that a few of our judges (Huggins and Monahan, for example) own businesses that have received our Boston's Best award in the past. But who better to assess what's best than the best? Ultimately, the victors were vetted and agreed upon by our editorial staff.

And so we proudly present our 14th annual Boston's Best issue. Please consider keeping it around, instead of calling us the next time you need a restaurant recommendation. Not that we don't like hearing from you. But we did do all this work. So enjoy.

—*Jonathan Soroff*

FOOD & DRINK

AFTER-HOURS DINING

News

150 Kneeland St., Boston, 617-426-6397,
www.newsboston.com

Let's face it, at 3 am, most people would eat a cow patty to satisfy that raging, post-party hunger. And in Boston, the options are unfortunately limited. So what welcome news News is. With a kitchen that keeps sizzling until 5 am on weekends and 4 am on school nights, News serves not just food but decent food: From pizzas to paninis, burgers to steaks, appetizers to desserts (including one of the best incarnations of tiramisu this side of Little Italy), they've got the goods from dusk till dawn. Among the tasty breakfast options: eggs benedict, huevos verdes, pancakes and more, available starting at 11 pm (a godsend for those of us who start craving breakfast right after dinner). The atmosphere is cozy not pose-y, though the bar scene remains lively into the wee hours. So who says no news is good news?

AMERICAN RESTAURANT

Stephanie's on Newbury

190 Newbury St., Boston, 617-236-0990,
www.stephaniesonnewbury.com

Perched fortuitously at the corner of Newbury and Exeter, it's the perfect midway resting stop for shoppers. By now, Stephanie's is a Back Bay dining landmark and has been one of our favorites for more than a decade. A major facelift in 2000 transformed the place, giving it a warm, convivial atmosphere. The large bar area just inside the foyer leads to the dining rooms, which spread through the building like a cozy rabbit warren. In the summer months, Stephanie's street patio is an unbeatable location for people watching. In the winter months, the fireplace warms patrons with its cozy glow. Owner Stephanie Sokolove has taken the perfect balance of Back Bay grandeur and casual, relaxed ambience and added an outstanding New American menu. You haven't dined in Boston until you've eaten at Stephanie's.

BAKERY, BREADS

Iggy's

130 Fawcett St., Cambridge, 617-491-7600,
www.iggysbread.com

The next time you find yourself inhaling everything in the breadbasket at your favorite restaurant, check with your waiter: Odds are, it was all baked by Iggy's. Their breads and pastries are baked fresh daily (duh!), using flours that are unbleached and unbromated, two factors that improve nutritional value and flavor. Their recipes also include many organically produced ingredients, all of which are expertly baked into loaves and rolls with exceptional taste and texture. The antithesis of the not-so-wondrous Wonderbread, these artisanal breads—from crusty, sea salt–topped ficelle, to EVOO-oozing focaccia, to a plain, robust baguette—are also available in Iggy's retail store, adjacent to its bakery HQ in Cambridge, and at all Boston-area Whole Foods markets, Star Market and other gourmet food stores.

BARBECUE

Village Smokehouse

1 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-566-3782,
www.villagesmokehouse.com

The telltale smudges of sticky BBQ sauce on your face give you away. There's no getting out of it. Your life partner scowls with utter disdain. The dog wags his tail and circles you frantically, hoping to lick your face. Once again, you've been unable to resist the siren song of the Village Smokehouse, with its authentic, open-pit BBQ that's as good as it gets this side of the Mason-Dixon line. Since 1987, they've been wreaking havoc on waistlines with their superb Texas-style barbeque and finger-lickin' fixins, served up in a casual cookhouse atmosphere. It's cheap. It's cheerful. But all the Lone Star beer in the West won't get you out of the hot water you're in. So for God's sake, next time, just bring two doggie bags home: One for the S.O. and one for the pooch.

BAR FOOD

Cambridge Common

1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-547-1228

What makes the sweet potato fries in this place so damn good? The answer isn't easy for co-owner Holly Heslop. "It does baffle me a little bit," she says, "but people go wild for them." That said, she knows the crinkle-cut sweet potatoes, cut into ruffled rounds instead of sticks or wedges, are the key to a fry that's crispy and sweet but still meaty inside. Such tricks of the trade are old hat to Heslop and husband, Charlie Christopher, who opened the Cambridge Common in 1996, after their first restaurant, Christopher's, had already been a Porter Square institution for 15 years. Their local empire has now grown to five Cambridge establishments, including live-music venues Toad and the Lizard Lounge, but Heslop says further expansion isn't likely. "We have five kids and five restaurants," she says. "It's a comfortable number." It's also the best bar food in Beantown.

BREAKFAST

Sound Bites

708 Broadway, Somerville, 617-623-8338

There are many who claim that Sound Bites has the best pancakes in the Hub area, and we're inclined to agree. There are also those who say this Ball Square breakfast and lunch spot has the world's rudest staff, but the truth lies somewhere in between. In other words, a really great breakfast is delivered with, well, personality. Weekends are crammed, but unlike many morning joints, everything tastes fresh, rather than frozen or packaged. The sausage is several cuts above your average greasy patty, the whole-grain waffles are beyond tasty and the "NoPlaceLikeHomeFries" are a gut-busting must. But let us repeat: The pancakes are the best around. It's an eat-and-run place, rather than a linger-over-the-paper place, but the noisy, boisterous, communal experience is like a wake-up call, with hearty food to get you through the day.

BURGER

The Waterfront Café—Bar & Grille

450 Commercial St. Boston, 617-523-0613

While tourists flood the streets of the North End in search of heaping helpings of pasta, locals in the know head straight to the Waterfront Café for a fab bite to eat. One glimpse of their famous burgers is enough to make your mouth water and stoke your inner carnivore. Simply put, when it comes to burgers, bigger is better, and the Waterfront Café offers up huge 10-oz. two-handers cooked exactly the way they should be, with all the toppings, and cold beer to wash it all down. If the way to the heart is through the stomach, we're in love with their burgers.

BURRITOS

Anna's Taqueria

Locations in Brookline, Cambridge and Somerville,
617-739-7300

The burrito, essentially Mexico's answer to the sandwich, is a portable food with universal appeal. But while it might seem like such a simple thing to wrap rice and beans in a flour tortilla, a good burrito has an ineffable something, sublime and rare, and the folks at Anna's know the secret. It's hard to pinpoint what makes their burritos so good. We could tell you the flour tortilla is steamed until it stretches. We could mention the pico de gallo, redolent of fresh cilantro. We could say the carnitas are stewed in green chiles. But the whole is more than simply the sum of its parts—the apotheosis of the burrito, which comes wrapped in thin, papery tinfoil at the end of your salivating journey to the cash register.

CAPPUCCINO

Caffe Vittoria

290-296 Hanover St., Boston, 617-227-7606,
www.vittoriacaffe.com

Year after year, this North End haunt wins in the cappuccino category, and the reasons are obvious. Caffe Vittoria opened in 1929, the first Italian café in Boston and a North End landmark ever since. Among its dozen or so methods of serving coffee, Vittoria boasts a cappuccino that's a frothy, silky cup of heaven. For those inclined to the jitters, it comes in a true decaf as well. But either way, the sharp, rich espresso is tamed with foamed milk and topped with a shake of sweet cocoa powder or cinnamon. Although you can add a biscotti or pastry to this treat, the cappuccino is like a dessert unto itself, one with fewer calories and more kick. And the setting fairly oozes Old World charm, so you'll feel sophisticated just sitting there, unless, of course, you forget to wipe away the foamy mustache.

CASUAL DINING

Picco

513 Tremont St., Boston, 617-927-0066,
www.piccoboston.com

The South End may have more casual, gourmet drop-in spots than most neighborhoods, so Picco had cheek opening there last summer with a menu that features both pizza and ice cream. Its saving grace: Both are really good, brilliantly prepared from fresh, sophisticated ingredients. (Discerning foodies have been singing the joint's praises to IMPROPER staffers since it opened.) Although "picco" means peak or mountaintop in Italian, the café's name actually stands for "Pizza and Ice Cream Company." Picco features an old-fashioned soda fountain incorporated

SUSHI

Uni at Clio

370A Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-536-7200,
www.cliorestaurant.com

Uni, the brainchild of celebrity chef Ken Oringer, is a tiny boutique sashimi bar tucked into a corner of his upscale, contemporary restaurant, Clio. A word of warning: It's not for the faint-hearted or flaccid of wallet. This is an epicurean haunt, where exquisite flavors and micro nutrition exist in a rarified atmosphere of high aesthetics. Not to suggest that it's overly serious though, especially after a cocktail like Enter the Dragon, a swift kick of heaven (for $12 a pop). The superb sashimi, sushi and exotic Asian goodies like the uni spoon (which combines sea urchin, quail egg and caviar) are a gastronome's wet dream. If it's a California roll you're looking for, Uni is not your spot, but for those with sophisticated taste buds and a hankering for the imaginative and exotic, it's without rival.

RAW BAR

B&G Oysters

550 Tremont St., Boston, 617-423-0550,
www.bandgoysters.com

This is the place for couples to get intimate over that age-old aphrodisiac: The Oyster. There's even a lovers nook, separate but in view of the main dining area, for those who don't see public displays of bivalve slurping as socially acceptable. Frankly, the tiny B&G just doesn't have the space for large, boisterous parties. It's much better for hipsters à deux who are into gorging on the delicacies that celebrity chef Barbara Lynch (No. 9 Park, dontcha know) oversees. An elegy to New England's seafood tradition, the menu ventures into other raw bar staples and excellent cooked fish, too, including a fabulous BLT, where the 'L' stands for lobster. But from perky Washington kumamotos to plump PEI Pepperell Coves, B&G pulls in the best with its changing daily selection of shucked-to-order sexual enhancements… errr, oysters.

into the sleek, bold decor, and serves fresh salads and sandwiches (and decadently delicious pies and calzones) from 11 am until 11 pm. The homemade ice cream flavors change daily and are delicious straight or as sundaes, floats or ice cream sodas. Oh happy daze!

CHEAP EATS

Botucatu

57 West Dedham St., Boston, 617-247-9249

In the sea of swanky culinary options that is the South End, Botucatu is an oasis of simplicity and affordability. This pleasant, friendly restaurant features Latin American cuisine, with an emphasis on traditional recipes from Peru and Brazil, and an eye on value. Familiar items like guacamole and tacos sit on the menu alongside plump empanadas and *tostones* (green plantains, fried and served with carrot sauce), Spanish paella, and *seco de cordero* (a Peruvian lamb dish cooked with beer). For a down-to-earth bite, the *lomo saltado* matches steak stew with French fries, while the *pescado al vapor* is a healthy low-fat steamed fish in piquant *ajiajo* sauce. Prices don't stray above $20, even for the most extravagant entree, and most hover around 12 or 13 bucks. When was the last time you got great food at such reasonable prices?

CHEESE SHOP

Formaggio Kitchen

244 Huron Ave., Cambridge, 617-354-4750;
268 Shawmut Ave., Boston, 617-350-6996;
www.formaggiokitchen.com

It's hard to imagine any place other than Formaggio winning this category. Ever. Undoubtedly the best cheese shop in Boston, it may well be the best cheese shop in the country, and part of the reason for that lies in a small basement room beneath the Cambridge store, where the temperature is always 50 degrees and the humidity hovers consistently around 90 percent. It's a cheese cave, a rarity in the United States. Here, wheels of rare cheese shipped from overseas ripen and age. Formaggio itself has aged well, too. The store first opened in 1974, which should put things in perspective. Back then, if you wanted a wedge of brie de Meaux, you had to go to France to get it, but local gourmets like Julia Child quickly popularized the pleasures of *fromage*, and the rest is cheese history.

CHINESE

Bernard's

The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Newton,
617-969-3388

It isn't just shoppers from the mall that flock to Bernard's. This is one of Metro West's busiest restaurants, and the Hub's sine qua non for superlative, authentic Chinese fare. Several cuts above the average Polynesian theme park or chop suey dragon palace, Bernard's serves everything cooked to order, using the best fresh produce and highest quality cuts of meat, poultry and fish. It's a boisterous place, buzzing with the adrenaline of the swift, attentive servers and the expectations of avid diners tucking into exceptional Chinese fare. Judging by the number of Asian families packing the place on any given night, Bernard's is one of the few ethnic restaurants that cooks up the real deal.

COMFORT FOOD

Zon's

2 Perkins St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-9667,
www.zonsjp.com

Zon's must be doing something right. In early 2002, at the height of the comfort-food fad, it started serving up

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UP-AND-COMING CHEF

Jeffrey P. Fournier at the Metropolitan Club

1210 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-731-0600,
www.metclubandbar.com

It's been a busy five years for chef Jeffrey P. Fournier. The 37-year-old helped to build Lydia Shire's Locke-Ober (in 2001) and then last year became the executive chef at Chestnut Hill's hottest new restaurant. In between, he overhauled the menu and raised the bar tremendously at Sophia's on Boylston Street. While many chefs claim to be culinary artists, Fournier is actually a notable painter, too. One of his dishes at the Metropolitan Club—a whole red snapper decked with fried ginger crisps, splashed with colorful pink, green and yellow swirls that echo the crisped fish's coloring—pays homage to Jackson Pollack. Unfortunately for the art world, but fortunately for people who like to eat, Fournier won't have too much time for painting in the near future. The Met Club plans to go nationwide soon, with more restaurants in the works, stretching from Boston to Santa Monica.

gourmet meatloaf, mashed potatoes and macaroni and cheese on a corner in JP's Hyde Square, a neighborhood commercial district. And what comfort food menu would be complete without a gourmet burger? At Zon's, this American masterpiece comes in the shape of a thick sirloin patty smothered in sharp cheddar and served on a pepper-brioche bun. Three and a half years later, Zon's is still bustin' it out and packing in the hungry hordes. We've even heard a rumor that the secret ingredient in the mac and cheese is crack.

CUBAN RESTAURANT

El Oriental de Cuba

416 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-6464

On your first trip to El Oriental de Cuba, you should get the Cuban sandwich, one of the world's great uses for bread. Watch the cooks make it while you inhale the aromas from platters of food that arrive steaming at the tables of families seated around you. On your next visit, you'll be prepared to venture further: fried whole tilapia, skirt steak grilled with onions and *pollo guisado*. Each comes surrounded by colorful plates of white rice, red beans and green plantains. Squint your eyes, and on a lazy summer day under the slowly circulating ceiling fans, you can imagine you're in Oriente, the eastern province of Cuba from which the restaurant gets its name. The culinary equivalent to listening to the Buena Vista Social Club.

DINER

Mike's City Diner

1714 Washington St., Boston, 617-267-9393

Boston may be short on authentic diners (compared with, say, Long Island, where there seems to be one every few feet), but among the good ones we have, Mike's is tops. Not only is it a South End fixture, it's a Boston institution and blessedly free from any schtick. On weekends, it becomes quite the scene, but without the stuck-up attitude of so many South End haunts. Given the location, the no-nonsense hearty grub is a great value. Hipsters hit Mike's seeking succor for severe hangovers and sit knee-to-knee with fresh-faced condo-couples leafing through Crate & Barrel catalogues. But everyone—from the hospital workers to the Berklee students to the nouveau professionals—comes for the plates heaped high with eggs and bacon, corned beef hash, home fries and other breakfast favorites. We won't tell your cardiologist if you don't.

FRENCH RESTAURANT
L'Espalier
30 Gloucester St., Boston, 617-262-3023,
www.lespalier.com

We don't know, or particularly care, how they assign Michelin ratings to the best dining rooms in France, but we're sure L'Espalier chef-owner Frank McClelland does. At L'Espalier, there's nothing pretentious in the decor—it's a perfectly elegant Victorian town house, with nothing to distract you from the outstanding cuisine that unfolds like a ballet when you dine there. The first course is a charming introduction to the pleasures that await. By course number two, everything beyond your table seems to disappear in a blissed-out haze of gleaming crystal and exquisite flavors. If you're lucky, you won't snap out of the trance until the following morning, by which point you'll be heading to the gym to work the whole thing off.

GREEK RESTAURANT
Mezé Estiatorio
100 City Square, Charlestown, 617-242-6393,
www.mezeboston.com

Move over, Paris: According to chef and co-owner Paul Delios, the Greeks invented the restaurant thousands of years before haute cuisine was even a glint in some French chef's eye. Taverns, according to this theory, were opened by the Greeks in the storehouses stationed along their far-flung trade routes and were the first places where prepared food was sold to the public. Delios' restaurant, Mezé Estiatorio, is not your ya-ya's taverna. The menu is full of meze dishes—tapas-like small appetizers that come in a dizzying variety of textures, colors and temperatures. Designer decor, a swanky bar and black-clad waiters make the place sleek and sophisticated. Delios says the restaurants of ancient Athens were probably no less metropolitan in their time.

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, BACK BAY
Mistral
223 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-867-9300,
www.mistralbistro.com

Bostonians love our tried-and-true restaurants: Hamersley's Bistro, the Oak Room, Locke-Ober. Could the chic, imposing Mistral ever join the list? When Mistral first opened in 1997, it seemed like Boston was poised to become a New York manqué. Within one or two years, Whiskey Park opened, as did Radius—where the host was rumored to get a $2,000-a-month clothing allowance. Eight years later, Mistral still feels chic and contemporary, and the interim has only added luster to the high ceilings, striking decor and superb food by chef Jamie Mammano. On any weeknight, a crowd of long-time regulars eats at the bar, enjoying the food and convivial atmosphere. The ever-evolving menu remains inventive yet friendly, replete with old favorites and punctuated by new additions. Did Mistral make Boston into more of a New York wannabe? Hardly. Instead, Boston made Mistral its own.

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, BRIGHTON
Tasca
1612 Comm. Ave., Brighton, 617-730-8002,
www.tascarestaurant.com

In the distinctly Irish enclave of Brighton, this stylish tapas restaurant adds a splash of Mediterranean spice. Besides being one of Boston's best tapas joints, it does a great job with more substantial dishes, or *platos principales*. Order up three or four of the former from the small plates menu, or head for the entrees, like a rib-eye steak or salmon with un twist español. Thursday nights feature live Spanish guitar music, and traditional flamenco groups perform occasionally, making it a lively spot for a date or night out with friends. But one of the most popular things about Tasca is the prices, particularly the Sunday night prix-fixe menu, which offers three courses for $21.95 per person. Great eats and a good deal, to boot.

DELI
Zaftigs
335 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-975-0075,
www.zaftigs.com

Weekend mornings, this place is stuffed like a kosher market on the Thursday before Passover. How does a Jewish deli whet brunch appetites? Maybe it's the banana-stuffed French toast or the cheddar-apple omelet. Or it could be the cheese blintzes. Or the nova platter. Of course, corned beef sandwiches, chicken soup with matzo balls and hot potato or meat knishes never go awry, either. You might even find out you like gefilte fish, if you're not careful. In other words, there's something about Zaftigs that makes you want to eat everything on the menu—kind of like listening to your Jewish grandmother say, "Ess, mein kinde." Maybe that's why the restaurant's name is so apt—in Yiddish, "zaftig" means "pleasingly plump."

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, BROOKLINE
La Morra
48 Boylston St., Brookline, 617-739-0007, www.lamorra.com

Brookline's no slouch when it comes to great places to eat, but La Morra, which opened in late 2003, outstrips the fierce competition. The husband and wife team of Jennifer and Josh Ziskin—he chefs, she's front of the

BUZZ

Eastern Standard

528 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-532-9100

The biggest buzz for any restaurant opening this spring hasn't been for some super-swank downtown eatery, but for Eastern Standard, a grandly appointed but down-to-earth restaurant and bar housed in the former space of Boston's beloved rock club, the Rat. Adjacent to the up-market retail and hospitality complex that is the Hotel Commonwealth, Eastern Standard is the latest launch for former No. 9 Park co-owner (and Barbara Lynch's former partner in B&G Oysters and the Butcher Shop) Garrett Harker. This venture sees him working with former Pigalle and Tremont 647 chef Jamie Bissonnette, who has created a menu that's full of New England classic comfort foods, with some daring epicurean asides, such as the 'Good Plate of Offal,' which is essentially a selection of sophisticated pates. Eastern Standard is casual dining in a "wicked smaht" atmosphere (including a gorgeous patio), priced for everyday dining.

house—have staked out their own culinary turf, with a menu that offers traditional Northern Italian cuisine done better than the countless other eateries offering similar fare. With a seasonal menu of wood-grilled meats, fish and locally farmed vegetables, they've benefited from excellent word-of-mouth. One thing that La Morra has introduced to Brookline is its delightful *cicchetti*: These Venetian bar snacks, similar to tapas, are simply the best thing to meet up with a glass of prosecco since Casanova did his thing in dark alleys off the Grand Canal.

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, CAMBRIDGE

Harvest

44 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-868-2255, www.harvestcambridge.com

There's something uniquely Cantabrigian about Harvest. Maybe it's the tweedy professorial types unwinding after a hard day at Harvard, or the left bank liberals gathered for intellectual chitchat. Whatever. As soon as you step off the beaten path of Brattle Street and duck into its secluded alleyway, Harvest beckons—a beacon of great food and civilized atmosphere. The bustling open kitchen provides a visual backdrop while you relax over seasonal fare made primarily from local, often organically grown ingredients. Harvest has always stood for American cooking with a progressive twist and a New England slant. Chef Keith Pooler and pastry whiz Liz O'Connell take you through each course, from a luscious raw bar to superb desserts. Why isn't everything in life this simple and good?

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, CHARLESTOWN

Olives

10 City Square, Charlestown, 617-242-1999, www.toddenglish.com

This is where it all began, 16 years ago. The Church of Todd, a.k.a. Todd English's great dining empire, which includes five more Olives scattered from Tokyo to Aspen, began in Charlestown, and the original is still as good as the day it opened. Now located in City Square, with an optimum view through floor-to-ceiling windows, Olives feels removed from the Hub's hubbub. The decor's chi-chi yet rustic, the staff smart and savvy, but it's not just a place to see and be seen. The food matches the hype, with dishes that are opulent without being overbearing—like the house-made butternut squash tortelli, or seared jumbo skate wing with parsnip puree and sweet Maine shrimp. All of it is grounded in the basic good sense of the mother cuisine—Mediterranean. We're still crazy about it after all these years.

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, DORCHESTER

224 Boston Street

224 Boston St., Dorchester, 617-265-1217

For more than 10 years, 224 Boston Street has been serving up consistently good American food to discriminating outside-of-downtown diners. Neighborhood locals flock to the bar to sip expertly mixed cocktails and nibble on complimentary olives while they wait for a table. In this classy little joint adorned with funky wall sconces and works by local artists, dinner will definitely be worth the wait. Chef Peter Berresford lends his talents to an eclectic menu as diverse as his clientele. His specialties range from trendy dishes like grilled salmon with fried leeks to comfort food favorites like meatloaf and mashed potatoes. Patrons leave with smiles on their faces and full stomachs, without lightening their wallets excessively. 224 Boston Street delivers some of Boston's best food without the Beacon Hill price tag.

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, DOWNTOWN/FINANCIAL DISTRICT

Radius

8 High St., Boston, 617-426-1234, www.radiusrestaurant.com

Though it gets more than its fair share of power lunchers and pretentious expense-account types, Radius has earned its place at the top of the foodie chain. Certainly, a meal there makes you feel like you've hit the big-time—from the gorgeous room to the elegant menu, superb service and unsurpassed food, it defines destination dining. Co-owners Michael Schlow, Christopher Myers and Esti Parsons have assembled a first-rate team. Parsons is elegance personified and oversees the place with the uncompromising eye of a perfectionist. James Beard Award winner for best chef in the Northeast in 2000, Schlow has his culinary halo firmly in place. And Myers works the room like the charming raconteur he is. Meanwhile, the rest of the staff follow their unerring lead, and the result is one of the finest restaurants in Boston or anywhere else.

ection has its price.

you're going to be just a bit picky about how it is served. Which is why we like bartenders to follow a carefully organized ritual when they pour it. This includes everything from rinsing the glass, to cutting the excess foam from the head. And even making sure the logo on the coaster and chalice are turned to face the customer. Which might sound fussy to you. But then we're fussy about everything when it comes to our beer.

www.stellaartois.com

Always enjoy responsibly.

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GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, BEACON HILL

No. 9 Park

9 Park St., Boston, 617-742-9991, www.no9park.com

With an address that's become synonymous with fine dining in this town, No. 9 Park is a destination restaurant that belongs to one of Boston's—and the country's—most acclaimed chefs: Barbara Lynch. Its stunning location, in an elegant old town house in the shadow of the State House and overlooking the Boston Common, gives the restaurant added allure. But it isn't just reputation and decor that keep it at the top of most foodies' to-do—and do often—lists. The food is clean, exquisite and immensely satisfying. Lynch's homemade pastas—yes, good old pasta is the (forgive the pun) linchpin of a classic French-Italian menu—have been known to make grown men weep. But, like its simple name, No. 9 Park achieves the superlative without flash. In a neighborhood with many great restaurants, No. 9 is still No. 1.

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, JAMAICA PLAIN

Arbor

711 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, 617-522-1221, www.arborjp.com

Okay, forget JP's funky, boho image. A more sedate and elegant restaurant than Arbor would be hard to find in the Back Bay, let alone in this artsy neighborhood. Thoughtful decor and cool ambience aside, this small, dimly lit space is a winner, from its rhubarb-tinis (Van Gogh vodka, chambord and rhubarb juice), right through to its heavenly ginger and orange flavored mascarpone-filled cannoli. Waiters are knowledgeable, and chef-owner Douglas Organ's menu is inspired by the Mediterranean coastal areas of France and Italy, with a few nods to its neighbor across the azure sea, Morocco. He keeps everything simple, without fuss or unnecessary enhancement. Like the clean lines of a Gropius house, the flair comes from functionality, and a simple beauty is the result.

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, NORTH END

Bricco

241 Hanover St., Boston, 617-248-6800, www.bricco.com

Bricco languished for many years as a North End name with unrealized promise. Then along came the culinary and front-of-house duo of the Galleria Italiano girls: chef Marisa Iocco and GM Rita D'Angelo. Now, from the welcoming glow of the brick oven that sits central and open to view, to the fresh in-house baked breads through the scrum-dilly-icious homemade pastas and perfectly conceived and executed entrees, to desserts like delicious vanilla *panna cotta*, Bricco consistently delivers, in a classy, comfy setting. Iocco favors local produce that's as fresh as a 4-year-old who just learned to swear. She uses organically raised animals and fish, and the ricottas and mozzarellas come from organically produced milk. This is one Italian restaurant we'd be proud to bring an Italian to.

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, SOMERVILLE

Gargoyles on the Square

219 Elm St., Somerville, 617-776-5300, www.gargoylesonthesquare.com

The gothically named Gargoyles recently celebrated its 10th anniversary as a Davis Square favorite, where great American food is served in a delightful atmosphere. Big windows allow for people-watching, while the earth-toned decor provides a sense of calm. New chef Jason Santos has made his mark with one of the square's most elegant menus, but there's nothing fussy or uptight about the place. Gargoyles also boasts a fantastic bar menu for a quick and casual bite. Whether you opt for a full dinner—the crispy soft-shell crab with peach caviar is a must, or the duck confit with mango sticky rice—you'll be praying Gargoyles sticks around for another decade, or more.

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL, SOUTH END

Union Bar and Grille

1357 Washington St, Boston, 617-423-0555, www.unionrestaurant.com

Union opened in the fall of 2003, and right from the get-go became one of the deep South End's greatest success stories. This smart, sleek, incredibly chic restaurant and bar anticipated the emerging trend toward casual neighborhood eateries a cut above the so-called family joints. Chef Stephen Sherman produces consistently excellent American bistro fare. His roasted organic salmon is unbeatable, and the banana cream pie with deep spicy Valrhona chocolate is orgasmic. But on top of the superfood, one of Union's greatest strengths is the seating. They have the most lusciously comfortable banquettes ever, from which you can admire the unbelievably attractive, high-profile crowd.

NEW FOOD TREND

Gourmet Donuts

When we say gourmet donuts, we're not talking Krispy Kreme. We're talking about beignets (pronounced ben-yay)—a new (but old in France) turn that many restaurants seem to be taking. These Gallic doughnuts are served fresh and hot, and mostly as a backdrop to more complex desserts. At the Fireplace in Brookline, for instance, baked apple is decked out with mouth-watering, authentic horn-shaped beignets sprinkled with powdered sugar and dressed with an eggnog-flavored crème anglaise. At Spire, donut-hole-styled beignets are coated in cinnamon and sugar and served with spicy, bitter Mexican hot chocolate and roasted banana ice cream. At Arbor in Jamaica Plain, beignets are a savory appetizer with crab and potato. The possibilities for fried dough, as Bostonians already know, are endless, but we have the French to thank for our favorite new food trend.

GUILT-FREE DINING

Aceituna Café

605 W. Kendall St., Cambridge, 617-252-0707,
www.aceitunacafe.com

ou know what you're supposed to eat, but when it comes o healthful dining, the high-fat foods we love predomiate at most restaurants. Never fear. Low fat and no fat ren't the only options. Aceituna (Spanish for olive) is ocated in Kendall Square and serves up healthy Mediteranean dishes from 6:30 in the morning to 6:30 in the vening (9:30 pm starting in August), all made with resh, traditional ingredients. Olive oil is the basis for ost dishes, which include such heart-healthy favorites s shawarma, stuffed grape leaves, falafel, tabouleh and ore, served during the lunchtime buffet. For unrepenant carnivores, two rotisseries slow-roast meats, allowing he fat to drain away. Your primary care physician would pprove.

HIDDEN GEM

Channel Café

300 Summer St., Boston, 617-426-0695,
www.channel-cafe.com

ort Point artists seem to be good at keeping secrets. Case n point: The Channel Café is hidden below street level n one of Boston's least developed neighborhoods, with nly a small sign to point it out. Still, the quality of the ood is outstanding, with made-to-order dishes created by series of guest chefs. In-house baker Wanda Fernandes akes fresh muffins each morning, and for bigger apetites, the café offers a popular breakfast burrito that can e stuffed with a variety of fillings such as Gouda, prociutto and spinach. Thai beef over warm sesame noodles s a lunch favorite, and at night, when the café transforms rom a casual lunch place to a dressier (but still casual) linner destination, customers can enjoy dishes ranging from traditional American to Mediterranean to healthful and vegetarian cuisine. It's not open on weekends, but during the week, serves breakfast, lunch and dinner: Lunch prices vary between $5.95 and $10.95, and dinner between $7.50 and $15.

ICE CREAM

JP Licks

659 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-2020,
with additional locations throughout the Boston metro area
www.jplicks.com

Since the doors first opened in 1981 on its cow-spotted interiors at the Jamaica Plain flagship store, JP Licks has been a reliable favorite for a cold cone on a hot day. Or a cold cone on a cold day. Or any day, for that matter. It's a testament to their ice cream's addictive quality that Bostonians line up year-round for cool, creamy flavors at all hours of the day or night. This summer, JP Licks is offering several additions to an already eclectic lineup at their many locations, including the new spot in Mission Hill. The "Hot 4," for instance, marries spicy and sweet for an intense flavor that may have you breaking your diet on a regular basis. With these funky new tastes, and of course the old standbys—including out-of-this-world ice cream cakes and milk shakes—JP Licks is where we scream for ice cream.

INTERACTIVE FOOD

Shabu-Zen

16 Tyler St., Boston, 617-292-8828, www.shabuzen.com

Interactive eating can be noisy and tiresome—the clatter of chefs wielding nasty-looking cooking implements and the incessant patter as they instruct you on how it's done. Meanwhile, you wait, smiling politely. However, Shabu-Zen is a quieter, more low-key option for those who want a dose of drama with their dinner but not an entire Italian opera in five acts. Located in the heart of Chinatown, Shabu-Zen lets you practice the style of Japanese cooking called shabu-shabu, which basically translates as "swish-swish." That's the sound the meat, fish, tofu, beef tongue (yes, that's right) or whatever else you choose makes as you swish it into a bubbling pot of broth, which cooks everything to tender perfection. Because they're not fried, shabu-shabu dishes are a naturally low-fat option. Inexpensive, fun and, what with its quiet "swish-swish," a peaceful, Zen dining experience.

ITALIAN

Prezza

24 Fleet St., Boston, 617-227-1577, www.prezza.com

If you're of the school that believes the Italians wrote the book on food and style, this chic North End spot is right up your alley. Chef-owner Anthony Caturano is celebrating Prezza's fifth year as a destination restaurant with understated elegance and delicious food that's worth braving the tight little streets and parking nightmare to experience. (Granted, there's a valet to take the sting out of the parking.) The kitchen deftly mixes old and new: Caturano's cooking is an earthy mix of tradition and his own twists, but all of it is inspired by the restaurant's namesake town in the Abruzzi region, which is astoundingly rich in

MEXICAN

Casa Romero

30 Gloucester St., Boston, 617-536-4341, www.casaromero.com

For 32 years and counting, chef and owner Leo Romero has been serving up authentic Mexican cuisine at his charming Back Bay restaurant. This isn't your usual burrito and taco joint. The menu includes such unusual delicacies as stuffed squid in a tomato and chipotle sauce and Casa Romero's signature dish: tenderloin of pork bathed in a fragrant marinade of oranges and smoked chipotle peppers (a secret, handed-down family recipe). The kitchen incorporates traditional spices and native vegetables like jicama and cactus as well as huitlacoche mushrooms, which are made into a delicious filling for spinach tortillas. And when it comes to crazy cactus juice, they serve the real synapse-soaking deal: delicious margaritas made from fine aged tequilas. If you want better Mexican food, you'll have to fly to Guadalajara.

robust wines and seasonal produce (and also where Caturano's grandmother grew up). The decor, however, with its sleek neutral tones and airy ambience, is thoroughly here and now, subtly reminiscent of a perfectly tailored Armani suit.

LATE-NIGHT FOOD

The Franklin Café

278 Shawmut Ave., Boston, 617-350-0010, www.franklincafe.com

If you've just moved here from someplace more nocturnal, you may think Boston's dinner habits a bit on the provincial, geriatric side. Let us explain: The bars her close early, so we go out early. In time, you'll come to lik it—a cold cocktail really takes the edge off when fiv o'clock rolls around. But until then, we heartily recom mend you eat all your late-night meals at the Franklir Simply put, the cocktails and ambience are excellent, th wine list satisfying and the cooks turn out consistently su perb and inventive dishes from a kitchen the size of ship's galley. Plus, they keep cooking until 1:30 am. True it's consistently packed, and there's usually a wait, but th Franklin is one of the few places in town that's worth it.

MIDDLE EASTERN

Byblos

678 Washington St., Norwood, 781-762-8998, www.byblosrestaurant.com

Rain or shine, midday to midnight, Norwood's Middl Eastern dining Mecca, Byblos, is a haven of deliciousness No one does to eggplant what they do, be it in th smoked flavored baba ghannouj, with its bitter hint o tahini, wrapped in smoky aromas and knocked sideway with big hits of garlic; or in the simple, succulent, bake or grilled slices drizzled with lemon juice. The mezzal combo platters are a fabulous way to pick and nibble with friends. The kabobs are out of this world. And vegetari ans can eat like Henry VIII, tucking into plump, piquan stuffed grape leaves or feta cheese rolls. Fridays and Satur days see homemade raw and baked kibbee (Middle East ern meatloaf, if you will) that has devotees salivating b midweek.

NATURAL FOOD STORE

Whole Foods Market

15 Westland Ave., Boston, 617-375-1010, with new Charles River Place location coming to Boston, and additional locations in Brighton, Cambridge and Newton www.wholefoods.com

It's tough when you call yourself a foodie and then realiz that a chain grocery store has you outclassed. At Whole Foods, the meat counter is staffed with knowledgeable butchers who can make specialty cuts and give advice t venturesome home cooks. In the middle of the produce section, wedges of hard cheese are piled high next to tow ers of gleaming apples. And Whole Foods is the only su permarket we've ever been to where the deli potato salad is actually better than edible. They didn't give this mar ket the nickname "whole paycheck" for nothing: It costs noticeably more to shop here. But what's more importan than groceries?

NEW RESTAURANT

Domani Bar and Trattoria

51 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-424-8500

This past February, despite record cold and ceaseless dumpings of snow, Bostonians were bundling up and heading to Copley Square to check out the newly opened Domani. The attraction? Expertly prepared, contempo rary Italian fare with a barely-there Asian influence served up by chef Rene Michelena (formerly of the Vaul and Centro, and still sharing his time at Saint). The con sensus is that the food is worth braving any kind o weather for. With menu options like braised rabbit in a sweet-and-sour sauce and pea- and fava bean–filled tortellini with a drizzle of sour-orange syrup, this new ad dition to the Back Bay dining scene shouldn't have any trouble living up to the hype. If the cuisine pays homage to modern Rome, the exquisite decor isn't far behind with a stunning plastered wall (think windswept sand) and a Vespa on display in the main dining room. Saving room for dessert may prove a test of willpower, but trus us, it's worth it.

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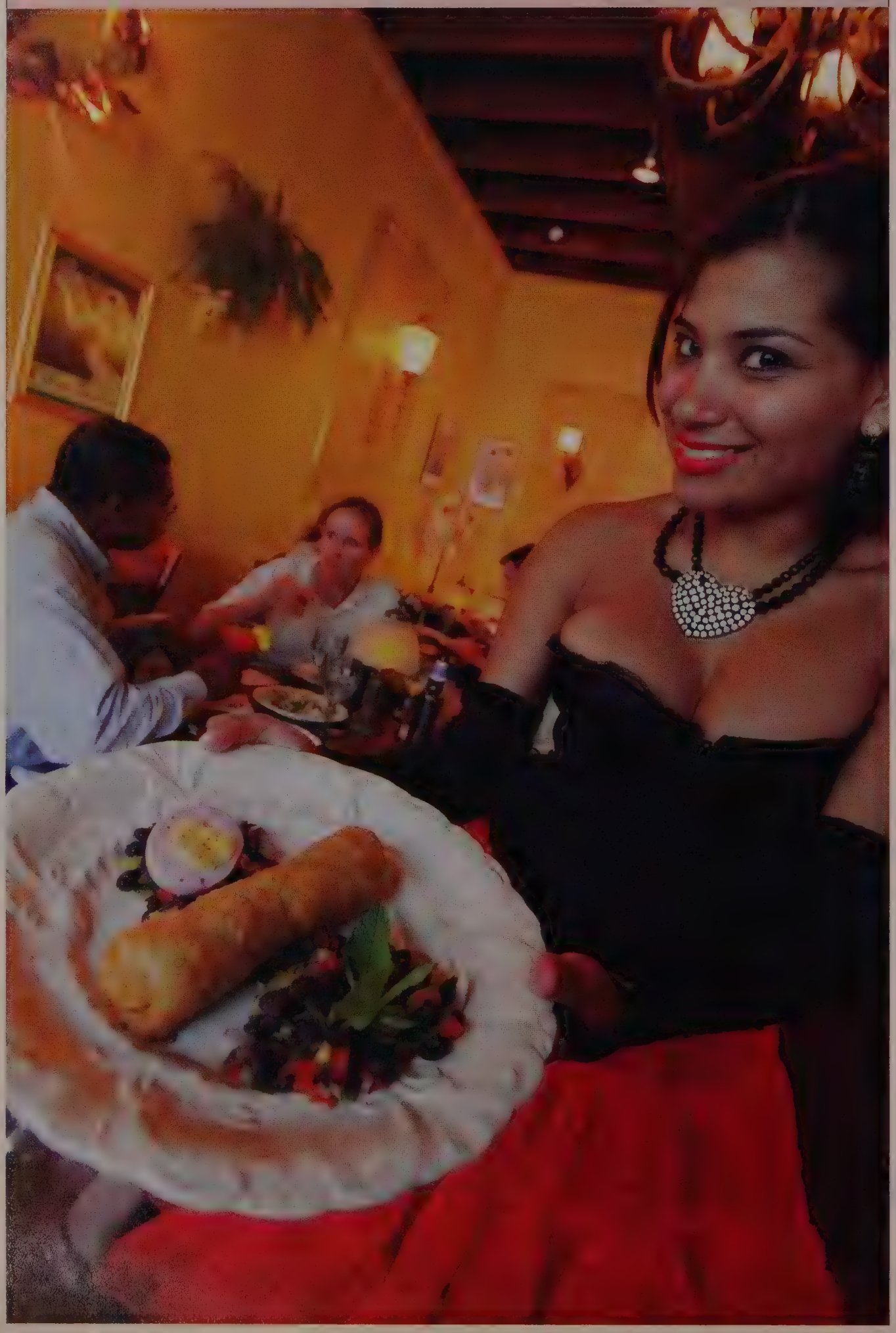
photos by elevin.net

TAPAS

Cuchi Cuchi

795 Main St., Cambridge, 617-864-2929, www.cuchicuchi.cc

From the folks who first introduced Bostonians to tapas at Dalí, the cutely named Cuchi Cuchi adapts the tradition of Spanish bar snacks into a feast of small plates to be shared and swapped for a veritable carnival of tastes. Since 2001, Cuchi Cuchi has been doing this gastronomic hoochie-coochie with an internationally inspired menu that borrows from the culinary traditions of Russia, Argentina, France, Italy and (of course) Spain. The atmosphere is uninhibited and the waitstaff look like they raided the wardrobe closet at the Moulin Rouge. The purposefully louche, Rive Gauche atmosphere and the "straight-up small dishes" make this the ideal spot for a romantic dinner à deux or a raucous party with friends.



OLD WORLD DINING

The Oak Room

138 Saint James Ave., Boston, 617-267-5300

www.theoakroom.com

If you like an impressively long wine list, port or cogna after dinner, tuxedoed waiters and à la carte dishes serve from actual carts, then the Oak Room is for you. Th decor is ornately carved wood, the menu classic. All tha might sound a bit stuffy, but somehow it begins to feel re laxed and natural once you've eased into your secon martini (served in a pitcher on ice). Be sure to order on They're generous—and colder than Ted Williams. Ouch That's cold!

OUTDOOR DINING

Oleana

134 Hampshire St., Cambridge, 617-661-0505,

www.oleanarestaurant.com

Boston's climate and architecture don't give restaurateu much opportunity to serve dinner al fresco, but no on can deny the appeal of eating under the stars. What fe cafés we do have, furthermore, are set right on the side walk, where you and your dinner are on display fo passers-by. But not at Oleana in East Cambridge, an that's only one of its many charms. The restaurant itself a sparkling gem hidden behind an unassuming storefron in a sort of no-man's land between Kendall and Inma squares. Meanwhile, the spacious outdoor garden tucked discreetly behind the restaurant, which is alway busy but never seems crowded. Chef Ana Sortun Mediterranean-influenced cooking keeps us coming bacl knowing we'll be charmed again like we were the firs time. No wonder she won this year's James Beard Awar for Best Chef in the Northeast.

OVERALL VALUE

Grotto

37 Bowdoin St., Boston, 617-227-3434,

www.grottorestaurant.com

Similar to real estate, the cost of eating out is partiall dictated by that hoary old cliché: location, location, lo cation. That means downtown is top-dollar dinin which makes the charming Italian eatery Grotto, wit its superb cooking at reasonable prices, a refreshin change of pace. Art exhibits often decorate the subte ranean walls of this aptly named hideaway, where th rough outlines of the room have been pleasantly an colorfully softened to create a rustic but cozy settin Each month, the menu explores a different regional c seasonal cuisine, so there's invariably something new t try on each visit. The wonderful pasta dishes rarely stra above the $20 mark, and other entrees come decke with vegetables and a pasta or other side, all for undo $25. The $30 three-course prix fixe dinner is a sure wir ner, and real-people portions (neither grotesquely larg nor anorexically skimpy) seal the deal.

PEOPLE WATCHING

Armani Cafe

214 Newbury St., Boston,

617-437-0909

Don't get us wrong—the food here is fantastic. But simple meal is only part of what we come to the Armar Cafe for. If the Newbury Street sidewalks are a fashio runway (and they are), then a patio table at Armar Cafe means front-row seats. This is people watching i its most languid and elegant. Yes, the risotto is goo But if you're like us, you'll find yourself looking pa your fork—scanning the scene through your designe eyewear as a parade of poseurs, fashion plates and beau tiful people passes by.

PERENNIAL FAVORITE

Sonsie

327 Newbury St., Boston, 617-351-2500,
www.sonsieboston.com

lost truly groovy scenes tend to fade away, especially ter a few years, but this honeycomb hideout for the ung, monied hipster set is still going strong. At the nter of the last, bohemian block of Newbury Street, it asts all the elements of a place to see and be seen. The staurant remains a favorite haunt of local celebs, the fé offers a panoramic view of the parade going by outde and the bar still reeks of romantic potential and wer-cocktailing. The relaxed yet upscale atmosphere is ything but snobby; everyone's welcome, from compulve Newbury Street shoppers to tourists, and the staff is niformly friendly. Drop in for a chin-wag and a chardonay, a neck-crane and a cocktail, and stay for the delious, seasonal fare. Seven days a week, rain or shine, eet or snow, Sonsie's still a reliable place to hang after l these years.

PIZZA, INNOVATIVE

Pizza Oggi

131 Broad St., Boston, 617-345-0022; www.pizzaoggi.com

izza Oggi's humongous pies are topped with surprising ut delectable combos. This Boston favorite doesn't rely n the wacky, though. Instead, innovation meets integrity ingredients that are out of the ordinary. Chicken is arinated to perfection before it meets Jamaican jerk seaning and then gets topped with a spicy onion chutney. ineapple is roasted and paired with smoked ham and allions for a Hawaiian that puts all others to shame. aily specials offer variety. But beneath all the creativity, izza Oggi starts with an excellent basic dough, brushed ith olive oil and sesame seeds, which turns the fine crust nto a superstar. It's tough to say which is better: the toppings or the crust. Both thoroughly rock.

PIZZA, NOUVEAU

Upper Crust

20 Charles St., Boston, 617-723-9600;
286 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-734-4900;
www.theuppercrustpizzeria.com

ou know the dough on their ever-popular thin crust pizas is fresh because it's rolled out in a floury haze right in ont of you. The first bite confirms that from the portaella mushrooms and sun-dried tomatoes to the lashings f fresh garlic, all the ingredients are of the highest qualy. In addition to marinara-based and white pizzas, lovers f basil can indulge in pungent pesto-topped pizzas, from aked pesto to fully dressed with feta, garlic and tomato. imply put, Upper Crust's pizza stands head and shoulders bove the riffraff.

POWER LUNCH

Bristol Lounge

200 Boylston St., Boston, 617-338-4400

With the reascendance of Donald Trump, it's almost too ad the Four Seasons decided to redesign its bar-cumoardroom—The Donald would have felt right at home mong the black and gold '80s power decor. But for the est of us, the change is a good thing. The Bristol is still n elegant place to sip a $40 glass of scotch, but the surbundings now are—how shall we put it?—a bit more omespun. Red leather banquettes, patterned throw ushions and shelves full of high-class bric-a-brac form a erfect backdrop for talking turkey, sealing deals or getting down to brass tacks. And one aspect of the room hankfully remains the same: The tables are still spaced ar enough apart to allow for discreet and confidential onversation.

INDIAN

Tantric

123 Stuart St., Boston, 617-367-8742, www.tantricgrill.com

Though its name summons erotic images best left until after dinner, Tantric is a sophisticated Indian restaurant in the Theater District, with an atmosphere that's a few notches above your average Taj Mahal–themed Indian eatery. The menu features fabulous, perfectly spiced food that isn't drowned in pre-made, generic sauces. It isn't just the food that offers spice, either; the inviting bar serves signature cocktails blended from liquors infused with basil, ginger, clove and more. From cayenne to cardamom, asafetida to anise, fenugreek to fennel, and on to rose and orange-blossom waters, Tantric's dishes offer an endlessly tantalizing taste experience. Just don't mention Sting.

PROOF THAT LOCATION ISN'T EVERYTHING

Vinny's

76 Broadway, Somerville, 617-628-1921

Located way out of the usual hip restaurant orbit in far east Somerville, right in the shadow of the Schraffts building, Vinny's makes you giggle. You walk in through this strange, scruffy convenience store (pick up a Lotto ticket if you must) and wander back to the charming dining area, where a smiling staff greets you and seats you next to chatting older Somerville residents (many of whom parlano un po' d'Italiano here and there) or families silently chomping away at Vinny's superb Sicilian fare. This hidden gem, open for lunch Monday through Friday and dinner Tuesday through Saturday, dishes up great food—everything from New Zealand mussels and cloud-like gnocchi to lamb osso bucco and homemade tiramisu. The cannoli are worth every calorie. This ain't no corndog and Slurpee convenience store fare.

PRE-THEATER DINING

Troquet

140 Boylston St., Boston, 617-695-9463, www.troquetboston.com

Two things that can ruin a great meal: rushing and being rushed. What's worse when dining out than feeling that the waiter is hurrying you or that you have to wolf it down? The staff at Troquet understands curtain times, and they've fine-tuned pre-theater dining, from aperitif to coffee and dessert, to see you leisurely through your meal and get you into your theater seats before the first act. The location also helps: Tucked across from the Common, on Boylston Street, it's just a short walk from most theaters. A word of warning is in order, though: This French wine bar and restaurant has such magnificent food that it's hard not to dillydally and savor each bite. Just tell your waiter upon arrival that you have tickets to a show, and he'll gently keep you in touch with reality.

REASON TO SPLURGE

Restaurant Clio

370 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-536-7200, www.cliorestaurant.com

Many's the time when, like Dickensian ragamuffins, we pressed our noses against the Mass. Ave. window that looks in on the kitchen at Clio, where cooks dip into an elaborate *mise en place* of exotic ingredients. You'll have to sweep a lot of chimneys, but dinner here is worth it. Ken Oringer's menu is a journey across continents and into the future: Roast duck is served with kumquats and black radish confit, lemon and bee pollen adorn the foie gras, and a ragout of calamari contains grains of paradise and argan oil. You don't need a reason to dine like this. Clio is its own special occasion.

ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

The Hungry I

71½ Charles St., Boston, 617-227-3524

Demure and coquettish, like a Henry James heroine swathed in crinolines and good manners, with a hazy, veiled glamour: That's the initial impression when stepping into this below-street-level boîte on the flat of Beacon Hill. The space is pretty in an opulent way, with delicate tapestries and silks; yet cozy with a clandestine air, and despite the cramped quarters, very romantic. Chef and owner Peter Ballarin's menu is classic French, for the requisite whiff of amour. Dinner here is like eloping to some away-from-it-all hideout, but squeezed in so close to the neighboring diners, a little flirtatious eye contact is as far as most guests go, so that what comes after dinner is part of the charm.

SALADS

Houston's

60 State St., Boston, 617-573-9777, www.houstons.com

Come summer, there's nothing better than perching at one of Houston's oversized patio tables, which are wonderfully shaded and secluded, despite the restaurant's location in Faneuil Hall. The interior of this nationwide chain is seductively chic, too, and Houston's is the spot for delectable, heaping, fresh plates of crunchy this and that, all perfectly clad in homemade dressings. Everything you need when the summer swelter requires you to eat light, they have: from flawless classics like the Caesar or grilled chicken salad to their own varieties, like the Evil Jungle Thai steak salad, with its tender filet tossed with noodles, nuts, avocado, mango, basil and mint, or the tuna sashimi salad. Healthy, light and delicious—what more could you want during bikini season?

SANDWICHES

Parish Café

361 Boylston St., Boston, 617-247-4777, www.parishcafe.com

The ever-popular Parish Café has turned the prosaic sandwich into a celebrity challenge. This casual Boylston Street restaurant has a menu that reads like a Who's Who of top-notch chefs, each of whom has designed a sandwich that echoes his or her own culinary sensibility. Thus, Vinicio Paoli's Peasant Panini recalls his native Tuscany and his Beacon Hill restaurant, Toscano, with a filling of buffalo mozzarella and tomato, all drizzled with fruity olive oil and served on toasted focaccia, while Jeremy Sewall's Great Bay Wrap echoes the kitchen at his seafood restaurant with a cocktail of clams, mussels and tiny shrimp bathed in a creamy mustard-aioli dressing and rolled up in lavash bread with pickled carrots, onions and tomatoes. Parish doesn't just do sandwiches; it takes you on a culinary tour of Boston that's worth returning to again and again.

SCHTICK

Sibling Rivalry

525 Tremont St., Boston, 617-338-5338, www.siblingrivalryboston.com

The latest addition to the South End dining scene takes schtick to a new level. Sibling Rivalry offers a menu in

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EMERGE BY GIULIANO ■■ 275 Newbury Street

DIM SUM

Hei La Moon

88 Beach St., Boston, 617-338-8813

Since Hei La Moon opened last year, dim sum mavens have forsaken their old favorites and flocked across Purchase Street to this large and rather harshly lit dining room. If you harbor any doubts about it—the odd location, the lack of a sign in English out front—the glowing red eye of the massive red-and-gold plaster dragon on the wall should reassure you. Dim sum is served every day from 8:30 am to 3 pm, and the place is usually packed with large families. Waiters bearing steaming trays of shark fin dumplings, sesame balls and shrimp hargow dodge kids playing between the tables. Everybody, including the staff, seems to be having a good time. If you're lucky, you'll go during someone's birthday—when the management blasts "Happy Birthday to You" in Chinese over the P.A. system. A true find.

which chefs Bob Kinkead, of Kinkead's in Washington, D.C., and his younger brother, David, duke it out over preset ingredients, à la Iron Chef. First-timers will require a menu tutorial. Down the middle column is a list of ingredients—arugula, chiles, chestnuts and ginger, for example. Each is flanked by two dishes: to the left is David's tuna tartare with yuzu-soy vinaigrette and crispy duck maki rolls; to the right, Bob's pepper-seared tuna with grilled portobellos, flageolets and pinot noir sauce. Appetizers appear in red, entrees in black. Got it? Sure? OK, let's eat.

SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

Legal Sea Foods

Locations in Boston, Cambridge and Chestnut Hill,
www.legalseafoods.com

Only Roger Berkowitz could get away with opening a fine dining establishment in an airport. Despite growing to a chain of 30, his Legal Sea Foods is still one of the best places to eat fish in this or any other city. "There are people in the restaurant business dealing with fish; we are in the fish business dealing with restaurants," says Berkowitz, whose father opened the original Legal in 1968. Despite being a chain, they treat every cut of fish like a rare specimen captured by Jacques Cousteau. In the past two years, this local-boy-made-good has made it even better, with the addition of elegant wine cellars at some of his restaurants. No wonder the company has lived long and prospered.

SIDES

Abe & Louie's

793 Boylston St., Boston, 617-536-6300, www.abeandlouies.com

Side dishes are usually an afterthought, but putting their great steak and seafood aside, what makes ordering fun at Abe & Louie's is choosing the dishes to accompany the main course. Sized to share (should you be willing to), they're so good that the filet might be a mere pretext. Among our favorites: perfectly al dente asparagus smothered in a classic hollandaise, a succulent sautéed mushroom medley of cremini and portobellos, and the ultimate in comfort food: mashed potatoes with Great Hill blue cheese. But then again, the attention to detail given to the ancillary dishes is the same that this Back Bay steak house lavishes on every aspect of its food and service, making it stiff competition for its more expensive, nearby rivals. Decked out in classic mahogany, with cozy, plush booths and a commanding fireplace, the restaurant also boasts a staff that serves with polish. Note the napkins, which have a button to securely fasten them to the neck of your shirt to protect that Charvet tie.

SPECIAL MENUS

UpStairs on the Square

91 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 617-864-1933,
www.upstairsonthesquare.com

In the highly competitive Boston restaurant scene, there's really no room for a menu that doesn't change with the seasons. In January, who wants fiddlehead ferns, anyway? But few menus change as frequently as those at UpStairs on the Square, where the kitchen trots out special menus for nearly every holiday and occasion. Mother's Day saw a salad of spring asparagus and tiny pea-pod greens with a poached egg and *fleur de sel*; a savory onion tart with pinwheel sausage and spring cress and Maine sea scallops with mache, nasturtia, tangerines and fresh favas. It's like a new restaurant every time you go, and you could eat there every night for a month and probably not duplicate a meal, making it the cure for our culinary ADD.

STEAK FRITES

Aquitaine

569 Tremont St., Boston, 617-424-8577,
www.aquitaineboston.com

Aquitaine Bis

11 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-734-8400,
www.aquitainebis.com

The French have a flair for turning meat and potatoes into something sublime, and at Aquitaine, this bistro standard makes for a whole lotta "ooh-la-la!" Devotees argue over whether it's the steak, cooked to succulent, rosy perfection, or the flawlessly crisp-on-the-outside, fluffy-on-the-inside, slender potato sticks. Then there's the accompaniment of a zingy watercress salad, which offers a complementary bitter bite. The rich, earthy Périgord black truffle vinaigrette enhances the flavor of the meat's juices, topping it all off with a grace note. Then there's the thoroughly charming South End setting, overlooking Tremont Street. All that aside, anyone would agree that Aquitaine assembles the ingredients necessary to turn this staple into a star. (When out in the burbs, you can enjoy the same famous frites at Aquitaine Bis in Chestnut Hill.)

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STEAK HOUSE

Grill 23 & Bar

161 Berkeley St., Boston, 617-542-2255,
www.grill23.com

The filet mignon of Boston steak houses, it was here before all the big national chains started moving in, and it remains everything an upscale steak house should be and more. Chef Jay Murray has taken the steak, in all its simple appeal, and brought it to a new level: Eight cuts are available à la carte. All the meats are corn-fed and dry-aged, and they range from a 10-ounce filet mignon to an 18-ounce Kobe beef Delmonico. The sides are equally delicious, and the setting, while a bit noisy, has the sort of masculine charm we look for in a steak place. Add to that service worthy of a royal palace, and it's obvious why Grill 23 remains our favorite place to indulge our inner carnivore.

STEAK TIPS

The Paramount

44 Charles St., Boston, 617-720-1152,
www.paramountboston.com

In a town where steak tips are on the bill of fare everywhere from the poshest restaurant to the lowliest bar, coming up with a version that qualifies as the best is no mean feat. This Beacon Hill standby for weekend breakfasts and casual dinners (at decidedly un–Charles Street prices) takes the trophy. They marinate prime sirloin in a piquant sauce and serve the fork-tender tips with caramelized onions, Red Bliss mashed potatoes and a freshly cooked vegetable du jour—incredibly enough, all for $14. Granted, the Paramount can be a harried, rough-and-tumble kind of place, especially at peak dining hours, but the quality of the food makes it an unbeatable downtown option for refueling without a lot of fuss.

SUBURBAN RESTAURANT

The Metropolitan Club

1210 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-731-0600,
www.metclubandbar.com

Standard adjectives fly out the window when describing Chestnut Hill's newest hotspot, the modernist steak house Metropolitan Club. Housed in Figs' former location, across Route 9 from the Chestnut Hill Shopping Center, it's a chic, seductively low-lit restaurant, with a bar where western-suburb hipsters (yes, there are plenty of them) congregate in a decidedly urbane environment. The "club" in the name is somewhat misleading—it's most definitely a restaurant, but not a staid old steak house, and beef is not the be-all and end-all of chef Jeffrey P. Fournier's menu. He takes all kinds of tasty liberties with familiar items, like the seared watermelon steak that could pass for foie gras (a must-try), plus fresh pastas, fish and a whole roasted chicken that a linebacker couldn't finish (don't hesitate to ask for a doggie bag). Thankfully, one thing remains that recalls the location's connection with Figs: pastry chef Paige Retus, who does amazingly decadent things with sweets.

VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT

Sepal

17 Nichols Ave., Watertown, 617-924-5753,
www.sepalrestaurant.com

This sedate little gem, positioned in a secluded spot on a quiet street in east Watertown (after a long, popular residence on Mount Auburn Street), has one of the most extensive and delicious vegetarian and vegan menus, without being a strictly vegetarian restaurant. You'll find a few meat dishes among the Middle Eastern favorites, but the focus here is fabulously healthful Palestinian veggie delights. Any regular will tell you: An absolute must is their nationally recognized falafel. It has a soft green color and comes bathed in a perfect tahini dressing, making it light-years better than the bland doughy balls served at most places around town. The helpful, welcoming staff is accommodating, and Sepal, with its lush Occidental decor and cozy booths, is a feast for the eyes.

WALK-UP

The Little Window

42 Plympton St., Boston, 617-426-7200,
www.thelittlewindow.com

Tucked away on a barren side street in the South End, the Little Window (quite literally, a hole in the wall) brings new meaning to the term "window-shopping." Offering up tasty bistro food, desserts and ice cream on par with restaurants that have seating (not to mention doors), the Little Window is strictly to-go, although once in a great while they'll set a couple of chairs up outside. Its sandwiches, smoothies and berry-laced lemonade are perfect for a lunch on the run or an impromptu picnic. If you're confused about how delicious food as divergent as a chipotle chicken wrap or a BLT with extra B can emerge from a "little window," chew on this: The place is run by Above and Beyond Catering, which is located in the same space. For window patrons and catering clients alike, the culinary staff use only the freshest seasonal ingredients.

WINE BAR

Vinalia

101 Arch St., Boston, 617-737-1777, www.vinaliaboston.com

Most restaurants build their reputations around food. Vinalia, however, concentrates on its wine offerings first and foremost and builds from there. This isn't surprising, given that owner Ed Costa was formerly at the Boston Harbor Hotel, home of the lauded annual winter-long wine festival, and he has accumulated a gigantic and impressive wine collection: more than 2,500 bottles with more than 300 selections and 50 wines available by the glass. This airy downtown haunt has a stunning, blue-toned bar area, with plush, comfortable seating and a spacious, expansive atmosphere. A popular spot for casual post-work drinks and formal wine dinners, Vinalia serves food that has been called inconsistent but is generally quite good. Every Wednesday at 6 pm, the restaurant hosts a wine tasting in the bar, accompanied by hors d'ouevres, for oenophiles and novices to explore new vin vistas.

WINE TASTING SERIES

Les Zygomates

129 South St., Boston, 617-542-5108,
www.winebar.com

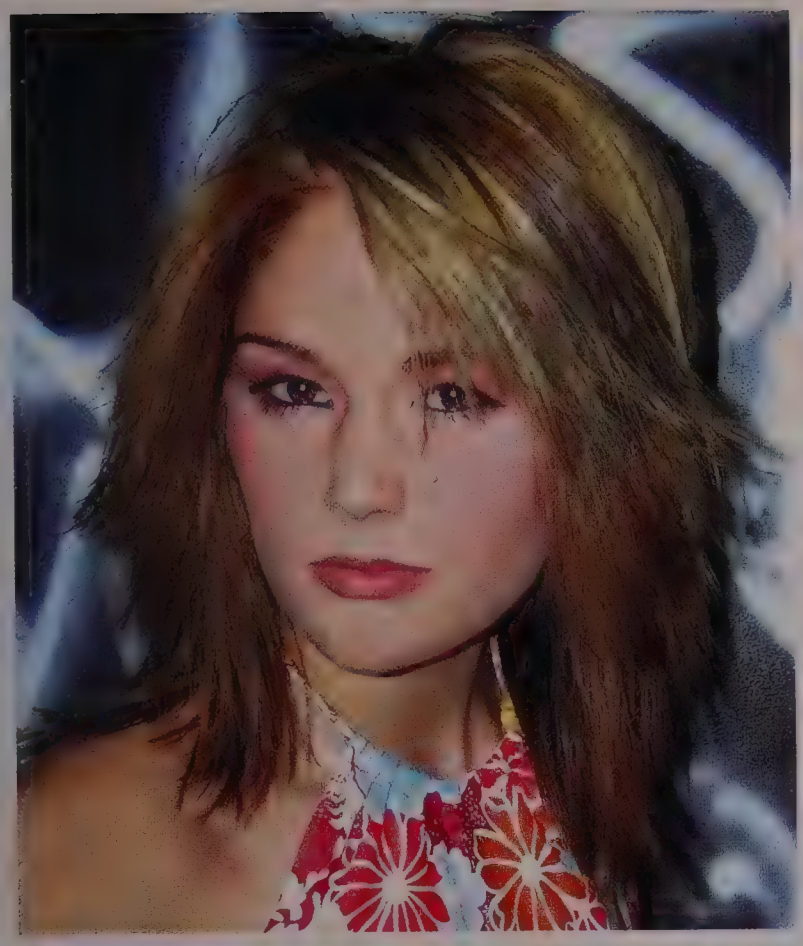
Lots of places put together tasting events on slow nights, but Les Zygomates has been doing it better than anybody else since it opened in 1994. "Tuesday night flights" present four or five wines that fit a theme—usually a grape or a growing region—served alongside morsels of dishes with complementary flavors. The chef prepares the repast in front of guests, explaining the logic of each food/wine pairing. The events, while educational, are never stuffy or highfalutin'. At weekly tastings, sommelier Geoffrey Fallon talks briefly about the wines offered before glasses are raised and discussion ensues. Some people come armed with notebooks, intent on enriching their wine knowledge. Others come because they figure wine drinkers make good mates. According to staff, a lot of people call in advance to find how many of the opposite gender have signed up. In other words, it's a good place to bring a date or to hunt for one.

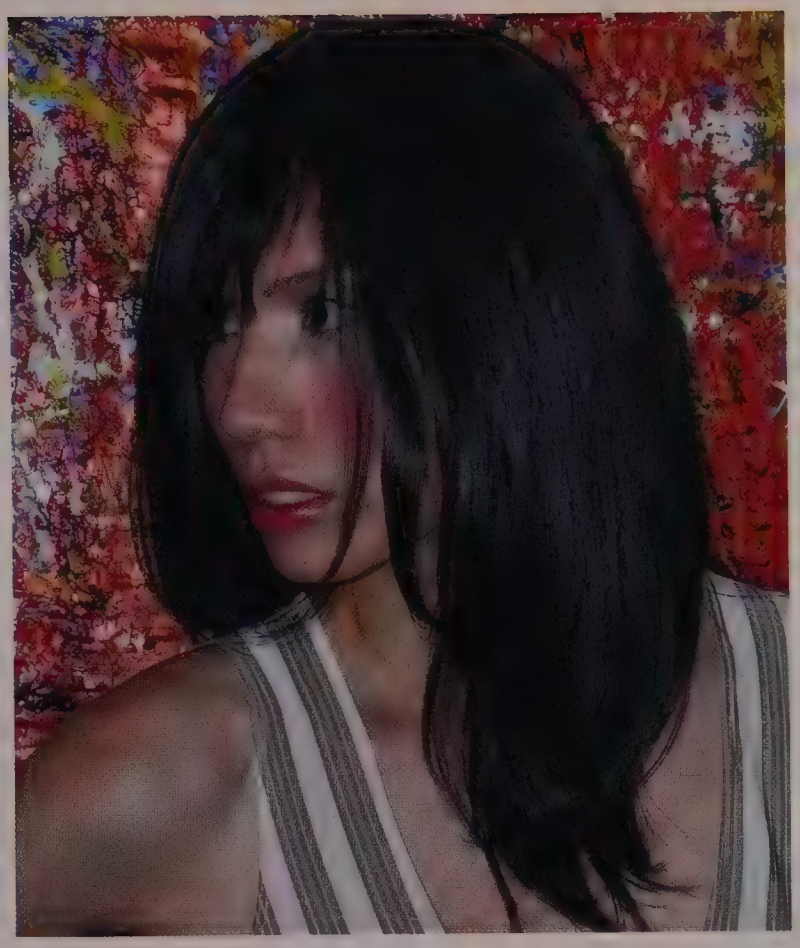
WINGS

Buff's Pub

317 Washington St., Newton, 617-332-9134

Is the secret in the sauce, or is it some special breed of bird? No one knows why the buffalo wings at perennial winner Buff's Pub are one of the Hub's worst-kept secrets. But all it takes is one bite to understand why the hordes crowd this Newton Corner hole-in-the-wall for the finger-lickin' wings. The rest of the bill of fare is standard pub grub and probably quite good. (We wouldn't know: We've never ordered anything but the wings.) All we know for sure is that under the watchful eye of the bison's head ignobly mounted on the wall, you'll see more happy, smiling designated drivers than at any other watering hole in town, and the wings are the reason.





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East Coast Grill & Raw Bar

1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 617-491-6568, www.eastcoastgrill.net

Go to East Coast Grill for the seafood, but come back for Sunday brunch to be your very own bartender at the "Make Your Own Bloody Mary" bar. The name is self-explanatory, and if you don't like it, you have no one to blame but yourself.

MARGARITA

Cactus Club

939 Boylston St., Boston, 617-236-0200, www.bestmargaritas.com

The provocative margarita of the month—recent iterations include the MaiTaigarita—will lure you in, but the pages of margarita varieties on the menu will keep you coming back.

MARTINI

Excelsior

272 Boylston St., Boston, 617-426-7878, www.excelsiorrestaurant.com

Excelsior offers 12 varieties of martinis, ranging from the exotic Ginger Cosmo and the Sunkist (Blue Agave Tequila Blanco with citrus fruit juices and fresh mint) to old-school concoctions like the Timeless Modern that would make your grandfather proud.

SANGRIA

Masa

439 Tremont St., Boston, 617-338-8884, www.masarestaurant.com

This edgy Southwestern joint has solidified its success since opening five and a half years ago by earning astounding reviews for its top-notch culinary flair. The drinks are equally flavorful, especially Masa's sublime mix of wine and fruit. It should be called ambrosia.

MIMOSA

Bravo at the Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-369-3474, www.mfa.org/dining

Bravo offers a kitschy mix of drinks that coordinate with the museum's current exhibitions—like the topically named Testa Rossa for the Ralph Lauren car show—but it's the mimosas with freshly squeezed juice and superior champagne that are pure nectar in a glass.

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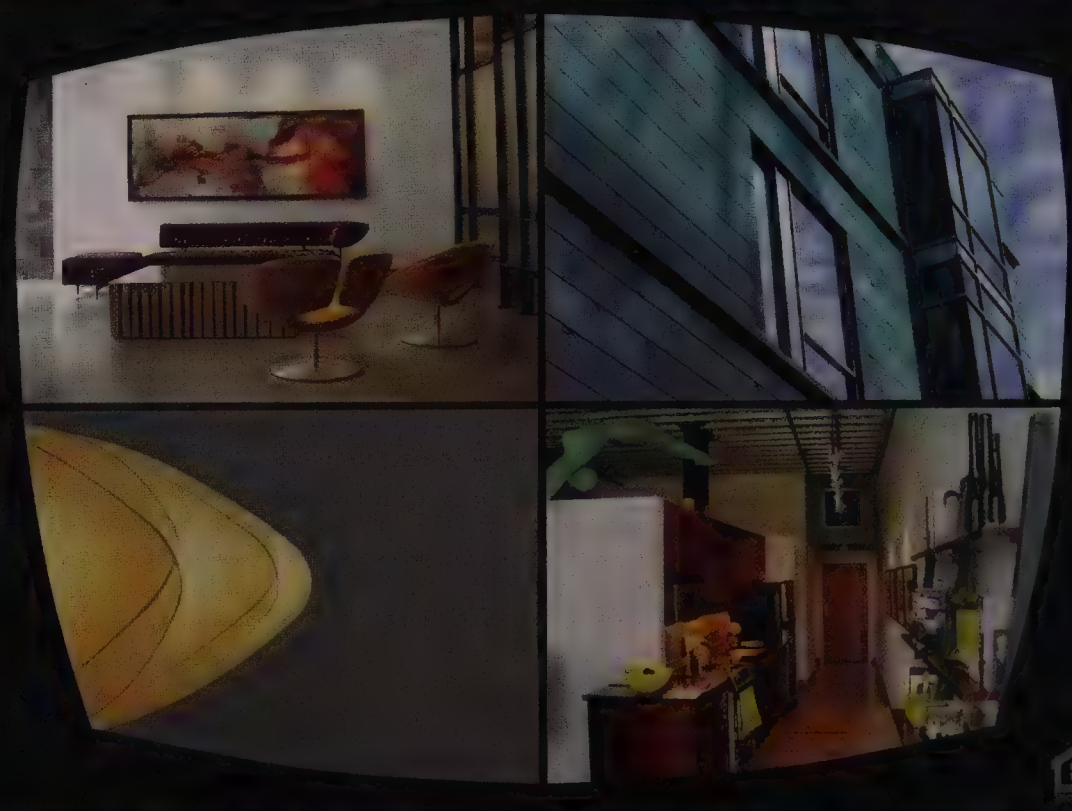

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BEST SWEETS

BOSTON CREAM PIE

Lyndell's

720 Broadway, Somerville, 617-625-1793

Which came first: Lyndell's in 1887 or Boston cream pies? The palm-sized mini pie, perfect for one, is a must-try.

BREAD PUDDING

Café Fleuri at the Langham Hotel

250 Franklin St., Boston, 617-956-8751,
www.langhamhotels.com

Bread pudding made from sumptuous chocolate and buttery croissants—need we say more?

BROWNIE

Rosie's Bakery

243 Hampshire St., Cambridge, 617-491-9488,
www.rosiesbakery.com

From the Chocolate Orgasm (a rich brownie with chocolate icing) to the non-chocolatey selections (the walnut dream bar or the raspberry crumb bar), Rosie's eight varieties of brownies are the most scrumptious in town.

CAKE

Flour Bakery + Café

1595 Washington St., Boston, 617-267-4300,
www.flourbakery.com

Whether you're talking about the midnight chocolate cake—as rich and gooey as it sounds—or the coffee-accented hazelnut-almond dacquoise, Joanne Chang's fresh-made cakes live up to their reputation as the best way in town to satisfy a sweet tooth.

CANNOLI

Modern Pastry

257 Hanover St., Boston, 617-523-3783,
www.modernpastry.com

Take handmade shells that are filled to order with same-day-delivered creamy ricotta—to avoid any hint of sogginess—and you've got a confectionary marriage made in heaven.

CHOCOLATE FONDUE

The Wine Cellar

30 Mass. Ave., Boston, 617-236-0080

Dark chocolate, milk chocolate, chocolate with Grand Marnier, chocolate with nuts, and Peppermint Patty fondues served with fresh fruits and classic Belgian pirouette wafers. 'Nuff said.

COOKIE

Bova's Bakery

134 Salem St., Boston,
617-523-5601,
www.northendboston.com/bovabakery

It's 3 am and you're craving a fresh Italian cookie just the way Mama would make it—that is, if Mama were a baker with 85 years' experience catering to Boston sweet tooths in the North End. Well, family-owned Bova's Bakery has got you covered, cooking up delectable cookies, pastries and breads 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

IMITATION OF CRACK

Croma's Sticky Toffee Pudding

269 Newbury St., Boston, 617-247-3200,
www.cromaboston.com

This traditional British dessert, gooey-centered, toffee-covered and accompanied by ice cream, is too good to be legal.

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BEST BRUNCH

BANG FOR YOUR BUCK

Charley's Eating & Drinking Saloon

284 Newbury St., Boston, 617-266-3000

While other restaurants may offer a complimentary Bloody Mary with your brunch, it's tough to beat a great brunch for a $10 check, especially considering the Newbury Street setting, complete with patio.

FEAST

Henrietta's Table

1 Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-661-5005, www.henriettastable.com

Henrietta's all-you-can-eat buffet on Sundays boasts a raw seafood bar, an array of cheeses and terrines, smoked fish, a custom omelet bar and a waffle station, all with fresh and local ingredients.

GIMMICK

Tremont 647

647 Tremont St., Boston, 617-266-4600, www.tremont647.com

Saturdays and Sundays, the waitstaff don their pajamas to serve items like breakfast pizza and maple mascarpone French toast *batones*. The next best thing to breakfast in bed.

GORGE FEST

Neighborhood Restaurant

25 Bow St., Somerville, 617-628-2151

This quaint, family-run Portuguese restaurant, tucked away in Somerville, offers each entree in three courses, pretty much meeting a day's caloric allowance in one sitting.

BARGAIN

Union Bar and Grille

1357 Washington St., Boston, 617-423-0555, www.unionrestaurant.com

It may be pricey and hard-to-get-into most nights, but on Sundays you can enjoy the chic atmosphere and superb food of this South End hotspot at delicious prices. Most brunch entrees are about $8.

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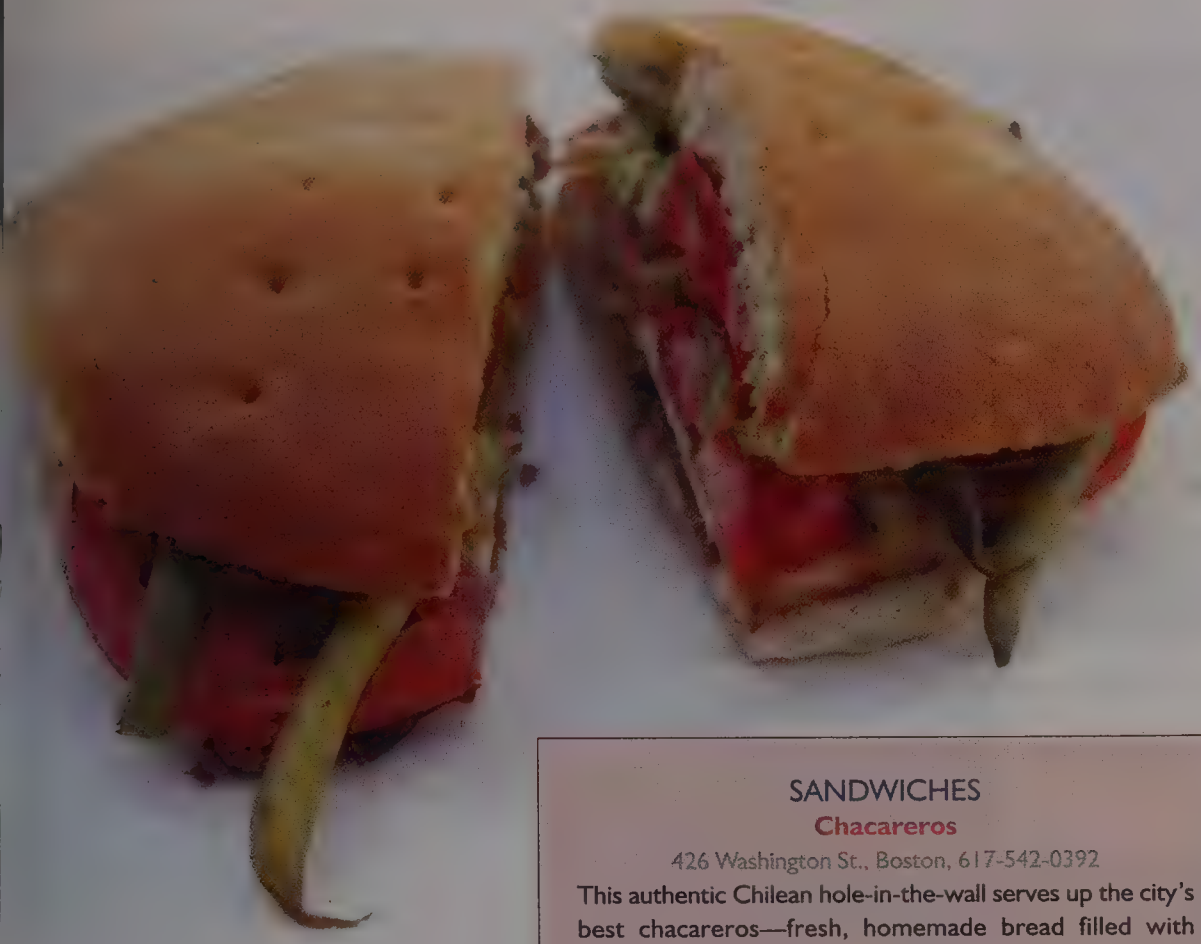


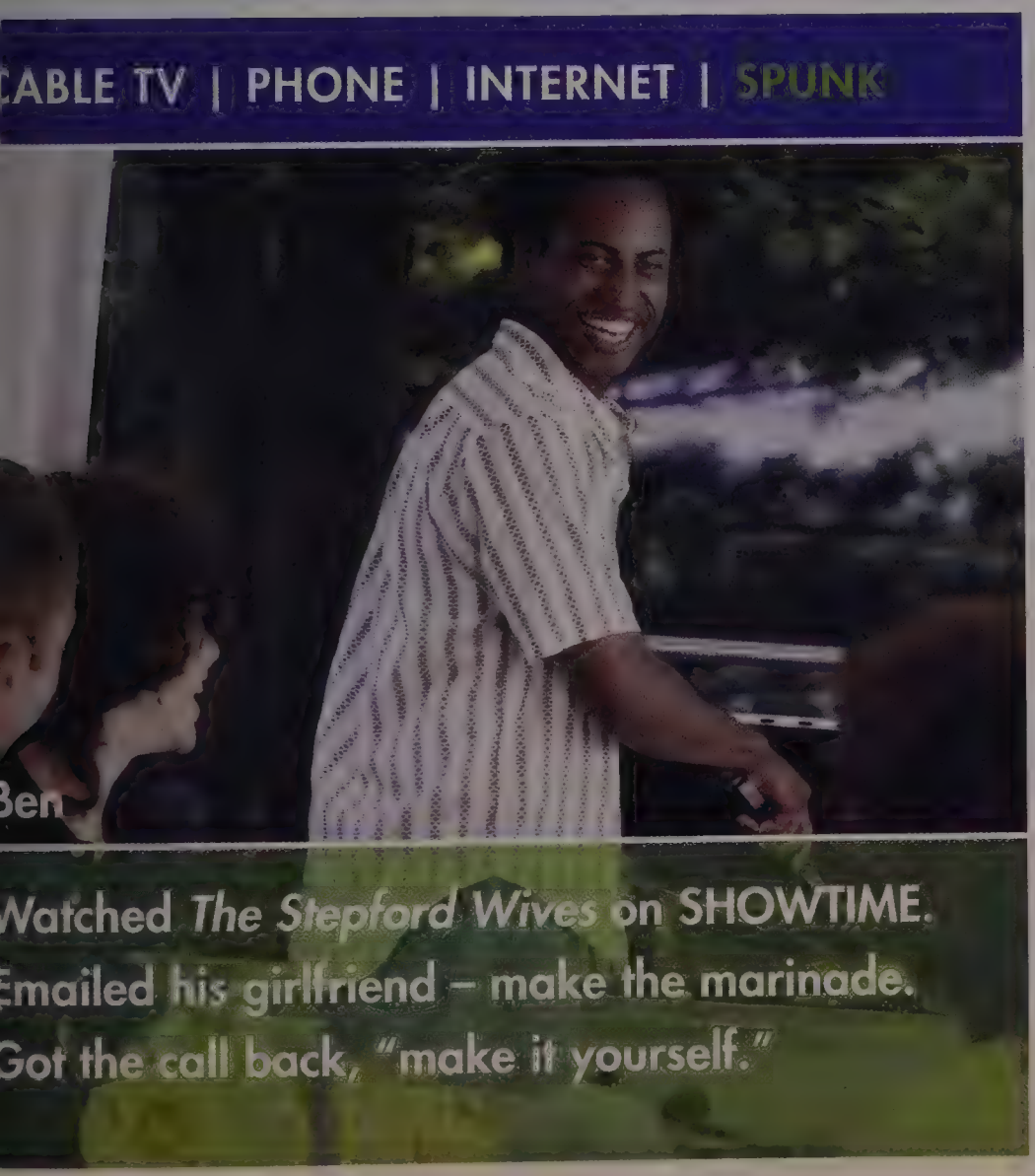
SANDWICHES
Chacareros
426 Washington St., Boston, 617-542-0392
This authentic Chilean hole-in-the-wall serves up the city's best chacareros—fresh, homemade bread filled with steak, chicken or both. Don't forget a side of steamed green beans, a truly Chilean touch.

CHINESE
Chang's House
1583 Comm. Ave., Brighton, 617-787-5030
Huge portions of delicious food from the restaurant that introduced Boston to General Gau's chicken 25 years ago. You can't go wrong with their scallion pancakes or any tofu dish.

INDIAN
India Quality Restaurant
484 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-267-4499,
www.indiaquality.com
Get this exemplary Indian cuisine to go and be transported to the subcontinent while dining in your own living room.

PREPARED FOODS
Ruth's Kitchen
401 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-734-9810
Ruth, a converted Jew originally from Korea, offers a huge menu of delicious Glatt Kosher, Asian, Israeli and American dishes, all available in vegetarian versions.

TACOS
El Triunfo
147 East Berkeley St., Boston, 617-542-8499
Ignore the scaffolding—the fresh tacos at this authentic taqueria, whose name means "the triumph," are worth rejoicing over. ⟶



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BARS & CLUBS

NEW HOT SPOT

Foundation Lounge at the Hotel Commonwealth

500 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-859-9900,
www.foundationlounge.com

Anyone who thinks Kenmore Square is just an overblown playground for undergrads or an overflow tray for Fenway Park hasn't witnessed the renaissance that's turned the square into a glittery dining destination point. True to its name, the Foundation Lounge in the Hotel Commonwealth has been at the core of the conversion since it opened in April. Owners George Lewis Jr. and George Wright Jr. have fashioned a nexus where Los Angeles trip-hop lounge, Reykjavik chic and Asian elegance intersect. The Zensai menu features Asian-inspired morsels like salmon bruschetta and double spicy tuna maki, while the drinks menu builds from a foundation of classics to options like a Cranberry Apple Martini and a Mint Chocolate Chip. Linger at the marble-ceilinged bar or nestle into one of the plush, upholstered couches. DJs offer the upscale crowd a down-tempo sonic balm as lush and soothing as satin sheets.

AFTER-WORK DRINKS

Rattlesnake

384 Boylston St., Boston, 617-859-8555

Sometimes it takes more than shutting down the computer and turning out the lights to put the "off" in "office." Slithering over to the Rattlesnake is a surefire way to shed the stress and relax into your own skin. Around 6 pm, patrons loosen their ties and let their hair down, enjoying the extensive tequila selection. With a margarita in hand, guests make their way up to the rooftop deck to take in a bird's eye view of the urban jungle. Downstairs, pals gather to bitch about the day, but since the game is playing on the plasma screens that pepper the place, why go home? By now, a pitcher of ale has landed on the table and dinnertime is creeping closer, so staying for a bite to eat is a no-brainer. It's easy to forget about that giant project that's due in the morning, thanks to the lip-smacking pan-Latin menu, with mouth-watering options like a blackened catfish po-boy and Yucatan seafood ceviche. By the time folks head out, they've forgotten they even have jobs.

ALTERNATIVE TO FENWAY

Game On!

72–80 Lansdowne St., Boston, 617-351-7001,
www.gameonboston.com

It's a familiar tragedy: You're stuck outside Fenway, gaz
ing longingly at everyone with tickets. Fret not. Just
ball toss away is Game On!, which opened its doo
this spring on Opening Day, and is literally attached t
Fenway. You can park yourself in its bright wood inte
rior upstairs to enjoy a wood-fired pizza, which you'll b
forced to admit is leagues above any of Fenway's fare
Otherwise, head straight down to the stadium-esqu
digital wonderland. With 60 plasma screens, it make
CIA headquarters look like a Luddite's cave. Privat
"sky boxes" rim the room and are available for group
upon reservation. While fans at Fenway wait in line fo
watery beer between innings, the bartender pours you
Guinness or shakes up a kiwi-raz-tini. Meanwhile, th
house DJ spins smooth tunes during inter-innin
downtime (way better than that organ music). O
weekends, he revs up the after-party. A one-way mirro
that peers from the downstairs bar into the visitin
team's batting cages is scheduled to open later this sea

. With views like this, we wonder whether the sports-ters will relocate.

BEER BAR
Sunset Grill & Tap

130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331

th around 400 bottled or canned brews and 112 beers tap, this barroom features a menu of vintage and cask s, meads, lagers and lambics. Don't worry about being overwhelmed either—there's a big board behind the bar that lets you know which brews are currently freshest. As for the food, the steamed beer burgers are among the perennial favorites. The unpretentious, suds-loving crowd uses this 260-seat bar for lunch, dinner, birthday parties or as a late-night hangout where, one manager says, "People like to just shoot the shit." Authentic collections of old beer coasters, advertisements and travel items plaster the walls. A monument to beer and those who drink it.

CHEAP BEER BAR
Side Bar Food and Spirits

14 Bromfield St., Boston, 617-357-1899,
www.sidebarboston.com

As manager Sebastian puts it, this watering hole is "to be honest, nothing nice," but what keeps it popular are the low, low prices (not to mention the drop-dead gorgeous bartenders). Catering to young professionals who flood the joint beginning at 5 pm for some post-workday rest and relaxation, Side Bar keeps its menu cheap, with half-priced appetizers, "buckets" of Corona and Sam Adams and daily specials. They've been doing it for years and haven't changed a thing: same beer, same seats, same gritty yet comfortable feel. Stopping in for a few pops and some cheap eats is the ideal way for the budget-conscious to kick off the evening.

DANCE CLUB
Avalon

15 Lansdowne St., Boston, 617-262-2424,
www.avalonboston.com

Boston's cha-cha mecca is more than a jumble of sweating, grinding bodies. This place has history. In 1966, the previous incarnation of this Lansdowne Street landmark erupted onto Boston's dance scene, and under several subsequent names, it captured the zeitgeist from disco to rock to New Wave. Amazingly, it still keeps Bostonians on its dance floor, which is one of the biggest in the city. Constantly changing formats, like Saturday night's "Tease" (a naughty night where women set the tune), keep it continually fresh. Club Avaland, on Fridays, features some of the world's hottest DJs, and has earned the club an international reputation. Sunday is still gay night, complete with muscle boys and drag queens. A home away from home for the young and the guest list.

DIVE BAR
TC's Lounge

1 Haviland St., Boston, 617-247-8109

This down 'n' dirty hole-in-the-wall caters to 95 percent college students, many from Berklee, located directly across the street. It's been a family-owned business for the past 35 years, during which absolutely nothing has

PLAYBOY/PLAYGIRL PLAYGROUND
Wednesdays at Gypsy Bar

116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799,
www.gypsybarboston.com

This sleek, Boylston Street bar used to be home to Pravda, and when owner Kevin Troy made the joint over last fall, he retained all the Euro flash and international flair. Wednesday night here is, hands down, the city's most diverse and diverting international night. Think Rio meets Ibiza meets Bodrum meets Caracas. It's what we imagine the devil's playground might be like, but much hotter. A scantily clad crowd of well-heeled, fashionable hardbodies grinds on the dance floor and imbibes with abandon, making us wonder if any of them have jobs or responsibilities. Under the warm red glow of the hanging chandeliers, something naughty's bound to happen. It's like the nightclub scene from the latest James Bond flick.

hanged. TC's offers homemade food, but it also boasts a mean frozen pizza. In this snug atmosphere, patrons can hang out until 2 am without dealing with poseurs or pretentiousness. In a way, the bar and its owners serve as a babysitting service for patrons. The no-nonsense manner especially, serves as a father figure to his customers, whom he refers to as his kids. A video game, pinball machine, piano and jukebox are the only frills—TC's is blissfully free of gimmicks or attitude.

FACELIFT

Umbria

295 Franklin St., Boston, 617-338-1000,
www.umbriaristorante.com

Every hip city needs a multi-party-plex, and Frank De Pasquale (who just unveiled his new North End venture, Mare) has been making sure Boston is no exception for decades. While the bump-and-grind set flock elsewhere, a more sophisticated crowd heads to Umbria, the sleek reincarnation of what used to be Il Panino. Completely overhauled, it reopened last fall as a five-story nightlife trifecta: restaurant, lounge and dance club. The open kitchen produces rustic fare from Umbria. Well-heeled lounge hounds looking like Versace ads come to life chill on the third floor's Ultra Lounge, choosing from the 100 selections available at the fourth-floor Vodka Bar. The hyperactive set heads to higher ground: the fourth- and fifth-floor dance club, which has a modern Italian feel, with mosaic tiles, granite and marble. A bit of *la dolce vita* in downtown Boston.

40-SOMETHINGS' BAR

Abe & Louie's

793 Boylston St., Boston, 617-536-6300,
www.abeandlouies.com

The sculptor Auguste Rodin said, "Nothing is a waste of time if you use the experience wisely," and by the looks of the crowd at Abe & Louie's—who appear seasoned in the sport of globe-trotting for business and pleasure, and the art of testing out trendy restaurants—they use their experience as reason to return again and again to this Boylston Street steak house. With its long, polished oak bar, hulking columns and walls adorned with replicas of Old Masters, Abe & Louie's is a classic steak house that embodies Boston's buttoned-down charm. The clink of cutlery provides a backdrop for a lively yet civilized bar scene. After a martini or two, repair to the dining room to relax over a filet mignon washed down with a glass of fine burgundy.

GUYS' NIGHT OUT

Centerfolds

12 LaGrange St., Boston, 617-292-2600,
www.centerfoldsboston.com

Well... there's not much to say, but there's plenty to look at. Tucked away in the Theater District, this gentlemen's club is a taste of heaven for randy bachelors. The multi-level building has an open floor plan, complete with mezzanine for multi-angle viewing of the dancers writhing on the showcased center platform below. Centerfolds boasts more than 100 entertainers and private rooms for bachelor parties. You can also enjoy the company of a dancer in the intimate Platinum Lounge—but only if you're a member or if you order champagne. On the night when the big game coincides with your desire to toss dollar bills on a stage, you can catch the action (of the other kind) on one of three plasma screen TVs. Although most men don't think of going to a strip joint until after they've had a few, there's a complimentary buffet lunch from 12-2 pm, Monday through Friday, offering a naughty (and slightly disturbing) twist on the concept of cocktails and hors d'ouevres.

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT

Lucky's Lounge

355 Congress St., South Boston, 617-357-5825, www.luckyslounge.com

We can't think of a better place for the ladies to gather than a swanky spot where the decor and drinks are a salute to the icon who crooned some of the sweetest love songs of the last century. The retro Rat Pack ambience is cozy enough for you to kick off your pumps under the table, and the bartenders make a mean martini, as well as a Godiva chocolate version. Nestled in Fort Point, Lucky's attracts a cool crowd of local artists, Financial District drones unleashing their inner swinger, and flashy scenesters. In other words, the eye candy is outstanding, as is the updated diner fare, like tuna melts and mac and cheese. There are two rooms, one of which features live music Tuesday through Sunday, known as "Sinatra Sunday" because the band covers all of Old Blue Eyes' standards.

HOTEL BAR

Cuffs–An Irish Bar, at Jurys Hotel

350 Stuart St., Boston, 617-266-7200

Jurys, the hotel chain, has outposts in the Emerald Isle and England, and last July, Boston became the second U.S. city to welcome the Irish import. At its luxe bar, Cuffs, Jurys welcomes Boston in return, maintaining the art-deco flourishes and limestone-and-brick façade of the space's original tenant, the city's police headquarters. Legendary cracked cases get a nod in a display case, which a police archivist regularly changes. Otherwise, the joint's been spiffed up with translucent backlit glass fountains and fixtures, along with two fireplaces. Your right to remain silent is suspended here by the perfectly mixed martinis (a.k.a. buckets of loudmouth soup). There's plenty of seating on the roomy patio, but a line still forms early on the weekends. Even those arriving late, however, can enjoy the full menu until midnight, and until 1 am on Fridays and Saturdays. The verdict is in: Cuffs is an authorized guilty pleasure.

IRISH BAR

Hennessy's of Boston

25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121, www.somersirishpubs.com

Four years running, Hennessy's has won this category, and it's easy to see why. Locals flock to this "happy-go-lucky" joint from early evening into the wee hours to enjoy the convivial atmosphere and friendly service of the mostly Irish employees. It doesn't get any more authentic, either. The owners are Irish, the food is Irish and the small cigarette shop in the back room is typical of those at pubs in the Old Country. Only open since 1999, this bar's popularity rivals that of much older pubs in the area. A lively happy hour and different goings-on every night of the week, from bar-wide trivia games to Thursday and Friday evenings with the local band "Me and Julio," keep everyone entertained. It's also our favorite place to celebrate St. Paddy's Day.

LESBIAN NIGHT OUT

Dyke Night, Fridays at the Toast Lounge

70 Union Square, Somerville, 617-623-9211,
www.toastlounge.com

Local lesbians are rejoicing over the return of Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, after a year's hiatus. Sisters of Sappho flocked to her events at the Midway Café in Cambridge for almost six years before the weekly bacchanal came to a sad end in April 2004. Porter vowed to be back, and earlier this spring returned to the Toast Lounge. There's a slightly retro feel to the proceedings, with DJ Susan Esthera spinning '70s, '80s and '90s dance hits. Admission is a paltry $5, and the party rages until 1 am.

INTRODUCING

SHAKKA

"Okole Ma Luna"
Shakkamania in Boston

GRAPE APE
Shakka Grape with your favorite energy drink and a splash of gingerale

KIWI MANGO COLADA
Shakka Kiwi, Cruzan Mango Rum, crushed pineapple, cream of coconut, blend with ice

CANDY APPLE MARTINI
Shakka Apple with Vanilla Vodka, shake with ice and strain into a chilled martini glass

Please drink responsibly. Shakka is a trademark of Todhunter International shakka2me.com

MOST IMPROVED

Great Scott

1222 Comm. Ave., Allston, 617-566-9014, www.greatscottboston.com

A new music agent has transformed much of this bar's previous clientele, which consisted primarily of college students getting trashed, into an eclectic mix of music fans from all walks of life. A steady crowd now fills the bar seven nights a week. A warning: Great Scott doesn't serve food, so be prepared to drink. The cranberry-and-black rectangular room (wider at the stage than at the entrance, for good sight lines) can accommodate upwards of 240 people, and a bar that runs the length of one wall means there's plenty of space to flag down a bartender. Despite the bar's size, the music (depending, of course, on the band), isn't excruciatingly loud, allowing for conversation as well as booty shaking.

NEW YORK TRANSPLANT

McFadden's

148 State St., Boston, 617-227-5100, www.mcfaddensboston.com

Just when you thought Boston needed another Irish pub like it needs two more decades of the Big Dig, along comes McFadden's to change your mind. With outlets in Manhattan, D.C. and Philly, McFadden's is a bit like a dirty martini—sophisticated, with a salty twist. Located in the space that was formerly the Exchange, the upstairs is outfitted with an expansive bar and cozy booths with a weathered look that echoes the bar's Irish charm. Each booth boasts its own TV screen, but the building's historic feel has been preserved by transforming the basement vault into a cozy alcove with low stools and tables. Even with a DJ spinning in the adjoining room on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, it's still intimate enough amid all the old safety deposit boxes to safely deposit affectionate whispers into your date's ear.

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Vox Populi

755 Boylston St., Boston, 617-424-8300, www.voxboston.com

Come smooth-talk some of Boston's top hotties and ogle the eye candy at this chic Back Bay hangout that boasts two massive bars and two floors of partying, and manages to corral the city's junior beautiful people. Although the atmosphere is upper-yuppie, the dress code is business casual, and the bistro-style menu—compliments of new chef Steve Ryan—offers lighter fare to accompany martinis, which are available in a surfeit of flavors. If you need a break from getting your mack on, there's even a secret Golden Tee machine hidden in the corner on the bottom floor. They bring new meaning to the phrase "taste the rainbow," but don't get too squiffy—a must-have in order to hang here: game.

PLACE TO ROCK 'N' BOWL

Kings/DeVille Lounge

10 Scotia St., Boston, 617-266-2695, www.backbaykings.com

It was tenderly mocked in *Kingpin* and raised to lofty heights in *The Big Lebowski*. Clearly, a bowling renaissance is in full force, perhaps because it's a striking way to be active while still drinking. Kings, a neon wonderland, has 16 lanes, including four in a private space that's ideal for birthday or bachelor parties. At only $6.50 per person after 6 pm, a game is yours for a mere pittance, and since October, your gutter balls are accompanied by live music from cover bands on Fridays and Saturdays. To entertain you while you wait for a lane, there are eight refurbished vintage pool tables and enough video games and pinball machines to light up a carnival midway. And if all that activity becomes too much, kick back and bask in the joint's neon splendor while sipping one of their signature Big Ball Bowls for two.

PLACE TO SEE AND BE SEEN

Saint

90 Exeter St., Boston, 617-236-1134, www.saintnitery.com

This happening, high-end ultra lounge in the Back Bay draws an affluent, 24-and-older crowd. If you're dressed to impress and you've got a fat wallet (black American Express cards most welcome), check out the scene at Saint any day of the week for the DJs, dancing and popular vodka infusion bar. Three distinct rooms, which include cozy nooks for canoodling, a 30-seat communal table and private VIP areas, keep the scene interesting, as average joes rub elbows with the city's Who's Who. Nationally acclaimed chef Rene Michelena, who recently opened Domani, a new restaurant in the space above Saint, prepares delectable eats that range from mini Kobe beef burgers to sushi. There's nothing else like it in the city.

POST–BANKNORTH GARDEN BAR

The Harp

85 Causeway St., Boston, 617-742-1010, www.harpboston.com

With its open floor plan, sports fans can easily jockey around the large center bar for a prime position to watch the game, not that the view of the bar's giant projection screen can really be blocked. After a game, the Harp's packed with hoops nuts, but when Celtics season ends, the space becomes a magnet for singles, with three bars located on two floors and DJs from up and down East Coast spinning the hottest beats. The Harp is la enough to be a function hall but with a not-so-big tav feel, thanks to the tiled floors and subdued lighting.

POST-FENWAY BAR

Boston Beer Works

61 Brookline Ave., Boston, 617-536-2337, www.beerworks This casual, Great American Beer Festival–winn brew pub attracts local Sox fans as well as tourists, the friendly, unpretentious environment makes i pleasant place for all, families included. A less rauc alternative to the Green Monster's wild, red-hea stepchild, the Cask 'n' Flagon, Beer Works feature menu of such key American staples as nachos and b falo wings, not to mention a collection of 15 signat microbrews. Some ever-changing fish and steak dis round out the choices for those with more ambitious petites, while industrial steel and wood make fo unique, urbane setting. And of course, you can't beat location. You need to take only a few steps from Gat (Fenway's most happening exit) to find yourself in fr of the bar.

PRE–BANKNORTH GARDEN BAR

Hurricane O'Reilly's

150 Canal St., Boston, 617-722-0161, www.irishconnection.c This pre–sports event hotspot has a prime location the shadow of the TD Banknorth Garden. You can f live (usually cover) bands most nights. The bar is lo busy and known for its before and after sports ev

HIPSTER HANGOUT

Middlesex Lounge

315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-868-6739, www.middlesexlounge.com

A popular nightspot for Harvard and MIT students, this super-groovy watering hole from the group that brought you Miracle of Science, Audubon Circle and Cambridge 1 also caters to young professionals and scenesters of every stripe. During the day, it offers a lunch menu slightly more sophisticated (and expensive) than typical bar food. Many regulars opt for the small appetizer plates. The decor is stylish, modern and unique; low seating and benches on wheels allow customers to move the furniture around to create customized, cozy, one-on-one spaces or areas that can accommodate larger groups. Different DJs spin after 9 pm each night, making the Middlesex a good place to dance but also a good place to meet an intriguing stranger.

GAY MEN'S NIGHT OUT

ManRay

21 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-864-0400

ManRay has stayed in the highly competitive nightlife game with its commitment to the gay, Goth and fetish communities, where vinyl, PVC and all types of outlandish attire are encouraged and admired. The club's decor has an underground vibe, and the crowd tends to be young, good-looking and eager to meet new people. (In other words, the antithesis of the attitudinal in-town gay bars.) The dance floor is a sweaty, sexy pit of gyrating hardbodies, but the bars offer a quiet place to get a better look at that hottie from the dance floor, and determine whether or not he can actually form words into a sentence. Chances are, he can, given the club's proximity to MIT and Harvard.

ushes, although they do broadcast games on seven flat-creen TVs for anyone who couldn't score tickets. A iew menu features a variety of salads and pasta dishes, out the kitchen closes at 9 pm. The New Orleans at-nosphere is sultry, with red brick walls, steamy red overhead lights and vintage jazz memorabilia. Hurricane O'Reilly's attracts a mature crowd, including young professionals who like to stock up on this bar's cheaper beverages before paying an arm and a leg for a brew over at the arena.

PRE-FENWAY BAR

The Baseball Tavern

1306 Boylston St., Boston, 617-437-1644

For dyed-in-the-wool home team fans, there are as many rituals that go on before the game as there are at a bar mitzvah. For many of the faithful, custom dictates a pop-in at the Baseball Tavern, where it's not uncommon to hear "Yankees Suck" chanted like a mantra, even when you're sitting on the patio, whiffing the scent of sausages grilling over at the ballpark. This diamond in the rough behind Fenway Park has been a hideout for fans for 37 years. That's also how long Freddy the bartender has been pouring frosty pints, chatting about the boys of summer and dishing out yummy grub like Angus beef burgers and hot pastrami sandwiches. Not much has changed over the years, except the addition of memorabilia commemorating last year's long overdue victory. Perhaps in celebration of the lifted curse, five plasma screens were added to bring the total up to 17 TVs. Two hours before the first pitch is the recommended arrival time, and beer is the mandatory beverage.

PRO-ATHLETE PLAYGROUND

The Rack

24 Clinton St., Boston, 617-725-1051,
www.therackboston.com

Jocks seem to flock to the Rack for its upscale atmosphere, pool tables, lounge, and VIP section where they can be seen but keep the crowds at bay. This bar offers a little bit of everything—for people in their 20s, there's live music and dancing, while patrons in their 60s can shoot pool and sip a little cognac. They've loosened their dress code, too: While sneakers are still not allowed, women can wear their $200 jeans. Some say the place is named for the amply proportioned female staff instead of the pool tables, but the few male bartenders aren't exactly hard on the eyes, either. With the Rack's attentive, professional security team, pro athletes like Tom Brady, Doug Flutie and Derek Jeter (who received a warm welcome despite the pinstripes) have stopped by. The kitchen is open until 10 pm, and food is allowed by the pool tables.

SOUTH BEACH ON THE SOUTH SHORE

WaterWorks

333 Victory Road, Marina Bay, Quincy,
www.waterworksboston.com

A tropical paradise less than 25 minutes from Boston? No, we're not suggesting you build yourself a flux capacitor; we're telling you to check out WaterWorks—the 60,000-square-foot facility on Marina Bay in Quincy that's open summers only. WaterWorks sports a full beachfront experience, complete with imported palm trees and sand, where you can do everything from play volleyball to bury that annoying friend who's scaring away the hot (and scantily clad) guys or girls. You might brush up on your sports lingo, since some of Boston's hottest athletes, like Patriots WR David Givens and fellow Pat Corey Dillon are known to swing by. Don't worry about a dress code, either. It's the beach. Shorts and T-shirts are not only tolerated, they're de rigueur.

SUMMER SINGLES SCENE

Tia's

200 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 617-227-0828,
www.tiaswaterfront.com

Long walks on the beach are all well and good if you're on the Cape, but not for anyone stuck in town on a weekend

night. Don't fret—long sessions of lingering amid Boston's eye-catching singles is the name of the game at Tia's, Boston's own little slice of Margaritaville on the harbor. With its dark wood interior, island paradise decor, bountiful patio seating, and prime view of the water, you almost feel like you're aboard a boat about to dock. The Love Boat? Perhaps. After Boston's lengthy winters, the crowd here is always elated to celebrate summer, and considering the salty sea air, the famed $18.95 lobster special, and icy libations like the Flirtini and the Peach Cosmo, you may well find yourself someone to join you for that long walk on the beach.

TASTE OF THE LONE STAR STATE

Liquor Store

The Alley, 1 Boylston Place, Boston, 617-357-6800, www.liquorstoreboston.com

Calling all urban cowgirls! Located in the bustling pantheon of partying that is the Alley, nightlife bigwig Kevin Troy's latest venture, the Liquor Store, is a little bit of Texas right here in New England, complete with Boston's only mechanical bull, multiple easily accessible bars and a huge dance floor, where you can dance off the embarrassment of being tossed, rodeo-style. They offer Birthday Party Friday nights and bachelorette parties with a Texan flair (leather chaps optional). Feel free to try out the following joke when you visit: "Why doesn't Texas fall into the Gulf? Because Arkansas sucks." The bar's slogan—"Good girls go to heaven, bad girls go to Liquor Store"—pretty much sums it up.

30-SOMETHING'S BAR

Excelsior

272 Boylston St., Boston, 617-426-7878

The night is young, and so are you, just not so young that you want to have Jell-O shots for dinner. When the condo is purchased and the 401K is growing steadily, you've graduated from nightlife that involves shouting over thumping music and being fed lines by a baseball-capped jock wafting cheap cologne. For subdued sophistication, Excelsior is tops. Through the revolving door, you're confronted by a three-story wine tower with up to 7,000 bottles encased in glass. The brown and orange color scheme creates a funky, urbane atmosphere. The Ginger Cosmo contains candied ginger, and is just one option on a creative cocktail list that draws from fresh, exotic ingredients. Chef Eric Brennan's menu redefines bar food; the gorgeously presented contemporary American dishes emphasize fresh local seafood and produce.

360

The Grand Canal

57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112, www.somersirishpubs.com/grandcanal

It takes true skill and courage to pull off an image overhaul, and then credibly return to from whence one came. Just take a look at the Grand Canal. One of six Somers locations, it was a Victorian Irish-style pub when it opened in 1997. Then last July, it was as if the Fab Five had stepped in to spruce up the place. Out went the Irish parlor wallpaper. Up went the slick lighting fixtures. The lower level bar area was reshuffled to make room for more tables. And voila! In September, the space was christened Marquee. By October, the banner brandishing the new identity came down, and the Grand Canal returned to its live-music-centric roots. Remnants of its fleeting alter ego are still evident in the chic lighting fixtures, but the real McCoy is bolder and better than before, with live rock Thursdays through Saturdays, games on the 72-inch roll-down screen and three 48-inch plasma TVs, and always a tap where the Guinness flows like the murky water of Venice's Grand Canal.

SPORTS BAR

The Four's Boston

166 Canal St., Boston, 617-720-4455, www.thefours.com

You can haul up to Cooperstown for the Baseball Hall of Fame or head due west to Springfield for the Basketball Hall of Fame, but it's easier to surround yourself with sports memorabilia of all stripes at the Four's. A Boston institution since 1976, it scored a nod from *Sports Illustrated* in March of this year, when it was named the No. 1 sports bar in the country. Surrounded by mounted racks of balls, bats and jerseys scribbled with the signatures of everyone from Mickey Mantle to Bobby Orr to Larry Bird, it's tough to concentrate on the menu, which features a lineup of heaping helpings fit for a champ. The walls are loaded with framed action shots so extreme you'll almost break a sweat just gazing at them. We're not the only ones who deem the joint a slam-dunk, either. Kevin McHale and Terry O'Reilly were regulars, and local sportscasters and sportswriters are often spotted here.

20-SOMETHING'S BAR

Foggy Goggle Pub

911 Boylston St., Boston, 617-266-3399

Even "Bluto" Blutarsky (John Belushi's character in *Animal House*) couldn't have dreamed up a more debauched Mardi Gras of a bar than the Foggy Goggle. This newcomer to the bar-and-pub-heavy Boylston Street strip opened its doors in January 2004 and has since been a spot where squeaky clean up-and-comers can relive their down-and-dirty college days. The former digs of Dad's Diner is now part tiki-kitsch, part rock 'n' roll fantasy, part shrine to all things old-school (we love the Pee Wee Herman doll dangling from a bike). In short, a throwback to frat house madness. On Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, tray-toting waitresses who look like Cancún transplants tempt guests with test tube shots ($4) and Jell-O shooters ($4), complete with a hand-delivered whipped cream chaser. And, of course, there's plenty of beer.

WATERING HOLE FOR THE WELL-HEELED

Mistral

223 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-867-9300, www.mistralbistro.com

To keep up with the latest trends in luxury items and haute couture, you can flip through the current issue of *Elle* amble through Saks, or head to Mistral for a cocktail. From the outside, the flotilla of Bentleys and Porsche SUVs would suggest you're about to crash one of P. Diddy's private bashes. The gentle clinking of martini and wine glasses serves as a sonic backdrop to the conversations of Boston's smart set. With soaring ceilings and a row of dried cypress trees, the ambience is Provençale moderne. The bar's elegance is echoed in the exquisite simplicity of the French Mediterranean fare prepared by chef-owner Jamie Mammano. But the sophistication isn't stiff or frosty, and even those of us without haircuts that cost as much as a Persian rug can bask in comfort. For not much more than the price of a movie ticket, you can have a thin-crusted pizza that's a truly sublime epicurean experience and feel like you're starring in your own Armani ad.

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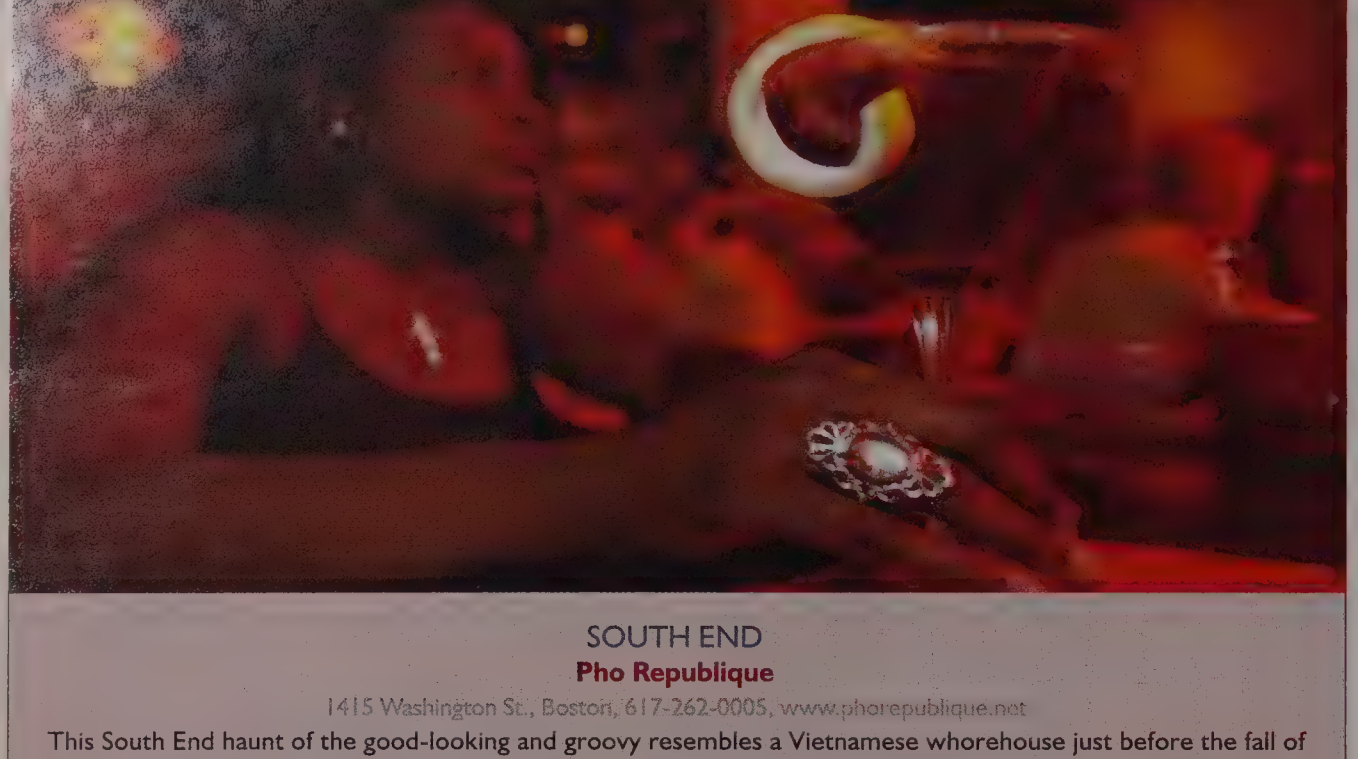


SOUTH END
Pho Republique
1415 Washington St., Boston, 617-262-0005, www.phorepublique.net

This South End haunt of the good-looking and groovy resembles a Vietnamese whorehouse just before the fall of Saigon. The exotic and affordable eats are consistently excellent, with dishes like a wide range of Phos (Vietnamese soups), Pineapple Kung Pao Chicken and Skirts on Fire (a popular steak dish), but their candied garlic spareribs are quite possibly the tastiest in town. Specialty drinks like sake-tinis and scorpion bowls are available alongside everyday favorites like margaritas and martinis. For a case of the munchies, Pho offers smaller, tasty alternatives to the larger dishes, including lots of rolls, both spring and summer. Where all the cool kids in the South End hang out.

ALLSTON
White Horse Tavern
116 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-6633

A red bistro-style storefront marks the White Horse Tavern on Allston's bustling Brighton Avenue. Owner Doug Bacon says he didn't strive to make his bar the hottest or the trendiest, which may be why it's so appealingly chill. The crowd is young but mature: entry-level professionals, graduate students and those recently out of school (though you'll also find an undergraduate or two on the weekends). The tavern serves all-American cuisine, punctuated by absurdly cheap specials Sunday to Tuesday, when a chicken sandwich, a burger with fries, or a pound of buffalo wings is only $4. Although the White Horse isn't billed as a sports bar, the six plasma screens surrounding the horseshoe-shaped bar are great for watching the game. When the thought of loud, sloppy drunken shenanigans at some of the nearby college haunts gives you the heebie-jeebies, the White Horse is the place for a civilized evening.

BACK BAY
Clerys
113 Dartmouth St., Boston, 617-262-9874,
www.irishconnection.com

If you're not up for tearing up the dance floor (though they do have occasional dance nights), you can kick back at this Irish pub and sample one of 16 draught beers. The bartenders are friendly, and the atmosphere is laid-back, with its wood bar front and bistro-style curbside windows offering a view of the human pageant outside. With two floors, there's plenty of elbow room and space to spread out, and on those frigid winter nights when the mercury hovers around four degrees, you can grab a seat by the fireplace. The menu isn't limited to typical Irish cuisine; the chef offers up calamari, thin-crust pizza and sandwiches. A popular hang, for obvious reasons.

BEACON HILL
Harvard Gardens
316 Cambridge St., Boston, 617-523-2727,
www.harvardgardens.com

A modest and respectful vibe prevails at Harvard Gardens. It's not a typical singles bar, with hormones oozing through the ventilation system, but some regulars would say the place is known for attracting lovely ladies, especially Thursday through Saturday nights. With a diverse crowd of 20- and 30-somethings, there's someone for everyone. The bar has a warm, lounge-y feel, with lots of mahogany and low lighting. It's always on top of the music scene, with a current playlist, and to start weekend mornings off right, there's a full brunch both Saturday and Sunday, from 11 am–3 pm. A bar that's slammin' but humble about it. What a refreshing change.

BRIGHTON
SoHo
386 Market St., Brighton, 617-562-6000,
www.sohoboston.com

Sometimes you just want to cuddle up on the couch in your living room and watch the game. Sometimes you want to hang with your friends. If you find those urges coinciding, there's the slick, spacious, comfortable SoHo. Despite the lower Manhattan sheen (glossy tables, a cityscape on the wall, and a dress code prohibiting ripped jeans, hats and athletic gear), the vibe during the week is not so much downtown as down-tempo. It has all the amenities of home, plus a friendly waitstaff and a few nifty quirks like televisions in the bathrooms. Guests can order libations from the wine, martini or shot menus, or take their pick from a bountiful tap. On Fridays and Saturdays, two more bars open for better service, the DJ perches himself downstairs and the venue becomes as disco as cha-cha at Studio 54. Those looking for a place to recover from a slamming Saturday return for the all-you-can-eat Sunday brunch with live jazz. For only $14.95, it feeds tired bodies without exhausting the wallet.

BROOKLINE
Washington Square Tavern
714 Washington St., Brookline, 617-232-8989,
www.washingtonsquaretavern.com

A home away from home for many regulars, who treat this place like an annex to their own kitchens. The warm, welcoming bar boasts an excellent and affordable wine list, in perfect concert with a constantly evolving menu by chef Sam Kochan. He gives an imaginative twist to our favorite foods and keeps local foodies coming back for more. The Washington Square Tavern offers a brunch in the fall and winter, complete with "eye-opener" drinks like the Bloody Maria and Greyhound. If it were a dog, this place would be a black Lab—dark, warm and happy to see you.

CAMBRIDGE: CENTRAL SQUARE
Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-354-2685,
www.cantablounge.com

With kelly green walls and crossbeams, along with a strand of Christmas lights that wraps around the perimeter, this Central Square institution has a homey feel that makes it inviting, kind of like your college dorm room but marginally better-smelling. An all-ages crowd fills the tables and minuscule dance area. The bar has a wide selection of domestic and imported beers, and there's live music every night, including the acts at the Cantab Underground, an abbreviated version of its upstairs counterpart. Bluegrass is a favorite on the main floor on Tuesdays. Birkenstocks welcome.

CAMBRIDGE: HARVARD SQUARE
Charlie's Kitchen
10 Eliot St., Cambridge, 617-492-9646

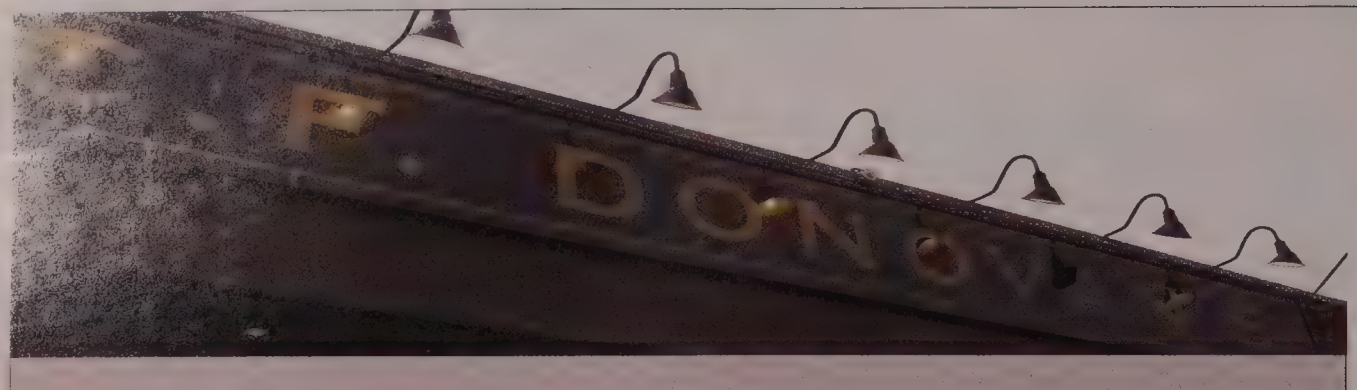
With all the suburbanization that Harvard Square has undergone, Charlie's Kitchen is a reminder that the more things change, the more they stay the same. While institutions like the Tastee are becoming a fading memory and chain stores and coffee conglomerates take up prime real estate, Charlie's is an oasis of attitude-free dependability. The fact that the Belgian Chimay is served in goblets from the tap and the PBR bottles only put you out $2.50 doesn't hurt. Charlie's retains its unassuming funky roadside diner appeal, right down to the jukebox which plays an eclectic mix that's constantly updated with customers' requests. Upstairs there's live music on Mondays and the $5 cover goes to the band. Karaoke is free (and easy) on Tuesdays, and trivia is the Sunday night special. But whether you're upstairs or nestled in the authentically 1950s-style downstairs joint, you can chow on Americana comfort food. A giant double cheeseburger for $4.95 is enough to make even the most dogged economics major wonder "what inflation?"

CAMBRIDGE: KENDALL SQUARE
Tommy Doyle's
1 Kendall Square, Cambridge, 617-225-0888,
www.tommydoyles.com

Despite its large size, Tommy Doyle's maintains an intimate feel that draws a motley mix of after-work biotech drones, MIT geeks, tourists from the nearby Marriott and the after-movie crowd. There's no lack of entertainment: Tuesday is Trivia Night, and the band Celtic Swing performs on Thursdays. A dizzying array of inexpensive ($9–$10) menu items caters to a wide range of tastes, incorporating Irish

“...the pizza is to die for; you could faint just describing the flavor of the sauce, and the crust puts you over the edge.”

—Jack Welch, *Winning*



DORCHESTER

C.F. Donovan's

112 Savin Hill Ave., Dorchester, 617-436-2226

There aren't many bars where the owner greets the majority of the clientele by their first names and the waitress doesn't bother to ask because she already knows their poison. It was only four years ago that Arthur Donovan opened his eponymous joint in Savin Hill, and it's become a spot where a diverse crew with deep roots in the neighborhood mingles comfortably with newcomers. As one of the city's up-and-coming neighborhoods, Savin Hill has been Donovan's stomping ground for more than 30 years. (He ran Patty's Pantry, a takeout joint.) This warmly lit den ensures that the social scene keeps pace with the area's changing vibe. With a menu as long as the U.S. Constitution and specials that change weekly, the food's better than average. Meanwhile, a martini menu promotes the general welfare with its booze at reasonable prices. You need not live down the street in order to spend your night at Donovan's.

American and Mexican influences. For the more sophisticated palate, there are fancier entrees like mahi and seafood pasta, which go for about $16. Tommy Doyle's will soon be spreading even more Irish love with a new location in Newton and one in the works for Harvard Square.

CAMBRIDGE: PORTER SQUARE

Toad

1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-497-4950

With live music seven days a week, this tiny neighborhood bar gives major bang for the buck, though actually, there's never any cover charge. The music varies from night to night, with an emphasis on blues, rock and folk, more often than not featuring Cambridge-based musicians. The attentive staff ensures that everyone's well-lubricated, with a cocktail or one of a staggering selection of microbrews.

CHARLESTOWN

Tavern on the Water

1 Pier 6 (Charlestown Navy Yard), Charlestown, 617-242-8040, www.tavernonthewater.com

Located in the historic Navy Yard, this bar may have the best outdoor seating in all of greater Boston, with spectacular views of the Boston skyline. It may also be the closest landlubbers get to drinking and dining on a boat. The patio offers unobstructed views of both the harbor and the city, and the tavern feels romantic, which may be why it's not only one of Charlestown's nicest bars but also a magnet for love-seeking singles. They mix and mingle over a glass of wine or beer, and maybe a burger, a salad or seafood. The menu is reasonably priced, and the tavern also offers a Sunday brunch for those who wish to sip away the morning with a Bloody Mary, taking in the waterfront views.

DOWNTOWN CROSSING

J.J. Foley's

21 Kingston St., Boston, 617-338-7713

At this down 'n' dirty bar you'll find a unique juxtaposition of construction workers fresh from "The Dig," Financial District starched suits and bike messengers, because once five o'clock rolls around, this place is blind to class distinctions and everyone just gets along. Look for the giant Guinness sign, which is several times larger than the bar's own. The food menu pales in comparison with the drink menu, which may be why people crowd the spacious bar for a little post-work unwinding and to swap horror stories of the nine to five. For those who care to stop in for a late, late night drink, J.J.'s pours until the wee hours (2 am to be exact). All of the above make this funky watering hole one of Downtown Crossing's best-loved gems.

JAMAICA PLAIN

Triple D's

435 South Huntington Ave., Jamaica Plain, 617-522-4966

At Triple D's, the regulars are very regular and you just might fall victim to a slurred, maudlin, "I love you, man" after a couple of rounds at the bar. The intimate, JP neighborhood bar is as comfortable as it gets; the dress code seems to allow anything up to and including pajamas. The bar serves up standard pub grub, and if you plan on staying, then you're in for some plain old boozy fun. Customers are surrounded by boxing photos and posters, which showcase the owner's passion and past career—a veiled warning not to get too drunk or rowdy.

NEWTON

Union Street Restaurant

107-R Union St., Newton Centre, 617-964-6684, www.unionst.com

This off-the-beaten-path watering hole offers a little bit of everything, which is why it's one of our favorites. There's the dining room, which serves American cuisine (in a kid-friendly environment), a 22-TV sports bar, and a live music venue upstairs at the Attic, where Newtonville Books hosts its outstanding Newtonville Books in the Attic series. As if that's not enough, the back of the restaurant is equipped with a huge patio that can accommodate large groups. Leaving town for a night in the suburbs is actually worth it, as evidenced by the number of Back Bay, South End and Beacon Hill hipsters you'll find here.

NORTH END

Boston Sail Loft

80 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 617-227-7280

OK, so the Big Dig is still dragging on, but since the disassembling of the Central Artery, one neighborhood bar has gotten a new lease on life. The Boston Sail Loft can now be seen from Faneuil Hall, which has contributed to the bar's rejuvenation. A somewhat seasonal stomping ground (it's harder to find a barstool in the warmer weather), the Sail Loft has a loyal core of regulars who keep the place afloat and fun during the chilly winter months. Here, flip flops are allowed and beer is king (Bud Light is a newcomer to the limited array of beverages), but though the may not offer hundreds of imported draft beers or live entertainment (instead try the Internet jukebox), peopl wait in line anyway. A small outdoor deck has a Cape Co feel that complements the traditional New Englan seafood. There's something uniquely charming, somethin quintessentially Boston waterfront, about this place tha charms everyone who walks through the door.

SOMERVILLE: DAVIS SQUARE

The Burren

247 Elm St., Somerville, 617-776-6896, www.burren.com

It's enough to make you break into a jig. This Davis Squar landmark lures patrons into another place and time, namely ancient Ireland. Owners Tommy McCarthy and Louise Costello play traditional Irish songs, alternating with other live music seven days a week, creating a fusion of Old and New World culture. The scene is casual and intimate, and at any given moment, a group of seasoned musicians, their instruments primed, might just burst out in song around one of the small pub tables. The menu offers some Irish staples, like bangers and mash. When the bar gets a bit too cozy, the back room can be reserved for larger gatherings.

SOMERVILLE: INMAN SQUARE

The Abbey Lounge

3 Beacon St., Somerville, 617-441-9631

www.abbeylounge.com

Six or seven nights a week, you can hear some of the best live music in town at this grungy little neighborhood bar in Inman Square. The Abbey Lounge is an unsung gem boasting two stages (the pub stage and the main stage for larger crowds) as well as an eclectic selection of quality booze that might not necessarily match the clientele. If live music isn't your thing (or the bands are just on break), kick back and watch the game on one of the two large TV screens. Like the quiet scrawny kid who can kick some serious ass, this place has much more going on inside than you'd guess from the street.

SOMERVILLE: UNION SQUARE

Tir na nOg

366A Somerville Ave., Somerville, 617-628-4300, www.thenog.com

A charismatic staff works the crowd at this traditional Celtic corner pub. The quintessential neighborhood retreat, it's a little taste of Dublin, with its heavily painted green, red and black exterior. The mellow, friendly atmosphere keeps customers coming back and makes newcomers feel welcome. There's even a Wall of Shame on the pub's Web site, for those who are behind on their bar bills.

SOUTH BOSTON

Boston Beer Garden

732 East Broadway, South Boston, 617-269-0990, www.bostonbeergarden.com

The name conjures up images of lazy afternoons in Munich but in reality, this South Boston hotspot resembles anything but the type of place where you'd find an oompah band. With its modern red and black decor, the pub attracts a younger crowd looking to cut loose after work or on weekends, especially during football season, when the Beer Garden hosts Patriots Sundays. The menu features above average pub grub (crispy calamari, lobster quesadillas, salads, burgers and more), and even includes several Atkins-approved dishes. Show up between 4 and 7 pm and enjoy "Four at Four" ($4 appetizers). The Beer Garden has free wireless Internet access for incessant e-mail checkers (laptop not included).

Jordan Tobins
— Owner, founder

NIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Network television execs and bar owners will agree that providing solid entertainment seven nights a week is easier said than done. Homebodies have *TV Guide* to direct them toward quality programming, and now social butterflies have the IMPROPER staff to let them know where the party's at each night of the week. After months of bar-hopping we bring you the fruits of our labor: a day-by-day guide to the best places to socialize.

MONDAY

Weekly Wax at River Gods

125 River St., Cambridge, 617-576-1881

Every Monday night, River Gods brings in two local DJs who trade sets in a relaxed (and not very competitive) battle to see who can get the crowd worked up into a lather. The best part of Weekly Wax is that if you don't like the music, you merely have to wait a week, since the theme changes. Recent installments have featured everything from country and western to salsa. There are 12 tables where you can order food until 10 pm from an eclectic menu that reflects the influences of the bar's Irish owners and Korean chef. The party goes until midnight, and there's no cover. A bit like one of the rap battle scenes from *8 Mile*, but without the guns, drugs, violence and profanity.

TUESDAY

Live Karaoke at the Milky Way Lounge

403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-3740, www.milkywayjp.com

So you wanna be a rock 'n' roll star? A good place to practice is this everybody's-a-diva bonanza that happens on alternating Tuesdays at the Milky Way. It makes *American Idol* look like amateur night at the local steak house. There's the Nickel & Dime band (two of whose members work as chefs in the sister eatery, Bella Luna) and an encouraging emcee who'd be right at home on a Caribbean cruise. The band backs soloists who step up to the mike and do their own renditions of hits, which span from pop to kitsch-fabulous. Crowd-pleasers can transform the heavily populated dance floor into a headbangers' ball, or take it down to a high school prom–style slow groove. There's rock concert lighting, but no monitor—just a book of printed lyrics to prompt you. But don't worry if you flub the words; the band is there to pick up your slack. The fashionable crowd is supportive of neophytes, and with a full bar including $3 bottles of PBR to loosen up your pipes, who wouldn't be tempted to let loose their inner Axl Rose or Pat Benatar?

THURSDAY

Redline

59 JFK St., Cambridge, 617-491-9851, www.redlinecambridge.com

With DJs Mas, C-Nyce, Elyte and the NPG Allstars spinning on Thursday nights at Redline, it's no surprise that a sophisticated college crowd from Harvard, MIT and Tufts accumulates here to cut loose and forget about their cumulative GPAs. Reunion Thursdays offer a spacious dance floor once the tables used for business lunches and casual dinners are pushed out of the way (at 10 pm). With no cover charge and a relaxed dress code (jeans, T-shirts and tank tops are OK), you can shake your groove thang on the dance floor or lounge on the brick patio till 2 am. Dinner is served from 5–10 pm, so get there early if you need to grab a bite before the dance floor heats up. The menu features contemporary American cuisine, and there's something to please any palate, from classic comfort foods like chicken wings and ribs, to slightly more refined fare, like crab rangoon and vegetable spring rolls. None of it will break the bank, either, with most items under $20.

WEDNESDAY

The Warren Tavern

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 617-241-8142, www.warrentavern.com

Go anywhere in the country and say you're from Boston, and locals will likely tell you what a nice historic city you live in, then ask if you've ever been to Cheers. True Bostonians will respond that the city is better reflected by the Warren Tavern, a quaint Charlestown pub with almost as much history as the Freedom Trail. Dating to 1780, the cannonballs from the Battle of Bunker Hill were practically still warm when this place went up. Consider this: That makes it older than electricity. But thanks to a vibrant collection of regulars who swap witticisms with bartenders as if it were a blood sport, and a menu that includes melt-in-your-mouth clam chowder, the rich history of the place never feels fossilized, especially on Wednesday nights—the tavern's main night. In the same space where George Washington and Paul Revere are rumored to have knocked back a few, guitarist Justin Beech inspires the conviviality of colonial days through music of a decidedly contemporary style.

FRIDAY

Ned Devine's/Parris

250 Quincy Market Building, Boston, 617-248-8800, www.neddevinesboston.com

Day after day, Faneuil Hall is one big sidewalk for souvenir stands, tourists trekking at a sluggish pace, and tour guides rattling off historical factoids. But on Friday nights, locals fresh from a week of crunching numbers and analyzing data zip through the traffic jam to Ned Devine's and Parris, where the relaxation begins at the upstairs bar and restaurant. Bathed in warm lighting, the bar has a vaguely Gaelic elegance, with hand-painted murals and stone piles that evoke Celtic folktales. The Old World charm takes an urban, contemporary turn around 6 pm, in the adjoining super-hip Parris Lounge. But it's all still a warm-up for the great migration into the third ring of this Friday night circus: the club where a slammin' DJ never misses a beat. Before long, the band (a rock outfit typically from New York or Philly) steps up and the roof is raised for the remainder of the night. With a $5 cover before 9 pm ($10 after), it's a cheap decompression chamber for the young and the restless.

SATURDAY

Felt

533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555, www.feltclubboston.com

When Saturday night rolls around, sophisticated urbanites hang up their business suits and sweater sets and slip into something a little sexier for a night on the town at Felt. A popular restaurant and after-work drink spot during the week, Felt transforms into a four-story adult playpen on weekends, proving that Boston nightlife is about more than just sports bars and Irish pubs. Don't expect to find $2.50 pints of PBR. At Felt, club crawlers decked out in designer duds sip on decadent concoctions like the Chocolate Soldier (made with white and dark Godiva chocolate, Starbucks coffee liqueur, Bailey's and other secret ingredients). Whether you're gyrating to high-energy house music by DJs Tanner K. and Ricky Fatts, shooting pool, or resting your rear end upstairs in the low-lit lounge, the scene at Felt is always as cool as the place itself.

SUNDAY

Bill's Bar/Dub Station

5 1/2 Lansdowne St., Boston, 617-421-9678, www.billsbar.com

It may be summer, but you remember those snowbound Sundays in winter when all you had to look forward to was five days of brutal commutes to and from work. The antidote: Sunday nights at Bill's Bar, where the locally based reggae outfit Dub Station has been bringing island sunshine to northern night owls for almost a decade. A mix of velvety voiced, rhythm-rich DJs revolves around the triumvirate of core members on bass, drums and keys, their melodies spanning from infectious roots rock to dancehall. Dub Station has appeared on stages around the country, with acts like Toots and the Maytals and Buju Banton, but the band always returns to its devoted hometown crowd. It's nice to know that good vibrations are never more than a week away. ➙

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ALTERNATIVE PRODUCTION COMPANY

Truth Serum Productions

www.truthserum.org

Truth Serum exists somewhere at the intersection of the gay scene and the hipster underworld—a potent crossroad of fashion, passion and off-the-wall fun. Started by Aliza Shapiro (or as she is known in her drag king persona, Heywood Wakefield) in 1998, the company has its thumb in a bunch of different pies. Truth Serum's signature act, the mixed-gender troupe TraniWreck, has been lighting up the cabaret scene in Boston and New York, and the company's tireless efforts have brought the hottest drag acts in the country to Boston. The city's Youth Pride Festival, which Truth Serum helped promote, saw bands such as the Butchies. The regular "Wreckage" events—a combination cabaret/drag/talent show—are yet another compelling reason to check out what's going on in this playground of sequins, feathers and leather.

CABARET ACT

Jan Peters

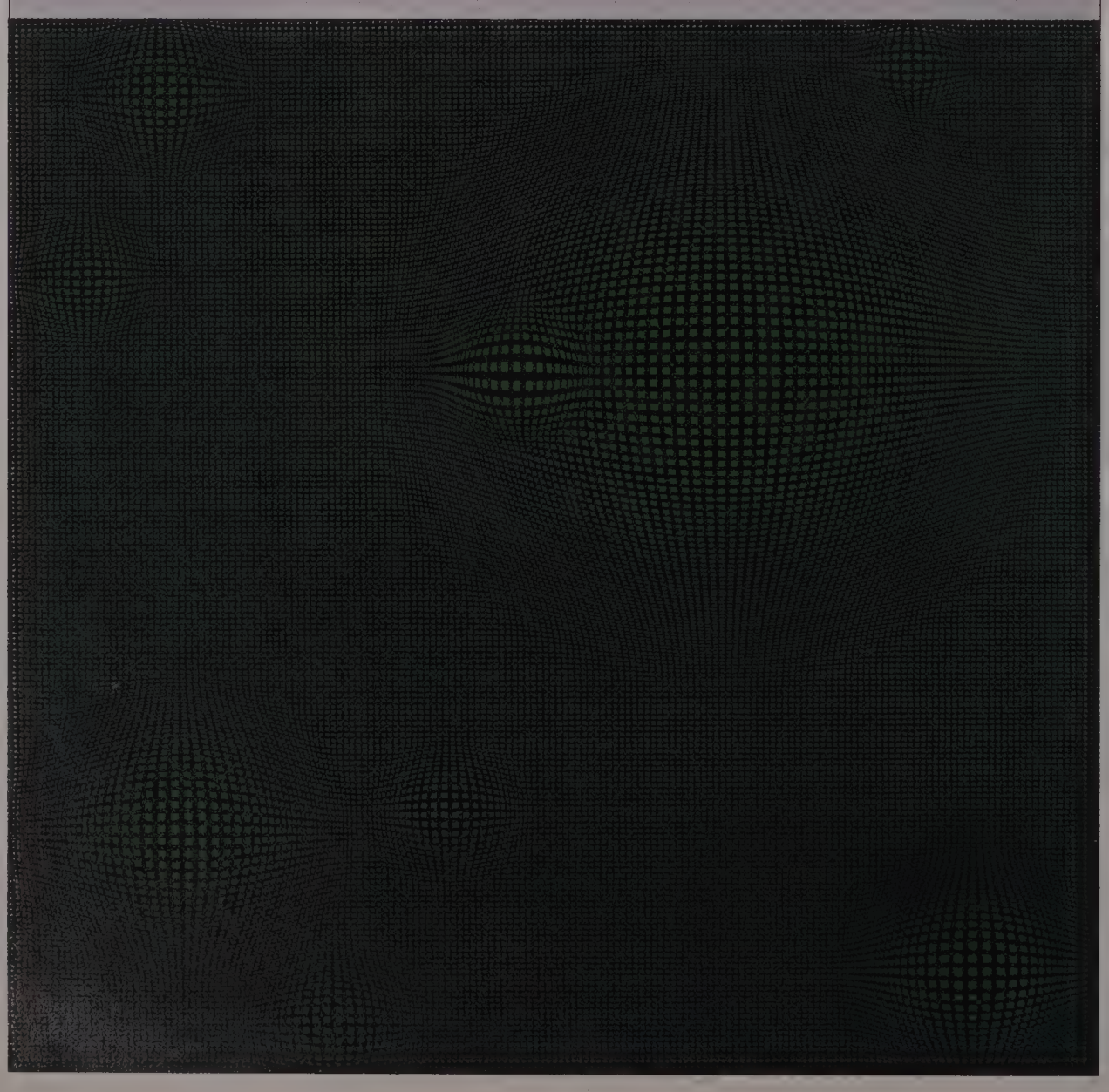
Critics liken her voice to fine wine, and with ample justification. Peters' sultry alto tones have filled local rooms with classic Broadway favorites and inspired audiences to demand encore after encore. Her performance was the talk of the 2004 Boston Cabaret Fest val, and her renditions of songs made famous by th likes of Rosemary Clooney, Vicki Carr and Doris D have put her in a class of her own. (In fact, her ne show, debuting this fall, is a tribute to Doris Day music.) In performance or on her two albums, Pete voice has a timeless quality that evokes the smok rooms and the melancholy torch sound of yesteryea classic performers. With her peerless affinity for th intimate aesthetic of the small stage and pinpoir spotlight, it's no wonder that in 2003, the Indepe dent Reviewers of New England named her the be female cabaret performer of the year. We think it still true in 2005.

NEW YORK TRANSPLANT

Samson Projects

450 Harrison Ave., Storefront 63, Boston, 617-357-7177, www.samsonprojects.com

At one time (namely the late 19th century), Boston was regularly mentioned in the same breath as Paris, Berlin and other international capitals when it came to connoisseurship of contemporary art. Thanks to Samson Projects, we might just be poised to re-enter that league. Owner/director Camilo Alvarez and Newton-born co-founder Alexandra Cherubini have brought their Soho know-how to this South End spot, showcasing the work of artists who are not yet—and might never be—considered buzz-worthy in the mainstream. In other words, they focus on unknown, emerging artists whose work they genuinely admire, rather than trotting out whatever they think might sell. The gallery showcases multimedia works, from film and video to performance art to music, all with the ambitious goal of expanding Boston's art scene, making it less exclusive and more exceptional. We say more power to 'em.



COMEDY ACT

DJ Hazard

www.djhazard.com

Best known for his unique brand of song-oriente schtick, DJ Hazard's instrument isn't the turntable it's the guitar, combined with his razor-sharp wit. H owes some of his acid-tongued ditties to the influenc of fellow Bostonian Tom Lehrer's records from th 1950s—but Hazard's musical approach is less Dr. Joh and more Dr. John Valby (a.k.a. "Dr. Dirty"). Sinc the late 1970s, he's been staking out territory all h own, with bits like "7-11 of Love," "How Do I Ge Away From Me," and (our favorite) "Nads" (from h 1993 album, *Lock Up the Planet When You Leave* Fans who picked up his first album can look forwar to the release of his second, which their kids wi probably enjoy as much as they do.

COMEDY CLUB

The Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market Place, Boston,

617-248-9700, www.comedyconnectionboston.com

This Faneuil Hall laugh factory has seen 'em all, fro Boston's own Joe Rogan, Anthony Clark and Steve Wright to national headliners like Martin Lawrenc Jackie Martling and Bill Bellamy. The excitemer lies in the possibility of catching a comic before he c she shoots to national stardom, since they book con sistently top-flight talent. But the enjoyment lies i laughing until you feel like you might split you seams. The viewer-friendly layout allows for excel lent sightlines, and the endorphin rush that a evening of gut-busting guffaws can provide is wort months on a therapist's couch. An ever-cheerful sta accommodates patrons' every need (especially thos involving alcohol). Quite simply, the most fun yo can have doubled over and getting an ab workout.

COMEDY SERIES

The Great & Secret Comedy Show

Improv Boston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge,

617-576-1253, www.improvboston.com

The Walsh Brothers' approach to making people laug is, to say the least, unconventional, but that's just pa of their M.O. If you've seen Chris and David Walsh a their weekly *Great & Secret Comedy Show*, you know t expect the unexpected. Part sketch comedy, pa stand-up, part Dadaist theater of the absurd, they' difficult to categorize—and, sometimes, even to laug at—but that's because they're pushing the proverbi

elope. The brothers' style has the innovative feel of laborative comedy crossbred with a series of inside es. Anarchic, off-the-wall and definitely not ready for ne time, this pair will have you in stitches one minute l scratching your head the next, which, especially for y $5, beats the hell out of Must-See TV reruns.

CURATOR TO WATCH

James Manning

might not think the job of gallery curator would be ight with peril and uncertainty—but then, you might thinking of someone working at the MFA or the Gard- museum. Independent curators are another breed en- ely. They do it for the love of introducing new art to w audiences—certainly not for the money or the job urity (both of which are rarely part of the equation). et James Manning, 30, independent curator. Manning s long been recognized as the first to bring the atten- n of the art world (as well as the public's eye) to rising ists. He's been in the game for more than 10 years and s overseen the intricate machinations required to ng, install or otherwise bring into existence more than shows at various art galleries, conquering problems h as flooded exhibit spaces, evictions from galleries d, of course, working for free. But he perseveres. He's o earned the support and praise of his peers in the local community, and his stint at the Art Vigor Gallery and llery FX cemented his reputation as a committed and ative force in forging a vital local art scene.

EDGIEST THEATER

Theater Offensive

At the Boston Center for the Arts,
551 Tremont St., Boston, 617 621-6090,
www.thetheateroffensive.org

you go to the theater for light Broadway-style enter- inment, this won't be your cup of tea. But if you go to challenged, provoked, forced to think and perhaps en offended, then you probably already know and ve the Theater Offensive. Dedicated to presenting the ieer experience for any and all who may be interested, eir goal is to make the audience re-examine its views. fact, they don't even limit themselves to willing ewers—many of their programs are "guerilla"-style reet performances, including the currently active "A reet Theater Named Desire." It's worth checking out a heater Offensive show; whether on their home turf or urs, it's guaranteed food for thought.

FRINGE THEATER

SpeakEasy Stage Company

539 Tremont St., Boston, 617-933-8600,
www.speakeasystage.com

heir track record speaks for itself. As renowned for risky, dgy choices as for critical successes, the SpeakEasy regu- rly manages to make daring drama appealing. Touted by he showbiz bible *Variety*, which praised the company's ye (and ear) for offbeat, unsung musicals, its roster this eason exemplified that discerning judgment. *Take Me Out*, a play about a baseball player who comes out of the loset, has earned raves from crowds and critics alike. An- ther innovative production was *Johnny Guitar*—based on 1954 movie in which Joan Crawford chewed up the cenery, resurrected in musical form. With an eye for the maller, overlooked plays and musicals, SpeakEasy's capa- le hands bring any production to life with guts and grace.

HIP-HOP ACT

The Perceptionists

Boston's Best alums Mr. Lif, Akrobatik and DJ Fakts One have been calling themselves the Perceptionists at least as far back as Lif's debut EP, *Enter the Colossus*, where they collaborated on a track called "Avengers." Anyone who's seen Lif and Ak perform on stage together (especially back when *Colossus* came out) knows that no Boston MC (and precious few from anywhere else) can hold a candle to the jaw-dropping chemistry they exhibit, playing off each other like telepathic twins. (Bragging rights for anyone who was there when they opened for KRS-ONE at the Orpheum a couple of years ago.) The addition of DJ Fakts One to the mix, with his mastery on the wheels of steel and virtuosic sonic skill, brings the pot to a boil, as one listen to their "debut" album, *Black Dialogue*, will demonstrate.

TRIBUTE BAND

Ziaf

www.ziaf.com

Most tribute bands have the feel of either a bad wedding or a used CD store. You know the tunes, but it's just not the same as hearing the real thing. Ziaf, on the other hand, takes a boutique approach to the cover-band concept and transcends it entirely. Rather than simply retreading classic songs to the familiar beat, this female quartet has devoted itself to re-creating the pre-post-modern mood, subtle sensuality and Parisian panache of France's favorite chanteuse, Edith Piaf. The band's roots spring from another celebrated local act, All the Queens Men. Some of Ziaf's members belonged to that band, which performed a popular Piaf cover, but it wasn't until they embraced the all-Piaf, all-the-time concept that they really blossomed. Catch this act at various venues around town—from classy joints like Les Zygomates to dives like T.T. the Bear's and everything in between (Lizard Lounge, First Night Boston)—and savor la vie en rose.

JAZZ CLUB

Scullers Jazz Club

400 Soldiers Field Road, Boston, 617-562-4111,
www.scullersjazz.com

Yet again, this comfortable, wood-paneled club takes top honors, thanks to its intimate ambience and the diversity of acts it showcases. On any given night, a true aficionado will find something unusual, and neophytes who just discovered Miles Davis or Stan Getz will feel equally at home. Scullers' booking agent clearly makes a conscious effort to be inclusive; a typical week features mainstream headliners, up-and-comers and avant-garde envelope-pushers. They even re-

CLUB TO SEE LOCAL BANDS

The Midway Cafe

3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-9038, www.midwaycafe.com

It looks less like a café than a dive bar, but never mind. This hidden gem has an appeal similar to Somerville's Abbey Lounge, but it's slightly larger, meaning there's enough elbow room for the band *and* their fans. A veritable nirvana for fans of local music, here's where you'll see bands that aren't trying to make it big, just trying to make it rock. Bush league acts and varsity players alike are welcome, and neither will have trouble feeling comfortable on the intimate stage. There's no pretension or hipster attitude—just good (cheap) beer, smokin' music and good times.

cently hosted a series of Cape Verdean musicians. The sightlines are excellent from almost anywhere you sit, and the sweeping views of the Charles add to the charm. An outstanding place for a hot date with cool music.

KARAOKE

T's Pub

973 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-254-0807, www.tspubboston.com

For years the ugly duckling of college bars, it's blossomed into swan-hood due to that hokiest of Japanese pastimes, karaoke. The Tuesday- and Wednesday-night crowd is kooky and apt to segue from Lynyrd Skynyrd to Kajagoogoo at the drop of a hat. Diehard regulars channel their inner *American Idol* contestant in front of a giant video screen, but newcomers needn't worry: The beer-swilling crowd isn't overly particular. The staff are just as gung-ho about the show (in addition to being described as "hot" by more than one of our judges). If you're going to make an ass of yourself in public, this is the coolest place to do it.

KID-LIKE FUN

TOMB!

186 Brookline Ave., Boston, 617-375-9487, www.5-wits.com

Remember the look on your face when you saw the King Tut exhibition, the awe and amazement at the creepy treasures of his tomb? You can relive that feeling, and then some, stepping into the shoes of Indiana Jones or Lara Croft at this high-tech interactive amusement just outside of Kenmore Square. Quasi-educational and perfect for any outing, from corporate team-building to first date, TOMB's "physically immersive" show/exhibit/experience/walk-through adventure has you searching for treasure/trying to find your way out of a mummy's mausoleum. Check it out before or after the game and get a discount with your Fenway ticket. It's a Disney-quality thrill without the commitment of spending an entire day at an amusement park—and without the lines.

LOCAL ACTOR

Karen MacDonald

This Boston native has seen more stage time in 2004 than many actors do in their entire careers—and deservedly so. The breadth of her talent is evident, shining through a slew of diverse roles at the ART, where her performances—since 1980!—are known to remain in viewers' memories as highlights not just of the show but of the season. In recent years, MacDonald has charmed crowds in *The Miser*, impressed critics in *Dido* and played the title role in *Mother Courage*. And there's more: This thespian's done time behind the scenes as well, directing a pair of one-woman plays. Her range extends not only from comedy to drama, but across state lines as well; performances in Chicago and New Haven have received accolades, as has her work in TV and film. It won't be long before this Boston star is shining nationally.

LOCAL ACTOR TO WATCH

Dorian Christian Baucum

Multiple nominee for (and 2002 winner of) the area's IRNE award (Independent Reviewers of New England), Baucum has classic good looks and stunning dramatic talent that have helped him move from the footlights to the spotlight. Possibly the hardest-working man in Boston show business, this adventurous actor's calendar is solidly booked with role after impressive role: *Yellowman* at the New Repertory Theater and *Blue/Orange* at the Zeitgeist Stage Company at the Boston Center for the Arts; *A Soldier's Play* in March of this year; and *Two Gentlemen of Verona* in 2003. Baucum's scrapbook is packed with rave after critical rave; from Shakespeare to *Spell #7*, his performances have been praised by theater buffs from the cheap seats to the champagne room. With his relentless schedule, odds are you can catch him soon at a theater near you. We suggest you do.

NEW CONCEPT

The Floating Gallery

www.floatinggallery.org

Sure, we'd all like to get out and see more art, but, really, who has the time? The Floating Gallery addresses this lame excuse head-on, by exposing you to art exhibits without incommoding you in the slightest: In fact, you don't even have to leave the comfort of your own home, because, conceivably, it's *in* your home. The brainchild of visionary Kerri McGill, the gallery works with average schmoes (as well as businesses large and small) to install art in a variety of spaces, from apartments, to homes, to offices, to restaurants, to public spaces—giving you the opportunity to be curator for a day. The purpose is to blur the boundaries that separate

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ART HOUSE
Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square, Cambridge, 617-499-1996

www.landmarktheatres.com

For several years in a row now, the Kendall has reigned supreme as the area's best independent theater, reliably offering all kinds of art house and foreign flicks for the adventurous cineaste. Catch them here, now, or wait for them to appear on the Sundance Channel. The cinema for people who like their films with a bit of brains.

BIGGEST LOSS
Copley Theater

So long Loews; Hello, Barneys. This year, the little Loews that was one of the city's few venues to showcase art house and indie films shut its doors, making room for the clothing emporium, which is slated to open next year. Fashion's gain is the film buff's loss.

FESTIVALS
Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-734-2500,

www.coolidge.org

For festivals and novel events, you can't beat the Coolidge. *Rocky Horror Picture Show*? Please. That's soooooo last century. Here, there's something for everyone, with flick fest themes like 3-D films, the Boston Jewish Film Festival, the Boston Independent Film Festival, the New England Film and Video Festival, the New England Animation Bash and the annual Halloween Horror Film Festival.

FOREIGN FILMS
Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St., Cambridge, 617-495-4700,

www.harvardfilmarchive.org

From Directors in Focus to Global Visions and beyond, the HFA's far-reaching scope nets some of the world's best, brightest and most captivating films and filmmakers. This year's series on Japanese director Hirokazu Koreeda was a particular highlight. Next time you hear about a brilliant film that "just never made it to the States," check the schedule at the HFA Web site. Chances are, the movie did make it that far.

SERIES
Loews Boston Common's Fan Favorites
Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St., 617-423-3499,

www.enjoytheshow.com

The Loews Boston Common's Fan Favorites series is a film enthusiast's dream. Each Thursday at 8 pm, theatergoers can catch the latest offering, selected by the theater's patrons themselves—and it's free! (One caveat: You can't just walk in off the street and catch a flick; you must register at www.enjoytheshow.com to get your ticket.) Each month's movies are thematically grouped; July's is Independence Films.

people and art. Ever wonder how it feels to open a show at one of those posh Newbury Street galleries? Well, now you can. Invite your friends, the neighbors, and those snobs from work who think you're a mental pygmy. You're a connoisseur, baby!

NEW THEATER
Zero Arrow Theatre

Arrow Street and Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-547-8300,

www.amrep.org

While it's so new you can still hear the echo of the nails being driven, the ART's black box theater has already made a name for itself as an essential stop on the rounds of drama buffs. Progressive in design and programming, Zero Arrow's stage uses the latest multimedia technology to present cutting-edge contemporary works, like the U.K. teleplay *Olly's Prison*, as well as classics like *Love's Labors Lost* (by another popular English playwright). The space is "intimate" (read: small), so be prepared to get up close and personal with your entertainment—and to impress people someday with anecdotes about the time you saw so-and-so in a 300-seat theater.

NO-FRILLS CLUB
Wally's Cafe

427 Mass. Ave., Boston, 617-424-1408, www.wallyscafe.com

A no-brainer. With nothing but raw character and unvarnished charm, Wally's has been a mainstay for almost 60 years. Live music with no cover is the draw, and Wally's brick walls have seen and heard literally thousands of jazz practitioners, from professional legends to rank amateurs. The club prides itself on being the local "training ground" for new and upcoming jazz acts, and its commitment to providing a stage for young bucks and old veterans is legendary. If you don't like what's on stage one night, just come back the next: It's guaranteed to be different. Whether it's a group of Berklee students jamming or a well-known recording artist honing new material, Wally's is keepin' it real.

RECORD LABEL
Primary Voltage Records

617-791-8432, www.primaryvoltage.com

Once again, Boston is known for its bustling, vibrant music scene, with bands like Mass Hysteria, the Good North and the Information representing on a local (and national) level. Their profiles have received a boost from their supportive, able record label, Primary Voltage. Also home to bands like Baby Strange, the Tint and the Cyanide Valentine, Primary Voltage (PVR to their acolytes) is—as their Web site puts it—"a national force in indie pop music." With their artists' songs turning up on MTV, movie soundtracks and college radio playlists across the country, Boston might just be spawning a scene that the rest of the country will have to sit up and listen to, the way it did in the '70s.

ROCK BAND
Emergency Music

www.emergencymusic.com

The love child of Elvis Costello and Joe Jackson, Emergency Music is the latest group to puncture the boundaries of the local scene and survey the national possibilities. Repping Boston's proud tradition of power-pop (à la the Cars, J. Geils, the Lemonheads and the Sheila Divine), the band is fronted by Jesse Duquette, who crafts shiny pop nuggets as nutritious as they are tasty. Their debut album, *Kiss the Culprit*, has been in heavy rotation on college radio playlists, and acclaim has started to pour in from all corners. Local heroine Mary Lou Lord gushes about them, and they've garnered praise from the global girly site Supercult. Having rocked such prestigious festivals this past year as Texas SXSW and the 'BCN Rock 'n' Roll Rumble, they were even recently mentioned in the *New York Times*' Sunday magazine. Their appeal is obviously broad enough to attract rock fans, pop fans and the latte-sipping bland-oisie, all of which can only mean bigger things in store for this fab foursome.

ROCK CLUB
The Middle East

472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-492-9181,

www.mideastclub.com

Where would Boston's vibrant live music scene be without this august, multifaceted venue? For 35 years now, the Sater brothers (Joseph and Nabil) have welcomed the great, near-great and simply grateful-for-a-Monday-night-gig. From punk rock to hip-hop, indie rock to straight-up noise, the Middle East's stage has hosted a mind-boggling variety of acts and broken more than its fair share of bands that have gone on to fortune and fame. Among the latter: the Pixies, the Lemonheads and the Mighty Mighty Bosstones, as well as more recent vintage headliners like the Dresden Dolls and Mr. Lif, proving that the Middle East keeps its finger on the current musical pulse. The club's expansion in recent years has only served to cement its position as the pre-eminent place to go for music of all stripes (including, yes, the White Stripes). ⊶

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SPORTS

ATTITUDE TURNAROUND
Gary Payton

The man known as the Glove originally threatened not to report to camp if he was traded to the Celtics—he didn't want to leave his family on the West Coast. Eventually, not only did Payton show up, he became a rudder on a team stocked with big egos but without a real leader. The 36-year-old Payton might have been beyond his prime playing years, but he proved he could get the job done, dropping 27 points on the Jazz on Dec. 17 and racking up 13 assists against Atlanta on Jan. 22. He was also part of the bizarre deal that brought Antoine Walker back to Boston, as he was traded to the Hawks, released by the Hawks and re-signed by Boston in about the time it takes Shaq to lace up a sneaker. Maybe it was nostalgia, but we loved our year with the Glove.

BAND OF IDIOTS
Tie: The Red Sox and the NHL

The Red Sox are a bunch of lovable idiots. The NHL are just idiots. Will the Bruins ever suit up again? If the NHL players' union and the league's owners don't figure something out soon, Bruins fans are going to have to get their fix from *Disney on Ice* again next year.

GLASS-HALF-FULL OPTIMISM AWARD
Kevin Millar

The outspoken Sox first baseman told anyone who would listen that the team still had a chance to come back and win the American League Championship Series after three straight losses. He predicted the scenario exactly as it happened: They scratched out Game 4; Pedro and Schilling carried the next two games; and it all came down to an anything-can-happen Game 7. And we all know what transpired then, in what was widely hailed as the most anticipated baseball game of all time. Suffice it to say that the odds of all of this coming true were so remote that, at this point, if Kevin Millar predicted Biblical flooding, we'd start building an ark.

MOUTHFUL
TD Banknorth Garden

OK, so TD Banknorth threw the "Garden" in there, but is anyone actually going to call the Building Formerly Known as the FleetCenter "the Garden"? That'd be like Kate Hudson declaring that she'd changed her name and everyone should call her Goldie Hawn—sure, the new Goldie Hawn looks good, and there's a definite connection to the original, but ultimately she's missing the history. Our guess is that people will keep saying "FleetCenter," thus annoying not one but two giant banks. After all, this is Boston, where people still make plans to see concerts at Great Woods and Harborlights.

MVP
David Ortiz

Everyone remembers Papi's amazing performance in the playoffs, but he also helped the Red Sox reach that point in the first place with his regular-season play. Still, Ortiz's ticket to the Red Sox Hall of Fame has been punched by his unbelievable consecutive extra-innings game-winning hits against the Yankees

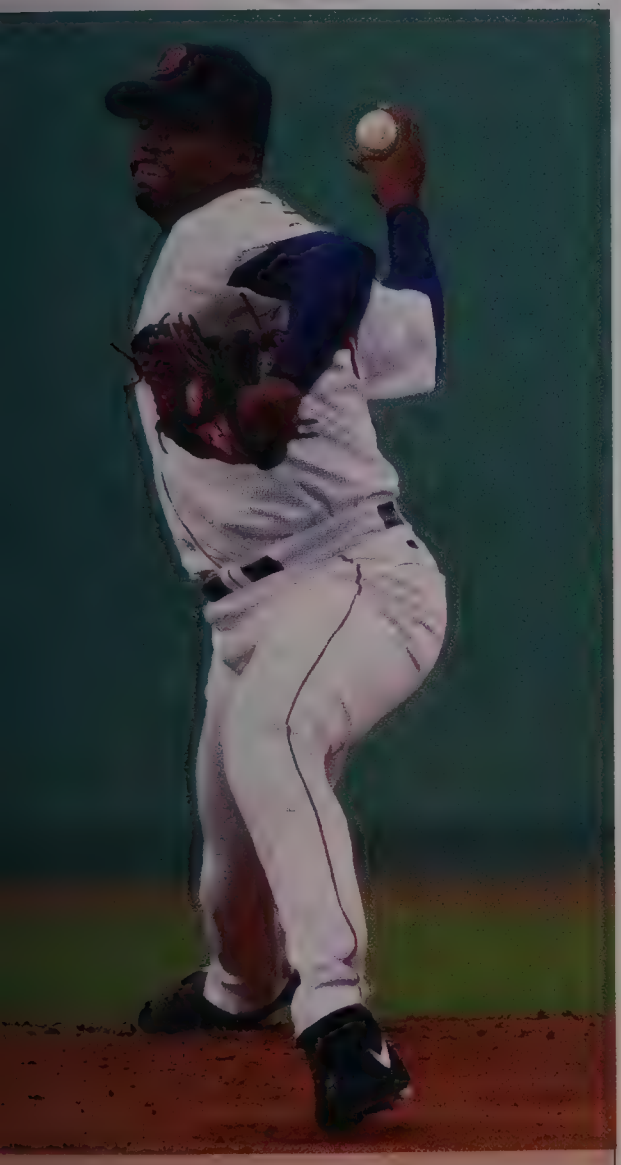
LUCKY CHUMPS
Boston Sports Fans

Three Super Bowl victories in four years. The first Red Sox championship in 86 years. Even our redheaded step-team, the Celtics, have been to the playoffs the past four years. In 2004, Boston had all four pro teams reach the postseason, the only city in the nation to hold that distinction. Sometimes a particular team will get on a roll, like the current Patriots or the late-90s Yankees, but seldom are all of a city's teams so good that they're simply expected to make the playoffs—and in some cases, win it all. All we can say is, enjoy it while it lasts.

he ALCS. To merely call him clutch is like saying nald Trump has a bit of a comb-over. And in a game of y superstars—remember that beloved Teddy Ballgame e flipped the bird to the fans—Ortiz remains a likable . After hitting his fifth career walk-off home run at way on June 2, Ortiz told reporters that coming up h big hits is the only way he can get people to know n. When asked if he really thinks there's anyone in w England who doesn't know who he is, Ortiz replied, aybe a child who was just born today."

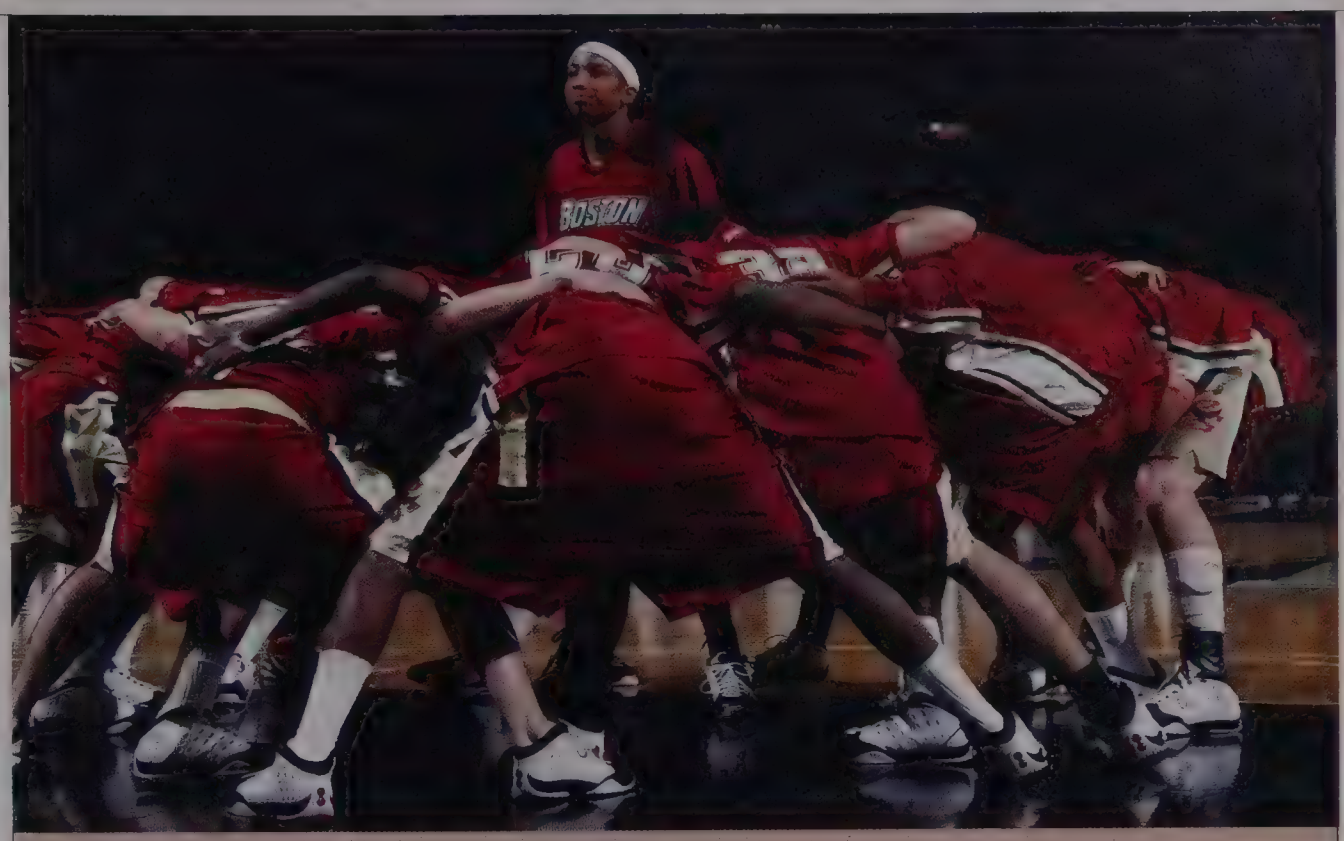
NEW ADDITION
Corey Dillon

e main weakness of the 2003 Patriots was their run-g game. Enter Corey Dillon, who rushed for 244 yards his first two games starting at running back for the Pats l never looked back en route to 1,635 yards, his first per Bowl ring and the second consecutive Patriots mpionship. How important was the man with the st vicious stiff-arm in the NFL? In the first (and really, what should've been the only) game the Pats lost last year, against the Steelers, Dillon was hurt and didn't play. The team rushing total in that game: 5 yards.



TIME-WILL-TELL DEAL
Not Re-Signing Pedro

Thus far, Pedro Martinez is one of the top pitchers in the league, making the Big Unit look like John Wasdin. On June 7, he took a no-hitter into the seventh inning before giving up a solo homer. If he were still with the Sox, he'd certainly have regained his title of ace. But how long will Pedro's body, labrum tear and all, hold up? If the answer is four more years, then the Mets stole him. If the answer is anything less than that, the Red Sox avoided an expensive boondoggle when Pedro balked at their three-year offer and headed south to New York. Who's his daddy? Perhaps Father Time.



BILL MUELLER PLEASANT SURPRISE AWARD
BC Eagles Men's Basketball Team

It's true that the BC Eagles were upset by Wisconsin–Milwaukee in the second round of the 2005 NCAA tournament, but that loss put an end to a season that exceeded all expectations. The Eagles won the first game of the season against Maine on Nov. 19, 2004, and didn't lose until they met Notre Dame for their 21st game, Feb. 8, eventually finishing with a record of 25-5 and a No. 4 seed in the NCAA tourney. Best of all, Al Skinner's overachievers return four of their starting five players for next year, boding well for another bout of March Madness sweeping through Chestnut Hill in 2006.

PLOTLINE WORTHY OF *THE CONTENDER*
The Johnny Ruiz-James Toney Saga

Before his April 30 WBA heavyweight title fight with James Toney, Johnny Ruiz felt the boxing establishment was out to get him. The ref gave him trouble about his beard—never an issue prior to this—just before the fight. And before the fighters even stepped into the ring, Ruiz's trainer, Norman "Stoney" Stone, was reprimanded and warned not to use foul language. The fight lasted 12 rounds, and when the judges' decisions were announced, Ruiz had lost his belt. Immediately after the fight, he retired. But wait! A few days later, whispers came from Ruiz's camp that Toney was too resilient, he shed too much weight just before the fight. Toney was tested for steroids. He failed. He was stripped of his new title, Ruiz got his belt back and, subsequently un-retired, was heavyweight champion again. Cue "Eye of the Tiger."

PUTTING THE "NASTY" IN "DYNASTY"
Rodney Harrison

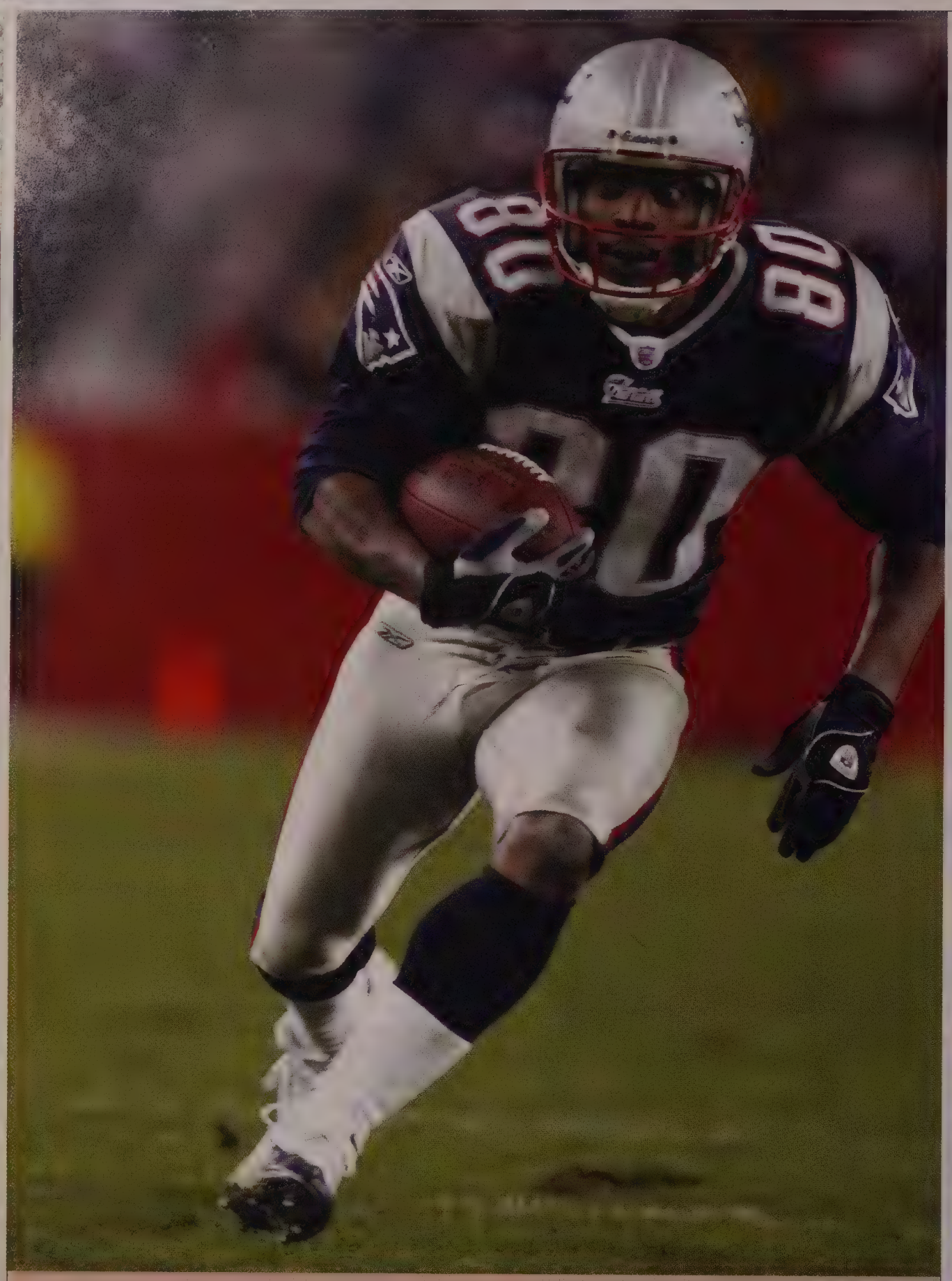
Philadelphia Eagles receiver Freddie Mitchell picked a beef with the wrong guy prior to the Super Bowl, when he claimed he didn't even know Rodney Harrison's name. Why, Freddie Mitchell, why would you want to make this man mad? Last year Harrison led the Patriots with 94 tackles, and we'd bet you wouldn't have wanted to have been on the receiving end of any of them. But if Mitchell didn't know Harrison's name before the Super Bowl, he surely knew it after the game, at which time Harrison had more catches—two interceptions—than Mitchell did (and to think, a guy with a 'frohawk didn't back up his trash-talk). It's looking like the Pats are the team to beat again this year, and challengers looking to take the title are going to have to get past Rodney Harrison first.

ROOKIE
Randall Gay

Gay stepped in for the injured Ty Law and Tyrone Poole and maintained the integrity of the Pats' secondary up to and including the Super Bowl, in which he started at cornerback. One statement of his effectiveness is the fact that the Pats released Law at the end of the season. With nine starts, two fumble recoveries, two interceptions and 29 tackles, the rookie out of LSU must've been one of the Pats' choice draft picks, right? In fact, Gay went undrafted, which is why the team was able to pick him up for a song—he'll make only $310,000 in his second year. Not a bad cap hit for a starting cornerback with a Super Bowl ring.

TRADE
Nomar for Doug Mientkiewicz and Orlando Cabrera

When Theo pulled the trigger last July, children wept across the land. But those children were happy campers come October. Maybe the Sox didn't end their relationship with Man-Cave-Itch on a high note, but if you'd told Epstein in July that the biggest problem with one of his acquisitions would be getting him to return the winning ball from the victorious final World Series game a few months down the road, we don't think he would've had a huge problem with that. Last summer, this trade was widely viewed as the Sox dumping a superstar free-agent-to-be and getting little in return. At press time, Nomar is on the disabled list (again), while Cabrera is batting around .250 for the Angels, and Mientkiewicz... well, he's still a really great fielder.



SECRET WEAPON

Troy Brown

While not regarded as a superstar, Brown played offense and defense to shore up the injury-riddled Patriots on both sides of the ball. If he were any more versatile, the Swiss Army knife would be renamed the Troy Brown knife. On offense, he averaged 10.8 yards per reception and returned punts. On defense, not only did he make 14 tackles and recover two fumbles, he snatched three interceptions, which implies that opposing quarterbacks weren't giving him the respect he deserved. Now that's a secret weapon.

UNLIKELY SAVIOR

Derek Lowe

Among all the subplots of the Red Sox' run to the World Series victory, this is the one we most wish we'd put $100 on in Vegas at the end of September: The unmitigated disaster known as Derek Lowe sealing the clinching victory at each stage of the postseason. Considering that Lowe pitched himself right out of the postseason rotation with a grotesque string of regular-season meltdowns, we're thinking our hypothetical $100 in Vegas would now be enough to retire on. The Red Sox were always the goats of fall; how poetic that the ultimate prize depended on the performance of the biggest goat of the regular season. Thankfully, Lowe saved his best for last.

WHEELS

Dave Roberts

The Red Sox, to put it kindly, are not known for th speed. How strange, then, that the moment t changed the team's history hinged on one man's qui ness on the basepaths. In Game 4 of the ALCS, do 4-3 in the ninth inning, Dave Roberts pulled off most important stolen base—ever?—after multi throws over to first base by Mariano Rivera. Rivera's efforts were for naught. Roberts swiped seco tied the game on a Bill Mueller single and the Red S ultimately swiped the series. ⊷

FEMALE ATHLETE

Danielle Henderson

The Red Sox might not have landed a tall, dominating strikeout pitcher in the off-season last year, but the New England Riptide pro softball team certainly did when they acquired Danielle Henderson from the Arizona Heat. It was a homecoming for the 6-foot-1-inch Henderson, who was the unrivaled ace during her four years pitching for UMass. By the end of her college career, Henderson owned 25 school records, had notched an NCAA-record streak of 105 consecutive scoreless innings and was second on the NCAA career strikeout list, with 1,343. The first player ever in UMass softball history to have her jersey retired, Henderson has picked up where she left off with the Riptide. At press time, her ERA was a stingy 1.31, and during a three-game sweep in June against the California Sunbirds, Henderson pitched 16 innings, allowed one run, struck out 24 and picked up two complete-game victories. But how did she pitch 16 innings, you ask, when softball games last only seven innings apiece? Well, in the other game she also pitched in relief, notching a save. Jennie Finch who?

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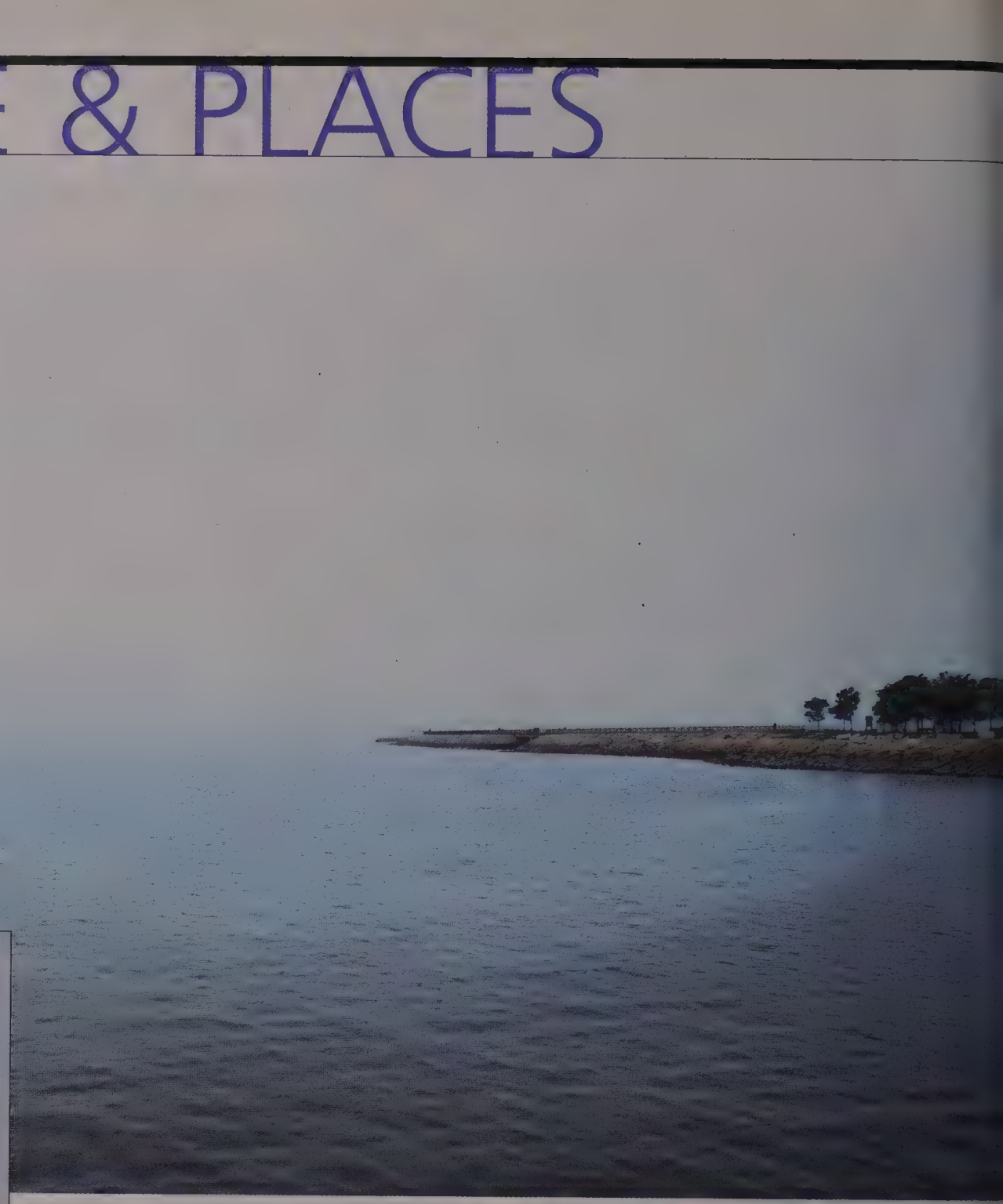
PEOPLE & PLACES



PLACE TO GET ROMANTIC
Castle Island

Steeped in history going back to the American Revolution (and more recently gaining notoriety as a favorite haunt of fugitive gangster Whitey Bulger), Castle Island features an imposing stone fort fronted by a long lawn that rolls down to the water. Throw down a blanket and have a picnic with the fort behind you, the boats and islands in front of you and the grass beneath you. Sounds romantic, no? As an added bonus, the spit of land supporting the fort curls out around the Harbor far enough that part of it faces west, allowing a rare opportunity in Boston: the chance to watch the sun set over the water—with the city behind it. Kitesurfers and windsurfers also favor the bay adjacent to Castle Island, often adding a colorful backdrop to the tableau. If you can't get someone to make out with you here, you should probably get checked for halitosis.

AWESOMELY IRONIC RESIGNATION
Director of the State Department of Labor, Angelo Buonopane

In the "you can't make this stuff up" file goes the story of Angelo Buonopane, the former director of the State Department of Labor, who resigned April 5, two days after the *Boston Globe* busted him for excessive slacking. It seems that Buonopane wasn't so hot at directing himself to do much labor. As the *Globe* noted, by April he'd already put in for 18 vacation days, six sick days and three personal days. During the eight workdays in which the *Globe* followed him, Buonopane spent between 1 hour 46 minutes and 3 hours 29 minutes on the job. For this, he was paid $108,000 per year. So have a laugh, but watch out for that guy with the notebook and camera sitting near your table during your next three-martini lunch.

CREATION OF A NEW NEIGHBORHOOD BY A PR COMPANY
SoWa (South of Washington Street)

What the hell is SoWa? It's the South End, partner. But it's a particular part of the South End formerly known as "the scary part between Washington Street and the highway." But now it's hip, see, because it has a cool name. Also it's less scary than in years past, but c'mon, do we really have to rename everything all the time? Yes? OK, Chinatown is now ChiTo (pronounced "Cheeto"). Back Bay is BeeBee. Beacon Hill is BeHi, and Somerville is now the ultrahip SoVi. Cambridge is the University District, the Fenway is Baseballtown. Now somebody please send us a check for all that rebranding work we just did.

KENDALL SQUARE, PART II
Seaport District

So much potential going down the drain...the Seaport District is like the urban-planning equivalent of Vin Baker's basketball career. It could've been great—all that open land, right on the harbor—but so far, what we're getting is Kenmore Square–style "superblocks": whole blocks dominated by a single, monolithic building, the antithesis of the mixed-use neighborhoods that make places like, say, Centre Street in Jamaica Plain or even Charles Street in Bea con Hill so vibrant. Instead, we have a gigantic cor vention center, a gigantic hotel, a gigantic insuranc building...and plenty of gigantic parking lots. O well. We'll still visit the area a few times a year whe Harpoon opens their doors for a party.

LOCAL AUTHOR
Jennifer Haigh

Most authors, if they dare to dream of writing a crit cally acclaimed, best-selling novel, would expect tha it would take time and perhaps a few smaller successe before hitting it big. But Jennifer Haigh, a product o the Iowa Writers' Workshop who now lives o Boston's South Shore, hit it out of the park with he debut novel, *Mrs. Kimble*, a story of three women wh marry the same man, which won the PEN/Heming way Award for outstanding first fiction. Her secon novel, *Baker Towers*, is also receiving critical acclaim showing that Haigh is not only for real, but is per haps, as she was called by the *Fort Worth Sta Telegram*, "the next great American author."

MIXED EMOTIONS
The Big Dig

It's a basic fact that you never hear anything abou the Big Dig anymore unless something goes wrong and unfortunately that means you hear about it al most every day. Leaky walls, faulty insulation, furthe

15 MINUTES OF FAME

Geoff Hargadon, a.k.a. "Hargo"

The Somerville financial advisor and artist vaulted to international fame when his miniature send-up of Christo's "Gates"—tiny orange gates he constructed out of materials purchased at Home Depot and arranged to mark paths walked by his cat—attracted a bit more attention than he'd expected. In fact, he had to shut down his Web site after it received 4 million hits and his service provider began charging him for the traffic. Hargomania crested Feb. 24, which Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone declared "Hargo Day" in Somerville. Said Curtatone, "Hargo Day was established to recognize the human capacity for appreciation, wonder and awe that can be achieved when small plastic things are arranged in a certain order near and around a cat."

revelations about cover-ups during the construction process—never has the general public been so well informed on slurry walls. But can we just throw a little reminder out there? When the Big Dig is working properly, it's fantastic. OK, it's got some issues. But would you rather still be sitting in a traffic jam on the gangrenous, overburdened monstrosity that was the old Central Artery? Or wandering through a scary, shadowy labyrinth of rusting girders to get to the North End? Bear with the Big Dig, brothers and sisters, for it may have its faults, but at least we got the rest of the country to pay for most of it.

MOST UNDERUTILIZED RESOURCE

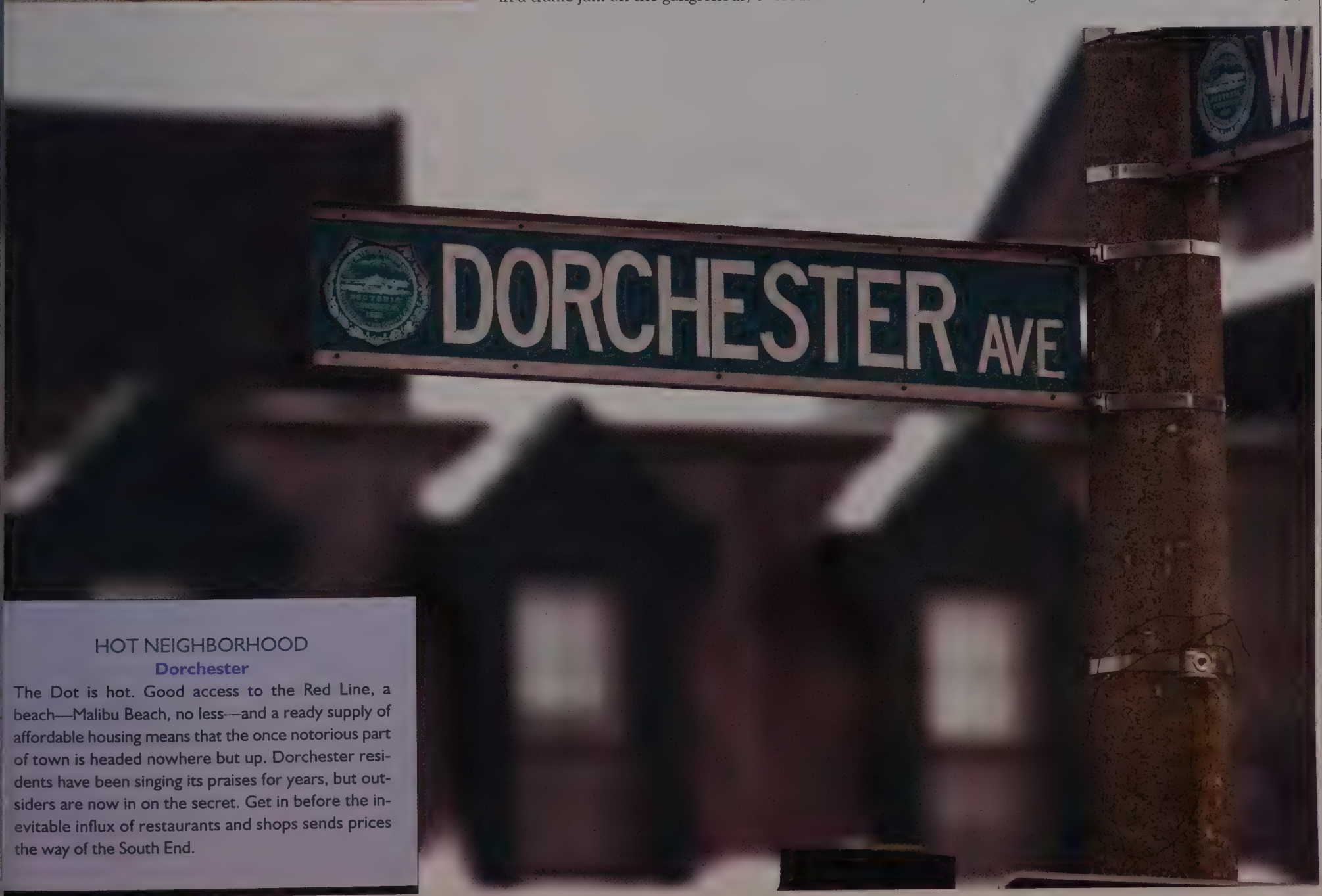
Southie Beaches

Hey Beacon Hillion, where ya gonna go when you're stuck in the city with the urge to slather on the suntan lotion and park your arse on some sand? You're probably thinking you'll need to head to Cohasset or Gloucester to find a suitable beach: You're wrong. Just off Exit 15 on Route 93 (or a trip down Summer Street from South Station) awaits exactly what you're looking for. You want a beach that's about a mile long? Got it. A beach with volleyball nets and a snack bar? Got it. A protected bay with water slightly less frigid than the ocean? L Street Beach has all that. C'mon, they bothered to clean up the Harbor so that it's no longer poisonous—you may as well take advantage. Another plus over many of the North and South Shore spots: This being Southie, numerous bars exist just blocks away to duck out of the sun and put away a burger with a pint or two of Guinness. Call it the Southie Beach Diet.

PARTY THAT WASN'T

Kerry Victory Party at Copley Square

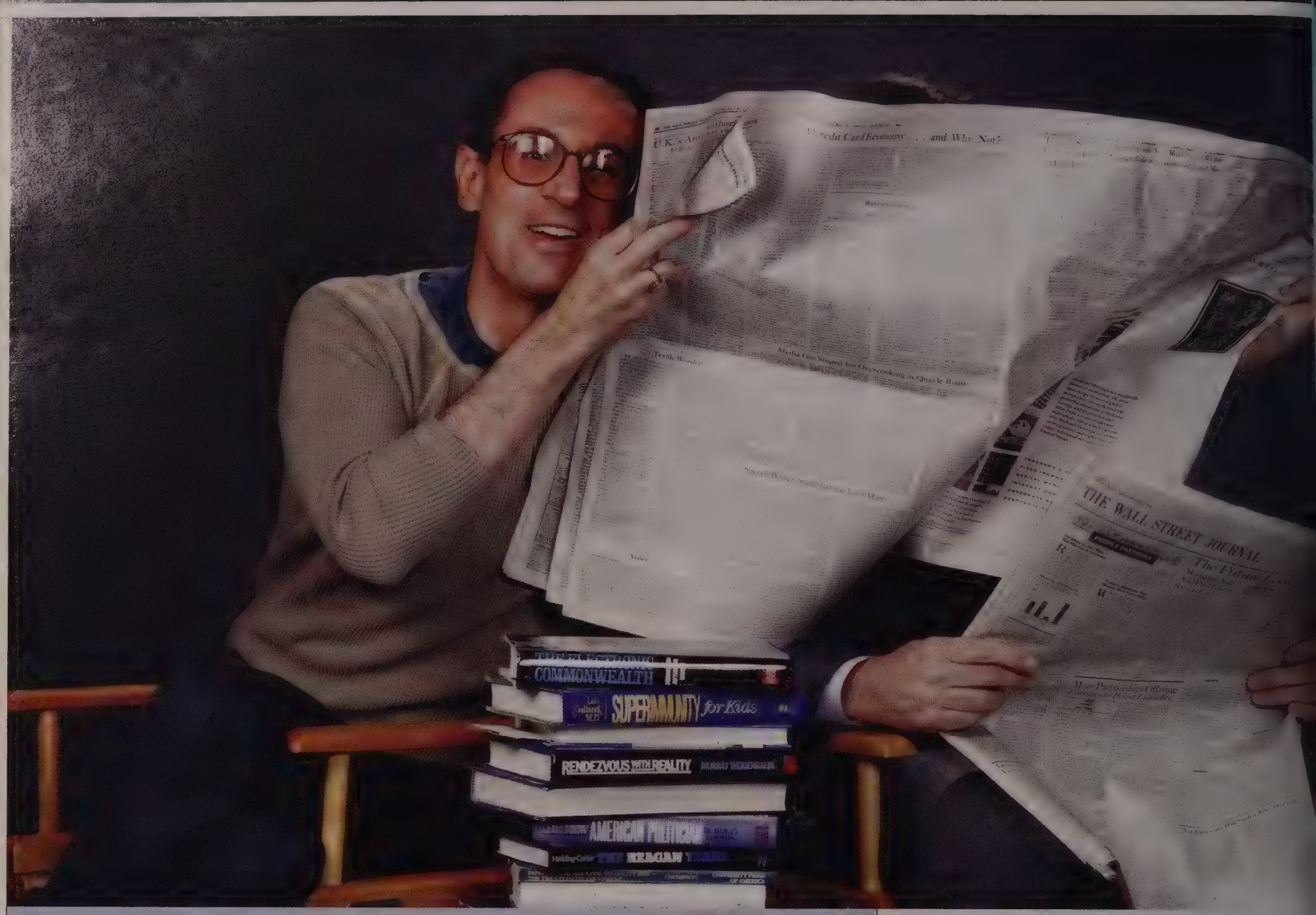
The throng of supporters in Copley Square waited hours for that triumphant moment when their man would walk out and declare triumph. But as the results rolled in—slowly—and the night wore on, it became increasingly



HOT NEIGHBORHOOD

Dorchester

The Dot is hot. Good access to the Red Line, a beach—Malibu Beach, no less—and a ready supply of affordable housing means that the once notorious part of town is headed nowhere but up. Dorchester residents have been singing its praises for years, but outsiders are now in on the secret. Get in before the inevitable influx of restaurants and shops sends prices the way of the South End.



MOST MISSED
David Brudnoy

New England's top-rated radio talk show host lost his battle with cancer at age 64 last December, and Boston lost more than a radio show. David Brudnoy's program was broadcast on WBZ NewsRadio since 1986, and he stuck with it to the very end. Brudnoy's determination was an inspiration to the seriously ill. Diagnosed with HIV in 1988, he went into a coma for nine days in 1994 and subsequently described the experience on his show. His death not only brought an end to the show, but it signifies the decline of a personal style that's fallen out of favor in the talk-radio world: that of the likable host, a person who dispenses often controversial opinions but can also listen to his guests' points of view and engage in a constructive discussion, instead of shouting down anyone who dares issue a competing idea. Brudnoy was living on borrowed time for many years, but he made the most of it, and Boston is a better place for that.

clear that John Kerry committed the ultimate victory-bash party foul: failing to actually secure victory. So instead of Kerry, the loyal Dems still standing in the wee hours got a quick howdy from John Edwards, who said something to the effect of, "We lost, so you may as well hit the nearest bar and attempt to drink away the realization that your worst fears have come to pass. Oh, wait... the bars are closed. Sorry to disappoint you even further." That night, would-be partiers in Copley Square went home in a truly blue state.

PARTY YOU WEREN'T INVITED TO
The *Fever Pitch* Opening Party

In this city, our athletes are the biggest celebrities. So when you throw a party that combines jock royalty—Tom Brady and Johnny Damon, to name two—actual Hollywood celebs and a movie premiere by the Farrelly Brothers, you've got the makings for a major throwdown. The opening party for *Fever Pitch* filled the bill, with stars Drew Barrymore and Jimmy Fallon hobnobbing with the World Champion Red Sox April 6 at Fenway Park, in celebration of a movie that incorporated the real-life World Series win into the story. Unfortunately, unless your name was Farrelly, Werner or Papi, you probably weren't there to see it in person. And, unlike some annual highbrow parties, this gala was one-of-a-kind.

PIRATES OF THE HIGH ROOFS
The Treasure-Finding Roofers

One day, Methuen roofers Tim Crebase and Barry Billcliff were on *Good Morning America* talking about how they found a stash of antique bills valued at $125,000 buried in a friend's backyard. The next day, they had to cancel their appearance on *Jimmy Kimmel Live* because they had a more pressing appointment—with jail. An anonymous tip alerted police that the story of finding 1,800 banknotes dating back to 1899 while digging in Crebase's yard (Yes, you read that right: One time they claimed that the loot was in a friend's yard and another time that it was in Crebase's yard. Oh, what a tangled web we weave...) was bunk, and Crebase eventually confessed to investigators that the money was stolen from a barn they were working on. Police said that the money probably could've been quietly sold without arousing suspicion, but the thirst for attention did the looters in, as each man told slightly different stories over successive interviews, and neighbors said they'd never seen anyone digging in the yard. Call it the case of publicity killing the cat.

PLACE TO BREAK UP
Jose McIntyre's Block Party

OK, we'll qualify this: You wouldn't want to end a relationship of a year or longer here. That would be asking for very public trouble. But a couple-monther? Sure. Here's why: It's loud, crowded and there's guaranteed to be beer for sale within 50 feet of wherever you're standing. So you can say what you need to say without being overheard, the mass of humanity will serve as a counter to any public histrionics from the jilted party and both of you will be in the mood to drown your sorrows the old-fashioned way—with lots of booze and literally hundreds of members of the opposite sex from which to choose your rebound. So get to it. ➳

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BUSINESS COLUMNIST
Steve Bailey, *Boston Globe*

In the old days, a newspaper writer like Steve Bailey might have been called a "muckraker." Today, he's the whistleblower on Boston's business community. Bailey digs up tales of the good (civic-minded State Street Corporation); the bad (Gillette CEO Jim Kilts, a.k.a. "King Kilts," who's laughing all the way to the bank after selling out to Procter & Gamble at the expense of his employees); and the hypocritical (Reebok CEO Paul Fireman who "has spent years and millions telling us what a socially conscious company he runs," while "glorifying violence by getting into bed with 50 Cent." Reebok aired an ad this past spring featuring a 50 Cent rap that asks, "Who you planning to massacre next?"). Bailey urges Boston's business community to find its better self, and we're all a little richer for it.

EXAMPLE OF BOSTON FALLING OFF THE MEDIA MAP
The *Atlantic Monthly* Goes South

We hardly noticed when *Fast Company* decamped for Manhattan. We looked the other way when the *Times* swallowed the *Globe*. We maintained a stiff upper lip as Boston's media holdings disappeared. It took the news that the *Atlantic* would be relocating to Washington, D.C., to make us feel we were losing a lot more than a magazine. Even David Bradley, the *Atlantic*'s owner, has been sincerely apologetic and visibly distressed. So are we. Bradley can hardly be blamed for trying to stem his losses, but the move robs this city of a cultural icon and ambassador. Since its birth in Boston's former Old Corner Bookstore in 1857, the *Atlantic* has been as much a product of this city as the *New Yorker* is a reflection of NYC—and its loss should be the talk of our town.

EXAMPLE OF PAINFUL PAPER CUTS
Downsizing at Boston's Daily Newspapers

The *Boston Globe* and *Boston Herald* certainly aren't the only dailies forced to compensate for lost readership and revenue through staff reductions. Newspapers nationwide have had their share of staff shrinkage. Yet those cuts have never seemed as visible as they have in the past year. Even the (still) financially successful *Globe* announced in May that it was axing more than 50 jobs. The *Herald*, fighting for its survival, has lost marquee players like Beverly Beckham and Mike Barnicle, as well as much of its vaunted sports staff. In light of those cuts, you have to wonder whether Boston will remain one of the few major U.S. cities with two daily newspapers or will lose another of the institutions that makes us unique.

EXAMPLE OF A RADIO REVOLUTION
"Mike" and Other DJ-Free Formats

If video killed the radio star, technology is threatening to drive a stake through its heart. Just as viewers are abandoning television in favor of video games, the Internet and other more active forms of entertainment, radio is losing its audience to satellite technology, MP3s and various technical innovations. With its audience doing the iPod shuffle from personality-driven commercial radio to do-it-yourself-DJ, what's a programmer to do? Meet "Jack," an ironically named radio format that's sweeping the nation. Locally, you hear its influence in the WBOS morning show, which recently dumped DJs for wall-to-wall music, and on the former Star 93.7, which took the plunge and adopted a 24/7 automated format called "Mike." Is this attack of the killer robots a fleeting phase or the end of radio as we know it? Will Boston like Mike? Stay tuned…

SPORTSWRITER
Howard Bryant, *Boston Herald*

Even with the recent cuts in its once-dominant sports department, the beleaguered *Boston Herald* still maintains one decided advantage over the *Globe*: sportswriter Howard Bryant. A Dorchester native with no allegiance to his home team, Bryant got into the newspaper business to cover politics and became a sportswriter to do research for a book. *Shut Out: A Story of Race and Baseball in Boston* was as much about the former as the latter. Sports has always been about more than wins and losses, scores and trades. It's the human element—the agony and the ecstasy—that makes sporting events metaphors for our lives, and Bryant never fails to notice this, consistently finding the human stories that readers relate to. Bryant approaches his subject not just with a fan's enthusiasm but with the critical eye of a reporter and the natural curiosity of a documentarian. In a city where sports is often the big story, Bryant is its most valuable player.

LIVING ARTS COLUMNIST
Renee Graham, *Boston Globe*

Renee Graham is the queen of media literacy, a critic who can review the latest Bob Dylanesque musician (Bright Eyes) and the original himself, *Fever Pitch* and South Korean cinema, Aimee Mann and Ashlee Simpson, all with equal passion and authority. Graham uses entertainment as a springboard for the kind of social commentary usually reserved for the op-ed pages. Seldom are her views predictable—or black and

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MEDIA HARDBALL

The *Herald* Tries to Block the *New York Times* from Buying the *Metro*

You've got to hand it to Patrick Purcell. On the surface, it might seem a tad hypocritical for the publisher of the *Boston Herald*, four other daily newspapers and more than 95 weeklies to play the victim in the game of media monopoly. Yet Herald Media's attempt to block the *Boston Globe*'s owner, the *New York Times*, from acquiring a 49 percent share in Boston's *Metro* was a move worthy of Purcell's mentor in business and politics, Rupert Murdoch, from whom he purchased the *Herald*. Lesson One: Argue free market until you can claim antitrust. Lesson Two: Anything to tweak the liberal media. Lesson Three: Any publicity is good publicity. Sure, it was ultimately an unsuccessful Hail Mary, but you've got to give Pat his props for finding new ways to make headlines.

TIME TO STOP THE PRESSES

The New York Times Co. Buys Share in the *Metro* as the Weekly Is Charged with Racism

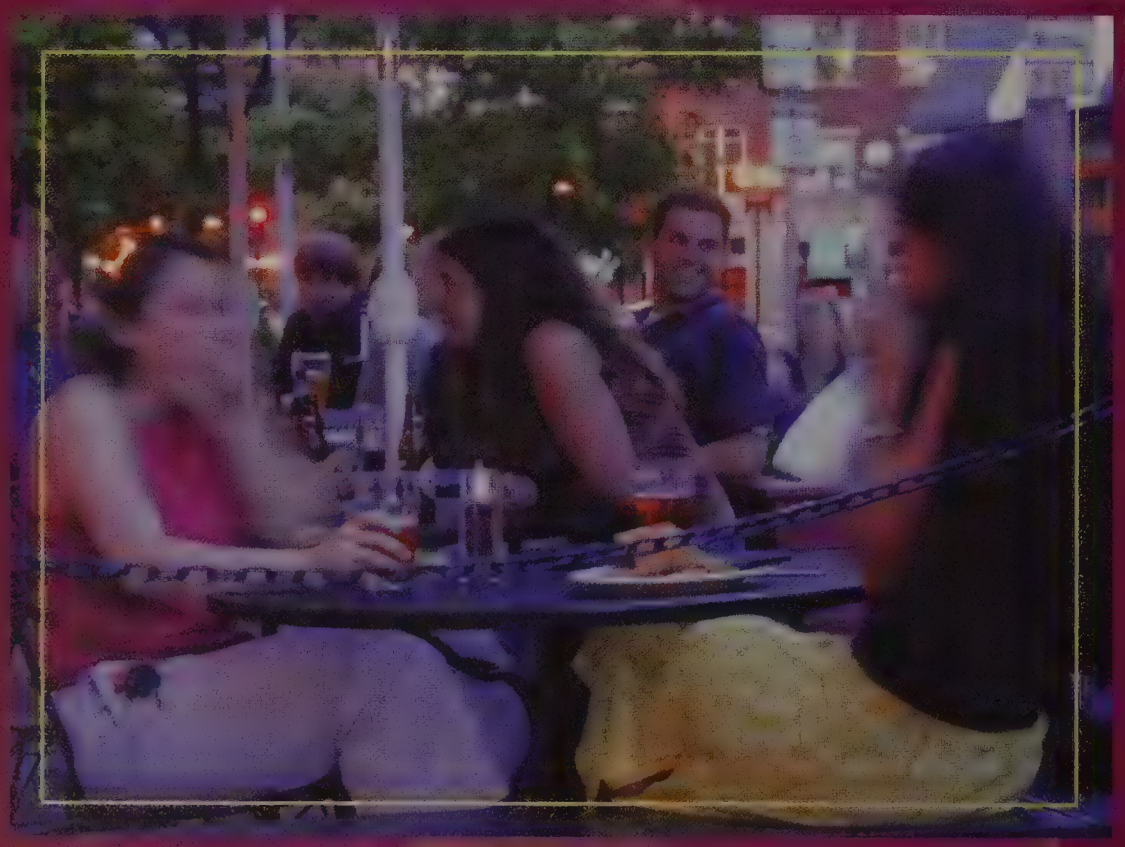
The script had been written from the day the story broke that two executives of an international media company had uttered racist remarks at company meetings. *Boston Globe* owner the New York Times Co., in the midst of acquiring a stake in the free commuter newspaper *Metro Boston*, would express indignation and promise a full investigation. The executives who made the remarks would offer ceremonial resignations. The *Boston Herald*, seeking to block the sale on antitrust grounds—or at least sell newspapers and tweak its competition—did its own investigating. Community leaders would demand accountability. In the end, the *Metro* would institute sensitivity training; the *Herald* would return to fighting for its own survival; the boycott threatened by community leaders would never materialize; and the *Times*, publicly stating it had concluded there was nothing rotten at the *Metro*, would discover what it means to be a minority in Boston, purchasing a 49 percent share of the paper.

white. Graham is as likely to chide the hip-h community for trivializing voter awaren campaigns with inane squabbles as she is Hol wood for "the racial myopia it smugly belie only afflicts its audience." Writing about Je nifer Lopez, Graham notes that following t actress' ascension to stardom, Graham's un predicted that "audiences would never ag see her paired with a black actor, like Wesl Snipes in *Money Train*." Lopez's next roman leads? Ralph Fiennes, Ben Affleck a Matthew McConaughey. Life imitates art in tates life; in Renee Graham's insightful wor it's all one and the same.

LOCAL TV NEWS ANCHOR

Lisa Hughes, CBS4

Since her arrival in Boston five years ag CBS4's Lisa Hughes has managed to simult neously fit in and stand out—no easy task f someone lacking local roots. Until recentl Hughes had to compensate for her co-a chor's lack of any discernable personality (pulse), but freed up by an infusion of ener from new co-anchor Josh Binswanger, Hugh seems more relaxed and confident than eve It probably doesn't hurt that there's a ne partnership behind the scenes as well: Ph tographer Michael Casey popped the questio on the roof of 100 Beacon Street, offering fitting view of a city in which Hughes h quickly become a fixture, and the pair ma ried in May.



LOCAL TV NEWS SPORTSCASTER
Bob Lobel, CBS4

er the years, the dean of Boston sports television has come as much of an icon as those he covers. His professional accomplishments include a strong rapport with players, coaches and management, and a genuine identification with the fans. What of his demeanor, which his attorney describes as "breezy?" Well, cartoonist Darby Conte got slapped with a sobering lawsuit in May for implying that Lobel was drunk while on-air. Could we do with fewer on-camera cameos by his galpals? That's an emphatic yes. But his critics would do well to acknowledge that after a quarter-century at Channel 4, the man is still at the top of his game.

REASON WE LIKE "MIKE" BUT WE (STILL) LOVE MATTY
Matty in the Morning, WXKS-FM Kiss 108

the battle between the anonymous "Mike" (see "Example of a Radio Revolution") and the legendary Matty, round one goes to the veteran DJ. Sure there are some ticks we wish would just shut up and play the music, but after nearly a quarter-century (gulp!), Matt Siegel has demonstrated why personalities still matter in radio. Last November's launch of the annual "Matty Awards" honoring the best moments of the show (Best Musical Guest: Dave Matthews Band; Best Celebrity Interview: Tom Cruise) is a reminder of Matty's cool quotient. Another radio show paying tribute to itself might seem self-indulgent, but categories like "Best Billy in Drag" (sidekan Billy Costa in a wedding dress nudged out his Carmen Miranda getup) kept the shameless self-promotion in check. (Full disclosure: The IMPROPER was a co-sponsor of the awards.) If the disc jockey really is headed for extinction, we want to do our part to preserve the great ones.

SCOOP
Boston Globe Breaks a Leak

Can a story be called a "scoop" when the lead falls into the reporters' laps? Yes, if the tip was earned through respect for the reporters. Sean P. Murphy has been an investigative reporter for the *Globe* since 1987; and Raphael Lewis, who often covered transportation for the paper, became its Big Dig beat reporter in 2001. The two spent a year documenting mind-blowing mismanagement resulting in more than a billion dollars in Big Dig cost overruns. Their acclaimed 2003 series "Easy Pass" convinced retired judge Edward M. Ginsburg, leader of the state's independent legal team for cost recovery due to shoddy work on the project, to spearhead legal efforts tackling the Big Dig contractors. In 2004, Murphy and Lewis broke the story of a "massive leak" in a Big Dig wall section and "more than 400 other leaks" in the tunnel system. Turnpike officials, they reported, were informed as early as 2001 about the leak, yet took little action to make sure the gash was properly repaired. That revelation, and the paper's subsequent coverage of the "The Big Drip," are a testament to what a little old-fashioned digging can do.

USE OF LOCAL AIRWAVES
WUMB-FM, UMass Boston

The year was 2001, and Christopher Lydon was shopping for a new home for his talk show. Following a very public dismissal as host of WBUR's *The Connection*, Lydon pitched a number of stations, including WUMB, a public radio station at UMass Boston, which turned him down. As media critic Dan Kennedy wrote in the *Boston Phoenix* in 2001, WUMB's general manager had concerns about disrupting the station's format. "With no disrespect for folk music," Lydon said, his show would've "put that station and that university into the general conversation, where some people think it belongs." Apparently, some people thought it was already there. With a passionate on-air staff and an eclectic mix of traditional and contemporary acoustic music, WUMB has carved out a niche as America's only full-time folk station, while live streaming has extended its reach to an international audience. And Lydon? He finally returned to public radio with *Open Source* on WGBH-FM. Guess it's all a matter of the right connection.

USE OF STARBUCKS AND A RED BULL CHASER IN JOURNALISM
Ed Harding, Anchor, WCVB-TV 11 pm and 5 am News

Is Ed Harding the poster boy for NoDoz or just the ultimate team player? Either way, the co-anchor of WCVB's EyeOpener edition, from 5-7 am daily, is every news (and promotions) director's dream. Chosen to co-anchor the station's high-profile 11 pm news show *Newscenter 5 Late* after a national 17-month search, Harding, who began his career with WCVB as a sports reporter in 1988, opted for double-duty, attracting national media attention for his stamina. With Harding getting only three hours' sleep between shifts, the experiment seemed destined to be short-lived, yet come November, the 51-year-old Newton native will have kept up his marathon pace for a year. With WCVB's improved ratings at 11 pm, the big question is whether the iron anchor is in it for the long run. ⟶

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ADVICE FOR BU

Stay Out Of Biotech

Once, Boston University could rely on former president John Silber to offend people on a semi-regular basis. But even without him, BU is doing a good job of making enemies in Boston's neighborhoods. The latest conquest is the South End, where BU wants to build a Level 4 Biosafety Lab to study infectious agents that could be used as weapons and, naturally, ways to counter such efforts. The university says the lab is a key part of the homeland defense picture and that those using the infectious agents inside will be trained professionals. But the university also gave critics plenty of ammunition to use against it when it was revealed that an earlier exposure by researchers to the infectious disease tularemia was a result of the lab not following proper safety precautions. The gentrified South End is up in arms, but they're not the only ones angry. A citizen's group in Watertown—"just 8 miles away," the group noted in a letter to the editor—has pushed for legislation to have the state heavily regulate the lab.

ATTEMPT AT STARTING OVER

Stemberg to Highland Capital

Tom Stemberg walked away from Staples, the company he founded and built into a $5 billion office-supply empire. He's taken refuge at a Lexington venture capital firm, Highland Capital Partners, but there's no hiding from the glare of the spotlight once it's locked onto you. Divorcing a company is one thing; divorcing a spouse quite another, and Stemberg's finding that while divorcing Staples will prove lucrative thanks to millions in stock options, ending his marriage is proving messy and expensive. Stemberg's second wife has accused him of adultery in divorce proceedings. She stands to gain millions of dollars in stock options and other payments Stemberg secured while at Staples. (The papers have duly reported all that, and the fact that Stemberg's new girlfriend may be pregnant with Stemberg's child.) It's enough to make a chairman of the board want to find a place to hide. But as usual, there's more to the story. Stemberg has recently begun talking and he says he didn't leave his chairman's role of his own accord, but at the urging of some key board members.

BIGGEST CRASH

Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault

Law firms have traditionally been bastions of consistency, conservative institutions that clients depend upon to change at a glacial pace, if at all. That's what makes the departures from Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault all the more surprising to the legal and business communities. The firm was far from alone in seeing shrinkage. The cold water of the dot-com bubble had that effect on many a law firm that grew exponentially helping to manage tech IPOs. Still, for a while, Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault seemed to be hemorrhaging lawyers at an alarming rate, by some published accounts as many as 150 between 2000 and 2004. Observers said the firm's culture, including the way it paid its best lawyers, played a role in the departures, which apparently included a dozen partners, most of whom set up shop—and in some cases entire departments—in rival Boston firms. The firm has insisted all along that things aren't as bad as they've been made out to be, and has recently said to be experiencing growth again in both billings and staff levels.

BIGGEST SALE (LITERALLY)

Gillette

A $57 billion acquisition is a big deal no matter how you slice it. But for Boston, it's even bigger when the business being acquired is considered part of the local fabric. Such is the case with Gillette being bought by Procter & Gamble, a business based in—gulp—Cincinnati. Didn't we just get used to calling the home of the three-time Super Bowl champs Gillette Stadium? But more important, Gillette has been a fixture in South Boston for generations. The politicians have pounded the table and P&G has tried to smooth ruffled feathers by promising to invest $200 million to beef up the Southie plant. But Gillette's important because this isn't exactly an isolated incident. Like John Hancock and Fleet before it, Gillette being sold represents the sea change in Boston business. Let's face it: The next big Boston-based company may well be one we haven't even heard of yet, but it will probably do something a lot more interesting than sell razors.

BIGGEST EXECUTIVE WINDFALL

James Kilts of Gillette

There are golden parachutes and then there are golden parachutes. The one handed to James Kilts, the CEO of Gillette, on his way out the door after the Procter & Gamble merger was jewel-encrusted. Just how sweet it is—that's harder to pin down. The *Boston Globe* commissioned a consultant to figure that out and came up with a figure of $173 million, but that was before Procter & Gamble granted the executive an additional block of stock options. Whether Kilts is paid too much is another matter, of course, and depends on your perspective. To many in the business world, he's a hero for turning around Gillette. To many in Boston, he's, well, you can fill in your own description. Let's just say the hometown crowd never really warmed to Kilts. Perhaps it's because he cut Gillette's payroll from the moment he took the reins. Or because he never uprooted from his home in Rye, New York, to run the Boston-based company. Whatever the reason, the payday reignited debate about how much CEOs are really worth and ticked off enough people in power—including Secretary of State William Galvin—to make Kilts sweat it out a bit.

CEO

Charles Baker

Harvard Pilgrim doesn't make nearly the headlines it did five years ago. But if you're one of the millions of people who rely on the company for your health care coverage, that's probably a good thing. Baker was tapped to lead Harvard Pilgrim in 2000, when it was fresh off losing $227 million in 1999 and at a time when the papers carried nearly daily missives about whether it could survive. Within weeks of his hiring, the nonprofit was placed into receivership by the state and the hand-wringing over the future of the medical care industry cranked up a notch. But a

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BIGGEST BUST

Democratic National Convention

They say money is the lifeblood of politics. If so, the city of Boston needed a transfusion after the Democratic National Convention left town last summer. Heading into the DNC, predictions were that Boston could see as much as $163 million in economic benefit from the five days of delirious donkey debauchery. Alas, once the dust had settled, the Beacon Hill Institute calculated the actual figure at less than $15 million. It wasn't that the liberals, or the centrists for that matter, didn't spend liberally. They were apparently more than generous. But the city's scare campaign about potential traffic tie-ups scared the bejeezus out of people who live and work in the city, keeping regular commuters and their wallets away. On the upside, the organizers did raise more money than they needed to stage the event and are looking for ways to give it away. Some pet projects of Mayor Menino may benefit, but it's a good bet the Romney for President campaign won't.

funny thing happened along the way. Harvard Pilgr got its act together, so much so that in 2004, the N tional Committee for Quality Assurance found th Harvard Pilgrim ranked highest in providing clinic quality for its commercial plants and member satisfa tion, the first time a firm ever grabbed both top ran ings. Since then, Baker's turnaround job has flov largely under the radar screen except for within indust circles, where a focus on customer care and automati of benefits tracking and claims has catapulted HP to t front of the class.

MOST-ANTICIPATED FRANCHISE EXPANSIO

Arena Football League

If it's good enough for Jon Bon Jovi, why not Boston? T AFL needs a 20th team and there are apparently plenty people who think that team should call the TD Banknor Garden (formerly the FleetCenter) home. The league is TV ratings winner among voracious football fans for who the weeks between the Super Bowl and training camp July are a vast wasteland of silly games involving men ru ning around the field but not running into one another. some ways, it seems a match made in heaven: The Patric have proven that Boston can be a football town. And t Garden has plenty of open dates on its schedule of late. I not certain who the local owners would be, but the chan to compete with Bon Jovi's Philadelphia Soul has repor edly drawn its share of interest.

MOST CONTROVERSIAL NEW IDEA

Make Boston a Toll City

Parking. Traffic. Big problems that require a creativ solution. So, if nothing else, City Councilor Paul

capicchio gets points for trying. And probably that's ll he'll get for proposing the city look into requiring asses costing, say, $1 to $5 per day. What he won't get much support from the downtown business commuity, who don't want their customers charged any more nan is necessary—until they come through the doors, t least. The idea has apparently worked in some cities, ich as London. But critics say the attempt to encourge use of mass transit is a bit ham-fisted and misses me more obvious solutions, like running the trains a ttle later at night. Anyway, would a buck a day really eter anyone who's already paying $20 to park downwn? Besides, we thought there already was a $5 per ay tax that had to be paid in order to work in the city. 's called Starbucks.

PROOF OF HARD TIMES

Howard Anderson's Farewell

ou may never have heard of Howard Anderson, but virually any Boston-area startup that has hunted for venure funding in the past decade knows him by name. Anerson founded two major venture capital firms, ankeeTek Ventures and Battery Ventures, and became mething of an oracle among Boston-area VCs. But nderson has called it quits, ceasing investment and und-raising for his firms and heading into the high, vory tower of MIT. From there, Anderson issued a losely read farewell to the venture industry that was ublished in MIT's *Technology Review*. According to his pen letter, the "hype machine is broken," making it dificult for those doing the funding to reasonably expect trong returns. Seems that all this talk about actually aluing companies based on earnings crimps the VC style. "We need a little irrationality to earn a living," Anderson wrote. Don't we all?

REASON TO FILM IN TORONTO

The Ugly Film Bureau Dispute

Nobody ever said filmmaking was pretty. And lately, in Massachusetts, there's an added layer of ugliness in the form of an open and brutal battle over who should control the state's efforts to attract film projects. Some lawmakers want the Massachusetts Sports and Entertainment Commission to be the go-to guys for getting movies made in Massachusetts. But that doesn't sit well with the Massachusetts Film Bureau, an independent group that formed, ironically enough, when the state lopped off funding for movie projects in 2002, and has been doing its thing since then, largely with private funds. The dispute has been anything but private. Film Bureau executive director Robin Dawson penned a letter to Gov. Romney suggesting executives at the Sports and Entertainment Commission tried to bully Martin Scorsese's production team into doing business with them instead of Dawson's group. The halls of the State House will likely be where the battle is waged next and the payoff, or lost opportunities, could be significant. On its Web site, the Massachusetts Film Bureau estimates filming of Clint Eastwood's *Mystic River* was worth $50 million to the local economy.

STARTUP

Aspen Aerogels

If starting a business is a trial by fire, Aspen Aerogels can claim to have walked through the flames. The Northborough company had quite a year. A black mark on the calendar was an actual fire that caused $50,000 in damage at the firm's headquarters, but that probably seemed a mere nuisance in a year that saw the company raise $50 million in financing and stand out as the only New England-based firm on the list of the most innovative nanotechnology products compiled by *Forbes* magazine. Thanks to modifications that made it possible to mass-produce the substance, Aspen's Aerogel, sometimes compared to frozen smoke, is now used to insulate a range of products, including everything from human feet to pipelines laid across the ocean floor to U.S. Army choppers looking to avoid heat-seeking missiles.

WORST LITTLE-GUY SCREWING

Fleet Area Businesses (By the NHL)

What happens when millionaire hockey players and billionaire team owners can't come to an agreement? People who make minimum wage parking cars and hawking programs and rely on tips to pay the rent get screwed, of course. The National Hockey League lost an entire season due to a lockout—didn't notice, did you?—and in Boston, as in the other 29 NHL cities, it was the working people who felt the shaft of the hockey stick. Nearly 300 players headed to Europe or elsewhere to play and wait things out, and the owners obviously can afford to go without income for a while. Here in the Hub, four Celtics playoff games helped take the edge off, and conventional wisdom is that neither the players nor the owners will let another season bite the dust. Still, uttering the names of NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman or Bruins owner Jeremy Jacobs inside The Four's or any other establishments in the FleetCenter (now the TD Banknorth Garden) area is not advised just yet. ⟶

GOODS & SERVICES

BIKE SHOP

Wheelworks

Ace Wheelworks, 145 Elm St., Somerville, 617-776-2100;
Belmont Wheelworks, 480 Trapelo Rd., Belmont, 617-489-3577;
www.wheelworks.com

For 17 of its 28 years in business, the shop has been named one of the top 100 bicycle retailers in the country, and this year, they won the "BRAINy" award (a plastic brain) given by the *Bicycle Retailer and Industry News* magazine for best pro shop in America. The secret here is a staff of fanatical cyclists: Only a twister-motivated cycling trip to Oz could rival the bicycling feats of the talented folks at Wheelworks. Among the employees are two former national champions. How can you go wrong when all the couriers call it the best in Boston for service, knowledge of inventory and quality of products?

BOOKSTORE, LOCAL

Harvard Bookstore

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-661-1515,
www.harvard.com

Completely independent of the university but near enough that a student in a Harvard Yard dorm could throw a paper airplane and hit it, this shop is known for its academic emphasis, as well as its academic series every Friday during the school year. They also have an excellent author's program: Writers ranging from Miss Manners to David Sedaris appeared in-store this year, and customers who hold the store's Frequent Buyer Card are the first to hear about any special events. Harvard Bookstore offers a wide selection of used and remaindered books, the latter pristine publishers' overstock. Their shrewd remainder buyer purchased 50 of Steve Coll's *Ghost Wars*, which just won the Pulitzer Prize for nonfiction, in paperback for $7.99, versus the usual $16. Not surprisingly, those quickly sold out, but there's plenty more of the same caliber.

BOOKSTORE, USED

Brattle Book Shop

9 West St., Boston, 617-542-0210, 800-447-9595,
www.brattlebookshop.com

What's new at the Brattle Book Shop? Nothing. When other bookstores push the boundaries of the new and different, the Brattle pushes back, proud of its devotion to the old. You want old? This shop has been around since 1825, and some of its books are even older. In addition, they're one of the last generalist bookstores left in the U.S., offering at least some of anything you could want. (They're able to operate that way, while other bookstores have specialized, because they own the building.) In the rare book room, you'll find pricey, leather-bound first editions, while the outside stands sell used books for $1. In between, they have more than 250,000 books, maps, prints, postcards, 1936-and-later editions of *Life* magazine and more. Owner Kenneth Gloss regularly lectures at town libraries and historical societies on "Treasures in Your Attic—Old & Rare Books." In other words, he's the source.

CAR WASH

Allston Car Wash

434 Cambridge St., Allston, 617-254-3200,
www.allstoncarwash.com

It's been there since 1961, but when Charles Delaney took over, it became "A spa for your cah." The slogan's no lie. They treat filthy cars with loving care, and many of the employees have been there forever and know their customers. They wash with soft cloths, dry with towels, clean the windows and vacuum the interiors and use a soft clay if your car has been wind-sprayed by paint from buildings, industrial and organic fallout, dust from the rails or whatever other grime needs to be removed. A variety of detailing packages includes custom interior shampoo and interior leather conditioning. An added bonus: Delaney sends $4 per washed car to the Franciscan Children's Hospital during September, raffles off vacations and gives $2 per car to the Special Olympics during June. So far, the company has raised more than $30,000 for the hospital, and now they're adding the Make-A-Wish Foundation to their corporate largesse.

CATERING

La Fête

148 East Central St., Natick, 508-655-2431

So, OK, co-owners Margaret Nichols and her husband, Kevin Carter, served a beautiful meal to 1,700 people at the opening of the Chestnut Hill Container Store (and then everyone went to the Natick Container Store opening to get more of their food). Still, this six-year-old company doesn't aspire to being the biggest one in town. They don't take on every job, instead using their time to craft each menu to perfectly complement the event. For the Container Store, they played on the Japanese "umami," or sixth sense, with savory flavors and special soy sauces, and as always cooked on-site. Carter is executive chef as well as co-owner; while getting his undergrad degree in criminal justice, he took night courses in cooking and apprenticed with the likes of Jody Adams and Michaela Larson. Thankfully, his love of food won out.

CONSIGNMENT STORE

Poor Little Rich Girl

416 Highland Ave., Somerville, 617-684-0157,
www.poorlittlerichgirlstore.com

Five years ago, you couldn't give away vintage. Today, style-setting celebrities like Sarah Jessica Parker work the red carpet in designer masterpieces from fashion's yesteryear. Even high-end designers like Marc Jacobs are getting in on the action, with new looks inspired by vintage pieces. It's easy to see why store owner Meredith Byam's business is so hot. Her consignor base is a group of chic women in their 80s, and chic women in their 20s and 30s are snatching up these vintage clotheshorses' castoffs. Byam has an amazing collection of ancient pocketbooks and a killer vintage shoe collection (we plotzed over a pair of yellow espadrilles with yellow plaid sides). A 1940s black blazer with rhinestone buttons flew out of the shop this spring, but a red-and-white striped Marimekko T-shirt could still be yours if you run. The quirky feel of this comfortable shop reflects Byam's childhood spent "thrifting" with her mom, but the mix includes plenty of modern clothes, too.

COOKING STORE

Williams-Sonoma

Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-262-3080;
The Atrium, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-928-0158;
www.williams-sonoma.com

Octogenarian Chuck Williams, like anyone who loves to cook, still gets excited by great pots and pans. Williams first launched himself into the culinary business when he brought French copper pots into his Sonoma hardware

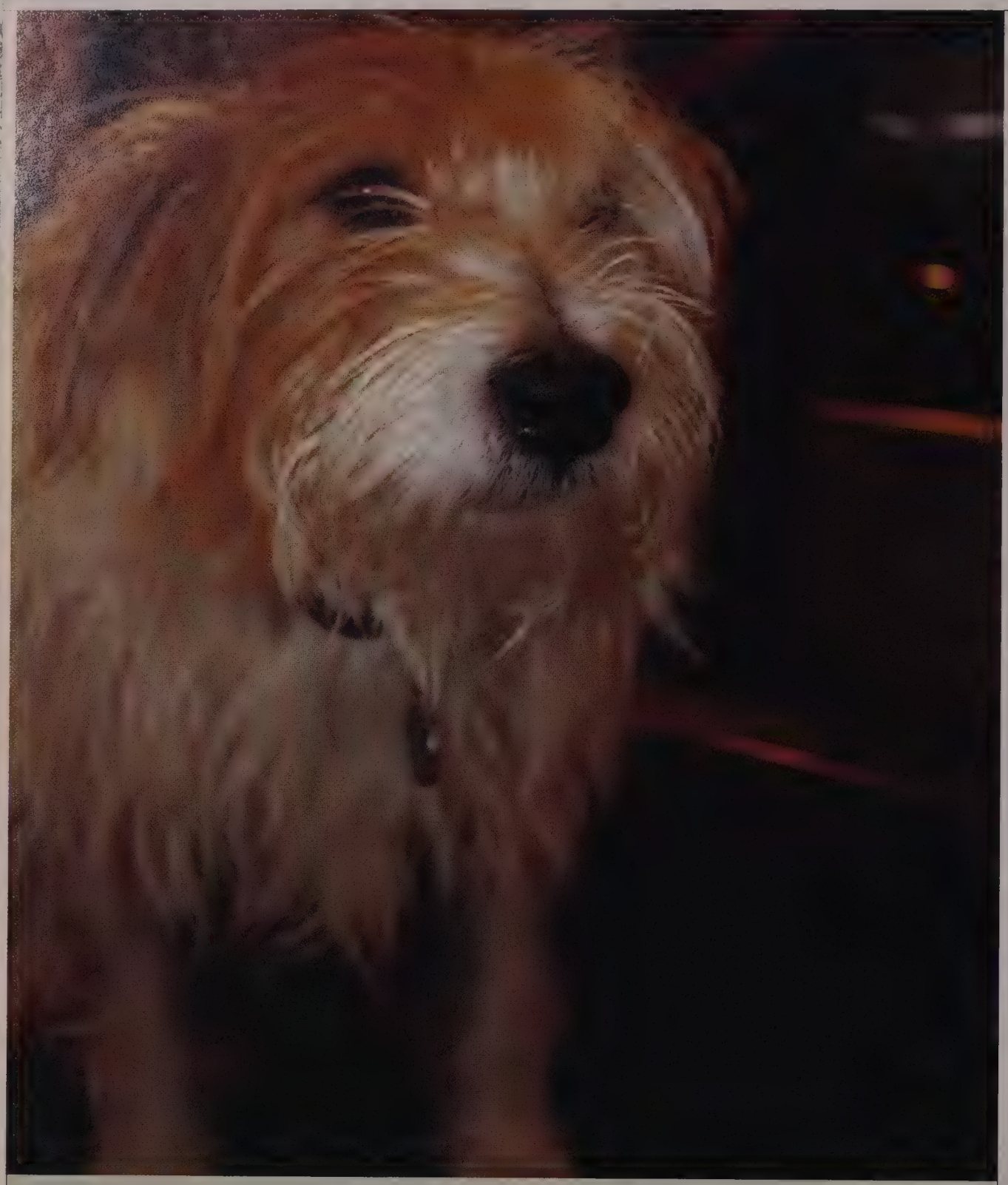
TONY SCARPETTA

GIFT BOUTIQUE

Good

88 Charles St., Boston, 617-722-9200,
www.shopatgood.com

Boutique owner Paul Niski is in love with good design, and you can see it in every inspired piece that shows up in his seasonally rotating stock. He has the famous decoupage plates of artist John Derian, and he mixes vintage and antique items with merchandise from all over the world—Europe, Asia, wherever. While many think of Good as a home goods store, Niski stocks unusual wallets and accessories as well. There is an organically inspired feel to the shop's aesthetic. Focused on beautiful and unique objects, it's stuff you won't find anywhere else, especially since Niski has begun commissioning artists to make items exclusively for his store.



DAY CARE FOR DOGS

DoggieDay Pet Service

400 Tremont St., Boston, 877-738-7738, www.doggieday.com

Forget begging for a bone. Your dog should be begging for a visit to DoggieDay's Spoochie's Spa and Boutique, which will groom him to best-in-show standards, complete with a hair bow if he's a she. On Devonshire Street for two years, they moved across the street from the Animal Rescue League last fall. Drop off your dog, have DoggieDay come to your home, or in ZIP codes 02116 and 02118, they'll pick up and deliver for free. If you're away and they're dog-sitting, they'll also bring your mail inside and clean your cat's litterbox. Best of all is the 24-hour live Web cam, so you can watch your dog online when you're missing him at work or on vacation. Their high-end boutique includes dog treats in the shape of cannoli, pizzas and cupcakes, and they're open every single day of the year. Pup never had it so good.

store after traveling through France. One of his favorite pieces is the soufflé dish by Apilco in French porcelain, and you can find it, along with every kind of quality cookware, in all of the stores that Williams founded. A surprising number of sales associates are professional sous chefs and pastry chefs, and they can tell you not only what cookware to use for your duck ragout with orange sauce, but how to prepare it. We love when they fill their windows with every gadget in the color of the season—like at Christmastime, when you can find bright red spatulas to dress up the kitchen.

COURIER

City Express

201 South St., Boston, 617-350-4000, www.cityexp.com

Unfortunately, the phrase, "Don't blame the messenger" doesn't cut the mustard if you're responsible for time-sensitive deliveries like million-dollar business-to-business checks, last-minute Valentine gifts, or papers that must be signed by 5 pm. Sometimes you need to be able to trust your courier like a baby boy has to trust his moyl. If it's City Express, you can, and you're in good company. Among this service's clients are biotech companies and hospitals that need life-saving heart valv delivered, as well as Average Joes who need to trans artwork, applications and all those other things th can't go through cyberspace. On the job 24/7/36 through the harshest of New England weather, City E press couriers mobilize almost every mode of transport tion known to man—car, truck, bike, T, plane a feet—to get your delivery to its destination. When th say they'll deliver, they deliver.

DRY CLEANER

Emerson Cleaners

768 E. Fourth St., South Boston, 617-269-1333

You have to promise Stanley Schwartz you won't try get that stain out yourself—he jokingly warns that "v punish people who do." For 36 years, he's used his chem istry training to understand materials, what it is th stains them, and then how to remove the stain. For i stance, he'll never try to get red wine out of your si blouse with club soda, as so many neophytes do. A test ment to his expertise: Customers are forever bringing hi "cleaned" clothing, still in the plastic bag from other d cleaners who've attached those little yellow tags sayin "We're sorry, we tried to get the stain out, but...." keeping with his position just above George Jefferson o the dry-cleaning ladder of success, Schwartz gives yo stain-free clothes, not excuses.

ENTERTAINMENT STORE

Cambridge SoundWorks

100 CambridgeSide Plaza, 617-225-3900, www.cambridgesoundworks.com

Not only can Cambridge SoundWorks wire every room your house for audio, now they can wire them for video well, making your pad *MTV Cribs*–worthy. They're bes loved for MP3 players made by Creative Labs, which pr duces some of the best performing electronics in the bus ness. Their home theater speakers, made in their ow Cambridge SoundWorks factory, are also some of th best, with an unbeatable 10-year warranty. Other bran you'll find here: Marantz, Sony, Toshiba, Fuji and Onky The employees know their stuff and can answer even th dumbest of questions intelligently...and soundly.

FARMERS' MARKET

Brookline Farmers' Market

Centre Street West, behind the Coolidge Corner Theatre, Brookline, 617-566-8005

"Brookline Farmer" might be an oxymoron, but th market's loyal customers will never go back to groce store produce. The organic and traditionally grow fruits and veggies here have been greedily grabbed u for a quarter-century, but there's more—a dizzying arra of berry pies from Cook's Orchards, homemade ic cream from Trombetta's Creamery in Marlborough 71(!) different varieties of apples from Noquochok Orchards in Westport and unusual Asian veggies fro the Hmong farmers from Cambodia now living i Brookline. Cheeses, breads, and Jackie di Leo's choco late tofu pies, truffles and mousses are put out here a the only registered nonprofit farmers' market in Massa chusetts. Open Thursdays from June 16 till Oct. 2 1:30 pm until dusk.

FLORIST

Ilex

73 Berkeley St., Boston, 617-422-0300 www.ilexflowers.com

There are certain staid, classic choices when it comes t bouquet arrangements, like white roses for brides an spring mixes for moms. At the other extreme is the bou

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quet of lobsters that artist Salvador Dali used to woo his lover, Gala. Just as creative but far more fragrant are the creations of Andrew Anderson and Carol Sharp of Ilex. These inspired florists strive for the unusual, which included mauve peonies and ocean-blue hydrangea from Holland when we visited. They also add unexpected elements to their creations, like feathers, wire flowers or rhinestones. The self-taught Anderson takes a fashion approach to floral design, treating flowers as fabrics, using texture, color and layering to dramatize and contrast. While 80 percent of their work is devoted to events and weddings, their genius is equally evident in simple arrangements to brighten up your home or a hospital room.

FURNITURE, HIGH-END

Roche-Bobois

585 Commercial St., Boston, 617-742-9611,
www.roche-bobois.com

As with French fashion, French furniture is beautifully crafted. High-end, upscale, top-of-the-line or whatever euphemism you want to use, it's also expensive. Some of the sofas at Roche-Bobois have a sticker price comparable to that of a small used car—$5,000 to $7,000—and each piece comes with a care manual as detailed as the ones that come with a vehicle. Still, these couches and chairs, area rugs, lights and accessories are worth every penny, and unlike your car, they'll never break down or go out of fashion. One collector we know has kept her Roche-Bobois furniture longer than any of her husbands. It's exclusive, it's European, and while the ads seem to focus on leather, anything you see can be made in fabrics as well. Widely considered both nationally and internationally as one of the best high-end furniture stores anywhere, Roche-Bobois features design styles ranging from modern to traditional to "Les Voyages," a line inspired by cultures from all over the globe. Your home will be so beautiful, you'll never want to leave it.

SKI AND SNOWBOARD SHOP

Bob Smith's Wilderness House

1048 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-277-5858, www.wildernesshouseboston.com

A lot of fancy footwork has gone into the mechanics of good ski boots, mountaineering boots, ice and rock climbing boots and all the other sporting footwear around. If the feet move around too much inside a boot, the dogs'll be barkin' in no time. Not to worry. The large and varied selection of specialized shoes at Bob Smith's ought to keep 'em quiet. Although best known for their ski and snowboarding equipment, the store also stocks the goods for paddle sports, windsurfing, kayaking and canoeing, and it's all high-quality stuff. Bob Smith's is dedicated to working with innovative vendors, including Europe's biggest outdoor and mountaineering brands such as Millet, Arc'teryx and Cloud Veil.

FURNITURE, MODERATELY PRICED

Boston Interiors

31 Boylston St., Brookline, 617-731-6038; and other locations
www.bostoninteriors.com

It's not a big store, and the prices are so reasonable tha you might expect cookie-cutter chairs and tables a well as bedroom sets straight off *The Price Is Right*, bu when you see the hundreds of swatches of different co ors and fabrics that can be ordered for these piece you're sure to be impressed. We bought a big, soft clu chair from Boston Interiors and ordered it in a swee floral pattern that looked so much like a pricey Ralp Lauren piece that only the sales slip convinced us oth

wise. To make the deal even sweeter, they deliver almost anywhere in eastern Massachusetts at rates that e much lower than those of similar stores. From county style to classic to contemporary, they've got it, and l for a relative song.

GIFTS FOR GIRLS

Flat of the Hill

50 Charles St., Boston, 617-619-9977, www.flatofthehill.com

on't even think of going to a bridal shower or wedding thout stopping here for supplies. They have all those T-shirts that say, "I'm the Bride," or, "I'm the Bridesmaid" and everything for bachelorettes, or any hen party, for that matter. Then there's all the stuff for girls of any age who don't happen to be walking down the aisle. For example, right now, owner Katherine Morse has stocked the shop with Kooba and Botkier handbags—those hip leather bags that are hot in New York and beyond chic in Beantown. Tons of jewelry, accessories, bath and body products and stationery you won't find in your average stuffy store are available here, with prices that run the gamut from $1.50 to $450.

SMALL ANTIQUES STORE

Dark Horse

2297 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester, 617-298-1031

Robert Ferrini has owned this little antiques shop for the past 13 years, but his affinity for old things spans back to his early childhood, when one Christmas, the unconventional youngster pined not for a Red Ryder BB Gun, but for his grandmother's antique chair. His antiquarian devotion shows in the all aspects of the adorable shop, which, though small, carries large items like stained glass windows, paintings, Victorian coat trees and overmantels—a welcome change from all those small shops stuffed to the rafters with tchochkes and bric-a-brac. Ferrini knows furniture and periods like nobody's business and offers good quality at reasonable prices.

HOME BOUTIQUE

Koo de Kir

65 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-723-8111, www.koodekir.com

An oasis of light and playfulness on a street of dark, subterranean antiques shops and newer, hip clothing boutiques, this furniture-and-more store reflects the art history background of owner Kristine Irving, a MassArt grad and former gallery owner. The first retail store in the U.S. to carry FLOR carpet tiles, they also carry a great collection of lighting, Klein-Reid ceramics and Oly Studio furniture. But Irving's style-loving customers need more than just a place to sit down. So she also gives them jewelry, accessories…a complete Koo de Kir lifestyle, including prints and photography from young commercial artists like printmaker Beth Weintraub. Look for more wine tastings and art openings from Koo, which offers both residential and commercial interior design consulting services as well.

LARGE ANTIQUES STORE

Cambridge Antique Market

201 Msgr. O'Brien Highway, Cambridge, 617-868-9655, www.marketantique.com

Want a map of your street as it appeared in 1850? The newest element in this humongous five-story treasure trove of old stuff both elegant and funky is its own map dealer, who keeps a huge library of local maps from the 1850s to a little after the turn of the century. With hundreds of trinkets from dealers big and small, there's no chance that things have been picked over. The market recently had its first-ever jewelry "event"—a sale of baubles and bangles with a timeline from the Victorian era to the 1960s. If you love to browse, it's a great place for an all-day outing, with more than 150 dealers displaying old rocking horses, antique toys, one-of-a-kind chairs, marble busts, flags, urns…you name it. Sort of like your eccentric granny's attic, but with price tags attached.

LIQUOR STORE

Charles Street Liquors

143 Charles St., Boston, 617-523-5051, www.csliquors.com

Who else could you call and say, "Send over a mixed case of wine to the house," sight unseen, untasted, and trust that you're going to get a variety of wonderful wines? It's no surprise that Charles Street Liquors is up to the task, with their selection of more than 800 wines. They carry 100 single malt scotches and are known for their selection of close to 1,000 beers, and they have the best tequila you'll find. With their Friday night beer tastings, their "winekeeper unit" that keeps wine fresh and their determination to seek out smaller, family-owned boutique wineries around the world for wines you can't find anywhere else, "liquor store" hardly does this place justice. They even have a free-delivery policy: They'll drop off your booze anywhere in Beacon Hill for a $25 minimum, and anywhere in the metro area for a minimum of $50.

MUSIC STORE

Newbury Comics

332 Newbury St., Boston, 617-236-4930; 1 Washington Mall, Boston, 617-248-9992; with locations in Cambridge and Newton; www.newburycomics.com

Why pay $16 for a CD at the Virgin Megastore when you can buy the same thing here for $10? Perhaps because they're not as pretty as the bigger music stores, Newbury Comics doesn't have quite the overhead, but they sure pack a ton of music into the place, including alternative and new rock, pop, comics, posters and all manner of music-related novelties. Here you'll find a current list of Boston's favorite independent rockers, like the Pixies,

Dresden Dolls, Dropkick Murphys and Juliana Hatfield. Many artists come into the store to play their latest music live. And co-owner Mike Dreese, who started with the Newbury Street location, puts his money where his mouth (and music) is, giving beacoup dinero to Berklee College of Music, where several of the artists whose albums he sells started their careers.

NEWSSTAND

Out of Town News

0 Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-354-7777

The service is superb in this magazine mecca in the middle of Harvard Square, but it's the variety of newspapers and publications that makes it the very best. If a homesick Harvard student from Dubai wants a newspaper written in Arabic, for example, he'll find one here: They carry *Al Hayat*, among others. If the guys from Southie want some local news from the Old Country, this stand carries a plethora of Irish newspapers. Publications from Japan can be found, as well as magazines of all stripes, including the Italian fashion magazine *Collezioni*, which sells for a whopping $60 per issue. Some of the other European fashion magazines cost as much as $70, and if you can't believe that Cambridge women, not particularly known for sporting haute couture, are willing to pay this much to see high fashion on the pages of a magazine, you'll quickly figure out that folks come to Out of Town News from all over for its staggering variety.

OUTDOORS STORE

REI

401 Park Drive, Boston, 617-236-0746, www.rei.com

Despite its rather banal name, Recreational Equipment, Inc. has the best gear for everything anyone would want to do outdoors, including setting up your own base camp at Everest with a tent that's as roomy and posh as a Back Bay condo. Their hat selection alone is enormous and includes the marvelous Tilley, which protects you from sun, wind, rain and sleet—in other words, winter in Siberia or any day in downtown Boston. The knowledgeable employees all look as though they've just come in (a bit reluctantly) from an AMC hike. The company also sponsors great adventure trips; we hiked the Cinque Terre with an incredible REI guide who was born in that area of Italy. REI dedicates a portion of its operating profits both to environmental projects and outreach programs like camping trips for inner-city kids. Their 2005 budget for this work is $2.5 million, so when you drop big coin on a full-suspension mountain bike, think of yourself as a philanthropist.

SPORTING GOODS

City Sports

1035 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-782-5121;
additional locations in Boston, Cambridge and Chestnut Hill;
www.citysports.com

Not only do they carry everything you need for every sport you do (including women's bathing suits for serious lap swimming in the pool, rather than the ones for the Riviera that resemble uncomfortable lingerie), but their prices range as wide and far as their gear selection. Both name-brand and off-brand items are available, as is fan clothing representing every Boston sports team. They do a lot of sneaker sales here—casual styles as well as serious running, cross-training and basketball shoes—and the clothing selection has expanded to include more non-sporting items like button-down shirts and khakis. Store associates say they've noticed that tennis is coming back big-time, and customers are asking for the more expensive racquets in the $180–$190 range, so they're well stocked with those, too. Good sports equipment for good sports.

OUTDOOR SHOPPING

South End Open Market

540 Harrison Ave., Boston, 617-481-2257, www.southendopenmarket.com

It's amazing what you can do with a parking lot when you get rid of the cars. Chris Masci looked at the large lot near his home on a Sunday and, thinking of all the open air markets in New York, said, "Why not?" So he gathered purveyors of vintage clothes, artwork, furniture, collectibles, high-end crafts (glass-blown articles, original hats and textiles) and, of course, produce from five different farms, and brought them together on Sundays in the summer. Here's where you can get delicious, old-fashioned Clear Flour Bread baked daily in stone hearths. The market stays open every Sunday in summer from 10 am to 5 pm and this fall till 4 pm (through Nov. 27). The best part? You can park for free, because those merciless South End meter maids don't prowl on Sundays.

WINE SHOP

BRIX Wine Shop

1284 Washington St., Boston, 617-542-2749,
www.brixwineshop.com

This South End shop has brought Boston's retail wine connoisseurship to a whole new level. Not only is crystal stemware used at the free Friday and Saturday tastings (from 6 to 8 pm), but the proprietors will, on occasion, bring the tasting to your home. In addition to monthly winemaker events where customers can spend one-on-one time with vintners, they also host themed tastings. Most popular so far was last fall's First Annual Harvest Tasting and Grape Stomp. Original wine barrels from France and California were flown in and filled with more than 100 pounds of grapes, and customers got to crush them Lucille Ball–style, after which they sampled more wines. Around Kentucky Derby time, customers sample homemade mint juleps. In-store book signings with chef/writers are planned for the summer. Who says shopping for wine need be a sober, snooty affair? ➞

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BEAUTY & HEALTH

BEAUTY BOUTIQUE

Beauty and Main

30 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-868-7171; additional locations in Newton, Hingham, Wellesley and Andover; www.beautyandmain.com

Most women have drawers full of once-used and seemingly useless makeup and hair-care products they've tried and tossed aside, along with beaucoup bucks. Beauty and Main is the remedy for this debilitating disease. Owners Hillary Woodyatt and Jane Forrer are truly gifted, prescient buyers, hand-selecting products that actually work, as opposed to the latest fad or highfalutin' fashion magazine tip. Carrying makeup lines like Laura Mercier, Trish McEvoy, Nars, Darphin and skin-care products that deliver more than hope in a tube, Beauty and Main is a true beauty emporium. They even have frequent visits from Trish McEvoy reps to train their makeup artists. If beauty can come in a jar, this is the place to buy it.

BEAUTY LEGEND

Mario Russo

9 Newbury St., Boston, 617-424-6676, www.mariorusso.com

After 15 years of working in his eponymous space on Newbury Street (with a satellite location at über chic boutique Louis Boston), Mario Russo has carved out a nice niche for himself. As celebrated as they come in Boston, he's racked up plenty of national acclaim as well, regularly appearing in top fashion and beauty magazines (not to mention gossip and society columns). In addition to his salons, he has launched a successful line of olive-based hair and body care products—including shampoos, conditioners, cuticle creams and a veritable rainbow of nail polish shades. A celeb in his own right, he's actively involved with several of the city's high-profile charities, including serving on the board of trustees for the Institute of Contemporary Art. The only thing we don't understand is where he finds all the energy.

BLONDE-MAKER

Jennifer Fontana at Salon Fontana

The Sports Club/LA, 4 Avery St., Boston, 617-375-8510

To achieve an appropriate, believable and flattering blonde is an art form on the level of blowing a Murano-glass masterpiece. Too often, a client wants what doesn't work for her and ends up mortified by the Barbie-like result. Furthermore, too many stylists fall into the trap of using nothing but bleach and frying their clients' hair. Every bottle-blonde has been there, but Jennifer Fontana is a genius at lightening hair without being heavy-handed. She works with both bleach and color, depending upon the condition of a client's hair and the desired result. And shaping her clients' expectations to conform to reality is one of her many gifts. Women come in looking like Donatella Versace and leave looking like Britt Eklund. Her unfailing smile and genuine warmth make everyone feel not only like a blonde bombshell but also like a fairy princess. Fontana's one stylist who's worth her weight in gold highlights.

COSMETICS DEPARTMENT

Filene's

Downtown Crossing, 426 Washington St., Boston, 617-357-2100; additional locations in Cambridge, Belmont and Chestnut Hill; www.filenes.com

An outstanding cosmetics department needs knowledgeable and talented makeup artists and a wide selection of good brands. Filene's has more: a staff that's helpful but not pushy. Come in and play with a girlfriend or two or with your neighborhood drag queen. You won't feel pressured to buy that $50 lipstick you don't need and will never wear. If you do need advice, however, one small motion produces someone happy to help you. As for the lines, they carry everything from the mainstream names like Lancôme, Estée Lauder, Stila and Clinique to the harder-to-find, like Dermablend and Benefit. Always fully stocked to accommodate their high sales volume, they're bound to have whatever it was you saw last week in *Elle* or *Vogue*. It's like being a kid again and playing at your mother's vanity table, but here, there's no one to scold you or tell you to go wipe it off.

CREATIVE STYLIST

Mitch Derosa for Mitchell John Salon

67 Broad St., Boston, 617-951-0122, www.mjsalon.com

On days when you're craving a new look or something special but you don't want to opt for an up-do or an elaborate coif that looks like it leapt off a runway (great for supermodels, not so great for the rest of us), Mitch Derosa is your man. He's been styling hair for 24 years and has fussed over the tresses of countless celebrities, including Nicky Hilton and Giselle (so, OK—he's good at the supermodel thing, too). His ever-innovative vision keeps his clients looking fresh and refreshed with every visit, making him the perfect stylist for women (or men) who want to revamp a hairstyle they've had for too long.

DAY SPA

Giuliano Day Spa for Beauty and Wellness

338 Newbury St., Boston, 617-262-2220, www.giulianodayspa.com

Owner Joyce Hampers knows a thing or two about the business of beauty—she took a day spa and turned it into a gold mine. Her secret: figuring out exactly what people want. And when it comes to pampering, that generally means luxury—being treated like a maharani in a soothing, private setting, with impeccable, unobtrusive service. Her efforts have resulted in a sort of home away from home for Boston's elite and visitors from all over the world. In keeping with the ever-changing face of Newbury Street, Giuliano is in the process of revamping the spa's space for a younger, hipper crowd, and will expand with an additional location in a four-story building down the street, which will feature a rooftop deck. Best of all, despite the renovations, Hampers is keeping the unique things that always made us love Giuliano, like the Rasul treatment (the ultimate in couples therapy), which won her national renown.

FACIAL

Danielle Browning at G Spa

35 Newbury St., Boston, 617-267-4772, www.grettastyle.com

A master of skincare, Browning assesses each client's needs, leading them gently into a facial room. She then chooses from an arsenal of products and begins to slather them, one by one, onto their faces. After that comes the extraction. Sure it hurts a little, but isn't a flawless complexion worth it? Any beauty aficionado will tell you this is where the real skill comes in. The key is not to stop until each pore is free of dirt, grime, sweat and all the other junk your skin is subjected to on a daily basis. And this is where Browning excels. She actually seems to take pleasure in the extraction process, as if ridding your skin of blackheads is no grosser than a stroll through the park. And once she's done, it's as though your skin has been reborn. Sheer perfection.

GLAM HAIR GURU

Charles Maksou at Maksou Salon

125 Broad St., Boston, 617-443-8633, www.maksou.com

Three-time best haircut recipient Charles Maksou is being upgraded. He's become such a style deity in the city that we thought it should be declared official. Uncanny vision and infectious enthusiasm add to his enormous talent. Whether he's jetting around the world for work or pleasure, there's no doubt that when you pin him down, he'll have some fabulous inspired new idea for you to try. With his charming accent and quick wit, he wows the ladies and can coax the most hidebound dowager into changing from humdrum to super glam. Whomever he touches invariably walks out the door feeling like the most beautiful woman in the world.

HEALTH CLUB

The Sports Club/LA

4 Avery St., Boston, 617-375-8200, www.thesportsclubla.com

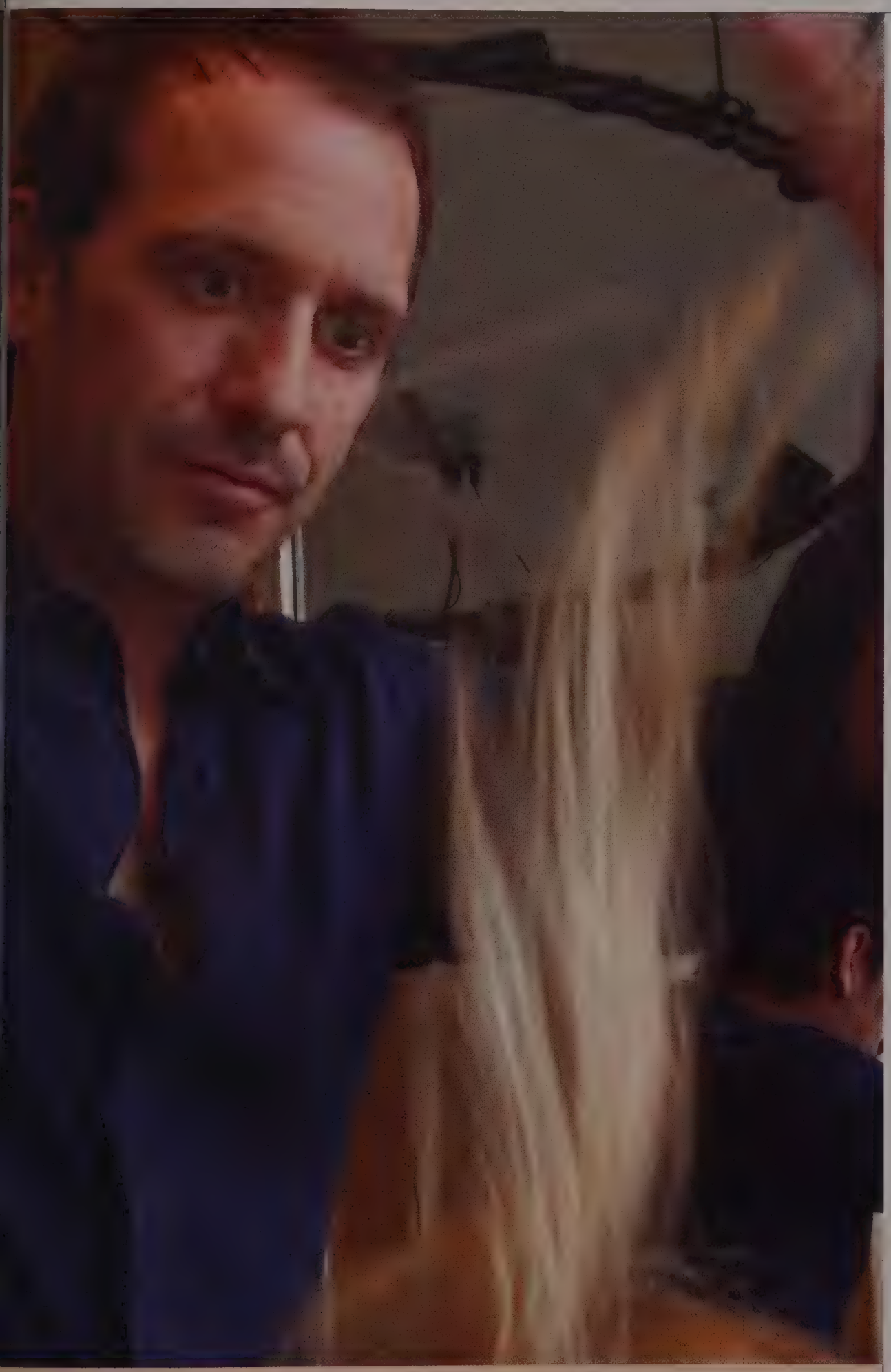
When the Sports Club/LA opened four years ago tongues were wagging over the beautiful facilities and luxurious amenities, up-to-the minute equipment, challenging classes and top-notch trainers. It remains the most user-friendly and swankiest gym in the city and what's more impressive is its ability to consistently live up to members' expectations. (With monthly dues higher than those of most health clubs, it tends to attract a highly successful—and therefore discerning—clientele.) New classes are added to accommodate demand, the staff—including locker room concierges who offer a level of service consistent with a five-star hotel—are unfailingly helpful and polite, and the facilities are kept spotless. No wonder it's where socialites, celebrities and the well-heeled go to tighten their shape.

MAKEUP ARTIST

Coco Grace

617-277-7797, www.cocogracebeauty.com

Whether the effect you're going for is au naturel, sophisticated glamour, Coco Grace will leave you looking better than you ever dreamed possible. The fairy godmother of beauty, Grace, who now primarily sees private clients, originally worked for cosmet



WOMEN'S HAIRCUT

Marc Harris for Salon Marc Harris

30 Newbury St., Boston, 617-262-2222, www.salonmarcharris.com

With the number of stylists on Newbury Street, it's downright impossible to differentiate between them all. Who's the best at what? Well, Marc Harris rules the roost when it comes to what a certain rival of his famously described as "a mah-velous cut." The Leonardo da Vinci of ladies' tresses, he snips, shapes and styles to perfection, and he does it all with ease, chivalry and sex appeal. His cutting-edge style (pun most definitely intended) straddles the fine line between ladylike and siren, and with every new client he creates a jaw-dropping design. Don't let the youthful hipster attitude fool you, either—he's been cutting hair for more than 20 years, and all that experience shows. If they were doing a remake of the '70s classic *Shampoo*, we'd recommend him for the lead.

companies and later became a makeup artist for television, movies and print. She has developed a signature line of cosmetics. With an awe-inspiring attention to detail, she can turn ducklings into swans with a wave of her makeup wand. Her basic philosophy is to make the skin look beautiful; without that, no amount of makeup will help. Her very long (and hush-hush) celebrity client list is recommendation enough, but she also wears her success well, remaining lovely, gracious and kind-hearted.

MANICURE

Donna Charloff for Beaucage

71 Newbury St., Boston, 617-437-7171, www.beaucage.com

Donna Charloff sits back in her chair in the newly renovated spa at Beaucage. Pristine and beautiful (both she and the spa), she massages hands and delicately trims cuticles with a beatific smile. A 12-year veteran at Beaucage, she's seen plenty of change. Her chair has been moved from here to there and back again, but still, she's always smiling. Perhaps it's because she has a cult following among Boston socialites, finicky celebrities and New Yorkers who jet here just to get their tips painted by the best of the best. Yet she remains as modest as can be as she listens to her clients' darkest secrets. Always a perfect lady, Charloff never gives up the gossip, but she does such a damned fine job with the nails, we won't fault her for it.

MASSAGE

The Staff at Etant Day Spa

524 Tremont St., Boston, 617-423-5040, www.etant.com

The staff at Etant take massage seriously; its purpose is not only to knead you into a blissed-out, relaxed puddle on the floor, but also to align and balance you, taking into account any medical conditions you may have. If you're an athlete, they can relieve the lactic acid built up in your sore, overworked muscles. If you have chronic back problems, they can temporarily relieve your pain. But for the rest of us, they are there to banish the stress of everyday life. Sitting in front of a computer or lifting children can leave you tight, and they tenderly or deeply work it right out of you. In our touch-deprived society, their magic fingers are just what we need.

MEN'S HAIRCUT

Michael Rossi for Christopher J. Hawes Color and Design Group

36 Newbury St., Boston, 617-236-0001, www.cjhawes.com

A lot of men think there's little difference between one haircut and another, but just ask a woman what separates an ROTC-looking wiffle from an elegant, closely cropped head of hair. Rossi is a natural at determining the most flattering shape for each face and takes into account such personal details as profession, personality and clothing tastes. For example, can you pull off that artfully disheveled look or would you benefit from something more conservative? Rossi often encourages clients to grow their hair out a bit so he can see what it naturally does. Not surprisingly, his clients range from corporate chieftains to pretty boys, and all of them say the same thing: "I won't let anyone else touch my hair." A cut costs around $100, and best of all, Rossi is charming and funny, not to mention a champ at fitting in last-minute clients.

MIRACLE WORKER

Dean Boudreau for Beaucage

71 Newbury St., Boston, 617-437-7171, www.beaucage.com

Women of the world, rejoice! If you find yourself with a bad haircut or (heaven forfend!) a cheesy dye job, there's always Dean Boudreau. Not only is he a master at creating stylish, versatile looks on clients, but he's a savior when it comes to repairing the damage done by others. Whether a dip in an

BODY AND MIND EXPERIENCE

Exhale

28 Arlington St., Boston, 617-532-7000, www.exhalespa.com

When the first Exhale opened in New York in September of 2003, everyone from Upper East Side ladies who lunch to boho enlightenment-seekers of Williamsburg raved about it. This year, Boston became the lucky recipient of the new location at Heritage on the Garden. A cutting edge concept in personal pampering, a visit to Exhale includes the amenities of a luxurious spa plus holistic services like organ detoxifying and vibrational therapy (try it and find out). But perhaps most notable are the unconventional mind/body classes. The most popular, Core Fusion, combines Pilates, core conditioning, yoga and orthopedic stretching. We hear it's more fun than it sounds but as hard-core as a triathlon. The class is reported to be strangely addictive, seeming to create long, lean muscles and washboard abs in a fraction of the usual time. Equally impressive yoga classes, overseen by Shiva Rea, join occasional workshops by West Coast yoga guru Max Strom.

overchlorinated pool has turned your goldilocks green, o your regular stylist is suffering from a bout of vertigo and gave you a lopsided bob, Boudreau can fix it, and he does it with a winning, calm demeanor. An added bonus: While he's spinning a happy ending out of the havoc wreaked by another stylist, you can enjoy a soothing cup of tea and get your nails done at his new spa.

NONSURGICAL COSMETIC PROCEDURE

Photo Facial at Essentially Bare

777 Concord Ave., Cambridge, 617-876-5258, www.essentiallybare.com

After an initial consultation, the doctor, medical esthetic cians and nurse practitioners at Essentially Bare confer to determine what the most appropriate treatment is for each client. Their photo facial is the ideal nonsurgical procedure because it targets discoloration like sunspots, broken capillaries and rosacea, literally zapping the flaws away. The zaps are intense pulses of light that basically act like a laser that doesn't harm the skin but gets deep under its outer (epidermis) layer to remove discoloration completely. The results are astonishing: a face that's even in tone and utterly void of unsightly blotches. As an added benefit, the procedure is said to speed up collagen growth in the skin, which results in a tighter-looking tone, thus making it that much easier to lie about your age and be believed.

PEDICURE

My Nail Salon

261 West Newton St., Boston, 617-236-1440

OK, we'll let you in on a little secret among Boston's fashion and beauty cognoscenti: This is where all of the best nail technicians from other salons go to get their nails done. Quite simply, they're the best of the best, and a pedicure here can make even a ballerina's feet look and feel as soft as a baby's bum. Each foot is scrubbed with tender loving care and moisturized to a fare-thee-well. Then the technicians buff each toenail and layer on coats of varnish with the same precision and artistry that what's-his-name used on that Vatican ceiling. As if that's not enough, owner My is as pleasant as a warm day in May and her employees, like the chirping birds in *Snow White*, follow suit. Your feet never had it so good.

SALON EXPERIENCE

James Joseph Salon

30 Newbury St., Boston, 617-266-7222, www.jamesjosephsalon.com

From the sleek décor (by white-hot design outfit Office dA) to the enormously friendly and attitude-free staff, the James Joseph Salon operates like a well-oiled Bentley. Massage chairs at every hair-washing sink ensure that you'll be chilling as soon as you slip into a gown. In warm weather, you can relax and catch some rays on the cushy balcony while your color processes. Staff members are quick to accommodate clients with a magazine or a cup of coffee, but are never intrusive. And, of course, the numerous award-winning stylists are the most compelling reason to visit this alpha-male of Newbury Street salons. Simply put, everything is top-notch.

SECRET

Leon De Magistris of Leon and Co.

84 Leonard St., Belmont, 617-484-4777, www.leonandco.com

A native of Italy, the unbelievably suave De Magistris has been tending the tresses of a discerning clientele in Belmont Center for 30 years. He often visits Europe to return with fashion-forward looks, and the women who entrust their heads to his tender hands are as well-coiffed as the most chic in Paris and Milan. Not surprisingly, he served for two years as the artistic director for Tocco Magico,

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hair color line from Italy. In short, once you've discovered this hidden talent tucked away in the 'burbs (where, incidentally, you can always find parking), you might reconsider your devotion to Newbury Street.

SUNLESS TANNING

Robin Erb at Avanti Salon

11 Newbury St., Boston, 617-267-4027

Fish-belly-white Bostonians have absolutely no excuse, what with all the sunless tanning services available these days. The finest we've found is Robin Erb, who uses a sugar-based self-tanner that she personally hand-sprays onto her clients' bodies. An added bonus: The whole thing takes about 10 to 15 minutes from start to finish, and that even includes drying time, so you can spruce yourself up during your lunch hour and still have time for a bite to eat. The result is a beautifully bronzed, ready-for-the-beach bod, minus the damaging exposure to UVA and UVB rays. At $35 a session, it's also affordable, and if you buy a three-pack, the price goes down to $25-per. Cheaper and safer than a flight to Saint Bart's.

TEETH WHITENING

Brite Smile

75 Newbury St., 617-867-9500,
www.britesmile.com

For most of us, the proverbial Pepsodent smile is a few shades lighter than our choppers naturally are, but using a well-rehearsed system that entails applying whitening gel that's activated by a blue light for 20 minutes, the folks at Brite Smile can turn any frown upside down. In three of these sessions, they'll rid your teeth of discoloration due to smoking, coffee, tea and anything else that's staining your pearly whites, but they won't leave you looking like you have a mouthful of Chiclets. The dazzling end result looks natural, and while you may experience some slight sensitivity for 24 hours or so, it's a small price to pay for a smile worthy of a game show host. The cost—around $500—is a bit high, but look at it this way: Maybe it'll inspire you to cut down on the butts and caffeine.

WAXING SERVICES

Renée Christopher at Debú

184 South St., Boston, 617-292-3328, www.debuboston.com

A previous winner in this category, Christopher had clients frantically searching for her everywhere in the city when she left her last job, until she popped up recently at the new salon Debú. Her meat-and-potatoes talent lies in shaping brows to perfection using a wax-then-tweeze technique. Her true genius, however, is her ability to find the perfect brow shape to suit each individual's face. Bonus points for making it a truly painless procedure—it feels like mere seconds before she's finished.

WORKOUT FOR WOMEN

Healthworks

441 Stuart St., Boston, 617-859-7700;
additional locations in Brookline, Cambridge, Chestnut Hill and Salem; www.healthworksfitness.com

Coed gyms offer certain incentives, especially for those whose intent is to flirt as much as work out. However, for women who want to get in, get it over with and get out, all while going unnoticed, this all-women's gym is a godsend. With innovative classes designed specifically with women's health and fitness (and body issues) in mind, they serve the fairer sex better than the iron-clanging testosterone-fests that characterize most gyms. Other thoughtful touches, like the fact that the weights are always at a reachable level, add to the appeal, and best of all, you never have to worry about impressing anyone. With all of the meat-market gyms out there, Healthworks is a refreshing change of pace. ⟶

HAIR COLORIST

Jeffrey Lyle for G Spa

35 Newbury St., Boston, 617-267-4772, www.grettastyle.com

If coloring your hair is like sipping from the fountain of youth, then Jeffrey Lyle is Ponce de Leon. His specialty is taking gray away and spinning each strand of hair into its own glossy entity that, when aligned with its brethren, results in the most natural-looking locks you've seen since you were in preschool. Using new and innovative techniques (that he won't divulge) of changing your hair color with no damage whatsoever, he's a stylistic savant, managing to make reds stay put and give blondes that golden color that occurs naturally only in a handful of Scandinavians. When pressured, he attributes much of his success to his favorite product line, Kerastase, which he doesn't request but rather requires all of his clients to use. He says it keeps hair healthy and his colors looking perfect, and who can argue with that?

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FASHION

COSTUME JEWELRY

High Gear Jewelry

139 Richmond St., Boston, 617-523-5804

Women know it's impossible to walk by the bling-a-licious High Gear, tucked away in the North End, without being drawn inside by the sparkly jewelry in the window. The good news: You can afford this stuff, so go ahead and stock your jewelry box with some fabulous new baubles. The prices are laughably lower than those you'll find in a fine jewelry store. If you've always wanted a 14-carat square-cut emerald but can't wait to become the fourth Mrs. Donald Trump to get one, this is your place. High Gear buys many items that are "inspired by" high-end designer jewelers (ranging in price from $10–$100), as well as original, unusual pieces. The store has been open for 14 years, and owner Merilee Wolfson strives to be the first person on the block to carry the next big trend.

DEPARTMENT STORE

Saks Fifth Avenue

The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston, 617-262-8500, www.saks.com

Saks Fifth Avenue tops our list of department stores because of its vast array of designers and superb staff, as well as its numerous exclusives. Whether Trish McEvoy is designing a brush roll for them, or they're the only store in the city to carry Giorgio Armani cosmetics, Saks has the clout in the fashion world to get the royal treatment from designers, ultimately benefitting their clients. Just days after Tory Burch appeared on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, she showed up in Boston to promote her line at Saks (no small feat considering that she was the most sought after designer of the moment). In addition to public appearances by famous designers, the store hosts numerous charity events and cocktail parties. From Theory to Juicy Couture, Saks carries dresses for special occasions, work clothes, weekend wear, accessories, makeup and just about everythi else you can think of.

ECLECTIC MIX

Stil

170 Newbury St., Boston, 617-859-7845, www.stilinc.com

Owner Betty Riaz and her staff of friendly hipsters w make you feel right at home in this sassy store fill with fun patterns and vibrant colors. The clothing a accessories will have you mixing and matching to yo heart's content. Riaz scours the world from Denmark L.A. to find the most unique items for your closet (a hers). She chooses a range (in terms of both style a price) of fun, unusual pieces that remind you how go a time fashion hunting can be. Her muted, delica pieces pair with just about anything. Designers inclu the Scandinavian Munthe Plus Simonsen, and Rutzo but Riaz also keeps her eyes open for up-and-comi designers in the U.S. Not afraid to take chances, sh as bold as her inventory, and her clients benefit. If y want to wear something you won't see on a hundr other people, this is your store—the anti-Ann Taylo

FASHION ADDITION

Marc Jacobs

81 Newbury St., Boston, 617-425-0707, www.marcjacobs.com

With an opening party that will go down in histo complete with an appearance by members of Dur Duran and Marc Jacobs himself appearing in a fenci uniform (avec sword), the designer's Boston presen got off to one helluva start. Almost a year later, t boutique has proven its ability to make a good thi last. Two stories overflow with fabulous merchandi The bottom floor houses the less expensive Marc Marc Jacobs line, ready-to-wear, and quirky inexpe sive items like Band-Aids and snow globe rings. U stairs, you'll find the Marc Jacobs Collection. Unli many designer boutiques, this one hasn't been dumb down (or buttoned up) for a Boston audience—ba cally everything you see on the runways is here. W menswear, womenswear, accessories and home goo it's one-stop shopping and a slice of style heaven.

FASHION INSTITUTION

Louis Boston

234 Berkeley St., Boston, 617-262-6100, www.louisboston.com

Known around the world as an industry pioneer, Lo is a temple to fashion, and Boston is lucky that Lo calls it home. The mega-boutique is located at the c ner of Berkeley and Newbury streets in a building t once housed the New England Museum of Natu History. It now is home to the very latest in men's a women's clothing and accessories, as well as vinta photographs, antiques, knickknacks, gourmet good and a Morgenthal Frederics eyewear shop. It even h one of Boston's best restaurants, L. The bailiwick wildly inventive chef Pino Maffeo, its eclectic me matches the store's inimitable style. To top it all o there's also a Mario Russo salon, where the cogn scenti go to be primped and pampered. It's the clos thing Boston has to Harvey Nichols in London Fred Segal in L.A., which is saying a lot.

STATUS GIFTS

Tiffany & Co.

Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-353-0222; Atrium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-527-1881; www.tiffany.com

A synonym for luxury for more than 100 years, they've inspired a play, a movie and even a song or two, as well as the iconic image of Audrey Hepburn wearing black sunglasses reflected in the window. While other jewelers have come and gone, this American icon has remained, staunchly maintaining their exacting standards of quality and craftsmanship, and encouraging innovation with designers like Elsa Peretti and Paloma Picasso. Let's face it: You could receive a mood ring in one of those little blue boxes and you'd still write a thank-you note.

LUXURY SELECTION

Tess & Carlos

20 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-864-8377; 1241 Centre St., Newton Center, 617-244-2471; www.tessandcarlos.com

Tess Enright and partner Carlos Pava opened the doors of their first boutique in Cambridge 10 years ago. The idea was to create a shopping environment that clients loved, and to house unique, hard-to-find merchandise, all while providing impeccable service. It was to be the antidote for sifting through tons of stuff at a large department store. Tess & Carlos took such high-end lines as Jil Sander, Prada and Paul Smith and combined them under one roof. The staff are adept at helping clients create a wardrobe that transitions from day to evening with pieces that work for either. The store is known for superior separates, pants that fit flawlessly, cashmere sweaters and suits that will last a lifetime. If you view clothing as an investment, Tess & Carlos is a blue-chip stock.

FINE JEWELRY

Shreve, Crump & Low

330 Boylston St., Boston, 617-267-9100; The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-965-2700; www.shrevecrumpandlow.com

Established in 1796, Shreve's is the oldest jewelry store in the United States, and their age is a testament to the quality of their merchandise. Not that their designs are stodgy or outdated. Under the direction of current President and CEO Merritt Mayher, they're up-to-date with cutting-edge designers like Marco Bicego and Laura Gibson. They anticipate what their clients will want: They penned a deal to be the official jeweler and timekeeper

for the Red Sox. They also launched an ad campaign targeting gay couples with clever copy like: "All the best ones are not gay or taken, some are both." With all that and a planned move to shiny new digs at the corner of Boylston and Berkeley in October, Shreve's proves it ain't your granny's jewelry shop.

HANDBAGS

Luna Boston

286 Newbury St., Boston, 617-262-3900, www.lunaboston.com

Owners Sarah Johnson and Alex McCollom opened Luna in May of last year in hopes that they'd become the go-to shop for fashion plates in search of unique handbags. They succeeded. Sick of seeing the same bags come and go on the city streets? The shop carries 25 designers that balance uniqueness with practicality, meaning you'll find a bag that goes with your wardrobe and your life. Lines include Kooba, Lorelei, and Palene Reilly. In addition to handbags, Luna sells a line of adorable accessories like watches, belts, hair notions and jewelry, at prices that range from about $50 to $550. Stop following the herd and start shooting for the moon.

HIDDEN GEM

Shake the Tree Gallery

95 Salem St., Boston, 617-742-0484

This Brookline transplant is now nestled on Salem Street in the North End, and it feels like finding buried treasure when you stumble upon it. The store is packed to the rafters with stuff you always wanted and lots of things you never knew you wanted but will now be obsessed with. Owner Marian Klausner carries handmade crafts, jewelry, clothing, home accessories, bath and body products and even things for babies. It's anything and everything that suits her unique aesthetic, items she finds by traveling to craft shows to seek out new and unusual wares. Prices range from the affordable to the costly. We defy anyone to leave empty-handed.

NEWCOMER, MEN'S

Uniform

511 Tremont St., Boston, 617-247-2360, www.uniformboston.com

A shop with a palpable UK feel to it—in terms of designers and the personality of the staff—Uniform breathes new life into the all-men's stores of the South End. Prices are surprisingly reasonable, with designers like Penguin, phBnyc, Freitag and True Religion, among others. Gary Ritacco, who opened the store in April, has been in the retail business for 20 years, and for part of that was an account executive for a cosmetics company. With Uniform, he strove to create a friendly, helpful environment for men to shop in, and he's shored up his repeat business with gift certificate incentives (savings depend on how much dough you spend). They'll even deliver short distances. Prices range from $6.50 to $275, but most of the clothing is well under $100, and they carry some personal products like The Art of Shaving and (an exclusive) Neal's Yard Remedies. We only wish Ritacco would open a women's counterpart.

HIGH-END CLOTHING

Ralph Lauren

93-95 Newbury St., Boston, 617-424-1124, www.polo.com

When one thinks of Ralph Lauren, the image that comes to mind is of well-heeled WASPs playing croquet on the lawn of an estate in Greenwich, or some equally uptight scene. Yet that couldn't be further from the reality of the Ralph Lauren store on Newbury Street. Granted, it's elegant and stately, but they carry the most beautifully crafted clothing in the city at prices from $7–$20,000. The merchandise runs the gamut from sporty tops to elegant dresses and from T-shirts to impeccably tailored suits, and they cater to a clientele who want a polished look with a bit of fashion flair. The styles are constantly changing without pandering to fads or trends, and best of all, they frequently host in-store charity events, to facilitate shopping with a conscience.

INTIMATE APPAREL

La Perla

250 Boylston St., Boston, 617-423-5709, www.laperla.com

This high-end lingerie store may have some staggering digits on its price tags, but it's definitely worth it for those who want, and can afford, the best. Founded i 1954, this giant in intimate apparel has been maki hearts race ever since. The company handcrafts th finest lace in France and sends it to Italy, where the ga ments are constructed and then sent all over the wor to make women swoon and men pant. The designs a provocative without being slutty, while the fabric an construction elevate these underthings to works of ar So delicate to the touch that you might think they'll r with one false move, La Perla garments are actually stu dier than a Hummer. They also have a ready-to-wear lin with flirty dresses, tops and pants that mimic the beau of their lingerie. Sure, it's expensive, but this is you we' talking about.

MEN'S SUITS

Giorgio Armani Boutique

22 Newbury St., Boston, 617-267-3200, www.giorgioarmani.com

Upon hearing the name Giorgio Armani, one almo immediately thinks of Richard Gere in *American Gigol* gorgeous but not flashy, powerful but not overbearin sexy but not trashy. No wonder the Armani suit is th chosen garb among male celebs for the Oscars and oth

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red-carpet events. The cut, color and quality of the fabrics are impeccable, and the boutique always keeps the classics on hand: a one-pleat or flat-front trouser and two- or three-button jackets. Then there are the designer's two yearly collections, which include a wider variety of suits, expanding the options. Most important, there's practically no one who doesn't look great wearing Armani. Forgive the pun, but he suits everyone.

MODERATE CLOTHING

Banana Republic

100 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-867-0400; with other locations in Boston and surrounding areas

www.bananarepublic.com

Banana Republic does classic fashion on a budget so skillfully that it's often hard to tell a pricey designer piece from B.R. merchandise. From delicate knits to classic, lined trench coats, they have wardrobe staples down to a science. The men's button-down shirts are beautifully tailored and the handbag selection is always top-notch. With fashions for both work and play, it's the perfect fit for anyone from clotheshorses filling in minor gaps in their closets to financially strapped young urbanites who want to look stylish. Anything you purchase at Banana Republic will go well with everything else you own.

ONE-OF-A-KIND JEWELRY

Persona Jewelry +

504 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-266-3003,

www.personastyle.com

Located in the hip Hotel Commonwealth, Persona Jewelry + is unlike any other jewelry store in the city. Owners Margarita Druker and Gary Shteyman set up shop in May of 2004 to bring fresh, new jewelry designers, in different price ranges, to Boston. Among them is Alexis Bittar, who has a cult following among celebrities but is almost unknown to the masses, except the au courant few who have been blown away with one glimpse of his handmade necklaces. Another is Emily Bider, who lives in Boston and has quietly been making head-turning jewelry for the most fashion-forward women in town. Persona Jewelry + also carries classic and very high-end pieces; prices range from $50–$100,000. Shteyman designs beautiful, reasonably priced, one-of-a-kind jewelry, and you can even make an appointment to collaborate with him on a design. An added bonus: They have complimentary valet parking.

OUTLET SHOPPING

Wrentham Village Premium Outlets

1 Premium Outlet Blvd., Wrentham, 508-384-0600,

www.premiumoutlets.com

With about 170 stores, Wrentham Village Premium Outlets offers a dizzying array of selections at unbeatable prices. Higher-end boutiques like Versace, Burberry and Coach are just some of the shops. You'll also find great deals on home goods, candy, jewelry—you name it. Unlike many outlet malls, these shops offer actual bargains, and you'll find sales on already discounted merchandise that will have you making countless trips back to your car. Don't miss the crème de la crème: Off 5th and Barneys outlets, where you'll find the latest designer wear for up to 75 percent off the retail price.

NEWCOMER, WOMEN'S

Fanny and Delphine

Hotel Commonwealth, 522 Comm. Ave., Boston,

617-266-2006, www.hotelcommonwealth.com/retail

One of those stores that inspire women to break open their piggy banks and damn the consequences, Fanny and Delphine is jam-packed with unique clothes that you won't find anywhere else in Boston. Owner Eve Kohlman carries only a few of each item and smiles wickedly when they're gone and people request more. Not that she's a sadist. She'll quickly infect you with enthusiasm for the next collection. Her selections are a blend of French, American, Japanese and Italian sensibilities, mixing functionality with raw sex appeal—skirts that come all the way up to the bosom with a belt that cinches at the waist, and body skimming dresses in smooth silk, for example. Even the décor is gorgeous, with architectural salvage that creates a luxe, beckoning interior. If you let it, this store will turn your closet into a work of art.

SHOES

Neiman Marcus

5 Copley Place, Boston, 617-536-3660,

www.neimanmarcus.com

For nearly a century, Neiman Marcus has been synonymous with luxury retailing, and their shoe department showcases the vast selection that the term implies. Attentive sales staff help you to decide what's best for your delicate tootsies without being overbearing. Shoe fetishists will want to clog their closets with a hundred pairs at a time. Luckily, luxury comes with a significant enough price tag to keep you in check. Designers like Miu Miu, Prada and Manolo Blahnik top the list of must-haves each season, and you can bet that Neiman's has the best selection in town.

TRENDY AFFORDABLE

H&M

350 Washington St., Boston, 617-482-7001;

www.hm.com

At this point, unless you've been living under a rock, you've heard of the Swedish clothing company H&M. It's a staple in many Bostonians' shopping lives because of the affordable, stylish pieces. It's the place to buy that fashion trend you suspect might not last the year; there's always something new, and the turnover is so quick you can usually find a sale item or two. The prices on everything are so obscenely low that you can go on a guilt-free shopping spree every few months, as the new lines are unveiled. The accessories selection is unmatched, with eclectic baubles that range in size, color and style to suit every taste. This year marks H&M's collaborations with two of the world's top designers, Karl Lagerfeld and, beginning this fall, Stella McCartney. These are designer looks at basement prices.

URBAN CHIC BOUTIQUE

Christina Defalco

383 Hanover St., Boston, 617-523-8870;

www.christinadefalco.com

Boston native Christina Defalco started her career by learning how to sew and then embellishing wool coats to sell to chic boutiques in New York. A hit, she decided to expand by opening her first store on Endicott Street. The shop looked more like a studio, with fabric and machines filling up the space, but still did well. That was eight years ago, and in 2003, Defalco opened in her present space, where the merchandise is 90 percent her own designs and 10 percent others'. She carries denim and accessories by the likes of Italian designer Angela Caputi, who specializes in hand-molded Lucite. Some of her most popular items are her Swarovski crystal–studded tees ($55), featuring iconic places in Boston, like Mike's Pastry and Fenway Park. This hometown girl is truly one of a kind.

WATCHES

Alpha Omega Jewelers

The Shops at Prudential Center,

800 Boylston St., Boston, 617-424-9030;

1380 Mass Ave., Cambridge, 617-864-1227;

additional suburban locations;

www.alphaomegajewelers.com

Few stores can boast that they've seen royalty, celebrities and at least one former president. Alpha Omega is one that can. For the past 25 years they've been known throughout the world as a premier watch store, with such a vast array of timepieces in every price range that anyone can find something suitable. From their Swatch watch collection to Rolex, Tag Heuer and Panerai, to name a few, they truly have it all. Raman Handa built the business out of his lifelong love affair with the jewelry industry and founded the store in the hope that he could educate his customers about the products that are his passion. Simply step through the door and you'll find his enthusiasm infectious. The prosaic question, "What time is it?" will never sound so pedestrian again. ⊶

a Matta

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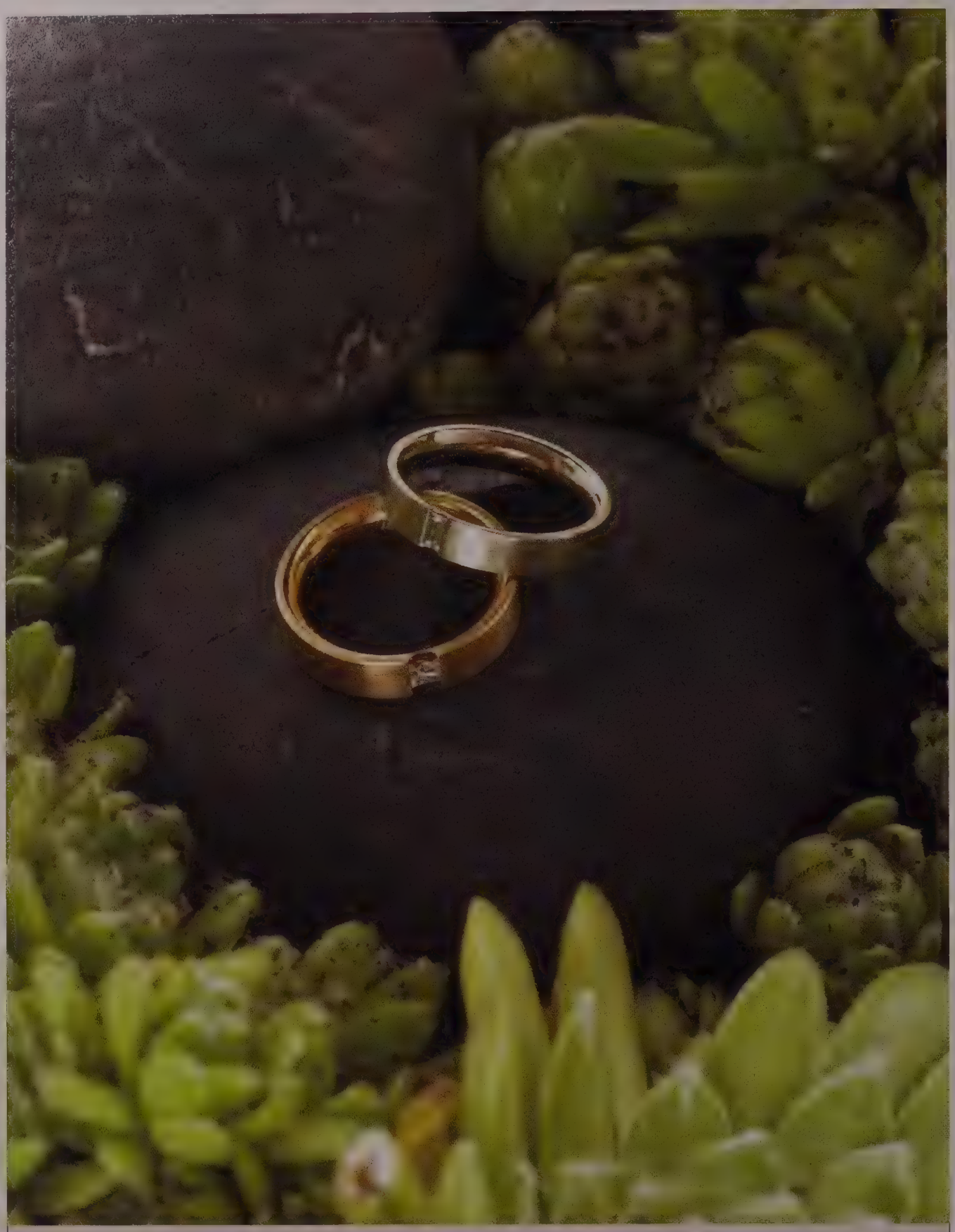

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Michele Mercaldo Studio

280 Shawmut Ave., Boston, 617-350-7909, www.michelemercaldo.com

Customizing your vows for your beloved may be a daunting task, but Michele Mercaldo makes sure that designing a one-of-a-kind ring isn't. Cultivating her craft in the South End for nearly 20 years, Mercaldo has a refined aesthetic that will lend the sort of timelessness brides and grooms seek when selecting the one piece of jewelry they'll wear every day for the rest of their lives (so it had better suit every outfit). After learning about the intended wearer, she approaches the design with sensitivity to your input and individual style. She can also reset or redesign old family heirlooms to integrate your personal taste. Mercaldo offers custom sizing to accommodate any summer swelling and can incorporate an unlimited selection of precious stones and metals into any piece. While larger stores can offer the instant gratification of a same-day-yet-carbon-copy piece, in as little as two weeks, your unique design can go from just a twinkle in your eye to a sparkle on your hand.

BRIDAL FLORIST

Winston Flowers

131 Newbury St., Boston; 141 Congress St., Boston; 569 Boylston St., Boston; with locations in Wellesley, Hingham, Newton and Concord; 800-457-4901; www.winstonflowers.com

Sophistication, quality and experience—that's what sets Winston Flowers apart. Established in 1944, Winston has become a Boston institution: the go-to place for flowers and other sweet-smelling gifts for those in the know. It's no wonder that picky brides pick Winston's when selecting the flowers for their big day. The staff conjures up artful arrangements that would make Martha green with envy, and they deal in only the finest cut flowers available. Full-time staff members devoted exclusively to weddings have the experience to know what brides want before brides know themselves. Florists attend to every detail, and the final product is perfection. For indecisive brides, the team of creative geniuses will whip up samples and suggestions until the ideal solution blossoms. Simply put, a Winston's wedding is classy and florally flawless. Just hope the weather is, too.

BRIDAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Cheryl Richards

224 Clarendon St., Boston, 617-424-7760,

www.cherylrichards.com

Richards is New England's preeminent weddi photographer, which explains why she's so ha to book and so very expensive, but she's worth every penny. A fixture on the Boston socia scene, she's highly regarded for several reason One is her interpersonal skills: She can captur the special day on film without being the least b intrusive or obnoxious. Another is her perfec tionism; each shot is a veritable masterpiece. He photojournalistic style of shooting weddin means that the bride and groom emerge from th day's frenetic confusion with beautiful memori and moments captured that even they migh have missed. Always in demand in Boston, it's n wonder she's frequently hired to travel to Europ the islands and other destinations: Any coupl lucky enough to book her will have a weddi album worthy of an art museum.

ENGAGEMENT RINGS

Long's Jewelers

100 Summer St., Boston, 617-426-8500, www.longsjewelers.com

For some, buying an engagement ring enta two months of intensive research, multip store visits and the repeated mantra of the "fou C's" of diamonds. While making an informe decision is a must, you needn't go it alone (o make it a part-time job). Long's Jewelers, a st ple of the Boston jewelry scene since 1878, n only cuts your time by carrying the finest of d amonds, but its staff will coach you like th American Gem Society–accredited friend y never had. The experienced team strives

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make affordable luxury a reality by offering a selection of handpicked sparklers of incomparable quality. With a master craftsman in every store, you'll know that current customizations as well as complimentary upkeep are in talented hands. Whether it's a ring for the Tiffany-craving fashionista or the value-focused classic bride, each will fall as madly in love with her new piece as she is with the groom.

HIGH-END BRIDAL GOWNS

Vera Wang Bridal Salon Boston

253 Newbury St., Boston, 617-424-1060,
www.verawangboston.com

Vera Wang left her position as senior fashion editor at *Vogue* with one goal in mind: to bring fashion to bridal. She accomplishes just that with a line of understated and sophisticated gowns that are more haute couture than senior prom. Scouring the world for the finest silk, satin and lace, she uses only the highest quality materials, and her timeless designs will make your granddaughter actually want to wear your wedding dress someday. Painstaking attention is paid to each bride's physical assets and liabilities. The Boston boutique carries every design, although special orders are available, and an in-house seamstress nips and tucks at your whim. With prices ranging from $2,400 to $18,000, it's not one of those Route 1 discount stores, but then again, exquisite detailing and tailoring don't come cheap. And you're worth it, right?

MODERATE BRIDAL GOWNS

The Altered Bride

376 Boylston St, 2nd floor, Boston, 617-859-8289,
www.alteredbride.com

The Altered Bride is widely known for having elegant dresses you won't see at other stores. Its unique line includes gowns to flatter all figures and ages, and styles that match a range of venues, from the ballroom to the backyard to the courthouse. This elegant boutique, located on Boylston Street, and its superb service, led by owner Roseanna Martino, is universally praised by the brides Martino has helped to find their perfect dresses. What makes the dresses most appealing is that every individual can add her own personal flourishes with the help of an on-site seamstress. The space is elegant and intimate, allowing bridal parties a leisurely and relaxing atmosphere free from heavy purchasing pressure. Accessories range from spectacular tiaras to gloves, shoes, veils and the other odds and ends that even the most organized bride might have forgotten about.

UPDO

Janet Warner for Salon Marc Harris

30 Newbury St., 3rd floor, Boston, 617-262-2222,
www.ecocentrix.com

On top of all the wedding planning pressures a bride must face (the dress, the location, the caterer and on and on), there's the question of what kind of hairdo she'll be sporting on the big day. With all eyes, and all those flashbulbs, trained on her, her hair had better look perfect. In the capable hands of Janet Warner, there's no need to worry. This consummate pro has been in the business of making brides look radiant yet natural for more than 30 years, and her sophisticated updos are dramatic without making the wearer look like a human poodle. Her strategy is to develop an elegant, tasteful look that flatters the face and enhances the bride's natural beauty. Warner's reassuring manner is also perfect for keeping jittery brides from totally freaking out. To avoid any surprises, she suggests a consultation and trial appointments to achieve utter perfection.

AFFORDABLE BRIDAL GOWNS

Jessica McClintock

201 Newbury St., Boston, 617-247-6667, www.jessicamcclintock.com

Whether you're on a strict budget or simply would rather spend your money on an extravagant honeymoon, Jessica McClintock is the perfect alternative for the bride in search of a more affordable gown. Located on Newbury Street, the store welcomes walk-in appointments as well as consultations. The store's stock-in-trade is a selection of romantic, easygoing and timeless gowns, and the variety of colors and styles is vast, at prices that range from $300–$600. The best way to look like a million bucks on your wedding day without spending a fortune.

WEDDING CAKES

Montilio's Baking Company

638 Adams St., Quincy, 617-472-5500,
www.montilios.com

Established in 1947, Montilio's Baking Company quickly gained acclaim for its tasty treats, and since then its wedding cakes have graced some of Boston's most preeminent nuptials. It's still a family-owned business, and the Montilios pride themselves on tradition and boast a resume that reads like a local Who's Who. Providing desserts a affairs from JFK's inaugural ball to an event honorin Queen Elizabeth, Montilio's remains the first name i desserts for major events. And what bigger event is ther than your wedding? Able to deliver anything you'd like in any flavor and any shape, Montilio's has a vast array o pictures to choose from, or you can work with staff to re alize your own personal vision. Whatever it is, Montilio will find a way to make it happen. **iB**

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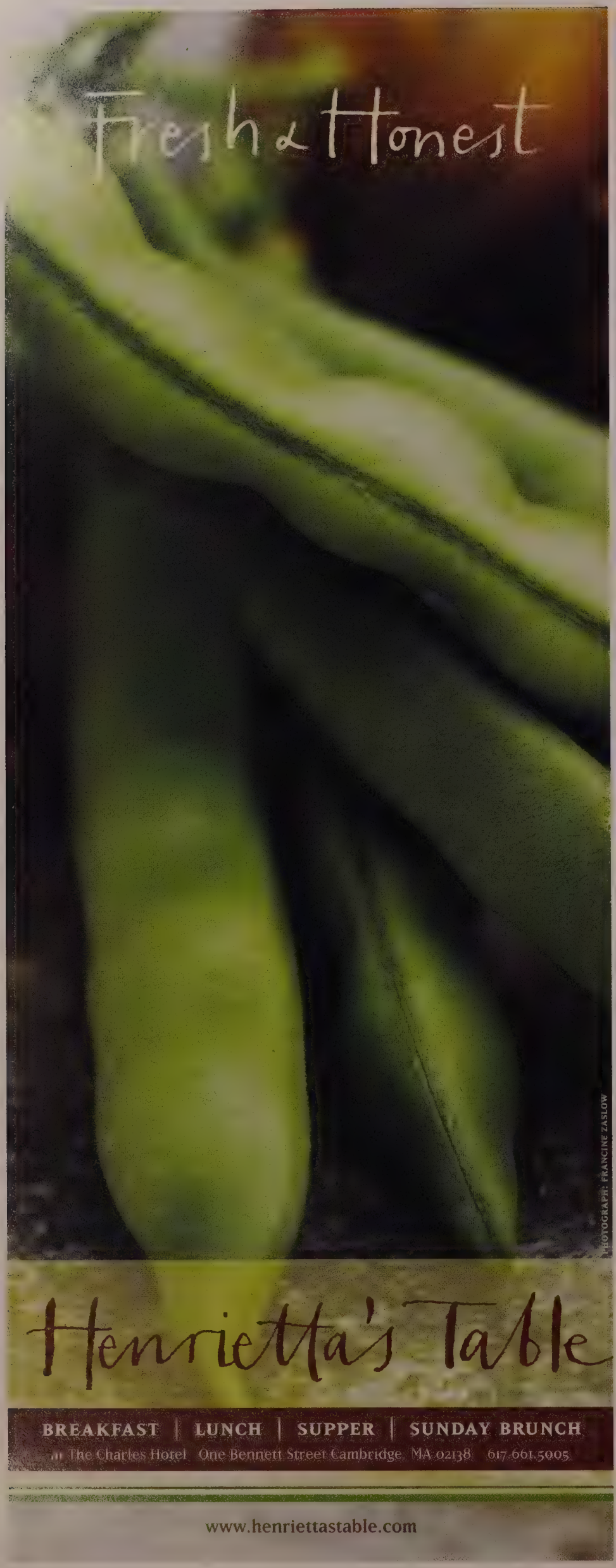

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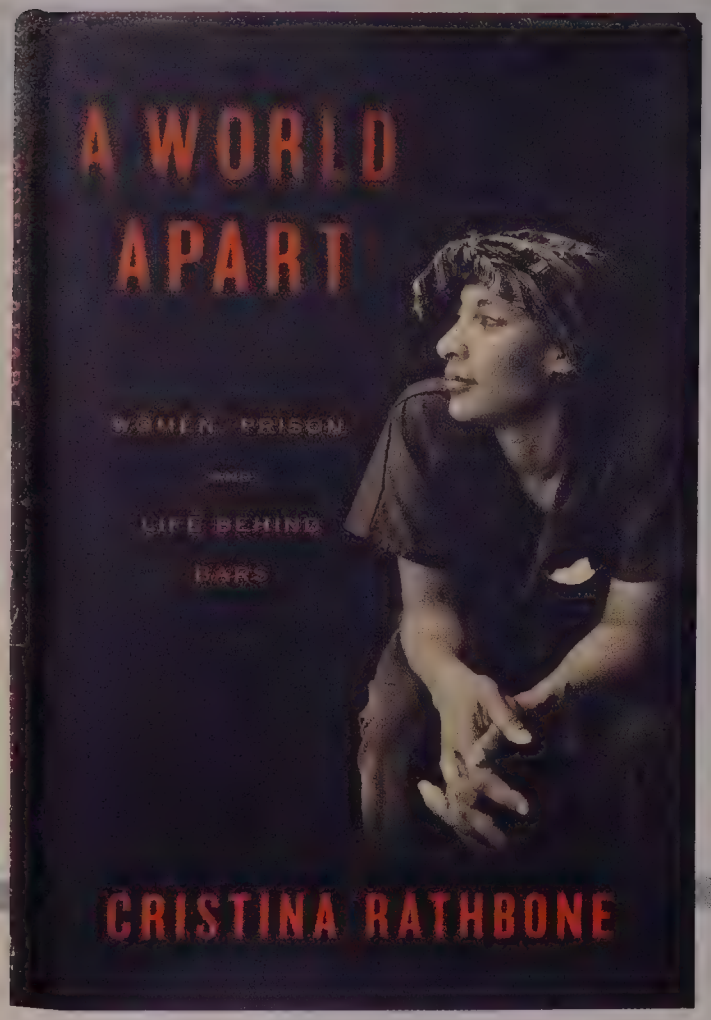
MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



FOUR WALLS DO A PRISON MAKE

Cristina Rathbone went to great legal lengths to be permitted to meet and get to know women at the MCI Framingham prison. In *A World Apart*, she provides a history of life in that facility and puts the inmates' lives into a larger context.

Of the women at MCI Framingham prison, a shocking 72.8 percent are nonviolent offenders and two-thirds are mothers. Huge numbers have drug and alcohol abuse problems. As a respectfully curious observer, Cristina Rathbone spent a long period of time in and among these prisoners, getting to know the mottled realities and tragedies of their lives. A few, it must be said, had committed murder, but some were merely naive appendages to drug-dealing ventures. Mandatory sentencing has delivered extreme consequences to these women. Their served time can blanket their kids' childhoods—the children are often cared for by abusive fathers or overburdened family members. Dropping her novelist's plumb line into her subject, Rathbone curls her stories outward from these prisoners' experiences: A child waves a long good-bye to Mommy in the courtroom; disappointing, creepy men from the Web site Jail Babes come to visit; daughters in Girl Scouts are touchingly more mature than the mothers they're visiting. Women who threaten to commit suicide are thrown into a bedless room, almost naked. And there's sex, involving favors, exploitation, tormented affection and horniness—compromised on both sides. Rathbone follows Denise, mother of Patrick, through heartbreaking years of long-distance motherhood, up to and including her son's own incarceration.

GET CRAZY!

Buckaroo's Mercantile, now at 5 Brookline St., Cambridge, sells eclectic gifts and doodads. Call 617-492-4792 or go to www.buckmerc.com.

With the admirable, offbeat goal of selling things that are "funny and cool and make me smile," Brooks Morris has relocated Buckaroo Mercantile to Central Square, into Otro Lado's space (some of Otro Lado's quirky, colorful Mexican goods have been incorporated into Buckaroo's inventory). Every item—the Audrey Hepburn night-light cover, the capacious bucket made of old flip-flops—serves the dual purposes of campiness and practicality. Elvis, a high Dude in Residence here, appears as a plastic icon that designates him, mock-religiously, the King of Kings. You'll find him gracing light-up key chains, mugs and dashboard ornaments. Posters bearing sex-ed admonitions contrast "good" proper women and nuns with naughty smokers and drinkers—it's hard to tell whether these were actually produced in earnest long ago or more recently, with an ironic bent. Tight, foxy little T-shirts, available in adult and child sizes, are imprinted with various Buckaroo logos like "Can't Sleep, Clowns Might Eat Me," making for cool-cat mom-and-child combos. The deadpan understatements of Anne Taintor enact the war between the sexes in typewritten sentences on cups and notepads: "She could no longer pretend he wasn't an idiot." Opines one jaunty man, "Housework is a snap since I realized, 'Hey, I'm a guy.'"

LIONS AND TIGERS AND BEARING DONATIONS

Cambridge-based Elevate Destinations is a "socially conscious" travel company specializing in high-end customized trips that also raise money for local nonprofits. Call 617-661-0203 or go to www.elevatedestinations.com.

As Toby Fenwick-Wilson, director of travel and deeply adventuresome guide, says of this company, "We design safaris of a specific character and flavor to match our guests' wishes." Those guests—family groups, month-long honeymooning couples, or other kindred crews—come from the higher echelons of taste, resources, elegance and education. These tourists are willing to pay with their dollars in the name of fun, but they are also interested in "giving back," so Dominique Callimanopulos, founder of Elevate Destinations, donates 5 percent of each trip's profits to local charities. These voyages to East and South Africa and India offer particularities that other trips do not: custom-designed forays that get inside local cultures, access via camel to tribes with unique customs and ceremonies, hiking, polo matches, contact with European settlers and urban Africans, and of course, wild wildlife. Lodgings may include a palace or a gorgeously tall tent (not the usual croucher), and voyagers report pleasant surprise at the wonderful food. Transport can consist of the three H's—helicopters, hot air balloons and horses—to reach out-of-the-way spots. In India, a 12-day spiritual retreat takes place in a remote palace. Everywhere, the beauty is dazzling.

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DISH

Burger King?

Dedo redo… Steve Johnson redux?

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Chef Michael Haimowitz of Bambara is the burger king this summer.

Paging Paris Hilton: chef **Michael Haimowitz** of **Bambara** has created a burger that may inspire you to wash every car in Cambridge. Not only is it excessively rich—10 ounces of butter-brushed beef topped with Italian truffle-scented cheese and served on a brioche-esque bun—but it's priced for the proletariat. Every summer Sunday evening, this over-the-top burger is offered with handcut fries for $14.00, including your choice of a Sam Adams brew… but please don't use these suds on that Volvo.

SECOND COURSE

More Cambridge news: The much-missed **Steve Johnson**, former chef/owner of the **Blue Room**, cautiously acknowledges that his long-term goal to open a new restaurant in Cambridge may be within striking distance. "I'm aware there are rumors going around," he says, "based on the fact that I've been working on a location in Central Square for a couple of months now, and have been making progress, but I still have major, major hurdles to get over before I can be sure this thing is actually going to happen." Jump, Steve, jump!

Also in Central Square, the **Green Street Grill** will be changing hands after 22 years. Owner **John Clifford** says the process of selling the restaurant will take about three months, so there's still time to check out chef **Mark Romano**'s Caribbean-influenced menu.

In Boston, **Dedo Bistro** has closed (the lounge remains open) to undergo renovations and reopen the second week of September positioned as a casual neighborhood eatery, with a new menu featuring "seasonal comfort food." Former Dedo executive chef **Jason Santos** is now executive chef at **Gargoyles on the Square** in Somerville. It's a move he describes as "a transfer more than anything," noting that Gargoyles' owner, **James Conforti**, is also one of the owners of Dedo. Santos has transferred much of his Dedo menu to Gargoyles' kitchen, including dishes such as crunchy soft-shell crab with bayou barbecue sauce, peach caviar, and mini johnny cakes. And he plans to stay awhile: "I'm here for at least a year; I signed a contract," he says.

New places and faces: In Dorchester, **Icarus** chef/owner Chris Douglass plans to open the doors of his **Ashmont Grill** by the end of July. **Lucy's** in Brookline has a new executive chef: **Andrew Coleman** was formerly banquet facility saucier and garde-manger at the **Boston Ritz-Carlton**, and has revamped the menu with summer dishes such as chilled plum soup with champagne gelatin. His predecessor, **Eric Bogardus**, has departed for parts unknown, but would be welcome in many a local restaurant kitchen. Out in Waltham, **Tempo** has a new pastry chef: **Jennifer Renaud**, who began her pastry career at **L'Espalier**, is creating a new dessert menu featuring the likes of a raspberry and lime-rickey ice-cream sandwich with coconut cookie, raspberry and lime sorbet and vanilla ice cream. Former Tempo pastry chef **Clarissa Lord** reportedly left for a great new job in Maine, but details are lacking.

A constructive thought: After a years-long trend of overly constructed plates—stacks and piles and heaps of food—the pendulum has swung a little too far in the other direction with so-called "deconstructed" dishes, in which the elements of, say, a Caesar salad are arrayed separately on a plate. It may be perfect for diners who haven't matured past their childhood "don't let the peas touch the potatoes!" quirk, and it can be an appealing novelty, but let's be accurate: Unless the kitchen staff is assembling dishes and then taking them apart, this is *un*constructed food. Or *pre*constructed. Even in cases where it seems like a great idea—at **Red Rock Bistro** in Swampscott, the lobster roll is presented unadorned, with mayonnaise on the side—the concept can backfire. Although most diners like to roll their own, Red Rock proprietor **Paul Petersiel** says other diners send the plate back to the kitchen to be fully assembled. IB

Serving Dish

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Bastille Day at Brasserie Jo
Brasserie Jo, Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). www.colonnadehotel.com. MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. July 14. Sidewalk crepery, 11 am-2 pm; lunch, 11 am-2:30 pm; dinner, 5-11 pm. Brasserie Jo celebrates Bastille Day with an afternoon Sidewalk Crepery (crepes, $4-$5) as well as lunch and dinner specials for $17.89 apiece.

Bauer Wine & Spirits Tastings
Bauer Wine & Spirits, 330 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363). www.bauerwines.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 5-7 pm. Free. This summer, Bauer Wines hosts a series of weekly tastings featuring local and national brewers.
•July 14: California Dreamin' Beer Tasting.
•July 28: Straight Outta Brooklyn.

BBQ and Beer Benefit
Rouge, 480 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-266-4600, ext. 13). www.rougeboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. July 31. 6 pm. $50-$60. This event benefiting the Pan-Mass Challenge and the Jimmy Fund features a Harpoon beer reception, a BBQ buffet and various prize giveaways.

Communal Table Summer Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. July 22. 6 pm. $25. This event, entitled Mint Juleps, Margaritas and Tapas, features food and drink samples, as well as tips from the Radius staff.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) plus complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue., 6 pm; Thu., 8 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •July 14: Sweet Tooth Night. •July 19 and 21: Portugal — more than just Port. •July 26 and 28: Sonoma's Russian River Valley.

Fete de la Bastille
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. July 14. 5-10 pm. $38. Sel de la Terre adorns its dining room with blue, white and red décor, and offers a special four-course prix fixe menu in celebration of Bastille Day.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •July 13: Alsace. •July 20: South African Wine Experience. •July 27: Reception Spectacular.

Morton's Monthly Wine Tastings
Morton's Steakhouse, 1 Exeter Plaza, Boston (617-266-5858). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. July 13. 5:30-8 pm. $100. Enjoy wine, filet mignon sandwiches and other Morton's fare at this monthly tasting that also features a chance to win two tickets to a Red Sox/Yankees game.

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. Every Thu. and Fri., 6 and 8:30 pm. $35. Chef de Cuisine **Mark Usewicz** prepares a tasting menu of classic Italian small plates in front of guests at the restaurant's Oysteria Bar. Reservations required.

Rialto Wine BBQ
Rialto, Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). www.rialto-restaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 13. 6 pm. $90. This 10th annual event features wines from local vineyards like Westport and Sakonnet, as well as summer fare cooked up by chef **Jody Adams.**

Taste of Cambridge
Technology Square at MIT, between Broadway and Main streets, Cambridge. www.tasteofcambridge. com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. July 20. 5-8 pm. $30-40. This annual event celebrates the diversity of Cambridge's dining options and features fare from local restaurants like Bambara, Formaggio Kitchen and the Rustic Kitchen.

Temper Chocolates Tasting
Temper Chocolates, Longwood Room at the Hotel Commonwealth, 500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-375-2255). www.temperchocolates.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. July 28. 7:30-8:30 pm. $15. Temper Chocolates owner **Caroline Yeh** leads a tasting that explores chocolates from places like Grenada, Venezuela and Trinidad.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •July 19: Ice Wines ($40). •July 26: Raw Bar 2. •August 2: Burgundy Reds.

Wine and Dine Mondays
Beacon Hill Hotel & Bistro, 25 Charles St., Boston (617-723-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. First and third Mon. of each month, 7 pm. $45. Chef **Ben Knack** prepares a four-course meal paired with four wines. •July 18: California Central Coast. •Aug. 1: Pinot Noirs of the World.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •July 18: South Africa. •July 25: Alsace. •August 1: Bordeaux.

Wine Wednesdays at Pigalle
Pigalle, 75 Charles Street South, Boston (617-423-4944). www.pigalleboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $65. Every Wednesday this summer Pigalle chef Marc Orfaly prepares a four-course tasting menu paired with wines from a particular region.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •July 13: Bastille Day Tasting. •July 20: Burgundy. •July 27: Go Fish.

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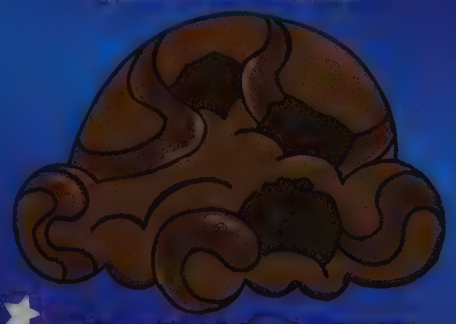

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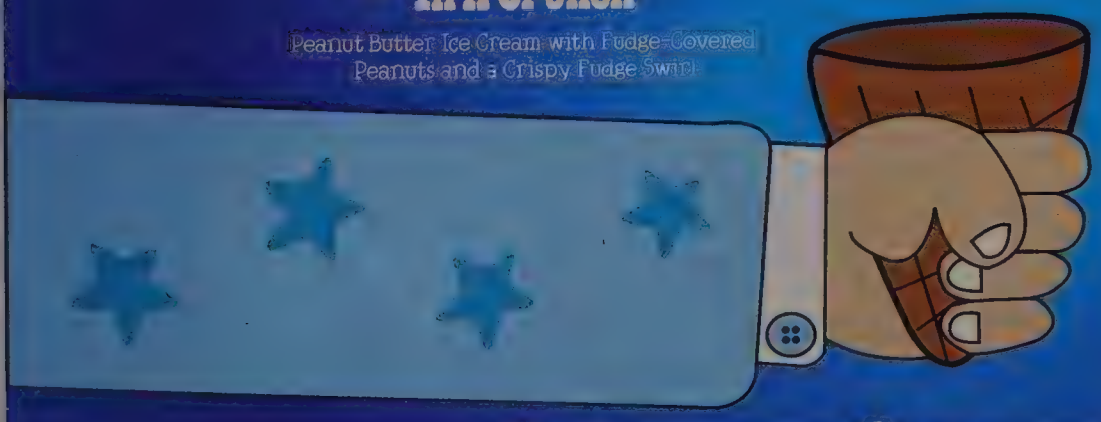

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JULY 22-23

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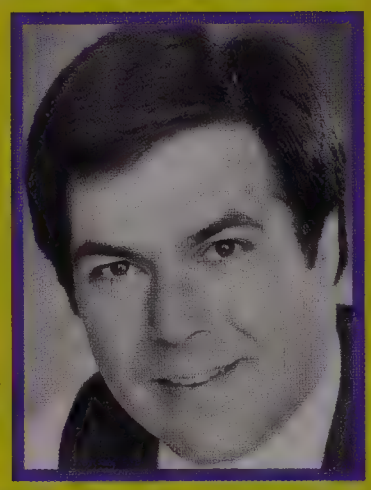

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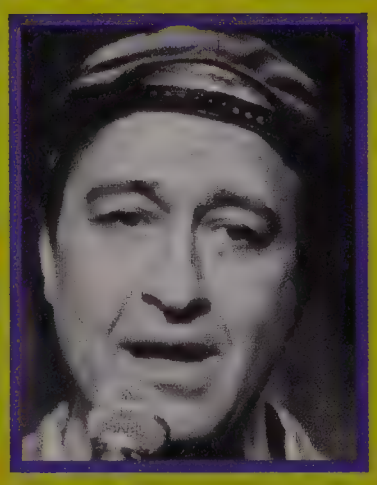

JULY 29-30

From Showtime, CBS' "The King of Queens," ABC's "My Wife & Kids" and the movie "The Big Lebowski"

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agenda

MPROPER PICKS

uly 13 - august 2

HOT TIPS FROM
CALENDAR GURUS
LESLIE AND RICH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			13 **Morton's** offers a chance to win Sox/Yankees tickets at its Monthly Wine Tasting. *See Tastings on page 134.*	**14** The annual **Lantern Festival** takes place at Forest Hills Cemetery. *See CityScope on page 140.*	**15** The latest **Harry Potter** book goes on sale tonight at midnight. *See Books & Poetry on page 176.*	**16**
17 The Brattle Theatre honors Robert Rodriguez with a screening of **Desperado**. *See Movies on page 152.*	**18**	**19** **The Summer Games Poster Show** is at International Poster Gallery. *See Museums & Galleries on page 171.*	**20**	**21** **Slanguage** premieres at the BCA's Plaza Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 142.*	**22** **Fountains of Wayne** plays a free concert at Copley Square Park. *See Music on page 154.*	**23** **The Found Footage Festival** premieres at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. *See Movies on page 146.*
24 **Howie Day** headlines a show at the Bank of America Pavilion. *See Music on page 159.*	**25** ***A Star is Born*** screens at the BPL as part of their Fredric March Film Series. *See Movies on page 151.*	**26** Jeffrey Donovan stars in **Hamlet on the Common** at Boston Common. *See Performing Arts on page 142.*	**27**	**28** **Tim Wakefield** and **Johnny Damon** host a benefit show at the Comedy Connection. *See CityScope on page 140.*	**29**	**30** **The Seasonal Courtyard** at the Gardner Museum closes this weekend. *See Museums & Galleries on page 170.*
31 Rouge's **BBQ & Beer Benefit** supports the Jimmy Fund and the Pan-Mass Challenge. *See Tastings on page 134.*	**1**	**2** **Chevelle** hits Boston for a show at the Roxy. *See Music on page 162.*				

Kay Hanley, Peter Gammons and Bill Janovitz

SAT./JULY 16

Music and CityScope: Jammin' with the GM

Holding the reins of a major league baseball team, Theo Epstein clearly knows how to perform. But did you know the Red Sox GM can hold his own behind a guitar as well? On July 16, Epstein and ESPN baseball analyst Peter Gammons host, and take the stage at, Hot Stove Cool Music: The Fenway Sessions. The ballpark concert, cosponsored by the IMPROPER, benefits a Foundation to Be Named Later, a charity started up by Epstein and his twin brother Paul, that supports community programs for at-risk, underprivileged youths.

Expected to perform are celebrities like Epstein, Gammons, Buffalo Tom, Red Sox pitcher Bronson Arroyo and Yankees center fielder Bernie Williams (hold your boos, the guy can play), along with homegrown faves Kay Hanley, Juliana Hatfield, and the Gentlemen. (Message to Theo: A potential music career may be tempting, but we'd much rather have you bring home another ring before you go shooting for any Grammys.) *Fenway Park, Boston (877-733-7699). www.redsox.com. Gates open at 6 pm. $50-$100. —RL*

CITYSCOPE 140
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CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn Books & Poetry, Movies
Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
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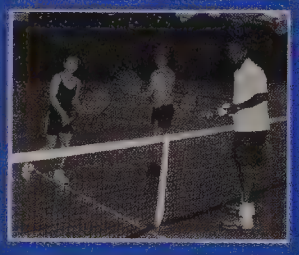

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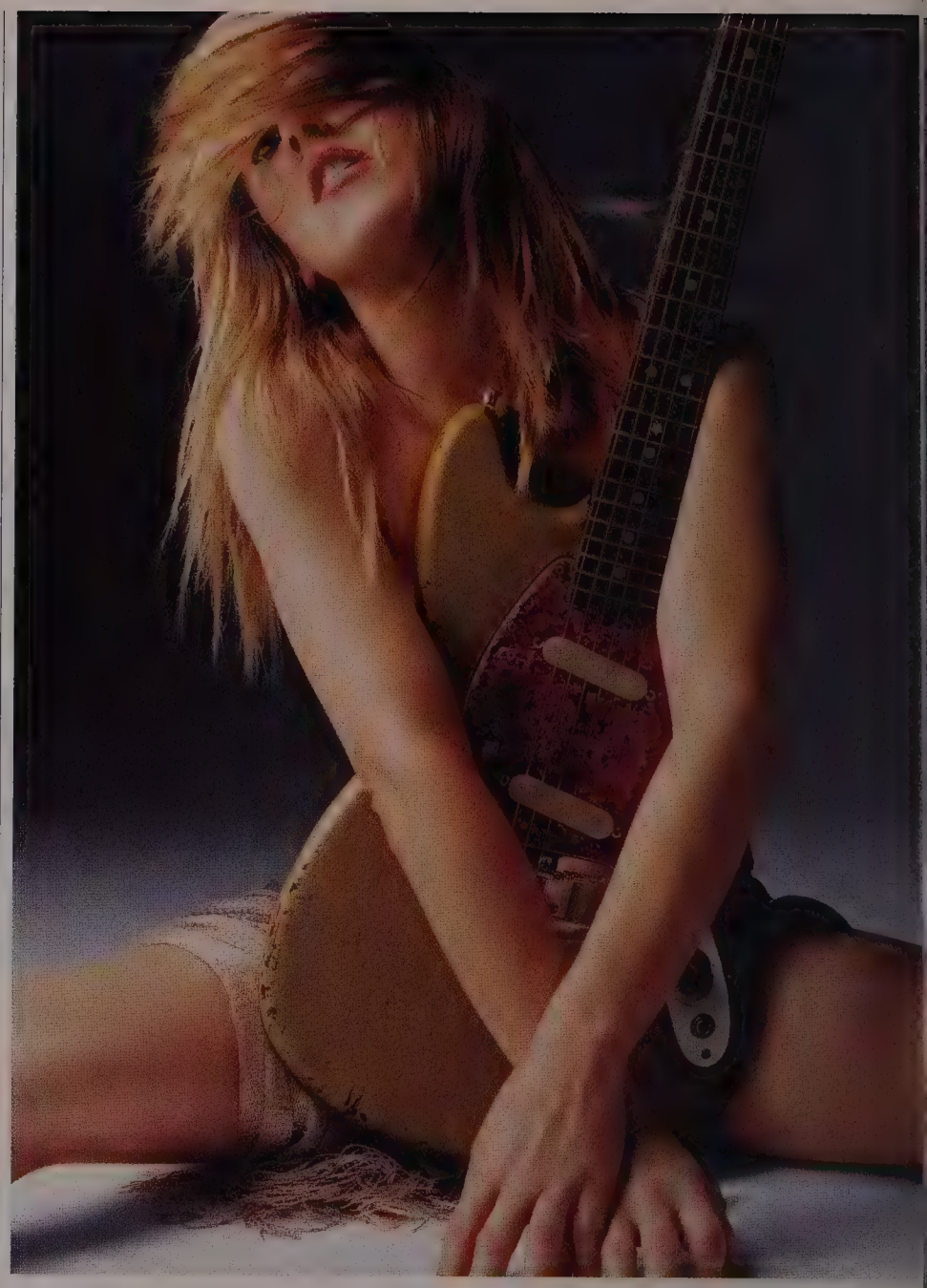


TUE.–WED./JULY 26–27

Music: About Face

Fans of indie rocker Liz Phair were dismayed when she went mainstream a few years and gained Top 40 status with her new self-titled album. They missed her guitar and explicitly frank lyrics they'd grown fond of in the '90s, with albums like *Exile in Guy* *Whitechocolatespaceegg* and *Whip-Smart*. Well, rumor has it the rock starlet is changin her tune once again, getting closer to her roots. Back on tour this summer, Phair's go acoustic with new songs she says are band-driven and emphasize lyrics. Her tour kic off here in Boston at the Paradise Rock Club to preview songs from her new album, *Somebody's Miracle*, out in October. Word is she'll also perform the tunes we all kno and love. *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). 8 pm. $20. —LPK*

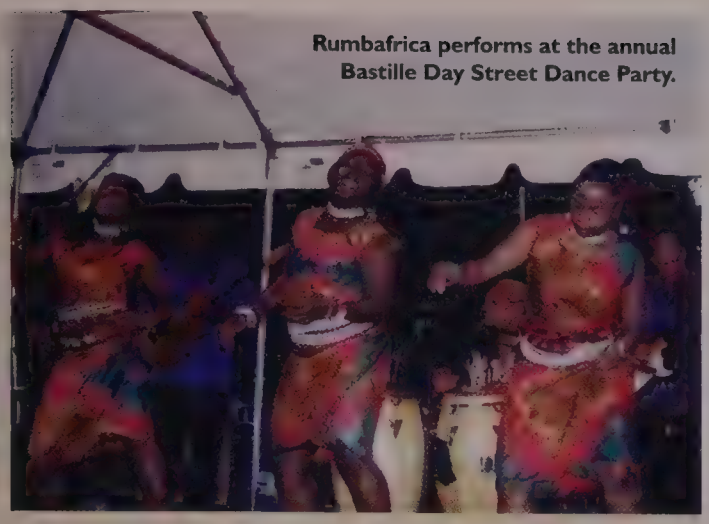
WED./JULY 20

Tastings: Over the River and Into the Food

The Hub might get a lot of attention for its high-end dining, but our neighbors across the river in Cambridge are no slouches either. And on July 20, you can sample some of what the Cambridge dining scene has to offer with the annual Taste of Cambridge at the MIT Technology Square. For $3 in advance ($40 at the door), you can stuff your face with fare from local restaurants like Harvest, Chez Henri and Café of India, and wash it all down with beverages from the Cambridge Brewing Company and John Harvard's. The night also features live entertainment, and proceeds benefit three local organizations: CASPAR Youth Service the Cambridge Licensee Advisory Board and the Dance Complex. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Cambridge's three Whole Foods Markets locations. *Technolog Square at MIT, between Broadway and Main streets, Cambridge. www.tasteofcambridge. com. 5-8 pm. $30-$40. —RL*

RI./
ULY 15

ityScope: ranco estivities



Rumbafrica performs at the annual Bastille Day Street Dance Party.

on't worry if your ench friends felt left it at this year's ourth of July rbecue—their own dependence Day elebration is right ound the corner. astille Day, the ench holiday that elebrates the attack on the Bastille prison in Paris in 1789 that launched the French evolution, is on July 14. In Boston on July 15, the French Library and Cultural Center osts their 30th annual Bastille Day Street Dance Party, co-sponsored this year by the IPROPER. The party takes place from 6-11 pm and is held (for the first time since 002) outside on Marlborough Street (between Berkeley and Clarendon), featuring usical acts like Congolese Afro-pop star Papa Wemba, Haiti's Emeline Michel and auritania's Daby Touré. When you're done dancing up an appetite, there's a election of food and wine on sale from local French restaurants, and proceeds benefit e Center's Children's After School French Program. Vive la France. *Marlborough St., oston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. 6-11 pm. $25-$30. —RL*

. AND FRI./JULY 14–29

seums & Galleries and Film: ial Conscience

n's got it covered when it comes to events and activities for the socially conscious he annual Avenue of the Arts Exhibit and Boston Political Festival looks to be one biggies—an event for those seeking films and art that address current global and issues. Contemporary paintings and crafts by artists from local colleges and rsities display at the Boston Public Library's West End Branch gallery Monday-, and topical films screen every Thursday and Friday night through July. mentaries include *Talking to the Wall*, a film about a small New England town ng Wal-Mart; *Dying to Vote*, which addresses the importance of voting and includes s with Mayor Menino; and *Outfoxed*, which critiques Fox Network's coverage of the n Iraq. *Boston Public Library, West End Branch, 151 Cambridge St., Boston (617-523- . Exhibit, Mon-Wed., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 12-8 pm; Fri., 9 am-5 pm, Free; Film al, Thu-Fri., 6:30 pm. Free. —LPK*

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope @improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

Come Get Dirty
Ruby Room, Onyx Hotel, 155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950). www.onyxhotel.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 6-11 pm. Free. Dirty Martini night features complimentary drinks that benefit the Trust for Public Land, a land conservation nonprofit organization.

THURSDAY, JULY 14

'80s Old School Prom
The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 6 pm. $20 general admission; $30 VIP (reservations required). A DJ spins retro prom favorites and a King and Queen are crowned at this '80s-style dance to benefit the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge, the Jimmy Fund and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Lantern Festival
Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 6-9 pm. $10 donation requested. Decorate a paper lantern and set it afloat on Lake Hibiscus in this Buddhist-inspired ceremony featuring live music by the VariAsians and Master Tsuji's Samurai Taiko Drummers. Proceeds benefit the Forest Hills Educational Trust.

FRIDAY, JULY 15

Celebrity Author Series
Morton's, The Steakhouse, 699 Boylston St., Boston (617-918-5289). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 5 pm. $25. Mayor Thomas M. Menino hosts this event featuring wine, hors d'oeuvres and an appearance by Jack Welch, former CEO of General Electric and author of *Winning*. Proceeds benefit ReadBoston.

Musicians United Against Cancer
Middle East Downstairs, 480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-8238). www.mideastclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $12. Revolutionary Snake Ensemble, the Gulf, the Swedes, Bowman, and the Less Lonesome perform to benefit the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

SATURDAY, JULY 16

Hot Stove Cool Music: The Fenway Sessions
Fenway Park, Boston (877-733-7699). www.redsox.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Gates open 6 pm. $50-$100. Red Sox GM Theo Epstein and ESPN's Peter Gammons host this night of performances by local sports and music stars like Epstein, Gammons, Bronson Arroyo and Buffalo Tom. Proceeds from the event, sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, benefit a Foundation to be Named Later, which helps disadvantaged youth.

SUNDAY, JULY 17

Volleypalooza
WaterWorks, 333 Victory Road, Quincy. www.waterworksboston.com. 1-9 pm. Free ($10 suggested donation). Watch teams from local Boston nightclubs compete in an outdoor beach volleyball tournament, that benefits Summer Search.

TUESDAY, JULY 19

Bartender Auction
180 Lounge, 180 Lincoln St., Boston (617-426-1080). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 8 pm. Dates with Boston bartenders are auctioned off in memory of bartender Christopher Lawless at this event that also includes an open bar from 8-9 pm and party packs for participants and guests. Proceeds benefit various breast cancer initiatives.

THURSDAY, JULY 21

Jim Kane Sugar Bowl Road Race
Begins at Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-743-7961). www.lstreet.org. Registration, 4:30 pm; race starts at 6:30 pm. $10-$20. Proceeds

The Village People perform at the a
Italia Unita Festival in East Boston, Ju

from this 5-mile race go to the Jim Kane Sc
Fund and other local charities. Awards are
the top three finishers in each division, pl
race party follows the main event.

Swim Across America Party and Auction
*Parris, 250 Quincy Market Building, Faneuil H
(888-SWIM-USA). MBTA: Green Line to G
Center. 7:30 pm. $25 suggested donation.* T
features live music, a cash bar and a live auc
guest auctioneer, former Boston Bruin Gor
Proceeds benefit the Dana-Farber Cancer I
David B. Perini, Jr. Quality of Life Clinic.

SATURDAY, JULY 23

Organized Gear Fashion Showc
*John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Bost
719-9125). www.organizedgear.com. MBT
Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $30-$50.* LBD f
97.7 FM hosts this show featuring desig
Organized Gear, Mohini by Krystal, EG
Snape and Adalliance Lingerie. A portio
proceeds support the Avon Cancer Associ

THURSDAY, JULY 28

All-Star Comedy/Variety Show
*Comedy Connection, 245 Quincy Market
Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.pitching
org. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Hay
pm. $150.* Red Sox players Johnny Damon
Wakefield host this annual event featuri
and silent auction, as well as performan
local comedians. Proceeds benefit Pitchi
Kids and the Franciscan Children's Hospita

FORE Victims of Violence Golf Tournament
*Brookline Golf Club at Putterham, Brookli
905-9667). www.deanteam.org. 8 am. $100
donation.* Team Dean Charities' annual eve
a "best ball scramble" style tournament fo
levels as well as a prize raffle. Proceeds be
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

SUNDAY, JULY 31

BBQ and Beer Benefit
*Rouge, 480 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-2
ext. 13). www.rougeboston.com. MBTA: Or
to Back Bay. 6 pm. $50-$60.* This event b
the Pan-Mass Challenge and the Jimmy F
tures a Harpoon beer reception, a BBQ bu
various prize giveaways.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, JULY 14

Quincy's Annual Summer Festi
*Quincy Center, Hancock St., Quincy (
3232). www.discoverquincy.com. MBTA: Re
Quincy Center. July 14-16. Thu.-Fri., 10
Sat.;10 am-5 pm. Free.* This annual event i
Center offers food, music, entertainment
gain shopping.

FRIDAY, JULY 15

Bastille Day Street Dance
*Marlborough St. (between Berkeley and Cla
Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.or
MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6-11 pm.*
Boston's French Library hosts this celeb
French Independence Day with live perfo
by francophone singers Pap Wemba,
Michel and Daby Toure, plus authentic Fre
wine and street dancing. This event is spon
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

11th Annual Italia Unita Festiva
*Central Square, East Boston (617-56
www.italiaunita.org. MBTA: Blue Line to M
July 15-17. Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 5 pm; Sun., 3*
The three-day festival features traditional f

song performances. Saturday's venue show-
ne first annual Sausage Eating Contest and a
nance by the Village People.

ONESDAY, JULY 20

of Cambridge

gy Square at MIT, between Broadway and Main Cambridge. www.tasteofcambridge. com. Red Line to Kendall. 5-8 pm. $30-40. This an-
ent celebrates the diversity of Cambridge's din-
ons and features fare from local restaurants like
a, Formaggio Kitchen and the Rustic Kitchen.

AY, JULY 22

val Betances Villa Victoria

ictoria neighborhood, South End (617-635- www.cityofboston.gov/arts. MBTA: Orange Back Bay. July 22-24. Free. Inquilinos
as en Acción puts on this three-day food,
music and craft festival to commemorate
entury Puerto Rican patriot Dr. Ramón
io Betances.

n' on the Ritz on the Roof

z-Carlton Hotel, 15 Arlington St., Boston 12-3335). www.ritzcarlton.com. MBTA: Line to Arlington. Also July 29. 7 pm. $35 on (food and beverage additional). The five-
itz-Carlton orchestra plays atop the hotel's
e-controlled roof, where guests can dance
oy summer fare, champagne and cocktails.

gles

NDAY, JULY 18

ute Dating

Vave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-790- www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line h Station. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers
eight different eight-minute dates. Then
and meet the people you didn't get the
to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

SDAY, JULY 19

ute Dating

s at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Boston 27-7800). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. 6:38 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 22-32.

FRIDAY, JULY 22

Naughty or Nice Speed Dating

The Hyatt Regency, Nantucket Room, 1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa. com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 7-9 pm. $30. Meet a variety of singles at this speed dating event hosted by the Boston Young Professionals Association.

TUESDAY, JULY 26

8 Minute Dating

Fire and Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-482-3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 30-40.

SUNDAY, JULY 31

8 Minute Dating

The Asgard Irish Pub, 350 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-577-9100). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 5:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 43-55.

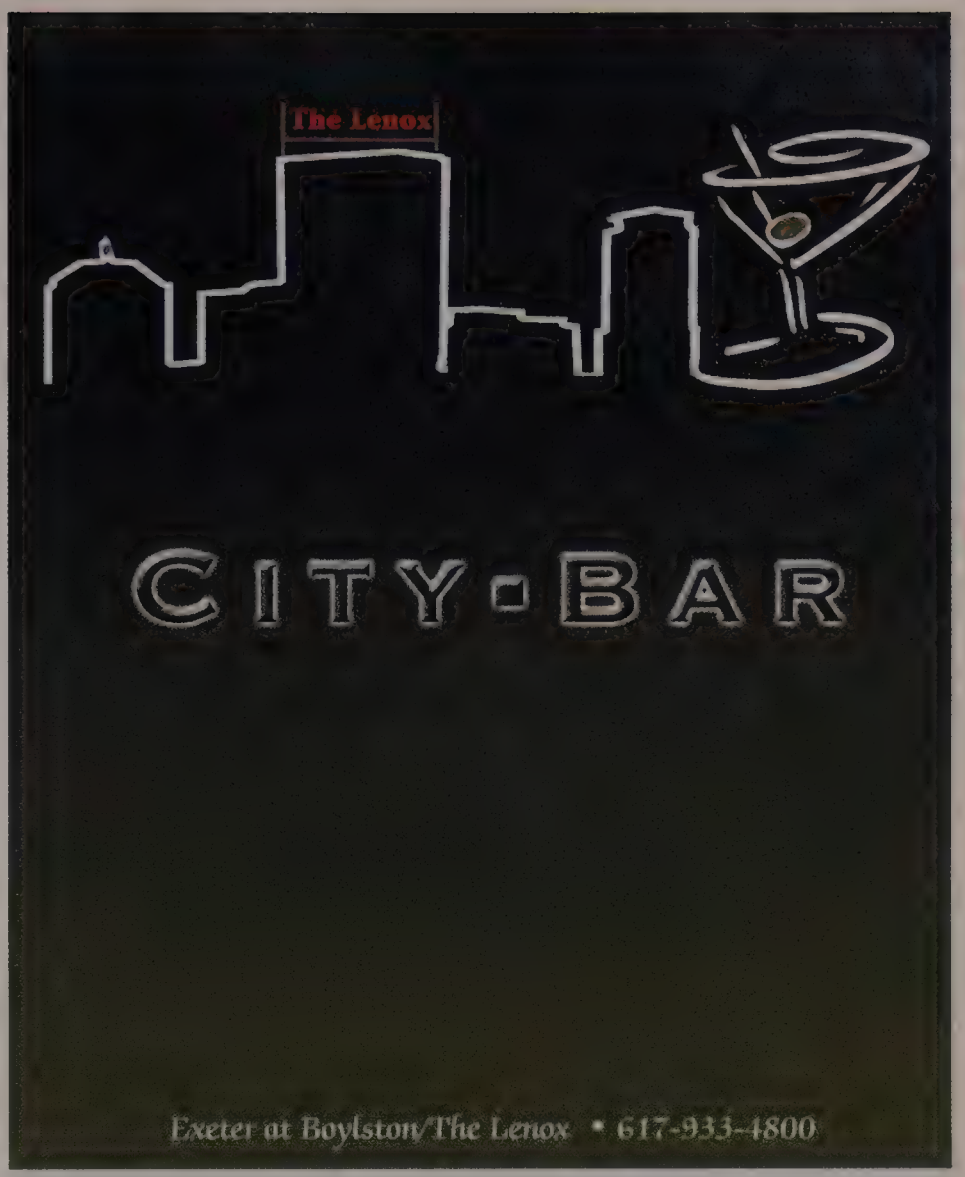
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

8 Minute Dating

Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Boston (617-227-7800). www.8minutedating. com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 32-42.

8 Minute Dating

Tiger Lily, 8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-881). www.8minutedating. com. MBTA: D Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.



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THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

My Little Radio, The Andwutz, Endway

$5 9pm 21+

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

Chad Perrone of AVERI, The Brightwings

Nicole Russo

$6 9pm 21+

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

Matt Chase Group, LABB, Parkview

$5 9pm 21+

SEPTEMBER:

Keep your eye out for the September schedule, featuring some major acts for our fall kickoff shows.

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performing arts

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts, or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Cabaret
Zeiterion Performing Arts Center, 684 Purchase St., New Bedford (508-994-2900). www.zeiterion.org. July 15-24. Fri., Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $22-$28. The Festival Theatre presents its rendition of the romance between a Berlin cabaret performer and an American writer in the tumult of pre-Hitler Germany.

Carousel
Robinson Theatre, 617 Lexington St., Waltham (781-891-5600). www.reagleplayers.com. July 14-23. Sun., 6 pm; Wed., 7 pm; Thu., 2 and 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm. $20-$42. Shirley Jones of the *Partridge Family* TV series stars in Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical about a carnival worker sent back from the dead to make amends in his life.

Comedy of Errors
The Publick Theatre, 1400 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publicktheatre.com. July 21-31. Thu., Sun., 7 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $30. One of Shakespeare's earliest works, this farce develops from the confusion that ensues when two brothers' identities are confused.

Hamlet on the Common
Parade Grounds on Boston Common, Boston ((617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. July 16-Aug. 7. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. Free. Shakespeare's tragedy features Jeffrey Donovan as the conflicted prince who attempts to avenge his father's death in the midst of political and familial strife.

Hello, Dolly!
The Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, North Andover (987-837-5355). www.merrimackvalleyplayers.org. July 22-23. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. $20 for adults, $18 for seniors 65 and older and children under 12. The Merrimack Valley Players present the well-known story of matchmaker Dolly Levi, who chases a wealthy merchant from Yonkers.

King John
Founders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. July 21-Sept. 3. 2 and 7 pm. $10-$35. Tina Packer directs this political tragedy set in the Middle Ages that recounts a battle between England and France over the English crown.

My Old Lady
Gloucester Stage, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Jul. 21-Aug. 7. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $30 adults, $20 seniors and students. When Mathias's father dies, he inherits a Parisian home that is still occupied by a 94-year-old tenant and her attractive but combatant daughter in this co edy written by Israel Horovitz.

Rapunzel
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, erly, (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. July 22, and 1 pm. $11-$17. The creators of *Friends* gether the book and lyrics for the retelling classic.

Slanguage
Boston Center for the Arts, BCA Plaza Theatre Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.b theaterscene.com. July 21-Aug. 13. Thu., 8 pm, and Sat., 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25 for shows; $35 for 8 and 10 pm shows. Company presents this performance featuring the tr Universes from the South Bronx. The show porates elements of a poetry slam, dance, music and hip-hop.

The Spitfire Grill
Indoor Theatre, Cape Rep Theatre, 3299 Rte East Brewster (508-896-1888). www.caperep July 28-Aug. 27. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., $12-$22. The Spitfire Grill functions as ting for the action in this musical set in s town Wisconsin.

Super Scientific Circus
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, erly, (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. July 29, 10 am and 1 pm. $11-$17. Starring Mr. Fish Trent the Mime, this show uses boomerangs an whips to demonstrate principles such as centri force and sonic booms.

The Syringa Tree
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cam (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. July 15-Au Sun., 2 pm; Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat.- Sun., 8 $36-$72. Writer and performer Pamela Gien ch cles the story of black and white families in the e Apartheid through the eyes of a 6-year-old girl.

Theatre Diversified: A Festival By and About People of Color
The Theatre Cooperative, Elizabeth Peabody Ho 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). w theatrecoop.org. July 22 -23. 8 pm. $10. S plays, poetry and musical pieces performed by ple of color.

Top Girls
Main Stage, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Main St., Williamstown (413-597-3400). ww festival.org. July 20-31. Wed., 8 pm; Thurs., 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8:30 pm; Sun., $20-$52. Set at a dinner party, Caryl Churc play pushes her characters to examine the culty of the personal sacrifices women mak success.

Wild and Whirling Words
Bankside, Founders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Com 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). ww speare.org. July 30-Aug. 27, 12:30 and 5:30 pm. G. Coleman directs this less than one hour sh fast-paced, comical Shakespeare acts.

NOW RUNNING

Arcadia
The Publick Theatre, 1400 Soldiers Field R Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publickth com. Through July 17, Wed., Thu. and Sun. pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm. $30, discounts availa seniors and students. Set in the English cou side, Tom Stoppard's play addresses a range o ics including history, science, philosophy and Diego Arciniegas directs.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston 931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: G Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; F pm; Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. blue trio performs an ongoing show that mixe music, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

Cinderella
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, erly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through 31, times vary. $26.25-$68. Greg Ganakas di Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical based o classic fairy tale.

Dinner with Friends
Gloucester Stage, 267 East Main St., Glouc (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Th July 17, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Su pm. $15-$30. Donald Margulies' play tell story of two couples facing the ups and dow marriage as they enter middle age. Scott Edm directs.

8 Track: The Sounds of the '70s
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham 279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Th July 24. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; S and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $36 general, $32 senio

uage, a performance by Universes from the South Bronx, is at the BCA, July 21–Aug.13.

lents. Director Rick Seeber blends comedy
; music by featuring four performers and 50
om groups such as the Bee Gees, the Doo-
hers and the Carpenters.

Windermere's Fan
ıge, Williamstown Theatre Festival, 1000 Main liamstown (413-597-3400). www.wtfestival. rough July 17. Wed., 8 pm; Thu., 3 and 8 pm; m; Sat., 4 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $20-$52. Vilde's tale is about a woman who resolves to r husband but discovers that his affair with an- oman is not what it seems.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

Pippin
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newton. Through Aug. 14. Thu.-Sat. 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $24. A young prince sets out

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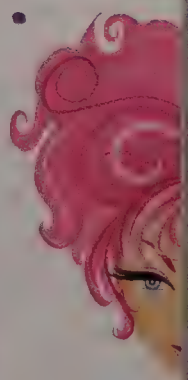

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the Fireplace

New England Grill

The Syringa Tree opens at the American Repertory Theatre on July 15.

to find his calling in life in this play by Stephen Schwartz. James Tallach directs.

Pterodactyls
The Devanaughn Theater, 791 Tremont St., Boston (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. Through July 24. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7pm. $15. The Tribe Theater Ensemble stages its first full-length play about a family in denial about each other's personal truths.

Puppetry of the Penis
Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.puppetryofthepenis.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through July 17. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 7 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $35, $38.50. Simon Morley and David Friend perform their favorite penis installations for men and women alike, including "The Eiffel Tower," the "Loch Ness Monster" and "The Hamburger."

The Seagull
Mary O'Malley Park, Commandant's Way, Chelsea Waterfront (Admiral's Hill), Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. Through July 24. English performances Tues., Thurs., and Sat., 7:30 pm; Spanish performances Wed., Fri., Sun., 7:30 pm. Free. Theatrezone presents Chekhov's play on love, art and nature with original music composed by Ensemble Warhol.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This comedic whodunit set in a crazy unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Tamer Tamed
Spring Lawn Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox, (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 27, 12:30 and 5:30 pm. Free. John Fletcher penned this sequel to *Taming of the Shrew*, which has the tamer Petruchio divorced and remarried to a gentler wife.

The Taming of the Shrew
Founders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www. shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 3, 7:30 pm. $10-$35. The bard has an ill-mannered noblewoman butting heads with a potential suitor in this romantic comedy set in Italy.

Wharton One-Acts
Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 4, 4 pm. $30-$44. Eleanor Holdridge directs two Edith Wharton adaptations, *The Mission of Jane* and *The Promise*.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to C Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam featur formances from local stand-up comedians, comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (78 2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. M Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E ical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The town Comedy Vault features an assortment c stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (61 9700). www.comedyconnectionboston. com. M Green or Blue Line to Government Center, G Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comed in Boston draws nationally known comedi weekends and showcases up-and-coming loc ent during the week. •July 13, 8 pm: Ha Stebbins, $12. •July 14, 8:30 pm: Frank the "R-Rated Hypnotist", $15. •July 15, 8 p 10:15 pm: Craig Shoemaker, $22.50. •July pm and 10:15 pm: Boston Headliners, $20. 17, 7 pm: Rich Ceisler, $12. •July 18, 8 pm: Knox hosts the Amateur Showcase. •July pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12. 20, 8 pm: Tony V., $12. •July 21, 8:30 pm: Santos the "R-Rated Hypnotist", $15. •Jul pm and 10:15 pm: Kevin Meaney, $22. •Jul pm and 10:15 pm: Kevin Meaney, $25. •Jul pm: Kevin Knox hosts Amateur Showcase •July 26, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie $12. •July 27, 8 pm: Mike Donovan, $12. 28, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos the "R-Rated H tist", $15. •July 29, 8 pm and 10:15 pm: D rera, $25. •July 30, 8 pm and 10:15 pm: D rera, $25. •July 31, 7 pm: Patty Ross, $12. 1, 8 pm: Jim Lauletta, $12. •Aug. 2, 8 pm Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBT Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. comedy troupes and local comedians pe •July 13: Tony V Experiment with Dr. Ma Eric Cheung, EJ Murphy and Nicole Blizek 14: Dan Sally Show with Nate Johnson, C Hatton, Mike Morrell and Andrea Henry. 15: the Walsh Bros., Korte Yeo, Shaun Be Nick Lettic and Doug Chagnon. •July 16 Jenkins, Korte Yeo, Shaun Bedgood and A Andrade. •July 17: Erin Judge Presents: Pike, Manday Donovan, Eric Handler, Donovan, Dan Boulger. • July 19: Magic L magic show. •July 20: Tony V Experimen Phil Yebba, Professor Bromberg, David Pow

Sullivan. •July 21: Dan Sally Show with Torres and Janet Cormier. •July 22: the n Bros, Rebecca Anderson and Amanda •July 23: Rebecca Anderson, Shane Webb Mike Morrell. •July 24: Erin Judge Presents: a Sutich and Ellen Moschetto, Chibuzo and occuzzi. •July 26: Magic Lounge magic show. 27: Tony V experiment with Joe Wong, ny Morello, Manday Donovan, Bob Hagearty. 28: Dan Sally Show with David Palmieri. 29: the Walsh Bros., EJ Murphy, Andrea y. •July 30: Rick Jenkins and EJ Murphy. 31: Erin Judge Presents: sketch comedy with ca Anderson, Seth Earley and David Powell. . 2: Magic Lounge.

ny Tingle's Off Broadway
y Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., rville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's res both established and aspiring performers roductions •Thu., 7:30 pm, $15: Stage Time ty Show. Tingle hosts guests from the worlds medy, music and spoken word. •Fri., 10 pm, 10: It's Not That Late Show. This weekly , hosted by Peter Dutton, showcases area -up comedians, musicians and performance s. •Sun., 7 pm, $10: Women in Comedy. weekly Sunday night series showcases female rmers.

nedy's Midtown
edy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy al semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of -up by local comedians.

c's Comedy Stop
Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www. omedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston range Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. 15-16, 8:30 pm: Jim Coliton, from Comedy ral. •July 22-23 8:45 pm: Kevin Knox, the man of Comedy.

PROV COMEDY

rov Asylum
Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www. wasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. • Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat, 8 pm and 10 pm: Pork Fried Clowns. Ongoing. •Sat., 12 am: The Midnight Show. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: New acts appear in a weekly showcase called the Hump. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$12: Unnatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Pirate Lives; 10 pm: TheatreSports splits up improvisers into two teams. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for individuals of all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/ Open Jamboree. This evening features performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Boston-based short-form improv comedy group performs skits on a variety of subjects that involve participation and suggestions from members of the audience.

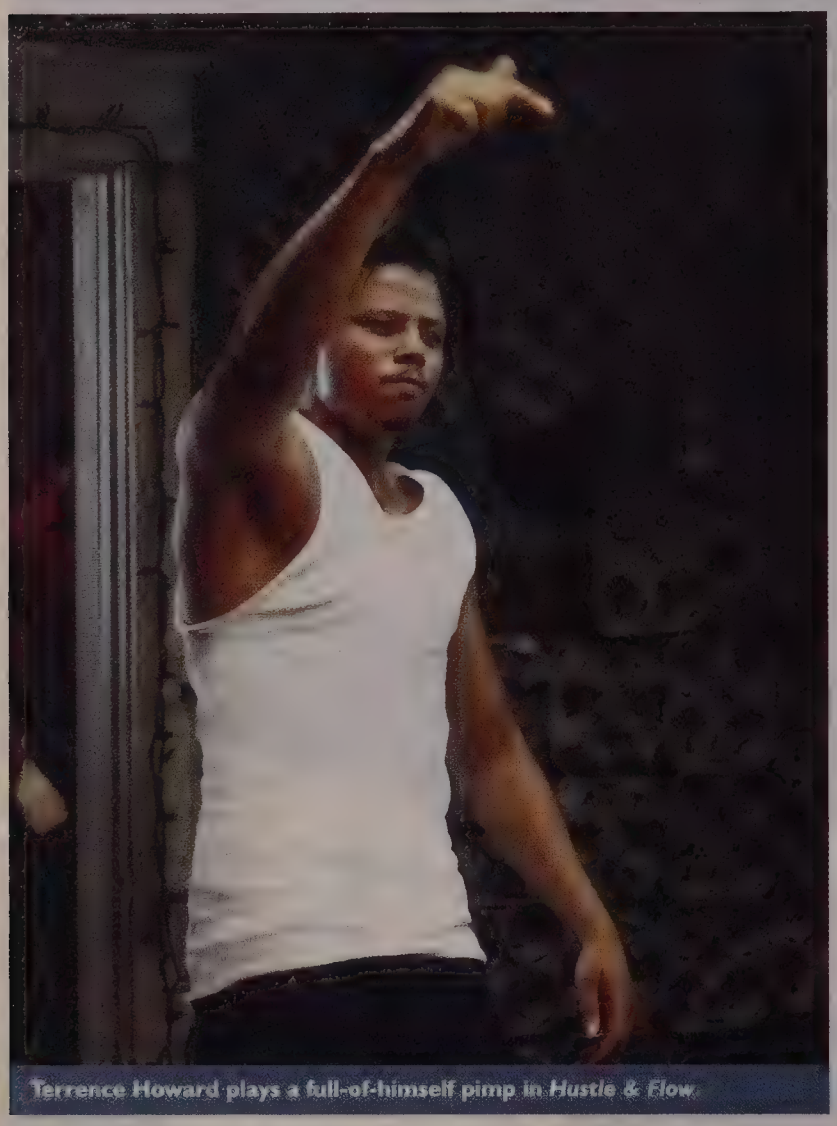
The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. The Cantab hosts a collection of improv comedians who poke fun at everything, including themselves.

Behind the Music

Hustle & Flow delivers its rap with grit and drama

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Here's what makes *Hustle & Flow* so good. After five minutes, you can't imagine caring a lick about DJay (Terrence Howard), the full-of-himself Memphis pimp and drug dealer at the center of writer-director Craig Brewer's movie. DJay sits in his beat-up early-1980s Chevy Caprice Classic and delivers a convoluted monologue about "man" and "mankind" to Nola (Taryn Manning), the country-girl hooker who earns his living with her body. Seeing DJay lord over clueless Nola brings to mind the old saying about the one-eyed man being king in the land of the blind.



Terrence Howard plays a full-of-himself pimp in *Hustle & Flow*

Yet, an hour later, you are into DJay's life every single step of the way. Because DJay does a very brave thing in *Hustle & Flow*. Even though he has this little corner of the world where he has power—aside from the car, his domain includes the house he shares with Nola and his two other prostitutes—he realizes that his life doesn't make him happy. He admits to himself, and to others in baby steps, the emotional revelation that he wants to move beyond street hustling. Despite living in a world in which your guard must always stay up, DJay finds the nerve to let his defenses down.

A pair of coincidences help DJay bare his displeasure. First, a junkie looking for a high begs him to take a Casio portable keyboard in exchange for some drugs. DJay reluctantly agrees, only because he had an old Casio model when he was a kid. He starts noodling around on the instrument, and then happens to run into Clyde (Anthony Anderson), a childhood friend who's now a recording engineer. DJay tells Clyde his dream: He wants to become a rapper.

As the pair build a makeshift studio in a room in DJay's house, *Hustle & Flow* channels some of the intoxicating energy of the old "let's put on a show" musicals (the film's mantra becomes the repeated line of dialogue "everybody got to have a dream"). The songs that DJay and Clyde concoct with keyboard wiz Shelby (DJ Qualls) are raw, yet full of enough hooks to make you share their optimism about the raps' chances of getting radio airplay. But what really makes the songs work is the drama that goes on around their creation.

That drama involves several remarkable scenes. There's DJay struggling to articulate to Shug (Taraji M. Henson)—a very pregnant hooker temporarily off the job—his "midlife crisis" in a late-night chat in which he really opens up to her. Then there's Clyde telling DJay how their project is letting him chase his long-deferred dream of opening a studio. And there's Nola, who, during one stunning scene, lets DJay know that even though she doesn't know what her dream is yet, she doesn't like what she's doing either. Brewer's script is well-written enough to allow most of its characters, including Clyde's respectable, DJay-averse wife (Elise Neal), to grow beyond the viewer's and the other characters' initial impression of them.

The most brutal action features Lexus (Paula Jai Parker), DJay's other hooker and the crudest character in the movie. It's disturbing when DJay kicks demanding Lexus and her young child out of the house halfway through the movie. But you know exactly why he does it. She's going to do everything in her power to see that DJay (and everyone else) stays mired with her in the same cesspit.

Hustle & Flow builds up to a July 4 climax at a bar owned by one of DJay's drug customers. The owner (Isaac Hayes) has told DJay that Memphis-raised rap star Skinny Black (Ludacris) will be back in town and has rented out the bar that day for a party. DJay tells him he once knew Skinny Black, and asks if he can come by. If DJay can finish his demos by then and charm Skinny Black into listening to them and helping him out, he may make the connection that will launch his new career.

The sequence in the bar is an unpredictable, snaky roller-coaster of emotional ups and downs for DJay. *Hustle & Flow* manages to pack both great highs and lows into this climactic encounter and its bittersweet ending, which is another place where the writing goes beyond the simplistic. Just as Howard, recently seen in both *Ray* and *Crash*, makes DJay both menacing and sympathetic, first-time writer-director Brewer makes the paradoxes between the hustle of DJay's crimes and the flow of his raps believable and dramatic. Brewer and *Hustle & Flow* were mentored by *Boyz N The Hood* director John Singleton, who produced the movie. But, ironically, Singleton hasn't made a movie as good as Brewer's in over a decade. **iB**

Hustle & Flow ★★★½

Written and directed by Craig Brewer. With Terrence Howard, Anthony Anderson, Taryn Manning, Taraji M. Henson, Elise Neal, DJ Qualls and Ludacris. Rated R. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Batman Begins ★★★½
The *Batman* prequel outdoes all the series' previ entries. Like the more recent *Spider-Man* mov this is a strong, character-based film that catches flavor of the comics but is not cartoonish. Christ Bale has the dramatic chops to fill out Bruce Way who sees his philanthropist/industrialist father his mother murdered. He grows up full of venge plans against criminals. The movie takes him fr Gotham to the Himalayas, where he falls under influence of a mentor he ultimately rejects (Li Neeson), and back to Gotham, where he tries clean up his corrupt hometown. Neeson, Michi Caine (as loyal butler Alfred), Katie Holmes childhood friend turned prosecutor Rachel), G Oldman (as future Police Commissioner Gord and Morgan Freeman (as an ally within the Way Corporation) all match Bale, while *Memento* dir tor Christopher Nolan skips the flash and opts emotional realism instead. Well done all arou (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Bewitched ★★
Director and cowriter Nora Ephron was smart r to make a straight big-screen adaptation of the sitcom, which hasn't aged very well (it was ne designed to). She's reconfigured it as a roman comedy about the sitcom's return to TV, starrin slumping movie star (Will Ferrell) and the known non-actress (Nicole Kidman) he discov as his female lead who, unbeknownst to him is, li her TV character, a witch trying to go straigl But, unfortunately, life imitates art in an un tended way. The main thread of comedy is the e driven, jerky movie star hogging the camera a conspiring to keep his costar in his shadow. Ther too much of Ferrell acting the jerk, to the po that you don't just get sick of his character, you sick of him—especially seeing talent like Da Alan Grier and Stephen Colbert stand arou with little to do. And Ephron's (*Sleepless in Seatt* literal use of old songs (like Sinatra's "Witchcra or "Ding Dong, the Witch is Dead" from *The W ard of Oz*) continues to be painful. She should forced to make only movies without oldies soun tracks from now on. (At Boston Common, Fenw and suburbs.)

Cinderella Man ★★½
There are tough, dramatic boxing movies like *R ing Bull* and *The Set-Up*, and there's boxing hok like *Rocky* and Ron Howard's latest. But this st of James J. Braddock (Russell Crowe), a failed c tender who came out of retirement and, against odds, captured the heavyweight title, is often g hokum. It's much better than its trailer, whi makes the movie seem like *Seabiscuit*-with-a-ma and even though Renée Zellweger is super-anno ing as Braddock's flinty wife, Crowe's restrain performance is endearing. He just plays the p and doesn't take a star turn, as some other act might. There's also the humor and heart Paul G matti provides as Braddock's loyal manager. T movie exceeds expectations until its big fig when it decides to portray reigning champ M Bear (Craig Bierko) as a swaggering, leering, blo thirsty heel because it makes Braddock seem th much more noble by comparison. It turns into a cartoon and shows such a contempt for credibil that you then have to question the credibility the entire fact-based story. How much does it fud *before* the big fight? (At Boston Common, Fenw and suburbs.)

Elevator to the Gallows ★★★
The late Louis Malle's early French New Wave film a nifty little thriller that owes a debt of inspiration James M. Cain's *The Postman Always Rings Twice* too, has adulterers plotting murder and a seco crime that affects the adulterers' attempt to pull their murder. Maurice Ronet plays the guy wh sleeping with his boss' wife (Jeanne Moreau) and t uring out how to knock off the old guy (Jean Wa But things start going wrong when, after the murd one of the lovers gets stuck in an elevator. Suspe mounts, and although Miles Davis' original jazz sc is sometimes inappropriate, and the wife's roman woes get overripe, the result is a stylish thriller th still works nearly 50 years after it was made. Revi ists Rialto Pictures picked another goodie for a t tional re-issue. It's amazing, though, that they did put colored subtitles on this black-and-white fi light background often swallows up the white sub tles. (Starts July 22 at Kendall Square.)

The Found Footage Film Festival ★★★
The touring visual jukebox of bizarre films that ha resurfaced in Dumpsters, yard sales and video p

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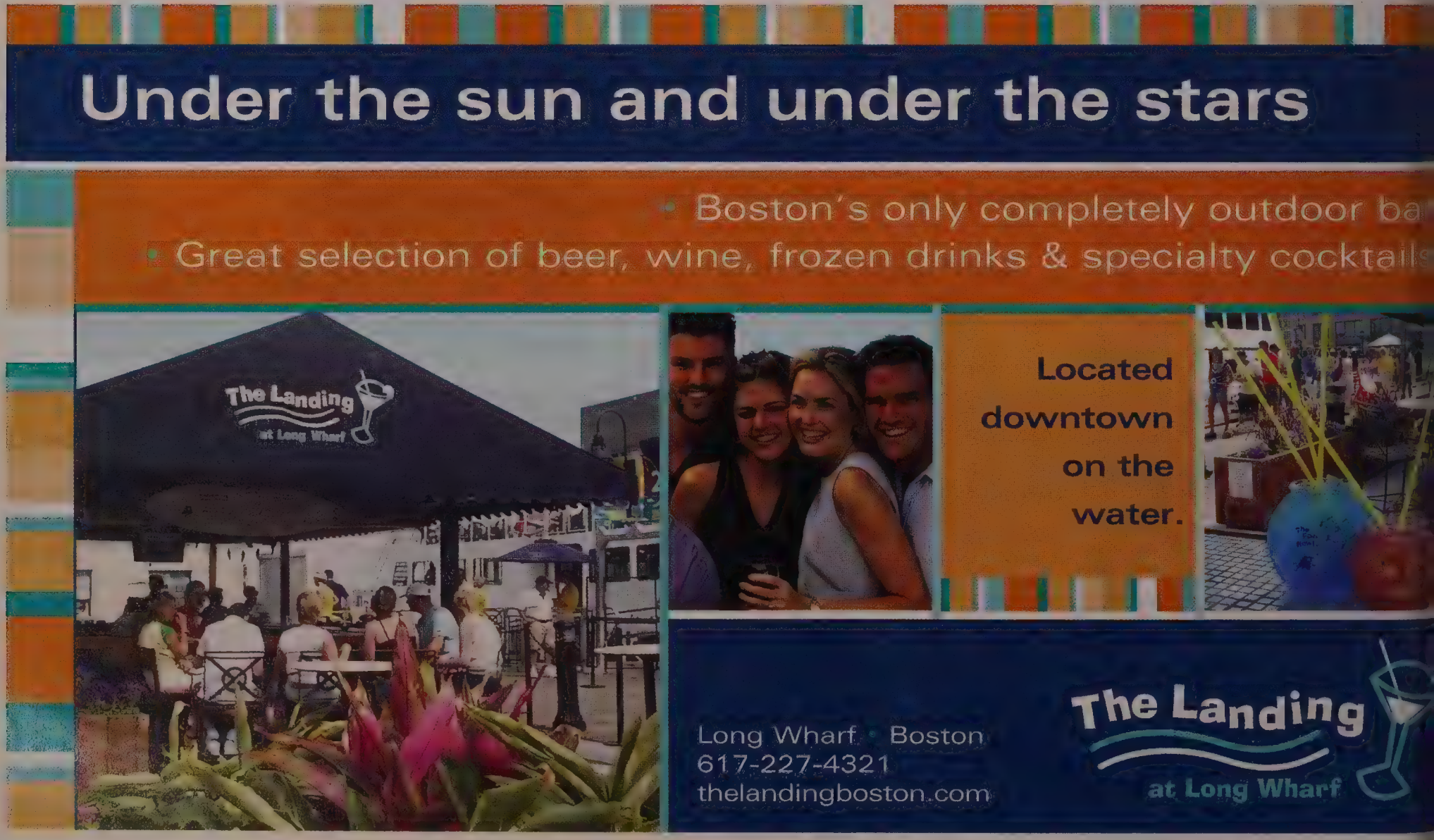
duction houses comes to the Coolidge for a very entertaining midnight show. Whether it's weird televangelists, worst-case-scenario insurance company promo videos, the Traci Lords workout tape, a Rio travelogue hosted by a lewd, pre-stardom Arnold Schwarzenegger or a McCheesy McDonald's training video, there's plenty here to scar your brain. With hosts Nick and Joe on hand to host in an Mystery Science Theater *Cheap Seats* sort of way. (At the Coolidge TheaterCorner, July 23.)

The Howlin' Wolf Story ★★★
Hulking, gravel-voiced Chester Burnett, a.k.a. Memphis and Chicago blues shouter Howlin' Wolf, gets a fitting tribute in Don McGlynn's recent documentary. This mix of interviews and archival footage includes Wolf's only national TV appearance (on Shindig), as well as interviews with two of his daughters and with longtime guitarist Hubert Sumlin. The "devil's music" never sounded as good as it does in songs like "Smokestack Lightning," "Spoonful" and "Little Red Rooster." Look for McGlynn's *Louis Prima: The Wildest!* later on in the Coolidge Corner's annual Summertime Blues series. (At the Coolidge Corner, July 25.)

Land of the Dead ★★
George Romero's original zombie trilogy, starting with the milestone *Night of the Living Dead*, worked so well because the movies seemed so real. But returning to the genre 20 years later, Romero has given us a movie that doesn't so much seem like reality, even a post-apocalyptic reality, as it does like just another assembly-line horror movie. The production design is over the top, the music overblown and the characters act like characters from movies, not real people. Even Romero's sense of social commentary comes off muddled in this story of class struggle in which the richest live in a swanky tower (not ivory, but close enough), while an underclass survives on the streets (many paid by the rich to protect them.) And, of course, there are the destructive zombies. The way the paid troops use fireworks to distract the zombies is a nice metaphor for mass-marketed pop culture keeping the masses docile, but the pieces don't click together and the movie makes less of a point than it wants to. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Tim Robbins in Steven Spielberg's *War of the Worlds*.

Last Days ★½
So Gus Van Sant's career has come to this: movies inspired by real events that, no matter what the real event, become slow, artsy trips to Dullsville. At least *Gerry*—the first of these, which seemed like a one-off experiment at the time—had periodic humor, thanks to Matt Damon and Casey Affleck. But, like the Colombine-inspired *Elephant* (which the similarly inspired *Zero Day* blew away), this new, Kurt Cobain–inspired movie offers little insight or entertainment. It mainly lets Van Sant indulge in his default style of late: people doing nothing, especially just walking around (literally). This time, the walk is Blake (Michael Pitt), a vaguely disgruntled rock who's ducking his band, his management and an one else who'd like to see him get up off of his du He hides, does this and that, noodles around in h music rehearsal space, puts on a woman's slip, mur



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bles a lot, plays with his shotgun and has brief interactions with the hangers-on he lets stay in his old house. He's presumably high and apparently miserable. Sometimes the movie hits a blasé rhythm, (but not often) and there is actually one amusing scene, a conversation with an unfazed Yellow Pages sales rep who knocks on Blake's door. But there's little to latch onto. One character rightly chides Blake for acting like a "rock and roll cliché," so I guess that makes this an art-film cliché about a rock and roll cliché. (Opens July 29.)

Me and You and Everyone We Know ★★★½

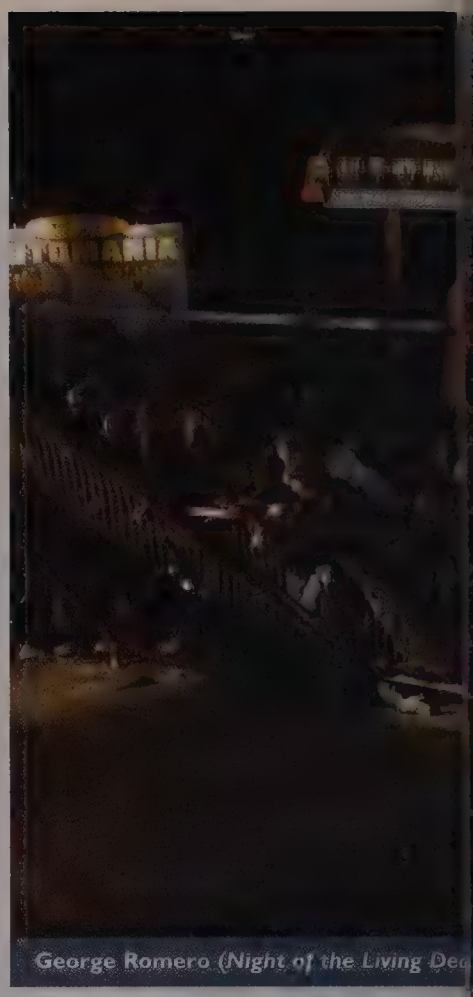
Writer-director-actress Miranda July's feature debut is one of the more creative and hypnotic movies of the year. As its title suggests, like American independent movies *Thirteen Conversations About One Thing* and *Lovely & Amazing*, July's tale is about the tenuous links that bring people together in sometimes funny, sometimes eerie ways. The main human connection the movie makes is between aspiring multimedia artist Christine (July) and just-dumped shoe salesman Richard (John Hawkes of TV's *Deadwood*), and the unconventional way these two bond is indicative of the movie's pleasing idiosyncrasies. But there are also a half-dozen other major characters in the movie, with subplots and relationships jigsawing together in intriguing ways. (At Kendall Square; starts July 15 at the Coolidge Corner.)

Mr. & Mrs. Smith ★★

They're in the same business—assassination—for competing agencies. This comic exaggeration of spouses who keep secrets from each other is good for a few laughs, as is the stars' playful chemistry and the supporting performance of Liman's *Swingers* buddy, Vince Vaughn. But the script by Simon Kinberg (*XXX: State of the Union*) is definitely of the "when in doubt, blow something up" school. When professional circumstances pit husband against wife, the movie uncorks an amusing, Tom-and-Jerry-style blowout of violence, but it's then silly and delusional that Liman constructs a go-out-in-a-blaze-of-glory climax when there's no chance of the leads getting mowed down. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

My Summer of Love ★★½

Writer-director Pawil Palikowski's English film closely follows the formula laid down by such in-



George Romero (*Night of the Living Dea*

tense teen relationship movies as *Zero Day*, [illegible] and Peter Jackson's *Heavenly Creatures*. The bo[nd] between bored blue-collar Mona (Natalie Pr[ess]) and posh, overly dramatic Tamsin (Emily Blu[nt]) become so close that conflict inevitably arises [be]tween their private world and the outer w[orld] they've rejected, and violence is never too far f[rom]

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urns to the zombie movie genre with his new release, *Land of the Dead*.

surface. This theme will be very familiar to one who's seen Jackson's movie, but it's still deftly done. The movie captures the sexual and otional charge of the girls' mutual infatuation, the young actresses are both perfectly convinc- (At Kendall Square.)

ar Wars: Revenge of the Sith ★★

e third *Star Wars* prequel is the first that's re- table. Now that the time has finally come for transformation of Anakin Skywalker from osen" Jedi knight to master of disaster Darth ler, George Lucas at least adds some narrative h, instead of the meandering dullness of the t two prequels. There's still an awful lot of ncil meetings and bureaucratic nonsense, and much Yoda and his annoying inverted syntax 's a spot player, George, not a go-to guy). And yden Christensen's performance is under- elming. He was great in *Shattered Glass*, but t experience doesn't translate in making the er torment raging inside Anakincompelling. Ewan McGregor is just right, as always, as nble Obi-Wan Kenobi, whose reaction to his ng cohort's betrayal is both hurt and introspec- n about where he failed as a mentor. (At Boston mmon, Fenway and suburbs.)

ar of the Worlds ★★

me get this straight. An alien force launches a cking, sudden attack that threatens civilization, l the most important story to tell in Steven elberg's movie is about an irresponsible divorced l (Tom Cruise) trying to stay alive and gain re- nption in his kids' eyes? Much of the early going rks well, and the big special-effects set pieces in first half come off strongly. But after a while, it's ossible to cotton to the fact that, in the movie's rld, Tom Cruise is the center of the universe. uldn't this have been about a group of people ing to survive, with the dad and his kids (Justin atwin, screechy Dakota Fanning) being a few ong this community? Eventually, it's hard to care ut them and, as usual in these star vehicles, the ry turns ridiculous to make the star look good. A ital moment comes when dad and daughter are ong a hysterical horde about to be consumed by alien machine-beast. Yet, suddenly, when uise's character is about to be offed, the crowd ites to save *his* hide. Unbelievable. (At Boston mmon, Fenway and suburbs.)

pecial Events

venue of the Arts Film Festival

est End Branch of the Boston Public Library, 151 mbridge St., Boston (617-523-3957). MBTA: Green e to Government Center.

uly 14, 6:30 pm. **Talking to the Wall**. A small town ttles a giant retailer.

•July 15, 3:30 pm. **Dying to Vote**. Mayor Menino makes an appearance in this film that explores reasons for voting.

•July 21, 6:30 pm. July 22, 3:30 pm. **Counting on Democracy**. Danny Schector studies the election events in Florida 2000.

•July 28, 6:30 pm. July 29, 3:30 pm. **Outfoxed**. This documentary film offers a critique of the Fox network's coverage of news from Iraq.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Movies by Moonlight

•July 15, at dusk. **Marty** *1955*. A single, middle-aged Italian butcher is convinced he doesn't have what women are looking for until he meets a schoolteacher and their romance kindles.

•July 22, at dusk. **Now, Voyager** *1942*. Love and attachment brew on two continents for a Boston woman who goes through a Cinderella-esque transformation.

•July 29, at dusk. **The Big Sleep** *1946*. Howard Hawks directs this private-eye film about a family, their problems, disappearances and murders.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Cool Flicks for a Hot Summer Film Series

•July 14, 6 pm. **The Gold Rush** *1925*. A romance unfolds in Alaska between a gold prospector and a woman named Georgia.

•July 21, 6 pm. **The Postman Always Rings Twice** *1946*. A restaurant owner and his handyman's wife weave a tangled web of deception eventually resulting in murder.

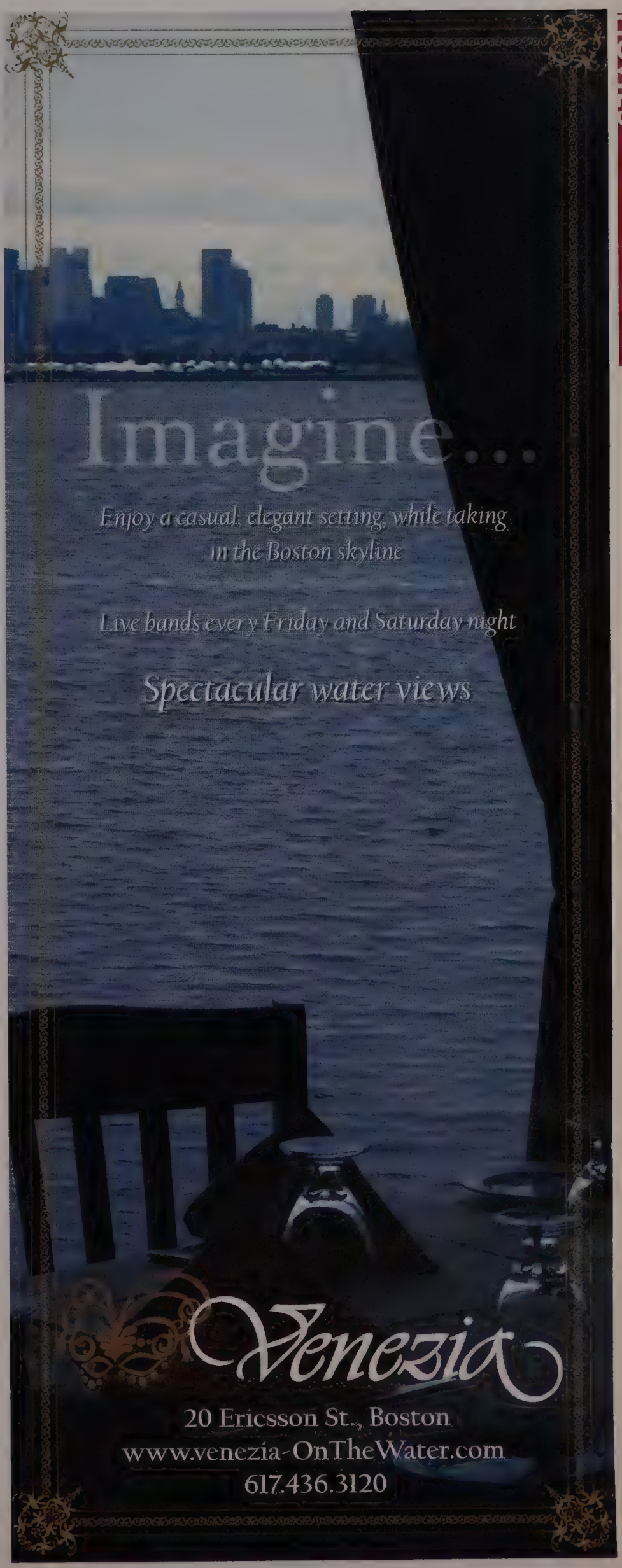
•July 28, 6 pm. **Klondike Annie** *1936*. In the tradition of Mae West, Rose Carlton heats up Alaska when she is sent there by her San Francisco lover.

The Remarkable Fredric March Film Series

•July 18, 6 pm. **Mary of Scotland** *1936*. Fredric March plays the roles of James Hepburn and the Earl of Bothwell in this 1930s romance film.

•July 25, 6 pm. **A Star Is Born** *1937*. March plays Norman Maine, an alcoholic star who marries a waitress and introduces her to Hollywood highlife before his career dwindles.

•Aug. 1, 6 pm. **I Married a Witch** *1942*. March plays the roles of several characters plagued by a 17th-century witch.



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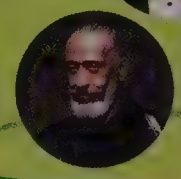

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BRATTLE THEATRE

Area Theatrical Premiere!

•July 22-25, 5, 7:15 pm and Sat. and Sun., 2:45 pm. **Caterina in the Big City** *2003*. A 12-year-old girl loses and discovers herself while growing up in Rome, a city drastically different from her tiny hometown.

•July 22-25, 9:30 pm and Fri. and Sat., 12 am. **Barbarella** *1968*. Roger Vadim directs this sci-fi tale of Barbarella (Jane Fonda), who is on a mission to save the world from the evil scientist Duran-Duran.

A Celebration of Jim Henson

•July 29-Aug.1, 5:15, 9:45 pm and Sat. and Sun., 12:45 pm. **The Dark Crystal** *1982*. On a mission to heal the Dark Crystal, the last of the Gelfings must work quickly before the conjunction of the three suns.

•July 29-Aug. 1, 3, 7:30 pm and Fri. and Sat., 12 am. **Labyrinth** *1986*. A goblin-king attempts to mutate a young boy into a goblin while his sister tries to save him.

Troublemaker: The Films of Robert Rodriguez

•July 15 and 16, 4:30, 7, 9:30 pm and 12 am. **Sin City** *2005*. A corrupt police department works alongside a street fighter involved with an unsolved murder.

•July 16 and 17, 12 and 2 pm. **Spy Kids** *2001*. After learning that their parents are former spies and have been kidnapped, two children set out to rescue them.

•July 17 and 18, 5:15 and 9:30 pm. **Desperado** *1995*. In this follow-up to *El Mariachi*, a musician is out to avenge the murder of his lover.

•July 17 and 18, 7:30 pm. **El Mariachi** *1992*. Innocent El Mariachi is mistaken for a killer and hunted down by a drug lord and his gang.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Features

•July 15. **Me and You and Everyone We Know** *2005*. This film explores the connections people struggle to make in the modern world.

•July 22. **Murderball** *2005*. In this documentary film, a team of quadriplegic rugby players must overcome tremendous obstacles in order to play at the 2004 Paralympic Games.

Midnight at the Coolidge

•July 15, 12 am. **Lipstick and Dynamite: The First Ladies of Wrestling** *2004*. This documentary looks at the careers of the Fabulous Moolah, the Mae Young, Gladys "Killem" Gillem and h The film plays in coordination with a liv from La Gata Negra, New England's all-s ladies' wrestling league.

•July 15-16, 12 am. **Steamboy** *2004*. Using ball that contains a new form of energy, a prodigy must fight evil in Victorian England. Ir ese with English subtitles.

•July 22, 12 am. **Strange Findings.** As Found Footage Weekend, this video show piles comic film and television clips that sp generations.

•July 23, 12 am. **Found Footage Festival.** worth of footage salvaged from yard sales and sters are presented with commentary from filr tors Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher.

•July 29, 12 am. **Die You Zombie Bastards** This cult film is touted as the world's first ever killer superhero rock 'n' roll zombie movie rom

Summertime Blues: More McGlynn: Jazz, Blues and Swing

•July 18, 7 pm. **Art Pepper: Notes from Survivor** *1982*. This documentary film prese intimate portrait of the saxophonist. Imme following: **Dexter Gordon: More Than You** *1996*. Location and music go hand in hand documentary of Gordon's career.

•July 19, 7:30 pm. **The Big Lebowski** *199* Coen directs the story of Jeffrey "The Lebowski and his friends, who try to get bursed for Lebowski's ruined rug.

•July 25, 7:30 pm. **The Howlin' Wolf Story** This documentary explores the difficult early of the musician.

•Aug. 1, 7:30 pm. **Louis Prima: The Wi** *1999*. This documentary looks at one of the charismatic showmen of the 1950s and '60s.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Treasures from the Harvard Film Archive

•July 14, 7 pm. **A Brief Vacation** *1973*. An ian woman's bleak existence is transformed she becomes sick and finds solace in a youn chanic while she is away from her husban children.

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BEST OF BOSTON 2004

/ 14, 9 pm. **The Garden of the Finzi-Continis** . Italian aristocracy and elitist social circles allenged by politics and love.
19, 7 pm. **I'll Never Forget What's 'is Name** Michael Winner directs this tangled tale of a ired of his successful career who wants out of his nd his marriage.
· 19, 9 pm. **The Jokers** *1967*. Two brothers decide to steal the crown jewels from the r of London use bombs, disguises and misdi- on to gain access to the heavily guarded ing.
24, 7 pm. **Sabotage** *1936*. Alfred Hitchcock di- this tale of a saboteur who runs a local cinema as er-up for his gang while Scotland Yard goes un- ver to investigate them.
24, 8:45 pm. **The Duellists** *1977*. In Napoleonic e, two army officers spark a lifelong hatred and swords against each other again and again.
· 28, 7 pm. **Fool for Love** *1985*. A complicated ncestuous love triangle involves a man trying ag his ex-lover back into his life. While she's ing away, she sparks up a romance with some- lse.
28, 9 pm. **Far North** *1988*. Sam Shepard directs tory of a dysfunctional farm family in Minnesota e 1980s.
. 1, 7 pm. **The Miracle Woman** *1931*. A woman rms fake miracles when she leaves her church her faith is shaken, but a romance renews her be- God.
. 1, 8:45 pm. **Ball of Fire** *1941*. Two worlds col- hen a nightclub singer seeks the help of a profes- uring her boyfriend's trial.

TITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
/ 22, 8 pm. **Father and Son** *2003*. The second n a trilogy focuses on the relationship between a r and his nearly adult son, their rituals and the te world in which they have lived for so long.

DALL SQUARE CINEMA
/ 15. **Lila Says** *2004*. Ziad Doueiri directs. Sex- ensions arise when the beautiful 16-year-old moves to an Arab neighborhood in Marseilles.
/ 22. **Elevator to the Gallows** *1958*. A woman ner lover face difficulties after they fake their des and murder her husband.
· 29. **5x2** *2004*. Director François Ozon uses flash- s and a backwards timeline to portray Marion and s' unraveling marriage.

SEUM OF FINE ARTS
· 14, 2:30 pm; July 16, 5:15 pm; July 23, 2:15 pm; 28, 5:15 pm. **Writer of O** *2004*. Pola port, writer of the novel *Story of O*, reflects upon rotic story and her motivations behind it in a per- l documentary.

on Film
y 16, 23 and 24, 10:30 am; July 28, 3:15 pm. **a en Burdeos** *(Goya in Bordeaux) 1999*. Director os Saura looks at the last days of Spanish artist cisco Goya.

ston French Film Festival
y 14, 6 pm. **Bad Spelling** *2004*. A young boy en- a boarding school where his mother and father are arge. In order to fit in among his peers, he leads a lt against his parents' authority.
y 15, 7:45 pm; July 21, 3:45 pm. **Triple Agent** . This espionage drama centers around political lict in 1930s Paris. Director Eric Rohmer focuses he underbelly of spying and the emotional distress uses.
y 16, 12:45 pm. **36 Quai des Orfèvres** *2004*. ier Marchal directs this thriller set in the world of isian police force fighting organized crime.
y 16, 7 pm. **The Beat That My Heart pped** *2004*. A 28-year-old man grapples with choice between following in his father's less- -squeaky-clean footsteps or pursuing his m of being a musician.
y 17, 3:30 pm. **Les Temps Qui Changent** *(Chang- Times) 2004*. André Téchiné's film portrays an en- er overseeing the construction of a television pany in Tangiers while re-establishing contact a former love.
y 23, 4 pm. **Children of Paradise** *1945*. During 1840s, four men fall in love with the same an and vie for her love in various ways, but only has true intentions.
y 24, 2:30 pm. **Le Promeneur du Champ de Mars** *Last Mitterand) 2004*. Robert Guédiguian directs ional look at the last days of France's former so- st president, François Mitterand.

SEUM OF SCIENCE
gar Omni Theater
rough Sept. 10. **Coral Reef Adventure**. Howard Michele Hall embark on a 10-month voyage in the South Pacific, creating a cinematic record of coral reefs as they exist today.
• Through Sept. 10. **Everest** depicts the true story of a team of climbers who find hope, strength and triumph in the wake of tragedy.
• Through Sept. 10. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West** tells of the explorers' famous expedition from Illinois to the Pacific Ocean.
• Through Sept. 10. **Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure**. Film crews trace Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1914-1916 expedition.
• Through Sept. 10. **Mystery of the Nile**. Explorers make the first attempt of a full descent down the Nile River.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
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• **Aliens of the Deep 3D**. Academy Award-winning director James Cameron takes viewers to the depths of the ocean to encounter some of Earth's strangest life forms.
• **Sharks 3D**. Jean-Michel Cousteau tracks the ocean's ultimate predators.
• **Wild Safari 3D: A South African Adventure**. An adventure through wild South Africa reveals the most dangerous and spectacular animals.

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Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-499-1996). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

Modest revolution

College phenomenon O.A.R. stirs up mainstream access for its grassroots pulse

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

O.A.R. did not become a grassroots band by choice, but that route has certainly worked for the band. "Napster and the Internet became such a huge outlet for music and we rode that wave," says singer-guitarist Marc Roberge, who launched O.A.R. with Maryland high school friends in 1996, made a first CD, and kept the band growing when the four of them went to Ohio State University and added saxophonist Jerry DePizzo. "We were very into providing free music for kids and we let them tape shows."

O.A.R. is finishing a new studio album aimed at dispelling notions that they're a "frat-party band."

O.A.R. (whose name is an acronym for "of a revolution") has since become a touring phenomenon, graduating to two nights at Bank of America Pavilion July 27 and 28. The quintet's grassroots ascent and sound are reminiscent of the Dave Matthews Band (circa 1994's *Under the Table and Dreaming*) and Dispatch, particularly for its adaptation of reggae.

"Those are bands I love," Roberge says from Manhattan, where the group is finishing a new studio album. "Compare me to them all day. It's an honor. I just think [on this next record] you're going to hear O.A.R. as O.A.R."

Ah, there's the rub—and the antidote. "Over the years, we've had the 'frat-party band from college' [image]," he says. "In my mind, the naysayers are the guys out there who say, 'These kids don't have songs, and it's the same shit over and over, and we're trying to be somebody else.' And to me, this record has all [solid] songs. There's not one song on here I haven't been working on for over six months. We're all so super-confident that we put our heart and soul into it."

"I consider myself a realist when it comes to music," says Roberge, 26. "I understand where I stand. And that is, I just want to get out and play and write good songs and speak to the heart. That's all I want to do."

In that respect, he doesn't pretend that O.A.R. has the chops to rival other bands, particularly on the jam band scene, which he became familiar with through his older brother Jeff, a member of Rhode Island's Foxtrot Zulu.

"Our musicianship is not up to par with these folks," Roberge says. "They can go on for 25 minutes and blow your mind. What we do is tour hard, and that's what we share. Otherwise, we're looking for songs that have a pulse."

That's part of his attraction to reggae. "I was listening to [Bob] Marley's *Survival* last night," he says. "We can't relate to the origins of reggae music, the plight and cause that these folks are singing about. But what we can strive for is the pulse and the unified sound."

"Can we be united as people?" Roberge sings robustly in "City on Down… Delicate Few" on *34th & 8th*, O.A.R.'s second double-live album, and that attitude reflects the bond among the band members. Roberge has known drummer Chris Culos since pre-kindergarten, and guitarist Richard On and bassist Benj Gershman since junior high. "We just don't have quarrels," he says. "We all understand and respect each other."

"We come from the school of playing in community centers, synagogues and churches," he says. "The second you put yourself above anything or anybody, you're immediately putting yourself below them. We've always kept that in mind. We've certainly looked for the best venues and best deals, but our attitudes haven't changed from the time we played those community centers."

"We're looking not for a mainstream sound, but a mainstream access," Roberge says. "The first time I heard one of my songs on the radio was in Boston, and I remember it very clearly. We pulled up to the hotel, and sure enough, the song ['Hey Girl'] was on the radio. To me, that will never get old. I look forward to going out to the greater public while maintaining a grassroots attitude."

He clearly hopes to achieve that with the upcoming CD, produced by Jerry Harrison, formerly of Talking Heads. "We're two years removed from our last studio experience and we've toured a lot and grown a lot since, and working with Jerry has opened our eyes to another generation of music," Roberge says. "Jerry provided me with the idea that it's OK to write different types of songs on a record."

To that end, he has co-penned tunes with Glen Ballad (Dave Matthews, Alanis Morissette) and other outside writers for the recording, which also features keyboardist Bernie Worrell and saxophonist Lenny Pickett.

"This whole thing is about having fun," Roberge says. "For years, I'd write songs and they'd end at a certain place, out of laziness, and I'd always have that attitude that I don't need anyone else to help me. But you can only be self-consumed so far." iB

O.A.R.
plays Bank of America Pavilion July 27 and 28.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music email to music@improper.com. Include dates, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Dead four weeks prior to publication date. Listings n cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled fro ferent sources. Although we make every effort to p accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call to double-check dates and times (see complete venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Better Than Ezra July 27, Avalon Ballroom 441-9631).
Elvis Costello & the Imposters, Emmylou H July 23, Bank of America Pavilion (617 2000).
Crosby, Stills, & Nash July 30, Bank of Am Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Earth, Wind & Fire, Chicago July 16, Tweeter ter (617-931-2000).
Fountains of Wayne July 16, Fenway Park (617 9600).
Hard-Fi July 18, Great Scott (617-566-9014).
Ben Harper & the Innocent Criminals Jul Avalon Ballroom (617-441-9631).
Tom Jones July 15-16, Bank of America Pav (617-931-2000).
KISS 108 Concert on the Charles, Click 5, D Frankie J, July 16, Hatch Memorial Shell.
Lyle Lovett July 22, Bank of America Pavilion 931-2000).
O.A.R. July 27-28, Bank of America Pavilion 931-2000).
Ozzfest 2005 July 15, Tweeter Center (617 2000).
Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, the Black Cr July 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Liz Phair July 26-27, Paradise Rock Club (617 8800).
Sugar Water Festival: Erykah Badu, Jill S Queen Latifah, Floetry July 13, Bank of Am Pavilion (671-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: John Farrell, Rourke, 7 pm, 21+; Main Stage: the Juliet D License, the Yards, 9 pm, 21+.
All Asia Café Nick Megow, 6 pm; Open Mike Christian Samatis, 7:30 pm.
Asgard The Ken Selcer Invitational Music Ja pm, no cover, 21+.
Avalon Bronson Arroyo, 9 pm.
Bank of America Pavilion Sugar Water Fes Erykah Badu, Jill Scott, Queen Latifah, 7 pm, $86.
Berklee College of Music Katahdin's Edge, 7:3 no cover.
Bill's Bar Audible Mainframe, nbfb, 9:30 pm $10, 21+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bravo at the MFA Juanito Pascual, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Joe Cook's Blues J pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Eddie From Ohio, 7 pm and 1 $25, $23 members.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm, no co
Fireplace Restaurant Toussaint.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Uncle Billy's Smokehouse 21+.
Johnny D's Jon Pousette-Dart, Dave's True S Danielle Miraglia, Jimmy Allen Band, 8:30 pm 21+.
Lizard Lounge Cliff Murphy, 8 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Dungen, Endless Boogie 18+.
Midway Café Musk, 9 pm, 21+.
Milky Way Momentum Jazz Band, 9 pm, no co
Mothers Rest Swingin' in Mothers Rest, Li viano, 6:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Get Smart, $5, 21+.
PA's Pickaxx, Pink Panic, 9 pm, $6.
The Purple Shamrock Live karaoke with Park, 10 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Sol y Canto, Snake Trio, 7:30 pm 9:30 pm, $16.

gods Primitive Sounds, Jason Beek, PJ East-
) pm, no cover, 21+.
Jazz Club Gilad Barkan Trio, Amir Milstein, 9
10.
the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
ie Bear's Place Truth Serum, Pony Da Look,
n Cameras, 9 pm, $8.
's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
rgomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

JRSDAY, JULY 14

r Lounge Pub Stage: Laurel Brauns, 7 pm, 21+;
Stage: the Scars, Salacious Crumb, Bloodshot
gans, Nowhere USA, 9 pm, 21+.
ia Café People's Republic of Monsters, 6:30 pm.
d M.O. Joe, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Attic Another Planet, JJ Appleton, 9:30 pm,
1+.
n Dinosaur Jr., Bardo Pond, Magik Markers,

ue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30 pm, no

The Adolescents, 7 pm, $12.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
he Chef's 1AChord, 7:30 pm.
on Harbor Hotel Troy Gonyea, 6 pm, no

teway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
ab Lounge Upstairs: Dance band, 9 pm, 21+.
Passim Chris & Meredith Thompson, 8 pm,
$10 members.
ey Square Park Ari Hest, the Shore, 5:30
o cover.
s Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm, no cover.
lace Restaurant Sarah Brindell.
t Scott Off The Radar, the Ponys, the Occas-
8 pm, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies,
om, no cover, 21+.
n Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, 10:30
o cover.
ers Ferry Back in Black, $5, 21+.
ny D's Fula Flue Ensemble, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
edy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7-11 pm, no
; 21+.
and Café Betty Ford Pickup, Hixx, White
w, Lonelyhearts, 9 pm, $5.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Clay Aiken August 28, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Allman Brothers Band, moe. August 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Coldplay August 6, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Destiny's Child August 6, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Daryl Hall and John Oates, Tears for Fears August 23, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Chris Isaak August 19, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Elton John September 16-17, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson September 15, Campanelli Stadium (508-559-7070).
Journey August 20, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
KC and the Sunshine Band August 20, Hatch Memorial Shell.
Avril Lavigne, Gavin DeGraw, Butch Walker August 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis & the News August 18, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Paul McCartney September 26-27, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Meat Loaf August 17, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Rolling Stones August 21-23, Fenway Park (617-931-2000).
U2 October 3-4, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Rufus Wainwright, Ben Folds August 5, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Brian Wilson August 9, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).

Lizard Lounge Kabir, 9:30 pm, $7.
Matt Murphy's Wild Sextet, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Lock and Key, Outsmarting Simon, Distinguished Members, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Inspectah Deck, Savin Ill, Lyrical, Backdraft, OVM, Iroq, John Doe, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5-9 pm, $5, 21+.
O'Brien's Badass Teenage Mustache, Haverchuck, Trucker, $7, 21+.
Paddy O's Brick Park, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Femi Kuti, 9 pm, $25, 18+.
PA's Reports, Tristan Da Cunha, Sweet Thieves, Shark and Bear, 8:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Rivergods Jon Whitney, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Roxy The Bravery, the Dead 60's, 7 pm, $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Temporada Latina!, 8:30 pm, $8.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tim Williams, Kevin Devine, Kay Hanley, 9:30 pm, $12.
The Western Front Soulfire, 9 pm, $4.
Zeitgeist Gallery Charles Bubeck Quintet, 7 pm, $10; Night of the Living Hammond B3S, 9:30 pm.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

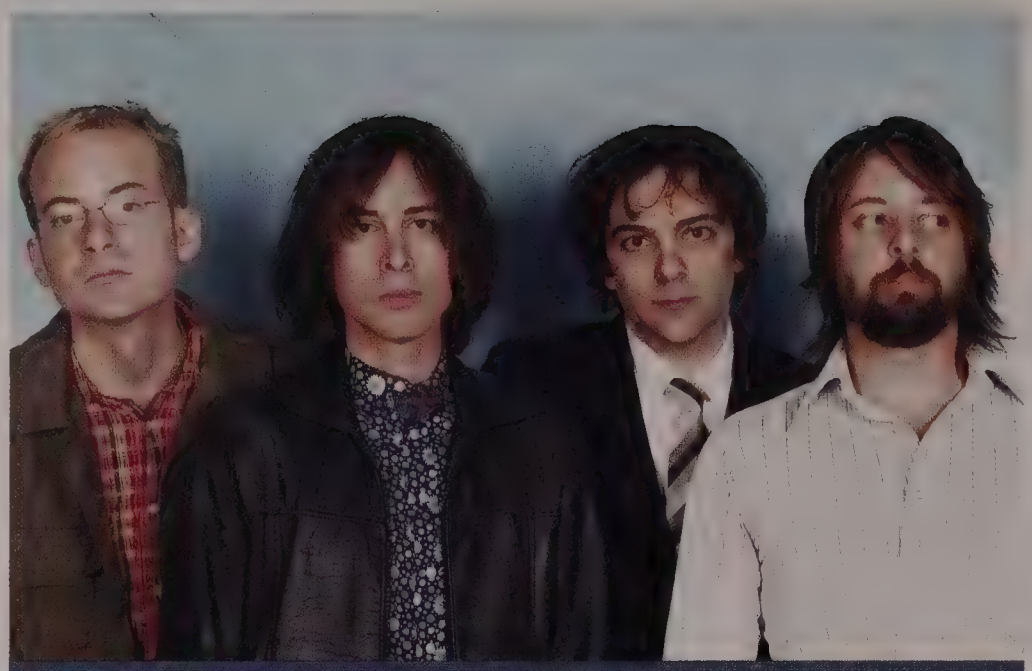
FRIDAY, JULY 15

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Richard Bacchus, Malibu Lou, 7:30 pm, 21+; Main Stage: Drago, Dry County Sorrow, the Dents, Drag the River, 9 pm, 21+.
All Asia Café Miles Wiit, 6:30 pm; Steve Rowan, 8:30 pm; Westgate and Supaswitch, 10:30 pm.
The Attic Lou, Laura Carone, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5-9 pm, no cover.
Bank of America Pavilion Tom Jones, Tower of Power, 7:30 pm, $35-$55.
Black Horse Tavern The Jenn and Steve Show, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well; Upstairs: Bobby Folkes.
Bob the Chef's Hakim Law, 7:30 pm.
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center Guy Mendilow, 7 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook, the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Owen Plant, Ryanhood, 8 pm, $14, $12 members.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Bumpin' Uglies.
The Green Dragon Tavern Incadence, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Playin' Dead, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Fast Times, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kinsale Sirsy, 9 pm, $5.
Kirkland Café World's Greatest Sinners, Eric Martin & the Illyrians, Mach 5, Ritchie Parsons, Doom Buggies, Classic Ruins, Johnny Blac Trio, Terry Brenner, 9 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Peter Mulvey, Session Americana, 9:30 pm, $12 advance, $15 at the door.
Matt Murphy's Mang Dub, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Modelo '78, $10, 18+; Downstairs: the Revolutionary Snake Ensemble, the Gulf, the Less Lonesome, Bowman, the Swedes, $12, 18+.
Midway Café Ujamaa, Brian O'Connell, Girl on Top, 9 pm, 21+.
Milky Way Sand Machine, Bees Knees, Leo Blais.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5-9 pm; Patsy & Tony, 9 pm-2 am $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm-12:15 am, no cover, 21+.
O'Brien's Confront, Tommy and the Terrors, Retching Red, the Welch Boys, $7, 21+.
Paddy O's The Marcels, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris Runamuk, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Akron/Family, Sir Richard Bishop, Sun City Girls, Martin Finke, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Regattabar Ruth Brown, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $25.
Rivergods Dinos and Amy, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Tegan, Sara, 8 pm, $17.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.

T.T. the Bear's Place West Indian Girl, Turin Brakes, 11:15 pm, $10.
Tweeter Center Ozzfest 2005: Black Sabbath, Iron Maiden, Mudvayne, Shadows Fall, Black Label Society, 9 am, $18-$85.25.
WaterWorks Stu Lee, 8 pm, $5-$10.
The Western Front The Elegant Children, 9 pm, $7.
Zeitgeist Gallery Onda, Jorrit Dijkstra, Matt Samolis, 7 pm, $10; Bob Nell Trio, 9:30 pm.
ZuZu Latin Night, Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, JULY 16

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Jeff Bellucci, John O'Hara, 7 pm, 21+; Main Stage: the Electric City, Choo Choo La Rouge, Jennifer O'Connor, Phantom Power, 9 pm, 21+.
All Asia Café Greg's Talent Showcase, 1 pm; Streetcar Vision with Special Guests, 4 pm; Kevin Barbosa, 7 pm.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30-11:30 pm, no cover.
Bank of America Pavilion Tom Jones, Tower of Power, 7:30 pm, $35-$55.
Black Horse Tavern Freudian Slip, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well; Upstairs: Bobby Folkes, Happy Hour.
Bob the Chef's BlackSole, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook, the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Mary Fahl, 8 pm, $20, $18 members.
Dick's Last Resort Nerve, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Fenway Park Fountains of Wayne, Buffalo Tom, Juliana Hatfield, Kay Hanley, 7 pm, $50 and $100.
The Grand Canal Dick n Jane.
The Green Briar Random Axis, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Town Hall, Pawnshop Roses, $8, 21+.
Hatch Memorial Shell KISS 108 Concert on the Charles: Click 5, D.H.T., Frankie J, 5 pm.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; the Risk, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Todd Martin, 9 pm, $5.


Fountains of Wayne plays Fenway Park July 16.

Lizard Lounge Todd Deatherage, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; Shaun and Suzi, 9:30 pm, $10 advance, $12 at the door.
Matt Murphy's Eileen Jewel Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: the Brett Rosenberg Problem, U.V. Protection, Raymond, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: the Doom & Grind Fest, Phobia, Circle of Dead Children, Kill the Client, Conifer, 4 pm, $12 advance, $15 at the door, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy & Alan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm-12:15 am, no cover, 21+.
O'Brien's We're All Gonna Die, Bible of the Devil, Slough Feg, the Humanoids, $7, 21+.
Paddy O's Joshua Tree, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris Runamuk, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Picastro, Broken River Prophet, Holcombe Waller, 9 pm, $5-$7.
The Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 10 pm, $5.
Regattabar Ruth Brown, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $25.
Rivergods Dali, Ross and Paul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Marta Gomez, 9 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Morning Theft, Vox Vermillion, Jason Lowenstein, Dressy Bessy, 9:15 pm, $10.
Tweeter Center Earth, Wind & Fire, Chicago, 7:30 pm, $18-$75.25.
WaterWorks Fasttimes, 8 pm, $5-$10.
The Western Front Milton Henry, the Jammyland Allstars, 9 pm, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Color and Talea, 7 pm, $10; Minimalist Orchestra, Theta State's Mediate, 9:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-Jah, 11 pm.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no c

SUNDAY, JULY 17

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Radar Eyes, Awal Stick, Mother Jackson, Adventures in Tour pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne stairs: Tony O'Riordan.
Bob the Chef's Groove Authority, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Ja Rock Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim David Rovics, 7:30 pm, $12 members.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cov
The Green Briar Donegal Cords, 10 pm, $5-$
Harpers Ferry Primary Others, the Found Shay Muse, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Pig Pen, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Mathew Dorko, Larry Kukers, 9 an
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lyodd, 3 pm, no cove
Matt Murphy's Thousands of One, no cover,
Middle East Upstairs: Visional, Fight the No Something Against You, Silencio, 9 pm, $8 Downstairs: Grief, Goatsblood, Unearthly Tra pm, $12 in advance, $15 at the door, 18+.
Milky Way Incus, 8 pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sessuin, 4- Mike Barrett, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
O'Brien's Scram, Roger That, $6, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Shelby Lynne, Raul Mido 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Rivergods Dinos and Amy, 9 pm, no cover, 21
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Appomattox, Controller troller, VHS Or Beta, 9:10 pm, $10.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover,
WaterWorks Central Basement, 8 pm, $5-$10.
Wonder Bar Jonny Horner, Joe McMahon Er ble, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Rockabilly Night, 10 pm.

MONDAY, JULY 18

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Geoff Bartley's Mike, Tommy Osuna, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

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Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12, $10 members.
Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no
Scott Hard-Fi.
Green Briar Irish Sessuin, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Ferry Seduce the Enemy, Porcelain, $4,
essy's Joe Carson, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Lounge Nicolai Dunger, 7 pm, no cover.
Murphy's Nam Shub, no cover, 21+.
East Subhumans, From Ashes Rise, 7 pm,
Way Acoustic Universe, 8 pm, $8.
en's Watchmaker, The Old Men, It Will End
Horror, Throwing Shrapnel, $6, 21+.
the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm, no
he Bear's Place Jon Ososki, Missy Johnson,
ew Parker-Renga, 8:30 pm, $3.
eist Gallery George Garzone, 10 pm, $10.
ygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm, no cover.

ESDAY, JULY 19

y Lounge Pub Stage: Phillip Oullette &
ls, 7 pm, 21+.
lack Rose Celtic Clan.
n Harbor Hotel Buck Taylor, Mind, Body &
6 pm, no cover.
ab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party,
ton Band, Boston City Limits, 8 pm, no cover,
Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 pm, no
, 21+.
Passim Open Mike with Caitlin Frame, 7 pm,
embers free.
s Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no
t Scott Nicky Click, Longknives, Z.W.A., 9
7, 18+.
Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb, 9:30 pm, no
, 21+.
n Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Rocka-
azz from the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
ers Ferry Carmen's Condition, Stokeswood,
cca Loebe, $4, 21+.
iessy's Scott Damgaard, 9:30 pm, no cover,
y D's Old Time Music Night, 8:30 pm, $8,
le Tom Courtney, 9 pm, no cover.
d Lounge The Splendid Nobodies, 8-9 pm, no
; Rachel McCartney, the Carla Ryder Band,
pm, $5.
Murphy's Public House, no cover, 21+.
le East Upstairs: Banana Hands, Kincade,
Chicken, Dieslow & Rot, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
ien's The Spoilers Punk Party, $5, 21+.
Chymyr, I Heart Lung, Castanets, Wooden
& the Vanishing Voice, 9 pm, $5-$7 cover,
Purple Shamrock Karaoke, Dana Z, 10 pm,
gods Ben Walker, James Kraus, 9 pm, no cover,
of the Hub April Hall Group, 8:30 pm, no
he Bear's Place Michelle Lewis, Laura Clapp,
Buchanan, 9:15 pm, $7.
Electrosocial featuring the Campaign for Re-
e and Protokoll, 10 pm.
Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no

DNESDAY, JULY 20

ey Lounge Pub Stage: Brandon Patton,
n Rivera, 7 pm, 21+; Main Stage: Todd
y, Rick Berlin, Hilken, the New Profession-
pm, 21+.
rd The Ken Selcer Invitational Music Jam, 10
no cover, 21+.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
o at the MFA Nathan and the Zydeco Cha
, 7:30 pm.
zeway Rollins Ross, 7:30 pm, no cover.
tab Lounge Upstairs: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9
no cover, 21+; Downstairs: Boston Poetry Slam,
, no cover, 21+.
Passim Tom Brosseau & Friends, Jordan Ca-
8 pm, $10, $8 members.
's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
place Restaurant Mellissa Bolling.
Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, 9:30
no cover, 21+.
pers Ferry Uncle Billy's Smokehouse, $5, 21+.
nessy's Absolute Acoustics, 9:30 pm, no cover,
rd Lounge Dawn Landes, 8 pm, no cover; Judd
Maggie, Karaugh Brown, 9:30 pm, $7.
dle East Upstairs: Shore Leave, Ellipses, Short-
Guillermo Sexo, 9 pm, $8, 18+.

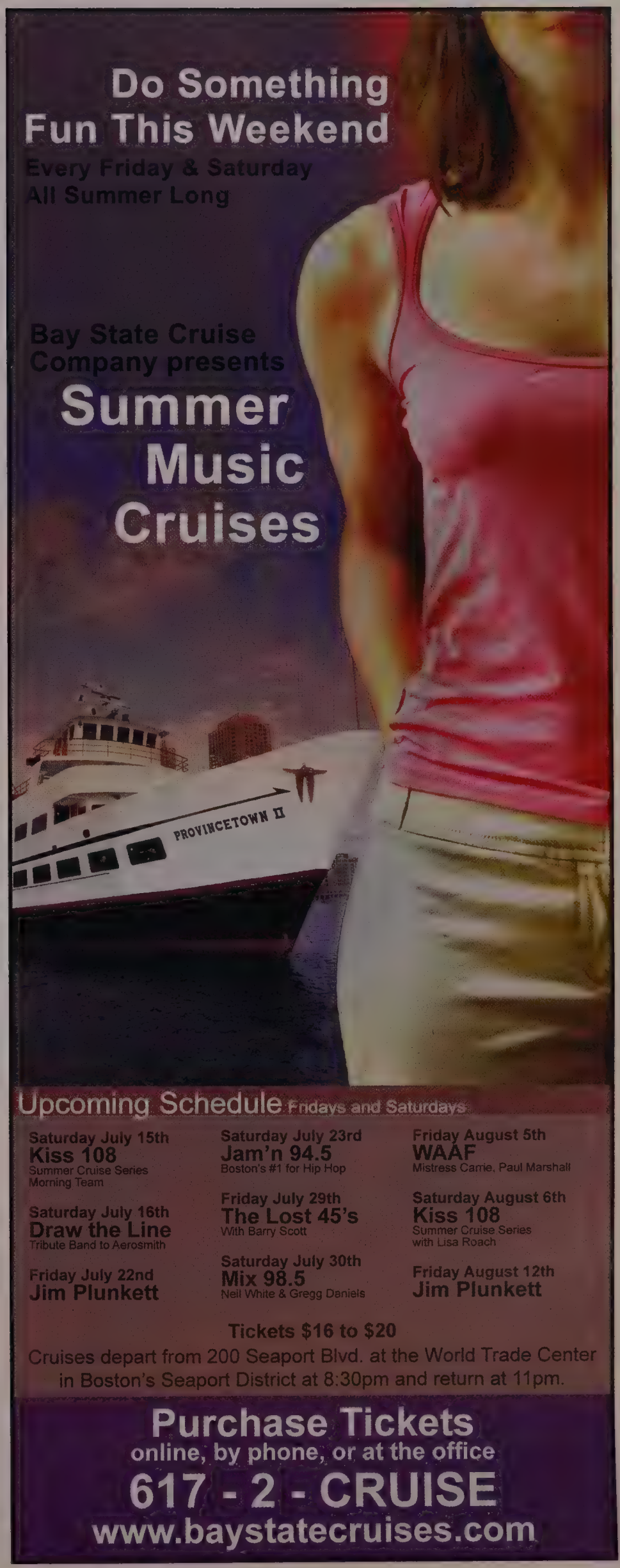
Mothers Rest Mike Tucker Quartet, 6:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Get Smart, $5, 21+.
PA's Lowbeam, Mark Pinaskie, 10 pm, $6; the Funeral, 11 pm, $6.
The Purple Shamrock Live Band Karaoke, Brick Park, 10 pm, no cover.
Regattabar The Subdudes, 7:30 pm, $20.
Rivergods Jason Beek, PJ Easman, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Scullers Jazz Club Kate McGarry Quartet, 8 pm, 10 pm, $15-$55.
Somerville Theatre Hot Tuna, 8 pm, $29-$34.
Top of the Hub April Hall Group, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Our Lady of Bells, Blanketeer, Snowleopards, Chroma, 9 pm, $6.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Gretchen and Trudy Stone, 7 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Evan Gutierrez, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, JULY 21

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Texas Bob, Stephanie Doherty, 7 pm, 21+; Main Stage: Darkbuster, the Revival Preachers, Red Hot Polka Dots, Three Sheets, 9 pm, 21+.
Asgard M.O. Joe, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Attic Dead Jam, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Avenue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30-9:30 pm, no cover.
Axis The Academy is ..., 6 pm, $12.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Evan Gutierrez, 7:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Sean Costello, 6 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Dance band, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Kenny White, 8 pm, $12, $10 members.
Copley Square Park Maia Sharp, Mike's Doughty Band, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Spit Fire, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant The Hey Goods.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Tremulant, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Grey Spot, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7-11 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kirkland Café Hyphens, Amavana, Bill Konig, 9 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf, 9:30 pm, $10.
Matt Murphy's Wild Sextet, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Quintus, Speak Easy, the Casual Fiasco, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5-9 pm, $5, 21+.
O'Brien's The Traveling Road Show, Cracktorch, Cocked n' Loaded, Deek Jenkins, $7, 21+.
Paddy O's Swerve, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club The Waifs, Ben Weaver, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
PA's All Combinations, Mad Man Films, Tristan Da Cunha, Roh Delikat, 9 pm, $5-$7 cover, 21+.
The Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Regattabar Patrice Williamson, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $14.
Rivergods So, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Roxy John Legend, 8 pm, $25, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club The Axemasters, 8:30 pm, $8.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub April Hall Group, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Radka, Taylor Hollingworth, Statistics, Maria Taylor, 9 pm, $9.
The Western Front Soulfire, the Midnight Ravers, 9 pm, $4.
Zeitgeist Gallery Hankus Netsky Quartet, 7 pm, $10; Night of the Living Hammond B3S, 9:30 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, JULY 22

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Michelle Castro, 7 pm, 21+; Main Stage: Duresse, Mishima USA, the Teenage Prayers, Steve Shiffman & the Land of No, 9 pm, 21+.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5-9 pm, no cover.
Bank of America Pavilion Lyle Lovett, 7:30 pm, $35-$55.
Black Horse Tavern The Mystics, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan; Upstairs: Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.



Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook, the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Frank Wakefield Band, 8 pm, $20, $18 members.
Dick's Last Resort Muggsy, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Grumpy Jones.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swerve, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm; Pig Pen, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kinsale Velvet Jones, 9 pm, $5.
Kirkland Café Turpentine Brothers, Mirrors, Carlisle Sound, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 9 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Amun Ra, 9:30 pm, $7.
Matt Murphy's Zion Blood, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Downbeat 5, Muck and the Mires, Pennyred, Desert Sea, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5 pm; Patsy 7 Tony, 9 pm; $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover, 21+.
O'Brien's Bug, Cecil, the Nightlights, the Press, $6, 21+.
Paddy O's Dick n Jane, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris Jumper, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's The Thungs, Saturday Saints, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Regattabar Sonya Kitchell Band, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $12.
Rivergods Unlockedgroove, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Scullers Jazz Club David Benoit, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $25-$65.
Top of the Hub April Hall Group, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Clandestino- Rock In Spanish Dance Party, 9 pm, $10.
WaterWorks Taint, 8 pm, $5-$10.
The Western Front Dr. Jah, the Love Prophets, 9 pm, $7.
Zeitgeist Gallery Raqib Hassan, the Interdimensional Science Research Orchestra, 7 pm, $10; David Gross, Mike Tamburo, Cin Cin, 9:30 pm, $5.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, JULY 23

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Unholy Mothers, the Drags, Shuttle Cock, Deep Purple Helmet, 9 pm, 21+.
Asgard Matt Tobin, 8:30 pm, the Arielle[illegible] Band, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Attic The Times, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30-11:30 [illegible] cover.
Bank of America Pavilion Elvis Costello[illegible] Imposters, Emmylou Harris, 8 pm, $35-$55[illegible]
Black Horse Tavern Blackfole, 9:30 pm, no[illegible]
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Cla[illegible] stairs: Sunday's Well; Happy Hour: Celtic [illegible]
Bob the Chef's Soul Phactor, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Coo[illegible] Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Fred Eaglesmith, 8 pm, $1[illegible] members.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 8:30 pm, no[illegible]
The Green Briar Inchicore, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Fenian So[illegible] pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp Kick, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Monkey Wrench, Sirsy, $5, [illegible]
Hatch Memorial Shell WODS Oldies Soul Ex[illegible] the Main Ingredient, Blue Notes, Stylistics, 7 p[illegible]
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Audio [illegible] ground, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Brave Combo, 9:45 pm, $15, 21[illegible]
Kirkland Café Obskura, Marazine, Black[illegible] Kickback City, 9 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Dennis Brennan Band, Jackson, 9:30 pm, $6 advance, $8 at the do[illegible]
Middle East Upstairs: Scary Kids Scarin[illegible] Sunday Driver, the Forecast, 1 pm, $9; the[illegible] Alleged Bricks, Bloodvessels, 9 pm, $1[illegible] Downstairs: AZ, Jake the Snake, 8 pm, $20[illegible]
Mr. Dooley's Patsy & Tony, 9:30 pm, $5, 21[illegible]
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm[illegible] am, no cover, 21+.
O'Brien's The Chainletter, the Living S[illegible] Shills, Hotblack, $8, 21+.
Paddy O's Syndicate, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club The Dan Band, 9 pm, $2[illegible]
Parris Jumper, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's The Consultants, My Teenage Stric[illegible] Snow Fairies, Shumai, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Fast Times, 10 pm, $5.
Regattabar Nicole Nelson, 7:30 pm and [illegible] $14.

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ion Americana plays the Lizard Lounge July 15.

gods Minimalist Orchestra, 8 pm, no cover, Steve Sullivan, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Jazz Club Ryles Jazz Orchestra, 9 pm, $10.
ers Jazz Club David Benoit, 8 pm and 10:30 25-$65.
a nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5-8 pm; Pooka Stew ion, 10 pm.
f the Hub April Hall Group, 9 pm, no cover.
ter Center String Cheese Incident, Michael ji & Spearhead, 2 pm, $35.
Western Front Roots Nation, 9 pm, $8.
geist Gallery Color and Talea, 7 pm, $6; Todd ten, Bajuco, 9:30 pm, $10.
Soul-le-lu-Jah, 11 pm.
ygomates Leo Blanco, 8 pm, no cover.

NDAY, JULY 24

of America Pavillion Howie Day, Anna Nal-Missy Higgins, 7:30 pm, $25.
Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan; Happy Celtic Clan.
the Chef's Nat Simpkins, 10 pm.
ab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jazz and Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Passim The Kissers, Hot Day at the Zoo, 7:30 $10, $8 members.
nessy's Tom Grolou Band, 9 pm-1 am, no r, 21+.
ny D's Tom Pendergast, 9 am.
nedy's Midtown Julia Lyodd, 3-5 pm, no cover,

lle East Downstairs: Pelican, Big Business, Pan-s, Kayo Dot, 7:30 pm, $10 in advance, $12 at loor, 18+.
Dooley's Traditional Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Barrett, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
rien's Tester, 20 Foot Halo, $6, 21+.
rgods Dinos and Amy, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover; y Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
the Bear's Place Copperpot, Chemist Camp, pm, $6.
y's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 am, no cover,

erWorks Lune, 8 pm, $5-$10.
ider Bar Jonny Horner, Joe McMahon Ensem-9 pm, no cover.
geist Gallery Björn Wennås Band, 7 pm, $10.
Rockabilly Night, 10 pm.

ONDAY, JULY 25

k of America Pavilion Sittin' In Again, Loggins, sina, 7:30 pm, $38.50-$65.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
tab Lounge Upstairs: Geoff Bartley's Open e, Jan Luby, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dick's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Sessuin, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Harpers Ferry The Jaded, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Pamela Means Jazz Project, 9 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Last Monday Band, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Jeepers H Crackers, Ruining Tomorrow, Intro5pect, the Scars, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
O'Brien's Thrillride, $6, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Andrew Kim Group, 7 pm, $7; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
ZuZu Brad Hyland, 10 pm.
Les Zygomates Steven Spungin, 7 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, JULY 26

Avalon Ben Harper & the Innocent Criminals, Tom Freund, 8 pm, $30.
Bank of America Pavillion Celtic Woman, 8 pm, $28-$55.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Boston Harbor Hotel Darrell Nulisch, Mind, Body & Soul, 6 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, Fiction Brothers, Jake & Taylor Armerding, 8 pm, no cover, 21+; Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike with David Linhart, 7 pm, $5, members free.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Rockabilly Jazz from the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, Addavoy, Ray Hendricks, Adam Payne, $4, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell, 9 pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Greenhouse, 8 pm; Rachel McCartney, the Carla Ryder Band, 9:30 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's Public House, no cover, 21+.
O'Brien's Guardrail Savior, Orange Level, Guv, $6, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Liz Phair, Matt Kearney, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
The Purple Shamrock Karaoke, Dana Z, 10 pm, $3.
Rivergods The Captain, Tracey Stark, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Pat Wroge, the Buddah Club, 8:30 pm, $7.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Satellite 7, Orange Park, Bug, Miles From Land, 9 pm, $6.

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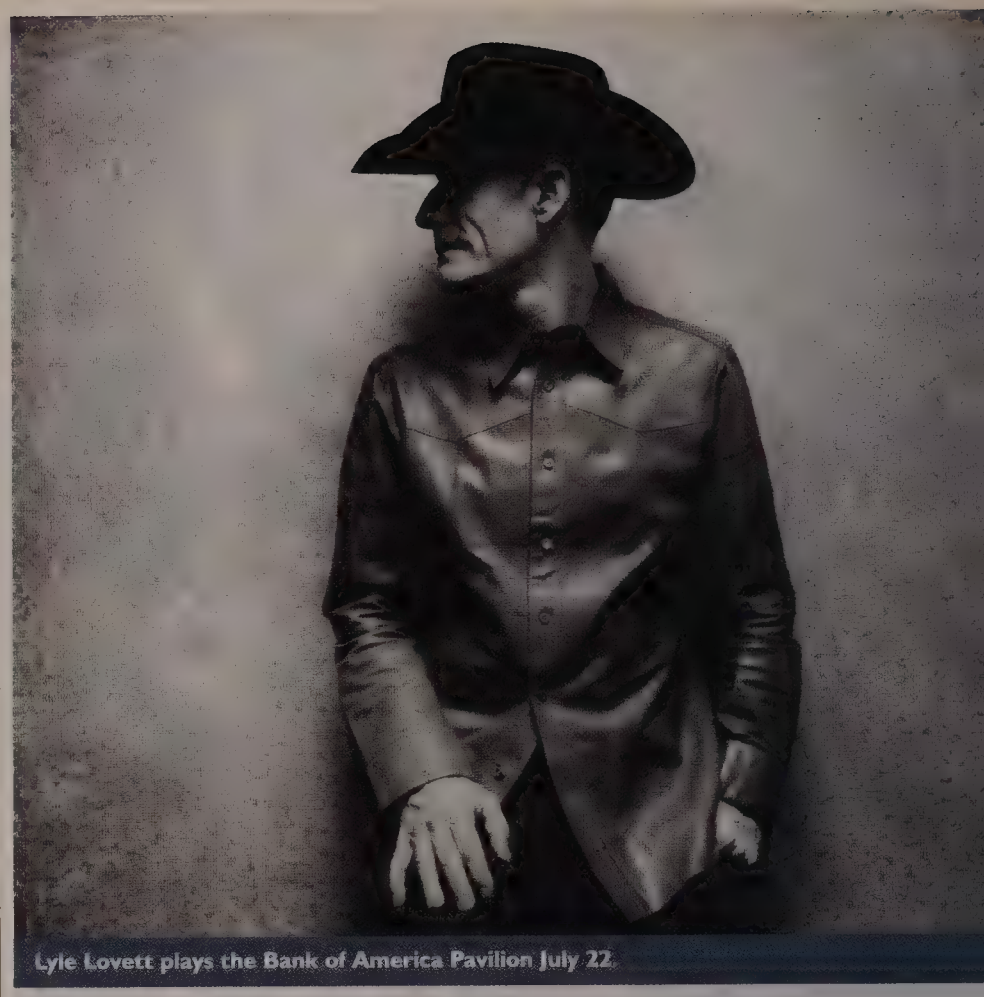
Lyle Lovett plays the Bank of America Pavilion July 22.

ZuZu Loveaholics, 10 pm.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Beat the Meatles, 11:45 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Ken Selcer Invitational Music Jam, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Avalon Better Than Ezra, 8 pm, 18+.
Bank of America Pavillion O.A.R., 7:30 pm, $30, $32.50.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bravo at the MFA Jimmie Dale Gilmore, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+; Downstairs: Boston Poetry Slam, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Rose Polenzani, Ana Egge, 8 pm, $14, $12 members.
Dick's Last Resort Three Wrongs, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Rob Mitzner.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Uncle Billy's Smokehouse, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Absolute Acoustics, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Heygoods, 8 pm, no cover; Todd Thibaud, Sticky, 9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Oh No, Diverse, 9 pm, $10 advance, $12 at the door, 18+; Downstairs: Israel Vibration, the Roots Radics Band, 8 pm, $18, 18+.
Mothers Rest Berklee Jazz Workshop, 6:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Get Smart, $5, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Liz Phair, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
PA's Sundown, Family Junction, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The Purple Shamrock Live Karaoke with Brick Park, 10 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Dave Frishber, 7:30 pm, $20.
Rivergods Jason Beek, PJ Eastman, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Las Chicas Septet, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Wesla Whitfield, 8 pm, 10 pm, $18-$58 .
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's The Fame, $7.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jamie McLaughlin, Susan McLucas, Kore, Free Will, 7 pm, $8.
ZuZu Milo Jones, 10 pm.
Les Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, JULY 28

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: the Oggs, Joe Lies CD Release, Anushka Pop, Saturday Saints, 9 pm, 21+.
Asgard M.O. Joe, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Avenue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Axis Esthro, 7 pm, $12, 18+.
Bank of America Pavillion O.A.R., 7:30 pm, $32.50.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Soul Phactor, 7:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Curtis Salgado, 6 pm, no c
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Dance band, 9 pm, 2
Club Passim Stacey Earle, Mark Stuart, 8 pm, $13 members.
Copley Square Park Aimee Mann, Tracey Bon 5:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm, no co
Fireplace Restaurant Tony Benecourt.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vin 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Old Silver Band, Greenline, truda, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Grey Spot, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Uncle Earl, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7-11 pm cover, 21+.
Kirkland Café Junk Funkies, Jennifer C Com'on Man, Rollo Tomasi Quartet, 9 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Gordon, 8 pm, no cover; Jon N 9:30 pm, $6 advance, $8 at the door.
Matt Murphy's Wild Sextet, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: the Information, the Ones, the Never Never, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5 pm, $5 21+
O'Brien's Heavy Metal Breakdown, Disc J Alex Onslaught, $5, 21+.
Paddy O's Brick Park, 9:30, no cover, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Embrace, 8:30 pm, $10 vance, $12 at the door, 18+.
PA's Tristan Da Cunha, Piles, the Hound, Radley, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21 +.
The Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3
Regattabar Dave Frishber, 7:30 pm and 10 pm,
Rivergods Wayne & Wax, 9 pm, no cover, 21+
Ryles Jazz Club Patricia Vlieg, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Fat City Band, 8 pm and 10 $15-$55.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no c
T.T. the Bear's Place Livesexact, Fasion Flesh, 80, Freezepop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
The Western Front Soulfire, the Midnight Rav pm, $4.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Brett Rautenberg Ap lypse, 7 pm, $8; Night of the Living Hammond 9:30 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no c

FRIDAY, JULY 29

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Bob Cenci, Doug Donald, 7 pm, 21+; Main Stage: Larry Ban Sonics Tribute, Valhalla Kittens, Toxico, 9 pm,

he Attic the Jody Grind, 10 pm, $7, 21+.
venue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
lack Horse Tavern The Jenn and Steve Show, 9:30 n, no cover.
he Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne; Upairs: McTaggarts.
ob the Chef's ZMQ Modern, 7:30 pm.
antab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook, the hrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
ub Passim Thea Gilmore, Anais Mitchell, 8 pm, 2, $10 members.
ck's Last Resort Desmond, 8:30 pm, no cover.
he Green Dragon Tavern The Complaints, 9:30 n, $5, 21+.
ennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Infractions, 9 n, $5, 21+.
nny D's Babaloo, 9:45 pm, $10, 21+.
ennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7-9 pm, no cover, +.
rkland Café My Own Worst Enemy, Mickey Bliss rgan Combo, 9 pm, $5.
zard Lounge John Brodeur, 8-9 pm, no cover; the ndy Butchers, Dirty Ticket, Jim Boggia, 9:30 pm, advance, $10 at the door.
att Murphy's Chinablood, no cover, 21+.
ddle East Upstairs: Aloud, Scamper, the Silver ning, Lady of Spain, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
. Dooley's Sean Cunningham, 5-9 pm; Celtic an, 9-2 am; $5, 21+.
ak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm-12:15 am, cover, 21+.
Brien's The Hound, Beware!, Lili Brigadera, $6, +.
ddy O's: Seven Stations, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
rris Flavor, 10 pm, $5-$10.
's Donna Parker, Kate Village, Jason Lescalleet, aters, Double Leopards, 9 pm, $5-$7 cover, +.
gattabar Los Hombres Calientes, 7:30 and 10 , $25.
ergods Unlockedgroove, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
es Jazz Club Gian Carlo Busgcaglia, Balaton, 0 pm, $12.
ullers Jazz Club The Rippingtons, 8 pm, 10:30 , $32-$70.
o of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Galay, 9 pm, no cover.

T.T. the Bear's Place Hopewell, the Quartet After, Brian Jonestown Massacre, 9:30 pm, $10 in advance, $12 at the door.
Tweeter Center Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, the Black Crowes, 7 pm, $27.50-$55.
WaterWorks Lune, 8 pm, $5-$10.
The Western Front Shango Axe, 9 pm, $7.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, JULY 30

Asgard Meet Bingo, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Attic The Matt Chase Group, 10 pm, $7, 21+.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Bank of America Pavillion Crosby, Stills & Nash, 8 pm, $36, $51.
Black Horse Tavern Freudian Slip, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne; Upstairs: McTaggarts.
Bob the Chef's Terrance Gresham, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook, the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Jim Kweskin, Rose, 7 pm and 10 pm, $18, $16 members.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Velvet Jones.
The Green Briar Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Grumpy Jones, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp Last Man Standing, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Tons of Chill, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Kinsale Symbolics, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Beast, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Rudds, Jumbies, Bleu, $8 advance, $10 at the door.
Middle East Upstairs: Frank Smith, Codetta, Reports, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover, 21+.
O'Brien's Stringtheory, $6, 21+.
Paddy O's Nova Kane: CD Release 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Waltham, Ryko, No Allegiance, the Andwutz, Primary Others, 9 pm, $10 advance, $12 at the door, 18+.

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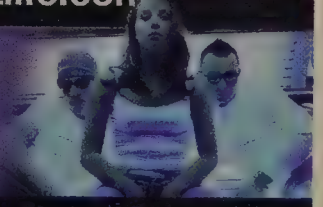

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Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's the Raven Society, Reverse, 9 pm, $5-$7 cover, 21+.
Regattabar Los Hombres Calientes, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $25.
Rivergods Goodwood, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Teresa Ines Group, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club The Rippingtons, 8 pm and 10:30 pm, $32-$70.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Eats Tapes, Knifehandchop, Drop the Line, Kid606, 9:15 pm, $10.
WaterWorks Fasttimes, 8 pm, $5-$10.
The Western Front Jammyland Allstars, 9 pm, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Color and Talea, 7 pm, $10; Charlie Kohlhase & His Gang, 9:30 pm.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-Jah, 11 pm.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, JULY 31

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jazz & Rock Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Seamus Kennedy, 8 pm, $15, $13 members.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Donegal Cords, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Harpers Ferry Reserve, Plan 17, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Tom Grolou Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lyodd, 3-5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Zion Blood, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: HumanWine, Dreamchild, Amber Spyglass, Desar, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm; Mike Barrett, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
O'Brien's Ptl Klub, Lethal Aggression, In Defiance, $7, 21+.
Rivergods Dinos and Amy, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Grant Hart, $10.
Wally's Wally's Stephchildren, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
WaterWorks the Pak, 8 pm, $5-$10.
Wonder Bar Jonny Horner, Joe McMahon Ensemble, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Whimsy, 9:30 pm, $5.
ZuZu Rockabilly Night, 10 pm.

MONDAY, AUGUST 1

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Kate McDonnell & Friends, 7 pm, 21+.
Avalon Vertical Horizon, Pat McGee Band, 7 pm, 18+.
Club Passim Nanci Griffith, 8 pm, $100.
Dick's Last Resort John Erikson, no cover.
Great Scott The New Dumb, the 8mm Fuzz, Silent Service, the Vershok, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Briar Irish Sessuin, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Harpers Ferry The Pass, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Left Handed Thieves, Apache Line, the Brother Kite, Pennington, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 8 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: James Christensen & Friends, 7 pm, 21+.
Boston Harbor Hotel Frankie Lee, Mind, Body & Soul, 6 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Open Mike with Chris Genteel, 7 pm, $5, members free.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Rockabilly Jazz from the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry 3 Headed Monster, $5-$8, 18+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+
Middle East Upstairs: Malevolent Creation, Origin, Animosity, Divine Empire, 9 pm, $15 in advance, $17 at the door, 18+.
PA's Feldspar, Wax on Radio, Maps and Atlases, Shark and Bear, 8:30 pm, $5-$7 cover, 21+.
Roxy Chevelle, 7 pm, $22.
Scullers Jazz Club Warren Hill, Jeff Golub, 8 pm, 10 pm, $25-$65.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Treasure State, Joel RL Phelps, the Downer Trio, Drew O'Doherty, 10 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-49 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100) MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422 5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bank of America Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-931-2000) MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line t Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-74 2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617- 439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617 369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center *41 Second St. Cambridge (617-577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354 2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783 2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fenway Park *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *1 FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hatch Memorial Shell *Storrow Dr., Charles River Esplanade, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586) MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*

Finsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Firkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-82-4920).*
Fresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-53-1000). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Fizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-47-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Flucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-825).*
Flatt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookline (617-32-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Fliddle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Flidway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green St.*
Flilky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Flothers Rest *Intersection of Boylston St. and Fenway, oston (617-747-2447).*
Fir. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Nameless Coffehouse *3 Church St., Cambridge 617-864-1630). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James venue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Out of the Blue Art Gallery *106 Prospect Street, Cam-ridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-62-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-27-2060). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rivergods *125 River St., Central Square, Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tweeter Center *88 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2333). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Mansfield.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
WaterWorks *330 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

Museum of Fine Arts Concert Program

Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $25; $20 members, students and seniors. Classical flamenco guitarist Juanito Pascual performs his own pieces with violin and percussion accompaniment.

Tanglewood Music Center

Shed Building, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $18-$96. Keith Lockhart conducts the Boston Pops Orchestra and guest vocalists as they celebrate Stephen Sondheim's 75th birthday.

WCRB Classical Concert Series

Hatch Memorial Shell, Storrow Drive, Boston (617-626-4970). www.mass.gov/dcr/rec-act.htm. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7 pm. Free. The Classical Concert Series presents Symphony by the Sea.

THURSDAY, JULY 14

Emmanuel Church

15 Newbury St., Boston (508-212-6038). www.sohipboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $15; $10 students and seniors. The Society for Historically Informed Performance (SoHip) presents Très, performing "Sing it Lady, S'il Vous Plaît."

Tanglewood Music Center

Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$53. The Beaux Arts Trio performs an all-Beethoven program of piano trios.

FRIDAY, JULY 15

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Free. Aaron Kula conducts the New England Conservatory Festival Youth Orchestra.

Tanglewood Music Center

Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30 pm. www.bso.org. $16-$46. Conductor David Robertson leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra and violinist Christian Tetzlaff as they perform selections from Stravinsky, Mozart and Haydn.

SATURDAY, JULY 16

New England Conservatory

Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7 pm. $15. The Memory and Society Institute presents *Groupe Spirit* and *Bala Tounkara.*

Tanglewood Music Center

Shed Building, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$85. James Levine conducts the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, Men of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and featured vocalists in an operatic performance of Act I of Wagner's *Die Walküre* and Act III of *Götterdammerüng.*

SUNDAY, JULY 17

Tanglewood Music Center

Shed Building, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $17-$85. The BSO and pianist Peter Serkin begin Tanglewood's Watch and Play Kid's Workshop with selections from Gershwin, Harbison, Wuorinen and Varese.

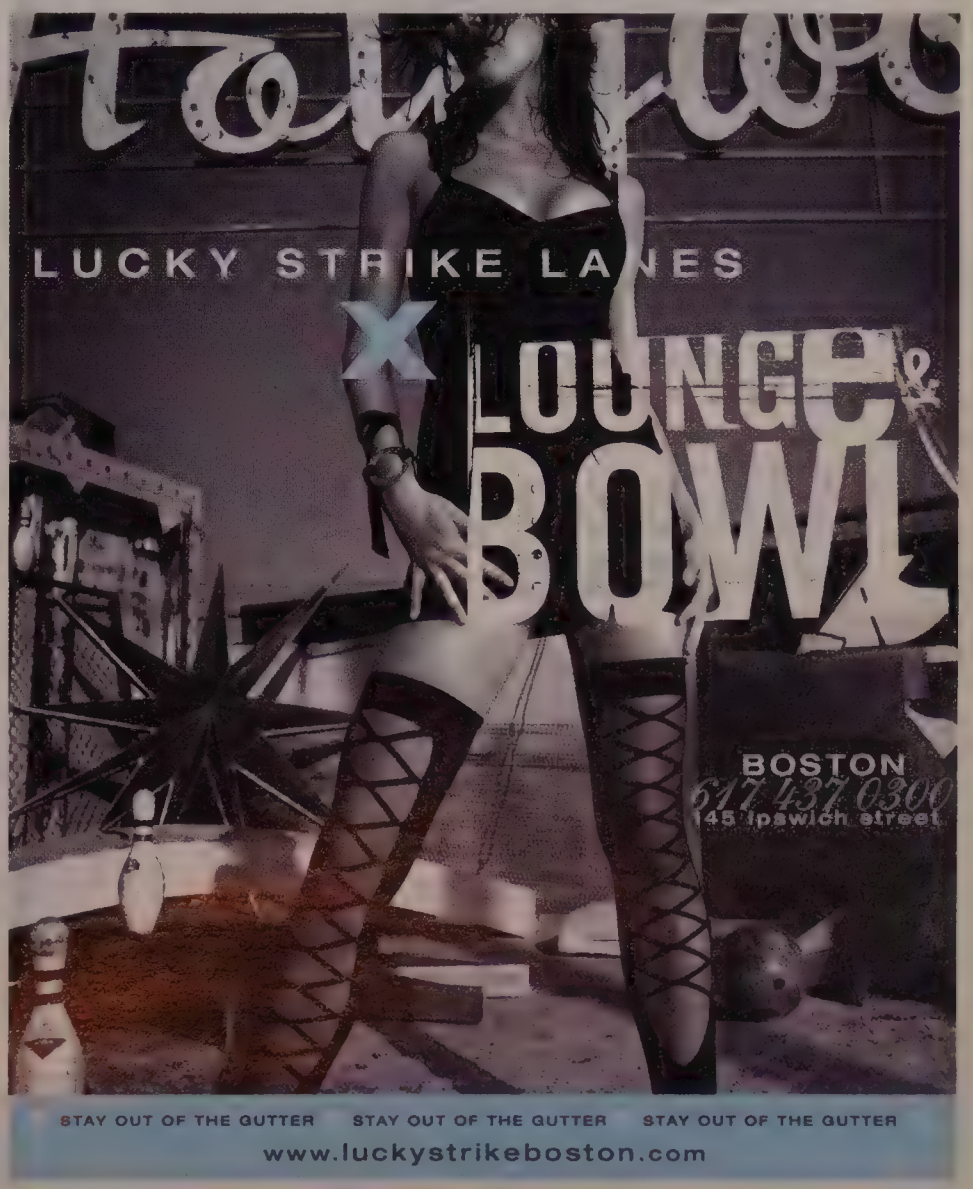
TUESDAY, JULY 19

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 64 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12:15 pm. $3. The Faerie Queen Flute Quartet performs the works of Purcell and others.

Longy School of Music

Pickman Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $12; $7 students and seniors. Passions of the Soul features ensemble suites by International Baroque Institute members.



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Una Bella Serata

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

Museum of Fine Arts Concert Program
Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $25; $20 members, students and seniors. The traditional form of Creole dance music known as Zydeco is performed by accordian player Nathan Williams and the Zydeco Cha Chas.

WCRB Classical Concert Series
Hatch Memorial Shell, Storrow Drive, Boston (617-626-4970). www.mass.gov/dcr/rec-act.htm. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7 pm. Free. The Metro Wind Symphony performs pieces from its repertoire.

THURSDAY, JULY 21

Berklee College of Music
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). www.berkleebpc.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA. 8:15 pm. Free. Wayne Naus performs "Moshka," a continuous performance of written and improvised music.

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Maritime Park, D Street and Northern Ave., South Boston (617-520-2200) www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Bus Routes 3 and 6. 6:30 pm. Free. Conductor Charles Ansbacher and the Boston Landmark Orchestra begin this free summer concert series with Beethoven's Symphony No.5 and Telemann's *Don Quixote*.

Emmanuel Church
15 Newbury St., Boston (508-212-6038). www.sohipboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $15; $10 students and seniors. The Society for Historically Informed Performance (SoHip) presents Amphion's Lyre, performing "Prelude to the Afternoon of a Fugue."

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7 pm. Free. The Kodaly Music Institute and Vocal Vacation present a gala choral concert.

Tanglewood Music Center
Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$53. The Emerson String Quartet performs an all-Mendelssohn program.

FRIDAY, JULY 22

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-520-2200). www.landmarksorchestraorg. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 8 pm. Free. Holst, Beethoven, Bach and Respighi are some of the composers on this program with Charles Ansbacher as conductor.

Longy School of Music
Pickman Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $12; $7 students and seniors. Students perform instrumental and vocal chamber music in Music of the Spheres.

SATURDAY, JULY 23

Longy School of Music
Pickman Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. 1 pm. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15; $10 students and seniors. International Baroque Institute faculty join Collegium Atlantis in a chamber music performance.

Tanglewood Music Center
Shed Building, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. Conductor James Levine leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra in an all-Brahms program.

SUNDAY, JULY 24

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Jamaica Pond, Jamaica Plain, (617-520-2200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. 8 pm. MBTA: Bus Route #39. 8 pm. Free. See listing for July 22.

Tanglewood Music Center
Shed Building, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $17-$85. Conductor Jens George Bachmann leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra and violinist Pinchas Zukerman in their renditions of Beethoven and Shostakovich for the Watch and Play Kid's Workshop.

MONDAY, JULY 25

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Boston Common Parkman Bandstand, Beacon and Tremont Street, Boston (617-520-2200) www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Park St. 8 pm. Free. See listing for July 22.

TUESDAY, JULY 26

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 64 Beacon St., Boston (617-22 2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. 12:15 pm. $3. The Ars and Amici Voc Ensemble performs motets and anthems by Thom Tallis and William Byrd.

Longy School of Music
Pickman Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambrid (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Li to Harvard. 8 pm. $15; $10 students and senio The grand finale concert features Internation Baroque Institute faculty and participants pe forming instrumental intermezzi, orchestral a dance pieces.

Tanglewood Music Center
Shed Building, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165 www.bso.org. $20-$96. James Levine heads th lineup of conductors who lead the Boston Sy phony Orchestra, the Boston Pops, and the Tangl wood Music Center Orchestra for the Tanglewoo on Parade series. The program includes Berlio Bernstein and Tchaikovsky.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

Museum of Fine Arts Concert Program
Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Bost (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Gre Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $25; $20 members, st dents and seniors. Acoustic guistarist Jimmie Da Gilmore plays his country songs.

Tanglewood Music Center
Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165 www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. The Zukerma Chamber Players perform works by Beethove Mozart and Brahms.

WCRB Classical Concert Series
Hatch Memorial Shell, Storrow Drive, Boston (617-62 4970). www.mass.gov/dcr/rec-act.htm. MBTA: R Line to Charles/MGH. 7 pm. Free. The Boston Bar A sociation Orchestra performs pieces from repertoire.

THURSDAY, JULY 28

Berklee College of Music
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Bost (617-747-2261). www.berkleebpc.com. MBTA: Gre Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA. 8:15 pm. Fre The Rainbow Band performs jazz under the directi of faculty trombonist/composer/arranger Phil Wilson

FRIDAY, JULY 29

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Adams National Historical Park, Quincy (617-28 2510).www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Red Li to Quincy Center Station. 8 pm. Free. See listing f July 22. Rain location is Quincy High School.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St. (617-585-1260 www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Gre Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Free. Aaron Kula co ducts the New England Conservatory Festival You Orchestra.

Tanglewood Music Center
Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165 www.bso.org. $16-$46. Charles Dutoit leads th Boston Symphony Orchestra and violinist Lisa Ba ashvili in selections from Wagner, Stravinsky a Sibelius.

SATURDAY, JULY 30

Tanglewood Music Center
Shed Building, 297 West St., Lenox (413-63 5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$85. Condu tor Hans Graf and the Boston Symphony Orche tra support mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade an all-opera performance of Ravel, Canteloub and Tchaikovsky.

SUNDAY, JULY 31

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 5 pm. Free. Paige Long lea the Metropolitan Flute Festival Orchestra.

Tanglewood Music Center
Shed Building, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165 www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $17-$85. Charles Dutoit d rects pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet and the Bosto Symphony Orchestra in a program of Mozart, Rav and Rachmaninoff.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

Tanglewood Music Center
Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165 www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. Baritone Matthi Goerne and pianist Alexander Schmalcz perform a all-German program that includes songs by Mahle Berg and Wagner.

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

n Tua Nua
eremony A night of gothic and industrial music, pm, $3, 19+.

xis
atic Gay night with rotating DJs and drag performances, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

oston Rocks
artini Mondays DJ spins top-40, plus open mike d interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

aprice
uddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a x of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 , no cover, 21+.

olden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, otown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Green Briar
sh seisiun.

reen St. Grill
avana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ ıban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 8 after lesson), 18+.

hoenix Landing
akka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, pm, $3, 21+.

he Place
s spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
s spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

iver Gods
eekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musi- l face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

aint
I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno ins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no ver, 21+.

UESDAYS

ria
0 Dance to hip-hop and R&B, $20, 19+ ladies, + men.

ar 33
avana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban ff, salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after son), 21+.

oston Rocks
nooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm- ım, no cover, 21+.

aprice
ve bands as well as rotating DJs, 10 pm, no cover, +.

osmopolitan
esday Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10- ɔm, $5, 21+.

mbassy
Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no ver, 19+.

he Enormous Room
ul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from e '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

olden Temple
ıe E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix in- ıding R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, cover, 21+.

reen Street Grill
ɔo Timin' Three performs rock-a-billy jazz music, :30 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

he Kells
tally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic)s music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

ıoenix Landing
ake" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, pm, no cover, 21+.

ıe Place
s spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, +.

ıe Purple Shamrock
raoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ıe Rack
s spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
vesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at ım, no cover, 21+.

ımor
ght varies with an assortment of performances and emed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa night, DJ Hernan, DJ D. Martinez, DJ Antonio Ortiz, and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes beginner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk music bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Spoken Word A night of poetry.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After Work Wednesdays Sam Adams sponsors Game Night with free appetizers and Red Sox ticket giveaways, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
DJ World Unite spins, 11:30 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

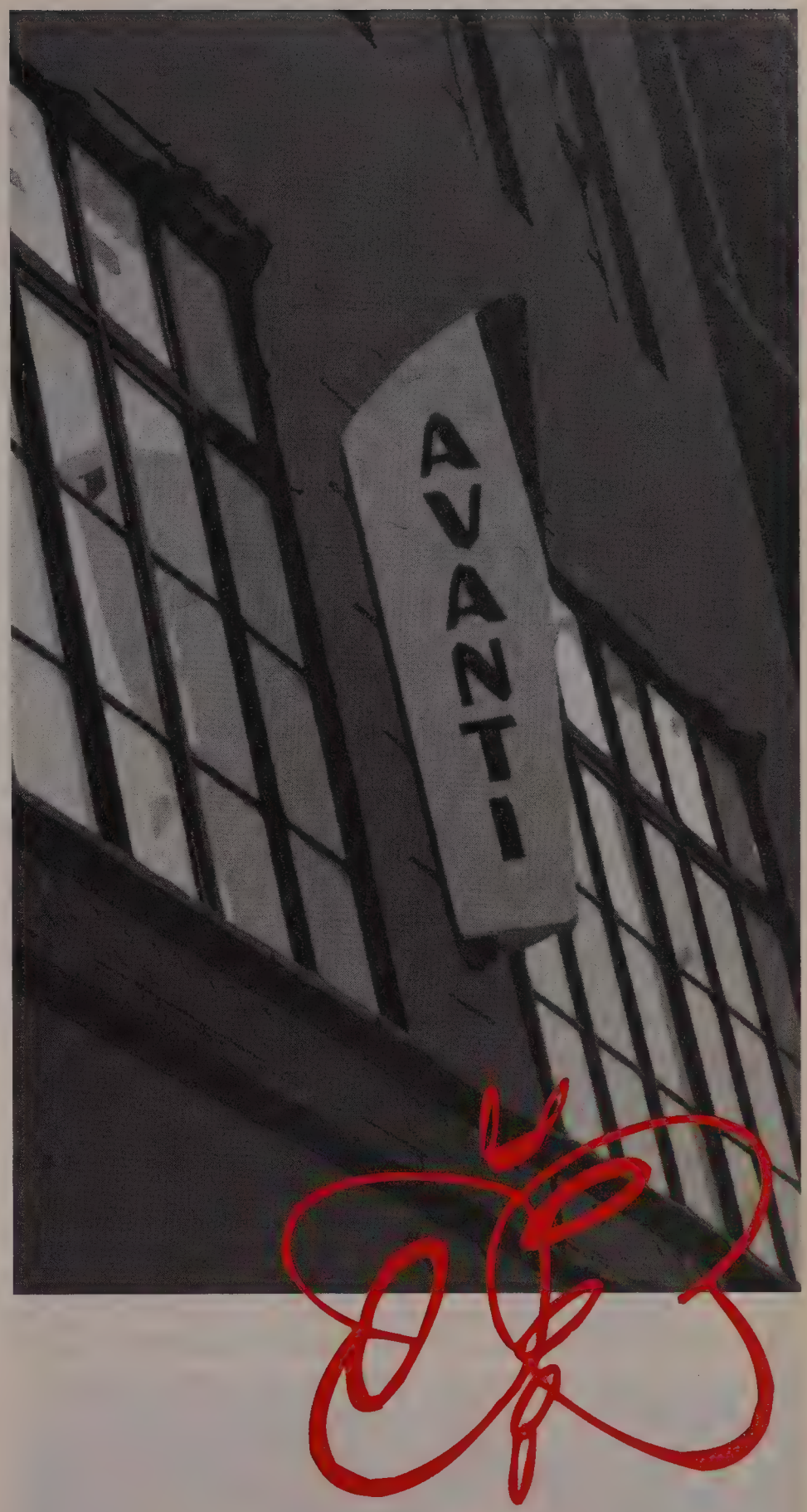
Aria Lounge
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $20, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+.



AVANTI

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Tiki room

1 lansdowne street • boston • 617.351.2580
tuesday - saturday 5pm-2am • tikiroomboston.com

Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Miss Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ Mike Navarro, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of jazz, 10 pm.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After Work Lounge Rotating DJs spin jazz and lounge music, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama-jigi play afro-pop highlife, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban Jeff spins a mix of Latin and Salsa, 10 pm, $10 before 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Martini Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while resident DJs spin R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hi hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Lesbian Night, 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $1 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul a rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cov

WaterWorks
Buckwild Thursdays DJs spin top-40 and house a host a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull ri ing contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-scho hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech a funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Steve spins top-40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 p $5, 21+.

Aria
Vanity DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R&B and classi 11 pm, $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Avalon
Avaland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilki Alex Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 p 1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spi ning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cov bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Hot Fridays Hip-hop, Merengue, Salsa, Reggae, a Bachata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hi hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of internationa Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s a '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $1 19+, after 11 pm.

Club Q
Forbidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and to 40, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $ 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style musi 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and tran music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '6 on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Just Nyce spins hip-hop, 9 pm, $15/$10, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everythi from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $ 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Chris Kung of KISS 108 spins dance, top-40 a hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

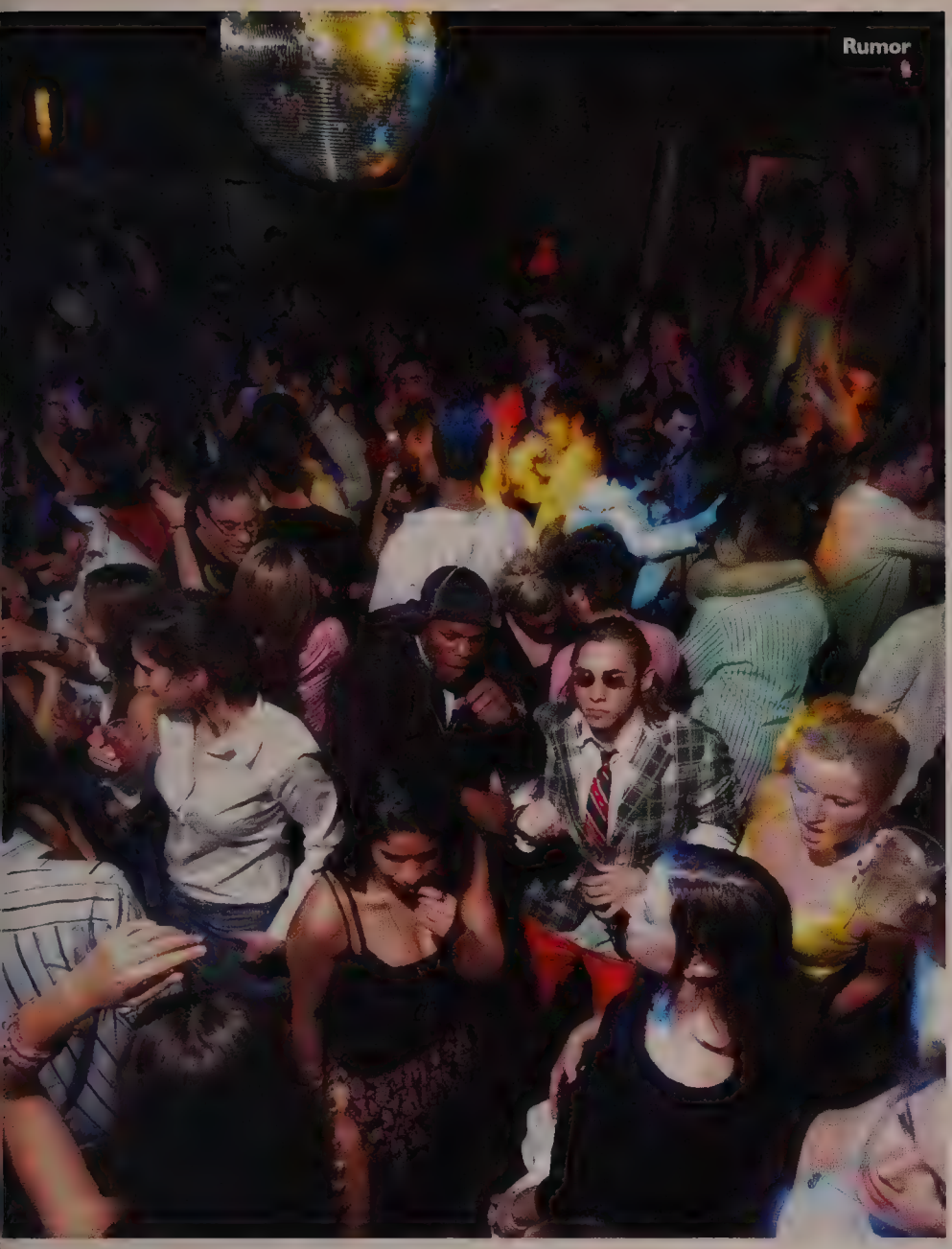
Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s a vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1 am, no cov 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 p $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Niso and DJ Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe Jam'n 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spi downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.



urricane O'Reilly's
spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before pm, 21+.

D
ishment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins reggae, $15, +.

se McIntyre's
s spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

ne Kells
dies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance ile DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, lies free before 12 am, 21+.

nvara Pub
Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, &B and pop, 21+.

quor Store
Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

atrix/Paradise City
Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ Steve inelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

cGann's
s spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

iddlesex Lounge
Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and -hop, no cover.

ne Modern
o DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

pal Lounge
ture/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno d disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

ne Palace
he Beach House Reggaeton: Spanish reggae isic, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** w England's longest-running all-male dance rue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, 5, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie nnett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian nosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, +; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands per- m, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; 21+.

rris
at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

ne Penthouse Club
Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, no er, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and TV screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

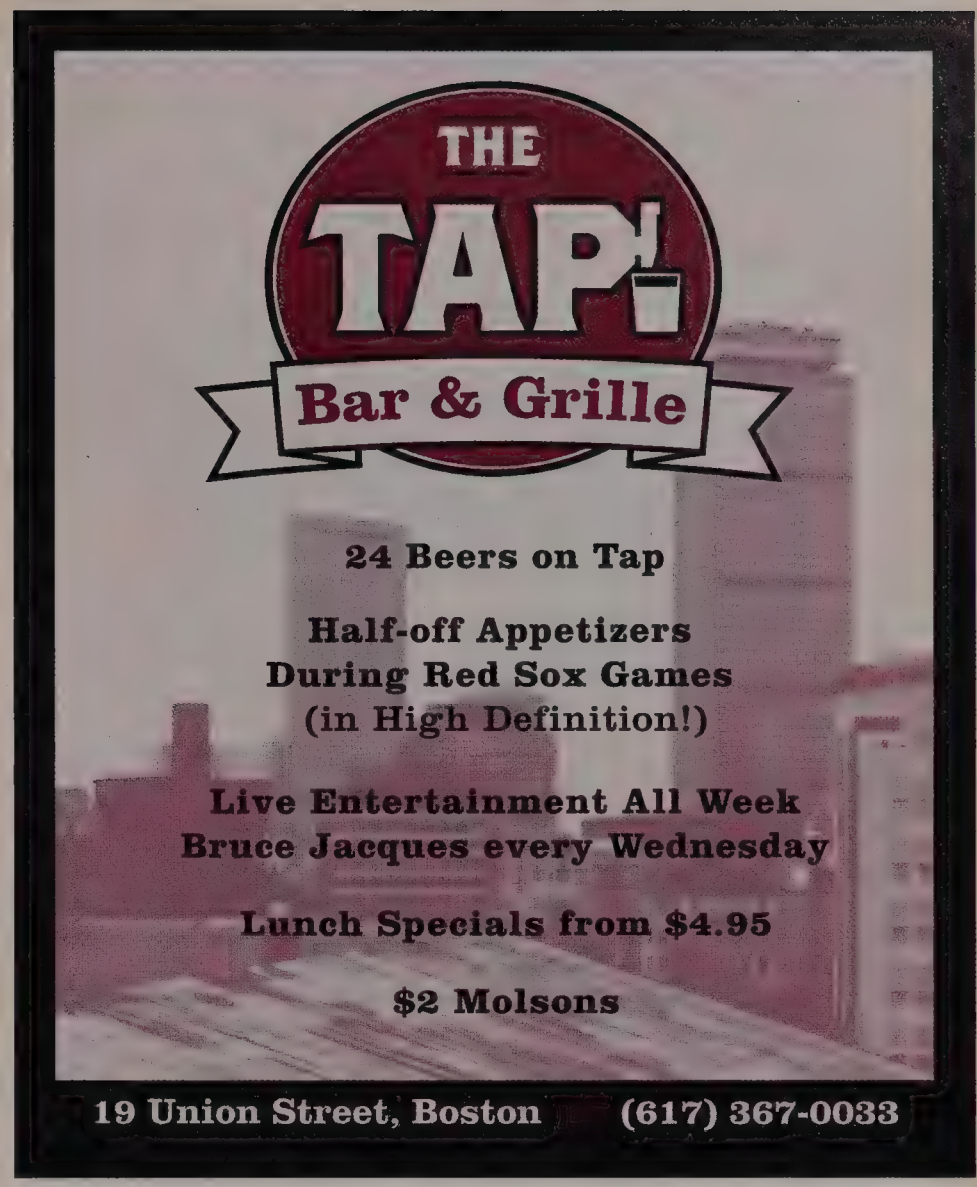
The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

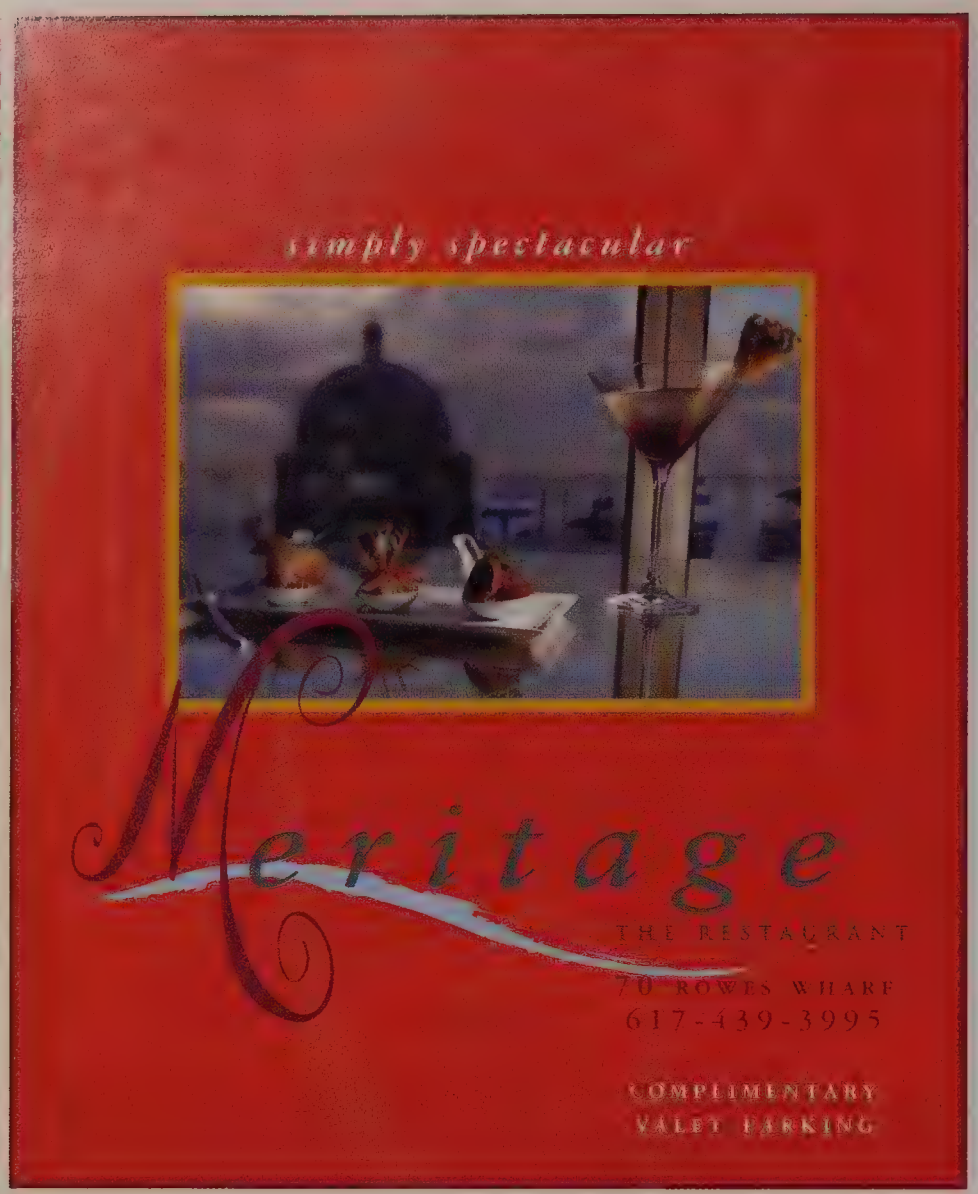
Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night, 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.





WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Anthem
Latin Fever DJs spin Salsa Clasica, Merengue, Bachata, Salsa de Hoy and Latin House at this weekly theme party, 10 pm-2 am, $10.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared and friends mix top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life DJs Frank and Matty spin hip-hop, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and top-40 music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Profenna spins top-40, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
•**Sensation Saturdays** featuring DJ Val Beats spinning hip-hop, 19+ women, 21+ men, 10:30 pm, $15. •Russian night in The Modern with DJ Demetrius spins International.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spi merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, me $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30), 21

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons sp minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 p $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance mus 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-4 $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spani and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip He nandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10: pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Ma Encounter** New England's longest-running all-ma dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 p 12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxyg** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21 •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Braz ian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-ener dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wo ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Different DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 21

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roc spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 a no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mode mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancin 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in t front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro vorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and hous 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins cla sic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cov 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tar Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-ho 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and hous 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyba 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays** D spin top-40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 p 10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top- all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Dance Hall Reggae music, 11 pm, $10-15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $2 19+ (women), 21+ (men).

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance a techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

oston Rocks
ls spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

uzz
azilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, 0, 19+.

aprice
otating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, -$10, 21+.

lub Q
ave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and the 45 ew spin dance music. 8 pm-2 am. $10.

osmopolitan
aribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

evlin's
dustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and nixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

kco Lounge
p-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, +.

ne Enormous Room
volutions A night of electronic music, $3, pm-3 am.

olden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo-vn, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

reen Briar
ibar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

ne Kells
e Spot DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house music, pm-2 am, no cover.

vel
tating DJs spin Latin and international on the third or and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the rth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

ne Office
opia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests y deep soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, +.

oenix Landing
mp This house-music night has a rotating roster local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, +.

ne Place
ad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

ne Point
Itchy P.

ne Purple Shamrock
Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

ne Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-n, no cover, 21+.

dline
nday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
tion Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic k and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

les Dance Hall
pa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sun-of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play a music, 6-10 pm, $12.

int
ce Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night uring Latin and international grooves, 10 pm-n, $10, 21+.

sy K's
nu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

ki Room
gae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub tion and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ast
wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

nu
nivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian at as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance , 11 pm, $15, 19+.

rtigo
tian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and ld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

aterWorks
eekend Beach Party Cocktails and volleyball, pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Smokin' Sundays** DJs eo and Randy spin and Romeo hosts a Hawai-Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am, $10 from n-9 pm, $20 after 9 pm, 21+.

lub Venues

Rain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
hem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).
lon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-3).*
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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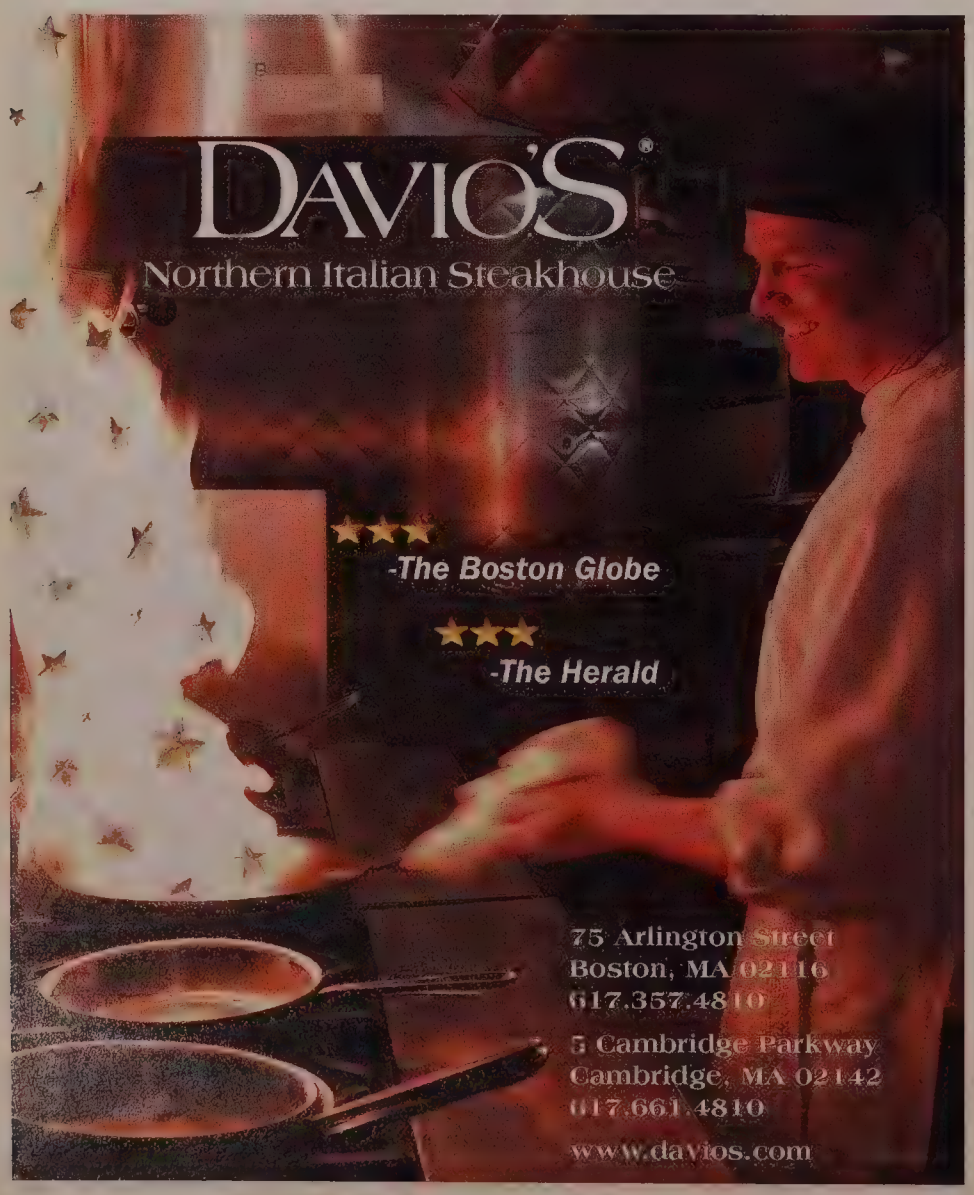


museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •East Asian art is exhibited in *Forging the New: East Asian Painting in the Twentieth Century.* Through Oct. 16. •*Degas at Harvard* exhibits more than 60 drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs by Edgar Degas. Aug. 1-Nov. 27.•*Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Greek Portraiture, The Art of Ancient Rome* and *Near Eastern Art* are on display. Ongoing.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center

Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Wed., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •A display of art from China, Japan and Korea runs through June 2006. •A new installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •*The 2005 Annual Exhibition* features works from 10 New England artists. Through July 31. •*Collection Highlight: Makoto Yabe* features ceramics. Through July 31. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through Sept. 26. •*Great Buys: Museum Purchases* highlights works purchased over the last decade. Through Aug. 2006.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •*American Art at Harvard* includes paintings and sculptures of Harvard's notable members since the early 17th century. Ongoing. •*American Art since 1950* displays the changes that occurred in American art in the mid-20th century using paintings and sculptures. Ongoing. •*Eighteenth-Century European Ceramics and Paintings* exhibits some of the museum's permanent collection. Ongoing. •*Rubens and His Collaborators* exhibits the museum's 17th century baroque style paintings by Peter Paul Rubens and other artists of the period. Ongoing. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* displays 19th-century art. Ongoing. •The exhibits *Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe since 1880* and *Art in France, 1885-1960* are featured. Ongoing.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; free Sun. from 9 am-12 pm. • *Thoreau's Walden: A Journey in Photographs by Scot Miller* displays a five-year pictorial of Walden Woods. Through Oct. 2. •*The Glass Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features the Ware Collection of glass models for more than 830 plant species. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; free Thu. after 5 pm. •*Getting Emotional* focuses on the expression of feeling through various media. Through Sept. 5. •*M mentum 4: Roe Ethridge* is an exhibition of contemp rary photography inspired by fashion and advertisi Through Sept. 5.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). ww gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to M seum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; s dents, $5; members, patrons named Isabella and th under 18 free. •*The Seasonal Courtyard* offers flo displays. Through July 31. •*Stray Dogs* featu Croatian artist Danijel Zezelj's drawings. Throu Aug. 21. •*A Closer Look: An Introduction to the abella Stewart Gardner Museum* offers muse tours. *Tue.-Fri, 2:30 pm.* Ongoing.•*Special Exhi tion Gallery Talks* provide context to museum e hibits. *Sat., 12 pm.* Ongoing. •The collection f tures more than 2,500 paintings, sculptur tapestries, furniture pieces, manuscripts, rare boo and decorative pieces, including works by Re brandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli a Degas. Ongoing.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kend Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; s dents and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. •*Rob and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. •*Mind and Ha The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explo student life over the past 150 years. Ongoi •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selectio from the world's largest hologram collection. On ing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Har Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photograp Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-describ cross between "a mechanical engineer and a chor grapher." Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* displ work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winne Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afro museum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Mo Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •Four exhibits depict t history of African-Americans in Massachuset Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

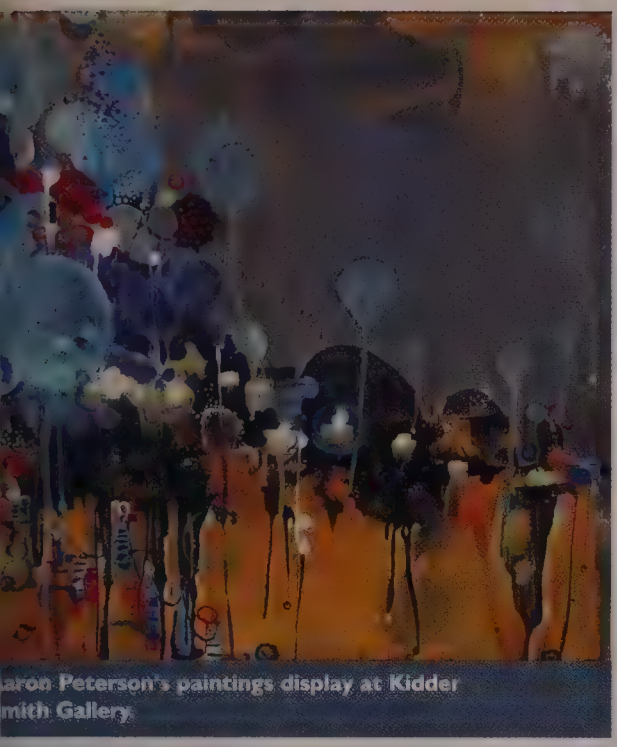
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-930 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. We Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. T and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adu $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17 school d until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all other tim free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't incl special exhibitions). •*Future Retro: Drawing from Great Age of American Automobiles* is an exhibition innovation in automobiles after World War Through July 18. •*The Quilts of Gee's Bend* displ over 60 quilts made from 1930 until 2000. Throu Aug. 21. •*Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instrume of Asia* features over 100 musical instrumen Through Jan. 5, 2006.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.m org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mo Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; senio $12; children, $11. •*Brain: The World Inside Y Head* features a giant model brain. Through Se 10. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the histo of computers. Ongoing. •Hundreds of butterfl and flowers are on display in the new *Butte Garden.* Ongoing. •Put your organizational ski to work and solve mysteries in the exhibit *Natu Mysteries.* Ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). ww pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; s dents, $9; children 16 and under and residents Salem, free. •*The Art of Shopping in China* captu China's early-19th-century international tra market through 40 paintings. Through Sept. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspi works by more than 20 Massachusetts artis Through Sept. 18. •*The Kingdom of Siam: The A of Central Thailand* exhibits work from Thailan kingdom of Ayutthaya and includes sculptu wood carvings, jewelry and more. July 16-Oct. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from t Mississippian Culture through March 30, 200 •*Air Lines* features photographs by Alex MacLe through April 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature* d plays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Throu Aug. 3, 2006. •*The Kingdom of Siam: The Art Central Thailand, 1350-1800* features stone imag sculptures, wood carvings, temple furnishings a more. July 16-Oct. 16, 2006•*Yin Yu Tang* is a



aron Peterson's paintings display at Kidder mith Gallery

nstructed Chinese merchant's home from the Qing Dynasty. Ongoing.

abody Museum of chaeology and Ethnology

Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.body.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. ly, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; dren 3-18, $6; children under 3, free. •*Breaking Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations in shington, D.C.* features a selection of photographs of Native American delegates to the U.S. ernment. Through Oct. 13. •*Gifts of the Great ers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtiss lection* is on display through March 30, 2006. *nazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* indes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's bers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006.

Special Events

Avenue of the Arts Exhibit

West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, 151 Cambridge St., Boston (617-523-3957). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Wed., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 12-8 pm; Fri., 9 am-5 pm. Free. Annual exhibit features contemporary paintings, graphics, and crafts by eight artists associated with the university community in Boston. Through July 28.

Summer Games! Poster Show

International Poster Gallery, 205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. Free. This 12th annual summer poster show focuses on sports posters from the last 100 years. Through Sept. 5.

Galleries

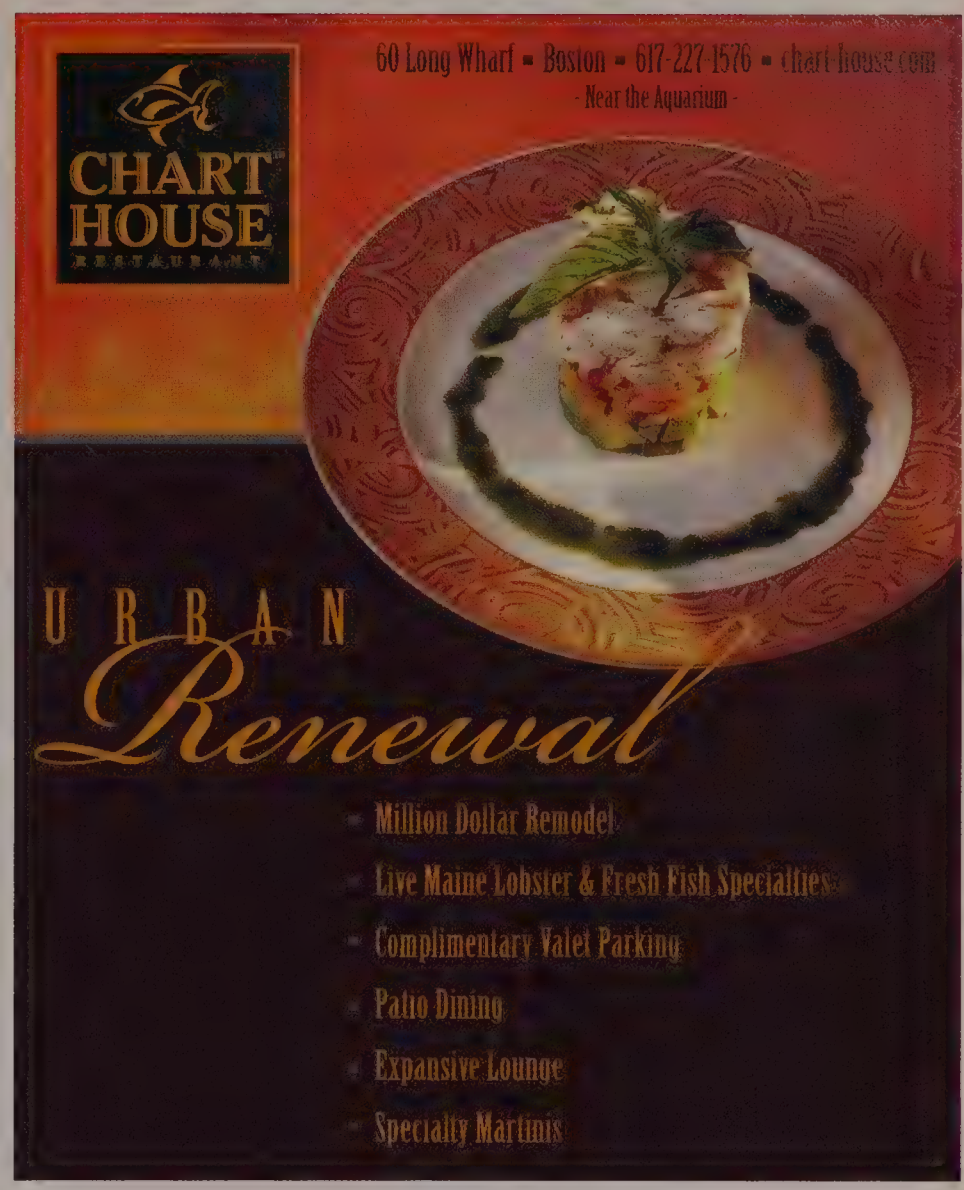
FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The Summer Salon features 20th-century paintings from New England's summer art colonies. Through Aug. 13.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tea and*



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The International Poster Gallery displays vintage sports and travel posters in the *Summer Games* exhibit.

Fantasy features sculptured teapots created by 28 artists. Through Aug. 31.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alpha gallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Summer Selections* displays paintings by gallery artists. Through Sept. 7.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Still Lifes* features abstracted still lifes by Stephen Dinsmore. Through July 30. •New paintings by John Stockwell are on display Aug. 2-30.

Ars Libri
Mario Diacano Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Shelley Reet displays oil on canvas paintings through Aug. 31.

Artana
1378 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Summer Group Show* displays more than 100 paintings by gallery artists through July 30.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.arta tack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 8 pm. •*Organic Expressions* features oil-based abstract Through Aug. 19.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., Boston (781-853-0017). www.atlanti works.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Thu., 6- pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm. •*Orange* is a members' ex hibition of paintings, photography and jewelr Through July 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490) www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Lin to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A grou show features paintings, prints and sculptures by Jos Albers, Daniel Buren, Ellsworth Kelly, Sol Lewit Robert Mangold, Fred Sandback and Peter Wegne Through July 28.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Bac Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*A Right of Passive fea* tures paintings by Clint Griffin. Through July 30.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley

.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Once Over and the Art Scrutiny* features a group photography show. rough July 30. •Paintings by Robert Amesbury dis- through July 30.

ston Center for the Arts

ls Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5). *www.bcaonline.org*. MBTA: *Orange Line to k Bay. Wed.-Thu., 12-5 pm; Fri.-Sat. 12-10 pm; . 12-5 pm.* •*Sifting the Inner Belt* is research art t focuses on the South End community. Through 31. •*Just For Men*, an installation by Andrew wbray, references artist Janine Antoni's work ing Care. Through July 31.

ston Sculptors Gallery

5 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). *w. bostonsculptors.com*. MBTA: *Green Line to ley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm.* •The gallery pre- ts a group showing of member sculptors ough Aug. 15. Call to make an appointment.

ickbottom Gallery

itchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). *www. kbottomartists.com*. MBTA: *Green Line to hmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*Brickbottom Sum- Members' Exhibition*: BIG exhibits large ntings created by gallery members. Through g. 31.

ase Gallery

Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). *www. egallery.com*. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.- , 10 am-6 pm.* •A group show features paintings by ery artists. Through Aug. 29.

ilds Gallery

Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). *www. dsgallery.com*. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. .-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Century of Still Life* exhibits an overview of h-century still life paintings. Through Sept. 3. *tterio Calapai: Woodcuts Old and New* shows an rview of the artist's prints. Through Sept. 3. *enry Pitz Goes to the Circus* displays circus-re- d drawings by Henry Pitz. Through Sept. 3.

pley Society of Art

Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). *www. eysociety.org*. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.- , 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •*Copley Masters' Show: A ed Exhibition* is on display. Through July 16. *nall Works* represents the gallery's entire member- ship body and features all types of media. July 21-Aug. 18.

Crump McCole Gallery

200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •Paintings by marine artist Jeff Eldridge are on display through July 15. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery

164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Jay Gaffney displays black-and-white photography. Through July 30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery

300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Séance* features paintings by Jane Marsching and Deb Todd Wheeler. Through July 30.

Galerie d'Orsay

33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*A Retrospective Exhibition* features paintings by Luc Leestemaker. Through Aug. 7. •An exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries is ongoing.

Gallery AA/B

535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Fri., 12-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*New Talent of New England, 1st Juried Group Exhibition* displays work on paper and canvas, sculptures and photographs by emerging New England artists. Through July 15.

Gallery Katz

450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu., 11 am-5 pm only by appointment. •A group exhibition features paintings, drawings and photographs by Gallery Katz artists. Ongoing.

Gallery Kayafas

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back

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Herb Grilled Lamb Chops, Tomato-Panzanella Salad, Salsa Verde
$24.00

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MUSEUM PAINTING

Bay. Tue.-Fri, 1-5:30 pm; Sat., 12-5:30 pm. •William Machado's paintings are on display through July 1. •*...It's how you play the game* features photographs including some by Lou Jones, William Chapman, Jim Down, Harold Edgerton and Mike Malayszko. Through July 30.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*The Repetitive Mark* features furniture and paintings by six artists who create complex systems through systematic and repetitive patterns. Through July 29.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. • A summer group show features works by Stockwell, Brown, Antonio, Cantor and Lynch, among others. Through Sept. 4.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The *Group Summer Show* features color photographs. Through Aug. 20.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm and by appointment. •*Art of the Pacific* features sculpture and artifacts. July 15-Aug. 15.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Summer Games* exhibits posters of summer sports and travel destinations. Through Sept. 5. •The gallery showcases a variety of vintage posters. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*100 Year Retrospective of Paintings* displays American impressionist works by Harold Rotenberg. Through July 30.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Finding Our Place* features organic abstracts by Aaron Petersen. Through July 30.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •New Art '05 features paintings and sculptures by various artists. Through Aug. 13.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. • New works by landscape artist Elwood Howell and abstract encaustic artist Jennifer Cawley will be on exhibit through July 31. •The gallery's collection features works in various media by international and local artists including Douglass Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarese and Carrie McGee. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Color Connections* displays patterned and textured sculptures. Through Aug. 18.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). www.martinlawrencegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Wed., 10 am-6 pm; Thurs.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-7 pm. •*Contemporary Surrounding* is a group exhibition of interiors and landscape paintings. Through July 31.

Massachusetts College of Art
Bakalar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •An exhibition by 15 graduate students features photography, paintings, video, audio, sculptural installations and more. July 22-Aug. 5.

Mobilia Gallery
33 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •A group exhibition of sculptural jewelry displays through Aug. 15. •Dorothy Feibleman displays ceramic sake cups. Through Aug. 15.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • *Summer Show* features gallery artists including Joseph Solman and Louis Schanker. Through July 31.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-888 www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Ba Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Ruth Fields displa paintings and Olivia Bernard displays sculptur Through July 30.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). ww nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tu Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The *Summer Show* featu paintings, drawings and sculptures. Through Aug. 6

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). ww ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tu Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •*My Perspective: The Phenomen Faux Naive in Contemporary Painting* shows works eight artists. Through Aug. 20.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287 www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery featur photography, paintings, sculptures, jewelry, mosaic antiques and more by local artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). ww peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to A lington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm •*Summer Selections* features paintings by Nana Gr gory, Melinda Hackett, Lisa Lemeland and Sam Ta Through Aug. 13.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). ww puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sa 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Fine Choices 2005* fe tures paintings, drawings and sculptures selected b the artists who made them. Through Sept. 4.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features 19th- and 20th century American and European paintings. Ongoing

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). ww robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Th Salon Show* displays photographs by a number artists. Through Aug. 27.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 1 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rare 20th-centur paintings. Ongoing.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). ww samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. •*Op...ish* ex hibits abstract works of art that are visually inspire by constructivist and futurist ideas. Through Aug. 5.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810 www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Things You Momma Said* revisits childhood through multimedia Through July 31.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770 www.soprafina.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Recen paintings by Resa Blatman and Zsuzsanna Szeged are on display through Aug. 13.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). ww stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The artist owned gallery features paintings by Christina Kea ing, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin, William St. George and Judy St. Peter. Ongoing.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). ww vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm •The gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century American artwork. Ongoing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Panopticon Gallery Boston
Hotel Commonwealth, 502 Comm. Ave., Boston (617 267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Photographs by Norman Fortier feature private and commercial sailing vessels. Through Sept. 10.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www prcboston.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed., and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The 2005 Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards* honor those showing excellence in contemporary color photography. Through Aug. 7.

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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Former commercial fisherman **Tora Johnson** discusses her book *Entanglements: The Intertwined Fates of Whales and Fishermen*, in which she examines whale entanglement in fishing nets and explains the impact this has on both the animals and the fishermen.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Mark Helprin** reads from his novel *Freddy and Fredericka*, about a dull British prince and his stupid wife who are sent to America on a mission to prove they deserve the throne.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. **Todd Hasak-Lowy** reads from his collection of short stories *The Task of This Translator*, in which he describes depressed characters alienated by superficial American culture. Also, **Micah Nathan** reads from his novel, *Gods of Aberdeen*, about a Latin prodigy sent to a New England college where he experiments with sex and drugs and becomes obsessed with a mythic stone said to hold the key to immortality.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **H.H. Fuller** reads from his book *Fibr 11*, a mystery set in Boston that involves a came man and his fiancée.

THURSDAY, JULY 14

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). ww bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Damian N Nicholl** reads from his debut novel, *A Son Cal Gabriel*, about a Catholic boy's struggle to und stand his sexual identity in Northern Ireland.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). ww portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter pm. Free. Poets **Ifeanyi Menkiti** and **Diana D Hovanessian** read from their work.

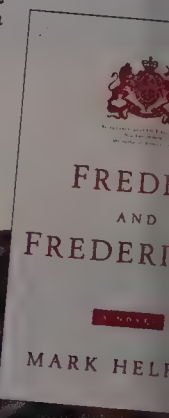
Wellesley Booksmith Event
Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Welles (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.co MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm Free. **Jennifer Weiner** reads from her novel *Lit Earthquakes*, about four new mothers who becor friends and help each other through the difficult of marriage and parenting.

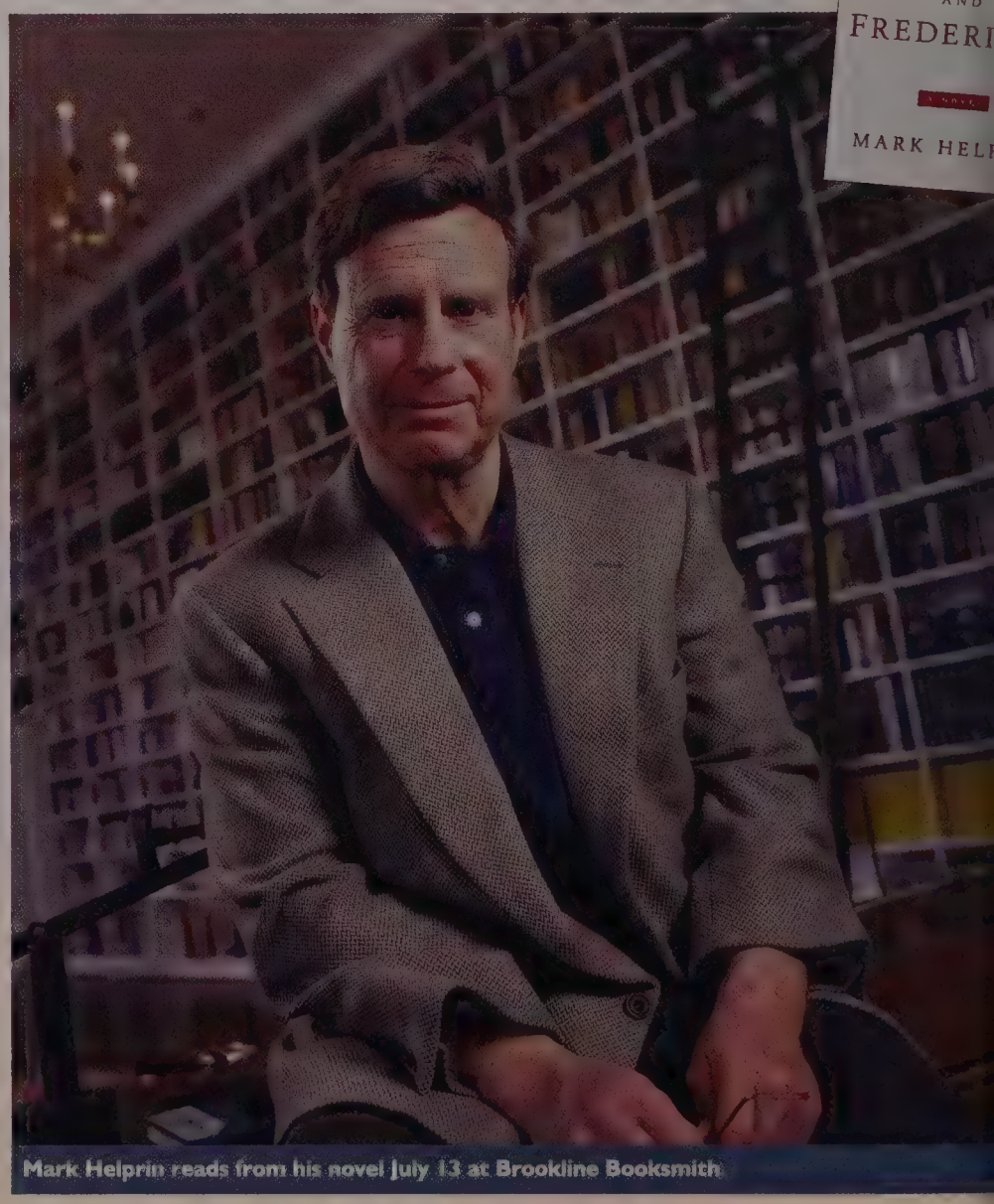
FRIDAY, JULY 15

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). ww bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Euger Seifer Olson** reads from her novel *The Pajar Game*, about a middle school teacher turned li gerie saleswoman.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000 www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line Harvard. 11 pm. The Harvard Coop hosts a Har Potter party that includes trivia games, photos a snacks; *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* go on sale at midnight.

Newtonville Books Event
New Art Center, 61 Washington Park, Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 9 pm. $35. This Harry Potter party features readings from previous Harry Potter books, live music, a





Mark Helprin reads from his novel July 13 at Brookline Booksmith

creening of *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* nd a cash bar with snacks to celebrate the release of *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*.

MONDAY, JULY 18

Brookline Booksmith

79 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. rooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Dana Adam Shapiro** eads from his novel, *The Every Boy*, about a 15- ear-old boy who drowns mysteriously and the odd iary he leaves behind.

TUESDAY, JULY 19

Brookline Booksmith

79 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. rooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Bill Eisele** reads from is novel *Scrub Match*, in which two men find love fter meeting in a gay basketball league. Also, **Scott omfret** and **Scott Whittier** read from the novel ney cowrote, *Hot Sauce*, about a tumultuous rela- onship between a gay fashion designer and his chef oyfriend.

Harvard Coop

400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). ww.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. NPR commentator **Hollis illespie** reads from her collection of autobio- raphical stories *Confessions of a Recovering Slut: nd Other Love Stories*, in which she relates her ex- eriences living in an impoverished Atlanta neigh- orhood with her young daughter.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

Newtonville Books & Brews

96 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. ewtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Laurie Foos** reads from er novel *Before Elvis There Was Nothing*, about a air of sisters who, after they're abandoned by their lvis-obsessed parents, suffer from emotional issues nd odd physical problems. Also, **Anthony Weller** iscusses his novel *The Siege of Salt Cove*, about a nall Massachusetts town that decides to secede om the U.S. after the state threatens to tear down a istoric bridge.

THURSDAY, JULY 21

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Boston Globe columnist **Vicki Constantine Croke** discusses her book *The Lady and the Panda: The True Adventures of the First American Explorer to Bring Back China's Most Exotic Animal*, about Ruth Harkness, an American woman who succeeded in bringing the first Chinese panda to the U.S. after her husband dies during his own attempt. Also, **Clea Simon** reads from her novel, *Mew is for Murder*, about a "cat lady's" seemingly accidental death that draws suspicion when her house is repeatedly broken into and rumors of treasure circulate.

Harvard Book Store

First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University **Temple Grandin** reads from her book *Animals in Translation: Using the Mysteries of Autism to Decode Animal Behavior*, in which she compares animal perception to that of autistic humans and examines the complexity of animal cognition.

MONDAY, JULY 25

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Kristin Gore** reads from her novel *Sammy's Hill*, about a young domestic policy advisor in Washington learning firsthand about the scandals and betrayals of a life in politics.

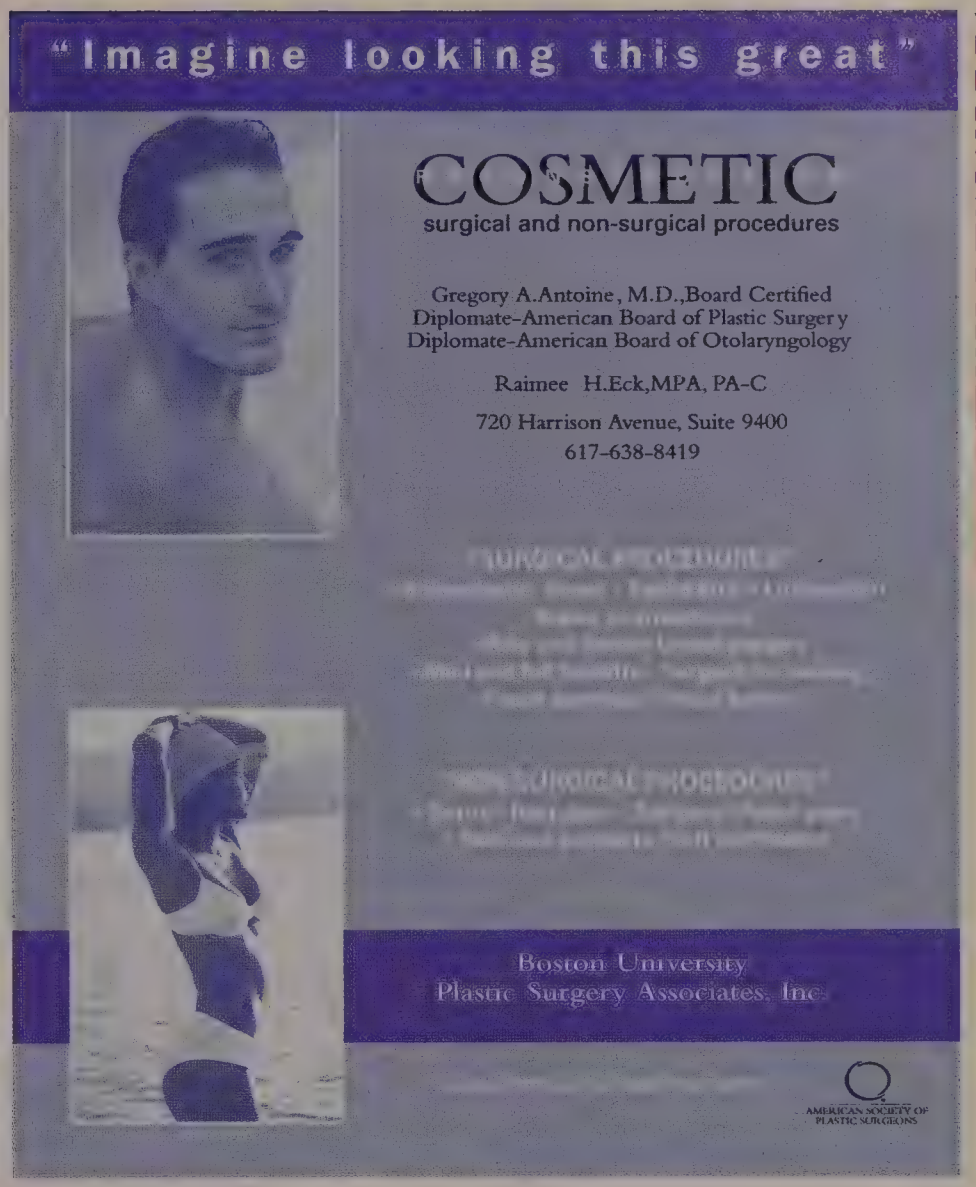
TUESDAY, JULY 26

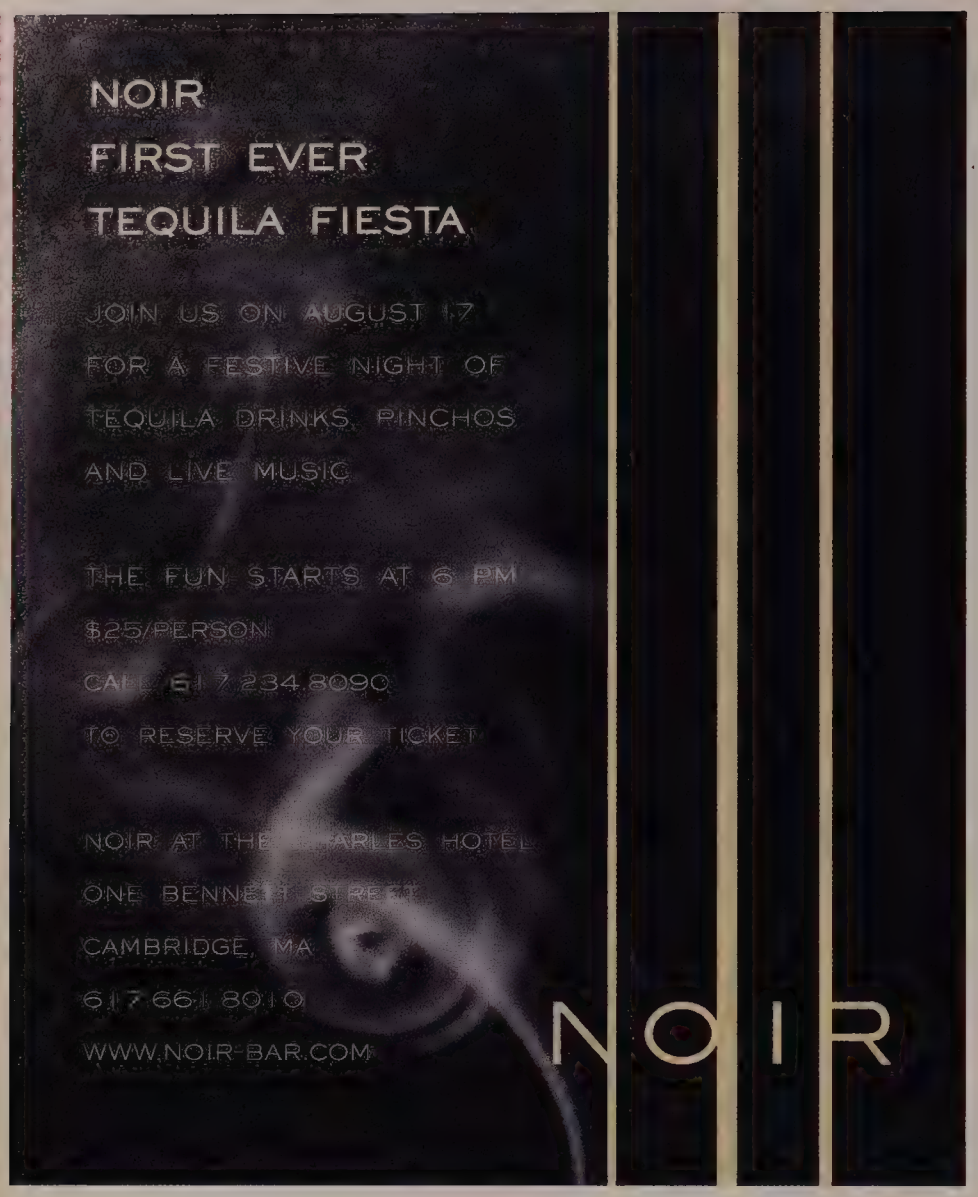
Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Tehran native **Roya Hakakian** discusses her memoir *Journey from the Land of No*, in which she recounts her childhood living as a Jewish woman under Islamic fundamentalist Ayatollah Khomeini in Tehran.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Terry Gamble** reads from her novel





Good Family, about a woman who must confront her past when she returns home to be with her dying mother after an 11-year absence.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

Harvard Book Store

First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Lisa See** reads from her novel *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, about two lifelong friends dealing with sexism in 19th century China.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Orson Scott Card** discusses his novel *Magic Street*, an urban fantasy in which humans are caught up in a battle between fairy royalty and a strange boy dreams other people's wishes into twisted reality.

Newtonville Books & Brews

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Edith Pearlman** reads from her collection of short stories *How to Fall*, which focuses on characters living in the suburbs and their experiences with charity. Also, **Ron Tanner** reads from his collection of short stories *A Bed of Nails*, about the pain of pursuing love, happiness and the life one is expected to lead.

Porter Square Books

25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Sharon O'Brien** discusses her memoir *The Family Silver: A Memoir of Depression and Inheritance*, which traces her family history, from her parents through past generations, in an effort to understand her struggle with depression and her Irish-American heritage.

THURSDAY, JULY 28

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Dawn Clifton Tripp** reads from her historical novel *The Season of Open Water*, about a Prohibition-era New England family involved in the rum-running trade.

Kate's Mystery Books

221 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). 6:
8:30 pm. Free. Clea Simon reads from her myst
Mew is for Murder. See July 21, Brookline Boo
smith, for a description.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6
354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21
$3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lour
hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Ra

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)

1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-075
www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harva
7:30 pm. $5. The **Jeff Robinson Trio** plays backgrou
music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)

Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambri
(617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBT
Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts t
open mike for women and their allies, with five- a
10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery

106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). ww
outofthebluеartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ce
tral. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Powers hosts Sto
Soup, featuring prescheduled poets. $4 suggested d
nation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen
poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 su
gested donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Sunday)

Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (61
628-2313). 3 pm. Free. Poet **Doug Holder** hosts
open-mike reading.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)

Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188
www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line
Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The seco
Thursday of each month offers a selection of featur
poets and an opportunity for others to take the mik

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

Images of the Sea in European and American Art
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (671-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 6-7 pm. Free. Museum curator **Frederick Ilchman** hosts a talk on images of the sea.

Unique Challenges in French-Canadian Research
Richardson-Sloane Education Center, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. Membership director **Pauline Cusson** discusses current problems in French-Canadian genealogical research, concentrating on Quebecois genealogy.

THURSDAY JULY 14

American West: Dust and Dreams
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (671-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 11 am-12 pm. Free. Museum curator **Sue Reed** discusses the prints, drawings and photographs of the American West.

FRIDAY, JULY 15

Friday Night Dance Craze
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, Brattle House, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7-9 pm. $12. Dance instructor **Hillary Ross** teaches the 19th-century Argentine Tango. No partners or dance experience necessary.

SATURDAY, JULY 16

David Orser: Life After Mudflat
Mudflat Studio, 149 Broadway St., Somerville (617-628-0589). www.mudflat.org. 1-5 pm. $40 members; $80 nonmembers. Former Mudflat artist and teacher **David Orser** discusses how his work has evolved with a slide presentation and demonstrations.

Unique Challenges in French-Canadian Research
Richardson-Sloane Education Center, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. See listing for July 13th.

SUNDAY, JULY 17

Cultural Carriers: Fine Art Quilting
Museum of Fine Arts, Riley Seminar Room, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 3-4 pm. Free. Multimedia artist and quilter **L'Merchie Frazier** hosts a discussion of the African-American aesthetic and iconography used in fine art quilting.

TUESDAY, JULY 19

Mind Your Manners! Etiquette for Business
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $37 members; $41 nonmembers. Confidence coach **Ruth Hegarty** teaches the correct behavior for a variety of professional situations.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

Cambodia: From Killing Fields to Vibrant Country
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 7:30 pm. Free. Veteran traveler **Eli Brookner** presents a travelog with slides depicting Cambodian life.

Researching Newfoundland Ancestors
Richardson-Sloane Education Center, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. Manuscript archivist **Judith Lucey** shares experiences from her genealogy research in Newfoundland and for those interested in beginning their own research.

Spirits of Animals and Ancestors: The African Collection
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (671-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 6-7 pm. Free. Museum staff member **Diane Englund** presents a talk on the museum's African collection.

FRIDAY, JULY 22

Ghostbusters! The Science Behind Paranormal Investigations
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $38 members; $42 nonmembers. New England Paranormal founder **Stephen Gonsalves** teaches the mechanics of paranormal investigations. The presentation includes demonstrations of some of the equipment used in research of actual paranormal phenomena.

SATURDAY, JULY 23

Researching Newfoundland Ancestors
Richardson-Sloane Education Center, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. See listing for July 20.

SUNDAY, JULY 24

Clay on the Wheel
Mudflat Studio, 149 Broadway St., Somerville (617-628-0589). www.mudflat.org. 1-4 pm. $35. Mudflat instructor **Lisa Knebel** teaches how to use the potter's wheel to make your own pots.

MONDAY, JULY 25

Summer Cooks Desserts
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, Brattle House, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30-9:30 pm. $61. Chef **Kenney Benet** makes easily prepared desserts that take advantage of summer produce, using conventional cooking rather than pastry techniques.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

Hurdling Brick Walls: Case Studies from New England Genealogy
Richardson-Sloane Education Center, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. Staff genealogist **David Dearborn** discusses research methods for difficult genealogical cases.

Stray Dogs Noontime Talk
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 12 pm. Free with museum admission. Award-winning poet and author **Charles Simic** reads from his own poetry and discusses the work of Danijel Zezelj featured in the museum's *Stray Dogs* exhibition.

FRIDAY, JULY 29

Wine & Craft
Spark Craft Studios, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6-9 pm. $25 members; $35 nonmembers. Learn to make embellished photo frames with Spark Craft faculty. Wine, cheese and crackers included.

SATURDAY, JULY 30

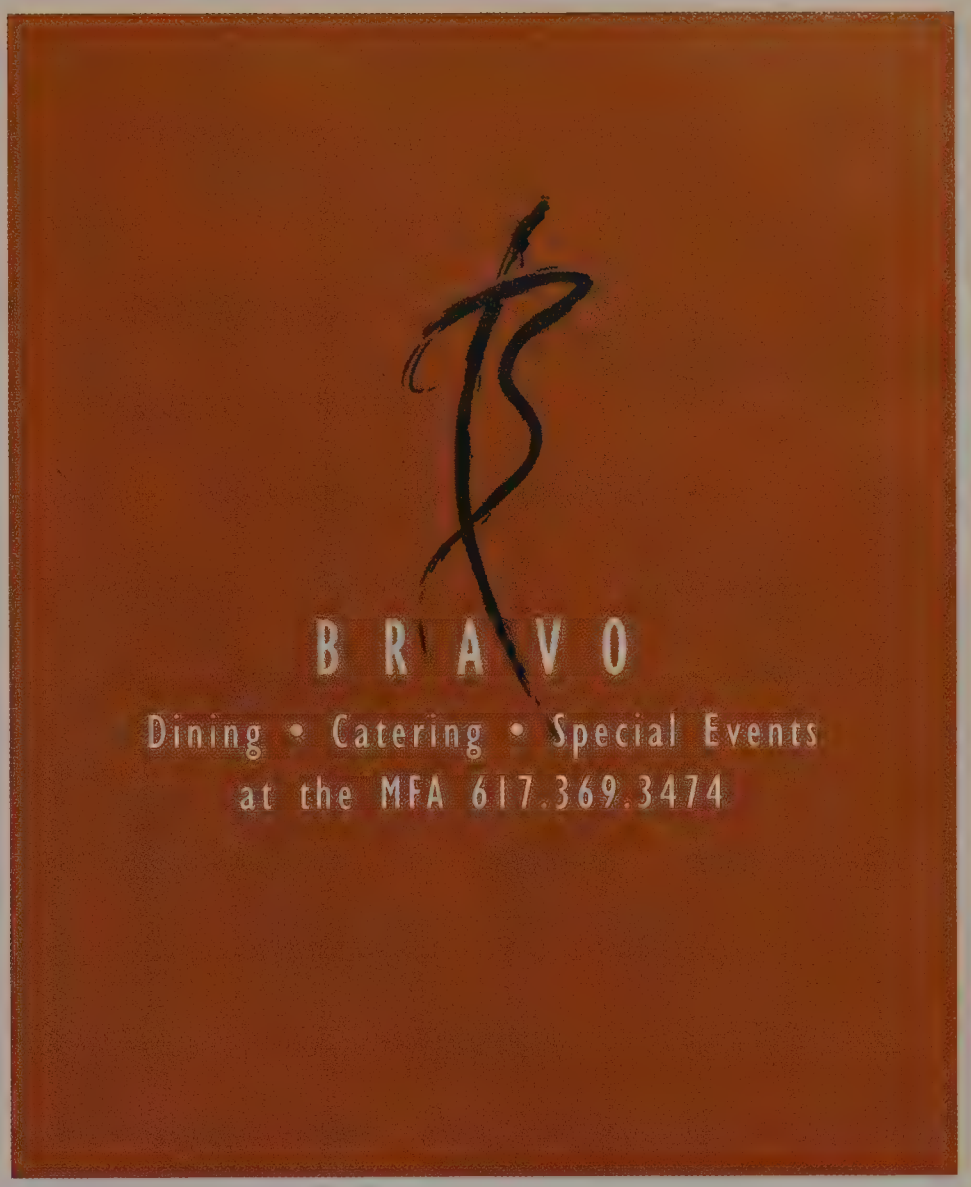
Hurdling Brick Walls: Case Studies from New England Genealogy
Richardson-Sloane Education Center, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-226-1231). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 am. Free. See listing for July 27.

SUNDAY, JULY 31

Dreams of Chivalry at the Medieval Court
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston (671-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 2-3 pm. Free. Museum staff member **Shirin Fozi** presents a talk on medieval chivalry.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

Choosing the Right Look for Your Hair
Boston Center for Adult Education, DH Studios, 13 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:45-7:45 pm. $45 members; $49 nonmembers. Stylists **Edward Dirocco, Daniel Hernandez** and **Luis Marroquin** show how facial features, hair type and personal image can dictate an appropriate hairstyle, using a slide show to illustrate various color and cut options.



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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door; $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Miss Kris Knievil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Maryalice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill, 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat., 10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+; $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Shivar in the front room. 18+. •Thu.: Campus is a gay night with DJs Chris Ewen and Joe Bermudez. 19+. •Fri.: Resident DJ Tym Ryan spins for rotating themes that include Flesh, Xmortis, Fantasy Factory and scheduled special events. •Sat.: Transmission, with DJ Chris Ewen, and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. Hosted by Mizery. 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am, $15, 21+. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Wednesday is gay night, Thursday is lesbian night and Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., Fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top-40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

The Boston Playwrights' Theatre hosts staged readings of two works by Jess Martin, July 29–30.

Shows & Events

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Bill Eisele** reads from his novel *Scrub Match*, in which two men find love after meeting in a gay basketball league. Also, **Scott Pomfret** and **Scott Whittier** read from the novel the cowrote, *Hot Sauce*, about a tumultuous relationshi between a gay fashion designer and his chef boyfriend

Gender Crash Spoken Word and Poetry Open Mike
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St. Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). July 14, 7:30 pm www.butchdykeboy.com/bdb/gc.htm. MBTA: Orang Line to Stony Brook. $5-$10. Queer poets and spoke word artists are invited to share their original works Time slots are three minutes.

Summer Creature Double Feature
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave. Boston (781-777-1261). www.queersoup.net/pres releases/index.html. MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul's July 29 and July 30, 8 pm. $20; $50 for premier seating Staged readings of Jess Martin's *Interview with a Fifty Foot Woman* and *Revenge of the Fifty-Foot Woman Journey to the Center of Canada*, as well as Lyrale Kaye's *My Mother and the Nun*.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Bosto (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green o Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Bosto Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgende Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events fo young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 27 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blu or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chan dler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Lin to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm, $12 fo the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 an cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889 1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and les bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cam bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue

or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri., 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm. Free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array of services for the GLBT community, ranging from discussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to programs addressing domestic violence and substance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT flag football league for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat., 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information, e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail info@gaylab.org.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose or performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This support group is working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Newly Diagnosed Group
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and bisexual men who have been diagnosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men and bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Provincetown Art Tours
(617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. Fri.-Sun., 3:30-5:30 pm. $25. Join other men and women on weekend tours of contemporary art exhibitions in Provincetown. Call for meeting locations. Reservations required.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

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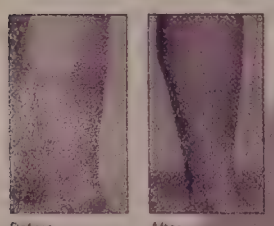
Before

After

Elizabeth A. Foley, M.D.
Judith A. Hondo, M.D.
at Dedham Medical Associates
One Lyons Street, Dedham, MA 02026
781.329.1400 www.veinfix.com

body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Kirtan Devotional Singing
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. or http://shubalananda.weblogger.com. July 16, 7-9 pm. Free, donation suggested. Kirtan, an ancient Hindu tradition of singing to the divine, can be meditative, centering, heart-opening and fun, and may bring one to higher consciousness. Guests welcome regardless of singing ability.

Medicinal Plant Walk
Rock Meadow, off of Mill St. Belmont. www.bostonherbalstudies.com. July 24, 1-3 pm. $15, free for children. Medicinal plants can be found growing in the park or your own backyard. Learn to identify healing plants in your area, and which parts of various plants are used medicinally. Led by herbalist Madelon Hope.

Real People, Real Life Stories
Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Aug. 16, 6-8 pm. Free. Mary Angelis, language teacher and collector of stories about everyday wonder, tells true tales of seemingly small events that had profound consequences.

Lectures

Backyard Plants and Their Herbal Remedies
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010 or 978-689-4717). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Aug. 2, 7:15-9:15 pm. $20. Learn about herbal remedies made from common plants at this lecture, led by herbalist and holistic health teacher Debbie Wilson.

Wednesday Night Dharma Talk
Boston Shambhala Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline. www.shambhalaboston.org or www.primordialdot.org. July 20, 27 or Aug. 3, 7:30-9:30 pm. $5. All levels welcome. Dharma teachers lecture and lead discussions on basic human emotions and how meditation relates to our daily experiences. The themes for the next three lectures are "Livelihood as a Path of Awakening," "Authentic Communication and Hearing," and "Dharma and Discussion." Refreshments follow.

Classes

Clarity Now
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-648-0101 or 617-522-2737). www.tsboston.org. July 30, 11 am-2 pm. $35. Pre-registration suggested. This workshop presents methods to access innate focus, insight and guidance, and identify obstacles in your life. Bring paper and pen.

East Meets East Yoga: Acupuncture Theory and Yoga Practice
Exhale Spa, 28 Arlington St., Boston (617-532-7000). www.exhalespa.com. July 30, 1-3 pm. $35. Please pre-register. Explore the concepts of Yin and Yang energy, and also learn acupoints and meridians, which enhance balance during yoga postures. While enacting the relaxation pose, participants will have the opportunity to receive acupuncture, amplifying the yoga's calming effect.

Feng Shui: Embrace Your Space
The Healing Center, Arlington (617-628-7432). www.ArlingtonHelpingProfessionals.org. July 24, 2-5 pm. $45. Please pre-register. Feng shui is the Chinese science of energy flow—how lighting, furniture, or objects may affect the spiritual and psychological quality of our environment. Attendees at this class learn some inexpensive feng shui adjustments you can make to your home or office.

High Frequency Yoga for Women
Carmela Cattuti, 151 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. July 23, 10-12 pm. $35. This class focuses on developing the abdominal muscles and also addresses techniques for increasing stamina and transforming negative thought patterns. Beginners welcome.

Carmela Cattuti leads High Frequency Yoga for Women July 23.

Meditation for Those Who Can't Sit Still
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. July 30, 10 am-12 pm. $30. Finding enough time for meditation can be difficult for people with an active lifestyle. Learn how to incorporate components of meditation into cooking, cleaning, walking and other everyday activities.

Moon Salutations
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. July 22, 6-8 pm. $20. This asana, or posture, stirs and stimulates the core energy of the body and aims to ground the practitioner while providing a feeling of expansion.

Reiki Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass Ave #304 Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. July 29, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Come experience a relaxing Reiki Energy healing treatment.

You Go Girl: Sex Tips for Gals
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 308A Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Aug. 2, 7:30-9:30pm. $34. In this class, Grand Opening owner Kim Airs shares tricks to try on a man for increasing pleasure and fun. Open to women only.

Ongoing

Beginning Iyengar Yoga
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (781-648-3455). www.yoganow.net. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 21 and 28, 6-7:30 pm. $16, drop-in. Study the beginner's level of BKS Iyengar yoga, a spiritually integrated form of yoga, with instructor Dr. Jarvis Chen. All levels welcome.

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-876-3050). MBTA: Buslines #57 and #70. Fri., 8-12 pm. This evening starts with a warm-up and continues with freestyle dancing to DJs spinning. Dancing barefoot is allowed, but drinking and smoking are not. All ages and levels welcome.

Morning Mindfulness Yoga
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. July 15 and 22, 7-8 am. $10, please pre-register. This practice, similar to insight meditation, uses breath and movement with the goal of increasing energy, strengthening the spine, and making meditation more pleasurable. Open to all levels. Bring a yoga mat.

Restorative Yoga
Karma Yoga Studio, 1132 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-547-YOGA). www.karmayogastudio.com. Sun., 10:30 am-12 pm. $15, drop-in. Appropriate for those recovering from injury, surgery or illness, this class focuses on restoring the body to a natural, healthy state through postures, stretching and gentle motion.

Yoga Essentials
Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 663 Centre St. Jamaica Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey.com. MBTA: #39 bus. Thurs., 5:45-7:15 pm. $15, drop-in. Learn classic yoga postures (asanas), breathing and relaxation techniques. This class is aimed at beginners or those interested in grounding their current practice.

sports

Advice to Contributors
ubmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calndar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway op, dates and times and a brief description of the league event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone nd must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

oston Red Sox
Fenway Park, Boston
ickets: 617-482-4769
ly 14, 7:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
ly 15, 7:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
ly 16, 1:20 pm vs. New York Yankees
ly 17, 6:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
ly 18, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
ly 19, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
ly 20, 1:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
ly 29, 7:05 pm vs. Minnesota Twins
ly 30, 7:05 pm vs. Minnesota Twins
ly 31, 2:05 pm vs. Minnesota Twins
ug. 2, 7:05 pm vs. Kansas City Royals

oston Cannons
Nickerson Field, Boston
ickets: 888-847-9700
ly 16, 7 pm vs. Baltimore Bayhawks
ly 23, 7 pm vs. Philadelphia Barrage

Event

oston Harbor Islands Swim
tart/finish at Rowe's Wharf, Boston (617-755-5254). ww.swimacrossamerica.org. July 22, 7 am. $1,500 nd-raising minimum. Participants must be at least 18 ears of age and able to swim one mile in less than 1/2 our. This 22-mile relay-style swim benefits the erini Quality of Life Clinic at Dana-Farber Cancer nstitute. Each participant will make three to five 5-minute swims over the course of the day. The eam raising the most money wins 20 tickets to a ed Sox game in August or September.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL
oston Demons
617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club eks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL
lenry's Baseball
781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL
oston Ski & Sports Club
617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketall for players at all levels. Leagues exist in Waterown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and dividuals are welcome.

Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club (CRFC)
617-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round agues for individuals or teams at all levels.

Corporate Basketball League
781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one omen's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, ewton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

lever Too Late Basketball
781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of l ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING
oston Sport Boxing Club
25 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.stonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to arvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style oxing lessons for all levels.

ogtime Boxing
27 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). ww.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This oxing club offers training for competition, conditoning and recreation.

DODGEBALL
oston Ski & Sports Club
odgeball
617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeall teams.

CRFC Dodgeball
(617-491-8989). www.crfcdodgeball.com. Now accepting players and teams for a dodgeball league. Games at CRFC in Kendall Square.

DRAGON BOAT RACING
Dragon Boat Club of Boston
(617-441-0330). www.dbcb.org. Practices at the Hatch Shell. Paddlers wanted to represent Boston in regional dragon boat races. Beginners are welcome.

FENCING
Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Sat. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL
BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

KICKBALL
World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www.worldkickball.com. Coed kickball leagues play throughout the summer in Boston and Somerville.

RUGBY
Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING
Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

WRESTLING
Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

The Boston Harbor Islands Swim

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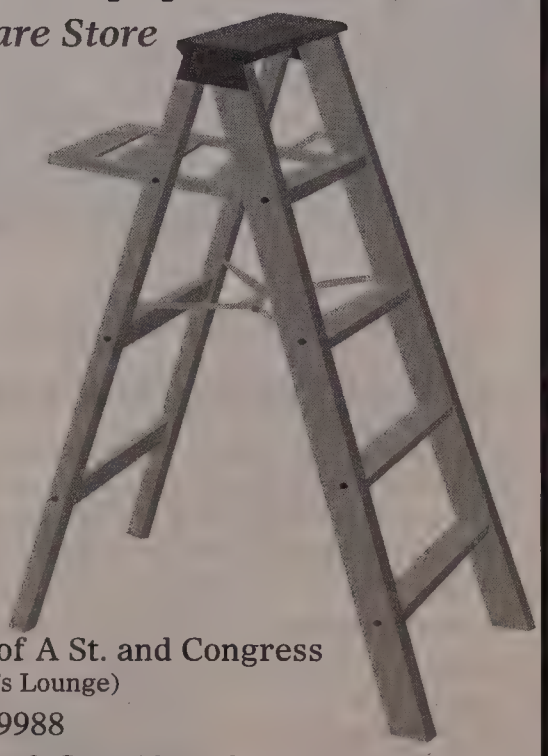

369 Congress St., corner of A St. and Congress
(next to Lucky's Lounge)
617.426.9988
Mon.-Fri. 7am-5pm, Sat. & Sun. 10am-2pm

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Boston Children's Theatre
Seaside on Georges Island, Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. 12 pm and 1:30 pm. Free. Plays in the Park on Georges Island presents a different story every Friday through Sept. 2.

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Boston Common Parkman Bandstand, Boston. www.landmarksorchestra.org. July 17, 4 pm and 5:30 pm. Free. Boston Landmarks Orchestra performs the children's work *The Journey of Phillis Wheatley*, a production based on America's first published African-American poet. •Also performs July 20, 10:30 am and 12 pm at the Shirley-Eustis House, 31 Shirley St., Roxbury and July 21, 10:30 am and 12 pm at Great Hall, Codman Square, 637 Washington St., Dorchester.

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. Adults, $12; seniors, $10; students/children, $5. This short-form improv performance for the whole family includes interactive games.

North Shore Music Theatre
62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200) www.nsmt.org. $11, $14, $17. •July 15, 10 am and 1 pm. *The Russian/American Kids Circus On Stage* features performers from New York on the trapeze and the tightrope. •July 22, 10 am and 1 pm. The Youth Performance Academy presents *Rapunzel*, rewriten by the creators of the television show *Friends*. •July 29, 10 am and 1 pm. *The Super Scientific Circus* teaches basic scientific principles using comedy, a mime and props including bubbles, boomerangs and bullwhips.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 10:30 am and 1 pm. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •July 13 and 14. *Very Delicious* features puppets made from refrigerator products in the story of a father and daughter who don't like to eat. For ages 3 to 8. •July 20 and 21. *Bingo the Circus Dog*, for ages 3 to 7, follows a trainer's search to find his dog after it is kidnapped by a jealous magician. •July 27 and 28. *Sir George and the Dragon* tells of a princess' journey through Mystery Mountain. For ages 3 to 8.

Things to Do

Barefoot Books
1771 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri. and Sat., 10:30 am. Free. Story hour for children and families. Ongoing.

Borders Books and Music
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Riverside. Tue., 11 am. Weekly storytime with a frogs and summer theme for the month of July.

Boston Art Tours
Call for reservations and meeting locations. (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children and teens: Tue.-Sat., 1 pm-2 pm. $30, adults; $15, teens; children under 12, free. Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide.

Boston Duck Tours
Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. Daily, 9 am-sunset. $25, adults; $22, students; $16, ages 3-11; $3, ages 3 and under. Land and sea tours of Boston are conducted amphibious landing vehicles from WWII. Historic landmarks are highlighted, including the State House, Bunker Hill, Boston Common and the Big Dig.

Boston Harbor Whale Watching
Long Wharf Ferry Terminal, Boston (617-22 4321). www.bostonharborcruises.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 10 am and 12 pm Sat.-Sun., 8:30 am, 10 am, 12 pm and 2:30 pm $29, adults; $25, seniors; $23, children. Travel on high speed catamaran for a three-hour whale watch. Free ticket for another watch if no whales are sighted.

Boston Public Library—Dudley Branch
65 Warren St., Roxbury (617-442-6186). www.bpl.org/branches/dudley.htm. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Free. •July 15, 10 am. *On Safari in Africa* is an interactive clay workshop for children ages 6 to 12 based on the book by Don Brown. •Every Wed., 10:30 am. Preschool Storytime includes book readings and activities for children ages 2 to 4. Ongoing.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Thu., 11 am-4 pm; Fri., 11 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •July 29, dusk. *Movies at the Milk Bottle* features free outdoor films at sunset for children and their families. •Mon., Wed. and Fri., 11 am-12 pm. *Music & Movement* is a chance for children ages 3 and under to dance to popular tunes. •Daily, 11 am-4 pm. *Art Space* is time for children to get creative with different art materials each day. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. *ZOOM Zone* is a hands-on science challenge that explores inventions, experiments and scientific discoveries through various activities. •Sat.-Thu. 10 am-12 pm and 1-3 pm. *PlaySpace* offers a messy activity for children up to age 3.

Fenway Park Tours
Lansdowne St., Boston (617-236-6666). http://boston.redsox.mlb.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Daily, 9 am-4 pm or three hours before game time. $10, adults; $9, seniors; $8, ages 14 and under. Tour the Red Sox press box, dugout and field and learn the history of the team and the stadium. For ages 4 and up.

Franklin Park Zoo
1 Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-5466) www.zoonewengland.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm Sat.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. $9.50, adults; $5.50, ages 3-15; free, ages 2 and under. The 72-acre zoo includes a farmyard petting zoo, lions in the *Kalahari Kingdom*, gorillas in the *African Tropical Forest Habitat*, kangaroos in the *Australian Outback* and a butterfly garden.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000) www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. •July 15, 8 pm. *Harry Potter in Harvard Square* celebrates the release of the latest Harry Potter novel with an outdoor viewing of the movie *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* at the Charles Hotel. •Tue., 11 am. Preschool storytime is held weekly. •Sat., 11 am. Children under 7 can create arts and crafts.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10 am-3 pm. $20, adults; $15 children; $13.50, children ages 12 and up; members $18. • The museum features fossils, mineral collections, 3,000 glass flower models and more. Ongoing. •Sat., 9 am-11 am for preschoolers, $3; 9 am-12 pm for K-3, $35. *Saturday Scholars* allow children to handle artifacts, make crafts, use scientific equipment and pet live animals.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-6000) www.jfklibrary.com. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8, adults; $4, ages 13-17; free, 12 and under. The history of John F. Kennedy is presented in 25 exhibits, 3 theaters and 20 videos. An interactive exhibit allows you to relive the life of the president in 1960.

Lowell National Historic Park
67 Kirk St., Lowell (978-970-5000). www.nps.gov/lowe. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Lowell. Free. •Become a Junior Ranger and receive a badge and certificate after completing activities throughout the park. •Discover the story of Lowell's mills through the Boott Discovery Trail, which includes hands-on activities and a 1920s weaving room. Free with admission to Boott Cotton Mills Museum, $6. •Visit the Children's Corner and participate in activities that explain Lowell's mill technology with gears and pulleys.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444) http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line t

Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 m. Adults, $5; youth, students and seniors, $2; MIT students and children under 5, free. (Free admission on third Sunday of every month). •Holography, The Light Fantastic features the world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing. •Robots and Beyond offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design features 40 ship models. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum of Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, ages 6-17 on weekdays before 3 pm; free, 5 and under. •July 13 and 14, 3:30 pm. *The Quilts of Gee's Bend: Fiber Arts Workshop* features an art making activity for ages 6-12. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30 pm. *Books Bring Art Alive* features arts and crafts for ages 5 and under. Wed., 5:30 pm. *Family Night Out* is an exploration themed event with performances and activities for the entire family that incorporates the museum's collections and four special exhibits.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; $12, seniors; $11, children. •The *Summer of Adventure Film Series* at the IMAX theatre includes *Mysteries of the Nile*. Through Sept. 5. *Everest* and *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*. Through Sept. 10. •*Animals and Stories Alive!* is an interactive storytelling hour in the Discovery Center every Saturday and Sunday, 11 am-12 pm. •*Brain: The World Inside Your Head* takes you inside the cranium for an exploration of the body's neural center. Ongoing. Four hundred butterflies and flowers are on display in the new permanent *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibit that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Science in the Park* is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. *Mapping the World Around Us* explores the evolution of maps. Ongoing. •*Science Live!* features live animals and multimedia presentations surrounded by natural history dioramas. •*Virtual Fish Tank* features 12 large projection screens that form a 400-square-foot virtual tank with more than 50 brightly colored fish and sharks. Ongoing. •*Bugs!* is a 20-minute 3D presentation at the Wright Theater. Ongoing. •*Mission to Saturn* at the Planetarium shows the Cassini spacecraft's dangerous journey to one of Saturn's mysterious moons. Ongoing. •*Countdown to Supernova* is a Planetarium show that illustrates the ways stars meet their demise through explosions called supernovas. Ongoing. •*The Light House: Beaming, Bouncing, and Bending Light* is an interactive exhibit where visitors can play with visual effects, optics, color, and the nature of light. Ongoing. •*Human Body Connection* features DNA, skeletons and more. Come use a microscope, help dissect or rebuild a model. Ongoing.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children 3-11, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing.

PMC Norfolk Kids Care Ride
Pondview Road to Applewood Road, Norfolk. (508-541-1049). July 18, 7 pm. Riders must raise $15; $30 family cap. Children age 14 and under ride to raise funds for the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge, which supports cancer research at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Call to register.

Sandcastle Contest
Revere Beach Boulevard, Revere (617-650-2213). www.reverebeachpartnership.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Revere Beach. July 14-17. Second annual sandcastle contest features master sculptors who compete for $10,000. Family and amateur competitions take place July 16-17.

Tadpole Playground
Boston Common, adjacent to Frog Pond (508-820-1151). www.tadpoleplayground.org. Open from dawn until dusk. The playground offers children a chance to enjoy art, water fountains and games.

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The Animal Rescue League is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to rescuing domesticated animals and wildlife from suffering, cruelty, abandonment, and neglect. Since 1899 we have advocated the philosophy of our founder, Anna Harris Smith, that "kindness uplifts the world".

Funds raised by this event will directly benefit our rescue and law enforcement departments and help improve our four Animal Care and Adoption Centers. For tickets or more information, please contact Amy Whitehead at (617) 426-9170, ext. 150 or whitehead@arlboston.org.

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around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9; children ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1-2 year olds, $2; under 1 year old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston. MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and college students with valid ID, $8; ages 13-17, $7; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park Street. Summer: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children 16 and under and seniors, $3; children under 6, free.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95; members, free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington Street, Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. April-October, 9:30 am-5 pm; November to March, 10 am-4 pm. $5; seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; seniors and students, $4; children ages 6-18, $1; children under 6, free.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm, always call ahead to make sure it's open. $9.50; $7.50 with college ID; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Nov. 1-April 30: Thu.-Sun., 10 am-3:50 pm; May 1-Oct. 15: Tue.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools. Recruiting throughout the summer for volunteers to start in September.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org Volunteer as an aquarium guide, work with the penguins and more.

Parental Stress Line
(617-267-8077). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve lunch to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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Saturday July 16th

Time: Fun starts at 3pm
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IMPROPER sightings

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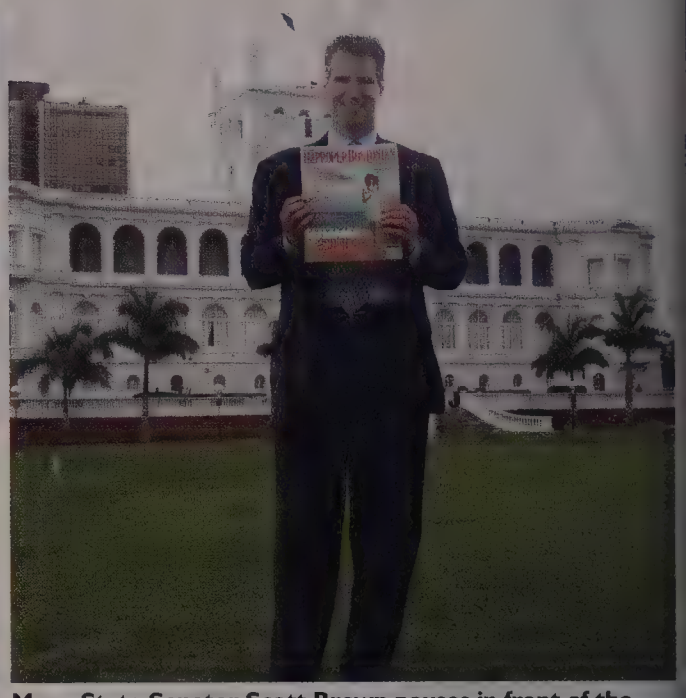
Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

The Regan Communications staff at the opening of their new Palm Beach office. We'd open our own Palm Beach branch, but IMPROPER PALM BEACHIAN is just too much of a mouthful.

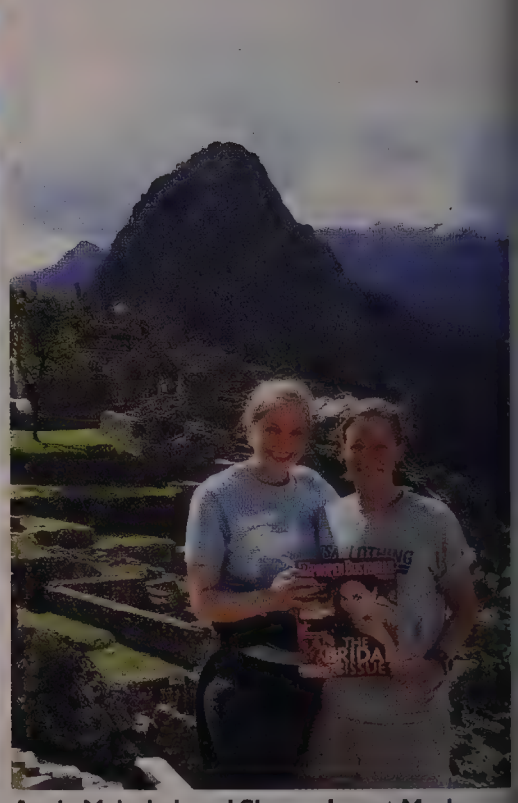
Governor of our fair state Mitt Romney and North Carolina Senator Elizabeth Dole find some summer fun.



Mass. State Senator Scott Brown pauses in front of the Presidential Palace in Asunción, Paraguay, which for all its grandeur lacks a Sacred Cod of any kind.

Jo-Ann Ross (holding the IMPROPER) and friends eat breakfast in the Kingdom of Sikkim in the Himalayas. They went there because all the restaurants on Tremont Street had long waits.

Cheryl and Jim Powers met David Letterman's friend Rupert Jee at the Hello Deli in New York City. Rupert brought them glasses of water with his fingers inside the rims (sorry... one of our favorite Rupert bits...).



Annie Malechek and Shanna Lee at Machu Picchu, Peru. Machu Picchu is a dangerous place to play Marco Polo, because of the cliffs.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Spitting a prune pit wicked far at the Prune-Pit Spitters Festival, held July 30 in Sainte-Livrade-Sur-Lot, France.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

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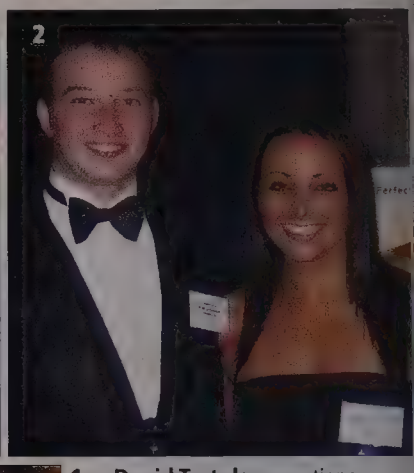
IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, June 22, **The Fireplace** held their second annual Washington Square Summer Block Party in Brookline.

1. **Mario Serrano**, patrol officer at Brookline Police Department, and **Erica Senna**, stylist and proprietor of Joi Salon and Spa Escape.
2. **Stephen Whalen**, president of City Realty Group, and **Lyn Ben-Simon**, vice president of City Realty Group.
3. **Mark Zaim**, electrical engineer for Bose, and **Dan Hirschkop**, sales representative for MS Walker.

On Thursday June 30, **Dewar's 12** hosted an event for the British American Business Council of New England at the Skywalk Observatory.



1. **David Tretola**, operations director at Boston Promotions; **Michael Watts**, premium brand specialist for Bacardi USA, Team Enterprises; and **Jeffery Hughes**, manager at Top of the Hub.
2. **Ewan Gunn**, Dewar's Brand ambassador, and **Tara Williams**, field marketing specialist, both at Dewar's 12.
3. **Kati Smyth** and **Ashley Penfield**, both promotional assistants for Dewar's 12.

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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

1

2

3

4

On Thursday, June 23, **The Improper Bostonian** magazine was a sponsor of **GirlsNiteOut**. **KISS 108**'s Lisa Roach welcomed guests as they enjoyed an evening with trendy fashion and beauty retailers, including a fashion show featuring the hottest summer looks. The event was held at **WaterWorks** at Marina Bay, Quincy.

1. **Cara Fisher**, claims supervisor at Arbella Mutual Insurance; **Michelle Carvalho**, sales coordinator at Washington Mutual; **Elizabeth Cunha**, branch manager at Enterprise Rent-A-Car; and **Erin Hagerty**, esthetician at Katana Salon & Spa.
2. **Sarah Johnson**, owner of Luna Boston, and **Kate Johnson**, sales associate for Luna Boston.
3. **Dana Coady**, senior clinical data associate at Genzyme Corporation; **Deb Hendy**, fund-raiser for Simmons College; **Alyson Bazin**, principal data manager at Harvard Clinical Research Institute; and **Rachel Woolf**, clinical research manager at Millennium Pharmaceuticals.
4. **Danielle Burke**, waitress at Stockyard, and **Kristen Perdigao**, exercise physiologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

PHOTOS: GIRLSNITEOUT, STACEY SHANE; THE FIREPLACE, VALERIE SILVER; DEWAR'S, JULIE KANE

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MAGAZINE

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improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Cheap Girls

I was at Jacques on June 22 and couldn't believe the cheapness of a bachelorette party there. I saw the purchase of $55 worth of drinks in one order and then you stiffed the bartender with a $1.50 tip. Incredibly rude. I hope you're marrying into money.

—Barfly

Watertown Swing Dancing June 4

I was there with a Boston area social group. You held out your hand to me and there was some confusion as to whether you were asking me or the woman from my group seated next to me to dance. I quickly got up at the chance. You were one of the few attractive men there that evening who wasn't a pervert or 30 years older than me. You wore glasses and a polo shirt and you told me you come up to these dances from Attleboro. I am sorry that I thanked you quickly at the end of the song instead of making conversation but I simply got a bit shy. I noticed you early on in the evening and was hoping I'd get to dance with you. I am 5'9", blonde, slim, and was wearing black pants, black shoes, and a black, white and gray top. Chances are next to nothing that you'll see this, but if you do or if one of your friends reads this and recognizes you I hope you'll be in touch with me. E-mail me.

—GoRetro1@hotmail.com.

Douche in the Brown Hummer

It was a rare nice day out in June when I was driving up Stuart Street toward the Theater District. I was in a silver BMW, you were in a brown Hummer, the old-school kind driven by soldiers in wars and total A-holes on the streets of Boston. Not only did you cut me off, for which you have no excuse because with the top down you could clearly see my car, but you felt that I had wronged you in some way by my presence in your lane. You demonstrated your outrage by swerving toward me again, this time intentionally. Thanks for pissing me off on an otherwise nice day by being a total prick. The only solace I have is that you spent more than $100,000 to drive an ugly truck that only confirms the impression of you that I've already developed: You suck.

—BMW Girl

Cute Guy at the U2 Concert

Where are you, cute guy from section 330 at the May 26 U2 concert at the FleetCenter? We were stealing glances at one another before the show and then throughout the show. When we eventually looked at each other at the same time, you waved at me and I waved back. You exited your row and started to leave the arena before the first encore and just when I thought you were gone, you were suddenly sitting next to me, cell phone ready and asking for my phone number. I was so happy and surprised that you came back and were there beside me, that I foolishly wrote down my name and e-mail address instead of giving you my phone number. You took the paper and were gone and I never even learned your name. I would love to hear from you.

—Monsterverbal@aol.com

Dear Roommate (And You Know Who You Are)

I like strawberry ice cream, and I don't hide that from anyone. On the other hand, your secretive love for fine strawberry is putting a serious hurt on our relationship. Listen, we aren't wealthy people and it's unnecessary for us to buy multiple tubs of ice cream for our apartment. With that being said, I'm absolutely sick of you demanding that I buy Neapolitan, because you "don't like strawberry" and then having me come home to find that the strawberry side of the carton is licked clean, which leaves me with stupid chocolate or vanilla. Excuse this delicious pun, but this is the last "straw." I'm drawing the line here, right in the ice cream. It's time for you to embrace strawberry ice cream. You need to hold it, kiss it, rub it against your genitals; you need to accept the fact that you are a fan of strawberry ice cream, and that that is OK. Our apartment, and more importantly our future as friends, depends on it.

—Your roommate

Great Pretender

While you are an endless source of conversation fodder at the park, you should probably know that nobody really buys your act. Every day you show up with crutches, a neck brace, or some other type of medical device strapped to your person. Your frequent black eyes and bruises look like they were drawn with Magic Markers—I don't know if you've ever seen someone with a real black eye, but it actually gets swollen, not just discolored. If you summon the ambulance to the park because you're having a "seizure" again, they'll probably just ignore you given that you've already done that twice recently. Further, nobody believes that you're a member of the Hells Angels, or that you got raped twice last week. (I'm not making this up—that was your explanation for your most recent Crayola bruises and the accompanying crutches.) If you want to get people's attention, try acting normal instead of like someone who just stepped off the set of the *Jerry Springer Show*. People might not shy away from you if you didn't constantly bombard them with bullshit. Hey, being normal seems to work for everybody else.

—Your neighbors

Cafe Pompei, North End, July 1

It was 8:45 pm when you left with your boyfriend(?) to "meet the girls." You: stunning, from the North Shore (Peabody?), AND you ski! I was sitting outside and you had just finished your Limoncello when I started a conversation about the kid on the sneaker skates. I felt a vibe... did you? Get back to me with something to confirm that you are the one I am talking about. Something in the conversation that only we would know. What am I looking for? Dinner and conversation first, and then? Hope to hear from you!

—polah5@yahoo.com

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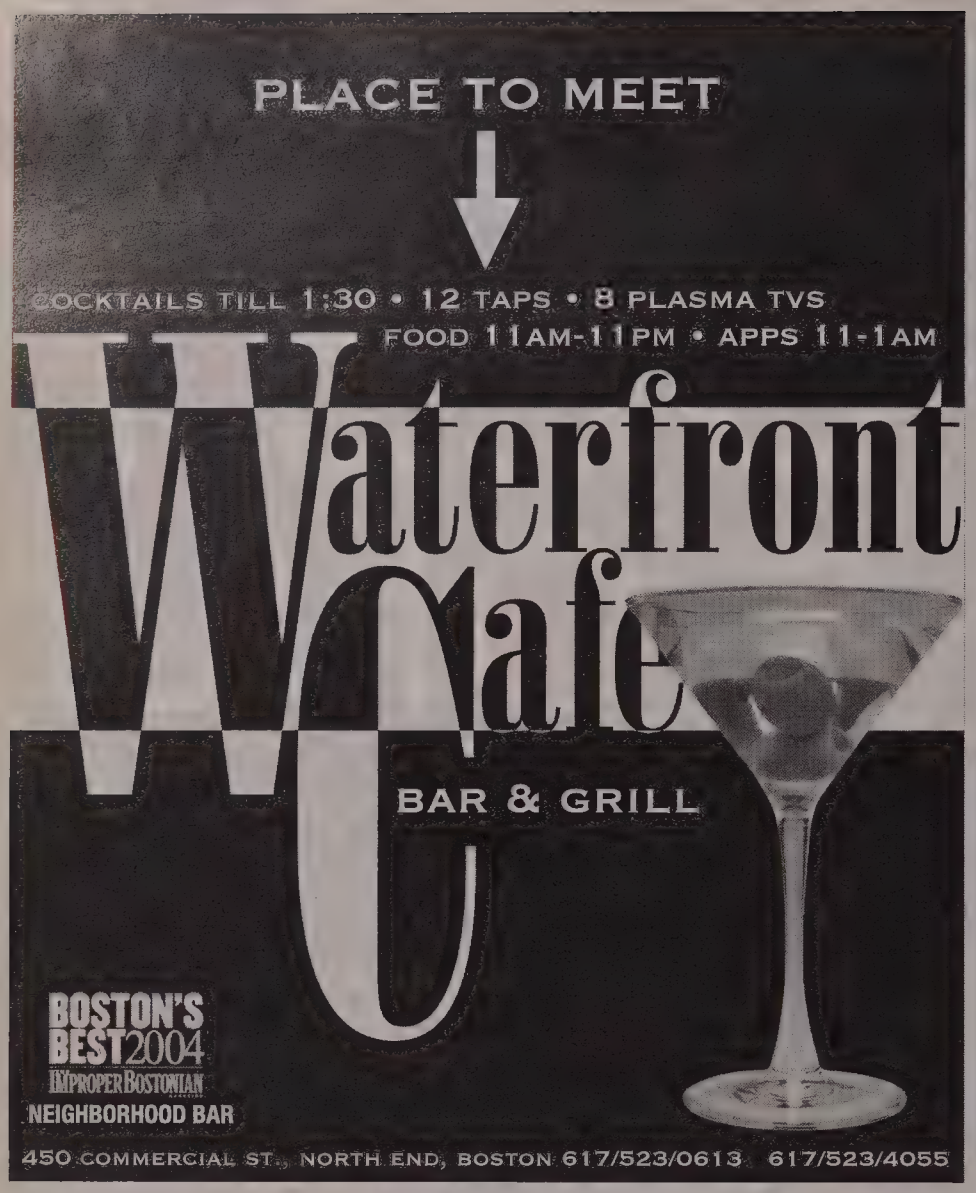

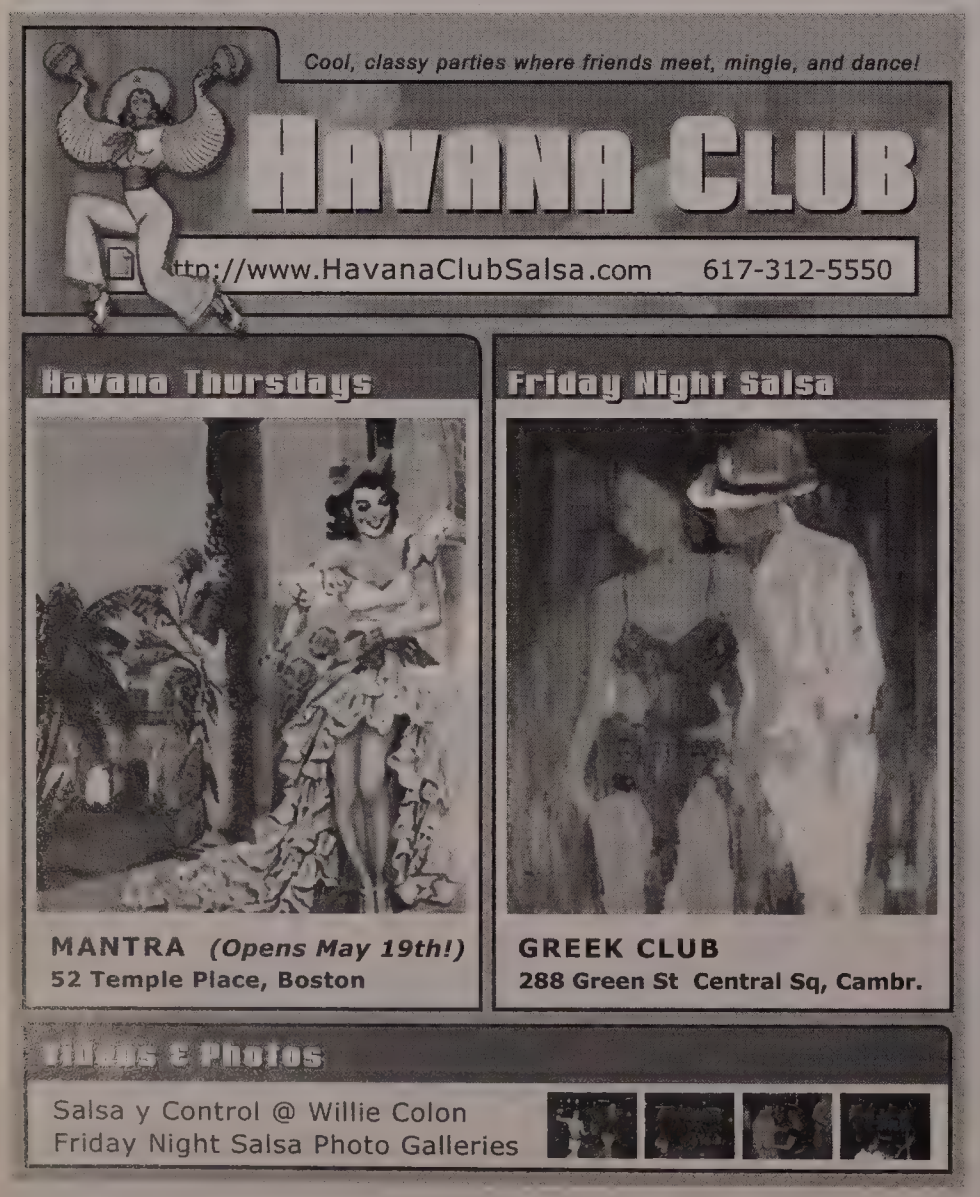

rockie horoscope

JULY 13 – AUGUST 2, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

CANCER JUNE 21-JULY 22

If you've been waiting for your next career move to materialize, this is a better time than most. Nothing moves mountains faster than the sun's square to Mars in your Aries midheaven. Since this configuration occurs only once every two years, you should make a grab for the opportunity that pops up, no matter how rough and tumble it seems or how fierce the competition. Moon Children who are happily employed, or just as happily at liberty for the summer, can successfully pursue a pastime or an assignment—preferably one with a sexy subtext.

LEO

JULY 23-AUGUST 22

Under ordinary circumstances Venus' annual transit through Leo guarantees that while it lasts, you are the flavor of the month. However, as Venus captures the attention of horny Mars and intense Pluto, any romantic gesture on your part could imply more than you intend. Genuine affection is one thing, blatant teasing is something else. Fiery Aries and Sagittarius natives may not mind playing those games, but if you fool around with Scorpionic sensibilities, you're liable to get stung, but good.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

You can't help but toot your own horn while your Mercury ruler travels through proud Leo. But be aware that because the annual transit will last far longer than usual, you're apt to be much more egotistical than your friends and colleagues will tolerate. Mercury first turns retrograde on July 22nd, goes direct on August 15 and doesn't leave the mighty Lion's domain until September 4. Prepare to fill these weeks with consistently creative activities, entertaining fun and games and, because it's the hot time in the hot city, a combustible relationship.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

The ball is headed for your partner's court, but it won't stay there for long. While impulsive Mars in your Aries marriage house is lit by the nurturing Cancer sun, a window of opportunity cracks open. Encourage your better half to at least take a shot at what is being offered, before he or she passes the ball to colleagues out for a rollicking good time. You, on the other hand, may be having your own good time. Rarely does your agreeable Venus ruler simultaneously trine macho Mars and Pluto in the heat of the summer. Enjoy the three-way.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

Prepare to experience a fabulous few days as Mars and Pluto, your passionate co-ruling planets, form a grand fire trine with affectionate Venus in Leo. No matter how you apply this enormous amount of energy—whether it be to a commercial venture, a charitable event or a community project—that powerfully sexy Scorpio dynamic will come through. Because the easy-going trine aspect usually rewards a challenge you rose to earlier in the year, consider it a legitimate opportunity to strut your stuff.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

While Pluto in your sign puts you through a series of changes that'll transform your feelings about your past, Mars in your house of romance and risk urges you to be more adventurous. Add the allure that Venus in luxury-loving Leo brings to the mix and you have one grand fire trine that'll be remembered long after this summer is history. Centaurs have an opportunity to integrate their feminine and masculine sides while also displaying their compassionate human qualities and those powerful animal instincts.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

You might sense a big change coming as your Saturn ruler prepares to exit the watery depths of Cancer for the sunny Leo climate on the 16th. After two years of TLC are you ready to become a cheerful, somewhat extravagant exhibitionist? And what about your hair? Can you wear your mane with pride or does it need a good grooming? Slight modifications in your appearance will follow from an attitude adjustment, but since Saturn remains in your partnership area for a while, other people will continue to exert a significant influence.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

Early indications that you're the visionary in the crowd appear as Mercury (the script) and Venus (the design) zero in on idealistic Neptune in your sign. Feel free to let your imagination loose because your ideas can have a demonstrable effect on your fellow students and colleagues, particularly the Lions, Rams and Sagittarius colts. By early August, everyone concerned will be able to see the products of your imagination materialize; however, since Mercury is going retrograde, be prepared for lots of revisions.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

Not everyone is destined to direct the whole show, but you can exert a visible influence on the tyrant in charge while artistic Venus and your aesthetic Neptune ruler cement their bond. Extracurricular romantic activities are optional; however while the Cancer sun cavorts in your house of risk and recreation, it would be foolish not to take advantage of the creative, life-sustaining energy the summer sun provides. Once solar Leo begins on the 22nd and Mercury turns retrograde, the course of true love might not flow as easily.

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

Another of those critical "push comes to shove" situations may crop up midweek when the Cancer sun puts your courageous Mars ruler to the test. Every two years while Mars travels through Aries, you're more likely to step beyond established boundaries, particularly those that define the differences between you and your family, the issues that have not been adequately addressed. Decidedly not family fare: an incredibly sexy and satisfying couple of days while Mars, loving Venus and passionate Pluto form a hot fire trine.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

Too much information? If data-based Mercury's close connection to your Venus ruler is becoming annoying, take time out from your research to fantasize about the possibilities imaginative Neptune offers instead. That beautiful dream might turn into a reality real soon; both insistent Mars and intense Pluto support the goddess this month and she is glad to return the favor. Nobody has to take "No!" for an answer. Enjoy the little luxuries landing in your lap while Venus is still ensconced in regal Leo.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

Although charitable, well-intentioned Twins may have on occasion been intrigued by a scam artist's scheme, the one you hear this week won't ring true. While your perceptive Mercury ruler confronts idealistic Neptune, no matter how strong the appeal to your charitable nature, the line between fact and fabrication cannot be crossed, at least not by you. Knowing that your radar is working so well should help you navigate through a steamy sea of desire. It's that time of year; the natives are restless and everyone wants something from you.

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RESTAURANTS

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature is cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes its mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

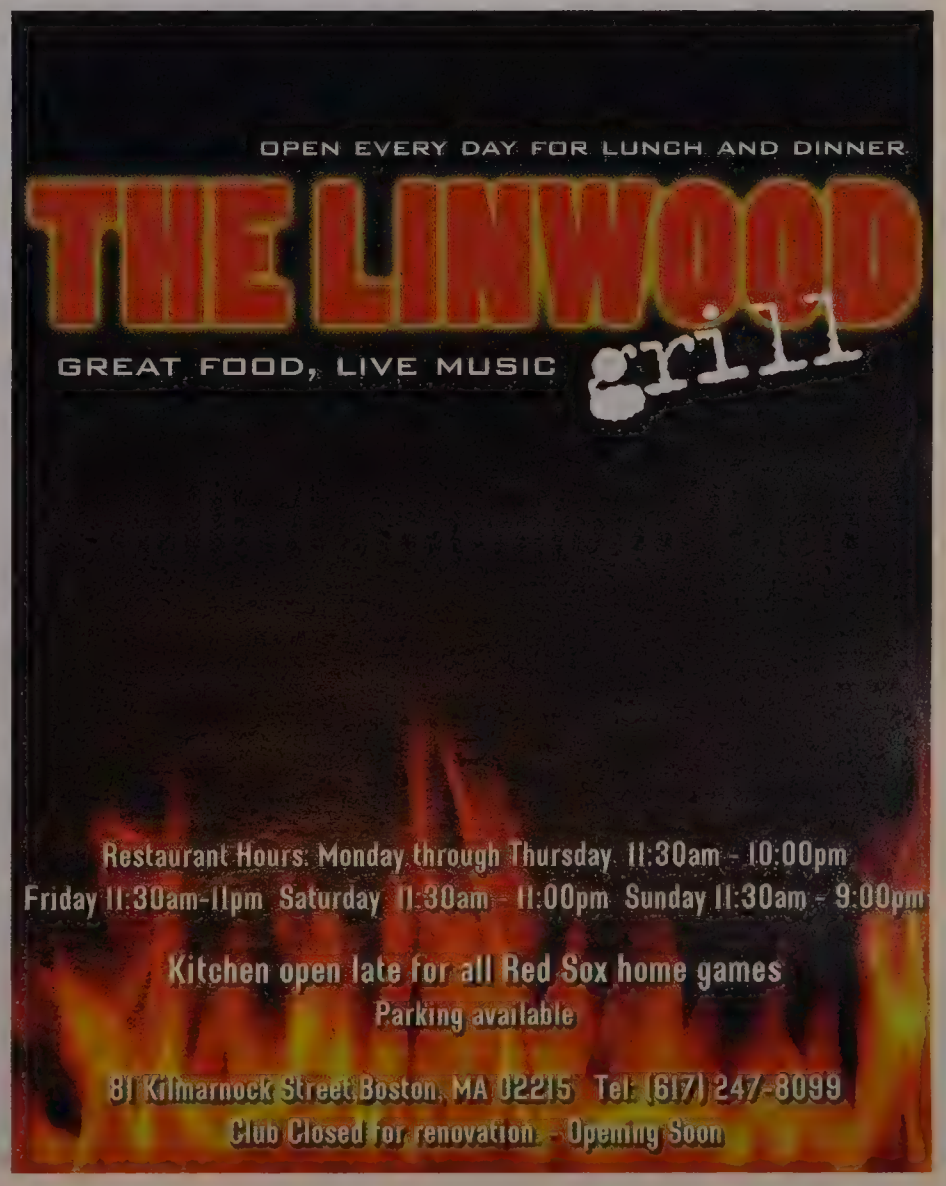
IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SCIENCE STREET CAFÉ *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.



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SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

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Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am, 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "

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General

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110* www.bostonrocks. net. 21+. Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

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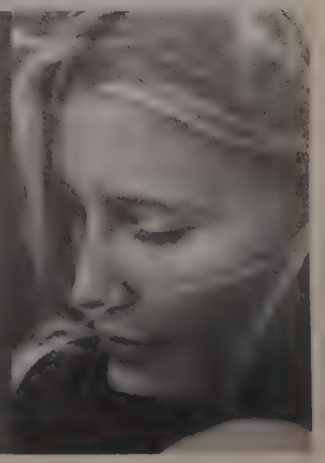

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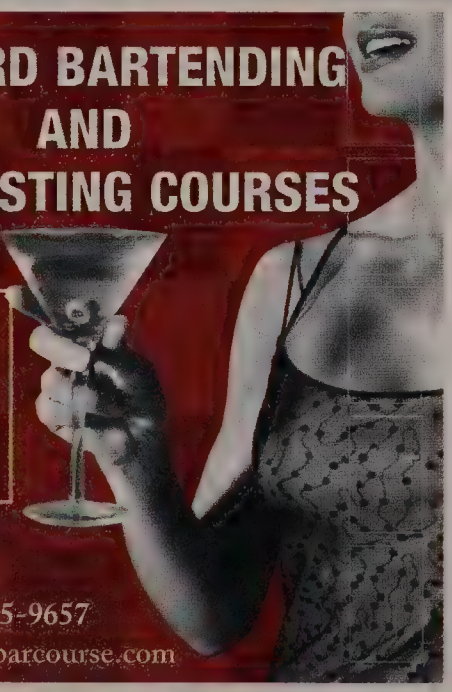

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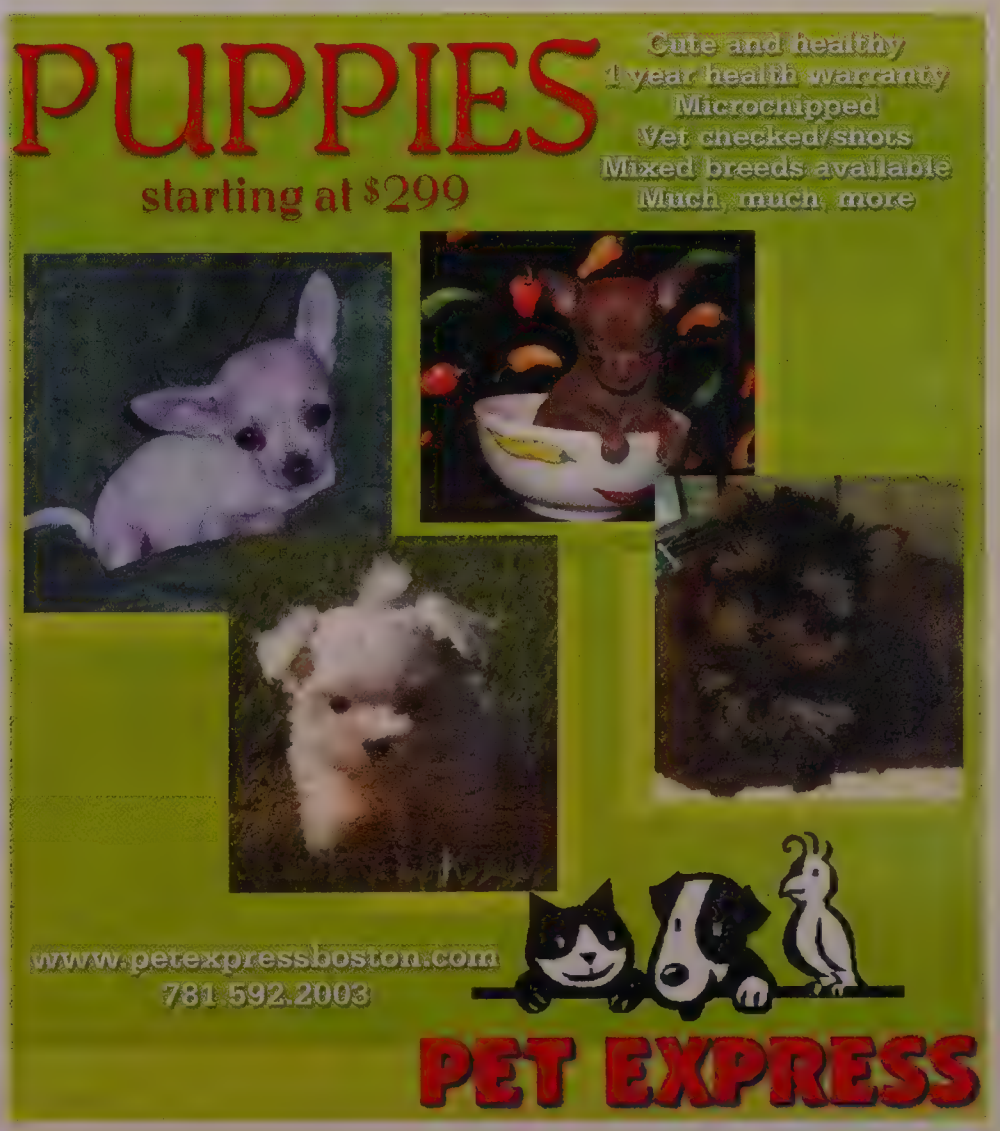

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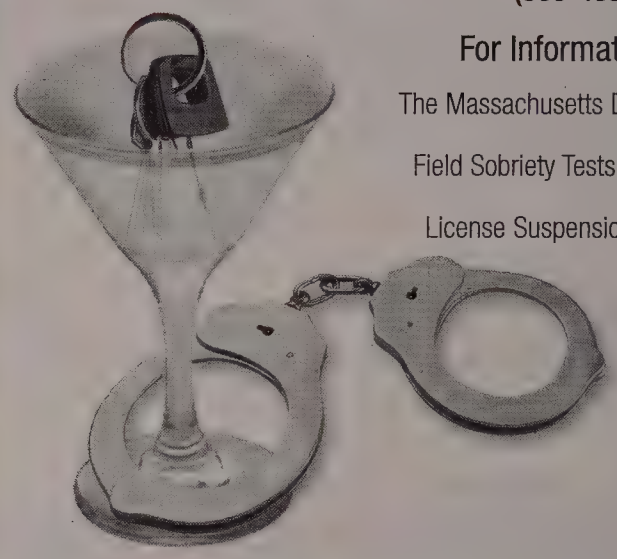

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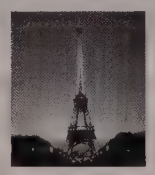

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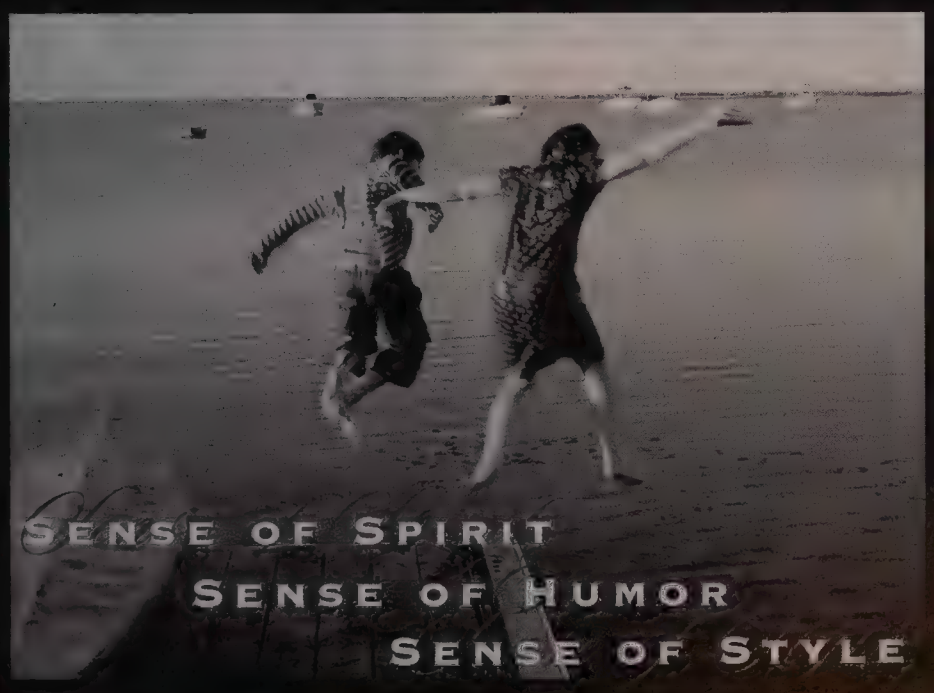

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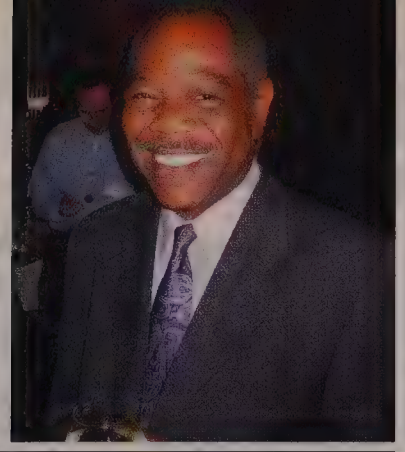


At the Children's Holiday Gift Fund party, top: JJ Wright. Second row from top: Joy Bruno and her Super Bowl ring; David and Susan Chokachi with an autographed baseball. Third row from top: Gina and Bobby Wahlberg; a photo of the Donald. Bottom: Nancy Eckersley and Patti Flanagan.

IS IT JUST ME, OR DOES THE HOLIDAY SEASON KEEP STARTING EARLIER?

Don't you just hate those annoying people who start their Christmas shopping in June and are all done before winter's first snowflake ever touches the ground? Well, not all of them deserve to be hog-tied to a Norwegian spruce and force-fed candy-canes and eggnog while listening to the *Nutcracker Suite* over and over again.

Take **Parents for Residential Reform** and the **Federation for Children with Special Needs**, who hosted their seventh annual silent auction and dinner dance at **Anthony's Pier 4** to raise money to buy holiday gifts for kids in residential placement.

In addition to gorging on the popovers that made the restaurant famous and bidding on auction items ranging from the sublime (a day of spa treatments) to the ridiculous (a framed and autographed photo of Donald Trump), guests got to rub elbows with an assortment of celebrities and muckety-mucks imported for the evening, among them: absurdly good-looking *Baywatch* hunk **David Chokachi** and his stunningly lovely wife, **Susan**; actor **Bobby Wahlberg** with his gorgeous other half, **Gina**; emcee and broadcasting legend **JJ Wright**; brother of presidential contender **Cameron Kerry**; gazillionaire car dealer **Ernie Boch Jr.** (wearing a nametag that said "Dirk Diggler"); his competitor in corny TV ads, **Eliot Tatelman** of Jordan's Furniture (who was honored along with his brother, Barry); stylist/stand-up comic **Patrice Vinci**; Patriots factotum **Joy Bruno** (sporting her very bling-y Super Bowl ring); Plymouth partypair **Phil** and **Heather Cronin**; sports anchor **Steve Burton**; Newbury Street salon owners **William George** and **Alex Iacobacci**; statuesque blonde ex–Red Sox wife **Nancy Eckersley**; and the super-stylish **Evelyn Nellum**, to name a few.

Fireworks over the harbor offered a distraction from all the speeches and awards, which included honoring Ted Kennedy in absentia, but once the formalities were out of the way, white-hot funk band the Marsels took over and the dance floor filled up, by which point yours truly was lapsing into a popover-induced food-coma and left, haunted by the disturbing realization that there were only 190 shopping days left till Christmas.

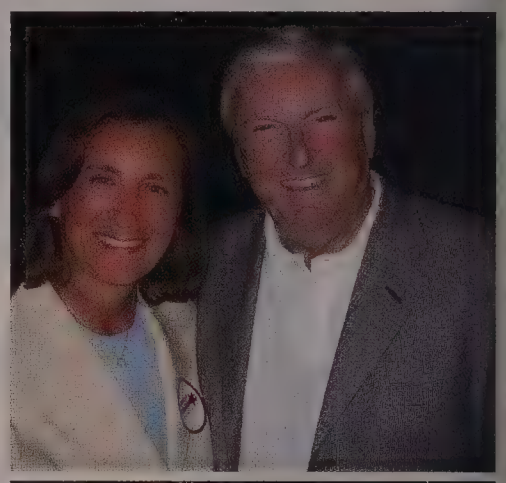
WHAT WOULD WILLARD SCOTT DO?

It's a good thing they didn't light all those candles because **Fenway Park** might have burnt down when the **Town of Brookline** celebrated its 300th birthday at the **.406 Club** with a fund-raiser for its **Legacy Fund** and **Community Foundation**.

Co-hosted by the Red Sox head honcho's stunning spouse, **Stacey Lucchino**, advertising giant **Jack Connors** (of Hill Holliday) and town selectman **Robert Allen Jr.**, the evening attracted the likes of town official (and son of screen legend Bette Davis) **Michael Merrill**; candidate for lieutenant governor (and scion of the Stop & Shop dynasty) **Deborah Goldberg**; real estate titans **Chobee** and **Gil Hoy**; journalist-turned-developer-turned-anthropologist **Ken Jacobson**; political operative **George Cronin**; Sovereign Bankers **Evan Perdikouris** and **Michael Holt**; delightful young things **Rachel Mulcahy** and **Melissa Powell**; and Stacey's husband, **Larry**, wearing his World Series ring, which prompted Connors to say, "You need sunglasses to look at it," while someone else muttered, "Just don't show it to the president of Russia."

Following a live auction, there was a photo session with the World Championship trophy, although there were a few guests who were more interested in the chocolate fountain, which was accompanied by marshmallows, fruit and brownies for dipping.

A majority seemed to think that this beat some lousy birthday cake, while the one thing everyone could agree on was the fact that Brookline is an exceptional place. After all, as someone pointed out, it's where Theo Epstein grew up. iB



At Brookline tricentennial, from top: Deborah Goldberg and Jack Connors; Stacey and Larry Lucchino; Michael Merrill (left); Robert Allen Jr.; Rachel Mulcahy and Melissa Powell; Michael Holt and Evan Perdikouris.

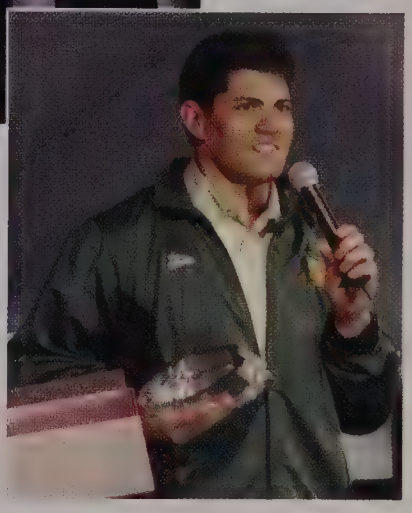
Avez-vous dish?

Dirt? A spectacular social occasion? Call J.S. at 859-1400 ext. 303 or e-mail at *jonathan@improper.com*

Best of...Parties, People and Places.

Newport Film Festival, June 7-12

The Newport International Film Festival (NIFF) is one of America's leading regional film festivals, often called a "low-key Cannes." The closing night film, *The Beautiful Country*, starred Nick Nolte, who was in town to promote his film.



Best Buddies, Boston & Hyannis, May 21

The 6th annual Volvo Hyannis Port Challenge took place on Saturday, May 21 to raise money for Best Buddies. The 90-mile cycling fund-raiser began at the JFK Library in Boston and ended at the Kennedy Compound on Cape Cod, where a victory clambake celebration took place.

Figawi Charity Ball, Hyannis, May 21

The Cape's most fabulous charity event had its 19th successful year raising money for Figawi charities. The 1,200 attendees enjoyed food from the best restaurants on Cape Cod, creative Grey Goose cocktails and an evening of dancing.

Nantucket Film Festival, Nantucket, June 15-19

Steve Martin, Ben Stiller, Macaulay Culkin and Steve Buscemi were among the celebs who attended the 10th annual Nantucket Film Festival. Over 10,000 filmmakers, screenwriters, directors, actors and industry veterans came together to celebrate the best in domestic and foreign features, documentaries and short films in every genre. Among the most talked-about were highly publicized films such as Jim Jarmusch's *Broken Flowers*, starring Bill Murray, and John Singleton's *Hustle and Flow*, featuring Ludacris, Taryn Manning and a superb performance by Terrence Dashon Howard.

Starry, Starry Night, Boston, May 26

City Year's 10th annual benefit gala, Starry Starry Night 2005, took place under a majestic tent in Boston Common on May 26. Attended by more than 900 people, Starry Starry Night has become one of Boston's premier events. This year's keynote speaker was Tim Russert, NBC Washington Bureau Chief and the moderator of *Meet the Press*.

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Bill Streicher

Grooming: **Sharon Gault;** clothing: **Uniform**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

SINGLE IN THE CITY

Whatever your feelings may be about the dating scene in Boston, we continue to beat most other cities on *Forbes*' annual survey of the hottest cities for singles. In fact, Boston's No. 2 standing on *Forbes*' just-released 2005 survey has been the talk of the town lately. Yup, taking into account things like nightlife, culture, number of singles and the esoteric "coolness" factor, there's only one area (Denver-Boulder) in the U.S. that's better for singles, according to *Forbes*.

In our second annual dating issue, we've done our own city vs. city comparison: a look at how Boston stacks up against New York, through the eyes of those who've dated in both cities. We've also got dating advice from experts, single men's honest answers to women's questions and a humiliating social experiment involving bars and bad pickup lines.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

BOSTON'S BEST BEEFS

I was excited to see the IMPROPER's Boston's Best issue when it hit the newsstands, but the excitement was quickly replaced by disappointment when I began thumbing through the pages. I was new to Boston a year ago, and the issue of the IMPROPER that greeted me was the Boston's Best. I still have the issue today. Filled with great Boston spots to eat, drink, etc., I used it as a guide to my new city. This year's issue was a huge letdown in comparison. With expansions of "Beauty," "Fashion," and even the "Goods & Services," section, you almost completely eliminate the male reader demographic for those large sections. Last year's issue was loaded with great pictures and select highlights of places, numerous on each page, which seemed to be replaced this year by columns of text and full-page advertisements. All that aside, the places listed within the issue, with no disrespect intended to the institutions, seemed to be Boston's most upscale not necessarily Boston's best. Do we honestly need the staff to let us know that Saks is the place to go for a good department store in Boston or that Armani makes the best suit? This issue is definitely not the IMPROPER's Best, but as these things go—maybe next year.

—CULLEN BOUVIER
Boston

THE PLACES LISTED WITHIN THE ISSUE SEEMED TO BE BOSTON'S MOST UPSCALE NOT NECESSARILY BOSTON'S BEST.

—CULLEN BOUVIER
BOSTON

While I certainly agree with you that the best trade was bringing in Dave Roberts, Doug Mientkiewicz and Orlando Cabrera in 2004, you should have created a category for the Sports section such as "Best reappearance of an ex-Boston superstar" for the trade that brought Antoine Walker back to Boston (where he belongs). Walker created a positive spark for the Celtics and led them to their first division crown in 10 years, and while that isn't the same as winning a championship, it definitely deserved a mention in the Boston's Best issue.

—MEAGHER CAPELLO
Boston

I'm not sure who from your panel of judges came up with ManRay as best "Gay Men's Night Out," but it has not stayed "highly competitive," as your description reads. There are many other clubs/bars that are pushing the envelope for Boston's limited gay nightlife. Thursday night's "Glamourous Life" at Embassy has been drawing huge crowds since bringing Boston its only gay hip-hop venue. Granted, I love a dirty gay bar, but until ManRay tears up the liquor-soaked carpeting that was there when I first moved to Boston 10 years ago, it does not deserve your "Best" honor.

—DOUG PALARDY
Boston

Editor's Note: *See page 8 for news about ManRay.*

A BIG HOT FUNNYMAN

At the risk of embarrassing myself by sounding like Paris Hilton, I must say: "That's hot!" I'm referring, of course, to Gary Gulman (June 29 cover photograph). Besides being so much more delicious than a sugar cookie, that man is incredibly funny. His two-year stint as a beancounter at Coopers & Lybrand defies all logic. Lucky for us, it was only temporary. He can tickle my funnybone anytime.

—GERI SPANEK
Boston

CORRECTIONS

In the July 13 Boston's Best Business and Technology section, under "Biggest Crash," Testa, Hurwitz and Thibeault has dissolved not just made layoffs.

In the July 13 Proper Bostonians, Francis Ford Coppola directed *The Godfather* not Martin Scorsese.

Tell Us What You Think

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new in town

LET'S GO CLUBBING

Just in time for a fall wardrobe revamp, Club Monaco, the store known for its trendy-without-trying-too-hard styles, makes its first foray into the Boston market. Scheduled to open July 30 in the Pru, Club Monaco has a loyal following in other cities: It's known as *the* place to go for wardrobe basics because of its quality fabrics and smart details at reasonable prices.

In the store's giant 3,528 square foot Boston location, you'll find stylish clothes for work that can transition into evening as well as casual wear for weekends. The fall collection for women includes classics like Italian merino wool sweaters for $69; sheer, slim-fitting knit tops for $39 and cropped tweed pants with a tie front for $109. For men, there are low-rise, vintage corduroy pants for $79; a crisp white shirt for $69 and a casual corduroy blazer for $199.

Accessories are simple and contemporary, too: The store (a subsidiary of Polo Ralph Lauren Corp.) is stocked with bright bags, cashmere scarfs, faux gator belts and hip jewelry like clear beaded necklaces. There's also denim from the newly launched line—lots of it.

The original Club Monaco store opened in 1985 in Toronto and has been steadily franchising internationally ever since. The Boston boutique marks the chain's 74th store. It's about time, say local Monaco fans who until now have had to go to New York for their fix. We haven't heard discerning shoppers this excited/relieved since Marc Jacobs finally landed on Newbury Street last year. Once Barneys arrives in Copley Square in spring 2006, the Back Bay will be a regular Madison Ave. *800 Boylston St., Boston (617-262-2658). www.clubmonaco.com.—E.H.*

inner view

JIM BREUER

Jim Breuer made a name for himself as a cast member on *Saturday Night Live* from 1995–1998, where he hit it big with dead-on impressions of personalities like Joe Pesci, Jack Nicholson and AC/DC, as well as original characters like Goat Boy and one-half of the ex-porn-star duo Wong & Owens. He then reached cult status, alongside Dave Chappelle, in 1998 with his portrayal of a lovable pothead in the hit movie *Half-Baked*. Currently, Breuer can be heard weekdays from 4–6 pm on Sirius satellite radio channel 147, where he hosts *Jim Breuer Unleashed*. He'll be at the Comedy Connection on Aug. 14.

Improper Bostonian: *You've got a new gig on satellite radio. How's that going so far?*

Jim Breuer: It's unbelievable, man. It's me, a couple of friends from high school and an old comedian friend of mine, and we tell a lot of stories, play a few characters and just mess around. It's like we're hanging out in the backyard, except everyone can listen.

IB: *So what's your favorite part about performing in Boston?*

JB: Everything. During the summertime there's only one time I ever leave the New York/New Jersey area, and that's when I come to Boston. I do it every summer, because the crowds are so intense, and they love to laugh.

IB: *That's great, but I saw that you were born and raised in New York. Does that make you a Yankee fan?*

JB: No way! I'm a Yankee hater. It's Mets all the way for me, and if the Mets are out of it, then I'm pulling for the Sox.

IB: *How many times a day do you get bothered to do your Goat Boy?*

JB: It still happens all the time, but I don't mind at all. I love doing my old stuff.

IB: *Speaking of old stuff, you've brought back Brian, your character from* Half-Baked, *a couple of times on* Chappelle's Show. *Has that character increased the number of unsolicited marijuana offerings you receive?*

JB: (Laughs) It happens on a daily basis, man. Let's just say that if I wanted to, I'd never have to pay for it again, solely because of that movie.

IB: *Last question. Who's a bigger bad-ass: Pesci or Nicholson?*

JB: Wow, I think I'm gonna have to go with Jack on that one. I think that I know what Pesci is capable of, but we still don't know how far Nicholson's willing to go. That scares the hell out of me.

—Rich Levine

“...the pizza is to die for; you could faint just describing the flavor of the sauce, and the crust puts you over the edge.”

— Jack Welch, *Winning*

tasty tidbits

ALL PUFFED UP

Time to Make the Cream Puffs... Sushi's no longer the only Japanese delicacy around: Boston's now a cream puff town. OK, we know that cream puffs don't sound Japanese, but try telling that to Beard Papa's. In seven years, the Japanese-based company has opened more than 200 stores in Asia and four in New York City, and in late July it debuted its first Boston location in Quincy Market. Beard Papa's cream puffs, Japan's answer to the donut, only come in vanilla and chocolate for now, but beginning in late August , you can get your puff in a variety of flavors, including green tea and caramel, at $1.65 apiece. Plans are already in the works for another Beard Papa's location in Harvard Square. Let the cream puff era begin!

Knowfat Squared... Since 1996, the Knowfat! Lifestyle Grille (formerly the Lo Fat Know Fat Grille) has provided Bostonians with an always-healthy dining option, and we love it for that. We also love that starting this month, we won't have to drive all the way to Watertown for the figure-friendly fare. In mid-August, Knowfat opens its first downtown location at 530 Washington Street in Downtown Crossing. This is just the start of the Knowfat explosion. Another restaurant is slated to open in the Fenway's Landmark Building in early October, and plans already are being made for more locations in Minneapolis, Iowa and Washington, D.C.

Talented Tasters... We've been practicing the art of ice cream tasting our entire lives, but outside of a few extra pounds, we don't have much to show for it. The time has finally come for us all to reap the benefits of our years of gluttony. Through August 5, fill out a card at any local Baskin Robbins location to enter yourself in the Ice Cream Master-Taster Taste Off. On August 27, 10 ice cream lovers will be chosen at random to take part in a tasting competition at the Baskin Robbins in West Roxbury to see who can correctly identify the most flavors while blindfolded. The top taster earns $1,000 in cash, a Sony Camcorder and free ice cream for a year. The winner also earns a spot in the national Master Tasting Competition here in Boston for a chance to taste his or her way into a free trip for two to the Grammys. That's good eatin'.

sam says

DIVE IN

In the dog days of summer, it's almost unthinkable to slather on makeup. But a girl's gotta look good, so makeup companies have come up with melt-proof makeup. The newest formulas are feather light, and they stay put making them perfect for the hotter months. Here are a few of my favorites: •Shu Uemura Water Blusher, $20 at www.shuuemura.com. A cream blush that goes on cool and leaves behind a shimmery kiss of color. •Chanel Aqua Crayon Lip Colour Stick, $23.50 at Saks Fifth Avenue. A lipliner that never moves. •Lancome Hypnose Waterproof, $21.50 at Sephora. A mascara that plumps your lashes, holds in moisture and doesn't flake. •Bobbi Brown Long-wear Gel Eyeliner, $18 at Saks Fifth Avenue. It creates drama and won't smudge or fall off. •Christian Dior Diorshow Eyecolor, $25 at Sephora. This creamy eyeshadow in a stick comes in six different colors and looks like a powder when it dries. —*Samantha House*

improper reports

PET PAMPERING

We all do crazy things for the ones we love, but when it comes to pets, some people go above and beyond. Here are some over-the-top amenities you can lavish on your favorite four-legged friend.

Doggie Daytrippers

32 Bradford St., Boston (617-306-1863). www.doggiedaytrippers.com

A limo service picks up your pup and treats him or her to a field trip like hiking or swimming. Dogs get a post-workout rubdown, and you get a journal of the day's activities. Trips cost $20 per day.

Dog Spa

45 Enon St., Beverly (978-922-9227). www.dogspa.net

Your dog gets a day of exfoliating, deodorizing and conditioning, complete with a hooded spa robe. Treatments range from $10–$15. Grooming is $30–$100.

Dewberry's Dogs

357 West Broadway, South Boston (617-269-1507).

At this pet boutique, dogs dine on homemade dog treats and receive aromatherapy and homeopathic remedies ($20–$25). One example is the Loneliness Home Alone treatment, an herbal remedy meant to help dogs dealing with separation anxiety.

Katz & Dogz

256 Shawmut Ave., Boston; 1786 Beacon St., Brookline (617-262-5289). www.katzanddogz.com

Pets get treated to a Swedish massage or canine f reflexology. Staff members also can make ho calls, costing between $60 and $75, so that pets be pampered in their own homes.

Nine Zero Hotel

90 Tremont St., Boston (617-772-5800). www.ninezero.co

Pet sitting, grooming, walking and massages rang from $20–$75 per hour are available, and the even a pet menu for room service.

Polka Dog Bakery

357 West Broadway, South Boston (617-338-5155). www.polkadog.com.

This gourmet pet bakery offers cupcakes, cannolis a Treatza Pizzas costing $11/pound. Dogs can freshen th breath with mint cookies after dinner. Sunday brun features canine-friendly eggs, waffles, pancakes a bloody marys served à la carte from $0.50–$2.75.

—*Melissa Czerkowicz*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

ManRay on the Move... Over the past 23 years, Cambridge's ManRay Nightclub has become a late-night staple for the local gay/fetish/Goth community. But on July 30, after the landlord decided he wanted to develop the property, the curtain came down. However, it's not "game over" just yet. Operations manager Matthew Gleason says that the club will be back up and running under the same name in a couple of months in a location not very far from its original digs in Central Square.

Something Borrowed... Nicole Vellucci knows diamonds. She's been in the wholesale jewelry biz for more than 10 years, working for her father at Cambridge Jewelry and Watch. Recently she branched out on her own, opening her own store called Forever Diamond in Downtown Crossing. The idea? Not to sell a thing. Rather, she aims to rent jewelry to brides, grooms or anyone in need of a high-end accessory for a formal event. You can select from watches, cufflinks, bracelets, necklaces, rings and earrings with all kinds of gems, but her specialty is diamonds. Rental prices range from $150–$300 per day. (A contract and credit card are required.) *333 Washington St., Suite 515, Boston (617-523-1060). www.foreverdiamondboston.com.*

Guess What?... We're one of the few cities to welcome one of Guess? brand's new accessory stores. Located at the CambridgeSide Galleria, the boutique features designs in men's and women's luggage, handbags, watches, eyewear, jewelry and leather goods. Many of the items are sold exclusively at the store's four U.S. (including the Cambridge store) and 11 international locations. *100 CambridgeSide Place, Cambridge (617-225-9047).*

Out and Open... It's official. The Boston Public Market is open for business. The location is confirmed, the mayor recently cut the ribbon, and local farmers and bakers have been setting up shop at the Northern Avenue bridge every Monday and Thursday from 11:30 am–7 pm. The market offers you the chance to gather up all the fruit and veggies, flowers, desserts and homemade baked goods you can get your hands on—a rarity in heart of the city. And since the vendors sell only local wares, you're supporting farmers from the area as well. The market continues outdoors through November, but word is, they're hoping to open a year-round indoor market and are shopping for a site downtown. *Northern Avenue Bridge, 2 Northern Ave., Boston (617-263-3355). www.bostonpublicmarket.org.*

—*LPK and RL*

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Jordan Tobins
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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

Mayor Thomas Menino joined Jack Welch, former CEO of General Electric and best-selling author of the new book *Winning*, for **ReadBoston's Celebrity Author Series** at Morton's, the steakhouse in Copley Square July 15. More than 100 party-goers showed up to support literacy efforts in Boston. Proceeds benefited ReadBoston, which works with schools and community organizations to ensure that every child has the opportunity to learn to read.

1. **Jack Welch**, former CEO of General Electric and best-selling author of the new book *Winning*, and his wife, **Suzy**.
2. From left: **Drew Colontonio**, investment information analyst for MFS Investment Management; **Tanya Haney**, teacher at the Mattahunt School in Mattapan; **Mark McGowan**, project manager at the Boston Redevelopment Authority; **Kristina Colontonio**, CMST Coordinator at Shawmut Design & Construction; and **Nick Haney**, project manager at the Boston Redevelopment Authority.
3. From left: **Soosie Lazenby**, sports marketer; **Fred Schoch**, executive director of the Head of the Charles; and **Valerie Salvatore**, executive director for the Governor's Committee for Physical Fitness & Sports.
4. **Katie Tagliavia**, owner of Nine Months on Newbury Street, and her husband, **Riccardo**, accounting supervisor for Fast in Needham.
5. **Laura Woodward** (left), associate at CRA International, and **Julie Carrier**, strategy and operations associate at Bridgestar.

The French Library and Cultural Center hosted the **30th Bastille Day VIP Reception** and Street Dance Party July 15. Back Bay's Marlborough Street was closed down between Berkeley and Clarendon Streets to accommodate 2,000 revelers. The evening, sponsored in part by the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, celebrated French culture.

6. From left: **Maggie** and **Kevin Ahearn**, vice president of business development and president, respectively, of Otis & Ahearn Real Estate, and **Coco Raynes**, president of Coco Raynes Associates in Back Bay.
7. From left: **Andrew Hally**, senior director of marketing for UNICA; **Gina Consylman** and **Tracy Curley**, CPA and assistant controller, respectively, for Varian Semiconductor in Gloucester; and Tracy's husband, **Brad**, managing director for KPMG.
8. **Thanh Tonello**, doctor at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital, and **Tiffany Vo**, student at the University of Arizona.
9. From left: **Eric Ward**, vice president & consul for IXIS, **Jessica Oleson**, assistant vice president of Wellington Management, and **Eric Jausseran**, cultural attaché at the French Consulate.
10. **Katrina Iseman**, of Wyeth, and **Dennis Czech**, owner of Easton Tennis Club.
11. **Miguel DeBraganca**, investment manager, and **Roanne Edwards**, development director for the French Library.
12. **Tom Wetheral**, portfolio manager at MFS, and **Maryanne Keeney**, public relations consultant for Focus Communications.

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12pm *Theatre*
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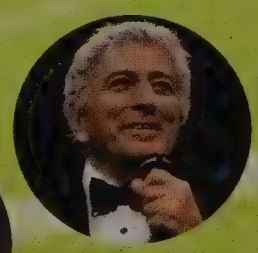

sunday
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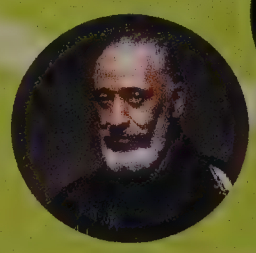
Sonny Rollins



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FIRST DATE, LAST DATE

A tough first date is a hard thing to endure. It's even harder to witness.

There's nothing more brutal than a bad first date. Now, two reasonably well-adjusted people can get through a first date with a minimum of awkwardness, playing the small-talk game long enough to either fish or cut bait when dinner is done. But trouble arises when one party is socially awkward, because, in the words of the infinitely wise Rob Base, it takes two to make a thing go right. It takes two to make it outta sight.

I've been guilty of playing the role of Awkward Man myself. About five years ago, I broke up with my girlfriend of four years. The first few dates I went on after that were excruciating. And that was just from my point of view. The girls must've been on the verge of stabbing themselves in the eye with their high heels just to go to the hospital and get away from me. My social awkwardness at that period of my life would make a conversation between Napoleon Dynamite and Janet Reno look like Regis and Kelly.

But over time, I learned how to hold up my end of the bargain, and ultimately I benefitted from the first-date idiocy of my fellow Boston men. This is because the guys who preceded me in dating my eventual girlfriend, Heather, set the bar impossibly low. Consider these stories, which are all true: One guy, on his first date with Heather, was unable to parallel-park his own car, so she had to do it for him. That's not so bad, but later that night, he told her how much he disliked sex and considered it work (I suppose this date was not with Pat O'Brien). Another guy got her digits and proceeded to leave her multiple voicemail messages at 4:30 am that same night, a scene straight out of *Swingers*. She nevertheless went out with him, and he impressed her by taking her to a cute little out-of-the-way restaurant known for its romantic intrigue—the Cheesecake Factory. The next guy intimated that he was bisexual and wanted to involve her in a gay threesome with another man, which is a suggestion I'd think you'd at least save for the second date. By the time these fine fellows had done their work, all I had to do was show up and not confess to any murders, and I looked like a dreamboat in comparison.

While being party to a bad date is horrible enough, attempting to have dinner in close proximity to a train wreck is almost worse. The other night, Heather and I were seated next to an obvious first date at a restaurant where the tables are roughly six inches apart. The bad vibes emanating from the adjacent table were powerful enough that I became uncomfortable myself. I felt compelled to make constant conversation, as if *I* was the one on the date. Of course, I was totally enthralled by the stilted exchanges happening beside us, but I had to try to act like I wasn't listening.

Heather and I disagree over where the blame lies for this disaster. I think the guy floundered, she thinks the girl was brutal. In truth, it was a combination of both. I cringed as he asked what her mother's maiden name was. C'mon, man, is this a date, or did she forget her PIN number? He continued yammering helplessly while she sat there giving monosyllabic answers and generally being about as much fun as a case of strep throat. I felt for the guy, but then again, he did refer to Tom Petty as "Tommy Petty." Tommy Petty? Wasn't he in the Traveling Wilburys with Bobby Dylan and Georgie Harrison? See, that just doesn't work.

By the time the waiter came around to ask if they wanted coffee, I would've staked $1,000 on the answer. Actually, I was unsure of whether he'd simply ask for the check or give in to his urge to throw himself backwards out of the booth, crash through the nearest window and run down the street yelling, "I'm free! I'm free!" You may have heard of Coyote Arm, where you awaken with your arm wrapped around someone so appalling that you'd chew it off like a coyote stuck in a trap rather than risk waking her up. Well, I'm pretty sure that if you'd handcuffed these two together after dinner, both of them would've had a case of Coyote Wrist within an hour.

HE CONTINUED YAMMERING HELPLESSLY WHILE SHE SAT THERE BEING ABOUT AS MUCH FUN AS A CASE OF STREP THROAT

I'd be lying if I said they ruined my dinner, though, because the carnage was fascinating. Also, the maiden name question reminded me of Heather's mother's maiden name, which always makes me smile: Holiday. The poor guy at the next table needed a Holiday, and he sure didn't get one. iB

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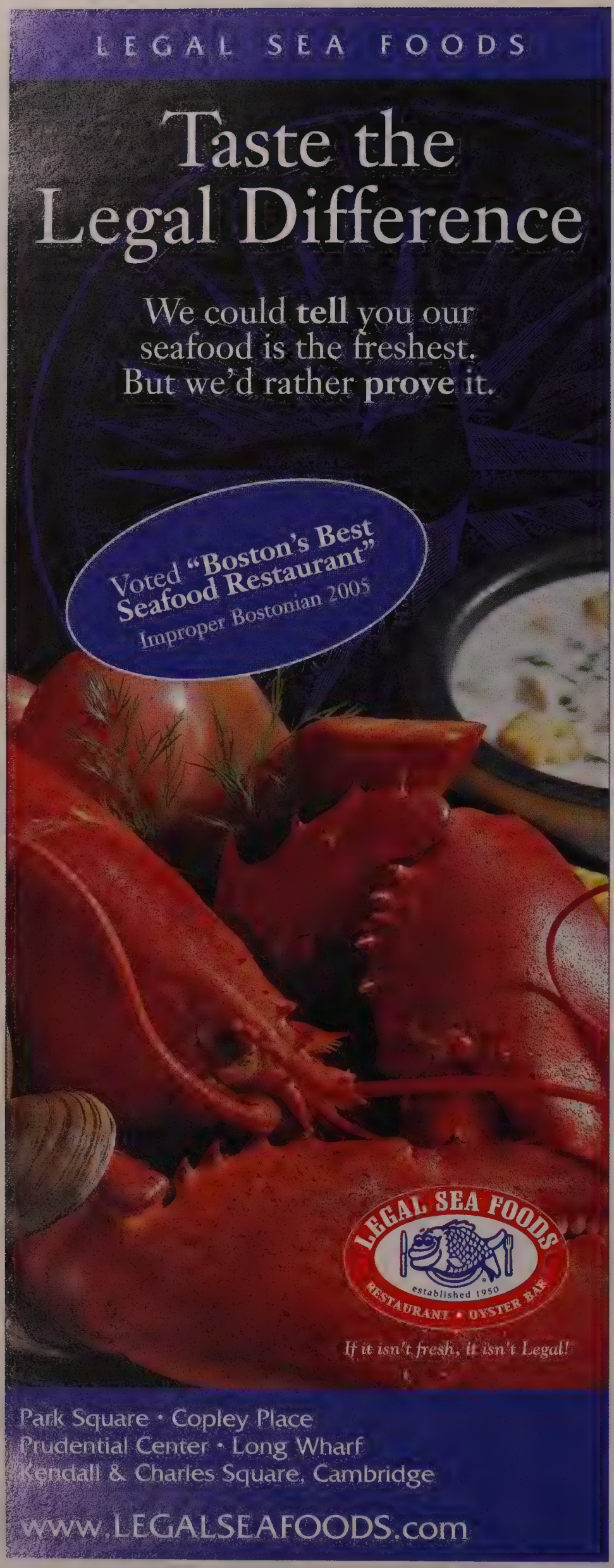

THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

IS THEO TAKING THE FUN OUT OF SOX?

Whether it's a band of idiots or a band of Oleruds, Theo Epstein is going to get what he needs to win.

It's not like we need further confirmation that these are different days around the old town team, but here's another example: with one phone call, a valuable member of the 2005 Red Sox was basically embarrassed. Once a Red Sox reserve outfielder, Jay Payton found out what it's like to tick off general manager Theo Epstein.

Before the team left for Baltimore—where it turns out Payton was needed more than ever before this season, since Johnny Damon had to take a day off after slamming his elbow—Epstein made a phone call as the Red Sox were boarding the plane.

"Get Jay Payton off the plane and send him to the nearest hotel. He's not going with the team." Or something to that effect.

It was quick and swift punishment for Payton, who had been whining about playing time. At first glance, Theo's tough love approach appears to be based on maintaining a happy clubhouse. No more moping Nomar Garciaparras on Theo's watch.

But please tell me you don't buy into that theory. I know it looks great on paper, but the closer you look at a baseball team at the big-league level, the more you understand that one of the most overrated intangibles in all of sports is clubhouse harmony, especially in baseball. In fact, some might argue it's an impossible goal to attain in baseball because of the number of players (25) and the many millions of dollars each makes.

The moves Theo made on the field, not the clubhouse, ultimately brought the Sox to the top. The Red Sox ownership have a view of what a world champion should look like, and although last year's team was effective, a band of idiots isn't exactly what they envisioned when they purchased the Sox.

Sure we all the hate the Yankees, but they adhere for the most part to a strict code of conduct. And you have to love George Steinbrenner's motto: Winning is second only to breathing.

Now I'm not for one second saying the Sox aren't as passionate about winning as the Yankees, but when you look at the Sox' captain, Jason Varitek, and how he lives day to day, it becomes obvious why he's signed up for the long term. In a nutshell, the Sox are looking for less Damon and more Varitek off the field.

So despite Damon having a year that in my mind has been even better than 2004, when he was spectacular, he's not, in the management's minds, the total package. For this guy not to have an extension after what he's been able to do makes a very loud statement to me—that it's not just about what you do, but how you do it.

Kevin Millar, another one of those free spirits at the end of his contract, is in the same boat. Let's look at Millar's replacement, John Olerud. Do you really believe he's a better player than Millar? A decade ago, absolutely. Right now, there isn't a big chasm. But Millar's better for team chemistry, right, and why mess with what the Sox have going? Because the C-word is overrated.

Consider this: A friend of mine was the play-by-play man for the Oakland A's for years. His color analyst was none other than Reggie Jackson. Jackson's former teammates used to come in to the broadcast booth periodically for an inning or two of commentary. My friend would tell me that all of Jackson's ex-teammates had so little camaraderie with their former mate that during commercial breaks, there would be absolutely zero dialogue.

IN A NUTSHELL, THE SOX ARE LOOKING FOR LESS DAMON, MORE VARITEK OFF THE FIELD

They couldn't stand Reggie. They couldn't live with him. But they couldn't live without him on the field, either. The A's won a lot of games with Jackson, just like the Sox have won a lot of games with guys like Damon, Millar, Martinez and Lowe.

Talent won out last year, and it will win out again this year, regardless of the personalities involved. As much as the Sox talk about getting guys who fit in, fitting in could mean being Curt Schilling or it could mean being David Ortiz. All it really means is being professional—not necessarily liking each other.

This approach may not produce a team that's as exciting as those of years past, but the Sox believe it's the right way to win. Even though it may not be the fun way. ■

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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CHRIS EVANS

BY JONATHAN SOROFF PHOTOGRAPH BY BILL STREICHER

Newly minted movie star Chris Evans, 24, was born in Boston, lived in Framingham, and moved to Sudbury when he was 12. After graduating from Lincoln-Sudbury High School, he signed with an agent in New York and almost immediately went to Los Angeles, where he was cast in the Fox sitcom *Opposite Sex*, a summer replacement series about three guys admitted to a formerly all-girls school. He also appeared on David E. Kelley's *Boston Public*, as a disturbed student who holds a class hostage at gunpoint, and on CBS' *The Fugitive*, as the rebellious son of a local sheriff. On film, he appeared in *Not Another Teen Movie* and *The Perfect Score*, and starred opposite Kim Basinger and William H. Macy in *Cellular*, playing a man who answers his cell phone to hear a woman desperately pleading with him to save her from kidnappers. Recently, he wrapped production on two films: *Fierce People*, opposite Diane Lane and Donald Sutherland, and *The Orphan King*. His biggest film to date, *Fantastic Four*, is based on the comic of the same name and was released last month. Evans lives in Los Angeles.

Jonathan Soroff: *You started acting at 17. What happened to spending your adolescence lost and confused and aimless?*

Chris Evans: It was still lost and confused and aimless, it was just in L.A. It really has been the school of life. It was great.

JS: *You're still too young to say that. All my friends agreed that you had the hottest body in* People *magazine's "Best Beach Bodies," which we were looking at this morning…*

CE: Really? I'm a Serena Williams man myself. Jesus Christ, my God! She's just unbelievable.

JS: *My friend Joan wants to know if you'll date her.*

CE: Is she cute?

JS: *Yeah.*

CE: How old is she?

JS: Fortysomething.

CE: All right! She can teach me some things.

JS: *So how do you get the washboard abs?*

CE: [Laughs.] They shade it in.

JS: *So it's retouched?*

CE: I'm sure it is. I'm giving away all the secrets.

JS: *One role you auditioned for but didn't get and really, really wanted?*

CE: Oooooooh. I think it's a movie called *Jarhead* that's coming out with Jake Gyllenhall that Sam Mendes directed. I really wanted that part—not the one Jake has but the one I tried out for, and I will just harbor it for ever and ever...

JS: *Jake Gyllenhall is also one of* People's *"Best Beach Bodies," so Sam Mendes could've had two hotties in the same movie. OK, name three famous people from Sudbury.*

CE: Hmmm. Famous people from the 'Bury…All I know is Paula Poundstone. Who else is there? Believe me, there's a picture of her up at L.S. [Lincoln-Sudbury High School], so I'd know if there were any others.

JS: *Best thing about Sudbury?*

CE: Oh, man. What's not to love about Sudbury? It's relatively cliché, it's your stereotypical, standard bedroom community, right out of the movies, but that's what makes it so amazing.

JS: *In* Fantastic Four, *you play the Torch. Does that mean you're a flamer?*

CE: That was a good one! That's the first time I've heard that! That was real smart. You should write that in the interview!

JS: *I intend to! Which parts of your suit did they have to pad out?*

CE: Meaning for muscles?

JS: *I don't know. You tell me, Chris.*

CE: They padded everything. We all wore muscle suits. All of us, except for [Jessica] Alba, 'cause, y'know…

JS: *Her shit is tight! Another "Best Beach Bodies" winner. I'll bet she could kick your ass.*

CE: Without a doubt. But anyway, with all the padding, the codpiece was the thing that stood out.

JS: *Did you enjoy wearing tights?*

CE: Y'know, I think I've worn tights my whole life doing plays. I just got paid a lot more to do it this time around.

JS: *How long did it take to get into costume every day?*

CE: It was a bitch, but I've heard of worse. Maybe an hour. The muscle suit is a solo job. You do that on your own, with a big bottle of baby powder and some frustration. Then once that's on, two or three wardrobe people come in and squeeze this blue aqua suit on you that's just impossible to get on.

JS: *Sounds miserable. So by the end of every day, had you lost like 10 pounds?*

CE: We definitely did, but we were working with a trainer, so even if we trimmed down and weren't eating enough on set, we'd wrap and go right to the gym.

JS: *Sounds like Hell. On a different subject, namely* Cellular, *what advice do you have for someone who gets a call on their cell phone from a damsel in distress?*

CE: Well, hopefully there are cameras rolling, because otherwise it won't be a good movie. Other than that, I don't know.

JS: *If you had to save anyone in that situation, who would it be and why?*

CE: Oh, I wish it would be Sandra Bullock. I wish there was some way I could save her from something. Isn't that crazy? I remember being in seventh grade and seeing her in *Speed*, and just being like, "That's it. She's the one." She's a f---ing goddess. You should have seen the poster of her I had on my bedroom ceiling growing up—this massive, massive poster of her in, like, a bra.

JS: *It was on the ceiling? That sort of begs a certain question…*

CE: [Laughs.] C'mon. My mother's gonna read this interview.

JS: *So what was your favorite comic book as a kid?*

CE: Aren't comic books for geeks? Just kidding! I have to go to conventions, and they'll string me up. The truth is, after getting the part and going out and buying every comic book I could get my hands on, I came to appreciate them. The stories and dialogue are complex. You've got eight-syllable words, supposedly for little kids. The art is amazing. So I think they actually are educational. If my kids want to read them, I'll say, "Go ahead."

JS: *If you could have one superpower, what would it be and why?*

CE: To fly. Hands down. No question.

JS: *One superpower or extraordinary ability that you actually do have?*

CE: [Laughs.] See, again, this is something my mother will read, so I can't really answer that.

JS: *I think you just did. So who was your superhero crush growing up?*

CE: Man, that's a good question. What other superhero girls are there?

JS: *Wonder Woman was a big one…*

CE: Nah. That's a cliché. C'mon, I gotta think. There must be someone good out there.

JS: *I personally had the hots for Aquaman.*

CE: [Laughs.] Does Jessica Rabbit count? If so, that's it. She goes above Sandra Bullock, just so Sandy knows. In case she reads this, just to take that feather outta her cap.

JS: *Best actor you ever worked with?*

CE: Bill [William H.] Macy. Not even a question. The guy's just…he's unstoppable.

JS: *Actor you'd most like to do a love scene with?*

CE: I'll say Salma Hayek. Sandy's more the one you settle down with, set up shop with, take home to your mother. But Salma's the one you yell, "Action!" and just go to town.

JS: *I read in the* Weekly World News *that there's a tribe in Africa that worships Salma Hayek's breasts.*

CE: [Laughs.] I believe that.

JS: *Your show* Opposite Sex. *Was that basically a bad remake of* Bosom Buddies?

CE: Whatever it was, it was a bad original of something. The bottom line is it was bad. We'll leave it at that.

JS: *Speaking of which:* Not Another Teen Movie. *Is that going to come back someday to haunt you?*

CE: Oh, man, I don't think I did anything too terrible. Did you hear that great line from *Entourage*: "Before Tom Cruise did *Fourth of July*, he did *Top Gun*. Before Tom Hanks was *Forrest Gump*, he fucked a fish." So in my case, I had a banana in my ass. What are you gonna do?

JS: *I never saw that movie.*

CE: Neither has my Grandma, and I'm hoping to keep it that way.

JS: *Diane Lane. Most beautiful woman you've ever seen?*

CE: She is f---ing gorgeous.

JS: *Who would win in a Jell-O wrestling contest: Diane Lane or Kim Basinger?*

CE: Ooooh, Diane. She's got it.

JS: *You've got a thing for older women, don't you?*

CE: Well, y'know, I'm a student. I wanna learn.

JS: *Last question. When you make the cover of* Vanity Fair, *what do you think you'll be wearing?*

CE: I think I'm gonna go for the body-paint thing, like Demi Moore. iB

"I'VE WORN TIGHTS MY WHOLE LIFE DOING PLAYS. I JUST GOT PAID A LOT MORE TO DO IT THIS TIME AROUND."

CHOOSE YOUR OWN DATING ADVENTURE!

From a guy's perspective, a first date is much like the choose-your-own-adventure books you might've read in grade school—at certain points along the way, how you play your cards can result in the night moving forward or certain death (or at least an unhappy ending). Can you choose the right path through the first-date labyrinth without stepping on any land mines? Read on and find out.

BY EZRA DYER
ILLUSTRATIONS BY ADRIANO THE PITILESS

1

You arrive at your date's apartment to pick her up, and the first impression is good: She's hot. She gets into your car, then says, "Oh wait, I forgot my cell phone," and runs back inside. You have a funny feeling about this for some reason. Do you drive away then or stay put?

To drive away, go to 1a. To stay, go to 1b.

1a

You decide she's really going back in to make sure the tiger trap below her living room is adequately covered by a throw rug, the better to ensnare you and subsequently torture you in revenge at mankind for being snubbed by her last boyfriend. You don't need that. You drive away before she returns, heading home to drink by yourself and wonder at what a close call that was. As it turns out, you were right that she wasn't going back in to get her celly—she was going back in to tell her hot bisexual stripper roommate that they'd found their third for later that night.

1b

So you wait for her, and the two of you proceed to the restaurant. Dinner is going smoothly until the topic turns to exes. Not a great first-date subject, but before you can steer the conversation back into more neutral waters, you learn that her ex is named Alex and that their parting was both tumultuous and recent. Soon after the appetizers arrive, she excuses herself to go to the bathroom, leaving her phone on the table. While she's gone, it rings, and the screen lights up: "A-Rod." Could this be possible? There's only one way to find out. Do you answer her phone or not?

To answer it, go to 2a. To leave it alone, go to 2b.

2a

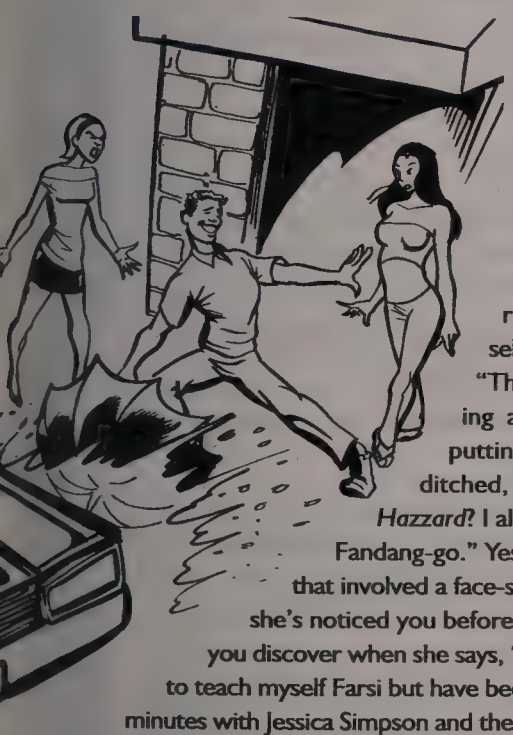
You grab the phone, steal a glace at the ladies' room and pick it up. The voice on the other end isn't Alex Rodriguez but a woman—one who seems very confused. As you tell her she has the wrong number, your date comes out of the ladies' room. You're busted, so you confront her on the subject of Yankee third baseman canoodling. "You idiot!" she says. "'A-Rod' is Arnie's Rodent Removal. I saw a mouse in my apartment earlier today, so I called them." Then she kicks you in the shins, knocks back the rest of her martini and walks out the door. You put clean sheets on your bed for nothing.

2b

Despite your intense curiosity, you resist your impulse to answer her phone. When she returns, she glances at the screen and, if you're not mistaken, blushes a bit in embarrassment. There's something going on there. But you manage to put aside your suspicions for the remainder of dinner and find that you and she hit it off. She has a great sense of humor. "Brooke Shields didn't have postpartum depression—she just needed some exercise!" she says. You laugh until she adds, "No, seriously, I'm a practicing Scientologist." Well, hey, alright...By the end of dinner and several more drinks at a nearby bar, you've learned that she's a compulsive gambler (recovering), she has a pet tarantula, and she had an imaginary friend until the age of 19. While standing on the sidewalk outside the bar, you spy the cute girl who works in your building standing nearby talking on her phone. She, in fact, is your Secret Crush. It just stopped raining, and she's standing perilously close to a massive puddle on the street. A car is approaching at high speed. Your date begins to whisper lascivious nothings in your ear—her apparent craziness hasn't diminished her hotness any.

To break away and attempt to prevent Secret Crush from getting soaked, go to 3a. To hang in there with your date, go to 3b.

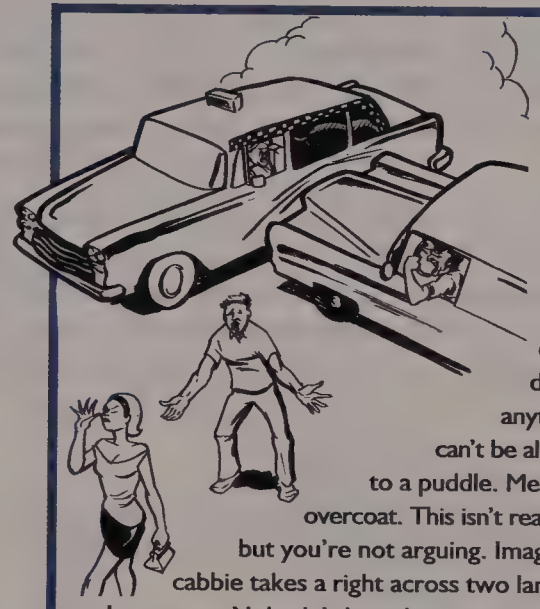
3a



Just as your date is outlining exactly what she plans to do to you back at her place, you hastily excuse yourself and sprint over to Secret Crush, positioning your umbrella just in time to prevent both of you from getting an unexpected shower from the passing cab. Her initial look of surprise breaks into a smile when she realizes what happened. You're introducing yourself when your date storms over, slaps you and says, "That's as far as you're getting tonight," before turning and walking away. "Well," says Secret Crush, putting away her phone, "It looks like I've just been ditched, too. Care to join me at the 11 o'clock *Dukes of Hazzard*? I already bought tickets, and it'd be a shame not to Fandang-go." Yes. This is working out surprisingly well for a night that involved a face-slapping. On the way to the theater, you learn that she's noticed you before, too. And you've got a few things in common, as you discover when she says, "That's so funny—I made a New Year's resolution to teach myself Farsi but have been too busy racing dirt bikes!" After a satisfying 90 minutes with Jessica Simpson and the General Lee, you offer to walk her to her car. On the way there, you're jumped by a goon who demands your wallet and her purse.

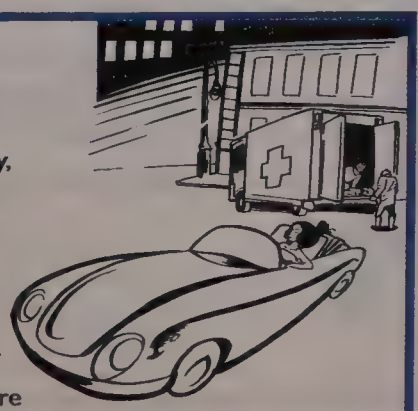
To stand up to him, go to 4a. To give him the stuff, go to 4b.

3b



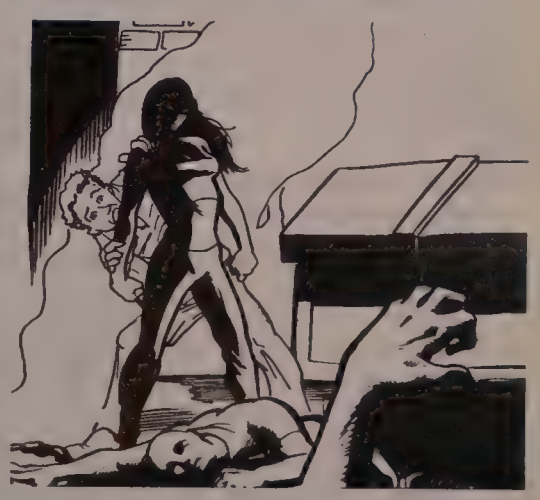
You hail a cab as you tell yourself, "I could learn to like tarantulas. I guess I've never known one ..." As you and your date climb in, you hear a shrill cry as the car plows through the puddle adjacent to Secret Crush. You hope she didn't see you, but there really wasn't anything you could do anyway. Plus she can't be all that bright, obviously, standing next to a puddle. Meanwhile, your date is on you like an overcoat. This isn't really what you'd planned for the night, but you're not arguing. Imaginary friends are cool, sure. As the cabbie takes a right across two lanes of traffic, a car going straight T-bones you. Nobody's hurt, but your cab is done. "Not a problem," you say, and raise your arm to flag down another. "You'd better get two," she says. "That was a powerful sign we're not supposed to be together. You've got to listen to destiny." You argue that the cabs crashing together represent destiny to you too, two bodies colliding and all that, but she's made up her mind, and you're left standing in the street late at night, with only your regrets and two bickering Pakistani men to keep you company.

4a



"Here, you can have my wallet," you say, and as you offer it to him with your left hand, you bum-rush him with a right hook to the jaw. He shakes it off like a bull swatting a fly with his tail. Now you're in trouble. "Heeellp!" you scream, as he drops you with a flurry of punches. The last thing you hear before you pass out is a woman shrieking. But it's not a terrified shriek. More like a karate-style one, you think, as darkness closes in. You awaken looking up at an EMT's flashlight. "What color is blue?" he asks. This is easy. Just like on TV. "Red," you reply confidently. "OK, we're taking him in for observation," replies the man behind the flashlight. The last thing you see as you're loaded into the ambulance is your Secret Crush, getting into her car to drive home alone. Strangely, she looks fine.

4b



"Material things aren't worth getting hurt over," you say as you begin handing your wallet to the hulking thug. You don't get very far before he's dropped to the ground by a spinning kick to the face from your date. As he attempts to get up, she stomps his hand with her heel and pulls out a canister of pepper spray, hitting his eyes. She's getting ready to plant another kick on his dome when he frantically begins crawling away, eventually breaking into a staggering run. You're happy, yet feeling less-than-manly. She's staring him down until the would-be robber turns over his shoulder and says, "Who dresses you, your grandmother? Nice sweater set, Helen Keller!" At this point she begins to cry. You hug her. "My feelings get hurt really easily," she says. "I know he was just saying that to be mean, but..." she bursts into tears again. You assure her that she looks great, sweater set and all, and the two of you walk to her car. She drives you home. You ask her if she'd like to come in for some coffee.

There's one more decision to be made here, but this one's not up to you. ■

TRUE CONFESSIONS

WHAT MEN REALLY THINK ABOUT DATING AND SEX

BY LESLIE KILGORE

A few years ago we asked a bunch of Boston-area single men what questions they were dying to ask women. We gathered up those queries (on everything from first date deal breakers t sex and the importance of size) and got women to answer them with brutal honestly. Now it's the girls' turn to get some straight answers from local guys on the topic of dating. Why don' they call again after what seemed like a great first date? After how many dates do they hope to have sex? And what's with the attraction to mean girls—and sleazy ones? Here are singl women's most burning questions about guys—and their unvarnished answers.

After how many dates do you hope to sleep with a woman?

I would say between three and five dates. If you haven't slept with her by then, forget about it. That gives me the impression she doesn't like doing it, and I don't want to be with a girl who doesn't like to have sex. —Adam, 21

It depends. Is meeting at a bar considered a date? —Scott, 33

After one date. —Joseph, 25

After five dates. —Matthew, 30

Ten to 15 dates. —James, 28

I hope the first, but realistically, if I want to date her, at least a few. —John, 30

I slept with my girlfriend on the first date, and I've been with her for three years now. If you click, it shouldn't matter. —Scott, 31

How many previous sexual partners is an acceptable number for a woman to have had?

None. —Chris W., 28

It's hard to come to a number on this, but I don't want to hear about any of them. —Chip, 25

Oh, less is better—preferably less than five. —Joe, 29

It depends if I'm looking for a girlfriend or a hook-up buddy. A girlfriend should have three or four previous partners—that way I know she's a good girl. If I'm looking for some fun, I don't care how many guys she's been with. —Adam, 21

Four plus the number of years since college. If it hits 10, then lie. —Ross, 25

I'm not sure it matters, as long as it isn't triple digits. —John, 30

As many as it takes for her to understand that she should attack oral sex like she was storming the beaches of Normandy on D-day. No fear! —Gerrick, 35

If a woman sleeps with you on the first date is she automatically "easy" or still girlfriend material?

She's automatically easy but that doesn't mean I don't want her to be my girlfriend. So she could very easily sleep her way into becoming my girlfriend, so long as she continues to sleep with me every night thereafter. —Chris W., 28

Highly unlikely that she's datable, although I have met one married couple that began as a one-night stand. —Ross, 25

Really, men always want sex, so we take it when we get it. I still believe she could be girlfriend material, though. —Aaron, 31

Ever heard of the phrase, "too good to be true"? That's what guys think after something like this happens—either that or, "Wait, that was a little too easy." She'd still be girlfriend material, but I couldn't help but wonder if she has done this before and how many times. —Chip, 25

She's still girlfriend material in theory, but this has never happened. —Chris M, 28.

Are all guys at least somewhat attracted to slutty women? What about bitchy/demanding ones?

All guys are attracted to slutty looking girls and fantasize about what they'd do to them. —Adam, 25

The bitchy/demanding type had me by the balls for three years—there's something about them. Once you grow up and learn a little, it ain't worth it. For fun, I go for the slutty—for anything more than that, I find a nice girl. —Mike, 25

Yes to slutty, depending on the severity of the sluttiness. Definitely yes on bitchy/demanding. I prefer crazy, but I'll take demanding. —Chris M., 28

Yes to the slutty girls, but guys who enjoy abuse from demanding/bitchy girls need to have their heads examined. —Scott, 31

Do you prefer having a girlfriend or dating casually? Explain.

Having a girlfriend and casually dating are very closely related. We date casually in search of someone we'd like to be our girlfriend. It's kind of like when you gals go shopping. You go into 53 stores before deciding which top to buy. —Chip, 25

As a man not blessed with physical beauty, I require a bit of time to work my charms. Repeating this on a nightly basis starting from square one would take all the fun out it. —Chris M., 28

I prefer the best of both worlds, but unfortunately that doesn't usually fly with girls who want boyfriends, so what can you do? —Scott, 31

Either works as long as I am getting laid on a regular basis. —Scott, 33

At this point, I'd rather date casually. can look to settle down in a few years —Adam, 25

What's an ultimate turn-on/turn-off?

I love the summer, because girls are wearin short skirts and high heels—nothing bette —Adam, 21

You go out on a date, you both have a good time and conversation flows easily. But you never call her again. Why?

She was fatter than you remembered when you got her number the night the Red Sox won the World Series. —Gerick, 35

The evening could be a complete success from every aspect, but if I'm not sexually attracted to this person, I'm not going to call—ever. —Scott, 31

I'm not attracted to her. —Adam, 25

Last time I didn't call back was sophomore year in college, and her nickname was Little Oral Annie—let your mind do the walking. Now I'm a big boy, and I always call back. —Chris M., 28

She's either ugly, or she's just plain nuts. You can often tell if a girl is really nuts after just one date. —James, 28

A good conversation doesn't always mean the date went well. —John, 30

Either my cell phone fell in the toilet, and, as a result, I lost her number, or she was excruciatingly ugly—most likely the latter. Or both. But if my celly does fall in the toilet and she was hot, I'd definitely still try to call her back at least once. —Chris W., 28

No chemistry. If a girl was cool then there's no reason for the no call. Usually, if we're out with you in the first place, we're attracted to you and interested. The only reason would be if we found out something on the date that really affected our opinion. —Chip, 25

Not attracted to her, at all, I mean even after drinks, many, many drinks. That or else she seemed like such a prude that the time it was going take to get her into bed wasn't going to be worth it. —Scott, 33

Most likely she weirded me out with her past. Somewhere during the conversation she told me how she always has had a boyfriend, and I need a girl who is independent. —Mike, 25

We met someone else, or we are not attracted physically. —Aaron, 31

A turn-on: hair that smells good. My friends think I'm a little weird for this one, but a woman's hair with that herbal essence scent is awesome. —Chip, 25

The ultimate turn-off is when she discusses previous men she's been with. —Aaron, 31

A good smile and eyes gets me every time. Turn-offs are smoking and not being independent. —Mike, 25

A turn-on is a woman who is comfortable and confident in who she really is. —John, 30

A turn-on is a Southern accent. A turn-off is a Massachusetts or Long Island accent, and smoking. —James, 28

A turn-on is variable nudity, like a bra and no panties, a shirt and no skirt, definitely heels and nothing else. A turn-off is hair in the wrong places. —Chris M., 28

The sparkle in a woman's eye as she looks at you when she's into you, as well as a bangin' bod. A turn-off is bossiness or bitchiness. —Joe, 29

An ultimate turn-off is a lack of graciousness or entitlement. An ultimate turn-on is grace like Audrey Hepburn. —Matthew, 30

Are you attracted to aggressive women, or do you prefer women who let you lead?

Aggressive women scare me. I once dated a girl who owned a gun. The only way to break up with her was by stealing her revolver. If you ever date a woman with a firearm and decide to take it, immediately throw it into the river because it can only lead to death. The same goes for vibrators and dildos. —Chris W., 28

I prefer a woman to be more aggressive. It shows she has confidence in herself. —Adam, 25

A mixture of both—always being the lead gets to be a drag. —Scott, 31

Aggressive. It's nice to be with a woman who knows what she wants and isn't afraid to go get it. —Gerick, 35

No, I'm not attracted to aggressive women. We should always be able to be equals. —Michael, 26

Women who let me lead. —James, 28

A hybrid is best. —John, 30

Can you truly be friends with a girl you're attracted to?

No way. Absolutely impossible, unless it's a best friend's girlfriend or sister. Someone totally off limits. —James, 28

Certainly. I have many. —Aaron, 31

Not really. Unless she allows the "friends with benefits" tag. But the guy would never bring it up unless alcohol was involved. —Chip, 25

Yes, as long as she isn't available. —Matthew, 30

Only if you have already slept together. —Gerick, 35

Yes, if they date or are married to someone you respect. If they are single or dating a chud, I'm always going to be thinking of them buck-naked. —Chris M., 28

OK, so there's this book, He's Just Not That Into You, *which says if a guy doesn't return calls or make an effort, women should conclude he's not interested and move on. Is it all too true or full of crap?*

It's true. Get over it. —Scott, 31

It's full of crap. Sometimes the girl has to put the effort in and go after the boy. —Scott, 33

It's time to move on. The guy should be giving some sort of sign whether or not he's interested, and not returning calls and not making an effort should tell the girl what's up. —Adam, 25

It's probably true sometimes, but I don't think that it's always the case. The guy could just have a lot going on and even though he's into her, he may not primp and foof with calls, e-mails, etc… —Joe, 29

Yeah, he's probably not that interested. But think of how fun it could be to act like a maniac and fake stalk him for a few days. —Chris W., 28

It's true. Women should just forget about it. —Michael, 26

Do you prefer to date women your own age or older or younger? How many years older or younger than you is acceptable?

I prefer the same age or older for dating, the same age or younger for a fling. —Scott, 33

I prefer to date women about my own age. —Matthew, 30

No preference really, but typically I've dated girls three or four years older than me. —Joseph, 25

The youngest I'll go is half my age, plus seven. The oldest is five years older than me. —Gerick, 35

I prefer girls my own age or younger—10 years is acceptable. I'm not trying to rob the cradle, but I like fun and excitement. Older women can be fun and experienced, but sometimes boring and won't hang out with younger crowds. —Aaron, 31

Would you be comfortable dating a woman with a higher income or a better education than you?

Higher income? Sure. Just don't blow me up in front of my buddies. Higher education? Probably not. Given how much schooling I already have, she'd most likely be a pretty big nerd. —Ross, 25

If she isn't lame and knows how to have a good time, it doesn't matter. I still wouldn't let her pay for my meals, though. Just an offer would be enough. —Mike, 25

I don't know. It's never happened yet, but I could see some issues if she was too independent and smart and had an attitude about it. As far as income, this could be a positive as she would be my sugar mama. —Joe, 29

I'd be intimidated, but it's cool. —Adam, 21

We have the most educated women in Boston, but it stinks when they only look for someone on their level, brains-wise. Drop the zero and get with the hero. —Chip, 25

As long as this highly intelligent, filthy rich woman doesn't mind competing with me in every remotely physical activity that crosses our paths. Because from walking up a flight of stairs to finishing dinner first, I'm gonna win. —Chris W., 28

Should women keep things mysterious or be honest and share their feelings right away?

Feelings are good but only to a certain point and when the timing is right. —Chip, 25

A little of both. Mystery keeps us intrigued, but too much can be mistaken for disinterest. —John, 30

Honesty is always best. Sometimes guys get hurt when women keep things mysterious. —Joseph, 25

Be mysterious for the first month or so, but after that, get your emotions out on the table, because I don't want to be in the dark. —Adam, 21

Open and honest is the way to go. Don't play games. —Mike, 25

Be honest immediately. Guys hate the games. —Aaron, 31

What's a requirement for the girl of your dreams?

Obviously physical attraction and sexual chemistry matter. But in regard to conversation, you'd better be able to teach me something and make me laugh every day. —Ross, 25

Angelina Jolie in the movie *Hackers*. —Gerick, 35

She can keep up with me, day to day, and of course in bed. —Joe, 29

She looks like Angelina Jolie. —Scott, 33

Beautiful, smart, funny, outgoing, determined, caring, considerate, affectionate, independent, athletic—and add just a hint of sluttiness. —Scott, 31

Grace. Audrey Hepburn, head-turning, heart-bouncing, spine-tingling grace. —Chris M., 28

A great smile with a beautiful set of cheekbones. Oh yeah, and wings. She has to have wings. —Chris W., 28

After how many dates should a woman offer to pick up the bill, if ever?

They should offer on the first date but not pay. This goes for every meal and ticket…until marriage. —Ross, 25

Offering to chip in on the first date is nice, but I would never accept until at least a month into the relationship. —John, 30

Six dates. Guys need a break sometimes. And if she picks the restaurant, she should pay. —Aaron, 31

Oh, maybe the third date. It's a not a free ride. You gotta give some to get some lovin'. —Joe, 29

She should offer on the first date. I'd never accept, but there's no reason she can't offer. I look for that. If she works, then she understands what it means to earn a dollar. —Mike, 25

Offering is cool, but the guy should always pay. Paying for dinner or drinks makes us feel good and useful. Plus, I'm sort of old school about this as my mom told me to always pay. —Chip, 25

If a woman offers to pick up a check on the first date, that usually means she's both responsible and cool, which is always nice. If, however, she never offers, then she probably views me as a meal ticket, which is also fine, because I never have any qualms about trading meals for sex. —Chris W., 28

Which city has the better dating scene? Or is the grass truly always greener? Singles who've lived and looked for love in both places tell all.

BEANTOWN VS. THE BIG APPLE

BY MICHELE MCPHEE

The idea of living on the wild side has lured more than a few Bostonians down Interstate 95 South to settle in a shoebox–sized apartment in New York City. The crowded space is worth it, some say, because the social scene is so vibrant and free-spirited that they never spend time at home anyway. And plenty of die-hard New Yorkers, especially women, have braved the blustery winters in Boston because "that's where the real boys live, the marriage-type guys," a perception that's supported by the 2000 U.S. Census report, which shows that New York state has the highest percentage of unmarried people in the country and only 81 single men for every 100 single women. Boston, according to the census, has 86 single men for every 100 single women, which still creates some cat fights among the single chicks but at least gives girls higher odds than in the Big Apple. (Note to the fairer sex: If you're willing to withstand a little isolation, Nantucket boasts 106 single men for every 100 single women—the highest percentage of unmarried men in the state. New York women looking to better their odds could consider a move way, way, way upstate to Franklin County, where there are 132 single men for every 100 single women.)

Despite the cold, hard statistics, everyone seems to have an opinion about which city is better for dating, with whining and crowing from singles in both metropolises. But what's the real story, and what are the biggest differences between dating in NYC and in our own beloved burg? Are the people really more beautiful (and more willing to jump into bed) in New York? Is Boston the place to find the real men and the marriageable women? Read on to hear what people who've lived and dated in both cities have to say.

While no woman in her right mind would bemoan women's liberation, it's caused more than a few uncomfortable first date moments for females in New York City, who say they've been asked to pick up the bill, even when on dates with wealthy doctors or lawyers—a huge no-no in Boston, where it's taboo to ask a woman to pay. Whether they be all muscle and hair gel in jeans or sinewy in a suit picked out on the sixth floor of Barneys, New York men are more likely to expect a woman to pay, some of our sources complain. Even despite their income level, it seems, more than a few NYC dudes have "alligator arms," meaning too short to reach for the check, says Eva Marie Russo, 32, a single lawyer living in Manhattan. She says the worst line she's ever heard is, "Can you tighten this up, sweetie?"—slang for "can you pick up the check?" "I hear it all the time," says Russo. "I ask myself, 'Tighten this up? I had coffee and biscotti and you ordered the lobster ravioli?'" Russo's spent enough time in Boston that she says she's considering tackling the Massachusetts bar exam so she can be taken out for dinner not the other way around.

Russo isn't the only woman to encounter that Manhattan character known as the "chooch," a guy who expects a woman to pick up the tab, even on the first date. Nancy Black, 35, a Long Beach, N.Y., firefighter who's currently dating a 29-year-old Bostonian—which puts an extra 560 miles on her truck every other weekend—says what she spends on gasoline she saves on dinner. New York, she says, is full of chooches, which she describes as "the guy who orders surf and turf at a place like Smith & Wollensky but only has a double-sawbuck [$20] in his wallet."

"The guys in New York are unbelievable. They'll have this idea to go to the hippest new restaurant on Clinton Street [in the ultratrendy lower East Side] and forget their wallet," Black says. Boston, on the other hand, is full of hardscrabble, blue-collar men reared to be proud. They let a woman out of the elevator first and always pick up the check…at least on a first date. Of her current Boston guy, Black says, "He pays, he's taller than I am, and he's a real man."

Meredyth Thomas, on the other hand, moved to New York City from Boston two years ago and says she has yet to pick up any first-date dinner tabs. "It's an expensive city, and I think we all want to go out and have a good time and be realistic about it," says Thomas, 26, a publicist for the New York Philharmonic. She recalls a recent date at Miracle Grill, a popular Greenwich Village eatery. "He picked up dinner, and it was really sweet. I insisted on picking up the drinks after dinner. You have to be reasonable with one another here."

Actor Joe Gannascoli, 46, who played a gay gangster on HBO's *The Sopranos*, worked as a chef in Boston prior to acting and currently lives in Long Island. Now married, he says he preferred dating in New York because "Boston chicks are hard. Not hard to get in bed," he adds. "But just harder. Maybe it's the cold. Maybe it's because the Red Sox sucked for 86 years. I don't know. But because the girls in New York are bangin', I don't mind picking up the bill. It's really old-fashioned, Boston, like thinking a man has to pay. New York women are more evolved. They want to pick up the bill, because then they have all the control."

When actor Brian Scannell moved to New York City, he was astonished at the number of gorgeous women, many of them scantily clad and freshly coiffed as they strolled through Soho on four-inch heels. It was a far cry, the 39-year-old actor says, from the women you see on Boston streets wearing sensible suits and sneakers to work, with their hair pulled back into a rubber band. "God, the women in New York…it was crazy. They had absolutely no inhibitions, it seemed like. I carried condoms in my wallet all the time, because it was a given there if you went on a date, you'd be using it," says Scannell, who's now back in the Boston area filming scenes for the upcoming Showtime series *The Brotherhood*. "You knew you wouldn't see the girl ever again, because you didn't want to. The hunt was over. But it didn't matter. There were so many women there, you were never bored."

Drew Martin, a 44-year-old engineer who just spent two years in Brooklyn after living most of his life in Boston, agrees that New York has more than its fair share of good-looking people and that attitudes about dating among singles are much more blasé. "New York has amazing-looking people everywhere," Martin says, recalling how, while making out during a date with a New York woman, she revealed she was living with her boyfriend. "I think New York women are slightly more gregarious, more social and less concerned about where you live, who you know and what you do for a living. In Boston, women seemed to be more guarded. Once you get to know them, they open up a bit. The city has all those Puritan origins, and that mood is still around to this day." However, Martin says he did miss the small-town feeling of Boston—knowing that if he spotted someone he'd like to know better, he'd be able to find her again. "Boston socializing has a higher level of predictability. You know that at 6 pm the cute girl with the black Lab is going to be at the dog park, because there's only one dog park."

The people may be pretty in New York City, but they're much more likely to remain single, too, according to U.S. Census statistics. NYC has the highest population of unmarried people in the entire country, with 54 percent never making it to the altar. Massachusetts, meanwhile, has boasted the country's lowest divorce rate for the last five years. For Meredyth Thomas, the sheer number of singles in New York was part of the attraction. "There are so many people here, there are so many more opportunities for chance encounters, and no expectations on you," Thomas says. "Boston is way more traditional, sometimes too traditional."

Drea DeMarco, a writer and fashion stylist, was anything but traditional when she moved to New York in her early 20s. Her interest in fashion and beauty made Manhattan a natural draw, and she fit right in. "New York men are a little bit slicker. Bostonian guys are so preppy, or blue-collar, and there is no in-between. New York guys were more on the edge. They knew how to dress," says DeMarco, now 29, who returned to Boston five years ago. "In my younger years I enjoyed the edgier New York City men, but the men in Boston understand the importance of family. As I got older, I was looking for that. Most women are." Family seems to be the draw of many people who return from New York City to settle back in Boston. "It's all what you are looking for," says DeMarco. "Sometimes I miss my wild days in New York."

Now that Brian Scannell is getting older, he insists he's looking for something more than a one-night stand with a supermodel type. "I want a girl I can take home to my mother," he says, remembering a recent date with a woman who lived in Quincy, an entertainment reporter who invited him to her apartment, where she showed him pictures of her nieces and nephews and sent him on his way. "It's different here, but it's nice. I'm looking for that now, substance over pure sex. When I moved to New York my list for dating went like this: number one—nice ass. Now my list has changed. I want character."

1) ♂ + $ + = ♀ +

2) ♂♀ + +

"Do's"

Be a good listener

Be positive

Be yourself!

Be on time to date

love lessons

If you've got the can't-find-a-mate blues, relationship and dating experts have the answer.

BY ETHAN GILSDORF **PHOTOGRAPH BY BOB PERACHIO**

The evening seemed flawless: the big bowls of pasta at your favorite North End hole-in-the-wall, the laughter, the effortless and breathless "and-then-after-college-I" banter. You even sensed that familiar tug in your gut. That wavering flame of expectation. Something was happening—right?

Right.

Days passed. After that perfect first night out, your date never returned your calls. Was it your unkempt fingernails? A code-red deodorant failure? Or were you guilty of some more heinous offense, like an off-color Mother Teresa joke?

Success in romance is difficult to predict. But if you find yourself mired in first-date land—or too discouraged to play the field at all anymore—perhaps a refresher class is needed. You might consider hitting the books. Get a fancy notebook and enroll in the school of love.

Don't feel ashamed—lots of fed-up singles are paying for classes and private lessons in what the *Wall Street Journal* has labeled "courtship tutoring." The recent film *Hitch*, which stars Will Smith as a consultant who helps average men get the women they're drooling over, is one indication that dating coaches have gone mainstream. And the message is clear: Improving your chances at finding a mate is possible, but it may involve more than removing that fleck of pesto loitering between your two front teeth.

"Can you get better at dating?" asks Mark Goodman, co-founder and president of the Post Club, one of Boston's best-known dating services. "Yes. Sometimes a minor adjustment here or there is all it takes. In other cases, it takes more like a lobotomy."

But why the rush to sign up for Wooing 101? Experts say that with traditional gender barriers blown open, and the huge number of online options for hooking up, dating can be bewildering.

"We've had so many cultural changes, people don't know what to do anymore," says Jodi R.R. Smith, founder of Mannersmith, an etiquette consulting firm in Marblehead. "They're looking for guidelines." The "etiquette dance" of yore leaves lots of singles nostalgic for a time that never existed, Smith says, a sanitized, Hollywood version of romance. People are perplexed about how to proceed into the 21st century.

"The idea of equality, that you can be equal but still different, has confused things," says Ronnie Ann Ryan, a dating coach based in Connecticut and founder of It's Never Too Late For Love. She says her clients tend to fall into three categories: "People who have given up, people who've been really burned or people too afraid to even try."

One of Ryan's students is "Sophie" (not her real name), 37, a marketing communications professional from Brookline. She took Ryan's "How to Find Mr. Right After 35+" class at the Boston Center for Adult Education and is now starting to "actively date" after being single for a decade. "[I was] never sure of the rules—who pays for dinner, should I invite blind dates into my home before a date," Sophie says. "Today I have a better sense of what to do. I'm more confident about going back out there. Bottom line: I learned to go with my gut on meeting and interacting with men."

According to Ryan, it's not the rules of attraction that have changed but the roles we play. Her advice is surprisingly old-fashioned. When couples are still in what Ryan calls "Data Gathering"—the first four to 10 dates prior to entering the actual relationship stage—she recommends waltzing to the traditional biological dance: Tarzan and Jane, hunter and hunted, leader and follower. Why? Otherwise, there's "confusion on both sides."

"A lot of women really want to get the ball rolling, and they take on the pursuit," Ryan explains. "Then the men feel distrustful: Why do the women like them so much? If you don't give men room for pursuit, it doesn't work. When women take over the pursuit, they'll find themselves in confusing territory because they won't be able to read the signals." After a few dates, once the couple has hit it off, Ryan advises, then the woman can be more assertive.

Dating can be demoralizing, especially after a string of bad luck. Nobody wants to be by themselves forever. But because people in cities tend to want a career and adventure before settling down, Jodi Smith says, finding a committed partner is tough. Just don't let that desire slide into neediness or despair. "If you're cynical, jaded or hopeless, it's time to take a time out," Smith recommends. "You also need to take a step back and rethink the way you're doing things."

Taking a dating class can help get you back on track. Out of practice after a seven-year relationship, David Bryant, 46, had to begin again at square one. "I didn't know how to ask a woman out, " he says. So he enrolled in "Dating: Beyond the Myths," a class offered each term at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education by husband and wife therapists Marcia Weiss and Carl Schneider, who have a Cambridge practice called Collaborative Psychotherapy.

In the class, Weiss and Schneider teach that self-awareness is key—and not just being aware that you left your fly unzipped on your way back from the rest room. "Singles who

are aware of how they come across excel on dates," says Weiss. "How you think you are coming across to your date may be quite different from how you are actually coming across." In their classes, Schneider and Weiss use low-risk role-playing exercises to help their students understand interpersonal skills imperative for dating. "A large problem in dating has to do with how singles generalize from one love situation, which didn't go so well, to another," says Schneider. "Because of this bias based on prior experiences, it becomes hard for them to give current dates much of a chance. The power of the urban dating scene pales compared with the power of the 'inner' dating scene: the picture you have in your head of what it will be like to date and find your mate."

Having unrealistic hopes and putting pressure on dates ("Tonight I'm going to meet the guy/gal I'm going to marry") is a guaranteed killer. New couples should take it one step at a time. "Someone asked Marcia and Carl, 'So when did you guys stop dating?'" Bryant recalls from an early class. "Their answer was, 'We haven't. Our courtship continues to this day.' I just love that attitude that a courtship, relationship or romance is not a destination, it's an ongoing journey."

One way to guarantee being single is to obsess about old flames—and talk about them excessively to potential new partners. "You want to be in the present, to focus on the other person, not on the past," says Mark Goodman.

"NEITHER A GOOD EDUCATION NOR A DESIRE FOR PERFECTION WILL KEEP YOU WARM AT NIGHT. I TALK TO PEOPLE ABOUT LIGHTENING UP AND CHECKING THEIR EXPECTATIONS."

Judging your date against a series of criteria is also a huge pitfall. "If your standards are too high, that's a great way to keep yourself single," says Ronnie Ann Ryan, who cautions her clients against having preconceived notions about looks, money or college degrees. "Neither a good education nor a desire for perfection will keep you warm at night. I talk to people about lightening up and checking their expectations."

All of this hedging, sizing up and doubt often lead to hurtful behavior. After years as an on-again, off-again dater, Catherine, 42, has experienced more than her share of bad manners. "In the last couple of years, I've gone out with guys who have abruptly stopped calling, and even a guy who asked out one of my friends in a yoga class to which I'd brought him as my guest," says the Boston-based freelance writer and photographer. This conduct peeved her, so she consulted with Jodi Smith.

The verdict? "Jodi really believes that if a guy isn't calling you, if he isn't following basic dating etiquette—particularly at the beginning of a relationship—you need to move on," says Catherine. "I'm now putting etiquette front and center in my interactions with potential guys."

For Smith, the issue of manners is ultimately about taking responsibility and behaving maturely while on the dating market. "The thing I see often in Boston is that people will start going out, and one or both will realize that it's not going to work out, but they'll keep going out until one of them cheats," says Smith, who is also the author of the his-and-hers etiquette books *The Guy's Guide to Social Savvy* and *The Girl's Guide to Social Savvy*. "Being able to say, 'I think that my interest in *Star Wars* is going to drive you crazy after two years'—that parting-ways conversation—is the sign of a true adult dater."

Smith's advice for "Jason" (not his real name), a 30-year-old product development manager from Brookline, focused more on what he called "dating philosophy." Jason had moved to Boston after college, and while he didn't have a hard time meeting women, he says he made classic blunders: choosing the wrong first date activity and acting badly when he wanted to break it off.

"It wasn't that I wasn't meeting girls," says Jason. "I was more frustrated with this [scenario]: 'Man, I just spent $150 on this girl and I know I don't want anything to do with her.'" To fix the problem, Smith advised him to first take women to a coffee shop, not a five-star restaurant, to see if any sparks would fly. If so, later dates could up the ante for venue and price tag.

When he'd lose interest in a woman, Jason would use the "don't call them back at all" method. "Girls don't like that," he sheepishly admits. "I wasn't good at ending things. I'd talk with my buddies about it. No one likes doing it, no one likes saying it or having it done to them." But he now believes men are better off being up front when telling a woman they're no longer interested. "I hated that part, and Jodi helped me with that." Jason says that Smith's assistance paid off. Now he's found the right woman, and they're engaged to be married in October.

Above all else, experts agree, there's one quality the lovelorn can focus on to end their years of solitude: attitude. It seems trite, but feeling enthusiastic about dating makes dates work and attracts them in the first place. "The better your attitude, the better time you'll have," says Ryan. "The best thing you can do to try to improve your chances is to relax and have fun, and you'll be more attractive. Just go out and have a good time and see what happens."

In dating, a professor's lesson plan won't turn every lame pick-up line into a love sonnet or repair every busted heart, but it can restore faith. Class dismissed. Boys, girls, time for recess! Now get out there and date.

DATING 101

Dating coaches help men and women find the love they want. But before you locate that perfect mate, you have to make contact that lasts longer than a fancy dinner and a peck on the cheek. Men, women, listen up—here are two courtship coaches' tips for making a good first impression.

DATING COACH RONNIE ANN RYAN'S FIRST DATE TURNOFFS

Men are turned off by women who:

* Wear too much makeup, jewelry or perfume
* Don't smile, don't seem engaged in conversation
* Don't say "thank you"
* Talk about an ex
* Turn conversation into an interrogation about money, job, possessions or exes
* Crowd them, call too soon

Women are turned off by men who:

* Talk only about themselves and don't ask their date any questions
* Talk about an ex
* Talk about sex
* Wear too much cologne
* Have dirty fingernails, poor grooming habits or poor manners—at the table or otherwise
* Don't act like a gentleman: don't open doors, don't let the woman order food first, don't refuse her offer to contribute to or pick up the check
* Lack self-confidence
* Don't dress appropriately for a date (i.e., too casual for a fine restaurant)
* Go overboard: give a dozen roses on the first night, call too often

ETIQUETTE CONSULTANT JODI R.R. SMITH'S TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL FIRST DATES

1. Planning. When you're dating, someone needs to be in control. Plan the activity, what to wear, what you're going to say. Give as many details as you can in advance to avoid on-the-spot logistical issues. If you wear a bikini and he wears a tux, you'll both be uncomfortable.

2. Venue. Bowling, walking the Freedom Trail and taking a Boston Duck Tour may seem hokey, but activities like these take the pressure off the conversation and save a major expense if the date doesn't work out.

3. Meeting place. Rendezvous at the cafe or theater. For safety reasons, many women don't want men to know where they live. We're not in a 1950s sitcom.

4. Length. Keep the date short. Leave your date wanting more. End on a high note.

5. Strategy. Play to your strengths. If you don't look like Brad Pitt or J Lo, picking up women or men at the bar is not a good way to meet; instead, find a situation in which you can win them over with your personality and charm.

6. Paying. Whoever does the asking does the paying. It's a romantic date, not a roommate, split-the-check arrangement. Choose activities appropriate to each dater's income.

7. Expectations. Be realistic about your goals. Keep your pants on. If you meet through a church group, don't expect a one-night stand.

8. Go out again—first impressions are often neutral. It takes a few dates to find out if there's something there or not.

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PUTTING HIS PRIDE ON THE LINE, ONE FEARLESS DUDE HITS THE BARS TO TEST OUT SOME AGE-OLD PICKUP LINES.

COME HERE OFTEN?

BY RICH LEVINE PHOTOGRAPH BY TRACY POWELL

You're out on the town with your boys. The summer's been hot, but your love life? Yeh, it's been ice cold. But this is it. Tonight's the night your drought meets its glorious end. Suddenly, you see her, the girl of your dreams—or at least the girl of your next 24 hours—sitting right across the bar. Unfortunately, unless you're sporting a mug like Brad Pitt's or have a black AmEx card stapled to your forehead, she's not coming anywhere near you. So here you are, it's the bottom of the ninth, two outs, the bases are loaded and what happens next will determine whether you Bellhorn it back to the dugout with the bat on your shoulder or drive it out of the park, Papi-style. It's time to reach into your bag of sexy and pull out a pickup line.

So what kind of line gives you the best chance to score with Boston women? To find out, I hit the town with two worthy wingmen, Matt and Carl, and relentlessly threw game at unsuspecting local ladies until we had some answers. Here's what we learned:

KEEP IT CLEAN

One thing's for sure: Vulgar or sexually suggestive lines don't cut it. Sure, ask that random hottie if she's interested in "going halfsies on a bastard" and you're a hero in the eyes of your buddies, but you're also sleeping alone. For instance, how do you think it went over when I approached a woman with, "Hi, this is kind of embarrassing, but I just crapped my pants. Is there any way that I can get into yours?" Well, she laughed, but it was nervous laughter, not "Oh my God, you're so witty, here's my cell number and the keys to my apartment" laughter. About 10 seconds later she beelined it for the bathroom and disappeared forever. Let's be honest, though, do you really want to take home a girl who'd fall for a line like this? Actually, don't answer that.

A similar scenario played out with two women the next night. They didn't seem like the frisky type, but you never know, so I asked, "Excuse me, but do either of you ladies know how to use a whip?" Only one felt like replying, but I think she spoke for both of them with, "Um, what are you talking about? And the answer is NO." Before I could redeem myself, they were at the other end of the bar and didn't make eye contact with me for the rest of the night.

IT'S NOT EASY BEING CHEESY

All pickup lines are cheesy in their own little pathetic way, but that being said, some are undoubtedly worse than others. Carl learned the hard way when he delivered this timeless classic:

Carl: Wow, so did that hurt?
Woman: What?
Carl: When you fell from heaven.

She reacted as if she'd smelt a moldy gorgonzola. We later learned, however, that if you take it down a notch, with a more light-hearted approach, you might be in business. Carl almost was, when he dropped this gem on another attractive female: "Hi, I'm Mr. Right. Someone over there said you were looking for me." We were braced for pepper spray, but the intended target and her friends broke out in laughter, and the game was on. It turned out Mrs. Right had a boyfriend, but her friends didn't, and Carl had successfully weaseled his way into their conversation. At that point, anything can happen.

DON'T CALL IT A COMEBACK

Boston women are smart, so when you make a wise-ass comment, don't be surprised if they fling one right back at you. You've got to be ready to react, because while a great line might get your foot in the door, it takes a lot more work before you're standing firmly on the inside. For instance, working an arrogant/cocky vibe, I asked a bunch of different women, "Excuse me, but do you have change for a $100 bill?" One response, "If you've got that much money then why don't you buy me a [expletive] drink," caught me off guard. Why? For one, the $100 bill was a fake. But more importantly, I never expected it to work, so when it did (or kind of did), I was ill prepared to take the conversation to the next level. Sadly, my counterfeit Benjamin and I lost out.

Matt had a similar experience with one of the more straightforward pickup lines in our arsenal, "Hi, do you mind if I flirt with you for a little while?" He wasn't expecting what came next, which was, "Well, if I let you flirt with me, how're you gonna do it?" Maybe it was the five shots of Jameson or maybe it was just a hard question (answer: it was the Jameson), but with no response in the holster, he hesitated. And was lost.

BOTTOM LINE: NICE GUYS FINISH FIRST

In all, my trio probably hit on around 50–60 women, using a combination of about 25–30 different pickup lines that ranged from the ridiculous ("Damn, girl, your Daddy must be retarded, because you're so special") to the just plain nauseating ("Do I have to call the police or are you going to give me my heart back?"), but to be honest—and this sounds even cornier than any of the lines we used—we had the most success when we acted like (get this) ourselves. No matter how creative the line or how impeccably it was delivered, it was no match for a simple, "Hi, my name's Rich, and [insert genuine compliment here]."

As one girl said afterward, "The best line I've ever got was from this guy who came up to me and sincerely said, 'I'm not trying to be sketchy or anything, but I just think that you're beautiful and wanted to buy you a drink.' He walked away after that, but it wasn't very long before I got up and tracked him down myself. He wasn't getting away, he was way too sweet."

There was only one way to respond to an admission like this, and I couldn't resist, so I said to her: "I know what you mean, because baby, you're so sweet, I'm getting a toothache just looking at you." Some guys won't ever learn. ■

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ALL DRESSED UP

LOOK SMART IN SUMMERY FROCKS THAT BEAT THE HEAT.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER

Print dress by Zac Posen, $1,580; rope belt by Michael Kors, $125. Both at Gretta Luxe. South sea pearl, opal and yellow rhodolite necklace (worn as belt), $2,650 at Alex & Company.

Multicolor striped dress by Derek Gr[illegible], $377.20 at Fanny and Delphine.
White gold, citrine and peridot [illegible]cklace, $598 at Alex & Company.

Blue dress by Chloe, $1,765 at Gretta Luxe. Blue topaz and diamond necklace, $2,650 at Alex & Company.

Brightly colored strapless dress by Diane Von Furstenberg, $325 at Saks Fifth Avenue. South sea pearl and chalcedony necklace, $3,110 at Alex & Company.

Hair and makeup: Sue Martin; Shot on location at the Clinton Hotel, 825 Washington Ave., Miami, 305-938-4040; Alex & Company, 100 Needham St., Newton Centre, 617-965-8777; Fanny and Delphine, 522 Comm. Ave., 617-266-2006; Gretta Luxe, Copley Place, 617-536-1959; Saks Fifth Avenue, Prudential Center, 617-262-8500.

Silk dress by Anikalenaskarstrom, $301 at Fanny [illegible] Delphine. Yellow gold and south sea pearl bracelet, $2,900 at Alex & Compa[illegible]

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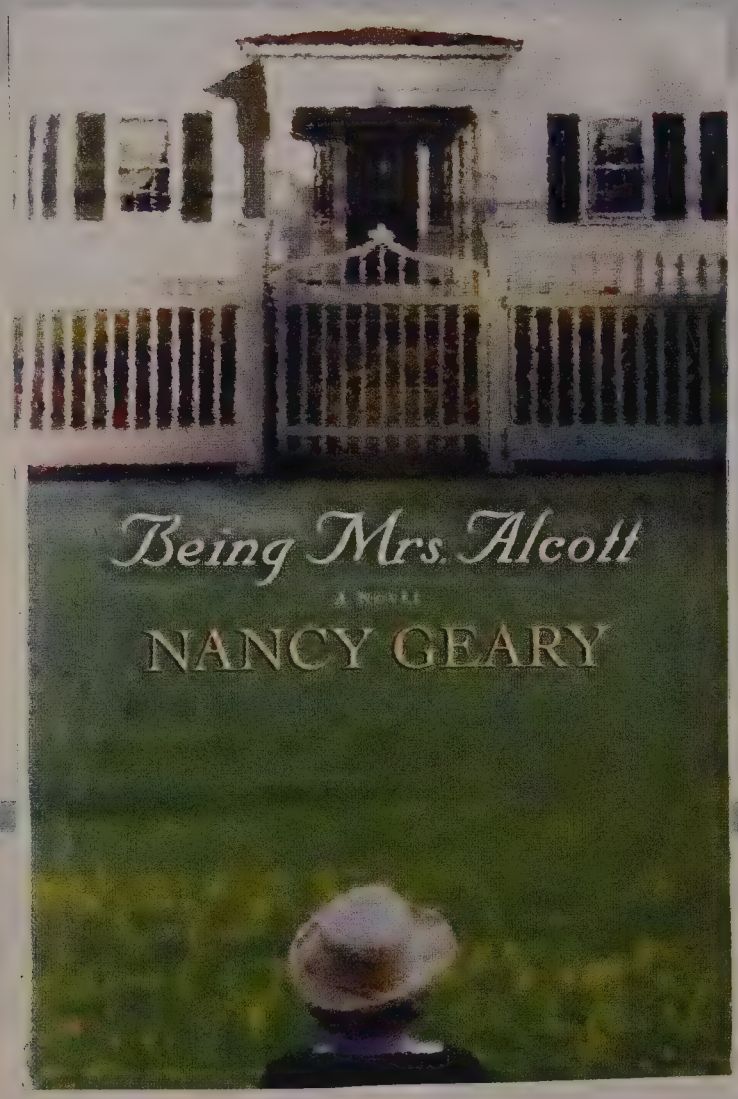


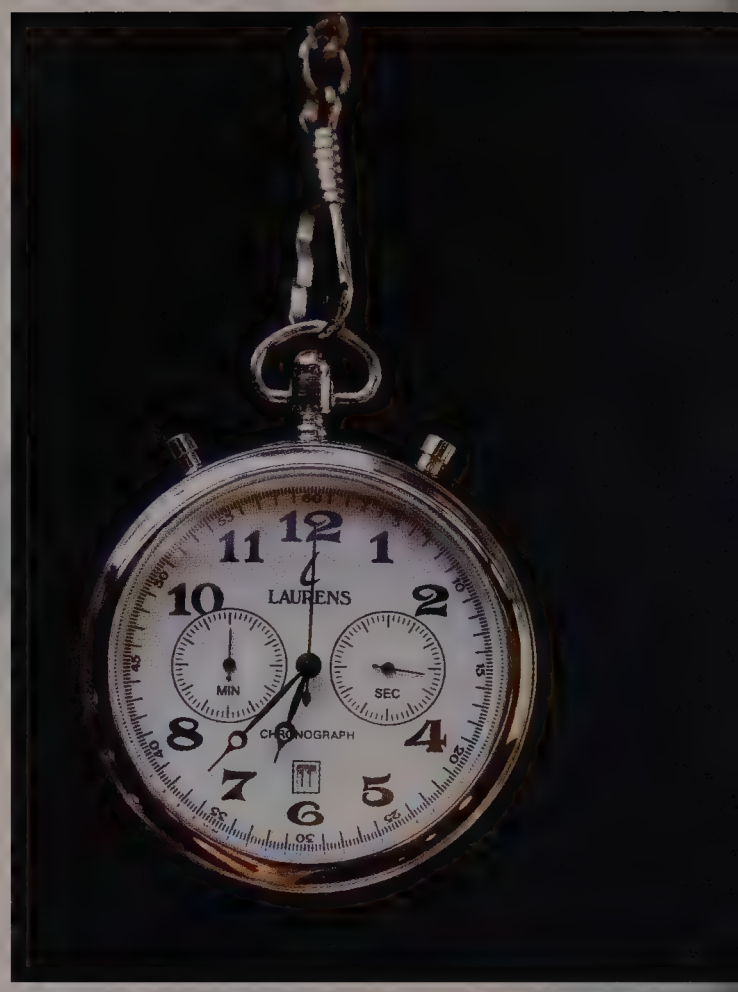
MR. AND MRS. NEW ENGLAND

Nancy Geary's new book, *Being Mrs. Alcott*, set on Cape Cod, offers a different flavor of mystery.

The name Alcott suggests a refined literary New England clime, which is partly the case in this novel by mystery writer Geary. Bain Alcott, a slightly stiff but increasingly good-values guy of the upper-middle reaches, dreams of writing a novel, but sidesteps into business for the sake of his family. His wife, Grace, a good soul, what feminists would call submissive, devotes herself with old-fashioned rectitude to her family. A baby girl dies in the care of a babysitter, then come two boys, Erin and Hank. Their destinies and marriages bifurcate; one into real estate and marriage to a ludicrously obsessive wife, the other into a shaggier life with a wife in the "healing arts" who leaves him. Grace befriends a fascinatingly different, intelligent, somewhat acerbic woman who goes clamming and pursues a secret affair with Grace's chaotic brother, Ferris. When the Alcotts' fortunes waver, their house goes on the market and gets snapped up by the repulsively sharklike Marxes. As the family wars over the house, Grace conceals her cancer diagnosis. Yet just as these distressing events converge, Grace comes into her own, newly empowered. Geary, with her bright eye for social and emotional distinctions, portrays this transformation with wit and compassion.

THE HEARTBEAT OF THE PASSAGE OF TIME

Swiss Watchmaker, at 58 Church St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-864-1163), sells and repairs clocks and watches. Cell-phoners can use their Fly-By Service to pick up a repaired watch streetside, minus the agony of parking.



When you want to wear a timepiece that's imported, sophisticated and interesting—or find one for your mantelpiece—come cruise and peruse the Swiss Watchmaker. It's crammed with cultured Cambridge types whose wrists seem to yearn for something more exalted than bluntly unromantic digital dials. Note the store's name; they sell Swiss Mondaine watches in the style of the hyper-precise railway clocks in Switzerland. With a red ball at the tip of the second hand, these watches are easy to read; in stand-up form, you'll find a miniature steel clocktower clock. Lines include Skagen, Aero, Revue Thommen and Swiss Army Watches. The textured landscape of some of these watchfaces includes such informational orna mentation as military time, in a second inner rim displayed in miniature. Shapes vary from plum circles to chic, thin rectangles, some with graceful jewelry-like mesh watchbands, others that di play the watch's pretty, intricate inner tickery. Pocket watches, those grandfatherly snap-opener suitable for an engraved sentiment or initials, suggest that time is leisurely and beautiful. If a cloc emerged from a vault or an estate life, the Swiss Watchmaker can repair it. Recently, an antiqu snake-encircled urn incorporating an ornate rotating clock came in for repairs. Grandfather clock can be fixed here too.

A BETTER PARTING OF THE WAYS

Divorce without litigation is a calmer alternative to court battles for some couples. Nora Daniels (617-467-3142) is on attorney who can help. For other members of the Massachusetts Collaborative Law Council, go to www.masscle.org.

The saddest thing about divorce is the tur around from love and goodwill to acrimon and self-interest. But for some—alas, no all—divorcing couples who can maintai some cooperation and respect, there is th Mass Collaborative Law Council, whic avoids litigation. Abusers, asset-hiders, an country-skippers need not apply. Fosterin an open discussion of the crucial matters property, money, future college expens and most of all, care of children, these co laborative lawyers, including Nora Daniel help separating couples work together to d vorce amicably. Eschewing the brutalities litigation, which tend to foster defensive ness, blaming, distortions and even outrigh lies, these de-couplers work with joint f nancial planners and sometimes therapist rather than with warring professionals wh must sharpen the teeth of conflict, in tha counter-cooperative I win/you lose ap proach. In this more reasonable scenari the couples (sometimes, admittedly, needing what Daniels calls "an adult time-out") control the proce and the timing of information, refraining from court orders, say, for documents, pronto, tomorrow. B taking an approach more like that of reasonable friends negotiating joint interests ("I'll give you a imony for three years but then I want to retire"), couples can avoid secrets and surprises, and the trau matic anti-wedding of the court.

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REVIEW

POMADORATION

The Brookline Pomodoro manages to improve on the North End original.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Brookline's Harvard Street, especially the portion from Coolidge Corner to Route 9, offers an impressive array of restaurants covering a broad range of ethnic and culinary traditions. Until relatively recently, Italian food was not prominently represented in this mix, but with La Morra and now Pomodoro open at opposite ends of Brookline Village, the gap has been filled.

Pomodoro is the Brookline incarnation of Siobhan Carew's popular North End eatery of the same name. While maintaining the first-rate, robust and authentic cuisine of the original Pomodoro, Carew has kicked it up a notch in style and refinement compared with her more basic Hanover Street haunt. A chic makeover of half the space of an existing restaurant (The Village Fish) has created an engaging boîte that exudes rustic charm. Off-white fabric light fixtures resembling zucchini blossoms or garlic heads hang from the ceiling, while sconces fashioned from small terra-cotta half pipes supplement the illumination. Six large, colorful painted panels decorate one wall. A series of framed prints of variegated tomatoes, hung on a wall of exposed brick, carries forward the theme in the restaurant's name, as does a whimsical canopy ceiling, suspended over the bar, depicting a sprawling tomato vine painted in gold leaf.

The spontaneous, convincing hospitality evidenced by the Pomodoro staff the moment I entered on my first visit left a lasting impression. Rather than pushing pricey bottled water, as has become de rigueur in too many Boston restaurants, the waiter brought a large carafe of ice water containing leaves of mint and slices of lemon. Hard-crusted, rustic bread accompanied a plate filled with a marvelous assortment of olives, ranging from tiny black Ligurians to lush, brown Calamatas, all swimming in oil—a terrific accompaniment for the bread. On a subsequent evening, our table was not quite ready when we arrived, and we were invited to sit and order at the bar. Shortly after our wine had been brought, we were seamlessly moved to a table.

Seared salmon over a lobster and sweet pea risotto with pea tendrils and a lemon herb vinaigrette

POMODORO

24 Harvard St., Brookline
(617-566-4455)

HOURS Daily, 11 am-11 pm
RESERVATIONS suggested
CREDIT CARDS cash only
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING street
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Pomodoro describes its 10 antipasti, seven pastas and six main courses in straightforward and unpretentious terms that make the mouth water. Among the antipasti, the bruschetta ($9) departed from the ordinary, featuring tiny, flavorful rock shrimp in a salad of tomatoes, basil and lemon on thick slices of toasted Tuscan bread rubbed with garlic. The salty sweetness of the shrimp, the tang of the tomatoes, lemon and basil, and the satisfying crunch of the toast made a remarkably delicious and refreshing starter. The house antipasto ($10), served on a large, white rectangular platter, contained a remarkable assortment of classic Italian palate pleasers that one customarily sees lined up on the counters of trattorias in Italy: moist, rich pâté; thin slices of silky prosciutto and garlicky salami; pancetta wrapped around a fig and Gorgonzola cheese; bruschetta with anchovies; caponata of peppers, eggplant and tomatoes; creamy mozzarella balls and strips of roasted red pepper—a medley of delicious and satisfying tastes and textures. Last but not least among the antipasti, the soft-shell crab ($12) more than did justi to this summer specialty. Fried to a cri golden brown, the crab was served with brandade of cod and potatoes alongside salad of tomatoes and bitter greens dress in a mustard vinaigrette with nuggets warm pancetta.

From the pasta selections, the baked li guine ($19) proved extraordinary. Serve in a black ceramic Peruvian cook pot (ar divided in the kitchen so that two of could share it as a "primo," or pas course), it featured fresh linguine cooke to a perfect al dente texture, dressed in robust carbonara sauce of cream, chee and more pancetta, the smoky-sweet Ita ian bacon that Pomodoro's kitchen us liberally and to great effect. A second o fering, risotto ($22), could more appropr ately have been classified with the ma courses, since it included four large, herb rubbed sea scallops atop subtly sweet co risotto that was at once firm and cream Both the scallops and the risotto cou have stood on their own as substanti courses; together each complemented ar enhanced the other.

Grilled chicken saltimbocca ($2 brought a thick boneless breast of moi chicken topped with prosciutto and fontin cheese, accompanied by another well-ex cuted risotto and a salad of young wate cress. Herbs, most noticeably sage, ar roasted tomatoes gave the dish Medite ranean warmth and savor. Pork T-bon ($20) satisfied my carnivorous appetite. thick, meaty chop, the porcine equivale of a porterhouse steak, it arrived rare as o dered with a tender, juicy texture. Brocco rabe and roasted fingerling potatoes in pesto of basil and garlic served as excelle garnishes.

Lamb shank ($23) was presented on bed of soft polenta enlivened wit cracked green olives and mild goa cheese. The fall-off-the-bone meat fro the huge shank melted in my mouth. F nally, the oven-roasted whole fish ($21 which varies daily—on the night I o dered it, a red snapper—was roasted wit fennel, onions and potatoes. While th dim lighting of the restaurant made it di ficult to steer clear of the bones, the ma velous flavors of this dish made it a cha lenge worth tackling. Again, tende

oung watercress, an accompani-ent to several of the main ourses, presented a welcome ontrast to the stemmy, tough nd fibrous cress so often encoun-red in other restaurants.

Unlike the North End Po-odoro, the Brookline venue offers esserts, including a dense choco-te torte ($7) served in a pool of azelnut cream and a classic ramisu ($7), layers of sponge cake aked with espresso, spiked with a hisper of liqueur, and formed into layered block with sweet, rich ascarpone cheese. A somewhat zarre dessert—bland, watery tapi-ca pudding ($5), perhaps the prod-ct of someone's nostalgic memo-es of home—did not deserve to are the table with Pomodoro's her offerings.

Pomodoro's wine list offers a umber of terrific selections at ck-bottom prices. The 1998 odere San Luigi Rosso Toscana, a end of 90 percent Sangiovese, 5 rcent Cabernet Sauvignon and percent Colorino (a more ob-ure Tuscan grape), delivered lus-ous fruit and sound structure at e incredible price of $19—a Su-rTuscan at jug wine price. The 001 Jiacomo Grimaldi Dolcetto Alba ($22), a dry Piemontese ne, surprised me with its tannic, bust character, qualities that I n't associate with Dolcetto. It nt particularly well with the od and made for extremely good inking.

The quality and value of Po-odoro's wine offerings reflected e same high standards set by the hospi-ity of the front of the house and the cre-ve culinary craftsmanship of the chen. Brookline has many restaurants, some good, some not so good, but Pomodoro is almost in a class by itself. Carew deserves accolades for bringing this exquisite eatery to Brookline Village. iB

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Executive chef Frank van Overbeeke

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Bauer Wine & Spirits Tastings
Bauer Wine & Spirits, 330 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363). www.bauerwines.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 5-7 pm. Free. This summer, Bauer Wines hosts a series of weekly tastings featuring local and national brewers. •Aug. 11: Get Ready! Tonight, Offshore Is Staying Here with Us.

BRIX Wine Shop Tastings
BRIX Wine Shop, 1284 Washington St., Boston (617-542-2749). www.brixwineshop.com. MBTA: Silver Line to Washington. Fridays, 6-8 pm. Free. Every Friday night, BRIX Wine Shop hosts a free wine tasting featuring wines of a particular theme or region. •Aug. 5: Sushi and Sauvignon Blanc. •Aug. 12: Chill Out—Reds on Ice.

Burger and a Brew
Bambara, 25 Edward H. Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-868-4444). www.bambara-cambridge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Sundays, 5:30-11:30 pm. $14. On Sundays this summer, Bambara offers customers a 10 oz. burger, topped with Langhet con Tartufo (an Italian cow's milk cheese), accompanied by hand-cut fries and a Sam Adams beer for $14.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) plus complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Farmers' Market Benefit Dinner
Veggie Planet at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (781-893-8222). www.massfarmers markets. org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 15, 7 pm. $60. Chef **Didi Emmons** and the Massachusetts Farmers' Markets host this five-course vegetarian meal featuring Massachusetts-grown products. Ninety percent of the proceeds benefit the Federation of Massachusetts Farmers' Markets.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Aug. 3: The Whites of Rhone Valley. •Aug. 10: Portugal.

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. Thu. and Fri., 6 and 8:30 pm. $35. Chef de cuisine **Mark Usewicz** prepares a tasting menu of classic Italian small plates in front of guests at the restaurant's Oysteria Bar. Reservations required.

Redbones Pig Pickin'
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). www.redbones.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Aug. 8. 6-9 pm. $20. Redbones BBQ hosts a pig roast in front of the restaurant to benefit the Somerville Homeless Coalition. The night also features live music by the Se ond Line Social Aid and Pleasure Society Br Band.

Steak Frites Fridays
Pigalle, 75 Charles Street South, Boston (617-42 4944). www.pigalleboston.com. MBTA: Gre Line to Arlington. Every Fri., 5:30-10:30 p $30. Every Friday this summer, Pigalle ch **Marc Orfaly** offers a three-course menu featu ing classic steak frites.

Stella Artois Dinner Series
Grafton Street Pub & Grill, 1230 Mass. Av Cambridge (617-497-0400). www.graftonstr cambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harva Aug. 5-Sept. 5. Daily. $35. Grafton Street P & Grill executive chef **Ryan Cyr** create prix-fixe menu for the month of August, fe turing dishes like a sautéed shrimp lingui and pork porterhouse, all paired with Ste Artois beer.

Summer Cocktail Tasting
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St. Cambri (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.co Aug. 16. 6:30 pm. $39. Mixologist and ba tender **Lolly Mason** concocts a series of drin using Bacardi rum and shares her secrets so th you can make them at your next summer ge together.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: R Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Somm lier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various win and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with ho d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstr tions. •Aug. 9: Burgundy Whites. •Aug. Bubble Bash 2 ($40).

Wine and Dine Mondays
Beacon Hill Hotel & Bistro, 25 Charles St., Bost (617-723-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Charl MGH. First and third Mon. of each month, 7 p $45. Chef **Ben Knack** prepares a four-cou meal paired with four wines. •July 18: Califo nia Central Coast. •Aug. 15: Rhone.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-26 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Li to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Er Johnson** presents matching wines to compl ment a four-course French–New England me by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Aug. 8: Groo Grapes. •Aug. 15: Spain.

Wine Tastings at Vinalia
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-177 www.vinaliaboston.com. MBTA: Red Line Downtown Crossing. Every Wed., 6:30 pm. $1 Every Wednesday night, Vinalia hosts a wi tasting featuring four wines paired with season appetizers.

Wine Wednesdays at Pigalle
Pigalle, 75 Charles Street South, Boston (617-42 4944). www.pigalleboston.com. MBTA: Gre Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $65. Every Wedne day this summer, Pigalle chef **Marc Orfaly** pr pares a four-course tasting menu paired wi wines from a particular region.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-72 1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Li to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardn** pairs French cuisine with wines selected sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Aug. 3: Roma Holiday: The Wines of Italy. •Aug. 10: Out Africa: The Wines of South Africa.

DISH

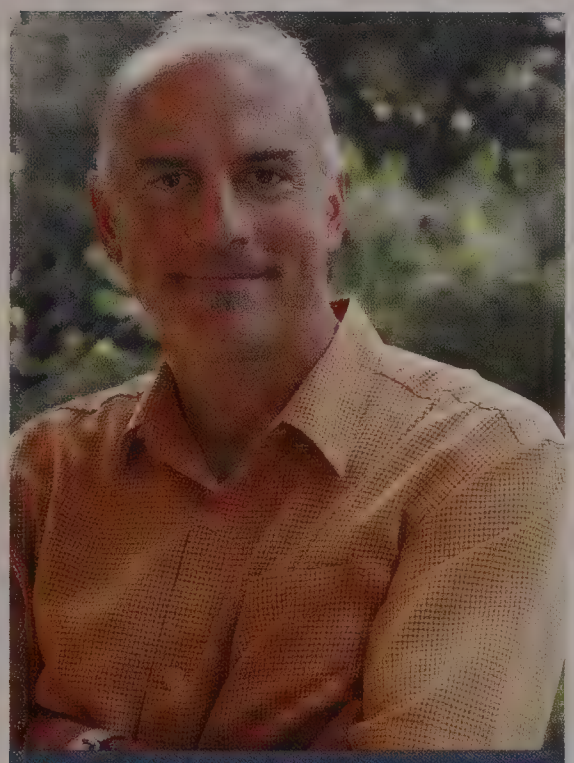
Voulez-vous Rendezvous?

Steve Johnson makes a commitment… Michael Leviton gets your goat…

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Talk about your long engagements—chef **Steve Johnson** has been making plans to open his dream restaurant in Cambridge since he left the **Blue Room** more than two years ago. Finally, he's ready to talk time and place... sort of.

Johnson says he's "six inches away from signing the lease" on his space in Central Square. Ever cautious, he prefers to speak in general terms when describing the project. Slated to open in the fall, the **Rendezvous at Central Square** will feature "casual fine dining" with a focus on "Mediterranean-style cooking" and an "ingredients-driven menu." Design will be "minimal hip" at the 90-seat eatery, which Johnson says is "big enough to do business, small enough to deliver on the promise."



Steve Johnson is ramping up for his new restaurant, Rendezvous at Central Square

"The kitchen will be visible from the dining room, but won't be your standard open kitchen," he continues. "It will be aesthetically satisfying for the customers. They can see activity, hear a little buzz from the kitchen, maybe catch a whiff here and there, but it won't be in your face." And who will be cooking in the kitchen? "I've hired a chef and general manager," says Johnson, but he won't divulge names. It's a safe bet, though, that we'll most likely" see familiar faces among the staff, "a few people from my past," he adds.

Despite his enthusiasm, Johnson sounds a bit wistful when he assesses the impact of his new work schedule on his Westport fishing schedule. "Ouch! This weekend, I didn't go [to Westport] because I had too much to do. It's ruining the rest of my summer."

SECOND COURSE

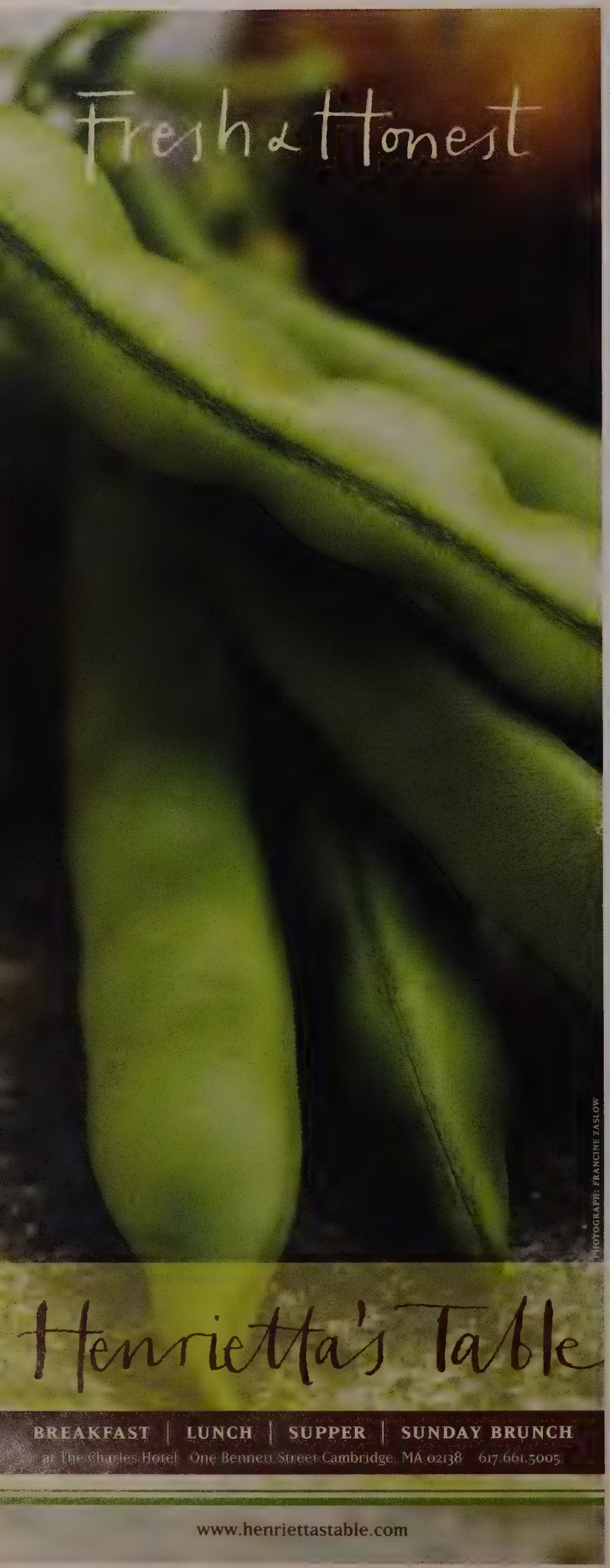
Whole hog: It's like Fruit of the Month Club, except the delivery arrives each week at an upscale French restaurant in Newton and consists of an entire farm animal—goat, pig, lamb—ready to be butchered and served to diners. **Michael Leviton**, chef/owner of **Lumiere**, is featuring off-the-menu specials ranging from homemade head cheese to a duo of goat liver and kidneys. "We use everything," he says with pride. "I never thought we'd sell that stuff, but it is MOVING!"

The animals come from Vermont Quality Meats, a cooperative of small family farms in Vermont, and waitstaff can tell diners which farm provided nurturing for the source of their dinner, says Leviton. Do they show baby pictures of fluffy little lambs? "We try NOT to do that," laughs Leviton. "It might inhibit sales." Which wine best complements goat? "Cheap spicy Spanish reds, coarse country wines," he says. Leviton credits his British chef **Fergus Henderson**, author of *The Whole Beast: Nose to Tail Eating*, as the inspiration for his everything-but-the-squeal meals. Henderson offers an even wider range of meats at his restaurant—crispy pig's tails, occasional squirrel dishes—but Leviton is content with his current level of adventurousness. "It's a lot of fun, sitting there with a hacksaw," he says.

In Kenmore Square, **Lee Chizmar** has been promoted from sous chef to new chef at **Great Bay** in the Hotel Commonwealth... **Alec Yankus** has been named wine director at **UpStairs on the Square** in Cambridge ... The former **Carambola** in Waltham now bears the name of its sibling restaurants, **Elephant Walk**, but as the Carambola Web site will tell you, "Don't Panic!" In other words, the Cambodian menu is still intact, and a full French menu has been added to the lineup. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com



WINE

Oregon Chardonnay

BY SANDY BLOCK MW

Most wine addicts associate Oregon primarily with the outstanding pinot noir produced there, and a recent visit to the state confirmed the uniformly high quality of this suddenly fashionable red grape over the past several vintages. But to me, the untold story is the relatively recent leap in quality of the state's white wines. In fact, if you're looking for an American chardonnay that's not flashy or artificial-tasting, but approaches the Burgundian ideal of finesse, structure and fleshy suppleness, you can pick one produced in Oregon almost at random and most likely be satisfied. The only problem you may encounter: finding a local source that stocks many of the wines. Most are produced in minuscule quantities (actually fewer than 150,000 cases in the aggregate—less than many well known wineries from California) and demand for these artisan products is strong enough in the Pacific Northwest that less than a third of the total production makes it out of its home turf.

It's no surprise to me that Oregon should be able to make topflight chardonnay: The growing season temperatures are generally moderate, and there are long hours of sunlight, cool evenings and fall weather that is most often dry, allowing the harvest to stretch out into mid-autumn. This all adds up to a slow, even maturation of the grapes, conducive to understated and balanced chardonnay flavors. Average yields, a good measure of overall quality, are incredibly low at just over two tons per acre—less than what legal regulations allow for the most highly regarded Grand Cru's of Burgundy. But Oregon chardonnay had provided me with almost uniformly unpleasant sensations in the past; many were discordant in flavor, quirky in style and bland or neutral tasting at best. So it was a great revelation to experience the radical contrast between past impressions and how delicious the wines have become across the board.

The improvement is largely a matter of changes in the vineyards: planting clones of the grape over the past few decades more appropriately tailored to the state's soils and climate. These so-called "Dijon clones" have markedly transformed the flavor profile. In my old tasting notes, I often described an incongruous combination of green bean, excessive oak and apricot. Today, I'm finding the more classically balanced, multi-dimensional but fully developed fruit tones in the apple and melon family, often underscored with mineral and spice. These radical improvements also reflect the passion of a dedicated small-scale winemaking community as it learns how to make world-class wines from unique fruit.

The following wines were not tasted blind, so they're not ranked in anything other than alphabetical order, but the truth is there's little to distinguish them from one another in terms of absolute quality.

Argyle, Willamette Valley, 2003. Argyle, like most of the wineries, is mostly noted for something other than chardonnay: Pinot Noir and traditional method sparkling wine. Its chardonnay is one of the better values and is perhaps more widely available than some of its peers: creamy and supple, medium-bodied with soft textures and a mild apple and pear spiciness in the finish. It also manages to avoid some of the fatness you may encounter with other wines from this freakishly hot, ripe vintage. ($13)

Bethel Heights, 2002. A beautiful wine that, to me, is a dead ringer for Meursault. Layered and rich, with a scent of toasted grains and fine herbs, this wine shows off the strength of a 2002 vintage that allowed the production of picture-perfect, evenly ripened fruit. On the palate it's bone dry but has a lush, sensual spiciness that puts it at the very top of the class. ($25)

Carabella Vineyard "Clone 76," 2002. This extremely concentrated, opulent style of chardonnay is produced again at a tiny estate in the northern Willamette. Although the name may sound off-puttingly scientific and geeky, this is a very sensual wine. Its lush, hazelnut-accented flavors are more than balanced by a clean core of tangy acidity. It would be terrific with grilled butterfish. At $15, it's also a terrific value.

Chehalem "INOX," 2004. This completely unoaked chardonnay is produced without any oxygen exposure and still manages to taste creamy and soft, with the smooth concentrated fruit we normally associate with barrel treatment. It also has a lovely core of refreshing appley spice. Versatile in style, it pairs with aperitifs, salads or sautéed sole. ($17)

Domaine Serene "Cote Sud," 2002. Another fine example of the 2002 vintage and perhaps the most classically structured wine of all. A fine blend of contradictions, lean but rich, exotically flavored yet precise and focused, this is a "wow" wine whose class stands out even among its outstanding peers. Produced from prime Dundee Hills fruit, its supple qualities perhaps reflect slightly older vine sources. It has a lingering minerality and grace notes of spice and toast that invite consumption with crab or lobster. ($40) IB

Master of Wine Sandy Block is vice president of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.

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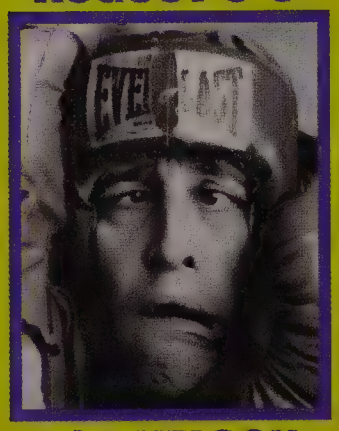
AUGUST 5-6



BOB NELSON

AUGUST 12-13

HARLAND WILLIAMS

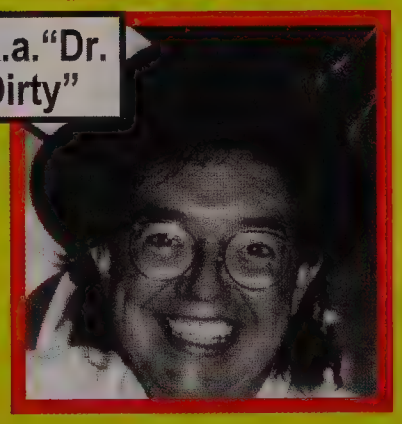
AUGUST 19-21

MIKE EPPS

AUGUST 5TH

JOHN VALBY

a.k.a."Dr. Dirty"



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agenda

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august 3 - 16

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			3	4	5	6
			The annual **Downtown Crossing Summer Sports Festival** takes place on Summer Street. *See CityScope on page 48.*		**Grafton Street Pub & Grille** begins its month-long Stella Artois Dinner Series. *See Tastings on page 40.*	**Robby Roadsteamer, the Ducky Boys** and **Far from Finished** play a show at the Paradise Rock Club. *See Music on page 60.*
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
The Brattle Theatre screens Ryuhei Kitamura's ***Godzilla: Final Wars***. *See Movies on page 55.*		Author **Ann Rinaldi** discusses her novel, *Brooklyn Rose*, at the Old South Meeting House. *See Books & Poetry on page 73.*			**Hamlet** begins a nine-day run at the Theatre Cooperative in Somerville. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*	**The Mayflower Foundation**'s third annual summer gala is at the Artists for Humanity Epicenter in South Boston. *See CityScope on page 48.*
14	15	16				
The Pernice Brothers and **Royal Gun** play downstairs at the Middle East. *See Music on page 63.*		**Lolly Mason** hosts a summer cocktail tasting at UpStairs on the Square. *See Tastings on page 40.*				

INDIA DAY. COURTESY OF INDIA ASSOCIATION OF GREATER BOSTON

SUN./AUG 14

City Scope: Free to Celebrate

You may feel as though you're strolling along the Ganges rather than the Charles on August 14, when the India Association of Greater Boston celebrates the 58th anniversary of India's independence from Britain. Music and dance acts that include traditional folk songs, bhajans and Bollywood tunes take the stage at the Hatch Shell, and One World Cuisine, which runs the restaurants Kashmir on Newbury Street and Diva and the Kabob Factory in Somerville, provides the eats. You can pick up a souvenir at the festival's arts and crafts market, where Boston artisans of Indian descent sell silk saris, jewelry and art. The Museum of Science has a series of games and activities set up for entertaining the kids, too. *Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston (888-836-2727). www.iagb.org. August 14, 4-9 pm. Free. —LPK*

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CALENDAR EDITED BY
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WEDNESDAYS IN AUGUST

Museums & Galleries and Music: Some Starry Nights

The Hatch Shell and the Bank of America Pavilion aren't the only spots in Boston to enjoy an outdoor concert this summer. Every Wednesday through August, the MFA features music from around the world in its outdoor courtyard. Get there early for a table, bring your own blanket and picnic dinner, or purchase sandwiches, salads, desserts and drinks. August 3 features the Holmes Brothers' combination of gospel, blues, funk and a little bit of country. Kiran Ahluwalia, who's known for his traditional Punjabi folk songs, performs August 17, and Fanfare Ciocarlia, a 10-piece Romanian Gypsy brass band, takes the stage August 24. (Patty Larkin's show on Aug. 10 is sold out.) *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). Courtyard opens at 6 pm; concert begins at 7:30 pm. $25; $20 members, students and seniors. —LPK*

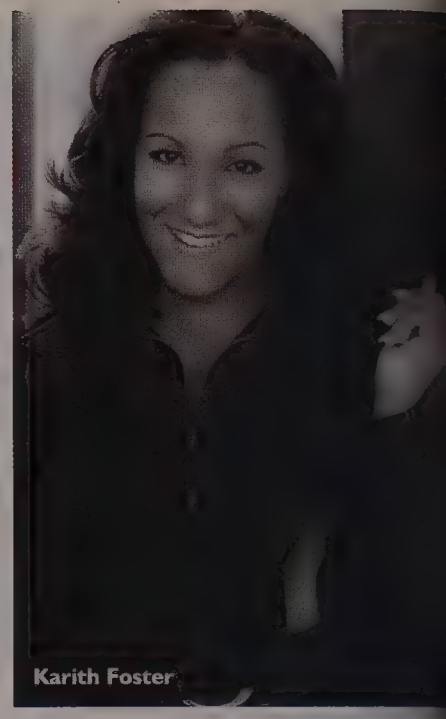
FRI./AUG. 12

Music: All Night Long...

A party that starts at 1:30 am? In Boston? Preposterous, you say? Well you'll have to eat your words at the CD release party for the well-known New York DJs James Bem and Gaby Dershin (also known as Astro&Glyde) at the club Rise. The shindig kicks off at the deliciously rebellious hour of 1:30 am and won't stop until the wee hours of the morning. The pleasure of late-night cavorting, however, comes with a price: You've got to pony up the ticket price plus the club's membership fee (and call in advance for tickets). But $50 gets you a year's pass to Friday nights at Rise, and as a member, you can always bring a guest. (Note to geezers and the light of wallet: The DJ duo will also be playing at Virgin Records on Newbury Street on August 13 from 3–5 pm, with no cover). *Rise, 306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). 1:30–6:30 am. $10 members, $20, guests. —LPK*

FRI.–SAT./AUG. 5–6

Comedy: Laughing with the Ladies



Karith Foster

Here in the Northeast, we're living in a virtual hotbed for comedy, and within that thriving scene a talented corps of female performers of color have formed their own powerful little niche. Maybe you've been up to Portland, Maine, to laugh with Sheila Jackson, or down to New York to see Karith Foster or even out to Providence to watch Comedy Central's Colleen Galvin. But chances are you haven't had many opportunities to see some of the Northeast's best female comedians perform together on the same card. That's where ColorStruck, Boston's sixth annual Women of Color in Comedy show at Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, comes in. Since its inception in 2000, as a one-night, seven-comedian show, the annual event has developed into a three-show, 13-performer spectacular. On August 5 and 6, Jackson, Foster and Galvin are joined by local talents like Sandy Asai (Boston), Deb Farrar-Parkman (Dorchester), Malissa Hunt (Watertown) and Esther Ku (Somerville) for a weekend's worth of laughs. *255 Elm St., Somerville (866-811-4111). www.jtoffbroadway.com. Aug. 5-6. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 7:30 and 10:30 pm. $15. —RL*

WED./AUG. 10

Music: Rap Therapy

We've all heard what happens when rappers Eminem and 50 Cent lose their temper. It's not a pretty sight. This summer, however, the legendary hotheads are making anger management their mantra, with a five-and-a-half-week concert tour. On August 10, the two rap icons and a slew of other stars like Lil Jon, D12, G-Unit, Obie Trice and Stat Quo hit the Tweeter Center in Mansfield as part of the 20-date Anger Management 3 Tour. The tour marks the first time Em and 50 have gone on the road together, and with close to 15 albums between them, as well as a handful of Grammys and entourages with their own entourages, it's bound to be a musical spectacle. *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331). www.tweetercenter.com/boston. Aug. 10, 7 pm. $56-$81.—RL*

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

Big Man Run X
Khoury's State Spa, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (617-776-0571). www.baevents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. 4:19 pm. This decade-long event will be coming to a close with one last run to benefit not-so-local nonprofit organizations.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

Redbones Pig Pickin'
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). www.redbones.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6-9 pm. $20. Redbones BBQ hosts a pig roast in front of the restaurant to benefit the Somerville Homeless Coalition. The night also features live music by the Second Line Social Aid and Pleasure Society Brass Band.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

Raise the Roof
Sanctuary, 151 State St., Boston (617-423-2223). www.bostonypa.com. 9 pm-2 am. $25. Habitat for Humanity's fundraiser, sponsorted by Boston Young Professionals Association, features complimentary drink and hors d'oeuvres and celebrity guests, who mingle among the crowd, aged mostly between 21-35. DJ Grandmaster Flash and Boston's DJ Kon spin.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

2005 Flip Flop Regatta
Courageous Sailing Center, Pier 4, Charlestown. www.flipflopregatta.com. Through Aug. 13. Spectator party boat, 12:15-4 pm, $25; gala, 5:30-10:30 pm, $100. This two-day event, in memory of accomplished sailor and philanthropist Alexandra Nicole Zapp, features a regatta, followed by a gala e with Mount Gay Rum tents, an awards cere and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit the Foundation.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

Annual Mayflower Foundation Boston Summer Gala
Artists for Humanity Epicenter, 100 West Secon South Boston. www.mayflowerfoundation.org. M Red Line to Broadway. 8 pm-1 am. $65-$75. event includes drinks, dancing and hors d'oe and benefits the creation and maintenance of quality after-school programs in low-income B communities.

MONDAY, AUGUST 15

Farmers' Market Benefit Dinner
Veggie Planet at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., bridge (781-893-8222). www.massfarmersma org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $60. Didi Emmons and the Massachusetts Farmers' kets host this five-course vegetarian meal feat Massachusetts-grown products. Ninety perce the proceeds benefit the Federation of Massa setts Farmers' Markets.

Festivals & Parties

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

Downtown Crossing Association Summer Sports Festival
Summer St., Boston (617-482-2139). downtowncrossing.org. MBTA: Orange or Red L Downtown Crossing. 5:30-7:30 pm. Free. Pla compete for prizes in baseball, basketball or pu while listening to music from KISS 108.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

Bostonians on the Brink of Rebell A Freedom Trail Walking Tour
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., B (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse MBTA: Orange Line to State. Aug. 4, 5, 11, a 3 pm. $15; $8.50 children. Guides dressed as fa figures from the American Revolution lead th minute tour.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

Arts Affair on the Boardwalk
Marina Bay, Quincy (617-657-0527). discoverquincy.com. Aug. 6 and 7, 10 am-5 pm.

The 2005 Flip Flop Regatta kicks off in Charlestown on Aug. 12.

hotoWalk hosts the Boston Harbor Islands Outdoor Photo Expedition, Aug. 13

s display of hundreds of works of art is part of the rt to bring more tourism to Quincy.

ston Harbor Island's Camp Out

g Wharf, Boston (617-223-8666). www. onislands.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. g. 6 and 7, 10 am-4 pm. Free. Learn the basics amping and fishing or kayaking at this annual nt. A camping permit and reservations are uired for an overnight stay.

UNDAY, AUGUST 7

uth End Open Market

Harrison Ave., Boston (617-481-2257). www. hendopenmarket.com. MBTA: Green or Orange to Back Bay. Aug. 7 and 14, 10 am-5 pm. Stroll ough this open air market that features crafts, ques, a cafe and a farmers' market.

UESDAY, AUGUST 9

ston Harbor Hotel: Summer Soul

Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). www. .com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Aug. 9 and 6 pm-10 pm. Dance on the terrace of the Boston bor Hotel to the sounds of James Brown, Marvin e and more.

HURSDAY, AUGUST 11

ston Harbor Islands Visits

e C at Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-482-1722). TA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Boards at 9:30 pm. A ger-guided tour of Fort Warren on Georges Island ows an educational boat ride through Boston bor where passengers learn about the harbor and slands.

ATURDAY, AUGUST 13

ston Harbor Islands Outdoor oto Expedition

g Wharf, Boston (617-223-8666). www.boston ds.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Aug. 13-10 am-4 pm. Free. Explore composition and light n professionals and freelance photographers while king the island trails with PhotoWalks to capture landscape and wildlife on film.

UNDAY, AUGUST 14

lia Day Festival

rles River Esplanade, Boston (888-836-2727). w.iagb.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. pm. Free. The India Association of Greater ton celebrates the 58th anniversary of India's ependence with traditional Indian dancing, sic and food as well as activities from the Mu- m of Science.

ngles

UNDAY, AUGUST 7

:nic-Volleyball-Swim

ington Reservoir, Lowell St., Arlington. www.fun fun.org. 2 pm. $10 for members; $15 for non-members. Bring food or drink to this potluck-style picnic hosted by FunFunFun.org and play volley ball or swim in the pool with other singles in their 20s through 50s.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

8 Minute Dating

City Side Bar & Grill, 1960 Beacon St., Brighton (617-566-1002). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. 6:58 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 22-29.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

8 Minute Dating

Fire & Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-482-3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

Hurry Date

Charley's Eating and Drinking Saloon, 284 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3000). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. $26.25 for members; $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates while you enjoy drink specials. For ages 25-35.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

Caribbean Singles Dance and Harbor Cruise

Boat leaves from Gate C at Rowes Wharf, Atlantic Ave., Boston (781-283-0400). www.se-4u.com. MBTA: Blue Line to the Aquarium. 7-10 pm. $45. This singles event features a cruise around Boston Harbor, complimentary hors d'oeuvres and desserts, and dancing to music from DJ Bruno. For singles 30 and over.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

8 Minute Dating

Orleans, 65 Holland St., Somerville (617-591-2100). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis or Porter Square. 4 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

MONDAY, AUGUST 15

8 Minute Dating

Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Orange Line to State Street 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 28-38.

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—*Boston Globe*, May 20, 2005

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performing arts

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

StubHub
(866-788-2482). www.stubhub.com. Where fans buy and sell tickets.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Aladdin
Harwich Junior Theatre, 105 Division St., West H wich (508-432-2002 ext.10). www.hjtcapecod.c Aug. 9-Aug. 25. Mon.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., Sun pm. $12-$16. Aladdin embarks on an advent with a genie after discovering a magic lamp. Jame Byrne directs.

Footloose
Bay Colony Productions, Orpheum Theatre, 1 Sch St., Foxboro (508-543-2787). www.orpheum.c Aug. 5-Aug. 21. 2 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 $18-$24. Dance and music are combined in t story of teen rebellion as a youth moves fr Chicago to a small midwestern town.

Hamlet
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somer (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. MBT Red Line to Davis Square. Aug. 12-Aug. 21. F Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $15. A young prince se to avenge his father's murder in Shakespea tragedy.

Living Room in Africa
Gloucester Stage, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (9 281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Aug. 11-A 24. Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Aug. 14, 21, 28, 5 pm; A 13, 4 pm. $15-$30. Two characters discover that African village they have just moved to is dev tated by AIDS. Daniel Goldstein directs.

Oliver!
Metrowest Family Theater, 22 Pratts Mill Road, S bury (508-942-3434). www.sammonline.org. Aug Aug. 8. Fri., Sat., Mon., 7 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $10-$ This musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' no *Oliver Twist* revolves around an orphan's life 19th-century England.

The Sound of Music
Reagle Players, Robinson Theatre, 617 Lexington Waltham (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.c Aug. 12-Aug. 21. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat

Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia* is at the Publick Theatre.

; Sun., 6 pm; August 13, 2 and 8 pm. $35-$42. Von Trapp family employs a spirited young gov- ess in this Rodgers and Hammerstein musical.

e Taming of the Shrew

ins Farm Park, Eastern Ave., Arlington (781- -6220). www.acarts.org. Aug. 7, 5 pm. e. An ill-mannered noblewoman butts heads n a potential suitor in Shakespeare's romantic nedy set in Italy.

e Tricky Part

ng Lawn Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 nble St., Lenox, (413-637-3353). www.shake re.org. Aug. 16-Sept. 4. Tue.-Sun., 8:30 pm. . Seth Barrish directs this drama thematically d upon Catholicism, sexuality, and the forgive- of God.

OW RUNNING

cadia

lick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, Soldiers Field Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publicktheatre. . Through Sept. 4. First and third weeks of the th, Wed., Thu. and Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri. and , 8 pm. $30. Set in the English countryside, Stoppard's play addresses a range of topics in- ling history, science, philosophy and love. go Arciniegas directs.

e Man Group

rles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617- -2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. The trio performs an ongoing show that mixes art, ic, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

e Comedy of Errors

lick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, Soldiers d Rd., Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publick tre.com. Through Sept. 10. Second and fourth ks of the month. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 7:30 Fri. and Sat., 8 pm. Diego Arciniegas directs Shakespeare comedy in which two sets of ns, separated at birth, meet by chance later in

mlet on the Common

ade Grounds on Boston Common, Boston (617- -9393). www. wangcenter.org. Through Aug. 7. -Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. Free. This production of Shakespeare's tragedy features Jeffrey Donovan as the conflicted prince who attempts to avenge his father's death in the midst of political and familial strife.

King John

Founders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 3. 2 and 7 pm. $10-$35. Tina Packer directs Shakespeare's political tragedy set in the Middle Ages that recounts the battle of England and France over the English crown.

The Learned Ladies

Vokes Players of Wayland, Vokes Theatre, Rte. 20, Wayland (508-358-4034). http://members.aol.com/vokesplays. Through Aug. 6. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 2 pm. $13-$16. Molière's comedic farce about women pursuing enlightenment is translated from French by Richard Wilbur. John Barrett directs.

Menopause: The Musical

Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50.* A quartet of aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

My Old Lady

Gloucester Stage, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Through Aug. 7. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $30 adults, $20 seniors and students. When Mathias' father dies, he inherits a Parisian home that is still occupied by a 94-year-old tenant and her attractive but combative daughter in this comedy written by Israel Horovitz.

Pippin

Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. MBTA: *Commuter Rail to Newton. Through Aug. 14. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $24.* A young prince sets out to find his calling in life in this play by Stephen Schwartz. James Tallach directs.

Romeo and Juliet

Various locations throughout Boston (617-532-1221). www.wangcenter.org. Aug. 4, 1 pm; Aug. 5, 11 am; Aug. 6, 1 pm. Call for locations. Free. Saheem Ali directs Shakespeare's classic tragedy about the son and daughter of rival families who fall in love.

Shear Madness

Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38.* This comedic whodunit set in a crazy unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Spitfire Grill

Indoor Theatre, Cape Rep Theatre, 3299 Rte. 6A, East Brewster (508-896-1888). www.caperep.org. Through Aug. 27. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $12-$22. The Spitfire Grill functions as the setting for the action in this musical set in small-town Wisconsin.

The Syringa Tree

American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. Through Aug. 7. Sun., 2 pm; Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat.- Sun., 8 pm. $36-$72. Writer and performer Pamela Gien chronicles the story of two families, one black and one white, in the era of apartheid, through the eyes of a 6-year-old girl.

The Tamer Tamed

Spring Lawn Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox, (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 27, 12:30 and 5:30 pm. Free. John Fletcher penned this sequel to the *Taming of the Shrew*, which has the tamer Petruchio divorced and remarried to a gentler wife.

The Taming of the Shrew

Founders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 3, 7:30 pm. $10-$35. The bard has an ill-mannered noblewoman butting heads with a potential suitor in this romantic comedy set in Italy.

Wharton One-Acts

Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 4, 4 pm. $30-$44. Eleanor Holdridge directs two Edith Wharton adaptations, *The Mission of Jane* and *The Promise*.

Wild and Whirling Words

Bankside, Founders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 27, 12:30 and 5:30 pm. Kevin G. Coleman directs this less than one hour show of fast-paced, comical Shakespeare acts.

Comedy

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STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café

334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: *Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5.* Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12.* The Beantown Comedy Vault features an assortment of local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: *Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Aug. 3, 8 pm: Mike Donovan, $12. •Aug. 4, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Aug. 7, 7 pm: Rich Ceisler, $12. •Aug. 8, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Aug. 9, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12. •Aug. 10, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Aug. 11, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Aug. 14, 7 pm and 9:15 pm: Jim Breuer, $35. •Aug. 16, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10.* Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Aug. 3: Tony V Experiment with Gary Sohmers, Charlie Hatton, Mike Morrell, Eskunder Boyd, Peter Bowers, Robby

Sonya Hamlin plays Queen Elizabeth in the *Taming of the Shrew* at the Founder's Theatre.

Road Steamer, Ken Reid and JJ Leslie. •Aug. 4: Dan Sally Show with John Lincoln, Chris Fleming, Dan Boulger, Frank Rockett, Jen Dlugos, Greg Thibideau and Hugh Chatfield. •Aug. 5: The Walsh Bros, Dr. MaGoGo, Nate Johnson, Cyndi Stiles and Josh Gondelman. •Aug. 6: Eric Handler, Tom Liszanckie, Dr. MaGoGo, Arielle Goldman, Renata Tutko and Taylor Connelly. •Aug. 7: Erin Judge Presents: The Out-Takes, Amy Tee, Tom Dustin, Nicole Blizek, Korte Yeo, Arik Marks, Doug Chagnon and Dave Thompson. •Aug. 10: Tony V Experiment with Myq Kaplan, Jesse Gersten, Evan O'Television, Elisha Yaffe, Rachel Isenberg, Joe Wong, Pat Boccuzzi, Rebecca Anderson and Chris Torres. •Aug. 11: Dan Sally Show with Eric Cheung, Phil Yebba, Chrissy Kelleher, Andrito Andrade, Tommy Morello, Scott Loring, Danny Hirsh and Mike Oster. •Aug. 12: The Walsh Bros, Sarah Blogett, David Grabiner, David Powell, Chibuzo, Steve Donovan and Ellen Moschetto. •Aug. 13: Mandy Donovan, David Powell, Andrea Henry, Chibuzo, Ellen Moschetto. •Aug. 14: Erin Judge Presents: Arielle Goldman, Shaun Bedgood, Nic Lettic, Bob Hagearty, Tuck, James Goff, Balke Maddux and Kris Earle. •Aug. 16: Magic Lounge magic show.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Fri., Aug. 5 and Sat., Aug 6, 8 pm; Sun., Aug 7, 7 pm, $15: Women of Color in Comedy. Top comediennes take on a variety of subjects including sex, politics, race, family and food. •Aug. 13, 7 pm, $10.80-$12: Have You Scene It? This show features Sista Freeloada and her friends making even normal situations funny.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 8:30 pm. $10-$22. •Aug. 18, 8:30 pm, Spike Tobin, Artie Januario. •Aug 19 and 20, 8:45 pm, Spike Tobin, Artie Januario and Mike Kotroubis. •Aug. 25, 8:30 pm, Kevin Knox, Jim Coliton. •Aug. 26 and 27, 8:45, Kevin Knox, Jim Coliton and Ben B.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). ww improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Lin Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government C ter. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. • W 8 pm: Lost in Boston...or How I Learned to L that Dirty Water. Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm and pm: Pork Fried Clowns. Ongoing. •Sat., 12 am: Midnight Show. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-125 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Cent $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisatio comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: cha ters, stories, settings, even songs and dances. •Wed pm, $5: Hump Fringe Show. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$ Unnatural Selection: A master of ceremonies r domly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Broth Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and cha ter sketches and play music and short films in a dis of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Pirate Lives pm: TheatreSports splits up improvisers into teams. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and ur accompanied by an adult admitted free): Imp Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisatio show appropriate for individuals of all ages; 8 and pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending rytelling, music and audience participation, a cas improvisers creates a show that changes with ev performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/O Jamboree. This evening features performances by iting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-3 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Lin South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Boston-ba short-form improv comedy group performs m skits that involve participation from members of audience.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-5 4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Lin Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 a 21+. The Cantab hosts a collection of improv com ans who poke fun at everything, including themsel

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

ad News Bears ★★

n the heels of the *Longest Yard* remake comes an-
ner redo that's not as raunchy as its 1970s original.
chard Linklater's version is still, thankfully, a sort
anti-heartwarming version of the premise that's
en redone to death since the original (*Mighty*
cks, Kicking & Screaming and *Rebound* all ripped
that movie). But to see Billy Bob Thornton play
unredeeming lowlife in the wake of *Bad Santa*
esn't pack the same punch as having Walter
atthau, who'd never played a part remotely like the
l-mouthed Little League coach, do it in the origi-
(*Bad Santa* writers Glenn Ficarra and John Requa
ote this update). Adult leads aside, the action
h the kids is milder in this than it is in the origi-
, and none of the tykes here matches the ball-
king intensity of Tatum O'Neal. The remake of-
s a decent number of laughs and Thornton makes
ood sleazeball, as always, but the results are rather
e. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

atman Begins ★★★½

e *Batman* prequel outdoes all the series' previous
ries. Like the more recent *Spider-Man* movies,
man Begins is a strong, character-based film that
ches the flavor of the comics but is not cartoonish.
ristian Bale has the dramatic chops to fill out
ce Wayne, who sees his philanthropist/industrial-
father and his mother murdered. He grows up full
vengeful plans against criminals. The movie takes
n from Gotham to the Himalayas, where he falls
der the influence of a mentor he ultimately rejects
am Neeson), and back to Gotham, where he tries
clean up his corrupt hometown. Neeson, Michael
ine (as loyal butler Alfred), Katie Holmes (as
ldhood friend turned prosecutor Rachel), Gary
dman (as future Police Commissioner Gordon)
d Morgan Freeman (as an ally within the Wayne
rporation) all match Bale, while *Memento* director
ristopher Nolan skips the flash and opts for emo-
nal realism instead. Well done all around. (At
ston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

witched ★★

ector and co-writer Nora Ephron (*Sleepless in Seat-*
was smart not to make a straight big-screen adap-
on of the old sitcom, which hasn't aged very well
was never designed to). She's reconfigured it as a
ntic comedy about the sitcom's return to TV,
ring a slumping movie star (Will Ferrell) and the
known non-actress (Nicole Kidman) he discovers
is female lead, who unbeknownst to him is, like
TV character, a witch trying to go straight. But,
ortunately, life imitates art in an unintended way.
e main thread of comedy is the ego-driven, jerky
vie star hogging the camera and conspiring to keep
costar in his shadow. There's too much of Ferrell
ng the jerk, to the point that you don't just get sick
is character, you get sick of him—especially seeing
nt like David Alan Grier and Stephen Colbert
d around with little to do. And Ephron's literal use
ld songs (like Sinatra's "Witchcraft" or "Ding
g, the Witch is Dead" from *The Wizard of Oz*)
tinues to be painful. She should be forced to make
y movies without oldies soundtracks from now on.
Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

oken Flowers ★★

e minimalist, sad sack persona Bill Murray intro-
ed in *Rushmore* and *Lost in Translation* is pretty
t by this point. After using it again in one of the
ments in writer-director Jim Jarmusch's *Coffee &*
arettes last year, Murray goes back to that well yet
n in Jarmusch's latest. It's still mildly amusing in
story of an aging, willfully vapid womanizer who
ctantly road-trips to visit several of his ex-flames
n he receives an anonymous note telling him one
em had a son by him after they broke up. But just
dly amusing. There's a bit more of an upscale cast
usual for Jarmusch, with Sharon Stone and Jes-
Lange playing two of the old flames. These
odic visits usually pack a laugh or two and the en-
journey takes the womanizer through a minefield
xual attraction. But the episodes seem to get less
resting as the story progresses, and his subtle
kening into, essentially, caring about his own
—seen only in the very last moments, with little
d-up—is meager payoff, even in a Jarmusch
ie. (At the Coolidge Corner Theater.)

izzly Man ★★★

le wildlife shows have aired plenty of coverage on
othy Treadwell, the animal activist who lived
ng Alaskan bears for 13 summers before being
d by one in 2003. So Werner Herzog's fascinating
umentary about Treadwell no doubt has some
sure of redundancy. But the video footage Tread-
shot of himself among the grizzlies and red foxes
onetheless amazing, and Herzog also digs into

Primal screen

The Warrior is basic but bountiful

BY PAUL SHERMAN

As the title character of *The Warrior*, Irfan Khan smolders with intensity.

English writer-director Asif Kapadia's Hindi-language action-drama *The Warrior* sat on Miramax Films' shelf for three years. That was potentially a good sign. The Disney subsidiary has long had a habit of sitting on movies, sometimes good ones, and if Kapadia's debut were more ordinary and less of a hybrid of west and east, maybe Miramax would have simply released it in 2002, when it came out internationally. Now that the imminent split between the Weinstein brothers and Disney/Miramax is clearing the distributor's shelves, *The Warrior* is belatedly with us, and it's a quietly powerful movie.

Language and back story play little role in the gut-level kick the movie unleashes. *The Warrior* is, most of all, a fine exercise in cinematic minimalism. It may be set in feudal, pre-colonial India (roughly speaking, pre-1800), but it feels less like a foreign art film than it does like a restrained psychological western with a closed-mouthed star such as Steve McQueen, Clint Eastwood or Randolph Scott as its hero. The face of star Irfan Khan and the landscapes around him tell the story, and dialogue is kept to a few well-chosen words.

Khan is able to make a small amount of dialogue and a subtle change in facial expression go a long way. He plays the title character, Lafcadia, who's the lead warrior for a local warlord (Anupam Shyam). Although Lafcadia may have seen actual battle in the past, he seems now to act mainly as an enforcer, the muscle behind the lord's power. We see this early on, when the lord is presiding over constituents who have come to deliver tribute to him. One old farmer, representing his village, tells the lord this year's harvest was bad and he has nothing to offer. Not only does the lord order Lafcadia to behead the man on the spot, he also sends Lafcadia and his men to the village to rape and pillage.

But we see how Lafcadia hesitates before lopping the man's head off and how, at the village, his refusal to participate in the rapes distances him from his men. When he reflexively spins around after hearing someone stirring, he nearly beheads a 10-year-old girl (Sunita Sharma). Disgusted with himself, Lafcadia simply rides away on his horse and turns his back on this scene and on his life of violence. But the lord doesn't take too well to Lafcadia's quitting. He sends the other warriors after him, with orders to return with his head.

They burn Lafcadia's hut, attack his young son and terrorize the village where they hear he's due to arrive. Lafcadia eludes them in a desert sandstorm, befriends a young thief whose parents were killed by a long-haired warrior (perhaps Lafcadia) and tries to help a blind old lady who, chillingly, feels his face and says, "I don't want your help. There's blood written on your face."

That line is indicative of how well *The Warrior* chooses its words. Guilt oozes from Lafcadia's face, and his desire for redemption comes through in his body language, his adoption of the thief as a sort of surrogate son and his insistence on helping the old lady get to a holy lake in the mountains. The importance of facial expressions, the changing landscape and the sparse dialogue make *The Warrior* a real big-screen movie that you need to immerse yourself in; this one will lose a lot on DVD.

The importance of the landscape is never more pronounced than in the resolution, which includes the climax to which the action has been building. A showdown between Lafcadia and his former right-hand man (Aino Annuddin) tests the former's vow never to pick up a sword again. The mountainous terrain and snowy hillsides of the later scenes recall an out-of-body vision Lafcadia had while his sword was at the girl's neck during the village raid: an image of himself and her in this rugged country, far from the parched desert they were really in. The vision turns out to be prophetic, and as *The Warrior* brings its title character closer to his destiny, its spiritual path offers cinematic enlightenment. IB

The Warrior ★★★½

Written and directed by Asif Kapadia. With Irfan Khan, Puru Chibber, Aino Annuddin, Noor Mani, Anupam Shyam, Sunita Sharma and Damayanti Marfatia. In Hindi with subtitles. Rated R. At Harvard Square Theater.

Treadwell's background to try to discover what made him reject the world of people for the world of nature and try to reinvent himself in Alaska. In fact, the movie would have been better had Herzog dug deeper (when Treadwell's failed acting career and the possibility that he'd just missed getting Woody Harrelson's role on *Cheers* comes up, or when a possible drug O.D. gets mentioned, why doesn't Herzog look into these further?). Treadwell—part brave pioneer, part paranoid nut, part Andy Dick character sprung to life—is the sort of person you just can't keep your eyes off of, though. (Opens Aug. 12 at Kendall Square.)

Hustle & Flow ★★★½
Writer-director Craig Brewer's impressive debut does something few movies do: It develops its major characters so they become more substantial than you'd ever imagined. Brewer doesn't develop just DJay (Terrence Howard), the Memphis pimp who decides he wants to become a rapper, well beyond our initial expectations of the guy. He also adds depth to the prostitutes under DJay's wing (well-played by Taryn Manning and Taraji P. Henson), as well as the high-school classmate, now a sound engineer (Anthony Anderson), who helps DJay make a demo tape. Brewer even works wonders with the engineer's skittish, church-going wife (Elise Neal). As we follow the construction of a makeshift studio in DJay's house, the writing of songs and their recording, the movie has some of the intoxicating energy of an old "let's put on a show" musical (the film's mantra is the repeated line of dialogue "everybody got to have a dream"). The story then culminates in an unpredictable sequence in which DJay tries to sell a famous rapper (Ludacris) on helping him out, leading to a bittersweet resolution that, like everything else here, is inventively written. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Last Days ★½
So Gus Van Sant's career has come to this: movies inspired by real events that, no matter what the real event, become slow, artsy trips to Dullsville. At least *Gerry*—the first of these, which seemed like a one-off experiment at the time—had periodic humor, thanks to Matt Damon and Casey Affleck. But like the Columbine-inspired *Elephant* (which the similarly inspired *Zero Day* blew away), this new, Kurt Cobain–inspired movie offers little insight or entertainment. It mainly lets Van Sant indulge in his default style of late: people doing nothing but walking around (literally). This time, the walker is Blake (Michael Pitt), a vaguely disgruntled rocker who's ducking his band, his management and anyone else who'd like to see him get up off of his duff. He hides, does this and that, noodles around in his music rehearsal space, puts on a woman's slip, mumbles a lot, plays with his shotgun and has brief interactions with the hangers-on he lets stay in his old house. He's presumably high and apparently miserable. Sometimes the movie hits a blasé rhythm, and there is actually one amusing scene, a conversation with an unfazed Yellow Pages sales rep who knocks on Blake's door. But there's little to latch onto. One character rightly chides Blake for acting like a "rock and roll cliché," so I guess that makes this an art-film cliché about a rock and roll cliché. (Opens July 29.)

Me and You and Everyone We Know ★★★½
Writer-director-actress Miranda July's feature debut is one of the more creative and hypnotic movies of the year. As its title suggests, like American independent movies *Thirteen Conversations About One Thing* and *Lovely & Amazing*, July's tale is about the tenuous links that bring people together in sometimes funny, sometimes eerie ways. The main human connection the movie makes is between aspiring multimedia artist Christine (July) and just-dumped shoe salesman Richard (John Hawkes of TV's *Deadwood*), and the unconventional way these two bond is indicative of the movie's pleasing idiosyncrasies. But there are also a half-dozen other major characters in the movie, with subplots and relationships jigsawing together in intriguing ways. (At Kendall Square.)

Must Love Dogs ★½
What's worse than a romantic comedy written and directed by Nora Ephron (*Sleepless in Seattle*, *Bewitched*)? An *imitation* of a Nora Ephron romantic comedy. With its Ephron-esque cutesy gags and achingly literal use of pop oldies, this tells the not-so-enchanting tale of a divorcée (Diane Lane) clumsily re-entering the dating scene and stumbling through many false starts with an idealistic boat builder (John Cusack). Cusack's character is interesting cinematically, since he's such a 15-years-older version of Lloyd Dobler, his iconic *Say Anything* hero. But her "colorful" Irish-American family, his horny best friend, her gay confidant and the forced climax are all by-the-numbers, and writer-director Gary David Goldberg squanders the presence of the two likable stars. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith ★★
The third *Star Wars* prequel is the first that's spectable. Now that the time has finally come the transformation of Anakin Skywalker from "cl sen" Jedi knight to master-of-disaster Darth Vac George Lucas at least adds some narrative push, stead of the meandering dullness of the first two p quels. There's still an awful lot of council meeti and bureaucratic nonsense, and too much Yoda a his annoying inverted syntax (he's a spot play George, not a go-to guy). And Hayden Christ sen's performance is underwhelming. He was gr in *Shattered Glass*, but that experience doesn't tra late in making the inner torment raging ins Anakin compelling. But Ewan McGregor is j right, as always, as humble Obi-Wan Kenobi, wh reaction to his young cohort's betrayal is both h and introspection about where he failed as a men (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

War of the Worlds ★★
Let me get this straight. An alien force launche shocking, sudden attack that threatens civilizati and the most important story to tell in Stev Spielberg's movie is about an irresponsible divor dad (Tom Cruise) trying to stay alive and gain demption in his kids' eyes? Much of the early go works well, and the big special-effects set pieces the first half come off strongly. But after a while, impossible to cotton to the fact that, in the mov world, Tom Cruise is the center of the univer Couldn't this have been about a group of peo trying to survive, with the dad and his kids (Jus Chatwin, screechy Dakota Fanning) being a f among this community? Eventually, it's hard to c about them and, as usual in these star vehicles, story turns ridiculous to make the star look good telltale moment comes when dad and daughter among a hysterical horde about to be consumed an alien machine-beast. Yet, suddenly, wh Cruise's character is about to be offed, the cro unites to save *his* hide. Unbelievable. (At Bost Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Wedding Crashers ★★★
Owen Wilson and Vince Vaughn have supplied m onscreen laughs than just about anybody else o the last decade, so it's great to see Wilson's sly dra ing and Vaughn's motor-mouthed ranting togeth They play the title characters, whose social lif built around ingratiating their way into nupti being the life of the party and seducing high-on-l female wedding guests. The montage of them do just that is hilarious, though the plot does mo into more of a *Meet the Parents*–style story than pected. The two buddies fall in with an influen Beltway family so that Wilson's character can pur one daughter (Rachel McAdams), leaving Vaugh to reluctantly come along and fight off anot daughter (Isla Fisher). But the gags are usually go the cast funny (even Jane Seymour) and the caret charm of its stars carries over to the entire mo (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Special Events

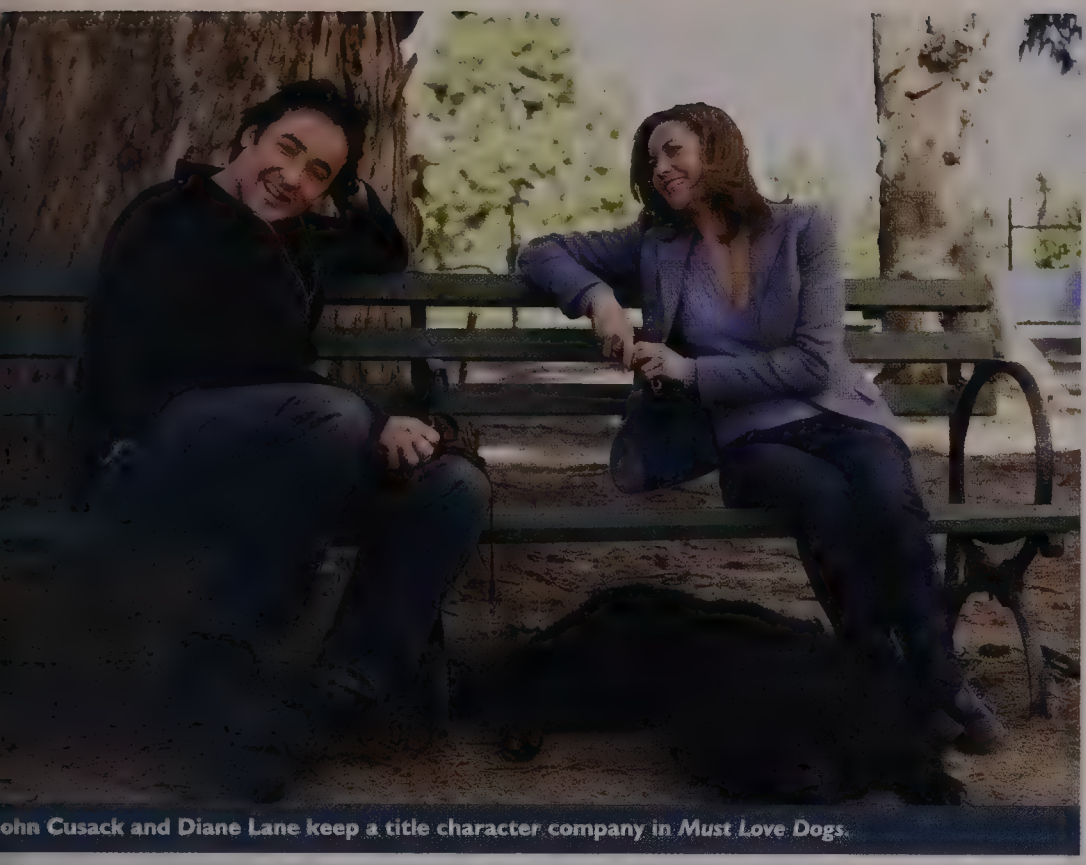
Click at a Flick
Loews Boston Common Theatre, 175 Tremont S Boston (617-423-5801). www.enjoytheshow.co MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Aug. 10. Party st at 6:30 pm, movie at 8 pm. $9.75. An event for s gles to meet for cocktails before the screening of **T Island**, starring Ewan McGregor and Scarlett Joha son, who discover they're clones.

Thor in Concert plus Screening
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard S Brookline (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.c MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Aug. 9:30 pm. $12. Rocker Thor takes the stage fo concert promoting his new album *Thor Against World*, followed by a screening of his film **T Intercessor**, about a creature who fights to sa the last innocent souls on the planet.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to C endar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadlin four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
Movies by Moonlight
•Aug. 5, dusk. **The Postman Always Rings Tw** *1946.* Tay Garnett directs this film about a drif who's hired at a roadside restaurant and has an af with the owner's wife.



John Cusack and Diane Lane keep a title character company in *Must Love Dogs*.

ug. 12, dusk. **An American in Paris** *1951*. An ress falls for a struggling American artist (Gene lly), who in turn falls in love with a girl (Leslie ron) who's already engaged. Vincente Minnelli ects.

OSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

ool Flicks for a Hot Summer Series

ug. 4, 6 pm. **Barbarella** *1968*. Jane Fonda plays rbarella, a woman who must save the world from l scientist Duran-Duran. Roger Vadim directs.

ug. 11, 6 pm. **Hit the Ice** *1943*. Charles Lamont ects this Abbott and Costello film about two men whose photographs of a bank robbery get them in trouble tons of hot water with the actual crooks.

The Remarkable Fredric March Film Series

•Aug. 8, 5:30 pm. **The Best Years of Our Lives** *1946*. Three men return home from WWII to find that their lives have changed completely. March stars and William Wyler directs.

•Aug. 15, 6:30 pm. **The Desperate Hours** *1955*. Three murderers escape from prison and hide out in a family's home. March stars and William Wyler directs.

10th Annual IberoAmerican Film Fest

•Aug. 3, 6 pm. **Un Oso Rojo** *(A Red Bear) 2002*. A man seeks revenge and tries to reunite with his family after being released from prison. Adrián Caetano directs.

•Aug. 9, 6 pm. **Maria Llena Eres de Gracia** *(Maria Full of Grace) 2004*. Joshua Marston directs the story of a pregnant Colombian teenager who transports drugs to support her family.

•Aug. 10, 6 pm. **Villa-Lobos: Uma Vida de Paixão** *(Villa-Lobos: A Life of Passion) 2000*. Antonio Fagundes and Andre Ricardo portray Brazilian composer Heiter Villa-Lobos ruminating on the genius, madness, love and strife that marked his career.

•Aug. 16, 6 pm. **Jaime** *1999*. A 13-year-old boy in Portugal saves money to buy a motorcycle. António-Pedro Vasconcelos directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Godzilla: Final Wars

•Aug. 5-6, 2 pm, 4:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm, 12 am; Aug 7-8, 2 pm, 4:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm. **Godzilla: Final Wars** *2004*. Ryuhei Kitamura directs the 28th Godzilla film, in which Godzilla travels around the world to fight his old enemies as well as Monster X.

Recent Raves

•Aug. 4, 3:30 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm. **Kung Fu Hustle** *2004*. Stephen Chow directs the story of an aspiring Chinese gangster in this martial arts film.

•Aug. 11, 3:30 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10 pm. **Funny Ha Ha** *2003*. Cameras follow a recent college grad on her quest to find a job and a boyfriend. Andrew Bujalski directs.

Summer of Rock

•Aug. 3, 7 pm. **Almost Famous** *2000*. Patrick Fugit and Kate Hudson star in a '70s-era story of a young *Rolling Stone* journalist touring with a rock band. 4:30 pm, 9:30 pm. **The Last Waltz** *1978*. Martin Scorsese directs The Band's final concert, which includes Eric Clapton, Muddy Waters, Van Morrison and more.

•Aug. 9, 3:30 pm, 7:30 pm. **The Breakfast Club** *1985*. John Hughes directs this cult classic that follows a group of students stuck in Saturday detention. Double Feature. 5:30 pm, 9:30 pm. **Repo Man** *1984*. Emilio Estevez stars as Otto Maddox, a young man searching for a 1964 Chevy Malibu. Alex Cox directs.

•Aug. 10, 3:15 pm, 7:30 pm. **Mystery Train** *1989*. Jim Jarmusch directs this tribute to Elvis, centering on the story of a night clerk at a hotel. Double Feature. 6:30 pm, 9:45 pm. **Big Time** *1988*. Chris Blum directs entertainer Tom Waits in this concert film.

•Aug. 16, 3 pm, 7:30 pm. **Dazed and Confused** *1993*. Richard Linklater directs the story about the end of the year at a Texas high school in 1976. Double Feature. 5:15 pm, 9:45 pm. **School of Rock** *2003*. Richard Linklater directs the story of a wanna-be rock legend, played by Jack Black, who poses as a substitute teacher and turns his class into a rock band.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Features

•Opening Aug. 5. **Broken Flowers** *2005*. Bill Murray stars in this film directed by Jim Jarmusch about an aging man who learns that he has a 19-year-old son. •Opening Aug. 12. **Grizzly Man** *2005*. Werner Herzog directs this film about the death of real-life grizzly bear expert Timothy Treadwell in an attack by a rogue bear.

Midnight at the Coolidge

•Aug. 12, 12 am. **Offensive Animation** *1930s and 1940s*. This collection of cartoons features ethnic, racial and gender-based humor from a time when the United States was not so politically correct.

•Aug. 13, 12 am. **Cartoons Too Violent for Children** *1930s and 1940s*. This screening includes extremely violent cartoons made by Walt Disney, Tex Avery and others.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Summer Double Features

•Aug. 3, 7 pm. **Ball of Fire** *1941*. Howard Hanks directs a loose parody of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* in which a nightclub singer turns up on the doorstep of a boarding house. 9 pm. **The Mir-**

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Una Bella Serata

acle Woman *1932*. An evangelist gains fame through a carnival promoter. Frank Capra directs.
•Aug. 4, 7 pm; Aug. 6, 9 pm. **La Ronde** *(The Round Dance) 1950*. Max Ophüls directs. Ten sketches feature a group of lovers who change partners until their affairs come full circle. Aug. 4, 9 pm; Aug. 6, 7 pm. **Thérese Raquin** *(The Adultress) 1953*. Marcel Carné directs. A bored housewife has a tragic affair with an Italian truckdriver.
•Aug. 5, 7 pm. **Jumping Jacks** *1952*. Norman Taurog directs. A comedian pretends to be a paratrooper in order to perform on a military base. 9 pm. **The Stooge** *1953*. Dean Martin plays a nightclub singer who revives his career by teaming up with comedian Jerry Lewis, but when he decides to go solo, his former partner causes trouble. Norman Taurog directs.
•Aug. 7, 7 pm. **Hobson's Choice** *1954*. A widowed boot maker is challenged when his daughter and her husband open a rival boot shop. David Lean directs. 9 pm. **Sidewalks of London** *1938*. Two street performers entertain in London's theater district until one is taken in by a theater owner. Tim Whelan directs.
•Aug. 8, 7 pm. **I Know Where I'm Going** *1945*. A young woman faces many obstacles while traveling to Scotland for her wedding. Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger direct. 8:45 pm. **Outcast of the Islands** *1952*. Carol Reed directs an interpretation of Joseph Conrad's novel, in which a British expatriate hides from his past on a Malaysian island and betrays those closest to him.
•Aug. 9, 7 pm. **An Inspector Calls** *1954*. A family dinner in 1900 is interrupted when an inspector informs the guests that a young woman has been murdered. Guy Hamilton directs. 8:30 pm. **The Belles of St. Trinian's** *1954*. A bookie enrolls his daughter in a private school to learn racing tips from a classmate whose father owns a prizewinning racehorse. Frank Lauder directs.
•Aug. 10, 7 pm; Aug. 12, 9 pm. **Frankenstein** *1931*. James Whale directs this classic about a mad scientist who creates a monster out of corpses. Aug. 10, 8:30 pm; Aug. 12, 7 pm. **The Spirit of the Beehive** *1973*. Victor Erice directs this film in which two sisters become obsessed with Frankenstein after seeing the movie.
•Aug. 11, 7 pm; Aug. 14, 9 pm. **Les Enfants Terribles** *(The Strange Ones) 1950*. A brother and sister's obsessive relationship is upset when the sister brings an outsider into their life. Jean-Pierre Melville directs. Aug. 11, 9 pm; Aug. 14, 7 pm. **Fists in the Pocket** *1965*. In an attempt to help his brother marry, a man murders his disabled family members. Marco Bellocchio directs.
•Aug. 13, 7 pm; Aug. 15, 7 pm. **Que Viva Mexico!** *(Long Live Mexico!) 1932*. Sergei M. Eisenstein directs Grigori Aleksandrov's adaptation of Eisenstein's footage of indigenous life in Me ico. Aug. 13, 8:45 pm; Aug. 15, 8:45 pm. **San Sangre** *(Holy Blood) 1989*. A former child ma cian escapes from an asylum and reunites wi his mother. Alejandro Jodorowsky directs.
•Aug. 16, 7 pm. **Mother Joan of the Ang** *1961*. In a film based on actual events, nuns a monastery near Loudun experience Satar possession. Jerzy Kawalerowicz directs. 9 p **Thérese** *1986*. Alain Cavalier directs a stc inspired by St. Thérese of Lisieux in which young and devoted nun dies of tuberculosis.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

•Aug. 4, 6 pm. **The Rider Named Death** *20* Karen Shakhnazarov directs this epic abc Moscow in 1905.
•Aug. 4, 8 pm; Aug. 6, 10:30 am, Aug. 7, 2:30 p **Edvard Munch** *1974*. Peter Watkins directs a bi raphy of the Norwegian artist's life from 1884 un 1894.
•Aug. 5, 6:15, Aug. 6, 3:30 pm; Aug. 7, 10:30 a Aug. 11, 3:45 pm; Aug. 13, 1 pm. **My Mothe Smile** *2002*. An artist's life falls apart when l family wants to canonize his murdered moth Marco Bellocchio directs.
•Aug. 5, 8:15 pm; Aug. 6, 1:45 pm; Aug. 7, 12: pm; Aug. 11, 2 pm; Aug. 13, 11 am. **After Midnig** *2004*. A romance blossoms in Turin's Museum Cinema. Davide Ferrario directs.
•Aug. 11, 8 pm; Aug. 12, 7:45 pm; Aug. 13, 7: pm; Aug. 14, 3 pm. **Antares** *2004*. Gotz Spi mann directs this drama about sexual relati ships.

Latin American Cinema

•Aug. 12, 6 pm; Aug. 13, 5:30 pm; Aug. 14, 1: pm. **The Middle of the World** *2003*. Vicer Amorim directs the story of a Brazilian famil road trip by bicycle to find a job for their father.

New England Film Artists Sponsored Series

•Aug. 4, 8 pm. **Far from Home.** Rachel Tsutsun documentary shows an African-American gi experiences in a predominantly white school Weston.
•Aug. 11, 5:45 pm; Aug. 13, 3 pm; Aug. 14, am. **Nothing Like Dreaming**. Nora Jacobson rects this film about a high school girl and an o sider artist in rural Vermont.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Sept. 10. **Coral Reef Adventu** Howard and Michele Hall embark on a 10-mo voyage in the South Pacific.
•Through Sept. 10. **Everest.** This movie depicts true story of a team of climbers who find ho strength and triumph in the wake of tragedy.
•Through Sept. 10. **Lewis and Clark: Great Jo ney West** tells of the explorers' famous expediti from Illinois to the Pacific Ocean.

Things get toasty for Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson in *The Wedding Crashers*.

uttermaker (Billy Bob Thornton) counts the minutes until the next drink in *Bad News Bears*.

rough Sept. 10. **Shackleton's Antarctic Adven-**
e. Film crews trace Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1914-
6 expedition.
rough Sept. 10. **Mystery of the Nile.** Explorers make
first attempt of a full descent down the Nile River.

W ENGLAND
UARIUM
nons IMAX Theater
rough Aug. 11. **Sharks 3D.** Jean-Michel
steau tracks the ocean's ultimate predators.
rough Aug. 11. **Wild Safari.** The elephant, the
e buffalo, the rhino, the leopard and the lion are seen up close on a trip across the savannah. Opening Aug. 12. **Batman Begins** 2005. Christopher Nolan directs the story of how Bruce Wayne became Batman.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON
Regent Theatre
7 Medford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON
Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-499-1996). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

From the Hip

Jazz icon Roy Haynes toasts his 80th birthday with a youthful edge.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Boston-born drummer Roy Haynes has played the Newport Jazz Festival numerous times since the 1950s, including a 1963 performance with the John Coltrane Quartet that yielded a historic 18-minute exploration of "My Favorite Things."

Jazz musician and Boston native Roy Haynes has played with the best since the 1940s.

"We went on last, and a lot of people had left and were leaving as we were onstage," says Haynes, who returns to Newport Aug. 14 to celebrate his 80th birthday. "They left a lot of places with Coltrane in the '60s, and he was such a genius."

Haynes can certainly measure greatness, having also played over the years with Louis Armstrong, Lester Young, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk, Billie Holiday, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, Bud Powell, Sarah Vaughan and Stan Getz.

Yet the first Newport memory that Haynes mentions by phone from his Long Island home is of watching Frank Sinatra perform with Count Basie's orchestra in 1965. "On his last number, he picked up the [song] book and put it under his arm, and the helicopter motors had both started," Haynes says. "It was so damn dramatic."

Haynes, who enjoyed a backstage cake at Scullers the week before his March 13 milestone and says he's "still cutting my cake all over the world," isn't looking for drama when he plays the JVC Jazz Festival at Newport. But for his "80th Birthday Celebration," he is slated to play with guests Chick Corea, Gary Burton, Wynton Marsalis, Joshua Redman and Christian McBride, in addition to his own Fountain of Youth Band.

"It's beginning to feel a little more commercial," he says. "At this stage of my career, I'm not always excited about those things. I like to go on the bandstand and have my own project, 'cause I go in any direction I want to go without being polite to somebody 'cause they're a great artist."

One can count on Haynes to shoot from the hip—and to remain hipper than most men half his age. The man whom frequent collaborator Pat Metheny calls "the father of modern drumming" brings fresh energy to his kit and wardrobe alike.

"That's what I hear everywhere I go," Haynes says of his snappy sense of fashion, down to his wristwatch and hats. "That's my way of life I guess, the way I think."

In contrast, most of his contemporaries have passed on. "When you think about it, it does seem a little lonesome," Haynes says. "There are very few people left that were around during the period when I came to New York [in 1945]. All my drumming buddies, most of them are gone, and here I am winning the polls. It feels a little strange."

Haynes got his start in the '40s, playing with Sabby Lewis and other bandleaders in Boston clubs and restaurants. "People didn't really concentrate on the music," Haynes says. "The music was secondary, background, to the ladies dancing and all of that. It was an exciting period."

In 1945, Haynes received a telegram from bandleader Luis Russell via the musicians' union ("They had two unions in Boston in those days, black and white," Haynes says) to join Russell in New York. That association led to a tour of the South with Louis Armstrong, then a stint with Lester Young in 1947. Two years later, Haynes worked with another sax legend, creating bebop in Charlie Parker's quintet. "It seems the drums were playing themselves," Haynes says.

He compares playing a drum kit to riding a horse. "One time when I was a teenager, we went horseback riding, and I've heard people say the horse knows when you don't know what the hell you're doing, and that horse took me," Haynes says. "When you ride a horse, you're signaling him with what you're doing, the way you're holding or tightening the reins. As the leader, that's what I do with my band. I give them directions. If I want them to go, I tighten up there and I loosen up there."

The origins of Haynes' hard-swinging, percolating rhythms might be traced back to another of his teenage experiences, as a student at Roxbury Memorial High School. "I used to play on the desks with my thumb 'cause when you had those desks, it was almost a hollow sound," he says. "I had the students listening to me and not listening to the teacher, and he didn't like that. He sent me to the principal with a note and I had to come back with one of my parents."

"I didn't bother to go back to school," says Haynes, who later received honorary degrees from Berklee College of Music and New England Conservatory for his pioneering accomplishments. "I graduated in my own mind." iB

Roy Haynes
plays the JVC Jazz Festival at Newport Aug. 14.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music or by mail to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete listing of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Anger Management Tour 3: Eminem, 50 Cent & Unit, Lil Jon & the Eastside Boyz, D-12, Obie Tri
Stat Quo Aug. 10, Tweeter Center (617-931-200
Backstreet Boys Aug. 14, Tweeter Center (6 931-2000).
Kelly Clarkson Aug. 4, Verizon Wireless Ar (617-931-2000).
Coldplay Aug. 6, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000)
Destiny's Child Aug. 6, TD Banknorth Gar (617-931-2000).
Neil Diamond Aug. 15-16, TD Banknorth Gar (617-931-2000).
Ben Folds, Rufus Wainwright, Ben Lee Aug Bank of America Pavilion (617-932-2000).
David Gray, Micah P. Hinson Aug. 4, Avalon (6 262-2424).
Kings of Leon Aug. 5, Avalon (617-262-2424).
KISS 108 Concert on the Charles: Jesse McCa ney Aug. 13, Hatch Memorial Shell.
Brian Wilson Aug. 9, Bank of America Pavil (617-931-2000).

Music Festival

JVC Jazz Festival at Newport August 11-14, v ous venues in Newport, RI, (866-468-761 www.festivalproductions.net. Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 Sat.-Sun., 11:30 am-7 pm. $30-$100. The fest hosts some of the biggest names in jazz, includ Eartha Kitt, Wynton Marsalis, Bela Fleck, Carla B Ravi Coltrane, Roy Haynes and Benny Green.

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

Abbey Lounge Graham Isaacson, 7 pm; Fred Sha 8 pm; the Uncomfortables, 9 pm; 28N, 9:45 Bleedin Bleedins, 10:45 pm; Suzuki Smith, 11:45 p
Axis Lucky Boys Confusion, the Working Ti Melee, Dropping Daylight, 7 pm, $10.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bravo at the MFA The Holmes Brothers, 7:30 $20-$25.
Breezeway P.J. Adamson, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Joe Cook's Blues J 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim We're About 9, 8 pm, $8-$10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Pete Barr, 9:30 pm, no cov
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Uncle Billy's Smokehouse, 9:30 $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Absolute Acoustics, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Ryan Montbleau, 8:30 pm, $8.
Lucky's Lounge Alex & Friends, 9:30 pm, no co
Middle East Upstairs: The Debutantes, Static of Gods, On the Surface, Swim Team, 9 pm, $8, 18
Paddy O's The Buzz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club The Comedians of Comed pm, 18+.
PA's The Poison Ivy League, Peelander-Z, Z.W 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 10 pm.
Regattabar The Zen, Tricksters, 7:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Nelson Rangell, $18.
Somerville Theatre The Johnny Clegg Band, 8 $27, $35.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no co
T.T. the Bear's Place Tigersaw, 9:05 pm; Gri Bear, 10 pm; Scout Niblett, 11 pm, $8.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover, 21
Les Zygomates April Hall Quartet, 8 pm, no co

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

Abbey Lounge ER, 7 pm; Juan Guerrero, 8 pm; S 9 pm; Done Mama Proud, 9:45 pm; the Doom E gies, 10:45 pm; Classic Ruins, 11:45 pm.

The Attic Long Lost.
Avalon David Gray, Micah P. Hinson, 7 pm, $32.25, 8+.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Bank of America Pavilion Trey Anastasio, Matisyahu, 6:30 pm, $38.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Boston Harbor Hotel Sherman Robertson, 6 pm, no cover.
Club Passim The Lonesome Sisters, $10-$12.
Copley Square Park deSol, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Irie Roots, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Grey Spot, 9 pm, 21+.
Jimmy D's Ivan Neville's Dumpstaphunk, 9 pm, $28.
Jorge Hernández Cultural Center Tito Puente & Orchestra, 8 pm, $25.
Kirkland Café Bajuco, Carnival of Fools, Charlie Chalase's Explorer, 8 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Weird War, Good Morning, Bin Fite, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Aquanet, 9 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Brick Park, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Marc Broussard, Glen Phillips, Elliot Morris, 9 pm, $15.50-$17.50, 18+.
Phoebe's Mike Fiore, Ryan Lee and the Mindless, Stephen Brodsky, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Regattabar The Joey, DeFrancesco Trio, 7:30 pm & 10 pm, $20.
Scullers Jazz Club Roy Ayers, $20.
Sons of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Verizon Wireless Arena Kelly Clarkson, 7:30 pm, $29.50-$50.50.
Zeitgeist Gallery Night of the Living Hammond Kids, 9:30 pm, $7.

Kings of Leon plays Avalon August 5

Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

Abbey Lounge Electrolux, 7 pm; Tiger Mountain, 9 pm; the Spoilers, 9:45 pm; TV Eye, 10:45 pm; Sugabomb, 11:45 pm.
The Attic Janet Robin.
Avalon Kings of Leon, Secret Machines, the Helio Sequence, 6 pm, $25, 18+.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Bank of America Pavilion Rufus Wainwright, Ben Folds, Ben Lee, 7:30 pm, $25, $35.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan; Upstairs: McTaggarts.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook, the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Jude Johnstone, Dave's True Story, 8 pm, $10-$12.

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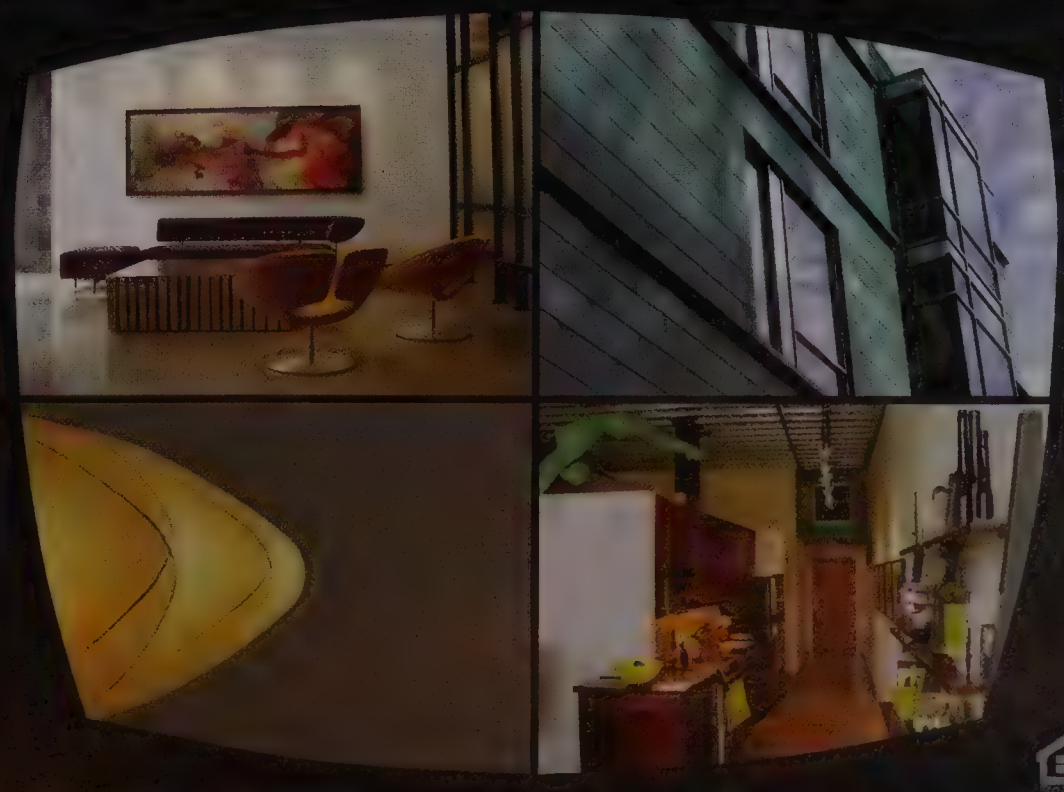

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Dick's Last Resort Classic Traxx, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Magnus, 9:30 pm, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Four Inch Stud, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Beatlejuice, Brad Delp, 9:30 pm, $10 in advance, $12 at the door, 21+.
Hennessy's Syndicate, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Beausoleil with Michael Doucet, 9:45 pm, $25.
Kirkland Café Kweejeebo, the Third Life, Groove of the Day, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Greg Luttrell, Blacksnake, 10 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Common Thrill, Alchemilla, Sad Marvin, the Angelic Bombs, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Sweetfist, Lemonstone, Mike Previti, Noel Christopher, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Midway Cafe The Tom Foolers, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, 5 pm, no cover, 21+; Brogue, 9 pm, $5 cover starting at 9:30 pm, 21+.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paddy O's Dick n Jane, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris Last Man Standing, 9:30 pm, $5-$10, 21+.
PA's Rick Berlin, BJ Snowden, Dru Toews, Jeff Chasse, Ghetto Blaster, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Regattabar James Carter Organ Trio, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $25.
Scullers Jazz Club Roy Ayers, $20.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
WaterWorks Stu Lee, 8 pm, $5-$10.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

Abbey Lounge Munk, 7 pm; Joshua Gabriel, 8 pm; Cocked 'n' Loaded, 9 pm; the Turpentine Brothers, 9:45 pm; the Patsys, 10:45 pm; Spitzz, 11:45 pm.
The Attic Melodeego, Sam Hooper & the Hooker St. Band.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan; Upstairs: McTaggarts.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Kevin So & Friends, 8 pm, $13-$15.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Clay Aiken August 28, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Allman Brothers Band, moe. August 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Tori Amos, the Ditty Bops, Imogen Heap August 21, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
50 Cent, Ludacris, Ciara, Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz August 22, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Green Day September 3, Gillette Stadium (617-931-2000).
Daryl Hall and John Oates, Tears for Fears August 23, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Chris Isaak August 19, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Jethro Tull October 6, Lowell Memorial Auditorium (617-931-2000).
Elton John September 16-17, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson September 15, Campanelli Stadium (508-559-7070).
Journey August 20, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
KC and the Sunshine Band August 20, Hatch Memorial Shell.
Avril Lavigne, Gavin DeGraw, Butch Walker August 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis & the News August 18, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Paul McCartney September 26-27, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Meat Loaf August 17, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Rolling Stones August 21-23, Fenway Park (617-931-2000).
Steve Miller Band, Bob Weir & Ratdog August 26, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
311, Papa Roach, Unwritten Law August 19, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
U2 October 3-4, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
White Stripes September 20-22, The Opera House (617-931-2000).

Dick's Last Resort Mugsy, 9 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Fast Times, 9:30 pm, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp Zoom, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Grey Spot, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Meet the Day, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Strangemen, Prime Movers, Amazona, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Al Vega Trio, 7 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Andy Voelker, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Pico vs. Island Trees, Snoozebox, New Blood, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Cafe Queereoke, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Brogue, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Olde Magoun's Saloon Rock Star, 10 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Incadence, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Robby Roadsteamer, the Ducky Boys, Far from Finished, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Parris Last Man Standing, 9:30 pm, $5-$10, 21+.
PA's The Westward Trail, Cassette, Cyanide Valentine, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate, 9:30 pm, $5.
Regattabar James Carter Organ Trio, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $25.
TD Banknorth Garden Destiny's Child, 7 pm, $44.75-$81.75.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
Tweeter Center Coldplay, Black Mountain, 7:30 pm, $30.50-$69.
Zeitgeist Gallery ColorAndTalea, 7 pm, $10.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-Jah.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 no cover, 21+.
Club Passim John Wesley Harding's Love Hall T Kelly Hogan, Nora O'Connor, Brian Lohmann, pm, $13-$15.
Dick's Last Resort Mike Tarara, 7:30 pm, no co
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinn 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, 9:30 no cover.
Harpers Ferry Hip Hop Anonymous, Savin ILL n' P, Dramatik, AfroDZak, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pender 9 am.
Lucky's Lounge Al Vega Trio, Alex MacDou 8:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Panorama, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Tony Reeks of the Gr the Glow, the Willowz, the Drags, 9 pm, $8, 1
Midway Cafe Ujaama, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; M Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Katie Locke, 9:15 pm; the rors, 10:15 pm; Will Champlin, 11:15 pm, $6.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover, 2
WaterWorks Joshua Tree, 8 pm, $10-$20.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon En ble, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Central Square Hayride.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

Abbey Lounge Luke Eriksen, Johari Window, 7
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Open Mike with Marum, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Dave Palmater, 8 pm, $5-$10.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:30 pm cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 9 pm, 21+.
Matt Murphy's BTG, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Abernathy, the Ebb and the List Exists, Marah Mar, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Midway Cafe Neptune, Thank You, Wzt Hearts Donna Parker, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Coldplay plays the Tweeter Center August 6.

ilky Way Open Mike with Nanci McDonald, 8 n, no cover.
ıddy O's Gary Hatrell, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
ıradise Rock Club Lounge: Alternate Routes, ons of William, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
p of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
onder Bar The Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon nsemble, 9 pm.
s Zygomates Steven Spungin, 8 pm, no cover.

UESDAY, AUGUST 9

ank of America Pavilion Brian Wilson, 7:30 pm, 5-$75.
ne Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
oston Harbor Hotel Ray Greene, 6 pm, no cover.
antab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, eunion Band, 8 pm, no cover, 21+; Downstairs: uegrass Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
ub Passim Open Mike, Abi Tapia, 7 pm, $5, non-embers; no cover, members.
ick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:30 pm, no ver.
ne Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb, 9:30 pm, no ver, 21+.
reen Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Rocka-lly Jazz from the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
ennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.
hnny D's Jade Day, 8:30 pm, $8.
cky's Lounge Acoustic After Dark, 9:30 pm, no ver.
att Murphy's Public House, 11 pm, no cover.
iddle East Upstairs: Second By Second, Elijah yman, Asher Melodic, Photobooth Memories, m, $8, 18+.
dway Cafe Metal Lux, Carlos Giffano, Fat Worm, es Arms of Moke, Irene Moon, Greg Kelly, 9:30 n, 21+.
ilky Way Super Star Karaoke, 10 pm, no cover.
ddy O's Brian Belcher, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
's Tom Leach, Death Vessel, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
rple Shamrock Karaoke with Dana Z, 9:30 pm.
p of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no ver.
. the Bear's Place Blythe Hollow, 9:05 pm; and Buffet, 10:05 pm; Magnolia Electric Co., 11 n, $10.
s Zygomates Evan Gutierrez Quartet, 8 pm, no ver.

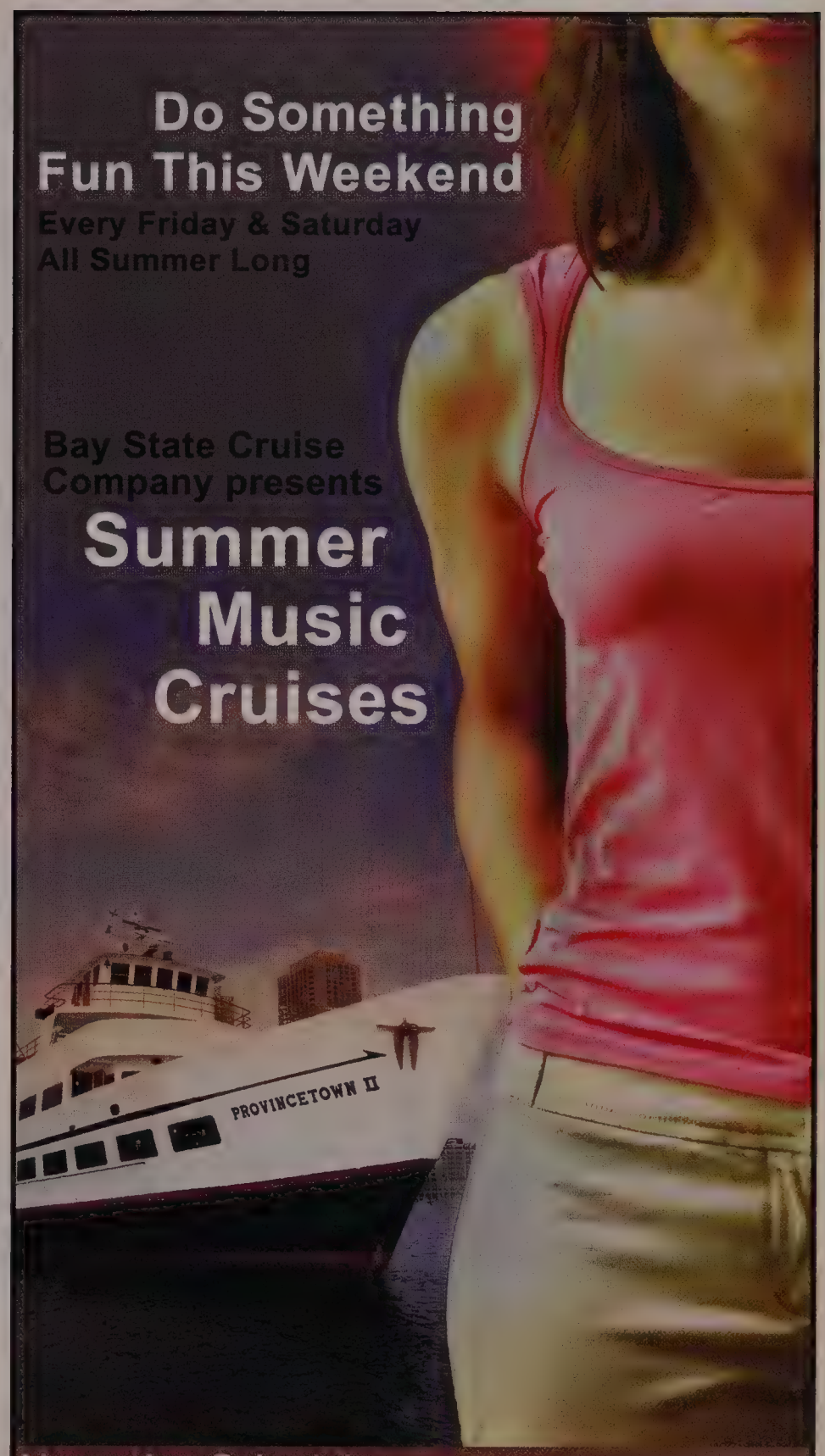
EDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

bey Lounge Swim to Shore, 7 pm; Ellery, 8 pm; on Rich Band, 9 pm; Welcome to Florida, 9:45 ; the Bludlows, 10:45 pm; Wendi Faren, 11:45 pm.
e Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
avo at the MFA Patty Larkin, 7:30 pm, $20-$25.
eezeway Rollins Ross, 7:30 pm, no cover.
ntab Lounge Upstairs: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, m, no cover, 21+.

Club Passim Deidre McCalla, 8 pm, $10-$12.
Dick's Last Resort Music Shmusic, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Bacci, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Uncle Billy's Smokehouse, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Absolute Acoustics, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.
Johnny D's Ryan Montbleau, 8:30 pm, $8.
Lucky's Lounge The Jody Grind, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Kidnapkin, Victrola, Rotten Lovers, Spanky Van Dyke, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy O's The Buzz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club The Knitters, Exene Cervenka, John Doe, Dave Alvin, DJ Bonebrake, Phranc. 8 pm, $16, 18+.
PA's Voxtrot, Sparrowhawk, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 10 pm.
Scullers Jazz Club Walter Beasley, $24-$26.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Tweeter Center Anger Management Tour 3: Eminem, 50 Cent, G-Unit, Lil Jon & the Eastside Boyz, D-12, Obie Trice, Stat Quo, 7 pm, $56-$81.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

Abbey Lounge The Needles, 9 pm; the Killer Abs, 9:45 pm; Jay Allen, Vicki Sixx, 10:45 pm; the Dollyrots, 11:45 pm.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Boston Harbor Hotel Big Jack Johnson, 6 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Laurie Geltman, Janet Robin, 8 pm, $13-$15.
Copley Square Park Carbon Leaf, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Bacci, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm, no cover.
The Harp The Blushing Brides, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Grey Spot, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Chuck Prophet, Kevin Connolly, 9 pm, $12.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: World's Greatest Sinners, the Gobshites, Sasquatch and the Sick-a-billys, Hot Rod Fury, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Smog, Feathers, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Midway Cafe Queereoke, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Milky Way Aquanet, 9 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Brick Park, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.



Upcoming Schedule Fridays and Saturdays

Friday August 5th
WAAF
Mistress Carrie, Paul Marshall

Saturday August 6th
Kiss 108
Summer Cruise Series with the Morning Team's Lisa Roach

Friday August 12th
Jim Plunkett

Saturday August 13th
Jam'n 94.5
Ramiro & Pebbles

Friday August 19th
The Lost 45's
With Barry Scott

Saturday August 20th
WAAF
Hillman Morning Team

Friday August 26th
Jim Plunkett

Saturday August 27th
Kiss 108
Summer Cruise Series with the Morning Team's Lisa Roach

Friday September 9th
Jim Plunkett

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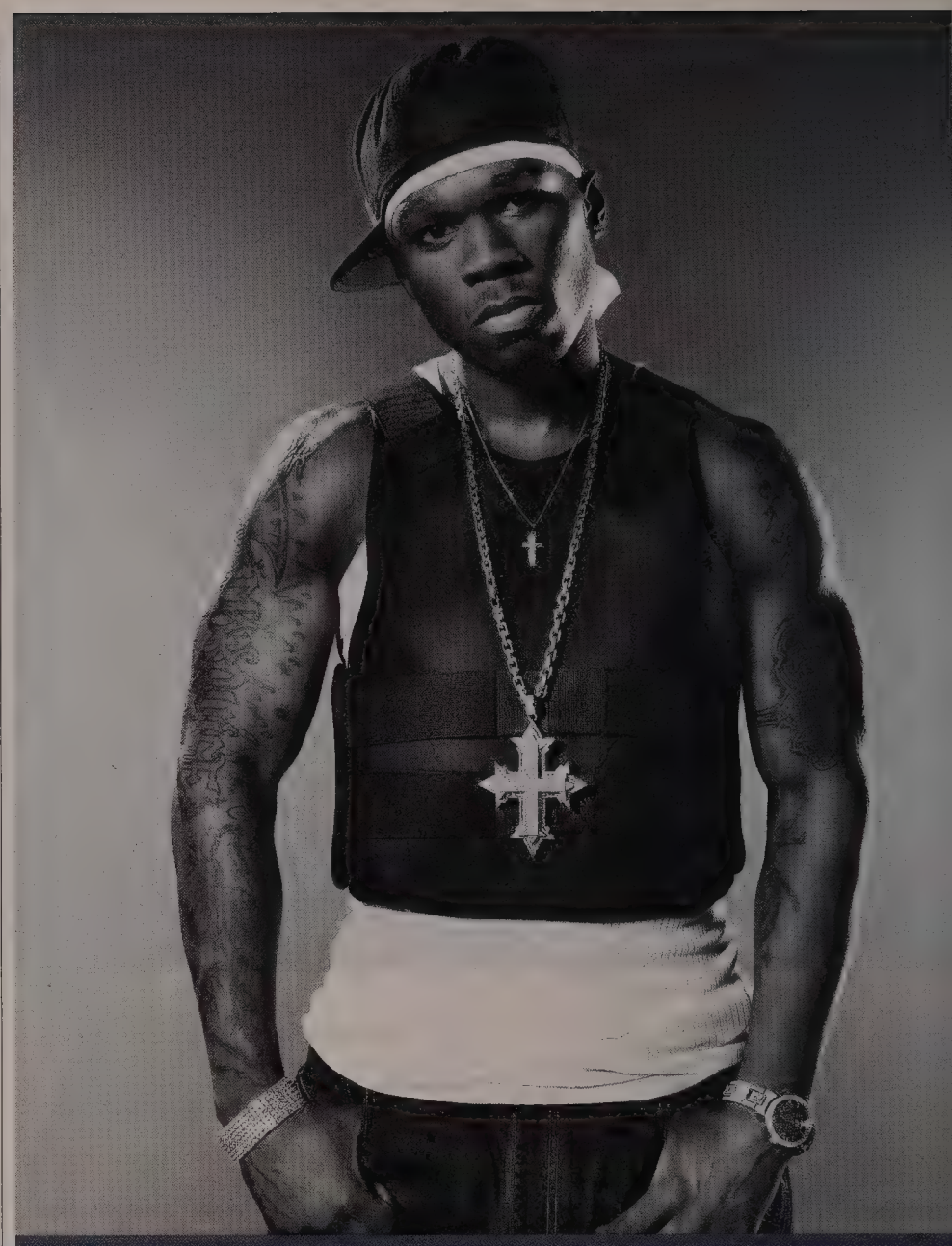

50 Cent performs as part of Anger Management Tour 3 Aug. 10 at the Tweeter Center

PA's Rachel Cantu, Milo Jones, Ryan Lee and the Mindless, Blanketeer, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Regattabar Coco Montoya, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $15.
Scullers Jazz Club Walter Beasley, $24-$26.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Amusia, 9 pm; the Dij, 10 pm, $7.
ZuZu BJ Snowden.
Les Zygomates Chris Stoval Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

Abbey Lounge Ben Godin, Sean Madden, 7 pm; Dawn Thomas, 8 pm; Mason Dixon, 9 pm; the Bee's Knees, 9:45 pm; the Dirty Truckers, 10:45 pm; Brett Rosenberg Problem, 11:45 pm.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne; Upstairs: Celtic Clan.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim The Avett Brothers, 8 pm, $10-$12.
Dick's Last Resort Mutha's Mistake, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal Incadence, 9:30 pm, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Velvet Jones, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Fast Times, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Marcia Ball, 9:45 pm, $25.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge The Alex MacDougall Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Thee Electric Bastards, Garagedogs, the Evil Queens, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Cafe Yukon, Piles, 9 pm, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5 pm, no cover, 21+; McTaggarts, 9 pm, $5 starting at 9:30 pm, 21+.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover, 21+.
Paddy O's Marcels, 9 pm, $5, 21+
Paradise Lounge: Skinny T Reunion, Starhick, 9 pm, 21+.
Parris Mo Faux, 9:30 pm, $5-$10, 21+.
PA's A Hawk and a Handsaw, Colleen, 9 pm, $5 21+.
Rise Astro & Glyde CD release party, 1:30 $10-$20.
Scullers Jazz Club Walter Beasley, $24-$26.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no c
WaterWorks Chad LaMarsh, 8 pm, $5-$10.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

Abbey Lounge Left Hand Does, 8 pm; Isabell's G pm; Cloud, 9:45 pm; Throttlerod, 10:45 pm; C torch, 11:45 pm.
The Attic The Times Band.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne; Ups Celtic Clan.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Charlie Farren, 8 pm, $13-$15.
Dick's Last Resort Desmond, 9 pm, no cover.
The Grand Canal The Prodigals, 9:30 pm, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Incadence, 9:30 pm 21+.
The Harp Ten Year Vamp, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Hatch Memorial Shell KISS 108 Concert o Charles: Jesse McCartney, 3 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Freeze Pop, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Sleepy LaBeef, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Johnny Plankton & the Sea Mo of Soul, John Denley & Band, Fox Pass, Folk 8:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Al Vega Trio, 7 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's The Well, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: 18 Wheels of Justice, down, the Forlorn Hope, Bipolarcoaster, P.S., $9, 18+.
Midway Cafe Yukon, Piles, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's McTaggarts, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar The Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:30 pm cover, 21+.
Olde Magoun's Saloon Loonatics, 10 pm, no c
Paddy O's Last Laugh, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

aradise Rock Club Lounge: Will Hoge, 9 pm, $10-12, 21+.
arris Mo Faux, 9:30 pm, $5-$10, 21+.
A's The Cannibal Kings, the Country Doctors, pm, $5-$7, 21+.
urple Shamrock Brick Park, 9:30 pm, $5.
op of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no over.
/aterWorks Fasttimes, 8 pm, $5-$10.
eitgeist Gallery ColorAndTalea, 7 pm, $10; Otis rove, 9 pm.
uZu Soul-le-lu-Jah.
es Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no over.

UNDAY, AUGUST 14

ne Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
antab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, +.
ub Passim The Reagan Babies, 7:30 pm, $8-$10.
ick's Last Resort Mike Tarara, 7:30 pm, no cover.
ne Green Dragon Tavern Grey Spot, 9:30 pm, no ver, 21+.
reen Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, 9:30 pm.
ennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.
hnny D's Jazz Brunch with Mathew Dorko and rry Kukers, 9 am.
icky's Lounge Al Vega Trio, Alex MacDougall, 30 pm, no cover.
att Murphy's Live and Direct, 11 pm, no cover.
iddle East Downstairs: Pernice Brothers, Royal n, 7 pm, $15, 18+.
p of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Marty Bal- Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place Beast, 11:15 pm, $6.
reeter Center Backstreet Boys, the Click Five, 7:30 , $26-$59.50.
ally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
aterWorks Frequency 7, 8 pm, $10-$20.
onder Bar The Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon semble, 9 pm, no cover.

ONDAY, AUGUST 15

e Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
ntab Lounge Open mike with Nick Plakias, m, no cover, 21+.
k's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Glass Candy, Danava, Young Sexy Assassins, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 9 pm, 21+.
Matt Murphy's State of the Art, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Hookups, Miller Drive, Rune, Full Service, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy O's Gary Hatrell, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
TD Banknorth Garden Neil Diamond, 8 pm, $42.50-$85.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 8 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Boston Harbor Hotel Sherman Robertson, 6 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, Fleeting Moment, 8 pm, no cover, 21+; Downstairs: Bluegrass Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, Elana Arian, 7 pm, $5, nonmembers; no cover, members.
Dick's Last Resort Elvis "Live," 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Rockabilly Jazz from the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Buddy Mondlock, 8:30 pm, $8.
Lucky's Lounge Acoustic After Dark, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Planes Mistaken For Stars, Smoke Or Fire, Read Yellow, Glass and Ashes, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Paddy O's Brian Belcher, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
PA's The Doublestops, Eastwood Drive, Dylan Rice and the Dynasties, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Dana Z, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Christy Bluhm Jazz Quartet, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Don Byron-Ivey/Divey Trio, $20.
TD Banknorth Garden Neil Diamond, 8 pm, $42.50-$85.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bank of America Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-931-2000) MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave., Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jorge Hernández Cultural Center *85 West Newton St., Boston (617-927-1730).*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*

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Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920).*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Cafe *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Nameless Coffehouse *3 Church St., Cambridge (617-864-1630). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Old Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somerville (617-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Out of the Blue Art Gallery *106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Orange Line to State St.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rise *306 Stuart St. Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA Green Line OT Arlington.*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
TD Banknorth Garden *100 Legends Way, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Mansfield.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

Harvard Summer School Pops Band

Memorial Church, Harvard Yard, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 4 pm. Thomas Everett conducts *The Animated Ameri* featuring music from cartoonist Raymond S and the world of Walt Disney.

Tanglewood Music Center

Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. Pia Anglea Hewitt performs works by Vine, Bach Ravel with the Australian Chamber Orchestra

WCRB Classical Concert Series

Hatch Shell, Storrow Drive, Boston (617-626-49 www.mass.gov/dcr/rec-act.htm. MBTA: Red Lin Charles/MGH. 7 pm. Free. The New England C servatory's Youth Orchestra and alumni perform

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

Emmanuel Church

15 Newbury St., Boston (508-212-6038). www.s boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $10 students and seniors. The Society for Historic Informed Performance (SoHIP) presents Seven T Salt, featuring music from the English Civil War.

Tanglewood Music Center

Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$53. Con tors Ingo Metzmacher and Ludovic Morlot the TMC Festival of Contemporary Music with anist Ursula Oppens and soprano Lucy Shelton.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

Harvard Summer Chorus

Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, Cambridge (496-2222). www.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Lin Harvard Square. 8 pm. Free. Jameson Marvin di the Harvard Summer Chorus in a performanc Mozart's Mass in C Minor.

Tanglewood Music Center

Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$85. Bari Matthias Goerne sings the music of Mahler. Ingo zmacher conducts.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

Boston Chamber Music Society

Pickman Hall, Longy School of Music, 27 Ga St., Cambridge (617-423-3883). www.bostonc

STU ROSNER
Lawn seats at the Tanglewood Music Ce

rmusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 8 n. $25. Clarinetist Thomas Hill, cellist Ronald homas and pianist Randal Hodgkinson perform orks by Beethoven, Brahms and more.

oston Pops

urfee High School, 360 Elsbree St., Fall River 17-266-1200). www.bostonpops.org. 8 pm. Free. eith Lockhart conducts the Boston Pops Es- anade Orchestra, featuring special guest Liz allaway.

anglewood Music Center

oussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413- 7-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$85. Sir eville Marriner conducts an all-Mozart program aturing soprano Véronique Gens and pianist nathan Biss.

UNDAY, AUGUST 7

anglewood Music Center

oussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413- 7-5165). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $17-$85. Con- ctor Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos leads the Tangle- ood Festival Chorus in a performance including ahms and Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

ONDAY, AUGUST 8

anglewood Music Center

iji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637- 65). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $11-$26. Stefan As- ry conducts the TMC Orchestra in a performance works by Stucky, Philips and Hyla.

UESDAY, AUGUST 9

anglewood Music Center

iji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637- 65). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. Pianist nathan Biss and baritone David Wilson-Johnson form Bach, Mozart and Brahms with the Boston mphony Chamber Players.

EDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

CRB Classical Concert Series

tch Shell, Storrow Drive, Boston (617-626- 70). www.mass.gov/dcr/rec-act.htm. MBTA: d Line to Charles/MGH. 7 pm. Free. The Clas- al Concert Series presents the North Shore ilharmonic.

HURSDAY, AUGUST 11

nglewood Music Center

ji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637- 65). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. Pianist on Fleisher performs a program featuring Bach, ston, Perle and Schubert.

RIDAY, AUGUST 12

nglewood Music Center

ussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413- 7-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$85. Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos conducts the music of Falla and Strauss, inspired by Cervantes' *Don Quixote*. Guest performers include cellist Truls Mork and the Bob Brown Puppets.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

Boston Chamber Music Society

Pickman Hall, Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-423-3883). www.bostonchamber-music.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 8 pm. $25. Violinist Irina Muresanu, cellist Ronald Thomas and pianist Heng-Jin Park perform a selection of Beethoven, Debussy and Brahms.

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Boston Common Parkman Bandstand, Boston (617-282-2510). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 8 pm. Free. Charles Ansbacher conducts the concert series *Romantics in the Park*, featuring the music of Schumann, Wagner and Schubert.

Harvard Summer School Orchestra

Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 8 pm. Free. Judith Zuckerman conducts the Harvard Summer School Orchestra in its annual concert featuring music by Mozart, Ippolitov-Ivanov and Jeffrey Brody with violin soloist Arturo Delmoni.

Tanglewood Music Center

Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$85. Sir Andrew Davis conducts the BSO with violinist Gil Shaham in Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 4 and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

Tanglewood Music Center

Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $17-$85. Andrew Davis conducts an all-Mozart program featuring flutist Sir James Galway and BSO principal harpist Ann Hobson Pilot.

MONDAY, AUGUST 15

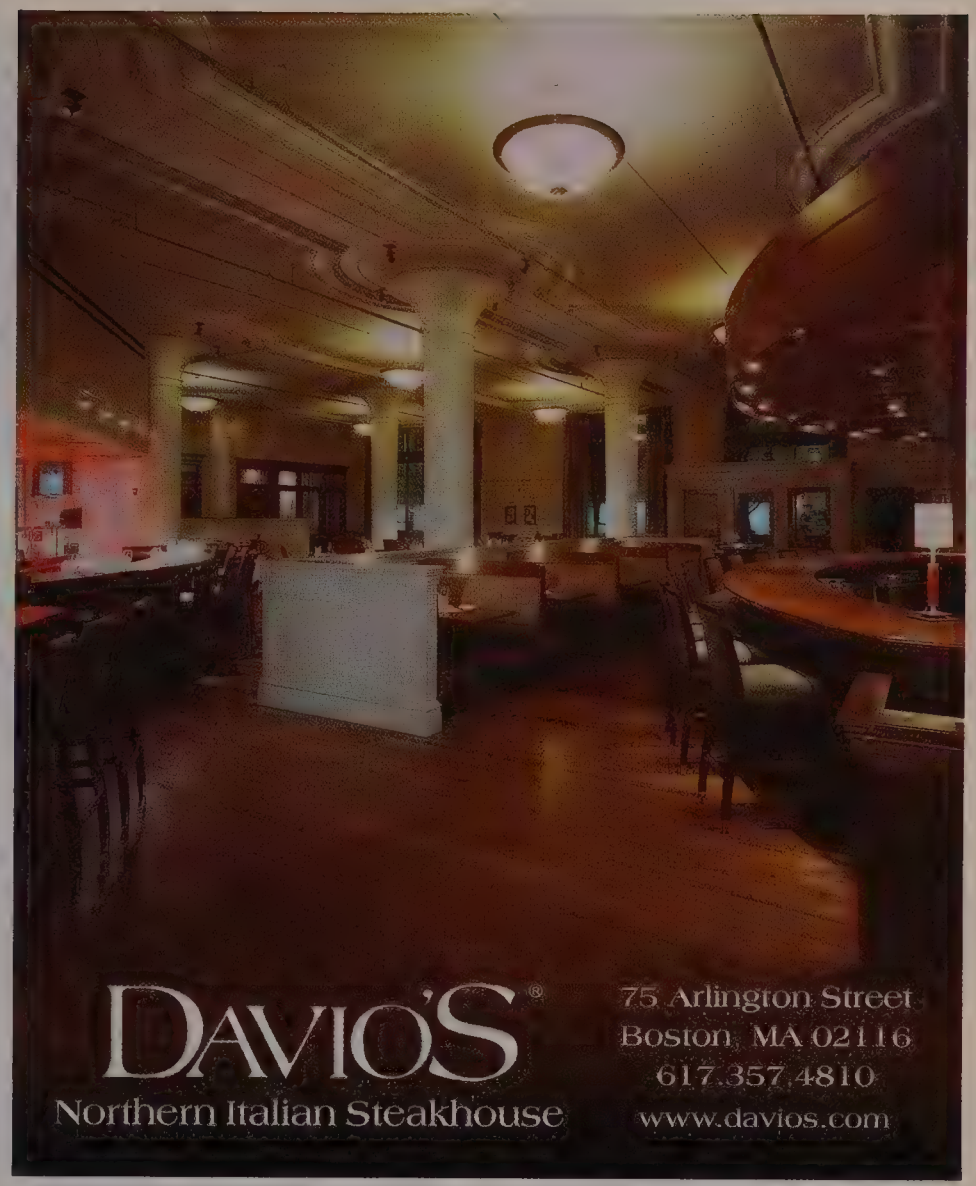
Tanglewood Music Center

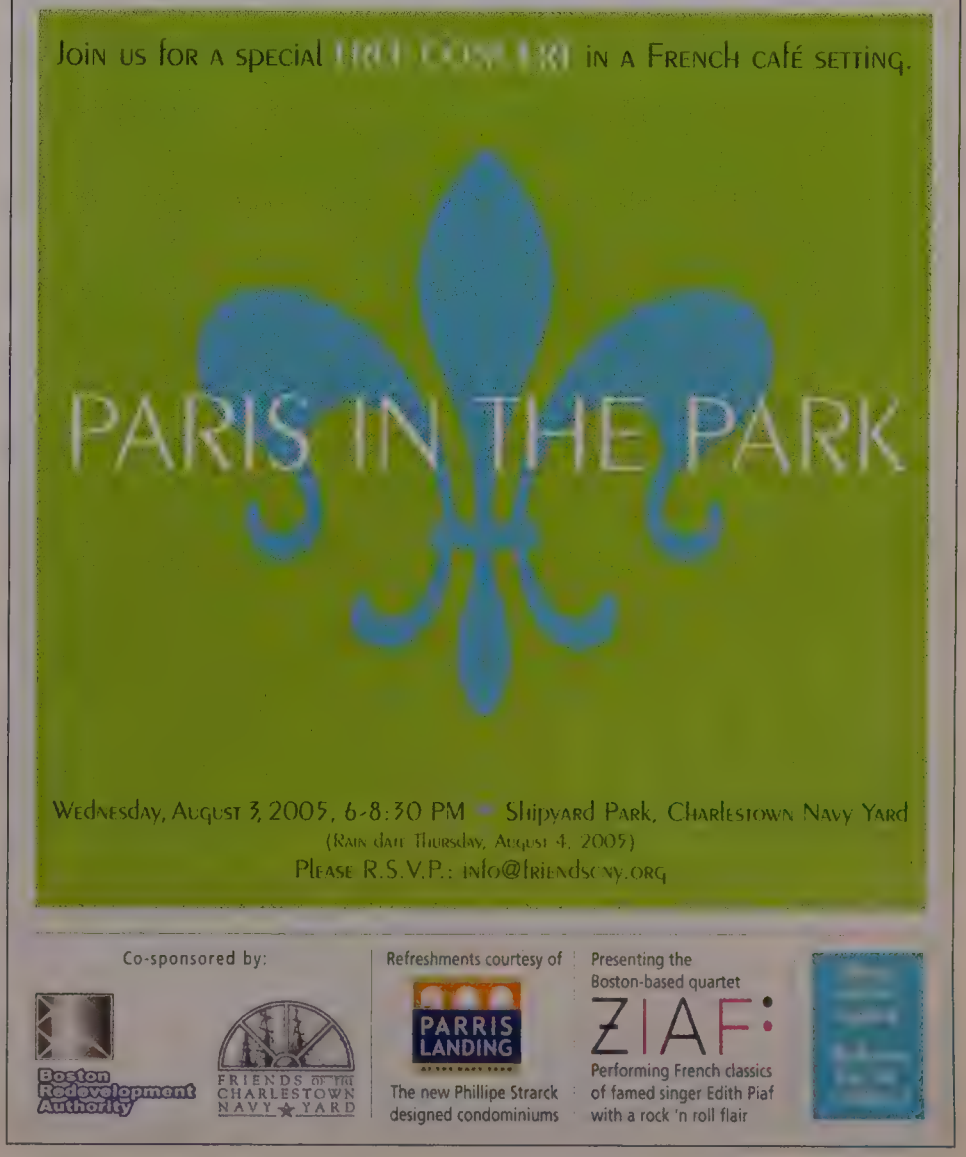
Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $11-$26. Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos conducts the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra in a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 6, Strauss' *Don Juan* and Suite from *Der Rosenkavalier*.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

Tanglewood Music Center

Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$73. Cellist Yo-Yo Ma and pianist Emanuel Ax perform an all-Beethoven program.





dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with rotating DJs and drag performances, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ spins top-40, plus open mike and interactive video, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Felt
SIN Mondays This Service Industry Night includes free pool and guest DJs spinning high energy dance, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green St. Grill
Havana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
360 Dance to hip-hop and R&B, $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Bar 33
Havana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Live bands as well as rotating DJs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Tuesday Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Two Timin' Three performs rock-a-billy jazz music, 10:30 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Totally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic '80s music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

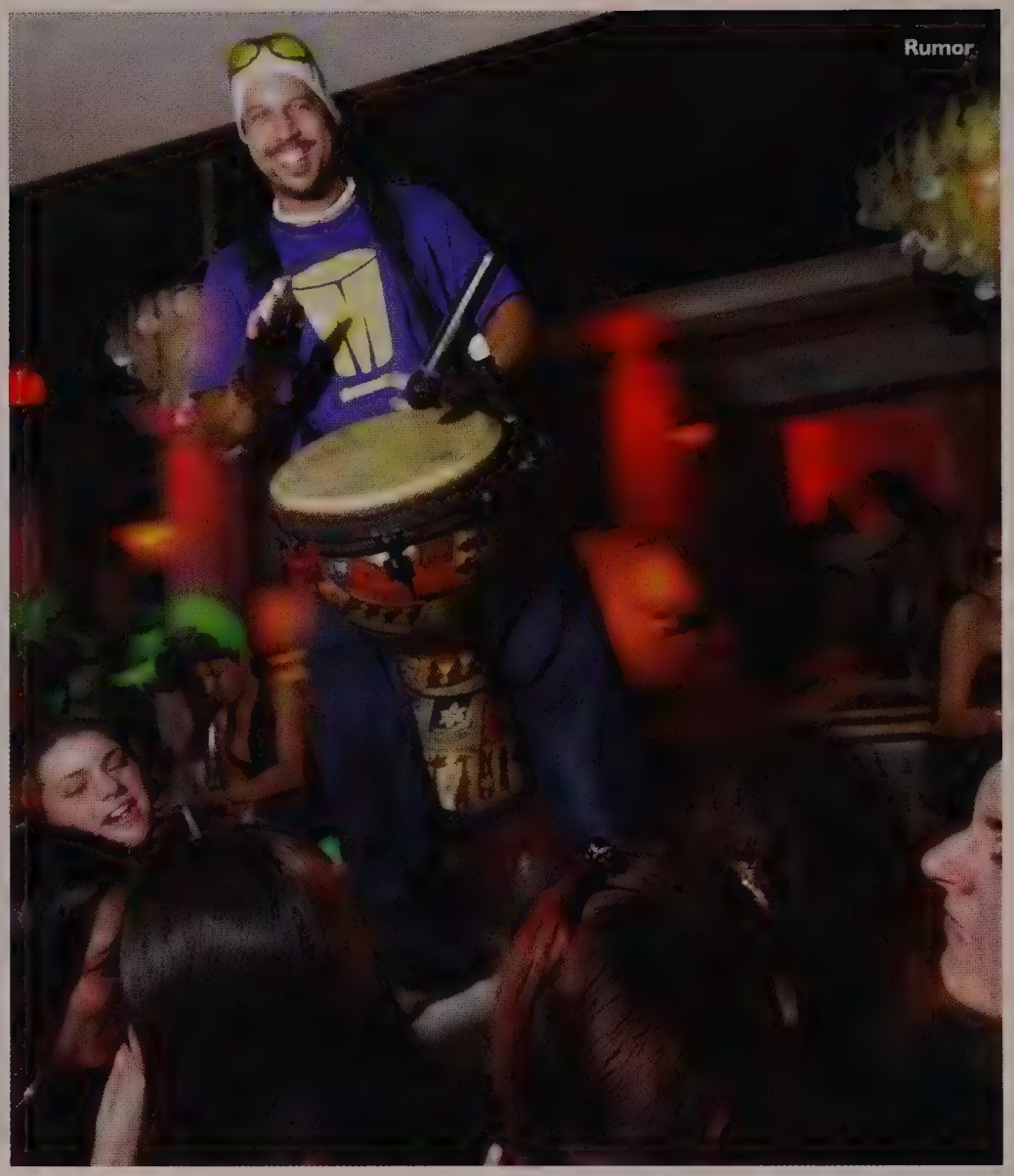
Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.



Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa night DJ Hernan, DJ D. Martinez, DJ Antonio Ortiz, and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes beginner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk music bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Spoken Word A night of poetry.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Bruno spins house, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
DJ World Unite spins, 11:30 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

Aria Lounge
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $20, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and da music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 p 2 am, $15, 19+.

Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Ind and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Miss Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ M Navarro, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '8 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 2

Cosmopolitan
A night of jazz, 10 pm.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-h 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Sha Ryle host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 19+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
True Music Night Local rock and pop acts perf live, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of and '80s disco and Motown, plus internatio lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, M town, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama-jigi play afro-pop highl 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin da tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-h R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cu Jeff spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 be 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and s 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Room offer readings at this night sponsored by C Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog pre drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no co 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and sa dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin p classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul sp mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Martini Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis w resident DJs spin R&B and downtempo beats, 7 12 am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

tyles Dance Hall
emporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and danc- ıg, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

aint
leja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, pm, no cover, 21+.

issy K's
amu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

he Sugar Shack
he Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip- ɔp, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

oast
esbian Night, 9 pm-1 am, $5.

enu
u-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

ertigo
otal Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and ɔck from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

/aterWorks
uckwild Thursdays DJs spin top-40 and house and ɔst a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull rid- g contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

/est Street Grille
ld-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school p-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

RIDAYS

n Tain
GIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and nky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

n Tua Nua
J Steve spins top-40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm,), 21+.

ria
unity DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, pm, $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

valon
/aland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilkie, lex Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

he Avenue
l Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm- am, no cover, 21+.

xis
avor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

ig Easy Bar
elebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spin- ng top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover nds, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

ill's Bar
ɔt Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae and chata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

oston Rocks
idays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a ght of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip- ɔp tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

aprice
Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of international, tin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

lerys
Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

lub Europa
/ist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and Os for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, +, after 11 pm.

lub Q
rbidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top- , 21+.

ɔogan's
Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, +.

ɔsmopolitan
ropean Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style music, pm-2 am, no cover.

evlin's
Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance ısic, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ockside
s spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

cco Lounge
e Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

nbassy
Just Nyce spins hip-hop, 9 pm, $15/$10, 19+.

ıe Enormous Room
-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything m hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, pm-2 am.

elt
Chris Kung of KISS 108 spins dance, top-40 and ɔ-hop, no cover, 21+.

ɔlden Temple
e E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s and al house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

reen Briar
FK spins dance and top-40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover, +.

reen Street Grill
use band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Niso and DJ Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe Jam'n 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins reggae, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
DJ Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and TV screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

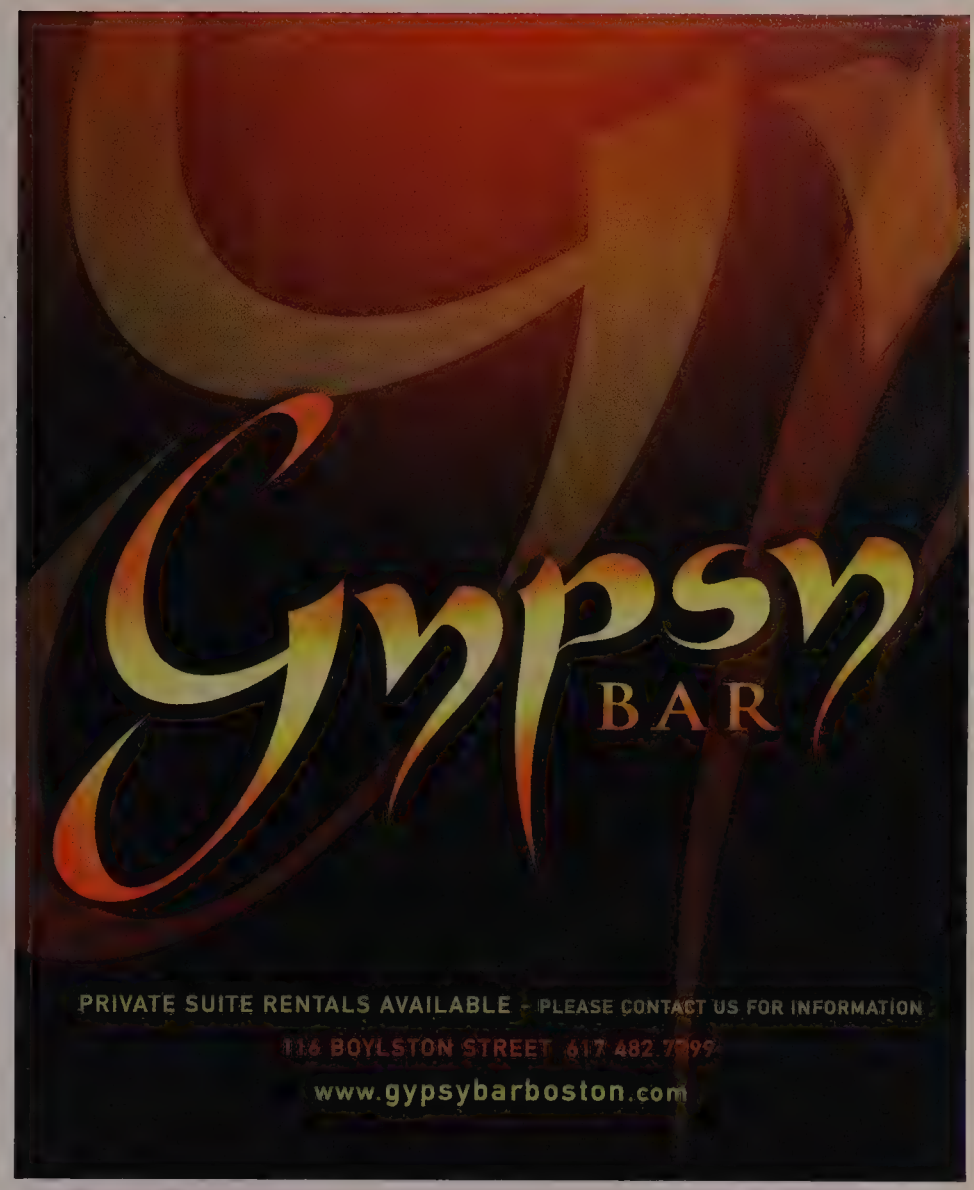
The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tantric Lounge
Hookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud 9 spin the music at this night featuring hookahs, specialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night, 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.



Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Anthem
Latin Fever DJs spin salsa clasica, merengue, bachata, salsa de hoy and Latin house at this weekly theme party, 10 pm-2 am, $10.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared and friends mix top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life DJs Frank and Matty spin hip-hop, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and top-40 music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Profenna spins top-40, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
•**Sensation Saturdays** featuring DJ Val Beats spinning hip-hop, 19+ women, 21+ men, 10:30 pm, $15. •Russian night in The Modern with DJ Demetrius spinning international.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-h no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz sp merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, m $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30), 2

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons sp minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 p $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance mus 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top- $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Span and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip H nandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The M Encounter** New England's longest-running all-m dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 p 12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxyg** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 2 •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Bra ian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-ene dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wo ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Different DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 2

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roc spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 a no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mod mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own style house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 2

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancin 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in t front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro vorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and hou 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins clas old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 2

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Ta Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-h 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and hou 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyb 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays** spin top-40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 p 10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top- all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Dance Hall Reggae music, 11 pm, $10-$15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $ 19+ (women), 21+ (men).

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance a techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

ll's Bar
/e reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

ɔston Rocks
s spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

ɹzz
ɜzilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am,), 19+.

ɜprice
tating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, -$10, 21+.

ub Q
ave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and the 45 ew spin dance music. 8 pm-2 am. $10.

ɔsmopolitan
ribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

evlin's
lustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and ɪixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ko Lounge
ɔ-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

ıe Enormous Room
volutions A night of electronic music, $3, pm-3 am.

ɔlden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo- n, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

'een Briar
bar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

ıe Kells
e Spot DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house music, pm-2 am, no cover.

vel
ating DJs spin Latin and international on the third ɔr and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the rth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

e Office
ɔpia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests y deep soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, -.

oenix Landing
np This house-music night has a rotating roster ocal and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, -.

e Place
ad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

e Point
ltchy P.

e Purple Shamrock
Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

e Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm- n, no cover, 21+.

dline
nday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests ɹ reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
ion Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic k and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

les Dance Hall
pa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sun- of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play a music, 6-10 pm, $12.

int
ce Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night uring Latin and international grooves, 10 pm- n, $10, 21+.

sy K's
nu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

ki Room
gae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub tion and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ast
wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

nu
nivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian nt as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance , 11 pm, $15, 19+.

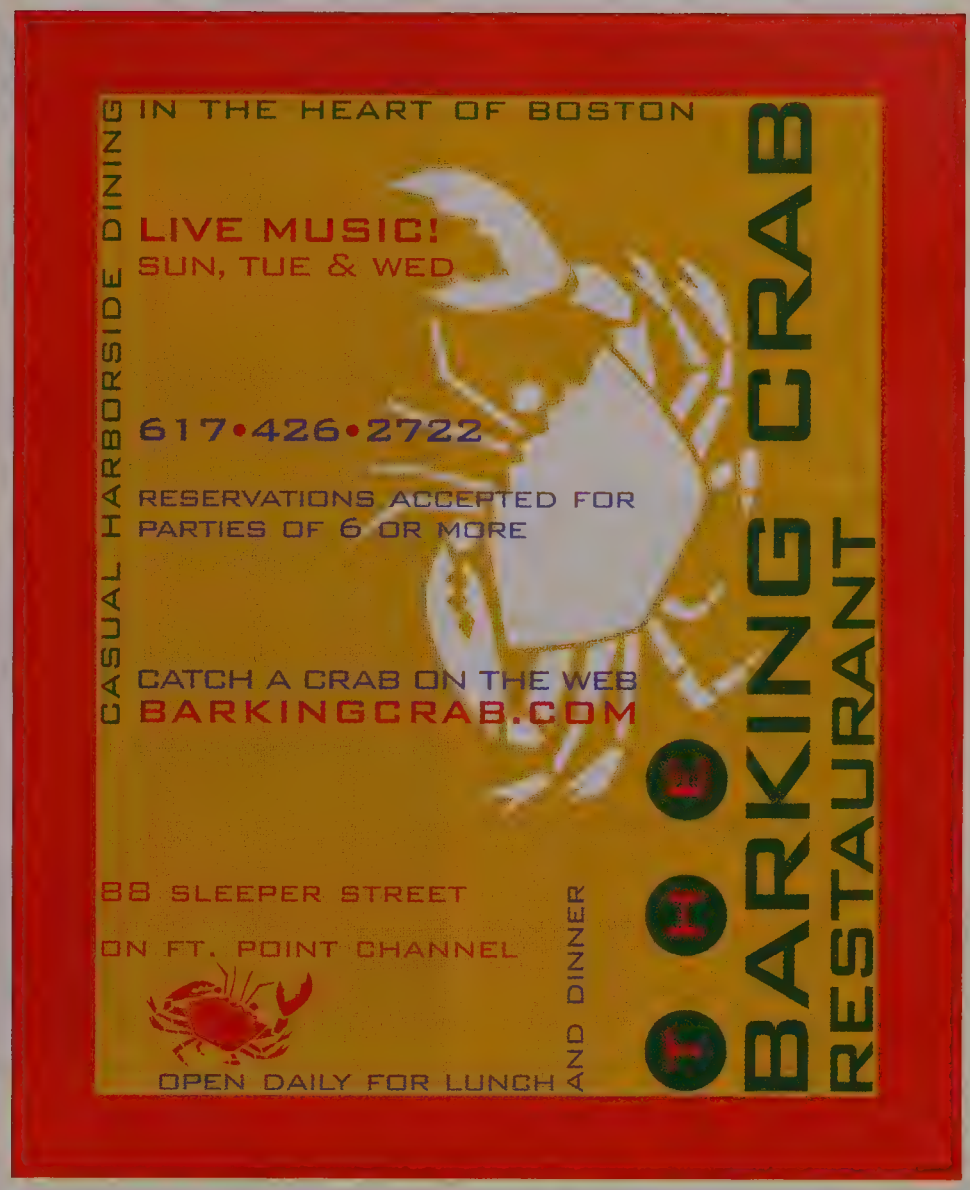
rtigo
tian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and ld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

terWorks
eekend Beach Party Cocktails and volleyball, pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Smokin' Sundays** DJs neo and Randy spin and Romeo hosts a Hawai- Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am, $10 from pm, $20 after 9 pm, 21+.

lub Venues

Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
hem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).
lon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782- 3).*

Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*



museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •East Asian art is exhibited in *Forging the New: East Asian Painting in the Twentieth Century.* Through Oct. 16. •*Degas at Harvard* exhibits more than 60 drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs by Edgar Degas. Through Nov. 27. •*Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Greek Portraiture, The Art of Ancient Rome* and *Near Eastern Art* are on display. Ongoing.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •A display of art from China, Japan and Korea runs through June 2006. •A new installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •American modern and contemporary sculpture in a variety of media is shown in the outdoor sculpture park. Ongoing.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •*A New Kind of Historical Evidence: Photographs from the Carpenter Center Collection* explores the study of fine art, professional photography and social documentary since the 1960s. Aug. 6-Oct. 30. •*American Art at Harvard* includes paintings and sculptures of Harvard notables since the early 17th century. Ongoing. •*American Art Since 1950* displays the changes that occurred in American art in the mid-20th century using paintings and sculptures. Ongoing. •*Eighteenth-Century European Ceramics and Paintings* exhibits some of the museum's permanent collection. Ongoing. •*Rubens and His Collaborators* exhibits the museum's 17th-century baroque paintings by Peter Paul Rubens and other artists of the period. Ongoing. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* displays 19th-century art. Ongoing. •The exhibits *Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe Since 1880* and *Art in France, 1885-1960* are featured. Ongoing.

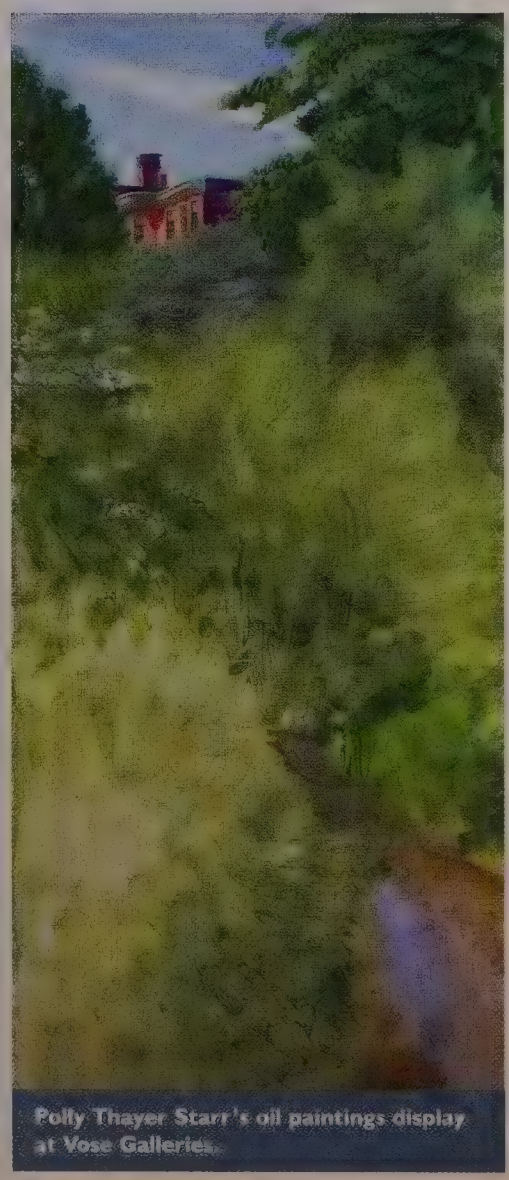
Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. adults, $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children 3-18, $5; children under 3, free. 9 am-12 pm. •*Thoreau's Walden: A Journey in Photographs by Scot Miller* displays a five-year pictorial of Walden Woods. Through Oct. 2. •*The Glass Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features the Ware Collection of glass models for more than 830 plant species. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; free Thu after 5 pm. •*Getting Emotional* is an exhibition focusing on the expression of feeling through various media. Through Sept. 5. •*Momentum 4: Roe Ethridge* is an exhibition of contemporary photography inspired by fashion and advertising. Through Sept. 5.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. •*Stray Dogs* features Croatian artist Danijel Zezelj's drawings. Through Aug. 21. •*A Closer Look: An Introduction to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum* offers museum tours. Tue.-Fri, 2:30 pm. •*Special Exhibition Gallery Talks* provide context to museum exhibits. Sat., 12 pm. •The collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture pieces, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •The museum displays its collection of American landscape and portrait paintings dating between 1840 and 1940. Ongoing. •Italian paintings of sacred scenes and portraiture from 1500-1800 are shown in the museum. Ongoing. •Classical and Christian Flemish tapestries are on display. Ongoing. •The museum exhibits paintings by American artists John LaFarge and William Trost Richards. Ongoing.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. •*Inven-Team Showcase* displays select prototype inventions from high school students working in teams. Through Aug. 14. •*Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features the work of a self-described "mechanical engineer and choreographer." Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* displays work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winners. Ongoing.


Polly Thayer Starr's oil paintings display at Vose Galleries.

Museum of African-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Words of Thunder: William Lloyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition* celebrates abolitionist leader William Lloyd Garrison. Aug. 6-Dec. 31. •*19th-Century Black Beacon Hill—Historic Gallery Talks* teaches about black Beacon Hill in the 1800s.•Four exhibits depict the history of African-Americans in Massachusetts. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17 school days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all other times, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed. 4-9:45 pm, free (excluding special exhibitions). •*The Quilts of Gee's Bend* displays more than 60 quilts made between 1930 and 2000. Through Aug. 21. •*Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia* features more than 100 musical instruments. Through Jan. 5, 2006.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11. •*Brain: The World Inside Your Head* features a giant model brain. Through Sept. 10. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers. Ongoing. •Hundreds of butterflies and flowers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garden.* Ongoing. •Put your organizational skills to work and solve mysteries in the exhibit *Natural Mysteries.* Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Blue Monday: Doing Laundry in America* displays ads and household tools in an exploration of how domestic technology, gender roles and consumer culture in the past affected the task of doing laundry. Through March 4, 2006.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*All of My Life* displays contemporary works by Native American artists. Opens Aug. 6. •*The Art of Shopping in China* captures China's early-19th-century international trade market in 40 paintings. Through Sept. 5. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from the Mississippian Culture through March 30, 2006. •*Air Lines* features photographs by Alex MacLean through April 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through Aug. 3, 2006. •*The Kingdom of Siam: The Art of Central Thailand, 1350-1800* includes stone images, sculptures, wood carvings and temple furnishings. Through Oct. 16, 2006. •*Yin Yu Tang* is a reconstructed Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www. peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children 3-18, $6; children under 3, free. •*Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations in Washington, D.C.* features a selection of photographs of Native American delegates to the U.S. government. Through Oct. 13. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtiss Collection* is on display through March 30, 2006. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006.

Special Events

Concerts in the Courtyard and SummerFridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. •*Concerts in the Courtyard* features The Holmes Brothers on August 3 and Patty Larkin on August 10. 7:30 pm. $25; members, students and seniors, $20. •*SummerFridays* features live music and cocktails in the Garden Court. 5:30-9:30 pm. $13; members, free.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). ww acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingto Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and appointment. •The Summer Salon features 20th-ce tury paintings from New England's summer colonies. Through Aug. 13.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). ww alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tea and Fa tasy* features sculptured teapots created by 28 artis Through Aug. 31.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alp gallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tu Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Summer Selections* displa paintings by gallery artists. Through Sept. 7.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). ww ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mo Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •New landscape paintings John Stockwell and gallery artists, inspired by t open spaces of Europe. Through Aug. 30.

Ars Libri
Mario Diacono Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Bost (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Oran Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sa 11 am-5 pm. •Shelley Reed displays oil on canv paintings. Through Aug. 31.

Artana
1378 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-311 www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Summ Group Show* displays over 100 paintings in oil, acry and pastel. Through Aug. 27.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). ww artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tu Sun., 3-8 pm. •*Organic Expressions* features oil-bas abstracts. Through Aug. 19.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). ww berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Ba Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*A Right of Passive f* tures paintings by Clint Griffin. Through Aug. 31

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). ww bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •The gallery presents group showing of member sculptors through Au 15. Call to make an appointment.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). ww brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Brickbottom Summ Members' Exhibition: BIG* displays oversized paintin created by gallery members. Through Aug. 20.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-571 www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: Green L to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. Pottery a More: Ramune Jauniskis features pottery wor Through Aug. 12.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-140 www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendo Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Cameras, Commun ties, Connections* displays photographs taken teenagers living in Villa 15 of Buenos Air Through Sept. 2.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). wu chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mo Fri., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Works new artists Robbie Douglas, Debra Fritts and Mich Schultheis. Through Aug. 29.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). wu childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tu Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*A Ce tury of Still Life* exhibits an overview of 20th-centu still life paintings. Through Sept. 3. •*Letterio Calap Woodcuts Old and New* shows an overview of t artist's prints. Through Sept. 3. •*Henry Pitz Goes to Circus* displays circus-related drawings by Henry Pi Through Sept. 3.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). ww copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tu Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Small Works II* represen the gallery's entire membership body and features types of media. Through Aug. 18.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBT Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 10 am

; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. ainters of the New Boston features works by Dan Cole, Norman Crump and other local artists. going.

lipse Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: en Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Todd rchild: Happiness 3, Revenge of the Bunny features otographs and collage. Through Aug. 27.

rt Point Arts Community Gallery
Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fort tarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-, 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Transitional features tographs and oil paintings by Dean De Cocker and Kennelly that examine the transitory nature of r subjects. Aug. 5-Sept. 10.

lerie d'Orsay
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www. rie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling- Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •A rospective Exhibition features paintings by Luc stemaker. Through Aug. 15. •An exhibition of ntings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th 0th centuries is ongoing.

llery Katz
Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-8). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to k Bay. Thu., 11 am-5 pm, by appointment. • A ıp exhibition of paintings, drawings, and pho- aphs by Gallery Katz artists. Ongoing.

novese/Sullivan Gallery
Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 30 am-5:30 pm. •Summer group show features ks by Stockwell, Brown, Antonio, Cantor and ch, among others. Through Sept. 4.

ward Yezerski Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www. ardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Ar- on. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The Group mer Show features color photographs. Through . 20.

rst Gallery
Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). w.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. l.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm and by appoint- t. •Art of the Pacific features sculpture and arti- s. Through Aug. 31.

Luc Leestemaker's mixed media paintings display at Galerie d'Orsay through August 15

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www. internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •Summer Games exhibits an array of posters of summer sports and travel destinations. Through Sept. 5. •The gallery showcases a variety of vintage posters. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www. judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Director's Pick is a group show. Aug. 4-Aug. 31.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www. kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Phil Bowers displays paintings based on photography. Aug. 3-Sept. 3.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •New Art '05 features paintings, photographs and sculptures by 17 different artists. Through Aug. 13.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www. lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works in various media by international and local artists including Douglass Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarese and Carrie McGee. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www. lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Color Connections displays sculptures in various media highlighting color and texture. Through Aug. 18.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). www.martin lawrencegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Wed., 10 am-6 pm; Thu.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-7 pm. •Song features photographs of music icons by fashion photographer Francesco Scavullo. Through Aug. 31.

Massachusetts College of Art
621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat. 11 am-5 pm. •The Bakalar Gallery features an exhibition of photography, paintings, video, audio, sculptural installations and more by 15 graduate students. Through Aug. 5. •Ronzome Masters of Japan features wax-resist and

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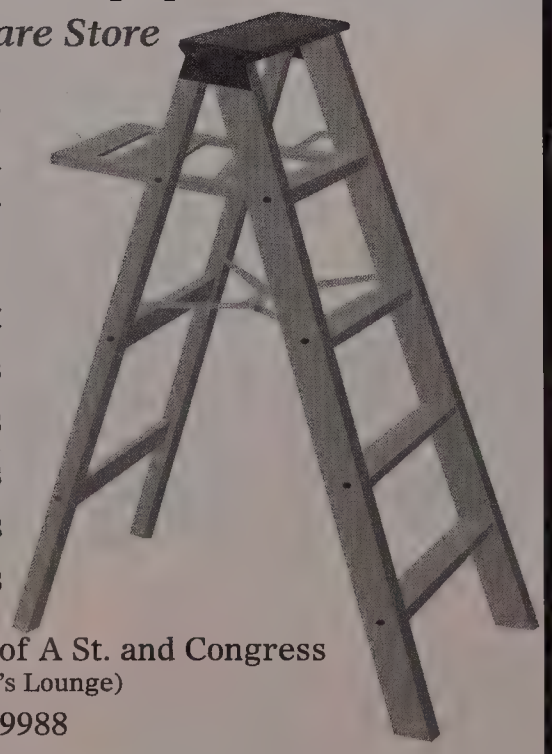

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John Stockwell's paintings display at Arden Gallery through August 30.

batik art. Showing at the Stephen D. Paine Gallery through Sept. 21.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • Group show of gallery artists. Through Aug. 12.

Mobilia Gallery
33 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •A group exhibition of sculptural jewelry runs through Aug. 15. •Dorothy Feibleman displays ceramic sake cups. Through Aug. 15.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The *Summer Show* features paintings, drawings and sculptures. Through Aug. 6.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*My Perspective: The Phenomenon Faux Naive in Contemporary Painting* shows work by eight artists. Through Aug. 20.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features works of photography, paintings, sculptures, jewelry, mosaics, antiques and more by local artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Summer Selections* features paintings by Nana Gregory, Melinda Hackett, Lisa Lemeland and Sam Tan. Through Aug. 13.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Fine Choices 2005* features paintings, drawings and sculptures selected by the artists who made them. Through Sept. 4.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings. Ongoing.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The *Salon Show* displays photographs by a number of artists. Through Aug. 27.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rare 20th-century paintings. Ongoing.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). w samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to B Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointm •*Op...ish* exhibits abstract works of art inspire constructivist and futurist ideas. Through Aug. 5

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-18 www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 •*Northwest Artists* features works in mixed me Aug. 6-Oct. 30.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). w soprafina.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. pointment only. •Recent paintings by Resa Blat and Zsuzsanna Szegedi are on display through Aug

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). w stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The ar owned gallery features paintings by Christina Kea Sandra Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin, William George and Judy St. Peter. Ongoing.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). w vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. M Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and 2 century American artwork. Ongoing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Center For Latino Arts Gallery
85 West Newton St., Boston (617-927-1717). Aug. pm. •Photography exhibit "The Tito Puente Leg features photographs by Martin Cohen and Don W and a slide show of photographs by musician M Forhman.

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www fin museum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winch Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*Then Again* disp images by Maggie Taylor, who uses a flatbed scann create digital photographs. Through Sept. •$CaCO_3$ shows John Chervinsky's photograph chalk markings. Through Sept. 10.

Panopticon Gallery Boston
Hotel Commonwealth, 502 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Li Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Photograph Norman Fortier feature private and commercial ing vessels. Through Sept. 10.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-01 www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Walth Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •Panopticon staff exhibit Through Sept. 10.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). w prcboston.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston Un sity West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu. am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The 2005 Leo Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Awards* honor ex lence in contemporary color photography.

ooks & oetry

lvice to Contributors
mit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to lendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books nproper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to lication.

eadings & Signings

EDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

N New England Author Series
tel Marlowe, 25 Edwin Lane Blvd., Cambridge 7-395-2523). www.hotelmarlowe.com. MBTA: Line to Harvard. 6:15 pm. Free. **Jennifer Haigh** ds from her novel *Baker Towers*, about an Italian-ish family living in a post-World War II Penn-ania mining town.

HURSDAY, AUGUST 4

ookline Booksmith
Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. klinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to lidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Micah Nathan** reads n his novel *Gods of Aberdeen*, about an orphaned in prodigy sent to a New England college where experiments with sex and drugs and becomes essed with the idea of immortality.

JESDAY, AUGUST 9

ookline Booksmith
Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. klinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to lidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Senior editor of *Discover* azine **Alan Burdick** discusses his book *Out of Eden: Odyssey of Ecological Invasion*, about how non-an organisms travel to and invade new habitats.

d South Meeting House
Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www. uthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Green Line to Gov-nent Center. 11:30 am. $5. **Ann Rinaldi** discusses historical novel, *Brooklyn Rose*, based on her dmother's life at the turn of the 20th century.

EDNESDAY, UGUST 10

wton Free Library
ent
Homer St., Newton (617-796-0). www.ci. newton.ma.us/Library. pm. Free. **Linda Markell** discusses memoir, *Little One Laugh Little One*, which tells the story of her ghter's ultimately unsuccessful le with neuroblastoma at age 3.

nnifer Haigh reads from her second novel, ker Towers, at Hotel Marlowe, Aug. 3.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Tennessee Jones** reads from his collection of short stories, *Deliver Me from Nowhere*, inspired by Bruce Springsteen's album *Nebraska*. Also, **Lydia Millet** reads from her novel *Everyone's Pretty*, about a group of strange characters searching for God and personal fulfillment. And **Maggie Nelson** reads from her book *Jane: A Murder*, in which she reexamines the murder of her aunt using prose and poetry.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Mark Anderson** reads from his book, *Shakespeare by Another Name: A Biography of Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford, the Man Who Was Shakespeare*, which aims to prove that de Vere was the author of Shakespeare's works by comparing events in his life to the plots of Shakespeare's plays.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

Barnes & Noble Prudential Center
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-6959). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. **Carrol Wolverton** signs copies of her novel *Back Bay Boston Basement*, about a young girl who must live with her aunt after her mother dies and her father cannot take care of her.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Journalist **Christina Rathbone** reads from her book *A World Apart: Women, Prison, and Life Beyond Bars*, about women in the correctional system and the hardships they face while incarcerated.

Newton Free Library Event
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360).www.ci. newton.ma.us/Library. 7:30 pm. Free. **Rebecca Kohn** reads from her novel *The Gilded Chamber*, which retells the biblical story of Esther's rise to queen of the Persian empire.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $5. The **Jeff Robinson Trio** plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies, with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, featuring prescheduled poets. $4 suggested donation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Sunday)
Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-628-2313). 3 pm. Free. Poet **Doug Holder** hosts an open-mike reading.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

Artists' Studios and Workshops in Early Modern Europe
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 6-7 pm. Free. Museum curator **Christopher Atkins** discusses the studios and workshops of 15th to 17th century European artists.

A Visit with Paul Revere
The Paul Revere House, 19 North Square, Boston (617-523-2338). www.paulreverehouse.org. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. 1-4 pm. Free with admission to the Revere House. Interpreter **David Connor** portrays Paul Revere, discussing his midnight ride and his work as a silversmith, dentist and copper plate engraver.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

Heade, Lane and the Karolik Collection
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 11 am-12 pm. Free. Museum curator **Karen Quinn** gives a talk on the museum's collection of mid-19th century American landscape and seascape paintings.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

The Quilts of Gee's Bend
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 12-1 pm. Free. Museum staff member **Barbara Martin** discusses the quilts in this exhibition, made by four generations of artisans in Gee's Bend, Alabama.

Shaker Oval Boxmaking
North Bennet Street School, 30 North Bennet St., Boston (617-227-0155). www.nbss.org. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. 8:30 am-4:30 pm. $150. Instructor **Judith Hanson** leads students in the construction of three Shaker boxes.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

The Language of Flowers
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 2-3 pm. Free. Museum staff member **Henry Augustine Tate** presents a gallery talk on the language of flowers in art.

The Sea of Marrow: Chinese Concepts of the Brain
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-4585). www.charlesrivershiatsu.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 9-4 pm. $175. Licensed acupuncturist **Kiiko Matsumoto** discusses the Chinese understanding of the Sea of Marrow, demonstrating her approach using examples from class participants.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

Reinventing Judaism: Women's Work
Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3355). www.brandeis.edu. 8 pm. $12. Author **Anita Diamant** lectures on the role of Jewish American women in all aspects of communal and religious life.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

Conquer Clutter in Your Home and Office
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30-9:30 pm. $51. Instructor **Jane Lawson** discusses why clutter happens and teaches how to organize your space.

A Visit with Ann Rinaldi
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 11:30 am. $5 nonmembers; members free. Young adult author **Ann Rinaldi** discusses her latest book and the research involved in writing historical fiction.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

Highlights of the Egyptian Collection
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 6-7 pm. Free. Museum staff member **Rita Freed** presents a talk on some of the most notable works in the Museum's Egyptian Collection.

How to Use the NEHGS Website
New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.newenglandancestors.org. 11:30 am. Free. New England Historic Genealogical Society content delivery specialist **Darrin McGlinn** and online genealogist **David Lambert** demonstrate the features of the Website newenglandancestors.org.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

Do You Fondue?
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-9:30 pm. $42 members; $44 nonmembers. Chef **Mary Bot** teaches how to make traditional cheese and chocolate fondue.

Summer City Strolls: Back Bay West
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-8 pm. $34. Beginning in Copley Square, architectural historian **Ed Gordon** leads a tour of the Boston Public Library, Lenox Hotel, and other architectural works in Boston's Back Bay area.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

Wine and Craft
Spark Craft Studios, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6-9 pm. $30 members; $35 nonmembers. Spark Craft staff members assist participants as they create stone necklaces. Fee includes art supplies, wine, cheese and crackers.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

Art about Making Art
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 2-3 pm. Free. Museum staff member **Shirin Fozi** discusses works of art in the museum's collection that depict the creation of art.

Outdoor Rock Climbing
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 9 am-1 pm. $95. Boston Rock Gym instructors teach the basic skills of rock climbing, including belaying, rappelling, and lowering, as well as safety techniques and proper equipment use.

Qi Gong Theraputics
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-4585). www.charlesrivershiatsu.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 9-4 pm. $125. Charles River School of Shiatsu instructor **Jeff Cote** teaches the Chinese art of Qi Gong.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

Introduction to Shiatsu
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-4585). www.charlesrivershiatsu.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 10 am-3:30 pm. $50. Charles River School of Shiatsu instructor **Christien Real** introduces the basic form of Shiatsu and discusses traditional Chinese medical principles.

MONDAY, AUGUST 15

Indian Cooking
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $68 members; $73 nonmembers. Indian chef **Tara Deshpande Tennebaum**, owner of the Globe Trotting Gourmet catering company, demonstrates basic techniques of Indian cuisine using traditional spices and ingredients.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

Fabulous Pre-Fab Journal
Paper Source, 338 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-3444). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6:30-9:30 pm. $65. Paper Source staff member **Hannah Bowman** teaches how to assemble a journal using pre-sewn text blocks, decorative paper and bookcloth.

Traveling Lightly: Learn to Pack with Pat
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30-7:30 pm. $30 members; $33 nonmembers. Veteran traveler Pat Mattheisen discusses what to take and how to pack for travel abroad using a single carry-on bag.

gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.aria boston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door; $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil, and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzz boston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www. avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritz boston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www. shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill, 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www. ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www. paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www. rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am, $15, 21+. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www. toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Wednesday is gay night, Thursday is lesbian night and Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., Fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top-40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www. clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Fetish Fair Fleamarket #25
Boston Center for the Arts, 239 Tremont St., Boston (617-731-2626). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.grandopening.com. Aug. 6. 11 am-6 pm. The New England Leather Alliance hosts the 25th annual Fetish Fair Fleamarket with more than 100 vendors offering kinky fashions, literature and more.

Gender Crash Spoken Word and Poetry Open Mike
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy. com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Aug. 11. 7:30 pm. $5. Queer poets and spoken word artists share their original works during three-minute time slots.

My Yolanda Love
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (781-777-1261). www.queersoup.net/press releases/index.html MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul's. Aug. 15-16. 7:30 pm. Free. Playwright Jess Martin and her troupe present a directed staged reading of her play that deals with magic and identity theft against the backdrop of New Mexico.

Tiffany Club of New England Pool Party
Randolph Country Club, 44 Mazzeo Dr., Randolph (781-891-9325) Aug. 6, 11 am-6 pm, $15. The Transgender community is invited to bring family, friends and significant others to the annual pool party that offers a volleyball court, as well as food and drinks.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm, $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://boston bears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri., 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Axis holds a drag show every Monday night with host Kris Knievil and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England-support, information and social group for peopl signed female at birth who feel that is not an a rate or complete description of their gender. Pa the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group m monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for det

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This g welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional wo 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sopl cated to get together with like-minded wome conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fe health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. way Community Health offers a wide array of vices for the GLBT community, ranging from di sions about parenting and safe-sex practice programs addressing domestic violence and stance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Bos GLBT flag football league for a casual spring se followed by a formal fall season. All are welcom gardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus A Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring. ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcon join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn about photography, socialize and meet new peop these monthly meetings. For more informa e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in develo healthy gay relationships features alternative meeting and dating, communication games, gles mixers and a date-matching system. E-info@gaylab.org.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jan Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy. MBTA: *Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Th*

ch month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the LBT community are invited to share poetry, prose performance pieces at this open-mike event.

irlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
mbridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. e., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line Central. This discussion group for all ages meets ery Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

quid Assets Swimming
w.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and n. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian im team is open to both competitive and fitness immers of all ages and abilities.

ne Network/La Red
7-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This sup- t group is working to end abuse in lesbian and bi- ual women's and transgender communities. E-mail o@thenetworklared.org for more information.

ewly Diagnosed Group
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 7-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each nth, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and exual men who have been diagnosed with HIV ing the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

ut to Dance
7-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin l ballroom dance classes and workshops are held a gay-friendly environment.

ut TwentySomethings Boston
ntysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. is social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay n and bisexual, transgendered and questioning s and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

OZ Social
onshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., ton (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. e. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music l drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

OZ 20s
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 7-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social up offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual n in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Provincetown Art Tours
(617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. Fri.-Sun., 3:30-5:30 pm. $25. Join other men and women on weekend tours of contemporary art exhibitions in Provincetown. Call for meeting locations. Reservations required.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

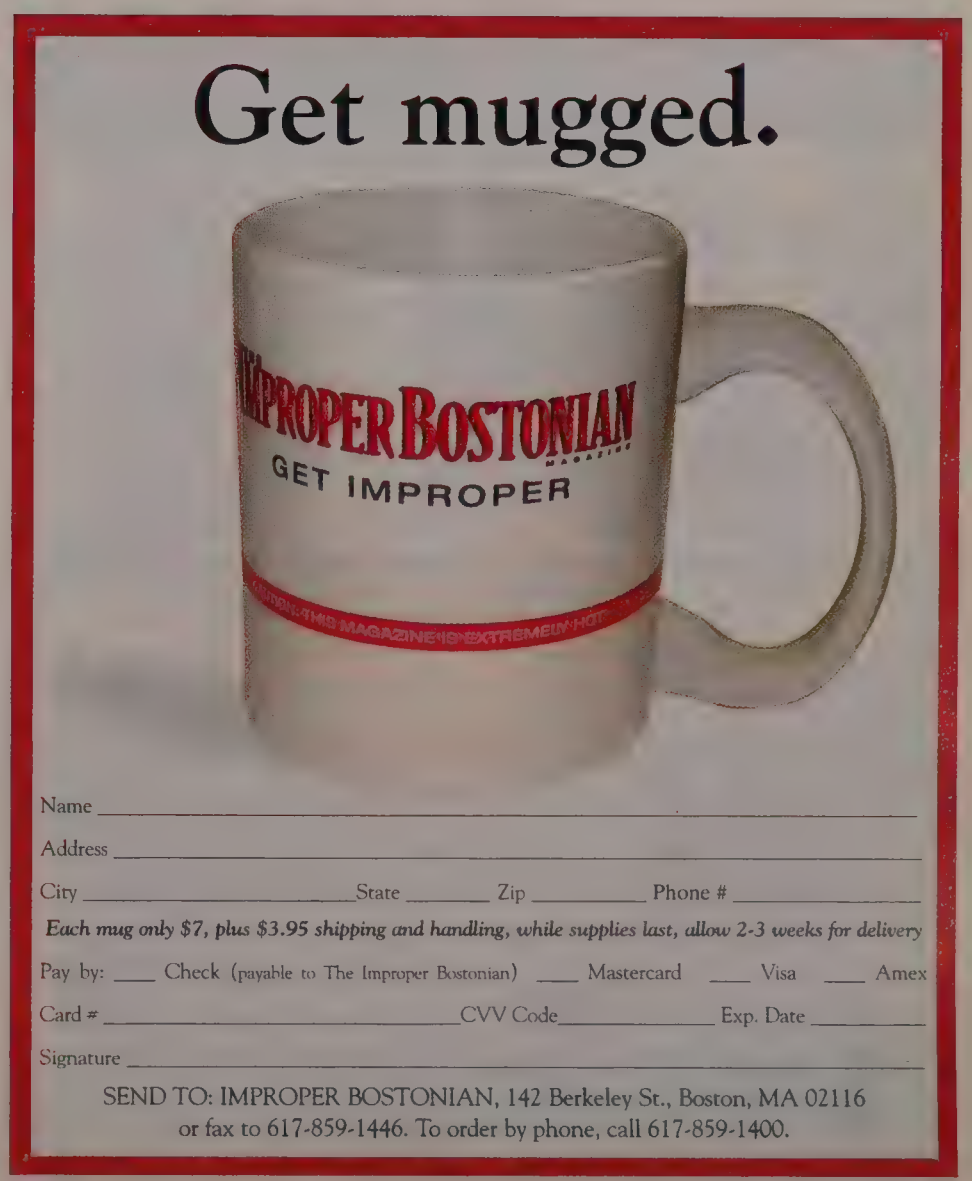
Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.



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body & mind

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Fetish Fair Fleamarket #25

Boston Center for the Arts, 239 Tremont St., Boston. www.nla-newengland.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Aug. 6, 11 am-6 pm. $10. Hosted by the New England Leather Alliance, this bi-annual event brings together shopping, erotic art, sex education and activism.

Nyinthun

Boston Shambhala Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline. www.shambhalaboston.org or www.primordialdot.org. Aug. 7 and 14, 9 am-12 pm. Free. Nyinthun is Sunday-morning sitting and walking meditation. Instruction is offered and chanting is optional. Coffee, tea, bagels and muffins are provided.

Real People, Real Life Stories

Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Aug. 16, 6-8 pm. Free. Mary Angelis, language teacher and collector of stories about everyday wonder, tells true tales of seemingly everyday events that had profound consequences.

Shiatsu School Open House

Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass Avenue, Cambridge (617-868-4585). www.charlesrivershiatsu.com. Aug. 5, 6-8 pm. Free. Preregistration is requested. Learn about chi fitness and view demonstrations. Meet shiatsu and qi gong practitioners, acupuncturists and Chinese herbalists, and experience short classes in a variety of disciplines. Complimentary refreshments provided.

Lectures

Wednesday Night Dharma Talk

Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Aug. 3 and 10, 5:30-9 pm. $5. This facility hosts a weekly gathering for meditation along with discussion on meditation practice and the Buddha's teachings, followed by tea and socializing. The next two programs host special guests Gina Sharpe from the New York Insight Meditation Center and Sayadaw U. Lakkhana from Burma's Kyaswa Monastery.

Classes

At a Distance I Can Say

CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Rd., Cambridge (617-491-5144 or 774-353-7175). www.casania.com or www.shintaido.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Aug. 6, 7:30 pm. $8, requested donation. This performance workshop is for participants interested in movement improvisation. The class incorporates meditation, kinesthetic awareness, self-expression and elements of Butoh and Shintaido. Solo, partner and group exercises are incorporated to create a performance piece.

Chakra Laughter Club

Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101 or 617-628-0908). www.tsboston.org.or www.joyofkidding.com/tlc/chakralaughter.html. Aug. 12, 7:30 pm. $10 donation. Based on techniques presented at the Arlington Laughter Club, participants learn to let laughter flow, to utilize chi-energy and stimulate the chakras.

Clear Clutter for Well-Being

Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Aug. 9, 7:15-9:15 pm. $30. According to the ideas of feng shui, the place of furnishings, objects and even surrounding buil can create either negative or positive energy. about feng shui, along with quick changes that ma prove the energy of your environment, at this clas

Fire and Fluidity Yoga with Tias Litt

Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. 4, 7-9 pm. $60. Aug. 5, 7-9 pm. $60. Yoga exper Little leads this workshop combining the intens ment of fire (agni) and the calm of fluidity (s designed to create a dynamic practice with m tive poise.

Free Tai Chi Class

Brookline Tai Chi, 1615 Beacon St., Brookline 277-2975). www.brooklinetaichi.com. MBTA Green Line to Washington Sq. Classtimes: Mon., 8:30 pm. Thurs., 6:30-7:30 pm. Sat., 12-1 pm. The gentle flowing movement known as tai chi to help calm the mind, relax the body, improv ance and aid the rehabilitation of injuries. Drop try a free class.

Introductory Tai Chi Class

Prydwen, 67 Broad St., 4th Floor, B www.prydwen.org/events.html. Aug. 7, 4-6 pm. Tom Manning demonstrates tai chi ch'u choreographed chi kung routine designed to harm and connect the individual systems of the bod clear out low-vibratory energy blockages.

Meditation For Everyone

Unicorn Books, 1971 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617 4448). www.unicornbooks.org. Aug. 3, 7-9 pm. $ sliding scale. Guided meditation in a group is found to be easier than solo practice. The same niques used successfully during guided meditati similar to many meditation traditions. This teaches a combination to be used at home.

Morning Mindfulness Yoga

Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broa Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA Line to Central. Aug. 5 and 12, 7-8 am. $10. practice, similar to Vipassana meditation, com breathing and movement with the goal of incre energy, strengthening the spine and making medi more pleasurable. Bring a yoga mat.

Restorative Yoga

Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617 7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red L Kendall. Aug. 7, 3-5:30 pm. $25. This worksh designed for beginners or anyone experiencing fatigue, sickness or sleep problems—or for peopl just need to relax.

Secrets of Sounder Sleep

The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington 316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Aug. 7, 2- $25. This class teaches synchronized movemen breathing techniques designed to relax your body your mind and lull you into deep slumber. This nique is also useful for daytime stress relief and fo viduals who wake up during the night.

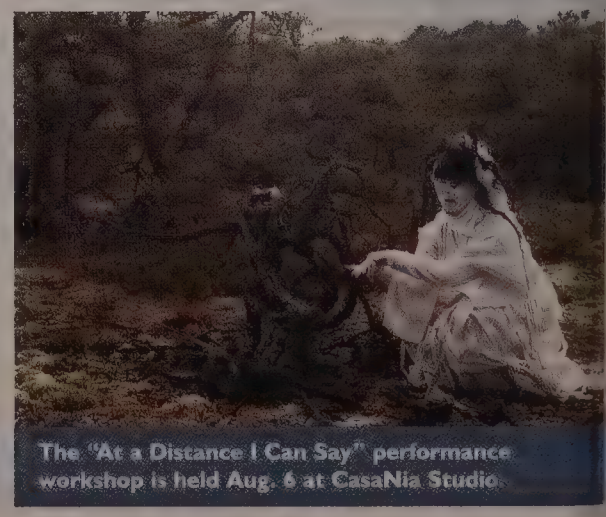
Soul Inspiration Meditation

Prydwen, 67 Broad St., 4th Floor, B www.prydwen.org/events.html. Aug 7, 2-3:30 pm This gathering, hosted by spiritual life coach White, features guided meditation set to a inspiring soundtrack.

Ongoing

Friday Night Chill Out

Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 663 Centre St. Ja Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey.com 6:30-8 pm. $15, drop-in. This class begins with V sequenced postures for loosening up muscle sweating out tension and ends with deep resto yoga to help participants ease into the weekend.



The "At a Distance I Can Say" performance workshop is held Aug. 6 at CasaNia Studio.

sports

dvice to Contributors

bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Cal-dar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@im-pper.com. Include address, phone number, subway p, dates and times and a brief description of the league event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone d must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

oston Red Sox
enway Park, Boston
ckets: 617-482-4769
g. 3, 7:05 pm vs. Kansas City Royals
g. 4, 1:05 pm vs. Kansas City Royals
g. 8, 7:05 pm vs. Texas Rangers
g. 9, 7:05 pm vs. Texas Rangers
g. 10, 7:05 pm vs. Texas Rangers
g. 12, 7:05 pm vs. Chicago White Sox
g. 13, 7:05 pm vs. Chicago White Sox
g. 14, 2:05 pm vs. Chicago White Sox

oston Cannons
lickerson Field, Boston
ckets: 888-847-9700
g. 4, 7:30 pm vs. Long Island Lizards

vent

lmouth Road Race
)8-540-7000). www.sblifalmouthroadrace.com.
g. 14, 10 am. Named "the Best Road Race in USA" by *Runner's World*, the 33rd annual mouth Road Race covers seven miles, start-in Woods Hole and ending in Falmouth.

o Play

USTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

oston Demons
7-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club ks new players for nine-a-side competition.

ASEBALL

enry's Baseball
1-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

ASKETBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club
7-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basket-for players at all levels. Leagues exist in Water-n, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and viduals are welcome.

mbridge Racquet and Fitness Club RFC)
7-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round ues for individuals or teams at all levels.

rporate Basketball League
1-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one nen's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, vton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

ver Too Late Basketball
1-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of ges practice in locations throughout Boston.

OXING

ston Sport Boxing Club
Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.onboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 *Red Line to Harvard, then #71* The club offers Olympic-style ng lessons for all levels.

gtime Boxing
Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-9044). www.dogtimeboxing.com. .-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This boxing offers training for competition, litioning and recreation.

ODGEBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club
dgeball
-789-4070). The BSSC is re-ing for dodgeball teams.

NCING

State Fencers
Windsor St., Suite A 401, rville. (617-591-0101). www.bay fencers.com. This club offers ng and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Sat. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www.worldkickball.com. Coed kick-ball leagues play throughout the summer in Boston and Somerville.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonLunaChix@gmail.com. Weekly runs on Tues. year-round. Women only. Talking pace 3 or 5 mile runs along the Charles starting in front of Harnetts in Harvard Square.

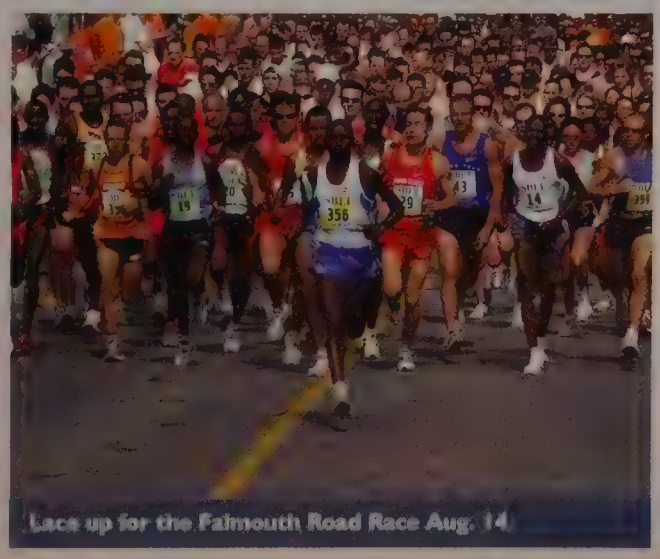
Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

SWIMMING

Cambridge Masters Swim Club
www.cambridgemasters.com. The club offers coached workouts, social events, and open water swims.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Boston Children's Theatre
Seaside on Georges Island, Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. 12 pm and 1:30 pm. Free. •Plays in the Park on Georges Island presents a different story every Friday through Sept. 2.

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. Adults, $12; seniors, $10; students/children, $5. •This short-form improv performance for the whole family includes interactive games.

North Shore Music Theatre
62 Dunham Rd., Beverly (978-232-7200) www.nsmt.org. Aug. 12, 10 am and 1 pm. $11-$17. •The Pushcart Players present *Peter and the Wolf*, a Russian folktale about a boy and his animal friends.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 10:30 am and 1 pm. $7, members; $8.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Aug. 3 and 4. "Aesop's Fables" includes adaptations of *The Country Mouse and the City Mouse, The Dog and His Bone* and *The Fox and the Crow*. For ages 3-8. •Aug. 10 and 11. Set in the 1870s, "Going Going Gone Whaling" is about the adventure of a whaler named Abner. For ages 4-8.

South Shore Music Circus
130 Sohier St., Cohasset (781-383-9850). www.the musiccircus.org. •Aug. 4, 10:30 am. $7.50. The Kaleidoscope Children's Theater presents *Cinderella.* •Aug. 11, 10:30 am. $13.50. A cartoon character comes to life in *Garfield: "Happy Birthday to Me."*

Things to Do

Barefoot Books
1771 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri. and Sat., 10:30 am. Free. •Story hour for children and families. Ongoing.

Borders Books and Music
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Riverside. Tue., 11 am. •Themed children's story time takes place each week.

Boston Art Tours
Call for reservations and meeting locations. (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children and teens: Tue.-Sat., 1 pm-2 pm. $30, adults; $15, teens; children under 12, free. •Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. •A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide.

Boston Duck Tours
Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-dusk. $25, adults; $22, students; $16, ages 3-11; $3, ages 3 and under. •Land and sea tours of Boston are conducted in amphibious landing vehicles from WWII. Historic landmarks are highlighted, including the State House, Bunker Hill, Boston Common and the Big Dig.

Boston Harbor Whale Watching
Long Wharf Ferry Terminal, Boston (617-227-4321). www.bostonharborcruises.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 10 am and 12 pm; Sat.-Sun., 8:30 am, 10 am, 12 pm and 2:30 pm. $29, adults; $25, seniors; $23, children. •Travel on a high speed catamaran for a three-hour wh watch. Free ticket for another watch if no whales sighted.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (6 426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red l to South Station. Mon.-Thu., 11 am-4 pm; F 11 am-8 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •Aug. 6-7 am-4 pm. *Puppy Days: Adventures with Clifford Big Red Dog* offers an opportunity to explore C ford's favorite places. •Aug. 11, 11 am. *PlaySp* offers a Sing-a-Story. •Aug. 13, 11:30 am-1:30 *Kitchen Science* teaches kids about egg float •Tue., 10:30 am. *Tasty Tuesdays* lets children try ferent snacks. •Wed., 12-1pm. The *Summer B Dance Series* allows kids to dance to t favorite tunes. •Fri., 12-1 pm. The *Fort Point Ch nel Summer Outdoor Music Series* features musi diverse styles by various musicians. •Fri., 1-1:30 *Meet the Musicians* follows the *Summer Outd Music Series.*

Franklin Park Zoo
1 Franklin Park Rd., Boston (617-541-546 www.zoonewengland.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-5 Sat.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. $9.50, adults; $5.50, 3-15; free, ages 2 and under. •The 72-acre zoo cludes a farmyard petting zoo, lions in the *Kala Kingdom*, a butterfly garden, gorillas in the *Afr Tropical Forest Habitat* and kangaroos in the *A tralian Outback.*

Harvard Co-op
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200 www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harv •Tues., 11 am. Preschool storytime is held wee •Sat., 11 am. Creative arts and crafts for chil under 7 years old.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Line to Harvard. 10 am-3 pm. $7.50, adults; seniors and students; $5, children ages 3-18. •Sat., 11 am for preschoolers; 9 am-12 pm for K-3. $31 members; $35, nonmembers. *Saturday Scholars* lows children to handle artifacts, make crafts, scientific equipment and pet live animals.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-93 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museu Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, ag 17 on weekdays before 3 pm; free, 5 and under. • 3 and 4, 3:30-4:45 pm. The Children's Room tures *Art from Africa.* •Aug. 8-11, 3:30-4:45 The Children's Room features *Chinese Treasures Miniatures.* •Tue.-Thu., 3:30 pm. *Books Bring Alive* with arts and crafts for ages 5 and un •Wed., 5:30 pm. *Family Night Out* is an explora event with performances and activities for the e family that incorporate the museum's collect and four special exhibits.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www. org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Th am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; $12 seniors; $11 dren.* •Through Sept. 5 the *Summer of Adver Film Series* at the IMAX theatre includes *Myster the Nile*; through Sept. 10. *Everest* and *Shackle Antarctic Adventure* also play. •Butterflies and ers are on display in the new permanent Butt Garden. Ongoing. •Making Models is an inte tive exhibit that features models of a wave t Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongo •Science Live! features live animals and multim presentations surrounded by natural history d mas. Ongoing.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www. org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fr am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95, ad $13.95, seniors; $8.95, children ages 3-11.* •A *ing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Thr 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. O ing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition turing sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongo •The Simons Imax Theatre features *Wild Sc Sharks 3-D* and *Aliens of the Deep*. Ongoing.

Splash Fountain
Christian Science Plaza, Boston. MBTA: E G Line to Prudential. Free. •Children can through the 180 water jets that shoot up from ground or play in the splash pool in the cent the fountain.

Tadpole Playground
Boston Common, adjacent to Frog Pond (508-1151). www.tadpoleplayground.org. Open dawn until dusk. •The playground offers child chance to enjoy art, water fountains and ga •The Frog Pond features a 70-foot spray p and a wading pool.

ights to See

oston University Observatory
oit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-30). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on ar nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 30-8:30 pm. Free.

hildren's Museum
0 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-55). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South ution. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9; ldren ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1-2-year-olds, $2; der 1 year old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

aneuil Hall
State St., Boston. MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange Green Line to Haymarket or Green Line to Governnt Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-m. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

arvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.nh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-n., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; chiln, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

hn F. Kennedy Library & Museum
lumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: 1 Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors l college students with valid ID, $8; ages 13-17, $7; 12 l under, free.

ount Auburn Cemetery
0 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). BTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

useum of Afro-American History
Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam seum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park eet. Summer: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day ough Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

useum of Science
nce Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. . MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-m (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children,

useum of Transportation
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., am-5 pm. $5; children 16 and under and seniors, $3; dren under 6, free.

ew England Aquarium
ntral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. . MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: n.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-t. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. .95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95; members, free.

d North Church
Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange reen Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-6 pm. Free.

d South Meeting House
Washington Street, Boston (617-482-6439). TA: Orange or Blue Line to State. April-Oct., 9:30 5 pm; Nov. to March, 10 am-4 pm. $5; seniors and lents, $4; children, $1.

d State House Museum
Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: nge or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; se-s and students, $4; children ages 6-18, $1; children er 6, free.

udential Center Skywalk
Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: en Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm, ays call ahead to make sure it's open. $9.50; $7.50 college ID; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, 50; children under 3, free.

nity Church
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: en Line to Copley. Open daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5; chil-12 and under, free.

S Constitution & Museum
rlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www. onstitutionmuseum.org. Nov. 1-April 30: Thu.-., 10 am-3:50 pm; May 1-Oct. 15: Tue.-Sun., m-6 pm. Free.

olunteer

C Mentoring Program
7-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a fos-are child.

DS Action Committee
7-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with V/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools. Recruiting throughout the summer for volunteers to start in September.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, a.k.a. Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org Volunteer as an aquarium guide, work with the penguins and more.

Parental Stress Line
(617-267-8077). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve lunch to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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-Annie Copps, Boston Magazine

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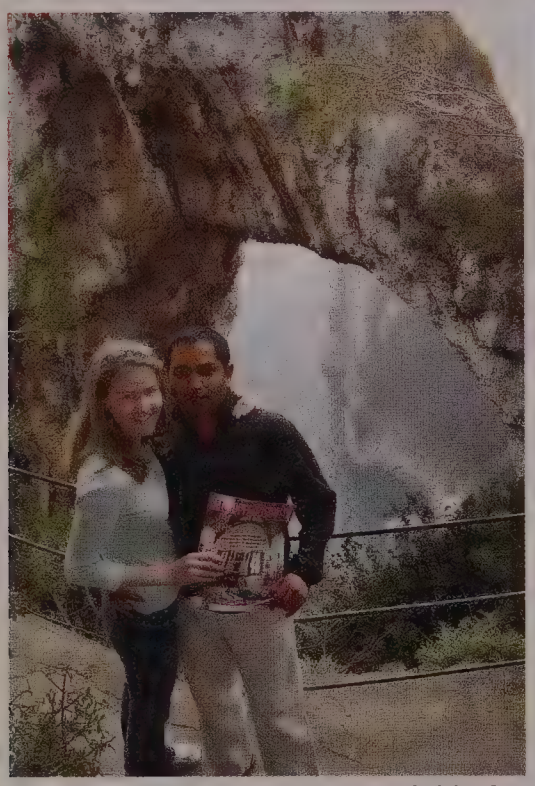
IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP

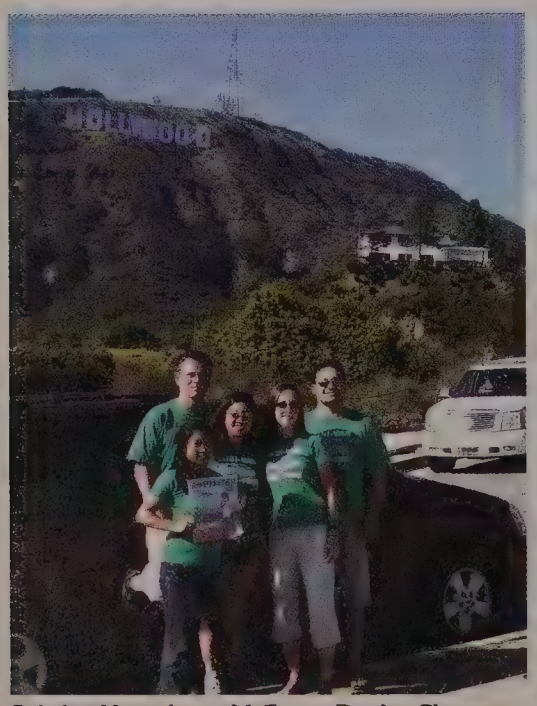
Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Rebecca Sandfort and Naimish Patel visited the Arco Naturale in Capri, an Italian island famous for its short pants and juice pouches.

Boston Celtics guard Tony Allen and students from Dorchester's Harbor School take a little summer vacation in Washington, D.C. That guy in the front is Lucky, the C's mascot. Most mascots get masks. Not Lucky, though.

Adam Reed, Bonnie Reed, and Allyson and Gary Reed at Mission Rocks in South Africa. This photo will also appear i their family newsletter, "Extra, Extra, Reed All About It."



Sabrina Hom, Jason McEwen, Denise Chun, Amy Vashlishan and Dave Simon tout their sick pro-minivan leanings in Hollywood, Calif.

The Boston Gay Men's Chorus gets IMPROPER at Berlin's Haus der Kulturen der Welt. After performing, they returned to their hotel to watch Germany's hottest gay sitcom, *Wilhelm und Grace*.

Mike Melillo took his IMPROPER to the Vatican. The new Pope is quite popular, but many prefer the flavor of Pope Classic

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Riding a tandem bike with their doppelgänger at the Twins Festival, held Aug. 15 in Pleucadeuc, France.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

improperimpersonals

everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over he place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of ourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type p e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Drunken Drama

's such a shame about all the diculous drama that we've been rough, throughout our whole resent and perhaps past life together. reakup after breakup, it seemed like n endless cosmic dysfunctional lationship with no relief in sight, ntil now. The last time we "broke " I vowed to myself that it wouldn't appen again. EVER. But it has. I'm ctually relieved that it happened gain, because now I can be free of ur constant drama and continuous ate of denial and vigorous anger wards me, the world and yourself. u have taught me so much about all my own shortcomings by exhibiting l of yours so openly and blaming eryone else for them, and for this reversible awareness, I thank you. u could have handled things fferently this time and forgiven, own from this and moved on, but u chose to hold a grudge and not rgive, to stay angry and be nomous. That's your choice, and to honest, I'm glad and I thank you r your decision to stay mad. There ll be no more expensive, drunken, gry, growth-less drama in the ture of my life, now without you. entually, you will banish everyone m your life, as you are doing, and ere will be no one left to blame but urself. May God be with you when at day comes. Good luck with all at you do or don't do with your ipwrecked life, and thank you ain.
-Over it

From Bobo to Jenna With Phone Number 0411

you are a Jenna or you know meone who is and used to have a one number that ended with 0411: n writing this posting on behalf of bo from India (seriously, that's his AL name) who doesn't seem to ieve that I am not YOU. Since ving to Boston I have dvertently inherited your old one number, and he doesn't believe it I am not you. He calls me at all ts of random hours of the day, m India, from different numbers. one point I got irritated (and I ret this now because it was very an) and I told him that you were d. PLEASE give him a call, e-mail, ne form of contact and tell him t I am not you! (And that you n't dead, kidnapped...whatever.) ou no longer wish to comm- cate with him (which I truly lerstand as he is very annoying) may always use the infamous n now a lesbian" excuse. Or re's always "I'm married now." Just please contact him. I would change my number, but there are many people now who have it, and at this point it would just be a hassle.
—Not Bobo's Beyotch

To the Noisy People with a Swimming Pool in Somerville

It's sweltering hot and humid, and we all suffer from it. But, let me tell you, your inconsiderate behavior is making it infinitely more unbearable. You are perhaps all too old to be told this, but your childish plays somehow make me doubt that; so, heed this warning: Refrain from shouting and screaming in your backyard all day long. It will save your throat and your neighbors' sanity, especially at 2 am!
—Annoyed neighbors

To All Mansfield-area Taxi Companies

It's only 2.8 miles from the Mansfield commuter train station to the Tweeter Center. Where do you people get off on charging a flat rate of $15 one-way for a 2.8 mile trip? I took my mountain bike with me to Ozzfest and it only took 10 minutes to get from the train station to the Tweeter Center. I hope someone from the Attorney General's office reads this communiqué, 'cause you are all partaking in highway robbery.
—Anthony D.

Cubeface, Darkclouds, Total Kenobi

You guys rule. Keep up the good work.
—A fan

To the Contraceptive Criminal

Way to go, buddy. Thought you had hit the jackpot when you came upon the package on my apartment doorstep, didn't you? What were you thinking? You'd find money, jewelry, maybe a new pair of socks at the very least? Well, I wish I could've seen the look on your face when you ripped open the packet to find nothing but the birth control pills that my mother had been kind enough to pick up for me, and the bank statement from my New Hampshire bank account. Not exactly the haul you'd expected, huh? Serves you right. Thanks for making friendly Brookline seem a lot less like home. I hope you use the pills because the world sure as heck doesn't need any more people like you.
—Preventative and Pissed Off

Las Vegas, July 15 Weekend

I am looking to find Ezer(?) from South Boston who works for Oracle, traveled on America West and stayed at The Hotel in Vegas for a bachelor party. I thought you were really nice and I wanted to get your information but I lost you in the airport. I was the girl from Boston who was on both of your flights and stayed in the same hotel. I'm sorry I was acting a little aloof. I just assumed you had a girlfriend. I hope you see this and if you're interested in talking, let me know.
—b02127@yahoo.com.

Desperately Seeking Charlene Jones

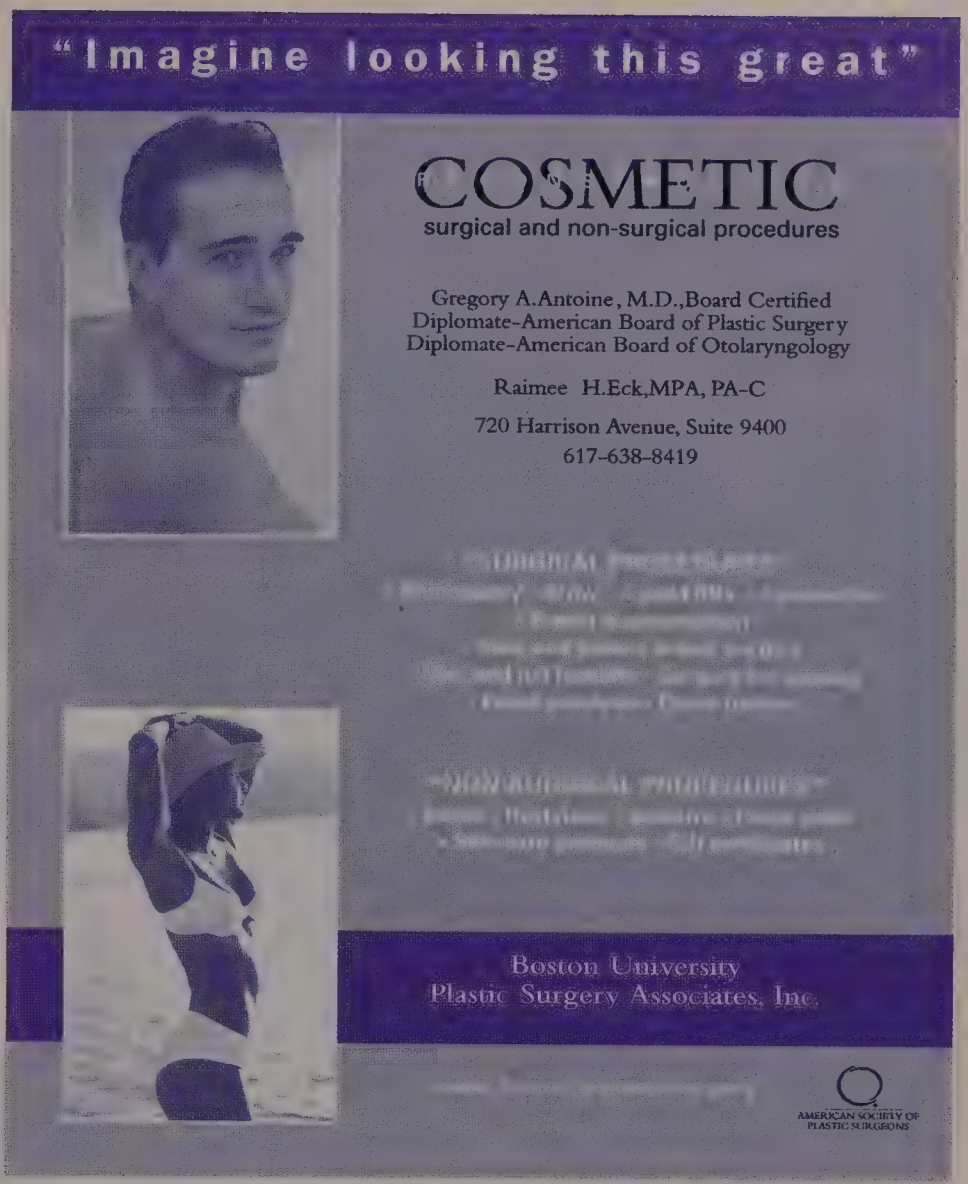
Cha: You and I were captains of the UMass Funk Club from 1997-1999 or so. Remember when we used to drop it like it's hot to Jay-Z and Biggie? Remember DJ Dini?! I saw you on the street about a year ago and we exchanged info, but I lost it. Sad, I know. I'm working on putting together a dance group again so we can shake our booties like old times. Are you in!? Either way, please get in touch!
—Amelia, funkclub@gmail.com

A Wednesday at Friday's

July 20, around 12:45 am: It was a hot Wednesday night when I left TGI Fridays. My girlfriend and I had just finished dinner. You: tall, dark and unbelievably handsome, dressed in a navy polo and white slacks. Me: scrubbed out in a tight white T-shirt and black Bebe shorts with dark brown eyes and dark hair (pulled back). As I walked out of the restaurant doors, we made eye contact. I definitely felt a vibe, and if I'm not mistaken, I think you did as well. I noticed you looking at me, but I continued walking towards my silver Mercedes ML 500. You walked out of the restaurant just as I was leaving and stood there for a few seconds as we made some serious eye contact, once again. Wow, you were gorgeous. As my friend began driving away, you rushed into your silver BMW 525i and began to follow me. While driving on Route 9, we exchanged glances several times. An unfortunate traffic light parted us that night. Chances are you probably won't see this, but if you do, e-mail me. I would love to hear from you.
—Jackdanielz01@yahoo.com

Dear "Your neighbors"

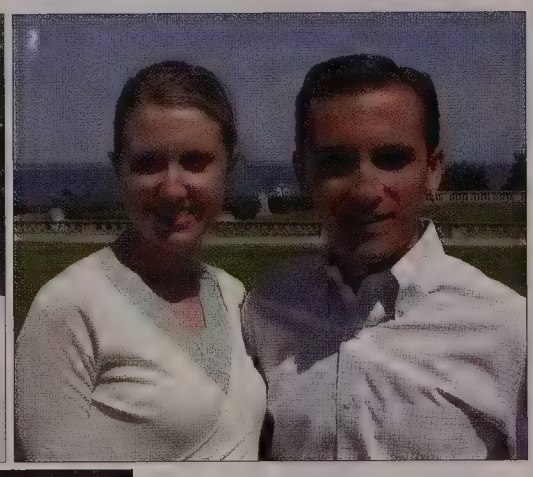
I don't know of any catty young junior high school girls who bring their dogs to the park every day. Other than that, who on earth could possibly have written such a cruel, nasty letter?
—Another neighbor who doesn't think you are very nice

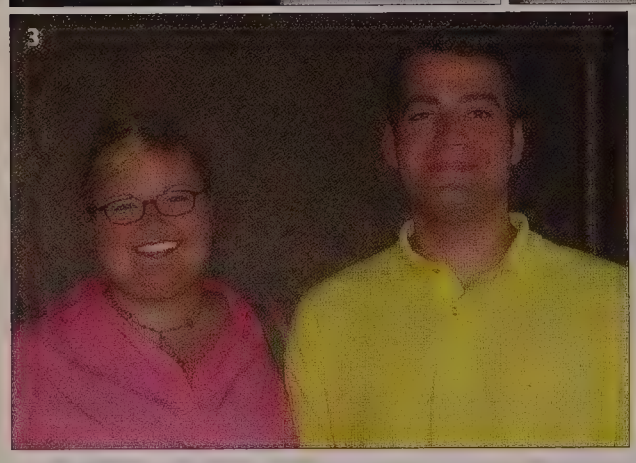


IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Sunday, July 10, **The Improper Bostonian** was a proud sponsor of **The Newport Music Festival**. The Festival featured unique chamber music programs, American debuts, world-class artists and special events in the Gilded Age "summer cottages" of Newport, Rhode Island.



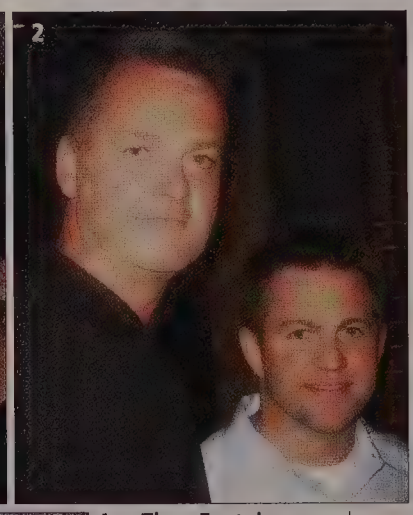


1. **Mark Stickney**, production manager for The Newport Music Festival, and **Jim Leahy**, software development manager for Yamaha Corporation.
2. **Melissa Monk**, senior associate for Capital Crossing Bank, and **Sean Kelley**, district manager for Toyota Motor Sales.
3. **Wendy Hamel**, service delivery for Cox Communications, and **Lukas Sherzer**, head of international shipping and receiving for Tanya Creations.

On Wednesday, July 13, **Bonfire** held "Bonfire on The Beach" Industry Night Launch Party, sponsored by **Ketel One**.

1. **Danielle Gillespie**, assistant manager at Bonfire, and **Blak Surabian**, director of marketi for Boston Park Plaza Hotel.
2. **Amy Finsilver**, director of sp events at The Sports Club/LA-Boston, and **David White**, concierge at Four Seasons Hot
3. **JP Faiella**, owner of Image Unlimited Marketing; **Meryl Christopher**, financial adviso American Express; **Sergio Santos**, promoter for Marz Entertainment; and **Genie Belozersky**, promoter for Ne Generation Production.

On Saturday, July 16, **The Improper Bostonian** was a sponsor of Theo Epstein and Peter Gammons' **Hot Stove, Cool Music: The Fenway Park Sessions**. Musicians, athletes, and celebrities took to the stage at the historic ballpark to benefit a **"Foundation to be Named Later"**.



1. **Theo Epstein**, general manager of the Boston Red Sox; **Todd Rice**, head strength coach at Boston College; and **Chris Barbati**, client development at NEC.
2. **Steve Coyle**, vice president of the Lyons Group, and **Adam Hawk**, general manager of Game On!
3. **Chip Rives**, CEO; **Michael Leonard**, director new business; and **John Schermerhorn**, partner; all of TRP Sports & Entertainment.

On Thursday, July 14 at **Vox Populi**, **Bombay Sapphire**'s Global Brand Ambassador, Jamie Walker, mixed delicious Sapphire cocktails for invited gue to Boston's first "Sapphire Lounge".

1. **Angela Brasington Carolyn Zambrello**, promotional represent for Bacardi.
2. **Nichole Hinds**, finan analyst for MFS, and **K Geung**, graduate stuc Northeastern Universit
3. **Brandy Toth**, divisior marketing manager, N England for Bacardi U **Christine Moll** and **Woodyer**, both mark managers for Bombay Sapphire.

PHOTOS: THE NEWPORT MUSIC FESTIVAL, STACEY SHANE; BONFIRE, JULIE KANE; HOT STOVE, STACEY SHANE; VOX POPULI, CARRIE W

rockie horoscope

AUGUST 3 – 16, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

LEO JULY 23-AUGUST 22

Plan a big birthday celebration as one reward for facing a bunch of challenges you would rather avoid if only you could. Try to make every astrological event—from the Leo sun-moon conjunction on the 4th and the informative sun-retrograde Mercury merger on the 5th, through the sun's brush with lucky Jupiter and its inspiring, but possibly delusional, encounter with artistic Neptune the following week—count as a positive experience. And if things get delayed because Mercury is retrograde until the 15th, simply reschedule.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

Venus, the vixen, stirred the pot when she opposed erratic Uranus in your Pisces house of partners. Let things settle a bit before you rush in where other fools fear to tread. Until your Mercury ruler merges with the Leo sun on the 5th and you get a better idea of what's in store, actually until Mercury turns direct on the 15th, you shouldn't make any long-term decisions. Venus in Virgo is not unlike a virago, hell-bent on having you repair what may or may not need fixing. Friends help you see clearly, humorously as well.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

It's getting to be par for the summer course; when your Venus ruler opposes unpredictable Uranus, anything goes. Whether you're upset or delighted by what happened depends in part on how involved a neighbor or sibling is in the outcome. Left to your own devices, you're due for a stroke of good luck when the Leo sun favors Jupiter in your sign the weekend of the 6th. While you may have taken Jupiter's bounty for granted, this could be the last decent opportunity you'll get before Jupiter moves on to Scorpio.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

Let's hope that the issue comes down to a minor financial matter. When couple-conscious Venus tests Pluto, your intense co-ruling planet in your house of the money you earn and the values you hold dear, you could be thrown for a loop or a small loss. Since a lot of strong emotions are generated by this seasonal square, try to keep a lid on your temper and desire for revenge. In about another week, when the sun favors Pluto and Mercury goes direct again, the matter may resolve itself. Until then, don't bank on anyone's version of the truth.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

The luxury-loving Leo new moon introduces an entertaining twist to a joint financial matter. No reason why you shouldn't enjoy the entire process of making money and spending it. What could become a pain, however, is venal Venus in critical Virgo challenging your version of family values, as well as your ability to rise like the phoenix from the ashes of a past indiscretion. Until midmonth, when Mercury is facing forward and Venus moves on to Libra, a friendlier sign for Sag, don't take a position you'll later regret.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

Too bad it's not the Summer Olympics. Instead you seem to have entered a contest you wouldn't mind winning if it isn't too arduous. Ambiguity concerning the prize, suspicion about its value, mixed messages from teammates, coaches, agents or lawyers can contribute to your feelings of malaise and confusion. Let the results of whatever you're involved in reveal themselves. Chances are the decisions will be reversed after the 15th, after Mercury turns direct and picks up some speed, also after Venus enters fair and balanced Libra.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

Give it up; admit that during solar Leo you can't get no satisfaction. You can try, but while the "Might is right!" sun in your house of partners dominates, especially when it opposes nebulous Neptune in Aquarius, it's practically a foregone conclusion that you'll cave. Find something else to amuse yourself—e.g., hunting for flea market treasures or bonding with a creative kid—until Mercury changes direction midmonth and amenable Venus enters Libra, a friendly air sign that'll support you and your preferences.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

Are the summer storms a reflection of the inner turmoil Fish are experiencing? Or are the oppositions to both your impressionable Neptune ruler and unpredictable Uranus in Pisces the cause of your dilemma? Patience please; this too shall pass, but probably not until a week after retrograde Mercury turns direct on the 15th. That's when the disinformation, misinformation and plain old fantasies will be dispelled. Like your Water-Bearer neighbor, find entertaining people and ways to entertain yourself in the meantime.

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

After a problematic weekend, Rams may need to regroup. Step back and let the rules a family member wants you to live by settle in. Rest assured that your trail-blazing Mars ruler will let you find a way around the restrictions Saturn hopes to impose. The same advice applies to a problem concerning the house or the landlord. Remember that while Mercury is retrograde until the 15th, "time is on your side." The Leo new moon-sun-Mercury merger this weekend should present new info or another approach to better serve your interests.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

A sudden change of heart, a sudden change of plans; a determined Bull could weather shifts in the emotional climate more easily than expected, especially once you realize there soon will be a resolution to a problem you're currently facing. No problema? Then it's safe to assume that for the next six months, militant Mars in your sign can decimate any obstacle that dares arise in its presence. The kind-hearted Leo new moon directs your attention to your blood and soul siblings or to another Mom and Pop issue.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

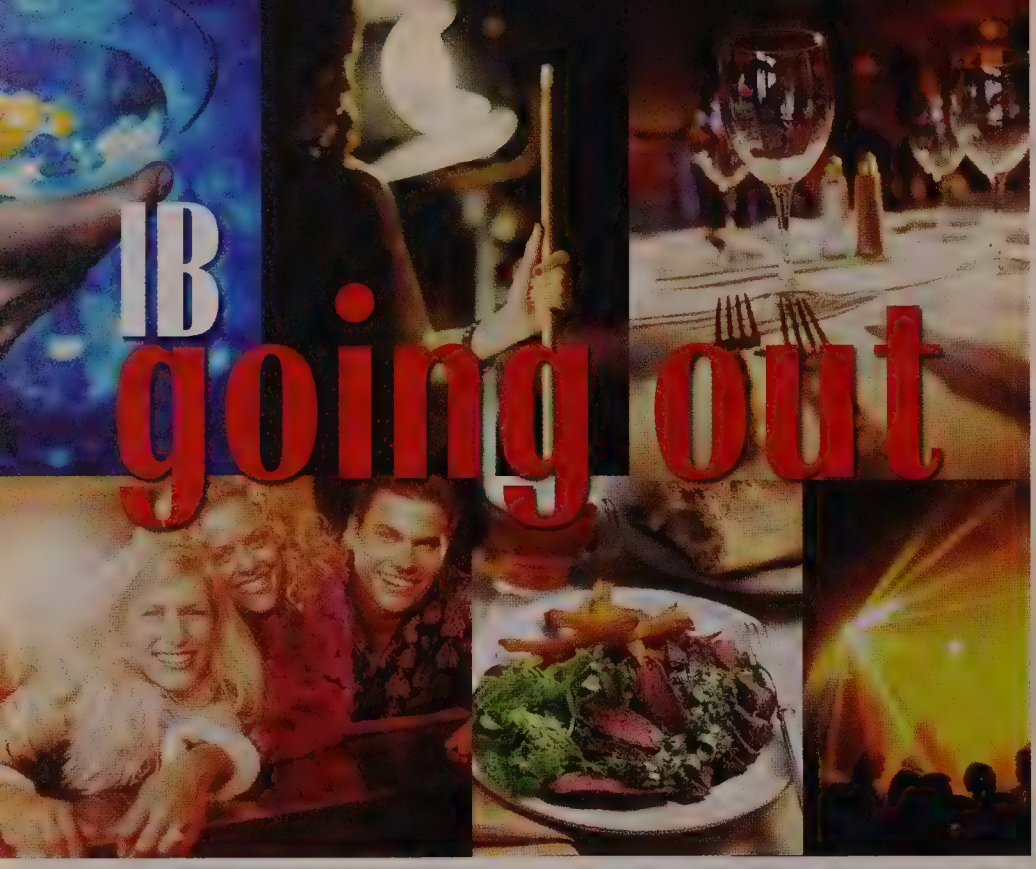
Twins could be caught between the she-devil and the deep blue sea while Venus focuses on the unpredictability of your current gig. Will you experience something strange and wonderful or simply an unexpected turn of events? Be patient and let the information relayed during the sun's meeting with your Mercury ruler on the 5th take hold before opting for one direction or another. Treading water until retrograde Mercury turns direct on the 15th makes sense. Waiting a week longer (if you can) makes more sense.

CANCER

JUNE 21-JULY 22

Even if you're perfectly agreeable to suggestions, you might encounter resistance on the job or from other members of your community. Why do you appear so formidable? Is it a preference for doing things by the book or a desire to help others benefit from lessons you've learned by having Saturn in your sign the past two years? Chances are the Leo new moon will bring a new financial matter to the table, something that'll draw on your wealth of experience and inherent kindness. Maybe it'll introduce a fresh face with a forgiving set of values.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.



RESTAURANTS

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature is cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes its mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

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NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

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Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington St. Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am, 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am 2am, 7 days a week.

General

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110* www.bostonrocks.net. 21+. Located on the 2nd

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CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR *Boston Marriott Copley Place; 110 Huntington Ave. Boston, 617 937-5658.* Come join us at Boston's premier Sports Bar where you can enjoy all you local and national sports action on one of our 33 tvs, including 2 big screens. We have draft beers as well as a huge selection of domestic and imported bottle selections for you to choose from. We also have a full bar and menu serving all your favorite traditional American cuisine. Planning your next party or corporate event? We have room for parties ranging from 25-325. Our hours are from Sunday through Thursday 11:30-1am, and Friday and Saturday 11:30-2am.

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JILLIAN'S BOSTON / LUCKY STRIKE LANES *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-7300 www.jilliansboston.com.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring 16 bowling lanes, 50 pool tables, high-tech games, high definition video walls, multiple lounges and private rooms. Located on the first floor is Tequila Rain, which offers an amazing Tex-Mex menu and dancing to the hottest DJs Friday and Saturday nights.

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BRUNCH

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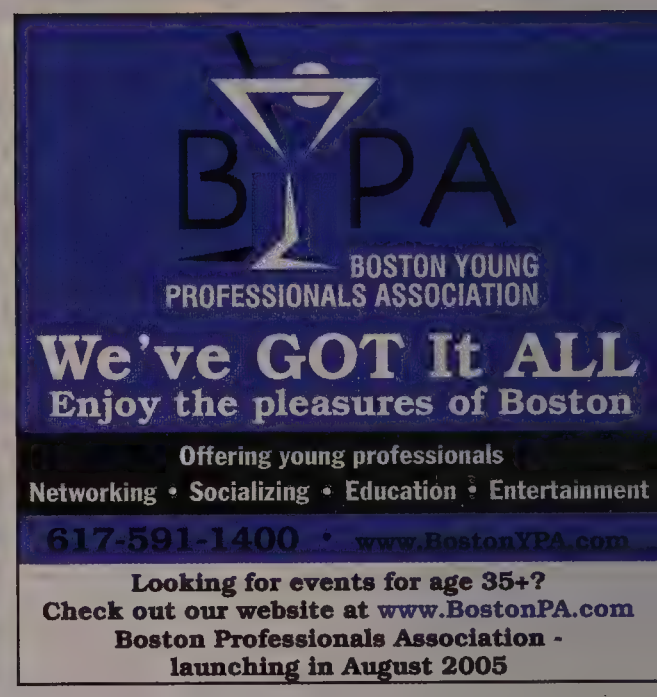

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At Tanglewood, top: the tent. Top row: Roberta and Stephen Weiner; Billy Bulger; Laura Munder and Nannette Lewis. Second row from bottom: Dan Mathieu and Tom Potter; Wendy Svarre; Deborah Voigt. Bottom: Kim Taylor and Abigail Hessberg.

OH, WHAT A TANGLEWOOD WE WEAVE, WHEN OPERA SINGERS HIT HIGH C...

A soggy (or, more accurately, monsoon-like) start to the evening did little to dampen the festivities for **Opening Night at Tanglewood**, which began with a cocktail reception and dinner beneath a tent decorated with Japanese lanterns, roses and all sorts of frippery we couldn't even identify.

As always, the gala kick-off to the **BSO**'s summer season in Lenox drew an interesting and eclectic mix of Bostonians and New Yorkers, among them: the evening's co-chairs, real estate magnate **Ed Linde** and his achingly lovely other half, **Joyce**; Park Avenue and Berkshire chatelaine **Susie Hirshfield** and her hubby, **Stuart**; megadeveloper **Steve Weiner** and the stunning **Roberta**; the flawless **Kim Taylor** (sans husband, James, who was performing in Philly) accompanied by her gorgeous niece, **Abigail Hessberg**; stage star **Annette Miller**; interior designer **Nannette Lewis**; jewelry designer **Laura Munder**; überfoodie **Dan Mathieu** and his supercute husband, **Tom Potter**; hair deity **Mario Russo** and the ever dapper **Frank Gilligan**; financial guru **Ed Rudman** and the soignée **Carole**; Svengali-in-the-making **Rob Grien** and his concubine, **Wendy Svarre**; and the inimitable **Billy Bulger**, to name a few.

Overheard during the cocktail hour:

One Bostonian asked a woman from New York what she did, to which she replied, "I play."

"Where do I sign up?" asked the Bostonian.

"All you need is a rich husband," answered the New Yorker.

"Well, can I borrow yours?"

After a long pause, the answer was: "No. At least not yet. I've grown rather fond of him."

Following a sumptuous three-course dinner, guests wandered over to the Koussevitzky Music Shed to see maestro **James Levine** conduct Mahler's *Eighth* (a.k.a. "The Symphony of Thousands"), featuring such soloists as **Deborah Voigt**, **Lorraine Hunt Lieberson**, **Johan Botha** and **John Relyea**, in addition to the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and the American Boychoir.

"My God," said one man during intermission, "There are more people on stage than in the audience."

A standing ovation was followed by a VIP reception on the stage, where premier benefactors got to mix and mingle with the artists, while enjoying dessert and bubbly, which prompted the following exchange:

"What kind of champagne is this?" one guest asked a waiter.

"The good kind," said the waiter, and kept on walking.

ARS LONGA, SUMMER BREVIS...

Instead of the usual pro athletes and corporate ladder climbers, it was an ambisexual, artsy, boho crowd that gathered at **The Rack** for **The Art of July**, an annual benefit auction that this year raised money for the **Medford Family Network**.

Seen socializing like mad while nibbling hors d'ouevres and bidding on artwork were such bright young bulbs as artists **Brian Patrick Adams** and **Tristan Govignon**; juggler/palm reader/divinity student **Alison Edwards**; improbably tall graphic designer **Christopher Ellsworth**; patron of the arts **Beth Walsh**; adorable scamp **Brian Szela**; peripatetic stockbroker **Robert White**; party girls **Joan Jolley** and **Karen Keaney**; flack extraordinaire **Kate Shamon** and her husband, **Andy Rushford**; the supermod **Jodi Wolin**; Red Sox propagandist and homegirl **Mei Li**; publicity minx **Jessica Bridger**; Charlie's Angels doppelganger **Alexis Lawrence**; do-gooders **Evelyn Nellum** and **Jennifer Trapp** with woman of mystery **Janelle**; and heretofore blatantly homosexual TV personality **Kenn Gray** and his amour du jour, **Carol Lindenmuth**, who remarked, "My boyfriend's so gay, all he needs is a cape and some fairy dust, but somehow it works."

In fact, they turned out to be the evening's hottest topic of gossip, prompting such disbelieving comments as, "You gotta be kidding me! He practically invented gay," and "If he's dating a woman, those ex-gay ministries must actually work."

Among the other witty persiflage overheard over the course of the evening:

Someone asked "Where's the food?" to which his friend replied, "Follow the beige pantsuit."

Meanwhile, a raffle basket entitled "The Art of Masculinity" prompted one woman to admiringly observe, "That's a very big basket," while another guest said, "I always get liquored up at these things and buy all kindsa shit I don't need," to which his friend responded, "Tell me about it. The last charity auction I went to, we bought Yao Ming's sneakers. Size 16."

As for how the evening ended, one guest stepped out onto the sidewalk and after nearly colliding with an old man wearing Daisy Dukes and black knee socks said, "Oh, boy. I really didn't need to see that." IB

At the Art of July, from top: Carol Lindenmuth and Kenn Gray; Alison Edwards and Tristan Govignon; Mei Li, Jessica Bridger and Alexis Lawrence; Brian Adams and Beth Walsh; Jennifer Trapp, Janelle, and Evelyn Nellum.

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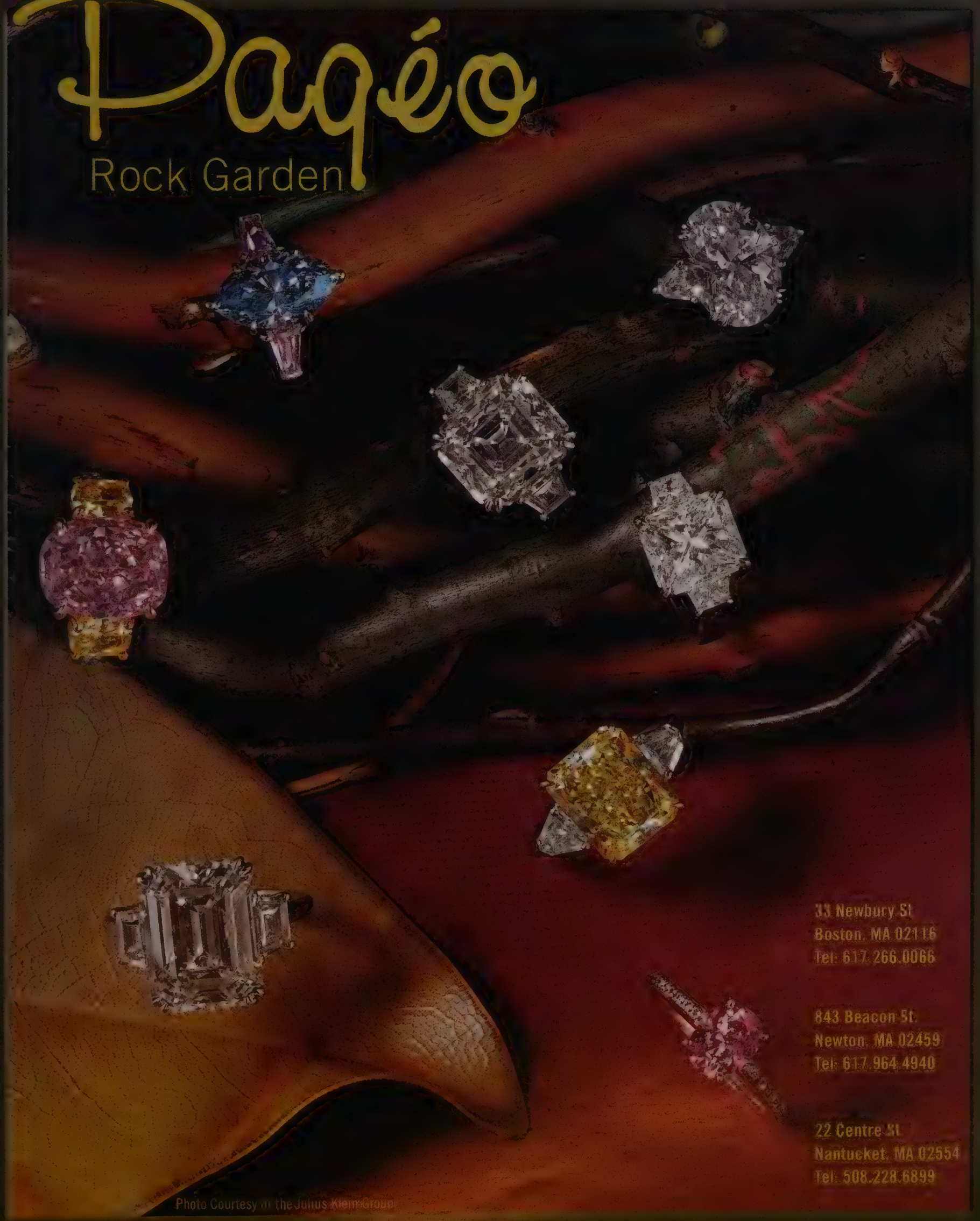

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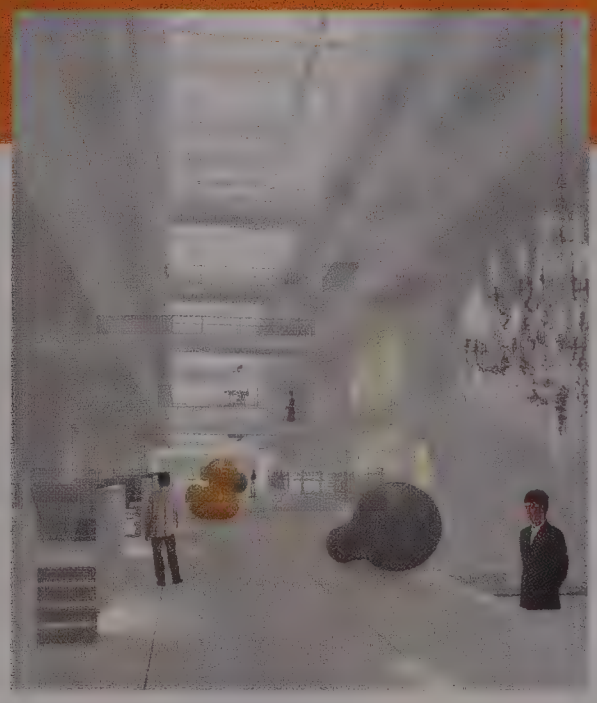

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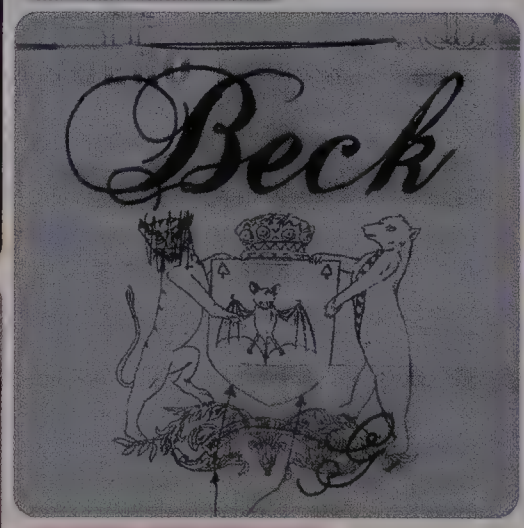

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Sat. August 20
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JOHN HIATT & SHAWN COLVIN
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

ALL HAIL ROCK

Every year our intrepid music editor Paul Robicheau hits the clubs, and the WBCN Rock 'n' Roll Rumble, looking for 10 talented local bands to highlight in our annual rock issue. You might discover some new faves among our '05 picks—whose sounds range from retro, electro- and pop rock to hip-hop and "blue wave."

This year, along with telling you about some of the most exciting local acts, we're inviting our readers to celebrate the Boston rock scene and hear an array of bands, including Fluttr Effect, featured on our cover. We hope you'll join us at 9 pm on Sept. 8 at Felt (on Washington Street) for our first-ever rock issue party.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

I FOUND IT SURPRISING THAT THE DATING ISSUE DIDN'T INCLUDE ANY ARTICLES ON THE GAY DATING SCENE.

—JONAH NIGH
BOSTON

QUEER EYE FOR THE DATE GUY

Considering Boston's recent media limelight regarding the gay marriage battle and the proposed constitutional amendment, I found it surprising that THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's Dating Issue (Aug. 3) didn't include any articles focused on the gay dating scene. The only reference to anything homosexual was to actor Joe Gannascoli, who played a gay gangster on HBO's *The Sopranos*.

This was an unfortunate omission. Dating can be a torturous/humorous experience for anyone, gay or straight. I think a piece on Boston's notoriously small gay scene would have been particularly effective. To give an example of its incestuous nature: I once went on a blind date with someone who was the ex-boyfriend of the gentleman I was on a blind date with the week before. Then again, I guess I should be proud that gays have always been known for their great strides in recycling!

The IMPROPER does a great job of including alternative listings for new clubs, bars, shows and events. Next time, it would be nice to see us get a little more ink toward the front of the magazine.

—JONAH NIGH
Boston

DIVERSIDATE

I was excited to read the Aug. 3 "True Confessions" article, but the one thing missing was a question about men dating outside their race. You ask the questions about older vs. younger women, aggressive and nonaggressive, slutty, women with higher incomes—but nothing about race. This is Boston, a very diverse city with many well-educated, professional, black, Latino and Asian women. What about us?

This is 2005, and your dating issue should at least include something about interracial dating. If Ashton Kutcher and Bernie Mac can make a movie about it, I'm sure it's OK for the IMPROPER to talk about it.

—TORI WESTON
Somerville

I SHALL NEVER SEE A DATE AS PRETTY AS A TREE

I read "True Confessions: What Men Really Think about Dating and Sex" by Leslie Kilgore and wrote this poem [Editor's note: What follows is a brief excerpt from Baris' *Ancient Mariner*–like epic]:

For any dream girl combination:
must have great sexual chemistry,
daily conversational factoids,
sense of humor, lots of stamina,
and be just enough of a slut.
Oh, it helps to look like Angelina Jolie,
and/or Audrey Hepburn;
with great cheekbones and [angel] wings.

—D.E. BARIS
Winthrop

DEEP THOUGHTS

Congratulations on breaking new ground in your feature "True Confessions." Essentially, you found a nice cross section of men and asked them what they really, deep-in-their-hearts thought about women. The result? Shockingly, the answers to each question ran the gamut. Some men want sex on the first date, some (strangely, perhaps) prefer to wait until the 15th date. Some men like women to pay for dinner, some prefer to take the '50s route and pay every time.

So what you've shown us is that all men are different, consciously or not seeking certain things in women, and that no two men expect or want the same thing from us. And all along I thought there was a script that I hadn't been given! I expect this sort of heavy anthropological journalism from *Cosmo*. Bravo, IMPROPER!

—Sinead O'Brien
Boston

CONTRIBUTORS

PAUL ROBICHEAU

This is Paul Robicheau's sixth year seeking out and writing about Boston's 10 best bands for the IMPROPER. The magazine's resident music scribe since 1993, Robicheau has covered the Boston rock scene for 20 years as both a writer and photographer. He has chronicled pop, jazz and world music for the *Boston Globe*, *Rolling Stone*, *Boston Metro* and Sonicnet/MTV.com. And when he has time, Robicheau plays drums—usually under the watchful gaze of his dog, Elvis. "10 Bands That Rock" begins on page 18.

CLARE AMARAKOON

Photographer Clare Amarakoon's work is currently on exhibit at the Canvas Alley Gallery in Reading. She was recognized in *American PHOTO* magazine's "Hottest New Talent" contest of 2004 and has shot for editorial and commercial clients including *Seventeen* and Mitchell John Salon. In her debut work for the IMPROPER, Amarakoon photographed the musicians featured in "10 Bands That Rock," beginning on page 18.

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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the Word

TRENDS TITTLE-TATTLE PEOPLE PANACHE

EDITED BY ERIN HAGEDORN

new in town

EVERYONE IN DENIM

High-end denim purveyors are popping up around the city like prime-time cartoons on Fox. Last year saw the opening of jean boutiques Jean Therapy at the Hotel Commonwealth and National Jean Co. in Newton Centre, and now there are two more to add to the list.

Over in the North End, recent Babson business school grad Alison Barnard debuted her shop In-Jean-ius on Hanover Street in July. Decorated in a mix of bright blue and pink, the girly shop caters to women in their 20s and 30s seeking trendy jeans they won't find at their local Gap. In-Jean-ius carries 25 brands including Hudson, Kasil, Taverniti and Puka. "People are branching out from the department store look," says Barnard. "They're looking for a new brand, a new look and details like that interesting back pocket."

On her neatly organized shelves you'll find jeans that have been embroidered, distressed, patched, cropped and/or embellished. But that's tame compared with what she says other jean shops are selling these days. "People are going crazy—they're even selling cashmere and diamonds on jeans now." If jeans are the new black pant, as Barnard says, be prepared to pay fancy-pants prices. The cheapest pair rings in at $88, and the most expensive goes for $328. If you splurge on jeans here, however, you can save on accessories: The store also sells jewelry—bracelets, earrings, necklaces—and most are priced under $50.

Meanwhile on Newbury Street, Amsterdam-based brand G-Star Raw Denim has taken over Allston Beat's former digs. Tops and bottoms in muted, solid colors fill this space, which mixes wood and leather with concrete and steel and has the feel of an ultra-hip army–navy store. G-Star's stock includes industrial-inspired jeans, shirts, coats and sweaters—the brand's known to be a favorite of celebs like Gwen Stefani. The name's got nothing to do with the Hollaback girl, though. G-Star originally was called Gap Star, but when the Gap opened branches in Europe, Gap Star became G Star to avoid confusion. Jeans range from $130–$340. *In-Jean-ius, 441 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-5326). 11 am–8 pm. G-Star Raw Denim, 348 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-4100). —E.H.*

G-Star Raw Denim

inner view

JULIANA HATFIELD

Raised in Duxbury, Mass., self-taught guitarist Juliana Hatfield studied vocals at Berklee and there, in 1986, met John Strohm and Freda Love. The trio, who became known as the Blake Babies, put out three albums before disbanding in 1990. The singer/songwriter went solo and since then has released eight albums, including her latest, *Made in China*, which dropped on August 9. She's also started her own record label, Ye Olde Records. Hatfield returns home on August 20 for a show at the Paradise Rock Club along with the Gentlemen, another local product, who contributed to a bunch of tracks on her new album.

Improper Bostonian: *What were the best and worst parts of your time at Berklee?*

Juliana Hatfield: The best was definitely the vocal training. I was accepted as a piano student, but I tricked them. I went for vocals and learned so much. The worst was probably the math aspect of the classes. I know that the analysis of a harmony was important for some people, but it was just tedious and certainly not for me.

IB: *So what can we expect from* Made in China*? How is it any different from the work you've done in the past?*

JH: That's hard to answer, because when I do an album, I'm always trying to blindly express myself without ever consciously knowing what I'm doing. But with this album I wanted to do something more raw, fast and rocking.

IB: *I have to ask you about Track 10. It's called Digital Penetration…*

JH: Well [laughs], there are two ways to look at it. On one hand, this is the first album I ever recorded completely digitally, and I wanted to write about how digital technology has penetrated rock 'n' roll. On the other hand, it's a song about love and lust mixed into a new romance.

IB: *Now that you've created your own label, what plans do you have for making music in the future?*

JH: It's all about total freedom for me and being able to make a decision without asking a bunch of people first. Eventually, I'd like to help other people put out music, but for now it's about being completely self-sufficient.

IB: *Is it safe to say you've had enough of the mainstream music industry?*

JH: I've never considered myself a major label artist and have always been gradually going more indie. Now it's complete.

IB: *How gentlemanly are your tour mates, the Gentlemen?*

JH: Well, [singer and bassist] Ed Valauskas is the most gentlemanly person I've ever known. But Pete [drummer Pete Caldes] is kind of a wise ass.

IB: *You obviously have an appreciation for the talent here in Boston. Who do you think are some of the most underrated local acts?*

JH: I'd definitely say the Unbusted, a band out of Martha's Vineyard. Those guys are great. I'm also a big fan of Furvis but then again, they just signed with a big label and probably don't need any extra-publicity from me.

—*Rich Levine*

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tasty tidbits

MISTRAL 2

More Mammano... After three years of sitting empty, the space that housed Salamander finally has a new tenant. Jamie Mammano of Mistral and Teatro has signed a lease for a new restaurant, Sorellina, scheduled to open in the Huntington Ave. locale in mid-October. Sorellina will feature upscale, classic Italian dishes created by executive chef John Delpha and Mammano himself. Mistral's general manager Mark D'Alessandro says they're still finalizing the interior design, but they hope to achieve the same lively atmosphere and top-notch service they're known for at Mistral and Teatro. The dining room will seat 140 people, and the bar will seat 16.

Lunch Bunch...33 Restaurant, which celebrated its third anniversary earlier this month, is extending its offerings to hungry Back Bayers by opening for lunch. The lunch menu debuts August 22 in conjunction with the start of Restaurant Week and continues weekdays from 11 am–3 pm. The menu, created by chef Anthony Dawodu, includes dishes like roasted striped bass with tofu, soybeans miso nage and oven-roasted London broil. Plus there's a $20 prix fixe option featuring a choice of soup or salad, sandwich and dessert and a $10 option that includes soup, salad and a half sandwich. *33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311).*

Vintage Dining... Nothing beats a great meal downtown, but when you tire of battling traffic, paying for parking and waiting an hour to get seated, check out Vintage, a new dining spot that opened in West Roxbury on August 1. Chef Todd Kiley, formerly of Legal Seafoods and P.F. Chang's, dishes out classic American cuisine like steaks, chops and fresh seafood, plus there's an extensive "vintage" wine list featuring 300 wines by the bottle and 30 by the glass. The dining room seats 170 people, and there's also a separate lounge area, designed by Abe & Louie's architect Michael McKay, with a full bar, fireplace and comfy couches. *1430 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury (617-469-2600).*

sam says

'DO DEALS

After eight successful years, James Joseph Salon is right back where it started. Sort of. The chic salon that's received accolades from many a magazine from here to New York has opened a studio in its original space a few blocks up the street from the current salon at 30 Newbury. If you've heard of these "studios" in the past and wondered what, exactly, they are, they're basically spin-off salons staffed with stylists who are less experienced—and charge cheaper rates. Sometimes, studios mean there's a high risk of a lopsided cut or tainted color. But not at James Joseph's. Owner William George hand-selected stylists with real talent. If you ask me, it's a bargain. First-timers pay $40 for a studio haircut. Otherwise, cuts are $40, $50 or $60. Single-process color starts at $55, and foils start at $80. *168 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-6600).*

—Samantha House

improper reports

LOVIN' THAT DIRTY WATER

So you're not a big fisherman, you've never worn a sailor's hat and you have no idea how to hoist a sail. You can still get out on the Charles and the Harbor thanks to local cruise and rental outfits.

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Charles River Canoe and Kayak

Artesani Park, Soldiers Field Road, Allston; 2401 Comm. Ave., Newton (617-965-5110). www.paddleboston.com

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21 David Mugar Way, Boston (617-523-1038).
www.community-boating.org

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60 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-542-8000).
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Spirit Cruises

World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-748-1499).
www.spiritcruises.com

While performers croon Broadway tunes, you tuck into dishes like sole fillet stuffed with crabmeat and crème brûlée cheesecake. Lunch cruises, $39–$47; dinner cruises, $50–$78.

— Sarah Feldberg

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Pay Phones Return... If you, like us, occasionally forget your wallet but are surgically attached to your cell phone, you'll be glad to know that Watertown-based MobileLime has created a way for you to use your phone like a credit card. First you go online and create an account by either connecting it to an existing credit card or prestocking the account with cash. When you're ready to spend your dough, just call the MobileLime number, dial the merchant's ID number, give them the last four digits of your phone number and voilà! Local businesses that are already hooked up for MobileLime include Gyuhama, KaBloom, Sunset Cantina, Toscanini's, Hello Taxi and more. At this rate, when the Terminator arrives, he'll probably be not a robot but a Motorola. *www.mobilelime.com. (866-360-5463).*

A New Ensemble... Dress, the new women's boutique on Newbury Street, pays homage to the wardrobe staple that never goes out of style. In the 900-square-foot space, you'll find dresses designed by Melanie Birkett, who used to design for Calvin Klein but now has her own line; Twelfth Street by Cynthia Vincent; and Issa (the Brazilian designer known for her silk creations). But dresses, priced $200–$600, aren't all that owners Martha Hilfinger and Jane Schlueter carry. Their collection includes skirts, pants, jeans, shoes, handbags and jewelry by lesser-known but high-end brands. *221 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-7125).*

What's Under His Thumb? A Brush... You might not have a ticket to the Stones at Fenway on the 21st, but you still can get a Stones fix at Newbury Fine Arts. The gallery's public sale of guitarist Ronnie Wood's artwork runs Aug. 12–29, and there's a party to boot on Aug. 19 at 6 pm. Turns out, when Wood isn't pickin' strings, he's picking up a brush and creating portraits. Bonus: anyone who purchases one of Wood's portraits gets to hang with the man himself at a private VIP party. Which isn't the same thing as going to the concert but is better than getting no satisfaction at all. *29 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-0210). www.ronniewood.com, www.newburyfinearts.com.*

—E.D. and L.P.K.

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THE ORIGINAL PINT BOTTLE & ICE

PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

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3

4

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A Special Screening of *Four Brothers* to benefit the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation took place on Sunday, August 7, at the Loews Boston Common Theater. John Singleton, Oscar-nominated director of *Boyz N the Hood*, and other stars made an appearance on the red carpet. Proceeds from the event will go toward improving the quality of life for inner-city youth through a working partnership with the Mark Wahlberg Foundation and other youth organizations. The Wahlberg Foundation, established in 2001, provides financial and community support for youth service and enrichment programs for inner-city children and teens.

1. *Four Brothers* cast members **Mark Wahlberg**, **Tyrese Gibson**, **Fionnula Flanagan**, **Andre Benjamin** and **Garrett Hedlund**.
2. Actors **Adrian Grenier** and **Jerry Ferrara** of the HBO series *Entourage*.
3. **Bill Forry**, editor of the *Dorchester Reporter*, and his wife, State Representative **Linda Dorcena Forry**, with **Bob Scannell**, president & CEO of the Daniel Marr Boys & Girls Club in Dorchester, and his wife, **Mary**.
4. Actor **John Ratzenberger**, formerly of *Cheers* and now host of the Travel Channel series *Made in America*.
5. **Jayme Parker**, SportsDesk Anchor for NESN, and **Mike O'Malley**, star of *Yes, Dear* on CBS.
6. Actor **Robert Wahlberg** of the upcoming film *The Departed*.

The "Pitching In for Kids" All-Star Charity Golf Classic was held at the Comedy Connection on Thursday, July 28. Red Sox players Tim Wakefield and Johnny Damon hosted the evening, which featured a dunk tank, silent and live auctions, Boston comedians and a wall-to-wall gourmet buffet. Pitching In for Kids raises funds to support the Franciscan Hospital, the Ron Burton Training Village and the Tedy Ebersol Red Sox Fields project.

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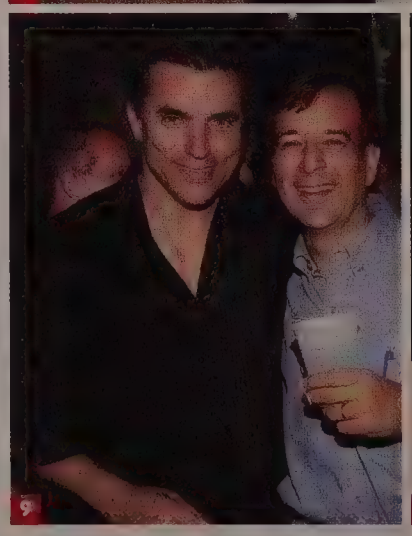
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7. **Larry Lucchino**, president/CEO of the Boston Red Sox, and his wife, **Stacey**; **Meg Vaillancourt**, vice president of corporate affairs for the Boston Red Sox; and **Bob Davis**, venture partner of Highland Capital Partners in Lexington.
8. **Shawn Manning**, star of *The Real Gilligan's Island* on TBS; **Marzi Alavi**, executive assistant at Regan Communications; **Haley Machin**, executive assistant at Hotel Commonwealth; and **David Fioravanti**, co-winner of *The Biggest Loser* on NBC.
9. **Todd English**, chef/owner of Olives, and **Jim Koch**, founder/owner of Samuel Adams.
10. **Meghan Malone-Moses**, owner of Cravings; **Andrew Novelline**, vice president of Abbot Financial in North Andover; and his wife, **Amanda**, vice president of Advertising Concepts in North Andover.
11. **Molly Forbes**, hostess at the 406 Club at Fenway Park, and **Bradley White** and **Liane McAuliffe**, waiter and bartender, respectively, at the Bristol Lounge at the Four Seasons Hotel.

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IT'S THE PITTS

Pittsburgh rules, but the Pirates do not.

Earlier this summer, my buddies Wilson and Neskey proposed a mighty fine idea: a baseball road trip. While some people might not think that driving to Cleveland and sitting through multiple rain delays while seated one buffer-chair away from a 400-pound man sounds "fun," those people are not true baseball fans. No, true baseball fans are people like me, and especially people like the 400-pound man, whom we dubbed the Mountain. As we drive in hungover silence from Cleveland toward our next stop, Wilson says, "You know what the best part about that guy was? He was wearing cleats." That's like wearing a cape to go see *The Phantom of the Opera*. That's dedication.

Our next stop is Pittsburgh, which I expect to be a royal hellhole. Call me an East Coast elitist, but when I imagine Pittsburgh, I picture giant sooty factories belching flames into a forbidding sky, hunchbacks on every corner tending vats of molten steel and businessmen commuting on those two-man railroad cars where you pump a lever back and forth to make it move.

Instead, Pittsburgh looks kind of like Oz. PNC Park is four years old and situated directly on the Allegheny River, which along with the downtown skyscrapers serves as a picturesque backdrop. The stadium only seats 38,000 and so retains a Fenwayesque intimacy. Fans can stand on a walkway and watch relievers warm up. The food is great. After the game, a riverboat takes you from the ballpark to a strip of bars along the water. And, according to a taxi driver we spoke with, $20 will take you to a promisingly named establishment called "Stiffie's."

We take our seats just beyond the wall in left field, and I'm still juggling two beers and a hot dog when I look down the aisle and see shuffling toward me…cleats. I follow the cleats up to a pair of meaty ankles, past bowling-ball knees and up to a Hawaiian shirt that could be attached to a wicker basket and used as a hot-air balloon. Yes, it's the Mountain, the guy from the night before in Cleveland. He glances at his ticket and affirms what I'd feared: He's sitting directly to my left. This is winning the lottery, in reverse. I brace myself for two games' worth of personal-space invasion—at Fenway, when someone that size sits next to you, after nine innings you discover that the two of you have separate digestive systems but share the same kidneys and lungs, necessitating a risky postgame operation by conjoined-fan specialists at Mass. General.

There's no such problem here, which is as surprising as Target's decision to rewrite a Sir Mix-a-Lot ode to big asses to sell children's backpacks. You see, even the cheap seats at PNC Park are spaced far enough apart to accommodate the modern, 400-pound American baseball fan, while the chairs at Fenway are designed for Emmanuel Lewis. And so the Mountain and I each enjoy the game in our own microclimates, and I never worry that he might mistakenly pick me up along with a handful of fries and eat me.

The price for all this splendor: $14. That's for seats three rows back from the foul pole, for a doubleheader. A season ticket for one of these seats goes for $902—or what you might pay for a single Red Sox playoff ticket. Beers cost the same as at Fenway, but get this—they're twice as big! As a Red Sox fan used to Fenway economics (we paid $75 apiece for standing-room tickets for the last Red Sox–Yankees game), I feel like I'm visiting a foreign country with a worthless currency. Call it Praguesburgh.

AS A RED SOX FAN USED TO FENWAY ECONOMICS, I FEEL LIKE I'M VISITING A FOREIGN COUNTRY WITH A WORTHLESS CURRENCY. CALL IT PRAGUESBURGH

There's only one downside to a Pittsburgh Pirates game: the Pittsburgh Pirates. They lost both games of the doubleheader, and as I write this, they're in last place in the NL Central, 23.5 games out of first place. Arrr! These Pirates have a fine ship but no treasure. They've walked the plank of mediocrity and plunged face-first into the Sea of Stinkiness. The Pirates are so bad that their delegate to the 2005 Home Run Derby contest, Jason Bay, was the only player who didn't hit a single home run. That's like entering the Nathan's hot dog-eating contest and choking on the first bun.

So I'm not quite ready to pull up stakes and move to Pittsburgh. Our team may be expensive, but my money is financing a winner. At least Boston and Pittsburgh fans can be glad we're not wallowing in the worst of both worlds. After all, we could be Yankees fans. IB

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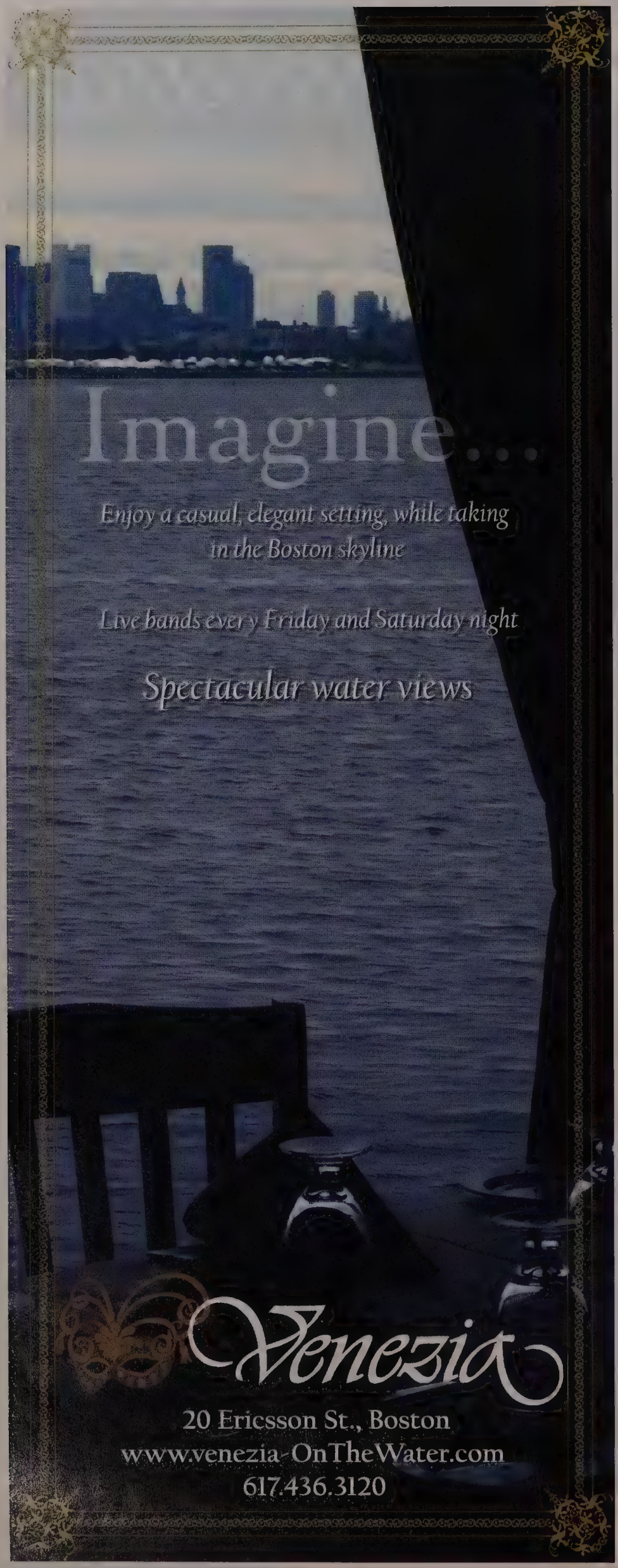

THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

WHAT'S THE CATCH?

Jason Varitek doesn't demand trades. He doesn't whine. He's just leading the Red Sox into October.

I never thought defending their first World Series championship in 86 years would be so damn difficult, but every day it seems like the Red Sox are facing some kind of new obstacle.

Watching that line drive bounce all the way into left field after it hit Matt Clement in the side of the head, I couldn't help but think of similar miserable moments that have haunted my memory (like Tony C. and Bryce Florie). What went on to happen that night against Tampa Bay was one of those "Win one for Matty" type of games. You know, the ones that are supposed to bring the team together and propel them to back-to-back titles.

Last year, the watershed moment was Jason Varitek getting in Alex Rodriguez's grill with his mitt. I bring up Varitek because, well, he's the guy we look to. And by "we" I mean everyone—fans, media and especially teammates. Is there a more standup guy with a Boston address than Jason Varitek?

How much more can Varitek give to the 2005 Red Sox? I'm not sure he can give anything more. But the man behind the plate just may be the quietly humming powersource of the team.

Watching Varitek around Fenway, it would be easy to mistake his focus for surly, aloof behavior. The truth is, he's anything but. If you get to know him, and he trusts you, he's a teddy bear.

I watch this guy every week, and when he's not leading his team onto the field for batting practice or warming up his arm, he never fails to stop and take time out for pictures with the many kids that are always in and around the dugout wall.

And he takes it a step further, the way Tom Brady does when he's meeting people. Varitek always asks people their names. Basically he doesn't act like signing for the fans is this huge inconvenience, which it can be. I know his attitude doesn't sound like that big a deal, but it is. He's the exception rather than the rule.

But it's Varitek's stewardship from behind the plate that the majority of fans recognize as his most important trait. He reeks leadership. He reeks work ethic. And when it comes to the Red Sox, if the fans or media see anything less from a player, he'll be eaten alive (see: Manny Ramirez).

In just a few short years Varitek has worked himself up from a serviceable big-league catcher to the premier backstop in the American League. The hours he puts in working on hitters' strengths and weaknesses, all so he can pass the information on to his pitching staff, has become the stuff of legends. This is no dumb jock. Varitek consistently outsmarts the opposition, and his 24 teammates are wise enough to fall in line and follow his lead. In many ways, Varitek could be called the associate manager of the Red Sox.

These Red Sox truly became his team during the 2003 American League Championship Series, when the Red Sox finally had the Yankees up against the wall. They were five outs from a trip to the World Series.

It never happened that year, but no problem. I distinctly remember seeing a teary-eyed Varitek standing in front of his locker, waxing poetic about his teammates. Varitek didn't let Tim Wakefield, who gave up the Game 7 extra-innings walk-off home run to Aaron Boone, take any of the blame. Instead, he vowed to do everything in his power to get the Red Sox back to the same place the next year. It sounded a little crazy. But you know what? He was right.

> VARITEK CONSISTENTLY OUTSMARTS THE OPPOSITION, AND HIS 24 TEAMMATES ARE WISE ENOUGH TO FALL IN LINE AND FOLLOW HIS LEAD

After the Red Sox finally won the whole thing in 2004, I asked Tek's wife if her husband had ever smiled during the playoff run. She looked at me as if I'd asked her if she's a Yankee-lover. "No," she said.

But after finally beating the Yankees and then the St. Louis Cardinals, Varitek stood on the field in St. Louis. He had a smile I'd never seen plastered across his face. It was pure contentment. The serious guy was overcome with joy.

However, trying to repeat that scene two years in a row is a daunting challenge. And as the same old never-ending problems seem to reappear in Red Sox Nation, like Manny Ramirez claiming he's unhappy, Varitek's role is more important than ever.

If anyone can handle it, it's the guy with the "C" on his chest. **iB**

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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KEN CASEY

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Dropkick Murphys founder, bassist and sometime front man Ken Casey was born and raised in Milton and attended Catholic Memorial and Milton High Schools. He also attended UMass Boston, bartended and worked construction before starting the Dropkick Murphys in 1996. Influenced by seminal punk bands and their own Irish roots, the band began playing in the basement of a Quincy barbershop. After self-releasing their early recordings, they were signed by the Epitaph imprint Hellcat Records, and their first major release, *Do or Die*, sold in excess of 200,000 copies. The band's 2003 recording *Live on St. Patrick's Day From Boston, MA* highlighted the incendiary, infamous homecoming gigs that developed their rabid following, and the album *Blackout* later that year introduced them to a wider national audience. They've toured worldwide and appeared repeatedly on the *Conan O'Brien Show*, but 2004 marked the height of their success. Last summer, the band was approached by Red Sox management to come up with an anthem to rouse the fans, and the result—a punk remake of an early 1900s tune called "Tessie"—was credited with helping to break the Curse of the Bambino. The band's latest album, *The Warrior's Code*, is an ode to Boston legends, with tracks dedicated to boxer Micky Ward; Sgt. Andrew Farrar, a local fan who died fighting in Iraq; and hockey star Mark Bavis, who perished on 9/11 on United Flight 175. Casey lives in Boston with his wife and two children.

Jonathan Soroff: *So exactly how far can you drop-kick a Murphy?*

Ken Casey: Not very. We're all pretty fat.

JS: *Who is Murphy, and why are you guys kicking him?*

KC: We took the name from an old rehab. Back in the old days, a guy named Dropkick Murphy ran a place out in Acton or somewhere, and old-timers, grandparents and stuff, would threaten you with "If I catch you drinkin' again, I'm puttin' you in Dropkick Murphy's." It was kinda like the bogeyman for delinquents.

JS: *When a friend of mine moved here from Seattle, all her friends were like, "Oh, you gotta check out the Dropkick Murphys!" How does it feel to have a following like that?*

KC: It's pretty cool. We're pretty closely associated with Boston, even in our lyrics, which kinda cover Boston history, and the association with the Red Sox, but we've been touring all these other places for goin' on 10 years, and we have loyal followings in all of them. I guess it's extra special in your hometown, though. For years, we'd be doing all right, filling thousand-capacity clubs around the world, and my grandmother would still be sayin', "When are you gonna go back to college and get a real job?" As we became a regular name, it felt nice to be legitimized in our hometown.

> WE REALLY ONLY PLAY ["TESSIE"] IN TWO PLACES: BOSTON AND NEW YORK. IN BOSTON, FOR THE CELEBRATION, AND IN NEW YORK, FOR THE RUB-YOUR-FACE-IN-IT

JS: *Do you hate when people try to categorize your music?*

KC: Yeah. It's inevitable, but I think we give 'em a run for their money, 'cause we incorporate so many different sounds, from the Irish thing, to rock, to hard core. So if someone had to classify us, I think they'd have a harder time than with most bands.

JS: *How would you classify yourselves?*

KC: Noise, with bagpipes and a lotta screaming.

JS: *Bagpipes aren't the first thing that springs to mind when you think of punk music…*

KC: No, but that's what gives us a leg up. On the Vans Warped Tour there are 30 bands, but when we hit the stage, you see everyone's head turn and people say, "What the hell's goin' on over there?" And I think a lot of them come check it out from the curiosity factor alone. Some leave, and some stay.

JS: *Whose idea was the bagpipes?*

KC: Probably mine. With the first song we ever wrote, "Barroom Hero," we weren't trying to have any Celtic influence, but it had an Irish feel to it, which was probably subliminal, just the influence Irish music had on me growing up. As an afterthought we said, "Let's put bagpipes on this." We didn't have a bagpipe player, so on our first single, it wasn't even part of the band, but the reaction to it was so huge, we said, "Jeez, we gotta do more of this. We stumbled onto something."

JS: *What percentage of your songs are written when you're drunk?*

KC: Actually, none. They're written *about* being drunk. We practice at 7 am, so if someone's drunk it's 'cause they never went home the night before. It's more like a lot of them are written hungover.

JS: *How much damage have you done to your hearing?*

KC: Jesus! I've done horrible damage. I actually have tinnitus and at one point in time I went three months without sleeping, so I'm like a Nazi about earplugs. I know it doesn't sound very rock 'n' roll to be saying "Wear earplugs!" but we play very loud.

JS: *How do you keep your voice so scraggly—smoke three packs of unfiltered cigarettes a day? Chug whiskey? Chew glass?*

KC: Gargle with nails.

JS: *Best part of being on the road?*

KC: For me, I was a kid who never got to travel outside of Boston, and you get to see the world.

JS: *Worst part?*

KC: Wishing you were home. You always wanna be where you're not.

JS: *Best groupie story?*

KC: Oh, Jesus. Given the fact that most of our groupies are 15-year-old boys, thank God we're not into that stuff, so groupie stories are pretty lame with us. We're pretty much a family operation.

JS: *How much did you guys have to do with breaking the Curse of the Bambino?*

KC: I'll take all the credit anyone's willing to give. It's funny, everybody tries to take credit, which is obnoxious, but I will say this. Not so much us, but the song, "Tessie." The fans sang that song from 1903 to 1918, in which time they won a bunch of World Series. They stopped using the song in 1918, and then 86 years later, the first year they bring it back, they win. I think that's beyond coincidence.

JS: *Aren't you so f---ing sick of that song?*

KC: [Laughs.] We really only play it in two places: Boston and New York. In Boston, for the celebration, and in New York, for the rub-your-face-in-it. Ever seen the *The Blues Brothers*, when everyone's huckin' the bottles at them? It's pretty much like that.

JS: *Like your song says, you're touchy, feely, sensitive guys. When was the last time you cried and why?*

KC: Oh, man, you're putting me on the spot here. That's tongue in cheek. I mean, I guess probably when I was on the pitcher's mound at Busch Stadium when I was calling my grandfather who was born in 1918, and I'm not gonna say I was crying. I might've been a little watery.

JS: *How many friends named Fitzy or Sully do you have?*

KC: I got about three Fitzys and a couple of Sullys.

JS: *OK, so should the gays get to march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade?*

KC: [Laughs.] Let 'em all march! Who cares? As long as they're drinkin', I don't. Hell, we can marry 'em at the end of the parade.

JS: *Last question: Will you guys play at my nephew's bar mitzvah?*

KC: We've never done a bar mitzvah. We're open to that.... I'll check the schedule. IB

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10 BANDS THAT ROCK

rt" rock often exists underground, heard more at loft parties than in rock clubs. But with the rise of cabaret heroes the Dresden Dolls, other local art bands are cracking the mainstream. Reverend Glasseye won this year's WBCN Rock 'n' Roll Rumble with horn-spiced carnival posturing, while the modernistic Fluttr Effect graced the contest's semifinals.

More conventional bands continue to drive the scene as well, from anthemic rockers Averi and Dear Leader to the melancholy pop group Emergency Music to WWF-styled barker Robby Roadsteamer, who likes to ridicule the artier bands.

Not every group merits a mention in our annual roundup of bands making noise on the local rock scene. But from the infectious garage rock of Muck and the Mires to the smart hip-hop of the Perceptionists to the broad electro-pop of the Cyanide Valentine, here are 10 distinctive groups.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

FLUTTR EFFECT

When you're a band that juxtaposes electric cello, MIDI marimba, distorted guitar, prog-rock drums and ethereal vocals from a singer who wears frilly dresses and moves like a mime, you're bound to draw mixed reactions.

So it goes with the quintet Fluttr Effect. "It's not meant to be for everybody," says Bulgarian-born marimba player Vessela Stoyanova. "But our fan base is really devoted."

Guitarist Troy Kidwell adds that he hopes musicians 10 years from now will cite Fluttr Effect among the bands they listen to. "There are a lot of smart kids here, exploring new ideas and learning new things and bored with the 5,000 bands that sound like the other 5,000 bands in Boston," he says. "The thing with the art bands is they stick out."

Fluttr Effect partly credits its unusual look and sound for helping it to top the U.S. field of bands that competed in the 2004 Emergenza Festival. "It was all guys with T-shirts and guitars," says Kidwell, who penned most of the music and lyrics for Fluttr Effect's debut outing, *Trithemis Festiva*.

The seeds were planted three years ago when Kidwell and Stoyanova were jamming on a King Crimson tune, and her Berklee classmate Jason Marchionna sat in on drums. The next recruit to the fold was cellist Valerie Thompson.

Kara Trott joined on vocals when she saw them open for the cello trio Rasputina and told them that they needed her. "I was already dressing like an absolute freak and doing these crazy things and thinking this would be perfect to apply it to this band," says Trott, whose nymph-like stage presence is a lightning rod for audience reactions.

"I'm so inspired by glam-rock that I couldn't imagine getting up there without putting on a show," she says. "I've had girls come up to me and be like, 'I was so upset today, and you really hit that. Just by making yourself vulnerable, you showed me that I'm not alone.'"

Fluttr Effect plays Felt on Sept. 8.

THE CYANIDE VALENTINE

Music fans may peg the Cyanide Valentine as an electro-rock group, especially in comparison with Jake Zavracky's previous outfit, the hard-rocking Quick Fix. But anyone who absorbs the Valentine's 2005 debut *Let It Rot* will realize that such a categorization doesn't cover the CD's stylistic breadth.

Sure, *Let It Rot*'s opening tracks ripple with synthesized hooks like an early Ministry record, capped by the ultra-catchy "You Are the Focus," where Zavracky sings, "You're my armor, you're my skin, I need you just like Ritalin." Yet there also are ballads with finger-picked acoustic guitar, while the closing track "Deeper" sounds like a raw recasting of the Beatles' "Tomorrow Never Knows."

"I've always been very eclectic, almost to a fault," says Zavracky. "Even when I was in Quick Fix, I was trying to get away from playing bombastic hard rock all the time."

"People are usually afraid of being more than one thing," says the guitarist-songwriter, whose Valentine accomplice is keyboardist Wendy Mittelstadt. "Some of the press about us has said we have an identity crisis, and I thought, I'd rather embrace the identity crisis than try to fight it."

It's no wonder that Zavracky says the working title of their next CD is *The Four Sides of the Cyanide Valentine*, touching on electro-rock, downtempo pop, atmospherics and acoustic music. "It'll be like *Let It Rot* but a little more segregated," he says, "a little more schematic."

He and Mittelstadt again will record with guests but refine their live performances as a duo—down from a lineup of five members. "It's more electronic sounding," he says of their shows. "It just works better. We're two totally dedicated people for this project."

The Cyanide Valentine plays T.T. the Bear's Aug. 27.

AVERI

Most local, unsigned bands can only dream of headlining the Avalon. But that's already a reality for Averi, whose live appeal has catapulted the crisp, commercial pop-rockers from soldout Paradise shows to a fall booking at Avalon.

"Word of mouth is really what does it," says saxophonist-keyboardist Michael Currier, whose group just released its third CD, *Drawn to Revolving Doors*. "It's basically been a homegrown thing that we started from the ground up, trying to build our audience and support base one fan at a time."

He co-founded the band at Suffolk University as a jazz-funk outfit in 1998. But Averi soon secured its unabashed pop sound with singer-guitarist Chad Perrone, who added smooth, heart-tugging tunes to the group rounded out by drummer Matt Lydon, bassist Chris Tilden and guitarist Stu Berk.

"People do hear something they know has that commercial potential and say, 'Wow, these guys could be the next big thing, and I want to follow them because of that,'" Currier says. "We try to stay on the same level with our supporters—we try to not even use the word 'fans.' These are people who have supported us all along, and we encourage new people to get onboard. It's more like a big, extended family."

"We're up there having a good time, and I think people want to see that, especially with the way a lot of the bands are these days," he says. "They have labels behind them, and they take things for granted and get up and play on autopilot. You're not going to see that at one of our shows."

What you will see at their shows is a shift in the dominant gender. "It's maybe 70 percent women in our crowd," Currier says. "Guys know if you want to go to a place where there's a ton of girls, go to an Averi show."

Averi plays Avalon Nov. 12.

EMERGENCY MUSIC

For a band named Emergency Music, Jesse Duquette's quartet is more laidback than urgent.

"I guess it just comes from stuff that I like, which is not super-aggressive," says Duquette, whose melodic, melancholy songs reflect the influence of the Velvet Underground and Elvis Costello. "I don't want things to be too melancholy, so sometimes I'll self-edit," adds the singer-guitarist.

It was only two years ago that Duquette was recording songs by himself at home, with no big plans for his music to be heard in public. "Out of boredom, to get something started, I booked a show at the Middle East and didn't really think about it," he says. "A week before the show, I realized I had to have something to play and someone to play with."

He managed to enlist Michael Graney on drums and John Beck on bass, rehearse once and develop laryngitis. "Everything went wrong," Duquette says, "but it went over really well. We got offered another show and decided to keep doing it."

Ryan Arnett took over on bass, letting Beck move to guitar, and the lineup was set for the band's sterling 2004 debut, *Kiss the Culprit*, which paved the path for new listeners.

Duquette admits, however, that he has since grown a tad more self-conscious as a lyricist. "With the older songs, there were no expectations they'd ever be heard," he says. "They were songs about people I know or approximations of situations. So now I try and make it a little more vague."

PERCEPTIONISTS

Rappers Akrobatik and Mr. Lif and DJ Fakts One have worked together as savvy solo artists, but they take it to the next level as the Perceptionists, rattling expectations about what they'd do as a group on their debut *Black Dialogue*.

"Musically, it allows us a little more flexibility," Fakts says. "Between the three of us, we've been kinda stuck into a category—like Lif will be known as the politically conscious rapper, and Ak will be the guy who talks about black history. But this allows us to go outside the box."

Yes, there's a political edge to the title track, which turns a critical eye on black culture, and "Memorial Day," which questions the march to war in Iraq. "But it's not about making it overt," Fakts says. "People expected us to be that angry black militant group, and don't get me wrong. There are things that we get angry about, and those issues are addressed. But there's more to life than that."

So the trio also drops tracks like the party song "Blo," the romantic "Love Letters" and "Career Finders," a sendup of mismatched job applicants. "A lot of the songs are made in spontaneous fashion," Fakts says of the summit with his longtime hip-hop friends. "With 'Let's Move,' I made the beat in the studio while they were doing vocal tracks."

Akrobatik and Lif just toured Europe with DJ Therapy while Fakts stayed home with family. But they expect to regroup for a follow-up album for the Definitive Jux label.

"People seem to think we have some natural chemistry," Fakts says. "We were going to make music regardless of whether people called it a supergroup or whatever."

FURVIS

Furvis recently played an all-ages show in Newton, where singer-guitarist Michael Cummings began the group at age 16. "It was great—about 200 kids showed up in this gym," he says. "When we were in Newton, there were no bands."

There still aren't bands in Newton likely to make inroads as quickly as Furvis. The quartet made the finals of this year's Rumble with its sloppy-but-right, Pavement-influenced amalgam of indie-rock and country-fried soul.

"We've outgrown some of those Pavement-isms, but we still have that in our music, to keep it fun and not take it too seriously," says Cummings, whose bandmates are drummer Noah Rubin, guitarist Matt Borg and new bassist Todd Dahlhoff. "We're trying to stay tight and loose at the same time, to keep behind the beat."

Most of songwriter Cummings' influences are older ones, particularly the Beatles and Beach Boys, though he also likes newer bands that ply odd angles, such as Wilco.

"The things that really make songs are new chords or strange transitions," says Cummings, whose group is about to release a follow-up to its promising 2003 CD *Bunny*. "You don't want to riddle your songs with them, but if you throw them in every now and then, that's what really stands out."

Furvis plays the Paradise Rock Club Aug. 20.

BOURBON PRINCESS

Monique Ortiz has lived partly in the shadow of Morphine, whose late frontman Mark Sandman inspired the Pennsylvania native to move to Cambridge. A moody bassist, Ortiz drafted original Morphine drummer Jerome Deupree and saxman Dana Colley for her project Bourbon Princess, heightening parallels to Morphine. But that should dissipate with her band's third release, the mesmerizing new *Dark of Days*.

"As long as I'm playing slide-y bass lines and have a baritone sax in the lineup, I'm not going to be able to stop those comparisons," Ortiz says. "But I feel with this record, we're really starting to break away."

It's not just because Either/Orchestra leader Russ Gershon has replaced Colley on sax, although Deupree remains, along with guitarist Jim Moran. Engineered by Paul Kolderie, *Dark of Days* oozes with dark atmosphere, emotion and identity, as Ortiz scales new territory as a writer and singer.

"I've tried to expand my range a little more," says Ortiz, whose main vocal idols are David Sylvian and Bryan Ferry. And lyrically, she seems less self-absorbed in songs like the working woman's lament "Cliche" and the title track, which addresses today's political climate. "Every song touches on a little bit of world weariness."

"I grew up on all kinds of music," says Ortiz, whose father was a percussionist from Puerto Rico. Her mother's father tuned her in to bluegrass and Appalachian music. Then she discovered New Wave and Goth as a teenager.

"I jokingly call our sound 'blue wave,' like new wave with jazz and blues influences," she says. "There are definitely some blue shades to the record—I wouldn't say sadness, but there's a certain kind of dreamy, surreal quality."

Bourbon Princess plays the Lizard Lounge Sept. 15.

DEAR LEADER

Aaron Perrino has fronted two of Boston's best bands in the last several years, appearing first with the Sheila Divine and now with Dear Leader, which both nod in part to the anthemic '80s guitar rock of U2 and Echo & the Bunnymen.

Dear Leader found its passionate groove on 2004's *All I Ever Wanted Was Tonight*. But Perrino wants more for the band's upcoming third CD, which he says will be less rock, with more unconventional music and inspirational lyrics.

"Simpler song structures with lots of keyboards," adds the spectacled singer-guitarist. "With the Sheila Divine, I didn't listen to much music. I was into my own thing. But I've been listening to a ton of stuff again, with the Internet. I listen to everything from old soul and country to the whole iPod thing. I'm definitely into Johnny Cash and James Carr and all the rehashed '80s stuff that's coming out. I want to make our Lee Hazlewood record."

His goals also have changed from the Sheila Divine's brush with the big leagues. "We made very little money but toured and did all that," he says. "But you kind of reach a point where you hit 30 and above, where you don't know if it's totally worth it. In Dear Leader, we're trying to balance still being relevant but being smart about it."

Perrino, bassist Jon Sulkow, guitarist Will Claflin and drummer Paul Buckley (who all play keyboards as well) also are eyeing the Internet. "It seems you can reach the same number of people from your desk that you can on the road," he says. "Not that many people go out to shows anymore. And I think the less you play out, the more mystery there is."

Dear Leader plays T.T. the Bear's Place Sept. 9 and 10.

MUCK AND THE MIRES

Some people who catch Muck and the Mires banging out their punchy, two-minute shots of Merseybeat-style garage rock would call the group "retro." And singer-guitarist Evan Shore doesn't necessarily see that as a bad thing.

"I love retro," says songwriter Shore, who modeled the sound of his band on the '60s British Invasion. "If people say, 'You sound like the Dave Clark Five,' I don't think they're calling us retro. It's a big compliment."

One of those comparisons came from Steven Van Zandt, guitarist for the E Street Band, actor on *The Sopranos* and host of Little Steven's Underground Garage Battle of the Bands, which Muck and the Mires won in 2004.

Not bad for regulars at the Abbey Lounge who never intended to be an actual band. "Muck and the Mires started as kind of a joke side project and ended up doing better than all of the bands that I've been in combined," says Shore, a Boston rock veteran with the Nines and the Voodoo Dolls.

In 2001, he recorded some '60s-styled home demos under the name Muck and the Mires. "I had a full record, so I shopped it, and a label [Amp Records] in Canada put this thing out, thinking we were a real band," he says. "I got a phone call about a month later saying, 'We want you guys to come to Canada.' So I had to put a band together."

He drafted wife and Nines bandmate Linda Koury on drums, Brian Martin on lead guitar and Chris Miller on bass, and they had ready-made stage names. "I had made up fake names for the record, and we stepped into them," says Shore, who goes by the *Sopranos*-worthy pseudonym Joey Muccarino.

They clicked on 2004's *Beginner's Muck* (the first CD to feature the real band) and rode into this year's Rumble semifinals by nailing the ethic of classic songwriting. "Get in and get out," Shore says, "with no filler."

Muck and the Mires play the Abbey Lounge Aug. 27.

LOCK AND KEY

Ryan Shanahan is a seasonal shaver. In the winter, you'll see him onstage in a heavy beard, though he loses it come the warm weather. "I sweat really bad no matter what," the singer-guitarist says. "When you go on tour, it's easier to grow a beard than worry about a place to shave."

Lock and Key is spending a lot of time on tour these days, unleashing its ferocious, melodic posthardcore rock with an emotive edge, which occasionally draws the "emo" label.

"Emo almost has a negative connotation to it now, but if people want to call it that, I don't give a shit," says Shanahan, whose howl heightens comparisons to Fugazi and Hot Water Music, despite the individual swath he cut with guitarist-singer Mike Vera, bassist Josh Hoey and drummer Keith Casella on last year's *Pull Up the Floorboards*.

"The songwriting's been getting a little more complex, pushing the parameters in all directions," Shanahan says. "We want the heavier parts to be heavier and the quieter parts to be quieter, to have more dynamics."

Lyrically, he adds to the intensity dynamic, digging inside pained relationships. "A lot of them are looking toward the future, like where are you going to go from here," he says. "So they kinda end on a more positive note." IB

shooting stars

THE YOUNG FOUNDERS OF SUBVERSION MEDIA BRING LIVE CONCERT FOOTAGE TO THE MASSES.

BY ANDREW GRAHAM PHOTOGRAPH BY ANTHONY TIEULI

You know you're doing something right when you're worried that Liam Gallagher is about to punch out your cameraman. Seriously—any schmo can get menaced by some guitar-slinging tough guy at the Middle East Upstairs. But when you've got a platinum-selling Brit-pop icon staring you down with blood in his eye, there's a part of you that—even while you worry about the safety of your staff—is thinking, "Wow. Not bad."

Annette Narciso, 28, and Dave Gutt, 25, had just that experience this past June while filming Oasis' live set at the Tweeter Center. Their company, Subversion Media, based in Brighton, shoots, edits and produces live music videos—all at the behest of record labels, band managers and often the artists themselves. Since Narciso and Gutt formed Subversion in 2000, it has trained its lenses on acts as diverse as Oasis, System of a Down, the Hives, No Doubt, Ben Folds, Ani DiFranco, the Wu-Tang Clan and the Pixies. When asked how it all happened, the company's founders' answer is inspiringly simple: "We never expected to be doing this for a living, but here we are."

After striking up a friendship at Mass Comm (Massachusetts Communications College) in the late 1990s, Narcisco and Gutt quickly jumped from being kids with a fun hobby—filming local bands live in concert—to young entrepreneurs in demand by major and indie record labels and recording artists across the country. When they met, Narciso was studying the business aspects of the music industry, and Gutt was learning video production; once they graduated, their love of live music led the pair to collaborate on a project that combined the skills they'd honed for their day-jobs. Gutt and Narciso cut their teeth filming Boston hardcore punk shows, hitting the clubs together to shoot bands like the infamous local punk vets Tree at the Middle East Downstairs. The Tree show left Subversion with what Gutt describes as "some horribly shot footage"—but it was good enough to end up on the band's live concert DVD.

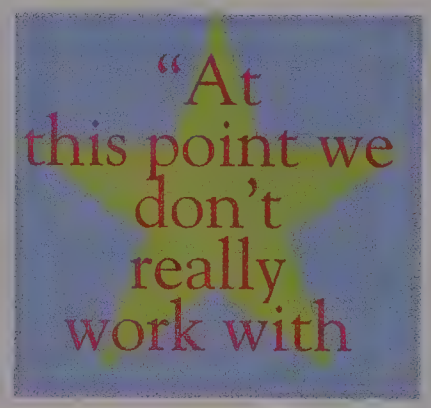
The duo's first few projects were self-funded and served as promotional and experiential tools—shows by bands like System of a Down, the Sheila Divine, Wu-Tang Clan, GWAR and Toadies left Subversion with lots of footage but no income. Narciso and Gutt hadn't even had occasion to consider naming their hobby; they were still just filming bands in their spare time. But the demo reel they put together was impressive enough to convince System of a Down's management to give them a crack at filming one of the band's famously frenetic live shows in Pennsylvania. That gig was Subversion's fourth—and it was a turning point for the fledgling company. System's chart-topping album Toxicity was re-released soon afterward packaged with a bonus DVD that prominently featuring Subversion's work. The album's sales, including the re-release, reached the multiplatinum range—and Subversion Media was in the black.

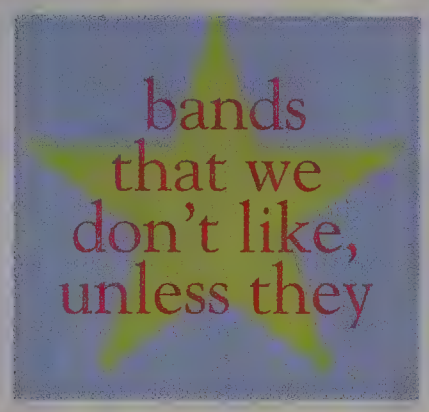
Suddenly, Subversion Media was no longer a side project. With an influx of funds following Toxicity's 2002 re-release, Narciso and Gutt didn't rush out to get Lexuses and diamond-encrusted logo necklaces. Instead, the partners poured the money back into the company. With their purchases of new cameras, computers and editing equipment, Subversion's founders were now in a position to turn their hobby into a dream job.

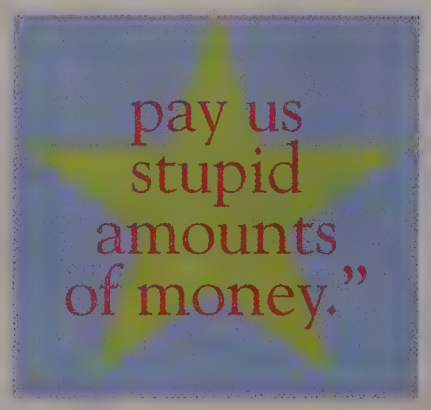
Making the change from filming bands as a kick-ass sideline to quitting their day jobs wasn't easy for Gutt and Narciso (well, maybe a little easier for Narciso: She was fired from her job at Mass Comm). "Shifting the focus from shooting bands for a set price to our new model of rights-ownership was a big challenge," says Gutt. "It took a large sum of cash to do it, and the stress just doubled over night. It's interesting, though, because it's like investing in something and having a lot of control over the end product."

Subversion's client list is remarkably long and varied for a relatively young company—one that's merely five years old and has just three full-time staffers. "We don't promote ourselves blindly or solicit people just because they're big or coming through town," says Gutt. "Everyone on [the list] is there because we really wanted to work with the artist or because they got in touch with us. At this point we don't really work with bands that we don't like, unless they pay us stupid amounts of money," he chuckles.

Nabbing an Interpol gig, for example, when the band's underground buzz was at its peak, was no mean feat. Likewise, Ani DiFranco, who's about as big as an independent musician can be, doesn't work with just anyone. And the legendary Pixies? On their unexpected and hugely hyped reunion tour, playing a hometown gig? Who gets that job? The few, the proud—and the persistent and the lucky: Subversion's footage will account for almost half of the songs on the Pixies' forthcoming live DVD. Quite a feather in anyone's cap—but for longtime fans Narciso and Gutt, it's the kind of feather that makes their job that much more special. And there's also the one-up factor—as Dave remembers, "The Pixies was a fun gig, because I know everybody else wanted that job."







The fun part is still fun, but of course, a job's a job. "We had quite a bit to learn about running a business," Narciso comments, remembering her somewhat dangerous naïveté in the company's early days. "If I was presented with a 50-page contract from a client, I would sign it, having only checked that the payment terms were correct. We now have a lawyer—and we both read all contracts many times over."

The company's expansion has led to some lifestyle changes for Subversion's founders, but Gutt's not complaining. "We're on what's called 'LA Time' over here," he says of the company's office. "We show up around eleven and leave whenever work is done, mostly seven or eight. Even [after hours], we're pretty much 24-7 in terms of business: the cell phone and the e-mails never stop, and Subversion is pretty much the only real priority in our lives."

Narciso sees a lasting role for Subversion in the future, based on the company's adaptable nature. "I think the main reason we have remained successful is our ability to evolve with the current trends and technologies," she says. "Our business model has changed many times since we started. We've been there for the bonus DVDs, MTV videos, EPKs [electronic press kits], enhanced CDs, full-length music DVDs, Internet downloads [and] the high-definition format. We always try to be first movers in the industry." Says Gutt, "We have to keep our minds on emerging technologies in terms of content delivery—basically, future-proofing our shows so we know they are still worth money in the next five years."

Subversion has greatly benefited from the music industry's attempts to curtail one of its own "content delivery" issues: file sharing. The illegal uploading to the Web of new music and movies—and their subsequent downloading in vast quantities—has the entertainment business scrambling to protect its product. The first week of an album's release is a key period, in which most retailers calculate their re-order numbers based on initial sales. In the past few years, one way for companies to boost sales of an album during those crucial first days on the shelf has been to package it with additional, "limited-edition" bonus material. Sometimes it's just another CD of B-sides or live songs, but more frequently, record companies are enticing fans to spend money rather than download illegally by offering them DVDs that feature live performances. Relatively inexpensive to produce (as opposed to bonus discs like 50 Cent's recent album re-issue, which featured a music video for each song), these DVDs have been growing in popularity: Artists like Neil Young, Ben Folds and the Donnas have included exclusive live DVDs as part of their latest albums' releases.

So, all this is what brought Dave Gutt and Annette Narciso to a cozy control booth, sweating a little as they watched through the monitors Liam Gallagher's glowering visage approaching their man on stage. Apparently, he was just clowning around, and the notoriously temperamental Gallagher brother's fuse wasn't really lit—that time. But there have been other, less pleasant experiences for the Subversion crew. "The worst [and] hardest shoot for me was a Vagrant Records band, Moneen," Narciso recalls. "While the band was great, the shooting conditions were horrible. The show was at a tiny club in Toronto, in the midst of Canada's SARS epidemic. The venue was packed, over capacity by, I'd say, 200 kids. There was no air-conditioning, [and] it was easily 100 degrees inside, with one exit that was three floors down. There were kids hanging and jumping off the rafters and passing out from the heat. I would have walked right out of the show, but it was physically impossible to get out—a death trap! But the label loved the footage and released it as a DVD."

Of course, some of the "worst" shows make for good stories—and aren't really as bad as they seem. Dave describes a recent Killswitch Engage gig at the Worcester Palladium: "It was just chaos in the venue, at least 105 degrees, and people were getting dropped on our camera crew—but that was also one of the most fun shoots I've done." And then, of course, there was the time he was urinated on by one of GWAR's prosthetic, um, units. All great stories for the grandkids.

The Subversion twentysomethings obviously are doing a lot of things right. Take their Ben Folds success story. Their first experience with the piano man led to Subversion footage making up the lion's share (six out of eight tracks) of the bonus live DVD accompanying his live album, *Ben Folds Live*. When Folds began touring this summer, he specifically requested that Subversion film his Brooklyn, N.Y., show. And despite the prestigious notches on their belts, Narciso and Gutt still have their celebrity wish lists: Narciso's got her fingers crossed for David Bowie, Garbage and PJ Harvey, while Gutt would love to film Nine Inch Nails in performance—"I'm a big nerd for that band." Apparently, these thriving young videographers still have a few dreams left to shoot for. **IB**

"I haven't met a single person or faculty member
who has not agreed that Roger Brown
is the best thing that could have happened to Berklee."
—Maeve Gilchrist, Berklee student

different drummer

BERKLEE'S UNCONVENTIONAL NEW PRESIDENT ORCHESTRATES BIG CHANGES.

As the first president of Berklee College of Music outside of its founding family, Roger Brown immersed himself in his new duties when he took office last summer. Those duties didn't include registering as a student, going through orientation and auditions (Brown is an amateur drummer) and helping his "fellow" students unload their vans. But that's just what he did.

"I got a real taste for what it's like to arrive here, and I got to know some of the entering students real well," says Brown, who turns 49 this September, and whom many students still refer to as Roger. "I heard the students were on better behavior because there was a rumor I was sleeping in one of the dorms."

He didn't go that far, although students familiar with his background might have guessed otherwise. When he graduated from college, the Georgia native taught math in Kenya, and while the other foreign teachers opted for comfortable housing, Brown chose to live in a hut like the locals.

A few years later, he was back in the trenches, distributing food to Cambodian refugees on the Thai border with his wife, Linda Mason. But Brown had more in mind. He organized groups of Cambodians with instruments to record their music, which was one of the casualties of their culture under the Khmer Rouge.

In the late '80s, after he and Mason co-founded Bright Horizons to bring on-site child care to corporations, Brown bicycled the Eastern seaboard from Atlanta to Portland to visit all 58 of the child-care centers the company ran at that time. "And the children brought their tricycles," says Brown, who still serves as board chairman. Today, Bright Horizons Family Solutions—named "One of the 100 Best Companies to Work for in America" four years running by *Fortune* magazine—operates close to 600 centers.

"I've tried to humanize the position of the leader," says Brown, who has met Berklee faculty, staff and students in many informal situations, even extending an open invitation to join his weekly runs and walks around the Back Bay. "They want to believe the leadership of the organization is reasonably intelligent, is connected and does care. But people are bathed with messages that it's not true. Every time you open the newspaper, there's some new scandal."

Berklee wasn't exactly scandal-ridden during its combined 59 years under previous presidents Lee Berk and his father, Lawrence Berk, who founded the school. Unless having a monopoly on the star-making market can be called a crime (even if some of those highly publicized musicians were enrolled for only a semester or so). The school's long list of alumni includes Quincy Jones, Branford Marsalis, Aimee Mann, Kevin Eubanks, Melissa Etheridge, John Scofield, Susan Tedeschi, John Mayer, Diana Krall and Juan Luis Guerra.

Still, Brown has drawn unusual praise for his first year at the helm of the world's leading contemporary music college.

"I haven't met a single person or faculty member who has not agreed that Roger Brown is the best thing that could have happened to Berklee," says Maeve Gilchrist, a student harpist from Scotland. Adds music business major Michael Zawitkowski, former editor of the student newspaper, the *Groove*, "I don't know how much more popular he can get."

People are very encouraged to know that they have a voice and what they say will be counted," says Lisa Thorson, an associate professor in the voice department. "He doesn't hole himself up in his office, and he's very much part of the fabric of what goes on every day at the college."

"Berklee is a complex place," string department chair Matt Glaser says, "with personalities that don't see eye to eye. It's a balancing act, and Roger has struck the right tone of honoring the past while moving into the future."

Indeed, while people usually mention Brown's accessibility as his most memorable asset, others cite progress he has made during his first year. Brown restructured the Berklee administration, appointing three senior vice presidents to oversee the separate functions of academic affairs, administration and finance and institutional advancement. "That's a big change to make in a year's time," Thorson says. "It takes a lot of courage, but it also says a lot about his willingness to decentralize power."

Brown also added members to Berklee's board of directors, oversaw an increase in scholarships by $1.4 million and set about increasing facilities—first through renting classroom space in nearby real estate and eventually by building more dormitories that include rehearsal space.

"Students get here, and before classes even start, they've already formed up into bands and they're jamming," Brown says. "We need to facilitate that. An amazing part of the learning happens in those venues, outside of the domain of the faculty and classes and structured activity."

As for Berklee's reputation for students who move on before graduating, Brown says, "When a hot act comes through town and hires one of our students, we should celebrate that. That's success. That's not failure. I'd love to improve our retention rate for those students who left for the wrong reasons and support those who leave for the right reasons."

One of Brown's long-term facilities goals is a student center. But going a step further, he says, "I would love to see us have something like a hybrid of the Smithsonian and the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame, a place where contemporary musicians can display their life's work, and we can make it available to show what they've done and honor their legacy."

"The music industry is going to be re-created in the next decade," Brown says. "It's certainly being dismantled now. But human beings want music, and they're willing to pay for it, and we're going to find a way that artists can create music and get compensated for it, and our graduates are probably the ones who are going to figure this out."

It's part of what he heralds as "entrepreneurial spirit," something Brown nurtured as a teacher in Kenya. "As people had large families, farms got subdivided into smaller and smaller farms, so the prospects for future generations not only didn't get better, they got worse." He had his Kenyan pupils do things like grow vegetables to sell to the hotels and make concrete blocks. "The students were quickly making more money than the teachers," Brown says. "Their eyes were opened to the idea that there really are opportunities other than standing in line to be the administrator of works or a schoolteacher, that it's not beyond their reach. What Berklee needs to do is stay entrepreneurial."

So the school once known for jazz guitarists also delves into styles from rock and country to electronica and hip-hop as well as the business of the music industry. "The average person," Brown says, "would not guess we have the world's largest music therapy department or that *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Aviator* and *The Simpsons* are scored by Berklee alums."

In addition to its 3,900-person enrollment (a quarter of which are international students from 75 countries), Berklee's three-year-old online program is growing by more than 200 percent each year. "It hearkens back to something that Larry Berk did in the early days with correspondence courses," Brown says. "I remember hearing that Chucho Valdez and Michel Camilo—in Cuba and the Dominican Republic, respectively—studied our correspondence materials. They both had a huge impact on the current world of jazz, so imagine what can happen if we have thousands of those students in the future. And correspondence courses are not nearly as interactive."

"Larry Berk was very fond of saying, 'Listen to the students. They'll tell us what we need to be doing,'" adds Brown.

As for today's students, music business major Zawitkowski offers, "A lot of us are wishing that we didn't come to Berklee right now, that we waited five years, because it's going to be such a different place. It's very exciting." iB

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU PHOTOGRAPH BY TRACY POWELL

Test Your Rock IQ

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW BOSTON'S MUSIC SCENE? ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS AND FIND OUT WHETHER YOU'RE A MEMBER OF MUSICAL MENSA OR A ROCK RETARD.

BY LINDA LABAN

When it comes to rock 'n' roll trends, Seattles come and Seattles go; Reykjavik is rock mecca one minute, then Brooklyn is. No matter who is proclaimed the latest rock 'n' roll hotbed, Boston rock rolls on.

Test your Boston music scenester skills with this pop-rock quiz that any hipsters o music nerds worth their PBR and woolly hats should ace. No peeking and NO GOOGLING! Answers and rating at right.

1. Joe Perry and Steven Tyler were nicknamed the "Toxic Twins" because:
- **a.** they grew up near the Pilgrim nuclear reactor
- **b.** of their simultaneous, excessive drug use
- **c.** the pair bitched up a poisonous storm in a feud with the Rolling Stones
- **d.** both suffer from irritable bowel syndrome

2. Boston's annual Redneck Festival is a:
- **a.** celebration of the South's culture and rock 'n' roll roots
- **b.** competition to see how many shots of Southern Comfort you can down before your neck turns red—or blue
- **c.** night of music performed by bands composed of sunburned construction workers
- **d.** gathering of ex-pat Texans who sit around a campfire on the Boston Common performing cowboy songs and tall-tale Texan folk ballads

3. Which late-1950s Boston rock 'n' roll star was shot, though not fatally, in a gun battle in the Back Bay in 1966?
- **a.** Robby Roadsteamer
- **b.** Sam Adams
- **c.** Myles Connor
- **d.** Dick Curlass

4. The Middle East first hosted rock shows in:
- **a.** its downstairs room
- **b.** its upstairs room
- **c.** its bakery
- **d.** its bar

5. The "PA" in Somerville's "PA's Lounge" stands for:
- **a.** "Papa Alberto"
- **b.** "grandpa"
- **c.** "Portuguese American"
- **d.** "Peter Adams"

6. Peter Prescott is:
- **a.** a superhero
- **b.** the singer for Slapshot
- **c.** Mission of Burma's drummer
- **d.** all of the above

7. Aerosmith's comeback hit "Dude Looks Like a Lady" was inspired by:
- **a.** Eddie Izzard
- **b.** Motley Crüe
- **c.** Mick Jagger
- **d.** Eddie Vedder

8. Which restaurant recently opened on the very same site where Boston's celebrated club The Rat once stood?
- **a.** Stella
- **b.** Mare
- **c.** Eastern Standard
- **d.** Domani

9. The Standells' hit "Dirty Water" refers to the:
- **a.** cleanliness of the Linwood's bathrooms
- **b.** Charles River
- **c.** taste of Pabst Blue Ribbon
- **d.** worst-ever clam chowder

10. J. Geils Band frontman Peter Wolf's name is a pseudonym. True or false?
- **a.** true
- **b.** false
- **c.** what's a pseudonym?
- **d.** who's Peter Wolf?

11. Which Hub-area vocalist underwent open-heart surgery and wrote about it in "I Get So Down"?
- **a.** Tree's/Superpower's Dave Tree
- **b.** Slag's Dave Kitching
- **c.** the Lot Six's Dave Vicini
- **d.** the Neighborhoods' Dave Minehan

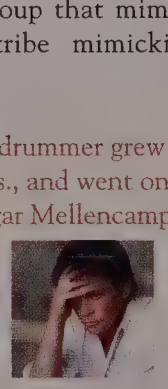
12. Who was the singer with indie pop faves 'Til Tuesday?
- **a.** Amanda Palmer
- **b.** Andrea Gillis
- **c.** Aimee Mann
- **d.** Tracy Bonham

13. Which Boston artist was in Throwing Muses, the Breeders and Belly?
- **a.** Kim Deal
- **b.** Tanya Donelly
- **c.** Kristen Hersh
- **d.** Kay Hanley

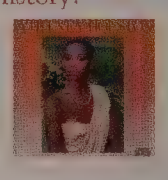
14. Charlie Chesterman, frontman for the roots combo Chaz & the Motorbikes, formerly was a member of:
- **a.** DMZ
- **b.** Big Dipper
- **c.** Scruffy the Cat
- **d.** Moving Parts

15. Birdsongs of the Mesozoic is:
- **a.** a Native American band led by Aerosmith's Joe Perry that plays traditional songs of the Mesozoic tribe
- **b.** a neoclassical troupe featuring Mission of Burma singer and guitarist Roger Miller
- **c.** an all-female chamber music group featuring a choir that is renowned for singing like birds
- **d.** an a cappella group that mimics the Mesozoic tribe mimicking birdsong

16. Which lauded rock drummer grew up in Stockbridge, Mass., and went on to play with John Cougar Mellencamp?
- **a.** Keith Moon
- **b.** Kenny Jones
- **c.** Kenny Aronoff
- **d.** John Bonham



17. Before it was knocked out by Whitney Houston's debut album in 1987, which Boston band held the record for the fastest-selling debut in history?
- **a.** Aerosmith
- **b.** the J. Geils Band
- **c.** Boston
- **d.** the Del Fuegos



18. What was the title of the cover song that thrust the Lemonheads into the mainstream in the early '90s?
- **a.** "Smoke on the Water"
- **b.** "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road"
- **c.** "Mrs. Robinson"
- **d.** "Satisfaction"

19. Fort Apache was:
- **a.** Boston's only Western-wear store and supplier of Nudie suits to the area's country artists
- **b.** a museum run by Boston music legend Monoman, located in Lexington and dedicated to the works of director John Ford
- **c.** a Cambridge recording studio where bands such as Radiohead, the Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Weezer and the Pixies laid down tracks
- **d.** a Boston club famous for a 1987 performance by the Butthole Surfers that was entirely acoustic, with all members of the band and audience fully clothed

20. What band started by former Uzi guitarist Bob Young is named for a Philip K. Dick novel and also shares its moniker with a forthcoming movie starring Keanu Reeves?
- **a.** Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?
- **b.** Billy 7
- **c.** The Exegesis
- **d.** A Scanner Darkly

ANSWERS

Okay, so add up your score, snagging one point for every correct answer unless otherwise directed.

1. b
2. a
3. c
4. b
5. c
6. c; but if you answered "a," score two points, and if you answered "a and c," score 10 points
7. b
8. c
9. b
10. a; anyone who answered "d," deduct 10 points
11. c
12. c
13. b; anyone who answered "d," deduct 10 points
14. c
15. b
16. c
17. c
18. c
19. c
20. d

More than 15 points: You are awesome, killer, badass and a whole bunch of other things that jockers hold in high esteem. In short, you rule.

10 to 15 points: Well, you just don't get out enough, do you? There's more to rock 'n' roll than perusing Target's CD racks, you know? Turn off the TV, hang out at your nearest rock 'n' roll joint and get into tedious conversations filled with endless rock trivia and one-upmanship with people who have never combed their hair, ever. Immediately.

Under 10 points: You are lame, pathetic and possibly a Britney Spears fan who also thinks J-Lo is really talented and that Ben made a BIG mistake. There is no hope. Give up.

Less than zero: You need an explanation? See Brett Easton Ellis' debut novel title and insert "I am _____" in front of it.

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underlay by Samantha Treacy, $559
Whim. Black gold butterfly earri
by Lara Bohinc 107, $300
Persona Jewelry

new bohemian

Relax and enjoy the last days of summer in these flowing finds.

Striped dress with beads by Matthew
Williamson, $1,795 at Gretta Luxe
Yellow gold, amethyst and co
necklace, $640; vintage bead ne
(worn as bracelet) by Emily Bide
Both at Persona Jewelry +

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER

Green and khaki dress with embroidery and beading by Stella Forest, $375 at Tess & Carlos. Yellow gold, green tourmaline and smoky quartz necklace by Amanda Linn, $2,200; matching earrings, $800. Both at Persona Jewelry +.

Floral top by Le Full, $265; matching skirt, $415. Both at Tess & Carlos. Amethyst, chalcedony and diamond necklace by Capra Collection, $2,500; matching earrings, $4,500; yellow gold and diamond bracelet, $1,700. All at Persona Jewelry +.

White tunic, $195; white pants, $265. Both by Tory Birch at Saks Fifth Avenue. Rope belt by Michael Kors, $125 at Gretta Luxe. Aurora sunglasses, $395 at Morgenthal Frederics. White gold, pink sapphire and diamond necklace, $6,120; matching bracelet, $7,064. Both at Persona Jewelry +.

Hair and makeup: Sue Mart

Photography Assistan
Slava Druke

Gretta Lux
Copley Plac
617-536-19

Morgenthal Frederi
in Louis Bosto
234 Berkeley S
617-421-17

Persona Jewelry
504 Commonwealth Ave
617-266-300

Saks Fifth Avenu
The Prudential Cente
617-262-850

Tess & Carl
1241 Centre S
Newto
617-965-837

Whi
253 Newbury S
617-437-760

Berklee Concert Series 2005/2006

Special Alumni Concert October 27

Lalah Hathaway
September 23

Berklee alumna Lalah Hathaway, daughter of the great Donny Hathaway, kicks off both the Berklee 2005-2006 Concert Series and BeanTown Jazz Festival with this concert. Hathaway, a gifted vocalist who specializes in styles such as jazz, pop, and gospel, has recorded with Joe Sample, Marcus Miller, and others. The BeanTown Jazz Festival continues the next day, and features Berklee alumnus Miguel Zenón and his quartet.

Me'Shell NdegéOcello
November 3

Bassist/vocalist Me'Shell NdegéOcello—whose constantly evolving stylistic repertoire has earned her the reputation as one of the most fearless artists in contemporary music—performs her songbook with a Berklee student band. The concert is directed by faculty guitarist David Fiuczynski.

Singers Showcase
December 8

Berklee's best sing, whisper, belt, coo, shout, croon, wail, rap, swing, work-out, drop, scat, and testify, in a program that includes pop, r&b, jazz, Latin, folk and blues music.

The Great American Songbook: The Music of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn
February 26

The songs of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn are performed by Berklee faculty in the lush, swinging style of pop's golden age.

La Guitara
March 31

La Guitara, brainchild of Berklee alumna/guitarist Patty Larkin, spotlights the contribution of women to the evolution of modern guitar. The La Guitara tour will coincide with a compilation CD (Vanguard Records) featuring 12-14 female guitarists of varied genres. Partial proceeds will benefit music education.

The Score
April 12

Performances of award-winning compositions by students majoring in songwriting, film scoring, jazz composition, contemporary writing and production, and composition.

Overjoyed
May 5

Yellowjackets Jimmy Haslip and Bob Mintzer perform with Berklee's contemporary gospel group Overjoyed, directed by Dennis Montgomery III.

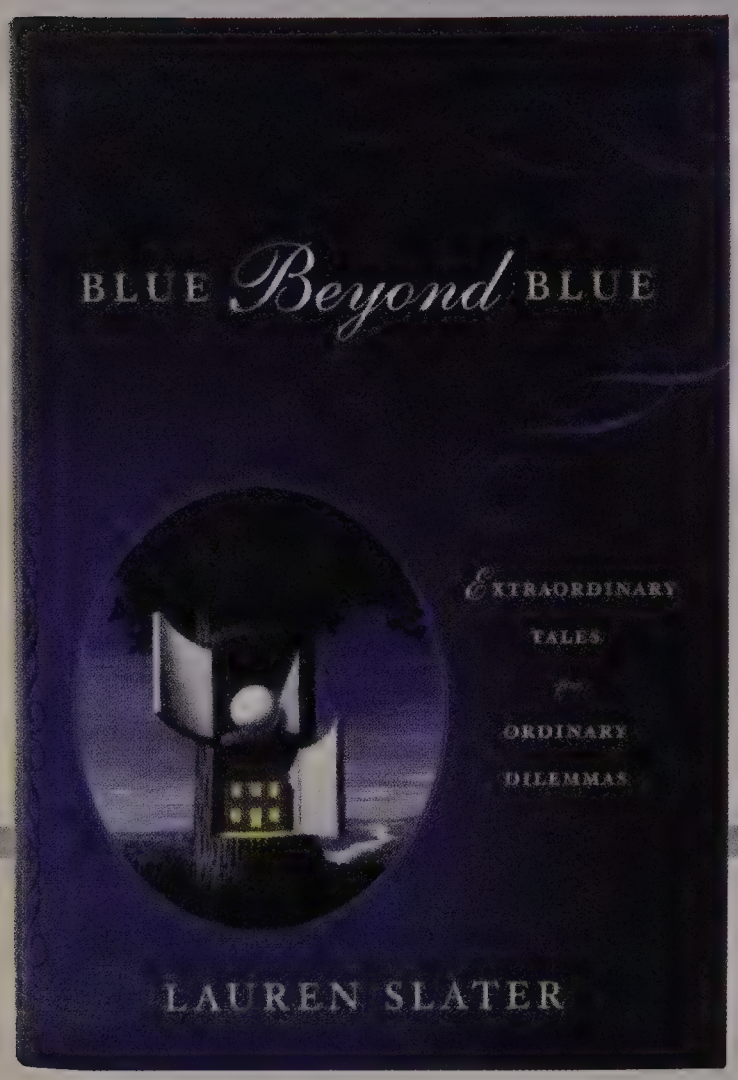
For season tickets, please call the box office manager at 617-747-2409.
Tickets for individual shows are available in person only at the Berklee box office or through Ticketmaster. For ticket information, call 617-747-2261 or visit the Berklee Performance Center.

Berklee college of music

MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



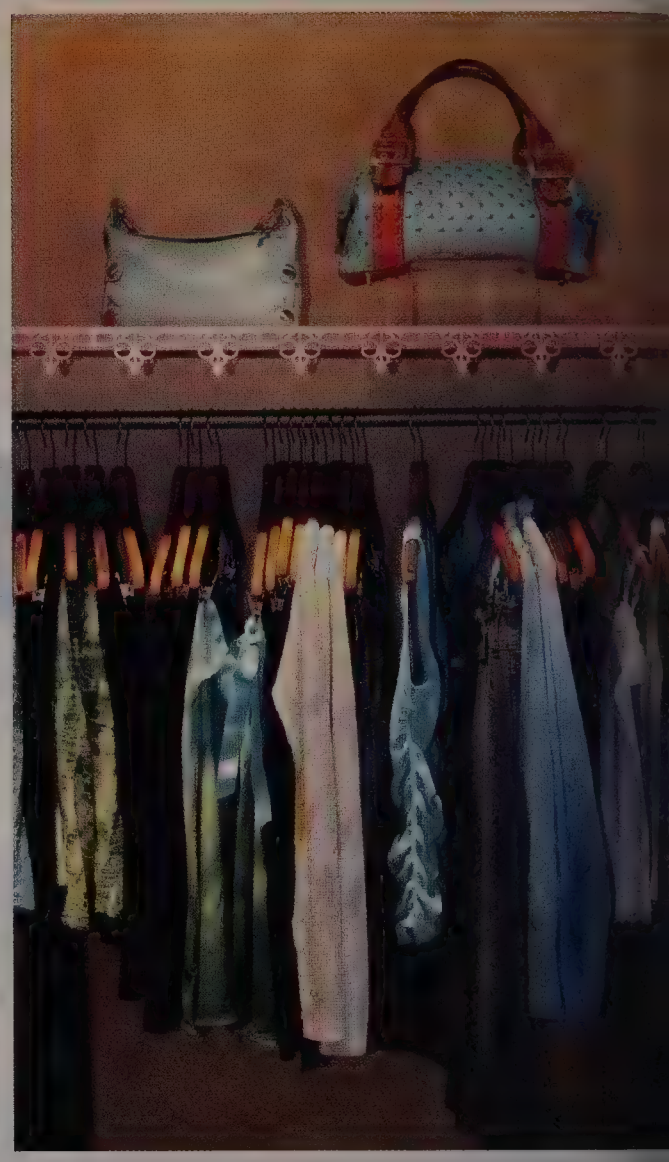
SISTER GRIMM'S FAIRY TALES

Harvard-trained psychologist and Somerville resident Lauren Slater's latest book, *Blue Beyond Blue*, is a series of fairy tales that she uses for therapeutic purposes in her work as a psychologist.

In Lauren Slater's newest lyrical writings, she takes the horrors, fantastical transformations and moral teachings of fairy tales as her literary form, telling 16 stories that float in the ether of beautiful oddity. Attachment and the zigzags of discord between family members are among her themes. One mother slices into a huge egg and out pops a flip-flop-wearing daughter, already three or four. Later, she grows wings, which her mother tries to snip off. In cryptic scribblings, the daughter declares that she's only on loan to her mother, to return eventually to "the blue beyond blue." Another story, in which placebo pills shaped like "intricate lilies of sugar, a silver seahorse" are given out by Dr. Spockle with "six degrees from Harvard," explores the magic and mystification of getting cured. In "Morphed," an oppressed husband lives "shrunken like a salted slug" in a green glass bottle. One truly surreal story involves a jilted woman whose cut-off arm returns to her former boyfriend, followed by a patchwork of "lost parts angrily seeking their center again." A cynical teenage mermaid brings disturbance to another story. Slater's twisty symbolism invites many interpretations.

GET PRETTY IN A PRETTY DRESS

Bella's Closet, at 59 Leonard St., Belmont (617-489-9944), has grown-up and children's sections and also sells candles and lotions. In Newton, Bella's is at 81 Union St. (617-558-0009), and a new store recently opened at 94 Derby St. in Hingham (781-749-7511).



This is one jazzy spot for getting dressed up. Many of Bella's Closet's dresses, jewelry pieces, bags, shoes and deliciously riveted belts are pitched to the higher end but are far from what owner Jennifer Cassara calls "museum pieces." They have a tinge of mischief, spice and party in them: You'll find a crinkly gold skirt and a silky taupe one decorated with subtly raggedy ribbons. Bella's carries Diane Von Furstenburg, famous for her easygoing wrap dress of yore and now, which makes everyone look better. This clothes-flirt tried on a pink Diane upper-Gypsy skirt, shaggy and ruche-y with sprinkles and sparkles, while imagining fun-enough venues for its glamour. Tops of the thinnest possible fabric sit near bathrobes and little hoodies made of the thickest, miles-deep, chenille-feeling fabric, right for a millionaire's hotel room. One very transparent white cuffed shirt has fine gold lines through it; a short-sleeved red shirt is emblazoned with a picture of a feather. On the smokey side, a tight, faded red velvet jacket looks like a rockstar slept in it. Downstairs at the Belmont and Hingham stores (and a couple of doors down from the main store in Newton) there's a tiny world of fancy, Frenchy infant and little-kids clothes surrounded by cushy chairs, baby-atmospheric blankets and throws and wonderful little books for a new mother.

BED OF ROSES, VANILLA, NEW MOWN HAY

Neil Morris offers custom-made scents for women and men, including brides and grooms—even the wedding party. Call 617-267-2315 or go to www.neilmorrisfragrances.com. The consultation costs $350 and brings you a two-ounce eau de parfum and a smaller quarter-ounce bottle.

The nose knows and remembers. It leaps limbically into memories and associations that bypass words. Napoleon's spurned Josephine, wanting to leave a lasting impression for her rival and the short man, doused his rugs in musk whose aroma radiated for ages. But in happier situations, the wonderfully primal sense of smell brings us, as perfume-concocter Neil Morris says, "to tears and laughter." Morris approaches a client's pulse points and her or his perfuming desires through questions that tap into that sense-memory bank, such as "What scents do you associate with people you love?" This elicits what becomes "a life story in a bottle" as Morris, with a kind of magical smiling brio, uses a glass pipette to dab on your extended wrist some of the 700 oils kept in alchemically inviting brown bottles. Scents include pomegranate, cumin, blackberry, sage, Russian leather, grapefruit and the deliciously evocative aroma of newly mown hay. The client sniffs and evokes, saying yes, no and maybe to various offerings, while Morris layers different oils. The result includes wine-like elements—"top notes," "heart notes" and "bottom notes"—which he blends into a symphony of scents: bergamot the piccolo, jasmine the violin, patchouli the cello. Once applied, they exude a tantalizing complexity.

Kiss 108 fm

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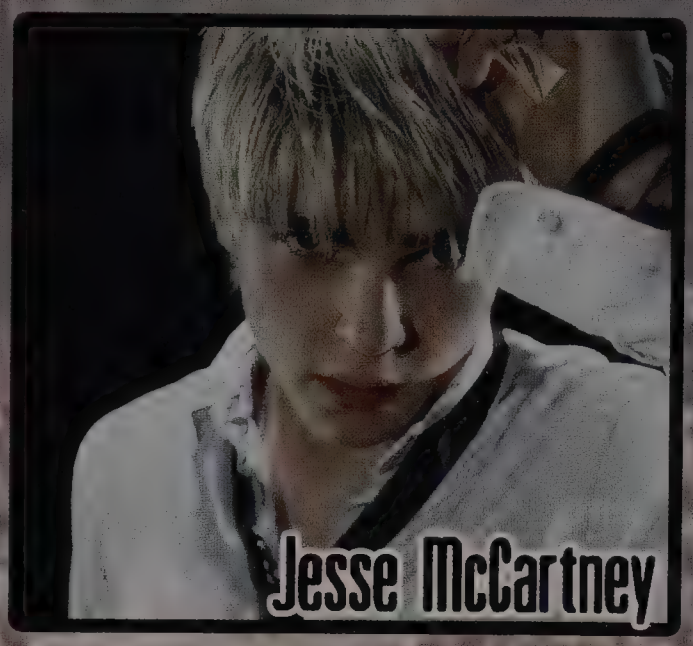
Saturday August 27th

Time: Fun starts at 3pm
Showtime: 6pm



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SUMMER OF FUN

REVIEW

STELLAR

Stella adds an Italian standout to the South End's roster of great restaurants.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

I'm sure Evan Deluty did not have *A Streetcar Named Desire* in mind when he dubbed his new South End restaurant "Stella." But the spirit of Marlon Brando seemed to hover over the place as I dug into some of the best Italian food offered in Boston, devouring pastas and pizza turned out by Deluty's talented executive chef, Joe Cassinelli, at this lively eatery. In fact, Stella is named after Evan and Candice Deluty's daughter rather than Tennessee Williams' hapless heroine. Either way, it's a name to keep in mind for good eating, value pricing and ambiance that's at once stylish, convivial and down to earth.

On Washington Street at the corner of West Brookline, Stella anchors the south end of the South End, home to many engaging eateries ranging from Hamersley's and Masa to Union and Tremont 647, Rouge, Perdix and Aquitaine. While numerous Boston neighborhoods—JP, Beacon Hill, the North End, Back Bay, Charlestown, Brighton, Hyde Park and Roslindale—have increased their dining options substantially over the last few years, the quantity, quality and diversity of restaurants in the South End make it a dining mecca for discriminating palates.

Stella occupies a building that formerly housed Gallia and before that Blackstone on the Square. Designed by the Orpin Group, the space provides an appropriate stage for Cassinelli to work his magic. An attractive white bar seats 14 diners who might want to watch the Sox game on the plasma-screen, high-definition television while eating. Those preferring al fresco dining can elect tables spilling out onto the sidewalk toward the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, two blocks south, making this one of the more versatile and engaging dining venues in the city. White rectangular baffles are suspended from a black ceiling, while marbleized granite tables, contoured white chairs, striped black and white draperies and two large framed photographs of starry skies make the dining room drop-dead handsome. The bright yellow awnings along the street are frosting on the cake.

Striped bass, sweet corn, oyster mushrooms and pea tendrils

STELLA

1525 Washington St., Boston
(617-247-7747)

HOURS Nightly, 5:30–11 pm; bar menu 11 pm–1:30 am
RESERVATIONS suggested
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING street/valet
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

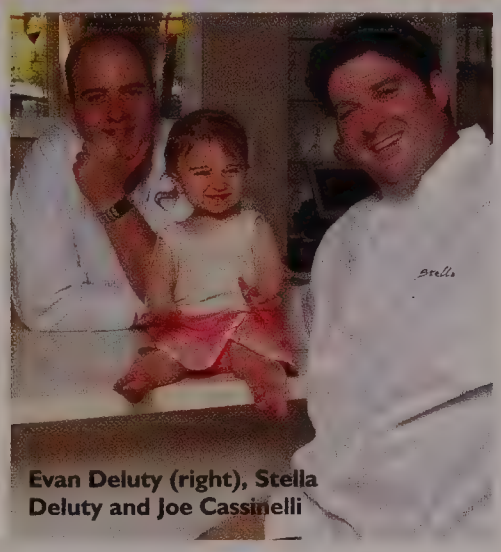
But you can't eat ambiance and décor. Not to worry, because Cassinelli's cuisine would be delectable even if served in a hovel. It begins with moist, delicious focaccia accompanied by a small, rectangular, compartmentalized dish with savory olives, a Tuscan white bean puree and extra virgin olive oil. The puree put me on notice that garlic, that pungent perennial whose therapeutic qualities Aristotle extolled, occupies an exalted place in Stella's culinary repertoire. Moving to the appetizers, I first chose the grilled Italian sausage ($10)—links of robust, fennel-spiced sausages cut in half lengthwise and artfully arranged on a long rectangular plate with roasted tomatoes and sautéed broccoli rabe. The tangy, sweet tomatoes and tender, garlicky broccoli complimented the meaty richness of the pork and veal sausage. Caesar salad ($9), served in a large bowl, featured crisp, fresh hearts of romaine lettuce, a well-balanced dressing with just a hint of mustard and an abundant sprinkling of grated cheese, with an oversized crouton of toasted French bread topped by two plump white anchovies that were pleasantly fishy and moderately salty. Mussels ($9) cooked in white wine, olive oil, garlic, onions and parsley filled a white ceramic bowl shaped like a fishing dory, an elongated oval coming to a point at both ends. Clean, sweet and succulent, the mussels rendered a delectable liquid that married with the wine and oil to create a heady broth. When the bus bo
saw that I had dispatched the last of thes
18 ebony beauties and came over to remov
the bowl, I requested a reprieve and a spoo
so that I could savor the broth.

As good as the appetizers were, the hear
of Stella's menu, and the reason it has s
quickly developed such a strong followin
in the neighborhood and across the city, i
its pastas and pizzas. The salumi pizz
($14), a superb, round-cornered rectangl
of ultrathin crust topped with slivers o
fresh garlic, thin slices of salami, shards o
provocative jalapeno peppers and a libera
scattering of baby arugula, could hav
served as a meal in itself, its size more tha
ample to share between two diners as
starter. Pastas offered as whole or half or
ders included meaty, rich, satisfying tagli
atelle Bolognese ($17; $9 a half order),
combination of pork and veal in a creamy
tomato-accented sauce that contained a
intriguing hint of orange zest. Even as
half order, the Bolognese left little roo
for the main course. Lighter and more deli
cate, the spaghetti with toasted garlic an
olive oil ($15; $8 a half order)—a classi
aglio e olio to which a liberal sprinkling o
Parmesan had been added—made m
imagine that I had been magically trans
ported to a first-rate trattoria in Italy. Bot
the spaghetti and tagliatelle were fresh
with the distinctively resilient, al dent
texture that only fresh pasta can deliver.

While Stella offers only a half-doze
main courses, it covers all the bases. Th
thick, succulent salmon filet ($18) wa
carefully prepared to preserve its firm tex
ture and moist goodness. It came wit
cherry tomato halves, baby arugula, blis
potatoes and a red wine vinegar sauce
The good-sized half chicken ($18) mor
than met expectations: roasted to a golde
brown, with crisp, pleasantly salty skin
tender, succulent flesh with lively accom
paniments such as thin slices of garlic tha
mellowed in the roasting; sweet, meat
tomatoes; and a hefty block of moist
formed polenta, all dressed with a whit
wine sauce enlivened with lemon an
rosemary. Even beef eaters can score a
Stella. Its grilled ribeye ($26) was th
priciest item on the menu but well worth
it. Thick, juicy, tender and full-flavored
this carnivore's delight, bathed in a pi

Summer beet salad with Laura Chenel goat cheese, herbed crostini and vincotto

Crudo misto: tuna, salmon, Lemoncello vinaigrette and sea salt grissini



Evan Deluty (right), Stella Deluty and Joe Cassinelli

quant garlic-lemon sauce, could have gone hoof to hoof with beef from any steakhouse, though at a substantially lower tariff. The accompanying "crispy frites," an immense portion served in a stainless steel goblet, heavy on the seasoning and a tad more oily than I prefer, proved irresistible nonetheless.

Stella offers some credible wines to go with its excellent food, including a 2003 pinot nero from Trentino ($28). Made from pinot noir grapes, whose Burgundian origins have been obscured by the California setting of the film *Sideways*, this unassuming but enjoyable wine from Italy's most northerly region showed good fruit, decent balance and structure and characteristic pinot noir bouquet. It made the perfect companion to the salmon and chicken. Other wine list selections are somewhat more expensive, and the per glass price starts at $8. Draft beer is available at $4.25, including a tall glass of full-bodied Magic Hat.

By the time one makes his or her way through the appetizers, pizzas, pastas and main courses at Stella, capacity for dessert becomes an issue, so choose wisely. Guided by a recommendation, I chose the chocolate mousse with crumbled almond biscotti ($5). Smartly served in a martini glass, the mousse was smooth, tasty—with some coffee flavor in addition to the chocolate—and light in body, and the biscotti crumbles provided a welcome texture counterpoint. Its price alone—about half of what it would fetch at many Boston eateries—made it all the more satisfying.

Service at Stella generally was excellent. Waitpersons (equally split in gender, all attired in stark white from head to toe, like technicians in a laboratory) demonstrated attentiveness, responsiveness, professionalism, a command of the menu and an ability to describe and explain ingredients and preparations. Black-clad bus boys filled water glasses and whisked away empty dishes efficiently—sometimes too efficiently, as when I had to speak up to save my mussel broth. And the service staff is plentiful, with a seemingly unlimited roster of hostesses, greeters and even door openers supplementing the waiters and bus boys. The hungry, enthusiastic patrons who flocked to Stella at the time of all three of my visits—one weeknight and two early weekend evenings—merited the ample staff. IB

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Class in a Glass
Piattini on Columbus, 162 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-423-20021). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mondays. 6 pm. $40. Piattini hosts a series of educational, four-course dinners paired with matching wines. •Aug. 15: Tuscany Take II. •Aug. 22: California Dreamin'.

Communal Table Summer Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Aug. 23. 6 pm. $25. This event, entitled Pinots and Antipasti, features food and drink samples, as well as tips from the Radius staff.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) plus complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tuesdays, 6 pm; Thursdays, 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •Aug. 18: Et Tu, Brut. •Aug. 30: East Coast Wines.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Aug. 17: Rediscover the Wines of South Africa. •Aug. 24: It Is All About Riesling.

Mortons Monthly Wine Tastings
Morton's Steakhouse, 1 Exeter Plaza, Boston (617-266-5858). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Aug. 17. 5:30-8 pm. $100. Enjoy wine, filet mignon sandwiches and other Morton's fare at this monthly tasting that also features a chance to win two tickets to a Red Sox/Yankees game.

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. Thu. and Fri., 6 and 8:30 pm. $35. Chef de cuisine **Mark Usewicz** prepares a tasting menu of classic Italian small plates in front of guests at the restaurant's Oysteria Bar. Reservations required.

Restaurant Week
www.opentable.com. Aug. 22-26. Lunch, $20.05; dinner, $30.05. During this week-long event, participating restaurants offer three-course prix-fixe lunches for $20.05 and dinners for $30.05. Check online for a list of participating restaurants.

Saint Anthony's Feast
Endicott, Thacher and North Margin Streets, Boston (617-723-8669). www.stanthonysfeast.com. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Aug. 26-28. 12-11 pm. Free. This annual North End festival features an assortment of traditional Italian delicacies like calamari, quahogs, pasta and cannoli, as well as interactive games and live entertainment.

Sorrento Cheese Fisherman's Feast
North St., North End, Boston (617-248-0343 www.fishermansfeast.com. MBTA: Green Line Haymarket. Aug. 18-21. Thu., 7-10:45 pm. Fri 4-10 pm., Sat., 12-10 pm; Sun., 11 am-11 pm Free. This annual Italian festival features an assortment of authentic entertainment, food and processions.

Steak Frites Fridays
Pigalle, 75 Charles Street South, Boston (617-42 4944). www.pigalleboston.com. MBTA: Gree Line to Arlington. Every Fri., 5:30-10:30 pm $30. Every Friday this summer, Pigalle ch **Marc Orfaly** offers a three-course menu featu ing classic steak frites.

Stella Artois Dinner Series
Grafton Street Pub & Grill, 1230 Mass. Ave Cambridge (617-497-0400). www.graftonstre cambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvar Aug. 5-Sept. 5. Daily. $35. Grafton Street Pu & Grill executive chef **Ryan Cyr** creates prix-fixe menu for the month of August, fe turing dishes like a sautéed shrimp linguin and pork porterhouse, all paired with Stel Artois beer.

Taste of German Wines
McCormick & Schmick's, 34 Columbus Ave Boston (617-481-3999). MBTA: Green Line Arlington. Aug. 23. 6-7:30 pm. $20. **Jessi Pinn** from Ruby Wines presents a sampling five different Rieslings, each paired with a di from McCormick & Schmick's menu.

Tequila Fiesta
Noir at the Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cam bridge (617-234-8090). www.noir-bar.com MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 17. 6 pm $25. Noir's Tequila Fiesta features margarit and other tequila-based drinks paired with tap and other small dishes.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: R Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Somm lier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various win and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with h d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonst tions. •Aug. 23: Aged Bordeaux ($65). •Au 30: Languedoc.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-26 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green L to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Er Johnson** presents matching wines to comp ment a four-course French–New England m by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Aug. 22: Italy

Wine Tastings at Vinalia
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-177 www.vinaliaboston.com. MBTA: Red Line Downtown Crossing. Every Wed., 6:30 pm. $ Every Wednesday night, Vinalia hosts a wi tasting featuring four wines paired with seaso appetizers.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terr
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-7 1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: B Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Ge Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines lected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Aug. Australia & New Zealand. •Aug. 24: South France.

DISH

Miso Thirsty

It's a wine shop, it's a sushi bar —it's both!...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Across the street from **Mike's City Diner**, and directly underneath some sleek new condos, owner **Stephen Yung** has realized his unusual double vision by opening **Seiyo**: a sushi bar and boutique-y retail wine shop sharing one storefront space on Washington Street. It is not a large space—the sushi bar seats about 20 people, and even the sushi chef is allowed space for only one name: **Haru**. Well, actually, he prefers to go by one name, "just like **Nobu** in New York," explains Yung, adding that Haru comes from Tokyo, where his family owns a Japanese tapas restaurant.

Stephen Yung is ready to Seiyo.

Yung, on the other hand, is a native Bostonian who's spent the past 15 years working in various capacities, mostly wine-related, at restaurants such as **Icarus** and the **Federalist**. He also owns Springwell Market, which he describes as "a little neighborhood market near Mass General." But Yung's personal neighborhood is the South End, and "this end of the South End has been waiting for a sushi bar for a while," he asserts.

Seiyo is still a work in progress: Yung hasn't yet obtained a beer and wine license that would allow him to serve anything stronger than iced tea to diners. In the meantime, he's anticipating throngs of patrons who will order take-out maki and sashimi, then pick up a bottle of sake or perhaps Cristal to accompany their home-bound dinner. The wine selection is "always evolving," says Yung, and currently ranges from Italian Prosecco to an Australian Shiraz that goes for "well over a hundred, hundred-fifty dollars at auction houses" and is priced at $66 here. However, Yung is not focusing on attracting bargain hunters or appealing to unsophisticated palates. That means no White Zinfandel, ever. "Not a chance," he says firmly.

SECOND COURSE

If it's August, it's time for a) extra-muggy weather with extra mosquitoes, b) everybody's therapist to go away on vacation and c) Restaurant Week! In baseball, hitting .333 is terrific, so let's look on the bright side and consider that more than 100 restaurants are participating in the event this year from Monday, August 22, to Friday, August 26. A quick review of the facts: Sponsored and organized by the Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau and American Express, this extravaganza inspires restaurants to offer special prix-fixe menus for $20.05 at lunch and $30.05 at dinner. But wait, there's more: Some restaurants will extend the offer for an extra week or so. **Restaurant L** is adding a Late Night Bento Box menu between 10 pm and 1 am, including treats such as black seaweed salad, tuna tartar crispy nori and Laotian BBQ pork ribs with Thai chili sauce. **UpStairs on the Square** has possibly the best vegetarian-friendly dinner menu at the Monday Club dining room: tart of roasted Allandale Farm cauliflower with sweet Vidalias and wild greens, sheep's-milk gnocchi with striped eggplant and cousa squash ratatouille, topped off with brioche bread pudding with summer berries. **Ian Just**, chef/owner of **Les Zygomates**, promises "something funky," if not as funky as the refreshments he provided at last month's swanky Tanglewood Wine and Food Classic: five cold-smoked suckling pigs, roasted and shredded and tucked into French crepes along with harissa and a chiffonnade of leeks. Four glossy-dark, smoky-roasted pig's heads adorned the table, drawing an occasional startled gasp from a passerby. "I love to push the limits, get a reaction," says Just. "Part of it's the shock value...I enjoy it in sort of an evil way!" Evil, maybe. Incredibly delicious, definitely. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com

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agenda

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august 17 - 30

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			17	18	19	20
			Noir at the Charles Hotel hosts a **Tequila Fiesta** featuring margaritas and other tequila-based drinks. *See Tastings on page 40.*		**Triplethick, the Konks** and **Mr. Airplane Man** play a show at T.T. the Bear's Place. *See Music on page 57.*	*Letter to the President*, a documentary narrated by Snoop Dogg, plays at the Roxbury Film Festival. *See Movies on page 52.*
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	The fifth annual **Boston Restaurant Week** gets under way citywide. *See Tastings on page 40.*	The **Boston Lyric Opera** previews its 2005–06 season at Christopher Columbus Park in the North End. *See Performing Arts on page 48.*		Editor **Lucy McCauley** speaks about *The Best Women's Travel Writing 2005* at Porter Square Books. *See Books & Poetry on page 73.*		The third annual **MassBike Festival and Expo** is at Verrill Farms in Concord. *See CityScope on page 47.*
28	29	30				
Song, an exhibition featuring photographs of music icons, is at the Martin Lawrence Gallery. *See Museums & Galleries on page 72.*	*The French Connection* plays as part of the Boston Harbor Hotel's **Movies by Moonlight** series. *See Movies on page 52.*					

AUG. 21–DEC. 31

Art: All About Ansel

Even the most art-illiterate among us knows the name Ansel Adams: He became legendary in the mid-20th century for his black-and-white photographs of the American landscape. This month, the MFA mounts a new exhibition of the photographer's work, drawn from the Lane Collection, the largest private holding of Adams' photographs in the world, and one that includes many rarely exhibited photos from the 1920s through the '70s. Visitors to the exhibition will see early and late prints from the same negative, photographs of vastly different scale, mural-sized prints, an early Sierra Club album and more. *MFA, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-542-4632). www.mfa.org. Aug. 21–Dec. 31, Mon.–Tue., 10 am–3:30 pm; Wed.–Fri., 10 am–8:30 pm; Sat.–Sun., 10 am–3:30 pm. $7.50–$22. —RL*

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DANCE CLUBS 65
MUSEUMS & GALLERIES . . 70
BOOKS & POETRY 73
EDUCATION 73
GAY & LESBIAN 74
BODY & MIND 76
SPORTS 77
CHILDREN 78
AROUND TOWN 79

CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn Books & Poetry, Movies
Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

The Flight of the Angel is a highlight of the annual Fisherman's Feast.

THU.–SUN./AUG. 18–21 &
FRI.–SUN./AUG. 26–28

CityScope and Tastings: Italian Jobs

If you've spent any time in the North End during the weekends this summer, you haven't been alone. Boston's little slice of Italy is famous for its summer processions and festivals, and two of the biggest and oldest are coming up at the end of the month. From August 18–21, there's the 95th annual Fisherman's Feast in honor of the Madonna del Soccorso di Sciacca and presented by Sorrento Cheese. Singer/actor Frankie Avalon headlines this year's feast, which includes a mix of live performances, Italian fare and the annual procession of the Madonna through North, Fleet and Lewis streets. Next up, from August 26–28, the 86th annual St. Anthony's Feast, which stretches over Endicott, Thacher and North Margin streets, features a bevy of Italian food carts, activities for children, live music and a series of parades and processions. *Fisherman's Feast, (617-248-0343). www.fishermansfeast.com. Aug. 18–21. Thu., 7–10:45 pm. Fri., 4–10 pm., Sat., 12–10 pm; Sun., 11 am–11 pm. Free. St. Anthony's Feast, (617-723-8669). www.stanthonysfeast.com. Aug. 26–28. 12–11 pm. Free. —RL*

THU.–FRI./AUG. 25–26

CityScope: A Jimmy Thing

You may think you've shown a lot of support for the Red Sox over the years, but believe us, it's no match for the support the Sox have given to the Jimmy Fund. On August 25 and 26, the team, along with NESN and WEEI 850 AM, continues its charitable ways with the annual Jimmy Fund Radio Telethon, an 18-hour, live broadcast on both WEEI and NESN that benefits the Jimmy Fund and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Along with the telethon, there's a powerful lineup of events at Fenway. On Thursday night (6:30 pm, $150), the Cocktails & Comedy Kick-Off at Game On! features drinks, hors d'oeuvres and stand-up comedy, plus a sports memorabilia auction. On Friday, at the .406 Club's Sports' Survivors Breakfast (8:30 am, $75), WEEI's Dennis & Callahan host a Q&A session with sports personalities who've survived cancer. Friday's Lunch with the Legends (12 pm, $75) is a sit-down meal with Sox greats like Dennis Eckersley, Luis Tiant and Jim Rice. On Friday night, the festivities wind down at Game On! as Glenn Ordway hosts Diehards & Legends (4:30, $100), a pregame reception featuring cocktails and a slew of celebs and pro athletes. *www.jimmyfundradiotelethon.org. Ticket packages for all four events can be purchased for $406 by calling WEEI at (877-738-1234). —RL*

SUN.–SAT./
THROUGH SEPT. 25

Art: A Blast from the Past

Whether it's bands from days past or history-rich concert venues, lyrics or album logos, everyone gets a touch nostalgic when it comes to music. For the next month, you can revel in rock history at Club Passim during its exhibition called *Hung*—an eclectic mix of works by photographers, artists and musicians themselves. The show includes works from Arturo Vega, the creative director for the Ramones (and designer of the band's iconic eagle logo for the album *Leave Home*); John Holmstrom, who founded *PUNK* magazine, and Cynthia Plaster Caster, best known for her casts, popular in the '60s, of rock stars' private parts. Nearly all of the works are for sale. *Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-5300). www.clubpassim.com. Mon.–Fri., 10 am–6 pm; Sat.–Sun., 10 am–5 pm. Free. —LPK*

Patti Smith, Bowery, 1976

Beat the Drum plays at the Roxbury Film Festival.

WED.–SUN./ AUG. 17–21

Movies: Lights, Camera, Action

The seventh-annual Roxbury Film Festival kicks off its five-day run of 50 different films Aug. 17 with a screening of *The Visit* at the Roxbury Center for the Arts. This year's highlight happens on Friday night—a showing of the film *Constellation*, directed by Jordan Walker-Pearlman and starring Billy Dee Williams. Williams is best known for his roles in the movies *Mahogany, Brian's Song* and *Star Wars* and will lead a discussion with Walker-Pearlman before the screening. (Liz Walker, host of CBS4's *Sunday with Liz Walker* also will be there to moderate.) Along with a Q&A session about the film, Williams and Pearlman will talk about their experiences in the film industry as African Americans. Other festival highlights include acting workshops, panels, discussions with industry professionals and Q&A sessions after most of the screenings. *Check the Web site for locations, times and details of the events. (617-541-3900, ext. 2327). www.roxburyfilmfestival.org. —LPK*

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cityscope

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Benefits

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

Oldtime Baseball Game
St. Peter's Field, Sherman St., Cambridge. www.oldtimebaseball.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. The 12th annual Bank of America Oldtime Baseball Game showcases talented young players in old-style flannel uniforms representing long-ago teams. All proceeds from food and program sales and player and team sponsorships go to the Lupus Foundation of New England.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

Bachelor and Bachelorette Auction
The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 6 pm; auction begins 8 pm. $10-$15 cover donation suggested. Bid on Boston bachelors and bachelorettes and participate in raffles for restaurant gift certificates and other prizes. Proceeds benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Summer Nights, City Lights
Boston Marriott Long Wharf Hotel, 296 State St., Boston (617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 6-9:30 pm. $45; $35 in advance. This party and live auction event features music by the Willie Sordillo Quartet, door prizes and hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds benefit the Boston Cares organization.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

Against the Tide
Nickerson State Park, Brewster (800-649-6222). www.mbcc.org. Registration at 7:30 am. Swim, kayak or walk for a cure to stop breast cancer. All money raised will benefit the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition.

Cool Summer Indoor Music Fest
Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-287-6911). www.bostonfolkfestival.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 8 pm. $25.50. New York City folk rockers the Kennedys and singers Bob Franke and Sloan Wainwright perform to benefit the Boston Folk Festival.

MONDAY, AUGUST 22

GuardHill Financial Charity Golf Classic
LeBaron Hills Country Club, Lakeville (617-682-3653). www.nickersonpme.com. Registration at 7 am. $1,200 per foursome. A golf clinic, live auction and awards ceremony highlight this event to benefit the Angel Fund for ALS research.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

Lunch with the Legends
.406 Club, Fenway Park, Boston (617-632-5008 www.jimmyfundradiotelethon.org. MBTA: Green Li to Kenmore. 12 pm. $75. Eat lunch with past ar present Red Sox team members and get a behin the-scenes look at Fenway Park. Proceeds bene the Jimmy Fund.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

Bostonians on the Brink of Rebellion A Freedom Trail Walking Tour
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Bost (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.or MBTA: Orange Line to State. Aug. 18, 19, 25 a 26, 3 pm. $15; $8.50 children. Guides dressed famous figures from the American Revolution le this 90-minute tour and relive some of Bosto historic events.

Sorrento Cheese Fisherman's Feast
North St., Lewis St. and Fleet St., North En Boston (617-267-7366). MBTA: Green Line Haymarket. Aug. 18-21. Free. For the 95th ye Boston's oldest continuous Italian Festiv celebrates with Italian American performers selection of food, the traditional procession of t Madonna and the Flight of the Angel. Frank Avalon and Gianni Russo are the headliner f this year's festival.

Summer Party Cruise
Cruise departs from 290 Northern Ave., Boston (78 444-7771). www.summerpartycruise.com. MBT Blue Line to Aquarium. 8-11 pm. $25-$35. Dewa 12 and the Society of Young Professionals host t annual cruise that features hor d'oeuvres, a live casino games, and a raffle with prizes like a wee long cruise.

Third Thursdays in Kenmore Squar
Kenmore Square, Boston (617-956-2421). ww temperchocolates.com. MBTA: B, C or D Gre Line to Kenmore. 7-9 pm. Free. Enjoy wine a snacks as you discover recent additions to t square and meander through the retail gallery a boutiques with other members of the Bost community.

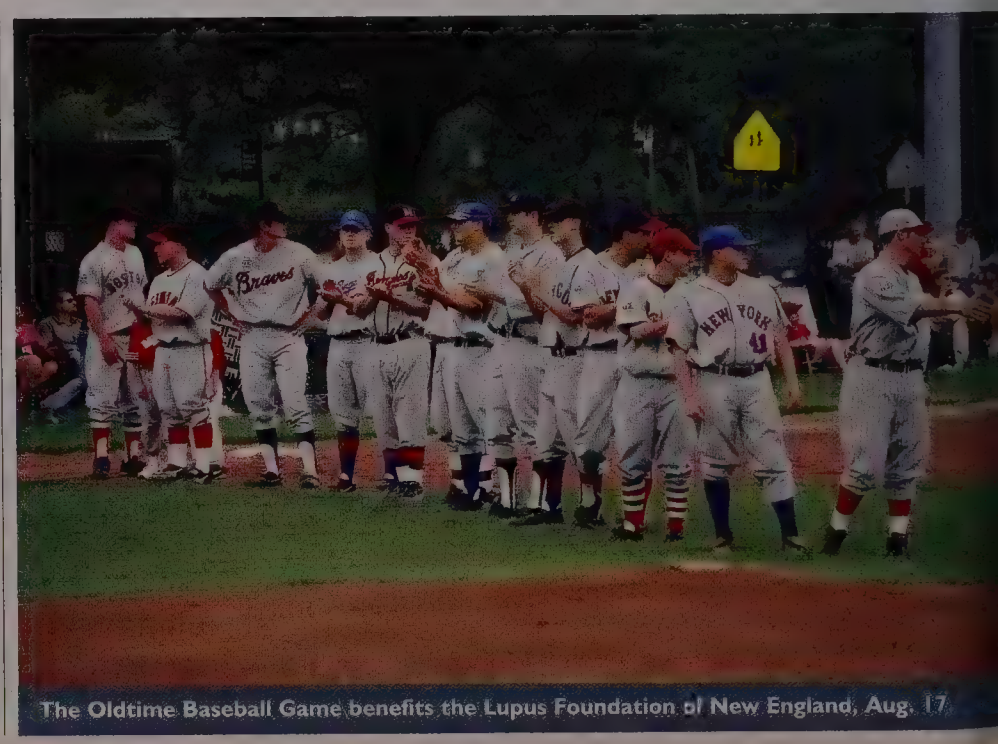
FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

Puttin' on the Ritz on the Roof
The Ritz-Carlton, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-9 3421). www.ritzcarlton.com. MBTA: Green Lin Arlington. 7 pm-12 am. $35. Come re-create the 19 and '40s music and social scenes on the roof of t hotel with beverages, a light dinner menu and danci until midnight overlooking the Boston skyline.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

5th Annual "Summahh Dance Party Cruise"
290 Northern Ave., Boston (781-444-777 www.tjcboston.com. Board at 8:30 pm. $20 advance; $30 at gate if available. Dance un midnight aboard the party cruise and enjoy h d'oeuvres, cocktails, goody bags and giveaways.

It's Easy Being Green
Long Wharf, Boston (617-223-8666). ww bostonislands.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquariu


The Oldtime Baseball Game benefits the Lupus Foundation of New England, Aug. 17

ug. 20 and 21, 10 am-4 pm. Free. Come learn out the Hull wind turbine and clean energy itiatives on this harbor cruise while meeting embers of the Boston Harbor Island Green ommittee.

UNDAY, AUGUST 21

outh End Open Market

0 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-481-2257). www. uthendopenmarket.com. MBTA: Green or Orange e to Back Bay. Aug. 21 and 28, 10 am-5 pm. Stroll rough this open air market that features crafts, tiques, a café and a farmers' market.

RIDAY, AUGUST 26

aint Anthony's Feast

dicott, Thacher and North Margin Streets, Boston 7-723-8669). www.stanthonysfeast. com. MBTA: een Line to Haymarket. Through Aug. 28. 12-11 . Free. This annual North End festival features an ortment of traditional Italian delicacies like cala- ri, quahogs, pasta and cannoli, as well as interac- e games and live entertainment.

kateBoston 2005

ent begins at the Radisson Hotel, 777 Memorial ve, Cambridge. www.skate-boston.com. Through g. 28. SkateBoston features a collection of week- l skates around the city, as well as a Friday-night ace party at the Radisson Hotel. Check Web site times and prices, and register for events at w.active.com.

ATURDAY, AUGUST 27

seball Time Travelers

g Wharf, Boston (617-223-8666). www. onislands.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. g. 27 and 28, 10 am-4 pm. Free. Board the cruise o Saturday for Peddocks Island to watch a tage 1880s overhand-style baseball game and urn Sunday for an 1860s underhand one- nce–style game.

ssBike Festival

rill Farm, 11 Wheeler Rd., Concord (617-542- 3). www.massbike.org. Begins at 8:30 am. $30; family registration. The third annual Bike tival has a bike expo, rides for all ability levels a free barbecue from Redbones.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

Hurry Date

Charley's Eating and Drinking Saloon, 284 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3000). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. $26.25 for members; $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates while you enjoy drink specials. For Jewish men and women ages 25-35.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

Lock and Key Party

Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 7-9 pm. $10-$15. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this singles event where women get locks, men get corresponding keys and you have to mingle to find your match. For ages 21-32.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

8 Minute Dating

Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.com. 5 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For men ages 35-49; women ages 35-42.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

8 Minute Dating

Olde Magoun Square, 518 Medford St., Somerville (617-776-2600). www.8minutedating.com. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For Christian single professionals ages 25-35.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

Dinner & Movie Night

Not Your Average Joe's, 1727 Mass. Ave., Lexington (781-674-2828). www.funfunfun.org. 6:30 pm, $10 members; $15 nonmembers. Join other local singles for dinner and cocktails, during which you'll pick what movie you'd like to see and walk over to the Lexington Flick, for the show. For ages 20-50.

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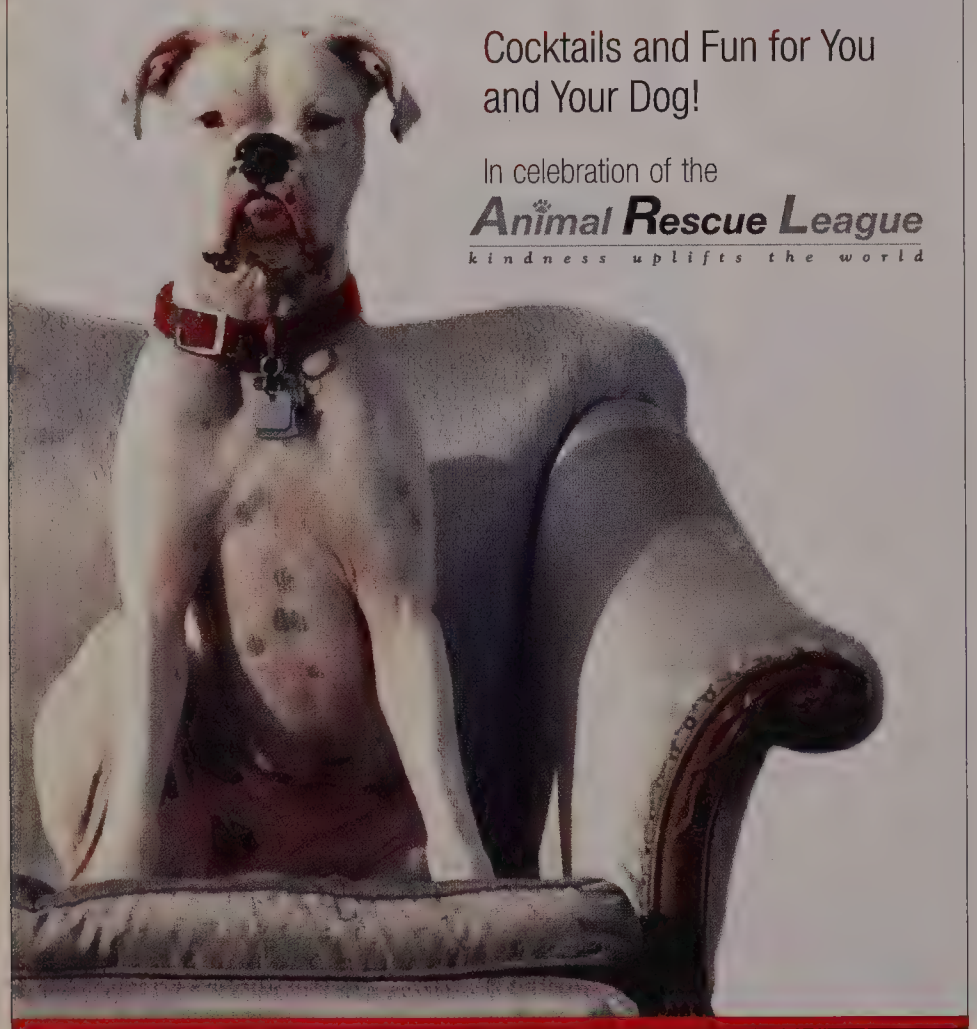

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

StubHub
(866-788-2482). www.stubhub.com. Where fans buy and sell tickets.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Diva Season
Christopher Columbus Park, North End, Boston (617- 542-4912). www.cityofboston.gov/arts/waterfront.asp. Aug. 23. 6-8 pm. Free. The Boston Lyr Opera previews its 2005-06 Diva Season with performance of selections from Donizetti's *Lucie Lammermoor* and Verdi's *La Traviata*. The show part of the city of Boston's Waterfront Performi Arts Series.

Plum Pudding
The Gloucester Stage, 267 East Main St., Gloucest (987-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Aug. and 27, 4 pm; Aug. 21 and 28, 2 pm. $30 adult $20 seniors and students. Paula Plum performs h one-woman show of character impressions whic also features Alan Benett's *Bed Among the Lent* and Keith Curren's *Sidekick*.

Shakespeare & Young Company
Rose Footprint Theater, 70 Kemble St., Leno (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Aug. 2 26, 5 pm. Free. The youth members of the Shak speare & Young Company perform a variety Shakespeare's works.

NOW RUNNING

Aladdin
Harwich Junior Theatre, 105 Division St., West Ha wich (508-432-2002 ext.10). www.hjtcapecod.or Through Aug. 25, Mon.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. a Sun., 4 pm. $12-$16. Aladdin embarks on an a venture with a genie after discovering a magic lam James P. Byrne directs.

Arcadia
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, Soldiers Fi Rd., Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publicktheat com. Through Sept. 4, First and third weeks of t month, Wed., Thu. and Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sa 8 pm. $30. Set in the English countryside, To Stoppard's play addresses a range of topics includi history, science, philosophy and love. Diego Arci iegas directs.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (61 931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. pm; Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. T blue trio performs an ongoing show that mixes a music, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

The Comedy of Errors
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, Soldiers Fi Rd., Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publicktheat com. Through Sept. 10, Second and fourth weeks of month, Wed., Thu. and Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sa

Comedians Nate Johnson and Chris Coxen host a comedy show at Jimmy Tingle's, Aug. 27

pm. Diego Arciniegas directs this Shakespeare omedy in which two sets of twins, separated at rth, meet by chance later in life.

ootloose
ıy Colony Productions, Orpheum Theatre, 1 School ., Foxboro (508-543-2787). www.orpheum.org. ırough Aug. 21, Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $18-4. Dance and music are combined in this story of en rebellion as a youth moves from Chicago to a ıall midwestern town.

hosts
eb Experimental Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge 17-547-8300). www.hcs.harvard.edu/hrst. MBTA: d Line to Harvard. Through Aug. 20, Wed.-Thu., 30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 8 pm. $10-$14. ın Cozzens directs Henrik Ibsen's drama about osts that haunt a family in turmoil.

amlet
ıe Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville 17-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. MBTA: Red ıe to Davis. Through Aug. 21, Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; n., 7 pm. $15. A young prince seeks to avenge his her's murder in Shakespeare's tragedy.

ing John
ınders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kem- St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. rough Sept. 3. 2 and 7 pm. $10-$35. Tina Packer di- ts Shakespeare's political tragedy set in the Middle ges that recounts the battle between England and ınce over the English crown.

ving Room in Africa
ucester Stage, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978- 1-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Through Aug. , Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Aug. 21 and 28, 5 pm. $15-). Two characters discover that the African vil- e they have just moved to is devastated by AIDS. niel Goldstein directs.

enopause: The Musical
ıart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617- 5-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: een Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; .-Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging oy boomers with nothing in common but memory s and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

ıear Madness
arles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617- 5-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This comedic whodunit set in a crazy unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Sound of Music
Reagle Players, Robinson Theatre, 617 Lexington St., Waltham (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. Through Aug. 21, Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm.; Sun., 6 pm; Aug. 13, 2 and 8 pm. $35-$42. The Von Trapp family employs a spirited young governess in this Rodgers and Hammerstein musical.

The Spitfire Grill
Indoor Theatre, Cape Rep Theatre, 3299 Rte. 6A, East Brewster (508-896-1888). www.caperep.org. Through Aug. 27, Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $12-$22. The Spitfire Grill functions as the setting for the action in this musical set in small-town Wisconsin.

The Tamer Tamed
Spring Lawn Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox, (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 27, 12:30 and 5:30 pm. Free. John Fletcher penned this sequel to the Taming of the Shrew, which has the tamer Petruchio divorced and remarried to a gentler wife.

The Taming of the Shrew
Founders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 3, 7:30 pm. $10-$35. The bard has an ill-mannered noblewoman butting heads with a potential suitor in this romantic comedy set in Italy.

The Tricky Part
Spring Lawn Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox, (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 4, Tue.-Sun., 8:30 pm. $30. Seth Barrish directs this drama thematically based upon Catholicism, sexuality and the forgiveness of God.

Wharton One-Acts
Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 4, 4 pm. $30-$44. Eleanor Holdridge directs two Edith Wharton adaptations, The Mission of Jane and The Promise.

Wild and Whirling Words
Bankside, Founders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 27, 12:30 and 5:30 pm. Free. Kevin G. Coleman directs this less than one hour show of fast-paced, comical Shakespeare acts.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

COMEDY SHOWS

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
The Matrix, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Aug. 23, 30, 6:30 pm. $55. Ticket price includes an Italian dinner and free admission to Matrix club after. Dillstar Productions puts on its interactive sing-a-long musical about a marriage between the Gnocchi and Cavatelli families.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features an assortment of local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Aug. 17, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Aug. 18, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Aug. 19, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Mike Epps, $33. •Aug. 20, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi & Patty Ross, $20; 10:30 pm: Mike Epps, $35. •Aug. 21, 7 pm: Mike Epps, $33. •Aug. 22, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Aug. 23, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $12. •Aug. 24, 8 pm: Tony V, $12. •Aug. 25, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Aug. 28, 7 pm: Mike Donovan, $12. •Aug. 29, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Aug. 30, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Aug. 17: Tony V Experiment. •Aug. 18: Dan Sally Show. •Aug. 19: Kelly MacFarlannd, Val Kappa, Bob Frady, Lou Michaels, Elijah Joseph et al. •Aug. 20: Ilene Fischer, Arielle Goldman, Jessica Sutich, Amy Tee, Erin Judge. •Aug. 21: Erin Judge Presents...Maryn Herberg, David Palmieri, John Lincoln, Ej Murphy, et al. •Aug. 23: The Magic Lounge features nationally known magicians. •Aug. 24: Tony V Experiment. •Aug. 25: Dan Sally Show. •Aug. 26: Tim McIntire, Eric Riley Moore, Seth Earley, Ken Reid. •Aug. 27: Tim McIntire, Eric Riley Moore, Elisha Yaffe, Ken Reid. •Aug. 28: Erin Judge Presents... sketch comedy from stand-ups Charlie Hatton, Joe Wong, Peter Bowers. •Aug. 30: Magic Lounge.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Aug. 27, 7:30 pm, $12: Coxen and Johnson Industries: Local comedians Chris Coxen and Nate Johnson perform their two-man sketch comedy show featuring different character, videos and sketches.

Kennedy's Midtown
Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park

Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Cäsciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 8:30 pm. $10-$22. •Aug. 18, 8:30 pm: Spike Tobin, Artie Januario. •Aug 19 and 20, 8:45 pm: Spike Tobin, Artie Januario and Mike Kotroubis. •Aug. 25, 8:30 pm: Kevin Knox, Jim Coliton. •Aug. 26 and 27, 8:45: Kevin Knox, Jim Coliton and Ben B.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. • Wed., 8 pm: Lost in Boston...or How I Learned to Love that Dirty Water. Ongoing. Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm and 10 pm: Summer in New England. Ongoing. •Sat., 12 am: The Midnight Show. Ongoing.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Hump Fringe Show. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$12: UnNatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Pirate Lives; 10 pm: TheatreSports splits up improvisers into two teams. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for individuals of all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening features performances by visiting and local troupes.

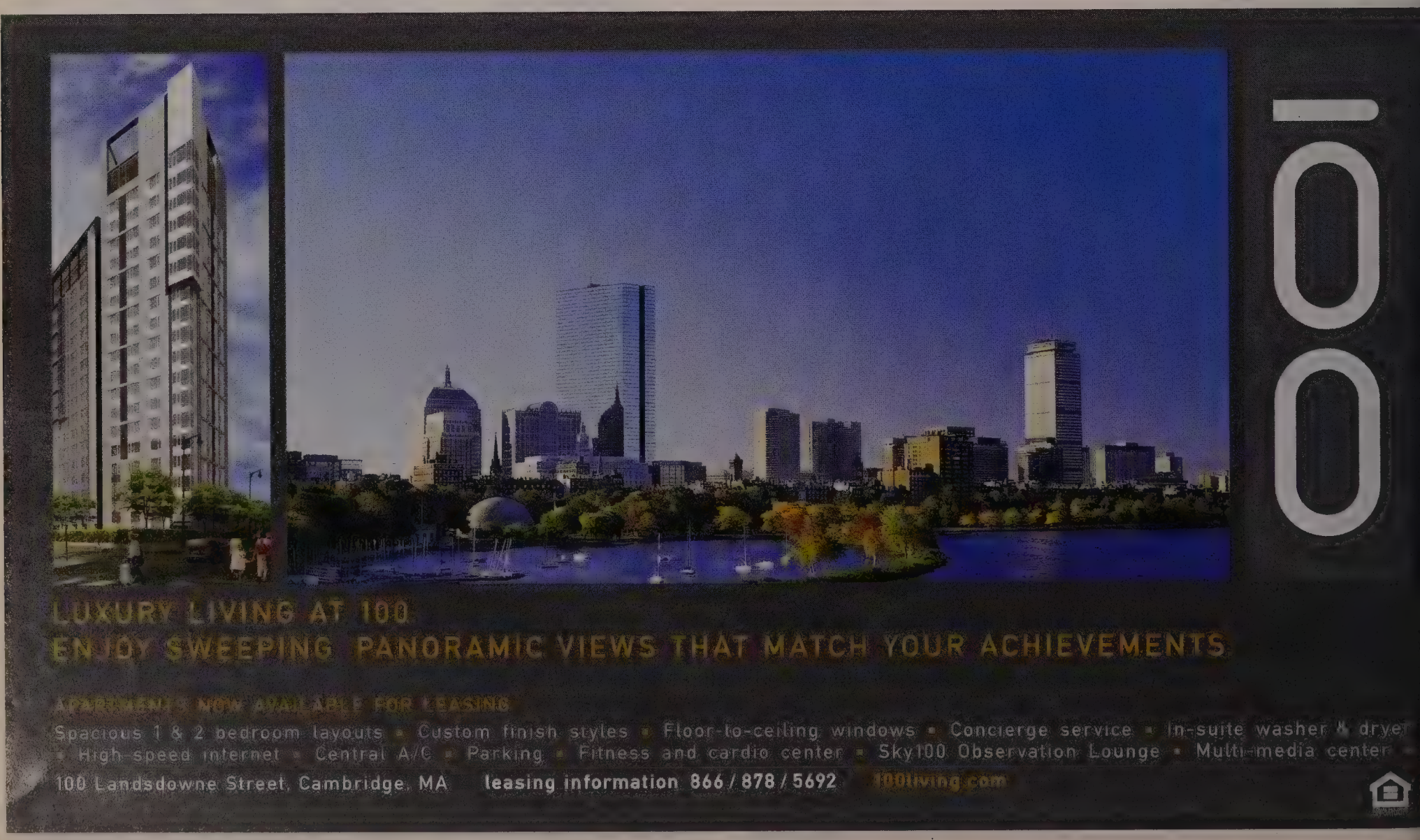
Shakespeare's *King John* plays at the Founders' Theatre in Lenox through Sept. 3.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Boston-based short-form improv comedy group performs many skits that involve participation from members of the audience.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 $10 after. 21+. The Tribe sponsors this we comedy show at the Cantab that features a co tion of improv comedians who poke fun at ev thing, including themselves. Acts incl Snowflakes, Sister Brother, Sosnys and Villalo



New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

ad News Bears ★★

n the heels of the *Longest Yard* remake comes an-ner redo that's not as raunchy as its 1970s original. chard Linklater's version is still, thankfully, a sort of tiheartwarming version of the premise that's been done to death since the original (*Mighty Ducks*, *cking & Screaming* and *Rebound* all ripped off that ovie). But to see Billy Bob Thornton play an unre-ming lowlife in the wake of *Bad Santa* doesn't pack e same punch as having Walter Matthau, who'd ver played a part remotely like the foul-mouthed tle League coach, do it in the original (*Bad Santa* ters Glenn Ficarra and John Requa wrote this up-e). Adult leads aside, the action with the kids is der here than it is in the original, and none of these es matches the ball-kicking intensity of Tatum Neal. The remake offers a decent number of laughs, l Thornton makes a good sleazeball, as always, but results are rather pale. (At Boston Common, Fen-and suburbs.)

tman Begins ★★★½

e *Batman* prequel outdoes all the series' previous ries. Like the more recent *Spider-Man* movies, is a strong, character-based film that catches the or of the comics but is not cartoonish. Christian e has the dramatic chops to fill out Bruce Wayne, o sees his philanthropist/industrialist father and mother murdered. He grows up full of vengeful ns against criminals. The movie takes him from tham to the Himalayas, where he falls under the uence of a mentor he ultimately rejects (Liam eson), and back to Gotham, where he tries to an up his corrupt hometown. Neeson, Michael ne (as loyal butler Alfred), Katie Holmes (as ldhood friend turned prosecutor Rachel), Gary lman (as future Police Commissioner Gordon) Morgan Freeman (as an ally within the Wayne poration) all match Bale, while *Memento* direc-Christopher Nolan skips the flash and opts for otional realism instead. Well done all around. Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

oken Flowers ★★

e minimalist, sad-sack persona Bill Murray in-duced in *Rushmore* and *Lost in Translation* is ty spent by this point. After re-using it in one he segments in writer-director Jim Jarmusch's *fee & Cigarettes* last year, Murray goes back to t well yet again in Jarmusch's latest. It's still dly amusing in this story of an aging, willfully id womanizer who reluctantly road-trips to t several of his ex-flames when he receives an nymous note telling him one of them had a by him after they broke up. But just mildly sing. There's a bit more of an upscale cast than al for Jarmusch, with Sharon Stone and Jessica ge playing two of the old flames. These odic visits usually pack a laugh or two, and the re journey takes the womanizer through a efield of sexual attraction. But the episodes n to get less interesting as the story progresses, his subtle awakening into, essentially, caring ut his own life—seen only in the very last mo-ts, with little build-up—is meager payoff, n in a Jarmusch movie. (At the Coolidge Cor-Theater.)

zzly Man ★★★

le wildlife shows have aired plenty of coverage Timothy Treadwell, the animal activist who d among Alaskan bears for 13 summers before g killed by one in 2003. So Werner Herzog's inating documentary about Treadwell no bt has some measure of redundancy. But the o footage Treadwell shot of himself among the lies and red foxes is nonetheless amazing, and og also digs into Treadwell's background to try iscover what made him reject the world of le for the world of nature and try to reinvent self in Alaska. In fact, the movie would have better had Herzog dug deeper (when Tread-'s failed acting career and the possibility that just missed getting Woody Harrelson's role on rs comes up, or when a possible drug O.D. gets tioned, why doesn't Herzog look into these ier?). Treadwell—part brave pioneer, part noid nut, part Andy Dick character sprung to –is the sort of person you just can't keep your off of, though. (Opens Aug. 12 at Kendall re.)

stle & Flow ★★★½

er-director Craig Brewer's impressive debut something few movies do: It develops its r characters so they become more substantial you'd ever imagined. Brewer doesn't develop DJay (Terrence Howard), the Memphis pimp decides he wants to become a rapper, well be-

Jokers Wild

The Aristocrats laughs it up.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

If we're lucky, every couple of years there's a movie that makes us laugh so hard it hurts. *Kingpin*, *There's Something About Mary*, *Team America* and *South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut* have done the trick in the last decade, and now *The Aristocrats* brings on convulsions, too. As Sam Cooke sang, "Don't fight it… feel it."

Directed by long-time stand-up comic Paul Provenza, with a co-filmmaker credit going to Penn Jillette (of Penn & Teller), this documentary doesn't sound like much of a movie. Its title refers to a legendarily extreme joke comics have told each other for generations. But it's a joke they've rarely tested on audiences, even these days, when it seems there are few boundaries of law or taste preventing comics from uttering anything at a comedy club.

Why is this particular joke one comics have reserved for each other? First, because it's the sort of vaudeville-style, set-up-and-punch-line gag that comes from a different era. Second, because it's not just a dirty joke, it's a joke that's more successful the more perversely dirty the comic makes it. To tell it right, you have to give yourself over to the potential depravity of the joke. If you don't, it won't be funny, and another, more daring comic will outdo you and make you look like a wimp.

As funny as they wanna be: Clockwise from top left, George Carlin, Gilbert Gottfried, Sarah Silverman and Bob Saget in *The Aristocrats*.

We learn all this stuff early in *The Aristocrats*, when the wide variety of comedians interviewed talk about the mythology of the joke—where they first heard it, where and how they've told it and how the joke has affected them as both listener and teller. The actual joke, we then learn, is simple in structure: Start with a man walking into a talent agent's office and have him describe the distasteful act he and his family perform and that he hopes to get representation for. Then, after the agent asks what the act is called, fire back with the guy's straight-faced, deluded answer: "The Aristocrats." The bad taste of the act and the "good taste" of its name couldn't be more incompatible.

The joke's structure is simple, all right, but it's that middle section that lets the comic run free. More than one of the comics interviewed compares the joke to an old jazz standard in which the performer fails unless he puts his or her own personality into it and really stretches the thing out. With the wide-eyed glee of hicks talking about run-ins with Bigfoot, comics offer up tales of colleagues keeping the joke aloft for one or even two hours.

Indeed, of the comics we hear actually start telling the joke, some riff on it successfully, while others never generate the right comic momentum. Among the best are George Carlin, Gilbert Gottfried, Sarah Silverman and Bob Saget—whose versions mix bodily functions, incest, bestiality and blood-splattering violence. A silent version performed by Billy the Mime (on a public street!) is up there, too, while Eric Cartman has a go during a specially made *South Park* clip and card-trick specialist Eric Mead skillfully adapts the joke to his talents. Others, like Paul Reiser, Mario Cantone and Steven Wright, don't fare so well.

In between the tellings—and not everyone shown tells it, as the movie would be six hours long if they did—you also get a lot of funny people being, well, funny. *The Aristocrats* mingles old-timers (Larry Storch, Don Rickles, Chuck McCann, Pat Cooper), Brits (Eric Idle, Billy Connolly, Eddie Izzard), 1980s comedy-club regulars who made their mark on *Late Night with David Letterman* (Allen Havey, Wayne Cotter, Larry Miller, Jake Johannsen), sketch-comedy veterans (Michael McKean, Harry Shearer, Dave Thomas), recent stand-up stars (Wendy Liebman, Lewis Black) and such current comedy icons as Jon Stewart and Chris Rock.

Even though the movie feels a bit overextended at 90 minutes, there's hardly a dull moment, and there certainly are enough laughs to support its length. As comedians talk about how the legendary joke has made them laugh, and how they've made others laugh at it, *The Aristocrats* really becomes about the power of laughter as both an emotional healer and a uniter of people. There's nothing special about this rudimentary documentary as moviemaking, just as there's nothing special about the joke if you don't put your heart and soul into it. The laughter is all in the telling, and *The Aristocrats* tells its story like a pro. IB

The Aristocrats ★★★

Directed by Paul Provenza. With George Carlin, Gilbert Gottfried, Phyllis Diller, Sarah Silverman, Mario Cantone and Steven Wright. Not Rated. At Loews Boston Common and Kendall Square.

yond our initial expectations of the guy. He also adds depth to the prostitutes under DJay's wing (well-played by Taryn Manning and Taraji P. Henson), as well as the high-school classmate, now a sound engineer (Anthony Anderson), who helps DJay make a demo tape. Brewer even works wonders with the engineer's skittish, church-going wife (Elise Neal). As we follow the construction of a makeshift studio in DJay's house, the writing of songs and their recording, the movie has some of the intoxicating energy of an old "let's put on a show" musical (the film's mantra is the repeated line of dialogue "everybody got to have a dream"). The story then culminates in an unpredictable sequence in which DJay tries to sell a famous rapper (Ludacris) on helping him out, leading to a bittersweet resolution that, like everything else here, is inventively written. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Last Days ★½

So Gus Van Sant's career has come to this: movies inspired by real events that inevitably become slow, artsy trips to Dullsville. At least *Gerry*—the first of these, which seemed like a one-off experiment at the time—had periodic humor, thanks to Matt Damon and Casey Affleck. But, like the Colombine-inspired *Elephant* (which the similarly inspired *Zero Day* blew away), this new, Kurt Cobain–inspired movie offers little insight or entertainment. It mainly lets Van Sant indulge in his default style of late: people doing nothing, especially just walking around (literally). This time, the walker is Blake (Michael Pitt), a vaguely disgruntled rocker who's ducking his band, his management and anyone else who'd like to see him get up off of his duff. He hides, does this and that, noodles around in his music rehearsal space, puts on a woman's slip, mumbles a lot, plays with his shotgun and has brief interactions with the hangers-on he lets stay in his old house. He's presumably high and apparently miserable. Sometimes the movie hits a blasé rhythm, (but not often), and there is actually one amusing scene, a conversation with an unfazed Yellow Pages sales rep who knocks on Blake's door. But there's little to latch onto. One character rightly chides Blake for acting like a "rock and roll cliché," so I guess that makes this an art-film cliché about a rock and roll cliché. (At Harvard Square.)

Must Love Dogs ★½

What's worse than a romantic comedy written and directed by Nora Ephron (*Sleepless in Seattle*, *Bewitched*)? An *imitation* of a Nora Ephron romantic comedy. With its Ephronesque cutesy gags and achingly literal use of pop oldies, *Must Love Dogs* tells the not-so-enchanting tale of a divorcée (Diane Lane) clumsily re-entering the dating scene and stumbling through many false starts with an idealistic boat builder (John Cusack). Cusack's character is interesting cinematically, since he's such a 15-years-older version of Lloyd Dobler, his iconic *Say Anything* hero. But her "colorful" Irish-American family, his horny best friend, her gay confidant and the forced climax are all by t numbers, and writer-director Gary David Gol berg squanders the presence of the two likab stars. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs

Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith ★★

The third *Star Wars* prequel is the first that's spectable. Now that the time finally has come the transformation of Anakin Skywalker fro "chosen" Jedi knight to master of disaster Dar Vader, George Lucas at least adds some narrati push, instead of the meandering dullness of t first two prequels. There's still an awful lot council meetings and bureaucratic nonsense, a too much Yoda and his annoying inverted synt (he's a spot player, George, not a go-to guy). A Hayden Christensen's performance is unde whelming. He was great in *Shattered Glass*, b that experience doesn't translate in making t inner torment raging inside Anakincompellin But Ewan McGregor is just right, as always, humble Obi-Wan Kenobi, whose reaction to h young cohort's betrayal is both hurt and introspe tion about where he failed as a mentor. (At Bost Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

2046 ★★

Wong Kar-wai's sequel of sorts to his lethargic *the Mood for Love* is another rehash of his earli livelier movies (such as *Days of Being Wild* a *Chungking Express*). Tony Leung is back again the 1960s journalist and ladies' man, and he ha bevy of beauties to deal with this time (played Gong Li, Faye Wong and Zhang Ziyi). As has u ally been the case in Wong Kar-wai's rece movies, everyone looks great, but the events are that stimulating—a little less craftsmanship an little more adrenaline might have yielded a big i provement. To make matters worse, there's a the futuristic action set within the novel that t ladies' man is writing, which is simply a waste time that fails to enhance the 1960s action, as tended, and drags out this overextended, forg table 130-minute endurance test. (At Kend Square.)

War of the Worlds ★★

Let me get this straight. An alien force launche shocking, sudden attack that threatens civili tion, and the most important story to tell Steven Spielberg's movie is about an irresponsi divorced dad (Tom Cruise) trying to stay alive a gain redemption in his kids' eyes? Much of t early going works well, and the big special-effe set pieces in the first half come off strongly. after a while, it's impossible to cotton to the f that, in the movie's world, Tom Cruise is the ce ter of the universe. Couldn't this have been ab a group of people trying to survive, with the d and his kids (Justin Chatwin, screechy Dak Fanning) being a few among this communi Eventually, it's hard to care about them and, usual in these star vehicles, the story turns ridi lous to make the star look good. A telltale m ment comes when dad and daughter are amon hysterical horde about to be consumed by an al

Grizzled former pro ballplayer turned coach Morris Buttermaker (Billy Bob Thornton, front left) hands out caps to his team in the remake of *The Bad News Bears*.

A morose ladies' man (Bill Murray) breaks bread with an ex-girlfriend (Sharon Stone, center) and her daughter (Alexis Dziena, left) in *Broken Flowers*.

chine-beast. Yet, suddenly, when Cruise's char-er is about to be offed, the crowd unites to save hide. Unbelievable. (At Boston Common, Fen-y and suburbs.)

he Wedding Crashers ★★★

ven Wilson and Vince Vaughn have supplied re onscreen laughs than just about anybody else r the last decade, so it's great to see Wilson's sly drawling and Vaughn's motor-mouthed ranting together. They play the title characters, whose social life is built around ingratiating their way into nuptials, being the life of the party and seducing high-on-love female wedding guests. The montage of them doing just that is hilarious, though the plot does morph into more of a *Meet the Parents*–style story than expected. The two buddies fall in with an influential Beltway family so that Wilson's character can pursue one daughter (Rachel McAdams), leaving Vaughn's to reluctantly come along and fight off another daughter (Isla Fisher). But the gags are usually good, the cast funny (even Jane Seymour) and the carefree charm of its stars carries over to the entire movie. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Special Events

Roxbury Film Festival

See Web site for exact venues. 182-186 Dudley St., Suite 100, Roxbury (617-541-3900). www.roxburyfilmfestival.org. $10 for films, $5 for panel discussions. See Web site for passes.

•Aug. 17, 5:30 pm, Roxbury Center for the Arts. **The Visit**, *2000*. Jordan Walker Pearlman directs Kosmond Russell's novel about a young man dying in prison who asks his family to pay him a final visit. Special screening, Q&A to follow.

•Aug. 18, 7:30 pm, Museum of Fine Arts. **Constellation**, *2005*. Members of an African-American family in the Deep South are forced to come to terms with a tumultuous past marked by an interracial affair. Q&A with filmmaker to follow.

•Aug. 19, 8:30 pm, Tower Auditorium at Mass Art. **Runt**, *2005*. A Jamaican-American man must face his prideful, sexually deviant and stubborn alter ego to become the man he wants to be for his son. Q&A with filmmaker to follow.

•Aug. 20, 8:30, Tower Auditorium at Mass Art. **Letter to the President**, *2005*. Snoop Dogg narrates this documentary about hip-hop's connection to the political world since the 1960s.

•Aug. 21, 1 pm, Tower Auditorium at Mass Art. **The Love Trap**. Relationship matters are explored when Richard, a law student, meets a seductive woman named Angel. Q&A with filmmaker to follow.

Screening in the Garden

Somerville Community Growing Center, 22 Vinal Ave, Somerville (617-666-2969). www.wifvne.org. •Aug. 23, 8 pm. Women in Film & Video presents a free outdoor screening of experimental short works by independent, female filmmakers.

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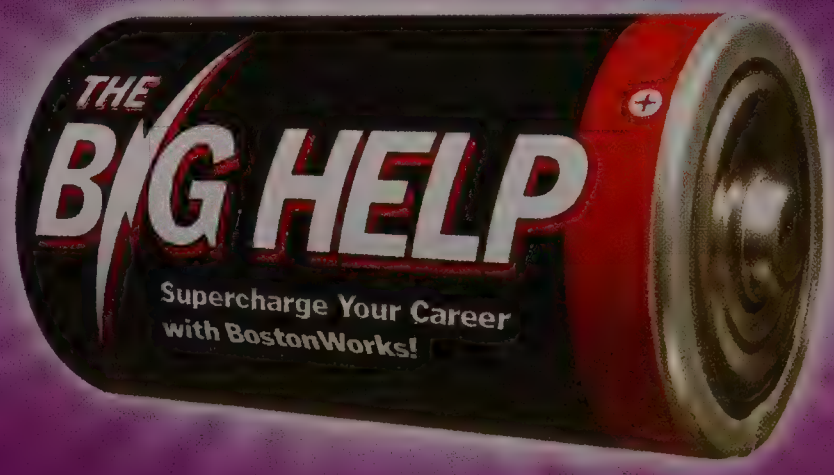

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Hookahs available

Una Bella Serata

Diane Lane plays a divorcée re-entering the dating world in *Must Love Dogs*.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Movies by Moonlight

• Aug. 19, dusk. **Sabrina** *1954*. A playboy falls in love with an impressionable chauffeur's daughter. Billy Wilder directs.

• Aug. 26, dusk. **It's a Mad Mad Mad Mad World** *1963*. Stanley Kramer directs this comedy about a group of motorists in a race to find buried treasure.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Cool Flicks for a Hot Summer Film Series

• Aug. 18, 5:30 pm. **Insignificance** *1985*. Nicolas Roeg directs this story about the meeting of four 1950s cultural icons.

• Aug. 25, 5:30 pm. **Downhill Racer** *1969*. A cocky young skiier joins the United States Ski Team and clashes with his coach. Michael Ritchie directs.

The Remarkable Fredric March Film Series

• Aug. 22, 5:30 pm. **Inherit the Wind** *1960*. Stanley Kramer directs this court case drama starring March in which two lawyers debate whether evolution should be taught in school.

• Aug. 29, 5:30 pm. **Seven Days in May** *1964*. American military leaders plan to overthrow the president (played by March) during the Cold War. John Frankheimer directs.

10th Annual IberoAmerican Film Festival

• Aug. 17, 5:30 pm. **La Pluma del Arcangel** *(The Archangel's Father) 2002*. A young telegraph operator connects his rural town to the outside world against the wishes of the town's dictator. Directed by Luis Manzo.

• Aug. 23, 5:30 pm. **Marasmo** *2003*. Mauricio Mendiola directs the story of a man who falls in love while on a mission to kill a guerrilla leader.

• Aug. 24, 5:30 pm. **Perico Ripiao** *2003*. Three convicted criminals must use their musical talents in order to get home. Ángel Muñiz directs.

• Aug. 30, 5:30 pm. **Lima ¡Wás!** *2004*. Young d scendants of Andean migrants celebrate the artistic heritage in a discriminatory society. Al jandro Rossi Velasco directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

• Aug. 19-25, 3:30 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm a Sat. and Sun., 1:30 pm. **A Tout de Suite** *(Right Awa 2004*. Benoit Jacquot directs this true story of teenage Parisian girl who falls for a bank robber a follows him across Europe.

Recent Raves

• Aug. 18, 2:30 pm, 5 pm, 7:30 pm, 10 pm. **Oldb** *2003*. Chan-wook Park directs the story of a man wh after being kept in a room for 15 years without expl nation, seeks revenge and justification for his impr onment.

Summer of Rock

• Aug. 17, 3 pm, 7:30 pm. **Dazed and Confused** *199* Richard Linklater directs this film about the end of t year at a Texas high school in 1976. 5:15 pm, 9:45 p **School of Rock** *2003*. Richard Linklater directs t story of a wanna-be rocker who poses as a substitu teacher and turns his class into a rock band.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Special Screenings

• Aug. 19-20, 12 am. **Enter the Dragon** *197* Bruce Lee stars as a Shaolin monk infiltrating opium drug ring. Robert Clouse directs.

• Aug. 22, 7:30 pm. **Dog Day Afternoon** *1975*. Pacino leads this fact-based drama about a ba robbery and the ensuing media circus. Sidn Lumet directs.

• Aug. 26-27, 12 am. **Shaft** *1971*. The sua detective takes on the black mob and the whi mafia. Gordon Parks directs.

• Aug. 29, 7:30 pm. **The French Connection** *197* William Friedkin directs this story about two Ne York City cops who become entangled wi French suspects trafficking heroin.

• Aug. 30, 7:30 pm. **Open Screen Anniversa Show.** The theatre shows the best independe films of the past year from Open Screen.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Summer Double Features

• Aug. 17, 7 pm. **A Nest of Gentry** *1969*. landowner falls in love with his neighbor's daug

:r after becoming tired of his adulterous wife. Anrei Konchalovsky directs. 9 pm. **Slave of Love** *976.* A cameraman for a Moscow film crew uses is job as a pretense to film the atrocities of the /hite Guard. Nikita Mikhalkov directs.
Aug. 18, 6:30 pm **King Lear** *1971.* Peter Brooks irects this cinematic rendition of Shakespeare's lay. 9 pm. **Korol Lir** *(King Lear) 1969.* Grigori ozintsev directs this version of Boris Pasternak's ussian translation of Shakespeare's play.
Aug. 19, 7 pm. **Rumble Fish** *1983.* A young man ies to match the reputation of his angry older rother, Motorcycle Boy, by getting involved in veral street rumbles. Francis Ford Coppola di-cts. 9 pm. **Reckless** *1984.* James Foley directs this ovie about a rebellious football player who falls love with a wealthy cheerleader.
Aug. 20, 7 pm. **Dawn of the Dead** *1978.* eorge Romero directs this horror movie about /o SWAT team members who face man-eating mbies. 9:30 pm. **Strange Behavior** *1981.* ichael Laughlin directs this cult favorite about zarre events occurring at a local college after veral students volunteer to participate in sci-ice experiments.
Aug. 21, 7 pm. **Rendez-vous** *1985.* A young ac-ss engages in two destructive relationships while aying the lead role in a production of Romeo and liet. André Téchiné directs. 8:45 pm. **36 Fillette** *88.* Catherine Breillat directs this story of a enage girl who goes on vacation with the goal of sing her virginity.

ISTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Aug. 19, 8 pm. **Danzón** *1992.* Maria Novaro directs s story of a young woman's passion for dance, which ows her to develop independence and an identity.

USEUM OF FINE ARTS

Aug. 19, 5:45 pm. **Antares** *2004.* Three inter-cting stories depict the complexities of male-fe-le relationships. Götz Spielmann directs.
Aug. 21, 1 pm; Aug. 25, 8 pm. **El Abrazo Par-o** *(Lost Embrace) 2004.* A young man and his her reconnect for the first time since the fa-r left to fight in the Yom Kippur War. Daniel rman directs.

•Aug. 26, 8 pm; Aug. 27, 1 pm; Aug. 28, 1:15 pm. **Witnesses** *2003.* Vinko Bresan directs this film, part war epic, part noir thriller, depicting the effects of war on the lives of everyday people.

Cinema India

•Aug. 19, 8 pm; Aug. 20, 1 pm; Aug. 25, 4 pm; Aug. 28, 11 pm. **Hari Om** *2004.* A Rajasthan rickshaw driver interested in leaving India and a French tourist who needs transportation befriend each other. Bharatbala directs.
•Aug. 20, 3:15 pm; Aug. 21, 10:30 am; Aug. 25, 1:30 pm. **A Peck on the Cheek** *2002.* Two Sri Lankans on their honeymoon are interrupted by a military invasion, forcing them to put their baby up for adoption. Mani Ratnam directs.

Music on Film

•Aug. 20, 11am; Aug. 24, 5:30 pm; Aug. 26, 6 pm; Aug. 27, 3 pm. **Brass on Fire** *2002.* Ralph Marschalleck directs this documentary about the rise of Fanfare Ciocarlia.
•Aug. 25, 6:15 pm; Aug. 27, 11 am. **Música Cubana** *2004.* German Kral directs this documentary-style film about a taxi driver and a legendary performer who search for Cuba's best musicians.
•Aug. 28, 3:15 pm. **Paraiso** *2004.* Alina Teodorescu directs this story about Cuban music as seen through the eyes of a contemporary rap and hip-hop band.

New England Film Artists

•Aug. 18, 5:30 pm. **Nothing Like Dreaming** *2005.* Nora Jacobson directs this coming-of-age story about a Vermont high-school student.

Roxbury Film Festival

•Aug. 18, 8 pm. **Constellation** *2005.* An African-American family in the deep South deals with an interracial affair. Jordan Walker-Pearlman directs.
•Aug. 21, 3 pm. **The Healing Passage: Voices from the Water** *2004.* S. Pearl Sharp directs this documentary about the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Sept. 10. **Coral Reef Adventure.** Howard and Michele Hall create a cinematic record of coral reefs the South Pacific as they exist today.
•Through Sept. 10. **Everest.** This movie depicts the true story of a team of climbers who find hope, strength and triumph in the wake of tragedy.
•Through Sept. 10. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West** tells of the explorers' famous expedition from Illinois to the Pacific Ocean.
•Through Sept. 10. **Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure.** Film crews trace Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1914-1916 expedition.
•Through Sept. 10. **Mystery of the Nile.** Explorers attempt the first full descent down the Nile River.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•**Aliens of the Deep 3D.** Director James Cameron takes viewers to the depths of the ocean to encounter some of Earth's strangest life forms.
•**Sharks 3D.** Jean-Michel Cousteau tracks the ocean's ultimate predators.
•**Wild Safari 3D: A South African Adventure.** This 3D adventure takes viewers through the wilds of South Africa to reveal dangerous and spectacular animals.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON

Regent Theatre
7 Medford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-499-1996). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500).
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000).
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

Misfit connection

Dream Theater brings the hard side of progressive rock to Gigantour.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Dream Theater has lived a 20-year dream in the ether between progressive rock and metal. When guitarist John Petrucci and bassist John Myung started the group with drummer Mike Portnoy at Berklee College of Music in 1985, they were all fans of Rush, Yes and the harder-hitting Iron Maiden.

"When we got together to write music, it just came out as being this progressive music combined with heavy metal, and that has stayed true to this day," Petrucci says. "Sonically, we're able to fit into the metal scene. When it comes down to it, we're not a '70s-style prog-rock band. We've always had a Metallica influence in the basis for our sound."

Dream Theater has been setting heads a-bangin' for the past 20 years.

So perhaps it should come as no surprise that Dream Theater has joined Megadeth, fronted by ex-Metallica guitarist Dave Mustaine, on the multiband Gigantour, invading the Bank of America Pavilion Aug. 26.

"We kinda fit in and we kinda don't," Petrucci says during the festival's stop in Phoenix. "And to be honest, we've never really fit in, yet we fit in."

Dream Theater also can sound more streamlined than most metal or progressive rock bands, reflecting such added influences as Pink Floyd, Queensryche and even U2 and Coldplay. "That's not what people would think when they hear us," he says. "But from our very first album, there's always been a song or two that had that kind of influence."

An example on Dream Theater's new album *Octavarium* is the ballad "The Answer Lies Within," for which Petrucci wrote lyrics about loneliness and hope. And even though the title track is 24 minutes long, the disc as a whole is focused on lyrics, penned by Portnoy and singer James LaBrie as well.

"As far as the musicianship and odd time signatures and chops and all that goes, and that's stylistically what we're about," says Petrucci, "any song—no matter what the style—has to be a good song and be well written."

"On this album, we even tried to focus on that more," says the guitarist, whose foil in the textural structure of songs is keyboardist Jordan Rudess, who also lent Floyd-ish lap steel to the opening of the title track. "We wrote songs in a simple setting, with piano and acoustic guitar."

The quintet also enlisted an orchestra for the title track and "Sacrificed Sons," which LaBrie cast as a 9/11 song, with lyrics such as "Heads all turning/towards the sky/towers crumble/heroes die." That subject seemed an odd choice, given that Dream Theater recalled its 2001 album *Live Scenes from New York* after it was released on that fateful day with cover art of the New York skyline in flames. "I was surprised that he picked that subject, and I was a little concerned, like do we really want to go there?" admits Petrucci, adding of the *Live Scenes* mishap, "That was really bizarre, just a horrible coincidence."

Against all odds, Dream Theater has endured for 20 years thanks in part to its dedicated, under-the-radar audience, which is evolving with the addition of a new generation.

"You meet parents, and their kids are like, 'My dad turned me on to you guys,' and they're 13 or 14," says Petrucci, 38. "There are a lot of musicians in our fan base, a lot of guys, a lot of people who are into music and into hearing something that's a bit more challenging. And as far as it changing, we've probably brought in more of a younger metal crowd, which is really cool."

"Otherwise, it's 'Oh, I've kinda heard of you guys,'" he says. "It is a cult thing. It's almost like Phish or bands like that, where you have people who are really into the history and the shows, the way we change up our sets."

On Gigantour, Dream Theater plays 90 minutes, compared with its usual three-hour show with intermission. So fans will have to wait until the band's next headlining visit to see *Octavarium*'s epic title track or video enhancement.

Petrucci claims his group also has seen increased attention thanks to today's prog-rock resurgence, which includes the eclectic hard-rockers System of a Down and the Mars Volta, both appearing at Worcester's DCU Center the night after Gigantour hits Boston.

"Music has to stay interesting," he says. "As much as you could say simple pop music appeals to the masses because more people listen to music casually, there are lots of people out there who listen to music and want to hear something that's exciting or freaky and moves them." IB

Dream Theater
plays Gigantour at the Bank of America Pavilion Aug. 26.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fa (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or b email to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from di ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provid accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahea to double-check dates and times (see complete list e venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Clay Aiken Aug. 28, Bank of America Pavilio (617-931-2000).
Allman Brothers, moe. Aug. 20, Tweeter Cente (617-931-2000).
Tori Amos, the Ditty Bops Aug. 21, Bank of Ame ica Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Antigone Rising, John Butler Trio Aug. 18, Cople Square Park.
50 Cent, G-Unit, Ludacris, Lil' Jon & the East Sid Boyz, Ciara, Mike Jones Aug. 22, Tweeter Cente (617-931-2000).
Gigantour, featuring Megadeth and Dream Theate Aug. 26, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000
Hall and Oates, Todd Rundgren Aug. 23, Bank America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Chris Isaak Aug. 19, Bank of America Pavilion (61 931-2000).
Journey August 20, Bank of America Pavilion (61 931-2000).
K.C. & the Sunshine Band Aug. 20, Hatch Memo ial Shell.
Toby Keith Aug. 27, Tweeter Center (617-93 2000).
KISS 108 Concert on the Charles, Jesse McCar ney, Aug. 27, Hatch Memorial Shell.
Avril Lavigne, Gavin DeGraw, Butch Walker Au 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis & the News, Paul Thorn Aug. 18, Ban of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Meat Loaf Aug. 17, Bank of America Pavilion (61 931-2000).
Steve Miller Band Aug. 26, Tweeter Center (61 931-2000).
Rolling Stones Aug. 21 and 23, Fenway Park (61 931-2000).
311, Papa Roach, Unwritten Law Aug. 19, Tweet Center (617-931-2000).
VH1 Classic, Steve Howe, Chris Squire, Ala White Aug. 24, Bank of America Pavilion (61 931-2000).
Carlos Vives Aug. 28, Agganis Arena (617-35 4628).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

Abbey Lounge Pat Barry, 8 pm; Ross Phasor, pm; Navar, 9:45 pm; the Acro-Brats, 10:45 pm 21+.
Asgard The Ken Selcer Invitational Jam, 10 pm, cover, 21+.
Bank of America Pavilion Meat Loaf, 7:30 pm $38.50-$60.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Deep Community Radio, 8 pm, $10, members.
Desmond O'Malley's Groove Authority, 9 pm, cover, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Mellissa Bolling.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, 9: pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Uncle Billy's Smokehouse, 9 pm, 21+.
Hennessy's Absolute Acoustics, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Ryan Montbleau, 8:30 pm, $8.
Lizard Lounge Bos-Ville, Amelia White, the Bl Souvenirs, 7:30 pm, no cover; Soul Low, Mol Thomas, 8 pm, no cover; Amelia White, To Thibaud, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Greg Luttrell, 9 pm, no cov 21+.
MFA Kiran Ahluwalia, 7:30 pm, $20-$25.
Middle East Upstairs: Jeannine Hebb, Invisib Downtown, Crashwagon, the Junk Blues Ban

)m, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Silverstein, Evergreen rrace, I am the Avalanche, 7:30 pm, $10-$12.
Brien's Get Smart, 8:30 pm, $5, 21+.
's The Diagrams, Pending Disappointment, Dan n, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
ddy O's The Buzz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
radise Rock Club Lounge: Malcolm Holcombe, 8 , $10, 18+.
att Boys Nate Watkins, 8 pm, no cover.
idential Center Kyle Riabko, 12:30 pm, no cover.
rple Shamrock Brick Park, 10 pm.
gattabar Ellen O'Brien, 7:30 pm, $14.
nington's Al Vega Jazz Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
er Gods Primitive Sounds, Tara McManus, Justin bbard, Turpentine Brothers, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
illers Jazz Club Duke Robillard Band, 8 pm and pm, $18-$58.
Bar Open mike, 9 pm, no cover.
na nÓg Dennis Brennan, 10 pm, no cover.
of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
the Bear's Place Radio Vago, 9:05 pm; Walking ncert, 10 pm; Dead 60s, 11 pm, $10.
lly's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover.
nder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian esse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zu Insect Factory, Earthen Sea, Forbes Graham, in McCarthey, 21+.
Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

HURSDAY, AUGUST 18

ey Lounge Jeff Patlingrao, 8 pm; the Debu- es, 9 pm; Keys to the Streets of Fear, 9:45 pm; ater Pint, 10:45 pm, 21+.
ard M.O. Joe, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
nue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no er.
k of America Pavilion Huey Lewis & the News, l Thorn, 7:30 pm, $38.50-$50.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
the Chef's Terrance Gresham, 7:30 pm, $5.
ton Harbor Hotel The Nighthawks, 6 pm, no er.
vo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
ezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Burren Swinging Johnsons, $5, 21+.
o Passim Lori McKenna, Mark Erelli, Jake erding, 7 pm and 10 pm, $17, $15 members.
Copley Square Park John Butler Trio, Antigone Rising, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Grey Spot, 9 pm, 21+.
Hyatt Regency Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30 pm.
Kirkland Café Honey Deluxe, Travel Labyrinth, Hyphens, Double-Stops, 8 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 8 pm, no cover; Club D'elf, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Alex Macdougall, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: the Indefinite Article, Parker House and Theory, Roger That, Kwame Dankwa & COS, 8 pm, $10, 18+; Downstairs: Hieroglyphics, Del the Funkee Homosapien, Casual, Pep Love, Non Phixion, O. C., 8 pm, $20-$25, 18+.
O'Brien's Swiss Army, Ara Vora, Diamond Mines, Gondoleers, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Eric Benet, the Movement Orchestra, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
PA's Silent Service, Ryan Lee and the Mindless, the Shrinking Islands, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Brick Park, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
The Rack Wild Nights, 7 pm, 21+.
Regattabar Raul Midon, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Opening Band, 8 pm; the Axemasters, 9:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Jazz Club Bill Frisell, 8 pm and 10 pm, $26-$66.
Sky Bar Mother Seat, Side Project, Twelfth of Never, 7 pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Shills, 10 pm; the Jersey Band, 11 pm, $7.
The Western Front Soulfire Reggae Showcase, Midnight Ravers, Selector Jah Rich, 9 pm, $3.
Zeitgeist Gallery Gabrielle Riley, 7 pm, $8 donation.
ZuZu Cory Brannan, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

Abbey Lounge Jen, 7 pm; Super 400, 8 pm; Lorntell, 9 pm; Old Money, 9:45 pm; the Marvels, 10:30 pm; the Curses, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Anthem Marianne Solivan, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Attic The Jody Grind, 8:30 pm, $5-$14, 21+.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Bank of America Pavilion Chris Isaak, Aslyn, 7:30 pm, $28.50-$48.50.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well; Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan.
Bob the Chef's Myanna, 7:30 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Jonathan Edwards, the Malvinas, 8 pm, $30, $28 members.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Grand Canal Grey Spot, 9:30 pm, 21+.
The Green Briar Cherry Orchard, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Friday Episode, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Fast Times, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm; Swerve, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Jacob Wirth Mel Stiller, 8 pm, no cover.
Kinsale Velvet Jones.
Kirkland Café Bettersweet, Din, Rollo Tomasi Quartet, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, the Diamond Platinum Rings, 8 pm, no cover; Sand Machine, Rick Berlin, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Alex Macdougall, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: 3rd Anniversary Norteno Dance Party with Gustavo and Andres, $10, 18+; Downstairs: the Wrens, Jim Yoshii Pile-Up, Audible, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Nikulydin, Amun Ra.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5 pm; Colm O'Brien & Friends, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar The Loughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Texas Bob & the Honey, Sasquatch & the Sick-a-Billies, 8:30 pm, 21+.
PA's Know Movement Rock Show, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Pig Pen, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Gogol Bordello, Throw Rag, 8 pm, $12-$14, 18+.
Parris Head Tripp, 9:30 pm, $5-$10, 21+.
Phatt Boys 2 Tone Pony, 9 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Paquito D'Rivera Chamber Jazz Trio, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $25.
River Gods The Appliance of Science, Unlocked-groove, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Rockland Blues Harbor Cruises Max Creek, 7:30 pm, $25, 21+.
Scullers Jazz Club Bill Frisell, 8 pm and 10:30 pm, $26-$66.
Sky Bar Sam Beebe, the Divorced, Jude Nemo, Mark Nelson, 7 pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Samba Lolo, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Triplethick, 9:30 pm; the Konks, 10:30 pm; Mr. Airplane Man, 11:35 pm, $8.
Tweeter Center 311, Papa Roach, Unwritten Law, 7 pm, $27.50, $35.
WaterWorks The Pak, 8 pm, $5-$10.
The Western Front David Bailis, 9 pm, $5.
ZuZu Latin Night with Carlo Buscaglia, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

Abbey Lounge Anna Freitas, Melissa and Andrea Gillis, 7 pm; Jonny Pape, 8:30 pm; Shine, 9 pm; Anushka Pop, 9:45 pm; the Collisions, 10:30 pm; Mercury Charm Offensive Reunion, 12 am, 21+.
Asgard Oneside, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Attic 2 Finger Split, 8:30 pm, $5-$14, 21+.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Bank of America Pavilion Journey, 8 pm, $38.50-$55.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well; Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan.
Bob the Chef's Aaron Burnett, 7:30 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams, 8 pm, $12, $10 members.
Desmond O'Malley's Brian and the Captain, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

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Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Grand Canal 2U, 9:30 pm, 21+.
The Green Briar Amo, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Grumpy Jones, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Hairbanger's Ball presents: Sandman, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Hatch Memorial Shell K.C. & the Sunshine Band, 7 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm; Random Axis, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Hyatt Regency Leah Souza Trio, 7 pm.
Kirkland Café ZFE, They're Gonna Get You, 9th Wave, Shinto Kings, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, Monique Ortiz, 7:30, no cover; Christian McNeill, Rachel Cantu, 9:30 pm, $5 in advance; $7 at the door, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge The Al Vega Trio, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Samba Lolo, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Holly Golightly, Tom Heinl, Eli "Paperboy" Reed, 9 pm, $12, 18+; Downstairs: Dwight Richter Band, Greesome, Kweejeebo, VMF, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Midway Cafe The Spurs, 9 pm, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Colm O'Brien & Friends, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar The Loughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Letterik, Riding Shotgun, Feldspar, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Olde Magoun's Saloon Cherry Orchard, 10 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Mark Morris and the Catunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Juliana Hatfield, 8 pm, $14, 18+.
Parris Head Tripp, 9:30 pm, $5-$10, 21+.
Phatt Boys Beale Street, 9 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Scooby Snax, 9:30 pm, $5.
Regattabar Paquito D'Rivera Chamber Jazz Trio, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $25.
River Gods For Real, 2 Reel with Dali, Ross and Paul: Electro, Funk, 80s Flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club John DeLucia, 9 pm, $10.
Sky Bar Black Honey, Greg Schuler, Corey Bant Band, Mike Bernier, 7 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Porsches on the Autobah the Fun, AdFrank, Pank Shovel, $7.
Tweeter Center Allman Brothers, moe., 6:30 p $29.50-$50.
The Western Front Milton Henry, 9 pm, $10.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-jah, 21+.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cove

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Bank of America Pavilion Tori Amos, the Dit Bops, 7:30 pm, $35-$45.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 10 am, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 p $8, 21+.
Club Passim Gregory Douglass, 7:30 pm, $12, $ members.
Dick's Last Resort Mike Tamara, 7:20 pm, no cov
Fenway Park Rolling Stones, 6:30 pm, $63-$453.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinni 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro P High Life, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Hip Hop Anonymous with Shame, AfroDZak, Lifted, Frequency 7, Sean Dw with DJ Petahboy, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm, no cov 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Sinatra Sunday with the Al Ve Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Talk Radio, Plumer Sleepshell, Cober, the Jumblies, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sesuin, 4 pm; Mi Barrett, 9 pm, 21+.
O'Brien's On the Surface, Kidnapkin, Lannen Fa Nowhere Pennsylvania, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Phatt Boys Live Jazz & Blues Brunch, the Man Santos Trio, 12 pm, no cover.
River Gods Dinos and Amy, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Harvey Finste 10 am, no cover.

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...s Band plays the Paradise Rock Club August 18

...na nOg Samba Lolo.
...p of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover; ...arty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
...T. the Bear's Place Jennifer Greer, 9:15 pm; the ...e, 10:15 pm, $6.
...lly's Wally's Stepchildren2, 9 pm, no cover.
...terWorks Taint, 8 pm, $10-$20.
...nder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty ...tt, 9 pm, no cover.
...Zu Central Square Hayride: Rockabilly, 21+.

...ONDAY, AUGUST 22

...e Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
...ntab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm; ...nielle Maragila, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
...k's Last Resort John Erikson, 7:20 pm, no cover.
...nnessy's Joe Carson, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
...tt Murphy's Mike Rivard, 11 pm, no cover.
...ddle East Upstairs: Vendetta Red, Bayside, ...hoolyard Heroes, Nightmare of You, 8 pm, $10, ...
...ky Way Nanci McDonald.
...Brien's The Big Idea, the Pass, Clampede, 8:30 ..., $6, 21+.
...ldy O's Gary Hatrell, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
...na nÓg Boston Horns, 10 pm, no cover.
...p of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
...eeter Center 50 Cent, the Massacre Tour 2005, ...n, $26-$49.50.
...nder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty ...tt, 9 pm, no cover.
...Zu Moki, 21+.
... Zygomates Steven Spungin, 7 pm, no cover.

...UESDAY, AUGUST 23

...k of America Pavilion Daryl Hall & John Oates, ...d Rundgren, 7:30 pm, $38.50-$55.
... Black Rose Celtic Clan.
...ton Harbor Hotel Buck & Bird Taylor, Mind, ...y & Soul, 6 pm, no cover.
...tab Lounge Upstairs: Blue Grass Pickin,' Amy ...lth, Stillwater, 8 pm, no cover, 21+. Downstairs: ...egrass Jam, 9 pm.
...b Passim Open Mike featuring Peter Dutton, 7 ..., $5, no cover members.
...k's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no ...er.
...way Park Rolling Stones, 6:30 pm, $63-$453.
... Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb, 9:30 pm, no ...er, 21+.
...en Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Rocka- ... Jazz from the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
...pers Ferry Uncle Billy's Smokehouse, $5, ...
...nessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
...ale Tom Courtney.

Lizard Lounge Soul Low, Steve Mayone, 8 pm, no cover; Alaistair Moock, Pastures of Plenty, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Breather Resist, Red Sparowes, Zombi, Clouds, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
O'Brien's Fast Actin Fuses, Cocked 'n' Loaded, Navajo Code Talkers, Supersoul Challenger, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
PA's The Pucker Ups, Ponce de Leon, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Brian Belcher, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Dana Z, Karaoke, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 8 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Jon Regen, 8 pm, $16-$56.
Sky Bar Laura Bullock, Jess Yoakum, Lucy Martinez, Rachel Cantu, Greg Allison, 7 pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Invisible Rays, 9:15 pm; Major Stars, 10:15 pm; Kinski, 11:15 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Moki, 21+.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

Abbey Lounge Bill Bowman, 7 pm; Lisa Dewey, 8 pm; Bug, 9 pm; le Nombre, 9:45 pm; the Throttles, 10:45 pm; Triple Thick, 11:45 pm. 21+.
Asgard The Ken Selcer Invitational Music Jam, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Bank of America Pavilion VH1 Classic, Steve Howe, Chris Squire, Alan White, 7:30 pm, $28.50-$50.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Chris Trapper, Robyn Harris, 8 pm, $15, $13 members.
Desmond O'Malley's Brogue, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Gypsy Shaffer.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Uncle Billy's Smokehouse, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Absolute Acoustics, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Bos-Ville Residency, Amelia White, the Blue Souvenirs, 7:30 pm, no cover; Soul Low, Suzanna Spring, 8 pm, no cover; Amelia White, Sarah Borges, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.

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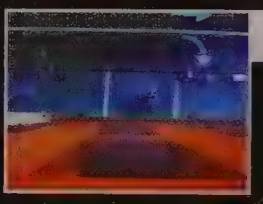
TRUE MUSIC THURSDAY
September Events:

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
Todd Martin
Kristin Diable
Tim Blane
21+, Doors at 9pm

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
Improper Bostonian Music Issue Celebration at FELT.
Performances by FLUTTR EFFECT with special guests. 21+, Doors at 9pm



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15
LABB
Amusia
21+, Doors at 9pm

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
Pete Francis (of Dispatch)
Meet the Day
21+, Doors at 9pm

Nemo

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
"NEMO" Music Showcase
New England Music Festival Showcase
Special guests TBA. 21+, Doors at 9pm

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Papa Roach plays the Tweeter Center August 19.

Lucky's Lounge John's Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
MFA Fanfare Ciocarlia, 7:30 pm, $20-$25.
Middle East Upstairs: These Thieves, the Chainletter, Chroma, A Wish for Fire, 9 pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: the Skatelites, Dub Station, 8 pm, $20-$25, 18+.
O'Brien's Get Smart, 8:30 pm, $5, 21+.
PA's Banana Hands, 9 pm; Short Notice, 10 pm; the Prime Meridian, 11 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's The Buzz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8 pm, no cover.
Prudential Center Michael Penn, 12:30 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 10 pm.
Regattabar Los Changos, 7:30 pm, $10.
Remington's Al Vega Jazz Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
River Gods Primitive Sounds, Juilan Jefferies, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Puffy Amiyumi, 7 pm, $20.
Sky Bar Open Mike, 9 pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Darling Waste, the Bangkok Five, Moonshot, 16 Years of Grace, 9:50 pm, $6.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Pants Yell!, Soltero, 21+.
Les Zygomates April Hall Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

Abbey Lounge Charlie Chesterman, 9 pm; Mike Rocket & the Stars, 9:45 pm; Bad Saints, 10:45 pm; Asa Brebner, 11:45 pm. 21+.
Asgard M.O. Joe, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Nat Simpkins, 7:30 pm, $5.
Boston Harbor Hotel Jeff Pitchell, 6 pm, no cover.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, $5, 21+.
Club Passim Al Stewart, 8 pm, $25, $23 members.
Fireplace Restaurant Tony Benecourt.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Grey Spot, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hyatt Regency Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30 pm.
Johnny D's Rodney Crowell Band, 9 pm, $20.
Kirkland Café Jake & the Jakes, Tracksuit, No One's Kind, 8 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, the Heygoods, 8 pm, no cover; Bow Thayer, Sticky, 9:30 pm, $5 in advance; $7 at the door, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Alex Macdougall, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Aberdeen City, Taxpayer, the Plain Janes, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Hi5: Boston Rocks for Generosity-AIDS/HIV Benefit with Syd, Jake Amerding, Sky Circuit, Rane, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
O'Brien's Heavy Metal Breakdown, Alex O slaught, 8:30 pm, $5, 21+.
PA's Raymond Morin, 8:30 pm; O'Death, 9:30 p Ryan Lee and the Mindless, 10:30 pm; Tigersa 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Swerve, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Ryles Jazz Club The Boston Jazz Collecti Fundraiser, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Richard Elliot, 8 pm, 10 pm, $2 $65.
Sky Bar Aepril Schaille, the Judgement, Sev Sunless Days, Dream Child, 7 pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Caspian, 10 pm; the Beatin 11 pm.
The Western Front Soulfire Reggae Showcase, M night Ravers, Selector Jah Rich, 9 pm, $3.
ZuZu Kristen Forbes, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, cover.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

Abbey Lounge The Tampoffs, 11:45 pm.
Anthem Ron Murphy, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Attic Graham Neil Band, 8:30 pm, $5-$14, 21
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Bank of America Pavilion Gigantour: Megade Dream Theater, Fear Factory, Dillinger Escape Pl Nevermore, 6 pm, $35, $45.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Bobby Folkes; Downsta Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Part-Time Lovers, 7:30 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Carrie Newcomer, Krista Detor, 8 p $15, $13 members.
Dick's Last Resort Mugsy, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Grand Canal Dick 'n Jane, 9:30 pm, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Complaints, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Papa Grows Funk with Bost Horns, 9 pm, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm; Spike the Punch pm, $5, 21+.
Jacob Wirth Mel Stiller, 8 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Red Shift, Ever, Maria DeMa Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, Humanwire, 8 pm, cover; Low Budget Superhero, Count Zero, G Malo, 9:30 pm, $8 in advance; $10 at the door.
Lucky's Lounge Alex Macdougall, 10 pm, no co 21+.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Today Is the Day, Viol Marv, Ichabod, Bury the Needle, 9 pm, $9, 1 Downstairs: Rubikon, Throe, Crowne Vict, H burn, Screams of Erida, Claymore, 8 pm, $12, 18
Midway Cafe Magic People, 9 pm, 21+.
Milky Way Drunk Statement, Rev. Bob and Slim J
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, 5 pm; Inichore, 9 $5, 21+.

ak Bar The Loughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:30 pm, no
ver.
'Brien's Lady of Spain, La Faccia Brutta, Guillermo
exo, Stereo Soul Future, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
ddy O's Joshua Tree, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
rris Candi Flyp, 9:30 pm, $5-$10, 21+.
A's Islaja, Lau Nau, Kuupuu, Feathers, Davenport,
om, $5-$7, 21+.
hatt Boys Bag Full of Blues, 9 pm, no cover.
egattabar Idina Menzel, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $35.
ver Gods The Appliance of Science, Unlocked-
ove, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
yles Jazz Club Herman Johnson Weekend, 9 pm,
0.
ullers Jazz Club Michael Franks, 8 pm, 10:30 pm,
8-$78.
y Bar Chaos Tour, 7 pm, 21+.
p of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place Clandestino, Rock in Spanish
nce Party, 9 pm, $10.
reeter Center Steve Miller Band, Bob Weir &
tdog, 7 pm, $20, $45.
aterWorks Lune, 8 pm, $5-$10.
e Western Front Roots Nation, 9 pm, $10.
Zu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 21+.
s Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

ATURDAY, AUGUST 27

bey Lounge Andrea Gillis, 7 pm; Softcore, 9 pm;
e Prime Movers, 9:45 pm; Muck & the Mires,
45 pm; the Charms, 11:45 pm, 21+.
gard Meet Bingo, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
enue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
e Black Rose Upstairs: Bobby Folkes; Downstairs:
ltic Clan.
b the Chef's BlackSole, 7:30 pm, $5.
ntab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9
, $8, 21+.
b Passim Jess Klein, 8 pm, $20, $18 members.
smond O'Malley's Shakewell, 9 pm, no cover,
+.
k's Last Resort Never in Vegas, 8:30 pm, no
er.
and Canal Sweve, 9:30 pm, 21+.
e Green Dragon Tavern Grumpy Jones, 9:30 pm,
21+.
e Harp The Benderz, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Brooks & Dunn Sept. 25, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
deSol Sept. 30, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Green Day Sepr. 3, Gillette Stadium (617-931-2000).
Jethro Tull Oct. 6, Lowell Memorial Auditorium (617-931-2000).
Jimmy Eat World Sept. 3, Gillette Stadium (617-931-2000).
Elton John Sep. 16-17, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson Sept. 15, Campanelli Stadium (508-559-7070).
Jump Little Children Sept. 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Los Lonely Boys Sept. 30, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).

John Mayer (pictured at left) Oct. 11, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Paul McCartney Sept. 26-27, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Tim McGraw Sept. 15, Mullins Center (617-931-2000).
NEMO Music Festival Sepr. 29-Oct. 2 (617-348-2899).
Spin Doctors Sept. 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Gwen Stefani and Black Eyed Peas Oct. 31, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
U2 Oct. 3-4, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
White Stripes Sept. 20-22, The Opera House (617-931-2000).

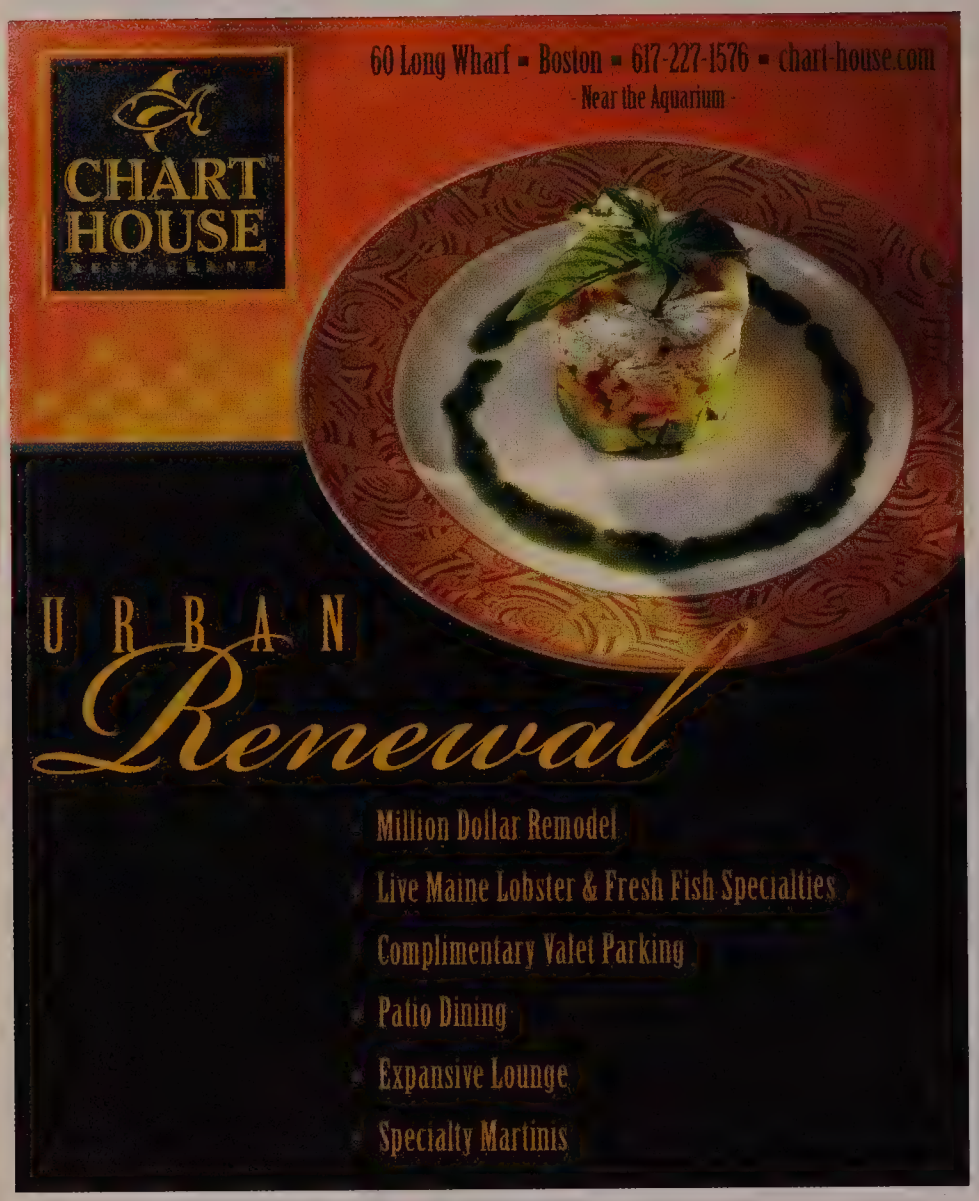
Harpers Ferry Rose Hill Drive with FreightTrain, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Hatch Memorial Shell KISS 108 Concert on the Charles: Jesse McCartney, 5 pm.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm; Incadence, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Hyatt Regency Leah Souza Trio, 7 pm.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell.
Kirkland Café Propergander, Hixx, Betty Ford Pickup, Zagnut, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, Juliet Lloyd, 8 pm, no cover; Shiner Jones, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge The Al Vega Trio, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Samba Lolo, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Bling Kong, Hells Belles, Baby Boy H, Ramoniacs, 9 pm, $10, 18+; Downstairs: On the Drop, Parananoid Social Club, Suspect, Fear Nuttin Band, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Midway Cafe The Fathoms, 9 pm, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Inichore, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Oak Bar The Loughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Folkcore, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Olde Magoun's Saloon Super 8's, 10 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Spike the Punch, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris Candi Flyp, 9:30 pm, $5-$10, 21+.
PA's The Summer Villains, the Beau Roland Band, the Tom Foolers, Hilken Mancini, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Phatt Boys West End Blues, 9 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 9:30 pm, $5.
Regattabar Idina Menzel, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $35.
Ryles Jazz Club Herman Johnson Weekend, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Michael Franks, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $38-$78.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rahim, 9:15 pm; Cyanide Valentine, 10:15 pm; Thunderbirds Are Now!, 11:15 pm; the Information, 12:15 am, $9.
Tweeter Center Toby Keith, Lee Ann Womack, Shooter Jennings, 7:30 pm, $28.50-$64.75.

WaterWorks Fasttimes, 8 pm, $5-$10.
The Western Front Rebel Martin, 9 pm, $10.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-jah, 21+.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

Agganis Arena Carlos Vives, 8 pm, $55-$75.
Bank of America Pavilion Clay Aiken, 7:30 pm, $38.50-$50.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Hakim Law, 10 am, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Tim Mason, Anais Mitchell, Duncan Walters, 7:30 pm, $12, $10 members.
Dick's Last Resort Mike Tamara, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Honeypump, the Creeping Nobodies, Helms, Piles, Old Haunts, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Grey Spot, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Sinatra Sunday with the Al Vega Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Over the Edge, the Pug Uglies, the McGunks, Pure Impact, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Lisa Dewey, Jess Yoakum.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sesuin, 4 pm; Mike Barrett, 9 pm, 21+.
O'Brien's JMT, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Shanghai Valentine, Those Who Wait, Distinguished Members, Cordovadoors, 8 pm, $5-$8, 18+.
Phatt Boys Groove Authority, 3 pm, no cover.
River Gods Dinos and Amy, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am-3 pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Northern Hues, 7 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Porcelain, 9:15 pm; Elysia Falls, 10:15 pm; Red Letter Agent, 11:15 pm, $6.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren2, 9 pm, no cover.



WaterWorks Stu Lee, 8 pm, $10-$20.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Central Square Rockabilly, 21+.

MONDAY, AUGUST 29

Abbey Lounge Chris MacFarland, 8 pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm; Cathy Schumer, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Club Passim The Kane Sisters, Ken Brown, 8 pm, $12, $10 members.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Emaline Delapaix, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Fully Celebrated, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Make Believe, Aloha, the Narrator, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Moakley Courthouse Harbor Park Luis Alvarado, 2 pm, no cover.
Milky Way Open Mike with Nanci McDonald.
O'Brien's Estranged, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Paddy O's Gary Hatrell, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Institute, Gavin Rossdale, 7 pm, $25, 18+.
Tír na nÓg Boston Horns, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bears Place Dan Rogers, Rob Holmes, $3.
Tweeter Center Avril Lavigne, Gavin DeGraw, Butch Walker, 7 pm, $36, $46.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Ramona Cordova, Stephen Brodsky, 21+.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30

Bank of America Pavilion John Hiatt, Shawn Colvin Solo Acoustic, 7:30 pm, $28.50-$38.50.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Boston Harbor Hotel Lamont Swinson, Mind, Body & Soul, 6 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Blue Grass Pickin,' the Wilders, 8 pm, no cover, 21+; Downstairs: Bluegrass Jam.
Club Passim Open Mike featuring Jordan Carp, 7 pm, $5, no cover members.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cove
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb, 9:30 pm, n cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Po High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 8 pm, no cover; Flynn 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 11 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Fraction, Natural Chaos, pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Engine Down, Bella Le Des Ark, 8 pm, $10-$12.
Midway Cafe Dr. Blues, 9pm, 21+.
Moakley Courthouse Harbor Park Wendy Roy, pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Glint, Marazine, B.I.T.E., Octovision 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
PA's Travel Labyrinth, Hello Operator, Attention $5-$7, 21+.
Paddy O's Brian Belcher, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Dana Z, Karaoke, 9:30 pm.
Roggie's Brew and Grille Open Mike, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 8 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Aruan Ortiz Trio, 8 pm, $15-$5
Sky Bar Matt Tobin, Eddie Felker, Sandi Ham mond, Lisa Lawrence, Sierra Sumpf, 7 pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place AJ Edwards, Christie Leigl 9:50 pm, $6.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rus Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, n cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Agganis Arena *925 Commonwealth Ave., Bost (617-353-4628). MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul S*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-49 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*

he Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). BTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
valon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). BTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
venue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-2-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
xis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). BTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
ank of America Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (17-931-2000) MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
erklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (17-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
erklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., ston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to nes/ICA.*
ll's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-78). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
e Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, ston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line Government Center.*
e Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). BTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
avo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston 17-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
istol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-00). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
b the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-3-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
ston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston 17-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
eezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-00).*
e Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-96). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
ntab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-4-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
ıb Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-79). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
mmon Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-3-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
pperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-05). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
k's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston 7-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
eplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline 7-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washing- Square.*
st and Second Church *66 Marborough St., ton (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to ley.*
rsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills ., Boston (617-524-3354).*
e Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston 7-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park et.*
nd Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). TA: Green Line to North Station.*
eat Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-4).*
e Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617--4100).*
e Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston 7-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to market.*
een Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617--1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
mpshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-0). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
e Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). TA: Green Line to North Station.*
ppers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-3). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
anessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). TA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
h Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523-0). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
tt Regency Boston *1 Ave De Lafayette, Boston 7-451-2600). MBTA: Orange or Red Lines to wntown Crossing.*
Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617--6022).*
b Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-5). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
ny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-4). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
nedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617--3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
s *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: n Line to Hynes/ICA.*
ale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). TA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
ara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). TA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
land Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-4920).*
ge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge -253-1000). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
rd Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Moakley Courthouse Harbor Park *1 Courthouse Way, Boston (617-261-2440). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Nameless Coffeehouse *3 Church St., Cambridge (617-864-1630). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Old Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somerville (617-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Out of the Blue Art Gallery *106 Prospect Street, Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Phatt Boys *50 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-2005). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Orange Line to State St.*
Prudential Center *South Garden, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617.236.2314). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Remington's *124 Boylston St., Boston (617-574-9676). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Rockland Blues Harbor Cruises *Long Wharf, Boston (1-800-594-TIXX). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Roggie's Brew and Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-566-1880).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
TD Banknorth Garden *100 Legends Way, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Mansfield.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

Museum of Fine Arts Concerts in the Courtyard

Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $25; $20 members, students and seniors. Kiran Ahluwalia performs ghazals, a form of sung poetry that originated in Persia, and Punjabi folk songs.

WCRB Classical Concert Series

Hatch Shell, Storrow Drive, Boston (617-626-4970). www.mass.gov/dcr/rec-act.htm. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7 pm. Free. The Longwood Symphony performs various classical pieces.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

Newton Free Library Concert Program

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www. ci.newton.ma.us. 7:30 pm. Free. Soprano Doris Marion and pianist William Merrill present *The Irony of Weill, Poulenc, Satie and Brel.*

Tanglewood Music Center

Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. The Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio performs Mozart, Brahms and Joan Towers' *For Daniel.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

Tanglewood Music Center

Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$85. Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos conducts the Boston Symphony Orchestra and pianist Garrick Ohlsson in *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini* and *Scheherazade.*

The Boston Chamber Music Society performs on August 20 and August 27.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

Boston Chamber Music Society

Pickman Hall, Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $25. Members of the society perform the chamber music of Beethoven, Martinu and Schubert on violin, cello and piano.

Boston Conservatory

The Boston Conservatory Concert Room, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 3 pm. Free. The Pasticcio Chamber Players perform Bottesini's *Grand Duo Concertant,* Dvorak's *Piano Quintet No. 2* and Dohnanyi's *Serenade in C for String Trio.*

Tanglewood Music Center

Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $18-$96. Marin Alsop conducts the Boston Symphony Orchestra and cellist Yo-Yo Ma in a performance of Rouse, Barber and Tchaikovsky.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Tanglewood Music Center

Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $17-$85. Peter Oundjian conducts the Orchestra of St. Lukes and pianist Peter Serkin in a performance of pieces by Rossini, Mozart and Beethoven.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23

Tuesday Recitals @ King's Chapel

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. 12:15 pm. $3 donation suggested. Timothy Macri on flute and Peter Zay on cello perform original works.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

Museum of Fine Arts Concerts in the Courtyard

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $25; $20, members, students and seniors. The Tin Hat trio performs a mixture of jazz a classical pieces with guitar, clarinet, violin, acc dion, harp and vocals.

WCRB Classical Concert Series

Hatch Shell, Storrow Drive, Boston (617-626-497 www.mass.gov/dcr/rec-act.htm. MBTA: Red Line Charles/MGH. 7 pm. Free. The New Philharmo performs various classical pieces.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

Tanglewood Music Center

Koussevizky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (4 637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $20-$
Marek Janowski conducts the Boston Sympho Orchestra in a program of Mozart, Haydn a Beethoven.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

Boston Chamber Music Society

Pickman Hall, Longy School of Music, 27 Gar St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). www.boston ch bermusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 p $25. Members of the society perform the cham music of Mozart, Shostakovich and Faure on viol viola, piano and cello.

Tanglewood Music Center

Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (4 637-5165). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$46. Jo Williams conducts the Boston Pops Esplanade chestra and soloist Josh Groban in an evening of v ous songs from film.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

Tanglewood Music Center

Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (4 637-5165). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $18-$
Marek Janowski conducts the Boston Sympho Orchestra in Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9.*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30

Tuesday Recitals @ King's Chapel

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-215 www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red L to Park. 12:15 pm. $3 donation suggested. Baro Dialogues for Two Tenors highlights works fr Monteverdi, Purcell and more with organ companiment.

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Matic Gay night with rotating DJs and drag performances, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a ix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 , no cover, 21+.

Felt
N Mondays This Service Industry Night includes e pool and guest DJs spinning high-energy nce, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, +.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, otown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
sh seisiun.

Green St. Grill
vana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ iban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 3 after lesson), 18+.

Phoenix Landing
kka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
s spin top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
s spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
ekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musi- face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno ns house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no er, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Dance to hip-hop and R&B, $20, 19+ ladies, men.

Bar 33
vana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban , salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after on), 21+.

Caprice
e bands as well as rotating DJs, 10 pm, no cover, .

Cosmopolitan
sday Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10 pm- n, $5, 21+.

Embassy
Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no er, 19+.

The Enormous Room
l'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix in- ling R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, cover, 21+.

The Kells
ally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Phoenix Landing
ke" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, m, no cover, 21+.

The Place
spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, .

The Purple Shamrock
oke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
esdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at , no cover, 21+.

Rumor
ht varies with an assortment of performances themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
NT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15,

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa night DJ Hernan, DJ D. Martinez, DJ Antonio Ortiz and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes beginner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk music bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
IPod Night Bring your own IPod and be an MP3J, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Spoken Word A night of poetry.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Bruno spins house, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

Aria Lounge
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $20, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

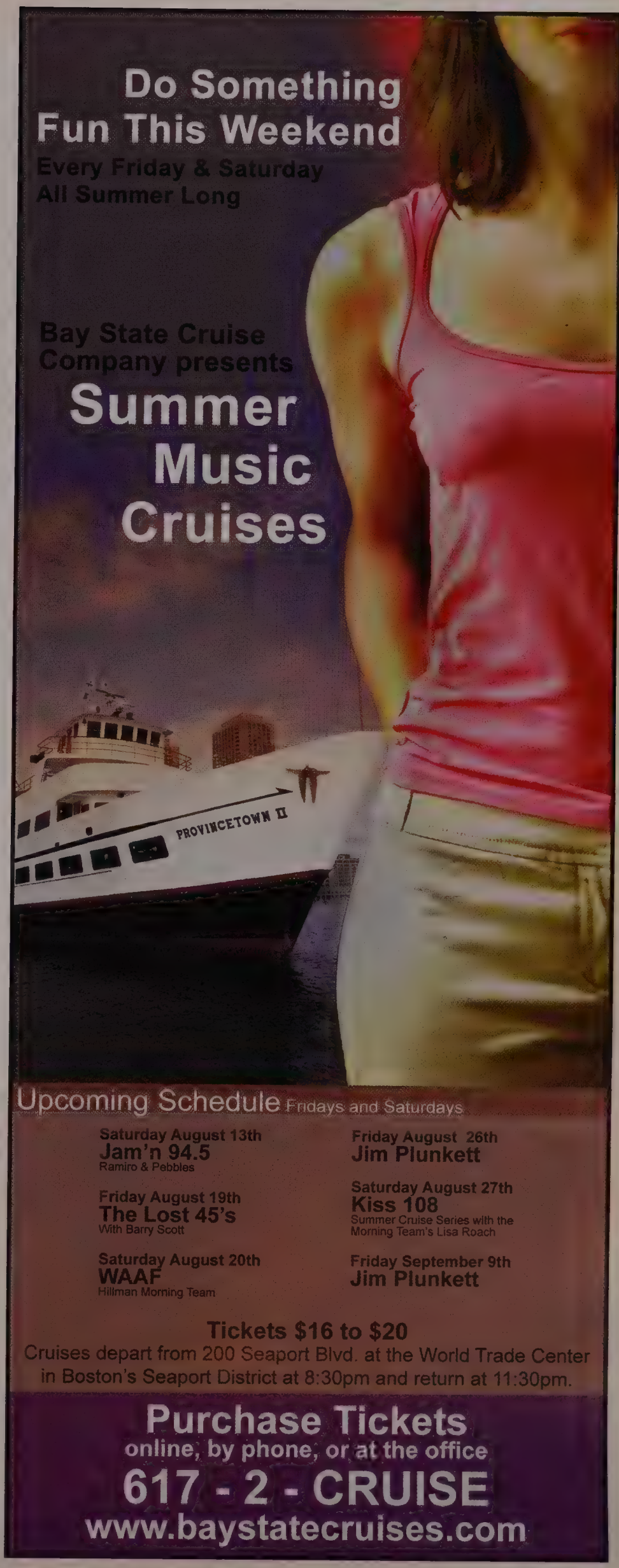
Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

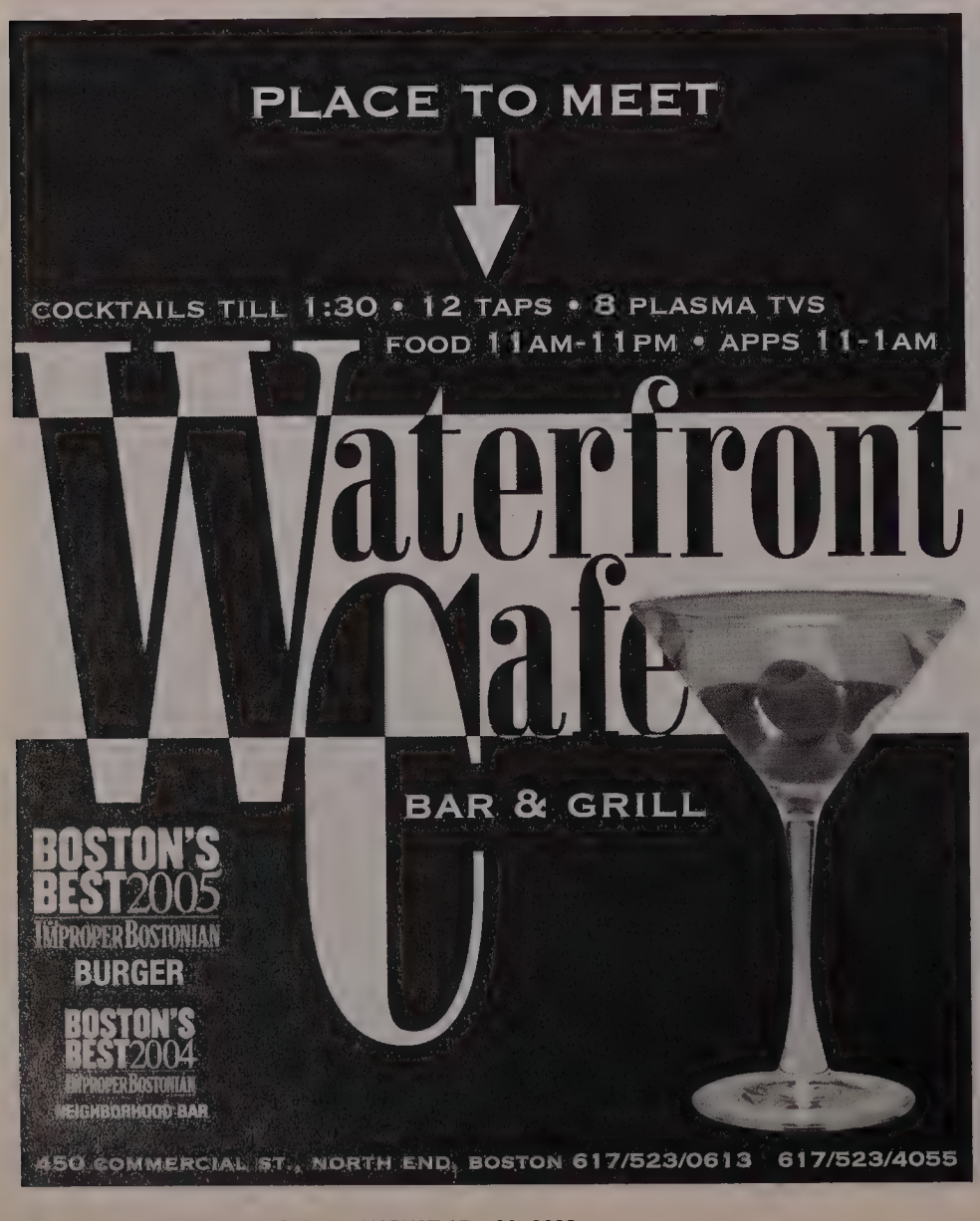
Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+.

Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Miss Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ Mike Navarro, 9 pm, $5.





Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of jazz, 10 pm.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
True Music Thursdays Featuring live performances, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama-jigi play Afro-pop highlife, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban Jeff spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 before 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog pres drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no co 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and sa dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin p classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul sp mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Martini Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis w resident DJs spin R&B and downtempo beats, 7 12 am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and d ing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge m 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Lesbian Night, 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm cover.

WaterWorks
Buckwild Thursdays DJs spin top 40 and house host a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull ing contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-sc hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

RIDAYS

Tain
IF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and ky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Tua Nua
Steve spins top 40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $5,

ia
ity DJ Klutch spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, m, $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

alon
aland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilkie, x Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

e Avenue
Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top 40, 9 pm-n, no cover, 21+.

is
yor Fridays DJ Mastermillions spins hiphop, 10 $15, 19+.

g Easy Bar
ebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spin-g top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

l's Bar
: Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae and hata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ston Rocks
days at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a nt of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

price
Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of international, n and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

erys
Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ub Europa
st DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; after 11 $15, 19+.

ub Q
bidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top 21+.

mmon Ground
Dino Sound spins Northern Soul, 10 pm, no er.

ogan's
Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5,

smopolitan
opean Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style music, m-2 am, no cover.

vlin's
Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance ic, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ckside
spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

bassy
Xander spins hip-hop, 9 pm, $15/$10, 19+.

e Enormous Room
Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything n hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, m-2 am.

t
ray Fridays DJ Cerebral and Chris Kung of Kiss no cover, 21+.

lden Temple
E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s and l house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

een Briar
K spins dance and top 40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover,

een Street Grill
n DJ, 11:30 pm, 21+.

osy Bar
Niso and DJ Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

e Harp
ay Night Vibe Jam'n 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins nstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

rricane O'Reilly's
pins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before m, 21+.

nment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins reggae, 19+.

e McIntyre's
pin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

e Kells
es Night DJ Doc spins top 40, R&B and dance e DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

vara Pub
Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, 3 and pop, 21+.

uor Store
im Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

trix/Paradise City
dilson spins high-energy house and DJ Steve elli plays top 40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

Gann's
pin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
DJ Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop spins top 40, dance and hip-hop, and TV screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tantric Lounge
Hookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud 9 spin the music at this night featuring hookahs, specialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night, 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin top 40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

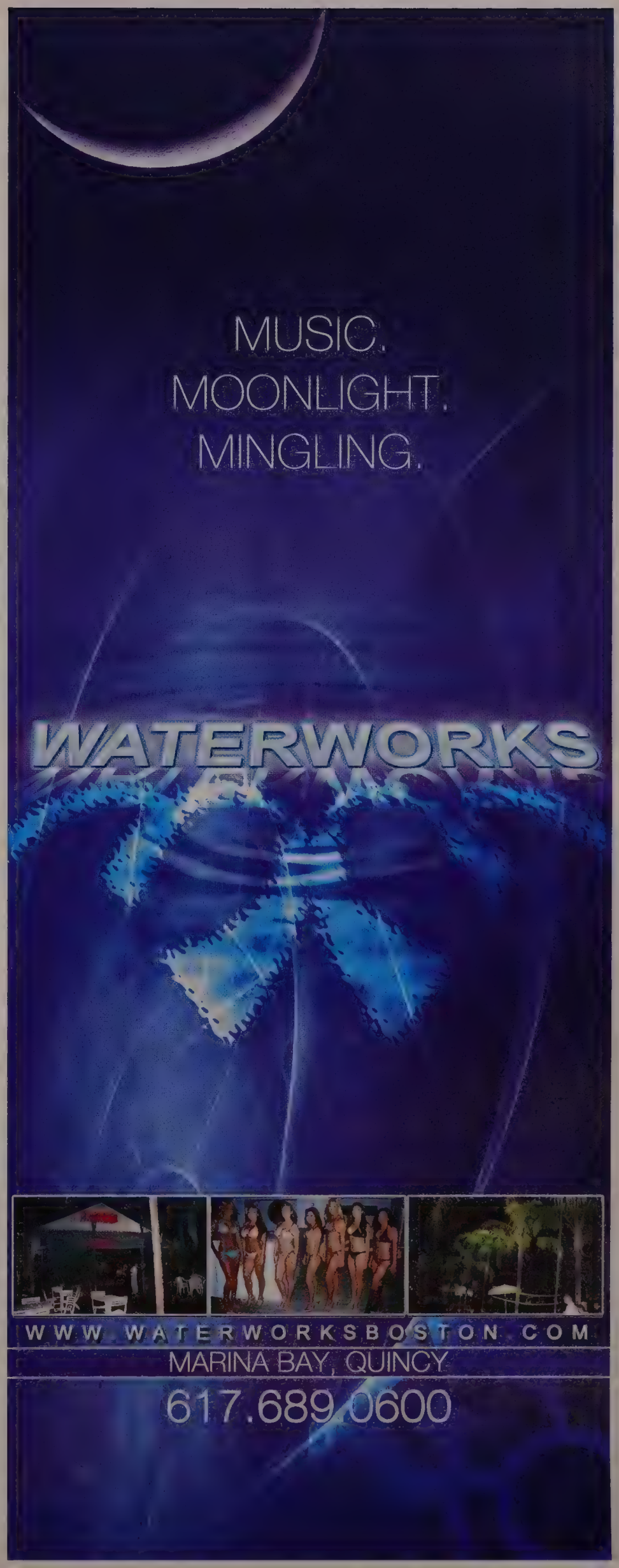
An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared and friends mix top 40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

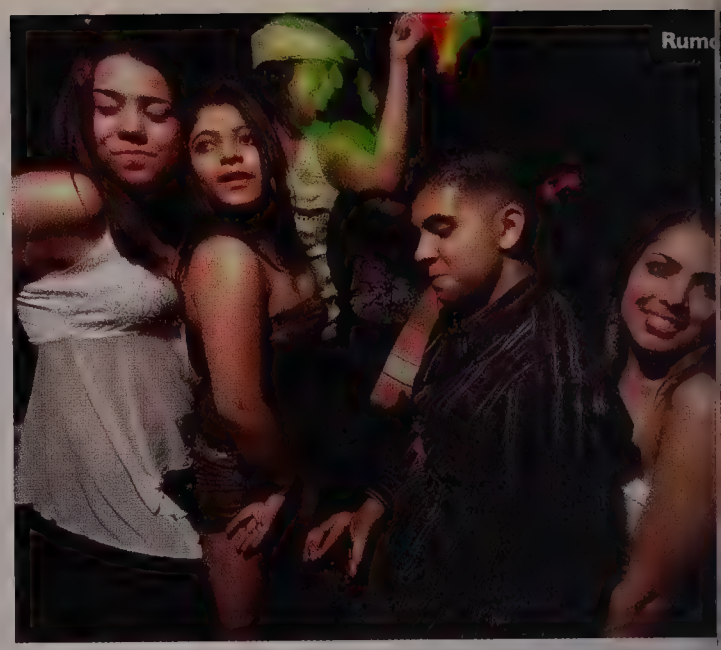
Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life DJs Frank and Matty spin alternative party hits, 10 pm, $8, 19+.





Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and top-40 music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Profenna spins top 40, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Shake Your Ass Night.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
•**Sensation Saturdays** featuring DJ Eddie Lee spinning hip-hop, 19+ women, 21+ men, 10:30 pm, $15. •Russian night in The Modern with DJ Roger R spinning international.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Green St. Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30), 21+.

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons spin minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features DJ Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top 40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Braz atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-en dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit w ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Different DJs spin each Saturday, 9 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian R spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mo mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styl house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15,

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dan 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance ir front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retr vorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm,

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and hous pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins sic old-school, top 40 and dance, 10 pm, no c 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an eveni gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip- 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and h 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volle 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturday** spin top 40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Dance Hall Reggae music, 11 pm, $10-$15, 1

ria
andalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $20, + (women), 21+ (men).

valon
ıy Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and chno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

ill's Bar
ve reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

uzz
azilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, 0, 19+.

aprice
tating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, -$10, 21+.

ub Q
ave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and the 45 ew spin dance music. 8 pm-2 am. $10.

osmopolitan
ribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

evlin's
dustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and nixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ıe Enormous Room
volutions A night of electronic music, $3, pm-3 am.

olden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo- vn, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

reen Briar
bar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

ıe Kells
e Spot DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house music, pm-2 am, no cover.

vel
tating DJs spin Latin and international on the third or and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the rth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

ıe Office
opia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests y deep soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, -.

oenix Landing
mp This house-music night has a rotating roster local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, r.

ıe Place
ad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

ıe Point
Itchy P.

ıe Purple Shamrock
Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

ıe Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and top 40, 9 pm- n, no cover, 21+.

dline
nday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests n reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
ion Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic k and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

les Dance Hall
pa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sun- of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play a music, 6-10 pm, $12.

int
ce Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night uring Latin and international grooves, 10 pm- n, $10, 21+.

sy K's
nu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

ki Room
gae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub ion and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ast
wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

nu
nivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian ıt as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance , 11 pm, $15, 19+.

rtigo
ian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and ld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

terWorks
eekend Beach Party Cocktails and volleyball, pm-5 pm, no cover. **•Smokin' Sundays** DJs neo and Randy spin and Romeo hosts a Hawai- Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am, $10 from pm, $20 after 9 pm, 21+.

lub Venues

ain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
hem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
fua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).
lon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; 18 and under and Sat. 10 am-12 pm, free. •*American Art Since 1950* displays the changes that occurred in American art in the mid-20th century using paintings and sculptures. Ongoing. • *A New Kind of Historical Evidence: Photographs from the Carpenter Center Collection* displays 28,000 prints from the Visual Arts photography collection. Through Oct. 30. •*American Art at Harvard* includes paintings and sculptures of Harvard's notable members since the early 17th century. Ongoing. •The exhibits *Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe Since 1880* and *Art in France, 1885-1960* are featured. Ongoing. •*Eighteenth Century European Ceramics and Paintings* exhibits some of the museum's permanent collection. Ongoing. •*Rubens and His Collaborators* exhibits the museum's 17th- century baroque-style paintings by Peter Paul Rubens and other artists of the period. Ongoing.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Summer hours: Tue.-Sat., 12-4 pm. Free. •A display of art from China, Japan and Korea runs through June 2006. •A new installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Rd., Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4; children 5 and under, free. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through Sept. 26. •*Great Buys: Museum Purchases* highlights works purchased over the last decade. Through Aug. 2006.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; 18 and under and Sat. 10 am-12 pm, free. •*American Art Since 1950* displays the changes that occurred in American art in the mid-20th century using paintings and sculptures. Ongoing. • *A New Kind of Historical Evidence: Photographs from the Carpenter Center Collection* displays 28,000 prints from the Visual Arts photography collection. Through Oct. 30. •*American Art at Harvard* includes paintings and sculptures of Harvard's notable members since the early 17th century. Ongoing. •The exhibits *Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe Since 1880* and *Art in France, 1885-1960* are featured. Ongoing. •*Eighteenth Century European Ceramics and Paintings* exhibits some of the museum's permanent collection. Ongoing. •*Rubens and His Collaborators* exhibits the museum's 17th- century baroque-style paintings by Peter Paul Rubens and other artists of the period. Ongoing.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children 3-18, $5; Sun., 9 am-12 pm, free. •*Thoreau's Walden: A Journey in Photographs by Scot Miller* displays a five-year pictorial of Walden Woods. Through Oct. 2. •*The Glass Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features the Ware Collection of glass models for more than 830 plant species. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Min Kyong-Kap's *Peaches* is on display at the Arthur M. Sackler Museum through October 16.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; Thu. after 5 pm, free. •*Getting Emotional* is an exhibition focusing on the expression of feeling through various media. Through Sept. 5. •*Momentum 4: Roe Ethridge* is an exhibition of contemporary photography inspired by fashion and advertising. Through Sept. 5.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; weekends, $11; seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18, free. •*Stray Dogs* features Croatian artist Danijel Zezelj's drawings. Through August 21. •*A Closer Look: An Introduction to the Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum* offers museum tours. *Tue.-Fri, 2:30 pm.* Ongoing. •*Sat., 12 pm. Special Exhibition Gallery Talks* provide context to museum exhibits. Ongoing. •The collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

Mary Baker Eddy Library
200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tues.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $6; seniors, students and youth 6-17, $4; children 6 and under, free. •The multimedia exhibit *This is woman's hour...* highlights the life and accomplishments of Mary Baker Eddy. Ongoing. •The library's *Historic Bible Collection* showcases rare bibles in the reference room. Ongoing. •A "peace" flag from the 1907 Peace Congress proceedings in New York is displayed. Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons* looks at the role Jewish women's salons played in Europe and America from the late 18th century through the 1940s. Aug. 22-Dec. 4.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue., Wed., Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. Free. •*Videos by Oliver Herring* showcases five video works by the New York–based sculptor and video artist. Through Sept. 9.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. •*Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing. •*Young Inventors at MIT* displays work of past Lemelson-MIT Student Prize winners. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Words of Thunder: William Lloyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition* celebrates the life and achievements of Boston abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison. Through Dec. 31. •Four exhibits depict the history of African-Americans in Massachusetts. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17, school days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all other times, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, free excluding special exhibitions. •*American West: Dust and Dreams* presents over 70 artists whose works reflect the American West. •*Ansel Adams* showcases works by the famous American photographer. Aug. 21-Dec. 31. •*Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia* features over 100 musical instruments. Through Jan. 5, 2006.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, $13; children 3-11, $12. •*Brain: The World Inside Your He* features a giant model brain. Through Sept. 1 •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history computers. Ongoing. •Hundreds of butterflies a flowers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garde* Ongoing. •Put your organizational skills to wo and solve mysteries in the exhibit *Natural Mysteri* Ongoing. •The *Theater of Electricity* provides ligh ening shows daily at 12 pm, 2 pm and Fridays at pm. Ongoing.• Star-gaze atop the Museum's gara roof using the Gilliland Observatory Frid evenings. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Old Glory* displays patriotic magazine cove from July 1942. Through Dec. 11. •*Teenage Hobo in the Great Depression* features letters, questionaires and audio tapes documenting stories duri the Depression. Through Feb. 16, 2006. •*To Bu and Sustain*, telling the history of freemasonry, ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* honors the histo of craftsmanship in Massachusetts. Ongoing. •*T Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* displays a lection of the artist's timepieces. Ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, looking at the personal culture and i tellectual history of Lexingtonians in the 18 century, is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Sale free. •*Exposing the Source: the Paintings of Nal Malani* shows two decades of the artist's projects a painter. Aug. 27-2006. •*The Art of Shopping in Chi* captures China's early–19th-century internatior trade market in 40 paintings. Through Sept. 5. •*Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Se 18. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from t Mississippian Culture. Through March 30, 200 •*Air Lines* features photographs by Alex MacLe through April 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature* displa ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through Aug. 2006. •*The Kingdom of Siam: The Art of Cent Thailand, 1350-1800* features stone images, scul tures, wood carvings, temple furnishings and mo Through Oct. 16, 2006. •*Yin Yu Tang* is a reco structed Chinese merchant's home from the la Qing Dynasty. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvar Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $ children 3-18, $6; children under 3, free. •*Painted a Distant Hand* displays Mimbres pottery from t Swarts Ranch Ruin in southwestern New Mexic Through Aug. 29. •*Breaking the Silence: Nin teenth-Century Indian Delegations in Washingto* D.C features a selection of photographs of Nati American delegates to the U.S. governmer Through Oct. 13. •*Gifts of the Great Rive Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtis Colle tion* is on display through March 30, 200 •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* cludes 20th century artifacts by North Afric Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Colle tion* features Native American artifacts from t explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006.

Galleries

FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tea and Fa tasy* features sculpted teapots created by 28 artis Through Aug. 31.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-446 www.alpha gallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to A lington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am- 5:30 pm. •*Summer Sele tions* displays paintings by gallery artists. Throu Sept. 7.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •New paintings John Stockwell are exhibited through Aug. 30.

Ars Libri
Mario Diacono Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Bost (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Oran Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sa 11 am-5 pm. •Shelley Reet displays oil on canv paintings through Aug. 31.

tana
78 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). w.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to olidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The *Sum- Group Show* features original oil, acrylic and pastel ntings by New England artists. Through Aug. 30.

t Attack
3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-3833). www. ttack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-., 3-8 pm. •*Organic Expressions* features oil based tracts. Through Aug. 19. •Sydney Hardin ex- res female facial expressions through painting in *ndow to the Soul.* Aug. 26-Sept. 21.

ickbottom Gallery
itchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www. kbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lech- e. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Brickbottom Summer mber's Exhibition: BIG* exhibits large paintings ted by gallery members. Through Aug. 31.

ase Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www. segallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Fri., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •A up show features paintings by gallery artists. ough Aug. 29.

ilds Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www. ldsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-, 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •A *tury of Still Life* exhibits an overview of 20th- tury still life paintings. Through Sept. 3. •*Lette- Calapai: Woodcuts Old and New* shows an rview of the artist's prints. Through Sept. 3. *nry Pitz Goes to the Circus* displays Henry Pitz's us-related drawings. Through Sept. 3.

b Passim
Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). www.club im.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through 24. Daily, 11 am-6:30 pm. •*Hung*, curated by n Nikolai, is an exhibition of rock 'n' roll–in- ed works from photographers and artists, as well usicians including Dee Dee Ramone and punk- er Jayne County.

pley Society of Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copley ty.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 0 am-5:30 pm. •*Small Works* features a variety of watercolors, acrylics and oil paintings. Through Aug. 18.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tue.-Wed., 11 am-6 pm; Thu. and Fri., 11 am-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). www.eclipsesalongallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*Eclipse 3: Revenge of the Bunny* features photographs and collages by Todd Fairchild. Through Aug. 27. •New abstract paintings by Jeffrey Ringdahl are on display Aug. 30-Sept. 24.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fort pointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-9 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Transitional* showcases photographs by Dean De Cocker and oil paintings by Ian Kennelley. Through Sept. 10.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www. galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An exhibition of paintings, sculptures and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries. Ongoing.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Thu., 11 am-5 pm, and by appointment. • A group exhibition features paintings, drawings and photographs by Gallery Katz artists. Ongoing.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery's summer group show features works by Stockwell, Brown, Antonio, Cantor, Lynch and more. Through Sept. 4.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www. howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The *Group Summer Show* features color photographs. Through Aug. 20.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm and by appointment. •*Art of the Pacific* features sculpture and artifacts. Through Aug. 31.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www. internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Summer Games* exhibits posters of summer sports and travel destinations. Through September 5. •The gallery showcases a variety of vintage posters. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www. judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •*Director's Pick* is a group show of artists the gallery represents. Through Aug. 31.

Thomas Moran's painting is on display at the Museum of Fine Arts through January 8, 2006.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www. kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Phil Bowers displays paintings based on photography. Through Sept. 3.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www. lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works in various media by artists including Douglass Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarese, Carrie McGee and John Folsom. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www. lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Color Connections* displays patterned and textured

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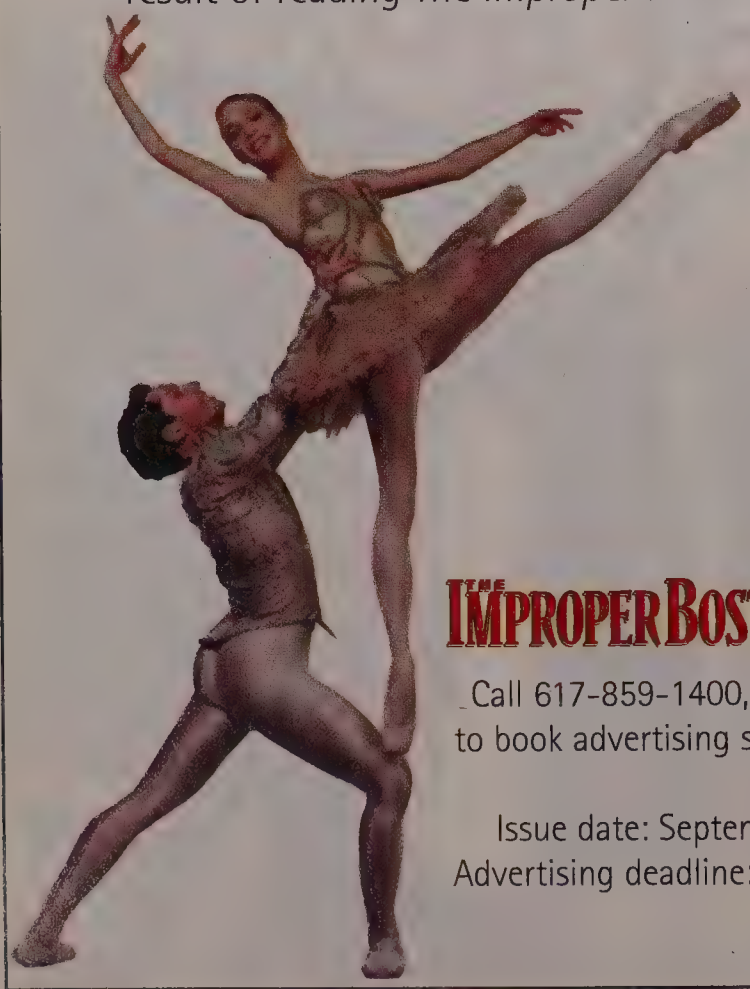

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

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sculptures. Through Aug. 18. •*Vistas Revisited* shows the new work of Russ Vogt and Karen Ehart. Aug. 19-Oct. 2.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). www.martinlawrence.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Wed., 10 am-6 pm; Thurs.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-7 pm. •*Song* features photographs of music icons by fashion photographer Francesco Scavullo. Through Aug. 31.

Massachusetts College of Art
Bakalar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Ronzome Masters of Japan* features wax-resist and batik art. Showing at the Stephen D. Paine Gallery through Sept. 21.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*100 Proof* is a group exhibition of Scottish jewelers and metalsmiths. Aug. 23-Sept. 30.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Bus Route 59 to Homer St. Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-9 pm; Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm. •*Circle Dancing* displays mixed media paintings on wood panels by Barbara Bartlett. Through Aug. 30. •The paintings of Judith Ferrara are exhibited in *Works on Paper.* Through Aug. 30.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. #304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •*My Perspective: The Phenomenon Faux Naive in Contemporary Painting* displays paintings by eight artists. Through Aug. 20.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features photography, paintings, sculptures, jewelry, mosaics, antiques and more by local artists. Ongoing.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Fine Choices 2005* features paintings, drawings and sculptures selected by the artists who made them. Through Sept. 4.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). www.richardson-clarke.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings. Ongoing.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The *Salon Show* displays photographs by a number of artists. Through Aug. 27.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rare 20th-century paintings. Ongoing.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Courtyard Gallery, Museum of Fine Arts, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718). www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon. and Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat. and Sun., 10 am-5:45 pm. •*Students Curate Students: Affirming the Hand* presents hand drawings by 12 students enrolled in the joint graduate degree program at Tufts University and the Museum School. Through Sept. 11.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Northwest Artists* features works in mixed media. Through Oct. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-032 www.georgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to C ley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 p
•The artist-owned gallery features paintings Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Ar Grandin, William St. George and Judy St. Pe Ongoing.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). ww vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 p
•New England landscapes by John F. Enser are played through August 31. •The gallery's inv tory includes 18th-, 19th- and 20th-cent American artwork. Ongoing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Cent
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-140 www.cma cusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to La mere. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*ph15: Came Communities, Connections* shows photographs students from Villa 15 on the edge of Bue Aires. Through Sept. 2.

Fogg Art Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). ww artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to H vard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7. students and seniors, $6; Sat., 10 am-12 pm, f
•*A New Kind of Historical Evidence* showcases p tographs from the Carpenter Center Collecti Through Oct. 30.

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Rd., Winchester (781-729-1158). ww griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to W chester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*Then A* displays images by Maggie Taylor, who uses a flat scanner to create digital photographs. Thro Sept. 10. •*$CaCO_3$* shows John Chervinsky's p tographs of chalk markings. Through Sept. 10.

Panopticon Gallery Boston
Hotel Commonwealth, 502 Comm. Ave., Bo (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: G Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •P tographs by Norman Fortier feature private commercial sailing vessels. Through Sept. 10.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). w panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Walth Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •The gallery displays p tographs taken by its staff. Through Sept. 10.

Thomas Hart Benton's painting is on display at Childs Gallery.

books & poetry

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Readings & Signings

EDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

rookline Booksmith
9 Harvard St., Brookline (617-6-6660). www.brooklinebook ith.com. MBTA: C Green Line Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **te Whouley** reads from her emoir *Cottage for Sale—Must Be oved: A Woman Moves a House Make a Home*, about her year-g struggle to move a fully con-ucted cottage and attach it to Cape Cod home.

ewtonville Books & rews
6 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-19). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Martha tt** reads from her novel, *Broken As Things Are*, out a 14 -year-old girl whose unusual bond with psychologically ill brother suffers as she enters olescence. Also, **Dennis Mcfarland** reads from his torical novel set in 1959, *Prince Edward*, about white family divided over a town's decision to se the public schools rather than integrate em to include black students.

HURSDAY, AUGUST 18

orders Books Chestnut Hill
rium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-0-1120). www.bordersstores.com. 7 pm. Free. En-crinologist **Dr. Sol Jacobs** and fashion model **Jane nway Caspe** discuss their book *The Nantucket t: A Safe and Effective 3-Phase Program for Perma-nt Weight Loss and a Healthy Lifestyle*, which ches how to achieve permanent weight loss ough a simple diet tailored to each individual's tabolism.

ONDAY, AUGUST 22

rter Square Books
White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.tersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. m. Free. **Roland Merullo** reads from his novel *A le Love Story*, about a romance between a man urning the death of his former lover and a man suffering from cystic fibrosis.

UESDAY, AUGUST 23

ookline Booksmith
9 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.oklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to olidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Roland Merullo** reads m his novel *A Little Love Story*. See above for cription.

EDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

ewtonville Books & Brews
Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.wtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to wtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. Boston Globe columnist **ki Constantine Croke** discusses her book *The y and the Panda: The True Adventures of the First erican Explorer to Bring Back China's Most Exotic imal*, about Ruth Harkness, an American man who succeeded in bringing the first Chinese da to the U.S. after her husband died during own attempt. Also, **Liza Ward** reads from her el *Outside Valentine*, about three different racters whose lives are dramatically altered by rial killer's crimes.

HURSDAY, AUGUST 25

ookline Booksmith
9 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.oklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to olidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Co-founder of Neiman-loy Financial Group Inc. **Debra Neiman** dis-es her book *Money Without Matrimony: The Un-ried Couple's Guide to Financial Security*, which rs various strategies unwed couples can use to ensure their financial security and share parenting responsibilities.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Former editor at *Harvard Business Review* **Lucy McCauley** discusses the book of short stories she edited, *The Best Women's Travel Writing 2005: True Stories from Around the World*, in which women writers share their experiences traveling abroad and their perspectives on foreign cultures.

MONDAY, AUGUST 29

Porter Square Books Event
Healthworks, 35 White St., Cambridge (617-497-4454). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 6:30 pm. Free. **Members of the Boston Women's Healthbook Collective** discuss their book *Our Bodies, Ourselves: A New Edition for a New Era*, an updated version of the original 1970s book about women's sexual and general health, reproductive issues and social conditions in the U.S.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Dr. Brown's Traveling Poetry Show (Tuesday)
Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. $5. **Michael R. Brown** directs this 90-minute show of performance poetry.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $5. The **Jeff Robinson Trio** plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies, with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outofthebluegallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, featuring prescheduled poets. $4 suggested donation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Sunday)
Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-628-2313). 3 pm. Free. Poet **Doug Holder** hosts an open-mike reading.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the mike.

education

Kate Whouley reads from her memoir Aug. 17 at Brookline Booksmith.

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

Point of View Book Discussion
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2:30 pm. Moderator **Moonyean Carlton** leads a discussion on Norman Mailer's *Executioner's Song*.

Summer City Strolls: Back Bay East
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-8 pm. $34. Architectural historian **Ed Gordon** leads a tour from Arlington to Dartmouth St. focusing on buildings designed by Richardson, Emerson and Faxon.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

Basket Making Demonstration
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 1-4 pm. Basket maker **Fred Lawson** shows the techniques used to weave Colonial baskets and discusses their uses.

Preparing an Effective Business Plan
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1-4 pm. $27 for members, $30 for nonmembers. Management consultant **Anh-Dai Lu** teaches how to create a useful business plan.

Rubber Stamping and Embossing
Spark Craft Studios, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 6:30-9 pm. $30, materials included. Spark Craft employee **Kim McCullough** shows how to make greeting cards using rubber stamps and embossing techniques.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

Beadweaving
Spark Craft Studios, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 6:30-9 pm. $45, materials included. Spark Craft employee **Erica Freund** shows how to create a cuff bracelet of glass seed beads using simple techniques.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

Understanding Gorilla Behavior
Boston Center for Adult Education, Franklin Park Zoo, 1 Franklin Park Rd., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. 10 am-4 pm. $68. View a video presentation on gorilla research, meet the gorillas' keepers, take photos and collect behavioral data with experts from the Franklin Park Zoo.

Wedding Table
Paper Source, 1810 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1077). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. 2:30-5:30 pm. $55. Paper artist **Lyn Brown** teaches how to make wedding centerpieces, place cards and menus.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Adult CPR and AED Certification
Boston Center for Adult Education, 316 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1-4 pm. $65. **Lynn Shopf** of the YMCA Red Cross teaches how to perform CPR and to use an automated external defibrillator. Those who successfully complete the course receive American Red Cross certification for one year.

Alternative Printmaking
Paper Source, 338 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-3444). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1-4 pm. $55. Paper Source employee **April Gymiski** teaches various printing methods, including nature printing, Xerox transfers and gelatin printing.

Contemporary Sculpture Tour
Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain (617-542-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 5 pm. Guides **Marybeth Oskowski** and **Katherine Aungier** lead a tour of the Contemporary Sculptures Pathway, accompanied by several of the artists whose works are on display.

MONDAY, AUGUST 22

Creative Vegetable Dishes
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $45 for members, $48 for nonmembers. Caterer **Diane Manteca** shows how to cook vegetable side dishes including sauteed string beans, pesto, roasted peppers and baked Provençal tomatoes.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23

Are You Feeling Hot, Hot Hot?!

Regional Caribbean Cooking
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $63 for members, $67 for nonmembers. Caterer **Nadine Nelson** shows how to prepare traditional English, Spanish, Dutch and French-Caribbean foods, including jerk pork tenderloin, empanadas and passion fruit mojitos.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

Wire Working Techniques
Bead Works, 23 Church St., Cambridge (617-868-9777). www.beadworksboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 6-7:30 pm. $35, materials included. Learn basic wire techniques as you create a pair of earrings.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

Author Talk
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. **Phil Hoose**, author of *The Race to Save the Lord God Bird*, discusses the rediscovery of the ivory-billed woodpecker.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

Hidden Secrets of St. Peter's and the Vatican
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7-9 pm. $25 for members, $27 for nonmembers. View slides and learn about the Vatican as well as the Italian masters Raphael, Michelangelo and Bernini with art historian **Joanna Rothman**.

Wine and Craft
Spark Craft Studios, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 6-9 pm. $25 for members, $30 for nonmembers. Students enjoy wine, cheese and crackers while creating an accordion memory book for their own photos.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

Discover and Develop Your Personal Style
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 9:30 am-12:30 pm. $43 for members, $46 for nonmembers. **Donna Cognac**, president of Donna Cognac Image Studio, helps students construct a scrapbook of personal style examples using images from their own clothing catalogues.

Sewing Cafe Curtains for Your Home
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12 pm-4 pm. $49 for members, $54 for nonmembers. Interior designer **Nan Genger** shows how to create the half window curtains popular in cafés using fabrics supplied by students.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

Collage Cards
Paper Source, 338 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-3444). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1-4 pm. $45. Paper Source employee **Nicole Carr** shows how to use paper, ribbons, buttons and other embellishments to create textural collages.

Stories Behind the Stones
Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain (617-542-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $8. Guide **Al Maze** leads a tour of the cemetery, describing the history of the location and the stories of those buried there.

MONDAY, AUGUST 29

The Fine Art of Cheese Tasting
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $59 for members, $63 for nonmembers. Students enjoy wines and cheese samples as cheese experts from the Formaggio Kitchen explain the differences between artisan and farmhouse cheeses and discuss cheese maturing.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30

Chinese Appetizers and Entrées
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $45 for members, $48 for nonmembers. Caterer **Diane Manteca** teaches regional Chinese cuisine and discusses where to find Chinese vegetables.and spices.

gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door; $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday-night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill, 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top 40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am, $15, 21+. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Thursday is Lesbian Night with DJ 9-1, Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera and Saturday is Sexy Saturday with DJ 9-1.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Now Batting for Boston
Club Café/209 Boston, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.thisthingcalledcourage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Aug. 17. 6:30 pm. Free. Author J.G. Hayes reads from his latest book, *Now Batting for Boston: More Stories by J.G. Hayes*, about growing up and being gay in South Boston.

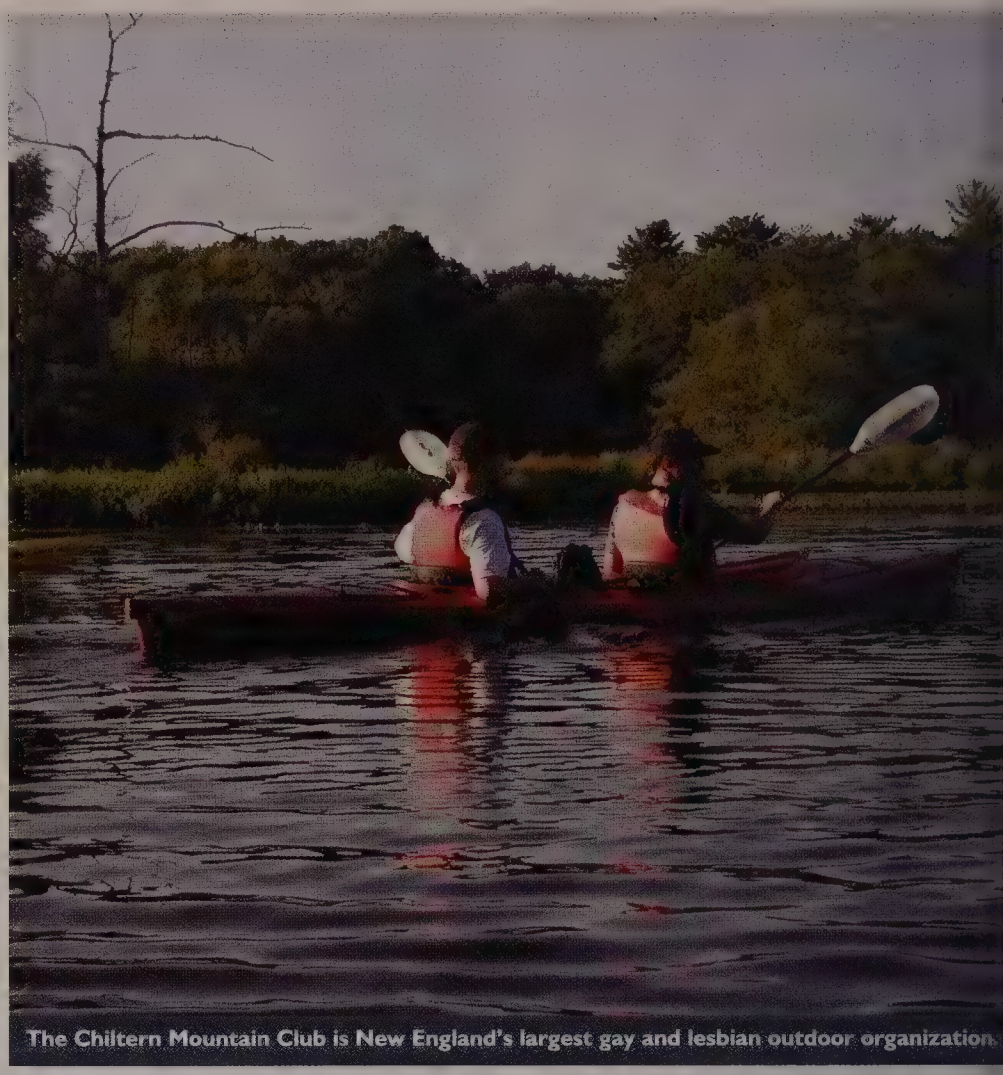
Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm, $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.


The Chiltern Mountain Club is New England's largest gay and lesbian outdoor organization

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri., 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolid Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–ar support, information and social group for people a signed female at birth who feel that is not an ac rate or complete description of their gender. Part the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group mee monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for detail

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This gro welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional wom 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophist cated to get together with like-minded women f conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwa health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fe way Community Health offers a wide array of se vices for the GLBT community, ranging from discu sions about parenting and safe-sex practices programs addressing domestic violence and su stance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Bosto GLBT flag football league for a casual spring seaso followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, r gardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.co ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn mo about photography, socialize and meet new people these monthly meetings. For more informatio e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (61 742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. Th group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the fir and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developi healthy gay relationships features alternatives t meeting and dating, communication games, si gles mixers and a date-matching system. E-ma info@gaylab.org.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamai Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.co MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Th of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of th GLBT community are invited to share poetr

ose or performance pieces at this open-mike ent.

irlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian /omen of Color
mbridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. e., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line Central. This discussion group for all ages meets ery Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

quid Assets Swimming
w.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and n. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian m team is open to both competitive and fitness mmers of all ages and abilities.

ie Network/La Red
7-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This sup- t group is working to end abuse in lesbian and bi- ual women's and transgender communities. E-mail @thenetworklared.org for more information.

ewly Diagnosed Group
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 7-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each nth, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and exual men who have been diagnosed with HIV ing the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

it to Dance
7-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin ballroom dance classes and workshops are held gay-friendly environment.

it TwentySomethings Boston
ntysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. s social and peer support group is for lesbians, men and bisexual, transgendered and question- folks and their straight allies in their 20s and y 30s.

OZ Social
nshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., on (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Line ack Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. . This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

OZ 20s
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 7-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line owntown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social p offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Provincetown Art Tours
(617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. Fri.-Sun., 3:30-5:30 pm. $25. Join other men and women on weekend tours of contemporary art exhibitions in Provincetown. Call for meeting locations. Reservations required.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

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body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Annual Summer Dance Vision Festival
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 840 Sandwich Rd., Falmouth. 508-495-3311. http://pages.prodigy.net/stevenmalkus1/sixth.htm. Aug. 27, 11 am. $50. This festival is the sixth in a series dedicated to dance and community gathering as a spiritual practice. All are invited to experience the joy of life through some of the oldest forms of celebration: dancing, revelation and prayer.

Dzigar Kongtrul Rinpoche
Boston Shambhala Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline. www.shambhalaboston.org or www.primordialdot.org. Aug. 24 and 25, 7-9 pm. $15 per evening. Dzigar Kongtrul Rinpoche is a lifelong Buddhist and former professor of Buddhist philosophy at the Naropa Institute in Colorado. This evening, Rinpoche teaches from his new book, *It's Up to You*, which addresses the idea that ignorance is impersonal.

Medium's Day
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. Aug. 27, 11-3 pm. $20, $15 for seniors and students. The day includes a book sale and private readings by psychic mediums, including spiritual readers and healers.

SkateBoston 2005
Radisson Cambridge, 77 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (978 461-2454). www.icbskates.org. Aug. 26-28. $15-75. The Boston-area inline skating club hosts this event featuring raffles, free food, tours of the city's ideal skating routes and a dance party on Friday night.

Workshops

Core Fusion Exercise for Thighs and Butt
Exhale Spa, 28 Arlington St., Boston (617-532-7000). Aug 23, 7-8:30 pm. $25. Do you want to look better in tight-fitting pants? Come learn the proper form, posture, and movements of isolated exercises designed to make your thighs lean and lift your butt.

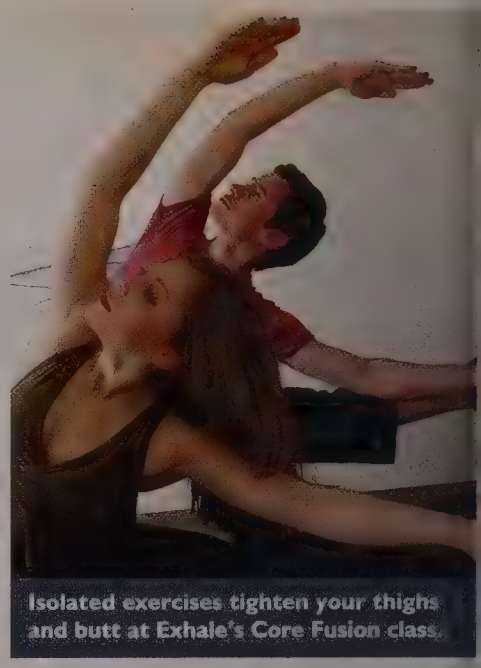
Embrace Your Space with Feng Shui
The Healing Center, 259 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (617-628-7432). Aug. 2-5 pm. $45. Find the support and motivation you might need to remove the clutter from your life. Also learn some quick, inexpensive ways to begin improvements right away.

High Frequency Yoga for Women
Carmela Cattuti, 151 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Aug. 20, 10-12 pm. $35. This class focuses on developing the abdominal muscles and also addresses techniques for increasing stamina and transforming negative thought patterns. Beginners welcome.

Intro to Natural and Spiritual Medicine
Mass. Horticultural Society—Elm Bank, 900 Washington St., Wellesley, (617-965-6440). Aug. 27, 9 am-5:30 pm. $95. Please preregister. Instructors Kathleen Krivak and Kirsten Allen, both licensed acupuncturists and energy healers, bring their knowledge to this class on the healing and transformative power of plants and trees.

Learn to Meditate
Spirit Earth Healing, 661 Mass. Ave., Arlington (617-515-8826). www.spiritearthhealing.com. Aug. 18, 7-8:30 pm. $20. Please preregister. If you have trouble staying focused during meditation, you may need to try a new approach. This class teaches four different meditation styles that may help you connect and stay focused.

Moon Salutations
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Aug. 19, 6-8 pm. $20. This asana, or p ture, stirs and stimulates the body's energy core a aims to ground the practitioner while providin feeling of expansion.



Isolated exercises tighten your thighs and butt at Exhale's Core Fusion class.

Reiki: Self-Transformation and Healing
Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Massachusetts Av Cambridge (617-661-1580 or 617-782-1681 or 7 266-7228). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red L to Central. Aug. 23, 6-8 pm. Free. Participants le all about reiki, the ancient Japanese art of hands- healing, and how it's used for self-healing as wel treating others. You'll also be shown mediati techniques and have an opportunity to experienc reiki treatment.

Yoga Meets Dance
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arling (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Aug. 22. $10 per class. Practice creative visualizati stretch, feel the beat and dance at these morn classes. All ages and levels welcome.

Ongoing

Pilates
Boston Pilates, 793 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (6 524-0118). www.bpilatesstudio.com. MBTA: Ora Line to Forest Hills. Thurs., 6pm. $20, drop-in. T mat class teaches classical pilates, designed strengthen and tighten your core muscles and prove posture, flexibility and balance.

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn Watertown (617-876-3050). MBTA: Bus lines and #70. Fri., 8-12 pm. Donations welcome. T evening starts with an exercise warmup and cont ues on with freestyle dancing to a rotating cas DJs. All ages and levels welcome.

Free Health Screening
Boston Exercise Works, located within Body Evol Fitness Center, 364 Boylston St., 2nd Flr., Bos (617-887-2248). www.bostonexerciseworks.c Wed., 12-1 pm. Please preregister. Have the con tion of your health assessed with tests relating to following: neck or back injuries, arthritis, cancer, abetes, the cardiac system or weight problems.

Retreat

Buddhist Meditation Retreat
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple Arlington (781-648-0101 or 617-460-615 www.tsboston.org. Aug. 20, 9 am-6 pm, and Aug. 9 am-4 pm. $20/day, suggested donation. Ple preregister. This intensive weekend features sitt meditation, sutra chanting, a brief work period Buddhist temple–style meals with meal cha These silent meditation retreats are appropriate practitioners who have an established meditat practice.

Two-Day Retreat
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadu Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MB Red Line to Central. Aug. 20, 9 am-9 pm, and A 21, 9 am-6 pm. $100. These two-day silent retr feature meditation instruction, personal attenti discussion and meditation practice, giving part pants an opportunity to develop mindfulness, c tentment, wisdom and compassion. Meals are p vided, but CIMC doesn't provide accommodatio

sports

lvice to Contributors

mit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@imper.com. Include address, phone number, subway , dates and times and a brief description of the league vent. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone must be received at least four weeks in advance.

lome Games

ston Red Sox
enway Park, Boston
kets: 617-482-4769
g. 26, 7:05 pm vs. Detroit Tigers
g. 27, 7:05 pm vs. Detroit Tigers
g. 28, 2:05 pm vs. Detroit Tigers
g. 29, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
g. 30, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays

vent

SC Fall Sports Challenge
th Field, Brighton (617-789-4070) www.bssc. . Aug. 27, 10 am-4:30 pm. $10 for individu- $80 for full teams. Compete in officiated ies of soccer, softball, flag football, kickball, ketball, ultimate frisbee, volleyball and geball at this sportsapalooza. The event inles a Player's Party, free sports massages and awards ceremony. Proceeds benefit Boston's th Enrichment Services.

ssBike Festival and Pie Race
rill Farm, Concord (617-542-2453) www. sbike.org. Aug. 27, 8:30 am-3:30 pm. Rain : Aug. 28. This annual event in its third year ures scenic bicycle rides on routes up to 62 es in length, a bicycle expo and food from bones BBQ. This year also includes the inaul Pie Race. Proceeds benefit MassBike's work romote bike safety and awareness.

› Play

JSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

ston Demons
-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club s new players for nine-a-side competition.

SEBALL

nry's Baseball
-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

SKETBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club
-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketfor players at all levels. Leagues exist in Water-, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and viduals are welcome.

mbridge Racquet and Fitness Club RFC)
-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round ues for individuals or teams at all levels.

rporate Basketball League
-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one en's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, ton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

ver Too Late Basketball
-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of ges practice in locations throughout Boston.

dulge your competitive side at the SC Fall Sports Challenge Aug. 27.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

Dogtime Boxing
527 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). www.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This boxing club offers training for competition, conditioning and recreation.

DODGEBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeball teams.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Sat. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www.worldkickball.com. Coed kickball leagues play throughout the summer in Boston and Somerville.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonLunaChix@gmail.com. Weekly runs on Tues. year-round. Women only. Talking pace 3 or 5 mile runs along the Charles starting in front of Harnetts in Harvard Square.

SWIMMING

Cambridge Masters Swim Club
www.cambridgemasters.com. The club offers coached workouts, social events and open-water swims.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

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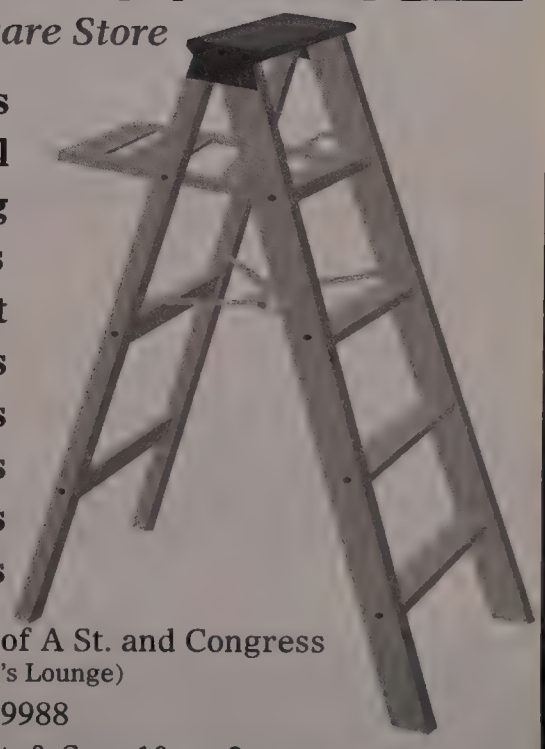

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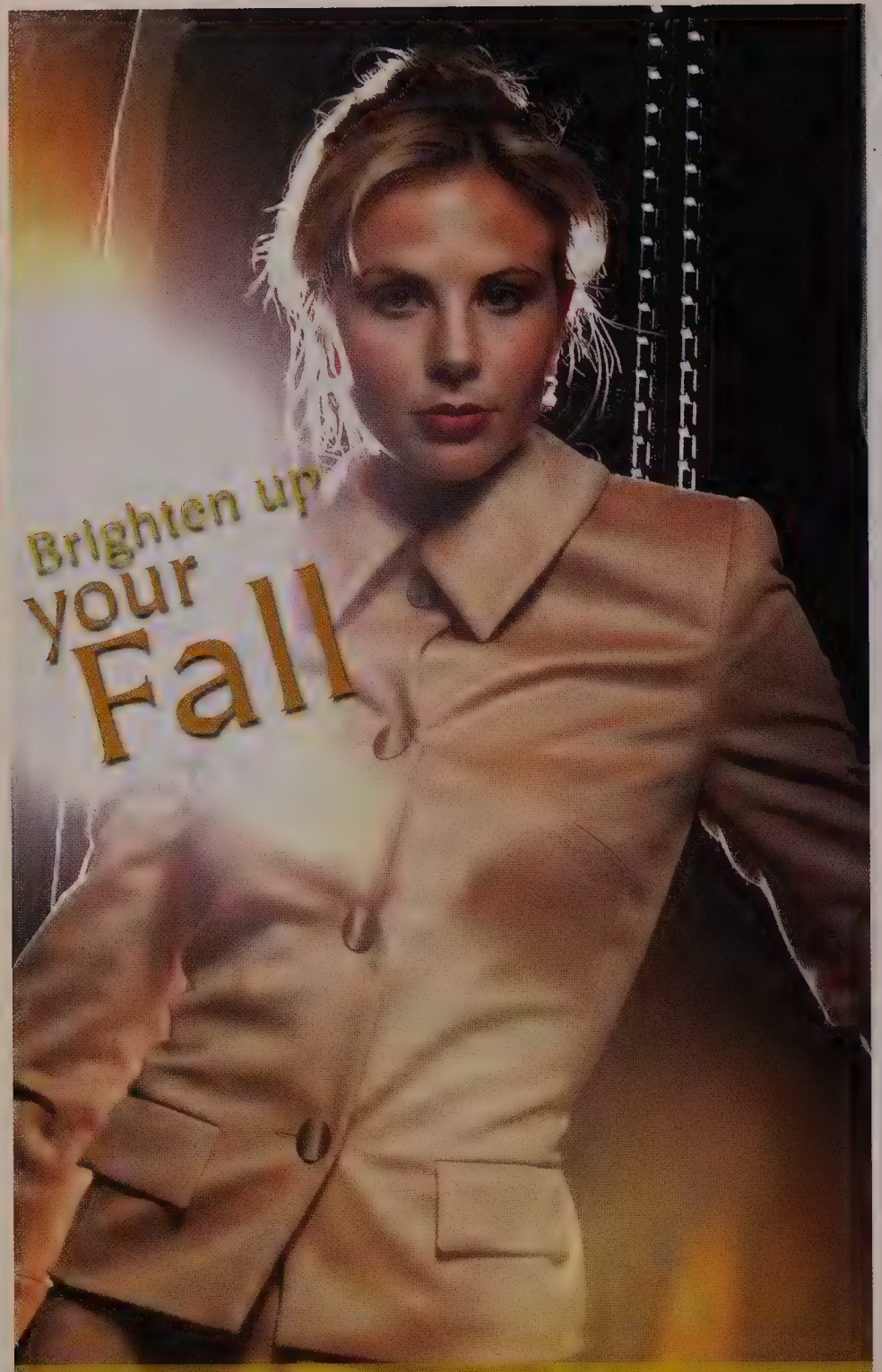

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's Fall Fashion Preview Issue will walk you down the runway in style. First, tune in as our very own fashion expert Samantha House exposes the latest trends for fall. Then, attention men! Get a sneak peak as we unveil the most dapper looks for you. Next, we'll get up close and personal with Carolina Herrera. Lastly, learn how to accessorize yourself as we garnish you with all the right fixins'.

Start off fall in style and advertise in THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN'S Fall Fashion Preview Issue.

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

Issue Date: August 31
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Call 617-859-1400, ext. 244, to book advertising space now.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Boston Children's Theatre
Seaside on Georges Island, Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. 12 pm and 1:30 pm. Free. •Plays in the Park on Georges Island presents a different story every Friday through Sept. 2.

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. Adults, $12; seniors, $10; students/children, $5. •This short-form improv performance for the whole family includes interactive games.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 10:30 am and 1 pm. $7, members; $9.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Aug. 17-18. *Jack and the Beanstalk* tells the story of a boy who trades his cow for some magic beans. For ages 4-8. •Aug. 24-25. *Anansi, Spiderman of Africa* is an African folktale about a spider whose appetite is bigger than his brain. For ages 4-9.

South Shore Music Circus
130 Sohier St., Cohasset (781-383-9850). www.the musiccircus.org. 10:30 am. $7.50. •Aug. 18. *The Emperor's New Clothes* features a clothing-obsessed emperor who is tricked by his tailors. •Aug. 25. *The Frog Prince* is the story of a prince who is turned into a frog by a Gypsy queen in disguise.

Things to Do

Barefoot Books
1771 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Fri. and Sat., 10:30 am. Free. •Story hour for children ages 5 and under and their families features a variety of themes. Ongoing.

Borders Books and Music
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Riverside. Tue., 11 am. •Themed children's story time takes place each week.

Boston Art Tours
Call for reservations and meeting locations. (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children and teens: Tue.-Sat., 1 pm-2 pm. $25, adults; $15, teens; children under 12, free. •Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. •A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail is designed for young walkers ages 6-12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide.

Boston Duck Tours
Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-dusk. $25, adults; $22, students; $16, ages 3-11; $3, ages 3 and under. •Land and sea tours of Boston are conducted in amphibious landing vehicles from WWII. Historic landmarks are highlighted, including the State House, Bunker Hill, Boston Common and the Big Dig.

Boston Harbor Whale Watching
Long Wharf Ferry Terminal, Boston (617-227-4321). www.bostonharborcruises.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 10 am and 12 pm; Sat.-Sun., 8:30 am, 10 am, 12 pm and 2:30 pm. $31, adults; $28, seniors; $25, children. •Travel on a high-speed catamaran for a three-hour whale watch. If no whales are sighted, receive a free ticket for a future watch.

Boston Public Library (Dudley Branch)
65 Warren St., Roxbury (617-442-6186). www.bpl.org. Aug. 17, 10:30 am. •Artist Susan Haverson paints faces in the Children's Room.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •Aug. 17, 12-1pm. Kids c dance to their favorite tunes at the *Summer Be Dance Series.* •Aug. 17-19, 1-4 pm. The *Kiddie Car val* teaches children about the Caribbean Carniv •Tue., 10:30 am. *Tasty Tuesdays* lets children try a v riety of snacks. •Fri., 12-1 pm. The *Fort Point Chan Summer Outdoor Music Series* features music in dive styles by various musicians. •Fri., 1-1:30 pm. Meet *Musicians* follows the *Summer Outdoor Music Series.*

Franklin Park Zoo
1 Franklin Park Rd., Boston (617-541-546(www.zoonewengland.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-5 p Sat.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. $9.50, adults; $5.50, a 2-12; free, ages 2 and under. •The 72-acre site inclu a farmyard petting zoo, lions in the *Kalahari Kingdom* butterfly garden, gorillas in the *African Tropical For Habitat* and kangaroos in the *Australian Outback.*

Harvard Co-op
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200(www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harva •Tues., 11 am. Preschool storytime is held ea week. •Sat., 11 am. Creative arts and crafts children under 7 years old.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (6 495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: R Line to Harvard. •Aug. 27, 10 am-3 pm. $20, adu $15, children; $13.50, ages 12 and under. Findi Your Own Walden is a Family Day Trip that lets fa lies learn about Henry Davidson Thoreau by expl ing historic and natural spots around Walden Po •Sat., 9-11 am for preschoolers; 9 am-12 pm for K $31.50, members; $35, nonmembers. *Saturc Scholars* lets children handle artifacts, make cra use scientific equipment and pet live animals.

Mary Baker Eddy Library
200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). ww marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line Hynes/ICA. Tues.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. •During Summer SOULstice for families, the library offers f admission to its indoor exhibits including the Mapp ium.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). ww web.mit.edu/museum. Aug. 21, 12-5 pm. •The M Museum offers free admission the third Sunday every month. View exhibits ranging from histori clipper ships to robots and new inventions.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-930 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum of F Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, 6-17 on weekdays before 3 pm; free, 5 and under. •Tu Thu., 3:30 pm. *Books Bring Art Alive* with arts crafts for ages 5 and under. •Wed., 5:30 pm. *Fan Night Out* is an event with performances and activi that incorporate the museum's collections and f special exhibits.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.m org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; $12 seniors; $11 dren. •Through Sept. 5. The *Summer of Advent Film Series* at the IMAX theatre includes *Mysteri the Nile, Everest* and *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventi* •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm. *Animals and Sto Alive!* combines a live animal presentation w mythical and folk storytelling. Ongoing. •Butter and flowers are on display in the permanent Butte Garden. •Making Models is an interactive exh that features models of a wave tank, Mount Eve and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science Li features live animals and multimedia presentati surrounded by natural history dioramas. Ongoing

Natural Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). w monh.org. Aug. 30, 12-2 pm. $5 per family. •Fa lies can see Blue Monday and make their c bubbles, bubble sweepers, fairy bubble wands mini bubble mountains.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.n org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu 9 am-6 pm; Fri.- Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, adu $13.95, seniors; $8.95, children ages 3-11. •*Ama Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through J 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank c tains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongo •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featu sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •The mons Imax Theatre features *Wild Safari, Sharks* and *Aliens of the Deep.* Ongoing.

Tadpole Playground
Boston Common, adjacent to Frog Pond (508-8 1151). www.tadpoleplayground.org. Open from d until dusk. •The playground offers children a cha to enjoy art, water fountains and games. •The l Pond features a 70-foot spray plume and a wad pool.

around town

ights to See

oston University Observatory
oit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-3-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. n clear nights), 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

hildren's Museum
0 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-55). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to uth Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 i.. $9; children ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1 year olds, ; under 1 year old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

aneuil Hall
State St., Boston. www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com BTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon-n.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours rt at 9:30 am. Free.

arvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www. nh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. n.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, children ages 3-18, $5; Harvard students with vaild , free; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

hn F. Kennedy Library & Museum
lumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). w.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to K/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and col-e students with valid ID, $8; ages 13-17, $7; 12 l under, free.

ount Auburn Cemetery
0 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). w.mountauburn.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. ily, 8 am-7 pm.

useum of Afro-American History
Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam seum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park et. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

useum of Science
ence Park, Boston (617-723-2500). w.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science k. Daily, 9 am-7 pm. $15; seniors, $13; chil-n ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

useum of Transportation
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children ages 6-17 and seniors, children under 6, free.

ew England Aquarium
ıtral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; seniors, .95; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

d North Church
Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Or-e or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-6 pm.

d South Meeting House
Washington Street, Boston (617-482-6439). w.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or e Line to State St. Through October, 9:30 am-5 . $5; seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

d State House Museum
Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). w.bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line tate St. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; seniors and stu-ts, $4; children ages 6-18, $1; members, children er 6, free.

idential Center Skywalk
Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: en Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. 50; with college ID, $7.50; seniors, $7; children 12 under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

nity Church
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). v.trinityboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. y, 8 am-6 pm. $5; children 12 and under, free.

S Constitution & Museum
rlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). v.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Tues.-Sun., 10 am-. Free.

olunteer

C Mentoring Program
-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a r-care or adopted child.

DS Action Committee
-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with /AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 100 volunteer opportunities are available each month.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012 ext. 227). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers over 18 for kitchen, office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145 ext. 620). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor students in math and literacy and also prepare high school students for the MCAS.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools. Recruiting now for volunteers to start in September.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000 ext. 7508). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. Help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helplineonline.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-927-0648). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900 ext. 113). www.horizonsinitiative.org Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). www.lvm.org. Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-972-9119). www.mabcommunityservices.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelder.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org. Volunteer as an aquarium guide and more.

Parental Stress Line
(1-800-882-1250). Counsel parents and caregivers. and facilitate support groups.

Pine Street Inn
(617-892-9187). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740 ext. 15). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111 ext. 17). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). www.respondinc.org. Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). www.rosies.org. Volunteers needed for this women's homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery.

So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see!

e-mail:
impersonals@improper.com
fax: 617-859-1446

or write to:
Improper Impersonals
The Improper Bostonian Magazine
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Aaron Henckler stands idly by while Mara Caruso is abducted by an alligator at Gatorland in Orlando, Fla. Alligaterrorism plagues the Orlando region.

SFC Anthony M. Renzoni gets IMPROPER in Afghanistan's Panjshir Valley. While that country is the world leader in poppy production, there are hardly any bagel shops. Puzzling.

Christopher DeSouza prepares for the running of the bulls in Pamplona, Spain. The bulls of Pamplona are trained to become highly antagonized at the sight of neckerchiefs. As are we all.

West Palm Beach, Fla., Mayor Lois Frankel is happy that a hurricane was last named "Lois" in 1966.

Alex and Stephanie Sweeney took a break at Kylemore Abbey in Ireland. Kylemore Abbey is unique in that it's the only one in Ireland where the priests can flip wicked cannonballs into the pond off the battlements.

Jamie Monahan dined at Dracula's house in Sighisoar Romania. A new chef there just totally revampired th menu, and the Bloody Marys are to die for.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Getting your goat at the Brotherhood of Goat Meat Eater's Festival, held Sept. 4 in Bellegarde-en-Marche, France.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

Track Team Uniform Scam

Haven't you paid for your new uniforms yet? After collecting money on Newbury Street for the past three years, two to three days a week, you'd think there'd be plenty of money to buy a decent pair of shorts. Where are your parents and coaches? Their constant absence makes me wonder if the money being collected is truly going to a track team or is merely a scam. Maybe you could try raising funds like other teams do (candy bar sales, car washes, advertising space in a program)—at least that way you'd appear more legitimate. Newbury Street is crowded enough to begin with, and I've grown tired of regularly navigating between the same five or six kids who step in front of me while I walk, hold up an old coffee can and simply say "donation." How about showing up in your new uniforms one day so we can actually see if they exist?

—Won't be scammed again

Jef and Jason's Storrow Drive Experience

Has an aggressive driver ever reacted in a way that made you say "WHAT?" Well, my boyfriend and I were getting onto the Storrow Drive connector the other day, and it seemed like an ordinary ride home. There wasn't a problem until a van to our left (the closed lane) merged in front of us, and we got behind him. The catfish driver of yet another space-hogging SUV (she was behind the van) apparently thought it was her turn to merge, because she tried to stay behind the van and almost wound up on top of the barriers. Hey douche face, your lane was closed, not ours! She obviously felt we were at fault, because she then found it necessary to honk her horn, flip us off, mouth "f--k you" a couple times and then flash her cell phone at us in a strangely threatening way. So, to the driver of that ugly tan SUV, we say...screw you and your psychotic reasoning. Oh, and did you have a nice talk with the state police on your stupid little cell phone? Because we definitely did. Have a nice day, you pompous life slug.

—Storrow Drivers

So Fresh and So Clean Clean

You were waiting in line with your group of friends (including one with red hair wearing funky shoes) before the showing of *Clean* at the MFA on July 23. You looked stunning in the wonderful dress you were wearing. We looked at each other a couple of times. Given it is rather unlikely that we'll ever run into one another on the street, on the T or in a bar, I thought I might as well write to the IMPROPER.

—CleanMFA@hotmail.com

Redline Rider

It was a Tuesday like any other. Or was it? I only chatted with you for a few seconds while we were on the escalator at the Porter Square T stop. But in those few seconds I could tell that you are cute and sweet. And that's fine in my book. I struck up the conversation by commenting on your "interview" attire. But of course that was just an excuse to say hi. And no excuses needed this time on your part...just write back if you feel so inclined.

—boston_dude99@yahoo.com

Ben Harper Concert at Avalon July 26

You were a cute, shapely gal—definitely a looker—hanging with another bigger girl toward the back of the first tier. I'd guess you are about 5'2", but you had on wicked platform shoes that made you looked quite a bit taller. We exchanged glances. Was going to approach you but didn't see you again until the show was over and you walked by outside near Brookline Ave. I was standing by an outdoor cafe in Hawaiian shirt/shorts waiting to meet up with a friend; our eyes met again for that extra-long moment, but before I knew it you were gone. Let's meet.

—blair39@earthlink.net

Seeking Turkish Dom

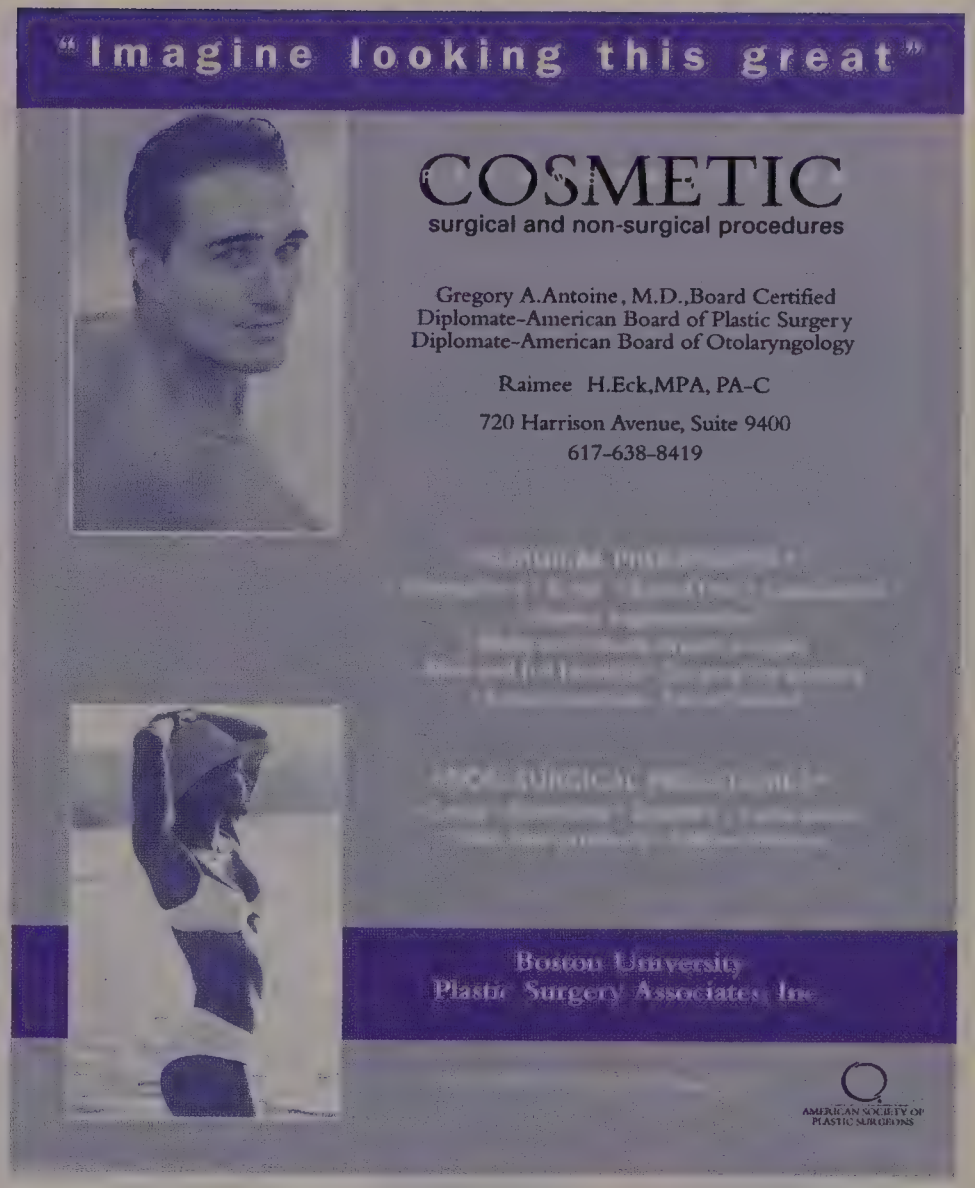
Me: obedient in red latex skirt and corset. You: damned handsome and commanding in all black. Second to last Friday (ever) at ManRay. You hopped on to the barstool next to mine to keep me company—and made my night. Tugging on my sub collar, for want of a real leash, you whispered some exquisitely evil intents in my ear, then bid adieu by biting me on the cheek. You also scrambled my circuits. Sorry I didn't see you the last fetish night. Let's talk more about playing when they re-open ManRay!

—scarletapron@yahoo.com

Confession

This is a confession of cowardliness—and hope. You were sitting next to me on the D Train to Government Center Aug. 3 at 7:30 pm. You had a beautiful, arrogant nose, black shoulder-length hair and a navy-colored dress and bag. We were silent for 30 minutes, and I removed my earphones as soon as I saw you. I did not have the courage nor the wits to talk to you. I stepped out on Park Street, and we both smiled to each other. I thought about coming back to the train, and I did not do it. Forgive me. If we are to have a life together, I will never hesitate again, I swear. I thought of many ways that I could have started a conversation... doesn't matter now. You may remember me: shaved head, green eyes, black shirt and a big smile.

—ssaldivar@gmail.com.



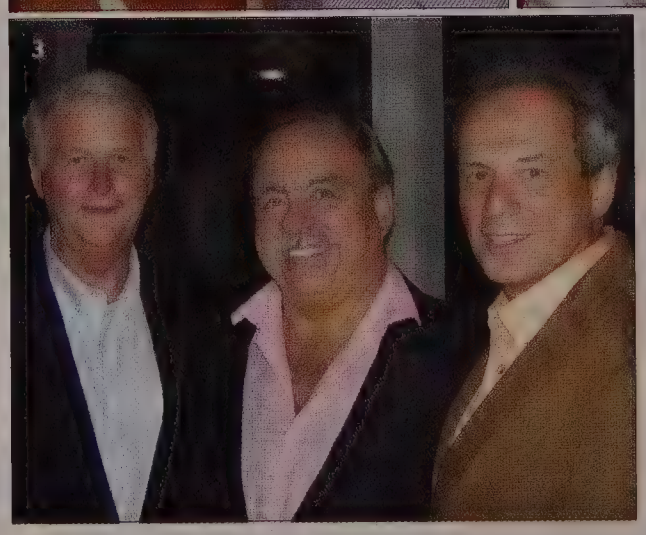
IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, July 16, **The Improper Bostonian** was a sponsor of the latest of **Kiss 108**'s Summer of Fun 2005's Concerts on the Charles. The event took place at the Hatch Shell and included performances by Frankie J, D.H.T. and The Click Five.

1. **Jen Lajoie**, **Jennifer Lago**, **Jessica Howard**, **Lisa Greco**, **Brooke Bayko**, all Rainettes; **Anthony Decotis**, owner; **Jacques Sylvestre**, **Brian Harkins**, both security; all at Rain.
2. **Stefanie Dion**, dental hygienist at Leominster Family Dentist, and **Derek Preville**, driver for Poland Springs.
3. **Sarah Dennechek**, airport engineer for Edwards & Kelsey; **Jenn Veilleux**, and **Melissa Castelano**, both teachers for Boston public schools.

On Friday, July 22, Nantucket residents George Cloutier and Tiffany Spadafora hosted the annual Boogie on Low Beach fundraiser to benefit **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute** and **Nantucket Cottage Hospital** at their home on the island.

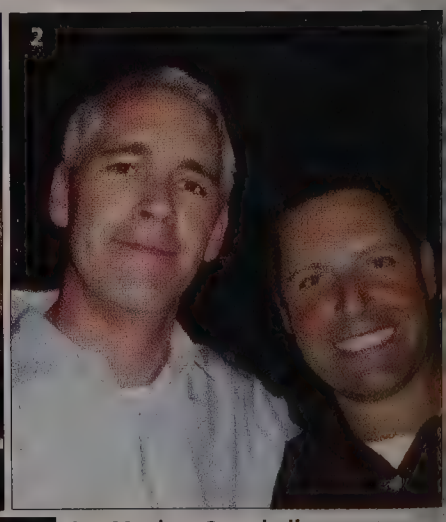


1. **Tiffany Spadafora**, fund-raiser fo Dana-Farber, and **Paul Gilmartin**, vice president of institutional sales for Friedman Billings Ramsey.
2. **Margaret Ledbetter**, owner of T High Heeled Chef, and **Baylor Stovall**, owner of Stovall Collectio
3. **Bill Delahunt**, congressman of th 10th District of Massachusetts; **George Cloutier**, founder and C of American Management Services and **Larry Lucchino**, president an CEO of the Boston Red Sox.

On Sunday, July 24, **280 Studios** presented PÜR: A Show of Live Art & Runway Fashions held at **Parris** nightclub.

1. **Ingrid Dragotta**, children's shoe designer, and **Sarah Tenney**, apparel designer, both of Boston.
2. **Xadimi Diene**, model for Handsome Boy clothing, and **Caitlin Joyce**, student at Emerson College.
3. **Bonnie Taylor**, industrial designer in Boston; **Gabor Zanoni**, product designer for Essential-Design; and **Patience Goodnight**, vice president of marketing for LPL Financial.

On Monday, August 8, Peter Gammons celebrated his induction into the Baseba Hall of Fame. The gathering was held at **Eastern Standard**.



1. **Meghan Campbell**, account executive at Elevate Communications **Peter Gammons**, inductee and analyst for ESPN; and **Mary Bouxse** assistant professor of orthopedic surgery at Harvard Medical School.
2. **Garrett Harker**, proprietor, and **Do Taylor**, bartender, both at Eastern Standard.
3. **Jason Wolfe**, director of programmi and operations at WEEI 850 AM; **Ada Kanner**, president/CEO of Rabid Film **Katrine Straume**, model for Maggi Inc.; and **Keith Gainsboro**, principa at Elevate Communications.

PHOTOS: KISS 108, CHRISTINA CLEARY; BOOGIE ON LOW BEACH, KINSLEY HANCOCK PHOTOGRAPHY; PARRIS, MAURA BENNARDO; EASTERN STANDARD, MARY BOUX

rockie horoscope

AUGUST 17 – 30, 2005

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

LEO JULY 23-AUGUST 22

it seems that nothing much has been happening and that (except for your not-quite-as-right-and-beautiful-as-it-could-have-been birthday) August has been a bust, just wait r Mercury to turn direct in your sign. Although the Messenger may move slowly at first, ll pick up speed and put you back in touch with people and situations that'll make you el hopeful again. Something quite wonderful—borderline miraculous—could occur nile optimistic Jupiter favors imaginative Neptune in your Aquarius marriage house.

VIRGO

UGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

certain amount of contention is to be expected, rticularly among colleagues with a mutual financial terest. Try to keep your cool until your Mercury ruler livers the revised information you're all banking on. nfortunately the charm and diplomacy Venus bestowed nile she was in Virgo ended yesterday when the goddess oved on to Libra. On the other hand, as Venus transits into ur money house, she'll steer you toward good-looking ods and profitable purchases. Buying and selling should ing considerable pleasure.

LIBRA

EPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

omance could flourish nicely, and so will you now that ur Venus ruler is in Libra, back home where she belongs. nile the goddess increases your allure and social graces, it xpansive Jupiter in your sign that'll heighten your chance experiencing a story-book kind of love. Since Jupiter lends nsiderable support to idealistic Neptune, a person or oject that took center stage in March (when they last med a favorable trine) reclaims a prominent position. The nefits are mutual but not long-lived. Carpe diem.

SCORPIO

CTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

er a surprisingly satisfying weekend, it should be obvious t the efforts you've made to manage your finances are ally paying off. The difficulties you faced in June have n successfully overcome, but only for the time being. nember that while your Pluto co-ruler is embedded in ir Sagittarius house of money earned, seasonal tuations will be the rule not the exception. Meanwhile, rs, your co-ruling planet, nestled in your Taurus rriage house, is honing your involvement with a nificant other.

SAGITTARIUS

OVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

bitch is moving on. Venal Venus in your career midheaven perfectionist Virgo for the lighter, looser heights of airy ra. Expect more laughs and better luck over the next four ks, particularly when dealing with colleagues and club mbers. But for the moment, it's your power of persuasion, r knack for making something out of nothing, that is g recognized by the creative Leo sun. That talent may you attain your fondest wish midweek when your gnanimous Jupiter ruler and faith-based Neptune trine.

CAPRICORN

CEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

ll moon in your Aquarius money house suggests the ught is about to end. No matter how well or how poorly 've done recently, you'll be showered by high hopes and usiastic promises as expansive Jupiter in your career heaven rewards idealistic Neptune in Aquarius. If only were a televangelist, you'd be raking in the donations! if you're not aspiring to that lofty realm, if you prefer n-to-earth, even down-and-dirty, then horny Mars in ual Taurus can keep you quite pleasantly grounded.

AQUARIUS

NUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

you and your partners, in life as well as in business, ty of time to reach a final decision. Until Mercury rns to the point in Leo at which it turned retrograde e weeks ago, the information you're all relying on could undergo a few more revisions. Not to suggest that you actually plan for a cover-up, but during the Aquarius full moon period you may sense that something you'd rather keep to yourself is about to be revealed. If you don't want to get caught in the spotlight, make certain you're being discreet.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Pisces has been assigned the role of spiritual advisor to the rest of us since time immemorial. This week you'll have a golden opportunity to strut your stuff as Jupiter, your old-school ruling planet, trines Neptune, your modern ruler. Although precious pearls of wisdom may indeed drop from your lips, it's what you do more than what you say that'll make a lasting impression. And, for a change, the powers that be won't be that adamantly opposed to your position, especially when they realize you're serving a common cause.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

The issue that has preoccupied your thoughts while Mercury was retrograde could improve considerably now that the Messenger has turned direct. Information you've been waiting for should appear in a corrected (probably not the final) version to lift your spirits. And now that loving Venus is in your Libra house of partners, there'll be more reasons to smile. Enjoy her visit; until September 11, the goddess will be bestowing bountiful blessings and moments of sheer pleasure and joy, especially over the Labor Day weekend.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Too many impromptu get-togethers and too many social obligations can put even the gentlest of Bulls on edge. Since your Venus ruler just left earth-sign–friendly Virgo for airy Libra, you may get caught up in a whirlwind of activity. Weigh the invitations carefully: Some can be advantageous to your career, while some can be both disappointing and exhausting. High hopes have a good chance of panning out if you schedule a grand entrance for the full moon. If there's actual work to do or a charity event to attend, so much the better.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Nothing spells "relief" like your Mercury ruler getting back to where it once belonged. A financial matter that may have gone south during retrograde slowly gains momentum now that Mercury is moving forward again. It may take until the end of August before you see genuine progress, but rest assured that it's coming. More good news: Affectionate Venus entering lovable Libra makes it easier, more pleasant as well, to hang out at home and get out and play. Romantic and recreational matters benefit from the supportive trine between these air signs.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Faith may be able to move mountains, but there's a good chance demonstrating yours will cost more than you figured it would. Maybe you won't mind and you'll adjust fairly easily to a revised set of circumstances; maybe you'll squirm like a worm on a hook. The full moon on the 19th should reveal and resolve the matter, but if you don't have the patience to wait it out, if your crabby Crab persona demands answers ASAP, then you could be SOL. Focus instead on the data Mercury retrieved from its trip through retrograde.

us about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE INER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

upcoming issues

August 31, 2005
Fall Fashion Preview

September 14, 2005
Fall Arts Preview/
Literary Boston

September 28, 2005
Cars

October 12, 2005
Sports

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

Call 617-859-1400 ext. 244 to advertise

RESTAURANTS

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature is cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes its mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255.* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SCIENCE STREET CAFÉ *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

VENEZIA RESTAURANT *20 Ericsson St., Boston 617-436-3120.* For authentic Italian fare, impeccable service and an atmosphere unmatched on Boston's Waterfront, Venezia provides one of the city's most unique and pleasurable dining experiences. Your destination for everything from a relaxing midday lunch to a romantic dinner for two, Venezia can also accommodate private affairs like wedding receptions and business functions, and features live music on Friday and Saturday nights.

THE WATERFRONT CAFÉ BAR-GRILL *450 Commercial Street, Boston 617-523-0613.* A North End neighborhood hot spot, serving up sizzling steak tips and the best burgers around! Featuring a big screen TV and plasmas to catch all your favorite teams in action. Come for dinner, stay for a drink! *Open 7 days, Lunch & Dinner 11am–11pm, Apps. 11pm–1am.*

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 300+ microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *Pizza Kitchen, Beer Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* B TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tabl 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signatu pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one o kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL free rooms and pool for your next party function of any kind. Call the "Party Sp cialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitch pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big Ci Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Bosto 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in t shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right ne door to the Opera House; in the heart the buzzed about Ladder District. tri-level venue offering sophisticated b liards, New York style Lounge, a hip b scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourm dinner while lounging in a plush, red-v vet booth; while listening to a DJ acco panied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setti for a romantic dinner for two or a b birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of D and dancing, combined with the delicio entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy your cravings. American Contempora cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *2 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-24 9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.co 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Buildi in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, open seven nights a week and offers t best in local and national comedy. Duri the week, the nationally renowned cl offers some of Boston's best com like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Co edy,"Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. Thursday nights, Frank Santos,"The R-Ra Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience a on the weekends, this is the only place see the biggest names in comedy such Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret C Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook a George Lopez.

Dance Bars

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington S Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste Ireland with great tasting, affordable fo One of the most popular nightspots town, the Green Briar has become t area's headquarters for internatio sports viewing and live entertainment. L music five nights a week, featuring lo bands on weekends, a traditional Ir Seissun every Monday night and Pri Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospita atmosphere makes the Green Briar an cellent place to hold luncheons, wedd rehearsals, social gatherings and sm business meetings. Open 11am - 1a 7 days a week. Cover charge varies Friday and Saturday nights and so sporting events on Sundays.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Alls 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the cro is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the fo is great and everyone is treated as a "re lar". It's the local gathering place w authentic Irish pub flavor. Live inter tional sports viewing via satellite inclu soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands tertain to a lively crowd on weekends. mainstream pub fare menu ranges fr grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to ditional Irish dishes and innovative d specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjo true Irish pub experience. Open 11a 2am, 7 days a week.

General

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110* www.bostonrocks.net. 21+. Located on the 2nd floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus Margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.best margaritas. com.

CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR *Boston Marriott Copley Place; 110 Huntington Ave. Boston, 617 937-5658.* Come join us at Boston's premier Sports Bar where you can enjoy all you local and national sports action on one of our 33 tvs, including 2 big screens. We have draft beers as well as a huge selection of domestic and imported bottle selections for you to choose from. We also have a full bar and menu serving all your favorite additional American cuisine. Planning your next party or corporate event? We have room for parties ranging from 25-325. Our hours are from Sunday through Thursday 11:30-1am, and Friday and Saturday 11:30-2am.

THE HARP *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

JILLIAN'S BOSTON / LUCKY STRIKE LANES *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300 www.jilliansboston.com.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring 16 bowling lanes, 50 pool tables, high-tech games, high definition video walls, multiple lounges and private rooms. Located on the first floor is Tequila Rain, which offers an amazing Tex-Mex menu and dancing to the hottest DJs Friday and Saturday nights.

PARRIS *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters and steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring live music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesday - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

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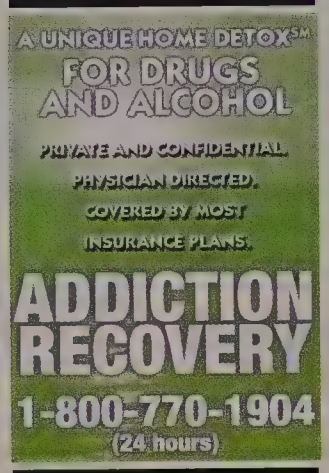

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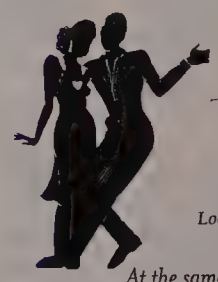

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At Dirty Martini Night, top: Maura Leahy and Nicki Krawczyk. Middle row: Michelle Trivedi, Ryan Latham and Mike Parkhurst; Heather Kaplan; James Morone. Bottom row: Khano Smith and Connally Edozien; Sven Meier; Amanda Pritzker and Corey Finjer.

IT'S NOT EASY BEING GREEN...

What's green and red and dirty all over?

The **Dirty Martini Night**, held to benefit the **Trust for Public Land**, at the **Ruby Room Lounge** in the **Onyx Hotel**.

Seen getting slightly squiffy on half-priced cocktails was an astonishingly sexy, fashionable and hard-bodied crowd that belied the stereotype of environmentalists as doughy, unkempt hippies wearing hemp clothing and Jesus-jogger sandals.

To the contrary, almost everyone fell squarely into the category of stylish, jaw-dropping eye-candy, among them some of the hottest jocks in Boston, New England Revolution players **Ryan Latham**, **Mike Parkhurst**, **James Riley**, **Khano Smith** and **Connally Edozien**; best friends since middle school **Maura Leahy** and **Nicki Krawczyk**; enviro-scenester **Heather Kaplan**; unbuttoned IBM engineer **Sven Meier**; babe-a-licious PR chick **Amanda Pritzker**; the Charles Hotel's adorable **Corey Finjer**; nightlife impresario **Anthony DeMarco**; slave-to-Chanel **Cynthia Frederick** and southern belle **Carla Blakeley**; hunky, long-haired Communist **James Morone**; catering cutie **Susan Callendar**; Local 7 ironworker **Jeremy Long** with the stunning **Tess Hunt**; promo king **Fred Labanara**; Boston.com producers **Chris Rattey** and **Norman Dalager**; networking genius **Noah Williams**; Corona-drinking troublemaker **Bill Bowe**; radar systems brainiac **Tony Hopf**; and one guy who said, "Real men don't drink Cosmos."

They packed the sleek hotel lounge to the rafters, to the point that one guest asked a pair of women, "Are you in line?" to which one responded, "No. Just in the way," while another guest haughtily proclaimed, "I don't wait for drinks," forcing her friend to fetch her an extra-dry vodka martini, straight up, with three olives.

Other amusing comments overheard:

"That's how I like my supermodels: corrupt, jaded and thin," and a guy who works in the construction business boasting, "We're number one in erections."

Meanwhile, a man said to a beautiful blonde, "I swear I know you. Where do you work?"

"Brockton Hospital," she answered, and he said, "That's not it...unless it was the end of a bad weekend."

DIFF'RENT STROKES...

Multiple-choice pop quiz:

Nantucket Ice is

a) A new kind of crystal meth popular with billionaire ravers.

b) A body shot served exclusively at the Chicken Box.

c) The organization that supports the island's skating rink.

Everyone who answered C can give themselves a pat on the back, and anyone who's ever been on the island off-season knows what an important role the **Christopher Nugent Bovers Rink** plays in boosting morale and keeping the community from going stir-crazy during those long, bleak Nantucket winters.

To ensure the facility's fiscal health, Olympic Gold medalist hockey player **AJ Mleczko** and her mother, **Bambi**, organized the fourth annual **Charity on Ice** celebrity hockey match, which, despite its name, is a weekend's worth of festivities that includes fishing, golf and a gala dinner, in addition to the slightly surreal experience of watching famous people play a winter sport on a gorgeous July beach day.

Among the participants were WAAF morning-mouth **Greg Hill** (who commandeered absentee player John Kerry's jersey as a joke); Stanley Cup winner **Ray Bourque**; his fellow ex-and-current Bruins **Lyndon Byers**, **Ted Donato**, **Hal Gill**, **Gord Kluzak**, **Reggie Lemelin** and **Shawn McEachern**; Patriots legend **Max Lane**; film and TV star **John Shea**; *Herald* sports scribe **Michael Felger** and his gorgeous wife, Channel 4's **Sara Underwood**; and sports anchor **Bob Lobel** (who served as the game's announcer).

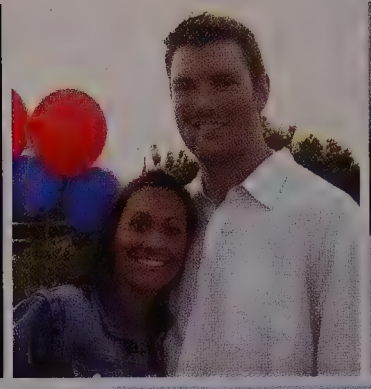
Following the match, a party was held beneath a navy-blue tent decorated with stars on the lawn of **Heather Hill**, the Gifford family's rambling, shingle-style house. (Bambi's maiden name is Gifford.) On-hand were such high-profile types as banking bigwig **Chad Gifford** and his wife, **Anne**, with their absurdly attractive brood—Chestnut Hillions **Charlie** and **Betsy**, the beyond-fabulous **Jessica** and ubercutie **Rufus**; Priceline.com founder **Jord Poster**; broadcasting behemoth **Scott Knight**; the extraordinarily generous **Francie Bovers** and **Brian Schereschewsky**; car czar **George Albrecht**; swanky pair **Carol Gray** and **John McCarthy**, with her son, **Charles**, and nephew **Dirk Bonessa** (who's tearing up the social scene on Nantucket this summer); and others too numerous and glamorous to mention.

As the bidding soared into the thousands during the live auction, emcee Greg Hill said, "Black American Express cards welcome," which prompted one guest to mumble, "I don't have a black one. Mine's black and blue."

Other amusing moments: when Charlie Gifford pointed out that the four tickets for the Patriots-Broncos matchup was an away game, and the winner would have to fly to Denver to see it, at which point donor **Scott Knight** said, "OK, switch it to the Jets," but not before someone else said, "Leave it to Scott. He's in radio. He sells air."

Another auction item was a day of scalloping with island legend Spanky, who warned of possibly having to blindfold the winners to take them to some of his secret spots, eliciting the comment, "I never thought I'd see somebody pay $2,500 to be blindfolded and dragged somewhere by a guy named Spanky." IB

At the Nantucket Ice party, top row: Anne and Hal Gill; Rufus and Jessica Gifford. Middle row: Charlie and Betsy Gifford; Heather Hill; Max Lane. Bottom row: Bob Lobel and Greg Hill; the hockey game.



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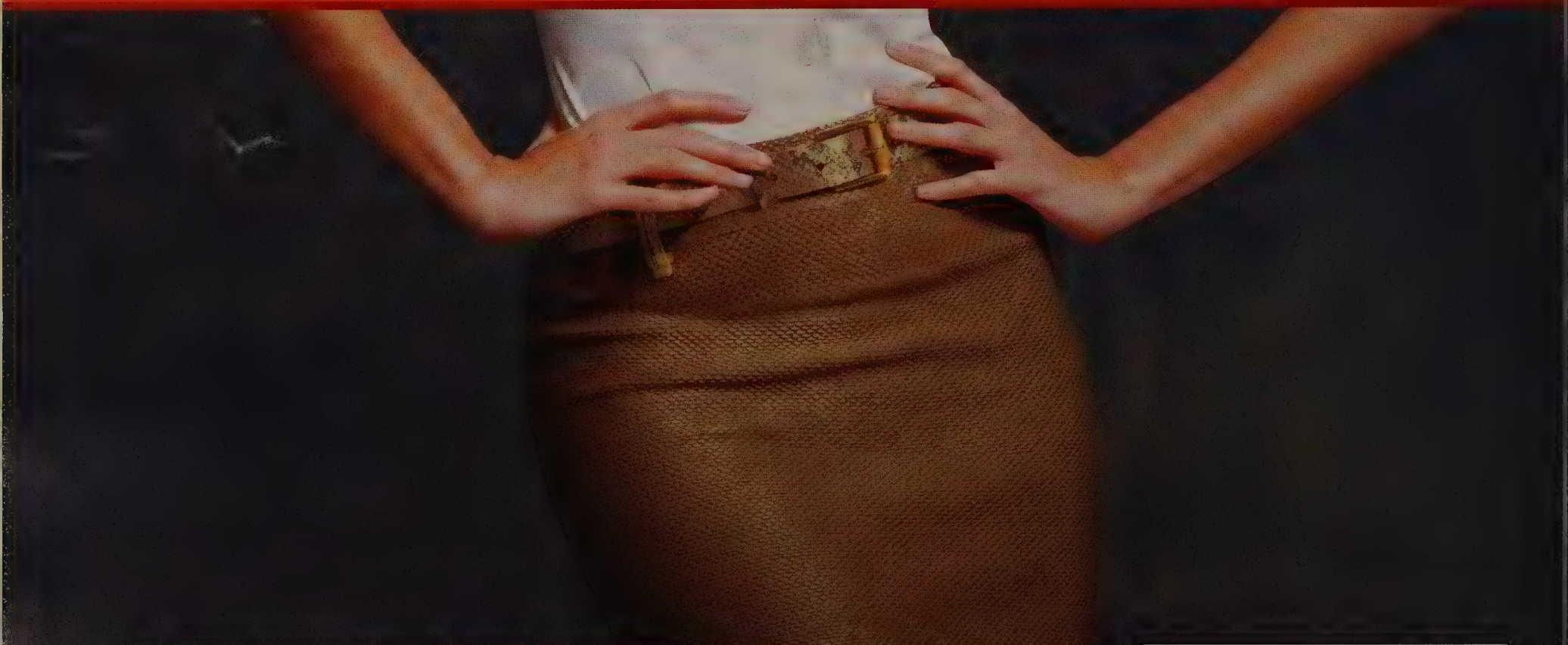

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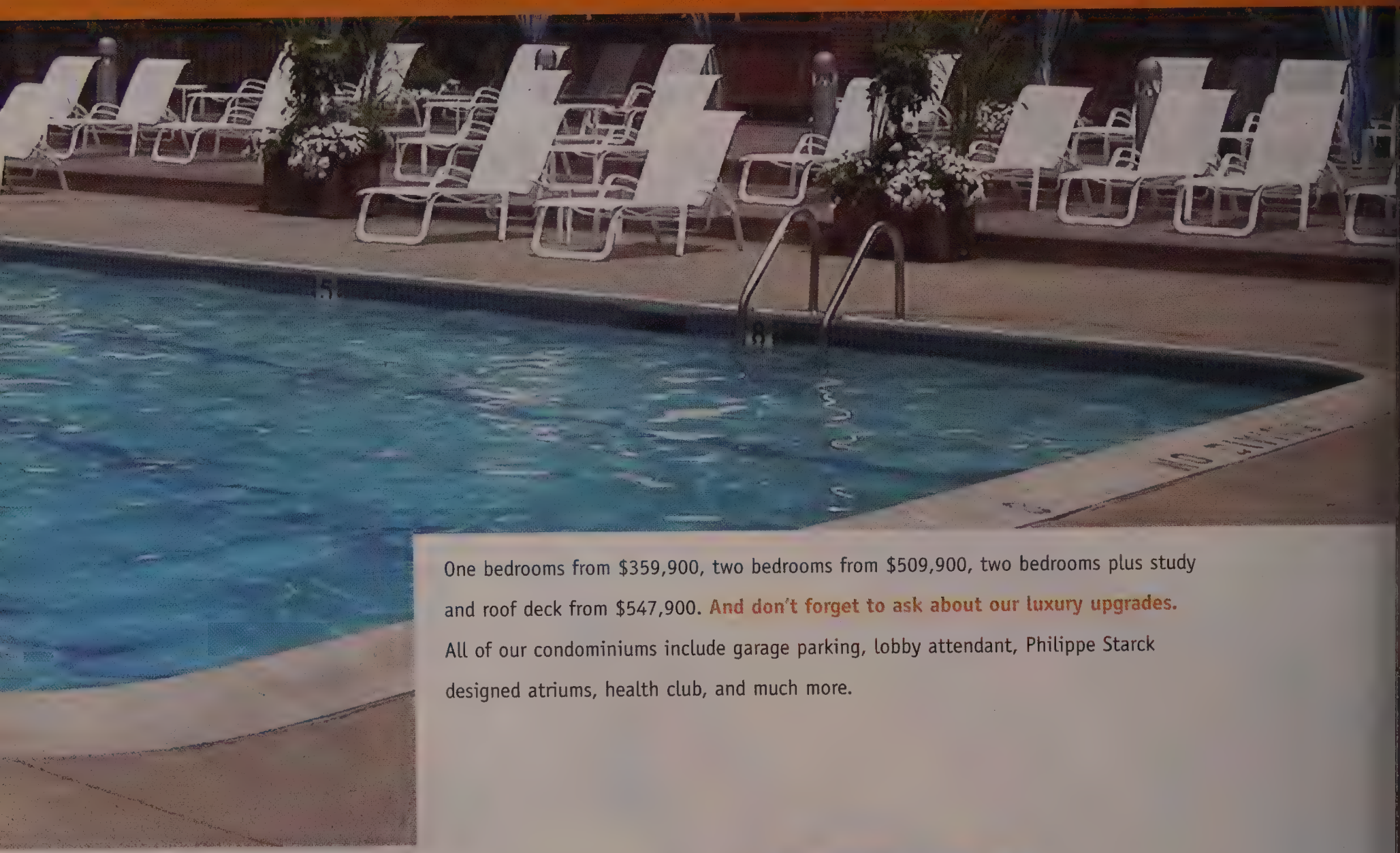

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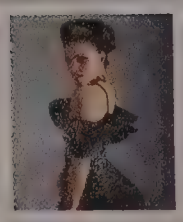

Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Peter Buckingham

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

DESIGNED TO LAST

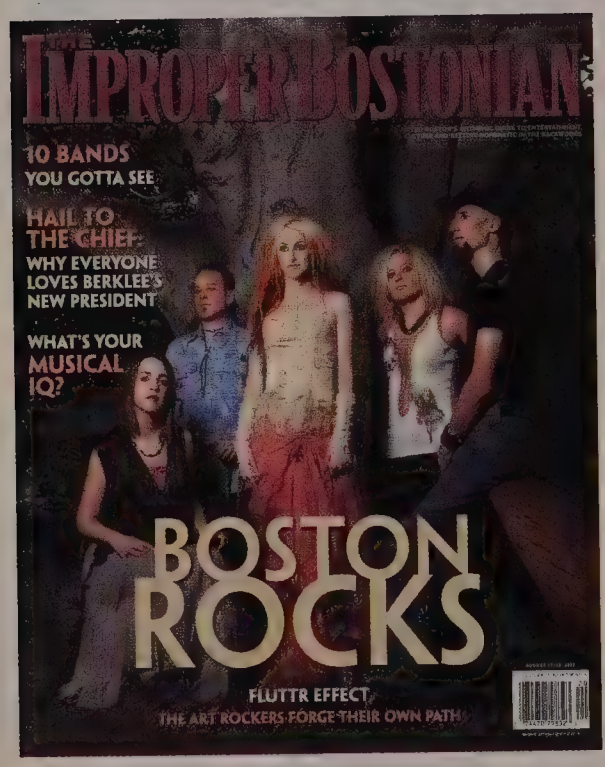
A few months ago, Dava Muramatsu, who owns Matsu on Newbury Street, hosted a small show of her boutique's clothes. Everything she showed was exceptional. What struck me even more than the lovely clothes and Muramatsu's inspired way of putting them together, though, was her philosophy: Don't be afraid to dress well, and wear what you love—you don't have to save your favorite things for a special occasion.

Thinking about that advice this summer, I filled a tiny closet with the clothes I most like to wear and put everything else away. I tried to dress every day as if something big might happen.

As you'll see in these pages, there's a lot to love in this fall's styles—sober colors and sleek silhouettes you won't soon grow tired of. These are things you can wear for years as you build a wardrobe that lets you greet every day like an occasion.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com



FROM A BOSTON MUSICIAN

It's great that these bands are getting the attention they deserve ("10 Bands That Rock," Music Issue, Aug. 17), but what about saying something about the community they come from? More and more people are coming to Boston, and every day the music scene here becomes better and better for the musicians that are part of it. Bands get paid better and are offered more opportunities in Boston than in New York. And the community is small enough for start-up bands actually to accomplish a respectable level of buzz in a short time. When will we start really talking about the Boston music scene as a whole? As long as we keep fragmenting our local bands into individual success stories rather than praising the community that fosters them, we'll be keeping Boston's success in the shadows of other great "Rock Cities" like L.A. and Seattle.

—RYAN KARP
Somerville

DATING WOES

Ezra's piece titled "First Date, Last Date" (Dating Issue, Aug. 3) was so hilarious it made me look like a nut job on the T as I laughed out loud during the morning commute. We all have experienced those excruciatingly bad dates—those dates that were so bad and uncomfortable they made you wish you'd implanted a cyanide capsule in your mouth, so that you could crack it and put yourself out of the misery of the evening. And if people don't know what Ezra's talking about, then they simply haven't had enough bad dates and good dates to be able to tell the difference. So I would tell them to get their asses out there and get ahold of some shitty dates. Kudos.

—JOHN AZAR
Somerville

SEPARATED AT BIRTH?

Have Ezra Dyer and Boston comedian Ira Proctor ever been seen at the same place at the same time?

The similarity is eerie.

—SCOTT SMITH
Cumberland, R.I.

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A native of New York City, Peter Buckingham gained an early appreciation for the arts as the son of an opera singer and a dancer. Peter's editorial clients include *Surface*, *Interview*, Russian *Harper's Bazaar*, *Cosmopolitan*, Spanish *Harper's Bazaar* and Russian *L'Officiel*.

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MUSIC COVER: TIM LLEWELLYN

Tell Us What You Think

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new in town

OLD SCHOOL ITALIAN

Some of Boston's best chefs have dabbled in both French and Italian fare: Evan Deluty, with his French-cum-Italian bistro Torch and new Italian spot Stella; Ian Just, with Les Zygomates and Sorisso; and now Pigalle's Marc Orfaly, who is about to debut his North End Italian venture, Marco Cucina Romana.

Marco is located in the tiny space that used to house Trattoria à Scalinatella and has an apartment-like feel, with low ceilings, exposed brick walls and a small dining area that seats only 50. The cozy, rustic design compliments Orfaly's goal to make Marco ultra-casual. "Obviously, we're in an awesome neighborhood—the North End has amazing restaurants," Orfaly says. "But there aren't many places where you can go for a simple, casual meal, like a glass of wine and a bowl of pasta. We want to bring back that old-school Italian restaurant, the kind of place where you don't need a special occasion to go to but rather come to eat two or three times a week."

Diners can't be regulars quite yet, though. Orfaly and co-owner/wine director Lorenzo De Monaco had only 12 days from the closing of Trattoria à Scalinatella to Marco's scheduled opening August 29—not a lot of time for decor-perfecting and menu-tinkering. So they'll serve a limited menu for the first week, close from Sept. 5–9 and reopen with a full, pasta-centric menu with dishes made to order. There are plenty of nonpasta options, too, like an antipasti of grilled eggplant, zucchini and radicchio ($7), swordfish chop ($25) and prosciutto-wrapped pork tenderloin ($24). Diners also will reap the benefits of Marco's chef de cuisine Matt Abdoo's recent culinary tour of Italy, where he cooked at I Ricchi (Florence) and Il Rossellino (Southern Tuscany) and learned the art behind salumi (salt-cured meat).

Accompanying the sizable number of dinner options is a selection of beer and wine. All of the wines are available by the glass—a decision that Orfaly hopes encourages patrons to stop in for a drink and a light meal if they're not in the mood for a full-on dinner. Instead of a bar, there's a large communal table in the back where people can sit for a low-key drink or wait for a table. On Sundays, Orfaly changes up the menu. "Sundays are family-oriented—just like eating at home," he says. "The dishes are more red sauce-y, more Americana-style, like big pastas and whole grilled fish. Sunday dishes are meant to be shared and will come out when they're ready, like a Chinese restaurant."

Sun., 4–9:30 pm; Tue.–Thu., 5:30–10:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 5:30–11 pm; closed Mondays. *253 Hanover St., Boston (617-742-1276).* —*E.H.*

inner view

SHANE BLACK

Writer/director Shane Black has been one of the most respected writers in Hollywood for more than 18 years, penning scripts for *Lethal Weapon, The Last Boy Scout* and *The Long Kiss Goodnight*. After taking a break from Hollywood for eight years, he's back with a new screenplay and his directorial debut, *Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang*, starring Val Kilmer and Robert Downey Jr. He'll be in town Sept. 11 to attend the premiere of that film at the Boston Film Festival.

Improper Bostonian: *You wrote* Lethal Weapon *when you were only 22 years old. Did you have any idea it would be so popular?*

Shane Black: Absolutely not. At the time, I was enamored with and captivated by action movies. It was the period of gritty cop thrillers—the urban western—and I aspired to do something as good as the films I loved, like *Dirty Harry*.

IB: *Acting, directing or writing screenplays—which do you prefer?*

SB: Directing is more terrifying and exhausting, but when it's over, it's over. There's no more tinkering. With writing, there are always things to change and rewrite, and you're all alone. Directing is exhilarating, and the camaraderie among the cast is what I enjoy—the social aspect of it all.

IB: *Best and worst things about directing?*

SB: The best part is seeing the finished product after writing the screenplay. The worst part is when all eyes are on you during a crisis, and everyone involved is looking for answers, and you have to solve it as the money bleeds away with every minute.

IB: *How was it working with Robert Downey Jr. and Val Kilmer? Any good stories from the set?*

SB: They're both comic geniuses in their own right, and their timing is impeccable. But they're both familiar with the dark side, too, which was perfect for this story. They had so much respect for each other. My most memorable moments were filming late at night, with Val riding around in circles on this stupid little bike he bought to pass time on the set, while Robert practiced his kung fu moves.

IB: *Anything you're looking forward to doing while you're back East?*

SB: I miss White Castle. I used to eat there growing up in Pittsburgh. But I'm looking forward to being in Boston in September. It's always seemed like a place that would suit me better than L.A. and a place I've yearned to visit.

IB: *You broke the record for the highest-paid screenplay ever in 1994, when you were paid $4 million for the film* The Long Kiss Goodnight. *What was the best thing you bought after being paid?*

SB: I went out to used bookstores and bought all the rare book sets I could never afford.

IB: *You used to hang at a house with screenwriters Fred Drekker* (RoboCop 3) *and Ed Solomon* (Charlie's Angels) *during your days at UCLA. Any one memory with them that stands out?*

SB: There was a sign on the front door that said "Open 24 Hours," and it literally was. At any time, you could go there, and people would be making films, writing stories or arguing about a particular screenplay. We all wanted to do something in the film industry and supported each other in building our careers.

IB: *What's the question you dread answering during your Q&A session here in Boston?*

SB: When people ask what happened for those eight [years away from Hollywood]. I don't really have an answer I can pin down. I made all that money and got to be a little older and needed a break. —*LPK*

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tasty tidbits

SUBTERRANEAN SONSIE

Sonsie

Downstairs Dining... This summer, Sonsie remodeled its downstairs Red Room lounge and filled it with a different kind of red: red wine, that is. The new wine cellar, which opened late last month, can hold up to 2,500 bottles (white, too), and the expanded space now seats 35 diners in addition to a 10-seat bar. The wine cellar is open Monday through Saturday from 6 pm–1 am, and although its menu is more limited than the dining room upstairs, the quieter, more relaxed cellar atmosphere likely will make up the difference. *327 Newbury St., Boston (617-351-2500).*

Brand New Brunch... If you've ever tried to track down a parking spot on Route 9 during the week, well, you're probably still circling as you read this. On Sundays, however, the sea of cars disappears, making parking a cinch. In celebration of this phenomenon, La Morra in Brookline is kicking off Parking Brunch with an Italian Twist. Starting September 11, the brunch runs every Sunday from 11 am–2:30 pm and features dishes like Tuscan toast with sweetened ricotta and kumquat syrup, morel mushroom and asparagus frittata and smoked salmon bruschetta. *48 Boylston St., Brookline (617-739-0007). www.lamorra.com.*

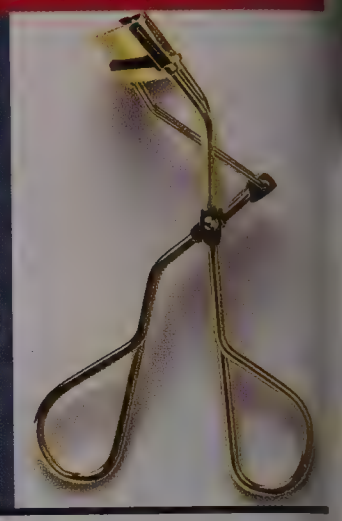
Didi's New Digs... Didi Emmons, co-owner/chef of Harvard Square's Veggie Planet and author of the cookbook *Vegetarian Planet*, has launched a new venture: a café at the Haley House in Roxbury's Dudley Square. The Haley House is a nonprofit dedicated to providing jobs and job training to unemployed people in the community, and its bakery has long supplied baked goods for local residents and restaurants. The House's brand-new café, which opened at the end of August, offers everything from maple scones to Caesar salads to a jerk chicken wrap. *2139 Washington St., Roxbury (617-445-0900).*

Mission Accomplished... Mission Hill is hot, and not just because it's summer. The area has been hit with a barrage of new restaurants recently, like Penguin Pizza and Flames, and on August 23 yet another venue, Mission Bar and Grill, opened right nearby. Owners Michel Soltani and Harry Walsh created a comfort-food eatery with dishes like roast sausage meatloaf, shrimp scampi and steak tips and offers 20 beers on tap and another 40 in bottles. Catering to night owls, Mission's kitchen stays open until midnight, and DJs play until 2 am on weekends. *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-566-1244).*

sam says

GOLD RUSH

Shu Uemura, the beauty company known for creating the most standout eyes in Hollywood, including J. Lo's fox fur–lined peepers, has a real obsession with lashes. They have a wide range of false lashes, their mascaras are top-knotch and their eyelash curler is known to be the best on the market. This year, Shu Uemura has taken its obsession one step further. For the eyelash curler's 15th anniversary, the company is offering two limited-edition, precious-metal versions of the curler: black nickel and, my personal favorite, 24-carat-gold–plated. The curlers, surprisingly, cost only $22 each, and you can buy an equally posh carrying case for $37. Go to www.shuuemura.com to get yours before they're gone. —*Samantha House*



improper reports

PACKIN' IT IN

Love being the first to see the trends? Hunting for a rare accessory at a bargain price? Boston has plenty of trunk shows that offer sneak peaks and discounts throughout the fall.

Clifford Michael Design
September 15–17
73 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-1400).
www.cliffordmichael.com
Clifford Michael Design hosts a bridal trunk show this fall featuring designer Yoly Muñoz. All gowns are custom-made, and customers who purchase during the event also receive a 10 percent discount. For this one, you've got to make an appointment to see the collection.

Designer Fur Salon Trunk Show
September 15–17, 10 am–8 pm
Saks Fifth Avenue, Prudential Center,
800 Boylston St., Boston
(617-262-8500).
www.saksfifthavenue.com
This show takes place in the Fur Salon at Sacks, featuring furs by Bisang, David Rodriguez, Michael Kors, Carolina Herrera, Vera Wang and Zandra Rhodef, among others. There's informal modeling of the wares.

The National Women's Show
October 14–16
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
(800-891-4859). www.bostonwomenshow.com
This three-day event features more than 400 exhibitors offering free makeovers, wine and food samplings and fashion shows, in addition to sample sales. $10; tickets are available at the door.

Sonia Rykiel Trunk Show
November 17 and 18, 11 am–4 pm
280 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-2033).
www.soniarykiel.com
This Boylston Street boutique hosts a trunk show for two days in November, featuring preview pieces from its spring and summer 2006 collection.

Tourneau Certified Pre-Owned Trunk Show
September 9–11
Copley Place, Boston (617-267-8463).
www.tourneau.com
Tourneau's fall trunk show features a large assortment of rare or limited-edition watches from different brands, styles and eras. Visitors can trade in their own watches or purchase any piece in the collection, which ranges in price from $700 to $30,000. —*Shanti Sadtler*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

DIY Dating... What started out as a simple craigslist posting has turned into one of the city's hottest new resources for singles. Last winter, Foxboro native Sarah Ferguson lamented online that she was sick of the same old dating scene. She suggested that fellow craigslist readers get together for a "big blind date." It was a hit, and Like Life Boston was born. Ferguson now runs singles events every month or so at bars across the city for those in their late 20s and 30s. Check out www.likelifeboston.com for upcoming events.

A Family Affair... Riccardo Dallai, owner and founder of the boutique Riccardi, has been catering to Boston fashionistas for more than 25 years. Now he's helping his son Riccardo Jr. continue his legacy with Relic. Riccardo Jr. is about to open the boutique that combines art and fashion in the former Diesel space—right below his dad's store. The interior reflects the cutting-edge look that Dallai has been known for at Riccardi: Pages from antique books, vintage newspaper clippings and murals by local artists line the walls, as well as a smattering of artifacts from the Big Dig. With dad's help, Riccardo Jr. plans to open the store at the beginning of September, with exclusive brands such as Meltin' Pot jeans, Triple 5 Soul and Z Brand. *116 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-7344).*

Ready to Rock... Who hasn't dreamed of being a rock star at some point in his or her life? Now you at least can look like one at Shag Salon's new Shag Late Nite party, which is pretty much the antithesis of the traditional spa experience. Every Thursday (starting Sept. 8) from 7–11 pm, salon owner Sandy Poirier hosts a party for clients who like extreme hair styles and a party atmosphere to match. While clients get their shock-locks on, they get champagne and make-up consultations, sample products from Davines and watch impromptu fashion shows set to live music by DJs. Services range from $55 to $120 (appointments are required). But if you want to go for the fun—not the service—it's free. *840 Summer St., Boston (617-268-2500).*

Pawn to Posh... Kelly DiNisco and Nilda Martin just opened their dream store in the South End—an intimate, ultra-arty clothing boutique for men and women. "We named it Parlor because we wanted people to know they can come in without feeling pressure to buy something," says Martin. To coincide with the First Friday events at the nearby art galleries, the pair sponsors an artist every month and displays his or her work in the store, along with selling a T-shirt designed by each artist. A separate T-shirt bar lets customers design their own silk screens for shirts. Dinisco and Martin transformed the former pawn shop into an open space with plush couches and chairs and plenty of floor space for dogs. Their clothes, by designers like Porridge, Free People and Pegah Anvarian, all have a modern flair. *1248 Washington St., Boston (617-521-9005).*

Parlor

Head Shots... Since Giacomo & Rondi salon is smack in the heart of Red Sox nation (i.e., Kenmore Square), it naturally caters to the folks at Fenway. So it's fitting that you now can get a Sox player's haircut at the salon. A poster of all the Sox players' headshots adorns the wall, so you can pick the one you like best. If you've ever thought you could pull off Johnny Damon's tousled locks or Dave Kapler's shaved head, now's the time. Haircuts range from $35–$90, and half of the proceeds go to the charitable Red Sox Foundation. *Throughout the month of September. 539 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1313).* —*L.P.K. and R.L.*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

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BOSTON'S BEST 2005
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ENGAGEMENT RINGS

PROPER BOSTONIANS

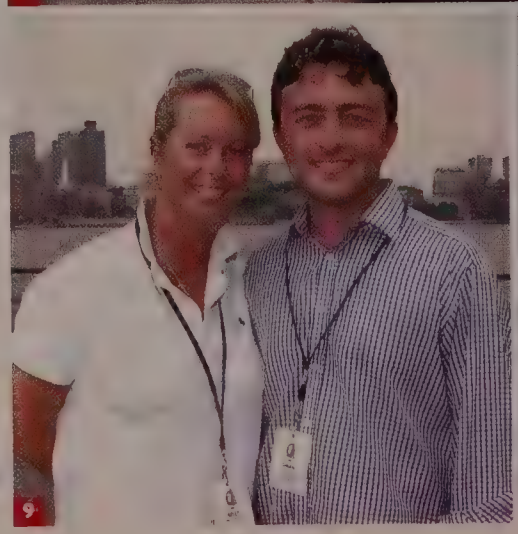
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

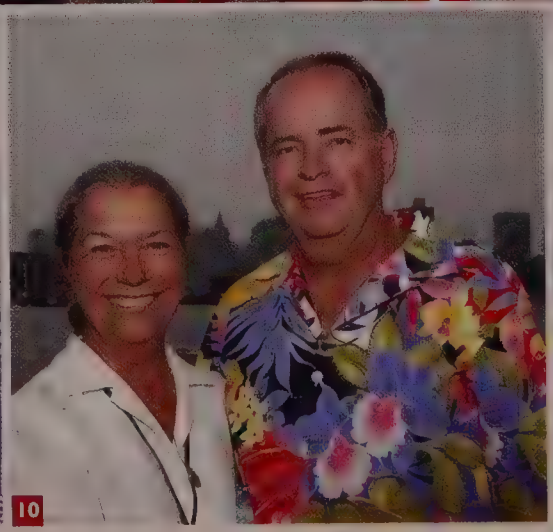
Boston Cares hosted the **Third Annual Summer Nights, City Lights** soiree and auction benefit on Thursday, August 18, at the Boston Marriott Long Wharf Hotel. Some 350 people attended the event, raising $50,000 for volunteer efforts throughout the year. Boston Cares organizes and leads team-oriented volunteer opportunities and services in and around Boston.

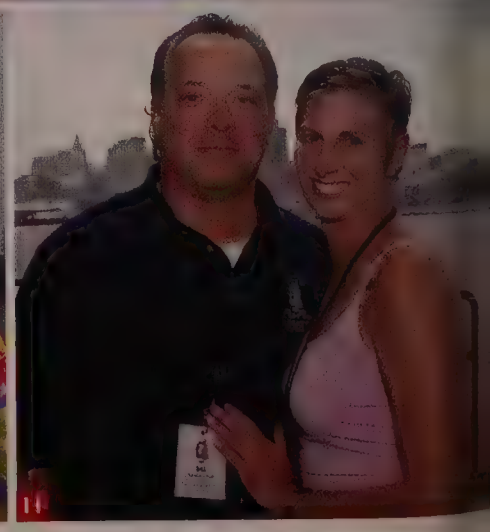
1. **Jonathan Edwards**, director of business development for Kard Scientific in Wilmington; **Samantha Cooper**, director of university relations for EUSA; and **Victoria Moore, Ph.D.**, scientist at Dana-Farber.
2. **Sean McDevitt**, alumni manager for City Year; **Sarah Sherblom**, assistant director for the GreenLight Fund in Cambridge; and **Tim Heidel**, graduate student at MIT.
3. **Ann Schwartz**, sales supervisor of publishing at Houghton Mifflin, and **Jeffrey Carrington**, travel operations manager at EF Education.
4. **Chris Thomas**, administrative assistant at Proskauer & Rose LLP, and **Jennifer Brown**, physical therapist at New England Medical.
5. **Eric Philippi**, managing director at Deutsche Bank, and **Kim Ryan** and her husband **Dan**, event co-chair and vice president of Deutsche Bank.
6. **Kim McAuliffe**, director of client care for Deltek Systems, and **Laura Miller**, human resources director at Weber Shandwick.

The **3rd Annual Flip Flop Regatta** was held Friday, August 12, at the Courageous Sailing Center in Charlestown. Proceeds of the event benefited The ALLY Foundation, established in memory of Alexandra Nicole Zapp, an avid sailor and philanthropist who was murdered. The ALLY Fund's mission is to prevent opportunities for violent sex offenses, to educate the public and to advocate for necessary changes in culture, attitude and legal policy.

7. **Ian McLaughlin**, art director for Artery Creative, Inc.; **Tori Samuel**, event designer for Winston Flowers; and **George Reekie**, sailing photographer in Newport, R.I.
8. **Jay Farraher**, attorney at Greenberg Traurig, and **Megan Harvey**, director at Children First.
9. **Kelly Bresnahan**, founding member and chairperson of the Flip Flop Regatta, and **Sinan Kunt**, Flip Flop Regatta race chairman.
10. **Andrea Casanova** and **Steve Stiles**, Alexandra Zapp's mother and stepfather.
11. **Bill Zimmermann**, regional sales manager for Milliken & Co. in Spartanburg, S.C., and **Donna Gibson**, preschool teacher at MGH Children's Center in Charlestown.







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MINOR INCONVENIENCE

7 plus Eleven equals 18! (or 27)

Memo
To: 7-Eleven Employees
From: 7-Eleven Management
Re: New policy wherein anyone who appears to be younger than 27 years old must be carded when buying cigarettes

As you know, 7-Eleven has recently implemented a new, stricter carding policy aimed at preventing minors from purchasing tobacco products. Just to be on the safe side, customers must appear to be at least 27 years of age or present an ID to purchase tobacco. However, we understand that some 27-year-olds will occasionally forget to bring ID, in which case we're now providing a series of questions cashiers may ask to ascertain if a customer is in fact 27 years old. Correct responses will constitute proof of age.

First, cashiers should ask, "What was Vuarnet of?" The answer, of course, is "France." And while the Vuarnet company still exists, a 17-year-old is likely not as familiar with their stylish sunglasses and apparel, since said 17-year-old would've been an infant during the heyday of Vuarnet popularity in the late '80s. In the event that the customer might've been, like, living under a rock or something in 1988 and somehow never wore a Vuarnet T-shirt for three days straight while trying to beat "Super Mario Bros.," move along to the next question.

Speaking of video games, questions about the original Nintendo Entertainment System, such as "What was the cheat code to get 30 lives in 'Contra'?"—up, up, down, down, left, right, left, right, B, A, start—or "How did you stop Bald Bull's charge in 'Mike Tyson's Punch-Out'?" are not to be used, since many 17-year-olds still play these games as an ironic, retro statement. Ditto for "Atari 2600" games. The only video game that may be invoked in the carding process is "Oregon Trail." "Oregon Trail" was loaded onto every Apple II in grade school and was considered "educational" even though you could abandon your educational, typhoid-wracked trip through the frontier and just hunt deer until it was time for social studies. Ask the potential butt-buyer what color the wagon was in "Oregon Trail." The answer is green, because everything in "Oregon Trail" was green, unless you went to some fancy school that had color monitors, in which case you were probably playing "Montezuma's Revenge" instead, which had the distinction of being fun.

The next question requires a bit of singing. In lieu of a photo ID, the cashier may belt out, "Gummi Beaaarrs, boun[c]ing…" and the customer should be able to finish the rest of the verse: "...here and there and everywhere, high adventure that's beyond compare, they are the Gummi Bears!" We at 7-Eleven recognize that not all of our customers are familiar with the secret of Gummiberry juice, so employees may improvise with questions about a contemporaneous bear-centric TV cartoon, such as *Care Bears* or *Berenstain Bears*. We're also thinking that the *Snorks*, *DuckTales* and, for female customers, *Jem and the Holograms*, are all fair game. What did the Snorks have on top of their heads? (A snorkel, which was pointless, because Snorkland was at the bottom of the ocean.) What was the name of the helicopter pilot in *DuckTales*? (Launchpad McQuack.) Who was Jem's biggest enemy? (The Misfits, particularly Pizzazz. We had to Google that last one ourselves since we at 7-Eleven were about as likely to watch Jem as we were to play with a My Li

IF YOU NEVER COOLED OFF WITH A SNOOPY SNO CONE MACHINE, YOU'RE NOT BUYING A PACK OF KOOLS

tle Pony or scrawl "NKOTB rules!" on ou Trapper Keeper. OK, so maybe we did hav a Cabbage Patch Kid in second grade. Bu so did everyone. Ours was from Russi We adopted him. Our brother's was fro Spain and was dressed like a bullfighter. Ye we're serious. But we also kept perspectiv on the Cabbage Patch phenomenon with robust collection of Garbage Pail Kids card

Thank you for helping to keep tobac out of the hands of minors. And remembe if a customer doesn't know his *Thunde Cats*, he's not getting any Camels. If yo never cooled off with a Snoopy Sno Co Machine, you're not buying a pack Kools. If you were born after this date 1987, attempting to buy cigarettes cou land you in *Night Court*.

In a related policy change, in 7-Eleve that sell alcohol, customers must prese ID if they appear to be younger than Ga Busey. Memo to follow. iB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

BEFORE THE FALL

As summer winds down, a few thoughts on Papi, hockey and steroids.

Around the same time that Terrell Owens was being tossed out of the Philadelphia Eagles' training camp for insubordination—aka being a jackass—David Ortiz was pounding out the 13th-straight home win for the Red Sox.

Are we lucky, or what?

It's not just that Ortiz is so darn productive, but it's the grace and humility with which he carries himself that makes him impossible to ignore.

I, like many, was torn on the Manny Ramirez saga. But I got off the fence on trading Ramirez after Big Papi talked up his fellow countryman. It was like E.F. Hutton—when Papi talked, I listened. And Big Papi was right. Manny does crazy things, but he's a good guy. Big Papi reminded us how much tougher it would be to win without Ramirez hitting clean up for the Sox.

Ortiz reminds me of another big fella I enjoyed watching as he tore up pitching in a Sox uniform for several years. He wore the same number as Jackie Robinson, number 42, and while he was no Robinson, Maurice Vaughn did some mighty good work in the community. The difference is that Ortiz doesn't bring a horde of media along for each charitable endeavor.

Big Papi is the definition of selfless. He gives daily, on his own, without fanfare. I wish I had a nickel for each time Ortiz has made a detour to stop at a local Boys & Girls Club, unknown to the Red Sox PR department, en route to Fenway Park.

It had to be 120 degrees in the gymnasium at the Lawrence Boys Club last month. But there he was, cool as the ice he was wearing in his ears, showing off his best traits—his swing and his smile. He owned the place, which was filled with Hispanic boys and girls.

There are some guys on this Red Sox team you can't get near, not even at the park. As for Big Papi, he's one of the most approachable superstars this reporter has ever dealt with.

It's a beautiful thing. He understands his importance in New England: Not just for winning games but for what's truly important—helping kids achieve winning lives.

I have to admit that whenever good things happen to the Bruins, I'm surprised.

It's sad to remember how special the franchise was in this city, long before the harmful work stoppage that erased last season.

How am I going to get over the mess hockey is right now? Well, the signing of Joe Thornton is a pretty good start.

Give Mike O'Connell credit. He somehow pried the cash from Jeremy Jacobs' kung fu grip so that the team could pay one of Boston's great athletes.

The problem is whether there'll be enough fans to watch Thornton this fall and winter. It'll take more than a little reduction in ticket prices (although that's a nice gesture) for people to come back. It's also going to take more than regular season wins.

The fans will come back in April, May and, let's pray, June. Those are the months of champions, the months that usually separate the Detroits from the Bostons.

The key in any sport, especially hockey and even more so in the playoffs, is to be tougher than the next guy.

If that happens, the fans will return.

When it comes to steroids, I'm concerned that usage is going to increase rather than decrease. It's a race, just like the race to become the fastest Olympian. Who will win, the drug users or the drug testers?

BIG PAPI IS THE DEFINITION OF SELFLESS. HE GIVES DAILY, ON HIS OWN, WITHOUT FANFARE

Both sides will trade victories in the ongoing battles, but based on my experience working as an intern covering the Penn Relays in college, something is rotten in the sports world. It seemed to me at the time that athletes could have been getting some help, although very few were getting caught.

It was my first time near world-class track athletes. I'd never seen anything like Carl Lewis, every tendon and muscle in his body stretching and contracting as he ran. Was he on drugs? He says no. I don't know. But I had a hard time believing that some, if not all, of those guys and gals were on something.

If they're not catching people who are regularly getting tested for the Olympics—where the system is second to none—do you really think they can catch all the users in pro sports?

If you do, I have a bridge in Brooklyn I'd like to talk to you about... iB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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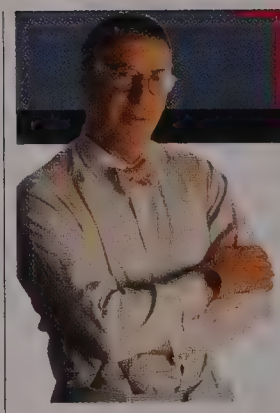

THE DANCE

BY JOHN D. SPOONER

Charlie Davidson: Style Not Fashion

Old-school rules at the Andover Shop.

Charlie Davidson runs a club in Cambridge called the Andover Shop. He's been there for 45 years on Holyoke Street, presumably selling clothes to undergraduates and to people of all ages wandering through Harvard Square. I say presumably, because if he doesn't think you worthy, he won't sell to you at all. Or he'll hide upstairs with the tailor, letting one of his associates take the order from a customer who doesn't deserve Charlie's time.

What are his criteria? He wants you to read books. He wants you to love jazz. He wants you to appreciate beautiful women and to dare to wear a checked shirt with a pinstriped suit. Or stripes on stripes. Charlie Davidson understood the queer eye for the straight guy before the term "gay" was invented. How picky is he? Years ago, I sent a friend named Zuckerman into the shop. Zuckerman was Canadian, and brilliant, which meant, among other things, that he cared nothing about clothes. Charlie needed more than this—he demanded full attention to what was really important: books, jazz, women and, incidentally, a sense of style. Zuckerman ordered three suits; no small potatoes. And Charlie wrote the orders down dutifully in his order book.

Zuckerman called in a few weeks to see about his suits. "Ready soon, we'll call you," he was told. But not by Charlie.

Another three weeks went by, and Zuckerman called again.

"Any day now," he was told. After two more weeks Zuckerman, totally out of patience, called and insisted on talking with Charlie. Furious, he said, "What the hell are you doing, making them alphabetically?"

"At last," Charlie decided. Zuckerman had passed the irony test. The suits were made and delivered.

When my first book was sold to a publisher, I wanted to buy something I could keep always as a reminder of the work that went into it. I went to Charlie Davidson then, to order the first suit that I ever had custom-made. It was a white linen suit, totally impractical. When it was ready, I was surprised by the lining, smart checks of red and blue silk.

"The lining is the most important thing," Charlie said.

"But nobody will see the lining," I answered.

"Ahhh," said Charlie. "That's the point. No one has to see the lining. But you'll know it's there. Style, not fashion. Remember that," he said. "Style not fashion."

"For example?" I asked.

"Well," Charlie answered, "I've never sold one pair of jeans, I've never sold a Nehru jacket when that was the fashion or bell-bottomed trousers. And you should always pay for the best. Low price should be no temptation to compromise. A salesman showed me some ties a while ago. They looked terrific. 'Wool?' I said, marveling at how well they were made.

"'No,' said the salesman, 'acrylic. Aren't they great? I knew you'd love them.'

'I don't want them,' I said. 'I won't buy acrylic that looks like wool.'"

Charlie rolled on. "When I started in business, the shuttle to New York was $12. And I knew who my heroes were: Sinatra, Chet Baker, Babe Ruth, the writers for the *New Yorker*. But I also knew that heroes are best at a distance, only in the context of their profession and in their arena. They're always much better out there than at a bar lifting a cocktail with you."

You go to the Andover Shop not just for clothing—you go for companionship, like at the mythical Cheers. And because seldom do we meet people who are totally true to their principles (right or wrong). Charlie is pure in this regard.

"Business should not be everything," Charlie has said, "nor should money. I have always had nonspenders in my shop, if they interest me, if they give me gossip or good movie recommendations."

I asked Charlie recently, "How's business? Anything unusual these days?" I ask that question wherever I go. It's a simple sample that helps me manage people's money and spot trends.

"Yes," he said. "Young people are shopping for good clothes again, not suits, but fine jackets and trousers and accessories. We have ascots here, for instance. And by God, we sell one a day. People don't even know what an ascot is anymore. My kid clients took me to dinner this spring. First time that's happened in 20 years. Probably good for Ralph Lauren stock. Definitely good for the raising of standards."

"Is there anyone around Boston you'd like to meet and see in your shop?" I asked.

He thought a moment and said, "Yes. Absolutely. It's Larry Summers, the president of Harvard. He really needs my help." IB

The IMPROPER's newest columnist, John D. Spooner, is an investment advisor, author and novelist. Contact him at thedance@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

BILLY STARR

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Billy Starr, 54, invented the charity bike ride in 1980 by founding the Pan-Mass Challenge, an annual ride from western Mass. to Provincetown, to raise money for cancer research. An avid outdoorsman, skier, cyclist and racquet sport player, he started the Pan-Mass Challenge after the death of his mother, at age 49, from cancer.

By 1984, the PMC had become the largest-grossing event for the Jimmy Fund, and by 1990, it was the most successful cycling fund-raiser in the world. Today, it raises two to three times more money than any other charitable athletic event in the nation, and since its inception, the PMC has donated over $122 million to cancer research. In 2004, 97 cents of every dollar raised went directly to the cause. Born in Boston, Starr was raised in Newton and received his B.A. from the University of Denver in 1973 and an M.A. in education from Northeastern in 1978. He worked as a newspaper reporter in Massachusetts and Colorado and did public relations for Hill & Knowlton, as well as serving as the squash coach at Babson College. Starr has been honored with the Jimmy Fund's Thomas A. and Jean R. Yawkey Memorial Award for outstanding service, the Sidney Farber Medical Research Award and an honorary doctorate from Babson College. He also has been featured in a documentary about entrepreneurs, as well as a PBS series entitled *Visionaries*. Earlier this month, 4,000 riders took part in the PMC. Starr lives in Wellesley with his wife and two daughters.

JS: *If you could boil down the PMC's success to one thing, what would it be?*
BS: Using the PMC itself as a catalyst to entitle people to ask other people for money. The ask is what counts.
JS: *Don't you guys screw up traffic?*
BS: [Laughs.] Y'know, you guys in cars damn well ought to tolerate us for one day a year. You'll get to the beach eventually. We're gonna raise $20 million. You're gonna be maybe five minutes late.
JS: *Hardest part of the ride for you?*
BS: My role as speaker. To get on my bike Saturday morning and ride 200 miles is an honor and a pleasure.
JS: *Ever feel like chucking it all and becoming a couch potato?*
BS: Never. It's just not me. I've got too many ants in my pants. If my mother was alive, she'd tell you: I was a handful.
JS: *PBS called you a visionary. How would you describe yourself?*
BS: A successful pain in the ass.
JS: *Imagine if you'd kept all the money. What would you do with $143 million?*
BS: I'd give it to cancer research.
JS: *Ever think that with your drive you could've been CEO of a Fortune 500 company?*

"IF I DIDN'T DO THIS FOR A LIVING, I'D BE UNEMPLOYABLE."

BS: I think you're being very generous about my talents. If I didn't do this for a living, I'd be unemployable.
JS: *What's your take on the copycat fund-raising bike rides: the AIDS ride, Best Buddies, etc.?*
BS: On the human side of the equation, anyone hates being ripped off, but there's a world of good causes out there, and I really do believe that using your physical skills for something beyond the sweat equity is a very positive thing, so I don't begrudge anyone a successful charity bike ride.
JS: *Logistically, what's the most difficult part of pulling off a 200-mile ride with 4,000 participants?*
BS: My business runs perfectly 363 days a year. Then comes the event weekend, and it all falls apart, but we're ready for it. It's a marathon distance, so we've had to build an infrastructure to take care of the riders' needs. We have to give them the support they need mentally, physically, technically, nutritionally, hydration-wise...everything.
JS: *You were honored alongside Virgin founder Richard Branson, hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons and Home Depot founder Arthur Blank. What do you four have in common?*
BS: I'd like to get together with them to talk about it, so I could ask each of them for a check. But I suspect each of us filled a void.

JS: *Favorite route to bike in the world?*
BS: I have a few: Chatham to Provincetown. The precursor to the PMC was that I would get up and bike from my Dad's house in Newton to Provincetown in time to catch the 3:30 ferry home. That was the game: 130 miles to make the ferry. I'm still enamored of Cape Cod without the traffic. But I also love the finger notches of Maine and New Hampshire. And I love Tuscany. But the bike is a wonderful way to see the world. I've been to Argentina, Chile, New Zealand.
JS: *How about Lance Armstrong. You think he's a big druggie?*
BS: [Laughs.] He hangs around with a rock star, so...I don't know. I'm sure we'll meet someday. It'll be like Stanley and Livingston. He endorses the PMC, but he hasn't been there yet. Maybe next year. We'd be thrilled if he'd come.
JS: *Aren't his bracelets getting to be a bit much?*
BS: I'm wearing one right now. Y'know, his was definitely cool. I'm sick of all the rest, except my own.
JS: *How do you think you'd do in the Tour de France?*
BS: [Laughs.] Not well. I think I'm past my prime at 54.
JS: *Furthest away that someone comes to ride in the PMC?*
BS: Hong Kong. We get about seven European countries: Germany, Switzerland, France, England, Spain. The Virgin Islands. Alaska. Plus 37 states.
JS: *Best way to train for the PMC?*
BS: Get your ass on a bike.
JS: *If you could have your mother back for one day, what would you do with her?*
BS: She'd volunteer at the PMC. She'd want to see it.
JS: *Bike shorts: pro or con?*
BS: Definitely pro, although I was slow to take them up. It was about eight years into the PMC before I ever considered myself a biker. I was just an athlete. So in our earliest videos, I'm wearing Bill Rogers running shorts and sneakers. Eventually, I embraced all the specialty gear. It's all good, and it all makes sense.
JS: *Any bike-short-stuffers on the PMC?*
BS: [Laughs.] I'm lookin' at the women.
JS: *Best guess?*
BS: I guess people must. There's a single population there. Who knows?
JS: *Ever gone to a spinning class?*
BS: Yup. I came late to it, but I love rock 'n' roll and music, so I think it's great.
JS: *C'mon. Pedaling a bike that's bolted to the floor while an idiot with a headset yells at you?!*
BS: The whole indoor fitness movement is simply a stepping-stone to the world of outdoor recreation. If that's how people get a start, good for them. They could be smokers instead.
JS: *If you could ride a bicycle built for two with anyone, who would it be, and why?*
BS: Lance Armstrong, because I figure he can pretty much carry me.
JS: *One thing that people should consider carefully when donating money to charity?*
BS: That their money is getting where they hoped it would go.
JS: *What's the biggest charity boondoggle?*
BS: Inefficiency. But as a semiserious comment, I'd like to say that with a semi-skeptical public who may have charitable hearts but sometimes struggle with taking out their wallets, we're pretty lucky, most of us.
JS: *Last question: How do you want to be remembered?*
BS: As someone who made a difference.

you're going to be just a bit picky about how it is served. Which is why we like bartenders to follow a carefully organized ritual when they pour it. This includes everything from rinsing the glass, to cutting the excess foam from the head. And even making sure the logo on the coaster and chalice are turned to face the customer. Which might sound fussy to you. But then we're fussy about everything when it comes to our beer.

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EMERGE BY GIULIANO ■■ 275 Newbury Street

MTV'S SUSIE CASTILLO MODELS THE DEEP HUES AND SLIM SILHOUETTES THAT KEEP WOMEN LOOKING SMART AND SOPHISTICATED THIS FALL.

fallingforsusie

Black, cashmere dress, $5,980 at Chanel. Baroque, five-strand, pearl necklace, $15,000; matching bracelet with diamond clasp, $3,000; matching earrings, $500; blue topaz, diamond and white gold, limited-edition ring by Ieşi Scavia, $9,900. All at Elysé Jewelers.

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY PETER BUCKINGHAM

Tourmaline, wool oversized trench by Chaiken, $598. Yellow gold and diamond earrings by Jose Hess, $8,750; yellow and white diamond necklace, $45,000; platinum, three-stone diamond ring, $195,000. All at Elysé Jewelers.

I first met Susie Castillo at the cover shoot for our Boston's Best issue two years ago, when she was 23 years old. She'd just won the Miss USA pageant and had high hopes for a great career ahead. When she surfaced again in February as a host of MTV's *TRL*, it was obvious she'd begun clearing her own path up the celebrity trail. Easygoing and refreshingly beautiful, and with a high-profile new role, she was the obvious choice to model our favorite looks for fall. A native of Methuen, Castillo relocated to New York City this past July after an exhausting five months of commuting to New York from California while working on special projects for MTV. Perhaps it was all that Miss USA training that kept her so energetic.

In the following spread, you'll see Castillo in a much more sultry light which, incidentally, is what this fall is all about. The new looks will inspire you to pack away the vibrant shades that have been so popular for the past two years. Instead of pink, turquoise and green, fall's color wheel's spinning toward rich and romantic shades of brown, gold, navy and black.

This season's pieces are dramatic and elegant, with the power to transform you with their chic refinement the moment you slip them on. This year, opt for investment pieces rather than buying up a storm of stylish throwaways, and you'll reap the rewards for years to come.

Finds that truly define this season:

the dramatic coat

If there's ever an item to spend a fortune on, it's a fabulous coat. You'll be seen more in this piece than any other during the frosty winter months, so make an impression with fur trim or a funnel neck.

the Grace Kelly suit

This style has been gaining momentum for a few seasons, and the current, elegant incarnation will make an appearance in every fashion maven's wardrobe. Exude class in a slim skirt that falls past the knee paired with a fitted and belted jacket.

the slim sweater

Look for long, lean sweaters that can be ruched to create a slouched look over denim or leggings or worn at full length and belted over a skirt to create a narrow line.

the long evening gown

You don't have to be a celebutante to show up at a party in a formal gown this season—it's becoming increasingly popular to "overdress." Look for slip-dresses in colors with warmth and depth.

the tulip skirt

Small pleats at the base of a straight skirt create a "tulip" effect and fall flatteringly to the knee. Look for this cut in lighter fabrics like cotton, silk and satin.

the short evening dress

It's the traditional cocktail dress—minus about a foot of fabric. Short's in, so show off those pretty knees.

the carnation skirt

Strategically placed gathers on this long skirt create a full effect. You'll see this look in dresses as well. Wear it with a wide belt and a soft cashmere sweater for maximum appeal.

the romantic blouse

Think flowing shirt straight off the cover of a romance novel. Sleeves are silky, long and often belled. Ribbon and corset styling abound—Fabio not included. Wear it with a body-hugging skirt or narrow pants for a truly romantic look.

the slim pant

Pencil-straight and cutting a slim line down to your shoes, this pant will make you look long and lean. It's a fall and winter staple for every figure, especially in flattering black.

As you stock your closet for the coming chill, opt for the basics. Pick rich colors that make you feel warm and cozy and that'll stand the test of time. Toss that "wear-it-once" mentality, and stick to the timeless classics that will stay elegant for years to come.

Cherry, velvet dress with rose-detailed gathers, $2,210 at Marc Jacobs. White gold and diamond waterfall earrings by Stefan Haffner, $60,000; diamond and white gold ring by Gregg Ruth, $11,500. Both at Elysé Jewelers.

k, silk chiffon, draped, long-sleeve, empire-waist se, $995 at Gucci. Black-and-white, Mayan pearl t necklace, $1,750; diamond and platinum earrings 000. Both at Elysé Jewelers.

Natural white, wool toile apron dress, $3,275; Jeanne Bordeaux ve
ankle-strap pump, $495; both by Yves Saint Laurent. Yellow gold
diamond bracelet by YVEL, $9,500; yellow and white diamond pen
by Gregg Ruth, $12,500; both at Elysé Jewe

Hair by Gretchen Monahan
for G Spa

Makeup by [illegible]

Chaiken
www.chaikenclothing.com

Chanel
[illegible]
617-859-0055

Elysé Jewelers
95 Main St, Reading
781-942-4565

Gucci
Copley Place
617-247-3000

Marc Jacobs
81 Newbury St.
617-425-0707

Yves Saint Laurent
800-833-3486

stretch-silk, long-sleeve, empire-line
$2,850 at Chanel. White gold,
bian emerald-and diamond drop
s, $1,70,000 at Elyse Jewelers

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Resident DJ
Eddie McDonald

fri. sept. 23, 2005

The Palms

Rain

Resident DJ
ROB

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FROM MILITARY TO DOUBLE-BREASTED SUITS, THIS SEASON, MENSWEAR IS FULL OF YUMMY SLEEK LINES AND LOTS OF NEW FLAVORS

CHOICE CUT

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER

Left: Pearl-pink, cotton silk, capri jacket, $1,700; white, cotton, piece-dyed, button-down shirt, $325; white, cotton corduroy, roma pant, $395. All at Gucci. Center: Beige, technical, canvas bomber jacket, $980 by Dsquared at Saks Fifth Avenue. Dark, denim jeans, $150 at G-Star. Right: Wool overcoat, $425; blue, zipper-neck sweater, $295; pinstriped pants, $185. All by Victorinox, all at Uniform.

The male wardrobe used to be pretty simple. It consisted primarily of solid-colored jackets, ties, button-down shirts, slacks and a couple pairs of jeans. But these days, men can have as much choice as women have in their closets, and even the least fashion-conscious men know what a good appearance can do for them both socially and professionally. Below is a cheat-sheet of fall fashion trends for men.

the velvet jacket

This fall, it's all about luxe. The velvet jacket is king among trends, and almost every designer is showing his or her own version of it. Take your pick from thick and full velvets to thinner ones that are almost like corduroy (which also is in style, incidentally).

the double-breasted suit

Double-breasted jackets with matching pants make a full comeback this year, but don't envision the old, boxy cut. This version is much more form-fitted, nipping in at the waist.

the peacoat and military influences

The classic peacoat is back this year in countless incarnations of color and style. From jeans to jackets, the clean lines of military wear also are all the rage. These soldier-inspired pieces work perfectly to spice up a more casual look and add instant style.

pinstripes, plaids and mix and match

Patterns of all kinds are hitting the shelves, with throwbacks to the '50s and '60s popping up everywhere. If you want to keep it simple, just pick one pattern and pair it with solids. But if you want to dress on fashion's cutting edge, try a large stripe with a skinny one or a plaid with a light check. The possibilities are endless.

the colors purple and brown

Dramatic purple is on the menu this season—anything from pale lavender to aubergine. You'll see these colors mostly in shirts, ties and jackets. Browns are much less intimidating to wear and equally popular. Try a chocolate suit with a tan shirt and a textured tie to optimize this color du jour.

Men, you can handle these hip styles—don't cling to the old basics that have been hanging around your closet for years! Try a little color and texture. Be a little daring, and you'll achieve the stylish status you've always known you deserve.

Left: Black, velvet blazer, $325; knit top with graphic, $175. Bo
DKNY. Black, wool trousers, $575 at Giorgio Armani. Center: Char
pants, $145; red, velvet blazer, $325; knit top with graphic, $175. A
DKNY. Right: Black, double-breasted, wool suit, $3,095 at Gio
Armani. White, cotton, piece-dyed, button-down shirt, $395 at G

Left: Dark brown bomber jacket, $485 at Saks Fifth Avenue. Floral shirt, $365 at Riccardi. Both by Dsquared. Studded jeans, $210 at G-Star. Center: Charcoal, double-breasted, wool suit, $3,675 at Giorgio Armani. Eggshell, cotton, striped shirt with white cuffs and collar, $530 at Gucci. Right: Brown, wool trousers, $575; gray, cotton shirt, $450; silk and viscose velvet blazer, $2,095. All at Giorgio Armani.

DKNY, 37 Newbury St., 617-236-0476; Giorgio Armani, 42 Newbury St., 617-267-3200; G-Star, 348 Newbury St., 617-267-4100; Gucci, Copley Place, 617-247-3000; Riccardi, 116 Newbury St., 617-266-1[illegible]; Saks Fifth Avenue, The Prudential Center, 617-541-0077; Uniform, 511 Tremont St., 617-247-2360.

Photos: Alex Shanklin for Q and Michael McMahon for Fusion

MARVELOUS MATSU

BY SAMANTHA HOU

At her chic Newbury Street boutique, fashion savant Dava Muramatsu shows Boston women it's okay (and easy) to be stylish all the time.

Dava Muramatsu has seen trends come and go, and her philosophy on fashion has never wavered: Build a comprehensive wardrobe that will last a lifetime. With her impeccable taste, Muramatsu and her boutique, Matsu, a fixture on Newbury Street for seven years, have been the answer to many intelligently stylish women's prayers.

Muramatsu also has been a savior to more than a few ensemble-challenged women. Perhaps they wander into her shop wearing their inappropriately beige outfits (Muramatsu thinks most people can't wear the dreary color) and begin to browse. A meeting with Muramatsu follows. From there, she will (if asked) edit their closets and send them down the path toward making great impressions on everyone they meet.

Though she lives to discover the new items that designers offer each season, Muramatsu's not interested in fleeting trends. "It seems as though the younger generation—the 14–23-year-olds—are dictating what's happening with designers," she says. "That upsets me, because most of these people are impulse buyers. And they're so label-conscious that they end up looking generic. I'm more stimulated by elegance and subtlety." She chooses what she buys for herself and her store based on things she considers most important, like fit, fabric, manufacturing quality and uniqueness.

While subtlety is key, don't think Matsu is all about basics. Despite the simplicity shoppers may find in the boutique, Muramatsu prides herself on finding garments that really stand out. She used to travel around Europe, scouring the showrooms for those unique pieces and exceptionally talented designers, but in the past two years she says she's taken a one-city approach. "I went to Paris a couple of years ago and just seemed to find everything I needed there. It was a melting pot of all of the best influences. The designers that were there came from everywhere in Europe and Asia, and it all just seemed to fit." Even one of her staple designers, Comme des Garçons, shows only in Paris, though the company is Japanese. Muramatsu says her next challenge is to seek out the same caliber talent here in the United States.

This fall, like much of the fashion world, Muramatsu is embracing the color black. "People have misused black in the past," she says. "They only wore it to look slimmer. It had a bad energy. The designs were also very architectural and hard. Not very flattering—think the '80s. There's a beautiful softness to it this time around. Sheers, knits…that sort of thing. It's really quite stunning."

Muramatsu takes her concern for women's fashion seriously. She admits she sometimes fantasizes about standing in front of the John Hancock building and pulling people aside to offer them free advice: "You don't have to wear that outfit or those sneakers! There are so many other options…for instance, shoes you can wear all day long." Muramatsu is more than just a clothing enthusiast—she's her own category of designer. She views her avocation of changing people's closets as changing their lives, and in more cases than not, it turns out she's right.

1. Mulberry, wrap swing coat by Nicole Farhi, $995; 2. Multistrand, leather and black pearl bracelet by Celeste's Pearls, $170; 3. Leather and mink shoulder bag by Victoria Revene, $825; 4. Hand-knit, copper bolero with sequins by Jane Wheeler, $585; 5. Black, wool, tulip skirt with flannel lining by Comme des Garçons, $775; 6. Peruvian calcite, "rosary" necklace by Rebecca Lankford, $410; 7. Brown, suede, Moroccan bag with gold sequin appliqué, $220; 8. Stemless, Japanese Bordeaux glasses by Usuhari, $80 per pair.

Matsu, 259 Newbury St., 617-266-9707; makeup: Dani Wagener for G Spa.

i on style

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY TONY SCARPETTA

reptile

RAID YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S CLOSET BECAUSE CROC, SNAKESKIN AND LIZARD ARE BACK.

From croc to alligator to python, reptilian accessories have slithered their way to the top of the must-have list. It's their rich textures that have fashionistas watering at the mouth and snatching up every style as it hits the shelves. Start with Coach's snakeskin ballet flats, and don't forget Gucci's evening handbag in blue. If your wallet won't accommodate such heady indulgences, you can wait a month or so and grab the faux versions that are bound to pop up. Reptile pieces are great investments—they stand up to the wear and tear of everyday life and look great doing it.

1. Framed python pouch on belt, $198 at Coach

2. Irina printed, python shoe, $250 at Coach

3. Violet, crocodile belt, $1,490 at Carolina Herrera

4. Small, night-blue patent leather and crocodile top handle bag, $8,100 at Gucci

5. Avenue of the Americas watch with diamond bezel in cobalt blue, $6,665; Avenue of the Americas watch in rose gold with skeleton back, $15,995. Both with Louisiana crocodile bands by Gevril at Shreve, Crump & Low

6. Metallic pump with snakeskin detail and rosette, $790 at Marc Jacobs

7. Prussian blue, crocodile bag by Balenciaga, $14,500 at Gretta Luxe

8. Pink, lizard pumps by Jimmy Choo, $1,295 at Gretta Luxe

Carolina Herrera
954 Madison Ave.
New York, N.Y.
212-249-6552

Coach
Copley Place
617-236-4991

Gretta Luxe
Copley Place
617-536-1959

Gucci
Copley Place
617-247-3000

Marc Jacobs
81 Newbury St.
617-425-0707

Shreve, Crump & Low
330 Boylston St.
617-267-9100

embroidery

KEEP YOURSELF IN STITCHES WITH FALL'S FAVORITE DETAIL.

You may have noticed threads of embroidery cropping up on denim this spring. The fall promises to bring sexy stitching on boots, handbags, denim, skirts and whatever else fashion masterminds can conjure up. Embroidery is the perfect way to add just a hint of brightness and texture to the season's deep colors without going overboard. Look for items that have stitching right on the garment—not shoddy appliqués that lack staying power. Conservative types can opt for same-color stitching for a more muted effect.

1. Noir, embroidered skirt by Stella Forest, Paris, $363 at Tess & Carlos.

2. Black, embroidered suede clutch, $2,650 at Gucci.

3. Jeans with embroidery and riveting by People for Peace, $280 at Matsu.

4. Cobalt and copper jacquard, stiletto, peep-toe pump with black soutache trim, $250 at Stuart Weitzman.

5. Black, embroidered suede boot, $1,950 at Gucci.

6. Burgundy, knit sweater with embroidered, colored patches, $495 at Escada.

Escada
308 Boylston St.
617-437-1200

Gucci
Copley Place
617-247-3000

Matsu
259 Newbury St.
617-266-9707

Tess & Carlos
1241 Centre St.
Newton Center
617-965-8377

Stuart Weitzman
Copley Place
617-266-8699

designer spotlight

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

With a collection that's often described as classically stylish yet modern, Carolina Herrera has earned acclaim for her simple, elegant designs. Her clothing has always mimicked her own personal style and continues to inspire women around the globe. Herrera tested her first collection in 1980 in her native country, Venezuela. It was so well received that she packed her bags, moved to New York and unveiled a full collection the very next year. Fifteen years later, Herrera's list of loyal clients reads like an invitation list for the Oscars. She has created six fragrances, a bridal line and, of course, her original ready-to-wear line. I asked Herrera for some tips on how to update our closets for fall, among other style questions.

Samantha House: *You're known for a classic yet modern style. What's a good example of this style?*
Carolina Herrera: Anything that is simple, sophisticated and chic.
SH: *What are the top three styles for fall?*
CH: For daytime, trousers with a yellow jacket with a lynx collar. For cocktail, I love the lamé, pleated dress and for evening, the brown ball skirt with the white shirt.
SH: *What's your favorite trend for fall?*
CH: The new dimensions in skirts. The dramatic shapes of the collection are softer and modernized by using lightweight tweeds and geometric chiffon prints. Jackets and coats emphasize the waist, while skirts and dresses combine architectural elements to create volume and movement.
SH: *If you had to pack only five clothing items and two pairs of shoes for a long trip, what would they be?*
CH: For a long trip, one pair of trousers, one shirt, one ball skirt, a divine fur jacket in lynx and a pair of gloves. A pair of sandals and a pair of heels, both by Manolo Blahnik. Of course, FedEx helps a lot sometimes, too.
SH: *What's the one accessory you rely on to save any outfit?*
CH: Two yards of grosgrain fabric to make a beautiful belt.
SH: *What's your favorite item of clothing that you own?*
CH: Everything in my closet!
SH: *What would we see if we took a peek inside your closet?*
CH: Lots of color in solids and stripes as well as plenty of hat boxes and shoe boxes.
SH: *What would you like to see every woman stop wearing?*
CH: Leggings with a short jacket.
SH: *Have you ever had a fashion disaster? What was it, and how did you fix it?*
CH: Not being dressed for the occasion, which only has happened once. Simply, I arrived at a black-tie party in a cocktail dress. I didn't fix it. It wasn't that dramatic, so I continued to enjoy myself.
SH: *How would you describe Boston's fashion style? Are there pieces from your collection that seem particularly popular in Boston?*
CH: Boston fashion style is classic with a European touch. The most popular items in Boston are a herringbone wool skirt suit with leather trim, a gold embroidered motif dress with medallions and a gold embroidered motif coat with a sable collar.
SH: *How would you describe your fall collection?*
CH: The 2005 fall collection was inspired by the women of the '40s and their elegant approach to daytime. The colors of mimosa, raspberry, violet, blush and charcoal gray are inspired by the semiprecious stones that embellish the collection. With the intricate threadwork of the embroideries and the beautiful crystal beading, the colors themselves become focal due to their intensity and vibrance. The contrast of furs and the intense colors with fluid silhouettes results in a glamorous and effortless approach to dressing for fall. iB

Carolina Herrera is sold exclusively at Neiman Marcus in Boston.

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Charles Maksou at Maksou Salon

Three-time best haircut recipient Charles Maksou is being upgraded. He's become such a style deity in the city that we thought it should be declared officially. Uncanny vision and infectious enthusiasm add to his enormous talent. Whether he's jetting around the world for work or pleasure, there's no doubt that when you pin him down, he'll have some fabulous, inspired new idea for you to try. With his charming accent and quick wit, he wows the ladies and can coax the most hidebound dowager into changing from humdrum to super glam. Whomever he touches invariably walks out the door feeling like the most beautiful woman in the world.

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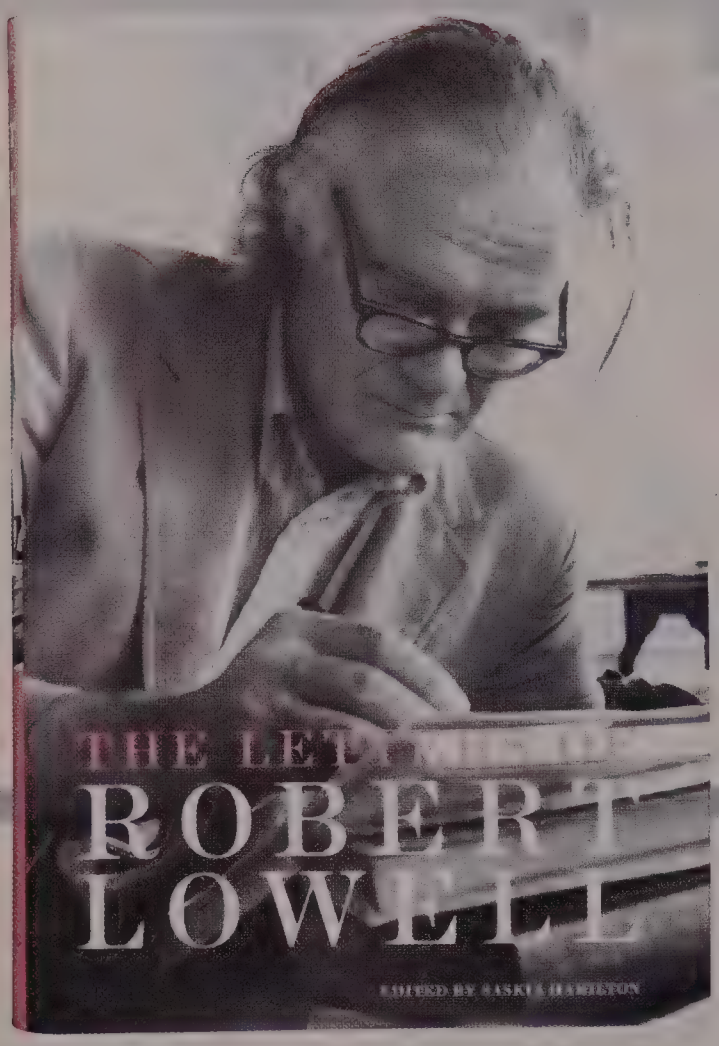
SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



THE BRAHMIN POET FROM MARLBOROUGH STREET

***The Letters of Robert Lowell*, the poet, give a rich picture of his loves, art and friendship.**

Thicker, perhaps, than all his poetry books put together is this book of Robert Lowell's letters. Written with high literary energy, they present a picture of a man deeply engaged in observing his particular idiosyncratic world and in wreathing himself in friendships, beginning with Ezra Pound, T. S. Elliot and Robert Frost. The famously Brahmin Lowell's vertiginous moods landed him repeatedly in McLean mental hospital, where he would manically take on even more ideas and more women. But in the letters, he is more apt to be recounting the chastened afterbounce of his psychotic soarings. Booze, love affairs, generous friendships and the swirling life of poetry abound. Two Elizabeths receive his richest letters. One, his lifelong friend, poet Elizabeth Bishop, was a sort of stalwart mentor who brought out his most steady, decent self. And there was Lizzie Hardwick, his long-suffering wife, whom he eventually left for the glamorously unstable English writer Caroline Blackwood. Throughout his years with Blackwood, Lowell continued to write sweetly to Lizzie, like a tender, needy boy, almost as if they were the true lovers. It was to Lizzie that he was finally returning the day he died, in a taxi. Like his life, Lowell's letters are rich in literary juiciness.

A VERY, VERY FANCY NIGHT'S SLEEP

Pratesi at 110 Newbury Street (617-262-5998) sells the highest quality linens, sheets and robes. Closed Sunday.

Pratesi's creamy catalog lures and lulls you, because these are simply the sheets and towels of angels, well-heeled ones. Actually, the last Pope slept on Pratesi, as did, perhaps less angelically, Madonna. People send their decorators here to pleasingly blend the statement-making bedlinens with other decor. Thread counts, these days, have become falsely inflated by lesser stores, but Pratesi's linens, made from long-staple Egyptian cotton, range from 482 to 800, which is luscious indeed. Their subtle, and often complex, patterns include wispy, feathery red designs, pretty little bows, embroidered chain-stitch, aristocratically antique patterns, gently geometric ones and a flowing gray scene that contains (surprisingly, as the pattern looks so restful) a little volcano! Edges of pillowcases, straight or scalloped, have a luxuriously large margin, as do the tops of many sheets. Some linens are made in the crunchy Jacquard style that adds texture. Luxurious duvets and quilts loaded with subtle details can be accompanied by a little sidekick blanket called a Quiltino. Towels, interestingly, are a rather thinner gram weight in the Italian style but feel better and better the more you use them. Robes to swish against all this finery come in gentlest cashmere appliquéd in silk and cost around $2,100.

A NEW APPROACH TO LEARNING THE PIANO

Deborah Gruber teaches one-session classes, "Instant Piano for Hopelessly Busy People," at the Boston Center for Adult Education (Oct. 1) and at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education (Nov. 5). For more venues, contact her at dgruber@rcn.com.

You can learn a lot of piano—the nonclassical branch, at least—away from the piano itself. As you sit in a classroom chair looking at a picture of the piano keyboard and at easy notations of chords, the class' teacher Deb Gruber talks and instructionally tickles the actual ivories. With just some basic knowledge of the notes, and without really reading music, you can get cozy with 12 basic chords: major, minor and those juicily enhanced seventh chords. It's enough for you to start splashing down on them on your own piano, enhancing the melodies of various simple songs like "Tom Dooley," "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho" and the gratifyingly ornate, merriment-rich "The Entertainer." Deb has further simplified the process of learning chords by chunking them into four categories (all white keys, all black, etc.). She compares seventh chords to yogurt, taking on the flavor of a song—barbershoppy, gritty, bluesy, even wistful. Transposing chords into other keys in various sequences and the tra-la-la embellishment of arpeggios add texture. The readable chord skeletons that she uses show piano notes with dots on the pertinent keys; 30-45 minutes four times a week of practicing at home can get beginners in the groove. Ray in a day? Almost, baby!

Food Photos: Paul Schlavone

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REVIEW

SEA FLAIR

Mare adds modern style to the usual North End eateries.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Potato crème brûlée topped with crayfish and chive oil

Think blue. Many shades of blue, like the ocean as it extends from the shore, with the sun's different angles and the varying depth of the seabed creating cerulean hues of increasing intensities. "Mare" means "sea" in Italian, and the ocean-blue color scheme of this 54-seat restaurant at the corner of Richmond and North Street in the North End announces the theme of its cuisine. Conceived around creatures of the sea that are chosen with discriminating good taste, Mare's cuisine is prepared with culinary flare and presented and served with style and grace. Mare is the third of Frank DePasquale's restaurants (along with Bricco and Umbria) that he has put into the capable hands of executive Chef Marisa Iocco.

The single, square dining room boasts high ceilings and white, almost stark walls with clean, modern lines that are light and airy. Brushed aluminum windows extend almost to the ceiling, letting in plenty of light in the early evening (but plenty of heat during the hot, muggy days of summer). Everything else is blue: from the blue banquettes and the blue glass receptacles for the votive candles on each table to the blue jeans, blue shirts and blue aprons of the wait staff. An alternating multicolored light emanates from the soffits along one wall, injecting a note of playful, kaleidoscopic whimsy as they turn from red to yellow to blue and back. White napery dresses the tables where stylish tableware, elegant wine glasses and smart, white, oversized dinnerware establish an atmosphere of understated elegance and refinement in the lovely room. Small, flat-screen monitors mounted high at three corners of the room display images of grapes, wine and underwater landscapes.

MARE

135 Richmond St., Boston
(617-723-6273)

HOURS Mon.–Sun., 5–11 pm
RESERVATIONS suggested
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING valet
LIQUOR LICENSE beer and wine

Almost uniquely among North End restaurants, Mare starts its patrons with an amuse-bouche, a small, gratis preappetizer that's different every evening: on one night, a refreshingly simple zucchini soufflé with a touch of ricotta and pickled onions, and on a second, teasingly tiny marinated hamachi cheeks, from a rich, pleasantly oily fish not unlike bluefish, perched on three vibrant, green fava beans.

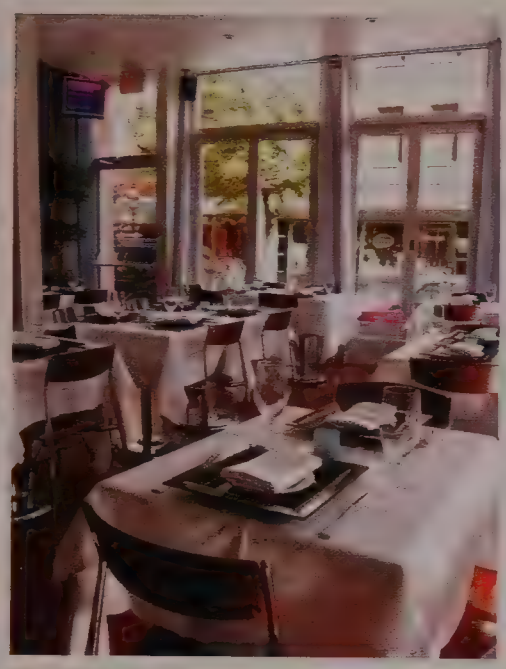
Antipasti included buffala mozzarella ($16), a creamy, light-textured mozzarella cheese—almost to cheese what whipped butter is to butter—accompanied by yellow and green tomatoes and thin slices of porcini mushrooms, lubricated by a fruity, aromatic extra-virgin olive oil vinaigrette. As pleasant as was the mozzarella, Mare's seafood appetizers demonstrated emphatically why this restaurant is named for the realm of Neptune. The dish of barbecue octopus ($14) brought three of these diminutive critters, rising from the plate like small, Daliesque sculptures, garnished with offbeat but delicious potato foam and a generous dollop of Genovese pesto with muted garlic and lively basil. The offering of deep-fried, soft-shell crab ($16) celebrated this summer specialty in fine fashion. Accompanied by marinated borlotti beans (like favas but colored brown) and grilled radicchio, the crab replicated the abstract sculpture of the octopus in its presentation. Its delicate breading and flash frying made it a first-rate treat. My favorite among the appetizers turned out to be the fresh sardines gratin ($12). To many people, sardines connote mushy, oily, fishy creatures from cans, but in Italian and Iberian cuisine, fresh sardines are an epicurean treat. Mare's sardines, three plump, firm-textured fish, had been halved lengthwise, stuffed with escarole, pine nuts and raisins and then grilled under a hot broiler. Their striking presentation was mirrored by the rich, salty goodness of the fish in counterpoint with the pleasantly bitter escarole, buttery pine nuts and sweet raisins.

Pastas, a strong suit of Iocco's, included two all-stars and one also-ran. The also-ran was the tagliolini ($18) with "organic squeezed and whole heirloom tomatoes and basil." Except for the minty basil, the flavors in this dish were so pallid as to slide under my taste-bud radar, and the limp texture of the pasta bore no resemblance to al dente. Moreover, surprisingly, in view of its healthy tariff ($18), the portion was skimpy and scarcely served to provide more than a couple of small forkfuls each for our table of four. In contrast, the paccheri ($20) arrived in an ample quantity for sharing, and it was indeed share-worthy. These broad, flat noodles, like unstuffed, uncurled lasagna, featured sweet, nutty jumbo lump crab meat; firm, flavorful fava be and slices of black sum truffles in a buttery, wa seasoned sauce. Even be and one of the most me rable pastas I have eate some time, the cason ($18; $9 a half port turned out to be torte with a twist—stuffed pa the size of large torte with their ends twisted t semble salt water taffy w pers. Stuffed with sword with a few crumbs of bis to lend a mild sweetness four beauties that compl the half order made a lightful pasta course, t sauce a rich, brown, butter studded with nug of pancetta.

Too often, restaur that excel in appetizers pastas fall short when it comes to main event. Not so at Mare. Of five r courses sampled, almost all five eme as winners. Four of the five featured in dients of the grigliata di mare ($28 mixed seafood grill that changes d were first-rate: scorpion fish, subtle in vor and moist but firm in texture; rob full-flavored hamachi; tasty, perfectly tured swordfish; and two briny shr grilled in their shells. Only an unfo nate hunk of dry, dense tuna marred array. Skate Milanese ($24) profited f light breading and quick frying that served its texture and made it crisp light. The accompanying organic aru and baby yellow and red tomatoes m the perfect garnish. Butter-braised M lobster ($36) closed out the trio seafood main courses I tried on my visit in spectacular fashion: The meat removed from its shell, swimming in ter and garnished with smoky por mushrooms. A small ramekin of scallo potatoes layered with lobster fragm and buttery lobster coral enchanted its exquisite flavors.

Nonseafood-fanciers are not ignore Mare. Roast suckling pig ($30) remin me of Spanish "cochinillo," with c crackling skin and succulent, intensely

Chocolate polenta soufflé with vanilla gelato



Chef de Cuisine Jeffrey Michaud

Paccheri with jumbo lump crab meat, fava beans and black summer truffles

rful flesh. This roast suckling pig may t have risen to the level achieved by adrid's Botin (a famous Hemingway unt), but it made a more than credible owing, delightfully garnished with lled apricots, figs and chicory. Even tter, particularly from a price–quality ndpoint, was Mare's rack of lamb 25), consisting of two one-and-a-third-h-thick chops of tender, rare, young d delicately flavored Colorado lamb. pressively presented, the long-boned s occupied the center of a large, round te surrounded by quartered roasted atoes and shallots, the entire ensem- liberally seasoned with rosemary.

Unlike many North End restaurants t send their patrons packing after the in courses to procure their desserts where, Mare's excellence in the chen extends to the pastry chef. Per- is to compensate for malfunctioning conditioning on the night of my first t, the waitress brought an array of t-rate desserts, starting with a triple ne brûlée, flavored with mascarpone, ee and rum, with a creamy, smooth ure in each section. Peroni beer soufflé lan delivered the haunting flavors of iews, while chocolate polenta soufflé— sh I approached with skepticism—proved a great combination, with its distinctive, slightly grainy texture and a flavor combining the natural sweetness of corn with an intense flavor of chocolate.

Mare's wine list, equally split between whites and reds even though seafood dominates the menu, contained some good options. The c'a dea grati, a 2003 Lombardia white, was full-bodied and flowery, almost like a viognier, a good accompaniment to the richly flavored seafood offerings. Among the reds, a super 2001 Tuscan blend of sangiovese and cabernet sauvignon combined full body with good structure, while the cabernet sauvignon from Emilia Romagna was even more substantial in weight but with a sturdy, tannic backbone and good acidity.

The front of the house at Mare, trained and directed by Chef Iocco's longtime collaborator Rita D'Angelo, did justice to its talented kitchen. Despite adversity imposed by an inadequate air-conditioning system one hot, sultry summer night, the unflappable energy and good spirits of the wait staff rescued the experience. On a subsequent visit, the air conditioning problems were obviously well on their way to being resolved, and nothing detracted from the sheer enjoyment of dining in this first-rate establishment.

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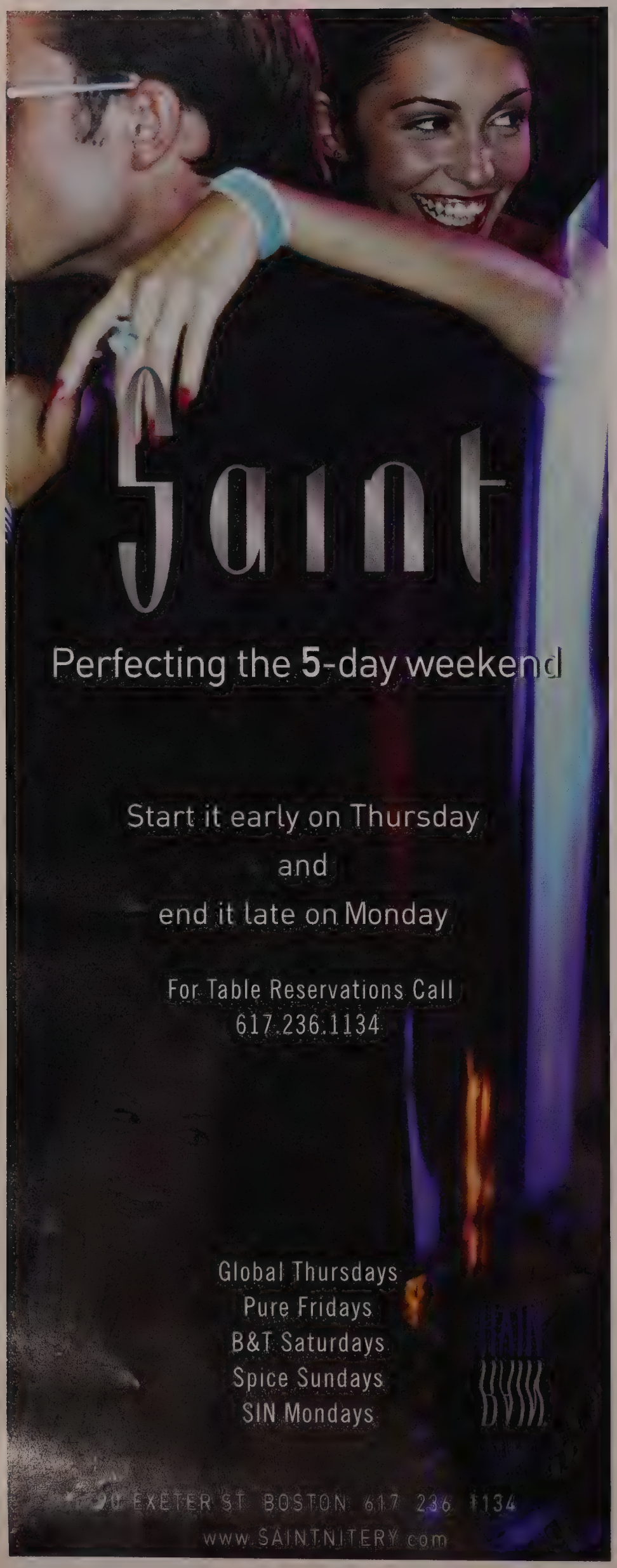

TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Class in a Glass
Piattini on Columbus, 162 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-423-20021). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mondays. 6 pm. $40. Piattini hosts a series of educational, four-course dinners paired with matching wines. •Sept. 12: The French Connection.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) plus complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tuesdays, 6 pm; Thursdays, 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •Aug. 31 and Sept. 1: East Coast Wines. •Sept. 6 and 8: Mendocino County's Anderson Valley.

Greek Winemaker Dinner Series
Mezé Estiatorio, 100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-6393). www.mezeboston.com. Sept 12. 7 pm. $65. Executive chef **Paul Delios** prepares a five-course menu of contemporary Greek dishes paired with wines from Greece's Vatistas Winery.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complimentary food tasting. •Aug. 31: various pinots. •Sept. 7: 20/20/20: 20 wines, 20 hors d'oeuvres, $20.

Neighbors Night
Le Soir, 51 Lincoln Road, Newton (617-965-3100). www.lesoirbistro.com. Aug. 31 and Sept. 7. 5:30-9:30 pm. $40. Chef/owner **Mark Allen** prepares a three-course prix fixe menu that showcases his French country cuisine.

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. Thu. and Fri., 6 and 8:30 pm. $35. Chef de cuisine **Mark Usewicz** prepares a tasting menu of classic Italian small plates in front of guests at the restaurant's Oysteria Bar. Reservations required.

Spice of the Month Club
Tamarind Bay, 75 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-4552). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Second Monday of every month. 5-7 pm. $25. Executive chef **Wali Ahmad** discusses a new Indian spice each night and prepares a four-course menu of dishes predominantly featuring that spice.

Steak Frites Fridays
Pigalle, 75 Charles Street South, Boston (617-423-4944). www.pigalleboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Fri. 5:30-10:30 pm. $30. Every Friday this summer Pigalle chef **Marc Orfaly** offers a three-course menu featuring classic steak frites.

Stella Artois Dinner Series
Grafton Street Pub & Grill, 1230 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-0400). www.graftonstreet cambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 5-Sept. 5. Daily. $35. Grafton Street Pub & Grill executive chef **Ryan Cyr** creates a prix-fixe menu for the month of August, featuring dishes like a sautéed shrimp linguine and pork porterhouse, all paired with Stella Artois beer.

Sudoku Night
Fugakyu, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline (617-734-1268). MBTA: Green Line C to St. Paul. Every Mon. 5-7 pm. Customers at Fugakyu's sushi bar are given the opportunity to solve Sudoku, a Japanese placement puzzle, for the chance to win discounts off their meal.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Sept. 6: Red Zinfandel. •Sept. 13: Tuscany.

Wine and Oyster Pairing
North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-720-5522). www.mccormickandschmicks.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6-8 pm. $30. Executive Chef **Joseph Bartel** and guest **Marty McCabe** from Horizon Beverages present five oyster selections matched with five wines.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**.

Wine Tastings at Vinalia
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-1777). www.vinaliaboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Every Wed., 6:30 pm. $15. Every Wednesday night, Vinalia hosts a wine tasting featuring four wines paired with seasonal appetizers.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Aug. 31: Bordeaux.

Tamarind Bay hosts the Spice of the Month Club on the second Monday of every month.

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— Jack Welch, *Winning*

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— *Owner, founder*

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DISH

No Tension, No Trauma...No TV

Hold the conflict...lose the stardom.

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

(L to R) Kitchen manager Alicia McCabe, chef Bill Flumerfelt, owner Chris Douglass, general manager Alicia Doyle and sous chef Sam Putnam, all of Ashmont Grill.

Very little "nice" and plenty of vice: That's what reality television is made of. Even Canadian reality TV requires a modicum of dramatic tension. So when the Canadian crew filming *Opening Soon* (a Food Network series about, yup, restaurant openings) at **Ashmont Grill** in Dorchester abruptly canned the project, what was the take-home message?

To paraphrase the e-mail sent to the restaurant publicist: **Chris Douglass**, you're a nice guy, and you're putting together this project without all the screaming, heart ache, stress and blood-on-the-floor conflict that are the raw material for good TV. We are so bored, we're going back to Canada for excitement.

Chris Lyons, publicist for Ashmont Grill, is philosophical about what she calls Douglass' "fleeting brush with cable-TV celebrity." His professional success with his restaurants, she says, is sure to be more enduring than a brief cameo on the Food Network.

SECOND COURSE

Rumor mill: For a while now, we've heard rumors that powerhouse chain **Ruth's Chris Steak House**, slated to take over the former **Maison Robert** space, is backing out because of major structural challenges presented by the Old City Hall building venue. Not so, according to **Lanette Jarvis**, director of public relations at the company's headquarters in Metairie, La. "The opening date's been moved to early October, and it could be moved again," she says, but the restaurant will, indeed, open. Seconding Jarvis' certainty is **David Shinney**, named the new general manager of the forthcoming Boston Ruth's Chris and no stranger to the Boston steakhouse scene. Shinney was part of the team that opened **Grill 23 & Bar** way back when, and after a stint in Florida, he's in the process of moving back to Boston. "It's a drop-dead-beautiful site," he says of the new location, "absolutely magnificent." And what about entering a market already packed with steakhouses?

"Everybody understands it's a fiercely competitive marketplace," says Shinney, whose understanding is equaled by his confidence in his new employer. "Everything is signed, sealed and delivered," he says.

More on **Steve Johnson**'s **Rendezvous**: As rumored, Johnson's forthcoming restaurant will take the place of the former Burger King in Cambridge's Central Square, proving that gentrification can be a really good idea. **Deepack Kaul**, formerly Johnson's sous chef for three years at the **Blue Room**, will be the Rendezvous chef. **Nicole Bernier**, most recently of **Craigie Street Bistrot** and formerly of the Blue Room, has been named general manager. Decor will feature tabletops made of bamboo, a 13-seat bar and a color scheme of "burnt oranges and yellows," says Johnson, who predicts a mid-October opening.

Ed Doyle update: Along with fulfilling a long-term endorsement contract to be a spokesman for a popcorn product ("You never know where your career path will take you," he commented), the former chef at **Aura** and current restaurant consultant has become roommates with **Andy Husbands** ("a swimming bachelor pad...we should be a reality series") and is continuing to plan his upcoming restaurant, **Haven**: "three years of distillation, honed to a razor edge" is how he describes it. We'll keep you posted. iB

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WINE

The Port Report

BY SANDY BLOCK MW

Port consumption was on an explosive growth curve in the United States during the 1990s. People were salting away vintages in their cellars, drinking the wine with their cigars (remember that?) and discovering the pleasures of a glass with dessert. Despite the fact that upward sales trends have since stalled, port continues to be a popular choice after a long, satisfying dinner. With certain types of cheeses or chocolate desserts on the table, nothing's better. But there's one style of port that's more versatile than that, fitting a wide range of occasions. Tawny ports, because of their lower tannin and the mellower, sweeter impression they impart, always seem to be the favored style when I do tastings among groups that aren't already port connoisseurs. They're just so easy to appreciate.

Tawny ports are aged in smaller casks than other ports and receive more aeration. Both factors contribute to their transformation from deep-purple–colored wines to those that display varying shades of amber, mahogany and brown. The finest are classified according to how long they spend in cask, with the average time of maturation displayed on the label. There are 10-, 20-, 30- and over 40-year-old tawnies available on the market. The longer they spend in wood before bottling, the less red and the more brown you see in the glass. The oldest ports are super-concentrated, and some begin to lose their sweetness as they take on complexities that only develop after decades in the cellar. For my money, however, among the great values in the entire world of wine are the 10-year-old tawnies. These are wines, with an average cost of about $20, that the producers have kept in their cellars for more than 10 years, and you can open a bottle, pour a glass, recork it and continue to enjoy the port for several weeks. And the flavors are seductive: caramel, butterscotch, milk chocolate, raisin. The final attraction is that you can drink these luscious elixirs a bit on the cool side and do so with great pleasure. So while their more natural season is fall or winter, 10-year-old tawnies even can be enjoyed in the sweltering heat of late summer.

This is one category of wine where most, although not all, of the selections are delicious. Over the years, it's tended to be a specialty that the continental Europeans enjoyed more than the British, so while the mainstream, prestige port shippers (Taylor Fladgate, Graham, Fonseca, Dow, etc.) all make wonderful tawnies, the Portuguese-oriented firms tend to have laid in the most stocks of older wines and to make the tawnies that appeal most to me. They're less harsh and tannic and more honeyed and soft.

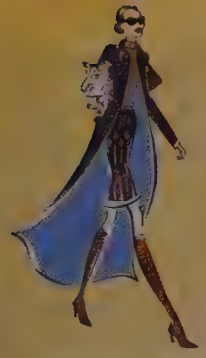
A recent blind tasting of 10-years revealed several worthy choices, but the following three were truly meritorious.

Warre's Optima 10-year-old tawny ($22 for a 500 millileter bottle)
This venerable British port shipper's 10-year reflects an interesting new trend in marketing: packaging the wine in a sleek, streamlined, 500-milliliter bottle, designed to attract a younger wine drinker's eye, in place of the squat bottles in which tawnies traditionally have been sold. While it's advertised expressly as a lighter style of tawny that breaks new ground in its "crossover" appeal to nonport drinkers, I found nothing but the traditional sensuality and charm of an outstanding 10-year in this wine. It was perhaps a bit less complex in flavor than the other two choices and a shade lighter in color. The aromas, however, are classic: coffee, dates, red berries and flowery essences. Soft and creamy on the palate, with a milk-chocolate flavor edge, this is a very easy-drinking, delicious wine that, to my taste, would be an ideal accompaniment to a pecan pie. There's a nutty, buttery nuance to the flavors that also would suit it to a double or even triple crème cheese.

Delaforce's His Eminence's Choice 10-year-old tawny port ($21 for a 750 millileter bottle)
Delaforce, with its French name and Victorian-looking bottle, always has been focused on aged tawnies that were sold in Portugal and other European countries more than in the United States or Britain. So there's a large stock of older wines in its cellars that it uses to enhance its aged tawnies' intensity and flavor. This wine has a fresh, red-fruit aroma, along with scents of mocha and sweet spices. It's lush on the palate, with raisiny, fig-like sensations that evolve into flavors that are smoky but smooth, chocolate-like, spicy and even maple-influenced on the finish. Definitely a "wow" wine and a steal at the price. I've had it with tete de moines, an aged, semihard Alpine cow's milk cheese from the Jura, and it was incredible.

Ramos Pinto's Quinta da Ervamoira 10-year-old tawny ($35 for a 750 millileter bottle)
The product of a single quinta, or wine farm, this wine is simply spectacular. Deeper in color, without much trace of red left, it was the biggest, most concentrated and nuttiest of the 10-years. It's intensely creamy, with black plums, roasted coffee and bitter chocolate all playing together in harmony—an outstanding choice for blue-veined cheeses or rich chocolate desserts. IB

Master of Wine Sandy Block is vice president of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.



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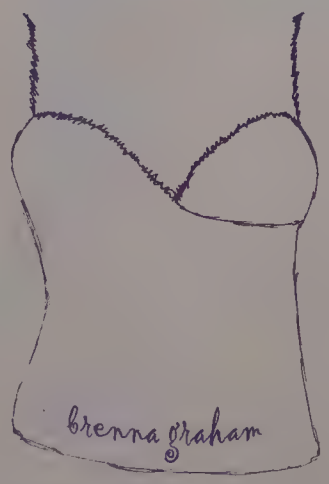

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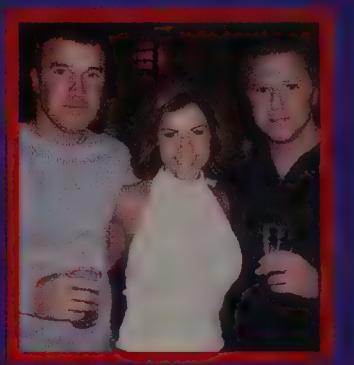

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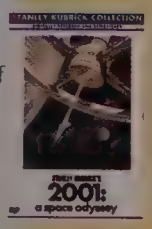
			Everest begins its final week of screening at the Museum of Science's Mugar Omni Theatre. *See Movies on page 72.*		Singer **Angela Bofill** is in town, performing at Scullers Jazz Club. *See Music on page 75.*	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The Brattle Theatre screens ***2001: A Space Odyssey*** as part of its tribute to Stanley Kubrick. *See Movies on page 71.* 		**This Car Up, the Shills, Soft Caustic** and **Butterknife** play at the Middle East Upstairs. *See Music on page 76.*	The annual **Fidelity Jumper Classic** kicks off at Myopia Hunt Club in South Hamilton. *See Cityscope on page 62.*		**Lewis Black** opens the annual Boston Comedy Festival with a show at the Cutler Majestic Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 66.*	The 25th annual **MSPCA Walk for Animals** begins at Boston Common. *See Cityscope on page 62.*
11	12	13				
Donna Sorbello's play, ***The Educated***, is at the Boston Playwrights' Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 64.*	Executive chef Paul Delios hosts a **Greek Winemaker Dinner** at Mezé Estiatorio. *See Tastings on page 52.*					

DEGAS: KATYA KALLSEN, HUAM. ©PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE

THROUGH SUN./NOV. 27

Museums & Galleries: Delve into Degas

Harvard University boasts one of the largest collections of Impressionist master Edgar Degas' paintings, drawings, prints, sculptures and photographs and was the only institution to mount an exhibition of Degas' work during his lifetime. So it's no wonder that art revelers everywhere are talking about the new exhibition at the Arthur M. Sackler Museum. Featuring more than 60 of the artist's works, the museum hosts gallery talks, lectures, concerts, children's events and a black-tie gala, all in celebration of the French artist. September 11 features an afternoon discussion on Degas' life and works with assistant curator Sarah Kianovsky, which is free with admission. And for those who prefer evening gallery visits, on Thursday nights the museum is extending its hours to 8 pm, just for the Degas exhibition. *485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/degas. —LPK*

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Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts, Sports

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

Carmen

SAT./SEPT. 3 – SAT./OCT. 8

Performing Arts: Carmen to Get Ya

With increasingly shorter days and the prospect of another miserable winter on the horizon, fall sometimes can be an unsettling time around the Hub. But over in the Theater District, fall is the hottest time of year, as the latest season of shows begins to take form. On September 3, the American Repertory Theatre, in collaboration with the Theatre de la Jeune Lune, kicks off its 2005–06 subscription season with George Bizet's classic opera, *Carmen*. The story, which takes place in 19th-century Seville, follows an army corporal, Don José, who abandons his fiancée and dying mother after falling in love with a gypsy named Carmen. When Carmen falls for another man, tragedy ensues. The opera is directed by Dominic Serrand, the man behind past A.R.T. performances *Amerika* and *The Miser*. *American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. $12–$74. —RL*

FRI./SEPT. 9 – THU./SEPT. 15

Movies: A Masterful Mix

It seems like the Boston Film Festival gathers steam each year. This year's fest—its 21st—brings in five days of shorts, documentaries and feature films at the Loews Boston Common Theatre. Special events include a panel discussion with filmmakers on the changing face of independent films, premieres for several new features and screenings with directors for the festival's most anticipated films. Shane Black appears in person here on Sept. 11 for his directorial debut of *Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang*, starring Robert Downey Jr., Val Kilmer and Michelle Monaghan. Also, New Zealand–native Niki Caro, known for her film *Whale Rider*, discusses the making of her new film, *North Country*, starring Charlize Theron, Frances McDormand and Sissy Spacek on September 13. Tickets are $10 per film, and ticket books go for $85 for 10 admissions. See the Web site for the full schedule of events. *175 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-0200). www.bostonfilmfestival.org. —LPK*

The Doves

MON./SEPT. 12

Music: Love Them Doves

Don't let the cutesy name fool you: The Doves know how to rock. Technically, they're British indie rockers, but in our book, they're still pretty badass. On September 12, the group comes to Avalon as part of their 20-city North American tour. The trio, Manchester natives Jimi Goodwin and twins Andy and Jez Williams, formed in 1998, and after releasing three successful British EPs, signed with Americ label Astralwerks in the summer of 2000. That October, their first full-length albun *Lost Souls*, hit stores, and their sophomore project, *The Last Project*, debuted at number one on the U.K. charts in spring 2002. Apparently, *The Last Project* was a b of a misnomer, because the Doves' current tour is in support of their latest venture, *Some Cities*, which dropped last March. *Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com. 8 pm. $17. —RL*

SAT./SEPT. 3 – SUN./SEPT. 4

Cityscope: Flying High

Head out to Georges Island during Labor Day weekend for the unofficial last weekend of summer. The Boston Harbor Islands Kite Festival hosts kite stunt artists from local groups Kites Over New England and Kite Boston to demonstrate flying techniques. You can bring your own kites for instruction or buy a stunt kite from vendors attending the event. Kids also can make their own sled kites to take home. But the highlight of the event may just be getting the chance to see members of the Hooley Kite Surfing School show off their stuff with kite surfing demonstrations and instruction. And if you just can't get enough in one day, camping is available on one of the neighboring islands for a double dose of high-flyin' fun. The high-speed catamaran ferry leaves from Boston Longwharf for $10 for a round trip throughout the day. *Boston Harbor Islands, Boston (617-223-8666). www.bostonislands.com. —LPK*

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Deutsche Bank Championship
Tournament Players Club of Boston, Norton (508-285-8333) www.deutschebankchampionship.com. Through Sept. 5, 6:30 am-7 pm. $25-$45. Defending champion Vijay Singh and a collection of other PGA pros including Tiger Woods vie for more than $5 million in prize money. The tournament benefits the Tiger Woods Foundation.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

2005 Fidelity Jumper Classic
Myopia Hunt Club, Route 1A, South Hamilton (978-283-7708). www.jumperclassic.com. Through Sept. 11. Tickets start at $15. THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN is a sponsor of this equestrian event which, among other things, features the Taste of Ipswich on Thursday night and a benefit luncheon on Saturday afternoon.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Yappy Hour
Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-426-9170). www.arlboston.org. 7-9 pm. Animal Fair magazine and Jeep host Yappy Hour, with cocktails, treats for people and dogs and a doggie fashion show. Proceeds benefit the Animal Rescue League.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

MSPCA Walk for Animals
Boston Common, Boston (617-522-9255). www.mspca.org/walk. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Registration begins 10:30 am. $15 registration fee. The 25th annual Walk includes raffles and contests like an Owner/Dog Look-a-Like, Best Trick and Mutt of the Year. Proceeds help MSPCA—Angell continue to provide care for animals.

Yoga: Bend, Stretch and Breathe!
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-648-0312). www.armsaroundarlington.org. 10 am-4pm. $20. Experience a new class with a different yoga instructor every hour during t event. Proceeds will help fund the new Wellr Program of Reiki, Yoga and Stress Management cancer patients.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Nantucket Slam
Nantucket (508-655-500). www.cff.org. Thro Sept. 13. $3,500; $6,000 per team of four. This ca and release tournament is two days of competi fishing for bluefish, bonito, striper and albie benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Pick Up the Beat!
Payson Park Church Hall, 365 Belmont St., Belm (617-548-5759). www.rpeace.org. 7:30 pm. Sugge donations: $20, families; $10, adults; $5, children ur 13. Rhythms of Peace Concerts and Payson P Church present a benefit concert of music dance from Africa and France, with Moussa Tra and Timinandi and Ray Price's Trouz Bras. Proce go to local hunger programs.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Prepare for Winter Dinner
Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkw Cambridge (617-497-7968). www.ontherise.or pm. $150. On the Rise presents a dinner w keynote speaker Wally Lamb, author of *She's C Undone* and *I Know This Much Is True*. Proce benefit On the Rise, helping women who homeless or in crisis.

Festivals & Parties

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Gloucester Schooner Festival
Gloucester (978-283-1601). www.capeannvacati com/schooner. Sept. 2-4. Gloucester's ann Schooner Festival includes boat racing, art exhil a lighted boat parade and a fireworks display. grand Parade of Sail takes place on Sunday morr as the schooners head out to sea for the May race.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Boston Harbor Islands Kite Festiva
Boston Harbor Islands, Boston (617-223-866 www.bostonislands.com. Sept. 3-4. Fly kites, bui kite, participate in a kite candy drop and wa stunt artists from Kites Over New England, Boston and the Hooley Kiteboarding Sch perform.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

South End Open Market
540 Harrison St., South End, Boston (617-4 2257). www.southendopenmarket.com. MB *Green or Orange Line to Back Bay. Free.* Bost only open-air market features artisans from aro

The annual Jumper Classic is at the Myopia Hunt Club in South Hamilton, Sept. 7-11

ew England, a farmers' market, antiques and the arket Cafe.

HURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

ummer City Strolls: Charlestown

oston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., oston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: reen Line to Arlington. 5:45-7:45 pm. $34. rchitectural historian Ed Gordon leads a tour ploring Charlestown.

RIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

reek Music & Food Festival

ormition Greek Orthodox Church, 29 Central St., merville (617-625-2222). www.dormitionchurch. . Sept. 9, 5-11 pm; Sept. 10, 12 pm-12 am; Sept. , 12-9 pm. Free. This traditional Greek church tival features authentic Greek food and live bands.

ATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

rt in the Park

y Square Park, Charlestown (617-241-0130). BTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 10 -5:30 pm. The seventh annual Art in the Park tival features more than 60 artists and artisans ibiting and selling original artwork.

oston Arts Festival

ristopher Columbus Waterfront Park, North End, ston (617-635-3911). www.cityofboston.gov/arts. BTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Sept. 10-11. Free. ston artists and craftspeople exhibit and sell ginal works of art while performance areas wcase music theater and dance.

ulticultural Music Festival

fford Park, Mass Ave., Boston (617-635-4447). w.cityofboston.gov/arts. Free. The 14th annual ival showcases culture, arts, dance and dress from ntries around the world.

JNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

naica Plain World's Fair

le/Jackson Square, Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617- -2424). http://www.jpndc.org/getinvolved/fair. l. MBTA: Orange Line to Stonybrook. 12-6 pm. . The 17th annual Fair features art, craft and d vendors; children's activities; and three stages usical performers.

Singles

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

8 Minute Dating

Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.8minutedating.com. 7 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 25-35.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

8 Minute Dating

Fire & Ice, 205 Berkeley St, Boston (617-482-3473). www.8minutedating.com. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 28-38.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Naughty or Nice Speed Dating

Hyatt Regency Boston, Nantucket Room, 1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30-9 pm. $30. Enjoy eight to 12 different five-minute dates. Then decide who you'd like to see again or mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

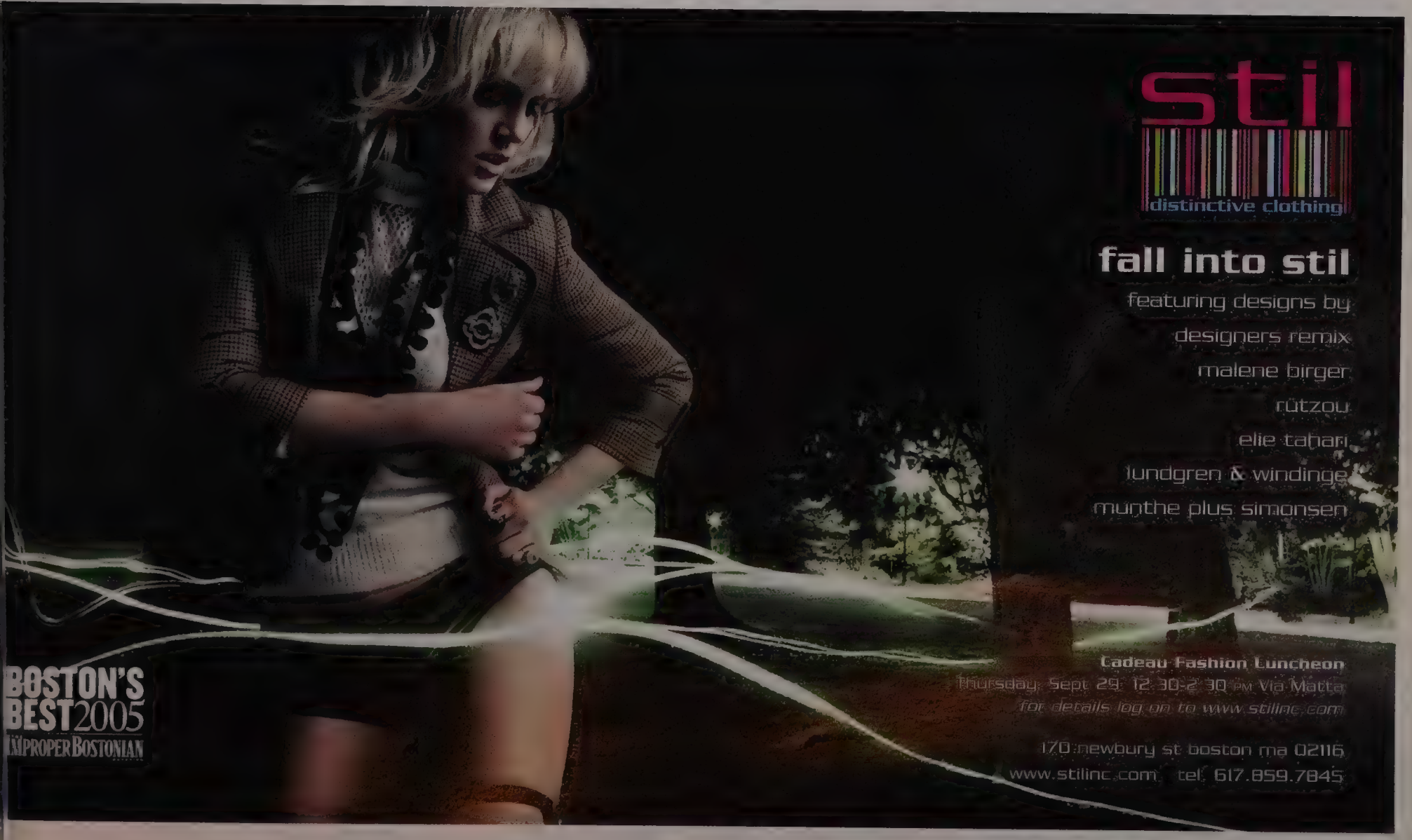
8 Minute Dating

The Asgard Irish Pub, 350 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). www.8minutedating.com. 5 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals: men 43-55, women 43-53.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

8 Minute Dating

Clarke's At Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchant's Row, Boston (617-227-7800). www.8minutedating.com. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 25-35.



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performing arts

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

StubHub
(866-788-2482). www.stubhub.com. Where fans buy and sell tickets.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Carmen
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 3-Oct. 8. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm (some variation; call for detailed schedule). $12-$74. American Repertory Theatre tells the timeless story of Carmen, a seductive woman who finds herself in a deadly love triangle.

Cavalia
Suffolk Downs, Route 1A, East Boston (866-999-8111). www.cavalia.net. Sept. 7-11. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 and 5 pm. $49-$169. This multimedia show created by Normand Latourelle, one of the founders of Cirque de Soleil, explores the relationship between humans and horses with acrobats, aerialists and entertainers.

Cleavage
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.c MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Sept. 10 and 17. 3 $10. Cleavage is four actors performing five one plays written and directed by Carissa Halston.

The Educated
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. A Boston (617-661-1387). MBTA: Green Line Pleasant Street. Sept. 9-25. Thu-Sat., 8 pm; Sun pm. $20. Boston University Play Writing Mas graduate Donna Sorbello's play follows the r tionship and cultural differences between young Middle Eastern men. Kevin Kline direct

Long Day's Journey Into Night
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage. Aug. 31-Sept. 18. Wed.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 5 $30. The four members of the Tyrone family st gle with demons and addictions in Eug O'Neill's acclaimed play. Eric Engel directs.

The Real Thing
Huntington Theatre Company, Boston University atre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-273-15 www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Green Lin Symphony. Sept. 9-Oct. 9. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; F pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm.; Sun. 2 and 7 pm. Tom S pard's play about the complexities of being in follows a successful playwright as he jeopardizes marriage by falling in love with an actress.

Urinetown: The Musical
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Bo (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. Sept. 9- 15. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $20-$47. Durin deadly water shortage, a corrupt corporation be charging residents to urinate in this musical wri by Greg Kotis.

NOW RUNNING

Arcadia
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, Soldiers Rd., Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publicktheatre.com. Through Sept. 4, First and third weeks of month, Wed., Thu. and Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri. Sat., 8 pm. $30. Set in the English countrys Tom Stoppard's play addresses a range of topics cluding history, science, philosophy and l Diego Arciniegas directs.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (6 931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: G Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fr pm; Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. blue trio performs an ongoing show that mixes music, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

The Comedy of Errors
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, Soldiers Rd., Brighton (617-782-5425). www.pub theatre.com. Through Sept. 10, Second and fo weeks of the month, Wed., Thu. and Sun., 7:30 Fri. and Sat., 8 pm. Diego Arciniegas directs Shakespeare comedy in which two sets of twins, arated at birth, meet by chance later in life.

***Cavalia* begins a five-day run at Suffolk Downs in East Boston Sept. 7.**

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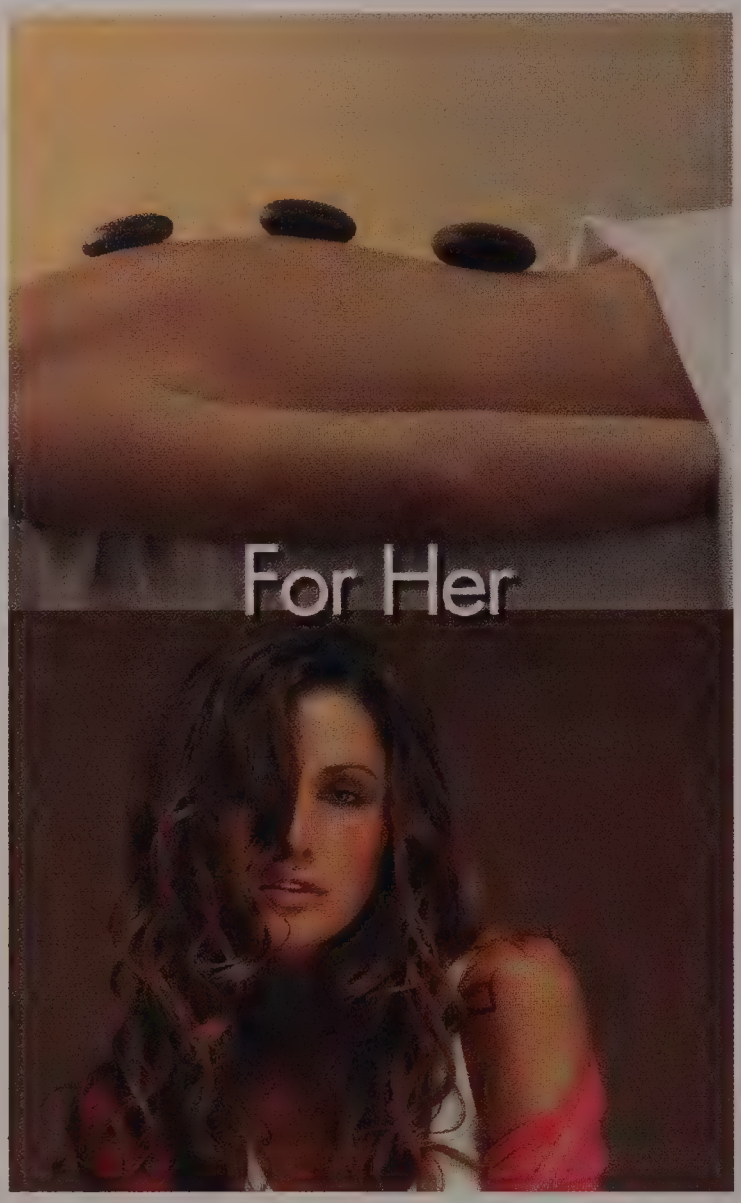

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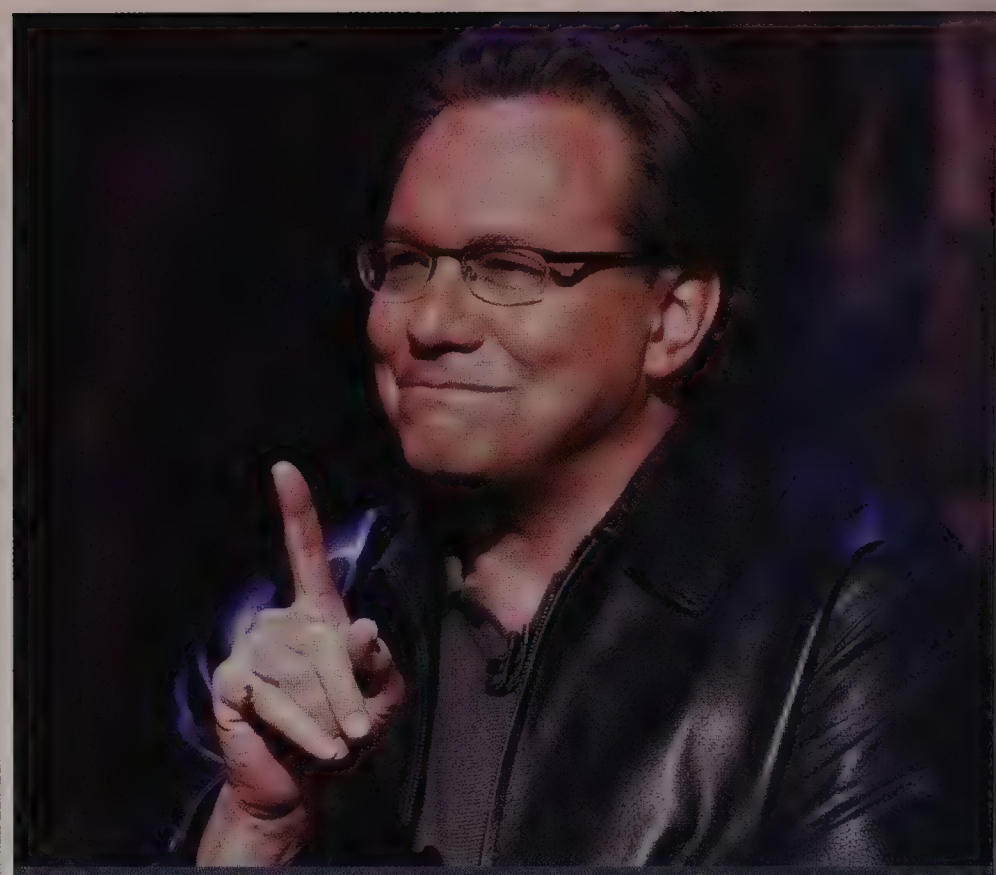

Lewis Black kicks off the Boston Comedy Festival at the Cutler Majestic Theatre, Sept. 9.

Footloose
Bay Colony Productions, Orpheum Theatre, 1 School St., Foxboro (508-543-2787). www.orpheum.org. Through Aug. 21, Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $18-$24. Dance and music are combined in this story of teen rebellion as a youth moves from Chicago to a small Midwestern town.

Ice Glen
Spring Lawn Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox, (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 4, Tue., 4 pm; Sat., 10:30 am; Sun., 10:30 pm. $36. Local playwright Joan Ackermann's romantic comedy is about an editor from Boston who visits the Berkshires to speak to a young, gifted and unknown poet.

King John
Founders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 3. 2 and 7 pm. $10-$35. Tina Packer directs Shakespeare's political tragedy, set in the Middle Ages, that recounts the battle between England and France over the English crown.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This comedic whodunit set in a crazy unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Taming of the Shrew
Founders' Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 3, 7:30 pm. $10-$35. The bard has an ill-mannered noblewoman butting heads with a potential suitor in this romantic comedy set in Italy.

The Tricky Part
Spring Lawn Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox, (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 4, Tue.-Sun., 8:30 pm. $30. Seth Barrish directs this drama centering on Catholicism, sexuality and the forgiveness of God.

Wharton One-Acts
Shakespeare & Company, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 4, 4 pm. $30-$44. Eleanor Holdridge directs two Edith Wharton adaptations, *The Mission of Jane* and *The Promise*.

Dance

Commencement
Boston University Dance Theater, FitRec Center, NW corner of Comm. Ave and Buick St., Boston (781-861-0735). www.thedancecollective.org. MBTA: B Gr Line to St. Paul. Sept. 9-10, 8 pm. $20; $15 for dents, seniors and BDA members. Marking its f season, the Dance Collective incorporates vocal and a video artist into dances that explore the f noir genre, flights of fancy and self-created univer

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Ca dar: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@improper.c Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

COMEDY SHOWS

Boston Comedy Festival
Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College, Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sept. 9-10. 8:30 $35. Comedy Central's Lewis Black, along with a of five other comedians, kicks off the sixth ann Boston Comedy Festival with two nights of shows

Stand-up Comedy and Rock Benefit
Sky Bar, 518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-6 5223). www.skybar.us. MBTA: Red Line to Por Sept. 3. 7 pm. $8. Johnny Foran hosts this ev that features eight stand-up comics and four bands and benefits breast cancer research.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). w stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Cent Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam featu performances from local stand-up comedia sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-7 2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MB Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. M ical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Be town Comedy Vault features an assortment of l stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-2 9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MB Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or ange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club Boston draws nationally known comedians on we ends and showcases up-and-coming local talent d ing the week. •Aug. 31, 8 pm: Patty Ross, $12. •S 4, 7 pm: Patty Ross, $12. •Sept. 5, 8 pm: Amat showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Sept. 6, 8 Paul Nardizzi, $12. •Sept. 7, 8 pm: Tony V., $ •Sept. 8, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated H notist," $15. •Sept. 11, 7 pm: Mike Donovan, $ •Sept.12, 8 pm: Amateur showcase hosted by Ke Knox, $12. •Sept. 13, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-6 6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Lin

arvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy oupes and local comedians perform. •Aug. 31: Tony Experiment. •Sept. 1: Dan Sally Show. •Sept. 2: ıane Mauss, Steve Calechman, Rachel Isenberg, ım E. Morello, et al. •Sept. 3: Doug Chagnon, Phil bba, Dan Sally, Nate Johnson. •Sept. 4: Erin Judge esents...Mike Oster, Kris Norton, Andrea Henry, avid Powell, et al.•Sept. 6: The Magic Lounge fea-res nationally known magicians. •Sept. 7: Tony V periment. •Sept. 8: Dan Sally Show. •Sept. 9: Sue rton, Chrisy Kelleher, The Walsh Bros., Peter Dut-ı, et al. •Sept. 10: Greg Thibideau, Ken Reid, An-ony Spencer, Rebecca Anderson, Seth Earley, et •Sept. 11: Erin Judge Presents...sketch comedy ım stand-ups Charlie Hatton, Joe Wong, Peter wers. •Sept.13: Magic Lounge.

mmy Tingle's Off Broadway

ımy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., nerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. 3TA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features h established and aspiring performers and produc-ns •Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, $15-$25: Jimmy Tin-'s American Dream is a one-man show that com-es comedy, political commentary and storytelling.

nnedy's Midtown

ınedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-i-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. ry Mon., *8 pm. Free.* Each week, Boston Comedy tival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of ıd-up by local comedians.

ck's Comedy Stop

) Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www. scomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat.,) pm. $10-$22. •Sept. 1: Kevin Knox, the "Wild n of Comedy."•Sept. 2 and 3: Bob Gautreau, ston's Best Impressionist".•Sept. 8: Jessica Cas-ıo. •Sept. 9 and 10: Mark Riley.

PROV COMEDY

orov Asylum

Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www. ovasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to market or Green or Blue Line to Government ter. Dinner packages also available. • Summer in England: Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.,-Sat., 8 and)m, $15-$20. •The Midnight Show: Sat., 12 am, $10. •NXT: Thu., 9:45 pm, $5. •Punch for Punch: Sept. 2, 12 am, $10. •Sketchshop: Sept. 7, 9:45 pm, free. •Dangerous Words, the Best of Improv Asylum: Sept. 10, 8 and 10 pm, $20. •The Gay Show: Sept. 11, 8 pm, $10. •Sept. 12, 8 pm; Sept. 13, 9 pm, $10.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Hump Fringe Show. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$12: UnNatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Girls' Night Out! Improv Boston's look into the life of the adolescent girl; 10 pm, $10-$12: TheatreSports: Two teams of improvisers go head to head. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for individuals of all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening features performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Boston-based short-form improv comedy group performs many skits that involve participation from members of the audience.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. The Tribe sponsors this weekly comedy show at the Cantab that features a collection of improv comedians who poke fun at everything, including themselves. Acts include Snowflakes, Sister Brother, Sosnys and Villalobos.

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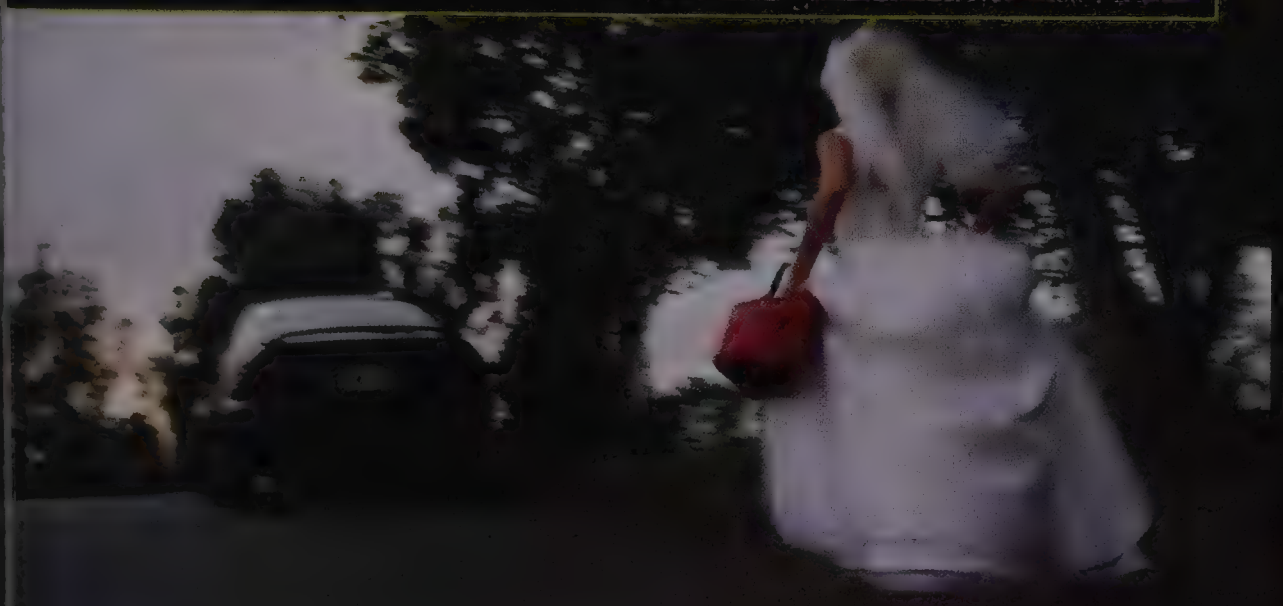

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Half-Baked

Gardener and *Grimm* battle second-half blues.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

That hiss you hear is the sound of two movies fizzling during their second halves. Early on, *The Constant Gardener*, the English-language debut of director Fernando Meirelles, and *The Brothers Grimm*, the latest from Monty Python member Terry Gilliam, live up to the expectations raised by those directors' names. But both films falter in the last act.

The bog gets thickest in *The Constant Gardener*. Based on John le Carré's novel about corporate corruption and the moral awakening of an English diplomat in Kenya, it often has the intense energy Meirelles created when he co-directed *City of God*. The Brazilian director photographs England in pale shades of grey but turns to super-saturated colors for the predominant action in Africa. That's where the British High Commission posts nondescript diplomat Justin Quayle (Ralph Fiennes), who brings along new wife Tessa (Rachel Weisz).

Somber-faced Matt Damon (right) and Heath Ledger dish out laughs in Terry Gilliam's *The Brothers Grimm*

Tessa feels all the idealism and political commitment that Justin lacks. While Justin is content merely to do his job and be among the staff looking out for British interests in Kenya, Tessa forever prods his bosses to help the locals. She and an African Belgian doctor (Hubert Kounde) also start looking into the drug trials that a European pharmaceutical company conducts, using Kenyans as guinea pigs with mixed results at best.

This early action offers the exotic setting and moral murkiness of Westerners-abroad thrillers such as *The Tailor of Panama* and *The Quiet American*. The intrigue juices up *The Constant Gardener*, but moral murkiness turns into something much more simplistic by the time Justin decides to pick up his wife's cause and start sleuthing into the link between the greedy pharmaceutical firm and complicit English diplomats. His transformation turns the movie into a less-interesting tale of good versus evil.

And although *The Constant Gardener* gets superficially busy when Justin takes action, with the setting switching back to England, then on to Berlin and the Kenyan desert, it feels more like a fleet car rushed into a traffic jam. Meirelles makes such good use of Fiennes' blank, uncomfortable persona that his character's about-face is a stretch, and the movie weakens with the loss of Weisz's nervous energy when her role diminishes.

Gilliam's *The Brothers Grimm* doesn't deteriorate quite so much. But the first half is such absurd fun that the plot-heavy second just can't compete. Taking almost gleeful creative license with the lives of the Grimm brothers, who collected German folk tales into volumes that made them household names, Ehren Kruger's script shows brothers Will (Matt Damon) and Jacob (Heath Ledger) in a previous "career" as, essentially, con-men ghostbusters.

Crisscrossing French-occupied Germany in the early 1800s, they absorb eerie stories, all right, but only because they go into villages spooked by supernatural occurrences, listen to people's tales and then stage elaborate hoaxes in which they "slay" the ghosts, then collect a big fee and skip town. We see Will and Jake do this to amusing effect when they go after the Mill Witch of Karlstadt in an elaborate opening.

The bizarre yarns spin from the mouths of both villagers and the brothers. More cockeyed characters arrive in the form of a French general (Jonathan Pryce) and his sadistic underling (Peter Stormare). Stormare's character—who, for some reason, is an over-the-top *Italian*—abducts the brothers on the general's behalf. The general, who has the hilariously dim arrogance of a Monty Python Frenchman, orders the Grimms to go to a village where children have been disappearing and the villagers are panicking.

Like *Galaxy Quest*, *The Brothers Grimm* becomes a comedy about pretenders forced to do the thing they've been faking. The "case" the brothers have to handle involves a cursed forest, the young woman's missing father and a tower inhabited by a Rapunzel-like queen (Monica Bellucci). The queen and her tower are part of one of the many tales alluded to in passing throughout the film (as well as "Little Red Riding Hood" and "Jack and the Beanstalk"). So when this quickly mentioned tangent takes on central importance in the second half, my first reaction was, "You mean I was supposed to be paying attention to all that rigmarole?"

The machinations of the brothers' scheme to "unenchant" the forest get too involved to maintain the levity of the first half. The second-half plot injects a formidable female (Lena Headey) into the mix, and the relationship between dominant Will and more sensitive Jake remains lively enough, rating *The Brothers Grimm* a mild recommendation. The thought of a Matt Damon costume drama seemed dubious, but Damon does just fine, as usual, put-on English accent and all. IB

The Constant Gardener ★★

Directed by Fernando Meirelles. Written by Jeffrey Caine. With Ralph Fiennes, Rachel Weisz, Danny Huston, Hubert Kounde, Pete Postlethwaite and Bill Nighy. Rated R. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

The Brothers Grimm ★★½

Directed by Terry Gilliam. Written by Ehren Kruger. With Matt Damon, Heath Ledger, Peter Stormare, Lena Headey, Monica Bellucci and Jonathan Pryce. Rated PG-13. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Aristocrats ★★★
Paul Provenza and Penn Jillette's document rounds up a wide array of comedians—from Cooper and Eddie Izzard to Lewis Black and C Rock—to riff on its title "character," a notorio dirty vaudeville joke comics have long shared w each other but not the public. The joke's ur fined center has always been a measuring stick comic's lack of inhibition—he or she stretches it out with the most perverse aban makes the joke the funniest. Of those who te here, some play it successfully, while others ne generate the right comic momentum. George C lin, Gilbert Gottfried, Sarah Silverman and Saget are the most effective, with a silent vers performed by Billy the Mime (on a public stre up there, too. Eric Cartman has a go during a cially made *South Park* clip, and card-trick spec ist Eric Mead skillfully adapts the joke to his ents. As much about the community of comed as the joke itself, the movie becomes a tribut the power of laughter as both an emotional he and a uniter of people. (At Boston Common Kendall Square.)

Batman Begins ★★★½
The *Batman* prequel outdoes all the series' prev entries. Like the more recent *Spider-Man* mov this is a strong, character-based film that cato the flavor of the comics but is not cartoon Christian Bale has the dramatic chops to fill Bruce Wayne, who sees his philanthropist/indu alist father and his mother murdered. He grow full of vengeful plans against criminals. The m takes him from Gotham to the Himalayas, wh he falls under the influence of a mentor he mately rejects (Liam Neeson), and back Gotham, where he tries to clean up his corn hometown. Neeson, Michael Caine (as loyal bu Alfred), Katie Holmes (as childhood friend tur prosecutor Rachel), Gary Oldman (as future Po Commissioner Gordon) and Morgan Freeman an ally within the Wayne Corporation) all m Bale, while *Memento* director Christopher N skips the flash and opts for emotional realism stead. Well done all around. (At Boston Comn Fenway and suburbs.)

Broken Flowers ★★
The minimalist, sad-sack persona Bill Murray troduced in *Rushmore* and *Lost in Translatio* pretty spent by this point. After re-using it in of the segments in writer-director Jim Jarmus *Coffee & Cigarettes* last year, Murray goes bac that well yet again in Jarmusch's latest. It's mildly amusing in this story of an aging, will vapid womanizer who reluctantly road-trips to several of his ex-flames when he receives anonymous note telling him one of them had a by him after they broke up. But just mildly an ing. There's a bit more of an upscale cast than u for Jarmusch, with Sharon Stone and Jessica La playing two of the old flames. These episodic v usually pack a laugh or two, and the entire jou takes the womanizer through a minefield of se attraction. But the episodes seem to get less in esting as the story progresses, and his subtle av ening into, essentially, caring about his own li seen only in the very last moments, with l build-up—is meager payoff, even in a Jarmu movie. (At Boston Common and the Cool Corner Theater.)

The 40-Year-Old Virgin ★★★
What might have been a one-joke comedy abo nerd who's unlucky in love becomes a very fu ensemble comedy in the hands of star Steve Ca and director Judd Apatow (TV's *Undeclared*), co-wrote the script. Carrell, formerly of *The D Show* and now on NBC's version of *The Of* plays the title character, and his combinatio "normal" looks and over-the-top absurdity st the guy clear of cliché. You laugh *at* him so times, though you start to laugh *with* him when secret gets out and his co-workers at an electro store—Paul Rudd, Romany Malco and S Rogen, who are all hilarious here—start tryin "help." A lot of work went into skewing all characters so they're amusing (there's also depe able Catherine Keener, as the woman who take interest in the hero) and, no pun intended, it the best climax of the year. (At Boston Comm Fenway and suburbs.)

Grizzly Man ★★★
Cable wildlife shows have aired plenty of covet on Timothy Treadwell, the animal activist lived among Alaskan bears for 13 summers be being killed by one in 2003. So Werner Herz

scinating documentary about Treadwell no ubt has some measure of redundancy. But the deo footage Treadwell shot of himself among the izzlies and red foxes is nonetheless amazing, and erzog also digs into Treadwell's background to try discover what made him reject the world of ople for the world of nature and try to reinvent mself in Alaska. In fact, the movie would have en better had Herzog dug deeper (when Tread-ll's failed acting career and the possibility that 'd just missed getting Woody Harrelson's role on eers come up, or when a possible drug O.D. gets entioned, why doesn't Herzog look into these ther?). Treadwell—part brave pioneer, part ranoid nut, part Andy Dick character sprung to e—is the sort of person you just can't keep your es off of, though. (Opens Aug. 12 at Kendall uare.)

ustle & Flow ★★★½

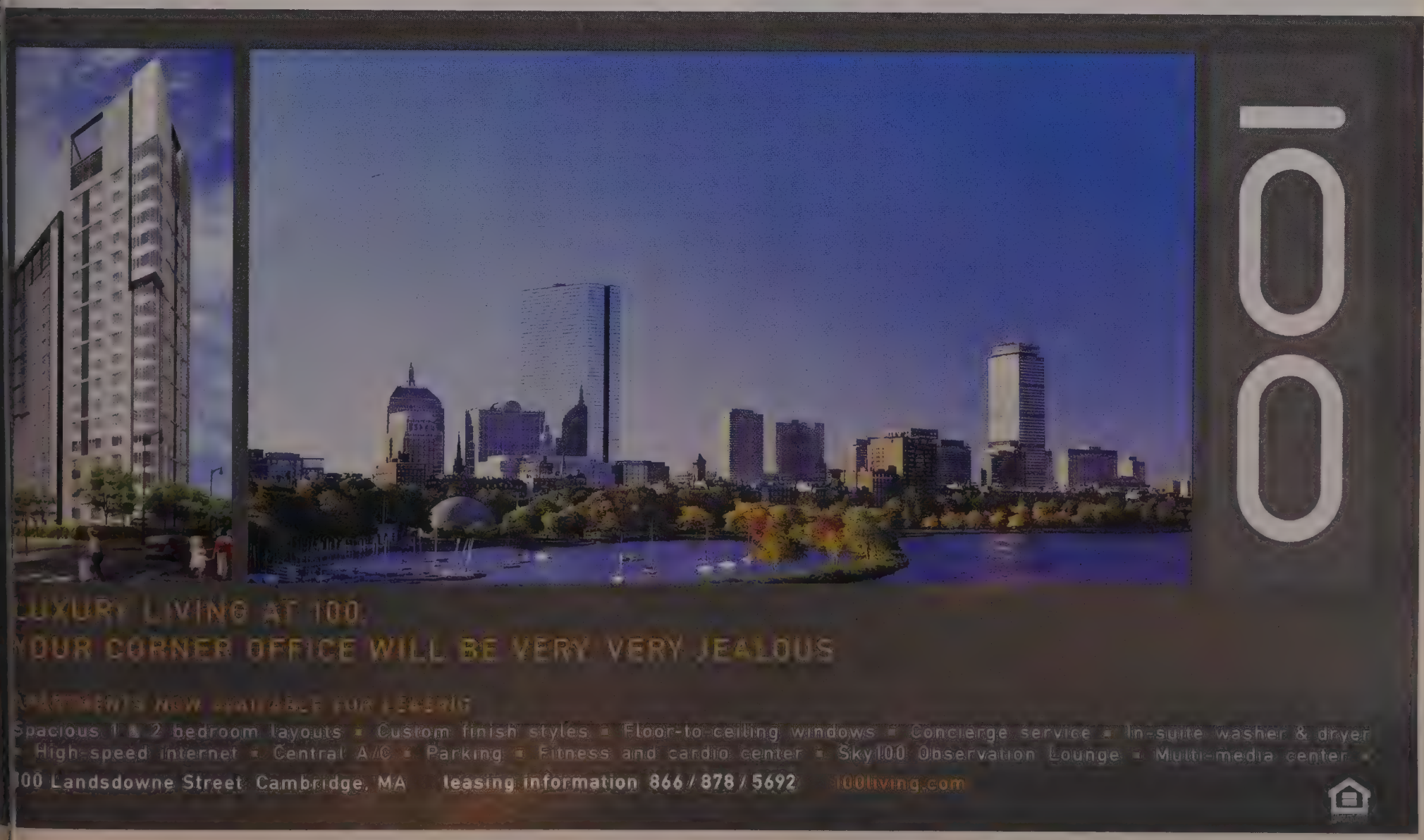
riter-director Craig Brewer's impressive debut es something few movies do: It develops its jor characters so they become more substantial an you'd ever imagined. Brewer doesn't develop t DJay (Terrence Howard), the Memphis pimp o decides he wants to become a rapper, well be-nd our initial expectations of the guy. He also ls depth to the prostitutes under DJay's wing ell-played by Taryn Manning and Taraji P. Hen-), as well as the high-school classmate, now a nd engineer (Anthony Anderson), who helps ıy make a demo tape. Brewer even works won-s with the engineer's skittish, church-going e (Elise Neal). As we follow the construction of akeshift studio in DJay's house, the writing of gs and their recording, the movie has some of intoxicating energy of an old "let's put on a w" musical (the film's mantra is the repeated of dialogue "Everybody got to have a dream"). story then culminates in an unpredictable se-nce in which DJay tries to sell a famous rapper dacris) on helping him out, leading to a bitter-et resolution that, like everything else here, is ntively written. (At Boston Common, Fen- and suburbs.)

it Days ★½

Dus Van Sant's career has come to this: Movies ired by real events that inevitably become

Penguin dads never ask for directions when they're lost, either, in *March of the Penguins*.

slow, artsy trips to Dullsville. At least *Gerry*—the first of these, which seemed like a one-off experiment at the time—had periodic humor, thanks to Matt Damon and Casey Affleck. But, like the Colombine-inspired *Elephant* (which the similarly inspired *Zero Day* blew away), this new, Kurt Cobain–inspired movie offers little insight or entertainment. It mainly lets Van Sant indulge in his default style of late: people doing nothing, especially just walking around (literally). This time, the walker is Blake (Michael Pitt), a vaguely disgruntled rocker who's ducking his band, his management and anyone else who'd like to see him get up off of his duff. He hides, does this and that, noodles around in his music rehearsal space, puts



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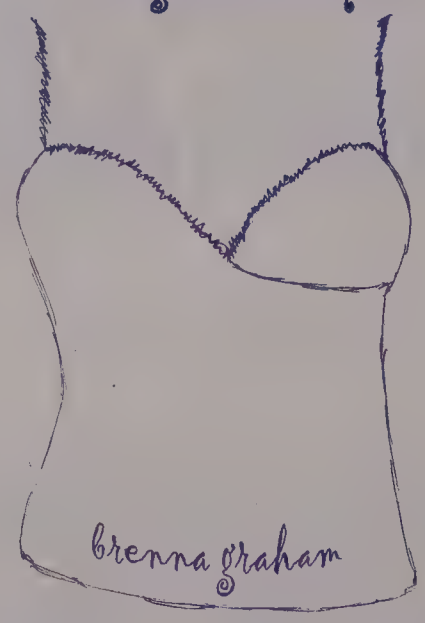

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on a woman's slip, mumbles a lot, plays with his shotgun and has brief interactions with the hangers-on he lets stay in his old house. He's presumably high and apparently miserable. Sometimes the movie hits a blasé rhythm, (but not often), and there is actually one amusing scene, a conversation with an unfazed Yellow Pages sales rep who knocks on Blake's door. But there's little to latch onto. One character rightly chides Blake for acting like a "rock and roll cliché," so I guess that makes this an art-film cliché about a rock and roll cliché. (At Harvard Square.)

March of the Penguins ★★½
The surprise hit of the season actually isn't very surprising. It covers territory often seen on cable wildlife shows, as it chronicles the extreme mating rituals of the South Pole's emperor penguins. These animals trek 70 miles annually to the same breeding ground and find a mate. Then, after the female lays an egg, the male tends to it for several months during the harsh winter, without eating, while she treks back to the sea to eat and regain weight. And that's just the start of it (there are more treks to the sea and more dangers to come). It's a major feat that director Luc Jacquet and crew captured all this under harsh Antarctic conditions, though the narration (read by Morgan Freeman) unfortunately gilds the proverbial lily at times by endowing the birds with human characteristics. A typical overindulgence in this regard comes when a mother futilely tries to revive a baby who's perished from the cold, and the narration intones, "The pain is unbearable" (which seems a a human assumption rather than an insight into penguins). Still, better than those fudged IMAX nature movies. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Must Love Dogs ★½
What's worse than a romantic comedy written and directed by Nora Ephron (*Sleepless in Seattle*, *Bewitched*)? An *imitation* of a Nora Ephron romantic comedy. With its Ephronesque cutesy gags and achingly literal use of pop oldies, *Must Love Dogs* tells the not-so-enchanting tale of a divorcée (Diane Lane) clumsily re-entering the dating scene and stumbling through many false starts with an idealistic boat builder (John Cusack). Cusack's character is interesting cinematically, since he's such a 15-years-older version of Lloyd Do his iconic *Say Anything* hero. But her "colo Irish-American family, his horny best friend gay confidant and the forced climax are all by numbers, and writer-director Gary David G berg squanders the presence of the two lik stars. (At Boston Common, Fenway and subur

2046 ★★
Wong Kar-wai's sequel of sorts to his letharg *the Mood for Love* is another rehash of his ea livelier movies (such as *Days of Being Wild Chungking Express*). Tony Leung is back agai the 1960s journalist and ladies' man, and he h bevy of beauties to deal with this time (playe Gong Li, Faye Wong and Zhang Ziyi). As has ally been the case in Wong Kar-wai's re movies, everyone looks great, but the events a that stimulating—a little less craftsmanship a little more adrenaline might have yielded a bi provement. To make matters worse, there's the futuristic action set within the novel tha ladies' man is writing, which is simply a was time that fails to enhance the 1960s action, a tended, and drags out this overextended, fo table 130-minute endurance test. (At Ker Square.)

War of the Worlds ★★
Let me get this straight. An alien force launch shocking, sudden attack that threatens civi tion, and the most important story to te Steven Spielberg's movie is about an irrespon divorced dad (Tom Cruise) trying to stay alive gain redemption in his kids' eyes? Much of early going works well, and the big special-ef set pieces in the first half come off strongly. after a while, it's impossible to cotton to the that, in the movie's world, Tom Cruise is the ter of the universe. Couldn't this have been a a group of people trying to survive, with the and his kids (Justin Chatwin, screechy Da Fanning) being a few among this commu Eventually, it's hard to care about them an usual in these star vehicles, the story turns ri lous to make the star look good. A telltale ment comes when dad and daughter are amo hysterical horde about to be consumed by an machine-beast. Yet, suddenly, when Cruise's

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Bena and Rick

Steve Carell hits it off with Catherine Keener in *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*.

ter is about to be offed, the crowd unites to save hide. Unbelievable. (At Boston Common, Fen- y and suburbs.)

ne Wedding Crashers ★★★

wen Wilson and Vince Vaughn have supplied ore onscreen laughs than just about anybody else er the last decade, so it's great to see Wilson's sly awling and Vaughn's motor-mouthed ranting to- her. They play the title characters, whose social e is built around ingratiating their way into nup- ls, being the life of the party and seducing high- -love female wedding guests. The montage of em doing just that is hilarious, though the plot es morph into more of a *Meet the Parents*–style ry than expected. The two buddies fall in with influential Beltway family so that Wilson's aracter can pursue one daughter (Rachel Adams), leaving Vaughn's to reluctantly come ng and fight off another daughter (Isla Fisher). t the gags are usually good, the cast funny (even ie Seymour) and the carefree charm of its stars ries over to the entire movie. (At Boston Com- n, Fenway and suburbs.)

pecial Events

ston Film Festival

ws Boston Common, 175 Tremont St., Boston (617- -0200). www.bostonfilmfestival.org. MBTA: Green e to Boylston. Sept. 9-13. $10 per film. See Web site schedule. This annual festival includes documen- es, shorts and features as well as panel discussions, Q&A sessions with directors. This year's festival ures the Boston premieres of Shane Black's *Kiss Bang Bang* on Sept. 11 and Niki Caro's *North ntry* on Sept. 13.

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nit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Cal- r: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is weeks prior to publication.

STON HARBOR HOTEL

vies by Moonlight

pt. 2, dusk. **Kiss Me Kate** *1953*. George Sidney cts this musical about a divorced pair of actors who brought together by a musical version of *The ing of the Shrew*.

STON PUBLIC LIBRARY

ston and the Bay State at the Bijou: it Films of Massachusetts

pt. 8, 6:30 pm. The Boston Public Library Northeast Historic Film present films from the turn of the 20th century that focus on Boston and other Massachusetts cities, including a speech by President Roosevelt, a bicycle race and a staged railroad collision.

BRATTLE THEATRE

•Through Sept. 1, 2 pm, 4:30 pm, 7 pm, 9:30 pm. **The Conformist** *1970*. Bernardo Bertolucci directs this story of an Italian man who is ordered by the Fascist government to kill his college mentor.

Stanley Kubrick: A Retrospective

•Sept. 2-3, 2:30 pm, 6 pm, 9:30 pm. **Killer's Kiss** *1955*. A prizefighter falls in love with a dancer after saving her from her employer. Kubrick directs.

•Sept. 2-3, 4 pm, 7:30 pm. **The Killing** *1956*. Kubrick directs the story of an ex-convict who has plans to make money through a racetrack heist.

•Sept. 4-5, 1pm, 4:30 pm, 8 pm. **2001: A Space Odyssey** *1968*. Kubrick directs this classic sci-fi tale about a quest to find a mysterious object buried on the moon.

•Sept. 6, 4:30 pm, 8 pm. **Barry Lyndon** *1975*. Kubrick directs this story of an Irishman who wins the heart of a wealthy widow and assumes her dead husband's place.

•Sept. 7-8, 4:45 pm, 7:15 pm, 9:45 pm. **The Shining** *1980*. Kubrick directs. A young boy and his parents watch over an isolated and haunted hotel.

•Sept. 9-10, 2 pm, 7 pm. **Lolita** *1962*. Kubrick directs this story of a man who falls in love with a 14-year-old girl whose mother is madly in love with him.

•Sept. 9-10, 5 pm, 10 pm. **Dr. Strangelove** *1964*. Kubrick directs the story of a crazy general who plans to start a nuclear holocaust while politicians try to avert the impending danger.

•Sept. 11, 12 pm, 3:45 pm, 7:30 pm. **Spartacus** *1960*. A slave leads a rebellion against the Roman empire. Kubrick directs.

•Sept 12, 8 pm; Sept. 13, 7:30 pm. **Paths of Glory** *1957*. Kubrick directs this story of a French army officer confronted with mutiny.

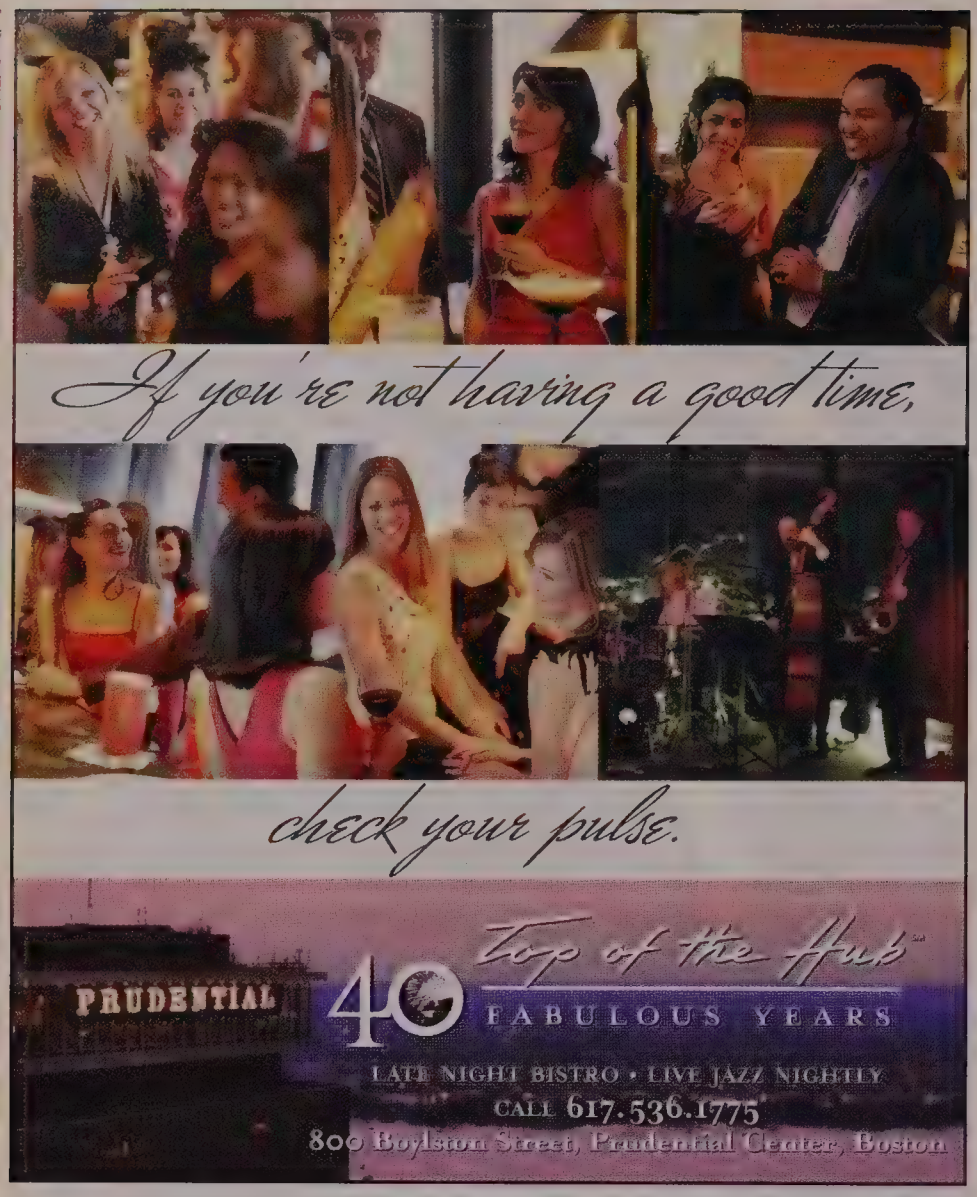
•Sept. 12, 10 pm; Sept. 13, 5 pm, 9:30 pm. **Full Metal Jacket** *1987*. Kubrick directs. A group of soldiers are followed through the recruitment process and into the Vietnam War during the Tet Offensive.

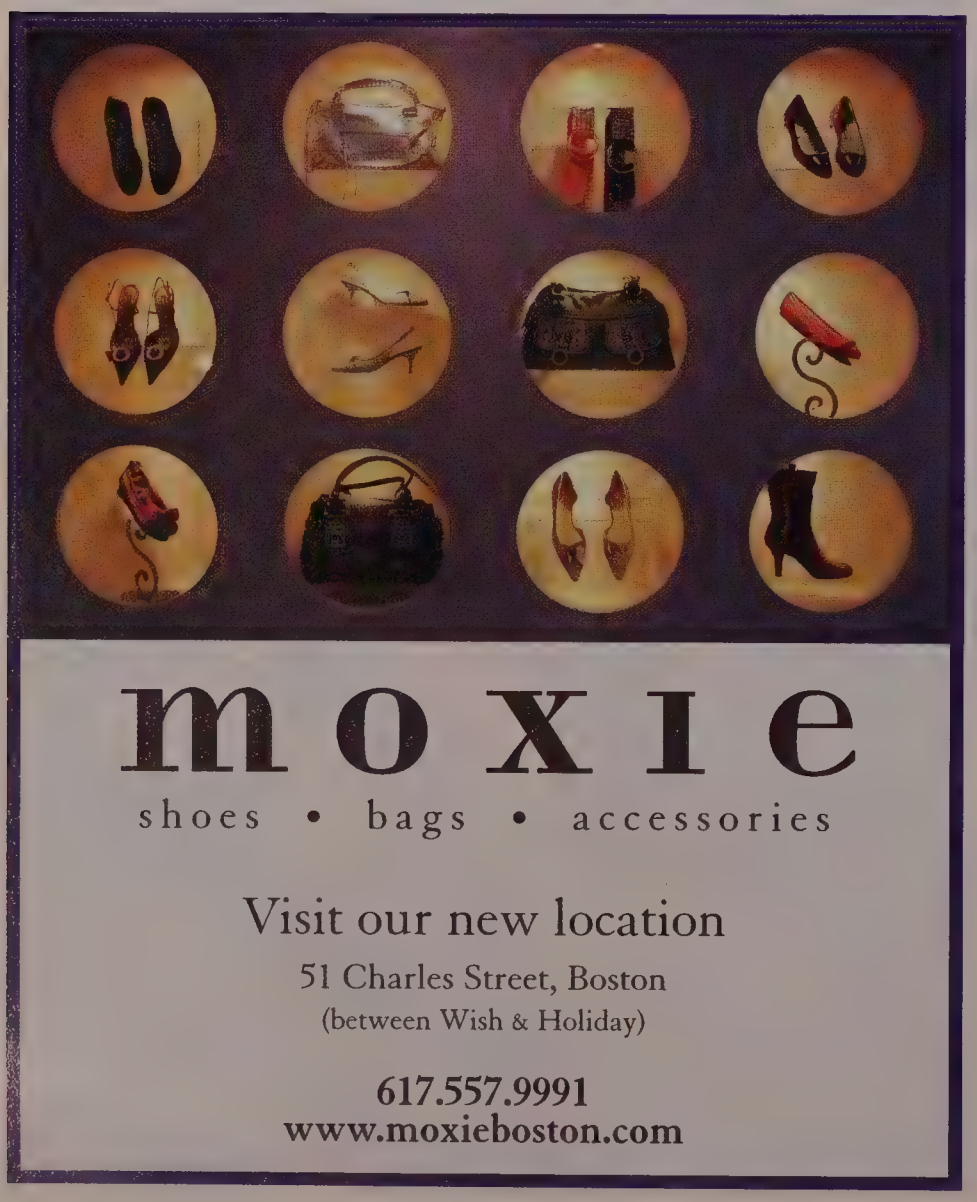
COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Celebrating the '70s

•Sept. 2-3,12 am. **The Warriors** *1979*. Walter Hill directs the story of several Coney Island gang members who try to get out of New York City and back to their home turf.

•Sept. 5, 7:30 pm. **Jaws** *1975*. Steven Spielberg directs this thriller about a showdown with a great white shark. A "Don't Go in the Water" beach party is held from 6-7:30 pm.





Take my pipe...please! Fred Willard is one of the many comics in *The Aristocrats*

•Sept 9-10, 12 am. **The Harder They Come** *1972.* Perry Henzell directs. A poor reggae musician sells marijuana to make a living and quickly becomes one of Jamaica's most wanted criminals.

•Sept. 12, 7:30 pm. **Deliverance** *1972.* John Boorman directs. Four men take a weekend canoe trip and encounter obstacles that turn their vacation into a fight for their lives.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Too Human: The Films of Louis Malle

•Sept. 9 and 11, 7 pm. **Le Monde du Silence** *(The Silent World) 1956.* Based on the best-selling book by oceanographer and co-director Jacques-Yves Cousteau, this film documents the sea expedition of the Calypso. Malle co-directs. •9 pm. **Humain, Trop Humain** *(Human, Too Human). 1974.* Malle documents the inner workings of the Citroën factory in Rennes, Brittany.

•Sept. 10, 4 pm, 7 pm; Sept. 12-13, 7 pm. **L'Inde Fantôme** *(Phantom India) 1968.* Malle directs this two-part documentary that explores Indian culture and attempts to show the complexity of life in India.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Argentinean Cinema

•Sept. 8, 8 pm; Sept. 10, 3:45 pm. **Felicidades** *2003.* Lucho Bender directs this story about a Christmas Eve in Buenos Aires that doesn't seem to go right for a failed comedian, a lonely doctor, a doubtful lover and a desperate father.

Croatian Cinema

•Aug. 31, 6 pm; Sept. 3, 10:30 am. **Witnesses** *2003.* Vinko Bresan directs a small-town murder mystery set against the background of the Serbian–Croatian war.

Films of Louis Malle

•Sept. 1, 6 pm; Sept. 4, 1 pm. **Ascenseur Pour L'Échafaud** *(Elevator to the Gallows) 1957.* Malle directs this story about a woman and her lover who want to murder her husband.

•Sept. 2, 6:40 pm; Sept. 8, 4:30 pm. **Les Amants** *(The Lovers) 1958.* Malle directs this story of a high-society wife who has an affair with a young student and leaves everything for a new life.

•Sept. 3, 12:15 pm; Sept. 10, 10:30 am. **Zazie Dans le Métro** *(Zazie in the Subway) 1960.* Malle directs this story of a 12-year-old French girl who escapes from her relatives and explores Paris.

•Sept. 3, 2 pm. **Le Feu Follet** *(The Fire Within) 1963.* Malle directs this story of a man who is undergoing treatment for alcoholism in a p vate hospital.

•Sept. 4, 3:15 pm; Sept. 7, 7:30 pm. **Lacomb Lucien** *1974.* Malle directs this story of an 1 year-old German police officer who meets t daughter of a rich Jewish tailor in the summ of 1944.

•Sept. 8, 2:15 pm. **Le Souffle Au Coeur** *(Murm of the Heart) 1971.* Malle directs this coming- age story about a 15-year-old boy growing up French bourgeois surroundings.

•Sept. 11, 3:30 pm. **Au Revoir Les Enfan** *(Goodbye, Children) 1987.* Malle directs th story of a Jewish boy who attends a Catho boarding school during World War II.

Music on Film

•Aug. 31, 7:45 pm; Sept. 4, 11 am. **Accordi Tribe** *2004.* Stefan Schwietert directs this fil which profiles five accordion players.

•Sept. 1, 8:15 pm; Sept. 2, 5 pm, 8:30 pm; Se 3, 4 pm; Sept. 7, 5:45 pm; Sept. 8, 6:15 p Sept. 10, 12:10 pm. **Searching for the Wron Eyed Jesus** *2005.* Andrew Douglas directs th story, which follows a country singer throu the contemporary yet conservative Americ South.

•Sept. 10, 1:45 pm. **Touch the Sound** *200* Thomas Riedelsheimer directs this film abo hearing-impaired percussionist Evelyn Glenni

•Sept. 11, 3:30 pm. **Rhythm Is It!** *2004.* Thon Grube and Enrique Sanchez Lansch direct th chronicle of an inspiring *Rite of Spring* performanc

New England Film Artists Present

•Sept. 11, 11 am. Remis Auditorium. **Paral Lines** *2003.* Nina Davenport documents h emotional road trip back home to New Yo City in the wake of 9/11.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Sept. 7. **Coral Reef Adventur** Howard and Michele Hall embark on a 10-mon voyage in the South Pacific, creating a cinema record of coral reefs as they exist today.

•Through Sept. 7. **Everest.** This movie depi the true story of a team of climbers who find hop strength and triumph in the wake of tragedy.

•Through Sept. 7. **Lewis and Clark: Great Jou ney West** tells of the explorers' famous expediti from Illinois to the Pacific Ocean.

•Through Sept. 7. **Mystery of the Nile.** Explor make the first attempt of a full descent down t Nile River.

Through Sept. 7. **Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure**. Film crews trace Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1914-1916 expedition.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theater
Sun.-Thu, 9:15 pm; Fri.-Sat., 7:15 pm, 9:50 pm.
Batman Begins: The IMAX Experience *2005.* Christopher Nolan directs this story of how Bruce Wayne became the superhero Batman.

STUDIO CINEMA
Through Sept. 9. Mon.-Fri., 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 pm, 5 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm.
Murder Ball *2005.* Henry Alex Rubin and Dana Adam Shapiro co-direct this film about quadriplegics and their attempt to compete in the Paralympic Games in Athens, Greece.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON
Regent Theatre
Medford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

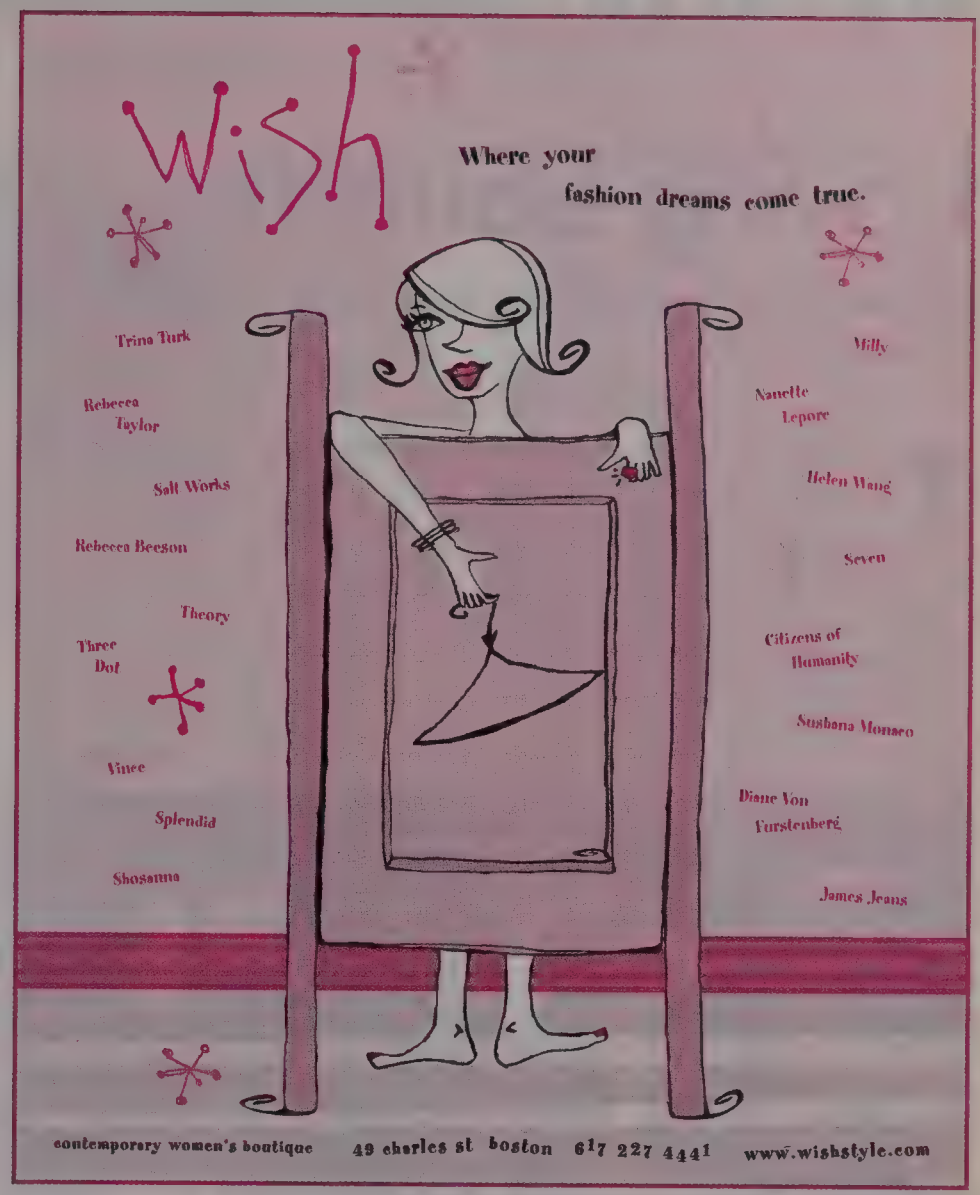
BOSTON
Boston Public Library
Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.
Institute of Contemporary Art
Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Lows Boston Common
Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-499-1996). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.



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Best Mexican — *Citysearch* 2002

Loving Sounds

Mobius Band finds electro-pop heaven down an unusual path.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

The three members of Mobius Band met eight years ago as music majors at Wesleyan University, but not in the style one might guess for the dreamy electronic indie-rockers.

For starters, all three studied African drumming. Singer-bassist Peter Sax and drummer Noam Schatz even played in a cover band that specialized in the music of Afro-funk icon Fela Kuti. Singer-guitarist Ben Sterling also was involved with gamelan, Indonesian orchestra music with tuned gongs.

"It was a great time, but as far as how it relates to what we're doing now, I don't know," Sterling says. "We're not using odd tunings—gamelan is not in Western tuning—and we're not laying 15 drum parts on each other like in West African drumming. But it all plays a part somehow."

Mobius Band takes a turn for the melancholy with their new album.

When they launched Mobius Band, he says, "It was definitely more instrumental and more experimental. I can't say that we had that much of an idea. We were not even looking at it in any conceptual way."

Mobius Band found its direction in an unlikely postcollege laboratory, a split-level home next to a reservoir in the Western Massachusetts country town of Shutesbury, just northeast of Amherst. "It was kind of ideal, and we could do what we wanted to do," Sterling says. "We lived there, we practiced there, we recorded our EPs there, we made our album art there. It was a very 'in-house' production. And it was very '70s, with shag carpeting and everything."

Their evolution pays off handsomely on Mobius Band's melancholy full-length debut *The Loving Sounds of Static*. "Over the years, the music has gotten more poppy and concise," says Sterling, whose trio launches its second national tour at T.T. the Bear's Sept. 6. "There's just pleasure in a good hook."

Inspirations range from the Magnetic Fields (a favorite of Sax's) to Sterling's singer-songwriter models Leonard Cohen and Bob Dylan, as well as contemporaries such as Broadcast. "I honestly have never listened to New Order," Sterling says of one seemingly apparent influence on his group's sound. "As far as '80s electronic music goes, the only thing I can think of is Kraftwerk, and I love Kraftwerk."

"There was a period a few years ago when Radiohead gave us a kick," the guitarist adds from his new home in Brooklyn. "We were already doing stuff with electronics and doing that with rock songs. But they were farther ahead than us in conceptualizing, and that spurred us on, almost like it was permission to do what we were doing."

All three members have a hand in the technology. Sterling and Sax alternate on synthesizer and sampler, while Schatz keeps time on a hybrid kit of real and electronic drums.

"Our palette can be so much wider," Sterling says. "Once you have a sampler, you can do almost anything. Any sound you can record and feed to your computer, you can then have it be part of your music."

"The electronics are usually inherent in the writing of a song," he says. "The chords and lyrics come first, but once you start getting the arrangement down, you start making samples or keyboard patches. It's part of the same process. When you record, some of that changes, and when we play live, some of it changes for logistical reasons."

"Live, we switch [the instruments] around constantly," Sterling says. "Live music is such a more visceral force than a recording could be. You lose some of the subtlety, but I don't know if you'd notice the subtlety in a sweaty rock club anyway. It's such a different thing. A recording is more of a document, and I like both aspects a lot."

"We don't use sequences," he adds. "It's all played live with very few exceptions. It's a slippery slope when you start playing along with prerecorded things."

For its latest recordings, Mobius Band returned to its old Connecticut stomping grounds to hook up with Peter Katis, best known for his work with Interpol. "People compare us to that band, and I don't really get it, but it's not my duty to know," Sterling says. "Peter's job is a facilitator, and he's an amazing engineer and mixer and a superb guy all around."

The Loving Sounds of Static and the trio's preceding EP *City Vs. Country*, both the result of sessions with Katis, found a home on Ghostly International, a label known for electronic dance music instead of indie-rock strains.

"It's like a clean slate," says Sterling, whose group is used to such contradictions. "[Ghostly International] has to figure out what it means to have a rock band, and we have to figure out what it means to be on an electronic label and make something new instead of following a predefined plan." iB

Mobius Band
plays T.T. the Bear's Place Sept. 6.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music or mail to music@improper.com. Include dates, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadl four weeks prior to publication date. Listings ne cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled fro ferent sources. Although we make every effort to p accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call to double-check dates and times (see complete venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Tony Bennett Sept. 4, Cape Cod Melody Tent 931-2000). **Doves** Sept. 12, Avalon Ballroom 262-2424).
Green Day, Jimmy Eat World Sept. 3, Gillett dium (508-384-4389).
Julio Iglesias Sept. 2, Cape Cod Melody Tent 931-2000).
Jump Little Children Sept. 9, Paradise Rock (617-931-2000).
Spin Doctors, Town Hall, Lincoln Conspiracy 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Peasants Radio, the Dirty Truckers, Goldenwest Lodge, Choo Choo La Rouge, TV Eye and N ent Show, 21+; Pub Stage: Malibu Lou, Jay Al
Asgard The Ken Selcer Invitational Music Jam
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no co
Club Passim The Asylum, Street Spankers, $13-$15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:30 pm, no cove
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harpers Ferry Uncle Billy's Smokehouse, 9 pr
Hennessy's Grey Spot.
Johnny D's Ryan Montbleau, 8:30 pm, $12.
Lizard Lounge Newton Dominey, 8 pm, no Amelia White, Sarah Borges, 9:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Glenn Ridosh, 9 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The Volume, Shore L the Nightlights, Fellow Project, 9 pm, $8, 18+
Midway Café Musk, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Milky Way Degal, 9 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Get Smart, 8:30 pm, $5.
Paradise Rock Club Louis XIV, 8 pm, $12.50.
PA's Alasdair Roberts, Skygreen Leopards, W Wand & the Vanishing Voice, Milos Jones, 8:4 $5-$7.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8 pm, no cover.
The Prudential Center Erin McKeown, 12:3 no cover.
Regattabar Tessa Souter Quartet, 7:30 pm, $1
River Gods Primitive Sounds, 9 pm.
Scullers Jazz Club Tone DeSare, 8 pm and 1 $20.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan Band.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no
T.T. the Bear's Place Casey Deniel, 9 pm; Dr Release, 9:50 pm; the Ghetto Fighters, 10:4 the Midnight Creeps, 11:30 pm, $8.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover,
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Gill's Wednesday Night Ja pm, $5.
Les Zygomates Leah Souza, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Abbey Lounge Austin&Elliot, 7 pm; Chris B pm; the Anabolics, 9 pm; 0700 Club, 9:45 p Blood Vessels, 10:45 pm; Rock City Crime 11:45 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Steve Giannaros Quartet.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 p cover.
Bob the Chef's Mike MacAllister, 7:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel David Maxwell's Max Blues, 6 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6 pm.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, $5, 21+.
Cantab Lounge The ChickenSlacks, 9 p cover, 21+.
Club Passim Sebastian Lockwood, 8 pm, $8-$
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm, no c
Felt Todd Martin, Tim Blane, Kristin Biable, 21+.

e Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vines.
een Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
nnessy's Me & Julio.
nny D's Hip Replacements, 9 pm, $8.
nnedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no er.
kland Café 2 Stone Pony, 8 pm, $5.
ky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm.
t Murphy's Round Midnight, 10 pm, no cover.
ddle East Upstairs: Farewell Radiance, Sinapse, lock, Driven, 9 pm, $10, 18+; Downstairs: ner Maria, Hail Social, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
rien's The Jam, Paul Weller, $8.
Turpentine Borthers, Demon's Claws, BBQ, n, $5-$7.
attabar Leo Blanco World Jazz Ensemble, 7:30 $12.
llers Jazz Club Angela Bofill, 8 pm and 10 pm,
of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, 8:30 pm, no r.
the Bear's Place Saturn Effect, 9 pm; Junction 0 pm; A Hero Next Door, 11 pm, $8.
geist Gallery Night of the Living Hammond 9:30 pm, $7.
Zygomates Dimitri Yiannacopoulos, 8 pm.

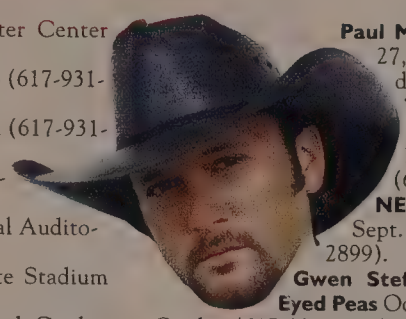
IDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

ey Lounge Distinguished Members, 7 pm; Rick ger, 8 pm; the Hallucination, 9 pm; the phets, 9:45 pm; the Ghetto Fighters, 10:45 pm; Black Clouds, 11:45 pm, 21+.
ue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
the Chef's Mike MacAllister, 7:30 pm.
ol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm; Joe Barbato, 9:30
tab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, , $8, 21+.
e Cod Melody Tent Julio Iglesias, 8 pm, $46-
Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, pm, 15-$20.
's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm, no cover.
d Canal Friday Episode.
Green Dragon Tavern Grey Spot.
Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Brooks & Dunn Sept. 25, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
deSol Sept. 30, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
David Gray Oct. 8, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).
Green Day Sept. 3, Gillette Stadium (617-931-2000).
Jethro Tull Oct. 6, Lowell Memorial Auditorium (617-931-2000).
Jimmy Eat World Sept. 3, Gillette Stadium (617-931-2000).
Elton John Sept. 16-17, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson Sept. 15, Campanelli Stadium (508-559-7070).
Los Lonely Boys Sept. 30, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
John Mayer Oct. 11, Avalon (617-931-2000).



Paul McCartney Sept. 26-27, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Tim McGraw (pictured at left) Sept. 15, Mullins Center (617-931-2000).
NEMO Music Festival Sept. 29-Oct. 2 (617-348-2899).
Gwen Stefani and the Black Eyed Peas Oct. 31, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
U2 Oct. 3-4, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
White Stripes Sept. 20-22, The Opera House (617-931-2000).
Zox Oct. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).

Harpers Ferry REVIVAL, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5 pm; Scooby Snax.
Jorge Hernández Cultural Center Eguie Castrillo, 9 pm, $25.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cover.
Kinsale Velvet Jones, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm; Motherseat, 9:30 pm; Johnny Plankton & the Sea Monkeys of Soul, 10:30 pm; Preston Wayne IV, 11:30, $5.
Lucky's Lounge The Jody Grind Band, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Vibewise, 10 pm, no cover.
Mr. Dooley's Sean Cunningham, 5 pm; Tommy & Alan, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Drago, Zippo Raid, the Dimwits, Reserve, $6.
Parris The Loop, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Zoe Keating, Great Lake Swimmers, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Regattabar The Mingus Big Band, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Jennifer Greer, 8 pm, $7; Alex Skolnick, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Angela Bofill, 8 pm and 10 pm, $28.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Kin, 9:15 pm; the Everyday Visuals, 10:15 pm; the Rudds, 11:15 pm; Bleu, 12:15 am, $9.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Abbey Lounge Over the Edge, 9 pm; American Velvet, 9:45 pm; the Pug Uglies, 10:45 pm; the Bluebloods, 11:45 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Mike Mattieu Band.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's BlackSole, 7:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm and 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, 12 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort The Elbow Room, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Gillette Stadium Green Day, Jimmy Eat World, 7 pm, $39.50.
Grand Canal Incadence.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30, $5.
The Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Backseat Lover, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm; Grey Spot.
Johnny D's Eli "Paperboy" Reed, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kinsale Black Thoure, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Obasi, One Big Mess, Line of Girls, Clams, 9:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge The Al Vega Trio, 7 pm.
Matt Murphy's Kenway Orchestra, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Sons and Daughters, Glasgow, 9 pm, $10, 18+; Downstairs: Xiu, Frog Eyes, Yellow Swans, 1 pm, $10-$12.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy & Alan.
O'Brien's Light Of Day, Thrill Ride, Cherry On Draon, the Acro-brats, the Deviations, $6.
Olde Magoun's Saloon Ronan Quinn, 10 pm, no cover.
Parris The Loop, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Boston Blacklisted, Reserve, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Regattabar The Mingus Big Band, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $25.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Appomatox, 9:15 pm; Zambri, 10:15 pm; the December Sound, 11:15 pm; Raymond, 12:15 am, $8.
Les Zygomates Alyssa Jones, 8 pm.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Abbey Lounge Bad Art, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson, 10 am.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11 am; Joe Barbato, 6 pm.

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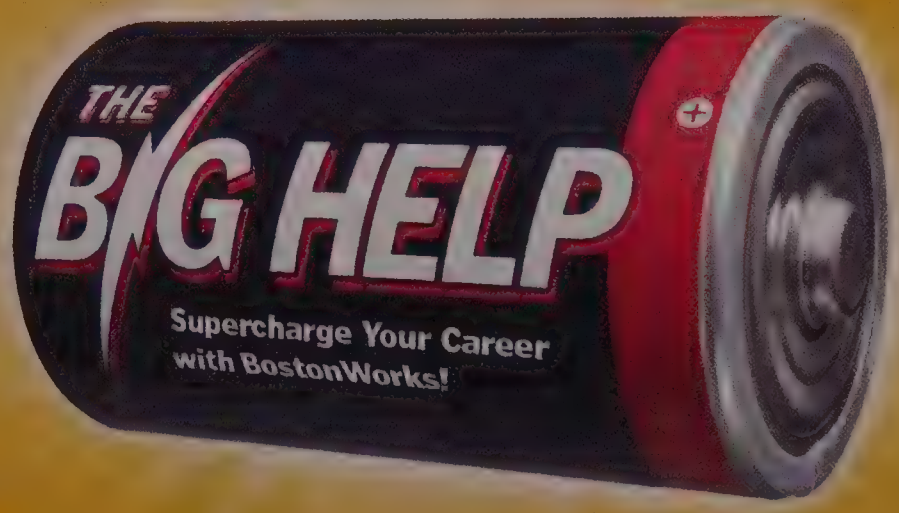

Employers, call 877-4BIG-HELP by Sept. 9 to reserve your space!

The Big Help Sunday, Sept. 11 in The Boston Globe and all week on BostonWorks.com
FREE Big Help Job Fair Wednesday, Sept. 14 at Fenway Park

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Spin Doctors play at the Paradise Rock Club Sept. 8.

Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jazz & Rock Jam, 9 pm, $8.
Cape Cod Melody Tent Tony Bennett, 8 pm, $64-$76.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, 12 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Mike Tamara, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swaying Johnsons.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 9:30, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Hip Hop Anonymous, Force, Kiki Breevlife, D-Tension, Sister Domatilla, AfroDZak, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Tom Pendergast, 9 am, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown Juliet Lloyd, 12 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Akira, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: PTL Klub, Adolf Satan, the Old Men, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Moxie Fever.
O'Brien's Rosetta, Hellblock, Tundra, $8.
Parris Luvbug, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Phatt Boys Manny Santos Trio, 12 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Patricia Adams, 10 am, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Lock and Key.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren2, 9 pm, no cover,
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Mad Hatter's Tea Party, 2 pm

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Stacey, 9:30 pm, no cover,
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm cover.
The Green Briar Irish Sessuin, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Harpers Ferry Jeff Root Trio, the Juice, $4, 21
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Matt Murphy's Knockout, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Moggs, Invisible Walker, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
O'Brien's Wrong Side of the Tracks, $5.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8 pm, no cov
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Abbey Lounge Chris Evil, 9 pm; Camellia, 9:4 RSC, 10:45 pm; Smallspace, 11:45 pm, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Tombstone Blues, 8:30 pm; the Hill Ramblers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike, Kinloch Nelson, 7 pm
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no
Great Scott White Pigeons, Distinguished M bers, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, $4, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Over the Rhine, 8:30 pm, $15.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10 pm, no cover
Middle East Upstairs: This Car Up, the Shills Caustic, Butterknife, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Idlewild, Inara George, $13-$15, 18+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no
T.T. the Bear's Place Verona Downs, 9:15 pm Mobius Band CD release, 11:15 pm, $8.

reen Day plays at Gillette Stadium Sept. 3

der Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty t, 9 pm, no cover.
Zygomates Dan Tepfer Trio, 8 pm.

DNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

ey Lounge Mike Sandwich, 9 pm; Adventures purism, 9:45 pm; Thee Electric Bastards, 10:45 Thick as Thieves, 11:45 pm, 21+.
sia Café Open Mike, Christian Samatis, 7 pm.
rd The Ken Selcer Invitational Music Jam.
Josh Kelley, Michael Tolcher, 7 pm, $13.
o at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
zeway Groove Authority, 7:30 pm and 9:30 no cover.
ol Lounge Ben Cook, 6 pm.
ab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no , 21+.
Passim Melissa Ferrick, Natalia Zuckerman, 8 28-$30.
s Last Resort 3 Wrongs Make A Right, 7:20 o cover.
Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
essy's Grey Spot.
y's Lounge The Evan Goodrow Band, 9:30 pm.
le East Upstairs: Kenwood Dennard, Chris ners Trio, 9 pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Moist- 8 pm, $13, 18+.
Fe-Mail, 16 Bitch Pileup, Donna Parker & Village, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm..
:tabar The David Bond Group, 7:30 pm,
rs Jazz Club Kurt Elling, 8 pm and 10 pm, $18.
the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
e Bear's Place Riding Shotgun, $6.
s Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
er Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian e, 9 pm, no cover.
eist Gallery Gill's Wednesday Night Jam, 10 .

JRSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Lounge Jason Bennet, Tim Catz, Dave , 7 pm; the Chilblains, 9 pm; Starhick, 9:45 icky 57, 10:45 pm, 21+.
I The Steve Giannaros Quartet.
The Kills, the Noisettes, Bloc Party, 6:30 2.

Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Axis Black Sheep, $15.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay, 7:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Groove Authority, 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6 pm.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, $5, 21+.
Cantab Lounge The ChickenSlacks, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Melissa Ferrick, Natalia Zuckerman, 8 pm, $28-$30; Anne Heaton, Frank Marotta Jr, 11 pm, $13-$15..
Dick's Last Resort The Big Idea, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Phix, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio.
Johnny D's Smorgasbord, Brett Rosenberg Problem, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Todd Carey, Ben Wilmont, 8 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 8 pm.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Amun Ra, Satellite 7, Saturday Saints, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
O'Brien's Keys to the Streets of Fear, Ghostwriter, Black Chaos, $6.
Paradise Rock Club Spin Doctors, Lincoln Conspiracy, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
PA's Bright White Lights, Ellipsis, Fetish Chicken, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Regattabar Larry Coryell, Lenny White, Victor Bailey Trio, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $20.
Scullers Jazz Club Kurt Elling, 8 pm and 10 pm, $18-$58.
Somerville Theatre Sufjan Stevens, 8 pm, $16.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Knee-Hi's, 9:30 pm; Andrea Gillis, 10:30 pm; The Fleshtones, 11:30 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Night of the Living Hammond B3's, 9:30 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm.

La Serata Completa

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Abbey Lounge 20 Foot Halo, 9 pm; Triple Hex, 9:45 pm; Jack Grace Band, 10:45 pm; Angry Johnny & the Killbillies, 11:45 pm, 21+.
All Asia Café Dan Russo, 6 pm; Banana Hands, 8 pm; Dagnabbit, 10 pm.
The Attic OSB, Buddahead.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's BlackSole, 7:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm; Joe Barbato, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Eliza Gilkyson, 8 pm, $13-$15.
Dick's Last Resort Desmond, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Grand Canal Grey Spot.
The Green Dragon Tavern Friday Episode.
The Harp Runamuk, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Tea Leaf Green, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5 pm; Fast Times.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Brother Mosley, Gaving House, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8 pm, $5
Lucky's Lounge Ray Green, Innervisions, 10 pm.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Apollo Sunshine, Mazarin, Self Righteous Brothers, 8 pm, $10 advance, $12 at the door, 18+.
Milky Way Cirque du Singe Brisé, 10 pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5 pm; Patsy & Tony, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Cart Blanch, Medina Sod, the Less Lonesome, $6.
Paddy O's The Hothouse Flowers, 9pm, $35.
Paradise Rock Club Jump Little Children, Jim Boggia, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris The Interns, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Broken River Prophet, Nice & Easy, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Phatt Boys Groove Authority, 9 pm.
Regattabar Larry Coryell, Lenny White, Victor Bailey Trio, 7:30 pm and 10 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Clark Organ Trio, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Spyro Gyra, 8 pm and 10:30 pm, $35.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie G… loway, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Dylan in the Movies, 9:15 p… the Go Station, 10:15 pm; Unbusted, 11:15 p… Dear Leader, 12:15 am, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Zeitgeist Gallery Piano Fes… val, 1 pm, $10 suggested donation.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

The Attic Foxpass, James Montgomery, Charlie Farre…
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Berklee Performance Center Lura, 8 pm, $22-$2…
Bob the Chef's Soul Phactor, 7:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 6 pm and 9:30 pr…
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers… pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Diane Ziegler, Robin Wynn, 8 p… $12-$14.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 8:30 pm, no cover…
Grand Canal Dick 'n' Jane.
The Green Dragon Tavern Red Square.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30, $5.
The Harp Runamuk, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Spookie Daly Pride, the Brakes, $… 21+.
Hatch Memorial Shell KISS 108 Concert on t… Charles.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm; Incadence.
Kinsale Brenen Law, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Swinging Steaks, Maple Street P… ject, Dig in the Dirt, 8 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge The Al Vega Trio, 7 pm.
Matt Murphy's Whoa Man Jesus, 10 pm, no cove…
Middle East Upstairs: Meat Depressed, the Flic… Musclecah, Suzuki Smith, 9 pm, $10, 18+; Dow… stairs: Kool Keith, Kutmasta Kurt, Elemental Zaz… Porn Theatre Ushers, Awkward Landing, Virtuo… Soular Winds, 8 pm, $20 advance, $25 at the do… 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy & Tony.
O'Brien's Kevorkian's Angels, Deathamphetamir… Gut, Medicine4Tim, $10.
Olde Magoun's Saloon Of the Wall, 10 pm, no cov…
Paradise Rock Club Brothers Past, 9 pm, $10, 18+…
Parris The Interns, 10 pm, $5-$10.

Bloc Party plays at Avalon Sept 8.

A's Choo Choo La Rouge, Jennifer O'Connor, So d So, John O'Hara, 9 pm, $5-$7.
atatt Boys Jo Jo Starr & The Rhythm Makers, 9 pm.
ullers Jazz Club Spyro Gyra, 8 pm and 10:30 pm, 5.
p of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Gal-way, 8:30 pm, no cover.
f. the Bear's Place Dan Cray, 9:15 pm; the Sterns, :15 pm; Emergency Music, 11:15 pm, $10.
eitgeist Gallery The Zeitgeist Gallery Piano Festi-l, 1 pm, $10 suggested donation.
s Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm.

UNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

bbey Lounge Bad Art, 9:30 pm, 21+.
b the Chef's Nat Simpkins, 10 am.
avo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no ver.
istol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11 am; Alfredo rdim, 6 pm.
ntab Lounge Candy's Blues Jazz & Rock Jam, 9 ı, $8, 21+.
ub Passim Khevre, Nikitov, 8 pm, $13-$15.
ck's Last Resort Mike Tamara, 7:20 pm, no cover.
e Green Dragon Tavern Grey Spot.
een Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro p High Life, 9:30, no cover.
nnessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm.
nnedy's Midtown Juliet Lloyd, 12 pm, no cover.
att Murphy's Mang Dub, 10 pm, no cover.
ddle East Upstairs: Mountain Mojo Authority, iet Lloyd, 9 pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Of Mon-al, the Management, 8 pm, $10.
Brien's Grief, Adolf Satan, Ravage, Hekseri, It ll End in Pure Horror, $6.
radise Lounge Celso Fonseca, 8 pm, $12.
att Boys Eric Bindman Trio, 12 pm.
gattabar New England Conservatory Faculty owcase, 3 pm, $14.
les Jazz Club Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.
p of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Marty llou, 8 pm, no cover.
. the Bear's Place The Hold Steaddy, 11 pm, $8-).
ully's Wally's Stepchildren2, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
onder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty ott, 9 pm, no cover.

Lura plays at the Berklee Performance Center Sept. 10.

Zeitgeist Gallery The Zeitgeist Gallery Piano Festival, 1 pm, $10 suggested donation.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Avalon Doves, 8 pm, $17, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Esther's Angels, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Bob Fox, 8 pm, $5-$10.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Sessuin, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Matt Murphy's State of the Art, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Pinocchio Syndrome, Piles, Eureka Gold, the Globs, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
O'Brien's Beast, Inhale, Full Tilt, $6.
Paradise Rock Club Nouvelle Vague, 8 pm, $12 advance, $14 at the door, 18+.
PA's Clive Palmer, P.G. Six, 9 pm, $5-$7.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Abbey Lounge Rock 'n' Roll Social, 7 pm; the Brother Kite, 10 pm; RSC, 10:45 pm; the Plain Janes, 11:45 pm, 21+.
Berklee Performance Center Amicic Forever, 7:30 pm, $39-$50.50.
Bristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Merry Mac Band, 8:30 pm; Chatham County Line, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Rebecca Pronsky, 7 pm, $5; members free.

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Thursday, September 8
9pm-close

Felt, 533 Washington Street 617.350.5555

Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Rockabilly Jazz from the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, $4, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Kinsale Tom Courtney, 7 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Jason Anderson, Tiger Saw, Geoff Farina, Ponies in the Surf, 9 pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Molotov, 7:30 pm, $30, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Mike Doughty's Band, 8 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 8 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Syncopation, 8 pm, $15.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Dan Tepfer Trio, 8 pm.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bank of America Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-931-2000) MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-823-9206). MBTA: Orange or Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (61[illegible] 876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-10[illegible] MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-[illegible] 254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*

Inara George plays the Paradise Rock Club Sept. 6.

nnessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). TA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
h Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523-0). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
nny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-4). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
nnedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
sale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). TA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
vara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). TA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
kland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-4920).*
sge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 7-253-1000). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.*
ard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
ky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5).*
tt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
ddle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-31). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
dway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, 7-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
ky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-40). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). TA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
e Nameless Coffehouse *3 Church St., Cambridge 7-864-1630). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
k Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James enue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green e to Copley.*
Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). TA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
le Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somerville 7-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
ddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). TA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
radise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-2-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
rris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). TA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-57).*
e Prudential Center *South Garden at the Pruden- Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-236-00). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line Back Bay.*
rple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-50). MBTA: Orange Line to State St.*
e Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). TA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
gattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-57). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
er Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-31). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
xy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). TA: Green Line to Boylston.*
les Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge 7-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
nders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-6-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
llers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cam-dge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
y Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-23). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
merville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville 7-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Banknorth Garden *100 Legends Way, Boston 7-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-3-4300).*
ad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-50). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
p of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-75). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge 7-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
eeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-9-2331). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Mansfield.*
lly's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-08). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
nterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-00).*
e Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge 7-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
nder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-55). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
itgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge 7-876-6060).*
Zu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). TA: Red Line to Central.*
s Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-08). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

WCRB Classical Concert Series

Hatch Memorial Shell, Storrow Drive, Boston (617-626-4970). www.mass.gov/dcr/hatch_events.htm. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7:30 pm. Free. The Hillyer Festival Orchestra performs.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

WCRB Classical Concerts at Copley

Copley Square Park, Boylston St. and Dartmouth St., Boston (617-626-4970). www.mass.gov/dcr/hatch_events.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. The Charness Family Quintet performs works by Bach, Beethoven, Mozart and Lalo.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Tanglewood Music Center

Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 8 pm. $17-$55. Jazz vocalist Diane Schuur and the Caribbean Jazz Project perform on the opening evening of the Tanglewood 2005 Jazz Festival.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Tanglewood Music Center

Theatre, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 12 pm. $25-$35. The Legends Trio performs with pianist Skitch Henderson and guitarist Bucky Pizzarelli. •*Koussevitzky Music Shed. 12 pm. $23-$81.* Tony Bennet and the Count Basie Orchestra headline the second night of the 2005 Jazz Festival. •*Seiji Ozawa Hall. 3 pm. $17-$45.* Marian McPartland performs her acoustic blues for a taping for National Public Radio.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Tanglewood Music Center

Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). www.bso.org. 2 pm. $17-$45. Saxophonist Sonny Rollins performs improvised jazz. •*8 pm. $20-$65.* The Yellowjackets, an American jazz ensemble, perform material from their latest CD.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Bravo @ the MFA

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 9 am. Free. The Boston Village Gamelan ensemble rehearses for their performance in conjunction with the exhibition *Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia.*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

WCRB Classical Concerts at Copley

Copley Square Park, Boylston St. and Dartmouth St., Boston (617-626-4970). www.mass.gov/dcr/hatch_events.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. The Lavazza Chamber Ensemble performs.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

MITHAS Concert

MIT Tang Center, 2 Amherst St., Cambridge (617-258-7971). web.mit.edu/mithas/www/concerts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 4 pm. $10-$18. MIT's Heritage of the Arts of South Asia sponsors a concert of works by Padmini Rao and Nitin Mitta. The Lavazza Chamber Ensemble performs.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-492-8105). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Free. Jin-Kyung Joen performs on violin.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-492-8105). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. John Gibbons, a teacher at NEC, will perform the music of Bach and Scarlatti on his harpsicord.

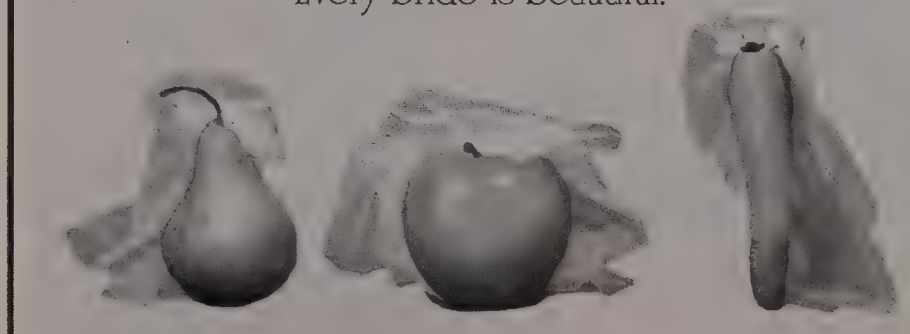
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Berklee Performance Center

136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). www.berkleebpc.com. MBTA: Green line to Hynes/ICA. 7:30 pm. $39-$50.50. Amici Forever, billed as the world's first opera band, features classically trained opera singers.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-492-8105). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Two faculty members will perform works by composers such as Franz Schubert and Luciano Berio.



dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with rotating DJs and drag performances, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Felt
SIN Mondays This Service Industry Night includes free pool and guest DJs spinning high-energy dance, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green St. Grill
Havana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week, two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
360 Dance to hip-hop and R&B from DJ Chubby Chub; $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Bar 33
Havana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Caprice
Live bands as well as rotating DJs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Tuesday Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Totally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic '80s music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa night DJ Hernan, DJ D. Martinez, DJ Anto Ortiz and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes beg ner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk music bands, 9 p $13-$15, 18+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 p no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
IPod Night Bring your own IPod and be an MP 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Spoken Word A night of poetry.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and fu $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Bruno spins house, dance a hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Demers spins a mix includ R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no co 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of int national music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues hip-hop, top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of pu '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no co 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collectio dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R& 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley B plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and com mentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special P Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 21+.

THURSDAYS

Avalon
Hot and Heavy Thursday DJs spin hip-hop mu 10 pm, $15; ladies free until 11 pm, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, f and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

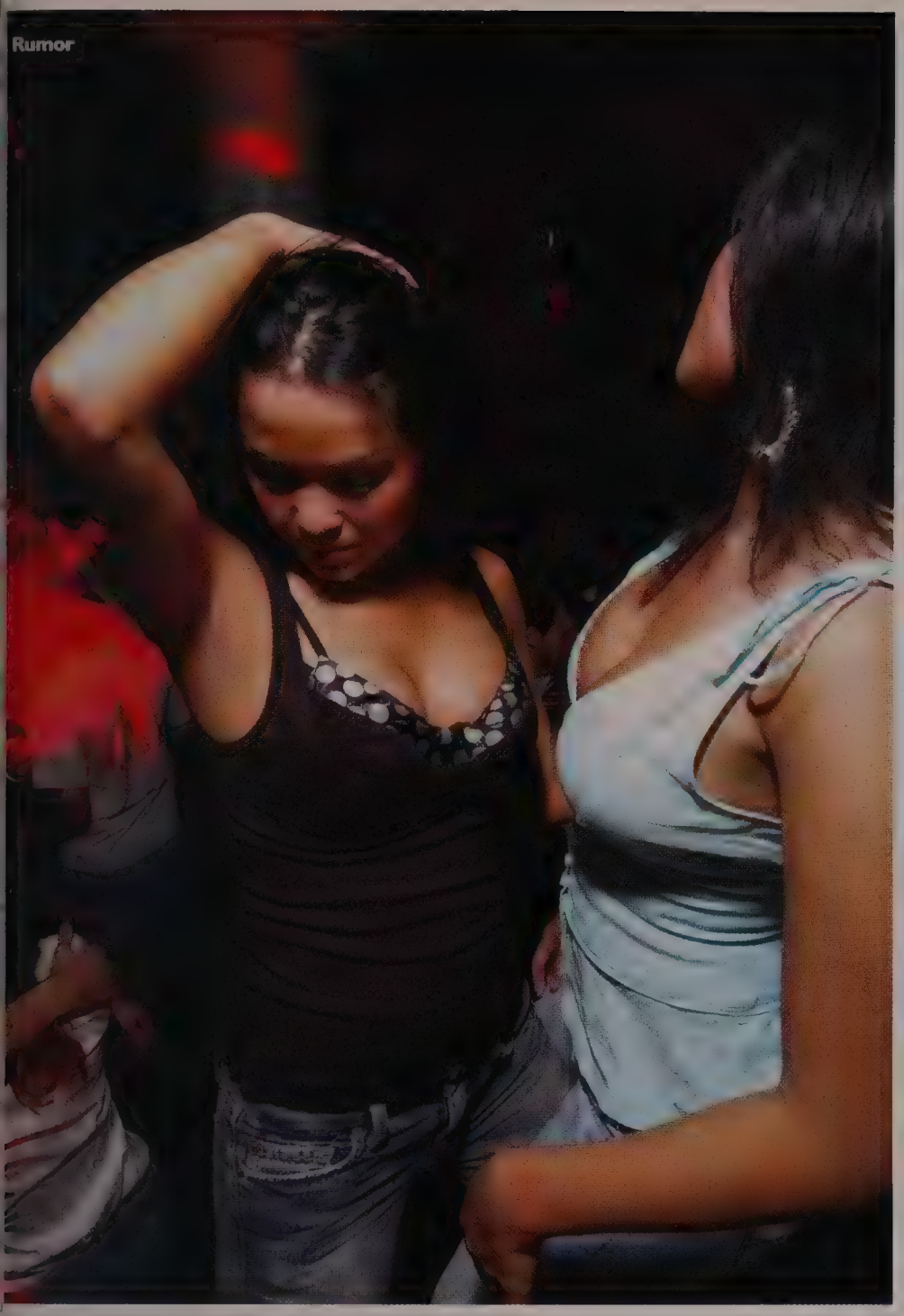
Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and da music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 2 am, $15, 19+.

Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Ind and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Miss Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ M Navarro, 9 pm, $5.



ommon Ground
ve Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, pm, $3, 21+.

oogan's
Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, +.

osmopolitan
night of jazz, 10 pm.

evlin's
Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, cover, 21+.

ockside
Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, pm, $5, 21+.

mbassy
e Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn le host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm, +.

he Enormous Room
p-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and co, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

elt
ue Music Thursdays Featuring live performances, pm, no cover, 21+.

olden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo-vn, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Green Briar
e Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

reen Street Grill
h Camara and Jama-jigi play Afro-pop highlife, :30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

se McIntyre's
ve band, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Kells
e Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance nes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

invara Pub
Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, &B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban Jeff spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 before 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Martini Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while resident DJs spin R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.

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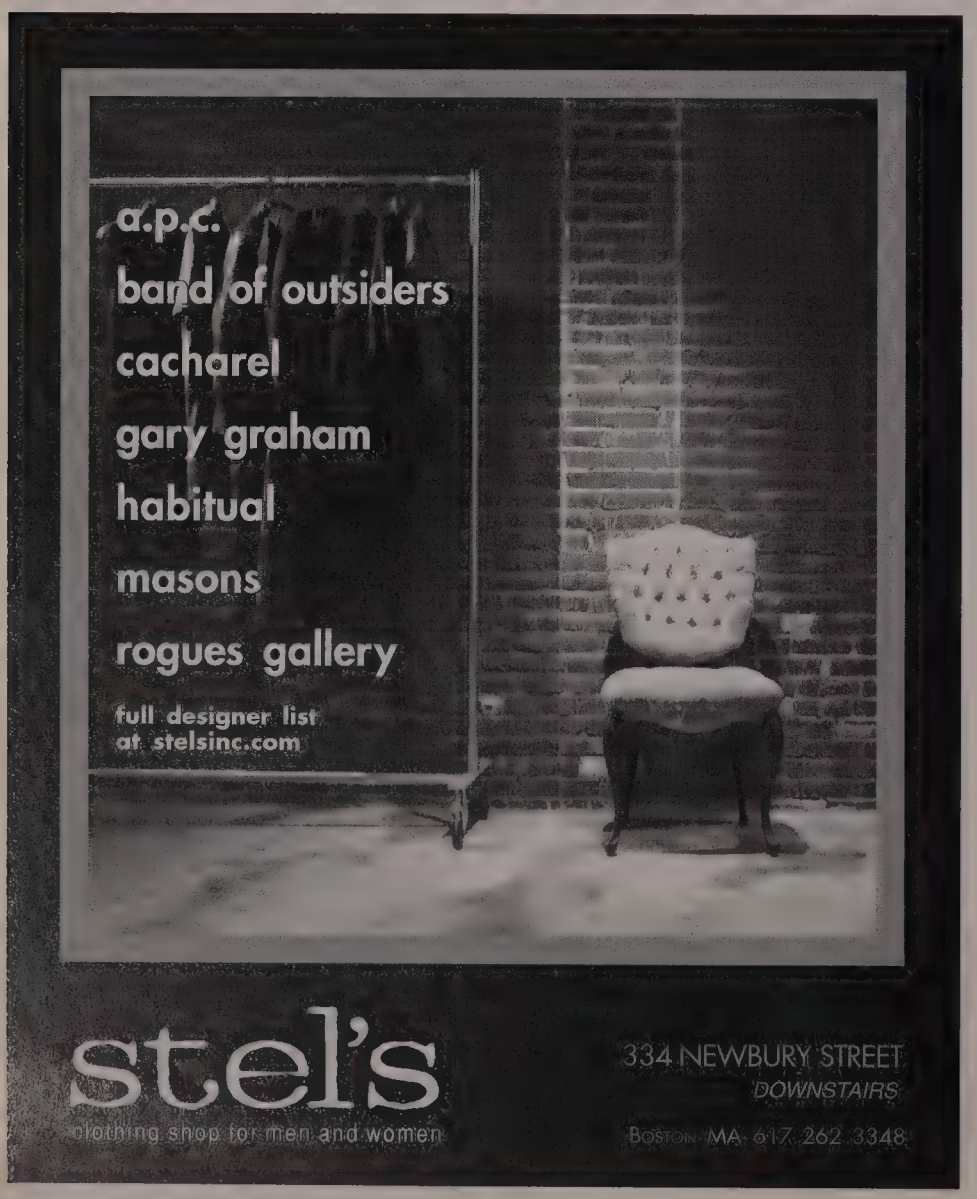


Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Lesbian Night, 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

WaterWorks
Buckwild Thursdays DJs spin top 40 and house and host a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull riding contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Steve spins top 40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Vanity DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 pm, $20; 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Avalon
Avaland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilkie, Alex Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top 40, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions spins hiphop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Hot Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae and bachata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; after 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Club Q
Forbidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top 40, 21+.

Common Ground
DJ Dino Sound spins Northern Soul, 10 pm, no cover.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Xander spins hip-hop, 9 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Theray Fridays DJ Cerebral and Chris Kung of Kiss 108, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top 40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Latin DJ, 11:30 pm, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Niso and DJ Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe Jam'n 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo sp
downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free bef
10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins regg
$15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top 40, R&B and da
while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites
pm, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-h
R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house, and DJ St
Spinelli plays top 40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo a
hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, tech
and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reg
music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encoun**
New England's longest-running all-male da
revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $
18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Benr
spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosph
ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 1
•**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies f
before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+

The Penthouse Club
DJ Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats,
cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 p
no cover, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop spins top 40, dance and hip-hop, and
screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 p
$5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy F

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 p
2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes n
soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm,
cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40, R&B and r
gae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B a
old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 p
21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa ni
the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 p
21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tantric Lounge
Hookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud
spin the music at this night featuring hookahs, s
cialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cov
21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house,
pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night, 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin top 40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared and friends mix top 40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20; 21+ men, 19+ women with college ID.

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life DJs Frank and Matty spin alternative party hits, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and top-40 music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Profenna spins top 40, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Shake Your Ass Night.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
•**Sensation Saturdays** featuring DJ Eddie Lee spinning hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15; 19+ women, 21+ men. •Russian night in The Modern with DJ Roger R spinning international.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house music, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green St. Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Fresh spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+; $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, men $10; women $5 or free before 10:30; 21+.

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons spin minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features DJ Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top 40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-energy dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Different DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles of house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top 40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

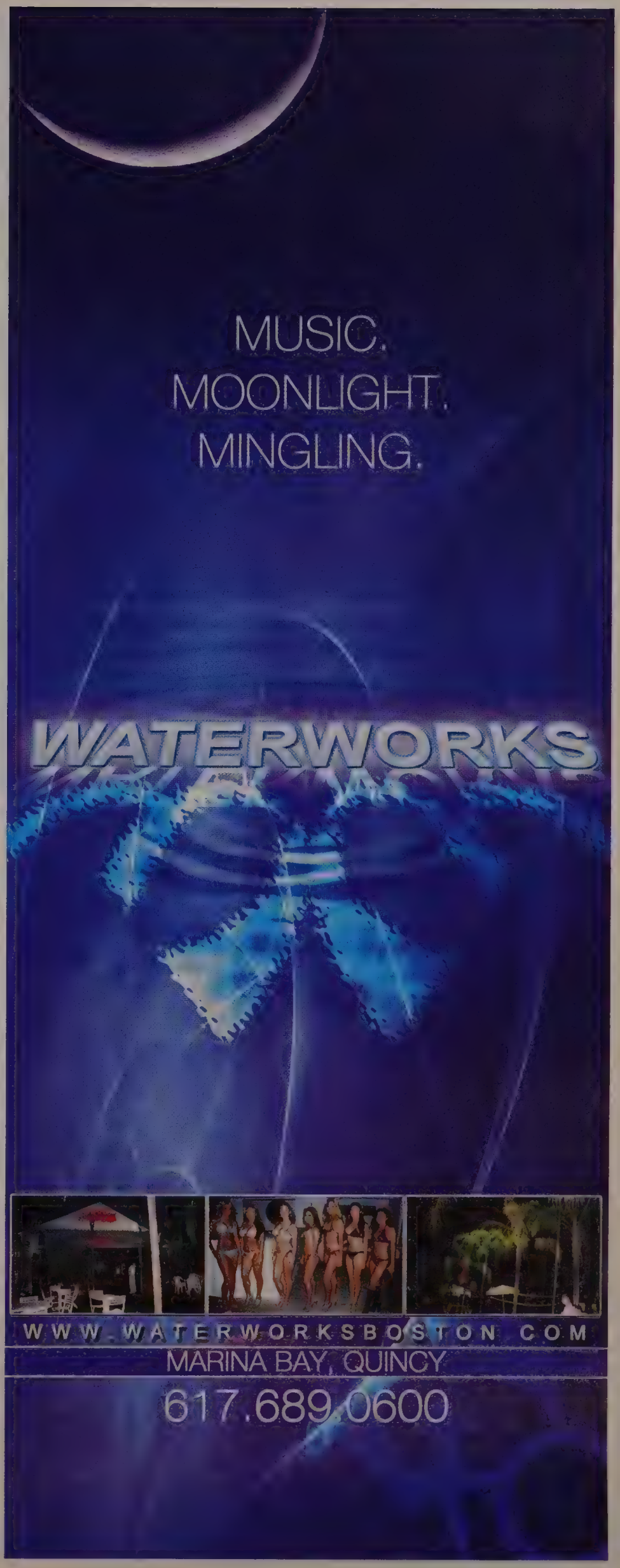
Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

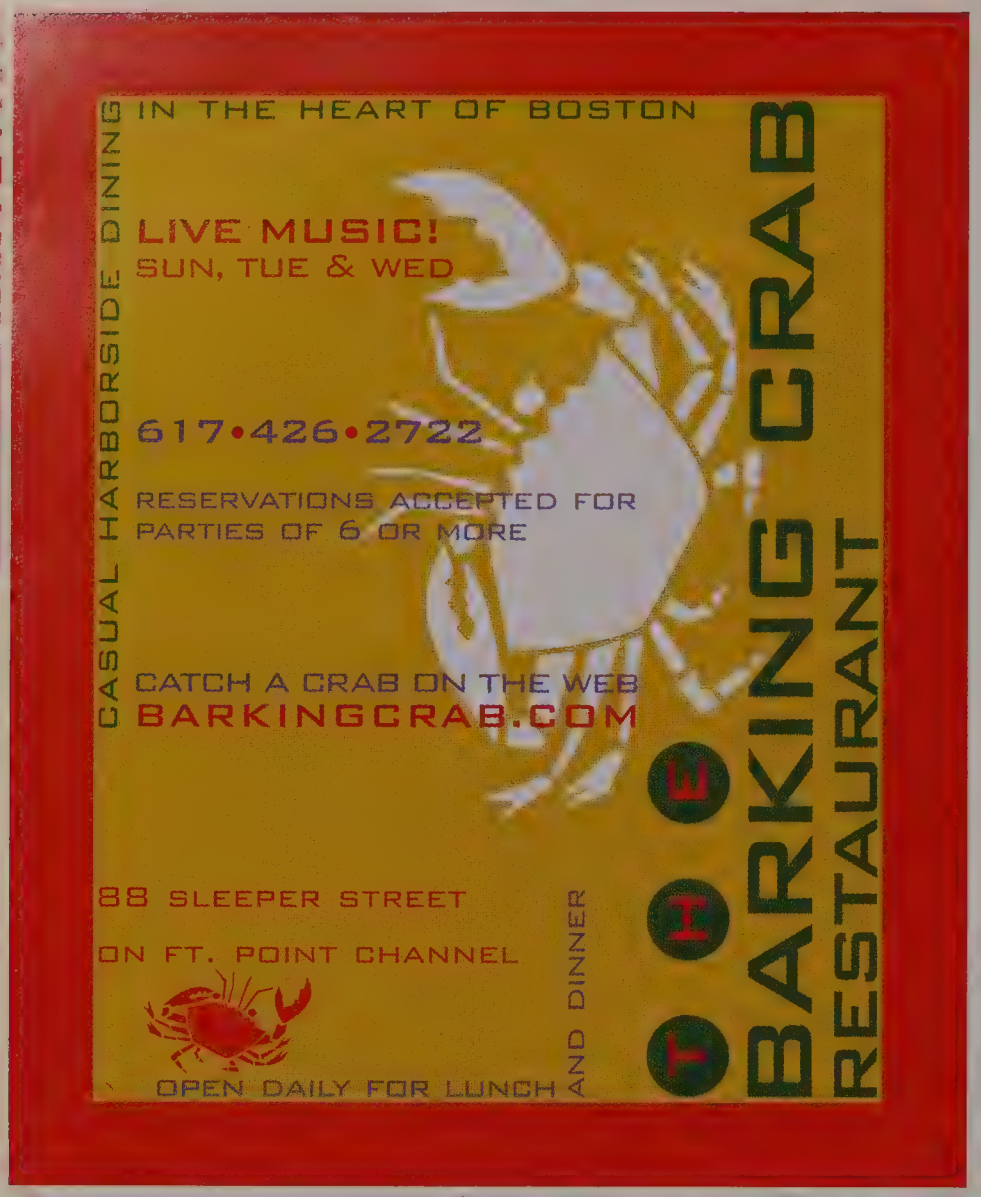
Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyball, 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays** DJs spin top 40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 pm-10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.





SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Dance Hall Reggae music, 11 pm, $10-$15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $20; women 19+, men 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+.

Caprice
Rotating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Club Q
Suave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and the 45 Crew spin dance music, 8 pm-2 am, $10.

Cosmopolitan
Caribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Spot DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

The Office
Utopia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests play deep, soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJ Itchy P.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top 40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and international grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance hits, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyball, 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Smokin' Sundays** DJs Romeo and Randy spin, and Romeo hosts a Hawaiian Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am; $10 from 5-9 pm, $20 after 9 pm; 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
Anthem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617 859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617 542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •*Forging the New: East Asian Painting in the 20th Century* showcases 19th- and 20th-century paintings influenced by modernization, technology and politics. Through Oct. 16. •*Degas at Harvard* displays more than 60 drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs by Edgar Degas. Through Nov. 27. •*Silver and Shawls: India, Europe and the Colonial Art Market* highlights the evolution of shawls and silver table wares produced during India's Colonial period. Through Jan. 29, 2006. •*Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Greek Portraiture*, *The Art of Ancient Rome* and *Near Eastern Art* are on display. Ongoing.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •A display of art from China, Japan and Korea runs through June 2006. •A new installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Rd., Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6; children 5 and under, free. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through Sept. 26. •*John Huddleston: Killing Ground, Photographs of the Civil War and the Changing American Landscape* juxtaposes historical images with contemporary photography of the same locations 150 years later. Sept. 10-Jan. 8. •*Robert Arnold: Zeno's Paradox* is a short looping video that experiments with the connections between zooms and stills. Sept. 10-Jan. 8. •*Saga: The Journey of Arno Rafael Minkkinen, Photographs 1970-2005* exhibits 120 nude prints that span Minikkinen's career and attempt to mimic land formation. Sept. 10-Jan. 8. •*Great Buys: Museum Purchases* highlights works purchased over the last decade. Sept. 10-Aug. 2006.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. •*A New Kind of Historical Evidence* showcases photographs from the Carpenter Center Collection. Through Oct. 30. •*American Art Since 1950* displays the changes that occurred in American art in the mid-20th century using painting and sculpture. Ongoing. •*American Art at Harvard* includes the paintings and sculptures of Harvard's members since the early 17th century. Ongoing. •The exhibits *Art and Design from Central and Northern Europe Since 1880* and *Art in France, 1885-1960* are on display. Ongoing. •*Eighteenth Century European Ceramics and Paintings* exhibits some of the museum's permanent collection. Ongoing. •*Rubens and His Collaborators* exhibits 17th-century baroque-style paintings by Peter Paul Rubens and other artists of the period. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon., Tue. and Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 10 am-8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Mots Cassés* features photographs of the streets of Paris by Alan Greene. Through Oct. 3.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 9 am-12 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children 3-18, $5. •*Thoreau's Walden: A Journey in Photographs by Scot Miller* displays a five-year pictorial of Walden Woods. Through Oct. 2. •*The Glass Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features the Ware Collection of glass models for more than 830 plant species. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Iconic poster designs are displayed at the International Poster Gallery through Nov. 30.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; Thu. after 5 pm, free. •*Getting Emotional* focuses on the expression of feeling through various media. Through Sept. 5. •*Momentum 4: Roe Ethridge* is an exhibition of contemporary photography inspired by fashion and advertising. Through Sept. 5. •*The Secret Ark of Icon Park* is Jerry Beck's freestanding structure made from recycled materials outside in the Charlestown Navy Yard. Through Oct. 10.

Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; weekends, $11; seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18, free. •*A Closer Look: An Introduction to the Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum* offers museum tours. Tue.-Fri, 2:30 pm. Ongoing. •*Special Exhibition Gallery Talks* provide context to museum exhibits each Saturday at 12 pm. Ongoing. •The collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

Mary Baker Eddy Library
200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $6; seniors, students and youth 6-17, $4; children 6 and under, free. •The multimedia exhibit *This Is Woman's Hour...* highlights the life and accomplishments of Mary Baker Eddy. Ongoing. •The library's *Historic Bible Collection* showcases rare bibles in the Reference Room. Ongoing. •A "peace" flag from the 1907 Peace Congress proceedings in New York is displayed. Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons* looks at the role Jewish women's salons played in Europe and America from the late 18th century through the 1940s. Through Dec. 4.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lwac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. Free. •*Videos by Oliver Herring* showcases five video works by the New York–based sculptor and video artist. Through Sept. 9. •*Working Drawings for the MIT Bell Tower* displays Theodore Roszak's preparatory sketches for the MIT Bell Tower. Through Dec. 16.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. •*Scopes, Station Wagons and Solder: Unexpected Images from the Rad Lab and RLE Collections* exhibits photographs from preserved negatives that document the history of radar and electronics. Through June 11, 2006. •*35 Innovators Under 35* displays the ideas of young innovators who have been recognized by MIT's *Technology Review* magazine. Through Oct. 21. •*Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Words of Thunder: William Lloyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition* celebrates the life and achievements of Boston abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison. Through Dec. 31. •Four exhibits depict the history of African Americans in Massachusetts. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17, school days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all other times, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, free excluding special exhibitions. •*Things I Love: The Many Collections of William I. Koch* displays choice objects of silver, sculpture, painting and more. Through Nov. 13. •*Ansel Adams* showcases works by the famous American photographer. Through Dec. 31. •*Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia* features over 100 musical instruments. Through Jan. 5, 2006. •*American West: Dust and Dreams* presents over 70 artists whose works reflect the American West. Though Jan. 8, 2006. •*A Much Recorded War: The Russo-Japanese War in History and Imagery* exhibits prints, postcards and photographs from this era. Through March 28, 2006.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, $13; children 3-11, $12. •*Brain: The World Inside Your Head* features a giant model brain. Through Sept. 10. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers. Ongoing. •Hundreds of butterflies and flowers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. •Put your organizational skills to work and solve mysteries in the exhibit *Natural Mysteries*. Ongoing. •The *Theater of Electricity* provides lightening shows daily at 12 pm and 2 pm and Fridays at 7 pm. Ongoing.• Stargaze atop the Museum's garage roof using the Gilliland Observatory Friday evenings. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Old Glory* displays patriotic magazine covers from July 1942. Through Dec. 11. •*September 11: Bearing Witness to History* commemorates and reflects on the tragedy of 9/11 through an exhibit featuring photography, articles, everyday objects and more. Sept. 10-Jan. 1, 2006. •*Teenage Hoboes in the Great Depression* features letters, questionnaires and audio tapes documenting stories during the Depression. Through Feb. 16, 2006. •*Blue Monday: Doing Laundry in America* showcases a collection of laundry advertisements and paraphernalia from the 1700s to today. Through March 4, 2006.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*The Art of Shopping in China* captures China's early-19th-century international trade market in 40 paintings. Through Sept. 5. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •*The Kingdom of Siam: The Art of Central Thailand, 1350-1800* features stone images, sculptures, wood carvings, temple furnishings and more. Through Oct. 16. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from the Mississippian Culture. Through March 30, 2006. •*Carved by Nature: Untamed Traditions in Chinese Decorative Art* exhibits organic wood forms which appealed to Buddhists and Daoists seeking to connect with nature. Through Aug. 13, 2006. •*Air Lines: Photographs by Alex MacLean* capture images of the United States from thousands of feet above the ground. Through April 23, 2006. •*All of My Life: Contemporary Works by Native American Artists* explore the world views of nine contemporary Native American artists through sculptures and paintings. Ongoing. •*Exposing the Source: the Paintings of Nalini Malani* shows two decades of the artist's projects as a painter. Ongoing. •*Yin Yu Tang* is a reconstructed Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children 3-18, $5; children under 3, free. •*Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations in Washington, D.C* features a selection of photographs of Native American delegates to the U.S. government. Through Dec. 1. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtis Collection* is on display through March 30, 2006. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Kenneth Stubbs: Still Life Paintings* features cubist still life works from the 1930s through the 1960s. Sept. 8-Oct. 8.

Adams Gallery
Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont St., Boston (617-305-1782). www.suffolk.edu/aadams_gallery. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*Touching All the Bases: A Red Sox History* explores the history of the Boston Red Sox through photography, cartoons and artifacts. Through Sept. 30.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tea and Fantasy* features sculpted teapots created by 28 artists. Through Sept. 10.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Laura Chasman: Those Around Me* displays paintings by Laura Chasman. Sept. 9-Oct. 1. •*Downstrokes and Feedback* is a collaborative showcase curated by Lisa Schiff. Sept. 9-Oct. 1.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am- 5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Summer Selections* displays paintings by gallery artists. Through Sept. 7.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Jackson's new works comprising clever and comedic narratives within vibrantly colored still life paintings are on display. Sept. 1-29.

Ars Libri
Mario Diacono Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jessica Stockholder displays painting and sculptures. Sept. 9-30.

Artana
1378 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm. •The *Summer Group Show* features original oil, acrylic and pastel paintings by New England artists. Through Aug. 31.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sun., 3-8 pm. •Sydney Hardin explores female facial expressions through painting in *Window to the Soul.* Through Sept. 21.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., Boston (781-853-0017). www.atlanticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •*Summer Salon* showcases the work of the gallery's 20+ members and includes jewelry, photography, mixed media and fine art. Sept. 6-29.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Donald Judd displays 12 sculptures that were created in 1991. Sept. 10-Oct. 19.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •*Redheads* displays Barbara Grad's works on paper as a part of the Boston Drawing Project. Sept. 7-Oct. 1. •*Ladies* exhibits new photography by David Hilliard. Sept. 7-Oct. 15. •*New Paintings* features works by Richard Bosman that focus on the history of Massachusetts. Sept. 7-Oct. 15.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed. and Thu., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Circumference* displays small-scale self portraits by Steve Locke. Sept. 9-Oct. 23. •*Standing on One Foot* presents various media that explores the human figure and its departure from traditional interpretation. Sept. 9-Oct. 23.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-776-3410). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Japanese artist Niho Kozuru exhibits rubber-cast sculpture. Sept. 6-Oct. 8. •Murray Dewart displays large-scale sculptures of mixed media. Sep. 6-Oct. 8.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Brickbottom Summer Member's Exhibition: BIG* exhibits large paintings created by gallery members. Through Aug. 31. •*Hidden in Plain Sight* exhibits works by Peggy Badenhausen, Alicia Dwyer, Gail Martin and Patty Rosenblatt including sculptures, photography, paintings and prints. Sept. 9-Oct. 16.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmcusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*ph15: Cameras, Communities, Connections* features photographs by students from Villa 15 on the edge of Buenos Aires. Through Sept. 2. •*Our Culture Is Our Resistance* displays photographs by Jonathan Moller that focus on Guatemalan communities that have been uprooted by war. Sept. 12-Oct. 14.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery displays aluminum and copper three-dimensional wall sculptures by Don Maynard. Sept. 7-30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*A Century of Still Life* exhibits an overview of 20th-century still life paintings. Through Sept. 3. •*Letterio Calapai: Woodcuts Old and New* displays an overview of the artist's prints. Through Sept. 3. •*Henry Pitz Goes to the Circus* displays Henry Pitz's circus-related drawings. Through Sept. 3. •*Painters of the Art Students League* features water color and oil paintings by artists affiliated with the Art Students League. Sept. 12-Nov. 5. •*Joseph Pennell: Temple to the Gods, Temples to Industry* exhibits etching and lithography by Joseph Pennell. Sept. 12-Nov. 5. •*Joseph Pennell in the Swiss Alps* displays drawings by Joseph Pennell. Sept. 12-Nov. 5.

Claygo
75 Thayer St., Boston (617-695-0100). www.claygo.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •The gallery displays potted lamps by Rahul Bhargava and porcelain-footed saucers by Andy Howarth. Sept. 2-Oct. 14.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Paper Route & Asylum* displays gouache on cut paper works by Laurene Krasny Brown. Sept. 8-Oct. 1.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* exhibits works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). www.eclipsesalongallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •New abstract paintings by Jeffrey Ringdahl are on display. Though Sept. 24.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Henri Matisse: The Jazz Suite* features sculptures, paintings, lithography and drawings inspired by jazz. Sept. 2-Oct. 2. •An exhibition of paintings, sculptures and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries is on display. Ongoing.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Quiet* displays photographs by Remi Thornton. Sept. 9-30. • A group exhibition features paintings, drawings and photographs by Gallery Katz artists. Ongoing.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Rocks and Ruins* explores the bombings of an Armenian church along with destruction in Peru and Syria using photographs by Kevin Bubriski. Sept. 9-Oct. 15.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallery-naga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Echt Beck* showcases work by Ken Beck. Sept. 6-Oct. 8. •*Prints and Drawings from Ireland, 2000-2004* is a collection of work by Yizhak Elyashiv. Sept. 6-Oct. 8.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-426-9738). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery's summer group show features works by Stockwell, Brown, Antonio, Cantor, Lynch and more. Through Sept. 4.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Some Color* features color photographs by various artists. Through Sept. 6.

urst Gallery
Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). ww.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. d.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm and by appointnt. •Art of the Pacific features sculpture and arti-ts. Through Aug. 31.

ternational Poster Gallery
5 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.rnationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop-. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •Mas-pieces of Graphic Design showcases iconic poster signs from the late 19th century to the present. ot. 15-Nov. 30.

di Rotenberg Gallery
) Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.irotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-., 10 am-6 pm. •In Tudo Ao Mesmo Tempo (Every-ng at Once) Brazilian painter José Gonçalves revis-his signature images, such as swimmers, portraits l bicycles. Sept. 8-Oct. 1.

dder Smith Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.dersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Phil Bowers displays ntings based on photography. Through Sept. 3. lew Paintings features oil and acrylic paintings by n Strassman. Sept. 7-Oct. 1.

ngston Gallery
Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingston ery.com MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •The member owcase displays a variety of paintings, sculptures l photographs. Sept. 1-30.

noue Fine Art
) Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.ouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Alexandre noir & the Impressionists showcases work by the at-grandson of Pierre-Auguste Renoir along with er artists. Sept. 1-30. •The gallery's collection tures works in various media by Douglass Freed, th Block, Marc Civitarese, Carrie McGee, John som and more. Ongoing.

Attitude Gallery
3 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.itudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Vistas Revisited features landscapes and ceramics by Russ Vogt, glass wall sculptures by Yolanda Adra and glass landscapes and torsos by Karen Ehart. Through Oct. 2.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). www.martinlawrence.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Wed., 10 am-6 pm; Thurs.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-7 pm. •Song features photographs of music icons by fashion photographer Francesco Scavullo. Through Aug. 31. •Ali Golkar: A Painter with a Poet's Heart displays the artist's new watercolors and paintings. Sept. 1-30.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •100 Proof is a group exhibition of Scottish jewelers and metalsmiths. Through Sept. 30.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Signe exhibits a variety of antique textiles in combination with new textiles. Through Sept. 3. •Some of the Best: New Work and Old showcases paintings by Ann Christensen. Sept. 9-Oct. 1.

NAO Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naogallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Thu.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features sculptures, photography and other works by Helene Odon, Danielle Sauve and Sue Yang. Sept. 8-Oct. 22.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-425-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery features paintings by Carl Ostendarp. Sept. 9-Oct. 1.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. #304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. • Jacob El Hanani's inks on paper and Renato Orara's ballpoint works on paper are on display. Sept. 1-Oct. 15.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features photography, paintings, sculptures, jewelry, mosaics, antiques and more by local artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jim Zingarelli's new paintings and sculptures are on display. Sept. 8-Oct. 8.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Fine Choices 2005 features artists' personal selections of paintings, drawings and sculptures. Through Sept. 4. •Brother Thomas features pottery by Benedictine monk and ceramic artist Brother Thomas Bezanson. Sept. 10-Oct. 16

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). www.richardson-clarke.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Collages exhibits paintings by Karen Clarke. Sept. 8-Oct. 31.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Arno Rafael Minkkinen's photographs that focus on the relationship between individuals and the environments they inhabit are on display. Sept. 8-Oct. 8.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Northwest Artists showcases works in mixed media by artists in the Northwest region of the United States. Through Oct. 30.

Soprafina Gallery
73 Thayer St., Boston (617-728-0770). www.soprafina.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Recent Work by Lori Warner displays the artist's recent works in mixed media. Sept. 8-Oct. 1.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Luminescence exhibits oil painting, water color and mixed media on rice paper influenced by landscapes by Sandra Mueller-Dick, Shanshan Cui and William St. George. Sept. 1-30.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •John F. Ernests's New England landscapes are on display through August 31. •The gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century American artwork. Ongoing.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-9163). www.wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Chestnut Hill. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-8 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •Acrylic paintings on canvas, drawings, lithographs and sculptures by Alexandra Nechita are on display. Through Sept. 16.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Rd., Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue. and Wed., 11 am-5 pm; Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •Then Again displays Maggie Taylor's digital photos created using a flatbed scanner. Through Sept. 10. •$CaCO_3$ features John Chervinsky's photographs of chalk markings. Through Sept. 10.

Panopticon Gallery Boston
Hotel Commonwealth, 502 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Photographs by Norman Fortier feature private and commercial sailing vessels. Through Sept. 10.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. •The gallery displays photographs taken by its staff. Through Sept. 10.

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Bebe Moore Campbell** reads from her novel *72 Hour Hold*, about a mother's efforts to hold herself together as her daughter suffers from bipolar disorder.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebook smith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Adam Langer** reads from his new novel, *The Washington Story*, about a group of high school students in 1982 exploring sex and relationships.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks. com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Amy Butler Greenfield** reads from her book *A Perfect Red: Empire, Espionage and the Quest for the Color of Desire*, a historical account of the cultivation of and obsession with cochineal, a red dye that was highly prized in Old World Europe.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. London librarian **Chris Roberts** discusses his book *Heavy Words Lightly Thrown: The Reason Behind the Rhyme*, about the meanings and origins of well-known nursery rhymes.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Douglas Preston** reads from his novel *Tyrannosaur Canyon*, about an innocent man who gets mixed up in a violent war over the intact skeleton of a T-rex when he agrees to fulfill the final wish of a dying man.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. Former editor of *Yankee* magazine **Jim Collins** discusses his book *The Last Best League: One Summer, One Season, One Dream*, which tells the story of the Cape Cod amateur baseball league and a few of its most promising players.

PEN New England Author Series
Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin Lane Blvd., Cambridge (617-395-2523). www.hotelmarlowe.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:15 pm. Free. Poet **David Barber** reads from his works.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Armani Café
214 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-0909). 6–8 pm. **Tracy McArdle** reads from her novel, *Confessions of a Nervous Shiksa*, about two sisters, each having recently ended their engagements, who re-enter the dating world in Hollywood.

Harvard Book Store Event
Beren Hall, Harvard Hillel, 52 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Cynthia Ozick** reads from her novel *Heir to the Glimmering World*, about an 18-year-old orphan who works for and lives with a chaotic German family in Depression-era New York City.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Aimee Bender** reads from her collection of short stories *Willful Creatures*, about various surreal, unnamed characters dealing with love, death and pain.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Anne Bernays** reads from her novel *Trophy House*, about a children's book illustrator seeking respite from her disintegrating marriage at her Cape Cod beach house but encountering racial discord.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Harvard Book Store Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $3. **Tracy Kidder** discusses his memoir *My Detachment*, about his experiences as a lieutenant interpreting data and analyzing enemy troop movements during the Vietnam War.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **David Vann** reads from his book, *A Mile Down: The True Story of a Disasterous Career at Sea*, a nonfiction account of the obstacles he encountered while building a sailboat and attempting a voyage.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Tracy Kidder** discusses his memoir *My Detachment*. See Sept. 12 Harvard Book Store for a descrption.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Novelist **Jane Smiley** discusses her book *Thirteen Ways of Looking at the Novel*, which examines the definition of the novel in detail, contains a guide for aspiring writers and reflects on the hundred novels she read while working on the book.

Harvard Book Store Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free (tickets required). Former *Boston Globe* science writer **Edward Dolnick** discusses his book *The Rescue Artist: A True Story of Art, Thieves, and the Hunt for a Missing Masterpiece*, about the theft of Edvard Munch's famous painting *The Scream* and its eventual recovery thanks to the work of a Scotland Yard officer.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Former VP of marketing for half.com **Mark Hughes** discusses his book *Buzzmarketing: Get People to Talk About Your Stuff*, about how businesses can and have improved sales by generating word-of-mouth ("buzz") advertising.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/Library. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Jacquelyn Pope**, **Sandy Weisman** and **Suzanne Berger** read from their works.

Newtonville Books & Brews Event
The Attic/Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center. 7:30 pm. Free. **Anita Diamant** reads from her new novel, *The Last Days of Dogtown*, about the settlement of Dogtown in early 1800s Massachusetts and its unusual residents.

Anita Diamant reads from her new novel Sept. 13.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBT Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $ Every Wednesday night, the Cant Lounge hosts this poetry slam dow stairs in the Third Rail.

Dr. Brown's Traveling Poetry Show (Tuesdays)
Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (61 876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. MBTA: Red Li to Central. 7:30 pm. $5. **Michael R. Brown** directs th 90-minute show of performance poetry.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). ww poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 p $5. The **Jeff Robinson Trio** plays background music f the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambrid (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBT Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts th open mike for women and their allies, with five- a 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). ww outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ce tral. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Powers hosts Sto Soup, featuring prescheduled poets. $4 suggested d nation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Share or listen to poet and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggest donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Sunday)
Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (61 628-2313). 3 pm. Free. Poet **Doug Holder** hosts open-mike reading.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188 www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Li to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The seco Thursday of each month offers a selection of fe tured poets and an opportunity for others to tal the mike.

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EDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

he Hasty Gourmet

ston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., ston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green ne to Arlington. 6:30-9:30 pm. $54 members; $63 nmembers. Culinary school graduate **Dagmar Smith** ches how to make a quick, four-course meal.

nages of the Sea in European and merican Art

useum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston 17-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green ne to Museum. 6 pm. Free. Museum curator **Fred- ick Ilchman** discusses the presentation of the sea various works of art.

EDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

oston in 1645

w England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 New- ry St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.newengland cestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:15 . Free. The Genealogy in a Nutshell Lecture Se- s features a talk and guided walking tour about ston in 1645. The walking tour begins at 2 pm.

mbellished Clothing and Bags

rk Craft Studios, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718- 32). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to wis. 6:30-9 pm. $30. Learn basic hand-sewing tech- ques used to embellish bags and tee shirts.

mpires at War: The French and dian War and the Struggle for orth America

d South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston 17-373-5800). www.oldsouthmeeting house.org. BTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 .. Free. Massachusetts Historical Society Director **William M. Fowler Jr.** discusses how the French and Indian War determined the fate of North America.

Getting Started with Your Family History

New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.newengland ancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm and 6 pm. Free. This hour-long class teaches the main principles of genealogical research and includes a tour of the NEHGS library.

The Golden Age of Spanish Paintings

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6 pm. Free. Museum curator **Christopher Atkins** discusses the golden age of Spanish paintings.

Shared Legacies: The Founding Generations Tell Their Stories

Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Reverend **Peter J. Gomes** and authors **Eve LaPlante** and **Laurel Ulrich** lead a panel discussion on the Massachusetts Bay Colony between 1630 and 1710.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Great Apes and the Bushmeat Crisis

Harvard Museum of Natural History, Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Author and conservationist **Dale Peterson** discusses his book *Eating Apes* and how the African great ape population is nearing extinction.

Treasures Along the Silk Road

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 11 am. Free. Museum staff member **Martha Wright** discusses the treasures of Asia's Silk Road.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Wine and Craft

Spark Craft Studios, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6-9 pm. $30 members; $35 nonmembers. Create bangles and bracelets while enjoying wine, cheese and crackers.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

American West: Dust and Dreams

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free. Artist **Andrew Wollner** discusses the art of the American West.

Mail Art

Paper Source, 338 Boylston St., Boston (617-718-9132). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1-4 pm. $45. Learn how to create embellished envelopes that can be sent through the mail.

Poetry at the Ark

USS Constitution Museum, Charlestown Navy Yard, Constitution Road, Charlestown (617-927-6615). www.icaboston.org. 7 pm. Free. The Institute for Contemporary Art, the National Park Service and artist Jerry Beck present poetry readings by **Howard Camner, Major Jackson, Paul Marion** and **Sabrina Orah Mark** in conjunction with Beck's outdoor exhibit *The Secret Ark of Icon Park.*

Stringing Techniques

Bead Works, 167 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-7227). www.beadworksboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9-10:30 am. $35, materials included. Learn the basic techniques for creating bead jewelry and make a bracelet.

Wire Work Techniques

Bead Works, 23 Church St., Cambridge (617-868-9777). www.beadworksboston.com. 10:30 am-12 pm. $35, materials included. Learn the basics of wireworking by crafting a pair of earrings.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Saints and Salvation in Medieval and Renaissance Art

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 2 pm. Free. Museum staff member **Shirin Fozi** discusses the representation of saints and salvation in Medieval and Renaissance art.

Starting and Succeeding in the Restaurant and Catering Business

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-266-6710). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12-6 pm. $95. Learn how to advertise, plan menus, determine ideal locations and motivate staff in the restaurant and catering businesses.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

The Fine Art of Cheese Tasting

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $59 members; $69 nonmembers. Formaggio Kitchen owner **Ihsan Gurdal** matches dry red and white wines with an array of cheeses and explains the differences between various types of cheese.

Making Bread Without Recipes

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9:30 pm. $49 members; $59 nonmembers. Learn the principles of breadmaking and create variations of a basic recipe.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Choosing the Right Look for Your Hair

Boston Center for Adult Education at DH Studios, 135 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:45-7:45 pm. $45 members; $55 nonmembers. A DH Studios employee gives individualized consultations and presents a slide show illustrating different style options.

Entertaining Made Easy: Cooking with Six Ingredients or Less

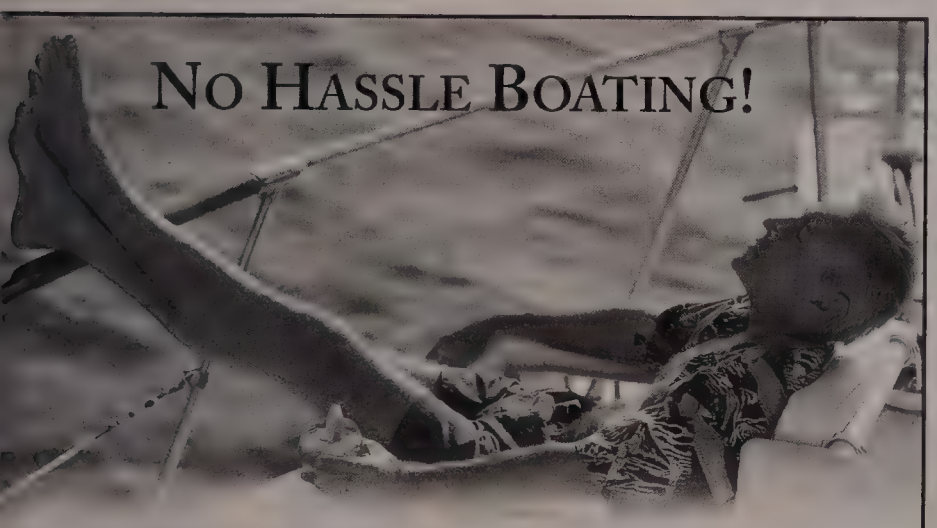
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $49 members; $58 nonmembers. Formaggio chef **Jackie Kinyon** teaches how to make a meal using six ingredients to minimize time at the store and in the kitchen.

Get to Know Your Sewing Machine

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7:45-9:15 pm. $32 members; $41 nonmembers. Tailor **Eleanor Mason** teaches the basics of using and caring for any sewing machine.

100 Things to Do Before You Hit 100

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-266-6710). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6-10 pm. $67. Participants learn to determine the tasks, adventures and habits they want to pursue in the future.



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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.ariaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $7 at door; $5 on guest list. 18+. DJ Richard Michael spins high-energy dance music for Sanctuary, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday-night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 18+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill, 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Axis bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am, $15, 21+. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Thursday is Lesbian Night with DJ 9-1, Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera and Saturday is Sexy Saturday with DJ 9-1.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2am. DJ Gay Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Gender Crash Open Mic
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). Sept. 8, 7:30 pm. www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-$10. Queer poets and spoken-word artists are invited to share their original works. Time slots are three minutes.

Sarah McLachlan CD Release Party
Toast, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. Sept. 9. 9 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Dyke Night hosts a CD release party for Sarah McLachlan's new album, *Bloom*. The night features CD giveaways and dancing to the music of DJ Susan Esthera. Food is served until 10 pm.

Dyke Night hosts a CD Release Party for Sarah McLachlan's new album, *Bloom*, on Sept. 9 at Toast in Somerville

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm, $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858).
www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri., 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array of services for the GLBT community, ranging from discussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to programs addressing domestic violence and substance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT flag football league for a casual spring season followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat. 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information, e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives to meeting and dating, communication games, single mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail info@gaylab.org.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose or performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red

o Central. This discussion group for all ages meets very Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Liquid Assets Swimming
ww.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and un. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian wim team is open to both competitive and fitness wimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
617-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This support group is working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail nfo@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Newly Diagnosed Group
RI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange ine to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of ach month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports ay and bisexual men who have been diagnosed vith HIV during the last two years. E-mail longtin@jri.org.

Out to Dance
617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin nd ballroom dance classes and workshops are held n a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
wentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, ay men and bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and arly 30s.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange ine to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 m. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, nusic and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
RI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line o Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social roup offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual nen in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
RI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Provincetown Art Tours
(617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. Fri.-Sun., 3:30-5:30 pm. $25. Join other men and women on weekend tours of contemporary art exhibitions in Provincetown. Call for meeting locations. Reservations required.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Women Outdoors
Kayak/Canoe Washburn Island, Waquoit Bay, Falmouth (413-734-0276).www.women-outdoors.org. Sept. 9-11. Kayaking to the island and camping for all women, regardless of sexuality and age.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

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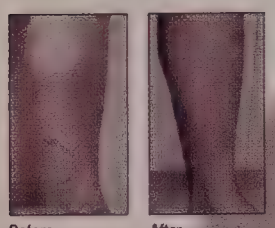

Before

After

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body & mind

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

A Day of Gratitude

Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Sept. 11, 12 pm-4 pm. Free. This Healing Center invites participants to spend a day honoring those we have lost and feeling grateful for what we have today. Come experience group meditation, laughter yoga and other healing practices for yourself and the world.

Open House and Anniversary Celebration

CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Sept. 9-11. Free. Join others at this studio to celebrate CasaNia's third year of offering Nia, dance, healing practices and martial art workshops and performances. All classes and demonstrations are free all weekend.

Open House Celebration

Spirit Earth Healing, 661 Mass. Ave. #8, Arlington (617-515-8826). www.spiritearthhealing.com. Sept. 10, 10 am-4 pm. Free. Join others for some refreshments, special offers, gifts and a personal reading with a clairvoyant and to learn more about energy healing.

Open House Sampler Day

All That Matters, 315 Main St., Wakefield, RI (401-782-2126). www.allthatmatters.com. Sept. 11, 11 am-3 pm. Free. This yoga and holistic education center invites you to meet its instructors, win prizes and try a taste of what it offers, including yoga, meditation, massage, reiki and more.

Wellness Center Open House

The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Sept. 11, 9 am-6 pm. Free. Come to this center for the fourth annual day of free classes, consultations with wellness providers and refreshments.

Lectures

Egyptian Magic: Transformation and Initiation in Ancient Egypt

New Acropolis Organization, First Parish Unitarian Church, 2000 Mass. Ave., #1. Cambridge (617-864-5720). www.newacropolis.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Sept. 9, 7:30 pm. $10. Journey into the past and learn all about mummification, *The Egyptian Book of the Dead*, the Myth of Osiris, Egyptian Tarot and even how the Egyptian conception of life, self-mastery and destiny can be applied to everyday life.

Wednesday Night Dharma Talk

Boston Shambhala Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline. www.shambhalaboston.org. Sept. 7 and 14, 7-9 pm. 7:30-9:30 pm. $5. All levels welcome. Dharma teachers lecture and lead discussions on basic human emotions and how meditation relates to our daily experiences. Refreshments follow.

Classes

The Art of Erotic Massage with Amarante

Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 308A Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening. com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sept. 12, 7:30-9:30 pm. $30. Couples only. The secret to sensual massage is communication through touch to know where, when and how to touch your partner and to enjoy the connection. Learn how to become and stay connected through a series of exercises taught by massage therapist Amarante.

Creating Your Life

The Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-643-5159 or 781-648-0101). Introductory lectures: Sept. 1, 7 pm. $10. Life coach Liz Blumenthal will host two introductory lectures and a five-week program to help participants sort out where they are going in life, how to reach their goals in the most direct way and how to prioritize.

Design a Sanctuary Garden

Aquarius Sanctuary, 3 Baron Way, Littleton (978-835-5568 or 978-486-0248). www.aquariussanctuary.com. Sept. 13, 7-9pm $35. Dori Smith, of Garden for Life, teaches participants how to work with nature in order to design and create a refreshing oasis perfect for them.

Early Morning Yoga Intensive

Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-66 7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line Kendall. Sept. 12-16, 7-9 am. $120. These classes a designed to help practitioners get into yoga deepen their existing practice. Focus will be o asanas (poses) and pranayama (breathing).

Fluid Power with Doug Swenson

Exhale Spa, 28 Arlington St., Boston (617-532-7000 Sept. 9-11. $185 for the entire weekend, $50 for individual workshops. Master yoga practitioner Dou Swenson visits to teach four unique classes of Flu Power, a holistic approach to hard and soft styles yoga practice that combines elements of Power Asl tanga, Vinyasa Flow and Sadhana Chi. All leve welcome.

Herbal Teas, Tinctures and Infusions

Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Cambrid (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: R Line to Central. Sept. 13, 6-8 pm Free. Learn abo making herbal teas and infusions, about which herb are safe and easy to use, the merits of tinctures ar how to make them and how to use herbs f maximum impact.

Intro to Hand Reflexology

The Phoenix (The Natural Connection), 18 Northampton St., Easthampton (413-527-5445 Sept. 8, 7-8:30 pm. $25. In this demonstratio learn about reflexology, the practice of applyi pressure to certain parts of the hand to create heal benefits in other parts of the body.

Lao Jia I Lu with Grandmaster Chen Zhenglei

Asian Cultural Center, 368 Cummings Par Woburn (978-922-0108). Sept. 10-11, six hours p workshop. $120 for one, $225 for both. The Che Tai Chi Federation of New England hosts tw workshops exploring the foundation and applic tions of Lao Jia I Lu, a fundamental form of T Chi. The first workshop reviews and explains th movements; the second teaches the self-defen applications of the art.

Zen Meditation

All That Matters, 315 Main St., Wakefield, RI (40 782-2126). www.allthatmatters.com. Sept. 11, 10- am. Donations welcome. Learn how to enjoy the sim ple, powerful and ancient practice of Zen medit tion. The session begins with a short period of instru tion, followed by sitting and walking meditation.

Retreat

Inner Peace and Wellness

Ramada Inn, Rte 132, Hyannis (508-420-5301 www.spirithaven.com. Sept. 10, 9:30 am-4 pm. $4 Join author and meditation teacher Ruth Fish along with yoga and qigong teacher Joel Conrad f a day of relaxation, renewal and revitalization.

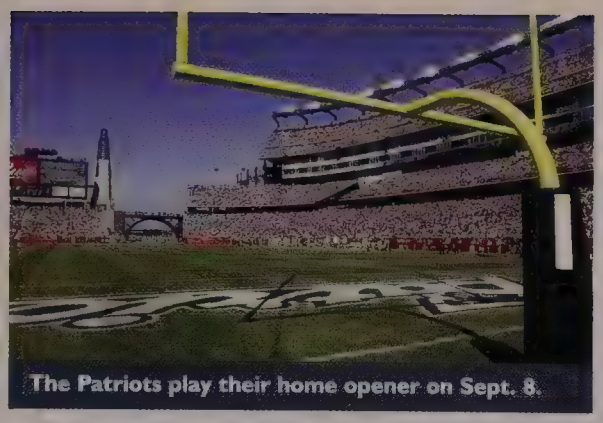
Mind/Body Infertility Retreat

Mind/Body Medical Institute, 824 Boylston St., Che nut Hill (617-991-0102, ext. 213). www.mbmi.or MBTA: #60 or #51 bus. Sept. 10 and 11. $400 a pe son or $750 a couple. This retreat for individuals couples teaches a variety of stress manageme strategies and other skills to lessen the depressi and distress infertile couples experience.

Doug Swenson teaches Fluid Power yoga.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.


The Patriots play their home opener on Sept. 8.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 617-482-4769
Aug. 31, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Sept. 1, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
Sept. 2, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
Sept. 3, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
Sept. 4, 2:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
Sept. 6, 7:05 pm vs. Los Angeles Angels
Sept. 7, 7:05 pm vs. Los Angeles Angels
Sept. 8, 7:05 pm vs. Los Angeles Angels

New England Patriots
•Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
Tickets: 800-543-1776
Sept. 8, 9 pm vs. Oakland Raiders.

Event

Deutsche Bank Championship
Tournament Players Club of Boston, Norton (508-285-8333) www.deutschebankchampionship.com. Sept. 2-5, 6:30 am-7 pm. $25-$45. Defending champion Vijay Singh and a collection of other PGA pros like Tiger Woods vie for more than $5 million in prize money. Proceeds benefit the Tiger Woods Foundation.

Nantucket Slam
Nantucket (508-655-500). www.cff.org. Sept. 11-13. $3,500; $6,000 per team of four. This catch and release tournament is two days of competitive fishing for bluefish, bonito, striper and albie to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed, year-round basketball leagues for players at all levels in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club (CRFC)
(617-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
25 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

Dogtime Boxing
527 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). www.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This boxing club offers training for competition, conditioning and recreation.

DODGEBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeball teams.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Sat. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

JUDO

Phoenix Judo Club
Bayshore Athletic Club, 14 Plain St., Braintree (781-356-5303). www.phoenixjudo.com. Mon.,Wed. and Thu., 7:30-9:30pm; Sat., 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Participants of all skill levels are invited to join.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www.worldkickball.com. Coed kickball leagues play throughout the fall in Boston and Somerville. Register online.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonRun@teamlunachix.com . Weekly runs Thu. at 6:30 pm. Women only. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bostonlunachix. Talking-pace 3- or 5-mile runs through the Fells.

SWIMMING

Cambridge Masters Swim Club
www.cambridgemasters.com. The club offers coached workouts, social events and open-water swims.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Boston Children's Theatre
Seaside on Georges Island, Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. 12 pm and 1:30 pm. Free. •Plays in the Park on Georges Island presents a different story every Friday through Sept. 2.

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. Adults, $12; seniors, $10; students and children, $5. •This short-form improv performance for the whole family includes interactive games.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 10:30 am and 1 pm. $7, members; $9.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Aug. 31 and Sept. 1. Heidi Rugg of the BareFoot Puppets performs *Dreamtime: Tales from Down Under*, inspired by three traditional tales of the Aborigines of Australia. Recommended for ages 4-8.

Special Events

New School of Music and Cambridge Art Association Open House
Lowell Street Park and 25 Lowell St. Building, Cambridge (617-492-8105). www.camrbidgemusic.org. Sept. 10-11, 2-4 pm. Free. Art demonstrations, musical games, an instrument "petting zoo" and musical performances are some the featured activities of the Open House. Students can register for fall classes.

Things to Do

ArtBeat Saturday Workshops
212A Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-646-2200). www.artbeatonline.com. Sat., 3-6 pm. $15 for materials. Ages 4 and up. •Sept. 3. Encrust a wooden box with a sea shell mosaic. •Sept. 10. Decorate a scrapbook filled with vacation photos.

Barefoot Books
1771 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Fri. and Sat., 10:30 am. Free. •Story hour for children ages 5 and under and their families features a variety of themes. Ongoing.

Borders Books and Music
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill. Tue., 11 am. •Themed children's story time takes place each week.

Boston Art Tours
Call for reservations and meeting locations. (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children and teens, Tue.-Sat., 1 pm-2 pm. $25, adults; $15, teens; free, children under 12. •Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. •A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail is designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide. Through Oct. 31.

Boston Harbor Islands Kite Day
Boston Harbor Islands (617-223-8666). www.bostonislands.com. Free. •Sept. 3 and 4. Kite Day on the Boston Harbor Islands invites visitors to build their own kites and watch demonstrations by stunt kite artists.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •Aug. 31, 11 am-4 pm. Children and their parents can make colorful books in the Art Studio. •Sept. 2, 12-1 pm. The *Fort Point Channel Summer Outdoor Music Series* features music in diverse styles by various musicians. •Sept. 2, 1-1:30 pm. *Meet the Musicians* follows the *Summer Outdoor Music Series*. •Sept. 10, 11:30 am-1:30 pm. *Making Soda* invites kids ages 6 and up to experiment with soda in the kitchen. •Tue., 10:30 am. *Tasty Tuesdays* lets children try a variety of snacks. •The *Amazing Castle* allows children to experience a medieval village and make medieval-themed arts and crafts. Opens Sept. 10.

Franklin Park Zoo
1 Franklin Park Rd., Boston (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. $9.50, adults; $5.50, ages 2-12; free, ages 2 and under. •The 72-acre site includes a farmyard petting zoo, lions in the *Kalahari Kingdom*, butterfly garden, gorillas in the *African Tropical Forest Habitat* and kangaroos in the *Australian Outback*.

Harvard Co-op
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •Tue., 11 am. Preschool story time is held each week. •Sat., 11 am. Creative arts and crafts for children under 7 years old.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50, adults; $6 students; $5, ages 3-18. •Sat., 9-11 am for preschoolers; 9 am-12 pm for K-3. $31.50, members; $35, non-members. *Saturday Scholars* lets children handle artifacts, make crafts, use scientific equipment and more.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-6000). www.jfklibrary.com. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8, adults; $4, ages 13-17; free ages 12 and under. •The history of John F. Kennedy is presented in 25 exhibits, three theaters and 2 videos. An interactive exhibit allows visitors to relive the life of the President in 1960.

Mary Baker Eddy Library
200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. •During the Summer SOULstice for families, the library offers free admission to its indoor exhibits including the Mapparium. Through Aug. 31.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). www.web.mit.edu/museum. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5, adults; $2, seniors, students and ages 5-18; free, children under 5. •The MIT Museum offers free admission the third Sunday of every month. View exhibits ranging from historical clipper ships to robots and new inventions.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum of Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, ages 6-17 on weekdays before 3 pm; free, 5 and under. •Tue.-Thu. 3:30 pm. *Books Bring Art Alive* with arts and crafts for ages 5 and under. •Mon.-Fri., 3:30 pm. The Children's Room holds programs for ages 6-12 that let kids explore the museum's exhibits and participate in art projects, creative drama, poetry and music.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9 am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; $12, seniors; $11, children. •The *Summer of Adventure Film Series* at the IMAX theatre includes *Mysteries of the Nile*, *Everest* and *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*. Through Sept. 5. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm. *Animals and Stories Alive!* combines a live animal presentation with mythical and folk storytelling. Ongoing. •Butterflies and flowers are on display in the permanent *Butterfly Garden*. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibit that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Science Live!* features live animals and multimedia presentations surrounded by natural history dioramas. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12 pm. Free. •Sept. 10, 10 am-4 pm. The museum's 30th anniversary is celebrated with chalk art, craft demonstrations, music, food and more. $5 per family. •Sept. 15, 10:30 am. Story hour for children age 4 and under features a reading of *Sock Monkey Goes to Hollywood* and arts and crafts activities.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, adults; $13.95, seniors; $8.95, children ages 3-11. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through Dec. 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •The Simmons IMAX Theatre features *Wild Safari*, *Sharks 3-D* and *Aliens of the Deep*. Ongoing.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-30). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on ar nights), 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
0 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-55). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South ation. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9; ldren ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1-year-olds, $2; under ear old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
State St., Boston. www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. BTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-t., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 . Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.mh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-n., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; chil-n ages 3-18, $5; Harvard students with valid ID, free; e to all, Wed., 3-5 pm, Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
olumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). ww.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. ily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and college students with lid ID, $8; ages 13-17, $7; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
0 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). BTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam seum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park reet. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Guided walking tours ailable by special request. Free.

Museum of Science
ience Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos rg. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. rough Labor Day, Daily, 9 am-7 pm; Starting Sept. Sat.-Thu., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; se-ors, $13; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

Museum of Transportation
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., am-5 pm. $5; children ages 6-17 and seniors, $3; chil-en under 6, free.

New England Aquarium
entral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. g. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-pm; Fri.-Sun. and Holidays, 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; se-ors, $13.95; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

Old North Church
3 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Or-ge or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-6 pm. ee.

Old South Meeting House
0 Washington Street, Boston (617-482-6439). ww.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or ue Line to State St. Daily, 9:30 am-5 pm. $5; seniors d students, $4; children, $1.

Old State House Museum
6 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). ww.bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line State St. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; seniors and stu-nts, $4; children ages 6-18, $1; members, children nder 6, free.

Prudential Center Skywalk
0 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: reen Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. .50; with college ID, $7.50; seniors, $7; children 12 d under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
6 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). www.trini-boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Daily, 8 n-6 pm. $5; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
harlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). ww.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Tues.-Sun., 10 am-6 n. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
17-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a fos-r-care or adopted child.

AIDS Action Committee
17-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with IV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 100 volunteer opportunities are available each month.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012 ext. 227). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers over 18 for kitchen, office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145 ext. 620). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor students in math and literacy and also prepare high school students for the MCAS.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000 ext. 7508). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. Help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helplineonline.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-927-0648). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900 ext. 113). www.horizonsinitiative.org Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). www.lvm.org. Teach adults to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-972-9119). www.mabcommunityservices.org. Read to or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelder.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org. Volunteer as an aquarium guide and more.

Parental Stress Line
(1-800-882-1250). Counsel parents and caregivers and facilitate support groups.

Pine Street Inn
(617-892-9187). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740 ext. 15). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111 ext. 17). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). www.respondinc.org. Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). www.rosies.org. Volunteers needed for this women's homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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IMPROPER sightings

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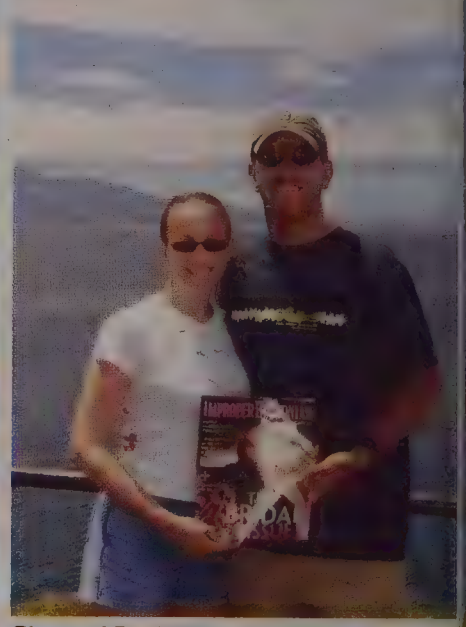
Sisters Heena Trivedi and Pankti Shah traveled to Ecuador, which is famous for its zero latitude, as well as its ruthless fleet of headless security guards.

Cheryl Witkowski traveled to the Intercontinental Resort in Bora Bora, French Polynesia, where she debuted a new line of one-piece bathing suits called the Tedy Bruschi Collection.



Gina and David Heaney spent their honeymoon in Kaanapali, Maui. Aww, look at the happily Maui-ed couple.

Maryland Lt. Governor Michael Steele shows Massachusetts Lt. Governor Kerry Healey his top modeling look: Blue Steele.

John and Sharon Librant visited Kenya, where they met the Chief of a Masai village, along with his brother and son. Attempts to snap a picture of the Chief sporting an old-school Robert Parish jersey proved futile.

Ken Elgant and Nancy Korman checked out the Cologne Cathedral in Cologne, Germany. They left smelling great.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Tossing a Jello Pudding Snack at Bill Cosby during the World Black Pudding Throwing Championship, held September 12 at the Royal Oak House in Ramsbottom, England.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 42 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

18th Annual

BOSTON MUSIC AWARDS

SEPTEMBER 28, 2005

It's that time again to celebrate the wonderful music that is produced by artists with strong ties to the Boston-area. The BMA's encompass most genres of music, highlighting the diversity and the quality of the music emerging from this region.

The 2005 Boston Music Awards will be held on

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AUGUST 31 – SEPTEMBER 13, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINE

ARIES MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Selling a fantasy? Your vision of what the public, especially your peers, will buy won't be as tricky as it was before. That's because imaginative Neptune and your energetic Mars ruler are convincing you that you can play the game to win. Problems that arise, particularly those stemming from confusion and disinformation, can be overcome fairly easily. You'll also have the good will and generous support of a Libra-like ally—for some a sophisticated, fair-minded partner, for others the lawyer of your dreams.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Mad as hell and not going to take it anymore? Assertive Mars in your bucolic sign is fueling your inner fires, providing the chutzpah and determination to take aim at the duplicitous powers that be. Note: These are not limited to bullies, bosses and bureaucrats; a deluded parent or misguided mentor also could qualify. However, your sex life could flower profusely during Mars' residency, particularly while the red planet forms the rare, three-pronged Finger of God aspect between passionate Pluto and affectionate Venus.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Sudden changes may have disrupted plans for your last two Labor Day holidays, but railing against the gods won't make a difference. Acknowledge that there is no way to control the tricky situations caused by the opposition between the organized Virgo sun and chaotic Uranus in Pisces; then adjust as quickly and as smoothly as possible. The Virgo new moon will point you in a new direction, but as usual, Twins have to make a choice: this time between the house and the comfort it brings or the open road. Right now you're lucky at both love and cards.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

The surprising thing about this holiday weekend is how much pleasure you'll get by simply staying home or, if you must leave, by hanging out with an ubergenerous family member. There could be moments of discomfort, more like shock, when you realize this person would go to any length to please you, but once you sign on to his or her program, you can relax. This also is a good time to buy something purely decorative that may cost more than you normally would spend. Or you could host a poker game.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Perfect order might not be restored until Mercury returns to the degree in Leo at which it turned retrograde in July. So until August is over, don't waste time and effort trying to advance a project that's been languishing all summer. It makes more sense to wait until Labor Day is over and the world is facing the future with a fresh, pristine (the Virgo new moon) point of view. You might also want to see the extent of the havoc you could be subjected to while your sun ruler confronts destructive Uranus around the 31st. Messy business.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

You're the star around which the Labor Day weekend revolves, but only if you choose to be. Shy Virgins might put up a false front and attempt to play the "Who, me?" naïf, but that performance won't ring entirely true. With so much attention focused on your Mercury ruler, plus the sun–moon conjunction in your sign, it'll be hard to keep from sounding off or from investigating a nagging suspicion. Try to cushion yourself against the shock of a partner's sudden reversal of position; Uranus in your marriage house is full of surprises.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

"Carpe diem" and hang on for as long as the good luck lasts. Your appreciative Venus ruler is not going to meet up with advantageous Jupiter in Libra again—well, not for 12 more years—so take whatever opportunities present themselves this week as far as you can. Since this pleasure-loving conjunction may lead to bouts of wretched excess, try to limit your extravagant behavior and your fondness for sweet, gooey things. While Venus also is on good terms with glamorous Neptune, your imagination could run away with you.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

It's a mystery why secretive Scorpio and data-driven Virgo get along so well, but while that sensible, earth-bound vibe predominates, you'll be motivated to clean up your act and make necessary improvements. Besides, while the Virgin reigns, partnership arrangements are supported, as is your link to group activity. Even your fondest hopes and wishes could be nourished, if not exactly fulfilled. After Labor Day, after you do a bit more research and clarify your aims, then you'll decide on the extent of your commitment.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Archers are blessed by the merger on the 1st between your magnanimous Jupiter ruler and magnetic, amenable Venus in Libra. It doesn't get luckier than this fortuitous meeting. Since Libra governs your eleventh house of friends and social groups, hopes and wishes, pay attention to matters dealing with that area of your life. That's where happiness, love and goodness lie. The next time the two "benefices" meet, in 11/06, Jupiter will be hiding out in Scorpio, and these gods-given gifts won't be so apparent.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Capricorns tend to get smarter and more knowledgeable about the world at large when the sun and Mercury are in discerning Virgo. While favoring a practical, realistic approach, their transit through your Virgo ninth house fosters heady discussions about philosophy, cultures and faith. Maybe you'll take a class; maybe you'll take a trip. Meanwhile, tidings of comfort and joy are scheduled to arrive around 9/1 when affable, artistic Venus and enthusiastic Jupiter come together.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Fond memories of the spicier chapters in your recent history linger on. However, while sweet Venus favors oily Neptune in Aquarius, you may find the combination truly revolting. If so, there's no harm, no foul if you rebel. At month's end, the discriminating Virgo sun opposes your independent Uranus ruler and gives permission from the planets to strike out in a new direction. Plus, the Venus-Jupiter "double happiness" signature in Libra is spreading good fortune among all the air signs, even yours. Don't blow off a golden opportunity.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Join the revolution. The urge to rise up, speak out and cut through the red tape is to be expected when iconoclastic Uranus in your sign opposes the pragmatic Virgo sun. And while you may have been content to enjoy the perks you earned by being artistically inclined, they might not be making enough of an impact right now. Perhaps you've grown accustomed to the smiley face and the bland sentiments that yet another Venus–Neptune trine evokes? Expect another change as Pluto turns direct in your career midheaven.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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September 28, 2005
Cars

October 12, 2005
Sports

October 26, 2005
Fall Dining

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everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over he place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of ourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type p e-mailed messages) and write to:

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

Get a Room or Sit Down

Couple at the Ben Folds/Rufus Wainwright concert, for future reference, if you notice that everyone else around you is seated for the concert, then that means you should have some courtesy and SIT. All the people behind you paid to see the show, not your 6'2" asses as you smooched, standing for the entire Rufus set. If you want to stand and have a mini make-out session every two minutes, have some manners and go to the back of the pavilion. Spare us.

—Blocked View

Southie with a Great Smile

Me: witty girl who got your attention by telling you a joke about a "sick snake," ha ha. I've only seen you a few times, but we always seem to exchange glances. I didn't catch your name, and I'm too shy to ask you out but hope you respond to this.

—dbs@pacite.com

Jury Duty

You had blonde hair, shoulder length, and a beautiful smile. You were with a bunch of friends at Jurys on Friday, August 12. I was there with three other friends.

We caught eyes a couple of times, and just as I was about to come over, two guys started talking to you and your friend. Later in the night, I saw you as I was coming out of Saint. I tried to talk to you as you got in a cab with your friend and the two guys, but I was too late. I know it's crazy, but if you remember, e-mail me or go back to Jurys on a Friday night.

—backbayjurys@hotmail.com

Hopeful Colts Fan Searching for Patriots Fan

Allen, you and I met at Turners on July 28. I'm Diana, the travel nurse here from Indianapolis. We shared great conversation and a passion for football. You bought me a blueberry martini and then asked if you could take me out while I'm here in Boston.

I immediately said yes, surprised by the offer and how handsome you are. I'm not sure what happened, but I mixed up the last four digits of my number. It's 0408, not 0804. When I realized what I had done, it was too late—you were already gone.

Please accept my apology. I hope this message finds you, and that we can meet again.

I owe you a martini and would like very much to buy you one.

—didenton@msn.com

Who Do You Think You Are?

Could you possibly be as pretentious as you sound?? I thought your letter was a parody at first. Do you really think this guy wouldn't know who you were unless you told him you had a "silver Mercedes ML 500"? Maybe the "vibe" you felt was your jewel-encrusted Gucci cell phone going off. Try opening your mouth and saying something next time, dipshit.

—Ill Reader

To Anyone Who Reads This

My name is Rodney Brown. Right now I am incarcerated, reading Impersonals. And some of the people that wrote in said some good things, so I wanted to write because I want to holla at a shorty. So what's good? I'm 28, 5'7", look good, no kids, have a lot going for me, and you know I'm from the hood, but I'm not going to preach. So all I'm saying is, can I get hooked up? I read Impersonals every time my teacher gets them, and I'm not scared to speak my mind.

Holla at me.

Thank you,

Rodney Brown
0405218
20 Bradston St.
Boston, MA 02218

Love Thy Neighbor

You rule, Jerry! I'm your flustered neighbor who had no idea how to change a flat tire. (Funny, they don't teach you useful things like that in college.) You heard me trying to convince my boyfriend to drive all the way from Albany to help me out, and you took pity on my ignorance. You came to my rescue with a tire jack and some sweet mechanical skills, and before I could whip up slice-and-bake cookies or at least grab you a beer, I had a new tire. Thanks for welcoming me to the neighborhood and saving the Subaru. If you ever need someone to walk your dog, you know which doorbell to ring.

—Back on the Road

To the Other Two Musketeers

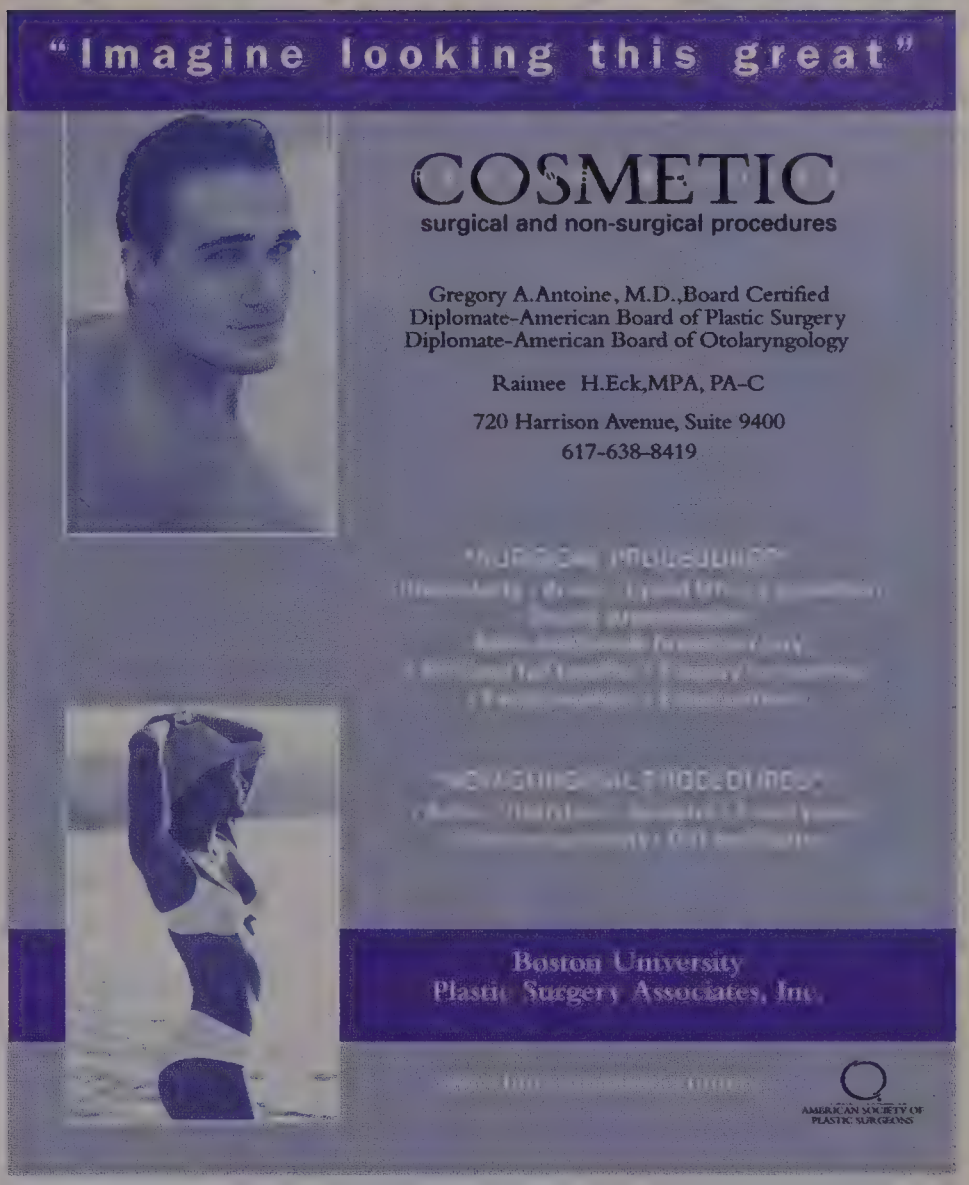
It's been grand, hasn't it—this summer of lazy days, fun jobs, chillin' out maxin' relaxin' all cool? We may be an unlikely trio, but boy do we know how to get down Boston-style. I couldn't have asked for a better group of wing women to party with during these last few months of relative irresponsibility (real world, here we come—gah!). The ridic procrastination e-mail chains, the drunken heart-to-hearts, the sketchy club adventures...they could be the stories of any group of college-age girls, but they're our stories, and that's why I love 'em. Ladies, I raise my (vodka-filled) glass to you—keep in touch.

—Fresh Princess

Kind Soul with Good Karma

How did you ever find my keys in the park in the Bay Village? I didn't even know I had lost them! And then to walk the neighborhood streets until you found a car that unlocked, look at my registration for my name, leave me a note on my dashboard and bring my keys to the neighborhood coffee shop? That was brilliant, and so very kind of you. I can only imagine if someone else found them and drove off in my car! It's nice to know there are still good souls out there, and one is my neighbor! Please feel free to go to Rachel's Kitchen and order anything your heart desires on me. They know I'll pay next time I'm there. I can't thank you enough for your kindness.

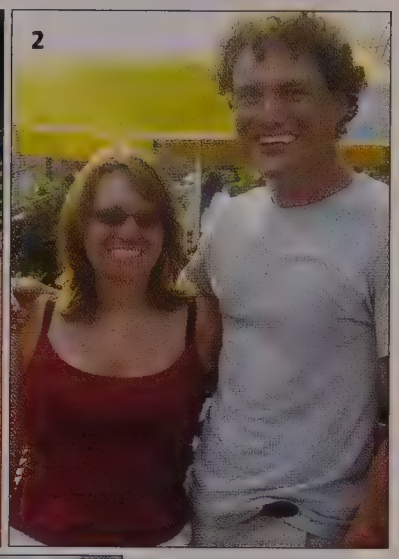
—Thankfully Not Carless

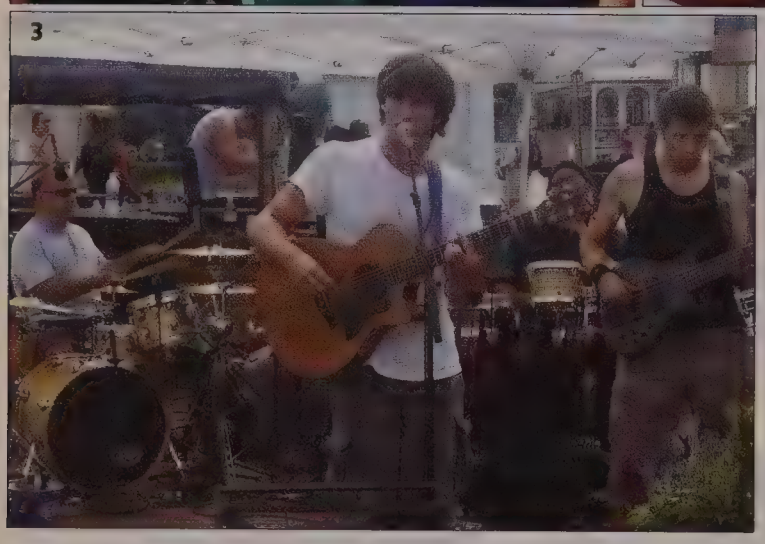


IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

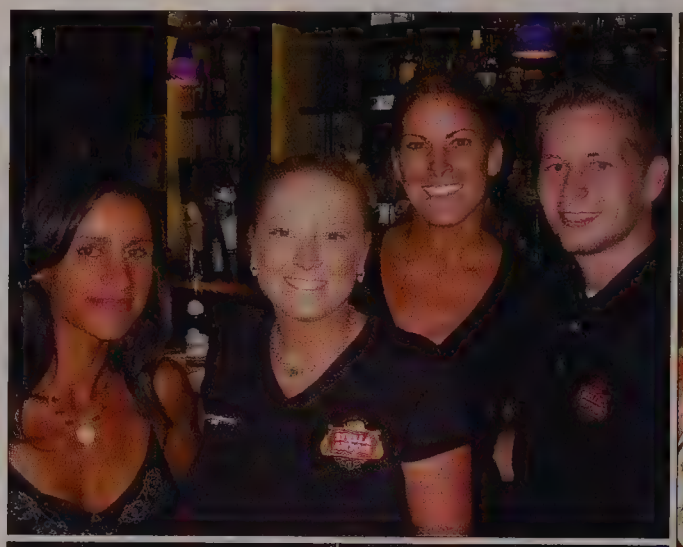
On Saturday, August 13, **The Landing** hosted a Budweiser True Music event with featured band Adam Ezra Group.





1. **Alison Nolan**, general manager of Boston Harbor Cruises and The Landing; **Jeff Lipman**, manager of the Adam Ezra Group; and **Tamara Allendorf**, waitress at The Landing.
2. **Heather Lattanzio** of Boston, and **Sam Rikkers**, law student at Wisconsin University.
3. **Adam Ezra Group**.

On Monday, August 15, the qualifying round for the **Stella Artois** World Draught Master Competition was held at the **Grafton Street Pub & Grill**.

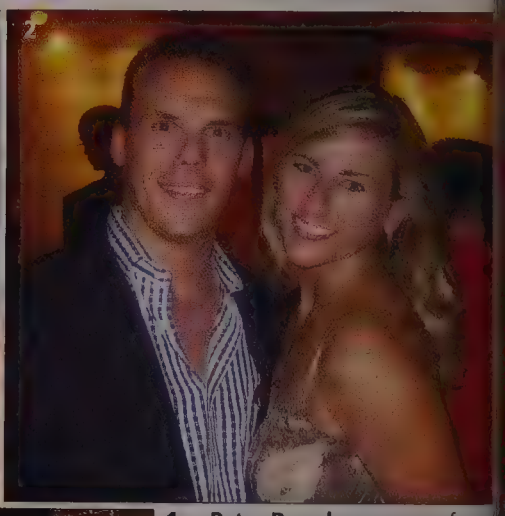


1. **Nicole Parsons** and **Liz Greenwood**, both bartenders a O'Neill's; **Meri Love**, bartender at the Bell in Hand Tavern; and **Nick Adams**, bartender at Redline.
2. **Paul Berry**, bartender at Grafto Street Pub & Grill and winner of the Draught Master Competitior
3. **Kevin Ford**, district manager; **Melissa Cole** and **Sarah Craighead**, both territory sales managers; **JC Panio**, regional manager—MA; and **Carol Francolini,** territory sales manager; all for InBev USA.

On Thursday, August 11, **Habitat for Humanity Greater Boston** held its annual Raise the Roof fundraiser and awareness-building event at **Sanctuary** featuring turntable legend DJ Grand Master Flash.

1. **Owen Donovan Yarde**, committee member for Habitat Greater Boston; **Ethan Zohn**, winner of *Survivor Africa*; **Jeremy Robinson-Leon**, special events coordinator, and **David Lopes**, director, both at Habitat Greater Boston.
2. **Andrea Baptiste** and **David Fioravanti**, both from *The Biggest Loser*.
3. **Harland Williams**, *Something About Mary* and *Half Baked*; **Jeanie Flynn**, principal of Jeanie Flynn PR Consulting; **Franco Zuccoli**, president of GBT; and **Colette Greenstein**, head of public relations at The Comedy Connection.

On Tuesday August 9, **33 Restaurant & Lounge** celebrated its third anniversary



1. **Peter Donohoe**, owner of Focus Fitness, and **Erin Tracy**, account representative, at Rega Communications.
2. **Gregg Don Herder**, owner of 33 Restaurant & Lounge, and **Jada Werkhovn**, director—olfactory marketing services, at Prolitec.
3. **Jacob Knight**, wine director, **Rico Rivera**, restaurant manager, **Jennifer Harvey**, ba manager, **Katrina Ewton**, marketing director, all of 33 Restaurant & Lounge, and **Shelle Mendes**, owner of Salon Monet.

PHOTO CREDITS: THE LANDING AND 33 RESTAURANT & LOUNGE, JULIE KANE; GRAFTON STREET PUB & GRILL, CARRIE WALLACE; HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, JOE GREEN

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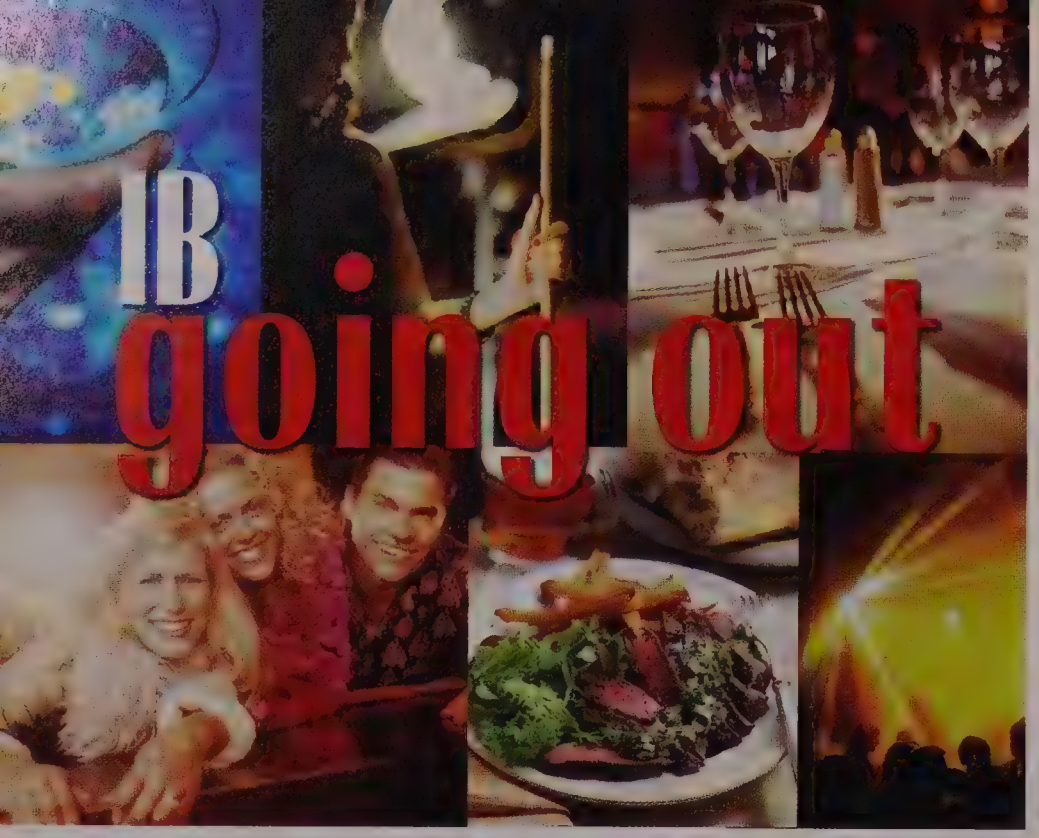

RESTAURANTS

BLUE CAT CAFE *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature is cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes its mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255.* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

VENEZIA RESTAURANT *20 Ericsson St., Boston 617-436-3120.* For authentic Italian fare, impeccable service and an atmosphere unmatched on Boston's Waterfront, Venezia provides one of the city's most unique and pleasurable dining experiences. Your destination for everything from a relaxing midday lunch to a romantic dinner for two, Venezia can also accommodate private affairs like wedding receptions and business functions, and features live music on Friday and Saturday nights.

THE WATERFRONT CAFÉ BAR-GRILL *450 Commercial Street, Boston 617-523-0613.* A North End neighborhood hot spot, serving up sizzling steak tips and the best burgers around! Featuring a big screen TV and plasmas to catch all your favorite teams in action. Come for dinner, stay for a drink! *Open 7 days, Lunch & Dinner 11am–11pm, Apps. 11pm–1am.*

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 300+ microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *Pizza Kitchen, Beer Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy,"Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos,"The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am, 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

General

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110* www.bostonrocks.net. 21+. Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music

with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas. com.

CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR *Boston Marriott Copley Place; 110 Huntington Ave. Boston, 617 937-5658.* Come join us at Boston's premier Sports Bar where you can enjoy all you local and national sports action on one of our 33 tvs, including 2 big screens. We have draft beers as well as a huge selection of domestic and imported bottle selections for you to choose from. We also have a full bar and menu serving all your favorite traditional American cuisine. Planning your next party or corporate event? We have room for parties ranging from 25-325. Our hours are from Sunday through Thursday 11:30-1am, and Friday and Saturday 11:30-2am.

THE HARP *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

JILLIAN'S BOSTON / LUCKY STRIKE LANES *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300 www.jilliansboston.com.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring 16 bowling lanes, 50 pool tables, high-tech games, high definition video walls, multiple lounges and private rooms. Located on the first floor is Tequila Rain, which offers an amazing Tex-Mex menu and dancing to the hottest DJs Friday and Saturday nights.

PARRIS *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters and steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring live music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wedneday - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

REGATTABAR *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Sports Bar - Upscale

STADIUM *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks.

BRUNCH

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouth watering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $6, entrees $16, desserts $7 or all 3 courses for $24. Sundays: $39 adults and $17.50 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN *42 Province Street, Boston, 617-426-3333 www.kennedysmidtown.com.* Ideally situated in Boston's Midtown, Kennedy's is located between Downtown Crossing and the Boston Common; Just steps from Beacon Hill and The Freedom Trail. One of Boston's best kept secrets, Kennedy's menu boast prime aged steaks, seafood,assorted pub fare, and daily creations. Open 7 days a week, brunch served Saturdays and Sundays, and lively piano bar. Call us for that special function or event.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE – SKYLINE ROOM MUSEUM OF SCIENCE *Science Park, Boston, Ma, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday Brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at 12 noon., then check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always–changing exhibit halls. Tickets start at $32 and include on-site parking when available. Brunch only, $24. Reservations recommended. For more information call 617-723-2500 or visit mos.org.

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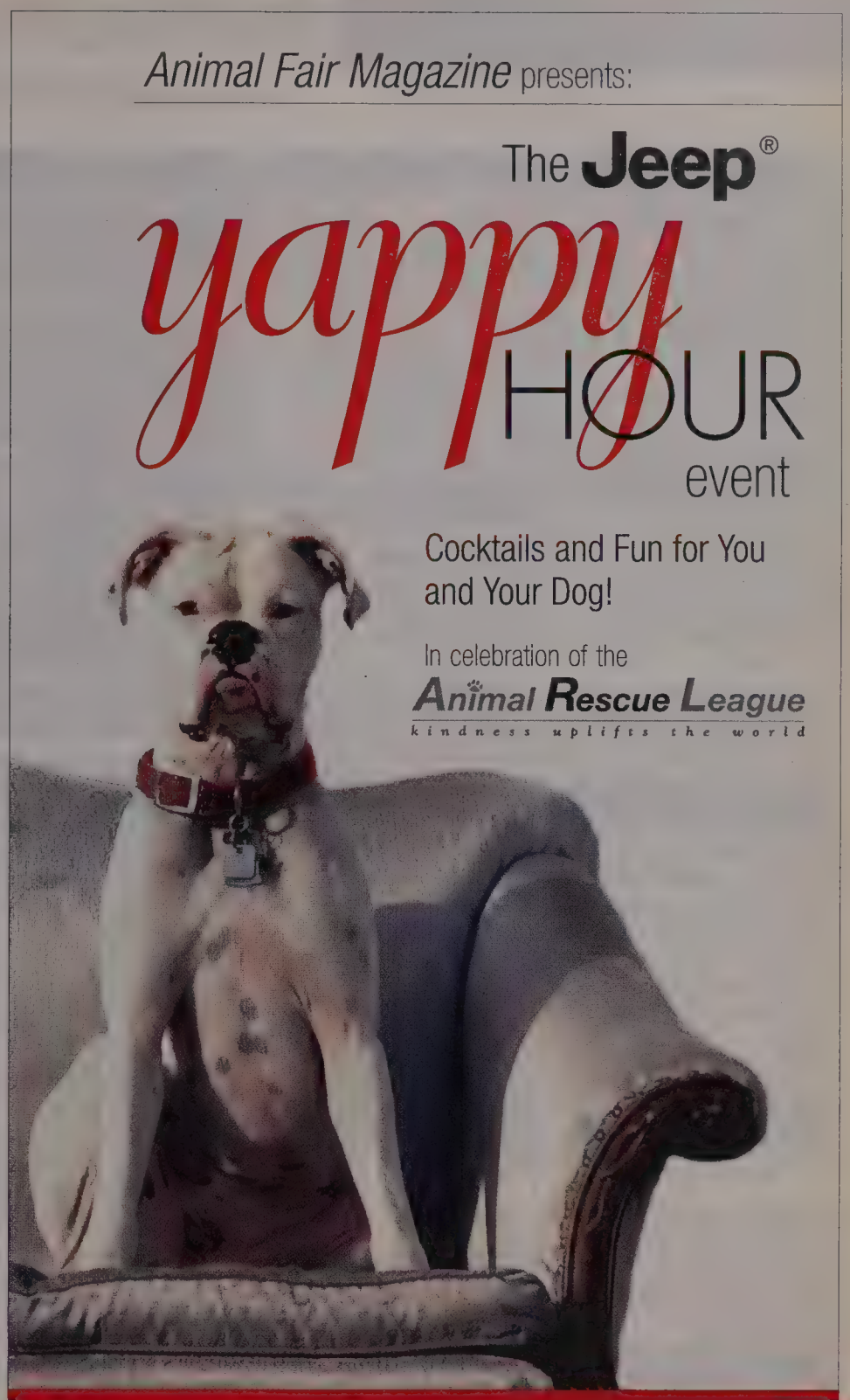

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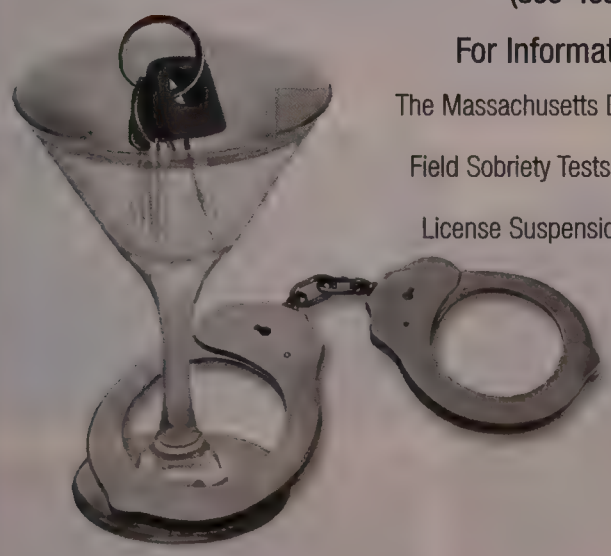

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At Opening Night for *Hamlet*, top: Jeffrey Donovan. Second from top: the stage; Jonno Roberts and Richard LaFrance. Third from top: John Osbon; Sam Weisman and Steve Maler. Bottom row: Pedro Pascal.

BARD-PARTYIN'...

You see plenty of sunbathing and dogs catching Frisbees on the Boston Common, but murder, incest, ghosts, suicide and sword fights? Not so much.

Thanks to the **Commonwealth Shakespeare Company**, however, these and other mortal sins were on display for all to see, free of charge, during its outstanding production of ***Hamlet***.

Present and accounted for on **Opening Night** were such high-profile types as uber-philanthropists **Bill and Susan Poduska** with their stunning daughter, **Lilly** (their family foundation underwrote the production); Boston's answer to Cary Grant, tie designer **Tony Corey**; power player **Harry Collings**; Wang CEO **Joe Spaulding** and his lovely other half, **Joyce**; PBS personality **Emily Rooney**; American Repertory Theater ham-in-residence **Jeremy Geidt** and the fabulous **Jan**; Museum of Fine Arts head honcho **Malcolm Rogers**; Channel 4 entertainmentatrix **Joyce Kulhawik**; PR czarina **Lynn Kortenhaus**; the very sparkly **Billy Evers**; party planner extraordinaire **Bryan Rafanelli**; fashion-plate and do-gooder **Donna Montgomery**; spa owner **Tony Liquori** (whose husband-type person, **Steve Maler**, directed the show) and so on and so forth. In short, it was one helluva crowd for a sweltering mid-summer night.

Following the performance, VIPs like uber-lawyer **Susan Friedman** and astonishingly tall money manager **John Osbon** repaired to blu for a cast party with such unforgettable characters as the play's snacky star, **Jeffrey Donovan**; Hollywood-movie-director-turned-actor **Sam Weisman**; thespian fun couple **Georgia Hatzis** and **Jonno Roberts** (who arrived on his skateboard 15 minutes before curtain time); the wildly talented **John Kuntz**; the wildly sexy **Pedro Pascal**; force of nature **Karen McDonald**; and the unforgettable **Will Lyman**, among others.

Despite being exhausted from the performance, both the actors and the guests kept partying well into the wee hours, and on a school night no less, proving that while the play might be the thing, the cast party doesn't suck, either, even if it means suffering the slings and arrows of an outrageous hangover.

YO, HO, HO, AND A BOTTLE O' RUM...

If there's one thing every seasoned sailor knows how to do—besides navigate, tie knots and tell implausible stories—it's how to party like a pirate on shore leave, which explains why **Make a Mark**, a fund-raiser for the **Courageous Sailing Center**, was such a lively affair.

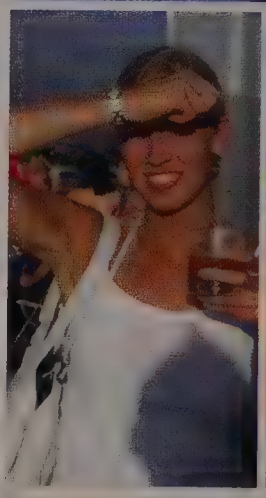
Seen imbibing cocktails and enjoying a balmy summer's eve underneath a tent on Pier 4 at the **Charlestown Navy Yard** were such skippers and deckhands as newly minted filmmaker **Gregg Nourjian**; board chair **Jon Rotenberg**; board member **Suzanne Gratton**; adventurous party pair **Carolyn Kaplan** and **Doug Hase** (she once got the bends while scuba-diving in the Dominican Republic; he once busted the assistant Harbormaster in Nantucket for stealing his wristwatch off his sailboat when it slipped its anchor); hunky Bulgarian entrepreneur **Kiril Alexandrov** and drop-dead blonde **Catherine Brown**; peripatetic PR princess **Marlo Fogelman**; ubiquitous restaurateur **Jim Apteker**; financial titan **Richard DeAgazio**; University of Chicago sophomores **Darius Banani** and **Zak Trayes-Gibson**; Betty's Wok and Noodle owner **Karen Albrektsen**; brain tumor crusader **Karen Bean**; fashion plate/film student **Ruoruo Zhao**; and others of a similarly salty ilk.

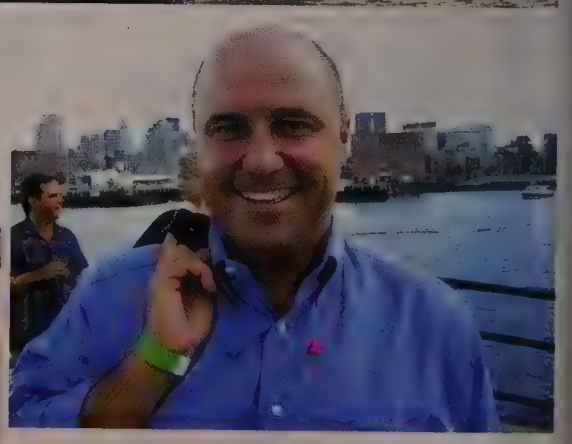
If the band was a bit too loud, at least they were good, and everyone bid generously in the silent auction, while grazing on a delicious buffet and indulging freely at the bar. (Dark and Stormy's were the drink of choice for the evening.) Meanwhile, some of the kids who've learned to sail at the center raced around the harbor in cat-boats sporting giant, red bull's-eyes on their sails, prompting one board member to sarcastically remark, "Gee, you'd never guess Target was a corporate sponsor, would you?"

Overheard at the bar: A notorious womanizer, when asked how long he'd been dating his current girlfriend, said, "A full month, which is a long time for me."

"Oh," deadpanned his friend. "Is that four weeks, 31 days or what?" IB

At Make a Mark, top row: Zak Trayes-Gibson and Darius Banani. Second from top: Catherine Brown; Suzanne Gratton and Ruoruo Zhao. Third from top: the regatta. Bottom row: Doug Hase and Carolyn Kaplan; Gregg Nourjian.





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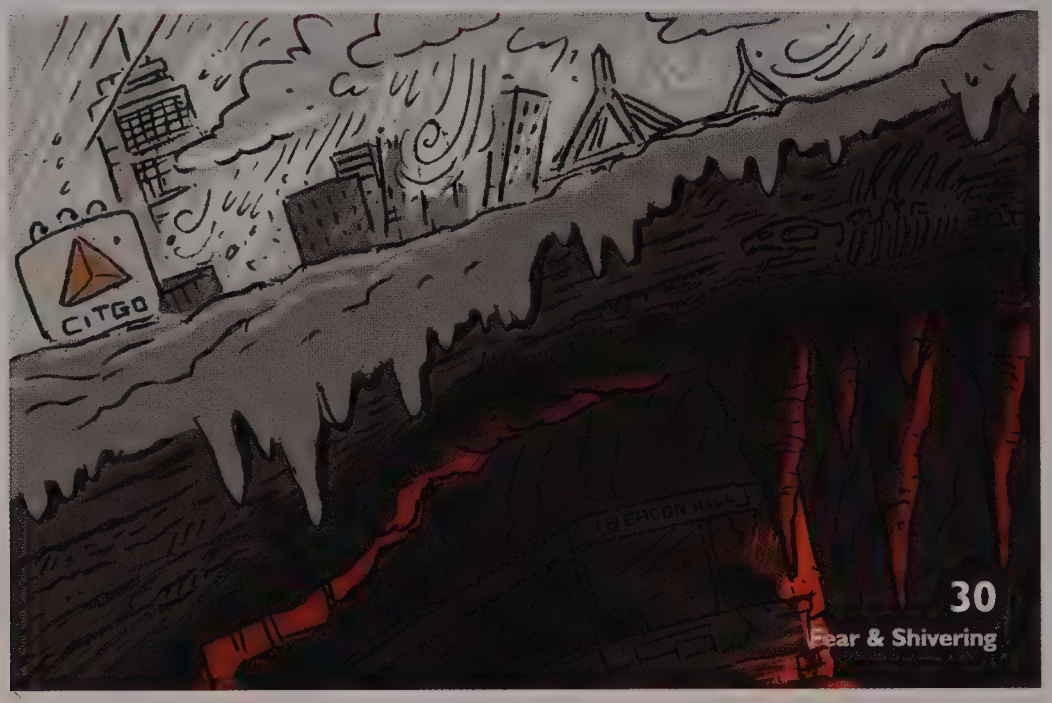

BOB FLYNN

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Eric Antoniou

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

EMBARRASSMENT OF RICHES

With so much first-rate music, theater, dance and visual art in this town (not to mention an embarrassingly large supply of locally based and nationally known authors giving public readings almost daily), you could devote your entire social calendar to the arts in Boston. Many of our readers do just that. Gleefully.

Even if your idea of fun skews toward bars and bleacher seats, though, we urge you to get out there and get some culture. As our fall arts preview story attests, offerings range from highbrow to experimental. There is something for you out there. We're here to help you find it.

On the literary scene, Boston's a force to be reckoned with, and the rest of this issue's features celebrate our town's creative writers—from the established to the up-and-coming. Be sure to check out the fresh voice in this year's fiction contest winner—in which a busload of odd Bostonians take a hot trip.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

EASING INTO FALL

One would think reading about fall fashions while relaxing in the last weekend of summer's sun would be a tad depressing, but your Fall Fashion Preview (Aug. 31) made for an enjoyable read. The focus on timeless classics and staple pieces brings the anticipation of warm layers and crisp Boston nights. The "I on Style" is a good reference when beginning a fall wish list. Previewing fun fall pieces makes moving summer clothes to the back of the closet much easier. Thank you!

—Joanna Alberti
Boston

PROPS TO EZ

I started reading the IMPROPER when I began commuting last December, and I immediately fell in love with Ezra's column. It's funny and real. Although I look like a crazy person laughing hilariously by myself during the evening commute, it's well worth it. The only problem with it is that it's too short! Keep up the good work! I look forward to it every issue.

—Michelle Younis
Stoughton

WRONGED KAR-WAI

Paul Sherman's review of Wong Kar-wai's *2046* is laughable. He's a drag on your mag.

—Will Demartino
Melrose

CONTRIBUTORS

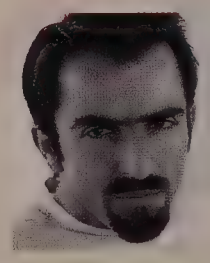
ANDREW MILLER

Our 2005 Fiction Contest winner Andrew Miller moved to Boston from southwest Missouri, where he was born and raised. He began writing at an early age—mostly to impress girls, though it only worked on one of them. He lives with his wife in Brighton and is currently laboring over a novel. For his winning story, which begins on page 30, Miller receives two tickets to Boston Ballet; a Cross Townsend Quartz Blue Lacquer ballpoint pen; a $100 gift certificate to the Boston Center for Adult Education; a $100 gift certificate to Harvest; a $50 gift certificate to Sonsie; a $50 gift certificate to Trident Booksellers and Café; and a gift basket from Beacon Hill Baskets.

RICCO VILLANUEVA SIASOCO

Ricco Villanueva Siasoco is a Boston-based writer and teacher. His work has appeared most recently in *Boston* magazine, *Drunken Boat* and *Memorious*. He teaches creative writing at Boston College and is completing a novel. His latest story for the IMPROPER, "The Secret Lives of Writers," begins on page 34.

ERIC ANTONIOU



This issue's cover photographer, Eric Antoniou, was born in Greece and visits often. He's lived in Boston for 21 years, and his work has been published locally in the *Boston Globe*, *Boston* magazine and others. Nationally his work has appeared in such publications as *Dance* magazine, the *New York Times*, *People*, *Rolling Stone*, *Metropolis* and *Men's Journal*. Antoniou has been photographing the ballet for more than 15 years.

ANDREA FISCHMAN

Andrea Fischman has studied at the Rhode Island School of Design, the New England School of Photography and the Art Institute of Boston. A Skidmore College graduate, she's also a member of the American Society of Media Photographers. Her debut work for the IMPROPER appears in the Fall Arts Preview on page 24.

ANTONIOU: MICHAEL VAUGHAN; FALL FASHION COVER: PETER BUCKINGHAM

Tell Us What You Think

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new in town

SPANISH STYLE

Could massive Vinny T's–style dinner portions be a thing of the past? We can't say for sure, but teensy tapas are where the culinary compass seems to point these days. Jairo Dominguez and Tyrone DiStasi have taken note. After nearly 10 years of promoting nightclubs and restaurants around the city, the two got together in late August and opened BarLola, the Back Bay's newest all-tapas restaurant/lounge. Located on the corner of Comm. Ave and Dartmouth Street—in the space that housed the Dartmouth Grill (formerly Geoffrey's)—BarLola is replete with Spanish furniture and artwork—and a whole lot of miniature dinnerware.

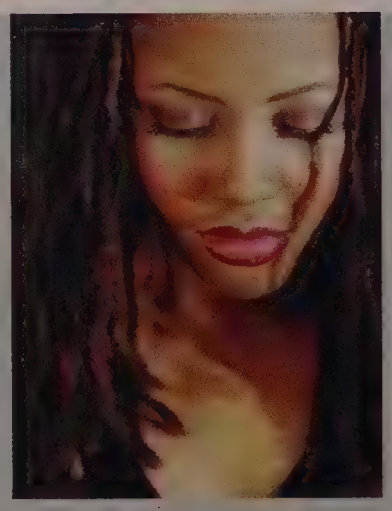
Two Spanish chefs, Angel Suarez and Luzdary Osorio, preside over the menu, which includes a modest selection of cold tapas, with 15 or so delectable options, and about twice as many choices of hot tapas, all falling between $6 and $8. There are simpler dishes like Gambas al Ajillo (garlic shrimp—who could resist?) and Croquetas de Pollo (seasoned chicken croquettes) and more fancy fare like Vieiras (scallops in tomato and goat cheese sauce) and Mejillones Rellenos (Mussels stuffed with serrano ham and romesco sauce). The only menu items that aren't tapas-sized are the desserts: Tarta de Queso (white cheese tart with berries); Budin de Pan (bread pudding in mango sauce); Flan; and Peras al Vino (poached pears) go for between $5 and $7.

For drinks, you can choose from a Spanish-heavy wine list, as well as beer, cocktails and sangria, but BarLola's signature drink is the Lolita, a blend of Stoli Persik, Gran Torres (an orange-flavored liqueur) and mango juice, with an edible orchid on top.

Diners have a range of seating options: The big sub–street level outdoor patio surrounded by hanging plants and wine barrels; the main dining area with mucho bullfighter decor; the bar; or a smaller Flamenco-inspired lounge behind it. The bar is open from 4 pm–2 am; the restaurant is open 5 pm–1 am. Brunch is served from 12–4 pm Saturdays and Sundays. *160 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-266-1122). —E.H.*

inner view

LALAH HATHAWAY



Jazz singer Lalah Hathaway, daughter of legendary soul singer Donny Hathaway, grew up in Chicago in a family of musicians. Along with her sister, also a singer, who's now on tour with George Benson, she attended the Berklee College of Music. Having performed and recorded with musicians such as Stevie Wonder, ChakaKhan, Mary J. Blige and Dizzy Gillespie, her career has soared since her days here in Boston. She returns to her old stomping grounds on September 23 for the BeanTown Jazz Festival.

Improper Bostonian: *What was it like growing up with a legendary soul musician as your father?*

Lalah Hathaway: It was pretty normal—it's all we knew, so it didn't seem out of the ordinary. I didn't grasp what an icon he was until I went to Berklee and people started asking about him.

IB: *Which musicians inspired you as a child?*

LH: Growing up in Chicago during the '70s, we listened to a lot of radio. I loved the classic rock 'n' roll—ChakaKhan, Steely Dan, Boston, Little River Band—but I really didn't get into jazz until high school and at Berklee.

IB: *What's in your CD player right now?*

LH: I just bought this new album called *Fly* that's by the band Fly. It's a Finnish band that's down-tempo, ambient, clubby type music. I also love my satellite radio, and of course the complete Prestige Recordings by Miles Davis.

IB: *Do you enjoy singing cover songs?*

LH: I do, and I've done quite a few in my career. Right now my favorite is the Luther Vandross song *Forever, For Always, For Love* that's on my latest CD. It was my first number one single and has been in the top 20 for more than 50 weeks. I grew up with that record and it turned out to be the perfect song for me.

IB: *What did you like most about living in Boston?*

LH: During college, I lived in the dorms and hung out with these guys we called purist, who truly loved jazz. It shaped my ability to develop my voice by singing and playing with them every day.

IB: *What's the most important thing you learned at Berklee?*

LH: I wouldn't be the musician I am without Berklee. The classes and instructors were great, but what I really learned to do was listen and develop my ears.

IB: *You've said you loved playing in Miami in front of a large crowd. What's your ideal crowd to perform for?*

LH: I like small venues. I like to be able to see everybody. I did play at the theatre at Madison Square Garden, which was cool. But there's something that gets lost for me in a big venue.

IB: *Is there a new CD in the works now?*

LH: Good Lord, yes. I've got to get started right away. I'm trying to get my home recording studio set up right now.

IB: *Is there anything in particular you plan to do while back in town?*

LH: I really love Boston—it's like an old friend. I want to go for walks, smell the air, visit a few old spots, eat at Legal Seafoods, and if I have time go to the Thai and Indian restaurants on Mass. Ave by Berklee. *—L.P.K.*

This weekend, I'm plotting a coup against practicality and proclaiming myself the "Duchess of Oysterland."

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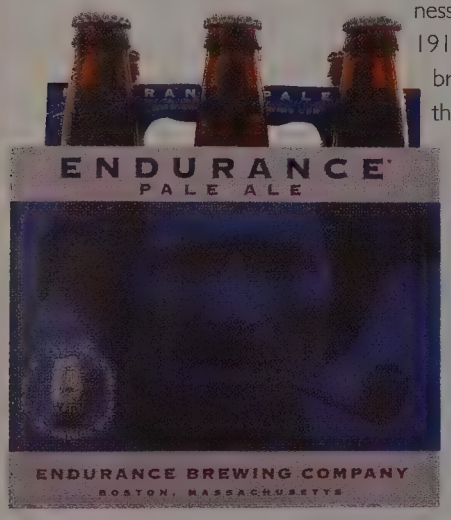
Mohegan Sun a world at play

tasty tidbits

NICE NOODLES

DIY Dinner... There's a new late-night dining option in Chinatown: Japanese restaurant Kaze opened September 1 on Harrison Avenue and Essex Street. We're not talking sushi here, though. We're talking shabu shabu. That means you pick the ingredients like chicken, lamb and pork, cook them yourself in a boiling pot of broth at your table and throw in your choice of noodles and spices. (Adventurous types can opt for eclectic morsels like ostrich and veal tongue.) Kaze's open seven days a week for lunch and dinner, and doesn't close until 2 am on weekends. *1 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-338-8283).*

Historic Brew... How 'bout a little larnin' with your boozin'? The Endurance Brewing Company has released a new line of beer dedicated to raising awareness of the Endurance Expedition, a 1914 voyage to Antarctica that the brewers have deemed "one of the greatest survival stories of all time." The debut beer, Endurance Pale Ale, is a tribute to the British ship's second officer, Tom Crean (that's his grizzled mug on the box) and the bottle's label is jam-packed with info on the historic voyage. The Pale Ale is available at local liquor stores. www.endurancebrewing.com.



Wine on a Dime... To the seasoned booze hound, polishing off a six-pack is no great feat—unless you're talking about the new BRIX SIX at BRIX Wine Shop. BRIX now offers a prepackaged six-pack of wine that changes every month and revolves around a particular theme, like Bottles for the Barbecue and Picnic Pix. This month's selection is September Sips and includes wines like a 2003 Sipranillo Tempranillo. Six-packs go for $65. *1284 Washington St., Boston (617-542-2749). www.brixwineshop.com.*

Welcome Back Choco... It's that time of year again: The leaves are changing, the Patriots are winning and the chocolate is flowing over at the Langham Hotel. The hotel's Café Fleuri just reopened its Chocolate Bar for the 17th season, and each Saturday through the end of May, pastry chef John Quinn offers chocoholics a chance to indulge in the city's largest chocolate buffet. New this year is a fondue bar accompanied by cheesecake, pretzels, fruit and biscotti, and the Zing Bar, where you can dip homemade truffle lollipops into spices like pepper, paprika, saffron and curry. *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900).*

sam says

WHO'S YOUR DADDY?

Though Stella McCartney is the daughter of a cultural icon and I'm sure that she got her start a little easier than most, she's truly talented. A friend of mine and I would gladly go without electricity for a week just to get our hands on one of her signature pieces. And at her prices, you might really have to make that choice. Well, it seems that Miss McCartney has been talking to the little people who claim they love her designs but can't touch them and has taken pity on them. She's teamed up with H&M (the mega-chic, affordable boutique) to offer a limited edition fall collection at much more reasonable prices. Last year, Karl Lagerfeld did the same and met with an amazing response, and no doubt McCartney will do just as well if not better. The clothes launch on November 10, so go to H&M and grease some sales associates now to stash a few things in your size later. *H&M, 350 Washington St., Boston (617-482-7001). —Samantha House*

improper reports

HELPING HAND

There's no shortage of local organizations hurrying to help Hurricane Katrina victims. Among them:

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-547-6789.
www.ccae.org.
Will McMillan and Doug Hammer present a cabaret show called "Here's to Life!" on September 17. Tickets are $25 and all proceeds benefit the hurricane survivors.

Greater Boston Food Bank
617-427-5200. www.gbfb.org.
The GBFB is working with other members of America's Second Harvest—The Nation's Food Bank Network to provide food and other resources to hurricane victims.

Massachusetts Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA)
350 South Huntington Ave., Boston.
www.mspca.org.
The MSPCA has set up a special fund to help animals that have been affected by the hurricane. Donations can be made online or by mail. The funds raised will go to animal shelters in Louisiana and Mississippi.

New England Patriots Charitable Foundation
www.patriots.com
The Foundation is accepting donations via the team's Web site. Fans can give money in $25 increments. Generous donors get a special thank you from the Patriot organization. All proceeds go to nonprofit organizations supporting hurricane relief efforts.

Salon Red & Spa
144B Newbury St., Boston 617-267-1800.
The salon will hold a cut-a-thon on September 18 from 11 am–6 pm. All the proceeds from new client haircuts will be donated to the American Red Cross to help raise funds for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Sports Radio WEEI 850 AM
WEEI Fenway Park Studio, Fenway Park. www.weei.com.
Sports Radio WEEI 850 AM is collecting donations for the American Red Cross Hurricane 2005 Relief. Fans can donate during any of the Red Sox home games (through October 2) or by visiting the station's Web site. Funds help provide shelter, food and counseling. *—Melissa Czerkowicz*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Nanette's on Newbury... Designer Nanette Lepore doesn't open boutiques everywhere. In fact, until recently, there have been only three—in New York, L.A. and Las Vegas, with one in the works for London. But now Bostonians can get their hands on the exclusive line at Lepore's new Newbury Street shop. Decorated in a similar fashion to her digs in New York and L.A., the store has a clean, modern, minimalist look, with faded pink floorboards and white decor. Along with her signature line, Lepore bumps up the exclusivity factor with items only available at the Boston store, including handbags that range from $140–$300. *119 Newbury St., Boston (617-421-9200).*

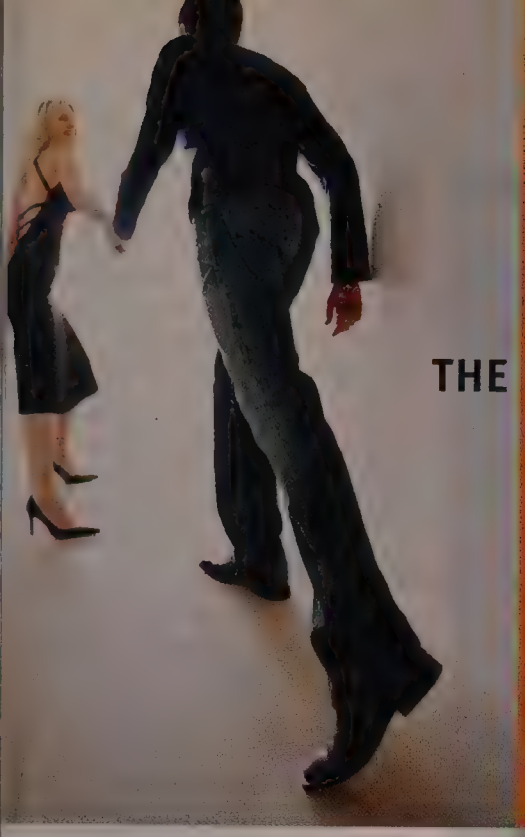
Bumpin' Boutique... Cameron Grob, Andrew Haddad and Anthony Rich aren't your average lazy and apathetic recent college grads. They've already made a name for themselves on the local club scene with C Entertainment, the trio's production company, which hosts promotions at various venues four nights a week. And now, they've spread their business skills even further with a new shop on Newbury Street, I Boutique, which reflects the hip fashions they've seen on dance floors around Boston. Clothing, accessories and an aggressive collection of sunglasses are all handpicked by the owners. To keep their stock new and trendy, there are only two in each size of any one item and no re-ordering of anything. *251 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1987).*

Alterna-Town... With their new Stingray Body Art & More, 30-somethings Scott Matalon and Brenda Wynne have created a one-of-a-kind hipster haven in Allston. Stingray carries original clothes and accessories by local, independent designers, and includes a tattoo and piercing parlor that also offers permanent cosmetic tattooing. Matalon sums it up, "People who want original tattoos are also looking for original fashions. We've created a place for them to find both." Stingray carries clothes for both men and women: The selection includes designers such as Christine Cherrone, Mode Merr and Shop Therapy, and styles from retro and rockabilly to ultra-feminine. Jewelry by Chandler and Calavera designs are also available with handcrafted pieces that can be made to order. *1 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-254-0666).*

High Flyers... It was just a matter of time before the overplayed term "metrosexual" spawned a spinoff marketing ploy. Enter the Jetrosexuals, who, according to Virgin Atlantic Airways, are the new generation of businessmen and women with a strong presence in their city, affecting local culture on a daily basis. Through September 15, Virgin is accepting nominations for Boston's top Jetrosexual. It's your chance to deliver those long-awaited props to your favorite local entrepreneurs like nominees Dennis Duffy of Duffy Design Group and Joanne Chang of Flour Bakery. The semifinalists are announced on September 30 and the winner, who takes home a free first-class trip to London, is decided on October 17. Cast your vote at www.jetrosexual.com (and have a laugh at its "11 Commandments of a Jetrosexual" link while you're at it).
—L.P.K. and R.L.

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.



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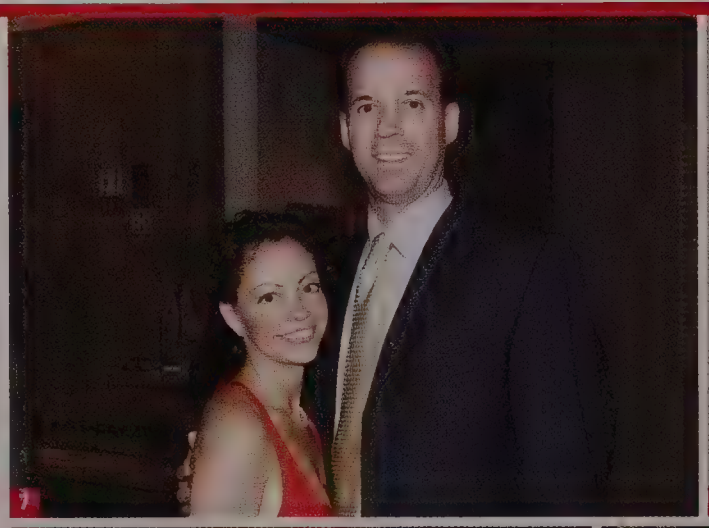
PROPER BOSTONIANS

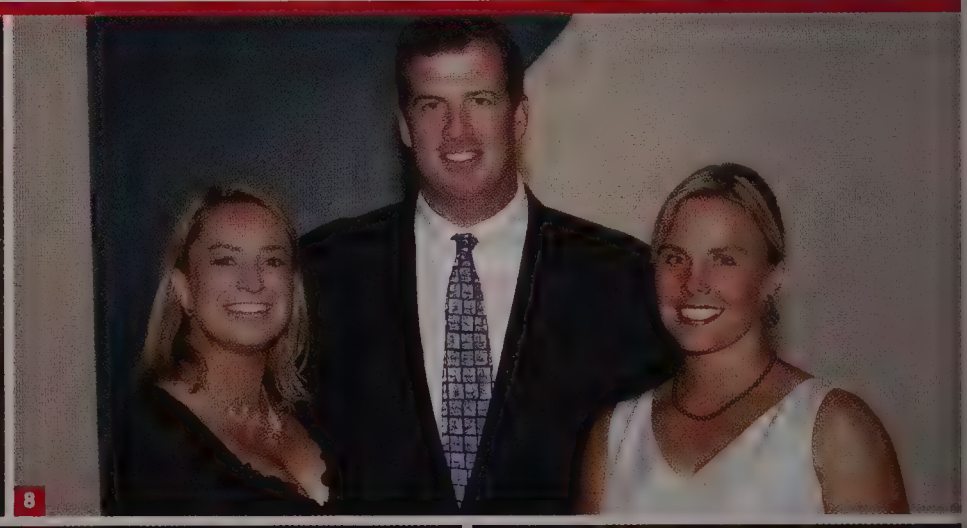
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

WEEI Sports Radio, NESN, the Jimmy Fund and the Boston Red Sox joined forces to host the **4th Annual WEEI/NESN Jimmy Fund Radio-Telethon** on Friday, August 26, at Fenway Park. Two hundred partygoers turned out for the all-star affair, which featured stand-up comedy and spirited conversation with guest emcee-comedian Lenny Clarke from the hit show *Rescue Me*, as well as WEEI and NESN personalities, professional athletes and several other celebrities. The organizations' goal was to raise $2 million.

1. **Jason Wolfe**, director of sports programming for Entercom; **John Valentin**, former Red Sox player; and **Mike Andrews**, former Red Sox player and Jimmy Fund chairman.
2. **Andrea Dacey**, sales associate for Entercom; **Pete Sheppard**, co-host of WEEI's "The Big Show"; and **Lee Boggier**, account executive for Entercom.
3. **Bryce Scottron**, business development manager for United Liquors Ltd. in Braintree, and **Meghan Campbell**, account coordinator for Elevate Communications.
4. **Mike Adams**, WEEI talk show host, and wife, **Chrissy**.
5. **Dale Arnold**, WEEI mid-day host, "The Dale & Holley Show"; **Lenny Clarke**, actor/comedian; and **Glenn Ordway**, co-host of WEEI's "The Big Show."
6. **Linda Hogan** and **Lisa Wolford**, respectively, manager and graphics coordinator for Olympia Sports in Westbrook, Maine.

Bill Koch, whose art collection **"Things I Love"** is on display at the Museum of Fine Arts, was the guest of honor at the opening party on Tuesday, August 30, at the MFA. Koch was joined by 300 guests including MFA board of trustees chair Susan Paine; "Things I Love: The Many Collections of William I. Koch" runs through November 13.





7. **John Smiroldo**, publisher of *Antiques & Fine Art*, and wife, **Diana**.
8. **Jen Cooney**; **Mark Curley**, William Koch curator; and **Susanna Grubb**.
9. **Lisa Owens**, internist at Brigham & Women's and husband, **Darryl Settles**, owner of D'Ventures Unlimited Inc.
10. **Jane Codman**, principal of Jane Codman Real Estate and **David Koch**, executive vice president of Koch Industries.
11. **Tom Seeman**, CEO of Etonic Shoe Company in Waltham, and **Barbara Aifond**, MFA trustee.

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— The Improper Bostonian

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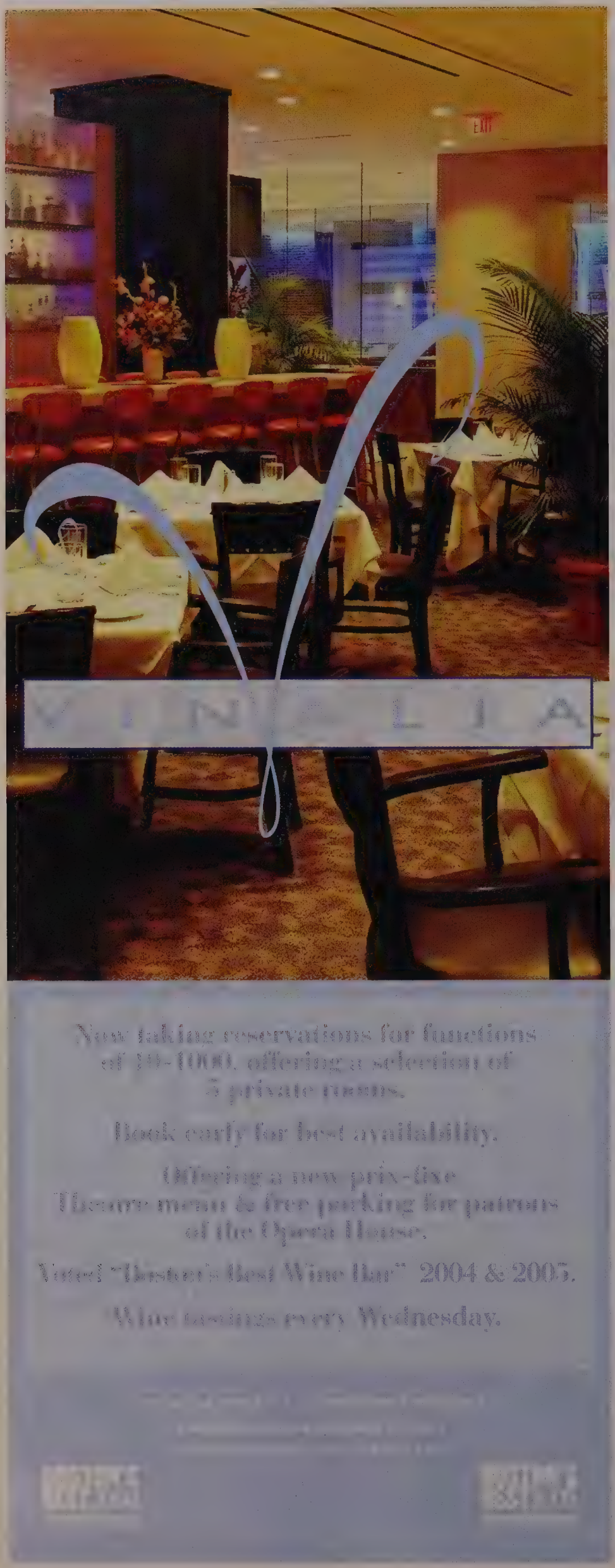


CORINTHIANS 2.0

It's time to give wedding readers some new material.

I just attended another wedding last weekend, and for the third time this summer, I got to hear everyone's favorite New Testament riff on love, Corinthians. Corinthians is such a wedding-reading cliché that in *Wedding Crashers*, Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson placed a bet on whether it would be read at a given wedding (it was). I'm not saying Corinthians is bad. It's just a little played out, and I'm sure many future brides and grooms wouldn't mind an alternative. Here, then, I give you a modernized Corinthians to use at your wedding. Please remember to send me royalties.

What is love? That's a fantastic question, and one that has baffled the great thinkers throughout antiquity, from Haddaway to Tina Turner (who, recognizing love's ultimately unknowable nature, mused not on love itself but on its relation to human existence in its totality—i.e., what's love got to do with it?). Well, we're gonna tell you.

Love does not get on the bumper of the car in front of it when two lanes merge into one, because love is not a jerk. Love does not buy scratch tickets and then throw the losing tickets on the sidewalk outside the store, thus tempting passersby to pick up those tickets and check to make sure that they really didn't win, because love is not a litterbug. Love is long-suffering, like a man who mistakenly Weedwacks poison ivy in the nude. Love is kind—but kind of what? We don't know, because love is mysterious.

Love does not boast. Really, if love were sitting behind home plate at the Red Sox game, love wouldn't call everyone love knows and wave whenever the TV camera was zoomed in on a left-handed batter. Which brings us to another truth: Love is not an annoying person that you wish you could drag through your TV screen and punch in the face.

Love is not inflated, so maybe you should pump it up. Shot through the heart, and you're to blame, darlin', you give love a bad name. And by "you," we mean Britney Spears and Kevin Federline.

Love is not discourteous. Which is to say it is courteous. But love doesn't dislike using double negatives. Love is trusting, like the security guards at Home Depot, who never really look in your bag on the way out, even when you use self-checkout. And they're right. Many a time I could've helped myself to a few extra grommets, but I did not.

Love is not Legal Sea Foods, nor Red Lobster nor even Jimmy's Harborside, for love does not sell fish. What? Oh, that makes more sense. Love is not selfish.

It is not irritable, so stop asking. It can't guarantee not to make you sick like bad dim sum. Remember, fish don't swim upside down. Love is not pretentious. It does not look at your pants from Armani Exchange and ask, "Why bother?"

Like Carnie Wilson's underwear, love covers all things. If it weren't for love, what would you get tattooed on your knuckles when one side already says "hate"? You could go with "joy," I suppose, but then your pinkie's just hanging out looking stupid.

Love does not attend the roast of Pamela Anderson and try to steal the show by flashing its boobs and acting like a complete freak show. That's Courtney Love you're thinking of.

You know what I'd love right now? A grilled cheese sandwich.

I'M NOT SAYING CORINTHIANS IS BAD. IT'S JUST A LITTLE PLAYED OUT, AND I'M SURE MANY FUTURE BRIDES AND GROOMS WOULDN'T MIND AN ALTERNATIVE.

In the Hawaiian language, there are 19 different words for love but not one for "thesaurus." So actually, there might be even more words for love, but they have no way of knowing.

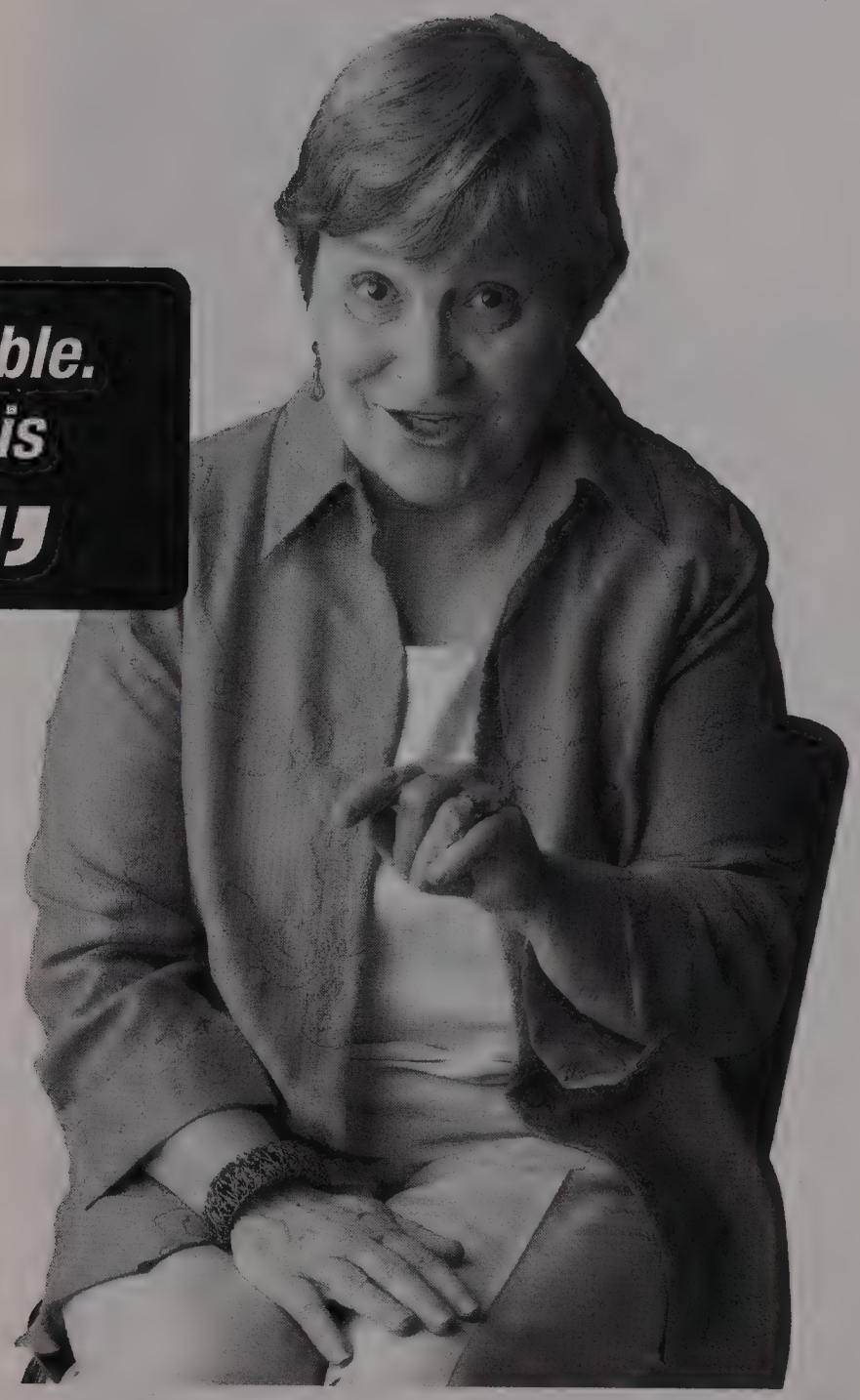
Love is smart, for love does not argue that the giant cell-phone tower along Route 2 that's disguised to look like a tree is, in fact, a giant, square tree that happens to be about 100 feet taller than the surrounding foliage. I'm not naming names, but I think we know who we are on this one, and I think I'm still owed 10 bucks from that particular bet.

When two people stay by each other's side for years and years, that right there is love. Or they might be conjoined twins. Either way, I'm impressed!

Love is good, love is great, so gimme some more love on my plate. Now let's vow it up so you two crazy kids can legitimize all that sex you've been having. iB

YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY?

Send non-biased e-mails to ezra@improper.com.



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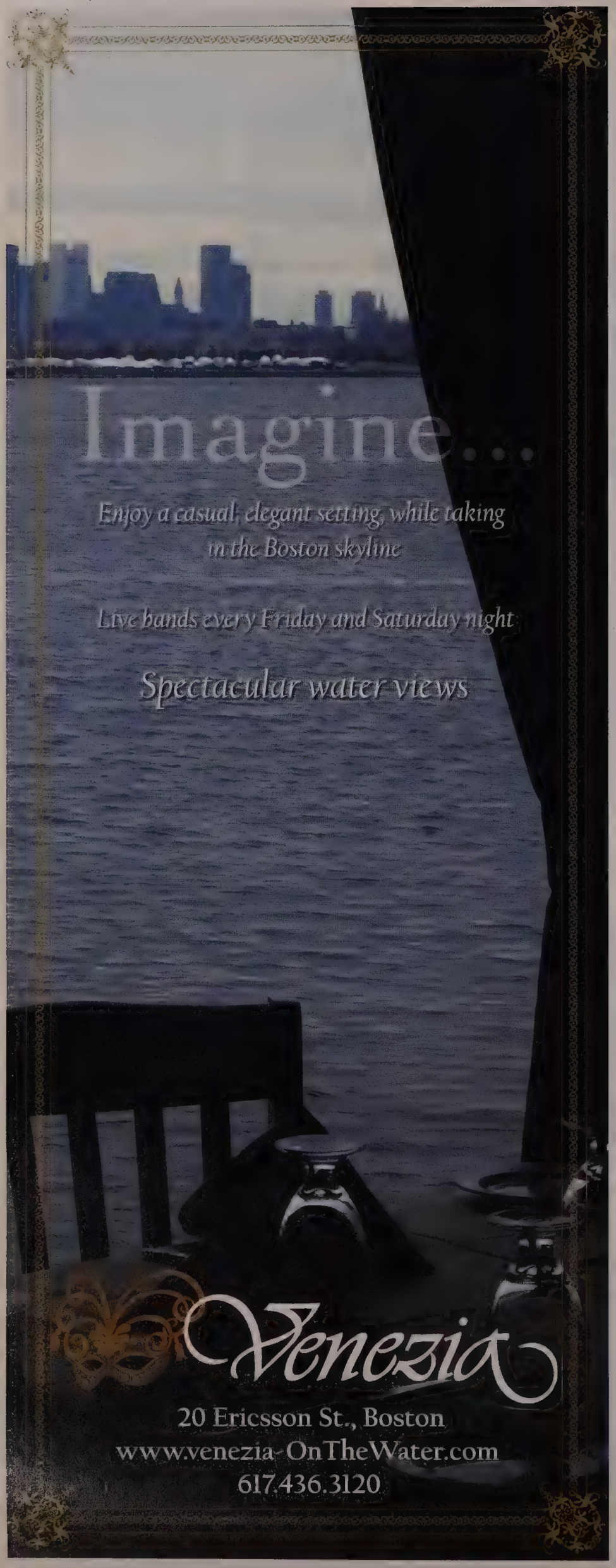

THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

CRUNCH TIME

Pay Theo...the Eagles' big man on campus... Can the Sox hold it together in the postseason?

The weather cooling off used to mean two things around here: heartbreak and frustration. The heartbreak always belonged to your Boston Red Sox and the frustration was located about 30 miles south in Foxboro. But look what the kiddies have in store as they go back to school: playoff baseball and another Super Bowl championship.

That being said, at least the part about the Patriots, this media person will greatly miss two Patriots—I'll never call them former Patriots—Ted Johnson and Tedy Bruschi. I'll miss them as much as any athletes I've dealt with in Boston.

During my time here, only two athletes have ever approached me and said "thank you" for a report I'd done on them. One was Ted Johnson. The other was Nomar.

We might have to miss Bruschi for only one year, but as I've said before, I'll respect whatever decision he makes.

When Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein became the youngest GM in baseball, he promised to build up the farm system. He said he wanted to create a player-development machine.

He kept his promise. The Sox were recently named FAB50 Farm of the Year according to *Minor League News*. Now it's time to pay the piper. Theo's contract is up. It's time to reward him, just like the Patriots have done with their gurus, Bill Belichick and Scott Pioli.

The Red Sox have become arguably the most popular professional team in North America. We can credit the PR push by the new ownership and Larry Lucchino, but the honor has been cemented on the field. Now, with the farm system in place and producing very good prospects, the Sox have set themselves up for success for years to come.

Most of us were wrong. Theo is not a kid. He's a prodigy. Pay him before it's too late, please. Do you think the Yankees are going to be in the market for a general manager in 2006, after their guy is fired? Don't let it happen. Don't let The Boss become Theo's boss.

One of the best national college football stories is a local one. Boston College is about to enter its first season in the fearsome Atlantic Coast Conference and they're going into battle with the number-one defensive player in the country.

That's right. Defensive end Mathias Kiwanuka is rated the top defensive player in the country heading into next year's NFL draft. His story is fascinating. He hangs his family's native Ugandan flag in his dorm room at the Heights as a reminder of his African heritage. It's also in memory of his grandfather, Benedicto Kawaka, who became Uganda's first prime minister in 1961, and was assassinated by Idi Amin in 1971.

It's an amazing story. The kind of stuff champions are made of.

Check him out one Saturday this fall, because next year the 6-foot-7 quarterback eater will play only on Sundays.

Last season it took not one, but two aces to win, and I'm not talking about the World Series of Poker. I'm talking about your Red Sox.

Last year, the Sox were built to win in the playoffs with Curt Schilling and Pedro Martinez in Games 1 and 2. If they're going to win it this year, it'll be with a couple of jokers. Things have changed.

> "SCHILLING WILL GIVE US A GUTSY EFFORT, BUT ANYTHING MORE THAN SIX OR SEVEN INNINGS MIGHT BE ASKING TOO MUCH."

Schilling will hopefully return to some semblance of his old self, but we have to be realistic. He may never again be the player who carried the Sox last October.

Schilling will give us a gutsy effort, but anything more than six or seven innings might be asking too much. If that's the case, well, luck will have to enter the equation.

Win or lose, we have to credit Schilling for what he's done for the franchise. He literally jeopardized his career, which was teetering on Hall of Fame–like numbers. But by having his tendon-stabilizing operation last postseason, he may have cost himself two seasons as a full-time starter.

Sure, Schilling has never met a microphone he didn't like and, yes, he definitely has a propensity to rub people the wrong way, teammates included. But in the end, his role in reversing history can never be forgotten. **IB**

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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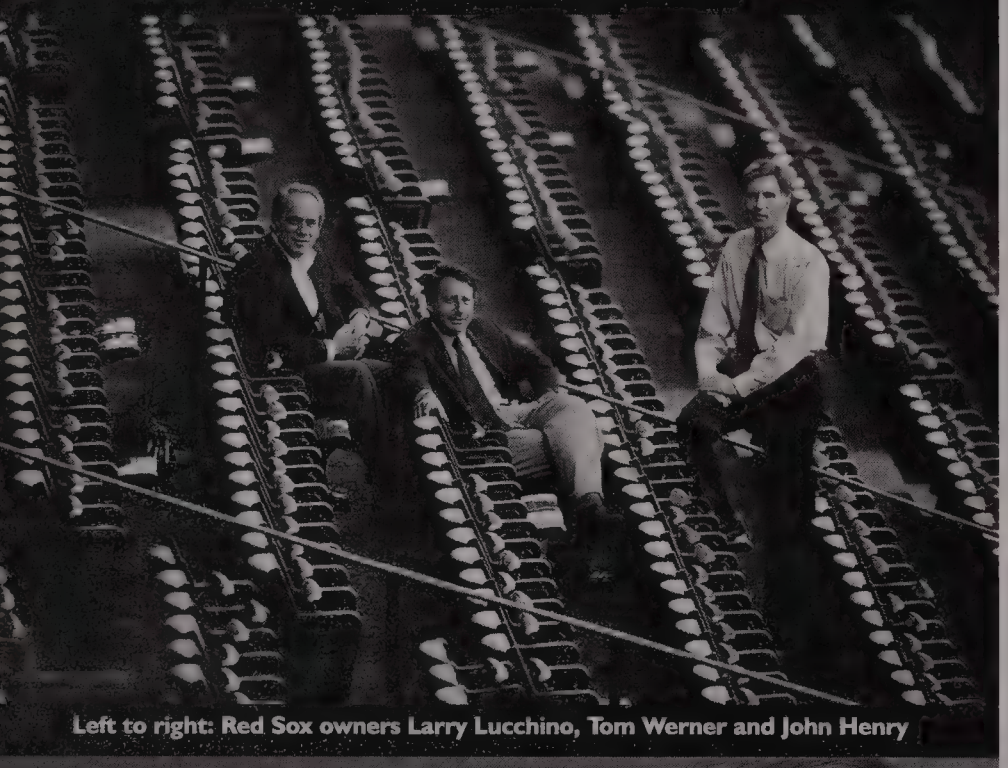
Matt Damon with girlfriend Luciana Barroso



Left to right: Red Sox owners Larry Lucchino, Tom Werner and John Henry

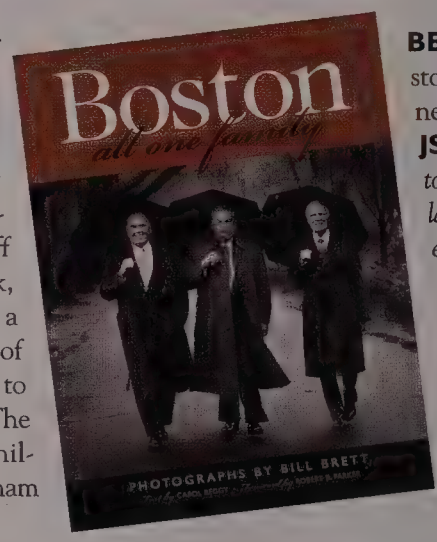
Aerosmith's Steven Tyler with Bruins legend Bobby Orr

Soroff/ON

BILL BRETT

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Photographer Bill Brett, 60, was born and raised in Dorchester and hawked the *Boston Globe* on street corners as a child before beginning to work for the paper as a part-time photographer at age 18. Twelve years later, in 1977, he was named chief photographer, and in 1999 he earned the prestigious title of director of photography. The recipient of numerous awards, he retired in 2001 but continues to contribute to the paper as social photographer for its "Party Lines" column (working alongside his daughter, Kerry Brett Hurley, THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's staff photographer). His book, *Boston, All One Family*, a collection of portraits of prominent Bostonians, is to be released this month. The father of four grown children, Brett lives in Hingham with his wife, Ginnie.



Jonathan Soroff: *This is sort of a Who's Who of players in Boston, and there are certainly going to be some people who feel left out. What do you have to say to them?*

Bill Brett: I'll get you in the next book. [Laughs] Actually, there were 35 people, and 12 pages, that had to be cut, and that was a tough situation. I was looking at it as a photographer, but the publisher had other criteria. In any case, I'm looking at this as one book in a series, not a one-time thing, so eventually I hope to include everyone who makes a difference in this town.

JS: *How much territory would you say you were able to cover?*

BB: Oh, I'm sure it's only a small sampling. There are a million people in Boston, and I only did 240 photographs.

JS: *Obviously, it's a social chronicle of the city. Fundraisers will use it to target development prospects, social climbers will use it to figure out whose ass to kiss…*

BB: True. But the real purpose is to show what type of people live in the city, and what type of city, how diverse and interesting, it is. I grew up here, and I've seen Boston change completely, and for the better.

JS: *What one quality is most important in a photographer?*

BB: The ability to tell a story. A great picture doesn't need a caption.

JS: *What's the hardest thing to photograph: people, landscapes, interiors, news events?*

BB: They're all different, but the most important thing is to study your subject. I studied the people, and during my years at the *Globe* I had the opportunity to meet a lot of people, so they're relaxed with me. I couldn't do this in another city.

JS: *Ever been treated like or accused of being a paparazzo?*

BB: A few times. Not that I resent it. It's part of the business. I don't consider myself one. I consider myself a social photographer.

JS: *What's the greatest length you've gone to or most drastic thing you've ever done to get a photo?*

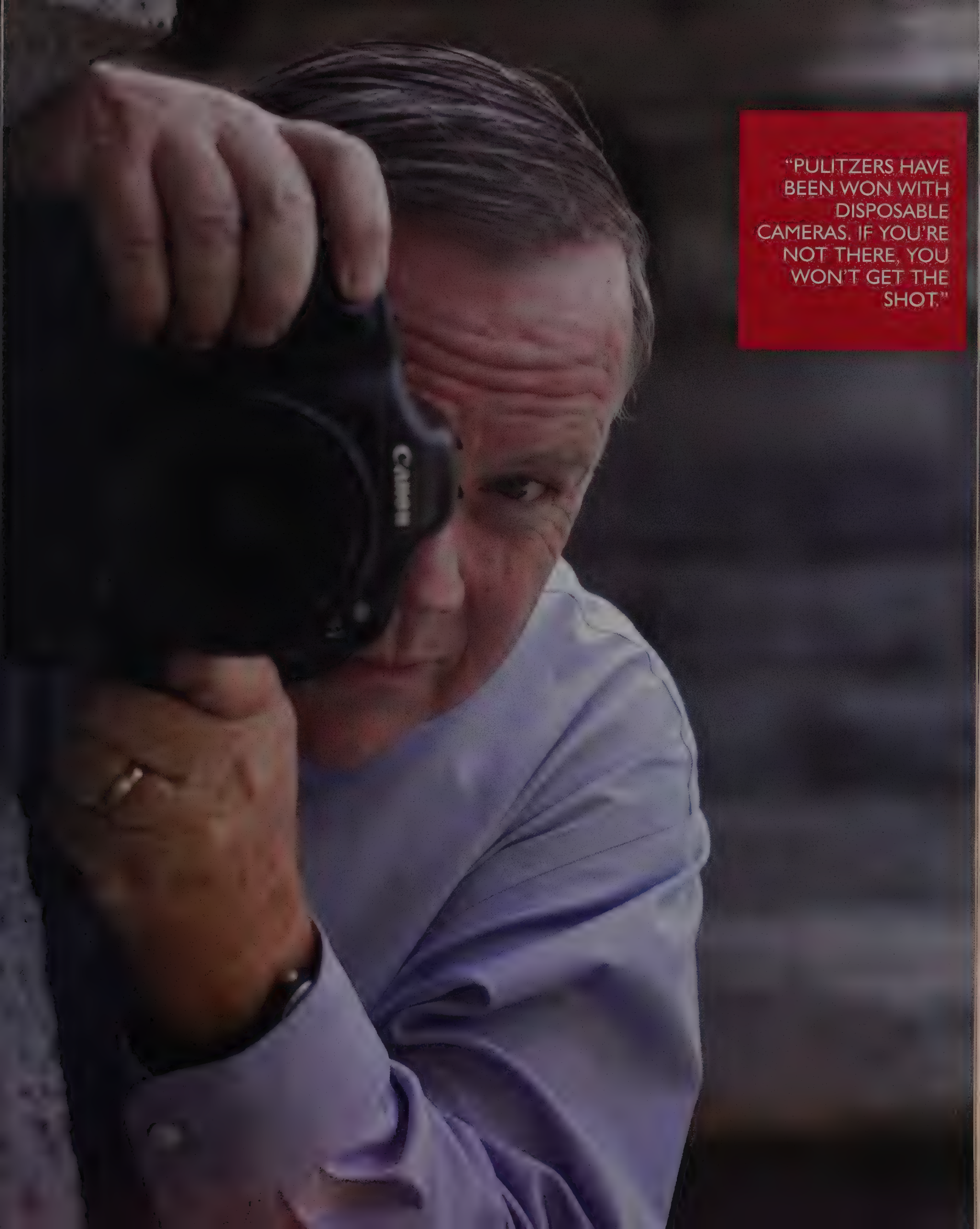
BB: Renting a helicopter to fly over Fenway Park to get Bruce Springsteen.

JS: *Worst celebrity encounter ever?*

BB: Probably Paul Newman. I was at a party at Boston University. Someone in Dr. Silber's office had invited me. When I got there and started taking pictures, Paul Newman said, "Who are you and what are you doing?" I told him, and he said, "The agreement was no photographers." So I left. Another time, I was at a party at a house in Cohasset and Bill Cosby was there. He saw me in the kitchen, taking photos, and he said, "You leave or I leave." So I left.

JS: *Ever do what all of us amateurs do and forget to take off the lens cap?*

BB: Well, a couple of years ago, I went to a party at the Four Seasons. It was freezing out, so I quickly got my camera out of the


"PULITZERS HAVE BEEN WON WITH DISPOSABLE CAMERAS. IF YOU'RE NOT THERE, YOU WON'T GET THE SHOT."

Red Sox GM/rocker Theo Epstein

Longtime CBS4 news anchors Liz Walker and Jack Williams

Mark Wahlberg with his childhood mentor, Father Jim Flavin

trunk and ran inside. I took maybe a dozen photos and then left, and got into my car. This was before we started using digital. I looked in the camera, and there was no film. So I went back into the party, and people said, "I thought you were done." I was a little embarrassed, so I said, "My editor wanted color."

JS: *Three people you're glad you shot before they died?*

BB: David Brudnoy, John Cochrane (who was one of three brothers from Dorchester in the real estate business), and Nick Contos, who owned the No Name Restaurant.

JS: *Anyone you're sick of photographing?*

BB: Not really, but I will say that I'm always trying to find new people, new faces, which can be tough, because a lot of the same people are the chairs of this or that or head up all the committees. And every PR person says, "Here's the mayor." But how many times can you have a picture of the mayor?

JS: *What's the best thing to do when having your photo taken?*

BB: Relax. Look natural. Not too posed.

JS: *Any tricks to making someone look good?*

BB: Not really. From my perspective, I've got editors who like photos coming off the page or into the page, so I take them all different ways, so they can play with the layout. But when I arrive at a party, people know I'm there. Some people want to be photographed, others don't. One funny story: At a party, this woman was excited to have me photograph her, because she confided in me, "This is a $20,000 dress." The next week, she was in the same dress, and she wasn't as keen to have her picture taken. Then I saw her the third time in the same dress, and she ran away.

JS: *Are you more or less inclined to photograph someone who obviously wants you to?*

BB: Less inclined.

JS: *Ever touch up a photo?*

BB: No. We're not allowed to.

JS: *Best way for someone to get you to take their photo?*

BB: Wear a hat. It always draws my attention and it always makes a great picture.

JS: *Most impressive person you ever photographed—a star, a head of state?*

BB: I think Matt Damon is a real gentleman. Bishop Desmond Tutu was here not long ago, and he was a very engaging man, really puts people at their ease. You almost forget who he is, he's so unassuming.

JS: *Anyone ever scare you?*

BB: When I was doing news photography, I had a gangster coming out of federal court, escorted by two FBI agents, and they let go. I thought he was gonna kill me. He chased me all around the courthouse.

JS: *Tell me about subjects who have become friends—for instance, I know David Mugar is a great friend of yours.*

BB: It's hard to separate the professional from the social, but with David, we became friends 45 years ago. We met at a fire in Dorchester. He was a sparky [someone who follows fires], and so was I, and he's one of my three closest friends. We speak almost daily.

JS: *Single favorite photograph you've ever taken?*

BB: It would have to be of a woman jumping out a window at a fire in Roxbury back in 1968. I caught a picture of her in mid-air, with a policeman about to catch her. It's a very spectacular picture.

JS: *Any regrets about not winning a Pulitzer?*

BB: Nah. I've had a great career. I've been nominated, and I worked with people like Stan Grossfeld, who did win, and I felt like I was a part of it.

JS: *Favorite photographer: Cartier-Bresson, Eisenstadt, Weston?*

BB: Ansel Adams is probably the photographer. In fact, I snuck into the MFA while they were hanging the show to see the pictures by myself.

JS: *Could you, as a pro, take a better picture with a disposable camera than I can with a Hasselblad?*

BB: It depends. Pulitzers have been won with disposable cameras. If you're not there, you won't get the shot. Fifty percent of it is luck, and timing is everything.

JS: *What equipment would you recommend for an amateur?*

BB: Obviously, digital photography is here to stay. I'd say start out with 3 to 5 megapixels, just to get your feet wet. I tell people all the time, "A photographer isn't made with a camera." Photography is all in the eye, how you compose something, and either you have it or you don't. The camera's just a piece of equipment.

JS: *Any incriminating photos of your subjects—spinach in the teeth, embarrassing panty lines and bulges?*

BB: No. I'd tell someone to fix it before taking their picture.

JS: *Ever been offered money for a photo by the tabloids?*

BB: The newspaper has, but we've never sold to them.

JS: *One living person you'd most like to photograph?*

BB: I'd like to maybe get a crack at the pope. That'd be interesting.

JS: *Person from history you would have loved to photograph?*

BB: John Kennedy. And I just missed him. I started in '65 at the *Globe*. I did go down to Washington to photograph his funeral, though.

JS: *Last question: Everybody hates pictures of themselves. Is there one of you that you like?*

BB: Yeah. The one my daughter, Kerry, took of me for the jacket of this book. I was honored to have her take it, especially since I took hers plenty of times. **iB**

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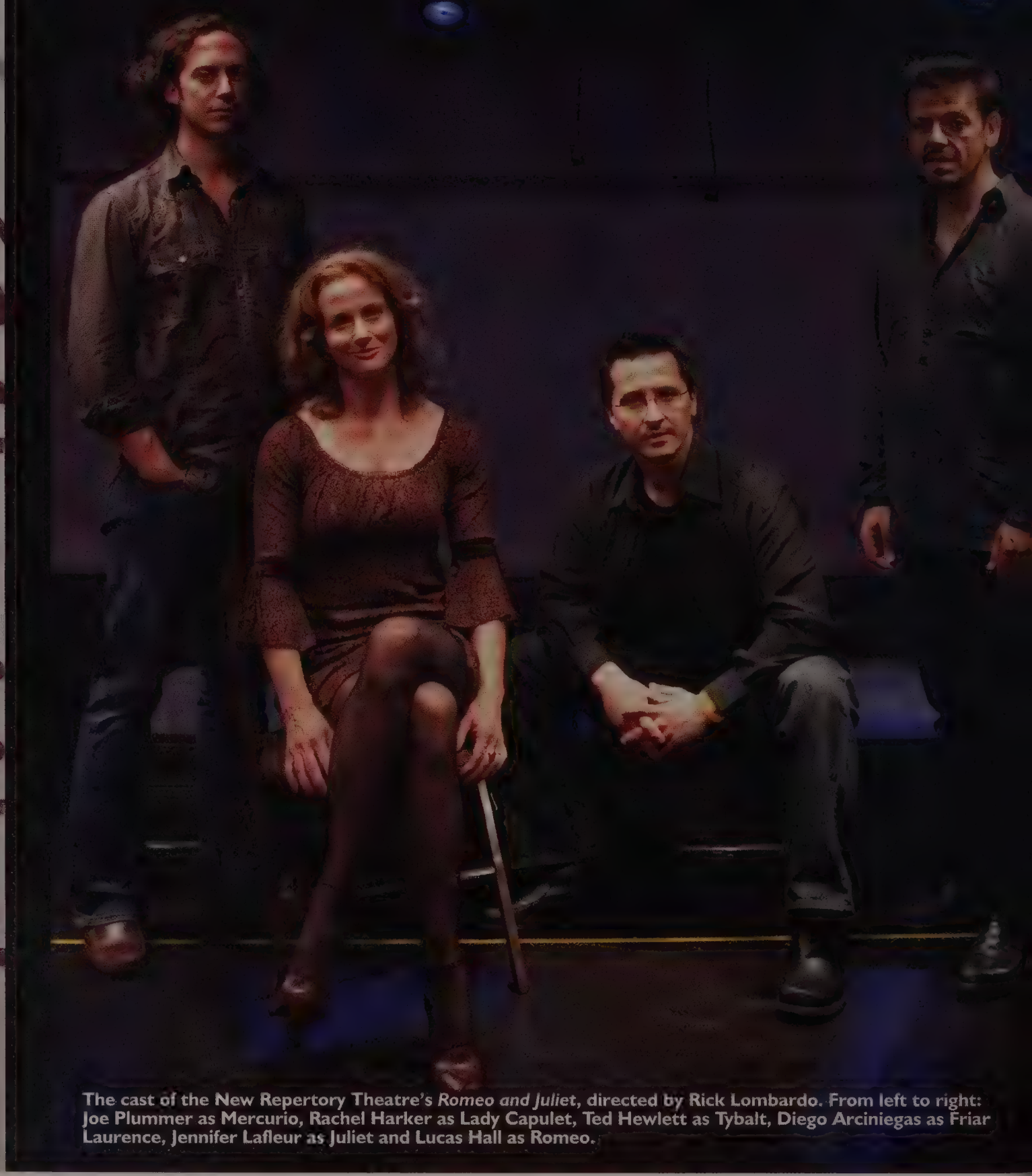
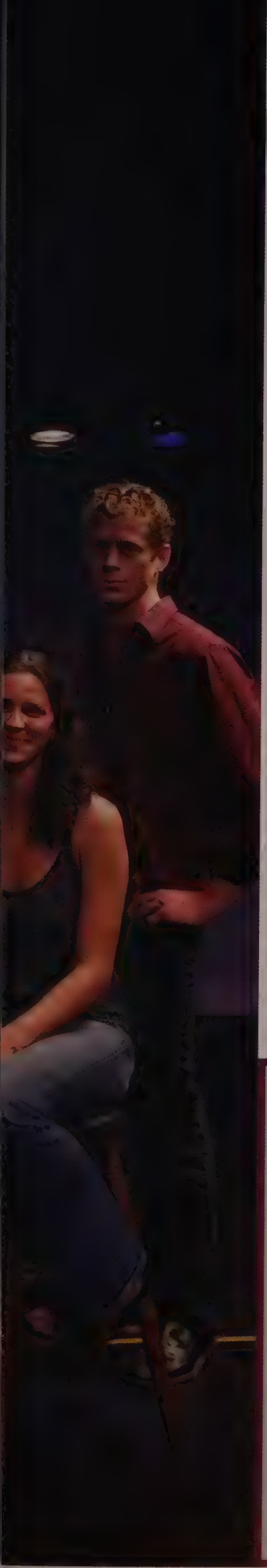


ANDREA FISCHMAN

The cast of the New Repertory Theatre's *Romeo and Juliet*, directed by Rick Lombardo. From left to right: Joe Plummer as Mercurio, Rachel Harker as Lady Capulet, Ted Hewlett as Tybalt, Diego Arciniegas as Friar Laurence, Jennifer Lafleur as Juliet and Lucas Hall as Romeo.



BY LIZA WEISSTUCH

Much of the excitement swirling around the local theater scene last year centered on the crop of new performance spaces. Now, as this season gets underway, the American Repertory Theatre's second stage at Zero Arrow sits as a benchmark of the "new" Harvard Square, the sleek Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts has three stages regularly occupied by players, and the Opera House is a refurbished gem. So the question inevitably arises: What's happening in these performance spaces—and all the rest around town? Fall's harvest brings a bounty of productions, from musicals to memory plays and classics to contemporary, politically inspired premieres.

But first, it's important to note that the introduction of nouveau venues was hardly limited to last season. As the New Repertory Theatre launches its season in its new residence, a state-of-the-art venue at the Arsenal Center for the Arts in Watertown, what better way to ring in the new than with something tried and true? On the marquee is one of the world's perennial love stories, **Romeo and Juliet**, which has too many large-scale fight scenes to have been produced in New Rep's smaller former home in Newton. Despite its romance, artistic director Rick Lombardo calls the play a timely commentary—it "speaks to what's going on in the world. The families have deeply entrenched seeds of conflict, and they throw the young people in the middle of it…The best and the brightest end up killed."

While a well-produced classic can result in the same satisfaction brought on by a comfort-food dinner with family, there's much to be said for the edginess and thrill of a world premiere. At the Calderwood's Virginia Wimberly, the Huntington Theatre Company's second stage, artistic director Nicholas Martin is continuing to cultivate his ongoing theatrical association with the hip scribe Stephen Belber, whose plays he's directed in Boston and on Broadway. This time around, Martin helms **Carol Mulroney**, in which the title character reflects on her past and tries to reconcile with her demons, sorting out her stormy relationship with her father while trying to make sense of a hazy future with her husband.

Beyond the new venues and scripts to scope out this season, there also are fresh companies to meet, like the Actors' Shakespeare Project, which was founded last year by a crew of well-known local thespians, all committed to staging the Bard's masterpieces in intimate spaces. This year, royalty reigns with **King Lear** at Studio 102 at Boston University's College of Fine Arts. Alvin Epstein, longtime ART veteran and a New York stage regular, plays the mad monarch consumed by the machinations of his deceitful daughters.

Directors commonly use Shakespeare's plays to reflect on contemporary social issues and political situations. But for more current plotlines with no less art, check out one of many works that have been written in direct reaction to the headlines. The Lyric Stage has Caryl Churchill's **A Number**. In Churchill's savvy examination of the moral and personal implications of genetic engineering, a father and his son—make that sons—confront one another about the fact that the brothers all are clones. Sibling rivalry and nature versus nurture all come to the fore in this play, which raised critics' eyebrows off Broadway last season. Meanwhile, the American Repertory Theatre casts its gaze toward the political turmoil in South America, presenting the English-language premiere of Colombian playwright Humberto Dorado's **The Keening**. ART's artistic director Robert Woodruff handpicked the play at the International Theatre Festival of Bogotá. The show will likely pack a mighty punch in the intimate space as a single actress, playing a professional mourner, paints a picture of the violence and gruesome atrocities that are part of daily life in a Colombian village under the paramilitary's stronghold.

Latin America is also the setting for the Tony Award–winning **Kiss of the Spider Woman**, being offered by SpeakEasy Stage Company. It's the first professional production of the play in Boston since the Broadway production with Chita Rivera passed through in 1994. Written by John Kander and Fred Ebb, the team that penned *Chicago*, and with a book by Terrence McNally, this musical portrays the relationship that develops between two men from disparate worlds—a revolutionary and a window dresser—who land in a prison cell together. They have only each other and their shared appreciation for the power of cinematic escapism as a way to cope with torture and humiliation. Director Paul Daigneault says there's potential to make it current, considering the parallels to recent scandals over prisoner treatment, though he doesn't want to make the musical something it's not.

You don't always need lyrics to tell a story with music. Boston Ballet has the U.S. premiere of James Kudelka's **Cinderella**, which he choreographed for the National Ballet of Canada. This pirouetting and pliéing poor girl and the prince leap beyond the typical fairytale storyline, pointing out love's simple pleasures and an appreciation for nature. If you take your dance with a splash of martial arts and a twist of gymnastics, Snappy Dance Theater is just the elixir. Fresh from a festival appearance in St. Petersburg, the local company inaugurates its cultural partnership with the BCA with **Snappy South (End) Move**.

Snappy's show may broaden your understanding of dance, but if it's interdisciplinary life lessons you're after, seek it in the family wisdom Billy Crystal relays in **700 Sundays**, his Tony Award–winning one-man show, a tribute to the people who raised and influenced him.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Sept. 14–18, **Snappy South (End) Move**, Snappy @ Rehearsal Hall A, Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St., Boston, 617-933-8600, $24–$42.

Sept. 18–Oct. 9, **Romeo and Juliet**, New Repertory Theatre, Arsenal Center for the Arts, 321 Arsenal St., Watertown, 617-332-1646, $30–$48.

Sept. 29–Oct. 23, **King Lear**, Actors' Shakespeare Project, Studio 102 at BU College of Fine Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston, 866-811-4111, $35–$40.

Oct. 13–23, **Cinderella**, The Boston Ballet, Wang Center, 270 Tremont St., Boston, 800-447-7400, $18–$105.

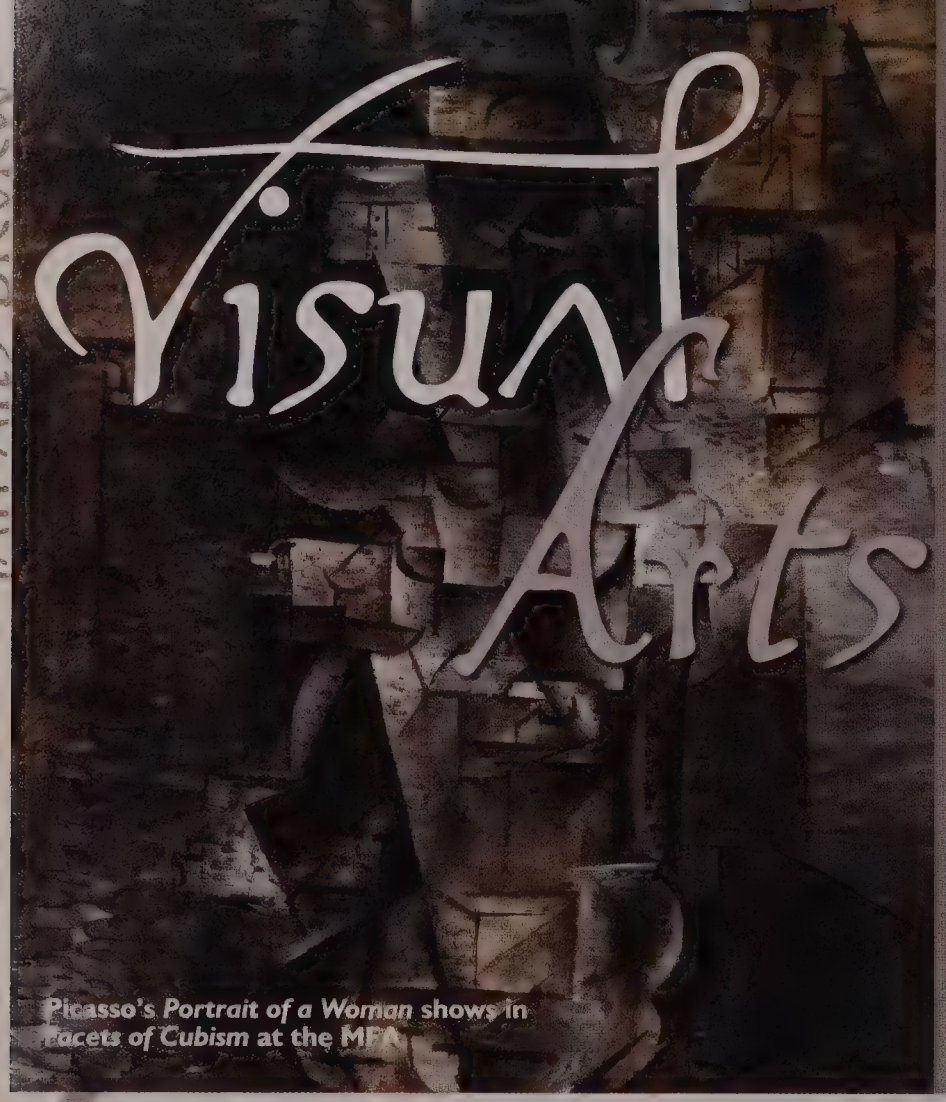
Oct. 14–Nov. 12, **The Keening**, American Repertory Theatre, Zero Arrow, Arrow St. and Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-547-8300, $35, $48.

Oct. 14–Nov. 20, **Carol Mulroney**, Huntington Theatre Company, Wimberly Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St., Boston, 617-266-0800, $15–$70.

Oct. 18–30, **700 Sundays**, Broadway in Boston, The Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston, 866-523-7469, $50–$90

Oct. 21–Nov. 19, **A Number**, Lyric Stage Company, Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston, 617-437-7172, $20–$47

Nov. 4–Dec. 3, **Kiss of the Spider Woman**, SpeakEasy Stage Co., Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the BCA, 527 Tremont St., Boston, 617-933-8600, $40–$48 ($10 student rush).



Picasso's *Portrait of a Woman* shows in *Facets of Cubism* at the MFA

UPCOMING SHOWS

Sept. 6–Dec. 4, **Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration**, Addison Gallery of American Art, Chapel Avenue, Phillips Academy, Andover. 978-749-4015, free.

Sept. 21–Jan. 16, 2006, **Utopia, Utopia = One World, One War, One Army, One Dress** and **Momentum 5: Paul Chan**, ICA, 955 Boylston St., Boston, 617-266-5152, $7.

Sept. 23–Nov. 13, **Sol LeWitt and Paula Robison: Variations on a Theme**, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston, 617-278-5156, $10–$11.

Oct. 9–Jan. 16, 2006, **Winslow Homer: Making Art, Making History**, Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, 225 South Street, Williamstown, Mass., 413-458-2303, $10, free after Nov. 1.

Oct. 14–Dec. 11, **Glowlab: Open Lab, Art Interactive**, 130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge, 617-498-0100. Suggested donation: $5.

Oct. 15–July 23, 2006, **Taj Mahal: The Building of a Legend**, Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem, 866-745-1876, $13.

Nov. 25–March 5, 2006, **The Artful Teapot: 20th Century Expressions from the Kamm Collection**, Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem, 866-745-1876, $13.

Dec. 2–25, **Made in Palestine**, Zeitgeist Gallery and other locations. Details to be announced.

Dec. 7–April 16, 2006, **Facets of Cubism**, MFA, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-267-9300, $15.

Dec. 10–Nov. 2006, **Amusement Park**, Mass MoCA, 1040 Mass MoCA Way, N. Adams, 413-664-4481, $10.

BY JOEL BROWN

The edgiest items on the fall arts calendar probe the current global unrest and its unsettling psychological fallout. But, this being Boston, museumgoers also will be able to comfort themselves with Cubism and fancy teapots.

The Institute of Contemporary Art's dramatic, cantilevered new home under construction on the waterfront is the most exciting and visible piece of public art in the city. But until that opens sometime next year, the ICA will resort to camouflage at its current home in the Back Bay.

Utopia, Utopia = One World, One War, One Army, One Dress, by the Paris-based Thomas Hirschhorn, will address the current global tumult through the lens of camouflage dress, which has evolved from military necessity to urban fashion statement. The exhibition, opening in September, looks at the iconography and implications of camo garb in a mock natural history–museum exhibit, featuring dioramas, displays and timelines "rendered in foil, cardboard and packing tape."

As a sort of companion exhibit, the ICA will present **Momentum 5: Paul Chan**, featuring the Hong Kong–born artist's computer animation of a scene that might be New York on 9/11 or might be the Rapture.

"They both are very, very aware and very, very committed to trying to make sense of the current political situation," says Associate Curator Bennett Simpson. "Both as it's actually happening in terms of current events and also in terms of the kind of psychology that the current situation has produced."

Expect war, conflict and camouflage also to show up at an exhibit of contemporary art, **Made in Palestine**, planned for December at three Cambridge venues—the Zeitgeist Gallery, Club Passim and the First Church of Cambridge. Details, though, are still in flux. The show will be an offshoot of a larger one currently seeking a space in New York City, says organizer Samia Halaby. Roughly 50 prints, drawings and paintings by young artists from Gaza will be on display, Halaby says, and the Mideast situation "is all they deal with."

"It's not overtly political art. It's more about, this is the life they live," Halaby says, noting that subjects include "themes of death, martyrdom, injuries, pain, the land and perceptions of self."

You might call that interaction of people and place "psychogeography." That's the term, anyway, being used for a lighter and more fun exhibit set to open at Art Interactive in Cambridge in October. **Glowlab: Open Lab** will feature two months of projects that "explore movement in the urban environment in a playful way." This involves walking tours, a talking suitcase and a workshop in making clothes out of trash.

Those seeking a more traditional art experience will—no surprise—want to head over to the Museum of Fine Arts. On November 2, the museum opens **West African Gold: Akan Regalia from the Glassell Collection**, offering everything from swords to sandals to kente cloths from the goldsmiths and weavers of Ghana.

Then, in December, the Fenway institution rolls out a potential crowd-pleaser with **Facets of Cubism**, featuring 50 or more works by Picasso, Leger and more from 1905–1920, as Cubists were changing the art world. "You'll see less of a [single] style than an attitude or a frame of mind," says MFA assistant curator Tom Rassieur, "as you see the artists moving rapidly through a variety of styles."

That other Fenway institution, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, has been shaking up its once-staid approach with artist-in-residence and cross-disciplinary efforts. Beginning this month, the Gardner will feature a collaboration, **Variations on a Theme**, by conceptual artist Sol LeWitt and flutist Paula Robison, which was inspired by Mozart. LeWitt has created a bold, colorful, large-scale wall drawing. In front of it, at one time each day, Robison will perform flute masterpieces by Mozart and other composers. A schedule will be posted a day or so ahead on the Gardner's Web site.

Some of the year's most interesting exhibitions take place outside the city limits. The Addison Gallery at Phillips Andover Academy is offering **Chuck Close Prints: Process and Collaboration** beginning September 6, focusing on the artist's last three decades of printmaking.

The Peabody Essex Museum has two more traditional exhibits that will inspire many to drive or train up to its expanded venue in Salem. **Taj Mahal, the Building of a Legend**, opening in October, features approximately 40 paintings, watercolors, photographs and objects exploring the architecture and mystique of the endlessly beautiful Indian landmark. Also included is a 19-foot-high sculpture by Calcutta-born, Brooklyn-based Rina Banerjee, "Take me, Take me, Take me . . . to the Palace of Love," which is a steel-framed, minilandmark wrapped in pink Saran wrap.

The next month, the PEM will host **The Artful Teapot: 20th Century Expressions from the Kamm Collection**, a traveling exhibit of 250, well, teapots, exploring this "universal domestic icon" through traditional forms as well as through works by artists such as David Hockney.

A carefully planned drive up Route 2 late this year might be your best chance to experience the classic and the contemporary in a single swoop, if the contrast doesn't make your head spin.

In October, the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute in Williamstown will unveil **Winslow Homer: Making Art, Making History**, featuring 10 oils, 11 watercolors, 17 drawings and etchings and one photograph, along with approximately 120 rarely seen wood engravings, all from the Clarks' deep holdings.

Just down the road in North Adams, Mass MoCA will open a five-artist contemporary photo exhibit this month called **Regarding the Rural**. But the real excitement comes on December 10, when Stockholm-based provocateur Carsten Höller becomes the latest to take on MoCA's already legendary, football field–sized Building 5 gallery. His **Amusement Park** will include five or more actual amusement park rides slowed down—movement, light and sounds alike—to provide "an artificial time warp for the human senses." Which is what some would say all good art provides, of course.

Classical Music & Opera

BY KEITH POWERS

If James Levine's first full season with the **Boston Symphony Orchestra** caused a stir among classical music audiences—not an easy thing to do, after all—his second season will leave them apoplectic. The Afroed conductor turned the often-sleepwalking symphony, numb from nearly 30 years of enigmatic Seiji Ozawa–led performances, on its ear last year with some startlingly contemporary programming, astute rehearsing and consistently engaging concerts.

Season number two looks like more of the same, with 20th-century composers far outnumbering their periwigged counterparts from days of yore. More than half the music for the entire season was written after 1900—no other major orchestra in the world could make that programming claim.

Opening night offers an all-French program and includes the first opportunity to hear the Symphony Hall organ, refurbished last summer, in a major work. **Simon Preston** plays Saint-Saëns *Symphony No. 3, Organ*, a BSO signature piece that hasn't been performed in several decades.

The **Bank of America Celebrity Series** lives up to its moniker right off the bat, with classical music's most identifiable name and face, **Yo Yo Ma**, kicking off the season. Ma, the pride of Cambridge, plays an all-Bach program, the first concert in a glittering fall lineup that includes Cecilia Bartoli, Andras Schiff, Wynton Marsalis and Deborah Voigt. (The fall lineup also includes Arlo Guthrie, but we'll skip over that without comment.)

When conductor Gil Rose took over the reins of **Opera Boston** last season, the city's opera life received a long-needed artistic jolt. The founder and leader of **Boston Modern Orchestra Project**, an ensemble dedicated to the contemporary symphonic repertory, Rose brings the same ambitious programming to the opera rep. Opera Boston's three presentations this season offer seldom-heard works you won't find anywhere else in town. Things begin with Gian Carlo Menotti's Pulitzer Prize–winning *The Consul* at the Cutler Majestic Theatre. Joanna Porackova sings the lead in Menotti's political psychodrama.

And speaking of ambitious programming, **Dinosaur Annex** has been at it for a long time—31 years. The chamber ensemble, with composer/conductor Scott Wheeler at the helm and guesting contralto Ellen Rabiner, offers five works from the bedroom—"Sleeping, Waking, Dreaming" is the theme for opening night. Will they perform in pj's and nighties? Might be worth showing up just to find out.

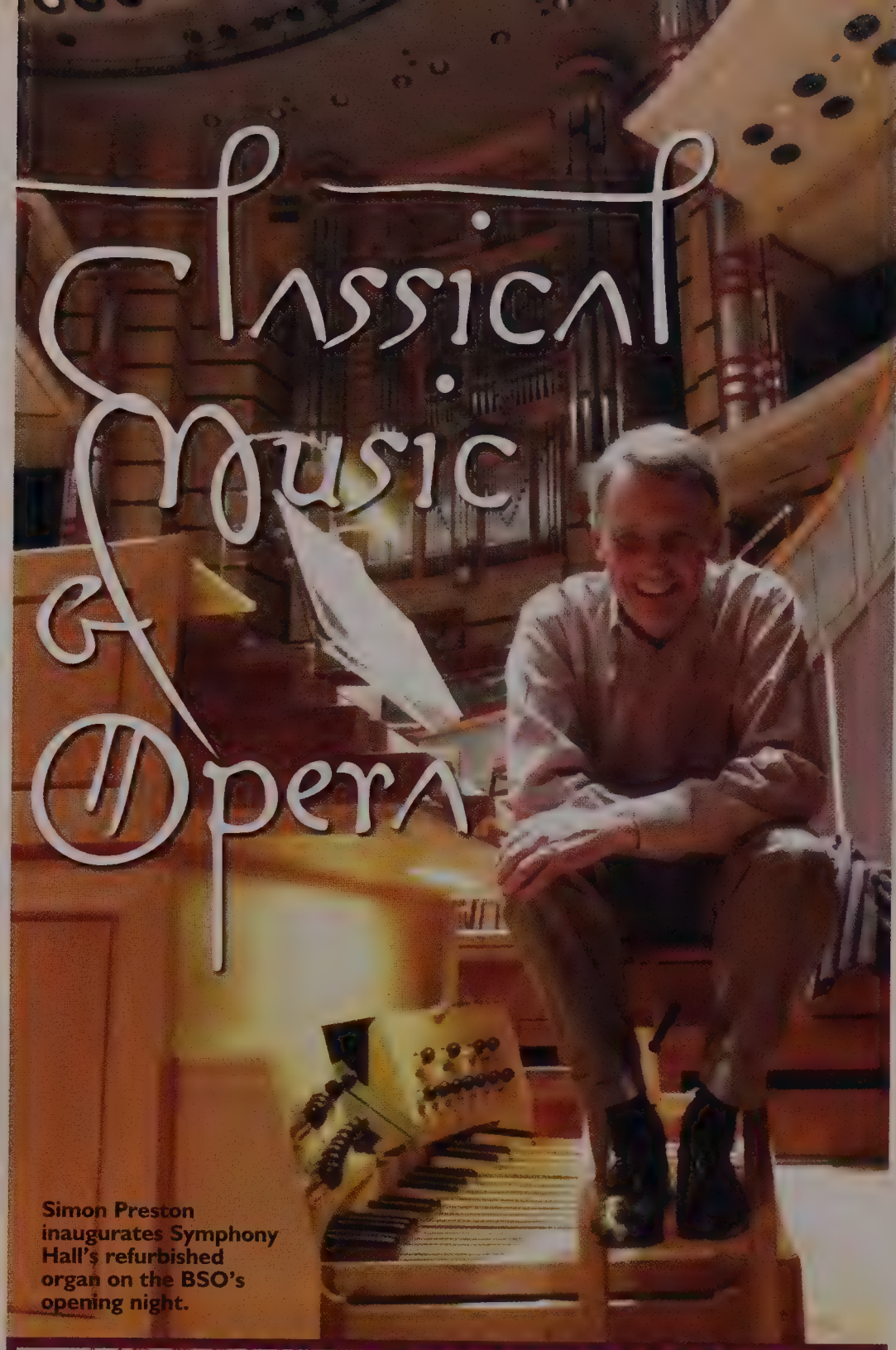
Of course, music doesn't have to be new to be good. **Emmanuel Music**, the architect of DiMaggio-like musical streaks—more than 30 years of Bach cantatas and seven years of Schubert's piano, vocal and chamber works—begins its second season in a five-year exploration of Robert Schumann's chamber music. Pianist Judith Gordon heads the bill, performing lieder with baritone David Kravitz and *Novelettes, Op. 21*. Performances take place in the Emmanuel Church library, attempting to re-create the original intimate atmosphere that would have surrounded the premieres of Schumann's chamber works.

And speaking of chamber music, the most venerable chamber for music in town must be the Tapestry Room at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Positively reeking of old-world charm with its French medieval tapestries, the hall hosts a young artists series on Saturdays in addition to the well-attended Sunday concert series. Best bet this fall: pianist **Seymour Lipkin**, offering an unusual program of Beethoven's variations on October 30. Concert tickets get you into the museum as well—a cultural two-for-one.

Chamber music has long been the calling card of the **Boston Chamber Music Society**, which programs a pleasing balance of contemporary works and old chestnuts. Opening concerts this fall—BCMS performs Fridays at Jordan Hall and Sundays across the river at Sanders Theatre—are no different. Well-known works by Beethoven (*Piano Trio in E-flat Major*) and Schubert (*String Quintet in C*) flank American composer Stephen Paulus' *Dramatic Suite for Flute, Violin Viola, Cello and Piano*. Violinist Lucy Chapman Stoltzman and cellist Wilhelmina Smith join the BCMS regulars for the concerts.

Shelley poetically asked, "If winter comes, can spring be far behind?" One might dare to paraphrase, "If *Messiah* is sung, can Christmas be far behind?" Of course not. For many, Handel's *Messiah* is a seasonal ritual, equally as important as maxing your credit cards or getting embarrassingly drunk at the office party. The **Handel & Haydn Society** began performing *Messiah* annually in 1854—think they've got it down yet?

Somehow, urbane music director Grant Llewellyn manages to get his players and singers to have at it with gusto each season, and this year should be no different, with a talented cast of soloists including soprano Awet Andemicael, tenor Nathan Granner, rising star alto Krista River and baritone Kevin Short. Impress your friends by rising to your feet during the "Hallelujah" chorus. It's a performance tradition—even though there's little evidence to the rumor that King George II began the practice by rising at the piece's London premiere in 1743. IB



Simon Preston inaugurates Symphony Hall's refurbished organ on the BSO's opening night.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Sept. 18, 7:30 pm, **Dinosaur Annex**, First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough St., Boston, 617-482-3852, $15–$20

Sept. 25, 5 pm, **Yo Yo Ma**, Bank of America Celebrity Series opening night, Symphony Hall, 300 Mass. Ave., Boston, 617-482-6661, $38–$78

Sept. 30, 6:30 pm; Oct. 1, 8 pm **Boston Symphony Orchestra**, James Levine conducting, Symphony Hall, 300 Mass. Ave., Boston, 617-266-1200, $29–$108

Oct. 14, 16, 7:30 pm, **Boston Chamber Music Society**, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (Oct. 14); Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (Oct. 16), 617-349-0086, $17–$46

Oct. 16, 4:00 pm, **Emmanuel Music**, Schumann Chamber Series, Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston, 617-536-3356, $23–$65

Oct. 21, 25, 7:30 pm; Oct. 23, 3 pm, **Opera Boston**, Gian Carlo Menotti's *The Consul*, Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston, 800-233-3123, $24–$99

Oct. 30, 1:30 pm, **Seymour Lipkin**, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston, 617-278-5156, $5–$20 (includes admission to galleries)

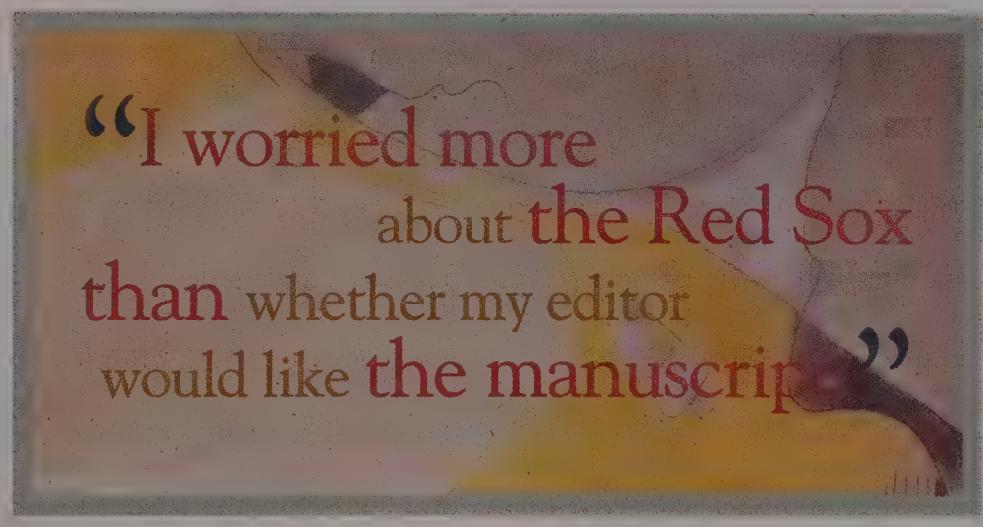
Nov. 27, 3:00 pm; Dec. 2, 7:30 pm; Dec. 4, 3:00 pm, **Handel & Haydn Society**, Handel's *Messiah*, Symphony Hall, 300 Mass. Ave., Boston, 617-266-4048, $25–$79

And I Still See Their Faces I ciągle widzę ich twarze

OLD HOLLYWOOD NEW ENGLAND

WRITING, TEACHING, BASEBALL. SUCH IS LIFE FOR LESLIE EPSTEIN. AND LIFE IS GOOD.

BY MICHAEL MALONE
PHOTOGRAPH BY TRACY POWELL



Novelist Leslie Epstein is, for all intents and purposes, royalty on both coasts. He grew up the son of a famous screenwriter—a self-proclaimed "spoiled Hollywood kid" who regularly saw the likes of Gregory Peck and Elizabeth Taylor pop in for dinner.

Living in the Boston area for nearly three decades, Epstein is, of course, father to Red Sox GM Theo Epstein—which probably means free drinks and choice restaurant tables (and, God willing, World Series tickets) around Boston for the rest of Leslie's life.

"I'm the only sandwich ever made where the meat is on the outside," Epstein jokes.

But that's not to say the excellence gene skipped him over. Like his generational bookends, Epstein has left an indelible mark on American culture: He's published nine works of fiction, including *King of the Jews*, *Ice Fire Water: A Leib Goldkorn Cocktail* and *San Remo Drive*. As the director of Boston University's Creative Writing Program, Epstein also has helped many aspiring novelists—from Arthur Golden (*Memoirs of a Geisha*) to Jhumpa Lahiri (*Interpreter of Maladies*), as well as local author Sue Miller—find their voices.

Epstein, 67, just finished work of fiction (he prefers not to call them novels) No. 10, yet to be titled. Set in Italy, it's a typically far-reaching tale: the story of an American architect who's selected to build a memorial celebrating Mussolini's triumph over Ethiopia in 1936. Upon completing the draft, Epstein jetted off to France for nearly three weeks—though he says he didn't find Paris as relaxing as he might have hoped.

"I worried more about the Red Sox than whether my editor would like the manuscript," he says. "The Sox went .500 while I was away. But the novel, thus far, is batting a thousand."

Epstein says he knew from an early age he'd be a writer. His father, Philip, and father's twin, Julius, penned the screenplays for such classic films such as *Casablanca*, *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *Yankee Doodle Dandy*—and made an unshakable impression on young Leslie. "I used to lie outside the door of our library and listen to my uncle Julie and my father as they wrote together—never before one in the afternoon and rarely after three, when they'd break for tennis," he says. "I'd hear one of the identical twins start a sentence and the other finish it and then the two join together in crystal-breaking laughter. It seemed to me then, as it does now, a fine way to live one's life."

After studying English at Yale and then anthropology at Oxford, Epstein studied to be a playwright at UCLA and also back at Yale. He taught English at Queens College in New York to cover his bills. He had some luck getting his plays produced at the college level, but the bigger stage eluded him. After finding better fortune selling short stories, Epstein eventually took on long-form fiction and sold his first book at age 36. After 13 years at Queens College, he took a teaching job at BU in 1978 and has been there ever since.

All the while, Epstein has been cranking out novels and rounding up critical praise—not to mention a Fulbright, a Guggenheim and three NEA grants. Of *King of the Jews*, the *New York Times* gushed, "A masterpiece that forged a boisterously new, morally intense vision of the Holocaust." While Jewish suffering is central to much of his work, Epstein's novels also can be wickedly funny. *San Remo Drive*, his lively roman à clef about growing up in Hollywood, is alternately heartbreaking and hysterical and never funnier than when Bartie, the fictional version of Epstein's younger brother, is on the page. Whether he's a child trashing the writer Thomas Mann's lawn jockey statue while screaming ethnic slurs in a skeleton Halloween costume or, years later, a teen, charming prostitutes in Tijuana, the shockingly self-absorbed Bartie is one of the most memorable characters in recent fiction.

After 40-plus years in academia, Epstein remains dedicated to the craft of writing for a number of reasons, one of them being his mortgage, he says. But there's more to it. "Contrary to appearances, I enjoy it," he says. "It is a great pleasure to see young writers begin to find themselves, their voices and their way through a world in which it is so difficult to publish."

One such writer is Foxboro resident Ha Jin, who's twice won the PEN/Faulkner Award (for *Waiting* and *War Trash*) and was a finalist for the Pulitzer. "I learned how to write fiction from him," says Jin, who spent two years in Epstein's program. "That was the beginning for me. He told us, as long as the book is good, it will get published—and that's a very positive message for beginning writers."

While Epstein says he's pleased that his son Theo's celebrity might have turned some on to his novels, he's reluctant to discuss his famous son, citing Theo's private nature. (In fact, he'd rather discuss his other children: Theo's twin, Paul, a social worker, and Anya, a writer/producer for television). He will say that he sensed a unique baseball brain in Theo at a young age. "When he was 9 or 10, we were watching the Sox when he said, 'Dad, that centerfielder better move three steps to the left,'" he recalls. "Sure enough, the next ball hit goes screaming by the fielder, two steps to his left."

The baseball passion—and intelligence—runs in the family. For Leslie, it was nurtured while watching the minor league Hollywood Stars as a kid, and it carries over to Fenway today. His favorite player from the 2005 Sox is typically atypical. "I think Edgar Renteria has the purest and most acute baseball instincts on the club," says Epstein. "He's the man I want up when we absolutely have to have a hit from the seventh inning on."

Living in Brookline, Epstein attends at least one game every home series, a handful of away contests and every game when the Yankees are in town. His dislike of all things pinstriped runs deep. "Might as well ask why do I dislike the Republican Party," he says. "Both are bullies, top dogs and are run by and represent the monied classes. The [Yankees' former] owner funneled illegal funds to Nixon, for heaven's sake. All you have to do is look at their bankers' pinstripes."

The Sox aren't the only thing Epstein loves about Boston. "J.P. Licks. Iggy's everything bagel. The view of the Hancock Building as I jog down Memorial Drive—thinning, slimming, vanishing, gone!" he says. "The lovely February weather. The wait to pay the parking ticket at the Kendall Theater garage. Roy Rubin, my doctor."

It's a far cry—not to mention a long flight—from Hollywood. But to Epstein, it's home. "Where else is there?" he asks. IB

CITGO
BEACON HILL

fiction contest winner

fear & shivering

BY A. MILLER

ILLUSTRATION BY BOB FLYNN

Eleven thousand years ago, when much of North America slept snugly beneath blankets of glacial ice, it was generally agreed that anyone living in Boston was insane. And even today, the only rational people who bother with the city do so in the summertime, when the snow melts down to a mere six inches and the penguins shuffle up to Maine. We can be reasonably confident, therefore, that anyone who makes a permanent home in this dark little metropolis is either a masochist or a madman.

As proof, let me tell you a story. In my youth I had the misfortune to earn a degree in the humanities, and it was not long before I was living on the streets of my hometown in utter destitution. Jobs were scarce, friends turned deaf ears and all day long I was hounded by student loan agencies. Finally, just when I had begun to contemplate graduate school, I encountered a gang of the vilest thugs I had ever seen, their heads bulging beneath hats emblazoned with a single, menacing letter.

The deal was struck quickly, and a week later I was at work in a sweatshop two miles beneath Lansdowne Street, silk-screening "Yankees Suck" T-shirts. It is the darkest chapter in the book of my life. I was allowed only one meal a day (half-eaten Fenway Franks and a vial of crushed Necco wafers), though I could rarely finish it. I thought often of escape but never had the courage to turn my thoughts into action. Never, that is, until one night in October, when my overseers became so distracted by their television sets that I managed to slip out a side door. The Red Sox had won the Series, and I had won my freedom.

After some scrounging I found a place of my own and a job spreading organic sea salt on the streets of Beacon Hill. The hours were long, the pay was terrible, but when I came home to the walk-in closet I shared with two lesbians, a defrocked priest, and a family of eight from Guatemala, I was happy. For once, things seemed to be going my way.

And then the snow came. It came teasingly at first: a few flurries here, a dozen feet there. But one day in January all the TV weathermen secretly boarded a flight to the South Pacific, and I was dispatched to Beacon Hill with an emergency ration of Fleur de Sel. Normally I would have taken the Green Line, because I enjoyed the extra three hours it gave me to reflect on my life, but since time was short, I opted for a bus.

Now, people disagree about the most effective method of suicide. Some advocate a pistol in the mouth; others argue for a pint of bourbon and sleeping pills. But most learned observers agree that driving in Boston is the surest, quickest and cruelest way to do oneself in. It's also good for causing heart attacks, breaking up marriages and inciting profanity. And in the middle of a hurricane-force blizzard, when the real maniacs hit the streets, you might as well take a bath with a toaster.

I wouldn't care to speculate, therefore, on how we avoided the trees and park benches in the Common, or by what supernatural means we crossed the frozen Charles. But I do remember very clearly the moment our bus leapt from the edge of the Tobin Bridge and hurtled through the snow-swollen air like a space capsule returning to Earth. We ricocheted between a few buildings, I believe, and tore through at least one hotel suite. It all ended in bursts of light and snow, a symphony of tearing metal and finally the sweet, silent comfort of unconsciousness.

I awoke to find my head and face covered with salt. A long, heavily diamonded hand was scooping it from my chest and applying it to the rim of a silver flask.

"It simply won't stick," said the owner of the hand. She was a tall woman, nicely proportioned and mostly synthetic, who spoke as if she'd just come back from one of Gatsby's garden parties. "How am I expected to make a margarita if the salt simply refuses to stick?"

I was lying on the ceiling of the bus, which was now the floor. The princess was hunched over me.

"I'm sorry..." I mumbled, but she waved her sparkling hand.

"Please, just be quiet. I cannot bear to hear you speak."

She drained the flask in one gulp and reached for her purse, which I first mistook for a baby cow whose internal organs had been replaced by tiny bottles of liquor. Over her shoulder I could see two more people: a fat, bearded man who was pacing back and forth, reading a book, and a small shrew of a woman in a Patriots sweatsuit. Everyone else was dead.

"Well..." I said uncertainly. "Is everyone...OK?"

No answer.

"I see. Well, does anyone know where we are?"

Because we were no longer in Boston. The bus windows, broken though they were, admitted only darkness. There was no sign of sky, of ground, even of snow. Only the blinking emergency lights gave illumination.

"Ahem!" said the fat man, peeking at me over the top of his book. "I'm trying to read, if you don't mind."

His beard, I noticed, was patchy and unkempt. His stringy hair had been cut seemingly at random, or perhaps by an animal. His suit was shabby and oddly shaped, and his feet were wedged into jelly sandals.

"You're a professor, I take it," I said.

He nodded. "Of literature."

I looked again at his sandals. "At Harvard?"

"Indeed."

"I see. Well, we've got a bit of a situation on our hands, Professor."

"Then you should wash them," he said, and returned to his book.

"Could you please try to prevent yourself from speaking?" Princess said, unscrewing another bottle cap. "I've a monstrous headache."

"Look," I said, "I know we're all under a lot of stress here, but does anyone know where we are?"

Princess scowled at me over the top of her flask. The Professor raised his book several inches until it covered his face. I turned in desperation to my third companion, who sat mutely on the floor, puffing at a cigarette.

"We're underground, dumbass," she said in a voice that was somewhere between a whisper and a death rattle. By the look of her, she could have shot bears with Teddy Roosevelt.

"Underground?" I said. "How do you know?"

In answer she reached through a nearby window, grabbed a clod of black earth (which I had mistaken for empty space), and threw it at my head.

"Ha!" said Princess, as I staggered backwards blindly. Shrew grabbed another handful and threw it at Princess, who dodged it artfully, keeping her flask perfectly level.

A fight ensued, of which I remember only a blur of images: Princess swinging her purse like a cudgel; Shrew trying to create a torch with her lighter and a miniature bottle of gin; the Professor blowing his nose on his tie. And then, with a terrible creak, the bus tilted to one side and fell another fifty thousand feet, into the very center of the Earth.

How we survived that second impact, I'll never know. But when I opened my eyes, there we were—Princess, Shrew, the Professor and myself—all heaped on the floor of a great underground cavern. To our

right was a boiling river of lava.

"Excuse me!" cried a voice behind us.

I struggled into a sitting position, shaking my head to clear it.

"Excuse me, what are you doing here?" the voice cried out again.

I turned to find a portly little man scampering in our direction. He was impeccably dressed in a pinstriped suit, a blood-red tie and a very thin mustache. He reminded me of a hotel concierge.

"What are you doing here?" said the man. "I don't have you on my schedule!"

"I'm sorry, sir," I said, getting to my feet. "We were on a bus, and I think—"

"I can see that," he said, pointing to the ceiling of the cavern, where the back portion of our bus was hanging inelegantly. "But why did you drive it down here?"

"I wasn't driving it," I said. "I was trying to get to Beacon Hill."

"Beacon Hill?" said the man. "In Boston?"

"Yes."

"You're lying. I happen to know that a blizzard of apocalyptic proportions is hitting Boston as we speak."

"It's not apocalyptic," said Shrew, lighting another cigarette. "I've seen worse."

"Pardon me," said the Professor, "but is there a library somewhere in this cavern? Or perhaps a study?"

"A library?" said the man. "In here? Do you know where you are, sir?"

The Professor shook his head.

"You are in Hell!" he cried. "And I am the Dark Prince himself, Lucifer!"

"Ah, I see," said the Professor, frowning. "Well, just a quiet room would do, I guess. But I'll need a writing desk, and a sheaf of A4 paper—the British kind."

"Yes, and I will require some salt," said Princess. "Sticky salt, too, not the common stuff this hoodlum gave me."

Shrew tapped Satan on the shoulder. "I'd stab her in the neck with my pitchfork, if I were you."

Now, I've never had much use for organized religion, or organization of any kind, for that matter. But even I, irreligious as I am, never expected to see the Devil himself at a loss for words. I thought that he, in his infinite evilness, could never be caught off guard or dumbfounded, except possibly by one of the Holy Trinity, or perhaps by two of them together. But there he was, gaping stupidly at my three companions, who seemed thoroughly unconcerned that they were now in his clutches.

And then, gradually, a smile began to spread across Satan's lips.

"You," he said slowly, his smile growing ever wider, "you are just the sort of people I've been looking for."

"We are?" I said.

"Yes," said the Devil. "You see, my lieutenant has recently left me to become a traffic warden, and I'm in need of a replacement. Who better to become my most loyal servant than someone so brazen, so callous, so cutthroat that they can survive in the one place in the universe more wicked than Hell itself—Boston!"

Princess nodded. "A reasonable conclusion, but which of us will you choose?"

"Ah, well, I must pick the evilest, of course."

"And how will you decide that?" asked Shrew.

The Devil shrugged. "You'll simply have to convince me."

"But what about the other three," I asked, "the ones you don't pick?"

"Well, those three must die a terrible and agonizing death." He turned to the Professor. "You sir: convince me that I should choose you as my henchman."

"Me?" said the Professor. "I can't. I'm too busy."

Satan glanced at his glittering golden watch. "You have twenty-five seconds."

"Fine," said the Professor, sighing petulantly. "Well, first, I suppose, we must begin by considering what you mean by 'evil.' Now, evil is a very complex word—it, along with 'good,' forms one of the most fundamental binary oppositions of our culture, going back to our earliest Judeo-Christian roots, and transforming over time—"

"That will do," said the Devil, holding up his hand. With a flick of his wrist he shot a jet of flame from his cufflink, incinerating the Professor where he stood. "Now, who's next?"

No one spoke. For a moment I thought my companions were as horrified by the Professor's murder as I, but then Princess slunk forward and draped a long orange arm around the Devil's neck.

"Look no further, my Prince," she said sultrily, and began to whisper in his ear.

"Mmm," the Devil murmured. "Yes, I see. Oh, that would be quite nice. And then? Indeed, I wouldn't be averse to that. Ah, you have a most exquisite mind, my lady. Fertile, devious, nefar—"

He would have said more, but at that moment Shrew appeared at Princess's side and, grabbing the younger woman by the hair, hurled her into the river of molten lava.

"My goodness!" the Devil exclaimed, running to the bank of the river to watch Princess boil. "What a remarkable display of unprovoked, unconscionable malice!"

Shrew shrugged. "I've done worse."

"I do not doubt it, my lady," he said, smiling.

And then, like two lions who have just cornered a retarded gazelle, Satan and Shrew turned their eyes on me.

"Well?" said the Devil.

"Well?" said Shrew, lighting a cigarette on the Professor's still-smoldering ashes.

"Well..." said I, barely mustering the power of speech. What could I say? Here I was, in the deepest pit of Hell, staring into the satanic eyes of the two evilest creatures in the universe. Who could possibly save me? Certainly not God—he made it a policy never to visit the Devil's turf. But who else had the power to reach into the very depths of Hades and pluck an innocent man to safety?

Suddenly, as if in answer, the rock wall behind us collapsed with a deafening boom. The dust cleared, revealing a squadron of trucks, tractors, wheel loaders and hydraulic excavators stretching endlessly into the distance.

"Dammit!" cried the Devil, stamping his foot. "Not again!"

"What?" I said. "What's happening?"

He shook his head. "The Big Dig. Ever since I withdrew my funding, they've hounded me night and day."

Moments later he and a workman were nose-to-nose, arguing about permits and proper drilling zones. I stayed back, keeping a safe distance from Shrew, who had begun drinking her way through the tiny bottles in Princess's purse, but close enough to get the workman's attention.

"Are you going back to the surface?" I said, once he and the Devil had ended their shouting match. "Can you take me with you?"

The workman shrugged. "You got any money?"

"I've got some salt," I said.

"Kosher?"

"Organic."

He frowned. "I guess that'll do. You can ride with me."

I hopped happily into the tractor he indicated, not pausing to look back at Satan and Shrew. I can only hope that, when she finally did murder him and take her rightful place as Queen of the Damned, the Holy Trinity reexamined their battle plan for Armageddon.

"Hey kid," said the workman, once we were on our way, "where do you want me to take you?"

"Logan," I said, without hesitation. "I'm going to Fiji." **iB**

Most learned observers agree that driving in Boston is the surest, quickest and cruelest way to do oneself in. It's also good for causing heart attacks, breaking up marriages and inciting profanity.

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Always Enjoy Responsibly.

the secret lives of writers

Karl Iagnemma works with robots at M

HOBBIES KEEP LOCAL SCRIBES INSPIRED.

BY RICCO VILLANUEVA SIASOCO PHOTOGRAPHS BY MATTHEW KALINOWSKI

Imagine this: You've just sold your first novel and received a huge advance for your second book. Your sole responsibility every morning, when you toss the white sheets off your comfy bed, is to write and write. And then write some more.

For aspiring writers, this might sound like heaven. But for those lucky few who actually are earning a living putting pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard), the reality of nonstop writing time ain't all that it's cracked up to be.

"Writing full time can become a little suffocating and *Shining*-ish," says Matthew Pearl, author of the best-selling novel *The Dante Club* (Random House, 2003).

Like the devilish Jack Nicholson character who develops a deadly case of cabin fever in *The Shining*, Pearl finds that concentrating on writing can be dangerous, "especially when you're really immersed in a project, and it seems like it's the only important thing. And you're not seeing that many people, because part of your job description is being locked up inside."

Pearl found himself in this isolated scenario following the overwhelming success of *The Dante Club*. So instead of walking in Nicholson's footsteps and taking a hatchet to his family, Pearl found a healthier alternative: He took the T to his favorite animal shelter. For more than two years, he has been a volunteer for the Animal Rescue League of Boston in the South End.

"One day I asked if I could help write the cat 'stories,' which convert each cat's information and stats into a first-person narrative format on a colorful piece of paper. (For example, 'I'm Mindy, a 3-year-old Siamese mix who needs a safe, happy new home...') I started doing them whenever I came in."

Writing about cats isn't easy, Pearl jokes. "Sometimes you don't have enough time to get to know all the quirks of the kitties, and some of the quieter ones really don't give you material to put together your best prose. As a writer, you're always trying to avoid clichés, but you do

sometimes resort to lines like, 'and I'd love to have a warm spot of sunlight to curl up in,' because with cats, that's always true."

Who says an actor can't write? Or that a writer can't act? For fiction writer and PEN New England executive board member Elizabeth Searle, all the world's a stage, and she is a player, not merely a writer.

Before publishing her acclaimed story collection *My Body to You* (U. Iowa Press, 1993) and first novel, *A Four-Sided Bed* (Graywolf, 1998), Searle's love was hamming it up in front of the camera. "After graduating from high school, I auditioned for and was signed by a Phoenix-based talent agency called Plaza Three. My audition tape was a scene from *A Chorus Line* and a commercial for chocolate Bavarian pie."

Though she chose to pursue her writing full time, Searle hasn't completely shaken the acting bug. Soon she'll appear in the film version of *Celebrities in Disgrace*, an adaptation of her most recent story collection (Graywolf, 2001). The upcoming shoot will take place in Seattle, and she'll possibly play a newscastress "who winds up being the heroine's voice of doom."

Even when simply reading her work, Searle says she experiences "a natural ham's high" under the spotlight. "Sometimes all that nervous energy boomerangs on me and literally knocks me out." She points to an unexpected side effect of a live audience: Twice during literary readings, she has fainted.

As for future gigs, Searle will put her acting chops to work in *Tonya and Nancy: The Opera* at Tufts University next fall—she wrote the opera's libretto and has a singing role. She's not worried about the reviews of the one-act opera based on the Nancy Kerrigan scandal; if she fails as an actress, she'll have the pride of knowing her words provided lyrics for the whimsical opera.

For many, the words "robot" and "fiction" in the same sentence conjure up the pages of an H.G. Wells novel. But for Cantabrigian Karl Iagnemma (whose quirky, lovable story collection *On the Nature of Human Romantic Interaction* was published by Dial Press in 2003), robots happen to be his not-so-secret life away from writing. Iagnemma has been connected with the Department of Mechanical Engineering at MIT since 1995, first as a graduate student and then as a research scientist.

His love of robots took root when he was an undergraduate at the University of Michigan. For his senior design project, he built a four-legged walking robot. "I vaguely remember imagining that the end result would be a lovable (albeit metallic) house pet, minus the litterbox." All did not go as planned: "My robot's main talent was that it could stand very, very still."

Fortunately, Iagnemma's had more success when tapping the creative energy of the robot world for his fiction. "I tend to write about science and scientists, so I often draw ideas from the world of research. MIT is a particularly rich place for meeting potential characters, as you might imagine...."

Iagnemma finds parallels between the public research he conducts at MIT and his more introspective creative work. "Like writing, you fall into spells where time seems to disappear—you look up, and everyone else has gone home, and all the windows are dark."

Elizabeth Graver searches for treasures among the trash.

Matthew Pearl communes with cats at the Animal Rescue League.

Roslindale novelist Scott Heim, author of the lyrical *In Awe* (Harper Collins, 1997), has discovered the perfect antidote to writer's block: "I just go on little road trips and search for things that I know are worth money."

The peculiar hobby began in 2003 when Heim discovered his secret passion while taking care of his ailing mother in Kansas, where he grew up. "I had no income and wasn't doing any freelance writing, so in between bouts of taking care of my mom, I would drive to Midwest thrift stores and pawn shops and find rare, out-of-print stuff on CD and vinyl. Then I'd turn around and sell things, music I'd often bought for a dollar or less, for upwards of 100 bucks a pop. I once sold a New Age CD for $160."

This literary music lover was able to bring his two passions together in a collaboration with his favorite underground band, the Cocteau Twins. The group wrote the original soundtrack for the recent film adaptation of his first novel, *Mysterious Skin* (Harper Perennial reissue, 2005), which stars Oscar-nominated actress Elisabeth Shue and young actor Joseph Gordon-Levitt (of *Third Rock from the Sun* fame).

As he turns to new projects, Heim continues to find catharsis in his secret passion of selling his rare finds online. "The hobby became kind of an obsession—I took the grief and confusion I was feeling in my personal life and transferred it over."

Like Heim, Elizabeth Graver—author of the acclaimed novels *Awake* (Henry Holt & Company, 2004), *The Honey Thief* (Harvest Books, 2000) and *Unravelling* (Harvest Books, 1999)—often escapes from her work through a (slightly grimy) form of scavenging: On garbage days in Somerville and Newton, she's been known to "climb into Dumpsters on a few occasions," and she says she's a yard sale addict, even "frequenting the 'swap table' at our town dump."

Graver's secret life as a junk collector differs from Heim's hobby in scope and intent: Instead of bringing a profit, her finds have provided fodder for her work by revealing their own mysteries: "I found the massive oak desk where I write on the curbside in Somerville some 10 years ago. When I found it, it was painted green. As I began to strip the paint, I uncovered a tin plaque that said Property of the University of Michigan. As I took off more paint, I found another plaque: Property of the US Army."

Graver composes the bulk of her novels at this recycled oak desk, which seems to her a physical embodiment of her writing. "I love how it is full of stories it will never tell." IB

Black wool dress with silk lining, $2,600; black suede flower belt, $328. Both by Marc Jacobs at Saks Fifth Avenue. Red and black silk pump with stone, by Jimmy Choo, $565 at Gretta Luxe. Diamond link bracelet, $9,400; diamond tennis bracelet, $9,500; white gold diamond ring, $15,500; smoky quartz diamond earrings by Pietra, $6,000; espresso yellow gold necklace by Yossi Harari, $3,400. All at Persona Jewelry.

in TUNE

navigate the fashion circus in these fresh fall finds.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Pink and silver tulle strapless cocktail dress by Escada, $3,400 at Saks Fifth Avenue. White silk scarf head wrap by Alessandro del Acqua, $175 at Gretta Luxe. Willow bark, citrine and quartz necklace by Simon Alcantara, $3,000; pave diamond earrings by Gary Shteyman, $1,500. Both at Persona Jewelry+.

Tweed jacket, $2,695; matching skirt, $535. Both by Moschino at Saks Fifth Avenue. Triple strand yellow gold necklace, $1,500, and yellow gold lariat (worn as bracelet), $4,900, both by Yossi Harari; diamond tennis bracelet by Capri, $21,000; necklace (worn as hair piece) by Emily Bider, $280; emerald and yellow gold earrings by Amanda Linn, $2,400; yellow gold spessartine garnet ring with diamonds by Gary Shteyman, $2,750. All at Persona Jewelry +

Models: Marsha and Ol

Hair: Gretchen Monah
for G Sp

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Ringling Brothers a
Barnum & Bailey Circ
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Gretta Lux
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504 Commonwealth Av
617-266-30

Saks Fifth Avenu
Prudential Cente
617-262-85

Black shearling with astrakhan and macramé inserts, $5,305; leopard printed stretch canvas skirt, $615. Both by Roberto Cavalli at Saks Fifth Avenue. White silk scarf by Alessandro del Acqua, $175 at Gretta Luxe. Metallic heel with beading, by Jimmy Choo, $790 at Gretta Luxe. South sea pearl, willow bark and citrine necklace by Simon Alcantara, $3,000; yellow gold earrings with pearls and diamonds by Capri, $25,900; yellow gold bead ring with diamonds $26,000; vintage bead and silk necklace (worn as head wrap) by Emily Bider, $240. All at Persona Jewelry+

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MOPSY

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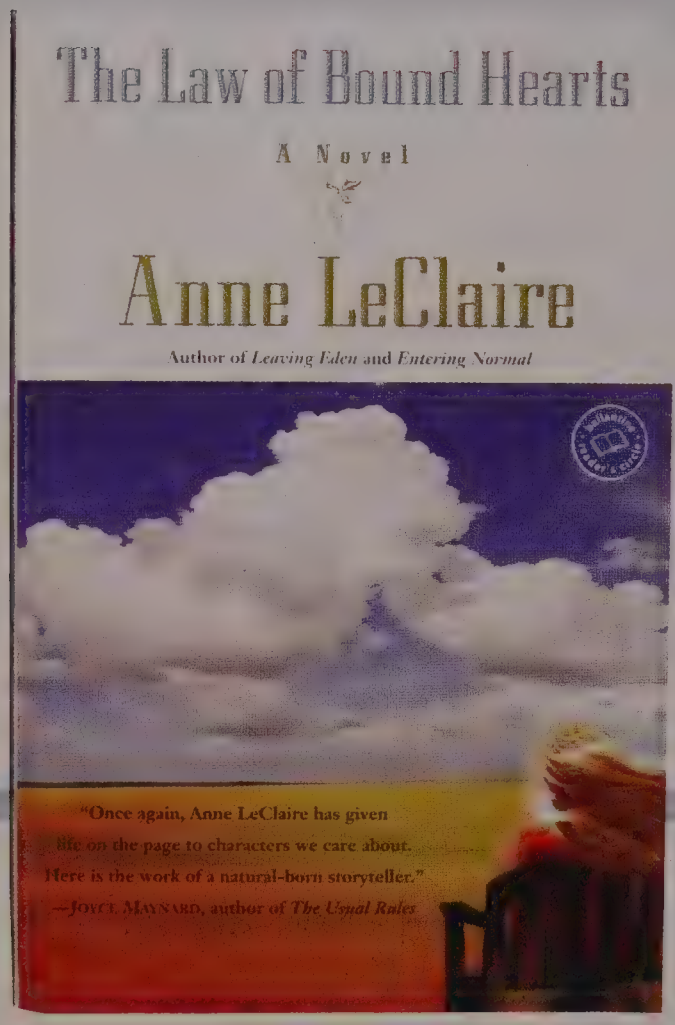
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



SISTERHOOD IS BEAUTIFUL—SOMETIMES

Anne LeClaire of Cape Cod, author of *Entering Normal*, has written *The Law of Bound Hearts*, a novel about estranged sisters in need of reconciliation, pronto.

Anyone who has ever had a close and loving relationship with a sister that at some point foundered, even briefly, will relate to *The Law of Bound Hearts*. Libby, originally the more daring sibling, wraps Sam in a tight sisterly embrace during their childhood. Later, growing into the more staid of the two, Libby marries and has kids, while single Sam runs a cake-decorating business. Things go awry, with Libby as the bad guy, and the two are cut off for six years, until Libby needs something from her sister: a kidney. As Libby marks time undergoing dialysis, the sisters' relationship twists and turns, taking on new dimensions. Bitterness, neediness and the desire for forgiveness in a time of unusual urgency both hurry and tantalizingly slow the process. Sam finds a wonderful guy who has done his own forgiving of a negligent father, and this love affair introduces a delectable note into a bad situation. Libby, initially cynical toward the spiritual uplift she sees among her fellow patients, comes to value her seemingly ticking-away life with more grace and gratitude, serendipitously making new, unexpected connections. The book is romantic and graceful, with a twisting plot.

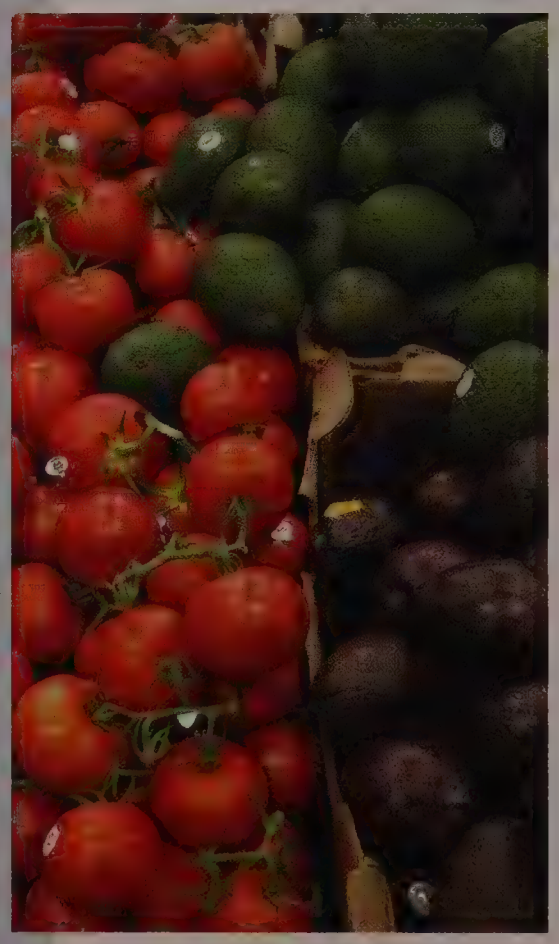
PAINTING ON TOP OF THE WORLD

The Katherine Martin Widmer School of Painting offers painting classes for all ages and levels. The next session of 10-week classes starts on September 26, and the school provides all materials from Charrette. At 40 Quincy St., Somerville (617-628-0508). Kids and teens, $85; adults, $125.

In a magical house in Somerville that goes up, up, up past flower-decked porches, Katherine Martin Widmer runs her famous school. In the third floor schoolroom, students sit around closely packed tables and paint from pictures, internal inspiration or small models like wooden marionettes. An inspirer, with a knack for connecting with some sweet spot in her students—some vulnerability or hunger—Widmer specializes in bringing out the talents and artistic preoccupations of kids, teenagers, doctors, lawyers and blue-collar workers, all in a merry jumble. "I ask a lot of questions," she says, "and not just about art." And the paintings that emerge cover a wide range. Some are realistic, others dreamy, abstract or bold. Sometimes, painters here incorporate words, poetic or questioning, into their pieces. Painting may be an old or renewed love for students or a surprising new way to branch out. While building students' technical and creative confidence, Widmer works with each one's creative needs. She has encouraged young students who have returned for years, finding inspiration and a sanctuary here.

TAKE A SHOPPING TRIP TO THE '70S

The Harvest Co-Op Market, at 581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580), and 57 South St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-1667), has good food in the true organic spirit and offers membership, too.



The earthy, socially conscious world of the food co-ops of yore still exists and indeed has continually since 1971. It's a place where people still believe in legumes, herbal supplements and other vitamins, and giving back to the community. As an equity member, you can join for $200 or a modest $20 yearly membership and may work here two or three hours a week and get a discount (though some admirably even return the savings to benefit community causes like affordable housing and homeless shelters). But anyone can shop here. Workers chat philosophically about vegetables over their attractive produce—purple beans, eggplant, white asparagus, the lusciously delicate mermaid's green hairdo of seaweed. And shoppers, Birkenstocking uprightly through the ages, buy in bulk, cruising intently among such differentiated wares as black soy beans, amaranth, buckwheat, chickpeas and potato flour. Needless to say, this is the land of the organic beef, the fish is nonfarmed, and it's all cruelty-free. Thick, green, healthy spirulina- and berry-saturated drinks bedeck the freezers. The market goes to great lengths to explain the philosophy and politics of small farming and biodiversity in its flyers. And the shelves of vitamins and exotically named herbal and homeopathic items are tended by helpful staffers. Keep an eye out for sherbet-colored hairdos in the checkout line.

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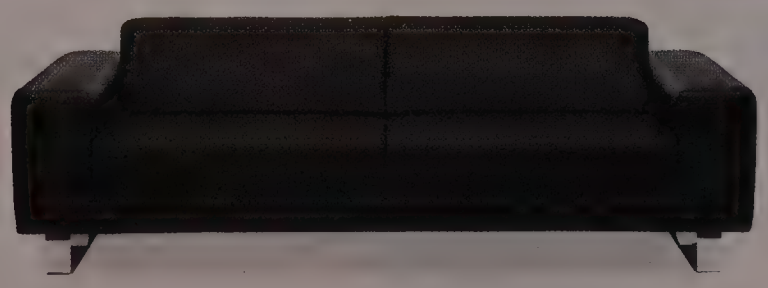

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IN THIS SECTION: Review: Tanjore Dish: Ashmont Grill, West Side Lounge
Tasty Tidbit: East Coast Grill's 20th Anniversary

REVIEW

A SPICE OF LIFE

Tanjore takes diners on a culinary journey with its authentic cuisine.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Readers of Thomas L. Friedman, superlative columnist for *The New York Times*, cannot help but have an enhanced appreciation of the dynamism and entrepreneurial energy of 21st-century India. Friedman and others have written of how the "flattening" of the world through communication and information systems technology has catapulted the Indian subcontinent into becoming an incipient economic superpower. At the same time, American consciousness and appreciation of Indian culture and cuisine have proceeded apace, and nowhere more so than in Greater Boston.

Boston and Cambridge have long had established Indian restaurants, but a new wave of smaller places has achieved recognition within the last several months for their well-conceived, authentic, delicious creations that cover the Indian gastronomic landscape from north to south and east to west. Two of these grace the area around Harvard Square in Cambridge—one of them, Tanjore, on Eliot Street, and the other, Tamarind Bay, just opposite Winthrop Square. I first thought of reviewing them in a single piece, but I soon realized that the variety and excitement of their food deserve independent reviews; this week, Tanjore, with Tamarind Bay to follow in a few weeks.

Chicken saagwala, tender chicken cooked with spinach and fenugreek leaves

TANJORE
18 Eliot St., Cambridge
(617-868-1900)

HOURS Mon.–Sun., 11:30 am–3 pm, 5–11 pm
RESERVATIONS suggested
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING yes
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

A stone's throw from the Charles Hotel, Tanjore has two small, nicely appointed dining rooms joined by an arched door. Yellow walls are decorated with miniature Hindu shrine doors of carved, reddish brown sandalwood and slightly larger imitation ivory doors, also intricately carved, replicating the portals of Mogul imperial palaces. Simple banquettes with vinyl bench seats and fabric backs line the walls, while simple wooden tables are set with crisp white cloth napkins. A small bar just inside the storefront's façade seats four patrons on stools and another four at high cocktail tables. The entire restaurant accommodates about 75.

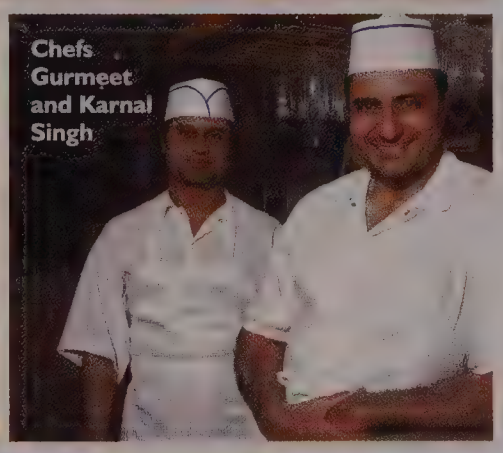
Illustrating the diversity of Indian cuisine, the menu is divided into predominantly geographic categories—south, eastern and central, coastal, and north. The 10 listed appetizers, which include several familiar items, do not disclose their geographic origins. Samosas ($3.95), triangular pastries with a moist and savory stuffing of peas and potatoes, suffered from tough, dry pastry wrapping. The onion bhaji ($3.95) proved far better, a delectable, aromatic treat. These irregularly shaped onion fritters were rolled in gram flour (made from chickpeas), seasoned with cumin (a relative of the carrot, that almost herblike vegetable), and deep fried. Aloo tikki ($3.95), potatoes pureed with other vegetables, also flavored with cumin, emerged from sautéing with a golden brown, delicate crust. Most interesting and exotic among the appetizers, dhokla-patra ($3.95)—which comes from western India, our waiter informed us—combined steamed gram-flour bread and "patra" leaves (a relative of tea, perhaps) compressed into a dense, hauntingly flavored cake with black mustard seeds.

Moving to the main courses, I chose the familiar chicken korma ($11.95). Served in a small, round, copper casserole with attractive brass handles, its tender chunks of chicken came bathed in a sauce of cashew nut puree and yogurt with a remarkably engaging blend of spices and herbs. Tanjore's kormas, a northern Indian standard, came with rice and dal, a mild lentil soup served in a small separate bowl, which for the spicier and hotter offerings—the korma not one of them—provided a soothing, cooling counterpoint. Another northern Indian dish, ra rah lamb ($13.95), simmered tender lamb in pleasant herbs and spices, but it faded from my memory after I tasted Tanjore's Bombay sali boti ($13.95). Named for India's famous western city (now renamed Mumbai), this dish combined succulent hunks of lamb and a tantalizing sauce rendered sweet by apricots and savory by fresh ginger. Like the other casseroles, it was served with a generous bowl of marvelously fragrant basmati rice, each long, feathery grain of which emerged wholly distinct, elegant in its lightness—the polar opposite of Thai sticky rice.

From the southern Indian selections, the baigan bhurta ($10.95), eggplant grilled then mashed and simmered with tomatoes, onions and provocative spices, exemplified vegetarian food at its best, full-bodied and satisfying yet relatively light and healthful. Southern India is also famous for its dosas, crepes made with rice and lentils. Tanjore's kheema dosa ($9.95) made an extraordinary impression the moment it arrived at the table. Almost 18 inches in diameter, this golden brown crepe, at once crisp and soft, had been rolled into a cylinder and stuffed with intensely flavorful ground lamb, potatoes, onions and spices. It extended far over the edges of the large plate on which it was served. Its moist filling, while spicy, was not fiery. That element was contributed by the separate bowl of idli sambhar, a hot and spicy lentil stew with carrots, beans and tomatoes—a minestrone like Mama would have made if she were from Bangalore instead of Bologna. The accompanying grated coconut and yogurt chutney hit the spot, either by itself or mixed with the mint chutney that graces the table from the beginning to the end of the meal. Shrimp jalfrezi ($13.95), from Bengal in eastern India bordering Bangladesh, came in one of Tanjore's signature brass-handled copper casseroles. It contained six jumbo shrimp with crunchy texture and good flavor in a robust sauce of red and green bell pepper strips, thin onion slices and tomato,

Tandoori chicken served with salad and raita

Baigan bhurta—grilled eggplant stewed with tomatoes, onions and spices



Chefs Gurmeet and Karnal Singh

Dosa—a large crepe made with rice and lentils served with coconut chutney and sambhar (lentil stew).

seasoned with cumin, coriander, turmeric, red chilies and mustard seed. This dish supplied the heat that was lacking in many of Tanjore's other offerings, making the small cup of dal that accompanied it especially welcome.

No meal at an Indian restaurant would be complete without a tandoori preparation, meat or fish baked in a closed clay vessel. Tanjore's tandoori chicken ($11.95), cooked and served on the bone, consisted of four generous cuts of chicken, two hindquarters and a split breast, whose moistness and succulent flavor proved once again that chicken on the bone trumps boneless chicken every time.

Tanjore's bread ran the gamut from naan to poori and paratha. Of the naans, the peshwari, a clay-oven-baked bread stuffed with nuts and raisins and enriched with butter, was terrific—slightly sweet, moist and light. Spinach poori ($3.50) a deep-fried whole wheat bread puffed up like a blimp, and spinach paratha ($3.95), with spicy green rectangles denser in texture, all hit the spot.

While a selection of domestic and imported beers, including India's Kingfisher, provided Indian food's usual accompaniment, Tanjore's wine list offered a surprisingly good (and reasonably priced) alternative. The Graffigna Malbec ($21) showed excellent structure, with forward fruit and good acid balance. The 1996 Ribera del Duero Fontespines Riserva ($25) almost blew me away with its stunning flavor, softened tannins and fine finish. Its bargain tariff made me suspect that it had rested in Tanjore's cellar for some time and that its price reflected the acquisition cost of a bygone era.

Attentive, solicitous and informed service complemented the first-rate food and drink. The waiters fielded my numerous questions as I negotiated the lengthy, varied menu, and their suggestions proved winners. It was easy to see why so many of Tanjore's tables were filled on all three of my mid-week evening visits. IB

"...the pizza is to die for; you could faint just describing the flavor of the sauce, and the crust puts you over the edge."

— Jack Welch, *Winning*

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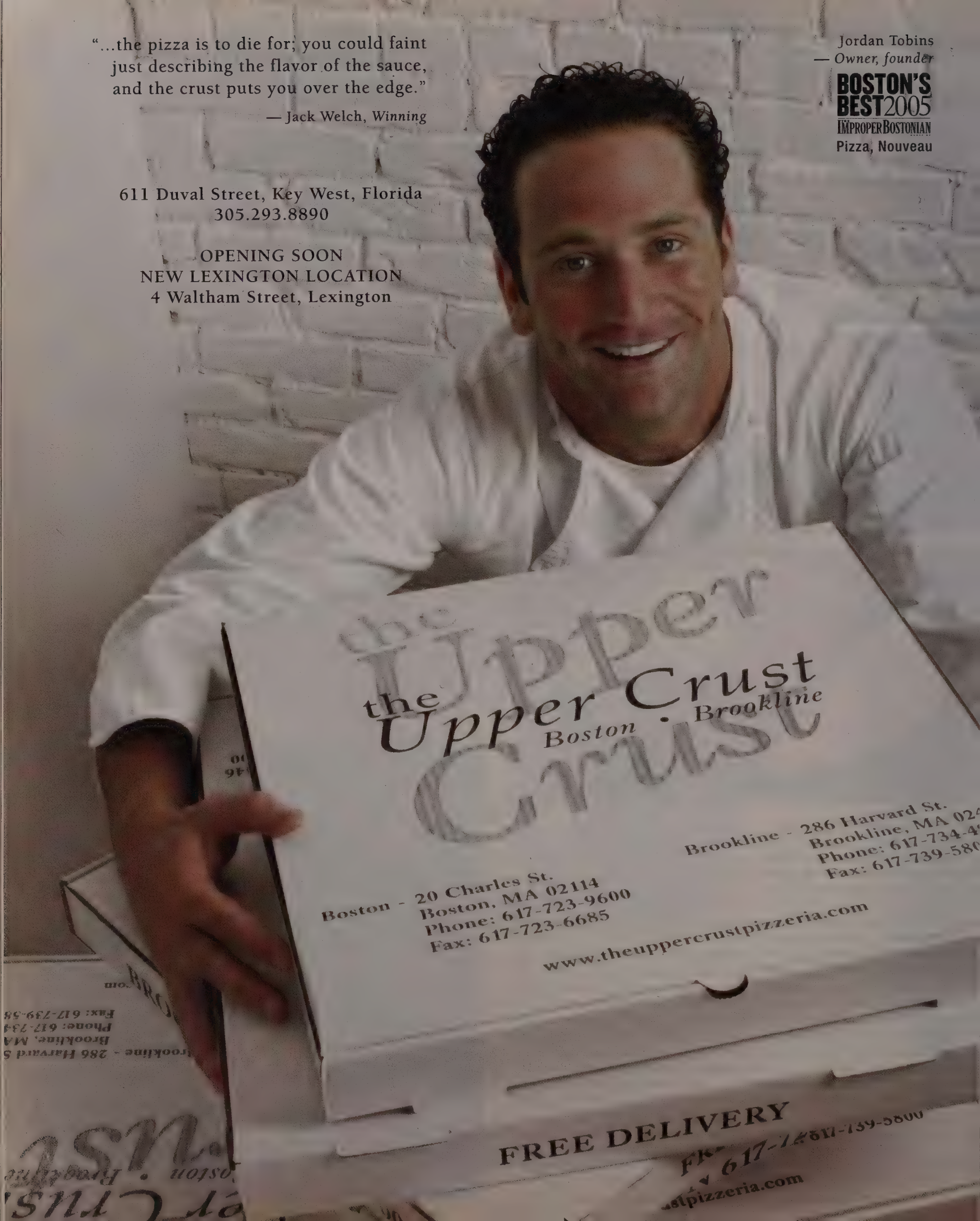

DISH

Love Thy Neighborhood Restaurant

Nibbles for neo-neighbors

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

When it comes to restaurants, some are born neighborly, some achieve neighborliness and some have neighborliness thrust upon them. An authentic neighborhood-restaurant identity can't be faked; just think of the cringe-inducing advertising of Olive Garden and Applebee's. Now stop thinking about those two, and consider, for example, the **West Side Lounge** in Cambridge, on Mass. Ave. between Harvard and Porter squares.

With its low-key decor, low-profile (but very high-talent) chef, and stunningly reasonable menu prices (a succulent hangar steak on a heap of frites with three-pepper aioli is $18), the West Side Lounge is solidly positioned as a neighborhood hangout for locals who appreciate the flavors of a setting without a "scene." Chef **Mark Gaudet**, who acknowledges having an "extravagant" palate, prides himself on coaxing luxuriant tastes from simple, fresh ingredients. That hangar steak is an inexpensive cut of Hereford beef, deeply flavored from a 42-hour marinade in the walk-in. When it's ready for the kitchen, it's placed under a sign that reads "Good to Go." Until then, it's positioned under a sign that warns "Don't F-ing Touch." The steak's a great choice after Gaudet's signature salad: a round of tangy warm goat cheese draped with thin slices of sweet, crunchy Asian pear, dotted with crispy candied pecans and finished with a handful of tender mache lettuce and sweet balsamic vinaigrette.

The self-taught Gaudet, who's been leading the West Side Lounge kitchen for several months now, grew up helping his father run the **Forest Cafe** next door, and simply loves to cook. To cook for as many people as possible, "we try to keep it affordable for our customers," he says. "A good chef doesn't need a lot of money to make good food."

Chef Mark Gaudet has experienced success since arriving at the West Side Lounge.

SECOND COURSE

Sometimes restaurants actively encourage neighborly feelings. At **Le Soir** in Newton Highlands, chef/owner Mark Allen has introduced Wednesday "Neighbors' Nights" that feature a three-course, $40 prix-fixe dinner. Note: You don't have to actually carry geographic identification to enjoy such dishes as lobster-stuffed trout with leek fondue...it's more of a concept to generate press in columns like this one. As is the "neighborhood prix-fixe menu" offered Sunday through Thursday nights at the **Rustic Kitchen** in Cambridge's Porter Square. Chef **Mark Usewicz** is changing the $30, four-course menu every week. Expect seasonal dishes such as risotto with squash blossoms, walnuts and taleggio cheese, or grilled lamb loin with swiss chard, currants and caponata. Concepts aside, these are two fine chefs whose food deserves your attention.

Sometimes, loving your neighborhood just isn't enough. **Chris Douglass**, chef/owner of **Icarus**, planned to open his **Ashmont Grill** in Dorchester by mid-August. Neighborhood anticipation was uniformly enthusiastic, but on August 31, a dismayed Douglass was traipsing around town, still trying to secure an occupancy permit. "I'm in a bureaucratic quagmire," he sighed. However, news is, as of September 6 the Ashmont Grill opened its doors to the neighborhood. iB

Serving Dish

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Amazing Wines
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 20, 6:30 pm. $39. Wine director **Alex Yankus** discusses quality, yet affordable, wines.

Boston Oktoberfest
Castle at Park Plaza, 64 Arlington St., Boston. www.beersummit.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sept. 17. 12-10 pm. $15. This annual event features Sam Adams beer, food and live music from the Jolly Kopperschmidt's German Band and the Oberlaendler Hofbrau Band.

Box Wine Haute Picnic Dinner
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.upstairsonthesquare.com. Sept. 14. 6:30 pm. $65. Blind-test box wines against wines out of the bottle at this event featuring a four-course picnic-style dinner.

Class in a Glass
Piattini on Columbus, 162 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-423-20021). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mondays. 6 pm. $40. Piattini hosts a series of educational, four-course dinners paired with matching wines. •Sept. 19: Sicily and Sardinia – Wines of the Italian Islands. •Sept. 26: The Undiscovered Wines of South Africa.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) plus complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •Sept. 15: Blind Tasting Night. •Sept. 20 and 22: Red Wines of Italy's Veneto Region.

Essence of Apples
Olives Restaurant, 10 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-1999). Sept. 27. 6:30-8:30 pm. $65. Olives offers a five-course dinner, with each dish paying homage to apples.

An Evening with Pinot
Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600). www.tremont647.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Sept. 26. 6 pm. $55. A reception featuring a 2004 Lange Vineyards Pinot Blanc is followed by a four-course dinner prepared by chef **Owen Tillery**, along with other wines from Lange Winery.

Fall Harvest Dinner
Le Soir, 51 Lincoln Road, Newton (617-965-3100). www.lesoirbistro.com. Sept. 23. 5:30-9:30 pm. $95. Chef/owner **Mark Allen** prepares a five-course French dinner paired with five different wines.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complimentary food tasting. •Sept. 14: Spain. •Sept. 21: Napa Valley.

Kinkead's Cookbook
Sibling Rivalry, 525 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-5338). www.siblingrivalryboston.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Sept. 19. 6 pm. $150. Sibling Rivalry celebrates the success of chef **Bob Kinkead**'s cookbook, *Kinkead's Cookbook*, with a seven-course dinner that includes wine and a signed copy of the book.

Kitchen Divas Cook
Rialto at the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). www.rialto-restaurant.com. Sept. 19. 6:30 pm. $250. Chefs from around the country, like **Emily Luchetti** (Farallon, San Francisco), **Carmen Gonzalez** (Carmen the Restaurant, Coral Gables, Florida) and **Jody Adams** (Rialto, Cambridge) get together to prepare a five-course menu that benefits Share Our Strength.

Morton's Monthly Wine Tastings
Morton's Steakhouse, 1 Exeter Plaza, Boston (617-266-5858). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sept. 21. 5:30-8 pm. $50. Enjoy wine, filet mignon sandwiches and other Morton's fare at this monthly tasting that also features a chance to win two tickets to a Red Sox/Yankees game.

Mushroom & Burgundy
Meritage, Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-3995). www.bhh.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept. 19. 6:30 pm. $150. Chef **Daniel Bruce** prepares a five-course mushroom-themed dinner paired with burgundy wine from 1997 and 1999 vintages.

Neighbors Night
Le Soir, 51 Lincoln Road, Newton (617-965-3100). www.lesoirbistro.com. Sept. 14 and 21. 5:30-9:30 pm. $40. Chef/owner **Mark Allen** prepares a three-course prix fixe menu that showcases his French country cuisine.

Oyster Dinner
McCormick & Schmick's, North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-720-5522). www.mccormickandschmicks.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Sept. 20. 6:30 pm. $49.95 ($69.95, with paired wine). Executive chef **Joseph Bartel** prepares a six-course oyster-themed dinner in honor of Oyster Month at McCormick & Schmick's.

Oyster Shucking Evening for Muscular Dystrophy Association
McCormick & Schmick's, North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-720-5522). www.mccormickandschmicks.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Sept. 27. 6 pm. Free. This charity event features an oyster shucking contest, raffle and live auction to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. Thu. and Fri., 6 and 8:30 pm. $35. Chef de cuisine **Mark Usewicz** prepares a tasting menu of classic Italian small plates in front of guests at the restaurant's Oysteria Bar. Reservations required.

Radius Restaurant Cooking Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to

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EAST COAST ANNIVERSARY

The East Coast Grill has been a fixture on the Cambridge dining scene for what seems like 20 years. Well, that's mostly because it has been 20 years, and on September 19, the Grill celebrates its years of success with an event called *To All the Chefs I've Loved Before*. The night starts out with a reception and is followed by a five-course dinner prepared by chefs that chef/owner Chris Schlesinger has worked with in the past. And this is no ordinary line-up. The cast includes Andy Husbands of Tremont 647, Mark Romano of the Green Street Grill, Bob Sargent of Flora and Paul O'Connell of Chez Henri. Dinner is $55 per person. *1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-491-6568). www.eastcoastgrill.net. Sept. 19, 6:30 pm.*

East Coast Grill's chef/owner Chris Schlesinger

South Station. Sept. 24. 6 pm. $25. This event, titled First Days of Fall, highlights some of the best and freshest local ingredients heading into the end of summer.

Sam Adams Beer Tasting

Morton's Steakhouse, 1 Exeter Plaza, Boston (617-266-5858). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sept. 26. 6-7:30 pm. $25. Morton's Steakhouse hosts this tasting of different Sam Adams brews paired with hors d'oeuvres like filet mignon sandwiches, crab cakes and chicken goujonettes.

Spice of the Month Club

Tamarind Bay, 75 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-4552). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Second Monday of every month. 5-7 pm. $25. Executive chef **Wali Ahmad** discusses a new Indian spice each night and prepares a four-course menu of dishes predominantly featuring that spice.

Steak Frites Fridays

Pigalle, 75 Charles Street South, Boston (617-423-4944). www.pigalleboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Fri., 5:30-10:30 pm. $30. Pigalle chef **Marc Orfaly** offers a three-course menu featuring classic steak frites.

Sudoku Night

Fugakyu, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline (617-734-1268). MBTA: Green Line C to St. Paul. Every Mon. 5-7 pm. Customers at Fugakyu's sushi bar are given the opportunity to solve Sudoku, a Japanese placement puzzle, for the chance to win discounts off their meal.

Taste of Boston

City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-779-5800). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Sept. 17 and 18. Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Free. The 22nd annual Taste of Boston features a live performance by the Gin Blossoms, celebrity chef demonstrations, a kids area, a chili cook-off and a grand wine tasting.

Temper Chocolates Tasting

Temper Chocolates, Longwood Room at the Hotel Commonwealth, 500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-375-2255). www.temperchocolates.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Sept. 22. 7:30-8:30 pm. $15. Temper Chocolates owner **Caroline Yeh** leads a tasting that explores chocolates from places like Grenada, Venezuela and Trinidad.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting

Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Sept. 20: Que Syrah, Shiraz. •Sept. 27: Loire Valley.

Verrill Farm Barbecue

Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). www.verrillfarm.com. Sept. 17. 12-5 pm. A la carte. Verrill Farm hosts this fall barbecue featuring music by the Pine Hill Ramblers, hay and pony rides, and traditional barbecue served a la carte.

Wine and Cheese on a Beer Budget

Whole Foods Market, 340 River St., Cambridge (617-876-6990). www.wholefoods.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sept. 15. 6:30-8:30 pm. $15. Wine specialist **Peter McCann** and Whole Foods cheese specialist **Edward Humble** conduct a tasting of affordable wines and cheeses.

The Wine Club

blu at The Sports Club/LA, 4 Avery St., Boston (617-375-8550). www.blurestaurant.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Sept. 17. 1-2:30 pm. $45. In Spanish Wines 101, wine director **Mark Goldberger** presents three different wines paired with small plates from blu executive chef **Tom Fosnot**.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier

L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Sept. 19: Burgundy.

Wine Tastings at Vinalia

Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-1777). www.vinaliaboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Every Wed., 6:30 pm. $15. Every Wednesday night, Vinalia hosts a wine tasting featuring four wines paired with seasonal appetizers.

Wine Tasting Skills

Boston University. 808 Comm. Ave., Room 117, Boston (617-353-9852). MBTA: Green Line B to BU West. Sept. 19. 7 pm. $50. **Roger Ormon** of Brookline Liquor Mart goes over the basics of wine tasting at this event, which concludes with a group tasting.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre

Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Sept. 14: Loire Valley. •Sept. 21: Spain.

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SEPT. 23-24

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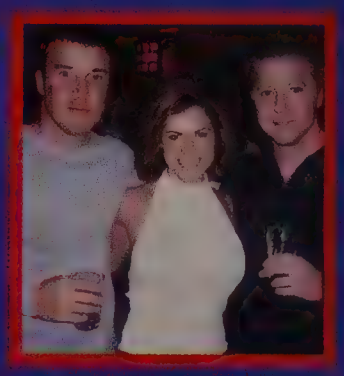

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agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

september 14 - 27

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			14 The Calderwood Pavilion hosts **South (End) Move**, a week-long showcase of works. *See Performing Arts on page 59.*	**15** **The Boston Babydolls** burlesque show performs at Axis to benefit hurricane relief efforts. *See Cityscope on page 56.*	**16** **The Proclaimers** and **Deadman** perform tonight at the Paradise Rock Club. *See Music on page 68.*	**17** Sam Adams' annual **Boston Oktoberfest** is at the Castle at Park Plaza. *See Tastings on page 49.*
18 The **Town of Brookline** celebrates its 300th anniversary with a daylong party along Harvard Street. *See Cityscope on page 56.*	**19**	**20**	**21** ***Romeo and Juliet*** plays at the New Repertory Theatre in Watertown. *See Performing Arts on page 58.*	**22** This is your last night to catch the **Manhattan Film Festival** at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. *See Movies on page 62.*	**23**	**24** MixFest 2005, featuring **Sheryl Crow, Gavin DeGraw, Howie Day** and others is at the Bank of America Pavilion. *See Music on page 71.*
25 **Remembering Sept. 11** is on display at the Peabody Essex Museum through Sept. 30. *See Museums & Galleries on page 81.*	**26**	**27** **McCormick & Schmick's** hosts an oyster shucking contest to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. *See Tastings on page 49.*				

Susan Orlean

THU./SEPT. 15

Cityscope: Celebrating with Scribes

Grub Street might sound like some kind of obscure diner-lined roadway, but in reality, it's an organization that's helped establish Boston as a city to be reckoned with in the world of literature. On September 15, the nonprofit writing center celebrates the opening of its newest location at 160 Boylston Street with a free, open-to-the-public party. The night features live music, readings, appearances from more than 20 local authors, like Susan Orlean, Jennifer Haigh, Steve Almond and Arthur Golden, plus an informal "naming right" auction where you can win the right to name various items around the new office, like staplers, toasters, etc., after yourself or your favorite fictional character. Grub Street was founded in 1997 and delivered its first two fiction workshops to a grand total of 10 students. This semester it plans to offer 15 courses to nearly 2,000 students, and hopes to expand in its new digs with events like a Friday night reading series planned for this winter. *160 Boylston St., (617-695-0075). www.grubstreet.org. 6:30 pm. Free. —RL*

HOT TIPS FROM CALENDAR GURUS LESLIE AND RICH

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CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn Books & Poetry, Movies
Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts, Sports
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

FRI.–SAT./SEPT. 16–17

Comedy: Hey Mama

Forget MILFs. Boston's about to be invaded by MILLAs: (Moms I Like to Laugh At) on September 16 and 17 when the 3 Blonde Moms comedy group performs at the Comedy Connection. The Moms are Maryellen Hooper, who's twice appeared on the *Tonight Show* with Jay Leno; Joanie Fagan, who played Faith on the *Drew Carey Show*; and Helen Keaney, the current host of *You're Invited* on the Style Network. After scoring at the Just for Laughs Festival in Montreal earlier this year, the Moms embarked on a nationwide tour that's recently been extended. Their acts focus on material related to being a mom, having a mom, husbands and in-laws—and their current tour has been selling out. *The Comedy Connection, 2nd floor, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnection boston.com. 8 and 10:15 pm. $22–$25. —RL*

Miguel Zenon

FRI.–SAT./SEPT. 23–24

Music: Smooth and Snazzy

The Beantown Jazz Fest—brainchild of restaurateur Darryl Settles—is back this year with a Saturday full of free live music on Columbus Ave. between Mass. Ave. and Burke Street. This year, the Berklee College of Music is adding to the festivities with an opening concert at the Berklee Performance Center on Friday night by Berklee alum Lalah Hathaway (who's performed with legends such as Dizzy Gillespie, Chaka Khan and Stevie Wonder). Tickets to that concert cost $25, or for $50 you can grab a VIP ticket that includes the pre-concert reception with Hathaway. Performers at the Saturday street fest include saxophonist and Berklee alum Miguel Zenon (who's known for his blend of jazz and Latin rhythms), guitarist Chuck Loeb and saxophonist Kim Waters. The day also includes a beer garden, food vendors and a family playground area. Proceeds from the event support prostate cancer research and awareness through Settles' D'Ventures Unlimited Foundation. *Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). Sept. 23, 8:15 pm. $25; Columbus Ave., between Mass. Ave and Burke St., Boston (617-228-6000). www.beantownjazz.org. Sept. 24, 12–7 pm. Free. —LPK*

SAT.–SUN./SEPT. 17–18

Tastings: Food for Thought

For the 22nd consecutive year, City Hall Plaza is gearing up to host the Taste of Boston, where local restaurants serve up tasty samples to hungry hordes and help raise money for the Greater Boston Food Bank. This year's festivities are highlighted by a live performance by '90s alt-rockers the Gin Blossoms, celebrity chef cooking demonstrations from local faves like Radius' Michael Schlow, Pigalle's Marc Orfaly, Craigie Street's Tony Maws and Spire's Gabriel Frasca, a chili cook-off hosted by WAAF-FM and a grand wine tasting. The Greater Boston Food Bank is a nonprofit agency that provides food to more than 87,000 local citizens each week. *City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-779-5800). Sat., 11 am–6 pm; Sun., 12–6 pm. Free. —RL*

SAT.–SUN.
SEPT. 24–25

Music: Feeling Folksy?

Just when you thought it was time to put your camping chairs, coolers and picnic gear away, one more earth-loving, blanket-spreading, daytime-jamming festival is in the works. Now in its eighth year, the Boston Folk Festival has become the biggest of its kind in the Boston area, with three separate stages plus a coffeehouse filled with live performances by some of the biggest names in the folk music scene. Suzanne Vega headlines the Saturday lineup (which begins at 11 am), and Cambridge native Patty Griffin headlines the Sunday performances. Other artists include gospel/blues band Ollabelle, blues legend Guy Davis (son of Ruby Dee and the late Ossie Davis) and blues/gospel/folk singer Ruthie Foster. Transforming the UMass Boston campus into a music extravaganza, the festival also features a crafts fair with local artisans and plenty of food vendors. *UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-287-6911). www.bostonfolkfestival.org. 11 am–7 pm. $10–$100. —LPK*

Suzanne Vega

The American Red Cross stands ready to meet the monumental challenge of helping to rebuild lives.

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Upcoming Fall Events

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

LABB
Amusia
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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Pete Francis (of Dispatch)
Meet the Day
21+, Doors at 9pm

Nemo Music Festival

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

"NEMO" Music Showcase Kickoff Party
Cyanide Valentine, The Vacation,
The Waking Eyes, ZOX
21+, Doors at 5pm

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

JADA
Project Move
21+, Doors at 9pm

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

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Benjy Davis
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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Boston Say It With Flowers Luncheon
Sheraton Boston, Prudential Center, 19 Dalton St., Boston (1-888-CURE-ALS). www.sayitwithflowersma.org. 9 am-1:30 pm. $75, lunch only; $200, all day. Shonda Schilling, wife of Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling, and Dawn Timlin, wife of pitcher Mike Timlin, host a luncheon to raise proceeds to benefit ALS research and treatment.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Boston Babydolls
Club Axis, 13 Lansdowne St., Boston. www.bostonbabydolls.net. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9 pm. $10. Part of the proceeds from this burlesque revival performance benefit disaster relief in New Orleans.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Boston Heart Walk
DCR Hatch Shell on the Charles River Esplanade, Boston (800-662-1701). http://walkamericanheart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 9 am. Walk to raise funds to support heart and stroke research.

Harbor to the Bay
398 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-274-4560). www.harbortothebay.org. Rain date Sept. 18. $50 registration fee. Harbor to the Bay is a charity bike ride from Boston to Provincetown (125 miles) or from the Sagamore Bridge to Provincetown (68 miles) to benefit HIV/AIDS care organizations. Riders and volunteers welcome.

St. Andrew's Performing Arts Series Benefit
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 79 Denton Rd., Wellesley. 7-9 pm. $20 donation recommended. The SAPAS benefit features a performance by businessman/poet Steven Biondolillo, champagne and light refreshments.

Taste of Boston
City Hall Plaza, Boston. www.tasteofboston.com. Sept. 17, 11 am-6 pm. Sept. 18, 12 pm-6 pm. Free admission. The 22nd annual Taste of Boston features over 50 of Boston's restaurants along with music and wine. Tastes can be purchased for $1 per ticket. All extra food and proceeds benefit The Greater Boston Food Bank.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk
Hopkinton, Wellesley and Boston (866-JFW-HERO). www.jimmyfundwalk.org. $200 minimum contribution. Walkers choose from the 26.2-mile marathon, a 13.1-mile half-marathon or a three-mile Boston Walk. Finish lines are at Copley Square where a victory party features a band, refreshments and speakers. Proceeds benefit cancer research and care at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

Komen Boston Race for the Cure
Clark Athletic Center, UMass Boston Campus (617-204-4264). www.komenmass.org. 9 am. $20, online; $25, by mail; $30, race day. The race donates 75 percent of the proceeds to local area breast cancer screening and treatment programs and 25 percent to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation National Grant Program.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Kitchen Divas Cook
Rialto at the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). www.rialto-restaurant.com. 6:30 pm. $250. Chefs from around the country, like Emily Luchetti (Farallon, San Francisco), Carmen Gonzalez (Carmen the Restaurant, Coral Gables, Florida) and Jody Adams (Rialto, Cambridge) get together to prepare a five-course menu that benefits Share Our Strength.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Back to School Skyy Soiree
The State Room, 60 State St., Boston. www.mscurefund.org. MBTA: Orange Line to State Street. 7 pm. $30. This party, featuring complimentary SKYY Vodka cocktails and martinis, hors d'oeuvres and live music by Herb Heard's 14-piece Big Band, benefits the MS Cure Fund.

Salon Red & Spa Cut-a-Thon
Salon Red & Spa, 144B Newbury St. Boston (617-267-1800). www.salonredandspa.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 11 am-6 pm. $25. Salon Red & Spa offers haircuts with blow-drys with 100 percent of the proceeds donated to the American Red Cross for hurricane relief.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Boston Arthritis Walk
City Hall Plaza, Boston (1-800-766-9449) www.bostonarthritiswalk.kintera.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 11:30 am. Teams and individuals raise money for the Arthritis Foundation on the one-mile or three-mile course.

Boston Marine Corps Honor Run
Houghton's Pond, Blue Hills Reservation, Milton (888-767-RACE). www.mchonorrun.com. 10 am. 5K, pre-registration $17, race day $20; 10K, pre-registration $22, race day $25; JROTC members, $15. Donations from the run will be made to the Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Oyster Shucking Evening for Muscular Dystrophy Association
McCormick & Schmicks, North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-720-5522) www.mccormickandschmicks.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6 pm. Free. This charity event features an oyster shucking contest, raffle and live auction to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Festivals & Parties

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Combined Jewish Philanthropies' Young Leadership Division Sneak Peek
The Liquor Store, 25 Boylston Place, Boston (617-457-8565). www.cjp.org/yld. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. $5. Meet other young adults who are part of the Greater Boston Jewish community, and enjoy light refreshments and a cash bar.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Third Thursdays in Kenmore Square
Hotel Commonwealth, 500 Comm. Ave., Boston www.hotelcommonwealth.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore Square. 7-9 pm. Free. Kenmore Square hosts an open house and retailers offer wine, snacks, specials talks and discounts. Complimentary valet parking is available with a validation from a participating retailer.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

AltWheels Transportation Festival
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-868-1582). www.altwheels.org MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir or Red Line to Porter where shuttles are available. 10 am-5 pm. $10. AltWheels showcases the latest alternatives to high gasoline prices and offers workshops and discussions on various fuel-efficiency topics.

Boston Oktoberfest
Castle at Park Plaza, 64 Arlington St., Boston www.beersummit.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12-10 pm. $15. This annual event features Sam Adams beer, food and live music from the Jolly Kopperschmidt's German Band and the Oberlaendler Hofbrau Band.

8 Exceptional Days
Roche Bobois, 585 Commercial St., Boston (617-742-9611). www.roche-bobois.com. Through Sept. 25. Mon.-Sat., 10 am -6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. For eight days, Roche Bobois offers 20 percent off all its furniture.

See Art in Everything
Central Square, Cambridge. www.centralsquare cambridge.com/artscentral. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sept. 17, 5-11 pm; Sept. 18, 12-6 pm. ArtsCentral celebrates the arts with events including edible creations, paint throwing, book binding, sushi rolling, silk screening and more.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Brookline's 300th Anniversary
Harvard Street between Beacon and Fuller Streets Brookline. www.brookline300.org. 11 am-6 pm. Free. The town of Brookline celebrates its 300th anniversary with a daylong street festival featuring live performances by acts like Buffalo Tom and Kay Hanley, food booths, animal demonstrations and more.

The annual RiverSing across the Charles River takes place on Sept. 22.

amaica Plain Antiques & Flea Market
694 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-460). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan. Sept. 18, 5. This open-air market is held every Sunday hrough the end of October. Special events nclude Antique Appraisal Day on Sept. 18 and maica Plain Open Studios on Sept. 25.

UESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

5th Annual Francis W. Hatch Awards
valon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-1100). IBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 5-10 pm. $100, embers; $125, nonmembers. The 45th Annual rancis W. Hatch Awards honor creative xcellence in New England advertising and are co-onsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

VEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

ashions of the Season
adisson Hotel, 777 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-61-9422). www.wibconnection.org. 11:45 am-:30 pm. $30, members and pre-registered guests; 45, nonmembers and walk-ins. The Women in usiness Connection sponsors a fashion show eaturing clothes from three local, women-owned usinesses.

HURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

escue Boston with the Stars of escue Me
ypsy Bar, 116 Boylston St., Boston. MBTA: Green ine to Boylston. 7-9 pm. Mike Lombardi and allie Thorne of FX's hit show *Rescue Me* join ointreau and Vogue to host a night of Cointreau ocktails.

iverSing 2005
oth banks of the Charles River, Cambridge and llston/Brighton (617-972-8300). MBTA: Red Line Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. This annual event nvites local residents to gather on the Weeks ootbridge or Lars Anderson Bridge and sing back nd forth to each other in celebration of the first ay of fall. The event is co-sponsored by the evels and the Charles River Conservancy.

RIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

ritish and Irish Universities' Ball
lotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., ambridge. www.oxcamne.org/BI_Universities_all.html. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 6 pm. 100. British and Irish professionals come ogether for a night of drinks, dinner, dancing and etworking.

UNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

005 Central Square World's Fair
entral Square, Cambridge (617-876-1655). IBTA: Red Line to Central. 12-6 pm. Ten stages or music and dancing feature acts including a rass band, gospel, rock 'n' roll, R&B, African and ip-hop.

bony Fashion Fair
he Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (617-04-0583). www.ebonyfashionfair.com. 4 pm. $30. PN 38's Robin Hamilton hosts Ebony Fashion air's "Fit to be Fabulous"-themed event featuring esigns from Valentino, Versace, Givenchy, Dolce . Gabbana and more.

South End Open Market
540 Harrison St., South End, Boston (617-481-2257). www.southendopenmarket.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Back Bay. Weekends. Free. Boston's only open-air market features artisans from around New England, a farmers' market, antiques and the Market Cafe.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Executive Happy Hour at Fiore
Fiore, 350 Hanover St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6-8 pm. $5-$10. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this networking event on Fiore's rooftop featuring complimentary Dewar's 12 and hors d'oeuvres.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Hurry Date
Lir Irish Pub and Restaurant, 903 Boylston St., Boston. www.hurrydate.com. 7 pm. $26.25 members; $35 nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates while you enjoy drink specials. For singles ages 25-35.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

8-Minute Dating
Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 32-42.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

8-Minute Dating
Orleans, 65 Holland St., Somerville (617-591-2100). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 25-35.

Hurry Date
Charley's Eating and Drinking Saloon, 284 Newbury St., Boston. www.hurrydate.com. 7 pm. $26.25 members; $35 nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates while you enjoy drink specials. For singles ages 30-45.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

8-Minute Dating
SoHo, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-562-6000). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: #57 bus to Brighton Center. 7:08 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 23-30.

8-Minute Dating
Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 40-54.

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performing arts

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

StubHub
(866-788-2482). www.stubhub.com. Where fans buy and sell tickets.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Let's Put On A Show
Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.regenttheatre.com. Sept. 23-25. Fri., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 pm. $30-$100. Mickey and Jan Rooney celebrate Mickey's life and 85th birthday with a performance featuring anecdotes, music and videos.

Multicultural Manifestos
Carl Barron Plaza, Central Square, Cambridge (617-349-4389). www.cambridgeartscouncil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sept. 18. 1 and 1:30 pm. Free. Ritsuko Taho performs for 20-minutes as part of the Public Art ACTS 2005 series put on by the Cambridge Arts Council and the Underground Railway Theater.

Pal Joey
Stoneham Theatre, Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Sept. 15-Oct. 2. Thursdays, 7:30 pm; Friday and Saturdays 8 pm; Saturdays, 4 pm; Sundays 2 pm. $36-$18. The theatre revives this old Broadway classic about the love triangle between a nightclub emcee and the two women in his life: a naive girlfriend and a rich older woman.

Romeo and Juliet
New Repertory Theatre, Arsenal Center for the Arts, Watertown (617-923-8487). www.newrep.org. Sept. 18-Oct. 9. Wed.-Thurs., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat, 3:30 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm and 7:30 pm. $30-$48. The New Repertory Theatre tries their hand at the 400-year-old tale of love and inter-familial war.

Smokey Joe's Café
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Sept. 16-Oct. 9, Thurs.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $24, discounts available. The musical, cabaret-style, features songs like *Hound Dog, Stand By Me* and *Jailhouse Rock.*

Turnaround/Surround
Danehy Park, top of the hill, Cambridge (617-349-4389). www.cambridgeartscouncil.org. Sept. 24. 12:30 pm, 1 pm and 1:30 pm. Free. Mierle Laderman Ukeles performs in another 20-minute theatrical installment of the Public Art ACTS 2005 series.

Special Events

InBetween: Mobius On-Site at Building 16
Building 16, 25 Fid Kennedy Ave., South Boston Waterfront, Boston (617-661-6642). www.mobius.org. Sept. 23-25, free. MBTA: Silver Line to Tide Street and Northern Ave. A collective of international artists who specialize in site-specific redesign collaborate to re-imagine and reinterpret the abandoned warehouse space in Boston.

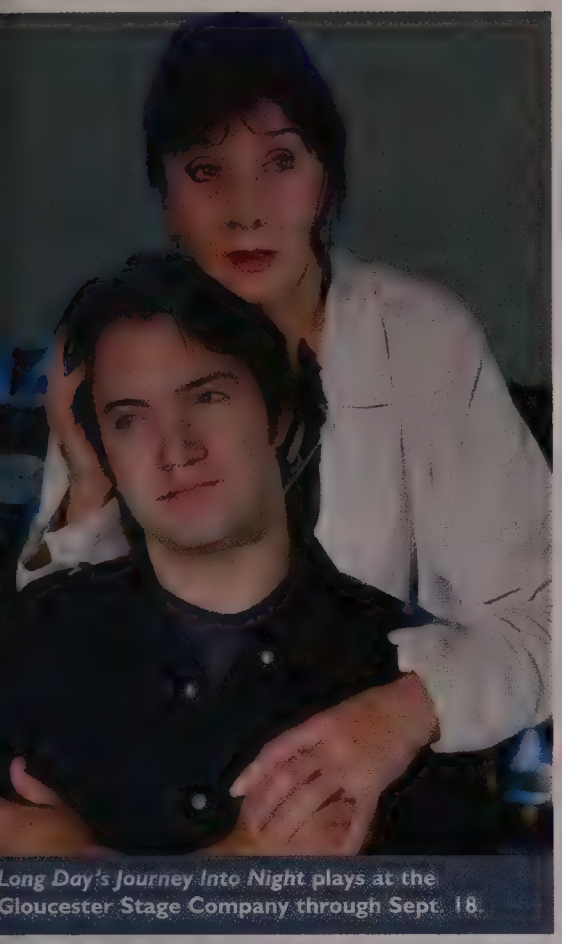
NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. The blue trio performs an ongoing show that mixes art, music, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

Carmen
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Oct. 8. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm (some variation; call for detailed schedule). $12-$74. American Repertory Theatre tells the timeless story of Carmen, a seductive woman who finds herself in a deadly love triangle.

Cleavage
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Through Sept. 17. 3 pm

Vincent Mantsoe performs in Cambridge, Sept. 23-25.



Long Day's Journey Into Night plays at the Gloucester Stage Company through Sept. 18.

0. Cleavage is four actors performing five one-act ays written and directed by Carissa Halston.

mmy Tingle's American Dream
nmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., merville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. BTA: Red Line to Davis. Ongoing. Thu., Fri., Sat., 30 pm. $15-$25. Jimmy Tingle's American Dream is a ne-man show that combines comedy, political com-entary and storytelling.

Long Day's Journey Into Night
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Through Sept. 18. Wed.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $30. The four members of the Tyrone family struggle with demons and addictions in Eugene O'Neill's acclaimed play. Eric Engel directs.

Love: from Beginning to End and Everything in Between
The Actor's Workshop, 327 Summer St., Boston (617-423-7313). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept. 16-17, 7:30 pm; Sept. 18., 2 pm. $5-$8. This performance features a series of scenes and monologues from playwrights and directors from the Huntington Theatre and other local and national companies.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreet playhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

The Real Thing
Huntington Theatre Company, Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-273-1537). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Through Oct. 9. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. 8 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm.; Sun. 2 and 7 pm. $15-$60. Tom Stoppard's play about the complexities of being in love follows a successful playwright as he jeopardizes his marriage by falling in love with an actress.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This comedic whodunit set in a crazy unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Urinetown: The Musical
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. Through Oct. 15. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $20-$47. During a deadly water shortage, a corrupt corporation begins charging residents to urinate in this musical written by Greg Kotis.

Dance

Vincent Mantsoe
Zero Arrow Theatre, corner of Mass. Ave. and Arrow St., Cambridge (617-876-4275). www.crasharts.org. Sept. 23-25. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $30. South African choreographer Vincent Mantsoe performs the Boston premiere of NDAA and Motswa Hole.

South(End)Move
Calderwood Pavilion at the BCA, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-718-2497). www.snappydance.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Back Bay. Sept. 14-15, 7 pm; Sept. 16, 8 pm; Sept. 17, 3 pm and 8 pm; Sept. 18, 3 pm. Evening, $25-$40; Matinee, $25-$33. The week-long season showcases a work inspired by the art of glass, previous pieces performed at the Open Look Festival in St. Petersburg, Russia and an untitled work.

Velocity2
Dance Theater at Boston University, John Hancock Theater at Boston University, entrance on Buick St., Boston (617-562-0550). MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul. Sept. 16, 8 pm; Sept. 17, 2 pm and 8 pm. BoSoma (Boston Somatic) Dance Company performs new works alongside the Collage Dance Ensemble, famous for their European and Balkan dance interpretations.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

COMEDY SHOWS

Boston Comedy Festival Finals
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). www.bostoncomedyfestival.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sept. 17. 8 pm. $30. A collection of stand-up comics compete in the finals of the Boston Comedy Festival.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features an assortment of local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Sept. 14, 8 pm: Mike McDonald, $12. •Sept. 15, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15.•Sept. 16, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: 3 Blonde Moms, $12.•Sept. 17, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: 3 Blonde Moms, $12. •Sept. 18, 8 pm: Tony V., $12. •Sept. 19, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Sept. 20, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •Sept. 21, 8 pm: Jim Lauletta, $12. •Sept. 22, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15.•Sept. 23, 8 pm and 10:15 pm: Greg Proops, $15.•Sept. 24, 8 pm: Steve Sweeney; 10:30 pm, Gregg Proops, $15.•Sept. 25, 7 pm: Rich Ceisler, $12.•Sept. 26, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase Hosted by Kevin Knox, $12.•Sept. 27, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy

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troupes and local comedians perform. Sept. 14: Tony V Experiment •Sept. 15: The Dan Sally Show. •Sept. 16: The Walsh Bros, Ej Murphy, Tony Pike, Peter Bowers, Dave Horwitz. •Sept. 17: Ej Murphy, Peter Bowers, Janet Cormier, Pat Boccuzzi.•Sept. 18: Erin Judge Presents...•Sept. 20: Magic Lounge•Sept. 21: Tony V Experiment•Sept. 22: The Dan Sally Show•Sept. 23: DJ Hazard CD recording•Sept.24: DJ Hazard CD recording.•Sept. 25: Erin Judge Presents...

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, $15-$25: *Jimmy Tingle's American Dream* is a one-man show that combines comedy, political commentary and storytelling.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 8:30 pm. $10-$22. •Sept. 15, 8:30 pm : Kevin Knox, Pete Costello. •Sept. 16 and 17, 8:45 pm: Paul Gilliganm Pete Costello, Joe Wong. •Sept. 17, 9 pm: Bob Sibel, Kevin Knox, Jessica Casciano. •Sept. 22, 8:30 pm: Mark Riley, Mike Koutroubis. •Sept. 23 and 24, 8:45 pm: Bob Sibel, Mike Koutroubis, Mark Riley. •Sept. 24, 9 pm: Paul Gilligan, Pete Costello, Mike Kaplan.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Dinner packages also available. • Summer in New England: Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.,-Sat., 8 and 10 pm, $15-$20. •The Midnight Show: Sat., 12 am, $10. •NXT: Thu., 9:45 pm, $5. •Dangerous Words, the Best of Improv Asylum: Sept. 14 and 15, 8 pm, $15; Sept. 16 and 17, 8 and 10 pm, $20. •College Improv Championshups: Sept. 14, pm, $15. •Sketch Comedy Showcase: Sept. 15, pm, $15. •Letterman Auditions: Sept. 16, 10 p $20.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-125. www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ce tral. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvi tional comedy troupe creates everything on t spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs a dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Hump Fringe Sho •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$12: UnNatural Selection: master of ceremonies randomly eliminates play until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and S cret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and Dav Walsh perform stand-up and character sketch and play music and short films in a display of s ling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Girls' Night O Improv Boston's look into the life of the adolesce girl; 10 pm, $10-$12: TheatreSports: Two teams improvisers go head to head. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$ (children 11 and under accompanied by an ad admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. short-form improvisational show appropriate individuals of all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: I provBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelli music and audience participation, a cast of imp visers creates a show that changes with every p formance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Op Jamboree. This evening features performances visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-3(6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Boston-bas short-form improv comedy group performs ma skits that involve participation from members of t audience.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: R Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 p $10 after. 21+. The Tribe sponsors this weekly co edy show at the Cantab that features a collection improv comedians who poke fun at everything, cluding themselves. Acts include Snowflakes, Sis Brother, Sosnys and Villalobos.

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New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Aristocrats ★★★

Paul Provenza and Penn Jillette's documentary rounds up a wide array of comedians—from Pat Cooper and Eddie Izzard to Lewis Black and Chris Rock—to riff on its title "character," a notoriously dirty vaudeville joke comics have long shared with each other but not the public. The joke's underbelly center has always been a measuring stick of a comic's lack of inhibition—he or she who stretches it out with the most perverse abandon makes the joke the funniest. Of those who tell it here, some play it successfully, while others never generate the right comic momentum. George Carlin, Gilbert Gottfried, Sarah Silverman and Bob Saget are the most effective, with a silent version performed by Billy the Mime (on a public street!) there, too. Eric Cartman has a go during a specially made *South Park* clip, and card-trick specialist Eric Mead skillfully adapts the joke to his talents. As much about the community of comedians as the joke itself, the movie becomes a tribute to the power of laughter as both an emotional healer and a uniter of people. (At Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

Broken Flowers ★★

The minimalist, sad-sack persona Bill Murray introduced in *Rushmore* and *Lost in Translation* is getting pretty spent by this point. After reusing it in one of the segments in writer-director Jim Jarmusch's *Coffee & Cigarettes* last year, Murray goes back to that well yet again in Jarmusch's latest. It's still mildly amusing in this story of an aging, willfully vapid womanizer who reluctantly road-trips to visit several of his ex-flames when he receives an anonymous note telling him one of them had a son by him after they broke up. But just mildly amusing. There's a bit more of an upscale cast than usual for Jarmusch, with Sharon Stone and Jessica Lange playing two of the old flames. These episodic visits usually pack a laugh or two, and the entire journey takes the womanizer through a minefield of sexual attraction. But the episodes seem to get less interesting as the story progresses, and his subtle awakening into, essentially, caring about his own life—even only in the very last moments, with little build-up—is meager payoff, even in a Jarmusch movie. (At Boston Common and the Coolidge Corner Theater.)

The Brothers Grimm ★★½

The absurd fun in the first half of Terry Gilliam's quest just about makes up for the bog of plot you have to trudge through later on. Matt Damon and Heath Ledger play the famous story-collecting brothers, whom we meet as they ply the tale's fanciful earlier occupation: con-men ghostbusters. They listen to villagers' grisly tales, all right, but only so they can get hired to rid villages of ghosts, stage elaborate hoaxes and then leave town with fee in hand. The ruse that opens the movie is a hoot, but the brothers' (and the movie's) troubles start when an arrogant military man (Jonathan Pryce) forces the Grimms to go to a particularly spooked village where children are disappearing into the nearby forest. The movie then turns into one of those comedies where pretenders are forced to really do the thing they're only pretending to do (think *Galaxy Quest*), and the onslaught of plot details really cuts down on the initially fleet absurdity. Damon and Ledger handle their roles well, and the addition of rough-and-tumble Lena Headey halfway through is a plus, but this is ultimately just middling fare for a Gilliam picture. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Constant Gardener ★★

Fernando Meirelles' *City of God* was one of the best imports of recent years, and he gives his English-language debut some of its stylistic energy, until the story goes south. Ralph Fiennes plays the title character in this John Le Carré adaptation, an English diplomat posted to Kenya who's content to merely do his job looking out for British interests there. But the nervous energy of his idealistic wife (Rachel Weisz) makes her the character who most jives with Meirelles' style. She prods the English diplomats to help the locals more, especially to protect them from the ethically challenged drug trials run by a large European pharmaceutical company. The setup offers the exotic setting and moral murkiness of Westerners-abroad thrillers such as *The Tailor of Panama* and *The Quiet American*. But moral murkiness turns into something much more simplistic by the time the diplomat picks up his wife's cause and starts plotting into the link between the greedy pharmaceutical firm and complicit English diplomats.

The 34-Year-Old *Baxter*

Indie comedy celebrates the guy not taken.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

There isn't a male version of the saying "always a bridesmaid, never a bride." But writer-director-star Michael Showalter (from MTV's *The State* and Comedy Central's *Stella*) has come up with an equivalent in his funny, absurd and downright sweet movie, *The Baxter*. The movie's title, his character tells us in an opening voice-over, was his grandmother's nickname for the poor sap who gets left behind at the altar during one of those go-for-broke moments in which a tempestuous ex-lover rushes into the ceremony, proclaims his undying love for the bride and makes her come to her senses and run off with him.

The Baxter, the "nice guy" who's left there, speechless, is never paid attention to again—think of the guy who was about to marry Katharine Ross in *The Graduate* before Dustin Hoffman started banging on glass or, less literally, the pushovers played by Ralph Bellamy in *His Girl Friday* and Bill Pullman in *Sleepless in Seattle*.

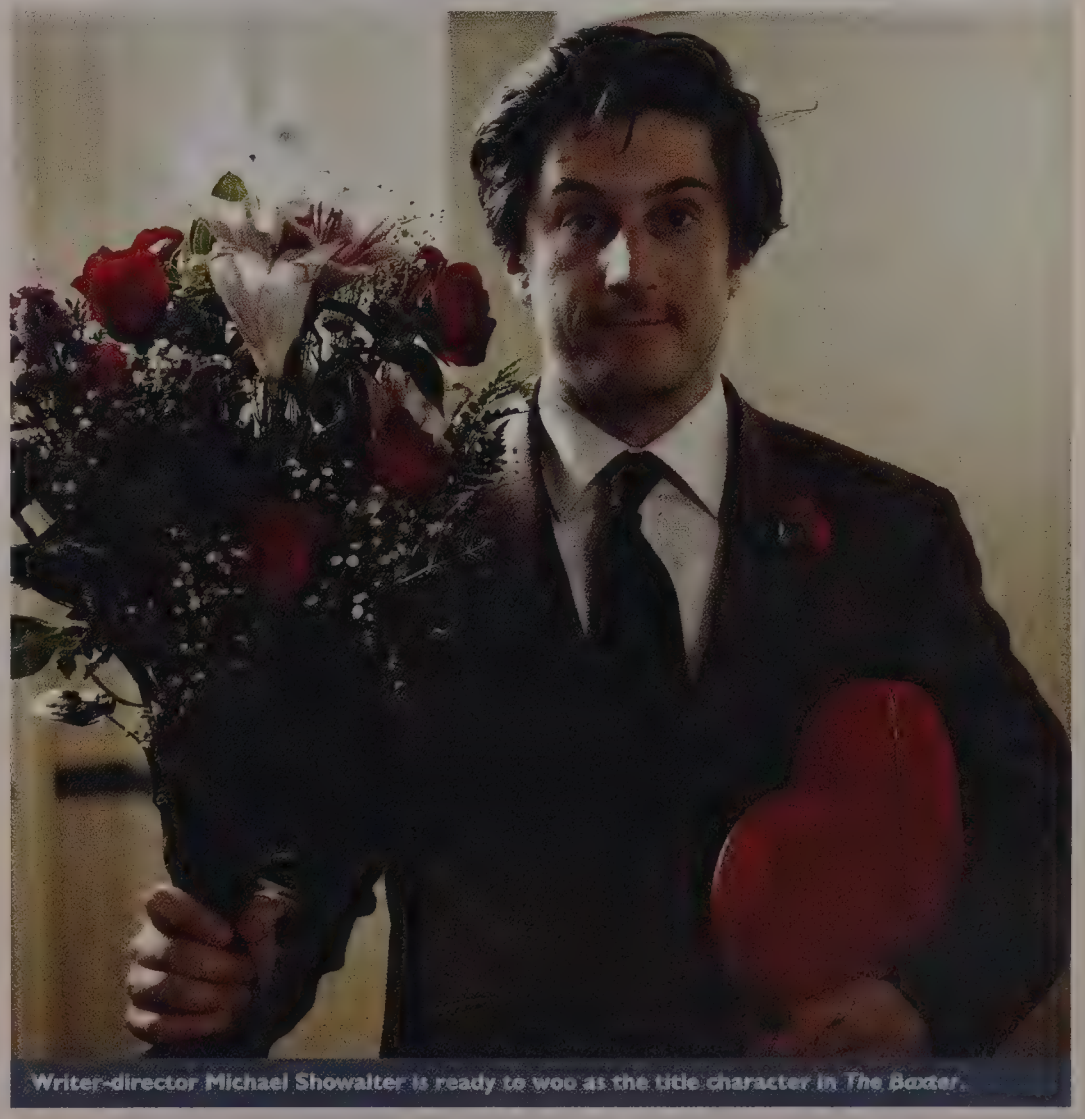
That sort of stunning jilting is exactly what Showalter's character, accountant Elliot Sherman, endures. Elliot is a rather bland accountant who was about to marry Caroline (Elizabeth Banks), an upper-crust fashion editor. But after her handsome, passionate, high-school sweetheart Bradley (Justin Theroux) turns up a week before the wedding, Elliot feels himself being elbowed aside.

The role of a guy who's ignored is not unfamiliar for Showalter, who also played a Baxter in *Wet Hot American Summer*. On their Comedy Central series, *Stella*, Showalter, Michael Ian Black and David Wain have creatively subverted comedy conventions, much the way Chris Elliott did in the early '90s on *Get a Life*. *The Baxter* isn't quite so daring, and it sends up romantic comedy convention even as it embraces it. The twist is that we see the traditional ending, or at least part of it, in the church-jilting of the opening sequence. But like most romantic comedies, *The Baxter* doesn't exactly hide where it's eventually headed—to a coupled-up conclusion for Elliot with a woman other than his fiancée.

Elliot recounts the seeds of his romantic demise: meeting Caroline for the first time in his office, where she's a new client, just as he was about to ask out Cecil (Michelle Williams), the new temp secretary with whom he's immediately bonded. Self-confident Caroline steamrolls Elliot, taking a shine to him and asking him out.

Cecil's out of the picture but not for long. Elliot keeps bumping into her: She invites him to watch her sing (nervously) at an open-mike night and advises him to take more risks in life. Just as we know Elliot won't end up with Caroline, we're pretty sure he'll end up with Cecil. They have the sort of wacky movie-romance version of bonding we've come to expect: In one scene, they read the dictionary, communing over the obscure word "gromwell." In another, very funny scene, Elliot lets Cecil sleep on the couch in his apartment after she's fought with her boyfriend (Paul Rudd), and then the two scurry to hide her when Caroline unexpectedly shows up first thing the next morning.

The chemistry between Showalter and Williams is a big part of *The Baxter*'s success as an endearing romantic comedy. He's funny as a fumbler, while she's toned down her looks by cutting her hair and remaining unkempt through much of the movie, so that she's almost unrecognizable from *Dick* or *The Station Agent*.



Writer-director Michael Showalter is ready to woo as the title character in *The Baxter*.

It's the combination of Cecil's personality and her veiled glimmer of beauty that makes you want Elliot to end up with her.

So, in a sense, the underdog love story in *The Baxter* makes it the low-budget, indie version of *The 40-Year-Old Virgin* (their casts even share Banks and Rudd). But *The Baxter* is more low-key than its multiplex counterpart. It's less broad and doesn't deliver the belly laughs of *Virgin*. Like its title character, *The Baxter* is a quieter beast, this year's equivalent of the alternative hit *Melvin Goes to Dinner*. IB

The Baxter ★★★

Written and directed by Michael Showalter. With Showalter, Michelle Williams, Elizabeth Banks, Justin Theroux and Michael Ian Black. Not Rated. At Kendall Square.

Return of the Jedi. And Droids And Wookiees...

STAR WARS
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Opening Oct 27th

Be among the first to discover how the science of today isn't all that far off from the fantasy world of death stars, light sabers, and space travel. Reserve your tickets now for the world premiere of Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination, developed by the Museum of Science and Lucasfilm, Ltd. Tickets at **starwars.mos.org** or by calling 617-723-2500, 617-589-0417 (TTY).

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His transformation turns the movie into a less interesting tale of good versus evil. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The 40-Year-Old Virgin ★★★
What might have been a one-joke comedy about a nerd who's unlucky in love becomes a very funny ensemble comedy in the hands of star Steve Carrell and director Judd Apatow (TV's *Undeclared*), who co-wrote the script. Carrell, formerly of *The Daily Show* and now on NBC's version of *The Office*, plays the title character, and his combination of "normal" looks and over-the-top absurdity steers the guy clear of cliché. You laugh *at* him sometimes, though you start to laugh *with* him when his secret gets out and his coworkers at an electronics store—Paul Rudd, Romany Malco and Seth Rogen, who are all hilarious here—start trying to "help." A lot of work went into skewing all the characters so they're amusing (there's also dependable Catherine Keener, as the woman who takes an interest in the hero) and, no pun intended, the movie has the best climax of the year. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

A History of Violence ★★★
In most of David Cronenberg's movies, inner turmoil manifests itself in bodily protrusions and malfunctions. But unlike *Scanners*, *Rabid* or *The Fly*, the conflicts within Tom Stall (Viggo Mortensen) remain internal. He's a Midwestern solid citizen whose placid life accelerates after he fights off two would-be attackers in his café, and shoots them with their own gun. Tom's sudden heroism brings the media pouncing and changes the way his neighbors view him. And when a persistent Philadelphia gangster (Ed Harris) arrives, giving Tom the stink-eye and insisting he's an old adversary with whom he has a score to settle, the threat of more violence intrudes. When previously mild-mannered Tom meets this threat head-on, as he did with the attackers, even Tom's loving wife (Maria Bello) starts to question just who her husband is. This thriller, based on a graphic novel, travels to several interesting nooks, especially in the relationship between the spouses, and is one of Cronenberg's more conventional stories. But it's also more involving than his other recent movies (*Spider*, *eXistenZ*). In a sense, you can see Tom's violence as a Cronenberg-esque protrusion thrusting from within, so the movie isn't that out of character for the director. He also casts well, as usual, with Mortensen, Bello and Harris bringing credibility to their roles. The last's performance intentionally verges on the comic, while William Hurt's role, as another Philly mobster, is also a hoot, though perhaps not so intentionally. (Opens Sept. 23.)

I'll Sing for You ★★
Just about everything in the scant 76 minutes of this French-produced music documentary about Mali's Boubacar Traoré, better known as KarKar, is decent. Although it's hard to see any of the 1960s rock-and-roll–influenced youngster in the aged singer—he was the first Malian musician to use an electric guitar—his mid-tempo acoustic songs are flowing and entrancing. And the Mali settings, with clay-colored structures offset by men's brightly colored, traditional garb, are striking. But there's a lot that's *not* in the movie. We rarely hear from KarKar outside of his songs, and it's hard to conclude the most basic facts about the "fame" he lost after his 1960s heyday: Was music ever his primary occupation? Did he make records? Do the people we see him perform in front of even know who he is? All this is vague. Most amazingly, director Jacques Sarason suddenly ends the movie after one of KarKar's friends tells of how an English music producer tracked down KarKar in Paris in the 1990s and Malians thus discovered the forgotten singer was still alive. The credits roll as if we know the rest of the story (which apparently involves KarKar recording and touring again). Alas, most of us do not. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, Sept. 17-24; Traoré performs after the Sept. 23 screening.)

March of the Penguins ★★½
The surprise hit of the season actually isn't very surprising. It covers territory often seen on cable wildlife shows, as it chronicles the extreme mating rituals of the South Pole's emperor penguins. These animals trek 70 miles annually to the same breeding ground and find a mate. Then, after the female lays an egg, the male tends to it for several months during the harsh winter, without eating, while she treks back to the sea to eat and regain weight. And that's just the start of it (there are more treks to the sea and more dangers to come). It's a major feat that director Luc Jacquet and crew captured all this under harsh Antarctic conditions, though the narration (read by Morgan Freeman) unfortunately gilds the proverbial lily at times by endowing the birds with human characteristics. A typical overindulgence in this regard comes when a mother futilely tries to revive a baby who's perished from the cold, and t narration intones, "The pain is unbearable" (whic seems a human assumption rather than an insig into penguins). Still, better than those fudg IMAX nature movies. (At Boston Common, Fe way and suburbs.)

Proof ★★★
It's involving enough, but it's hard to see what the drama adds up to in director John Madde adaptation of the Broadway play about the fragi daughter (Gwyneth Paltrow) of a mad mathema cian (Anthony Hopkins). She's had to care for h unstable father as he's deteriorated and his momen of lucidity have grown further apart. When a brea through mathematical proof comes to light that w written by one of them, she's faced with the burd of having to prove it was her work (and, if she chooses, the burden of having to say her father is longer capable of such work). Of course, all th math talk is just, as Hitchcock would've said, t "McGuffin," the arbitrary whatsit that could be an thing or any topic. So what is the math a metaph for? That's the tricky thing. The movie's concept "proof" beyond math doesn't go much deeper tha the daughter's need to prove her own self-con dence. So the tale is ultimately slight for all of chest-thumping, but it's well-played by Paltrow, wh captures her character's many mood swings convin ingly, and Jake Gyllenhaal, as the father's form student who gets involved (sometimes positive sometimes not) in her plight. Meanwhile, Ho Davis gets stuck in a clichéd role as the controllin older sister and Hopkins is, well, Hopkins, doing a other blustery star turn. (At Boston Common, Fe way and suburbs.)

The Wedding Crashers ★★★
Owen Wilson and Vince Vaughn have supplie more onscreen laughs than just about anybody el over the last decade, so it's great to see Wilson's s drawling and Vaughn's motor-mouthed ranting t gether. They play the title characters, whose soci life is built around ingratiating their way into nu tials, being the life of the party and seducing high on-love female wedding guests. The montage them doing just that is hilarious, though the pl does morph into more of a *Meet the Parents*–sty story than expected. The two buddies fall in wi an influential Beltway family so that Wilson character can pursue one daughter (Rach McAdams), leaving Vaughn's to reluctantly con along and fight off another daughter (Isla Fisher But the gags are usually good, the cast funny (eve Jane Seymour) and the carefree charm of its sta carries over to the entire movie. (At Boston Co mon, Fenway and suburbs.)

Special Events

The Cambridge Queer Film Festival
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-87 6838). www.brattlefilm.org. MBTA: Red Line Harvard. •Sept. 16-18. The Cambridge Queer Fil Festival pays tribute to LGBT cinema for the se ond year with a mixture of classics and new fil premieres. For a full schedule visit www.bratt film.org.

The Firefly Marathon
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Broo line (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Sept. 24, 12 a All 14 episodes of the sci-fi TV show *Firefly* a shown in celebration of the new movie version the series titled *Serenity*. The all-night maratho also features a Chinese buffet, trivia and prizes.

Manhattan Short Film Festival
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookli (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Sept. 16-22, 1 p 4 pm, 7 pm, 10 pm. Screening simultaneously in 3 states including Massachusetts, the MSFF is the fi nation-wide film festival where American moviego ers pick the winner. For more information vis www.msfilmfest.com.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Ca endar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
•Sept. 15, 2 pm. **The Damned Don't Cry** *195* The murder of a gangster leads to the investigatio

Anthony Hopkins and Gwyneth Paltrow play a mathematician and his daughter, whose fates are entwined in *Proof*.

a socialite who has disappeared. Vincent Sher-
n directs.
ept. 24, 2 pm. **La Ley de Herodes** (Herod's Law)
99. A janitor is appointed mayor after the peas-
ts revolt against corruption in a small Mexican
vn. Luis Estrada directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

The Complete Kubrick

•Sept. 14, 7 pm, 9:45 pm. **A Clockwork Orange** *1971*. Stanley Kubrick directs this futuristic film about a teenage hoodlum who is released back into a violent society after aversion therapy in jail.

•Sept. 15, 8 pm. **Eyes Wide Shut** *1999*. A man and woman discover that their relationship is not what it seemed, and each embarks on a sexual odyssey. Stanley Kubrick directs.

Cult Classic

•Sept. 23, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm; Sept. 24, 1:30 pm, 3:30 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm. **Cobra Woman** *1944*. After discovering that his fiancée has been kidnapped, a man and his friend travel to a hostile Pacific island whose inhabitants worship the cobra. Robert Siodmak directs.

The Huntington Theatre and the Brattle Film Foundation Present

•Sept. 22, 7:30 pm. **Brazil** *1985*. Terry Gilliam directs this story about a civil servant in an Orwellian-inspired futuristic society who dreams of being with the woman he loves.

Recent Raves!

•Sept. 19-21, 7 pm, 9:30 pm. **Saraband** *2003*. Ingmar Bergman directs this story about a woman who feels the need to see her ex-husband again after 30 years without human contact.

•Sept. 19, 3:45 pm. **Scener ur ett äktenskap** (Scenes from a Marriage) *1973*. This film follows the fluctuating relationship of Johan and Marianne through their separation, extramarital affairs, reunion and ultimate divorce. Ingmar Bergman directs.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Midnight at the Coolidge

•Sept. 16, 12 am. **Seijû gakuen** *(School of the Holy Beast) 1974*. A girl enjoys her last night of freedom before entering a convent, which then turns out to be a hotbed of immorality. Norifumi Suzuki directs.

•Sept. 17, 12 am. **La Bête** *(The Beast) 1975*. Walerian Borowczyk adapts the fable *Beauty and the Beast*, creating a controversial erotic/horror film.

The Muddy River Environmental Film Series

•Sept. 22, 7:30 pm. **Oil On Ice** *2004*. This documentary connects the fate of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to American energy and transportation policies. Dale Djerassi and Bo Boudart direct.

•Sept. 23, 6 pm. **Slow Food Revolution** *2003*. This film looks at the eco-gastronomic movement known as "Slow Food," which champions the protection of traditional culture, the environment and biodiversity. Carlo Buralli directs. Double feature. **Sweet Soil** *2004*. This documentary focuses on four family farms, a natural foods store and a community with a passion for fresh, local food. Laura Meister and Erica Spizz direct.

•Sept. 23, 8:30 pm; Sept. 24, 4 pm. **The Future of Food** *2004*. This in-depth investigative film explores a range of biotech issues and how they affect what we eat. Deborah Koons directs.

•Sept. 24, 2 pm. **Portrait of a Coastline** *1980*. Jim Gabriel's film documents a year-long exploration of the forces that move and shape a sandy coastline. 6 pm. **Turning Down the Heat** *2000*. This documentary showcases alternative sources of power and successful projects of the new energy revolution. Jim Hamm directs. 8 pm and 10 pm. **Blue Vinyl** *2002*. Judith Helfand and Daniel B. Gold document their search for the truth about America's most popular plastic, wherein they unearth its effects on human health and the environment.

•Sept. 24-25, 11 am. **Animated Shorts** *1998/2004*. Nick Hilligoss directs this selection of his own environmentally focused, animated shorts. 12 pm. **The Lorax** *1972*. Hawley Pratt directs this film version of Dr. Seuss' story, underlining the larger message of what happens when humans disregard the environment. 2 pm.

•Sept. 25, 1 pm. **Thirst** *2004*. This film explores questions posed by water rights, looking at stories in Bolivia, India and the United States. Alan Snitow and Deborah Kaufman direct. 5 pm. **The Next Industrial Revolution** *2001*. This documentary follows an architect and a chemist as they work on five projects that represent a revolutionary change in the direction of human economy. Chris Bedord and Shelley Morhaim direct. 7 pm. **Bike Like U Mean It** *2002*. Rusty Martin and Susan Kirr direct this documentary on bicycle activists in Austin, Texas.

•Sept. 26, 6 pm, 8 pm. **Lost Pond**. Carol Kowalski directs the story of the natural and cultural history of Brookline's Lost Pond Sanctuary. Double feature. **Isabel's Gift**. This short film looks at the renewal of the Larz Anderson Park gardens due to an emerging respect for historic landscapes. James Gribsch directs.

•Sept. 27, 6 pm, 8:30 pm. **The Greatest Good** *2005*. Steve Dunsky and Dave Steinke's documentary traces the history of the Forest Service and its efforts to provide the most benefits to the most people while remaining good stewards to the land.

Viggo Mortensen is a small-town working man and Ed Harris is a Philadelphia mobster in David Cronenberg's *A History of Violence*.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

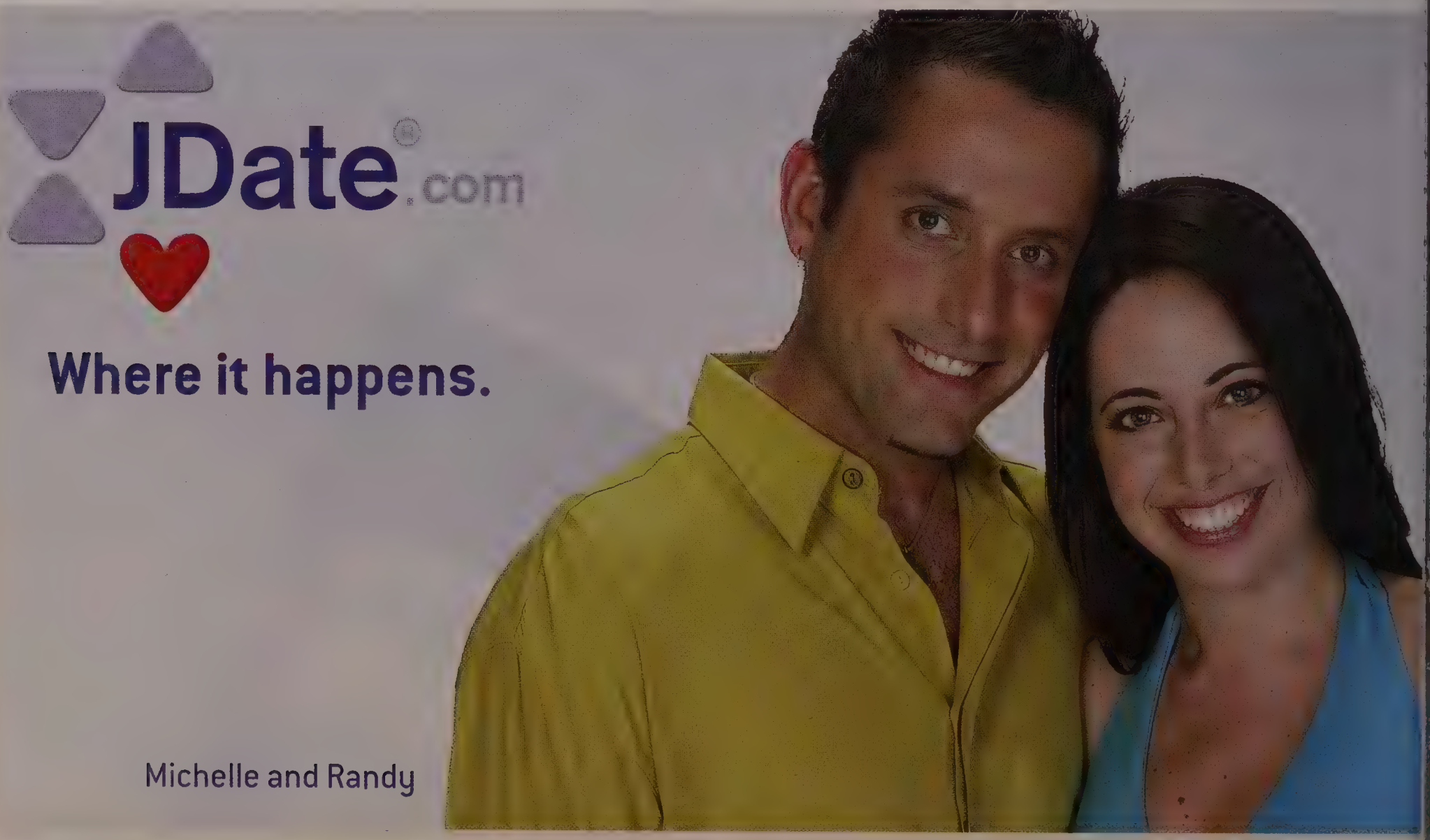
Too Human: The Films of Louis Malle

•Sept. 14, 7 pm; Sept. 15, 9 pm. **Calcutta** *1969*. Louis Malle documents his journey through Calcutta, revealing the details of everyday life for the city's inhabitants.

•Sept. 14, 9 pm; Sept. 15, 7 pm. **Place de la République** *1974*. Over a series of days, Louis Malle and Fernand Mozskowicz ask people questions in Paris' Place de la République, sometimes using concealed cameras and microphones, and other times with the equipment in plain view. Louis Malle directs.

•Sept. 16, 7 pm; Sept. 18, 9 pm. **Vie Privée** *(A Ve Private Affair) 1962*. Brigitte Bardot plays a you movie star who discovers her private life destroyed fans who won't leave her alone. Louis Malle directs

•Sept. 17, 7 pm; Sept. 19, 9 pm. **Le Voleur** *(T Thief of Paris) 1967*. A young man steals son



mily jewels as an act of revenge and enjoys the perience so much that he embarks upon a life-ne of burglary. Louis Malle directs.
Sept. 17, 9:15 pm; Sept. 19, 7 pm. **Black Moon** 975. Louis Malle directs this sci-fi film set in a orld where men and women are at war with each her.
Sept. 18, 7 pm. **Viva María!** *1965*. A young girl joins e circus and ends up getting involved in a local volution. Louis Malle directs.
Sept. 20, 7 pm. **Crackers** *1984*. Louis Malle directs is film about a gang of unemployed, criminal ends who attempt to plan and execute a burglary gether. 9 pm. **Alamo Bay** *1985*. A Vietnam teran is in danger of losing his livelihood when etnamese immigrants move into the fishing dustry in a Texas bay town.
Sept. 22, 7 pm. **Pays de Dieu** *(God's Country)* 986. Louis Malle visits the agricultural town of encoe in 1979 and then again in 1985, after the habitants have been affected by the recession d depression in farming. 9 pm. **Poursuite du onheur** *(The Pursuit of Happiness) 1986*. Louis alle travels around the United States terviewing immigrants and exploring the nerican anger over illegal immigration from exico and Latin America.
Sept. 23, 9:15 pm; Sept. 25, 7 pm. **My Dinner with ndré** *1981*. Wallace Shawn and André Gregory are the stories of their lives at a restaurant. Louis alle directs.
Sept. 24, 7 pm; Sept. 27, 9 pm. **Milou en Mai** *(May ols) 1989*. A family struggles individually and gether after the death of the mother due to a student rising in 1968. Louis Malle directs.
Sept. 24, 9 pm. **Fatale** *(Damage) 1992*. A member of rliament falls passionately in love with his son's fi-cée in Louis Malle's film, staring Jeremy Irons and iette Binoche.

USEUM OF FINE ARTS
ne Films of Louis Malle
Sept. 15, 4 pm. **Le Feu Follet** *(The Fire Within)* 63. Louis Malle directs this film chronicling the al hours of a playboy's life before he commits icide.
Sept. 15, 6 pm. **Au Revoir les Enfants** *(Goodbye, ildren)* 1987. Students at a Catholic boarding hool in Nazi-occupied France discover a secret out one of the new students. Louis Malle directs.
Sept. 17, 12:30 pm. **Le Souffle au Couer** *(Murmur the Heart)* 1971. A 15-year-old boy develops a art murmur and is sent to a spa, where he experi-ces a sexual awakening. Louis Malle directs.
uddy River Film Festival
Sept. 24, 1:45 pm. **Darwin's Nightmare** *2004*. Fo-sing on the destructive Nile Perch in Tanzanian ke Victoria, this film explores the destruction of ture evident in our time.
usic on Film
Sept. 17, 4:15 pm; Sept. 24, 12:10 pm. **I'll Sing for u** *2001*. Jacques Sarasin directs this lyrical tribute Boubacar Traoré, whose music was crucial to the dependence movement in Mali.
ew England Film Artists Present
Sept. 15th, 2 pm; Sept. 16, 6 pm; Sept. 17, 10:30 n. **Parallel Lines** *2003*. Documentarian Nina avenport drives from California to New York ty immediately following the September 11th tacks and talks to Americans along the way.
Sept. 21, 8 pm. **Our Lady's** *2005*. Elizabeth 'Brien Gardner's film examines how Boston's atholics, after years of silence and oppression, have ially spoken up against the Church in the wake of ndreds of child molestation charges.
arring Daniel Brühl
Sept. 15, 8 pm; Sept. 22, 3 pm. **No More School** 00. High-school students in a small German wn try to have fun together for one last time. arco Petry directs.
Sept. 16, 8 pm. **The White Sound** *2000*. Hans eingartner directs this film portraying a young n's struggle to contain his schizophrenia.
Sept. 17, 2:40 pm. **Good Bye, Lenin!** *2003*. Wolf-ng Becker directs this satire of the reunification Germany, where a son attempts to shield his rty loyalist mother from the changes resulting m the fall of the Berlin Wall.
Sept. 21, 6 pm; Sept. 24, 10:30 am. **Honolulu** *01*. Seven Munich Film School students present collection of vignettes based in a rural town out-le of Munich.
Sept. 22, 1 pm. **Ladies in Lavender** *2004*. The es of two elderly sisters become more chaotic ter they take an injured man into their house-old. Charles Dance directs.
Sept. 24, 4 pm. **Elephant Heart** *2002*. A young nateur boxer dreams of going professional. Züli ladag directs.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theater
- **Aliens of the Deep 3D**. Director James Cameron takes viewers to the depths of the ocean to encounter some of Earth's strangest life forms.
- **Sharks 3D**. Jean-Michel Cousteau tracks the ocean's ultimate predators.
- **Wild Safari 3D: A South African Adventure**. An adventure through wild South Africa reveals the most dangerous and spectacular animals.
- **Batman Begins: The IMAX Experience**. Christopher Nolan directs this film which explains Bruce Wayne's childhood and the events that led to his creation of the Batman persona.

ZEITGEIST GALLERY
Joanie4Jackie: The Video Chainletter
- Sept. 15, 7 pm. **The Newborn Chainletter** *2005*. This film is a compilation of shorts by women that range from the amateur to the professional. Miranda July directs.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON
Regent Theatre
7 Medford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON
Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-499-1996). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St. (617-876-6060).

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

Finding the Rhythm

Chris Smither brings his deep-rooted perspective to the Boston Folk Festival.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

The songs are half-finished and Chris Smither says he hopes to start recording his next CD before Christmas. It's already been two years since his last record, the stellar *Train Home*. But that doesn't faze the folk-blues veteran.

For one thing, Smither has been a little busy, and not just with music. He and his wife returned from China this summer with their first child, an adopted 10-month-old girl. "It's pretty amazing," he says with a chuckle from his Arlington home. "I feel like I'm doing something important."

Smither also knows the limits of time away from the studio. A few albums into his career in the early '70s, he stopped recording for more than a decade while he battled alcoholism.

"All of that stuff had to happen for me to be where I am now," says Smither, 60. "That was 12 years between records, so what are two or three years? Any longer than that, people start to think you're dead. I know people who put out a record every year, and that's too much. Nobody has time to absorb that. You don't even have time to learn to play the songs!"

Folk-blues veteran Chris Smither is known for his acoustic finger-picking.

Regardless of how many songs Smither learns for the studio, however, he draws from a deep well onstage. He performs up to 175 shows a year, although he has cut back this year, aiming to play fewer than 130 dates. One of them will be the Boston Folk Festival, the annual outdoor event staged by WUMB-FM at U-Mass Boston, where Smither plays Sept. 24.

Much of the praise Smither receives is for his acoustic finger-picking. "It's like a whole orchestration on one instrument," he says of his guitar work, but adds, "If I had to pick one thing that I think I'm better at out of playing, singing and writing, I would pick writing."

Artists from John Mayall to Emmylou Harris have recorded Smither's songs, but the most famous—and still one of his most requested songs—remains "Love You Like a Man." Most people would know it better as "Love Me Like a Man," first recorded by old friend Bonnie Raitt (who resurfaces on *Train Home* for a duet on Bob Dylan's "Desolation Row") and most recently by jazz singer-pianist Diana Krall.

"That song is one of those gifts that keep giving," Smither says. "Diana does it basically the way Bonnie does it, but on piano, like a slow drag shuffle. For me, it's very up-tempo, full of male braggadocio."

Smither has since tackled more weighty terrain, such as mortality, a subject that infuses *Train Home*. "I still think I'm going to die someday, though I haven't seen incontrovertible proof," he says. "You hope you're hitting on things that people have thought to themselves, but never put into words. You hope you come up with a different aspect of experience that people find familiar."

Musically, however, he doesn't see the blues as an outlet for sadness. "To me, it's a vehicle for any kind of song you want to write," says Smither, who was first drawn to the simplicity of the blues as a native of New Orleans.

Moving to Boston for a performance outlet in the late '60s, he'd hang out at promoter Dick Waterman's house. "You'd go over to Dick's house and there'd be all these [blues] people there, people like Fred McDowell and Skip James. They'd be guitars around, but mainly they'd be drinking. They were just hanging around, having a good time. I didn't play with them as much as I'd pick up a guitar once in a while." In fact, that's where he first met Raitt, though he says, "I didn't even know she played the guitar until years later."

Rhythm was a fundamental element of the blues that Smither particularly embraced: he even mikes his feet onstage to amplify the tapping. "I've been doing that for about 15 years," he says. "My current manager suggested it 'cause it's hard for me to play if I can't hear my feet."

Smither found a basic, homespun groove on *Train Home* that he plans to mine again with producer-guitarist David "Goody" Goodrich. "We played all the songs in my house the way I would for an audience," says Smither, who then let Goodrich overdub backup from his onetime bandmates in Groovasaurus. "It resulted in a very comfortable, relaxed, but at the same time, authoritative version of the songs."

For someone who once headlined shows over Raitt, Jackson Browne and Tom Waits at the start of his career, but has found his greatest joys as a recording artist, performer and now a father later in life, Smither has no regrets.

"I'm more successful than I ever dreamed I'd be," he says. "That's the bottom line." iB

Chris Smither
plays the Boston Folk Festival Sept. 24.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by f (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from di ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provi accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

BeanTown Jazz Fest 2005 Sept. 24 (866-442-7995
Boston Blues Festival Sept. 24 and 25, Hat Memorial Shell.
Boston Folk Festival Sept. 24 and 25, UMa Boston (617-287-6911).
Brooks and Dunn "Deuces Wild" Tour Sept. 2 Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Elton John Sept. 16 and 17, TD Banknorth Garde (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson Sept. 15, Campanelli Stadium (50 559-7070).
MixFest 2005 Sept. 24, Bank of America Pavili (617-931-2000).
Paul McCartney Sept. 26 and 27, TD Banknor Garden (617-931-2000).
Tim McGraw Sept. 15, Mullins Center (617-93 2000).
Ricardo Montaner Sept. 25, Orpheum Theat (617-931-2000).
Röyksopp Sept. 22, Paradise Rock Club (617-56 8800).
The White Stripes Sept. 20-22, the Opera Hou (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Abbey Lounge JP05, 7 pm; the Sad Lives of the Ho lywood Lovers, 9 pm; the Scars, 9:45 pm; Wron Side of the Tracks, 10:45 pm; Confront, 11:45 pm.
Asgard The Ken Selcer Invitational Music Jam, pm, no cover.
Avalon Umphrey's McGee, Conspirator, 8 pm, $16
Bill's Bar El Gringo, Carla Ryder Band and Er Denardo, 9 pm, $8-$11, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Rollins Ross, 7:30 and 9:30 pm, n cover.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy , 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9 pm, n cover, 21+.
Club Passim Beth Amsel, Anais Mitchel, 8 pm, $1 $10 members.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott The Makers, Rock 'n' Roll Soldier Shotbaker, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Hennessy's Grey Spot, 21+.
Johnny D's Ben Monder, 8:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Aaron Shadwell, 8 pm, no cover 21+; Christian McNeill Band, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Glenn Ridosh, 9 pm, no cover, 21+
Middle East Upstairs: Portastatic, Mary Timony, Ten ement Halls, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Deerhoo Why?, Numbers, Limited Express, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Latitude, Rosana Peixoto, 9 pm, no cover
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's The Buzz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Casey Desmond, Valerie For gione, 7 pm, $8, 18+.
PA's Tony Reeks of the Grave, Tijuana Hercules Cloud Cult, the Adam Sloan Trio, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+
Purple Shamrock Brick Park Karaoke, 10 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Tony Machnai, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Jack Donahue, 8 and 10 pm $18, $58.
Sky Bar Open mike, Craig Robertson, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad Nell Bryden, 7 pm, no cover; Rebecca Pronsky Kate Klim, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tom Thumb & the Latter Day Saints, 9:05 pm; Dr. Dog, 10 pm; Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, 11 pm, $10.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jarrett Cherner Trio, 7:30 pm, $7.

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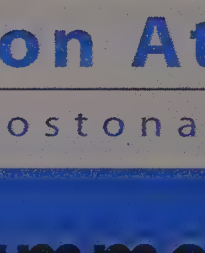
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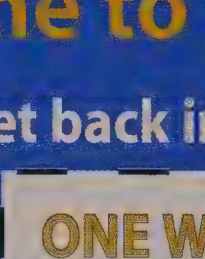
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ZuZu Terranaomi, 10:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Les Zygomates The Evan Gutierrez Salsa Band, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Abbey Lounge New England Pop Music Festival; Max Heinegg, 6:45 pm; Pome, 7:45 pm; Static of the Gods, 8:45 pm; the Montgomerys, 9:45 pm; Scamper, 10:45 pm; Heavy Stud, 11:45 pm, $5-$7 after 9 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Steve Giannaros Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Evan Gutierrez, 7:30 pm, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6 pm.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons.
Campanelli Stadium Jack Johnson, 7 pm, $35.
Cantab Lounge The ChickenSlacks, 9 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Pierce Woodward, Chris Merenda, 8 pm, $12, $10 members.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Felt Labb, Amusia, 9 pm, 21+.
Good Life Downtown The Three Amoebas, 6 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Spiritual Rez, $10-$13, 18+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 21+.
Johnny D's The Weepies, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café David Thorne Scott, 8 pm; the After Hours Band, 9 pm; Come on Man, 10 pm; the Highway, 11 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Bowman, 8 pm, no cover, 21+; Bourbon Princess, Temper, the Jennifer Matthews Band, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Freefall, Chimp Simple, Say When, Sidewalk Driver, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Mullins Center Tim McGraw, 8 pm, $48-$78.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Antler, Radar Eyes, Great Day for Up, 8:30 pm, $6.
Old South Church Tadd Allman-Morton, Jeff Von Wald, the Willie Sordillo Trio, 6 pm, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club Apocalyptica, Eyes of Fire, 8 pm, 18+.
PA's Holding Room, Graham Isaacson, Whistlejacket, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Scullers Jazz Club Terence Blanchard, 8 pm, 10 pm, $20, $60.
Toad Holy Ghost, 7 pm, no cover; Starhick, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Radka, 9:30 pm; the Working Title, 10:30 pm; Athlete, 11:45 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates April Hall Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Abbey Lounge New England Pop Music Festival; Will Gattis Trio, 6:45 pm; the Fawns, 7:45 pm; the Buckners, 8:45 pm; Cyanide Valentine, 9:45 pm; Bleu, 10:45 pm; Dirty Ticket, 11:45 pm, 21+.
Asgard Tom Groleau, Stu Lee, 10 pm, no cover.
The Attic Marie's Children.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern The Jenn and Steve Show, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm; Upstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Harry Fix, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm; Joe Barbato Bass Duo, 9:30 pm.
The Burren The Freezepops, 10 pm.
Cambridge Center for Adult Education Open Mike, John O'Neil, 7:30 pm, $7, $5 members.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8.
Club Passim Liz Carlisle, Adienne Young, Little Sadie CD Release, 8 pm, $15, $13 members.
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs, 10 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Big 80's, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Grand Canal Grey Spot, 9:30 pm, , 21+.
Great Scott Taxpayer, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Complaints, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp Loud Mouth Soup, 10 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5 pm, 21+; Swerve, 21+.
Johnny D's Superhoney, 9:45 pm, $10, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rite, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm; Al Janek's Animalism, 9 pm; Electroluxe, 10 pm; Angeline, 10:30 pm; Mick Mondo Streak, 11:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Session Americana, Jennifer Kin ball, 9:30 pm, $8 advance, $10 at the door, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm, cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Rubikon, Hydronaut, Jor Complex, Gracie, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Prefu 73, Irepress, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Midway Café TM, 9 pm.
Milky Way Waitiki, 9 pm, $12.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5 pm, no cover, 21+; Sunda Well, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:15 pm, cover.
O'Brien's The Delusions, Over the Edge, Shuttl cock, Cheaterpint, 8:30 pm, $6.
Paddy O's Seven Nations, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club The Proclaimers, Deadman pm, 18+.
Parris Big Bang Baby, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's E.R. solo, Pending Disappointment, Fonzi Office, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Regattabar Maria Muldaur, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $20.
Scullers Jazz Club Terence Blanchard, 8 pm, 10 p $20, $60.
TD Banknorth Garden Elton John, 8 pm, $45-$12
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Ga loway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Octopus Project, 9:15 pr Aberdeen City, 10:15 pm; Pela, 11:15 pm; the N tional, 12:15 am, $10.
The Western Front Dr. Jah and the Love Prophe 10 pm, $8.
ZuZu Gian Carlo, 11:30 pm, $3, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Abbey Lounge New England Pop Music Festiva Hank Crane, 6:45 pm; Illustrious Day, 7:45 pr Auto Interiors, 8:45 pm; Mollycoddle, 9:45 pr Mike Gent, 10:45 pm; the Shods, 11:45 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Mike Matthieu Band, 10 pm, no cove
The Attic Ben Miller & Low Anthem, Chris Can Band.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern The Jenn and Steve Show, 9: pm, no cover, 21+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9: pm; Upstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Soul Phactor, 7:30 pm, $5.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 6 pm; Alfred Cardim Bass Duo, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Classic Trax, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, pm, $8.
Club Passim Jes Hudak, Teddy Goldstein, 8 pr $14, $12 members.
Common Ground Ten Mile Tide, 10 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Never in Vegas, 8:30 pm, no cove
Grand Canal Grumpy Jones, 9:30 pm, , 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swaying Johnsons, 9: pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp Big Bang Baby, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Bomb Squad, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Random Axis, 21+.
Johnny D's Stone Crazy, Gordon Bennett, 9:45 pr $10.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell, 8 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Black Eggs, 9 pm; New Classics, 1 pm; Reckless Daughter, 11 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Ziaf, Cirkestra, Count Zero, 9:30 pn $10, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Polysics, the Talk, 1 pm, $1 We're All Gonna Die, Superpower, Dead Lik Death, Kill It All Away, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstair Chizh & Co., 8 pm, $35 advance, $40 at the doo 18+.
Midway Café Temper, 10 pm; the Jumblies, 11 pn Iota, 12 am.
Mr. Dooley's Colm O'Brien and Friends, 9 pm, $ 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:15 pm, n cover.
O'Brien's The Horses, 8:30 pm, $6.
Olde Magoun's Saloon Maxi Courtney, 10 pm, n cover.
Paddy O's Incadence, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Little Brother, the Away Team Legacy, Darien Brockington, Joe Scudda, Chaun don, 8 pm, 18+.
Parris Loud Mouth Soup, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Con Amore, Ichabod, Wart Hog, Bang Circus 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 9:30 pm, $5.
Regattabar Jimmy Scott, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $25.
TD Banknorth Garden Elton John, 8 pm, $45-$12
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm, no cover Jabe, 10 pm, no cover.

p of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Gal-
way, 9 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place Cabaret, 9 pm, $8 before 10:30
n, $10 after.
ie Vine Wine Bar Enrico Santorelli Group.
ie Western Front Roots Nation, 10 pm, $10.
iZu Soul-le-lu-Jah, 11:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
s Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

UNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

bey Lounge Bad Art, 9:30 pm, 21+.
ie Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
avo at the MFA Jazz Brunch, Ronnie Ron Duo,
:30 am, no cover.
istol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11 am; Alfredo
rdim, 6 pm.
ntab Lounge Candy's Blues, Jazz & Rock Jam, 9
n, $8.
ub Passim Rebecca Hall & Ken Anderson, David
ney CD Release, 7:30 pm, $15, $13 members.
ck's Last Resort Mike Tamara, 7:20 pm, no cover.
nmanuel Church Aardvark Jazz Orchestra, 7:30
n, $15.
eat Scott Khanate, Kayo Dot, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
e Green Dragon Tavern Grey Spot, 9:30 pm, no
ver, 21+.
een Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop
gh Life, 9:30 pm, no cover.
rpers Ferry Hip Hop Anonymous, Honorable
ention, Hood Official, the Eclectic Collective,
dible Mainframe, AfroDZak, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
nnessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm, 21+.
nny D's Tom Pendergast, 9 am, no cover, 21+.
nnedy's Midtown Juliet Lloyd, 12 pm, no cover.
cky's Lounge The Al Vega Trio, Alex Mac-
ugall, 8:30 pm, no cover.
ddle East Upstairs: Die Hunns, Kings of Nuthin,
e Black Halos, Angel City Outcasts, 1 pm, $10-
2, 18+; Thrill Ride, the Vershok, Gorch Fock, the
dden, 9 pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Lucero, Chris
lls and the New Miserable Bastards, 8 pm, $10,
+.
dway Café Secret Cock, 9 pm.
lky Way Babaloo, Apoca y Pinchito, $20 sug-
sted donation.
Brien's N.E.S.T. 2005, Fat Worm of Error, Goat
Arms, X 04, Crystal Cocks OVer Canada.

The White Stripes play Sept. 20-22 at the Opera House.

Paradise Rock Club The Bodeans, Shannon McNally, 7 pm, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Harvey Finstein, 10 am, no cover.
Toad Kristin Cifelli, Austin Nevins, 7 pm, no cover; Michael Dinallo, Steve Sadler, Dean Cassell, Andy Plaistead, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Brett Rosenberg Problem 9:05 pm; the Heavenly States, 10 pm; Troubled Hubble, 11 pm, $9.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren2, 9 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Eli Paperboy Reed, the 9 Billion Names of God, Brownbird, 10:30, no cover, 21+.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Abbey Lounge Swim to Shore, 7:30 pm; Indianapolis, 9 pm; Bunk 9, 9:45 pm; On My Signal, 10:45 pm; Saving Alcatraz, 11:45 pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm, no cover; Rosanne Raneri, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12, $10 members.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott The Gossip, We Are Wolves, the Mules, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
The Green Briar Irish Sessuin, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Gordon Bennett Band, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Diamond Mines, Hockey Night, Tiny Amps, Kind of Like Spitting, the Living Seal, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Midway Café The Brian Thomas Group, 9 pm.
O'Brien's N.E.S.T. 2005, Wild Life, the Butcherings.
Paradise Rock Club Juliet, 8 pm, no cover; Mousetrap, 10 pm, $3, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 9 pm, $10.
Toad Shwang, Anita Suhanin, 7 pm, no cover; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Silverspun Pickups, 9:05 pm; the Swords Project, 10 pm; Taylor Hollingsworth, 11 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Mark Robinson, Carlisle Sound, Yoni Gordon, 10:30 pm, $3, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steven Spungin, 7 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Abbey Lounge Jeff&Benarus, 7 pm; Jimi Goo, 9 pm; Tall, 9:45 pm; RSC, 10:45 pm; A Fir-Ju Well, 11:45 pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm, no cover; Freewheelin', 10 pm, no cover; Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Pary, 9 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Open Mike, Tara Leigh Cobble, 7 pm, $5, no cover members.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Devil Music, Black Helicopter, Mouthus, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Rockabilly Jazz From the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, $4, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 21+.
Johnny D's Tony Bird, 8:30 pm, $14, 21+.
Kinsale Tom Courtney, 7 pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Jabe, 8 pm, no cover, 21+; Kevin Gordon, Matt Hebert, the Pines, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Brent Newcomb, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Sabbat, the Chasm, Watchmaker, Super Christ, Dementianon, $12, 8 pm, 18+; Downstairs: Minus the Bear, These Arms are Snakes, Thunderbirds are Now!, the New Trust, 8 pm, $10 advance, $12 at the door, 18+.
Midway Café Atba, 9 pm.
Milky Way Nickel and Dime Band, Karaoke, 9 pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's N.E.S.T. 2005, Alex K. and the Eyesores, Octave Museum, Ramona Cordova, Meli.

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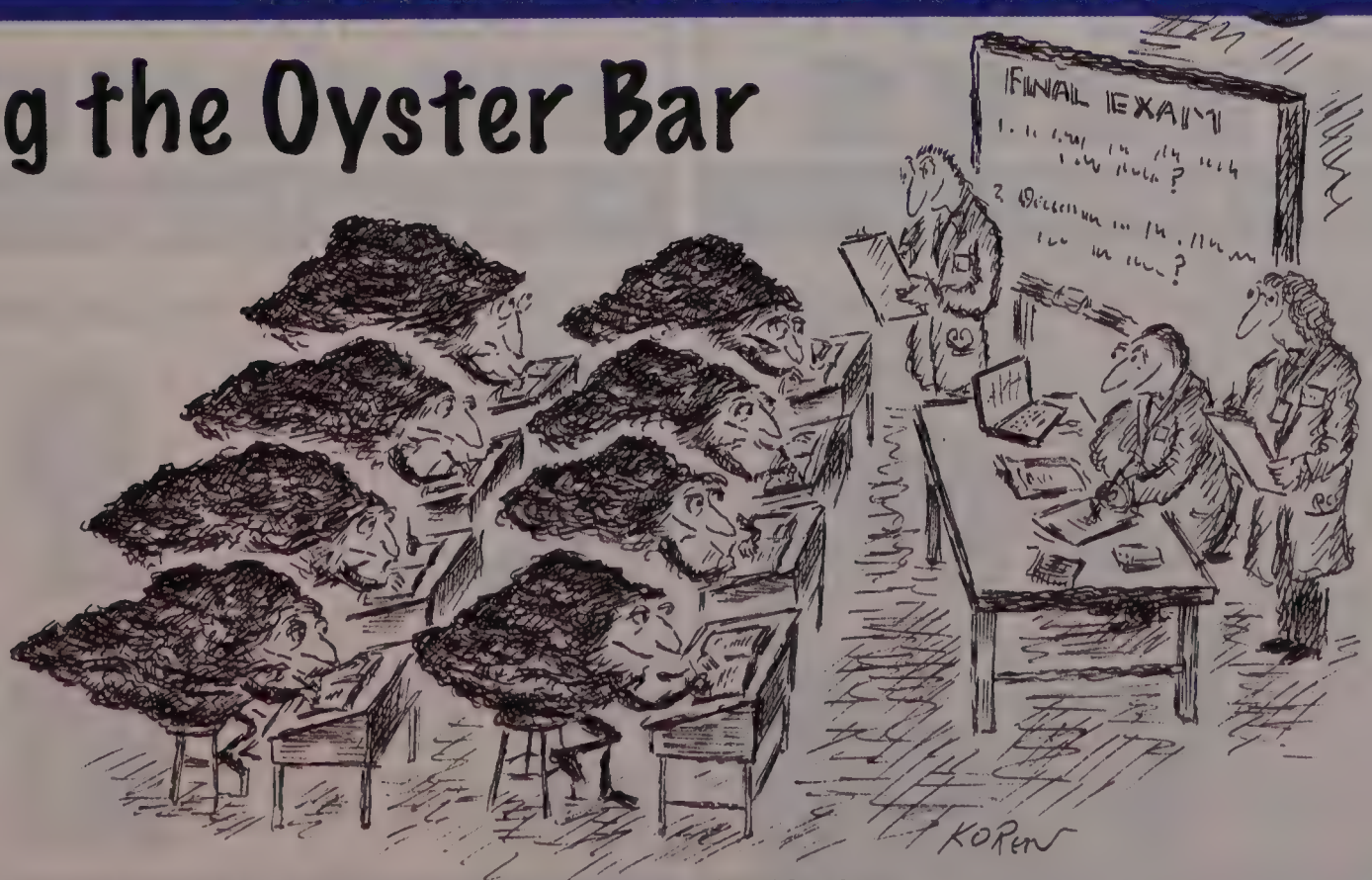

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The Opera House The White Stripes, 7:30 pm, $35-$45.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke, Dana Z, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club John Payne Sax Choir 25th Anniversary, 8 pm, $10.
Toad Holt Hopkins, 8:30 pm, no cover; the Resophonics, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Prurient, 9 pm; Sunburned Hand of the Man, 10 pm; Wolf Eyes, 11 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu The Westward Trail and Fiasco, 10:30 pm, $3, 21+.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Abbey Lounge Jeff Root, 8 pm; the New Thirty, 9 pm; Model A, 9:45 pm; the Thungs, 10:45 pm; Din, 11:45 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Ken Selcer Invitational Music Jam, 9 pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Say Hey, Serious B, 9 pm, $7-$10, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Teresa Storch, Patti Keough, Sarah Woolf, Thea Hopkins, Denise Barbarita, Danielle Miraglia, Patti DeRosa, Vicki Blankenship, 8 pm, $15, $13 members.
Dick's Last Resort 3 Wrongs Make a Right, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Victory at Sea, the Reputation, Shore Leave, Piles, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Harpers Ferry Contruda, Old Silver Band, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Grey Spot, 21+.
Johnny D's Susan Cowsill, 8:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Residency, 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+; Christian McNeill Band, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Glenn Ridosh, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Mortician, Bane Of Existence, Dissector, Hatchet, 9 pm, $12, 18+. Downstairs: Four Tet, Hot Chip, Koushik, 8 pm, $12 advance, $15 at the door, 18+.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's N.E.S.T. 2005.
The Opera House The White Stripes, 7:30 pm, $35-$45.
Paradise Rock Club Citizen Cope, Courtney Dowe, 7 pm, 18+.
PA's The Franklin Kite, the Shift, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park Karaoke, 10 pm.
Regattabar Danilo Perez, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $18.
Scullers Jazz Club Ron Gill & the Manny Williams Trio, 8 pm, $15, $55.
Sky Bar Open Mike, Craig Robertson, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad Christie Leigh, 7 pm, no cover; Scotch Rocks, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Gore Gore Girls, 10:15 pm; Towers of London, 11:15 pm, $10.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Nurse & Soldier, Organelles, Forbes Graham, 10:30 pm, $3, 21+.
Les Zygomates The Evan Gutierrez Salsa Band, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Abbey Lounge Celtic Punk Night; the Swaggerin' Growlers, 9 pm; the Gobshites, 11:45 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Steve Giannaros Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Myanna, 7:30 pm, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6 pm.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons.
Cantab Lounge The Chicken Slacks, 9 pm, cover.
Club Passim Rushad Eggleston & the Wild Banc Snee, 8 pm, $15, $13 members.
Dick's Last Resort A.D.D., 7:20 pm, no cover.
Felt Pete Francis, Meet the Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Rob Mitzner Trio, 6 pm, cover, 21+.
Great Scott Read Yellow, Parts and Labor, Badm 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro I High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 21+.
Johnny D's Andy Brown & the Storm, 9 pm, $15, 2
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no co
Kirkland Café License, 8 pm; Heather & the B barians, 9 pm; Cello Chix, 10 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm, cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: IV Diffusion, HumanKi Uprise, RPC, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Natu Vibes, LLC, Jah-N-I, the House of Rastaf Nyabinghi Drumming Group, 8 pm, $20 advan $25 at the door, 18+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's N.E.S.T. 2005, Mittens, Pants Yell!, H & Glasses, the Teeth.
Old South Church Tadd Allman-Morton, Jeff V Wald, the Willie Sordillo Trio, 6 pm, no cover.
The Opera House The White Stripes, 7:30 p $35-$45.
Paradise Rock Club Röyksopp, Annie, 8 pm, 18+
PA's Chop Chop, the Shapes, My Own We Enemy, Slink Moss, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Regattabar Danilo Perez, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18.
Roxy The New Deal, the Low Life, 7 pm, $20, 18+
Ryles Jazz Club Jeannie Gagne, 8:30 pm, $10.
Somerville Theatre Arkadi Duchin Live, 8 p $24, $44.
The Western Front Voice of the Underground pm, $5.
Toad Holy Ghost, 7 pm, no cover; the John C Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm, cover.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Averi Nov. 12, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Beck Sept. 29, Bank of America Pavilion (617-931-2000).
David Gray Oct. 8, Agganis Arena (617-931-2000).
Decemberists Oct. 10, Avalon (617-931-2000).
deSol Sept. 30, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Hanson Nov. 4, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Jethro Tull Oct. 6, Lowell Memorial Auditorium (617-931-2000).
Los Lonely Boys Sept. 30, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
John Mayer Oct. 11, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Jason Mraz Oct. 9, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
NEMO Music Festival Sept. 29-Oct. 2 (617-348-2899).
Nine Inch Nails, Queens of the Stone Age Nov. 8, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Liz Phair Oct. 14, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Bonnie Raitt Oct. 23, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Rolling Stones Jan. 13, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Ashlee Simpson Oct. 1, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Spoon Nov. 3, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Gwen Stefani and the Black Eyed Peas Oct. 31, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Rob Thomas, Antigone Rising Oct. 11, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
U2 Oct. 3-4, Dec. 4-5, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Zox Oct. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).

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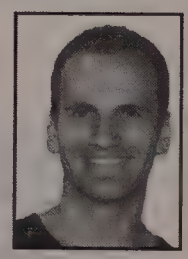


Dennis Richard
Training & Hatha Yoga
617-821-4553

Scott Cotter
Golfer Training Program
617-922-2345

Liz Tambascio
Fitness & Lifestyle Mgmt.
617-669-6908

BodyEvolver
364 Boylston Street • 617-247-BODY

T. the Bear's Place Stand, 10:30 pm; Marjorie ir, 11:30 pm, $7.
uZu Pragnus Grey & Friends, 10:30 pm, $3, 21+.
s Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

RIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

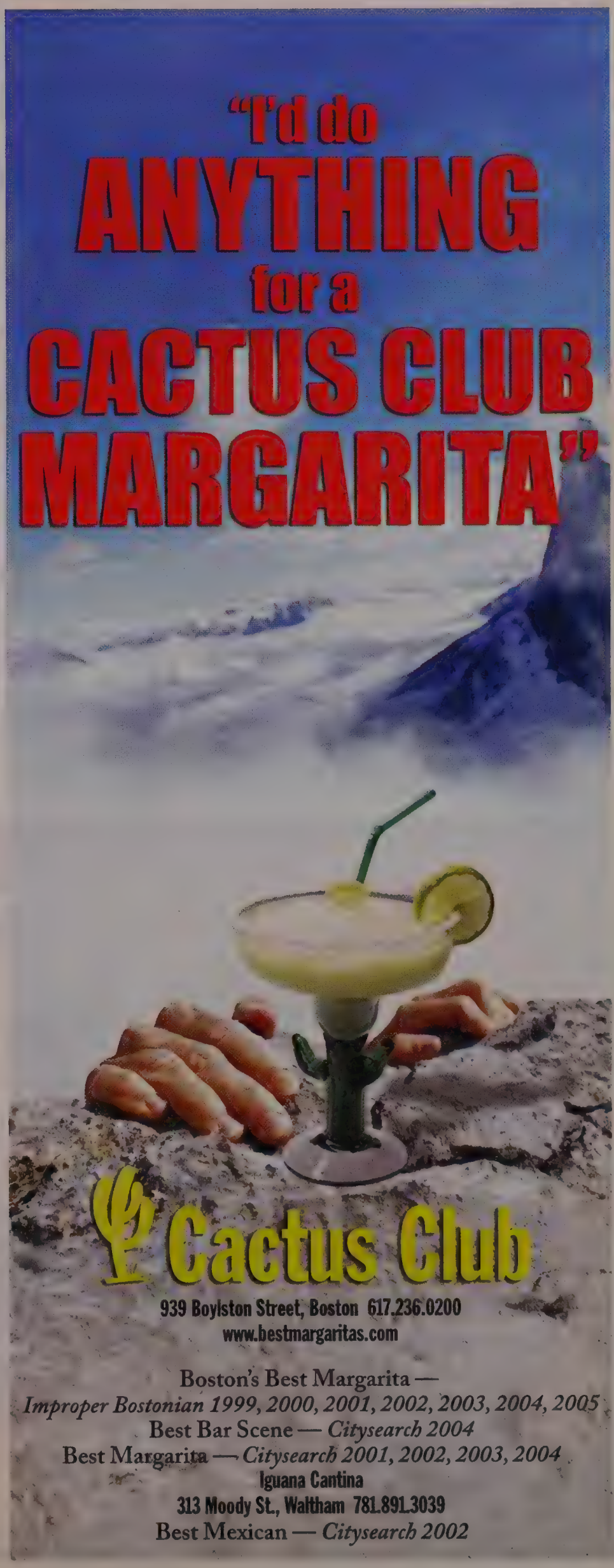
obey Lounge Jeff Bellucci, 7 pm; the Killer Abs, 9 n; Shoot the Moon, 9:45 pm; the Brain Surgeons, :45 pm; Mach 5, 11:45 pm, 21+.
sgard The Scott Damgaard Duo, 10 pm, no cover.
ie Attic Jiggle the Creek.
venue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
erklee Performance Center BeanTown Jazz Fest 05 Pre-Festival, Lalah Hathaway, 8:15 pm, $25.
ack Horse Tavern Blacksoul, 9:30 pm, no cover, +.
ie Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well, 9:30 n; Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
ob the Chef's Part-Time Lovers, 7:30 pm, $5.
avo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no cover.
istol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm; Joe Barbato Bass io, 9:30 pm.
ie Burren 4" Stud, 10 pm.
antab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 n, $8.
ub Passim Ferron CD Release, 7 pm, $25, $23 embers.
ick's Last Resort Velvet Jones, 8:30 pm, no cover.
rand Canal Fast Times, 9:30 pm, , 21+.
reat Scott Certainly Sir, Cassette, 9 pm, $7, +.
ie Green Dragon Tavern Fraid Knot, 9:30 pm, $5, +.
ie Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
arpers Ferry The Ponys, $8, 21+.
ennessy's Me & Julio, 5 pm, 21+; Syndicate, +.
hnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
ennedy's Midtown Peter Rite, 7 pm, no cover.
nsale Sirsy, 9 pm, $5.
rkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm; e Cautions, 9:30 pm; Forget the Girl, 10:30 pm; e Third Life, 11:30 pm, $5.
zard Lounge Kabir, 8 pm, no cover, 21+; Flynn, e Chris Canty Band, 9:30 pm, $6 advance, $8 at e door, 21+.
ucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm, no ver, 21+.
iddle East Upstairs: Climb, Supervain, the Naked ms, Angry Beautiful, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: ruxshadows, Ego Likeness, You Shriek, Project here, $13 advance, $15 at the door, 18+.
ilky Way Lee Wilson, 9 pm, $7.
r. Dooley's Tommy & Alan, 5 pm, no cover, 21+; eltic Clan, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
ak Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:15 pm, no ver.
'Brien's N.E.S.T. 2005, Major Stars, Plunge into eath, Magic People, Travers.
ddy O's Joshua Tree, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
radise Rock Club M.I.A., 8 pm, 18+.
rris Kristen and the Noise, 10 pm, $5-$10.
's Skull With Wings, Jill/Jennifer Sound, Scuba, as Happening, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
hatt Boys The Pak, 9 pm.
egattabar Bruce Gertz, Jerry Bergonzi Quartet, 30 pm, 10 pm, $15.
ie Ritz Carlton The Ritz Carlton Orchestra, 8 pm, 35.
yles Jazz Club Steve Rochinski, 9 pm, $10.
ullers Jazz Club Tierney Sutton, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, 20, $60.
ad The Freelance Bishops, no cover.
p of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 9 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place Clandestino, 9 pm, $12.
ie Western Front Frankie J, 10 pm, $10.
eitgeist Gallery Anemone, 7 pm, $7.
ero Arrow Theatre Vincent Mantsoe, 7:30 pm, 30.
uZu Gian Carlo, 11:30 pm, $3, 21+.
s Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

ATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

bbey Lounge WMFO Coffee and Smokes Benefit; e World's Greatest Sinners, the Black Clouds, the ibway Surfers, TV Eye, 21+.
sgard Oneside, 10 pm, no cover.
he Attic Chad LaMarsh.
venue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
ank of America Pavilion MixFest 2005 featuring heryl Crow, Cyndi Lauper, Gavin DeGraw, Howie ay, 7 pm, $47.50, $67.50.
eanTown Jazz Fest Nicholas Payton, Chuck Loeb, endrick Oliver, Miguel Zenon, and more, 12 pm, $5 ggested donation.
lack Horse Tavern The Stubbies, 9:30 pm, no ver, 21+.
he Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well, 9:30 n; Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's BeanTown Jazz Festival.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm.
The Burren Swerve, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8.
Club Passim Jackopierce, 8 pm, $25, $23 members.
Dick's Last Resort Mugsy, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Grand Canal Magnus, 9:30 pm, , 21+.
Great Scott Wilderness, Night Rally, Tunnel of Love, Oxford Collapse, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Grumpy Jones, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Playin' Dead, $5, 21+.
Hatch Memorial Shell The Boston Blues Festival, 12 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Brick Park, 21+.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Kinsale Symbolics, 8 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Eric Sommer, 8:30 pm; Greesome, 9:30 pm; Driftwood Citizens, 11 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Melody Gardot, 8 pm, no cover, 21+; the Jeff Harris Band, Milton, 9:30 pm, $8, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Cold Duck Complex, Wack-Ass Egyptians, Museum of Science, Pako, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Lez Zeppelin, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's N.E.S.T. 2005, Black Tail, Rock & Roll Soldiers.
Olde Magoun's Saloon Cherry Orchard, 10 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Mark Morris & the Catunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Particle, Gabby La La, 8 pm, 18+.
Parris Kristen and the Noise, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Phatt Boys The Pak, 9 pm.
Purple Shamrock Fast Times, 9:30 pm, $5.
Somerville Theatre Lila Downs, 8 pm, $22, $28.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm, no cover; Sand Machine, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Superlow, 9 pm; Teenage Prayers, 9:45 pm; the Downbeat 5, 10:45 pm; .the Gravel Pit, 11:45 pm, $10 advance, $12 at the door.
UMass Boston Boston Folk Festival featuring Suzanne Vega, 11 am, $10-$100.
The Vine Wine Bar Dave Yaegar.
The Western Front Black Rebels & Midnight Ravers, 10 pm, $10.
Zero Arrow Theatre Vincent Mantsoe, 8 pm, $30.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-Jah, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Abbey Lounge Bad Art, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Avalon Paul Weller, Ian Moore, 7 pm, $26.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Hakim Law, 7:30 pm, $5.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch, Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dann Greenspan Jazz Brunch Duo, 11 am; Joe Barbato, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues, Jazz, & Rock Jam, 9 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Jackopierce, 7:30 pm, $25, $23 members.
Dick's Last Resort Mike Tamara, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Battleship, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swaying Johnsons, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Hatch Memorial Shell The Boston Blues Festival, 12 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Matthew Dorko, Larry Kukers, 9 am, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Juliet Lloyd, 12 pm, no cover.
Lucky's Lounge The Al Vega Trio, Alex McDougall, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: the Black, the Coffin Lids, Bloody Hollies, the Bottle Killers, 9 pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Nashville Pussy, Zeke, the AKAs, 8 pm, $12 advance, $15 at the door, 18+.
Midway Café Ujamaa, 9 pm.
Milky Way The Villains, Chicago Typewriter, Stress Bomb, 9 pm, $6.
O'Brien's Tester, 20 Foot Halo, Tracksuit, 8:30 pm, $6.
Orpheum Theatre Ricardo Montaner, 8 pm, $55-$75.
Paradise Rock Club Static.
Phatt Boys Live Jazz & Blues Brunch with the Marshall Morgan Trio, 12 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.
Somerville Theatre Salif Keita, 7:30 pm, $30, $35.



Toad Kristin Cifelli, Austin Nevins, 7 pm, no cover; Michael Dinallo, Steve Sadler, Dean Cassell, Andy Plaistead, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Fixations, 9:15 pm; Chemist Camp, 10:15 pm, $6.
Tweeter Center Brooks and Dunn "Deuces Wild" Tour, Big & Rich, the Warren Brothers, 7 pm, $25, $49.75.
UMass Boston Boston Folk Festival, featuring Patty Griffin, 11 am, $10-$100.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren2, 9 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zero Arrow Theatre Vincent Mantsoe, 3 pm, $30.
ZuZu Central Square Hayride Rockabilly Night 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm, no cover; Kieran Ridge, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Earlimart, Richard Swift & Sons of National Freedom, 9 pm, $9, 21+.
The Green Briar Irish Sessuin, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: the Pernice Brothers, Phosphorescent, Jose Ayerve, 9 pm, $10 advance, $12 at the door, 18+.
Midway Café The Brian Thomas Group, 9 pm.
O'Brien's The Burn Excuse, Triggered, Breathe, 8:30 pm, $6.
Paradise Rock Club Juliet, 8 pm, no cover; Mousetrap, 10 pm, $3, 18+.
The Roxy Our Lady Peace, 7:30 pm, $22, 18+.
TD Banknorth Garden Paul McCartney, 8 pm, $49.50-$250.
Toad Shwang, Anita Suhanin, 7 pm, no cover; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Battle of the Bands, 8:30 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu Frank Morey, 10:30 pm, $3, 21+.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Abbey Lounge Cedric Josey, 7 pm; Blessed Thistle, 9 pm; Silver Lining, 9:45 pm; RSC, 10:45 pm; Ad Frank, 11:45 pm, 21+.
The Attic The Samples, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm, no cover; the Elavil Mountain Boys, 10 pm, no cover; Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Open Mike, Arlon Bennett, $5, no cover members.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Honeypump & Boston's Weekly Dig, 9 pm, no cover, 18+.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Rockabilly Jazz From the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, $4, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 21+.
Johnny D's Rosheen, 8:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell, 7 pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Shimmer, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Brent Newcomb, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Shark and Bear, Distinguished Members, Medications, Capital Radio, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Midway Café Ken Belleu, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's The Tremula, 8:30 pm, $6.
Paradise Rock Club Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, Mark Gardner, 7 pm, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke, Dana Z, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Mass Tango, 7:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Honey Mack, 8 pm, $8; Bruce Bartlett Trio, 9:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Jazz Club Jacqui Naylor, 8 and 10 pm, $15, $55.
TD Banknorth Garden Paul McCartney, 8 pm, $49.50-$250.
Toad Tim Gearan, 8:30 pm, no cover; the Resophonics, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Battle of the Bands, 8:30 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
ZuZu George Zapata, 10:30 pm, $3, 21+.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
BeanTown Jazz Fest 2005 *Columbus Ave., Boston (866-442-7995). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Campanelli Stadium *1 Lexington Ave., Brockton (617-931-2000).*
Cambridge Center for Adult Education *56 Bratt St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudent*
Emmanuel Church *15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3355). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Pa Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-111 MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (6 789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Bosto (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (61 876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-101 MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-25 9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121) MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523- 4000). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617 426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Stre*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBT Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*

invara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
irkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-82-4920).*
resge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
izard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-47-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
ucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-825).*
latt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-32-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
liddle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
lidway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
lilky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
lr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
lullins Center *UMass Amherst, Amherst (617-931-000).*
'ak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James venue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green ine to Copley.*
'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
ld South Church *645 Boylston St., Boston (617-36-1970). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
lde Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somerville 617-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
he Opera House *539 Washington St., Boston (617-31-2000). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown rossing.*
rpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-82-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park treet.*
addy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
aradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-62-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
arris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
A's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
hatt Boys *50 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-005). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
urple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-060). MBTA: Orange Line to State St.*
he Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
edline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
egattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
he Ritz Carlton *15 Arlington St., Boston (617-912-421). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
iver Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-881). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
oxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
yles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge 617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
cullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
ky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
omerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville 617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
D Banknorth Garden *100 Legends Way, Boston 617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
ír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-28-4300).*
oad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
op of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge 617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
weeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-39-2331). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Mansfield.*
UMass Boston *100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-87-6911). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass.*
Vally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
VaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-600).*
he Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge 617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Vonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
eitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge 617-876-6060).*
ero Arrow Theatre *Arrow St. and Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
uZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
es Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

WCRB Classical Concerts at Copley

Copley Square Park, Boston (781-736-9542). www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. The Art of Music Chamber Players perform.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Cantabria Chamber Music Benefits Concert

Tufts University Alumnae Hall, 15 South Campus Road., Medford (978-897-5372). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 7:30 pm. $25; $15, students, seniors. The concert benefits the Teresa Michelle Bogstad Memorial Fund and includes chamber works by Schubert, Schumann, Ravel and Bernstein. Composer and soprano Martha Sullivan also performs.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Ludmilla Lifson and Eda Shlyam perform a piano duet, Myran Parker-Brass performs African-American songs and spirituals and violinist Roger Tapping and pianist Kwang-Wu Kim perform selections by Johannes Brahms.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Cantabria Chamber Music Benefits Concert

Church of Good Shepherd, 164 Newton Rd., Acton. 7:30 pm. $25; $15, students, seniors. The concert benefitting the Teresa Michelle Bogstad Memorial Fund includes chamber works by Schubert, Schumann, Ravel and Bernstein.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Six faculty pianists perform music by Howard Frazin, a Longy faculty composer, and Mendelssohn's *String Quartet No. 2 in A Major* and *Opus 13.*

MIT's Kresge Auditorium

77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-585-1270). www.web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA:Red Line to Kendall. 3 pm. $20. The Teofilovich brothers and Serbian folk dancers perform with an orchestra from Missisauga, Ontario to benefit Our Children Fund.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Emmanuel Church

15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. The Orchestra and Chorus of Emmanuel Music perform Bach's cantatas as they were originally written. Also performing on Sept. 25, 10 am.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Sunday Concert Series

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5156). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA:E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $20, adults; $14, seniors; $10 students; $12, members; $5, children ages 5-17. Pianist Cecile Licad performs romantic pieces by Mendelssohn, Chopin and Rachmaninoff.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 3 pm. Leslie Amper and Randall Hodgkinson perform a piano duet, students play *Schubert's Piano Quintet in A Major ("Trout") D. 667* and the Chuck Gabriel Septet performs.

Newton Free Library Concert Program

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 2 pm. Free. Cellist Jonathan Miller, violinist Sharan Leventhal and pianist Virginia Eskin, members of the Boston Artists' Ensemble, perform an all-Debussy program.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Tuesday Recitals @ King's Chapel

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kingschapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. 12:15 pm. $3 donation suggested. Franziska Huhn performs on the harp.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Boston University College of Fine Arts

Tsai Performance Center, 855 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-353-3350). www.bu.edu/caf. MBTA:B Green

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Line to Boston University West. 8 pm. Pianist Maria Clodes performs selections of Bach, Villa-Lobos and Schumann.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Boston Conservatory

Boston Conservatory Theater, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9122). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. Free. The Wind Ensemble performs works by Shostakovich, Messiaen, Holst, Mennin, Stravinsky, Hindersmith and Sousa.

Boston University College of Fine Arts

Tsai Performance Center, 855 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-353-3350). www.bu.edu/caf. MBTA:B Green Line to Boston University West. 8 pm. The Richmond Competition Winners Concert features pianist So-Youn Kim.

New England Conservatory

Brown Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-965-1100). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. David Holland performs his own music.

WCRB Classical Concerts at Copley

Copley Square Park, Boston (781-736-9542). www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. The Boston Classical Orchestra performs.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

All Newton Music School

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.allnewtonmusicschool.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $25, $50. Christopher Lydon hosts the Benefit for All Newton Music School featuring violinist Joseph Silverstein and pianist Jonathan Bass.

Boston Classical Orchestra

Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. 8 pm. $29-$53. The Boston Classical Orchestra performs *The Three B's: Bach, Brahms & Beethoven* along with Borromeo Quartet members violinist Nicholas Kitchen and cellist Yeesun Kim.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Adrianna Ausch, Jonathan Cohler and guest artists perform the music of Béla Bartók and Longy students perform *Shining*, a composition by student Eva Kendrick.

World Music at the MFA

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-491-7001). www.mfa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $20, members, students and seniors; $25. Boubacar Traoré performs a blend of blues, African folk and Arab music.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Boston Conservatory

Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9122). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. Free. The Hemenway Strings perform pieces by Shostakovich, Mozart, Vores, Bach, O'Connor and Hermann.

First and Second Church

66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). www.fscboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8 pm. $20, adults; $10, students and seniors. The Kalistos Chamber Orchestra opens its fourth season with pieces by Elgar, Dvorak and Tchaikovsky.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 8 pm. Performances include *Sapphire Night: The Music of Patricia Van Ness* as well as a piano duet featuring Sandy Hebert and Eileen Hutchins.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-482-2595). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 5 pm. $38-$78. The Opening Night Gala Celebration features celloist Yo-Yo Ma.

Boston Classical Orchestra

Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. 3 pm. $29-$53. The Boston Classical Orchestra performs *The Three B's: Bach, Brahms & Beethoven* along with Borromeo Quartet members violinist Nicholas Kitchen and cellist Yeesun Kim.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Sunday Concert Series

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5156). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $20 adults; $14, seniors; $10, students; $12, members; $5 children ages 5-17. Violinist Frank Hung and pianist Carol Wong perform pieces by Tartini, Prokofiev, Saint-Saëns, Capriccioso and Paganini.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-965-1100). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Flutist Fenwick Smith and others perform pieces by Pierné, Petrassi, Pinkham, Karg-Elert and Leclair.

Newton Free Library Concert Program

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 2 pm. Free. Mezzo soprano Kristin River and pianist Alison D'Amato perform *Conversation: A Musical and Poetic Dialogue between Composer Toni Lester and Poet Mary Pinard* featuring the premiere of "To Rivers."

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Boston Conservatory

Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9122). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Benjamin Pasternack performs pieces by Beethoven, Shumann, Copland and Bernstein.

Boston University College of Fine Arts

CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-353-3350). www.bu.edu/caf. MBTA:B Green Line to Boston University West. 8 pm. Richard Cornell conducts the BU Chamber Orchestra.

New England Conservatory

Williams Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-965-1100). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 6 pm. Free. The Borromeo String Quartet performs *Schoenberg 1* and then opens the floor for discussion. •*Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-965-1100). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free.* Stephen Drury conducts *For Lou Harrison*, a piece by Alaskan composer John Luther Adams.

Tuesday Recitals @ King's Chapel

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kingschapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:10 pm. $3 donation suggested. Christopher Schlütter performs works by Sweelink, Scheidt and Scheidemann on the C.B. Fisk organ.

Cecile Licad performs at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Sept. 18.

dance clubs

Nights

ONDAYS

n Tua Nua
eremony A night of gothic and industrial music, ɔm, $3, 19+.

xis
atic Gay night with rotating DJs and drag perfor-ances, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

aprice
ıddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a x of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 ı, no cover, 21+.

elt
I.N. Mondays This Service Industry Night in-ıdes free pool and guest DJs spinning high-en-gy dance, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no ver, 21+.

olden Temple
he E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, otown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Green Briar
sh seisiun.

reen St. Grill
avana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ ıban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 8 after lesson), 18+.

hoenix Landing
akka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, pm, $3, 21+.

he Place
s spin top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
s spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

iver Gods
eekly Wax Each week, two local DJs hold a musi-l face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

aint
I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno ins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no ver, 21+.

UESDAYS

ria
0 Dance to hip-hop and R&B from DJ Chubby ıub; $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

ar 33
avana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban ff, salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after sson), 21+.

aprice
ve bands as well as rotating DJs, 10 pm, no cover, +.

osmopolitan
esday Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10 pm-am, $5, 21+.

mbassy
Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no ver, 19+.

he Enormous Room
ul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spin hits from e '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

olden Temple
ıe E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix in-ıding R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no ver, 21+.

he Kells
tally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic Os music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

hoenix Landing
ake" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, pm, no cover, 21+.

he Place
Is spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, +.

he Purple Shamrock
raoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
Is spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

iver Gods
ıvesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at ɔm, no cover, 21+.

umor
ight varies with an assortment of performances ıd themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

enu
YNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins p-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, +.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa Night DJs Hernan, D. Martinez, Antonio Ortiz and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes beginner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk music bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
IPod Night Bring your own IPod and be an MP3J, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Spoken Word A night of poetry.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Bruno spins house, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Demers spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

Avalon
Hot and Heavy Thursday DJs spin hip-hop music, 10 pm, $15; ladies free until 11 pm, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

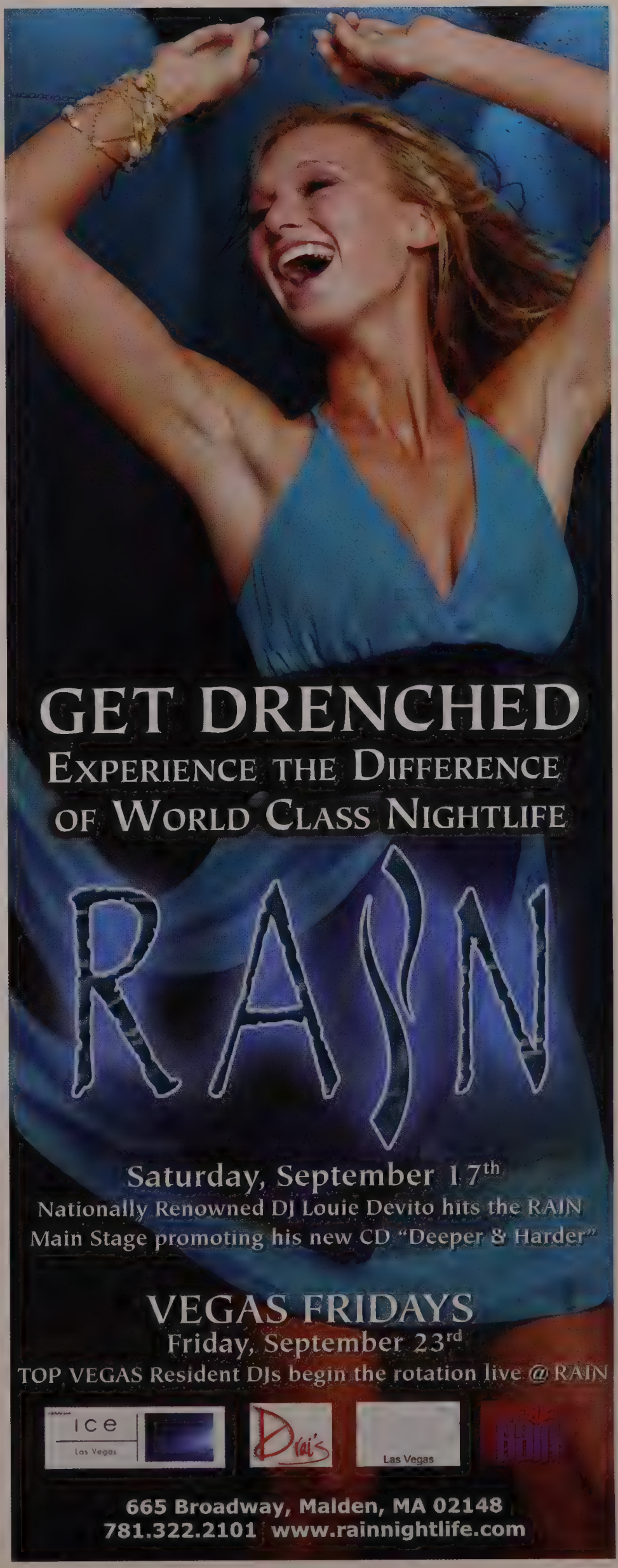
Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

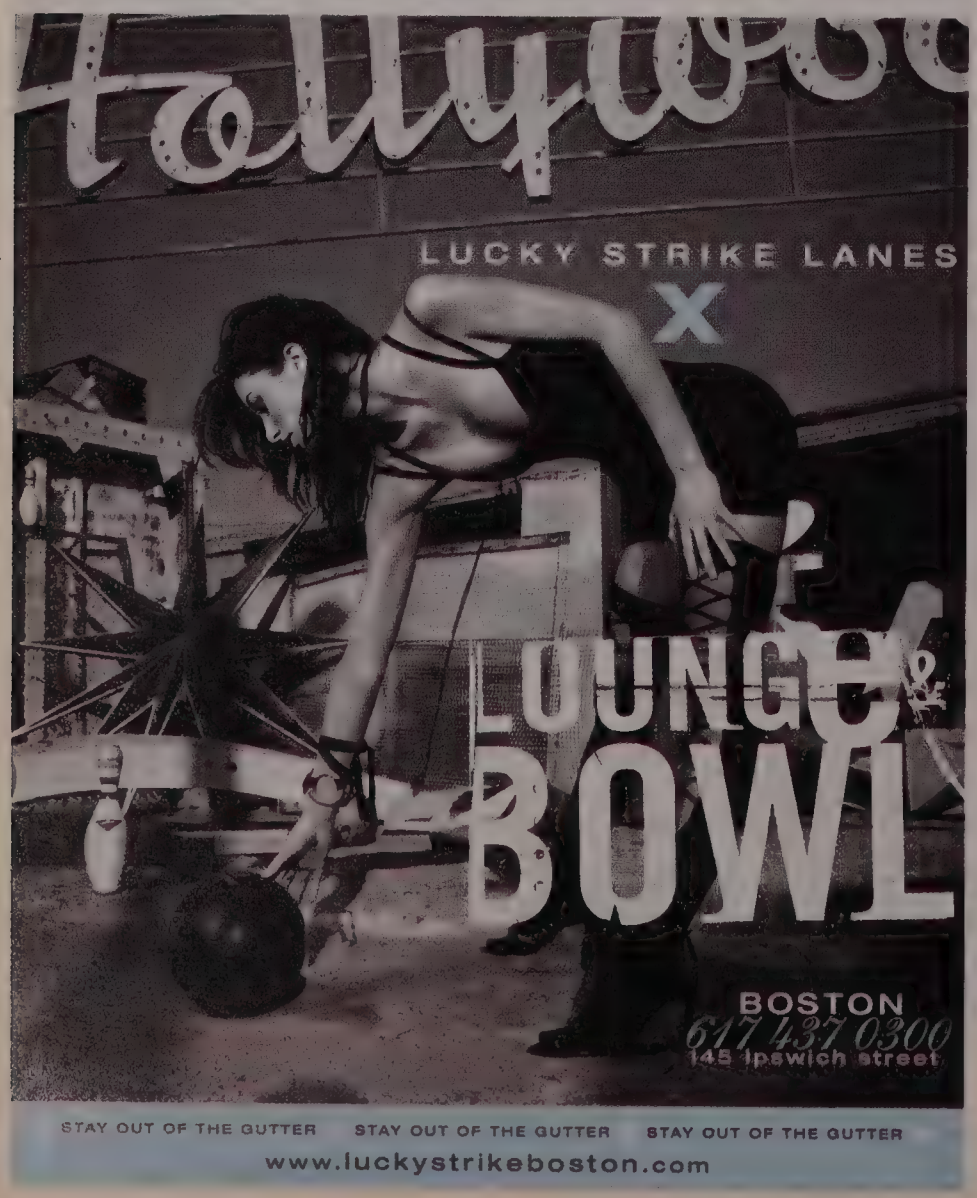
Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+.

Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Miss Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ Mike Navarro, 9 pm, $5.





Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of jazz, 10 pm.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
True Music Thursdays Featuring live performances, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama-jigi play Afro-pop highlife, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJs Edgar and Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban Jeff spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 before 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Martini Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while resident DJs spin R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, cover.

WaterWorks
Buckwild Thursdays DJs spin top 40 and house a host a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull r ing contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-sch hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech a funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Steve spins top 40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, 21+.

Aria
Vanity DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, pm, $20; 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Avalon
Avaland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilk Alex Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top 40, 9 p 1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions spins hip-hop, pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps sp ning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Hot Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae a bachata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions present night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and h hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of internation Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s a '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; after pm, $15, 19+.

Club Q
Forbidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and t 40, 21+.

Common Ground
DJ Dino Sound spins Northern Soul, 10 pm, no cover.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style mus 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and tran music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21-

Embassy
DJ Xander spins hip-hop, 9 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everythi from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $ 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Theray Fridays DJ Cerebral and Chris Kung of K 108, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s ar vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top 40, 7 pm-1 am, no cov 21+.

Green Street Grill
Latin DJ, 11:30 pm, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJs Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe Jam'n 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spi downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free befo 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins regga $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top 40, R&B and dan while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, pm, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Parris

invara Pub
J Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, &B and pop, 21+.

iquor Store
J Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

latrix/Paradise City
J Adilson spins high-energy house, and DJ Steve inelli plays top 40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

lcGann's
Js spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

liddlesex Lounge
J Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and p-hop, no cover.

he Modern
go DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

pal Lounge
ature/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno id disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

he Palace
The Beach House Reggaeton: Spanish reggae usic, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** ew England's longest-running all-male dance vue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, 25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie ennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian mosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, i+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands per- rm, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; 3, 21+.

arris
J at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

he Penthouse Club
J Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, no over, 21+.

hoenix Landing
roove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

he Place
J Laptop spins top 40, dance and hip-hop, and TV reens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, 5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P, 10 pm.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tantric Lounge
Hookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud 9 spin the music at this night featuring hookahs, specialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house

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7:30-11 Chris Mathison
11-close DJ KB
Saturday - 2-4 Brandon LePere
7:30-11 Nick and Dick Justice
11-close DJ Itchy P
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Hookahs available

Una Bella Serata

while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin top 40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared and friends mix top 40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20; 21+ men, 19+ women with college ID.

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life DJs Frank and Matty spin alternative party hits, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and top-40 music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Profenna spins top 40, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Shake Your Ass Night DJ spins indie rock, $2.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
•Sensation Saturdays featuring DJ Eddie Lee spinning hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15; 19+ women, 21+ men. •**Russian Night in The Modern** with DJ Roger R spinning international.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house music, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Fresh spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJs Peter D and Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $ 21+; $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-h no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz sp merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, men $ women $5 or free before 10:30; 21+.

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons sp minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 p $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance mus 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spa ish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs R Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 bef 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21 •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-ru ning all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, sh runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Lad only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $1 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstre hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $1 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-ener dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wo ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Different DJs spin each Saturday, 9 p 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roc spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 a no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mode mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancir 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in t front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro vorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house, pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins cl sic old-school, top 40 and dance, 10 pm, no cov 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tar Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-ho 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and hous 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyba 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays** D spin top 40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 p 10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 40 night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

UNDAYS

n Tua Nua
ance Hall Reggae music, 11 pm, $10-$15, 19+.

ria
candalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $20; omen 19+, men 21+.

valon
ay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and chno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

ill's Bar
ve reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

uzz
azilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, 0, 19+.

aprice
otating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, -$10, 21+.

lub Q
iave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and the 45 ew spin dance music, 8 pm-2 am, $10.

osmopolitan
aribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

evlin's
dustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and mixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

he Enormous Room
evolutions A night of electronic music, $3, pm-3 am.

reen Briar
nbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

he Kells
ie Spot DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house music, pm-2 am, no cover.

evel
otating DJs spin Latin and international on the third or and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the urth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

he Office
topia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests ay deep, soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, +.

hoenix Landing
ump This house-music night has a rotating roster local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, +.

he Place
had LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

he Point
Itchy P, 11 pm-2 am.

he Purple Shamrock
Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and top 40, 9 pm-am, no cover, 21+.

edline
unday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests in reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

iver Gods
ction Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic ck and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

yles Dance Hall
epa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sun-y of each month, DJs Nik and Hernan play salsa usic, 6-10 pm, $12.

aint
oice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night aturing Latin and international grooves, 10 pm-am, $10, 21+.

issy K's
amu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

iki Room
eggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub ation and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

oast
Js wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop id Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

enu
arnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian ght as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance ts, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

ertigo
aitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and orld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

/aterWorks
Weekend Beach Party Cocktails and volleyball, pm-5 pm, no cover. **•Smokin' Sundays** DJs omeo and Randy spin, and Romeo hosts a Hawai-n Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am; $10 from 9 pm, $20 after 9 pm; 21+.

Club Venues

n Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
nthem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
n Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
ria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
valon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •*Forging the New: East Asian Painting in the 20th Century* showcases 19th and 20th century paintings influenced by modernization, technology and politics. Through Oct. 16. •*Degas at Harvard* displays more than 60 drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs by Edgar Degas. Through Nov. 27. •*Silver and Shawls: India, Europe and the Colonial Art Market* highlights the evolution of shawls and silver table wares produced during India's Colonial period. Through Jan. 29, 2006. •*Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Greek Portraiture, The Art of Ancient Rome* and *Near Eastern Art* are on display. Ongoing.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •*Brice Marden: Etchings to Rexroth* exhibits images in tribute to calligraphy. Through Dec. 18. •*Hold: Vessel 1* is a multimedia installation by Lynette Wallworth. Through Dec. 18. •A display of art from China, Japan and Korea runs through June 2006. •A new installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Rd., Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6; children 5 and under, free. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through Sept. 26. •*John Huddleston: Killing Ground, Photographs of the Civil War and the Changing American Landscape* juxtaposes historical images with contemporary photography of the same locations 150 years later. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Robert Arnold: Zeno's Paradox* is a short looping video that experiments with the connections between zooms and stills. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Saga: The Journey of Arno Rafael Minkkinen, Photographs 1970-2005* exhibits 120 nude prints that attempt to mimic land formation. Through Jan. 8, 2006.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. •*A New Kind of Historical Evidence* showcases photographs from the Carpenter Center Collection. Through Oct. 30. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* displays two pairs of small-scale religious objects from 18th century Germany and Austria. Through Nov. 27. •*Stratification: An Installation of Works since 1960* displays seven pieces from the museum's collection that focus on various approaches to art making. Sept. 17-Feb. 26, 2006. •*Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* exhibits many 19th century paintings. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon., Tue. and Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 10 am-8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Mots Cassés* features Alan Greene's photographs of the streets of Paris. Through Oct. 3.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 9 am-12 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children 3-18, $5. •*Thoreau's Walden: A Journey in Photographs by Scot Miller* displays a five-year pictorial of Walden Woods. Through Oct. 2. •*The Glass Flowers* Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features the Wa Collection of glass models for more than 830 pla species. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Ma Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's colle tion of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ong ing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures Nature & Science at Harvard* features collectio documenting more than two centuries of scientif exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.i boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA Tue., Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sa and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $ Thu. after 5 pm, free. •*The Secret Ark of Icon Pa* is Jerry Beck's freestanding structure made from r cycled materials outside in the Charlestown Na Yard. Through Oct. 10. •*Momentum 5: Paul Cha* displays political drawings, projected digital ar mations and videos. Sept. 21-Jan. 16, 200 •*Utopia, Utopia = One World, One War, O Army, One Dress* exhibits a critical look at th world through wall graphics, vitrines, sculpture maquettes and films by Thomas Hirschhorn. Sep 21-Jan. 16, 2006.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). ww gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to M seum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; weekends, $1 seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons nam Isabella and those under 18, free. •*Variations on Theme* is an exhibition that combines the paintin of Sol LeWitt with the music of Paula Robiso Sept. 23-Nov. 13. •*A Closer Look: An Introducti to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum* offers m seum tours. Tue.-Fri, 2:30 pm. Ongoing. •*Spec Exhibition Gallery Talks* provide context to museu exhibits each Saturday at 12 pm. Ongoing. •Th collection features more than 2,500 painting sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, ra books and decorative pieces, including works Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Bottice and Degas. Ongoing.

Mary Baker Eddy Library
200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.ma bakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hyne ICA. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $6; seniors, studer and youth 6-17, $4; children 6 and under, free. •Th multi-media exhibit *This is woman's hour...* hig lights the life and accomplishments of Mary Bak Eddy. Ongoing. •The library's *Historic Bible Colle tion* showcases rare Bibles in the Reference Roo Ongoing. •A "peace" flag from the 1907 Pea Congress proceedings in New York is displaye Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Che nut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseu MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fr 11 am-4 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*The Power Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons* loo at the role Jewish women's salons played in Euro and America from the late 18th century through th 1940s. Through Dec. 4.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://we mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Th Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. Free. •*Wor ing Drawings for the MIT Bell Tower* displa Theodore Roszak's preparatory sketches for the M Bell Tower. Through Dec. 16.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kenda Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. $ students and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. •*. Innovators Under 35* displays the ideas of young i novators who have been recognized by MIT's *Tec nology Review* magazine. Through Oct. 21. •*Scop Station Wagons and Solder: Unexpected Images fro the Rad Lab and RLE Collections* exhibits ph tographs from preserved negatives that docume the history of radar and electronics. Throu June 11, 2006. •*Robots and Beyond: Exploring Ar ficial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive exhib Ongoing.

Museum of African-American Histor
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). ww afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Par Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Words of Thunde William Lloyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Ab lition* celebrates the life and achievements Boston abolitionist William Lloyd Garriso Through Dec. 31.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museur Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:

The Polyglot Man by Joan Miro is displayed at DTR Modern Galleries

. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is en. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17, ool days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under other times, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admis- n is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, free exclud- special exhibitions. •*Things I Love: The Many llections of William I. Koch* displays choice pieces silver, sculptures, paintings and more. Through ov. 13. •*Ansel Adams* showcases works by the fa- ous American photographer. Through Dec. 31. *iffany Jewels* showcases the rubies, emeralds and monds of Tiffany & Co. Sept. 18-Dec. 31. *ounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of ia* features over 100 musical instruments. rough Jan. 5, 2006. •*American West: Dust and eams* presents over 70 artists whose works re- ct the American West. Though Jan. 8, 2006. *hang Huan: Seeds of Hamburg* displays 12 ronological large-scale photographs. Sept. 17- . 16, 2006. •*A Much Recorded War: The Russo- anese War in History and Imagery* exhibits prints, stcards and photographs from this era. Through rch 28, 2006.

useum of Science

ence Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. . MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.- n., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, 3; children 3-11, $12. •*Countdown to Supernova* a planetarium show about the creation and death stars. Through April 30, 2006. •*The Computing volution* traces the history of computers. Ongo- . •Hundreds of butterflies and flowers are on play in the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. ut your organizational skills to work and solve steries in the exhibit *Natural Mysteries*. Ongo- . •The *Theater of Electricity* provides lightning ows daily at 12 pm and 2 pm and Fridays at 7 . Ongoing.• Star-gaze atop the Museum's age roof using the Gilliland Observatory Friday enings. Ongoing.

ational Heritage Museum

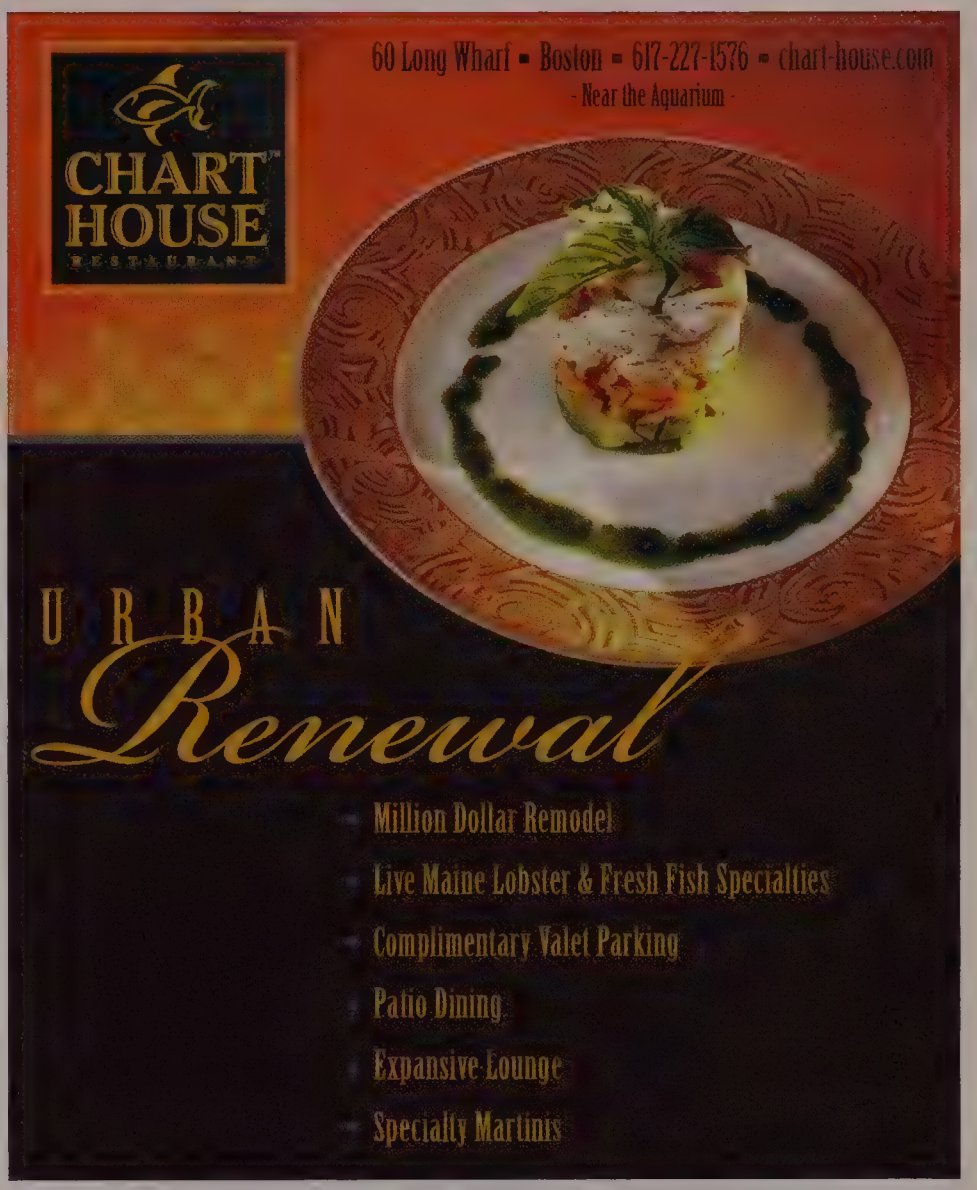
Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). www. nh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Old Glory* displays patriotic magazine covers from July 1942. Through Dec. 11. •*September 11: Bearing Witness to History* commemorates and reflects on the tragedy of 9/11 through photography, articles, everyday objects and more. Through Jan. 1, 2006. •*Teenage Hoboes in the Great Depression* features letters, questionnaires and audio tapes documenting stories during the Depression. Through Feb. 16, 2006. •*Blue Monday: Doing Laundry in America* showcases a collection of laundry advertisements and paraphernalia from the 1700s to today. Through March 4, 2006.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www. pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*In Nature's Company* features nature-inspired works by more than 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •*Remembering Sept. 11* displays Maduhusudan Chitrakar's scroll which recounts the events and world relationships leading up to the terror attacks. Through Sept. 30. •*The Kingdom of Siam: The Art of Central Thailand, 1350-1800* features stone images, sculptures, wood carvings, temple furnishings and more. Through Oct. 16. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from the Mississippian Culture. Through March 30, 2006. •*Air Lines: Photographs by Alex MacLean* capture images of the United States from thousands of feet above the ground. Through April 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature: Untamed Traditions in Chinese Decorative Art* exhibits organic wood forms which appealed to Buddhists and Daoists seeking to connect with nature. Through Aug. 13, 2006.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www. peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children 3-18, $5; children under 3, free. •*Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations in Washington, D.C.* features a selec-



tion of photographs of Native American delegates to the U.S. government. Through Dec. 1. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtis Collection* is on display through March 30, 2006. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $3. •*Alvin Lucier: Chambers* explores the resonant characteristics of enclosed spaces. Sept. 15-Dec. 11. •*Fred Tomaselli: Monsters of Paradise* displays collage style paintings that blend natural and unnatural worlds. Sept. 15-Dec. 11. •*'Post' and After: Contemporary Art from the Brandeis University Collection* displays works from the 1980s and 90s. Sept. 15-Dec. 11.

Special Events

ArtsCentral

Central Square, Cambridge. www.centralsquarecambridge.com/artscentral. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Sept. 18, 12-6 pm. $3 in advance, $5 the day-of. Experience everyday art in the streets of Central Square, including painting, sculpting, a poetry slam, a marionette show, sushi rolling, hair cutting and more.

An Evening with Pulitzer Prize-Winner Art Spiegelman

Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Salem. Sept. 20, 7 pm. $30; members, $25; students with ID, $12. RSVP. Cartoonist Art Spiegelman, known for his politically charged comic books and writings, gives a slide show talk followed by a Q&A session.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Kenneth Stubbs: Still Life Paintings* features cubist still life works from the 1930s through the 1960s. Through Oct. 8.

Adams Gallery

Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont St., Boston (617-305-1782). www.suffolk.edu/aadams_gallery. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*Touching All the Bases: A Red Sox History* explores the history of the Boston Red Sox through photography, cartoons and artifacts. Through Sept. 30.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Contained* displays perfume bottles and larger vessels made mostly out of art glass. Sept.17-Nov. 12.

Allston Skirt Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Laura Chasman: Those Around Me* displays paintings by Laura Chasman. Through Oct. 1. •*Downstrokes and Feedback* is a collaborative showcase curated by Lisa Schiff. Through Oct. 1.

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Jackson's comedic narratives within still life paintings are on display in *Concoctions*. Through Sept. 29.

Ars Libri

Mario Diacono Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jessica Stockholder displays paintings and sculptures. Through Sept. 30.

Artana

1378 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). www. artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm; and by appointment. •*John G. MacGowan: New Oils of Boston, Monhegan and Newport* displays oils focusing on the coastline. Through Sept. 28.

Art Attack

108 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sun., 3-8 pm. •Sydney Hardin explores female cial expressions through painting in *Facials: the W dow to the Soul*. Through Sept. 28.

Art Interactive

130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-010 www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Cent Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Collision 8* is an interact showcase using new technologies. Through Oct.

Atlantic Works Gallery

80 Border St., Boston (781-853-0017). www.atla works.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sat., 1 pm and by appointment. •*Summer Salon* showca the work of the gallery's 20+ members and inclu jewelry, photography, mixed media and fine Through Sept. 29.

Barbara Krakow Gallery

10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-449 www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green L to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Don Judd displays 12 sculptures that were created 1991. Through Oct. 19.

Berenberg Gallery

4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). ww berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Cop Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*N Ground* displays paintings by Jennifer Harrison. Se 14-Nov. 5.

Bernard Toale Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-247 www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Orange Lin Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm and by pointment. •*Redheads* displays Barbara Grad's wo on paper as a part of the Boston Drawing Proje Through Oct. 1. •*Ladies* exhibits new photograp by David Hilliard. Through Oct. 15. •*New Painti* features works by Richard Bosman that focus on history of Massachusetts. Through Oct. 15.

Boston Center for the Arts

Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-4. 8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Lin Back Bay. Wed., Thu., Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Se 12-10 pm. •*Circumference* displays small-scale portraits by Steve Locke. Through Oct. 30. •*Sta ing on One Foot* presents various media that explo the human figure and its departure from traditio interpretation. Through Oct. 30.

Boston Sculptors Gallery

486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-776-341 www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Japanese art Niho Kozuru exhibits rubber cast sculptur Through Oct. 8. •Murray Dewart displays la bronze and granite sculptures. Through Oct. 8.

Boston University Art Gallery

855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-467 www.bu.edu/art. MBTA: B Green Line to BU W Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5 pm. Fr •*Resurfaced* features works by seven artists th blur the boundaries between painting and scu ture. Through Oct. 30.

Brickbottom Gallery

1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). wu brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Le mere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Hidden in Plain Sight* hibits sculptures, photography, paintings and prints Peggy Badenhausen, Alicia Dwyer, Gail Martin a Patty Rosenblatt. Through Oct. 16.

Brookline Arts Center

86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-571 www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Lin St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*John Marti Black and White Street Photographs* examines interplay of image and word set side by side. Throu Sept. 30. •*Tradition and Innovation* exhibits an showcase. Through Oct. 5.

Cambridge Art Association

Kathryn Schultz Gallery, 25R Lowell St., Cambri (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. Tue.-Sat., am-5 pm. University Place Gallery, 124 Mt. Aubu St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambri art.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9 a 6 pm; Sat., 9 am-1 pm. •*The 61st Annual Fall Sa* displays works by CAA's 600 artist membe Through Sept. 28.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Cente

41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). wu cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mo Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Our Culture is Our Resistance* plays photographs by Jonathan Moller that focus Guatemalan communities that have been uprooted war. Through Oct. 14. •*Sudan: The Land and the P ple* displays photographs by Michael Freeman that plore the diversity of Sudan. Sept. 14-Oct. 20.

Chase Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). wu chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mo Fri., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*The gall* displays aluminum and copper 3-D wall sculptures Don Maynard. Through Sept. 30.

hilds Gallery
59 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.ildsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. ue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. *Painters of the Art Students League* features water olor and oil paintings by artists affiliated with the rt Students League. Through Nov. 5. •*Joseph ennell: Temple to the Gods, Temples to Industry* exbits etching and lithography by Joseph Pennell. hrough Nov. 5. •*Joseph Pennell in the Swiss Alps* splays drawings by Joseph Pennell. Through ov. 5.

laygo
10 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). www.zygo.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., am-6 pm. •The gallery displays potted lamps by ahul Bhargava and porcelain footed saucers by Andy owarth. Through Oct. 14.

opley Society of Art
58 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.pleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-t., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Paper Route & Asylum* splays gouache on cut paper works by Laurene asny Brown. Through Oct. 1.

rump McCole Gallery
00 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: d Line to South Station. Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 10 n-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 n. •*Painters of the New Boston* exhibits works by an McCole, Norman Crump and other local tists. Ongoing.

TR Modern Galleries
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-9700). ww.dtrmodern.com. MBTA: Green Line to opley. Mon.-Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 n-8 pm; Sun., 11 am-6 pm. •*Dreams and Reality* hibits a collection of surrealist paintings cluding those of Salvador Dali, Max Ernst and ore. Through Sept. 22. • Erotic Picasso suites e on display from Sept. 23-Oct. 7.

clipse Gallery
54 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). ww.eclipsesalongallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to opley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •New abstract paintgs by Jeffrey Ringdahl are on display. Though pt. 24. •New Paintings by Peter Previte are on splay. Sept. 27-Oct. 29.

ort Point Arts Community Gallery
00 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortintarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-i., 9 am-9 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Neighborhood tists display their work in the *Open Studios Group* ow. Sept. 16-Oct. 21.

alerie d'Orsay
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.lerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingn. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. *Henri Matisse: The Jazz Suite* features a variety of orks by the well-known artist. Through Oct. 2. An exhibition of paintings, sculptures and fine ints from the 15th to 20th centuries is on disay. Ongoing.

allery @ The Piano Factory
11 Tremont St., Boston (617-421-0095). MBTA: Orge Line to Mass. Ave. Fri., 6-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 n. •The 25th Anniversary group show includes phography, weaving, sculpture, printing and works in her media by various artists. Sept. 17-Oct. 29.

allery AA/B
55 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). ww.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to ack Bay. Thu.-Sat., 12-5:30 pm and by appointment. Recent paintings by Chris Mesarch and Evelina ozgul are on display. Sept. 16-Oct. 29.

allery Katz
0 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-28). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to oadway. Wed.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointent. •*Quiet* exhibits the photography of Remi ornton. Through Sept. 30. • A group exhibition atures paintings, drawings and photographs by allery Katz artists. Ongoing.

allery Kayafas
0 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-0411). ww.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to ack Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Kevin ibriski's *Rocks and Ruins* shows the bombing of an rmenian church and destruction in Peru and Syria rough photographs. Through Oct. 15.

allery NAGA
Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallery ga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-t., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Echt Beck* showcases work by n Beck. Through Oct. 8. •*Prints and Drawings* m Ireland, 2000-2004 is a collection of work by zhak Elyashiv. Through Oct. 8.

enovese/Sullivan Gallery
0 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-426-9738). MBTA: range Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Perfectly Useless* displays new drawings and paintings by Craig Stockwell. Through Oct. 2.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Portraits by Peter Hujar are on display. Through Oct. 11.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Masterpieces of Graphic Design* showcases the evolution of graphic design. Sept. 15-Nov. 30. •The gallery showcases a variety of vintage posters. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •In *Tudo Ao Mesmo Tempo (Everything at Once)*, Brazilian painter José Gonçalves revisits his signature images, including swimmers, portraits and bicycles. Through Oct. 1.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* features oil and acrylic paintings by Ann Strassman. Through Oct. 1.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •*Site Lines* is a member showcase that displays a variety of paintings, sculptures and photographs. Through Oct. 1.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Alexandre Renoir & the Impressionists* showcases work by the great-grandson of Pierre-Auguste Renoir along with other artists. Through Sept. 26. •The gallery's collection features works in various media by Douglass Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarese, Carrie McGee, John Folsom and more. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Vistas Revisited* features landscapes and ceramics by Russ Vogt, glass wall sculptures by Yolanda Adra and glass landscapes and torsos by Karen Ehart. Through Oct. 2.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). www.martinlawrence.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Wed., 10 am-6 pm; Thurs.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-7 pm. •*Ali Golkar: A Painter with a Poet's Heart* displays the artist's new watercolors and paintings. Sept. 30.

Massachusetts College of Art
Bakalar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Ronzome Masters of Japan* features wax-resist and batik art. Showing at the Stephen D. Paine Gallery through Sept. 21. •*The Graphic Imperative: An Exhibition of International Posters for Peace, Social Justice and the Environment* is on display through Nov. 11.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*100 Proofs* is a group exhibition of Scottish jewelers and silversmiths. Through Sept. 30.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Some of the Best: New Work and Old* showcases paintings by Ann Christensen. Through Oct. 1.

NAO Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naogallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Thu.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features sculptures, photography and other works by Helene Odon, Danielle Sauve and Sue Yang. Through Oct. 22.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*A Wolf in the Irises* features acrylic paintings on linen by Duane Slick. Sept. 17-Oct. 23.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-425-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery features paintings by Carl Ostendarp. Through Oct. 1.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. #304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back

Salvador Dali, Sagittarius, Signs of the Zodiac, 1967, Lithograph from original gouache, signed and numbered

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Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. • Jacob El Hanani's inks on paper and Renato Orara's ballpoint works on paper are on display. Through Oct. 15.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features photography, paintings, sculptures, jewelry, mosaics, antiques and more by local artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jim Zingarelli's new paintings and sculptures are on display. Through Oct. 8.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Brother Thomas* features pottery by Benedictine monk and ceramic artist Brother Thomas Bezanson. Through Oct. 16.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). www.richardson-clarke.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Collages* exhibits paintings by Karen Clarke. Through Oct. 31.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Arno Rafael Minkkinen's photographs that focus on the relationship between individuals and the environments they inhabit are on display. Through Oct. 8.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orangle Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. •*Off My Biscuit, Destroy your District!* showcases works by various artists. Through Oct. 15.

Pierrot's Burial is displayed in the Matisse exhibit at Galerie d'Orsay.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Courtyard Gallery, Museum of Fine Arts, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718). www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm. •*Rawhide Harangue of Aching Indices as Told by Light* is a site-specific installation by Jessica Stockholder that incorporates painting, sculpture, architecture and design. In the Grossman Gallery Sept. 15-Oct. 21.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm.

•*Northwest Artists* showcases works mixed media by artists in the Northw region of the United States. Throu Oct. 30.

Soprafina Gallery
73 Thayer St., Boston (617-728-077 www.soprafina.com. MBTA: Orange L to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 •*Recent Work by Lori Warner* displays artist's work in mixed media. Throu Oct. 1.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-032 www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Gr Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Luminescence* exhil landscape-influenced oils, water co and other media on rice paper by San Mueller-Dick, Shanshan Cui and Will St. George. Through Sept. 30.

Vose Galleries of Boston
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-617 www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green L to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 am-5:30 Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The *Vose Contem rary Summer Exhibition* displays works by contemporary artists. Through Sept. •The gallery's inventory includes 18 19th- and early 20th-century Ameri artwork. Ongoing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photograp
67 Shore Rd., Winchester (781-729-115 www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Comm Rail to Winchester Center. Tue. and We 11 am-5 pm; Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri., am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •T *Again* showcases unique digital images Maggie Taylor that strike a balance between p tographs and paintings. Through Sept. 28.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-010 www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail Waltham. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri., 10 a pm. •*Before Photoshop* displays photographs by J Urban. Sept. 15-Oct. 22.

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Readings & Signings

VEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

orders Books Downtown Crossing
School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders res.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown rossing. 12:30 pm. Free. New England historian **ichael Tougias** reads from his book *Ten Hours Until awn: The True Story of Heroism and Tragedy Aboard e Can Do*, which tells the story of five civilians attempting a rescue mission aboard a small boat during the blizzard of '78.

rookline Booksmith
9 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.booklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to oolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Boston Globe contributor **Susan Senator** discusses her book *Making Peace ith Autism: One Family's Story of Struggle, Discovery nd Unexpected Gifts*, about the author's experiences ising an autistic son.

enter for New Words Event
biel Smith School Gallery, Museum of Afro-American History, 46 Joy St., Boston (617-876-5310). ww.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red or Green ne to Park. 7 pm. Free. Former chair of the U.S. ommission on Civil Rights **Mary Frances Berry** scusses her book *My Face Is Black Is True: Callie ouse and the Struggle for Ex-Slave Reparations*, out seamstress turned activist Callie House who ught for reparations for ex-slaves and petitioned ongress for a bill providing them with pensions.

larvard Coop
400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.arvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 n. Free. **Marc Acito** reads from his novel *How I aid for College: A Novel of Sex, Theft, Friendship and lusical Theater*, about a bisexual teen whose quirky roup of friends commits crimes to help him pay the ition for Juilliard.

lewton Free Library
30 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www..newton.ma.us/Library. 7:30 pm. Free. Vietnam ar veteran **Tracy Kidder** reads from his memoir *ly Detachment*, about his mistakes and successes hile commanding a small group of men during he war.

lewtonville Books & Brews
96 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.ewtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to ewtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Lan Samantha Chang** eads from her novel *Inheritance*, about the strong nd loving relationship between two Chinese sisrs, which eventually turns bitter after the younger egins an affair with her older sister's husband.

Vellesley Booksmith
2 Central St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.ooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Vellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. Professional nannies **stine Walsh** and **Kim Nicholson** discuss their book *anny Wisdom: Our Secrets to Raising Healthy, appy Children—From Newborns to Preschool*, in hich they share tips from their English nanny aining as well as knowledge gained from their exeriences working as nannies for over a decade.

HURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

rookline Booksmith Event
oolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline 617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $2. **andace Bushnell** reads from her novel *Lipstick Junle*, about three of the richest women in New York ity working to keep their riches and gain even ore power while maintaining their romantic relaonships and friendships.

:enter for New Words Event
'ambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., Camridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. Writer for IBO's *Six Feet Under* **Jill Soloway** reads from her ook *Tiny Women in Shiny Pants: A True Story*, hich explores the situation of young women in a orno-ized" America.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Harvard history professor **Priscilla McMillan** discusses her book *The Ruin of Robert J. Oppenheimer: And the Birth of the Modern Arms Race*, which focuses on the late 1940s and early 1950s, when Oppenheimer's public image went from respected scientist to accused spy.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **J.G. Hayes** reads from *Now Batting for Boston: More Stories by J.G. Hayes*, a collection of short stories that focus on the difficulty of growing up gay in South Boston.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Bret Easton Ellis** reads from his novel *Lunar Park*, about a writer trying to maintain his sanity and the safety of his family in the suburbs.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7:30 pm. Free. **Bret Easton Ellis** reads from his novel *Lunar Park*. See Newtonville Books above for description.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **David Vann** reads from his memoir *A Mile Down: A True Story of a Disastrous Career at Sea*, about his experiences trying to build a boat in Turkey and eventually surviving its sinking on the open ocean.

Harvard Book Store Event
Askwith Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Terry Pratchett** reads from his novel *Thud!* about a city watch commander's struggle to keep the peace between rival trolls and dwarves after an influential dwarf is clubbed to death, causing tensions to rise.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut Street in Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 2 pm. Free. **Emily Franklin** reads from her novel *The Principles of Love*, the first in a teen series about Love Bukowski, a student at a New England prep school where her father is the principal.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Four Stories
The Enormous Room, 569 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5550). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7-9 pm. This new monthly event features a foursome of authors reading 15-minute excepts from their work that all touch on a similar theme. The inaugural event, titled "Love's Labors Lost: Stories of Love Going Nowhere," features writers **John Fulton**, **Elizabeth Graver**, **Michael Lowenthal** and **Lauren Slater**. In between each reading are brief discussions, Q&As and mingling.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Joann Sfar** discusses her graphic novel *The Rabbi's Cat*, about a cat who gains the power of speech after eating a parrot and proceeds to share his opinions on Judaism.

Morton's Steakhouse
1 Exeter Plaza, Boston (617-266-5858). www.readboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 5:30 pm. Free, reservations requested. **Various contributors** to the fiction anthology *Fenway Fiction: Short Stories from Red Sox Nation*, read from their works inspired by the Boston Red Sox.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Rolling Stone contributor **Anthony DeCurtis** discusses his book *In Other Words: Artists Talk about Life and Work*, which contains interviews with numerous musicians, actors, movie directors and other artists as well as introductions that provide a background to the interviews.

Brookline Booksmith Event
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com.

MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $2. **Davy Rothbart** reads from his book of short stories *The Lone Surfer of Montana, Kansas*, about quirky characters in small towns, state prisons and even brothels living their lives with dignity and hope.

Harvard Book Store
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. Authors **Anne Fadiman, Sven Birkerts** and **Allegra Goodman** discuss the collection of essays edited by Fadiman, *Rereadings: Seventeen Writers Revisit Books They Love*, in which authors reread books that made an impression on them and discuss how their understanding of the works has changed.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore. com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Editor of *ColorLines* magazine **Tram Nguyen** discusses her book *We Are All Suspects Now: Untold Stories of Immigrant America After 9/11*, which reveals the effects of the war on terror on immigrants in the U.S. who are targeted and persecuted because of their nationality, religion or immigrant status.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Nick Flynn** reads from his memoir *Another Bullshit Night in Suck City*, about his experiences working at a homeless shelter and watching his homeless father struggle with alcoholism.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Barnes & Noble at Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Boston University history professor **Nina Silber** discusses her book, *Daughters of the Union: Northern Women Fight the Civil War*, which examines the important role women in the North played in the Civil War.

Harvard Book Store Event
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Northwestern University history professor **Garry Wills** reads from his book *Henry Adams and the Making of America*, which reviews Adams' nine-volume history of the United States and explores Adams' research process.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Contributing editor at *New York* magazine **Ariel Levy** discusses her book *Female Chauvinist Pigs: Women and the Rise of Raunch Culture*, about the state of the women's movement today and the sexual objectification of women by themselves and other women.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/Library. 7:30 pm. Free. Jewish Advocate writer **Susie Davidson** discusses her book *I Refused to Die: Stories of Boston Area Holocaust Survivors and Soldiers who Liberated the Concentration Camps of World War II*, which contains essays, poetry, articles and photography by and about local Holocaust survivors and the soldiers who liberated them.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Lorraine Adams** reads from her novel *Harbor*, about a veteran of the Algerian war fleeing almost certain death and arriving in Boston to face a world that, in a different way, almost is as punishing as the one he left. Also, **Margot Livesey** reads from her novel *Banishing Verona*, about a housepainter and a pregnant talk show host who find love together for one evening and then chase each other across two continents hoping to find out if it was real.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Former *American Prospect* writer **Chris Mooney** discusses his book *The Republican War on Science*, about the George W. Bush administration's pattern of ignoring scientific research on the environment and some medical issues in order to ally itself with powerful businesses and the religious right.

Rialto
Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). www.rialto-restaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. $35, includes a paperback copy. **Nick Flynn** reads from his memoir *Another Bullshit Night in Suck City*. See Newtonville Books and Brews for a description.

Wellesley Booksmith Event
Bacon Free Library, 58 Eliot St., South Natick (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. 7 pm. Free. **Lauren Willig** reads from her novel *The Secret History of the Pink Carnation*, about a Harvard student who discovers a collection of papers from the early 19th century that tell the story of a young woman and her relationship with some of the most famous European spies.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Barnes & Noble at Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Jeff Parenti, Rachel Solar, Andy Saks, David Kruh, Mitch Evich** and **Adam Pachter** read from their book *Fenway Fiction: Short Stories from the Red Sox Nation*, an all-fiction collection inspired by and devoted to the Red Sox.

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Jennifer Weiner** reads from her novel *Goodnight Nobody*, about a suburban mother who uncovers dark secrets in an idyllic Connecticut town as she investigates the murder of a neighbor.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Marsha Mehran** reads from her novel *Pomegranate Soup*, about three sisters who flee the Iranian revolution and end up in Ireland, where they start a restaurant and try to win over the stubborn locals with their exotic cooking.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. **Leora Skolkin-Smith** reads from her novel *Edges: O Israel, O Palestine*, a coming of age story about a young girl who must leave New York after her father's suicide and start a new life in her mother's native Jerusalem.

Harvard Book Store
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:00 pm. Free, but tickets required from Harvard Book Store. **T.C. Boyle** reads from his collection of short stories *Tooth and Claw*, in which a number of isolated and lonely characters explore the border between civilization and wilderness.

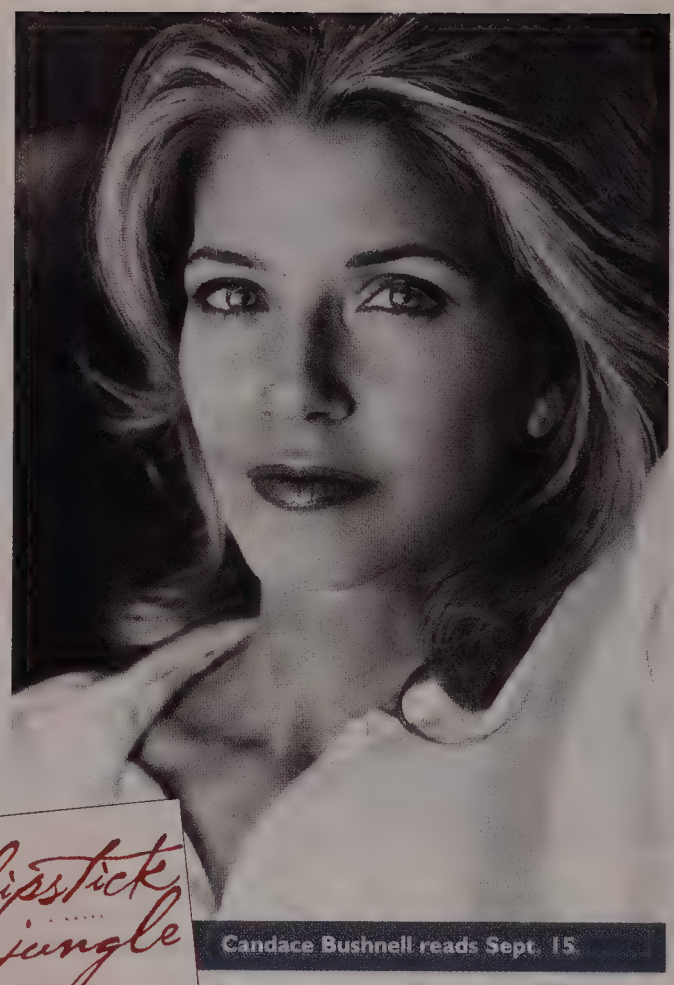
Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Developmental psychologist **Betty Bardige** discusses her book *At a Loss for Words: How America Is Failing Our Children and What We Can Do About It*, about the current child care and education systems and the importance of young children developing and practicing language skills that they will need later in life.

Newtonville Books In the Attic
The Attic/Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Jennifer Weiner** reads from her novel *Goodnight Nobody*. See Borders Downtown Crossing above for description.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Jennifer O'Connell** reads from her novel *Dress Rehearsal*, about a wedding cake baker, torn between an old flame and her current boyfriend, who judges both based on their cake preferences.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Harvard history professor **Jill Lepore** discusses her book *New York Burning: Liberty, Slavery and Conspiracy in Eighteenth-Century Manhattan*, about an eruption of violence in pre-Revolutionary New York that led to the execution of slaves who were wrongly blamed for the riots.



Candace Bushnell reads Sept. 15

Harvard Book Store Event
First Parish Church Meetinghouse, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. $3; tickets can be purchased at Harvard Book Store. **Neil Gaiman** reads from his novel *Anansi Boys*, about a hard-working man who learns that his recently dead father was really an African god and that he also has a brother who inherited their father's godlike powers.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. **Myla Goldberg** reads from her novel *Wickett's Remedy*, about a young woman who grows up in turn-of-the-century Boston and finds her calling as a research nurse after her husband dies of influenza.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Barnes & Nobles Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Correspondent for *Science* and *The Atlantic Monthly* magazines **Charles Mann** discusses his book *1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus*, about the relatively advanced state of the Native American civilizations before the arrival of Columbus.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Williams College math professor **Edward Burger** discusses his book *Coincidences, Chaos and All That Math Jazz: Making Light of Weighty Ideas*, which draws parallels between the everyday world and complex mathematical theories.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Feng shui expert **Margaret Donahue** and writer **Elizabeth MacCrellish** read from their do-it-yourself book *Dorm Room Feng Shui*, which gives tips on how to turn a dorm room into an attractive space.

Wellesley Booksmith Event
Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. *Boston Herald* columnist **Beth Teitell** discusses her memoir *From Here to Maternity: The Education of a Rookie Mom*, about her journey from pregnancy to motherhood and her experiences as a modern mother.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Zadie Smith** discusses her novel *On Beauty*, about the conflicts that arise between two extremely different families when their children fall in love.

Brookline Booksmith Event
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. **Zadie Smith** reads from her novel *On Beauty*. See Borders Downtown Crossing above for description.

Harvard Book Store Event
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. This event celebrates the book *Blazing Splendor: Memoirs of Tulku Urgyen Rinpoche*, about the cult of Old Tibet and the life of a Tibetan Buddhist.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Clea Simon** reads from her novel *Mew Is for Murder*, about a Boston rock writer who discovers a dead, cat-loving woman and decides to investigate.

Wellesley Booksmith Event
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. Shiatsu therapist **Marjorie Pivar** reads from her book *Fourth Uncle in the Mountain: A Memoir of Barefoot Doctor in Vietnam*, about Quang Vu Nguyen, an orphan who was adopted by a spirit healer and spent many years learning about herbal medicine and faith healing.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Dr. Brown's Traveling Poetry Show (Tuesdays)
Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. $5. **Michael R. Brown** directs this 90-minute show of performance poetry.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $5. The **Jeff Robinson Trio** plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies, with both 5- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup featuring prescheduled poets. $4 suggested donation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Sunday)
Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-628-2313). 3 pm. Free. Poet **Doug Holder** hosts an open-mike reading.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the mike.

Special Events

Discover Great New Writers Program
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-6959). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sept. 15, 6:30 pm. Free. A panel of Discover–selected New England authors, including **Steve Almond** and **Claire Cook**, discuss their experiences as writers and what the award has meant to them.

Grub Street Celebration
160 Boylston St., Boston (617-695-0075). www.grubstreet.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sept. 15, 6:30 pm. Free. Grub Street celebrates the grand opening of its new location overlooking Boston Common with a night featuring readings, live music and appearances by local authors, including **Susan Orlean, Jennifer Haigh, Steve Almond** and **Arthur Golden.**

ducation

dvice to Contributors
bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Cal-dar: Education or e-mail to education@proper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to blication.

VEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

he First World War? Britain and the even Years War
d South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston 17-373-5800). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. BTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 30 pm. Free. **Eliga H. Gould**, professor of history at e University of New Hampshire, discusses the obal impact of the Seven Years War.

he Irish in New England: 650-1920
ew England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 ewbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.wenglandancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to opley. 10:15 am. Free. Former president and co-under of the Irish Ancestral Research Associa-on **Marie Daly** presents a talk on Irish immigrants New England.

HURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

iscover Great New Writers
ibb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 oylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. BTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. The oston Public Library and Barnes and Noble host a nel discussion of New England authors.

ounds Like Home: Voice, Text and iaspora Consciousness in Nerdy-exy-Commie-Girlieland
assachusetts Institute of Technology, Room 6-120, 77 ass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4003). web.mit.u/arts. 7 pm. Free. Composer and musician **Jewlia senberg** discusses her music with the band harming Hostess.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Renaissance Dance for Everyone
Jewett Hall, First Church Congregational, Mason & Garden Sts., Cambridge (617-661-3353). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $8. Instructor **Maris Wolff** leads an evening of Renaissance social dancing, accompanied by the Renaissonics.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Light and Movement: Jewelry by Rachelle Thiewes
Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Museum. 2 pm. Free. Jeweler **Rachelle Thiewes** discusses the designs and construction of her American Southwest-inspired jewelry.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Cloning Terror: The War of Images, 2001-2004
Anderson Auditorium, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718). www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Musuem. 6 pm. Free. Writer **W.J.T. Mitchell** explores the connection between cloning and terrorism.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Restoring the Artist's Vision: The Hidden Story of the La Farge Murals of Trinity Church
Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 10:30 am. $25; $20 members. A panel discussion on the restoration of the murals of Trinity Church with lead architect **Jean Carroon**, curator **Erica Hirshler**, art historian **Keith Morgan** and conservationist **Gianfranco Pocobene.**

A Taste of Jewish Family History Research
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 7 pm. Free. Professional genealogist **Nancy Levin Arbeiter** presents a lecture on methods of Jewish family genealogical research using sample documents.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Early Universe and the Origin of Galaxies
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere Shuttle. 7-9 pm. Free. Nobel particle physicist **Frank Wilczek** and astrophysicist **Colin Norman** present a talk on the early stages of the universe.

War of Words: Fighting the Last Colonial War in American Literature
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. Professor **Wayne Franklin** of Northeastern University discusses James Fenimore Cooper's work *The Last of the Mohicans.*

Who's Talking?
Ford Hall Forum, Raytheon Amphitheatre, Northeastern University, 120 Forsyth St., Boston (617-373-5800). www.fordhallforum.neu.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern. 6:30-8 pm. Free. **Dan Kennedy**, Visiting Assistant Professor of Journalism at Northeastern, and **Jay Rosen**, Professor of Journalism at NYU, discuss online blogging and its impact on journalism.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Deciphering The Da Vinci Code
Brookline High, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7-8:30 pm. $5. Historian **Michael Schaller** discusses the controversy around Dan Brown's best-selling novel *The Da Vinci Code.*

How to Buy, Sell, and Make Money on eBay
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $46; members, $36. Former Skinner auction assistant **Jennifer Dolan** teaches how to best make use of the eBay online marketplace.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Walden 2020: Thoreau's Vision and the Future of Biodiversity
Harvard Museum of Natural History, Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Naturalist **Kenn Kaufman** discusses the importance and value of preserving biodiversity.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Alien Invasion: Calling All Citizen Scientists
Peddocks Island, Boston (617-223-8596). www.bostonharborislands.com. 9 am-2 pm. Free. RSVP. As part of the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership and Harvard University's Museum of Comparative Zoology, come help identify and study crabs at low tide. Boat boards from Fan Pier.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Social Security: Honoring the Compact
Weston Middle School, 465 Wellesley St., Weston (781-891-6198). 2-4 pm. Free. Congressman **Barney Frank**, attorney **James Roosevelt Jr.** and **Andrew Eschtruth** of the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College lead a forum on Social Security.

Triumph of the Cool: African American Art in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries
Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 3-4 pm. Free. Yale University Art Professor **Robert F. Thompson** discusses the parallels between African-American art and music.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

An Evening with Chris Hedges
Brookline Adult Education, Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7-9 pm. $5. Author **Chris Hedges** compares the ideals and realities of war, politics, religion and morality.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Art in Education
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 4-6 pm. Free. Panelists including **Marianna Adams** and **Margaret Burchenal** lead a discussion about the effect of art on students' critical thinking skills.

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday-night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susanne spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 pm. This gay sports bar, with six large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music as booked. •Sun.: An Evening of Mizery: Amateur Talent Night, 10 pm. •Mon. (alternating weeks): Foxy Follies; Trani-Wreck. •Tue.: Karaoke. •Wed.: Delightful Divas with Melinda Wilson. •Thu.: Jacque's Angels with Kris Knievel. •Fri. and Sat.: Miss Norelle's Leading Ladies.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, featuring deep house music, 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night, 10 pm-2 am, cover varies, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

The annual Harbor to the Bay charity bike ride takes place on Sept. 17.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am, cover varies. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Fridays, Saturdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 5:30 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera and Saturday is Hero's Retro Night with DJs from ManRay.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9:30 pm-2 am. DJ Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

The Cambridge Queer Film Festival
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6838). www.brattlefilm.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 16-18. The Cambridge Queer Film Festival pays tribute to LGBT cinema for the second year with a mixture of classics and new film premieres. For a full schedule visit www.brattle film.org.

Harbor to the Bay
398 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-274-4560). Sept. 17; rain date Sept. 18. www.harbortothebay.org. $50 registration fee. Harbor to the Bay is a charity bike ride from Boston to Provincetown (125 miles) or from the Sagamore Bridge to Provincetown (68 miles) to benefit HIV/AIDS care organizations. Riders and volunteers welcome.

Wreckage I: The Final Contest
Jacque's Cabaret, 79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). www.jacquescabaret.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sept. 19. 9:30 pm. $8. 21+. Finalists from six previous Wreckage contests perfo music, dance, spoken word for a $500 prize.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MB Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and so events for young people seeking community, supp and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 1 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-144 MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Cen Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-44 MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl. Mondays, 8:30 pm, $12 for the season. This lea hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at Alley and Fritz.

Beantown North G/L Bowling Leag
Lanes & Games, 195 Concord Turnpike, Cambr (617-876-5533). www.beantownbowling.com. MB Red Line to Alewife. 8:30 pm. This bowling lea for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets T day nights.

Beantown South G/L Bowling Leag
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-8 1552). www.beantownbowling.com. 7 pm. T bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Bos area meets Wednesday nights.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arling Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss bo videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., C bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open t bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Bo (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MB Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 p am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and t Saturday of each month and also hold a happy h every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. The league comprises gay and lesbian pla and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offe full regular season and playoff schedule each y E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MB Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi-transsexual-friendly, direct-action political grou cuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns A Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org

BTA: *Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm.* A and lesbian square-dancing group.

hiltern Mountain Club
17-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-mber gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

OLAGE
ird Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE hildren of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets Medford for support and activities and holds a ncurrent meeting for interested parents and their tners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

oming Out as Bisexual
ston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Liv- Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-95). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ck Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 , free. An informal group for people who think ey may be bisexual or are attracted to more than e sex.

oming Out Support Group for Adults
17-482-2166). This group offers a confidential ce for men and women who are looking for a safe ce to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets ursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge rner in Brookline. Call for more information.

ompass
81-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area pport, information and social group for people as-ned female at birth who feel that is not an accu-e or complete description of their gender. Part of e FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group ets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for tails.

egant Outings
66-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group lcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisti-ed to get together with like-minded women for nversations, dinners, theater and networking.

enway Community Health
Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenway lth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fen-y Community Health offers a wide array of ser-es for the GLBT community, ranging from discus-ns about parenting and safe-sex practices to ograms addressing domestic violence and sub-nce abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT flag football league for its formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat., 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information, e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail info@gaylab.org.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose and performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

LAFFAN
LAFFAN_Boston2004@yahoo.com for membership information. Lesbians Available For Fun and Networking is a social and networking group that provides opportunities for women to connect with each other. Members receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. LAFFAN sponsors an annual Halloween dance and spring dances/benefits.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Monday Night Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). www.mnbl.net. 7:30 pm. The MNBL's 2005-06 bowling season runs Monday nights.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This support group is working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Newly Diagnosed Group
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and bisexual men who have been diagnosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men and bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Provincetown Art Tours
(617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. Fri.-Sun., 3:30-5:30 pm. $25. Join other men and women on weekend tours of contemporary art exhibitions in Provincetown. Call for meeting locations. Reservations required.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Women Outdoors
Kayak/Canoe Washburn Island, Waquoit Bay, Falmouth (413-734-0276).www.women-outdoors.org. Sept. 9-11. Kayaking to the island and camping for all women, regardless of sexuality and age.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

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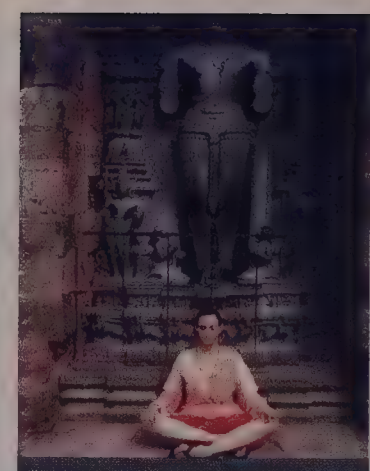
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.



Margarita Coffey teaches Pranayama breathing Sept. 27.

Events

Bike the Miles for Human Trials
The Iacocca Foundation, Route 1A. Providence, RI (781-388-7900, ext. 206 or 617-357-0032). www.200milesforhumantrials.com/newform.htm. Sept. 25. $100 to register. This foundation hosts a non-competitive bicycle ride from Providence, RI to Boston to raise money for diabetes research that aims to eliminate type 1 diabetes in humans using cell regeneration work with mice. The disease afflicts almost 18 million people in the U.S.

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 16, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone welcome. All dances taught and accompanied by live music.

Harvest of Peace
Boston Shambhala Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline. www.shambhalaboston.org. Sept. 18, 1-4 pm. Free. Join others at this meditation center for a community celebration of the Autumnal Equinox, featuring a pre-recorded talk given by head of Shambhala, Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche. The lecture is followed by a reception and fundraiser.

Pranayama: The Vital Breath
Spirit Earth Healing, 661 Mass. Ave., #8, Arlington. (617-515-8826). www.spiritearthhealing.com. Sept. 27, 7-8:30 pm. $20. Pre-registering is suggested. Join Margarita Coffey upon her return from India, to learn the ancient Indian breathing technique of Pranayama, which is the base of Hatha Yoga, and is used for relaxation.

Lectures

Intro to Naturopathic Medicine and Acupuncture
Prydwen, 67 Broad St., 4th floor, Boston. www.prydwen.org/events.html. Sept. 18, 2-3:30 pm. Free. Specialist Cristian Mihoc will provide a general understanding of how naturopathic medicine and acupuncture is utilized in the treatment of his patients, and the resulting health benefits.

Classes

The Artist's Way
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org or www.kimchilds.com. Sept. 16, 7-9 pm. Free. This workshop, based on the book *The Artist's Way*, by Julia Cameron, is meant to help participants connect with their creative, passionate and imaginative inner self. Learn yoga and journal writing.

Beginner Yoga Orientation
Exhale Spa, 28 Arlington St., Boston (617-532-7000). www.exhalespa.com. Sept. 18, 1-2:30 pm. $35. These workshop orientations are designed for newcomer yogis, and feature an intro to yoga philosophy, yoga breathing, meditation, sun salutations and other basic poses. The cost also includes two free yoga classes and coupons for yoga mats, clothing and more.

Design a Sanctuary Garden
Aquarius Sanctuary, 3 Baron Way, Littleton (978-835-5568 or 978-486-0248). www.aquariussanctuary.com. Sept. 17, 7-9pm $35. Dori Smith of Gardens for Life teaches you how to work with nature in order to design and create a refreshing oasis perfect for you.

Dreamtime Sound Healing Circle
Art and Soul Yoga, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. Sept. 18, 6:30-9 *pm. $20.* Bring y favorite instrument to t event and experience he ing with sound. Us breath and voice, yo learn easy and fun rel ation techniques. No ex rience necessary.

High Frequency Yoga for Women
Carmela Cattuti, 151 Com Ave., Boston (617-9 5320). www.yogame.co MBTA: Green Line Copley. Sept. 24, 10-12 p $35. This class focuses developing the abdomi muscles and addres techniques for increasi stamina and transformi negative thought patter Beginners welcome.

Introductory Tai Chi Class
Prydwen, 67 Broad St., 4th Floor, Boston. ww prydwen.org/events.html.Sept. 18, 4-6 pm. Free. T Manning demonstrates Tai Chi Ch'uan, an ancie martial art that aims to enhance and promote go health and wellness. All levels welcome.

Kirtan with Shubalananda
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlingt (781-306-1246). www.arlingtoncenter.org http:// shubalananda.weblogger.com. Sept. 18, 7 pm. Donation suggested. Kirtan, a simple form Hindu devotional music, is designed to resona with one's chakras to help move the energy up t spine and allow the participant to enter a high plane of consciousness.

Muscle Testing Basics
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circ ofwisdom.com. Sept. 25, 12-4 pm. $40. This hand on class teaches varied techniques and benefits muscle testing. You'll also learn how to clear ener blocks, release emotional stress and use simple co cepts for setting goals.

Sri Louise Weekend
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floo Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.co MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Sept. 24 and 25, 1:4 4:45 pm. $50 per workshop. Guest instructor S Louise presents two workshops: "Revolutioni Your Practice" and "Cultivating Grace." The fi presents a holistic approach to alignment an asana, ideal for participants committed to infusi their practice with a deep sense of integrity. Th second workshop focuses on how to keep yo physical integrity alive during your vinyasa flo practice.

Tibetan Singing Bowls
All That Matters, 315 Main St, Wakefield, RI (40 782-2126). www.allthatmatters.com. Sept. 25, 1 pm. $55. Asian Singing Bowls are used as medit tive and healing tools designed to align yourself wi certain emotions and mental states. Learn how identify different bowls, choose the right one f you, plus how to meditate with the bowls usi awareness, breath, motion, color and crystals.

You Go, Girl: Sex Tips for Gals!
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 308A Harva St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopenin com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sep 20, 7:30-9:30pm. $34. In this class, Kim Airs shar tricks to try on a man for increasing pleasure ar fun. Open to women only.

Retreat

Yoga Retreat
Pinewood Lodge Campground, Plymouth (508-64 2564). www.pinewoodlodge.com or www.plymou yogaconnection.com. Sept. 16-18. Cabin rental: $2 per person, campsite rental: $235 per person, Saturday only: $130 person. This retreat set in th woods features Kripalu yoga, kayaking, meal breathwork, drumming and tips on finding yo dharma.

Ongoing

Beginner's Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (61 562-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed., 6:30-8 pm. $1 $20, drop-in. Try the beginner's class in th attractive and peaceful environment, but call ahea if you're dropping in for the first time. Parkir available.

ports

vice to Contributors
nit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Cal-r: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@oper.com. Include address, phone number, sub-stop, dates and times and a brief description of the e or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the hone and must be received at least four weeks in nce.

ome Games

ston Red Sox
nway Park, Boston
kets: 617-482-4769
. 15, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland A's
. 16, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland A's
. 17, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland A's
. 18, 2:05 pm vs. Oakland A's
. 26, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
. 27, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays

vent

rbor to the Bay
282, 398 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-274-4560). . 17; rain date Sept. 18. www.harbortothebay.org. registration fee. Harbor to the Bay is a charity bike from Boston to Provincetown (125 miles) or from Sagamore Bridge to Provincetown (68 miles) to efit HIV/AIDS care organizations. Riders and vol-ers welcome.

o Play

USTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

ston Demons
7-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club s new players for nine-a-side competition.

ASEBALL

nry's Baseball
1-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

ASKETBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club
7-789-4070, ext. 238). Co-ed, year-round basket-leagues for players at all levels in Watertown, Bel-t, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals welcome.

mbridge Racquet and Fitness Club RFC)
7-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round ues for individuals or teams at all levels.

rporate Basketball League
1-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one nen's play weeknight games in the Cam-dge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels come.

ever Too Late Basketball
1-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

OXING

ston Sport Boxing Club
Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.onboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to rward, then #71 bus. The club offers mpic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

gtime Boxing
Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-9044). www.dogtimeboxing.com. n.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This boxing club rs training for competition, condi-ning and recreation.

ODGEBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club
odgeball
7-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting dodgeball teams.

ENCING

y State Fencers
Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. 7-591-0101). www.baystatefencers. n. This club offers fencing and stage nbat programs.

ston Fencing Club
)-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-!-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. *Adult classes evenings and Sat.* Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

JUDO

Phoenix Judo Club
Bayshore Athletic Club, 14 Plain St., Braintree (781-356-5303). www.phoenixjudo.com. Mon.,Wed. and Thu., 7:30-9:30pm; Sat., 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Participants of all skill levels are invited to join.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www.worldkickball.com. Co-ed kickball leagues play throughout the fall in Boston and Somerville. Register online.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonRun@teamlunachix.com . Weekly runs Thu. at 6:30 pm. Women only. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bostonlunachix. Talking-pace 3- or 5-mile runs through the Fells.

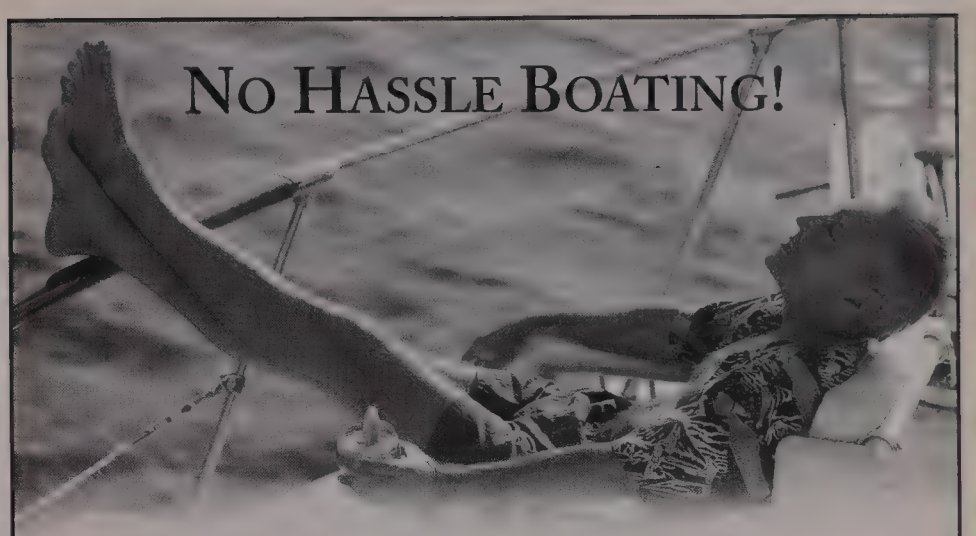
SWIMMING

Cambridge Masters Swim Club
www.cambridgemasters.com. The club offers coached workouts, social events and open-water swims.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

The World Adult Kickball Association gears up for another season this fall.



Now there's a way to truly indulge your love of boating without the worries of boat ownership!

At Freedom Boat Club, our members enjoy unlimited use of our wide selection of boats.
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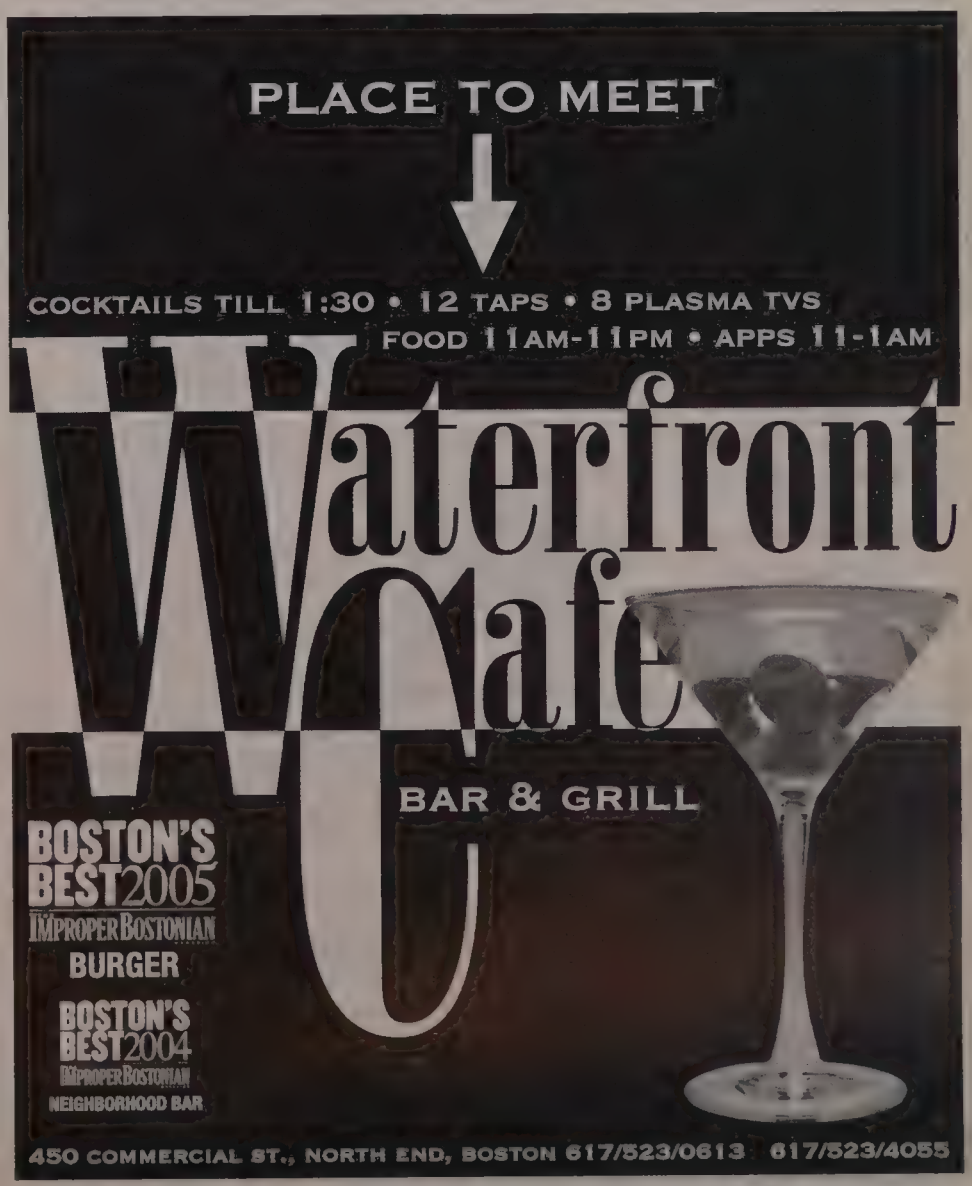

Opening in September

SPECIALIZING IN BIRTHDAY PARTIES

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COOKING FOR A CAUSE

An evening of food and wine to benefit East End House

October 15, 2005

7:00 - 10:00 pm • 8 Park Street • Boston

Taste the best all in one night!

Aura — Chef Frank Toohey
Bambara — Chef Michael Haimowitz
Beacon Hill Hotel & Bistro — Chef Benjamin Knack
Brasserie Jo — Chef Olivier Rigaud
Craigie Street Bistrot — Chef Tony Maws and Chef Alison Hearn
The Fireplace — Chef Jim Solomon
Grill 23 & Bar — Chef Jay Murray
Harvest — Chef Keith Pooler
Julien and Langham Hotel — Chef Mark Sapienza and Chef Daniel Kenney
Les Zygomates — Chef Ventha Danapalan
Peking Tom's — Chef Barnett Walker
Perdix — Chef Tim Partridge
Rouge and Tremont 647 — Chef Andy Husbands
Sophia's Grotto — Chef Alfredo Maravi
Sweet Basil — Chef Dave Becker

AIDIL Wine & Liquors
Buzzards Bay Brewing
Cafe Europa
Castello di Borghese
Chateau Ste. Michelle
De Loach Vineyards
Dewar's
Greekwinemakers.com
Harpoon Brewery
Kendall-Jackson
Masciarelli Wine Company
Oz Pacific Wines
Palm Bay Imports
Westport Rivers Winery
Armeno Coffee Roasters
Christina's Homemade Ice Cream
Dancing Deer Baking Co.
The Chocolate Dipper
and More to Come!

List as of 9-1-05

Enjoy the swinging sounds of the Winiker Orchestra... Win a "wine camp" excursion for two at a premiere Long Island vineyard or tickets to see the Emeril Live! cooking show in NYC! East End House has been making a difference in the lives of children, families and individuals in the Greater Boston area since 1875. Come celebrate their success, and their 130th anniversary!

media sponsor: IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

Tickets: call 617-876-4444 or visit www.eastendhouse.org

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. Adults, $12; seniors, $10; students and children, $5. •This short-form improv performance for the whole family includes interactive games.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 1 pm and 3 pm. $7.50, members; $9.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Sept. 17-18. Deborah Costine changes the setting of the classic fairy tale in a performance of *Cinderella, A Woodland Fairy Princess*. Recommended for ages 3 and older. •Sept. 24-25. The award-winning Spring Valley Puppets perform the classic *Jack and the Beanstalk*. Recommended for ages 4-9.

Things to Do

Barefoot Books
1771 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Fri. and Sat., 10:30 am. Free. •Story hour for children ages 5 and under and their families features a variety of themes. Ongoing.

Borders Books and Music
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill. Mon. and Wed., 10:30 am; Tue., 11 am. •Themed children's story time takes place each week.

Boston Art Tours
Call for reservations and meeting locations. (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children and teens, Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm. $25, adults; $15, teens; free, children under 12. •Games and stories accompany this walking tour of contemporary art along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. •A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail is designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide. Through Oct. 31.

Boston Duck Tours
Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-dusk. $25, adults; $22, students; $16, ages 3-11; $3, ages 3 and under. •Land and sea tours of Boston are conducted in amphibious landing vehicles from WWII. Historic landmarks are highlighted, including the State House, Bunker Hill, Boston Common and the Big Dig.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400), www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Sept. 17, 1-4 pm. Join author Louise Borden for Curious George's Birthday Party, featuring a book signing, arts and crafts and birthday bananas.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Thu., Sat.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •Sept. 17, 11 am-1 pm. *Critter Day* this month features Reading Education Assistance Dogs, which are specially trained to help kids improve their reading skills. •Tue., 10:30 am. *Tasty Tuesdays* lets children try a variety of snacks. •The exhibit *Adventures with Clifford The Big Red Dog* invites families to explore Birdwell Island, where the Clifford books take place, and also features a nine-foot tall Clifford. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •The *Amazing Castle* allows children to experience a medieval village and make medieval-themed arts and crafts. Ongoing. •The Art Studio invites parents and children to create works of art together. Ongoing.

Franklin Park Zoo
1 Franklin Park Rd., Boston (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. $9.50, adults; $5.50, ages 2-12; free, ages 2 and under. •The 72-acre site includes a farmyard petting zoo, lions in the *Kalahari Kingdom*, a butterfly garden, gorillas in the *African Tropical Forest Habitat* and kangaroos in the *Australian Outback*.

Harvard Co-op
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •Tue., 11 am. Preschool story time is held each week. •Sat., 11 am. Creative arts and crafts for children under 7 years old.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7 adults; $6, students; $5, ages 3-18. •Sept. 18, 1-5 pm. The Third Annual Harvard Museum Commuter Day features free admission to all six university museums, as well as activities with animals at the HMNH.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-6000). www.jfklibrary.com. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8, adults; $4, ages 13-17; free, ages 12 and under. •The history of John F. Kennedy is preserved in 25 exhibits, three theaters and 20 videos. An interactive exhibit allows visitors to relive the life of the President in 1960.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). web.mit.edu/museum. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5, adults; $2, seniors, students ages 5-18; free, children under 5. •The MIT Museum offers free admission the third Sunday of every month. View exhibits ranging from historical clipper ships to robots and new inventions.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum of Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, ages 6-17; weekdays before 3 pm; free, 5 and under. •Tue.-Thu. 3:30 pm. *Books Bring Art Alive* with arts and crafts ages 5 and under. •Mon.-Fri., 3:30 pm. The Children's Room holds programs for ages 6-12 that let kids explore the museum's exhibits and participate in projects, creative drama, poetry and music.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu. 9 am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; $12, seniors; $9, children. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm. *Animals Stories Alive!* combines a live animal presentation with mythical and folk storytelling. Ongoing. •*Beyond the X-Ray* features four major areas that explore how doctors peer inside the human body with cutting. Ongoing. •Butterflies and flowers are on display in the permanent *Butterfly Garden*. •*Countdown to Supernova* shows at the Hayden Planetarium explores the life cycles of stars. Ongoing. •*Make Models* is an interactive exhibit that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Science Live!* features live animal and multimedia presentations surrounded by natural history dioramas. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. Free. •Sept. 15, 10:30 am. Story hour for children ages 4 and under features a reading of *Sock Monkey Goes to Hollywood* and arts and crafts activities.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu. 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, adults; $13.95, seniors; $8.95, children ages 3-11. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through Dec. 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •The Simmons IMAX Theatre features *Wild Safari*, *Sharks 3D* and *Aliens of the Deep*. Ongoing.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.newtonfreelibrary.net. •Sept. 14 and 21, 4:15 pm. *Nature's Art Box* invites children in kindergarten and 1st grade to enjoy stories and make a craft inspired by nature. •Sept. 14 and 21, 7 pm. In the *Creative Writing Workshop* for ages 10 and up, kids read and talk about new books and try out different techniques for writing stories. •Sept. 20, 4 pm. *Eggbert and Ice* is a science show where kids ages 6 and up see scissors shiver, help an egg get back home and take a bubble shower.

Tadpole Playground
Boston Common, adjacent to Frog Pond (508-881-1151). www.tadpoleplayground.org. Open from dawn until dusk. •The playground offers children a chance to enjoy art, water fountains and games. •The Frog Pond features a 70-foot spray plume and a wading pool.

around town

Sights to See

oston University Observatory
it Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-3-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. clear nights), 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

ildren's Museum
0 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-55). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to uth Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 . $9; children ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1-year-olds, ; under 1 year old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

neuil Hall
State St., Boston. www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. BTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 . Free.

arvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.nh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. n.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, ; children ages 3-18, $5; Harvard students with valid , free; free to all, Wed., 3-5 pm, Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

hn F. Kennedy Library & Museum
lumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). w.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. ily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and college students h valid ID, $8; ages 13-17, $7; 12 and under, free.

ount Auburn Cemetery
0 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). BTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

useum of Afro-American History
Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam iseum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park eet. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Guided walking tours ilable by special request. Free.

useum of Science
ience Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos g. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. rough Labor Day, Daily, 9 am-7 pm; Starting Sept. Sat.-Thu., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; se-rs, $13; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

useum of Transportation
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-n., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children ages 6-17 and seniors, ; children under 6, free.

ew England Aquarium
ntral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. . MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-m; Fri.-Sun. and Holidays, 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; se-rs, $13.95; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

ld North Church
3 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Or-ge or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-6 pm. e.

ld South Meeting House
0 Washington Street, Boston (617-482-6439). w.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or ue Line to State St. Daily, 9:30 am-5 pm. $5; seniors d students, $4; children, $1.

ld State House Museum
6 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). w.bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line State St. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; seniors and stu-nts, $4; children ages 6-18, $1; members, children der 6, free.

udential Center Skywalk
0 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: een Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. .50; with college ID, $7.50; seniors, $7; children 12 d under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

inity Church
6 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). w.trinityboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. ily, 8 am-6 pm. $5; children 12 and under, free.

SS Constitution & Museum
harlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). w.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Tues.-Sun., 10 am-m. Free.

Volunteer

FC Mentoring Program
17-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a ster-care or adopted child.

IDS Action Committee
17-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with IV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 100 volunteer opportunities are available each month.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012 ext. 227). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers over 18 for kitchen, office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145 ext. 620). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor students in math and literacy and also prepare high school students for the MCAS.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000 ext. 7508). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. Help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helplineonline.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-927-0648). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900 ext. 113). www.horizonsinitiative.org Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). www.lvm.org. Teach adults to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-972-9119). www.mabcommunityservices.org. Read to or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelder.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org. Volunteer as an aquarium guide and more.

Parental Stress Line
(1-800-882-1250). Counsel parents and caregivers and facilitate support groups.

Pine Street Inn
(617-892-9187). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740 ext. 15). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111 ext. 17). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). www.respondinc.org. Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). www.rosies.org. Volunteers needed for this women's homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP.

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Debbie and Becca Winnick checked out Alcatraz, where they discovered that the IMPROPER makes quite the flotation device.

Mike Wong made sure to always have his Red Sox gear on during a recent trip to British Columbia, and achieved his goal of angering all six baseball fans currently living in Canada.

Jim and Sari Musmon relax in Forte di Belvedere, Italy. They nicknamed their friend Mr. Belvedere, mostly because he stars as a lovable housekeeper on Italian TV.

Richard Kobayashi traveled to Kosovo to see his son Dan, who lives and works in Gjilan/Gnjilane. This photo was taken in front of City Hall, which is pretty obvious from looking at the sign.

Andrew Hall, Erica Quigley, and Marit and Andrew Pywell hiked Mount Rainier in Washington. To be honest, it doesn't look much rainier than any other mountain.

Alyson Loeffel and Rafael Garrido visited Pão de Açúcar in Rio de Janeiro, which translates to "mountain held up by wires."

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Chowing down on a possum sandwich with a side of squirrel fries at the annual Roadkill Cook-Off, held on September 24 in Marlinton, West Virginia.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

START YOUR ENGINES!

Safety, style, comfort and convenience—take a ride with Ezra Dyer and see what local athletes are driving and why. Then, hit the road, Jack! Learn why local businesses are promoting themselves in the streets. Next, catch a glimpse of the cream of the crop for 2006 as we unveil the hottest car trends. Lastly, you are what you drive...or are you?

We'll give you a tune-up and let you know how well maintained you are.

Get geared up and advertise in THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's Cars Issue.

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN reaches 428,800 readers every two weeks!
96% purchased a product or service advertised as a result of reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

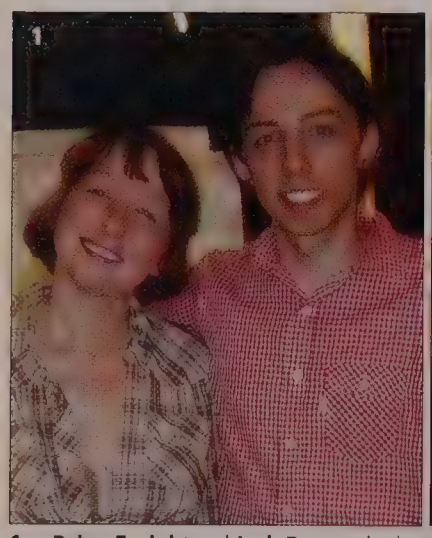
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

Issue Date: September 28
Advertising Deadline: September 14
Call 617-859-1400, ext. 280, to book advertising space now.

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Thursday, August 18, **Fanny and Delphine** hosted an intimate evening of fashion and shopping. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, **Great Bay** signature sangrias, and a fall fashion preview, which included designs from Byron Lars.

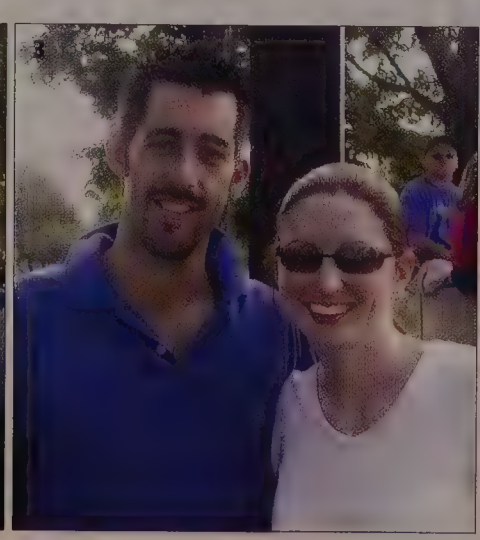


1. **Paige Enright** and **Josh Bogart**, both managers at Fanny and Delphine.
2. **Meg Brackley**, medical director at Boston Scientific; **Kunal Jajoo**, physician at Brigham and Women's Hospital; **Melissa Keohan**, mechanical engineer at Raytheon; and **Ian Gan**, physician at Tufts New England Medical Cent
3. **Nicole Parisi**, co-director of VCP Inc., and **Amanda Parisi**, accountant at AEW Corp.
4. **Carly Weaver**, freelance artist of Boston, and **Maura Jasper**, punk rock aerobics instructor at Zesiger Sports Center.

On Wednesday August 24, **Hotel Commonwealth** hosted its first annual Celebrity Motorcycle Ride for the **Massachusetts Film Bureau**.

1. **Elizabeth Chernack**, director of radio promotions at Regan Communications; **Tim Kirwan**, managing director at Hotel Commonwealth; and **Nicole Glor**, director of TV relations at Regan Communications.
2. **Kelly Malone**, co-host of *Lander in the Morning* at Mix 98.5, and **Klaus Gensheimer**, owner of Klaus PR.
3. **Timothy Lawlor**, ceo of RetroFit Technologies; **Linda Lawlor**, owner of L.L. Designs; and **Charles Maksou**, owner of Maksou Salon.

On Saturday, August 27, **The Improper Bostonian** was a sponsor of the latest of **Kiss 108**'s Summer of Fun 2005s Concerts on the Charles. The event took place at the **Hatch Shell** and included a performance by Jesse McCartney.



1. **Michelle Leon**, secretary at Gibson Domain Domain Real Estate, and **Shila Wheeler**, hostess at The Rack and Purple Shamrock.
2. **Amy Fritz**, student at Boston University, and **Herber Souza**, student at Salem State College.
3. **Bart Zaino**, programmer at Navimedix, and **Kerry Cahill**, programmer at Fidelity.
4. **Devan Chandler** of Boston; **Alyssa Chandler**, law student at Boston University; and **Sarah Blair**, public relations coordinator at KB Network News.

Balanced

THE PERFECT 10

Bourbon

harbor to the bay

presented by Tanqueray No. Ten + Ciroc + JetBlue Airways

100% to charity

aids benefit bike ride.

honoring Michael A. Tye

A ride to benefit Fenway Community Health, the AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod and CRI to help persons infected and affected by HIV/AIDS

Saturday, September 17th!

Harbor to the Bay is a one day, 125 or 68 mile bike ride from Boston to Provincetown. The ride will take place on Saturday, September 17, 2005. Our mission is to give 100 percent of what we raise to the charities! No politics, no elaborate production — just a dedicated group of individuals who want to ride and make a difference in our community. This is a grass roots initiative.

HARBOR TO THE BAY BENEFITS:

Fenway Community Health — Fenway — Care you can believe in. www.fenwayhealth.org

www.asgcc.org

Community Research Initiative of New England

Register for the ride online!

www.harbortothebay.org

For more information please go to our website or call 617-274-4560.

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rockie horoscope

SEPTEMBER 14–27, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

VIRGO AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

To boldly go where you've never gone before and to clear out the closet before you leave: that is the Virgo mission. This year you have the benefit of your well-informed Mercury ruler to help chart your course as it merges with the creative power of the sun. If ever there was an appropriate time to reinvent yourself, now is it. But if the Virgin is too timid to venture out alone, wait and see who comes aboard when the full moon in your Pisces house of partners becomes exact on the 17th. Bon voyage, happy trails, write when you get work.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

We know that you don't always present the famous all-embracing, fair-and-balanced Libran facade. A strong current of the critic runs through you, and no time is it more powerful than when discerning Mercury and the Virgo sun convene in the realm of your subconscious. Maybe your opinions won't be expressed out loud, but they're bound to affect your reaction to events and the people surrounding them. Growing suspicious? Feeling vengeful? Blame your Venus ruler for abandoning Libra's level playing field for Scorpio's slippery slope.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Anticipate mixed messages and contradictory conclusions as the analytical Virgo sun supports your Mars co-ruler one day and vexes your Pluto co-parent the next. A former ally, ex-partner or your present-day significant other could align with an organized group, such as a trade union, to allay your concern over a financial matter. Colleagues and casual friends may also influence what happens. Meanwhile, on your own you'll attract an odd assortment of people as seductive Venus in Scorpio flirts with both conservative Saturn and experimental Uranus.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

This week the prissiness of the Virgin's vibe can make even the most carefree, footloose Archer quite tense. So when Mercury, purveyor of the small print, and the practical Virgo sun join forces in your career house, you're liable to look for comic relief any place you can find it. Not at work and not at home either. There the empathetic Pisces full moon may offer a shoulder to cry on, but dipping into the vastness of those emotional waters can be just as nerve-wracking as concentrating on the minute details of a contract.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Earth to earth is not "dust to dust." Right now, both the sun and Mercury in Virgo (an earth sign) favor sexy Mars in your Taurus (another earth sign) house of romance and joy. The message doesn't get more direct or obvious than this: Capricorns (the ultimate earth sign) should enjoy themselves, especially since it doesn't seem to be later than you think. Consider taking a trip out of town, preferably to the shore, during the Virgo-Pisces full moon on the 17th when ideas and emotions, facts and faith have an excellent chance of carrying equal weight.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

A woman you work with or who is well known in the community could become the driving force behind your next major accomplishment. While magnetic Venus settles into your Scorpio career house for the next few weeks, she'll pull strings, foment interest and, if necessary, make goo-goo eyes so that opportunities can fall in your lap. All you have to do is be true to the Aquarius code: "I don't give a shit!" However, it would help matters if you managed to come up with an interesting idea or did a good job.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Your influence grows as the waxing moon gathers strength to face the Virgo sun head-on during the Pisces full moon. However, not until the 17th will your seemingly limitless emotional reserves be tested. In the meantime, as eagle-eyed Mercury in your Virgo house of partners picks at every flaw in a close relationship, don't be surprised if it's you who has a sudden change of heart that weekend. Rebellious Uranus in your sign welcomes overtures from Venus busily riding wave after orgasmic wave while surfing through sexy Scorpio.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

It's taken long enough, but this week you may actually receive the reward you so richly deserve: an honest day's pay for an honest day's work. The best of intentions and a consistent effort to deliver the goods are qualities the service-oriented Virgo sun acknowledges when it finally favors your Mars ruler. Although the not overly self-centered Rams (yes, there are some) might devalue their contribution to a successful outcome, coworkers and caregivers won't. Don't play hard to get; let them give out your number.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

You could be entering one of the more productive periods you've had in the last two years. While energetic Mars in your sign is whipping up interest in you personally and providing more activities for you to get into, your alluring Venus ruler in your Scorpio house of partners is attracting pretty as well as powerful people. Not only can these allies offer opportunities to refine career goals or participate in a deserving cause, they can also have an impact on your relationship to a sibling or a neighbor.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

No sooner said than done. An opportunity to be your efficient, smart-as-a-whip self, or just as likely, a real smart-ass, occurs when your Mercury ruler merges with the Virgo sun. That this meeting takes place while mental Mercury is moving forward instead of being in retrograde, suggests that no matter how much insight, information or discussion is called for, speed is of the essence. Pressure? You bet. The full moon in watery Pisces might add a chaotic emotional element you'd prefer to do without.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Wet and wild, security-conscious Crabs may be eager to shed their shells while joyful Venus frolics in your Scorpio house of romance, risk and other sexy recreational activities until October 7. And when the love goddess favors eccentric Uranus in Pisces next week, and the Pisces moon is big and bright, all three water signs could dive in head-first. The ensuing thrills and chills should be pleasurable, entertaining and not particularly dangerous, although if madcap Uranus becomes truly manic, forget about that happy ending.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

It's usually during solar Virgo that the Lion takes a step back to assess your assets and liabilities. This year, Mercury adds a stricter attention to details to your sun ruler's general overview, so the picture you'll see, especially during the full moon, could be a lot more revealing than you expected. Clarity about your financial future should counteract the hazy or wishful thinking taking place when affectionate Venus is subjected to the confusing or impossibly idealistic vibes that Neptune in your partnership house is emitting.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

Gina

I know it wasn't cool to hook up with your friend while you were gone, but damn, did you have to sleep with my landlord?...in my bed? He seemed pretty eager to tell me about it and at first I thought he was full of it—until the neighbors confirmed it. Apparently you were really "loud." I know you're pissed, but he's old enough to be your father. Were you drunk or something? Now you won't take my calls. Aren't we even? Anyways, I still got a bunch of your CDs and shoes. I still want you back, but if we're through, you owe me a new box spring.

Miss you,

—Ed

To the Handsome Guy on His Way to the Colorado Dude Ranch

Are you single? If so, want to go on a date with me some time? I enjoyed talking with you on the bus—I wanted to give you my card but I didn't have any with me, and then you got off at Terminal B before I could even find out your name. I hope you had a great vacation. I'd love to hear about it. My little nephew in DC is beautiful; it was great to meet him on his first day on Earth.

Sincerely,

—Ray (Girl with the Amber Necklace—from the Economy Parking Lot at Logan)
snazzybooks@yahoo.com

To the Annoyed Neighbors in the August 3 Issue

I have come to the conclusion that you are jealous of your neighbors. If you are so upset, go over and talk to them. This is what neighbors do. Maybe they might even invite you over for a swim. Or maybe you should try closing your windows and possibly minding your own business.

—Other Pool Owner in Somerville

Rodney

One can appreciate your desire to want to meet women, but YOU ARE INCARCERATED!!! So how can you have a lot going for you? Clearly it wasn't enough to keep you out of jail. When you get out (hopefully you are not a lifer), how about getting an education or a skill, or getting a job and becoming a productive member of society? Are you telling me with all that time on your hands the only thing you can do is try to meet a "shorty" via the IMPROPER? I need you to get serious! You should be figuring out how you are going to be able to support yourself. Dating men in prison is a bad deal no matter what spin you try to put on it.

—Crystal, From Da Hood

Wonder Boy at Wonderland

I was having kind of a bad morning on Sept. 1. I was going into MGH to see if a mass was benign or malignant, but you seemed to be having an even worse morning. You (nice eyes, tattoos) were pretty upset about the new ticket machines at Wonderland Station. I was the girl who the machine gave change to from my twenty in coins! I wanted to tell you that it was OK and to try and start your day over again once you boarded the train. But, I didn't. In fact, I probably would never be writing this, but I did see you had an IMPROPER in your hand. And if I didn't look through the glass once I was on the train, I wouldn't have seen you help the elderly man who was behind me. It made me realize how good people can be, even when their days are bad. So thank you for brightening my day. And if you would ever want to meet for coffee—you can email me at

—charliett13@hotmail.com

Ode to the Harp Girl

Hey cute little blondy. Where are you now?
I always want to talk to you but don't know how!
So I buy a drink
Hope for a wink
But always leave the Harp alone!

To my bartending Princess. You're so amazing, I can't stand it. I could stare into your blue eyes forever. I could wrap my arms around you day and night. For years I have watched you from afar before hockey and basketball games and even U2. Perhaps one night when you're not too busy making drinks you might give me the chance up close? Could I be your knight in shining armor who rescues you from the dungeon of the Harp?

—B_felar05@hotmail.com

Watch Your Words

A simple note to the bike rider who on August 30 cussed out the African American woman in Cambridge: you taught her 6-year-old some new words. She was in the back seat. Next time you pay attention.

—Scarred

THINK YOUR LOVED ONE IS CHEATING?
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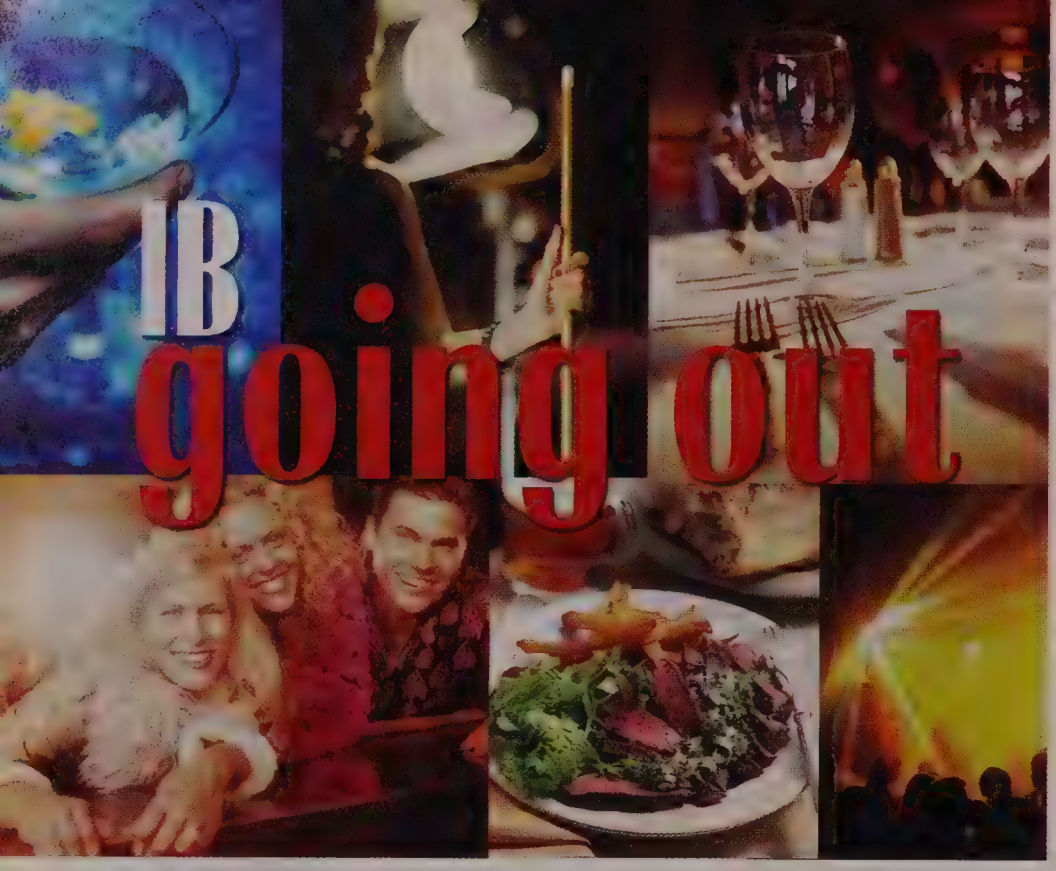

RESTAURANTS

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

MATCH *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* Opening October 1st. This modern restaurant/lounge maintains an unpretentious yet hip vibe. A sleek fire display and glass wine room are just two of its many features. Match's signature mini burgers and martinis are guaranteed to please the most discriminating palate. Match music has a distinct early evening lounge feel with the beat and volume picking up as the night progresses. Will be open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255.* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SCIENCE STREET CAFÉ *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

VENEZIA RESTAURANT *20 Ericsson St., Boston 617-436-3120.* For authentic Italian fare, impeccable service and an atmosphere unmatched on Boston's Waterfront, Venezia provides one of the city's most unique and pleasurable dining experiences. Your destination for everything from a relaxing midday lunch to a romantic dinner for two, Venezia can also accommodate private affairs like wedding receptions and business functions, and features live music on Friday and Saturday nights.

THE WATERFRONT CAFÉ BAR-GRILL *450 Commercial Street, Boston 617-523-0613.* A North End neighborhood hot spot, serving up sizzling steak tips and the best burgers around! Featuring a big screen TV and plasmas to catch all your favorite teams in action. Come for dinner, stay for a drink! *Open 7 days, Lunch & Dinner 11am–11pm, Apps. 11pm–1am.*

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 300+ microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *Pizza Kitchen, Beer Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Comedy

THE COMEDY CONNECTION *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am, 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

General

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110* www.bostonrocks.net. 21+. Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617- 236-0200*. Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas. com.

CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR *Boston Marriott Copley Place; 110 Huntington Ave. Boston, 617 937-5658*. Come join us at Boston's premier Sports Bar where you can enjoy all you local and national sports action on one of our 33 tvs, including 2 big screens. We have draft beers as well as a huge selection of domestic and imported bottle selections for you to choose from. We also have a full bar and menu serving all your favorite traditional American cuisine. Planning your next party or corporate event? We have room for parties ranging from 25-325. Our hours are from Sunday through Thursday 11:30-1am, and Friday and Saturday 11:30-2am.

THE HARP *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010*. Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

JILLIAN'S BOSTON / LUCKY STRIKE LANES *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300 www.jilliansboston.com*. Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring 16 bowling lanes, 50 pool tables, high-tech games, high definition video walls, multiple lounges and private rooms. Located on the first floor is Tequila Rain, which offers an amazing Tex-Mex menu and dancing to the hottest DJs Friday and Saturday nights.

PARRIS *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800*. Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters and steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring live music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesday - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

REGATTABAR *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge*. The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Sports Bar - Upscale

STADIUM *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100*. Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks.

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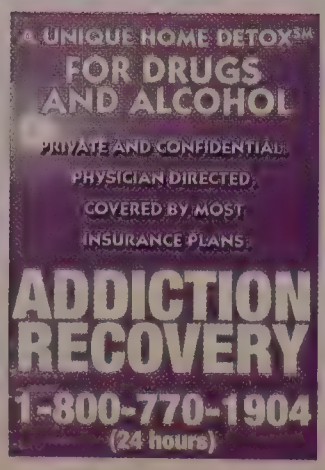

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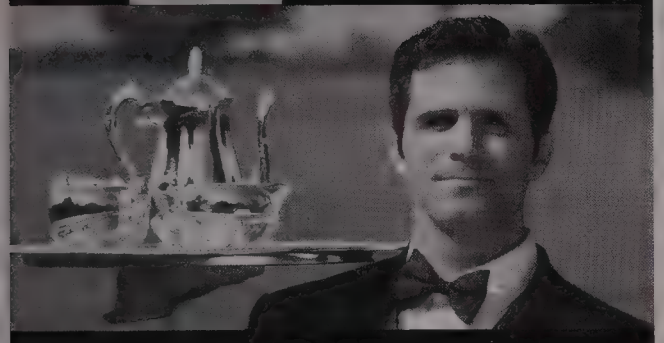

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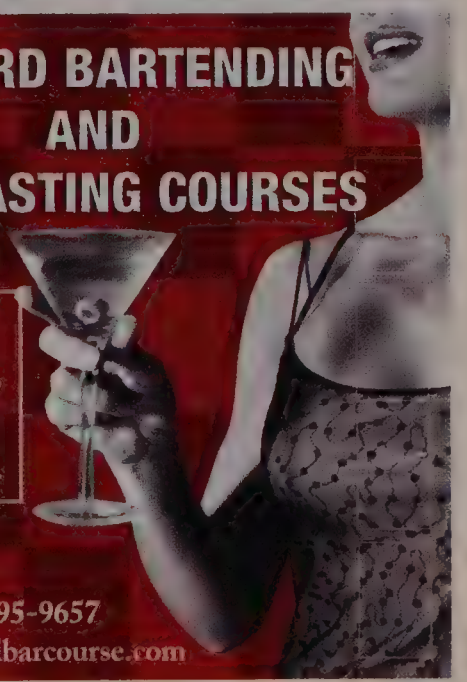

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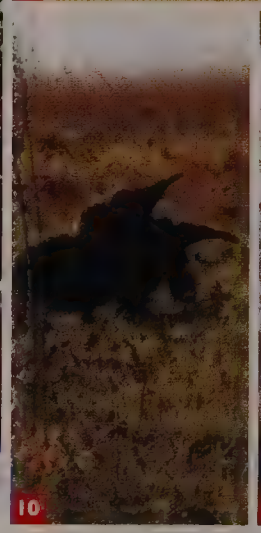
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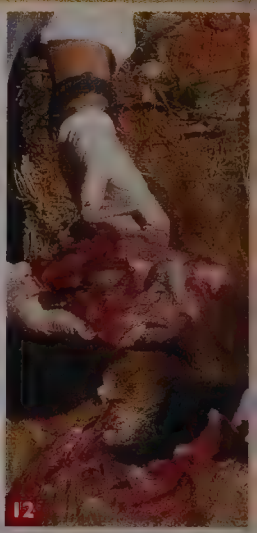
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1. The Christ statue atop Corcovado just before my helicopter door flew open; 2. chillin' on Ipanema Beach with Dois Irmãos (Two Brothers) in the background; 3. a view from the Jardim Botânico; 4. the entrance to the park; 5. a sedated coati mundi; 6. a tapir at dusk; 7. radio telemetry; 8. siesta time; 9. emas in Emas National Park; 10. a giant anteater with her baby on her back; 11. Jonathan and Abigail, a maned wolf; 12. the wolf necropsy (some internal organs).

WHAT I DID ON MY SUMMER VACATION...

I can safely say I never pictured myself holding a wild (and blessedly sedated) maned wolf in my lap while taking its temperature rectally. Then again, I never thought I'd be standing in the bed of a pickup truck, bumping through the Brazilian grasslands in the middle of the night, under orders that if I saw a giant armadillo, to jump out and tackle it while steering clear of its Freddy Krueger–like claws. Also not on my to-do list: taking blood from a coati, discovering a pampas cat in a trap I'd baited with a live pigeon, or capturing a spraying skunk in a net (instead of running in the opposite direction). I certainly never expected to help perform a grisly and unspeakably smelly necropsy on a dead wolf, surrounded by nothing but a sea of undulating grass and anthills the size of an NBA player.

So what would possess an otherwise sane person to spend his vacation starring in his own private National Geographic special, trapping, radio-collaring and tracking carnivores in Brazil?

Among other things, my pending 40th birthday.

Anticipating the early onset of a midlife crisis, I decided to sign on for an expedition with Earthwatch, a nonprofit that provides scientists in the field with unskilled research assistants. The project I volunteered for (along with an intrepid and good-natured friend) was located in the high plateau of southwest central Brazil, i.e., the middle of effing nowhere.

The journey began with five days in Rio, one of the only cities in the world where people in wetsuits rush around purposefully, surfboards tucked under their arms. I chilled on Ipanema Beach (listening to "The Girl from Ipanema" on my iPod), wandered through the Botanical Gardens, toured the H. Stern factory, saw a Henry Moore retrospective, ate way too much, and learned not only how to make a caipirinha (the national cocktail), but how to recover from them the next day. The highlight of Rio, however, was my first ever helicopter ride. We flew over Lagoa, Sugar Loaf and Copacabana Beach, skimmed the world's largest urban forest, buzzed the city center and a favela, and finally ascended to Corcovado, the tall peak on which the giant granite image of Christ stands, with his arms outstretched. Unfortunately, as the helicopter banked, my door flew open, and my exclamation of "Jesus Christ!" had nothing to do with the statue. It might be a while before I get in a helicopter again.

Bidding Rio a reluctant adieu, I made for the interior of the country, to Emas National Park, a 132,000-hectare preserve—named for an ostrich-like bird—that's home to some of South America's most interesting creatures. My fellow adventurers included a zoologist from the Smithsonian and his wife; a vegan from Vermont; a sporty couple from Somerville; a high-powered pharmaceutical executive and self-confessed "cat freak"; and a patrician Parisian who works for the BBC. For all of us, our secret (and highly unrealistic) Holy Grail was to catch a glimpse of a jaguar (27 of which are estimated to live in the park).

Our first few days were spent in the backbreaking pursuit of setting, baiting and camouflaging steel traps large enough to contain some angry big animals. The following days we spent checking the traps on foot, bicycle, ATV or by car, conducting a census of fauna in the park, and radio-tracking animals that had already been collared, as well as processing the ones we trapped. The least glamorous aspect of the work: collecting steaming piles of scat, which had to be taken to the lab for analysis.

On my first night drive, we interrupted a puma kill—coming upon a giant anteater still in its death throes. The following day, a team spotted fresh jaguar tracks, while another team followed some circling vultures to a tapir that had been disassembled by one of the big cats.

A week into the project, we were all awed by the incredible biodiversity, especially the bird life, which included flocks of blue macaws with yellow undersides and toucans that exploded from the trees, along with something a field guide identified as a "cocktailed tyrant," prompting puns about surly bartenders. We started cracking bad jokes like, "Pampas cat? Well, it's a bit arrogant, but I wouldn't call it pompous," or "That looks like the World Trade Center of anthills, and Osama bin Anteater's gonna come along..." Even the Smithsonian zoologist logged the GPS coordinates of a giant armadillo's burrow as "Giant A-hole."

"Ten days and my manicure's still holding," said my travel companion, a remarkable fact given the work we were doing, even if we weren't exactly roughing it. Our accommodations consisted of a large, comfortable house with a shaded veranda outfitted with hammocks, and the only major inconvenience was not being able to flush toilet paper.

The two weeks literally flew by in a blur of activity amid truly magnificent scenery, and before we knew it, it was the last day, when we went swimming in a river, keeping a wary eye on the banks for anacondas. I never did see a jaguar, or even a giant armadillo, for that matter, although if I ever do, I'll know exactly what to do. As for being back in civilization, the only thing that's better about it is being able to flush the toilet paper. iB

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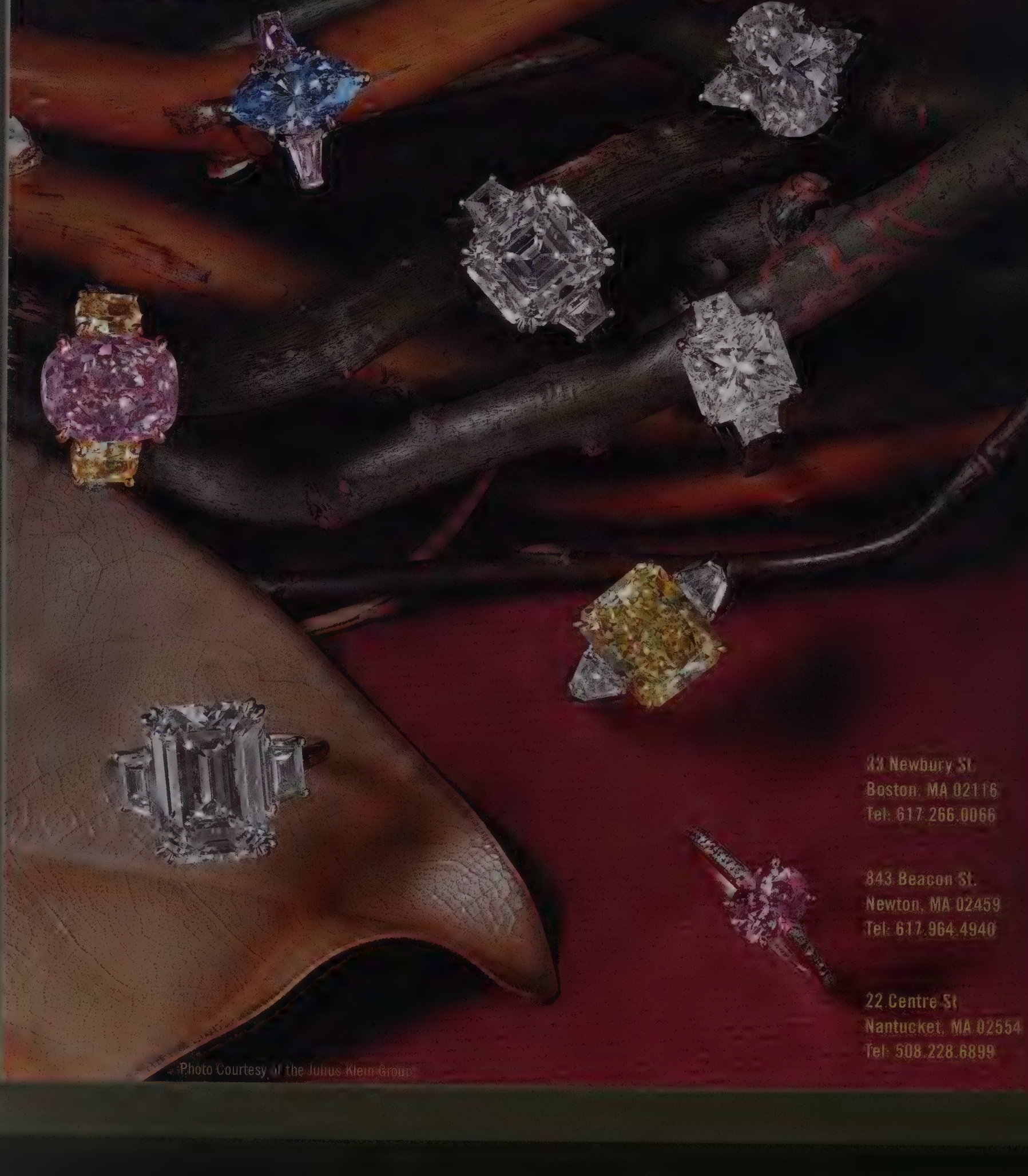

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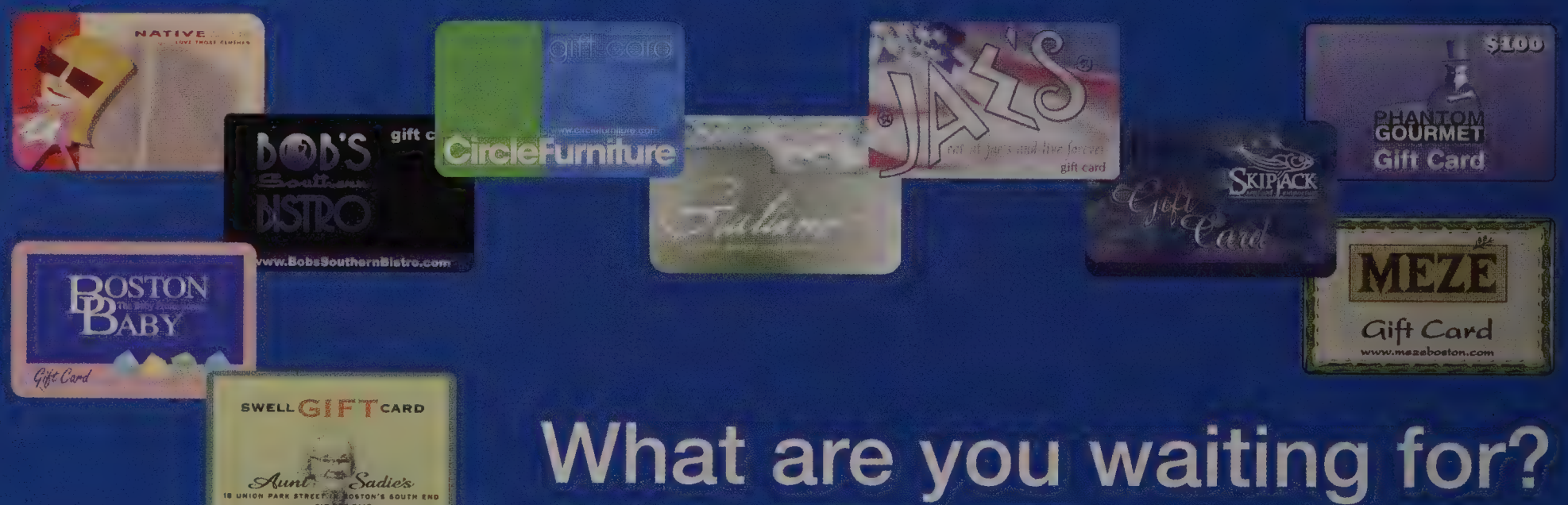

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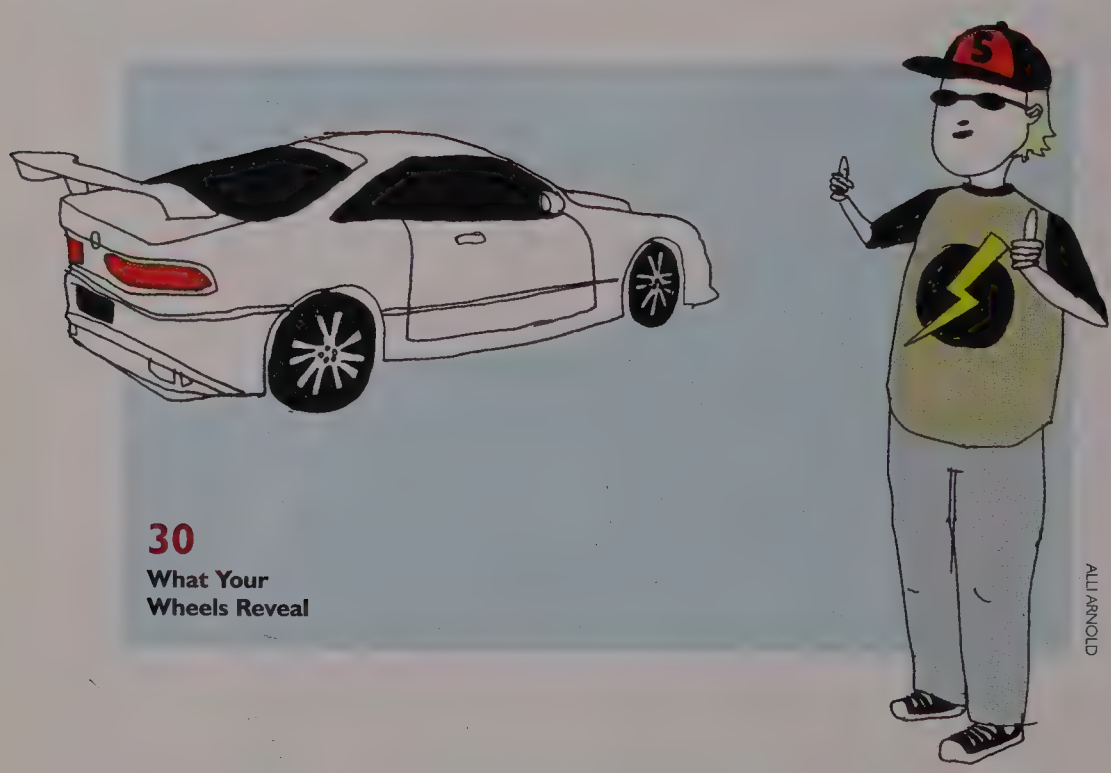

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FROM THE EDITOR

ROADWORTHY

Here's a fact about IMPROPER staffer Ezra Dyer that many of our readers don't know: He's been a car fanatic since before he could drive and now writes often on that topic for magazines like *Automobile* and *Esquire*. So it's no surprise that he's also the driving force behind our very first Cars issue.

Some of the coolest cars in Boston belong to pro athletes, and for our cover story Ezra gets the inside scoop from athletes and the auto shops that serve them on what the pros drive and how they customize their rides. Take a look at Ezra's second feature, "What Your Wheels Reveal," to find out what your own car says about you. (If you're in the market for a new image, see our run-down of some noteworthy '06 models.)

Also in this issue, we add another voice to our coverage of Boston sports. A new column from sports-obsessed staffer Rich Levine will alternate with Chris Collins' column, the Collins Card. Rich kicks it off with a fantasy battle among Boston's best athletes.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
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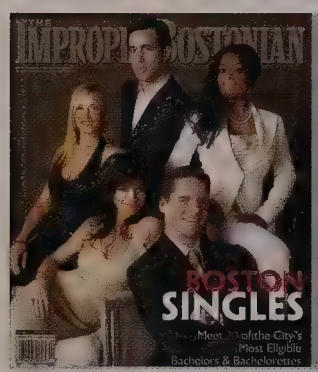

A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN

The deadline to nominate single guys and girls for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN'S 2006 Bachelors and Bachelorettes issue is approaching! Please turn to page 86 for a nomination form, or print one out at www.improper.com. Entries must be received by October 21, 2005. Questions? Send an e-mail to leslie@improper.com.

CORRECTION

Due to fact-checking errors in the article "From Hollywood to New England" (Sept. 14) about Leslie Epstein, we erroneously identified George Steinbrenner as the former owner of the Yankees. Steinbrenner, of course, still owns the team. Also, Epstein does, in fact, write novels—and calls them novels.

HOOKED ON CORINTHIANS 2.0

What's a bored receptionist to do a few minutes before jetting at five o'clock? She takes out the IMPROPER and thumbs over to Ezra's column. I was shaking with laughter over the "Corinthians 2.0" (Sept. 14) column. Thank God my supervisor, or anyone else for that matter, couldn't see me reading it. It was one of your best articles in a long time. Thanks for the laugh. I needed it.

—Rachel Boyd
Jamaica Plain

After I reread Ezra Dyer's "Corinthians 2.0" column and finished laughing, I couldn't resist sending a message of praise. It was full of authentic Bostonian wit. That's just one example of what makes the IMPROPER such a fabulous read—it keeps it real. Boston doesn't need any frills or fancies. Boston is fabulous just as it is. So to all of you at the IMPROPER, keep up the good work, and know you have a fan here.

—Maxine Kimberly
Beacon Hill

"BOSTON DOESN'T NEED ANY FRILLS OR FANCIES. BOSTON IS FABULOUS JUST AS IT IS."

—MAXINE KIMBERLY
BEACON HILL

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KEITH GRIFFIN

A native of Connecticut, Keith Griffin is the automotive columnist for Stonebridge Press Newspapers and the *Connecticut Jewish Ledger*. He is an award-winning investigative journalist whose work has appeared in the *Connecticut Law Tribune*, the *Hartford Courant* and other leading Connecticut publications (as well as a few disreputable ones).

ALLI ARNOLD

Alli Arnold lives in New York City with Nino, her small, fluffy dog. Her clients include the *New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, *New York Magazine*, *Travel & Leisure*, Barneys New York, Kate Spade and Target. She is currently at work on her first children's book.

FALL ARTS COVER: ERIC ANTONIOU; BACHELOR AND BACHELORETTE COVER: PETER URBAN

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new in town

ASHMONT AT LAST

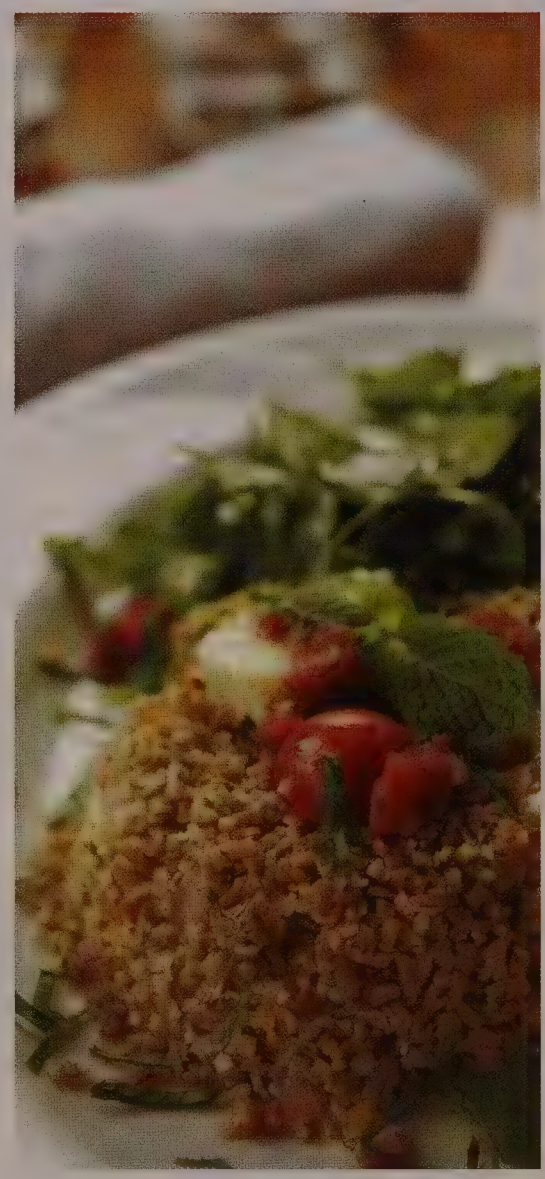
By now you've most likely heard all about the seemingly endless trials Chris Douglass faced when trying to open his restaurant, the Ashmont Grill. Almost a year ago, Douglass, star chef/owner of the South End's swank eatery Icarus, switched gears to open the casual restaurant in his own Dorchester neighborhood. A longtime Ashmont Hill resident, Douglass had seen the ramshackle Ashmont Grille (with an "e"). With help from a city grant, bank loan and nearly 40 Dorchester investors, he was ready to take it over and make it over. After months and months of construction holdups and red tape delays, Douglass finally introduced his baby on September 6.

"It's everything I hoped it would be in terms of getting an enthusiastic response from the community," he says. "People were dying for a place like this. One woman, who's already been in three times, told me she never met her neighbors before—she had no idea how many interesting people lived right next door. And she's meeting them here." Indeed, on a recent Tuesday night, the place was overflowing with diners, many of whom were happily sitting out the hour wait for a table at one of two outdoor patios.

Now Douglass is like a proud dad, milling about the restaurant and bar area, shaking hands with nearly every customer. Most of the staff are Dorchester residents, and waitresses proudly tell customers as much, as they explain that the pizzas are all named after local streets. Playful dots (representing Dorchester's nickname, "Dot") make up a theme, with colorful yet subtle circles decorating the banquettes, wall lamps and rest rooms.

The dinner menu is a mix of simple comfort food and more gourmet fare. (Grilled squid with spicy aioli and "train wreck" fries smothered in melted jack cheese, bacon, jalepeños, sour cream and scallions are both appetizer options.) The Ashmont Grill also offers salads; 10-inch pizzas; pasta; sandwiches; and wood-grill options (including a delectable rosemary-garlic rotisserie half chicken). Prices are modest, with appetizers ranging from $6–$8.50, entrees $12–$17 and a huge range of sides for $4 or less. Desserts are also reasonably priced ($6), including a delicious Blueberry Brown Butter Tart. Douglass, for his part, can't pick a standout dish. "I haven't even had a chance to sit down and try everything," he says. "But I do love the onion rings."

Still sorting out their systems, the restaurant's not open on Sundays or Mondays for the next few weeks, but aims to be open seven days (including a traditional weekend brunch) starting soon. *555 Talbot Ave., Dorchester (617-825-4300).* —*E.G.*



inner view

MARC ABRAHAMS

Marc Abrahams, Harvard grad and Cambridge resident, is the editor and founder of the science humor magazine *Annals of Improbable Research*, as well as its online counterpart, www.improbable.com. In 1991, he founded the Ig Nobel Prize, an annual awards show celebrating some of the world's most unlikely and unusual accomplishments. Past winners have included the man who created the plastic pink flamingo, a scientist who studied the effect of Prozac on clams and the owner of the Russian amusement park Stalin World. On September 22, Abrahams released *The Ig Nobel Prizes 2*, his second book, providing a more in-depth look at past Ig winners—just in time for the 15th annual Ig Nobel Prize awards ceremony, to be held October 6 at Harvard's Sanders Theatre.

Improper Bostonian: *You've presented awards to people all over the world. How do you even begin tracking down potential winners?*

Marc Abrahams: Our *Improbable* edit staff is constantly on the lookout and we have a board of scientists and reporters from around the world who help out. We also get more than 5,000 nominations from the general public every year, so there's never a shortage of options.

IB: *Do you have a favorite award winner from the latest Ig Nobel publication?*

MA: A Canadian named Troy Hurtubise is the only guy I mentioned in both books. He's spent the last seven years developing a suit of armor that can protect him from grizzly bear attacks. He's tested it out by being pushed off cliffs, run over by trucks and beaten up with baseball bats. It's remarkable.

IB: *You once gave a science award to a Dutch man who was the first to scientifically record a case of homosexual necrophilia in mallard ducks. Isn't that just ridiculous?*

MA: The fact that something is ridiculous doesn't tell you anything else about it. But once you take a closer look, you really start to wonder. That's the stuff we strive for.

IB: *There's also an award honoring the team of scientists who discovered the best way to deal with a Zipper-Entrapped Penis. Ever thought of giving the Farrelly Brothers an honorary Ig for bringing Z.E.P. into the public eye?*

MA: That's definitely the first time anyone's suggested that, but it's really not a bad idea. You see, that's how easy it is to nominate someone for an Ig!

IB: *We'd like to prove that George Steinbrenner is actually the devil incarnate. Any tips on how to get started?*

MA: Well, the simplest way to go about it is to follow the work of past Ig winner Robert W. Faid, who spent years researching and compiling statistics to calculate the exact odds that Mikhail Gorbachev was the Antichrist. I'd pick up his book and just follow his model. —*Rich Levine*

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Joseph Cozza
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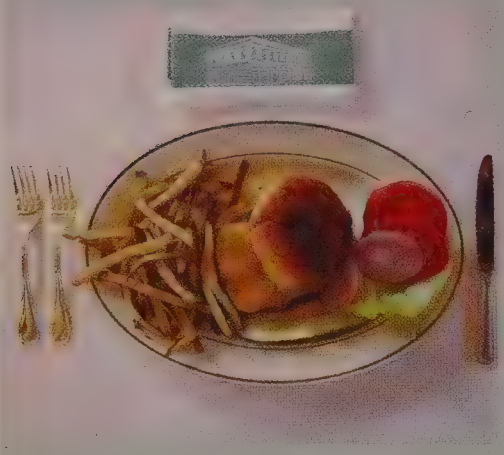
LET'S MEAT UP



Smith & Wol-lunch-sky... The gate to Smith & Wollensky's Arlington Street castle is going to be down for some extended hours this fall, now that the steakhouse has announced a new weekday lunch service. Monday through Friday, from 11:30 am–3:30 pm, S&W offers entrees similar to those on its dinner menu, but in lunch-size portions, as well as a broad selection of soups, salads and sandwiches. Lunch options include a 12-ounce sirloin, the Filet Wollensky salad, and the Wollensky Burger, one of the franchise's staple dishes. *101 Arlington St., Boston (617-423-1112). www.smithandwollenksy.com.*

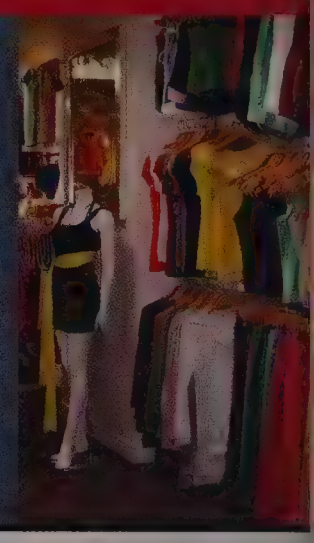
Due South... The Trinity Restaurant Group, which recently launched and swiftly sold INQ on Newbury Street, is gearing up to make its mark on the Boston restaurant scene. First, in late September they'll unveil South Kitchen and Wine Bar on 77 Dorchester Street in South Boston. Executive chef Jerome Watkins will offer an American menu (with French undertones) featuring dishes like USDA choice grade beef burgers, pan-seared jumbo shrimp, herb-roasted pork loin and an eclectic mix of pastas. But Trinity isn't stopping there. Founder Dan Kaufman says he plans to open an Asian steakhouse later this fall and a third venture in December.

Match Made in Boston... The nightlife industry is notoriously hit-or-miss in Boston, but man about town Kevin Troy rarely misses. On October 1, the force behind local hot spots like Jillian's and Gypsy Bar plans to open his latest venture, Match. Taking over the former Blue Cat Café space, Match will focus on two things: gourmet mini-burgers and martinis. The burgers come in all meat types, including tuna, lobster and lamb. Martinis are served in the shaker, allowing you to pour as you like. Sip them on the restaurant's sofa-style seating near its massive 14-foot fireplace. *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922).*

Celebrate with Sam... Our city's 375th anniversary is on the horizon, and Sam Adams is celebrating with Boston 375 Colonial Ale, a limited-edition beer available only in Boston. The throwback brew is made with many of the same ingredients, like Saaz hops, Fuggles hops from England and Blackstrap molasses, that were the rage way back when. Boston 375 is available, from the tap only, at bars in Boston through December.

sam says

A-LIST APPAREL



While on a trip to New York, I hung out with some serious fashionistas clad in the most beautiful dresses. I had to investigate. As it turns out, they were sporting frocks from American Apparel, a company that's become the largest T-shirt manufacturer in the U.S. The company's got a reputation for treating its employees like gold, and all of the clothes are made in downtown L.A., since they're adamant about eschewing sweatshops. Back in Boston, I walked into the Newbury Street store and looked around. I tried on a dress ($30) and fell in love with it immediately. A sales associate showed me how to wear it three different ways, so how could I resist? Then she showed me a scarf you can fashion into a dozen different tops. AA sells kitschy '70s terrycloth dresses, short shorts, leg warmers and so much more. *138 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4768). —Samantha House*

improper reports

BEER ON A BUDGET

For anyone who's greeting fall with a slimmer wallet, it's time to start cutting corners. Try splitting a cheap pitcher of beer with a couple of friends and keep your cash for that monster martini.

Common Ground
85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).
Throw back Miller Highlife for $8 a pitcher. Nightly entertainment includes Stump Team Trivia on Mondays, IPod Night on Wednesdays, '80s music on Thursdays and live music on Fridays.

Conor Larkin's
329 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-867-0084).
After throwing down $6 for a pitcher of Bud or Bud Light in front of one of six TVs, check out the pool tables. The kitchen serves food until 10:30 pm and Tuesdays are Trivia Nights.

Doyle's Café
3484 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-2345).
Newspaper clippings adorn the walls of this no-frills spot where every mayor since Honey Fitz has dined. A pitcher of Miller is $7.

John Harvard's Brew House
33 Dunster St., Cambridge (617-868-3585).
Pitchers of beer range from $12.50–$13.95, which is cheap but not dirt cheap. However, the Bard's Sampler offers five 5-oz. beers of your choice for $5.50.

Our House East
52 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-236-1890).
On Monday nights, get chicken wings for 10 cents apiece when you buy a pitcher of Molson Canadian for $11.95.

Roggie's Brew & Grille
356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton (617-566-1880). www.roggies.com.
$13–$15.75 pitchers come from any of the 52 beers on tap. European soccer games take preference on the TVs, and nighttime entertainment includes karaoke, DJs and open-mike night.

Sidebar Food and Spirits
14 Bromfield St., Boston (617-357-1899). www.sidebarboston.com
Bud and Bud Light by the pitcher cost $6. Appetizers are often half price. *—Melissa Czerkowicz*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Hot Jocks... Hey girls, being an avid sports fan doesn't mean you have to give up your femme style when representing your favorite team. Girly jerseys are the stock-in-trade of Hot Sox Chick, a company that sells sports apparel that's actually cute. Stylish T-shirts, tank tops, fleece crew neck sweatshirts and long-sleeve, baseball-style jerseys come in a variety of colors and sizes (yes, even extra small). Prices range from $18–$36. The line makes a solid addition to your baseball wardrobe as the Sox make another push toward the playoffs, and hopefully, another World Series. *www.hotsoxchick.com.*

What Goes Around, Comes Around... Adding to the wealth of shops catering to young, T-shirt–loving trendsetters is Karmaloop, a streetwear company that's just set up shop on Newbury Street. Having started as a Web site (www.karmaloop.com), this is the first ever retail shop, where fashion fans can find brands like London's Boxfresh, limited-edition Adidas, Triple Five Soul and 2K T-shirts. Adding a touch of local culture, works by local artists adorn the walls. *160 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-0100). www.karmaloop.com.*

That's Hot... The newly renovated Zen Athletica is far from the average yoga studio. Tucked inside the Shaw's supermarket building in Allston, the studio focuses on silent and hot fusion yoga, at two different skill levels. The beginner level is a non-flow, hatha form of yoga that focuses on flexibility and balance. In the more advanced class, students learn trickier postures. Zen also offers silent classes, which take place in the wee hours of the morning (6:45 am) and are completely quiet, without even a word from the instructor. Luckily, you can jump in the shower post-stretch—a necessity since all the classes take place in a highly heated studio. Single classes are $12; a 10-day unlimited pass goes for $20. *Free parking. 1065 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-789-3733). www.zenathletica.com.*

Strap One On... Are you vertically challenged, germaphobic or just generally a frustrated commuter? Local T rider Stan Dolberg feels your pain. So last month he introduced his invention, the TranStrap, which clips onto the T's holding bars. Dolberg remembers the days when the dangling transit straps could be found in every subway and bus, and hopes that the portable, personal straps will fill the void. Also available is a gussied-up version called TranStrap DX, which is basically a human sling that you wrap around yourself and clip to the strap. So if you don't mind a whole lot of snickering, you can hold onto your book rather than the strap, and swing and sway your way to work. *$16.95. www.transtrap.com. —L.P.K. and R.L.*

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

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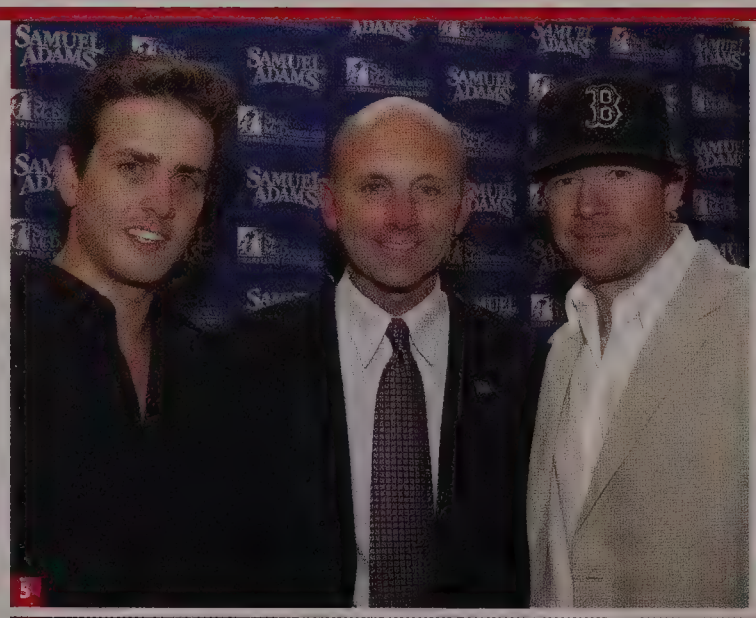
The 2005 Boston Film Festival kicked off on Friday, September 9, with a pre-screening VIP party at 33 Restaurant & Lounge for the locally produced independent film ***Touched.*** Actress Jenna Elfman and other cast members walked the red carpet and celebrated the film's opening.

1. **Ernie Boch Jr.**, CEO of Boch Automotive, with **Alex Williams** and her father, **John Michael Williams**, filmmaker.
2. **Greg Herder**, managing partner of 33 Restaurant & Lounge, and **Robin Dawson**, executive director of the Massachusetts Film Bureau.
3. **Timothy Kirwan**, managing director of Hotel Commonwealth, and **Laura Yellen**, assistant director of the Massachusetts Film Bureau.
4. *Touched* cast members **Jenna Elfman**, **Randall Batinkoff**, and **Timothy Scott Bogart**, writer/director of ABC's *Grey's Anatomy*.

The Samuel Adams Celebrity Draw Party & Auctions was held on Sunday, September 18, in the Wharf Room at the Boston Harbor Hotel. More than 450 athletes, actors and friends came together at the fourth annual event, which raised more than $400,000 for children's charities in Massachusetts.

5. **Joey McIntyre**, actor/singer, former New Kid on the Block; **Sean McDonough**, sportscaster; and **Donnie Wahlberg**, actor, former New Kid on the Block.
6. **Ming** and **Polly Tsai**, co-owners of Blue Ginger in Wellesley.
7. **Ryan Nagle**, assistant manager, Boston Golf Club, and **Necola Arrigo**, clinical researcher for Parexel in Waltham.
8. **Lesley Visser**, sportscaster for CBS, with **Jay Bilas**, sportscaster for ESPN, and wife, **Wendy**, artist.
9. **Ken London**, general manager of special programming for Cramer in Norwood, and **Janis Wade**.
10. **Gerard Phelan**, former wide receiver for Boston College, and **Dwight Clark**, formerly of the San Francisco 49ers.
11. **Celeste Weatherell**, **Kent Damon**, and **Erin McDonough**, vice president of public affairs for New England Baptist Hospital.



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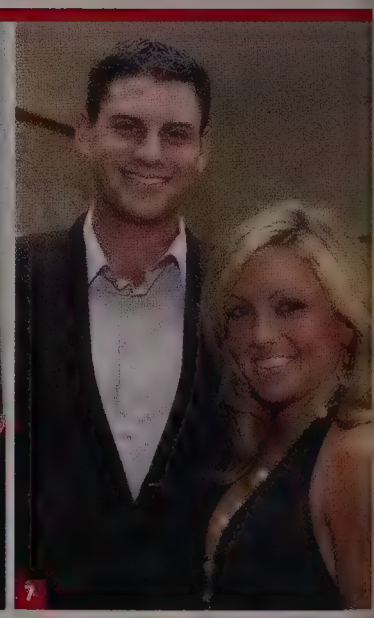
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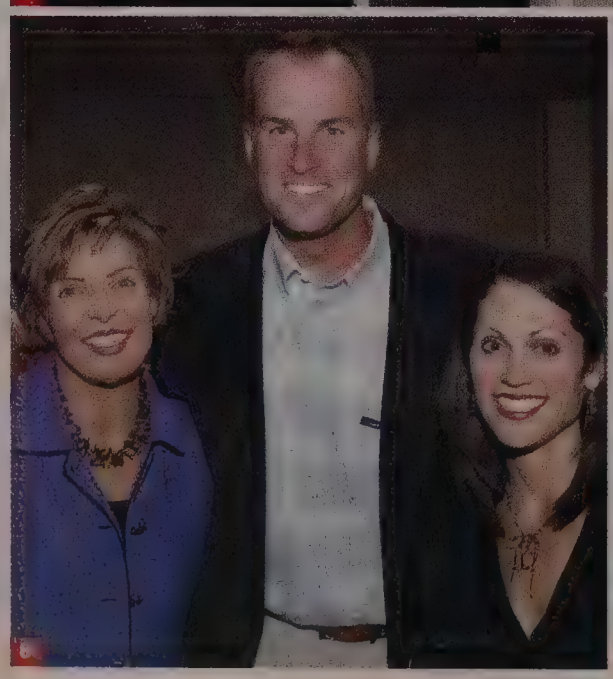
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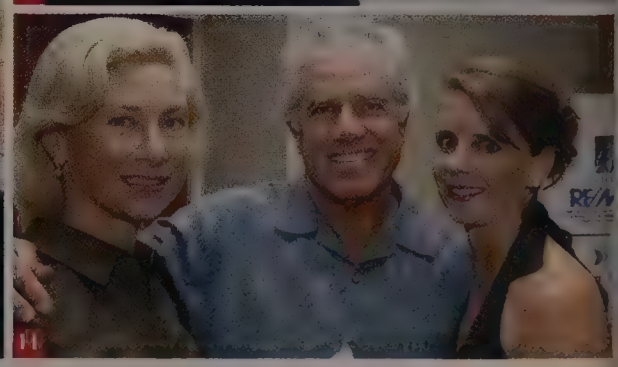
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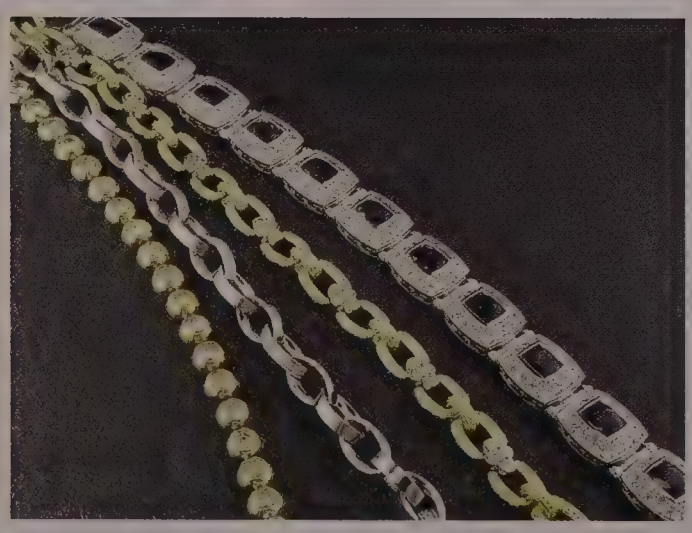

Original design by Alex

100 Needham Street, Newton 617-965-8777

ezra

BY EZRA DYER

NOT MY TYPE

If you care about words per minute, you're a nerds per minute.

It's time for me to confess a shameful secret. No, not that I'm a hermaphrodite porn star and I embezzle money from orphanages because I'm $50,000 in debt from gambling on Thai cockfights while I'm strung out on angel dust. That's been well reported. My secret is even sicker, even more embarrassing, my friends: I don't know how to type.

Have you regained consciousness yet? I'm sorry to have shocked you. But before this "no child left behind" business, I slipped through the cracks of the educational system, graduating middle school, high school and finally college without anyone once explaining to me why there are bumps on the "f" and "j" keys. As the train for Smartville pulled away, I was left standing on the platform for Stupidtown, just another hunt-and-pecker in a qwerty world. How ironic, then, that my job requires typing thousands of characters every single day. My not knowing how to type is as unlikely as a construction worker not knowing how to use a jackhammer, or a concert pianist not knowing how to type.

I do know my way around the ol' keyboard, sort of. It's just that I use only 20 percent of my available digits, and I stare at the keys. Over the years, I've perfected this technique, and occasionally I teach it to a select group of fellow wordsmiths, such as Eminem, who favors my method over traditional typing because it allows him to write songs while simultaneously giving two people the finger.

While my index fingers have served me well, I've often wondered what it would be like to type using all my fingers. The speed, the efficiency…I could write as prolifically as the people Tom Clancy hires to write Tom Clancy novels, if only I knew how. So I enroll in an online typing class.

Step one in learning to type: getting your hands in the correct position. The online class includes a picture of a pair of hands ready to get down to business. If you were playing charades and you had to portray Frankenstein's monster, this is what you'd do with your hands. Call it "ready to type," or "Arrrrhhahahahah! I'm gonna grab you!"

Suitably posed, I begin my first exercise. Index fingers on the home keys. Begin typing an eight-character sequence. And… it's impossible. As I suspected, the circuits in my brain that control independent function of my fingers have long since calcified. When I try to move my left pinkie finger up to the "q" key, I feel as flexible and coordinated as a zombie doing yoga. The effort gives me the willies, makes the hair stand up on my arms. I feel like picking my computer up and hurling it through the window, then stripping naked and running around in circles, barking. Is this what typing's like for everyone?

I try again. And again. Finally, ponderously, I hack out the sequence and hit "enter." The program spits back, "Your accuracy is good but your speed needs work. Try again." The prospect of trying again sounds like as much fun as getting a battery-acid colonic, so I decide to try something different: the typing test. Here you're given a paragraph to reproduce while the computer times you and catalogs your mistakes.

The first selection is the parable about the tortoise and the hare. I clock 43 words per minute. The second passage is about a donkey falling into a river, and I complete it at 39 words per minute. The final test is a paragraph about a wolf in sheep's clothing slaughtering lambs, and I manage 41 words per minute while wondering what the obsession is with animals at this typing school. After each attempt, the computer tells me that my speed is good but could be better. What the computer doesn't know is that I'm hunting and pecking. Take that, typing! If I can average 41 words per minute with my index fingers, what's so wrong with that? By the time I take enough lessons to reach that kind of speed using correct typing technique, there'll be cheap, accurate dictation software and keyboards will be a crusty relic of the bad ol' days of carpal tunnel syndrome and boring online typing classes.

I'M JUST ANOTHER HUNT-AND-PECKER IN A QWERTY WORLD.

At 41 words per minute, I could theoretically write this whole column in less than 20 minutes—if I could think that fast. The sad realization is that you can have hares for fingers, but they don't do much good when you've got a tortoise brain. iB

YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY?

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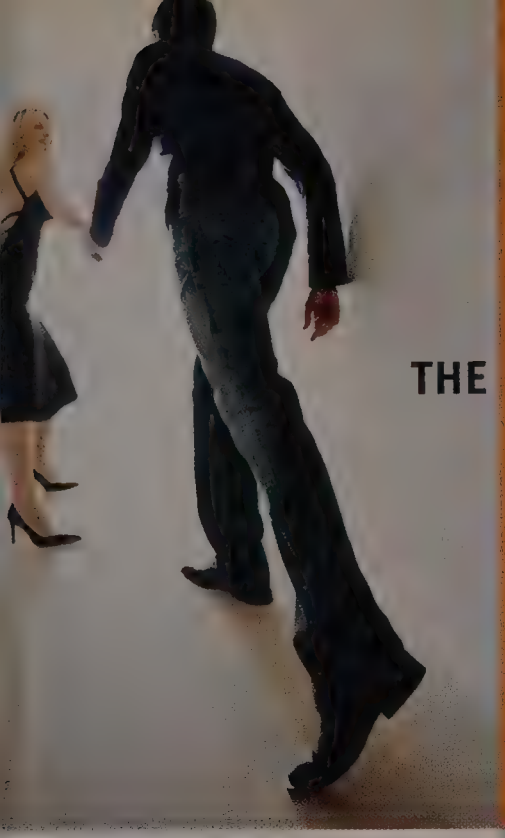

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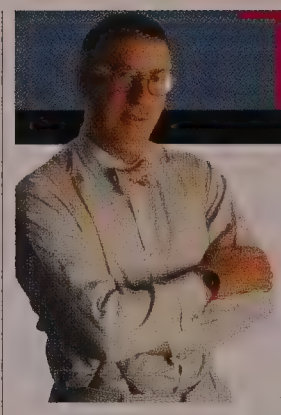

THE DANCE

BY JOHN D. SPOONER

Literary Life

Beware the book tour.

People send me manuscripts all the time: novels, confessions, biographies of grandparents. Many of these people tell me, "And boy can I promote it when it comes out. Oprah will love it."

If you are a writer of books, nothing ever prepares you for the 'book tour.' A surprising number of IMPROPER readers want to write professionally, dream of writing. I wanted to write from the time I was a kid. And I was lucky. I had an older cousin who had his first novel published when he was 26. He was a New Yorker, who, after this first novel, won a fellowship to the McDowell Colony in Peterborough, N.H. He fell in love with the area, built his own dream house, and once a month had me up to spend a weekend to hike, drink and talk about writing. He told me a great truth about the subject…"I have a friend," he said, "who had written a best seller called *Where Did You Go? Out. What Did You Do? Nothing.*

"My friend read some stories I wrote. And a fragment of a novel. I couldn't wait to get his opinion and I said, 'So what did you think?'

"My friend looked at me and said, 'God help you. You're a writer.'"

Eventually, my cousin said the same thing to me. It was the most thrilling thing anyone had ever said to me. I had no idea what was meant by, "God help you, you're a writer." I only heard…"you're a writer!"

Before I go any further, I want all of you aspiring writers to understand one thing: The world of creativity is much more about "who loves ya, baby" than it is about talent. You can be Hemingway or J. K. Rowling and never be published, unless someone in a position of power, i.e., in publishing, believes in you and pushes your candidacy.

A young writer whom Truman Capote befriended complained to Capote that he hated promoting his book after it was published, that the book tour was demeaning. Capote at this time was at the height of his popularity and probably the height of his talent. He looked at his protégé and said, "Just always remember: A boy has got to hustle his product. And don't forget it." So when you get your book published, and your publisher pays for you to go on the road to promote, here are a few adventures and lessons for which you should be ready.

Be prepared for stupid questions by interviewers. Almost no television interviewer ever reads the book they receive. They play off a synopsis or the flap copy. You must control the interview—open with a provocative story and end with one, whatever you're asked. You have five minutes or less on TV and you've got to make it count. Radio people almost always read the books and give you more time to intelligently make your points. All this being said, word of mouth means more than anything else in book sales. And the buzz these days starts with women's book clubs. Unfortunately for male writers, the news is not good on this front. By far the greatest percentage of books read and recommended by these clubs are by women authors.

Here's what men face on book tours. Some years ago I was promoting a book of mine called *Sex and Money*. I was in Chicago, after a long day, having done a total of 10 interviews: radio, TV and newspaper, only to discover that my books were not yet in Chicago bookstores. This is a somewhat typical author's tale: screwups at every level, messing with your baby—your recently published book.

In other towns there was Maury Povich interviewing me wearing a bull mask (don't ask), Regis Philbin ridiculing my title, Louis Rukeyser (*Wall Street Week*) asking me if there was such a thing as an 'honest stockbroker.' In Cleveland I took what I thought was my suitcase from the airport and was forced to wear an electric blue sequined costume with sequined bell bottoms, belonging to a rock drummer, to four interviews plus a luncheon speech to several hundred Daughters of the American Revolution.

There is an absurdity to tours, repeating yourself endless times a day, trying to sell a product most people don't want, even if it might be good for them. But, even if you don't sell many books, you do meet fascinating people: Ralph Nader throwing a hissy fit in the green room; a Hungarian author with a number one best seller who said to me, "Know how to make an Hungarian omelette? First, steal six eggs"; Elia Kazan, director of *On the Waterfront*, who told me, "Don't take any shit from anyone." The actor Richard Harris, drunk as a skunk before a TV show, when I extended a hand to say hello, grabbed me and kissed me on the mouth. All grist for the mill, of course. The adventures don't sell books. But you can use these absurdities of life in your books and stories. Until, if you're lucky, someone, someday, will say to you…"God, help you, you're a writer." IB

John D. Spooner is an investment advisor and novelist. Contact him at thedance@improper.com.

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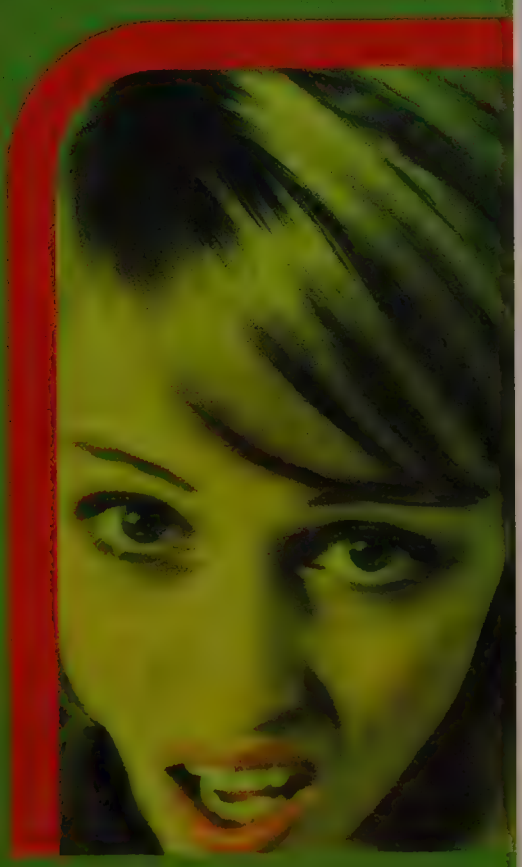

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THAT'S RICH

BY RICH LEVINE

Superstar Showdown

Who will claim the title as the King of Boston Sports?

Great teams and great athletes go hand in hand, and here in Boston there's no shortage of either. When it comes to the city's top team, the debate begins and ends with the Patriots. They personify team like Tommy Lee personifies manhood.

But who's Boston's No. 1 athlete? It's a difficult question, and as a guy who spent far too much of his childhood watching the WWF, I saw only one plausible solution: Bring together Boston's top seven contenders—Joe Thornton, Paul Pierce, Curt Schilling, Johnny Damon, Manny Ramirez, David Ortiz and Tom Brady—and have them duke it out for the title.

In the end, the battle of Boston's best athletes was really only a two-man fight. Here's how it went down:

The opening bell sounds and Thornton doesn't have a shot, as Pierce makes quick work of the Bruins captain with a clothesline over the ropes. Blame it on the strike, blame it on whatever, but the Bruins have become the Hub's redheaded stepteam. Comparing them to the Celtics, Sox and Pats is like comparing Andrea Zuckerman to Brenda, Kelly and Valerie. They're just not in the same league.

Seconds after ousting Thornton, however, Pierce hears a whistle, and the referee nails him with a flagrant foul for the clothesline. Paul lowers his head and pouts in the corner, and Schilling, always with a flair for the dramatic, takes advantage.

He hobbles over to Pierce and slaps on a sleeper hold. Damon's behind him, doing naked pull-ups on the turnbuckle until he builds up enough momentum to deliver a dropkick that knocks Pierce out of the ring.

But Curt isn't thrilled with the form on Damon's kick and begins lecturing him on ways to improve. Johnny's ADD kicks in faster than Tim Dwight on 500 milligrams of speed, and he leaves the ring.

That reminds Schilling, he's late for an appearance on *Dr. Phil*, and for his weekly spot on WEEI, and for a GOP fundraiser, plus he still needs to make up Terry Francona's lineup card for the night. He's out.

Only Ortiz, Ramirez and Brady remain, until a butterfly sneaks into the ring, sending Manny into a tailspin. He runs home to grab his net and a glass jar with holes poked in the top, leaving Brady and Papi to slug it out. And that's the way it should be, right?

Not so long ago, Boston was a city mired in alleged curses, inept management and unlikable athletes. We sat and watched as stars like Clemens, Bourque and Boggs left town, only to start collecting championships like Courtney Love does subpoenas. It was pretty bleak. And though there's a laundry list of heroes who've had a hand in transforming Boston from the Al Bundy of the sports world into Titletown, USA, Ortiz and Brady are in a class by themselves.

Over the past 12 months, Papi's late-inning at-bats have bordered on the divine. They feel scripted, almost like watching the final scene of *Major League* or *The Natural* for the umpteenth time. You already know the ending, but that doesn't make it any less exciting.

Ortiz is the most likable player on a team chock-full of likable players; he's the most popular guy on Boston's most popular (not best) team. But that being said, he's not quite ready to take the throne as the King of Boston Sports.

After his first full season, Brady was dubbed the next Joe Montana, which is dangerous, kind of like calling your 4-year-

IN THE END, THE BATTLE OF BOSTON'S BEST ATHLETES WAS REALLY ONLY A TWO-MAN FIGHT.

old the next Picasso the first time he finishes a picture without eating the entire crayon. But Brady's only gotten better. His three rings, his Austin Powers persona—women want him, men want to be him—and a resume that already guarantees a trip to Canton give him a decided advantage.

Brady and Ortiz now stand face-to-face in the ring, when suddenly Bridget Moynahan arrives in Brady's corner, sporting nothing but a getup from Victoria Secret's 2006 collection. Papi is stunned, almost hypnotized by her appearance. Brady, as always, is unfazed, and takes control. With a quick forearm and one giant shove, Brady stands alone in the ring and walks off with Bridget on his arm.

He's the champ for now, but we'll check back in late October, because a rematch might be in the cards. iB

Look for Rich's column in every other issue of the IMPROPER, and address sporting opinions and feedback to rich@improper.com.

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ANITA DIAMANT

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Best-selling author Anita Diamant was born in Newark, N.J., and lived there until the age of 12, when her family moved to Denver. She attended the University of Colorado for two years and received a bachelor's degree from Washington University and a master's in English from SUNY Binghamton. She then moved to Boston and began her career as a journalist in 1975, freelancing for such publications as the *Boston Globe*, *Boston Magazine*, the *Boston Phoenix*, *McCall's* and Ms. Since 1985, she has also written about contemporary Jewish practice and the Jewish community for various magazines, and published six handbooks to Jewish life, including *The New Jewish Wedding*, *The New Jewish Baby Book*, *Living a Jewish Life* and *Saying Kaddish*. In 1997, she published her first novel, *The Red Tent*, a blockbuster based on an obscure story from Genesis, which was a runaway best seller and has since been translated into foreign editions in more than 20 countries. Her second novel, *Good Harbor*, was a contemporary story, and in 2003 she published a collection of nonfiction essays titled *Pitching My Tent*. Her latest novel, *The Last Days of Dogtown*, describes life in a poor rural community on Cape Ann in the early 19th century and debuted in September. In the past few years, she has been deeply involved in building and supporting Mayyim Hayyim: Living Waters Community Mikveh, a traditional Jewish ritual bath. She and her husband (a convert to Judaism) live in the Boston area and have a grown daughter.

Jonathan Soroff: *OK, rude question: Exactly how rich did* The Red Tent *make you?*
Anita Diamant: [Laughs] I get to send my daughter to college and she has no loans.
JS: *Your new book is a bit of a departure. Any worry about alienating your core fans who were expecting another* Red Tent?
AD: I already disappointed them with my second novel, and if you're a fan of historical fiction, this one shares a little bit more with *The Red Tent* than my last book did. But it's not biblical, and people still do ask for a follow-up, *The Red Tent II*, or another story of a biblical woman.
JS: *Any plans to oblige them?*
AD: None. No interest. I don't think anybody would be happy with the result if I did, because it wouldn't be *The Red Tent*. You just can't have that first thrill a second time.

JS: *How did you get inside the biblical character Dinah's head?*
AD: I didn't think about it too much. It's a mystery. I didn't question it. I did try to keep it plausible as to what she would and wouldn't know. There was stuff she couldn't know, because it was from her point of view, but that gave me a focus. I was sort of exempt from having to tell the reader everything, so, in a way, it was easier.

PEOPLE STILL DO ASK FOR A FOLLOW-UP, *THE RED TENT II*, OR ANOTHER STORY OF A BIBLICAL WOMAN... YOU JUST CAN'T HAVE THAT FIRST THRILL A SECOND TIME.

JS: *How do you feel about the traditional Jewish teaching that a menstruating woman is unclean?*
AD: Oh, boy, that's an involved question. I assume you're referring to my interest in the mikveh that I opened here, and that has very little to do with monthly immersions. It has more to do with my own personal reasons, which involve people converting to Judaism, which is happening a lot. I think they should be welcomed in the most beautiful, warm, homelike setting that honors their choice.
JS: *So it's sort of like a spiritual spa treatment?*
AD: I wouldn't call it that, but it's very spalike, in that it has a lot of windows, a lot of stone, beautiful colors, wood...It has a very soothing feel to it.
JS: *You're part of an interfaith marriage. What is your take on asking someone to make such a huge change?*
AD: Well, actually, my husband converted, so we're not an interfaith marriage, but I don't think just asking someone is really the way it works. If it's an interfaith relationship, and one partner's Jewishness is really important to them, I think there should be a lot of conversation before talk of marriage about "How are we going to do this?" It has to be an honest conversation, and it often requires outside help. In Boston, the Reform movement offers very good workshops for couples to have that conversation. But sometimes, conversion is an obvious choice, because people who fall in love with a Jew are falling in love with Judaism, too—the values and rituals and openness and joy...
JS: *...the guilt, the neuroses.*
AD: [Laughs] Yes, the talking and analyzing. Even the food.
JS: *Are there any ancient Jewish practices or rituals that you think should be incorporated into modern life?*
AD: I'm not into "should." I'm into people making choices. But there are things like the mikveh we just built—certainly as a liberal, Reform Jew, I don't think I knew what one was until the rabbi told my husband that part of the conversion process was going to a mikveh. Or, like 30 years ago, liberal Jews didn't sign a Ketubah [the Jewish marriage license], and now there's ketubah.com. That was a practice that had been completely abandoned. There are all kinds of practices that we're reclaiming in a uniquely American Jewish way.
JS: *I assume, then, that you're satisfied with the role of women in contemporary Jewish life?*
AD: Even some corners of the Orthodox community have women taking on roles that were unheard-of a generation ago.
JS: *For* The Red Tent, *how did you come across Genesis Chapter 34? It's a relatively obscure part of the Bible, no?*
AD: Yes, very. I actually started off with the story of Rachel and Leah. I thought with all the competition between them, there had to be something more for them to be able to live together and raise all those kids. I thought I would write a kind of friendship novel about the two mothers, so I was looking at Genesis and came across the Dinah story, and it's just so sexy as a story. She doesn't say anything, first of all, so it was a great opportunity to create a voice for her. And because we don't have her testimony, we don't really know what happened. There's a horrible, violent denouement, and then nothing, so there was a great gap to fill in. It appealed to me as a first-time novelist looking for a good plot.
JS: *Favorite Yiddish word or expression?*
AD: Oh, my goodness, there are so many. I like ferblungid, which means lost. And I like schmuck. That's a great word.
JS: *Biggest mitzvah [good deed] you've done lately?*
AD: Wow! Good question. For publication? Let's see...I'm not telling you the real one on the record. You know what? It's not comfortable for me to name one publicly, because it takes away from the mitzvah of it.
JS: *Same thing with tzedakah [charity]?*
AD: No. I think it's very important to tell people where you give your money because it may inspire others to give theirs. My support, both financial and in terms of time and effort, of the mikveh, are my biggest acts of tzedakah.
JS: *OK, so can I find Dogtown on Cape Ann?*
AD: Yes, although there's not much there. Some old tumble-down stone walls, some cellar holes. Not much. It's a funny, kinda creepy landscape.
JS: *Any chance it'll become a tourist destination, like Gloucester after* The Perfect Storm?
AD: Let's hope so. But it's sorta up in the woods.
JS: *So I can't get a Dogtown T-shirt?*
AD: There are T-shirts, but they have nothing to do with my book. IB

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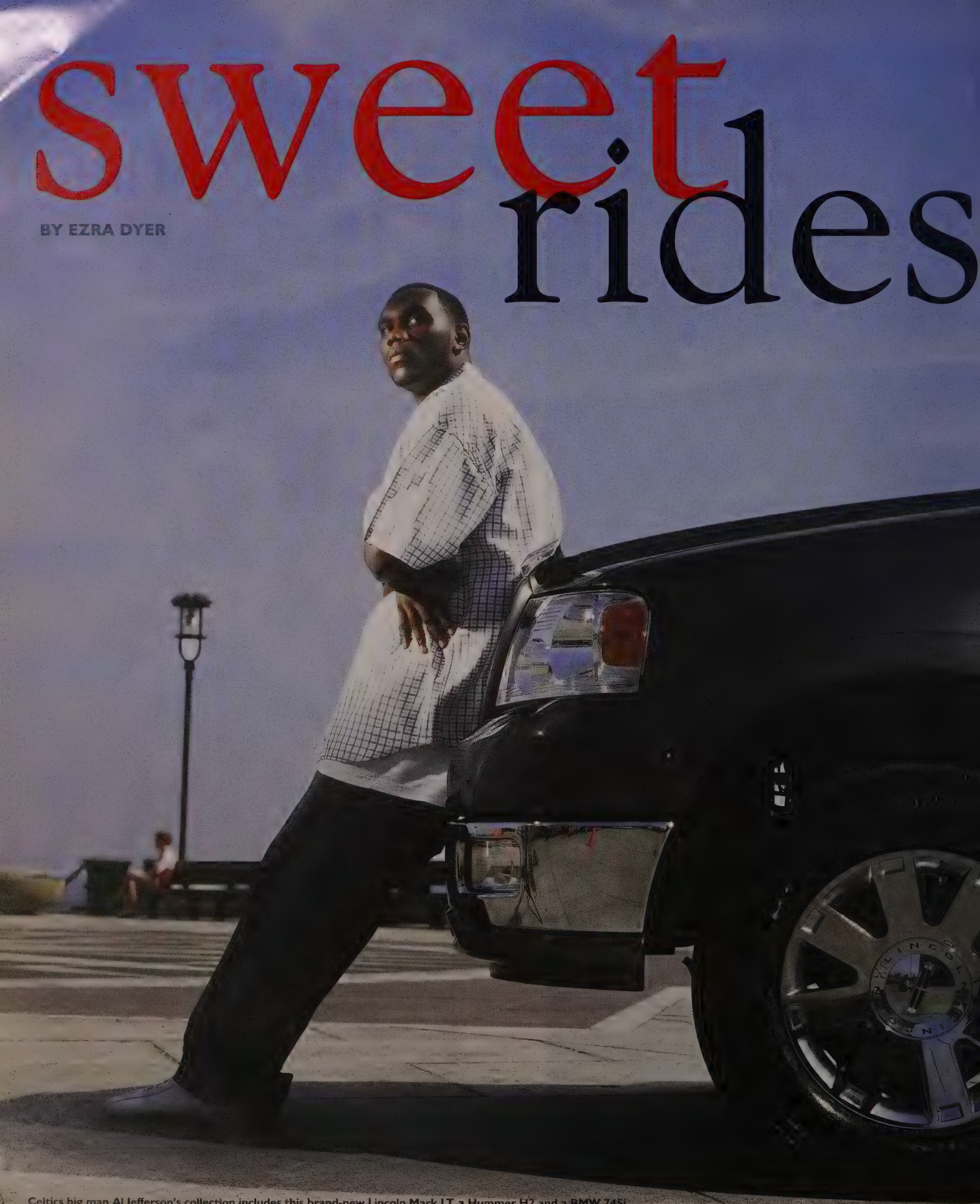
BY EZRA DYER



Celtics big man Al Jefferson's collection includes this brand-new Lincoln Mark LT, a Hummer H2 and a BMW 745i.

PHOTOGRAPHER: DANA SMITH; PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT: MARY BETH MONTGOMERY; LOCATION: LONG WHARF/BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Ah,

to be young and flush with cash.

Such is the plight of our city's professional athletes—whether they're recipients of big contracts or pulling down the league minimum in their respective sports, athletes have the means to indulge themselves in an upscale lifestyle purchase now and then. And if you've ever watched MTV's *Cribs*, you know that eventually the camera travels to the garage or driveway, where you find Escalades, Range Rovers and all manner of luxury cars decked out with nary a stock wheel in sight. Hey, given a few million dollars, why not indulge?

You might expect rookies to have the lowliest cars in the team parking lot, but that's not the case. Rookies have the freshest memories of their often junky preprofessional rides, and so seem inclined to treat themselves to something impressive when they make it big. Second-year Celtics big man Al Jefferson, for instance, went from owning a clapped-out van to driving a BMW 745i when he was signed by the Celtics. At age 20, his garage now also includes a Hummer H2 and a Lincoln Mark LT.

"My first car was a 1985 Chevrolet van," Jefferson says. "It would seat like 10 people. My uncle gave it to me. When you're riding a bicycle, you're happy to get anything." Big Al's face blossoms into a smile at the memory of his first set of wheels. "My auntie sold it. That was a funny van, it really was." Now, before he's even old enough to have a beer, Jefferson's gone from a hand-me-down van to a trio of luxury vehicles—one of which, the Lincoln, was given to him as part of a promotion. Not too shabby.

Jefferson says that despite the Bentleys and Benzes gracing the player parking lot, there's really no sense of one-upmanship between the vets and younger players. "No, that's more of a rookie thing," he says. "When you get your first car, there's a little bit of competition between the rookies." This year's Celtics freshman class includes Gerald Green, who's having his new truck customized at Eastside Motoring in Waltham, where many of the Celtics take their cars to get modified. "We're doing the new guy, Green's, truck," says Jerry Haytayan, who co-owns Eastside with his brother, John. "He dropped off his Escalade and we're putting 26-inch rims on it. And Lamborghini doors." An Escalade with doors that swing upward, a la Sant'Agata's finest. "For Orien Greene, the other rookie, we put 24-inch wheels on his Range Rover," Haytayan adds. Whether Green or Greene put together the better ride is a matter of preference.

Eastside also customized Jefferson's Hummer with giant rims, a killer stereo and a few personal touches. "We've done almost all of the Celtics' cars," says Haytayan. "For Al Jefferson's H2, we did a set of 25-inch Giovanna wheels. The 25-inch is very rare—they only make it for the H2." This may seem like a dumb question, but what happens if Big Al gets a flat tire with 25-inch wheels? "We put a 25-inch spare on the back," says Haytayan. Al's H2 also features a custom sound system with the words "Big Al" embroidered on the subwoofer box.

If it's sounding like NBA players live large, literally, in their automotive taste, there's an obvious reason for that: These guys are huge. "BMW makes them big enough for the big guys," says the 6-foot-10 Jefferson. "You can't buy a Toyota. You've got to spend some money. So trucks are good, too."

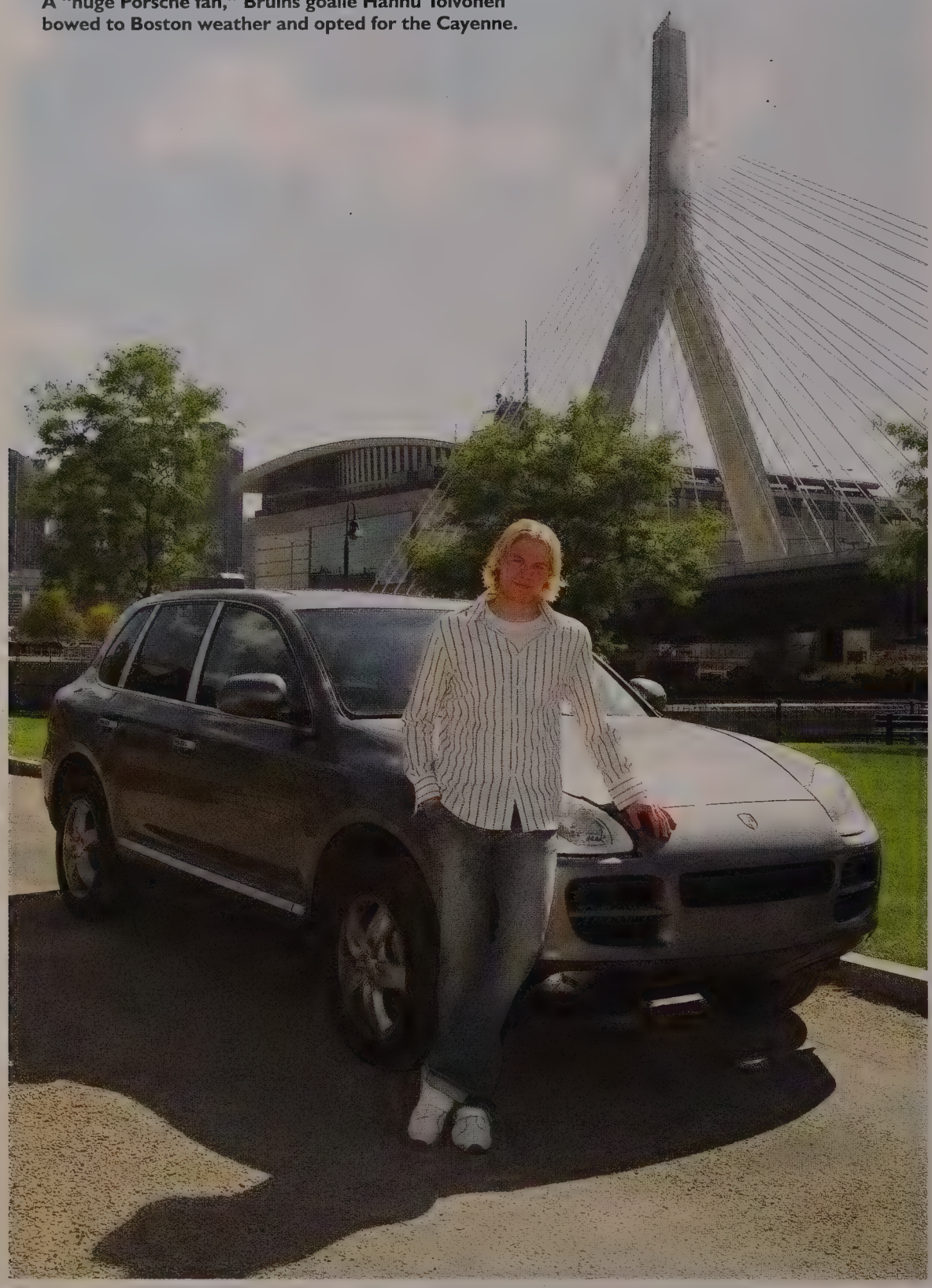
"There are a lot of Range Rovers and big trucks like the Escalade and GMC Denali," says Haytayan. "Tony Allen has an S-Class. You don't see any little sports cars like Lamborghinis or Ferraris."

Russ Martin, owner of Car Repertoire in Providence, R.I., sees similar car-buying trends among the Patriots players, for whom he's customized several vehicles. "For new cars, the BMW 645i is really popular. So is the Mercedes S500. A lot of guys like trucks—H2s, Escalades. If you're 6 feet and taller, you like the Escalades." Pats backup quarterback Doug Flutie has a Ferrari, but then again Doug Flutie has always been an exception to a lot of NFL rules.

So what does a freshly minted millionaire do first to his new ride?

"If it's an older model, the first thing they like to take care of is the interior," says Martin. "Then they move on to the paint job, then the wheels. If it's a later-model car, like a Mercedes, they'll redo the bumpers, and they want to tint the windows immediately, then change the wheels." As for the smoked-out glass, Martin says, "A lot of people want their privacy. Very few like to brag about their stuff. They like nice things, but it gets to be a burden." (We suspect Pedro Martinez, who was spotted last season driving through postgame Boylston Street traffic in a decidedly untinted S-Class, might not have been as averse to public attention as he claimed.)

Being first on the block with a certain feature, be it wheels or a new car model, is also important. "A lot of guys like to be the first with something," says Martin. "I'll order a car for them and all the parts we need for it. Like with this S500 4Matic, we got the wheels custom-made. They're 20-inch forged Giovannas that took four weeks to make. The car was lowered, and we added a Lorinser body kit with custom badges. We put in custom floor mats and tossed the factory mats." The owner, a Patriots player, got a turnkey vehicle personalized to his taste. "It was a concept he and I created over the phone that became a reality," Martin says. "He told me the vision and how classy he wanted it to be, and the rest is history." Martin estimates that the finished product is worth well over $120,000.



A "huge Porsche fan," Bruins goalie Hannu Toivonen bowed to Boston weather and opted for the Cayenne.

A relatively low-cost customization, though, is also one of the most popular—the humble floor mats. "Floor mats start at about $400 and go up from there—some people put suede around the corners, script, all four mats saying something different," Martin says. The Patriots' Kevin Faulk has the Roman numeral "II" on the driver's side floor mat of his Cadillac XLR, the word "Time" on the passenger side and "Champions" emblazoned on the trunk mat. "I need to get him back in here," says Martin. "He needs to change it to 'III'."

TUNE-UP

Stereos are another area that gets aftermarket attention. Big Al's M.O. for his Hummer was "change the rims, put a system in," he says. Another audio aficionado is Manny Ramirez, who sends his new cars straight to Sound In Motion in Allston for a complete overhaul.

"Manny's really into cars and music," says Derek Kenney, owner of Sound In Motion. "He wants big subwoofers and a lot of bass. He listens to a lot of salsa music. He used to be very specific about which parts he wanted to use, but now he'll set the criteria for what he wants to accomplish and we'll just do it. We've done five or six cars for him now. His new car is his wife's, so it needs space for the baby. We're only doing two amps." Manny's wife's car, incidentally, is a Chrysler 300C SRT8, which packs 20-inch wheels and a 425-horsepower Hemi V8. And if two amplifiers still sounds extreme, consider Manny's Escalade EXT: The Cadillac pickup truck is home to eight amps (good for 5,200 watts) and four 13.5-inch subwoofers. On the floor between the subs rests a piece of Plexiglas etched with the Red Sox logo and lit with red neon. The amp rack takes up half the pickup's bed, and the finished vehicle could probably challenge the Fenway Park PA system for sound pressure level.

Manny sent one of his completed vehicles, another Escalade, back to the Dominican Republic for his father. Soon enough, though, Dad blew the front tweeters, and high-end car stereo shops are not thick on the ground in the Dominican. What to do?

"Manny tells me he's going to fly me down there to fix it," Kenney says. "I'm like, 'Yeah right, whatever.' Then the next day this woman calls from his travel service to book my tickets." Kenney soon discovered the perils of international repair missions. "The airline lost my luggage, which had all my tools and the new tweeters in it. So I had to borrow whatever tools I could find down there. I found some tweeters that weren't the right kind, but they were functional. So his dad's stereo at least works now."

Kenney confirms that Ramirez doesn't relish basking in the spotlight when he's out in public, but inevitably a crowd forms when the Sox slugger visits. "He hides behind my toolbox while we talk about what he wants to do. But unlike a lot of athletes who do everything through their agents, he comes in, signs some baseballs, and tells me exactly what he wants, himself. He gave me tickets to a game once. He's a really cool person."

SNOW WAY

If there's one thing that a high percentage of Boston athletes' cars have in common, it's not custom-embroidered headrests, aquarium speaker boxes or spinner wheels (which are *so* 2003)—it's all-wheel drive. What good is your fabulously tricked-out vehicle if it has to be parked all winter? Under the Lorinser body kit and smoked windows, the Mercedes customized by Car Repertoire is an all-weather rock star, the all-wheel drive S500 4Matic (it's a rock star, that is, provided that some all-season tires find their way onto those huge wheels). The Bentley Continental GTs in the Celtics player parking lot—all-wheel drive. The big trucks pack all-wheel drive, too, though Jefferson allows that he might have to fit smaller wheels to his H2 for the winter months, as 25-inch snow tires are hard to come by. And when it came time for Bruins goalie Hannu Toivonen to satisfy his desire for a Porsche, he opted not for a sports car but for a tall SUV, the Cayenne. He bought the V8-powered "S" version with all the fixin's. "I've been a huge Porsche fan all my life," Toivonen says. "It was something I was looking forward to getting when I could. Obviously, living in Boston, I kind of wanted a sports car, but the weather is what it is. There's snow. I had a Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited for my first year. It was a nice car, but I wanted something sportier with more performance…The Cayenne gives a good kick. During the summer, when I go back to Finland, I miss it."

In terms of modifications, Toivonen is quite happy doing nothing at all. "It looks pretty cool without any modifications," he says. "If I got anything done, it might be bigger wheels. But with the weather coming, you don't want big wheels. Maybe next spring…"

As a Porsche fan, it would be understandable if Toivonen had long-term designs on Porsche's iconic sports car, the 911. It, too, comes in all-wheel drive. "I had the chance to drive a 911 and it was unbelievable," he says. "If the conditions were right, I'd definitely get a 911, but having the nicest car isn't the most important thing in life." True enough. No matter what you drive—particularly in the world of pro athletes—someone will always have something nicer, so why not be happy with what you've got?

"It's just the way it is," Toivonen says. "Big boys have big toys." iB

> "For new cars, the BMW 645i is really popular. So is the Mercedes S500. A lot of guys like trucks—H2s, Escalades. If you're 6 feet and taller, you like the Escalades."

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When it comes to wheels, some fresh developments—and retro—are in store among th models.

10 for 2006

BY GERRY MILES

The new model year has a little bit of everything: speed, luxury, versatility and a touch of the old becoming new.

Chevy's got two big attention-grabbing cars with its hot Z06 Corvette and its back-to-the-future HHR SUVs, and their crossover variations, seek to combine the best of all the station wagon attributes in a socially accepted soccer-field shuttle bus for minions and mommies everywhere. Meanwhile, hybrids are hotter than the surface of the sun. Toyota's upscale arm, Lexus, is pushing the hybrid envelope to keep its momentum and stay ahead of the pack.

And then there's the raft of neat drop-top two-seaters, like the Pontiac Solstice, that have set the industry on fire, grabbing magazine covers and tire-kickers alike. The latest edition of the Mazda Miata, the MX-5, is another such vehicle hitting the market that's credited with jump-starting the roadster revival years ago.

Here are 10 new models to check out this year, from enviro-conscious to ultra-sporty.

LEXUS HYBRIDS

If Boston hosted a reenactment of the revolutionary changes taking place in the auto industry, you might see a Toyota Prius, a Lexus SUV and a Lexus Sedan driving away from the Old North Church with the competition driving ahead, warning the others, "The hybrids are coming!"

The combination of an electric and gas motor to save on emissions and boost mpgs has finally taken hold, and Toyota and its upscale brand, Lexus, are forging ahead of the rest. Lexus has rolled out its RX 400h SUV, the hybrid version of the RX 330, and is preparing its GS sedan hybrid.

While many thought Toyota was selling its Prius—announced at a New York Auto Show press conference years ago where the scribes actually gasped at the price of $19,995—at a loss, they've now moved the popular technology upscale into and across the Lexus line. What's billed as the first rear-wheel drive hybrid, the 2007 GS 450h is on the way with combined EPA numbers in the high 20s. Lexus says it's to be a Super Ultra Low Emission–rated vehicle that won't sacrifice luxury and performance.

Could the timing have been better?

Starting price: $48,410 (RX 400h); pricing not released for GS 450h

Cool Lexus Fact!

The IRS has granted the RX 400h up to $2,000 as a clean-burning fuel deduction on Form 1040. The deduction is limited to $2,000 for certified vehicles first put into service in 2005. Currently, the IRS does not plan to allow a tax deduction after 2006. The person who purchased the vehicle must be the one to take the deduction.

JEEP COMMANDER

For the new year, Jeep is joining the ranks of SUVs with three rows of seats by introducing the all-new Commander, which looks an awful lot like the original Cherokee from 1984-ish. With its T-square corners and exposed rivets around the wheel wells, Commander evokes the "Trail Rated" rough-and-ready Jeep image.

The increased size for the second and third rows was purposeful as the raised roofline behind the front seats shows off the fact that 6-foot-tall adults can sit upright inside. But the third-row seat is still small and best saved for kids who'll think it's neat until their big growth spurt. You thought that once…20 years ago. Today you may get motion sickness due to the solid rear axle.

And yeah, it's got a Hemi: a whopping 5.7-liter, 330 hp, V-8 Hemi, but with today's protestations at the pumps, you could opt for the 3.7-liter, 210 hp, V-6 or the 4.7-liter, 235 hp, V-8. A 5-speed automatic transmission is standard for all engines.

Before you badmouth the Hemi on gas consumption, remember that it features a Multi-Displacement System or MDS, which shuts down half the cylinders that aren't needed to save gas.

Starting price: $27,985.

ASTON MARTIN V8 VANTAGE

The Aston Martin's one of the year's coolest looking cars, the kind that draws double takes at auto shows and gives auto writers chiropractic appointments when they try to slither inside its taut, European sports car–sized space.

They look exotic: They are. They look expensive: They are, but if you have to ask…you know the rule. They're not for the masses: You knew that.

The V8 Vantage is just the third model for the AM arm of Ford's Premium Automotive Group or PAG, which includes Volvo, Jaguar, Land Rover and AM. The others are the flagship model Vanquish S and the DB9.

With its wide-mouthed grille and nearby headlights, the front of the car gives the appearance of an animated face. The athletic stance of its longer hood (or bonnet, if you prefer to be authentic) leads into flared wheel wells and a short or bobtailed boot (trunk in the U.S.) that finds a workable hatch for versatility in a strict two-seat setup.

To get it right, the company put the V8 Vantage through the most extensive development of any AM car, producing 78 prototypes that traveled more than 1.5 million miles.

Starting price: Estimated between $100,000 and $110,000.

AM Trivia:

It's perhaps the brand best known for its placement in James Bond films. The Aston Martin DB5 was featured in *Goldfinger* and may be the most famous Bond car of all time. An AM V12 Vanquish was used in *Die Another Day*. An Aston Martin DBS got screen time in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*.

SUBARU B9 TRIBECA

There may be a new state car for the residents of Vermont: Subaru's B9 Tribeca. Subies are popular vehicles in the Green Mountain State, and now Subaru has joined the masses in making an SUV that's lowered, with less roll and greater versatility in one tidy package. Touting its aircraft heritage, Tribeca's grille is a polarizing point of the past, with two "wings" on each side. It's a love-it or hate-it design, but you'll know the B9 Tribeca when you see it.

With seating for up to seven, a first for a Subie, the progressive/crossover SUV/alternative uses the firm's famous all-wheel-drive system, a 3.0-liter, 250 hp, 6-cylinder boxer engine and a hangar full of amenities to please the pickiest SUV/crossover soccer mom minivan apologist.

For seating flexibility, Tribeca's second-row bench seat drops in a 60/40 split, reclines and slides up to 8 inches so no one feels like they're riding in steerage. The third row seats two wee people or your nephews who can bend like linguini—unless the second row seat is moved up. How often do you wish that happened in coach? Both rows can fold flat for hauling large items.

The Outback that drove Subaru to crossover fame as the anti-SUV/minivan vehicle was called a "hybrid" at the press conference by its then-CEO more than 25 times in a half hour. It'll be interesting to see if it's time the midsized SUV finds success and acceptance despite being so late to the party in a still-growing marketplace.

The base Subaru B9 Tribeca five-passenger model stickers at $30,695; the seven-passenger edition carries an MSRP of $32,395.

Tribeca Trivia:

What's in a name? Here's what Subaru says: The B stands for the "boxer engine," so called because the facing cylinders seem to punch each other like boxing gloves. The 9 is the internal code for the car's platform, which is shared with the Outback. Tribeca is the acronym for the area of New York City called the TRIangle BElow CAnal. Subaru suits said the name tested well in focus groups and it stuck.

CORVETTE Z06

If there's one car that's an icon as American as apple pie, it's the Chevy Corvette. And the one car that one-ups the Corvette is the Z06 model. You have to decide if you want to go fast, or faster.

As part of the sixth-generation Vette, the Z06's new LS7 7.0-liter V-8 engine delivers 505 hp to the rear wheels for a heart-stopping 0-to-60 mph exhilaration time of less than 4 seconds. In a time that's slightly faster than it takes a toddler to say "Wow," the Z06's 3,130-pound package of performance and panache pulls away from the pack.

Keeping the motor humming is the only dry sump, high-performance oiling system ever in a Vette. And differentiating the Z06 from the rest are unique features such as an aluminum frame structure with a magnesium engine cradle to save weight; carbon-fiber fenders and floor panels; and a stainless-steel exhaust with dual 4-inch polished stainless steel tips. Despite its track-based heritage, the car is also designed to be a daily driver with bolstered leather seats, a Bose stereo and more.

Starting price: $65,000

Corvette Trivia Facts:

In yesteryear "shade tree mechanic speak," the engine measures 427 cubic inches. Techies will delight in the 7,000 rpm redline, and 470 pound-feet of torque figures, too. GM says it's the largest small block V-8 engine it's ever produced.

If you need to jump start this Vette, don't check under the hood. The battery is mounted in the back for improved weight distribution.

PONTIAC SOLSTICE

Finally there's a GM product that Oprah didn't have to give away. Pontiac's 2006 Solstice got prime TV placement on Donald Trump's *The Apprentice*, generating 1,000 orders in under an hour and a backlog of paying customers. Take that, Oprah.

While the TV Trump wannabes designed marketing materials, orders poured in. During a 10-day early order period, GM says it took in 7,116 orders out of 40,000 Web registrants for the car. There are now more than 13,000 confirmed orders and just 7,000 of the cars slated to be built this year, according to the trade press. And production bottlenecks are further slowing supply.

For the masses who were disappointed by the current GTO and G6, the Solstice, a sleek two-door coupe, has stirred the hearts and minds of mild and must-have motorists with its wonderful design. Built on GM's Kappa architecture, the Solstice is similar to the Saturn Sky that will come along later as production ramps up. Speed should be a part of the Solstice experience in its rear-drive setup and 4-wheel independent suspension. Power comes from a 2.4-liter, 177 hp, Ecotec 4-cylinder engine mated to a close-ratio Aisin 5-speed manual transmission. A 5-speed automatic comes online later. Solstice will ride on 18-inch wheels and 4-wheel disc brakes that come standard.

Anyone remember the Pontiac Sunfire convertible? Didn't think so. Pontiac really needs this summer Solstice to brighten their sales and future. With a reasonable base price and 20/28 EPA gas numbers, this coupe could provide the brand that used to build excitement with a much-needed jump start.

Starting price: $19,995

Solstice TV Trivia Note:

Trump's winning "apprentice" last spring was Kendra Todd, who designed the winning brochure with the corporate tagline "Designed for Action."

CHEVY HHR

Honey, I shrunk the Suburban. That's what some may think when they see the 2006 HHR from Chevy fighting the small-SUV and PT Cruiser crowd.

Comparisons to the PT—as certain as high gas prices and taxes—are inevitable, right down to the rear cargo shelf sported by both vehicles.

With styling similar to that of a smaller Suburban, this Cobalt platform–based vehicle has minivan versatility. The front passenger seat folds flat, as do the rear seats, allowing items up to 8 feet long to be stashed inside.

GM needs the HHR, one of 10 new Chevys coming to market, to take off like the PT did and take on the likes of the Pontiac Vibe, the quirkily shaped Scion xB and several small SUVs. If it does catch on, let's hope GM doesn't allow sales momentum to slide, as Chrysler did delaying the drop-top PT for so long.

Power figures seem plebian with two four-bangers: a base 2.2-liter, 143 hp motor or a 2.5-liter, 172 hp power plant. A 5-speed manual transmission is standard while a 4-speed automatic is a $1,000 option on either of the two HHR models.

If the HHR takes off, look for lots of customizing and aftermarket opportunities.

Starting price: $15,425 for the HHR LS and $16,425 for the HHR LT.

Cool HHR Fact!

Bryan Nesbitt designed both the Chrysler PT Cruiser and the Chevy HHR. How? He was at Chrysler until 2001 when he left to take a job with GM. He's now director of GM Design Europe.

Trivia

Chevy says HHR stands for High Heritage Roof. This makes sense, since it's supposed to draw a strong resemblance to the 1949 Suburban.

HYUNDAI SONATA

Come out, come out, wherever you are. It's OK to be a Hyundai owner these days. They stand upright, don't slouch and more importantly, don't begin describing their car purchase with the apology that often began, "I know it's a Hyundai, but it's all I could afford" when they bought their Excels and Accents.

Ironically, Hyundai was apologizing in private while vowing to wow in public. Prepare to be wowed, then, with the third generation all-new Sonata.

It's so good, the mainstream auto press likes it…a lot, and they're not easy to please. A fellow car curmudgeon called it the Hyundai Camry, but that may have been out of spite.

A tested Sonata got well over 25 mpgs in highway travels back in pre–$3 a gallon days and turned heads in parking lots—toward the car, not away like in the old days. The curious sought it out for the Ross Perot "kick it, feel it, touch it" parking lot test while straining their corneas over the long list of standard items, which includes ABS for under $20,000. Whereas the 10-year, 100,000-mile warranty used to be a draw, now the car is the star.

The folks from Honda and Toyota are the ones in the corner with the furrowed brows…and for good reason.

Starting price: $17,895

TOYOTA FJ CRUISER

Back to the future. Retro. What's old is new again.

Those clichés are all apt in the auto world, whether it's bringing back famous old names or combining them with legendary styling for the modern driver. That's why automakers toss out concept cars to test the auto show circuit response. Not so long ago, it worked for the Plymouth Prowler and Dodge Viper, to name a few.

Toyota has brought back its vaunted FJ 40 in the form of the 2006 FJ Cruiser, hailing the heritage of the original 4Runner as well. In an age of look-alike smooth wind-tunnel wedges, the FJ stands out with its iconic wide grille, round headlights and muscular, sharp-edged form that seems to scream "I can go anywhere I want to!"

Power is derived from a 4.0-liter, 241 hp, V-6 engine that grinds up 279 pound-feet of rock-crawling torque. The motor mates to a 5-speed automatic on the 2- and 4-wheel-drive editions. A 6-speed manual is optional on 4x4s. It rides on a modified 4Runner platform with 17-inch wheels and 4-wheel disc brakes. Other safety equipment includes Vehicle Stability Control (VSC) and traction control (TRAC), an antilock brake system (ABS) with electronic brake-force distribution (EBD) and brake assist as standard. All 4x2 models will come with a standard automatic limited slip differential (ALSD).

Early specs say the FJ will seat five, tow 5,000 pounds and have nearly 10 inches (9.6) of ground clearance for off-roading.

Pricing has not yet been released.

Cool Fact!

Toyota created the original BJ model with available parts from its U.S. government 4-ton-truck contract. Power came from a 3.4-liter straight inline 6-cylinder engine.

Trivia:

In July 1951, a BJ climbed to Checkpoint No. 6 on Mount Fuji, marking the first time any motor vehicle had reached that point. Orders were quickly placed for it. Production began in 1953. It was renamed Land Cruiser in 1954, and the rest is history.

SAAB 9.3 SPORTCOMBI

The 2006 Saab 9.3 SportCombi can be viewed as a hatchback or a sport wagon or something else. Whatever its name and style, which spiff up the current 9.5 wagon, the car is meant to pay homage to the Saab 99 Turbo Combi Coupe.

Saab isn't using the "H-word," but for those who bemoaned the demise of the hatch, the SportCombi is an overdue return to the versatility, style and usefulness of the days before Mr. Goodwrench learned to speak Swedish—qualities that have been lacking since GM made Saab a wholly owned subsidiary and did away with the hatchback, to the chagrin of Saabophiles everywhere. (Full disclosure forces me to note I loved the hatch in my Saab 900 S, where I was able to stuff a lawnmower and a 7hp Ariens snowblower without a problem. No kidding.)

The 9.3 2.0T SportCombi and the Aero model with the new 250 hp Turbo V-6 edition are turbocharged with a 2.0-liter, 210 hp, 4-cylinder or a beefy 2.8-liter, 250 hp, 6-cylinder motor, respectively. A 6-speed manual gearbox comes standard, and a 6-speed Sentronic automatic with steering wheel controls is available.

Dropping the rear seat hoists rear cargo room up to 45 cubic feet, but there are also two subfloor storage areas. Now, if they put the ignition between the front seats, where Saab has traditionally placed it, we'll know that Mr. Goodwrench is paying attention to detail.

Skol!

Starting price: The 9.3 2.0T SportCombi will go on sale this fall with a base MSRP of $26,900. The Aero model with the new 250 hp Turbo V-6 starts at $32,900. Both prices include delivery charges.

Cool Feature!

The Saab ReAxs rear-wheel steer characteristic from the Sport Sedan gives enhanced driver feedback and control for excellent handling and stability.

Saab Trivia Fact:

A 9.3 SportCombi was the 4 millionth Saab to be produced. IB

WHAT YOUR WHEELS REVEAL

As the saying goes, you are what you drive.

BY EZRA DYER

ILLUSTRATED BY ALLI ARNOLD

Even if you're the type of person who couldn't care less about cars and drove off the lot with the first beige Camry you test-drove, your wheels say a lot about who you are. Whether it's an Escalade with a car seat or a battered pickup wearing local union stickers, every car conveys certain information about its owner. But in case you're not so adept at reading the automotive tea leaves, we hereby present 10 common rides you can find plying the streets of Boston, and the essential information you need to get to know the people behind the wheels. Read on, and know thy fellow driver.

VOLVO 240 WAGON OR SEDAN

Alternate car: Pre-1994 Saab 900
Driver: Hippie, wealthy intellectual urbanite hippie, hippie librarian
Hangouts: The Trident bookstore, Artists for Humanity parties, Cambridge

Volvo 240 drivers, in general, can afford newer and nicer cars than this classic Swedish tank, but they're drawn to the 240 for its blend of minimalist style and longevity that rivals the lifespan of the giant redwood. If the 240 driver is male, the question is not whether he will have a beard, but what type it will be (the neck beard being a perennial fave). Female 240 drivers can be spotted by their hemp wrap skirts and dreadlocks that often dangle into their free-trade coffee. Volvo 240 drivers' next car will be a 2005 Prius, which will be purchased in 2025, when they finally retire their 240 because it is little more than a loose collection of rust molecules.

BMW 3-SERIES

Alternate cars: Audi A4, Mercedes C-Class
Driver: Young urban professionals (Yuppies), double-income no-kids (Dinks), Babson rich-ass teen socialites (Brats)
Hangouts: Vox, Dillon's, B&G Oysters, expensive coffee shops

The BMW 3-series is the quintessential yupstermobile, and proud of it. Some people buy it for the little blue-and-white propeller badge, others because it's great to drive, and others because of the latter and in spite of the former. Within the 3-series range there exists a status hierarchy that begins with the 325i and culminates with the M3. The 325i tends to be driven by those who like the idea of a BMW but don't care about cars; the 330i is purchased by the ambitious bastard who will someday be your boss; and the M3 is owned by a wide assortment of junior execs, well-funded college kids and Newbury Street profilers. The 3-series is thick on the ground in Boston (or any other city, really), so its buyers aren't looking to be unique. In fact, the typical 3-series driver is right now wearing a striped button-down shirt from Banana Republic, talking on a Motorola Razr, listening to the Black Eyed Peas on an iPod and drinking a coffee from Starbucks.

LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER

Alternate cars: Porsche Cayenne, Mercedes G-Class, Range Rover Sport
Driver: Your boss, your boss's boss, your boss's boss's boss
Hangouts: The Four Seasons, Mistral, a slopeside condo at Stowe

The Range Rover has always been a status symbol, an off-roader that most of its owners would never dare take off-road because it costs more than a set of kidneys on the black market. Range Rover drivers have decided that the time has come when they've paid their dues and deserve a little something special in the garage. The interior of most Range Rovers smells of cigar smoke and money. If quizzed, Range Rover drivers will have but a vague idea of the function of all those buttons and levers on the console, but suspect they have to do with either off-roading or the stereo. Range Rover drivers are scratch golfers and generally ruthless. Don't be fooled by the new Range Rover Sport, which looks almost exactly the same and costs $19,000 less—true playas opt for the real deal.

JEEP WRANGLER

Alternate cars: Jeep Cherokee, Jeep Grand Cherokee, Jeep Liberty
Driver: Twentysomething male
Hangouts: The Beacon Hill Pub, Fenway, the gym

The Wrangler has long maintained a stranglehold on the young male demographic, for obvious reasons: It's a relatively inexpensive four-wheel-drive that can transform into a convertible in the summer. But the same qualities that endear it to young guys also help to alienate everyone else—it's a convertible, but it's loud and drafty. It's maneuverable, but it has hardly any cargo space (Wrangler Unlimited excepted). It's great off-road, but it's as coarse as a Chris Rock monologue on pavement. Hence the Wrangler is primarily driven by guys wearing baseball hats who will actually do things like take the doors off and drive around. Why would you want to take the doors off your car and drive around? The Wrangler doesn't ask, it just lets you do it. Whether it's balanced with two girls in the back or meatwagoned out with four guys, there's no mis-steaking a Wrangler.

FORD F-150

Alternate trucks: Dodge Ram, Chevy Silverado
Driver: Male or female, white- or blue-collar, old or young
Hangouts: Gillette Stadium parking lot, job sites, Chili's, church

Curt Schilling has pitched the F-150 more than he's pitched baseballs this year, and if he's to be believed, this is one dadgum tough sumbitch, sort of the truck equivalent of himself. It's a bit hard to generalize about F-150 owners, since Ford sells about 900,000 of the things every year, but suffice it to say that nine out of 10 F-150 drivers have an "Official Terrorist Hunting Permit" sticker on the back window. F-150 drivers are outdoorsy folk who enjoy towing bass boats to remote lakes and then pursuing said bass at 70 mph in a metalflake-painted vessel with more horsepower than the truck that towed it there. They like their beer cold and their hot dogs hot. Drivers of the King Ranch or Harley-Davidson editions may suddenly challenge fellow motorists to arm-wrestling contests. Many F-150 drivers use their truck as a primary commuter vehicle, which is just silly, but we don't dare tell them that. You tell them. Go on. Go ahead.

VOLKSWAGEN CABRIO

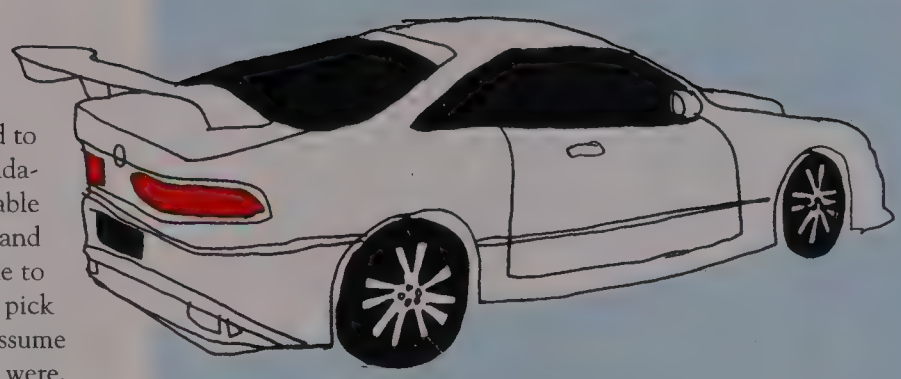
Alternate cars: Volkswagen New Beetle Convertible, Mini Cooper Convertible
Driver: Girls
Hangouts: Healthworks, Jasmine Sola, the T.D. Banknorth Garden if John Mayer's playing

In a recent study, 100 3-year-olds were given a crayon and told to draw a "chick car." In an astounding demonstration of its fundamentally chickish nature, 86 percent of them drew a recognizable Volkswagen Cabrio. The Cabrio is an affordable, fun to drive and reliable little convertible, and many men would probably like to drive one. But they can't, because they're afraid they'd never pick up any women because every single female they saw would assume they'd borrowed their girlfriend's car and were thus taken (or were, umm... not so interested). It's hard to say what exactly about the Cabrio is so feminine, but when Volkswagen replaced it with the New Beetle convertible, they decided to play to the Cabrio's traditional strengths and gave its successor more estrogen than an Oprah studio audience—check out that pretty bud vase. You go, Cabrio!

SILVER IMPALA WITH A CELL-PHONE ANTENNA ON THE BACK WINDOW

Alternate cars: Silver Sebring, silver Buick Century
Driver: Male or female sales rep in their 20s or 30s
Hangouts: Avalon, Saint, Daisy Buchanan's, the beach at 2 pm on a Wednesday

Do not be fooled by the silver Impala. Despite its mundane appearance, the silver Impala says nothing about its driver, because invariably the silver Impala is a company car. Thus, while you might assume that someone who drives a silver Impala is something of a milquetoast personality, the reality is that Impala drivers party like the late '70s Aerosmith most days of the week. Since they don't have to pay for their cars, or gas, or tolls, or insurance, or car washes, or vanilla air fresheners, silver Impala drivers have plenty of disposable income to spend on chugging Grey Goose martinis till 2 am. Silver Impala drivers are loners, spending their days on the road and making their own schedules, which means that they usually cram all their work into a four-hour period and then go home to nap and watch *Passions*.



HONDA CIVIC WITH A GIANT WING ON THE BACK

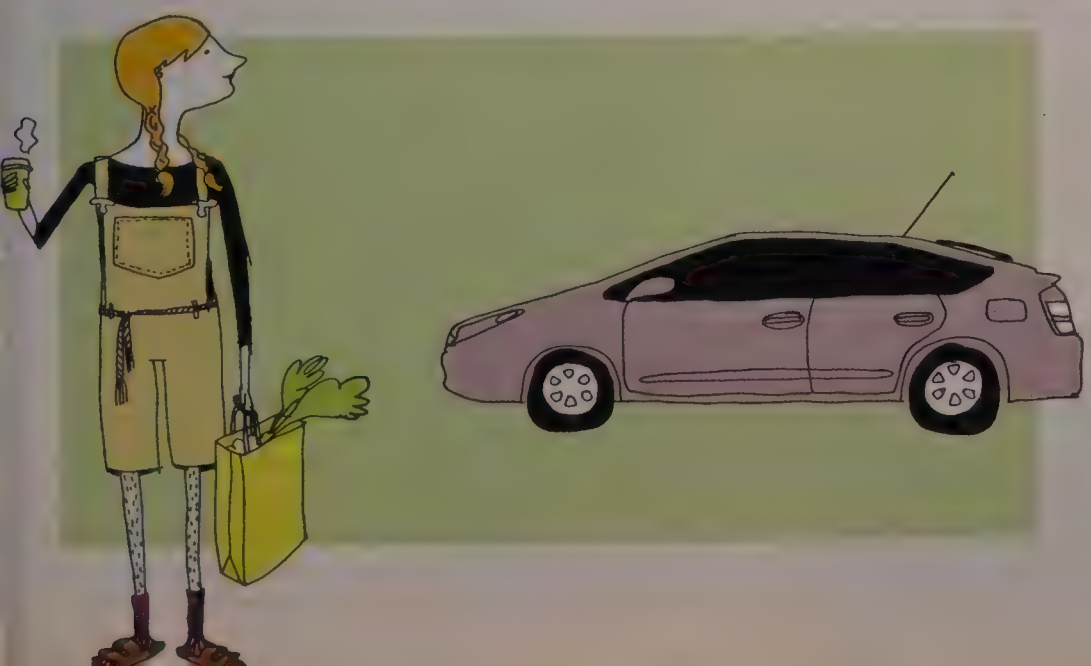
Alternate car: Honda Accord with a giant wing on the back
Driver: Twentysomething male who watched *The Fast and the Furious* so many times he came to think that girls are actually impressed by the size of the wing on your Civic.
Hangouts: Burger King after work, Dairy Queen parking lots, jewelry stores that sell thin gold chains

There's nothing sadder than a Honda Civic with a sewer-pipe muffler, a giant wing on the back and an automatic transmission. This kind of vehicle advertises itself as a badass, yet it's Urkel wearing a Hans and Frans muscle suit. Drivers of this type of vehicle are hoping you'll assume that the wing and muffler mean there are all sorts of other modifications as well, but most of the time this is the extent of it. Yo, doing this type of thing to a Civic indicates other similar character traits including, but not limited to: stuffing one's shorts; wearing fake diamond earrings; and saying "yo" at both the beginning and end of sentences, yo. Most big-winged Civic drivers cut a hole in the dashboard and put a window in the grille so they can see where they're going while driving with their seat fully reclined.

CHEVROLET CORVETTE

Alternative cars: Dodge Viper, Ford Mustang
Driver: 45-year-old male with 15 speeding tickets
Hangouts: The suburbs, Lime Rock Raceway, the office

Corvette drivers are a segregated bunch. On one hand, you've got the people who buy one with an automatic transmission, a group that falls squarely under the umbrella of "midlife crisis poseur." Because if you buy a Corvette with an automatic, then you're effectively saying you care less about driving than profiling. And if you think a Corvette is just the thing for impressing people, you're either a little misguided or live in New Hampshire. Granted, the new Corvette is a sexy, tidy, Porsche 911–sized package, but it still doesn't command the street cred of a Porsche—then again, it whups the 911's German ass in performance for little more than half the price. Which brings us to the second group of Corvette owners: people who opt for the manual, or, lord help them, the 505-horsepower Z06. These people could have bought more valet status with an M3, but instead opted for the most balls-out performance possible for their dollar, backseats and prestige badges be damned. And you've got to admire that, whether or not you live in Revere. **iB**



TOYOTA PRIUS

Alternate cars: Honda Civic Hybrid, Segway scooter
Driver: Scientist, Greenpeace activist, Cameron Diaz
Hangouts: MIT alumni parties, yoga retreats, communes

In order to recoup your investment in a Prius over, say, a Corolla, you'd have to drive it roughly 900,000,000 miles. That's a slight exaggeration, but the fact is you don't buy a Prius to save money on gas—you buy it to make a statement. And that statement is, "All the rest of you should feel very bad about what you're doing to the environment compared with me." Early-adopter types go for the Prius because its onboard computer system is more complicated than an IBM mainframe and looks kind of like a video game called "Mario's Super-MPG Adventure." Prius drivers love how many organically grown vegetables and Howard Dean flyers can fit in the trunk. Female Prius drivers don't shave their legs.

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

MESSAGE-PLASTERED CARS SERVE AS ROLLING BILLBOARDS FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES.

Anthony Ackil and Jon Olinto, co-owners of Back Bay's b.good, chose a 1979 El Camino to promote their brand.

BY KEITH GRIFFIN **PHOTOGRAPHS BY TRACY POWELL**

An advertising campaign is a delicate thing. Keep it running too long and it becomes stale. Advertisers don't want their campaigns running out of gas.

Unless, of course, their advertising campaign involves a 1979 Chevy El Camino nicknamed "El Tio." Then, it's just a fact of life when it runs out of gas.

Jon Olinto and Anthony Ackil, co-owners of the restaurant b.good at 131 Dartmouth Street in the Back Bay, wanted a distinctive vehicle to promote their business. "It was the weirdest car you could get," Ackil says of the half pickup/half sedan El Camino.

Olinto and Ackil pimped it out with a custom paint job including flames and the company logo, as well as the nickname, a tribute to Ackil's Uncle Faris, the restaurant's mascot. "We knew we'd done something good when a pimp in Central Square gave us his approval," boasts Ackil.

El Tio is a work in progress. The odometer is stuck at 89,000 miles, there are no seatbelts, the windows are questionable, the doors are temperamental, the gas gauge doesn't work, the transmission can't be shifted into park and the car sounds like a tank. Three red plastic one-gallon gas cans are among the vehicle's staples.

"You never know if you're going to get [where you're headed]. There's never a dull moment when you drive an El Camino that could shit the bed," Olinto says.

El Tio has killer stereo speakers stuffed behind the seat. They could pound out some great music, except for one problem. "I broke down in the South End and some hooligan stole the radio," Ackil recalls bitterly.

Ackil and Olinto bought the El Camino in May for $1,650 and hit the road in June after the $1,800 custom paint job. The pair calls the car a "strategic investment." But why an El Camino for a restaurant that sells itself as having a new approach to fast food? "I always thought it was cool," Ackil says. "It's different and it's real. It's not chi chi. It's a racecar in the front and all business in the back."

> "It's different and it's real. It's not chi chi. It's a racecar in the front and all business in the back."
> —anthony ackil

A VAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Matt Lambo, a partner at Triple Eight Distillery, the makers of Triple Eight vodka, uses a blue 1975 VW Camper Bus, adorned with the company's distinctive eight ball logo, as a promotional vehicle/delivery truck.

People associate good memories with the camper, which has a top speed of 65 mph going downhill, Lambo says. They may have spent vacations with their parents traveling cross-country in a similar van or puffed themselves stoned inside one during college. That association, says Lambo, "makes the van catch people's eye more than a 2005 Ford box van would."

Catching people's eyes is important to the vodka distiller's small marketing budget. "It's the only way we can compete," Lambo says. "You get that extra attention."

Then he adds the "but" that attaches itself to older vehicles used for promotion: "You pay the additional maintenance costs." The camper van shares El Tio's taste for mechanical problems (including a non-working gas gauge) and its engine had to be replaced in 2003. Fortunately, VW was still making the old-style Beetle then and one was found in Mexico. "We've got a number of local mechanics who keep an eye on the van," Lambo says. "I've got the AAA platinum card."

But Lambo asserts that maintaining the vehicle is worth the headaches. "People get excited when they see the van. It's not like driving a regular car."

For Harpoon's Fitz Granger, assistant VP of marketing, the company's Ford Windstar vans are a high visibility promotional tool.

The camper van leads a charmed life. It summers on Nantucket, home base for the micro-distillery, and spends the rest of the year in Boston where it goes to Fenway frequently and hits all the best parties and bars. It even ferried Denis Leary, star of FX's *Rescue Me*, on an island tour in August, Lambo says.

One thing the van can't do is dispense free samples. "The number one thing I get asked is, 'Got any samples in that thing?' I would love to give everybody free samples but it's way too illegal and we've got too much on the line," Lambo says regretfully.

PURPLE PERSUASION

John Barron, vice president of marketing for Zoots, the 11-state dry cleaning chain, says purple was chosen for its fleet in 1998 because no other industry was using it. Sure, that lovable purple dinosaur had been a huge star since 1992, but this was before the color became associated with an acid reflux pill.

As writer Alice Walker might attest, the color purple has done great things. Barron calls the vehicles the dry cleaner's best marketing tool. "They're probably our most known feature," he says. "They help connect the brand. If people see a purple vehicle they think it's Zoots. Purple means clean clothes are coming to the door."

Fortunately, the chain is not located in Grapesville, Penn. There the people don't want purple vehicles coming to the door. According to *American Firefighter*, that town's fire trucks and ambulances are purple. In Boston, purple means good and clean; in Grapesville (32 miles east of Pittsburgh) it means fire and pain.

SAMPLE SECRECY, MARKETING MONSTERS

Patrice Radden, with Red Bull communications, won't give wings to the story behind the chopped Mini Coopers and Geo Trackers that prowl the country handing out free energy drinks. Control over the drink purveyors, or Mobile Energy Teams as they're corporately known, is tight. A request to interview drivers was left in the company's Northeast business office in Quincy, but denied from national headquarters on the West Coast.

Maybe the lack of disclosure has to do with the Red Bull vehicles' resemblance to Soviet missile launchers. "We don't talk about marketing practices with anybody," Radden says from a secret location in Santa Monica, Calif. "We won't cooperate with the media because we don't want our competitors to read about it."

Liz Melby, director of communications for Harpoon Brewery, has no such reticence about the company's bright blue Ford Windstar vans that are plastered with the company's logo, along with pictures of beer bottles and a glass of beer on the side.

But the graphics may be too sharp for some people. In a bit of marketing genius, Harpoon is spelled backward on the front hood (just like an ambulance) so it shows up clearly in a rearview mirror for free advertising.

From the front, though, it reads NOOPRAH. One Vermont resident was so concerned he sent the company an e-mail to advise that the company name was backward. The correspondent claimed people all around him were discussing NOOPRAH. "We made a joke that people were running around with their hands up in the air screaming NOOPRAH," Melby says. "We ran around the office like a big Godzilla was coming and was called NOOPRAH."

IT'S A WRAP

David King is a big player in the shrink-wrap world. His company, Castle Graphics in Concord, is responsible for many of the promotional vehicles on the road in Greater Boston. His company has done the Dunkin' Donuts Mini Cooper, the Peapod VW Beetle and even a Model T Ford for Flexcon.

In spite of his talent, one could question King's judgment. He bought a 1989 Silver Anniversary Lamborghini Countach with 1,100 miles on it and slapped his company logos all over it. He's taken a vow of omertà on what he paid for the Italian sports car, but a model with 6,200 miles is currently selling online for $185,000.

Only 657 anniversary edition Countachs were built. The car's 48-valve, 427 hp V12 engine has a top speed of 183 mph. During the peak of the market in late 1989 and early 1990, the cars sold for more than $400,000.

The Countach called out to King, who had owned a Corvette in the past but found it too pedestrian. "A Countach is so rare that it draws attention from everyone," King says, "and they all take pictures of it with the graphics on it."

Befitting a man who bespoiled a classic, King doesn't mind that Lamborghini aficionados may look aghast at him. "They do," he says, "but I don't really care." Fans of the Italian sports car probably aren't going to like his overall opinion of the car, either. "I don't like driving the thing," he claims. "It is very fast and gets me in a lot of trouble."

It also pays for itself. "It brings in so much business, it's crazy," King says. "Perception is reality. If you're in a business where you can show your business, you can promote it to the world."

HIGH VISIBILITY

DJ Stevie Ray of Boston is a disciple of using vehicles for promotion. He's had two vehicles wrapped. King says Ray brought in a 1994 Ford Explorer to get wrapped, and business boomed. Ray's next vehicle was a Ford Expedition, which he has had wrapped twice. (Wraps fade after four to five years.)

It's the only advertising Ray does. "It's worked out great," he says. "There's not a day that goes by that somebody doesn't say they saw my truck when they call me."

Ray shares one lament with his fellow promotional vehicle drivers. All the cars tend to be gas guzzlers, which makes him ponder his ride when gas can cost north of $3 per gallon. For now, though, the extra expense is worth it. "People absolutely love it," he says of his Kodak-yellow SUV, which features the classic shot of John Travolta from *Saturday Night Fever* on the rear. Ray claims his wrapped SUV is unique in the DJ business in Massachusetts. "I've never seen another one in 11 years," he says. IB

domestic

DIVA

Just because you're playing house doesn't mean you should dress down.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHED BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN

nk blue blazer with bow
details, $388; matching
skirt, $228; pale pink
blouse, $178. All by Marc
Jacobs. Gold necklaces
$795, $995; multistone
green tourmaline and garnet
earrings with diamonds,
$2,500; multistone green

Navy blue ruffled blazer, $2,300 at Escada. Diamond necklaces, $29,000; pave diamond earrings, $4,000. Both at Fageo Fine Jewelers.

Pink embellished blazer, $2,350 at Escada. Diamond and sapphire bracelet, $9,000; pearl and diamond earrings, $2,250; diamond ring, $140,000; white gold hand-knit scarf necklace, $7,500. All at Pageo Fine Jewelers.

Ophelia for DMT Model

Hair: Monika Ramiz
for Salon Mario Russo

Nails: Maria Grace Rodrigue
for Salon Mario Russo

Escada
308 Boylston St
617-437-1200

Giorgio Arman
22 Newbury St
617-267-3200

Marc Jacobs
81 Newbury St
617-425-0707

Pageo Fine Jewelers
33 Newbury St
617-266-0066

Pastries by Joanne Chang for
Flour Bakery + Café
1595 Washington St
617-267-4300

Asymmetrical wrap-tie silk viscose velvet jacket, $3,625; silk viscose godet skirt, $2,125. Both at Giorgio Armani. Green tourmaline and diamond earrings, $7,350; diamond choker, $17,500; square diamond pendant, $7,900. All at Pageo Fine Jewelers. Vintage hat and hatbox.

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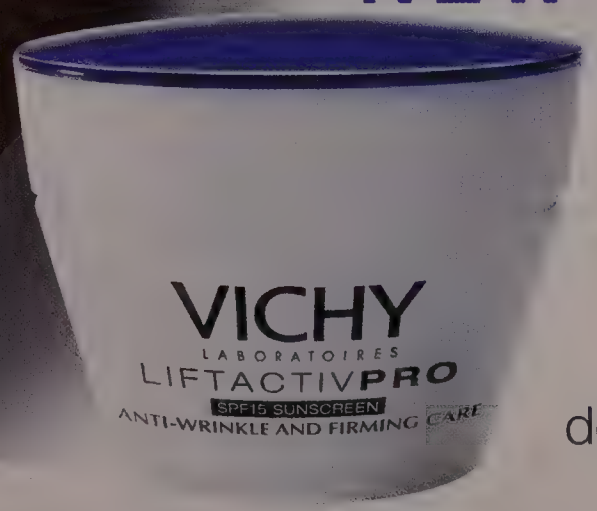

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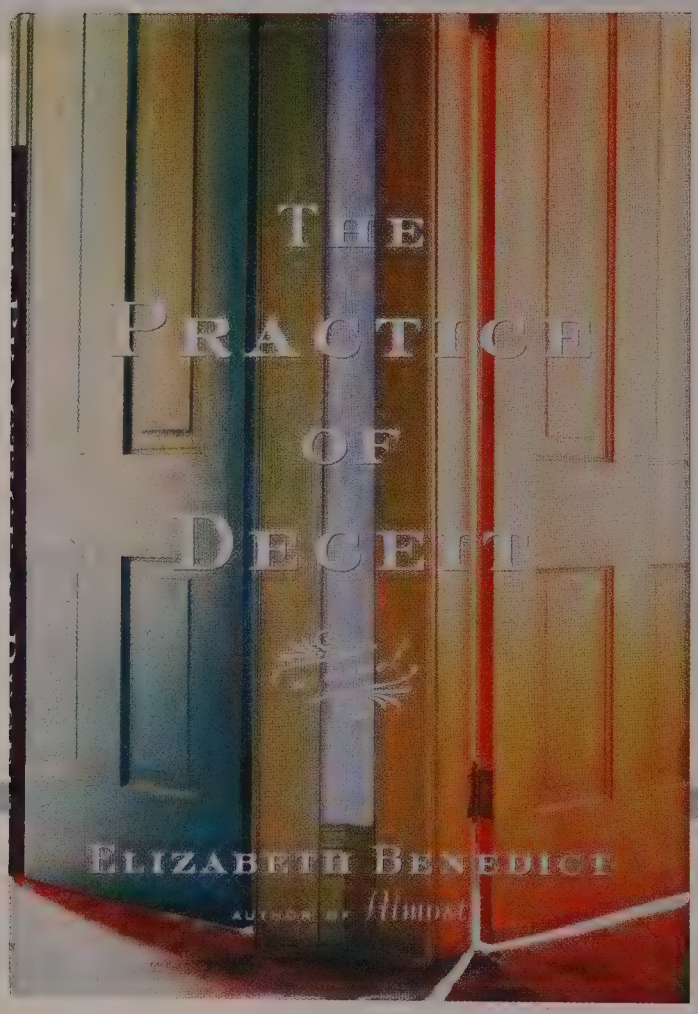
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



LOVE, O RUTHLESS LOVE

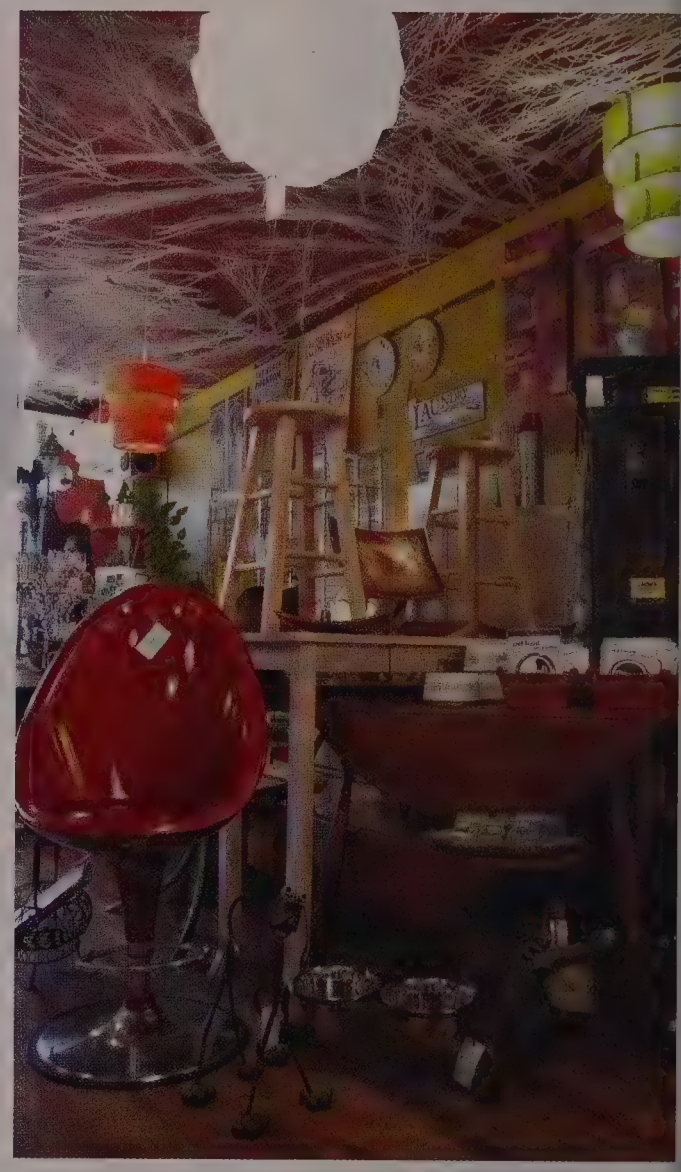
Elizabeth Benedict, who lives in the Boston area, casts her mischievous, perceptive eye on a therapist's marriage to a lawyer in her novel *The Practice of Deceit*.

Psychotherapist Eric Lavender (what an appealingly tender color!) is single, in his late 40s and grieving, sort of, for his difficult, dead father when a dynamo dances into his life in the form of Colleen. That she is breastfeeding her 11-month-old daughter just before their first date, that she's an upwardly mobile rocket from Southie working in divorce law who maintains that her law-professor husband left her for a student are all part of a complex, evolving package. Their romance moves forward sparklingly into marriage and a baby. Colleen helps Eric promote his therapy practice in Scarsdale as she zooms forward, seemingly more high-energy than high-maintenance. Yet, as her law and his therapy careers collide in the waters of conflict of interest, Eric begins to see that Colleen is full of disturbing contradictions, and when she has him jailed on false charges of child abuse, she becomes a disturbing mystery to be solved. Benedict's characters—including the intelligent and sympathetic Lavender, his surgeon sister and partner, the confounding Colleen and many others—are marvelously varied and alive. Benedict juxtaposes the aggressiveness of the law with the sweet ambiguities of therapy in fascinating, often funny ways.

DOLLINKS, STILL JUST SO FABULOUS

Boutique Fabulous is the new name for Absolutely Fabulous, still at 1309 Cambridge Street, Cambridge. 617-864-0656

This very Inman Square shop—full of quirk, funk and the glamour of many decades—suggests a grand dame with the insouciant nostalgia of the cigarette-lighter era crossed with the style of younger raffish groovesters. The shop seems to carry anything that drips style. Fabulous items can take the form of furniture—a sexy, lipstick-red plastic swivel chair you sit in like a movie star nestled in an egg; a glass cocktail table with little metal pineapple finials; or a gigantic low wooden table that looks almost like metal once used for shoeing horses—perhaps by ancient Romans. Fabulousness definitely imbues the vintage clothing, such as a dramatic Revillon fur coat of many shades, white with gray and black, that would sweep with authoritative magnificence into the room, or a soft, black, velvety coat exuding a quieter beauty, hiding/revealing a silky white lining. Several surprisingly affordable beaded dresses would do fine for your Oscar-accepting moment, sparkling with great presence and heft and almost bowing down the hanger. Add a meshy gold necklace, big as a belt, and wow! Jaunty, adventuresome men will love the vintage ties and small hats with pheasant-feather bands, quite wearable at moments fab. Cut to pretty metal sushi trays, Hawaiian shirt–shaped hors d'oeuvre dishes and a little boy's suit comically recast as a hamper.



GET A MASSAGE OR TRAIN TO GIVE THEM

The Muscular Therapy Institute (MTI), now in Watertown at 103 Morse Street (617-668-1000), offers training through a 900-hour program. You also can enjoy a student or professional clinic massage. www.mtiweb.edu

Just moved from its school in Cambridge to a renovated mill in Watertown, the Muscular Therapy Institute, 31 years old, is rippling along with energy and professionalism. You can receive a massage from a student for a mere $30 or use MTI's professional clinic for $60; no tipping. Any body in its right mind profits from a massage for relaxation, stress reduction and a vivacious revving up of muscle and blood. People with injuries (whiplash, orthopedic ouches) or illnesses like cancer, arthritis and even persistent headaches tend more toward the Professional Therapy Center, whose practitioners have varied and extensive skills. Physical or sexual trauma—"bad touch"—paradoxically come to a positive and healing crossroad through this safe laying-on of good hands. One teacher says, "For a few brief moments, we hold all of a client's stories in our hands." Cubicle-bound people looking for a zesty new career will find MTI rich in variety, compassionate toward clients and massage-givers, and personally and professionally enlivening. As a student (year-and-a-half or two-year training, one or two days a week), you'll join an idealistic, truly helping profession offering numerous applications—including sports, spa, private practice and wellness clinics.

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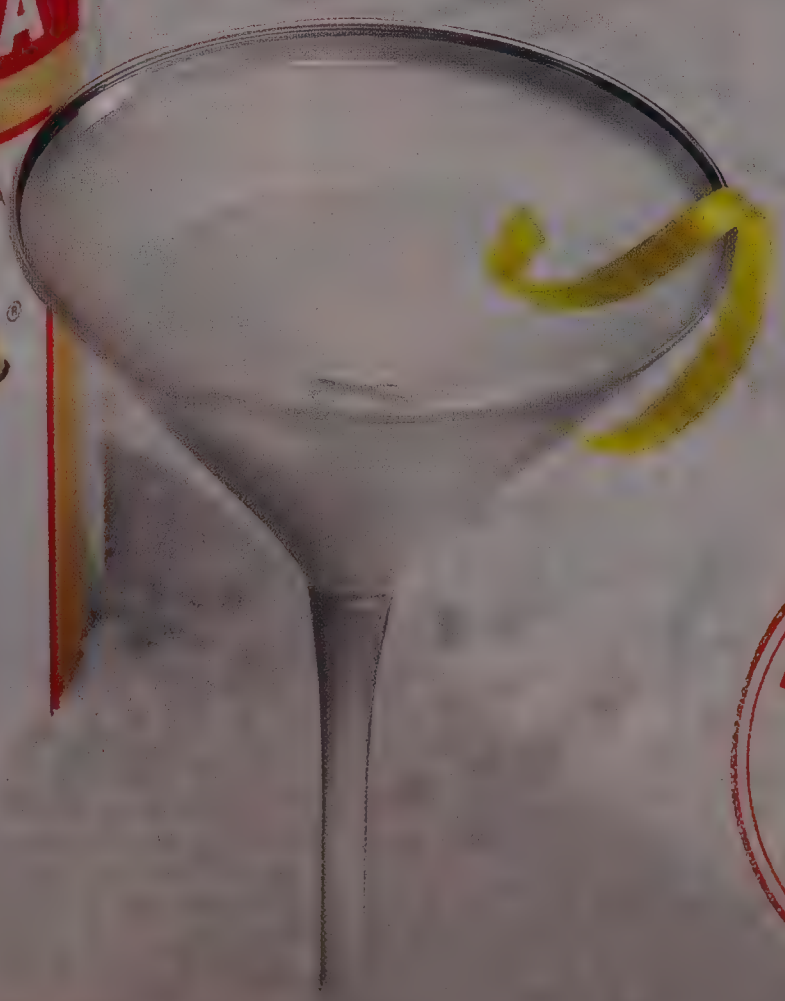

Source: Best in Show,
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REVIEW

REIGNING IN ROSLINDALE

Sophia's Grotto is one more reason to visit this booming neighborhood.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Roslindale, the Boston neighborhood bordered on the north by Jamaica Plain and on the south by West Roxbury, belonged to the latter when it was a separate municipality. Annexed to Boston in 1873, Roslindale retains its engaging character, with a cluster of storefronts around Roslindale Square giving it a small-town feel. Equally removed from the skyscraper-urban fabric of downtown Boston to its north and the subdivision/shopping mall flavor of its southern and western hinterlands, Roslindale is a classic "streetcar suburb."

Roslindale's Sophia's Grotto occupies a small brick building that opens onto an inner courtyard off Birch Street, not far from the commuter rail station. Seating 45 diners inside and several more in the alley courtyard for al fresco dining—weather permitting—it is much brighter and cheerier than its subterranean name connotes. Cooling fans hang from high ceilings while prints and posters decorate exposed brick and pastel-hued antique stucco walls. A photograph of a young Sophia Loren hangs above the bar, with another featuring Sophia and Marcello Mastroianni in the entry vestibule. Terra-cotta tiles cover an interior roof over the vestibule and kitchen. An eclectic array of light fixtures including lantern sconces, tulip chandeliers, large blue glass teardrops and white mini-raindrops over the bar provide the illumination. White cloth napkins dress black slate tables.

Informality reigns at this family run restaurant. A delicious bowl of cumin-spiked cannellini beans with extra virgin olive oil and cherry tomatoes accompanied serviceable bread, which we devoured while we studied the menu listings of three salads, seven pizzettas, a dozen "small plates" and eight main courses. Even little diners are accommodated here, with kids' choices of pasta or grilled cheese and fries available for $3.95. We chose a Sardignia pizzetta ($7.95) to start things off while devising a more comprehensive attack on this varied menu. A thin-crusted pie dressed with four cheeses—fontina, mozzarella, Parmesan and Manchego (a sharp, full-flavored Spanish cheese)—with caramelized onions, the pizza held our appetites at bay while our party of five negotiated the selection of second and third courses.

Paella—calamari, mussels, shrimp, clams and chorizo with saffron risotto

Of the "small plates," the Spanish antipasto ($9.50) hit the spot. Thin slices of silky-textured serrano ham, Spain's answer to prosciutto, a link of rich, spicy Spanish sausage, a couple of small wedges of Manchego cheese, strips of roasted red peppers, savory wedges of sun-dried tomato, a large marinated artichoke heart, toasted bread spread with pleasantly salty tapenade (pureed olives), and several varieties of whole olives—jumbo, succulent green, tiny black Ligurians, and luscious brown Calamatas—provided a combination of tastes and textures that stimulated our taste buds and whetted our enthusiasm for what was to follow. Not as successful was the crab cake ($8.95). Its heavy breading, overwhelming the crab, made the piquant pepper aioli with which it was served the only memorable aspect of the dish.

SOPHIA'S GROTTO

22 Rear Birch St., Roslindale

HOURS Mon., 5–9:30 pm; Tue.–Thu., 5–10 pm; Fri., 5–10:30 pm; Sat., 1–10:30 pm; Sun., 1–9:30 pm.

RESERVATIONS Suggested (Not accepted on Fri. or Sat.)

CREDIT CARDS all major

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes

PARKING yes

LIQUOR LICENSE beer, wine and cordials

Fresh tomato and mozzarella bruschett ($6.95) featured coarsely chopped, juic tomatoes and mellow chunks of cream cheese on garlic toasts. Calamari ($7.95 a staple of Italian comfort food, was lightl breaded and tender, served with a livel citrus aioli and garnished with fresh fenne shavings. Curiously, the calamari con sisted of all ringlets and no tentacles much to the dismay of one of my compan ions, who lamented the lack of these de lightfully textured squid extremities. Por tobello mushrooms ($7.95), a hearty complex preparation of oven-roaste mushrooms with potatoes, rosemary fontina cheese, zucchini, eggplant, an fleshy tomato filets, tended toward th Todd English school of Italian cookery with everything thrown in but the kitche sink. The result, however, fully vindicate the kitchen's instinct for pleasing its pa trons. Sometimes more is more.

Moving on to main courses (which in clude pastas as well as traditional Italia "secondi", meat and fish courses), w chose the Mediterranean chicke ($13.95), the pappardelle ($16.95) an the paella ($15.95). The chicken, bone less breasts pan-seared then tossed wit olives and sun-dried tomato pesto an topped with cubes of feta cheese, lived u to its Mediterranean appellation. I am no a fan of boneless chicke breasts, which can be dry an uninteresting, but in this en tree, the provocatively deli cious ingredients, combine with careful treatment of th meal, produced a most re warding dish. The paella suc ceeded brilliantly: Crust rice, aromatic with saffron provided a tasty accompani ment to sweet mussels, ten der, full-flavored clams, tw kinds of sausage (Spanish chorizo and a fennel-spike Italian), calamari, shrimp lima beans and garbanz beans. It turned out to be a particularl well-constructed exemplar of this popula but so often mishandled casserole from th Spanish province of Valencia. Finally, th pappardelle constituted a pasta analog o the paella, with a delicate shellfish fum

Spanish antipasto—artichoke hearts, roasted red peppers, serrano ham, chorizo, caramelized onions, sun-dried tomatoes, Manchego cheese and olive tapenade on toast points

Zucchini stuffed with shrimp, fennel and arugula salad

Chef Alfredo Maravi

king the place of the saffron broth and gredients ranging from sweet-tart toma- es, crunchy tips of fresh asparagus, sweet abmeat and toothsome shrimp of impec- ble texture.

The restaurant's wine list offered a number of credible choices, including a liter carafe of 2002 Arancia Nero d'Avola ($22). Nero d'Avola is a Sicilian grape, and one that is making its way onto area wine lists with increasing frequency. This bargain-priced wine, very fruity, almost like homemade wine but with a decent backbone of acidity that gave it good balance, served as the perfect quaff for our varied menu choices.

Desserts included, improbably, key lime pie, a pleasantly tart confection served with unsweetened whipped cream; a chocolate ganache cake, dense and fudgy (but unfortunately served refrigerator-cold); and a wonderful tiramisu, light in texture but intense in flavor—chocolate, coffee and liqueur, a first-rate rendition of this classic Italian dessert.

Service on a busy Friday night was attentive, efficient and well paced. My impression of Roslindale, a neighborhood to which I had never ventured before learning about Sophia's Grotto, will long be associated with the splendid experience this restaurant afforded. **iB**

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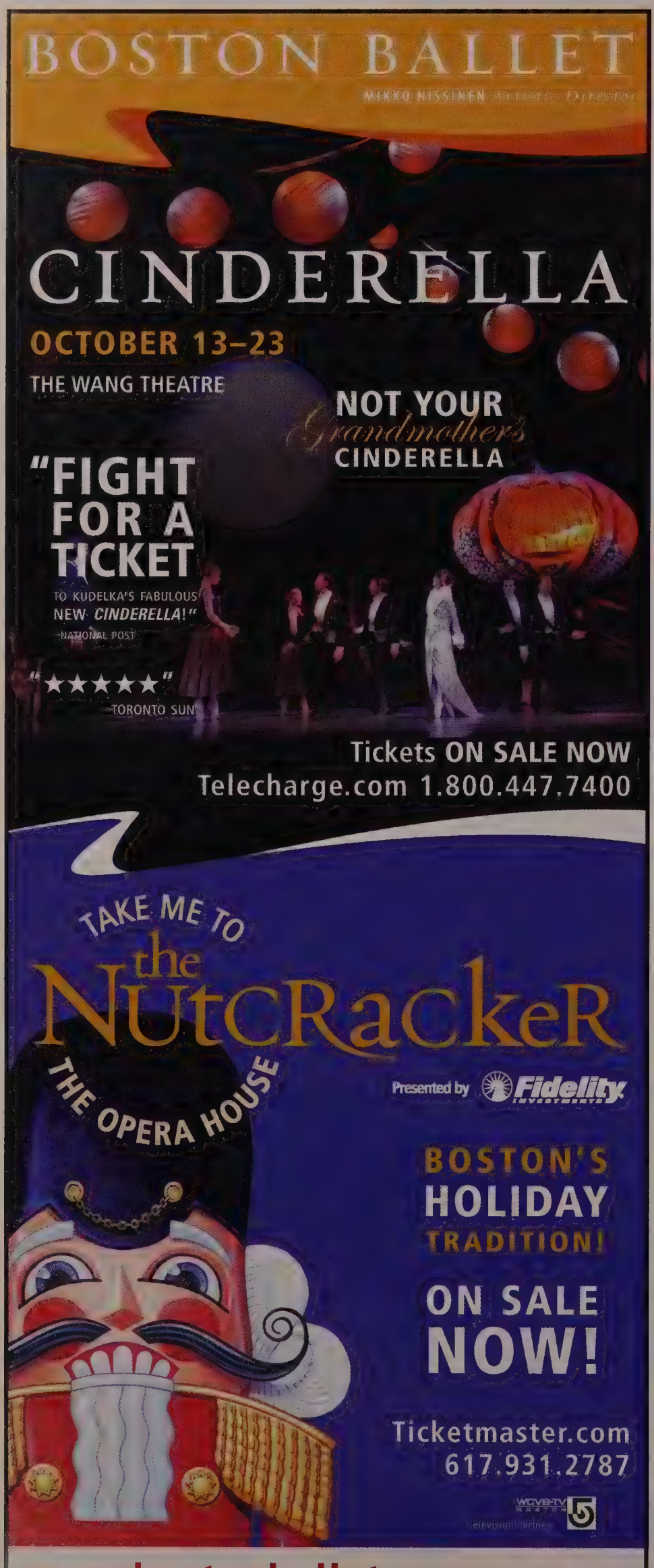

TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Cheese and Beer Tasting
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.upstairsonthesquare.com. Sept. 28. 6:30 pm. $45. Fromager **Matt Reiser** and a representative from Craftbrewers host a night of gourmet beer paired with artisanal cheeses.

Cheese Tuesday
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Oct. 11. 7 pm. $55. Chef **Frank McClelland** and fromager **Louis Risoli** present a three-course dinner highlighted by cheeses that fall under the theme Made in the Mountains.

Class in a Glass
Piattini on Columbus, 162 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-423-20021). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mondays. 6 pm. $40. Piattini hosts a series of educational, four-course dinners paired with matching wines. •Oct. 3: Wines of Niebaum Coppola. •Oct. 10: Wines of the Veneto.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) plus complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •Sept. 29: A Rhone Again, Naturally. Oct. 4: Sonoma's Alexander Valley.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complimentary food tasting. •Sept. 28: Piemonte, Italy.

Human Rights Campaign Annual New England Dinner
Westin Copley Place Hotel, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (800-494-8497). www.hrc.org/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 29, 6 pm, $200. HRC's 24th annual New England dinner and silent auction. Proceeds help HRC support lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality. Dress is formal or festive.

Men of Boston Cook for Women's Health
Codman Square Health Center, 637 Washington St., Dorchester (617-474-1446). www.menofboston.com. Sept. 29. 6 pm. $125. Local male celebrities including Mayor **Thomas Menino**, WHDH news anchor **Randy Price** and former governor **Michael Dukakis** serve up samples from local restaurants like No. 9 Park, Icarus and Legal Seafoods. The proceeds benefi DotWell, a community health care partnershi that works to establish new programs at loca women's health centers.

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridg (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA Red Line to Porter Square. Thu. and Fri., 6 an 8:30 pm. $35. Chef de cuisine **Mark Usewic** prepares a tasting menu of classic Italian smal plates in front of guests at the restaurant's Oyste ria Bar. Reservations required.

Spice of the Month Club
Tamarind Bay, 75 Winthrop St., Cambridg (617-491-4552). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Second Monday of every month. 5-7 pm. $25 Executive chef **Wali Ahmad** discusses a new Indian spice each night and prepares a four course menu of dishes predominantly featurin that spice. Oct. 10: Carom seeds.

Steak Frites Fridays
Pigalle, 75 Charles St. South, Boston (617-423 4944). www.pigalleboston.com. MBTA: Gree Line to Arlington. Every Fri., 5:30-10:30 pm $30. Pigalle chef **Marc Orfaly** offers a three course menu featuring classic steak frites.

Sudoku Night
Fugakyu, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline (617-734 1268). MBTA: Green Line C to St. Paul. Ever Mon. 5-7 pm. Customers at Fugakyu's sushi ba are given the opportunity to solve Sudoku, Japanese placement puzzle, for the chance t win discounts off their meal.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542 5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Lin to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelie **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, an chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hor d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstra tions. •Oct. 4: Alsace. •Oct. 11: Chile.

Vodka Tastings at Lucy's
Lucy's, 242 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232 5829). www.lucysbrookline.com. MBTA: Gree Line C to Coolidge Corner. Sept. 28. 6:30 pm $40. Executive chef **Andrew Coleman** pre pares a menu that is paired with mini-cocktail created with different flavors of Absolut vodka.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line t Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik John son** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by che **Frank McClelland**.

Wine Tastings at Vinalia
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-1777) www.vinaliaboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Down town Crossing. Every Wed., 6:30 pm. $15. Every Wednesday night, Vinalia hosts a wine tasting fea turing four wines paired with seasonal appetizers.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720 1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines se lected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Sept. 28 Erik's Favorites. •Oct. 5: Alsace.

Wines from Spain
The State Room, 60 State St., 33rd Floor, Boston (866-849-8703). www.gretmatch.org. MBTA Orange Line to State Street. Oct. 11 6-9 pm. $50. This walk-around wine and food tasting is the largest showcase of Spanish wines in the United States.

DISH

Andouille Care?

Share, cher… Helping after the hurricane

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

As The City That Care Forgot becomes The City We All Care About, Boston-area restaurateurs are pitching in to help rebuild New Orleans. From elegant high-priced benefits to earnest, smaller-scale efforts, people in the business are doing their part.

In Newton, all employees at **Blue Ribbon Barbecue** are donating every cent of their tip money to hurricane relief. "It means a lot; it takes a lot" for each individual to make that decision, says owner **Jeff Janowski**. "That's gas money." The first week's tip fund added up to $1,200, and Janowski expects the total to reach around $5,000, give or take however much time the staff can afford to be charitable. "As long as people are giving generously without complaining," he laughs. Janowski himself is a good role model: When he heard about a bunch of guys loading up a New Orleans–bound truck with toys for kids, he sent over enough food to fuel all 18 men for the long road trip.

Jeff Janowski, owner of Blue Ribbon Barbecue in Newton

More barbecue: One of the earliest gestures of generosity came from **Steve Uliss**, owner of **Firefly's Barbecue** in Framingham, who's contributing $3 from the sale of every $4.95 bottle of barbecue sauce to the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund.

And still more BBQ: If you've had the pleasure of dining on Louisiana BBQ shrimp in New Orleans, you know it's *not* grilled crustaceans basted with your basic barbecue fluid. It's slathered with a rich, buttery sauce seasoned with Worcestershire, spiced with Tabasco and made full-bodied with beer. It's also being served up at the **Metropolitan Club & Bar** in Chestnut Hill for the next several weeks, and proceeds from the $15 dish will go to the Red Cross.

In keeping with the funky, cholesterol-be-damned philosophy of New Orleans cuisine, an old-fashioned Sunday bake sale conceived and produced by **Dina Sonenshein** raised $3,000 in less than three hours in Harvard Square. Sonenshein, formerly pastry chef at **UpStairs on the Square** and now its financial manager, spent Saturday afternoon with her former pastry assistant, **Fiona Ehring**, churning out cookies, brownies and cakes. An UpStairs line cook baked fresh peach pies. Proprietors **Deborah Hughes** and **Mary-Catherine Deibel** added their hands-on efforts: Hughes made brownies and Deibel whipped up a batch of double chocolate cupcakes with fresh raspberry buttercream. Sonenshein recruited culinary correspondents from **Harvest**: Chef **Keith Pooler** and pastry chef **Liz O'Connell** not only contributed cookies, but also took up a collection from their own kitchen staff. Sonenshein's mother made zucchini bread, her father worked the table and her roommate was posted by the T station, "haranguing people to come by," she says. "With the beautiful weather, it felt like all of Cambridge was walking through the park and supporting us."

SECOND COURSE

Where there's food, there's drink: **Fugakyu** in Brookline is donating half of all its "ShoShu" cocktail special sales to the Red Cross hurricane relief efforts. ShoShu, also known as Shochu, is a potent, 50-proof drink distilled from sweet potatoes, barley or rice. Adventurous, thirsty souls can choose from a selection of four ShoShu varieties, blended with ingredients ranging from Sprite to Chambord to Red Bull.

Waiter, there's a buzz in my soup: Just when you think that caffeine has been inserted into every possible foodstuff, one Boston chef invents a dish that is grounds for amazement, amusement and maybe even a heartfelt "yuck." **Jacky Robert**, chef/co-owner of **Petit Robert Bistro**, is serving Coffee Potato Soup, a thick concoction derived from fresh brewed coffee and potatoes and garnished with almonds. Is it the new Red Bull? Or a Bowl of Bull? Once you try it, and your hands stop shaking, send us an e-mail with your feedback. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com

WINE

Clos de los Siete

BY SANDY BLOCK MW

For wine lovers who think Argentina is just a one-trick pony, turning out vast quantities of delicious value-priced malbec and nothing else of note, there's an amazing wine called Clos de los Siete you have to try. Crafted by Bordeaux consulting oenologist Michel Rolland, a modern-day wine guru who oversees more than a hundred wineries worldwide, the Clos de los Siete is an inspiring, seamless blend of Argentina's signature malbec grape along with merlot, cabernet sauvignon and syrah. As large-scale success in the wine business increasingly depends on "varietal" labeling, Clos de los Siete is swimming against the tide. But its ripe, stylish layers of black fruit flavor and its engaging velvety texture point toward another classic taste standard that consumers are starting to discover: terroir. This virtually untranslatable French term refers to all the environmental influences impacting grapes that together create the specific aromas and flavors of a wine produced in a particular place. A terroir-influenced wine expresses the unique circumstances of its region and vineyard; it could not have been produced anywhere else. So rather than providing the reliability of, let's say, cabernet sauvignon, which will always show some variation on a well-known flavor theme regardless of where it's made, wines that express terroir each taste intriguingly different. They represent a counter-trend to the hegemony of the grape variety, though they are harder to market because they take us out of the comfort zone of instant familiarity.

Argentina produces a lot of wine (it has the fifth largest industry in the world, behind Italy, France, Spain and the United States), most of it forgettable and unsuitable for export. Winemaking in Argentina goes back more than 450 years and until very recently has been geared almost exclusively to the domestic market. But there have been significant improvements in the past decade as the wineries modernize and attention shifts toward overseas consumers. International interest has risen, and direct investment, while not the equal of investment in its neighbor Chile, has been increasing. The vineyards in Mendoza, where Clos de los Siete is located, are situated among the highest elevations in the world. This is one of Argentina's distinguishing features: growing grapes along the base of the Andes. At high elevations, soils are generally less fertile, and the resulting grapes feature far greater aromatic definition. The vines are much harder to work, as mechanization is often impossible, so everything needs to be done by hand. But winemakers the world over who can afford the investment of time and resources seek to locate their sites on slopes or mountains because there's enormous potential in these otherwise inaccessible places for making wine that is intensely concentrated.

Located in the southern part of the Mendoza region, Clos de los Siete's vineyards are at an average height of over 3,000 feet. Planted within the last five years, the first vintage that Rolland produced was 2002, but the recently released 2003 does not taste at all like a wine made from such young vines—there's a fullness that we associate with older vines. Aged largely in new oak barrels, the wine's impressive level of fruit intensity is balanced beautifully, to the point where there's not even a suggestion of harshness or astringency. The Clos de los Siete tannins are succulent and rich, allowing an almost sweet fruit expression to the surface. The small percentage of syrah lends a grace note of aromatic intrigue: smoky and slightly peppery. On the palate, hints of chocolate, anise, rosemary and tobacco underscore the ripe, supple black fruit flavors. I had a few glasses with a rack of lamb and the match was incomparable. Of course, the question could be asked: Did the wine reflect the terroir of Mendoza or was it just a delicious example of what one of the world's most accomplished winemakers can do anywhere? Maybe an interesting subject for debate, but ultimately the answer is: It was delicious. The best part? Clos de los Siete is one of those wines that tastes much more expensive than it is (only $15). Try some with your friends without showing them the label and they'll think you've really splurged. IB

Master of Wine Sandy Block is vice president of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.

Food Photos: Paul Schiavone

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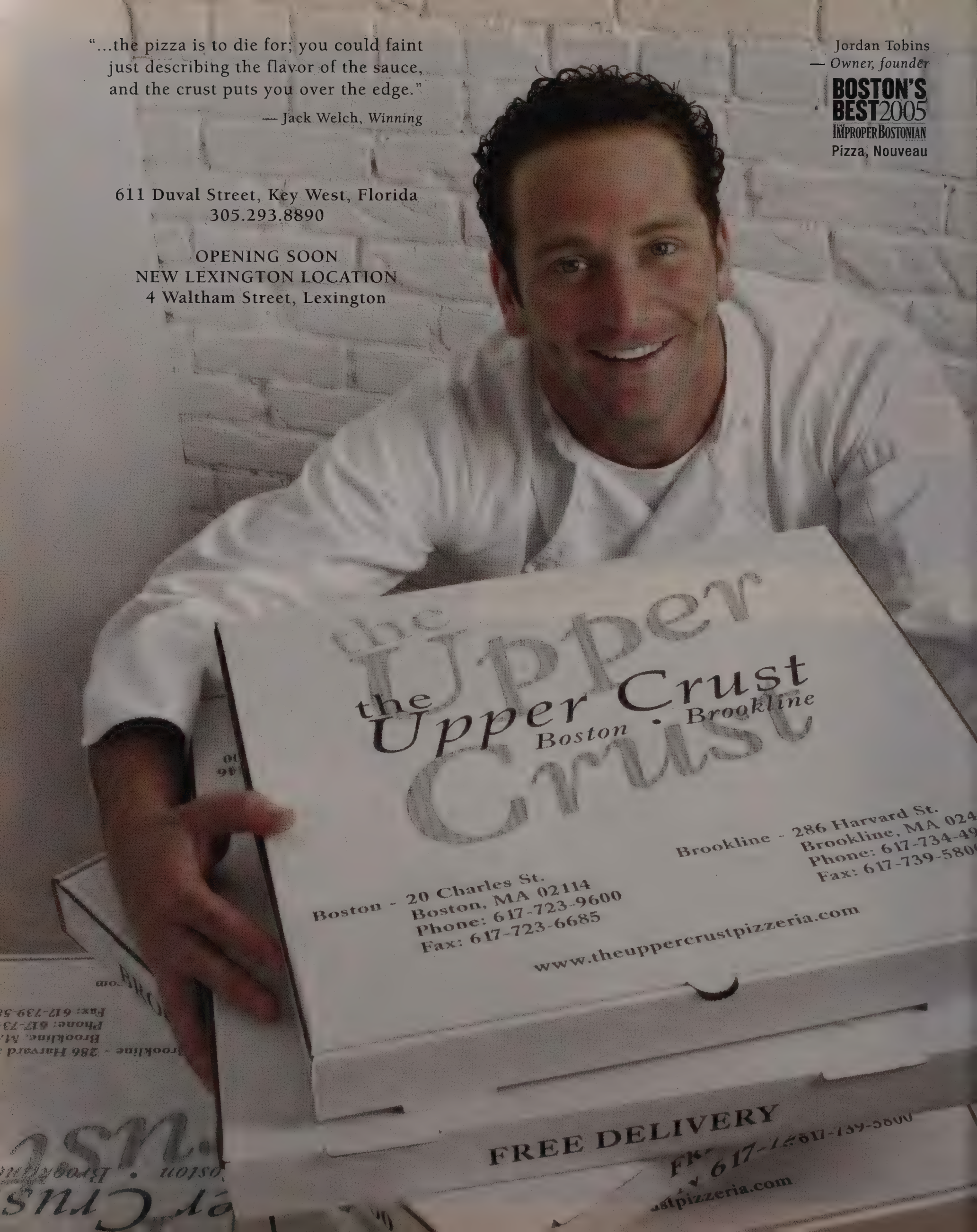

agenda

HOT TIPS FROM CALENDAR GURUS LESLIE AND RICH

IMPROPER PICKS

september 28 - october 11

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			28	29	30	1
			Harvard Law School professor and author **Alan Dershowitz** discusses his latest book at the Harvard Coop. *See Books & Poetry on page 81.*		The annual, weekend-long **Harpoon Octoberfest** opens at the Harpoon Brewery. *See Cityscope on page 52.*	**Alien Ant Farm** performs at Axis as part of the NEMO Showcase. *See Music on page 66.*
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	The Brattle Theatre begins a weeklong tribute to Greta Garbo with a screening of ***Anna Christie***. *See Movies on page 59.*	**Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons** holds a dinner paired with wines from Sonoma's Alexander Valley. *See Tastings on page 44.*		Local rappers **The Perceptionists** take the stage for a show at the Paradise Rock Club. *See Music on page 68.*		Digby Dance performs ***No Such Thing*** at Roxbury Community College. *See Performing Arts on page 53.*
9	10	11				
Alvin Epstein stars in the Actors' Shakespeare Project's presentation of ***King Lear***. *See Performing Arts on page 53.*		The **State Room** hosts the largest showcase of Spanish wines in the U.S. *See Tastings on page 44.*				

Artist Johnetta Tinker

SAT.–SUN./OCT. 1 AND 2

Art: Familiar Faces and New Places

Roxbury Open Studios makes it easy for you to explore some off-the-beaten-path art galleries. For two days, artists, gallery owners, private homeowners and community spaces open their doors to provide a personal viewing of works by Roxbury artists. The seventh annual event stretches from Dudley Square to Grove Hall, Walnut Park to Mission Hill, and through other Roxbury neighborhoods, such as the Highland Park and Fort Hill area. The event is free and a shuttle bus runs all day long from one venue to another. New this year is a group show at the Roxbury Center for the Arts, where you can also pick up maps. On Saturday, Discover Roxbury leads a tour for $23 from 1:30–4 pm of some of the participating artists' studios and the African American Masters Artists in Residency Program. *Roxbury Center for the Arts, 182-186 Dudley St., Roxbury (617-541-3900, ext. 2327). www.actroxbury.org. 11 am–6 pm. Free. —LPK*

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CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Graham Books & Poetry, Movies
Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts, Sports
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

PERCEPTIONISTS: MAYA HAYUK. DERSHOWITZ: STU ROSNER

MON./OCT. 3

Music: President's Day

They're not your typical garage band from Seattle. That was made abundantly clear the second that the Presidents of the United States of America, who play a show downstairs at the Middle East on October 3, hit it big in the summer of 1995. Instead of rocking out in a style that their predecessors like Nirvana, Pearl Jam and Soundgarden had made famous, POT USA (as the cool kids called them) took a different route. They topped the charts with comedic punk ballads like "Lump" and "Peaches," made music videos that featured random ninja attacks, and were even immortalized by Weird Al Yankovic, who parodied the group in his song "Gump." All that should add up to an entertaining show at the Middle East, which is likely to feature tunes from all of the band's albums, including their latest, *Love Everybody*, released last year. *Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-931-2000). www.mideastclub.com. 8 pm. $15.—RL*

THU./SEPT. 29

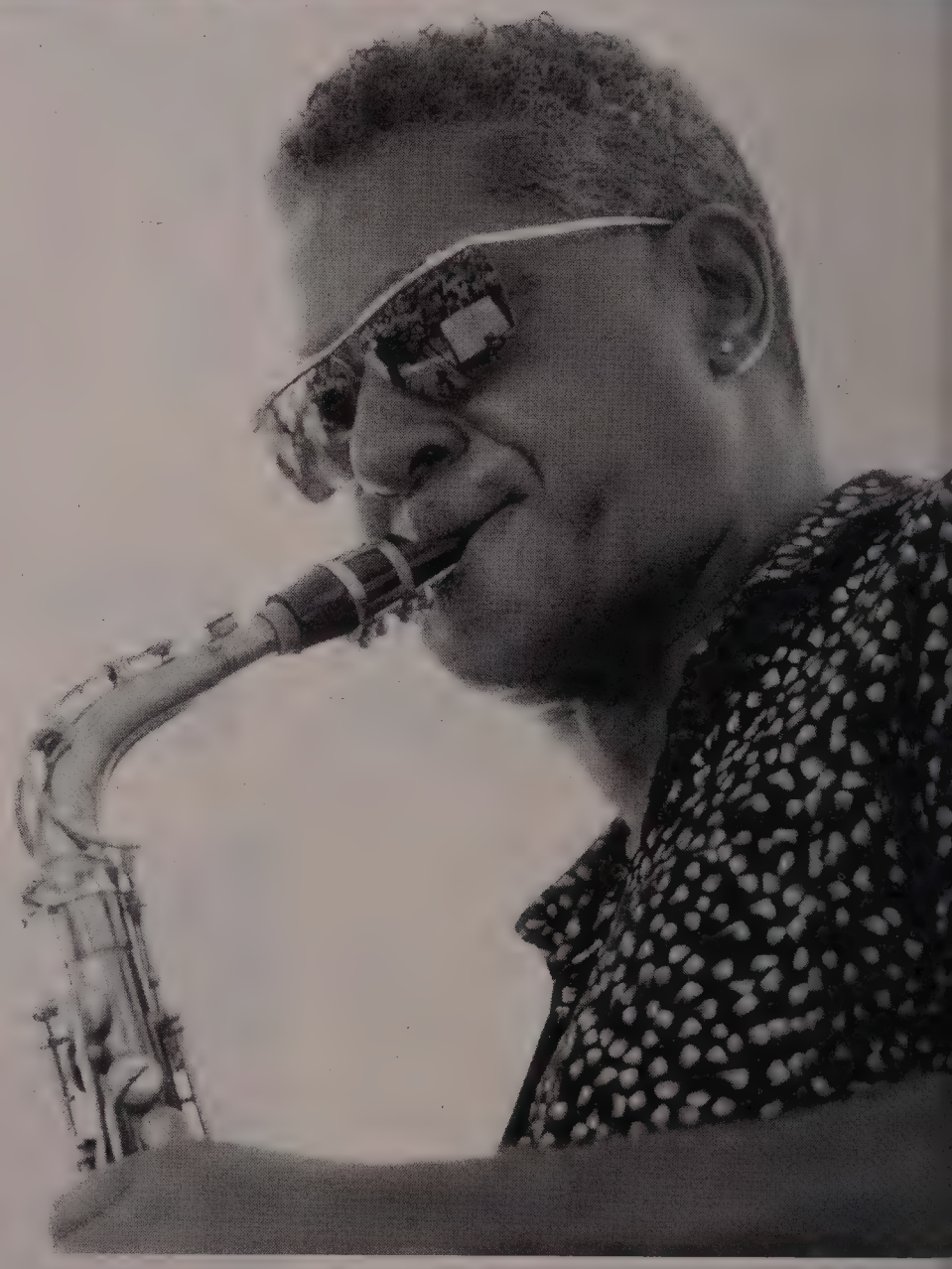
Tastings: Men at Work

Boston's bigwigs are used to top-notch treatment when they spend a night out on the town, but at this year's Men of Boston Cook for Women's Health event, the tides will turn as approximately 40 local male celebrities get a crash course in what it takes to hang in the service industry. The 10th annual gala, held September 29 at Dorchester's Codman Square Health Center, features some of the city's most recognizable males, including Mayor Thomas Menino, former Governor Michael Dukakis, WHDH newsie Randy Price and WBZ sports guy Steve Burton, as they don their aprons and serve up a mix of local fare from restaurants like Legal Sea Foods, Redbones and Icarus. The event, which includes a live auction, benefits DotWell, a community health care partnership that works to establish new programs at local women's health centers. In total, DotWell provides assistance for more than 20,000 women in the Dorchester area. *637 Washington St., Dorchester (617-474-1446). www.menofboston.com. 6 pm. $125.—RL*

TUE.–SUN./
THROUGH NOV. 13

Art and Music: An Original Pair

Variations on a Theme, a new exhibit at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, is meant to be seen and heard. Mozart provided the inspiration for the collaborative project, a large-scale wall painting by artist Sol LeWitt, accompanied at various times during museum hours by a live performance by flutist Paula Robinson. The two artists share a passion for Mozart, and through the collaborative piece they interpret the connection between art and music. For a schedule of the flute performances, see the museum's Web site. *280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. 11 am–5 pm. $10; weekends, $11; seniors, $7; students, $5.—LPK*



SAT./OCT. 1

Music: Ahhhh, Coltrane

Years ago, when jazz musician John Coltrane died, local jazz aficionado and saxophonist Leonard Brown decided to host a memorial concert in his honor. The concert, which took place at the Friends of Great Black Music Loft, a Boston performance studio in the '70s, is now in its 28th year. The annual concert, which is still run by Brown himself, has become somewhat of a legend in its own right. This year, the show takes place at Northeastern University's Blackman Theatre and features McCoy Tyner, who played piano with Coltrane in his original quartet during the '60s. Saxophonist Gary Bartz, who also played during Coltrane's time, performs as well. And the music is all Coltrane, including popular compositions he wrote or performed. Hosted by WGBH's Eric Jackson, who's known for his jazz show *Eric in the Evening*, the concert is the oldest event of its kind sponsored by the John W. Coltrane Cultural Society. *360 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-373-2247). 8 pm. $25. —LPK*

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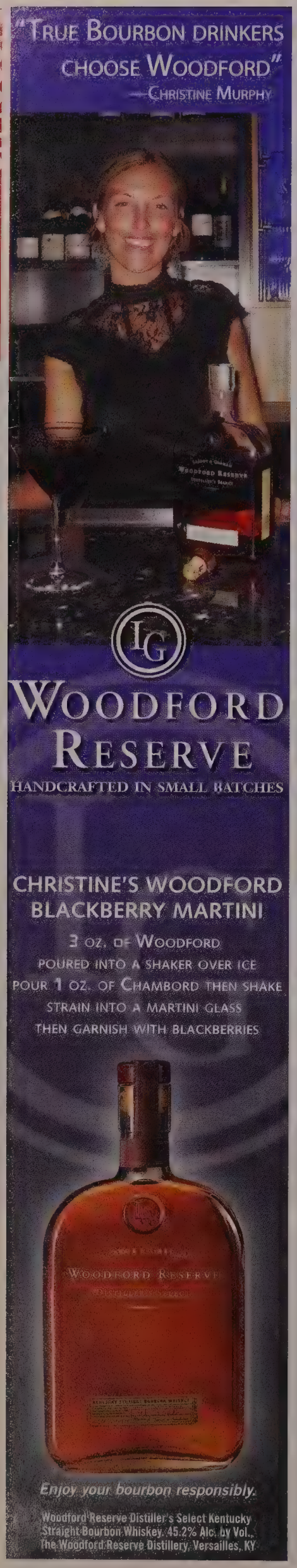

cityscope

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Back to School Cup Gold Tournament
The Hopkinton Country Club, Saddle Hill Rd., Hopkinton (617-778-5981). www.csfboston.org/calendar. $250. This event includes one round of golf, lunch, dinner, raffles and a live auction. Proceeds benefit the Inner-city Scholarship Fund.

Basil Tree and Back to School
514 Medford St., Somerville (617-776-9100), 108 Madison Ave., Newtonville (617-244-9500). Through Oct. 15. www.basiltree.com. Basil Tree Take-out and Catering donates 10 percent of its catering profits to Somerville schools and 5 percent of all sales from its Newtonville location to the Newton School Foundation.

Boston Service Industry Hurricane Relief Event
Top of the Hub Skywalk, Prudential Center, Fifth floor, Boston (617-742-3600). www.skywalk.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 7:30-11:30 pm. This event features live entertainment, appetizers, desserts and an open bar. All of the proceeds benefit the AmeriCares hurricane relief effort.

Fall 2005 Trend Report Benefit
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Imperial Ballroom, 64 Arlington St., Boston. www.mctf.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm. $20-$30. This event includes appetizers, cocktails, a runway fashion show and dessert. Proceeds benefit the Massachusetts Children's Trust Fund.

It's in the Stars
Ritz Carlton, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-357-5777). www.cosmiconnection.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30 pm, $60-$75. This singles night includes appetizers, scotch tastings, dancing and art. Proceeds benefit the Topf Center for Dance Education, a dance outreach program for local urban youth. For singles ages 40+.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Between the Lines Luncheon: Birth Sisters Program
Via Matta, 79 Park Plaza, Boston (617-422-0008). www.stilinc.com/events. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12 pm. $30. Stil and 9 Months introduce a luncheon featuring a fashion show, music and a silent auction. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Birth Sisters program at Boston Medical Center, which works with low-income women during their pregnancies.

Opera Boston's First Annual InnOVATION
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617- 451-3388). www.operaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6 pm. $250. This event includes dinner, drinks, an awards ceremony and a musical set followed by dessert and champagne. All proceeds benefit the 2005-2006 Opera Boston season, workshops and after- school programs for elementary and high school students around Boston.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Carroll Center for the Blind's Rose Ball
Ritz Carlton Hotel, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-969-6200). www.carroll.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $200. This event includes dinner, dancing and music by the Stardust Orchestra. Proceeds benefit the Carroll Center for the Blind.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Strides for Change
Castle Island, City Point, South Boston. (617-227-2701). 10:30 am. Free. Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) sponsors a walk featuring victim survivor services and health and safety vendors, along with food, games and entertainment. Proceeds benefit MADD.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk
Canal Park, CambridgeSide Galleria, 100 CambridgeSide Place, Cambridge. (617-393-2050). www.memorywalkma.org. 10 am. Free. The proceeds from this 3-mile walk along the Charles River Esplanade support programs for people with Alzheimer's and their families in local communities.

Walk to Fight Child Poverty
Hastings Park, Lexington (617-933-8236). 1 pm. This event features food, games, live entertainment and prizes. Proceeds benefit a variety of nonprofit organizations working to end child poverty.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

Cinderella Make-Over
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (781-449-0100). www.elliefund.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30-8:30 pm. $39-$49. This event, sponsored by the Boston Harbor Hotel and Boston Ballet, features cocktails and appetizers, as well as mini make-overs, beauty consultations and a fashion show by Filene's. All proceeds benefit the Ellie Fund.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

Longwood Symphony Orchestra's Fall Benefit Concert
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.longwoodsymphony.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$25. This concert featuring performances by flutist Eugenia Zukerman and the LSO benefits the Mattapan Community Heath Center, Massachusetts Consortium for Children with Special Health Care Needs, Steve Glidden Foundation and Partners in Health.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

"Lend a Hand" in the Fight Against Autism
The Comedy Connection, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to State. 5 pm. $30-$50. This event includes a wine and cheese reception, a silent auction and a comedy show. Proceeds benefit autism research and programs.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Moonstruck: The Harvest Moon Ball
Whiskey Park, Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston. www.jetsetevents.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm-2 am. $20. This event features a car show, contests, wine tasting, appetizers, live music and dancing.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

City Year Opening Day
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (617-927-2545). www.cityyear.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. Join Boston's City Year members in celebrating the beginning of their annual community projects.

Harpoon Octoberfest
Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (617-574-9551). www.harpoonbrewery.com. MBTA: Silver Line to Harbor Street. Through Oct. 1. Fri., 2-9 pm;l Sat., 5:30-11 pm. $12. This event features live German music, appetizers, eating contests and Harpoon beer tasting.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Forest Hill Cemetery's 8th Annual Dog Walk
Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3354). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 10 am. $10. This annual event features a tour of the cemetery's animal sculptures and storytelling by historian Dee Morris.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

Boston Knit-Out and Crochet Festival
Boston Common bandstand, Boston. (617-354-7253). www.bostonknitout.com. MBTA: Green Line to Park. 12-4 pm. Free. This event features yarn crafts, demonstrations, lessons, fashion shows and contests for people of all skill levels.

IDEAS Boston 2005
Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, 600 Atlantic Ave., Boston. www.boston.com/ideasboston. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Through Oct. 7. $295 for both days. This two-day conference invites people to learn new ways of thinking and features presentations and a variety of speakers including musicians, philosophers, technologists, entrepreneurs and more.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

Boston Beanstalks Tall Club Meet and Greet
Riverbend Lounge, Newton Marriott, Route 30, Newton (617-HUB-TALL) www.hubtall.org. 6-8 pm.

The Fall 2005 Trend Report Benefit is at the Park Plaza Hotel, Sept. 28.

Free. Meet other tall people for cocktail conversation and laughs.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

The 29th Annual Tufts Health Plan 10K for Women
Boston Common at Beacon St., Boston (617-43[illegible] 7700). www.conventures.com. MBTA: Green Line Park St. 11 am. $28-$35. Join in this 6.2-mile ra along the Charles River to celebrate health and fi ness with other runners, joggers and walkers.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

8 Minute Dating
Fire and Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-48[illegible] 3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Li to Arlington. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers durin eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle an meet the people you didn't get the chance to share date with. For single professionals ages 22-32.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

8 Minute Dating
CitySide Bar & Grille, 1960 Beacon St., Boston (61[illegible] 566-1002). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Gree Line C to Cleveland Circle. 6:30 pm, $35. Sampl appetizers during eight different eight-minute date Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get th chance to share a date with. For single professiona ages 25-35.

8 Minute Dating
Tiger Lily, 8 Westland Ave., Boston (617- 267-8881) www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line E t Symphony. 8 pm, $35. Sample appetizers durin eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle an meet the people you didn't get the chance to share date with. For single professionals ages 25-35.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

8 Minute Dating
Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 20 Merchants Row, Bosto (617-227-7800). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA Orange Line to State. 6:30 pm, $35. Sampl appetizers during eight different eight-minute date Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get th chance to share a date with. For single professiona ages 30-40.

8 Minute Dating
Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square Cambridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm, $35 Sample appetizers during eight different eight minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people yo didn't get the chance to share a date with. For singl professionals ages 35-45.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

8 Minute Dating
Fire and Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-482 3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Lin to Arlington. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers durin eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle an meet the people you didn't get the chance to share date with. For single professionals ages 25-35.

performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts, or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Artstix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

StubHub
(866-788-2482). www.stubhub.com. Where fans buy and sell tickets.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.tixboston.com. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Acts of Futility
Charlestown Working Theater, 442 Bunker Hill St., Charlestown (617-242-3285). www.charlestownworkingtheater.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 6-22. Thu., Fri., Sat., 8 pm. $18. This show features performances of six one-act plays by Samuel Beckett, including *Breath* and *Catastrophe*.

The Real Thing ends its run at the Huntington Theatre Company on Oct. 9

Hairspray
The Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Oct. 4-16. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $25-$87. The Tony Award–winning musical, based on John Waters' film, comes to Boston and tells the story of Tracy Turnblad's dream to dance.

King Lear
Actors' Shakespeare Project, Studio 102 at Boston University College of Fine Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (866-811-4111). www.actorsshakespeareproject.org. MBTA: Green Line B to BU West. Sept. 29-Oct. 23. Wed.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $35-$40. Alvin Epstein plays the lead role in Shakespeare's play about a mad king consumed by the machinations of his deceitful daughters.

Pulp
BCA Plaza Black Box, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatreworks.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sept. 29-Oct. 15. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $27-$30; Matinee, $27. Jason Southerland directs Patricia Kane's musical, an homage to 1950s lesbian pulp fiction.

Theatre District
Roberts Theatre at the Stanford Calderwood Pavilion, Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Sept. 30-Oct. 29. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $41-$46; Matinee, $42; Students and seniors get $5 off. *NYPD Blue* actor Bill Brochtrup stars in Richard Kramer's comedy about the challenges facing a nontraditional family in contemporary society.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. The blue trio performs an ongoing show that mixes art, music, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

Carmen
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Oct. 8. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm (some variation; call for detailed schedule). $12-$74. The American Repertory Theatre presents Bizet's timeless opera *Carmen*, about a seductive woman who finds herself in a deadly love triangle.

Jimmy Tingle's American Dream
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Ongoing. Thu., Fri., Sat.,

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Hairspray, the Tony Award–winning musical, plays at the Opera House, Oct. 4-16.

7:30 pm. $15-$25. Jimmy Tingle's American Dream is a one-man show that combines comedy, political commentary and storytelling.

Menopause: The Musical

Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. In Jeannie Linder's musical, a quartet of aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

N (Bonaparte)

Plaza Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St. (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Oct. 8. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $16-$22. The Pilgrim Theatre Research and Performance Collaborative presents Laura Harrington's comedic tragedy exploring the world according to Napoleon Bonaparte.

Pal Joey

Stoneham Theatre, Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Sept. 15-Oct. 2. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $36-$18. The Stoneham Theatre revives this Broadway classic by Richard Rodgers about the lo triangle between a nightclub emcee and t two women in his life: a naive girlfriend an rich older woman.

The Real Thing

Huntington Theatre Company, Boston Univ sity Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Bost (617-273-1537). www.huntingtontheatre.o MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Through O 9. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 a 8 pm.; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $15-$60. Tom Sto pard's play about the complexities of being love follows a successful playwright as he jeo ardizes his marriage by falling in love with actress.

Romeo and Juliet

New Repertory Theatre, Arsenal Center the Arts, Watertown (617-923-8487). ww newrep.org. Sept. 18-Oct. 9. Wed.-Thu 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat, 3:30 and 8 p Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $30-$48. The Ne Repertory Theatre presents Shakespear 400-year-old tale of love and interfamil war.

Shear Madness

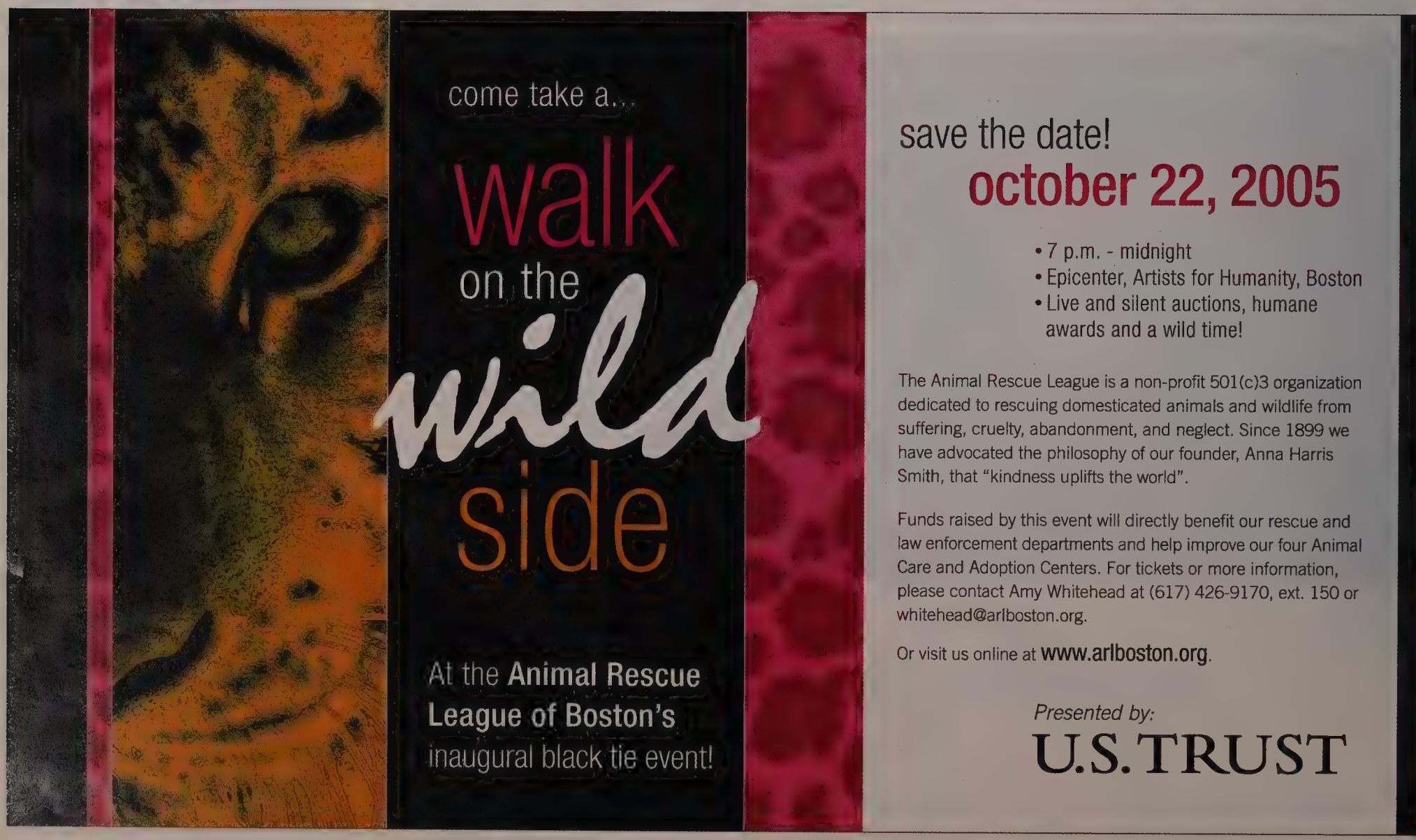
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Bost (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.co boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ong ing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 p Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This comedic wh dunit set in a crazy unisex hair salon holds t record as Boston's longest-running play.

Smokey Joe's Café

Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Ne ton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.co Sept. 16-Oct. 9, Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 p $24, discounts available. This cabaret-sty musical features songs like *Hound Dog, Sta By Me* and *Jailhouse Rock.*

Urinetown: The Musical

Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Bost (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. Through Oc 15. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 p Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $20-$47. During deadly water shortage, a corrupt corporation begi charging residents to urinate, in this musical writt by Greg Kotis.



Dance

ance Showcase

ston University Dance Theater, 915 Comm. Ave. 17-353-1597). www.bu.edu/fitrec/programs/dance/ nts.html. Sept. 30-Oct 1. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $15; 0, BU students. BU's annual dance event highhts a variety of styles and genres within the dance mpany.

uality

e Julie Ince Thompson Theatre at the Dance Com- x, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-850-5497). ww.dancecomplex.org. Sept. 30-Oct 1. Fri.-Sat., 8 . $15; $12, students. Tracy Morse and Kate Nies oreograph dance pieces injecting modern energy d edge that reflect interpersonal relations.

o Such Thing

instage Theater, Roxbury Community College, Uni- l Arts Building, 1234 Columbus Ave., Boston (617- 4-7305). www.digbydance.org. MBTA: Orange e to Roxbury. Sept. 30-Oct. 11, 8 pm. $18; $15 dents. Digby Dance returns to Boston with the emiere of *No Such Thing*, which takes a comical w of the way television portrays human aracter.

hirling Dervishes of Istanbul

nders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-876- 75). www.worldmusic.org. Oct 7. Fri., 8 pm. $37; 2; $20. The *Sema* spiritual ceremony is carefully oreographed as the dancers move from slow to id motions to enter a state of trance.

Comedy

dvice to Contributors

bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to lendar: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@ roper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to blication.

OMEDY SHOWS

ephen Lynch

pheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Pl., Boston (617-679- 10). www.ticketmaster.com. MBTA: Green or Red e to Park Street. Oct. 7, Fri., 8 pm. $25. Comean Stephen Lynch from *The Opie and Anthony Show* and *Comedy Central Presents* performs at the Orpheum.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café

334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www. stashcomedyjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features an assortment of local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Sept. 28, 8 pm: Mike McDonald, $12. •Sept. 29, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15.•Sept. 30, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Joe Rogan, host of *Fear Factor* and cast member on *News Radio*, $29.•Oct. 1, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Joe Rogan, $36. •Oct. 2, 7 pm, 9:15 pm: Tracy Morgan, *SNL* cast member, $12. •Oct. 3, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Oct. 4, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •Oct. 6, 9 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Oct. 7, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Bobby Collins from VH1's *Stand-Up Spotlight*, $25.•Oct. 8, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Bobby Collins from VH1's *Stand-Up Spotlight*, $27.•Oct. 10, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12.•Oct. 11, Paul Nardizzi, $12.

Comedy Studio

Harvard Square, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Sept. 28: Tony V Experiments with John Lincoln and more. •Sept. 29: The Dan Sally Show. •Sept. 30: The Walsh Bros., Phil Yebba, Steve Donovan, Andrea Henry, Rebecca Andersen. •Oct. 1: Chris Torres, Rachel Isenberg, Steve Donovan.•Oct. 2: Erin Judge Presents...•Oct. 4: Magic Lounge•Oct. 5: Kris Norton, Arielle Goldman, Paul Day, Sean Sullivan and more.•Oct. 6: The Dan Sally Show•Oct. 7: The Walsh Bros., Peter Bowers and more.•Oct. 8: Brian Kiley•Oct. 9: Erin Judge Presents...•Oct. 11: Magic Lounge.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, $15-$25: *Jimmy Tingle's American Dream* is a one-man show that combines comedy, political commentary and storytelling.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 8:30 pm. $10-$22. •Sept. 29, 8:30 pm : Kevin Knox, Pete Costello. •Sept. 16 and 17, 8:45 pm: Paul Gilligan, Pete Costello, Joe Wong. •Sept. 17, 9 pm: Bob Sibel, Kevin Knox, Jessica Casciano. •Sept. 22, 8:30 pm: Mark Riley, Mike Koutroubis. •Sept. 23 and 24, 8:45 pm: Bob Sibel, Mike Koutroubis, Mark Riley. •Sept. 24, 9 pm: Paul Gilligan, Pete Costello, Mike Kaplan.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www. improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Dinner packages available. • Summer in New England: Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 and 10 pm, $15-$20. •The Midnight Show: Sat., 12 am, $10. •NXT: Thu., 9:45 pm, $5. •Dangerous Words, the Best of Improv Asylum: Sept. 14 and 15, 8 pm, $15; Sept. 16 and 17, 8 and 10 pm, $20. •College Improv Championships: Sept. 14, 10 pm, $15. •Sketch Comedy Showcase: Sept. 15, 10 pm, $15. •Letterman Auditions: Sept. 16, 10 pm, $20.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Hump Fringe Show. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$12: UnNatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Girls' Night Out! Improv Boston's look into the life of the adolescent girl; 10 pm, $10-$12: TheatreSports: Two teams of improvisers go head to head. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for individuals of all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-$12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening features performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Boston-based short-form improv comedy group performs skits that involve participation from members of the audience.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. The Tribe sponsors this weekly comedy show at the Cantab that features a collection of improv comedians who poke fun at everything, including themselves. Acts include Snowflakes, Sister Brother, Sosnys and Villalobos.

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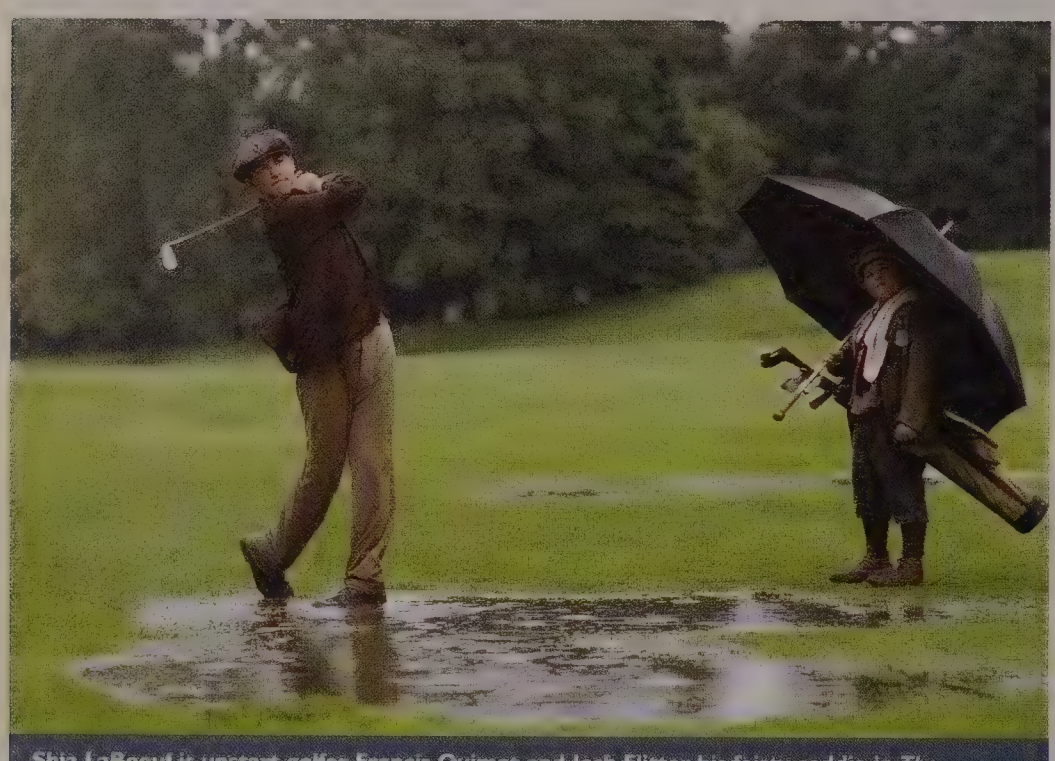
Fore!

The Greatest Game can't swing.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

If there's a moment in *The Greatest Game Ever Played* that isn't maudlin or manipulative, it's purely coincidental. Strong lead performances by Shia LaBeouf and Stephen Dillane may keep it respectable, but the movie—set in Brookline, yet shot in Canada—too rigidly adheres to the finely burnished *The Natural/Seabiscuit* formula for period-piece underdog tales. Beneath the craft and the clichés, it offers all the soul of a paint-by-numbers clown picture. Director Bill Paxton might have even burnished this one too much, as several scenes suffer from darkness that obscures characters' faces (or is that just the projectors in need of replacement bulbs at Loews?).



Shia LaBeouf is upstart golfer Francis Ouimet and Josh Flitter his feisty caddie in *The Greatest Game Ever Played*, set in Brookline.

LaBeouf and Dillane play, respectively, upstart golfer Francis Ouimet and revered British champ Harry Vardon. At the 1913 U.S. Open at The Country Club, unknown 20-year-old amateur Ouimet, a Brookline native, defeated Vardon in the tournament, which culminated in the youngster outlasting the old pro through two playoff rounds. It's a true story, and even though you can assume the movie takes creative license here and there (Mark Frost wrote the screenplay based on his book of the same name), it's not what *The Greatest Game* does, it's how it does those things.

It's how Francis' hard-nosed French-born father (Elias Koteas) is like every other working-class father from the old country who doesn't understand his American son's dreams—until, of course, the last two minutes of the movie, when he's there, teary-eyed, for the triumphant celebration. It's how Francis' long-suffering yet supremely supportive Irish mom (Marnie McPhail) is like every other fountain-of-love immigrant mom—and how she has to sneak away from her chores to go watch the end of the match, her eyes misty and her heart racing. (Can't she just make plans and go watch her son compete, like a normal human being? After all, they live across the street from the golf course!) And it's how the power-hungry fuddy-duddies who try to keep lowly Ouimet off the links at The Country Club and, in the English camp, try to use Vardon to fuel their personal gain seem almost comical, with their diabolically twirled moustaches and haughty sneers.

Is it any wonder *The Greatest Game* seems like self-parody half the time? The movie is so desperately trying to entertain and to touch that its quaint period atmosphere is chucked to the side for one brief moment, for a pathetic little gag involving a CGI ladybug and a golf ball that's about to be driven.

In its desire to move, it of course cranks up the swelling music whenever a "big moment" comes along. The CGI trick of showing golfers concentrating by "erasing" everything but the course from their view is the movie's one worthwhile stylistic device.

At least LaBeouf and Dillane find dignity in their characters. Another actor might have made Ouimet an eager little puppy who's all chirpy when he's up and mopey when he's down, but LaBeouf resists such superficiality. He keeps Ouimet on an even keel that makes the character much more credible than his surroundings. You have to figure the real Ouimet had poise to do what he did, and LaBeouf supplies that poise here (and his scenes with Josh Flitter, who plays Ouimet's ragamuffin caddy, are amusing). Similarly, Vardon, whom you might expect to be a villain, is closer in nature to Ouimet than to the upper-crust twits who live vicariously through his efforts. The movie starts with Vardon as a boy on the British isle of Jersey, being scared from his country cottage by a group of imposing, aristocratic men who announce they're building a golf course there for their own amusement. Like Ouimet, Vardon fights a class battle through his golf exploits.

But the class conflict in *The Greatest Game* is utterly toothless, with stovepipe hats and snifters of brandy being the symbols of evil that black hats are in simplistic Westerns. The evil is always telegraphed, which is how things work in mediocre movies, not real life. The 90-year-old setting gives the movie another cozy layer of distance from the injustices it supposedly rails against, but it's certainly not as if Ouimet's victory changed things at The Country Club very much back in 1913.

The only thing worth pondering about this forgettable movie is the participation of Frost and Paxton. As mentioned before, writer Frost adapted his own book, but this is the same Mark Frost who co-created and co-produced *Twin Peaks* with David Lynch. And Paxton is the actor (*A Simple Plan*, *Apollo 13*) who branched out to directing with the flawed yet grittier *Frailty* in 2001. As an actor, Paxton usually brings color to a movie; but his second movie as director is as beige as a subdivision of McMansions. iB

The Greatest Game Ever Played ★★

Directed by Bill Paxton. Written by Mark Frost. With Shia LaBeouf, Stephen Dillane, Elias Koteas, Marnie McPhail and Josh Flitter. Rated PG. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Aristocrats ★★★
Paul Provenza and Penn Jillette's documentary rounds up a wide array of comedians—from Pat Cooper and Eddie Izzard to Lewis Black and Chris Rock—to riff on its title "character," a notoriously dirty vaudeville joke comics have long shared with each other but not the public. The joke's undefined center has always been a measuring stick of a comic's lack of inhibition—he or she who stretches it out with the most perverse abandon makes the joke the funniest. Of those who tell it here, some play it successfully, while others never generate the right comic momentum. George Carlin, Gilbert Gottfried, Sarah Silverman and Bob Saget are the most effective, with a silent version performed by Billy the Mime (on a public street!) up there, too. Eric Cartman has a go during a specially made *South Park* clip, and card-trick specialist Eric Mead skillfully adapts the joke to his talents. As much about the community of comedians as the joke itself, the movie becomes a tribute to the power of laughter as both an emotional healer and a uniter of people. (At Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

Broken Flowers ★★
The minimalist, sad-sack persona Bill Murray introduced in *Rushmore* and *Lost in Translation* is pretty spent by this point. After re-using it in one of the segments in writer-director Jim Jarmusch's *Coffee & Cigarettes* last year, Murray goes back to that well yet again in Jarmusch's latest. It's still mildly amusing in this story of an aging, willfully vapid womanizer who reluctantly road-trips to visit several of his ex-flames when he receives an anonymous note telling him one of them had a son by him after they broke up. There's a bit more of an upscale cast than usual for Jarmusch, with Sharon Stone and Jessica Lange playing two of the old flames. These episodic visits usually pack a laugh or two, and the entire journey takes the womanizer through a minefield of sexual attraction. But the episodes seem to get less interesting as the story progresses, and his subtle awakening into, essentially, caring about his own life—seen only in the very last moments, with little build-up—is meager payoff, even for a Jarmusch movie. (At Boston Common and the Coolidge Corner Theater.)

The Brothers Grimm ★★½
The absurd fun in the first half of Terry Gilliam's latest just about makes up for the bog of plot you have to trudge through later on. Matt Damon and Heath Ledger play the famous story-collecting brothers, whom we meet as they ply the tale's fanciful earlier occupation for them: con-men ghostbusters. They listen to villagers' grisly tales, all right, but only so they can get hired to rid villages of ghosts, stage elaborate hoaxes and then leave town with fee in hand. The ruse that opens the movie is a hoot, but the brothers' (and the movie's) troubles start when an arrogant military man (Jonathan Pryce) forces the Grimms to go to a particularly spooked village where children are disappearing into the nearby forest. The movie then turns into one of those comedies where pretenders are forced to really do the thing they're only pretending to do (think *Galaxy Quest*), and the onslaught of plot details really cuts down on the initially fleet absurdity. Damon and Ledger handle their roles well, and the addition of rough-and-tumble Lena Headey halfway through is a plus, but this is ultimately just middling fare for a Gilliam picture. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Constant Gardener ★★
Fernando Meirelles' *City of God* was one of the best imports of recent years, and he gives his English-language debut some of its stylistic energy, until the story goes south. Ralph Fiennes plays the title character in this John Le Carré adaptation, an English diplomat posted to Kenya who's content to merely do his job looking out for British interests there. But the nervous energy of his idealistic wife (Rachel Weisz) makes her the character who most jives with Meirelles' style. She prods the English diplomats to help the locals more, especially to protect them from the ethically challenged drug trials run by a large European pharmaceutical company. The setup offers the exotic setting and moral murkiness of Westerners-abroad thrillers such as *The Tailor of Panama* and *The Quiet American*. But moral murkiness turns into something much more simplistic by the time the diplomat picks up his wife's cause and starts sleuthing into the link between the greedy pharmaceutical firm and complicit English diplomats. His transformation turns the movie into a less in-

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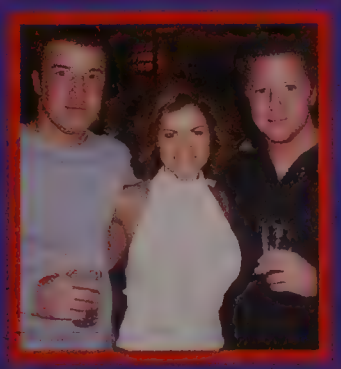

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teresting tale of good versus evil. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Corpse Bride ★★★
Tim Burton's second foray into animated features is lighter and more colorful in tone than *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. It even has peppy songs. But the squiggly-goth look and pointy-chinned characters are undeniably Burton, recalling *Vincent*, the animated short he made back before he'd ever directed features (Burton produced *Nightmare* and co-directed *Bride* with Mike Johnson). This Victorian tale of a meek young man (voiced by Johnny Depp) whose arranged wedding to an aristocratic wallflower (Emily Watson) gets sidetracked by his inadvertent awakening of the title character (Helena Bonham Carter) works as offbeat romance, however far-fetched it might sound. No real new territory for Burton and nothing to get excited about, but considering that two of his three most recent movies were remakes, this is less of a rehash than I feared. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The 40-Year-Old Virgin ★★★
What might have been a one-joke comedy about a nerd who's unlucky in love becomes a very funny ensemble comedy in the hands of star Steve Carrell and director Judd Apatow (TV's *Undeclared*), who co-wrote the script. Carrell, formerly of *The Daily Show* and now on NBC's version of *The Office*, plays the title character, and his combination of "normal" looks and over-the-top absurdity steers the guy clear of cliché. You laugh *at* him sometimes, though you start to laugh *with* him when his secret gets out and his co-workers at an electronics store—Paul Rudd, Romany Malco and Seth Rogen, who are all hilarious here—start trying to "help." A lot of work went into skewing all the characters so they're amusing (there's also dependable Catherine Keener, as the woman who takes an interest in the hero) and, no pun intended, the movie has the best climax of the year. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

A History of Violence ★★★
In most of David Cronenberg's movies, inner turmoil manifests itself in bodily protrusions and malfunctions. But unlike in *Scanners*, *Rabid* or *The Fly*, the conflicts within Tom Stall (Viggo Mortensen) remain internal. He's a Midwestern solid citizen whose placid life accelerates after he fights off two would-be attackers in his café, and shoots them with their own gun. Tom's sudden heroism brings the media pouncing and changes the way his neighbors view him. And when a persistent Philadelphia gangster (Ed Harris) arrives, giving Tom the stink-eye and insisting he's an old adversary with whom he has a score to settle, the threat of more violence intrudes. When previously mild-mannered Tom meets this threat head-on, as he did with the attackers, even Tom's loving wife (Maria Bello) starts to question just who her husband is. This thriller, based on a graphic novel, travels to several interesting nooks, especially in the relationship between the spouses, and is one of Cronenberg's more conventional stories. But it's also more involving than his other recent movies (*Spider*, *eXistenZ*). In a sense, you can see Tom's violence as a Cronenberg-esque protrusion thrusting from within, so the movie isn't that out of character for the director. He also casts well, as usual, with Mortensen, Bello and Harris bringing credibility to their roles. The last's performance intentionally verges on the comic, while William Hurt's role, as another Philly mobster, is also a hoot, though perhaps not so intentionally. (At Boston Common.)

I Am Cuba ★★★½
Like *Triumph of the Will* and *Birth of a Nation*, Soviet director Mikhail Kalatozov's 1964 tribute to the Cuban revolution is proof that propaganda can sometimes make for exciting moviemaking. Unseen in the United States until the mid-1990s, it's an amazing mix of sumptuous photography, primal storytelling and daring direction. In attempting to detail what drove Cuba to revolt, the movie tells four short stories, but only the third, about a student activist, has any of the flatness we associate with propaganda. The others are like heightened sensory experiences. The first, about a female escort at a nightclub, captures all the temptation and shame she feels (and Cuba felt) at being the rich's plaything; another, about a sugar cane tenant farmer, blends its Steinbeck-like tale with energetic cinematography; and the last gives a *Spartacus*-like charge to its story of a farmer who has a political change of heart. Few movies can match this one for its aggressively roving camera, probing close-ups and jarring, you-are-there style. The MFA will also be offering the local premiere of the 2004 documentary about the movie, *I Am Cuba, the Siberian Mammoth*, on the same days this plays. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, Oct. 6–8.)

Keane ★★★½
Writer-director Lodge Kerrigan offers shades of h wild-eyed 1994 debut, *Clean, Shaven*, in his latest, similarly intimate look at a manic man who, in th case, may be suffering from schizophrenia. The tit character (Damian Lewis) spends the first 20 mi utes in a frenzy, obsessively going over the details his young daughter's abduction in the New Yo Port Authority bus station months before. C course, there's no guarantee this abduction reall happened. The divorced guy might be transferrin some news event onto himself or maybe he's eve the one who harmed his daughter. You don't kno You have to watch and wait and see what's up wit him, and following this desperate guy is totally me merizing. He settles down a bit and befriends down-on-her-luck woman (Amy Ryan) who's sta ing at the same transient hotel with her own youn daughter (Abigail Breslin). The way this woma and her daughter unwittingly affect his emotiona journey is creepy, terrifying and sometimes down right touching, as you're never sure if Willia Keane is going to self-destruct, destroy someon around him or do neither. Ultimately, his actio straddle all three, making the movie even more re markable. (At Kendall Square.)

March of the Penguins ★★½
The surprise hit of the season actually isn't very su prising. It covers territory often seen on cabl wildlife shows, as it chronicles the extreme matin rituals of the South Pole's emperor penguins. Thes animals trek 70 miles annually to the same breedin ground and find a mate. Then, after the female la an egg, the male tends to it for several months du ing the harsh winter, without eating, while sh treks back to the sea to eat and regain weight. An that's just the start of it (there are more treks to th sea and more dangers to come). It's a major feat tha director Luc Jacquet and crew captured all thi under harsh Antarctic conditions, though the nar ration (read by Morgan Freeman) unfortunatel gilds the proverbial lily at times by endowing th birds with human characteristics. A typica overindulgence in this regard comes when a mothe futilely tries to revive a baby who's perished fro the cold, and the narration intones, "The pain i unbearable" (which seems a human assumptio rather than an insight into penguins). Still, bette than those fudged IMAX nature movies. (A Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Proof ★★★
It's involving enough, but it's hard to see what al the drama adds up to in director John Madden' adaptation of the Broadway play about the fragil daughter (Gwyneth Paltrow) of a mad mathemati cian (Anthony Hopkins). She's had to care for he unstable father as he's deteriorated and his moment of lucidity have grown further apart. When a break through mathematical proof comes to light that wa written by one of them, she's faced with the burde of having to prove it was her work (and, if she s chooses, the burden of having to say her father is n longer capable of such work). Of course, all thi math talk is just, as Hitchcock would've said, the "McGuffin," the arbitrary whatsit that could be any thing or any topic. So what is the math a metapho for? That's the tricky thing. The movie's concept o "proof" beyond math doesn't go much deeper than the daughter's need to prove her own self-confi dence. So the tale is ultimately slight for all of its chest-thumping, but it's well-played by Paltrow, who captures her character's many mood swings convinc ingly, and Jake Gyllenhaal, as the father's former student who gets involved (sometimes positively sometimes not) in her plight. Meanwhile, Hope Davis gets stuck in a clichéd role as the controlling older sister and Hopkins is, well, Hopkins, doing an other blustery star turn. (At Boston Common, Fen way and suburbs.)

Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit ★★★
Nick Park's 1990s pop-culture sensations return in their first feature, and it's a good one. The stop-motion clay animation rendering potty English inventor Wallace (voiced by Peter Sallis) and his trusty (and smarter) dog Gromit is simply more expressive than any other example of that style of animation. Gromit's facial reactions are funnier and more subtle than those of most human actors, and the dog also has more humanity than most people. Gromit, of course, must pull his master out of tight situations, big and small, again and again during the movie, which finds the duo working as garden pest exterminators whose services are in great demand because of their village's upcoming vegetable-growing contest. When a supersized rabbit threatens to destroy the veggies, the contest and Wallace and Gromit's reputation, the two (well, Gromit mostly) must save the day. Like Park's 1990s shorts, the movie is smart and playful, and the influx

Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham Carter voice two-thirds of the love triangle in Tim Burton's *Corpse Bride*.

celebrity voice actors (Helena Bonham Carter, ıph Fiennes) doesn't spoil things a bit. In fact, those ɔ are very funny as two posh aristocrats. (Opens t. 7 at Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

ıe Wedding Crashers ★★★

ven Wilson and Vince Vaughn have supplied re onscreen laughs than just about anybody else r the last decade, so it's great to see Wilson's sly drawling and Vaughn's motor-mouthed ranting together. They play the title characters, whose social life is built around ingratiating their way into nuptials, being the life of the party and seducing high-on-love female wedding guests. The montage of them doing just that is hilarious, though the plot does morph into more of a *Meet the Parents*–style story than expected. The two buddies fall in with an influential Beltway family so that Wilson's character can pursue one daughter (Rachel McAdams), leaving Vaughn's to reluctantly come along and fight off another (Isla Fisher). But the gags are usually good, the cast funny (even Jane Seymour) and the carefree charm of its stars carries over to the entire movie. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Special Events

Chlotrudis Short Film Festival

Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Oct. 3, 7:30 pm. $25. The Cholotrudis Society presents its sixth annual short film festival featuring animated films, documentaries and narrative shorts from around the world.

New England Student Film & Video Festival

Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Oct. 11, 7 pm. A new program presents short films produced by New England college students to be judged by professionals.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BRATTLE THEATRE

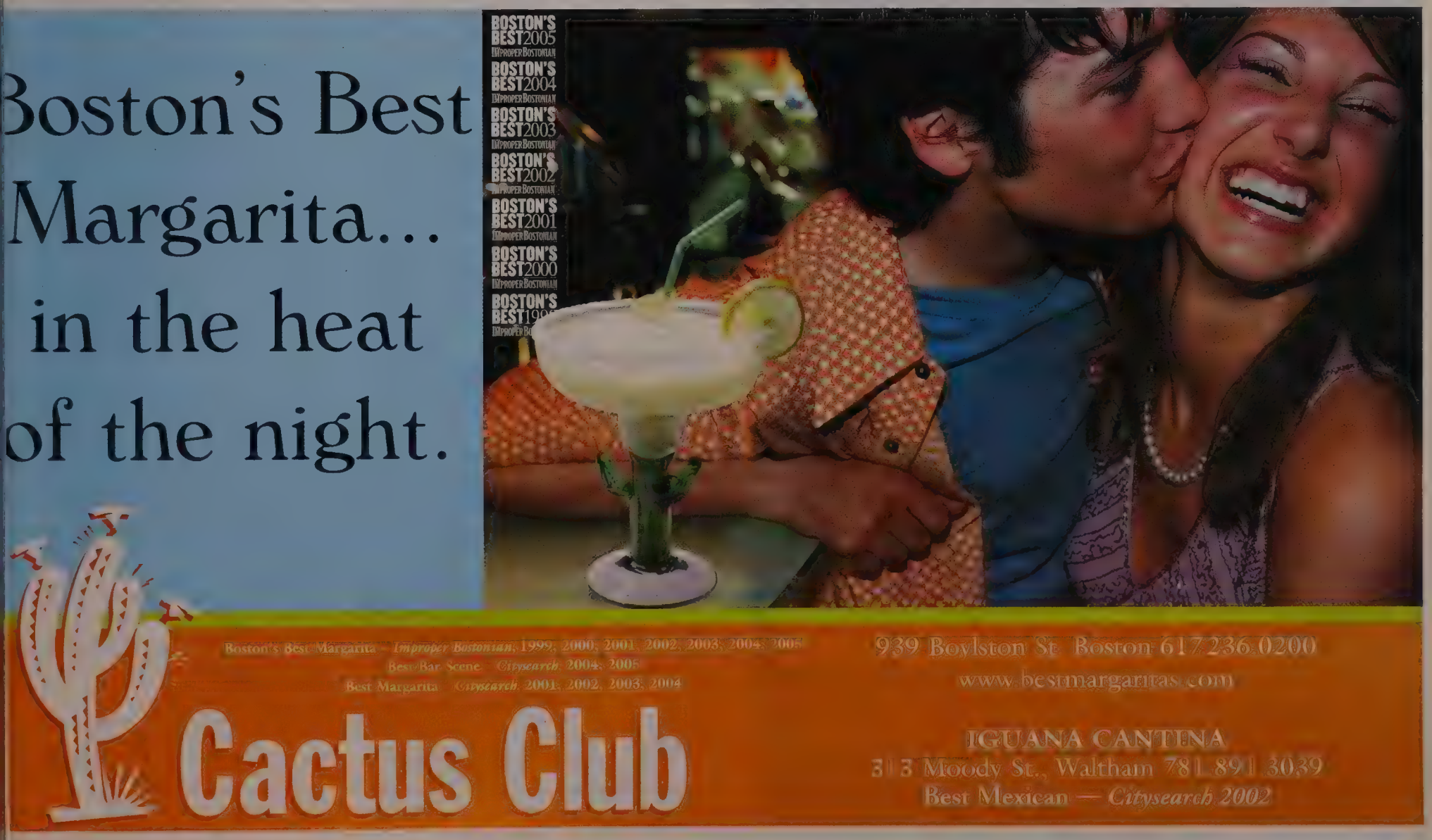
•Oct. 7-9, 5 pm, 7:30 pm, 10 pm. **Sud Pralad** *(Tropical Malady) 2004.* Apichatpong Weerasethakul directs this romance between a soldier and a country boy based on a Thai folk legend.

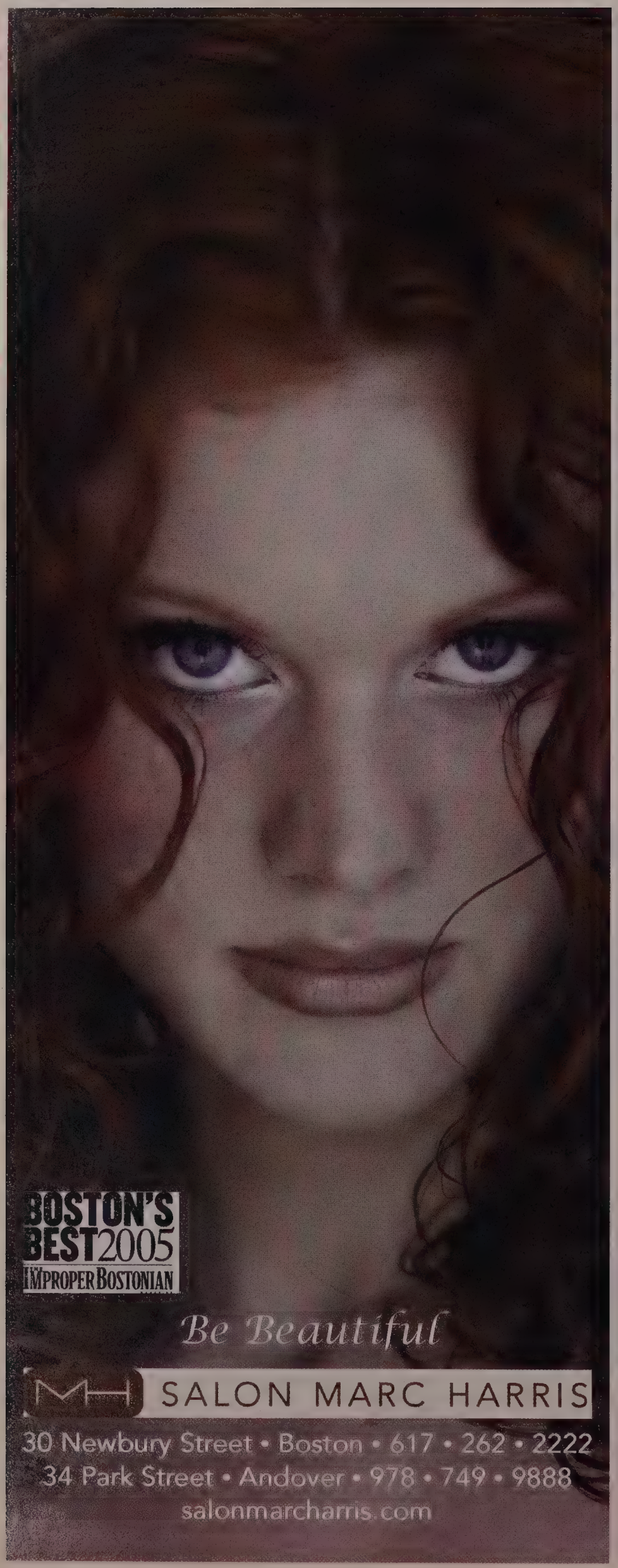
Greta Garbo: A Centennial Tribute

•Oct. 3, 7:30 pm; Oct. 4, 7:30 pm. **Anna Christie** *1930.* Clarence Brown directs this story of an old sailor who reconnects with his daughter after sending her to live on land 15 years earlier. •Oct. 3, 5:30 pm; Oct. 4, 5:30 pm, 9:30 pm. **Camille** *1936.* George Cukor directs this story of a Parisian courtesan who sacrifices her dreams so her lover can keep his place in society.

•Oct. 5, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm. **As You Desire Me** *1932.* George Fitzmaurice directs the story of a cabaret singer who suffers from amnesia.

•Oct. 10, 3:30 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm. **Anna Karenina** *1935.* Clarence Brown directs this story





Damian Lewis plays the troubled protagonist in Lodge Kerrigan's *Keane*.

about the wife of a diplomat who falls in love with a pre-Revolution Russian soldier.

•Oct. 11, 7:30 pm. **Ninotchka** *1939*. Ernst Lubitsch directs the story of a group of Russian communists who protest against Parisian capitalism. Double feature. 9:45 pm. **Grand Hotel** *1932*. Edmund Goulding directs a story about five guests at a Belgian hotel who meet and share their struggles with finances, health, and social standing.

Mutant Action: Films of Alex de la Iglesia

•Sept. 30, 7:30 pm. **El Crimen Ferpecto** *(Ferpect Crime) 2004*. Alex de la Iglesia directs this comedy about an ambitious department store clerk who aspires to be the floor manager by any means necessary.

•Sept. 30, 5:30 pm, 9:45 pm. **Acción Mutante** *(Mutant Action) 1993*. A terrorist group of mutants kidnap the daughter of a wealthy businessman. Alex de la Iglesia directs.

•Oct. 1, 2:45 pm, 7:30 pm. **La Comunidad** *(The Community) 2000*. Alex de la Iglesia directs the story of a real estate agent who finds 300 million pesetas in a dead client's home. Double feature. 5 pm, 9:45 pm. **800 Balas** *(800 Bullets) 2002*. Alex de la Iglesia directs the story of a movie stuntman and his colleagues who are reduced to performing stunt shows for small audiences.

•Oct. 2, 3 pm, 7:30 pm. **El Día de la Bestia** *(Day of the Beast) 1995*. Alex de la Iglesia directs the story of a priest who finds that the anti-Christ is going to be born on Christmas Day in Madrid. Double feature. 5 pm, 9:45 pm. **Perdita Durango** *(Dance with the Devil) 1997*. Two lovers kidnap a young couple to make a human sacrifice for their demonic religion. Alex de la Iglesia directs.

Recent Raves!

•Sept. 28, 8 pm, 10 pm. **Murderball** *2005*. Henry Alex Rubin and Dana Adam Shapiro direct this story about a full-contact sport whose players compete in wheelchairs.

Special Features

•Oct. 6, 7:15 pm. **The Straight Story** *1999*. David Lynch. A man drives his tractor across a state in order to get to his sick brother. Double feature. 5:15 pm, 9:45 pm. **Smoke Signals** *1998*. A poor young man hits the road with a nerdy childhood friend.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

•Sept. 30. **Occupation Dreamland** *2005*. Directors Ian Olds and Garrett Scott give us a glimpse into the lives of an American squad deployed in Falluja, Iraq, in this documentary that takes place during the winter of 2004.

Midnight at the Coolidge

•Sept. 30, 12 am. **Can Que** *(Crippled Avengers) 1978*. Cheh Chang directs this kung-fu film in which a group of physically and mentally crippled warriors fight an evil warlord.

•Oct. 1, 12 am. **Jin Bei Tong Id** *(Kid with the Golden Arm) 1979*. Cheh Chang directs. A gang focuses on stealing a cache of gold, but swordmaster Li, Long Axe and Short Axe are determined to stop them.

•Oct. 7, 12am. **Thrilling Bloody Sword** *198(* Leung Chung directs this bizarre film with chara(ters ranging from a baby from outer space to golden warrior .

•Oct. 8, 12 am. **Monkey War: New Pilgrims t the West** *1985*. The Monkey King and his com panion travel to the West in a journey full of mor sters and kung-fu acrobatics. Ling Chang an Leung Chung direct.

The Muddy River Environmental Filr Series

•Sept. 28, 7 pm, 9:30 pm. **The End of Subur bia** *2004*. This film looks at life in Nort American suburbia after WWII. Greg Green directs.

•Sept. 29, 6 pm. **Pale Male** *2002*. A red-taile hawk takes up residence in the middle of Ne York City. Frederic Lilien directs. Double fea ture. **More Than Flowers** *2001*. This docu mentary traces the reemergence of communit gardens starting in the 1970s. Laura Beer di rects. 8 pm. **Gotham Fish Tales** *2003*. Ne York City fishermen reveal the vibrant aquati life in the city's harbors and bays. Robert Maas directs. 9:30 pm. **Chain** *2004*. This film ad dresses the decline of individualism in moder culture through the perspectives of a drifte and a businessperson. Jem Cohen directs.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Harvard LBGT Film Series

•Oct. 5, 9 pm. **Paris Is Burning** *1990*. Analyzing th gay culture among black and Latino men in 198(Harlem, this documentary uses footage of "ball" com petitions as well as interviews with participants. Jen nie Livingston directs.

•Oct. 5, 9 pm. **Tongues Untied** *1990*. Marlon Rigg directs this documentary addressing the inheren troubles in being both gay and black.

•Oct. 7, 9 pm. **Meshi** *(Repast) 1951*. Mikio Narus directs this story about a Japanese couple whos marriage begins to unravel after their niece come for a visit.

•Oct. 8, 7 pm. **Ukigumo** *(Floating Clouds) 195(* Mikio Naruse directs this story about a youn woman who pursues a married man tired of living 9:15 pm. **Inazuma** *(Lightning) 1952*. Turmoil inspires child to sever her relationship with her family. Miki Naruse directs.

•Oct. 9, 7 pm. **Nagareru** *(Flowing) 1956*. After en countering financial troubles, a geisha house is force to close, to the dismay of its residents. Mikio Narus directs. 9 pm. **Yama no oto** *(Sound of the Mountain 1954*. Mikio Naruse directs this story about a wife c a businessman struggling with her own desperat loneliness.

•Oct. 10, 7 pm. **Horoki** *(A Wanderer's Notebook 1962*. Mikio Naruse directs this tale of the turbulen relationships experienced by a young writer on he way to success. 9:15 pm. **Midareru** *(Yearning) 1964* Mikio Naruse directs this film about a war widov who struggles to support her family while bigger su permarkets take business from her small store.

Oct. 11, 7 pm. **High Treason** *1928*. A group of female workers organize to prevent conflict from escaling after a border dispute between two opposing nations. Maurice Elvey directs.

The Trenches: Filming World War I
Oct. 11, 9 pm. **Hell's Angels** *1930*. Howard Hughes directs an epic centered on two brothers and their relationship with a young woman during WWI.

No Human: The Films of Louis Malle
Sept. 28, 9 pm. **Fatale** *(Damage) 1992*. A member of Parliament falls passionately in love with his son's fiancée in Louis Malle's film, starring Jeremy Irons and Juliette Binoche.
Oct. 3, 9:15 pm. **Pretty Baby** *1978*. Set in the 1917 red light district of New Orleans, this film follows a prostitute and her 12-year-old daughter, played by Brooke Shields. Louis Malle directs.
Oct. 4, 6:30 pm. **L-Inhumaine** *(The Inhuman Woman) 1924*. A singer, poisoned by an angered lover, is revived by a scientist. Marcel L'Herbier directs. 9 pm. **Atlantic City** *1980*. A small-time gangster gets involved with a woman training to be a croupier in Atlantic City. Susan Sarandon and Burt Lancaster star and Louis Malle directs.
Oct. 5, 7 pm. **Sunrise** *1927*. A streetcar journey reveals the juxtaposition of a quiet village and a bustling city. F.W. Murnau directs.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
Brazilian Cinema
Oct. 6, 6 pm; Oct. 8, 1 pm, 5:45 pm; Oct. 7, 5:45 pm. **Soy Cuba, O Mamute Siberiano** *(I Am Cuba, the Siberian Mammoth) 2004*. Vicente Ferraz documents the making of Mikhail Kalotosov's masterpiece *I Am Cuba*.
Classic Russian Cinema
Oct. 6, 7:45 pm; Oct. 8, 3 pm, 7:30 pm; Oct. 7, 5:30 pm. **I Am Cuba** *1964*. Mikhail Kalatosov directs this film that shows the poverty and oppression in Cuba immediately after the Cuban Missile Crisis.
Engagements
Sept. 30, 7:45 pm; Oct. 1, 2 pm; Oct. 2, 1 pm; Oct. 6, 4 pm. **Side Effects** *2005*. Kathleen Slattery-Moschkau directs the story of a relationship between a woman who has sold pharmaceuticals for the past 10 years and a man who convinces her to leave her job.
The Films of Mikio Naruse
Sept. 28, 5:45 pm. **Onna ga Kaidan o Noboru Toki** *(When a Woman Ascends the Stairs) 1960*. Mikio Naruse directs this film about a childless widow who works in Tokyo's Ginza nightclub district.
Sept. 30, 5:45 pm. **Midareru** *(Yearning) 1964*. Mikio Naruse directs this story about a war widow who struggles to support her family while bigger supermarkets take business from her small store.
Oct. 1, 10:30 am. **Yama No Oto** *(Sound of the Mountain) 1954*. Mikio Naruse directs this story about a wife of a businessman struggling with her own desperate loneliness.
Oct. 1, 12:15 pm. **Yogoto No Yume** *(Every Night Dreams) 1933*. Mikio Naruse directs this silent film about a hostess who works to support her young son after being abandoned by her husband. Double feature. **Koshiben Ganbare** *(Little Man, Do Your Best) 1931*. Mikio Naruse directs this silent film about an unsuccessful insurance agent who cannot provide for his family. Both films will be accompanied by live music by Bob Winter.
Oct. 2, 11 am. **Meshi** *(Repast) 1951*. Mikio Naruse directs this story about a Japanese couple whose marriage begins to unravel after their niece comes to visit.
Oct. 6, 12:30 pm. **Ukigumo** *(Floating Clouds) 1955*. Mikio Naruse directs this story about a young woman who pursues a married man tired of living.
Oct. 8, 10:30 am. **Iwashigumo** *(Summer Clouds) 1958*. Mikio Naruse directs this story about the relationship between a lonely war widow and a reporter.
Oct. 9, 10:30 am. **Hataraku ikka** *(The Whole Family Works) 1939*. Mikio Naruse directs this story that follows a poverty-stricken family through their everyday ordeals.
New England Film Artists Presents
Sept. 28, 8 pm. **Mutual Appreciation** *2005*. Andrew Bujalski directs this story about a musician who leaves New York to search for a band.
Starring Daniel Brühl
Oct. 1, 4:15 pm; Oct. 5, 6 pm. **Love in Thoughts** *2004*. Achim von Borries directs this story about two best friends who spend a weekend at a summer house and get carried away with alcohol, drugs and sex.
Oct. 2, 3 pm. **Vaya con Dios** *2002*. Zoltan Spiranelli directs the story of three monks forced into the real world after their monastery goes bankrupt.
Oct. 5, 7:45 pm. **The Edukators** *2004*. Hans Weingartner directs this story about three creative activists who conduct nonviolent protests.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theatre
- **Antarctica**. This film takes you on an adventure through Antarctica's glacial caverns, jagged peaks and icy terrain. Through Jan. 1, 2006.
- **Fighter Pilot: Operation Red Flag**. Stephen Low follows F-15 Eagle pilot John Stratton as he trains in the desert of Nevada before being sent into combat. Through Jan. 31, 2006.
- **Mars 3D**. Explore the landscape and learn some of the history of Earth's closest neighbor. Through Feb. 28, 2006.
- **Yellowstone**. An adventure through the United States' first national park shows you magnificent landscapes and geothermal wonders. Through Oct. 26.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theater
- **Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3D.** This film presents previously unseen footage and photographs from NASA to show the moon from the perspective of the Apollo astronauts. Through Nov. 13.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON
Regent Theatre
7 Medford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON
Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-499-1996). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St. (617-876-6060).

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

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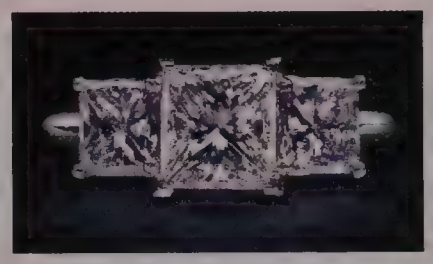

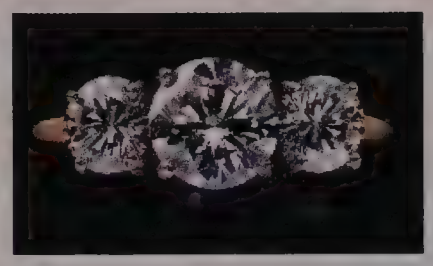

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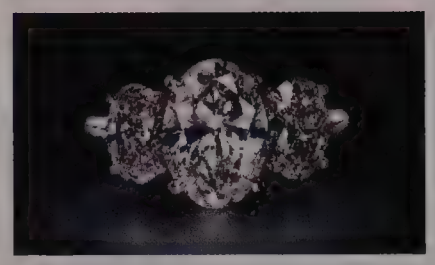

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Reverberations

My Morning Jacket shakes up its sound to scale new heights.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

My Morning Jacket is hard to pin down. Like its hometown of Louisville, Ky., the quintet floats between a Northern and Southern identity. Hard rock, psychedelia, folk, blues and country all lace the band's sound without defining it.

My Morning Jacket has a sound to be reckoned with.

"If there's anything I can say about Louisville, it's beautifully undefined, and I like to think that seeps into our music," says drummer Patrick Hallahan, whose group plays Avalon October 15. "We're lucky enough to live in a pretty liberal-thinking town in a Southern state. It's an urban setting, but you can drive 30 minutes in any direction and be in the middle of nowhere…It's a really cool pool of creative thought and natural beauty."

Beauty and creativity continue to pulse through My Morning Jacket's fourth album, Z, out October. 4. A worthy successor to 2003's transcendent *It Still Moves*, it's more consistent and eclectic as well.

Singer-songwriter Jim James had been grooving on classic soul records before the sessions, an influence that sat well with his bandmates. "We all have this deep love for rhythmic music that makes bodies move," says Hallahan, who has known James since the fourth grade, when they bonded over albums by Led Zeppelin, AC/DC and the Beatles.

My Morning Jacket also floats a catchy reggae rhythm in the new disc's "Off the Record" before slipping into a dreamy coda with backward vocals. And the loopy circus waltz "Into the Woods" reminds listeners that cartoons and the Muppets provided another inspiration for the boyhood friends, now in their late 20s. "To create that musically would be the ultimate goal," says Hallahan, "to create this unseen universe."

Not that Z is merely more eccentric. Songs like "Gideon" and "Dondante" retain the atmospheric majesty of *It Still Moves*, down to the reverb on James' ghostly vocals, which invite comparisons to Neil Young, while the music soars closer to the experimental roots-rock of Wilco.

"Reverb is one of the things that makes the human voice sound like it's out of this world," says Hallahan, citing Roy Orbison and John Lennon among favorite artists whose records were graced by that age-old effect. "That's why people sing in the shower, because it sounds so surreal."

For Z, My Morning Jacket hired English studio veteran John Leckie, who engineered albums for Lennon and Pink Floyd and produced the Stone Roses and Radiohead, to co-produce the disc with James. Hallahan says Leckie shared their view of reverb as a "sixth band member."

"The room we were working in had a great natural sound to it as well," Hallahan says of upstate New York's Allaire Studios. "It was a wooden ballroom with 65-foot cathedral ceilings, so that gave us some [reverb]. But Jim and John Leckie also had fun. On 'Off the Record,' I believe the reverb on Jim's voice is usually used on snare drums. They were playing with different kinds of reverb, stuff that sounded good without the drenching grain-silo effect."

Yes, the band actually used grain silos as reverb chambers for Jim's vocals on *It Still Moves*, recorded on a family farm of co-founding guitarist Johnny Quaid, who left the group with keyboardist Danny Cash shortly after the CD's release.

"John grew up on a farm with tons of space and quiet time, and touring is definitely not that, and Danny was much more of a homebody," Hallahan says. "We were touring insanely, to the point that all of us had to take a breath. It was hard to see them go, but it wasn't a surprise either. It was so visible that they were just miserable."

The band found replacements in Indiana native Carl Broemel, who spins guitar leads with James, and Ohio keyboardist Bo Koster, who fills out the pocket with Hallahan and bassist Two-Tone Tommy. The new members hit the road hard and make their recording debut on Z with organic synchronicity.

"Dear friends recommended these guys and they were the first ones we auditioned—it was scary how quickly the transition happened," Hallahan says from his Louisville apartment. "Amazingly enough, we found two guys who were from the same region. It was apparent from when they walked into the room that we were going to get along."

Now they're back on tour, where My Morning Jacket rocks harder than on disc, and the majority of the players swing their long hair in their best impression of a metal band.

"I want to see a band that plays with a whole different attack live," Hallahan says. "As humid as it's been, I've contemplated shaving my hair a thousand times and then I say, 'You love to play with long hair. Don't do it.' It really puts you in a zone. It's almost like a blindfold that moves. You don't think about anything but what you're doing, and I play with my eyes closed most of the time." iB

My Morning Jacket
plays Avalon Oct. 15.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by mail to music@improper.com. Include dates, tim prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadlin four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from ferent sources. Although we make every effort to prov accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ah to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Beck Sept. 29, Bank of America Pavilion (617-93 2000).
Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, Mark Garden Sept. 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800).
Def Leppard/Bryan Adams Oct. 11, Agganis Are (617-931-2000).
David Gray Oct. 8, Agganis Arena (617-931-200
Jethro Tull Oct. 6, Lowell Memorial Auditoriu (617-931-2000).
Los Lonely Boys Sept. 30, Orpheum Theatre (61 931-2000).
John Mayer Oct. 11, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Jason Mraz Oct. 9, Orpheum Theatre (617-93 2000).
NEMO Music Festival Sept. 29-Oct. 2 (617-34 2899).
The Samples Sept. 28, The Attic (617-964-6684)
Ashlee Simpson Oct. 1, Avalon (617-262-2424).
Story of the Year Oct. 6, Avalon (617-931-2000)
Strung Out, Bane Oct. 7, Axis (617-262-2437).
Rob Thomas Oct. 11, Orpheum Theatre (617-93 2000).
U2 Oct. 3-4, TD Banknorth Garden (617-93 2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Abbey Lounge Bob Dylan Tribute Night: The Go shiites, Classic Ruins, the Irreverends, Bad Sain Shaun Wolf Wortis, Lucky 57, the Electric Ci Max Heinegg, Leon Rich Band, 8 pm, 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe Nadine Chase, 8:30 pm, $7.
Asgard Ken Selcer Invitational Music Jam, cover.
The Attic The Samples, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm, no cov 21+.
Club Passim David Ross MacDonald, Paul Curre 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Henry Butler, Amadee Cantenell, 8: pm, $15.
Lizard Lounge The Residency, 7:30 pm, no cov Christian McNeil Band, 9:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Gret Luttrell, Blacksnake, 9 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Who.Is.Shandi, Jamie Trea well, Medicated Kisses, Secret Cock, 9 pm, $8, 18 Downstairs: Global Battle of the Bands, 9 pm, $10
Milky Way Moe Tak'n Band Ensemble, 9 pm, cover.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Get Smart, $5.
Paradise Rock Club Black Rebel Motorcycle Clu Mark Gardener, 7 pm, $17, 18+.
PA's Katrina and Fire Victims Benefit, 9 pm, $1 21 +.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park Karaoke, 10 pm, $3.
Regattabar Ran Blake and Friends, 7:30, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Downstairs: Fernando Huer Quartet, 9:30 pm, $10; Upstairs: Moves n' Vibe 8:30 pm, $10-$12.
Scullers Jazz Club Sara Gazarek, 8 pm, $15-$55.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, cover, 21+.
Toad Jessica Yoakum, 7pm-9pm, no cover; Ariel Silver Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cov
T.T. the Bear's Place Heartless Bastards, Cag Heat, Bludlows, 9 pm, $9.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Bri Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Christopher Schaub, 7pm, $ Gill's Wednesday Night Jam, 10 pm, $5.

Beck plays Sept. 29 at the Bank of America Pavilion.

uZu Bradley Hyland.
es Zygomates Evan Gutierrez Salsa Band, 8 pm, cover.

HURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

bbey Lounge Silent Service, 9 pm; Tryst, 9:45 pm; anketeer, 10:45 pm; Lady of Spain, 11:45 pm.
cton Jazz Cafe BJ Magoon and Friends, 8:30 pm,
l Asia Café NEMO ASCAP Showcase: Margot d the Nuclear So & So's, Murdocks, Rebekah Jorn, Marc Pinansky, Kelly Buchanan, 8 pm.
sgard Steve Giannaros Quartet, no cover.
he Attic The Samples, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
venue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no ver.
ank of America Pavilion Beck, 7:30 pm, $40.
he Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
ob the Chef's Joe Barga, 7:30 pm.
ravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
reezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
ristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6 pm, no cover.
he Burren Swerve, 10 pm.
ambridge Elks Lodge Upstairs: NEMO Showcase aturing Hayes Carll, Jon Randall, Jimmy Ryan and ayride!, the Heygoods, Kamikaze Hearts, Kirsten nes, 8 pm; Downstairs: Amelia White, Tom oznowski, Eilen Jewell Band, 9 pm, $12, 21+.
lub Passim The Kennedys, 8 pm, $12; members, 0.
ick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm, no cover.
elt NEMO Kick Off Party featuring Cyanide Valenne, the Vacation, the Waking Eyes, ZOX, 5:30 pm, , 21+.
reat Scott Protokoll, Asobi Seksu, Mommy and addy, Mixel Pixel, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
reen Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro op High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
arpers Ferry NEMO Showcase featuring Savin I, Minamina Goodsong, Sucka Brown, the Eclec- Collective, Ordinary K, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
ohnny D's Red Rooster, Charlotte Kendrick, 9 pm, .
ennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no ver.
irkland Cafe The Freeways, Honey Deluxe, Yours uly, BJ Jones, 8 pm, $5.
ucky's Lounge Alex Macdougall, 9:30 pm.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: NEMO Showcase featuring Black Mountain, Blood Meridian, Ladyhawk, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Electric 6, Outrageous Cherry, Diamond Nights, Crosstide, $12, 18+; Corner: the Beauvilles, Taylor Hollingsworth and Strange Boys, 10:45.
Milky Way Aquanet, 9 pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Colony Underground, J-Rize, Swann Notty, $8.
Paradise Rock Club Rock Club: NEMO Showcase featuring Stephen Kellogg & the Sixers, the Balls, 7 pm, $15, 18+; Lounge: III Kings, Trumystic, Treologic, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
PA's B for Bronosaurus, Hockey Island, Spoilsport, Sam Rosen, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Regattabar Jeremy Pelt, 7:30 pm, $16.
River Gods In One Ear, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Downstairs: Amphis Baena, 9:30 pm, $7; Upstairs: Temproada Latina, 8:30 pm, $8-$12.
Scullers Jazz Club Acoustic Alchemy, 8 pm, 10 pm, $22-$62.
Somerville Theatre Ed Viesturs Endeavor 8k, 8 pm, $15.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place NEMO Showcase: Robbers on High Street, King of France, Jonny Lives, the Collisions, 9 pm, $10-$12.
The Western Front Soulfire, 9 pm, $3.
Zeitgeist Gallery Night of the Living Hammond B3's, 8 pm, $7.
ZuZu Milo Jones, Chris Warren.
Les Zygomates April Hall Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Abbey Lounge NEMO Showcase: Cocked & Loaded, Hot Young Priest, Cheerleader 666, the Trews, the Bismark, 21+; Acoustic Stage: Hilken Mancini, Jordan Page, Tim Catz, Dave Unger, Patrick Dole, 7 pm, 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe Harvey Diamond, Strings, 9 pm, $10.

Mushroom Toastie Grilled Steak Tip Pizza New England Seafood Soup Fish & Chips

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ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Averi Nov. 12, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Tracy Chapman Oct. 18, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Death Cab for Cutie Oct. 17, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Franz Ferdinand Oct. 15, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Hanson Nov. 4, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Nine Inch Nails, Queens of the Stone Age Nov. 8, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Liz Phair Oct. 14, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Bonnie Raitt Oct. 23, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Rolling Stones Jan. 13, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Spoon Nov. 3, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Bruce Springsteen Oct. 28, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Gwen Stefani and the Black Eyed Peas Oct. 31, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Switchfoot Nov. 2, The Roxy (617-338-ROXY).
Susan Tedeschi Oct. 28, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Zox Oct. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).

All Asia Café NEMO Showcase: Knee Hi's, Fort Ancient, Brilliant Mistakes, Inevitable Breakups, the Bloodsugars, 8 pm.
Asgard Scott Damgaard Duo, no cover.
Avenue One Ronan Portley, 5 pm, no cover.
Berklee Performance Center Porcupine Tree, Robert Fripp, 8 pm, $30.50.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Bobby Folkes, 9:30 pm; Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren NEMO Showcase: Fair Verona, the Bleedin Bleedins, Valarie Francis, the Revelles, 9 pm, 21+.
Cambridge Elks Lodge Upstairs: NEMO Americana Showcase featuring the Radio Kings, Cindy Bullens, Dennis Brennan, the Bees Knees, Sarah Borges, John Cates, the Van Gogh Brothers, Christian McNeill, Todd Thibaud, Hot Day at the Zoo, the Jody Grind, 6:55 pm; Downstairs: David Johnston, Cry Mercy, Peter C Johnson, Tina Dico, Meika Pauley, Adriano Schiavo, Andy Zipf, Isaac, Thorry Koren, 6 pm, $12, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook, the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Center for the Arts Indoor Acoustic Stage: NEMO Showcase featuring Chad Perrone, David Ross McDonald, Jenifer Greer Trio, Ryanhood, Rich Ortiz, Nadine Goeliner, Anna Neale, Casey Desmond, 12 pm, no cover; Outdoor Plaza Stage: Christopher Jak, Julian Velard, Aderbat, Michelle Albano, Frank Smith, Debra Arlyn, Shelly Bhushan, the Loomers, 12 pm, no cover.
Club Passim NEMO Showcase: Jill Barber, capsela, Tret Fure, Melyssa Byrd, Tree By Leaf, 7 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Mutha's Mistake, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Grand Canal Swerve, 10 pm, $5, 21+
The Green Briar Random Axis, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop, no cover.
The Harp Animal House, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry NEMO Showcase: Plan B, Waltham, the Dents, Will Daily and the Rivals, Alternate Routes, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm, The Risk, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's NEMO Showcase: Parker House and Theory, Bebek, Speak Easy, 9:45 pm, $10, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Apple Betty, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge NEMO Showcase: Benzos, Aberdeen City, Dirty Things, Hot IQ's, Looker, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Lucky's Lounge Evan Goodrow Band, 10 pm.
Matt Murphy's NEMO Showcase: Public House, Toussaint, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: NEMO Fenway Recordings Sessions Showcase featuring Read Yellow, the Good North, Nine Black Alps, Unbusted, 8:30, $10, 18+; Downstairs: the Information, the Lot Six, Emergency Music, Eyes Like Knives, Monofog, Rene Heartfelt, 8:30, $10, 18+; Corner: ps, surprise special guest, Tim Williams, 10:45, no cover, 21+.
Midway Café Moonbox, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Milky Way Marinate, Tommee, Knife, 9 pm, $5.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5 pm, no cover; McTaggarts, 9 pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Andrea Gillis, Lorntell, the Irreverends, Choo Choo La Rouge, $6.
Orpheum Theatre NEMO Showcase: Los Lonely Boys, Los Amigos Invisibles, 7:30 pm, $29.50-$35.
Paddy O's Spike the Punch, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Main: NEMO Showcase featuring DeSol, Matt Mays & El Torpedo, Sam Bisbee, 8 pm, $10-$12, 18+; Front Room: NEMO Decent Xposure Showcase featuring Clarias, SYD, Speechwriters, Caroline Guide, Down Dexter, Easily Amused, 7 pm, $7, 18+.
Parris Last Man Standing, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Ara Vora, MOTH, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Phatt Boys Jah Spirit, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Take 6, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $37.
Ryles Jazz Club Downstairs: NEMO Showcase featuring Five O'Clock Shadow, 9 pm, $12; Upstairs: Gian Carlo Buscaglia, Balaton.
Sanders Theatre NEMO Showcase and CHAF Benefit: Ellis Paul, 8 pm, $25.
Scullers Jazz Club Acoustic Alchemy, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $22-$62.
Toad NEMO Showcase: The Picture Index, the Fine Lines, Camera, Woke Up in Vegas, M!stakes, 8:20 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place NEMO Lunch Records NY vs. Boston Showcase: The Bon Savants, the Pla Janes, Morning Theft, Passenger, 9:15 pm, $9.
The Western Front Lee Wilson, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Either/ Orchestra, 7 pm, $1 Benny Sharoni Jazz Quartet, 9:30 pm, $10.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, $3, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: NEMO Showcas Muck and the Mires, Furvis, Superlow, Teena Prayers and Rachael Cantu; Acoustic stage: T Segreto, Dylan in the Movies, Derek Schanche, P Aiken, 7 pm, 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe The Real Thing Trio, 9 pm, $10.
All Asia Café The Pink Slips, Irrational Fear, Gi Moon, Jodelle, the Inklings, 8 pm.
Asgard SunFive, no cover.
Avalon NEMO Showcase: Ashlee Simpson, Bar foot, 7 pm, $30.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Axis NEMO Showcase: Alien Ant Farm, Fro Satellite, April Sixth, the Rivalry, 6 pm, $12.
Berklee Performance Center Mariza, 8 pm, $2 $37.
Bill's Bar NEMO Showcase featuring Screams Erida, Haloburn, Black Star Morning, BASE2, U holy Mothers, 18+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Bobby Folkes, 9:30 pr Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bob's Southern Bistro Terry Gresham, 7:30 pm, $ $5.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Carim, 6 pm, no cover; B Duffy, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren NEMO Showcase: Twin Kranes, Dav Hopkins, the Urges, Steafan Hanvey, 9 pm, 21+.
Cambridge Elks Lodge Upstairs: NEMO Showca featuring Apollo 13, Army of Me, Hero, Patter Adelyn, As Fast As, Bandcamp, the Effects, Maki it Right, East 146, Disarm, Can't Face the Fallin Fenwick, Abernathy, 1 pm, $12, all ages.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook, the Thrillers, 9 pr $8, 21+.
Center for the Arts Indoor Acoustic Stage: NEM Showcase featuring Dylan Clark, Matt Bain, Ja Hansen, Matt Duke, Emily Zuzik, 12 pm, no cove

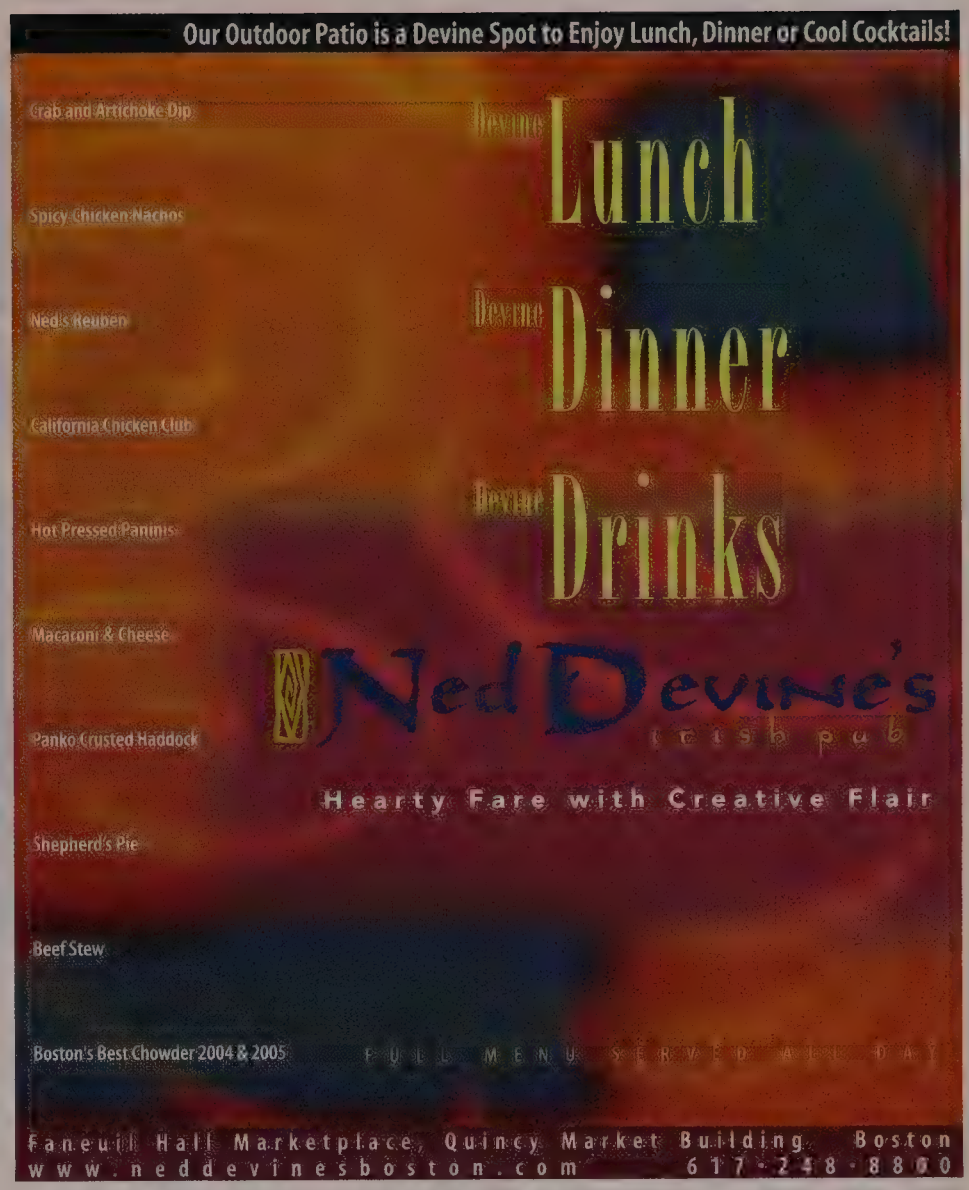
The Decemberists play Oct. 10 at Avalon.

tdoor Plaza Stage: Fluttr Effect, Toussaint, the eralds, Voicst, Audrey Ryan, Kelli Scarr, AM, 12 , no cover.
ub Passim NEMO Showcase: Maeve, Jason Myles ss, Alison Wood, Michelle Lewis, Kym Tuvin, phanie Dosen, 7 pm, $15.
ck's Last Resort Hypercane, 8:30 pm, no cover.
eat Scott The Beatings, Easy Action, Keys to the eets of Fear, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
e Harp Animal House, 10 pm, $10.
ernational Community Church (ICC) NEMO space.com: Foredoes Me Quiet, Heideroosjes, ry the Needle, Foreign Islands, Ketman, Knife ills, Icebird, the Sharking, Rebel Saints, Go Sta-n, Roue, 1 pm, $12.
nny D's The Blizzard of 78, Tom Glynn, Harriet eet, 9:45 pm, $10, 21+.
rkland Café Plumerai, Jumblies, Beast, Scotch cks, 8:30 pm, $5.
ard Lounge NEMO Donewaiting.com Showcase: ug Gillard, Dirty On Purpose, Miranda Sound, lebrity Pilots, Snowleopards, 9 pm, 21+.
tt Murphy's NEMO Showcase: Mewoskers, North Summer, Kate Chastain, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.
ddle East Upstairs: NEMO Showcase: EJ Labb, let Nine, the Milwaukees, Six Day Slide, 8 pm, 0, 18+; The Posies, Oranger, Deathray Davies, 2-$15, 18+; Corner: Kevin Hearn, Thin Buckle, n McCloskey, Buddy, 10:45 pm, no cover, 21+.
ddlesex Lounge NEMO Showcase: Bloodwire, gery, 6:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
lky Way Mangos and Bachata, 9 pm, 21+, women e before 10:30 pm; men, $10.
k Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:15 pm, no ver.
de Magoun's Saloon Greg Cuttrell, 10 pm, no ver, 21+.
radise Rock Club Main: NEMO Showcase featur- Aqualung, Tracy Bonham, The Perishers, 8 pm, 2-$14, 18+; Front Room: Sweetfist, the Kin, dena Vox, Miggs, 9:40 pm, $7, 18+.
rris Last Man Standing, 9 pm, $5-$10.
's Kahoots, Make a Rising, Jeff Chasse, 9 pm, $7, +.
att Boys Random Play, 9:30, no cover..
gattabar Stacey Kent, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $25.
les Jazz Club Downstairs: Jon Hazilla Trio, Eula wrence, 9 pm, $10; Upstairs: Four on the Floor, 5 pm, $10.
merville Theatre The Bad Plus, 8 pm, $21-$27.
- na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5 pm; Overdrive, 10 , no cover, 21+.
ad NEMO Showcase: Sky Circuit, Danny Michel, addigan, Oktober People, 9:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
p of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, Maggie Gal-vay, 9 pm, no cover.

T.T. the Bear's Place NEMO Showcase: Rocketscience, Robby Roadsteamer, Endway, My Little Radio, 9 pm, $9.
Zeitgeist Gallery Joe Maneri and Company, 7 pm, $10; Kabarett 16-Bit, 9:30 pm, $6.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

Acton Jazz Cafe Mark Shilansky, 4 pm, $5; Nando Michelin and S.U.R., 7:30 pm, $7.
Avalon NEMO Showcase: Joss Stone, 7 pm, $28.50.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Bobby Folkes, 9:30 pm; Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bob's Southern Bistro Paulo Danay, 10 am, $3-$5.
Bravo at the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11 am, no cover; Alfredo Cardim, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Singer Songwriter Series: Danielle, 8 pm.
Club Passim Tom Prasado-Rao, Cary Cooper, Jennifer Kimbal, Tret Frue, Holly Figeroa, Eric Schwartz, Steph Corby, 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Planeside, Fistagon, Mr. Ect, Stillfro, Captain Cutthroat, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Harvard Square Stage Main Stage: NEMO Showcase featuring Love is Laughter, Josh Radin, Grace Potter and the Nocturnals, Mittens, Harry and the Potters, 12 pm, no cover; Second Stage: Bourbon Princess, Andromeda, Kate Earl, Splendid Nobodies, One Eyed Stanley and Sarah Fimm, 12 pm, free; Third Stage: Meika Pauley, Tom Glynn, Ryan Fitzsimmons, Emilia Dahlin, 12 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Juliet Lloyd, 12 pm, no cover.
Lucky's Lounge The Al Vega Trio, Alex Macdougall, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Samba Lolo, 10 pm.
Milky Way Upstairs: Kidnapkin, Lucia Lie, Elizabeth Ziman, Via Audio, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Metric, the Most Serene Republic, the Lovely Feathers, 7 pm, $10-$12, 18+.
Phatt Boys Groove Authority, 12 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Patricia Adams, 10 am, no cover.
Somerville Theatre The John Butler Trio, 7:30 pm, $15.50
Symphony Hall Ravi Shankar, Anoushka Shankar and Friends, 7:30 pm, $30-$100.
Tír na nÓg Samba Lolo, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, noon, no cover; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place DataPro, Locks, Young Republic, 9:15 pm, $7.



Wally's Wally's Stepchildren 2, 9 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Nina Ott Trio, 9 pm, $7.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Second Cousin, Skinny Mike, Mitch, Ian Adams, 7 pm, 21+.
Avalon Built to Spill, Mike Johnson, 8 pm, $17.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Harp The Joshua Tree, 4 pm, $10.
Matt Murphy's State of the Art, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Damone, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Presidents of the United States of America, Twinemen, the Killer Abs, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Milky Way Nanci McDonald, 7 pm, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club Zap Mama, Platinum Pled Pipers, 8 pm, $20-$22, 18+.
PA's Cars Can Be Blue, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Regattabar JD and the Straight Shot, 7:30 pm, $10.
TD Bank North Garden U2, 7:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg Boston Horns.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Steven Spungin.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

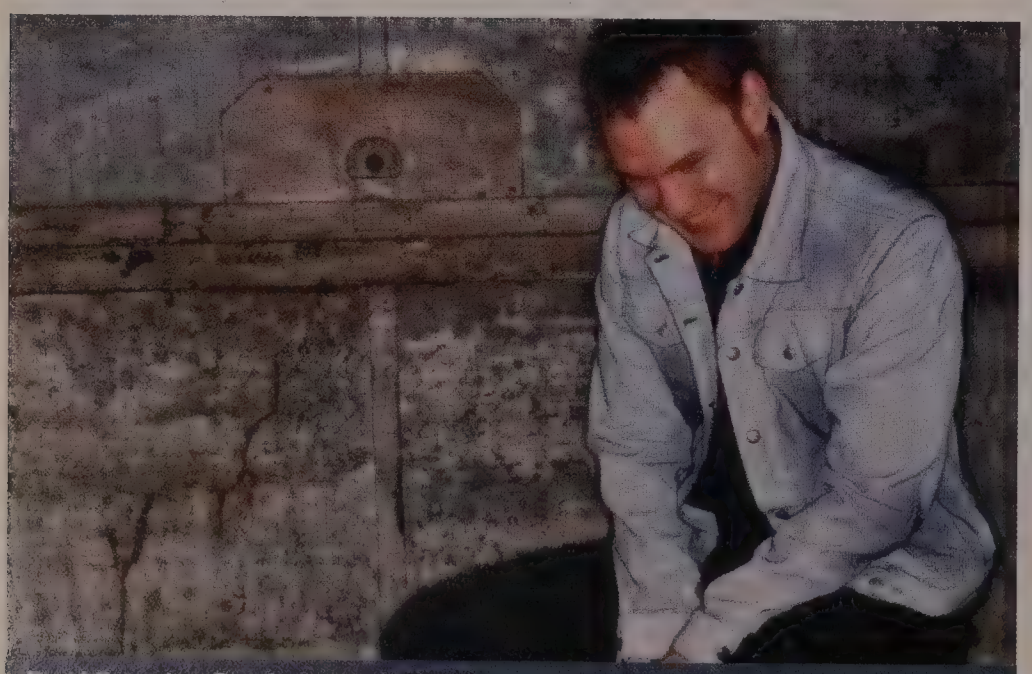
Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Mick Mondo, 9 pm; Monique Ortiz, 9:45 pm; Gato Malo, 10:45 pm.
Acton Jazz Cafe Jerry Bergonzi, Bruce Gertz, Gabriel Guerrero, 8:30 pm, $7.
Axis The Acceptance, the Receiving End of Sirens, Cartel, Augustana, 7 pm, $12.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 6 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Michael Penn, Rosie Thomas, 8 pm, $20, members $18.
Green Street Grill The Two-Timin' Three, Rockabilly Jazz From the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
The Harp The Joshua Tree, 4, $10.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, $4, 21+.
Johnny D's Casey Neill, Stoll Vaughan, 8:30 pm, $8, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Fly Upright Kite, Chris Pureka, Lovers, 9 pm, $10, 18+; Downstairs: Architecture In Helsinki, Dr. Dog, Aqueduct, 9 pm, $10-12, 18+.
Milky Way Nickel and Dime, Ricki McLean, 10 pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club Bob Mould Band, Copeland, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke, Dana Z, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar The Sofia Koutsovitis Group, 7:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston Horns Big Band, 8:30 pm, $6.
Scullers Jazz Club Cheryl Bentyne, 8 pm, $18-$58.
TD Bank North Garden U2, 7:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Cerulean, 9 pm, $6.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

Alien Ant Farm plays Oct. 1 at Axis.

Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Closer to Home, 9 pm; Uncle Billy's Smokehouse, 9:45 pm; the Fair Enough, 10:45 pm. Pub Stage: Lori Amey, 8 pm, 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe Ken Clark Organ Trio, 8:30 pm, $7.
Avalon Capleton, Military Man, Jah Thunder, the Prophecy Band, 8 pm, $20.25-$25, 18+.
Axis The Raveonettes, 8 pm, $12.
Bill's Bar The Big Wu, 9 pm, $10-$13, 18+.
Bob's Southern Bistro Frank Wilkins, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Bravo at the MFA Boston Village Gamelan, 7 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Rollins Ross, 7:30, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm.
Club Passim Michael Penn, Rosie Thomas, 8 pm, $20; members, $18.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Salem, 8:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: The Acro-bats, Artillery, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Horrorpops, Roger Miret & the Disasters, Left Alone, 7 pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way New Orleans Benefit with Nomadic, Soulkore, 9 pm, $15.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Orpheum Theatre Dead Can Dance, 8 pm, $35-$45.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Fooling April, Granian, Straight to Video, 8 pm, $6, 18+.



David Gray plays Oct. 8 at Agganis Arena.

PA's Nanc Mroczek PhD, Hidden Soul, DATAPro, 9:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Shivaree, 7:30 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Downstairs: Fernando Brandao Quartet, Ricardo Vogt, 9 pm, $10; Upstairs: Moves n' Vibes.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Back To Blonde, Dirty Ticket, 10 pm, $10.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Evan Gutierrez Salsa Band.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Benefit for Ellen Gifford Sheltering Home for Cats, Michele Michele, 9 pm; To Pay the Rent, 9:45 pm; the Stoves, 10:30 pm. Pub Stage: Duncan Wilder Johnson, 7:15 pm; Jeremy O'Neill and Allison Sigrist, 8:15 pm, 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe BJ Magoon and Friends, 8:30 pm, $5.
Asgard The Steve Giannaros Quartet, no cover.
Avalon Story of the Year, Funeral for a Friend, Anberlin, He is Legend, 5:30 pm, $17.25.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Bob's Southern Bistro The ZMQ, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Jeff Black, Ember Swift, 8 pm, $12, members $10.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Felt Jada, $5, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry The Dave Matthews Tribute Band, Jen Kearney, the Lost Onion Band, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Revolutionary Snake Ensemble, Made in the Shade, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Plugs, Ben Wilmott, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Lowell Memorial Auditorium Jethro Tull, 7:30 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Alex Macdougall, 9:30 pm.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Called and Careless, Seven, Stereoside, Folkcore, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30, no cover.
Orpheum Theatre Nickel Creek, 7:30 pm, $25.
Paradise Rock Club The Perceptionists, Lyrics Born, Pigeon John, 9 pm, $15-$17, 18+.
PA's Headband, Frank Smith, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Regattabar John Scofield Plays the Music of Ray Charles, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $28.
Ryles Jazz Club Downstairs: Greg Hopkins Quint 9 pm, $10; Upstairs: Temporada Latina.
Scullers Jazz Club Ellis Marsalis, 8 pm, $28-$68.
Somerville Theatre Daniel Lanois, Tortoise, 8 p $20-$24.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9:30 pm, cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Craig Robertson & Sob S ters, AdFrank, Rick Russo, Melvern Taylor, Da Sweet & Marshall Racowsky, Mark Occhionero, pm, $14.
Les Zygomates Ziaf.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Wrong Reaso 9:45 pm; Triple Thick, 10:45 pm. Pub Stage: Cas Abrams, 8 pm, 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe Maggie Green Jazz Group, 9 p $10.
Asgard The Scott Damgaard Duo, no cover.
Avenue One Ronan Portley, 5 pm, no cover.
Axis Strung Out, Bane, Comeback Kid, the Reaso 5:30 pm, $13.
Bob's Southern Bistro Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm, $3-$5
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Mary Gauthier, 8 pm, $15; member $13.
The Harp Negative Space, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Lotus, Geminatrix, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Johnny D's Tarbox Ramblers, 9:45 pm, $10, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Hans Solos, Alan Arena Blues Pr ject, Geezer, Mickey Blies Organ Combo, $5.
Matt Murphy's Vibewise, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Suspect Device, Ike Reilly A sassination, the Peasants, the Glow, 9 pm, $10, 18- Downstairs: The Adam Ezra Group, Kenin, 9 p $12-$15, 18+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:15 pm, n cover.
Orpheum Theatre Stephen Lynch, 8 pm, $2 $29.50.
Parris The Loop, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Paradise Rock Club Stellastarr*, Giant Drag, 9 p $15, 18+; Lounge: Leslie Helpert, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Phatt Boys Jo Jo Starr and the Rhythm Makers, 9:3 no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Downstairs: Chick Corea Tribut Band, 9 pm, $10. Upstairs: Aguida.
Sanders Theatre The Whirling Dervishes of Istan bul, 8 pm, $20-$37.
Scullers Jazz Club Ellis Marsalis, 8 pm, 10:30 p $28-$68.
Slosberg Recital Hall Bob Nieske's Big Wolf Band, pm, $20, $10 students and seniors.
Somerville Theatre Amos Lee, 7:30 pm, $16.50.
Tír na nÓg Los Diablos, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

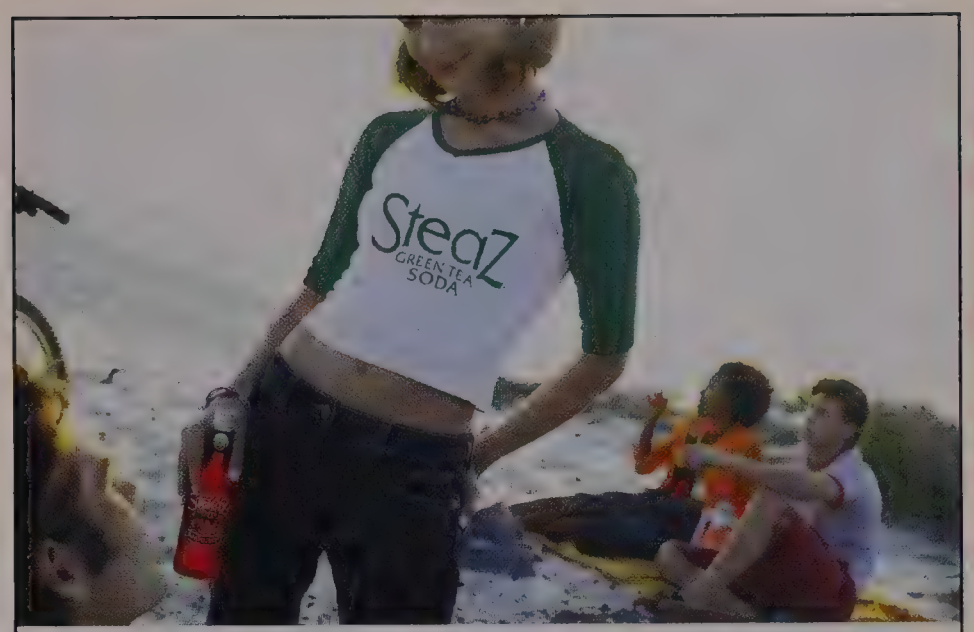
of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no
er.
the Bear's Place Porsches on the Autobahn,
nide Valentine, Westward Trail, 9 pm, $9.
Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio.

ATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

bey Lounge Main Stage: The Touchers, 9 pm; lfriend 2000, 9:45 pm; Wendi Farren, 10:45 pm; nyred, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Josh Megyesy, 7 pm; dwest Dilemma, 8 pm, 21+.
con Jazz Cafe Julien Kasper Band, 9 pm, $10.
ganis Arena David Gray, 7:30 pm, $29.50-$40.
gard Mike Tarara, no cover.
alon Busta Rhymes, Miri Ben-Ari, All Mighty nators, 6 pm, $15, 18+.
enue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
o's Southern Bistro BlackSole, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
stol Lounge Alexei Tsiganov, 6 pm, no cover.
e Burren Fat Tuesday.
ntab Lounge Little Joe Cook, the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
b Passim Liam O'Maonlai, 8 pm, $20; members, .
k's Last Resort Jennerators, 8:30 pm, no cover.
eat Scott United State of Electronica, Kandy nales, U.V. Protection, 9 pm, $9, 21+.
e Harp The Loop, 10 pm, $10.
rpers Ferry Vinyl, 8 pm, $8, 21+.
nny D's The Commons, Green Inside, 9:45 pm, 21+.
kland Café Dig in the Dirt, Scrum.
tt Murphy's Arcoda, 10 pm, no cover.
ddle East Upstairs: The Reducers, AM Stereo, lden West Motor Lodge, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Down-irs: Russia's Grazhdanskaya Oborona, 9 pm, $30-).
dway Café Three Bad Jacks, 10 pm, no cover, +.
k Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quartet, 8:15 pm, no er.
de Magoun's Saloon Joe Carson Band, 10 pm, no er, 21+.
radise Rock Club Nada Surf, Say Hi To Your m, 9 pm, $15, 18+; Lounge: Ben Taylor, 9 pm, , 18+.
rris Negative Space, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Robots and Empire, Wrench in the Works, It Will End in Pure Horror, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Phatt Boys Sol Train Wreck, 9:30, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Downstairs: Megawatt Blues Crushers, 9 pm, $10; Upstairs: Four on the Floor.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5 pm; Zipper, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mando Diao, the Luxury, the Appreciation Post, 9 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

Acton Jazz Cafe Molly Flannery, 4 pm, $5; Bertram Lehmann Trio, 7:30 pm, $7.
Bob's Southern Bistro Nat Simpkins, Henri Smith, 10 am-2:30 pm, $3-$5.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11 am, no cover; Alfredo Cardim, 6 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Liam O'Maonlai, 8 pm, $20; members, $18.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown Juliet Lloyd, 12 pm, no cover.
Lucky's Lounge The Al Vega Trio, Alex Macdougall, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's BQEZ, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Turkey Bouillion Mafia, the Casual Fiasco, Mojomama, Second Dan, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Secret Cock, Catastrophe, Triple Creme, 10 pm, $6.
Orpheum Theatre Jason Mraz, 8 pm, $25-$28.50.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Juliet Turner, Paddy Saul Doors, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Phatt Boys Marshall Morgan Trio, 12 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Paul Combs, 8 pm; Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.
Somerville Theatre Steve Hackett, 8 pm, $28-$33.
Tír na nÓg Samba Lolo, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Guillermo Sexo, Anushka Pop, Static of the Gods, 9 pm, $6.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren 2, 9 pm, no cover.



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Nickel Creek plays Oct. 6 at the Orpheum Theatre.

Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Second Cousins Residency featuring Randy Wooten, 9 pm, 21+.
Avalon The Decemberists, Cass McCombs, 8 pm, $18.25-$20.25.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 6 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Dave Palmater, 8 pm, $10, members, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Psycho X, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Fallen From the Sky, A Hero Next Door, Damone, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: The Cat Empire, 7 pm, $15, 18+.
O'Brien's Live Sex Act, Noel Weber, Westward Trail, Nate Browningham, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club Anna Nalick, 7 pm, $16, 18+.
Somerville Theatre Les Nubians, 8 pm, $25-$35.
Tír na nÓg Jen Kearney, Lost Onion, 9:30, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rob Dickinson of Catherine Wheel, 10 pm, $12.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

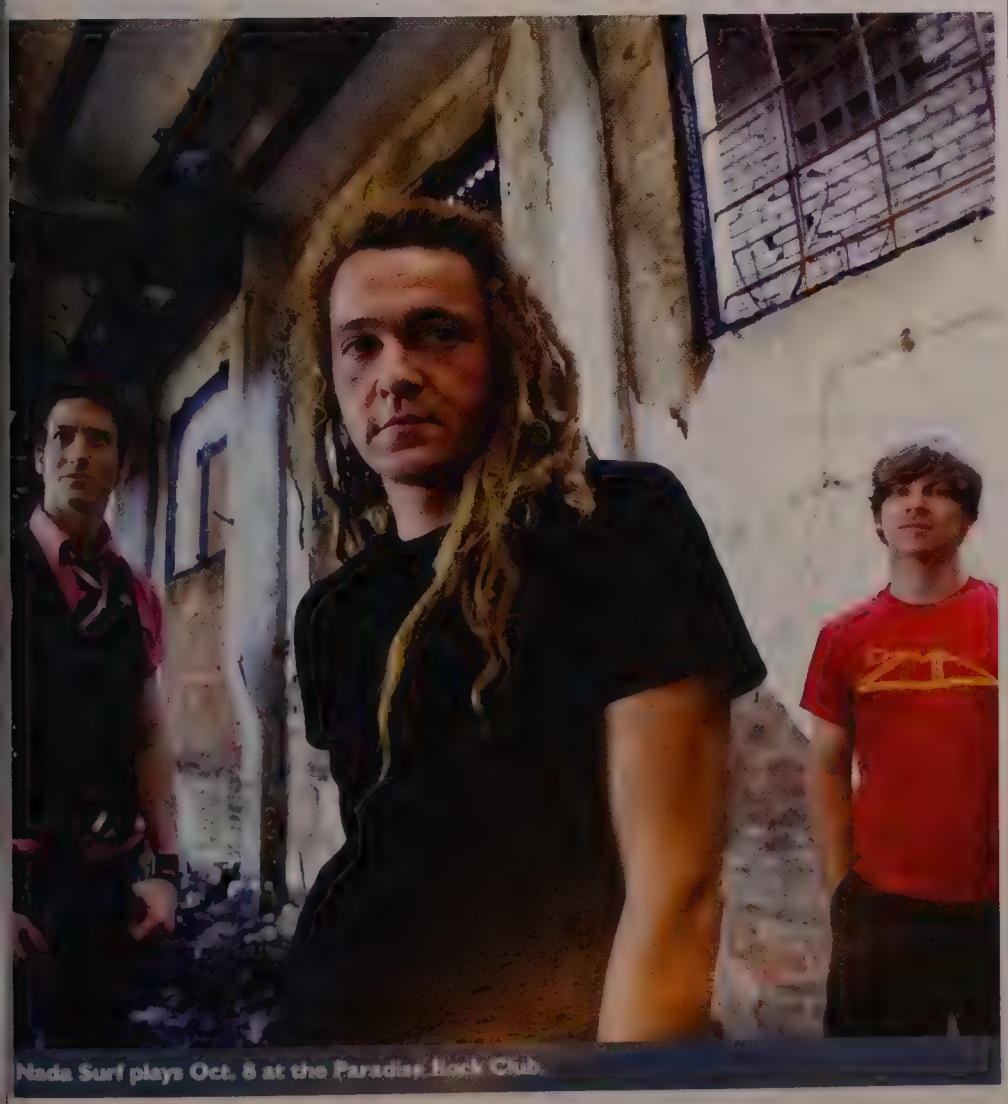
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Ramona Silver, 10 pm; Alto Reform School, 10:45 pm; Gato Malo, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Rock 'n' Roll Social, 7 pm, 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe Jerry Bergonzi, Bruce Gertz, Bob Kaufman, Gabriel Guerrero, 8:30 pm, $7.
Agganis Arena Def Leppard, Bryan Adams, 7:30 pm, $49.50-$59.50.
Avalon John Mayer, Charlie Sexton, 7 pm, $40.50.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 6 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Open mike featuring Joe Crookston, 7 pm, $4, members free.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Mad Man Films, Abigail Warchild, Codetta, Lycaon Pictus, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Green Street Grill The Two-Timin' Three, Rockabilly Jazz From the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, $4, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Cassavettes, the Sex & Murder, the Shift, the Hyphens, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Orpheum Theatre Rob Thomas, Antigone Rising, 8 pm, $35-39.50.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke, Dana Z, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Tony Perez and the Havana Peppers, 7:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase Prana Trio, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Sai Ghose Quartet, 8 pm, $15-$55.
Tír na nÓg Dave Johnston Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sleepytime Gorilla Museu Beat Circus, Turkish Queen, 9 pm, $10-$12.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Ru Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Lance Martin Duo.

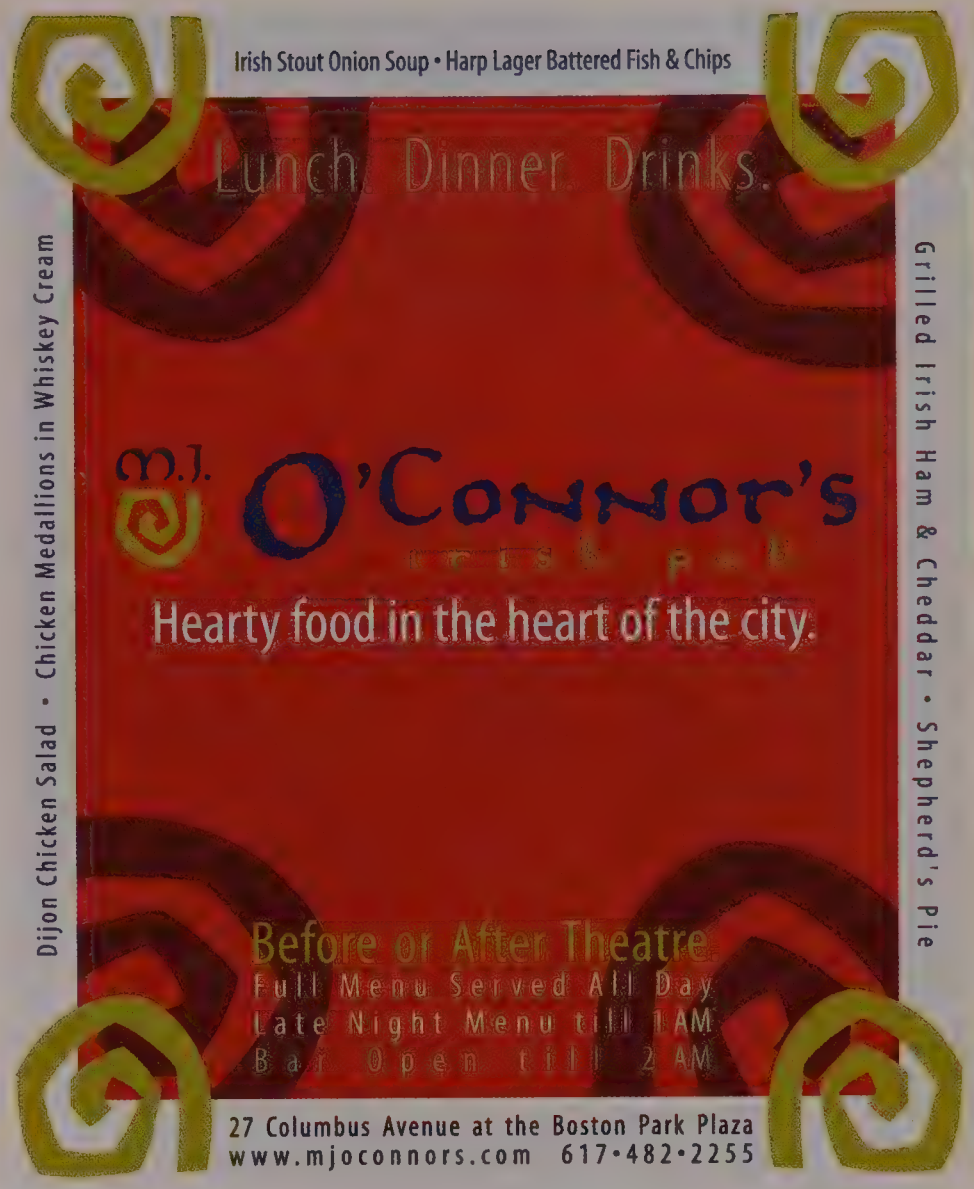
Music Venues

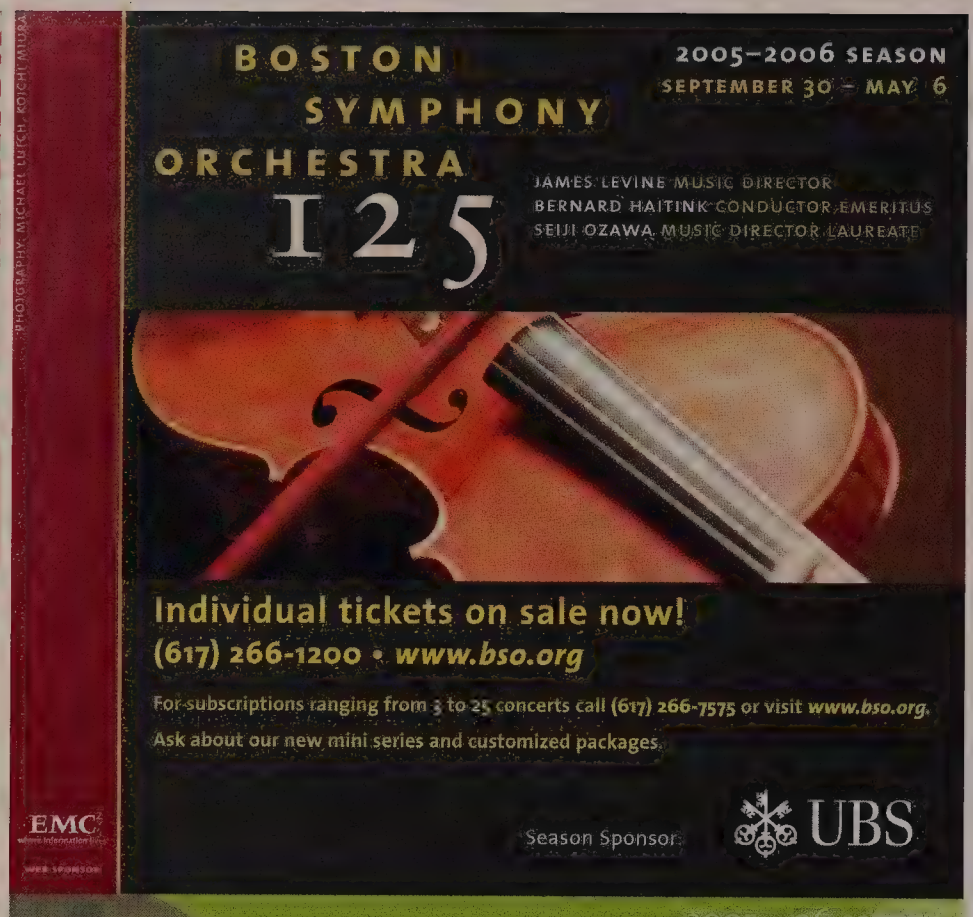
Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Acton Jazz Cafe *452 Great Rd., Acton (978-26 6161).*
Agganis Arena *925 Comm. Ave. (617-358-7000 MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-49 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684) MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617 422-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossin*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-876-4275). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678 MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Lin to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob's Southern Bistro *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cambridge Elks Lodge *55 Bishop Richard Allen Dr. Cambridge (617-354-8884). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Center for the Arts *539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudentia*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*

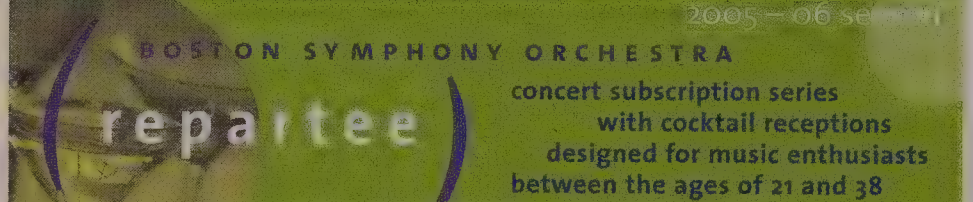
and Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). BTA: Green Line to North Station.*
eat Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-14).*
e Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-9-4100).*
e Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston 17-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to ıymarket.*
een Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-6-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
e Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). BTA: Green Line to North Station.*
ırpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-43). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
ennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). BTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
gh Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523-00). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
ernational Community Church (ICC) *557 Cam-dge St., Allston (617 782-8120). MBTA: B Green ıe to Warren Ave.*
nny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-04). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
nnedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-6-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
ngs *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: een Line to Hynes/ICA.*
nsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). BTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
ıvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). BTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
rkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-2-4920).*
ard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-7-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
cky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-25).*
att Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-2-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
ddle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-81). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
dway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, 17-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green eet.*
lky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-40). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
obius *374 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). BTA: Red Line to South Station.*
. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). BTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
ak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James venue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green ıe to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Old Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somerville (617-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Phatt Boys *50 Church St., Cambridge (617- 354-2005). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Orange Line to State St.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-876-4275). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

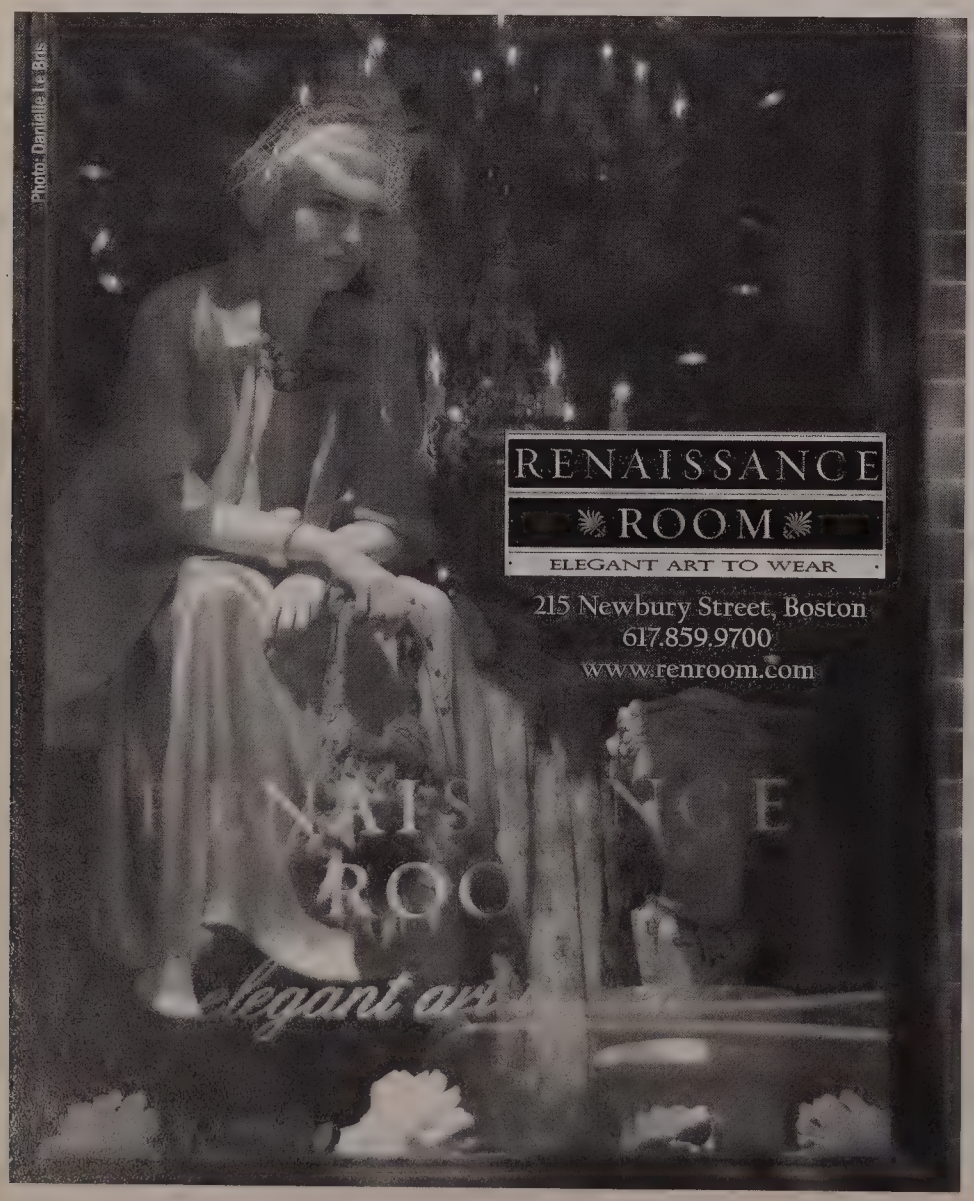


Nada Surf plays Oct. 8 at the Paradise Rock Club









classical music

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Wellesley College

Jewett Auditorium, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. 12:30 pm. Free. *Ah! La Charmante Chose* features French melodies, arias and duets including the songs of Saint Saëns.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

WCRB Classical Concerts at Copley

Copley Square Park, Boylston St. and Dartmouth St., Boston (617-626-4970). www.mass.gov/dcr/hatch_events.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. The Ariel Quartet performs.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 31 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200).www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 6:30 pm. $29-$108. Conductor James Levine and Simon Preston present an all-French program for the opening-night concert.

Guest Artist Series at MIT

Kresge Auditorium, 31 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-253-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 8 pm. Free. Visiting musicians of the St. Petersburg String Quartet perform a concert of Mozart and Shostakovich pieces.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 31 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$108. James Levine conducts a French music program featuring organist Simon Preston.

SARASA Chamber Music Series

Friends Meeting House, Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-492-4758). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $20 general, $17 seniors, $13 students. The Flute in the Age of Enlightenment features Mozart flute quartets and Beethoven string trios.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

Boston Conservatory

Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 4pm. Free. Zephyr, The Boston Conservatory Wind Quintet performs with pianist Janice Weber.

Sunday Concert Series at Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5156). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm; 8 pm. $20 adults, $14 seniors, $10 college students, $12 members, $5 children ages 5-17 (children under 5 not admitted to concerts). The Rebel Ensemble for Baroque Music performs cantatas, arias and instrumental pieces by masters such as Vivaldi and Handel.

Sunday Concerts @ King's Chapel

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. 12:15 pm. $12 general, $8 students and seniors. Heinrich Christensen conducts the King's Chapel Choir as they perform motets by Bach and Brahms.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

Boston Conservatory

The Boston Conservatory Theater, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8pm. Free. The percussion ensemble performs a special presentation.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

First and Second Church

The Sanctuary, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). www.fscboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. Free. Victoria Reiche performs a voice and piano recital.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-5851260).www.longwoodsymphony.org.MBT E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Joseph Silv stein conducts the NEC Philharmonica Beethoven's Overture to *Egmont* Op. 84, Dvora Symphony No. 7 in D Minor, Op. 70, Perle's *A Sh Symphony* and Ravel's *La Valse*.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 31 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 10:30 am; 8 pm. $29-$98. Conductor Jam Levine, soprano Dawn Upshaw and pianist Jean-Y Thibaudet perform an all American program.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1260). www.longwoodsymphony.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $36-$61. Pian András Schiff performs music by Beethoven a Haydn as part of Bank of America's Celebrity Co cert Series.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

Chameleon Arts Ensemble

Goethe-Institut,170 Beacon St., Boston (617-42 8200). www.chameleonarts.org. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. 8 pm. $16-36, $5 discount for students. U Musique Sans Commencement ni Fin (A Mus Without Beginning or End) features guest guitari David Lesiner.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1260). www.longwoodsymphony.org. MBTA: E Gre Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $25 adults, $15 seniors and st dents. The London Symphony Orchestra featur flutist Eugenia Zukerman as she perform Mozart's Flu Concerto No. 1 in G major along with pieces by Wa ner and Hindemith.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

Young Artists Showcase at Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5156). MBTA: Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm; 8 pm. $20 adults, $1 seniors, $10 college students, $12 members, $5 childre ages 5-17 (children under 5 not admitted to concerts Flutist Megan Sterling and pianist Kristian Chor perform music by various artists.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1260). www.longwoodsymphony.org. MBTA: E Gree Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Ludovic Morlot co ducts the NEC Sinfonietta as they perform music b Berlioz, Stravinsky and Haydn.

Jean-Yves Thibaudet plays with the BSO Oct. 6.

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
eremony A night of gothic and industrial music, pm, $3, 19+.

xis
atic Gay night with rotating DJs and drag performances, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

aprice
uddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a ix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 n, no cover, 21+.

elt
I.N. Mondays This Service Industry Night includes free pool and guest DJs spinning high-energy dance, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no ver, 21+.

olden Temple
ne E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, otown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Green Briar
sh seisiun.

reen St. Grill
avana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ uban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 8 after lesson), 18+.

hoenix Landing
akka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, pm, $3, 21+.

he Place
Js spin top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
Js spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

iver Gods
eekly Wax Each week, two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

aint
I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins use and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

UESDAYS

ria
0 Dance to hip-hop and R&B from DJ Chubby hub; $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

ar 33
avana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban ff, salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after sson), 21+.

aprice
ve bands as well as rotating DJs, 10 pm, no cover, +.

osmopolitan
uesday Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10 pm- am, $5, 21+.

mbassy
J Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no over, 19+.

he Enormous Room
oul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spin hits from e '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

olden Temple
he E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no over, 21+.

he Kells
otally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic 0s music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

hoenix Landing
Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, pm, no cover, 21+.

he Place
Js spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Purple Shamrock
araoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
Js spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ain
araoke for Cash with Deb-N-Art.

iver Gods
avesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at pm, no cover, 21+.

umor
light varies with an assortment of performances nd themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

enu
IYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins ip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 9+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa Night DJs Hernan, D. Martinez, Antonio Ortiz and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes beginner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk music bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
IPod Night Bring your own IPod and be an MP3J, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Spoken Word A night of poetry.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Bruno spins house, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Demers spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Oldies But Goodies DJ Russ McQueen spins hits from the '50s, '60s and '70s, no cover.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

Avalon
Hot and Heavy Thursday DJs spin hip-hop music, 10 pm, $15; ladies free until 11 pm, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

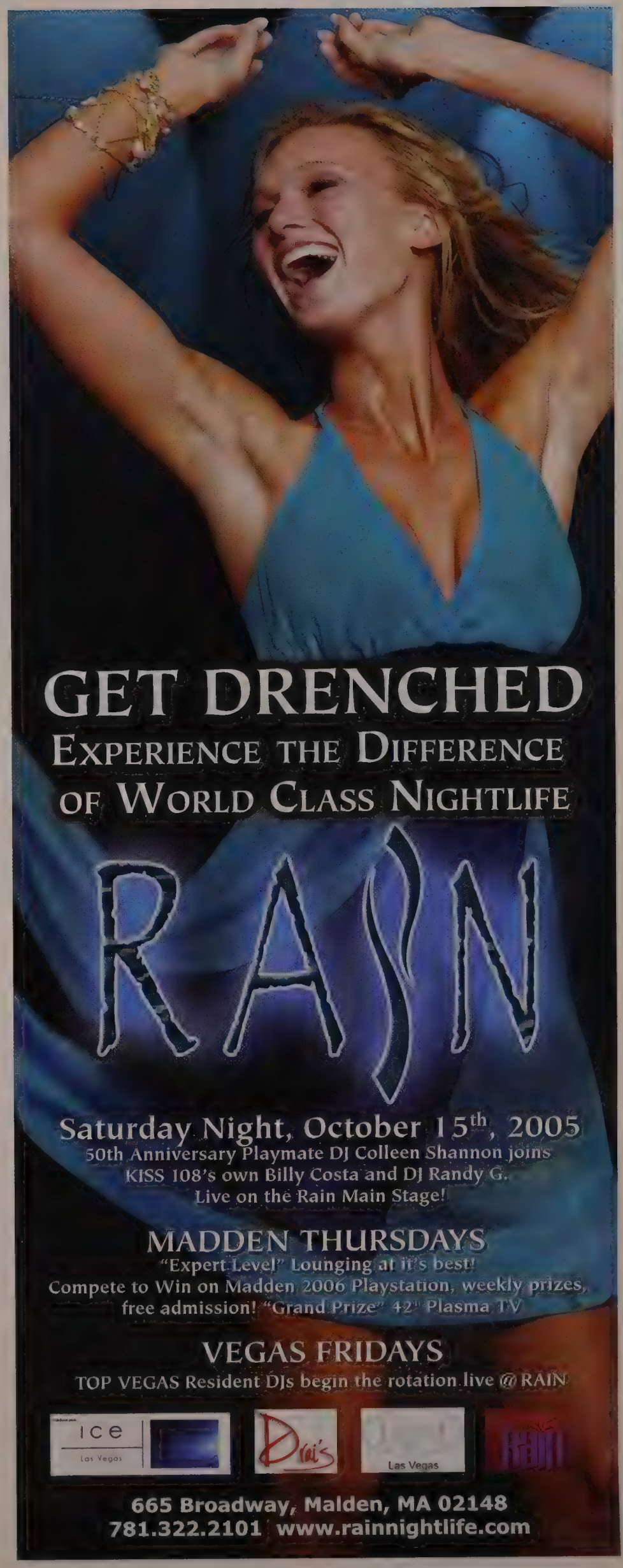
Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+.

Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Miss Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ Mike Navarro, 9 pm, $5.



La Serata Completa

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The Original Italian Caffé

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A Classic Cigar Parlor

292 Hanover St., North End, Boston
617.227.0295
www.stanzadeisigari.com
Hookahs available

Una Bella Serata

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of jazz, 10 pm.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm,

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
True Music Thursdays Featuring live performances, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama-jigi play Afro-pop highlife, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJs Edgar and Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban Jeff spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 before 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Martini Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while resident DJs spin R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

WaterWorks
Buckwild Thursdays DJs spin top 40 and house host a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull ing contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-sch hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Steve spins top 40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, 21+.

Aria
Vanity DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, pm, $20; 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Avalon
Avaland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilk Alex Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top 40, 9 p 1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions spins hip-hop, pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spi ning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Hot Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae a bachata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hi hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of internationa Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s a '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; after pm, $15, 19+.

Club Q
Forbidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and t 40, 21+.

Common Ground
DJ Dino Sound spins Northern Soul, 10 pm, no cover.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style musi 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and tranc music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+

Embassy
DJ Xander spins hip-hop, 9 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everythin from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $ 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Theray Fridays DJ Cerebral and Chris Kung of Kis 108, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s an vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top 40, 7 pm-1 am, no cove 21+.

Green Street Grill
Latin DJ, 11:30 pm, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJs Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe Jam'n 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spin downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free befor 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins reggae $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top 40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop R&B and pop, 21+.

quor Store
Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

atrix/Paradise City
Adilson spins high-energy house, and DJ Steve inelli plays top 40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

cGann's
s spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

iddlesex Lounge
Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and p-hop, no cover.

he Modern
o DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

pal Lounge
iture/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno d disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

he Palace
The Beach House Reggaeton: Spanish reggae usic, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** ew England's longest-running all-male dance vue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, +; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett ins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, dies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. **Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free fore 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

arris
at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

he Penthouse Club
J Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, no ver, 21+.

hoenix Landing
roove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

he Place
J Laptop spins top 40 and hip-hop, and TV screens ow Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

he Point
st Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P, pm.

he Purple Shamrock
ip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

he Rack
J Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

ain
egas Fridays Las Vegas resident DJs spin.

edline
odney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm- am, no cover, 21+.

iver Gods
iversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo- ul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no ver, 21+.

oxy
J Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40, R&B and reg- e, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

umor
ounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old- hool, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

yles Dance Hall
alsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night e third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

issy K's
amu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

pin
ed Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

he Sugar Shack
J Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

antric Lounge
ookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud 9 in the music at this night featuring hookahs, specialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin top 40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared and friends mix top 40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20; 21+ men, 19+ women with college ID.

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life DJs Frank and Matty spin alternative party hits, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and top-40 music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

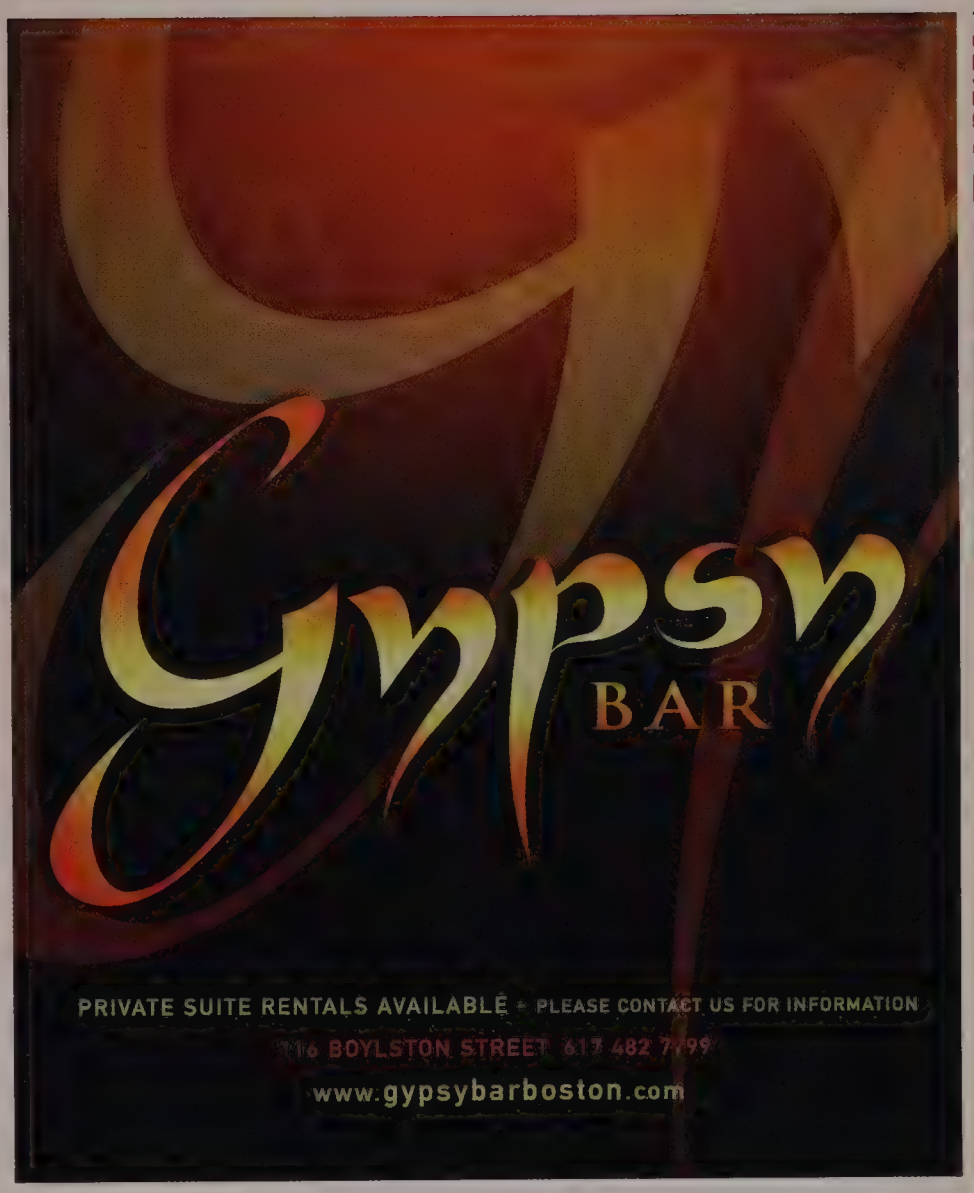
Club Q
DJ Profenna spins top 40, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Shake Your Ass Night DJ spins indie rock, $2.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.



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Mon., Oct. 3	25-35	Tiger Lily (Boston)
Tues., Oct. 4	30-40	Clarke's at Faneuil Hall (Boston)
Tues., Oct. 4	35-45	Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub (Cambridge)
Tues., Oct. 11	25-35	Fire & Ice (Boston)

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Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
•Sensation Saturdays featuring DJ Eddie Lee spinning hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15; 19+ women, 21+ men. •**Russian Night in The Modern** with DJ Roger R spinning international.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house music, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Fresh spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJs Peter D and Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+; $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, men $10; women $5 or free before 10:30; 21+.

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons spin minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features DJ Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top 40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-energ dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wor ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roch spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
KISS 108-FM's Billy Costa and DJ Randy G spi top-40, house, dance, disco and rock music, 10 pm

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 an no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins moder mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21+

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancin 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in th front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro fa vorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house, 1 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins clas sic old-school, top 40 and dance, 10 pm, no cove 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tare Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyball 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays** DJ spin top 40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 pm 10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 40 a night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Dance Hall Reggae music, 11 pm, $10-$15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $20 women 19+, men 21+.

valon
y Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and chno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

ll's Bar
ve reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

uzz
azilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, 0, 19+.

aprice
tating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, -$10, 21+.

ub Q
ave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and the 45 ew spin dance music, 8 pm-2 am, $10.

osmopolitan
ribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

evlin's
dustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and nixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

he Enormous Room
volutions A night of electronic music, $3, pm-3 am.

reen Briar
hbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

he Kells
e Spot DJs spin top-40, hip-hop and house music, pm-2 am, no cover.

evel
tating DJs spin Latin and international on the third or and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the irth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

he Office
opia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests ıy deep, soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, +.

hoenix Landing
ımp This house-music night has a rotating roster local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, +.

he Place
ıad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

he Point
Itchy P, 11 pm-2 am.

he Purple Shamrock
Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and top 40, 9 pm-ım, no cover, 21+.

ain
Danny Sharp and the World Premier Band pro-le top-40, dance and old-school funk music.

edline
ınday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests in reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, +.

iver Gods
ction Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic ck and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

yles Dance Hall
epa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sun-y of each month, DJs Nik and Hernan play salsa ısic, 6-10 pm, $12.

aint
ice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night ıturing Latin and international grooves, 10 pm-ım, $10, 21+.

ssy K's
ımu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

iki Room
ggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub ation and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

oast
ls wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop d Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

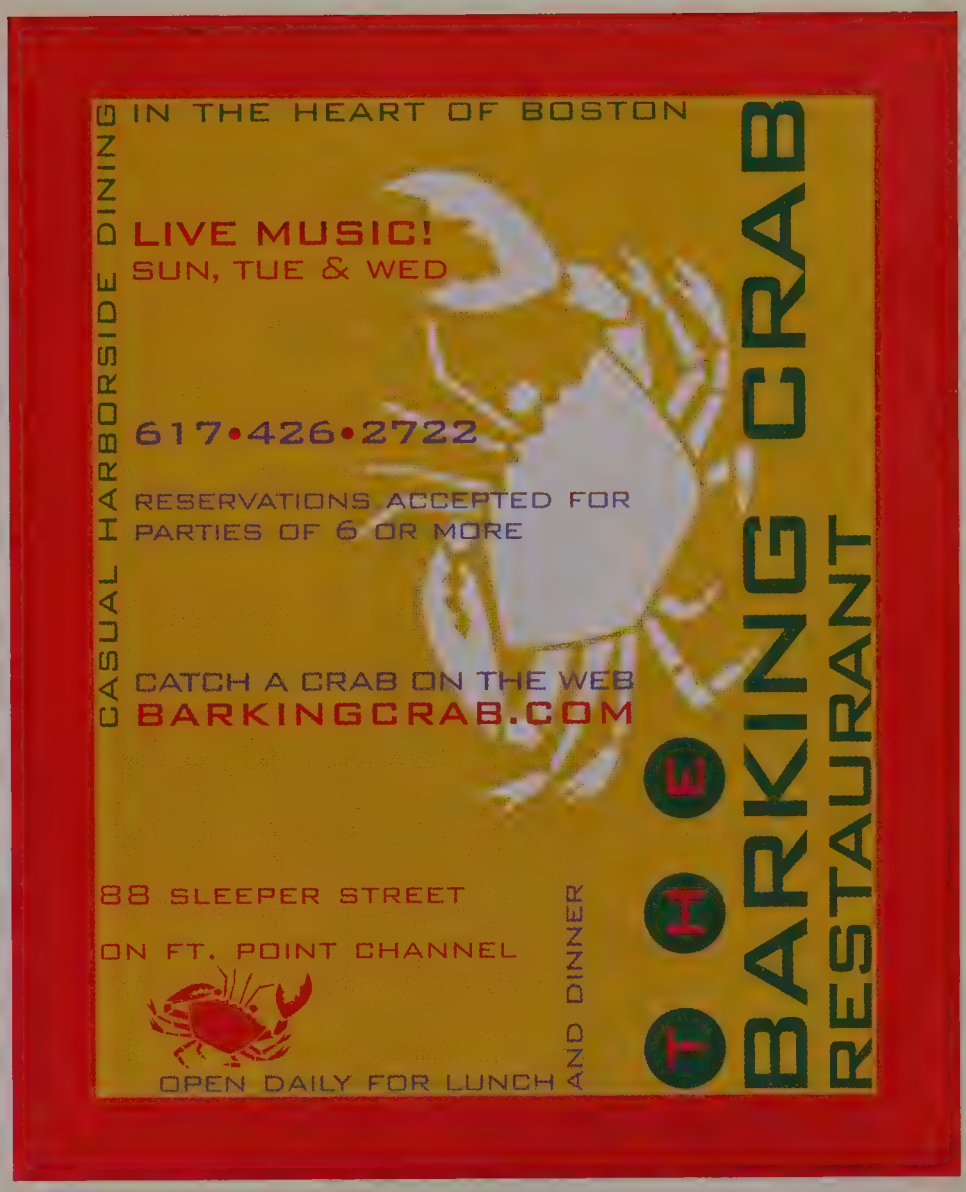
enu
arnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian ght as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance ts, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

ertigo
aitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and orld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

/aterWorks
Weekend Beach Party Cocktails and volleyball, pm-5 pm, no cover. **•Smokin' Sundays** DJs omeo and Randy spin, and Romeo hosts a Hawai-n Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am; $10 from 9 pm, $20 after 9 pm; 21+.

Club Venues

n Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
nthem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
n Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
ria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
valon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
he Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-08).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *51/2 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*



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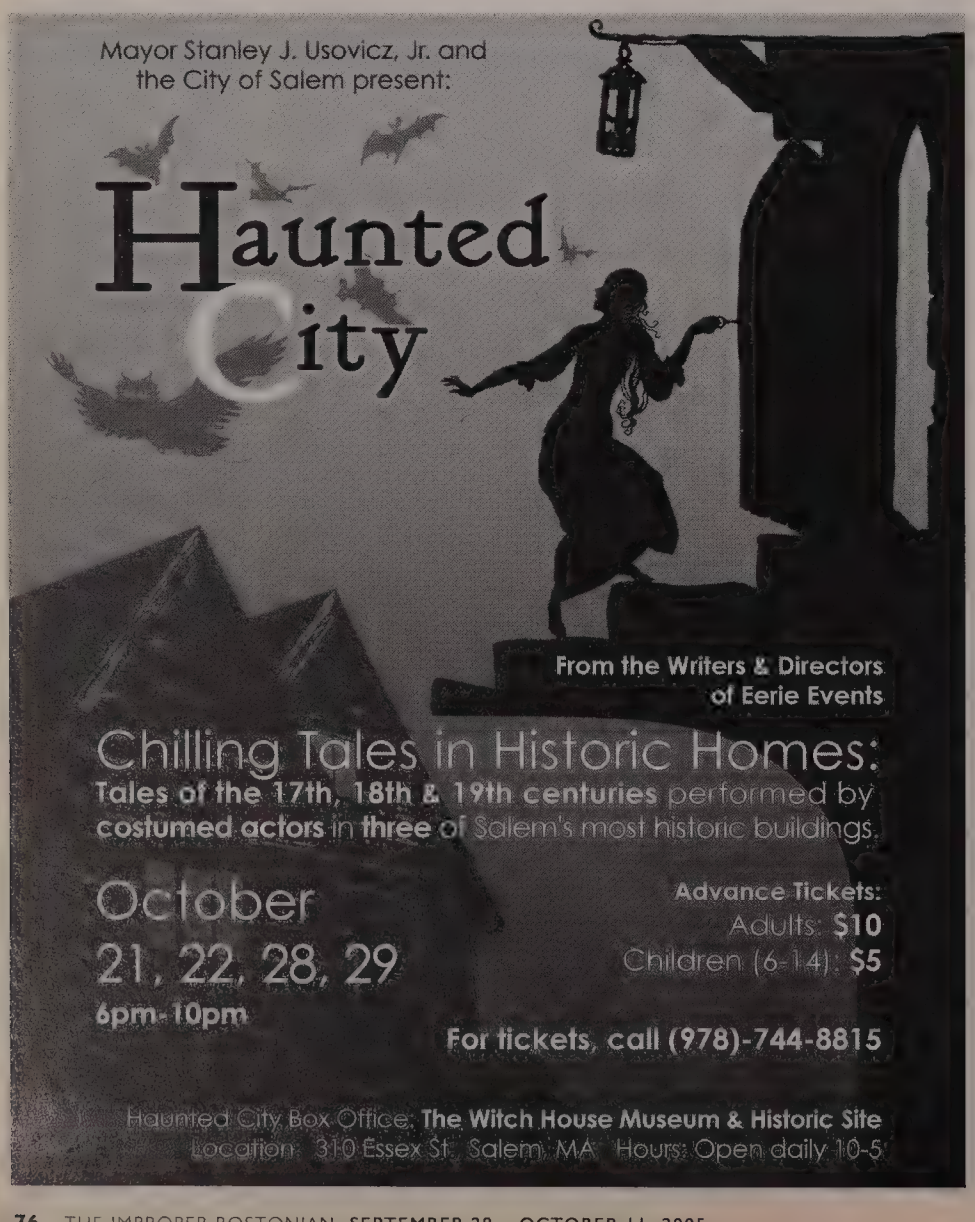

museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •*Forging the New: East Asian Painting in the 20th Century* showcases 19th-and 20th-century paintings influenced by modernization, technology and politics. Through Oct. 16. •*Degas at Harvard* displays more than 60 drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs by Edgar Degas. Through Nov. 27. •*Silver and Shawls: India, Europe and the Colonial Art Market* highlights the evolution of shawls and silver tablewares produced during India's Colonial period. Through Jan. 29, 2006. •*Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Greek Portraiture, The Art of Ancient Rome* and *Near Eastern Art* are on display. Ongoing.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •*Brice Marden: Etchings to Rexroth* exhibits images in tribute to calligraphy. Through Dec. 18. •*Hold: Vessel 1* is a multimedia installation by Lynette Wallworth. Through Dec. 18. •Artist in residence Aaron Noble displays his new mural. Through Dec. 18. •A new installation of modernist art exhibits works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road., Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6; children 5 and under, free. •*John Huddleston: Killing Ground, Photographs of the Civil War and the Changing American Landscape* juxtaposes historical images with contemporary photography of the same locations 150 years later. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Robert Arnold: Zeno's Paradox* is a short looping video that experiments with the connections between zooms and stills. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Saga: The Journey of Arno Rafael Minkkinen, Photographs 1970-2005* exhibits 120 nude prints that attempt to mimic land formations. Through Jan. 8, 2006.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. •*A New Kind of Historical Evidence* showcases photographs from the Carpenter Center Collection. Through Oct. 30. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* displays two pairs of small-scale religious objects from 18th-century Germany and Austria. Through Nov. 27. •*Stratification: An Installation of Works since 1960* displays seven pieces from the museum's collection that focus on various approaches to art making. Through Feb. 26, 2006. •*Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* exhibits many 19th century paintings. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon., Tue. and Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 10 am-8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Mots Cassés* features Alan Greene's photographs of the streets of Paris. Through Oct. 3.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 9 am-12 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children 3-18, $5. •*Thoreau's Walden: A Journey in Photographs by Scot Miller* displays a five-year pictorial of Walden Woods. Through Oct. 2. •*The Glass Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features the Ware Collection of glass models for more than 830 plant species. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobit and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Ha vard* features collections documenting more than tw centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.i boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. a Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; Th after 5 pm, free. •*The Secret Ark of Icon Park* is Jer Beck's freestanding structure made from recycl materials outside in the Charlestown Navy Yar Through Oct. 10. •*Momentum 5: Paul Chan* displa political drawings, projected digital animations a videos. Through Jan 16, 2006. •*Utopia, Utopia One World, One War, One Army, One Dress* exhib a critical look at the world through wall graphic vitrines, sculptures, maquettes and films by Thom Hirschhorn. Through Jan. 16, 2006.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). ww gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to M seum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; weekends, $1 seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons nam Isabella and those under 18, free. •*Variations on Theme* is an exhibition that combines the paintin of Sol LeWitt with the music of Paula Robiso Through Nov. 13. •*A Closer Look: An Introducti to the Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum* offers m seum tours. Tue.-Fri, 2:30 pm. Ongoing. •*Spec Exhibition Gallery Talks* provide context to museu exhibits each Saturday at 12 pm. Ongoing. •Th collection features more than 2,500 painting sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, ra books and decorative pieces, including works Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Bottice and Degas. Ongoing.

Mary Baker Eddy Library
200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.ma bakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hyne ICA. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $6; seniors, students a youth 6-17, $4; children 6 and under, free. •The mu media exhibit *This is woman's hour...* highlights th life and accomplishments of Mary Baker Eddy. O going. •The library's *Historic Bible Collection* sho cases rare Bibles in the Reference Room. Ongoin •The library displays a "peace" flag from the 19 Peace Congress proceedings in New York. Ongoing

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Che nut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri 11 am-4 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*The Power Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons* loo at the role Jewish women's salons played in Euro and America from the late 18th century through th 1940s. Through Dec. 4.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://we mit.edu/lwac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. Free. •*Wor ing Drawings for the MIT Bell Tower* displa Theodore Roszak's preparatory sketches for the MI Bell Tower. Through Dec. 16.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kenda Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. $ students and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. •*I Innovators Under 35* displays the ideas of young i novators who have been recognized by MIT's *Tec nology Review* magazine. Through Oct . 21. •*Scope Station Wagons and Solder: Unexpected Images Fro the Rad Lab and RLE Collections* exhibits ph tographs from preserved negatives that docume the history of radar and electronics. Through Ju 11, 2006. •*Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial I telligence at MIT* is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing

Museum of African-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.af ammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sa 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Words of Thunder: William Llo Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition* celebrat the life and achievements of Boston abolition William Lloyd Garrison. Through Dec. 31.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museu Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4: pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-1 school days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under other times, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, free excluding spec exhibitions. •*Things I Love: The Many Collections William I. Koch* displays choice pieces of silver, scul tures, paintings and more. Through Nov. 13. •*An Adams* showcases works by the famous Americ photographer. Through Dec. 31. •*Tiffany Jew*

Jessica Stockholder's multimedia exhibit displays at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts.

owcases the rubies, emeralds and diamonds of ffany & Co. Through Dec. 31. •*Sounds of the Silk oad: Musical Instruments of Asia* features over 100 usical instruments. Through Jan. 5, 2006. •*Ameri-n West: Dust and Dreams* presents over 70 artists hose works reflect the American West. Though n. 8, 2006. •*Zhang Huan: Seeds of Hamburg* dis-ays 12 chronological large-scale photographs. hrough Jan. 16, 2006. •*A Much Recorded War: The sso-Japanese War in History and Imagery* exhibits ints, postcards and photographs from this era. hrough March 28, 2006.

luseum of Science

ience Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. g. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, $13; chil-en 3-11, $12. •*Countdown to Supernova* is a plane-rium show about the creation and death of stars. hrough April 30, 2006. •*The Computing Revolution* aces the history of computers. Ongoing. •Hun-reds of butterflies and flowers are on display in the *utterfly Garden*. Ongoing. •Put your organizational ills to work and solve mysteries in the exhibit *Nat-ral Mysteries*. Ongoing. •The *Theater of Electricity* rovides lightning shows daily at 12 pm and 2 pm nd Fridays at 7 pm. Ongoing.• Star-gaze atop the luseum's garage roof using the Gilliland Observa-ory Friday evenings. Ongoing.

lational Heritage Museum

3 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). www. onh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. ree. •*Old Glory* displays patriotic magazine cov-rs from July 1942. Through Dec. 11. •*September 1: Bearing Witness to History* commemorates and eflects on the tragedy of 9/11 through photogra-hy, articles, everyday objects and more. Through an. 1, 2006. •*Teenage Hoboes in the Great Depres-on* features letters, questionnaires and audio pes documenting stories during the Depression. hrough Feb. 16, 2006. •*Blue Monday: Doing aundry in America* showcases a collection of laun-ry advertisements and paraphernalia from the 700s to today. Through March 4, 2006.

eabody Essex Museum

ast India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www. em.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; stu-ents, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, ee. •*Remembering Sept. 11* displays Maduhusudan hitrakar's scroll which recounts the events and orld relationships leading up to the terror attacks. hrough Sept. 30. •*The Kingdom of Siam: The Art of entral Thailand, 1350-1800* exhibits stone images, culptures, wood carvings, temple furnishings and ore. Through Oct. 16. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from the Mississippian Culture. Through March 30, 2006. •*Air Lines: Photographs by Alex MacLean* captures images of the United States from thousands of feet above the ground. Through April 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature: Untamed Traditions in Chinese Decorative Art* exhibits organic wood forms which appealed to Buddhists and Daoists seeking to connect with nature. Through Aug. 13, 2006.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children 3-18, $5; children under 3, free. •*Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations in Washington, D.C.* displays a selection of photographs of Native American delegates to the U.S. government. Through Dec. 1. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtis Collection* is on display through March 30, 2006. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $3. •*Alvin Lucier: Chambers* explores the resonant characteristics of enclosed spaces. Through Dec. 11. •*Fred Tomaselli: Monsters of Paradise* displays collage-style paintings that blend natural and unnatural worlds. Through Dec. 11. •*'Post' and After: Contemporary Art from the Brandeis University Collection* displays works from the 1980s and 90s. Through Dec. 11.

Special Events

Roxbury Open Studios — Changing Faces, Changing Place

Roxbury Center for the Arts, Habernian Hall, 182-186 Dudley St., Suite 100, Roxbury (617-541-3900). www.actroxbury.org. Oct. 1 and 2, 11 am-6 pm. •The seventh annual tour of Roxbury art studios, private homes and galleries will exhibit four decades of art, paying homage to past, created in Roxbury.

Women of the World: A Global Collection of Art

Simmons College Trustman Art Gallery, 300 The Fenway, Boston (617-521-2268). www.simmons.edu/trustman. MBTA: Green Line to Museum. Oct. 7-30. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4:30 pm. •More than 200 women artists from around the world have captured impressions of their lives on media small enough to fit in an envelope.The exhibition will be on display at Simmons College.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Kenneth Stubbs: Still Life Paintings* features cubist still life works from the 1930s through the 1960s. Through Oct. 8.

Adams Gallery

Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont St., Boston (617-305-1782). www.suffolk.edu/adams_gallery. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*Touching All the Bases: A Red Sox History* explores the history of the Boston Red Sox through photography, cartoons and artifacts. Through Sept. 30.

Salvador Dali, Sagittarius, Signs of the Zodiac, 1967, Lithograph from original gouache, signed and numbered

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Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Contained* displays glass perfume bottles and larger vessels. Through Nov. 12.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Laura Chasman: Those Around Me* displays paintings by Laura Chasman. Through Oct. 1. •*Downstrokes and Feedback* is a collaborative showcase curated by Lisa Schiff. Through Oct. 1.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Jackson's comedic narratives within still life paintings are on display in *Concoctions*. Through Sept. 29.

Ars Libri
Mario Diacono Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jessica Stockholder displays paintings and sculptures. Through Sept. 30.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sun., 3-8 pm. •Sydney Hardin explores female facial expressions through painting in *Facials: the Window to the Soul*. Through Sept. 28.

Artana
1378 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). www. artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm; and by appointment. •*John G. MacGowan: New Oils of Boston, Monhegan and Newport* displays oil paintings of the coastline. Through Sept. 28.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Collision 8* is an interactive showcase using new technologies. Through Oct. 3.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., Boston (781-853-0017). www.atlantic works.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •*Summer Salon* showcases the work of over 20 of the gallery's members and includes jewelry, photography, mixed media and fine art. Through Sept. 29.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Donald Judd displays 12 sculptures from 1991. Through Oct. 19.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www. berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New Ground* displays paintings by Jennifer Harrison. Through Nov. 5.

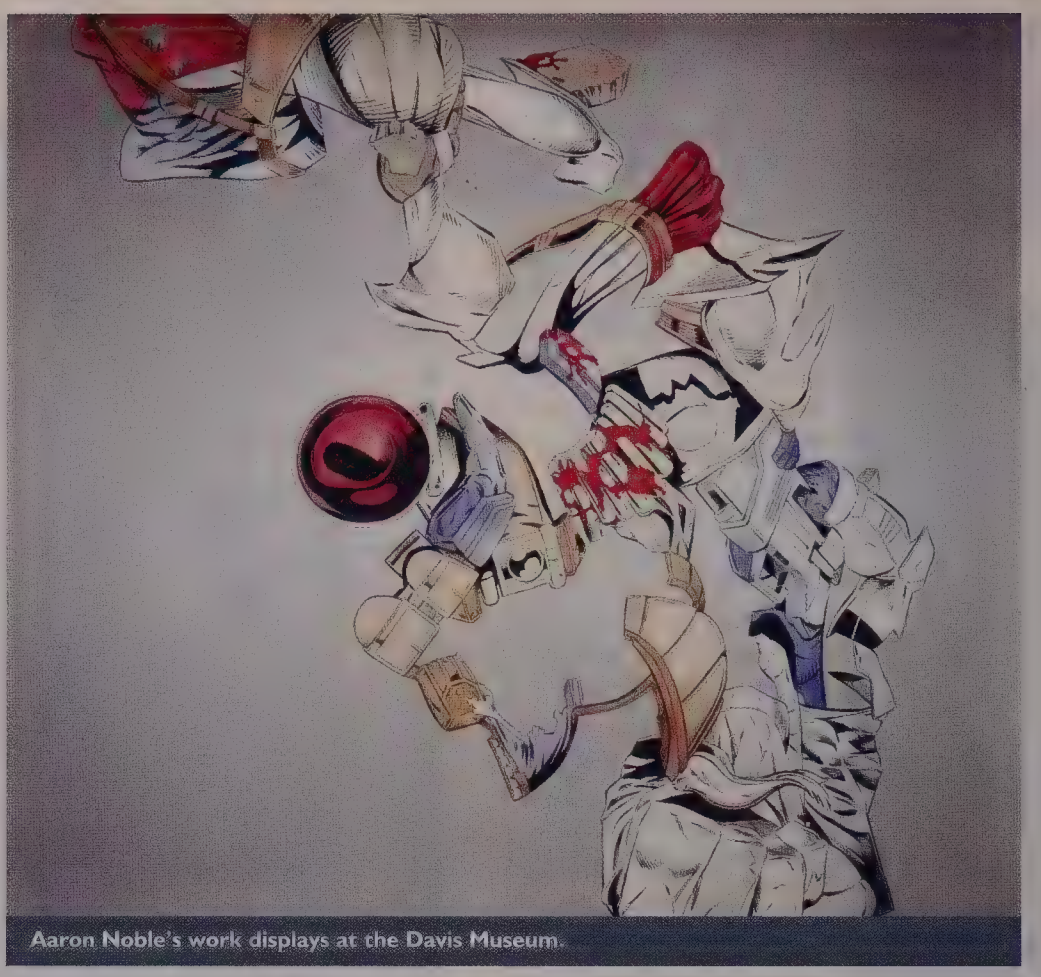
Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •*Redheads* displays Barbara Grad's works on paper as part of the Boston Drawing Project. Through Oct. 1. •*Ladies* exhibits new photography by David Hilliard. Through Oct. 15. •*New Paintings* features works by Richard Bosman that focus on the history of Massachusetts. Through Oct. 15.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu., Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Circumference* displays small-scale self-portraits by Steve Locke. Through Oct. 30. •*Standing on One Foot* presents various media that explore the human figure and its departure from traditional interpretation. Through Oct. 30.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-776-3410). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Japanese artist Niho Kozuru exhibits rubber cast sculptures. Through Oct. 8. •Murray Dewart displays large bronze and granite sculptures. Through Oct. 8.

Boston University Art Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bu.edu/art. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5 pm. Free. •*Resurfaced* exhibits works by seven artists that blur the boundaries between painting and sculpture. Through Oct. 30.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www. brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Hidden in Plain Sight* exhibits sculptures, photography, paintings and prints by Peggy Badenhausen, Alicia Dwyer, Gail Martin and Patty Rosenblatt. Through Oct. 16.


Aaron Noble's work displays at the Davis Museum.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*John Martino: Black and White Street Photographs* examines the interplay of image and word set side by side. Through Sept. 30. •*Tradition and Innovation* exhibits an oil showcase. Through Oct. 5.

Cambridge Art Association
Kathryn Schultz Gallery, 25R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. University Place Gallery, 124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridge art.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-1 pm. •The *61st Annual Fall Salon* displays works by CAA's 600 artist members. Through Sept. 28.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www. cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Our Culture is Our Resistance* displays photographs by Jonathan Moller that focus on Guatemalan communities that have been uprooted by war. Through Oct. 14. •*Sudan: the Land and the People* displays photographs by Michael Freeman that explore the diversity of Sudan. Through Oct. 20.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www. chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery displays aluminum and copper 3-D wall sculptures by Don Maynard. Through Sept. 30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www. childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Painters of the Art Students League* exhibits watercolor and oil paintings by artists affiliated with the Art Students League. Through Nov. 5. •*Joseph Pennell: Temple to the Gods, Temples to Industry* exhibits etchings and lithography by Joseph Pennell. Through Nov. 5. •*Joseph Pennell in the Swiss Alps* displays drawings by Joseph Pennell. Through Nov. 5.

Claygo Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). www. claygo.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •The gallery displays potted lamps by Rahul Bhargava and porcelain footed saucers by Andy Howarth. Through Oct. 14.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www. copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Paper Route & Asylum* displays gouache on cut paper works by Laurene Krasny Brown. Through Oct. 1.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* exhibits works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

DTR Modern Galleries
167 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-9700). www.dtrmodern.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 11 am-6 pm. • Erotic Picasso suites are on display through Oct. 7.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •New Paintings by Peter Previte are on display. Through Oct. 29.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fort pointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-9 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Neighborhood artists display their work in the *Open Studios Group Show*. Through Oct. 21.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www. galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Henri Matisse: The Jazz Suite* features sculptures, paintings, lithography and drawings inspired by jazz. Through Oct. 2. •An exhibition of paintings, sculptures and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries is on display. Ongoing.

Gallery @ The Piano Factory
791 Tremont St., Boston (617-421-0095). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri., 6-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •The 25th Anniversary group show includes photography, weaving, sculpture, printing and works by various artists. Through Oct. 29.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 12-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Recent paintings by Chris Mesarch and Evelina Brozgul are on display. Through Oct. 29.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Quiet* exhibits the photography of Remi Thornton. Through Sept. 30. • A group exhibition features paintings, drawings and photographs by Gallery Katz artists. Ongoing.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Kevin Bubriski's *Rocks and Ruins* shows the bombing of an Armenian church and destruction in Peru and Syria through photographs. Through Oct. 15.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallery naga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Echt Beck* showcases work b Ken Beck. Through Oct. 8. •*Prints and Drawing from Ireland, 2000-2004* is a collection of work b Yizhak Elyashiv. Through Oct. 8.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-426-9738). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 10:3 am-5:30 pm. •*Perfectly Useless* displays new draw ings and paintings by Craig Stockwell. Throug Oct. 2.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550) www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Gree Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm •Portraits by Peter Hujar are on display. Throug Oct. 11.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop ley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Mas terpieces of Graphic Design* showcases the evolutio of graphic design. Through Nov. 30. •The galler showcases a variety of vintage posters. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue. Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •In *Tudo Ao Mesmo Tempo (Every thing at Once)*, Brazilian painter José Gonçalves revis its his signature images, including swimmers, portrait and bicycles. Through Oct. 1.

Judy Goldman Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Ar lington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Kunie Sugiura The Artist Papers* displays portraits of art-worl personalities. Through Oct. 8. •*Hazel Walker Elsewhere* displays landscapes interpreted fron northern latitudes. Through Oct. 8.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* feature oil and acrylic paintings by Ann Strassman Through Oct. 1.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingsto gallery.com MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue. Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •*Site Lines* is member showcase that displays a variety of paint ings, sculptures and photographs. Through Oct. • Pastel pictures of rooms by Joan Baldwin are o display. Oct. 4-29.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400) www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery collection features works in various media by Douglas Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarese, Carrie McGee John Folsom and more. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Vistas Re visited* features a variety of landscapes and ceramic by Russ Vogt, glass wall sculptures by Yolanda Adra and glass landscapes by Karen Ehart Through Oct. 2.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). www martinlawrence.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling ton. Mon.-Wed., 10 am-6 pm; Thurs.-Sat., 10 am- pm; Sun., 12-7 pm. •*Ali Golkar: A Painter with Poet's Heart* displays new watercolors and paintings Sept. 30.

Massachusetts College of Art
Bakalar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617 879-7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat., 1 am-5 pm. •*The Graphic Imperative: An Exhibition of International Posters for Peace, Social Justice and the Environment* is on display through Nov. 11.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling ton. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm •*Twelve Paintings* displays the work of Anthony Moore. Oct. 8-31.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www mobilia-gallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue. Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*100 Proofs* is group exhibition of Scottish jewelers and silversmiths Through Sept. 30.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mp gallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat 11 am-5 pm. •*Some of the Best: New Work and Old* showcases paintings by Ann Christensen. Through Oct. 1.

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NAO Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naogallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Thu.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features sculptures, photography and other works by Helene Odon, Danielle Sauve and Sue Yang. Through Oct. 22.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*A Wolf in the Irises* displays acrylic paintings on linen by Duane Slick. Through Oct. 23.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. Boston (617-425-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery features paintings by Carl Ostendarp. Through Oct. 1.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. #304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. • Jacob El Hanani's inks on paper and Renato Orara's ballpoint works on paper are on display. Through Oct. 15.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outofthebleartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features photography, paintings, sculptures, jewelry, mosaics, antiques and more by local artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jim Zingarelli's new paintings and sculptures are on display. Through Oct. 8.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Brother Thomas* exhibits pottery by Benedictine monk and ceramic artist Brother Thomas Bezanson. Through Oct. 16.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). www.richardson-clarke.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Collages* exhibits paintings by Karen Clarke. Through Oct. 31.

The *Paper Route & Asylum* exhibition displays at Copley Society of Art through Oct. 1.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Arno Rafael Minkkinen's photographs that focus on the relationship between individuals and the environments they inhabit are on display. Through Oct. 8.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. •*Off My Biscuit, Destroy your District!* showcases works by various artists. Through Oct. 15.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Courtyard Gallery, Museum of Fine Arts, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718). www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm. •*Rawhide Harangue of Aching Indices as Told by Light* is a site-specific installation by Jessica Stockholder that incorporates painting, sculpture, architecture and design. In the Grossman Gallery. Through Oct. 21.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm.

•*Northwest Artists* showcases works in mixed me by artists in the Northwest region of the Uni States. Through Oct. 30.

Soprafina Gallery
73 Thayer St., Boston (617-728-0770). wu soprafina.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Ti Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Recent Work by Lori Warner* plays the artist's work in mixed media. Through Oct

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). wu stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Lumin cence* exhibits landscape-influenced oils, watercol and other media on rice paper by Sandra Muell Dick, Shanshan Cui and William St. Geor Through Sept. 30.

Vose Galleries of Boston
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). wu vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mo Fri., 9:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*T Vose Contemporary Summer Exhibition* displays wo by six contemporary artists. Through Sept. 30. •T gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and ea 20th-century American artwork. Ongoing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Rd., Winchester (781-729-1158). www.grif museum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winches Center. Tue. and Wed., 11 am-5 pm; Thu., 11 am pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Th Again* showcases unique digital images by Maggie Ta lor that strike a balance between photographs a paintings. Through Sept. 28.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100 www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltha Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. •*Bef Photoshop* displays photographs by John Urba Through Oct. 22.

Photographic Resource Center
855 Comm. Ave, Boston, (617-975-0600 www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston U versity West. Tue., Wed. and Fri. 10 am-6 pm; Thu., am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. • *PRC Benefit Ar tion Preview Exhibition* displays a collection of ph tographs by various photographers. Through Oct. 2

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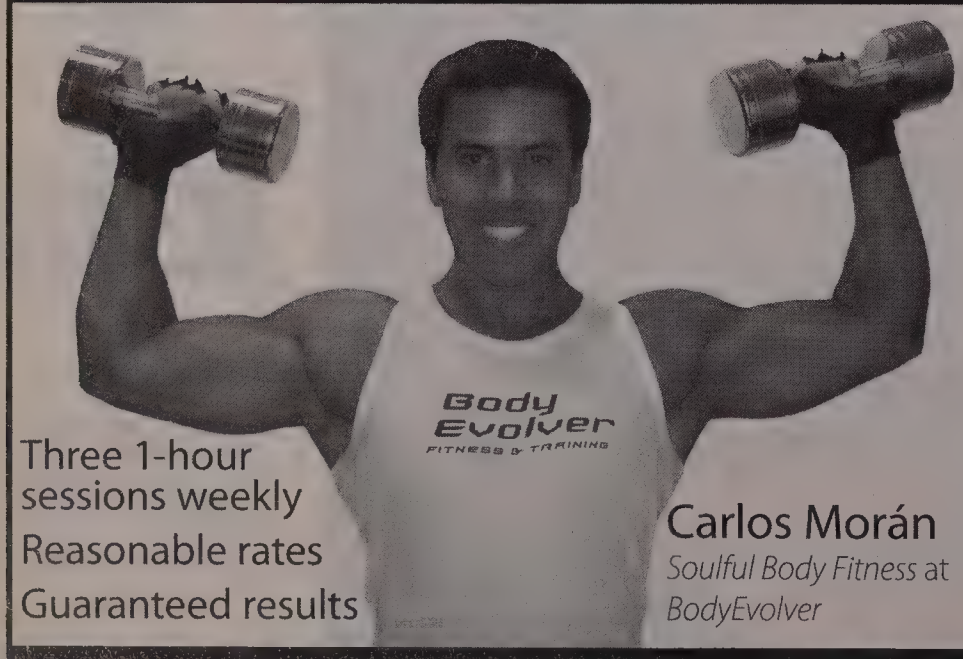

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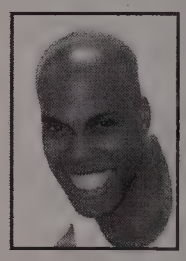

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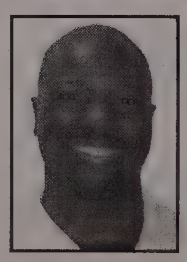

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eadings & Signings

EDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

arnes & Noble, Boston University
0 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu. store.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. ee. **Stephanie Lessing** reads from her novel *She's ot Issues*, about a young woman working at a New rk City fashion magazine where she discovers the ly side of office politics.

orders Books Downtown rossing
1 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www. rdersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to wntown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Dublin na- e **Nuala O'Faolain** reads from her biography, e *Story of Chicago May*, about the life of May igan, a poor Irish woman who moved to icago and became a thief and prostitute around e turn of the 20th century.

rookline Booksmith
9 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. ooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to olidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Dublin native **Nuala 'Faolain** reads from *The Story of Chicago May*. See rders listing above for description.

arvard Book Store Event
rattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617- 1-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to arvard. 6 pm. Free tickets can be picked up at Har- rd Book Store. **Kayla Williams**, **Anthony Shadid**, **eve Mumford** and **Michael Goldfarb,** who have l written books about the U.S. Army and the nflict in Iraq, talk about their works in a panel scussion.

arvard Coop
400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). ww.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har- rd. 7 pm. Free. Harvard Law School professor **lan Dershowitz** discusses his book *The Case for eace: How the Arab-Israeli Conflict Can Be Re- lved*, which focuses on possible solutions to the rab-Israeli conflict and argues for the creation of cure borders between Israel and a separate Pales- nian state.

lewtonville Books in the Attic
he Attic, 107 R Union St., Newton (617- 44-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Rick Moody** reads from his novel *The Diviners*, about a television producer working on a miniseries about a group of diviners around the time of the 2000 presidential election.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www. portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Chris Castellani** reads from his new novel, *The Saint of Lost Things*, about an Italian family pursuing the American dream in the 1950s.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu. bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Poker teacher **Toby Leah Bochan**, author of *The Badass Girl's Guide to Poker: All You Need to Beat the Boys*, throws a poker party where she teaches the poker and dating strategies discussed in her book.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Jonatha Ceely** reads from her novel *Bread and Dreams*, about a young woman who comes to America to pursue a better life and finds herself working in the kitchen of a wealthy, mysterious family and struggling with her own confusing emotions.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. Teach for America participant **Sarah Sentilles** discusses her book *Taught by America: A Story of Struggle and Hope in Compton*, about her experiences teaching a first-grade class in Compton, Calif., and the difficulties of educating children in an impoverished school system.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Renaissance art expert **Caroline Murphy** reads from her biography *The Pope's Daughter*, about the life of Felice Della Rovere, daughter of Pope Julius II who later became a negotiator for her father and a powerful woman in her own right.

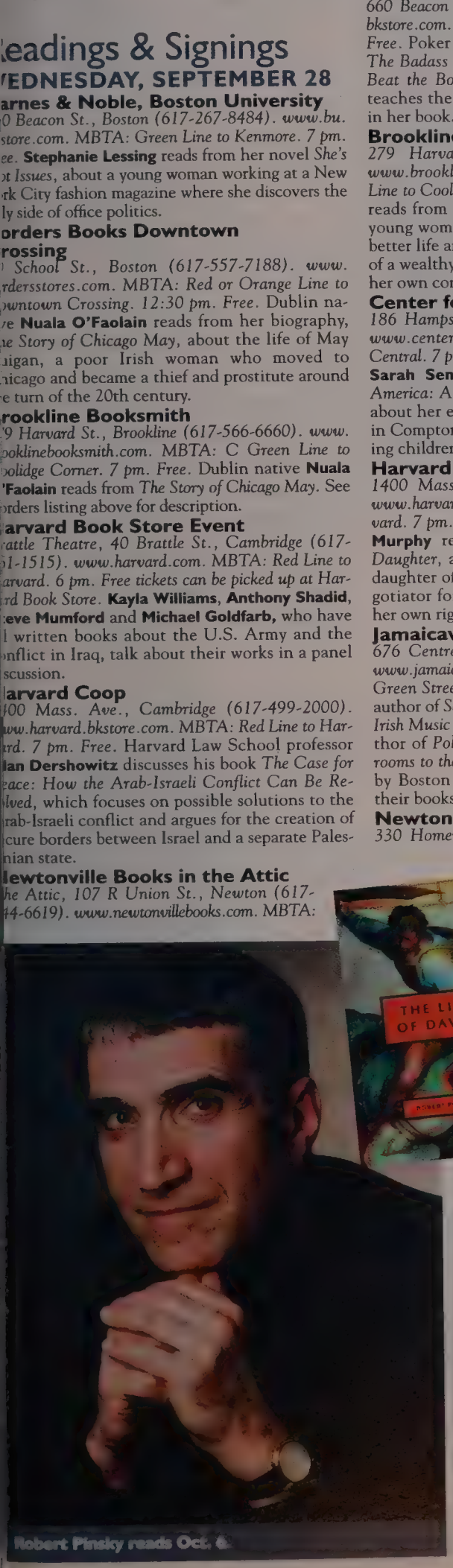
Jamaicaway Books
676 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-983-3204). www.jamaicawaybooks.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 7 pm. Free. **Susan Gedutis Lindsay**, author of *See You at the Hall: Boston's Golden Era of Irish Music and Dance*, and **Clinton Richmond**, author of *Political Places of Boston: From the Backrooms to the Golden Dome*, perform music inspired by Boston politics and Irish history and discuss their books.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www. ci.newton.ma.us/Library. 7:30 pm. Free. Inventor **Ray Kurzweil** discusses his book *The Singularity Is Near: When Humans Transcend Biology*, about his theories regarding a future merger of humans and machines.

Newtonville Books in the Attic
The Attic, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Myla Goldberg** discusses her novel *Wickett's Remedy*, about an Irish-American woman who works as a nurse on a flu study after her husband dies from the virus.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Benedict** reads from her novel *The Practice of Deceit*, about a man who grows suspicious of his new wife as he learns secrets from her past.

Wellesley Booksmith Event
Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. Playwright **Ken Bloom** and theater actor **Frank Vlastnik** discuss their book *Broadway Musicals: The 101 Greatest Shows of All Time*, which lists the details of Broadway's 101 most im-



Robert Pinsky reads Oct. 6.

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portant shows along with numerous photographs and posters of each.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Borders Books Downtown Crossing

10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Former WBZ-TV news anchor **Suzanne Bates** discusses her book *Speak like a CEO: Secrets for Commanding Attention and Getting Results*, which shares tips for communicating effectively in any situation.

Harvard Book Store

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Cambridge University professor of philosophy **Simon Blackburn** discusses his book *Truth: A Guide*, which focuses on the similarities and differences between various points of view on truth.

Harvard Book Store Event

First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Louise Erdrich** reads from her novel *The Painted Drum*, about a woman mourning her father and sister who discovers a tribal drum and returns it to the reservation, where she learns its history.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Teach for America participant **Sarah Sentilles** discusses her book *Taught by America: A Story of Struggle and Hope in Compton*. See Center for New Words listing Sept. 29 for a description.

Porter Square Books

25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www. portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. NPR book reviewer **Maureen Corrigan** discusses her book *Leave Me Alone, I'm Reading: Finding and Losing Myself in Books*, which recounts the impact that some of her favorite books have had on her life.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Harvard Book Store Event

Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. $5. **Dan Savage** reads from his memoir, *The Commitment: Love, Sex, Marriage and My Family*, about trying to decide whether he and his boyfriend of 10 years are ready for marriage.

Newtonville Books in the Attic

The Attic, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 8 pm. Free. Dial Press authors **Allegra Goodman**, **Karl Iagnemma** and **David Schickler** read from their works in celebration of Dial Press' anniversary.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

Forest Hills Cemetery

Forsyth Chapel, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust. org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $5. **Ann O'Fallon**, **Margaret Vaillancourt** and **Anna M.Warrock** read poetry and prose from their anthology *Kiss Me Goodnight*, about the experiences of women who were young girls when their mothers died.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

Brookline Booksmith Event

Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $2. **John Berendt** reads from his book *The City of Falling Angels*, about the author's experiences in Venice investigating the fire that destroyed the Fenice opera house.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **David Allan Cates** reads from his novel *X Out of Wonderland*, about people living in a modern society completely dominated by capitalism.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Harvard Book Store

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Lawyer **Jennifer Harbury** discusses her book *Truth, Torture and the American Way: The History and Consequences of U.S. Involvement in Torture*, which documents the use of torture tactics by the U.S. government and argues against the use of torture in any circumstance.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard physicist **Lisa Randall** discusses her book *Warped Passages: Unraveling the Mysteries of the Universe's Hidden Dimensions*, about the recent scientific research supporting the possibility of multiple undiscovered dimensions in our universe.

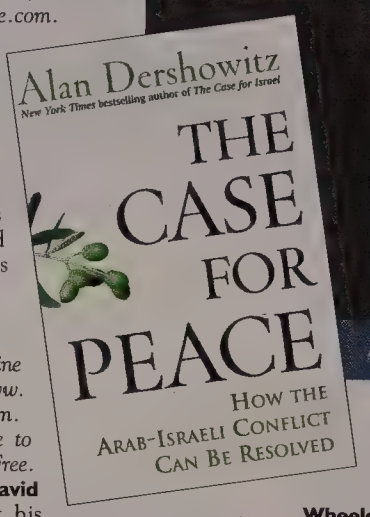
Newtonville Books & Brews

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks. com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **David Gessner** reads from his memoir *The Prophet of Dry Hill: Lessons from a Life in Nature*, about his friendship with nature writer John Hay.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

Barnes & Noble, Boston University

660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Anthony Doerr** reads from his novel *About Grace*, about a clairvoyant man who abandons his family after he foresees his daughter's death and then years later vows to find her.



Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Editor of *Ecotone* **David Gessner** speaks about his memoir *The Prophet of Dry Hill: Lessons from a Life in Nature*. See Oct. 4 Newtonville Books listing for a description.

Harvard Book Store

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Atlantic Monthly correspondent **Robert D. Kaplan** discusses his book *Imperial Grunts: The American Military on the Ground*, which focuses on the influence of American military troops on foreign governments.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Former *Time* magazine editor **Barrett Seaman** reads from his book *Binge: What Your College Student Won't Tell You*, about the author's experiences studying the lives of today's college students while living on various college campuses.

Newtonville Books in the Attic

The Attic, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Nick McDonell** reads from his novel *The Third Brother*, about a Harvard freshman just returning from an internship in Thailand as he faces his parents' unexpected death and the tragic events of September 11.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

Barnes & Noble, Boston University

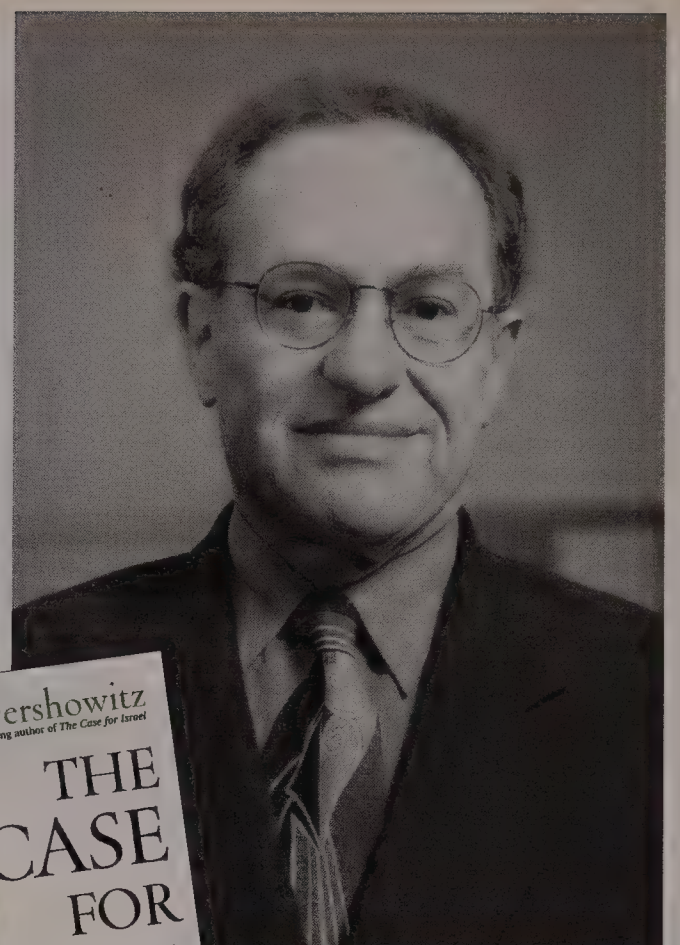
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www. bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Boston University professor **Alston Purvis** discusses his book *The Vendetta*, about the career of his father, FBI agent Melvin Purvis, and director J. Edgar Hoover's war against him.

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. New England historian **Michael Tougais** discusses his book *Ten Hours Until Dawn: The True Story of Heroism and Tragedy Aboard the Can Do*, about a civilian boat attempting to rescue two ships during the blizzard of '78.

Harvard Book Store Event

Beren Hall, Harvard Hillel, 52 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Slate magazine poetry editor **Robert Pinsky** reads from his biography *Life of David*, which depicts biblical David realistically and uses biblical texts as the primary source of information.


Alan Dershowitz reads Sept. 28.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Leslie Wheeler** reads from her novel *Murder at Gettysburg*, about a woman investigating a suspicious death during a Battle of Gettysburg reenactment.

Newtonville Books in the Attic

The Attic, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **George Saunders** discusses his novel *The Brief and Frightening Reign of Phil*, about an unusually small nation engaging in a power struggle with a neighboring country.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

Harvard Book Store

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Professor of bioethics at Princeton University **Peter Singer** discusses his book *In Defense of Animals*, which includes various essays about the moral implications of the way we treat animals.

Harvard Book Store Event

First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $3. Contributing writer to *Time* magazine **Barbara Ehrenreich** discusses her book *Bait and Switch: The (Futile) Pursuit of the American Dream*, about the difficulties of gaining employment in the mid-level corporate world.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. French journalist **Anne Nivat** reads from her book *In the Wake of War: Encounters in Iraq and Afghanistan*, which recounts her experiences meeting and talking to people in Afghanistan and Iraq about the effects of American occupation.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Don Silver** discusses his novel *Backward-Facing Man*, about a recently deceased woman and her daughter's attempt to piece together her mother's past. Also, **Jeffrey Lewis** reads from his novel *The Conference of the Birds*, about the adventures of a group of people decrypting an old, mysterious Persian poem in downtown Manhattan.

Harvard Book Store Event

First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Yale professor **Harold Bloom** reads from his book *Jesus and Yahweh: The Names Divine*, which questions the characters of the Jewish and Christian gods and discusses the differences and similarities.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000 www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Erez Liberman** reads from his boo *Nicholas Kahn & Richard Selesnick: City of Salt*, whic pairs narrative essays with digital photography to cr ate a sense of an alternative reality.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line t Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Yoga master **B.K.S Iyengar** discusses his book *Light on Life: The Yog Journey to Wholeness, Inner Peace and Ultimate Free dom*, which explains the philosophy of yoga as an in tellectual exercise.

Harvard Book Store Event

Beren Hall, Harvard Hillel, 52 Mount Auburn St Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Profes sor of medicine at Yale University **Sherwin Nulan** discusses his biography *Maimonides*, which focuse on the life the Jewish philosopher and particularl his work as a physician.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.c newton.ma.us/Library. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Dic Lourie**, **Laurie Rosenblatt** and **Clara Silverstei** read from their works.

Newtonville Books & Brews

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail t Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Brock Clarke** reads fro his collection of short stories *Carrying the Torch* set i the new American South. Also, **Don Silver** discusse his novel *Backward-Facing Man*.

Wellesley Booksmith Event

Unitarian Universalist Society of Wellesley Hills, 30 Washington St., Wellesley (617-431-1160) www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commute Rail to Wellesley. 7:30 pm. Free. Former teache **Jonathan Kozol** reads from his book *The Shame o the Nation: The Restoration of Apartheid Schooling i America*, about racial inequalities within th American public school system.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+ $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Loung hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Dr. Brown's Traveling Poetry Show (Tuesdays)

Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridg (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. MBTA Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. $5. **Michael R Brown** directs this 90-minute show of perfor mance poetry.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)

1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759) www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard 7:30 pm. $5. The **Jeff Robinson Trio** plays backgroun music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)

Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridg (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts thi open mike for women and their allies, with five- an 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery

106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Cen tral. •Mondays, 8 pm: Jack Powers hosts Ston Soup, featuring prescheduled poets. $4 suggested do nation. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Share or listen to poetr and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggeste donation.

Somerville News@Toast Series (Second Sunday)

Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-628 2313). 3 pm. Free. Poet **Doug Holder** hosts an open mike reading.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)

Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188) www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Lin to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The secon Thursday of each month offers a selection of fea tured poets and an opportunity for others to take the mike.

education

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/EDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

merican Indians and the French nd English War
ld South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston 17-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. BTA: Orange Line to State Street. 6:30-7:30 pm. ee. Dartmouth College professor **Colin G. Cal-way** examines the Native American perspective ring the French and Indian war.

emetery Tour: Old Granary & Kings hapel
aza above Park Street Station, Boston (617-536-40). www.newenglandancestors.org. MBTA: reen/Red Line to Park. 10:00 am. Free. The New ngland Historical Genealogical Society sponsors educational tour of the historic Old Granary and ngs Chapel with geneologist **David Lambert**.

/ardrobe 101
oston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., oston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: reen Line to Arlington. 5:45-7:45 pm. $35 for embers, $44 for nonmembers. **Susan Mullins**, esident of the wardrobe consulting firm SusanStyle, structs on how to develop a stylish wardrobe.

HURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Critical Look at Celebrations of merican Jewish Life
hn J. Moakley Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Way, oston (617-559-8880). www.ajhsboston.org. MBTA: lver or Red Line to South Station. 12:30-1:30 pm. ee. Resident historian **Karla Goldman Ph.D** out-nes the role of the American Jewish community in arious decades by discussing events throughout story.

Inspiration, Identity and the Creative Process: Dictionary Days
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-8 pm. $15. PBS host and author **Ilian Stavans** shares his passion for the written word and explains how words link the past with our experiences through oral and written histories and literature.

The Once and Future Planet
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Director of the Harvard University Center for the Environment **Daniel Schrag** discusses strategies for helping meet the world's energy needs without damaging the environment.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

The Bee Gees Meet the Beastie Boys: What's Up with Mash-Ups?
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle Street, Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 7 pm. Free. **Mike Miliard** of the *Boston Phoenix* joins **DJ BC** and **DJ Lenlow** to discuss the new phenomenon of musical remix mash-ups, which combine songs from artists in different styles and eras.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Beacon Hill Treasures
Otis House Museum, 141 Cambridge St., Boston (617-227-3957,ext.256) www.historicnewengland.org. MBTA Blue Line to Bowdoin. 11 am $10, members $8. A museum tour guide leads a historic one-hour guided walking tour through scenic Beacon Hill.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

A Season of Contemporary Salons: Jewish Civilization and Its Place in the World
Boston College, Gasson 100, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-558-6447). www.bc.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Boston College. 3-6 pm. Free. **Professor Dwayne Carpenter** and **Professor Maxim D. Shrayer**, co-directors of the Boston College Jewish Studies program, along with several university professors, engage in a panel discussion on the evolution of Jewish culture and its standing in today's society.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

FREE GALLERY TALK: The Indian Sitar
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave, Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Museum. 11 am-12 pm. Free. New England Conservatory Professor of Music **Peter Row** shares his expertise in the background, culture and style of the sitar, which is native to northern India.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Back to School Scrapbook Pages
Spark Craft Studios, 750 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6:30-9 pm. $25. Craft instructor **Renée DeBlois** teaches a workshop on creating the perfect scrapbook for any occasion.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

Julian Opie, ICA/Vita Brevis Artist
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Warf, Boston (617-730-2700). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm. $7 general admission, $5 members. International British artist **Julian Opie** speaks on his artistic style and shares his encounters with prominent contemporary artists.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

Collecting Art & Being Smart
Artana Gallery, 1378B Beacon St., Boston (617-879-3111). Call for reservations. www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle. 7:30-9 pm. Free. Gallery owner **Heather Roy** describes the 10 most common art-buying mistakes.

ICA's Fall Speaker Series: Julian Opie
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention/ICA. 6:30 pm. $7 general admission, $5 ICA members, students and seniors. British painter **Julian Opie** discusses his animated portraits that are installed in various public areas around Boston.

Native American Photography and Federal Indian Policy in the 19th Century
Yenching Institute, Harvard University, 2 Divinity Ave, Cambridge (617-496-1027). Free. www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 5:30 pm. Free. Associate Curator of the Peabody Museum **Diana Loren Ph.D** presents her views on Native American photograpy and diplomacy.

Why Is Mona Lisa Smiling? Secrets of Renaissance Art
Brookline Adult Education, Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave/ Coolidge Corner. 7-8:30 pm. $5. Learn about the little-known history of Renaissance Italy by examining and exploring the social and political background of the time.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

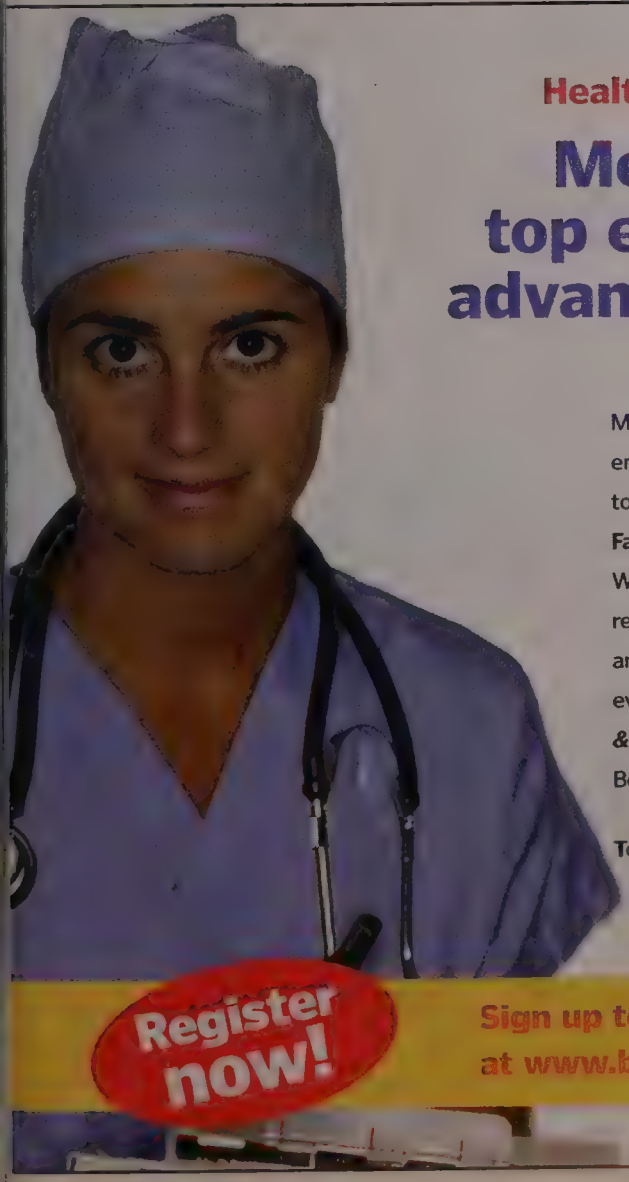
From Cauliflower to Chaos: The Fractal Geometry of Roughness
Museum of Science, Cahners Theater, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0250). Open to the public, members may call for reservations. www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 7 pm. Free. **Benoit B. Mandelbrot**, Sterling Professor of Mathematical Sciences at Yale University, gives a personal account of his work and how his studies have impacted business markets.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

Haunted House
Paper Source, 338 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-3444)..www.paper-source.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 1-4 pm. $45. Paper Source instructor **Melita Matzko** leads a session on creating decorations using templates for Halloween-themed parties.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

The Future of Social Security
John F. Kennedy Library, Columbia Pt., Boston (617-514-1550). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 2-3:30 pm. Free. New York Times Columnist **Paul Krugman** and other panelists discuss the impact of security reform with Pulitzer–Prize– winning *Boston Globe* columnist **Tom Oliphant** moderating.



Healthcare professionals:

Meet Boston's top employers and advance your career!

Meet face to face with Boston's leading healthcare employers and find a great new job! Register now to attend the **FREE Nursing & Allied Health Career Fair** Monday, October 3 at the Crowne Plaza in Woburn. Visit www.bostonworks.com/healthfair to register to attend, check out hundreds of great jobs, and apply online. To get ready for the fair and browse even more great jobs, pick up ***Careers in Nursing & Allied Health,*** a themed advertorial appearing in BostonWorks Sunday, October 2.

To advertise, call 617-929-1366 by September 30!

Find all kinds of positions, including:
Registered Nurses
Radiology Technologists
Physical Therapists
Pharmacists
Medical Assistants
Case Managers
Speech Pathologists
And more!

BostonWorks
Nursing & Allied Health Career Fair
Monday, October 3 from 10am-3pm
Crowne Plaza, Woburn

Sign up to attend this FREE career fair at www.bostonworks.com/healthfair

Exhibiting Employers
Boston Medical Center
Cambridge Health Alliance
Emerson Hospital
Hallmark Health Visiting Nurse Association
Healthsouth New England Rehab Hospital
Lahey Clinic Medical Center
Lowell General Hospital
Melrose-Wakefield Hospital/Lawrence Memorial Hospital
Mount Auburn Hospital
New England Baptist Hospital
Northeast Hospitals
North Shore Medical Center
South Shore Hospital
Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital
Tufts New England Medical Center
Winchester Hospital

Register now!

Sign up to attend this FREE career fair at www.bostonworks.com/healthfair!

BostonWorks
The jobs you want. And how to get them.

gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday-night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 18+. DJ Susanne spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 pm. This gay sports bar, with six large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music as booked. •Sun.: An Evening of Mizery: Amateur Talent Night, 10 pm. •Mon. (alternating weeks): Foxy Follies; TraniWreck. •Tue.: Karaoke. •Wed.: Delightful Divas with Melinda Wilson. •Thu.: Jacque's Angels with Kris Knievel. •Fri. and Sat.: Miss Norelle's Leading Ladies.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, featuring deep house music, 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night, 10 pm-2 am, cover varies, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with DJ Luis Cintron, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

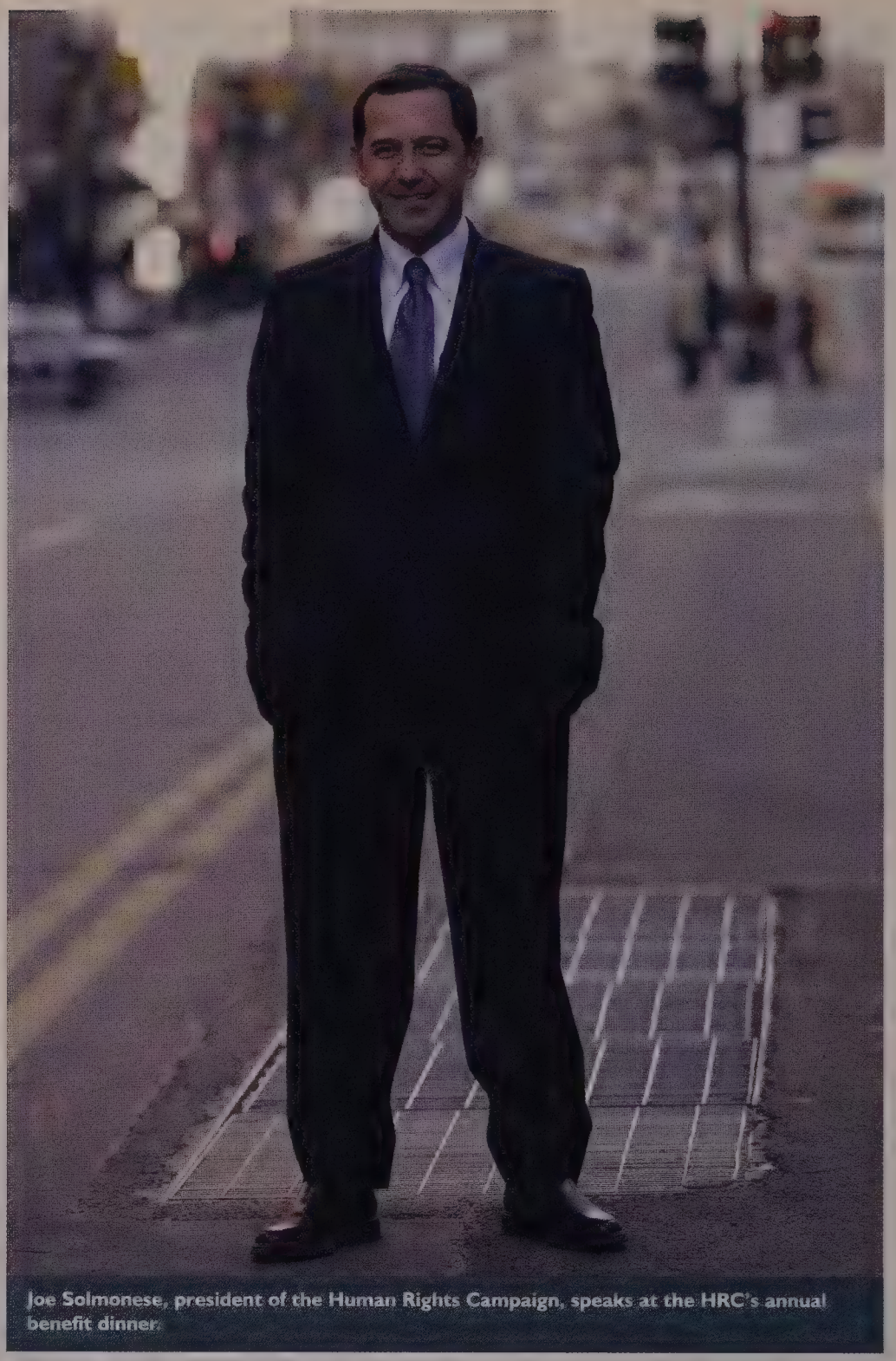
Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am, cover varies. DJ Danae spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Fridays, Saturdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 5:30 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera and Saturday is Hero's Retro Night with DJs from ManRay.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9:30 pm-2 am. DJ Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.


Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign, speaks at the HRC's annual benefit dinner.

Shows & Events

Curve magazine 15th Anniversary Party
Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.dykenight.com. Oct. 7. 8 pm-10 am, $10, 21+. This party celebrates *Curve* magazine's 15th anniversary with subscription give-a-ways, free T-shirts and other prizes. The night also features a speed dating event where singles can go on a series of five-minute dates. Proceeds benefit Boston Dyke March 2006.

Deeper Dating
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston. www.deeperdating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 1. 7-10 pm. This event begins with speeches by Gene Falco, MSW, JD and William Michael Keane, Ph.D, on sexuality, intimacy and spirituality in the world of dating and is followed by a series of exercises that allow you to mingle with the other singles in attendance.

Human Rights Campaign Annual New England Dinner
Westin Copley Place Hotel, 10 Huntington Ave Boston (800-494-8497). www.hrc.org/bostor MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 29, 6 pm, $20(HRC holds its 24th annual New England dinner an silent auction benefiting the HRC's support of le bian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality. Dress formal or festive.

Paint the Town (La) Red Annual Gala
Cambridge Marriott, 2 Cambridge Center, Cambridg (617-695-0877). www.thenetworklared.org/fundraise MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Oct. 22, 7 pm, $10(The Network/La Red, an organization that addresse battering in lesbian, bisexual women's and transger der communities, hosts its annual fundraising gal The evening features cocktails, dinner, silent auctio and entertainment.

Speed Dating
Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623 9211). www.dykenight.com. Sept. 30. 8 pm-10 am $10, 21+. Go on a series of five-minute dates at th singles event benefiting Boston Dyke March 200(which takes place next June.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. Th Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual an Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and socia events for young people seeking community, suppor and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, (617-937-5858, ext. 13). 27 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blu or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chan dler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Lin to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm, $12 fo the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 an cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown North G/L Bowling League
Lanes & Games, 195 Concord Turnpike, Cambridg (617-876-5533). www.beantownbowling.com. MBTA Red Line to Alewife. 8:30 pm. This bowling league fo gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Tuesda nights.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889 1552). www.beantownbowling.com. 7 pm. Thi bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Bosto area meets Wednesday nights.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss book videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cam bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of eac month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to a bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Bosto (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm- am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and thir Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hou every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7- pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym phony. The league comprises gay and lesbian player and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers full regular season and playoff schedule each yea E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri. 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities fo questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- an transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group fo cuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are hel at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave. Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400 member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

OLAGE
rd Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE
ildren of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets
Medford for support and activities and holds a
current meeting for interested parents and their
ners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

ming Out as Bisexual
ton's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living
nter, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595).
w.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.
t Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An
rmal group for people who think they may be bi-
ual or are attracted to more than one sex.

ming Out Support Group for Adults
7-482-2166). This group offers a confidential
ce for men and women who are looking for a safe
ce to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets
ursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge
ner in Brookline. Call for more information.

mpass
1-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area
port, information and social group for people as-
ned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate
complete description of their gender. Part of the
M (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets
nthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

egant Outings
6-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group
comes gay and gay-friendly professional women
and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisti-
ed to get together with like-minded women for
nversations, dinners, theater and networking.

nway Community Health
Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenway
lth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fen-
y Community Health offers a wide array of ser-
es for the GLBT community, ranging from discus-
ns about parenting and safe-sex practices to
ograms addressing domestic violence and sub-
nce abuse.

AG Flag Football
w.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's
LBT flag football league for its formal fall season.
l are welcome, regardless of skill level.

he 40-Somethings
primeoflife@aol.com. This newly formed group of
bians in their 40s runs events that help foster the creation of enduring romantic/life partnerships, through being friends first.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat., 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information, e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail info@gaylab.org.

Gays for Patsy
(617-412-5751) http://www.gaysforpatsy.org. This country-western dancing club, including two-step, swing, and line dancing, holds events twice every month. Beginners welcome, and no partner needed. Call for more details.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose and performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

LAFFAN
LAFFAN_Boston2004@yahoo.com for membership information. Lesbians Available For Fun and Networking is a social and networking group that provides opportunities for women to connect with each other. Members receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. LAFFAN sponsors an annual Halloween dance and spring dances/benefits.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Monday Night Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). www.mnbl.net. 7:30 pm. The MNBL's 2005-06 bowling season runs Monday nights.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This support group is working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Newly Diagnosed Group
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and bisexual men who have been diagnosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men and bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Women Outdoors
Kayak/Canoe Washburn Island, Waquoit Bay, Falmouth (413-734-0276).www.women-outdoors.org. Sept. 9-11. Kayaking to the island and camping for all women, regardless of sexuality and age.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

will publish its annual

BACHELORS & BACHELORETTES

issue in February 2006

Please nominate your favorite local single guy or gal to be featured in this issue.

PLEASE INCLUDE:

Your name _____

Your phone number and e-mail address _____

_____

Your nominee's name, phone number, e-mail address

and the local city where he/she lives _____

_____

Tell us why he/she is a catch. Be specific. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

His/her occupation and age _____

(Please include a recent color photo, or high-res digital image, of your friend)

MAIL NOMINATIONS TO:
The Improper Bostonian
Attn: Bachelor/Bachelorette Nomination
142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116
or
e-mail to Bostonbach@improper.com

Please note that you can't nominate yourself and you must provide all of the above information in order to qualify.

Entries must be received no later than October 21, 2005

body & mind

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace

Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 7, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-$10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone welcome. All dances taught and accompanied by live music.

Dharma Film: *Kundun*

The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Oct. 1, 7 pm. $10. Co-sponsored with the Institute for Meditation and Psychotherapy, this film series explores the mind and spirit of the cinema. This evening features Martin Scorsese's *Kundun*, the story of the 14th Dalai Lama's early life, and his spiritual and political development under the tutelage of his mentors. The film is followed by refreshments and discussion, along with special guest Lama Surya Das.

Mystical Art and Talent Show

Swedenborg Chapel, 50 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-864-4552). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. www.soulstirring.org. Oct. 1, 7-9:30 pm. $5-$10, sliding scale. This show presents a variety of original paintings, readings, stories and songs by local artists who gather their inspiration from dreams, meditations, religion, nature and more.

Sought by the Spirit

Harvard Divinity School, Andover Hall, Braun Room, 45 Francis Ave., Cambridge (617-776-5767). www.gardenlight.org. Oct. 1-2, 10 am-5 pm. $80 for one day or $150 for both. Pir Zia Inayat Khan, spiritual leader of the Sufi Order International, will present universal teachings of Sufism, contemplative perspectives, and meditative practices designed to awaken participants to the inner life.

Whole Health Expo

Holiday Inn, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough (978-263-8701). www.wholehealthexpo.com. Oct. 8 and 9, Sat., 9:30 am-7 pm, Sun., 9:30 am-6 pm. Spend the day sampling new products and treatments, and learning about a variety of healing and personal growth techniques at this annual expo.

Lecture

Achieving Sustainable Wellness

Chi Wellness Clinic, 318 Bear Hill Road, Waltham (781-290-0488). www.chiwellness.com. Oct. 3 and 10, 12 pm. Free. Drop by this regular Monday lecture for a taste of herbal tea and discussion about healing chronic conditions with traditional Chinese medicine.

Classes

The Art of Being Human

Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.shambhalaboston.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Oct. 7-9, 18 hours. $100, call for financial assistance. This weekend of Shambhala Training introduces participants to the practice of sitting meditation and to the basic principles of the Shambhala path of warriorship. The program includes meditation instruction, lecture, discussion and individual interviews with instructors.

Cash Now

Hearts Singing Healing Center, 38 Dix Road Ext., Woburn (781-281-2888). www.heartssinging.com. Oct. 8 and 9, 10 am-6 pm. $300. This class will educate participants about the energy flow of money and prosperity and aims to assist with healing issues regarding financial abundance.

Chakras: Wheels of Life

Spirit Earth Healing, 661 Mass. Ave. #8, Arling (617-515-8826). www.spiritearthhealing.com. C 11, 7-8:30 pm. $20. In this introductory course chakras, the energy centers in our bodies, disco how they regulate various energies inside a around us, how energy blocks can impact y health and more.

Holistic Approach to Weight Loss

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Av Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBT Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 1, 10 am-1 pm. $41 addition to nutrition and exercise, losing weight volves emotional, mental and spiritual componer This class covers the basics of nutrition, types diets, the use of visualization exercises, and planni a long-term approach to weight loss and go health.

Letting Go of Fear

Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broa way, Cambridge (617-441-9038). MBTA: Red L to Central. www.cimc.info. Oct. 8, 10 am-4 p $60. Learn various meditation practices to he you find balance, open your heart and cultiva wisdom, along with how to use these at tim when fear arises in everyday life.

Meditation and Imagery for Relaxation and Healing

Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circ ofwisdom.com. Oct. 5, 7:15-9:30 pm. $35. This cl will introduce a variety of effective mind-body tec niques that utilize the body's natural ability to rel heal and acquire well-being.

Wholistic Sexuality: An Introductio to a New Paradigm

Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 308A Harva St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopenir com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. O 3, 7:30-9:30 pm. $30. The essential concepts wholistic sexuality are presented with fun and ea exercises, and will explore male and female arous genital anatomy, how sexuality can be a power force for growth and healing, along with easy tec niques for expanding pleasure.

Zen Meditation

All That Matters, 315 Main St., Wakefield, R (401-782-2126). www.allthatmatters.com. Oct. 10-11 am. Donations welcome. Learn how to enj the simple, powerful and ancient practice of Z meditation. The session begins with a short peri of instruction, followed by sitting and walki meditation.

Retreat

Fall Hiking Retreat

Breakheart Reservation, Forest St., Saugus (97 474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com or www.l integrity.com. Oct. 8, 10 am-2 pm. $50. Please pr register. During this comfortable fall hike, partic pants will take time for themselves to prepare f the mental hibernation of winter and plan for flourishing springtime ahead.

Ongoing

Dance Friday

Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St Watertown (617-876-3050). MBTA: Bus lines #5 and #70. Fri., 8 am-12 pm. Donations welcome. Th evening starts with a warm-up and continues wi freestyle dancing to DJs spinning. Dancin barefoot is allowed but drinking or smoking a not. All ages and levels welcome.

Irish Ceili and Set Dancing

Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave Cambridge (617-354-7467). www.KieranJorda com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue., 7:30- pm. $10. Come with a partner or just yourself learn Irish group dancing. No previous experienc is required.

Power Yoga Fundamentals

Prana Power Yoga, 282 Centre St., Newton (617-64 YOGA). www.pranapoweryoga.com. Thu., 7:15- pm. $12. Learn the fundamentals of Prana Pow Yoga, including the basic breathing and postu techniques based on the flowing, sequenced style Vinyasa yoga. Open to all levels.

Tai Chi in the Woods

Chi Wellness Clinic, 318 Bear Hill Road, Waltha (781-290-0488). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltha Station. www.chiwellness.com. Mon., 5:30-6:30 pm $10. Open to all levels. Improve balance an coordination, strengthen the immune system, an enjoy relaxation through breathing and gentl movement out in nature.

Sports

dvice to ontributors

ibmit listings by fax (617-859-446) or mail to Calendar: orts. Or e-mail information to orts@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway op, dates and times and a brief scription of the league or event. istings cannot be accepted over e telephone and must be received least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

oston Red Sox
Fenway Park, Boston
ickets: 617-482-4769
ept. 28, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto ue Jays
ept. 29, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
ept. 30, 7:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
ct. 1, 1:15 pm vs. New York Yankees
ct. 2, 2:05 pm vs. New York Yankees

lew England Patriots
Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
ickets: 617-543-1776
ct. 2, 1 pm vs. San Diego Chargers

Events

ack to School Cup Golf Tournament
opkinton Golf Club, 204 Saddle Hill Road, Hopkinn (508-435-4630). Sept. 28. $250. This fourth anual tournament includes lunch, dinner and a live uction to benefit the Inner-City Scholarship Fund. -mail jdoyle@prospectiv.com to sign up, or for ore information.

ufts Health Plan 10K for Women
oston Common at Beacon St., Boston. www.tufts ealthplan.com/tufts10k. Oct. 10. Registration, 7 am; ace starts, 12 pm. $28-$35. This 29th annual Columus Day event features a 6.2-mile race and 1K Fitness Walk for Kids.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club eeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed, year-round basketall leagues for players at all levels in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals re welcome.

Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club (CRFC)
(617-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round eagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one omen's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of ll ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
25 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line o Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympictyle boxing lessons for all levels.

Dogtime Boxing
527 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). www.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This oxing club offers training for competition, conditioning and recreation.

DODGEBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeball teams.

Boston Ski & Sports Club offers indoor and outdoor soccer leagues.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Sat. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

JUDO

Phoenix Judo Club
Bayshore Athletic Club, 14 Plain St., Braintree (781-356-5303). www.phoenixjudo.com. Mon.,Wed. and Thu., 7:30-9:30 pm; Sat., 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Participants of all skill levels are invited to join.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www.worldkickball.com. Coed kickball leagues play throughout the fall in Boston and Somerville. Register online.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonRun@teamlunachix.com. Weekly runs Thu. at 6:30 pm. Women only. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bostonlunachix. Talking-pace 3- or 5-mile runs through the Fells.

SOCCER

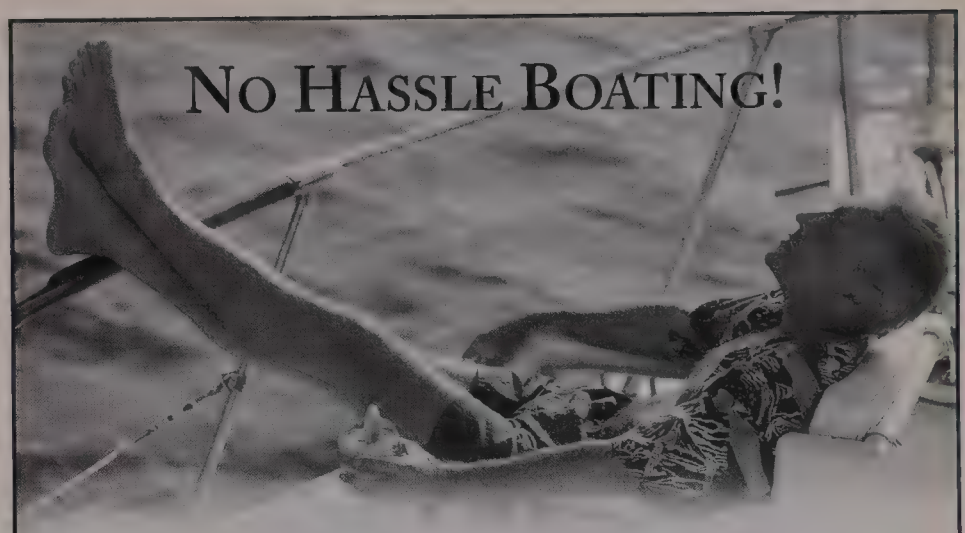
Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070). A series of indoor and outdoor soccer leagues start up this fall.

SWIMMING

Cambridge Masters Swim Club
www.cambridgemasters.com. The club offers coached workouts, social events and open-water swims.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.



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Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

ImprovBoston Family Show

1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students and children. •This short-form improv performance for the whole family includes interactive games.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 1 pm and 3 pm. $7.50, members; $9.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Oct. 1-2, 1 pm and 3 pm. *The Dinosaur Show* follows a scientist on his search for dinosaurs. Recommended for ages 4-8. •Oct. 5-6, 10:30 am. *Friendly Forest Folktales* is a medley of engaging tales, including "The Hungry Catepillar" based on Eric Carle's story. Recommended for ages 3-6. •Oct. 8-9, 1 pm and 3 pm. During *Peter Rabbit & Other Stories* come see Peter celebrate his birthday with his closest friends. Recommended for ages 3-7.

Things to Do

Barefoot Books

1771 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Fri. and Sat., 10:30 am. Free. •Story hour for children ages 5 and under features a variety of themes. Ongoing.

Boston Art Tours

Call for reservations and meeting locations. (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Family Art Gallery Tours in Boston, Tue.-Sat., 11-4 pm. $25, adults; $15, teens; $5, children. • Art enthusiasts lead walking tours of contemporary art along Newbury Street and through the South End art district.

Boston by Little Feet

Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. •A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail is designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide. Through Oct. 31.

Boston Conservatory

8 Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222), www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. Free. •Oct. 22, 2 pm. The Conservatory's Seully Hall presents the children's opera performance of *Little Red's Most Unusual Day*. Recommended for ages 5-12.

Boston Public Library

700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Oct. 15, 2:30 pm. Boston city archeologist **Ellen Berkland** discusses toys of the past in *Toy Stories from Long Ago* and provides activities for children, which include making marbles. Recommended for ages 5 and up.

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Thu., Sat.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •Oct. 8, *11:30 am-1:30 pm. Kitchen Science: No Blow-Balloons.* Perform a science experiment and blow up a balloon without using your breath. •Tue., 10:30 am. *Tasty Tuesdays* provide a variety of snacks to sample. •The exhibit *Adventures with Clifford the Big Red Dog* invites families to explore Birdwell Island, where the Clifford books take place, and features a 9-foot-tall Clifford. Through Jan. 8. •Experience a medieval village and make medieval-themed arts and crafts at the *Amazing Castle* exhibit. Ongoing. •The Art Studio invites parents and children to create works of art together. Ongoing.

Coolidge Corner Theater

290 Harvard Street, Brookline (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Oct. 8, 10 am-12 pm. Bob Gautre writes and directs his version of Aesop's Fables.

Franklin Park Zoo

1 Franklin Park Rd., Boston (617-541-5466). ww zoonewengland.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sa Sun., 10 am-6 pm. $9.50, adults; $5.50, ages 2-1 free, ages 2 and under. •The 72-acre site include farmyard petting zoo, lions in the *Kalahari Kingdom* butterfly garden, gorillas in the *African Tropical For Habitat* and kangaroos in the *Australian Outback.*

Harvard Museum of Natural History

Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (61 495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: R Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.5 adults; $6, students; $5, ages 3-18. •Oct. 1, 9:30 a 12 pm. *Forest Friends* introduces preschoolers to fo est plants and animals through an interactive wa with stories, hands-on artifacts and a critter cra •Oct. 1, 9:30 am-12 pm. Kindergarteners and fi graders can play Native American games and activ ties at *Indian Adventures.* •Oct. 8, 9:30 am-12 p *Halloween Beasties* teaches second and third grade about Halloween animals through games, live a mals and exhibits. Children can also make a craft take home.

The Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston Street, Boston (617-266-4021 www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hyn Convention Center. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 12 pm pm; Thu., 12 pm-9 pm, Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 p •Oct. 8. 10 am-12:30 pm. Explore how artis choose their materials in the *Family Days: Materi Madness* workshop. $10, adult with one child, each additional child; $8, members with one chi and $2 each additional child. Recommended f ages 5-8.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). ww web.mit.edu/museum. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat Sun., 12-5 pm. $5, adults; $2, seniors, students a ages 5-18; free, children under 5. •The MIT Museu offers free admission the third Sunday of eve month. View exhibits ranging from historical clipp ships to robots and new inventions.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, ages 17 on weekdays before 3 pm; free, 5 and under. •Tue Thu., 3:30 pm. *Books Bring Art Alive* with arts a crafts for ages 5 and under. •Mon.-Fri., 3:30 pm The Children's Room holds programs for ages 6-1 that explore the museum's exhibits while allowi children to participate in art projects, creati drama, poetry and music.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mo org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14, adults; $12, senior $11, children. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm. *Anima and Stories Alive!* combines a live animal presenta tion with mythical and folk storytelling. Ongoin •*Beyond the X-Ray* explores how doctors peer insid the human body. Ongoing. •Butterflies and flowe are on display in the permanent *Butterfly Garde* •*Countdown to Supernova* shows at the Hayde Planetarium and explores the life cycles of stars. O going. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibit th features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Science Live!* feature live animals and multimedia presentations su rounded by natural history dioramas. Ongoing.

Museum of Transportation

Larz Anderson Park off of Newton St. Brookline (617 522-6547). www.mot.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $ adults; $3 seniors and students ages 7-17; 6 and unde free. •Oct. 1. Japanese Car Day. •Oct. 2. Inaugura Vintage Truck & Tractor Show. •Oct. 9. The La Anderson Classic for European Motorcycles.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thur. 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, adults $13.95, seniors; $8.95, children ages 3-11. •*Amazin Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through Dec 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank con tains sharks, stingrays, sea turtles and more. Ongoing •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuring se stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •The Simon IMAX Theatre features *Wild Safari, Sharks 3-D* an *Aliens of the Deep.* Ongoing.

TD Banknorth Garden

100 Legends Way, Boston (617-624-1050) www.tdbanknorthgarden.com. Oct. 7-16. $12, $17 $23. $40, VIP; $70, Front Row; $94, Circu Celebrity. •The *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Baile Circus* presents their 134th edition of *The Greates Show on Earth.* For a full schedule visit the TI Banknorth Garden Web site.

around town

Sights to See

oston University Observatory
oit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-530). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on ear nights), 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

hildren's Museum
0 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South ation. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9; ildren ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1-year-olds, $2; under year old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

aneuil Hall
5 State St., Boston. www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. BTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-t., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 n. Free.

larvard Museum of Natural History
6 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.mnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-n., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; chil-en ages 3-18, $5; Harvard students with valid ID, free; ee to all, Wed., 3-5 pm, Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

ohn F. Kennedy Library & Museum
olumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). ww.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. aily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and college students with alid ID, $8; ages 13-17, $7; 12 and under, free.

lount Auburn Cemetery
80 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

luseum of Afro-American History
6 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam useum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park reet. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Guided walking tours vailable by special request. Free.

luseum of Science
cience Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. rg. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Through abor Day, Daily, 9 am-7 pm; Starting Sept. 5, Sat.-hu., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, 13; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

luseum of Transportation
5 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 0 am-5 pm. $5; children ages 6-17 and seniors, $3; chil-ren under 6, free.

lew England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. rg. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-pm; Fri.-Sun. and Holidays, 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; se-iors, $13.95; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

Old North Church
93 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Or-nge or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-6 pm. ree.

Old South Meeting House
10 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). ww.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State St. Daily, 9:30 am-5 pm. $5; seniors nd students, $4; children, $1.

Old State House Museum
06 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). ww.bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line o State St. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; seniors and stu-ents, $4; children ages 6-18, $1; members, children nder 6, free.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; with college ID, $7.50; seniors, $7; children 12 nd under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). www. rinityboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Daily, 8 m-6 pm. $5; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Tues.-Sun., 10 am-6 m. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
617-224-1303). *www.afcmentoring.org*. Mentor a fos-er-care or adopted child.

AIDS Action Committee
617-437-6200). *www.aac.org*. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 100 volunteer opportunities are available each month.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012 ext. 227). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers over 18 for kitchen, office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145 ext. 620). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor students in math and literacy and also prepare high school students for the MCAS.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000 ext. 7508). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. Help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helplineonline.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-927-0648). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900 ext. 113). www.horizonsinitiative.org. Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). www.lvm.org. Teach adults to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-972-9119). www.mabcommunityservices.org. Read to or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelder.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org. Volunteer as an aquarium guide and more.

Parental Stress Line
(1-800-882-1250). Counsel parents and caregivers and facilitate support groups.

Pine Street Inn
(617-892-9187). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740 ext. 15). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111 ext. 17). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). www.respondinc.org. Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). www.rosies.org. Volunteers needed for this women's homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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Artwork (clockwise from left):
Mission, Busha Husak, student; *OK*, Kerri Schmidt, student; *Hillside Twilight*, Majorie Glick, faculty

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP.

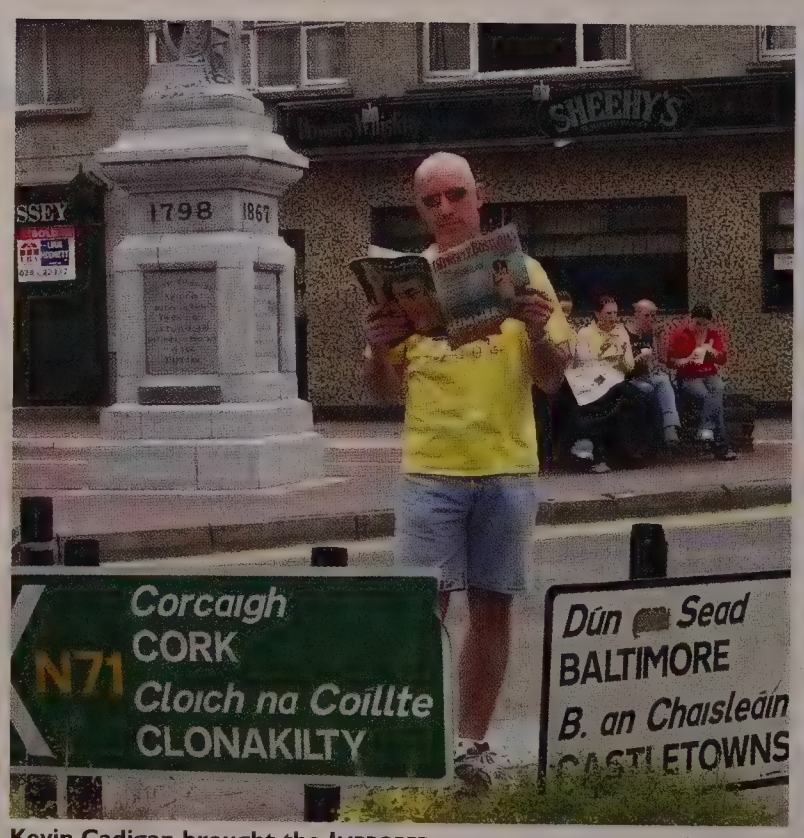
Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Harrison Mackenzie Moore took a liking to our Bridal Issue this summer while vacationing in Southern California. Soon after this photo, he announced his engagement to Apple Paltrow-Martin.

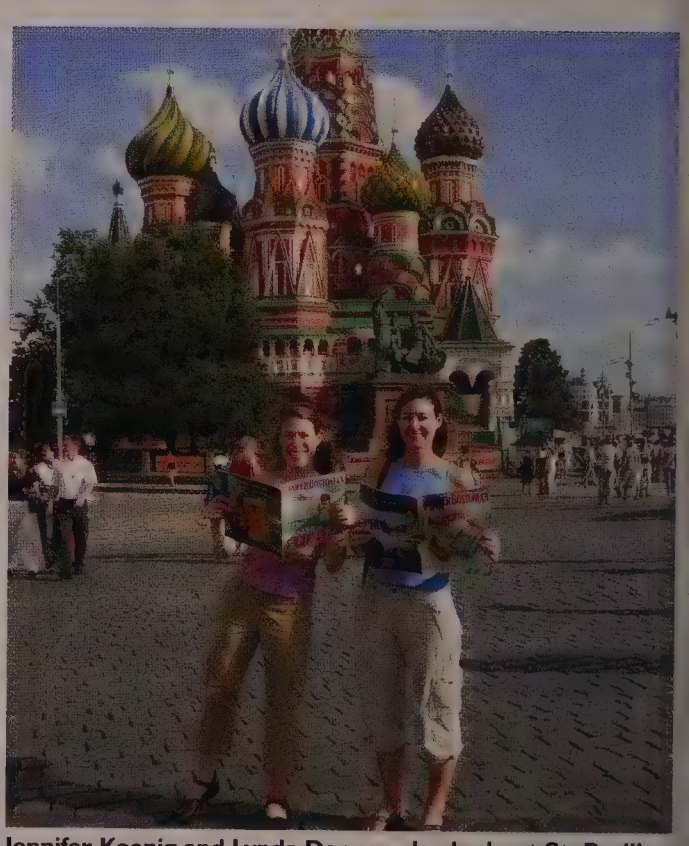
Premier Danny Williams of Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, loves the IMPROPER, and Bryan Adams.

Sue Mikes traveled to Vienna, Austria, where she found this statue, the unfortunate product of a torrid love affair between Pamela Anderson and a flying walrus.

Jacqui O'Neil and Joy Adams visited Mahdi's Tomb in Sudan, birthplace of the classic Sudanese riddle, "Who's buried in Mahdi's Tomb?"



Kevin Cadigan brought the IMPROPER on a summer voyage to Skibbereen, County Cork, Ireland, which is apparently located a lot closer to Maryland than we thought.



Jennifer Koenig and Lynda Dennen checked out St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow. St. Basil's is known as the Church of Intercession, as well as Kandylandski.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Winning the gold medal in either the shuffleboard or the applesauce-eating competition at the 18th annual World Senior Games, held October 3–15 in St. George, Utah.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (minimum 3 x 5) to Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

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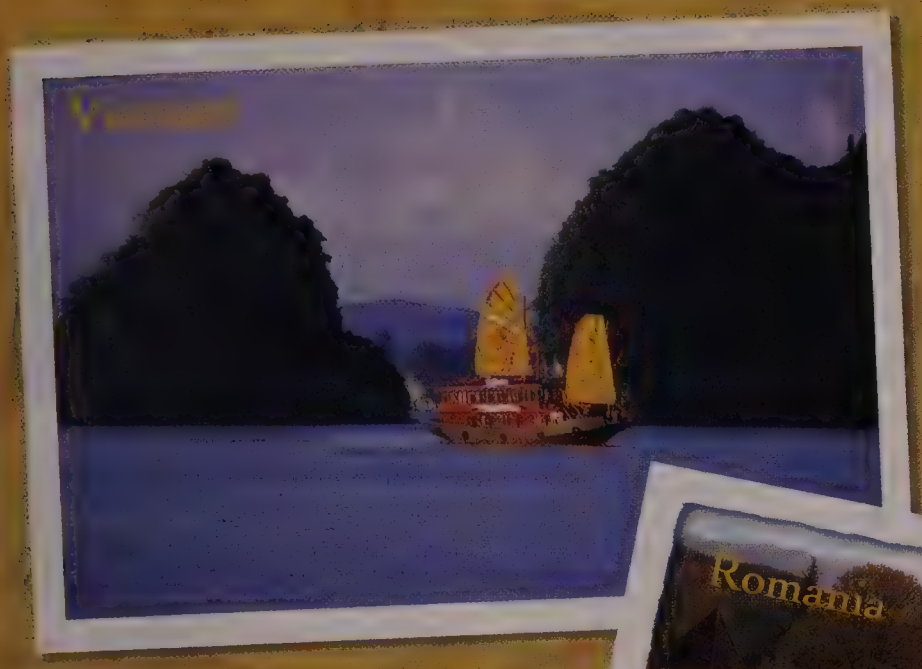

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In Search of Byzantium - Oct. 14-28 (15 days)

LIBYA
Hidden Cities of Antiquity - Oct. 28-Nov. 12 (16 days)
Silence Over Sahara - Nov. 9-20 (12 days)

Journeys of imagination

ANNO DOMINI 2006

INDOCHINA
Discover Vietnam - Jan. 10-26 (17 days)
Legendary Cambodia - Jan. 26-30 (5 days)
the Secret of Laos - Jan. 30-Feb 3 (5 days)

ROMANIA
Easter Celebration - April 14-28 (15 days)

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

rockie horoscope

SEPTEMBER 28 – OCTOBER 11, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Can't shut up? With the sun, Mercury and Jupiter in your sign, you're about as close to media central as a person (or on-air personality) can get. And since your affable Venus ruler in sexy Scorpio commands the attention of macho Mars, precious little will knock you out of the top spot. However, while your ratings stay high, your finances might take a dive, especially after Mars turns retrograde on October 1. Review mutual funds, insurance policies, bank loans, your living will—any arrangement that involves someone beside yourself.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Lovable Venus carousing through your sign appoints you "flavor of the month," but when the goddess and your Mars co-ruler face off around October 1, there could be a bitter confrontation with your mate. If you steel yourself for the impending shock, the impact shouldn't be too painful. However, since Mars will be retrograde until December 9, the recovery could take longer than anyone anticipates. Proceed slowly, review your options and allow another potential partnership, particularly in business, to develop in the meantime.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

One part preparation, one part trepidation—until Venus arrives in Sagittarius on October 7, you could be caught in a net of intrigue. While the goddess is playing Mata Hari in your Scorpio house of secret enemies and karmic debt, she might set off a chain reaction that jeopardizes your relationship with a co-worker, health professional or group that provides a service you really need. There isn't a whole lot you can do about the machinations except be patient and try to stay on top of the day-to-day developments.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

It could work both ways: Adventurous Mars turning retrograde in your Taurus house of romance, recreation and risk taking will definitely halt progress of one kind—e.g., if you're on the fast track to nowhere. Ten weeks of reconsidering and reevaluating should reveal another side to the relationship you're courting or the game you're so eager to play. And because the earthy Bull has a similar slow-and-steady approach as the cautious Goat, Mars' reversal (or reprieve) could turn out to be a blessing in disguise.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

As October begins, you could feel torn by the opposition between aggressive Mars in Taurus and diplomatic Venus in Scorpio. What'll serve your individual interests best—a take-charge approach to a domestic matter or an "anything to keep the peace" attitude at work? The atmosphere at work changes fairly soon, but Mars will be fuming and fussing around the house for the rest of the year. That's where your peacekeeping efforts should probably be directed, but don't count on a quick solution to the problem. Remodeling?

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

If Fish are enrolled in school, then curious Mars turning retrograde in Taurus, the sign governing your education and communication skills, may prevent you from making the sort of progress you anticipate. Which might not be such a bad thing; "thorough" instead of "speedy" has its advantages. If you're into sales or the travel business, a retrograde Mars could be a hindrance at the onset, but in the long run, a beneficial respite from the frantic pace of the rat race. There are bound to be other repercussions, especially while Mercury is retrograde in November.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

On October 1, your Mars ruler goes retrograde for the next 10 weeks. Since impulsive Mars is transiting your second house of assets, values and money you earn, it makes down-to-earth Taurean sense to pay extra attention to this area of your life. Also, security issues could be more of a concern than they usually are. Two days later, there's a new moon/solar eclipse in your Libra house of partners and co-workers that can impact you on a significant relationship for a long time to come. With so much drama in one week, make like a Boy Scout and be prepared.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

The main astrological event this autumn is Mars' turnaround in Taurus. From October 1 until December 9, the planet of initiative (as well as irritability) will be retracing the steps it has taken and the progress you've been making since mid-August, which is also when Mercury came out of retrograde. Can't remember? If need be, look through your diary to see what's been your primary focus since then, because that's what is coming up for review. Desires may wane, tempers will cool and missed opportunities could reappear.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Although the image of Nero fiddling away while Rome burns might not fit your current state of mind to a T, your ear for music and fondness for fooling around are particularly pronounced right now. Solar Libra is the time Twins should concentrate on playing games, having fun and making love. It's also when you're most receptive to all the Muses, your own and everybody else's. No matter if you're frustrated over a financial matter or you're having second thoughts about a relationship, don't stop doing the things that please you.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

While magnetic Venus takes up residence in your Scorpio house of romance, it may be difficult to focus on any other aspect of your life. The appeal is undeniable, the fascination inexplicable, the sexual attraction intense. So if your allegiance to a group is tested when Mars in Taurus changes direction, your love life shouldn't suffer. The connection between Venus and Mars, as well as your ties to Scorpio and Taurus natives, won't be broken. But once Venus enters freewheeling Sagittarius on October 7, all bets are off.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Of course money will continue to matter, but while your sun ruler is in judicious Libra, you'll take greater notice of your other assets, perhaps a liability as well. Since Libra is such a gracious, sociable sign, don't be surprised if you're mixing with folks you normally wouldn't. Meanwhile an attempt to straighten out a situation at home or fix up the place might be interrupted when energetic Mars in productive Taurus does a sudden about-face on October 1. Sincere efforts could be sidetracked until the office Christmas party.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Attention to the minute details of a money matter must be paid while your discerning Mercury ruler travels through Libra. Balancing the books, literally and figuratively, is what you tend to do this time of year. Be sure to remind yourself that expansive Jupiter, planet of prosperity and optimism, is still in Libra, but only for another month. Once it's gone, so go the carrots the jolly giant has been dangling. However, when Mercury merges with Jupiter on October 5, you could get lucky one more time.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

Attention Mr. VERY Wrong Number

OK, first, there is no possible way that I have the same number as "one of your friends." Two people cannot possibly have the same exact phone number including the area code. It's a wrong number and nothing but a wrong number.

Second, I know you are probably used to stupid girls who strive for validation from guys, but I'm simply not one of them. So stop leaving messages. Stop asking me to meet you at Starbucks in Arlington. Stop telling me the name Sarah is beautiful like that of a Hebrew princess. I'm not buying it and I never will.

—Not Buying It

To Jack at 185 Devonshire

My name is Susan. Your name is Jack. I thought you said Chuck. You thought I had a nice smile. I liked your tie but was too shy to say. I was visiting my dentist on the fourth floor (September 7 around 12:45). I'd forgotten my jacket. My hair was in a ponytail and I had on a white and black zebra-striped shirt and a black skirt. The stop for my floor came way too soon and I was rendered ineffective at flirting with you. I was, however, mesmerized by your charm and have been thinking of you since. If you feel the same, contact me MiracleMaker1@comcast.net.

—Indefinitely Charmed

Fed Up

This must stop! I realize that college is cool, fun, whatever. However, is constantly smoking flavored tobacco from your tin-foiled hookah while stringing gaudy Christmas lights around your deck and blasting some painful German remix of the latest dance hit really necessary? I know you see me glaring. By the way, put some sheets on your bed. Sleeping on a bare mattress is filthy even if you're in college. It's called personal hygiene. It's called bed bugs.

—Your Disgusted Neighbor (You know who I am.)

Good Samaritan at Dunks

It was Wednesday, 9 am on September 14 at Dunkin' Donuts in Charlestown. I had ordered two large iced coffees and was ready to pay with my debit card, when I was told that the credit card machine was broken. I didn't have any cash on me, and you were kind enough to pay for my iced coffees. I ran to the cash machine after leaving the coffee shop, but couldn't find you to pay you back. I just wanted to let you know how much it was appreciated, and how I wish there were more people like you in the world.

—ChuckTGirl

To Anyone Who Reads This (Part 2)

Hi again. This is Rodney Brown. First I would like to thank the IMPROPER for putting my letter in the magazine. I want to respond to Southie with a great smile and Colts fan. For the Colts fan, I'm a Patriots fan, and it's too bad, ya can't f*** with us. Don't get me wrong, they are a good team, but when it comes to P.A.T.R.I.O.T.S. we are too good. So when you see this, get at me. I'm locked up but I'll be out again. Now the Southie chick, yo, you need somebody like me. I want to get to know you. Like I said before, I'm 28, 5-foot-7, no kids, and single. Right now they have me incarcerated for a while but I'll be out again.
Thank You,
Rodney Brown
0405218
20 Bradston St.
Boston, MA 02118

Please, No More Pettiness

To My Fellow Bostonians,
I'm using this public forum to express my dislike for those of you who think it's OK to talk about other people's private lives in public. I'm sick and tired of everyone's behind-the-back implications, idle speculations, coy hints, passing references and downright nastiness about others. On top of it, spoken by people who either 1. know nothing; 2. don't know enough; or 3. should know better. You do not live in a spy novel. Stop turning your lives and your social circles into some kind of sick cloak-and-dagger game with whispered hints and on-the-down-low chatter, "who-told-whom-what" intrigues and pettiness. Grow up. Speak up, ask up, 'fess up if you've got to know what's going on—but if you don't know the sides of the story, then it's none of your damn business to talk about it. This city's too small.

—Over the B.S.

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

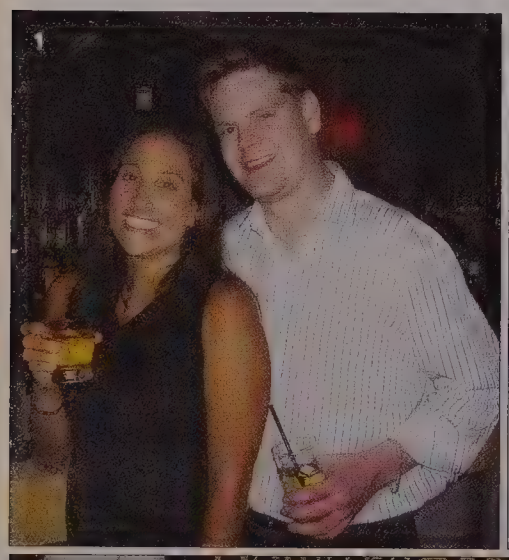
On Thursday, September 8, **Felt** hosted **The Improper Bostonian** Music Issue Party and a Fall Kickoff of True Music Thursdays. Guests enjoyed libations by **Jameson** and **Budweiser**, and music from Fluttr Effect.

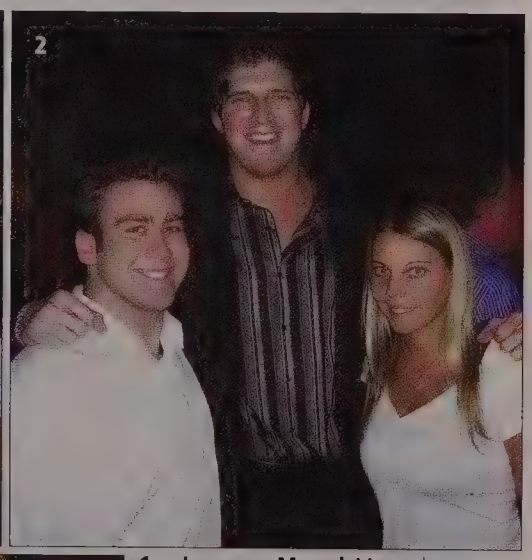
1. **Michael Delales**, account executive at Boston's WB; **Amy Blanco**, on-premise state manager, MA for Pernod Ricard USA; and **Lisa Conti**, on-premise manager, New England, at Skyy Spirits.
2. **Fluttr Effect**.
3. **Rachael Nathan**, PR and marketing manager at Felt; **Micah Nathan**, writer, of Brookline; **Brian O'Donnell**, general manager, and **Shawn Donovan**, manager, both of Felt.

On Friday, September 9, **Saks Fifth Avenue** hosted Trendspotting. **The Improper Bostonian**'s fashion editor Samantha House unveiled the hottest trends from the **Marc by Marc Jacobs** Fall 2005 Collection. Shoppers sipped on **Ciroc** pomegranate martinis.

1. **Lia Lafreniere**, sales associate at HRP TV, and **Arvi Raquel-Santos**, senior designer for Weymouth Design.
2. **Dave Watson**, vice president for Anchor Capital & Advisors, and **Kate Burkhardt**, sales representative at Maharam.
3. **Molly O'Beirne**, brand ambassador for Peroni; **Michelle Rathbone**, assistant fashion director at Saks Fifth Avenue; and **Joanna Alberti**, president of PhiloSophie.

On Tuesday, September 13, **Dewar's 12** hosted a viewing party at **Saint** for the Golf Channel's reality show called *The Big Break*.





1. **Louanne Murad**, Massachusetts on-premise regional manager at Bacardi USA, Inc., and **James Glennon**, bartender at Daisy Buchanan's.
2. **Michael Watts**, premium brand specialist for Team Enterprises USA; **Robert Stein**, manager at Saint; and **Sharon Lilien-Zwiebel**, account manager for Bacardi USA, Inc.
3. **Sharlize Reynolds**, assistant marketing manager for Bacardi USA, Inc.; **T.J. Valentine**, golf professional at Pinehills Golf Club; and **Tara Williams**, field marketing specialist for Dewar's 12.

On Thursday, September 8, the **Animal Rescue League** celebrated Yappy Hour, an evening for guests and their dogs at **Hotel Marlowe**. All proceeds benefited the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

1. **Wendy Diamond**, founder and editorial director of *Animal Fair* magazine, and **Nancy Eckersley**, events coordinator at Boston Film Festival.
2. **Joe Schutt**, real estate representative at Gibson Domain Domain, and **Erik Schubert**, corporate director at PRT Inc.
3. **Maria Uribe**, volunteer at Animal Rescue League, and **Steve McFarland**, owner of IONA Technologies.

PHOTOS: FELT, JULIE KANE; SAKS FIFTH AVENUE, EMILY HENDRICKS; SAINT, JULIE KANE; HOTEL MARLOWE, VALERIE SILVER

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CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

MATCH *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* Opening October 1st. This modern restaurant/lounge maintains an unpretentious yet hip vibe. A sleek fire display and glass wine room are just two of its many features. Match's signature mini burgers and martinis are guaranteed to please the most discriminating palate. Match music has a distinct early evening lounge feel with the beat and volume picking up as the night progresses. Will be open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255.* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breafast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

VENEZIA RESTAURANT *20 Ericsson St., Boston 617-436-3120.* For authentic Italian fare, impeccable service and an atmosphere unmatched on Boston's Waterfront, Venezia provides one of the city's most unique and pleasurable dining experiences. Your destination for everything from a relaxing midday lunch to a romantic dinner for two, Venezia can also accommodate private affairs like wedding receptions and business functions, and features live music on Friday and Saturday nights.

THE WATERFRONT CAFÉ BAR-GRILL *450 Commercial Street, Boston 617-523-0613.* A North End neighborhood hot spot, serving up sizzling steak tips and the best burgers around! Featuring a big screen TV and plasmas to catch all your favorite teams in action. Come for dinner, stay for a drink! *Open 7 days, Lunch & Dinner 11am–11pm, Apps. 11pm–1am.*

BARS & CLUBS

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General

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110* www.bostonrocks.net. 21+. Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music

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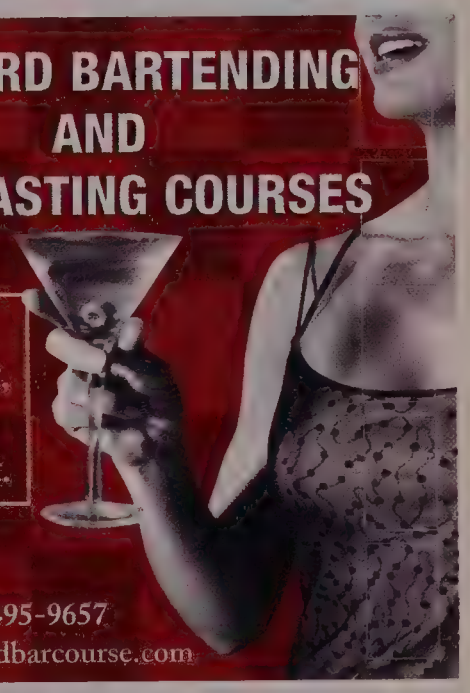

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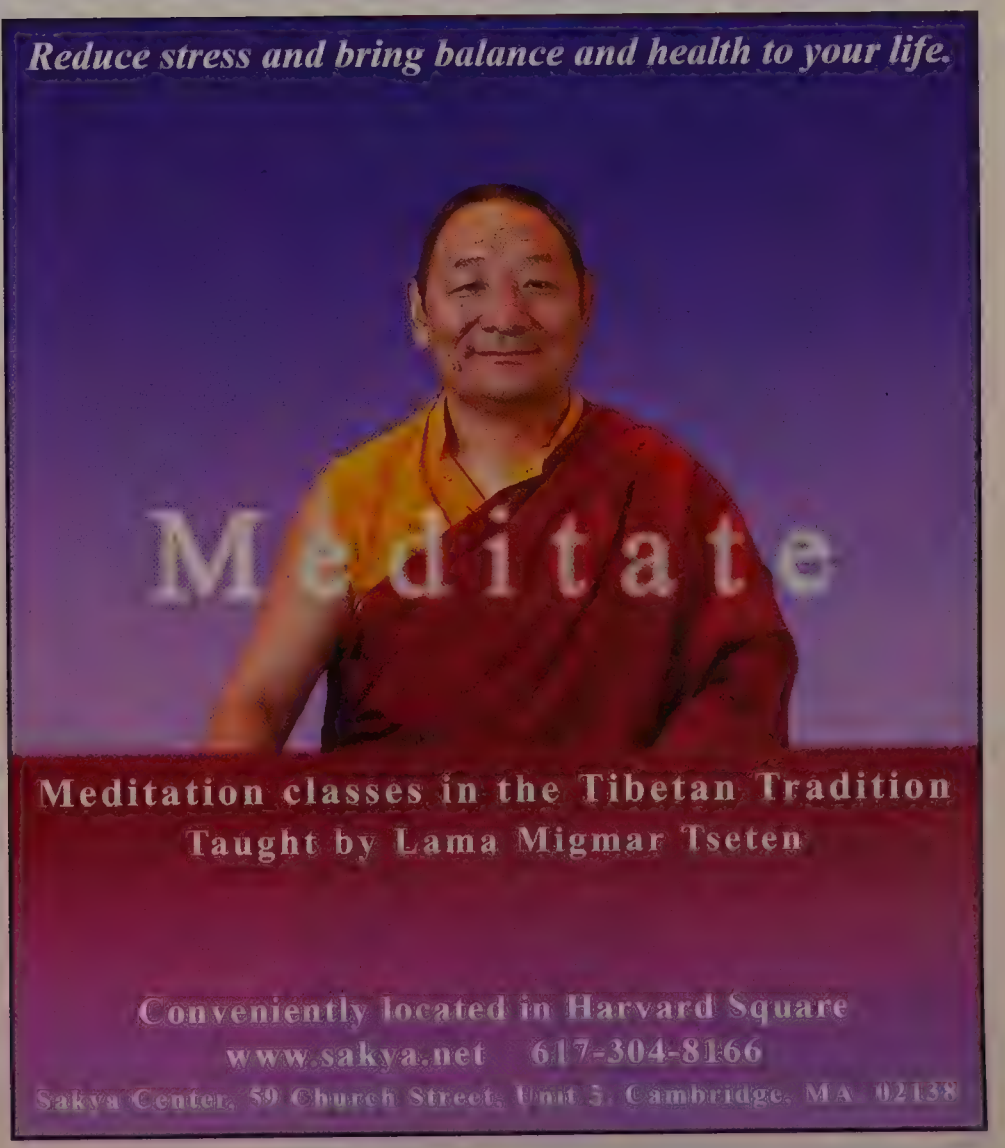

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At the Heart Association Party, top: Suzanne Logan and Gigi Gowdy. Bottom row: Nathan Hall; Roger Savonen and Drew DeRose.

IF YOU HAVE TO ASK, YOU CAN'T AFFORD IT...

Anyone with a taste for the finer (pronounced *more expensive*) things in life should have been at the **Park Plaza Castle** for the **Preview Party of Boston Connoisseur**, a benefit for the American Heart Association's program Go Red for Women.

Seen schmying around the stalls piled high with Persian carpets, Old Masters, estate jewelry, rare books, antique furniture and assorted other priceless (or at least pricey) bric-a-brac were such arbiters of good taste as interior design duo **Suzanne Logan** and **Gigi Gowdy**; Swedish scientific hottie **Roger Savonen** and his other half, man of leisure **Drew DeRose**; Florida-based collectors **Rick** and **Marie Wackenhut** (of all those security millions); poster peddling cutie **Nathan Hall**; and others oohing and aahing over the veritable treasure trove on display.

For anyone with an anemic wallet, it was an exercise in frustration, but for those with a few extra million floating around, it was an opportunity to spend 'til it hurt. As one guest put it, "I guess it's a good fit between the cause and the venue. One look at the price tags is enough to give you a heart attack."

HOT TYPE...

Talk about auspicious beginnings.

The **book party** for first-time novelist and Arnold advertising babe **Tracy McArdle**, held at **Armani Café** with proceeds benefiting the American Red Cross, was as glam as gatherings get in our little burg.

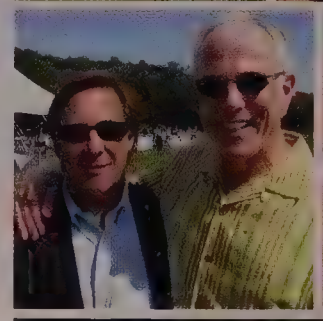
Among the attendees: Channel 7 anchor babe **Caterina Bandini** (who went to college with McArdle back when Bandini was known as "Tina"); delectable Channel 4 personality **Kasey Kaufman**; painter/fisherman/adventurer **Nathaniel Brady** (McArdle's fiancé); Colombian handbag designer **Cristina Isabel**; blue-blooded TV producer and socialite **Lisa Pierpont**; dreadlocked jewelry designer **Drew Martin**; fashion plate and force of nature **Jana Reed**; Back Bay nabobs **Jeryl** and **Steve Oristaglio**; attorney-at-large **Caesar Belbel**; and countless Arnold advertising cuties whom you could identify by their flawless fashion sense and keen wit.

McArdle read from **Confessions of a Nervous Shiksa**, to side-splitting laughter and loud applause, and while it may be unfair to say that anyone who wasn't there is a nobody, it is true that they'll have to buy the book to find out what all the fuss is about.

TALLY HO!

There couldn't be a swankier way to spend a sunny Sunday afternoon than driving to **Hamilton** for the **Fidelity Jumper Classic**, to watch some of the world's top riders compete on a beautiful course while well-dressed swells swilling champagne observe from the shade of big white tents.

Spotted among the horsey set were such worthies as **John** and **Tessa Hedley-Whyte**; **John** and **Kerry Glass** (who used to be the master of the Norfolk Hunt); redheaded siren **Doreen Corkin**; equestriennes and horse show enthusiasts **Amy Spada** and **Joy Longa**; Brookline party pair **Tracy Gallagher** and **Olivia English**; adorable emcee **Randy Price**; the hat-wearing triumvirate of **Lorraine Duda**, **Peggy Bonine** and **Monika Clibourn**; soignée horsewoman **Mary Crane** and the pretty-in-pink **Kathleen Byrne**; improbably tall Back Bay denizen **Dietrich Falkenthal**; the unspeakably chic **Jan** and **Sou Sucher**; the unbelievably creative **Holly Kennedy** (who decorated her straw hat with carrots, apples, sugar cubes and hay); Wetherbee Farm chatelaine **Gladys Fox**; and so on and so forth.



At Fidelity Jumper Classic, top: horse jumping; Amy Spada and Joy Longa. Bottom row: Will Milbury and Randy Price; Mary Crane and Kathleen Byrne.

While the jumpers jumped and the socialites socialized, the food and drink seemed to flow ceaselessly. Among the snatches of conversation overheard were comments like, "She hunted with us for one season, on my old mare," but lest the whole thing seem too terribly upper-crusty, there was one woman wearing a beat-up cowboy hat who walked out of a portable toilet and said, "It's cleaner than my bathroom at home."

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES...

The Young and the Guestlist may be better looking and better dressed than the rest of us, but that doesn't mean that underneath those breast implants and pumped-up pecs they don't have big hearts.

Witness the **Hope Disaster Relief Fundraiser** held at **Saint** to benefit victims of Hurricane Katrina, which attracted such absurdly gorgeous types as New England Revolution players **Ryan Latham** and **James Riley**; Kiss 108's **Lisa Roach**; up-and-coming rock star **Erica Cashman**; the beyond-fabulous **Jackie Falla**; hunkalicious **Chris Wallace** and his main squeeze, **Sara Gessner**; raffle cutie **Tad Bradley**; ubiquitous party girl **Janet Wu**; Hyatt hotties **Sarah Curran**, **Danielle Maltifana** and **Lara Lukomski**; and the salty dogs from Island Creek Oyster Co.—**Mark Bouthillier**, **Skip Bennet**, **CJ Husk** and **Chris Gifford**—who manned a giant raw bar and prompted one guest to recite the following poem: "I'm not the oyster shucker; I'm the oyster shucker's son. I'm only shucking oysters 'til the oyster shucker comes."

Meanwhile, despite the potential for feeling old, fat, unattractive and unfashionable amid such a youthful and toothsome crowd, there was some solace to be found in the following exchange, when one man complimented a group of three women on their dresses:

"It was 10 bucks at Tello's 10 years ago, but it makes me look busty," said one, while another replied,"Really? Mine was $15 at H&M in New York," and the third said, "Thanks. I bought it when I was drunk, and it was too small for me, but a friend cut the back out so I could squeeze into it."

"Drunk shopping," said one of the women gravely. "Always a good idea." IB

At Tracy McArdle's book party, top: Jana Reed and Drew Martin. Bottom row: Caterina Bandini and Tracy McArdle; Cristina Isabel.

At Red Cross Katrina Relief at Saint, clockwise from top: Sarah Curran, Danielle Maltifana and Lara Lukomski; Ryan Latham and James Riley; Tad Bradley; Chris Wallace and Sara Gessner; Erica Cashman, Jackie Falla and Lisa Roach.

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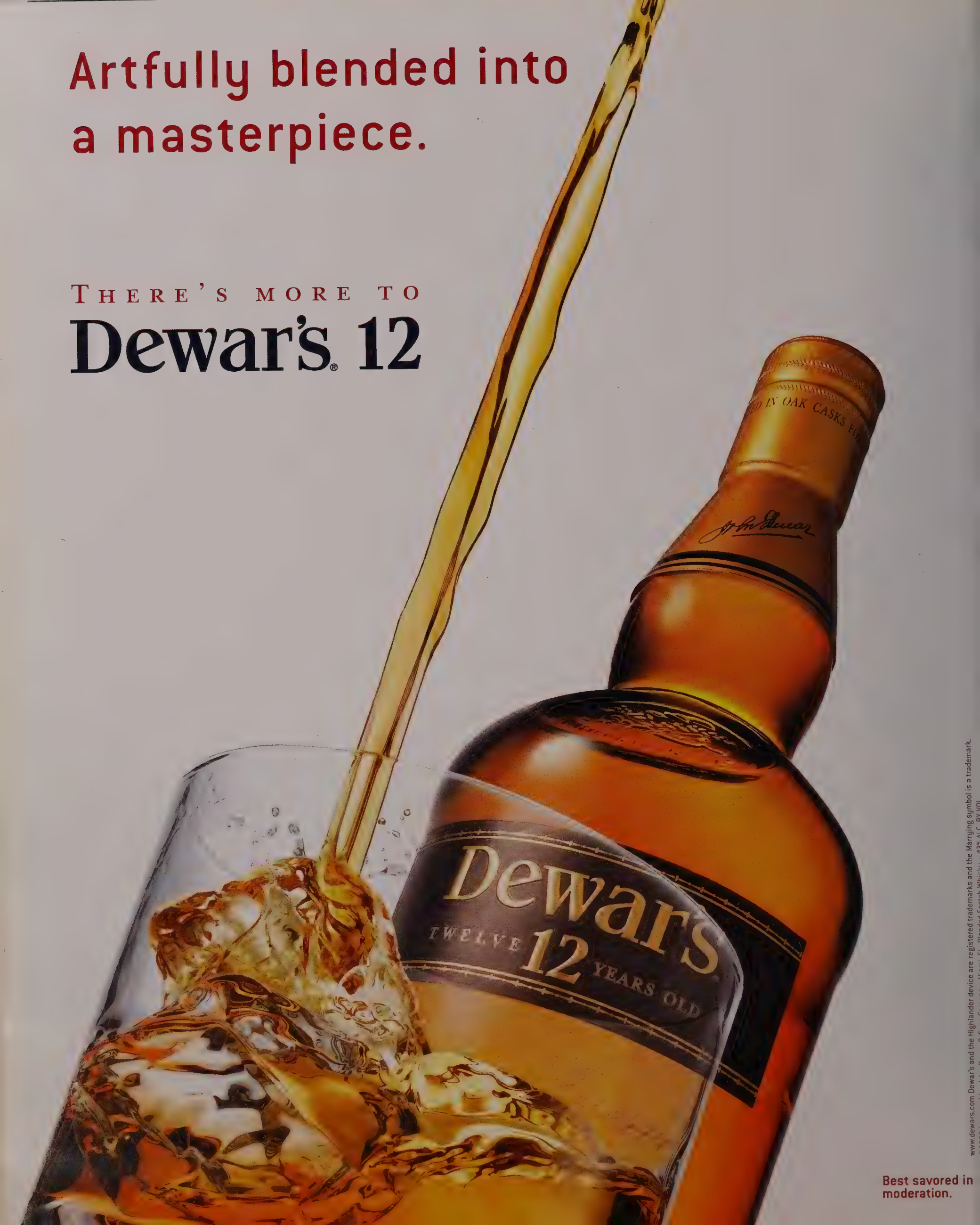

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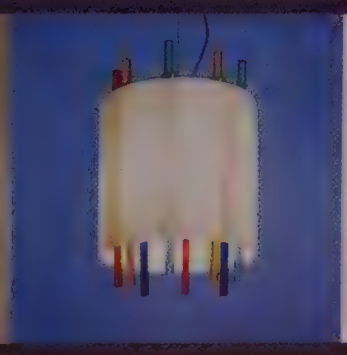

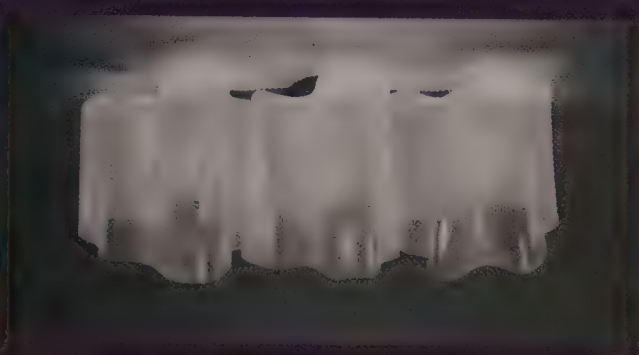

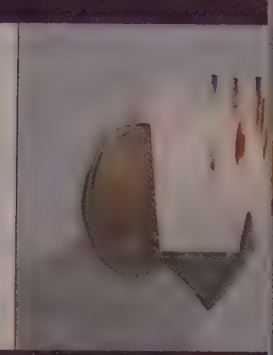

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

GOOD SPORTS

In sports-obsessed Boston, athletes are our biggest celebrities, and in this issue we take a closer look at some of those larger-than-life pros—and the team owners who live and breathe the industry. Along with stories about bad boy turned family man Ricky Davis of the Celtics, and the reasons for Robert Kraft's success with the Pats, we've got Chris Collins' assessment of Joe Thornton as the Bruins prepare to return to the ice and Jonathan Soroff's interview with Sox CEO Larry Lucchino. To top it off, how about a men's fashion spread featuring the likes of Deion Branch and Bronson Arroyo?

Then, of course, there's Rich Levine's story on the man he calls the single most important player in Red Sox history, David Ortiz. Longtime IMPROPER photographer Kerry Brett Hurley is our behind-the-scenes hero for the gorgeous image she captured of Ortiz for our cover.

Needless to say, we're indebted to Ortiz for squeezing us into his schedule during the end-of-the-season madness. As we go to press, the Sox have their work cut out for them, down two games to none against Chicago. But win or lose, Ortiz's accomplishments over the past three years in Boston will shine.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
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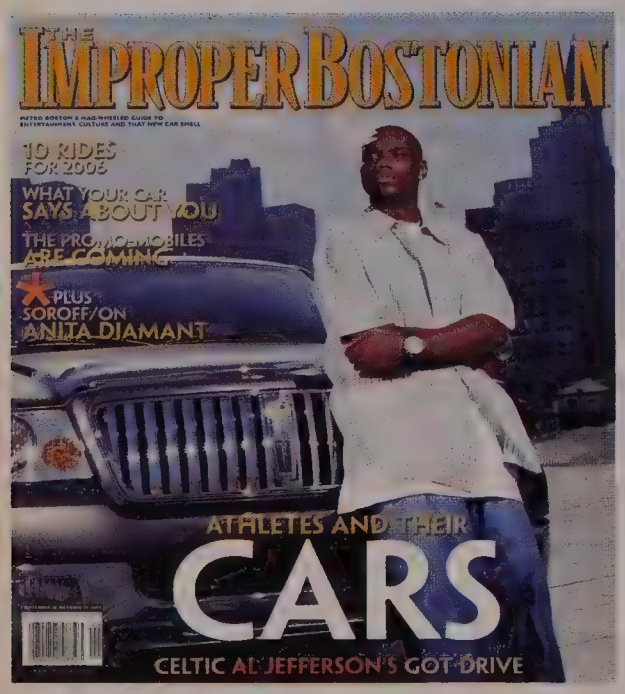

I was fortunate to meet him one time, and it's a wonderful piece of history that he has compiled in his upcoming book, *Boston, All One Family*. I'm a true fan, and you are wonderful for sharing this story with the general public. Can you tell me where the book will be available for purchase?

—JESSICA MARROCCO
North Andover, MA

Editor's note: Boston, All One Family *can be purchased at the Museum of Fine Arts, Barnes and Noble, and Borders.*

NEW INSPIRATION

I enjoyed John Spooner's column *Literary Life, Beware the Book Tour* (Sept. 28). As a new and self-published author, I'm learning how difficult it is to market my book, so I took great comfort in Mr. Spooner's statement, "The world of creativity is much more about 'who loves ya, baby' than it is about talent." His advice has inspired me to make many points of contact today, and I've quoted his article several times. It gave me a healthy dose of fresh motivation and inspiration. Thank you.

—ELLEN DUFFY
West Roxbury

ACCOLADES

Thanks for highlighting Bill Brett in your recent issue (Soroff/On, Sept. 14).

MEN, GET REAL

I'm writing about "True Confessions, What Men Really Think About Dating and Sex" from the Dating Issue (Aug. 3). I wish the article included a photo and bio to go with each man's answer, just to be fair. I'm curious if each of the men interviewed have to offer all that they are requesting from their dates. If author Leslie Kilgore was able to walk into bars in Boston and find a random sample of men who were smart, successful, handsome, athletic, outgoing, independent, caring and good in bed…well, she's the most talented woman on earth. Alas, if you did include the photos and bios, I think you'd find a bunch of moderately successful, self-satisfied, ego-inflated, guaranteed not as good-looking (or as tall) as they think they are guys…waiting for Angelina Jolie to show up.

Signed, love to meet a man with a grip,
—DANIELLE DANE
Boston

CORRECTION

In the Sept. 14 *Proper Bostonians* column, the two women in photo no. 6 were misidentified. They are Nicole Glor and Karyn Frisch of Regan Communications.

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BRIAN HUBBLE

Painter and illustrator Brian Hubble lives in Brooklyn, New York. He has participated in group exhibitions at galleries in the U.S. and England, and his work has been featured in publications including *Technology Review*, *Psychology Today* and *The New York Times*. Hubble illustrated Lenny Megliola's story "Building a Champion" on page 24 in this issue.

LENNY MEGLIOLA

Natick homeboy Lenny Megliola has been covering the Boston sports scene for more than 30 years. He is a columnist for *Metrowest Daily News*, and his stories have been published in the *Boston Herald*. Megliola has also written for numerous magazines and has made regular appearances on NECN, WEEI, and many radio and TV programs.

CARS COVER: DANA SMITH

Tell Us What You Think

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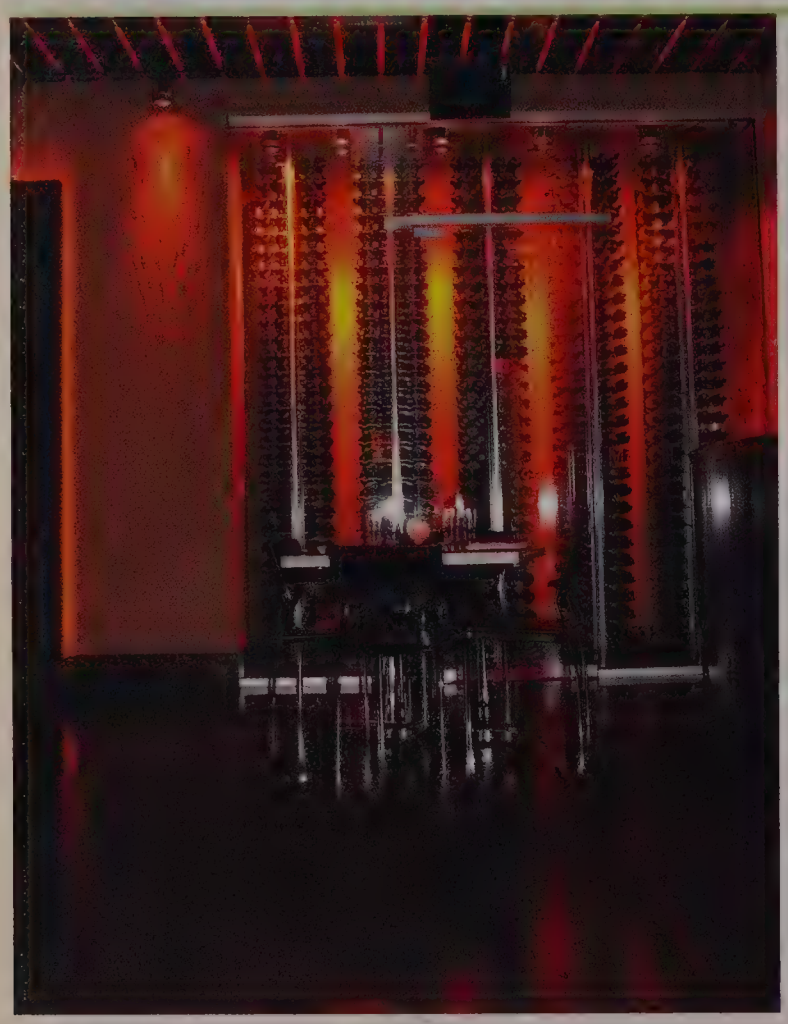

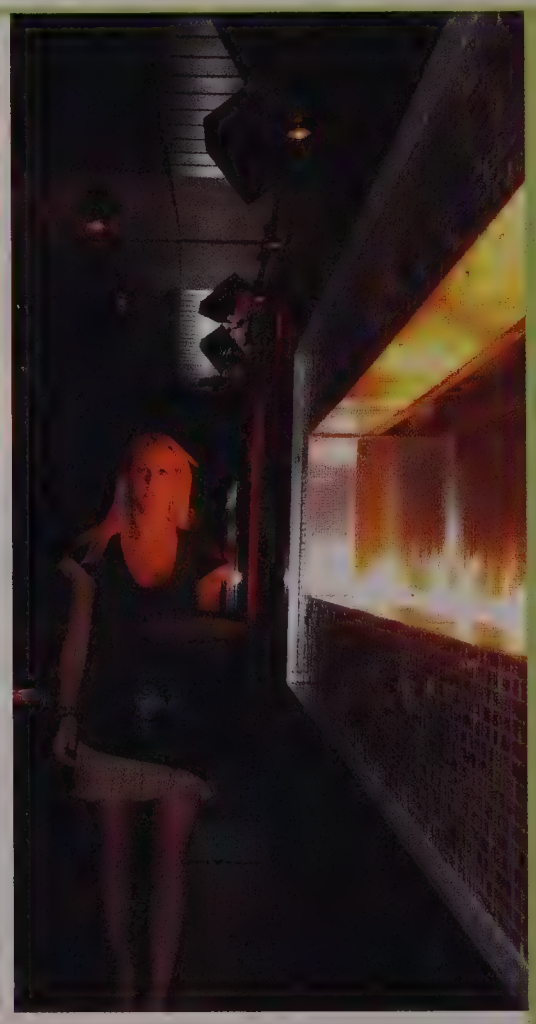

NEW IN TOWN

Match on Mass

Match, the newest addition to the Back Bay bar and restaurant scene, is another notch in the belts of nightlife nabobs Kevin Troy and Steven Foster (Jillian's, Lucky Strike). Kind of. The pair owned Match's previous incarnation, the Blue Cat Cafe, and about half a year ago decided it was time for a makeover. General manager Marshall Crane says, "They wanted to open something to attract a new crowd—a concept that Boston doesn't have. New York is big on mini burgers, and obviously, martinis are popular. Put them together and you've got a match."

The revamped space, now sleek and chic with lots more seating, more of a loungy vibe and way more candlelight, wasn't jammed with too-cool-for-school hipsters as one might fear on the night we visited, but casually dressed couples eating in the loungy dining area whose floor-to-ceiling windows look out onto Mass. Ave. or sipping cocktails at the horseshoe-shaped bar. No matter where you're sitting, you're shrouded in flickering candlelight, whether it's from the many brandy snifters holding candles on individual tables or the long built-in fireplace along a back wall.

Mini burgers are the name of the game, even though there are plenty of entree options too, like "spaghettini" with roasted tomato, pancetta and fresh basil ($12), and blackened salmon with honeydew melon salsa, sautéed spinach and risotto cakes ($16.50). The mini burgers come in an array of meats: There's spicy lamb with coriander and yogurt relish; soy-and-ginger-marinated steak with wasabi aioli; sausage with sweet onion chow chow; and even lobster. More timid eaters can opt for the beef cheeseburger, chicken or veggie burgers. Each is about a third the size of a "regular" sized burger, and they go for between $4.95 and $8 a pop.

The idea is to "match" a mini burger with one of the 10 martinis ($9.75–$10.50). Some drinks are gimmicky, like the Match Bubbletini—labeled a "ladies only" libation—and the Pop Culture martini, served with green Pop Rocks on the glass's rim. If martinis aren't your bag, miniskirted waitresses also offer five red wines by the glass and three whites, as well as other cocktails and high-end champagnes like Dom and Cristal.

Adding a bit of A-list vibe is a glass cabinet of Match martini shakers—each autographed by a celeb, like Demi, Ashton, Jamie Kennedy, Joe Thornton, Kevin Youkilis and Bronson Arroyo. *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922). matchbackbay.com.* —*E.G.*

INNER VIEW

Chris Elliott

Emmy Award–winning writer, producer and comedian Chris Elliott made a name for himself as a writer and performer on both *Saturday Night Live* and *Late Night with David Letterman*. He starred in his own sitcom, *Get a Life*, in the early '90s and has had roles in the films *Cabin Boy*, *Groundhog Day* and *There's Something About Mary*. On October 12, he'll be at Brookline Booksmith reading from his first novel, *The Shroud of the Thwacker*.

Improper Bostonian: *First off, tell us about your new book.*

Chris Elliott: It takes place in New York City circa 1882, but I did zero research on the time period so all the facts are either completely inaccurate or just plain made up. It's a story about the world's first serial killer, Jack the Jolly Thwacker.

IB: *Ever thought of promoting the book in* Get a Life *style and delivering it door-to-door on a bicycle route?*

CE: (*Laughs*) It's a hardbound book, so that might get kind of messy if I started throwing it at people's houses. I try to avoid lawsuits at all costs, so I might have to pass.

IB: *We read one review of the book that compared your satirical comedic stylings to Mel Brooks'. Is there anything else that you two could possibly have in common?*

CE: Our diets maybe. I've been eating a lot of creamed corn and other creamed products. It's a very humbling comparison though, because *Young Frankenstein* had a profound effect on my life and this book. Then again, he also did *Spaceballs*, which had no effect whatsoever.

IB: *We've all been crossing our fingers for* Cabin Boy 2. *Is it time to give up on that dream?*

CE: It's crazy. I went to a Q&A session after a screening of *Cabin Boy* last month and there were almost 200 people there. I think it just might develop into the *Wizard of Oz* of this generation.

IB: *Who did you enjoy working with more: Ben Stiller or Bill Murray?*

CE: It was very different. Ben and I had a lot more in common and are a lot closer in age, while Bill had always been an idol of mine. I always felt kind of scared being on the set with him. They're both great though.

—*Rich Levine*

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TASTY TIDBITS

Gourmet Football

Muffins at the new Well, Well, Well

Football Feast... As our Monday night savior during an otherwise NFL-less workweek, Monday Night Football doesn't need much sprucing up, but Avenue One at the Hyatt Regency Boston has done it. Every Monday night during the football season, the bar offers a three-course Samuel Adams Beer dinner, prepared by chef de cuisine Mark Omerso, for $39 a person. The dinner includes a choice of dishes like spinach salad, Octoberfest pork chops, fish and chips and sauerbraten, and each course is paired with a different Sam Adams brew. Are we ready for some football? Yes, we are. And we'll take some beer and pork chops with that too. *1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). www.avenueoneboston.com.*

All American Angus... For the past 12 years, the Agha family has served up certified Angus steaks at their Angus Beef Steakhouse in Montreal. Where did a surprisingly high percentage of their business come from? That's right, Boston. So when it came time to expand into the U.S., there was only one logical destination. The Aghas opened their first American Angus Beef Steakhouse in August on Merrimack Street, in the same building as the Bulfinch Hotel. The menu, of course, is highlighted by selections of Angus beef steak, but also includes more eclectic dishes like swordfish, lamb and foie gras. *119 Merrimack St., Boston (617-742-6487). www.angusbeefsteakhouse.com.*

Going to the Well... Two years ago, Cornelia Hoskins started Well, Well, Well Inc., a frozen gourmet food delivery service out of Cambridge, and well, well, well if she didn't just open the company's first store late last month. The new store, on 23 Dartmouth Street in the South End, offers authentic Italian meals from Capone foods, hors d'oeuvres and desserts, as well as baked goods and coffee from the old Haley House Bakery which, until recently, occupied the spot. Orders can be placed online at www.well3.com and picked up at the store the next day. Healthful eating for minimal labor? That's always OK in our book...and our stomachs. *23 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-945-3500).*

A Little Beer for Your Buck...A beer with dinner is always a great option for unwinding (or escaping reality) after another Monday back at work, and thanks to Betty's Wok and Noodles on Huntington Avenue, it's now also a cheap option. The eatery offers "Two Buck Bettys" every Monday night, where customers who order an entree can get a beer with it for only $2. We're not talking Schlitz or Old Milwaukee either—among the beers to choose from are Sam Adams, Corona, Sierra Nevada and Guinness. The deal's only good for your first beer, but hey, it's Monday, we'll take what we can get. *250 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-424-1950). www.bettyswokandnoodle.com*

Gamblin' Man... Patrick Lyons knows his stuff when it comes to providing Boston with some of the tastiest eateries in the city. Owner of several of Boston's best restaurants, bars and clubs, he's taking his concepts on the road to The Pier at Caesar's in Atlantic City. Sonsie, one of Newbury Street's most popular bistros, the Dubliner Irish Bar and Restaurant, and the Fenway sports bar Game On! are on the list of nine new restaurants opening at the multimillion-dollar retail, dining and entertainment complex. It's like a little slice of Boston in Jersey. *2100 Pacific Ave., Atlantic City (1-800-223-7277). www.caesars.com.*

SAM SAYS

Unique Boutique

With beauty boutiques popping up on every corner, it's becoming increasingly harder to tell them apart. My advice is to stick with old-fashioned apothecaries. And the crème de la crème of apothecaries, C.O. Bigelow, has just hit town. Since the original opened in New York almost two centuries ago, C.O. Bigelow Apothecaries has kept an old-world mentality. C.O. is staffed with knowledgeable employees who help you decipher the products, and the store has tons of brands to choose from, including Nars, Fresh, Molton Brown and its own exquisite line. Also, they handpick the best of the best products—they don't just pump out cleverly packaged items that may or may not work. You'll find products like specialty mouthwash from Japan and bath salts from Germany. Look for beauty gurus who make cameos from time to time. Prices range from $5–$200. *Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-236-7257). —Samantha House*

Photo by Michael Thompson

KEY TO THE CURE

OCTOBER 28 AND 29

Join Saks Fifth Avenue for our annual shopping event to support Key To The Cure, a charitable initiative to fight women's cancers.

A percentage of sales up to $1 million will be donated to local and national women's cancer charities through the Women's Cancer Research Fund, a program of the Entertainment Industry Foundation. To order the limited edition T-shirt designed by Diane von Furstenberg, or for more information about this event, call 888.771.2323 or visit saks.com. Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC will make a generous donation of $1 million to Saks Fifth Avenue's Key To The Cure through the sale of 750 Signature Edition R-Class vehicles. Special thanks to Hilary Swank, the 2005 Ambassador for EIF's Women's Cancer Research Fund and Saks Fifth Avenue's Key To The Cure.

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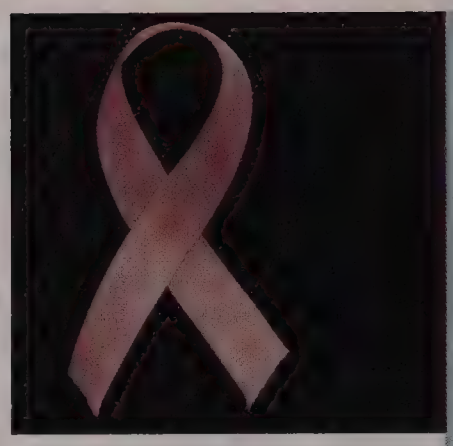


Breast cancer awareness is a focus during the month of October, so we've rounded up some upcoming events around Boston to help you contribute to the cause.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Oct. 16, 8 am

DCR Hatch Memorial Shell, Boston (1-800-227-2345).

www.cancer.org.

Take a 6-mile stroll along the Charles River Esplanade while raising money for a good cause. The 13th annual noncompetitive walk, which brings together breast cancer survivors, their families and volunteers, promises to raise an estimated $3 million for the American Cancer Society.

Ghouls and Gals Halloween Bash

Oct. 20, 8 pm–12 am

The Big Easy, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).

www.elliefund.org.

$15 in advance, $25 at the door. 18+.

Get an early start to your Halloween festivities at this fundraiser to benefit the Ellie Fund. The Mike Mathieu Band provides live music and prizes are awarded for the most creative costumes.

Fifth Annual Pink Ribbon Gala

Oct. 22, 6 pm–12 am

Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (781-756-2156).

www.winchesterhospital.org.

$200 per person, $2,000 per table of 10.

Benefiting Winchester Hospital's Breast Care Center, this dinner gala includes both live and silent auctions. More than 500 guests are expected.

Voices Rising

Nov. 5, 6 pm

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-959-5377).

www.voicesrising.org. $30, $100 VIP

Boston's new all-women chorus presents this gala with a silent auction and concert, Hope Is the Thing. Alternating between song and spoken word, the concert combines vocals with strings, piano and percussion. Partial proceeds will benefit the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition.

Art BeCause

Nov. 9, 6–9 pm. The Stateroom, 60 State St., Boston (508-380-2042). www.artbecause.org. $150.

This third annual dinner event includes an assortment of wines to complement each course. A silent auction accompanies the meal. All proceeds benefit this nonprofit devoted to finding links between the environment and breast cancer.

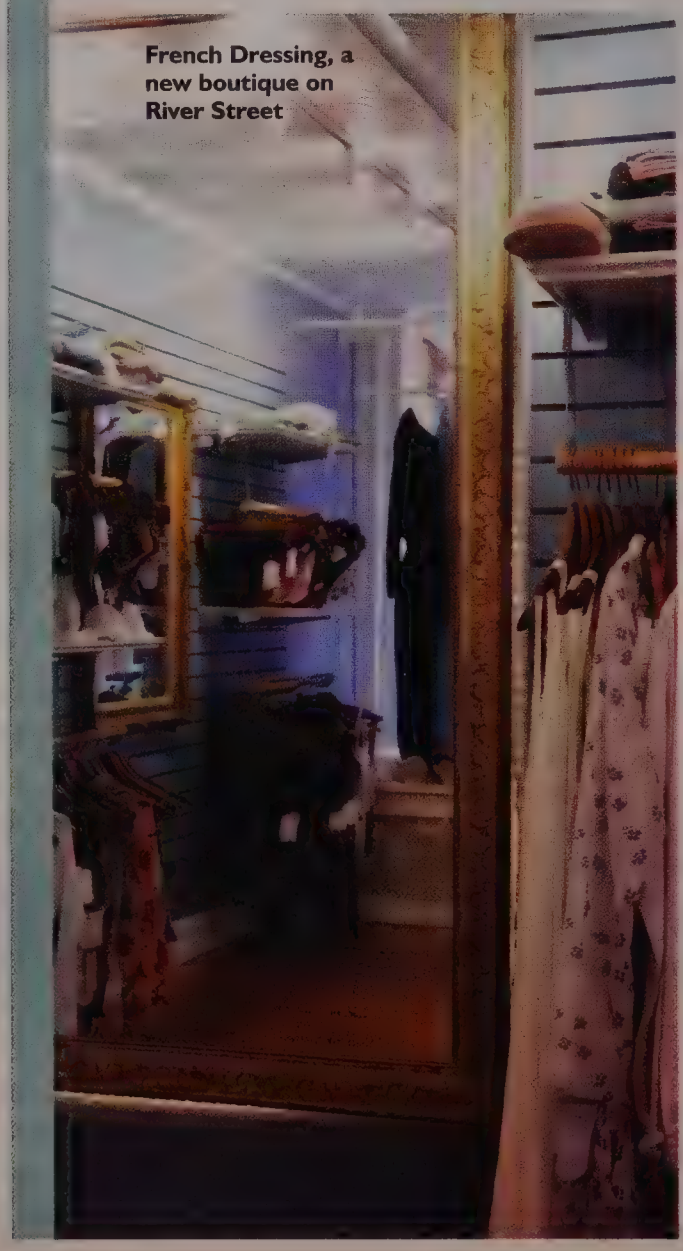
—Cristina Velocci

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Qui, Qui, Qui... The French: always the culture to count on for stylish goods. Now you can get your lingerie fashion fix at French Dressing, a new boutique in Beacon Hill that provides that "je ne sais quoi" in sexy styles. French Dressing's shelves are stocked with slinky undergarments by designers such as Aubade, Huit, Le Mystere, Araks and Cosabella. In addition to the lingerie lines are sleepwear, casual attire (like cute cashmere wraps), vintage jewelry and various gift items. *49 River St., Boston (617-723-4968).*

Oh So Classy... After the success of his store on Madison Avenue, Peter Elliot was confident that his second Barbour—on Newbury Street, of course—was a fit for fashion-forward Bostonians. "It's truly fashion with function," says Barbour Inc. general manager Tom Hooven. "Which is exactly what Boston is all about—quality, value and tradition." Known for its line of waxed cotton jackets, the Boston store also carries practical-yet-trendy clothes that Elliot believes emulate the typical Boston look: Shirts, sweaters, cashmere jackets, silk ties and quilted coats fill a space that feels like a New England farmhouse with its hardwood floors, birch-tree window displays and treats for canine visitors. *134 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-7829). www.barbour.com.*



French Dressing, a new boutique on River Street

Wedding on a Dime... Local lovebirds take note: This may be your chance to make the wedding of your dreams come true without shelling out thousands of dollars. Or even one dollar, for that matter. Venezia Waterfront Restaurant has teamed up with Magic 106.7 to award one couple a Valentine's Day wedding—for free. That includes the gown, tuxes, cake, reception (for up to 200 guests) and even the honeymoon. Want to win? Write the restaurant by December 1 explaining why you deserve the wedding or log on to www.magic1067.com. Five couples will vie for the prize at the restaurant by playing—what else?—The Dating Game. *20 Ericsson St., Boston (617-436-3120).*

Stil Going Strong... Those of you devoted to the one-of-a kind pieces that fill the racks at Stil on Newbury Street are about to look twice as nice. A second Stil opens November 1 at the Chestnut Hill Mall, with more than 1,700 square feet of space—that's double the size of the Newbury location. Owner Betty Riaz promises a mix of the same edgy, urban designers you find at the flagship store and a slew of new looks. In fact, she just returned from a six-week trip to bring back more hard-to-find lines, including Baum and Pferfgarten, Camilla Staerk, Hoss for Homeless and Cacharel. And to keep your shopping stamina high, the new store offers a cappuccino bar and lounge. *199 Boylston St., Rte. 9, Chestnut Hill (617-527-7845). www.stilinc.com.*

—R.L. and L.P.K.

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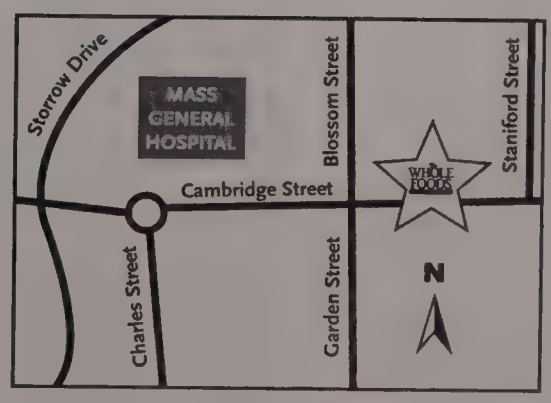

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

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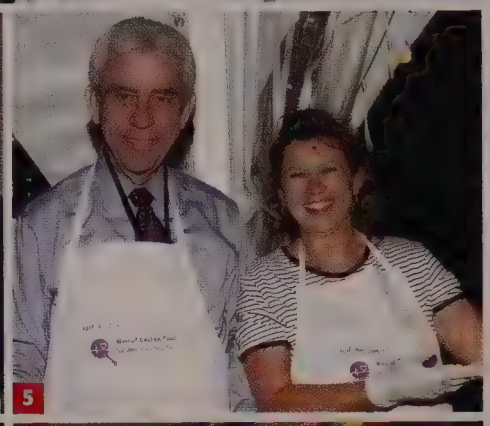
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The 10th annual **Men of Boston Cook for Women's Health** event was held September 29 at the Codman Square Health Center in Dorchester. The event featured 40 Boston male celebrities from the realms of business, politics, sports and entertainment serving food and drink from Greater Boston restaurants, caterers, vineyards and breweries to more than 1,000 guests. All proceeds benefit DotWell, a community health-care partnership between the DHMSC (Dorchester House Multi-Service Center) and the CSHC (Codman Square Health Center). Proceeds will be used to combat illnesses such as breast cancer, diabetes, heart disease and HIV/AIDS.

1. **Jimmy Douglass** and **Francie Doyle**, both of the Ashmont Grill in Dorchester, **Chris Douglass**, chef/owner of Icarus & the Ashmont Grill, and **Terry Douglass**, of the Ashmont Grill.
2. **William Dillard** and **Kenneth Perry**, respectively, first cook and owner of Perry's Gourmet in Jamaica Plain, and **Ralph Martin**, former Suffolk County District Attorney.
3. **Ben Elliot**, chef de cuisine, and **Barbara Lynch**, chef/owner of No. 9 Park.
4. **Ben Johnson**, **Sinead Brooks** and **Abel Tobar**, respectively, managing partner, bartender and chef at the Blarney Stone in Dorchester.
5. **Mike Carson**, vice president/general manager of Channel 7 and **Yvonne Ruggles**, chef from Boston Unique Events Catering.
6. **Marjorie O'Neill Clapprood**, executive director of One Family Scholars, and husband **Chris Spinazzola**, owner of the Funway Café in Foxboro and chairman of the Anthony Spinazzola Foundation.
7. **Lauren Sullivan**, of Salsa's Mexican Grille in South Boston, and **David Robichaud**, feature reporter for UPN 38.

The **MEDA** (formerly known as the Massachusetts Eating Disorders Association) **10th Anniversary Celebration Dinner** and auction was held September 29 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza. Some 300 partygoers gathered to honor author Geneen Roth, a pioneer in the field, and to celebrate MEDA's 10 years of service to the community. The event raised $100,000 to benefit MEDA, which provides comprehensive care and support to those struggling with eating disorders.

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8. **Toby Duane**, owner of Duane Wrecking in Dorchester, and **Elaine Mak**, project manager at City Year.
9. **Katherine Davis** and **Abigail Rice**, both nurses at McLean Hospital in Belmont.
10. **Brian Poitras**, principal of Calare Properties in Hudson, and **Jessica Cunningham**, director of education & outreach for MEDA.
11. **Geneen Roth**, author, **Rebecca Manley**, founder of MEDA, and **Beth Mayer**, executive director of MEDA.

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ezra

BY EZRA DYER

MAIDEN VOYAGE

A trip to Singapore spawns an addiction to housekeeping help.

Last month my girlfriend and I went to Singapore to visit her parents, who live there. Singapore is Bizzaro-World in many ways: McDonald's delivers. Motorcyclists ride with their jackets on backwards and unzipped, a look I haven't seen since Kris Kross hit puberty. The cops can pull you over and congratulate you for courteous driving—ironically, this happened to Heather's dad, who is of the opinion that every other motorist, anywhere, is half-blind, retarded and criminally insane, and drives accordingly. He probably became so enraged in traffic that he lost consciousness for a moment and accidentally yielded, because the police pulled him over and gave him a teddy bear. This is like Jeffrey Dahmer winning an award from the National Society of Vegans.

Singapore is also very neat and orderly, as you might expect in a country where the penalty for most crimes is death. OK, I might be exaggerating a bit—but how often do you go on a Duck Tour and have the guide say, "That's the new courthouse. Going to be plenty of hanging sentences in there!"

This fanatical neatness extends all the way into the home, and in Singapore, if you've got a house, you've got a live-in housekeeper. Heather's parents' housekeeper is named Emily. She cooks, does the laundry and keeps the house tidy. All of this took some getting used to for me. In our culture, you're conditioned to do things for yourself—here's your coffee, and the milk's right over there if you want some. Self-serve gas stations. Self-checkout at stores. ATMs instead of bank tellers. So it's disconcerting to have someone around who cares whether you prefer to have your boxers ironed (answer: of course).

Initially, I felt bad about having Emily do anything. I'd put my coffee cup in the sink, for instance, and Heather's mom would tell me that I was supposed to leave it on the table, or else I was implying that I didn't think Emily was good at her job. Once I started thinking about the situation that way, I fell into the role of guy-who-has-a-maid pretty easily. You get used to leaving things messy and coming back to find them miraculously straightened out. Ironing is one of my most-hated domestic chores, but in Singapore my shirts appeared each day hanging in the closet without a wrinkle. I did spend one day roaming around the city wearing linen pants so severely creased that if I fell down I might have chopped off one of my legs, but we got the "no creases" edict in effect from there on out.

After getting used to having Emily around, Heather and I made a major household decision upon our return to the States. We hired a cleaning lady—actually, two cleaning ladies. They're scheduled to come in once a month, and after two visits, I'm hooked.

Last time they came in while we were gone for the weekend, and upon our return I walked around and tried to quantify exactly what they'd done to make the place look so damn clean, so that maybe I could try to execute a few of those tricks myself in between visits. Certainly the bathroom mirror was free from toothbrush spittle and the inside of the microwave was spotless, but here's the most awesome thing I discovered: When we left, my flip-flops were in the bathroom, covered in sand from the beach. When we returned, they were rinsed and carefully folded atop one another next to the shower.

IT'S DISCONCERTING TO HAVE SOMEONE AROUND WHO CARES WHETHER YOU PREFER TO HAVE YOUR BOXERS IRONED

That, my friends, is bona fide extravagance. You can have your Newbury Street shopping sprees and rare bottles of wine at the Federalist; I'll place outsourced flip-flop maintenance alongside any luxury indulgence this side of a yacht so big that it needs a small helicopter just to fly up to where you park its big helicopter. Based on the hourly charge of the housekeepers (around $50, I think), it probably cost almost as much to wash those flip-flops as I paid for them in the first place. I don't know what you heard about me, but I'm a P-I-M-P.

The problem is, I can't derive this kind of satisfaction from cleaning things on my own any more than I can tickle myself. So I have to either wait another month…or improvise: If I sat on my hand until it fell asleep and then ironed my underwear, would it seem like someone else did it? There's only one way to find out. iB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

NOT AN AVERAGE JOE

Thornton will shoulder the pressure for the Bruins in the NHL's most important year ever

Considering that we're in the midst of a championship run possibly unmatched in any sports city in America, with the Red Sox and Patriots fighting for the throne, it's hard to believe there was a time when the Boston Bruins owned New England. A Bruins jaunt down Newbury Street on a Saturday evening meant lock up the women and children. Bobby Orr & Co. could be on the loose.

The cachet the black and gold carried around town was comparable to that of the current Red Sox. The Sox have a rock-star idol in Johnny Damon. The Bruins had Derek Sanderson. He might even have been bigger.

The B's best player back then, though, wasn't the self-promoting type—and he didn't have to be. Bobby Orr's actions on the ice spoke volumes. As a matter of fact—and yes, quiet down, Gretsky fans—Orr was not just the best in Boston but the best of all time, period. This year's Bruins have their own Bobby Orr. His name is Joe Thornton.

Before you start e-mailing me or flooding my voicemail, hear me out. Thornton is not on the same plane as Orr. Not now, probably never. But Thornton has a chance to be the second-greatest Bruins player ever, maybe even better than Ray Bourque. And quite frankly, that's not a bad second place.

Of course, there's pressure that comes with those kinds of expectations, and we have to cut Thornton some slack. Jumbo Joe arrived on the Boston sports scene a gangly, goofy kid. When I'd see him golfing at the Colonial in Lynnfield it was hard to believe this guy had the makings of a franchise player. Thornton came to town at 18 years old not knowing what he was in for. Being picked No. 1 is one thing. Being picked No. 1 in Boston is another.

Fans have been waiting for something special from Thornton, something more than finishing in the top five in scoring. They want him to pull a Tom Brady and produce in the clutch.

Well, he's done everything but that. He has struggled, for a variety of reasons, when it has mattered most. We could argue that coaching has played into it, and so have injuries. But those are excuses. We want top-grade results in the playoffs—or else. Unfortunately for Thornton, the Patriots and Red Sox have raised the level of expectations. The regular season is just that, regular. The playoffs are where legends are made.

Now 26 years old and a seven-year veteran, Thornton's time has come. And now, he says, he's ready to handle what's expected of him.

Thornton's year away from the NHL may turn out to be a blessing. He spent his lockout time tearing things up in Switzerland. He says that being away allowed him to reflect on his role and the often unfair expectations that go along with it.

In perusing the numbers, it's hard to argue about his ability. He has scored 20 or more goals in his last five seasons. He's been over the 100-point mark (2002-03). And he's a three-time All-Star. But championships are what's important. And no one is better at carrying the baton than Thornton.

Thornton wears the "C" on his chest signifying team captain. With that come special privileges and pressures. You have the authority to run the team in the locker room. You don't like something, you voice your disapproval about it. You like something, you give the guy a hug.

JOE THORNTON HAS A CHANCE TO BE THE SECOND-GREATEST BRUINS PLAYER EVER.

But the responsibilities of the role carry over long after the clock has run down in the third period. If somebody at a bar slings arrows at you, you turn away. It's not easy, but it's the only way. Now, I'm not one of those fools who believe that a 26-year-old professional athlete shouldn't have some fun. If he wants to have a drink in a bar he should have one, have two or three. But he needs to use discretion.

The importance of discretion applies on the ice, too. Too many times we've seen Joe angrily return an elbow or fist to somebody's noggin. Protecting yourself is one thing—retaliating is another. Joe Thornton is simply too valuable to be a regular in the penalty box.

The game of hockey has a lot riding on this season and so does Big Joe. I think—and I hope—both are equal to the challenge of the months ahead. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

LARRY LUCCHINO

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Red Sox president and CEO Larry Lucchino was born and raised in Pittsburgh, graduated with honors from Princeton in 1967, and earned a law degree from Yale in 1972. Two years later, he joined the law firm founded by friend and mentor Edward Bennett Williams, becoming a partner in 1978, specializing in sports law and litigation. He was general counsel to the Washington Redskins (where Williams was president and part owner) and a member of the team's board from 1979 to 1985. When Williams bought the Baltimore Orioles in 1979, Lucchino became the club's vice president/general counsel and was named president in 1988. He was part owner of the Orioles from 1989 until the team was sold in 1993, and during his 14-year tenure helped set attendance records as the fan base expanded from two to six million, and the season ticket base went from 1,600 to 28,000 (with a 13,000-person waiting list). From 1994 to 2002, he was part owner of the San Diego Padres, and in 2002, he took over day-to-day operations of the Red Sox when the team was purchased by principal owner John Henry and chairman Tom Werner. Lucchino was the first president in 50 years to win pennants for two different franchises, and he has the unique distinction of having won two World Series rings (Orioles, '83; Red Sox, '04), a Super Bowl ring (Redskins, '83), and a Final Four watch (Princeton, '65). Known for enhancing the ballparks where he has worked, he is active in numerous charities and civic efforts, most notably the research and treatment of cancer. He lives in Brookline with his wife, Stacey, and two stepchildren, Davis (15) and Blair (13).

Jonathan Soroff: *First of all, can you believe you get paid to do this?*

Larry Lucchino: Absolutely.

JS: *You feel like you earn every penny?*

LL: I've been in baseball for 25 years, and president/CEO of a franchise for about 16 of those. There are enormous demands on your time. It's still a labor of love, despite that, but it's a time-consuming position, and we do make sacrifices, believe it or not, in order to go to baseball games every night.

JS: *What other team do you respect the most?*

LL: Oh, boy. Growing up, I adored the Celtics. They exemplified a kind of excellence that was remarkable. I certainly have a lot of respect for what the American League entry from New York has done [*chuckles*], and I have a lot of respect for the St. Louis Cardinals. There are a few teams that approach the Red Sox' passion. The Pittsburgh Steelers. The Green Bay Packers.

JS: *If we win again, will it be as meaningful for you?*

LL: Well, it's hard to know in advance. I think so. Our goal was not just to win one. Our goal was always to win with some frequency, to get to the playoff season with some regularity, so we don't see any opportunity to rest on our laurels. I think there's this notion of "Oh, the Red Sox won. They'll take a mulligan for the next several years," and we certainly don't feel that way. John Henry, Tom Werner, myself and most of the people who work here are intensely competitive people.

WE DO MAKE SACRIFICES, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IN ORDER TO GO TO BASEBALL GAMES EVERY NIGHT

JS: *Was there some small part, deep down inside you, that believed in the Curse?*

LL: I'm a superstitious baseball executive, so I tend to believe in things like that even though I know better, so I suppose the short answer is yes. I did believe that maybe there was this unfortunate confluence of circumstances that would prevent us from winning…Actually, that's not true. Now that I say it, I don't think so. I think we inherited something that had a sort of useful marketing appeal.

JS: *Does anyone call you Lucky Lucchino?*

LL: [Chicago White Sox chairman] Jerry Reinsdorf.

JS: *Do you call Theo [Epstein] Boy Wonder?*

LL: No. I call him a lotta names but that's not one of them.

JS: *Favorite Fenway snack?*

LL: It's one I rarely eat, but it's in my bloodstream, and it's the hot Italian sausage from outside the park. I was the recipient of a lot of generosity from the sausage vendors because we preserved their right to operate, but my nutritionist told me to knock it off.

JS: *Most underrated Red Sox player?*

LL: That's like asking who your favorite child is, but among some of the more underrated players on this team, Bill Mueller stands out. He's a baseball player's baseball player.

JS: *Ever get tired of "Manny just being Manny"?*

LL: No. Manny just being Manny means 120-plus RBIs, 30 or 45 home runs and somewhere around a .300 batting average and a very high on-base percentage. That's Manny being Manny.

JS: *Fantasy lineup, dead or alive?*

LL: Oh my gosh. That would require a lot of thought to do it well. It would probably have a few Pittsburghers, out of a sense of hometown loyalty, and certainly several Red Sox players because they deserve it, and because I couldn't show my face if it didn't…

JS: *Well, Ted Williams is a no-brainer.*

LL: He'd be in there. So would Babe Ruth. Joe DiMaggio, even though he was a Yankee. He was an iconic figure. Willie Mays would have to be in there….

JS: *Greatest moment in baseball history?*

LL: The extraordinary, operatic postseason of 2004.

JS: *Ever thought of instituting a haircut policy with the players?*

LL: Not really. I kind of appreciate the contrast between the Halliburton Yankees and the free-spirited Red Sox.

JS: *[Medford native and mayor of New York] Michael Bloomberg—is he a traitor who deserves to be flogged publicly?*

LL: Well, I admired him for recognizing one of the essential facts of baseball, which is that one always retains some kind of loyalty to one's hometown team, and when he first ran for mayor, he declared his connection to the Red Sox. Now, I presume that after several years in New York, he's been corrupted.

JS: *Is it time for a new Fenway?*

LL: Hell, no.

JS: *The World Series trophy—couldn't it use a polishing?*

LL: Yeah, and we consider that a great thing, the fact that it has fingerprints and a little bit of damage from the handling and adoration it's received over the past year. That's what you do with a trophy.

JS: *Worst part of going to Yankee Stadium?*

LL: Almost everything.

JS: *Where are the best seats at Fenway?*

LL: Depends on what flavor of ice cream you like. There are so many different good spots to enjoy the game. I think the intimacy of seats down on the field, the Green Monster seats, the bleacher seats have a certain kind of cachet. For me, I like L1, the suite we sit in, which has all manner of creature comforts.

JS: *Isn't it too removed from the action?*

LL: No, there's plenty of action in there, sometimes too much. Sometimes I need to retreat from it and sit in a quiet seat somewhere so I can watch the game and not do business or engage in socializing.

JS: *One thing you'd like to say to the fans?*

LL: The first thing that comes to mind is just a gigantic embrace, and thanks for being the foundation and the passion of Red Sox Nation.

JS: *Last question: Do the Yankees really suck?*

LL: [*Laughs*] I don't like to use that terminology, but I can understand people resorting to it. ■

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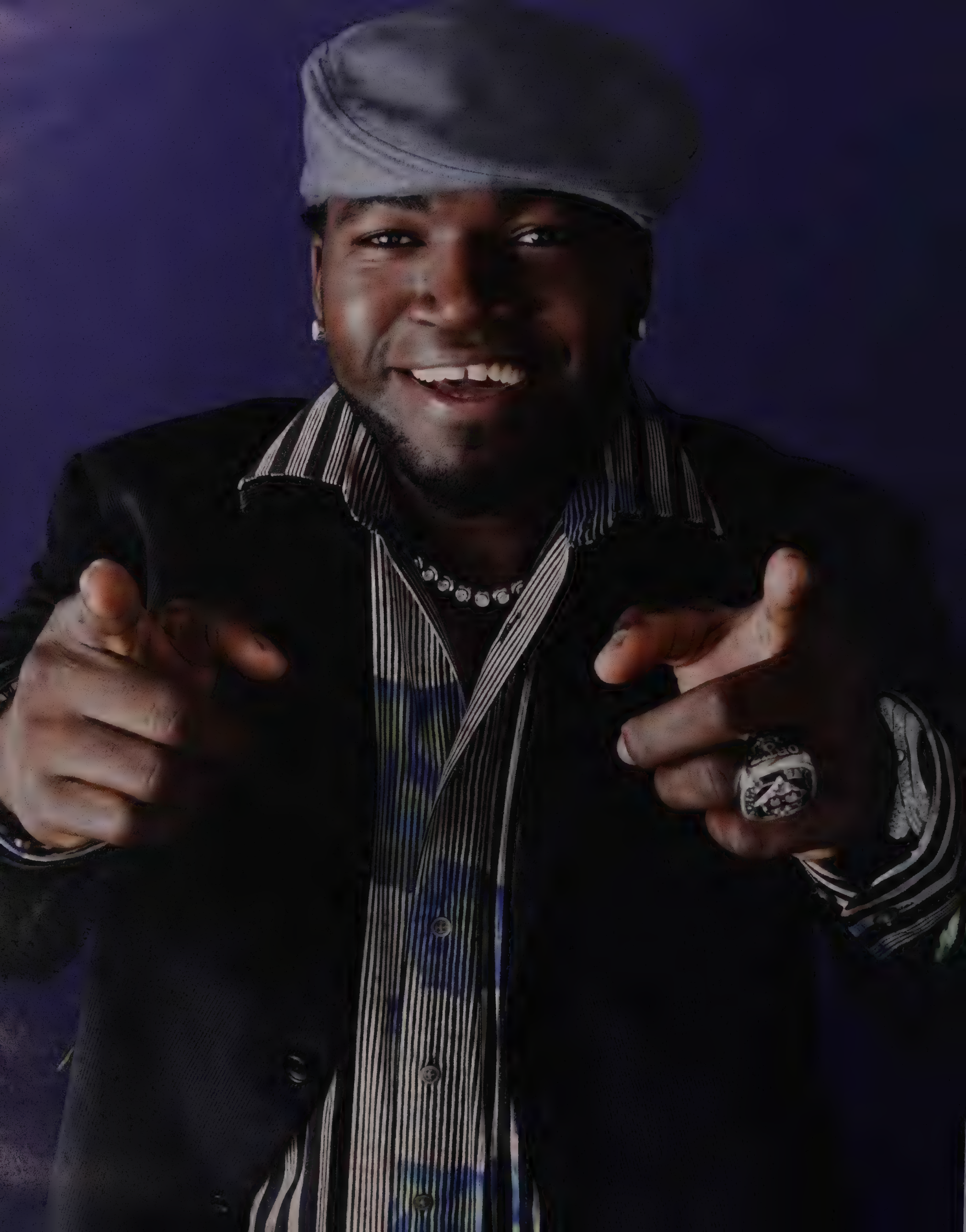

proud Papi

David Ortiz's road to Boston wasn't easy, and that makes his success even sweeter.

BY RICH LEVINE

PHOTOGRAPH BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

When David Ortiz finally decides to hang up his massive cleats, he'll be remembered as the single most important player in Boston Red Sox history. There, I said it. So that's probably why, as I sat in the pressroom at Fenway Park on a Friday afternoon in early September, waiting for Ortiz to arrive, it was hard to imagine a time when nobody in the major leagues wanted any part of him; or a time when David Ortiz wasn't the most feared clutch hitter in all of baseball; or even a time when you couldn't watch a Big Papi at-bat and check out a new Big Papi Comcast ad while eating a Big Papi sub from D'Angelo and making flight reservations on a Delta Song Big Papi Boeing 747.

But the truth is, from November 28, 1992—the day a then 17-year-old Ortiz signed with the Seattle Mariners—to January 22, 2003—the day the Red Sox made what would become one of the most significant free agent signings in franchise history—he was just like every other guy struggling to make a name for himself in the majors.

In 1996, Seattle gave up on Ortiz, trading him to the Twins for washed-up third baseman Dave Hollins—whom they ended up releasing a mere two months later.

Over the course of the next six seasons in Minnesota, Ortiz showed flashes of brilliance, but was plagued by injuries and never convinced Twins management that he should be a part of their future. In December 2002, after failing to find anyone that would take him in a trade, the Twins flat-out released Ortiz, claiming his $2 million-plus contract was a little too hefty for their penny-pinching pockets.

For the next month, any team, including the Yankees (whose short right-field porch was tailor-made for a lefty of Papi-like proportions), could have snatched him up for peanuts; no one was interested. That is, until the Red Sox came calling with a $1.25 million contract offer. Ortiz accepted—thanks in part to his relationship with fellow Domincan Pedro Martinez—and…well, you know the rest.

Back at Fenway: It's 2:30 pm, about five hours before the Sox are set to take the field against the Baltimore Orioles, and Ortiz arrives looking like he's ready to hit the red carpet at the VMAs. His outfit's louder than Gilbert Gottfried. He's sporting a gray spitfire hat, a velvet jacket, diamonds in his ears, diamonds on his watch, diamonds on his belt buckle and, of course, a big fat diamond-encrusted ring on his finger.

Three years ago he was a virtual nobody in the baseball world and, as he walks into the room today, a virtual saint in the city of Boston, you can't help but wonder: Through all the uncertainty earlier in his career and all the struggles in Minnesota, did he always know his life would turn out this way? He doesn't think about the answer for any longer than it takes to lose a 3-2 fastball into the right-field bleachers.

"I always knew I could do it," he says. "I went through the minors and then I just needed to get myself on a team that would let me play all the time."

After a couple of months in Boston, Ortiz got that chance, and no one can argue with the results: In six seasons with Minnesota, he hit .266 with 58 home runs and 238 RBIs in 455 games. In his first two seasons with the Red Sox, he hit .295 and racked up 72 home runs and 240 RBIs in only 278 games. Obviously, 2005 was no different: Ortiz established himself as the most dangerous hitter in the American League and finished the year batting .300 with 47 home runs (a major league record for a DH) and a whopping 148 RBIs.

There's no secret to his success, either. "I'm just out there working hard," he says, "trying to get better and trying to be a great player."

Mission accomplished there, but Ortiz has also developed into a great player off the field. He's a regular presence at local schools and Boys & Girls Clubs in the community, and when it comes to donating money to charity, Papi gives it away like the Chili Peppers. Last month, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the two-time All-Star donated $50,000 to the Red Cross. "You've got to help people, man," he says. "There are people out there who need it. They need it more than us players and we've got to get ourselves out there and make it better for them."

He's also helped make the Boston clubhouse, composed of a cast of characters that Ortiz calls "the craziest group of guys I've ever played with," a better place to be. He's become a team leader by bridging the gap between some of his more laid-back teammates, like Johnny Damon and Kevin Millar ("He's the craziest guy on the team. The dude's got no brain."), and the Sox's more conservative stars, like Jason Varitek and Curt Schilling. "I never get too crazy either way," he says. "Whether I'm hot or a little cold on the field, I act the same way. I'm pretty easy to get along with."

Life in Boston's pretty good for David Ortiz. He's here—along with his wife, Tiffany, and their three children, Jessica, Alexandra and D'Angelo—for at least two more seasons (and making a comfortable $6 million-plus each year). His legacy's secure, his career numbers are legit and his ring finger's blinged out: So what's left for Big Papi to accomplish?

"Just gotta win another one," he says, and lucky for us, there's no doubt in his mind as to where he wants to do it.

"The fans and everything else in Boston are so great. I hope they sign me for like 10 more years." Then he pauses, and says with a smile, "I kind of like it here."

As we go to press, the Red Sox find themselves in a familiar postseason position—with their backs against the wall, down two games to none to the White Sox. At this point we can only hope for the best, and would never put it past this version of the Red Sox to deliver another dramatic playoff comeback. But whatever happens, it'll be a consolation knowing that the Big Papi Experience should be a Fenway attraction for years to come. ■

building a champion

how the Krafts took the Patriots to the top

BY LENNY MEGLIOLA

ILLUSTRATION BY BRIAN HUBBLE

Remember when the popularity poll went like this? 1) Red Sox 2) Bruins 3) Celtics 4) Patriots.

That would be in the '70s, about the time Robert Kraft started taking his four sons to Patriots games at Schaefer Stadium. Hard to imagine now, but there were reasons that the Pats played in a half-empty stadium on some Sundays. From 1970 to 1975 they went 26-58. They stunk, the stadium by any name—Schaefer, Sullivan, Foxboro—was a dump and ownership was about as stable as a South American dictatorship. Heck, it was more fun raking leaves on Sunday than going to watch the Patriots play.

The National Football League was laying claim to America's Pastime, leapfrogging over baseball, but New Englanders weren't buying the pigskin hype. There was no joy in watching the locals play. The season was siesta time until spring training came around, and who could blame the fans for thinking that? From 1990 to 1993, the Patriots won 14 games and lost 50. Now we generally expect them to win 14 games in *one* season. Entering the 2005 season, the Patriots were an NFL-best 48-16 for the past four years, including the three Super Bowl triumphs that turned downtown Boston into Parade City despite February's bite.

So what happened?

It all began when Robert Kraft bought the team in 1994. "That was my dream," Kraft says. He'd always been a fan, even in the dark days. He'd take his sons on Sunday pilgrimages to the rickety (and homely) stadium off Route 1. "I think I had a few bucks, enough to pay my way in," says Kraft. "We used to sneak the kids into the old Foxboro Stadium. Anyone sitting in those metal seats was a fan."

And when Kraft bought the downtrodden team? "We thought we could run the franchise as fans." Sure, sounds corny. But the Krafts pulled it off.

Kraft had owned tennis's Boston Lobsters, who played out of Boston University's Walter Brown Arena. "That experience taught me that if you own a sports team you have to own the venue," says Kraft. BU was raking in the rent and concession sales—next time, thought Kraft, it'll be different. He never stopped thinking there would be a next time.

Buying the Patriots was one thing, but the stadium had to go. In the spring of 1999, Kraft and his son Jonathan began mapping plans. They bought $54 million worth of steel from Canada for what would be a privately financed stadium, and if the state infrastructure blessing had run into any snags or the private funding had fallen short, Kraft would have been stuck with a whole lotta steel in his backyard. Instead, the risk taken has turned into 68,756-seat Gillette Stadium, a jewel of a venue with 87 luxury suites and more than 6,000 club seats—sold out at every game.

On stadium matters, Kraft directs the praise to his son: "He really created and drove that process. Jonathan's a brilliant businessman. He's been with me through thick and thin. I'm lucky to have him as my right-hand man."

Jonathan Kraft, the eldest son at 41, cultivated his sharp mind at Williams College and Harvard Business School. He's a tireless worker who frequently burns the midnight oil, then gets up bright and early and starts over again. The new stadium ate up a lot of his waking hours for many months. "We knew we needed a new stadium if we were going to compete long term, and we knew we were going to pay for it ourselves," Jonathan Kraft says.

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Portsmouth
Rochester
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Springfield
Holyoke
Hartford
New Britain
Bridgeport
Providence
Pawtucket
Warwick
Fall River
New Bedford
Newport
Taunton
Brockton
Quincy
Worcester
Nashua
Manchester
Concord
Burlington
Barre
St Albans
St Johnsbury
Saratoga
Troy
Pittsfield
Kingston
Poughkeepsie
Norwich
New London
Block I
Montauk
Vineyard
Nantucket I
Marthas Vineyard
Cod

Way back when, Robert Kraft had been interested in buying the Red Sox or the Celtics. "I realized there was a low probability of that," Kraft says. "And I was most passionate about football. I had played it."

Still, Kraft would go to Sox games at Fenway Park and to the old Garden to watch the Celtics in the days when Russell, Cousy and Heinsohn were winning championships. He loved the excitement, the buzz that sports produced. Kraft knew the city, knew its pulse. He and his wife, Myra, stepped out: the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the theater, charity events. They became leading philanthropists, but the politics of the city Kraft would learn later—up close and a bit too personally.

When John Henry bought the Red Sox, he sought Kraft out. "He asked me about the town," says Kraft. The fans, the media, the day-to-day life of the city. Any tips, Robert? Kraft won't go into details about what he told Henry, but he will say this: "I told him to do whatever made him successful in business." He also reminded Henry that he was about to begin life in a fishbowl and that he was "going to be judged by the media, but they don't know everything."

Kraft, a fan-turned-owner, wasn't just a business whiz in the paper commodities world where he amassed his fortune. As a local guy who had followed all things Boston, he had street smarts. But he didn't always have all the answers. He still bears the scars from the political fallout after a failed attempt to build a stadium in the city, and he took a few hits for looking at Hartford as a place to bring the Patriots. The criticism stung. It also made him wiser.

The Krafts butted heads at the Statehouse with Tom Finneran, head of the Ways and Means Committee at the time. "The only money we asked for was for infrastructure," says Jonathan Kraft. And that had been pretty much decided, although Finneran, according to Kraft, made it sound like the family was shooting for the moon moneywise. Boston's Seaport area was the prime location for a new stadium. But that never flew. NFL people, says Kraft, "thought we were crazy not to build in an urban area."

Bottom line, says Kraft: "Finneran was making it impossible to be [in the city]."

The Krafts looked at Providence as a place to build, but that plan fell apart, Jonathan Kraft says. "Then we started talking to Connecticut." That seemed promising. The land would be free, the state would build a $300 million stadium and not only kick in $125 million in infrastructure but also commit to a 30-year deal stating that club seats would be sold out at the highest ticket price in the NFL. The state even guaranteed that the parking lots would be empty an hour after the game. It would have been, says Kraft, "the richest deal in sports. But Connecticut couldn't get the site cleaned up and we didn't want to be a lame duck in Foxboro. We walked from the deal in April 1999."

It turns out that just about the smartest thing the Krafts did was revisit Foxboro, build the stadium there and hope for the best. It couldn't have turned out much better. Jonathan Kraft became the new stadium's point man, slaving over all the processes, every detail of the "$300 million hole in the ground," as he puts it. "It was a nerve-racking time." After all, the Patriots were coming off a 5-11 year in 2001 and had opened that season with a loss to the lowly Bengals. Two days later, 9/11 happened, and a $300 million hole in the ground didn't seem so important anymore.

It was the season when the Pats would win their first NFL championship, the season capped by the Snow Game win against the Raiders in the playoffs (the last game at Foxboro Stadium) and the stunning upset of the St. Louis Rams in the Super Bowl. Two more Super Bowl wins have followed.

That's because Robert Kraft was smart enough to hire Bill Belichick as head coach when vox populi felt Belichick was a gamble, an inscrutable man, uncomfortable in the limelight—an acknowledged defensive genius maybe, but unproven as a head coach.

"One of the reasons he was so attractive to me was that he had a philosophy and a system of how to do things," says Kraft. "It was never dependent on one person."

To Belichick, anything besides running the team is just a temporary inconvenience. He approaches press conferences with all the joy of someone picking out a coffin. Here's what he does a lot: Win football games. Here's what he never does: Smile after it's over. In fact, it's a Kodak moment any time he smiles at all.

Belichick had been a New England assistant in 1996, strengthening a defense that badly needed it. "My dad is always a guy who trusts his gut, and he saw what Bill did that year," says Jonathan Kraft. Belichick took over for Pete Carroll who, Kraft says, had "proved he's a great coach." But in the college ranks. Carroll had taken over for Bill Parcells, who bolted for the New York Jets after the Pats had lost to the Packers in Super Bowl XXXI. Parcells was not a Kraft hire. "We inherited him," says Robert Kraft. "He's a great coach. He brought a lot of credibility to the organization. But it was hard to put everything behind an individual who would have to let you know at the end of the year whether he was coming back or not. That was the biggest issue with me."

"Here's what he [Belichick] does a lot: Win football games. Here's what he never does: Smile after it's over."

Parcells had won two Super Bowls coaching the Giants. Belichick is going for his fourth with the Patriots. He gets a rush from the three hours on the sidelines on Sunday. "I love to coach and be in a competitive situation, where we're up against the greatest players and greatest coaches in football and we're trying to compete with them," says Belichick. "Putting our best out there against their best on a level playing field. Yes, it's very challenging. But it's very exciting." And when the game is over, it takes all of a nanosecond for his mind to switch to the next week's game.

Belichick has been coaching in the NFL since 1975 but not until 1991 did he become head coach; his five-year stay with the Cleveland Browns gave no hint of his someday being mentioned in the same breath as Lombardi. Cleveland was 36-44 with Belichick.

At one time, it seemed he might have been one of those guys who was meant to be a top assistant, a noble first lieutenant. After the Cleveland flameout, it looked like he might never be a head coach again. He was thought of as a bit of a kook, walking the fine line between genius and madman. But Robert Kraft never forgot the circa 1996 Belichick.

While Belichick shuns the spotlight, a number of his players have taken on rock star personas, none more so than heartthrob quarterback Tom Brady, whose rise-from-the ashes-story mirrors Belichick's. For a long time it seemed like Drew Bledsoe would be Patriots QB for life, but Belichick decided early on that the team wouldn't have much of a future with Bledsoe. Just as important, the coach saw something, far from the gaze of the media or the public, in a sixth-round pick, the 199th player chosen in the 2000 NFL draft.

Thus began Brady's fairy tale. He had looks, boyish charm and humility, but Belichick didn't see the pretty boy as much as he saw the pretty boy's toughness, quick football mind and sweat-hog work in the weight room. So he dumped Bledsoe. It was all for the greater good. Kraft was giving Belichick license to run the organization his way. No regrets.

In Brady, Belichick saw a kid who was always working, always searching, forever curious about the mind game of football. And even after three Super Bowl wins, Brady begs for more schoolin'. "One thing about him," says Belichick, "is that if you point out his mistakes or areas that you think he needs to improve in, he's very diligent about trying to adjust and work on them. I think there is always room for any player to improve, especially in a team sport like football."

Those words are music to Robert Kraft's ears. "We built this [organization] and planned it and programmed it so that year in and year out, we have a good shot at making the playoffs," he says.

Of all the things that have fallen in place for Kraft, hiring Belichick was the winning lottery ticket.

It's been a life well lived for the Patriots owner. At 64, you might think he's ready to sit back and soak it all in. Not so. "I think I'm still 28," he says. "We're looking for some new adventures. I like to stir the pot."

It was a long time ago when Robert Kraft took the boys to games at the old stadium. In those days, when the Patriots scored, he "would put us on his shoulder and we'd throw toilet paper," Jonathan Kraft says sheepishly. The toilet paper roll would unfold as it streamed down the aisles below.

But, he adds, "We wouldn't allow that today."IB

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TRD

With a growing family and a commitment to Boston, Celtic Ricky Davis puts his impulsive past behind him.

THE FAMILY MAN

BY RICH LEVINE PHOTOGRAPH BY MELISSA MAHONEY

Remember those old Head & Shoulders commercials? You know, the ones where you found out that "you never get a second chance to make a first impression"? It's a valuable life lesson, and one that Celtics swingman Ricky Davis learned the hard way. His "Yikes, I'm on a blind date and have gross white flakes all over my ugly black cardigan" moment came March 16, 2003, in a game against the Utah Jazz.

Then 23 years old, Davis was playing for the Cleveland Cavaliers who, with only six seconds left in the game, held a more than comfortable 25-point lead over the Jazz. Davis was having one of the best games of his young career, with 26 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds. But then it happened. Needing one more rebound for his first career triple-double, Davis grabbed the inbound pass, and instead of simply running out the clock, turned around and took a shot at the wrong basket. He missed it on purpose and then ran down the ball, assuming it would be good for rebound No. 10.

It wasn't. Since attempting a shot at the wrong basket is against NBA rules, but that was the least of Davis' concerns. He'd embarrassed himself, the Jazz, the Cavs and the entire NBA. ESPN replayed the highlight over and over. Cleveland fined him, and he was ridiculed in every NBA circle. With that regrettable lapse in judgment, as well as a budding reputation as a difficult, uncoachable player, Davis became the poster boy for everything that was wrong with the NBA.

> "You have your ups and downs in this league, and when you're down, there's always one guy you can turn to: Ricky D."

So there it was. Joe Sports Fan's first impression of Ricky Davis. And when he was traded to Boston in December of 2003, that's the guy Celtics fans thought they were getting.

But a funny thing's happened during Davis' time with Boston: nothing. No public disputes with teammates; no out of the ordinary spats with the coach; no off the court trouble. Sure, a random, ill-advised, ball-between-the-legs dunk attempt might have sent the Celtic faithful into collective cardiac arrest every once in a while, but those less admirable moments have been far outweighed by the positive. Positives like last season when Davis willingly came off the bench—when most NBA veterans would have objected—and nearly brought home Sixth Man of the Year honors, or earlier this year, when Davis held a contest to find his No. 1 fan and ended up buying individual season tickets for 15 lucky Bostonians.

"Ricky has acted in every way here with great responsibility, and this year he's already taken it to another level," says Celtics coach Doc Rivers. "I couldn't be more proud of him and proud for him, because he's really been making all of the right choices."

Late last month, I caught up with Davis for lunch near the Celtics' practice facility in Waltham, wondering what had happened. What inspired his attitude 180? It turns out Cinco happened. That's Ricky's son, 14-month-old Tyree Ricardo Davis V.

"He's given me a whole new perspective on life and basketball. I'm out there every night playing for him," Davis says about his boy. And in between showing off pictures of his son from his camera phone, Davis can't stop talking about little Tyree and how he's affected his dad's approach to life and basketball.

"I'm not so sure if he's going to be a basketball player quite yet, because right now he's really into playing with sticks. I think he might be a baseball player," Davis says. "You know what? He might be a swimmer too. I can't get him out of the water. The kid's a fish."

But whatever Cinco ends up pursuing, Davis intends for him to do so with a father figure at home. "I've always tried to be a role model on the court, but now I have to make sure that I'm one on and off of it. He's made me realize what this all should really be about," says Davis.

What it's all about now is family, and that means sacrificing certain perks that come with being a multimillion-dollar NBA star in the prime of your career. Davis loves going out to eat at P.F. Chang's after games or hanging out on the patio at the Armani Café—a spot introduced to him by Paul Pierce. But with Cinco around, that's changed a little.

Most of Davis' time away from the court nowadays will be spent in Wayland, where he and girlfriend Vanessa Ramirez recently bought a house and plan to move full-time at the end of October. After the sale went through, Davis headed over to Circuit City and hooked up the new digs with a state-of-the-art entertainment system. He also brought in a live-in chef from his days in Cleveland to help make sure that "everything we need is right at home."

This past summer, Davis made one other big move on the family front. He bought a second house and moved his mother, father and brother into Waltham.

"It's going to be great to have them all around," he says. "They've been in Charlotte since I came into the league and only got to catch a couple games live each year. That won't be the case with them living right around the corner."

Life away from basketball's pretty stable right now. Part of that stability, of course, comes with maturity, but also from knowing that he's wanted on the team, which hasn't necessarily been the case for the majority of Davis' career. During his first six seasons in the league, he was traded three times and even over the course of his first two seasons in Boston, Davis' name has come up in all sorts of trade rumors. But Davis' off-season actions seem to indicate that he's planning to be in Boston for a little while. "I know that Danny [Ainge] sometimes can get wild moving guys in and out," he says, "but I feel like I've really developed a great relationship with him, to the point where I feel good about being here for a little while longer.

"It makes a big difference too. Just not having to wake up and check the papers every morning to see if you've been traded and not having to be on the phone with your agent every two seconds; it's great."

Less time on the phone or reading the papers means more time to focus on basketball, and the focus will have to be there this year, because with all the fatherly advice he'll be dishing out at home, there might be just as much need for it in the Celtics' locker room.

That's because, at the ripe old age of 26, Davis is now one of the elder statesmen on a Celtics squad that is the second youngest in all of basketball—with an average age of just 24 years old. And as a guy who came into the NBA after only one year of college ball, and who obviously had his share of early troubles, Davis knows he has a lot to offer.

"It's great because a lot of these younger guys are coming to me and asking for advice on how to handle things," he says. "I went through it and really feel like I can help them out. I make sure they know they've got to be careful with what they do, because they're doing it under a microscope. People make mistakes all the time when they're younger, but not everyone has their mistakes shown all over TV and the newspapers.

"I made one or two real big mistakes when I was younger and didn't know any better, but I want to try and make sure that they do."

At least a few of Davis' younger teammates have felt his influence. "There's been a lot of negative stuff said about Ricky over the course of his career, but I haven't seen anything like it since I've been here," says third-year big man Kendrick Perkins. "He's a real motivator for us young guys. You have your ups and downs in this league, and when you're down, there's always one guy you can turn to: Ricky D."

Second-year off-guard Delonte West seconds that. "Ricky has such a strong family background, which is real appealing to young guys. And from the second we got here, he opened his doors to all of us and invited us over for food, video games or whatever. And that's very rare for a guy who has superstar qualities in this league."

Keeping the young guys out of trouble might also make Davis part of a more successful team. Youngsters like Al Jefferson (20 years old), Tony Allen (23), Perkins (20), West (22) and rookie Gerald Green (19) all have to make strides this season if Boston's going to make any noise in the Eastern Conference. Davis, for one, believes that's possible.

"We have the same core as last year, except for GP [Gary Payton] and then Antoine [Walker], but he was only here for a little bit. We still have Paul [Pierce], still have myself and we've still got Raef [LaFrentz]," he says. "Also we've got Al with another season under his belt and another bunch of young guys ready to take their games to the next level. I think that we'll be ready to make a run in the division. My expectations are very high."

Assuming that this winter does find the Celtics in another fight for the Atlantic Division crown, Davis will likely take part in the run on a little less sleep than he's accustomed to. He and Vanessa are expecting their second child in early February. "We're supposed to be leaving on a trip to the West Coast at the beginning of that month, so we might have to work on getting that baby out in January. Either that or we're going to have to wait until the All-Star break," he jokes.

But whenever it happens, it just means more time at home with his family, and these days, Davis apparently wouldn't wish for anything more. ■

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YOU'RE IN FOR SOME SCRAPES AND BRUISES WHEN YOU STEP INTO THE WORLD OF BOSTON'S EXTREME ATHLETES.

i don't know why i go to extremes

BY EZRA DYER

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL IVINS

Jimmy Day airs it out.

Derby Dame meets Derby Dork. At left: Roxie Redlight gets a few check marks from Shellby Shattered.

To be honest, I'm not normally very extreme. I've never jumped out of a plane or kayaked over a waterfall while making the devil-horn sign with one hand and doing the Dew with the other. I enjoy sipping hot chocolate, mmmmm. But Boston is chock-full of stone-crazy mofos who actually play the sports you see late-night on ESPN 2, risking bodily harm for the thrill of the action. As part of my ongoing life goal to become a more extreme individual, I cajoled several experts in their field to give me a crash course in roller derby, skateboarding and kiteboarding. For good measure and to break the rest of the bones in my body, I hit the woods to push my own mountain-biking limits in an attempt to learn a few things from the School of Hard Knocks. Read on, and see if you can't learn a thing or two yourself about how to be so extreme it hurts.

ROLLER UP

If you're not familiar with roller derby, the sport basically consists of girls on roller skates on a circular track knocking each other's heads off. It's full contact, as I quickly see at the Boston Derby Dames practice in Brighton. Two derbiers are skating around the periphery of the cement slab that is the practice track, and one, Shellby Shattered, is checking the other, Roxie Redlight, into the boards. "That was a *moderate* hit?" Roxie asks after Shellby levels her. Everyone has a derby name, the eviler the better. Other team members include Ivana Clobber, Helen Killer and Pina Collida. Moxie Toxic immediately takes me under her wing and dubs me Skate or Die-er.

It should be pointed out that guys are not normally allowed to play, but in my case an exception has been made in the name of publicity and the opportunity to smack a schmuck who can't skate. It should also be pointed out that I look like a huge tool. Punk-rock chicks covered in tattoos and wearing fishnet stockings can get away with roller skates and kneepads. Stupid dudes with no tattoos and mediocre skating skills just look retarded in this gear.

Aesthetics and male vanity aside, my skating ability is the bigger problem. Trying to play roller derby without knowing how to skate is like trying to run hurdles without knowing how to walk. But Moxie coaches me up to the point that I can propel myself forward, looking like a newborn fawn on Teflon, until I gently crash into the boards to stop. But she has other notions about how I should slow down.

"We're gonna practice falling," she announces. "Try a two-knee fall first. You basically throw your upper body back and land on your knees, like a rock star sliding across the stage." But I am not a rock star, and my brain balks at the idea of slamming my knees into pavement, despite robust pads. I plop on the ground at roughly 2 miles per hour, softly skidding to a stop. "Pussy," says Roxie Toxic. I keep trying, and eventually I'm bashing my knees into the ground in a satisfactory manner. I then practice dragging one knee and getting back up on the fly, a crucial skill in roller derby. Satisfied that I can stop by way of the intentional fall, I join the group for a jumping practice, where the women sprint between the lines painted across the rink before jumping over said lines. Have you ever tried to jump on roller skates? I get less air than the atmosphere of Pluto and still feel like I'm going to break my ankles. Meanwhile, I get passed by absolutely everyone, including one 95-pound girl with ponytails who wipes out, earns a mean-looking oozing abrasion on her shoulder, and gets up and keeps skating. That seems to be the name of the game: If you're still alive, you're still skating.

I've got blisters from my rental skates, never-used skating muscles in my legs are already cramping up, and there are girls out there who want to hurt me. I am extreme—extremely too soft for this crazy-ass sport.

I pull over next to the boards to catch my breath and get out of the way, and it starts raining. At least, I thought it was raining, but it turns out that my sweat-soaked hair is peeking out from under my helmet and dripping on my nose. This is harder work than it looks. "Alright everyone!" Shellby Shattered summons. "Right now, we're gonna skate for 10 minutes as fast as you can . . . well, not so you're a slow-ass after two minutes, but at a medium-to-fast pace the whole time." Groans issue from the team, except for me. I'm already taking off my skates and calling it a night. I've got blisters from my rental skates, never-used skating muscles in my legs are already cramping up, and there are girls out there who want to hurt me. I am extreme—extremely too soft for this crazy-ass sport. I wish the ladies good luck on their debut game at the end of October and head off in search of my next totally extreme, maxed-out rad adrenaline rush.

HALF-PIPE DREAMS

Jimmy Day, 22, doesn't toot his own horn, but he's one of the best skateboarders in town. After some prying, he reveals that he has competed in a tournament in Los Angeles that featured the top three skateboarders from different regions around the country—he was one of the three from New England. Accolades aside, I know nothing about skateboarding, but I can tell this guy is seriously good. As he goes off a tabletop jump, his board seems glued to his feet, even as he jumps 3 feet in the air. A kid hanging out at the skate park walks over and asks, "How do you do that? How do you keep the board under your feet?" Jimmy shrugs. "I don't know." The boring answer, the discouraging one that he doesn't offer, is that it's practice, kid. Probably more hours of practice than you've spent alive on this planet. So just do that and you'll be all set.

Day, who gives lessons in Boston and Fitchburg, starts me off easy. I push myself back and forth on level ground, getting a feel for the board. No problem, I think, and I ride over to a gentle slope and try to continue down into the lower part of the bowl. I should've consulted Jimmy first, because I make a typical rookie mistake: I fall off backward, kicking the board out in front of me and spiking my left big toe into the ground. It immediately swells up. I've been here only five minutes and already I've gone and gotten an extreme-sports injury. I'm very pleased with myself. I may as well keep riding, since now it's painful to walk.

"What you did there is pretty common," Jimmy tells me. "Your whole life, you get used to keeping yourself upright. But when you ride down a slope, you've actually got to lean forward, like you're falling into it. Otherwise, you go off backward." Falling backward is to be avoided. Unlike the end of daylight savings time, here you want to fall forward. See Exhibit A, my giant toe.

I successfully negotiate a few modest slopes and move on to practicing "dropping in," where you stand with the tail of the board on the ground, then stomp the front down onto the slope you're riding. Jimmy can drop in on the near-vertical face of the skate park's big bowl, but I'm staring down a meager grade like it's K2. I ask Jimmy how he nonchalantly drops in on the big stuff.

"I had a half-pipe in my backyard growing up," he says. "When you've got it sitting there outside your bedroom window day and night, it loses the intimidation factor." I try it a few more times and finally start to get it without wiping out. Jimmy gives me props. "You're good about at least giving it a shot," he says. "You wouldn't believe how much psychological work is involved, just in getting people to try things. They can do it, but they don't think they can."

The most surprising thing to me about skateboarding is that it's really, really fun. I'd always thought of it as just an excuse to wear baggy pants and hang out making fun of jocks. The world is essentially divided into skateboarders and people who stand on their porch yelling at skateboarders, and I've always identified with the latter group. But, swollen toe or not, skateboarding with Jimmy made me kind of wish that I'd grown up in a place where lots of things were paved.

GO FLY A KITE

Have you ever seen the kitesurfers ripping across Pleasure Bay in Southie, bounding into the air on gusts of wind, ripping along as if they were towed by a 350-horsepower ski boat and not a mere piece of fabric? It looks like a hell of a good time, and just as important, it's suitably rad and extreme. I sought out Christian Schlebach at Sky Kitesurfing School in Newport, R.I., to teach me the rudiments of kitesurfing. There's only one problem: Kitesurfing is complicated and not something that can be learned in a single day. "Are you athletic?" he asks. Ummm . . . I suppose we'll find out.

We arrive at Schlebach's favorite secret beach and begin unpacking gear from the boat. There's white sand, clear water and a view of Newport. "Dude, this is my office," Schlebach says. I realize how lame I am when my first thought is, "I'd get really sunburned if I had to be out here every day."

Kitesurfing essentials include a harness worn around your body, the kite, various control wires and the board. At the beginning you don't even mess with the board because you have to learn how to fly the kite first. We stand on the beach and Schlebach teaches me how to maneuver the kite through the "box," the area in front of you where the kite generates the most power. While Schlebach can fly the kite slowly, subtly tweaking it to stay in control, I tend to swing it wildly until eventually crashing it into the beach. The paramount goal is to keep the kite in the air no matter what, and to drive this point home Schlebach has a pair of favorite sayings, "Make it happen," and "Git 'er done." The latter redneck mantra sounds especially funny coming from someone with a South African accent.

I'm not especially good at making it happen and I can see how this 10-hour learning curve comes into play—if I practiced my kite-crashing routine in the water, it would make for a long day indeed. Wet kites are a pain in the ass.

So I stand on the beach practicing my flight skills until I can keep my kite aloft for around five minutes. As I stand there peering up at the sky, I take note of Schlebach and his buddy, Rex Bridges, talking. Their vocabulary is awesome. They're using words like "stoked" and "gnarly," and they can actually get away with it because they're surfer

Christian Schlebach helps a trainer kite off the ground. Below: Rex catches a gust

dudes. Incidentally, that's how they recommend that you dress, like a laid-back surfer and not like Scuba Steve. "You see guys wearing nothing but wet suits to kitesurf, and that's a no-no," says Bridges. "Yeah," agrees Schlebach. "At least wear board shorts over it. Nobody wants to see your junk."

As the afternoon wears on, there's still not enough wind to kiteboard, so Schlebach gives me a new challenge: flying the biggest kite. Most kiteboarders have two or three kites in their "quiver," with the bigger ones for use on less windy days. This one is big enough to lift Schlebach off the ground and carry him down the beach in 10-foot bounds, like a kid in a giant bouncy stroller, and right now there's barely any wind. This thing is serious, and I'm a bit daunted when Schlebach tells me of the injuries that kites can inflict. "People do face-plants into the beach all the time. And the wires are like razor blades when they're under tension. We know a guy who filleted the side of his finger the other day on one of the lines." With stories like this in mind, I'm too timid with the big kite and tend to harmlessly float it down to the ground. I'm afraid I'll inadvertently drop it into the box and go flying off toward the coast of Connecticut.

So I didn't get into the water, but I laid the foundation to try again soon, and I actually might do it. The necessary gear runs between $1,500 and $2,000, but after that, hey, the wind is free.

EXCITE BIKE

For my final extreme endeavor, I decide to push my own limits in a sport that I actually pursue in real life: mountain biking. Now, I'm not what you would call an avid mountain biker. Ever since I was 12 years old, when I did an endo onto pavement at about 30 miles per hour—an event followed by such extreme head trauma and blood loss that I went blind for five minutes—I've been a bit gun-shy when it comes to bikes. Come to think of it, let's just say that smashing my head on the pavement when I was 12 was super-extreme and call it a day.

No? OK then. I head to Gordon College, just off Route 128 in Wenham, to expand my horizons and hopefully not bash anything too hard on the ol' Specialized's crossbar. Biking is another sport where if you don't want to kill yourself, you're going to look like a toolbag. With my helmet strapped on and my bike cleats Velcroed up, I look as smooth as the Himalayas. But I'm ready to do this.

After pedaling around aimlessly for a half hour, I locate the perfect place to get wicked. Midway down a single-track slope, there's a 2-foot rock ledge in the trail, followed by a vertical dropoff. Old Ez would've ridden around this obstacle, but today Extreme Ez has shown up, and it's against the Code of Those Who Are Extreme to go around any object that can instead be jumped in totally radical fashion. I ride back up the hill, turn around, and head down to show this rock that it got in the wrong guy's way today.

I hit the lip, pull back on the handlebars and hop off the edge. For a split second, I am my own biggest hero, flying through the air with my handlebars cocked to the side, an electric guitar solo totally rocking through the forest in my mind. I am so fearless and cool that I will probably get a contract to endorse Red Bull soon. And then I land. Maybe my handlebars are still sideways, or maybe my weight is too far forward but, at any rate, I go over the bars and into the gravel. My right shoulder hits first, driving the air out of my lungs. My elbow grinds into the dirt, and my legs become tangled with the bike frame. But nothing seems broken, so there is only one recourse: Get back on that horse and do it again. And again. I keep riding to the top of the hill and coming back down at that jump, trying each time to pull up on the bars and bunny-hop off the edge for a perfect landing. Sometimes I land it. Once, I go off the trail and run down a small sapling. Another time I almost kill the photographer and come inches from crushing his telephoto lens. It's OK—he knew in advance that this assignment was going to put him in a front-row seat for some of the most extreme insane mountain bike stunts happening at Gordon College that morning.

After about 10 trips off the ledge, I'm no longer mustering the proper energy to pull my body into position as I go off. It feels similar to how I gradually lose control and start wiping out when I get tired skiing. I can foresee my face smashing into a tree, and that would be extremely undesirable. But hey, I aired out and hurt myself just enough to feel badass but not maimed, and for that I believe I deserve a nice hot chocolate. And possibly a bubble bath. iB

Rock versus bike

GIT 'ER DONE

Boston Derby Dames, 617-797-5384; www.bostonderbydames.com

Jimmy Day, 617-543-0251, jimskday@hotmail.com

Sky Kitesurfing School, 401-849-0084, www.kitesurfingschool.com

Gordon College, Exit 17 off Route 128; left at the end of the ramp. Trails begin at the back of the parking lots 1/4 mile down on the right.

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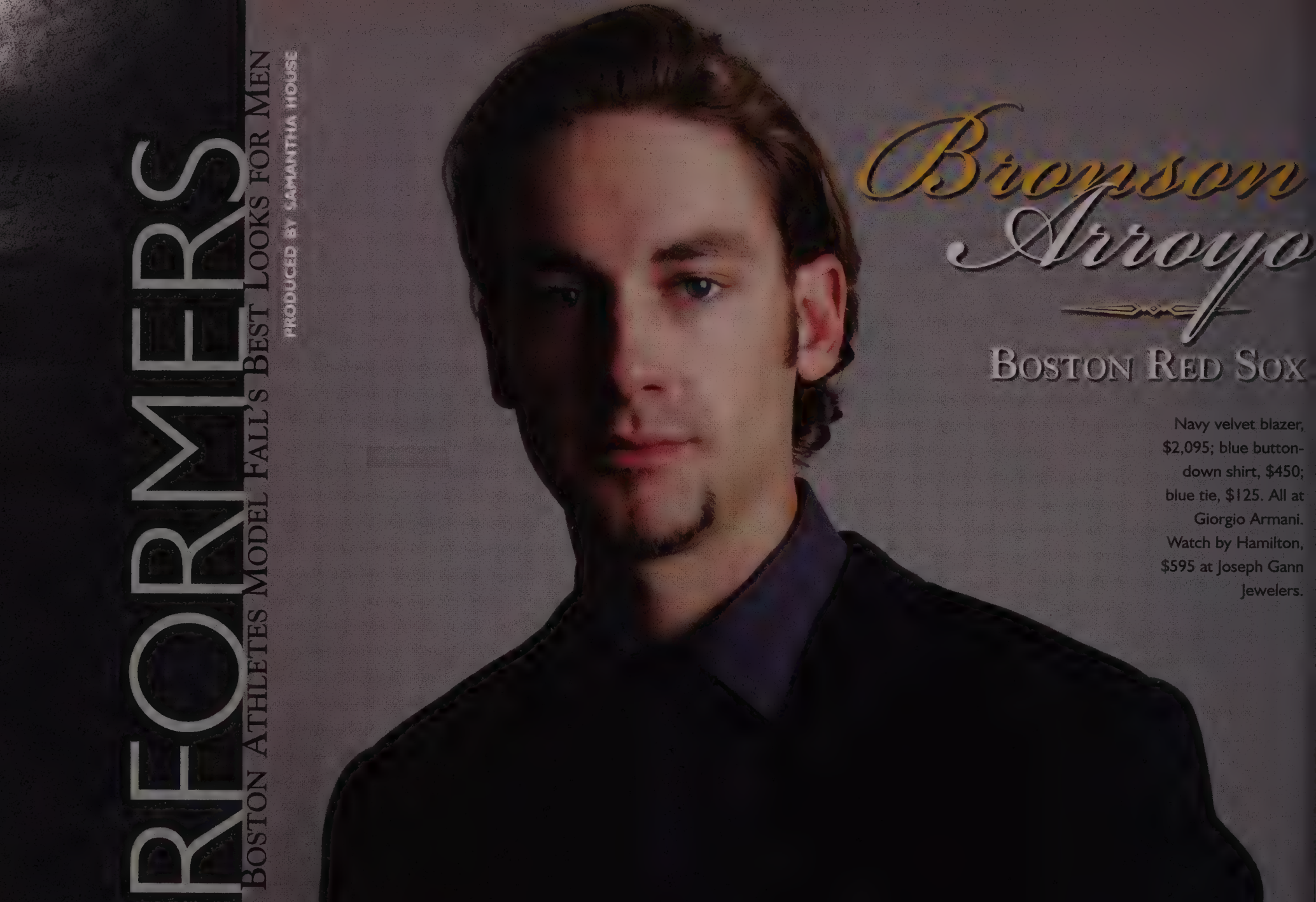


Bronson Arroyo

Boston Red Sox

Navy velvet blazer, $2,095; blue button-down shirt, $450; blue tie, $125. All at Giorgio Armani. Watch by Hamilton, $595 at Joseph Gann Jewelers.

Pearl PER

Photograph by Brian Silverstein

Marcus Banks

Boston Celtics

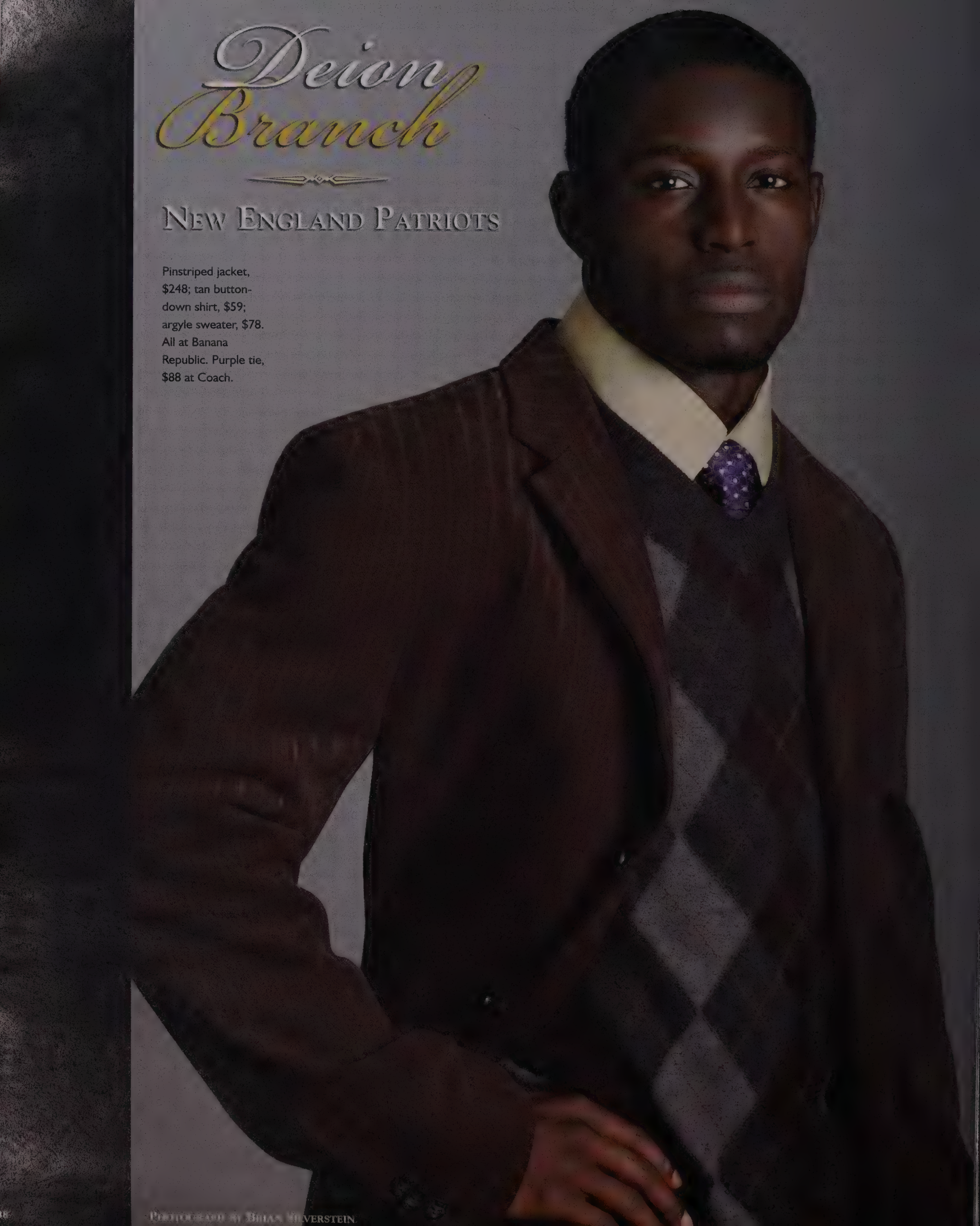
Striped shirt, $165, at Thomas Pink. Striped blazer, $248; tie, $59.50. Both at Banana Republic.

PHOTOGRAPH BY TRACY POWELL

Deion Branch

New England Patriots

Pinstriped jacket, $248; tan button-down shirt, $59; argyle sweater, $78. All at Banana Republic. Purple tie, $88 at Coach.



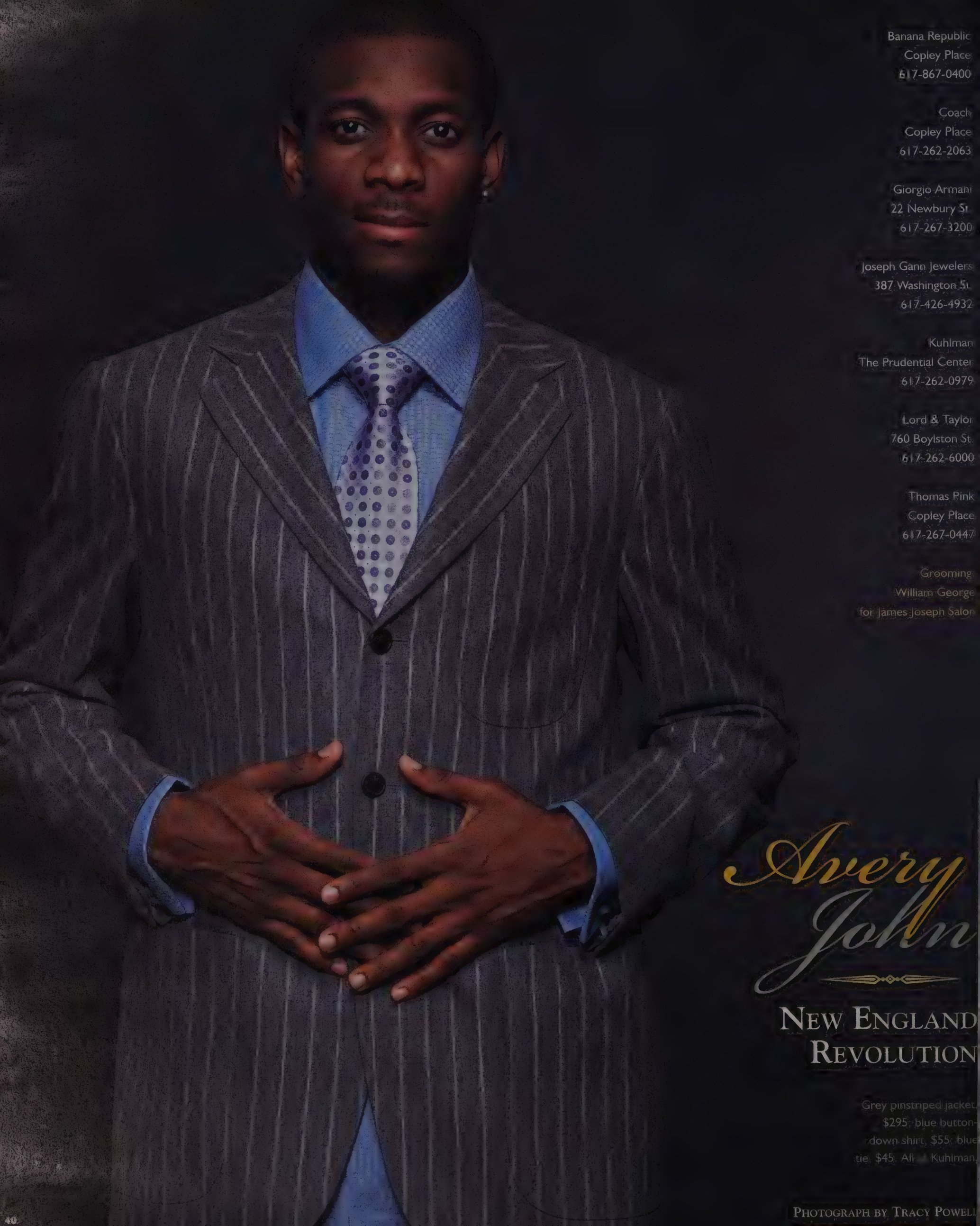
Photographed by Brian Silverstein.

Patrice Bergeron

Boston Bruins

Pinstriped top-stitch blazer by 7 Diamonds, $279; multicolored striped shirt by Kenneth Cole, $79; chocolate polka-dot tie by DKNY, $49.50. All at Lord & Taylor

Photograph by Tracy Powell



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Grey pinstriped jacket, $295; blue button-down shirt, $55; blue tie, $45. All Kuhlman.

Photograph by Tracy Powell

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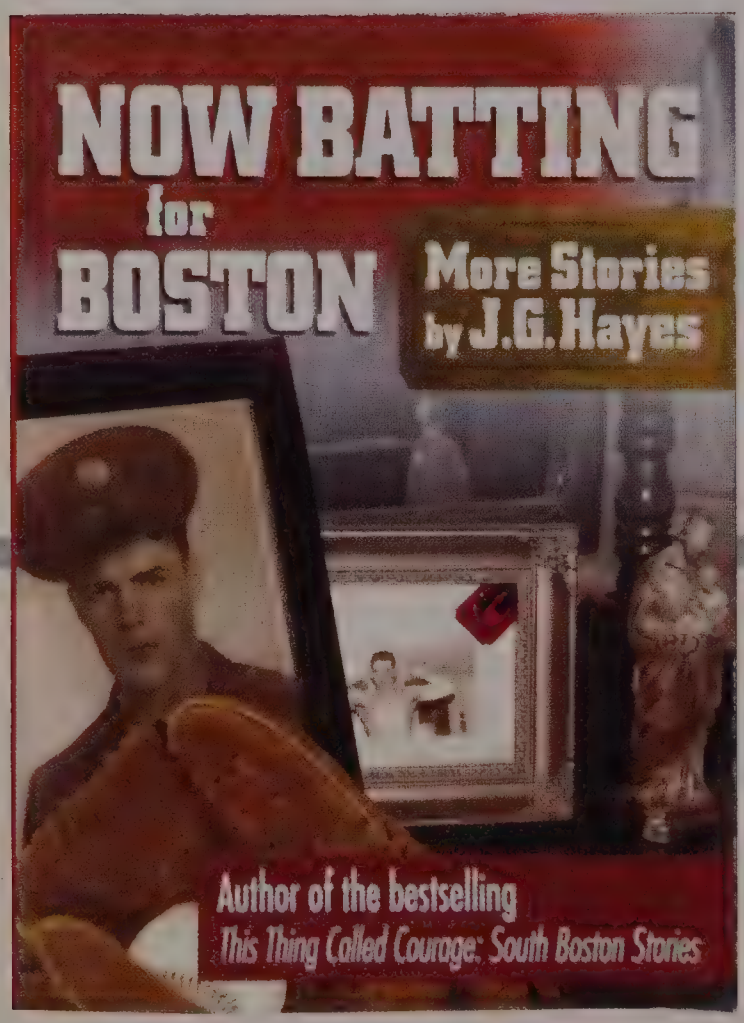

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL MOBILITY IN SOUTHIE

Now Batting for Boston* offers more stories by J.G. Hayes, author of *This Thing Called Courage: South Boston Stories

J.G. Hayes is living proof—alongside Michael Macdonald of *All Souls*—that a writer from a roughish Southie life can also unroll a lyrical sensibility. His characters tend to be sensitive souls, both inside their loyal, close-knit, ethnically flavorful neighborhood, and also pointing a spyglass of yearning toward something else and beyond. Sometimes it's love, often gay; one story juxtaposes a sexual encounter in which a romantically hopeful character is hurt that the guy was only out for a one-night stand; later those roles are reversed. Another story follows a guy who drifts toward the love of a man he calls Dark Irish. Anomalies of class and money are wonderfully explored in "You're Always Happy When You're Rich." Danny, rejected from college, but entranced with architecture, paints on the chic building of an actual architect in Southie. He trespasses, excitingly, scarily, in body and spirit, when the place is empty, but eventually returns to his true Southie life and self, comforted by a kindred neighborhood spirit.

LESS IS MOORE

Former marketing consultant Laura Moore of Clutter Clarity can bring order to your untidy abode. She charges $240 for a four-hour session. Call 617-349-1661 or go to www.Laura@clutterclarity.com.

The words Clutter Clarity clop forward from tortured dilemma to airy solution. This company's owner and spirit, Laura Moore, emanates not officious bossiness, but rather soothing receptivity. Respecting that even beloved things become burdening in piles of disarray, bringing despair, shame, dread, possibly hidden behind the closed door of denial, Laura nonjudgmentally helps clients develop strategies designed specifically for them that can be practiced and used thereafter. At the dining room table, "carving, not attacking" clutter, she invites a pouring-out of junk and jewels, gradually putting things in various categories, including a watch-and-wait one. She respects the emotional value of the treasures to be found (and indeed kept), and the person's own tempo of keeping or letting go, strongly reinforcing the ahhhh! space- and life-opening powers that cleaning, arranging, and here's a word she likes—discriminating—among things can bring. Once cleaner and clearer, important, beautiful, useful things can be highlighted in space. If death or other transitions occasion it, she maintains a supportive calm. "When you're sorting stuff, stuff comes up," she says. Some clients shed things she finds homes for. The tightened-up boundaries around resolved clutter ring with joyful relief.

BROWSY AND COZY USED BOOKSTORE

Lorem Ipsum is a new, used bookstore at 157 Hampshire Street in Cambridge, outside Inman Square. It was founded by Matt Mankins, formerly of MIT's Media Lab. On rainy days, or if you say the word of the day, get 10 percent off. 617-497-7669. Free parking on the street.

The restless zest of Cambridge for reading, thankfully, has brought a used bookstore into, not out of, business. Appropriately witty-literary, Lorem Ipsum alludes to the dummy type used by typesetters. With some books cozily arrayed on a low window bench, it's almost like being at home. The books' market value is constantly calculated by some algorithm that tracks various book sites, and the horse race here is in your favor. Because it's a used book selection (with a fair amount of recent and brand new releases) you'll find old friends that might be lost in the glaring commercial now of a new bookstore. They call one room "Make Believe," i.e., fiction, where Toni Morrison and Norman Mailer, and Jonathan Lethem (of *Motherless Brooklyn*) mingle chummily alongside the lefty funk of yore—like *The Whole Earth Catalogue*. Nonfiction/biography yields old and older books: Hobbes, sociologist Irving Goffman, a biography of Salinger by his daughter that recently sold. The children's section has good finds, unlikely in a new bookstore, like a thickly bound, beautifully illustrated *Wind in the Willows*. Loved-looking cookbooks, include a Foxfire Appalachian that also recently sold, and a juicy-gigantic *Homes and Garden*. Psychology includes both pop and academic (Freud's letters) offerings, and current stars like Carol Gilligan.

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— Jack Welch, *Winning*

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REVIEW

HEATING IT UP

Green Street Grill gives another kick to Central Square's cuisine.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC KULIN

Mussels steamed in coconut-curry-lobster broth

It looks like a speakeasy from the outside. Dark, almost gloomy brick siding, a small window revealing the bar but not much more of its interior, and a functional but homely sign serving only to distinguish the Green Street Grill from the even more lugubrious storefronts on either side of it made me think I'd better have a password or special knock to gain entry. Upon entering this foreboding building, however, a whole new world opens up. Original art by New York artist Nancy Ostrovsky covers the walls, her paintings in acrylic and other media capturing musicians and other performers in colorful and kinetic fashion. The paintings are all for sale, with a price list available upon request.

Just inside the door of the Grill to the right, a long, inviting bar, with several beers on tap, extends to an open kitchen. Up a half flight of stairs across from the bar, a mezzanine with aged oak floors accommodates about 75 diners at banquettes and dark brown wooden tables. Track lighting illuminates the paintings.

GREEN STREET GRILL
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HOURS Sun.– Wed., 3 pm–1 am; Thu.–Sat., 3 pm–2 am.
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PARKING yes (garage for $1/hour)
LIQUOR LICENSE yes, full bar

The Grill's menu offers 10 appetizers and eight main courses along with a handful of sides and four desserts. Appetizers priced all in the single digits and main courses primarily in the teens treat the pocketbook gently. The wine list is limited but more than serviceable, again at consumer-friendly prices. A bottle of 2003 Jackaroo "Big Red" ($22), an Australian blend of cabernet sauvignon, shiraz, and merlot, while pleasant, lacked sufficient acidity, striking me as soft and grapey. Far better was the Argentinean terra malbec ($7.50 a glass), a well-structured red whose Latin American heritage complemented the musical ambiance of this lively eatery. A glass of the Chilean carmenere ($6) showed the same good structure and fine balance.

For some time, the Grill's chef, Mark Romano, has had a good-natured rivalry with his former boss and mentor, Chris Schlesinger of the East Coast Grill, about which of these two eateries' cuisines packs the greater kick and is higher on the heat scale. While it has been some time since I visited the East Coast, my encounter with the Green Street Grill's pan-fried shrimp and crab cake ($9) suggested that Schlesinger has a real contest on his hands. This tantalizing mélange of chopped shrimp, shredded crab and minimal breading combined shellfish of remarkably moist and light texture with high-powered heat. Despite the spiciness, the sweet flavor of crab came through, while the garnish of roasted corn, green onions and broad-leafed Italian parsley provided a slightly cooling counterpoint. Mussels ($8), steamed in spicy coconut curry and lobster broth, descended the heat scale only slightly. The first-rate quality of the principal ingredients, more than two dozen hefty, sweet, clean mussels, made the dish delicious. Four large slices of buttery grilled bread turned it into an entire meal. Since mussels don't take well to doggy bags, I devoured every last one of them, dispatching their piquant broth with a spoon.

Jerk spiced chicken wings ($7) seemed monochromatic, their fiery spiciness overwhelming the dish. The thin coconut-lime dipping sauce added little, leading me to conclude that something this hot needs a savory and creamy condiment like blue cheese dressing rather than a sweet, thin dip. Again, the sheer quantity of these meaty wings made the remainder of the meal almost superfluous. A less filling and less provocatively spiced appetizer, arugula salad with figs, pecans and Great Hill blue cheese ($8), demonstrated that the kitchen can show finesse and cater to tastes that are both more refined and less tolerant of fiery spices. The pleasantly bitter arugula, crunchy-textured, mildly spiced pecans, exquisite cheese (a celebrated product of the Commonwealth) and luxuriously sweet figs touched all the taste and texture bases skillfully.

Of the main courses, there were two standouts that by themselves merited a visit to this eatery. Grilled chicken breast and confit leg ($18) brought thick hunks of juicy, white breast meat and a superbly flavorful thigh and drumstick. My skepticism at the description "confit leg"—a preparation usually confined to duck or goose, in which the bird's hindquarters are cooked and preserved in its own fat—was dispelled by the crispy, salty skin that encased the succulent dark meat. The accompanying mango-ginger chutney, sautéed chard and garlic mashed potatoes made this a substantial and satisfying ensemble. The second offering "worth a detour," to use the Michelin Guide's rating phrase, was the spicy seafood chorizo gumbo ($20). Evocative of our beloved, wounded New Orleans, this tour de force contained three jumbo, perfectly textured shrimp, three giant sea scallops (whose texture does not usually survive inclusion in a casserole, but which were decent here), and three sizeable cherrystone clams, accompanied by onions, peppers, jasmine rice, okra and celery. The chef's handiwork reflected in this dish would have made any Cajun proud.

Not as memorable as the chicken or gumbo, but more than respectable in their own right, were the pork spareribs and the grilled Cape Cod bluefish (both priced at $17). Rich, oily and strongly flavored

Arugula salad with figs, spiced pecans and Great Hill cheese

Grilled chicken breast and confit leg with mango-ginger chutney and garlic mashed potatoes

Main dining room

bluefish is not for the timid. Some regard it as too "fishy" while others—myself included—savor its assertiveness. The Green Street's preparation captured the robust essence of bluefish, and while its texture—borderline soft and flabby—disappointed, its garnishes of al dente green beans in a tomato-basil vinaigrette and two different kinds of fingerling potatoes, long blue ones and shorter white ones, more than compensated. Pork spareribs, a huge mound of meaty ribs, more sweet than spicy, satisfied the carnivore gene, while their accompaniment, pleasantly bitter collard greens studded with bacon, red beans and a large hunk of corn bread, gave the dish soul.

Desserts, all $6, included warm chocolate cake, a first-rate exemplar of this almost ubiquitous confection, with molten chocolate in the middle, a generous pool of bittersweet chocolate sauce on and around it, and a scoop of espresso ice cream alongside. The banana bread pudding, a massive block almost 5 inches on a side, seemed a bit too much—too sweet, too big, too dense—but its accompanying caramel sauce and vanilla ice cream relieved the monotony.

Late word has it that the Green Street Grill will soon be changing hands, and its new owners will do some renovations and revamp the menu, ratcheting down the pepper content of some dishes. Fortunately, Mark Romano will remain in the kitchen, and I don't believe for a second that he will wholly surrender bragging rights for provocatively spiced fare to his East Cambridge rival. Romano's flair for creating food that can satisfy the broad constituency that this eatery attracts will surely survive any changes. Central Square accommodates a remarkably diverse collection of cultures and cuisines, and the Green Street Grill will continue to serve as the unofficial flagship of the neighborhood's friendly and enticing eateries. IB

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THE ORIGINAL MARGARITA
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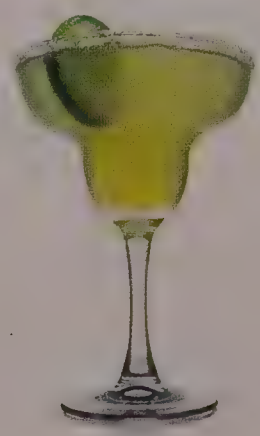

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DISH

Ten more years!

Chez Henri preps for a second decade...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

When **Paul O'Connell** opened **Chez Henri** several blocks west of Harvard Square in 1995, his menu was more French than Latin and his neighborhood, thanks to rent control laws, was a bit more diverse and a lot more bohemian. Today, "the menu is a lot more Latin-inflected," says O'Connell, and the clientele is more conventional, "business-wise, more affluent." Still, this is Cambridge, and O'Connell reports, "We had [John] Malkovich come in the other night with his wife and kids, looking pretty funky in sneakers and clamdiggers."

Paul O'Connell, owner of Chez Henri

It takes more than one actor to bring back boho, but O'Connell is stirring memories of Chez Henri's early days by changing his October menu to include old favorites, such as roasted bone marrow with oxtail and toasted brioche, and featuring at least three entrees under $20. Don't expect a price cut on the iconic Cubano sandwich, though. "It's a deal in itself as it is," says O'Connell.

On the brink of signing a new 10-year lease, O'Connell is planning for the future of the restaurant whose kitchen nurtured such culinary talents as **Corrina Mozo**, **Amanda Lydon**, **Gabriel Frasca** and **Josh Ziskin**. Come January, he'll close for about a week to renovate the dining room and bar, as well as install a temperature-controlled wine room. "We'll make the dining room more casual, with hardwood floors, lighten it up a little more," he says.

Meanwhile, one of O'Connell's former bartenders is opening his own restaurant in Central Square. Cambridge native **Dylan Black** is waiting for licensing approval from the city before finalizing his purchase of **The Green Street Grill** from **John Clifford**. Plans for renovation are still up in the air, but Black certainly seems like the right person for the job—he grew up around the corner from the Grill. "I used to play pinball in there," he remembers.

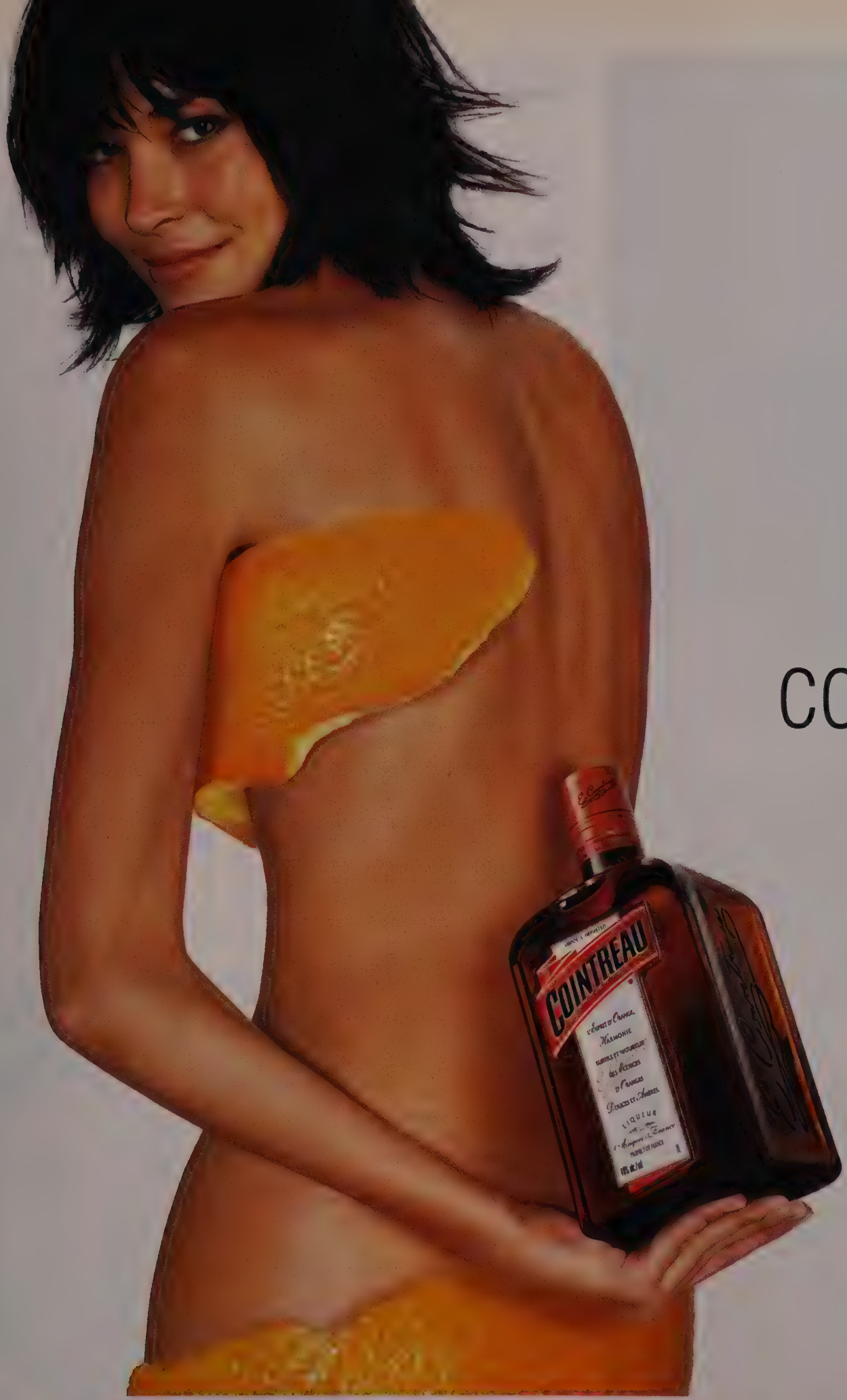
Black is holding on to chef **Mark Romano** and the Caribbean/American–themed cuisine, but changes are afoot. "I'm going to drop the 'Grill' and just keep 'Green Street,'" he says. "We'll change the menu entirely—it won't be as heavily spiced—and have a late-night menu and an updated cocktail menu, with more classic cocktails." Black, who tended bar at the **B-Side** for four years before meeting Paul O'Connell and eventually moving to Chez Henri, will serve as general manager and part-time bartender. Expect to see a variety of rum- and tequila-based drinks made with fresh-squeezed juices and authentic bitters—Angostura, Peychaud and roasted orange— to complement the West Indian flavors of the food.

SECOND COURSE

Gretchen Husbands is the new general manager at **Mare** in the North End... **Patrick O'Connell** has been promoted from sous chef to executive chef at **Radius** downtown...As the new executive chef at **Kingfish Hall**, **Katherine DeWitt See** holds some unusual, yet perfectly fitting, qualifications. Before she began her culinary career in the **Olives** kitchen in Charlestown, See earned an MS in nutrition from Tufts, concentrating on food and the environment...**Ken Oringer**'s forthcoming **Toro**, the third restaurant for **Clio**'s chef/owner, is likely to open softly in the South End by the end of October, perhaps even on Halloween night. Dress up like Charlie the Tuna at your own risk. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.



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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Best of Charlestown
Schraffts Center, 529 Main St., Charlestown. www.charlestown.cc/boc. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square. Oct. 22. 6:30-11:30 pm. $35-$45. This sixth annual event features samplings of fare from restaurants in the Charlestown area and benefits the Friends of Boston's Homeless, Harvest on Vine food pantry and other community outreach organizations.

Boston Vegetarian Food Festival
The Reggie Lewis Athletic Center, 1350 Tremont St., Boston (617-424-8846). www.bostonveg.org/foodfest. MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. Oct. 22. 10 am-6 pm. Free. This 10th annual festival features samples from more than 100 vegetarian food vendors, nationally known speakers and cooking demonstrations.

Class in a Glass
Piattini on Columbus, 162 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-423-20021). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mondays. 6 pm. $40. Piattini hosts a series of educational, four-course dinners paired with matching wines. •Oct. 17: Que Sera, Syrah—From Petit to Bold. •Oct. 24: Not Just Another Pretty Grape—Obscure Varieties.

Cooking for a Cause
8 Park St., Boston (617-876-4444). www.eastendhouse.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Oct. 15. 7-10 pm. $100. This annual event benefiting the East End House features fare from local chefs like **Andy Husbands** of Tremont 647, **Frank Toohey** of Aura and **Keith Pooler** of Harvest, plus a silent auction and a raffle.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Tue. 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) plus complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Cuvée's Wednesday Night Wine Dinner Series
Cuvée, 254 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-7077). www.cuveeboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Oct. 24. 7 pm. $125. Cuvée hosts a wine dinner featuring wines from Yerin Station of Australia. Proceeds benefit the American Red Cross relief operations in New Orleans.

The Dalmore
Grafton Street Pub & Grill, 1230 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 19. 6-8 pm. $50; Independent Bar & Restaurant, 75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022). Oct. 20. 9:30-11:30 pm. $50. Whiskey expert **Simon Brooking**, master ambassador for The Dalmore, hosts two Scotch whiskey tastings in the Boston area. The tastings also include a discussion of the history of Scotch whiskey.

Destination: Italy
Sorriso Trattoria, 107 South St., Boston (617-259-1560). www.sorrisoboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Every Wed., 7-8 pm. $25. Executive chef **John Paine** and resident raconteur **Ciro Pirone** host wine tastings this fall highlighting particular regions of Italy. •Oct. 12: Meet the Lombards. •Oct. 19: Supertuscans = Love Potions.

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Tue., 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •Oct. 18: South Africa's Stellenbosch Region. •Oct. 25: Sicilia, You're Breakin' My Heart.

Farmers' Market Benefit Dinner
Flora Restaurant, 190 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-893-8222). www.massfarmersmarket.org. Oct. 17. 6:30 pm. $125. This fourth annual dinner benefiting the Massachusetts Farmers' Markets features a four-course dinner prepared by chef **Bob Sargent** with the use of only New England–grown products.

French Library Fall Culinary Series
The French Library/Alliance Francaise, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. Oct. 17. 6:30 pm. $30-$40. The French Library and Cultural Center hosts experts from South End Formaggio for a discussion and tasting of French cheeses.

Hop Scotch Dinner
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.upstairsonthesquare.com. Oct. 20. 6:30 pm. $75. This event features a steak dinner paired with wine and is followed by a flight of Scotch whiskey, courtesy of sommelier **Shane Lessard**.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complimentary food tasting. •Oct. 12: Greece. •Oct. 19: Sous Chef Tasting with **Carlos Garcia** from Masa.

Langham Hotel Cooking Class Series
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900, ext. 7120). Every Wed., 5:30 pm. $50. The Langham Hotel's chef de cuisine **Mark Sapienza** and executive chef **Daniel Kenney** host weekly cooking classes that include a three-course meal paired with wine. •Oct. 12: Game On! That Dawg Will Hunt—Discover New England's Hunting Season. •Oct. 19: Brunch: Evocative & Leisurely... Perfect.

Meet the Winemaker at Meritage
Meritage, Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-3995). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Oct. 24, 6:30 pm. $150. This event begins with a reception where guests can meet **Roman Brataiuk**, owner of Clarendon Hills Vineyards, and is followed by a five-course dinner prepared by chef **Daniel Bruce** and paired with wine.

Meet the Winemaker at Oak Bar
The Oak Bar at Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300, ext. 1395). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 24, 5-6 pm. $30. The Oak Bar hosts a tasting of four different wines, including the Fairmont Cuvee, hosted by **Bill Russell**, a winemaker from Westport Rivers Winery.

eat.drink. TASTINGS cont.

Octoberfest Beer Dinner
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). www.redbonesbbq.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Oct. 17. 7 pm. $40. This event features brewers from three local breweries, Portsmouth Brewery, Thomas Hooker Ales & Lagers and Dogfish Head, discussing their own beers. The night also includes barbecue from Redbones.

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. Thu. and Fri., 6 and 8:30 pm. $35. Chef de cuisine **Mark Usewicz** prepares a tasting menu of classic Italian small plates in front of guests at the restaurant's Oysteria Bar. Reservations are required.

A Progressive Feast at The Pinehills
The Pinehills, 33 Summerhouse Drive, Plymouth (508-209-2000). www.pinehills.com. Oct. 15. 5-9 pm. $125. This progressive dining event showcases four celebrity guest chefs, **Joanne Chang** of Flour Bakery, **Barbara Lynch** of No. 9 Park, **Marc Orfaly** of Pigalle and Marco, and **Michael Schlow** of Radius and Via Matta, in four different kitchens of new custom homes. Proceeds are contributed to the Children's Hospital Trust.

Radius Restaurant Cooking Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Oct. 22. 6 pm. $25. Chef **Michael Schlow** leads a class called Cooking Tuscan, which highlights an easy approach to cooking food from the region.

Steak Frites Fridays
Pigalle, 75 Charles Street South, Boston (617-423-4944). www.pigalleboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Fri., 5:30-10:30 pm. $30. Pigalle chef **Marc Orfaly** offers a three-course menu featuring classic steak frites.

Sudoku Night
Fugakyu, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline (617-734-1268). MBTA: Green Line C to St. Paul. Every Mon. 5-7 pm. Customers at Fugakyu's sushi bar are given the opportunity to solve Sudoku, a Japanese placement puzzle, for the chance to win discounts off their meal.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Oct. 18: Argentina. •Oct. 25: Left Bank Bordeaux.

Verrill Farm Harvest Festival
Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). www.verrillfarm.com. Oct. 15. 12-4 pm. A la carte. Verrill Farm hosts this annual event featuring music by Adam Dewy and Crazy Creek, hay and pony rides, and seasonal foods like steak-cut french fries, served à la carte.

Wellfleet OysterFest
Wellfleet, www.wellfleetoysterfest.org. Oct. 14-16. This annual weekend-long oyster festival features a charity golf tournament, a disco night and the popular oyster shuck-off. Visit the Web site for more details or e-mail info@wellfleetoysterfest.org.

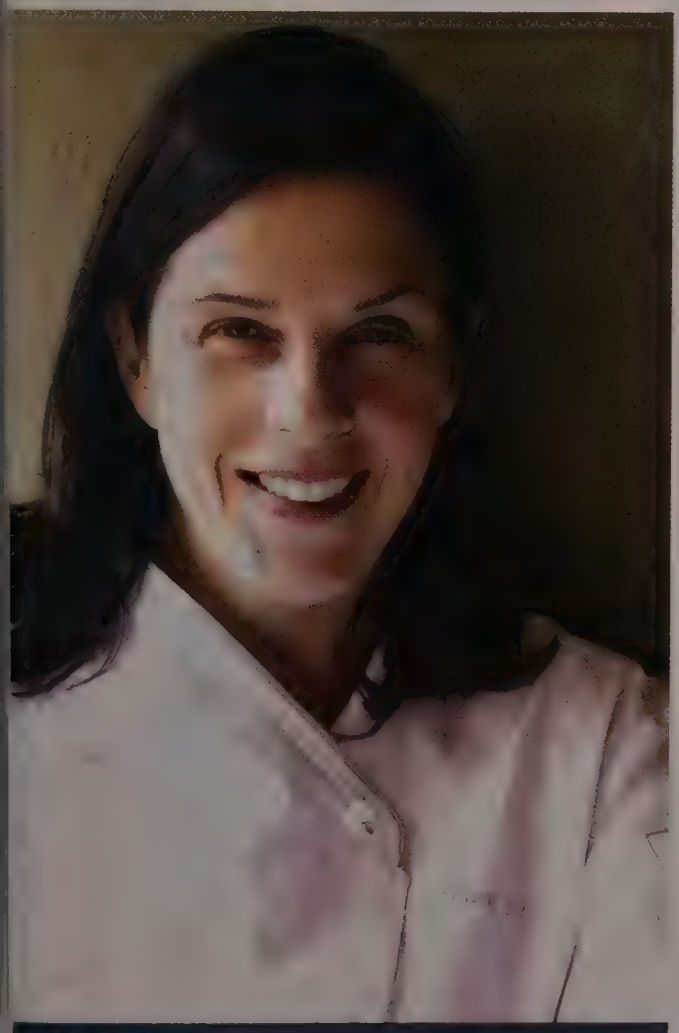
The Wine Club
blu at The Sports Club/LA, 4 Avery St., Boston (617-375-8550). www.blurestaurant.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Oct. 22. 1-2:30 pm. $45. Wine director **Mark Goldberger** presents three different wines from New Zealand, paired with small plates from blu executive chef **Tom Fosnot**.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Oct. 17: The French ABCs—Alsace, Burgundy, Bordeaux and Champagne. •Oct. 24: Out of Africa.

Wine Tastings at Vinalia
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-1777). www.vinaliaboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Every Wed., 6:30 pm. $15. Vinalia hosts wine tastings featuring four wines paired with seasonal appetizers.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Oct. 12: California Dreamin'. •Oct. 19: An Evening of Wine and Chocolate.

Wolfgang Puck Cooking Demo
Boston University School of Management, 595 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. Oct. 21. 6:30 pm. Free. Celebrity chef **Wolfgang Puck** holds a cooking demonstration and signs copies of his book *Wolfgang Puck Makes It Easy*. KISS 108's **Billy Costa** hosts.



No. 9 Park's Barbara Lynch cooks at a progressive feast at The Pinehills on Oct. 15.

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MPROPER PICKS

october 12 - 25

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			12 Julie Andrews directs ***The Boy Friend*** at the Shubert Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 56.*	13 **Boston Ballet** opens its season with ***Cinderella***. *See Performing Arts on page 57.*	14 **An Evening with Champions** hosts figure skaters for an exhibition to benefit the Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber. *See Cityscope on page 54.*	15 Scottish rockers **Franz Ferdinand** play the Orpheum Theater. *See Music on page 64.*
16	17 **Zainab Salbi** discusses her novel *Growing Up in the Shadow of Saddam* at the Center for New Words. *See Books & Poetry on page 84.*	18	19 **Luc Pages'** photographs display at the French Library and Cultural Center. *See Museums & Galleries on page 78.*	20	21 The **March of Dimes Gala** features French master chefs from New York and Boston and silent and live auctions. *See Cityscope on page 54.*	22 The Brattle Theatre hosts the **Boston Bike Film Festival**. *See Movies on page 61.*
23 **Dorchester Open Studios** celebrates the community's artists. *See Museums & Galleries on page 79.*	24 **Cuvée** hosts a wine dinner to benefit relief operations in New Orleans. *See Tastings on page 48.*	25 **Black Label Society** plays Avalon. *See Music on page 68.*				

***The Devil's Miner* plays at the Harvard Film Archive Oct. 15.**

FRI.–SUN./ OCT. 14–23

Movies: Think Globally, View Locally

The Boston Latino International Film Festival is a foreign film buff's dream come true, what with 80 screenings of some of the best that Latino filmmakers have to offer. But if you make it to only one show, be sure to go on opening night, October 14, for the reception at Harvard, which features Natalia Almada's award-winning *Al Otro Lado* (*To the Other Side*)—Almada will speak and answer questions after the screening. Festival coordinators say the festival's strength this year is in the many documentaries that address human rights issues. But shorts and full-length narrative features also make up the screenings, with several directors attending to answer questions. Tickets for screenings at the Harvard Film Archive are $8; screenings at the Center for Latino Arts and the MIT Stata Center are $7. For $50 you get access to all 80 films, special events, festivities and receptions. On October 17 and 18, all screenings are free. See the Web site for the schedule. *Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-308-2102). www.bliff.org.—L.P.K.*

HOT TIPS FROM CALENDAR GURUS LESLIE AND RICH

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CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Graham Books & Poetry, Movies
Leslie Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine Cityscope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts, Sports
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

SAT./OCT. 22

CityScope: Let's Have a Ball

On the weekend of October 22, the Cambridge Boat Club and, of course, the Charles River play host to the 41st annual Head of the Charles Regatta, the world's largest two-day rowing event. And for the 21st straight year, the MS Cure Fund—a charity that creates awareness and raises funds for multiple sclerosis research—will be hosting the Regatta Ball at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cambridge. This year's gala features a cocktail reception at 6:30 pm that includes hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction, followed by a three-course dinner paired with wines. At 9:30, the party gets started with dessert, a coffee bar and dancing to music from a nine-piece Motown band and DJ Lance Kussell. There's also a live auction, with all proceeds benefiting the MS Cure Fund. The night is black tie optional. *The Hyatt Regency Hotel, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-492-1234). www.sudiko.com. 6:30 pm–1:30 am. Gold ticket (reception and dinner), $125; Silver ticket (dance party only), $60. —R.L.*

THU./OCT. 13

Music: Braving the Stage

A little-known band with a very bold name better be able to rock if they're going to make it in the music industry. And that's just what the Bravery—who play a show at Avalon October 13—did this past spring when their debut, self-titled album cracked the top 20 on the U.S. charts. The five-piece, Brooklyn-based band (featuring Sam Endicott, John Conway, Anthony Burulcich, Michael Zakarin and Mike H.) got together in early 2003, and didn't play their first gig until that summer, but after that, fame came in a flash. They earned a residency at Arlene's Grocery in New York City, which led to 2004 record deals in both the U.S. and the UK. Their first EP, *Unconditional*, came out in early 2005 to rave reviews: *The Village Voice* proclaimed the Bravery "New York's Official Next Big Thing"—and last spring's *The Bravery* did not disappoint. Their single "An Honest Mistake" hit as high as 17 on the Billboard charts this summer. *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com. Oct. 13, 7 pm. $15. —R.L.*

SUN./OCT. 18–SAT./OCT. 29

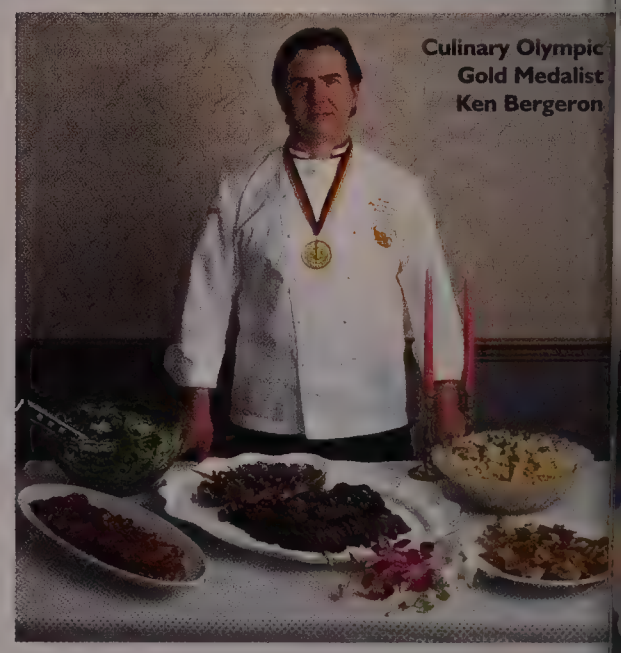
Performing Arts: Any Given Sunday

He's played a City Slicker, Mr. Saturday Night and even some guy named Harry, but this month at the Opera House, Billy Crystal's just playing himself in *700 Sundays*, his new autobiographical one-man show. The performance, which runs October 18–29, is set in Crystal's childhood home in Long Beach, Long Island and features his retelling of stories from his youth, which he does by assuming the roles of various family members, including his hearing-impaired grandfather and cigarette-smoking Aunt Sheila. The show's title was inspired by Crystal's father, who died when the comedian was 15 years old. Crystal calculated that he and his father spent 700 Sundays together before his death. But don't let that less than humorous little fact scare you. *700 Sundays* still brings the funny, just like everything else from Crystal's stellar career. (Excluding, of course, *My Giant*.) *The Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. Oct. 18–Oct. 29, Tue.–Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm. $195–$735. —R.L.*

SAT./OCT 22

Green with Envy

Attention tofu lovers! The annual Vegetarian Food Festival, sponsored by the Boston Vegetarian Society, is coming to town with more than 100 vendors offering free tasty treats (not to mention free consultations, free parking, and all the discounted grocery products a health nut could want). The festival also features a lineup of speakers and award-winning chefs to inform veggie visitors of the benefits of eating green. Jill Nussinow demonstrates recipes from her new cookbook, *The Veggie Queen: Vegetables Get the Royal Treatment*, International Culinary Olympics Gold Medal winner Ken Bergeron also cooks, and Wayne Pacelle, CEO and president of the Humane Society, speaks. Book publishers, educational exhibits on animal rights and environmental consciousness, and a children's activity center top off the day. Held at the Reggie Lewis Athletic Center at Northeastern University, the festival is an all-day event that will make you feel healthier just by being there. *1350 Tremont St., Boston (617-424-8846). www.bostonveg.org/foodfest. 10 am–6 pm. Free. —L.P.K.*



Culinary Olympic Gold Medalist Ken Bergeron

It's one big PARTY on the palate

in the Fall Dining Issue...

We'll start things off by hearing from one of the hottest celebrity chefs. This is an interview you'll savor. Then, we'll take you on an organic experience as we go behind the scenes at Whole Foods. Wait till you hear about some of the staffers' prep work. Next, scrumptious desserts that never go sour: Get the inside scoop on sweets you should always keep on the back burner. Plus, get the skinny on a solid restaurant staple in Boston.

Spice things up and advertise in The Improper Bostonian*'s Fall Dining Issue.*

The *Improper Bostonian* reaches 428,800 readers every two weeks!
96% purchased a product or service advertised as a result of reading *The Improper Bostonian*.

Issue Date: October 26
Advertising Deadline: October 12
Call 617-859-1400, ext. 280, to book advertising space now.

cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

An Evening with Champions
Bright Hockey Center, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-493-8172). www.aneveningwithchampions.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Oct. 15. 8 pm. $30; $10, children and seniors; $7, Harvard undergraduates. Top figure skaters including national, world and Olympic medalists gather for an exhibition to benefit the Jimmy Fund and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

A Progressive Feast at The Pinehills
The Pinehills, 33 Summerhouse Drive, Plymouth (508-209-2000). www.pinehills.com. Oct. 15. 5-9 pm. $125. This progressive dining event showcases four guest chefs, Joanne Chang of Flour Bakery, Barbara Lynch of No. 9 Park, Marc Orfaly of Pigalle and Marco, and Michael Schlow of Radius and Via Matta, in four different kitchens of new custom homes. Proceeds benefit the Children's Hospital Trust.

Autumn Awakening, Cirque de Lune
Cambridge Marriott, Cambridge (617-493-8172). www.respondinc.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 6:30 pm. $125. RESPOND Inc., a domestic violence prevention agency, hosts a fundraiser that includes a silent auction, a cocktail reception and entertainment. Black tie suggested.

Cooking for a Cause
8 Park St., Boston (617-876-4444). www.eastendhouse.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 7-10 pm. $100. THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN sponsors this annual event benefiting the East End House, which features fare from local chefs like Andy Husbands of Tremont 647, Frank Toohey of Aura and Keith Pooler of Harvest, plus a silent auction and a raffle.

Great Chefs Spill Some Ink
The Cross Store, Zero Brattle St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-868-7020). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12-3 pm. Chefs, including Nicole Coady of Finale, Deborah Hughes from UpStairs on the Square, Paul O'Connell of Chez Henri and Ana Sortun of Oleana, sign copies of *Great Chefs Cooking for Great Friends* to benefit the Friends of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. All proceeds from the sale of the book and 10 percent of all Cross store sales for that day will be donated as well.

Happy Endings Dinner
MSPCA Metro South Animal Care and Adoption Center, The New Shaw's Center, 1 Lexington Ave., Brockton (508-586-2053). www.mspca.org/metrosouth. 7 pm. $40. All proceeds from this dinner and silent auction, featuring vacation getaways and autographed sports memorabilia, benefit the 5,000 homeless and abused animals that the MSPCA Metro South Animal Care and Adoption Center takes in each year.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer
DCR Hatch Memorial Shell, Boston (1-800-227-2345). www.cancer.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 8 am. 40,000 breast cancer survivors, their families, and volunteers come together for a 5-mile walk along the Charles River Esplanade to raise an estimated $3.1 million for the American Cancer Society. To start a team or donate money, visit www.cancer.org.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17

Capital Grille Golf Tournament
Black Rock Country Club, 19 Clubhouse Drive, Hingham (781-749-1919). www.pitchinginforkids.org. Oct. 17. 10:30 am. $3,000 per team. The first annual golf tournament, sponsored by the Capital Grille, includes a pregame breakfast, a round of golf, lunch and a four-course wine dinner and live auction. All proceeds benefit Pitching in for Kids, which provides grants for children in the New England area.

Farmers' Market Benefit Dinner
Flora Restaurant, 190 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-893-8222). www.massfarmersmarket.org. 6:30 pm. $125. This fourth annual dinner benefiting the Massachusetts Farmers' Markets features a four-course dinner prepared by chef Bob Sargent with the use of only New England–grown products.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

All the Way Home
The Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). www.stfrancishouse.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $200. St. Francis House hosts a reception and benefit raising funds and honoring Patrick and Barbara Roche of Roche Bros. Supermarkets.

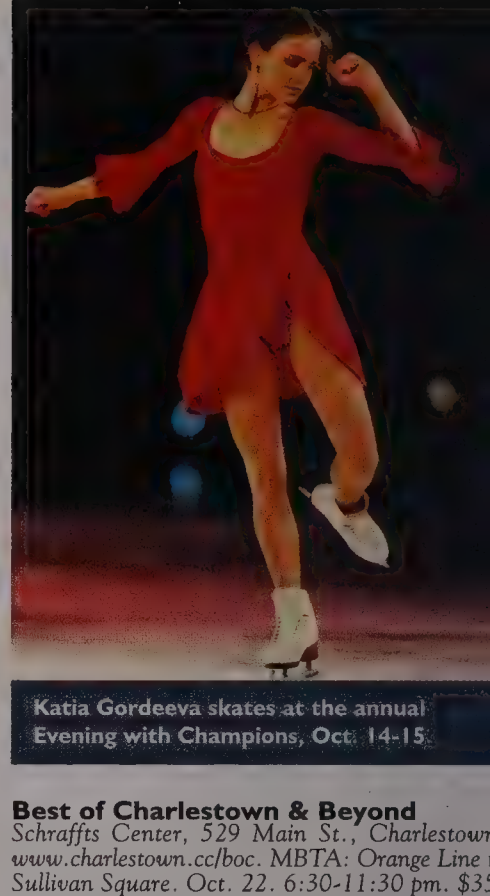
Party at the Rack
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. 6:30 pm. $10-$15. This event includes free pool, complimentary appetizers and raffles. Proceeds benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

March of Dimes Gala Event
The Ritz-Carlton Grand Ballrom, 15 Arlington St., Boston (508-329-2831). www.marchofdimes.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-10 pm. $500. This black tie event features French master chefs from New York and Boston along with silent and live auctions. Proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

Berklee College of Music Annual Encore Gala
Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-747-8960). www.berklee.edu/gala. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm, $250. More than 150 students and faculty perform alongside Al Kooper, Rebecca Pari and Eguie Castrillo at this benefit for Berklee City Music, a program designed to provide inner-city teens access to music.



Katia Gordeeva skates at the annual Evening with Champions, Oct. 14-15.

Best of Charlestown & Beyond
Schraffts Center, 529 Main St., Charlestown www.charlestown.cc/boc. MBTA: Orange Line Sullivan Square. Oct. 22. 6:30-11:30 pm. $3 $45. This sixth annual event features samplin of fare from restaurants in the Charlestown are and benefits the Friends of Boston's Homeles Harvest on Vine food pantry and other commu nity outreach organizations.

City Year Serve-A-Thon
City Hall Plaza, Boston, (617-927-2300). ww cityyear.org. MBTA: Green Line to Governme Center. 7:30 am. Raise money and participate in th daylong community event focusing on improvin public schools, housing sites, parks and urban garden

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Proceeeds benefit City Year's local jobs and Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

Great Chefs Spill Some Ink
The Cross Store, The Mall at Chestnut Hill, Chestnut Hill (617-868-7020). 12-3 pm. Chefs, including Ken Oringer of Clio, Valerie Shulock from Basil Tree Caterer, Jim Solomon of The Fireplace and Josh Ziskin of La Morra Restaurant, sign copies of *Great Chefs Cooking for Great Friends* to benefit the Friends of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. All proceeds from the sale of the book and 10 percent of all Cross store sales for that day will be donated as well.

Life Is Good Pumpkin Festival
Boston Common, Boston. www.campsunshine.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park. 12 pm-8 pm. Free. Carve up a pumpkin and possibly become part of history at this festival attempting to set the Guinness World Record for the most lit jack-o-lanterns in one place at one time. Corporate donations benefit Camp Sunshine, a retreat for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families. Sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

Pink Ribbon Gala
Seaport Hotel, One Seaport Blvd., Boston (781-756-2156). www.winchesterhospital.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 pm. $200. This annual gala event features dinner and both live and silent auctions. Proceeds benefit Winchester Hospital's Breast Care Center.

Race for Shelter
Babson College, 231 Forest St., Babson Park (781-239-5565). www.babson.edu/raceforshelter. 8 am. $20-$25. This third annual run/walk through Babson College and Wellesley benefits the Babson Katrina Relief Fund, the Babson College Chapter of Habitat for Humanity International and Friends of the Homeless of the South Shore.

Star Wars Gala
Museum of Science, Boston (617-589-0185). www.mos.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park. 6 pm. $750. Attendees will gain premiere access to the new *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination* exhibit while enjoying a dinner with menu by celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck, an auction hosted by Anthony Daniels, *Star Wars* performances throughout the event and an appearance by George Lucas himself.

21st Annual Regatta Ball
Hyatt Regency Cambridge, 575 Memorial Drive, Boston (617-492-1234). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 6:30 pm. $60-$125. This 21st annual celebration of the Head of the Charles Regatta features a cocktail reception highlighted by hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction, followed by a three-course dinner and a presentation by neurologist Howard Weiner. Proceeds benefit the MS Cure Fund.

Walk on the Wildside Gala
Artists for Humanity, 100 West Second St., South Boston (617-426-9170, ext. 150) www.arlboston.org. 7 pm. This event, which features dinner, live and silent auctions, and music from Jumpstreet, benefits the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

Boogie Woogie 5K and Block Party
Magoun and Ball Sq., 518 Medford St., Somerville (508-775-0143). www.baevents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Oct. 23. 10 am. $20. This annual event features a walk or run through Somerville, as well as a post-race barbecue with live music, complimentary drinks and dancing. Proceeds to benefit Somerville High School track and football teams.

Festivals & Parties

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

National Women's Show
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (905-477-2677). www.nationalwomenshow.com/boston. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 2 pm. $10. Sample food and wine, receive financial advice, and get tips on how to stay healthy, while shopping with 300 exhibitors.

Xmortis Presents Dead Things Dance: A Masquerade Ball
T.T. the Bear's, 10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). www.xmortis.com. 9 pm, $8-$10. 18+. DJ Chris Ewens provides music and the Red Rum-ties put on a show at this Goth-themed ball in Cambridge.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Tour de Somerville
Seven Hills Park, Somerville Theatre, Cambridge (617-625-6600 x2519). www.ci.somerville.ma.us. 10 am. Free. Join Mayor Curtatone, the Somerville Bicycle Committee, and the Friends of the Community Path for a bike ride around Somerville exploring the numerous art galleries and studios throughout the city.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

Zeitgeist Gallery's Guitar Festival
Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12 pm-11:30 pm. This musical event features more than 17 guitarists performing 30-minute sets throughout the day, as well as food and drink.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

StyleFixx
Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston. www.stylefixx.com/boston. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 5-9 pm. $25. This event co-sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN features cocktails, giveaways, gift bags and more than 50 designers offering fashion and beauty accessories.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

Moxie's Fall Birthday Bash
Moxie, 51 Charles St., Boston (617-557-9991). www.moxieboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 5-8 pm. Free. Moxie celebrates its fourth birthday with a party featuring cake, champagne and a jewelry raffle for customers who spend $150 or more.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Hurry Date
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $26.25-$35. Embark on 20 five-minute dates while you enjoy drink specials. For singles ages 30-45.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

8 Minute Dating
Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5:08 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 30-40 and ages 40-54.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17

8 Minute Dating
Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 28-38.

8 Minute Dating
SoHo, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-562-6000). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line E to Symphony. 6:58 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 25-30 and 24-31.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

8 Minute Dating
Orleans, 65 Holland St., Somerville 617-591-2100). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 27-40.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24

8 Minute Dating
CitySide Bar & Grille, 1960 Beacon St., Brighton (617-566-1002). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line C to Cleveland Circle. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 21-29.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

8 Minute Dating
Fire and Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-482-3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington; Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 32-42.

performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts, or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

StubHub
(866-788-2482). www.stubhub.com. Where fans buy and sell tickets.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.tixboston.com. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Big Love
Laurie Theater at Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4200). www.brandeis.edu/theatre. Oct. 20-30. Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm (some variation, call for detailed schedule). $16-$20. Charles L. Mee's comedy follows the story of 50 brides who plot to kill their grooms in lieu of marrying them.

The Boy Friend
The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 11-23. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Wed., varies; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 and 7 pm. $30-$75. This comedy, directed by Broadway and screen star Julie Andrews, parodies old-time musicals as a wealthy English woman falls for a lowly delivery boy.

Carol Mulroney
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 14-Nov. 20. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm; Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm (some variation; call for detailed schedule). $15-$44. Stephen Belber's production deals with the lure of a simple existence for its urban-dwelling main character.

The Consul
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000).www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 21, 23 and 25. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Tue., 7:30 pm. $24-$95. A woman struggles to obtain a visa to reunite with her banished husband in this opera by Gian Carlo Menotti.

Dido and Aeneas
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000).www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 14-16. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $46-$79. The Queen of Carthage and the Trojan prince fall in love amid a conspiracy in this English opera by Henry Purcell.

Dracula
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781- 279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Oct. 20-Nov. 6. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $18-$36. The Stoneham Theatre presents Bram Stoker's classic tale of vampires and the occult.

Fringe and Fringe Ability
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.thetheatreoffensive.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 13-16. Thu., 7 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25-$35. Paul Bonin-Rodrigeuz's comedy follows the life of Johnny, a man who finds himself in Texas after the 2004 elections.

Girl with a Pearl Necklace
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.thetheatreoffensive.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 25-29. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 8 and 10:30 pm. $25-$35. The annual Out on the Edge Festival features Varla Jean Merman's play about a woman with a ticking biological clock and her anxiety about lacking a husband.

The Keening
Zero Arrow Theatre, corner of Mass. Ave. and Arrow St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 14-Nov. 12. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm; Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm (some variation; call for detailed schedule). $35-$48. A widow deals with the drug-related truth of her husband's death in this play written by Humberto Dorado.

The Kvetching Continues
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.thetheatreoffensive.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 19-23. Wed., 7 pm; Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25-$35. Jackie Hoffman writes and stars in this musical comedy that pokes fun at the institution that is Broadway.

Madame at the Regent
Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.regenttheatre.com. Oct.14-16. Thu., 2 pm; Fri., 8 pm. $15-$20. Impressionist Jerry Halliday brings his homage to the Madame to the Regent.

Dido and Aeneas plays at the Majestic Theatre, Oct. 14-16.

A Number
YMCA Copley, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 21-Nov.19. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm (some variation; call for detailed schedule). $20-$45. A father must explain to his son that the son is one of many clones in this play by Carol Churchill.

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Proof
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea, (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. Oct. 13-Nov. 6. Thu.-Sat. 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $15-$18. This play by David Auburn follows the story of a young woman coping with the death of her father and the 103 notebooks that he left behind.

700 Sundays
The Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Oct. 18-Oct. 29. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm. $195-$735. Billy Crystal directs and stars in this autobiographical play, portraying many of his influences from his youth.

Tuesdays with Morrie
The Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 18-30. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $60. This adaptation of the book by Mitch Albom recounts the story of a journalist reunited with his old, ailing professor.

NOW RUNNING

Acts of Futility
Charlestown Working Theater, 442 Bunker Hill St., Charlestown (617-242-3285). www.charlestownworkingtheater.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Oct. 22. Thu., Fri., Sat., 8 pm. $18. This show features performances of six one-act plays by playwright Samuel Beckett, including *Breath* and *Catastrophe*.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. The blue trio performs an ongoing show that mixes art, music, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

Hairspray
The Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Through Oct. 16. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $110-$270. The Tony Award–winning musical, based on John Waters' film, comes to Boston and tells the story of Tracy Turnblad's dream to dance.

Jimmy Tingle's American Dream
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Ongoing. Thu., Fri., Sat., 7:30 pm. $15-$25. Jimmy Tingle's American Dream is a one-man show that combines comedy, political commentary and storytelling.

King Lear
Actors' Shakespeare Project, Studio 102 at Boston University College of Fine Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (866-811-4111). www.actorsshakespeareproject.org. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Through Oct. 23. Wed.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $35-$40. Alvin Epstein plays the lead role in Shakespeare's play about a mad king consumed by the machinations of his deceitful daughters.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. In Jeannie Linder's musical, a quartet of aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

Pulp
BCA Plaza Black Box, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatreworks.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Oct. 15. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $27-$30; Matinee, $27. Jason Southerland directs Patricia Kane's musical, an homage to 1950s lesbian pulp fiction.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This comedic whodunit set in a crazy unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Theatre District
Roberts Theatre at the Stanford Calderwood Pavilion, Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Oct. 29. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $41-$46; Matinee, $42; Students and seniors $5 off. NYPD Blue actor Bill Brochtrup stars in Richard Kramer's comedy about the challenges facing a nontraditional family in contemporary society.

Urinetown: The Musical
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay; Green Line to Copley. Through Oct. 15. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $20-$47. During a deadly water shortage, a corrupt corporation begins charging residents to urinate, in this musical written by Greg Kotis.

Dance

Cinderella
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct.13-23. Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $18-$105. This remake of the classic tale focuses on the value of nature and simple pleasures.

Classical Savion
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Oct. 16. 5 pm. $31-$58. Savion Glover performs solo to live renditions of Vivaldi, Bach and others.

Csardas—The Tango of the East
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 20. 7:30 pm. $20-$37. Zotlan Zsurafski's Budapest Ensemble celebrate the Csardas, a Hungarian/ Slovakian dance and music folk tradition.

inTrANsitive
Black Box Theater, 321 Arsenal St., Watertown (508-685-5515). www.tandemdance.com. Oct. 15 and 23. Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 7:30 pm. $5-$22. Tandem Dance presents a contemporary dance production.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features an assortment of local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Oct. 12, 8 pm: Rich Ceisler, $12. •Oct. 13, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15.•Oct. 14, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Caroline Rhea, host of *The Biggest Loser* and *The Caroline Rhea Show*, $22.50.•Oct. 15, 8 pm, Mike Donovan, $20; Caroline Rhea, 10:30, $27. •Oct. 16, 7 pm, Mike McDonald, host of *The Cable Comedy Show*, $12. •Oct. 17, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Oct. 18, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •Oct. 19, 8 pm, Mike Donovan, $12 •Oct. 20, 8:30 pm, Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15.•Oct. 23, 7 pm, Tony V, $12.•Oct. 24, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12.•Oct. 25, 8 pm, Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12.

Comedy Studio
Harvard Square, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red

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www.bostonballet.org
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The Colonial Theatre presents *Tuesdays with Morrie*, Oct. 18-30.

Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Oct. 12: Tonya Dalhaus, Jennifer Myskowski, Ann Podolske and others. •Oct. 13: The Dan Sally Show. •Oct. 14: Mike Oster, Matt Soni, Dan Boulger and others. •Oct: 15: Dan Boulger, Amy Tee, Anthony Spencer and others. •Oct. 16: Erin Judge Presents...•Oct. 18: Magic Lounge. •Oct. 19: The Tony V Experiment. •Oct. 20: The Dan Sally Show. •Oct. 21: The Walsh Bros., Mary Beth Cowan and more.•Oct. 22: Chrissy Kelleher, Mary Beth Cowan, Jennifer Myskowski.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, $15-$25: *Jimmy Tingle's American Dream* is a one-man show that combines comedy, political commentary and storytelling.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 8:30 pm. $10-$22. •Oct. 13-15, 8:30 pm: Brad Mastrangelo. •Oct. 20-22, 8:30 pm: Spike Tobin.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Dinner packages available. • Summer in New England: Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 and 10 pm, $15-$20. •The Midnight Show: Sat., 12 am, $10. •NXT: Thu., 9:45 pm, $5. •Lost in Boston...or How I Learned to Love That Dirt Water: Wed., $15.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs and dance •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Hump Fringe Show. •Thu., 8 pm $10-$12: UnNatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm $10-$12: Girls' Night Out! Improv Boston's look into the life of the adolescent girl; 10 pm, $10-$1 TheatreSports: Two teams of improvisers go head to head. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for individuals of all ages; 8 and 1 pm, $10-$12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening features performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Boston-based short-form improv comedy group performs skits that involve participation from members of the audience.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm $10 after. 21+. The Tribe sponsors this weekly comedy show at the Cantab that features a collection of improv comedians who poke fun at everything, including themselves. Acts include Snowflakes, Sister Brother, Sosnys and Villalobos.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Aristocrats ★★★
Paul Provenza and Penn Jillette's documentary rounds up a wide array of comedians—from Pat Cooper and Eddie Izzard to Lewis Black and Chris Rock—to riff on its title "character," a notoriously dirty vaudeville joke comics have long shared with each other but not the public. The joke's undefined center has always been a measuring stick of a comic's lack of inhibition—he or she who stretches it out with the most perverse abandon makes the joke the funniest. Of those who tell it here, some play it successfully, while others never generate the right comic momentum. George Carlin, Gilbert Gottfried, Sarah Silverman and Bob Saget are the most effective, with a silent version performed by Billy the Mime (on a public street!) up there, too. Eric Cartman has a go during a specially made *South Park* clip, and card-trick specialist Eric Mead skillfully adapts the joke to his talents. As much about the community of comedians as the joke itself, the movie becomes a tribute to the power of laughter as both an emotional healer and a uniter of people. (At Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

The Constant Gardener ★★
Fernando Meirelles' *City of God* was one of the best imports of recent years, and he gives his English-language debut some of its stylistic energy, until the story goes south. Ralph Fiennes plays the title character in this John Le Carré adaptation, an English diplomat posted to Kenya who's content to merely do his job looking out for British interests there. But the nervous energy of his idealistic wife (Rachel Weisz) makes her the character who most jives with Meirelles' style. She prods the English diplomats to help the locals more, especially to protect them from the ethically challenged drug trials run by a large European pharmaceutical company. The setup offers the exotic setting and moral murkiness of Westerners-abroad thrillers such as *The Tailor of Panama* and *The Quiet American*. But moral murkiness turns into something much more implistic by the time the diplomat picks up his wife's cause and starts sleuthing into the link between the greedy pharmaceutical firm and complicit English diplomats. His transformation turns the movie into a less interesting tale of good versus evil. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Corpse Bride ★★★
Tim Burton's second foray into animated features is lighter and more colorful in tone than *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. It even has peppy songs. But the squiggly-goth look and pointy-chinned characters are undeniably Burton, recalling *Vincent*, the animated short he made back before he'd ever directed features (Burton produced *Nightmare* and co-directed *Corpse Bride* with Mike Johnson). This Victorian tale of a meek young man (voiced by Johnny Depp) whose arranged wedding to an aristocratic wallflower (Emily Watson) gets sidetracked by his inadvertent awakening of the title character (Helena Bonham Carter) works as offbeat romance, however far-fetched it might sound. No real new territory for Burton and nothing to get excited about, but considering that two of his three most recent movies were remakes, this is less of a rehash than I had feared. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The 40-Year-Old Virgin ★★★
What might have been a one-joke comedy about a nerd who's unlucky in love becomes a very funny ensemble comedy in the hands of star Steve Carrell and director Judd Apatow (TV's *Undeclared*), who co-wrote the script. Carrell, formerly of *The Daily Show* and now on NBC's version of *The Office*, plays the title character, and his combination of "normal" jokes and over-the-top absurdity steers the guy clear of cliché. You laugh *at* him sometimes, though you start to laugh *with* him when his secret gets out and his co-workers at an electronics store—Paul Rudd, Romany Malco and Seth Rogen, who are all hilarious here—start trying to "help." A lot of work went into skewing all the characters so they're amusing (there's also dependable Catherine Keener, as the woman who takes an interest in the hero) and, no pun intended, the movie has the best climax of the year. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Greatest Game Ever Played ★★
There's a moment in *The Greatest Game Ever Played* that isn't maudlin or manipulative, it's purely coincidental. Strong lead performances by Shia LaBeouf and Stephen Dillane may keep it respectable, but the movie—set in Brookline, yet shot in Canada—so idly adheres to the finely burnished *The Natural/Seabiscuit* formula for period-piece underdog tales that, beneath the craft and the clichés, it offers the soul of a paint-by-numbers clown picture.

EdTV

Clooney salutes journalism icon Edward R. Murrow.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

If you had told me in 1997, as I was enduring George Clooney's stiff performance in the bland save-the-world movie *The Peacemaker*, that he would become our most interesting movie star, I would've looked at you like you had six eyes. But Clooney's charismatic star turns in *Out of Sight*, *Three Kings*, *Ocean's 11* and *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* and his moonlighting as a provocative director of *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind* and now *Good Night, and Good Luck* have made him so much more than the 1997 TV hunk trying to be a movie star.

There's a lot of passion in Clooney's 1950s tale *Good Night, and Good Luck*—for journalism, for liberty, for moviemaking. Filmed in an evocative, cigarette-smoke-filled black-and-white and punctuated by the onscreen pop and jazz vocalizing of Dianne Reeves, *Good Night* chronicles the decision by CBS TV's no-nonsense star journalist, Edward R. Murrow (David Strathairn), to take on Senator Joseph McCarthy, the communist-hunting crusader whose bullying tactics presented a threat to civil liberties that, ultimately, rivaled any threat communist infiltration presented.

Armed with the news that anti-Red forces had suddenly discharged an Air Force lieutenant, claiming his father and sister were security risks and giving him no due process, Murrow convinces his producer Fred Friendly (Clooney), and network head William Paley (Frank Langella) to devote an episode of the newsmagazine *See It Now* to the incident. When sponsors don't pull out and reaction is mostly favorable to the show, Murrow and company get bolder and do a show attacking McCarthy's fear-mongering directly. And when McCarthy takes up CBS' offer to rebut any facts *See It Now* presented, the senator's reply broadcast only tries to smear Murrow and doesn't counter criticism of McCarthy's tactic of using guilt by association and hearsay, rather than evidence presented in public, to incriminate defendants.

Murrow's bravery helps turn the tide against McCarthy, with the Air Force lieutenant reinstated and the Army deciding to investigate McCarthy in the famed Army-McCarthy hearings that became the senator's last stand.

That's what happens in *Good Night, and Good Luck*. But it's not really what it's about. Beneath the tense story of dilemmas and decisions—told in a vibrant style in which the camera often seems to "find" the action, documentary-style—are the issues of the role of journalism and the larger matter of what it means to be an American. Clooney and co-writer Grant Heslov frame the 1953-54 action with a late-1950s industry tribute to Murrow, in which the broadcaster warns of television turning into a transmitter of "escapism and insulation from reality" instead of information and intelligence.

Murrow fights a running battle with CBS over content, having to host the celebrity-friendly *Person to Person* in order to do the meatier *See It Now*, and his observation about TV's legacy becoming "escapism" is hardly his only line that has eerie resonance 50 years later. (Most, if not all, of Murrow's public statements in the movie come from real broadcasts and speeches.) It might send a chill down your spine to hear clear-eyed Murrow say, in his blunt yet lyrical way, "We cannot defend freedom abroad while deserting it at home." It's as valid today as ever, and Clooney hardly sees Murrow's story as something happening "way back when." As presented in *Good Night, and Good Luck*, the McCarthy-esque strategy of using fear to silence dissent is not dead and buried, and the movie asks us to ponder the Patriot Act, the wars on terror and Iraq, and the social climate, circa 2005, and to wonder where today's Ed Murrows are.

As Murrow did in his decision to take on McCarthy, Clooney wears his heart on his sleeve, but in a poised manner. He doesn't try to humanize McCarthy. The senator is seen only in archival footage, as Murrow and his staff prepare for their broadcasts and as Murrow watches McCarthy's rebuttal. Like Murrow, Clooney lets McCarthy hang himself with his own words and then fail to back up those words in the rebuttal. If there's any humanity in the movie's McCarthy, it's in the fate he and Murrow share. While McCarthy's demise led to his being censured by the Senate, but not losing his seat, Murrow soon lost the battle to CBS' and network TV's thirst for more profitable entertainment and was bumped from prime time. When Murrow comments to Friendly about how McCarthy will be kept around, but forced to sit in the last row, he might as well be talking about himself.

Clooney, whose role of Friendly is almost a sidekick in a partnership that boosts both Friendly's and Murrow's power, sets the tone for the movie by not taking the lead role. Like Murrow, the movie doesn't grandstand or go for "big moments," and Strathairn not only catches Murrow's distinctively clipped cadence but also lets that cadence suggest the sense of moral precision that defines the character, as well as the movie. IB

Edward R. Murrow (David Strathairn, right) and producer Fred Friendly (George Clooney) prepare for a broadcast in *Good Night, and Good Luck*.

Good Night, and Good Luck ★★★
Directed by George Clooney. Written by Grant Heslov and Clooney. With David Strathairn, Clooney, Robert Downey Jr., Patricia Clarkson, Ray Wise, Jeff Daniels and Frank Langella. Rated PG. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

LaBeouf plays 20-year-old upstart Francis Ouimet and Dillane is Harry Vardon, the revered British golf champ he upset at the 1913 U.S. Open. There's hardly a cliché left unexplored in director Bill Paxton's movie, from the hard-nosed, unsupportive dad and fountain-of-love mom to the diabolically twirled moustaches of the power-hungry fuddy-duddies who try to keep Ouimet out of the tournament. Is it any wonder the movie seems like self-parody half the time? The tale also tries to be about class conflict, with both Ouimet and Vardon driven to overcome class inequity through golf. But considering that the movie's supposed victory for the underclass takes place at the Country Club—where, as at many a tony course, blacks and Jews need not have applied for membership for decades after this "triumph"—the movie rings especially hollow. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

A History of Violence ★★★

In most of David Cronenberg's movies, inner turmoil manifests itself in bodily protrusions and malfunctions. But unlike in *Scanners*, *Rabid* or *The Fly*, the conflicts within Tom Stall (Viggo Mortensen) remain internal. He's a Midwestern solid citizen whose placid life accelerates after he fights off two would-be attackers in his café and shoots them with their own gun. Tom's sudden heroism brings the media pouncing and changes the way his neighbors view him. And when a persistent Philadelphia gangster (Ed Harris) arrives, giving Tom the stink-eye and insisting Tom is an old adversary with whom he has a score to settle, the threat of more violence intrudes. When previously mild-mannered Tom meets this threat head-on, as he did with the attackers, even Tom's loving wife (Maria Bello) starts to question just who her husband is. This thriller, based on a graphic novel, travels to several interesting nooks, especially in the relationship between the spouses, and is one of Cronenberg's more conventional stories. But it's also more involving than his other recent movies (*Spider*, *eXistenZ*). In a sense, you can see Tom's violence as a Cronenberg-esque protrusion thrusting from within, so the movie isn't that out of character for the director. He also casts well, as usual, with Mortensen, Bello and Harris bringing credibility to their roles. The last's performance intentionally verges on the comic, while William Hurt's role, as another Philly mobster, is also a hoot, though perhaps not intentionally so. (At Boston Common and suburbs.)

Gromit (right) does most of the work, as usual, in *Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit*.

Keane ★★★½

Writer-director Lodge Kerrigan offers shades of his wild-eyed 1994 debut, *Clean, Shaven*, in his latest, a similarly intimate look at a manic man who, in this case, may be suffering from schizophrenia. The title character (Damian Lewis) spends the first 20 minutes in a frenzy, obsessively going over the details of his young daughter's abduction in the New York Port Authority bus station months before. Of course, there's no guarantee this abduction really happened. The divorced guy might be transferring some news event onto himself or maybe he even harmed his daughter himself. You don't know. You have to watch and wait and see what's up with him, and following this desperate guy is totally mesmerizing. He settles down a bit and befriends a down-on-her-luck woman (Amy Ryan) who's staying at the same transient hotel with her own young daughter (Abigail Breslin). The way this woman and her daughter unwittingly affect his emotional journey is creepy, terrifying and sometimes downright touching, as you're never sure if William Keane is going to self-destruct, destroy someone around him or do neither. Ultimately, his actions straddle all three, making the movie even more remarkable. (At Kendall Square.)

March of the Penguins ★★½

The surprise hit of the season actually isn't very surprising. It covers territory often seen on cable wildlife shows, as it chronicles the extreme mating rituals of the South Pole's emperor penguins. These animals trek 70 miles annually to the same breeding ground to find a mate. Then, after the female lays an egg, the male tends to it for several months during the harsh winter, without eating, while she treks back to the sea to eat and regain weight. And that's just the start of it (there are more treks to the sea and more dangers to come). It's a major feat that director Luc Jacquet and crew captured all this under harsh Antarctic conditions, though the narration (read by Morgan Freeman) unfortunately gilds the proverbial lily at times by endowing the birds with human characteristics. A typical overindulgence in this regard comes when a mother futilely tries to revive a baby who's perished from the cold, and the narration intones, "The pain is unbearable" (which seems human assumption rather than an insight into penguins). Still, better than those fudged IMAX nature movies. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

North Country ★★½

Here's a question: Is it more palatable when an Oscar-craving, one-dimensional tale of heroism

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comes from talented people than when it's made by the usual bunch of hacks? I guess it elevates things a little, hence the mixed reaction rather than repulsion to this based-on-reality tale of Josey Aimes (Charlize Theron), the Minnesota iron mine worker who was the first woman to win a sexual harassment suit. This single mom sued the iron mine where she and the other female workers were outnumbered 30 to 1 and repeatedly bullied and belittled by the men in the pit and upstairs in management. The story, reminiscent of *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* and *Norma Rae*, wisely covers the wide range of hard knocks Josey suffered and, in her first American movie, director Niki Caro (*Whale Rider*) keeps things respectable, while Theron never grandstands as Josey. But the "big" Oscar-clip moments can still evoke a cringe or two, even though they're delivered by such sturdy players as Frances McDormand (as Josey's dying coworker) and Richard Jenkins (as Josey's crusty dad). With plenty of songs by Minnesota mining country expat Bob Dylan. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio ★★
Jane Anderson's 1950s period piece, based on a true story, tries to both celebrate the era's heart and quaintness and point out its inequities, but the mix never quite gels. Julianne Moore does her best to put the movie across as the title character, Evelyn Ryan, a mother of 10 who keeps her family financially afloat by winning numerous contests in which she comes up with a snappy slogan or jingle for a product. Evelyn is a sharp tack who, in a more perfect world, would have been making a fine salary from an advertising agency instead of scraping coins together to pay the milkman. And her access bruises the ego of her alcoholic, short-tempered, violent husband (Woody Harrelson), whom she loves nonetheless. The mood swings between comedy and tragedy prevent the film from ever really mining the bittersweet middle ground it wants to occupy, and its "Spielberg ending," bringing in the real-life children of Evelyn for the last sequence, is a major miscue. Not only is it clumsy at, after verbally identifying Terry Ryan (who wrote the book this is based on), the movie then also insults the audience by flashing her name on-screen. Why didn't you slap a "Hello, My Name Is..." name tag on her, too? (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Proof ★★★
It's involving enough, but it's hard to see what all the drama adds up to in director John Madden's adaptation of the Broadway play about the fragile daughter (Gwyneth Paltrow) of a mad mathematician (Anthony Hopkins). She's had to care for her unstable father as he's deteriorated and his moments of lucidity have grown further apart. When a breakthrough mathematical proof comes to light that was written by one of them, she's faced with the burden of having to prove it was her work (and, if she so chooses, the burden of having to say her father is no longer capable of such work). Of course, all this math talk is just, as Hitchcock would've said, the "McGuffin," the arbitrary whatsit that could be anything or any topic. So what is the math a metaphor for? That's the tricky thing. The movie's concept of "proof" beyond math doesn't go much deeper than the daughter's need to prove her own self-confidence. So the tale is ultimately slight for all of its chest-thumping, but it's well-played by Paltrow, who captures her character's many mood swings convincingly, and Jake Gyllenhaal, as the father's former student who gets involved (sometimes positively, sometimes not) in her plight. Meanwhile, Hope Davis gets stuck in a clichéd role as the controlling older sister and Hopkins is, well, Hopkins, doing another blustery star turn. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Reel Paradise ★★★
Weary indie-film guru John Pierson (author of *Spike, Mike, Slackers & Dykes*) decided to rekindle his love for movies—straightforward, crowd-pleasing movies—by moving to Fiji and running the world's most remote movie theater for a year. He dragged his wife and two teen kids along, too, and invited director Steve James (*Hoop Dreams*) to chronicle the family's last month there. The experience does indeed get Pierson back in touch with the special relationship between a movie and its audience (his big quest becomes getting a print of *Jackass* to the island for the locals), but all is not cheery on the trip. Pierson is regularly perturbed by the locals' lack of punctuality (especially projectionists), the local missionaries feud with him for showing movies for free, the family's house gets robbed and bright 16-year-old daughter Georgia seems determined to flaunt her growing independence with little regard for others. The Fijians are as ambivalent about Pierson as he is about them, and the events turn out to be an interesting cultural exchange program—often difficult, but rewarding for everyone involved. (At Kendall Square.)

Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit ★★★
Nick Park's 1990s pop-culture sensations return in their first feature, and it's a good one. The stop-motion clay animation rendering potty English inventor Wallace (voiced by Peter Sallis) and his trusty (and smarter) dog Gromit is simply more expressive than any other example of that style of animation. Gromit's facial reactions are funnier and more subtle than those of most human actors, and the dog also has more humanity than most people. Gromit, of course, must pull his master out of tight situations, big and small, again and again during the movie, which finds the duo working as garden pest exterminators whose services are in great demand because of their village's upcoming vegetable-growing contest. When a supersized rabbit threatens to destroy the veggies, the contest and Wallace and Gromit's reputation, the two (well, Gromit mostly) must save the day. Like Park's 1990s shorts, the movie is smart and playful, and the influx of celebrity voice actors (Helena Bonham Carter, Ralph Fiennes) doesn't spoil things a bit. In fact, those two are very funny as two posh aristocrats. (Opens Oct. 7 at Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

You'll Pay for This ★★★
Dorchester band Unnatural Axe was a fun stalwart of Boston's late-1970s punk scene, a blend of buzzsaw guitars and gallows humor in the same vein as the Ramones and the Dictators. Years after their early-1980s breakup and subsequent reformation for semi-regular reunion shows, guitarist (and original *Zoom* cast member) Tommy White has assembled this documentary of vintage footage and interviews with band members White, Frank Dehler and Richie Parsons, which gets a showing as part of this month's Dorchester Open Studios. You get such standout Axe songs as "The Creeper," "They Saved Hitler's Brain" and "The Man I Don't Want to Be," filmed in long-gone punk pits like The Rat and Cantone's, and plenty of behind-the-scenes footage, as well as the all-important footage of Parsons measuring inseams at Filene's Basement, his day job during the Axe's heyday. An essential Boston punk grab bag. (At the Emerald Isle, 1501 Dorchester Ave., Oct. 22.)

Special Events

Boston Bike Film Festival
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St. Cambridge (617-876-6837). www.bostonbikefilmfest.org. Oct. 21 and 22, 7 pm. $20-$30. The first annual Boston Bike Film Festival exhibits cycling-related films from across the country. All proceeds benefit MassBike and other bicycle advocacy programs in the Greater Boston area. See Web site for schedule.

Boston Fantastic Film Fest
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837). www.brattlefilm.org/brattlefilm/bfff. Oct. 13-16. The third annual BFFF features select genre films from the United States and around the world, including regional premieres alongside archival prints. See Web site for schedule.

Boston Latino International Film Festival
In Boston and Camridge; see Web site for venue information. (617-718-7115). www.bliff.org. Oct. 14-23. $7-$8, students and seniors, $5. BLIFF's fourth annual festival presents a selection of more than 80 films from over 16 countries, including the United States, Argentina, Cuba, Spain and Mexico.

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Julianne Moore and Woody Harrelson contemplate life in *The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio*.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Laugh at the Library: Silver Screen Librarians

•Oct. 17, 6 pm. **Party Girl** *1995*. A young party girl takes a job at a library to pay her godmother back and finds she likes the work. Daisy von Scherler Mayer directs.

•Oct. 24, 6 pm. **Good News** *1947*. During the Roaring Twenties, a student librarian devises a plan to win the affection of a football star attracted to a gold-digging vamp. Charles Walters directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

•Oct. 21, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm; Oct. 22, 2 pm, 4 pm; Oct. 23, 1:30 pm, 3:30 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm; Oct. 24, 4 pm, 8 pm, 10 pm; Oct. 25-27, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10 pm. **The Future of Food** *2004*. Deborah Koons Garcia directs this investigation into the truth behind genetically engineered foods in U.S. grocery stores.

Greta Garbo: A Centennial Tribute

•Oct. 12, 7:30 pm. **Ninotchka** *1939*. Ernst Lubitsch directs Garbo's first role as Russian businesswoman in Paris who becomes attracted to a man she should detest.

•Oct. 12, 5 pm, 9:45 pm. **Grand Hotel** *1932*. Living in an opulent Berlin hotel, five characters struggle with their finances, health and social standing. Edmund Goulding directs.

•Oct. 17, 8 pm; Oct. 18, 7:15 pm. **Flesh and the Devil** *1926*. Clarence Brown directs this story of a temptress who comes between two friends in a deadly love triangle.

•Oct. 17, 10 pm; Oct. 18, 4:45 pm, 9:45 pm. **The Temptress** *1926*. Fred Niblo directs this story of a marquess hustled to Argentina by her husband after she seduces another man.

•Oct. 19, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm. **Queen Christina** *1933*. Rouben Mamoulian directs the story of a 17th-century Swedish queen whose loveless marriage causes her to escape to the countryside dressed as a man.

Special Features

•Oct. 20, 7:35 pm. **Swimming Upstream** *2005*. Russell Mulcahy directs this story about a young man who becomes a champion swimmer despite obstacles. Producer and screenwriter Anthony Fingleton introduces the film and leads a discussion afterward.

•Oct. 23, 10 pm, 12 am. **The Roost** *2004*. Ti West directs this lo-fi horror film about four friends on their way to a Halloween wedding who get stranded in the country where an evil presence waits for victims.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

•Oct. 17, 7:30 pm. **Science on Screen: A Brief History of Time** *1991*. Errol Morris directs this documentary about physicist Stephen Hawking, who illustrates some of his scientific concepts and tells of his struggle with ALS. Co-presented with the Museum of Science.

Midnight at the Coolidge

•Oct. 14, 12 am. **Su Qi Er** *(Heroes Among Heroes) 1993*. Woo-ping Yuen directs this comic kung-fu film about a young opium addict who is manipulated by a prince to assassinate a general.

•Oct. 15, 12 am. **Tang Bohu Dian Qiuxiang** *(The Flirting Scholar) 1993*. Lik-Chi Lee directs this kung-fu comedy about a scholar who disguises himself as a houseboy working for a wealthy family in order to win the heart of their female servant.

•Oct. 21, 12 am. **RAD** *1986*. Hal Needham directs this story about a young BMX racer attempting to overcome obstacles that prevent him from participating in a race.

•Oct. 21, 12 am. **Xin Bi Xue Jian** *(Sword Stained with Royal Blood) 1993*. Hoi Ching Cheung directs this story about a princess arrested by a constable while training with her kung-fu teacher.

•Oct. 22, 12 am. **Poliziotto Superpiù** *(Super Fuzz!) 1980*. Sergio Corbucci directs this comedy about a policeman who obtains superpowers after a nuclear missile explodes near him.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Contemporary French Cinema

•Oct. 17, 7 pm. **Romance** *1999*. Catherine Breillat directs this story of a schoolteacher's sexual adventures after her male model boyfriend loses interest in her.

•Oct. 24, 6:30 pm. **L'Humanite** *(Humanity) 1999*. Bruno Dumont directs this film about a detective's assistant who is secretly in love with his neighbor.

•Oct. 25, 9:15 pm. **La Vie de Jesus** *(The Life of Jesus) 1997*. Using local actors to create a portrait of rural Flanders, Bruno Dumont directs this film following a group of misdirected friends in the northern French countryside.

Film Architectures

•Oct. 25, 7 pm. **La Notte** *1961*. This film follows the life of a novelist and his disenchanted wife from an afternoon visit to a dying friend to the couple's separate nocturnal forays. Michelangelo Antonioni directs.

Filming World War I

•Oct. 17, 9 pm. **La Grande Illusion** *(The Grand Illusion) 1937*. Set in a German camp for officers captured during World War I, the film depicts the re

lationships between prisoners and their jailers. Jean Renoir directs.

Harvard LBGT Film Series

•Oct. 12, 9 pm. **Hairspray** *1988*. A Baltimore teenager achieves her dream of becoming a regular on a dance show and uses her fame to speak out for causes she believes in. John Waters directs.

•Oct. 19, 9 pm. **Longtime Companion** *1990*. One of the first films to deal with the topic of AIDS in a compassionate way, this film follows the everyday lives of a group of gay men living in New York City in the 1980s. Norman Rene directs.

Imagining the City

•Oct. 12, 7 pm. **Metropolis** *1993*. Fritz Lang directs this silent science-fiction film depicting a struggle between capitalism and labor. With live piano accompaniment by Yakov Gubanov.

New York Stories

•Oct. 21, 7 pm; Oct. 23, 7 pm. **Little Fugitive** *1953*. This film follows the escapades of a seven-year-old who leaves home to explore Coney Island. Ray Ashley, Morris Engel and Ruth Orkin direct.

•Oct. 22, 7 pm; Oct. 23, 9 pm. **Lovers and Lollipops** *1956*. Ruth Orkin and Morris Engel direct this story of a young widow with a seven-year-old child who faces new challenges when she strikes up a romance with an old friend.

•Oct. 22, 9 pm; Oct. 24, 9:15 pm. **Weddings and Babies** *1958*. Morris Engel directs this film about a commercial photographer who struggles with his failure to achieve creative success and feels pressure from his assistant to marry.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

The Films of Mikio Naruse

•Oct. 13, 1 pm. **Nagareru** *(Flowing) 1956*. A maid is hired by the mistress of a failing geisha house. Mikio Naruse directs.

•Oct. 14, 6 pm. **Inazuma** *(Lightning) 1952*. A female tour-bus guide escapes her difficult family life after a prosperous baker courts her. Mikio Naruse directs.

•Oct. 15, 11 am. **Tsuma Yo Bara No Yo Ni** *(Wife! Be Like a Rose!) 1935*. A young office worker attempts to reconcile her estranged parents. Mikio Naruse directs.

•Oct. 20, 4:30 pm. **Tsuruhachi and Tsurujiro** *1938*. Two performers' on-stage success can't stop their backstage bickering. Mikio Naruse directs.

•Oct. 22, 10:30 am. **Midaregumo** *(Scattered Clouds) 1967*. A pregnant woman is widowed after a car accident. Mikio Naruse directs.

New Greek Cinema

•Oct. 14, 7:45 pm; Oct. 15, 3:45 pm; Oct. 16, 10:30 pm; Oct. 20, 8 pm; Oct. 21, 6 pm; Oct. 23, 3:45 pm. **Politiki Kouzina** *(A Touch of Spice) 2003*. Tassos Boulmetis directs this coming-of-age story that follows a Greek boy and his relationship with his grandfather, who gives him lessons in cooking and life.

•Oct. 15, 12:30 pm; Oct. 16, 12:30 pm; Oct. 20, 1:15 pm; Oct. 22, 2:30 pm. **To Livadi Pou Dakrisi** *(The Weeping Meadow) 2004*. Theo Angelopoulos directs this story set during the Bolshevik Revolution about a couple whose love is tested by current events.

World's Best TV Ads

•Oct. 20, 6:15 pm; Oct. 21, 8 pm; Oct. 22, 12:40 pm; Oct. 23, 11 am; Oct. 29, 12:30 pm. **British Advertising Films of 2004** *2004*. A collection of last year's award-winning television ads, both familiar and previously unaired in the U.S.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theatre

•**Antarctica**. The winner of the Prix du Jury at the IMAX Film Festival features a helicopter view, scientific research and penguins. Through Jan. 1, 2006.

•**Fighter Pilot**. Stephen Low follows F-15 Eagle pilot John Stratton as he trains in the Nevada desert before being sent into combat. Through Jan. 31, 2006.

•**Mars 3D**. Explore the landscape and learn the history of Earth's closest neighbors. Through Feb. 28, 2006.

•**Yellowstone**. An adventure through the United States' first national park reveals magnificent landscapes and geothermal wonders. Through Oct. 26.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•**Aliens of the Deep**. James Cameron's 3D film explores strange creatures on the ocean floor and possible discoveries on other planets. Through Oct. 25.

•**Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3D**. This film presents previously unseen footage and photographs taken by NASA. Through Nov. 13.

•**Sharks 3D**. Jean Michael Cousteau tracks the underwater predators in this three-dimensional film. Through Oct. 25.

•**Wild Safari 3D**. This film documents the five most dangerous animals in Africa from the safety of a safari jeep. Through Oct. 25.

ZEITGEIST GALLERY

•Oct. 20, 7:30 pm. **Timbuktoubab** *2003*. Markus James directs this cultural intersection of Mississippi delta blues, musical tones of the Sahara and the ancestral sounds of Malian music.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON

Regent Theatre
7 Medford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-499-1996). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

38 Cameron
38 Cameron Ave., Suite 100. (617-492-4091). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St. (617-876-6060).

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000).

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

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Tempo Change

Alt-country pioneer Jay Farrar plugs back into Son Volt.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Few people probably realize that one of the first shots in the alt-country movement of the '90s was fired in Boston. But Roxbury's Fort Apache Studios was the place where Jay Farrar and Jeff Tweedy—the respective future frontmen of Son Volt and Wilco—made their first CD, *No Depression*, the 1990 debut from their roots-rock outfit Uncle Tupelo.

"For many years, people thought we were actually from Boston because we recorded there," says Farrar, who returns to town to play the Paradise October 23 with a new edition of Son Volt. "At that time, so many bands were from Boston."

Jay Farrar revives Son Volt with *Okemah and the Melody of Riot*.

"It represented that first-time experience where we were actually getting to do what we always wanted to do, which was to be in a band and making a record," says Farrar, 37, who assumed lead vocals and guitar on *No Depression* while Tweedy handled bass. "Unfortunately, I do remember having the flu during those sessions as well, so I remember having an industrial-size trash bucket and vomiting in that."

Things could only go up from there. Uncle Tupelo became a cult favorite, inspired a magazine named after that debut, and released its fourth CD on a major label before Farrar severed his partnership with Illinois schoolmate Tweedy. "A few years after Tupelo ended, we kept in contact, but we kinda grew apart," Farrar says. "I don't have a lot of contact with people I went to high school with anymore."

Of course that's old history now. Tweedy stepped into his own with the more musically eccentric and successful Wilco. Farrar made three CDs of more traditional country-rock with Son Volt before disbanding that group to explore alternate song structures and tunings as a solo artist.

"We both chose our own paths," Farrar says. "People assume that if you're not out there in the limelight, you're not doing what you want to do. But I did do exactly what I wanted to do, which was to put out records on more of a limited scale and to spend more time with the two children I had. I thought that was more important than trying to be out there living like the clichéd rock star."

Today, Farrar might enjoy the best of both worlds, having revived Son Volt after a seven-year break to record *Okemah and the Melody of Riot*. The CD stands alongside the group's 1995 debut *Trace* as one of Son Volt's best outings, which may come as some surprise since it was made by another band.

The original members of Son Volt recorded one song for a 2004 CD to benefit ailing Austin musician Alejandro Escovedo, but got mired in legal wrangling when they tried to convene for another Son Volt album. "I was definitely taken aback by the situation, but I did learn from it," Farrar says. "I suspect they had other priorities."

Scheduled to record but lacking a band, he enlisted drummer Dave Bryson (who played on Farrar's last project), bassist Andrew Duplantis and ex–Ryan Adams guitarist Brad Rice, who has since been replaced on tour by Chris Frame.

From an Alabama hotel, Farrar says the new group "seems like an extension or a continuation" and calls Son Volt "a vehicle for a certain type and spirit of songs I was writing."

"With this record, I was feeling inspired to write some melodic, uptempo stuff," Farrar says. It's evident in the opening "Bandages & Scars," where thick-toned guitars evoke Crazy Horse or mid-80s R.E.M. while Farrar mulls the world's problems and sings, "Words of Woody Guthrie ringing in my head." Farrar also nods to the folk godfather in the CD title, which name-checks Guthrie's Oklahoma birthplace.

"Woody has always been a point of reference for me as far as thinking of topical issues in songwriting," says Farrar, who hasn't always been a very political writer. "I recently became reacquainted with his stuff that I was exposed to as a kid. My own children are bringing it back to me."

The disc's most pointed song is "Jet Pilot," which all but mentions George W. Bush by name. "'Jet Pilot' found a way to get a passing grade," Farrar sings. "Made it to the world stage."

"It's a cautionary statement about people from privileged backgrounds getting into positions of political power," he says. "It was certainly inspired by one person, but I'd like to think it could be applied to other people as well."

"Medication" reflects the experimental tone of Farrar's last solo disc, *Terroir Blues*. "I still gravitate toward alternate tunings," he says. "That one seemed to lend itself toward some Eastern-sounding scale."

And the stark, reflective closer, "World Waits for You," finds Farrar on piano. "I'd only been able to make it through a song on piano without making a mistake the last couple of years," he says. "Doing things in a simple way musically is sometimes a challenge." IB

Son Volt
plays the Paradise Oct. 23.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Blues Traveler Oct. 15, Roxy (617-338-7699).
Tracy Chapman Oct. 18, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Death Cab For Cutie Oct. 17, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Franz Ferdinand Oct. 15, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Jamiroquai Oct. 22, Roxy (617-338-7699).
Matt Nathanson Oct. 19, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Liz Phair Oct. 14, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Bonnie Raitt Oct. 23, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Rusted Root Oct. 20, Avalon (617-262-2424).
Zox Oct. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Chimp Simple, 9 pm; Mercy James Gang, 9:45 pm; Swati, 10:45 pm; Sk Circuit, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Yvette Graveline, 7 pm; Carlene Barous, 8 pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Umelt, Roots of Creation, 9 pm, $7-$10.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Ugene Byrne, 9:30 pm; no cover.
Bob the Chef's Frank Wilkin's Vocal, 7:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Fiery Furnaces, Man Man, 7:3 pm, $25.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues, 9pm.
Club Passim Tracy Grammer, 8 pm, $17; member $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Red Invasion, Lesser Evils, 9 pm, $ 18+.
Hennessy's Grey Spot, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Gary Chafee's Chomp, 8:30 pm, $10.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 8 pm-9 pm, no cover. Der nis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Greg Luttrell, 9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: NBS, Wispers, Black SO Alias, Darkside, Reks, Shed Light, 9 pm, $8, 18- Downstairs: Suicide Girls, Tsu Shi Ma Mi Re, 9 pn $12, 18+.
Milky Way Pop Nation, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's The Buzz.
PA's The Underdogs, Appomattox, 9 pm, $6-$ 21+.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park: Live Band Karaok 10 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Tommy Emmanuel, 7:30 pm, $20.
River Gods Primitive Sounds, 9:00 pm, no cover.
Roxy Burning Spears, 8 pm door, $25.
Scullers Jazz Club Javon Jackson, 8 pm, 10 pm, $2
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cove
T.T. the Bear's Place Wayne Hancock, Two Timi Three, Frank Morey, 9 pm, 12-$15.
Wally's Wally's Step Children, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Dennis, Babbin, Matt Giannarc Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Gil's Wednesday Night Jam, pm, $5.
Les Zygomates En Clave Salsa Band, 8 pm, cover.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: At the Spine, 9 pr The Omega Men, 9:45 pm; Caged Heat, 10:45 pr Chop Chop, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Joshua Loom 7-8 pm; Colin Spring, 8 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Steve Giannaros Quartet, 10 pm, cover.
Avalon The Bravery, 8 pm, $20.

Jay Kay of Jamiroquai plays Oct. 22 at the Roxy

Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no over.
Berklee Performance Center Twelve Girls Band, 0 am, $35.
Bill's Bar Say When, 9 pm, $10-$13.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9:30 m, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Part Time Lovers, 7:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Lhasa, 7:30 pm, $30.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: The Chicken Slacks, 9 m, 21+.
Club Passim Tracy Grammer, 8 pm, $17; members, 15.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Felt Six Day Slide, Break Mission, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Great Scott The Bleedin' Bleedins, The Sterns, The Jumblies, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop ligh Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry El Gringo, OSB, TREBEK, 8 pm, $5, 1+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Tannahill Weavers, 9 pm, $15.
Kirkland Café Jon Macey, 8pm; Natalie Flanagan, 9 m; Supervai, 10 pm; Chris Jones, 11 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 8 pm-9 pm, no cover; Club 'Elf, 9:30 pm, $10.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9pm, no over.
Middle East Upstairs: The Cinematic Underground, ow Motion Driver, Colin Steel & The Sports, evy, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Dungen, Mia Doi odd, $14, 18+.
Milky Way Aquanet, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club Zox, Parker House and Theory, ncoln Conspiracy, On the Surface, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
PA's Headband, Mittens, Carlisle Sound, 9:30 pm, -$8, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett Live Band, 10 pm, .
Regattabar Pat Martino Quartet, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, 2.50.
Ries Jazz Club Rich Greenblatt, 9 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club The Four Freshmen, 8 pm, 10 , $24.
Sip of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no ver.
T. the Bear's Place Waco Bros, Sally Timms, Jon ngford, Dollar Store, 9 pm, $10-$12.
Tilly's Latin Jazz, 9 pm.
The Western Front Special Blend, 8 pm, $3.
Zeitgeist Gallery Phillip Lejeune, 7 pm, $8.
The Zygomates April Hall Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Cheaters Pint, 9 pm; Bugs & Rats, 9:45 pm; Penis Fly Trap, 10:30 pm; The Modoifiers, 11:30 pm. Pub Stage: Letterik Acoustic, 7 pm; John Brodeur, Gabriel Sage, 8 pm, 21+.
Asgard Tom Groleau, Stu Lee, 10 pm, no cover.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
The Black Horse Tavern Jenn and Steve, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5. Downstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bob the Chef's Lenny Stalkworth Band, 7:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Joe Morrocco, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren 5 Helena.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Mark Erelli, 7 pm, $14; members, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Never in Vegas, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
Grand Canal Freeze Pop, 9 pm.
Great Scott The Daily Pravda, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Briar Random Axis, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Brick Park, 9 pm.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry New Monsoon, 8 pm, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Spike the Punch, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Funky White Honkies, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30pm; Triple Thick, 9:30pm; Prime Movers, 10:30pm; Barrence Whitfield and the Savages, 11:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Brian O'Connell, 8 pm-9 pm, no cover; Petrocovich and The Kent 100's Sarianna, 9:30 pm, $8.
Lucky's Lounge The Evan Goodrow Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Harris, Reverse, Junius, Pants Yell!, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: The Detroit Cobras, the Reigning Sound, $14, 18+.
Midway Café Dennis Brennan and The Iodine Brothers with Don Lennon, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Sean Cunningham, Patsy & Tony, 5 pm, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's The Marcels.
Paradise Rock Club Rock Club: Super Diamond, 8 pm, $20, 18+. Lounge: Hero Pattern, Brad Hyland and the Bums, the Douglas Fir, Tim Blane, Clare Burson, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Sand Machine, Scuba, Pony, the Summer Villains, 8:45 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Phatt Boys Pi Alley, 9 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock DJ Thom, 9:30 pm, $5.
Regattabar Pat Martino Quartet, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $22.50.

Scullers Jazz Club Dee Dee Bridgewater, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $24.
Somerville Theatre Jonathan Richman, Tommy Larkins, 8 pm, $15.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
Wally's Jazz, 9 pm.
The Western Front Adios Modelo, Modelo 78, 8 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Good Fight, 9 pm; Hoy, 9:45 pm; Sasquatch & The Sickabillies, 10:30 pm; The Drags, 11:30 pm. Pub Stage: Swim to Shore, 7 pm; Trisha O'Keefe, 8 pm, 21+.
Asgard Oneside, 10 pm, no cover.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Horse Tavern Jenn and Steve, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Dave Foley, 4 pm, Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm. Downstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bob the Chef's E Water Band, 7:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swerve.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & The Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Shawn Mullins, 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Mugsy, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
Grand Canal Dick N Jane, 9 pm.
Great Scott Certainly Sir, Roh Delikat, Paper Thin Stages, Piles, 9 pm, 21+.
The Green Briar Me & Julio, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Fraid Knott.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry SUPERHONEY, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Fast Times, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Pressure Cooker, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café The Breaks, 9 pm; The Hansen Sisters with Jenny Seems, 10:45 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 8 pm, no cover; Patricia Vonne and Juliet Turner, 9:30 pm, $12.
Matt Murphy's GPG Dub Squad, 10 pm, no cover.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Averi Nov. 12, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Hanson Nov. 4, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Nine Inch Nails, Queens of the Stone Age Nov. 8, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Rolling Stones Jan. 13, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Spoon Nov. 3, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Bruce Springsteen Oct. 28, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Gwen Stefani and the Black Eyed Peas Oct. 31, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Switchfoot Nov. 2, The Roxy (617-338-ROXY).
Susan Tedeschi Oct. 28, Orpheum Theater (617-931-2000).

Middle East Upstairs: Lamont, the Brought Low, RPG, Fast Actin' Fuses, Motherboar, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Dwight Richter Band, Say Hey, Three Percent, Contruda, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Midway Café Mangos, 8:30 pm, $10 men, ladies free until 10:30 pm and $5 after, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy & Tony, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Scooby Snax.
Paradise Rock Club Rock Club: The Warlocks, Gris Gris, Psychic Ills, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Lounge: Rachel McCartney, Anne Heaton, Garrett Brennan, 9 pm, $10.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Anushka Pop, Paul Lebel and Orange, B For Brontosaurus, John O'Hara, Fist City USA, Senator Whatley, Goh, Jill/Jennifer Sound, So + So, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Phatt Boys Fatwell, 9 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park Band, 9:30 pm, $5.
River Gods All and Sundry, 9 pm, no cover.
Scullers Jazz Club Dee Dee Bridgewater, 8 pm, $24.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mono, Bellini, Keys to the Streets of Fear, Good Morning, 9 pm, $10.
Wally's Jazz, 9 pm.
The Western Front Videwise, 8 pm, $10.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

Axis The Unseen, A Global Threat, Career Soldiers, 6 pm, $12.
Bob the Chef's Groove Authority, 10 am, 2:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA The Dirty Three, Chris Brokaw, 8 pm, $20.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11 am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Ellen Schmidt, Wendy Santis, 7:30 pm, $12; members, $10.
Great Scott The Medicine Line, Mane, Pink Panic, the Juliet Klio, Milo Jones, 9 pm, 18+.
The Green Briar Donegal Cords, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Grey Spot, 9 pm.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Sinatra Sunday, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The April Skies, Skyrocket, the States, Copperpot, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: John Vanderslice, Portastatic, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Strangers for Candy and The Courtney Hate Experience, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Julian Velard, 7 pm, $8, 18+.
River Gods Action Sunday, 9 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bellrays, Downbeat 5, Suffrajett, 9 pm, $10.
Wally's Wally's Step Children 2, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Guitar Fest, 12:30 pm, $10.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Second Cousins Residency featuring Jabe, 9 pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riodan, 9:30 pm, no cover
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12; members $10.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, n cover.
Great Scott Plane, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Briar Irish Seisium, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Lizard Lounge Open mike night, 8 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Mike Rivard, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Barnicle, Candy Fro Strangers, Damone, Research Has Shown, 9 pm, $ 18+.
Milky Way Starlite, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Orpheum Theater Death Cab for Cutie, 7:30 pm.
Paddy O's Greg Latrell.
PA's Jens Lekman, Nedelle, 7:30 pm, $10, 21+.
River Gods Weekly Wax, 8 pm, no cover.
Somerville Theatre Josh Ritter & The Frames, 8 pm $21.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Andrew Parker Renga, Pe Pidgeon, Ben Riva, 9 pm, $3.
Wally's Blues, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rus Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Trevor Dunn & Shelley Burgo Duo, 7 pm, $12; The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Steven Spungin, 8 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Jordan Valentine, 9 p Plastic Cheese, 9:45 pm; Gato Malo, 10:45 pm; S Cop, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Sex Cop, 7 pm; Joh Sage, 8 pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 p no cover.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 6: pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Par 8pm; Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 p 21+.
Club Passim Jen Kearney, 7 pm, $5; members, free.

New England Beer Fest

Saturday - October 29, 2005
@ The Cyclorama at The Boston Center for the Arts (539 Tremont Street - Boston, MA

125+ Beers from 30+ New England Craft Brewers!

Beer education, guest speakers and panel discussions.

Food grilled with beer by the Sunset Grill & Tap,
and addictive waffles by the Waffle Haus.

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$22.50 on-line / $30 door - save $7.50 in advance for Session One or Two!
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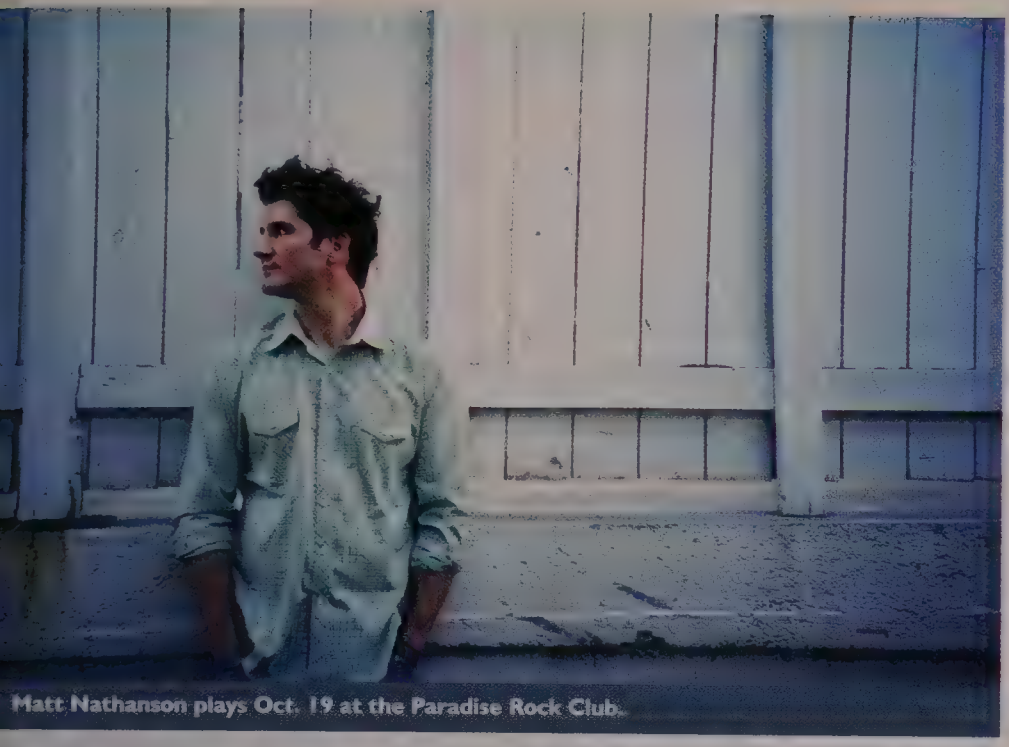
Tickets and more @ BeerAdvocate.com

Note: our VIP Session has already sold-out!



Matt Nathanson plays Oct. 19 at the Paradise Rock Club.

Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Great Scott Youth Group, Mommy and Daddy, Mel & Mona, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, 8 pm, $4, 21+.
Johnny D's Ellen Kushner, Joe Kessler, 8:30 pm, $8.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Mike McDonnell, 8 pm-9 pm, no cover; The Everyday Visuals, 9:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Acoustic After Dark, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Easton Legacy, Cru Jones, the Big Screen, Shindig, Drive Like July, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Immortal Technique, the Foundation, Elemental Zazen, Exposition, Irepress, 7:30 pm, $20, 18+.
Milky Way Live Band Karaoke, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Brian Locher.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Megan Slankard, Johan Cohen, 6 pm, $8, 18+.
PA's Phantom Buffalo, Static Films, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Dana Z, 10 pm, no cover,
River Gods Brain Storm, 9:00 pm, no cover.
Scullers Jazz Club Bill and Bo Winiker, Tony Delolois, 8 pm, 10 pm, $18.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place NoWhere Pennylvania, 9 pm, $6.
Wally's Swing Dancing, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

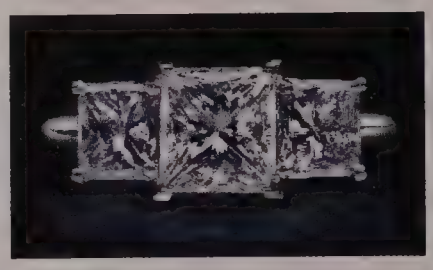
Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Daneil Striped Tiger, 9 pm; Hot Black, 9:45 pm; Hydronaut, 10:45 pm; The Living Sea, 11:45 pm; Pub Stage: Doug MacDonald, 7-8 pm; Gretel 8-8:45 pm, 21+.
Avalon Yonder Mountain String Band, 8 pm, $20.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Frank Wilkin's Vocal, 7:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Boston Village Gamelan, 7 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Rollins Ross, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Martyn Joseph, Tom Brosseau, 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Harpers Ferry My Little Radio, Sundown & White, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Great Scott Secret Cock, 9 pm, $5, 18+.
Johnny D's Peggy Seeger, John Seigel, 8:30 pm, $12.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Jennifer Kimball, 8 pm-9 pm, no cover; Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Glenn Ridosh, 9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Call Up, Diamond Mines, Chemist Camp, Thungs, Witches and Dicks, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way The F Word, 8-9pm, $12 in advance, $16 at the door.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's The Buzz.
Paradise Rock Club Rock Club: Matt Nathanson, Matt Wertz, Kate Earl, 8 pm, $15, 18+; Lounge: Tom Freud, Eric Hutchinson, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
PA's Pinocchio Syndrome, Ouija Radio, the Exchange Rate, 8:45 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park: Live Band Karaoke, 10 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Juana Molina, 7:30 pm, $14.
River Gods Primitive Sounds, 9:00 pm, no cover.
Scullers Jazz Club The Fabulous Thunderbirds, 8 pm, 10 pm, $26.
Somerville Theatre The Devendra Banhart Band, Bunny Brains, 8 pm, $19.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Chainletter, Mad Man Films, 9 pm, $10.
Wally's Wally's Step Children, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Gill's Wednesday Night Jam, 10 pm, $5.
Les Zygomates En Clave Salsa band, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Kickbacks, 9 pm; Lucky 57, 9:45; The Dirty Truckers, 10:45 pm; Jack Grace Band, 11:45 pm; Pub Stage: Jason Bennet and Mark Lind, 7-9 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Steve Giannaros Quartet, 10 pm, no cover.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar On the Drop, 9 pm, $10-$13.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Evan Gutierrez, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: The Chicken Slacks, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Hanneke Cassel Band, 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Classic Trax, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Felt Soulfege, Greesome, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Great Scott Neva Dinova, Via Audio, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Sun 5 with the Matt Chase Group & Chapter In Verse, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Los Straightjackets, 9 pm, $15.
Kirkland Café Natural Toy, 8 pm; Ososki, 9pm; Tracksuit, 10pm; The Highway, 11pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Rory Stitt, 8 pm-9 pm, no cover; Chris Trapper, 9:30 pm; The Wolverine Jazz Band, 11:30 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9pm, no cover.

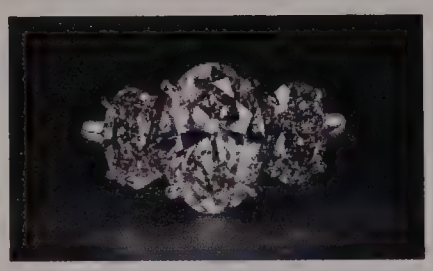
For Your

Past,



Present,

and



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Middle East Upstairs: East Village Opera Company, 9 pm, $12, 18+; Downstairs: Cha Cha Rebel, Jack Lee & Divercity, 9 pm, $30, 18+.
Milky Way Aquanet Plus, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club Rock Club: Matt Nathanson, Matt Wertz, Kate Earl, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
PA's Headband, the Shrinking Islands, Indianstyle, B.J. Snowden, 8:45 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett Live Band, 10 pm, $3.
Regattabar Rene Marie, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $22.
River Gods "The Sound Your Eyes Can Follow," 9:00 pm, no cover.
Scullers Jazz Club Esperanza Quintet, 8 pm, 10 pm, $15.
Somerville Theatre Bruce Cockburn, 8 pm, $35.50.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Wolf Parade, Think About Life, Dante DeCaro, 9 pm, $10-$12.
Wally's Latin Jazz, 9 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Night of the Living Hammond B3's, 9 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Leah Souza, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Mother Jackson 9 pm; Bad Stain, 9:45 pm; Superlow, 10:45 pm; The Brett Rosenberg Problem, 11:45 pm; Pub Stage: Electrolux, 7-9 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Ripchordz, 10 pm, no cover.
The Attic Meet the Day, Will Dailey, 8 pm, $10-$12, 21+.
Avalon Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Axis State Radio.
The Black Horse Tavern Jenn and Steve, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Bobby Folkes, 9:30 pm; Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Cover up.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Vienna Teng, 7 pm, $15; members, $13.
The Green Briar Amo, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Grumpy Jones, 9 pm.
The Harp Loudmouth, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Rebirth Brass Band, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Swerve, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Radio Kings, Teye, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm; Gavin House, 9:30 pm; Thunderpants Johnson, 10:30 pm; Good Time Charlies, 11:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 8 pm-9 pm, no cover; Either/Orchestra, 9:30 pm, $12-$15.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Samba Lolo, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Adult, Genders, Awesome Color, 9 pm, $15, 18+; Downstairs: Jello Biafra, the Melvins, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Midway Café Neptune Black Ice, ROBOTVOICE 9 pm, $7.
Milky Way Roots Nation, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, Sundays Well, 5-9 pm, 9 pm-2 am.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Dick n' Jane.
Paradise Rock Club Alternate Routes.
Parris The Interns, 10 pm, $10.
Partial Ryles Joe Bargar and the Soul Providers, 9 pm, $10.
PA's Lil Flip Scoldjah, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Phatt Boys Allen & the Alligators, 9 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Dave Douglas, Keystone, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $23.
River Gods Bullits and Gravy, 9:00 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club ZilZALA Middle Eastern Ensemble 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Mose Allison, 8 pm, 10:30 pm $22.
Somerville Theatre Susan Werner, Lucy Kaplanski 8 pm, $25.50.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Taxpayer, the Good North Furvis, 9 pm, $10.
Venezia Sweet, 8 pm, no cover.
Wally's Jazz, 9 pm.
The Western Front Bennett Miller Band, 8 pm $5.

Death Cab for Cutie plays Oct. 17 at the Orpheum Theater.

Zeitgeist Gallery Doug Cullen and Guest Band, 7 pm, $8; Gutbucket, 9:30 pm, $12.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Cart Blanch, 9 pm; Slim Jim & The Mad Cow, 10:15 pm; Rock Bottom, 11:30 pm; John Gerard, 8-9 pm, 21+.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Horse Tavern Jenn and Steve, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Bobby Folkes, 4 pm-7 pm, Bobby Folkes, 9:30 pm; Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bob the Chef's The ZMQ, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Alfredo Cardim, 6 pm, no cover.
The Burren Classic Trax.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Darrell Scott, 8 pm, $18; members, $16.
Dick's Last Resort Mutha's Mistake, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
Grand Canal 4 Inch Stud, 9 pm.
Great Scott Oneida, Big Bear, Coke Dares, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Complaints, 9 pm.
The Harp Loudmouth, 10 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Scooby Snax, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Eli "Paperboy" Reed, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Maple Street Project, 8:30pm; Todd Martin, 9:30pm; Rollo Tomasi Quartet, 10:30pm; Wiggle Room, 11:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 8 pm-9 pm, no cover; Josh Cole, 9:30 pm, $8.
Matt Murphy's Thousand of One, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Rudds, Count Zero, Baby Jay, Sin Crowd, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Acid Mothers Temple, the Occasion, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Mangos, 8:30 pm, men, $10; ladies free until 10:30 pm, $5 after, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover.
Orpheum Theater Gordon Lightfoot, 8pm, $35-$55.
Paddy O's Incadence.
Paradise Rock Club Rock Club: Ryan Montbleau Band, the Brakes, Jonah Smith, 9 pm, $14, 18+; Lounge: Ryan Dupont Band, Dennis Brennan Band, Darwood, 9 pm, $8.
Purrs The Interns, 10 pm, $10.
Purtial Ryles Boston Horns, 9 pm, $10.
Q's Turpentine Brothers, Tunnel of Love, Die Potzz, the Original Three, 8:45 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Quatt Boys Groove Authority, 9 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Band Syndicate, 9:30 pm, $5.
Sagattabar Dave Douglas, Keystone, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $23.
River Gods For Reel, 2 Reel, 9:00 pm, no cover.
Roxy Jamiroquai.
Scullers Jazz Club Mose Allison, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $22.
Somerville Theatre Yuri Yunakov, Ivo Papasov, 8 pm, $25.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ducky Boys, Shanghai Valentine, Morgan Knockers, Light of Day, 9 pm, $10.
Venezia Sweet, 8 pm, no cover.
Wally's Jazz, 9 pm..
The Western Front Live Reggae, 8 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Brian Haas, Benevento, Russo and Fratecelli, 9:30 pm, $12.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

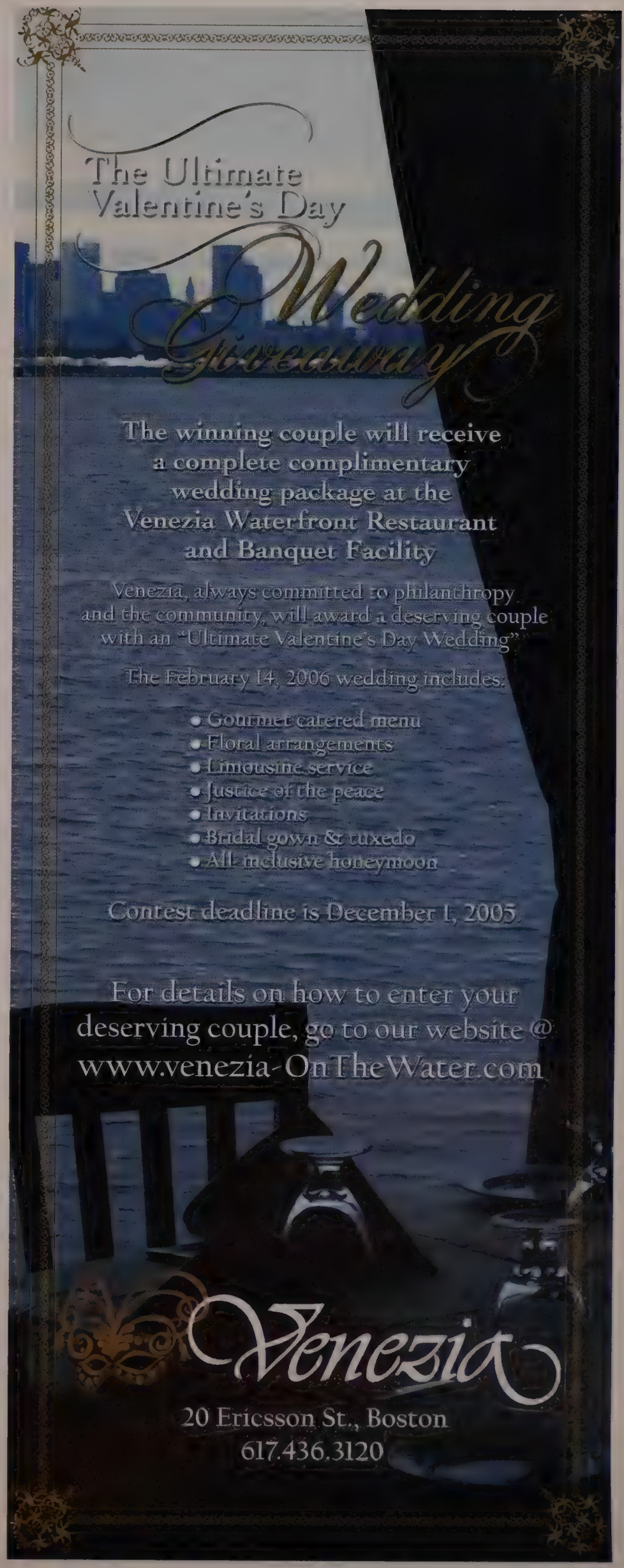
The Black Rose Downstairs: Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Lori Dow, 10 am, 2:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11 am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Edie Carey, 7 pm, $14; members, $12.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop, 9 pm.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Matthew Dorko, Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Sinatra Sunday, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Mang Dub, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Lucky Caderra, Throne, Rookie of the Year, the Track Record, Steal the City, 1 pm, $10.
Milky Way Lily Holbrook, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Paddy O's Incadence.
Paradise Rock Club Rock Club: Son Volt, the Fruit bats, 8 pm, $22, 18+.
Phatt Boys Manny Santos Trio, 12 pm, no cover.
River Gods Action Sunday, 9:00 pm, no cover.
Somerville Theatre Gange Brass Band, 4 pm, $25.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Marah, Thee More Shallows, 9 pm, $10.
Wally's Wally's Step Children 2, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Fitzpatrick and Volpe, 4 pm.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Secondary Cousins Residency, 7-11 pm, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Major Stars, Uptight, Old Time Relijun, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Lizard Lounge Open mike night, 8 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's State of the Art, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Endway, Planeside, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Starlite, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paddy O's Greg Latrell.
River Gods Weekly Wax, 8:00 pm, no cover.
Somerville Theatre Richard Thompson, Eliza Gilkyson, 7:30 pm, $26.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Drams, the High Strung, Blythe Hollow, 9 pm, $10.
Wally's Blues, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 7 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Buck Moon featuring Gabrielle Riley, 9 pm; Ry Cavanaugh, 9:45 pm; Gato Malo, 10:45 pm; The Scissormen, 11:45 pm; Pub Stage: Ocean Rose: 7-8 pm; The Collisions, 8-8:45 pm, 21+.
Avalon Black Label Society, 8 pm, $25.
Axis Bloodsimple, 9 pm.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Open Mic with Hugh McGowan, 6:30 pm.



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Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 pm, 21+.
Great Scott The Dead Science, 9 pm, no cover, 18+.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Carmen's Condition, 8 pm, $4, 21+.
Johnny D's Freakwater, John Parsih, 8:30 pm, $12.
Lucky's Lounge Acoustic After Dark, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's The Everyday Visuals, 7:30 pm-9 pm, no cover, 9:30 pm, $5; Soul Low, 8 pm-9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Heloise and the Savior Faire, Abernathy, Immaculate Machine, Temper, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Classic Karaoke, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Brian Locher.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Call it Fall, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Partial Ryles Dave Weckl, 8:30 pm, $25.
PA's The Jim Yoshii Pileup , 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Diana Z, 10 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Kilombo Mambo, 7:30 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club The Average White Band, 8 pm, 10 pm, $22.
Somerville Theatre Joan Baez, 8 pm, $41.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mason Dixon, Maverick, BC Camplight, Mike Murray & The Secret Service, 9 pm, $7.
Wally's Swing Dancing, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Lance Martin Duo, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass Ave., Boston (617 -747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010) MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mobius *374 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656) MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245) MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Old Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somerville (617-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square*
Orpheum Theater *1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-679-0810). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (61 562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Phatt Boys *50 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-2005). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Orange Line to State St.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536 1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Venezia *20 Ericsson St., Dorchester (617-436-312 MBTA Red Line to Ashmont.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Squ*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278 MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Wellesley College Concert Series

Jewett Auditorium, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu/Music/concerts.html. 12:30 pm. Free. The Triple Helix Piano Trio perform in the lecture-recital series Music from the Inside Out, focusing on works from 1890-1940.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

Berklee Performance Center

136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-236-3060). www.prudentialcenter.com. 8 pm. $35-$95. Twelve Girl Band, an all-female Chinese group, performs modern arrangements with traditional classical instruments.

World Music at the MFA

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-491-7001). www.mfa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $25; $20, members, students and seniors. Singer Lhasa performs songs in English, French and Spanish.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

Boston Chamber Music Society

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern. 7:30 pm. $17-$46. Scores by Beethoven, Schubert and contemporary composer Stephen Paulus open this year's concert season.

Boston University College of Fine Arts

CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8790). www.bc.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. 12 pm. Free. The Muir String Quartet performs Beethoven's *String Quartet No. 2, Op. 18* and Kriesler's *String Quartet* as a part of this lunchtime concert series.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Boston Philharmonic

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-349-0086). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern. 8 pm. $29-$76. Benjamin Zander conducts Brahms' *Tragic Overture*, Schumann's *Symphony No.3* and Harbison's *Viola Concerto*, featuring viola soloist Kim Kashkashian.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

Boston Conservatory of Music

Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9122). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 4 pm. $5-$12. This program surveys the complete songs of Francis Poulenc, accompanied by selections from Frederic Chopin, Manuel de Falla, Richard Wagner and Andres Sas.

Emmanuel Church Chamber Series

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 4 pm. $23-$65. Emmanuel musicians perform *Men's Choruses, Op. 33* and *67, Lieder, Op. 13* and *Novelettes, Op. 21.*

Isabella Stewart Gardner Sunday Concert Series

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5156). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $20, adults; $14, seniors; $10, students; $12, members; $5, children ages 5-17. The Borromeo String Quartet performs pieces by Schoenberg and Schubert.

Westminster Abbey Choir

Trinity Church, 206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-3944). www.bostonago.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3 pm. $10-$40. The Boston Chapter of the American Guild of Organists presents the Westminster Abbey Choir under the direction of James O'Donnell, performing works by Britten, Byrd, Gibbons, Grier, Howells, Moore, Purcell and Walton.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Conductor Jes Georg Bachmann makes his Symphony Hall debut, opening with the overture to Weber's opera *Oberon*. Pianist Andreas Haefliger performs Schumann's Piano Concerto.

Tuesday Recitals at King's Chapel

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. 12:15 pm. $3. Laurence Carson plays works by Proulx, Persichetti and Mendelssohn on the C.B. Fisk organ.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Pianist Synthia Sture, flutist Ilona Kudina and violinist Andra Voldina perform original works of Longy faculty member and composer Peter Aldins. Pianist and recording artist Sarah Cion performs original jazz music.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-965-1100). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Donald Palma, a founding member of New York's Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, coaches the conductorless NEC Chamber Orchestra. The program includes renditions of Handel's *Concerto Grosso in A, Op. 6, No. 11*, Elgar's *Serenade in E Minor, Op. 20* and Shostakovich's *Chamber Symphony, Op. 110a.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

MIT Chapel Concert

MIT Chapel, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-9800). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12 pm. Free. La Donna Musicale performs music by Baroque women composers.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

Chamber Works by Contemporary Greek and Cypriot Composers

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-547-4700). www.thegreekinstitute.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $20; $8, students and seniors. This concert, dedicated to Greek composer Nikos Skalkotas, features five Greek dances.

MIT Symphony Orchestra

Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-9800). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. $5. Violin soloist Serenus Hua, winner of the 2005 MIT Symphony Concerto Competition, showcases in Sarasate's *Carmen Fantasy*.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Tsai Performance Center, 655 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-482-6661). www.bc.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University East. 12 and 2 pm. $25, $20 adult; $20, $15 child. Rob Kapilow conducts this blend of Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* and his own original opera *Green Eggs and Ham*, based on the Dr. Seuss classic.

Boston Conservatory of Music

Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9122). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 12 pm and 2 pm. Free. This children's operatic version of *Little Red Riding Hood* includes music by Offenbach and Rossini.

Boston Early Music Festival Concerts

Jesuit Urban Center, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-661-1812). www.bemf.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. $25-$59. Under the direction of Fabio Biondi, Europa Galante, a Baroque, 20-piece orchestra from Italy, makes its Boston debut.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 31 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$108. Paavo Berglund conducts Sibelius' Violin Concerto and Shostakovich's Eighth Symphony, featuring violinist Julia Fischer.

Brandeis University World Music Series

Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/departments/music. 8 pm. $20; $10, students and seniors. The Yuval Ron Ensemble brings together musicians from Israel, Lebanon, Armenia, France and the United States in Mystical Music of the Middle East. Aziz, the Whirling Dervish, a sacred Sufi dance that represents the earth orbiting the sun is also performed.

A Night in Vienna Presented by Cambridge Opera

Longy School of Music, Recital Room N1, 33 Garden St., Cambridge (617-547-7819). www.cambridgeopera.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $24; $18, seniors; $14, students. Lisa Mullins of WGBH radio narrates operettas and art songs by Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, Wolf, Johann Strauss and others over Peet's coffee and Viennese desserts from Finale.

Sanders Theatre at Harvard University

Memorial Hall, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617 496-4595). www.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har-

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vard. 8 pm. $25. Pianist Ning An performs works by Haydn, Mozart and Chopin.

World Music at the Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 8 pm. $25. Saxophonist Yuri Yunakov and clarinetist Ivo Papasov perform Bulgarian wedding music.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $53-$105. Mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli appears with Orchestra La Scintilla of the Zurich Opera, performing the music of Handel and his contemporaries.

Boston Classical Orchestra

Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. 8 pm. $29-$53. Brass specialists Douglas Myers and Gregory Whitaker perform two pieces by Handel, C.P.E. Bach's *Symphony in C major* and Leopold Mozart's *Concerto for Two Hunting Horns in e-flat* using corni di caccia or hunting horns.

Boston Conservatory of Music

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. $5-$12. Bruce Hangen conducts the conservatory orchestra as they perform both Beethoven and Mahler's versions of *Symphony No. 1.*

Emmanuel Church Chamber Series

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 4 pm. $23-$65. Emmanuel musicians perform *Faschingsschwank aus Wien, Op. 26, Liederkreis, Op. 24* and *Sonata #2 in D Minor, Op. 121.*

Irving Fine Memorial Concert

Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/departments/music. 3 pm. Free. Violinist Daniel Stepner and pianist Sally Pinkas play in this annual tribute to the late American composer Irving Fine, founder of the Brandeis University department of music. The program includes works by Fine, Pinkham, Rakowski and Franck.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Sunday Concert Series

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5156). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $20, adults; $14, seniors; $10, students; $12, members; $5, children ages 5-17. Douglas Boyd conducts the Gardner Chamber Orchestra, featuring violinist Corey Cerovsek, as they play pieces from Bach, Britten, Bridge and Webern.

King's Chapel Concert Series

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kingschapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park 5 pm. $12; $8, students and seniors. Richard Knisely narrates as James Woodman and Graham Gordon Ramsay put the fairy tales of Hans Christian Andersen to music.

New England Philharmonic

Tsai Performance Center, 655 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-868-1222). www.nephilharmonic.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University East. 3 pm. $25-$60. Director Richard Pittman leads the orchestra in performing Halloween-inspired works by Berlioz, Dvorak, Schwantner and Norman.

Newton Symphony Orchestra

Rashi Auditorium, 15 Walnut Park, Newton Center (617-965-2555). www.newtonsymphony.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 7:30 pm. $25-$30. Marking the 40th anniversary season, the orchestra performs Wagner's Prelude and Liebestod from *Tristan und Isolde* and Sibelius' *Symphony No. 5.* Soprano Linda Mabbs solos in Strauss' *Four Last Songs.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Boston University College of Fine Arts

Tsai Performance Center, 655 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8725). www.bc.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University East. 8 pm. Free. The Boston University Wind Ensemble performs pieces by Bernstein, Mozart, Gandolfi and Sparke.

Tuesday Recitals at King's Chapel

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kingschapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. 12:15 pm. $3. Soprano Denise Konicek, mezzo-soprano Heather Holland and pianist Deborah Boling perform duets by Britten, Tchaikovsky and Faure.

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with rotating DJs and drag performances, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Felt
S.I.N. Mondays This Service Industry Night includes free pool and guest DJs spinning high-energy dance, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Havana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week, two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
360 Dance to hip-hop and R&B from DJ Chubby Chub; $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Bar 33
Havana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Caprice
Live bands as well as rotating DJs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Tuesday Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spin hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Totally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic '80s music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Paradise Lounge
Bash Up Tuesdays Dj G-Squared spins hip-hop, rock, '80s and more, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Make" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top 40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sin
Karaoke for Cash with Deb-N-Art.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa Night DJs Hernan, D. Martinez, Antonio Ortiz and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes beginner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk music bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
iPod Night Bring your own iPod and be an MP3J, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Bruno spins house, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Demers spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Oldies but Goodies DJ Russ McQueen spins hits from the '50s, '60s and '70s, no cover.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

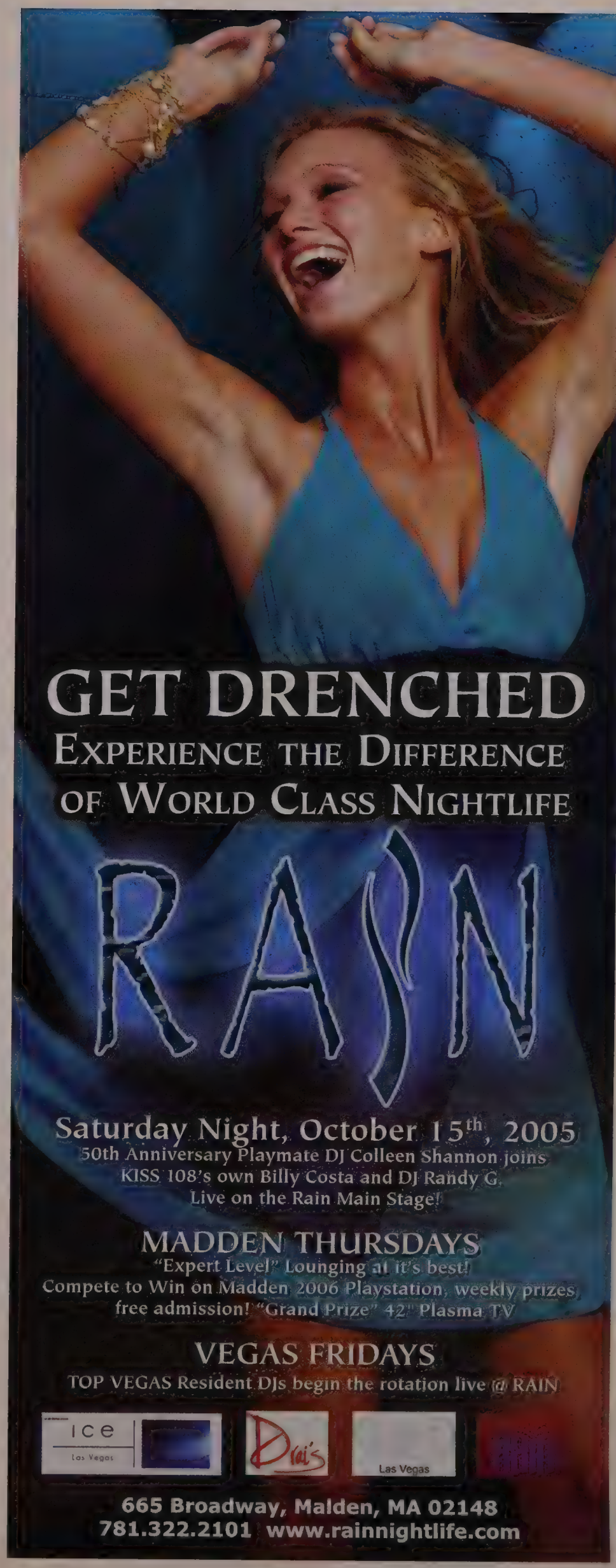
Avalon
Hot and Heavy Thursday DJs spin hip-hop music, 10 pm, $15; ladies free until 11 pm, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+.

Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.



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Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Miss Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ Mike Navarro, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of jazz, 10 pm.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
True Music Thursdays Featuring live performances, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama-jigi play Afro-pop highlife, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJs Edgar and Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban Jeff spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 before 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Rouge Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while DJ Prolific spins R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
=20 Thursday Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

WaterWorks
Buckwild Thursdays DJs spin top 40 and house and host a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull riding contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Steve spins top 40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Vanity DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 pm, $20; 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Avalon
Avaland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilkie, Alex Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top 40, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Hot Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae and bachata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top 40, dance and hip hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of international Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; after 1 pm, $15, 19+.

Club Q
Forbidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top 40, 21+.

Common Ground
DJ Dino Sound spins Northern Soul, 10 pm, no cover.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Xander spins hip-hop, 9 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $5, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Theray Fridays DJ Cerebral and Chris Kung of KISS 108, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top 40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Latin DJ, 11:30 pm, 21+.

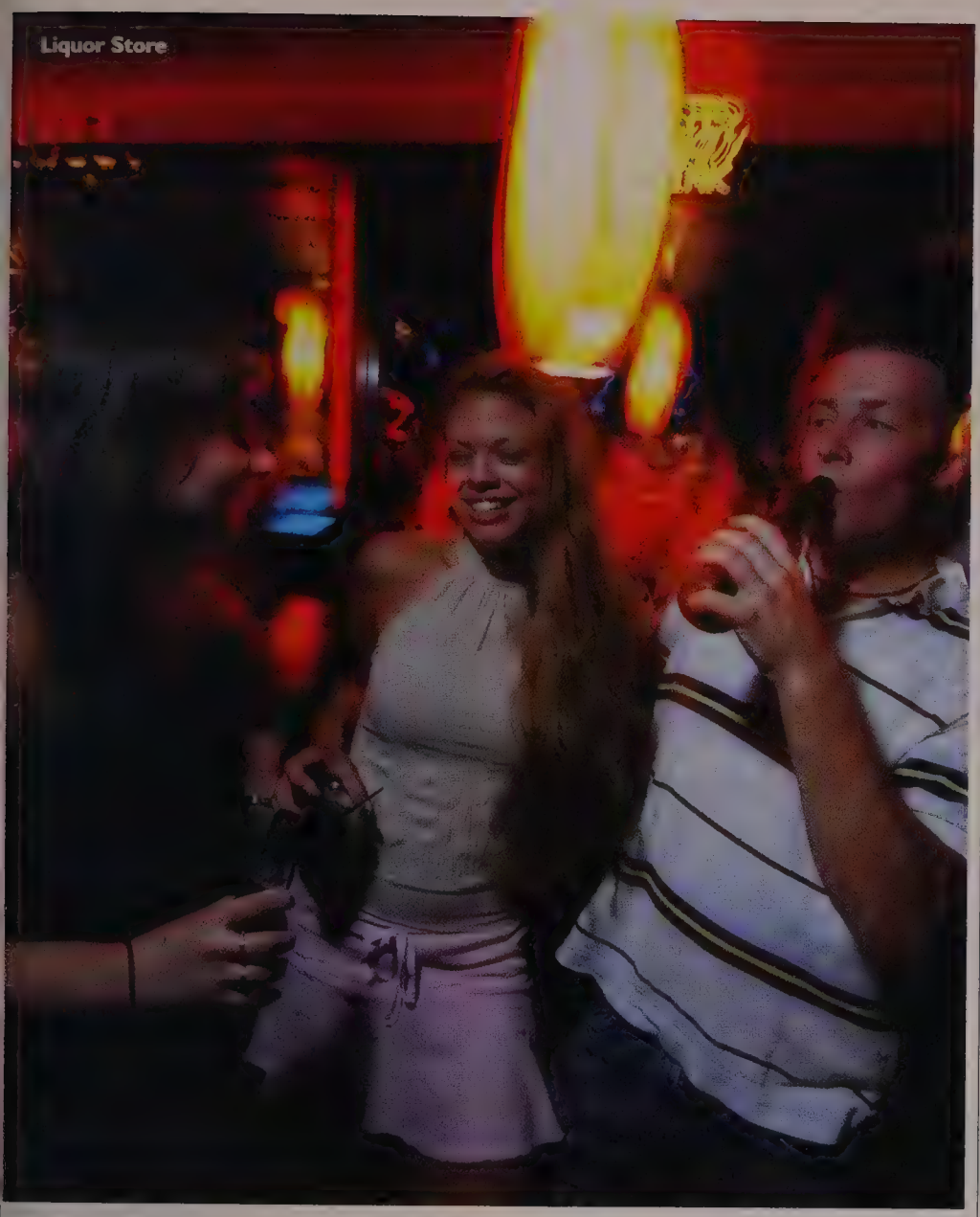
Gypsy Bar
DJs Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins reggae, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.



The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top 40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house, and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top 40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
The Beach House Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. **Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
DJ Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJ Laptop spins top 40 and hip-hop, and TV screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Just Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P, 10 pm.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Vegas Fridays Las Vegas resident DJs spin.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tantric Lounge
Hookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud 9 spin the music at this night featuring hookahs, specialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin top 40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+.

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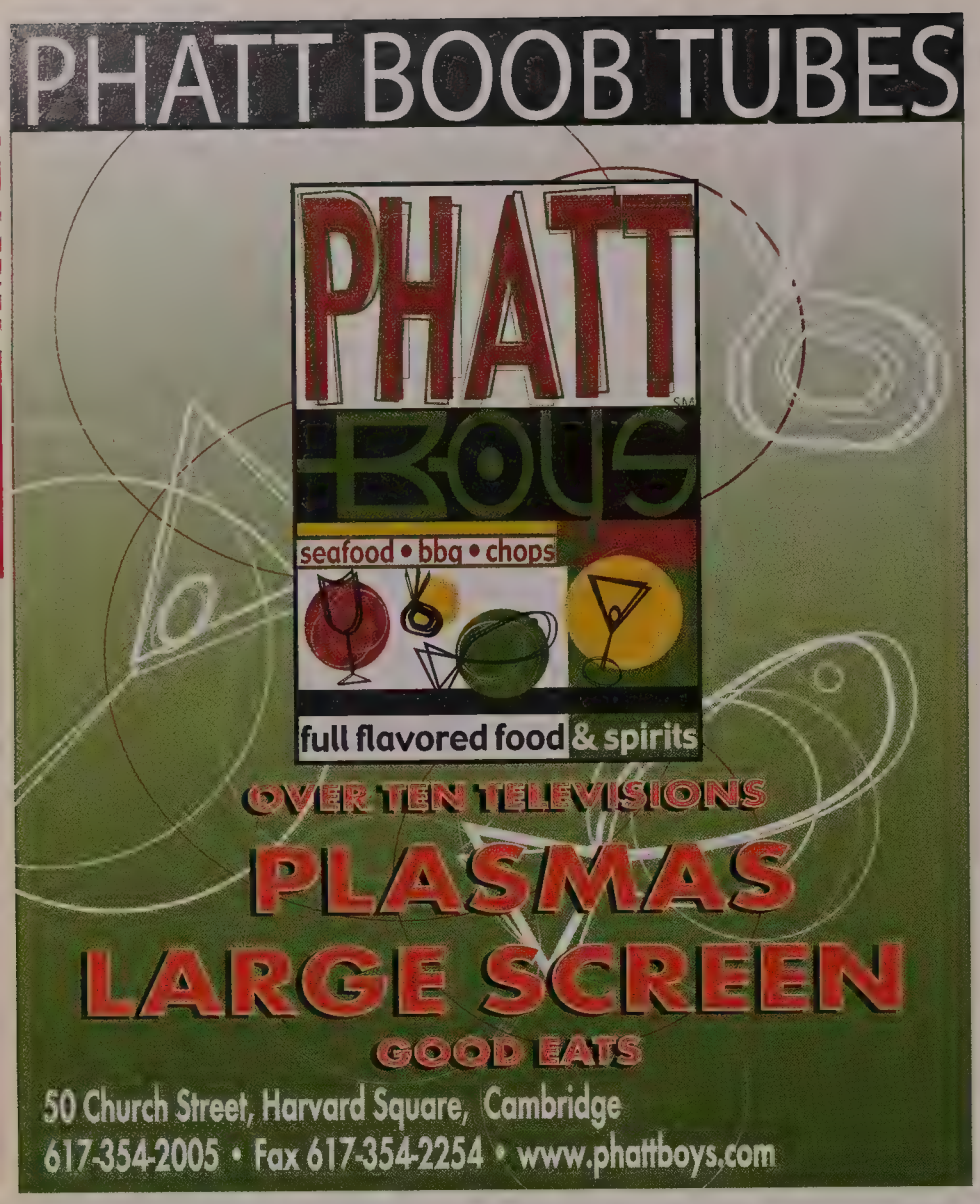

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared and friends mix top 40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20; 21+ men, 19+ women with college ID.

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life DJs Frank and Matty spin alternative party hits, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and top 40 music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top 40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Profenna spins top 40, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Shake Your Ass Night DJ spins indie rock, $2.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Cosmopolitan Satrudays DJ Mastermillions from JAM'N 94.5 spins, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
•Sensation Saturdays featuring DJ Eddie Lee spinning hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15; 19+ women, 21+ men. •**Russian Night in The Modern** with DJ Roger R spinning international.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house music, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Fresh spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJs Peter D and Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+; $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, men $10; women $5 or free before 10:30; 21+.

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons spin minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features DJ Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top 40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-energy dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
KISS 108-FM's Billy Costa and DJ Randy G spin top 40, house, dance, disco and rock music, 10 pm.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles of house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top 40 dance in the front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top 40 dance, 9 pm, $8.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top 40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tare Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyball 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays** DJ spin top 40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 pm 10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 40 a night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Dance Hall Reggae music, 11 pm, $10-$15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $2 women 19+, men 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance an techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+.

Caprice
Rotating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Club Q
Suave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and the 45 Crew spin dance music, 8 pm-2 am, $10.

Cosmopolitan
Caribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Spot DJs spin top 40, hip-hop and house music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Groove Yard DJ Yamin spins mash-ups, soul, hip-hop, dancehall and more, 9 pm, no cover.

The Office
Utopia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests play deep, soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJ Itchy P, 11 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins top 40 beats, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top 40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
DJ Danny Sharp and the World Premier Band provide top 40, dance and old-school funk music.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Vepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJs Nik and Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and international grooves, 10 pm-4 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Samu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance hits, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

WaterWorks
Weekend Beach Party Cocktails and volleyball, 1 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Smokin' Sundays** DJs Romeo and Randy spin, and Romeo hosts a Hawaiian Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am; $10 from 6-9 pm, $20 after 9 pm; 21+.

Club Venues

Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *51/2 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High Street, Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •*Forging the New: East Asian Painting in the 20th Century* showcases paintings influenced by modernization, technology and politics. Through Oct. 16. •*Degas at Harvard* displays more than 60 drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs by Edgar Degas. Through Nov. 27. •*Silver and Shawls: India, Europe and the Colonial Art Market* highlights the evolution of shawls and silverware during India's colonial period. Through Jan. 29, 2006. •*Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Greek Portraiture, The Art of Ancient Rome* and *Near Eastern Art* are on display.Ongoing.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •*Extended Boundaries* is a collection of paintings, photographs, sculpure and film from the Wellesley College studio arts faculty. Oct. 19-Dec. 18. •*Aaron Nobel: Artist in Residence* is a site-specific lobby wall project inspired by comic book superheroes.Through Dec. 18. •*Brice Marden: Etchings to Rexroth* exhibits images paying tribute to calligraphy. Through Dec. 18. •*Hold: Vessel 1* is a multimedia installation by Lynette Wallworth. Through Dec. 18. •A display of art from China, Japan and Korea runs through June 2006. •A new installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6; children 5 and under, free. •*Great Buys: Museum Purchases* celebrates the museum's establishment of its Arts Acquisition Fund with an exhibition of 40 works by 35 New England artists purchased since the fund's creation. Through Oct. 31. •*John Huddleston: Killing Ground, Photographs of the Civil War and the Changing American Landscape* juxtaposes historical images with contemporary photography of the same locations 150 years later. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Robert Arnold: Zeno's Paradox* is a short looping video that experiments with the connections between zooms and stills. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Saga: The Journey of Arno Rafael Minkkinen, Photographs 1970-2005* exhibits nude self-portraits in which the artist incorporates his body into a range of landscapes. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*The Artists at DeCordova* displays the work of the museum's staff artists. Ongoing.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. •*A New Kind of Historical Evidence* showcases photographs from the Carpenter Center Collection. Through Oct. 30. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* displays two pairs of small-scale religious objects from 18th-century Germany and Austria. Through Nov. 27. •*Stratification: An Installation of Works Since 1960* displays seven pieces from the museum's collection. Through Feb. 26, 2006. •*Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* exhibits 19th-century paintings. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon., Tue. and Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 10 am-8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Morphologies* features large format black and white landscape photographs by Luc Pages. Through Nov 3.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 9 am-12 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children 3-18, $5. •*The Glass Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features glass models for more than 830 plant species from the Ware Collection. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature & Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; Thu. after 5 pm, free. •Julian Opie's outdoor artwork *Suzanne Walking* and *Julian Walking* features two full-size walking animated portraits installed on the Northern Avenue Bridge. Through Oct. 31.•*Momentum 5: Paul Chan* displays political drawings, projected digital animations and videos. Through Jan. 16, 2006. •*Utopia, Utopia = One World, One War, One Army, One Dress* exhibits a critical look at the world through wall graphics, vitrines, sculptures, maquettes and films by Thomas Hirschhorn. Through Jan. 16, 2006.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; weekends, $11; seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18, free. •*Variations on a Theme* combines the paintings of Sol LeWitt with the music of Paula Robison in one exhibition. Through Nov. 13. •*A Closer Look: An Introduction to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum* offers museum tours. Tue.-Fri, 2:30 pm. Ongoing. •*Special Exhibition Gallery Talks* provide context to museum exhibits each Saturday at 12 pm. Ongoing. •The collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

Mary Baker Eddy Library
200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $6; seniors, students and youth 6-17, $4; children 6 and under, free. •The Mapparium is *Celebrating 70 Years* with a new exhibit showcasing the structure's history and reflecting major changes in the world since its creation in 1935. Through Jan. 6, 2006. •The multimedia exhibit *This is Woman's Hour...* highlights the life and accomplishments of Mary Baker Eddy. Ongoing. •The library's *Historic Bible Collection* showcases rare Bibles in the Reference Room. Ongoing. •The library displays a "peace" flag from the 1907 Peace Congress proceedings in New York. Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons* looks at the role Jewish women's salons played in Europe and America from the late 18th century through the 1940s. Through Dec. 4.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. Free. •*Working Drawings for the MIT Bell Tower* display Theodore Roszak's preparatory sketches for the tower. Through Dec. 16. •*Christian Jankowski: Everything Fell Together* is a collection of 54 photographs and 10 film and conceptually based installations. Oct. 14-Dec. 31.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444) http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $2; children under 5 free. •*35 Innovators Under 35* displays the ideas of young innovators who have been recognized by MIT's *Technology Review* magazine. Through Oct. 21. •*Scopes, Station Wagons and Solder: Unexpected Images from the Rad Lab and RLE Collections* exhibits photographs from preserved negatives documenting the history of radar and electronics. Through June 11, 2006. •*Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park St. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Historic Gallery Talks: 19th Century Black Beacon Hill* discusses the determin

Richard Brouillet's paintings are on display at the DeCordova Museum through October.

on of blacks on Beacon Hill in the 1800s. Ongo-
g. •*The Life and Times of William Lloyd Garrison* re-
tes the life of the civil rights pioneer to his envi-
nment. Ongoing. •*Words of Thunder: William*
oyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition cele-
ates the life and achievements of Boston aboli-
onist William Lloyd Garrison. Through Dec. 31.

luseum of Fine Arts

55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). ww.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 'ed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 n. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is en. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17, hool days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all ner times, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is duced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, free excluding special hibitions. •*Things I Love: The Many Collections of illiam I. Koch* displays choice pieces of silver, ılptures, paintings and more. Through Nov. 13. Artist Sol LeWitt and flutist Paula Robison collab-ate and feature Mozart pieces and a giant wall awing for *Variations on a Theme*. Through Nov. 21. *Ansel Adams* showcases works by the famous nerican photographer. Through Dec. 31. •*Sounds the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia* features re than 100 musical instruments. Through Jan. 5, 06. •*American West: Dust and Dreams* presents re than 70 artists whose works reflect the Ameri-n West. Though Jan. 8, 2006. •*Zhang Huan: Seeds Hamburg* displays 12 chronological large-scale otographs. Through Jan. 16, 2006. •*A Much corded War: The Russo-Japanese War in History and agery* exhibits prints, postcards and photographs. rough March 28, 2006. •*Contemporary Clay: anese Ceramics for the New Century* is a collection he most innovative present-day Japanese ceram-Through July 9, 2006.

luseum of Science

nce Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. TA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, $13; children 1, $12. •*Countdown to Supernova* is a planetar-n show about the creation and death of stars. rough April 30, 2006. •*The Computing Revolution* es the history of computers. Ongoing. •Hun-ls of butterflies and flowers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. •Put your or-ganizational skills to work and solve mysteries in the exhibit *Natural Mysteries*. Ongoing. •The *Theater of Electricity* provides lightning shows daily at 12 pm and 2 pm and Fridays at 7 pm. Ongoing. •Stargaze atop the museum's garage roof using the Gilliland Observatory Friday evenings. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Old Glory* displays pa-triotic magazine covers from the 1940s. Through Dec. 11. •*September 11: Bearing Witness to History* commemorates and reflects on the tragedy of 9/11 through photography, articles, everyday objects and more. Through Jan. 1, 2006. •*Teenage Hoboes in the Great Depression* features letters, questionnaires and audio tapes documenting stories during the Depression. Through Feb. 16, 2006. •*Blue Monday: Doing Laundry in America* showcases a collection of laundry advertisements and paraphernalia from the 1700s to today. Through March 4, 2006.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and resi-dents of Salem, free. •*The Kingdom of Siam: The Art of Central Thailand, 1350-1800* features stone images, sculptures, wood carvings, tem-ple furnishings and more. Through Oct. 16. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from the Mississippian Culture. Through March 30, 2006. •*Taj Mahal: The Building of a Legend* is a collection of approximately 40 paintings and photographs exploring the site. Oct. 15, 2005-July 23, 2006. •*Air Lines: Photographs by Alex MacLean* capture images of the United States from thousands of feet above the ground. Through April 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature: Untamed Traditions in Chinese Decorative Art* exhibits organic wood forms which appealed to Buddhists and Daoists seeking to connect with nature. Through Aug. 13, 2006. •*Owls in Art and Nature* is a collection that explores the connections between people and owls through paintings, sculptures, photography and video. Through Nov. 5, 2006.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www. peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har-vard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children 3-18, $5; children under 3, free. •*Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations in Washington, D.C.* features a selection of pho-tographs of Native American delegates to the U.S. government. Through Dec. 1. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtiss Collection* is on display through March 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006. •*The Moche of Ancient Peru* is a collection of pre-dominantly ceramic early Peruvian art that gives in-sight into the civilization. Oct. 21-June 2007. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* in-cludes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Com-muter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $3. •*Alvin Lucier: Chambers* explores the resonant characteristics of enclosed spaces. Through Dec. 11. •*Fred Tomaselli: Monsters of Paradise* displays collage-style paintings that blend natural and un-natural worlds. Through Dec. 11. •*'Post' and After: Contemporary Art from the Brandeis University Col-lection* displays works from the 1980s and '90s. Through Dec. 11.

Special Events

Dorchester Open Studios

Dorchester Historical Society, William Clapp House, 195 Boston St., Dorchester (617-436-2661). www. dorchesteropenstudios.org. MBTA Red Line to JFK/UMass. Fri. 6:30 pm-8:30 pm, Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-5 pm. •The weekend includes exhibitions from vi-sual artists as well as music, theater, and comedy per-formances. Oct. 21-23.

Masterpieces of Graphic Design: Gallery Talk by Jim Lapides

International Poster Gallery, 205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com.

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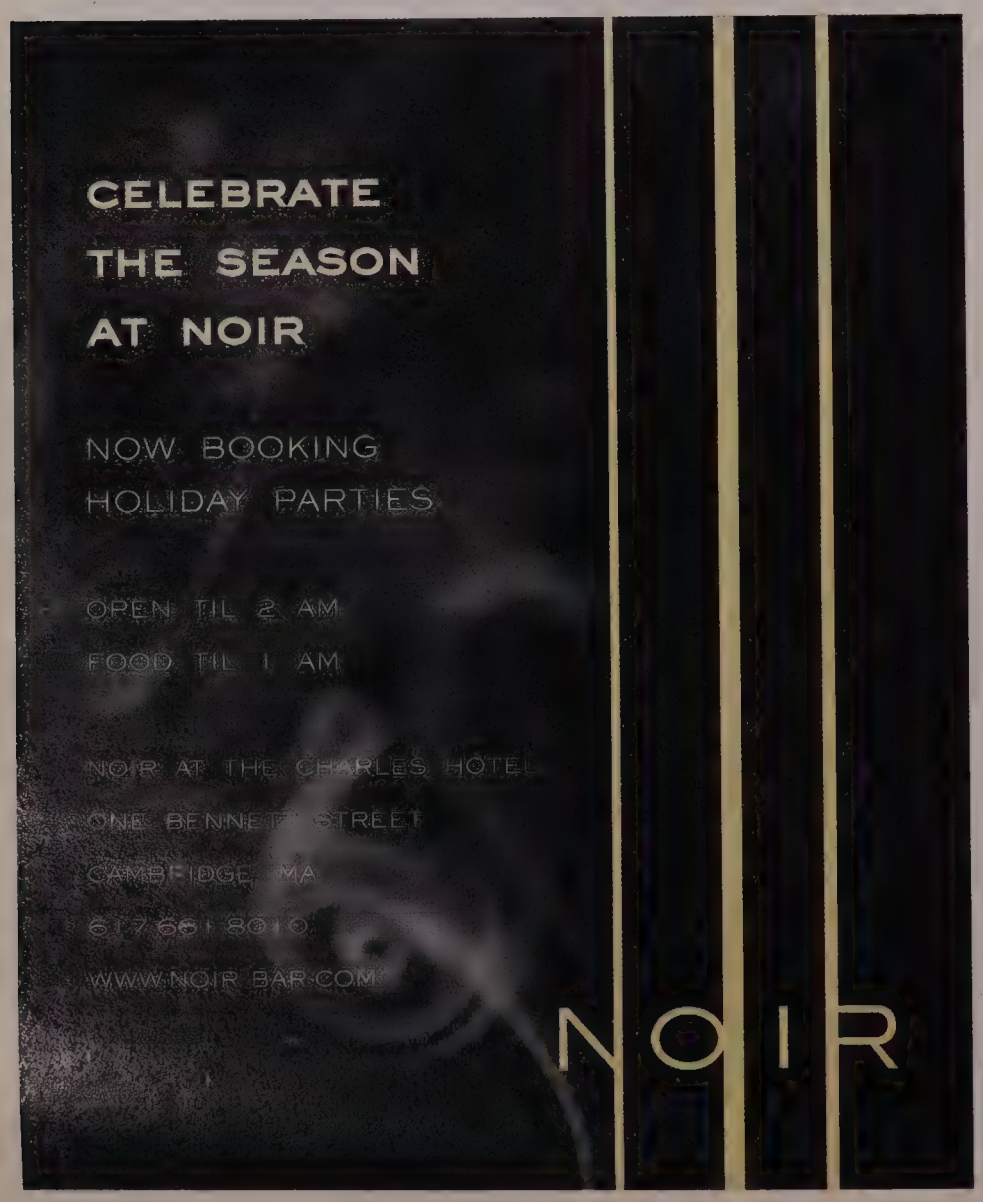

MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Oct. 19, 6 pm.* •Owner Jim Lapides speaks about the 100-plus years of poster design depicted in the exhibition.

Women of the World: A Global Collection of Art
Simmons College Trustman Art Gallery, 300 The Fenway, Boston (617-521-2268). www.simmons.edu/trustman. MBTA Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4:30 pm. •More than 200 female artists from around the globe will be featured at Simmons College. Through Oct. 30.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Lillian Orlowsky: In Retrospect* is inspired by real life figures while occasionally embracing abstract style. Through Nov. 12.

Adams Gallery
Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont St., Boston (617-305-1782). www.suffolk.edu/adams_gallery. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*Touching All the Bases: A Red Sox History* explores the history of the Boston Red Sox through photography, cartoons and artifacts. Through Oct. 28.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Contained* displays perfume bottles and larger vessels made mostly out of art glass. Through Nov. 12.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Bob Dylan Unscripted* displays photographs of the musician by Douglas Gilbert. Through Oct. 29.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Paul Balmer's *Cityscapes* displays the artist's extensive work with oils and canvas paintings. Through Oct. 29.

Ars Libri
Mario Diacono Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Damian Loeb displays his new works. Through Oct. 31.

Arsenal Arts Center for the Arts
321 Arsenal St., Watertown (617-923-0100). www.arsenalarts.org. •This exhibition features 26 artists celebrating the *Transformation* of the Arsenal building. Through Oct. 29.

Artana
1378 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). www. artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm; and by appointment. •*Realism Rejoiced II* is the second joint show by Dina Brodsky and Ella Delyanis and features 40 pastel paintings. Through Oct. 29.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Glowlab: Open* features several different artists each weekend leading workshops, tours and other activities. Through Dec. 14.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., Boston (781-853-0017). www.atlantic works.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •*Interactions* features works ranging from jewelry to photos from four artists. Through Oct. 28.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Donald Judd displays 12 sculptures that were created in 1991. Through Oct. 19. •Jeff Perrott's *Nature of Things* will be on display. Oct. 22-Dec. 7. •Robert Cottingham's *An American Alphabet* displays the work of the photorealist. Oct. 22-Dec. 7.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www. berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New Ground* features paintings by Jennifer Harrison. Through Nov. 5.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu., Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Circumference* displays small-scale self-portraits by Steve Locke. Through Oct. 30. •*Standing on One Foot* presents various media that explore the human figure and its departure from traditional interpretation. Through Oct. 30.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-776-3410). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Jim Henderson's *Tree Museum* show and Michael Beatty's *IN-tangle* show display works by each artist. Through Nov. 12.

Boston University Art Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). www.bu.edu/art. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5 pm. Free. •*Resurfaced* features works by seven artists that blur the boundaries between painting and sculpture. Through Oct. 30.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www. brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Hidden in Plain Sight* exhibits sculptures, photography, paintings and prints by Peggy Badenhausen, Alicia Dwyer, Gail Martin and Patty Rosenblatt. Through Oct. 16.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Fragments of Life: Watercolors by Neda Movaghar* presents her abstract watercolors influenced by patterns from Iran. Oct. 14- Nov. 9. •*Peru: Perceptions, Photographs by Monika Bruzkova* will be on display until Nov. 11.

Cambridge Art Association
Kathryn Schultz Gallery, 25R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. University Place Gallery, 124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridge art.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-1 pm. •*Natural Elements* features the work of Miriam Gilman, Lynda Goldberg, and Judi Lister in a group show at the University Place Gallery Through Nov. 9. •*Decisive Moments*, an exhibit centering on the concept of light and action meeting at one point, is presented at the Kathryn Schultz Gallery. Through Nov. 9.

Cambridge Arts Council Gallery
344 Broadway, Cambridge (617-349-4380) www.cambridgeartscouncil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Mon., Wed., Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm Tue., 8:30 am-5 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-12 pm. •Taylo Davis's *Rose-Tinted* exhibition features sculptur influenced by Russell Field. Through Oct. 27.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon. Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Our Culture Is Our Resistanc* displays photographs by Jonathan Moller focusin on Guatemalan communities that have been up rooted by war. Through Oct. 14. •*Sudan: The Lan and the People* displays photographs by Michae Freeman that explore the diversity of Sudan Through Oct. 20.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon Fri., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Bernar Haussmann abandons layers for a more simplistic styl in his *New Work* exhibition. Through Oct. 29.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm •*Painters of the Art Students League* features wate color and oil paintings by artists affiliated with th league. Through Nov. 5. •*Joseph Pennell: Temple the Gods, Temples to Industry* exhibits etching an lithography by Joseph Pennell. Through Nov. •*Joseph Pennell in the Swiss Alps* displays drawings b Joseph Pennell. Through Nov. 5.

Claygo Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). www claygo.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat 11 am-6 pm. •The gallery displays designer Ano Howarth's exotic ceramic Mexican pieces. Throug Oct. 28.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBT Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 1 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* exhibits works b Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other loc artists. Ongoing.

DTR Modern Galleries
167 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-9700 www.dtrmodern.com. MBTA: Green Line Copley. Mon.-Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri. and Sat., am-8 pm; Sun., 11 am-6 pm. •*American Centur Pop to Graffiti to Cutting Edge* is a collecti featuring such artists as Andy Warhol and Robe Rauschenberg. Through Nov. 22.

A New Kind of Historical Evidence is displayed at the Fogg Art Museum through October 30.

Eclipse Gallery
64 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). www.eclipsesalongallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. Free. •New paintings by Peter Previte are on display. Through Oct. 29.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-9 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Neighborhood artists display their work in the *Open Studios Group Show*. Through Oct. 21.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •Samir Sammoun displays his paint layering technique in his exhibition. Through Oct. 31. •An exhibition of paintings, sculptures and fine prints spanning the 15th to 20th centuries is on display. Ongoing.

Gallery @ The Piano Factory
791 Tremont St., Boston (617-421-0095). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri., 6-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •The 25th anniversary group show includes photography, weaving, sculpture, printing and works in other media by various artists. Through Oct. 29.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 12-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Recent paintings by Chris Mesarch and Evelina Brozgul are on display. Through Oct. 29.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •A group exhibition features paintings, drawings and photographs by Gallery Katz artists. Ongoing.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Kevin Bubriski's *Rocks and Ruins* examines the bombing of an Armenian church and destruction in Peru and Syria through photographs. Through Oct. 15. •The work of Eric Lewandowski and Shuli Hallak will be on display Oct. 15- Nov. 26.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*New Watercolors* by Robert Ferrandini and *Good Fishing* by Cheryl Warrick will be on view through Nov. 5.

Gallery 321
321 Washington St., Somerville. (617-623-5315). www.washingtonst.org. Sat., 12-4 pm. •*Memories of a Horror Movie Baby*, a collection of color photos by Vanessa Thompson, uses dolls to conjure images of a perfect family with skeletons in its closet. Through Oct. 31.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue., Wed., Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat.-Sun. 11 am-5 pm. $7 general admission, free for members. •*Suzanne Walking* showcases the realist themes present in the works of artist Julian Opie.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Masterpieces of Graphic Design* displays the evolution of graphic design. Through Nov. 30. •The gallery showcases a variety of vintage posters. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*Built*, an exhibit of mixed media by Carol Grove, derives inspiration from both rural and urban settings. Through Oct. 29.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* byDouglas Schneider explores the fallacy of innocence in America's past. Through Nov. 12.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •Pastel drawings of rooms by Joan Baldwin are on display. Through Oct. 29.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works in various media by Douglass Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarese, Carrie McGee, John Folsom and more. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Frit and Fire* displays the work of fused-glass artist Roger Thomas. Through Nov. 15.

Massachusetts College of Art
Bakalar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Graphic Imperative: An Exhibition of International Posters for Peace, Social Justice and the Environment* is on display through Nov. 11.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Twelve Paintings* displays the work of Anthony Moore. Through Oct. 31.

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Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Kevin Coates' *An Alphabet of Rings* presents an array of hand carved rings. Through Oct. 29. •*Consuming Identity* by Harriete Estelle Bergman displays several pieces influenced by historical teapots. Through Oct. 29.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jeremy Hamilton displays his work. Through Oct. 29.

NAO Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.nao gallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. Thu.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features sculptures, photography and other works by Helene Odon, Danielle Sauve and Sue Yang. Through Oct. 22.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*A Wolf in the Irises* features acrylic paintings on linen by Duane Slick. Through Oct. 23.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-425-1677). www.oht gallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* by Ben Snead will be on display until Oct. 29.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. #304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jacob El Hanani's inks on paper and Renato Orara's ballpoint works on paper are on display. Through Oct. 15.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features photography, paintings, sculpture, jewelry, mosaics and antiques by local artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www. peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New Works* features Marja Lianko's paintings and sculptures with significant roots in her Finnish upbringing. Oct. 14-Nov. 12.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www. puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Brother Thomas* features pottery by Benedictine monk and ceramic artist Brother Thomas Bezanson. Through Oct. 16. •Mark Davis' *Energy in Motion* and *The Exquisite World of Roger Bowman* showcase work by each of the artists. Oct. 22-Nov. 20.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). www. richardson-clarke.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Collages* presents paintings by Karen Clarke. Through Oct. 31.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robert kleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Michael Ronnen Safdie exhibits his work. Oct. 14-Nov. 12.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www. samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. •*Off My Biscuit, Destroy Your District!* showcases works by various artists. Through Oct. 15. •A collaboration between Ellen Lesperance and Jeanine Oleson will be on view Oct. 21-Nov. 19.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Courtyard Gallery, Museum of Fine Arts, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718). www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm. •*Rawhide Harangue of Aching Indices as Told by Light* is a site-specific installation by Jessica Stockholder, incorporating painting, sculpture, architecture and design in the Grossman Gallery. Through Oct. 21.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Northwest Artists* showcases works in mixed media by artists from the Northwest region of the United States. Through Oct. 30.

Soprafina Gallery
73 Thayer St., Boston (617-728-0770). www. soprafina.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Harvesting the Human Form* features paintings by Nabanita Javed and prints by Donald Kelly. Through Oct. 29.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www. stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Coalescence* exhibits recent oil paintings by William St. George, florals by Sandra Mueller-Dick and mixed media by Shanshan Cui. Through Oct. 31.

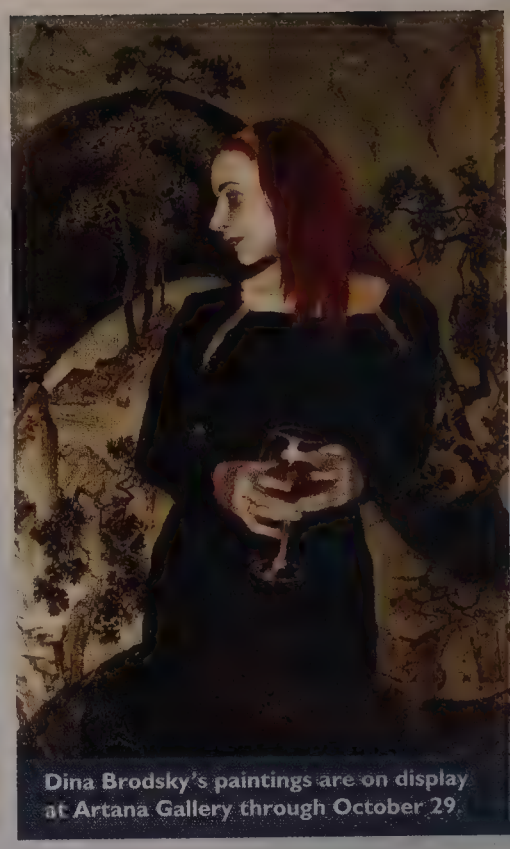
Vose Galleries of Boston
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www. vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and early 20th-century American artwork. Ongoing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Boston Public Library
Honan Allston Branch, 300 North Harvard St., Allston (617-787-6313). www.bpl.org. Mon., 12 pm-8 pm; Tue., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 12 pm-8 pm; Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri., Sat., 9 am-5 pm. •Rania Matar's *A Forgotten Population* features more than 40 black and white photographs of Palestinian refugees. Through Oct. 31.

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue. and Wed., 11 am-5 pm; Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Dancers* by Morten Nilsson and *Soul to Sole* by Beverley Abramson both continue through Nov. 27. •*Arthur Griffin: A Singular Vision* features several black and white photos from 1929 to 1951. Through Dec. 30.

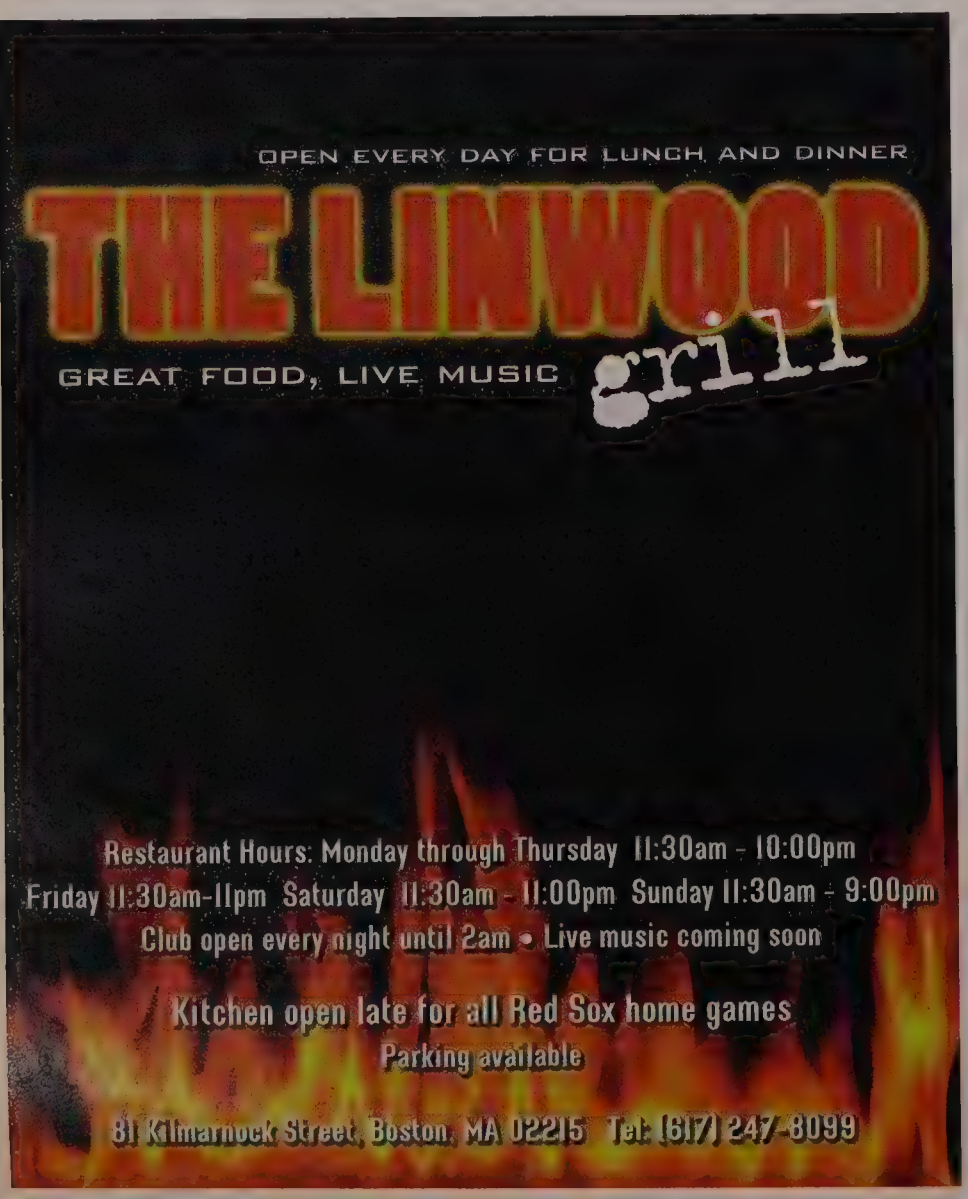
Panopticon Gallery Boston
502 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*Vintage Fashion* by Clare Goldsmith features photos of fashion from decades past. Through Oct. 15. •*Problems in Time and Space* by Peter Vanderwarker displays color and black and white photos. Oct. 18-Dec. 3.



Dina Brodsky's paintings are on display at Artana Gallery through October 29.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. •*Before Photoshop* displays photographs by John Urban. Through Oct. 22.

Photographic Resource Center
855 Comm. Ave, Boston, (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed., Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat., Sun., 12-5 pm. •*PRC Benefit Auction Preview Exhibition* displays a collection featuring various photographers. Through Oct. 23.



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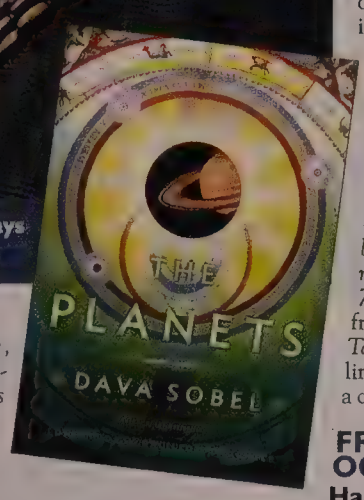
books & poetry

Dava Sobel reads from her essays at the Brattle Theatre Oct. 17.



Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Brookline Booksmith Event
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. $5. **Chris Elliott** reads from his new novel, *The Shroud of the Thwacker*, a humorous murder mystery that follows a serial killer from 1882 to the 21st century. A screening of Elliot's movie *Cabin Boy* follows.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **James Lasdun** reads from his novel *Seven Lies*, about a young man's life in the former East Germany and his desire to move to America.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Warner** reads from her autographical collection of vignettes, *Ditched by Mr. Right: And Other Distress Signals from the Edge of Polite Society*, stories from her childhood, adolescence and adulthood.

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. **Kim Ponders** discusses her novel *The Art of Uncontrolled Flight*, about a woman in the Air Force academy and her relationships with several men.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Mary Roach** reads from her novel *Spook: Science Tackles the Afterlife*, which explores the possibility of an afterlife according to historians, philosophers and scientists.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Benjamin Kunkel** reads from his novel *Indecision*, about a man who recently graduated from college and his chronic indecision when it comes to his relationships with women. Also, **Nick McDonell** discusses his novel *The Third Brother*, about a journalist intern on a journey through Thailand and New York to find a missing writer during the aftermath of September 11.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Robert Jordan** reads from his novel *Knife of Dreams*, the 11th book in his fantasy epic *Wheel of Time*.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **James Lasdun** reads from his novel *Seven Lies*, about a young man's life in the former East Germany and his desire to move to America. Also, **Amy Belding Brown** discusses her book *Mr. Emerson's Wife*, about the wife of Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. **Mary Roach** reads from her book *Spook: Science Tackles the Afterlife*. See Brookline Booksmith listing above for a description.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. **Joshua Wolf Shenk** reads from his book *Lincoln's Melancholy: How Depression Challenged a President and Fueled His Greatness*, which examines how depression may have affected President Lincoln's behavior during wartime.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Julie Powell** reads from her novel *Julie and Julia*, which combines her cooking and life stories with stories of chef Julia Child's life in the 1940s.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Gregory Maguire** reads from his novel *Son of a Witch*, about the son of the Wicked Witch of the West and his adventures with Dorothy.

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). www.katesmysterybooks. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 2 pm. Free. Minnesota authors **Ellen Hart**, **Carl Brookins**, **William Kent Krueger** and **Deborah Woodworth** read from their works.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. Performance artist **Anna**

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Una Bella Serata

Camilleri reads from the anthology of essays, stories and visual materials she edited, *Red Light: Superheroes, Saints and Sluts*, about female icons, past and present. Also, **Ivan E. Coyote** discusses his collection of short stories *Loose End*, which focuses on urban life in Vancouver.

Forest Hills Cemetery
Forsyth Chapel, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust. org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $5. Poets **Charles Coe**, **Michael Hoerman**, **Robert Johnson** and **John Sturm** read from their works as well as works by e.e. cummings.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. **Alison Weir** reads from her book *Queen Isabella: Treachery, Adultery and Murder in Medieval England*, an account of Isabella's life and her quest for power.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poets **David Ferry** and **Frank Bidart** read from their works.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. *Slashdot* columnist **Jon Katz** discusses his book *Katz on Dogs*, which offers pet care tips and solutions to common dog problems.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. **Zainab Salbi** discusses her novel *Between Two Worlds: Escape From Tyranny: Growing Up in the Shadow of Saddam*, about her coming-of-age experiences under the reign of Saddam Hussein.

Harvard Book Store Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Dava Sobel** discusses her collection of essays *The Planets*, in which she uses the planets in our solar system as a means to explore larger issues.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Austin Sarat** discusses his book *Mercy on Trial: What It Means to Stop an Execution*, which explores the pardoning power of the executive branch and its effect on American politics.

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. **Alison Weir** reads from her book *Queen Isabella: Treachery, Adultery, and Murder in Medieval England*. See Oct. 16 Harvard Coop listing for a description.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Miriam Weinstein** reads from her book *The Surprising Power of Family Meals*, which explores the benefits of eating together as a family by drawing on lessons from psychology, religion and education.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education Event
Finale Desserterie & Bakery, 30 Dunster St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www. ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $25. **Elizabeth Benedict** reads from her novel *The Practice of Deceit*, about a newly married man and his suspicions that his wife is leading a secret life.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Stacey D'Erasmo** speaks about her novel *A Seahorse Year*, about the difficulties a California family encounters when raising their mentally ill teenage boy. Also, **Kate Benson** reads from her novel *Two Harbors*, about a girl's search for her mother through the streets of Hollywood.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 2 pm. Free. **Peter Manseau** discusses his memoir, *Vows: The Story of a Priest, a Nun and Their Son*, about his experiences with family and the power of faith in a Boston Catholic church.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Nathaniel Fick** speaks about his book *One Bullet Away: The Making of a Marine Officer*, which recounts his experiences training to be a Marine and his deployment to Afghanistan and Iraq.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Editor **Saleemah Abdul-Ghafur** and writer **Precious Rasheeda Muhammad** discuss their collaborative work, *Living Islam Out Loud*, a collection of essays and stories by women who identify with both Muslims and Americans.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Jane Brox** discusses her novel *Clearing Land*, about the significance of family farming and the roles of agriculture and cultivation in creating prosperity in America.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Ron Powers** discusses his biography *Mark Twain: A Life*.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. **Amy Tan** discusses her novel *Saving Fish from Drowning*, about a murdered woman who is able to watch over her close friends' trip to Myanmar.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Editor **Anita Shreve** discusses her novel *A Wedding in December*, about a reunion of classmates who recount their pasts during one couple's wedding.

Harvard Book Store Event
Beren Hall, Harvard Hillel, 52 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard. com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Boston University professor and former U.S. poet laureate **Robert Pinsky** reads from his biography *Life of David*, which uses biblical texts to illustrate the life of David.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Editor **Helen Deese** reads from the multivolume diary *Daughter of Boston: The Extraordinary Diary of a Nineteenth Century Woman*, which recounts major political, intellectual and cultural developments in 19th-century Boston.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **David Means** discusses his collection of stories *The Secret Goldfish*, which explores human thought, suffering and happiness. Also, **Jennifer Haigh** reads from her novel *Baker Towers*, about a family in a postwar mining town and their struggles with poverty.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Deborah Noyes** reads from her novel *Angel and Apostle*, which recreates Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* as a present-day drama.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

Boston University and Museum of Science Special Events
Boston University School of Management, 595 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. 6:30 pm. Free. **Wolfgang Puck** discusses his latest cookbook *Wolfgang Puck Makes It Easy* and hosts a cooking demonstration.

Wolfgang Puck discusses his new cookbook at B.U. Oct. 21

Harvard Book Store Event
Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Poet **Mary Oliver** reads from her works.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Alison Stone** and **Deborah DeNicola** read from their works.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

Somerville Public Library
79 Highland Ave., Somerville (617-623-5000). www.somervillepubliclibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 1:30 pm. Free. Sisters **Leonina F. Heringer** and **Clarinda Heringers Freitas** read from their works.

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 1 pm. Free. **Helen Deese** reads from her book *Daughter of Boston: The Extraordinary Diary of a Nineteenth Century Woman*. See Harvard Coop Oct. 20 listing for a description.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebook smith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Linda Roghaar**, **Marylou DiPietro**, **Elliott Carpenito** and **Norah Piehl** read from their collection of short stories *KnitLit the Third*, about the pros and cons of being a knit-aholic.

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). www.kates mysterybooks. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 2 pm. Free. **Libby Hellman** speaks about her novel *A Shot to Die For*, about a documentary filmmaker and her strange ties to a local murder.

Wellesley Booksmith Event
Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 3 pm. Free. **Dr. Carol M. Kaelin** discusses her book *Living Through Breast Cancer*, which provides helpful information and comfort for women recently diagnosed with breast cancer.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poet **Kevin Young** reads from his works.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Jung Chang** and **Jon Halliday** read from the biography they cowrote, *Mao: The Unknown Story*, which aims to reveal previously unknown atrocities committed by Mao.

Harvard Book Store Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Chris Ware** reads from his book *The Acme Novelty Library*, a collection of cartoons and commentary. Also, **Charles Burns** discusses his novel *Black Hole*, about a mysterious sexually transmitted disease that spreads among teenagers, making them develop bizarre mutations.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Gary Braver** reads from his mystery *Flashback*, about a pharmacologist and his patient who explore the possibility of developing a drug that cures Alzheimer's disease.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/Library. 7:30 pm. Free. **Eric Scigliano** reads from his book *Michelangelo's Mountain: The Quest for Perfection in the Marble Quarries of Carrara*, which recounts Michelangelo's trips to the Carrara quarries, where he acquired the stone he used for some of his most famous sculptures.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Boston University professor and former U.S. poet laureate **Robert Pinksy** discusses his book *The Life of David*. See Oct. 20 Harvard Book Store Event listing for a description.

Boston College Lowell Humanities Series
Gasson Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8484). bcbookstore.college storeonline.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 7:30 pm. Free. **Thomas Lynch** discusses his memoir *Booking Passage: We Irish and Americans*, about his experiences visiting his cousins in West Clare, Ireland and the insight he gained from his many trips there.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Stephen Walt** reads from his book *Taming American Power*, which purports that U.S. dominance over world politics is weakening. Also Senator **Bob Graham** discusses his book *Intelligence Matters*, which explores the U.S. government's shortcomings in national security.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Miriam Weinstein** discusses her book *The Surprising Power of Family Meals*. See Oct. 18 Brookline Booksmith listing for a description.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Thomas Beller** speaks about his memoir *How to Be a Man: Scenes from a Protracted Boyhood*, about his comical childhood and young adulthood. Also, **Tom Perrotta** reads from his novel *Little Children*, about a group of suburban parents and their relationships with their preschool-age kids.

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. **Eric Scigliano** reads from his book *Michelangelo's Mountain*. See Oct. 24 Newton Free Library listing for a description.

education

Advice to Contributors
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Onset of Civilization and Prospects for the Future
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere Shuttle. 7 pm. Free. Anthropologist and world historian **Fred Spier** presents this lecture on cosmic evolution. A discussion follows.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

An Evening in France
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm. $41 members; $50 nonmembers. Sample a typical French bistro meal while learning practical information on planning a trip to Paris in this demonstration and discussion.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

South End House Tour
South End House, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-4445). www.southendhistoricalsociety.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 10 am. $22 in advance, $25 day of tour. This self-guided walking tour, sponsored by the South End Historical Society, allows you to explore private homes in Boston's historic South End.

Walk of the South End Women's Heritage Trail
Harriet Tubman House, 566 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-375-8136). www.bwht.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 10:30-12:00 pm. $8. The Boston Women's Heritage Trail leads a guided walk through the South End to showcase the influential women who helped shape the city of Boston.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

Art, Artists and Technology: Transformation Before Our Eyes
Art Interactive, 130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-558-6447). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 4 pm. Free. New Media curator **George Fifield** moderates a discussion on how technology has transformed artistic practices in the 21st century.

Clay on the Wheel
Mudflat Studio, 149 Broadway, Somerville (617-628-0589). www.mudflat.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Station. 1 pm. $35. Try your hand at working with clay as a Mudflat teacher demonstrates how to use the potter's wheel to make pots. Participants save one pot to glaze and fire. For adults only.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17

Facts You Didn't Know About the Brookline Real Estate Market
Prudential Unlimited Realty, 1290A Beacon St., Boston (617-264-7900). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Govt. Center. 7:30 pm. Free. Prudential Unlimited Realty owner **David Bates** and real estate agent **Lea Cohen** provide helpful tips on the Brookline real estate market.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Basic Kitchen and Knife Skills
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm. Nonmembers, $87; members, $77. Chef **Lars Liebisch** leads a demonstration on how to chop and dice vegetables and properly cut meat.

Reflections on the Writer's Job
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3189). www.mfa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Museum. 6:30 pm; also Wed. 6:30 pm. Nonmembers, $30. New York Times art critic **Michael Kimmelman** discusses his experiences in art, journalism and criticism.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

It's in the Details
The Studio, 233 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-5091). www.studio233.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. 7:30 pm. Free. Learn how to make a statement and create your own individual style using accessories.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

The Art of Public Art: Reflecting and Shaping Community
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $15. Public artists **Mags Harries** and **Lajos Heder** speak about their collaborations, reflect on past projects, and discuss how art shapes the community.

Daughter of Boston: The Extraordinary Diary of a Nineteenth-Century Woman, Caroline Healey Dall
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange Line to State Street. 12:15 pm. Adults, $5; Students and Seniors, $4; Children, $1. Caroline Healey Dall Editor for the Massachusetts Historical Society **Helen R. Deese** discusses Healey Dall's 45-volume diary spanning 75 years. Highlights include details of the author's personal life and the major figures who surrounded her.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

Friday Night Cultural Mixers
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $10. Artistic director **Ned Hinkle** of the Brattle Theatre shares his views on picking movies for the theater's film festivals in this wine and conversation series.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

I Can't Believe I'm Over 50!
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 9 am. $54. **Harris Sussman,** director of Workways Consulting, conducts this daylong program that examines self-understanding and midlife concerns such as legacy, love and finances.

Newton History Series: Schooling Newton
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 7 pm. Free. **Susan Abele,** the museum's curator of manuscripts and photographs, presents this year's first lecture in the annual series. The lecture focuses on the history of schools and schooling in Newton from the early 19th through the mid-20th century.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

Lowell Lecture: Post 9/11 Constitutional Issues
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 2 pm. Free. **Anthony Green** from the National Constitution Center, **James Farmer,** chief of Boston's Anti-Terrorism Unit and **David Barron** from Harvard Law School discuss constitutional issues resulting from the September 11th attacks.

Victorian Sculpture Tour
Historic Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-542-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $8. Cultural historian **Elise Ciregna** leads a walking tour of sculpture and monuments created by accomplished stone carvers in the Victorian era.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24

Fakes, Forgeries and Scandal: How Counterfeiting Impacts Archeology
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. In this symposium, **Neil Silberman,** director of the Ename Center for Public Archaeology and Heritage Presentation in Belgium, and **Clemency C. Coggins,** professor of archaeology and art history at Boston University, approach the issue of fakes and forgeries and their impact on our interpretation of history.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Chocolate Tasting
South End Center for Adult Education, 566 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-375-8136). www.uses.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 6 pm. $35. Learn the taste, texture, and aroma of chocolates from around the world. Sample 20 to 25 pure chocolates and analyze each in terms of its own intricacies.

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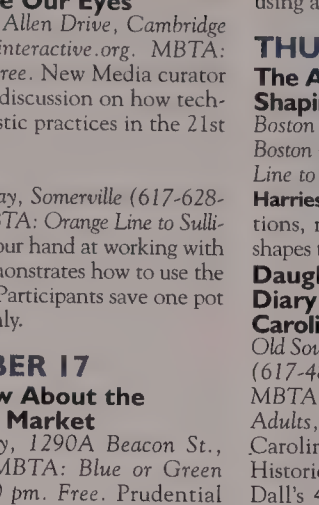

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Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday-night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Aria (Thursdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080) MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 11 pm, $10. Get Down Thursdays is a 19+ gay night that features rotating DJs playing hip-hop, house and pop.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494) MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay, Green Line to Arlington. No cover. 21+. Neighborhood cruise bar open nightly.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 pm. This gay sports bar, with six large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music as booked. •Sun.: An Evening of Mizery: Amateur Talent Night, 10 pm. •Mon. (alternating weeks): Foxy Follies; TraniWreck. •Tue.: Karaoke. •Wed.: Delightful Divas with Melinda Wilson. •Thu.: Jacque's Angels with Kris Knievel. •Fri. and Sat.: Miss Norelle's Leading Ladies.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, featuring deep house music, 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night, 10 pm-2 am, cover varies, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with hostess Mizery, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am, cover varies. Sunday T-dance features DJ Danae spinning the latest house and pop.

Toast (Fridays, Saturdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 5:30 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera and Saturday is Hero's Retro Night with DJs from ManRay.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9:30 pm-2 am. DJ Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Venu (Wednesdays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). www.chapsboston.com. 10 pm, $8, 21+. Boston's long-running gay Latino night features Latin and house with DJ Adilson.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am.

Shows & Events

14th Annual Festival of Queer Theater
Boston Center for the Arts, Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 13-Nov. 13. $30. The Theater Offensive presents the Out on the Edge Festival, with a variety of performances including dance, drama and comedy for the gay community.

LGBT Family Hayride
Maudsley State Park, Curzon Mill Road, Newburyport (617-576-6788). www.alternativefamilies.org. Oct. 23. 1:30-3:30 pm. $5-$10. Alternative Families Matter hosts this day of hayrides, picnics and games throughout Maudsley State Park.

Paint the Town (La) Red Annual Gala
Cambridge Marriot, 2 Cambridge Center, Cambridge (617-695-0877). www.thenetworklared.org/fundraiser. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Oct. 22, 7 pm, $100. The Network/La Red, an organization that addresses battering in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities, hosts their annual fundraising gala. The evening features cocktails, dinner, silent auction and entertainment.

Transgender Halloween Party
Tiffany Club, Randolph Country Club, 44 Mazzeo Drive, Randolph (781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. Oct. 21, 8 pm. $20. Members of the transgender community are invited to this annual Halloween party with food, music and costume prizes.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown North G/L Bowling League
Lanes & Games, 195 Concord Turnpike, Cambridge (617-876-5533). www.beantownbowling.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. 8:30 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Tuesday nights.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm, $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). www.beantownbowling.com. 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesday nights.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri., 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

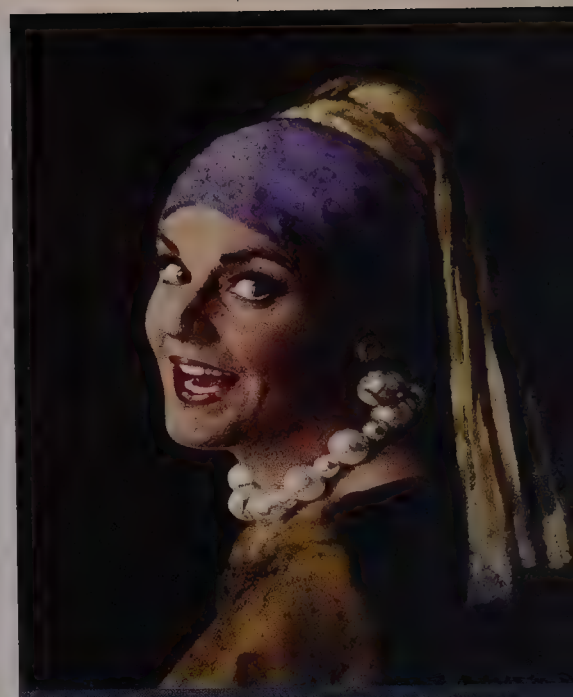
Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.



Varla Jean Merman stars in *Girl with a Pearl Necklace* at the Out on the Edge Festival.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. Th group welcomes gay and gay-friendly profession women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic ar sophisticated to get together with like-minde women for conversations, dinners, theater ar networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwa health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fe way Community Health offers a wide array of se vices for the GLBT community, ranging from discu sions about parenting and safe-sex practices programs addressing domestic violence and su stance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Bosto GLBT flag football league for its formal fall seaso All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

The 40-Somethings
theprimeoflife@aol.com. This newly formed group lesbians in their 40s runs events that help foster t creation of enduring romantic/life partnershi through being friends first.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Av Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.co ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sa 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn m about photography, socialize and meet new people these monthly meetings. For more informati e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (6 742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. T group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first a third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in develop healthy gay relationships features alternatives meeting and dating, communication games, s gles mixers and a date-matching system. E-m info@gaylab.org.

Gays for Patsy
(617-412-5751) http://www.gaysforpatsy.org. T country-western dancing club, featuring two-st swing and line dancing, holds events twice ev month. Beginners welcome, and no part needed. Call for more details.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jam Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.c MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of GLBT community are invited to share poetry, p and performance pieces at this open-mike event

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 M Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red to Central. This discussion group for all ages m every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

LAFFAN
LAFFAN_Boston2004@yahoo.com for membershi formation. Lesbians Available For Fun and Netw

ing is a social and networking group that provides opportunities for women to connect with each other. Members receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. LAFFAN sponsors an annual Halloween dance and spring dances/benefits.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Monday Night Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). www.mnbl.net. 7:30 pm. The MNBL's 2005-06 bowling season runs Monday nights.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This support group is working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Newly Diagnosed Group
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and bisexual men who have been diagnosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men and bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Women Outdoors
Kayak/Canoe Washburn Island, Waquoit Bay, Falmouth (413-734-0276).www.women-outdoors.org. Sept. 9-11. Kayaking to the island and camping for all women, regardless of sexuality and age.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

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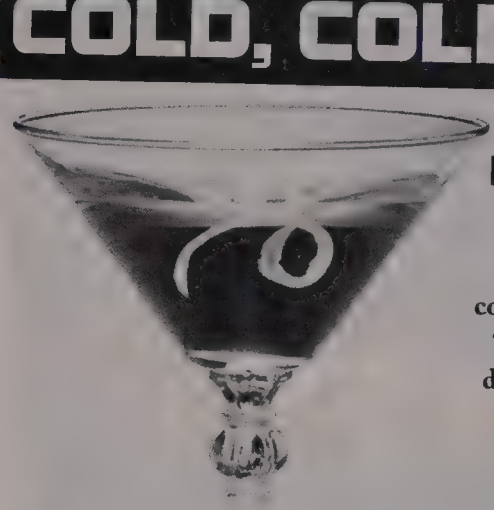

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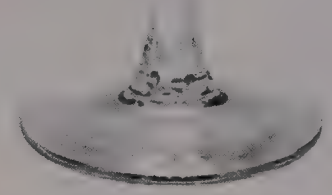

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Here's only ONE place to go for the best time this Halloween. Join *The Improper Bostonian*, WBCN and The Rack for the 11th Annual Halloween Fun Run

Thursday, October 27

at the West end of Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Registration is at 6PM, and the Fun Run begins at 7PM. Following the three-mile ghoulish jaunt around the Boston Common, join your fellow runners at The Rack for the official post-race party.

DON'T FORGET YOUR COSTUME!

ENTRY FEES
$30 ($35 on October 27th) includes T-shirt, goody bag & post party at The Rack. Post party includes buffet and one drink coupon. Must be 21+

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 1-800-966-0444.

GRAND PRIZE FOR BEST COSTUME
Prizes awarded to top three male and female race runners.

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation · The Improper Bostonian Magazine · The Rack · Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston · WBCN 104.1 FM · Bar Clif · Crystal Light · Samuel Adams · Road ID RoadID.com · FACTSET · TOBI Tobramycin Inhalation Solution USP

body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Boston Women's Show
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-474-6000 or 781-290-0488). www.nationalwomenshow.com/boston or www.chiwellness.com. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Oct. 14-16. Enjoy fashion shows, food, makeovers and more. In addition, the Chi Wellness Clinic will offer presentations on how acupuncture and Chinese medicine can be used for fertility and women's well-being.

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 21, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-$10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone welcome. All dances taught and accompanied by live music.

Healing Arts Fest and Medium's Day
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. Oct. 22, 10 am-4 pm. $20, $15 for seniors and students. Holistic healers demonstrate reiki, shiatsu, quantum biofeedback, Chinese medicine and more. Receive a free private reading from a psychic medium.

Khenpo Tsultrim Gyamsto Rinpoche
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.shambhalaboston.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Oct. 21-23, 9 am-5 pm. $175 (financial assistance available). Please preregister. Khenpo Rinpoche hosts the program Perfect Purity: The Ultimate Meaning of the Transcendent Wisdom Sutras, a discussion of Buddhist songs.

Make Strides Against Breast Cancer
DCR Hatch Memorial Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston (1-800-ACS-2345). www.cancer.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles. Oct. 16. Registration: 8-10 am. The American Cancer Society hosts this annual benefit, now in its 13th year. Walkers start at the Hatch Shell for a 5-mile walk throughout the city to raise funds for breast cancer research, education, advocacy and patient support programs.

Lecture

Wednesday Night Dharma Talk
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Oct. 12 and 19, 5:30-9 pm. $5. The center features a weekly gathering for meditation along with discussion on meditation practice and the Buddha's teachings, followed by tea and socializing.

Classes

Buddy Massage
All That Matters, 315 Main St., Wakefield, R.I. (401-782-2126). www.allthatmatters.com. Oct 16, 1:30-4:30 pm. $75 per couple. Spend an afternoon learning a variety of massage techniques, including Thai and Swedish, and other ways to work out daily stress, aches and pains.

Ease Wedding Stress with Yoga
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., Boston (781-258-9187). www.i-do-yoga.com. Oct. 13, 7-9 pm. $35. Please preregister. Gather with other engaged yoga practitioners to ease wedding-related stress and practice being fully present for the Big Day. All levels welcome.

Join Boston's annual walk to fight breast cancer on Oct. 16

Healthy Posture Through Pilates
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Oct. 23, 11 am-1 pm. $25. Please preregister. Learn proper alignment, healthy posture and techniques for sitting, moving and lifting in a way that support healthy alignment while protecting your joints. Open to all levels.

Herbs for Vitality
Harmony Farm, 315 North St., Medfield. www.harmony-center.org or www.bostonherbalstudies.com. Oct. 15 and 16. $190 for the weekend or $95 for one day. Please preregister. Learn about Adaptogens, Chinese herbs for rebuilding vitality or *chi*. On Saturday through a lecture and medicinal plant walk, learn how these herbs work. On Sunday, explore Adaptogens' therapeutic applications in depth.

Introductory Tai Chi Class
Prydwen, 67 Broad St., 4th floor, Boston. www.prydwen.org/events.html. Oct. 16, 4-6 pm. Free. Tom Manning demonstrates Tai Chi Ch'uan, a practice developed to enhance and promote good health.

Meditation and Mindfulness
Spirit Earth Healing, 661 Mass. Ave. #8, Arlington (617-515-8826). www.spiritearthhealing.com. Oct. 25, 7-8:30 pm. $20. Learn how the practice of meditation and mindfulness can enhance well-being and how to incorporate these techniques into your daily life for stress reduction and balance.

Opening to Breathe
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 9 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circles-wisdom.com. Oct. 24, 7-9 pm. $35. Learn techniques associated with transformational breath, a practice that uses conscious awareness to open up restricted breathing and increase oxygen in the bloodstream to aid overall health. Open to all ages and levels.

Reiki Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass. Ave. #304, Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. Oct. 21, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Experience a relaxing reiki energy healing treatment.

Sex Tips for Guys
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 308A Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Oct. 1, 7:30-9:30 pm. $34. Open to men only. Kim Airshares tips on pleasuring women gathered from chats with hundreds of ladies. Learn about female anatomy, toys and tricks that will make you a team player. Taught in an encouraging and supportive atmosphere.

Wise Effort
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. Oct. 1, 10 am-4 pm. $60. The Buddha compared wisdom with tuning a lute: When the strings are either too tight or too loose, playing is difficult. In this meditation workshop, explore ways to find the middle path between the two extremes.

Yoga for Depression with Bo Forbes
Exhale Yoga, 28 Arlington St., Boston (617-536-7000). www.exhalespa.com. Oct. 15, 1:30-3:30 pm. $35. Learn about the physical and emotional aspects of depression and seasonal affective disorder. Dr. Bo Forbes, clinical psychologist and practitioner of alternative healing, teaches how yoga is used as a healing tool. Open to all levels.

Ongoing

Friday Night Chill Out
Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 6 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey.com. Fri., 6:30-8 pm. $15, drop-in. This class begins with sequenced Vinyasa postures loosening up muscles and sweating out tension, and closes with deep restorative yoga.

Kripalu Yoga: Vinyasa Flow Style
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness, 215 First St., Cambridge (617-491-8989). www.cambridgefitness.com or www.innerfocusyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Wed., 7:15- 8:30 pm. Drop-in, $10. Free parking. This moderately paced class focuses on breathing, proper alignment and posture safety. All levels welcome.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Bruins
TD Banknorth Garden, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2222
Oct. 20, 7 pm vs. Buffalo Sabres
Oct. 22, 7 pm vs. Pittsburgh Penguins

Events

Boogie Woogie 5K and Block Party
Magoun and Ball Sq., 518 Medford St., Somerville (508-775-0143). www.baevents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Oct. 23. 10 am. $20. This annual event features a walk or run through Somerville, as well as a post-race barbecue with live music, complimentary drinks and dancing. Proceeds to benefit Somerville High School track and football teams.

Capital Grille Golf Tournament
Black Rock Country Club, 19 Clubhouse Drive, Hingham (781-749-1919). www.pitchinginforkids.org. Oct. 17. 10:30 am. $3,000 per team. The first annual golf tournament, sponsored by the Capital Grille, includes a pre-game breakfast, a round of golf, lunch and four course wine dinner and live auction. All proceeds benefit Pitching in for Kids, which provides grants for children in the New England area.

An Evening with Champions
Bright Hockey Center, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-493-8172). www.aneveningwithchampions.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 14-15. 8 pm. $30; $10, children and seniors. Top figure skaters, including national, world and Olympic medalists, gather in an exhibition to benefit the Jimmy Fund and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed, year-round basketball leagues for players at all levels in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club (CRFC)
(617-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
215 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

Dogtime Boxing
17 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). www.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This boxing club offers training for competition, conditioning and recreation.

DODGEBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeball teams.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
1 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

JUDO

Phoenix Judo Club
Bayshore Athletic Club, 14 Plain St., Braintree (781-356-5303). www.phoenixjudo.com. Mon.,Wed. and Thu., 7:30-9:30 pm; Sat., 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Participants of all skill levels are invited to join.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www.worldkickball.com. Coed kickball leagues play throughout the fall in Boston and Somerville. Register online.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonRun@teamlunachix.com. Weekly runs Thu. at 6:30 pm. Women only. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bostonlunachix. Talking-pace 3- or 5-mile runs through the Fells.

SOCCER

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070). A series of indoor and outdoor soccer leagues start up this fall.

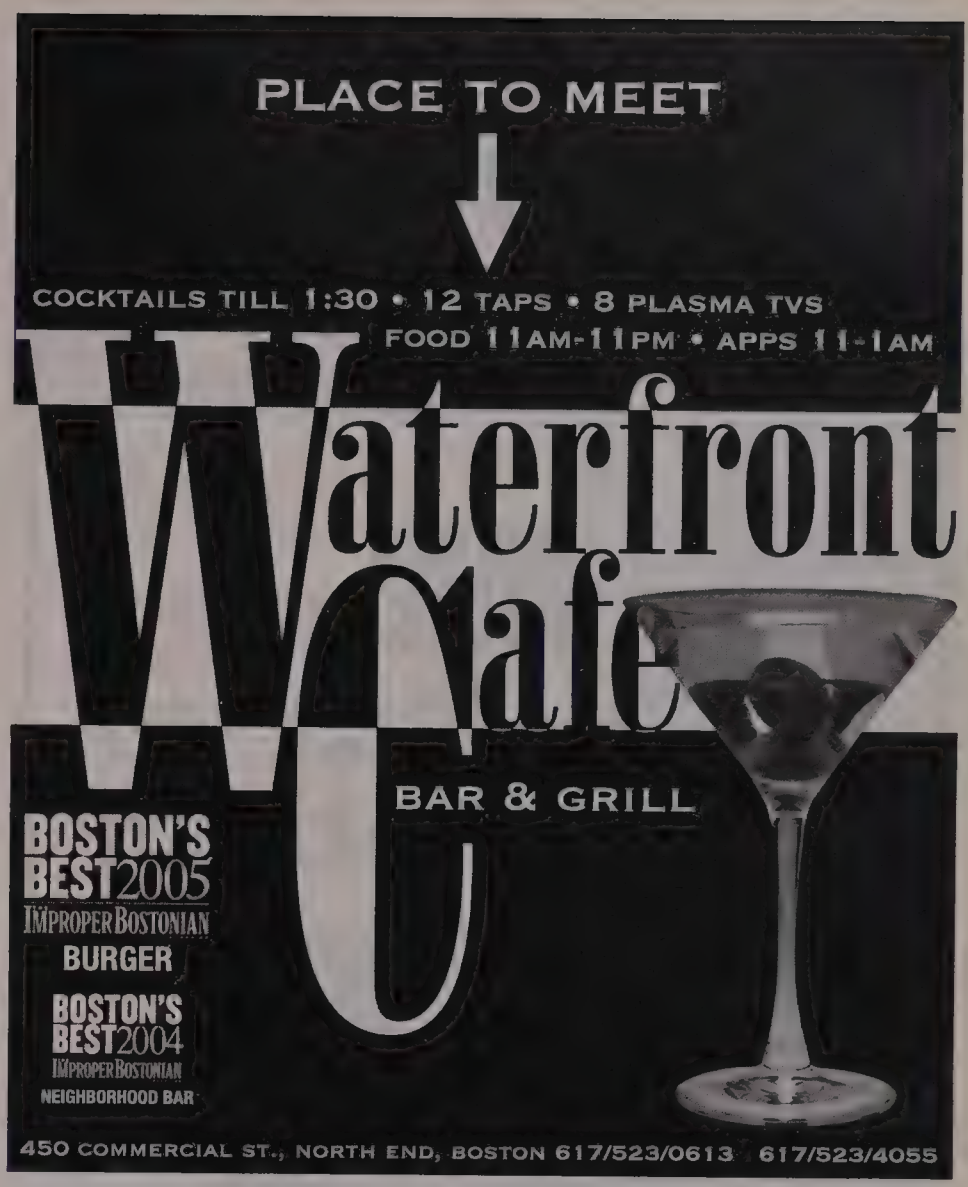
SWIMMING

Cambridge Masters Swim Club
www.cambridgemasters.com. The club offers coached workouts, social events and open-water swims.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

After a yearlong hiatus, the Bruins are back in town this October



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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students and children. •This short-form improv performance for the whole family includes interactive games.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $7.50, members; $9.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Oct. 12-13, 10:30 am. *Three Pigs and Other Tales* presents the stories of the Three Little Pigs and the Three Billy Goats Gruff. Recommended for ages 3-6. •Oct. 15-16, 1 pm and 3 pm. A child's stuffed animals come to life in *Eeyore's Birthday*. Recommended for ages 3-7.•Oct. 19-20, 10:30 am. *Fox Tales* brings to life the fun tricks surrounding the Sneaky Fox. Recommended for ages 3-6.

Things to Do

Boston Conservatory
8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222), www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. Free. •Oct. 22, 2 pm. The Conservatory's Seully Hall presents a children's opera performance of *Little Red's Most Unusual Day*. Recommended for ages 5-12.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. •A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail is designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide. Through Oct. 31.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Oct. 15, 2:30 pm. Join Boston city archeologist **Ellen Berkland** for a discussion of toys of the past in *Toy Stories from Long Ago*. Activities for children will also be provided, including a marble-making workshop. Recommended for ages 5 and up. •Oct. 16, 2 pm for ages 6 and 7, 3 pm for ages 8 and up. Learn basic Chinese calligraphy. No prior knowledge is necessary. All materials are provided.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
42 Brattle St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. •Oct. 16, 3 pm. Solar Winds Chamber Ensemble performs *Peter and the Wolf* for an audience of all ages in an interactive musical program.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Thu., Sat.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •Oct. 8, 11:30 am-1:30 pm. *Kitchen Science: No Blow Balloons*. Perform a science experiment and learn how to blow up a balloon without using your breath.•Tue., 10:30 am. *Tasty Tuesdays* lets children try a variety of snacks. •The exhibit *Adventures with Clifford the Big Red Dog* invites families to explore Birdwell Island, where the Clifford books take place, and features a 9-foot-tall Clifford. Through Jan. 8. •The *Amazing Castle* allows children to experience a medieval village and make medieval-themed arts and crafts. Ongoing. •The Art Studio invites parents and children to create works of art together. Ongoing.

Coolidge Corner Theater
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •*Oct. 15, 10:30 am. $10 adults, $8 children and members.* Two-time Grammy winners Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer present their latest CD of children's music.

Franklin Park Zoo
1 Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. $9.50, adults; $5.50, ages 2-12; free, ages 2 and under. •The 72-acre site includes a farmyard petting zoo, lions in the *Kalahari Kingdom*, a butterfly garden, gorillas in the *Africa Tropical Forest Habitat* and kangaroos in the *Australian Outback*.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400), www.frenchlib.org. Oct. 15, 3-5 pm. $40 nonmembers, $30 members. Children learn cooking and etiquette with Samantha von Sperling, president of Polished Social Image Consultants.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000), www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •Tue., 11 am. Preschool story time is held each week. •Sat., 11 am. Creative arts and crafts activities are offered for children under 7.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults; $6, students; $5, ages 3-18. •Every Sat., 9 am-$35. Saturday Scholar sessions give children the opportunity to learn about their world through hands on activities.

McMullen Museum
Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-558-6447). www.ncacboston.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon. through Fri. 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun. 12 pm-5 pm. •Oct. 22- Nov. 27. Designed for students in grades 6-12, *Welcome to My Salon* is aimed at developing children's verbal mastery while making connections with Jewish history.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). www.web.mit.edu/museum. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5, adults; $2, seniors, students and ages 5-18; free, children under 5. •Oct. 16. The MIT Museum offers free admission the third Sunday of every month. View exhibits ranging from historic clipper ships to robots and new inventions.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300), www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum of Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, ages 6-17 on weekdays before 3 pm; free, ages 5 and under. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30 pm. *Books Bring Art Alive* with arts and crafts for ages 5 and under. •Mon.-Fri. 3:30 pm. The Children's Room offers programs for ages 6-12 that allow children to explore the museum's exhibits and participate in art projects, creative drama, poetry and music.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9 am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14, adults; $12, seniors, $11, children. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm. *Animals and Stories Alive!* combines a live animal presentation with mythical and folk storytelling. Ongoing. •*Beyond the X-Ray* features four major exhibits that explore how doctors peer inside the human body without cutting. Ongoing. •Butterflies and flowers are on display in the permanent *Butterfly Garden*. •*Countdown to Supernova*, at the Hayden Planetarium, explores the life cycles of stars. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibit that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Science Live!* features live animals and multimedia presentations surrounded by natural history dioramas. Ongoing.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, adults; $13.95, seniors; $8.95, children ages 3-11. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through Dec. 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •The Simmons IMAX Theatre features *Wild Safari*, *Sharks 3-D* and *Aliens of the Deep*. Ongoing.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.newtonfreelibrary.net. •Oct. 13 and 20, 7 pm. Play reading workshop for children ages 9 and up. • Oct. 14 and 21, 10:30 am. Showing of preschool films. •Oct. 17 and 24, 7 pm. Poetry writing workshop for children ages 8 and 9. •Oct. 18, 7 pm. Parent and child book discussion for children in 4th and 5th grades. •Oct. 25, 10:30 am. Preschool sing-a-longs.

TD Banknorth Garden
100 Legends Way, Boston (617-624-1050). www.banknorthgarden.com. Oct. 7-16. $12-$94. •*Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus* presents the 134th edition of *The Greatest Show on Earth*. For show times check the TD Banknorth Garden Web site.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-3855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9; children ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1-year-olds, $2; under 1 year old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston. www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.mnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children ages 3-18, $5; Harvard students with valid ID, free; Wed., 3-5 pm, Sun., 9 am-12 pm, free.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and college students with valid ID, $8; ages 13-17, $7; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Guided walking tours available by special request. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, $13; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children ages 6-17 and seniors, $3; children under 6, free.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun. and holidays, 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State St. Daily, 9:30 am-5 pm. $5; seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). www.bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State St. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; seniors and students, $4; children ages 6-18, $1; members, children under 6, free.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $7.50; with college ID, $7.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). www.trinityboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Daily, 10 am-6 pm. $5; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a foster-care or adopted child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 100 volunteer opportunities are available each month.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012 ext. 227). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers over 18 for kitchen, office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145 ext. 620). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor students in math and literacy and prepare high school students for the MCAS.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000 ext. 7508). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. Help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501 ext. 201). www.helplineonline.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-927-0648). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900 ext. 113). www.horizonsinitiative.org. Volunteer to help homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620 ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). www.lvm.org. Teach adults to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-972-9119). www.mabcommunityservices.org. Read to or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelder.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org. Volunteer as an aquarium guide and more.

Parental Stress Line
(1-800-882-1250). Counsel parents and caregivers and facilitate support groups.

Pine Street Inn
(617-892-9187). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740 ext. 15). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111 ext. 17). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). www.respondinc.org. Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). www.rosies.org. Volunteers needed for this women's homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

Tackling life's toughest questions like,

"You gonna eat that pickle?"

Being a friend is all it takes to be a Big Brother or Big Sister. No matter what you do together, you'll not only have a perspective to share, you'll have one to receive as well. Become a Big Brother or Big Sister today and make the little things count more in your life.

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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

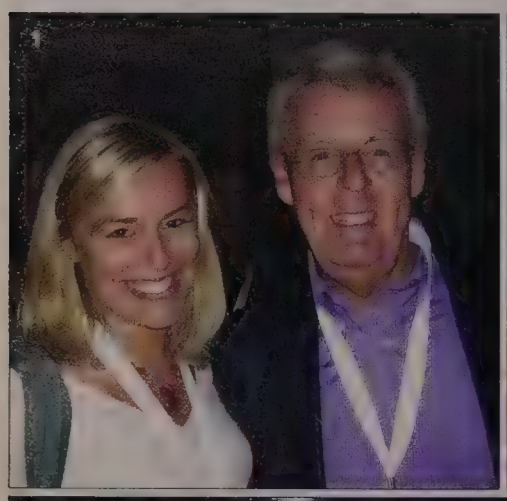
On, Tuesday, September 20, the **Improper Bostonian** was proud to be a sponsor of the 45th annual **Francis W. Hatch Awards**. Guests enjoyed a Hatch exhibit and cocktails at **Embassy** and **The Modern**, and the awards show was held at **Avalon**.

1. **Jocelyn Sloane**, operations assistant; **Stephanie Brown**, account manager; **Rachel Krouse** and **Natalie Puccio**, both assistant account managers, all for Arnold.
2. **Adam Goodwin**, assistant to the president of The Ad Club, and **Michele Carletti**, manager of events & programs for The Ad Club.
3. **Heather Towsley**, director of business development; **Leslie Wade**, assistant media planner and buyer; and **Emmy Jonassen**, creative services coordinator, all of ISM Travel & Leisure Marketing.

On Saturday, September 24, the **Improper Bostonian** was a sponsor of the **Phantom Gourmet Food Festival**, "The Greatest Menu Ever Assembled"! Restaurants and food companies were handpicked by the Phantom Gourmet, each serving up one special, signature item. The event was held on Lansdowne Street and several of the street's world famous clubs were open for "parties within a party."

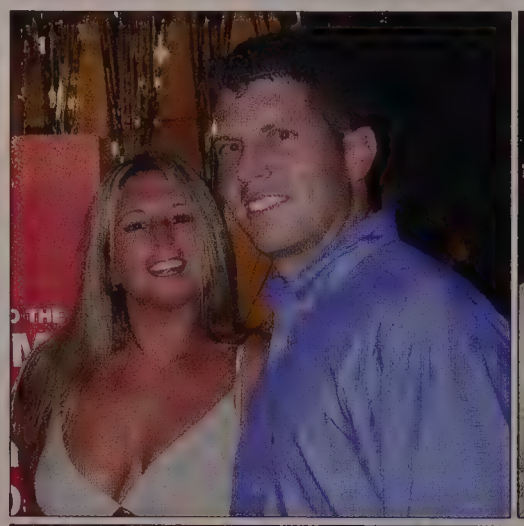
1. **Kyle Tancrell**, owner/proprietor of Coast to Coast Models, and **Adam Marks**, event staff for Phantom Gourmet Food Festival.
2. **Jessie Whitford**, promotion coordinator; **Kate Ronan**, account manager, both at Magic 106.7FM; and **Danielle Cirigliano**, PR associate for Pan Communications.
3. **Ray Montgomery**, general manager of Avalon, Embassy and The Modern; **Eric Aulenback**, senior VP of operations; and **Steve Coyle**, senior VP of operations, all of Lyons Group Management.

On Wednesday, September 28, the **Improper Bostonian** was pleased to be a sponsor of the 18th annual **Boston Music Awards** held at **Avalon**. Guests enjoyed some of the wonderful music that is produced by artists with strong ties to the Boston area.



1. **Meghan Campbell**, account executive at Elevate Communications, and **Peter Gammons**, analyst for ESPN.
2. **Mike Leonard**, director of new busines for TRP Sports and Entertainment, and **John Barber**, drummer for Rocketscience.
3. **Apollo Sunshine**.

On Monday, September 26, **Brahma** beer held its launch party at **Villa Victoria**. Guests enjoyed an evening of Brazilian entertainment and great prizes.



1. **Carol Francolini**, territory sales manager, and **JC Panio**, regional manager-MA, both of InBev USA.
2. **Hildo Costa**, president, and **Juliana Melo**, public relations, both of Café Belô.
3. **Dan Africk**, sales for Clear Channel; **Shawn Manning**, reality show "Gilligan" on *Gilligan's Island*; **Jackye Colligan**, sales manager for Clear Channel; and **Mike Lennon**, owner of Boston Media.

PHOTOS: HATCH AWARDS, STACEY SHANE/JULIE KANE; PHANTOM GOURMET, BOSTON MUSIC AWARDS, STACEY SHANE; BRAHMA, DAN GALBOIS

&

Mixable

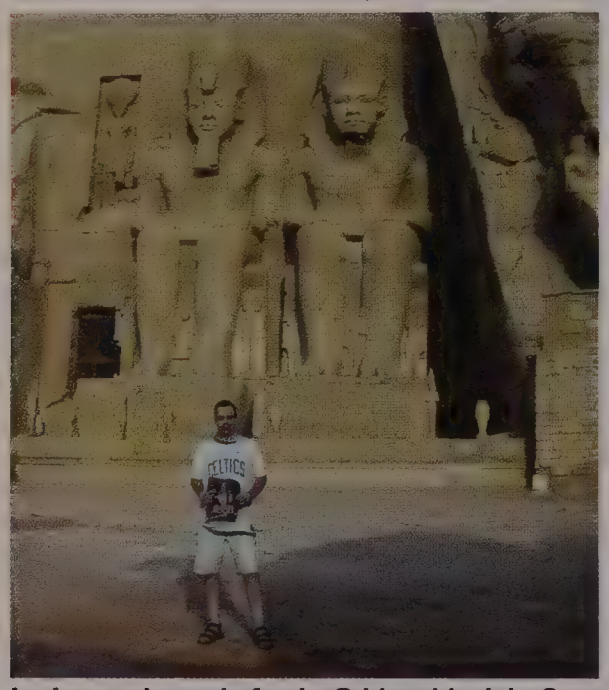
THE PERFECT 10

Bourbon

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP.

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Joe Ivona, who works for the Celtics, visited the Sun Temple of Ramses II in Egypt. Ramses II was quite the baller back in his day, but now he's just a stiff.

Royal Canadian Mounties George Horan and Jim Penton can simultaneously read the IMPROPER, ride a horse and balance a beach pail on their heads. We're jealous. Wait...no, we aren't.

Jake Bauer, Sarah Peterson and Curtis LeGeyt snapped a photo on a fjord in Flåm, Norway. Next year, Flåm will unveil a smaller version of the fjord called the Fjord Focus.

Capt. Jack Hastings and Sgt. Richard Steele brandished their heat, their IMPROPER and their beards in this photo taken during their current tour of duty in Afghanistan.

Ana and Alex Cecilio horsed around in the Dominican Republic, and look very pleased about making us write two horse jokes in one issue.

Georgia Wingrove (front left) and friends played monkey-in-the-middle in Florence, Italy, against a statue of San Giovanni Battista. Guess who won?

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Crushing an opponent's scissors with their rock at the 2005 Rock Paper Scissors International World Championships held October 22 in Toronto.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

Congratulations Arnold Worldwide

Over 650 packed the Avalon ballroom to celebrate New England Advertising at

The 45th Annual Francis W. Hatch Awards.

Best of Show

Jetta A5 Integrated Campaign

(Left to Right) Alan Pafenbach, Julian Newman, Jamieson Weeks, Barbara McFayden, Jen Wells, Colin Jeffery, Alex Russell, Dave Weist, Dan Vlahos **(Not Pictured)** Ron Lawner, Betty Egan, Adele Ellis, Mike Gatti, Paul Lee, Brandon Sides, Roger Baldacci, Mark Billows, Kerry Lynch, Pete Shamon, Susan Ebling Corbo, Raoul Kim, Paulo Lopez

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The Ad Club / www.adclub.org

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

will publish its annual

BACHELORS & BACHELORETTES

issue in February 2006

Please nominate your favorite local single guy or gal to be featured in this issue.

PLEASE INCLUDE:

Your name _____

Your phone number and e-mail address _____

_____

Your nominee's name, phone number, e-mail address

and the local city where he/she lives _____

_____

Tell us why he/she is a catch. Be specific. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

His/her occupation and age _____

(Please include a recent color photo, or high-res digital image, of your friend)

MAIL NOMINATIONS TO:
The Improper Bostonian
Attn: Bachelor/Bachelorette Nomination
142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116
or
e-mail to Bostonbach@improper.com

Please note that you can't nominate yourself and you must provide all of the above information in order to qualify.

Entries must be received no later than October 21, 2005

rockie horoscope

OCTOBER 12 – 25, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Things could lighten up considerably now that your Venus ruler is in bright and bushy-tailed Sagittarius where she can party to her heart's content. While the Libra sun might receive mixed messages from dreamy Neptune in your house of romance and other entertainments, the ensuing ambiguity can inspire a wave of creativity and self-expression. If a change of heart follows shortly thereafter, chalk it up to Venus and your relationship with a bona fide eccentric who has found a place in your heart.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Your annual infusion of common sense and critical acuity arrived with the entrance of Mercury into Scorpio on the 8th. Be glad that Mercury's talent for discerning the difference between fabulous and fatuous will be very much with you when you create your Halloween costume and make plans for this year's celebration. However, on the big night itself, Mercury will have moved on, no doubt taking your better judgment with it. Happily, protective, prosperous Jupiter enters yours sign on the 25th for 13 months of good fortune.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Sociable Venus establishing residence in your sign means that the party season has begun. One of the gifts the goddess offers while she's still around is an ability to turn you, like Cinderella, into a more attractive, more popular character. Better get a fashionable new look ASAP, because, like the stroke of midnight, November 5 will arrive sooner than you think and Venus will be gone. But not until she shakes things up at your house by challenging unpredictable Uranus just before the full moon eclipse on the 17th.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Untouched by human hands. Well, not until the 16th, when affectionate Venus gives your Saturn ruler a heartfelt hug a few hours before the lunar eclipse Monday morning. That weekend is also when you might want to check out a livelier social scene and when you're liable to look more kindly on a restrictive partnership arrangement. And while no one is acting contrite, both parties may be searching for a more creative solution to the problem, e.g., asking for a mediator's suggestion or a mutual friend's contribution.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Finally the mystical, magical Water Bearer rises, like the Lady of the Lake, from the depths of wherever Neptune has been hiding you. Thank the literate Libra sun for shining light and levity on vaporous Neptune in your sign. Whether you want the spotlight on you is another matter altogether; nonetheless, it's there for the taking. How much aggravation will it cause your employer, embarrass your parents or annoy the authorities? It depends on how well you word your message and the extent of your popularity.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Check out the Aquarius forecast since it's your Neptune ruler that's attracting so much attention. However, when it comes to your personal life and the changes you're going through, innovative Uranus in your sign is to blame. Or, if you're enjoying breaking new ground and winging it, Uranus is to thank. While ideas and conversations will flow freely now that Mercury is in watery Scorpio, a romantic relationship or a friendship might encounter interference when Venus squares Uranus and tests the new criteria, or lack thereof.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

The recent shift of the personal planets, especially Mars' flip into retrograde, can impact on what you perceive to be "progress." Venus in fiery Sagittarius may be a blessing in disguise, since the goddess is gearing up to bestow a blessing of some kind on you—if not an impressive gift then perhaps someone worth cherishing. Nosy Mercury in Scorpio since the 8th is busily searching for valuable information about a financial matter, which should be revealed when the Messenger opposes your Mars ruler around the 22nd.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

The struggle you've been quietly going through, as exemplified by your Venus ruler's opposition to militant Mars, is over. Venus has moved out of Scorpio, the sign of your more significant others, and is prancing through footloose, fancy-free, philosophical Sagittarius until Guy Fawkes Day. Evidence that your feelings have changed can show up when sparks between Venus and rebellious Uranus are ignited around October 13. But you don't have to burn down Parliament to convince the world that you're committed to your ideals.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

So much for the "fair and balanced' Libra attitude. Now that your Mercury ruler is in Scorpio, you're likely to become much more intense about how you're feeling and what you're thinking. That Mercury is treading the fine line between appreciation and application, between your fifth house of pleasure and sixth house of service, can complicate matters and make decisions that much harder to reach. But once you do, the stubborn Scorpionic attitude could keep you from changing your mind, even when the facts suggest otherwise.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Moon Children born in June might surprise themselves with their acute observations and innovative ideas. That's because mercurial Mercury in watery Scorpio tends to uncover hidden information while electrical Uranus in watery Pisces creates random flashes of brilliance. Since Mercury, like time, is fleeting, these thoughts may be gone before you have a chance to act on them, let alone write them down. The Aries full moon eclipse on the 17th occurs in every Crab's career zone. If you sense a change coming, update your resume.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Leos are such romantics, such pure-hearted folks, that you may have misinterpreted the message conveyed when nebulous Neptune in your marriage house favored your sun ruler last weekend. Before you go any further, be sure to clarify what you understand to be true. If you need to feel more sure of yourself, bide your time until loving Venus in Sagittarius supports Saturn in your sign on the 16th. That's also a good time to invest in a high-end product that can provide years of pleasure and satisfaction. See, Saturn isn't all that bad.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

You might be in for one surprise after another as first your curious Mercury ruler and then amenable Venus reach out to erratic, erotic Uranus in your Pisces house of partners. No matter what you learn or how you react, try to keep the lines of communication open and your position fairly flexible. This could be easier said than done while Mercury transits Scorpio, a firmly fixed sign, for the rest of the month. A lunar eclipse across your money axis on the 17th should confirm the sneaky suspicion you had at the solar eclipse on the 3rd.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Eagle in Death Valley

So this is a shot in the dark, but it is days after BC's victory over Clemson and I'm still regretting that I didn't talk to you. You: the beautiful blonde BC cheerleader with a killer smile (and the only one not wearing a ribbon in your hair). Me: one of the outnumbered and rowdy BC fans who traveled to Death Valley, SC, to help our Eagles pull out a victory. I caught your eye on the chaotic field after the game but you must have been anxious to escape a long day in the 95-degree heat. How about grabbing a drink in Boston when we're not surrounded by 90,000 rednecks in orange overalls? Contact me at: still_curious_about_u@yahoo.com.
—Your Biggest Fan

So Over This...

Hey Richie. I'm sorry that you were so angry at me. I appreciate you inviting me to Paul McCartney, even though the tickets were single seats in the rafters, a few rows apart. I thought considering it was a "date" it would be nice to sit together. You told me you had single tickets closer. I figured for $125 sitting in the first row of the first loge would have been better—also being seated together to enjoy the show. Stupid me. Yelling at me and telling me that we don't communicate and saying "I can't do this anymore."

Well, considering we only were dating for a few weeks and you hadn't called me in eight days (even though I was worried and left you a few messages), am I the only one who doesn't communicate? Apparently you have anxiety and stress issues that you didn't want to talk about. You seem like a nice (yet neurotic) person. I wish you well. I'm sure you could have sold those tickets. If you are worried about money, stop going to expensive concerts, get rid of the cell phone you can't use because you only have 3 minutes a month and can only talk after 9 pm, stop renting cars and buy one, and get rid of the apartment you never sleep in. Geez. PS: Grow up.
—S

I Got Your Number

To: 725 ESU, Mass. Plate...
COMMERCIAL license plates allow you to park anywhere without regard to the parking restrictions ordinarily imposed in neighborhoods that require permits. I suggest you get some if you are going to continue your prestigious job as a delivery boy in your black sports car. That way, you can avoid the temptation to try to run over people who try politely to tell you your car will be towed if you are not a visitor with a permit. And I realize you need not worry about this in the North End, where your resident stickers were issued, since your neighbors are famous for slashing the tires of violent, inconsiderate jerks like you. The ENTIRE Porter Square neighborhood—where you and your foul mouth committed battery on Friday, September 23, at 12:40 pm, when you threw your car into park, steered it into the street and jammed your foot on the gas pedal before I had stepped away from your window—has UNMETERED, FREE parking along Mass. Ave., just around the corner from where you took a space I could have used when I came home and had to park a block away and haul five bags of groceries back up the street.
—Overheated

Come to These Often?

I got in line for a drink at the Boston Common party and some guy approached my friend, but we'd nodded in one another's direction. You were tall and blonde (brunette friend). I was tall and dark blonde. I may be a big dork, but you were quite good-looking! Respond to megsie1114@yahoo.com.
—Hopelessly Waiting

Let Me Summit Up

You get on at Summit and often end up standing at the far end of the second car. It's impossible not to notice you—classic, tasteful clothes; coordinated, not overstated jewelry; and, well, beautiful. Simply said, it is a treat to see you in the mornings. Today is 9/21 and you managed to outdo yourself. That short-sleeved, green sweater (wool, maybe cashmere) with the green satin tie in the back...It may as well have big, embroidered letters that say "Hug Me." I feel lucky to see you most mornings. And there must be some very lucky guy out there who has you every day. Even so, I hope you don't mind at least one admirer on the C Line.
—Madly Infatuated

Eye Catching

On Sept. 19, I got on a Braintree train at South Station around lunchtime. You, the cute blonde girl with a White Sox hat, white top, cut-off jeans & reefs. We kept making eye contact. Seconds later I was at my stop. I had no time to say anything to you, so I hope you might read the IMPROPER. If you see this, drop me a line at redline091905@hotmail.com.
—A Big Fan of Yours

Get a Grip

On the evening of September 14, I had the pleasure of riding a B Line train from Government Center with the dumbass-masshole- "Yankees Suck" psycho. To that man, who was blatantly drinking a 40 on the T and screaming at everyone, you give true Red Sox fans a bad name with your ignorant and rude behavior. Plus, you made an already unpleasant experience (riding the B Line) even more so, and you caused me to write in to the IMPROPER for the first time!
—A True Sox Fan

Too Cool for...the Bus

Can I just comment on the guy who always drives a Vespa to work every day! You leave it on Berkeley St. and I'm always in awe of your chic transportation. While I trudge to the T and/or bus every day, you just fasten your helmet and speed away. And do you have multiple Vespas in different colors to match your outfit? That would be hot.
—Envious of Your Ride

How About That Loony

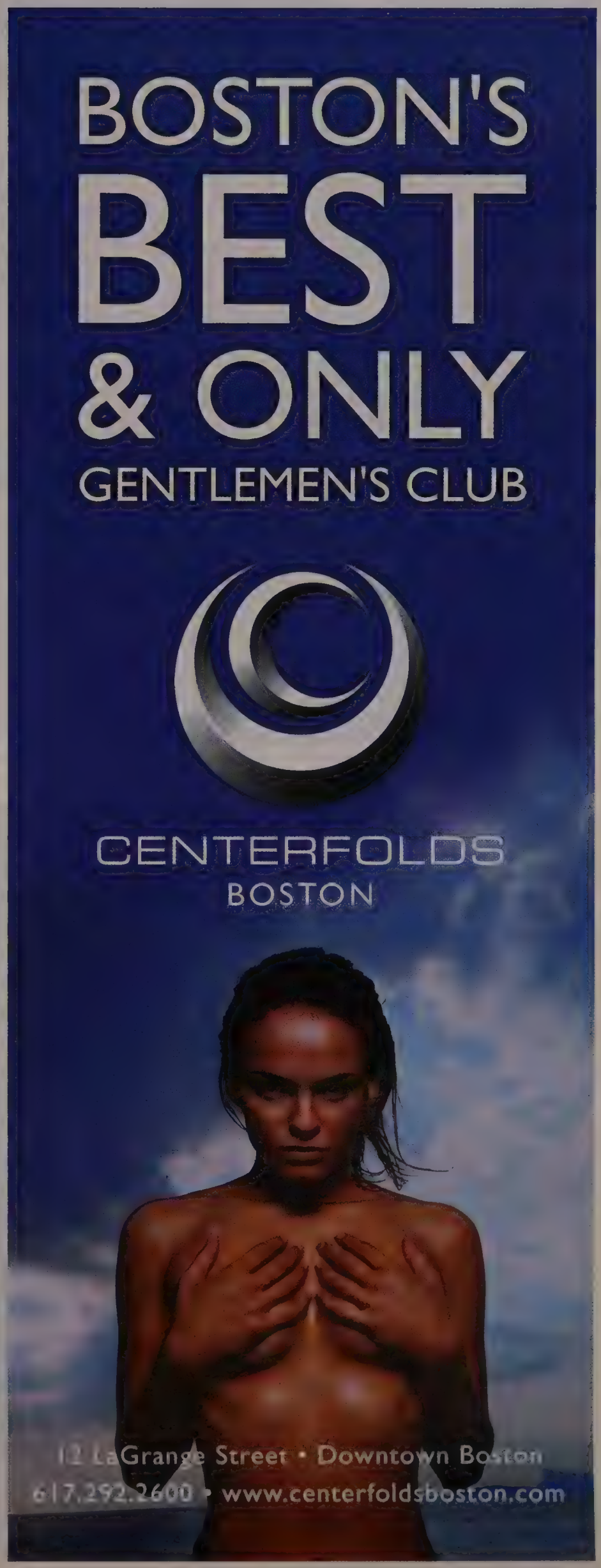
Have you ever seen the crazy old man on the corner of Park St. and Beacon outside the Statehouse 24/7? He yells about anything and everything wrong with this country. And he's dressed to kill in his 1950s wool blazer, button-down and hospital sunglasses—even in 90-degree weather. I think we should elect him as a state representative; he obviously puts in more hours than anyone on Beacon Hill!
—Involved Citizen

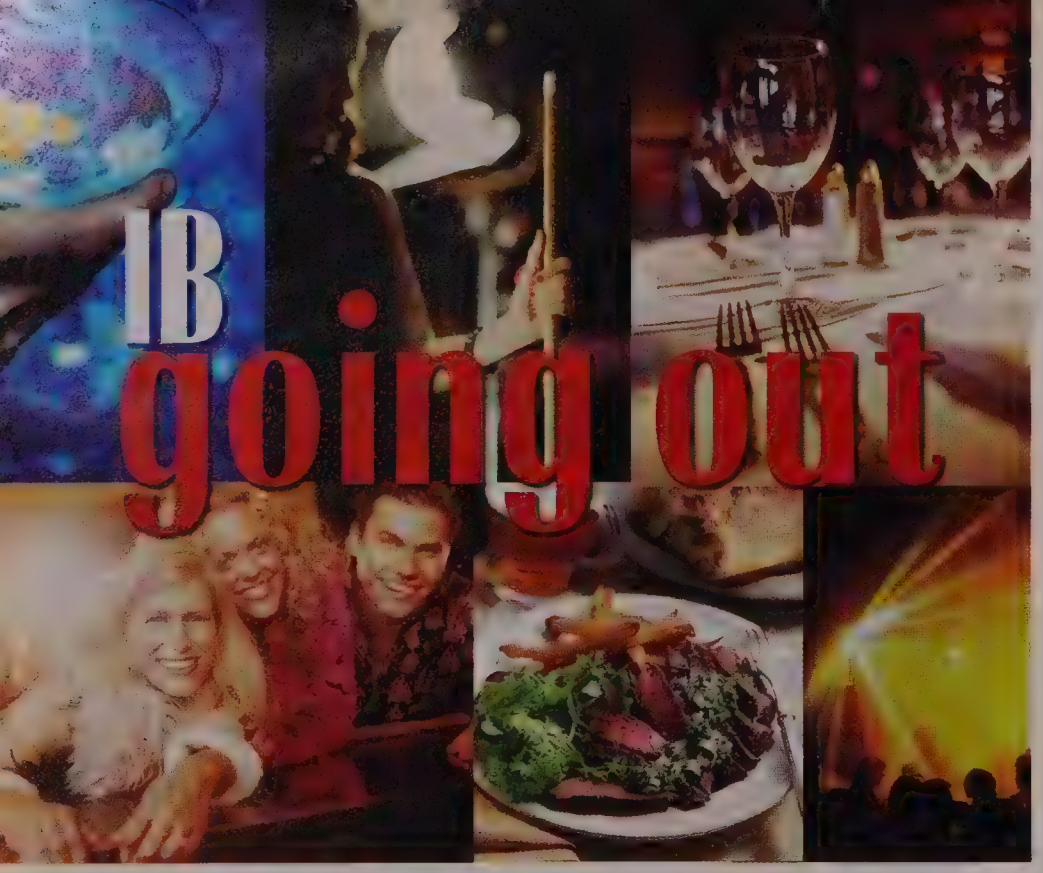
Hosts with the Most

What I did was rude and thoughtless; what you did afterward was malicious and spiteful. My actions made me a bad guest; yours made you bad friends. My behavior demonstrated a lack of good judgment; yours, a lack of decency.
—Portia

Was It Something I Said?

I thought we had a great time and a good connection. I was really surprised when I didn't hear from you. Maybe you enjoy laughing at the Impersonals too and will see this. I would love to get together again. Email me at southie_girl8@hotmail.com with what I said was my favorite thing about myself, and then we can chat.
—Still Interested





RESTAURANTS

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

MATCH *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* This modern restaurant/lounge maintains an unpretentious yet hip vibe. A sleek fire display and glass wine room are just two of its many features. Match's signature mini burgers and martinis are guaranteed to please the most discriminating palate. Match music has a distinct early evening lounge feel with the beat and volume picking up as the night progresses. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255.* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'-Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

Everything looks better in COLOR

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SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

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Comedy

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General

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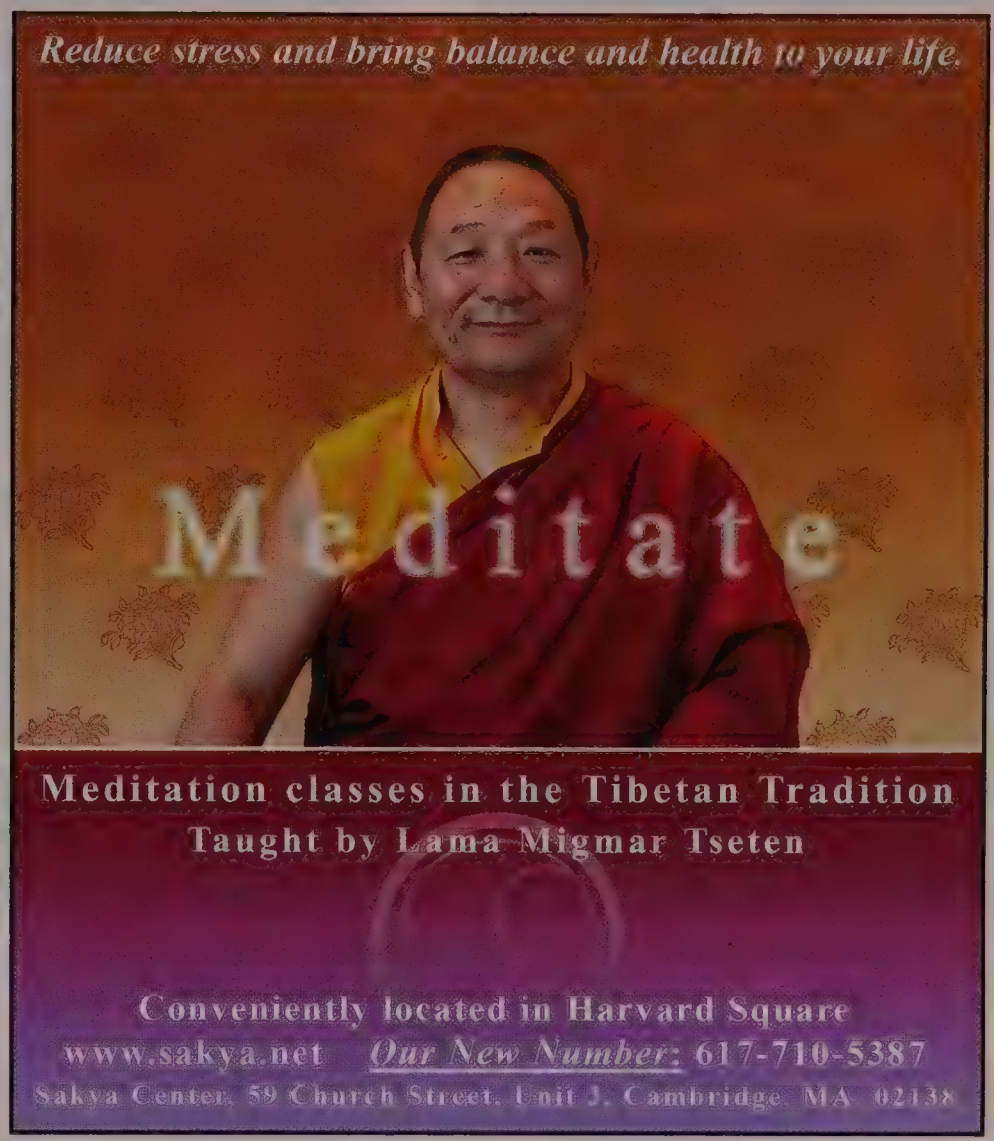

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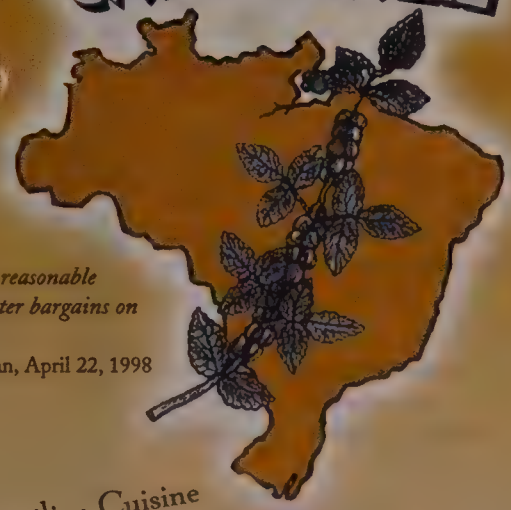

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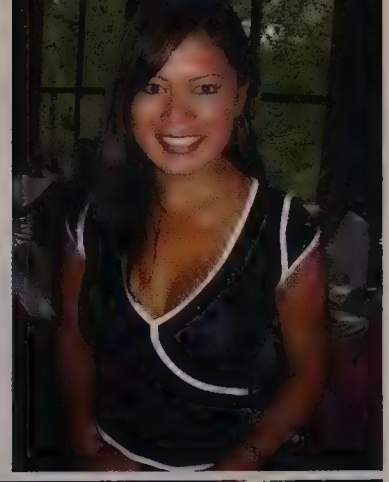


At From Fenway to the Runway, top row: Hazel Mae. Middle row: Stacey Lucchino and Jaime Mannion; Darlene Jordan and Peggy Henry. Bottom row: Juliana Ramirez modeling; Randi Cutler.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE LUNCHEON...

Being married to a demigod can't be easy. Take the **Red Sox Wives**. They have to deal with their husbands' frequent absences, chronic injuries, tobacco chewing, athlete's foot, body odor, etc., not to mention behaving graciously when perfect strangers interrupt a romantic dinner or a day out with the kids by approaching their spouses and asking for autographs.

And yet they still find it in their hearts to host **From Fenway to the Runway**, a luncheon and fashion show of clothing from the shops at **Heritage on the Garden**, held at **Excelsior** to raise money for the **Women's Cancer Programs at Dana-Farber**.

The afternoon got underway with Chardonnay and canapés in the bar, before everyone was ushered upstairs for a yummy lunch of heirloom tomato salad, a turbin of sole and warm blueberry cake, while the toothsome likes of **Juliana Ramirez**, **Tiffany Ortiz**, **Kathryn Nixon**, **Michelle Damon** and **Jacque Francona** modeled the latest by such designers as **Anne Fontaine**, **Escada**, **St. John**, **Marina Rinaldi** and **Sonia Rykiel**.

Looking on and looking equally glamorous were such high-profile types as owners' wives **Peggy Henry** and **Stacey Lucchino**, the afternoon's emcees, Channel 4 anchorbabe **Lisa Hughes** and NESN's stunning **Hazel Mae**, the statuesque **Jaime Mannion**, blonde bombshell **Darlene Jordan**, swanlike socialite **Stephanie Warburg**, the soignée **Jane Roy**, impossibly chic natural beauty **Randi Cutler**, Red Sox VP **Meg Vaillancourt**, and Back Bay glamazon **Patty Ribicoff** (who was celebrating her birthday), among numerous, equally glittery others.

A lively auction followed with bidding that soared into the stratosphere, but perhaps the afternoon's biggest hit was saucy, snacky chef **Eric Brennan**, who said, "A lot of men dream of running the Red Sox. My dream is to be in a room full of 150 gorgeous women, so thank you for making my dream come true."

Apparently, flattery will get you everywhere.

A WHALE OF A TIME...

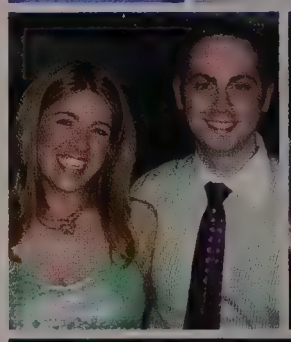
All the big fish—not to mention a few sharks and a bottom-feeder or two—were on hand for the **New England Aquarium's Go Fish! Gala**, held under a big, beautifully decorated tent on Central Wharf.

The evening's honorees were philanthropist **David Rockefeller, Jr.**, who walked to the party from his nearby waterfront condo, and *Jaws* author **Peter Benchley**, who scared everyone out of the water 30 years ago and has spent his time ever since trying to get everyone not to hate sharks (a helluva PR challenge).

The social swim surrounding them included such worthies as co-chairs **Nina Hunnewell** (with the oddly named Og) and **Jill Spaulding**, board chair **Bill Burgess,** the very gorgeous **Carolyn Campanelli** and her banking bigwig husband, **Joe**, high-powered lawyer **Ken Novak** and the lovely **Marianne**, uber-philanthropists **Hank** and **Lois Foster** and **John** and **Pamela Humphrey**, shockingly beautiful board member **Susan Spooner**, Brahmin party pair **Vicky** and **Tom Whitney**, interior design avatar **Eric Roseff** and his other half, figure skater **Colin Sullivan**, TV personality **Emily Rooney** and her delectable sidekick, **Jared Bowen**, hyperactive tractor heir **Stephens Dunne** and the fetching **Molly**, real estate kingpin **Roger Saunders** and his lovely other half, **Norma**, the eternally sparkly **Stewart Clifford**, lieutenant governor **Kerry Healey**, and one woman who responded to the compliment "You look fabulous" by saying, "Thanks. I'm impersonating a piece of seaweed."

Meanwhile, another guest speculated that the event was not black tie "because they didn't want anyone to upstage the penguins."

However, the evening's most amusing comment came from **Peter Benchley**, whose speech was momentarily drowned out by the roar of a jet taking off from Logan and who, without missing a beat, said, "I think my ride is here."



At lymphoma fundraiser, top row: Erik Schiecke; Taher Bouzayen and Ida Benouniche. Middle row: Kimberly Carberry and Oren Knishinsky; Robbin McKay. Bottom row: Davis Oksman, Melissa Kubit, Ben Taylor, Mike Posternak and Kathleen Cosgrove.

MEMO TO ANNOYING YOUNG MARRIEDS...

It's impossible to imagine a groovier group of young professionals than the crowd that gathered at the super-hip **Foundation Lounge** for a fundraiser—100 percent of the proceeds of which went to the research and treatment of lymphoma.

Elbow-to-elbow in the crowd were such bright young things as Tunisian playboy **Taher Bouzayen** and his beyond-gorgeous Algerian fiancée **Ida Benouniche**, ubiquitous hipster **Rob White**, radiant radiologist **Elaine Iuanow**, stunning redhead **Robbin McKay**, human resources babe **Katie Droy** and PR hottie **Kathleen Cosgrove**, the Steppingstone Foundation's **Mike Posternak**, B.U. Law cutie **Melissa Kubit**, alpha male **Ben Taylor**, marketing guru **David Oksman**, co-hosts **Kimberly Carberry** and **Oren Knishinsky** (who's fortunate not only for having survived lymphoma but for having the word "knish" in his last name), and real-estate-titan-in-training **Erik Schiecke**, among others.

While one woman explained to a friend the slang term "cougar" (an unmarried woman over 30 on the hunt for a sexual partner), another guest offered the following observation on the singles scene:

"I hate when couples go to bars and clubs. They should just stay home and cuddle, watch *Sleepless in Seattle* and leave the bars and clubs to single people like me." IB

At the Aquarium Go Fish! Gala, top row: Jared Bowen and Emily Rooney; Eric Roseff and Colin Sullivan. Bottom row: Peter and Wendy Benchley, and David Rockefeller, Jr.; Nina Hunnewell and Jill Spaulding.

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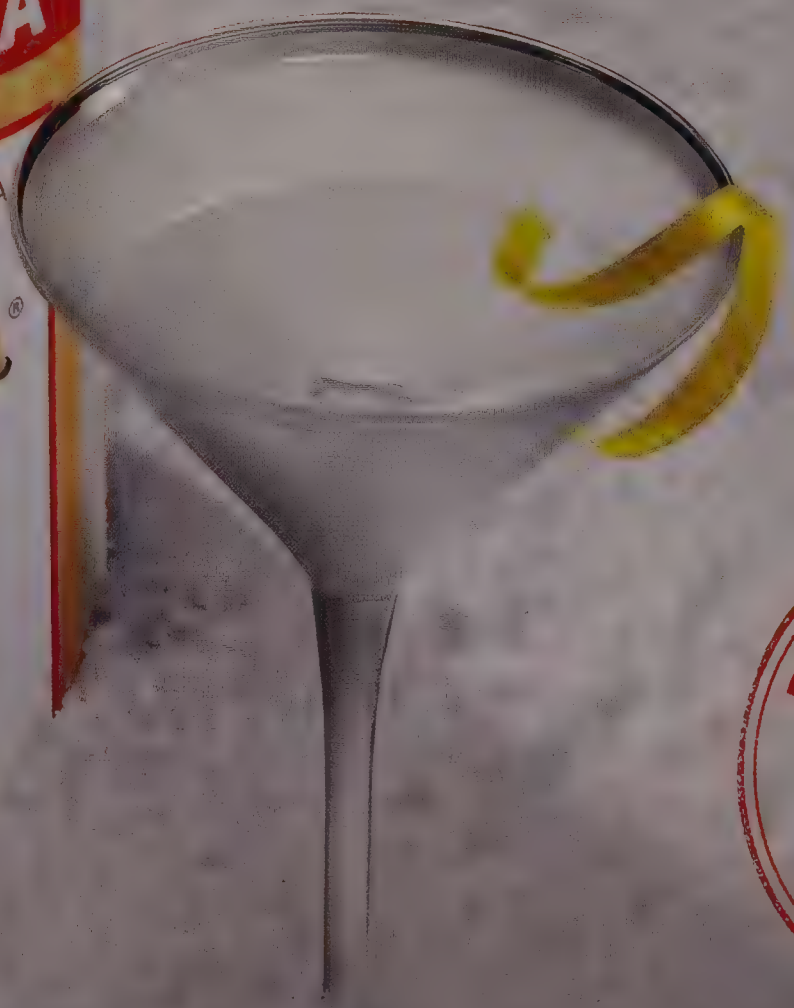

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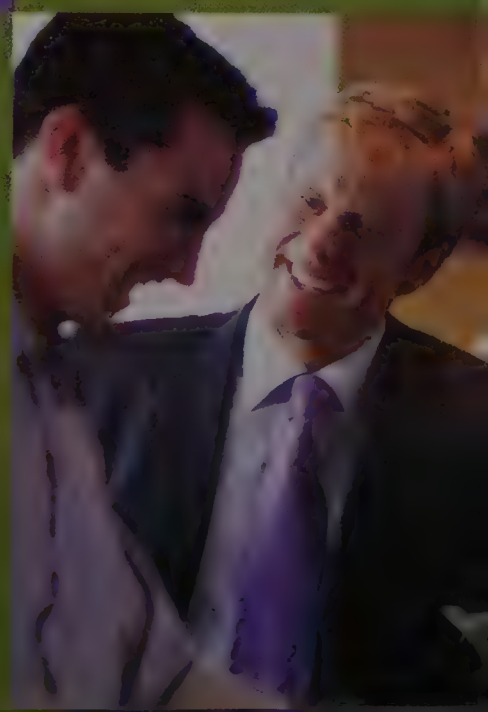

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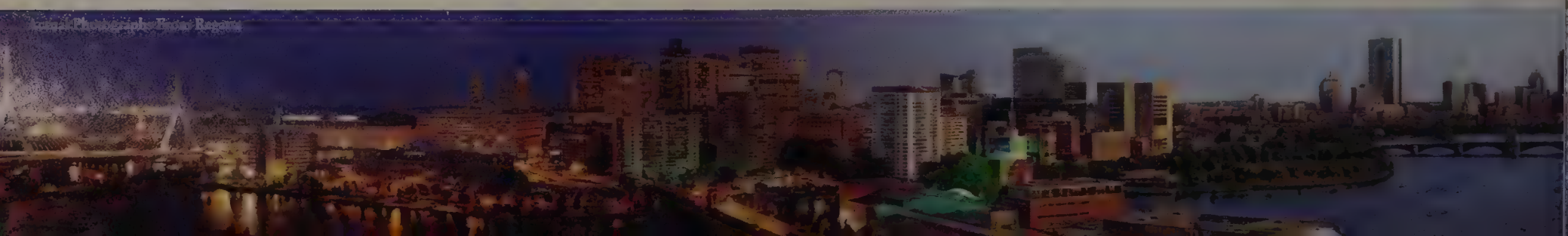

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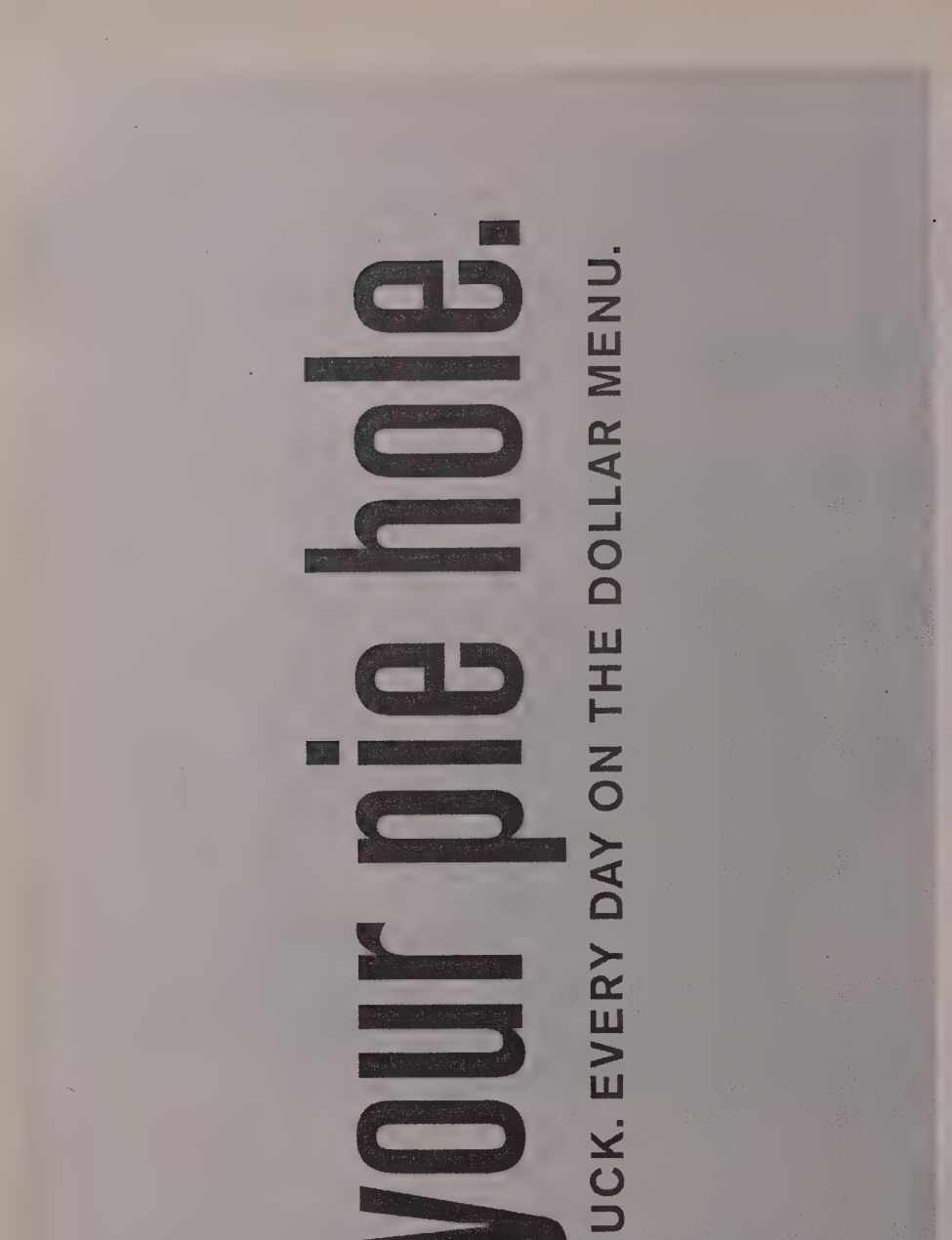

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

FOOD AND FAME

We've been pursuing Fall River native Emeril Lagasse for our cover for years now, so we were thrilled when we landed an interview with the chef during his visit to New England in August. With a new cookbook due out this fall, he sat down with food writer Ruth Tobias to chat about American regional cuisine, his booming New Orleans–based restaurant business and the challenges he faced early in his career. A few weeks later came Hurricane Katrina and a new set of challenges for America's best known chef. So far, he's faced them with the ingenuity and generosity that come through in our interview. Food is such a distinctive part of New Orleans' culture, and that city, now more than ever, is fortunate to have Emeril as its culinary champion.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

RICKY RULES

I enjoyed the article on Ricky Davis (Oct. 12). It was good to find out that he's a family man who's looked at by his teammates as a leader and role model. He seems to have matured a bunch the last couple of years. The Celtics have lots of very young talent, but without good leadership (on and off the court) they won't be a factor in the playoffs. Ricky so far has worked out to be one of Danny Ainge's better moves.

—*Rich Premerlani*
BOSTON

FROM THE FAN FILES

I've been reading the IMPROPER for a few years and must say that Ezra's column and the Impersonals are always a hoot. I really look forward to Ezra's "dad humor," which I share. I thought he outdid himself with the Q&A to prove you're 27 (Aug. 31), but the column about Corinthians (Sept. 14) is by far one of his best. Thanks for the laughs. I'm a faithful enough reader to remember to pick this magazine up twice a month.

—*Andrea CoCosentino*
QUINCY

NABOB B-GONE

For the love of God, please publish just one issue of your magazine that does not contain the word *nabob* in it. And yes, I know that by publishing my letter, it means yet another issue with the word *nabob* in it. Great.

—*Andy Fenenbock*
BOSTON

CORRECTIONS

In the Oct. 12 edition, a story on page 46 incorrectly named the new executive chef at Radius. He is Patrick Connolly (not Patrick O'Connell).

CONTRIBUTORS

RUTH TOBIAS

Ruth Tobias is a Boston-based freelance food writer. She's written for the *Boston Phoenix*, the *Boston Herald*, *Stuff@night* and other publications. She's also contributed to *The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Food & Drink*. A staunch Italophile, she recently returned from her eighth trip to the Boot.

ETHAN GILSDORF

For five years, poet Ethan Gilsdorf worked in Paris as a freelance journalist, editor and critic, reviewing films and restaurants for *Time Out*, serving as Fodor's Paris hotel correspondent, and publishing stories on arts, culture, travel and politics for newspapers and magazines worldwide, including the *Boston Globe*, *Washington Post* and *Los Angeles Times*. Returning to his New England roots at the end of 2004, he walked in circles for several months before finally finding a nest in Somerville. Gilsdorf's latest piece for the IMPROPER, "Wild at Heart," about mushroom foragers, begins on page 38.

Tell Us What You Think

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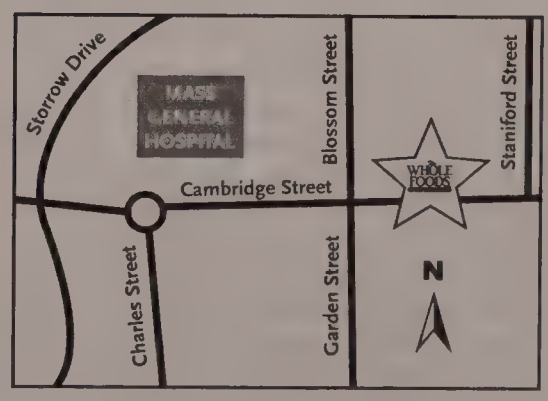

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THE WORD

EDITED BY ERIN GRAHAM

28 Degrees' candle-lit lounge

NEW IN TOWN

Lounging Around

You'd think that 28 Degrees, a place named for "the temperature of a martini that's been perfectly shaken and strained," would specialize in its namesake. But the South End's newest addition doesn't want to be just another martini-slinging hotspot. The lounge is all about putting a spin on things. The two specialty martinis that are on the menu are atypical: The prosciutto-and-melon martini is a blend of melon infused vodka and fresh cantaloupe that comes with a melon ball wrapped in prosciutto. The other more straightforward 28 Degrees martini comes with cornichons rather than olives.

"People are doing martini everything under the sun," says co-owner Carl Christian, explaining why he limited the martini list. Instead, the focus is on fresh fruit retro cocktails and a unique wine list. The cocktails are mostly '40s throwbacks with a fruity twist: the gin fizz is infused with raspberry and grapefruit; the frozen bellini comes with peach purée. (San Francisco transplants might recognize some specialty drinks from Mecca, the restaurant Christian opened there during his 12-year Boston break.) The wine list is similarly unconventional. Selected by Shelly Lindgren, Christian's friend and owner/sommelier at San Francisco's popular A 16, the 50 bottles are all lesser-known varietals—there's even a white from Slovenia.

The stylish space (formerly Flux) is ultradim, with most of the light coming from the tables' candles. Long, sheer white curtains separate the loungy part, which is filled with square ottomans, low tables and plush benches, from the bar/restaurant area. Along with the upscale decor (courtesy of designer Mark Bombara) comes stylized food, thanks to Jeremy Sewall (of Great Bay), who's the consulting chef. Since Sewall created 28 Degrees' menu, it's no surprise that it offers scads of seafood: chilled shrimp, tuna tartare, Maine crab parfait and Maine lobster "sliders" ($18) are just a few. The rest of the menu is divided into "hot," "cool" and "brick-oven pizza" rather than into apps and entrées, so smaller dishes (like calamari or spicy shrimp potstickers) are mixed in with more hearty fare (grilled NY steak or coriander-crusted hamachi). The dishes are meant to be shared, and they are served tapas style, arriving at your table when they're ready.

Tucked intos the corner across from the bar, a DJ spins downtempo, soul and R&B songs, and now and then a flat-screen TV near the bar shows concert footage of the singer. Live entertainment takes place once a month when fashion shows take over the lounge. (Neiman Marcus kicked it off with a show Oct. 12.) Even more entertaining, however, is the aquatic-themed bathroom area. Four individual stalls share a common unisex washroom area with two transparent panels in the ceiling that reveal swirling water. *One Appleton St., Boston (617-728-0728). You can book a table on the online reservation site www.opentable.com or by calling.* —*E.H.*

INNER VIEW

George Travis

As Bruce Springsteen's tour director for more than 30 years, George Travis counts Springsteen as one of his closest friends. Travis, who hails from Lincoln, Mass. hooked up with Springsteen for his "Darkness" tour in 1978. He's been with him ever since and will be in town with the Boss for the show at the TD Banknorth Garden Oct. 27.

Improper Bostonian: *What's your official role on tour?*
George Travis: It starts with Bruce and his manager, Jon Landau, deciding they want to do some live shows. The next call is to me. I get together with our agent and plot out a schedule based on how long Bruce wants to tour, how many days a week he wants to work and any cities he wants to go to. Boston is always on that list near the top.
IB: *What are the hardest parts of your job?*
GT: The romance of traveling can get old pretty quick. When you're in a town on a day with no show, you need to get out and experience something local.
IB: *What was the Fenway performance like?*
GT: Fenway was magical from the day of conception. I'm glad they've let some other bands play there too, but it's a good feeling being first and leaving everyone ready to give someone else a go at it.
IB: *Top three things you love about working with Bruce?*
GT: I'm lucky to be involved with an artist who can tap into the feelings of so many people. And being able to work with someone whom I feel I agree with on most of the human issues isn't too bad either. I guess if there was a top thing, it would be the fact that at just about every show, I get to be part of someone's life, someone who I know will carry the concert with them for a long time.
IB: *How have things changed for Rock and Roll since you began touring with Bruce?*
GT: For starters, I didn't know three people over 30. It was truly a young business. When I first started there were many people involved like me who figured they'd do this for a while, save money and go home to a real job. Then all of a sudden you find yourself still doing it and it's become a profession. Now there are colleges with courses dealing with much of the production and business side of the industry.
—*Leslie Kilgore*

Travis at his Lincoln, Mass. farm

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TASTY TIDBITS

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Juiced Up... Every new brand of bottled water wants you to believe that its product is the best, but O Beverages, a new Cambridge-based bottled water company co-founded by Nantucket Nectars juice guy Tom First and former Fiji Water President Ed Slade, claims to have scientific proof that O Water is the purest water around. We won't bore you with the details, mostly because we don't understand them, but we can tell you this: O Water is free of calories, sweeteners, sugars, nitrates and artificial flavors, and comes in six flavors, including unflavored, mandarin orange, wild berry and peach. Right now, Boston's the only city where you can get it. *$1.49-$1.79 for a 20-ounce bottle. www.obeverages.com.*

That's a Wrap... After nine years, local burrito chain The Wrap has announced a drastic move: They're changing their name to Boloco, an abbreviation for Boston Local Company. A questionable choice, in our minds, but thankfully the menu will stay basically the same, except for a new series of marinades for the meat and a new Indian-inspired Bombay burrito.

Meditative Munchies... We're not always open to outsiders here in Boston, especially outsiders from New York. But we might be willing to give one native-New Yorker, chef Rachel Klein, a chance. Klein comes to town from her most recent spot, Providence's Lot 401, *Esquire*'s Best New Restaurant of 2004, and at the end of November will head up the the kitchen at OM, a new restaurant on JFK Street in Cambridge. The menu will be contemporary American, but the decor will be anything but. The first-floor lounge and upstairs dining room, inspired by ancient Tibetan culture, is decorated with Buddhist accents, like commissioned Heruka paintings, custom wood-carved walls and flowing water sculptures. OM will be open from 5 pm-1 am, seven days a week. *57 JFK St., Cambridge (617-576-2800). www.omrestaurant.com.*

Seconds for Savenor's... In 1939, Savenor's Market opened its first store at 92 Kirkland Street in Cambridge and in December of 2005, Savenor's will open its second store at 92 Kirkland Street in Cambridge. Confused? Don't be. A 1992 electrical fire destroyed the original Savenor's; the market moved to Beacon Hill. But when the lease at the old property opened up this fall, Savenor's decided to expand and took the site back. The new location will basically be a mirror image of the Beacon Hill store, which sells organic produce, seafood, breads, coffee, prime meats and more. *www.savenorsmarket.com.*

That's Refreshing... Fresh City, the Needham-based chain with 15 locations throughout New England, recently announced that its menu is now 100 percent trans-fat free. The announcement coincides with Fresh City's new partnership with Niman Ranch and Raised Right Chicken, two leaders in the field of all-natural, hormone-free products. The menu remains the same, minus the the harmful trans fats. *www.freshcity.com.*

SAM SAYS

Life's Little Pleasures

Being able to waltz into a designer shop and buy a ridiculously expensive item is a luxury. But on those days when your wallet doesn't support your impeccable taste, you don't have to stand with your nose pressed against the glass and a longing tear in your eye. Stroll over to Marc by Marc Jacobs (on the bottom floor of the main Marc Jacobs store), where they understand your plight. The store has a small section stocked with items that range from $1-$5—things like stretchy sequined belts, lipstick-shaped pens, huge colorful cocktail rings, funky Band-Aids on a keyring, skull bracelets and much more.They're cute as can be and they're shamelessly emblazoned with the designer's name. They're also great as a goodie-bag gift or as a pick-me-up on days when you have only a few bucks to spend. Even better, you can replace them with new items anytime you like. Skip dessert and visit MJ with the loot you saved up. *81 Newbury St., 617-425-0404.—Samantha House*

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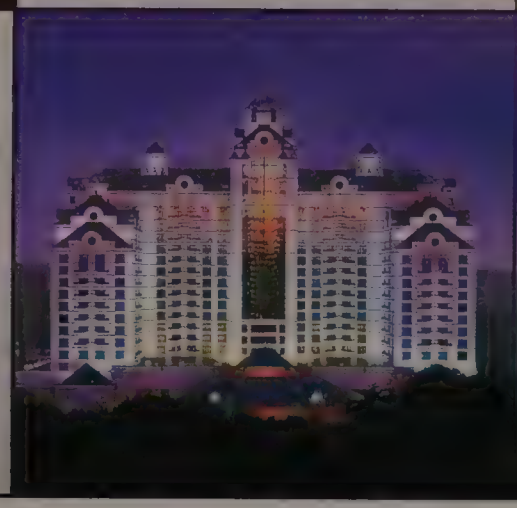


IMPROPER REPORTS

Thanksgiving To Go

If you want that classic turkey aroma filtering through the house, a fridge full of leftovers and a feast right on your table—all without turning the oven on—check out these holiday take-out possibilities.

The Fireplace

1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900)

Pick up a packaged dinner with dishes like pumpkin bisque, sliced turkey breast, country sausage stuffing and pear-turnip gratin. Place orders from now through Nov. 21 and they'll be available the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Prices determined by weight.

Formaggio Kitchen

244 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-354-4750)

Formaggio Kitchen puts a spin on the traditional Thanksgiving meal—minus the turkey. Options include celeriac rutabaga mash, homemade sausage stuffing, chutney, gravy, soups and pies. Orders must be placed before Nov. 20. Prices vary depending on quantity of side orders.

Lionette's Market

577 Tremont St., Boston (617-778-0360)

The Garden of Eden's European natural market, Lionette's, offers organic alternatives to the traditional Thanksgiving dinner. The menu includes a Muscovy duck, quail and partridge—with three different stuffings. A complete 10-person meal starts at about $150. Order at least a week in advance.

Oak Room Restaurant

138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300)

The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel's Oak Room offers a turkey-to-go option with everything from butternut squash to green beans almondine, complete with apron and spice pouch to scent your home for the holiday. Order no later than November 21. $185 for four; $235 for eight.

Savenor's Market

160 Charles St., Boston (617-723-6328)

Savenor's offers a traditional turkey dinner for a family of four, including an all-natural turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, and homemade stuffing, along with either pecan, berry or pumpkin pie. Delivery is available and orders must be placed before Nov. 20. $125 for four; turkey à la carte is available for $2.99 a pound.

Whole Foods Market

115 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-492-0070)

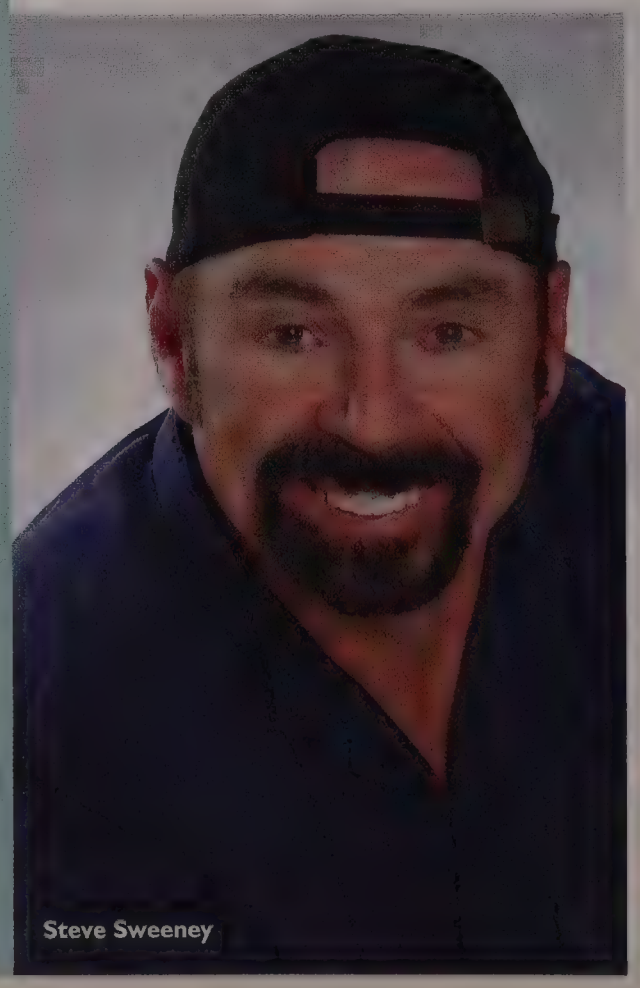
Whole Foods' classic Thanksgiving meal includes a turkey, mashed potatoes, New England-style stuffing, cranberry-orange relish and dessert. For smaller families, smaller portions are available. Whole Foods takes orders Nov. 5-22, but if you call before Nov. 18, they throw in a box of truffles. $40 for two people; $140 for eight. —*Sarah McCormick and Paola Moll*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Smilin' with Sweeney... Morning radio personality on WZLX, Boston's born-and-bred funnyman Steve Sweeney returns to his stand-up comedy roots on Nov. 3 with the grand opening of Steve Sweeney's Comedy Café. The venue, which Sweeney co-owns with fellow local jokester Dick Doherty, will be open Thursday-Saturday nights and will showcase comedy acts, late-night dancing and Asian-inspired fare from neighboring Jae's restaurant, both before and after shows. Seating starts at 8 pm; reservations are recommended. $20 cover; special performances are more. *711 Boylston St., Boston (800-401-2221).*

Chip Away... Looking for a way to hone your golf game this fall without battling the cold or constructing an elaborate putt-putt course in your apartment? Through Nov. 4, the ground floor at 356 Boylston Street is home to a temporary, indoor, par 20, nine-hole golf course. Sponsored by The Glenlivet Scotch, the City Links course was designed like a scaled-down version of a traditional Scottish course, which makes it the perfect place to work on your short game. There's no charge to play or to rent clubs, but City Links does have a pay-as-you-will policy, with all the proceeds benefiting Direct Relief International's hurricane-relief assistance efforts. No reservations are required and tee times are granted on a first-come basis. You must be 21 to play, but don't get those hopes up too hig: No scotch is served on the course. *www.theglenlivet.com.*



Steve Sweeney

Singing a New Tune... As cheesy as it can be, nothing beats a night out with a microphone and a few cocktails. Now you can belt out a few tunes at the Alley Cat Lounge, where the Sugar Shack used to be in the Alley. The new concept isn't strictly karaoke, though. DJs, emcees and comedians take turns leading each karaoke show nightly, while film clips, music videos and TV clips show on a big screen overhead. Leopardprint banquettes, red walls and low lighting have transformed the renovated lounge space. Bookings for private functions are available, and it seems to be a popular party place already: Celtics captain Paul Pierce (who's also an investor) recently celebrated his 28th birthday celebration at the new spot. *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*

Out of the Housewives... If football Sundays hold no charm for you, consider leaving the boys behind and heading to Tonic. Its new Desperate Sundays series lets the ladies celebrate the end of the weekend right (read: drinking and watching *Desperate Housewives*). The party gets rolling at 7:30 pm, when you can order up cocktails (martinis are named after DH characters) and indulge in a range of free services like makeup and wardrobe consultations, massages and spa treatments—all the pampering a girl could need while watching the dramedy on the big screen. The services change each week depending on who's sponsoring; right now the lineup includes Confessing Woman, 98 North Salon and Spa, Albert Flowers, Healthworks, Lancôme, and Personal Jewelry +. A bonus: Make a reservation for a spot and get a free martini. *1316 Comm. Ave. Boston (617-566-6699).*

—R.G., L.P.K. and R.L.

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

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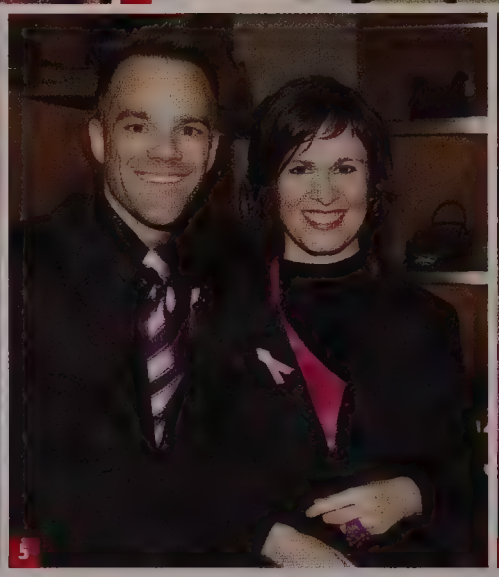
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The Ultra Pink Lounge Event was held Thursday, Oct. 6 at Saks Fifth Avenue. More than 200 guests attended the cocktail party, which also served as a preview party for the illumination of the Prudentia Tower. As part of the Estée Lauder Companies' Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign the event raised funds for breast cancer prevention. Highlights included a guest appearance by model/actress Elizabeth Hurley.

1. **Evelyn Lauder**, senior corporate vice president of the Estée Lauder Companies and **Elizabeth Hurley**, model/actress.
2. Models: **Lauren Fitzgerald**, **Abby Dodge** and **Monica Pietrzak**,
3. **Mary Dawson** and **Leandra Jordan**, sales associates for Sak Fifth Avenue, and **Michael Paul**, contemporary sportswea manager for Saks Fifth Avenue, and his wife, **Tonya**, general manager for Talbot's.
4. **Gracielle Arias**, student at Harvard University and **Jordan Conover**, senior manager at Jacob Realty.
5. **David Wengertsman** and **Heidi Rhodes** of Saks Fifth Avenue.
6. **Jennifer Hazelton** and **Sergio Santos**, manager and realtor at Jacob Realty, respectively.

Fight For Life Gala was held Friday, Oct. 14, at the Harvard Club of Boston to benefit research in polycystic kidney disease. Some 200 guests attended the event, which featured live and silent auctions. The organization expects to raise $150,000 from the event.

7. **Denise Casey**, **Lisa Pepin** and **Edythe Dyer**, all models for Ports & Company and **Lisa Lynch**, owner of Ports & Company in Cohasset.
8. **Dr. Ted Steinman**, professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and his wife, **Carol**.
9. **Dr. Deborah Wexler** of Massachusetts General Hospital and her husband, **Dr. David Friedman** of Beth Israel Hospital.
10. **Ashley Carter** and **Audrey Dickmann**, director and sales professional, respectively, of Tiffany & Co. in Boca Raton, and **Steven Hammond**, sales professional at Tiffany & Co. in Boston.

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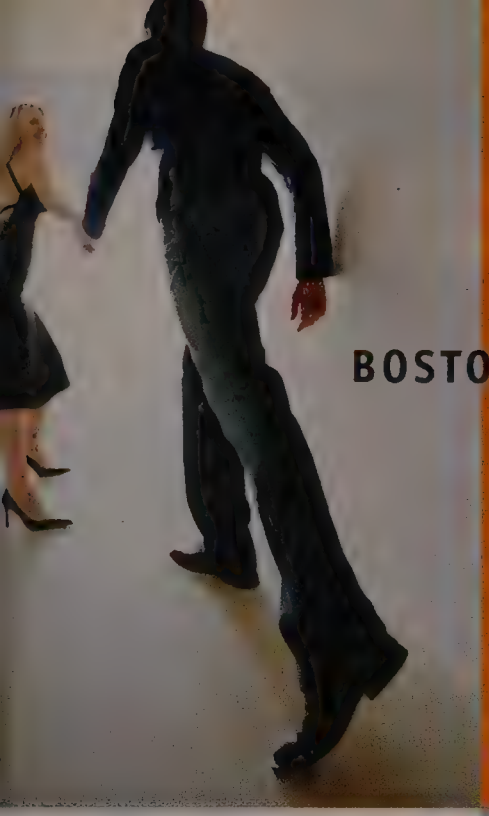

yoo hoo!

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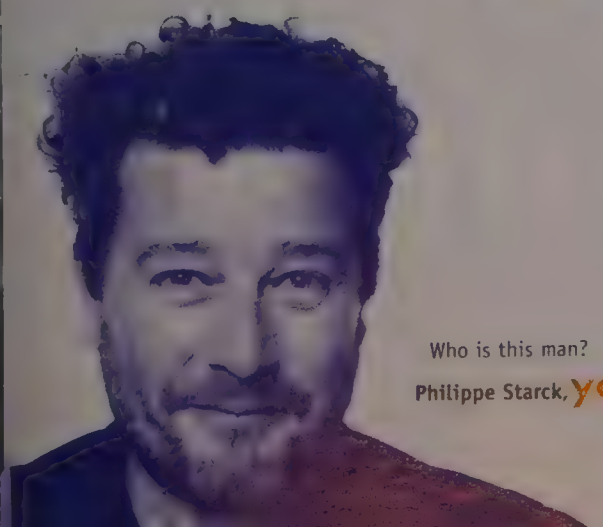

Who is this man?
Philippe Starck, yoo design icon.

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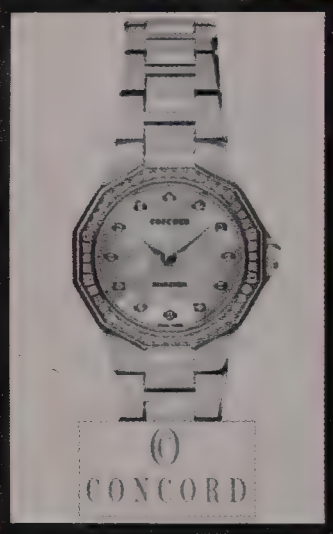

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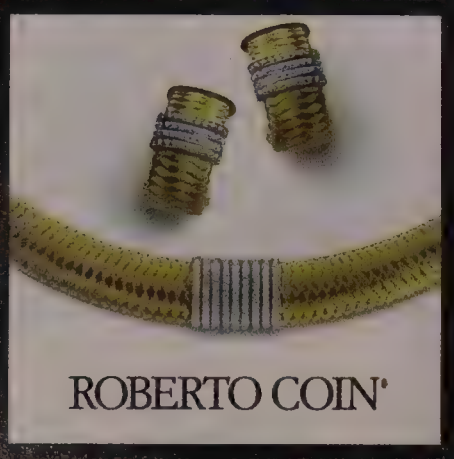

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DE SCENZA DIAMONDS

SINCE 1915

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BY EZRA DYER

SCAMMERS

This city is rife with rapscallions.

I guess I look like a juicy target. I'm just a goofy dude wandering down the street on the way to lunch. So a guy approaches me, begs my attention and spins the following tale: His car is around the corner with a flat tire, and he's on his way to a job interview and needs to buy a patch kit to repair it. His wife is waiting in the car. If I "loan" him $15 for this patch kit, he'll give me his driver's license to hold as collateral, then come back and repay me after he goes to the bank.

The first thing that makes me laugh is that he needs a tire patch kit. A tire patch? What then, is he going to call his pit crew to come pull the tire off the rim, use an air compressor and a soapy water solution to locate the hole, then apply the patch and re-mount and balance that sucker as traffic whizzes by? A patch kit seems like something the Beverly Hillbillies might've kept on hand in their Model T in case Jethro done run over hisself a porkee'pine. In any case, the last time I got a flat tire, I bought a can of Fix-A-Flat, which cost only $8 even at the gas station, where they can pretty much charge whatever they want because they know you're sitting somewhere with a damn flat tire.

The story is fishy on other levels, too—you don't have an ATM card? Why is your wife coming with you to a job interview? This story has so many holes, it could be the plot for an episode of *24*. So I do the compassionate thing: I agree to give him the $15. But I accept his driver's license as collateral.

This is a development for which he is ill prepared. Obviously, the routine is to offer the license to demonstrate sincerity, then people hand over the money, then he goes a few blocks up the street and repeats the process. But my demand for his license throws him off. "But… how am I going to drive back over here without my license?" he says. I tell him that it's only a few blocks, like he said, so it shouldn't be a problem. All of a sudden he's quite conscientious about driving without his license. He curses me out and storms away.

A few months later, at the same spot on Columbus Street, a guy in a pickup rolls up to me and jumps out. Surprise of surprises, he also needs $15, which appears to be the magic number. His truck has a broken gas gauge, he's about to run out of gas and he left his wallet at home. He's brandishing his cell phone in an unnatural, prominent way, as if to imply, "Would someone successful enough to own a cell phone lead you awry?" Yet he didn't claim to be out of gas, he just said he was about to run out of gas. How would you know that you were about to run out of gas if your gas gauge didn't work? Was the ol' 4x4 just handling like she was low on petrol? Also, if I were out of gas and I had my cell phone, I'd call everyone in my address book before I started approaching strangers. Orderlies would let my nana out of the home and tell her she was now on a mission to bring five gallons of gas to her great-grandson in Boston. That guy drove away empty-handed, though not, I suspect, with an empty tank.

Small-time con artists, here's some advice: If you're going to concoct schemes to raise your daily crack money, at least entertain me. For instance, don't say, "I lost my shoe and I need $15 to buy a new pair

IF YOU'RE GOING TO CONCOCT SCHEMES TO RAISE YOUR DAILY CRACK MONEY, AT LEAST ENTERTAIN ME

to walk home." Instead, go to Brookline on Marathon Monday dressed like a runner—but wear only one shoe. Tell people that during the race you spotted a chicken attacking a baby. Fearing the spread of Asian Bird Flu, you removed your shoe to beat away the chicken, which you did, thus saving the baby, but then your shoe was contaminated so you had to burn it, and now you need $15 to buy a new pair of shoes so you can finish the race and collect your pledges for the Jimmy Fund. Now that's a story.

It's sad—I used to be a kind-hearted gullible Mainer, and this kind of thing has made me into a steely-eyed city slicker. Well, scammers, you may have taken my naiveté, but you'll never take my $15. IB

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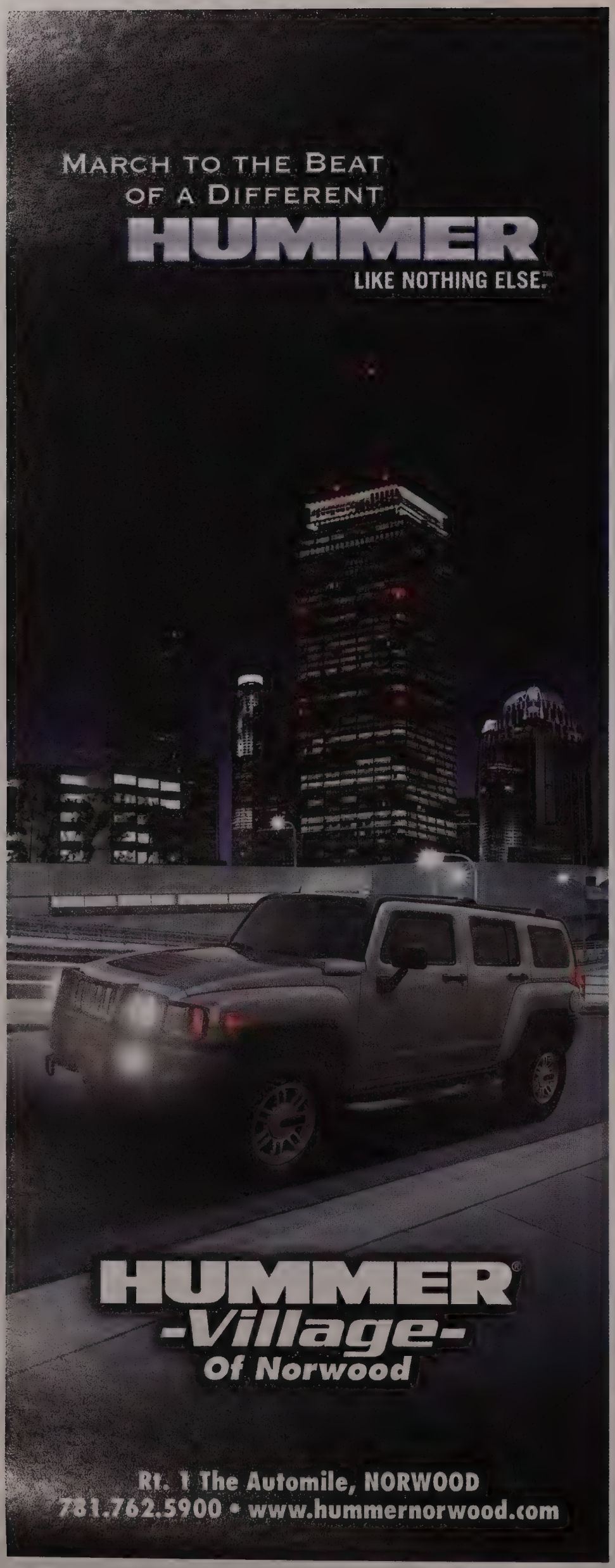

THAT'S RICH

BY RICH LEVINE

The Breakup

Coping with the end of another Red Sox season

By the time you read this, we'll be a little more than two weeks removed from the end of the Red Sox run as defending World Champions. The World Series will be in full swing, and for the first time in two years we won't really care. Maybe it's a small consolation that the Yankees aren't there either, but only in the same way it's nice to see some meathead in a designer suit get rejected by a girl you struck out with 10 minutes earlier. It might make you feel a little better, but in the end you still lost, and it still sucks.

It's hard to explain how I get at the end of every Red Sox season but it pretty much feels like I just broke up with a girlfriend. I can't think of another time when I'd ever look in the mirror and say, "Wow, I just spent eight months giving everything I had to this relationship and have absolutely nothing to show for it."

It's like you're introduced at the start of spring and, at first, things seem pretty typical of your past relationships: Varitek's behind the plate; she loves the O.C. Ortiz is at DH; she prefers a vodka soda to beer. Wakefield's on the mound; she finds Jessica Simpson annoyingly beautiful.

And then there are wild cards—little quirks that pique your interest and separate this girl or team from their predecessors. The Sox have a big-time shortstop coming in for the first time since Nomar turned into Mr. Glass; she laughs at an obscure Family Guy reference. The pitching staff's been revamped with major-league-tested veterans; her Dad's got club seats at Gillette.

The season gets underway, and by the time summer rolls around, things are heating up. Every day it seems a little more important. You even start to wonder if this could be the one. Yeah, there are some bumps in the road: Schilling and Foulke are hurting; the two of you randomly bump into her ex-boyfriend at a bar. The bullpen's shaky; she admits to liking Lifetime original movies. Manny's insane; she's a little too obsessed with Matthew McConaughey.

But at this point, those are all just minor inconveniences; the Sox are all you can think about. You can't get them out of your head. Your friends ask you to meet them out at Tia's one night over the summer? "Sorry guys, but I'm not feeling that well, I'll probably just stay home. I hear Jonathan Papelbon might make his debut tonight." You might as well be at home with your girl watching reruns of *Sex and the City* with a couple of cosmos. The casting director of *Saving Silverman 2* is contacting your agent.

But like most relationships, the honeymoon only lasts so long, and slowly but surely it's apparent that this might not work out. The warning signs are there: The pitching starts struggling worse than Mike Tyson at a spelling bee; she tapes over your copy of the "Snow Game" with an episode of *One Tree Hill*. The Yankees win the division; your mom can't stand her. And then, before you even have time to really grasp this demise, just as White Sox shortstop Juan Uribe makes good on a suicide squeeze at Fenway, all but ending the 2005 season, you find out that she's been sleeping with her office's I.T. guy for the last month. It's over.

It hits you like a Randy Johnson fastball to the cranium, and everything else takes a backseat. But after a while, i.e. whenever you can think about it without feeling like you want to take a bath with a toaster oven, you're able to start and reflect on things and gain some much needed closure. Because as we all know, without that closure, moving on to the next girl or team is impossible.

IT WAS A REBOUND RELATIONSHIP AND WITH THOSE, DISAPPOINTMENT IS ALWAYS INEVITABLE

So as we prepare to shift our attention to next season, now a healthy two weeks A.S. (After Sweep), what can we say to help bring some closure to our relationship with the 2005 Red Sox?

Well, without getting too crazy, let's just say this: It was a rebound relationship and with those, disappointment is always inevitable. We were fresh off a yearlong fling with Jessica Alba, a storybook season that could never have been topped, not even with another World Series victory. Plus, it's not like they left us for that skinny freak from *Road Trip*. The White Sox are for real; they were the better team. So let's take the 2005 season with a grain of salt. Sure, there won't be another parade in Boston this fall, but come spring there'll be another team to start all over with, and by that time, this latest bad breakup will only be a distant memory. iB

Look for Rich's column in every other issue of the IMPROPER. Address sporting opinions and feedback to rich@improper.com.

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THE DANCE

BY JOHN D. SPOONER

Horror Shows of Old

Legends of Locke-Ober

Forget about the revolutionary history of Boston. If you care about the romantic history of the city, you'd better visit Locke-Ober, and, when no one is looking, walk around the rooms checking for ghosts, upstairs and down.

Locke-Ober was founded in May 1875, in the alley off of Winter Street, called Winter Place, between Tremont and Washington. For a long time it existed to provide food, drink and refuge for the bankers, brokers and businessmen working in the State Street area, when that audience took a lunch that was leisurely, civilized and liquid. The restaurant was home to the most elegant dinners in the city as well, serving visiting entertainers like Enrico Caruso and the leading politicians of the day. Athenaeum publishers produced a social history of Locke's in 1978 that's also a record of the social changes in Boston over the last century.

Here are some adventures that don't appear in the book: There are private rooms, large and small, on the third floor. Jack Kennedy loved Locke's. Marilyn Monroe and Joe DiMaggio had their first date in one of those rooms, after a Red Sox-Yankees game. If you didn't want to be disturbed in a private room, no one would intrude until you buzzed the little button on the wall, and the uniformed waiters were most discreet about what they saw and heard.

My wife and I got engaged at Locke-Ober on a Christmas Eve, in a time when the main dining room would not serve women, I believe, except for once a year, on the Saturday night of the Harvard-Yale football game, when it was played in Cambridge. There was also an elegant dining room on the second floor with its own small bar. The feeling was that of a London hotel—Claridges or Browns, with many of the waiters there for their entire careers, in crisp dinner jackets and white tie. That night, one waiter had been tipped off by me and served dinner, including peas, in a covered dish. Buried in the peas was a small box with the engagement ring. My girlfriend, soon to be fiancée, was surprised, then said, "In the peas? If it had been an emerald, I might have eaten it."

Since then, Locke's has been the family's special place for anniversaries, birthdays and other celebrations. This is true for many Bostonians with stories to tell: like the institutional bond salesman who hosted a Christmas lunch every year for his best clients. My bond salesman friend would take a private room at Locke's; lay on oysters Rockefeller, clams casino, salad with the best Roquefort dressing in the world, and on and on from noon until 6 pm, finishing with Indian pudding or baked Alaska. And Stingers—brandy with crème de menthe, a delicious but poisonous combination that will lead to trying things you'll ultimately regret.

While the food and drink were flowing, the bond trader and his clients swapped war stories: about big trades, about their foolish (and wise) bosses, predictions about the future. Also sex and potential sex scandals in their various offices and, particularly, about sex on the road. Occasionally, "women of the night" would be discreetly taken up the stairs and slid quietly into the private room. At one of these events, the waiter serving the room approached the host. "Yes?" the host said.

> THE "FUN SQUAD," ALL GOLDEN BOYS IN THEIR YOUTH, WERE TAKEN TO LOCKE'S AS CHILDREN BY FATHERS AND GRANDFATHERS...

"About my tip," the waiter said.

"It will be the best tip of the year," the host said.

"I know," the waiter said sheepishly. "But I'll pass on the tip," he hesitated, "if I can be part of the party."

The host looked at the waiter. "The sky's the limit," the host replied, spreading the seasonal joy.

There is a group of old friends who are called by some "The Fun Squad." They've had a Christmas lunch at Locke-Ober in a private room for over 30 years. The "Fun Squad" numbers about a dozen men, all former golden boys in their youth, the best looking young men you ever saw, who were taken to Locke's as children by fathers and grandfathers who were certain the Locke-Ober of old would always be the same. Thirty years ago, drinks were followed by more drinks, plates heaved out of windows into the alley below; Salvation Army people with tambourines were brought into the room and flooded with money—fives, tens, twenties, and sent off back into the chilly December streets. Then there would be drunken car races, like bumper cars, to the old Bonwit Teller, where Louis' now sits, to buy lingerie presents for wives and girlfriends, long before Victoria's Secret opened this game to everyone.

I've been to bachelor parties at Locke's where a bodyguard protected a stripper and got into a fight with the best man. I took both of my sons there for their respective 21st birthdays.

The older son was interrupted at his lobster Savannah by a drunken mutual fund manager, who insisted on giving my boy "the best advice he'll ever get." He told the birthday boy, "Come in earlier to work and leave later than anyone else. Don't get married before you're 30."

My younger son brought a girlfriend to his 21st birthday dinner. She was wearing cutoffs and a Grateful Dead t-shirt. She was refused admittance to the dining room. Rather than cause a scene, the managers found a (small) silk dress, which the girlfriend pulled over her head. "Who gives a Goddamn," she said. "Dress codes are so bourgeois." Locke's always had odd suit jackets, ties and even dresses. My son shrugged, not a fan of dress codes himself. The girlfriend ordered the four most expensive items on the menu, which amused my son, even more so because the old man was paying.

I was at a beautiful woman's 40th birthday party upstairs in a private room where the husband's sister nailed the husband's best friend in the head with a tossed empty Côte du Rhône bottle from 20 paces.

It hasn't only been "boys' night out" at Locke's. Once there was a bachelorette party in one of the rooms, visited by a male stripper dressed as a policeman. I'm told that the stripper, dressed only in his hat and quite agitated, was interrupted by the real cops who confiscated his uniform, wrapped him in a tablecloth and took him to the pokey for impersonating an officer.

And there was a heart and soul, unique to Locke-Ober, for the special patrons. When certain regular customers died, the table they frequented would be set with china and silverware. A martini would be served, iced and pure, the chair left empty in honor of the departed. They did this for the chairman of Little Brown Publishers, for Dave Taylor, owner of *The Boston Globe*, for George Frazier, the columnist, and for George V. Higgins, one of the great novelists of the last century.

Try Locke's yourself, for the history and the oysters Rockefeller. And play dress-up for the occasion. You might get to like it.

John D. Spooner, is an investment advisor, author and novelist. Contact him at thedance@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

ROB CORDDRY

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Comedy Central's *Daily Show* correspondent Rob Corddry, 34, was born and raised in Weymouth and graduated from Weymouth North High School, followed by UMass Amherst. Following a two-year stint with notorious New York comedy troupe Third Rail Comedy, he founded Naked Babies, an acclaimed sketch comedy quartet, in 1997. He has appeared in television commercials for The Cartoon Network, Labatt Beer, Wendy's and 1-800-Call-ATT, and was recently cited in *Entertainment Weekly*'s "Worst of" issue for an ad he starred in opposite Carrot Top. A frequent performer on Comedy Central's *Upright Citizens Brigade*, he appears regularly on NBC's *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and made his feature film debut in *Old School*. However, he's best known as *The Daily Show*'s resident clown who doesn't realize he's bald. He lives with his wife Sandra in Brooklyn.

Jonathan Soroff: *First of all, don't you think it's a travesty that Jon Stewart was left off* People *magazine's 50 Most Beautiful People?*

Rob Corddry: Yes, but an anonymous source tells me he made it onto their upcoming Top 50 Hairiest People.

JS: *Really? Hairy back?*

RC: He's gonna be number one in that category.

JS: *What's the hairiest part of his body?*

RC: His knuckles.

JS: *Have you ever seen him naked?*

RC: No, but I can only imagine from looking at his knuckles what his toes look like.

JS: *Anyway, speaking of hair, you know you're bald, right?*

RC: Yeah. Sometimes people refer to me as "the guy who doesn't know he's bald," but I love it. I'm bald and beautiful, and only a black guy like me can really pull it off.

JS: *So how do you reduce the shine on camera?*

RC: This is not a joke. They actually had to adjust the lights in the studio for my head. They spackle my forehead, and it still shines through. I'm a very shiny man. I just glow. I think it's from the inside.

JS: *Something else to be proud of, I guess, but what's with that little patch of hair in front?*

RC: Hey, man! Lay off the patch! What's it press and my patch? It's like I damn thing in there. You know what? It's just good genes.

JS: *You come from a long line of one-little-patch-in-front men?*

RC: I have an excess of testosterone. I can make love all night.

JS: *Sometimes, when I watch* The Daily Show, *I forget that I'm watching a spoof because what's going on in the world is so f---ed up, your skewed take on it actually seems more sane than the real thing.*

THEY HAD TO AJDUST THE LIGHTS IN THE STUDIO FOR MY HEAD. I'M A VERY SHINY MAN. I JUST GLOW. I THINK IT'S FROM THE INSIDE

RC: Really? I think the only people who mistake us for the real news are either people just surfing channels and catching only a few seconds, or people in, say, Japan or Hungary, where they don't speak English. Anyone else who thinks they're really watching the news is probably high or an imbecile.

JS: *I guess I'm a bit of both. So what's the secret to the show's success?*

RC: I think, mathematically, there has to be a joke every six seconds. That's how comedy works.

JS: *Favorite news source?*

RC: I read *The New York Times* every day, but I read it inside out, meaning I start with Dining In and make my way through the Style section. I really like an in-depth read of Weekend and I make it to Metro and barely make it past the Op-Ed column. I rarely make it to the front page.

JS: *So you're not a big news junkie?*

RC: Y'know, I was. So after the election, I didn't pick up a newspaper from November to January to break myself of the habit.

JS: *OK,* The Weekly World News *or* The National Enquirer*?*

RC: *The Weekly World News*. Y'know, the *Enquirer* may actually employ a fact-checker. There might be one on staff to say, "Alright, we might be able to settle out of court, so let's run the story," but *The Weekly World News* doesn't print anything anyone would ever bother suing them for because it's so crazy. Like they proved conclusively that Dick Cheney was a robot.

JS: *They also showed Condoleeza Rice kissing the alien the Bush administration has in a top-level secret post.*

RC: That's actually true.

JS: *You did a 1-800-Call-ATT ad with Carrot Top…Why did you not do mankind a favor and kill him then and there?*

RC: Umm, because he's cut like a diamond and could kick both our asses. He's massive. His calves are carved from stone. His ass is like a peach, and his eyeliner is tattooed on.

JS: *Now I have a little bit of a crush on him.*

RC: He's hot! From the neck down, he's hot.

JS: *OK, If you could compare yourself to one real correspondent, who would it be, and why? Personally, you remind me of Star Jones.*

RC: Is it because I'm fat?

JS: *And black.*

RC: I'd say Andy Rooney, because I'm so adorably cranky. I'm a charming curmudgeon. And I just can't figure out these darn computers!

JS: *First adjective that comes to mind when I say George W. Bush?*

RC: Sugary.

JS: *Most evil man in the Bush administration?*

RC: Oh, it's a squirrel's nest. The most evil man? I guess Condoleeza Rice.

JS: *Who would win in a mud-slinging contest: Pat O'Brien or Rush Limbaugh?*

RC: I think they'd just get caught in a mud-slinging vortex.

JS: *You think either of them wear thong underwear?*

RC: Yeah. When you have to give up booze and OxyContin, you have to get your thrills somewhere else, so I'm sure they do something, whether it's a butt plug or thong underwear.

JS: *Funniest thing about George W. Bush?*

RC: One of my current favorite things about him is that, apart from the nepotism, he learned about governing and got his start in politics from owning the Texas Rangers, one of the losingest teams in baseball.

JS: *Funniest thing about John Kerry?*

RC: The fact that he's inspired a whole generation of young aspiring politicians to get the same kind of wavy, goony, wonky mop haircut.

JS: *Most annoying CNN personality?*

RC: Oh, God, how can you…They're all so annoying. OK, Jack Cafferty. He's just so fed up, with his sleeves rolled up and the tie undone, and it's so calculated and contrived. I can't stand him. Makes me sick.

JS: *Is there anything off-limits, anything you wouldn't joke about?*

RC: Lincoln's assassination. Y'know? C'mon guys. He's still got family. Don't think that doesn't hurt the Lincoln estate.

JS: *Most tasteless thing you ever did on the show?*

RC: I caught myself staring at the breasts of Gloria Feldt, the president of Planned Parenthood. Very interesting woman, and awesome rack. Really hot.

JS: *Last question: What do you think Hillary's chances are in 2008?*

RC: Well, apparently—and you didn't hear it from me—but I understand she's a lesbo, and everyone loves a lesbo, so pretty good. I mean, who doesn't love lesbians? Women don't have a problem with it. Guys love them. So, Hillary in 2008! iB

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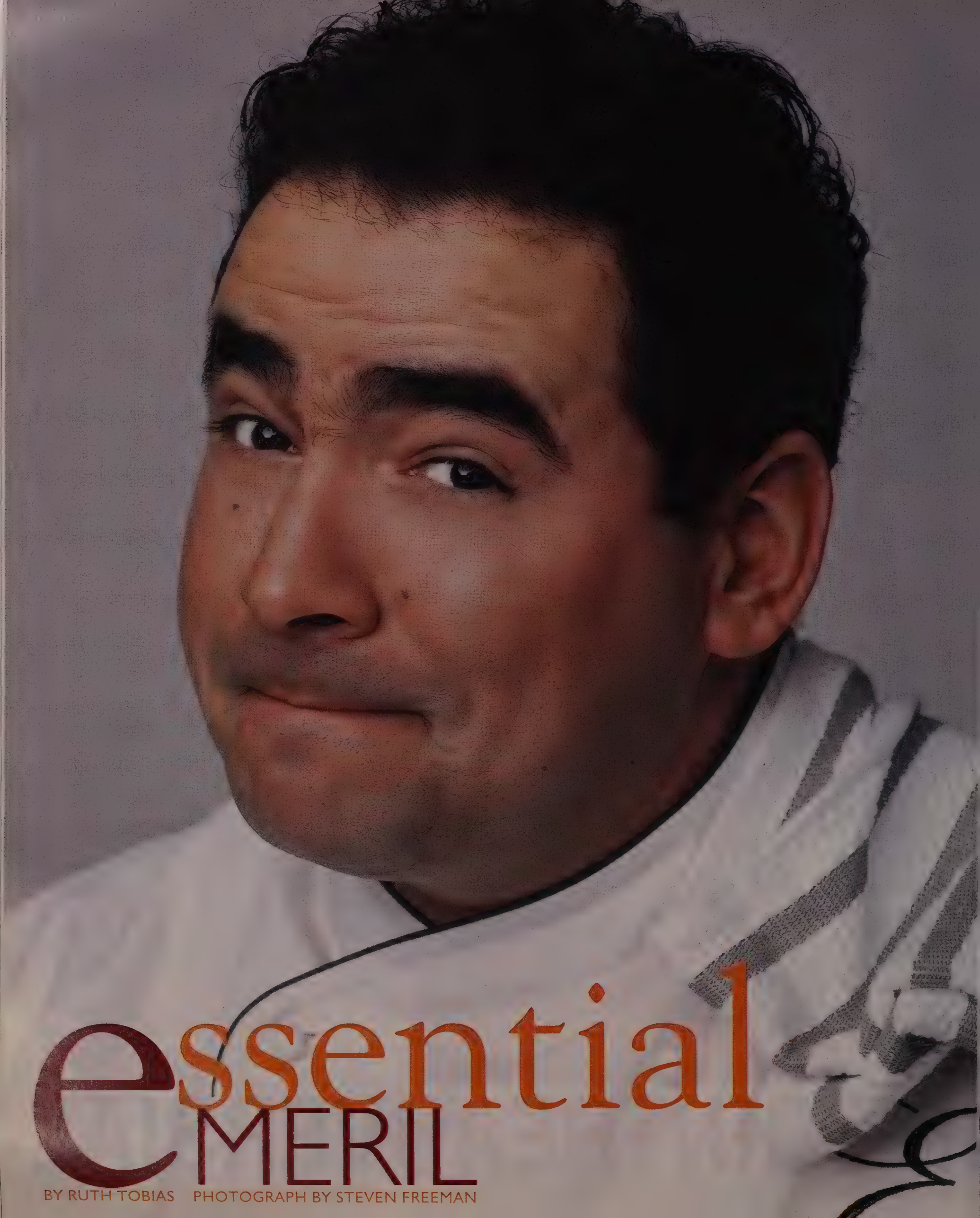
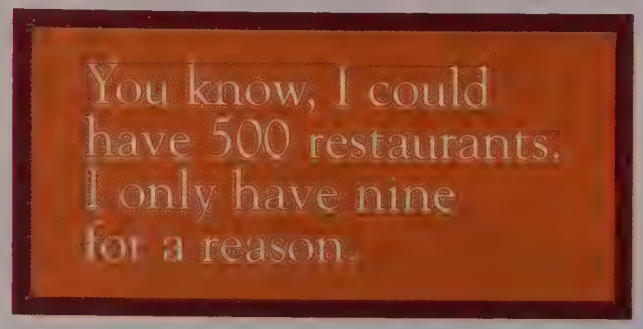


essential MERIL

BY RUTH TOBIAS PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVEN FREEMAN

From Fall River, Mass., to France and on to New Orleans, America's most popular chef has never stopped looking to the future—and staying connected to the soil.

late summer, when I sat down on the veranda of the Tournament Players Club in Norton, Mass., for an interview with Emeril—the chef who needs neither introduction nor last name—I steeled myself for megalomaniacal raving in which famous chefs tend to specialize. Twenty minutes later I bid him goodbye in a daze, bowled over by his humility and consideration. Here he was, a TV show host, cookbook author, owner of nine internationally renowned restaurants, and the most famous name in gastronomy since Julia; here he was, breezing into town to host the third annual Emeril Lagasse Golf Classic—a fundraiser for the scholarship he founded at Johnson & Wales University, just one of his many charity projects; and here he was, shaking my hand and thanking me for my time.



The generous gentleman I met that day is the same one we see now, in the horrific wake of Hurricane Katrina. Facing the indefinite closure of a third of his empire—including its flagship—he promptly took magnanimous action, establishing the Emeril Lagasse Employee Disaster Relief Fund. He has worked to secure comparable positions for uprooted employees of his three New Orleans restaurants—Emeril's, NOLA Restaurant and Emeril's Delmonico—at his outposts in Florida, Atlanta and Las Vegas, even as he plans for the eventual reopening of all three battered-but-not-beaten New Orleans establishments (for updates, visit *www.emerils.com*). He's hosting Carnivale du Vin, a gala Vegas benefit to support charities helping children of New Orleans, on Oct. 28-29 (our own Todd English will participate). And now, viewed in light of Katrina, his observations on the future of American cooking as it preserves, reflects, comments on or even revises our history and heritage seem all the more enduringly true for their immediate poignancy. In that spirit, I share my conversation with Emeril, whose long-sighted optimism befits an emerging culinary legend.

IB: *You may be New Orleans' most famous adoptee, but you're a native son of Fall River. How did your New England childhood shape your culinary perspective?*
EL: To understand food, you have to understand culture. I never knew that then; I certainly know that now. For instance, if you want to understand and cook French cuisine, you should go to France and check out what it's all about, what the people there are like; that equates to what the food is like. Now I understand why it was so penetrating for me growing up in Fall River, being influenced by the Portuguese people. First I was influenced by my mom; I also started working in a Portuguese bakery at a young age. Then I started cooking in New England restaurants, and I got a sense that there was something truly here, as far as food. You gotta understand now, this was in the '70s, when we really didn't know ourselves as [having a unique] cuisine the way we do now. It's only in the last 20 years that America has really blossomed and become serious about its food and its regional cuisines. But I grew up with that Portuguese-American mentality, with all the feasts on the weekends and the dishes that they did there, and that was my main platform. Also, some of my relatives had a farm, and I spent a lot of time there; I feel today I'm very connected to the soil. I have a big farm of my own now in California and a little one in Mississippi where we raise stuff for the restaurants. A few weeks ago I took my son—he's two-and-a-half—out on a tractor and we stripped a radicchio field together.

IB: *So what was the trajectory from your upbringing in an ethnic enclave to your role now as Great American Chef? You lived in Boston for a time, right?*
EL: Yep. I worked at the Parker House and at some New England restaurants in this area. I went to school at Johnson & Wales, and worked at the Venus de Milo, a pretty big restaurant. [Today the Swansea landmark is known for its former hire as much as its stuffed lobster.] From here I moved to Philadelphia, then to New York—but I couldn't get a serious job because I was American. So I thought I would go to France and try to study there. I didn't speak the language, I didn't have a lot of money, but I did it, thinking I could go and get a couple of stages [the French term for kitchen apprenticeships]. And then I came back to New York and got a job. People [here] just didn't know anything about food.

IB: *And yet you as a chef, and we as a nation of restaurant-goers, have since de-emphasized the importance of classical French cuisine relative to our own.*
EL: I think that we have finally realized—and it's true—that we in this country have legitimate regional cuisines. Whether you're in New England or Louisiana, which I think developed one of the oldest cuisines in the country, or in the Midwest, the Southwest, the Southeast—there are truly regional pockets, ingredients and techniques that make up what we know as American cuisine. Besides that, we were talking about the soil, and think about what's happening now—I think 47 out of 50 states now produce wine? So we really have found ourselves and we're growing—it's not just chowder and it's not just gumbo anymore. Seasonality comes into play; we now know that to have great cuisine you gotta have great products, which is why today I am still so connected to the soil....You know, when I started at the Commander's Palace [in New Orleans] 25 years ago, I was raising things organically. People didn't even know what "organic" meant yet.

IB: *What's your perspective on the future of American cuisine?*
EL: It's only going to get stronger, because people's knowledge is getting stronger. Looking at it from the restaurant side of things, it's no longer about meeting people's expectations. At least not in my restaurants. Now it's about exceeding people's expectations. They're much more educated about food, about shopping, about ingredients. I look back to my childhood—and I was really into food—but when I was 12 years old, I didn't know what a shiitake mushroom was. I've met young kids today, 5 years old, who are, you know, aware. It's unbelievable.

IB: *And what about your own future? You have a book coming out, right?*
EL: Yeah, *Emeril's Delmonico* [Morrow Cookbooks, $29.95] is coming out in October. I bought Delmonico, and it's kind of tricky when you do something like that. It's a restaurant that's [over] 100 years old—and the same family ran it [all that time]. About six years ago I bought it from the two sisters who wanted to retire, and this new cookbook is a history of then and a story of now—sort of explaining what the real scene is, what the real Delmonico is. I think that the original Delmonico—it opened in New York City [in 1837]—was the first true American restaurant. It was also the first restaurant that ever produced a cookbook. And when you look into the history of it, it's where a lot of dishes were invented, like lobster thermidor, and cherries jubilee—I could go on and on and on. The history part of it was important to me, but keeping a New Orleans institution and making it better was also important. You gotta hang on to some of these things because if you don't... all of a sudden you're just gonna have concrete.

IB: *Locke-Ober in Boston has a similar story.*
EL: Yep, with Lydia Shire.

IB: *Exactly. So how often do you come back to New England? What do you miss when you're away?*
EL: Whenever I can. I miss the seasonality, the changes in season. There's nothing better than summer here. I love the ocean; I've been saying this a few times about the land, but I'm also very connected to the water. I think I was a fisherman in a past life.

IB: *Do you ever think about opening a place here?*
EL: You know, I could have about 500 restaurants. I only have nine for a reason. I'm in Las Vegas—I've been there 12 years—I'm in Orlando, I'm in Miami, I'm in New Orleans. To me, that's warm, warm, warm and warm. No snow. There's a pattern here.

IB: *Fair enough. Tell us more, then, about what you're doing here today. What inspired you to create the Emeril Lagasse Foundation? What sort of extraculinary roles do you think chefs can play in their communities?*
EL: It's not only chefs, it's whatever occupation you happen to be in. I think for anything to evolve, you have to give back. And for me it's about education—it's about inspiring and mentoring young people in this profession, so that it can continue to improve. When I started doing television 10 or 11 years ago, my goal certainly wasn't the money, because they were paying me like $50 a show. It was really about if I could influence just one or two people and get them a little bit more interested in cooking, or wine, or shopping and ingredients—then it would be worth it for me to do television. It just so happens it's 11 years later and the mission hasn't changed. The whole payoff for this weekend, which brought tears to my eyes, was last night on stage, when I was able to give four scholarships to four different people who maybe would not [otherwise] have a chance in this business.

IB: *Given all the different roles you play, when you retire, how do you think you'll be remembered?*
EL: I hope as a golfer. [Laughs.] Maybe today as a shitty one. IB

Donations to the Emeril Lagasse Employee Relief Fund can be mailed to 7575 Dr. Phillips Blvd., Suite 310, Orlando, FL 32819, or phoned in by calling 877-816-7312.

SWEETS EVERLASTING

A tasty tour of signature desserts that have stood the test of time at local restaurants

BY ERIN GRAHAM PHOTOGRAPHS BY TONY SCARPETTA

For true dessert aficionados, even the most elaborate four-star meal is merely a means to an end: It's really all about the dessert. Bostonians' loyalty to certain desserts has kept those sweets on many a local menu—sometimes for decades, making them synonymous with the restaurant that perfected them. Desserts du jour come and go, but it's these long-standing favorites, from Indian puddings to macaroons and chocolate soufflés, that stand out from the sugary crowd.

Join us on a taste tour of signature desserts that have been on local restaurant menus for 10 years—or more—and see if you don't find yourself heeding your sweet tooth and dialing for reservations.

"If you liked to lick the brownie bowl as a kid, this is the adult version," says chef de cuisine Ron Abell

CHOCOLATE MOLTEN SOUFFLÉ AT ICARUS

Below street level in the South End, quiet, elegant Icarus makes for a romantic dinner anytime. But sharing its chocolate molten soufflé for two adds an extra dose of intimacy. Since 1994, Icarus' soufflé cake has been a top-selling dessert, making up at least 50 percent of the restaurant's dessert sales.

One spoonful into the confection's fluffy top, and warm, gooey chocolate pools into a puddle on your plate. A thin cookie served on top of the soufflé adds a crispy contrast, and homemade vanilla bean ice cream and raspberry sauce balance the chocolate. Chef de cuisine Ron Abell sums it up: "If you liked to lick the brownie bowl as a kid, this is the adult version."

The tricky-to-make soufflé is easily over- or undercooked, leaving lots of rejects sitting in the kitchen—and providing quick energy for the waitstaff. "The staff is constantly snacking on it," Abell says. "They're all wired on chocolate all day."

3 Appleton St., Boston (617-426-1790), $18.

Todd English's bestselling dessert combines chocolate cake and raspberry sauce for a one-two punch.

FALLING CHOCOLATE CAKE AND VANILLA BEAN SOUFFLÉ AT OLIVES

Todd English isn't known for his light fare; options like white chocolate banana bread pudding with caramel semi-freddo and boozy caramel sauce or butterscotch pudding in a chocolate crumb crust with fudge-topped toffee cookies are more his trademark—desserts that make you feel full just by reading their names. The same goes for Olives' two signature sweet treats: the falling chocolate cake and vanilla bean soufflé.

After more than a decade on the menu, both still make up 75 percent of Olives' dessert orders. English says, "I started with the falling chocolate cake. Then I wanted to come up with something that could compete with it because that's all we were selling. So I came up with the vanilla soufflé." Did it work? Almost. "It's a close second."

The dark chocolate cake is served warm, encircled by a ring of bright red raspberry sauce, with chocolate sauce drizzles. A scoop of vanilla ice cream comes on the side. English learned early on not to tinker with perfection. "I tried to change the sauce once and I got yelled at," he says.

Creamy, rich and bursting with flavor, the vanilla bean soufflé comes in a ramekin with ice cream poured (and instantly melted) into the center. Both the ice cream and the soufflé get their vanilla flavor from the seeds of vanilla beans, vanilla sugar and vanilla extract.

When asked which of the two desserts he likes better, English replies, "I couldn't say. It's like asking me to choose between my son and my daughter."

10 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-1999). Falling chocolate cake, $10.50 (for two, $14.50); vanilla bean soufflé $10.50.

BOSTON CREAM PIE AT THE OMNI PARKER HOUSE

This quintessential Boston confection owes its standing as official Massachusetts state dessert (having beaten the Fig Newton and Toll House cookies) to the Omni Parker House. Although Parker pastry chefs weren't the first to come up with the cake and cream combo, they claim to be the first in the U.S. to get creative and combine the cake with chocolate—an idea that revolutionized the way people thought of desserts. Boston cream pie, as we now call it (it was known as chocolate cream pie back in the day), landed on the Parker House's menu back in the 1850s and hasn't budged since.

Of course, the pie has morphed into countless variations. But at the Parker House, it's remained pretty much the same for a century and a half: not a pie at all, but a two-layer golden sponge cake filled with light custard, laced with toasted almonds and served wit a sizable dollop of whipped cream. Food and beverage director Guy Hemond explains "It was originally made in pie tins, so it had ruffles like a pie. Now we bake it differentl of course, but the key ingredients are the same."

Hotel diners scarf up about 90 pieces (which are actually miniature circular cakes) day; Boston cream pie is even on the breakfast menu. Some are surprised that the Parke House version is so different from modern interpretations. The cream pie's filling isn't pudding but rather a light pastry cream, and the topping is not a super-sweet frostin but a chocolate ganache—still sweet, but not what you might expect if you grew up o the Betty Crocker version. "She adapted it for a box mix in the '50s and told people should look a certain way," Hemond says. "But you can't beat the real thing."

60 School St., Boston (617-227-8600). $5.75.

GINGERBREAD SUNDAE AND CARAMELIZED-APPLE BREAD PUDDING AT STEPHANIE'S ON NEWBURY

Homemade comfort food is the name of the game at Stephanie's on Newbury. The gingerbread sundae, which comes with oodles of hot fudge, warm caramel sauce, whipped cream and gingersnap molasses ice cream, couldn't fill the bill better. "I knew I wanted to do gingerbread," says owner Stephanie Sokolov. "We had a coffee cake recipe, and I used the base of it. It's really moist—I added molasses and gingerbread spices. It got an amazing response."

That was 11 years ago. Five years ago, she replaced it for a week. "I thought, 'It's been 11 years! This is crazy!' But people were pretty upset," she says.

The only dessert that tops the sundae in popularity is Sokolov's other longtime favorite: the caramelized-apple bread pudding served warm with caramel sauce and vanilla ice cream. This one was discovered out of necessity: Sokolov loves bread pudding but is allergic to most raw fruit. "For me, a great way to eat apples is to cook them separately and then add them to the bread pudding." The result is distinctive, since the apples are cooked in brown sugar and get a syrupy coating rather than just being tossed in cinnamon and sugar.

"I think of them as comfort food with a twist; a creative slant on familiar flavors," says Sokolov. "I try very hard not to eat them all the time."

190 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-0990). $9.95.

Mounds of hot fudge smothers fluffy gingerbread at Stephanie's on Newbury.

WARM CHOCOLATE BREAD PUDDING AT SONSIE

When Sonsie opened in 1993, chef/partner Bill Poirie expected to create a different bread pudding for eac new menu. But his second bread pudding, a ric chocolate concoction, ruined his plan. After servin the chocolate version for three months, Poirier rotate to a new variety, and the complaints started pourin in. "People wrote incredibly angry letters demandin to know why we took it off," Poirier remembers. H didn't immediately give in to customer demanc though, thinking the ruckus would soon dwindle. Bu after nine more months of abuse, he changed h mind—and the menu. "It's been here ever since," h says. "I learned my lesson."

Among the devotees of this decadent dessert are th Aerosmith boys: When they play Boston, they hav trays of it sent backstage, according to Sonsie staffer It's easy to see why. The warm pudding is homey, satis fying, thick and chocolaty, served with a giant scoop vanilla-flavored whipped cream and covered in a ric chocolate sauce. Selling a steady 25–50 servings night, "it overshadows everything else we try to d here," Poirier says. Over the past 12 years, the desse has been dethroned from its best-selling slot onl twice: once by chocolate mousse and once by choc late crème brûlée.

Many have asked for the recipe, but Poirier's keep ing it locked down. "We get lots of requests for it," h says, "but this is one secret that's not getting out."

327 Newbury St., Boston (617-351-2500). $8.

BAKED INDIAN PUDDING AT DURGIN-PARK

Durgin-Park's slogan is "Established before you wer born," and that goes for several of its desserts too Open since 1828, the no-frills Faneuil Hall restauran hasn't changed much about its menu or its appearanc in several decades, and its baked Indian pudding, king of the dessert menu.

Pamphlets explain the corn-based pudding's lon history, claiming that it was enjoyed at sea by clippe ship captains who had dined at Durgin-Park—and p rated the recipe. Despite its worldliness, there aren too many restaurants that serve the New England cla sic nowadays, a fact that perplexes chef Tommy Ryan Having made Indian pudding for over 40 years, he's ex perienced its popularity firsthand. "I don't know wh more people don't offer it," Ryan says.

Sweet and warm, the pudding is made with earl American staples: cornmeal, molasses, eggs, butte sugar and hot milk. Ryan prepares 40 gallons at a time three times a week. It's a long, slow process that take four-and-a-half hours. As the pudding bakes, the corn meal breaks down, eliminating some of the gritty tex ture. The pudding doesn't look fancy: It's rust-colore mush with a dollop of vanilla ice cream served in simple bowl. But after the first mouthful, your eyes wi be closed in bliss anyway.

Right now, Ryan's gearing up for the busy season. "At Thanksgiving get calls from around the country asking about it. Everyone wants to nake it or have it shipped. We just mail the recipe."

340 Faneuil Hall Marketplace (617-227-2038). $3.95.

VALRHONA CHOCOLATE SOUFFLÉ AT AUJOURD'HUI AT THE FOUR SEASONS

'When you think of the Four Seasons, there's only one dessert that's eally representative, and that's the chocolate soufflé," says pastry hef Tim Fonseca, who's been with the Four Seasons for almost eight ears. While chocolate soufflé is a standard on many a fine-dining nenu, Aujourd'hui's version has been a staple for the 20-year history f the restaurant.

The soufflé is served in the traditional ramekin, with the lightly rowned, billowy cake peeking over the top. It whispers chocolate ather than shouts it, and much of the richness comes from the weet, thick crème anglaise that's poured into its center. Don't be oncerned, though, chocoholics: "I make it as chocolaty as possible," ays Fonseca. "Some soufflés rely on a sauce for flavor. I push the en- elope on how much chocolate I can put into it while still having he ingredients of a soufflé."

While soufflés are, as Fonseca says, "reliable home runs" with din- rs, they're a challenge to the wait staff and kitchen staff. That's be- ause they are so hard to time. "It's not a complex dessert to make, nd the presentation is pretty simple. But you need to dedicate a lot f time to the preparation, and it's hard to get to the tables before it ollapses," Fonseca says.

When you're serving about 500 individual soufflés a month, you an imagine that the challenge gets old. However, Fonseca says, Ninety-nine percent of the people are excited to eat it, so that nakes it worthwhile."

200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). $14.

SOUFFLÉED LEMON CUSTARD AT HAMERSLEY'S BISTRO

rom five feet away, you can smell the lemon. The dessert itself is othing to look at: It's got an unpolished, imperfect kind of charm, s the tart, smooth custard oozes out of the cake's cracks. Some pas- y chefs have suggested prettying up the presentation, but chef/co- wner Gordon Hamersley won't hear of it. "It fits well with our ood philosophy: old fashioned, not super fancy but rustic and omforting."

Hamersley was looking for a bistro-style signature dessert when he nd his wife opened the restaurant in 1987. "I wanted that tart taste, a itrusy bite at the end of a rich meal that you'd find in a traditional istro," he says. When Jody Adams, sous chef at the time, suggested dapting a Craig Claiborne recipe, it made the cut.

Hamersley isn't averse to experimenting with his hit dessert. He xplains, "It's kind of like a marriage. You've got to change it around r you don't get a lot out of it." So he's tried mixing it up, using vari- us fruits, inflicting lime, grapefruit, pineapple, even ginger on it. one have lasted long.

However, like many a long-standing dessert, the custard now icits a love/hate response: Diners love it; chefs hate it. Complaints me from the kitchen when it's been on the menu too long, but quawks come louder from diners if it comes off. "I tell the pastry iefs, 'Sure, take it off the menu. But if people start saying "Where it?" it goes back on.' I set the poor bastards up," Hamersley laughs. They take it off, people write irate letters, and it goes back on."

553 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-2700.) $8.75.

MACAROONS, BAKED ALASKA AND INDIAN PUDDING AT LOCKE-OBER

A century ago, Boston Brahmins enjoyed many of Locke-Ober's classic dishes, like eak au poivre and beef stroganoff. And chef Lydia Shire, who's been at Locke-Ober nce 2001, doesn't remember the restaurant's three signature desserts—macaroons, dian pudding à la mode, Baked Alaska—ever coming off the menu. "People love them t just because they're delicious, but because it's comforting to be able to come here d know you'll be able to order the same things," she says.

Frank "The Macaroon Man," as he's known in the kitchen, has been baking Locke- ber's famous macaroons for the past 47 years straight. Using egg whites and almond ste, he whips up about 300 a week, baking them slowly so they stay creamy and chewy the middle.

BOSTON CREAM PIE AT THE OAK ROOM AT THE FAIRMONT COPLEY PLAZA

The Fairmont Copley Plaza's Oak Room and the Oak Bar go through 3,600 Boston cream pies a year, and 1,800 are served at private functions. At about five pounds each, that's over 13 tons of Boston cream pie served annually, and about 40 percent of the restaurant's dessert sales.

The pie has been on the menu in either the restaurant or the adjacent Oak Room since the 1940s. Back then it was called vanilla custard pie, which was a variation on the pudding cake pie, and was made with a much heavier cake and more of a hard ganache frosting. Nowadays, Oak Room chefs have contemporized the dessert with a lighter cake and cream filling, and the ganache has morphed into a warm, rich chocolate sauce, topped with white chocolate shavings.

The giant slice of cake is much lighter than you'd expect from the look of it, mostly because there's more cake than cream involved—four layers' worth. (That's double the size of the original two-layer pudding pie.) Chef Laurent Poulain attributes the pie's longtime success to the nostalgia factor. "It makes you feel like you're a child all over again, just by looking at it. Once you take a bite, it's so good that you eat the whole thing without any guilt." His surprise ingredient helps to take care of that: "If you do feel guilty, the rum will make you feel so good that you won't feel guilty too long."

138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). $12.

Called vanilla custard pie in the 1940s, the Oak Room's Boston cream pie is flavored with a dash of rum.

Shire's personal favorite—and Locke-Ober's most popular dessert—is the Indian pudding. Modernized over the years, the current recipe comes from Rick Katz (who opened Biba with Shire in 1989, and is now chef/owner of Picco). The custard looks more like a crème brûlée than a pudding because of its crunchy top. Experience has taught Shire to keep it light, creamy and uncomplicated. "Usually by the time you get to dessert, you've tasted a lot of flavors and you just want something simple."

The famous Baked Alaska got a twist when Shire took over the restaurant—and the recipe. "I'm not a strawberry ice cream fan, so I use raspberry sorbet with the vanilla. I like that flavor a lot better." Thankfully, Locke-Ober's patrons endorsed the twist. A waiter douses the dish with cognac and lights it on fire (a safe distance away from your seat), lightly charring the meringue to create a chewy, warm crust that tops the giant melting block of ice cream and layer of vanilla sponge cake.

3 Winter Place, Boston (617-542-1340). Macaroons, $6; Baked Alaska, $10; Indian pudding, $8. IB

wild at heart

For local mushroom foragers, the thrill is in the hunt.

BY ETHAN GILSDORF PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANTHONY TIEULI

facing page: A "hen-of-the-woods" (aka maitake or *Grifola frondosa*) plucked from nature, this page: Forager Daniel Bruce traipsing the Bay Hill Preserve.

Don't ever get into a car with a wild-mushroom hunter.

He may appear to be paying attention. But don't be fooled. His eyes aren't on the road.

No, he's scanning the roadside for shelf-like growths clinging to tree trunks, puffy balls tucked between roots, mysterious white clumps littering the forest floor. He might risk a car accident if it means scoring some 'shrooms.

"Even going 70 miles per hour down the highway, I can spot a mushroom," says Daniel Bruce, one Sunday morning in early October. Chef at the Boston Harbor Hotel's Meritage restaurant, Bruce, 45, has been foraging ever since he was a 10-year-old kid wandering in the Maine forest. "Sometimes you walk in the woods for hours, nothing, and then you find something right on the side of the road."

And then, Bruce sees it. Or, rather, them.

"Holy shit, look at that!" he exclaims, yanking his silver Toyota Highlander onto the shoulder of a busy road whose name he's loathe to reveal (let's just say, it's a location well within metropolitan Boston). Bruce is practically shouting. "See that?!"

Plastered to the side of an ordinary oak tree are dozens of spongy protrusions, seemingly oozing from the bark-like, fluorescent orange-yellow ears. To the thousands of cars speeding past each day, they are as obvious as a DPW highway cone. No one except Bruce seems to notice they're a gift: luscious chicken mushrooms.

He hops out with his ever-present boning knife and wire basket. In Nature, bright colors are supposed to signal Danger! You eat me, I kill you. "Take that home and eat it," he says, carving off a slab of chickens. "Trust me, you won't die." Of the some 2,000 mushroom species in New England, 15 percent are inedible. The rest are harmless, but that doesn't mean they taste good. On the "edible"-"good edible"-"choice edible" scale, chickens are among the best.

At Meritage, mushrooms of many kinds—porcinis, cauliflowers, lobsters, honeys, oysters—might become a creamy soup drizzled with virgin pumpkin seed oil, or a handmade ravioli stuffing. (When asked what he does with all the mushrooms he finds, Bruce says he gives them away to friends, dries them as presents, and prepares them for special occasions. The mushrooms he serves at Meritage come from a supplier.)

For most toadstool lovers—be they chefs, chipmunks or hobbits—the appeal is akin to fishing or

hunting. It's an unpredictable, sometimes frustrating hobby that can inject you with the addictive, adrenaline thrill of the chase. "Everyone I take out, they fall in love with it," Bruce says. "It's walking with a purpose. It's like a treasure hunt." He claims he once collected 400 pounds in one day, but had to stop when he ran out of room in his SUV. But it's not enough to be merely persistent and obsessed. In his quest for the perfect bounty, Bruce also has to be cunning—if not borderline paranoid.

Which explains why previously that same October morning, after he harvests a basketball-sized, four-pound, brain-textured "hen-of-the-woods" (aka maitake, Latin name *Grifola frondosa*) from the roadside of the Blue Hills Reservation, Bruce spends a few moments brushing leaves and twigs over the stub of its telltale, glaring white root. Like a bloodhound kicking dirt over a bone, he wants to cover up any sign that he, or a mushroom, has ever been there.

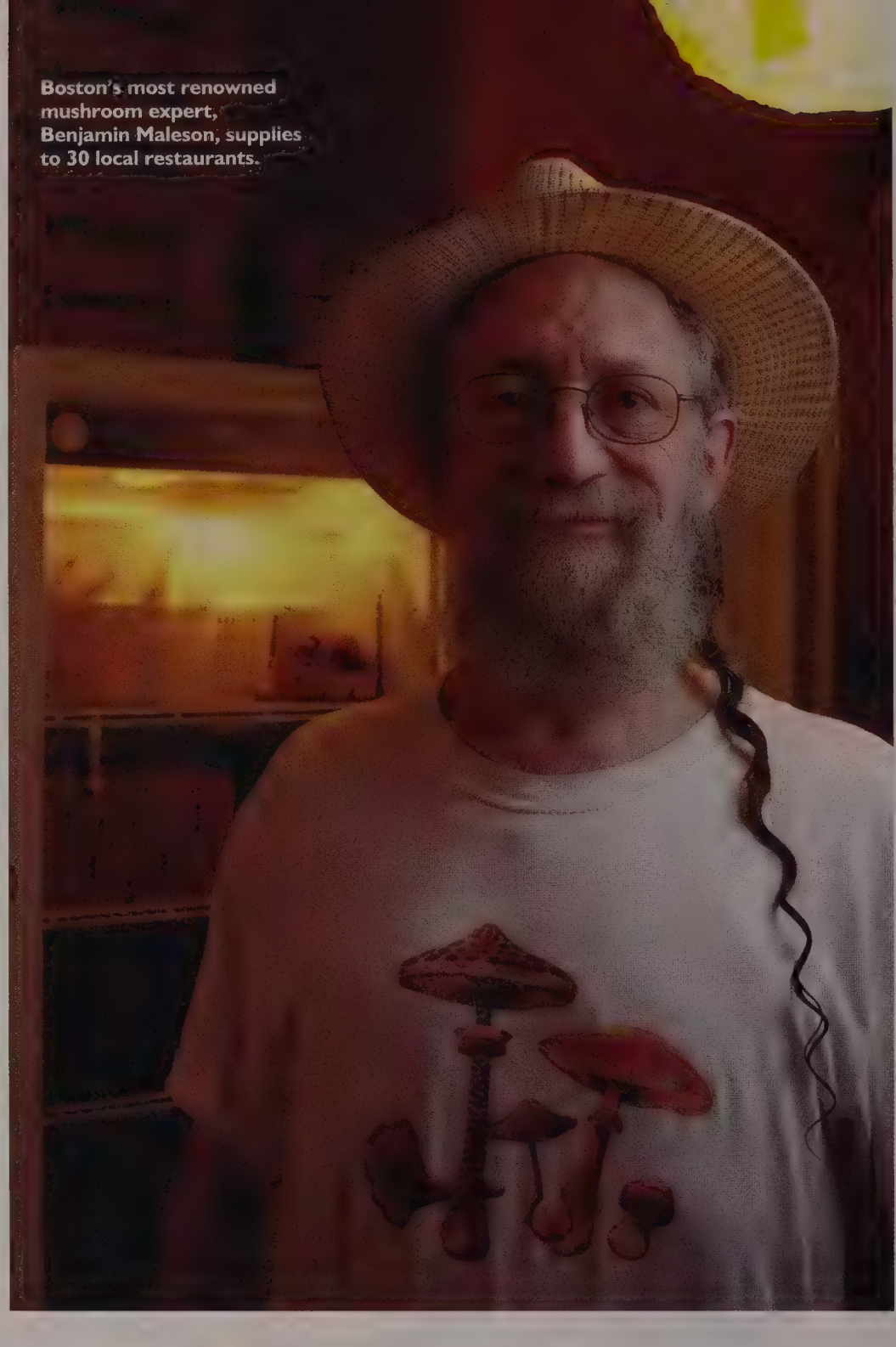
"Uh-oh, people coming," he says. Then with a look over his shoulder, he climbs into his Highlander. A *Boletus bicolor*, threaded on a string by his 9-year-old daughter, hangs from the rearview mirror. This is the first mushroom of the season, and as Bruce speeds away, it swings wildly, like a magic talisman. Or a shrunken head.

Mushroomers aren't exactly keepers of the Holy Grail's coordinates, nor do they claim knowledge of Sasquatch's private 'shroom stash. But like in all fringe activities that require specialized knowledge, in the wild foraging community, "I was there first" turf battles can flare up like rosy-capped russulas after a rainy spell. Any avid forager worth his sauté pan must protect his secret spots.

Especially since the hobby is growing. The Northeast now claims 18 amateur "mycological" organizations, under the umbrella of the Northeast Mycological Federation. The Boston Mycological Club, founded in 1895, is the nation's oldest. Naturally, veterans want to protect fragile habitats from too many clueless, stumbling beginners who, as Bruce disparages, "go out and buy a field guide and think they can forage." (He has "some trees growing in New Hampshire," two hours away; he regularly drives there at 4:30 a.m., takes his plunder, and arrives back in Boston in time for his long day at the restaurant.)

Whether Bruce has a particular rival forager in mind when he hides his tracks, he won't say. But he does have, if not a friendly competition, then a respectful relationship with fellow Jamaica Plain resident and widely acknowledged "mushroom guy" Benjamin Maleson, the area's best known edible-mushroom expert, who earns his living as a mushroom supplier to more than 30 local restaurants. "I don't think it's so much of a rivalry," Bruce says. "[Maleson] throws me a bogus story to throw me off the trail. We talk about mushrooms. We have a passion."

Maleson doesn't characterize their dealings quite the same way. "The lack of a relationship is conspicuous," Maleson says as he tools around in his "toaster," a boxy, orange Scion that serves as his delivery van, mobile office and foraging HQ. "It's not a rivalry. It's he wants to be me. But he has a great job with a great salary, so he doesn't want to be me."



Boston's most renowned mushroom expert, Benjamin Maleson, supplies to 30 local restaurants.

> "I see myself as part of the team, helping to provide a gourmet experience."

While Bruce looks more like a weekend dad in jeans and flannel shirt than a respected chef who worked his way through the kitchens of Milan, Venice, Paris and New York before landing in Boston 16 years ago, Maleson, 54, seems his opposite. Under that straw hat and behind a scraggly beard and long graying hair lurks a man who looks more the part of hard-core forager than clean-cut, polished Bruce does. And while Bruce is open and gregarious, Maleson is suspicious of publicity and skeptical of other mushroomers' claims of success. "He doesn't know dirt from mushrooms," he gripes about one Central Mass. distributor, in between veering off the road every 200 yards and fielding calls like a dealer supplying a junkie with a fix ("Yeah, I got a box of whites, a box of golds for you.").

A former master leatherworker, Maleson got his first mushrooming book when he was 9 years old and says he eats mushrooms for "breakfast, lunch and dinner." Whether he's hand-selecting the best boxes of commercial mushrooms from the Chelsea market, brokering a shipment of wild chanterelles from the West Coast, or out there foraging himself, mushrooms are Maleson's livelihood.

Unfortunately, due to record heat and lack of rainfall, pickings have been slim this year. The peak season, which usually runs mid-July through October, got a late start, Maleson says. "This year we've had nothing until about a week ago," he explains, and it's already the second week of October.

Maleson cultivates a proprietary air about his business: He says he won't sell to "inexperienced chefs" who will "ruin" his mushrooms. "Some people don't like my personality," he says a few miles down the road. "I can't imagine why." But his self-assuredness is not unearned. As he gathers chickens and hens-of-the-woods from the forested shores of a certain public waterway in the Somerville/Medford area, Maleson recounts how, in 1985, sick from inhaling toxic mushroom fumes, he accidentally set himself on fire. Sixty-five percent of his body was burned. He didn't leave the hospital for more than a year.

In another near-death experience, Maleson ingested an "evil twin": a specimen that looked like an edible boletus, but turned out to be the venomous *Boletus satanus*. "I learned what was meant by 'They won't kill you but you'll wish you were dead.'"

Firsthand encounters with the trade's perils seem to have boosted his legendary status in the local gourmet food community. Since the mid 1980s, kitchens of restaurants like L'Espalier and Harvest have relied on his hard-won expertise. "I see myself as part of the team, helping to provide a gourmet experience," he says. "People recognize the quality that I bring." And what he brings is treasure, indeed: a rich, earthy, rare essence from primeval woods onto Boston's tables.

Back on the scrubby shoreline, Maleson has found a small hen-of-the-woods. Crouching, he cuts it free and cleans off the dirt and leaves, while describing its life cycle, explaining its etymology, speaking its name in several languages. "I don't want to harm it," he says, as if referring not to a mushroom, but to an injured bird. Then, gently cradling the hen with his hands, he places it in a crate, closes the lid, and noiselessly moves down the path and deeper into the woods. IB

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RESTAURANT NAME	OPENING DATE	ADDRESS/PHONE/ WEBSITE	TYPE OF FOOD	ENTREE PRICE	DESCRIPTION
AMERICAN ANGUS BEEF STEAKHOUSE	September	119 Merrimack St., Boston; 617-742-6487. www.angusbeefsteakhouse.com	Steak House	$16-$39	Located in the Bulfinch Hotel, this spinoff of the Montreal-based steakhouse specializes in beef and seafood.
ASHMONT GRILL	September	555 Talbot Ave., Dorchester; 617-825-4300. www.ashmontgrill.com	American	$5-$18	Icarus owner Chris Douglass contributes to the up-and-coming Dorchester scene with his take on a modern American eatery, featuring wood-grilled fish and grass-fed meats and burgers.
BARLOLA	August	160 Comm. Ave., Boston; 617-266-1122. www.barlola.com	Tapas	$4-$9	BarLola offers tapas from all regions of Spain. Its signature martini, the Lolita, comes with an edible orchid.
CUVEE	March	254 Newbury St., Boston; 617-536-7077. www.cuveeboston.com	American	$17-$30	Regularly scheduled wine dinners pair contemporary American cuisine with specialty wines.
DBAR	October	1236 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester; 617-265-4490. www.dbarboston.com	American/ Mediterranean	$19 and under	This multi-purpose bar, lounge, club and restaurant blends flavors from the Mediterranean with American classics.
DOMANI BAR & TRATTORIA	March	51 Huntington Ave., Boston; 617-424-8500. www.domaniboston.com	Italian	$10-$35	Tucked into a corner of the Copley Square Hotel, this trattoria offers New Italian eats with a menu of pasta, pizzette and bistro-style plates.
EASTERN STANDARD	May	Hotel Commonwealth 528 Comm. Ave., Boston; 617-532-9100.	American	$10-$20	Located on the west side of the Hotel Commonwealth, No. 9 Park owner Garrett Harker's spacious, stylish eatery offers French bistro fare and a lively bar scene.
ECLANO	September	54 Salem St., Boston; 617-720-6001.	Italian	$18-$30	This Italian eatery provides an extensive wine list paired with hand-cut pasta and homemade rabbit sausages.
INQ	March	279A Newbury St., Boston; 617-536-9321.	American	$10-$28	Inq's highlight is a seasonal patio where familiar favorites like pan-seared salmon, crab cakes and fancy burgers are served.
INTERMISSION TAVERN	June	228 Tremont St., Boston; 617-451-5997. www.intermissiontavern.com	American	$13-$16	Situated in Boston's theater district and open until 2 am, this no-frills tavern provides classic American meals and a large selection of cocktails.
KAZE	September	1 Harrison Ave., Boston; 617-338-8238.	Japanese	$11-$19	This late-night dining option in Chinatown specializes in shabu shabu, where you pick the ingredients to be cooked at the table in a bubbling broth.
KNOWFAT! LIFESTYLE GRILL	August	530 Washington St., Boston; 617-451-0043. www.knowfat.com	Health food	$5-$10	The second Boston-area location of this expanding health food franchise combines a quick-service restaurant with a convenience-style retail store.
MARCO CUCINA ROMANO	September	253 Hanover St., Boston; 617-742-1276.	Italian	$10-$25	Pigalle's Marc Orfaly introduces his sophomore venture with this North End trattoria featuring the rustic regional flavors of Rome.
MARE	May	135 Richmond St., Boston; 617-723-6273. www.mareorganic.com	Italian/Seafood	$18-$32	Bricco and Umbria's sister establishment in the North End maintains a focus on seafood and organic ingredients.
MATCH	October	94 Mass Ave., Boston; 617-247-9922. www.matchbackbay.com	American	$5-$19	A fire display and glass wine room are two notable features of this modern restaurant/lounge specializing in mini burgers and martinis.
MISSION BAR & GRILL	August	724 Huntington Ave., Boston; 617-566-1244.	American	$8-$17	Not just a place for beer, Mission Bar & Grill offers accommodating service along with an upscale twist on such traditional pub food as fish and chips.
NEBO	June	90 N. Washington St., Boston; 617-723-6326.	Italian	$10-$20	A newbie to the North End, Nebo serves Italian specialties including gourmet pizzas, with toppings like figs and prosciutto.
PETIT ROBERT BISTRO	April	468 Comm. Ave., Boston; 617-375-0699. www.petitrobertbistro.com	French	$10-$20	At Jacky Robert's authentic and affordable French bistro, the menu boasts classic recipes such as soufflés, a tarte tatin, crème brûlée and crêpes aux amandes.
PHATT BOYS	June	50 Church St., Cambridge; 617-354-2005. www.phattboys.com	American	$10-$25	Harvard Square's Phatt Boys fuses three American favorites—seafood, barbeque and chops—and provides nightly live entertainment.
RUTH'S CHRIS STEAKHOUSE	October	45 School St., Boston; 617-724-8401. www.ruthschris.com	American	$35-$50	The national steakhouse chain opened its first Boston location in Old Boston City Hall, in the space that housed Maison Robert.
SEIYO	July	1721C Washington St., Boston; 617-447-2183. www.seiyoboston.com	Japanese/Sushi	$2-$30	A stylish sushi bar and a retail wine shop are housed under the same South End roof.
SOPHIA'S GROTTO	March	22 Birch St., Roslindale; 617-323-4595.	Italian/ Mediterranean	$10-$30	Roslindale Square's homey restaurant blends Italian and Spanish specialties and caters to families, with toys on hand and a small children's menu.
SOUTH	September	77 Dorchester St., South Boston; 617-269-7832. www.southkitchenbar.com	American	$5-$26	Located in South Boston, South Kitchen offers diners grilled specialties such as Kobe beef flat iron steak and prime rib au jus as well as healthy sautéed fish.
STELLA	May	1525 Washington St., Boston; 617-247-7747. www.bostonstella.com	Italian	$15-$25	Thin-crust pizza, roasts and homemade pastas complemented by Italian cocktails and an extensive assortment of grappas are the standard fare in this stark white dining room in the South End.
28 DEGREES	October	1 Appleton St., Boston; 617-728-0728. www.28degrees-boston.com	American	$6-$23	Communal sharing dominates the menu at this American bistro, along with an array of specialty cocktails.

FRESH CATCH

With its own dock in Gloucester, Whole Foods speeds fish from sea to market.

BY LIZA WEISSTUCH

Viewed from Gloucester Harbor, Boston looks like a miniature island metropolis. The crowded buildings of downtown are a tight cluster of grey spikes that would fit into the palm of your hand. The city is actually only 12 miles away, but when you're out on the ocean, land itself—let alone the pulse of the landlubber's lifestyle—seems like a distant fiction. When you make a living spending enormous chunks of time at sea, you're free from the distractions of metropolitan life. That freedom allows maritime professionals, fishermen like Russell Sherman, to focus on their task. They're a critical link in the urban food chain, acquiring the goods that supply the stores that feed the pavement pounders.

Sherman and his crew typically leave shore 30 minutes before sunrise on the Lady Jane, his 625-horsepower diesel engine boat, named for his mother. "There are so many things that go into [a day of fishing]," he says. "Navigation, engineering. It's about so many things besides the natural aspect, but there is really nothing like a beautiful sunrise in the morning."

A good day of ground fishing can yield 3,000 to 4,000 pounds of North Atlantic species like cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder and grey sole that are ultimately sautéed, panfried and broiled. Much of the 2 to 5 million pounds of seafood unloaded in Gloucester each month is sold on the Gloucester Seafood Display Auction to brokers and wholesalers. But Sherman is one of about 16 fishermen who unload at Pigeon Cove's docks. Steve Parkes, facility team leader, typically greets them with a thermometer in hand, ready for preliminary quality control. Sherman unpacks his wares for inspection and is paid a fair market value, meaning his catch fetches about the same as it would at an auction house. But perhaps most important to Sherman, his longstanding relationship with Pigeon Cove guarantees he'll sell his whole load in one fell swoop.

What does that mean for you? The short answer: a lot. Instead of sitting at an auction house awaiting purchase by a broker hunting down a deal for a restaurant or supermarket, Sherman's fish are brought right inside to be scaled, washed, cut and shipped. This means less time between Sherman's unloading the fish and your buying it.

Pigeon Cove is distinct from other docks in Gloucester because it belongs to Whole Foods, the only supermarket chain in the U.S. to own and operate its own dockside facility. The Northwest Atlantic species you buy at Whole Foods nationwide could have been reeled in by Sherman or other local fishermen.

A fisherman displays his catch

Fish on the way to market

Gloucester Harbor from the fishing boat

But talk to him or any other Pigeon Cove regular, and there's no mention of farm-raised X or organic Y. They scour for marine delicacies in the same waters at the same time as the folks who catch the haddock that ends up at the local fish fry. You can load up on exotic mushrooms, grass-fed beef, and soy everthing at Whole Foods, but seafood is the final frontier of organics. The USDA has no standards classifying organic seafood. There are presently only two organic shrimp farms in the country and they're certified according to livestock standards—specifically the ones that regulate the animals' habitat and food.

While you can't buy seafood based on diet or controlled habitat—which wouldn't necessarily affect the taste for the better—there are factors enviro-conscious consumers can be aware of while trawling the market floor. They have to do with sustainable fishing practices, which is to say that neither the fish population nor the ocean habitat is thrown off kilter in the fishing process. If the fish is caught in the Atlantic, regardless of where you buy it, the fisherman was subject to strict federal regulations that keep those factors under control. The New England ground-fishing industry is the most strictly regulated fishing business in the world. There are mesh-size requirements, prohibited areas, and severe restrictions concerning days when boats can access the 17 species that regulations protect. Increased regulations over the past decade have resulted in a plummeting amount of fish caught, significantly reducing the number of working fishermen.

So a keen business sense becomes as critical as the instinct to stay above water, which is where an alliance with Pigeon Cove is mutually beneficial. Parkes buys the full catch from day boats, while fishermen at the auction house pay by the pound to display their wares—it's an investment, and only a profit will ensure their future participation.

But still, how come Whole Foods fish cases have that museum-like display quality when it's common to find weathered, oxidized cuts elsewhere? "What separates Whole Foods from everyone else is that we unload the fishing vessels and the fish goes to the stores," says Parkes. "Rather than have 100 other customers and divide up the fish—which can lead to playing games with quality levels—we buy our fish in the morning and then it's shipped to the stores. We don't deal with restaurants."

On a Friday in August, I visited the plant, where heaps of fish are sorted by species and size. Walking through a high-ceilinged warehouse, Parkes picks up a ferocious-looking ocean catfish weighing in at over 12 pounds. He shows off its strong jaw. "Lovely teeth," he says. In the next room, a fleet of men swish knives through the fish, straight from the ice and already gutted, cut and washed. They slice with a grace that would make you think "fillet" is a type of modern dance. A giant apron plunks a sieve of cod cuts onto the clanking conveyor belt of the skinning machine. Then the naked pieces are ferreted off to the candling table, where a small battery of people plying tweezers and probes eliminate any foreign bodies or specks. Each day, about 10,000 pounds of seafood move through the line and into the shipping cooler.

But by this point in the afternoon, Sherman is looking ahead, thinking about the sunrise on the horizon. **iB**

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OUTER

PUSH THE STY

Chocolate-brown leather coat, by Byron Lars, $1,245 at Fanny and Delphine.

Coriander coat, by Rina Zin, $540 at Fanny and Delphine.

LIMITS

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PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL DWORNIK

Three-quarter-length wool coat, by Malene Birger, $595, at Stil.

Military-inspired purple coat, by Michael Kors, $1,995 at Gretta Luxe.

Multicolor patchwork coat, by Miu Miu, $1,810 at Gretta Luxe.

Fanny and Delphine, 522 Commonwealth Ave., Hotel Commonwealth, 617-266-2006; Gretta Luxe, Copley Place, 617-536-1959; Stil, 170 Newbury St., 617-859-7845
Hair and Makeup: Laurentius. Model: Paige for Reinhard Agency.

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1960 Beacon Street
Brighton

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Boston

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The Ramrod
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Dedham

T.G.I. Friday's
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T.G.I. Friday's
33 Mystic View Road
Everett

T.G.I. Friday's
285 Washington Street
Norwell

The Thirsty Scholar Bar & Grille
70 Beacon Street
Somerville

Tiernan's Restaurant & Irish Pub
99 Broad Street
Boston

The Times Irish Pub & Restaurant
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Boston

Union Brew House
550 Washington Street
Weymouth

Uno Chicago Grill
22 John F. Kennedy Street
Cambridge

Veez Grill & Tap
290 Main Street
Malden

Warren Tavern
2 Pleasant Street
Charlestown

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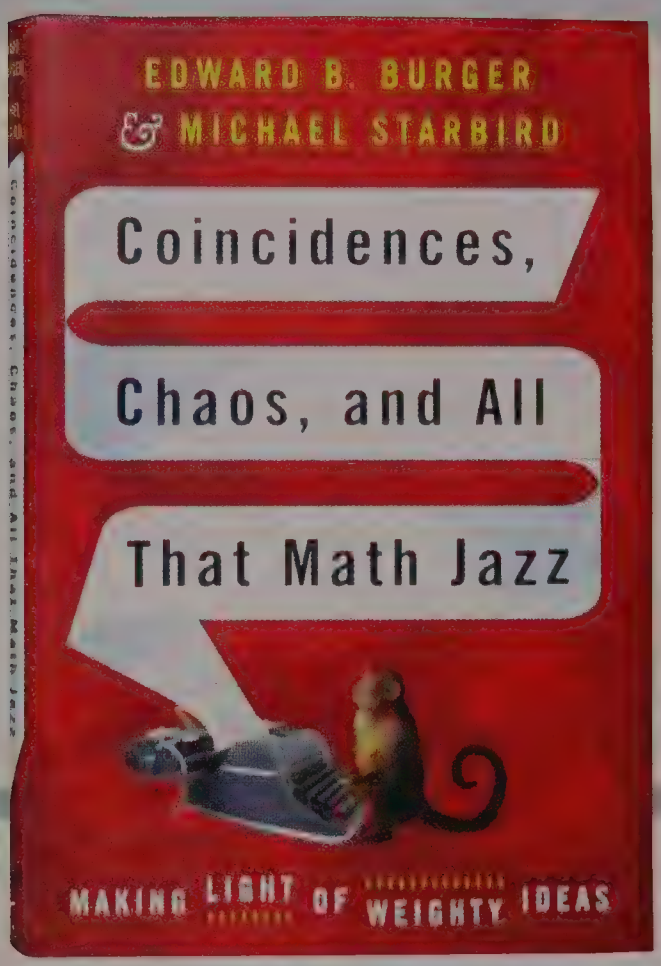
MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



ABSTRACTIONS THAT WILL MAKE YOU LAUGH

***Coincidences, Chaos and All That Math Jazz*, by Edward Burger and Michael Starbird, makes math interesting and funny.**

Math, to the not so mathematically inclined, is a blur of numbers on an MIT blackboard. But these lively math professors (Burger teaches locally at Williams College) make some of its underlying concepts, and the games you can play with them, fun indeed. Inventing an investment firm, E.F. Nuttin', the authors play out various mathematical formulas the firm might use to predict the future of the stock market, illuminating both logic and scam. Another abstraction the pair bring down to beautiful earth involves the mathematical spirals and counter-spirals in the tightly patterned center of a daisy—revealing Mother Nature as both artist and scientist. And you can follow them into the twisting, rubbery, Houdini-like world of the fourth dimension, as they show how, with your pant legs roped together, you can remove those pants without untying the rope and put them back on inside-out. The surprises and paradoxes of the bulging concept of infinity (which comes in more than one size) and counting up to it are explained by positing an Infinity Inn for which the Cardinality Cleaners work. Discussing the Golden Rectangle, a proportional shape that informs great art and architecture, the authors friskily inquire: "Are you experiencing rectangular arousal?" Math is a brilliant jokester inhabiting our world vividly, concretely.

PLANET OF IMPOSING MONSTERS

Creature Feature Productions at 600 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-875-9949), offers memorabilia of the monster and superhero ilk for big-ticket collectors and kids, as they say, of all ages.

In Fabian's Creature Feature store sit monsters, action figures and superheroes from the late '60s through the present. Some are in little plastic cases, suitable and affordable for children. Also crammed into the small space, and therefore scarier, is a looming, life-sized *Planet of the Apes* gorilla guard, with big glass eyes, carrying an AK-47 in his huge gloved hands. A haunting *Star Wars* Tuscan Raider of the Sand People stands magisterial and faceless next to him—these are suitably priced for big collectors. The governor of California in his earlier movie incarnation sits on a shelf, his metal face dripping. A plastic Godzilla (the Japanese Mickey Mouse?) slithers around, dragging his giant toxic tail. In almost comic contrast, some little CareBears and Barbies lie around among Power Rangers and GI Joes. An imposingly tall, colorful King Tut swings away to reveal bookcases. And ET, his lonely little finger lit up, sits sequestered in a plasti case—you can take him home for only $50.

GET ON THE SMOKINESS TRAIN

Smoke and Pickles, from Westport, Mass., caters events and weddings all around Boston, bringing summertime barbecue heat through December. Call Dan George at 508-636-3867.

Through a felicitous connec tion with chef Chr Schlesinger of The East Coa Grill and The Back Eddy i Westport, Mass., at an ever supporting local farming, Da George became Schlesinger pickle chef. From these veg etables dreaming in vinega he ventured on to meats ar fish lusciously cooked on wood fire in charming trail like smokers. You take tough, gnarly, wonderfully fl vorful slab of beef or por smoke it, then grill-roast it f a long, long time at a lo heat. The local hardwoods i volved also add their mouth watering flavors: cherry, apple, hickory, ash, oak and maple. Striped bass are presented on wooden plan and are"caught locally on hook and line with great bronze color shining forth," says George, who co-a thored *Quick Pickles* with John Willoughby and Chris Schlesinger. In summer barbecues—which inclu George's relishes and "tangy things" (corn relish, rhubarb relish)—the pork collapses into wildly aromat shreds, hand-edible. The gigantic slabs of beef emanate richness and power, offset by tall, crumbly piec of cornbread. The fish tastes both of the salty nearness of the sea in deep summertime and of its philosop ical brooding in the smoker. Along with the Southern barbecue, Smoke and Pickles offers Middle Easte or Latin smokeries. All are party spectacles that radiate flavor.

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REVIEW

A TASTE OF PARIS

Eastern Standard presents classic French bistro fare with an ambiance to match.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Eastern Standard, a capacious eatery connected to the Hotel Commonwealth at Kenmore Square, is Boston's answer to Paris' Chartier. A hallowed landmark in the 9th arrondissement on Paris' right bank, Chartier feeds an eclectic crowd ranging from the occasional *clochard* (hobo) who can scrape up the dollar or two for a bowl of nourishing soup, to bourgeois regulars who treasure its predictability and value, to the occasional tourist who has read about it in a guidebook. As at Chartier, the food at Eastern Standard is not exceptional, but for the most part it satisfies, sometimes even delights, occasionally disappoints, but almost always charms. Eastern Standard delivers affordable classic French bistro fare in a striking setting that exhilarates with its visual attractions, spaciousness, and ambiance très atmosphérique.

The restaurant is almost cavernous in its dimensions. Languidly revolving fans hang from its ultra-high ceiling. Red upholstered banquettes line the walls at tables set with white tablecloths, simple votive candles, and wooden salt shakers and pepper mills. Large photographs by local artists, including one of a Boston-Albany Railroad locomotive on one side of the dining room and one featuring Ann Corio, a famous Boston burlesque dancer, decorate the walls. Candle sconces on one wall and a phalanx of bronze lamps on a room divider, both with red pleated fabric shades, augment the illumination provided by huge spherical light fixtures suspended from the ceiling. In the mild months, tables for al fresco dining fill the sidewalk along Commonwealth Ave., while at all times of the year two large plasma screen televisions mounted above and behind the long, handsome marble-topped bar project the sport du jour.

Roasted beet salad with pignoli nuts, mesclun greens and goat cheese

EASTERN STANDARD
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While we perused ES' menu, a single long page formatted in classic bistro style, the waiter brought a basket of superb breads from Iggy's, a popular Boston baker. Four pointed, hard-crusted French rolls; chewy-crusted, mild sourdough; coarse-textured Italian peasant loaves; and, on one evening, sweet, moist zucchini bread accompanied by soft butter reminded me once again of Paris' beloved Chartier, where one used to be able to supplement a bowl of six franc (at that time, $1.20) vegetable soup with baskets of fresh sliced baguettes.

First courses from ES included fruits of the sea from a raw bar (with the special shellfish of the evening set forth on a large blackboard on the back wall), salads and appetizers. Of the appetizers, the mussels and frites ($10) started us off on the right foot. I had stayed clear of mussels for a while after encountering intermittent bad ones at otherwise decent restaurants. At ES, not a grain of grit nor a hint of ripeness marred this generous bowl of sweet, fresh mollusks. Fennel and shallots made the broth so delicious that I requested a spoon to enjoy the remainder of it after we had polished off the mussels. The french fries, a minor disappointment, arrived warm but not sufficiently hot and fresh, and looked rather forlorn on a small plate. Another appetizer, five deep-fried salt cod fritters ($10), looked better than it tasted, failing to live up to its special presentation in a small wooden salt cod box. The fritters suffered from doughy, dense texture inside that betrayed the promise of their crisp exterior.

An unusual, slightly offbeat appetizer, roasted bone marrow ($6), brought two hefty segments of beef leg bone with a small spoon protruding from the cavity containing the marrow. With sea salt and two varieties of mustard as condiments, thin slices of baguettes provided the platform for savoring this fatty, albeit protein-rich, subtl flavored substance, spreadable like soft but ter. Roasted beets with "Hooligan" goa cheese and frisee greens ($10) proved re freshing, with the sweet warmth of this es timable but too infrequently encountere root vegetable complemented by young tender greens, and fragments of soft, shar but not overpowering goat cheese.

Moving to main courses, I ordered th roasted half chicken ($20), a standar French bistro offering that I regard as benchmark for evaluating the kitchen mastery of the basics. ES' rendering of th classic combined succulent hunks of whit breast meat and toothsome drumstick stuffed with dark thigh meat and duxelle (mushrooms) combined with herbs. Foi gras, our waitress advised, used to compris part of the stuffing of the chicken leg, bu is now mixed with chopped mushroom and served as an accompaniment alon with spaetzle—buttery Teutonic pasta Spaghetti carbonara ($18), offered as main course, boasted al dente texture, bu the sauce was a letdown, with the usuall engaging combination of bacon, peas an Parmesan wholly overwhelmed by a heav hand on the pepper.

An inviting and very French feature ES' menu, the specials that mark each da of the week, included suckling pig ($22 on Sundays. I had assumed that wha would be forthcoming would be roaste pork with crisp skin. I should have asked Instead it turned out to be a large mound shredded braised pork, swimming in soupy sauce. A heavy hand on the peppe as with the spaghetti carbonara, ove whelmed its flavor and richness. As luc would have it, I encountered the bigge disappointment on ES' menu, the ve schnitzel ($19), that same Sunday nigh Expecting a crisp, fresh, hot cutlet of ten der breaded veal, I received instead a sogg thick, tough cut of meat, which if it wer veal, had to be one of the most superannu ated adolescents of the bovine worl Buried under a pool of excessively lemon sauce, this gristly, almost unchewable cu let could not even be rescued by the del cious artichoke hearts, capers, fingerlin potatoes and spinach that garnished Breaded veal cutlets enjoy a strong follow ing in our house, and whether encountere

Patrons can dine and watch the game at the large, marble-topped bar.

Chef Jamie Bissonnette

s wienerschnitzel in Central Europe or oteletta Milanese in Italy, they constitute referred menu choices when we travel. his disaster seemed closer to a frozen TV inner than to these classics.

One thing that's difficult to come by in traditional brasserie or bistro is a good iece of beef. Steak frites at such venues an be enjoyable, but the less than tender uts used leave much to be desired. In ontrast, ES shined in the beef depart-ent. I dropped into Eastern Standard one one evening, planning to have din-er at the bar while watching the baseball ime. By the time I took one of the 22 gh-backed barstools, the home team as out of it, so I shifted gears and settled ick into a banquette. I ordered the bone-rib eye ($26), a magnificent 1-inch ab of beef on a single rib bone—rare, nder, of impeccable texture. Rich mar-ing gave it a full, beefy flavor. The aiter had enthusiastically announced at the steak would come over a bed of eamed spinach. Startled that such in-gnity would be visited on the star at-action, I requested that the steak be ated alone and that the spinach be served separately, a request he obliged. Presented in its own bowl, the spinach lived up to its advance billing, flavorful, pleasantly bitter and deftly spiced. An unexpected dividend arrived along with it: a diminutive, two-handled casserole of cheesy potato gratin. For someone with a serious appetite, the rib eye and its accompaniments scored high on any scale.

Eastern Standard's desserts, all priced at $7, did not meet the standards of its better appetizers and main courses. The Boston cream pie, a sweet white pudding cake in between thin layers of chocolate, did not rise above the ordinary. Grand Marnier crème brûlée proved marginally better, with good texture and an invitingly crisp caramelized top, but if France's famous orange-flavored liqueur were present, it was doing its best to hide.

ES' wine list includes superb, affordable choices. Jean-Luc Colombo, Côte Bleue, Provence ($21) brought a crisp, fresh, well-balanced rosé from France's sunny South. On one of my visits, the carafe of the day ($16) featured Falconer, a combination of cabernet sauvignon and merlot from Hungary, a serviceable vin ordinaire. On my final visit, a glass of rioja from Sierra Cantabria ($8) delivered sound structure, significant but softened tannins, and good acid balance that made it a good food match.

The most frustrating thing about Eastern Standard, which reminded me of my last visit to Paris' Chartier, was the inconsistent service. One evening, the waitstaff could not have been more informed, attentive and solicitous. On a subsequent Sunday evening, the waitress evidently wished she were someplace else, answering questions with minimal information, often wrong, and less enthusiasm. On the third night, the waiter seemed more alive and enthusiastic but was plagued by an unfortunate lack of attention to detail and intermittent inattentiveness. A recognizable tune from the recorded music that competed with ES' televisions furnished a metaphor for the restaurant's service: Cole Porter's "Night and Day." IB

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Best Cellars University
Azure, 61 Exeter St., Boston (617-266-2900). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Nov. 7. 6-8 pm. $55. Best Cellars hosts a wine education course focusing on wines from Australia and New Zealand. The night includes a flight of eight wines paired with fare from Azure.

Giuliano Bugialli
Bricco, 241 Hanover St., Boston (617-248-6800). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Oct. 31. 6:30 pm. $125. Bricco hosts an evening with cookbook author **Giuliano Bugialli,** which features a reception with the author, a four-course Parma dinner and an autographed copy of his latest cookbook, *The Foods of Parma.*

CCAE Wine Tasting Benefit Party
Crate & Barrel, 48 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 5. 8 pm. $25. Proceeds from this annual event, featuring wine tastings, music and dancing, benefit the Cambridge Center for Adult Education.

Destination: Italy
Sorriso Trattoria, 107 South St., Boston (617-259-1560). www.sorrisoboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Every Wed., 7-8 pm. $25. Executive chef **John Paine** and resident raconteur **Ciro Pirone** host wine tastings this fall highlighting particular regions of Italy. •Oct. 26: America Loves Montepulciano. •Nov. 2: The Italian Artist—Michelangelo.

Flavors of Fall
Regattabar at the Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St. Cambridge, (617-441-8600). www.bostonchefs.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 7. 5:30-8:30 pm. $50. This event features cocktails, live music from the Rollo Tomasi Quartet and fare from local restaurants like Chez Henri, Finale and Rialto. Proceeds benefit On The Rise, an organization that supports women in crisis.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and sommelier **Christian Vassilev** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Oct. 26: New Zealand.

Langham Hotel Cooking Class Series
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900, ext. 7120). Every Wed., 5:30 pm. $50. The Langham Hotel's chef de cuisine **Mark Sapienza** and executive chef **Daniel Kenney** host weekly cooking classes that include a three-course meal paired with wine. •Nov. 2: All About Apps.

Lifestyles Wine Dinner Series
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900, ext. 7120). Every Thursday this fall, 6:30 pm. $100. The Langham Hotel's chef de cuisine **Mark Sapienza** prepares a weekly dinner paired with wine from around the world. Guests are also granted a private showing of luxury automobiles from the likes of Bentley and Rolls Royce, as well as merchandise from Longchamps Boston. •Oct. 27: Cape Mentelle & Green Point. •Nov. 3: Ceretto.

Metropolitan Club Wine Dinner
The Metropolitan Club, 1210 Boylston St, Chestnut Hill (617-731-0600). Oct. 26. 6:30 pm. $125. **Chris Silva**, CEO of Saint Francis Winery of Sonoma, hosts this event featuring a four-course dinner prepared by chef **Jeff Fournier** and paired with wines from Saint Francis.

New England Beer Fest
Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston. www.beeradvocate.com. Oct. 29. Session 1, 1-4:30 pm; session 2, 6-9:30 pm. $22. Beer Advocate celebrates the New England beer scene with a daylong festival including brews from Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Pumpkin Feast
Olives, 10 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-1999). www.toddenglish.com. Oct. 27. 6:30 pm. $65. Olives executive chef **Todd Winer** prepares a five-course pumpkin-themed dinner paired with wine.

Restaurants for Relief
Davio's Boston, 75 Arlington St., Boston (617-357-4810). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 29. 6:30 pm. $200. Chef **Marc Orfaly**, of Pigalle and Marco, hosts this event featuring raffles, door prizes, a live auction and a multi-course meal prepared by local chefs like Orfaly, **Dante DeMagistris**, **Pino Maffeo** and **Gabriel Frasca**. Proceeds benefit the Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

Thank You, Veterans
McCormick & Schmick's, 34 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-3999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington; North Market Building, Boston (617-720-5522). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Nov. 6. McCormick & Schmick's offers a complimentary lunch or dinner entree to all U.S. veterans on the Sunday prior to Veterans Day.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Nov. 1: Portugal. •Nov. 8: Champagne Shootout 2005.

Wine Dinner at Mezé Estiatorio
Mezé Estiatorio, 100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-6393). www.mezeboston.com. Nov. 1. 7 pm. $65. Mezé Estiatorio welcomes **Maureen Lolonis** of Lolonis Winery for a five-course dinner paired with wines from Red Wood Valley California.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents matching wines to complement a four-course French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Oct. 31: Hallow-wine.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Oct. 26: Out of Africa: The Wines of South Africa. •Nov. 2: Southern France.

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DISH

Cheese and Caracas?

Venezuelan verve...Dorchester doings...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Andres Branger, owner of Orinoco

If you're craving Venezuelan food around Boston, your choices are limited to no-frills casual, though excellent, venues like **La Casa de Pedro** in Watertown, or the occasional Venezuelan dinner in a Latin American series at **Chez Henri** in Cambridge. Soon, though, you'll have the option of dining at **Orinoco** in the South End. Owner **Andres Branger** says his 30-seat restaurant at 477 Shawmut Avenue, only one block from Washington Street, will be "a nod to the 'taguaritas'—small, casual, rustic, warm and inviting—eateries found along roadsides all over Venezuela." Both lunch and dinner will be served, along with a South American wine list and tropical fruit drinks.

Orinoco's chef is **Carlos Walter**, formerly of **OLA Miami**, a Nuevo Latino restaurant in Florida. Branger, whose family owns several small boutique hotels in Venezuela, promises a menu that will include "old family recipes that blend influences from the Andes and the Caribbean," as well as a mix of other Latin American cuisines, such as Cuban, Brazilian and Ecuadorian.

SECOND COURSE

Hot in Dot: When co-owners **Brian Piccini** and **Darren Friedman** first planned to open a restaurant called **DBar** in the former Dorchester location of **Ned Kelly's**, the "D" hinted at "difficult." Neighbors were reluctant to embrace an upstart, upscale dinner venue in place of what had always been an Irish bar. During the eatery's early-October pre-opening, a "friends and family" night, "the fire department showed up and closed us down," Piccini sighs.

DBar is certainly different from its predecessors: Piccini describes his newly-opened restaurant/lounge as "classy, chic... with black leather banquettes, polished mahogany, LED lights, and the best wine list in Dorchester, at about 30 percent less than downtown prices." A former music producer, Piccini is entertaining "the possibility of live bands" along with the new DJ booth, to complement his "full 2 am liquor license." Before it shifts into lounge mode sometime between 10 and 11 pm, DBar serves dinner seven nights a week, starting at 5 pm and featuring the well-priced (all under $20) menu of **Alex Jenkins**, formerly chef at **The West Side Lounge** in Cambridge for four years. Jenkins, who'd taken time off from work to travel first to Italy and then to Kentucky to visit family, originally thought she'd prefer a corporate chef position. Then she met Piccini and signed on because, as she explains, "I get to do whatever I want!" That includes her "tried and true" dishes from the West Side: "the halibut, the tuna, the sliced tenderloin...great chicken with a lemon-rosemary sauce." And for dessert? By the time you read this, Jenkins will have been joined at DBar by his old pastry chef from West Side **Diane Dodge**. She, says Jenkins happily, is "one person I DON'T have to train in the kitchen!" Looks like DBar is finally a Done Deal.

Speaking of done deals, **Steve Johnson** is confident that **The Rendezvous** at Central Square will be open before the middle of November. iB

Serving Dish

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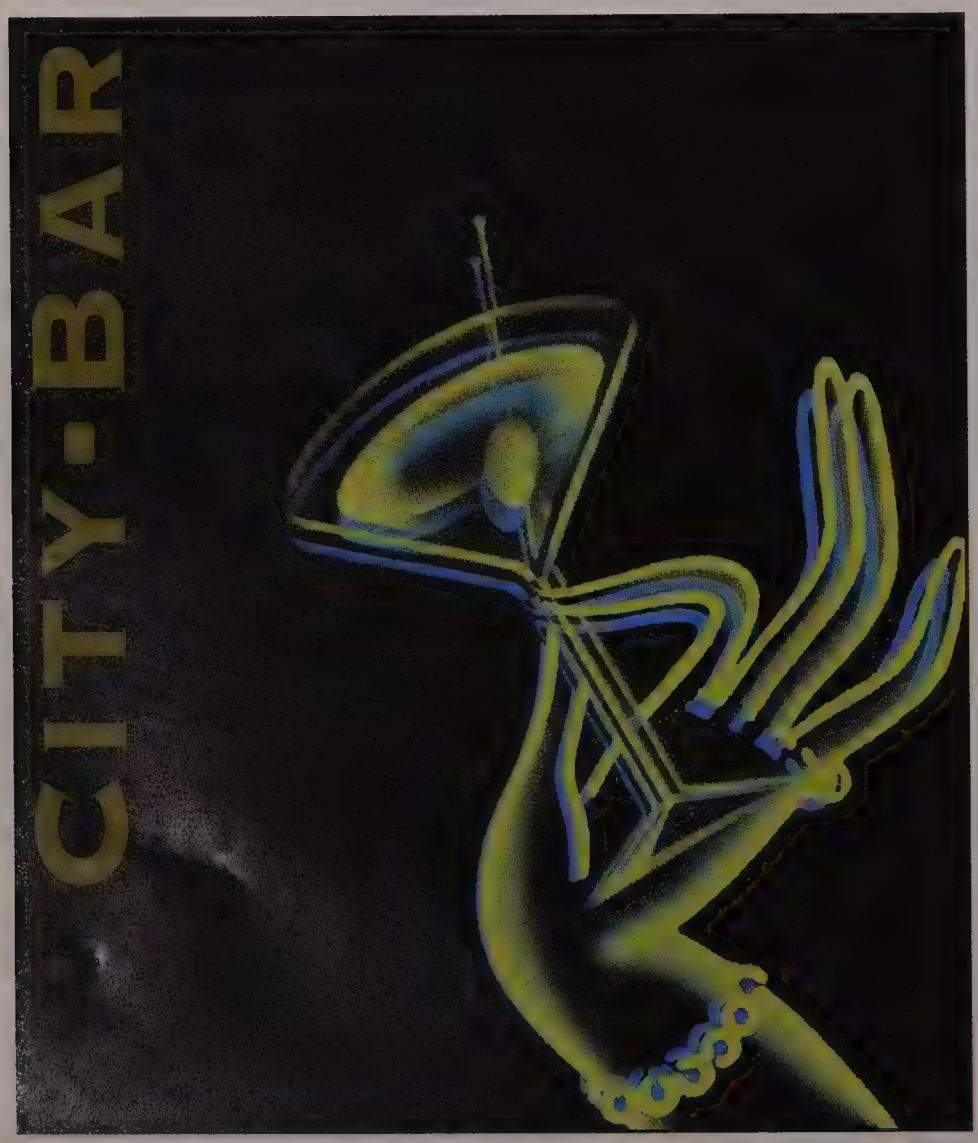
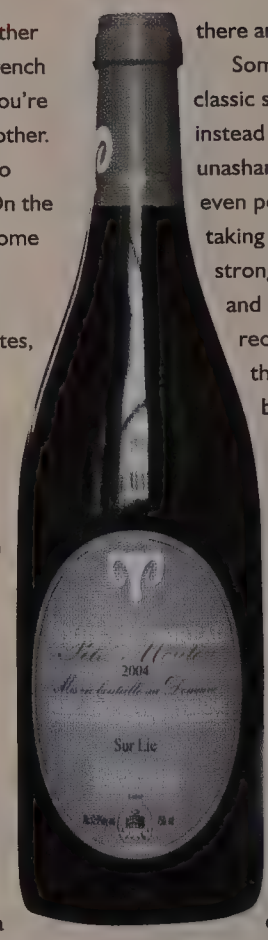


WINE

Muscadet

BY SANDY BLOCK MW

If you think muscadet is just another relic of the bygone era when French wines dominated the market, you're right in one sense and wrong in another. On the one hand, the wine has zero cachet and is practically invisible. On the other, it's so obscure and at least some bottlings of it taste so unique and satisfying, in a style that is highly calibrated with current popular tastes, that it deserves to have greater recognition. Perhaps it's a case of being so far out that it's in.



Muscadet is one of those wines that are "of a place," or only possible to produce in one location on earth: the Pays Nantes bordering the Atlantic Ocean at the western edge of France's Loire Valley. Planted outside its homeland, the melon grape, sometimes referred to as muscadet, makes a vastly different and much inferior wine. Although muscadet originates in Burgundy, it's been grown since the early 18th century in the Loire. The area where muscadet is principally grown, along the Sevre and Maine tributaries, is cool and rainy, with stony, silica-rich soils—the perfect breeding ground to make crisp, slightly appley, light-bodied white wines. Vines here hug the riverbanks to pick up extra warmth and sunshine for ripening; riversides are also the ideal locations for vines to survive the area's frost-prone springs. This is grape growing on the edge, and it's no surprise that muscadet's truest flavor profile tends to be sharp and edgy. Anyone excited by the current revival of interest in raw shellfish would be mistaken to ignore authentic muscadet, which constitutes a classic all-purpose complement.

The method of production for most muscadet is another distinguishing feature. Most often the bottles you'll find are labeled "sur lies," which translates to "on the lees," or aged on the dead yeasts left at the bottom of a vat after fermentation. Lees aging has many effects: it gives the wines more texture, bleaches their color, and often adds a slight spritziness that makes up for the grape's moderate natural acidity and gives the wine a fresher and livelier taste. When bottled directly from the vat, as is traditional, without exposure to oxygen or oak, the wines have an unsurpassed vibrant tanginess, along with distinct aromas of yeasty bread dough. Muscadet sur lie is actually one of France's largest individual appellations, ranking only second behind basic Bordeaux. There are a lot of grapes planted in the area where muscadet is made and, at least outside the U.S., there are millions of consumers.

Some producers are altering the classic styles so that their muscadets, instead of being bone dry, lean and unashamedly tart, have a softer, fruitier, even peachy feel. This to me is akin to taking a worthy local cheese with strongly defined flavors, using the name, and homogenizing it beyond recognition. (Brie anyone?) Many of this new breed of muscadet are bland. There are plenty of other bland wines; muscadet should have a discernibly steely bite.

In a recent blind tasting of muscadets it was not surprising that the figure I've long associated with impeccable quality in the area, Louis Metaireau, made the wine that rang truest to the traditional style. Metaireau's "Petit Mouton" 2004, a modestly priced wine ($12) made from young vines, is pale, bone-dry and precise in flavor, with citric and crisp apple-like accents. There are intriguing aromatic notes of herb and mineral. Light on the palate (with under 12 percent alcohol), the Petit Mouton's signature muscadet character is evident in the lingering, tart finish. An exciting wine, particularly with salty fish or seafood.

Metaireau is a grape grower in a region dominated by merchants, but the firm owns only a few vineyards. It's associated with a handful of other small landholders as "Les Vignerons d'Art," who together control a substantial 250 acres. The group's guiding philosophy is upholding traditional practices, in particular harvesting early in the fall when the grapes will retain a structure of firm acidity. All the wines are made at individual properties and then tasted blind by the grape growers to determine the best individual lots, which then go into the Metaireau labeled bottles. There are several different Metaireau muscadets. Petit Mouton is the freshest and most direct in flavor. Grand Mouton is steelier, more lemon-accented, with notes of tobacco and almond. Interestingly enough, for a wine that is modestly priced and not aged in wood, it can develop over a period of five to seven years into a more complex, interesting wine. The best Metaireau wine is Cuvee One, the winner of the blind tasting among the Vignerons d'Art. It's a bit fuller in body, with an almost satiny texture, but without sacrificing any of the thrilling sharpness of the other cuvees—worth seeking out! IB

Master of Wine Sandy Block is vice president of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.

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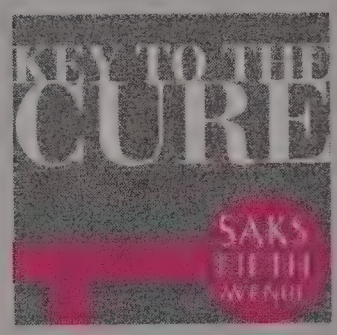
at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
in conjunction with Saks'
Key To The Cure
Charity Shopping Weekend



Saturday, October 29
5 to 7
Preview the coolest looks for Holiday '05 from
Contemporary Collections.
Hosted by Erin O'Malley
Mix 98.5 Mid-Day Host

Learn the art of menswear style from
Hugo Boss specialists.

Groove to alternative dance music
spun by local club DJs.

Get a customized runway look from the experts at
M•A•C, Trish McEvoy and Laura Mercier.

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All Saks stores and saks.com will donate 5% of sales
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these two days to benefit local and national women's cancer charities through the
Women's Cancer Research Fund, a program of the Entertainment Industry Foundation.
For additional information, call 888.771.2323 or visit saks.com.

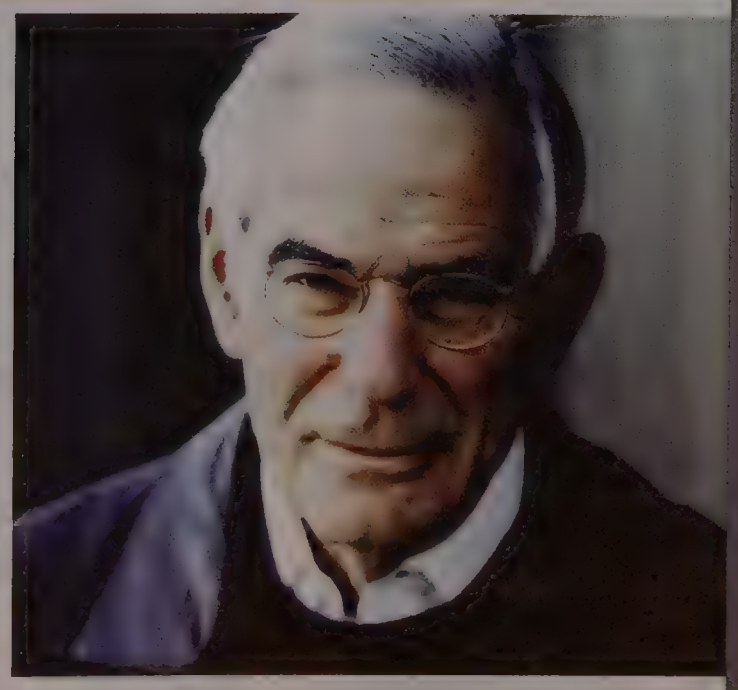
agenda

HOT TIPS FROM
CALENDAR GURUS
LESLIE AND RICH

IMPROPER PICKS

October 26 - November 8

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			26	27	28	29
				The 11th annual **Halloween Fun Run**, sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, kicks off in Faneuil Hall. *See CityScope on page 65.*	The Big Easy Bar hosts the **Haunted Castle Halloween Bash**. *See CityScope on page 66.*	Chef Marc Orfaly hosts **Restaurants for Relief** at Davio's Boston. *See Tastings on page 56.*
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
The second annual **Mass Morgue Halloween Party** takes place at Sky Bar in Somerville. *See CityScope on page 66.*		Stephen Belber's ***Carol Mulroney*** plays at the Virginia Wimberly Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 68.*	California-based rockers **Switchfoot** play a show at the Roxy. *See Music on page 66.*		***Women on the Verge of a HRT*** debuts at the BCA's Plaza Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 67.*	**Ad Frank & the Fast Easy Women** headline a show at T.T. the Bear's Place. *See Music on page 68.*
6	7	8				
Boston's two **McCormick & Schmicks** locations offer a free lunch or dinner entree to U.S. veterans. *See Tastings on page 56.*		***Degas at Harvard*** is on display at the Sackler Museum. *See Museums & Galleries on page 90.*				



THU./NOV. 3

Books & Poetry: Literary Legend

For fans of sports or historical literature (or both), David Halberstam needs no introduction. But for those outside the loop, just know this: Halberstam is the man. He made a name for himself reporting on the Vietnam War for the *New York Times* in the '60s—and won a Pulitzer Prize at the age of 30—and since then has written 14 *New York Times* non-fiction bestsellers, including *The Best and the Brightest* (1972) and *Summer of '49* (1989). His 2003 biography, *The Teammates*, takes a look at the relationship between four Red Sox legends: Bobby Doerr, Johhny Pesky, Dom Dimaggio and Ted Williams. On November 3, Halberstam visits Brookline Booksmith to read from his latest book, another Boston-themed venture, called *The Education of a Coach*, which is about Pats coach Bill Belichick and his record-breaking career in the NFL. *279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. 7 pm. Free. —R.L.*

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MUSEUMS & GALLERIES . . 90
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EDUCATION 97
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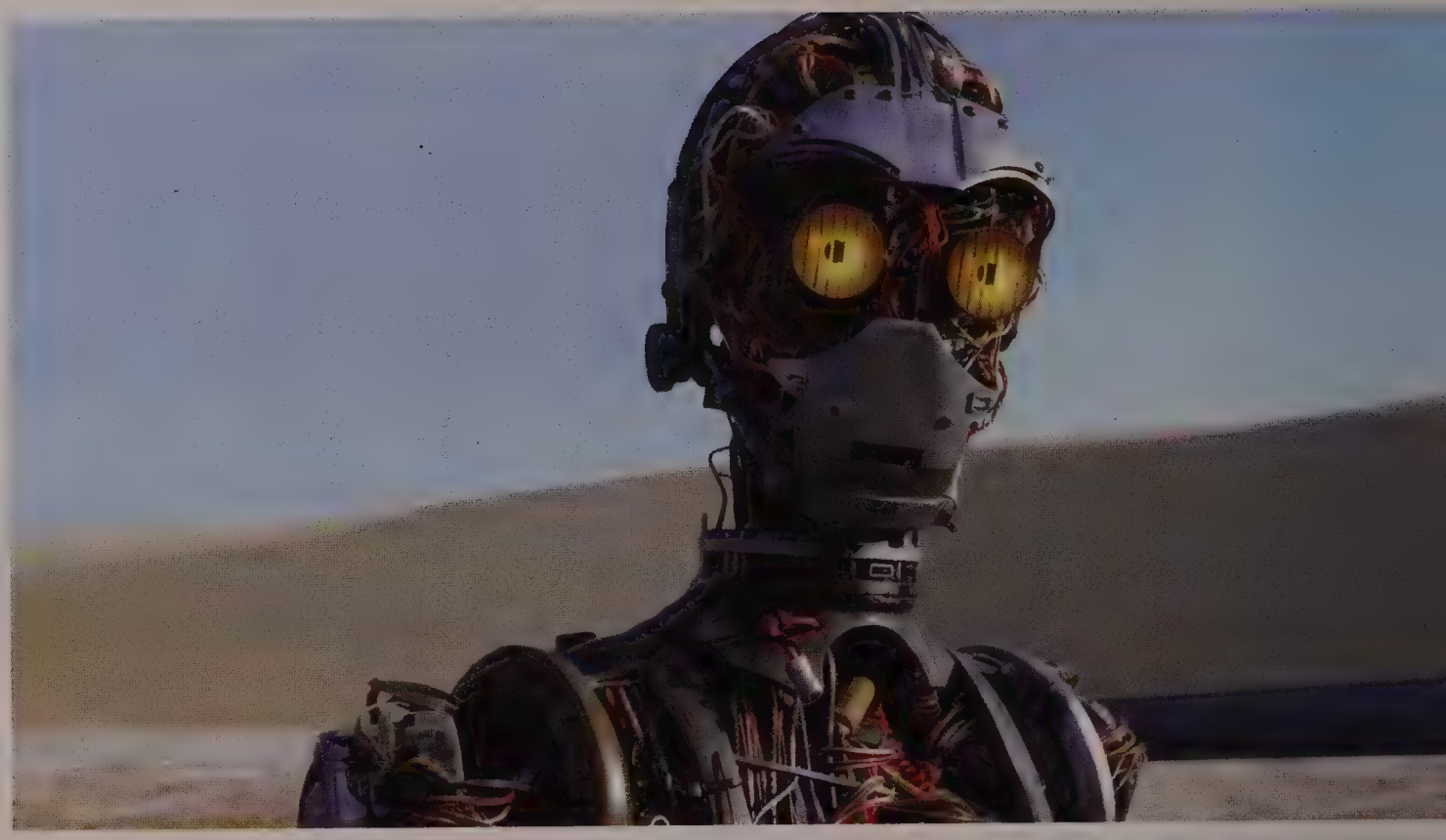
CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Graham Books & Poetry, Movies
Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts, Sports
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

HALBERSTAM: PORTER GIFFORD

STARTING THU./OCT. 27

Museums & Galleries: A Galactic Premiere

With the abundance of science geeks in this town, it's no wonder the Boston Science Museum is hosting the world premiere of George Lucas' new *Star Wars* exhibition. It focuses on the intellectual side of the galaxy far far away, with displays on how Lucas' world inspires the developments in our own. Scale models of new forms of transportation, which include a flying car, a helicopter/airplane hybrid and spacecraft designs fill the gallery space, along with several examples of real-world robots. But there's also plenty of fun for die-hard film buffs. To complement the exhibition, the planetarium features an original production narrated by none other than C-3PO himself (sans R2-D2, but that's ok). The exhibition opens to the public Oct. 27 and runs through April 2006, before traveling to other cities in the galaxy. —*L.P.K.*



FRI.-TUE./NOV. 4-15

Performing Arts: Divine Divas

The Boston Lyric Opera has quite a performance lineup this year with the Diva Season, a series of four operas over the next 11 months that revels in those oh-so-high notes of featured sopranos. Each opera stars a female soloist performing "dream roles" that all sopranos aspire to sing. From November 4-15, the Diva Season kicks off with Donizetti's *Lucie de Lammermoor,* which hasn't been performed in the U.S. in nearly a century. Performed in French rather than the usual Italian, the tragic love story stars soprano Tracy Dahl. Other performances in the series include Massenet's *Thais* and Verdi's *La Traviata*. Verdi's *Aida* shows for free September 2006 on the Common. *45 Franklin St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.blo.org. 7:30 pm; Sundays, 3 pm. $33-$166 for single tickets; $93-$498 for subscriptions. —L.P.K.*

THU./NOV. 3

Music: Free Spirit

Me'Shell Ndegeocello has been known for her funky, soulful, hip-hop/reggae/ rock/jazz grooves since the '80s. She's been nominated for nine Grammy Awards, has had several singles charted in the Billboard Top 20 (including her duet with John Cougar Mellencamp that reached No. 3 on the charts) and ha been featured on several film soundtracks. The Berlin native's talent reflects her last name, which she changed in her teens to the Swahili phrase "free like a bird." From the repertoire of instruments she plays and her vocal range, it's apparent she doesn't hold back. For one night at the Berklee Performan Center she'll display her talent on bass, playing with two Berklee student bands directed by faculty guitarist David Fiuczynski, who's recorded with artists like John Zorn Branford Marsalis and Stewart Copeland. As part of a three-day residency at the college, the show features tunes from her new album *The Spirit Music Jamia: Dance of the Infidel*, and from her albums of year past. *Berklee Performance Center, 1 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). 8:15 pm. $25. —L.P.K.*

MON./ NOV. 7

Tastings: Fall Feast

New Englanders have their ways to celebrate the arrival of fall. Some hike while others go apple picking. And the folks over at Bostonchefs.com? They host Flavors of Fall, a fall harvest fundraiser featuring fare from some of Cambridge's top chefs. The second annual event, held on November 7 at the Charles Hotel's Regattabar, features food, wine, beer ar desserts from restaurants like Rialto, Finale, UpStairs on the Square, Mariposa Bakery and Brooklyn Brewery. Plus, there's live entertainment courtesy of local jazz quartet Rollo Tom What's even better is that 100 percent of the $50 admission price benefits On the Rise, a community-based organization that helps women who are homeless or in crisis. *Regattabar One Bennett St., Cambridge (617-441-8600). www.bostonchefs.com. 5:30-8:30 pm. $50. —R.L.*

cityscope

dvice to Contributors

bmit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities d events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: tyScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@ proper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket ce, dates and times, and a brief description of the nt. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Lists cannot be accepted over the phone.

enefits

HURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

ow Wow Ball
rricane O'Reilly's, 150 Canal St., Boston (617-1-5096). www.mspca.org/bowwowball. MBTA: een or Orange Line to North Station. 8-10 pm. 0-$15. Dress your dog up as your favorite aracter, monster or other animal at this costume ntest benefiting the MSPCA.

alloween Fun Run
e West End of Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 00-966-0444). MBTA: Green Line to Government nter. Registration, 6 pm; fun run, 7 pm. $30-$35. is 11th annual Halloween-themed three-mile n sponsored by WBCN, the Rack and THE PROPER BOSTONIAN features prize giveaways for e best costume and a post-race party at the ck. Proceeds benefit the Cystic Fibrosis undation.

ords to Live By
lderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-1-0125). www.casamyrna.org. MBTA: Orange e to Back Bay. 6-9 pm. $30-$100. This event, nefiting Casa Myrna Vazquez, a Boston-based, lticultural organization dedicated to ending mestic violence, features music, wine, hors euvres, a silent auction and appearances by hor Barbara Delinsky and poet Charles Coe.

RIDAY, OCTOBER 28

ll Boyce's Annual Charity Event
e Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). w.therackboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to vernment Center. 9 pm. $10. Rock bands kview and Survive the Sunrise perform at this nt benefiting the American Red Cross.

ston's International Antiquarian ok Fair
nes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston 7-375-9013). www.bostonbookfair.com. MBTA: en Line to Hynes/ICA. 5 pm. $15. The New gland Chapter of the Antiquarian Booksellers' sociation of America and WBUR host an ernational book fair with proceeds donated to the ston Public Library.

RC Benefit Auction
ton University's 808 Gallery, 808 Comm. Ave., ton (617-975-0600). www.prcboston.org. TA: Green Line to BU West. 5:30 pm. $50. s event benefiting BU's Photographic Resource nter features a reception, food and drink from t Meets West and Harpoon Brewery, plus live silent auctions.

e World on a Street Gala
Ritz-Carlton, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617--2224). www.newburystreetleague.org. MBTA: en Line to Arlington. 6 pm. $250. This event efiting the Women's Lunch Place and the Newbury Street League features auctions, dinner and dancing.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

Key to the Cure
Saks Fifth Avenue, Prudential Center, Boston (888-771-2323). www.saks.com. MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. 5-7 pm. Saks plans to donate a percentage of the sales from this fashion event to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. The event includes merchandise from Hugo Boss, MAC, Trish McEvoy and others, as well as music from local DJs. Sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

Divas Unleashed Halloween Parade
Doggie Day, 400 Tremont St., Boston (617-357-7387). www.doggieday.com/halloween. MBTA; Orange Line to Back Bay. 1 pm. $10-$15. This first annual Halloween Parade and Costume Contest for dogs begins at Doggie Day, travels through the South End and finishes at the South End Open Market on Harrison Avenue. Proceeds benefit the MSPCA.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Second Annual Chef's Harvest Dinners
See Web site for Boston-area participating restaurants (617-492-7137). www.bostonpublicmarket.org. 7 pm. $200. Boston restaurants including Aujourd'hui, Aura, Caffe Umbra, Grill 23 and No. 9 Park take part in a fundraiser for the Boston Public Market.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

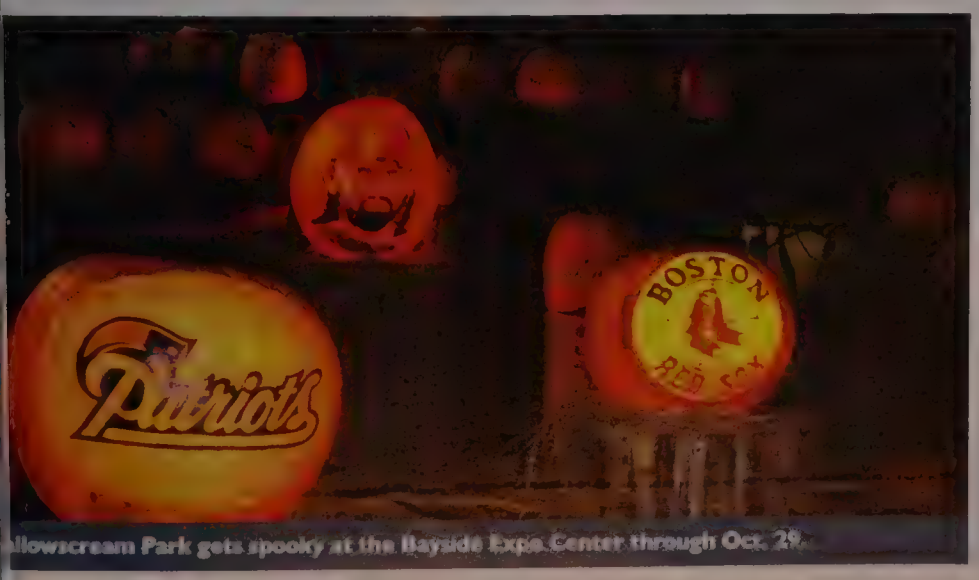
Welcome Home! 2005—Mary J. Kakas
The Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-469-5800). www.rogerson.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30-9 pm. $300-$600. The Rogerson Communities honors Mary J. Kakas, a Rogerson Communities director, in a soiree of receptions, silent auctions and a dinner benefiting the elderly.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Bid For Boston's Best
Embassy, Lansdowne St., Boston (617-219-8220). www.bidforbostonbest.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 8 pm. $35. The Arthritis Foundation hosts an auction of Boston's best bachelors and bachelorettes with date packages that include private flights to Nantucket and limo rides to Celtics games. Proceeds support research to find a cure for arthritis.

Healthworks Foundation Fit-a-Thon Fundraiser
Healthworks Foundation Fitness Center, 90 Cushing Ave. 4th Floor, Dorchester (617-859-8700). www.healthworksfitness.org. 1 pm. $50. Participate in a variety of classes including ballroom dancing, yoga, nutrition and more while supporting the Healthworks Foundation's programs to help homeless women and teenage mothers in crisis.

Steppin' Out 2005 Gala
Sheraton Boston Hotel, 39 Dalton St., Boston (617-267-1300). www.dimock.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8 pm. $200. This benefit for the Dimock Health Center features a series of performances by local multicultural jazz artists, including the Ramsey Lewis Trio. Proceeds support the more than 40,000 patients the Dimock Community Health Center serves each year.



llowscream Park gets spooky at the Bayside Expo Center through Oct. 29.

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The Forest Hills Educational Trust holds its annual Day of the Dead event, Nov. 2.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

The Art of Entertaining

Bloomingdale's, Chestnut Hill Mall, 55 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-6617). www.bloomingdales.com. 12:30-1:30 pm. Call for reservations. Celerie Kemble, interior designer, displays the intricacies of entertaining and the importance of presentation.

Café de l'Opéra

Fogg Art Museum, Calderwood Courtyard, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-4544). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8-11 pm. $75. This black-tie event, in celebration of the *Degas at Harvard* exhibition at the Arthur Sackler Museum, features art, music, dessert and dancing.

Hallowscream Park

Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston. www.hallowscreampark.com. MBTA: Red Line to UMASS/JFK. Through Oct. 29. Thu.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat., 1-11 pm; Sun., 1-10 pm. $18-$24. America's largest jack-o'-lantern festival and haunted house is at the Bayside Expo Center through the end of October.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

Halloween at Dick's Last Resort

Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave, Boston (617-267-8080). www.wzlx.com/halloween. MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. 9 pm. Free. WZLX-FM DJ Chuck Nolan emcees this 10th annual Halloween bash featuring music, cash prizes for costumes, and food and drink from Dick's Last Resort.

Haunted Castle Halloween Bash

The Big Easy, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000). www.bigeasyboston.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 8:30 pm. $15. This Halloween costume party features one hour of complimentary cocktails, DJs and dancing.

3rd Annual Mayhem & Madness

The Place, 2 Broad St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 8 pm. $30. Boston Young Professionals Association hosts its annual Halloween party filled with palm readers, costume contests, cash prizes, free candy and music.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

The Boston Scholars Masquerade Party

Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-226-4618). www.bostonscholars.org. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown. 6 pm. $25. Ketel One and the Boston Scholars Program host a Halloween Party featuring appetizers, drinks and a silent auction.

New England Beer Fest

Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston. www.beeradvocate.com. Session 1, 1-4:30 pm; session 2, 6-9:30 pm. $22. Beer Advocate celebrates the New England beer scene with a daylong festival including brews from Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

iParty Halloween Town

The World Trade Center, Seaport, Boston (617-204-4264). www.bmc.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 10 am. $12. This children's Halloween party, sponsored by iParty, Shaw's, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Citizens Bank and others, include decorations, free giveaways and live entertainment.

Second Annual Mass Morgue 2005

Sky Bar, 518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). www.bostonscholars.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7:30 pm. $10. This 2005 Hallowee celebration includes darkwave music, macab performances and local bands playing spooky tunes.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Day of the Dead

Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Bosto (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA Orange Line to Forest Hills. 4:30 pm. Free. This trad tional pan–Latin American ritual celebrates th cyclical nature of life.

Guys' Night Out with Dewar's and the Celtics

The Greatest Bar, Boston Room, 262 Friend St., Bost (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Gre Line to North Station. 5:30 pm. $70. This guys-on event features two hours of complimentary Dewa 12, hors d'oeuvres and cigars before the Celtics/Knic game, tickets on the floor and a postgame event wi Celtics radio personalities Hickman and Gilroy.

Singles

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

8 Minute Dating

Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Boston (61 227-7800). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Gre Line to Haymarket. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetiz during eight different eight-minute dates. Then min and meet the people you didn't get the chance to sha a date with. For single professionals ages 28-38.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

8 Minute Dating

Asgard Irish Pub, 350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 577-9100). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: R Line to Central. 5:08 pm. $35. Sample appetiz during eight different eight-minute dates. Th mingle and meet the people you didn't get t chance to share a date with. For single professiona ages 38-50.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

8 Minute Dating

Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-7 0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red L to South Station. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetiz during eight different eight-minute dates. Th mingle and meet the people you didn't get chance to share a date with. For sin professionals ages 32-42.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

8 Minute Dating

Fire and Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-4 3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Gr Line to Arlington; Orange Line to Back Bay. 6 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight differ eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet people you didn't get the chance to share a d with. For single professionals ages 25-35.

performing arts

Advice to Contributors

ubmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calndar: Performing Arts, or e-mail to performing@nproper.com. Include address, phone number, subway op, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description f the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. istings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

ce Tickets
800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets. m. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

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617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Same-day kets at half price.

lext Ticketing
617-423-NEXT). www.nexttticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets sold-out shows.

tubHub
866-788-2482). www.stubhub.com. Where fans buy d sell tickets.

icket City of Boston
617-787-2370). www.tixboston.com. Ticket City lls tickets to sold-out shows.

icketmaster
617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JST OPENED

he Dining Room
ass Theatrica at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 15 St. ul St., Brookline (508-757-8515). www.massthe-

The Ten Tenors perform at the Wang Theatre on Oct. 28 and 29.

atrica.org. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Paul. Oct. 28, 8 pm. $15; students and seniors, $13. Set in the dining room of a well-to-do family, this play follows their daily meals and special occasions.

The 4th Nail
The Devanaughn Theatre, 731 Tremont St., Boston (866-811-4111). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Nov. 4-20. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15; students and seniors, $10. The AYTB Theatre Company presents this story of two men trying to recover from their wounded pasts.

Kismet
Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemenway St., Boston (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Oct. 26-30. Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 pm. $16; students and seniors, $5. Set in ancient Baghdad, this story follows a poor poet and his daughter through their one-day misadventures.

Lord of the Flies
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2300).www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway. Oct. 28-Nov.20. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat-Sun., 2 pm. $12-$20. The classic story of a group of British schoolboys forced to survive on their own after their plane crashes on an island.

Lucie de Lammermoor
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 4, 7:30 pm; Nov. 6, 3 pm. $33-$166. Boston Lyric Opera opens The Diva Season with a French version of Donizetti's love story about a woman alone in a world of manipulative men.

The Oh No Show
The Cambridge Family YMCA, Cambridge (781-929-6018). www.thetiltgroup.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Nov. 4-5, 8 pm. $10 in advance; $15 at the door. Liz Heichelbech presents a night of dance, comedy and music in a variety show gone awry.

One-Man Star Wars Trilogy
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 8-13. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6 and 9 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $38.50. All of your favorite *Star Wars* characters come to life in this one-man show by Charlie Ross.

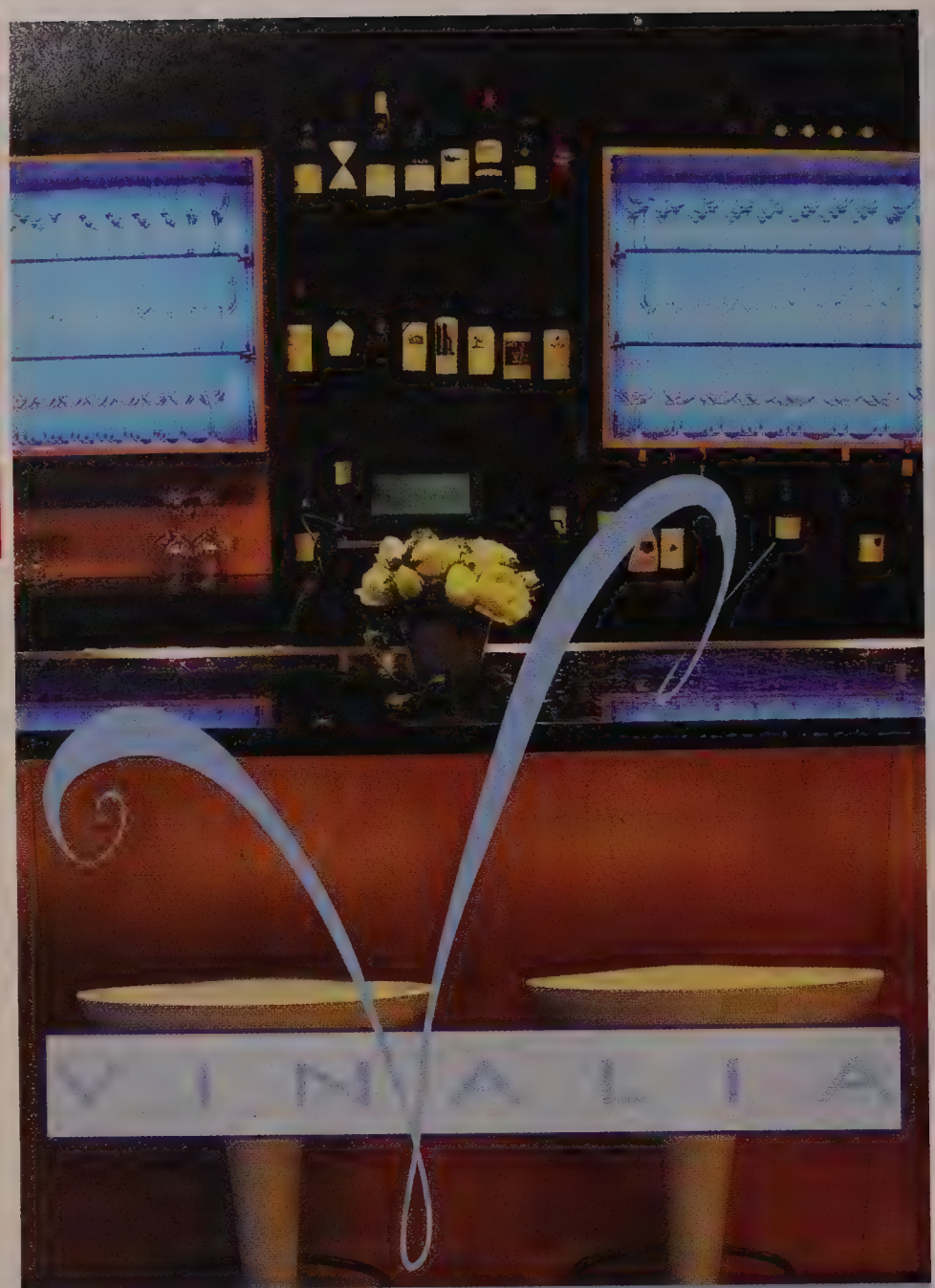
The Ten Tenors
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston. (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 28-29, 8 pm. $22-$52. Ten classically trained Australians present a night of opera, pop, rock and more.

True West
New Repertory Theatre, Arsenal Center for the Arts, Watertown (617-923-8487). www.newrep.org. Oct. 30-Nov. 20. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3:30 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Sam Shepard's comedy about a writer's attempts to sell a screenplay in Hollywood.

Women on the Verge of HRT
Plaza Theatre at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.sugan.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 4-19. Wed.-Thu, 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Marie Jones' comedy about the taboos surrounding the sex lives of older women.

NOW RUNNING

Big Love
Laurie Theater at Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4200). www.brandeis.edu/theatre.



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com. Through Oct. 30. Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $16-$20. Charles L. Mee's comedy follows the story of 50 brides who plot to kill their grooms in lieu of marrying them.

Billy Crystal's 700 Sundays

The Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayacrossamerica.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Through Oct. 29. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm. $32-132. Billy Crystal directs and stars in this autobiographical play, portraying many of his influences from his youth.

Blue Man Group

Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. The blue trio performs an ongoing show that mixes art, music, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

Carol Mulroney

Virginia Wimberly Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Nov. 20. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm; Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm (some variation; call for detailed schedule). $15-$44. Stephen Belber's production deals with the lure of a simple existence for its urban-dwelling main character.

Dracula

Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781- 279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Through Nov. 6. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $18-$36. The Stoneham Theatre presents Bram Stoker's classic tale of vampires and the occult.

Girl with a Pearl Necklace

Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.thetheatreoffensive.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Oct. 29. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 8 and 10:30 pm. $25-$35. The annual Out on the Edge Festival features Varla Jean Merman's play about a woman with a ticking biological clock and her anxiety about lacking a husband.

Jimmy Tingle's American Dream

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway. com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Ongoing. Thu., Fri., Sat., 7:30 pm. $15-$25. Jimmy Tingle's American Dream is a one-man show that combines comedy, political commentary and storytelling.

The Keening

Zero Arrow Theatre, corner of Mass. Ave. and Arrow St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Nov. 12. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm; Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm (call for detailed schedule). $35-$48. A widow deals with the drug-related truth of her husband's death in this play written by Humberto Dorado.

King Lear

Actors' Shakespeare Project, Studio 102 at Boston University College of Fine Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (866-811-4111). www.actorsshakespeare project.org. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Through Oct. 30. Wed.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $35-$40; discounts for students and seniors. Alvin Epstein plays the lead role in Shakespeare's play about a mad king consumed by the machinations of his deceitful daughters.

Menopause: The Musical

Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. In Jeannie Linder's musical, a quartet of aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meets at a lingerie sale.

A Number

YMCA Copley, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Nov.19. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm (some variation; call for detailed schedule). $20-$45. A father must explain to his son that the son is one of many clones in this play by Carol Churchill.

Chi performs at the Orpheum, Nov. 6.

Proof

Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. Through Nov. 6. Thu.-Sat. 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $15-$18. The play by David Auburn follows the story of a young woman coping with the death of her father and the 103 notebooks that he left behind.

Shear Madness

Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $
This comedic whodunit set in a crazy unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Theatre District

Roberts Theatre at the Stanford Calderwood Pavilion, Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Oct. 29. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $41-$46; Matinee, $42; Students and seniors off. *NYPD Blue* actor Bill Brochtrup stars in Richard Kramer's comedy about the challenges facing a non-traditional family in contemporary society.

Tuesdays with Morrie

The Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Oct. 30. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $60. This adaptation of the book by Mitch Albom recounts the story of a journalist reunited with his old, ailing professor.

Dance

Chi

Orpheum Theater, 1 Hamilton Pl., Boston (617-4275). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Nov. 6, 4 pm. $40.
World Music presents this fusion of acrobatics and martial arts involving more than 40 performers.

Falling to Solid Ground

The Julie Ince Thompson Theatre, 536 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). www.dancecomplex

BTA: *Red Line to Central. Oct. 28-29, 8 pm. $9.* ıe Dance Complex presents this night of modern, ɔ, jazz and African dance.

mon Dance Company

e Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., ston (617-353-8725). www.celebrityseries.org. BTA: B Green Line to BU East. Oct. 29, 8 pm; t. 30, 3 pm. $45. The New York–based dance mpany, led by choreographer José Limon, comes Boston as part of its North American tour.

ıssion/Sublime

e Mateo's Ballet Theatre at The Sanctuary The-e, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467). w.ballettheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. t. 27-30. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 4 pm. $32. The llet Theatre presents *Mozart Concerto* and a new let set to Gorecki's *Symphony of Sorrowful ıgs.*

ıe 2nd Annual Boston Bellydance vards

American Club, 288 Green St., Cambridge (617-)-8890). www.joharasnakedance.com. MBTA: Red e to Central. Nov. 5, 2 pm. $12 in advance; $15 at door. More than 30 bellydancers compete in cat-ries like Newbie, Tribal Fusion and Troupe at this ıual awards show.

sceral Threads

mpson Theatre, 536 Mass Ave., Cambridge. (781--6188). web.mit.edu/kdonovan/www. MBTA: Red to Central. Nov. 4-6. Fri.-Sat, 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. ; students and seniors, $12. Kelley Donovan and ıcers present an evening of movement, interpre-on and metaphors.

omedy

vice to Contributors

mit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Cal-ır: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@ roper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to ication.

)MEDY SHOW

bad

Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston ((617-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 3, 8 pm. $35-$45. Sinbad, comedian and star of the FOX sitcom *The Sinbad Show*, presents a night of comedy.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café

334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). ww.stashcomedyjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Oct. 27, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15.•Oct. 28, 8 and 10:15 pm: Eddie Griffin, from *Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo*, $35.•Oct. 29, 8 pm, Paul Nardizzi, $20; 10:30 pm, Eddie Griffin, $35. •Oct. 30, 7 and 9:15 pm, Eddie Griffin, $35. •Oct. 31, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Nov. 1, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •Nov. 2, 8 pm, Search for the Funniest Mom in America 2, $12 •Nov. 3, 8:30 pm, Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15.•Nov. 4, 8, 10:15 and 11:59 pm, Dave Attell, from Comedy Central's *Insomniac*, $35. •Nov. 5, 8 and 10:15 pm: Boston Headliners, $20.•Nov. 6, 7 and 9:15 pm, Dave Attell, $35. •Nov. 7, 8 pm, Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12.

Comedy Studio

Harvard Square, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Oct. 26: The Korte Yeo Show: Kelly

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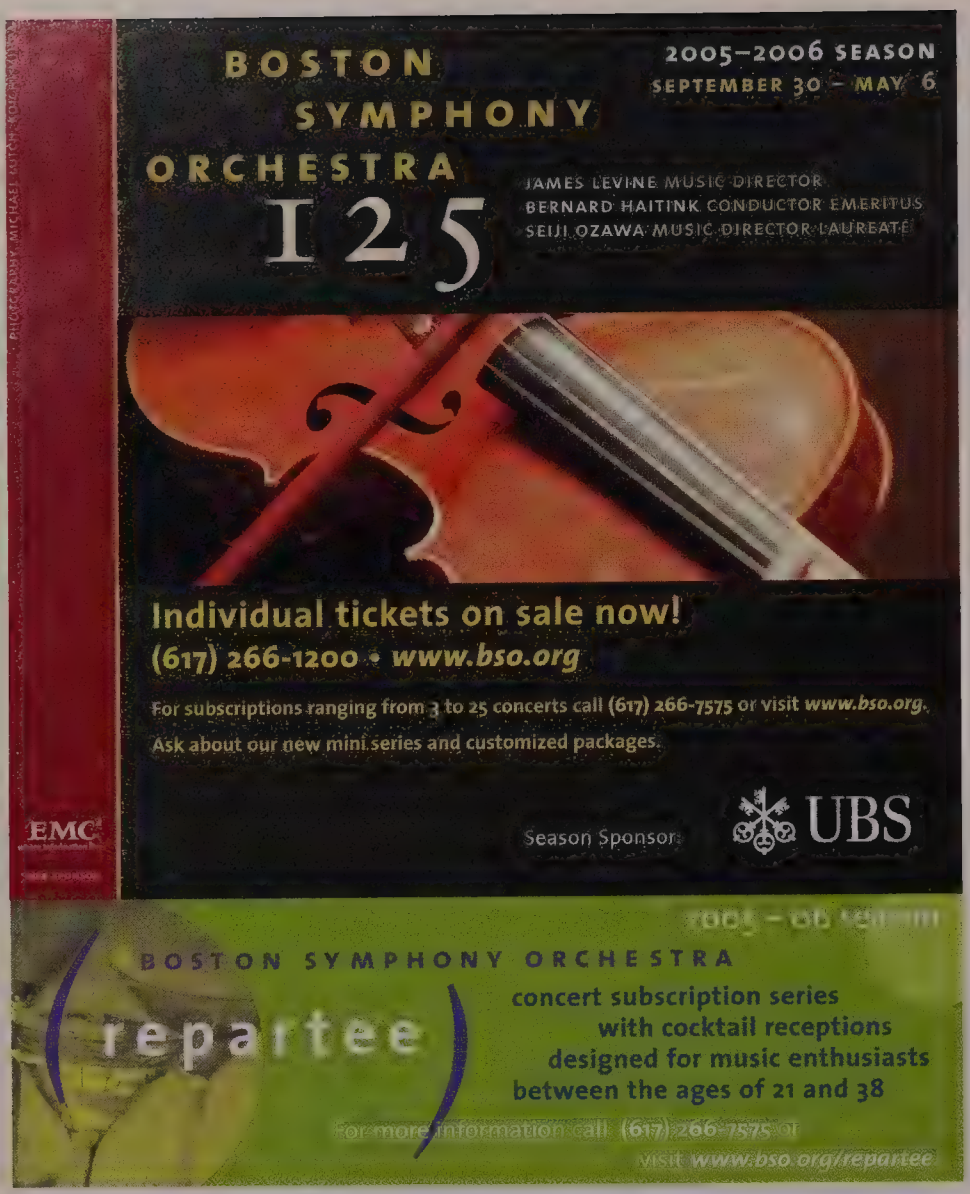


MacFarland, Orlando Baxter, Mary Beth Cowan, Mike Whitman, Steamy Bohemians, Bryan Ames, Peter Bowers and Jimmy Wahl. •Oct. 28: Paul Day, Nat Towsen, Daniella Capolino, The Walsh Bros. •Oct. 29: JJ Leslie, Tonya Dalhaus, Andrea Henry, Noah Garfinkle, Pat Boccuzzi, Andy Ofiesh. •Oct. 30: Erin Judge Presents...Shane Webb, Tony Moschetto and Nate Johnson.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, $15-$25: *Jimmy Tingle's American Dream* is a one-man show that combines comedy, political commentary and storytelling.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians at Kennedy's Midtown. Call the restaurant for an updated listings schedule.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 8:30 pm. $10-$22. •Oct. 27-29, 8:30 pm: Tom Hayes.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Dinner packages available. • Summer in New England: Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 and 10 pm, $15-$20. •The Midnight Show: Sat., 12 am, $10. •NXT: Thu., 9:45 pm, $5. •Lost in Boston...or How I Learned to Love That Dirty Water: Wed., $15.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improv tional comedy troupe creates everything on spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs dances. •GoreFest III, Oct. 27, 8 pm; Oct. 28 8 and 10 pm; Oct. 30-31, 8 pm. $15: Impr Boston presents its third annual comedic H loween musical, directed by Don Schuerman with original lyrics by Schuerman and St Gilbane. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Hump Fringe Sh •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$12: UnNatural Selection master of ceremonies randomly eliminates p ers until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The G and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris David Walsh perform stand-up and chara sketches and play music and short films in a play of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: G Night Out! Improv Boston's look into the lif the adolescent girl; 10 pm, $10-$12: Theat ports: Two teams of improvisers go head to h •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and under companied by an adult admitted free): Imp Boston Family Show. A short-form improv tional show appropriate for individuals of ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-$12: ImprovBoston M stage. Blending storytelling, music and audie participation, a cast of improvisers creates a s that changes with every performance. •Sur pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. evening features performances by visiting local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Bos based short-form improv comedy group perf skits that involve participation from membe the audience.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MB Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 bef pm, $10 after. 21+. Every Thursday, the sponsors this comedy show at the Cantab features a collection of improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themse Acts include Snowflakes, Sister Brother, Sc and Villalobos.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Aristocrats ★★★
Paul Provenza and Penn Jillette's documentary rounds up a wide array of comedians—from Pat Cooper and Eddie Izzard to Lewis Black and Chris Rock—to riff on its title "character," a notoriously dirty vaudeville joke comics have long shared with each other but not the public. The joke's undefined center has always been a measuring stick of a comic's lack of inhibition—he or she who stretches it out with the most perverse abandon makes the joke the funniest. Of those who tell it here, some play it successfully, while others never generate the right comic momentum. George Carlin, Gilbert Gottfried, Sarah Silverman and Bob Saget are the most effective, with a silent version performed by Billy the Mime (on a public street!) up there, too. Eric Lurtman has a go during a specially made South Park clip, and card-trick specialist Eric Mead skillfully adapts the joke to his talents. As much about the community of comedians as the joke itself, the movie becomes a tribute to the power of laughter as both an emotional healer and a uniter of people. (At Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

Capote ★★★
Truman Capote revolutionized pop culture with his 1965 "nonfiction novel" *In Cold Blood*. Without it, we might not have had subsequent books like *The Perfect Storm* or *A Civil Action*, nor film documentaries like the Maysles Brothers' *Salesman* and the legion of movies it inspired. This impressionistic drama about the long genesis of the book follows Capote (Philip Seymour Hoffman) as he learns of a brutal Kansas farmhouse murder and sees human drama where others might have seen only savagery. It's in unearthing the humanity in the killers, Capote becomes torn apart by the dilemma of initially wanting to help them and, after years of appeals, wanting them to finally be executed so he can finish the book. There's a fine line between Capote's playful way of performing at parties and the white lie with which he manipulates Perry Smith (Clifton Collins Jr.), the killer with whom he bonds most deeply. Hoffman immerses himself in the role of the writer who's both mousy and catty, and the movie subtly gives its protagonist a matter-of-fact introduction that makes it easy for audiences to accept Hoffman as Capote. (At Harvard Square, Coolidge Corner and the Embassy Waltham.)

The Constant Gardener ★★
Fernando Meirelles' *City of God* was one of the best sports of recent years, and he gives his English-language debut some of its stylistic energy, until the story goes south. Ralph Fiennes plays the title character in this John Le Carré adaptation, an English diplomat posted to Kenya who's content to merely do his job looking out for British interests there. But the nervous energy of his idealistic wife (Rachel Weisz) makes her the character who most jives with Meirelles' style. She prods the English diplomats to help the locals more, especially to protect them from the ethically challenged drug trials run by a large European pharmaceutical company. The setup offers exotic setting and moral murkiness of Western-set broad thrillers such as *The Tailor of Panama* and *The Quiet American*. But moral murkiness turns into something much more simplistic by the time the diplomat picks up his wife's cause and starts poking into the link between the greedy pharmaceutical firm and complicit English diplomats. His transformation turns the movie into a less interesting tale of good versus evil. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Corpse Bride ★★★
Tim Burton's second foray into animated features is lighter and more colorful in tone than *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. It even has peppy songs. But the quiggly-goth look and pointy-chinned characters are undeniably Burton, recalling *Vincent*, the animated short he made back before he'd ever directed features (Burton produced *Nightmare* and co-directed *Corpse Bride* with Mike Johnson). This Victorian tale of a meek young man (voiced by Johnny Depp) whose arranged wedding to an aristocratic mourner (Emily Watson) gets sidetracked by his inadvertent awakening of the title character (Helena Bonham Carter) works as offbeat romance, however far-fetched it might sound. No real new territory for Burton and nothing to get excited about, but considering that two of his three most recent movies were remakes, this is less of a rehash than I had feared. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Elizabethtown ★★
When we're talking about a Cameron Crowe movie, perhaps a musical reference is in order. The clarity

High-Pressure System

The Weather Man rains on Cage's parade.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Any frequent visitor to this space knows my policy on Nicolas Cage movies: the more neuroses, the better. Give me *Adaptation* and *Matchstick Men* over *National Treasure* every time. *The Weather Man* might be the exception to that policy. Not that I wouldn't take it over the bland *National Treasure*. It presents Cage's character as a bundle of nerves who always manages to mess things up with his family, no matter how good his intentions might be, so it at least offers Cage a flawed hero to play. *Weather Man* director Gore Verbinski, who has worked in broad strokes in movies like *Mouse Hunt* and *Pirates of the Caribbean*, tries to make a more substantial comedy-drama than he's ever dared. Yet at several points the former director of commercials goes for the shallow choice, like a paper clip inexorably drawn to a magnet.

This makes *The Weather Man* a movie that wants to have substance, but doesn't know how to create it. There's certainly emotional drama in Dave Spritz, the Chicago TV weatherman Cage plays. His wife (Hope Davis) has divorced him, he rarely gets to spend time with daughter Shelly (Gemmenne de la Pena) and son Mike (Nicholas Hoult), his father is a never-impressed, Pulitzer Prize–winning author (Michael Caine), and the public has a love-hate relationship with him. There's a comedy-of-errors quality to Dave's misery-laden days, most obviously in the painfully funny running gag of viewers in moving cars throwing fast food at him.

If *The Weather Man* had been able to stay true to Dave's dramatic plight, yet provide laughs, too, it would have filled a cinematic inside straight. But I don't know that anyone could have made this work. If Dave's dilemmas hardly seem like comic fodder, consider these other story elements: his dad develops lymphoma, so Dave is running out of time in his eternal quest to please him; his daughter is grossly overweight and uninterested in everything, and seems on the road to a life of unhappiness; and his ex-wife is close to marrying another man (Michael Rispoli), slamming the door on reconciliation that Dave keeps trying to wedge his foot into.

So maybe *The Weather Man* never should have been a comedy. Dave is a high-paid guy with a miserable life who smiles for the camera, does a decent job and feels guilty for not being an actual meteorologist. He just wants to feel good about himself, like anybody else, yet it's hard to sympathize with him. For instance, Dave's guilt about being underqualified could easily be remedied by meteorology training. Dave talks about how he has a ridiculous amount of free time—why doesn't he get some schooling? With a similar lack of common sense, the movie mixes in scenes of Dave's troubled son and the scheming counselor (Gil Bellows) the teen is required to meet with, in a subplot that takes a convoluted path to involve Dave, too.

The best parts of *The Weather Man* might be its least comic, and those involve the daughter. Dave tries and tries to prod her into finding a hobby or achieving something, with frustrating results. It's a parent-child relationship you don't often see in movies, while young de la Pena is a rare "uncute" child actor. This action is where Dave is most sympathetic, but Verbinski nearly spoils it. When Dave learns that obese Shelly is picked on at school for wearing too-tight clothes and called "camel toe" by the other kids, the director sticks in a "ha ha" montage of women in tight clothes with camel toe. Talk about undercutting your own movie.

As the title character, Nicolas Cage is all lost in *The Weather Man*.

Dave's attempt to land a job on national TV on a Bryant Gumbel morning show is much harder to care about, yet given more screen time in *The Weather Man* than the father-daughter relationship. And that's where *The Weather Man* turns philosophically foul and astonishingly disingenuous. Apparently, the movie thinks a character who makes $240,000 a year but is miserable is believable, but anyone who makes a cool million a year has just *got* to be happy. So if Dave learns to loosen his grip on his family and take the job in New York, maybe he'll be OK, after all. Spiritual growth seems much less important to *The Weather Man* than financial growth. Dave doesn't need to stop being a schmuck, the movie says, he just needs to become a *better-paid* schmuck. In other words, it's a dim celebration of hackery. IB

The Weather Man ★★

Directed by Gore Verbinski. Written by Steve Conrad. With Nicolas Cage, Michael Caine, Hope Davis, Gemmenne de la Pena, Nicholas Hoult and Michael Rispoli. Rated R. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

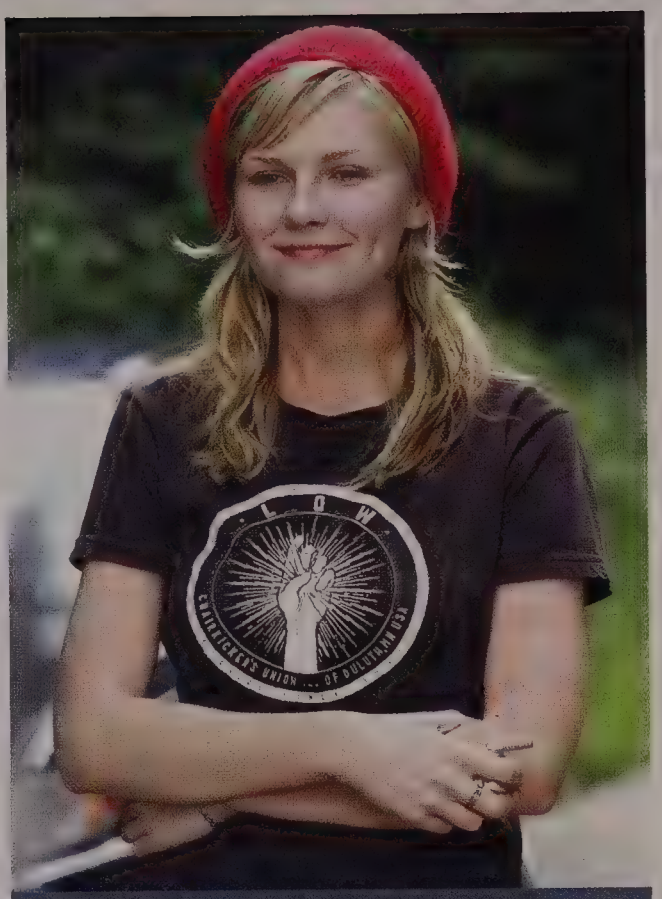
...and *Almost Famous* writer-direc... teens flit in and out like a distant radio station on a stormy night. Its Jack Lemmon-esque hero suffering a crisis of confidence, his high-strung but supportive love interest and the musical moments are all prime Crowe ingredients. But in this story of a just-fired, just-dumped Oregon sneaker designer (Orlando Bloom) who must head to Kentucky to plan his father's funeral, where he finds solace in a pushy stewardess (Kirsten Dunst), sometimes the romance and laughs gel, sometimes they don't. An all-night phone call between the two and a cross-country road trip she plans for him are highlights, while a memorial speech by his mother (Susan Sarandon) and a surplus of folksy action with dad's Kentucky relatives are not. Orlando Bloom's flat performance also makes you long for Tobey Maguire, Jake Gyllenhaal or Leonardo DiCaprio. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The 40-Year-Old Virgin ★★★

What might have been a one-joke comedy about a nerd who's unlucky in love becomes a very funny ensemble comedy in the hands of star Steve Carrell and director Judd Apatow (TV's *Undeclared*), who co-wrote the script. Carrell, formerly of *The Daily Show* and now on NBC's version of *The Office*, plays the title character, and his combination of "normal" looks and over-the-top absurdity steers the guy clear of cliché. You laugh *at* him sometimes, though you start to laugh *with* him when his secret gets out and his co-workers at an electronics store—Paul Rudd, Romany Malco and Seth Rogen, who are all hilarious here—start trying to "help." A lot of work went into skewing all the characters so they're amusing (there's also dependable Catherine Keener, as the woman who takes an interest in the hero) and, no pun intended, the movie has the best climax of the year. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Good Night, and Good Luck ★★★½

There's passion dripping from George Clooney's 1950s tale—for journalism, for liberty, for moviemaking. Filmed in an evocative, cigarette-smoke-filled black-and-white, his second movie as director chronicles the decision by CBS TV's no-nonsense star journalist, Edward R. Murrow (David Strathairn), to take on Senator Joseph McCarthy, the communist-hunting bully. Murrow's on-air bravery helps turn the tide against McCarthy, and beneath the tense story of dilemmas and decisions—told in a vibrant style in which the camera often seems to "find" the action, documentary-style—are the issues of the role of journalism and the larger matter of what it means to be an American. Clooney sets the tone for the movie by not taking the lead role. Instead, he plays Murrow's producer, Fred Friendly. Similarly, the movie doesn't grandstand or go for "big moments," and Strathairn not only catches Murrow's distinctively clipped cadence, but also lets that cadence suggest the moral precision that defines the character, as well as the movie. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)



Kirsten Dunst turns on the charm in *Elizabethtown*.

The Greatest Game Ever Played ★★

If there's a moment in *The Greatest Game Ever Played* that isn't maudlin or manipulative, it's purely coincidental. Strong lead performances by Shia LaBeouf and Stephen Dillane may keep it respectable, but the movie—set in Brookline, yet shot in Canada—so rigidly adheres to the finely burnished *The Natural/Seabiscuit* formula for period-piece underdog tales that, beneath the craft and the clichés, it offers all the soul of a paint-by-numbers clown picture. LaBeouf plays 20-year-old upstart Francis Ouimet and Dillane is Harry Vardon, the revered British golf champ he upset at the 1913 U.S. Open. There's hardly a cliché left unexplored in director Bill Paxton's movie, from the hard-nosed, unsupportive dad and fountain-of-love mom to the diabolically twirled moustaches of the power-hungry fuddy-duddies who try to keep Ouimet out of the tournament. Is it any wonder the movie seems like self-parody half the time? The tale also tries to be about class conflict, with both Ouimet and Vardon driven to overcome class inequity through golf. But considering that the movie's supposed victory for the underclass takes place at the Country Club—where, as at many a tony course, blacks and Jews need not have applied for membership for decades after this "triumph"—the movie rings especially hollow. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

A History of Violence ★★★

In most of David Cronenberg's movies, inner ... moil manifests itself in bodily protrusions and ... functions. But unlike in *Scanners*, *Rabid* or *The* ... the conflicts within Tom Stall (Viggo Mortens... remain internal. He's a Midwestern solid cit... whose placid life accelerates after he fights off ... would-be attackers in his café and shoots them ... their own gun. Tom's sudden heroism brings ... media pouncing and changes the way his neigh... view him. And when a persistent Philadelphia g... ster (Ed Harris) arrives, giving Tom the stink... and insisting Tom is an old adversary with whom ... has a score to settle, the threat of more violence ... trudes. When previously mild-mannered Tom m... this threat head-on, as he did with the attack... even Tom's loving wife (Maria Bello) starts to q... tion just who her husband is. This thriller, base... a graphic novel, travels to several interesting no... especially in the relationship between the spou... and is one of Cronenberg's more conventional ... ries. But it's also more involving than his othe... cent movies (*Spider*, *eXistenZ*). In a sense, you ... see Tom's violence as a Cronenberg-esque pro... sion thrusting from within, so the movie isn't ... out of character for the director. He also casts ... as usual, with Mortensen, Bello and Harris brin... credibility to their roles. The last's performance ... tentionally verges on the comic, while Wil... Hurt's role, as another Philly mobster, is also a h... though perhaps not so intentionally. (At Bo... Common and suburbs.)

North Country ★★½

Here's a question: Is it more palatable when ... Oscar-craving, one-dimensional tale of her... comes from talented people than when it's mad... the usual bunch of hacks? I guess it elevates thi... little, hence the mixed reaction rather than re... sion to this based-on-reality tale of Josey A... (Charlize Theron), the Minnesota iron mine wo... who was the first woman to win a sexual harassm... suit. This single mom sued the iron mine where ... and the other female workers were outnumbered ... to 1 and repeatedly bullied and belittled by the ... in the pit and upstairs in management. The s... reminiscent of *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* ... *Norma Rae*, wisely covers the wide range of ...

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nocks Josey suffered and, in her first American novie, director Niki Caro (*Whale Rider*) keeps hings respectable, while Theron never grandstands s Josey. But the "big" Oscar-clip moments can still voke a cringe or two, even though they're delivered y such sturdy players as Frances McDormand (as osey's dying co-worker) and Richard Jenkins (as osey's crusty dad). With plenty of songs by Min-esota mining country expat Bob Dylan. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Phantom of the Opera ★★★

he 1925 version of the much-filmed tale is not uite as distinctive as other silent classics starring ersatile Lon Chaney, such as *The Unknown* or *The Unholy Three*. But this lavish production is still omething else, especially the two-strip Technicolor asque sequence and the hand-tinted scenes. Plus e Alloy Orchestra will be performing its new score the movie for the first time locally, and it will be own in a newly-struck print. (At Somerville The-re, Oct. 29.)

The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio ★

ne Anderson's 1950s period piece, based on a true ory, tries to both celebrate the era's heartland aintness and point out its inequities, but the mix ever quite gels. Julianne Moore does her best to put e movie across as the title character, Evelyn Ryan, a t-upon mother of 10 who keeps her family finan-ally afloat by winning numerous contests in which e comes up with a snappy slogan or jingle for a oduct. Evelyn is a sharp tack who, in a more perfect orld, would have been making a fine salary from an dvertising agency instead of scraping coins together pay the milkman. And her success bruises the ego her alcoholic, short-tempered, violent husband Woody Harrelson), whom she loves nonetheless. e mood swings between comedy and tragedy pre-nting the film from ever really mining the bitter-eet middle ground it wants to occupy. Its "Spielberg nding," which brings in the real-life children of Eve-n for the last sequence, is a major miscue. Not only it clumsy but, after verbally identifying Terry Ryan ho wrote the book this is based on), the movie en insults the audience by flashing her name on-een. Why didn't you just slap a "Hello, My Name ..." name tag on her, too? (At Kendall Square.)

Proof ★★★

It's involving enough, but it's hard to see what all the drama adds up to in director John Madden's adaptation of the Broadway play about the fragile daughter (Gwyneth Paltrow) of a mad mathematician (Anthony Hopkins). She's had to care for her unstable father as he's deteriorated and his moments of lucidity have grown further apart. When a breakthrough mathematical proof comes to light that was written by one of them, she's faced with the burden of having to prove it was her work (and, if she so chooses, the burden of having to say her father is no longer capable of such work). Of course, all this math talk is just, as Hitchcock would've said, the "McGuffin," the arbitrary whatsit that could be anything or any topic. So what is the math a metaphor for? That's the tricky thing. The movie's concept of "proof" beyond math doesn't go much deeper than the daughter's need to prove her own self-confidence. So the tale is ultimately slight for all of its chest-thumping, but it's well-played by Paltrow, who captures her character's many mood swings convincingly, and Jake Gyllenhaal, as the father's former student who gets involved (sometimes positively, sometimes not) in her plight. Meanwhile, Hope Davis gets stuck in a clichéd role as the controlling older sister and Hopkins is, well, Hopkins, doing another blustery star turn. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit ★★★

Nick Park's 1990s pop-culture sensations return in their first feature, and it's a good one. The stop-motion clay animation rendering potty English inventor Wallace (voiced by Peter Sallis) and his trusty (and smarter) dog Gromit is simply more expressive than any other example of that style of animation. Gromit's facial reactions are funnier and more subtle than those of most human actors, and the dog also has more humanity than most people. Gromit, of course, must pull his master out of tight situations, big and small, again and again during the movie, which finds the duo working as garden pest exterminators whose services are in great demand because of their village's upcoming vegetable-growing contest. When a supersized rabbit threatens to destroy the veggies, the contest and Wallace and Gromit's reputation, the two (well, Gromit mostly) must save the day. Like Park's 1990s shorts, the movie is smart and playful, and the influx of celebrity voice actors (Helena Bonham Carter, Ralph Fiennes) doesn't spoil things a bit. In fact, those two are very funny as two posh aristocrats. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Where the Truth Lies ★★

Alas, getting an NC-17 rating—which was rejected in favor of an unrated release—is perhaps the most interesting thing about this movie. Take away the nudity and sometimes explicit focus on sexual desire, and Atom (*The Sweet Hereafter*) Egoyan's latest is frighteningly like a cheesy TV movie. Kevin Bacon and Colin Firth play a Martin-and-Lewis-like 1950s comedy team who break up following a hushed-up incident involving a dead woman (Rachel Blanchard) with whom they caroused, and 15 years later a young author (Alison Lohman) starts poking around and trying to get one of the estranged pair to spill the beans in a tell-all book. Of course, she opens up all kinds of emotional baggage and gets trapped inside the ex-partners' strained relationship. But this story struggles from the start, in the opening telethon sequence in which the two comics aren't totally convincing as showbiz icons, brotherly partners or even funny men. Lohman is also unable to give the young author the sort of sharp street smarts needed to deal with these worldlier men trying to guard secrets. So this tawdry mystery is ultimately more tawdry than mysterious, and it never reels you in. It gets points as trashy cheese, but not for much else. (At Kendall Square.)

Winter Soldier ★★★★

The legendary 1972 documentary—excerpted in such recent Vietnam-themed films as *Going Upriver: The Long War of John Kerry* and *Unfinished Symphony: Democracy and Dissent*—is even more amazing and disturbing than expected. Little seen locally since it played the late, great Orson Welles Cinema during its original release, it chronicles the Winter Soldier Investigation of early 1971, when Vietnam Veterans Against the War conducted a public forum in which returning soldiers bravely bore witness to the atrocities they saw committed, and committed themselves. It was all an effort to counter the unrealistic optimism about the war that the Pentagon had been foisting on the country for years, and to make the public realize the moral depths to which our war effort had sunk. Produced by a collaborative of moviemakers that included future documentary icon Barbara Kopple (*Harlan County U.S.A.*, *American Dream*), this is also frighteningly relevant to much of what's happened in Iraq, especially the disorganization and lack of moral leadership. When one soldier says that, in war, "If nobody tells you it's wrong, you do it," the silent role of military and political leadership in the Abu Ghraib torture becomes chillingly clear. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, Nov. 3, 5, 10-12.)

Special Events

17th Annual Boston Jewish Film Festival

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). www.bjff.org. Nov. 2-13. This film festival showcases more than 40 Jewish-themed contemporary films from around the world. Visiting artists from various countries introduce their films, answer audience questions and participate in panel discussions.

The Boston Underground Film Festival

Milky Way Lounge & Lanes, 403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-447-6405). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson. Oct. 30. 8:45 pm. $12 in advance, $15 at the door. The eighth annual festival opens with performances by local bands Earth Defense Force and Freezepop, followed by an encore screening of the BUFF 2005 Best of the Fest feature award winner, *Graveyard Alive*, which chronicles the zombification of a lonely nurse who transforms into a flesh-eating sex kitten.

CRASHarts Presents: Phantom of the Opera

Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). www.CRASHarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Oct. 28. 8pm. $18. The Alloy Orchestra provides live music to accompany the Boston premiere of this newly restored classic horror film. Rupert Julian directs.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Laugh at the Library: Silver Screen Librarians

•Oct. 31, 6 pm. **Ghostbusters** *1984*. Ivan Reitman directs this movie about three parapsychology professors who get kicked out of the New York university where they teach and decide to go into business for themselves by trapping and removing ghosts from haunted houses.

BRATTLE THEATRE

The Future of Food

•Oct. 26-28, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 10 pm. **The Future of Food** *2004*. Deborah Koons Garcia directs this investigation into the truth behind genetically engineered foods in U.S. grocery stores.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Halloween Events

•Oct. 28-29, 12 am. **Friday the 13th Part III** *1982*. The third installment of this horror series continues with the story of Jason, a young boy who drowned in a lake while at camp, and the havoc he wreaks as he seeks revenge, only this time in 3-D. Steve Miner directs.

•Oct. 31, 7:30 pm. **Frankenstein** *1931*. James Whale directs this adaptation of Mary Shelley's novel about an obsessed scientist who assembles a living being from parts of exhumed corpses. Michael Shapiro provides a live music soundtrack.

•Oct. 31, 10 pm. **Nosferatu** *1922*. Boston's own Devil Music Ensemble provides the live soundtrack to this silent classic based on the story of Dracula. F.W. Murnau directs.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Conservator's Choice

•Oct. 31, 7 pm. **The Horror! Halloween Trailers Treats**. This special Halloween screening covers 25 horror-themed trailers to be considered an art form in their own right.

•Nov. 5, 7 pm. **Bara No Soretsu** *(Funeral Procession of Roses) 1969*. Toshio Matsumoto directs this reworking of the Oedipus Rex story, featuring a transvestite club kid tormented by violent memories of his late mother burning his father's face out of a photograph, which he saves as the only keepsake of his family.

•Nov. 5, 7 pm. **A Clockwork Orange** *1971*. Stanley Kubrick directs this dark comedy about a gang of teenagers in futuristic Britain who rape and abuse innocent victims every night.

Contemporary French Cinema

•Oct. 29, 9 pm; Nov. 2, 9 pm. **Twentynine Palms** *2003*. Bruno Dumont directs this horror film, which follows an American and his French-speaking Russian girlfriend as they wander through an American desert, leading to an eventual explosion of underlying violence.

•Nov. 7, 7 pm. **Wild Side** *2004*. Sebastien Lifshitz directs this film about a transsexual prostitute, a North African hustler and an illegal Russian immigrant who establish an unconventional union with one another that fulfills their needs for emotional comfort.

Film Architectures

•Nov. 1, 7 pm. **Los Angeles Plays Itself** *2003*. This film compiles footage from 1950's B-movies, science fiction classics and urban film noir to present a modern portrait of the movie industry. Thom Anderson directs.

•Nov. 8, 7 pm. **Toute une Nuit** *(All Night Long) 1982*. This analysis of the modern condition places American tourists in a Paris of office blocks and skyscrapers. Jacques Tati directs.

Harvard LBGT Film Series

•Oct. 26, 9 pm. **The Times of Harvey Milk** *1984*. Rob Epstein directs this documentary about the life and assassination of activist Harvey Milk, the first openly gay politician in America.

Imagining the City

•Oct. 26, 7 pm. **October: Ten Days That Shook the World** *1928*. Based on a book by John Reed, this film recounts the events of the Russian Revolution of 1917. Yakov Gubanov provides live piano accompaniment. Sergei Eisenstein and Grigori Aleksandrov direct.

•Nov. 2, 7 pm. **Voyage in Italy** *1953*. Roberto Rossellini directs this tale of a bored British couple who struggle to keep their marriage alive as they vacation in Naples, Italy.

In the Trenches: Filming World War I

•Nov. 6, 7 pm. **Wings** *1930*. William A. Wellman directs this film based in part on his own war experiences, which follows the love triangle between two best friends who enlist in the Army Air Corps and the object of their affection, who contributes to the war effort as an ambulance driver.

•Nov. 7, 7 pm. **All Quiet on the Western Front** *1930*. This adaptation of Erich Maria Remarque's antiwar novel focuses on seven young German soldiers facing suffering and death on the battlefields of World War I. Lewis Milestone directs.

•Nov. 8, 9 pm. **Sergeant York** *1941*. Howard Hawks directs this film based on the true story of Alvin York, who, after being drafted in 1917, applied for conscientious objector status on religious grounds and was refused.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Friday Reel Rush

•Oct. 28, 8 pm. **Cul de Sac: A Suburban War Story** *2002*. This documentary investigates the tank rampage of Shawn Nelson, an Army veteran and unemployed plumber from San Diego, who in 1995 stole a tank and ran amok through the suburb of Claremont, Calif. Garret Scott directs.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Classic French Cinema

•Oct. 28, 7 pm; Oct. 29, 3:45 pm; Oct. 30, 4 pm. **Mouchette** *1967*. Based on Georges Bernanos' novel *Diary of a Country Priest*, this film documents 24 hours in the barren, isolated life of a young French girl. Robert Bresson directs.

•Oct. 28, 5:30 pm, 8:40 pm; Oct. 29, 2:15 pm. **Pickpocket** *1959*. Robert Bresson directs this portrait of a compulsive pickpocket who believes himself above the moral constraints of common humanity.

Engagements

•Nov. 3, 6 pm; Nov. 5, 2:30 pm. **Goodbye Baby** *2005*. Patricia Goudvis directs this documentary on the difficulties of international adoption, as told from the vantage point of those in the country se ing the children.

•Nov. 3, 7:45 pm; Nov. 5, 12:15 pm. **Winter Sold** *1972*. This documentary chronicles the investigat conducted by Vietnam Veterans Against the W with footage of more than 125 Vietnam veterans w give their testimony to war crimes and atrocities t either participated in or witnessed. The Winterf Collective directs.

The Films of Mikio Naruse

•Oct. 29, 10:30 am. **Okaasan** *(Mother) 1952*. A triarch and her family struggle to survive amid pov and devastation following World War II. Mi Naruse directs.

•Oct. 30, 10:30 am. **Bangiku** *(Late Chrysanthemu 1954*. Mikio Naruse directs this portrait of three ag geishas as they struggle to retain their dignity o they begin to lose their youth and beauty.

World's Best TV Ads

•Oct. 29, 12:30 pm; Nov. 5, 10:30 am. **British Adv tising Films of 2004** *2004*. A collection of last ye award-winning television ads, both familiar and pr ously unaired in the U.S.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theatre

•**Africa: the Serengeti.** Oct. 26-28, 10 am. Fol wildebeests, zebras and antelope as they jour over the plains of East Africa.

•**Antarctica.** The winner of the Prix du Jury at IMAX Film Festival features a helicopter view, sc tific research and penguins. Through Jan. 1, 2006

•**Coral Reef Adventure.** Oct. 31-Nov. 4, 10 am. derwater cinematographers Howard and Mich Hall travel the South Pacific in this cinem record of coral reefs as they exist today.

•**Fighter Pilot.** Stephen Low follows F-15 Eagle p John Stratton as he trains in the Nevada desert be being sent into combat. Through Jan. 31, 2006.

•**Mars 3D.** Explore the landscape and learn the tory of the planet. Through Feb. 28, 2006.

•**Mysteries of Egypt.** Nov. 7-8, 10 am. The IMAX film produced in collaboration with Nati Geographic, this panoramic film reveals an anc civilization through the eyes of an Egyptian mar counting tales from the past to his granddaughter.

•**Special Effects.** Oct. 27, 2 pm, 6 pm. This film t

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Philip Seymour Hoffman is Truman Capote and Catherine Keener plays Harper Lee in *Capote*.

ehind-the-scenes look at the making of *Star Wars* ecial Edition, *Kazaam!*, *Independence Day* and *Ju-nji*.

ellowstone. Oct. 26, 2 pm, 6 pm. Images and turesque highlights of the national park along with torical insights are featured.

:W ENGLAND AQUARIUM
mons IMAX Theater
liens of the Deep 3D. James Cameron directs s film while discovering the strange lifeforms of ocean floor. Through Nov. 23.
lagnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon . This film presents previously unseen footage l photographs taken by NASA. Through Feb.)6.
harks 3D. Jean-Michael Cousteau discusses l explores the traits of several shark species. rough Feb. 2006.
ild Safari 3D. This film shows the African sa-nah from a safari jeep exploration. Through . 2006.

inema Venues

LINGTON
gent Theatre
edford St. (617-646-4849).

-MONT
udio Cinema
Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

STON
ston Public Library
Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
nway 13 Theatre
Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: reen Line to Fenway.
titute of Contemporary Art
Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: en Line to Hynes.
ews Boston Common
Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line ylston.
seum of Fine Arts
Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: reen Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
38 Cameron
38 Cameron Ave., Suite 100. (617-492-4091). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St. (617-876-6060). MBTA: Red Line to Central.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060). MBTA: Commuter Rail to West Newton.

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

Storm Troopers

The Dirty Dozen marches beyond Katrina on the road to its 30th anniversary.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

The Dirty Dozen Brass Band was, typically enough, on tour when Hurricane Katrina hit its hometown. "If we were all in New Orleans, we would have been scattered," says co-founder and baritone saxophonist Roger Lewis, "though we're still scattered, 'cause we've relocated to different places."

"I had about four feet of water in one house and four feet of water over the roof of another house," says Lewis, who lost several saxophones in the flooding. "Man, I had about three feet of mold growing in my house. It's one of those things… People [in the band] lost a lot of personal effects, but everybody's family made it out safely."

Resilient New Orelans locals, The Dirty Dozen soldier on through their music

"I'm saying it'll be 25 years, before that city gets right again, because a lot of stuff was destroyed and will have to be rebuilt," says Lewis, 64, whose group has been part of the rich tradition of New Orleans music for nearly 30 years, earning its own annual Dirty Dozen Brass Band Day.

The eight-man group's schedule has only been busier since the hurricane. In September, the Dirty Dozen played a huge Madison Square Garden benefit for Katrina victims, joined by the likes of Simon & Garfunkel, Elton John, Bette Midler and many New Orleans brethren, and raising $8 million. And the band is still on the road, playing Nov. 17 at Harpers Ferry.

"Everywhere we play, it's been really wonderful," says Lewis, whose band has also contributed to *Our New Orleans*, an indigenous all-star benefit CD out Nov. 22. "People all over the world have opened up their hearts to people from New Orleans. There's a lot of love that we've been given."

The Dirty Dozen comes from the Crescent City tradition of turning a sad event into a communal celebration of life. Brass bands, a precursor to jazz, would play somber hymns or dirges behind funeral processions, and return from the cemetery in a "second line" that played more upbeat tunes.

"It could be the same hymn that we played slower [before] and pick up the beat," Lewis says. "Let's rejoice that the deceased went to a better place. Let's party and get down."

The ensemble found its identity in 1977 as the house band at the Dirty Dozen Social and Pleasure Club, one of the remaining establishments that made funeral arrangements for black Southerners who could not afford life insurance.

"That tradition never died," Lewis says. "The only thing that happened is that we came along with a different flavor. We started playing contemporary music like Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Horace Silver, Thelonious Monk, John Coltrane and Michael Jackson in addition to the traditional music. We picked up the beat a little and gave it a different sound and feeling from New Orleans music."

"We caught the ear of George Wein," Lewis says of the famed founder of the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival. "He put us on jazz festivals all over the world and gave us exposure, and things started taking off from there."

"There were a lot of brass bands that were inspired by what we did, like Rebirth and others," he adds. "A lot of brass bands started popping up. Tuba players started working."

Indeed, the tuba or sousaphone creates the bass pulse in a brass band, while drums are usually split between separate snare and bass drum players. But the Dirty Dozen has since consolidated the percussion into one player on a drum kit, while adding a guitarist and occasionally a keyboardist.

"Over the years, we got to change it up a bit," says Lewis, who still pumps brass with original bandmates Gregory Davis and Efrem Towns on trumpets and Kevin Harris on tenor sax.

The Dirty Dozen has expanded its audience in recent years by collaborating with rock artists from Elvis Costello and Modest Mouse to jambands Widespread Panic and Gov't Mule.

"It's always good to collaborate with other groups because your music gets to be exposed to a lot of kids who'd never get an opportunity to hear what you do," he says. "People who were listening to us 30 years ago don't come out as much."

"We try to have a little bit for everybody, something for their mind, body and soul," Lewis says. "We don't like to stay in one particular bag. Even though we are New Orleans musicians, that doesn't mean we don't want to play other music. We go from gospel to avant-garde and everything in between—bebop, swing, even march music—the whole nine yards. We want to do it all."

"You don't know what life has in store for you," he says. "We're only here for a visit. That's my philosophy. You do the best you can do on this planet. You've got to keep striving for the best." iB

The Dirty Dozen Brass Band
plays Harpers Ferry Nov. 17.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by f (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not a cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from d ferent sources. Although we make every effort to prov accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Bloodhound Gang Oct. 28, Avalon (617-931-200
Hanson Nov. 4, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Me'Shell NdegeOcello Nov. 3, Berklee Performan Center (617-747-2261).
Nine Inch Nails and Queens of the Stone Age N 8, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Spoon Nov. 3, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Bruce Springsteen Oct. 28, TD Banknorth Gard (617-931-2000).
Gwen Stefani and The Black Eyed Peas Oct. TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Susan Tedeschi Oct. 28, Orpheum Theatre (61 931-2000).
Switchfoot Nov. 2, The Roxy (617-338-ROXY).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Ara Vora, 9 pm; P Fiction, 9:45 pm; the Less Lonesome, 10:45; P scription America, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Hidd Soul Accoustic, 7 pm; the Blue Ribbons, 8 pm. 2
Acton Jazz Cafe Nicole Borger, Ralph Rosen Ba 8:30 pm, $7.
All Asia Café Open mike hosted by Christ Samantis, 7 pm.
Axis Soulfly, 7 pm, $20.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, no cove
Breezeway Groove Authority, 7:30 pm, no cover
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Lucifuge, Green Machine, 9 pm, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harpers Ferry The Atomic Bitchwax, Palace Thunderland, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's The Buzz, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Jake Shimabukuro, 8:30 pm, $12.
Middle East Upstairs: The Casual Lean, Those W Wait, Ellipsis, the 8mm Fuzz, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Dow stairs: the Clientele, Annie Hayden, 9 pm, $ 18+.
Milky Way Rosana Peixoto, Carlos Kampff, Nic Edgecomb, 9 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute.
Paradise Rock Club Ambulance LTD., We Are entists, 7 pm, $12, 18+.
PA's Moller, Fuigitve Kind, the Tenafly Vipers, New Thirty, 8:45 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Laszlo Gardony Trio, Dan Tepfer T 7:30 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Lamine Toure and Group Salour pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club The Average White Band, 8 10 pm, $22-$62.
Somerville Theatre Joan Baez, 8 pm, $41.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Timeout Drawer, Lights, 9 $7.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, B Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.

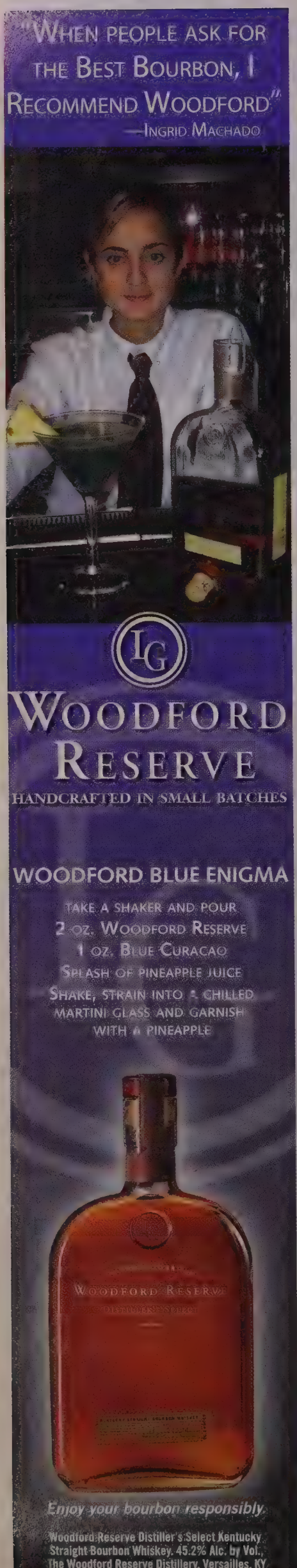
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Suzuki Smith, 9 pm; Half Nelsons, 9:45; the Acrobrats, 10:45; Zeus nion, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: AJ Edwards, 7 pm; Root, 8 pm. 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe BJ Magoon and Friends, 8:30 $5.
Avalon Saves the Day, Senses Fail, 6 pm, $17.50
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm cover.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, no cov
Bob the Chef's Aaron Burnett, 7:30 pm, no cov
Bravo at the MFA The Mountain Goats, the Pra and Tears of Arthur Digby Sellers, 7:30 pm, $18.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.

The Burren Swinging Johnsons.
Celt Break Mission, Rachael Sage, Michael Rivera, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry King's X, $17, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Fellyko & Sankai Sound, 9 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Derek James, Jones Viking, Platypus Rex, Jake & the Jakes, 8 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Milemarker, the Lot Six, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: OK Go!, Juliette and the Kicks, Scamper, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Stryper, House of Heroes, 8 pm, $17, 18+.
PA's Headband, Blood on the Wall, Reports, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, no cover.
Regattabar Tierra Tango, Katie Vigueira, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Leo Blanco, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Ann Hampton Callaway, 8 pm, 10 pm, $20-$60.
Sky Bar Wayne Hsu, 8 pm, $6; Seth Richardson, 9:55 pm, $6; Jude Nemo, 9:50 pm, $6; Adam Wayne, 10:45 pm, $6; Ray Hendricks, 11:40 pm, $6. 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Debutantes, Burboun Princess, Paula Kelley, the Jumblies, 9 pm, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Carlos Morena, Joe Fonda, George Schuller, 7:30 pm.
The Zygomates April Hall Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Deprogrammer, 9 pm; Just Actin' Fuses, 9:45 pm; The Beatings, 10:45 pm; Rock City Crimewave, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Max Heinegg, Jared Marsh and Jason Dunn, 7 pm. 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe Paul Combs' Pocket Big Band, 9 pm, $10.
Asia Café Chris Oquist Showcase, 6 pm; Room 10 pm.
Asgard Stained Glass Eye, 9 pm, no cover.
Avalon The Bloodhound Gang, 6 pm, $15.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Berklee Performance Center Leo Kottke and Mike Gordon, 8 pm, $28.50.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Jen Kearney, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swerve.
Club Passim Richard Shindell, Judd and Maggie, 8 pm, $30; members, $20.
The Green Dragon Tavern Fast Times.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Veruca Salt, The Lovemakers and Porselain, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Grey Spot.
Intrigue Cafe Herb Pomeroy Quartet, 7 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's James McMurty, Kerri Powers, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kirkland Café Mick Mondo & Streaker, Girl on Top, The Hixx, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's Touissant, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Cocked 'n' Loaded, The Humanoids, That Handsome Devil, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Leningrad, 9 pm, $50, 18+.
Midway Cafe Mach 5, Red Invasion, Orange, 9 pm, no cover.
Milky Way Johnny Carlevale and The Cobramatics, 9 pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5 pm; Inchicore, 9 pm.
Paddy O's The Risk.
Paradise Rock Club The Coup, Lifesavas, D-Tension, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris Split Decision, 9 pm, $10.
PA's Polaris Mine, Badman, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Phatt Boys Van Go Kart, 9 pm.
Regattabar David Maxwell, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Thaddeus Hogarth, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Eddie Palmieri, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $24-$66.
Somerville Theatre Alloy Orchestra, 8 pm, $18.
TD Bank North Garden Bruce Springsteen, 7:30 pm, $55-$85.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.



The Western Front Bobby Bishop, Terrelle, 9 pm, $5.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Konks, 9:45 pm; Coffin Lids, 10:45 pm, The Lyres, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Satch Kerans, 7 pm; Seth Gooby, 8 pm; Mark Walters, Jay Allen, 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe The Evan Goodrow Band, 9 pm, $10.
All Asia Café Ignited Temperment, 1 pm; Allison Wood, 4 pm; Eric Dinarou, 6:30 pm; Dagnabbit, 9:30 pm.
Avalon Big D and The Kids Table, 5 pm, $15.25.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's BlackSole, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Moonshine.
Club Passim Chronic Pleasure, 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
The Green Dragon Tavern Grey Spot.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Mr. Lif, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Syndicate.
Kinsale Berhan Law.
Matt Murphy's Dead Cat Bounce, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Lost City Angels, Bullets to Broadway, The Tossers, 9 pm, $12, 18+. Downstairs: Yerba Buena, 9 pm, $25, 18+.
Midway Café Schaffer the Darklord, Coolzey, The Planet The, Bonedust, 9 pm, $7.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
Paddy O's Mark Morris and The Catunes.
Paradise Rock Club Steve Kimock Band, Hi8us, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris Split Decision, 9 pm, $10.
PA's The In/Out, Penny Winblood, Uneasie, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Phatt Boys Rockin' George, 9 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Teresa Ines Group, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Eddie Palmieri, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $24-$66.
Somerville Theatre Charles Band's Full Moon Horror Road Show, 8 pm, $27.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bags, Muck & The Mires, Deep Purple Helmet, Classic Ruins, 9 pm, $10.
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-jah, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Marianna Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

Acton Jazz Cafe Alan Rowe, 4-7 pm, $5; The Pedro Ito Group, 7:30 pm, $7.
All Asia Café Edward Blake with Carolyn Conspiracy and Shy Guise, 10:30 pm.
Avalon Thrice with Underoath, The Bled and Veda, 6 pm, $17.50 in advance, $21 at the door.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson, 10 am, no cover.
The Burren Danielle, 8 pm, no cover.
Club Passim The Joel Rafael Band, 7:30 pm, $12; members, $10.
Great Scott Big Bear as Weezer, Twisted Village as Andrew Sisters, Reports as The Velvet Underground, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Tom Pendergast, 9 am, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Zion Blood, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Tony Reeks of the Grave, Malice in Leatherland, Five Star Outlaw, The Adam Sloane Trio, 9 pm $8, 18+. Downstairs: Rasputina, Tarantula, Contramano, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Midway Café Ujamaa, 9 pm, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club Buckethead, DJ Warner, 7 pm, $14, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Patricia Adams, 10 am, no cover.
Scullers Jazz Club Eddie Palmieri, 8 pm, 10 pm, $24-$66.
75 Chestnut Jazz Brunch, Herb Pomeroy, 11 am, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Lou Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place December Sound, The Break-Up, Rob Montejo, A Wish for Fire, 9 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Second Cousins Residency, 7 pm. 21+.
All Asia Café DT and The Rays Halloween Party, 8 pm.

Hanson plays Nov. 4 at Avalon

Avalon The Dresden Dolls, 8 pm, $22.25.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Emergency Music covering The Velvet Underground, Protokoll covering Bauhaus, The Never Never covering Supergrass, Chain Letter covering Joy Division, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Harpers Ferry The Clumsy Lovers, Hot Day at the Zoo, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Matt Murphy's Team Satan, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Faux-way-sis, Raymond, Unbusted, Porsches on the Autobahn, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Open Mike with Nanci McDonald, 8pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Greg Latrell.
Paradise Rock Club The Go! Team, The Grates, Airborn Audio, 7 pm, $16.50, 18+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Vaux, The Letters Organize, The Sharking, 9 pm, $1.04.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 8 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Red Invasion, 9:45 pm; The Genders, 10:45 pm; The Curses, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Leon Rich, 7 pm; Todd Rourke, 8 pm. 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe Jerry Bergonzi, Bruce Gertz, Bob Kaufman, Gabriel Guerrero, 8:30 pm, $7.
All Asia Café Ben Miller, 10:15 pm; Alex Nackman, 10:40 pm; 56 Hope Road, 11:30 pm. $5, 19+.
Avalon WFNX Presents Spoon, 7 pm, $18.25, 18+.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 6:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, The Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry The Unfulfilled Desires, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Middle East Upstairs: Sam Calef, The Limericks, Tim Franklin, John Condron & The Benefit, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Genitorturers, Beautiful Creatures, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Paddy O's Brian Locher.
PA's Attention, Dead Heat, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Regattabar Manquito, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Tony Gallo Group, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Follen Angels, 8 pm, 10 pm, $2 $60.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cove
T.T. the Bear's Place One Eyed Stanley, Bole Brian Michael Roff & The Deer, 9 pm, $6.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rus Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Adventures in Touris 9 pm; Monique Ortiz, 9:45 pm; The Doom Buggi 10:45 pm; V8 Interceptors, 11:45 pm. Pub Sta Brooke Brown-Saracino, 7 pm; Tony Epsy, 8 pm.
Acton Jazz Cafe Leah Souza, 8:30 pm, $7.
Axis Hank Williams III, 8 pm, $15.
Breezeway Rollins Ross, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Bury the Needle, 9 pm, $5, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Hennessy's The Buzz, 9pm.
Johnny D's Tish Hinojosa, 8:30 pm, $12.
Middle East Upstairs: Westgate, Splint, Veridical pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy O's Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute.
Paradise Rock Club Linda Perry, Sierra Swan, 7 p $15, 18+.
PA's Anemone, Con Amore, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Regattabar Bobo Stenson Trio, 7:30 pm, no cove
Roxy Switchfoot, 8 pm, $22.50 in advance, $25 door.
Ryles Jazz Club Pedro Ito Quintet, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Black Sea Salsa, 8 pm, 10 p $14-$54.
Somerville Theatre Warren Miller's Higher Grou 7 pm, $19.50.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cov
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Br Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Le Juene, 9 pm; Sa Kerans, 9:45 pm; Sidewalk Driver, 10:45 pm; T Naked Sams, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Uke Spri steen, 7 pm; The Sundrops, 8 pm.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Aerosmith & Lenny Kravitz Nov. 12, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Fiona Apple Dec. 7, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Averi Nov. 12, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Bon Jovi Dec. 9-10, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Ryan Cabrera Nov. 14, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Dave Matthews Band Dec. 15, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Reel Big Fish Nov. 12, Axis (617-931-2000).
Rolling Stones Jan. 13 & 15, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
U2 Dec. 4-5, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).

cton Jazz Cafe BJ Magoon and Friends, 8:30 pm, .
venue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no ver.
rklee Performance Center Me'Shell Ndegeo-llo, 8:15 pm, $25.
b the Chef's Paulo Danay, 7:30 pm, no cover.
e Burren Swinging Johnsons.
ub Passim Sonia, Toshi Reagon, 8 pm, $15; mem-rs, $13.
ck's Last Resort Groleau's Basement, 7 pm, no ver.
lt Parkview, Ryan McCalmon, 21+.
eat Scott Lady of Spain, Badman, Sybris, Bullet-oof Plan, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
e Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
een Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro o High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
rpers Ferry Peelander Z, The Portugal Japan & e Phenomenauts, $10, 18+.
nnessy's Me and Julio.
nny D's David Lindley, 9 pm, $20.
kland Café Casey Abrams, Kong, Robert Gaste-Latin Jazz Collection, 8 pm, $5.
ddle East Upstairs: Asect, Woodland Creatures, erkollider, Counterculture, Something Against , 8 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Royce Da 5'9, vin the Dude, Audible Mainframe, Jake the ke, 9 pm, $20, 18+.
s The Weisstronauts, Pony, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
gattabar Ellen O'Brien, 7:30 pm, no cover.
es Jazz Club Osmany Paredes Group, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Steve Kuhn, 8 pm, 10 pm, $22-$62.
Somerville Theatre Warren Miller's Higher Ground, 7 pm, 10 pm, $19.50.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mark Mulcahy, Milo Jones, Gladiola, 9 pm, $10.

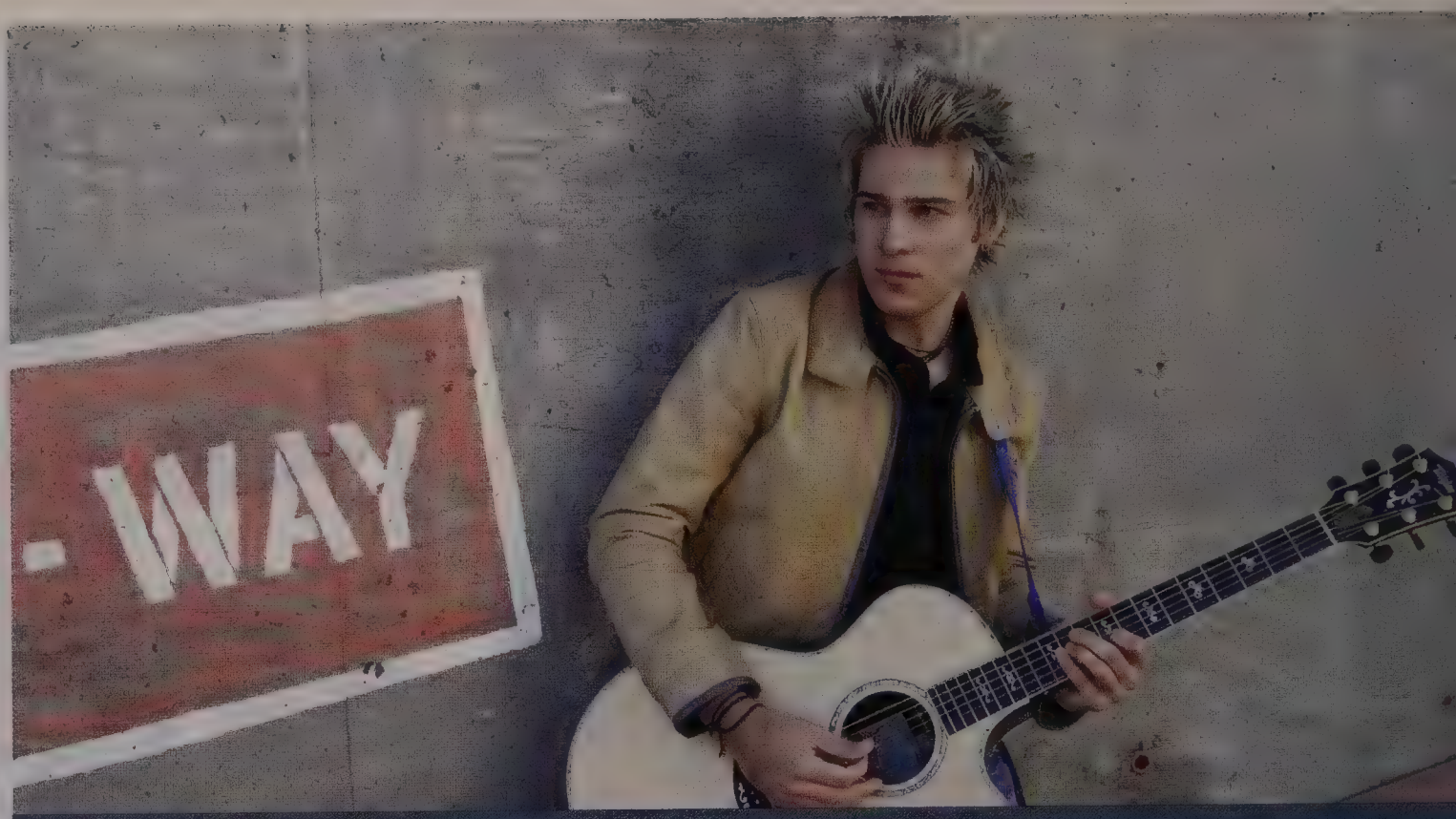
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Eric Hatch Band, 9 pm; The Electric City, 9:45 pm; Boone, 10:45 pm; Hugh McGowen, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: Nancy Kenyon, 7 pm; Candice Jarrett, 8 pm. 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe Brooke Sofferman Perspective, 9 pm, $10.
The Attic Shiner Jones, 9 pm. $5-$7, 21+.
Avalon Hanson with Pat McGee Band, 7 pm, $26.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Cover Up.
Club Passim Bill Staines, 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Never in Vegas, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Two If By Sea, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Brick Park.
The Harp The Benderz, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Playin' Dead, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Freeze Pop.
Intrigue Cafe Cassandre McKinley, 7 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's James Montgomery Band, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kirkland Café License, Cello Chix, Clams, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.

Middle East Upstairs: Calla, Celebration, Appomattox, 9 pm, $12, 18+. Downstairs: Babaloo, The Well, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5-9 pm; Tommy and Alan, 9 pm-2 am.
Paddy O's Syndicate.
Paradise Rock Club James Blunt, Sarah Blasko, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris Mr. Green Jeans, 9 pm, $10.
PA's The Dirty Whites, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Regattabar La Guitara, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Ezra Weiss Group, 9 pm, $15.
Scullers Jazz Club Pieces of a Dream, 8 pm, 10:30, $27-$67.
Somer's Pub Eamonn Sheehan, 5 pm; Tommy and Alan, 9 pm.
Somerville Theatre Paris Combo, 8 pm, $25-$30.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Aberdeen City, Bon Savants, The Plain Janes, Why Twist the Hair, 9 pm, $9.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Sidemen, 9 pm; The Aboringines, 9:50 pm; Track Rabbit, 10:30 pm; Soft Explosions, 11:30 pm. Pub Stage: Jesse Perkins, 8 pm. 21+.
Acton Jazz Cafe Boston Horns, 9 pm, $10.
All Asia Café Davey O with Timothy Riordan, 4 pm.
The Attic Dead Jam, 9 pm. $5-$7, 21+.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7 pm, no cover.
Axis Butch Walker, 7 pm, $13.
Bob the Chef's Black Sole, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Fat Tuesday.
Club Passim Don White, Ana Eder-Mulhane, 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Hypercane, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Fragile, Lolita Bras, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Friday Episode.
The Harp The Benderz, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Kashmir, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Incadence.
Johnny D's The Knot, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Brenda White, 8:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Jonas Brothers, Making it Right, 1 pm, $10. Downstairs: The Constantines, The Hold Steady, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Alan.



Ryan Cabrera plays Nov. 14 at Avalon.

Paddy O's Brick Park.
Paradise Rock Club Shout Out Louds, The Essex Green, The Sun, 8 pm, $10 advance, $12 at the door, 18+.
Parris Mr. Green Jeans, 9 pm, $10.
PA's Tristan Da Cunha, Cinemechanica, Hangman's Alphabet, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Regattabar Bill Charlap, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Battle of the Bands, 10 am, $7.
Somer's Pub Tommy and Alan.
Somerville Theatre Crooked Still, Halali, Jake Armerding Band, 8 pm, $21.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place AdFrank & The Fast Easy Women, Rene Risque & The Art Lovers, Everyday Visuals, Cassette, 9 pm, $9.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Broken River Prophets, 9 pm; The Rabbit Ears, 10 pm; Animal Hospital, 11 pm.
Acton Jazz Cafe Mark Shilansky, 4-7 pm, $5; Ter
Ines Group, 7:30 pm, $7.
Avalon Jon Anderson: SOLO Work in Progess
pm, $32.50 in advance, $35 at the door.
Axis Alexisonfire, 7 pm, $12.
Bob the Chef's Dori Low, 10 am, no cover.
The Burren Danielle, 8 pm, no cover.
Club Cafe Sylvia Greenberg, 7 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort John Polino, 7 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Casiotone For the Painfully Alo
Dear Nora, Pants Yell!, 9 pm, $7, 18+.

Green Street Grill Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Blood, Sweat, & Gears, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Matthew Dorko, Larry Kukers, 9 am, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Dios, Swords, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: The Tiger Lillies, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Colm O' Brien.
PA's Palace in Thunderland, Presley, Supersoul Challenger, Ogre, 8:45 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Regattabar Bill Charlap, 5:30 pm, 8 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Patricia Adams, 10 am, no cover.
75 Chestnut Jazz Brunch, Herb Pomeroy, 11 am, no cover.
Somer's Pub Colm O'Brien, 9 pm.
Somerville Theatre Duncan Shiek & the Yellow Umbrella, 7 pm, $22.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Kingsbury Manx, The Standard, Appletown Gun Shop, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

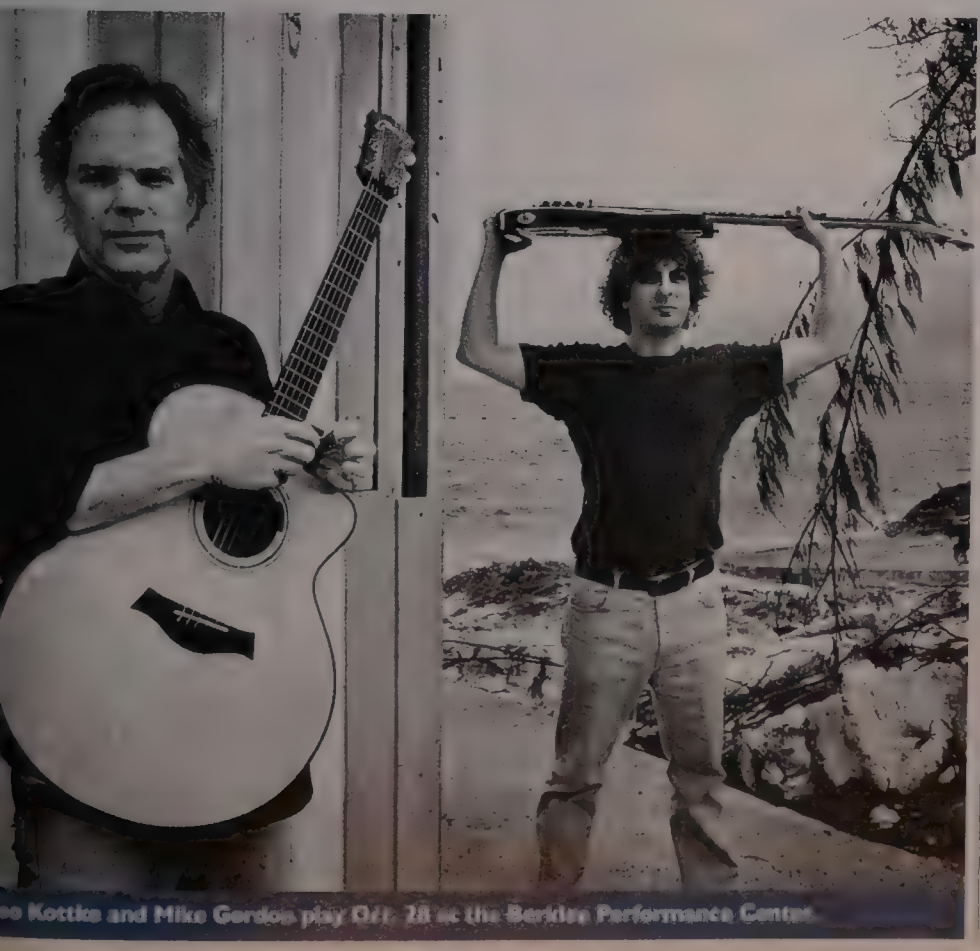
Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Semi-open mike night featuring members of The Ducky Boys, 11th Hour, Vesites, Scars , 7 pm.
Axis Gratitude, 6:
Club Cafe Kathy St. George, 7 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott The Eames Era, Say Hi to Your Mom, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Harpers Ferry The Less Lonesome, The Gulf, Red-handled Hoe, James Christensen, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Middle East Upstairs: In the Face, Jeepers H Cracks, Monty's Fan Club, Mile 21, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Whitehouse, Pyschic Paramount, 9 pm, $5, 18+.
Milky Way Open mike with Nanci McDonald, 8 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Greg Latrell.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tom Vek, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

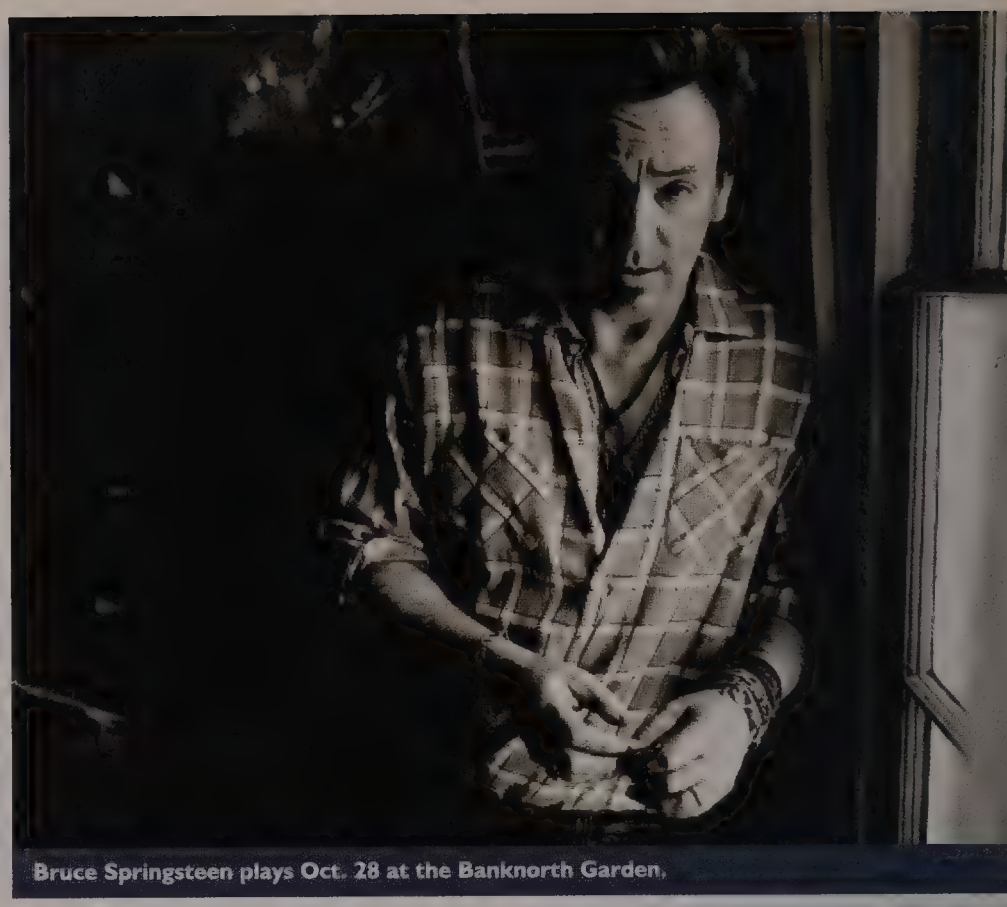
Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Silver Lining, 10 pm; Mad Boyfriend, 10:45 pm; The Glass Set, 11:45 pm.
Acton Jazz Cafe Jerry Bergonzi, Bruce Gertz, Bob Kaufman, Gabriel Guerrero, 8:30 pm, $7.
Axis The Suicide Machines, Stretch Armstrong, 7 pm, $12.
Blue Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 6:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Eli Paperboy Reed, The Thungs, Space Captain, Beau Roland Band, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, The Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry PGroove, $5-$8, 18+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Old School Freight Train, 8:30 pm, $10.
Paddy O's Brian Locher.
Paradise Rock Club Broadcast, Gravenhurst, 7 pm, $15, 18+.
PA's Fern Knight, In Gowan Ring, Jesse Sparhawk, The Empty House Cooperative, 9 pm, $6-$8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Artist Showcase, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Mili Bermejo Quartet, 8 pm, 10 pm, $15-$55.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Abernathy, Sky Pilots, Boston Lonely, 9 pm, $7.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Acton Jazz Cafe *452 Great Rd., Acton (978-263-6161).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Prerformance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Warf, Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*



eo Kottke and Mike Gordon play Oct. 28 at the Berklee Performance Center.



Bruce Springsteen plays Oct. 28 at the Banknorth Garden.

Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *Quincy Market, Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Intrigue Cafe *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mobius *374 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656) MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245) MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Old Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somerville (617-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (61 562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557*
Phatt Boys *50 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-2005). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Orange Line to State St.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Centra*
75 Chest *75 Chestnut St., Boston (617-623-5223) MBTA: Red Line to Park St.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-227-2175). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536 1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Venezia *20 Ericsson St., Dorchester (617-436-312 MBTA Red Line to Ashmont.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridg (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278 MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

Choir of Men & Boys from St. Mary-le-Tower

Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826). MBTA: Green Line to Park St. 12:15 pm. $5. Michael Nicholas directs this special afternoon concert by the choir of 19 boys and 12 men.

New England Conservatory Symphony Orchestra

Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Joseph Silverstein conducts the NEC Symphony Orchestra performance of works by Brahms, Bartok and Wagner.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

Boston University Symphony Orchestra

Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 8 pm. Free. David Hoose conducts his performance of Elgar's *Symphony No. 1.*

Mountain Goats

Remis Hall at Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3291). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm, $18 general, $14 members, students and seniors. John Darnielle, a prolific acoustic guitarist and vocalist, performs selections from his dense catalog.

Mozart and Tippett

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Sir Colin Davis conducts his performance to commemorate the centennial of Tippett's birth.

NEC Jordan Winds

Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. William Drury conducts the NEC Jordan Winds in this program featuring music by Bach and Krommer.

Zeitgeist Gallery

1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. 9:30-11:30 pm. $12. This performance features pianist Carlos Morena with Joe Fonda and George Schuller.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

Guest Artist Series at MIT

Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4006). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. Free. Featuring Professor Marcus Thompson and the Endellion String Quartet, this concert features performances of Mozart's *Viola Quintet in G Minor*, Haydn's *Quartet Op. 20. No. 2.*, and Tippett's *Quartet No. 2.*

Mozart and Tippett

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $28-$98. See Oct. 27 listing.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

Boston Landmarks Orchestra: Halloween Program

Kennedy Library, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1646). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMASS. 10:30 am, 12 pm. Free, reservations required. This holiday program includes pieces by Richard Wagner and Robert McBride.

Ensemble Suave

Cambridge Friends Meeting House, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-472-0084). www.ensembl e suave.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10-$12. The Second Annual Crossover Concert features folk, baroque, and opera as well as several special guests including violinist Joe Jewett.

Metropolitan Wind Symphony

Sorenson Center for the Arts at Babson College, Wellesley Hills (617-983-1370). www.mws-boston.org. 8 pm. $15 general, $12 students and seniors. The Berkshires kicks off the 35th anniversary of the MWS and features pieces by Bernstein and Thompson.

Mozart and Tippett

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. See Oct. 27 listing.

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9th Annual Fringe Festival
Boston University Theatre, Studio 210, 264 Huntington Ave., (617-933-8600). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. $5. This program includes performances of both *Mahagonny Songspiel* and *Youkali*.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

Brundibar
Boston College, Gasson 100, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-6004). www.ncacboston.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 3 pm. Free. This Czech opera by Hans Krasa follows a pair of siblings' journey to get milk for their ill mother.

The Royall Consort
Somerville Museum, Central St. and Westwood Rd., Somerville (617-666-9810). 3 pm. $15 general, $10 students, elders and museum members. The El Dorado Ensemble performs several works by William Lawes with a reception following.

Schola Cantorum
Monastery Chapel of the Society of St. John the Evangelist, 980 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (401-274-5073). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3:30 pm. $20 general, $15 seniors, $8 students. Frederick Joury conducts this tribute to 16th century composer Thomas Tallis.

Seymour Lipkin
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617- 566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $5-$20. The pianist performs *Beethoven's Great Variations Part One*.

The Tsar Has His Photograph Taken
Boston University Theatre, Studio 210, 264 Huntington Ave., (617-933-8600). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 2 pm. $5. This comedic opera features singers from the Opera Institute and Opera Programs. Additional performances are Nov. 5 at 8 pm and Nov. 6 at 7 pm.

Vento Chiaro
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. 7 pm. Free. This performance by the ensemble includes works by Mozart and Poulenc.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

The First Church of Boston
The Sanctuary, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-547-2010). www.fscboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 3-4:30 pm. Free. This concert is presented by the Baltic American Society and is followed by a reception.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

NEC Composer's Series
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-367-6730). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Duke University's Ciompi Quartet performs works written by senior NEC faculty members and features pianist Alan Feinstein.

Piano Masters: Max Levinson
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. Free, tickets required. The Boston Conservatory of Music faculty member and Dublin International Piano Competition winner performs an all-Schubert program.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

All Souls' Requiem
Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston (617-523-2377). www.theadvent.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. Free. The Choir of the Church of the Advent performs *Missa Pro Defunctis* by Frei Manuel Cardoso.

Contexts/ Memories II: Music of Babbitt, Cogan, Escot
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www. newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC's Robert Cogan and Pozzi Escot premiere their new music along with the 90th birthday celebration of Milton Babbitt.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

NEC Shivaree
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1100). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Stephen Drury leads this ensemble of students in performances of Finnissy, Gubaidulina, and Boulez.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Boston Modern Orchestra Project
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-363-0396). www.bmop.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $10-$38. Louis Andriessen's *Trilogy of the Last Day* premieres in North America at this performance with Tomoko Mukaiyama playing piano and koto.

Cross Border Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $35-$70 general, $18 students. Conductor Gearoid Grant leads this group of 140 young Irish Catholic and Protestant musicians.

Longy Ensemble
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridg (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. 8 pm. Free James Sommerville conducts the Longy Chambe Orchestra as they play works by Takemitsu, Mozar and Beethoven.

Lucie De Lammermoor
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-6772). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston 7:30 pm. $34-$166. Donizetti's opera recounts a tal of forbidden love.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston
Goethe-Institut, 170 Beacon St., Boston (617-427-8200). www.chameleonarts.org. MBTA: Green Lin to Copley. 8 pm. $16-$36. This program entitle *And many a youth entranced...* features performance of Beethoven, Hagen and Rachmaninoff.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway Boston (617- 566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $5-$2 The group performs several pieces including thos by Prokofiev and Shostakovich.

Lucie De Lammermoor
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-6772). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston. 3 pm. $34-$166. See Nov. 4 listing.

New Music Brandeis
Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (78 736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/arts. 3 pm. Free. Wor premiere of pieces by several graduate composers.

Yesaroun' Duo
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222 www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line Hynes. 4 pm. Free. Eric Hewitt and Samuel Solomon perform a program including pieces Robert Hasegawa, Kark Heinz Stockhausen, Nic Muhly and Xenaxis.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

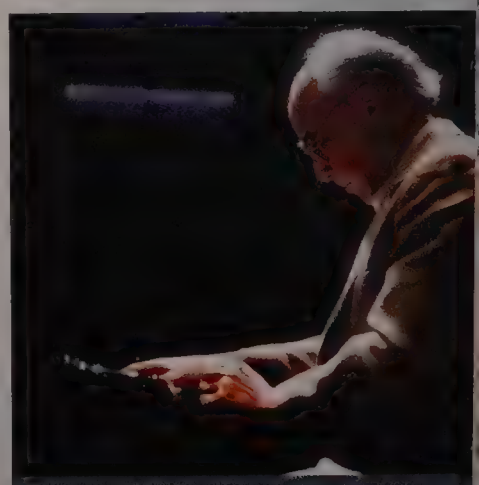
Barbara Jones
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambrid (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. 8 pm. Free. Master of Music Recital featuring a pianist from t Modern American Music Department.

First Monday at Jordan Hall
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC Preside Emeritus Laurence Lesser conducts this program music by Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev among other

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Longy Ensemble
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambri (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. 8 pm. Free. K Vincent directs *Longitude*, a performance of mode chamber works.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-3 0396). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBT E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Violist K Kashkashian and pianist Robert Levin perfo pieces by Hindemith, Schumann and others.



Seymour Lipkin plays at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Oct. 30.

dance clubs

Nights

ONDAYS

n Tua Nua
eremony A night of Gothic and industrial music, m, $3, 19+.

xis
atic Gay night with rotating DJs and drag perfor- nces, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

aprice
ddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a x of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 , no cover, 21+.

elt
.N. Mondays This Service Industry Night in- des free pool and guest DJs spinning high-en- y dance, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no er, 21+.

olden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, town, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

reen Briar
h seisiun.

reen Street Grill
vana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ ban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 after lesson), 18+.

hoenix Landing
kka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, pm, $3, 21+.

e Place
spin top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

e Rack
spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
ekly Wax Each week, two local DJs hold a musi- face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

int
N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins se and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

UESDAYS

ia
Dance to hip-hop and R&B from DJ Chubby ub; $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

r 33
vana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban , salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after on), 21+.

price
e bands as well as rotating DJs, 10 pm, no cover, .

smopolitan
sday Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10 pm- n, $5, 21+.

bassy
oe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no er, 19+.

e Enormous Room
l'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spin hits from '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

lden Temple
E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix in- ling R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no er, 21+.

e Kells
ally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

radise Lounge
h Up Tuesdays DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop, , '80s and more, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

oenix Landing
ze" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, m, no cover, 21+.

e Place
spin top 40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, .

e Purple Shamrock
oke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

e Rack
spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

n
oke for Cash with Deb-N-Art.

er Gods
sdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at , no cover, 21+.

nor
nt varies with an assortment of performances themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa Night DJs Hernan, D. Martinez, Antonio Ortiz and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes beginner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk music bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
iPod Night Bring your own iPod and be an MP3J, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Bruno spins house, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Demers spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Oldies but Goodies DJ Russ McQueen spins hits from the '50s, '60s and '70s, no cover.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

Avalon
Hot and Heavy Thursday DJs spin hip-hop music, 10 pm, $15; ladies free until 11 pm, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+.

Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

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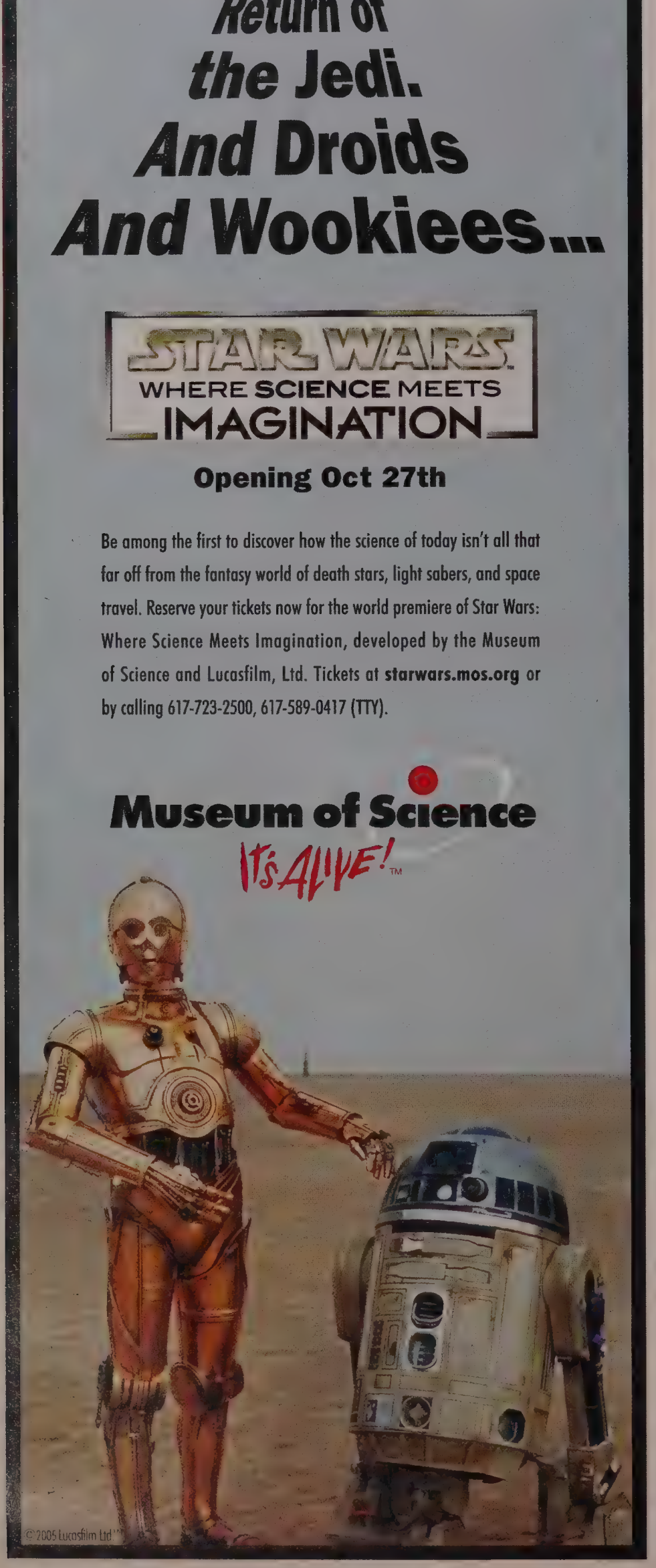

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Miss Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ Mike Navarro, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
A night of jazz, 10 pm.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn Ryle host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
True Music Thursdays Featuring live performances, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama-jigi play Afro-pop highlife, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJs Edgar and Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban Jeff spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 before 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Rouge Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while DJ Prolific spins R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
=20 Thursday Hip-hop and house music, 11 $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no co

WaterWorks
Buckwild Thursdays DJs spin top 40 and house host a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull ing contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-sc hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Steve spins top 40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm 21+.

Aria
Vanity DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, R&B and classics pm, $20; 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Avalon
Avaland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wi Alex Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top 40, 9 1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions spins hip-hop pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps s ning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Hot Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae bachata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions preser night of local DJs spinning top 40, dance and hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of internatio Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; afte pm, $15, 19+.

Club Q
Forbidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and 40, 21+.

Common Ground
DJ Dino Sound spins Northern Soul, 10 pm, no cover.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5,

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style m 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and tr music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm 21+.

Embassy
DJ Xander spins hip-hop, 9 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everyt from hip-hop and house to funk and soul 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Therapy Fridays DJ Cerebral and Chris Ku KISS 108, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and top 40, 7 pm-1 am, no c 21+.

Green Street Grill
Latin DJ, 11:30 pm, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJs Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free b 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins re $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21

he Kells
dies Night DJ Doc spins top 40, R&B and dance
ile DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9
, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

nvara Pub
Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop,
&B and pop, 21+.

quor Store
Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

atrix/Paradise City
Adilson spins high-energy house, and DJ Steve
nelli plays top 40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

cGann's
spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ddlesex Lounge
Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and
-hop, no cover.

he Modern
DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

bal Lounge
ture/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno
disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

he Palace
he Beach House Reggaeton: Spanish reggae
sic, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter**
w England's longest-running all-male dance
ue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25,
; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett
s mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere,
es free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+.
ckpile Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free
re 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

rris
at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

he Penthouse Club
Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, no
er, 21+.

oenix Landing
ove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm,
cover, 21+.

he Place
Laptop spins top 40 and hip-hop, and TV screens
w Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

he Point
Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P,
m.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Vegas Fridays Las Vegas resident DJs spin.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tantric Lounge
Hookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud 9 spin the music at this night featuring hookahs, specialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Calamari Chianti Ravioli Pinot Grigio Panini
Caprese Wine Flights Melanzane Antipasto Arancini
Agnolotti Insalata Pollo Gnocchi Barbera

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WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin top 40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared and friends mix top 40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20; 21+ men, 19+ women with college ID.

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life DJs Frank and Matty spin alternative party hits, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and top 40 music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present top 40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Profenna spins top 40, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Shake Your Ass Night DJ spins indie rock, $2.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Cosmopolitan Satrudays DJ Mastermillions from JAM'N 94.5 spins, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
•Sensation Saturdays featuring DJ Eddie Lee spinning hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15; 19+ women, 21+ men. •**Russian Night in The Modern** with DJ Roger R spinning international.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house music, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Fresh spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJs Peter D and Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+; $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden-era hip-h no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz sp merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, men $ women $5 or free before 10:30; 21+.

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons sp minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 p $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance mus 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Span and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip H nandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 bef 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**T Male Encounter** New England's longest-running male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show run pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies or •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 1 $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream h hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-ene dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wo ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roc spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
KISS 108-FM's Billy Costa and DJ Randy G sp top 40, house, dance, disco and rock music, 10 pm

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 a no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mod mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own style house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 2

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa danci 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top 40 dance in front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro vorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top 40 dance, 9 pm, $

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top 40, hip-hop and house pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins cla old-school, top 40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 2

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening Gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Ta Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-h 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and hou 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyb 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays** spin top 40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 p 10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top 4 night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

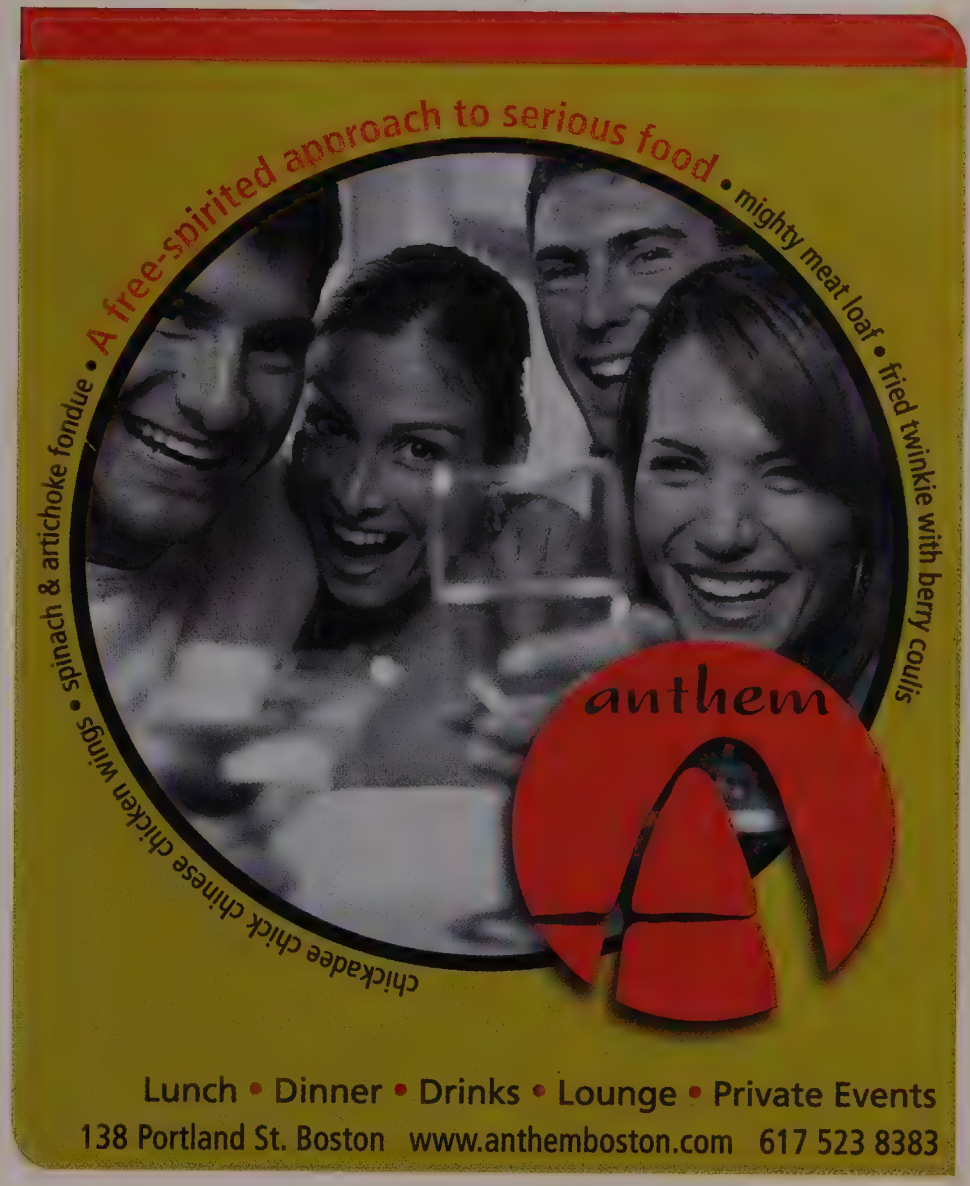
An Tua Nua
Dance Hall Reggae music, 11 pm, $10-$15, 19+

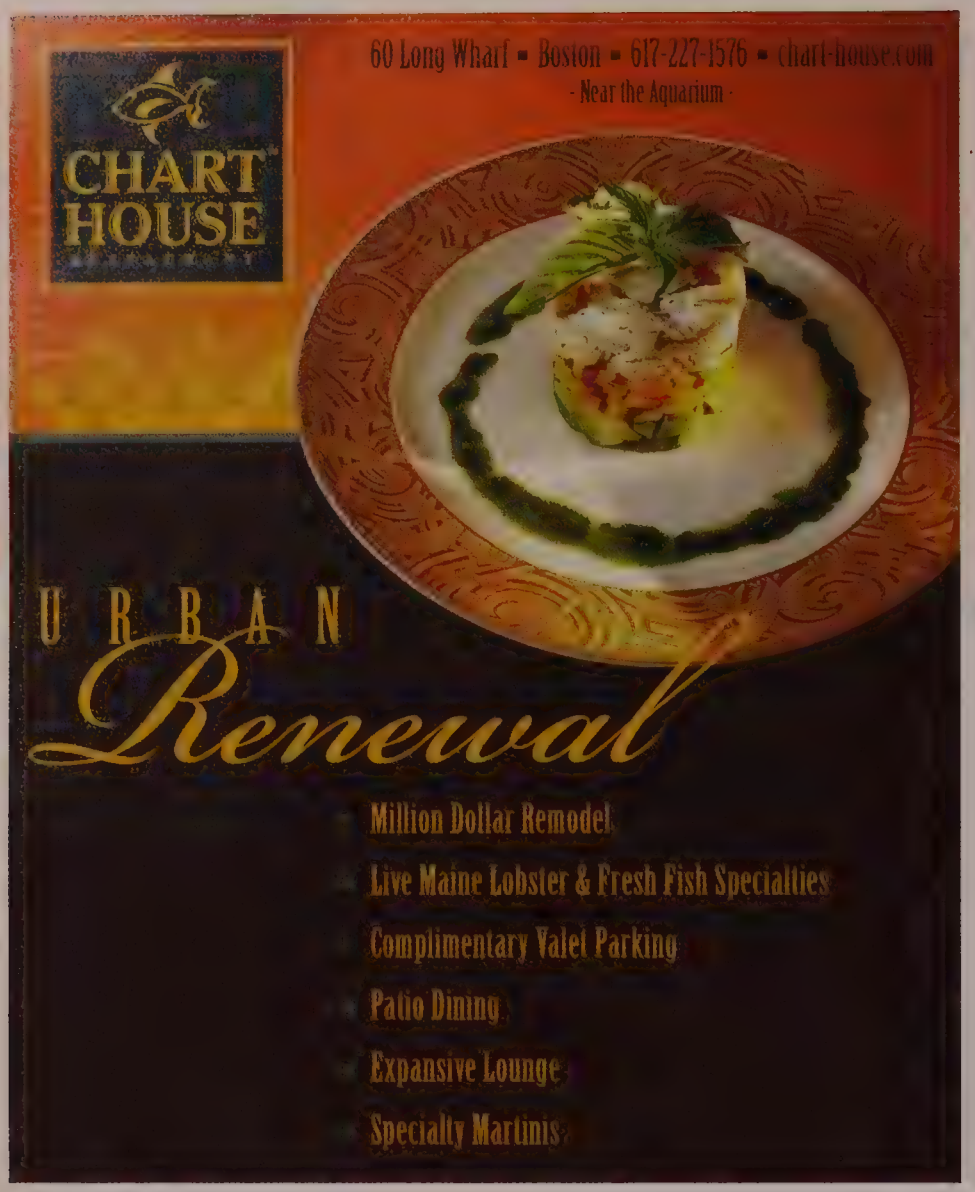
Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $ women 19+, men 21+.

Avalon
ay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and chno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.
ill's Bar
ve reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.
uzz
razilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, 0, 19+.
aprice
otating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, -$10, 21+.
lub Q
iave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and the 45 rew spin dance music, 8 pm-2 am, $10.
osmopolitan
aribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
evlin's
dustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and mixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
he Enormous Room
evolutions A night of electronic music, $3, pm-3 am.
reen Briar
nbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.
he Kells
e Spot DJs spin top 40, hip-hop and house music, pm-2 am, no cover.
evel
otating DJs spin Latin and international on the third or and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the urth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.
iddlesex Lounge
oove Yard DJ Yamin spins mash-ups, soul, hip-hop, ncehall and more, 9 pm, no cover.
he Office
opia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests y deep, soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, +.
hoenix Landing
mp This house-music night has a rotating roster local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, +.
he Place
ad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, cover, 21+.
he Point
Itchy P, 11 pm-2 am.
he Purple Shamrock
Thom spins top 40 beats, no cover, 21+.
he Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and top 40, 9 pm-m, no cover, 21+.
in
Danny Sharp and the World Premier Band pro-e top 40, dance and old-school funk music.
edline
nday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests n reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
ver Gods
tion Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic k and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
yles Dance Hall
epa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sun-of each month, DJs Nik and Hernan play salsa sic, 6-10 pm, $12.
int
ce Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night turing Latin and international grooves, 10 pm-m, $10, 21+.
ssy K's
nu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
ki Room
ggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub tion and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
ast
wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.
nu
rnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian ht as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance s, 11 pm, $15, 19+.
rtigo
itian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and ld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
aterWorks
eekend Beach Party Cocktails and volleyball, pm-5 pm, no cover. **•Smokin' Sundays** DJs neo and Randy spin, and Romeo hosts a Hawai-Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am; $10 from pm, $20 after 9 pm; 21+.

lub Venues

Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
them *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
a *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
alon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *51/2 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*





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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •*Degas at Harvard* displays more than 60 drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs by Edgar Degas. Through Nov. 27. •*Silver and Shawls: India, Europe and the Colonial Art Market* highlights the evolution of shawls and silverware during India's colonial period. Through Jan. 29, 2006.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center

Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •*Extended Boundaries* is a collection of paintings, photographs, sculptures and films by the Wellesley College studio arts faculty. Through Dec. 18. •*Aaron Nobel: Artist in Residence* is a lobby wall project inspired by comic book superheros. Through Dec. 18. •*Brice Marden: Etchings to Rexroth* exhibits images paying tribute to calligraphy. Through Dec. 18. •*Hold: Vessel 1* is a multimedia installation by Lynette Wallworth. Through Dec. 18. •A display of art from China, Japan and Korea runs through June 2006. •A new installation of modern art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6; children 5 and under, free. •*Great Buys: Museum Purchases* celebrates the establishment of the Arts Acquisition Fund with an exhibition of 40 newly acquired works by 35 New England artists. Through Oct. 31. •*John Huddleston: Killing Ground, Photographs of the Civil War and the Changing American Landscape* juxtaposes historical images with contemporary photography of the same locations 150 years later. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Robert Arnold: Zeno's Paradox* is a short looping video that experiments with the connections between zooms and stills. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Saga: The Journey of Arno Rafael Minkkinen, Photographs 1970-2005* exhibits nude self portraits in which the artist incorporates his body into a range of landscapes. Through Jan. 8, 2006.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. •*A New Kind of Historical Evidence* showcases photographs from the Carpenter Center Collection. Through Oct. 30. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* displays two pairs of small-scale religious objects from 18th-century Germany and Austria. Through Nov. 27. •*Stratification: An Installation of Works Since 1960* displays seven pieces presenting various approaches to art making. Through Feb. 26, 2006. •*Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* exhibits 19th-century paintings. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center

53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon., Tue. and Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 10 am-8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Morphologies* features large format black and white landscape photographs by Luc Pagès. Through Nov 3.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 9 am-12 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children 3-18, $5. •*Robert Turner: Rare Places in a Rare Light* exhibits images of North America's wildlands. Nov. 5-March 26, 2006. •*The Glass Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features glass models of more than 830 plant species from the Ware Collection. Ongoi
•*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmal* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewe and rough tourmalines. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobi and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature and Science Harvard* features collections documenting more th two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www. boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tu Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, Thu. after 5 pm, free. •Julian Opie's outdoor work *Suzanne Walking* and *Julian Walking* feat two full size animated portraits installed on Northern Avenue Bridge. Through Oct. 31.•*mentum 5: Paul Chan* displays political drawin projected digital animations and videos. Throu Jan. 16, 2006. •*Utopia, Utopia = One World, War, One Army, One Dress* exhibits a critical l at the world through wall graphics, vitrines, scu tures, maquettes and films by Thomas Hirschho Through Jan. 16, 2006.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). ww gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to M seum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; weekends, $ seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons nam Isabella and those under 18, free. •*Variations o Theme* combines the paintings of Sol LeWitt w the music of Paula Robison. Through Nov. 13. *Closer Look: An Introduction to the Isabella Stew Gardner Museum* offers museum tours. Tue.- 2:30 pm. Ongoing. •*Special Exhibition Gallery T* provide context to museum exhibits Saturdays 12 pm. Ongoing. •The collection features m than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, fur ture, manuscripts, rare books and decorat pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michel gelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

Mary Baker Eddy Library

200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.m bakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hyn ICA. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $6; seniors, stude and youth 6-17, $4; children 6 and under, free. •T Mapparium celebrates 70 years with a new exhi showcasing the structure's history and reflect major changes in the world since 1935. Throu Jan. 6, 2006. •The multimedia exhibit *This Woman's Hour...* highlights the life and acco plishments of Mary Baker Eddy. Ongoing. •The brary's *Historic Bible Collection* showcases rare Bi in the Reference Room. Ongoing. •The library plays a "peace" flag from the 1907 Peace Congr proceedings in New York. Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Ch nut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseu MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-F 11 am-4 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*The Powe Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons* lo at the role Jewish women's salons played in Eur and America from the late 18th century through 1940s. Through Dec. 4.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

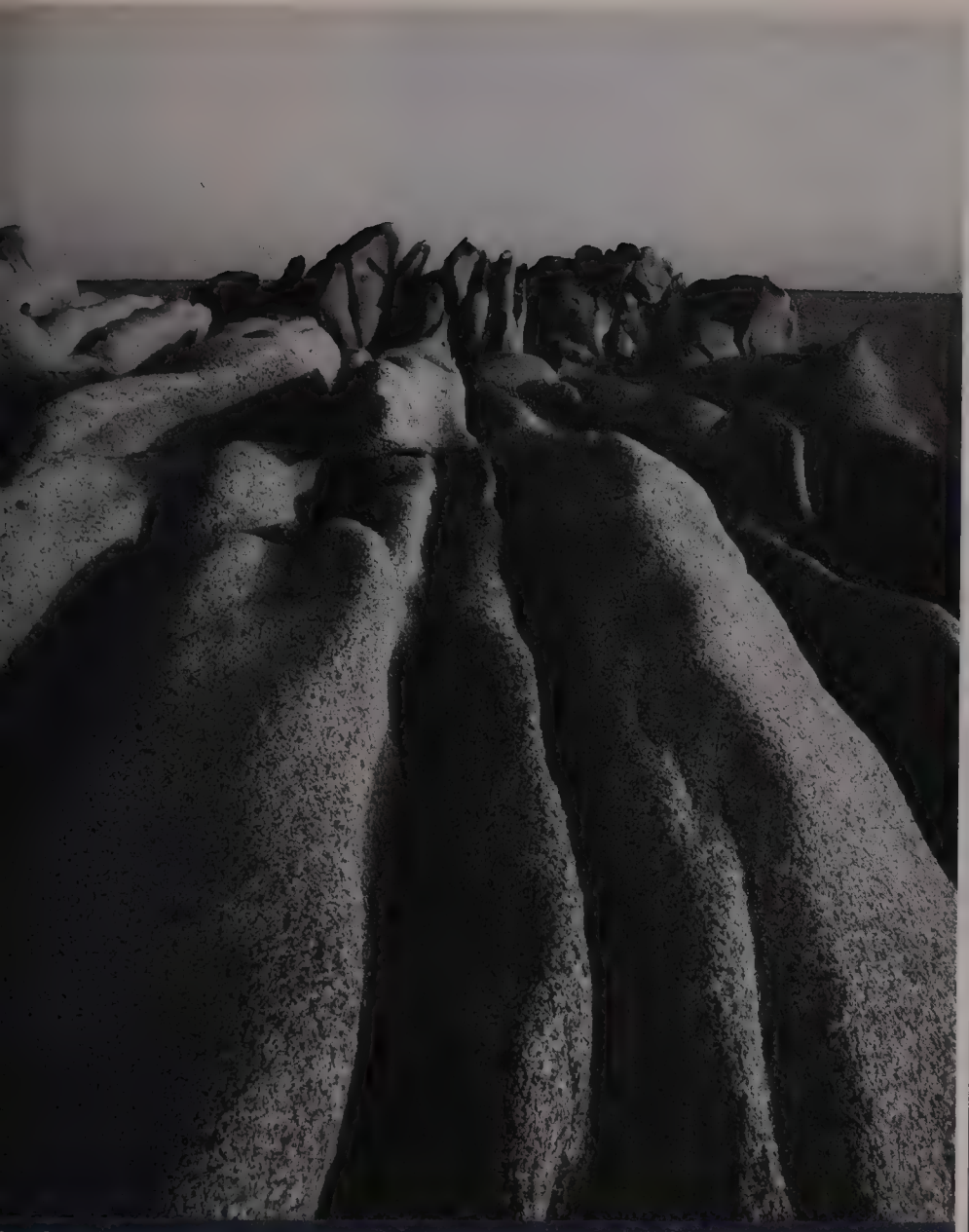
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://w mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Th Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. Free. •*Wor Drawings for the MIT Bell Tower* displays Theod Roszak's preparatory sketches for the tower. Thro Dec. 16. •*Christian Jankowski: Everything Fell Toge* is a collection of 54 photographs and 10 film and c ceptually based installations. Through Dec. 31.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). htt web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kend Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. students and seniors, $2; children under 5, f •*Scopes, Station Wagons and Solder: Unexpected ages from the Rad Lab and RLE Collections* exhi photographs from preserved negatives document the history of radar and electronics. Through J 11, 2006. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Ha Edgerton* is a multimedia exhibit focusing on famed MIT professor, including his developmen the electronic strobe and his groundbreaking p tography. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond: Explo Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive hibit. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American Histo

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). w afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park St. M Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Words of Thunder: Wil Lloyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition c* brates the life and achievements of Boston abolitic William Lloyd Garrison. Through Dec. 31. •*Hist Gallery Talks: 19th Century Black Beacon Hill* discu the determination of blacks on Beacon Hill in 1800s. Ongoing.



Luc Pagès' photographs are displayed at the French Library in the exhibition *Morphologies*.

Museum of Fine Arts

5 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). ww.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. ed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 n. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is en. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17, hool days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all ner times, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is duced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, free excluding special hibitions. •*Things I Love: The Many Collections of illiam I. Koch* displays pieces of silver, sculptures, intings and more. Through Nov. 13. •Artist Sol Witt and flutist Paula Robison collaborate on ozart pieces and a giant wall drawing for *Variations a Theme*. Through Nov. 21. •*Ansel Adams* shows works by the famous American photographer. rough Dec. 31. •*Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical struments of Asia* features more than 100 musical struments. Through Jan. 5, 2006. •*American West: st and Dreams* presents more than 70 artists whose rks reflect the American West. Though Jan. 8, 06. •*Zhang Huan: Seeds of Hamburg* displays 12 ronological large-scale photographs. Through n. 16, 2006. •*West African Gold: Akan Regalia from Glassell Collection* presents items crafted for Akan gs and elite including crowns, jewelry, sculptures, ords and kente cloths. Nov. 2 through March 26, 06. •*A Much Recorded War: The Russo-Japanese r in History and Imagery* exhibits prints, postcards d photographs. Through March 28, 2006. •*Contporary Clay: Japanese Ceramics for the New Cen y* is a collection of innovative present-day Japan ceramics. Through July 9, 2006.

Museum of Science

ence Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos. . MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.- n., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, 3; children 3-11, $12. •*Countdown to Supernova* planetarium show about the creation and death stars. Through April 30, 2006. •*The Computing volution* traces the history of computers. Ongo-. •Hundreds of butterflies and flowers are on play in the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. *latural Mysteries* puts your organizational skills work to solve mysteries. Ongoing. •The *Theater Electricity* provides lightning shows daily at 12 pm and 2 pm and Fridays at 7 pm. Ongoing. •Stargaze atop the museum's garage roof using the Gilliland Observatory Friday evenings. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

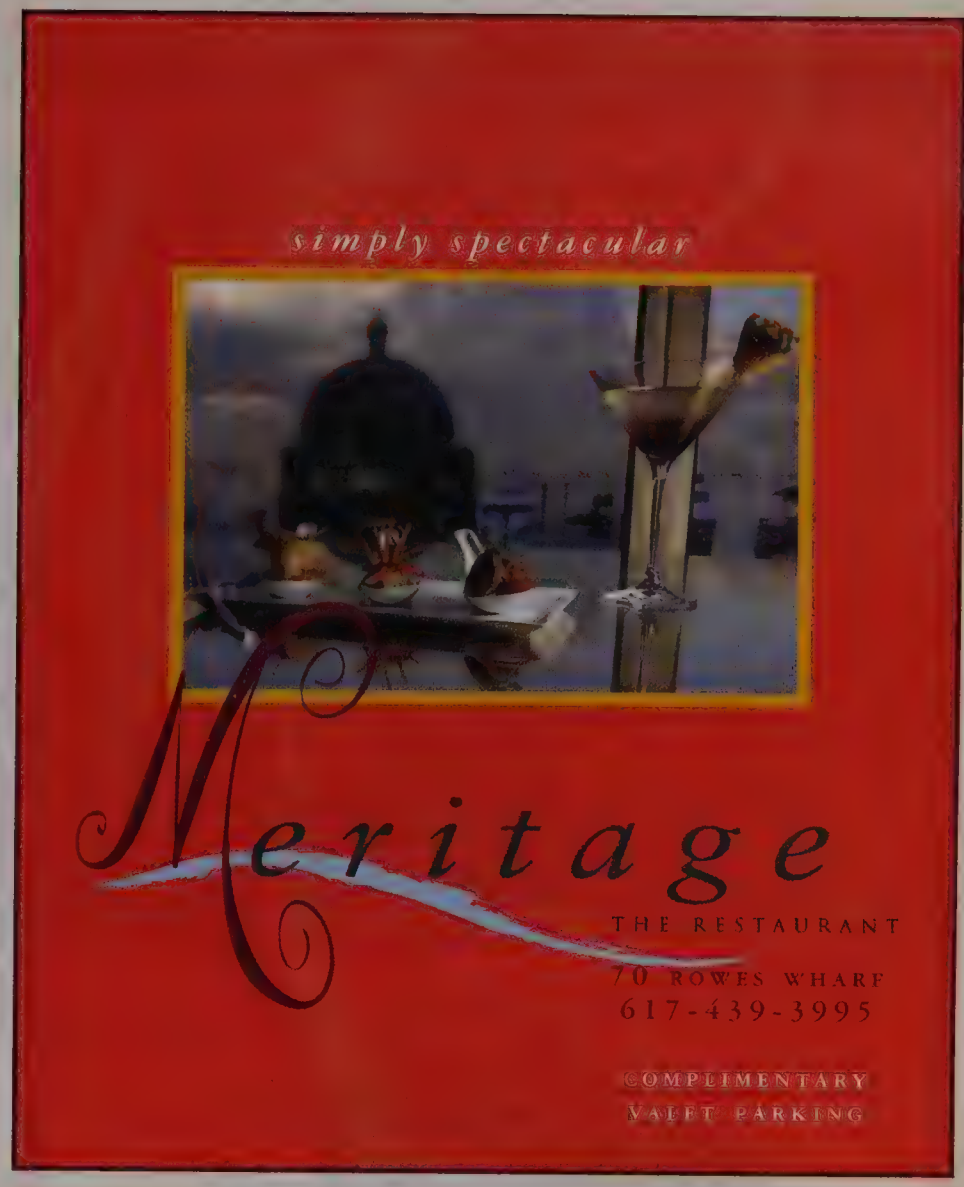
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Old Glory* displays patriotic magazine covers from the 1940s. Through Dec. 11. •*September 11: Bearing Witness to History* commemorates and reflects on the tragedy of 9/11 through photographs, articles and everyday objects. Through Jan. 1, 2006. •*Teenage Hoboes in the Great Depression* features letters, questionnaires and audio tapes documenting stories during the Depression. Through Feb. 16, 2006. •*Blue Monday: Doing Laundry in America* showcases a collection of laundry advertisements and paraphernalia from the 1700s to today. Through March 4, 2006.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from the Mississippian Culture. Through March 30, 2006. •*Air Lines: Photographs by Alex MacLean* captures images of the United States from thousands of feet above the ground. Through April 23, 2006.•*Taj Mahal: The Building of a Legend* is a collection of 40 paintings and photographs exploring the site. Through July 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature: Untamed Traditions in Chinese Decorative Art* exhibits organic wood forms which appealed to Buddhists and Daoists seeking to connect with nature. Through Aug. 13, 2006. •*Owls in Art and Nature* is a collection that explores the connections between people and owls through paintings, sculptures, photographs and videos. Through Nov. 5, 2006. •*Exposing the Source: The Paintings of Nalini Malani* displays 40 works including oils, acrylics, watercolors and videos by one of India's leading contemporary artists. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; chil-



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dren 3-18, $5; children under 3, free. •*Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations in Washington, D.C.* features photographs of Native American delegates to the U.S. government. Through Dec. 1. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtiss Collection* is on display through March 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006. •*The Moche of Ancient Peru* is a collection of early ceramic art that gives insight into the civilization. Through June 2007. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006.

Rose Art Museum
Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $3. •*Alvin Lucier: Chambers* explores the characteristics of enclosed spaces. Through Dec. 11. •*Fred Tomaselli: Monsters of Paradise* displays collage-style paintings that blend natural and unnatural worlds. Through Dec. 11. •*'Post' and After: Contemporary Art from the Brandeis University Collection* displays works from the 1980s and '90s. Through April 9, 2006.

Special Events

Pujas: Blessings from India, Nepal and Tibet
29 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-0290). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 11:30-12 am. Kerry Hook's latest show features photographs taken in Southern Asia. The event's opening reception is held Nov. 6 from 2-6 pm. Nov. 1-30.

Women of the World: A Global Collection of Art
Simmons College Trustman Art Gallery, 300 The Fenway, Boston (617-521-2268). www.simmons.edu/trustman. MBTA Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4:30 pm. •More than 200 female artists from around the globe will be featured at Simmons College. Through Oct. 30.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Lillian Orlowsky: In Retrospect* includes paintings inspired by real life figures that feature abstract style. Through Nov. 12.

Adams Gallery
Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont St., Boston (617-305-1782). www.suffolk.edu/adams_gallery. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*Touching All the Bases: A Red Sox History* explores the history of the Boston Red Sox through photographs, cartoons and artifacts. Through Feb. 28.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Contained* displays perfume bottles and larger vessels made mostly out of art glass. Through Nov. 12.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Bob Dylan Unscripted* displays photographs of the musician by Douglas Gilbert. Through Oct. 29.

Alpha Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Gyorgy Kepes* exhibits photographs and paintings. Nov. 5-30.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Paul Balmer's *Cityscapes* displays the artist's extensive work with oils and canvas paintings. Through Oct. 29. •*New Paintings* presents oil paintings by Sebastián Picker. Nov. 2-Nov. 29.

Arsenal Arts Center for the Arts
321 Arsenal St., Watertown (617-923-0100). www.arsenalarts.org. •This exhibition features 26 artists celebrating the *Transformation* of the Arsenal building in various media. Through Oct. 29.

Ars Libri
Mario Diacono Gallery, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-5212). www.arslibri.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. • Damian Loeb's new painting *Deliverance* is on display through Nov. 2.

Artana
1378 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-87[illegible] 3111). www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm; and by appointment. •*Realism Rejoiced II* features 40 pastel paintings by Dimitri Brodsky and Ella Delyanis. Through Oct. 29.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Glowlab: Open* features several different artists each weekend leading workshops, tours and other activities. Through Dec. 14.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., Boston (781-853-0017). www.atlantworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sat., 12 pm and by appointment. •*Interactions* features work ranging from jewelry to photos from four artists. Through Oct. 28.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Jennifer Perrott's painting exhibition *Nature of Things* is on display through Dec. 7. •Robert Cottingham's *American Alphabet* displays the work of the photorealist. Through Dec. 7.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*New Ground* features paintings by Jennifer Harrison. Through Nov. 5.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •The Boston Drawing Project showcases the work of Nancy Berlin, Debra Bretton, Robert Coppola, Karen Davis, Peter Holzhauer, Lara Loutrel, Joe McDonald, John Ruggieri and John Storrow. Through Oct. 29.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. Wed., Thu., Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat. 12-10 pm. •*Circumference* displays small-scale self-portraits by Steve Locke. Through Oct. 30. •*Standing on One Foot* explores the human figure and departure from traditional interpretation. Through Oct. 30.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-776-3410). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Michael Beatty's *IN-tangle* show displays his new sculptures, many incorporating plywood and metal. Jim Henderson's *Tree Museum* includes scultpures created out of logs from outside the artist's studio. Through Nov. 12.

Boston University Art Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). www.bu.edu/art. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5 pm. Free. •*Resurfaced* features works influenced by painting and sculpture. Through Oct. 30.

Bromfield Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*George Hancock Commons* displays the artist's oil on Masonite paintings, which portray the Blackstone Valley. Through Oct. 29. •Adria Arch's *The Labyrinth Series* is inspired by Aboriginal paintings. Through Oct. 29.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Fragments of Life: Watercolors by Neda Movaghar* presents her abstract watercolors influenced by patterns from Iran. Oct. 14- Nov. 9. •*Peru: Perceptions, Photographs by Monika Bruzkova* displays through Nov. 11.

Cambridge Art Association
Kathryn Schultz Gallery, 25R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. University Place Gallery, 124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-1 pm. •*Decisive Moments*, which focuses on the concept of light and action meeting at one point, is on display at the Kathryn Schultz Gallery. Through Nov. 9. •*Natural Elements* features the work of Miriam Gilman, Lynda Goldberg and Judi Lister at the University Place Gallery. Through Nov. 9.

Cambridge Arts Council Gallery
344 Broadway, Cambridge (617-349-4380). www.cambridgeartscouncil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Cent

quare. Mon., Wed., Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm; ue., 8:30 am-5 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-noon. Taylor Davis' *Rose-Tinted* features culptures influenced by Russell Field. hrough Oct. 27.

Chase Gallery
29 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: reen Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Bernd aussmann presents various media in s *New Work* exhibition. Through Oct. 9. •*Debra Fritts* exhibits her terra-cotta ulptures layered with object marks and olorants. Nov. 2-26. •*Whitney River* atures an oil-on-canvas look at or-nic objects. Nov. 2-26.

hilds Gallery
59 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-08). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: reen Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 n; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. *Painters of the Art Students League* fea-res watercolor and oil paintings. nrough Nov. 5. •*Joseph Pennell: Temple the Gods, Temples to Industry* exhibits chings and lithographs by Joseph Pen-ell. Through Nov. 5. •*Joseph Pennell in e Swiss Alps* displays drawings by seph Pennell. Through Nov. 5.

laygo Gallery
0 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-00). www.claygo.com. MBTA: Red ne to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. The gallery displays designer Andy owarth's ceramic Mexican pieces. nrough Oct. 28.

rump McCole Gallery
0 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-33). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-ed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. d Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* ex-bits paintings by Dan McCole, Norman Crump d other local artists. Ongoing.

TR Modern Galleries
7 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-9700). ww.dtrmodern.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 11 am-6 pm. •*American Century: Pop to Graffiti to Cutting Edge* is a collection featuring such artists as Andy Warhol and Robert Rauschenberg. Through Nov. 22.

Boston's Public Garden, by Samir Sammon, is displayed at the Galerie d'Orsay through October 31.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). www.eclipsesalongallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. Free. •New paintings by Peter Previte are on display. Through Oct. 29.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-9 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. • *Off the Wall* exhibits sculptures by Julie Levesque and Sally Moore. Oct. 28-Dec 3.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •Samir Sammoun displays his paint layering technique in his exhibition. Through Oct. 31. •An exhibition of paintings, sculptures and fine prints features works from the 15th to 20th centuries. Ongoing.

Gallery @ The Piano Factory
791 Tremont St., Boston (617-421-0095). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri., 6-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •The 25th anniversary group show includes photography, weaving, sculptures, prints and more. Through Oct. 29.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 12-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Recent paintings by Chris Mesarch and Evelina Brozgul are on display. Through Oct. 29.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •A group exhibition features paintings, drawings and photographs by Gallery Katz artists. Ongoing.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Eric Lewandowski exhibits black and white photos, while Shuli Hallak presents color prints. Through Nov. 26.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Good Fishing* features the work of Cheryl Warrick. Through Nov. 5. •*New Watercolors* features the work of Robert Ferrandini. Through Nov. 5.

Gallery 321
321 Washington St., Somerville (617-623-5315). www.washingtonst.org. Sat., 12-4 pm. •Vanessa Thompson's *Memories of a Horror Movie Baby* features color photos of dolls. Through Oct. 31.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. Fran Siegel's mixed media installation and painting exhibition *Horizon* runs through Nov. 1.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Paul Shakespear displays his abstract acrylic on wood works through Nov. 15. •*War Drawings* showcases Elaine Spatz-Rabinowitz's works on paper through Nov. 15.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Masterpieces of Graphic Design* showcases the evolution of graphic design. Through Nov. 30. •The gallery displays a variety of vintage posters. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*Built*, an exhibit of mixed media by Carol Grove, derives inspiration from both rural and urban settings. Through Oct. 29.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* by Douglas Schneider explores the question of innocence in America's past. Through Nov. 12.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •Joan Baldwin's pastel drawings of interior views are on display. Through Oct. 29.

Laconia Gallery
433 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-670-1568). www.laconiagallery.org. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Sat., 1-5 pm and by appointment. •*The 40th Parallel* exhibits Bruce Myren's photos of 10 points across the U.S. that the 40th parallel bisects. Through Nov. 19.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by Douglass Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarese, Carrie McGee, John Folsom and more. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Frit and Fire* displays the work of fused-glass artist Roger Thomas. Through Nov. 15.

Massachusetts College of Art
Bakalar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Graphic Imperative: An Exhibition of International Posters for Peace, Social Justice and the Environment* is on display through Nov. 11.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Twelve Paintings* displays the work of Anthony Moore. Through Oct. 31.• *Daniel Robinson: Forms and Light* exhibits landscapes from the 1930s and '40s. Nov. 5-29.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Kevin Coates' *An Alphabet of Rings* presents an array of hand-carved rings. Through Oct. 29. •*Consuming Identity* by Harriete Estelle Bergman displays pieces influenced by historical teapots. Through Oct. 29.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jeremy Hamilton displays his oil paintings through Oct. 29.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-425-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* displays the work of painter Ben Snead until Oct. 29.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. #304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Recent Drawings* features the work of David X. Levine. Through Nov. 20.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287 www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery featur photography, paintings, sculpture, jewelry, mosai and antiques by local artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). ww peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlin ton. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm •*New Works* features Marja Lianko's paintings ar sculptures with roots in her Finnish upbringin Through Nov. 12.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). ww puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Mark Davis' E *ergy in Motion* features the artist's mobiles. •*The E quisite World of Roger Bowman* presents paintings the artist. Through Nov. 20. •

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). ww richardson-clarke.com. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am pm. •*Collages* presents paintings by Karen Clark Through Oct. 31.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robe kleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingto Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm •Michael Ronnen Safdie exhibits his photo Through Nov. 12.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). ww samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orangle Line to Back Ba Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. Ellen Lespe ance and Jeanine Oleson display their color print Through Nov. 19.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810 www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Cople Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Northwe Artists* showcases works in mixed media by artists fro the Northwest region of the United States. Throug Oct. 30.

Soprafina Gallery
73 Thayer St., Boston (617-728-0770). ww soprafina.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Harvesting the Human For* features paintings by Nabanita Javed and prints Donald Kelly. Through Oct. 29.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www georgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cople Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Co lescence* exhibits recent oil paintings by Willia St. George, watercolor florals by Sandra Muelle Dick, and mixed media by Shanshan Cu Through Oct. 31.

Vose Galleries of Boston
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). ww vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon Fri., 9:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Th gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and ear 20th-century American artwork in various medi Ongoing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

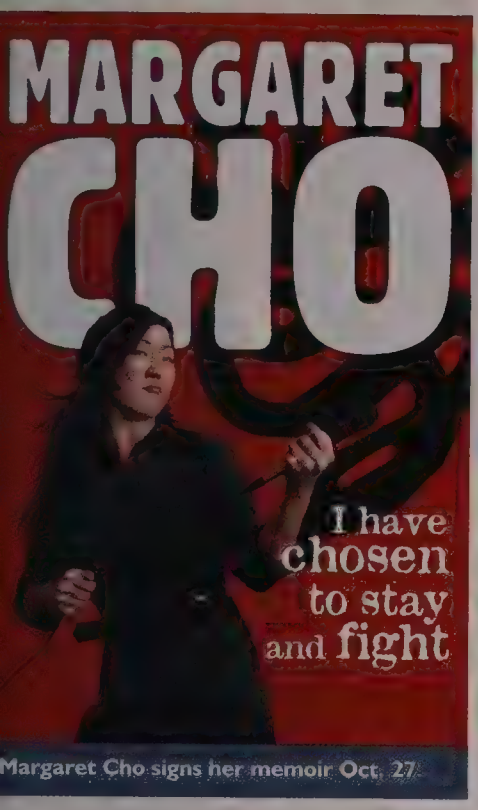
Boston Public Library
Honan Allston Branch, 300 North Harvard St., A ston (617-787-6313). www.bpl.org. Mon., 12 pm; Tue., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 12-8 pm; Thu., am-6 pm; Fri., Sat., 9 am-5 pm. •Rania Matar's *Forgotten Population* features more than 40 bla and white photographs of Palestinian refugee Through Oct. 31.

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Rd., Winchester (781-729-1158). www.grif museum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winches Center. Tue. and Wed., 11 am-5 pm; Thu., 11 am pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm •*Dancers* by Morten Nilsson and *Soul to Sole* by Bev ley Abramson feature the work of each photograph Through Nov. 27. •*Arthur Griffin: A Singular Visi* features black and white photos from 1929 to 195 Through Dec. 30.

Panopticon Gallery Boston
502 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8925 www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmor Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •The Panopticon staff hol an exhibit of their work titled *From the Attic.* •*Pro lems in Time and Space* by Peter Vanderwarker displa color and black and white photos. Through Dec. 3.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100 www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltha Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. • *Sta and Fall* showcases the photographs of Christoph Griffith. Oct. 27-Dec. 3.

books & poetry



Margaret Cho signs her memoir Oct. 27

dvice to Contributors
bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to lendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to oks@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks or to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

arvard Book Store
56 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. rvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. ee. **James Shapiro** reads from his book *A Year in the e of William Shakespeare: 1599*, about the signifi- nce of events like the building of the Globe Theatre d the downfall of the Earl of Essex to Shakespeare's rk.

ewtonville Books in The Attic
e Attic, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244- 19). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Com- ter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Christo- er Castellani** reads from his novel *The Saint of st Things*, about a newly married Italian-Ameri- n immigrant who regrets leaving her family be- nd as she seeks happiness in postwar America.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

oston University's Writers Among s Book Series
vlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-552- 20). www.bc.edu. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston llege. 7:30 pm. Free. Boston University sociology fessor **Charles Debers** discusses his book *Hidden wer: What You Need to Know to Save Our Democ- y*, which explores problems with present-day nocracy and the influence of grassroots social vements in restoring democracy in America.

rookline Booksmith
9 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. oklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to olidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Comedian **Margaret o** signs copies of her memoir *I Have Chosen to Stay Fight*, a politically charged collection of her oughts on topics like war, racism and homopho- , as well as her musings on her own life.

enter for New Words
5 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). w.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to ntral. 7 pm. Free. Editor **Robyn Ochs** reads from *tting Bi: Voices of Bisexuals Around the World*, an hology of essays, stories and poems exploring at it means to be bisexual.

arvard Book Store
6 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. ard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. ronomer and former head of the Science Division he Space Telescope Science Institute **Mario Livio** reads from his book *The Equation That Couldn't Be Solved: How Mathematical Genius Discovered the Language of Symmetry*, about the quintic equation and how it opened the door to the idea of group theory and the development of a language of symmetry.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Jim Andre** reads from his book *Man: A Natural Identity*, which explores the concept of religion.

Wellesley Booksmith Event
Unitarian Universalist Society, 309 Washington St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. 7:30 pm. Free. Lesley University English professor **Susan Merrifield** discusses her book *Readin' & Writin' for the Hard-Hat Crowd: Curriculum Policy at an Urban University*, a look at changes in college English curricula from 1964 to the present.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

Boston's International Antiquarian Book Fair
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-375-9013). www.bostonbookfair.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 5 pm. $15. The New England Chapter of the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America and WBUR host an international book fair. Proceeds go to the Boston Public Library.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Political theorist **Michael J. Sandel** discusses his book *Public Philosophy: Essays on Morality in Politics*, which explores the importance of ethical issues within the political realm.

Harvard Book Store Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Alan Hollinghurst** reads from his novel *The Line of Beauty*, about a recent Oxford graduate's experiences with London's gay culture.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Jerry Lewis** discusses his book *Dean and Me*, which examines the ups and downs of his friendship with Dean Martin.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Jay Cantor** reads from *Great Neck*, a novel about a group of Jewish kids growing up on Long Island during the '60s and '70s.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 5 pm. Free. **Elie Wiesel** reads from his novel *The Time of the Uprooted*, about a writer and his circle of refugee friends.

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poet **Cleopatra Mathis** reads from her works.

Harvard Book Store Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Said Hyder Akbar** discusses his memoir *Come Back to Afghanistan: A California Teen's Story*, which focuses on his relationship with his father, a prominent political figure in Afghanistan.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Travel writer **Elliott Hester** reads from his book *Adventures of a Continental Drifter: An Around-the-World Excursion into Weirdness, Danger, Lust and the Perils of Street Food*, which recounts his experiences on six continents while spending $60 a day.

Cambridge Public Library
44 Pearl St., Cambridge (617-423-9585). www.nepoetryclub.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. Poet **John Irwin** reads from his works.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **William Wright** discusses his book *Harvard's Secret Court: The Savage 1920 Purge of Campus Homosexuals*, about a group of Harvard students ex-

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pelled for homosexual acts and the deans and scholars who found and punished them.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Adam Boren** reads from his memoir *Journey Through the Inferno*, about his capture by the Germans during World War II when his family tried to flee Warsaw.

Wellesley Booksmith Event
Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Wellesley (617-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. **Ha Jin** discusses his novel *War Trash*, about a Chinese man's struggle to survive in a prisoner-of-war camp during the Korean War.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Jeremy Mercer** reads from his memoir *Time Was Soft There*, which recounts his time as a struggling writer in Paris and his strange experiences working for a bookstore.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Margot Livesey** reads from her novel *Banishing Verona*, about a quirky house painter and a pregnant talk radio host who follow each other from London to Boston and back again.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Lily King** reads from her novel *The English Teacher*, which follows the life of a mother and teacher as she enters into a new marriage.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. **Daniel Trask** reads from his book *My Dog, the Meat Eater*, about the coming of age of four summertime friends as they work on a struggling farm. Also, **Harry Trask** discusses his memoir *Harry's War: A Memoir of World War II by a Navigator on a B-29 in the Pacific Theater*, which recounts his extraordinary military experiences.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **David Halberstam** discusses his book *The Education of a Coach*, about New England Patriots coach Bill Belichick.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. The New Yorker staff writer **George Packer** reads from his book *The Assassin's Gate: America in Iraq*, about the people and ideas that created the Iraq war, the events leading up to it and the consequences.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. USA Today reporter **Joan Biskupic** discusses her book *Sandra Day O'Connor: How the First Woman on the Supreme Court Became Its Most Influential Justice*, which highlights Sandra Day O'Connor's contributions to the court system.

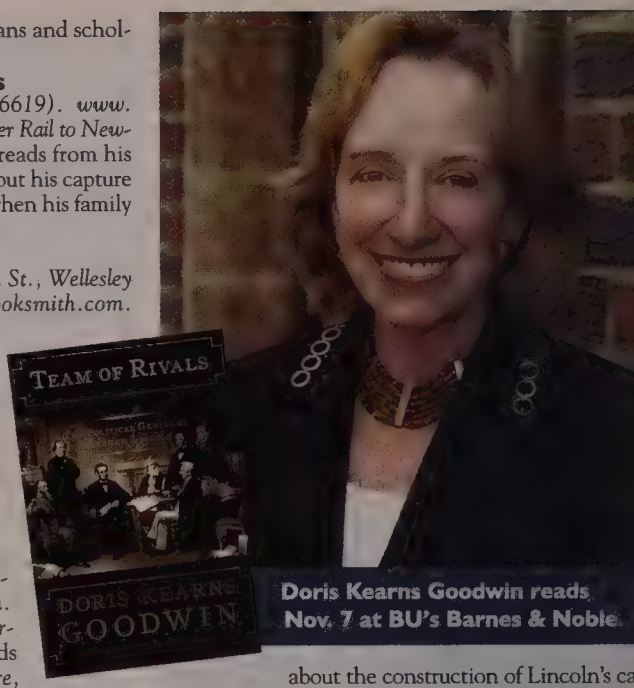
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Brookline Booksmith Event
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7:30 pm. $12. New York Times contributor **John Hodgman** reads from his book *The Areas of My Expertise*, which comprises entirely fictional trivia, false reference tables and incorrect factoids on various subjects.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Forrest Gander** reads from his collection of essays *A Faithful Existence*, which explores the concepts of spirituality and faithfulness.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Doris Kearns Goodwin** discusses her new book *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*,



Doris Kearns Goodwin reads Nov. 7 at BU's Barnes & Noble.

about the construction of Lincoln's cabinet in 1860 and the importance of three former rival senators William H. Seward and Salmon P. Chase and Attorney General Edward Bates.

Blacksmith House Event
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $ **Edith Pearlman** reads from her collection of short stories *How to Fall*, which take place in a mythic Boston suburb. Also, **Robert Boyers** discusses his collection of short stories *Excitable Women, Damaged Men*, about the emotional states of men and women during crucial points in their lives.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515 www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard pm. Free. **Patricia Graham** reads from her book *Schooling America: How the Public Schools Meet the Nation's Changing Needs*, which recounts improvements in America's school system in the last century and suggests further innovations.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000 www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. University of Maine sociology professor **Kyriacos Markides** discusses his book *Gifts of the Desert: The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality*, in which he explores Eastern Orthodox Christianity through various travelers' perspectives as they take trips to monasteries in Arizona and Greece.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore pm. Free. **Amber Benson** and **Christopher Golden** discuss the book they co-wrote, *Ghosts of Albion: Accursed*, which follows a group of young magicians protecting the people from supernatural enemies in Victorian England.

Brookline Adult and Adult Educatio
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookl (617-730-2700). www.brookline.mec.edu. MBTA D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7 pm. $5. Former *Boston Globe* science columnist **Chet Raymo** discusses his book *Climbing Brandon: Science and Fa on Ireland's Holy Mountain*, which looks at the mountain from the perspectives of spirituality, natural history and scientific observation.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). ww brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Amir Aczel** reads from his book *Descartes' Secret Notebook: A True Tale Mathematics, Mysticism and the Quest to Understa the Universe*, about calculus inventor Gottfried Leibniz's quest to find Descartes' hidden notebook.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). ww harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard pm. Free. Buddhist monk and former Cambridge University theoretical physics scholar **Ajahn Brahm** discusses a collection of stories he edited, *Who Ordered This Truckload of Dung?: Inspiring Stories for Welcoming Life's Difficulties*, which are based on Buddhist folkta

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). ww newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Jonathan Rosen** re from his novel *Joy Comes in the Morning*, about woman who attempts to combine her roles woman, rabbi and Jew.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26
Kennedy Library Forum Series: Walter Cronkite
JFK Library, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1642). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK. 5:30-4 pm. $10. Former CBS anchorman **Walter Cronkite** discusses his career in journalism and recollections of JFK, **Caroline Kennedy** provides the introduction and **Charles Osgood** moderates. Call in advance to enter the ticket lottery.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27
At the Dawn of Modern Physics: Einstein's 1905 Revolution
Goethe-Institut, 170 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-1050). www.goethe.de/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7:30 pm. **Jurgen Renn**, co-editor of the Collected Papers of Albert Einstein, hosts this lecture about the renowned physicist.

Jewish Women and the Second Wave of Feminism
John J. Moakley Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Way, Boston (617-559-8880). www.ajhsboston.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 11:30 am-1:30 pm. Free. Director of the Women's Studies Program at Harvard **Ann Braude** hosts this lecture, the sixth in a series by the American Jewish Historical Society.

Laughter Is the Best Medicine!
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). www.cae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2 general admission, $1 seniors. **Sandra Daitch**, a certified laughter leader, discusses the practical benefits of laughter and leads an accompanying workshop.

Rendez-vous
French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30-7:30 pm. $10 for members, students and seniors, $15 for nonmembers. French speakers at all levels are welcome to participate in this monthly wine and conversation gathering.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28
Daughters of the Union: Northern Women Fight the Civil War
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15-1 pm. Free with museum admission. B.U. associate professor of history **Nina Silber** examines the diaries and letters of women who lived during the Civil War.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29
Fall Writer's Conference
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 1 Story St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 9 am-4 pm. $70. Keynote speaker **Afaa Michael Weaver** provides the opening address at this series of workshops led by Boston-area writers, centering on the theme "Faith in Our Writing."

Salem Witch Trials
New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.newenglandancestors.org/education. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10 am. Free. Author **Marilynne Roach** presents this program about the infamous trials of 1692.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30
Roads to Assimilation: The Irish and Jewish Women's Experience in America
Boston College Devlin 101, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-558-6447). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 7 pm. Free. This panel discussion on the similarities between Jewish and Irish women's fulfillment of their cultural identities features **Hasia Diner, Ruth Hariss, Joyce Antler and Maureen Dezell.**

Stories Behind the Stones
Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128, ext. 22). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $8. **Al Maze**, Forest Hills tour guide, leads this approximately 2-mile walk highlighting some of the cemetery's most prominent memorials.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31
Witches, Rakes and Rogues
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15-1 pm. Free with museum admission. **D. Brenton Simons**, COO of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, speaks about the murderers and thieves of pre-Revolutionary Boston.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1
Gertrude Stein: Woman of Faith?
Boston College, Devlin 101, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-558-6447). MBTA: B Green Line to BC. 7 pm. Free. **Catharine Stimpson**, professor and dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at NYU, lectures on the early 20th-century feminist and author.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2
Day of the Dead/Tzompantli
Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128, ext. 22). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 4:30-6:30 pm. Free. Cultural group **La Pinata** presents this annual Mexican celebration for loved ones who have died.

Lowell Lecture
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 2-3:30 pm. Free. **Bob Zelnick**, chair of the Journalism Department at B.U., discusses journalistic integrity in reporting terrorism.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3
Ponzi's Scheme: A Financial Legend
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15-1 pm. Free with museum admission. **Mitchell Zuckoff**, professor of journalism at B.U., talks about the life and financial schemes of Charles Ponzi, who made millions in a mail-fraud scheme in the 1920s.

Proposition 2½ Twenty-Five Years Later
Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-373-5800). www.fordhallforum.neu.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free. Barbara Anderson, executive director of Citizens for Limited Taxation and Jim Braude, NECN News Night host, discuss Proposition 2½'s impact on taxes and politics.

Schwartz Center Symposium
Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, 415 Summer St., South Boston (617-726-0512). Call for reservations. www.theschwartzcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 3-5 pm. Free. The Kenneth B. Schwartz Center hosts the symposium *Beyond the White Coat and the Johnny: What Makes for a Compassionate Patient-Caregiver Relationship.*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6
Pottery 101
Clay On the Wheel Mud Flat Studios, 149 Broadway, Somerville (617-628-0589). www.mudflat.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square. 1-4 pm. $35. **Lisa Knebel** teaches adult students how to make and fire their own pots.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7
What's Happened to the News Media?
JKF Library, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1600). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK. 5:30-7:30 pm. Free. **John Seigenthaler**, award-winning journalist, **Ellen Hume**, director of the Center on Media and Society at UMass Boston, and **Garrett Graf**, the first blogger admitted to a White House press briefing, discuss the transforming global media.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8
Chet Raymo: At the Crossroads of Spirit and Science
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7-9 pm. $5. Author and physicist **Chet Raymo** talks about philosophical connections between the scientific and spiritual world.

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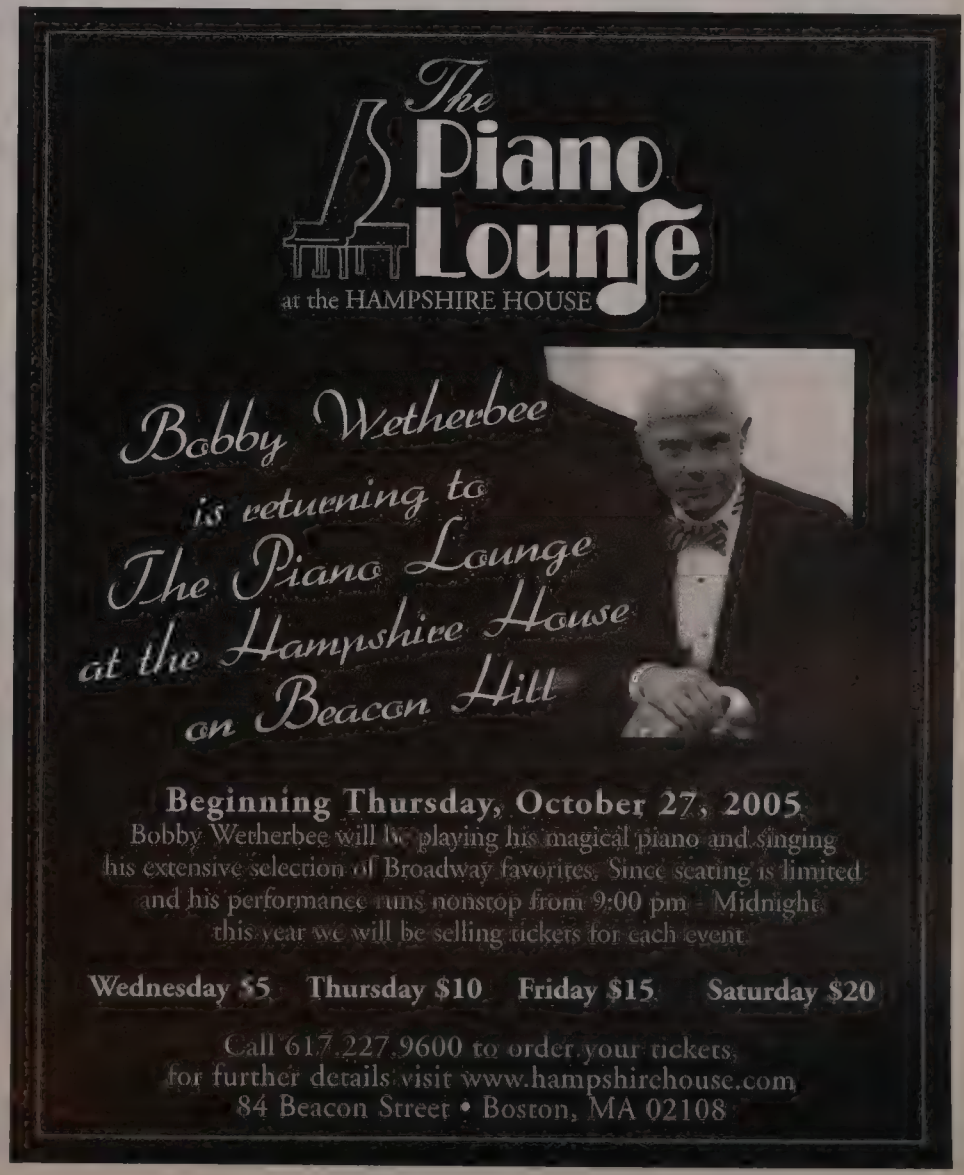

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Thursdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080) MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 11 pm, $10. Get Down Thursdays is a 19+ gay night that features rotating DJs playing hip-hop, house and pop.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday-night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494) MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay, Green Line to Arlington. No cover. 21+. Neighborhood cruise bar open nightly.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 18+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 pm. This gay sports bar, with six large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music as booked. •Sun.: An Evening of Mizery: Amateur Talent Night, 10 pm. •Mon. (alternating weeks): Foxy Follies; TraniWreck. •Tue.: Karaoke. •Wed.: Delightful Divas with Melinda Wilson. •Thu.: Jacque's Angels with Kris Knievel. •Fri. and Sat.: Miss Norelle's Leading Ladies.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, featuring deep house music, 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night, 10 pm-2 am, cover varies, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with hostess Mizery, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am, cover varies. Sunday T-dance features DJ Danae spinning the latest house and pop.

Toast (Fridays, Saturdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 5:30 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera and Saturday is Hero's Retro Night with DJs from ManRay.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9:30 pm-2 am. DJ Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am.

Venu (Wednesdays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). www.chapsboston.com. 10 pm, $8, 21+. Boston's long-running gay Latino night features Latin and house with DJ Adilson.

Jackie Hoffman performs at the Out on the Edge Festival.

Shows & Events

14th Annual Festival of Queer Theater
Boston Center for the Arts, Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 13-Nov. 13. $30. The Theater Offensive presents the Out on the Edge Festival, with a variety of dance, drama and comedy performances for the gay community.

BAGLY Halloween Dance
15 Newbury St., Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 28. 7 pm-11 pm. $5. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth holds its annual Halloween dance.

Dyke Night's Annual Halloween Costume Ball
Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.dykenight.com. Oct. 28. 9 pm, $10, 21+. DJ Susan Esthera plays retro plus current hip-hop, pop, top 40 and house music at this annual party featuring cash prizes and other tricks and treats.

GMDVP Halloween Party
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-354-6056). www.gmdvp.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Oct. 30. 6 pm. $20. This fifth annual Halloween party hosted by the Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project features a silent auction. Costumes not required.

Human Rights Campaign Annual New England Dinner
Westin Copley Place Hotel, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (800-494-8497). www.hrc.org/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 29. 6 pm. $200. The HRC holds its 24th annual New England dinner and silent auction benefiting the HRC's support of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality. Dress is formal or festive.

LAFFAN Halloween Dance
Best Western Hotel, Totten Pond Road, Waltham. Oct. 29, 8 pm. $10-$20. This Halloween party features music by DJ Shelly Cullen, light hors d'oeuvres and costume prizes. Contact LAFFAN_boston2004@yahoo.com.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown North G/L Bowling League
Lanes & Games, 195 Concord Turnpike, Cambridge (617-876-5533). www.beantownbowling.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. 8:30 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Tuesday nights.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm, $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). www.beantownbowling.com. 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesday nights.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group provides support and information for bisexual women or women who are questioning their sexuality.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri. 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Livin Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595) www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Cosmetically Correct
Woody's, 58 Hemenway St., Boston. yahoogroups.com/community/cosmeticallycorrect. First Thu. of each month, 6 pm. Cosmetically Correct is a group of lipstick lesbians who meet each month.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array of services for the GLBT community, ranging from discussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to programs addressing domestic violence and substance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT flag football league for its formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

The 40-Somethings
theprimeoflife@aol.com. This newly formed group of lesbians in their 40s runs events that help foster the creation of enduring romantic/life partnerships through being friends first.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat. 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system. E-mail info@gaylab.org.

Gays for Patsy
(617-412-5751) http://www.gaysforpatsy.org. This country-western dancing club, featuring two-step, swing and line dancing, holds events twice every month. Beginners welcome, and no partner needed. Call for more details.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose and performance pieces at this open-mike event.

irlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian omen of Color
mbridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. e., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line Central. This discussion group for all ages meets ery Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

AFFAN
FFAN_Boston2004@yahoo.com for membership in- mation. Lesbians Available For Fun and Network- is a social and networking group that provides portunities for women to connect with each ier. Members receive a weekly e-mail calendar of ents. LAFFAN sponsors an annual Halloween nce and spring dances/benefits.

onday Night Bowling League
ston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889- 52). www.mnbl.net. 7:30 pm. The MNBL's 05-06 bowling season runs Monday nights.

e Network/La Red
7-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This sup- t group is working to end abuse in lesbian and bi- ual women's and transgender communities. E-mail @thenetworklared.org for more information.

ewly Diagnosed Group
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., ston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or ange Line to Downtown Crossing. First and third n. of each month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group ports gay and bisexual men who have been di- osed with HIV during the last two years. ail nlongtin@jri.org.

ut to Dance
7-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin ballroom dance classes and workshops are held gay-friendly environment.

ut TwentySomethings Boston
ntysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. is social and peer support group is for lesbians, men and bisexual, transgendered and ques- ning folks and their straight allies in their 20s early 30s.

OZ Social
onshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., ton (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. . This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group supports HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Women Outdoors
Kayak/Canoe Washburn Island, Waquoit Bay, Falmouth (413-734-0276). www.women-outdoors.org. Sept. 9-11. Kayaking to the island and camping for all women, regardless of sexuality and age.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

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Sutat teaches Tai Chi in Medfield Nov. 5 and 6

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Celtic Mythology: Samhain

The C.G. Jung Institute, 116 St. Botolph St., Boston. (617-267-5984). www.cgjungboston.com. Oct. 29, 10 am-3 pm. $50. In this workshop, participants look at the mythological themes in the Celtic story "The Pursuit of Diarmuid and Grainne." This tale offers a symbolic perspective on how the passage from harvest to winter darkness and dissolution appears in a person's life, how it feels in the psyche, and what happens when the necessity of ending is denied. Led by Sarah A. Halford.

Grand Opening

Community Massage Yoga Polarity, 2 Edwards St. Beverly (978-764-8779). www.healingheather.com. Oct. 28-Nov. 1. Free. Come celebrate the grand opening of this new community wellness center. Free massages and other giveaways happen all weekend long.

Halloween/Samhain Party

Earth Spirits, 407 Main St. (Route 20), Sturbridge (508-347-1180). www.earthspirits-herbals.com. Oct. 30, 10 am-4 pm. Free. Come in costume for a party, a psychic fair, contests, prizes, surprises, refreshments and fun.

Halloween Singles Party

The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-0282 or 781-643-0852). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Oct. 29, 8-11 pm. $12-15, sliding scale. Please call ahead. Meet up with other singles at this holistic health center for a relaxing and fun evening. There will be icebreakers, music, dancing, swing lessons and light refreshments.

Healthworks Foundation Fit-a-Thon Fundraiser

For locations visit www.healthworksfitness.com. Nov. 5, 1-3 pm. $40-$75 donation. The Healthworks Foundation hosts a Fit-a-Thon to raise money for the Foundation Fitness Center in Dorchester, a nonprofit facility providing fitness and wellness education to women overcoming personal hardships and economic barriers.

Holistic Expo

Holiday Inn, 399 Grove St., Newton (617-527-0247). www.centerforbalance.org. Oct. 30, 9 am-5 pm. $8. Learn more about natural health care, personal growth and development, and spirituality from more than 40 exhibitors. You can even check out your aura and chakras in living color and receive a 20-page analysis, photos and verbal interpretation.

Monthly Singles Film Series

Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Nov. 2, 7:30-9:30 pm. $10. Please preregister. Sexuality boutique owner Kim Airs begins this regular series as a chance to meet like-minded singles who shop at Grand Opening. In the theatre's MiniMax room, attendees enjoy light refreshments, clips of popular and unique videos, and time to schmooze.

Samhain Celebration

Unicorn Books, 1971 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4448). www.unicornbooks.org. Oct. 29, 8-10 pm. $15-$25, sliding scale. Please preregister. Celebrate the Celtic New Year and All Souls Day, during this time when the veils between the worlds are said to be their thinnest. The celebration is designed to let participants make peace with the shadow and receive wisdom from the ancestors. Respectful festive dress is encouraged.

Séance with Psychic Bill Mitchell

Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Oct. 28, 7-9 pm. $25. Learn about the historical tradition, cu ture and mysticism surroun ing séances, and experien the chance to connect wi those who have crossed ove

Shiatsu and Tuina Open House

Charles River School of Shiats 585 Mass. Ave., 4th floo Cambridge (617-868-4585 www.charlesriversshiatsu.cor Nov. 4, 6-8 pm. Free. Prere istration is requested. Partic pants will learn about c fitness and view demo strations. Meet Shiatsu a Qi Gong practitioners, ac puncturists, Chinese herb ists, and experience sho classes in a variety of d ciplines. Complimentary r freshments are provided.

Walk-in Healing Clinic

Spirit Earth Healing, 661 Mass. Ave. #8, Arlingt (617-515-8826). www.spiritearthhealing.com. O 29, noon-2 pm. Donations welcome. This clinic w feature a variety of healing modalities includi Reiki, Pranic and Angelic healing, designed reduce pain, flush out stagnant emotions and cle your mind.

Lecture

Healing the Gut: Natural Approaches to Digestive Health

Madelon Hope, 12 Pelham Terrace, Arlingto www.bostonherbalstudies.com. Oct. 29, 2-4:30 p $35. Participants in this class are taught how soothe the digestive tract with healing herbs a foods. Learn natural approaches to healing ac reflux, indigestion, bloating, gas and irritable bow disorders, and take part in a discussion on how effectively use diet and exercise.

Classes

Anusara Yoga and the Energy of Manifestation and Desire

Exhale Yoga, 28 Arlington St., Boston (617-5 7000). www.exhalespa.com. Nov. 5 and 6, 1: 3:30 pm. $35. Through the universal principles alignment and the full spectrum of yoga postu participants explore how deep desires can manifested in a yoga practice and life in general

Feng Shui and Relationships

Spirit Earth Healing, 661 Mass. Ave. #8, Arling (617-515-8826). www.spiritearthhealing.com. N 1, 7-8:30 pm. $20. According to the principles Feng Shui, different parts of your home aff different parts of your life. In this worksh participants look at one relationship they want create or strengthen, and discover where in home or office Feng Shui can be applied to impr the relationship.

Prepare for Surgery and Healing

Earthsong Yoga, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-4 8884). www.earthsongyoga.com. or www.healfas com/artorm.html. Oct. 29, 10:15 am -12:45 $95. This workshop will teach user-frien mind/body therapies designed to help participa feel calmer before and after a medical proced boost the immune system, have less pain and c plications, and hasten recovery. The worksh starts with a short video of commentary from tients who have experienced benefits.

Qigong Healing

76 Nason St., Maynard, (1-800-990-9332). Oct. 9 am-4 pm. $100. Ming Wu teaches participa simple, easy exercises and moving meditat designed to improve health, calm the mind, incr energy, reduce stress and connect with nature.

Restorative Yoga

Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Lin Kendall. Nov. 6, 3-5:30 pm. $30. This worksh designed for anyone experiencing stress, fati sickness, problems with sleep, or for anyone needs a quiet, centering retreat.

Tai Chi with Sutat

The Herb Studio of Harmony Farm, 315 North Medfield. www.harmony-center.org. Nov. 5 and 6 am-4 pm. $185. Please preregister. The ancient p tice of Tai Chi consists of movements that enc age Chi, nature's energy, to flow smoothly, thu aligning bodies, minds and spirits with nature. G instructor Sutat has been studying Tai Chi, yoga meditation for more than 20 years.

sports

dvice to Contributors

ubmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to alendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@properer.com. Include address, phone number, subway op, dates and times and a brief description of the league event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone d must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

oston Bruins
TD Banknorth Garden, Boston
ckets: 617-931-2222
ct. 27, 7 pm vs. Toronto Maple Leafs
ct. 29, 7 pm vs. New Jersey Devils
ov. 3, 7 pm vs. Florida Panthers
ov. 5, 7 pm vs. Pittsburgh Penguins

oston Celtics
TD Banknorth Garden, Boston
ckets: 617-931-2222
ov. 2, 7:30 pm vs. New York Knicks
ov. 4, 7:30 pm vs. Detroit Pistons

ew England Patriots
Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
ckets: 800-543-1776
ct. 30, 8:30 pm vs. Buffalo Bills
ov. 7, 9 pm vs. Indianapolis Colts

vents

uys Night Out with Dewar's and the eltics
e Greatest Bar, 262 Friend St., Boston (617-591-00). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green Line to rth Station. Nov. 2. 5:30 pm. $70. This guys-only ent features two hours of complimentary Dewar's , hors d'oeuvres and cigars before the Celtics/Knicks me, tickets on the floor and then a postgame event th Celtics radio personalities Hickman and Gilroy.

.S. Open of Squash
urr Center, Harvard University, Cambridge (877-4-5685). www.usopensquash.com. MBTA: Red ne to Harvard. Nov. 4-8. $30-$150. Some of the squash players from around the world gather at the urr Center for this annual tournament.

o Play

USTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

oston Demons
17-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club ks new players for nine-a-side competition.

ASKETBALL

oston Ski & Sports Club
17-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed, year-round leagues for yers at all levels in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham d Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

ambridge Racquet and Fitness Club
17-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round gues for individuals or teams at all levels.

orporate Basketball League
81-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one men's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, wton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

OXING

oston Sport Boxing Club
5 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). w.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-le boxing lessons for all levels.

ogtime Boxing
7 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). w.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This xing club offers training for competition, condi-ning and recreation.

ODGEBALL

oston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
7-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodge-l teams.

NDURANCE TRAINING

ATZ—Competitive Athlete Training one
ultiple Greater Boston area locations (781-449-39). www.catzsports.com. CATZ provides recre-onal athletes with fitness training programs that l like sport.

The Celtics season tips off Nov. 2 against the Knicks.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

JUDO

Phoenix Judo Club
Bayshore Athletic Club, 14 Plain St., Braintree (781-356-5303). www. phoenixjudo.com. Mon., Wed. and Thu., 7:30-9:30 pm; Sat., 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Participants of all skill levels are invited to join.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www. worldkickball.com. Coed kickball leagues play throughout the fall in Boston and Somerville. Register online.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group. Call for times and locations.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonRun@teamlunachix.com. Weekly runs Thu. at 6:30 pm. Women only. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bostonlunachix. Talking-pace 3- or 5-mile runs through the Fells.

SOCCER

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070). A series of indoor and outdoor soccer leagues start up this fall.

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Women, men and children welcome!

34 Main Street
Concord, MA 01742
978-369-9699 • www.wishesforgirls.com

Healthworks Foundation Fit-a-Thon

November 5, 1-3pm at all Healthworks locations

Master classes and workshops with proceeds to benefit the Healthworks Foundation

Master Spinning Class
Urban Rebounding
World Dance
Iyengar Yoga

And many more. . .

To register and donate, visit www.healthworksfoundation.org

Non-members and men are welcome to participate!

The Foundation Fitness Center is a free full service gym. This non-profit facility provides fitness and wellness education programs to women and teens overcoming personal hardships and economic barriers.

HEALTHWORKS FOUNDATION
women helping women

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.org. •Oct. 30, 11 am, $3. *Max and Ruby's Halloween Adventures* features a variety of animated Halloween tales. • Nov. 5, 10:30 am, $10, adults; $8, kids. The improv group The Tribe performs *Robinhood.* •Nov. 6, 11 am, $3. *Miss Nelson's Field Day* is based on Harry Allard's classic books.

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students and children. •This short-form improv performance includes interactive games.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $7.50, members; $9.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Oct. 26-27, 10:30 am. Sarah Lamstein presents *Funny Bones Tales* featuring tales of three silly characters. For ages 3-6. •Oct. 29-30, 1 pm and 3 pm. *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* tells a comedic version of the tale of Ichabod Crane and the Headless Horseman. For ages 5-12. •Nov. 2-3, 10:30 am. Sparky Davis performs *Old Favorites* and gives sassy versions of familiar tales for ages 3-6. •Nov. 5-6, 1 pm and 3 pm. Tanglewood Marionettes perform *Cinderella* for kids ages 4-8.

Things to Do

Barefoot Books
1771 Mass Ave., Arlington (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com MBTA: Red Line to Porter. •Oct. 26, 3:30 pm. The after-school story includes making jack-o'-lantern masks. •Oct. 28, 10:30 am. The theme of story hour is "That's Not Scary!" •Oct. 29, 10:30 am. *Creature Feature* story hour is held.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am; Sun., 2 pm. $8. •A child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail is designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12. Includes a free Explorer's Map and Guide. Through Oct. 31.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Oct. 28, 10 am. *Reading Readiness* features educational activities, toys and games for children ages 2½ to 5. •Nov. 4, 10:15 am. *Kids Cinema* features movies appropriate for ages 3-7.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Thu., Sat.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •Tue., 10:30 am. *Tasty Tuesdays* lets children try a variety of snacks. •The exhibit *Adventures with Clifford the Big Red Dog* invites families to explore Birdwell Island, where the Clifford books take place, and also features a 9-foot-tall Clifford. Through Jan. 8. •The *Amazing Castle* allows children to experience a medieval village and make medieval-themed arts and crafts. Ongoing. •The Art Studio invites parents and children to create works of art together. Ongoing.

Halloween Town
Seaport World Trade Center, Boston (617-204-4267). www.bmc.org. Oct. 30, 10 am-6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $8, children over age 3. •Families with kids under 13 participate in games, face painting, pumpkin carving, laser tag and more. Proceeds benefit the Kids Fund at the Boston Medical Center.

Hallowscream Park
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston. www.hallowscreampark.com. Oct. 27-29. Thurs.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat., 1-11 pm. $24.50, adults; $18.50, ages 4-12. •Visit four haunted attractions, view hand-carved pumpkins and participate in an experiment in fear.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000 www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvar •Oct. 29, 11 am. Kids participate in a Hallowee scavenger hunt and a costume contest. •Tue., am. Preschool story time is held each wee •Sat., 11 am. Creative arts and crafts activiti are for children under 7 years old.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (61 495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: R Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.5 adults; $6, students; $5, ages 3-18. •Oct. 29, 1-5 pr The *Halloween Family Festival* includes bugs and ar mals, a scavenger hunt, skeletons and arts and craf •Every Sat., 9 am. $35. Saturday Scholar sessio give children the opportunity to learn about the world through hands-on activities.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). Nov. 5, am-12 pm. $10, adult with one child; $4 each addition child; $8, ICA member with one child. •Family Day Material Madness is for children ages 9-12 to lea how to create art using a variety of unique materials

John F. Kennedy Museum and Librar
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-6000). www.j library.com. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8, adults; $4, ages 13-17; free, ag 12 and under. •Oct. 29, 10:30 am and 12 pm. T Boston Landmark Orchestra presents a free Ha loween-inspired concert. Prizes will be awarded f the best costume.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). ww web.mit.edu/museum. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sa Sun., 12-5 pm. $5, adults; $2, seniors, students a ages 5-18; free, children under 5. •The MIT Museu offers free admission the third Sunday of eve month. View exhibits ranging from historical clipp ships to robots and new inventions.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Roo
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, ages 17 on weekdays before 3 pm; free, 5 and under. •No 2, 4:30-6:30 pm. Teen-to-Teen Art Talks explor ancient influences on art. •Nov. 5, 11 am-3 pm. *Inside Out: Mosaic Making* is offered for childr ages 4 and up. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30 pm. *Books Bring Alive* with arts and crafts for ages 5 and unde •Mon.-Fri., 3:30 pm. The Children's Room hol programs for ages 6-12 that allow children to e plore the museum's exhibits and participate in projects, creative drama, poetry and music.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.m org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu. am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14, adults; $12, senio $11, children. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm. A *mals and Stories Alive!* combines a live animal p sentation with mythical and folk storytelling. O going. •*Beyond the X-Ray* features four maj exhibits that explore how doctors peer inside t human body without cutting. Ongoing. •Butterfl and flowers are on display in the permanent *Butt fly Garden.* •*Countdown to Supernova*, showing the Hayden Planetarium, explores the life cycles stars. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interacti exhibit that features models of a wave tank, Mou Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Scie Live!* features live animals and multimedia prese tations surrounded by natural history dioram Ongoing.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.ne org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Th 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, adul $13.95, seniors; $8.95, children ages 3-11. •*Amaz Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through D 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Ta contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoi •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition featuri sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •T Simons IMAX Theatre features various movi Ongoing.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). wu newtonfreelibrary.net. •Oct. 31, 10:30 am, ages 3; 3:30 pm, ages 4-6. Kids can wear their H loween costumes while listening to spooky stor and participating in arts and crafts.

Prudential Center
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-236-241 www.prudentialcenter.com. MBTA: Green Lin Hynes. •Oct. 30, 11 am-1 pm. At this year's *Boo*, each child receives a candy bag for a $2 ch itable donation and may collect candy at m than 60 stores. Donations benefit Boston's Tem rary Home for Women and Children.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on ear nights), 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
00 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South tation. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9; ildren ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1-year-olds, $2; under year old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

aneuil Hall
5 State St., Boston. www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. IBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-at., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 n. Free.

larvard Museum of Natural History
6 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.nnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-un., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; chil-en ages 3-18, $5. Free to all, Wed., 3-5 pm, Sun., 9 n-12 pm.

ohn F. Kennedy Library & Museum
olumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). ww.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. aily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and college students with lid ID, $8; ages 13-17, $7; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
80 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). IBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
6 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam useum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park reet. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Guided walking tours ailable by special request. Free.

Museum of Science
cience Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.os.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. hrough Labor Day, daily, 9 am-7 pm; Starting Sept. Sat.-Thu., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; se-ors, $13; children ages 3-11, $8.95.

Museum of Transportation
5 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun.,) am-5 pm. $5; children ages 6-17 and seniors, $3; chil-en under 6, free.

New England Aquarium
entral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.g. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-pm; Fri.-Sun. and holidays, 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; se-ors, $13.95; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

Old North Church
93 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Or-nge or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. ee.

Old South Meeting House
0 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). ww.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or ue Line to State St. Daily, 9:30 am-5 pm. $5; seniors d students, $4; children, $1.

Old State House Museum
06 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). ww.bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line State St. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; seniors and stu-nts, $4; children ages 6-18, $1; members, children nder 6, free.

Prudential Center Skywalk
00 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: reen Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; th college ID, $7.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and der, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
76 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). ww.trinityboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. ily, 8 am-6 pm. $5; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
harlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). ww.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-6 . Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
17-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a fos-r-care or adopted child.

AIDS Action Committee
17-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with V/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 100 volunteer opportunities are available each month.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012, ext. 227). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers over 18 for kitchen, office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145, ext. 620). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor students in math and literacy and prepare high school students for the MCAS.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000, ext. 7508). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. Help ALS (aka Lou Gehrig's disease) patients and their families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helplineonline.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-927-0648). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900, ext. 113). www.horizonsinitiative.org. Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). www.lvm.org. Teach adults to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-972-9119). www.mabcommunityservices.org. Read to or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelder.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org. Volunteer as an aquarium guide and more.

Parental Stress Line
(1-800-882-1250). Counsel parents and caregivers, and facilitate support groups.

Pine Street Inn
(617-892-9187). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740, ext. 15). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111, ext. 17). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). www.respondinc.org. Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). www.rosies.org. Volunteers needed for this women's homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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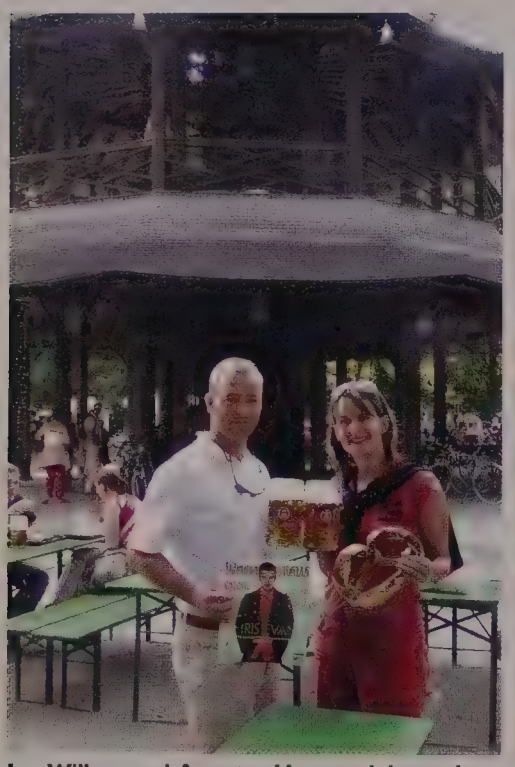
IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP.

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Ian Wilken and Annette Hertz celebrated their anniversary in Munich with a couple of beers, the IMPROPER and one big-ass pretzel.

Liam Lynchm, Matt Knights and Brian Johnson read our Fall Arts Preview while stationed in Djibouti, Africa and were inspired to pen their own screen play: *Djibouti Call*.

Employees from all three of Boston's Hyatt hotels were in San Francisco for a corporate training workshop and to lead a rally calling for the IMPROPER'S appointment as the new San Francisco Treat.

Jenn, Heather and Frankenstein Wood pose for a family portrait in Edinburgh, Scotland. Frankie writes, "That Ewan McGregor is like totally hot."

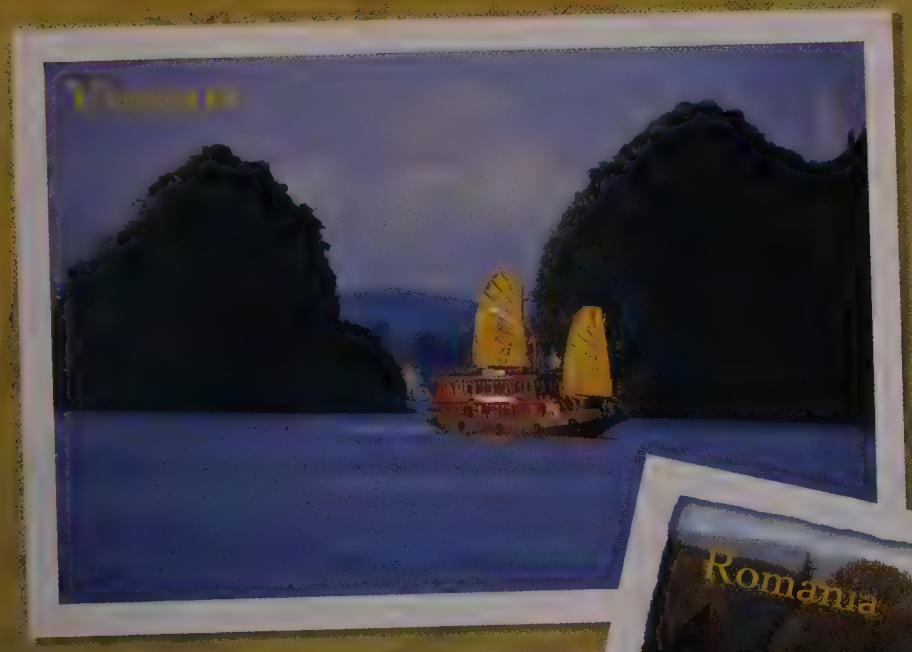
We salute Dianna Ryan, who made good on an Improper Bounty by bringing our Fall Arts Preview with her to the annual Road-Kill Cook Off in Marlinton, W.Va. In related news, West Virgina is officially weird.

Maria and Art DiMeo were headed down to Foxboro, but one wrong turn off Storrow Drive, and we'll be damned if they didn't end up in Pisa.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Taking down a 200-egg, egg-white omelette with a side of home fries at the Giant Omelette Celebration, held Nov. 5-6 in Abbeville, La.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.



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Journeys of imagination

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ROMANIA

Easter Celebration - April 14-28

GREECE

Corfu, Kefalonia, Crete - May 1-14

NEPAL & BHUTAN

Himalayan Dreams - Oct. 19-Nov. 18

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, October 1, Jerry Remy joined **Miller Light** to celebrate the **Red Sox** regular season finale party at **Clarke's** in Faneuil Hall.

1. **Jerry "RemDawg" Remy**, and **Dianne Fuzek** of Greenville, RI.
2. **Christine Carlo**, senior marketing manager, and **Linda Nolan**, administrative assistant, both of Miller Brewing Company.
3. **Steve Shaughnessy**, business development manager; **Brian Murphy**, on-premise sales manager; **Jeff Haynes**, off-premise sales manager; **Paul Costello**, on-premise sales manager, all of Burke Distributing Corporation.

On Thursday, October 13, Boston Celtics captain Paul Pierce celebrated his 28th birthday with his fellow teammates at the new **Alley Cat**, owned by **Lyons Group Management**. Guests enjoyed complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cocktails while participating in karaoke. A portion of the proceeds went to **The Truth Fund**, founded by Paul Pierce.

1. Reality stars **Brian Worth** of *Average Joe 2*; **Tina Barta** of MTV's *Road Rules & Real World/Road Rules Challenge*; **Shawn Manning** of *The Real Gilligan's Island*; and **Michael Tarshi** of *The Apprentice 3*.
2. **Doc Rivers**, head coach of the Celtics, and **Paul Pierce**, captain of the Celtics.
3. Players from **The New England Revolution Soccer Team**.

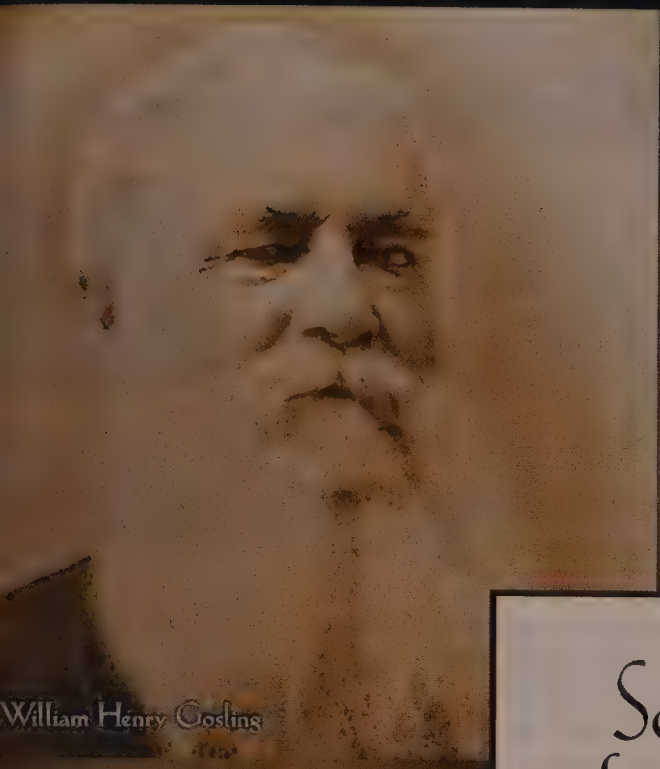
On Friday, October 7, The Fab Fashion Event VIP pre-party was held at the **Actor's Workshop**. The two-day shopping extravaganza benefited the **Big Sister Association of Greater Boston**. Guest enjoyed hors d'oeuvres by **Radius** and beverages by the **Wine Gallery**, **PHD Beer** and **Horizon Beverage Group**. The lead sponsor of the event was **Second Time Around**.

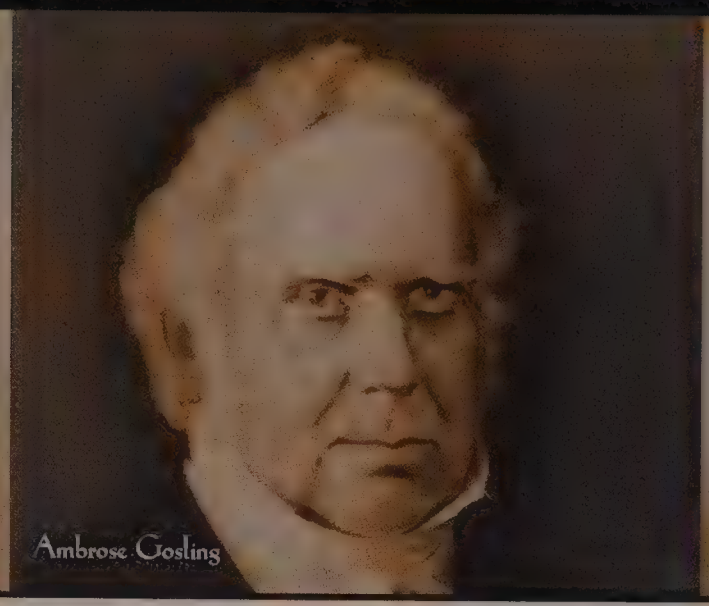
1. **Brad Cassler**, president of Cassler & Co. Real Estate, and **Jeff Cassler**, owner of Second Time Around.
2. **Tom Barnes**, owner of Indo in Provincetown, and **Jim Auerbach**, owner of Jim the Jeweler.
3. **Elaine Spada**, pr; **Marissa Spada**, designer; and **Abdallah Al Othman**, partner; all for Lucy's Sister.

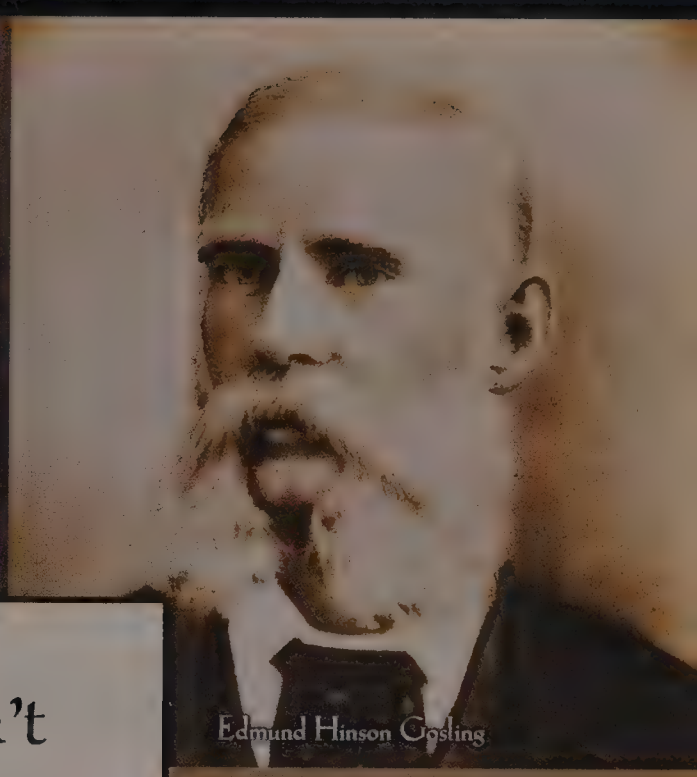
On Wednesday, October 5, **C.O. Bigelow Apothecaries** celebrated its grand opening with a private charity shopping night benefiting Best Buddies.

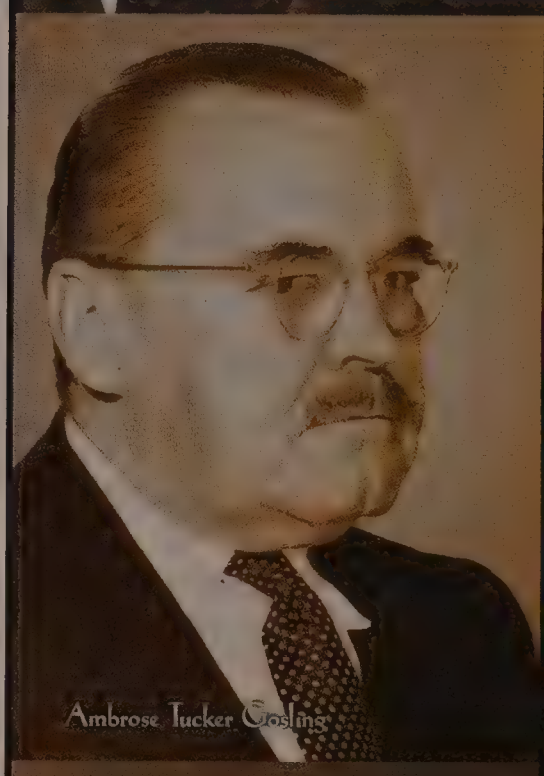
1. **Colleen Harkins**, general manager a Lord and Taylor; **Marc Lemieux**, visua manager for C.O. Bigelow; and **Felicia Crane**, pr associate for Tractenberg PR
2. **Neil Fiske**, CEO of C.O.Bigelow, and **Anthony K. Shriver**, president of Best Buddies.
3. **Senator Mark Montigny**; **Daniel Graham**, tight end for the New England Patriots; and **Brad Blank**, on the board of directors at Best Buddies.

PHOTOS: CLARKE'S, CARRIE WALLACE; FAB FASHION, DANA D'ALFONSO; ALLEY CAT, BRIAN BABINEAU; C.O. BIGELOW, JULIE KANE









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rockie horoscope

OCTOBER 26 – NOVEMBER 8, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Your year of living lavishly, maybe even happily ever after, begins when munificent Jupiter entered Scorpio on the 25th. For the next 13 months, you'll be offered opportunities to expand your range of experience and to grow wealthier and wiser. Just watch out that your waistline doesn't expand in the process. Warning: Jupiter's love of luxury and its reliance on luck could spoil the dialogue you've managed to maintain between the angelic and the demonic aspects of your personality.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

It'll take a while before your Jupiter ruler gets deep enough into Scorpio to inhabit your 12th house of ripe destiny, karmic payback and secret enemies. Until then, it's safe to assume that you'll continue to benefit from your connection to well-placed friends and associates. They might not be as amusing or artistic as those you attracted when Jupiter was in Libra, but you may find them fascinating, nonetheless. At the moment you're pretty fascinating yourself, thanks to the union Venus is forging with passionate Pluto in your sign.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

If you thought that having bountiful Jupiter in your career mid-heaven turned out to be more of a challenge than a blessing, relax. Now that the planet of growth and good fortune has moved on to Scorpio, the tense relationship between airy, intellectual Libra and down-to-earth Capricorn will be replaced by a more comfortable connection, a supportive sextile to an emotional, intuitive water sign. The first indication that things will be flowing more freely follows the Scorpio new moon on the 1st.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

One of your favorite daydreams may be put back into play when visionary Neptune turns direct in your sign on the 26th. Not only will you be inspired to do your best, but your talent for inspiring others to follow your lead could also be revealed—if not by Halloween, then around Election Day. Meanwhile, your devotion to a social or political cause and your allegiance to a group effort grows more intense as Venus and Pluto join forces in your 11th house of friends, hopes and wishes—the arena traditionally ruled by Aquarius.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Be on the lookout for a scandal! Voluptuous Venus merging with passionate Pluto at the top of your solar chart could wave a red flag, warning that something salacious is about to affect your reputation or your employer's. Who wins the prize for most outrageous costume and who gets caught in the act? But if nothing that exciting does transpire, then assume it's only a figment of your active imagination. You'll probably let loose when your Neptune ruler finally comes out of retrograde after five long months in hibernation.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Sayonara. Wave goodbye to generous Jupiter as it leaves Libra, your cosmic complement, where it spent the past year ironing out the wrinkles in your close relationships. While it's traveling through Scorpio, the jolly giant might not be as compliant, as willing to favor you and the people who currently are or soon will be significant in both your private and business lives. You'll probably have to adjust to conditions that make you somewhat uncomfortable. But look on the bright side—you can rake in piles and piles of money.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Hard work is definitely in the Bull's bailiwick. But unless you're a dedicated health practitioner, offering another service may be a tricky proposition. However, while expansive Jupiter transits your Scorpio house of significant others, there should be a steady flow of give and get in return. Know that this principle might take the better part of a year to become established as a way of life. Right now, your Venus ruler hooks up with passionate Pluto for nights of intense coupling, plus paying attention to a financial matter.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

The hunt for an October romance grows more intense as the creative sun and enthusiastic Jupiter join hands to cross the cusp between sociable Libra and sexy Scorpio. Halloween magic and mystery are fairly irresistible attractions under ordinary circumstances. However, this year, the odds of succumbing to someone's fatal charm greatly increases because magnetic Venus and passionate Pluto are getting together in Sagittarius, the sign ruling your life partners. As for logic, until Mercury finishes searching for hidden meanings, forget about it.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

The happy feeling you get when the sun's vitality and Jupiter's optimism team up this week could prevail for a full year. If home is where the Moon Child's heart is most often found, then expect your domain to expand substantially. As protective Jupiter nestles in Scorpio, another emotion-driven water sign, you'll be offered opportunities to grow in ways you have yet to experience. A hint: Pay close attention to the signs you see, the messages you think you hear during the Scorpio new moon on the Day of the Dead.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

An infusion of high hopes and high spirits while your sun ruler and jolly Jupiter merge should serve to mark the beginning of a yearlong involvement in secretive Scorpio stuff. In the course of the next 13 months, prosperous Jupiter will help you uncover ways and means of increasing your knowledge and your profit margin. Teaching or traveling are in store for some Lions, mining or real estate for others. But for now, as the sun and changeable Uranus form a rewarding trine, you'll receive a Halloween treat you weren't expecting.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

While both militant Mars and your curious Mercury ruler face off in equally stubborn fixed signs, push could literally come to shove. You might also want to push the envelope of a venture that's not developing fast enough to suit you. Better put off taking the speedy route until Mercury gets to Sagittarius for Halloween—while the Messenger is still in Scorpio, safe, secure and somewhat secretive is the way to go. Be aware that prosperous Jupiter traveling through Scorpio for an entire year will expand your earning power and love of luxury.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

What to focus on first? Crucial information about a complicated financial matter or your desire to discover the truth behind a relationship that's as close as a next-door neighbor? Perhaps it's the return of a dream project that's been dormant for the last five months. How will you react if a relative insists on putting the past to rest and establishing contact again? All these possibilities, plus the ones that immediately come to your mind, could manifest, because your solar chart is lit up like a parade of jack o' lanterns.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

What's Up?

Bryan Adams, is the wedding off?
Meghan10105@hotmail.com
—Need to know

Mr. West, You're Dashing

You get up every day and tell me to be careful and not to forget the things I am always forgetting. You were my roommate who I fell for even in your nerdy pajamas. I remember when we told Matt we were moving out, and then he came home to find us showing the place to other renters. It was a bitter winter two years ago when we jammed the Saturn full of junk in the middle of the night with Frank Black on our side, as Moo Moo watched from the window in all her crazy town glory. I always hoped that there was someone out there who would like me despite the fact that I'm a pain in the ass and always leave restaurants in a flurry because I refuse to admit I might be the slightest bit lactose intolerant. You're my best friend in every way and you inspire me more than you'll ever know. You're hunky and fun and I love you dearly.
—Friend With Benefits

Running From Beauty

This is not something I usually do, but it's worth a shot. You were crossing the southeast corner of Boylston and Dartmouth. I was going for a run. It was approximately 5:30 pm on Sept. 29. You're tall and have strawberry colored hair. You were wearing black slacks, a white top and glasses. I was wearing a grey Army t-shirt and white shorts. I should have said something. I thought about introducing myself. You were as striking as a summer sunset over Cape Cod Bay and as beautiful as a crisp fall morning in Vermont. The seasons may change but your beauty will not. If you're out there, email me at nbush7219@yahoo.com.
—Hopeless Romantic

Human Kindness

Someone noticed! I'm young enough to manage well standing on the T, but a lovely young woman with dark braids jumped out of a seat and offered it to me, noticing that I was carrying packages. I was so grateful! I'm also relieved to find that some people still have a kind common sense. I've seen too many situations lately where older people, clearly in their 70s or 80s, got on the train and not one person offered a seat. I hesitate to call attention to them by scorning the seated persons, but I'm tempted! Pay attention!
—Too Tired

Irish Eyes Are Smilin'

You were the most amazingly bright person at Paddy Burkes, at 7 pm on Oct. 5. I was the tense, harried and harassed computer guy you kept grabbing. You caught me on a bad day, but certainly you were exceptionally charming. You had to meet friends but stayed long enough for your Prince songs to play on the jukebox. I'd like to meet you again when you're not so rushed and I'm not so harried. I'm definitely into your New York thang and want to see you again. I'll be back at Paddy's at 7 pm on Oct. 26 and hope to see you there.
—Smitten

Where You Been Hiding?

Ruth Ann, it has been said that you cannot tell a book by its cover, but I like what I saw: you, in denim, at the Beantown Jazz Fest. Although we haven't seen each other much lately, I'd like to see you more often, get to know you and develop our friendship a little more. I spoke to you briefly at the Stop & Shop on the morning of July 23, and again at the Jazz Festival. I was wearing a black running suit and a purple and gold cap. What is it? Do my good looks really scare you that badly? Take a chance. You will be pleasantly surprised. Contact me at Jasco52@aol.com.
—Worth A Try

Worth A Shot

A complete shot in the dark—we met at Ned Devine's/ Paris on Saturday, Oct. 8, as you (dark blond/ brown hair) were celebrating your sister's (blond hair) bachelorette party. I (wearing a dark-red collared shirt and jeans) was with a group of guys and we were all dancing together up near the stage. You and I were together most of the evening. You told me you work in sales. You were having a blast listening to the band and laughing at our friends' antics. Later on, what I thought was another restroom run with the girls turned out to be a party moving elsewhere, and I never got your number. Would love to hang out sometime. You can write me at dancing.at.neds.@gmail.com.
—Still Holding On

Keep On Walkin'

Austin Street dog-walker, since you obviously took the short bus to school, let me point out a few things to you: Your dog is your own responsibility. There is a leash law in the city. Asking a complete stranger to try and catch your dog is not only completely forward and inappropriate, but dangerous. (Do you know how some dogs react to a stranger trying to capture them, especially when it's dark outside?) It's no mystery why the dog was running away from you, but I guess it wouldn't be fair to hold your ugliness against you. After all, you can't help that. Your rudeness, however, is something you can control and I suggest you do. You need to get over yourself because one day you just might come across someone as vulgar and ill mannered as yourself.
—Charliegirl

So Sorry!

To the petite Indian girl in the gold car on Newbury Street, on Thursday, Oct. 13, with whom we got into a screaming match regarding your car. I'm very sorry and I should have apologized to you before you left. The person I was with was out of line. I didn't realize that he had tapped your bumper (initially) and when he knocked on your car window, just to call you a name, that was totally out of line. I got to trash talking and throwing down, because I thought you were being a selfish jerk. But when I found out that he DID tap your bumper and then continued to be mean when he initiated the second argument, I felt very badly about my behavior. The person I was with should have just apologized to you. You getting out of your car and saying something was totally fine—it's something I would have done if I were in your position. I'm very sorry for my horrid behavior and for flying off the handle. Not my proudest moment. Please know I am sorry.
—Sorry Sack of Crap

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RESTAURANTS

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

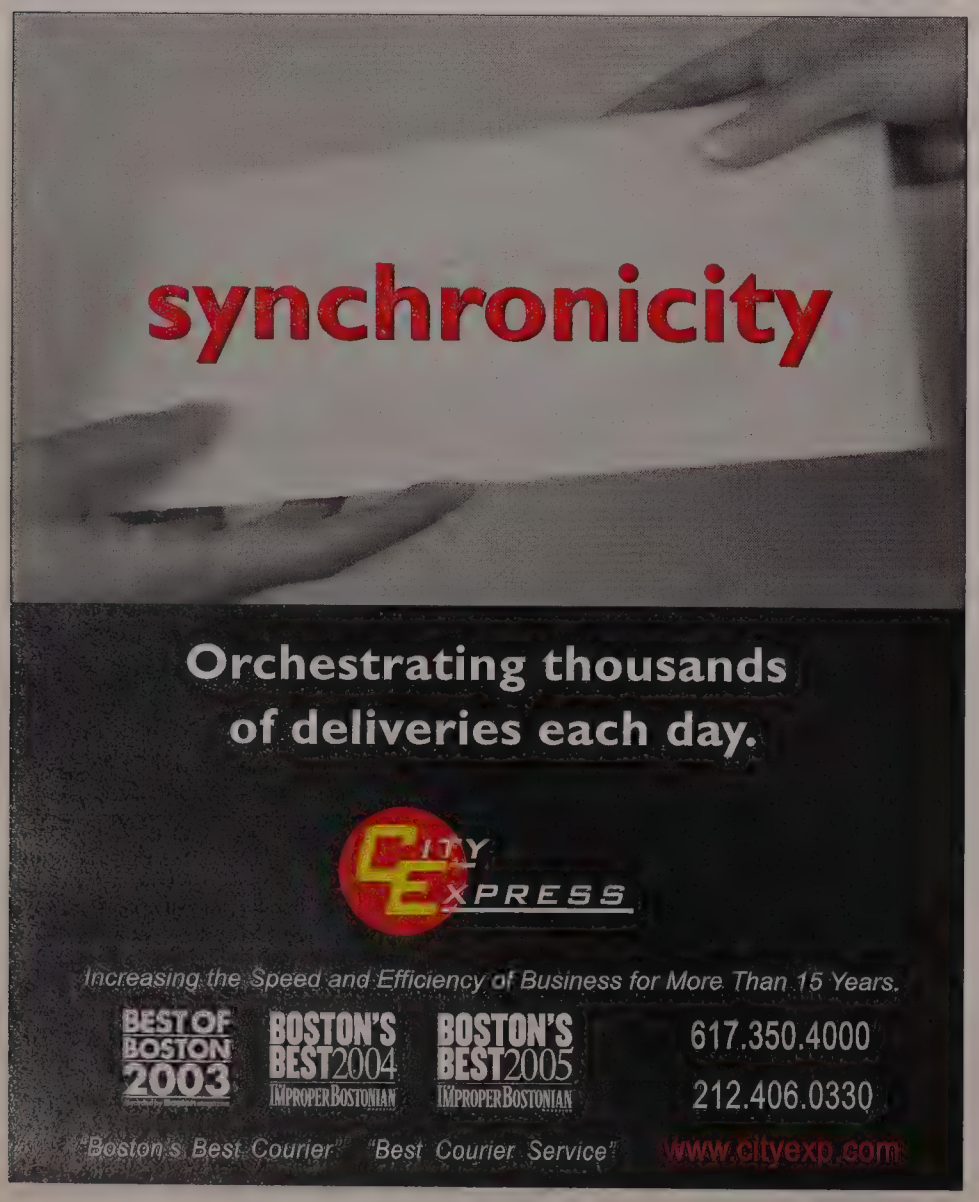
IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

MATCH *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* This modern restaurant/lounge maintains an unpretentious yet hip vibe. A sleek fire display and glass wine room are just two of its many features. Match's signature mini burgers and martinis are guaranteed to please the most discriminating palate. Match music has a distinct early evening lounge feel with the beat and volume picking up as the night progresses. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255.* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'-Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish wood-



work, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

VENEZIA RESTAURANT *20 Ericsson St., Boston 617-436-3120.* For authentic Italian fare, impeccable service and an atmosphere unmatched on Boston's Waterfront, Venezia provides one of the city's most unique and pleasurable dining experiences. Your destination for everything from a relaxing midday lunch to a romantic dinner for two, Venezia can also accommodate private affairs like wedding receptions and business functions, and features live music on Friday and Saturday nights.

THE WATERFRONT CAFÉ BAR-GRILL *450 Commercial Street, Boston 617-523-0613.* A North End neighborhood hot spot, serving up sizzling steak tips and the best burgers around! Featuring a big screen TV and plasmas to catch all your favorite teams in action. Come for dinner, stay for a drink! *Open 7 days, Lunch & Dinner 11am–11pm, Apps. 11pm–1am.*

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 300+ microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *Pizza Kitchen, Beer Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Dance Bars

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am, 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

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General

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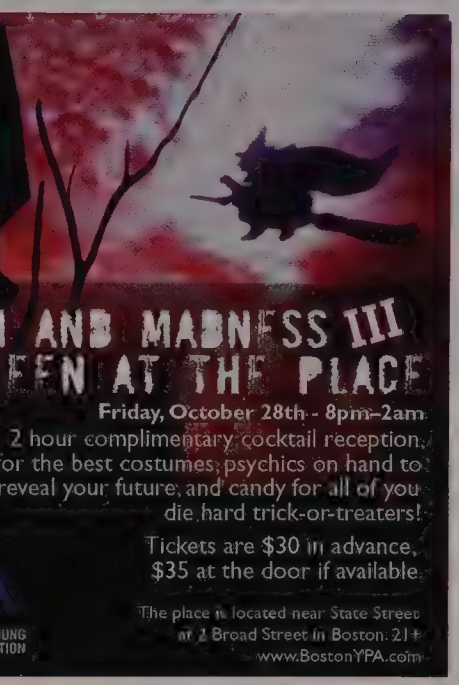

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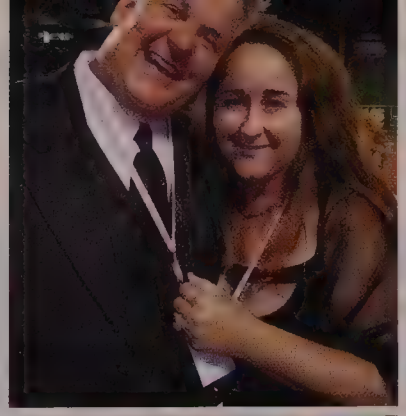
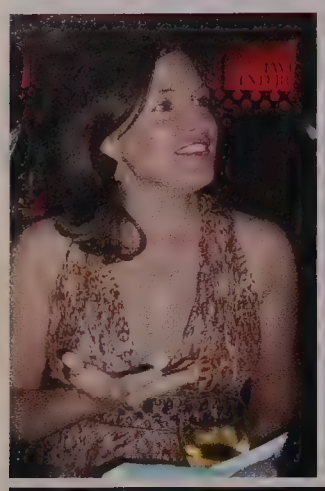
BY JONATHAN SOROFF





At the Storybook Ball, top row: Lenny and Jennifer Clarke. Middle row: Mary Hull; Simone Winston; Darlene and Jerry Jordan. Bottom row: Maggie and Jonathan Selig; Mark and Jennifer Herman; John Henry.

BALLGOWNS IN THE BULLPEN...

Even the most jaded socialite had to gasp at the **Storybook Ball**, a black-tie benefit of truly Biblical proportions, held on the field at **Fenway Park** to raise money for **Mass General's Children's Hospital**.

Guests arrived through the gates to be greeted by characters from the comic strip Peanuts, alongside hawkers offering peanuts and popcorn, all of whom ushered everyone along a red carpet and out onto the field, where drinks and hors d'ouevres were served. After a few pops on the foul line, or a cocktail or two in the dugout, guests filed into an enormous glass house built on the outfield, where classic carnival games were interpreted by luxury retailers, so that instead of a stuffed giraffe or a bobble-head doll, guests could win an **Hermes** scarf or a bauble from **Shreve, Crump & Low**. Dinner was a five-course affair several notches above hotdogs and beer, while the live auction netted a nose-bleed sum, with one auction item alone—all the Green Monster seats at a Sox game—going for $200,000.

Among the extremely high-profile crowd: the ravishing co-chairs, **Darlene Jordan**, **Simone Winston** and **Patty Ribakoff**, Sox owner **John Henry** and the stunning **Peggy**, Celtics owner **Wyc Grousbeck** and his lovely other half, **Corinne**, Pats grand poobah **Bob Kraft** and the formidable **Myra**, power players **Chad Gifford** and **Jack Connors**, nightlife jefe **Patrick Lyons** and the gorgeous **Kristina**, uber-philanthropists **Carole** and **Jimmy Herscott**, Fidelity heiress **Beth Johnson** (looking gorgeous in an Akris gown), financial titans **Jim Pallota** and **Abner Kurtin**, Natalie Portman look-alike **Mary Hull** and her husband, **Mark Baranski**, the absurdly attractive **Jennifer** and **Mark Herman**, raven-haired glamazon **Maggie Seelig**, who accepted a compliment on her gold bangle bracelets by saying, "Aren't they fun? It's like Jewish jingle bells," and Channel 4 personality **Kasey Kaufman**, who accepted a compliment on her hair by saying, "It'll never look this good again. I want it on the Jumbotron."

As if all that weren't enough, another sign that it was an epic evening was the fact that everyone stayed on the dance floor until the bitter end and then went on to one of two after-parties, held at Game On! and Eastern Standard. All of the above begs the question that one guest put this way: "What the hell are they gonna do for an encore? Have next year's party on the moon?"

At Opera Boston: Barbara Grossman and Joan Cutler; Kelly Verrochi and Randi Cutler.

WORDS TO LIVE BY...

The **Cutler Majestic Theater** hosted an evening to honor the majestic **Joan Cutler** and the magnificent **Barbara Grossman** at a benefit for **Opera Boston**, which began with cocktails on the stage and continued with performances by top-flight talent.

Present and accounted for: the evening's emcee, the velvet-throated **Ron della Chiesa**, the honorees' husbands, **Ted Cutler** and **Steve Grossman**, the almost lifelike **Mitt Romney** (who seems to have forgotten that Grossman ran against him in the governor's race and whose marginally coherent remarks still managed to offend any Democrats in the audience), Chestnut Hill chatelaine **Bette Eyges**, retail titan **Stanley Berger** and the soignée **Sandy**, low-key philanthropists **Roberta** and **Irwin Chafetz**, tireless arts supporters **Steve Weiner** and **Donald Cornuet**, theater panjandrum **Tony McLean**, real estate mack daddy **Arthur Winn**, blue-blooded opera buff **Winnie Gray**, statuesque brunette **Kelly Verrochi**, and one guest who exclaimed, "I never see you!" to which her friend answered sardonically, "Well, aren't you lucky?"

However, the evening's most amusing exchange came from a dashing interior decorator who said, "Excuse me, I have to bring a blonde a drink," to which someone responded, "A blonde without a cocktail is a dangerous thing."

WHEN BAD CLOTHES HAPPEN TO GOOD GO-GO DANCERS...

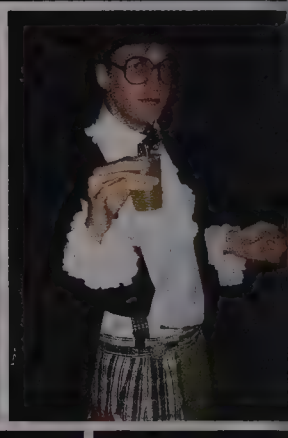
It's hard to imagine a glitzier fifth anniversary party than the one thrown by the white-hot ad agency **Modernista!** to benefit **Stop Handgun Violence**.

Held at the **Roxy**, the dress code was "super fly," and in between all the ice sculptures, tarot card readers and waiters passing out delicious little nibblies, the very observant could spot such habitual scenesters as the agency's founders, **Gary Koepke** and **Lance Jensen**, long-haired creative genius **Ilya Rozhdestvensky**, real estate behemoth **Jon Rosenthal**, music business bigwig **Oedipus**, Sausage Guy **David Littlefield**, ubiquitous restaurateur **Jim Apteker**, rock-star-in-training **Ben Blanchard** and the stunning **Melissa Macaulay**, and uber-hipster **Geoffrey Lillemon**, among others. Everyone imbibed freely at the open bar and then took to the dance floor like their pants were on fire once the band, two-time Grammy winner **Ozomatli**, came on stage.

In fact, the only low-key aspect of an otherwise off-the-hook evening were the demurely dressed go-go dancers, who had on entirely too much clothing for most people's tastes.

"He shouldn't be wearing cargo pants," observed one guest, while another said, "He can't really dance."

"My guess is that he's usually wearing butt-floss," pointed out a third, "So nobody's looking at his outfit or gives a shit how he moves." iB



At Modernista's Anniversary, top row: Melissa Macaulay and Ben Blanchard; Middle row: Sara Daugherty; Geoffrey Lillemon. Bottom row: David Littlefield and Ilya Rozhdestvensky.

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PARTIES, PEOPLE & PLACES

Yappy Hour, September 8, 2005

Grey Goose joined *Animal Fair* magazine for Yappy Hour to benefit the Animal Rescue League of Boston. The fundraiser was held at Hotel Marlowe in Cambridge, where guests and their pooches enjoyed treats and cocktails

Autumn Punch Martini

1 part GREY GOOSE L'Orange Vodka
1 part ruby or tawny port
1 lemon wedge
1 orange wedge
Pinch of ground clove
Orange twist for garnish

- Squeeze the fruits & drop into cocktail shaker filled with ice. Add the clove, GREY GOOSE L'Orange Vodka, & port. Shake vigorously & strain into a martini glass. Present with an orange twist

Denim and Diamonds, October 1, 2005

Held at the Charles River Museum in Waltham to benefit the Wellness Community, which provides education and support for people with cancer and their loved ones.

Enchanted Apple Martini

3 parts GREY GOOSE Vodka
2 parts apple cider
1 part maple syrup
Cinnamon sugar for rimming the glass
1 lemon wedge for rimming the glass
Lemon twist for garnish

- Place the cinnamon sugar on a plate; rub the juicy side of the lemon wedge on the outside lip of the martini glass, then roll the glass lip in the cinnamon sugar. In a cocktail shaker filled with ice, squeeze the lemon wedge & drip into the shaker, add GREY GOOSE Vodka, apple cider & maple syrup. Shake vigorously & strain into the seasoned cocktail glass. Present with a lemon twist.

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

ON STYLE

Though we cover fashion in every issue of the IMPROPER, we turn our attention in these pages to the more elusive topic of style. The experts we consulted agree that style's not about following trends and copying looks from the runways, it's about stating your individuality---and the 10 stylish Bostonians we highlight in this issue have got that down. Some shop at Saks and Newbury St. boutiques and some prefer stores in Chinatown and even "your grandpa's closet," but all of our 10 picks put creative energy and even humor into their wardrobes—and their attitudes about dressing. Their answers to our style questions are a lot of fun to read and might even inspire you to break away from the pack.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

TWO MORE FROM EZRA'S FAN CLUB

I'm an avid reader of the *IB* and recently read Ezra Dyer's column on Singapore (Oct. 12). I almost thought he was making that stuff up about Singapore's driving quirks, and then I saw a *Boston Globe* article on the same topic. Thanks for your great articles, they always make me laugh.

—HEATHER TUTTLE
Belmont

I look forward to your magazine when it comes out, almost like a ritual, and for almost four years I've been hooked. I think it's great, except when you decide to run fur ads. Ezra's column is the best and I can never stop laughing when I read it on the T, and no less when people look at me funny. His typing tests (Sept. 28) are ridiculous, and I also am hard-wired not to use all fingers. So Ezra, I say we start a support group for us non-qwerty users.

—KRISTINE ACEVEDO
Revere

CORRECTIONS

The photo on page 16 in the Oct. 26 issue should have been credited to Mike Ivins.

CONTRIBUTORS

ANTHONY RUGNETTA

Born and raised in Quincy, Mass., our cover photographer Anthony Rugnetta moved to New York after graduating from UMass. He worked and traveled in Europe while developing his skills in photography. Now primarily working on the East Coast, from Boston to Miami, he has done shoots for such magazines as *Gourmet* and *The Knot*.

SAM WALTERS

Sam Walters has been cited in media outlets from the *New York Post* to the *Hindustani Times* for various acts of stand-up comedy. (And no, you can't know what they were, unless you're one of the privileged few with access to Google.) He's written for *Jest Magazine*, the New York and Philadelphia editions of the *Metro*, and almost every publication with the word "Boston" in it. Currently based in New York, he was horrified to learn skinny glasses are out after having blown $300 on a pair of Versace frames. His story, "A Dork in New York," begins on page 34.

REGINA COLE

Regina Cole is a freelance writer who specializes in period interiors and the history of the American decorative arts. She's the author of *The New Flooring Idea Book*, *Perfect Legends of Design*, an architectural style book and several how-to books for homeowners. Her work appears regularly in *Old-House Interiors*, the At Home section of the *Boston Sunday Globe Magazine*, the *Old-House Journal*, *Traditional Home*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Renovation Style* and *German Life*. She's also currently working on a biography of interior designer Henry Davis Sleeper. Her latest feature for the IMPROPER, "Sublime Designs," begins on page 30.

Tell Us What You Think

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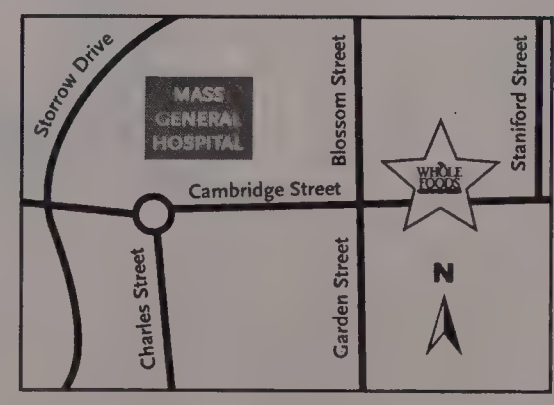

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THE WORD

EDITED BY ERIN GRAHAM

NEW IN TOWN

Lounge Explosion

There's no doubt about it: Lounges are where it's at these days. The latest one to pop up is 6B (so named for its location, 6B Beacon St.), which opened Oct. 14 near the Statehouse. Unlike lots of lounge-bars, 6B isn't overly funked out. With nary a candle or velvet drape in sight, it's got just a few of the signature lounge accessories: funky wine racks, lights and mirrors; a giant martini list; a patch of communal seating and the requisite DJ.

Like its menu, the space is small and uncomplicated: The bar seats about 10 and the rest of the seating options are individual booths, a smattering of high tables with a long single bench and a little cluster of low tables and plush seats in the back.

Owned by Irish business partners Sam Carlyle and Bill McCarthy, who own Emmet's Pub and Restaurant next door to 6B (as well as the bar Crossroads), 6B has an uncomplicated concept, too. General manager Chris Morris says, "We wanted a relaxed, casual place to set us apart from the neighbors like the 21st Amendment and No. 9 Park."

During lunchtime, 6B patrons can order off Emmet's burger- and sandwich-heavy menu. After the lunch rush, 6B attracts a young professional crowd—when we stopped by on a recent Friday night, it was packed with 20- and 30-somethings swilling martinis. If you're hungry, the menu of appetizers includes grilled chicken quesadillas ($8.50), fried calamari in a lime cilantro sauce ($9.95), coconut shrimp ($8.25), roasted brie ($8.25) and spring rolls in a sweet chili sauce ($6.95). You can choose from 10 martinis; the more adventurous can take their chances with the Morris Minor—a martini concocted of secret ingredients. Wine comes by the glass or bottle (prices range from $6-$11 a glass and $21-$39 a bottle).

Be forewarned: Get there on the early side, because it's hard to properly lounge around if you're on your feet. *6B Beacon St., Boston (617-742-8565, Emmet's number). 11 am-2 am daily.* —E.G.

INNER VIEW

George Lucas

Moviemaking maverick George Lucas has been busy with more behind-the-scenes work than just directing; he's also been working to improve science education through the George Lucas Education Foundation. The exhibition, *Star Wars, Where Science Meets Imagination,* is on display at the Museum of Science through April. We caught up with Lucas when he was here for its opening.

IB: *What's the story behind the exhibition?*

GL: The museum came to us and suggested doing the exhibit. I've seen a lot of *Star Wars* exhibits, but this is the first science one we've done. It's fun for people to see things like the vehicles from the film and say, "I wonder if we could really float like that?"

IB: *What's most interesting to you now in the science and technology realm?*

GL: I think what interests me most are the possibilities in science and technology that people should embrace and not be afraid of. This exhibit can have a positive effect on that.

IB: *Did you know how the storyline for the films would unfold when you began the series?*

GL: No, I originally planned on it being one film, but as time went on and we had to deal with other challenges, like how to create characters such as Yoda on film, the story became more involved. After I told a significant amount of the story, I had to go and tell a back story.

IB: *It's been said many of your own political ideas show up in the films. Would you say that is true?*

GL: I focused on general political messages, not my own—themes that have been prevalent in governments since the beginning: what democracy versus communism means, and what leadership is. Themes we see in most governments. But people will interpret it as they want.

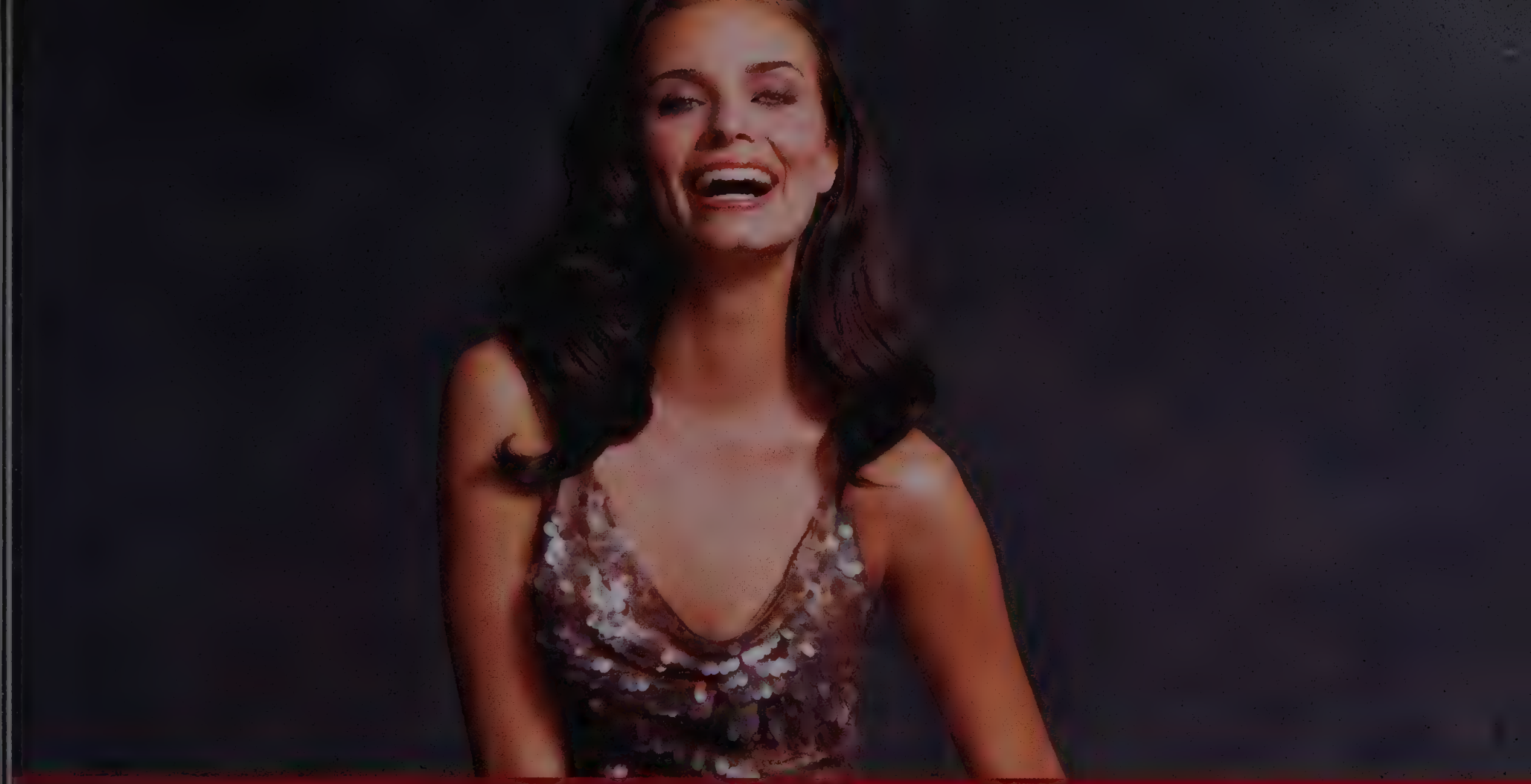
IB: *What's in store for you now that the Star Wars series has been completed?*

GL: I want to get back to the independent films I used to do in film school.

IB: *And the* Indiana Jones *series—are the rumors true? Will we see more?*

GL: Yes. In fact, I should be working on it right now. I plan to write the first few scenes on the plane ride back.

—Leslie Kilgore



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TASTY TIDBITS

High Steaks

New Meat... It seemed like it might never happen, but after more than a year of rumors, the steakhouse chain Ruth's Chris has finally opened its doors at 45 School St., in the former home of Maison Robert (and way before that, the home of Boston City Hall). Ruth's boasts a menu to match any of Boston's other big-time steakhouses and also features Curley's bar, named after late Boston mayor James Michael Curley. The Boston location is the 89th in Ruth's Chris' chain of steakhouses, and the first in the state. *45 School St., Boston (617-742-8401). www.ruthschris.com*

Don't Mind If We Douzo... There's about to be a new spot for hungry Back Bay denizens to get their fix of Japanese cuisine. That's thanks to Jack Huang, the founder/partner of Fugakyu, who left the restaurant late last year and recently announced plans to open Douzo. The new eatery, whose name means "pleasing and pleasurable" in Japanese, is slated to open in January at 131 Dartmouth St. (near Copley Place) and will feature a sushi bar in addition to the main dining room. Huang also plans to offer a delivery service catering to business parties and functions around Boston. Stay tuned for updates.

Fond of Fondue... Thierry Charles, head chef, general manager and part owner of fondue/wine hotspot Wine Cellar on Mass. Ave., made a big change last month. The wine cellar is no longer all about the fondue. Striving to offer diners a little more selection, Charles expanded the menu to include dishes like escargot, foie gras and a new signature dish, seafood ravioli. But don't think this means he's given up on the fondue front. Charles revamped the fondue offerings, adding even more flavorful marinades for the meat and creating more options on the chocolate front. *30 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-236-0080). www.bostoncellar.com*

Chocolate Party... Suzanne Oakley wants us all to experience chocolate. Well, if she's going to twist our arms then OK, we'll give it a try. The Bostonian's new company, Experience: Chocolate, offers private chocolate tastings for home and corporate events, where guests get a crash course in how to taste, analyze and rate quality chocolate. The best part? Once the tasting's done, you won't be left chocolate-less, as Oakley offers her own brand of gourmet boxed chocolate. Boxes go for between $20 and $35 and range in category from chocolates that pair well with wine to just an old-fashioned box of milk chocolate. Call 617-840-4766 to schedule an appointment. *www.experiencechocolate.com*

Sky High... Peter Davis, head chef at Henrietta's Table in the Charles Hotel, has made taking to the skies a little better for us all. The award-winning organic chef was recently named consulting chef for Delta Song Airlines and has created five new organic options that will be available on Song flights from November-January. The salad and sandwich creations include a smoked turkey sandwich on cranberry nut bread with cranberry relish, a grilled-chicken niçoise salad and more. Here's our sandwich suggestion: The Mile High Club. —*R.L.*

Ruth's Chris steakhouse

SAM SAYS

Head Turners

There are a lot of people claiming to be designers these days. It seems as though anyone who can sketch a dress and send it to a tailor can call him- or herself a designer. But Lewis Remele of Lewis Albert, one of the newest designers to spread his wings over Boston, is the real deal. He studied at Parsons and Harvard and was an apprentice to kick-ass NY designer Derek Lam. Good resume, I thought, but I was more impressed when I saw his sleek debut collection. It has a real architectural element to it and incorporates bright colors that are vibrant without being overwhelming. He manages to mix silk and satin by pairing them with more practical materials like wool. The result is feminine and sexy without trying too hard. These are head-turning pieces with that "Oh my god, where did you get that?" quality. And since the designer is fairly new, you can rest assured that you'll be the only one on the block with one of his designs—but not for long. Log onto the Web site www.lewisalbert.com to make an appointment at his showroom in Cambridge. *$500-$1,200.* —*Samantha House*

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Boston Organics

www.bostonorganics.com (978-465-8466)

Boston Organics offers doorstep delivery of organic produce on either a weekly or bi-weekly basis. An assortment of fruit, vegetables or a mix of both costs $25 or $35 per box. Orders aren't customized (you get what's fresh), but you can specify which kinds of produce you don't like. Home delivery is free; a $5 fee applies to certain deliveries in the financial district.

Netgrocer

www.netgrocer.com (1-888-638-4762)

This site offers everything from your basic grocery staples to cosmetics, toiletries and office supplies. There's no minimum purchase and shipping rates vary, ranging from $5.99 to $24.99. Netgrocer uses FedEx to make deliveries, though buyer beware: your perishables may be subject to lengthy delivery times (three to seven business days).

Peapod

www.peapod.com (1-800-573-2763)

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Roche Bros.

www.rochebros.com (781-237-5070)

This month, the 17-store supermarket chain based in Wellesley launches its own online grocery delivery service for a flat rate delivery fee of $9.95. Delivery vans operate six days a week (excluding Tuesdays). One of the only services to offer same-day delivery as long as the order is placed four hours before the delivery time, Roche Bros. also accepts orders as far in advance as six weeks.

Whole Foods Market at Symphony

www.wholefoodsmarket.com/stores/symphony

(617-375-1010)

Don't want to deal with parking? The Symphony branch of Whole Foods has a solution, offering a delivery service for in-store purchases of $50 or more. The service is only offered Friday through Monday (12-7 pm) and excludes hot deli items and frozen foods. Delivery charges range from $5 to $15 according to the area, and groceries arrive two to four hours after you shop. *—Cristina Velocci*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

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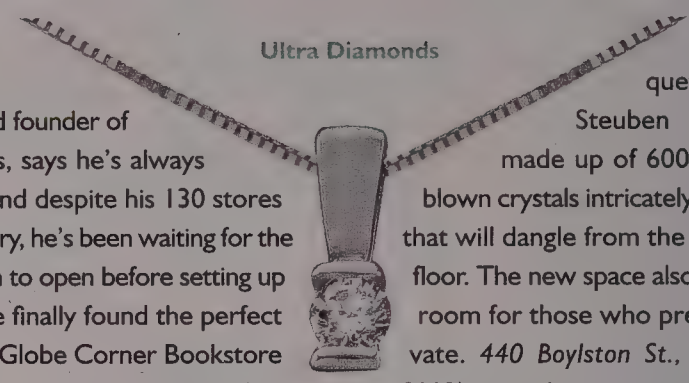
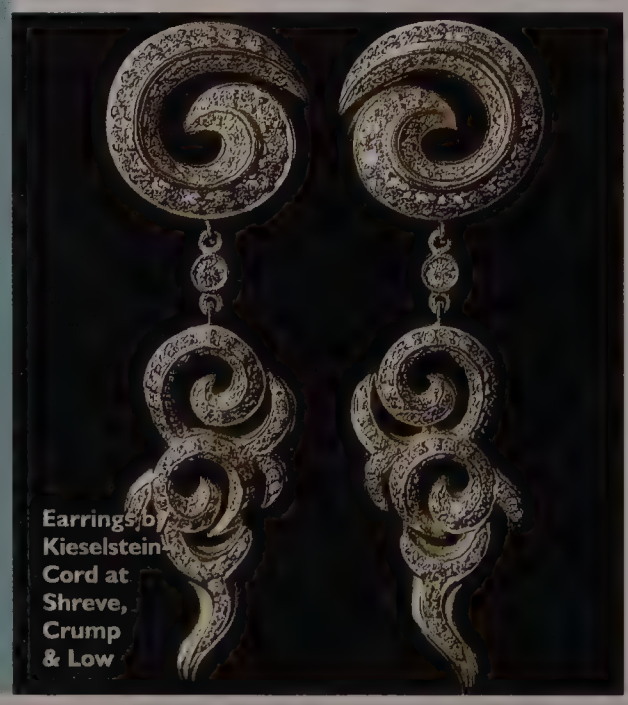


A Girl's Best Friend... Daniel Marks, CEO and founder of Ultra Diamonds, says he's always loved Boston, and despite his 130 stores across the country, he's been waiting for the ultimate location to open before setting up a shop here. He finally found the perfect spot in the Old Globe Corner Bookstore in Downtown Crossing's former digs. Marks got a taste of the Boston market when he ran a counter branch of the franchise in Filene's Basement years ago, and he's looking forward to ratcheting it up a notch with a storefront. "We have a lot of loyal customers here who are thrilled we're back," Marks says. Ultra Diamonds, which opened Oct. 6, specializes in Canadian diamonds as well as everyday jewelry in gold, silver and cubic zirconia. (Prices range from $25 to $30,000.) The opening celebration takes place Dec. 1, with promotions, give-aways and a fashion show. *283 Washington St., Boston (617-367-1310). www.ultradiamonds.com*

Bigger and Better... Jewelry stalwart Shreve, Crump & Low wanted to make a major change. And after 75 years in the same spot, who can blame them? The jewelry empire is slated to take over FAO Schwartz's former two-level 22,000 square foot space at the corner of Boylston and Berkeley streets in early November. Along with the new digs come several new designers and styles: pieces by Gucci, Vera Wang and Tony Duquette, as well as a Steuben crystal sculpture made up of 600 individually hand-blown crystals intricately threaded together that will dangle from the second to the first floor. The new space also sports a customer room for those who prefer to shop in private. *440 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-9112). www.shrevecrumpandlow.com*



Earrings by Kieselstein-Cord at Shreve, Crump & Low

A Classic Deal... Hoping to attract a new crowd of classical listeners, the Boston Symphony Orchestra is slashing its subscription prices for young professionals. (We're happy to hear that "young" means 21-38.) Packages center around a particular genre or specific composer and range from $81-$485, depending on how many concerts you sign up for. (Regular subscriptions can go for $800 and up.) If you're looking to mingle with other classical fans, you can opt for the Repartees package, which includes a handful of concert tickets plus pre-performance receptions. The packages are on sale through December, and several of the series run through April. *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-7575). www.bso.org*

Feeling hot, hot, hot..."Soak it up" is the motto at Urban Oasis, a new hot spot (literally) in Inman Square. Co-owners Renee Farster, a proponent of hydrotherapy (aka hot tubs), and Jo Gray, a massage therapist, teamed up to offer hot tub rentals and massage services. They know it sounds a bit unusual: "We chose Cambridge because people here seem to be more open to new and different businesses," Farster says. The tubs are scattered throughout a communal room (bathing suits are a must). But if the idea of a Turkish bath house atmosphere sounds offputting, you can rent a private tub for $55 per hour. Massages are $20-$110. *243 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-491-0176). www.urbanoasiscambridge.com. —E.G. and L.P.K.*

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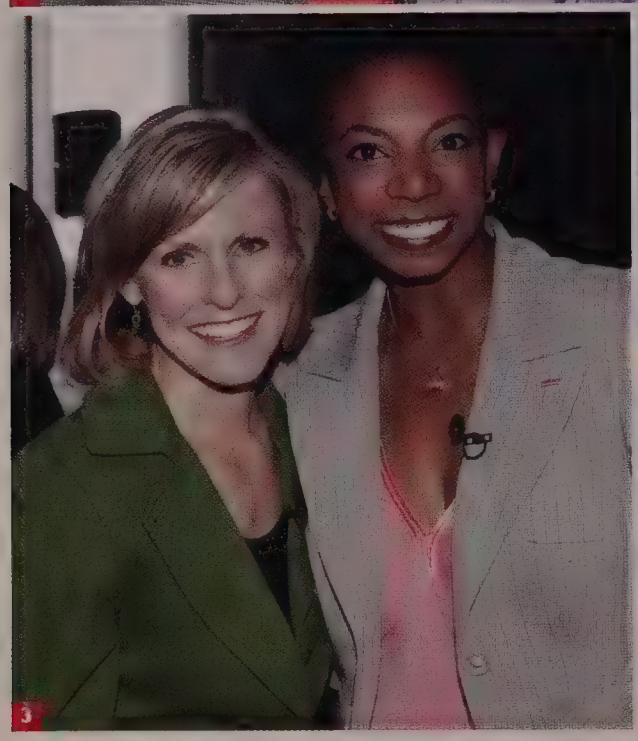
PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

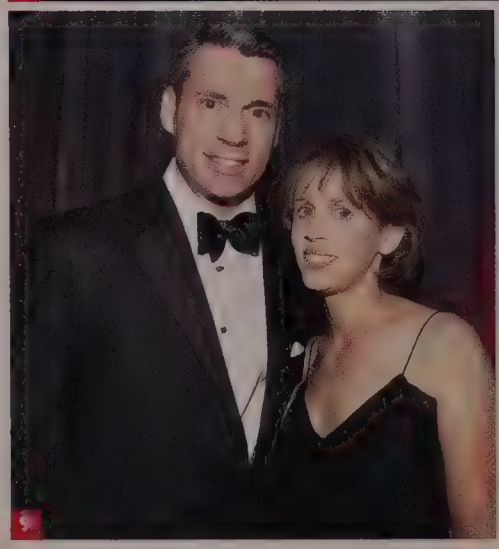
Funny Women…Serious Business luncheon was held Tuesday, Oct. 25 at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. The annual lunch brought together more than 1,200 corporate sponsors and individual supporters to raise money for Rosie's Place, a home for poor and homeless women. *Saturday Night Live* cast member Amy Poehler was honored. The event raised $300,000.

1. **Kip Tiernan**, founder of Rosie's Place, and **Amy Poehler**, Saturday Night Live cast member.
2. **Kim Carrigan**, of Fox 25, **Caterina Bandini**, of WHDH-7, and **Karen Marinella**, of WB56.
3. **Lisa Hughes**, of CBS4, and **Robin Hamilton**, of UPN38.
4. **Alex Calcagno**, director of federal & community relations for Massachusetts Medical Society, and **Patricia White**, daughter of former mayor Kevin White.
5. **Alicia Germano** and **Paul Dunn**, marketing sales coordinator and special services director for Winston Flowers, respectively.
6. **Stacey Lucchino**, wife of Red Sox president and CEO Larry Lucchino, and **Jaime Manion**.



Spaulding Rehabilitation celebrated 35 years of care with an **Anniversary Gala** on Saturday, Oct. 22, at the Cyclorama in the South End. New England Patriot and stroke survivor Tedy Bruschi was honored as the evening's Champion of Courage. The gala supported the construction of the New Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital to be built in the Charlestown Navy Yard. Some 450 people attended.

7. **Neil Sullivan**, firefighter for the town of Melrose, and his wife, **Jessica**.
8. **Victoria Whalen**, co-chair of the event, **Tedy Bruschi**, New England Patriot, and **Laurie Schoen**, co-chair.
9. **Mark Herman**, private wealth manager for Goldman Sachs, and his wife, **Jennifer**.
10. **Matt Wolf** and **Joe Mariani**, client relations executive and director of sales, respectively, for the New England Patriots.
11. **Judy Waterston**, president of Spaulding Rehabilitation, **Bob Vila**, former host of PBS' *This Old House*, and his wife **Diana Barrett**, chair of the board of trustees for Spaulding Rehabilitation.



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ezra

BY EZRA DYER

A FLYING LEAP

Trapeze lessons in a furniture store? What a country.

I guess I'm not one to critique other people's business models. After all, my own retail schemes have never managed to pan out. I still think that a chain of seasonal Columbus Day–themed stores could be huge—imagine, everyone decorating their Columbus trees with ornaments of the Niña, Pinta and Santa Maria; "1492" parties where guests would dress like King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella; a culture where it's considered impolite not to send a Columbus Day card. Columbus Day could be huge, if only there were a place for people to buy their supplies. Unfortunately, my venture capital firm pulled the plug on the ColumbusTown theme park before it even got off the ground. Ditto with my other company, PropFurn. You know those fake computers they have at furniture stores to dress up the desks? I wanted to build fake furniture for use at computer stores: "This is how this Compaq would look in your home office—whoa, sir, don't lean on that desk. It's only cardboard."

What I'm getting at is that I'm jealous of the Jordan's Furniture guys. They get bought out by Berkshire Hathaway with a business model that's more questionable than Homer Simpson's grease-recycling business ("Lard of the Dance," episode 5F20). "Our core business is going to be furniture, but the ottoman room will be next to an IMAX theater, and on the way in we'll offer trapeze lessons." Of course, I'm joking. There's no ottoman room. But at the Jordan's in Reading there is an IMAX theater. And a trapeze school. Not to mention choreographed dancing water fountains called Liquid Fireworks; a 25-foot-tall ice cream sundae made out of jellybeans; and an animatronic Wally the Green Monster who clutches a Yankees player and repeatedly prepares to devour him. I understand they also have furniture in there somewhere.

I decided to make a pilgrimage to Jordan's to take trapeze lessons, partly because I thought it would be fun and partly because I wanted to cross "take trapeze lessons" off my to-do list.

Trapeze School New York Beantown is the only indoor trapeze school in the country. It's located in the Beantown section of Jordan's, which is so named because absolutely everything is made out of jellybeans (actually, some of the customers pigging out at the ice cream stand were probably only about 40-percent jellybeans). Fortunately, the trapeze platform got an exemption from jellybean construction, which is nice since you swing out over the net from a height of 27 feet. That doesn't sound so high until you're leaning out over the abyss, waiting for the instructor to tell you to leap. I had to steel my resolve, and remind myself that for too long, the secrets of the trapeze have been the proprietary domain of circus folk. It's time for the regular Tom, Dick and Ezras of the world to learn the ways of the trapeze.

I don't want to brag, but it turns out I'm great at this. It just goes to show that high school guidance counselors are way off base with their career recommendations, because I don't recall the phrase "freelance trapeze artist" ever entering that conversation, when in retrospect it was so obvious. I did backflips, made a transfer to another trapeze and even invented a new move where you hang upside down by one leg and scream like you're really afraid.

You can see why Jordan's has been so successful—they offer attractions that you find at no other furniture store, even if those attractions are completely demented. Would Bob from Bob's Discount Furniture teach me how to do a backflip off a trapeze? I *doubt* it. Hey Bernie and Phyl: quality comfort and price—that's nice! You know what else is nice? Giving me a friggin' IMAX NASCAR movie and musical dancing laser fountains and things made out of jellybeans! Boo-yeah! I'm gonna buy an area rug.

FOR TOO LONG, THE SECRETS OF THE TRAPEZE HAVE BEEN THE PROPRIETARY DOMAIN OF CIRCUS FOLK

By the end of my lesson, I'd figured out the seemingly random connection between trapeze school and furniture. Unless you're used to sleeping upside down, hanging from your knees (yes, I'm talking to you, Dick Cheney), the trapeze bar beats the hell out of the backside of your knees. I was hobbling, my legs beginning to bruise up. And walking into a furniture store with bruised knees is like walking into Stop & Shop on an empty stomach. Damn, did those chairs look nice. It's genius. What's Berkshire Hathaway trading at these days, anyway? iB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS

BRU PART II

Tedy Bruschi's decision is the right one.

I'm not a doctor. I don't even play one on TV. So I'm happy to say you can forget about my original prognosis of Tedy Bruschi and his future in pro football.

At the end of last season, after the stroke, I said Tedy should forget about football and remember his family. The loss to the Patriots crossed my mind only as an afterthought. I remember thinking about how that press conference would go down. What a mess it would be, I figured. Red-eyed reporters—who are real people, too, you know!—watching the heart and soul of the over-achieving Patriots call it quits just a month or two after getting the recognition he finally deserved. He had just helped the Patriots clinch their third Super Bowl in four years and Bruschi was a late addition to the Pro Bowl. Finally, Tedy was the best in the business, maybe even better than the guy in Baltimore, Ray Lewis. But health and family are more important than wins and losses.

Well, thankfully I'm not a doctor. And neither are most of you. Bruschi's team of doctors, including some he sought for second, third, fourth and fifth opinions, all agree: He's good to go.

The knee-jerk reaction from many people, most of whom care about the guy, was that he's crazy—and that he's potentially leaving three boys and their mommy. The term I heard that really got my gut was that Bruschi was "selfish."

You have got to be kidding me. I've seen athletes come and go in Boston sports. You could put the selfish tag on several hundred of them. But Bruschi? Don't you dare.

The Patriots, particularly the Krafts, are not stupid here. This is a billion-dollar organization. You must know that if Bob Kraft was going to sign off on this, it would be with the best doctors in the world.

The cause of the stroke was not in his head but in his heart. Five or so years ago, doctors realized he had a hole in his heart and he started taking medication for it. Those problems are behind him now. He had some off-season procedures, which means for the first time in Bruschi's life, he'll play football with a repaired heart.

So how do Bruschi's teammates feel about his return? Will they be apprehensive when hitting him in practice? Or are they nervous that he's going to collapse on the field, like Reggie Lewis did in the Boston Garden? The answer is no. In fact, to the contrary, there is a belief that Bruschi is healthier than he's ever been. And it doesn't take a medical degree to agree with his decision.

Go Tedy.

The Bruschi saga reflects a fact of sports reporting: Sometimes getting the story is almost as challenging as putting on the pads and playing the game itself. And when it's done you often feel like you've played four quarters of football.

I love my profession. Breaking stories is an intriguing part of what I do. Getting it right *and* getting it first are what reporters strive for. When you can do both at the same time, well, you're beating the competition. And I'm as competitive as any athlete I cover.

To make it in this business, you must cultivate sources, people who are close to the action, if not right in the middle. Back in early July one of my best sources had information that Bruschi was preparing to come back this season. At first I didn't believe it. But you have to check out leads.

You always try to lock down the story by getting one or two more sources for confirmation. But some things are kept so hushed that it can be almost impossible to get a secondary source. This was one of those cases. But the one thing I knew was that this particular source had never failed me.

YOU COULD PUT THE SELFISH TAG ON SEVERAL HUNDRED OF THEM. BUT BRUSCHI? DON'T YOU DARE

So after my news director at New England Cable News agreed the source was solid, I went on the air with the story. Even when Bruschi released a statement a day later refuting the report, my source maintained that he was coming back *this* season.

It led to an interesting few months as the public and members of the media took shots at me for what was perceived as screwing up a big story. I've learned now that patience really is a virtue. And despite the bumpy road, all is well that ends well.

Bruschi is back. My source remains perfect. And not only did I get the news out first, I got it out right. I love doing this job in this city; I wouldn't have it any other way. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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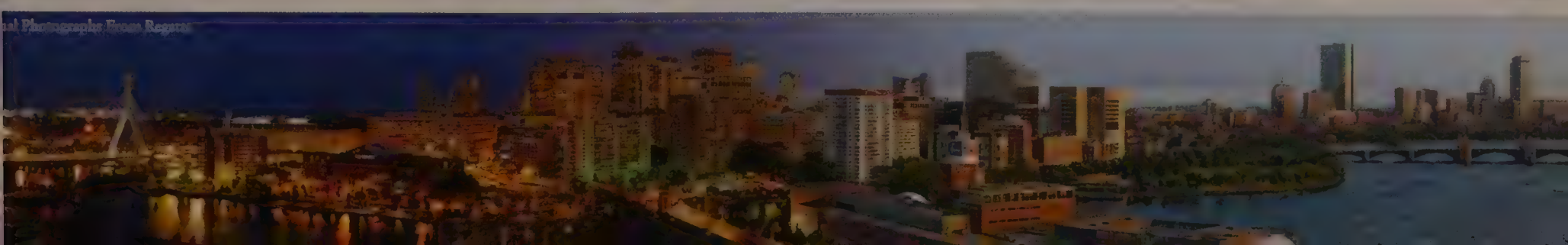

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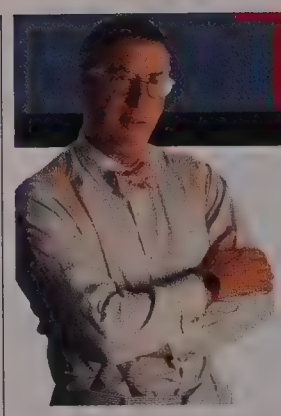
THE DANCE

BY JOHN D. SPOONER



Stylin'

Want a lesson in daring? Meet Weld Henshaw.

At the first gathering of a college reunion I had organized, the majority of my classmates were wearing the round-brimmed tennis hats we'd given out as party favors. Before the program began, one hatless man indignantly stood. "I will not wear this hat as a matter of principle," he bellowed, informing us that the hats (unknown to the man in charge of gifts) had been made in South Africa, which was still practicing apartheid at the time. There was silence. Then a voice far in the back called out, "And I," the voice roared, "will not wear the hat as a matter of style."

Style still counts. What you wear and who you are can often intersect. I believe the true embodiment of the term resides in people who are characters, who are not afraid to go against the popular grain. They try things in dress and in life that others would not dare. Such a person is my friend Weld Henshaw.

I met Weld my first year in college when we were both trying out for crew. He looked like the epitome of the classic snob, blond hair flopping over his preppie forehead, and, to me, an affected way of speaking—a combination of William Buckley Jr. and George Plimpton.

Contrast is everything, I believe. And Weld Henshaw turned out to be probably the most truly liberal person I've known, without guile and with a certain innocence. In college he'd haunt the thrift shops, buying British Army officers jackets, formal clothes from the 1930s and '40s, cast-off dress shirts and tweed trousers that he said "looked like Cary Grant had worn them romancing Grace Kelly." He became notorious in school as a toastmaster known for telling complicated dirty jokes, almost a precursor to The Aristocrats. Henshaw's favorite, which he tells to this day, is the one about Archibald Assolebrook, a classic I hope you hear someday. The telling of it takes a droll wit, timing and a great memory.

Henshaw married upon graduation from college but has remained conscious of trends, particularly of our sexual habits. I had a drink with him shortly after the birth control pill had been introduced, starting the sexual revolution. "Goddammit," he complained, "the world is four billion years old. And I was born five years too soon."

He became a lawyer and eventually a partner in one of Boston's biggest firms. He specialized in divorce while also representing the Museum of Fine Arts. I believe, if he had his choice, he would have come to work every day wearing black tie and dancing pumps. "Of course," Henshaw says, "these clothes should have belonged to your grandfather or your father. At the very least you should never buy any of this stuff new." This from a man who has moved increasingly to the left over the years and, as a student of history, backs up his anti-Bush positions in blogs that are compelling in their passion.

Did I tell you that contrast is everything? Henshaw has run Boston marathons, carved beds for various wives (how can you be an effective divorce lawyer if you don't practice what you preach?) and is working on a degree in fine arts.

Henshaw vigorously defends freedom of choice. He was the first man I ever knew who employed a woman divorce lawyer for himself. He was responsible for his law firm hiring its first graduate from Suffolk Law School—a former SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) leader at Harvard to boot. And Weld was the first WASP I ever knew to champion numerous Jewish causes.

Melville says in *Moby Dick*, the great line, "A whale ship was my Yale College and my Harvard." Henshaw says, "A martini was my Yale College and my Harvard." He has just written his first novel, an allegory about two mice. My wife read it in manuscript, and said, "There's no sex in it."

"I'm saving that for the sequel," he told her.

If you see him coming down the street you might say, "Who the hell is that?" Because he might be wearing a full gray woolen cape like a Confederate soldier. And a leather Western gunfighter's hat pulled down over his eyes. If you stopped him to chat, he'd love it. He'd tell you he reads Horace and Juvenal in Latin and loves Trollope, Austen and Hemingway.

"What's the downside to having style?" I asked this man who now also raises turkeys and hogs, in addition to his other hobbies.

"The downside is that it creates a perpetual dissatisfaction. And a restlessness that makes you despise all authority. Being this way itches at you."

"Despite all this," I replied, "you adore your family and friends, and I'll bet you have the last word about what style really means." He grinned that sardonic little grin and said, "You should look as if you've danced your life away." IB

John D. Spooner, an investment advisor, author and novelist. Contact him at thedance@improper.com.

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BEN MEZRICH

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Best-selling author and newly minted television personality Ben Mezrich was born and raised in Princeton, N.J., where he attended Princeton Day School before graduating magna cum laude from Harvard in 1991. He worked as a cartoonist, legal researcher, communications specialist and TV production assistant before penning his first novel, *Threshold*, which garnered widespread attention and developed his reputation as a young turk of the literary world. His second techno-thriller, *Reaper*, drew the attention of the producers of the *X-Files*, and soon Mezrich was penning conspiracy-laden plots for television, while also publishing the novel *Fertile Ground* under his own name, as well as several novels under the pen name Holden Scott (*Skin*, *Skeptic*). Despite these early successes, Mezrich only hit the big time when he switched to writing non-fiction, with the 2002 publication of *Bringing Down the House*, the true story of a group of MIT students who used a sophisticated card-counting system to win a fortune at blackjack at casinos in Las Vegas and the Caribbean. The book spent 49 weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list. Next came *Ugly Americans*, about "Ivy League cowboys" who raided the Asian markets, and this fall he released *Breaking Vegas*, a sequel to *Bringing Down the House*. He also hosts a new television show, *High Stakes with Ben Mezrich*, on Court TV, chronicling young risk-takers pursuing their often off-beat obsessions. Mezrich lives in Boston with his fiancée.

Jonathan Soroff: *You've always managed to make yourself sound like a total ass in print. Say one thing to endear yourself to our readers.*

Ben Mezrich: All of the outward confidence is just covering up for the insecure little boy that I was in high school.

JS: *Worst thing you ever read about yourself?*

BM: I think the *Boston Globe* described me as Yertle the Turtle, sitting up in my apartment with all of my nice stuff. Then again, in the very first review I ever got, of my first book, in 1996, the *New York Times* opened with "This is a bad book."

JS: *Ouch. But I guess you're laughing all the way to the bank.*

BM: Yeah. Things worked out, I guess. I've always been an overpaid author, until *Bringing Down the House*…

JS: *What do you mean "overpaid"?*

BM: Well, I sold my first book in '96. This is my ninth book now. With the first, I was kind of Harper Collins' "it boy" at the time, and they thought, "The next big thing, this Harvard kid." So they threw lots and lots of money at me. My first three books got very good advances for books that weren't really selling. *Bringing Down the House* was my first real success.

WHEN I WAS 26, I SPENT TWO MILLION DOLLARS IN EIGHT MONTHS AND HAD ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO SHOW FOR IT.

JS: *So exactly how much money have you made off your books? How rich are you?*

BM: Those are two very different questions. When I was 26 years old, I spent 2 million dollars in eight months, and I did it without ever buying anything that cost more than $5,000, and I don't do any drugs or anything, and I had absolutely nothing to show for it.

JS: *That's impossible.*

BM: No, it's not. I invested in nothing. I didn't even buy a car. I just blew through it all, which was an impressive feat. I'd do things like wake up at noon on Wednesday and go to the airport and buy a first-class ticket to Paris, and I'd land there, get a suite on the top floor of a hotel right off the Champs-Elysées and invite 10 people over and we'd party for a week. Then I'd get on a first-class plane to New York and check into the Plaza, a $750-per-night suite, which at the time was a really nice suite, and I'd stay for a month. You can spend more money traveling than anything else. And also, I'd gamble. I'd go to Vegas and be up or down $20,000 over the course of a weekend. Then the money ran out, and for

about two years before *Bringing Down the House*, I definitely reached a real ebb. It was a difficult transition. I was even looking at business school applications.

JS: *You made a switch from fiction to non-fiction, which marked the change from over-hyped and overpaid novelist to bestseller…*

BM: I think I found the stories that work for me: overly smart young guys basically making it big, figuring out schemes, making money, that sort of thing. But I wasn't looking to write non-fiction. I always hated non-fiction. I thought it was boring stuff written by professors about really boring things. But I actually knew these MIT kids and started going to Vegas with them, and I wrote the story as if it was a thriller. So now I do write non-fiction, but I do it in a fictional, thriller-esque style.

JS: *Is there a formula for writing a bestseller?*

BM: Y'know, there is a formula. I think the thing all of them have in common is a likable main character who sort of goes up against huge obstacles and then wins in the end. But also, things like keeping the chapters short is important. There's a structure to it. But by the same token, if the story isn't great, following the formula isn't going to help.

JS: *So how did it feel to have $250,000 taped to your body?*

BM: It was wild. I wanted to feel like the characters in the book, so I did that…

JS: *It requires a bit of tape, I'd imagine.*

BM: You get these packs and strap them to your body. It's wild. You feel like the guy next to you would kill you if he knew what you had on your body.

JS: *Does having that much cash on you give you a stiffy?*

BM: Yeah, actually, it does. Money is a great thing. It's like carrying a gun, basically.

JS: *Biggest bet you ever laid in a casino?*

BM: With the MIT team, I watched a $75,000 bet. Personally, the largest amount I've put out is more like $3,000 in one hand. But I've seen a quarter-million dollars bet in a 10-minute period.

JS: *What's your "tell" when playing cards?*

BM: I actually suck at poker. Everyone thinks I'm good, but I actually wrote a book about blackjack, not poker. I'm invited to games all the time, and when I have a really good hand, I lose control of my face. I look like I'm drunk. I can't control myself.

JS: *What's your take on Atlantic City?*

BM: It's a dump. There are nice casinos, but if you walk one block away, you're basically in Iraq. If you win a lot and walk out of the hotel, you'll probably get mugged. Vegas is the place, although Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods can be fun on like a Tuesday night.

JS: *Your new TV show is about young millionaires and their clandestine hobbies?*

BM: It's about young people doing kind of wild high stakes things.

JS: *What's the wildest?*

BM: The oddest were these boxing promoters I followed around New York. I went with one to a place where I was wearing a wire, and I realized pretty quickly it wasn't the smartest place to be wearing a wire. I'll leave it at that.

JS: *Last question: You've gotten so much negative publicity. What one thing would you love to read about yourself?*

BM: That the problem is I'm just so sexy, I distract readers from my books. iB

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10 WITH STYLE

WHEN IT COMES TO LOOKING GOOD, THEY KNOW HOW IT'S DONE.

Like a substantial trust fund, style is something you're either born with or spend the rest of your life wishing you had. It's also one of those things you can't quite describe, but you know it when you see it. It can be quirky or elegant, understated or in-your-face, classic or cutting-edge, but the one thing that really defines style is uniqueness. Simply put, someone with true style is an individual, inimitably him- or herself.

The French are widely regarded as the ultimate authority on style (a by-product of the cliché of their being deathly serious about silly and inconsequential things). Upon his admission to the French Academy in 1753, no less an august Frenchman than Georges Louis LeClerc Comte de Buffon (whoever the hell he was) proclaimed, "The style is the man himself."

A bit closer to home, our own arbiter of taste, Newbury Street fashion purveyor Alan Bilzerian, has this to say: "You can wear whatever you want as long as it's yours. Style stems from the confidence of a human being. That's the difference between wearing something or it wearing you. The clothing is meaningless unless the person has his own identity." So there you have it.

The individuals we've chosen as local icons epitomize this idea of style, both in the way they dress and the way they present themselves to the world. Whatever those trend-lemmings suffering from Euro-envy or the malcontents who love to tear this city down might say, Boston is a very stylish place, and it was difficult to whittle down our picks to 10.

One thing that made the process somewhat easier, though, was to rule out anyone who works directly in design, whether it be fashion retail, interior decorating, hair styling or whatever. It's a foregone conclusion that those folks have style; after all, it's a part of their job description.

That said, we still had literally hundreds of stylish people to choose from, so we tried to embrace a range in everything from age to aesthetics. Whether you're a couture-clad clotheshorse or a Gap-and-get-on-with-it type, we hope you enjoy our selection, and if you're utterly lacking in style, perhaps you can even pick up a few pointers.

BY JONATHAN SOROFF
PHOTOGRAPHS BY TRACY POWELL

MIKE LAMBIASE

29, Reserve Brand Specialist for Ciroc Vodka

When we canvassed some of our contacts in the fashion industry, the staff at both Giorgio Armani and Saks Fifth Avenue mentioned this dashing young man about town as a style icon. Appropriately attired whatever the setting, his wardrobe spans the range from business-like to night-clubby without falling into the drab dullness of the former or the mindless trendiness of the latter.

Briefly describe your look.
Professional by day, faux-hawk by night.

Where do you shop?
Where are the sales? I usually lose my clothes after a few wears, so value is huge.

Your current favorite outfit?
"My Mom thinks I'm cool" T-shirt. Honorable mention: My Buck Hunter II underwear—lock and load!

Do you rotate your outfits or have some system of tracking what you wore to what, when and where?
When the basket is full, I unload it, push the clothes under my bed and refill it with new dirty clothes—a system that works for me.

How many times do you wear something before retiring it for good?
I go through phases where I'll wear something several times a week for a good month and then move on—i.e., see the clothes under my bed.

Which designers do you favor?
I like any designer who has the balls to raise the bar. If no one else is wearing it, I probably will... if I can afford it, of course.

Which individual in the public eye's style do you most admire?
My best friend Bill Miller—he's huge in North Adams, Mass.

Do you emulate anyone or use them as a mental template?
I am confused, but, yes, I try to emulate Axl Rose.

Biggest fashion mistake you ever made?
Easy. Picture this: Silk black-and-white, polka-dotted button down with the top button snugly pressed against my trachea, acid-washed jeans pegged tightly, a couple of scary die-cast metal rings too large for my boy fingers, and just the right amount of Soul Glow in my hair. Like I said, confused.

One style you'd never be caught dead in?
Tough one. I don't think I could ever wear leg warmers again. Oh wait. Just kidding. I never wore them.

Fashion trend ripe for a comeback?
The mohawk and Hypercolor shirts—you know, the ones that change colors when you touch them.

Fashion trend you're sick to death of?
Ughhh. Uggs. Ughhh!

One thing that killed you to give to Goodwill?
The aforementioned polka-dotted shirt.

Most regrettable rip/pull/stain you remember?
That must have been my hamstring-pull during kickball this summer. Did you mean clothing?

Where do you find the closet space?
See above: under bed and in basket.

ESTI PARSONS

35, partner in Radius, Via Matta and Great Bay

The lovely Parsons is the grace note at many social gatherings and a notorious fashion maven. Whether she's gliding through the dining room to greet guests or closing up at 2 am, she's always dewy-fresh and invariably wearing something fabulous. Her unerring fashion sense never fails to draw high praise, both from her posh clientele and her rock-'n'-roll husband, Drew, of the band American Hi-Fi. She's the personification of the term chic.

Briefly describe your look.
Depends on the day.

Where do you shop?
Stil, Persona...and some really great Web sites.

Your current favorite outfit?
It depends on my mood.

Do you rotate your outfits or have some system of tracking what you wore to what, when and where?
Huh?

How many times do you wear something before retiring it for good?
I'm not sure I retire them—I occasionally rest them.

Which designers do you favor?
Marni, Dries van Noten, Rochas.

Which individual in the public eye's style do you most admire?
My best friend, Christopher (Myers).

Do you emulate anyone or use them as a mental template?
Not really, but I am a magazine addict.

Biggest fashion mistake you ever made?
You're kidding, right? Way too many to list.

One style you'd never be caught dead in?
Anything from the '80s.

Fashion trend ripe for a comeback?
I love all the fancy, ladylike stuff that's out right now.

Fashion trend you're sick to death of?
Sweatpants anywhere but at home.

One thing that killed you to give to Goodwill?
A fake fur I had when I was 17. I just loved it. The above-mentioned Christopher put it in a yard sale (with good reason), and for months, I saw this guy in Central Square wearing my coat. It killed me!

Most regrettable rip/pull/stain you remember?
I work in restaurants, so there are too many to list and they're too frequent to get upset over.

Where do you find the closet space?
I'm verrrryyyy creative!

GARY SULLIVAN

44, partner in Sapphire Restaurant Group (Rialto, Noir and blu at The Sports Club/LA)

The consummate clothes horse, he has impeccable taste, and many of his friends refer to him as "the best-dressed man in Boston." Acquaintances will swear they've never seen him wear the same thing twice, although his uncanny knack for pairing items in his almost inexhaustible wardrobe creates that illusion. The fact is that if he loves something, he'll wear it repeatedly. Most importantly, he knows what looks good on him, and whatever he's got on, it's him wearing the clothes, not the other way around.

Briefly describe your look.

Our restaurants pride themselves on being the very best. They're stylish yet comfortable, contemporary yet timeless and, above all, driven by the belief that you must start with quality ingredients, so I guess you could describe my look as "truffle chic."

Where do you shop?

The House (or should I say altar?) of Kelly Smitherman—he's my personal shopper at Neiman Marcus. I've been shopping with him for over 12 years, and he knows everything in my closet, which is not necessarily a good thing. Three years ago, I received a phone call that went something like this: "Gary, a raisin-colored Dolce & Gabbana suit just came in, it would be perfect for you and I know you don't have a raisin-colored suit." I was being fitted for it the next day. I'm weak.

Your current favorite outfit?

I have a favorite blazer—it's a deep red, wine-colored velvet from Paul Smith. It feels great on, I can dress it up; I can wear it with jeans and boots. My friends are getting tired of it…especially when it's 90 degrees outside (just kidding). For shoes—lately, I love a good pair of Ferragamos.

Do you rotate your outfits or have some system of tracking what you wore to what when and where?

I try to buy pieces that I can mix in a way that appears as though I have an endless wardrobe. When I buy a new suit, I buy a shirt that I can wear with it without a tie, as well as a shirt chosen for the suit and a complementary tie. Now I have what appear to be two new outfits, and Kelly will tell me that I just saved 50 percent.

How many times do you wear something before retiring it for good?

I grew up in a family of seven—five boys, and I was the youngest. There were many hand-me-downs, and with my very first paycheck, I headed straight to Jordan Marsh and blew the whole thing on a *Great Gatsby* outfit. My teachers and classmates were very impressed, so the next week's paycheck went to Levi's corduroys in every color. The week after—my first "Members Only" jacket. Sense a pattern? But I'm like most people, I don't want to throw anything away, so I have a rule. Every spring and fall, I go through my closet and eliminate anything that I haven't worn in two years. I box everything up and bring it to either the Pine Street Inn or Boomerangs.

Which designers do you favor?

I have a lot of favorites, some of whose stuff I can't wear because it's just not appropriate for me (age and body type), like D-squared. I think their stuff is great, and if I were 22, over 6 feet tall and really thin, I'd live in it. I really like Paul Smith. His suits over the past three years have started to dominate most of the space in my closet. His English sensibility is flattering for men my age who care about what they're wearing. I've recently bought a couple of suits from Etro-Milan. They think slightly out of the box, and the linings are really quirky: I'll be at my desk, talking with one of my managers, stand up to take my coat off and see a slight look of surprise. I admire designers who understand that the surprise can be in places less visible—like Lucky jeans, where the lining of the zippers says Lucky You.

Which individual in the public eye's style do you most admire?

I think Guy Ritchie has a great look. Not only is he always following Madonna (sorry Guy), but he always looks well-put-together.

Do you emulate anyone or use them as a mental template?

Do I wish Madonna was the mother of my children?

Biggest fashion mistake you ever made?

I bought a baby-blue Prada suit a few years ago. I love that suit. It looks so good in the closet, and I've only worn it a few times. But recently, I saw a picture of myself in it. I looked like Pee Wee Herman, and like his TV show, it's been canceled.

One style you'd never be caught dead in?

Oversized anything. I'd just end up looking short and fat.

Fashion trend ripe for a comeback?

If this winter is anything like last, I hope it's snorkel coats.

Fashion trend you're sick to death of?

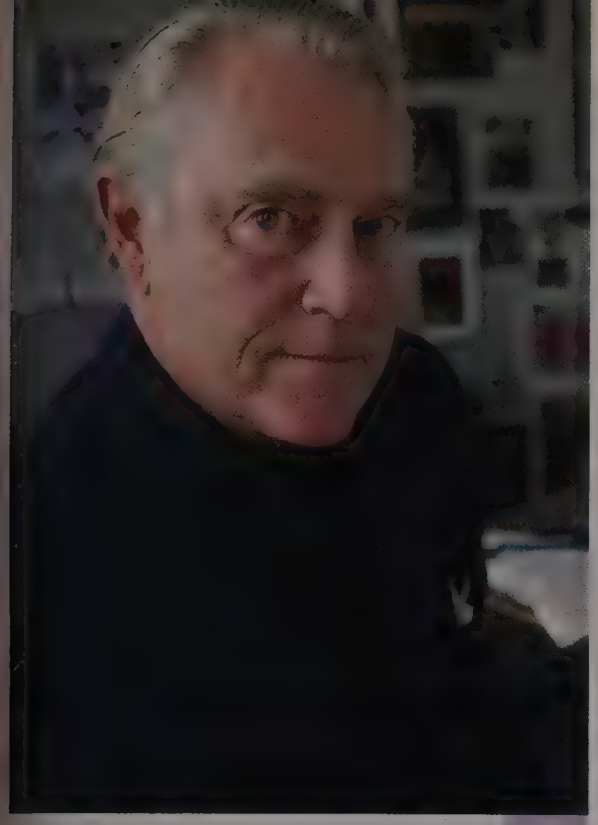
I know this isn't going to come off right, but bracelets for a cause. I think we all need to support good causes in every way we can, and Lance had the right idea, but let's find a new way to do it.

One thing that killed you to give to Goodwill?

Have you ever bought something that was way outside the norm for you? Like a [Roberto] Cavalli shirt that convinced you that you, too, could look like a rock star, à la Steven Tyler? I did this two years ago, tried it on a few times in the privacy of my home, and once the fantasy went away, so did the shirt. One day, I'm going to bump into that really hip homeless guy on Newbury Street—he's been around forever and always looks like he just stepped out of a Steve Madden ad—and he'll look really good in that shirt, and I'll feel better.

Where do you find the closet space?

I have a new home with two more bathrooms and closets. You'd think this would be enough, right? But no. I also bought a big wardrobe to hold my off-season suits.



JOHN TAYLOR "IKE" WILLIAMS

67, partner at Fish & Richardson P.C.

Upon first glance, this lanky and handsome lawyer and literary agent looks like the consummate Ivy League prepster, and by all accounts, the one-time boxer has been breaking hearts since his days at Middlesex and Harvard. At second glance, however, an observant eye will notice the quirky touches he adds to his outfits, and the insouciant way he pulls it all off. While most men in his profession dress like cadavers, he's not afraid to wear bold colors or rakish accessories to match the rapier wit that makes him one of Boston's most charming raconteurs.

Briefly describe "your look."
"If it fits, you must acquit."

Where do you shop?
The Goodwill nearest my tailor.

Your current favorite outfit?
Blazer and turtleneck.

Do you rotate your outfits or have some system of tracking what you wore to what, when and where?
Whatever I didn't wear yesterday.

How many times do you wear something before retiring it for good?
Until the moths win.

Which designers do you favor?
Anything made well.

Which individual in the public eye's style do you most admire?
The late George Plimpton.

Do you emulate anyone or use them as a mental template?
Only if they're over 6'5".

Biggest fashion mistake you ever made?
Button-down shirts.

One style you'd never be caught dead in?
Short-sleeved button-down shirts.

Fashion trend ripe for a comeback?
Double-breasted suits.

Fashion trend you're sick to death of?
Q: What is black and brown and looks good on a lawyer?
A: A rottweiler.

One thing that killed you to give to Goodwill?
I only GET from Goodwill.

Most regrettable rip/pull/stain you remember?
The fly zipper that didn't work.

Where do you find the closet space?
On the floor.

JANA REED

34, education entrepreneur for Building Excellent Schools

Ever since her days in the governor's office during the Weld administration, this high-powered dynamo has earned a well-deserved reputation as a fashion plate, projecting a crisp, tailored, in-charge look lightened with soft feminine touches. Fond of clean silhouettes and a dark palette, she escapes Manhattan harshness with bold dashes of color, like brightly eye-catching jewelry, or by mixing textures, like a nubby knit to top off a pair of sleek trousers. Recently featured in the *Boston Globe* for her fashion sense, her look is, in a word, flawless.

Briefly describe "your look."
Harsh and judgmental. No, seriously—classic, clean lines, and lots of black.

Where do you shop?
Everywhere, and....Neiman Marcus (Boston, Dallas, Denver, Chicago, all of 'em), Barney's (in NYC), Louis Boston, Max Mara and H&M (of course!).

Your current favorite outfit?
A brown silk Jaeger blouse, distressed black Lucky Jeans (aka Asian-ass-enhancing jeans), a Stephen Dweck clear quartz necklace paired with a long strand of pearls and camouflage Christian Dior pumps.

Do you rotate your outfits or have some system of tracking what you wore to what, when and where?
I wear the same thing over and over again. So far, no one has noticed.

How many times do you wear something before retiring it for good?
Nothing is retired. It's just taking a rest.

Which designers do you favor?
The ones I can't afford.

Which individual in the public eye's style do you most admire?
Debra Messing does a great job with that red hair, tiny chest and tendency toward large hips.

Do you emulate anyone or use them as a mental template?
Nope.

Biggest fashion mistake you ever made?
Everything I wore from 1985 to 1995.

One style you'd never be caught dead in?
Beach shoes (aka flip-flops) in the office.

Fashion trend ripe for a comeback?
Haven't they all come back? I want preppy, pure and simple.

Fashion trend you're sick to death of?
Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen.

One thing that killed you to give to Goodwill?
Huh?

Most regrettable rip/pull/stain you remember?
At a holiday party, unknown to me, the zipper on my skirt had completely ripped open, and upon walking away from Governor Weld, he instructed a State Trooper to notify me of the problem.

Where do you find the closet space?
My apartment IS a closet, but in addition, I have acquired off-site, climate-controlled storage.

SUSAN CALLENDER

41, owner of Boston Unique Events

Traffic-stopping sexy without being the slightest bit trashy, this top-of-the-line caterer never fails to look as delectable as the food her company serves. The personification of the French expression "comme il faut," she's always wearing something amazing, flawlessly accessorized and pink. Of course, it doesn't hurt that she has the body of a Bond girl. But whatever she has on, it's the million-watt smile and demureness that people notice—and then the killer outfit.

Briefly describe "your look."
My look transforms during the course of the day, but if I wanted to pat myself on the back, I'd say New York, cosmopolitan chic. My daytime wardrobe is primarily Giorgio Armani, mixed with colorful t-shirts. For evening wear, I like things from Akris and Serenella.

Where do you shop?
I shop where I get the best service and where my stylist knows my needs. Nunzio Bellofatto was the first salesperson to teach me how important it is to have an expert guide you in putting together the total look. Having the opinions of Michael Tilley at Akris and Mary Noble-King at Marc Jacobs are very important to me and the first calls I make when I'm in the market for something new. As for stores, also Giorgio Armani, Saks Fifth Avenue, Anne Fontaine, Escada Sport and, for basics, Banana Republic.

How many times do you wear something before retiring it for good?
That depends on how noticeable and attention-getting the outfit was. I'm ashamed to say only once for gowns and special-occasion-type outfits. If I receive compliments, I probably won't wear it again...in Boston.

Which designers do you favor?
Albert Kriemler for Akris, Giorgio Armani, Roberto Cavalli, Salvatore Ferragamo.

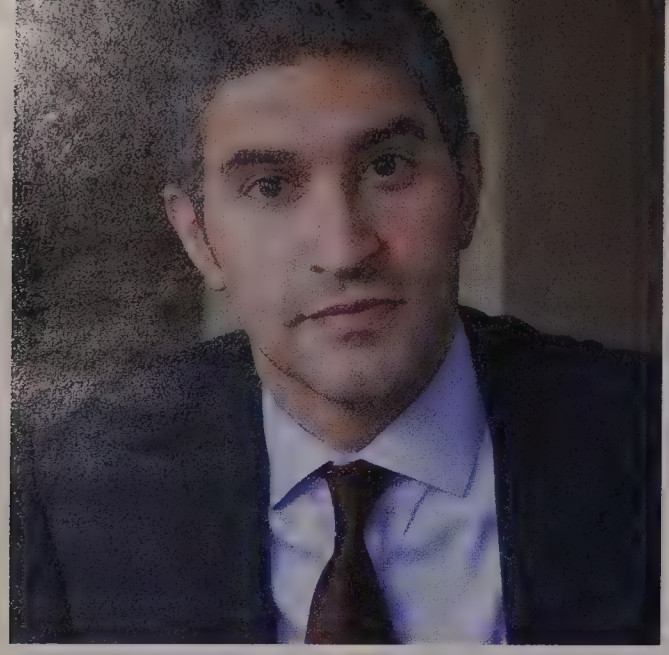
Which individual in the public eye's style do you most admire?
No one in particular. If I like a fashion spread in a magazine, I put my finger over the star or model's face and focus only on the clothes. I do the same for hairstyles. Try it. It totally changes the allure of a particular outfit. It doesn't matter who's modeling it, it's all about whether it will look good on me.

Biggest fashion mistake you ever made?
Purchasing a drop-dead gorgeous, slinky, form-fitting dress in Cannes, wearing it in Boston and causing traffic on Boylston to come to a screeching halt. That pretty much cured me of my impulsive vacation purchases. Style is so different in Boston.

One style you'd never be caught dead in?
Whatever the woman next to me is wearing!

Fashion trend you're sick to death of?
Lingerie as outerwear, e.g. those lacy, polyester camisoles.

Where do you find the closet space?
I have a bedroom dedicated to clothes, shoes, accessories... oh, and the attic full of clothes waiting to go to Goodwill.



JOSE JUVES

34, public relations for Biogen Idec

So stylish that he's frequently mistaken for gay, this smolderingly handsome and wildly funny PR executive has personal flair, whether he's wearing a suit to a business meeting in Zurich or sporting jeans and a baseball cap to cheer on the Pittsburgh Steelers in a roomful of Patriots fans. Though his wife takes credit for acquiring most of his clothes, it's the effortless way he carries them off that makes him an icon in our eyes.

Briefly describe "your look."
Appropriate. I'm big into wearing the right clothes for the right occasion. If you're going to a wedding, wear pants. Or don't wear a wool hat to a beach party.

Where do you shop?
Brooks Brothers, Banana Republic, Pink and Wrentham Outlets, but plenty of my clothes are bought by my wife from stores that only have vowels in their names. Also, I try to buy at least one t-shirt from every country I visit.

Your current favorite outfit?
Jeans and a t-shirt from Iceland designed by a local artist.

Do you rotate your outfits or have some system of tracking what you wore to what, when and where?
It's usually too late when someone says to you, "Hey, didn't you wear that on Tuesday?" But that's my system.

How many times do you wear something before retiring it for good?
I still have flannel shirts from college and sweatpants from high school, so aside from getting some award for Most Cozy, I'm also notoriously bad at retiring clothing.

Which designers do you favor?
The ones that recognize there's a difference between men's and women's clothing.

Which individual in the public eye's style do you most admire?
Jay Gordon of Boston.

Do you emulate anyone or use them as a mental template?
Perhaps my grandfather, who played in some pretty cool Latin jazz bands in 1960s Miami.

Biggest fashion mistake you ever made?
Shaving the sides and back of my head and getting the top braided. I looked like a mushroom on crack.

One style you'd never be caught dead in?
I'm very suspicious of fake work-wear, like wannabe Carhartt pants and jackets. Why would you want to dress like you're climbing telephone poles unless you're actually climbing telephone poles?

Fashion trend ripe for a comeback?
Some JoJo White-era NBA short-shorts, on men.

Fashion trend you're sick to death of?
Sunglasses that look like they come with extra wiper blades and a FastLane transponder.

Most regrettable rip/pull/stain you remember?
Life's too short to sweat clothing too seriously.

Where do you find the closet space?
My wife and I live in a condo in the South End. Closet space is more of a concept or idea than a tangible reality.

STEPHEN KAYIWA

28, admissions officer at an independent school and nightclub doorman

Whether he's working the door at the hip Central Square hangout Middlesex or choosing the next crop of freshmen at a prestigious local private school, he has a unique, funky look that commands attention without screaming "Look at me!" Mixing styles and genres, the Uganda native (who grew up in Kenya) pulls from varied sensibilities: everything from *The Great Gatsby* to the Blaxploitation era, casting his net wide and finding great buys everywhere from the Salvation Army and Goodwill to Filene's and Newbury Street. The only generalization that can be made about his style is that it never fails to surprise, or delight.

Briefly describe "your look."
I have a look?

Where do you shop?
Your grandpa's closet!

Your current favorite outfit?
Technicolor Dreamcoat.

Do you rotate your outfits or have some system of tracking what you wore to what, when and where?
I have socks with the day of the week on them. Working in a school, you tend to forget the days of the week.

How many times do you wear something before retiring it for good?
With the way fashion trends come back, I'm saving my shit. Cool today, vintage tomorrow...forever hip!

Which designers do you favor?
Seth, my tattoo artist. I have to live with his work. Really, I do.

Which individual in the public eye's style do you most admire?
Shaft—The one with the Afro, not the bald-headed one.

Do you emulate anyone or use them as a mental template?
Your grandpa.

Biggest fashion mistake you ever made?
The Shag. Also known as "the black man's mullet."

One style you'd never be caught dead in?
White underwear. It just isn't a good idea.

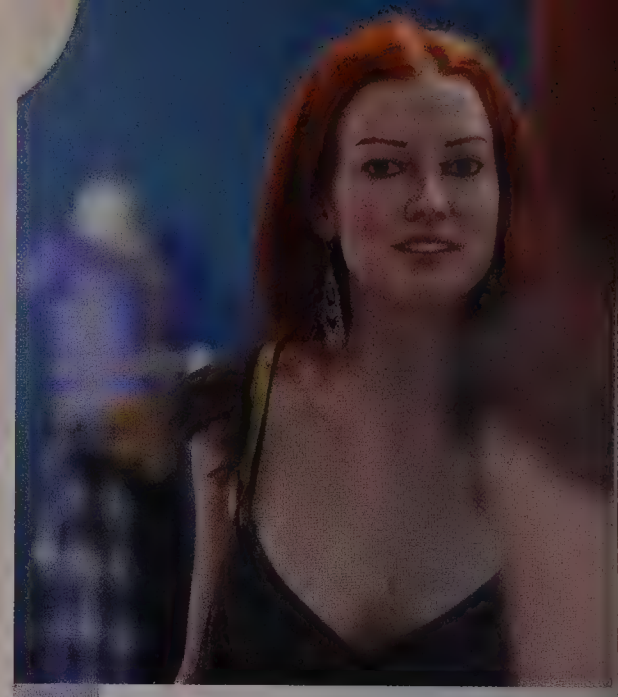
Fashion trend ripe for a comeback?
Mr. Rogers cardigans. It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood!

Fashion trend you're sick to death of?
Those goddamn cargo shorts.

One thing that killed you to give to Goodwill?
I don't give, I receive. It's more fun.

Most regrettable rip/pull/stain you remember?
Ruined my Sunday best, age five. I got a whopping for it.

Where do you find the closet space?
Closet space?!? I live in Boston...there is no closet space.



BRIDGET COONEY

28, patent attorney with Boston Scientific

A willowy redhead who reminds acquaintances of Nicole Kidman both in terms of her looks and her effortless chic, she seems to follow Bianca Jagger's dictum: "Always dress like you've got someplace better to be." A recent transplant from New York, she brings along the city's cosmopolitan edge without the dreary dependence on black. While most women in her field look like paper dolls in power suits or pearls and twin sets, she's not afraid to mix it up a bit and unlike most of her peers, she's equally deft at putting herself together for a night on the town.

Briefly describe "your look."
Trendy, funky, very European.

Where do you shop?
Mostly smaller, independent boutiques, such as Stil, which is my favorite.

Your current favorite outfit?
A tweed cropped-sleeve jacket and pink, belted skirt by Mel en Stel (that I purchased at Stil) and cowboy boots.

Do you rotate your outfits or have some system of tracking what you wore to what, when and where?
I commit it to memory.

How many times do you wear something before retiring it for good?
It depends on the item or outfit—how well it wears and how long it stays in fashion.

Which designers do you favor?
Marc Jacobs, Rützou, Ted Baker, Bruuns Bazaar, Munthe plus Simonsen, Daniela Corte, Nanette Lepore.

Which individual in the public eye's style do you most admire?
Sienna Miller.

Do you emulate anyone or use them as a mental template?
No, I have my own style.

Biggest fashion mistake you ever made?
Flannel shirt with a bodysuit and Birkenstock sandals.

One style you'd never be caught dead in?
Stone-washed jeans.

Fashion trend ripe for a comeback?
Leg-warmers.

Fashion trend you're sick to death of?
Chandelier earrings.

One thing that killed you to give to Goodwill?
A suede jacket that I bought in Italy and never wore.

Most regrettable rip/pull/stain you remember?
I don't.

Where do you find the closet space?
My boyfriend and I have a two bedroom apartment, and he permits me to use the guest bedroom as my closet. He's the best!

LEAH IKEDA

26, wine director at Pho Republique

Even as an undergraduate, she was turning heads with her quirky yet elegant mode of dressing. Able to make a thrift-store find look like the latest in haute couture, she often accessorizes with a hat or scarf and successfully straddles the line between boho chic and urbane sophisticate. Women with way more money assume she shops in pricey boutiques and are disappointed to learn that most of what she wears is one-of-a-kind. Iconoclastic to the core, she's always theatrical but never looks like she's wearing a costume.

Briefly describe your look.

Fantastic.

Where do you shop?

Other people's closets, vintage stores and those small shops in Chinatown that sell really cool things to accentuate my Asian features.

Your current favorite outfit?

My birthday suit. But when I have to wear clothes, lately I've been wearing long, fitted skirts with cropped military tops.

Do you rotate your outfits or have some system of tracking what you wore to what, when and where?

No, and I never will.

How many times do you wear something before retiring it for good?

I never retire anything. I like to think my clothes are timeless.

Which designers do you favor?

Local independent designers. Their styles are more unique and you won't see everybody else wearing it. Also, you have to support your local artists. Otherwise, they'll starve.

Which individual in the public eye's style do you most admire?

Jonathan Soroff. Is that kissing ass?

Do you emulate anyone or use them as a mental template?

No. Should I?

Biggest fashion mistake you ever made?

I think it was a pink denim ensemble that I sported in the third grade. I won't go into details, but it wasn't pretty.

One style you'd never be caught dead in?

A McDonald's uniform or your average 9-to-5 outfit. Talbot's, J. Jill and that kind of stuff makes me shiver, and I'm not really into labels. They look like pricetags to me.

Fashion trend ripe for a comeback?

Gloves on women. Hats on men. More capes everywhere. And rollerskates for everyone.

Fashion trend you're sick to death of?

I'd say low-riders on women who shouldn't be wearing them, but that's kind of comical and endearing. I guess fashion trends in general—just everyone looking like everyone else.

One thing that killed you to give to Goodwill?

My First Holy Communion dress. That look is due for a comeback.

Most regrettable rip/pull/stain you remember?

I ruined a lot of my mother's clothes. Probably a silk blouse of hers that I wore to a party and completely trashed, especially since I got punished for it. I wasn't allowed to drive for a month, thus my relationship with Jamie Wilks withered. I wonder where he is these days. Hopefully not in jail.

Where do you find the closet space?

I don't. Heaps of my clothing double as furniture, and my cat Nigel really enjoys the ever-changing geography of my apartment.

Meet the minds behind some of the Hub's hottest homegoods.

sublime designs

BY REGINA COLE PHOTOGRAPHS BY TONY SCARPETTA

If Boston's interior-design world has a reputation for anything, it's for quality and a refined aesthetic. That results in a better-than-average selection of home-furnishing products in retail stores, in to-the-trade showrooms and in creators' workshops and studios. And as good as interior design is here in Beantown, it's getting better all the time. We're in a creative boom: All around us are interesting new functional and beautiful products.

We've chosen a few of the best of the new and ferreted out the creative talents behind them. Some are long established in their fields; others are bold newcomers who are striking out in unexpected directions. Some sell their products in familiar Boston retail outlets or in shops of their own, while others sell directly out of their studios. All of their products can be found on Web sites.

There are new spins on classic motifs, time-honored objects in unexpected materials, and some redefinitions of long-standing traditions. What these five designers have in common is a whole lot of talent, a lively sensibility, a fresh way of looking at the most familiar objects and a willingness to make the useful whimsical or the beautiful functional. Above all, their products are surpassingly stylish.

LIGHTING BY DAVID TONNESEN

David Tonnesen, the artist responsible for Legal Sea Foods' monumental waterfront fish sculpture, has an artisanal background. "I was a jewelry designer who wanted to work with bigger things," he says. His first foray into metal work on a large scale resulted in a lighting fixture for a Brookline restaurant. It was a hit, and more restaurants and clubs sought him out for his original illuminated metalwork.

"After a while, patrons who noticed and liked the lighting began to ask about me, and now about 50 percent of my work is in residential interiors."

David makes the sconces, chandeliers and standing lamps in his Somerville studio. He likes to work in mild steel which, when blackened, resembles wrought iron. Stainless steel produces a more contemporary look, and sometimes he adds decorative heft with bronze accents.

"I like to have a foot in the present and one in the future," he says. "But no matter what the style, my lighting casts interesting shadows on the ceiling and walls. I like asymmetric things that look different from every angle."

After making site visits during the design stage, David lets clients visit his studio to see their fixtures taking shape. He is also on-site for the installation of finished pieces. Prices start at $500, and pieces take from two weeks to two months to complete.

David Tonnesen's studio is Studio C113, in the Brickbottom Artist's Building, 1 Fitchburg St., Somerville, 617-666-9883, www.davidtonnesen.com

There will be an open studio Nov. 19-20, 12-6 pm.

CRYSTAL BY BRYAN RAFANELLI

Bryan Rafanelli has built a sizable reputation as Boston's celebrity-event designer: The Red Sox, Michael J. Fox, the New England Patriots and President and Senator Clinton have all availed themselves of his creative flair to host memorable parties. Now he has partnered with Pairpoint, America's oldest glass company (founded in South Boston in 1837), to introduce a line of crystal.

"It's not such a stretch to go from designing a party to this," he says. "I'm an imagineer at heart, and love to design everything."

Bryan's line, called the "Rafanelli Ball Collection by Pairpoint," features candlesticks, compotes and martini glasses, all inspired by "the simple elegance of a glass marble," according to the designer. Each piece is handblown and etched with the Pairpoint trademark diamond "P" as well as with Rafanelli's signature. Prices range from $95 for a one-ball compote to $375 for an 11-ball candlestick. They will be available starting Nov. 15 exclusively at Shreve, Crump & Low.

Rafanelli Ball Collection by Pairpoint, Shreve, Crump & Low, Boston and Chestnut Hill, 800-324-0222, www.shrevecrumpandlow.com

THE WOVEN PALETTE BY BARBARA JACOBS

Cookbook author-turned-color consultant Barbara Jacobs drew directly on her art background to create beautiful restaurant, retail and residential interiors. From there, designing rugs was a natural step to take. In collaboration with Pandith's, a veteran Oriental-rug merchant headquartered in the Boston Design Center, she has developed a line of abstract and figurative wool and silk rugs with sophisticated color and pattern combinations appropriate to any décor.

"These rugs are incredibly variable," the designer says. "We can move background colors into the foreground, exchange components, add a border or leave it off. The pile can be cut deep or flat, and silk can be substituted for the wool yarn in places."

Another selling point, according to Jacobs, is that "the designs are interconnected: they will coordinate from one room to the next."

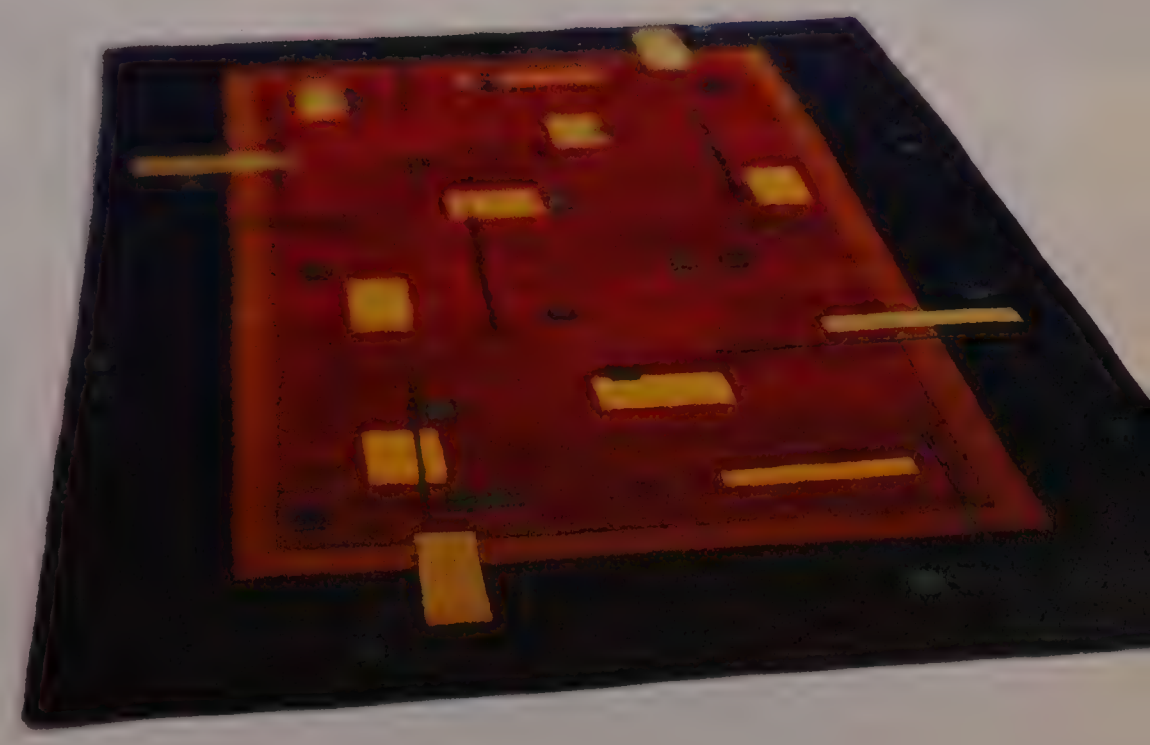
One of her favorite rugs is the "Geo" in Smoky Teal—a color so pleasing and a design so adaptable to stylistically different décors that further customizing seems redundant.

Anwar Pandith takes Jacobs' specifications and sketches to India, where he supervises the ancient process of hand-knotting the rugs in high-grade wools. Finished rugs in a broad range of designs, colors and sizes are currently available. And there's no need to fret about entering the to-the-trade showrooms in South Boston: the Design Center offers a "Designer On Call" program to facilitate shopping for those of us without resale numbers.

Prices range from $1,100 for a 3 x 5-foot rug to $14,000 for a whopping 12 x 18-foot rug. Pandith's will produce a strike-off (a 2 x 2 foot sample), upon request, for custom commissions. There's a 25 percent surcharge for custom rug designs.

Barbara Jacobs: www.wovenpalette.com

Pandith's: 1 Design Center Place, Suite 234, 617-443-9181, www.panditths.com



CAST ALUMINUM BY MICHAEL UPDIKE

Since 1990, Newburyport's Michael Updike has been the principal designer for Mariposa, a company that started as a small Rockport shop stocked with Mexican embroidered shirts and cotton dresses and is now a purveyor of home furnishings to retail outlets all over the United States.

"We saw the superb quality of cast aluminum made in Mexico," says company founder Livia Cowan, "but the designs didn't appeal to Americans. That's where Michael came in." Michael, also a sculptor, first met Livia in high school.

"Our first line of serving pieces featured rabbits," he says. "They were more successful than we expected. Ever since, we've been producing a new line each season." Previous motifs have included sea urchins, the America's Cup, bumblebees, seashells, palm trees and Babes in Toyland. "I'm always drawn to doing animals, seashells, things from nature," Michael says. Abstract or figurative, the pieces are "shiny, like silver, but not stuffy, not so expensive, and they don't need to be polished."

"A lot of our pieces are seasonal: they make an appearance during holidays," Michael explains. Among those are a "Flip-Flop" serving platter and a "Snow Shovel" cake server. Their "Traditions" platter features a Christmas tree design and a toy train that runs on a track around the platter's perimeter.

Prices range from $8.50 for napkin rings to $264 for a double ice bucket.

Mariposa, 800-788-1304, www.mariposa-gift.com

THE BOSTON TOILE BY JOAN PETERS

Since its invention in 18th-century France, toile has never gone out of style. Historic toiles displayed pastoral scenes printed on white or natural cotton. "They're beautiful, but they're not about anything familiar to us," says Joan Peters. Peters introduced a "Cape Cod Toile" in 2003, which was decorated with such Cape Cod motifs as a catboat and maps of the region; she is now presenting her "Boston Toile."

A well-known Osterville interior designer, Joan has thirty fabric designs to her name, all produced by Griswold Textile Print Co. in Westerly, R.I. On the new "Boston Toile" we see the Swan Boats, the Park Street Church, Fenway Park, the Boston Public Library, the State House, the Public Garden and other local icons—all drawn in Joan's hand. Offered as 54-inch-wide cotton fabric and as wallpaper with a 27-inch repeat, the pattern comes in Beacon Hill Blue, Copley Red, Fenway Green and Huntington Gray. The fabric costs $55 per yard; wallpaper rolls cost $136 per double roll.

Joan Peters, 885 Main St., Osterville, 508-428-3418, www.joanpeters.com IB

"...the pizza is to die for; you could faint just describing the flavor of the sauce, and the crust puts you over the edge."

— Jack Welch, *Winning*

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Sometimes clothes do not make the man.

a dork in new york

fact:

BY SAM WALTERS ILLUSTRATION BY ALLI ARNOLD

New York houses the most put-together population on earth. When a newcomer lands in Manhattan, no matter how chic he once was, he'll feel like a hunchback in a burlap sack and rope belt. In fact, the New York hunchbacks will look down on him; their sacks are probably Armani. Should an immigrant somehow out-flash an established resident, the New Yorker will swap shirts or accoutrements with another denizen on the spot to create a bold new fashion statement that will leave the interloper looking downright Republican. They will not be out-dueled, these cutting-edge samurai. If you lit yourself on fire, competitive onlookers would climb on each other and ignite themselves to form a blazing human pyramid visible all the way to Paris.

I live in New York now. Stylistically, up is down and down is up in this bizarro world. For instance, I work at an architectural firm, where I initially showed up in a shirt and tie. I soon got the sense that my attire was inappropriate for a New York office: Our most esteemed architect sports a John Waters mustache, corduroy bellbottoms and ruffled, colonial shirts with a velvet blazer. I work with Prince. He'll soon be CEO.

None of this is to say that Boston is a city of geeks and hobos. The difference is simply this: New Yorkers always believe the emperor has clothes. When a New Yorker spies someone in galoshes, garbage bags for pants, and a toaster with a chinstrap for a hat, they assume that person knows something they don't; they must have the scoop on the latest trend! In Boston, we assume they're deranged—or, if it's clear they're simply that pretentious, beat them up on principle.

When I moved to New York, I thought I was impervious to the pressure to look hip. I was an incorruptible slob, and I'd be damned if I was going to start appearing in finery. I could've worked to be one of those Ashton Kutcher faux-poor people—a "Jesus Is My Homeboy" t-shirt, pre-sullied John Deere cap etc.—but I couldn't afford to look that bad. The faux-poor can't simply pull their clothes out of a K-Mart dumpster; they have to look ironically poor, and a quick trip through a boutique will tell you that looking poor is really expensive. (This creates the curious condition wherein the poor can't afford to look like themselves.) Anyway, in my mind faking a bad appearance was fraud, and when it came to looking like garbage, my reputation was unimpeachable.

After six months in New York I found myself ashamed that my glasses had frames: The coolest of the cool sport glasses with lenses pinned right to the ear stems. This disappearing act will continue until people are only getting tattoos of glasses. But who cares? Seeing is so last season. (To stay ahead of this trend, New Yorkers will soon be blinding themselves.) My jeans were also a problem, a friend informed me. He too is from Boston and used to go around with a filthy golf hat mashed down around his stoned eyes, wearing what were certainly non-designer jeans, if he had on any pants at all. Now he's evolved from fashion village idiot to haute couture consultant, and in his new capacity informed me that my untailored jeans made me look fat (Shriek!) and short (SHRIEK!). We earnestly discussed this for some time, and didn't feel the least bit effeminate for it. Well, except for when he held me as I wept over my body image.

With the shortcomings of my wardrobe in mind, my friend took me to Banana Republic, so called because you'll be joining the peasant class to pay for their clothes. He instructed me to buy some wide-collared shirts and striped sweaters that in tandem made me look like I was starring in *You're a Good Pimp, Charlie Brown*. He also made me buy several pairs of jeans that must have been pulled off a mummy. I was told they looked prematurely aged because they'd been "distressed." After seeing how much I had to pay for them, I too was distressed. At the counter, I gave Dieter my credit card, but became confused when he didn't give it back. My friend explained that's how much the clothes cost: a credit card.

> WHEN A NEW YORKER SPIES SOMEONE IN GALOSHES, GARBAGE BAGS FOR PANTS AND A TOASTER WITH A CHINSTRAP FOR A HAT, THEY ASSUME THAT PERSON KNOWS SOMETHING THEY DON'T.

After shopping, my friend said I needed to get my hair cut. I suggested Great Cuts, and nearly had to revive him. "Why not just give a bum garden shears and some PCP and tell him to have at it!" he cried. We went to a salon—Merde, or something—where a metrosexual in Capri pants purposely cut my hair unevenly, dipped his fingers in what looked like Crisco, and ran them through my coif to create a style I call "Post-bed-head." Then I had to fork over my last credit card, which they also kept. These days, I shave my head. Not only can I not afford a John Deere cap, I can't afford hair.

A year after moving to New York, I'm a fashionable, bankrupt man. Unfortunately, I can't leave my house as I currently have no pants. The precious jeans I purchased are so threadbare I can't wear them; they'd disintegrate on contact with air. I keep them at home in a custom Ralph Lauren hyperbaric chamber I sold a lung to buy. But I like to admire my wardrobe through the porthole in my clothes tank and marvel at how New York I've become. iB

chic chat

Boston style experts dish on what to wear, how to cop some taste and what to chuck when no one's looking.

MEET THE STYLE MAKERS:

above, from left to right:

WILLIAM GEORGE
hairstylist and owner of James Joseph Salon and James Joseph Studio

MARY FLAVEN
manager of Intermix, a women's clothing boutique

DOUG GATES
owner of the furniture store Showroom

CRAIG ROTTENBERG
President of Long's Jewelers

CHARLES MAKSOU
hair stylist and owner of Maksou Salon

LESLEY GREER
vice president/general manager of Neiman Marcus

DENNIS DUFFY
interior designer and owner of Duffy Design Group

BETTY RIAZ
owner of Stil, a womenswear boutique

GARY RITACCO
owner of the men's clothing store Uniform

DREW MARTIN
jewelry designer

ROBIN PELISSIER
interior designer and owner of Robin's Nest

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREA FISCHMAN

Like it or not, style is an element of every moment in our lives. From the way we dress to the way we decorate our homes to the way we wear our hair, there's no escaping it. You can choose to embrace it or choose to ignore it, but no matter which you decide, style helps to define who we are, and it makes first and lasting impressions on others. So what truly is style, and how should you cultivate it? I sat down with 11 Bostonians whose jobs are to make the rest of us more style-conscious: hair stylists, jewelers, boutique owners, interior decorators and more. These are the style makers, and this is what they had to say on the subject.

Samantha House: *Let's start with a big question. What is style, anyway?*
William George: Style is a statement that separates you from the herd.
Gary Ritacco: For me style is about self-expression and how someone wants to be perceived. A person's individual style comes from within. It's also about comfort level.
Drew Martin: A complete manner of being. A restful soul with respect to beauty.
Doug Gates: Style comes from the inside out. Style equals confidence, a representation of how a person feels and wants to look on any given day. Fashion is merely an accessory used to create one's own personal style.

House: *What makes a person stylish?*
Robin Pelissier: The way to carry off any style successfully is to do it with confidence. A little individuality and decent grooming wouldn't hurt either.
George: It's about being out of the ordinary. A stylish person puts their own mark on what they wear or what they make.
Mary Flaven: If they create a look that they feel sexy, beautiful and comfortable in, they're automatically going to look great. It's all about personality, mixing, matching and having fun with it.

House: *Do you have any advice for someone who wants to work on his or her style?*
Craig Rottenberg: Ask for help from someone who knows what they're talking about.
George: Start with a good haircut.

LOCATION: MITCHELL GOLD

Betty Riaz: You can't change who a person is. If they're a preppy person then you kind of have to keep that style. They should be honest with who they are and just polish it up a bit.
Dennis Duffy: I think that's true. I think the person has to be comfortable, whether it's in their clothes or in their environment. Comfort is key. And if they're not comfortable their style is going to seem forced. Also, keep it simple.

House: *How did you develop your own style?*
Flaven: I sort of did my own thing growing up. I've always felt that people should just do their own thing and have fun with it. I've always taken my own style from what inspires me—I love hip-hop and rock music so I take some style cues from that. Give me a pair of sexy stilettos, a pair of hoops, a few necklaces, some bangles and I am all set.
Pelissier: I've loved to take it all in—I'm a keen observer. I love people-watching. I've always been enamored with beauty: people, jewelry, art, furniture, lifestyle. Even as a child, whenever I went to the movies, I couldn't always tell you what the movie was about, but I could tell you how the house was decorated.
Rottenberg: There were really two main influences for me. First, my parents showed me the practical and comfortable side of style. Second, I spent my first few years out of college on Wall Street, where I was surrounded by people who took pride in having impeccable taste.
Duffy: I developed my style by observing and being aware of what made me look and feel better. Yes, I'm vain! When I was younger, I was pretty much an introvert so I didn't really concentrate on things that would make me stand out from the crowd. I do remember being obsessed with fashion photography of the '40s, '50s and '60s—Horst, Irving and Avedon. The designs of Balenciaga and Dior.

House: *People criticize Boston for being too conservative in style. What's your take on that? Has Boston become more (or less) style-conscious in the time you've lived here?*
Riaz: Bostonians are greatly underestimated in their style quotient. I think the fashionistas are hiding in their own closets. They need a little encouragement, some fantastic accessories, and a lot more confidence. But they're out there. They just need a little coaxing.
Rottenberg: Boston is currently in the midst of a transformation from traditional and conservative taste to a much more fashion-forward view. I think that it will be another five to 10 years before we truly close the gap with New York, but we're much more style-conscious now than we were five years ago. What makes Boston so great is that it fuses current fashion with the classic, timeless styles.

House: *What's your least favorite current fashion trend?*
Lesley Greer: Thick boots. Like the big furry Uggs.
Riaz: Super-low-rise pants or jeans.
Greer: Yeah, the kind that let your belly hang out.
Martin: Overpriced jeans.

House: *What about those expensive jeans? Some are now going for around $2,000.*
Greer: I think it's fabulous. I actually sell them at Neiman Marcus, and they're doing very well.
Charles Maksou: If you can afford it, why not? It's good for the economy. We have to keep the economy going and this is a great way to do it.
Greer: And let's face it: $2,000 jeans feel so much better on your body than $20 jeans!
Riaz: People are willing to spend more on jeans because it's a staple item.

House: *What's the tackiest new trend that people are buying for their homes?*
Pelissier: Beaded pillows.
Duffy: That's true, definitely.
Riaz: The kind with those beaded fringes on the end.
Duffy: And the revival of the '70s shag carpet.
House: You don't like shag carpets?
Duffy: It's the fluorescent-colored ones that I really don't like.
Gates: I would concur with the shag carpet. I think velvet might be a little overdone as well.

House: *You can choose to surround yourself with other stylish people, but you can't choose who your family is. What does or did your family do to mortify you, style-wise? I think everyone has something.*
Martin: Yeah, my father used to go to these rummage sales in Roxbury at the churches and buy these multicolored shoes—and make me and my brother wear them. I had no choice.
Rottenberg: I grew up in the family business, the jewelry business, so my parents always had sort of a game face; they would always get dressed up. But it's probably the '80s winter outfit, like big puffy seedy jackets and hats with the pom-poms on them, that got me. I think they both stopped wearing that, like, two years ago.
Ritacco: My mother would dress me and my brother, who is six years older than I am, in matching short sets.
Gates: Umm, my parents are actually pretty current—they flip through the magazines and are on target with things—but it was about maybe three or four weeks ago when they were in town visiting with me, and they showed up at the door without even realizing they were wearing matching outfits. Pink and black. They walked up to the house together without even realizing, and I called it to their attention when they got to the front door. I was like, "Ok, this is a little weird." So we did a quick costume change in the house; one switched out of pink, and everything worked out all right. And I was far more comfortable, because it was a little too precious.

House: *Give me a word that defines your personal style and tell me your one staple style item: It can be a home item, it can be jewelry, it can be clothing.*
Maksou: I cannot live without my glasses and women. And my style is very funky-chic.
Greer: Classic and black. And I can't live without my shoe collection.
Riaz: Probably eclectic, and there are two things: a great pair of rounded-toe boots and my big, beaded, long necklaces.
George: I would say comfortable, and I couldn't live without my shoe collection.
Gates: For me, I guess, classic contemporary. A staple in a men's wardrobe would be of course a clean white shirt, starched.
Flaven: I'd say funky-flirty-fabulous, and I wouldn't be me without my accessories.
Ritacco: Laid-back, and a Penguin button-down shirt: I like the fit; they remind me of my dad's from years ago.
Pelissier: Colorful. I love costume jewelry—couldn't live without it.
Duffy: One word: clean.
House: As in freshly showered?
Duffy: Yes, I bothered. Today. And one thing I couldn't live without: I almost have to go back to the high-quality white shirt with Doug. I agree with that.
Rottenberg: How about sharp, or "shaaap," as they say here? And the business answer is a great watch, but also probably a great, comfortable pair of everyday shoes.
Martin: I'm going to say runway sport. The thing I really can't live without would be these python boots I have.

House: *What three things should be in every man's closet?*
Riaz: One bespoke suit, one custom Swiss watch and at least $1,000 in cash, just in case.
George: Black designer athletic shoes to be worn with jeans on casual days. A beautiful coat—I have a Dolce and Gabbana velvet pea coat and a bear-fur coat. (Man fur is only for the brave and must never be too girly.) A great pair of jeans.
Ritacco: An awesome black suit that fits to perfection—in case of sudden death. A great pair of well-fitting jeans and a woven shirt.

House: *And in every woman's closet?*
Duffy: The ubiquitous simple and sexy black dress, at least one pair of showstopper heels and yes, that incredible Anne Fontaine white shirt.
Flaven: Every woman needs a sexy black Diane Von Furstenberg dress, Chloé shoes and a sexy tailored jacket for both day and night. Did I mention…secrets?
Pelissier: Wood hangers, good lighting and sexy shoes.
Martin: A very elegant long coat. A most salacious set of La Perla lingerie. Nothing else. iB

chanel

black and white

White poplin blouse, $1,155; black cashmere tweed dress with brooch, $5,980; multistrand pearl necklace, $1,295. All at the Chanel Boutique.

taste

"A girl should be two things: classy and fabulous"

Coco Chanel

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for fall with five
designers'
timeless classics.

ralph lauren
American luxury

Light grey mélange cashmere shawl-collar cardigan, $2,998; matching turtleneck, $1,098; pale grey mélange cashmere glen-plaid veronica pant, $1,098. All by Ralph Lauren Collection, all at the Ralph Lauren Boutique. Green tourmaline and champagne topaz earrings, $198 at www.kimmeron.com.

"I don't design clothes, I design dreams."

–RALPH LAUREN

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHED BY ANTHONY RUGNETTA

"Fashions fade, style is eternal."

–Yves Saint Laurent

yves saint laurent

the feminine tuxedo

Black, silk and cotton tuxedo jacket with vest, $2,995; matching pants, $1,250; white cotton high-neck blouse, $995. All at Yves Saint Laurent. Constellation earrings, $85; matte oval necklace, $165. Both at Moxie.

diane von furstenberg

the wrap dress

Revolutionary Duenne wrap dress, by Diane Von Furstenberg, $425 at Intermix. Classic toggle necklaces (worn together), $225 each; classic toggle bracelet, $98. All at In The Pink.

"Attitude is everything."

–Diane Von Furstenberg

valentino

the dramatic dress

Black silk cocktail dress with beading, by Valentino, $10,990 at Valentino New York. Classic pearl necklaces, $210 each; Opera strand pearl necklace, $198. All at In The Pink.

"A woman must cause heads to turn when she enters a room."

–VALENTINO GARAVANI

Valentino, 212-997-8100; Yves Saint Laurent, 212-478-9073; www.ysl.com; Hair: Mitch Derosa for Mitchell John Salon

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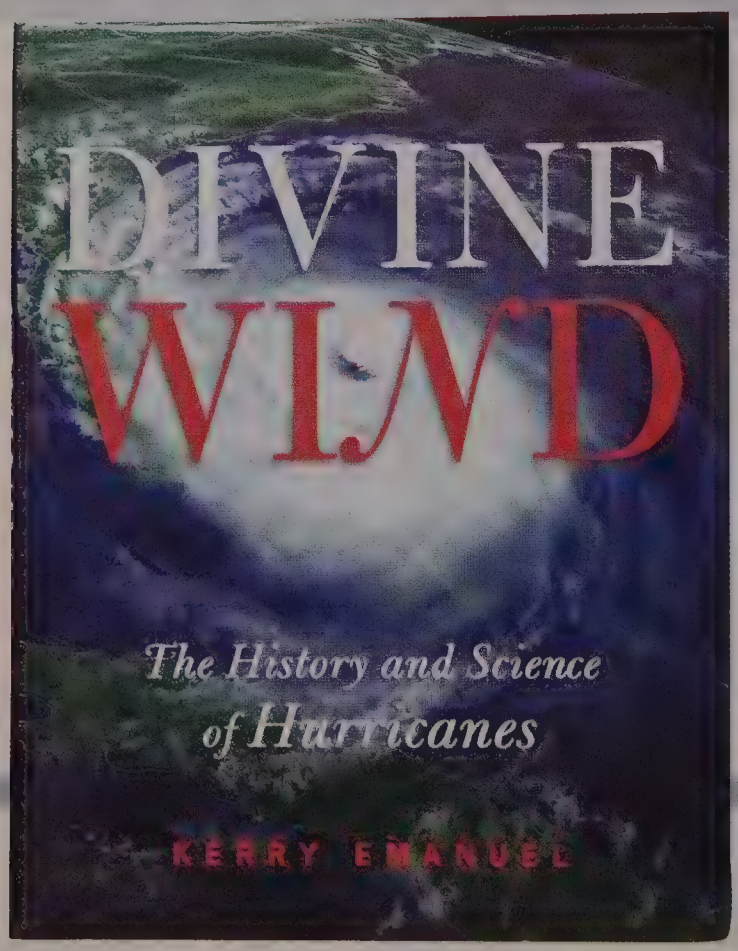


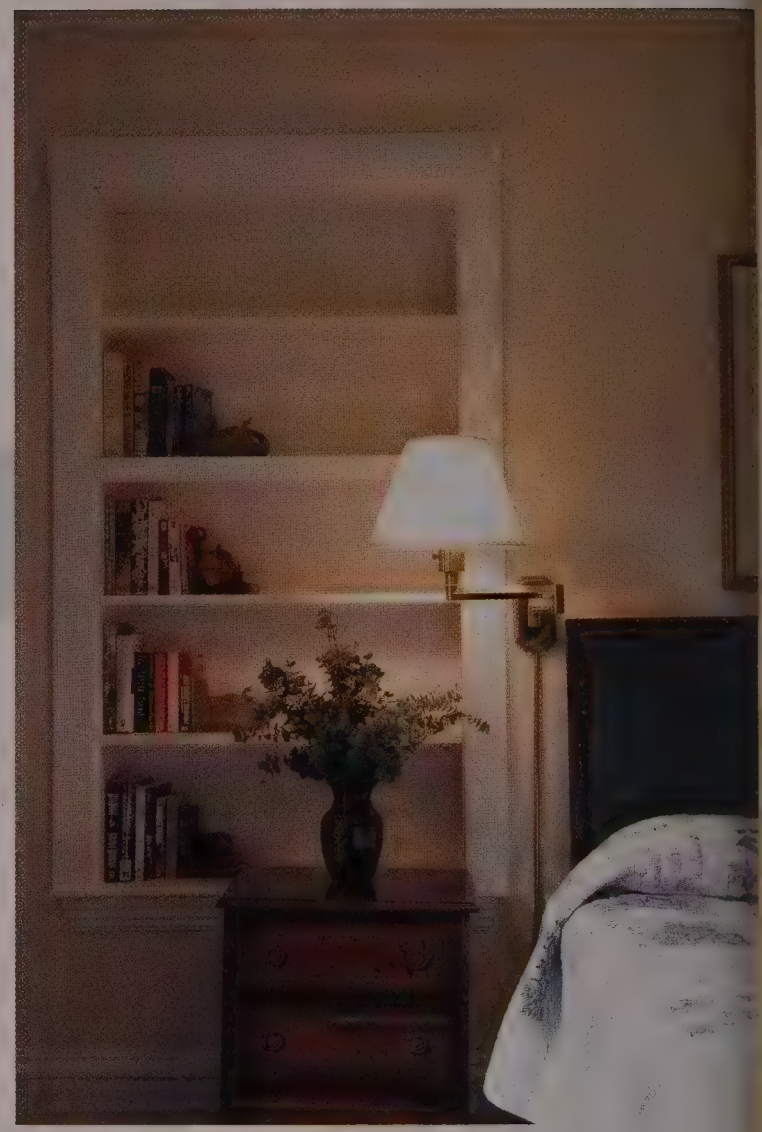
WIND, SCIENCE AND POETRY

MIT writer covers the elaborate, intricate science behind hurricanes with pictures, photos and poems. (Oxford University Press, 2005, $45.)

Eerily, this book came out just before the tragedy of Katrina. Kerry Emanuel, MIT professor of earth, atmospheric and planetary science, discusses catastrophic hurricanes, both ancient and modern, illustrated by paintings and frightening photos of toppled desolation and Venice-like watery streets, scenes that are now all too familiar. Emanuel's complex look at the science and forecasting of hurricanes describes updrafts and downdrafts, storm surges, convections, global warming and lessons not learned, all accompanied by colorful computer renderings. The hurricane's creepy, brooding eye is part of what Emanuel calls, along with its terrible effects, "the intricate beauty of its architecture." Read about the Galveston Hurricane of 1900, the Great Hurricane of 1938 and Hurricane Edward in 1992. Emanuel also uses literature to underscore the perverse primal excitement of hurricanes. Joseph Conrad refers to "the sudden smashing of a vial of wrath." Shakespeare writes: "I have seen tempests, when the scolding winds / Have riv'd the knotty oaks; / and I have seen / The ambitious ocean swell and rage and foam." Emily Dickinson begins, "An awful Tempest mashed the air; / The creatures chuckled on the Roofs; /And whistled in the air; / And shook their fists / And gnashed their teeth /And swung their frenzied hair."

A HOME AWAY FROM HOME AT HARVARD

Irving House offers guests the graciousness of Henry James' Cambridge. Rates vary by season from $70-$225. Extended-stay options also available. 24 Irving St., Cambridge (617-547-4600). www.irvinghouse.com.



Got visitors? If leafy, literary, Harvard-hovering Cambridge is their desire, but they want to avoid impersonal high-rise hotels, then bring your friends over to Irving House. This renovated 1893 house has 44 cozy rooms. In warm weather, guests can tumble out onto porches giving on to the sunny neighborhood. The rooms, ar-ranged in zigzag configurations, are pretty and light and decorated with vivid artwork. Some have a queen and a single bed with private bathroom, while others share a bath. Even the more monasterial single-bed rooms, however, are sun-filled. The inn's generous owner, Rachael Solem, provides homey and humanizing touches such as books that you can take home and amusing bookmarks with quotes from the likes of Ambrose Bierce and Axel Munthe ("A man can stand a lot as long as he can stand himself"). Rachael graciously handwrites letters—on stationery, no less!—to guests who've offered compliments and suggestions, and even to the rare complainer. The inn draws an interesting crowd. Continental breakfast is served and—a rare treat in this part of town—parking is available. A complicated get-in-early plan favors Harvard parents for graduation time. At Thanksgiving, Community Servings sells pies here.

PINING FOR OLD ENGLAND

The London Dungeon, formerly Londontowne Galleries, still assembles, sells and restores antiques and goods. 388 Somerville Ave., Union Square, Somerville (617-625-2045).

Don't let the "For Rent" sign on this antique store, a long-time fixture of Union Square, scare you; James Herbert is downsizing, and down-stairs-ing, much of his English and Chinese furniture into a cozy cellar. A major look here is old pine farm furniture with a lived-in country feeling. One table with some pleasing irregularity on its surface can stretch from its tidy 47 inches, which allows it to fit in a small space, to a longer length via two expandable 19-inch wings. You'll find a classic pub table with cast-iron legs and a mahogany top, or a walnut washstand whose central hole contains that old-fashioned and graceful handwashing technology–the bowl and pitcher. Another antique wooden item starts as a bench, but pull it out and a trundle bed concealed underneath reveals itself. Castro Convertible later imitated this shape- and space-shifting look. Long, beautiful wooden troughs for raising bread dough could do exactly that, or they're beautiful enough to serve simply as decorative pieces. More formal and fancy, plump-tummied Chinese bureaus have delicate marquetry decoration, usually with a wooden top. English manors, and manners, are evoked by an ornate mirror with carved wooden ornamentation. And gigantic framed prints from the *Times* of London illustrate and describe characters from Shakespeare's works. The London Dungeon also renovates furniture.

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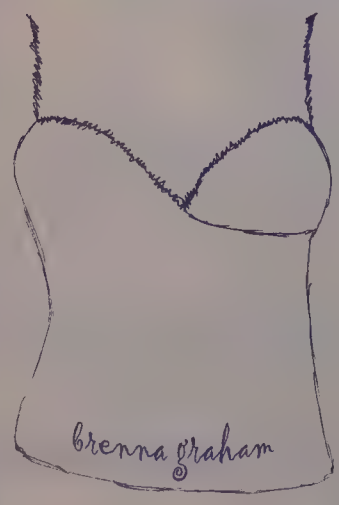

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REVIEW

NEW FARE WITH FLAIR

The North End's Marco combines classic Italian recipes with contemporary style.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANTHONY TIEULI

Trattoria Scalinetella is a hard act to follow. When enthusiastic Sicilian-American restaurateur Paolo Diecidue forsook his 40-seat nook at the top of the small staircase (*scalinatella* in Italian) on Hanover Street for his more upscale and ambitious Via Valverde a few storefronts south, he left behind a forlorn constituency. Fortunately, Marc Orfaly, whose Pigalle in the Theater District plays to rave reviews, has taken over the space and created Marco, a charming eatery that combines the down-to-earth ambience and value of the old North End with some of the culinary flair and refined touches that francophilic fans of Pigalle have come to expect.

Marco rewards diners with wonderful gratis appetizers—a small bowl of classic antipasto items, such as a cherry pepper stuffed with prosciutto and cheese, brown and black olives, pepper-encrusted provolone cheese and green chili peppers, or a mellowly sweet caponata of earthy eggplant, red peppers, tomatoes and pignoli with a heady shot of balsamic vinegar—harbingers of good things to come. Of the antipasti on Marco's modest but serviceable menu, fried cod cheeks ($9) scored highest in my book. Fresh, richly flavorful cod cheeks, flash fried with a thin coating of flour but no breading, these crisp, succulent morsels shared the plate with thin slices of small chilis, shards of pleasantly salty bacon and a lemon wedge. The interplay of flavors with their smoky, fishy, salty and citric accents made this a memorable dish.

Oven-baked black mission figs ($9) wrapped in pancetta and stuffed with mild gorgonzola, served warm and accompanied by cubes of jellied fig, constituted a delightful and imaginative combination of tastes and textures. House-cured salumi ($3 each) consisted of coppa, thin, oval slices of mild ham with delicate flavor and texture, and tiny rounds of fat-studded salami redolent of garlic. Seafood antipasti options (also $3 each) included a small plate of four or five pleasantly oily, moist white anchovies, a provocative palate perker. The salt cod and green olives came with small brown olives and capers as a dividend, but the cod could not stand up to this triple teaming by two kinds of olives and piquant capers.

A twist on the traditional antipasto

Marco's pastas ranged from a simple fedelini con pomodoro ($7 half order, $15 full order) to orecchiette with sausage and broccoli rabe ($9 half, $18 full), to linguine with clams ($8 half, $17 full). The fedelini, long, slender fresh pasta carefully prepared to maintain its firm texture, came dressed with fleshy, robustly flavored tomatoes that had a pleasing sweet-acid balance. The orecchiette provided a good vehicle for a sauce of homemade sausage and broccoli rabe. While the bright green broccoli lent verve to the dish, I found the sausage pale in flavor and lacking in distinction. The best of the pastas, linguine with clams, sweet garlic and extra virgin olive oil, featured six tiny sweet cockles served in their shells, and a sauce that combined the liqueur from these diminutive mollusks with toothsome aromatic extra virgin olive oil, chopped parsley and a finishing touch of sweet butter.

Marco's main-course selections were somewhat limited, and on one occasion I was disappointed to learn that an item I had hoped to order (chicken cacciatore, a favorite of yesteryear now seldom encountered) was no longer on the menu. My back-up choice that evening, grilled house-made sausage, was sold out. (How can you run out of sausage early in the evening at an Italian restaurant?) Still, of the two main courses I did try over three visits, one was quite good and the other superb. Pan-seared salmon ($19), a firm but moist fillet, came accompanied by rosemary potatoes, garlicky spinach, soft-cooked fennel and roasted garlic, an ensemble so tasty that it made me wonder why the chef insisted on placing a large dollop of thick, pink saffron aioli on the plate, which did little to enhance the dish. No such problem bedeviled the veal saltimbocca ($19) however. This tender, flavorful veal cutlet, topped with a thin slice of prosciutto, fontina cheese and mushrooms, and sauced with a red wine reduction spiked with heady balsamic vinegar produced an exquisite dish that lived up to its name (*saltimbocca* indicating something so good it "springs into your mouth.")

Desserts at Marco seemed perfunctory. Panna cotta ($7) brought a custard too subtle for my palate, its blandness not rescued by the addition of nutmeg. Tiramisu ($6) proved marginally better, but its cloyingly sweet mascarpone cheese dominated this rather dry confection, and despite a liberal sprinkling of cocoa powder and a slug of Kahlua, it fell short of being the "pick me up" promised by its name. Unless it ratchets up its dessert repertoire, Marco may become one of those restaurants in the North End from which patrons retreat to the neighborhood's excellent bakeries for their after-dinner sweet fix.

Notwithstanding the desserts, I enjoyed each of my three meals at Marco delighted by solicitous friendly service and a refreshing lack of pretension. Its

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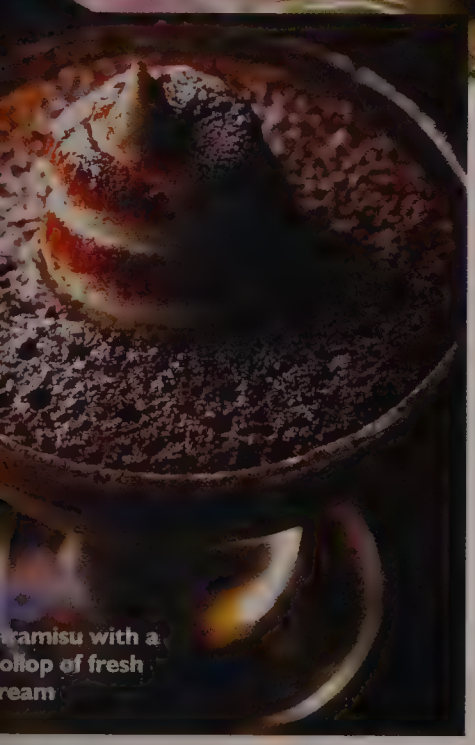
Insalata di rucola with pancetta, parmesan and fingerling chips



Tiramisu with a dollop of fresh cream

Chef/owner Marc Orfaly

ining room, with exposed brick on some alls contrasting with rough hewn barn-ood in triangular configurations on thers, seemed almost austere in its sim-licity. Lighting provided by simple conces and hanging lights with hand-me, pleated white shades was supple-ented by illumination radiating from vely Hanover Street through the large ont windows. Brown wooden tables ac-mmodate 34 patrons, and bar stools round the dining bar seat another eight. white stucco fireplace along one wall, mbellished with a crest bearing the let-r M and a little greenery below, com-lete the décor.

Marco's bread and wine alone would erit a detour. Small bowls of luscious, romatic extra virgin olive oil in which dip excellent house-made foccaccia, self redolent of quality olive oil, threat-ened to sate my appetite on all three vis-its. And Marco's wine list, though short, contains a number of inviting Italian wines, many sold by the glass. Best of all, wine by the carafe includes both red and white, with a Sicilian red (100 percent nero d'avola grape) distinguished by de-cent structure and sufficient acid to go well with the food—at the pocketbook-friendly price of $7 for a quarter liter, $12 for a half and $22 for a full liter.

As the gentrification of the North End has led to menu and wine prices that rival those in the Back Bay, it warms the heart to have an accomplished restaurateur like Orfaly open a friendly, down-to-earth eatery where delicious food and wine can be enjoyed without breaking the bank. iB

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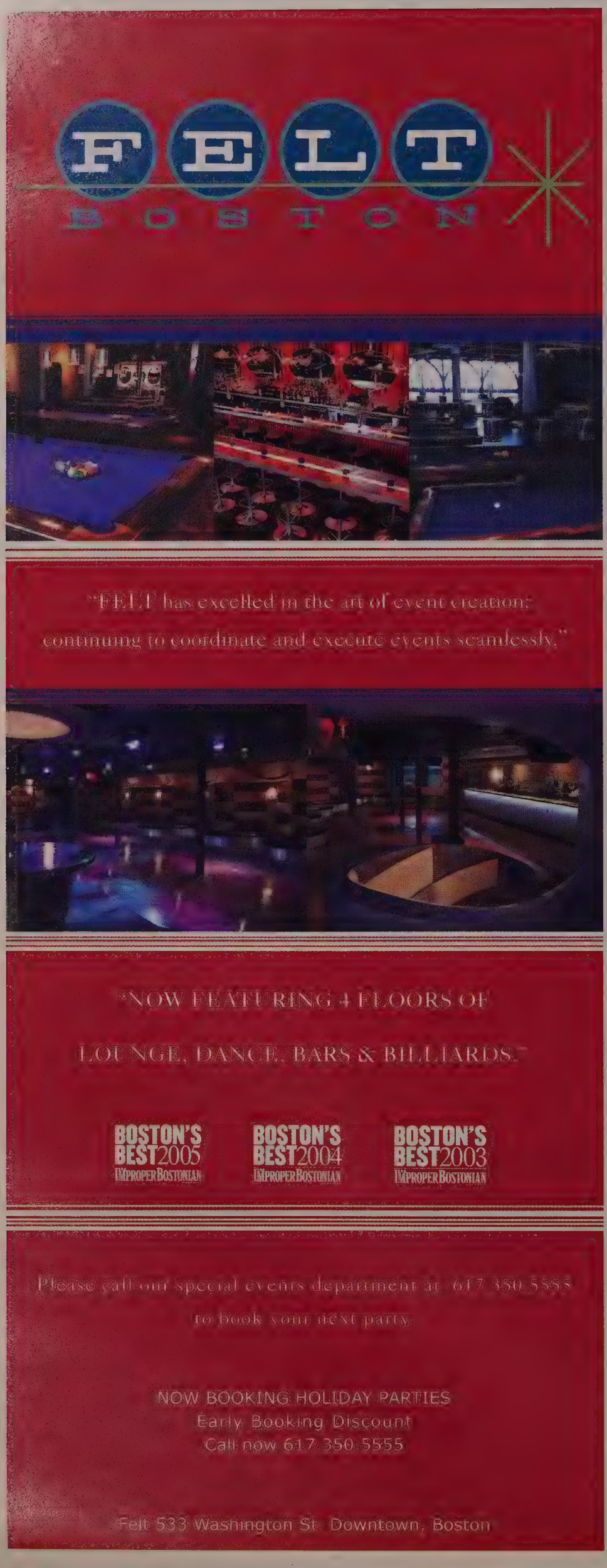

TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Le Beaujolais Est Arrivé
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Nov. 17, 7 pm. $55. Les Zygomates celebrates the release of the 2005 Beaujolais vintage with an educational wine dinner, led by sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon**, featuring an assortment of facts and tidbits about the wine and the region.

Destination: Italy
Sorriso Trattoria, 107 South St., Boston (617-259-1560). www.sorrisoboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Every Wed., 7-8 pm. $25. Executive chef **John Paine** and resident raconteur **Ciro Pirone** host wine tastings this fall highlighting particular regions of Italy. •Nov. 9: Umbria. •Nov. 16: Bologna & Romagna.

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tuesdays, 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •Nov. 22: My Favorite Marsanne.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Boston (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Saturdays, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •Nov. 12: Zinfandel. •Nov. 19: American Wine Regions.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and wine director **Jacob Knight** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Nov. 9: Portuguese wine and port.

In Celebration of Bordeaux
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Boston (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 16, 6:30 pm. $125. Wine director **Shane Lessard** hosts this annual event that features a variety of wine makers and vintages from Bordeaux.

Jackson-Triggs Wine Dinner
29 Newbury, 29 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-0290). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 10, 6:30 pm. $90. **Julie Handel Ochse**, of Jackson-Triggs Winery, visits 29 Newbury for this multicourse dinner paired with wines from Jackson-Triggs.

Kosta Brown Wine Dinner
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 15, 6 pm. $150. Chef **Jerome Legras** prepares a four-course dinner paired with pinot noir from Kosta Browne wines.

Lifestyles Wine Dinner Series
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900, ext. 7120). Thursdays through fall, 6:30 pm. $100. The Langham Hotel's chef de cuisine **Mark Sapienza** prepares a weekly dinner pair with wine from around the world. Guests are al granted a private showing of luxury automobil from the likes of Bentley and Rolls Royce, as we as merchandise from Longchamps Boston. •No 10: Veuve Cliqot Ponsardin. •Nov. 17: Newto Vineyard.

Radius Restaurant Cooking Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234 www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. Saturdays. 11 am-2:30 pm. $125. Sa urdays this fall and winter, chef **Micha Schlow** teaches a cooking class that includ wine pairings directed by co-owner **Christ pher Myers**. •Nov. 12: Recipes for intima family dinners. •Nov. 19: The modern Frenc recipes of Radius that you can make at home.

Sorriso's First Birthday
Sorriso Trattoria, 107 South St., Boston (617-25 1560). www.sorrisoboston.com. MBTA: Red Li to South Station. Nov. 10, 9 pm- 12 am. Free. So riso celebrates its first anniversary with live mus and complimentary food and drink. Reservatio required.

Spice of the Month Club
Tamarind Bay, 75 Winthrop St., Cambrid (617-491-4552). MBTA: Red Line to Harvar Second Monday of every month. 5-7 pm. $2 Executive chef **Wali Ahmad** discusses a ne Indian spice each night and prepares a fou course menu of dishes predominantly featuri that spice. Nov. 14: Dry Ginger Powder.

A Taste of Italy
Filippo's Ristorante, 283 Causeway St., Bost (617-742-4143). www.alexsteamfoundation.co MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Nov. 17. 10 pm. $100. This charity event features a sa pling of fare from nationally renowned chefs i cluding Barolo's **Maurizio Marfoglia** (Ne York), Bravo's **Maurizio Conartese** (Sacr mento) and Cinque Terre's **Lee Skawins** (Portland, Maine), and benefits Alex's Tea which supports pediatric-cancer research.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). www.leszygomates.com. MBTA: Red Li to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommeli **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, a chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oe vres and offers brief cooking demonstration •Nov. 15: Just Desserts. •Nov. 22: Port a Blue Cheese.

The Whole Foods Bake-Off
Lala Rokh, 97 Mount Vernon St., Boston (61 720-5511). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Pa Street. Nov. 9, 12-1:30 pm. $20. Pastry che from various Whole Foods locations compe to see who can produce the best origin dessert. Guests can taste the entries, and pr ceeds benefit the Taste of Beacon Hill Schola ship Fund.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-26 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Joh son** presents matching wines to complement four-course French–New England meal by ch **Frank McClelland**. •Nov. 14: Groovy Grape •Nov. 21: Roman Holiday—wines from Italy.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-72 1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Li to Aquarium. 7 pm. $40. Chef **Geoff Gardn** pairs French cuisine with wines selected sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Nov. 9: Red in t Face. •Nov. 16: The French ABCs.

DISH

Recipes for Success

New chef at Cuvée…
Old school values at East Coast Grill

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Bob Anderson is accustomed to success. Over the years, he's built a contracting company and managed businesses ranging from shopping centers to roller rinks, applying astute judgment and hard work to fulfill ambitious goals. Now, as proprietor of **Cuvée** on Newbury Street, this entrepreneur/wine enthusiast is grappling with his toughest challenge yet: achieving success in the restaurant industry. After an uncertain start last spring, Anderson realized he needed to refine Cuvée's identity. A few months ago, he hired a new chef, **Frank Schattauer**, to turn things around on the food side, and now Cuvée is emerging as a calm, cozy eatery with a killer wine list—Opus One by the glass, anybody?—and a menu that includes both extravagant entrées (buffalo tenderloin for $37) and bargain-priced "small plates," such as a succulent, grilled four-ounce(!) swordfish steak (a mere $12). The German-born Schattauer, who received his culinary training in Europe, is so shy that it requires heavy equipment to extract him from the kitchen, but he lets his food do the talking: lobster and shiitake mushrooms in a buttery, sherry-infused sauce; golden oyster mushrooms baked in wine, shallots and gorgonzola; veal tenderloin poached in port wine with a port-merlot reduction. Yum.

So what does it take to run a consistently successful restaurant for 20 years? As Cambridge's **East Coast Grill** celebrates that milestone this fall, owner **Chris Schlesinger** remembers, "Back in the day, I'd count every customer. It took 40 to break even, and when I counted to 40, I'd order a beer." Today, the ECG is a beloved destination restaurant, which Schlesinger says is a testament to a simple philosophy and clearly articulated values.

"We do what we do and we do it well," he says, noting that dishes once considered exotic—pork chops with pineapple salsa, for example—are now standard fare at chain eateries. But "it's hard to do on a consistent basis," and consistency counts, as does hospitality. "We work hard at the hospitality aspect," he says. "If we tell you it's a 45-minute wait, it's a 45-minute wait. People like to feel comfortable in a restaurant." There's no room for attitude, says Schlesinger, whose view of the business is "more from a restaurateur and host's point of view than a chef's point of view. It's a humble business. We're basically kind of servants, right?" Well, maybe not exactly, but well-treated customers are loyal customers. And Schlesinger is offering quite a treat to all diners Nov. 14-17. A special "Old School Rules" menu will feature a three-course, prix-fixe menu for the 1985 price of $20. You won't need a No. 2 pencil, but you will need to make a reservation.

Frank Schattauer, chef at Cuvée

SECOND COURSE

Sitting here in limbo: If you're confused about what's happening at **The Green Street Grill** in Cambridge, here are the answers to all your questions: Yes, it is still being managed by current owner **John Clifford**; no, it isn't closed for renovations; and yes, prospective owner **Dylan Black** was initially denied his application for a liquor license, but the papers have been resubmitted and "there's no problem, it's all cleared up," says Black.

Also in Cambridge, there's a new pastry chef at **Chez Henri**: **Cristiane Diehl**, formerly of **UpStairs on the Square**, will draw on her German/Brazilian heritage to write a dessert menu offering both French- and Latin-style sweets. Diehl promises a classic apple tarte tatin and a "pineapple pavée" that she describes as "very Brazilian, with pineapple, coconut, and *dulce de leche*…very homey to me." And very enticing to diners. IB

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			Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination is on display at the Museum of Science. *See Museums & Galleries on page 80.*		**The Fifth Dimension** peforms back-to-back shows at Scullers Jazz Club. *See Music on page 65.*	David Zirin, Howard Zinn and Jim Bouton discuss Zirin's new book, ***What's My Name, Fool?*** at Brookline Booksmith. *See Books & Poetry on page 84.*
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Catch the final day of the **Jewish Film Festival** at the Museum of Fine Arts. *See Movies on page 61.*	**Ryan Cabrera** arrives in Boston for a show at Avalon. *See Music on page 64.*		UpStairs on the Square hosts its annual **In Celebration of Bordeaux Wine Dinner**. *See Tastings on page 48.*	The **Magner's Irish Film Festival** begins at the Brattle Theatre in Cambridge. *See Movies on page 62.*		**The Big Sister Association** holds its 25th anniversary party at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel. *See CityScope on page 54.*
20	21	22				
The UnPOSSESSED plays at the Zero Arrow Theatre in Cambridge. *See Performing Arts on page 56.*		Aujourd'hui at the Four Seasons hosts a wine dinner entitled **My Favorite Marsanne**. *See Tastings on page 48.*				

WED./NOV. 16

Music: Go Phish

Listen up, Phish fans: Your favorite bunch of crunchy crooners might have disbanded, but you can still get your Phish fix from former lead man Trey Anastasio. On Nov. 16, the red-headed rocker comes to Boston as part of his current nationwide solo tour to play a show at the Orpheum. Although he's obviously better-known for his work with Phish, Anastasio has put together a pretty decent career away from the group. He released his debut solo project, *Surrender to the Air*, in 1996 and has since come out with eight more albums, which include collaborations with the like of Tom Marshall, Les Claypool and Philip Glass. We figure it's only a matter of time before a Phish reunion tour, but until then we'll settle for a little time with Trey. *Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-931-2000). Nov. 16, 7:30 pm. $38. —RL*

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THU.–SUN./NOV. 10–13

Museums and Galleries: Arty Party

Fine art isn't the cheapest or easiest thing to start collecting. That's where Missy Sullivan, editor of *The Forbes Collector*, comes in. She's in town to give tips on art collecting at the four-day Boston International Fine Art Show at the Boston Center for the Arts. Sullivan speaks on Friday at the Young Collector's Night with a talk titled "What Every Smart Collector Should Know: Lessons from the Connoisseurs." For $20, the evening includes a cocktail reception with Sullivan and various art dealers, plus a chance to meet some of the artists whose works are featured throughout the weekend. More than 40 galleries show (and sell) traditional and contemporary pieces from the U.S. and Europe, and if you want first dibs, go to the opening gala on Thursday from 6-9 pm, where the $100 ticket gets you into the party with appetizers, cocktails and a jazz trio. *539 Tremont St., Boston (617-363-0405). www.fineartboston.com. Fri. 1-9 pm; Sat. 11 am-8 pm; Sun. 11 am-5 pm. $10. Lectures are free with admission. —LPK*

WED./NOV. 16 AND THU./NOV. 17

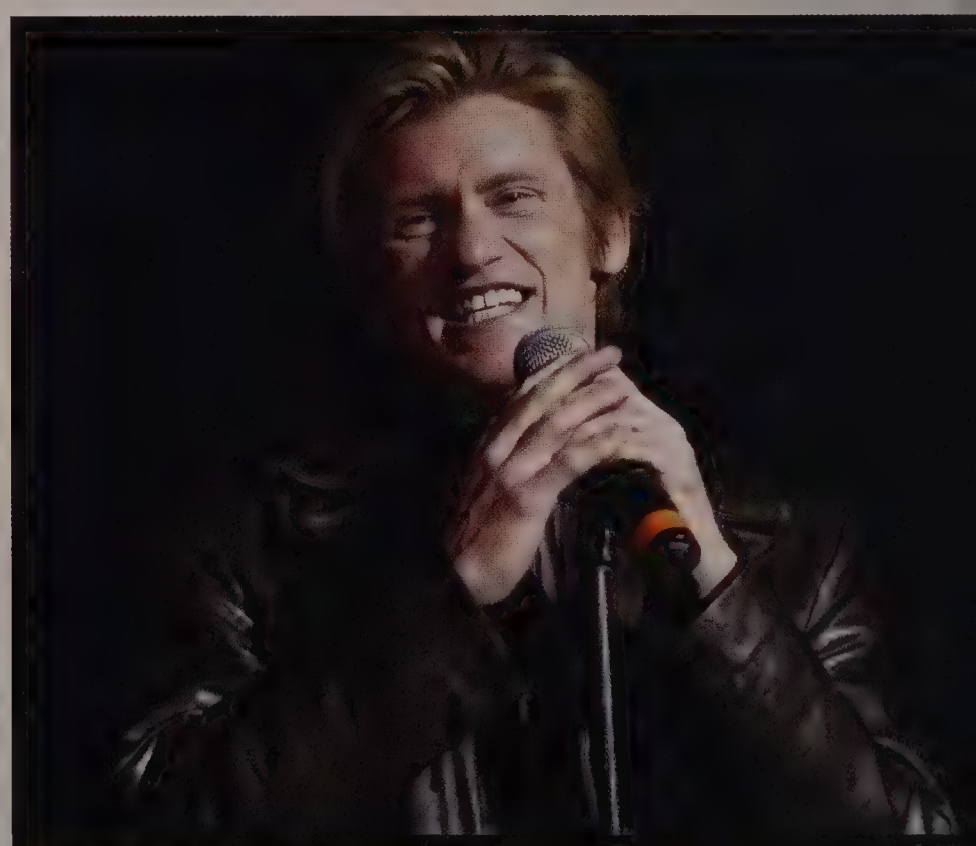
Tastings: Beaujolais Soirée

Each fall, the third Thursday of November marks the release of the latest vintage of Beaujolais Nouveau, and that means party time for winos. Beaujolais is pretty much the closest to a white wine that a red can be, in that it's meant to be served chilled and drunk quickly. It also lacks the acidity that a lot of reds do, which makes it all go down a little easier. Each year, there are more than 100 Beaujolais festivals throughout France, and here in Boston there are at least two on our radar. On Nov. 16, Brasserie Jo at the Colonnade Hotel celebrates with food, music, dancing and a live cabaret show. At midnight, the vintage is unveiled, and the real party starts. The following night, Les Zygomates on South Street hosts an educational wine dinner led by sommelier Geoffrey Fallon, who'll give you an in-depth look at the history behind one of the more festive days in the world of wine. *Brasserie Jo at the Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). Nov. 16, 9 pm-12:30 am. $40; Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.leszygomates.com. Nov. 17, 7 pm. $55. —RL*

WED.–SUN./NOV. 9–13

Cityscope: Torque On This

Horsepower, grilles, cylinders, chrome: If these words mean anything to you, then you'll get a lot out of the New England Auto Show at the Bayside Expo Center. Exhibitions from 36 different car manufacturers, information booths and interactive displays let you find out what's hot for 2006, including the latest gadgets, concept vehicles and designs. You can even test your off-road skills on a simulated track from Jeep. There are other diversions as well, including a rock-climbing wall, a gaming are sponsored by X-Box and Sirius satellite radio and music by several DJs. *Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (800-322-4821). www.bostonautoshow.com. Wed.-Thu., 1-10 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm; Sun., 10 am-7 pm. $10, adults; $5 children; six and under, free. —LPK*



SAT./NOV. 12

CityScope: Stand-Up Against Cancer

When it comes to comedy, Boston's about as rich as the Donald. And lucky for us, most of our local comedic greats love giving back to the city. Exhibit A: The annual Comics Come Home to benefit the Cam Neely Foundation for Cancer Care. Each year the event is hosted by Denis Leary, who traditionally kicks off the festivities with his lovable, autobiographical song "Asshole," and features performances from top Boston-bred comics. This year's event, which takes place Nov. 12 at BU's Agganis Arena and is co-sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, includes Lenny Clarke, Patrice O'Neal, Brian Regan and Steve Sweeney, as well as Brooklyn boy Colin Quinn. The Cam Neely Foundation was launched in 1995 after the Bruins great lost both of his parents to cancer. To date it's raised more than $11 million. *Agganis Arena, 925 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-346-5900). 8 pm. $30-$150. —RL*

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Art beCAUSE Benefit
The State Room, 60 State St., Boston (508-877-5206). www.artbecause.org. 6 pm. $150. Art beCAUSE, a foundation committed to eradicating breast cancer through environmental research, hosts its annual foundation wine dinner.

Women of Excellence Benefit
Brasserie Jo at the Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). www.germainelawrence.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7:30 am. At this fourth annual breakfast, Germain Lawrence, a provider of residential treatment services for troubled adolescent girls, honors women who have made significant contributions to improving the lives of young women. Proceeds benefit Germaine Lawrence.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Cohasset Historical Society Benefit
Atlantica Restaurant, 44 Border St., Cohasset (781-383-0900). 7 pm. $60. This four-course wine dinner includes a discussion of each course with food and wine experts and benefits the Cohasset Historical Society.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Veterans' Day Benefit
Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.blues4vets.com. Through Nov. 12. 8 pm. $30-$38. Edgar Winter headlines this weekend of concerts at the Regent Theatre to benefit the Veterans Hospice Homestead, a nonprofit organization that provides care to veterans in need.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Comics Come Home
Agganis Arena, 925 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-346-5900). MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. $30-$150. This 11th annual comedy show features performances by Denis Leary, Lenny Clarke, Patrice O'Neal, Colin Quinn and others. Proceeds benefit The Cam Neely Foundation for Cancer Care.

Fall Fandango
Lewis Gallery at Artists for Humanity, 100 W. Second St., South Boston (617-226-3180). www.thegiftfoundation.org. 8 pm-12 am. $65-$85. This black-tie optional event includes an open bar, desserts, dancing and a silent auction benefiting Strong Women, Strong Girls.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Nimble Limbs Animal Massage
Harnett's, 47 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-401-4747). www.saveadog.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12-6 pm. All donations accepted. Hook your dog up with a 15-minute massage at Harnett's while showing support for Save A Dog, an all-breed, all-volunteer dog-rescue group.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Benefit Reading of Allen Ginsberg Poems
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $7-$10. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the debut of Ginsberg's "Howl," poets including Frank Bidart, William Corbett and Gail Mazar gather at the CCAE to read from his works. All proceeds benefit the Blacksmith House Poetry Reading Series.

Bike Night Gala
Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-542-2453). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.massbike.org. 6-9 pm. $25. This annual fundraising event for Mass Bike features special guest speakers, presentation of Influence Pedaler awards, bike valet and a silent auction.

Fundraiser for Jack Lynch
Game On!, 83 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-35 7001). www.jacklynchfund.com. MBTA: Green Li to Kenmore. 6 pm. $40. Game On! hosts an eve that features appetizers, a cash bar and a sile auction to benefit Jack Lynch, a four-year old b diagnosed with Neuroblastoma cancer, a rare fo of childhood cancer.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Another Road Home
Jamaica Plain Community Center at English Hi School, 144 McBride St., Jamaica Plain (617-48 1154). www.anotherroadhomethemovie.com. MBT Orange Line to Green Street. 6 pm. $10-$15. T Boston International Rescue Committee host screening of *Another Road Home*, a movie abo the 20-year relationship between an Israeli a Palestinian family. The night also includes selection of Cajun fare and a panel discussion conflict in the Middle East, and benefits IR Boston.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Antique Appraisal Event
Old Town Hall, Salem (800-882-1776). ww mareinc.com. 11 am-4 pm; 5-7 pm. Gene admission, $5; first appraisal item, $25; ea additional item, $15. Get your antiques appraised experts from the auction house of Bonhams, wh supporting the Massachusetts Adoption Resour Exchange, a nonprofit agency that provid resources, programs and services related to fos care adoption.

Catholic Charities Fundraiser
West Street Grille, 15 West St., Boston (617-45 7958). www.ccab.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line Park Street. 6-9 pm. $25-$30. This event featu appetizers, a cash bar and a silent auction to bene the educational programs offered by Catho Charities.

A Taste of Italy
Filippo's Ristorante, 283 Causeway St., Bost (617-742-4143). www.alexsteamfoundation.co MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 7-10 p $100. This charity event features a sampling fare from nationally renowned chefs includi Barolo's Maurizio Marfoglia (New York), Brav Maurizio Conartese (Sacramento) and Cinq Terre's Lee Skawinski (Portland, Maine), a benefits Alex's Team, which supports pediatr cancer research.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Big Sister Association 25th Anniversary
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James S Boston (617-236-8060). www.bigsister.o MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $200. Th gala event celebrates the Big Sister Associatio 25th anniversary and features dinner, dancing silent auction and a tribute to local Big Sis supporters like Andrea Cabral, Michael Schl and Paul Guzzi. Proceeds benefit the Big Sis Association.

Earth Night
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, 415 Summ St., Boston (508-698-6810). www.earthnight.o MBTA: Silver Line to World Trade Center. 6:30- pm. $75-$100. This annual event features food fr Legal Sea Foods, live music, dancing and live a silent auctions. All proceeds from the event bene the Environmental League of Boston.

High Hopes Gala
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Bost (617-713-3494). www.joslin.org. MBTA: Gre Line to Copley. 6 pm. $400. This sixth annu black-tie gala features a cocktail reception, dinn

The Greater Boston Antiques Festival hits Wilmington's Shriner's Auditorium, Nov. 20

Another Road Home plays at the Jamaica Plain Community Center in an event to benefit the Boston International Rescue Committee, Nov. 15

nks and dancing, and benefits the Joslin Diabetes nter.

estivals & Parties

'EDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

ew England Auto Show

yside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston 00-322-4821). www.bostonautoshow.com. Through v. 13. Mon.-Tue., 1-9 pm; Wed.-Thu., 1-10 pm; .-Sat., 10 am-10 pm; Sun., 10 am- 7 pm. $10. is 49th annual event features hundreds of mestic and imported cars, trucks and SUVs, as ll as interactive exhibits and an appearance by WE champion Edge.

HURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

idal Survival Club

att Regency Boston, 1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston. w.bostonweddinggroup.com. MBTA: Green or Red e to Park Street. 6:30 pm. Free. All local brides-to- are encouraged to get together for a night of nks, snacks and wedding talk at the Hyatt gency.

RIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

mortis Presents

T. the Bear's Place, 10 Brookline St., Boston. w.xmortis.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. m. $10. 18+. This evening of dark music inspired the Goth days of yore features beats from DJ ris Ewen. Creative attire.

UNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

ookline 300

rz Anderson Park, 25 Newton St., Brookline. w.brookline300.com. 1-6 pm. Free. The town of ookline celebrates its 300th anniversary with a long event under heated tens in Larz Anderson rk. The celebration includes live music, food, vies, a fireworks display and more.

EDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

eaujolais Nouveau Party

asserie Jo at the Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington e., Boston (617-425-3240). MBTA: Green Line Copley. 9 pm-12:30 am. $40. Celebrate the ease of the 2005 Beaujolais Nouveau vintage at s party featuring food, music, dancing and a live aret performance.

RIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

gh Bar Grand Opening

h Bar, 200 High St., Boston. www.jetsetevents.com. m. $25-$35. This opening party for High Bar ludes two hours of open bar, hors d'oeuvres and e entertainment from NYC DJ Sensae and the anese Swing Cats.

ATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

reater Boston Antiques Festival

iner's Auditorium, 99 Fordham Road, Wilmington 81-862-4039). www.neantiqueshows.com. Through v. 20. Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $15. is 10th annual antiques festival features antiques m more than 160 dealers from 11 states.

Singles

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

8-Minute Dating

Cityside Bar & Grille, 1960 Beacon St., Boston (617-566-1002). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 21-29.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

8-Minute Dating

Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 35-45.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Hurry Date

INQ Bistro & Bar, 279A Newbury St., Boston (617-536-9321). www.hurrydate.com. 7 pm. $26.25 members; $35 nonmembers. Embark on 20 dates in five minutes while you enjoy drink specials. For singles ages 25-35.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

8-Minute Dating

Orleans, 65 Holland St., Somerville (617-591-2100). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 25-35.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

8-Minute Dating

Lucy's, 242 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-5829). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 1:50 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 23-32.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

8-Minute Dating

Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 28-38.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

8-Minute Dating

Fire and Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-482-3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington; Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 22-32.

performing arts

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

StubHub
(866-788-2482). www.stubhub.com. Where fans buy and sell tickets.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.tixboston.com. Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

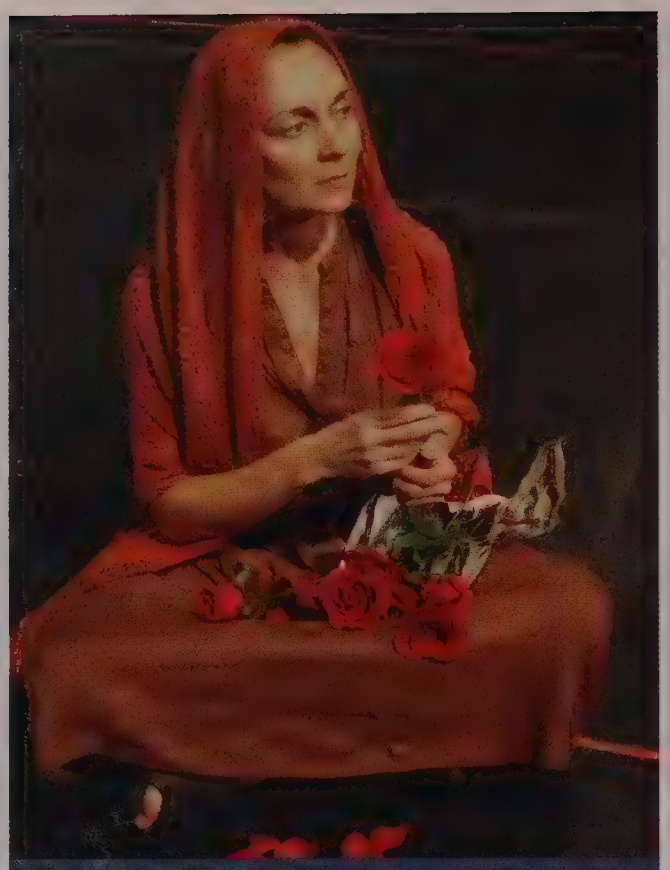
Aga Boom
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 19, 1 and 7 pm; Nov. 20, 1 pm. $28-$38. Three former circus clowns perform this comedy involving basic cleaning supplies and audience members.

The Correct Moment
Cambridge YMCA Theatre/Durren Hall, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-9622 x707). www.breadandpuppet.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Nov. 13-20. Times vary, call for complete schedule. $5-$12. This week-long event features separate performances geared toward adults and children, addressing the concept of the moment with large papier-mâché puppets.

A Show of Hands
Roxbury Theatre, 182-184 Dudley St., Roxbury (617-350-6836). www.deaftheatrefest.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. Nov. 17-19. $55 adults, $45 students and seniors, $10 children (age 10-17). This festival of deaf theatre includes performances by Peter Cook, Terrylene and Hong Kong's Theatre of the Silence, as well as panel discussions and children's activities.

The UnPOSSESSED
Zero Arrow Theatre, 720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 16-20. Wed., Thur., Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri, 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. $30. Stacy Klein directs this play based on Miguel Cervantes' *Don Quixote* featuring original live music.

Waltzing to War
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Nov. 11, 8 pm. $8. This performance, by Ian Thal and James Van Looy, combines elements of theater, mime and poetry, and places characters inspired by old-time comedy personalities into a modern war setting.



The American Repertory Theatre presents *The Keening* at the Zero Arrow Theatre through Nov. 12.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. The blue trio performs an ongoing show that mixes art, music, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

Carol Mulroney
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Bost (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBT Green Line to Copley. Through Nov. 20. Fri. and Sa 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm; Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 and 7: pm; Thu., 7:30 pm (some variation; call for detai schedule). $15-$44. Stephen Belber's producti deals with the lure of a simple existence for urban-dwelling main character.

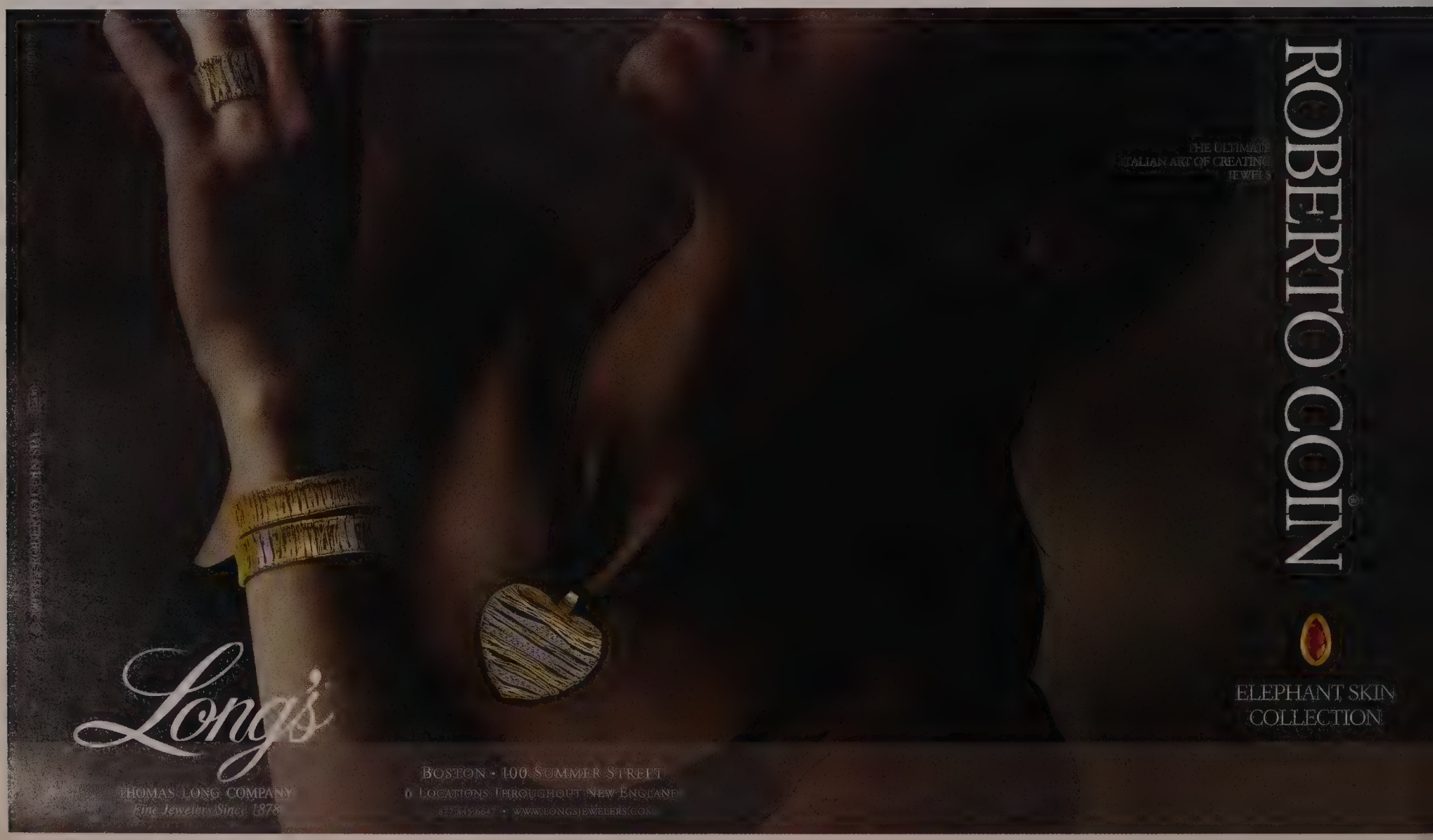
The 4th Nail
The Devanaughn Theatre, 731 Tremont St., Bost (866-811-4111). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. A Through Nov. 20. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $1 students and seniors, $10. The AYTB Theatre Co pany presents this story of two men trying to reco from their wounded pasts.

Jimmy Tingle's American Dream
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm S Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadw com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Ongoing. Th Fri., Sat., 7:30 pm. $15-$25. Jimmy Tingle's Am can Dream is a one-man show that combines co edy, political commentary and storytelling.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
The Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (6 426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBT Green Line to Boylston. Through Nov. 13. We Thur., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun pm, 7:30 pm. $30-$80. This Andrew Lloyd Web musical is a Bible-based tale featuring modern p music and tells the story of a slave who become powerful figure in ancient Egypt.

The Keening
Zero Arrow Theatre, corner of Mass. Ave. and Ar St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.o MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Nov. 12. F 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; ; Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm (for a detailed schedule). $35-$48. A widow de with the drug-related truth of her husband's dea in this play written by Humberto Dorado.

Kiss of the Spider Woman
Boston Centre for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Bos (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.co MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Dec. 3. We Thur., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Su 3 pm. $39-$48. Paul Daigneault directs this musi



pout two prison inmates whose only escape is reen-cting their favorite movies inside their cell.

ord of the Flies
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston 617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway. Through Nov.20. Fri., 7:30 m; Sat-Sun., 2 pm. $12-$20. This play re-creates he classic story of a group of British schoolboys orced to survive on their own after their plane rashes on an island.

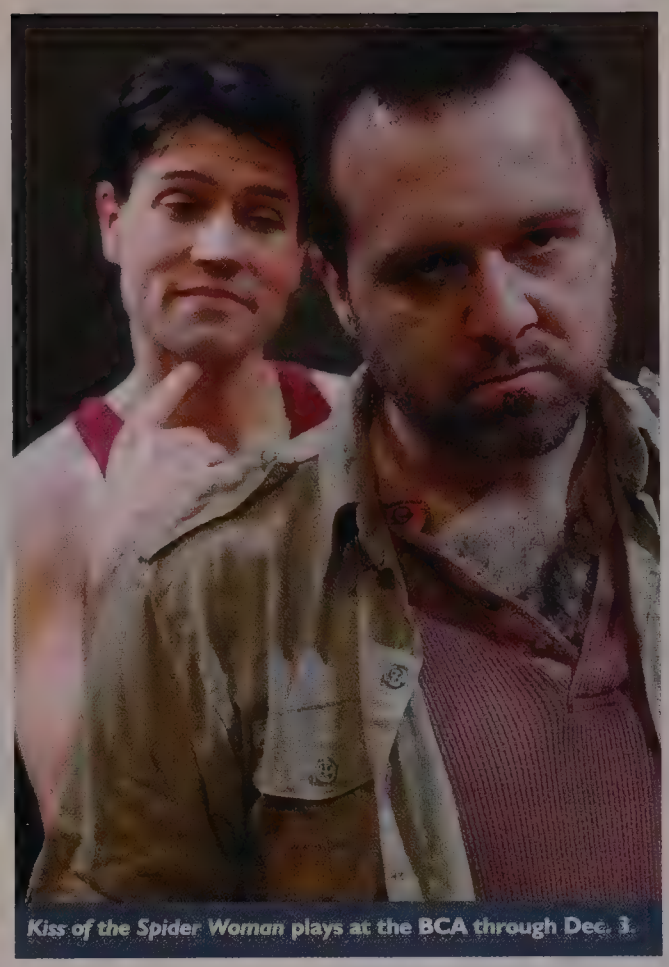
ucie de Lammermoor
hubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to oylston. Nov. 9, 7:30 pm; Nov. 11, 7:30 pm; Nov. 3, 3 pm; Nov. 15, 7:30 pm. $33-$166. Boston Lyric Opera opens the season with a French version of Donizetti's love story about a woman alone in a orld of manipulative men.

Menopause: The Musical
tuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-26-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; at.-Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. In Jeannie Linder's usical, a quartet of aging baby boomers with noth-ng in common but memory loss and hot flashes eets at a lingerie sale.

Number
he Lyric Stage Company, YWCA Copley, 140 larendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyric age.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through ov.19. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Ved.-Thu., 7:30 pm (some variation; call for detailed hedule). $20-$45. In this play by Caryl Churchill, father must explain to his son that he is one of any clones.

One-Man Star Wars Trilogy
Vilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-008). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green ine to Boylston. Through Nov. 13. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; at., 6 and 9 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $38.50. All of your fa-orite Star Wars characters come to life in this one-an show by Charlie Ross.

ermanent Whole Life
oston Playwright's Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., oston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: Green Line to Pleasant St. Through Nov. 20. hur., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15-$25. Wesley Salvek directs this dark comedy about a funeral-chasing insurance claims salesman and his protégé.


Kiss of the Spider Woman plays at the BCA through Dec. 3.

Shear Madness
The Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing, Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This comedic whodunit, set in a crazy unisex hair salon, holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

True West
New Repertory Theatre, Arsenal Center for the Arts, Watertown (617-923-8487). www.newrep.org. Through Nov. 20. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3:30 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Sam Shepard's comedy tells of a writer's attempts to sell a screenplay in Hollywood.

Women on the Verge of HRT
Plaza Theatre at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.sugan.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Nov. 19. Wed.-Thu, 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Marie Jones' comedy addresses the taboos surrounding the sex lives of older women.

Dance

Anniversdance/ Danciversary
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). www.dancecomplex.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Nov. 19, 8 pm; Nov. 20, 7 pm. $15. This 14th anniversary celebration of the Dance Complex features premiere performances of solos, duets and ensembles by its staff.

Trace
Berenson Hall at Hebrew College, 160 Herrick Road, Newton (617-559-8610). www.hebrewcollege.edu. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Nov. 12, 7:30 pm. $25 general, $10 students w/ ID. Andrea Cheatham choreographs this performance of solos and duets that address various aspects of Jewish history and culture.

A Tribute to Murray Louis
Boston Conservatory Theatre, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Nov. 10-13. Thurs.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $16 general, $5 seniors and students. Yasuko Tokunaga and Alberto del Saz direct this performance of three Louis pieces: *Schubert Suite, Index* and *Four Brubeck Pieces.*

Comedy

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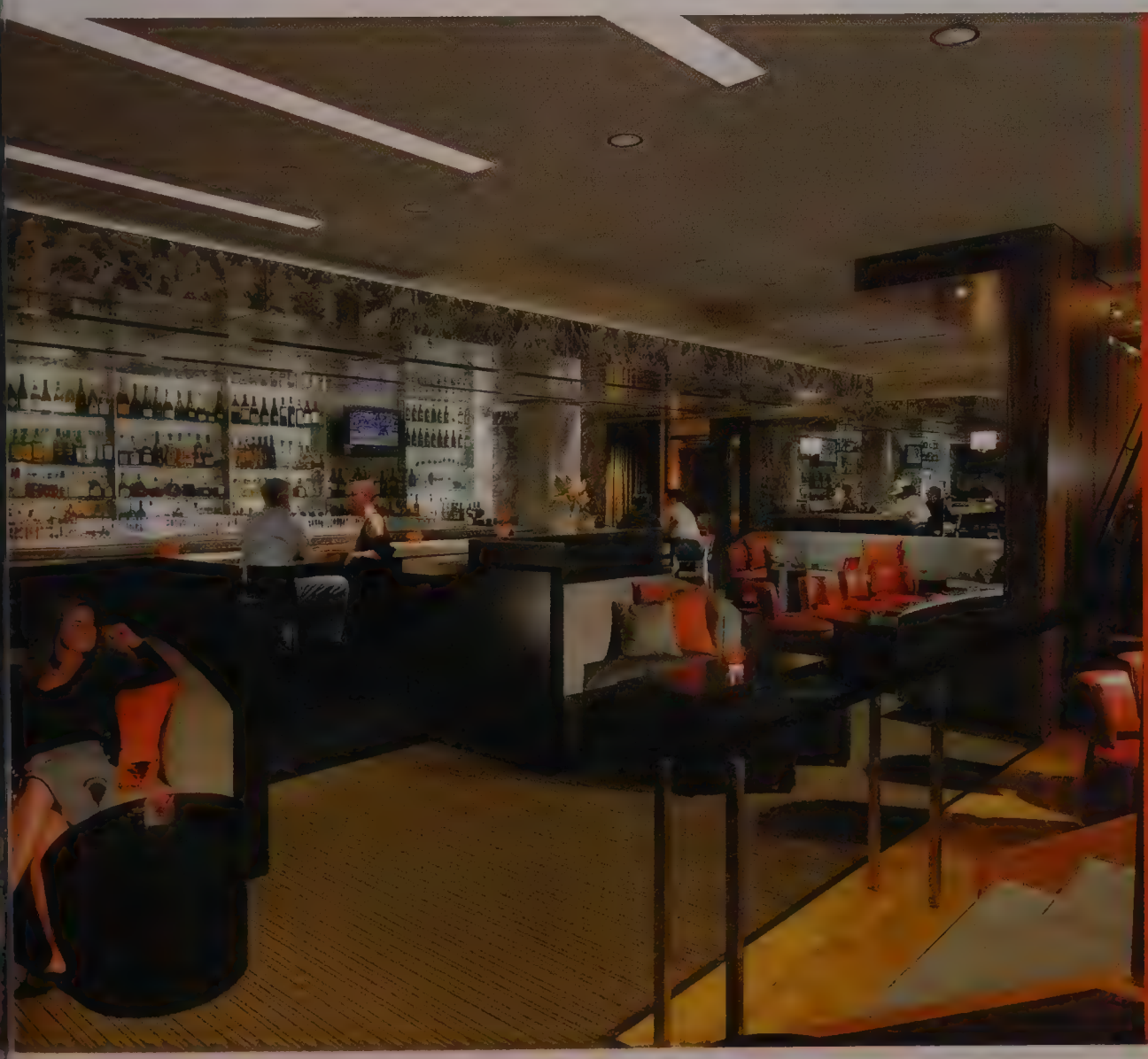
STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Nov. 9, 8 pm: Mike McDonald, $12. •Nov. 10, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Nov. 11, 8 pm: Judah Friedlander, *Wet Hot American Summer, Zoolander*, $21; 10:30 pm: John Valby, $20. •Nov. 12, 6 pm: Tommy Morin, $20; 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Judah Friedlander. •Nov. 13, 7 pm: Tony Moschetto, $12. •Nov. 14, 8 pm: Amateur Show-


The Foundation Lounge
"...all class, with a high-concept Japanese snack menu..."
★★★★ The Boston Phoenix
"...sleek, chic, and streamlined..."
Boston Magazine
"Cocktails may be the focus at this lounge, but the Zensai are what I'll return for."
★★1/2 The Boston Globe
Boston's Best : "New Hot Spot"
The Improper Bostonian
FOUNDATION LOUNGE
Featuring Zensai : Japanese appetizers
Patio Seating
Private Events & Functions
Valet Parking
Hotel Commonwealth
Kenmore Square
500 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston
617-859-9900
www.thefoundationlounge.com

e hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Nov. 15, 5 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •Nov. 16, pm: Mike Donovan, $12. •Nov. 17, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Nov. 18, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Robert Schimmel, *Howard Stern Show, Scary Movie 2*, $22.50. •Nov. 19, 6 pm, 8:15 pm, 10:30 pm: Robert Schimmel, $27.50. •Nov. 20, 7 pm: D.J. Hazzard, $12. •Nov. 21, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Nov. 22, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $12.

Comedy Studio

Harvard Square, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Nov. 9: Mary Beth Cowan, Jen Griffith, Kris Norton, Kevin Neales. •Nov. 10: The Dan Sally Show: Peter Bowers, Arielle Goldman, Eric Cheung, Dan Boulger. •Nov. 11: Joe Wong, Bob Hagearty, Tom E. Morello, the Walsh Bros. •Nov. 12: Joe Wong, Bethany Van Delft, the Steamy Bohemians. •Nov. 13: Erin Judge Presents...Charlie Hatton, Kris Earle, Mike Oster, Paul Day. • Nov. 15: Magic Lounge with Simon Lovell. •Nov. 16: Steve Calechman, Amanda White, Constantine, Daniella Capolino. •Nov. 17: The Dan Sally Show: Sean Caulfield, Adam Pearlman, Bryan Ames, Arthur Meyers. •Nov. 18: Robby Roadsteamer, Steve Albert, Christian Lynch, Andrea Henry. •Nov. 19: Brian Gordon, Robby Roadsteamer, Harris Wittles. •Nov. 20: Erin Judge Presents...Eric Cheung, Chrissy Kelleher, Mandy Donovan, Jimmy Wahl. •Nov. 22: Magic Lounge.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions •Thu., Fri. and Sat., 7:30 pm, $15-$25: *Jimmy Tingle's American Dream* is a one-man show that combines comedy, political commentary and storytelling.

True West plays at the New Repertory Theatre in Watertown, through Nov. 20.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semi-finalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians at Kennedy's Midtown. Call the restaurant for an updated schedule.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 8:30 pm. $10-$22. •Nov. 10-12, 8:30 pm: Jim McCue. •Nov. 17-19, 8:30 pm: Mark Scalia.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Dinner packages available. • Summer in New England: Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 and 10 pm, $15-$20. •The Midnight Show: Sat., 12 am, $10. •NXT: Thu., 9:45 pm, $5. •Lost in Boston...or How I Learned to Love That Dirty Water: Wed., $15.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Hump Fringe Show. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$12: UnNatural Selection: A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Tales of a Broken Heart. Marcelo Illarmo discusses his life-threatening heart condition and fights it with humor; 10 pm, $10-$12: Theatre Sports. The audience scores two opposing improv teams based on who's funnier. •Sat., pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for individuals of all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-$12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening features performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Boston-based short-form improv comedy group performs skits that involve participation from members of the audience.

The Tribe

67 Stuart St., Boston (617-510-4447). www.tribboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu. $7-$10; Fri., $10-$15. 8 pm. Every Thursday and Friday, The Tribe sponsors this comedy show featuring a collection of improv comedians who poke fun at everything, including themselves. Acts include Snowflakes, Sister Brother, Sosnys and Vilalobos.

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New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

apote ★★★

man Capote revolutionized pop culture with his 65 "nonfiction novel" *In Cold Blood*. Without it, might not have had subsequent books like *The fect Storm* or *A Civil Action*, nor film documenies like the Maysles brothers' *Salesman* and the len of movies it inspired. This impressionistic ma about the long genesis of the book follows pote (Philip Seymour Hoffman) as he learns of a tal Kansas farmhouse murder and sees human ma where others might see only savagery. But in earthing the humanity of the killers, Capote benes torn between his initial desire to help them d, after years of appeals, his desire that they finally executed so he can finish the book. There's a fine e between Capote's playful way of performing at ties and the white lies with which he manipues Perry Smith (Clifton Collins Jr.), the killer h whom he bonds most deeply. Hoffman imrses himself in the role of the writer who's both usy and catty, and the movie wisely gives its proonist a matter-of-fact introduction that makes it y for audiences to accept Hoffman as Capote. (At rvard Square, Coolidge Corner and the Embassy ltham.)

he Constant Gardener ★★

rnando Meirelles' *City of God* was one of the best ports of recent years, and he gives his English-lanage debut some of its stylistic energy, until the ry goes south. Ralph Fiennes plays the title charer in this John Le Carré adaptation, an English lomat posted to Kenya who's content to merely his job looking out for British interests there. But e nervous energy of his idealistic wife (Rachel eisz) makes her the character who most jibes with eirelles' style. She prods the English diplomats to p the locals more, especially to protect them from e ethically challenged drug trials run by a large ropean pharmaceutical company. The setup offers e exotic setting and moral murkiness of Western-abroad thrillers such as *The Tailor of Panama* and e *Quiet American*. But moral murkiness turns into nething much more simplistic by the time the lomat picks up his wife's cause and starts uthing into the link between the greedy pharmatical firm and complicit English diplomats. His nsformation turns the movie into a less interesttale of good versus evil. (At Kendall Square.)

rpse Bride ★★★

n Burton's second foray into animated features is nter and more colorful in tone than *The Nightre Before Christmas*. It even has peppy songs. But squiggly-Goth look and pointy-chinned characs are undeniably Burton, recalling *Vincent*, the mated short he made back before he'd ever dited features (Burton produced *Nightmare* and coected *Corpse Bride* with Mike Johnson). This Vician tale of a meek young man (voiced by Johnny pp), whose arranged wedding to an aristocratic llflower (Emily Watson) gets sidetracked by his dvertent awakening of the title character (Hea Bonham Carter), works as offbeat romance, wever far-fetched it might sound. No real new ritory for Burton and nothing to get excited ut, but considering that two of his three most rent movies were remakes, this is less of a rehash n I had feared. (At Boston Common, Fenway l suburbs.)

zabethtown ★★

ce we're talking about a Cameron Crowe movie, haps a musical reference is in order. The clarity he *Jerry Maguire* and *Almost Famous* writer-direc's latest seems to flit in and out like a distant radio tion on a starry night. Its Jack Lemmon-esque o suffering a crisis of confidence, his high-strung supportive love interest and the musical monts are all prime Crowe ingredients. But in this ry of a just-fired, just-dumped Oregon sneaker deer (Orlando Bloom) who must head to Kenky to plan his father's funeral, where he finds soe in a pushy stewardess (Kirsten Dunst), metimes the romance and laughs gel, sometimes y don't. An all-night phone call between the two l a cross-country road trip she plans for him are hlights, while a memorial speech by his mother san Sarandon) and a surplus of folksy action with l's Kentucky relatives are not. Orlando Bloom's performance also makes you long for Tobey guire, Jake Gyllenhaal or Leonardo DiCaprio. Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

od Night, and Good Luck ★★★½

re's a great amount of passion in George oney's 1950s tale—for journalism, for liberty, for viemaking. Filmed in an evocative, cigarette-ke-filled black-and-white, his second movie as

Up in Smoke

West Bank slackers get serious in *Paradise Now*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

One person's terrorism is another's freedom-fighting. But there's one thing about terrorism or freedom-fighting or whatever you want to call it that's always true: It's dramatic. The psychological and political circumstances that drive someone to take up arms, risk one's life or—in the case of suicide bombers—sacrifice one's life drip with drama. If a moviemaker credibly taps into that tension, the results can be extremely involving, as is the case in Dutch writer-director Hany Abu-Assad's lean *Paradise Now*.

Terrorists have been at the center of at least two standout movies from recent memory: 1999's Indian *The Terrorist* and the following year's German drama *The Legend of Rita* (neither stuck around very long). *Paradise Now* hews much closer to *The Terrorist* because it, too, is about a suicide bombing and concentrates more on characters than political issues. But the new movie dares to travel to the epicenter of suicide bombing, the Middle East.

Those bombers, Khaled (Ali Suliman) and Said (Kais Nashef), seem almost like a West Bank Beavis and Butt-Head when we meet them. They work at an auto repair garage, and in their first scene they carry out a "Yes, it is," "No, it isn't" argument with a disgruntled customer who insists his repaired bumper is crooked. After a couple of minutes arguing, Khaled suddenly agrees with the customer, grabs a jack and whacks the bumper to the ground. Yup, it's crooked.

The Palestinian pals seem much more at home when we next see them: sitting on a hillside, smoking a water pipe and watching the world pass by. So it's a big surprise to the viewer when a friend informs them that they've been chosen for a suicide bombing to be carried out the following day. These guys don't seem the politically aware sort, let alone zealots.

And that gets you wondering if they can actually go through with the mission, which calls for them to secretly cross into Israel and travel to Tel Aviv. Khaled seems rather dim and Said is dispassionate, although we know the latter has a crush on Suha (Lubna Azabel), a Moroccan-raised, worldly young woman who's just moved to the West Bank. Each buddy lives with his mother and younger siblings, to whom they return for the night but cannot inform of their mission.

There's a fascinating sequence in which Said and Khaled are shorn of their scruffiness, dressed in plain black suits and ties, briefed on their mission by local insurgent leaders and, in a shot that obviously echoes *The Last Supper*, fed. Each then has a belt of explosives strapped around his mid-section that will detonate if anyone, including the bomber, tries to remove it. Writer-director Abu-Assad has already given us an idea of the danger involved, when he shows us that the guy wiring up the bombs has hooks for hands.

At this point, the plot seems as if it's as locked in as those belts. But *Paradise Now* very slyly sets us up for a swerve that kicks into action once Said and Khaled step through a hole in the border fence and into Israel. The approach of a police car causes the pair's Israeli contact to drive off and abandon them before they can get into his vehicle. There's a scamper back to the fence, a separation, a hunt for the missing Said and much wrangling over whether Said and Khaled can or want to try to complete the mission again.

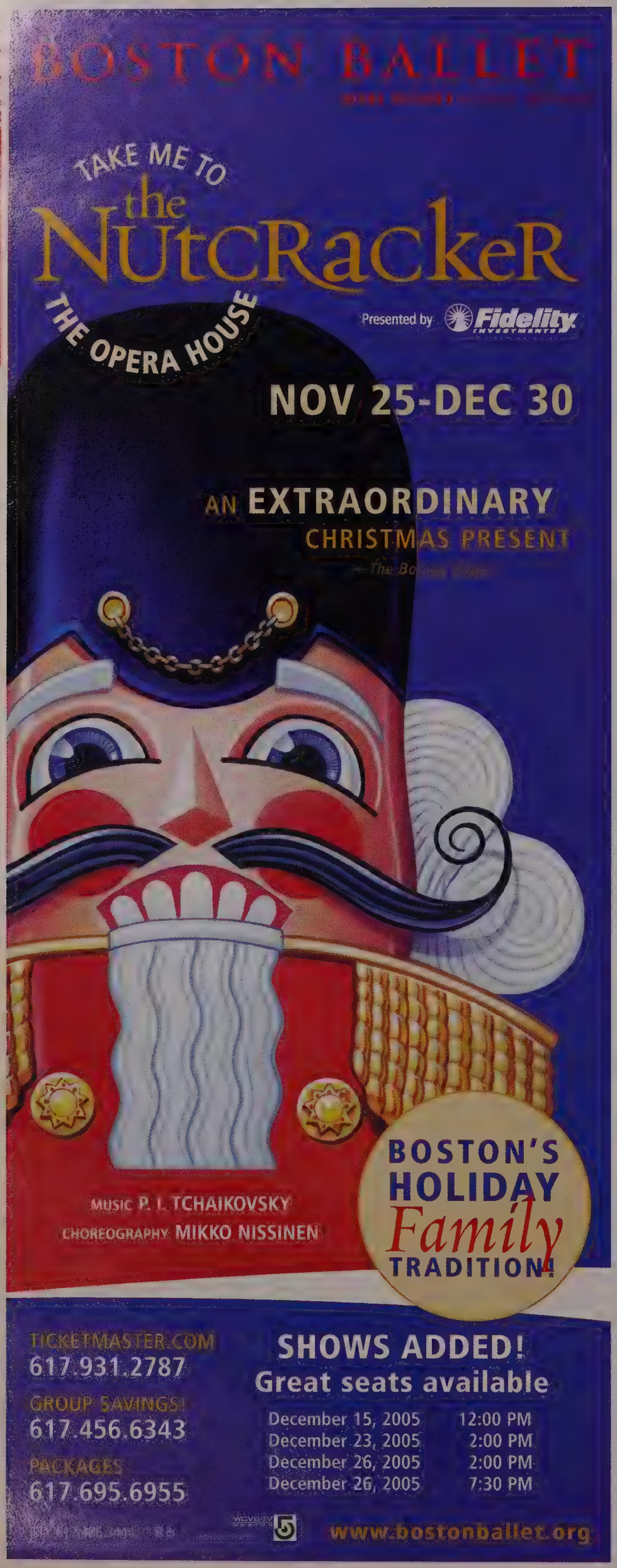
The movie touches upon the pair's political motivations at this point, as the mission's planners fear that Said has been arrested and perhaps betrayed their cause under interrogation. He has to prove his worthiness, and he does in a monologue in which the political (living under Israeli occupation is like living in prison) is only as important as the personal (he wants redemption for the humiliation his father brought upon his family long ago). Meanwhile Suha happens to be the daughter of a man considered a heroic martyr to the Palestinian cause, yet she opposes suicide bombing; her feelings are expressed in the movie's most overt consideration of the ethics of suicide bombing.

But this scene doesn't feel academic, nor does it stiffly "present all sides." Suha also opposes the mission on practical grounds—that it gives Israelis an excuse to victimize Palestinians and makes it harder for those the bombers leave behind. And *Paradise Now* is hardly specific to the West Bank. You could plug its characters and their dilemmas into a dozen hot spots. That's part of its power. iB

Palestinian buddies Khaled (Ali Suliman) and Said (Kais Nashef) try to cross the Israeli border.

Paradise Now ★★★

Directed by Hany Abu-Assad. Written by Bero Beyer and Abu-Assad. With Kais Nashef, Ali Suliman and Lubna Azabel. In Arabic with subtitles. Rated PG-13. At Kendall Square.



director chronicles the decision by CBS TV's no-nonsense star journalist, Edward R. Murrow (David Strathairn), to take on Senator Joseph McCarthy, the communist-hunting bully. Murrow's on-air bravery helps turn the tide against McCarthy, and beneath the tense story of dilemmas and decisions—told in a vibrant style in which the camera often seems to "find" the action, documentary-style—is the provocative question of what it means to be an American. Clooney sets the tone for the movie by not taking the lead role. Instead, he plays Murrow's producer, Fred Friendly. Similarly, the movie doesn't grandstand or go for "big moments," and Strathairn not only catches Murrow's distinctively clipped cadence, but also lets that cadence define the moral precision of both the character and the movie itself. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

A History of Violence ★★★

In most of David Cronenberg's movies, like *Scanners*, *Rabid* or *The Fly*, inner turmoil manifests itself in bodily protrusions and malfunctions. Not so in this movie. The conflicts within Tom Stall (Viggo Mortensen) remain internal. He's a Midwestern solid citizen whose placid life accelerates after he fights off two would-be attackers in his café and shoots them with their own gun. Tom's sudden heroism brings the media pouncing and changes the way his neighbors view him. And when a persistent Philadelphia gangster (Ed Harris) arrives, giving Tom the stink-eye and insisting Tom is an old adversary with whom he has a score to settle, the threat of more violence intrudes. When previously mild-mannered Tom meets this threat head-on, as he did with the attackers, even Tom's loving wife (Maria Bello) starts to question just who her husband is. This thriller, based on a graphic novel, travels to several interesting nooks, especially in the relationship between the spouses, despite being one of Cronenberg's more conventional stories. It's also more involving than his other recent movies (*Spider*, *eXistenZ*). Cronenberg also casts well, as usual, with Mortensen, Bello and Harris bringing credibility to their roles. The last's performance intentionally verges on the comic, while William Hurt's role, as another Philly mobster, is also a hoot, though perhaps not so intentionally. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Jarhead ★★½

Sam Mendes' adaptation of former Marine sniper Anthony Swofford's book about his experiences during the first Gulf War has narrowed the focus of the story so much that it loses a lot from page to screen. By dropping the background about Swofford (bulked-up Jake Gyllenhaal), who's foolishly followed in the path of his miserable ex-Marine dad, as well as the flash-forwards to his post-war encounters with his comrades (who, like him, aren't doing so well), the movie becomes more about the war than the people fighting it. But, as a movie chronicling the absurdity of the Gulf War, aka "The Media War"—with Swofford's platoon waiting in the Gulf for six months for the war to begin and then seeing frustratingly little action—this runs a distant second to 1999's more inventive *Three Kings*. Stripped of Swofford's tangents, it's rendered fairly conventional: You have the scared, confused foot soldiers (with Peter Sarsgaard and Lucas Black also among the cast), the hard-working staff sergeant (Jamie Foxx) and the oblivious senior officer who cares only about his power (Dennis Haysbert). What's here is decent, but it might have been less generic had it dared to be more adventurous. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Keane ★★★½

Writer-director Lodge Kerrigan offers shades of his wild-eyed 1994 debut, *Clean, Shaven*, in his latest, a similarly intimate look at a manic man who, in this case, may be suffering from schizophrenia. The title character (Damian Lewis) spends the first 20 minutes in a frenzy, obsessively going over the details of his young daughter's abduction in the New York Port Authority bus station months before. Of course, there's no guarantee this abduction really happened. The divorced guy might be transferring some news event onto himself or maybe he even harmed his daughter himself. You don't know. You have to watch and wait and see what's up with him, and following this desperate guy is totally mesmerizing. He settles down a bit and befriends a down-on-her-luck woman (Amy Ryan) who's staying at the same transient hotel with her own young daughter (Abigail Breslin). The way this woman and her daughter unwittingly affect his emotional journey is creepy, terrifying and sometimes downright touching, as you're never sure if William Keane is going to self-destruct, destroy someone around him or do neither. Ultimately, his actions straddle all three, making the movie even more remarkable. (At the Brattle, Nov. 22.)

North Country ★★½

Here's a question: Is it more palatable when a Oscar-craving, one-dimensional tale of heroism comes from talented people than when it's made b the usual bunch of hacks? I guess it elevates things little—hence the mixed reaction rather than repu sion to this based-on-reality tale of Josey Aime (Charlize Theron), the Minnesota iron-mine worke who was the first woman to win a sexual harassmer suit. This single mom sued the iron mine where sh and the other female workers were outnumbered 3 to one and repeatedly bullied and belittled by th men in the pit and upstairs in management. Th story, reminiscent of *Alice Doesn't Live Here Any more* and *Norma Rae*, wisely covers the range o knocks Josey suffers and, in her first America movie, director Niki Caro (*Whale Rider*) keep things respectable, while Theron never grandstand as Josey. But the "big" Oscar-clip moments can sti evoke a cringe or two, even though they're delivere by such sturdy players as Frances McDormand (a Josey's dying co-worker) and Richard Jenkins (a Josey's crusty dad). With plenty of songs by Min nesota mining country expat Bob Dylan. (At Bosto Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Passenger ★★★

Frankly, it's been decades since I've seen Michelan gelo Antonioni's 1975 existential thriller, but it ha rarely been revived and deserves to be rediscovered It's a very atmospheric, *Sheltering Sky* sort of tal starring Jack Nicholson, back when he played actua characters on a regular basis, as a disillusione American journalist in North Africa. He takes th identity of a dead man, and finds that walking in an other man's shoes is not what it's cracked up to be Then again, he gets to cavort with Maria Schneide from *Last Tango in Paris*. This national re-release in cludes several minutes of action cut from the origi nal American release. (At Kendall Square.)

The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio ★★

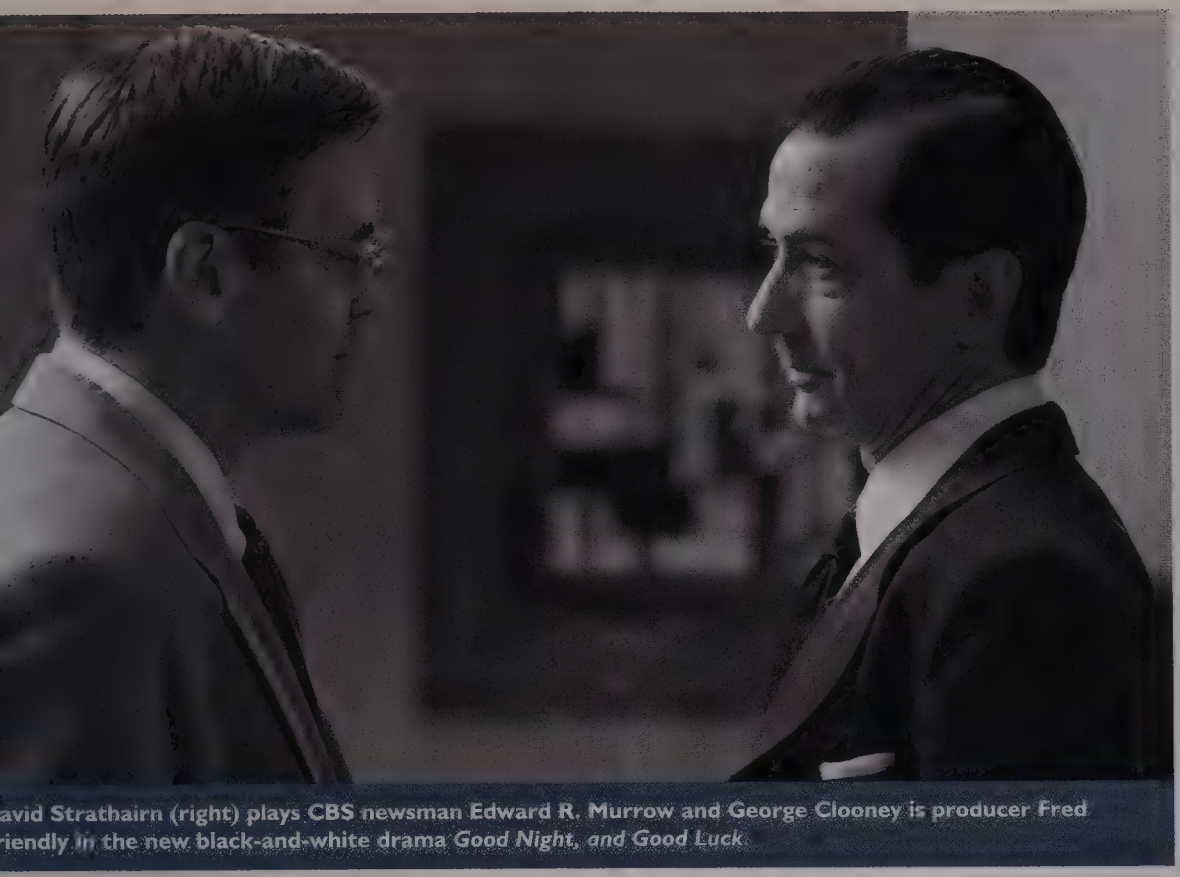
Jane Anderson's 1950s period piece, based on a tru story, tries to both celebrate the era's heartlan quaintness and point out its inequities, but the mi never quite gels. Julianne Moore does her best as th title character, Evelyn Ryan, a put-upon mother of 1 who keeps her family financially afloat by winnin numerous contests in which she comes up with snappy slogan or jingle for a product. Evelyn is a shar tack who, in a more perfect world, would have bee making a fine salary from an advertising agency in stead of scraping coins together to pay the milkman And her success bruises the ego of her alcoholic short-tempered, violent husband (Woody Harrelson whom she loves nonetheless. The mood swings be tween comedy and tragedy, preventing the film fron ever really mining the bittersweet middle ground i wants to occupy. Its "Spielberg ending," which bring in the real-life children of Evelyn for the last se quence, is a major miscue. Not only is it clumsy but after verbally identifying Terry Ryan (who wrote th book this is based on), the movie then insults the au dience by flashing her name onscreen. Why didn you just slap a "Hello, My Name Is…" name tag o her, too? (At Kendall Square.)

Protocols of Zion ★★½

Veteran documentary director Marc Levin (*Slam*) hi upon a good idea when he sought to explore the new strain of anti-Semitism in the myth that, so it goes the events of Sept. 11, 2001, were a Jewish plot, an Jews who worked at the World Trade Center wer warned ahead of time and stayed home that day. C course, there were many Jews among the casualties and Levin finds a correlation between that myth an the post–Sept. 11 resurgence in popularity of *The Pro tocols of the Elders of Zion*, the much-debunked forger outlining a Jewish plan for world domination, be lieved to have been perpetrated by Czarist Russia's se cret police. It is, as one person here puts it, the "li that won't die." Levin's HBO-bound movie is inter esting when it looks at new twists in old scapegoatin (hey, you can get *The Protocols* as a book on tape, rea in a redneck, KKK-friendly voice). But instead o concentrating on people who have no real reason t demonize Jews, the movie steps into the morass of th Middle East conflict, which certainly colors a lot o anti-Semitism, but which is not the same strain o bizarre anti-Semitism as he sets out to find. A perso who thinks 33 percent of Pepsi's profits go to Israe (there's one here) is a lot different from a Palestinian American with West Bank relatives who hates Jew (and Levin has no trouble finding extremist Jews t say equally hateful things about Arabs). This apples and-oranges situation and a loss of focus ultimatel cloud the movie. (At Kendall Square.)

Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit ★★★

Nick Park's 1990s pop-culture sensations return i their first feature, and it's a good one. The stop



avid Strathairn (right) plays CBS newsman Edward R. Murrow and George Clooney is producer Fred riendly in the new black-and-white drama *Good Night, and Good Luck*.

ion-clay-animation rendering potty English entor Wallace (voiced by Peter Sallis) and his ty (and smarter) dog Gromit is simply more ex- ssive than any other example of that style of nation. Gromit's facial reactions are funnier more subtle than those of most human actors, the dog also has more humanity than most ple. Gromit, of course, must pull his master out ight situations, big and small, again and again ng the movie, which finds the duo working as den pest exterminators whose services are in at demand because of their village's upcoming vegetable-growing contest. When a supersized rabbit threatens to destroy the veggies, the contest and Wallace and Gromit's reputation, the two (well, Gromit mostly) must save the day. Like Park's 1990s shorts, the movie is smart and playful, and the influx of celebrity voice actors (Helena Bonham Carter, Ralph Fiennes) doesn't spoil things a bit. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Weather Man ★★

My policy on Nicolas Cage movies is this: the more neuroses, the better. Give me *Adaptation* and *Matchstick Men* over *National Treasure* every time. *The Weather Man* might be the exception to that policy. It presents Cage's title character as a bundle of nerves who always manages to mess things up with his family, no matter how good his intentions might be, so it at least offers Cage a flawed hero to play. But director Gore Verbinski, who has worked in very broad strokes in past movies like *Mouse Hunt* and *Pirates of the Caribbean*, tries to make a more substantial comedy-drama than he's ever dared. Unfortunately Verbinski, a former director of commercials, too often goes for the shallow choice, like a paper clip inexorably drawn to a magnet. This makes Cage's latest a movie that wants to have substance, yet doesn't know how to create it. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Where the Truth Lies ★★

Alas, getting an NC-17 rating—which was rejected in favor of an unrated release—is perhaps the most interesting thing about this movie. Take away the nudity and sometimes explicit focus on sexual desire, and this latest film by Atom Egoyan (*The Sweet Hereafter*) is frighteningly like a cheesy TV movie. Kevin Bacon and Colin Firth play a Martin-and-Lewis-like 1950s comedy team who break up following a hushed-up incident involving a dead woman (Rachel Blanchard), with whom they caroused. Fifteen years later, a young author (Alison Lohman) starts poking around and trying to get one of the estranged pair to spill the beans in a tell-all book. Of course, she opens up all kinds of emotional baggage and gets trapped inside the ex-partners' strained relationship. But this story struggles from the start, in the opening telethon sequence in which the two comics aren't totally convincing as showbiz icons, brotherly partners or even funny men. Lohman is also unable to give the young author the sort of sharp street smarts needed to deal with these worldlier men trying to guard secrets. So this tawdry mystery is ultimately more tawdry than mysterious, and it never reels you in. It gets points as trashy cheese, but not for much else. (At Kendall Square.)

Winter Soldier ★★★★

The legendary 1972 documentary—excerpted in such recent Vietnam-themed films as *Going Upriver: The Long War of John Kerry* and *Unfinished Symphony: Democracy and Dissent*—is even more amazing and disturbing than expected. Little seen locally since it played the late, great Orson Welles Cinema during its original release, the film chronicles the Winter Soldier Investigation of early 1971, when Vietnam Veterans Against the War conducted a public forum in which returning soldiers bravely bore witness to the atrocities they saw committed, and committed themselves. It was all an effort to counter the unrealistic optimism about the war that the Pentagon had been foisting on the country for years, and to make the public realize the moral depths to which our war effort had sunk. Produced by a collaborative of moviemakers that included future documentary icon Barbara Kopple (*Harlan County U.S.A.*, *American Dream*), the movie is also frighteningly relevant to much of what's happened in Iraq. When one soldier says that, in war, "If nobody tells you it's wrong, you do it," the silent role of military and political leadership in the Abu Ghraib tortures becomes chillingly clear. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, Nov. 10-12.)

Special Events

17th Annual Boston Jewish Film Festival

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). www.bjff.org. Through Nov. 13. This film festival showcases more than 40 Jewish-themed

contemporary films from around the world. Visiting artists from various countries introduce their films, answer audience questions and participate in panel discussions.

12th Annual Boston Festival of Films from Iran

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. Nov. 11-Dec. 4. The film festival is highlighted by Mohammad Rasoulof's *Iron Island* and Tamineh Milani's *The Unwanted Woman*, along with 13 other films.

Magners Irish Film Festival

Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837). www.brattletheatre.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.; Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.irishfilmfestival.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 17-21. Featuring more than 30 films in various categories, this festival celebrates Irish cinema and filmmakers. Films include *Song for Raggy Boy* and *Man About Dog*.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BARTOS THEATRE @ MIT

Film Nights

•Nov. 10, 7 pm. **Beaver Trilogy** *2001.* Trent Harris documents a 1979 Utah talent show using three previously released short films.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bruce Lee and His Legacy

•Nov. 14, 6 pm. **Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story** *1993.* This film documents the life of the action movie star and martial arts innovator. Rob Cohen directs.

•Nov. 21, 6 pm. **Wo Hu Cang Long** *(Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon) 2000.* A Chinese warrior searches for a stolen sword and finds love and battle in this martial arts film. Ang Lee directs.

Jake Gyllenhaal is a Marine during the first Gulf War in *Jarhead*.

Fighting the Fires of Hate

•Nov. 20, 2 pm. **The Wandering Jews / America Condemns Nazi Terrorism** *1933/1938.* Executive Director of the National Center for Jewish Film, Sharon Pucker, introduces these two films describing the Jewish struggle.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Samurai Cinema

•Nov. 9, 7:00 pm. **Samurai Rebellion** *1967.* Masaki Kobayashi directs the story of a samurai and the battle against his lord.

•Nov. 9, 4:15 pm, 9:00 pm. **Harakiri** *1962.* Masaki Kobayashi directs this film featuring the tale of a penniless man who considers the possibility of ritual suicide as part of an honorable tradition.

•Nov. 10, 8:00 pm. **The Seven Samurai** *1954.* In 16th century Japan, civil war and death have ravaged the country and a band of samurai clash with bandits.

•Nov. 11, 12 am. **Revenge of the Shogun Women** *1977.* Mei Chung Chang directs this 3-D action film.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

•Nov. 9-10, 8 pm. **Awake Zion** *2004.* Reggae f and director Monica Haim demonstrates the co mon culture between Judaism and reggae.

•Nov. 11, 8 pm. **The Squid & The Whale** *200* Jeff Daniels and Laura Linney delve into the su ject of divorce in 1986 Brooklyn. Noah Bumba directs.

•Nov. 11, 8 pm. **The Goebbels Experiment** *200* Lutz Hachmeister directs this film in which t voice of Kenneth Branagh brings to life the pap and diaries of one of Hitler's henchmen.

ARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

ontemporary French Film
Nov. 14, 7 pm. **Beau Travail** *(Good Work) 1999.* his film, adapted from a Melville novel, examines e life of an isolated soldier in the French Foreign Le- on. Claire Denis directs.
Nov. 21, 7 pm. **Sombre** *1998.* Phillipe Grandrieux rects this tale of a virgin smitten with a serial-killing onster who has travelled to France.

lm Architectures
Nov. 15, 7 pm. **Playtime** *1967.* Director Jacques Tati cuses on modern architecture as he follows a group American tourists through France.

arvard LBGT Film Series
Nov. 16, 9:15 pm. **But I'm a Cheerleader** *1999.* mie Babbit directs this comedy about a cheerleader spected of being a lesbian who then falls for another male at a camp intended to turn her straight.

ubert Saupner
Nov. 12, 7 pm. **Darwin's Nightmare** *2004.* Director ubert Saupner is present for this screening of his film hich examines a new species of Nile perch and its ef- ct on an African lake.

nagining the City
Nov. 9, 7 pm. **The Belly of an Architect** *1987.* An merican architect's obsession with his stomach de- oys his personal and professional lives. Peter Green- ay directs.
Nov. 16, 7 pm. **L'Eclisse (The Eclipse)** *1962.* ichelangelo Antonioni directs this final installment a trilogy focusing on a quarreling couple and their thdrawal into solitude.

the Trenches: Filming World War I
Nov. 9, 9 pm. **Die Standarte** *(Battle Flag) 1977.* A ldier delivers a battle flag to Vienna where romance th a princess ensues. Ottokar Runze directs.
Nov. 11, 7 pm. **The Big Parade** *1925.* This anti- ar film documents an American soldier's tenure in WI and features live piano accompaniment by kov Gubanov. King Vidor directs.
Nov. 11, 9 pm. **What Price Glory?** *1926.* Raoul alsh directs this silent film about two men who vie r a woman's affection until the outbreak of WWI.
Nov. 13, 7 pm. **The Four Horsemen of the Apoca- pse** *1921.* Rex Ingram directs this story of a ench artist-turned-soldier who endures a split in s family because of differing loyalties in WWI.
Nov. 14, 9 pm. **A Very Long Engagement** *2004.* A ldier is left for dead after trying to escape from bat- e. His optimistic love searches for him three years ter. Jean-Pierre Jeunet directs.
Nov. 15, 9:15 pm. **The Lost Patrol** *1934.* An army is randed in the desert after its commander is killed d defends itself inside a mosque. John Ford directs.
Nov. 21, 9 pm. **Paths of Glory** *1957.* Stanley ubrick directs this story of a general who harshly primands three of his men for cowardice after fail- g an impossible assault.
Nov. 22, 9 pm. **King and Country** *1964.* A lawyer efends a soldier court-marshalled for walking home England and abandoning battle. Joseph Losey di- cts.

NSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

riday Reel Rush
Nov. 11, 8 pm. **The Take** *2004.* Avi Lewis directs is documentary about a group of workers in uenos Aires who seize their factory after their supe- ors plan to destroy it.

IUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
Nov. 10, 2 pm; Nov. 11, 5:30 pm; Nov. 12, 10:30 am; ov. 19, 11 am; Nov. 20, 11 am. **Modigliani** *2004.* his film follows the final years of Italian painter medeo Modigliani and his rivalry with Picasso. ick David directs.

lorrors of War On Film
Nov. 10, 4:30 pm; Nov. 11, 2 pm; Nov. 12, 1 pm. **Vinter Soldier** *1972.* The Winterfilm Collective di- cts this documentary of a 1971 investigation into ietnam war atrocities, aided by the testimonies of ore than 125 Vietnam veterans.

USEUM OF SCIENCE

lugar Omni Theatre
Antarctica. The winner of the Prix du Jury at the IAX Film Festival features a helicopter view, scien- ic research and penguins. Through Jan. 1, 2006.
Fighter Pilot. Stephen Low follows F-15 Eagle pilot hn Stratton as he trains in the Nevada desert before ing sent into combat. Through Jan. 31, 2006.
Mars 3D. Explore the landscape and learn the his- ry of the red planet. Through Feb. 28, 2006.
Mysteries of Egypt. Nov. 9-11, 10 am. The first IAX film produced in collaboration with National eographic, this panoramic film reveals an ancient vilization through the eyes of an Egyptian man re- unting tales from the past to his granddaughter.
Special Effects. This film takes a behind-the-scenes look at the making of *Star Wars Special Edition, Kazaam!, Independence Day* and *Jumanji.* Through Jan- uary 2006.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater
- **Aliens of the Deep 3D.** James Cameron directs this film while discovering the strange lifeforms of the ocean floor. Through Nov. 23.
- **Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3D.** This film presents previously unseen footage and photos taken by NASA. Through February 2006.
- **Sharks 3D.** Jean-Michael Cousteau explores several shark species using 3-dimensional views. Through Feb. 2006.
- **Wild Safari 3D.** This film shows the African savannah from a safari jeep exploration. Through February 2006.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON

Regent Theatre
7 Medford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Bartos Theatre@MIT
20 Amest St. (617-253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

38 Cameron
38 Cameron Ave., Suite 100 (617-492-4091). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St. (617-876-6060). MBTA: Red Line to Central.

NEWTON

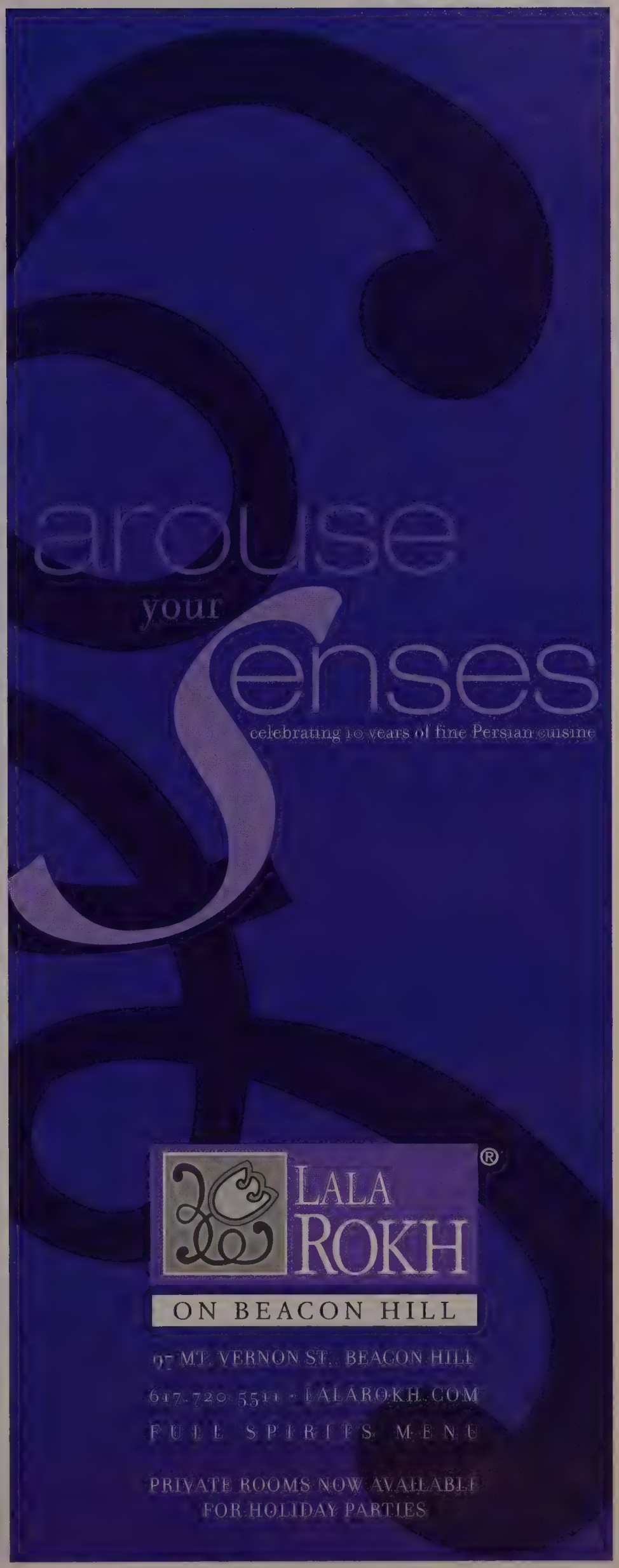
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060). MBTA: Commuter Rail to West Newton.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.



Metamorphoses

Patricia Barber spins artful jazz from love and mythology alike.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Once described by *Time Magazine* as a cross between singer Diana Krall and author Susan Sontag, Patricia Barber is a sly, sophisticated singer-pianist who knows that some people might see her as too smart for her own good.

"I can't help but be smart, but I also have a bag of cheap tricks," says Barber, citing "Gotcha" on her 2004 release *Live: A Fortnight in France*. "There are no multisyllabic words on that. My friend asked me if it would be possible [for me to write simply]. So I wrote a smart song using dumb words. 'Did you mistake fat and happy for stupid and blind?' I'm very proud of that."

Patricia Barbour combines mythology and music in her latest project to create a style all her own.

Of course, those "dumb" words slip off Barber's dark-alto tongue with sultry cool and offbeat phrasing, wrapped in jazz that completes her idiosyncratic angles.

"From my mind, you can't take on these large subjects from a very direct perspective," she says from her Chicago home. "I always think you have to come at them from the side. My particular working method is to fetishize some smaller aspect of a smaller issue, whether it's love lost, sex, politics, whatever it is."

Barber outdoes herself with her latest project: an 11-song cycle based on the Greek mythological characters in Roman poet Ovid's *Metamorphoses*—the result of a Guggenheim Fellowship grant, and slated for recording early next year.

"All the characters are quite different, so there isn't really a story that binds them," says Barber, who will unveil some of the material Nov. 17 and 18 at the Regattabar. The Cambridge club has become almost as regular a stop for her in this city as her decade-long residency at Chicago's Green Mill, where she works out material when she's not on tour. "Some of the songs are ready, some are a little loose and it's a matter of if I actually want to try one of those for an audience, and some of them are absolutely not ready yet."

One that has been ready for a while and appears on her live disc is "Whiteworld," an Oedipus-inspired song that skewers Western imperialism and has gained a new Iraq-inspired meaning.

"A lot of these stories have present-day analogies that I hardly have to draw," Barber says. "I also have this song about Phaeton that has to do with endangered species. That would be, maybe, the other most obviously political song. Phaeton accidentally burned the earth until Mother Earth was begging him to give the species that were still living one last chance. If that has such present-day implications, I can't help it."

Just as subtly evocative as Barber's lyrics is her music—skillfully crafted with help from the three-year-old quartet of guitarist Neal Alger, bassist Michael Arnopol and drummer Eric Montzka—which comes alive on *A Fortnight in France*. "It's fun to stretch out," she says. "France is very open to new sounds and experiments in music. They have a tradition of that with Pierre Boulez. Boston has always made me feel the same way. There's a bunch of smart people in Boston."

Barber's own versatility is heard in the CD's cover pairing of an instrumental "Witchcraft" with a vocal-led "Norwegian Wood" that she and her group gleefully deconstruct. "It's just a composition that's a vehicle for jumping off," she says. "Great compositions are that for jazz musicians."

Not that Barber, 49, listened to the Beatles growing up. Her father, who taught her piano at age five, was a jazz musician who played sax with bandleader Glenn Miller. Her mother was a fan of jazz vocalists such as Billie Holiday. In turn, Barber was tuned into the great American singers.

Later came the classic songwriters. "I'd have to say my biggest influence would be Cole Porter," says Barber, who also counts Mose Allison and Joni Mitchell among her main role models. Inspiration also came from singing standards at Chicago's Gold Star Sardine Bar from 1984 to 1994, after which time she began writing lyrics and moved to the Green Mill gig.

"It was great schooling for me," Barber, who later earned a Masters of Music from Northwestern University, says of her Gold Star repertoire. "That's what enabled me to write music, because I knew the forms of the standards so well."

Several albums later, she has developed a near-obsessive devotion to her art. "It can be difficult work and drive you crazy in the middle of the night," says Barber, citing sleepless nights she spent thinking about Persephone to complete her new song cycle. "Particularly thinking about how she used virtues toward an evil end… Yes, these things will torture you. But I also read an awful lot. I read Dante and I read the poets and I studied music during the Guggenheim Fellowship. I studied Schubert in particular, and harmony. It's actually work. It's all I do really." iB

Patricia Barber
plays the Regattabar Nov. 17-18.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by f (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest MBTA stop. Dea line is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings n accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from d ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provi accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Aerosmith & Lenny Kravitz Nov. 12, T Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
All-American Rejects Nov. 11, Avalon (617-93 2000).
Averi Nov. 12, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Reel Big Fish Nov. 12, Axis (617-931-2000).
Ryan Cabrera Nov. 14, Avalon (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Hideous Nickel, 10:4 Killer Canary, 9:45; St. Helena, 9 pm. Pub Stag Audrey Ryan, 8 pm; The Freeways, 7 pm, 21+
Avalon Soulive, Sam Kininger, 8 pm, $18.
Breezeway Rollins Ross, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm, no cover.
Club Passim The Del McCoury Band, Abig Washburn, 8 pm, $40; members, $38.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, 21+, cover.
Great Scott Blackout Bar, Earthride, Ichabod, Ian Robinson, Mark V, 9 pm, $6, 18+.
Hennessy's The Buzz, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Matthew Van Doren, Tim Miller, 8:30 p
Lizard Lounge Jennifer Kimball, Dennis Brenn Band, Residency, 7:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Make Believe, Shore Leav Those Who Wait, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstai Longwave, Giant Drag, The Auto Interiors, 7: pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way POP Nation, 9 pm, no cover.
Paradise Lounge International Pop Overthrow fe turing The Cyanide Valentine, Rooftop, Suici Club, Din, Sometimes, Why, School For The Dea Girl On Top, The Fawns, Jeen O'Brien, 7 pm, $10
Paradise Rock Club Jem with Josh Kelley, 8 p $15, 18+.
PA's Bright, Joe Turner and the Seven Levels, J Chasse, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Regattabar Pierra Hurel Trio, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Guy Mendilow Band, 9 pm, $10.
Terrace Lounge Silvard Kool, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Toad Eilen Jewel, 7 pm, Jen Kearney Band, 10 p 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cov
T.T. the Bear's Place Hail Social, Firebird Band, By Day, Bad Jamie, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Bri Lecesse, 9 pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Red Door Exchan 11:45 pm; The Bludlows, 10:45 pm; Tremulant, 9: pm; Softer, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Swim to Shore, 8 p Betty Widerski plays Irish Fiddle, 7 pm, 21+.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Evan Gutierrez Latin Jazz, 7:30 p no cover.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons.
Club Passim An Evening with Willy Porter, 8 p $25; members $23.
Dick's Last Resort The Likely, 7:20 pm, 21+, cover.
Felt Fooling April, The Tides, VMF, 9 pm, 21+.
Great Scott The Joggers, GoGoGo Airheart, Fac On Film, Choo Choo Larouge, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, A Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Jesse Lege, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, cover.
Kirkland Café Hyphens, 10 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Hilken Mancini, The Chris Brok Rock Band, 7:30 pm, $6 in advance, $8 at the doo
Middle East Upstairs: Quintron and Miss Pussyc Harry Merry, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Digal Planets, 9 pm, $23 in advance, $25 at the door, 18

Brien's Rock the Village Benefit Concert with ash and Burn, Bury the Needle, Lesser Evils, 9 , $8. 21+.
radise Lounge Jamspot Showcase featuring The nitations, V-Band, Confusious Say, 5 pm, $5, +.
radise Rock Club Shooter Jennings, Sarah rges, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
's Grandma, The Chris Peters Band, Happy the own, A Wild Finish, 8:45 pm, $6, 21+.
es Jazz Club Bob Sinicrope and the World Lead- 7:30 pm, $10.
llers Jazz Club Maynard Ferguson and His Big Nouveau Band, 8 pm, $32-$72.
race Lounge Eric McFadden, 7:30 pm, no cover.
na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm, no cover.
d Holy Ghost, 7 pm, The Andrea Gillis Band, 0 pm, 21+.
of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
the Bear's Place Okkervil River, The Minus ry, Charles Bissell of The Wrens, Drew O'Do- ty, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Zygomates Leah Souza, 8 pm, no cover.

RIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

bey Lounge Main Stage: Mach 5 CD Release h Thrill Ride, 11:45 pm; Mach 5, 10:45 pm; The ler Abs, 9:45 pm; Pennyred, 9 pm. Pub Stage: dy Pratt, 7:45 pm; Jeff Thomas, 7 pm, 21+.
e Attic Chad LaMarsh, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+..
lon All-American Rejects, 6:30 pm, $20.
enue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm.
o the Chef's Lenny Stallworth Band Jazz and l, 7:30 pm, no cover.
ton Harbor Hotel Gray Sargent, 7 pm.
e Burren Moonshine.
b Passim An Evening with Willy Porter, 8 pm, ; members $23.
mmon Ground The Joint Chiefs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
k's Last Resort Last Laugh, 8:30 pm, 21+, no er.
at Scott The Pill, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
e Green Briar Cherry Orchard, 10 pm, $5-$7, .
Green Dragon Tavern Bumpin' Uglies, 10 pm, 21+.
e Harp Jumper, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Tea Leaf Green, Roots of Creation, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Fast Times.
Johnny D's Milo Z, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Motherseat, Betty Ford Pickup, Joy Kill Sorrow, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Don Dilego, Ramona Silver, Katie Terrio, Superchief Trio, 9:30 pm, $8.
Middle East Upstairs: The Hidden, Crash And Burn, Wild Zero, Stu Walker, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Harpoon Presents Trebek, Sucka Brown, Cold Duck Complex, Pete Kilpatrick Super Group, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Maxi, 5-9 pm; Celtic Clan, 9 pm-2 am.
Paddy O's Audio Underground.
Paradise Lounge International Pop Overthrow featuring The Flashcubes, The Star Spangles, The Luxury, The Cautions, The Montgomerys, The Break Mission, Corin Ashley, Amusia, 7 pm, $10.
Paradise Rock Club Brothers Past, Color And Talea, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Parris Burnt Sienna, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
PA's Miles from Land, Welcome, Action Set, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Regattabar Virginia Rodrigues, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Rusty Scott Organ Group, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club The Fifth Dimension, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $38-$78.
Terrace Lounge Mirage, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Toad Amy Miles, Mason Dixon, 10 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio featuring Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Xmortis presents Olde School Goth/Industrial with DJ Chris Ewen, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Collisions, 11:45 pm; Brett Rosenberg, 10:45 pm; Louis, 9:45 pm; Hong Kong Regulars, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Eastwood Drive, 8 pm. 21+.
All Asia Café James O'Brien, 12 am; Three Nouns, 11 pm; Breaking Laces, 10 pm; Christie Leigh, 9 pm.

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We thought you would like the sound of that! Every Wednesday from 6-8 pm enjoy a Sauza margarita & a free massage! (Starting November 2, 2005) We anticipate massages filling up fast, so get here early as we will not take names over the phone. While you are here sipping on your Sauza margarita you may also enter into our drawing for a chance to win Rolling Stones tickets being given away on Thursday, January 5, 2006 (Must be present to win)

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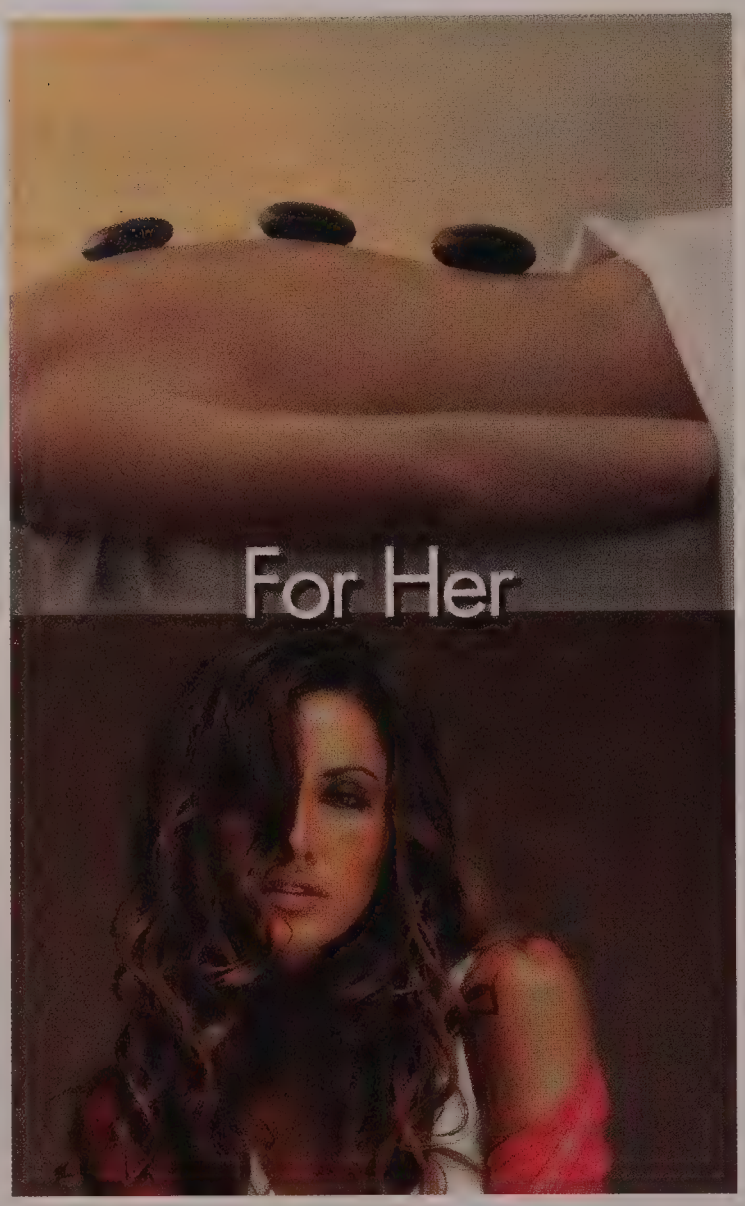

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ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Clay Aiken Dec. 6, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Fiona Apple Dec. 7, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Andrea Bocelli Dec. 3, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Bon Jovi Dec. 9-10, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
The Dandy Warhols Nov. 30, Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800).
Dave Matthews Band Dec. 15, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
G Love & Special Sauce Nov. 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800).
Gov't Mule Nov. 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800).
INXS Feb. 10, Wang Center (617-482-9393).
Mos Def, Pharoaeh Monch, Talib Kweli Dec. 1, The Roxy (617-338-7699).
Rolling Stones Jan. 13 & 15, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Shadow of the Moon Winter Tour featuring Phil Lesh, Chris Robinson, Jimmy Herring and others Dec. 1, Agganis Arena (617-358-7000).
Sinead O'Connor Dec. 5, Avalon (617-262-2424).
U2 Dec. 4-5, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).

The Attic Fox Pass, Reddy Teddy, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Avalon Averi, 6:30 pm, $15.25.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm..
Axis Reel Big Fish, 6:30 pm, $18.50.
Bill's Bar Terry Gresham Soul Vocalist, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Johnny Come Lately's.
Club Passim Anne Heaton and Frank Marotta Jr., Buried Beds, $15; members, $13.
Common Ground Chris Trapper, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Nerve, 8:30 pm, 21+, no cover.
Great Scott The Plan, Caspian, Eyes Like Knives, Radka, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 10 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp Jumper, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Rock for All Ages Presents Ninja Vanish, Powerglove, 1 pm, $10; Tre Hardson, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Brick Park.
Johnny D's Wildest Dreams, 9:45 pm.
Kirkland Café Gary Alex, Kristian Montgomery, David Riccibono, Steve Powers, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Gretel, The Snowleopards, My Little Radio, Emily Grogan, 9:30 pm, $8.
Middle East Upstairs: The Briefs, Clit .45, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Reverent Glasseye, World/Inferno Friendship Society, Ho-Ag, HUMANWIDE, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, 9 pm-2 am.
Paddy O's Last Laugh.
Paradise Lounge International Pop Overthrow featuring Rock E. Rollins, Fireking, Satch Kerans, Bowman, The Sun Sawed In Half, The First Time, Mike Previti, Mitch Linker, 7 pm, $10.
Paradise Rock Club North Mississippi Allstars, Grace Potter, Nocturnal, 9 pm, $17.50, 18+.
Parris Runamuk, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
PA's The Critique of Pure Reason Presents Phosphorescent, Castanets, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Regattabar Virginia Rodrigues, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Pat Wroge, 8:30, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club The Fifth Dimension, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $38-$78.
Somerville Theatre Dan Zanes and Friends, 11 am, 3 pm, $20.
TD Banknorth Garden Aerosmith and Lenny Kravitz, 7:30 pm, $55-$125.
Terrace Lounge Mirage, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5 pm.
Toad Burning Colonels, 10 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio featuring Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Konks, Black Lips, King Khan and BBQ, Triplethick, 9:15 pm, $10, 18+.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Bob the Chef's Groove Authority Classic Soul Brunch, 10 am, no cover.
Club Passim Jesse Winchester, 8 pm, $30; members, $28.
Dick's Last Resort John Polino, 7:20 pm, 21+, no cover.
Great Scott Honeypump, The Plastic Constellations, Voltage, Dan Friel, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 10 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Grey Spot.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Knowrelief, A Hurricane Katrina Benefit Concert, 6 pm, 21+; Onslaught Presents: The Pilot Light, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The Detachment Kit, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: The Dwarves, Mondo Generator, 7 pm, $12, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Down Dog.
Orpheum Theatre Bauhaus, 7:30 pm, $29.50-$35
Paradise Lounge International Pop Overthrow featuring The Buckners, Anushka, Pop, Mollycoddle, The Crybabies, Dave Aaronoff and The Detail, Fresh Mowed Lawn, The Sterns, Dave Dill, 7 pm, $10.
Paradise Rock Club The Blasters, Jake Brenna, The Confidence Men, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
PA's 27, Isobella, Odiorne, Tom Thumb, 8:45 pm, $7, 21+.
The Red Fez Carmen Marsico Jazz Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, am, no cover.
75 Chestnut Herb Pomeroy and Ed Saindon, 11 a no cover.
Somerville Theatre Dan Zanes and Friends, 11 am pm, $20.
Terrace Lounge The Judith Murray Trio, 8 pm, cover.
Toad The Heygoods, 7 pm, Session Americana, pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover
T.T. the Bear's Place Lake Trout, Benzos, Se Righteous Brothers, 9 pm, $10 in advance; $12 the door, 18+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Ru Scott, 9 pm, 21+.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Avalon Ryan Cabrera, 7 pm, $28.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Dave Palmeter, Of Faith, Hope a Suffering, 8 pm, $10; members $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, 21+, cover.
Great Scott Mad Man Films, Tiny Amps, Reports pm $7, 18+.
Harpers Ferry Adventures In Tourism, Schooner pm, $4, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Middle East Upstairs: B.L.O.W.W., Sasquatch and Sick-A-Billys, Swaggerin' Growlers, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy O's Greg Latrell.
Paradise Rock Club Bob Schneider, Eric Hutch son, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Toad Shwang, 8 pm, Tim Gearnan Band, 10:30 p 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cove
T.T. the Bear's Place Jeremy O'Neil, Jonny Pa Holcombe Waller, 8:30 pm, $3, 18+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Ru Scott, 9 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 8 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Jumblies, 9 p Alec K Redfearn, 10 pm; HUMANWINE, 10 pm; The Glass Set, 11:45 pm. Pub Stage: K Byrnes, 7 pm; Amber Spyglass, 8 pm. 21+.
Avalon Kottonmouth Kings, Subnoize Soulj Blaze Ya Dead Homie, El Pus, Mower, 7 p $15.25.
Axis Boysetsfire, Fall of Troy, The Sleeping, 6 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, 21+, cover.
Great Scott Oxford Collapse, The Chromatic pm, $7, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Roc billy Jazz From the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.

nessy's Scott Damgaard.
nny D's Audrey Ryan Band, 8:30 pm.
ard Lounge Alastair Moock, Rose Polenzani, tje Duvekot, 8 pm, $5.
ddle East Upstairs: Exhumed, Grief, Sin of An-, Hellblock 6, 9 pm, $12, 18+. Downstairs: An-w Bird, Dosh, Head of Femur, 9 pm, $13 in ad-ce, $15 at the door, 18+.
dy O's Brian Locher.
adise Lounge World Leader Pretend, Army Of 6 pm, 18+, no cover.
s Michael Chapman, Franklin Mint, 8:30 pm, 21+.
es Jazz Club Tre Corda, Greg Hopkins, 8:30 pm,

llers Jazz Club Stan Strickland Quartet, 8 pm, -$57.
na nÓg David Johnston Band.
d Flynn, 10 pm, 21+.
of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no er.
the Bear's Place Tom Cunningham and The ofocos, Orange Park, Miggs, Thick As eves, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
nder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty tt, 9 pm, 21+.
Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no er.

EDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

ey Lounge Main Stage: The Product, 11:45 Casey Desmond, 10:45 pm; The Young Re-lic, 9:45 pm; Easton Legacy, 9 pm. Pub Stage: rlie Worsham, 8 pm; Release, 7 pm, 21+.
lon The Black Keys, Nathaniel Mayer, 8 pm,

ezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm, no cover.
o Passim Karaugh Brown and Charlotte drick, 8 pm, $12; members, $10.
k's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, 21+, no er.
at Scott BlackOut Bar, Firewalker, Mark V, 9 $5, 18+.
pers Ferry Project Object, a Tribute to Frank pa, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
nessy's The Buzz, 9 pm.
ny D's King Wilkie, 8:30 pm.
Lizard Lounge Jennifer Kimball, Dennis Brennan Band, Residency, 7:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Tristeza, Amandine, Campaign For Real Time, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Latitude Afro-Pop Brazilian, 9 pm, no cover.
Orpheum Theatre Trey Anastasio, 7:30 pm, $38.
Paradise Lounge Great Dolls Of Fire featuring Sarah Rabdau, Kat Parsons, Juliet Lloyd, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Galactic, ALO, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
PA's The Critique of Pure Reason Presents The Impossible Shapes, Night Rally, Carlisle Sound, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Regattabar Matthias Lupri Group with Myron Walden, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Nando Michelin and SUR, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Wallace Roney, 8 pm, $22-$62.
Terrace Lounge Silvard Kool, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Toad Elaine O'Rourke, 7 pm, Beth Boucher, 10 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place American Analog Set, Headphones, Roh Delikat, 9:05 pm, $12, 18+.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Hixx, 9 pm, 21+; Tenafly Vipers, 10:45 pm; The Mirskys, 11:45 pm;
The Attic Freight Train, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Avalon HiM, Finch, Skindred, 6:30 pm, $27.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm.
Axis Infusion, 7 pm, $15, 18+.
Bob the Chef's 2005: Part-Time Lovers Blues, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons.
Dick's Last Resort Blaque Pearll, 7:20 pm, 21+, no cover.
Felt Legends of Rock Show featuring Lauren and Sib Hashian of Boston, Gary Cherone of Extreme, 9 pm, 21+.
Great Scott Pilot To Gunner, The Lot Six, Never Only Once, Fires, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.

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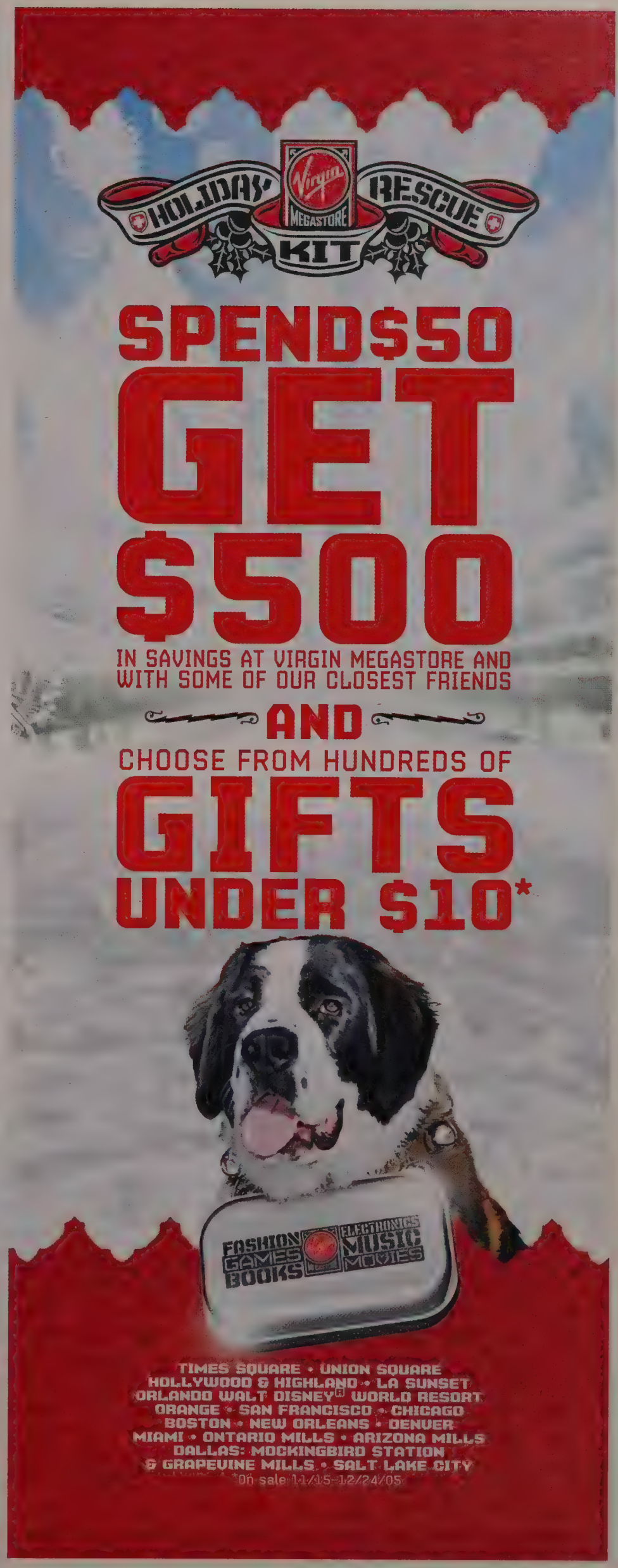

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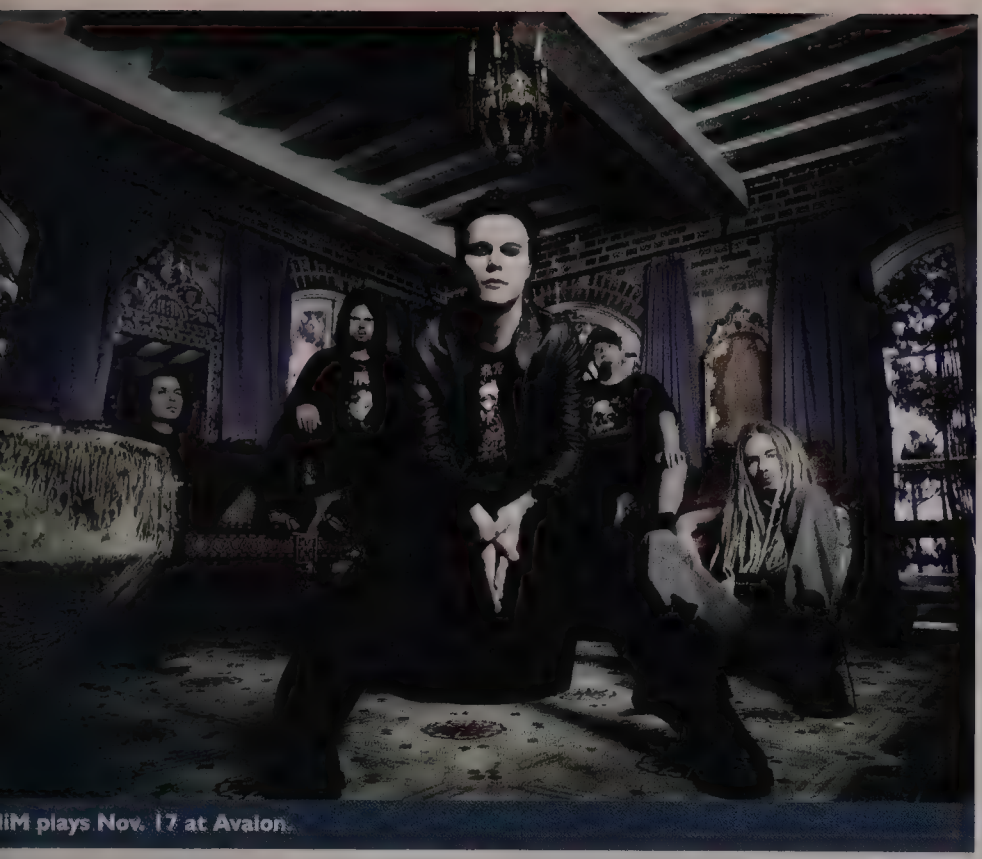
Harpers Ferry Dirty Dozen Brass Band, NBFB, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Susan Gibson, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café The Plugs, Ben Willmott, 8 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Steve Mayone and Allen Devine, The Arielle Silver Band, Maeve, Mare Wakefield, 8 pm, $6 in advance, $8 at the door.
Middle East Upstairs: Emergenza Festival featuring Last Born, Nowhere U.S.A., Isotope, Stilfro, Dirtbag, Michael Moushon, Bird Mancini, The Hook Ups, 8:30 pm, $10 in advance, $15 at the door. Downstairs: Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings, 9 pm, $12. 18+.
Milky Way Aquanet Plus with UV Protection, 9 pm, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club Virginia Coalition, The Southland, As Fast As, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
PA's Sparrowhawk, The Yummy Cakes, Brown Bird, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Regattabar Patricia Barber, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Arnie Krakowsky, 9 pm, $8.
Scullers Jazz Club Nnenna Freelon, 8 pm, $22-$62.
Terrace Lounge Eric McFadden, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm, no cover.
Toad Holy Ghost, 7 pm, The Andrea Gillis Band, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Aloud, The Churchills, Furvis, 10 pm, $8, 18+.
ZuZu Chris Colbourn and Hilken Mancini, 8 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates April Hall Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Country Doctors, 11:45 pm; Dry County Sorrow, 10:45 pm; Icewagon Flu, 9:45 pm; Summer Villains, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Electrolux, 7 pm, 21+.
The Attic Jude Nemo, Ray Hendricks, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Avalon Pennywise, Sick of It All, Lost City Angels, 6:30 pm, $16.25.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis Jazz Saxophonist, 7:
pm, no cover.
Boston Harbor Hotel Jerry Seeco, 7 pm.
The Burren Acme Music Trio.
Club Passim Brian Webb, Justin Rosolino, 10 p
$15; members $13.
Common Ground Respect Due, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Big 80's, 8:30 pm, 21+, no cov
Great Scott The Pill, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Briar Undercover, 10 pm, $5-$7, 21+
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop, 10 pm,
21+.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Fighting Gravity, 8 pm, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Spike the Punch.
Johnny D's Superhoney, 9:45 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Tampoffs, DC Snipers, Live Fast D
Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Jenn Taranto, Psylab, 8 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: Emergenza Festival feat
ing Halo Of Thorns, Captain Cutthroat, Sev
Sunless Days, Sleeprunner, Scharisma, Preciph
Tim Heroux, 26 Beer, 8:30 pm, $10 in advan
$15 at the door, 18+. Downstairs: Scissorfig
The Neighborhoods, Clouds, Dana Colley, 9 p
$15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, 5-9 pm; Patsy a
Tony, 9 pm-2 am.
Paddy O's Dick 'n Jane.
Paradise Rock Club Dear Leader, Taxpayer, Doug
Fir, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Parris Kristen and the Noise, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
PA's Choo Choo La Rouge, The Dreadful Yaw
Jennifer O'Connor, Whistlejacket, 8 pm, $7, 21+
Regattabar Patricia Barber, 7:30 pm, 10 pm,
cover.
Scullers Jazz Club The Manhattans, Gerald Alls
and Blue Lovett, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $34-$74.
Somerville Theatre Konono, 8 pm, $25.
Terrace Lounge First Class, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Toad Georgia Overdrive, 10 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio featuring Mag
Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Clandestino Rock in Span
Dance Party, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cove



liM plays Nov. 17 at Avalon.

ATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

bey Lounge Main Stage: Duresse, 11:45 pm; The nage Prayers, 10:45 pm; Blanketee, 9:45 pm, 21+.
e Attic Close To Home, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
lon Derek Trucks Band, Mofro, 6:15 pm, $20.
nue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm.
s Echo and the Bunnymen, 7 pm, $22, 18+.
o the Chef's BlackSole Jazz and Soul, 7:30 pm, cover.
e Burren Classic Trax.
b Passim Tim Eriksen, 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
i Noble, 11 pm, $8; members, $6.
k's Last Resort Mugsy, 8:30 pm, 21+, no cover.
at Scott The Plan, Bling Kong, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Green Briar Pi Alley, 10 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax, 10 pm, $5,
.
Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
rpers Ferry Zilla featuring Michael Travis of ng Cheese Incident, 8 pm, $10 in advance, $12 ne door, 21+.
nessy's Syndicate.
ny D's Brave Combo, 9:45 pm.
kland Café New Romance, Melt, Girl on Top, Scene, 8:30 pm, $5.
rd Lounge Ryan Lee and the Mindless, The nking Islands, Faces on Film, 9:30 pm, $8.
dle East Upstairs: Emergenza Festival featur- Best Kept Secret, Liquid Mint, Whisper Cam- gn, 6S, Karyshma, Millis Pride, Accurate my, Faraway, 8:30 pm, $10 in advance, $15 at door. Downstairs: Jim Carroll and The holic Boys, 9 pm, $15 in advance, $18 at the r, 18+.
way Café Red Invasion, McGunks, Pseudo He-, 9 pm, 21+.
Dooley's Patsy and Tony, 9 pm-2 am.
heum Theatre Carly Simon, 8 pm, $46.50-50.
dy O's The Marcels
adise Lounge Julian Velard, Flynn, Jason Myles s, 7 pm, $10, 18+.
ris Kristen and the Noise, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Joy, Like Moving Insects, Chas. Mtn, Stephen dsky, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
attabar Donna Byrne, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, no cover.
s Jazz Club Four Piece Suit, 9 pm, $10.
lers Jazz Club The Manhattans, Gerald Allston Blue Lovett, 8 pm, 10:30 pm, $34-$74.
herville Theatre Eddie from Ohio, 8 pm, $21-
ace Lounge First Class, 9:30 pm, no cover.
a nÓg Eilen Jewell Band.
d Organ-ism, 10 pm, 21+.
of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio featuring Maggie oway, 9 pm, no cover.
the Bear's Place Slim Cessna's Auto Club, ny Carlevale and The Broken Rhythm Boys, k Crane, Wrong Reasons, 9:15 pm, $10, 18+.
Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

NDAY, NOVEMBER 20

ey Lounge Main Stage: Gato Malo Katrina ef Residency featuring Gato Malo and Jordan Valentine, 10:45 pm; Plastic Cheese, 9:45 pm; Sex Cop, 9pm Pub Stage: Rick Berlin, 8 pm, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Stanley Porter Gospel Brunch, 10 am, no cover.
Club Passim Susan McKeown, 7:30 pm, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm, 21+, no cover.
Great Scott Honeypump, Devin Davis, Hallelujah the Hills, King and Country, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Briar Donegal Cords, 10 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Onslaught Presents Boatyard Resin, Groofus, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Always Tomorrow, The K-Rex Struts, Sanction, Auditory Implant, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Immortal Technique, The Foundation, Elemental Zazen, Exposition, 7:30 pm, $15 in advance, $20 at the door, all tickets from 10/18 postponement will be honored.
Mr. Dooley's Rod Eile.
Paradise Rock Club Blue Rodeo, The Damnwells, 8 pm, $12 in advance, $14 at door, 18+.
The Red Fez Carmen Marsico Jazz Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Harvey Finstein, 10 am, no cover.
75 Chestnut Herb Pomeroy and Ed Saindon, 11 am, no cover.
Terrace Lounge The Judith Murray Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Toad Jon Nolan, 7 pm, Session Americana, 10 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Kayo Dot, Gregor Samsa, On Fire, 9:15 pm, $9, 18+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, 21+.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

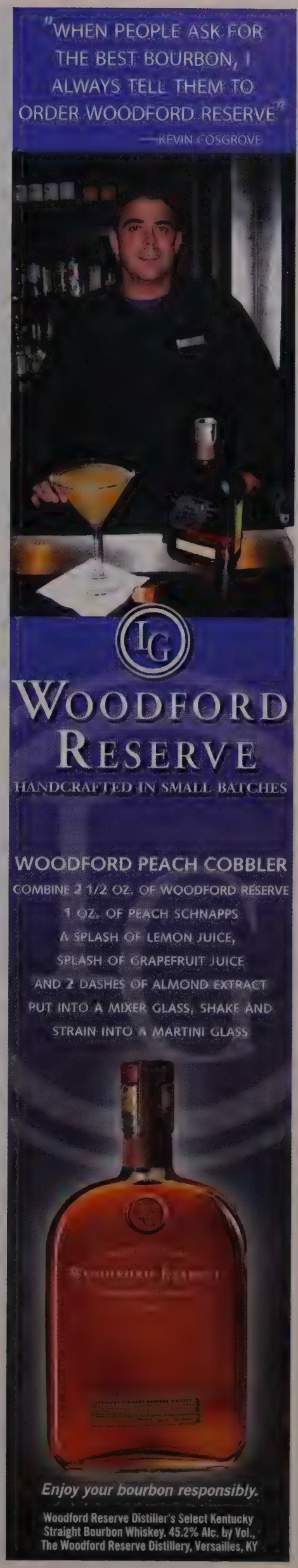
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12; members, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, 21+, no cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Middle East Upstairs: 3rd Annual Novemberfest featuring Endway, Lock And Key, Junction 18, On The Surface, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy O's Greg Latrell
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad Shwang, 8 pm, Tim Gearan Band, 10:30 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Earth, Pelt, 27, Tides, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steven Spungin, 8 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Glass Set, 11:45 pm; Lucretia's Daggers, 10:45 pm; Thylacine, 10 pm; Optic Rose, 9 pm. Pub Stage: What Time is It Mr. Fox?, 8:20 pm; Fun Fun Fun, 7:40 pm; Adam Smith, 7 pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, 21+, no cover.
Green Street Grill The Two Timin' Three, Rockabilly Jazz From the Hills, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Groundtruther featuring Charlie Hunter and Bobby Previte, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Lizard Lounge Liz Stahler, Rose Polenzani Residency, Anais Mitchell, 8 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Freefall, The Young Republic, Darci Cash, Parkview, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: John Cale and Band, 7 pm, $25, 18+.
Paddy O's Brian Locher.
PA's Kage, Nylon 66, One Eyed Stanley, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Scullers Jazz Club Ottmar Liebert, 8 pm, 10 pm, $37-$77.
Toad Flynn, 10 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Hopewell, The Lovetones, The December Sound, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Warf, Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave., Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*



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Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mobius *374 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Old Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somerville (617-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Phatt Boys *50 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-2005). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Orange Line to State St.*
The Red Fez *1222 Washington St., Boston (617-338-6060). MBTA: Silver Line to E. Berkeley.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston (617-227-2175). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Terrace Lounge *The Boston Marriot Copley Hotel 110 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-236-5800). MBTA Green Line to Copley.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Venezia *20 Ericsson St., Dorchester (617-43 3120). MBTA Red Line to Ashmont.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridg (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351 2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridg (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

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classical music

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Boston Lyric Opera
Cabot Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-6772). www.blo.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $33-$166. Donizetti's love story *Lucie de Lammermoor*, conducted by Emmanuel Plasson, features soprano Tracy Dahl, tenor Yasu Nakajima and baritone Gaetan Laperriere.

Museum of Fine Arts In-Gallery Musical Performance
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7 pm. Local musician Mal Barsamian plays traditional music on the museum's Turkish ud, or lute, currently on display in the exhibition "Sounds of the Silk Road."

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Charles Peltz leads the New England Conservatory wind ensemble this season in concerts featuring music and composers vital to Boston. *Williams Hall. 8 pm. Free.* Harpsichordist John Gibbons, a founding member of the Boston Museum Trio, leads NEC students in music of the Baroque era.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Austrian conductor Manfred Honeck joins violinist Gidon Kremer for Alfred Schnittke's *Concerto Grosso No. 5.*

MIT Kresge Auditorium
MIT Chapel, Office of the Arts, 20 Ames St., E15-205, Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12 pm. Alexey Shabalin performs J.S. Bach's *Partita No. 3* on violin.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Boston Conservatory
The Boston Conservatory, Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. Free. Fully staged opera scenes sung to the music of Mozart, Monteverdi, Bizet, Bernstein and others are performed at Seully Hall.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Same program as Nov. 10.

Longy School of Music Concert Event
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-254-1125). www.amclass.org. 7:30 pm. $30. American Classics presents this performance of Cole Porter's 1929 musical *Fifty Million Frenchmen.*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Berklee College of Music
1140 Mass. Ave. Boston (617-747-2261). www.berkleebpc.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. $20-$50. World Music presents "A Woman's Heart," with three Irish female vocalists performing traditional and contemporary music.

Boston Conservatory
The Boston Conservatory, Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. Free. Same program as Nov. 11.

Brandeis String Quartet
Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu. In its 25th season, Vienna and the String Quartet present two centuries of Viennese music by Daniel Stepner, Judith Eissenberg, Mary Ruth Ray and Joshua Gordon.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Bank of America Celebrity Series
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-482-2595). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $38-$78. Soprano Deborah Voigt performs pieces by Strauss, Tchaikovsky, Amy Beach, Charles Ives, Ben Moore and William Bolcom.

Boston Conservatory
Sanders Theatre, Memorial Hall, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. $12. Conductor Bruce Hangen leads the Boston Conservatory Orchestra in this performance of Tower's *Sequoia*, Barber's *Capricorn Concerto* and Brahms' *Symphony No. 1.*

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Gabriel Chodos performs pieces from Schumann's *Kinderszenen* and Brahms' *Klavierstücke*, as well as Schubert's *Sonata in A Major.*

Wellesley College Concert Series
Houghton Memorial Chapel, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu/Music/concerts.html. 1:30 pm. Free. This concert features the Wellesley College Choir, directed by Lisa Graham, and the Rutgers University Glee Club, under Patrick Gardner, performing the music of Norway, Finland and Spain.

MIT Lecturer Concert: National Insecurity II
Killian Hall Office of the Arts, 20 Ames St., E15-205, Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12 pm. Theater arts lecturer Curtis Hughes presents this second annual marathon concert of political music by contemporary American composers, including performances by Ensemble Newspeak and Non-Zero.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Same program as Nov. 10.

Boston University CFA Concert Hall
855 Comm. Ave. Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. The Boston University women's choral, chamber and concert choirs perform under conductor Ann Howard Jones.

Lavazza Chamber Ensemble
St Paul's Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline (617-327-3787). www.lavazzachamber.org. MBTA: Green Line to St Paul. 7:30 pm. Violinists Wilson Pedrazas and Paula Oakes, along with violist Frances Rios, perform pieces by Haydn, Britten and Dvorák.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Museum of Fine Arts Concert Program
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7 pm. The Boston Village Gamelan ensemble presents rehearsals on the MFA's 1840s Javanese gamelan, which will culminate in a gamelan concert in January.

Star Wars: Musical Edition
MIT Chapel, Office of the Arts, 20 Ames Street, E15-205, Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. $12. Music for the evening is based on works by John Williams, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Stephen Sondheim, Claude-Michel Schonberg, Oscar Hammerstein, Arthur Sullivan, Alan Mencken, Frank Loesser, Cy Coleman and other composers who contributed to the score of *Star Wars.*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Boston Philharmonic
Saunders Theatre, Memorial Hall, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-236-0999). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Benjamin Zander leads this performance of Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 2* and Nielsen's *Symphony No. 5.*

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Conductor James Levine returns to the BSO with pieces from Pulitzer Prize-winning American composers George Perle and Gunther Schuller.

Boston University Chamber Orchestra
CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave. Boston (617-353-8783). www.bu.edu. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. Conductor David Hoose leads the performance of Bruch's *Scottish Fantasy, Op. 46* and Sibelius' *Symphony No. 3, Op. 52*, featuring violinist Yuri Mazurkevich.

Longy School of Music Event
Wolfinsohn Recital Room, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. 8 pm. Free. Faculty-nominated conservatory, preparatory studies, and continuing-studies soloists and chamber groups perform.

MIT Kresge Auditorium
MIT Chapel Concert, MIT Chapel, Office of the Arts, 20 Ames St., E15-205, Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12 pm. Harpsichordist Jean Rife plays works of Froberger and Bach.

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New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $10, Adult; $5 Students and Seniors. Steven Karidoyanes conducts the New England Conservatory's Youth Symphony in Bordoin's *Polovetsian Dances* from Prince Igor, Vaughan Williams' five variants of *Dives and Lazarus* and Tchaikovsky *Symphony No. 2, Little Russian.*

Vox Consort
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (617-281-8569). www.voxconsort.org. 7:30 pm. $20-$30. Filthy/Rich combines 17th- and 18th-century English traditional church songs with the music of the commoners, drawing attention to the gap between the lower and upper classes in England.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Boston Chamber Music Society
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $17-$46. Thomas Hill leads on the clarinet while Scott St. John and Irina Muresanu's combined performance on violins bring the following pieces to life: Enesco's "*Romanian Rhapsody*," Debussy's "*Première Rapsodie*," Gershwin's "*Rhapsody in Blue" for piano (four hands)* and Brahms' *Viola Quintet.*

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Quincy Market, Boston, (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Gov. Center. 8 pm. $29- $59. Violist Kim Kashkashian and New England Conservatory faculty violinist Lucy Chapman Stoltzman join the BCO for Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante.* The program opens with J.C. Bach's lively *Symphony in C major* and Haydn's *Symphony No. 49 in F minor.*

The Boston Secession
Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu. $20. Jane Ring Frank directs this 25-voice ensemble as they perform the music of Parry, Gilbert and Sullivan, Singer and Handel in the program "What Makes It Great: Unlocking the Guilty Pleasures of Choral Masterworks."

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Same program as Nov. 17.

Brandeis University
Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (7 736-4200). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Red Lin Davis. 8 pm. The Boston Secession performs cho music's classic hits.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-5 1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The publi invited to join New England Conservatory stude in exploring modern piano playing through collection of masterclasses by guest performers.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Auros Group
Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 So St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.e $20. In celebration of Brandeis University awa winning composer Eric Chaslow, the contempor chamber music ensemble performs Chaslow's co positions from 1984 to the present.

Berkelee College of Music
136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). ww berkeleebpc.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 $30.50 - $45.50. Whitter Health presents the Bobby Jones Gospel Concert.

Boston Philharmonic
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-2 0999). www.www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: E Gr Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Same program as Nov. 1

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Same program as Nov. 1

MIT Kresge Auditorium
MIT Chamber Chorus, Kresge Auditorium, Offic the Arts, 20 Ames St., E15-205, Cambridge (6 253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line Kendall. 8 pm. William Cutter, music director p sents seasonal music featuring Schuetz's *Deutsc Magnificat*, Pinkham's *Christmas Cantata*, Harbis O *Magnum Mysterium* and the premiere of carols MIT grad David Foxe.

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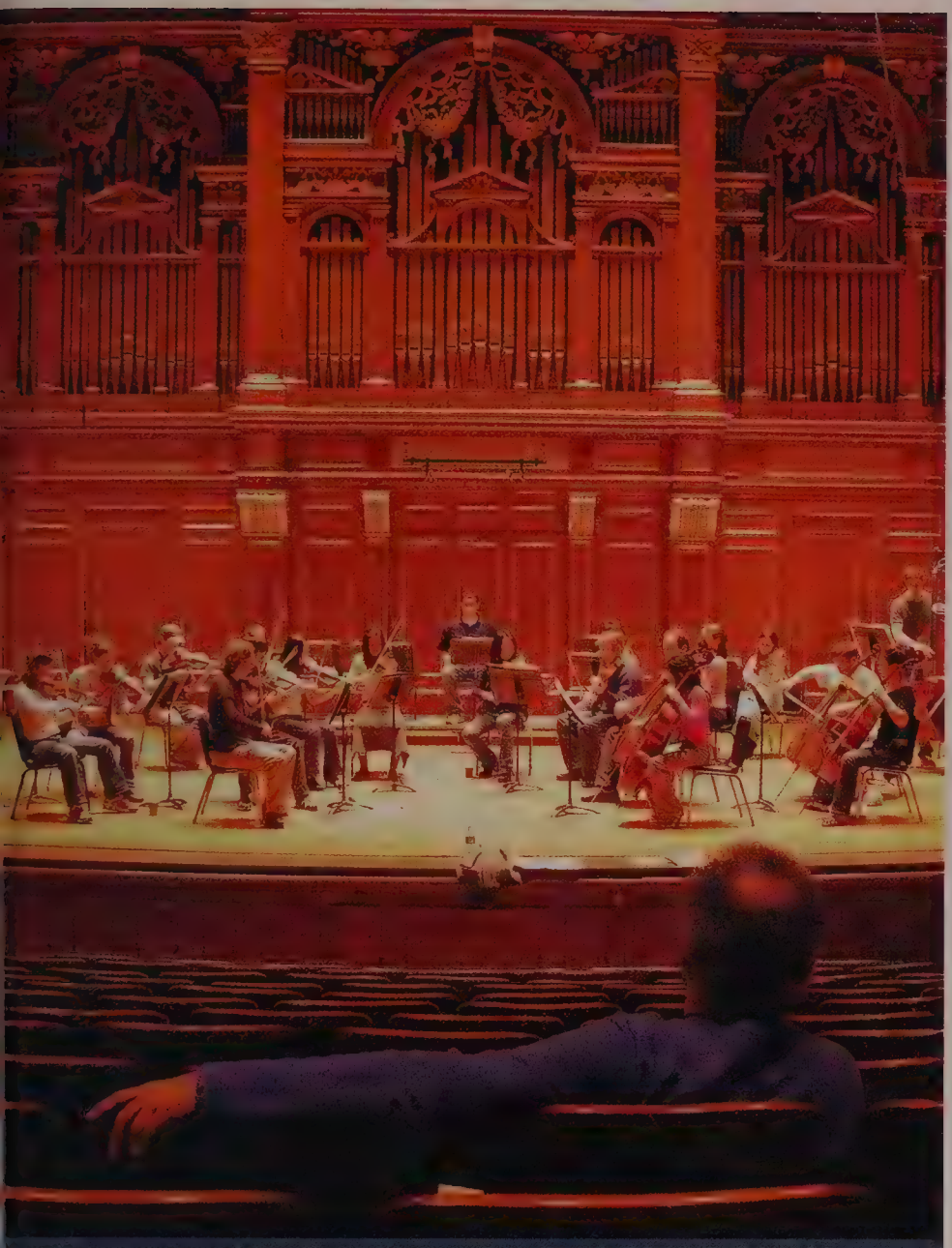

avid Palma coaches the New England Conservatory Chamber Orchestra Nov. 20.

llesley College Concert Series
ighton Memorial Chapel, 106 Central St., Welles- 781-283-2028). www. wellesley.edu/Music/con- s.html. 8 pm. Free. Neal Hampton leads the ndeis/Wellesley Orchestra in Brahm's *Symphony 2 in D, Chabrier: España.*

tgeist Gallery
3 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). w.zeitgeist-gallery.org. 1 pm. $7. New England nservatory violinist Sae Niwa performs.

NDAY, NOVEMBER 20

ston Chamber Music Society
nders Theatre, Memorial Hall, Harvard University, Quincy St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). www. onchambermusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. pm. $17- $46. Same program as Nov. 18.

ston Classical Orchestra
euil Hall, Quincy Market, Boston, (617-423- 3). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: n Line to Gov. Center. 8 pm. $29 - $59. Same ram as Nov. 18.

ston Philharmonic
nders Theatre, Memorial Hall, Harvard University, Quincy St., Cambridge (617-236-0999). www. nphil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. e program as Nov. 17.

o Allegro
ch of the Covenant, 67 Newbury St., Boston (617- 4011). www.coroallegro.org. MBTA: E Green to Museum. 3 pm. $18-$36. Under the tion of David Hodgkins, the chorus will rm Rachmaninoff's "All-Night Vigil" (Vespers) 37.

ella Stewart Gardner Young Artists wcase
The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www. .org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 The Chamber Music Society's Daedalus rtet performs Haydn's *String Quartet, Op. 33, 1,* Nancarrow's *String Quartet No. 1* and ák's Op. 96.

MITHAS Concert
Auditorium, Office of the Arts, 20 Ames St., E15- Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. $18. Violinists Ganesh Kumaresh and Manargudi Easwaran perform in the MIT Heritage of South Asia concert.

New England Conservatory
Brown Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 pm. Free. Patricia-Maria Weinmann directs New England Conservatory voice students in opera scenes and arias ranging from the Baroque era to works from the 20th century. •Jordan Hall. 8 pm. Free. Donald Palma, a founding member of New York's Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, coaches the conductorless New England Conservatory Chamber Orchestra.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Boston Conservatory
The Boston Conservatory, Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. Free. A saxaphone ensemble plays a medley of pieces from a variety of genres.

Boston Univeristy Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8783). www.bu.edu. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. Accompanied by the Symphonic Chorus, this orchestra performs Haydn's *Creation* under conductor Ann Howard Jones.

New England Conservatory
Brown Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 pm.Free. Same program as Nov. 20. •Jordan Hall. 8 pm. Free. Led by Stephen Drury, the New England Conservatory's Enchanted Circle concert series presents the Callithumpian Consort.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. William Drury conducts the New England Conservatory Jordan Winds in a variety of pieces.

Domani
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Located in the heart of Boston's Back Bay, Domani Bar & Trattoria offers an approachable "New Italian" menu reminiscent of those found today in hot-spot neighborhood restaurants throughout Italy. Nationally acclaimed Executive Chef Rene Michelena heads up a kitchen staff dedicated to providing each guest with an inspired culinary experience in a fun and comfortable dining environment.

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of Gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with rotating DJs and drag performances, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Felt
S.I.N. Mondays This Service Industry Night includes free pool and guest DJs spinning high-energy dance, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, hip-hop, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Havana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week, two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Bar 33
Havana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Tuesday Teasers Alternate Lifestyles, 6-9 pm, 10 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spin hits from the '70s and '80s, 10 pm-2 am, $3.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Totally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic '80s music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Paradise Lounge
Mash Up Tuesdays DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop, rock, '80s and more, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin Top 40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Karaoke for Cash with Deb-N-Art.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa Night DJs Hernan, D. Martinez, Ant Ortiz and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes be ner lessons, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk bands, 9 pm, $15, 18+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins international tunes upstairs, 10 no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
iPod Night Bring your own iPod and be an MP3 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5,

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and f $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Bruno spins house, dance hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+

Foundation Lounge
Famous Wednesdays DJ Tanno spins. Also fea ing Zensai Japanese appetizers, 9 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Demers spins a mix inclu R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no co 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of in national music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cue hip-hop, Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 2

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of p '70s-style new wave and house, 9 pm, no co 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 2

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no co 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 no cover, 21+.

Rain
Oldies but Goodies DJ Russ McQueen spins from the '50s, '60s and '70s, no cover.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collectio dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no co 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley B plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and con mentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special P Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm,

THURSDAYS

Avalon
Hot and Heavy Thursday DJs spin hip-hop, 10 $15, ladies free until 11 pm, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and da music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 2 am, $15, 19+.

Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins In and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

lub Q
iss Hawaiian Tropic Competition with DJ Mike avarro, 9 pm, $5.

ommon Ground
ve Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, pm, $3, 21+.

oogan's
Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

osmopolitan
night of jazz, 10 pm.

evlin's
Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, cover, 21+.

ockside
Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, pm, $5, 21+.

mbassy
e Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Shawn le host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm.

ne Enormous Room
p-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and co, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

elt
ie Music Thursdays Featuring live performances, pm, no cover, 21+.

olden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo- vn, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

reen Briar
e Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

reen Street Grill
i Camara and Jama Jigi play Afro-pop highlife, 30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

se McIntyre's
e band, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

ie Kells
e Fun House DJs Edgar and Kieran spin dance es and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

nvara Pub
Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, B and pop, 21+.

quor Store
lies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

ntra
vana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 before pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

lky Way
uanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, n, no cover, 21+.

al Lounge
chic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea m offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc lka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

rris
Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

oenix Landing
ments DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog present n 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

e Place
Garrett spins Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover,

e Point
spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

e Purple Shamrock
Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3,

e Rack
tic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba cing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

dline
nion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party ics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

er Gods
Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no r, 21+.

Ruby Room
ge Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while DJ ific spins R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm-12 no cover.

nor
Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

es Dance Hall
porada Latina A night of salsa lessons and danc- 3:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

nt
Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, , no cover, 21+.

y K's
u and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sugar Shack
Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip- 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

st
ian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

u
Thursday Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

WaterWorks
Buckwild Thursdays DJs spin Top 40 and house and host a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull riding contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Steve spins Top 40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Vanity DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 pm, $20; 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

Avalon
Avaland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilkie, Alex Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and Top 40, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning Top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Hot Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae and bachata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning Top 40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal and DJ Kon spin a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop, '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; after 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Club Q
Forbidden Fridays DJ Massi plays hip-hop and Top 40, 21+.

Common Ground
DJ Dino Sound spins Northern Soul, 10 pm, no cover.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance , 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Xander spins hip-hop, 9 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Therapy Fridays DJ Cerebral and Chris Kung of KISS 108, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Jazz spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and Top 40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Latin DJ, 11:30 pm, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJs Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins reggae, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins Top 40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

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Taylor Dayne

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Tell It To My Heart
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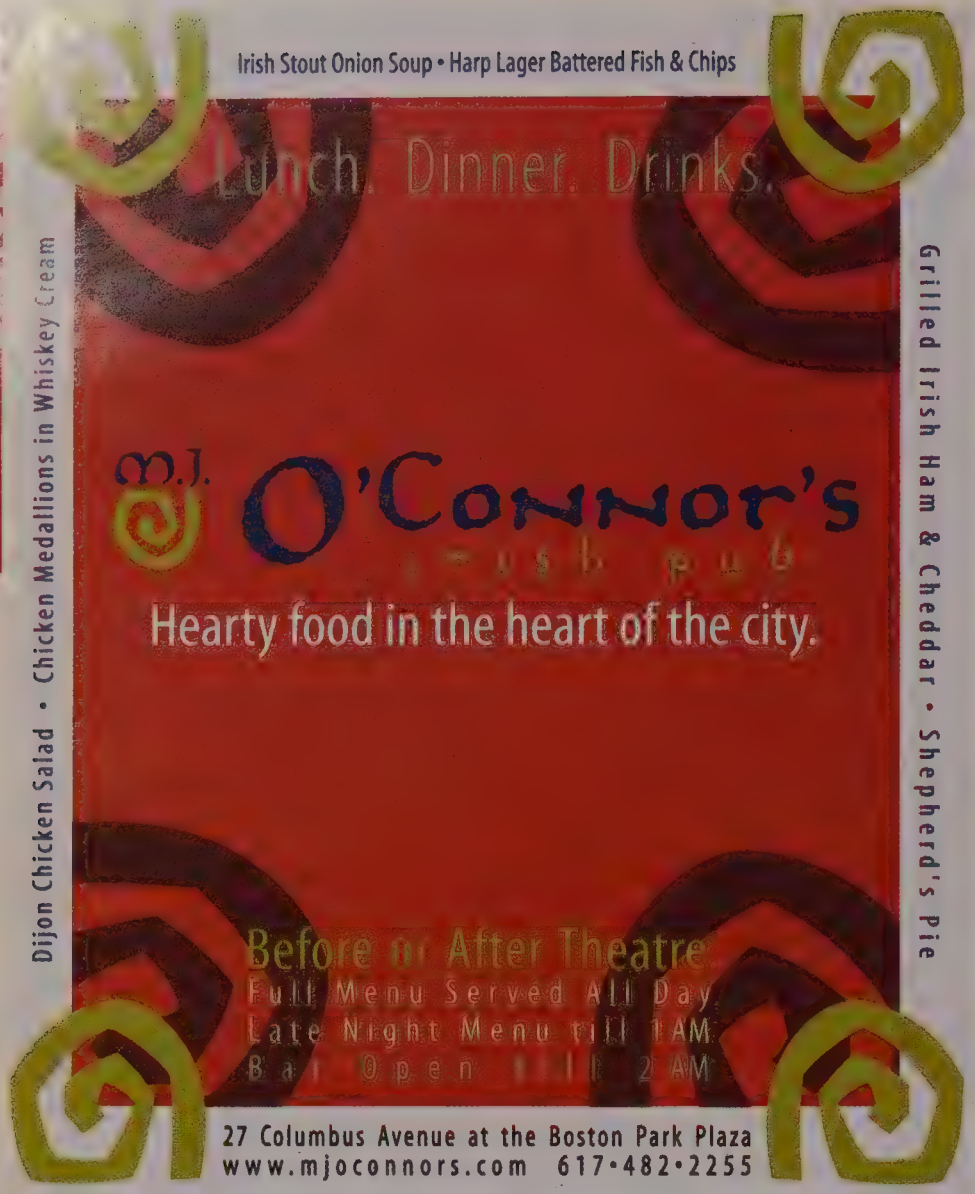


Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Howie spins Top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house, and DJ Steve Spinelli plays Top 40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
DJ Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop spins Top 40 and hip-hop, and TV screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P, 10 pm.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Vegas Fridays Las Vegas resident DJs spin.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, Top 40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tantric Lounge
Hookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud 9 spin the music at this night featuring hookahs, specialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Mike G spins Top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin Top 40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and Top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared and friends mix Top 40, hip-hop, ho and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 p $20; 21+ men, 19+ women with college ID.

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with internatio guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 18+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life DJs Frank and Matty spin alternat party hits, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps sp ning Top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop a Top 40, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 p DJs present Top 40 dance and hip-hop interactive vi shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice sp ning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's d house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis c ate a lounge atmosphere with international a house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Profenna spins Top 40, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Shake Your Ass Night DJ spins indie rock, $2.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 2

Cosmopolitan
Cosmopolitan Satrudays DJ Mastermillions fr JAM'N 94.5 spins, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance a house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21

Embassy
•Sensation Saturdays featuring DJ Eddie Lee sp ning hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15; 19+ women, 21+ m •**Russian Night in The Modern** with DJ Roge spinning international.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and clas hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of ' and '80s disco and Motown, plus internatio lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins '70s, '80s, '90s a vocal house music, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 p $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJs Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Fresh spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik sp Russian and international music on the third floor, pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** Peter D and Rob D spin mainstream, vocal hou travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth flo 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Howie spins Top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, 21+; $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
The Grooveyard DJ Yamin spins a mix of mash u soul, hip-hop, 9 pm, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz sp merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, men $ ladies $5 or free before 10:30, 21+.

ne Modern
IK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons spin nimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 pm, 0, 19+.

pal Lounge
ndy Shop This ladies-only night features DJ ssladyj spinning hip-hop and dance, pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

ne Palace
he Beach House Classic party music and Top , $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to anish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs p Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 fore 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, +. •**The Male Encounter** New England's gest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 0 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, +. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip- p mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. ns mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmos- ere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

rris
at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

e Penthouse Club
sh Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-energy nce beats, no cover, 21+.

oenix Landing
om Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit won- s, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

e Place
Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

e Point
nstyles DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

e Rack
urday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche ns, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

in
S 108-FM's Billy Costa and DJ Randy G spin 40, house, dance, disco and rock music, 10 pm.

dline
Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, cover, 21+.

er Gods
r Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern es, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

xy
ling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles of se, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, .

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins Top 40 dance in the front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and Top 40 dance, 9 pm, $8.

Tequila Rain
DJ Mike G spins Top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, Top 40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of Gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyball, 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays** DJs spin Top 40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 pm-10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

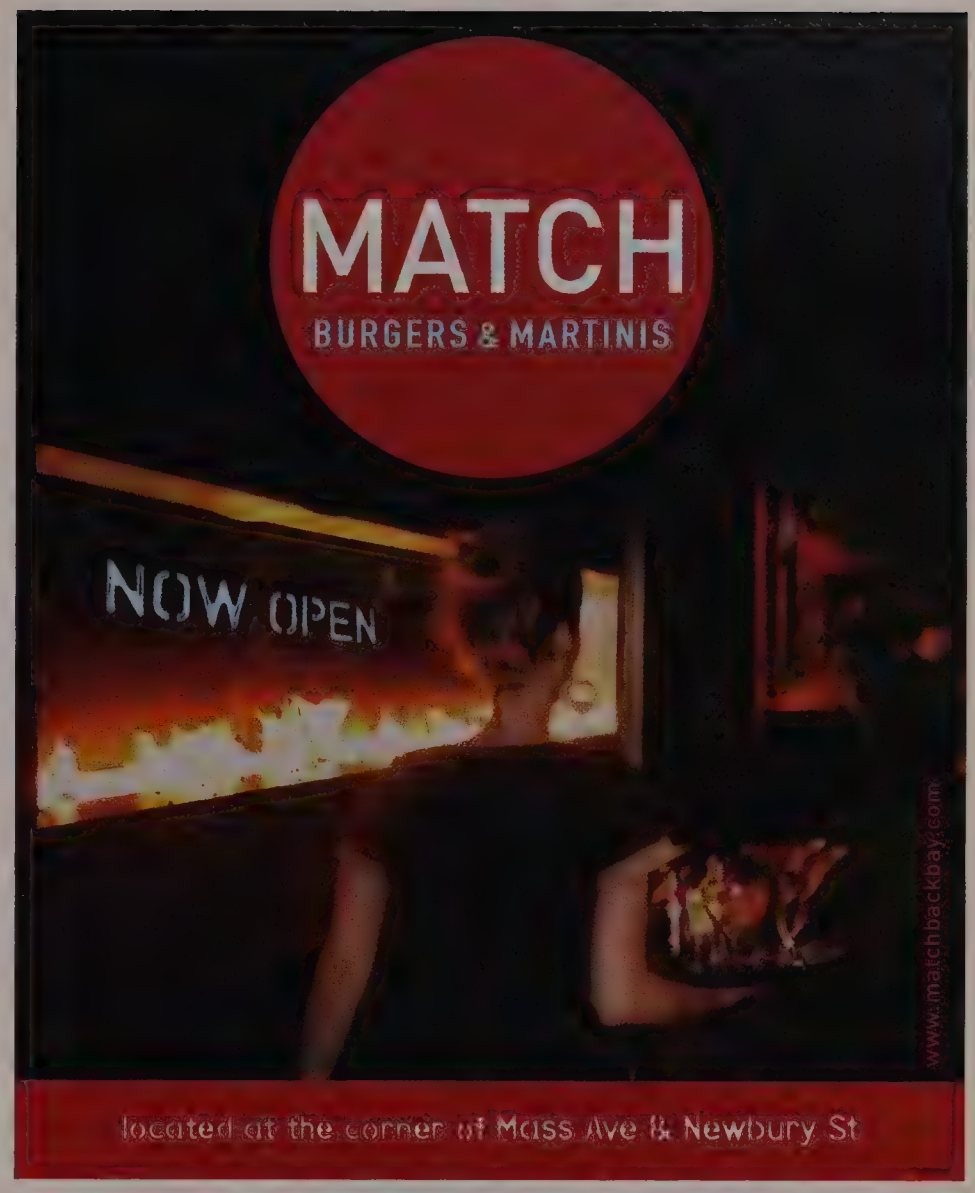
West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and Top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Dance Hall Reggae music, 11 pm, $10-$15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $20; women 19+, men 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.



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"The name of the place was what grabbed me first. Then I opened the menu and saw offerings like 'my big phatt Greek salad,' 'naked burger,' 'phrench dip.' I needed a drink to calm myself, so I turned to the sizeable cocktail list and spotted the 'Tini wini bikini martini.'
–Anand Vaishnav, Globe staff, July 21, 2005
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Patty Morin Fitzgerald, the Boston Globe
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Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+.

Caprice
Rotating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Club Q
Suave Sundays DJ Sammy Smoove and The 45 Crew spin dance music, 8 pm-2 am, $10.

Cosmopolitan
Caribbean Night Reggae music, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Spot Rotating DJs spin top 40, hip-hop and house music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Groove Yard DJ Yamin spins mash-ups, soul, hip-hop, dancehall and more, 9 pm, no cover.

The Office
Utopia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests play deep, soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump House-music night featuring a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJ Itchy P, 11 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins Top 40 beats, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and Top 40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
DJ Danny Sharp and the World Premier Band provide Top 40, dance and old-school funk music, no cover.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and rotating guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJs Nik and Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and international grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance hits, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyball, 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Smokin' Sundays** DJs Romeo and Randy spin, and Romeo hosts a Hawaiian Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am; $10 from 5-9 pm, $20 after 9 pm; 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
Anthem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-700*
Bill's Bar *51/2 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-967*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-111*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-987*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-882*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge, (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (61 859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (61 876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-779*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-101*
Highbar *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-946*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-908*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-940*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (61 542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-672*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-166*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-702*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738 3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-188*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-995*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-00*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-000*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-030*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-258*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Rd., Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-030*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-14*

museums & galleries

dvice to Contributors

bmit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-46) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-il arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop d phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to pub-ation. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

rthur M. Sackler Museum

rvard University, 485 Broadway St., Cambridge 17-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. 3TA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; ı., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. Sat., 10 -12 pm, free. •Silver and Shawls: India, Europe and Colonial Art Market highlights the evolution of wls and silverware during India's colonial period. rough Jan. 29, 2006. •*Evocative Creatures: Animal tifs and Symbols in East Asian Art* explores the sym-ism and significance of animals in the arts of East ia through paintings, ceramics, sculptures, jades l textiles. Nov. 19-June 11, 2006.

avis Museum and Cultural Center

llesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-51). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: mmuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. xtended Boundaries is a collection of paintings, pho-raphs, sculptures and films by the Wellesley Col-e studio arts faculty. Through Dec. 18. •*Aaron pel: Artist in Residence* exhibits a lobby wall project pired by comic book superheros. Through Dec. •*Brice Marden: Etchings to Rexroth* exhibits im-s paying tribute to calligraphy. Through Dec. 18. *old: Vessel 1* is a multimedia installation by ette Wallworth. Through Dec. 18. •A display of from China, Japan and Korea runs through June 6. •A new installation of modern art features ks by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and go Rivera. Ongoing.

Cordova Museum and Sculpture rk

Sandy Pond Rd., Lincoln (781-259-8355). w.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; stu-ts and seniors, $6; children 5 and under, free. hn Huddleston: Killing Ground, Photographs of the il War and the Changing American Landscape jux-oses historical images with contemporary pho-raphy of the same locations 150 years later. ough Jan. 8, 2006. •*Robert Arnold: Zeno's Para-* is a short looping video that experiments with connections between zooms and stills. Through 8, 2006. •*Saga: The Journey of Arno Rafael kkinen, Photographs 1970-2005* exhibits nude -portraits incorporating the artist's body into a e of landscapes. Through Jan. 8, 2006.

gg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger iseum

Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). v.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to vard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. 50; students and seniors, $6. •Rococo Religion: r Objects from the Collection displays two pairs of ll-scale religious objects from 18th-century Ger-y and Austria. Through Nov. 27. •*Stratification: Installation of Works Since 1960* displays seven es presenting various approaches to making art. ough Feb. 26, 2006. •*Highlights from the Collec-of Grenville L. Winthrop* exhibits 19th-century tings. Ongoing.

nch Library and Cultural Center

Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www. hlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon., and Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 10 am-8 pm; Fri. and 10 am-5 pm. Free. •Monument and Memory hon-he 200th anniversary of the Père Lachaise ceme-through Susan Wilson's black and white pho-phs of the grounds and Paris. Through Dec. 1.

rvard Museum of Natural History

Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www. h.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. -Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 9 am-12 pm. $7.50; nts and seniors, $6; children 3-18, $5. •Robert er: Rare Places in a Rare Light exhibits images of h America's wildlands. Through March 26,). •*Climate Change: Our Global Experiment* ex-s scientific studies on climate and allows you to t a course of action in a computer simulation re-ng the consequences for the planet. Ongoing. *dos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Na-ture and Science at Harvard* features collections documenting more than two centuries of scientific exploration. Ongoing. •*The Glass Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features glass models of more than 830 plant species from the Ware Collection. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.ica boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; Thu. after 5 pm, free. •Momentum 5: Paul Chan displays political drawings, projected digital animations and videos. Through Jan. 16, 2006. •*Utopia, Utopia = One World, One War, One Army, One Dress* exhibits a critical look at the world through wall graphics, vitrines, sculptures, maquettes and films by Thomas Hirschhorn. Through Jan. 16, 2006.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www. gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; weekends, $11; seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18, free. •Variations on a Theme combines the paintings of Sol LeWitt with the music of Paula Robison. Through Nov. 13. •The perennial installation *Holiday Table*, which opens Nov. 22, displays a set dining table resembling the one Gardner used for her holiday-season guests. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*A Closer Look: An Introduction to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum* offers museum tours. Tue.-Fri, 2:30 pm. Ongoing. •*Special Exhibition Gallery Talks* provide context to museum exhibits Saturdays at 12 pm. Ongoing. •The collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

Mary Baker Eddy Library

*200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www. marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $6; seniors, students and youth 6-17, $4; children 6 and under, free. •*The Mapparium celebrates 70 years with a new exhibit showcasing its history and reflects on the major changes in the world since 1935. Through Jan. 6, 2006. •*Fractions of Time Well Spent* features images, artifacts and documentation focusing on daily life in the Baker Eddy household from 1885 to 1911. Through Feb. 26, 2006•The multimedia exhibit *This Is Woman's Hour...* highlights the life and accomplishments of Mary Baker Eddy. Ongoing. •The library's *Historic Bible Collection* showcases rare Bibles in the Reference Room. Ongoing. •The library displays a peace flag from the 1907 Peace Congress proceedings in New York. Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons looks at the role Jewish women's salons played in Europe and America from the late-18th century through the 1940s. Through Dec. 4.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. Free. •Working Drawings for the MIT Bell Tower displays Theodore Roszak's preparatory sketches for the tower. Through Dec. 16. •*Christian Jankowski: Everything Fell Together* is a collection of 54 photographs and 10 filmic and conceptually based installations. Through Dec. 31.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. •Scopes, Station Wagons and Solder: Unexpected Images from the Rad Lab and RLE Collections exhibits photographs from preserved negatives documenting the history of radar and electronics. Through June 11, 2006. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* is a multimedia exhibit focusing on the famed MIT professor, including his development of the electronic strobe and his groundbreaking photography. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam museum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •Words of Thunder: William Lloyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition celebrates the life and achievements of Boston abolitionist William

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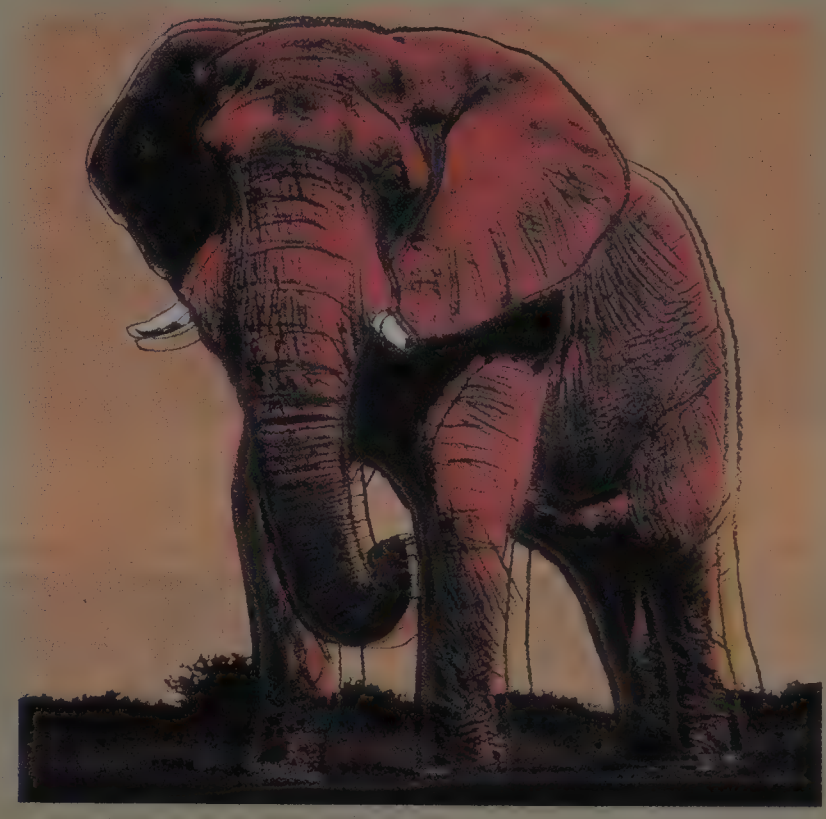

Andy Warhol, African Elephant, Endangered Species Series, 1983
Screen print on Lenox Museum Board, Signed and numbered

"American Century"
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October 7th to November 21st, 2005

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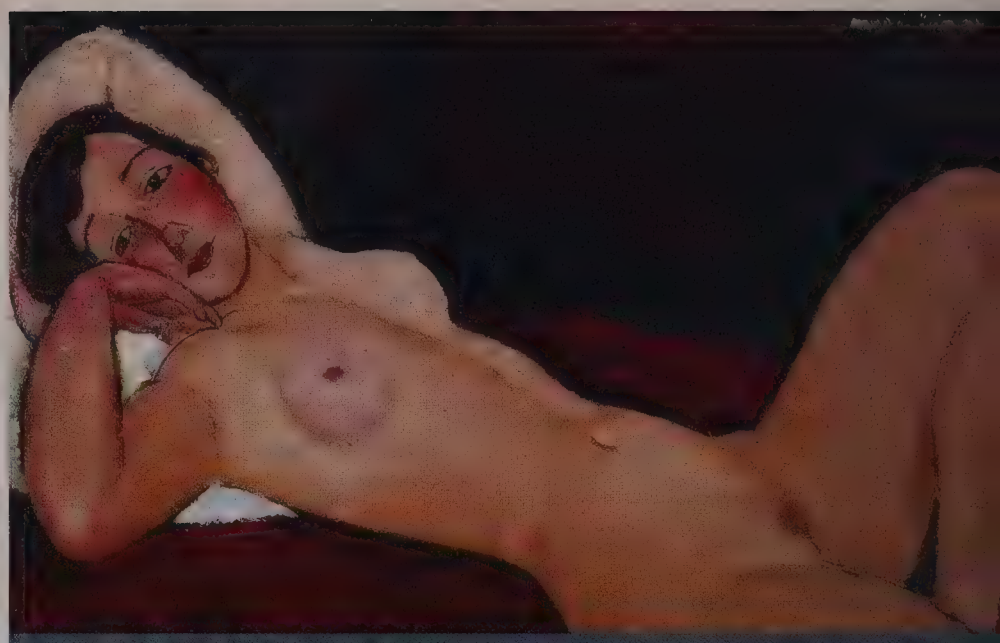

Amedeo Modigliani's *Reclining Nude* is among works on display at the Museum of Fine Arts in the William I Koch collection, through Nov. 13.

Lloyd Garrison. Through Dec. 31. •*Historic Gallery Talks: 19th Century Black Beacon Hill* discusses the determination of blacks on Beacon Hill in the 1800s. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17, school days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all other times, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, free excluding special exhibitions. •*Things I Love: The Many Collections of William I. Koch* displays pieces of silver, sculptures, paintings and more. Through Nov. 13. •Artist Sol LeWitt and flutist Paula Robison collaborate on Mozart pieces and a giant wall drawing for *Variations on a Theme*. Through Nov. 21. •*Ansel Adams* showcases works by the famous American photographer. Through Dec. 31. •*Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia* features more than 100 musical instruments. Through Jan. 5, 2006. •*American West: Dust and Dreams* presents more than 70 artists whose works reflect the American West. Though Jan. 8, 2006. •*Zhang Huan: Seeds of Hamburg* displays 12 chronological large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 16, 2006. •*West African Gold: Akan Regalia from the Glassell Collection* presents items crafted for Akan kings and elite including crowns, jewelry, sculptures, swords and kente cloths. Through March 26, 2006. •*A Much Recorded War: The Russo-Japanese War in History and Imagery* exhibits prints, postcards and photographs. Through March 28, 2006. •*Contemporary Clay: Japanese Ceramics for the New Century* is a collection of innovative, present-day Japanese ceramics. Through July 9, 2006.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, $13; children 3-11, $12. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers. Ongoing. •*Countdown to Supernova* is a planetarium show about the creation and death of stars. Through April 30, 2006. •*Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination* uses all six Star Wars films to examine the technologies of today and tomorrow. Through April 30, 2006. •Hundreds of butterflies and flowers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. •*Natural Mysteries* puts your organizational skills to work to solve mysteries. Ongoing. •The *Theater of Electricity* provides lightning shows daily at 12 pm and 2 pm, and Fridays at 7 pm. Ongoing. •Stargaze atop the museum's garage roof using the Gilliland Observatory Friday evenings. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Old Glory* displays patriotic magazine covers from the 1940s. Through Dec. 11. •*September 11: Bearing Witness to History* commemorates and reflects on the tragedy of 9/11 through photographs, articles and everyday objects. Through Jan. 1. •*Teenage Hoboes in the Great Depression* features letters, questionnaires and audio tapes documenting stories during the Depression. Through Feb. 16. •*Blue Monday: Doing Laundry in America* showcases laundry advertisements and paraphernalia from the 1700s to today. Through March 4.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from the Mississippi River area. Through March 30, 2006. •*Air Lines: Photographs by Alison MacLean* captures images of the United States from thousands of feet above the ground. Through April 23, 2006. •*Taj Mahal: The Building of a Legend* is a collection of 40 paintings and photographs exploring the site. Through July 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature: Untamed Traditions in Chinese Decorative Art* exhibits organic wood forms which appealed to Buddhists and Daoists seeking to connect with nature. Through Aug. 13, 2006. •*Exposing the Source: The Paintings of Nalini Malani* displays 40 works including oils, acrylics, watercolors and videos by one of India's leading contemporary artists. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children 3-18, $5; children under 3, free.. •*Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations in Washington, D.C.* features photographs of Native American delegates to the U.S. government. Through Dec. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtiss Collection* is on display through March 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 2006. •*The Moche of Ancient Peru* is a collection of early ceramic art that gives insight into the culture. Through June 2007.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $3. •*Allan Lucier: Chambers* explores the characteristics of enclosed spaces. Through Dec. 11. •*Fred Tomaselli: Masters of Paradise* displays collage-style paintings that blend natural and unnatural worlds. Through Dec. •*'Post' and After: Contemporary Art from the Brandeis University Collection* displays works from the 1980s and '90s. Through April 9, 2006.

Special Events

Boston International Fine Art Show

Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St. Boston (617-363-0405). www.fineartboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov. 10-13. Featuring more than 40 galleries of contemporary and traditional fine art, this ninth annual event offers lectures, cocktail receptions and panel discussions. A portion of the proceeds go to The Walk Center's education program.

Brickbottom Gallery Open Studios

1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Nov. 19-20, 12-6 pm. More than 80 artists working in all media present their work at this 18th annual open-house.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Lillian Orlowsky: In Retrospect* features abstract paintings inspired by real life figures. Through Nov. 12.

Adams Gallery
Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont St., Boston (617-305-1782). www.suffolk.edu/adams_gallery. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*Touching All the Bases: A Red Sox story* explores the history of the Boston Red Sox through photographs, cartoons and artifacts. Through Oct. 28, 2006.

Alianza Gallery
148 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Contained* displays perfume bottles and larger vessels made mostly out of art glass. Through Nov. 12.

Boylston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.boylstonskirt.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Heart's Playground* exhibits Sharon Kaitz's latest large-scale paintings and works on paper which explore what we learn on the playground. Through Nov. 26.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Gyorgy Kepes* exhibits photographs and paintings. Through Nov. 30.

Arden Gallery
162 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* presents paintings by Sebastián Picker. Through Nov. 29.

Artana
138 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-1). www. artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 10 am-7 pm; and by appointment. •*The Color of Light IV* showcases the realist paintings of Kathleen McDonough, who explores the qualities of light in her work. Through Nov. 30.

Art Interactive
1 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Glowlab: Open* features several different artists each weekend leading workshops, tours and other activities. Through Dec. 14.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., East Boston (781-853-0017). www.atlanticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Thu. 6-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-6 pm. •*Nudes*, a juried show, displays local artist's interpretation of the human figure in various mediums from painting and sculpture to video and photography. Nov. 12-Nov. 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Cottingham's *An American Alphabet* displays the work of the photorealist. Through Dec. 7. •Jeff Perrott's painting exhibition *Nature of Things* is on display through Dec. 7.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Cher and Gabriel Schaffer present *Two of a Kind: Visions*, works of mixed media on paper. Through Dec. 23.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •*All Things to Center* features sculptures by Greg Mencoff. Through Nov. 26.•Heide Fasnacht displays her work in *Jump Zone*. Through Nov. 26.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu., Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*The 19th Drawing Show* exhibits various artists' wall drawings with influences from grafitti, Sol LeWitt's wall drawings and installations. Nov. 18-Jan. 8, 2006.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-776-3410). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Michael Beatty's *IN-tangle* displays his new sculptures, many incorporating plywood and metal. Jim Henderson's *Tree Museum* includes sculptures created out of logs from outside the artist's studio. Through Nov. 12.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St.

Hartman's *Megan and Kenny's Big Day* is at MPG Contemporary through Nov. 26.

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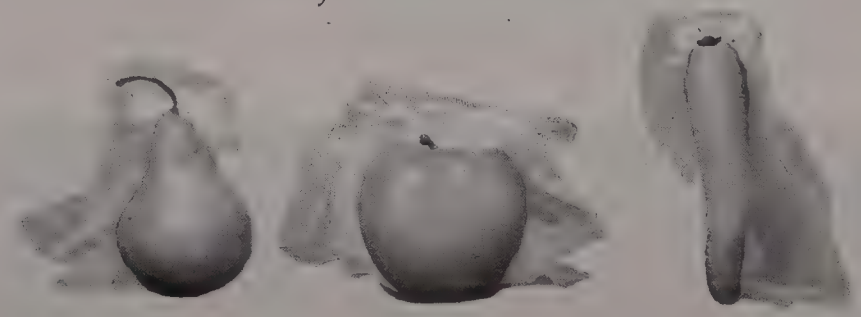

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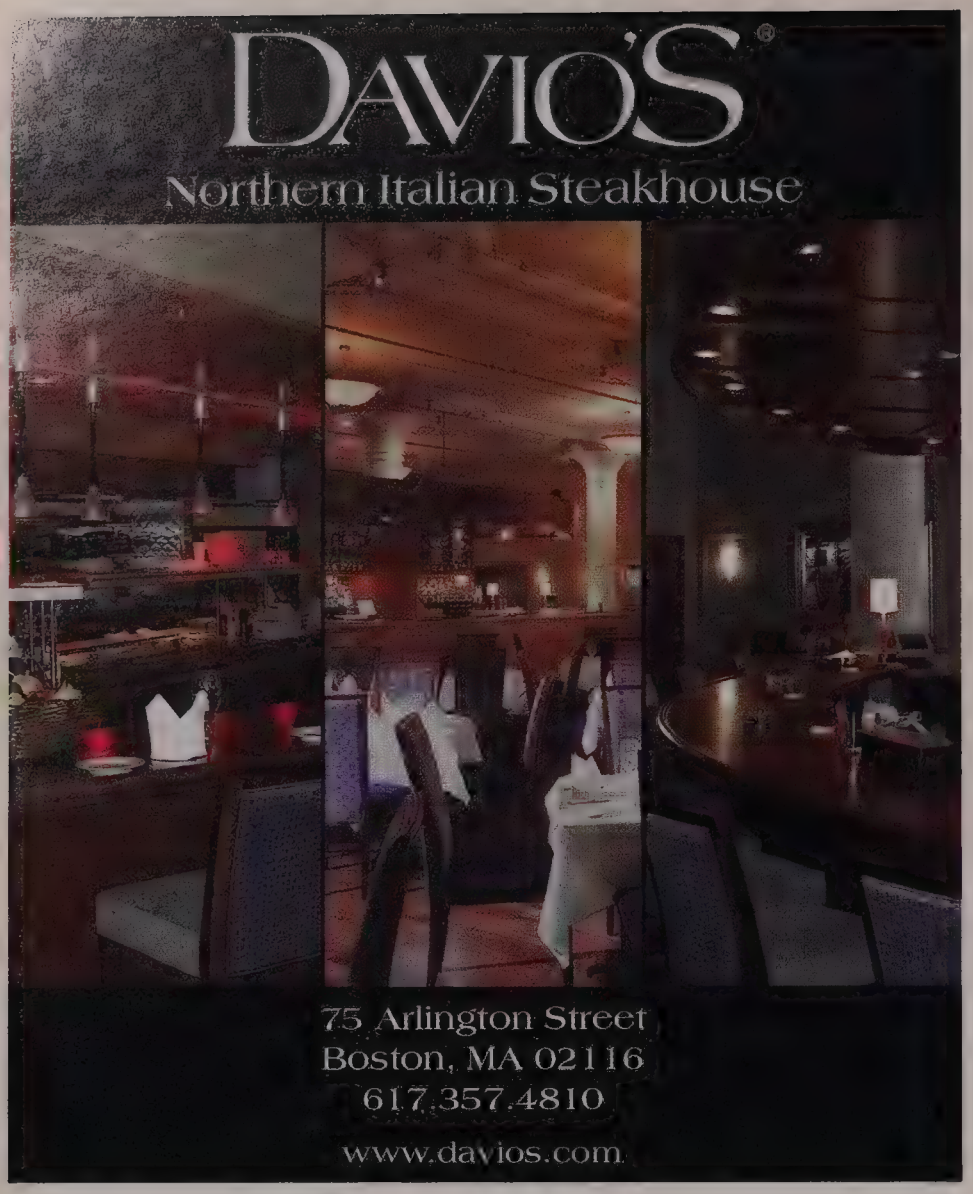
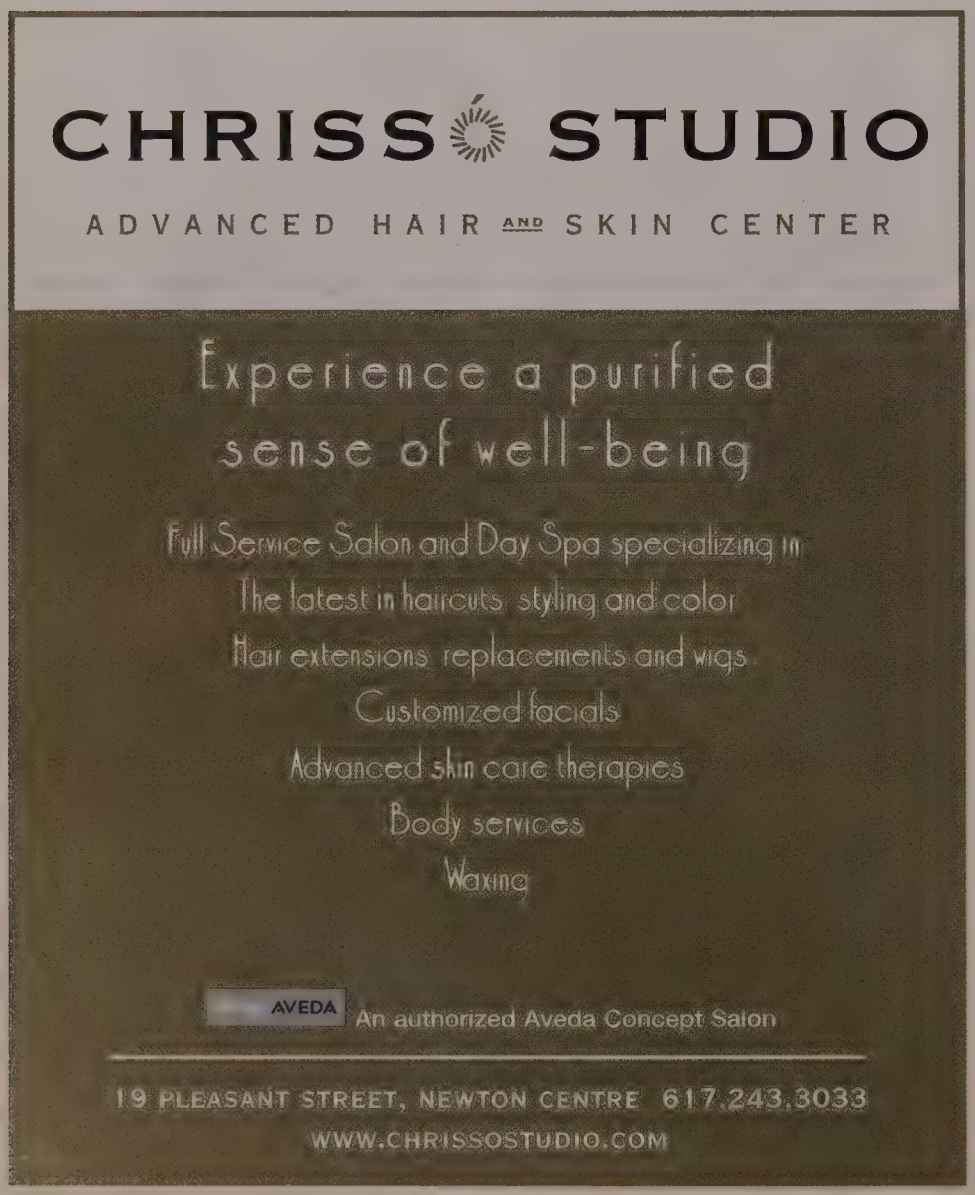




Susan Wilson's photographs are on display at the French Library and Cultural Center through Dec. 1.

Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Peru: Perceptions, Photographs by Monika Bruzkova* displays through Nov. 11.

Cambridge Art Association

Kathryn Schultz Gallery, 25R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. University Place Gallery, 124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-1 pm. •In *Wigglescapes* Lisa Jeanne Graf exhibits her landscapes drawn in various media. At the Kathryn Schultz Gallery through Nov. 30.•*RED*, which focuses on more than the color, is on display from Nov. 18, 2005-Jan.19, 2006 at the University Place Gallery.

Cambridge Arts Council Gallery

344 Broadway, Cambridge (617-349-4380). www.cambridgeartscouncil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Mon., Wed., Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm; Tue., 8:30 am-5 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-12 pm. •*dimensions available, site fixed* exhibits a collection of works by local artisits charged with creating a new work for Cambridge. Through Dec. 28.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center

41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Zapatistas* features Norma Suarez's photographs documenting the Mexican Zapatista struggle.

Chase Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm.•*Debra Fritts* exhibits her terra-cotta sculptures layered with object marks and colorants. Nov. 2-26. •*Whitney River* features an oil-on-canvas approach to organic objects. Through Nov. 26.

Childs Gallery

169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Laurent Schkolnyk: Mezzotints* exhibits a variety of color mezzotints. Nov. 14, 2005-Jan. 7, 2006. •*19th-Century American Landscapes* features classic oil landscapes. Nov. 14, 2005-Jan. 7, 2006. •*On the Move: Transportation in Art* displays drawings by several artists, all of whom deal with the subject of travel. Nov. 14, 2005-Jan. 7, 2006.

Claygo Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). www.claygo.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*Is it Soup Yet?* exhibits ceramics for gourmet dining. Through Dec. 16.

Copley Society of Art

158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Escapes* displays Suzanne Crocker's oil paintings of New England barns through Nov. 29.

Crump McCole Gallery

200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* exhibits paintings by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

DTR Modern Galleries

167 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-9700). www.dtrmodern.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-8 pm; S 11 am-6 pm. •*American Century: Pop to Graff Cutting Edge* is a collection featuring such artis Andy Warhol and Robert Rauschenberg. Thr Nov. 22.

Fort Point Arts Community Galler

300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www pointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. M Fri., 9 am-9 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. • *Off the Wall* exh sculptures by Julie Levesque and Sally M Through Dec 3.

Galerie d'Orsay

33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). w galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlin Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ex tion of paintings, sculptures and fine prints fea works from the 15th to 20th centuries. Ongoing.

Gallery AA/B

535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-00 www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange to Back Bay. Thu.-Fri., 12-5:30 pm; Sat. 12-5 • Patricia Burson and Renia Platt display p ings of Provincetown dunescapes and New land interior scenes. Nov. 10-Dec. 22.

Gallery Katz

450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617- 6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Li Broadway. Wed.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by app ment. •A group exhibition features paint drawings and photographs by Gallery Katz ar Ongoing.

Gallery Kayafas

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-0411). gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Eric Lewandowsk hibits black and white photos, while Shuli H presents color prints. Through Nov. 26.

Gallery NAGA

67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlin Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • *Under Cover: U stery in Contemporary Furniture* features mo approaches to furniture upholstery by mu artists. Nov. 11-Dec. 17.

Gateway Arts Gallery

62 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-1577). gatewayarts.org/gallery. MBTA: D Green Li Brookline Village. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm, Sat 5 pm. Time and Tides is a group exhibition ex ing the sun and moon. Through Nov. 26.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery

47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue. 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*A Selection from the P Years* features paintings and sculptures by Franklin. Through Nov. 30. •Fred Faudie show his digital photography in *Dickinson Suite at l* On display through Nov. 30.

Howard Yezerski Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line lington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Paul Shak displays his abstract acrylic on wood works th Nov. 15. •*War Drawings* showcases Elaine Spa binowitz's works on paper through Nov. 15.

International Poster Gallery

205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to C Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Maste of Graphic Design* showcases the evolution of g

ign. Through Nov. 30. •The gallery displays a vari- of vintage posters. Ongoing.

di Rotenberg Gallery
) Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www. irotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •New Beginnings, an exhibit iew work by Judi Rotenberg, celebrates the future h large colorful paintings. Through Nov. 26.

dy Goldman Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-492-0815). www.judy dmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. e.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •Bill Durgen displays interior photographs in *Domestic Arrangements*. rough Dec. 3.•*Natural Perspectives* features seg- nted landscape paintings on sliced logs by Alison ritsugu. Through Dec. 3.

dder Smith Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www. dersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* by uglas Schneider explores the innocence of Amer- 's past. Through Nov. 12.

ngston Gallery
Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingston lery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •Gail Erwn's *Map- pe* exhibits an installation of 500 sheets of hand- de paper. Through Nov. 26.

conia Gallery
3 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-670-1568). www. oniagallery.org. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Sat., pm and by appointment. •*The 40th Parallel* exhibits ice Myren's photos of 10 points across the U.S. t the 40th parallel bisects. Through Nov. 19.

noue Fine Art
) Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www. ouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The lery's collection features works by Douglass Freed, th Block, Marc Civitarese, Carrie McGee, John som and more. Ongoing.

Attitude Gallery
3 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www. itudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Frit and Fire* plays the work of fused-glass artist Roger Thomas. rough Nov. 15.

assachusetts College of Art
calar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-)-7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green Line Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. he Graphic Imperative: An Exhibition of Interna- al Posters for Peace, Social Justice and the Environ- nt is on display through Nov. 11.

ercury Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www. rcurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. n.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • niel Robinson: *Forms and Light* exhibits landscapes n the 1930s and '40s. Through Nov. 29.

obilia Gallery
Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www. obilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 -5 pm. •*Celebrating the Necklace* is a collection of ndmade necklaces. Nov. 15-Dec. 15. •Curated by University of Texas, El Paso, *Hanging In Balance* traveling exhibit of necklaces on display Nov. Dec. 15.

PG Contemporary
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www. gallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. .-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Paintings of Personality Estrangement* exhibits Don Hartman's work h Polaroid photos and paint. Through Nov. 26.

e Nave Gallery
rendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powderhouse l., Somerville (617-625-4823). www.artsomerville. nave/2005/sac.html. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. ., 4-8 pm, Sat., 1-5 pm.•The 2005 Somerville s Council Visual Art Grantwinners exhibit their k in *Party of Five*. Through Dec. 10.

w England Institute of Art
Brookline Place West, Brookline (617-582-4442). w.neia.aii.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Brookline ge. Mon.-Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-5 Sat., 9 am-3 pm. •*Color Fields* displays the ntings of artist Lenore Sempert through Dec. 12.

elsen Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www. sengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. -Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.•Joan Snyder adds dirt, h and herbs to her oil and watercolor paintings wo Rivers. Through Dec. 3.

IT Gallery
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-425-1677). www.oht ry.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-, 11 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* showcases an Osburn's acrylic on canvas pieces through . 23.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. #304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Recent Drawings features the work of David X. Levine. Through Nov. 26.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery features photography, paintings, sculpture, jewelry, mosaics and antiques by local artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •New Works features Marja Lianko's paintings and sculptures, which are influenced by her Finnish upbringing. Through Nov. 12.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Mark Davis' *Energy in Motion* features the artist's mobiles. •*The Exquisite World of Roger Bowman* is on display. Through Nov. 20. •

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Michael Ronnen Safdie exhibits his photos. Through Nov. 12.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orangle Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. Ellen Lesperance and Jeanine Oleson display their color prints. Through Nov. 26.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •With over 25 artists featured, *Artcessorize* exhibits hats, belts, scarves, shawls, purses and jewelry made with various materials from hand-painted silk to wool. Through Jan. 22, 2006.

Soprafina Gallery
73 Thayer St., Boston (617-728-0770). www.soprafina.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Marjorie Forte displays a series of 14 oilstick on paper pieces and Lucy Clink exhibits Tuscan scenes in oil on linen. Through Nov. 26.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*New Art, New Artists* exhibits recent Plein Air oil painting by William St. George and watercolor depictions of Santa Fe, Taos and abroad by Sandra Mueller-Dick. Through Nov. 30.

Vose Galleries of Boston
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and early 20th-century American artwork in various media. Ongoing.

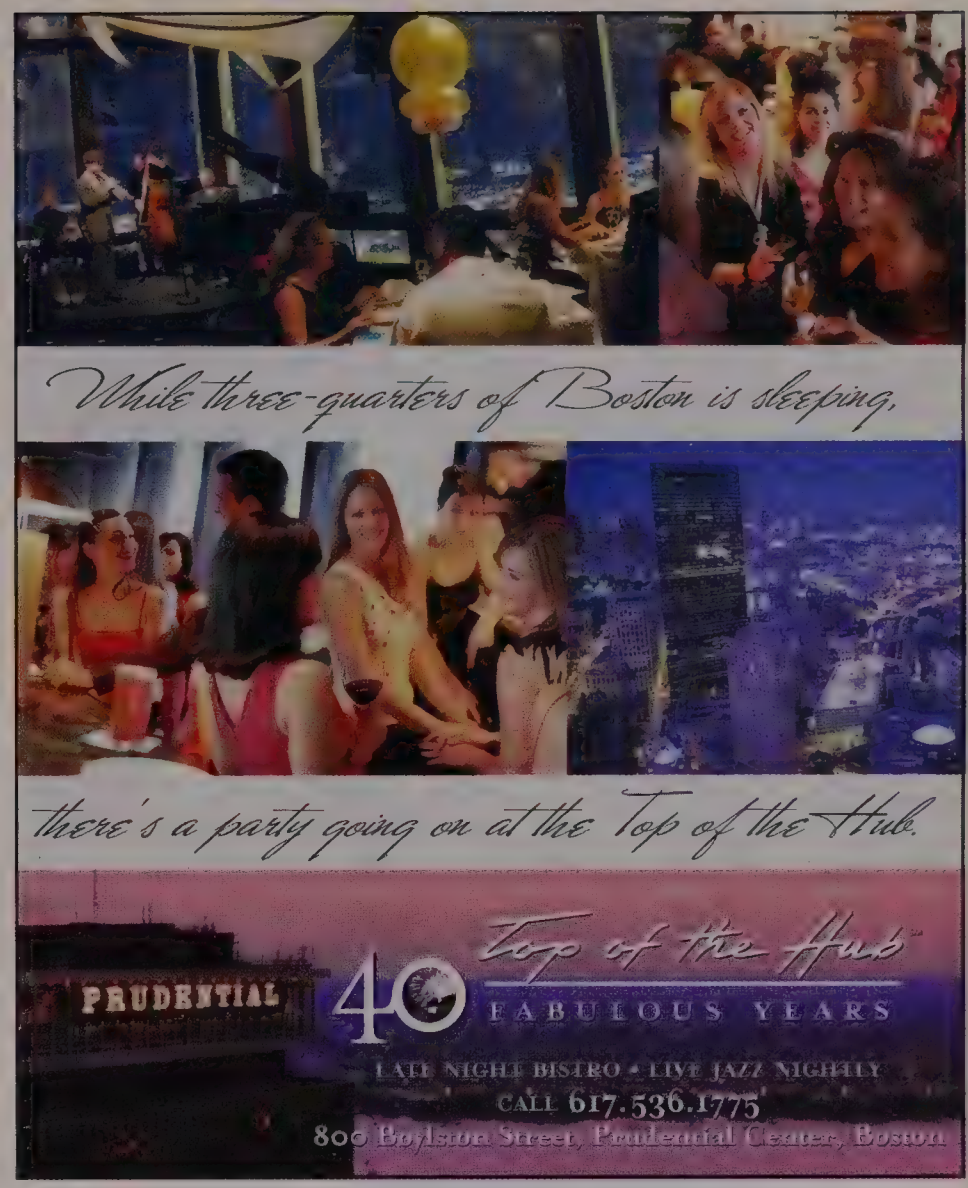
PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Rd., Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue. and Wed., 11 am-5 pm; Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Dancers* by Morten Nilsson and *Soul to Sole* by Beverley Abramson features two different perspectives on dance competitions. Through Nov. 27. •*Arthur Griffin: A Singular Vision* features black and white photos from 1929 to 1951. Through Dec. 30.

Panopticon Gallery Boston
502 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •The Panopticon staff holds an exhibit of their work titled *From the Attic*. •*Problems in Time and Space* by Peter Vanderwarker displays both color and black and white photos. Through Dec. 3.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. • *States and Fall* showcases the photographs of Christopher Griffith. Through Dec. 3.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art gallery, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600) 435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm.•*Group Portrait* exhibits works by photographers who challenge the genre of group portraiture. On display Nov. 17-Jan. 22, 2006.



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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6 pm. Free. Boston University professor **Kevin Gallagher** discusses his book, *Putting Development First: The Importance of Policy Space in the World Trade Organization and International Financial Institutions*, on financial institutions he believes to be hindering the implementation of progressive foreign policies.

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores. com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Sally Hogshead** discusses her book, *Radical Careering: 100 Truths to Jumpstart Your Job, Your Career and Your Life*, which gives tips on how to find a meaningful job or improve your current career.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Mary Gaitskill** reads from her novel *Veronica*, about a woman's decline from a fashion model to an ill, aging maid.

The Commonwealth Institute Business Rhythms Speaker Forum
39 Dalton St., Boston (617-859-0080). www.commonwealthinstitute.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 7:30 am. $110. Former Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts **Evelyn Murphy** reads from her book *Getting Even: Why Women Don't Get Paid Like Men and What to Do About it*, which analyzes the the gap between men's and women's income. The ticket price includes breakfast and a copy of Murphy's book.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Brent Runyon** reads from his memoir, *The Burn Journals*, about his experiences overcoming emotional and physical pain after an attempted suicide by fire.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Former director of global issues for the National Security Council and MIT political science professor **Lincoln Bloomfield** discusses his book *Accidental Encounters With History (And Some Lessons Learned)*, which details the events that shaped U.S. international policy for the later part of the 20th century.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Michael Parker** reads from his novel *If You Want Me to Stay*, about a family troubled by the father's mental illness as the three sons begin a quest to find their estranged mother. Also, **Douglas Trevor** discusses his collection of short stories, *The Thin Tear in the Fabric of Space*.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Frannie Lindsay** and **Ellen Steinbaum** read from their works.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Joseph Boyden** reads from his novel *Three Day Road*, the story of two Cree friends who join the Canadian army during World War I and the three-day journey home that one of them takes in a canoe with his elderly aunt.

Borders Books Downtown Crossing
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. **Lynne Truss** discusses her book *Talk to the Hand: The Utter Bloody Rudeness of the World Today, or Six Good Reasons to Stay Home and Bolt the Door*, which su
gests that manners have deteriorated and calls
a resurrection of common courtesy.

Brookline Booksmith
*279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). ww
brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line
Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Paul Collins** reads fr
his part memoir-part mystery, *The Trouble With To
The Strange Afterlife and Times of Thomas Pai*
which follows the author as he traces Paine's rema
over the course of two centuries and explores
revolutionary's legacy.

Harvard Book Store
*1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-151
www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harva
6:30 pm. Free.* Harvard University econom
Benjamin M. Friedman discusses his book *T
Moral Consequences of Economic Growth*, which
gues that times of rising incomes promote demo
racy, solidarity and public support for the disa
vantaged while an insecure economy fosters a la
of sensitivity toward the poor.

Harvard Coop
*1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200
www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to H
vard. 7 pm. Free.* Former drug enforcement age
Paul Doyle reads from his memoir, *Hot Shots a
Heavy Hits: Tales of an Undercover Drug Age*
about his experiences infiltrating Boston's und
ground drug culture in the 1970s.

Wellesley Booksmith Event
*Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., Welles
(781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.co
MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 12 p
Free.* **Lynne Truss** reads from her book *Talk to
Hand: The Utter Bloody Rudeness of the World Tod
or Six Good Reasons to Stay Homeand Bolt the Do*
See the Nov. 10 Borders listing for a description.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Harvard Coop
*1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200
www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to H
vard. 7 pm. Free.* Psychoanalyst **Judith Davis** re
from her book *Emotional Comfort: The Gift of Y
Inner Guide*, which outlines a technique for atta
ing emotional well-being.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Brookline Booksmith
*Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookl
(617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.co
MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 1 pm.*
Sports writer **David Zirin**, historian and polical
entist **Howard Zinn** and former Yankee pitcher
Bouton lead a discussion based on Zirin's b
What's My Name, Fool?, which connects sports
larger social issues.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Forest Hills Educational Trust Even
*95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-0128). w
foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Fo
Hills. 2 pm. $5.* Poets **Lois Ames, Suzanne Berg
Robert J. Clawson** and **Victor Howes** read work
Anne Sexton, as well as their own.

Porter Square Books Event
*Somerville Theater, 55 Davis Square, Somer
(617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.c
MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm. $9.* **Sue Mi**
reads from her novel *Lost in the Forest*, about a f
ily reunited after the stepfather passes away. **St
Almond** reads from his collection of short stor
The Evil B.B. Chow and Other Stories. Also, p
**Franz Wright, Doug Holder, Susie Davidson
Afaa Michael Weaver** read from their works.

Wellesley Historical Society Event
*Wellesley Free Library, 530 Washington St., We
ley (781-235-1610). www.wellesleyfreelibrary.c
MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 2
Free. Outdoor Life* columnist **Michael Tougias**
cusses his book, *Ten Hours Until Dawn: The T
Story of Heroism and Tragedy Aboard the Can*
about the final hours of the civilian crew that
to rescue two vessels caught in the blizzard of
off the Massachusetts coast.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Blacksmith House Event
*Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle
Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MB
Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $7-$10.* Poets **Fr
Bidart, William Corbett, Gail Mazur, Maur
McLane, David Rivard, Lloyd Schwartz** and **Jos
Torra** read from the works of Allen Ginsberg.

Brookline Booksmith
*279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). w
brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Lin
Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Susan Orlean**

Comedian Al Franken reads from his book Nov. 15.

Robert Atwan dis-
cuss *The Best American Essays 2005*, a collec-
n they edited of leading fiction and nonfiction
ks.

rvard Book Store Event
ttle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-
5). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har-
l. 6 pm. Free. Sociologist and former staffer on
-Berkeley's admissions committee **Jerome Kara-**
reads from his book, *The Chosen: The Hidden His-*
of Admission and Exclusion at Harvard, Yale and
iceton, which criticizes admission policies at some
ne country's top colleges.

rvard Coop
0 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.
ard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7
Free. **S.A. Abakwue** reads from his book, *Path to*
gress, which approaches the topic of financial
lship from a spiritual perspective.

JESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

rnes & Noble, Boston University
Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.
kstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7
Free. Assistant professor of English at SUNY
ghamton **Thomas Glave** reads from his collec-
of essays, *Words to Our Now: Imagination and*
ent, which argues that racial and political prej-
es persist in the United States and elsewhere.

rnes & Noble, Prudential Center
Boylston St., Boston (617-247-6959). www.
lesandnoble.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Pru-
ial. 6 pm. Free. Former *New York Sports Express*
mnist **Dave Hollander** discusses his book, *52 Weeks: Interviews with Champions!*, a collection of interviews with active and retired athletes.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.
brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to
Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Former *New York Times* science and health reporter **Philip Hilts** reads from his new book, *Rx for Survival: Why We Must Rise to the Global Health Challenge*, which describes the ways people can help fight the world's worst diseases.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000).
www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har-
vard. 7:30 pm. Free. Comedian **Al Franken** reads from his book, *The Truth (with jokes)*, a humorous critique of the Republican party and various political issues.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.
newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to
Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Stephanie Kallos** reads from her novel *Broken for You*, about two women building a friendship. One has an illness and the other deals with unrequited love.

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.
brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to
Wellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. **Deborah Noyes** discusses her novel *Angel and Apostle*, which retells Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* by focusing on Hester Prynne's daughter.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.
brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to
Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Columbia University professor **Andrew Delbanco** reads from his biography *Melville: His World and Work*, a chronicle of both Melville's life and the various themes in his writings.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000).
www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har-
vard. 7 pm. Free. *New York Times* contributor **Denise Landis** discusses her cookbook *Dinner for Eight: 40 Great Dinner Party Menus for Friends and Family*, which gives tips on dinner-party preparation and suggests food and drink pairings for meals served in every season.

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Una Bella Serata

Mary Gaitskill reads from her novel at Brookline Booksmith Nov. 9.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. Biographer **Peter Guralnick** speaks about his book *Dream Boogie: The Triumph of Sam Cooke*, which recounts the musician's legacy and explores his experiences as an African-American performer in the early 1960s.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 8 pm. Free. Editor **Ruth Ellenson** and contributors **Tova Mirvis**, **Rachel Kadish** and **Rebecca Goldstein** read from their book, *The Modern Jewish Girl's Guide to Guilt*, about the identity of Jewish women in the 21st century.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Doctoral candidate in sociology at CUNY **Hella Winston** reads from her book, *Unchosen: The Hidden Lives of Hasidic Rebels*, which explores how the lack of secular education may put Hasidic youth at risk.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. Wired journalist **David Wolman** reads from his new memoir, *A Left-hand Turn Around the World: Chasing the Mystery And Meaning of All Things Southpaw*, about his quest to find answers about the meaning behind left-handedness.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Assistant professor of English at SUNY Binghamton **Thomas Glave** discusses his book, *Words to Our Now: Imagination and Dissent*. See the Nov. 15, Barnes & Noble, Boston University listing for a description.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 2 pm. Free. **Anne Ipsen** reads from her novel, *Karen From the Mill*, about a young girl's desire for a life of adventure and love on the high seas against her family's wishes.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Emily Franklin** reads from her novel *Piece, Love and Happiness*, the second book in her teen fiction series. Also, **Laurie Stolarz** discusses her young-adult novel *Red is for Remembrance*, about a college freshman who is also a witch.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Photographer **Bill Brett** signs copies of his book *Boston, All One Family*, a photographic catalog prominent Bostonians.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-531 www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Lin Central. 7 pm. Free. Co-founder of Incite! Wom of Color Against Violence **Andrea Smith** re from her book *Conquest: Sexual Violence and Am ican Indian Genocide*, which analyzes how Nat American women were and continue to be victi of sexual violence.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-151 www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harva 6:30 pm. Free. Harvard University professor **To mie Shelby** reads from his book *We Who Are Da The Philosophical Foundations of Black Solidarity.* advocates for a new sense of black nationali based on traditional analytical philosophy and h torical black political thought.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200 www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to H vard. 7 pm. Free. Women's hockey gold meda **Angela Ruggiero** reads from her memoir, *Break the Ice: My Journey to Olympic Hockey, The League & Beyond*, which recounts her life a hockey player and delves into the challen women face in a male-dominated sport.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-151 www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harva 3 pm. Free. **Lan Samantha Chang** reads from novel *Inheritance*, in which two sisters in Ch during the early 1930s are separated during Japanese invasion.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). w harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvar pm. Free. Photographer **Bill Brett** discusses his b *Boston, All One Family*. See the Nov. 21, Brook Booksmith listing for a description.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. tonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to N tonville. 7:30 pm. Free. Documentary filmm **Miriam Weinstein** reads from her book *The Sur ing Power of Family Meals*, which explores the b fits of eating together as a family by drawing lessons from psychology, religion and education.

education

dvice to Contributors

bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-r: Education or e-mail information to education@im-oper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to blication.

VEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

ommonwealth Institute Speakers eries

eraton Boston, 39 Dalton St., Boston (617-859-80). www.commonwealthinstitute.org. MBTA: Green ne to Park. 7:30 am. $110. Former Massachusetts Lt. overnor **Evelyn Murphy** joins *Boston Globe* colum-st **Ellen Goodman** and CEO of Citizens Bank **wrence W. Fish** as they discuss gender bias and wage scrimination. Admission includes breakfast and a py of Murphy's book *Getting Even: Why Women n't Get Paid Like Men and What to Do About It.*

ormer Governor Jean Shaheen: Vomen in Politics

mmons College, Alumnae Hall, 321 Brookline Ave., ston (617-521-2369). www.simmons.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Longwood. 3:30 pm. Free. The first male governor of New Hampshire, **Jean Shaheen**, ares her memories of the campaign trail and the portance of women activists.

siting Artist Lecture: Alexis Rockman

assachusetts College of Art, Kennedy Building, 621 ntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7050). www.mass .edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. 12:30 . Free. Large-scale painter **Alexis Rockman** dis-sses his work, which synthesizes futuristic ecologi- possibilities, biological evolution and technolog- l breakthroughs.

RIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

stitute of Contemporary Art Film ewing and Discussion

titute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., ston (617-927-6620). www.icaboston.org. BTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8 pm. $7. The ICA presents **Avi Lewis**'s and **Naomi Klein**'s film *The Take* (2004), about the effects of globalization.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Better to Write of Laughter than of Tears

Brandeis University, Faculty Center, Rapaporte Treasure Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-2756). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 11 am. Free. German authors host a colloquium focusing on humor within the culture, including author **Lesley Chamberlain** and Dartmouth professor **Ellis Shookman**.

Loco for Gocco

Paper Source, 1361 Beacon St., Brookline (617-264-2800). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 1 pm. $75. Instructor **Krissy Mendonca** teaches students how to use the Japanese Gocco machine to create personalized cards, bookmarks and invitations.

Voice and Articulation

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 9 am. $112. The Speech Improvement Company offers a class to help with speech patterns that may be holding you back by working on pitch, projection and breathing.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Lifting as We Climb

Boston Public Library, Rabb Hall, (617-267-7366). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3 pm. Free. WCVB-TV Public Affairs Director **Karen Holmes** moderates a discussion on the history of African-American women and how their work has changed the country as we know it today.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Forgetting to Remember: America, France, and the Holocaust

Northeastern University, 102 Lake Hall, 230 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-373-7045). www.jewishstudies.neu.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern. 4 pm. Free. Northeastern's Jewish Studies department sponsors a conference discussing the misinterpreted roles of the United States and France during the Holocaust.

The Sky's Not the Limit: Women in Astronomy

Radcliffe Institute, 1 Oxford St., Boston (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 4:15 pm. Free. Five women who have made important contributions to the academy and industry will discuss their research, careers and experiences as women in astronomy.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Developing an eBay Business

Boston Public Libary, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. The workshop covers basic concepts of effective eBay selling, focusing on ideas for starting an eBay business or adding an eBay account to your existing business.

Holiday Entertaining Without Prozac

Orleans, 65 Holland St., Somerville (617-591-2100). www.orleansrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm. $25. Enjoy food and cocktails as the staff of the Orleans restaurant demonstrate how to make the perfect holiday meal step-by-step.

Religion and Art: Judaism

Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 10:30 am. $25; members, $20. Assistant professor at Brandeis University **Jonathan Decter** gives a lecture on Jewish culture in the Middle Ages.

Women's Studies Research Lecture Series

Brandeis University, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100). www.brandeis.edu. 12:30 pm. Free. Women's Studies Center scholar **Rhoda Unger** traces the role of women in the field of psychology from the 1970s to the present.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Caravaggio and Violence

Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-3200). www.bc.edu. Green Line to Boston College. 5 pm. Free. In this lecture, Professor of Art at Mount Holyoke College **John Varianno** considers the propensity for violence in both the artist's personal life and public commissions.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Friends Speakers Series: Mary-Louise Parker

George Sherman Union, Metcalf Ballroom, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3696). www.bu.edu/friends. MBTA: Green Line to BU Central. 5:30 pm. $25. Actress **Mary-Louise Parker** lectures about her career on stage and on the big screen. A Q&A session and a cocktail reception follow.

Thunder in Guyana

Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Devlin 026, Chestnut Hill (617-558-6447). www.ncacboston.org. MBTA: Green to Boston College. 7 pm. Free. Director **Suzanne Wasserman** hosts a screening of her documentary *Thunder in Guyana*, about Janet Rosenberg Jagan, the first American-born woman to lead a nation.

Women to Women: A Journey to Darfur

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St.,Boston (617-482-6439). www.fordhallforum.neu.edu. MBTA: Red to Downtown. 6:30 pm. $25. Physician **Gloria White-Hammond**, CBS4 News anchor **Liz Walker** and founder and Chairman of Bright Horizons **Linda Mason** take part in a panel discussion aimed at raising global awareness of the ongoing genocide in Sudan.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Art Alive

Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 11 am. Free with museum admission. The staff at the MFA hosts an all ages event discussing the tools, techniques and processes of making mosaics.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

The Presidency of LBJ

JFK Library, Columbia Point, Dorcester (617-514-1550). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 3 pm. Free. **Robert Caro**, Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer of President Lyndon B. Johnson, keynotes at the JFK Library's recurring lectures on 20th-century presidents, accompanied by **Jack Valenti**, former special assistant to President Johnson.

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am; no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Thursdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 11 pm, $10. Get Down Thursdays is a 21+ gay night that features rotating DJs playing hip-hop, house and pop.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Sunday-night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil and DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay, Green Line to Arlington. No cover. 21+. Neighborhood cruise bar open nightly.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. This gay sports bar, with six large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music as booked. •Sun.: An Evening of Mizery: Amateur Talent Night, 10 pm. •Mon. (alternating weeks): Foxy Follies; Trani-Wreck. •Tue.: Karaoke. •Wed.: Delightful Divas with Melinda Wilson. •Thu.: Jacque's Angels with Kris Knievel. •Fri. and Sat.: Miss Norelle's Leading Ladies.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, featuring deep house music, 10 pm-2 am, $8, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night, 10 pm-2 am, cover varies, 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with hostess Mizery, 10 pm-2 am, 19+.

Modern (Thursdays)
30 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581). www.lesbiannightlife.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $10, 19+. Thursdays at the Modern is lesbian night with DJ Afrodite.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features Top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

But I'm a Cheerleader plays at the Harvard LGBT Film Series, Nov. 16.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Mandance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Muscle with DJ Duo Freespace. •Mon.: Pool, dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am, cover varies. Sunday T-dance features DJ Danae spinning the latest house and pop.

Toast (Fridays, Saturdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 5:30 pm-1 am, $5, 21+. Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera and Saturday is Hero's Retro Night with DJs from ManRay.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9:30 pm-2 am. DJ Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and Top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke at 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Underbar (Sundays)
275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080). www.flauntatunderbar.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 11 pm, $10, 21+. This weekly event features DJs spinning hard house.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am.

Venu (Wednesdays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). www.chapsboston.com. 10 pm, $8, 21+. Boston's long-running gay Latino night features Latin and house with DJ Adilson.

Shows & Events

14th Annual Festival of Queer Theater
Boston Center for the Arts, Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 13-Nov. 13. $30. The Theater Offensive presents the Out on the Edge Festival, with a variety of dance, drama and comedy performances for the gay community.

Harvard LBGT Film Series
Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 16, 9:15 pm. The Harvard Film Archives holds a screening of the 1999 comedy *But I'm a Cheerleader*, about a cheerleader suspected of being a lesbian who falls for another female at a camp intended to turn her straight. Directed by Jamie Babbit.

Speakout's Fall Speaker Training 2005
Taylor House Bed and Breakfast, 50 Burroughs St., Jamaica Plain (617-450-9776). www.speakoutboston.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Green St. Nov. 12, 9:30 am-4 pm; Nov. 13, 10 am-4 pm. $80. This weekend seminar is designed to improve effective public speaking on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender subjects.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown North G/L Bowling League
Lanes & Games, 195 Concord Turnpike, Cambridge (617-876-5533). www.beantownbowling.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. 8:30 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Tuesday nights.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449), MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm, $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). www.beantownbowling.com. 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesday nights.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group provides support and information for bisexual women or women who are questioning their sexuality.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri., 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians. Meetings are held at Despina's Place, at 47 Mass. Ave.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu.
MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,4 member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLA (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) m in Medford for support and activities and hol concurrent meeting for interested parents and t partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Li Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-95 www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. informal group for people who think they may be sexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adu
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confiden place for men and women who are looking for a space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It m Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Cooli Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–a support, information and social group for people signed female at birth, but who feel that the de nation is not an accurate or complete descriptio their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-M Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail Comp FTM@usa.com for details.

Cosmetically Correct
Woody's, 58 Hemenway St., Boston. ht yahoogroups.com/community/cosmeticallycorrect. Thu. of each month, 6 pm. Cosmetically Correct group of lipstick lesbians who meet each month.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This gr welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional wor 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and soph cated to get together with like-minded women conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fen health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fen Community Health offers a wide array of services the GLBT community, ranging from discussions ab parenting and safe-sex practices to programs addr ing domestic violence and substance abuse.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Bost GLBT flag football league for its formal fall seas All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

The 40-Somethings
theprimeoflife@aol.com. This newly formed grou lesbians in their 40s runs events that help to fo enduring romantic/life partnerships through be friends first.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus A Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.c ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; S 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcom join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn m about photography, socialize and meet new peopl these monthly meetings. For more informati e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (6 742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in develop healthy gay relationships features alternatives for m ing and dating, communication games, singles mi and a date-matching system. E-mail info@gaylab.or

Gays for Patsy
(617-412-5751). www.gaysforpatsy.org. This co try-western dancing club, featuring two-s swing and line dancing, holds events twice ev month. Beginners welcome, and no part needed. Call for more details.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jam Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.c MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of GLBT community are invited to share poetry, p and performance pieces at this open-mike event

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 M Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red to Central. This discussion group for all ages m every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

AFFAN
bians Available For Fun and Networking is a so- and networking group that provides opportuni- for women to connect with each other. Mem- s receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. FFAN sponsors an annual Halloween dance and ng dances/benefits. Email LAFFAN_Boston 4@yahoo.com for membership information.

quid Assets Swimming
w.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and . mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian n team is open to both competitive and fitness nmers of all ages and abilities.

onday Night Bowling League
ton Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889- 2). www.mnbl.net. 7:30 pm. The MNBL's 5-06 bowling season runs Monday nights.

e Network/La Red
7-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This sup- group is working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual nen's and transgender communities. E-mail @thenetworklared.org for more information.

wly Diagnosed Group
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., on (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or nge Line to Downtown Crossing. First and third ı. of each month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group ports gay and bisexual men who have been di- osed with HIV during the last two years. ail nlongtin@jri.org.

t to Dance
7-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin ballroom dance classes and workshops are held gay-friendly environment.

t TwentySomethings Boston
s social and peer support group is for lesbians, men and bisexual, transgendered and ques- ing folks as well as their straight allies in their and early 30s. Drop an email to twentysome gsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Z Social
nshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., on (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, c and drinks and benefits people affected by /AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group supports HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments around Boston. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups. com

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support. Email sungyun@chickmail.com.

Somos Latin@s LGBT Coalition
www.somoslatinoslgbt.org. The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more info.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of every month.

East End House's COOKING FOR A CAUSE on October 15 was a spectacular success! This event could not have been possible without the support and commitment of so many people.

Thank you to all the chefs, wineries and specialty vendors who provided their expertise, time and fine donations:

Thank you to our Chefs, Restaurants, Wineries and Specialty Vendors

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

Issue Date: November 23
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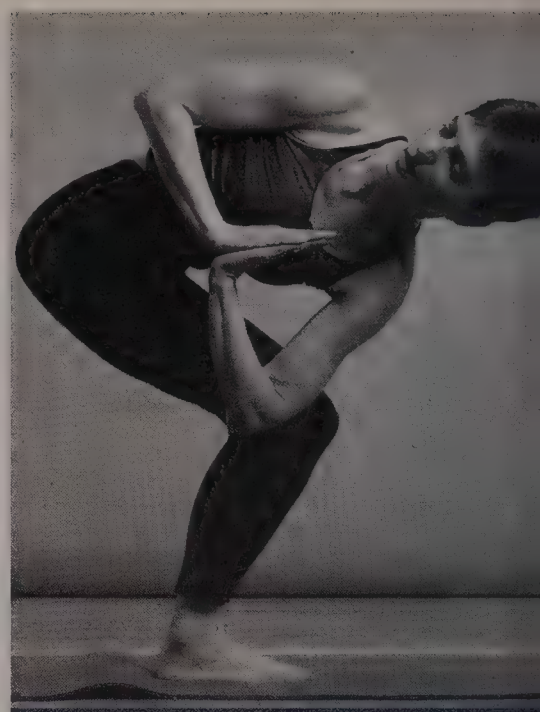
body & mind



Dee Greenberg teaches Vinyasa Power Yoga at Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club.

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body & Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Friday Night at the Movies
Locus, 1560R Trapelo Road, Waltham (508-624-7519). www.locusonline.org or www.sacredspaces.ws. Nov. 18, 7-10 pm. This regular event features spiritual cinema for participants who like movies with a deeper message while enjoying good company and good food. Tonight's feature is *Shorts from the Spiritual Cinema Circle.*

Holistic Spa Open House
Pyara Spa and Salon, 104 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-497-9300). www.pyaraaveda.com. Nov. 9, 5-8 pm. Free. Pyara Spa and Salon starts the holidays off with a sampling of spa treatments, quick styling tips, reflexology and some seasonal drinks.

Lectures

Buddhism and Our Everyday Life
Boston Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.shambhalaboston.org. Nov. 10 and 17, 7-8:30 pm. $10. This lecture series focuses on how Buddhist practice can be a part of everyday life. Every Thursday features a new topic.

Evolution and Human Spirituality: A Jungian View
The C.G. Jung Institute, 116 St. Botolph St., Boston (617-267-5984). www.cgjungboston.com. Nov. 12, 10 am-3 pm. $50. John Haule, past president of the C.G. Jung Institute, leads a discussion on correlating Jungian ideas with new concepts in modern science.

Classes

The Alexander Technique
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430 or 617-527-7373). www.bcae.org or www.alexandertechniqueinstruction. com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 19, 10 am-1 pm. $51. This class covers the history, principles and application of the Alexander Technique, a practice that aims to restore good posture and reduce strain in the neck, back and shoulders.

Anywhere Massage for Everyone
Star Tech Healing and Learning Center, 14 Nason St., Maynard (978-897-0110). www.startechhealing.com. Nov. 13, 2-4:30 pm. $35. Participants learn a variety of hands-on massage techniques that can all be performed on top of clothing and without massage oil.

Asking Your Dreams for Intuitive Truth
Unicorn Books, 1971 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4448). www.unicornbooks.org. Nov. 17, 6:30-8:30 pm. $17. Pre-registering suggested. Through lecture and examples, participants will be taught how to ask their dreams for advice, interpret personal dream symbols and understand the multiple layers of meaning a dream can offer.

Beginners Meditation Workshop
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Nov. 12, 10 am-4 pm. $40. This workshop features meditation instruction along with group discussion. It's designed for people with no meditation experience or who are relatively new to Vipassana (insight meditation). Bring your own vegetarian lunch.

Ease Wedding Stress with Yoga
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., Boston. (781-258-9187). www.i-do-yoga.com. Nov. 10, 7-9 pm. $35. Pre-registering suggested. Gather with other engaged-to-be-married yoga practitioners in order to ease wedding stress and practice being fully pre for the Big Day. All levels welcome.

The G-Spot and Female Ejaculation Explained
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 308A Harvard Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grand opening.c MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Nov. 7:30-9:30pm. $34. Using books and videos, discussion addresses the myth vs. reality of "mysterious" spot. Open to all.

Homeopathy for Colds, Infectio Asthma and Other Winter Woes
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circ wisdom. com. Nov. 9, 7:15-9 pm. $15. Learn c mon homeopathic treatments for winter ailme how homeopathic medicine is made, what diffe tiates it from other medicines and how to homeopathic doctors.

Psychic Development Workshop
Ross Miller, 1075 Washington St., Newton (617-3583). www.themysticway.com. Nov. 12, 10 a pm. Call to register. Psychic and healer Ross M discusses how to identify your guardian angels spirit guides. Participants learn how to feel t aura, rediscover past lives, give psychic reading others and more.

The Psychology of Yoga
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlin (781-316-0282 or 781-643-0852). www.arlin center.org. Nov. 11-13, 14 hours total. Toronto-b author, yoga teacher and psychotherapist Mic Stone visits Boston for this workshop that br together contemporary physical practice with ancient arts of meditation.

Sacred and Erotic Touch 101
Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Netw Newton or Arlington (617-965-7846). www.bos sexspirit.net. Nov. 12, 2-5 pm. $10. U meditation, exercise and discussion, particip explore what turns them on, healthy bounda presence, verbal and non-verbal communicat pacing and emotional safety with both erotic non-sexual touch.

Ongoing

Meditation in the Tibetan Traditio
Sakya Center, 59 Church St., Unit 3, Camb (617-304-8166). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. u sakya.net. Tue. and Fri., 7:30-9 pm. Dona welcome. Lama Migmar Tseten leads this c which is taught in the Tibetan tradition includes informal Buddhist discussion, traditi teachings from Buddhist texts and more fo meditation instruction. Beginners welcome.

Power Yoga Basics
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First Cambridge (617-491-8989 or 781-648-07 www.innerfocusyoga.com. MBTA: Red Lin Kendall. Free parking. Sat., 11:30 am-12:45 pm. drop-in. Learn the foundations of Vinyasa P Yoga, a vigorous style of yoga meant to build strength, endurance and flexibility. Taught by c fied Kripalu instructor Dee Greenberg. All l welcome.

Sports

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times and a brief description of the league event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

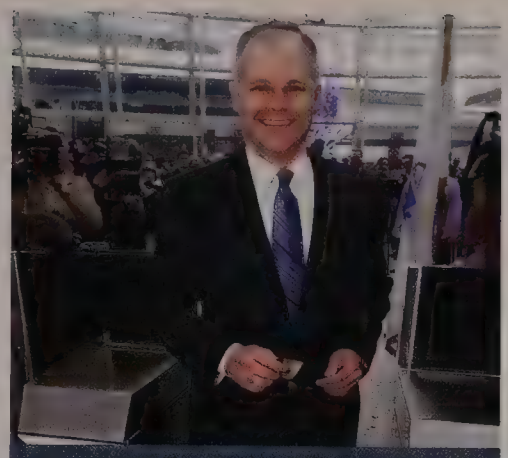
Boston Bruins
FleetCenter Garden, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2222
Nov. 10, 7 pm vs. Ottawa Senators
Nov. 17, 7 pm vs. Toronto Maple Leafs
Nov. 19, 7 pm vs. Buffalo Sabres

Boston Celtics
FleetCenter Garden, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2222
Nov. 9, 7:30 pm vs. Memphis Grizzlies
Nov. 11, 7:30 pm vs. San Antonio Spurs
Nov. 13, 6 pm vs. Houston Rockets
Nov. 16, 7:30 pm vs. Seattle Sonics
Nov. 18, 7:30 pm vs. Toronto Raptors

New England Patriots
Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
Tickets: 800-543-1776
Nov. 20, 1 pm vs. New Orleans Saints

Events

Bike Night Gala
Regis Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-542-2453). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.massbike.org. Nov. 14, 6-9 pm. $25. This annual fundraising event for Mass Bike features speakers, presentation of Influence Peddler awards, bike valet and a silent auction.


MBTA General Manager Dan Grabauskas speaks at this year's Bike Night Gala.

Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club needs new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed, year-round leagues for players at all levels in Watertown, Belmont, Needham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club
(617-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round leagues for individuals or teams at all levels.

Corporate Basketball League
(617-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Boston and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

Dogtime Boxing
Columbia Road, Dorchester. www.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This local boxing club offers training for competition, conditioning and recreation.

DODGEBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeball teams.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

CATZ—Competitive Athlete Training Zone
Multiple Greater Boston area locations (781-449-[illegible]). www.catzsports.com. CATZ provides recreational athletes with fitness training programs that mimic sport.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
1 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville (617-[illegible]0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www.worldkickball.com. Coed kickball leagues play throughout the fall in Boston and Somerville. Register online.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group. Call for times and locations.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonRun@teamlunachix.com. Weekly runs Thu. at 6:30 pm. Women only. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bostonlunachix. Talking-pace 3- or 5-mile runs through the Fells.

SELF DEFENSE

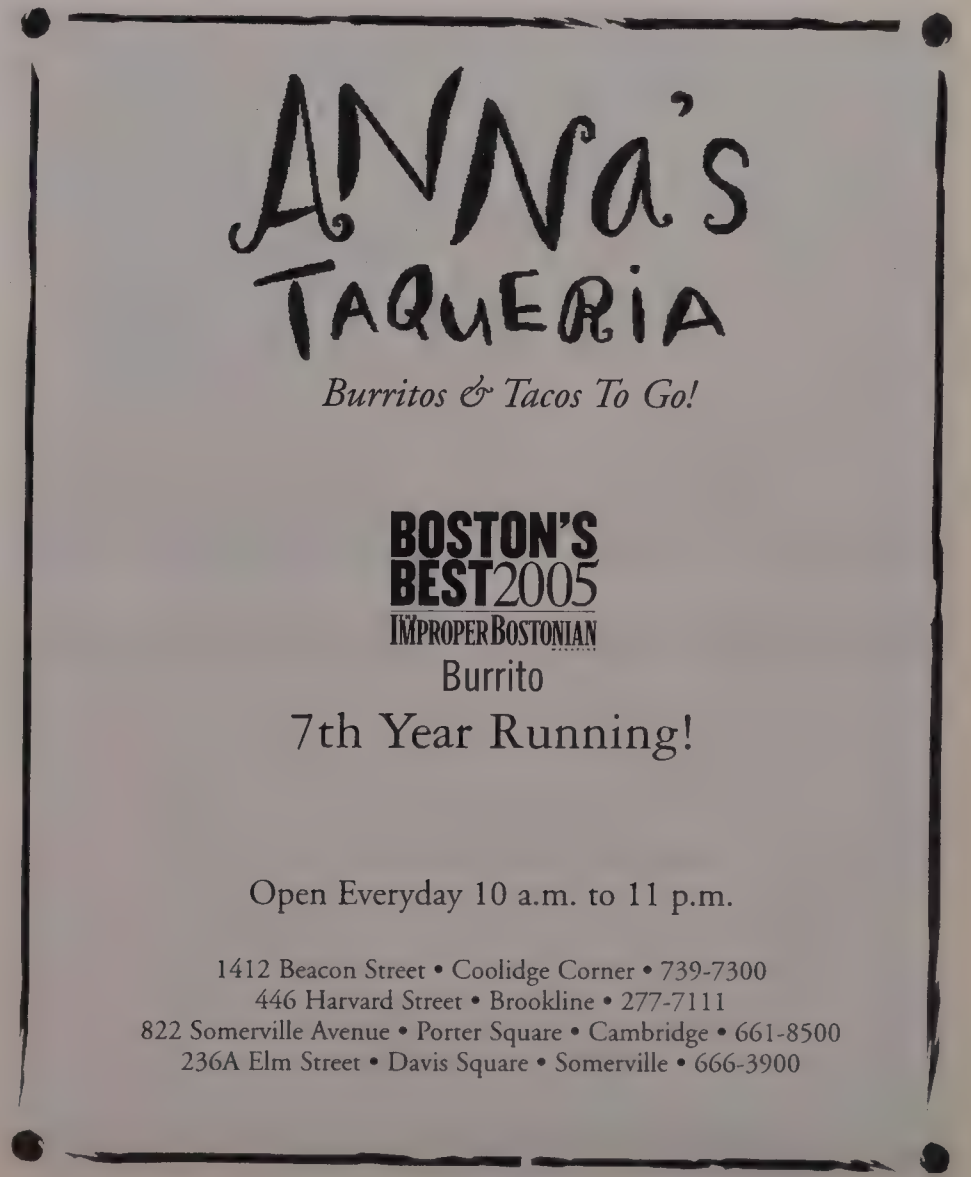
Jujutsu
Cambridge YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge. www.jujutsu.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu. 6-7 pm; Sat., 12-2 pm. Jujutsu is the ancient martial art of the samurai; beginners welcome.

Kenkakaikan Elite Warriors
4 Mt. Vernon St., Arlington (781-643-0936). www.kenkakaikan.com. Mon., Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8 pm. All skill levels are invited to attend classes in Kenka Karate, a reality-based system of self defense.

Phoenix Judo Club
Bayshore Athletic Club, 14 Plain St., Braintree (781-356-5303). www. phoenixjudo.com. Mon., Wed. and Thu., 7:30-9:30 pm; Sat., 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Participants of all skill levels are invited to join.

SOCCER

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070). A series of indoor and outdoor soccer leagues start up this fall.



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upcomingissues

November 23, 2005 Holiday Shopping
December 7, 2005 The "It" List
December 21, 2005 Year-End Double Issue
January 11, 2006 Beauty, Health & Fitness

IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
Call 617-859-1400 ext. 280 to advertise

children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Nov. 12, 10:30 am. The *Kids Variety Show* features music, mime, juggling and storytelling by magician Scott Jameson. •Nov. 13, 11 am. The film short *No Roses for Harry* follows Harry the dog as he tries to lose a silly sweater. •Nov. 19, 10:30 am. Peter Gould and Stephen Stearns give a live performance of comedy and miming. •Nov. 20, 11 am. In the Nickelodeon production *Backyardigans*, puppets perform in musical numbers.

ImprovBoston Family Show

1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students and children. •This short-form improv performance includes interactive games.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $7.50, members; $9.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Nov. 9-10, 10:30 am. Inspired by old Japanese folklore, *The Singing Turtle* follows a young boy who meets an unusual turtle. •Nov. 12-13, 1 pm and 3 pm. Larry Hunt uses puppetry to highlight the common traits of animals and humans in *Critters and Creatures*. •Nov. 16-17, 10:30 am. This new version of the classic tale, *Cinderella, A Woodland Fairy Princess* takes place in a fairy kingdom. •Nov. 19-20, 1 pm and 3 pm. New York native Liz Joyce performs *The Three Pigs*.

Things to Do

Barefoot Books

1771 Mass Ave., Arlington (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Fri. and Sat., Free. •Story hour for children ages 5 and under features a variety of themes. Ongoing.

Borders Books and Music

Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambrigeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersbooks.com. MBTA: Green line to Lechmere. •Nov. 12 and 19, 11 am. Story time features books about Thanksgiving for the month of November.

Boston Art Tours

Call for reservations and meeting locations. (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Family Art Gallery Tours in Boston, Tue.-Sat., 11-4 pm. $25, adults; $15, teens; $5, children. •Art enthusiasts lead walking tours of contemporary art along Newbury Street and through the South End art district.

Boston Public Library

700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Nov. 18, 10 am. *Reading Readiness* for children ages 2 1/2 to 5 includes activities such as music, stories, crafts and play with educational toys and games.

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sun.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •Tue., 10:30 am. *Tasty Tuesdays* lets children try a variety of snacks. •The exhibit *Adventures with Clifford the Big Red Dog* invites families to explore Birdwell Island, where the Clifford books take place, and also features a nine-foot-tall Clifford. Through Jan. 8. •The *Amazing Castle* allows children to experience a medieval village and make medieval-themed arts and crafts. Ongoing. •The Art Studio invites parents and children to create works of art together. Ongoing.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •Nov. 12, 11 am. Winnie the Pooh makes an appearance at story time, which features tales about the classic character. •Nov. 19, 11 am. Local children's author Michelle Craemer reads from her book *Pellie Runs the Marathon* and leads a short e
cise session.

Harvard Museum of Natural Histo

*Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (6
495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA:
Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7
adults; $6, students; $5, ages 3-18.* •Nov. 12, 9:30
-12 pm. Kids can acquaint themselves with noctu
animals in *Nature's Nightlife*. •Nov. 12, 9:30 am
pm. Learn about the formation and history of fo
in *Fossil Fun*. •Nov. 19, 9:30 am. *African Advent*
explores life in Africa through galleries, displays
African folk tales. •Every Sat., 9 am. $35. Satu
Scholar sessions give children the opportunit
learn about their world through hands-on activiti

McMullen Museum

*Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (6
558-6447). www.ncacboston.org. MBTA: B G
Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; S
Sun., 12-5 pm.* •Designed for students in grade
through 12, *Welcome to My Salon* is aimed at de
oping children's verbal mastery while making c
nections to Jewish history. Through Nov. 27.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Ro

*465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-93
www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museu
Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, age
17 on weekdays before 3 pm; free, 5 and un
•Nov. 16, 4:30 pm. This week's Teen-to-Teen
Talk centers on *Spirituality in Art* and include
art-making activity. •Nov. 14-18, 3:30 pm.
Children's Room activity is *Royal Robers: Costu
and Headdresses*. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30 pm. *Books B
Art Alive* provides arts and crafts for children ag
and under.

Museum of Science

*Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.m
org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Th
am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14, adults; $12, sen
$11, children.* •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm.
mals and Stories Alive! combines a live animal
sentation with mythical and folk storytelling.
going. •*Beyond the X-Ray* features four m
exhibits that explore how doctors peer inside
human body without cutting. Ongoing. •Butter
and flowers are on display in the permanent *Bu
fly Garden*. •*Countdown to Supernova*, showin
the Hayden Planetarium, explores the life cycl
stars. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interac
exhibit that features models of a wave tank, M
Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Sci
Live!* features live animals and multimedia pre
tations surrounded by natural history diora
Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

*33 Marret Rd., Lexington (781-457-41
www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun.,
pm.* •Nov. 12, 2 pm. Folk singer Ellen Schmidt
chorus Bound for Glory perform a set of sing-al
and Woody Guthrie songs for this *Second Satu
Family Program*.

New England Aquarium

*Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.
org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-T
9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, ad
$13.95, seniors; $8.95, children ages 3-11.* •Am
Jellies features thousands of jellyfish. Through
cember 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant O
Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles.
going. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibitio
turing sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ong
•The Simons IMAX Theatre features va
movies. Ongoing.

Newton Free Library

*330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360).
newtonfreelibrary.net.* •Nov. 9 and 16, 7
Amazing Animals features stories and activ
about animals for children in kindergarten
first grade. •Nov. 10, 4:15 pm. In *World Cult
Eid-Ul-Fitr*, Saadia Baloch talks about this Isl
holiday while children ages 5 and up make a
and eat a treat. •Nov. 14, 4 pm. In respon
Hurricane Katrina, bookmaker Sandy Kahn
a bookmaking workshop for children ages 7 a
to make leather covers for storybooks to se
children who are living in shelters. •Nov.
pm. In honor of Children's Book Week, chi
meet Lilly from Kevin Henkes' book *Lilly's P
Plastic Purse*, make a craft and have a tea party
the character.

Wellesley Free Library

*1530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-1
www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. Commuter r
Wellesley Sq.* •Nov. 12, 10 am. Mary Kaye Ch
cas, author of *I Love Yoga*, reads from her boo
leads a demonstration. •Nov. 19, 1 pm. A
Julia Alvarez talks about her new book *A
Gracias: The Legend of Altagracia*, followed
book signing.

ıround
:own

ights to See

ston University Observatory
it Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-30). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on r nights), 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

ildren's Museum
) Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-5). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South tion. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9; dren ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1-year-olds, $2; under ar old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1 per person.

neuil Hall
State St., Boston. www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. TA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-, 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 Free.

rvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.h.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; chil- ages 3-18, $5. Free to all Wed., 3-5 pm, and Sun., 9 12 pm.

in F. Kennedy Library & Museum
umbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). w.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. y, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and college students with ID, $8; ages 13-17, $7; 12 and under, free.

unt Auburn Cemetery
Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). TA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm. Free.

seum of Afro-American History
Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam eum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park et. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Guided walking tours lable by special request. Free.

seum of Science
nce Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www. .org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. ough Labor Day, daily, 9 am-7 pm; Starting Sept. at.-Thu., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; se- s, $13; children ages 3-11, $8.95.

seum of Transportation
Jewton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., m-5 pm. $5; children ages 6-17 and seniors, $3; chil- under 6, free.

w England Aquarium
tral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 am- ; Fri.-Sun. and holidays, 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; se- , $13.95; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

North Church
Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Or- or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily, 9 am-6 pm.

South Meeting House
Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). .oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or Line to State. Daily, 9:30 am-5 pm. $5; seniors tudents, $4; children, $1.

State House Museum
Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). .bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line ate. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; seniors and students, hildren ages 6-18, $1; members, children under e.

dential Center Skywalk
Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: n Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; college ID, $7.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and , $6.50; children under 3, free.

ity Church
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). .trinityboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. , 8 am-6 pm. $5; children 12 and under, free.

Constitution & Museum
lestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). .ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-6 ree.

lunteer

Mentoring Program
224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a fos- re or adopted child.

S Action Committee
437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 100 volunteer opportunities are available each month.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012, ext. 227). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers over 18 for kitchen tasks, office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145, ext. 620). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor students in math and literacy and prepare high school students for the MCAS.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000, ext. 7508). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. Help ALS (aka Lou Gehrig's disease) patients and their families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helplineonline.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-927-0648). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900, ext. 113). www.horizonsinitiative.org. Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). www.lvm.org. Teach adults to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-972-9119). www.mabcommunityservices.org. Read to or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelder.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org. Volunteer as an aquarium guide and more.

Parental Stress Line
(1-800-882-1250). Counsel parents and caregivers, and facilitate support groups.

Pine Street Inn
(617-892-9187). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740, ext. 15). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111, ext. 17). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). www.respondinc.org. Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). www.rosies.org. Volunteers needed for this women's homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery.

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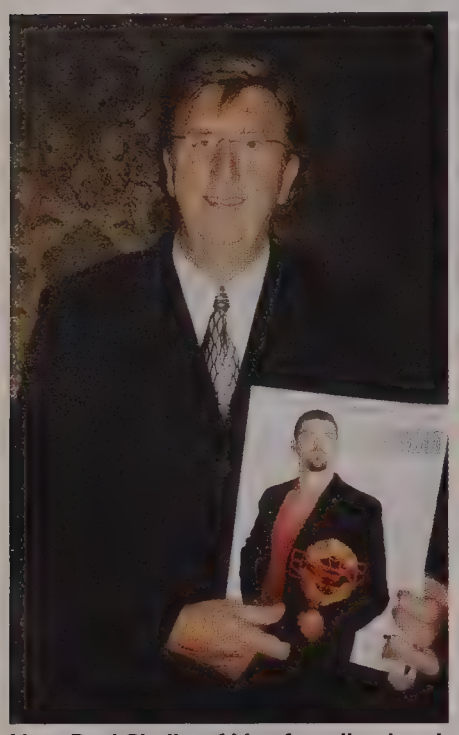
or write to:
Improper Impersonals
The Improper Bostonian Magazine
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Hon. Paul Shelly, of Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, hates that the Blue Jays suck, but loves the IMPROPER.

Hon. Stan Keyes, P.C., Consul General of Canada, likes to read the IMPROPER while grooming his slick, blond mustachio.

Devin B. Holmes climbed 19,340 feet to the top of Uhuru Peak—the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, and the highest peak in Africa—and all he got was this magazine.

Mike Spinale and Joel Alvarez visited the Chain Bridge in Budapest, presumably the site of this year's International Goatee Festival.

Lisa Grimard was down at the aquarium in Key West, Fla., where she was tragically impaled by a hammerhead shark. Nice to see her still smiling.

Chuck and Naira Chokel finished this year's Hawaii Ironman triathlon, which consists of a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike, 26.2-mile run and three-hour tug-of-war over the IMPROPER issue of your choice.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Running around with their pants on fire at the World's Biggest Liar Competition to be held Nov. 17 in Wasdale, England.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

improperimpersonals

f everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over he place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of ourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type p e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

No You Didn't

Listen you slack-titted gorgon from hell. Just because YOU forgot to impart specific information pertaining to those reservations you made on behalf of your boss, doesn't give you the right to demand the termination of the unfortunate soul who happened to take your phone call. You took away someone's JOB just to cover your own very ample ass. We all hated you before this happened; we hate you even more now. Instant karma is gonna get you—and when they finally escort your fat ass out the front doors of the executive suite, we'll all be able to send you off with a one-finger salute.

—Horrified At You

ake A Chance On Me

andsome blond man, I saw you bout a month ago at the Vault and ien again at Houston's. I think you w me too, long blonde hair, early Js. Would like to meet you!
-jirvine34@verizon.net

ooking For a Friend

s, I read the Improper Impersonals. read every ad people put in. And I ave to say I like some of the things ey're talking about. I'm in lockdown t not forever. I read, try to better yself, am changing and I just got iptized, so I turned my life over to d. I guess that I really messed up hen I was out in society, and now I'm tting in here with nothing, but I do ant to kick it with a female. So tell e what to do. Get to know me, so I n get to know you. I'm very mature d smart. To know more about me, ite me at:
dney Brown
-05218
Bradston St.
ston, MA 02118

arting Is Such Sweet orrow

u were the striking young lady with e white puffy coat, purple scarf, nder glasses and beautiful dark hair, holding a Banana Republic bag. I was the blond guy with glasses, brown suede Banana Republic jacket, holding a rose. We sat next to each other on the D Line but I never caught your name before I got off at Park. Besides, it would have been weird and complicated to explain the rose was for someone I was parting ways with, not a current girlfriend. On the off chance that you see this, want to get coffee or a drink?
—redroseDline@yahoo.com

Dreads Aren't Dead

Ashley, I met you at Charlie's Kitchen on October 21—"rigid-less, out-of towner." We spoke while waiting for the bathroom—quite a place to meet. Just wanted to shout out and say that you're just my style and I loved your look. Your dreads, your threads, your beauty and brains struck me. This isn't usually my style, but in case you see this, just had to let you know, so I wouldn't regret it!
—adempseykarp@yahoo.com

Hey Neighbor

You are a weird, freaky, mean girl. I've never seen anyone like you. You have a big-time snotty face and attitude. You slam the elevator on me and you always slam your door. You're always with your iPod singing, and you suck. Even better, you sing and sing and sing a capella on the weekends, like you think you're on *American Idol* or something. I know you wouldn't be on the program because you can't sing and you're unattractive. Lastly, I hear your loud conversations and you laugh like a crazed hyena. You know, you should really be nice to people (if you stop your weirdness, maybe you'd be halfway attractive). But the best advice for you right now is to shut up.
—Your Normal Neighbor

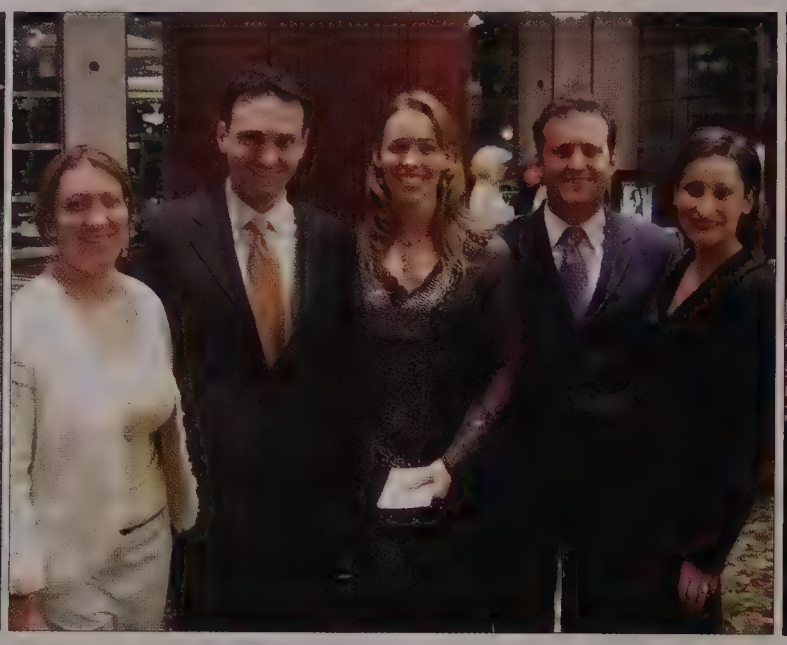
You Are My Sunshine!

Sweetie, I want all of Boston to know that I love you. When can I hear you whisper those words that you are afraid to say? Ever notice that people have so many regrets and missed opportunities in the IMPROPER Impersonals? People think there's always tomorrow, but I believe in only one today. If I don't tell you today, there will be no tomorrow. I don't care if I make a fool of myself, because I won't have any regrets. The question for you is, if I disappear today will you have any regrets tomorrow? Tell me.
—H.L.D.

IMPROPERAZZI

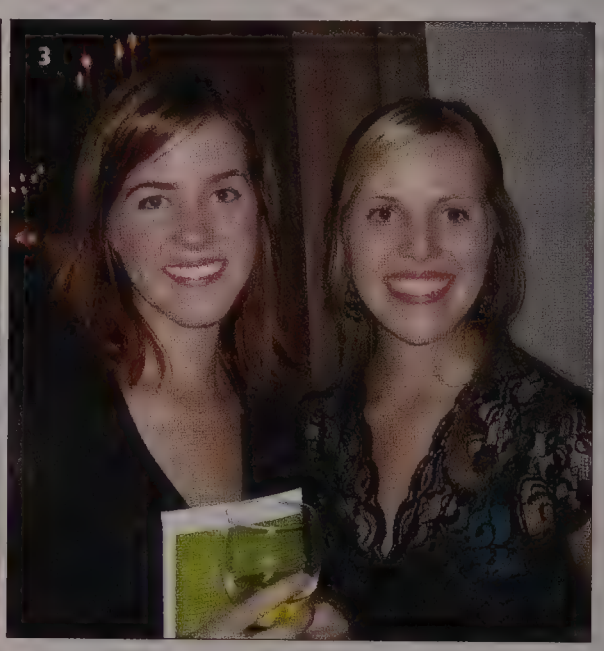
The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Tuesday, October 18, **The Improper Bostonian** and **Long's Jewelers** hosted "On the Rocks." Guests enjoyed cocktails by **Ketel One Vodka**, culinary treats by **East Meets West**, jewelry by Long's Jewelers, fashions by **Fanny and Delphine** and cool vibes by DJ Edward Grant.



1. **Ken Thishawaite**, design consultant; **Cindy Kelly**, store manager, both of InHome Furnishings; and **Conor Kelly**, model for W. Inc.
2. **Rebecca Garnick**, marketing director; **Craig Rottenberg**, president; **Samantha Rottenberg**; **Judd Rottenberg**, principal; and **Heather Rottenberg**, all of Long's Jewelers.
3. **Abby Dodge**, model for DMT.

On Saturday, October 15, **The Improper Bostonian** was pleased to be a sponsor of **Cooking for a Cause**, an evening of food and wine to benefit **East End House**. The area's finest chefs joined local entertainers to create a dazzling night of outstanding food, music and laughter at **The Union Club**.



1. **Chloe Berwind-Dart**, director of special projects at East End House, and **Maggie Berwind-Dart**, volunteer at East End House.
2. **Jenny Memoli**, violinist at Rhode Island Philharmonic, and **Jim Solomon**, chef/owner of The Fireplace.
3. **Katie Goeden**, student at Harvard, and **Jenny Goeden**, graphic designer at Cleveland Design.

On Thursday, October 20, **The Improper Bostonian** was pleased to be a sponsor of **StyleFixx**, a fabulous evening of fashion, beauty and style. Guests enjoyed complimentary cocktails and beauty treatments, and previewed over sixty hot, up-and-coming designers. The event was held at Cyclorama.

1. **Betsy Strenio**, **Kate Casolaro**, and **Alexius Hlebechuk**, all creative consultants for Spark Craft Studios.
2. **Michon Stuttley**, owner, and **Shantae Stevenson**, assistant manager, both from Ms. Catwalk.
3. **Bess Batt**, manager, and **Sarah Young**, stylist, both from Linear Aveda.

PHOTOS: LONG'S JEWELERS, STYLEFIXX, JULIE KANE; COOKING FOR A CAUSE, STACEY SHANE

Aged

THE PERFECT 10

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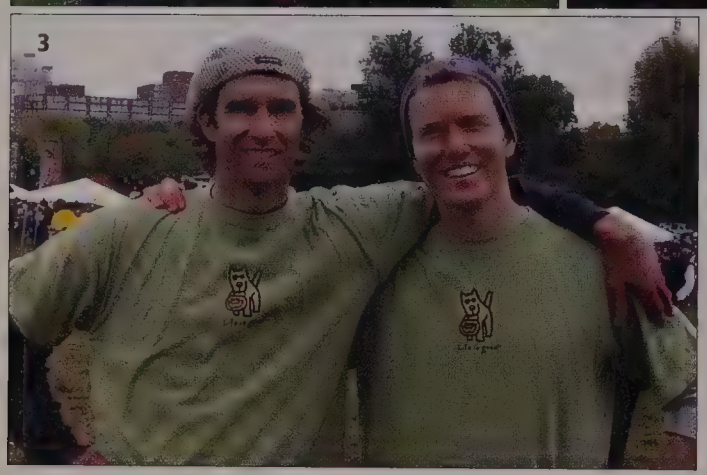
IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, October 22, **The Improper Bostonian** was a proud sponsor of the Life is good® Pumpkin Festival. The event took place on the Boston Common and featured live music, great food, a costume parade and a carving contest. All of the profits from this event will go to **Camp Sunshine**, a retreat for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families.



1. **Jean Thrift** and **Shannon McDonald**, both students at Emerson College.
2. **Christina Craw** and **Susanne Dahl**, both students at Boston University.
3. **Bert Jacobs** and **John Jacobs**, both co-founders of Life is good®.

On Thursday, October 27, **The Improper Bostonian** was a sponsor of the 11th annual **Halloween Fun Run**. Runners dressed in costumes and took a three-mile jaunt around the Boston Common straight to **The Rack** to party the night away! The event benefited the **Cystic Fibrosis Foundation**.

1. **Holly Gibson** and **Michelle Bisesi**, both accountants for Ballpost Group, and **Michal Taton**, account executive for Kessler Group.
2. **Hillary Haggett**, student at Mass Bay, and **Dan Porto**, senior teller at Citizens Bank.
3. **Joe DiMascio**, high-yield bond trader for Bear Stearns, and **Jeff Lincoln**, sales representative for Real Software Systems.

On Saturday, October 22 and Sunday, October 23, **Elysé Jewelers**, celebrated it second anniversary. Guests enjoyed special anniversay discounts, hors d'oeuvres and a sampling of featured wines from Elysé Vineyards in Napa Valley.

1. **Larry Ardito**, cpa, abv at Toscan & Ardito, P.C., CPAs, and **Linda Carpenter**, director of advancement at the American Textile History Museum.
2. **Dr. Mark Zuckerman**, president of Winchester Laboratory Associates, and **Lori Zuckerman**, corporate flight attendant of Andover.
3. **Karin Berberian**, manager, finance for TJX Corporation, and **Yvette Wischinski**, human resources-recruitment for Tour Andover Controls.

On Thursday, October 20, **Pageo Jewelers** celebrated the one-year anniversary o its Newbury Street location.

1. **Caroline Lerner**, general manager of Pageo Jewelers, and **Adam Weiner**, of Boston.
2. **Vincent Hawley**, owner of VWH Jewelry, and **Sophia Potapov**, of Boston.
3. **George Pelz** and **Pam Swartz**, both owners of Pageo Jewelers.

PHOTOS: LIFE IS GOOD, BADR WAHMAN; ELYSÉ JEWELERS, DANA D'ALFONSO; HALLOWEEN FUN RUN, STACEY SHANE; PAGEO JEWELERS, JULIE KANE

rockie horoscope

NOVEMBER 9 – 22, 2005

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

appy Birthday? Things might seem more than a little confusing while the Scorpio sun uminates both nebulous Neptune and a state of denial at home. Confusion can escalate to outright conflict when hot-tempered Mars in your Taurus house of significant others, ., both allies and enemies, opposes the sun. Add the emotional intensity of a sun-moon olarity, especially since this full moon is exalted in Taurus, i.e., more receptive to what ne general public is feeling, and you'll welcome any reason to get away.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

Mercury turns retrograde in Sagittarius on the 13th, so take are of any paperwork related to your personal well-being SAP. Otherwise the issue can pop up again during your irthday week. Refocusing on other aspects of your current cene should be easier now that pleasure-seeking Venus is o longer in your sign. Since the goddess will sashay back nd forth through your Capricorn zone of assets and values ntil March, hunting down bargains and gathering treasures ould take up a good deal of your time. Unexpected changes t home could take up the rest.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

Welcome affectionate Venus with open arms because she's going to be in Capricorn far longer than the usual four week transit. How artfully will she transform your appearance? What will her gentle ways do to your brusque demeanor? And how much love and attention will you be able to embrace let alone maintain? It's shaping up to be a very interesting winter, especially since expansive Jupiter is still in your career mid-heaven, still offering opportunities to grow. This Mercury retrograde messes with group interaction more than your one-on-one relationships.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

Steel yourself against a sneak attack you could happily live without while the Scorpio sun exposes something hidden around your house or neighborhood. Since militant Mars is patrolling the area, anyone who is armed with a list of grievances could be dangerous. The Taurus full moon will elevate the emotional reaction of everyone involved, but because Mars specifically targets Neptune in Aquarius, you may be the one who catches most of the flak. Also as the one who conveys excuses, you can achieve peace in due time, say on the 17th.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

Stay away from a wide-eyed zealot who intends to convert someone really soon. While narrow-focused Mars zeros in on your impressionable Neptune ruler, you could be the lamb being led to psychological/political/religious slaughter. Succumbing or resisting is up to you. Although it is not slated to occur until the 13th, rebellious Uranus in your sign is coming out of a five-month retrograde session, thereby encouraging you to assert your independence. If need be, under the circumstances, you're allowed to act like a crazy person.

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

Look on the bright side. While it shines on your Mars ruler, the Scorpio sun is increasing your determination and creative spirit. The dark side: increased pressure to come to a decision you may not be ready to reach until retrograde Mars stops retracing its steps. Meanwhile Mercury's reversal can delay access to other people's resources, insurance payoffs or an inheritance. Give financial matters time to sort themselves out while you chase after a romantic fantasy. As the moon grows full, loving Venus beckons.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

It's possible that while your magnetic Venus ruler travels through earthy Capricorn you'll be more interested in reaping material gains than in pursuing high-spirited adventures. Seriously, romantic fun and games might not have as much appeal as climbing the ladder to a professed career goal. And since it's only available for three more months, why not use Mars' power to provide energy and ambition? Around Valentine's Day, fiery Mars will move out of Taurus and won't be back for another two years. Strike while the iron is hot.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

People get ready, there's a train wreck coming. Your Mercury ruler turns retrograde on the 13th for three plus weeks of transportation and communication snafus. Is this why you felt that this Thanksgiving wasn't the time to travel? While the Messenger back pedals through your house of work, health or partnership arrangements, all sorts of adjustments will have to be made. Mercury turns direct two days after the Sagittarius new moon on Dec. 1 until the middle of next month, when it returns to where it is now. Be careful and conscious.

CANCER

JUNE 21-JULY 22

Venus in your Capricorn complement should bring well-placed, accomplished women or artists into your life. Plus they'll stay around longer than "hello, goodbye" because the goddess of good fortune and lovely manners turns retrograde on Christmas Eve. You'll have lots of opportunities to enjoy her blessings (and challenges) until March. So don't be cavalier and blow off whatever goodies she does lay on you. Romantic complications around the full moon on the 15th can upset upcoming travel arrangements. Have an alternative plan on hand.

LEO

JULY 23-AUGUST 22

A conflict between a long-standing situation at home and a potential career opportunity could leave you feeling like another weight has been placed on your shoulders. Maybe it's responsible Saturn in Leo and maybe, because day by day your sun ruler will move on, it's temporary. So don't rush to judgment; better yet, don't take up the banner of a cause you're not completely committed to. Mercury turning retrograde on the 13th suggests that what happens in the days preceding will be revised before long.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

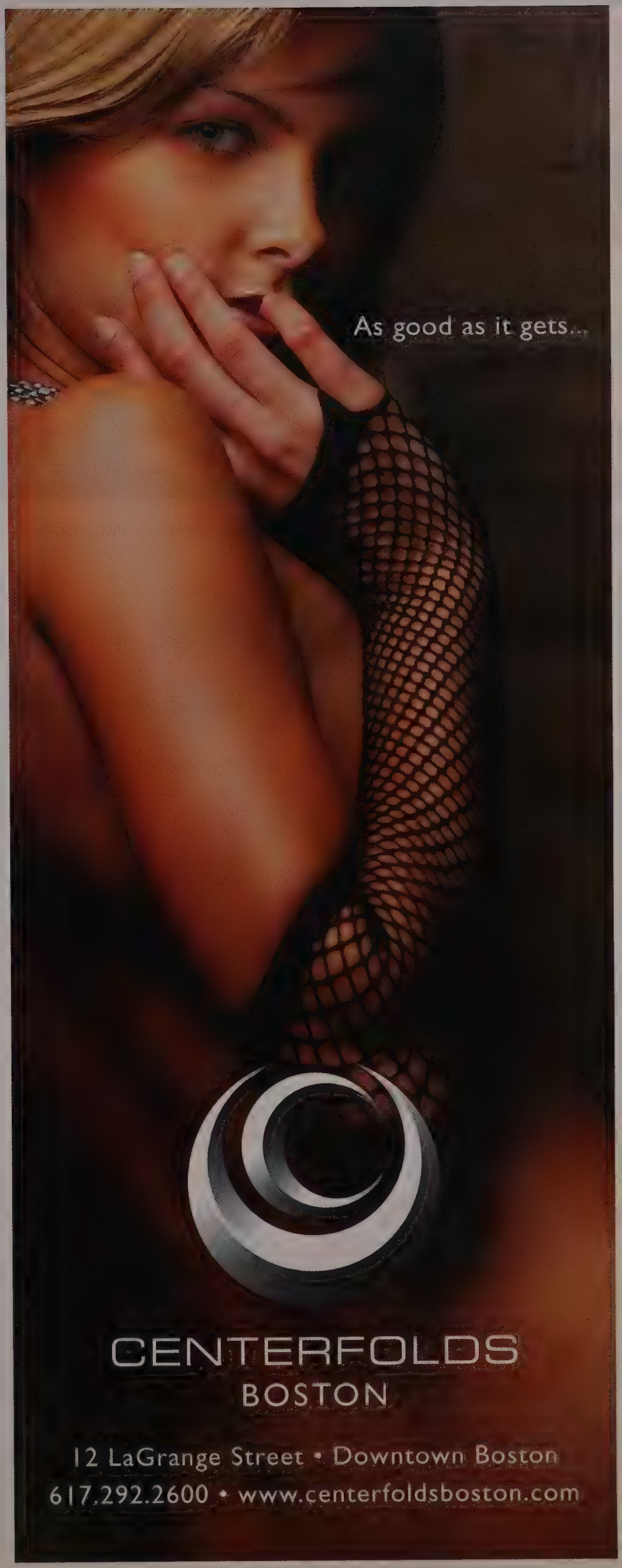
Your Mercury ruler's tri-annual flip into retrograde tends to affect every sign the same way: missed messages, fender-benders and items lost in the mail. However, Virgos might find themselves looking for another place to live because Mercury in mobile Sagittarius can disrupt a stable home life. If nothing major happens, assume that a hotel stay, perhaps over Thanksgiving, is in the offing. A sibling or neighbor could also figure into the mix since the über intense Scorpio-Taurus full moon highlights the houses they live in.

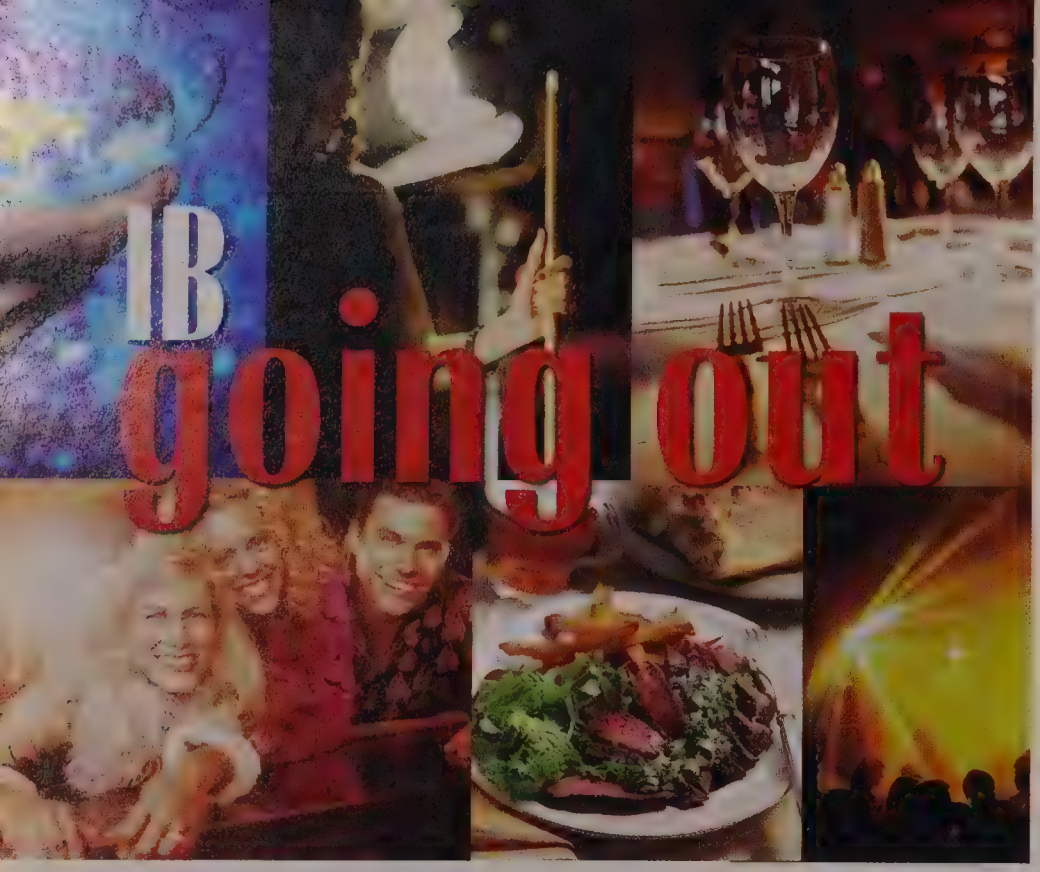
LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

The urge to party 'til you drop may have stopped as soon as your Venus ruler entered Capricorn, the down-to-earth earth sign protecting your good name and stature in the community. Because Venus travels back and forth across this area until March, what happens now will stick with you for months on end. Pay attention and proceed with caution. A money matter might take center stage during the Scorpio-Taurus full moon period; since Mercury will have just turned retrograde, remember to keep the relevant papers in order and readily available.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.





RESTAURANTS

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

MATCH *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* This modern restaurant/lounge maintains an unpretentious yet hip vibe. A sleek fire display and glass wine room are just two of its many features. Match's signature mini burgers and martinis are guaranteed to please the most discriminating palate. Match music has a distinct early evening lounge feel with the beat and volume picking up as the night progresses. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255.* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SCIENCE STREET CAFÉ *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

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General

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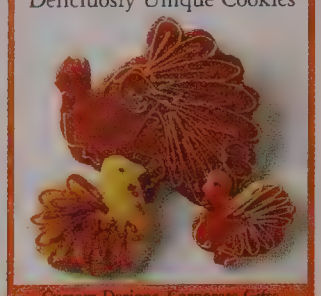

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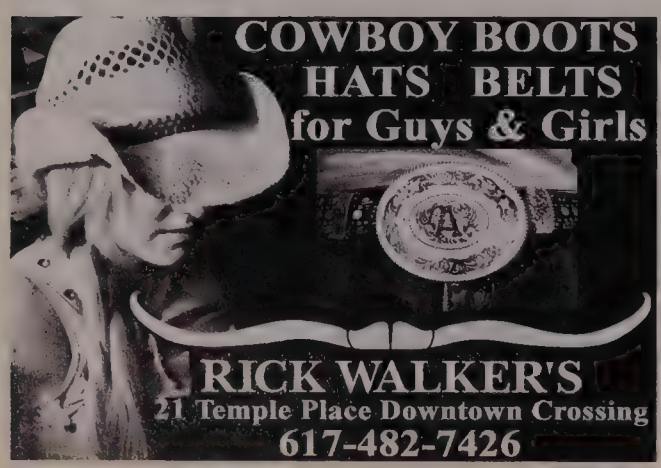

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At Opening Night at Symphony, top: Caroline Steinbeis and Gideon Lester. Middle row: Gordon Silver and Marilyn Capek; Tom Kelly and Michelle Talbot. Bottom row: Simon Preston; a dinner-table centerpiece

FÊTE ACCOMPLI...

Despite the lack of stinky cheese, mimes and Jerry Lewis, **Opening Night at Symphony** was a Francophile's dream, featuring a cocktail party that was très superb, a concert of works by French composers and a dinner afterwards for trustees and benefactors that was worthy of a Bal de Versailles.

Among the plutocrats, panjandrums and potentates spotted at **Symphony Hall** or in the ballroom of the **Copley Plaza Hotel** were such grands fromages as maestro **James Levine**, mega-benefactors **John Cogan**, **Mary Cornille** and **Cynthia** and **Oliver Curme**, board chair **Ed Linde** and his lovely wife, **Joyce**, über-philanthropists **John** and **Diddy Cullinane** and **Ray** and **Maria Stata**, silver fox **Susan Paine** (looking incredibly chic in head-to-toe black), Beacon Hill party pair **Ann** and **Marvin Collier**, A.R.T. associate director and incorrigible scamp **Gideon Lester** with the beautiful **Caroline Steinbeis**, fashion plate **Julie Hatfield**, Chestnut Hill blueblood **Michelle Talbot** squired by the dashing **Tom Kelly**, and the very fabulous **Jill** and **Steve Karp**, who own such large chunks of Nantucket that one guest suggested changing the island's name to Karp Cod, Cape Karp or Karptucket.

Ed Linde aptly summed up the concert in one word—"Wow!"—which was also the consensus on the magnificent decorations that transformed the ballroom into a fantasy fit for Louis XIV.

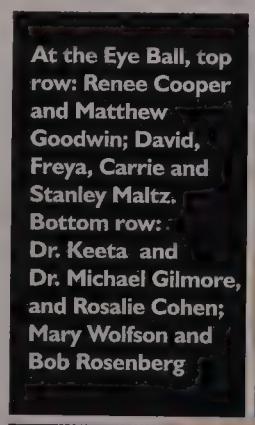
Meanwhile, a delicious dinner was accompanied by free-flowing champagne and wine, while the bons mots flew fast and furious.

Overheard during the main course: "Was that his wife?!? They were having such a good time together, I thought they couldn't possibly be married."

BUGGIN'...

Forget the somewhat unfortunate name; the **Eye Ball**, a benefit for the **Schepens Eye Research Institute**, is one helluva party.

Held in the **Venetian Room at the Copley Plaza**, it had all the requisites of a memorable evening, including a glittery guestlist, tempting silent auction items, an elegant dinner and a band that people actually danced to...not to mention such humorous touches as marbles resembling eyeballs decorating the tables.



At the Eye Ball, top row: Renee Cooper and Matthew Goodwin; David, Freya, Carrie and Stanley Maltz. Bottom row: Dr. Keeta and Dr. Michael Gilmore, and Rosalie Cohen; Mary Wolfson and Bob Rosenberg

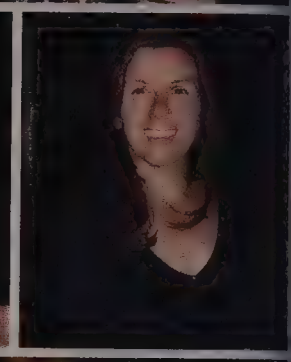
Present and accounted for: gala chair and force of nature **Rosalie Cohen** and her lovable other half, **Bert**, institute director **Dr. Michael Gilmore** and his MD wife, **Keeta**, the dazzlingly bejeweled **Jane Codman**, **Bob Rosenberg** (a.k.a. Mr. Dunkin Donuts) and the lovely **Mary Wolfson, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Vecellio** (who flew up from Florida to donate a new lab), the ever-affable **George Brown** and his super-chic wife, **Paula Jaq'-lyn**, and the super-philanthropic **Maltz clan**: **Carrie**, **Stanley**, **David** and **Freya** (who not only falls squarely into the category of "Yummy Mummy," but also manages the wildly popular South Shore housewives rock band **HRT**, which stands for **Hormone Replacement Therapy**).

The speeches were blessedly short while the dancing went on for hours, but the evening's highlight was undoubtedly the party favor: mini TV/radios. As one guest put it: "This is the first time in as long as I can remember that I won't be regifting the goodie bag."

ONE FLEW OVER THE GENTLEMAN'S CLUB...

It's tough to say which was better-looking: the hand-tooled, leather-lined library of the **Algonquin Club**, or the crowd that gathered there for **Fall for the Classics**, a fund-raiser for **The Greater Boston Food Bank**.

Hosted by the organization's **Kitchen Cabinet** (a group of young professionals working to end hunger in eastern Massachusetts), the evening drew the likes of co-chairs **Emily Webster** and **Suzanne Daley**, Venezuelan smoothie **Ricardo Jaimes-Branger**, the beguiling **Allison O'Neill Fischoeder,** interior design diva **Juliette Reid** and the super-groovy **Cynthia First**, international man of mystery **Peter Sullivan**, va-va-va-voomalicious spa owner **Maria Lekkakos** and her main squeeze, **Sean MacLean**, Beacon Hill beauty **Meg Gordon**, seventh-generation booze-maker **Malcolm Gosling** (whose Black Seal rum kept the crowd well-lubricated) and a pair of guitarists channeling Django Reinhardt.



At Fall for Classics, top row: Cynthia First and Juliette Reid; Maria Lekkakos and Sean MacLean. Middle row: Ricardo Jaimes-Branger and Allison O'Neill Fischoeder; Meg Gordon. Bottom row: Malcolm Gosling; dueling fake diamonds

Amid all this fabulousness were waiters passing delectable little tidbits like caviar on toast points, mini kebabs and other far-above-your-average-cocktail-party fare, while the raffle tickets had one-in-four odds of winning something worth holding onto.

The evening's most amusing exchange, meanwhile, occurred when one of the organizers was introducing two of the guests:

"She's in charge of institutional donations."

"Well, I should probably be institutionalized." IB

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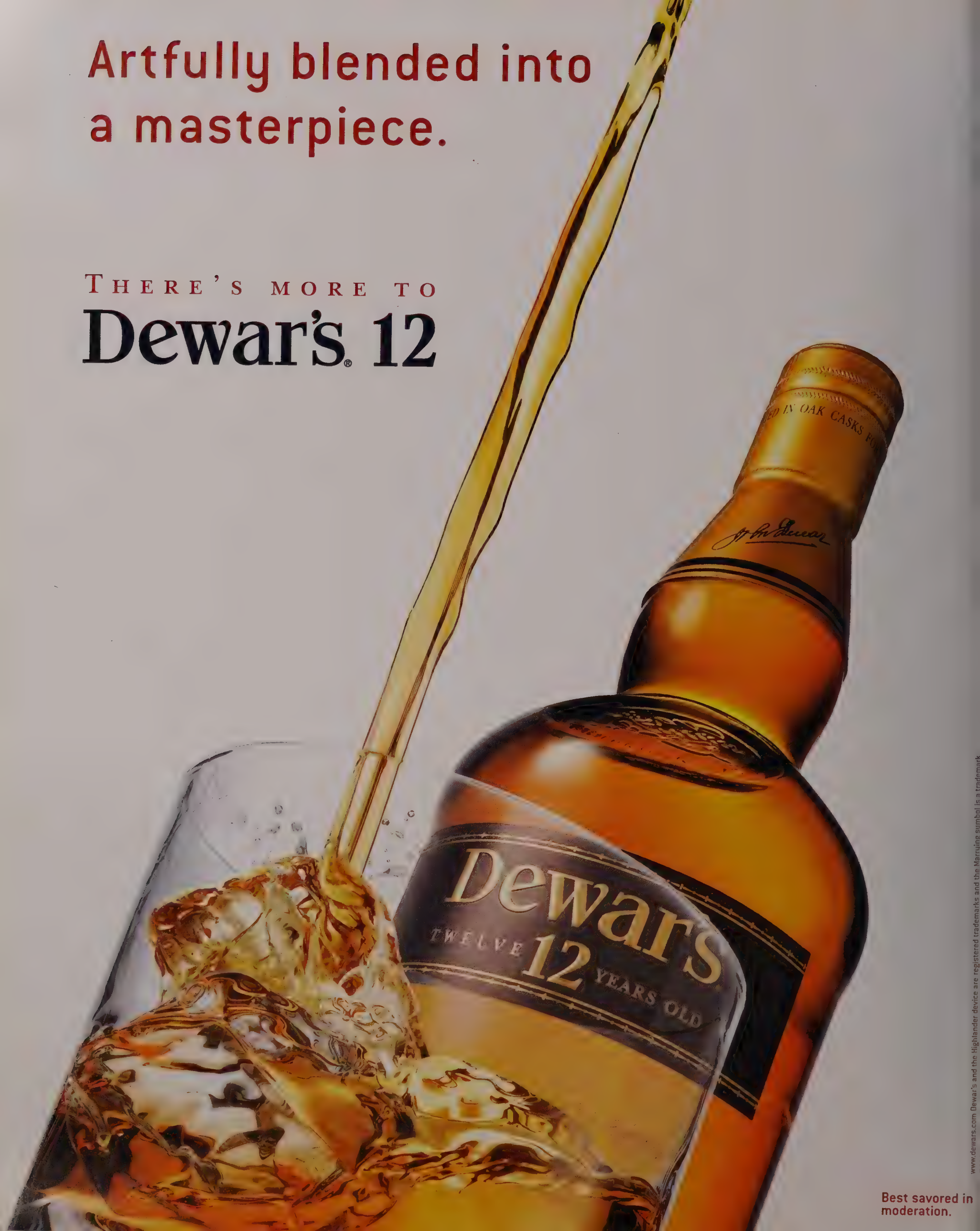

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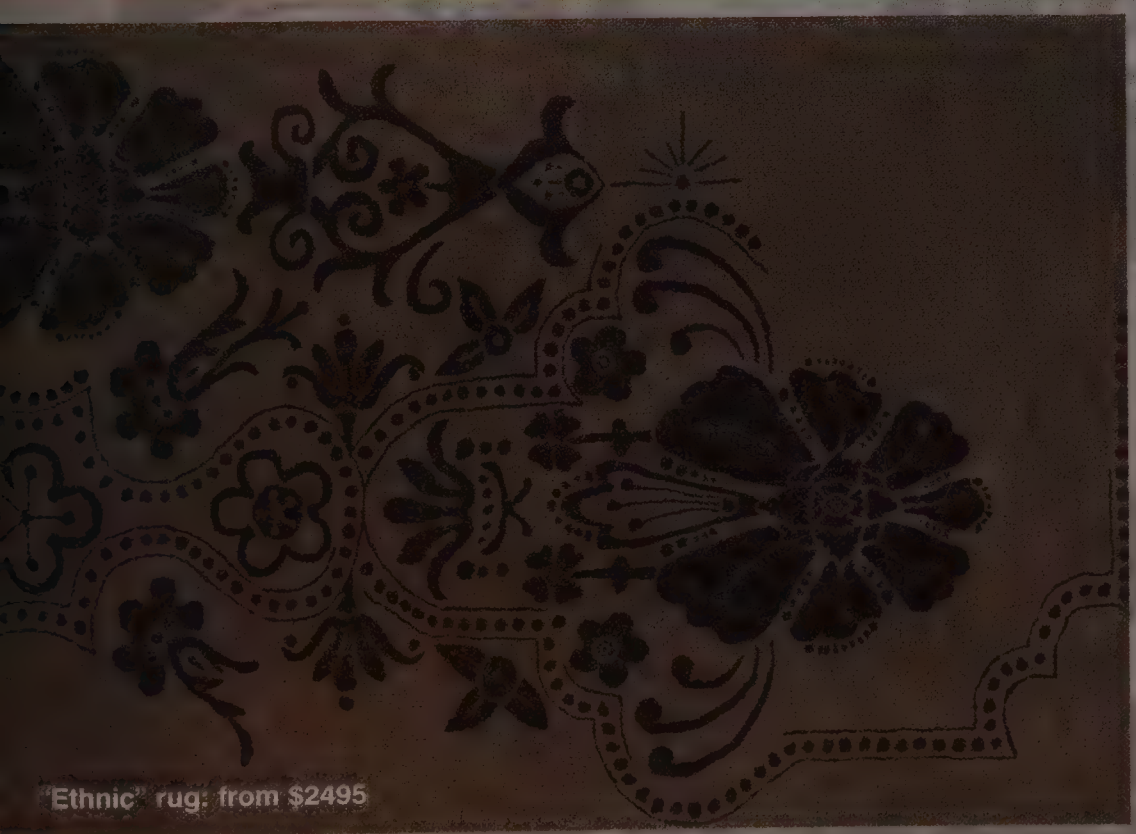

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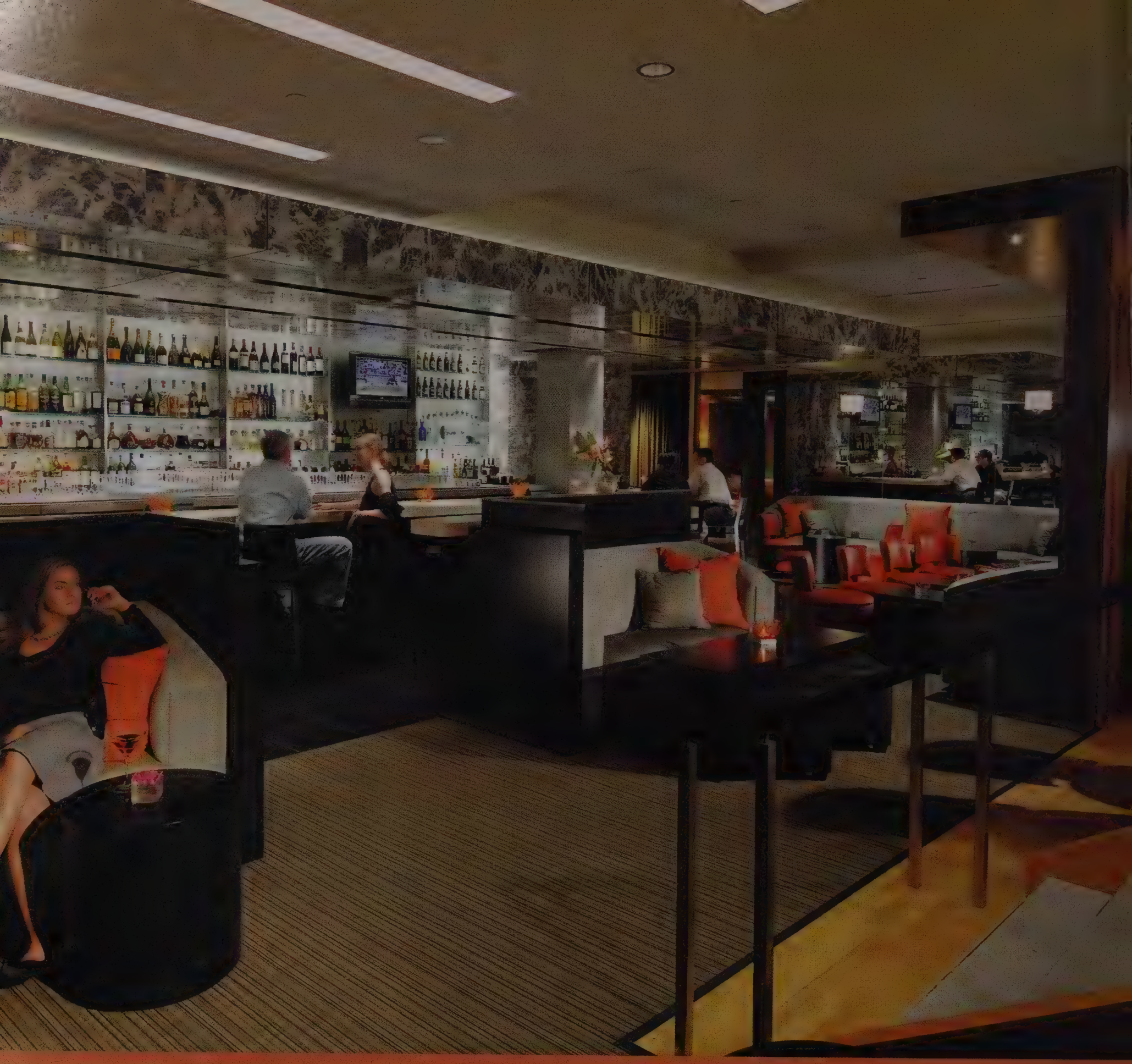

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

DINING SECRETS

It's a truth. Even those of us with the fattest paychecks love finding a dining deal—a great meal at a price lower than you'd expect to pay in our pricey city. Ever devoted to helping you get the most out of Boston, we sent writer Linda Laban in search of some of the town's best restaurant bargains—from affordable sushi to special prix-fixe and nosh-at-the-bar offerings. It's our first foray into the huge topic, so our list of 20 spots is by no means all-inclusive—think of it as the first course. If you're the type that likes to share, we'd be glad to hear about your favorite bargains for our next dining deals story.

Here's an idea: Use the money you save on meals to splurge on your holiday shopping this year. Our annual gift guide offers some creative ideas, from gadgets to gems, that'll make you the holly jolly hero.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

THE GOOD OL' DAYS

I'm a past owner of Locke-Ober, and John Spooner's column about the restaurant (Nov. 9) has not only brought back memories, but flooded me with e-mails and phone calls. I can't tell you how many people claim to be participants in one or more of Spooner's "horror shows." The piece also unleashed several new stories that I never knew about, including ones where I'm said to have been a participant. Wow, were those fun days (and nights)! Whatever happened to it all? I suppose in today's world, one would be put in jail for those antics, and that kind of puts a damper on things.

—NATHAN M. WITHINGTON
Plymouth

GIVE US A BREAK

I thought that your most recent issue was supposed to be a style issue (Nov. 9). I have always agreed that personal style is more important than wearing fashion. Kudos for recognizing this. What I resented were Sam Walters' NYC piece that insulted Republicans as an unstylish lot, Ezra Dyer's cheap shot at Dick Cheney and the continuing stream of lefty garbage that Paul Sherman churns out in his film reviews. Sherman should review the films themselves, not comment on wars about which he is woefully misled by his ilk.

—BRIAN BRANDT
Boston

> "WHAT I RESENTED WERE SAM WALTERS' NYC PIECE THAT INSULTED REPUBLICANS AS AN UNSTYLISH LOT [AND] EZRA DYER'S CHEAP SHOT AT DICK CHENEY."
>
> —BRIAN BRANDT
> BOSTON

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London native Linda Laban is a freelance arts, entertainment, food and travel writer. She cut her teeth with *Kerrang!*, *NME* and *Record Collector* magazines, writing about rock and roll. After several years in Seattle, where she contributed to various publications, including the *Seattle Times*, *Seattle Weekly* and VH1.com, she moved to Boston in 2000. Her latest feature for the IMPROPER, "Dining Deals," begins on page 32.

Tell Us What You Think

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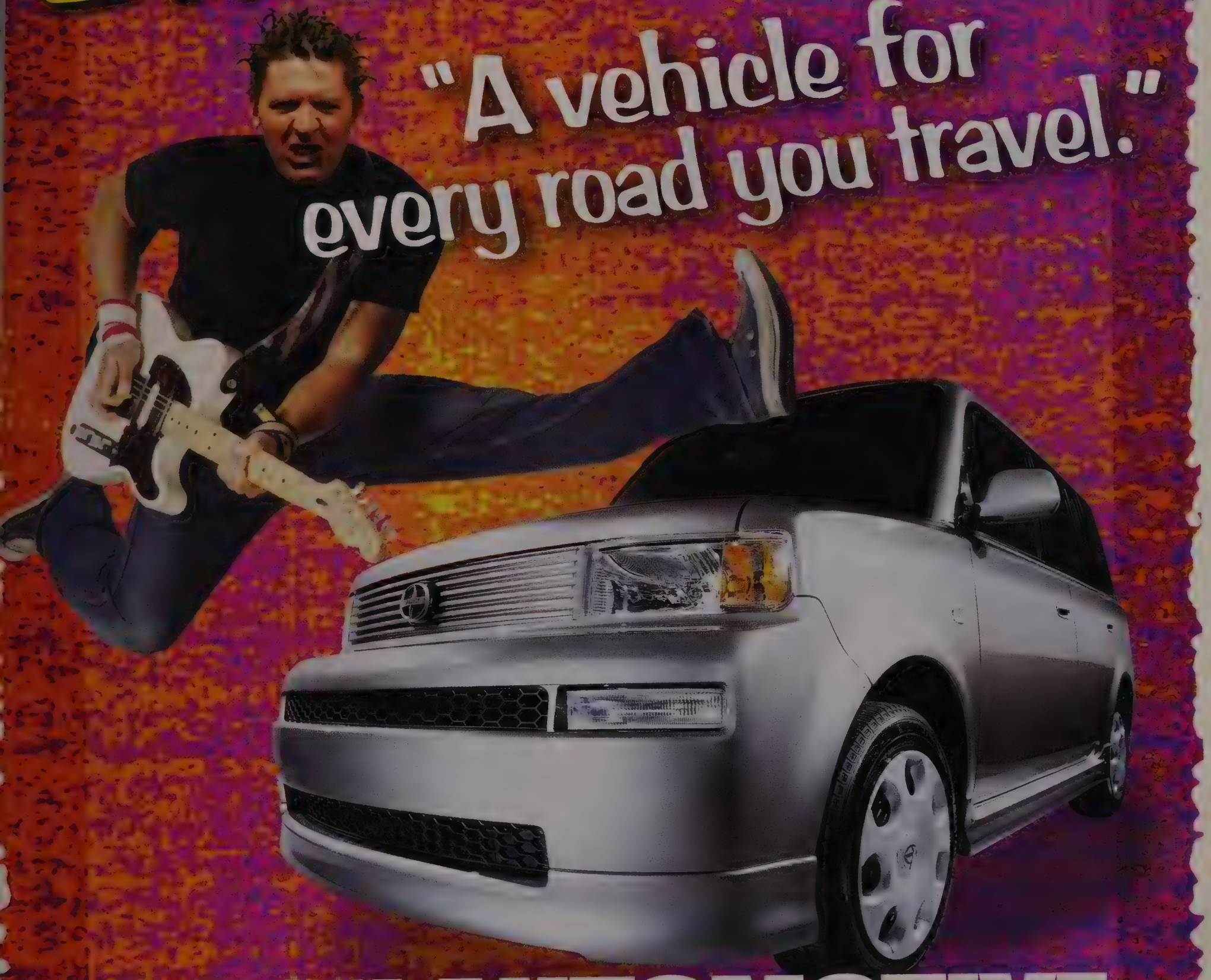

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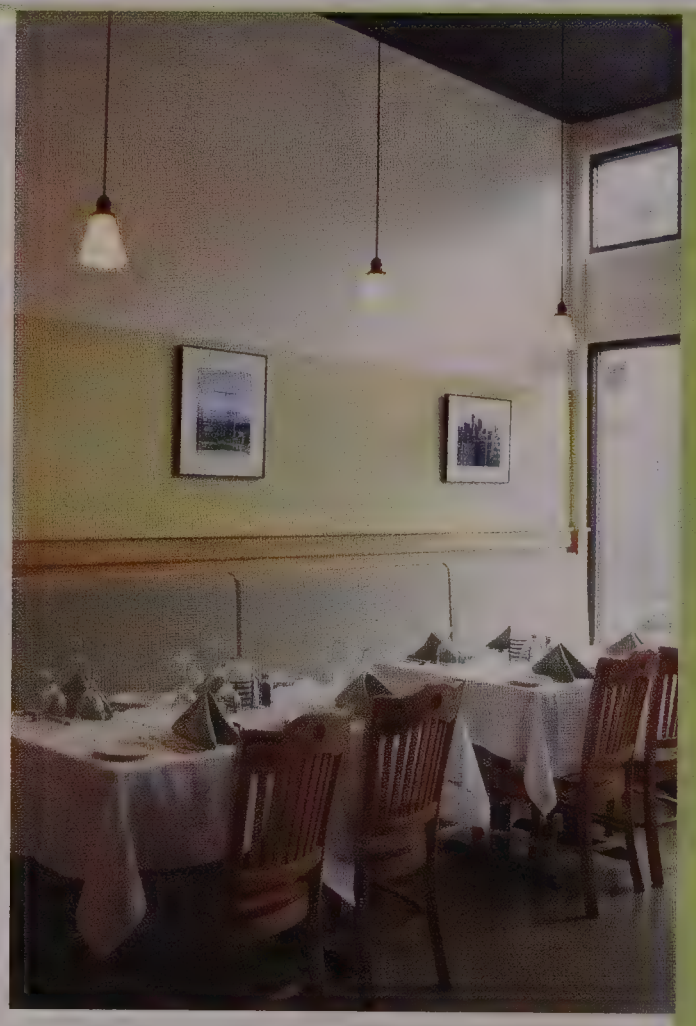

NEW IN TOWN

Due for South

South Boston has no shortage of pubs, pizza joints and takeout restaurants—these days Southie residents even have multiple choices when it comes to sushi or burritos. But one thing Southie's been lacking is a genuine upscale restaurant, the kind of place you might take a date without fear of coming off as a cheapskate or a schlub. Until recently, a Southie foodie's best bet was 224 Boston Street—which is actually in Dorchester. But the arrival of South Kitchen and Wine Bar, perched just off the intersection of East and West Broadway, marks a major development for South Boston: No longer must its denizens drive afield to procure an appetizer of, say, sautéed crab cake with pickled mango and crab strudel and an herbed dipping sauce ($9.95).

South Kitchen executive chef Jerome Watkins has done stints under Mario Batali in New York and Lydia Shire at Excelsior, and he's conceived a menu that strives to satisfy adventurous taste buds while still offering a few stalwart dishes for traditionalists. The grill menu, for instance, includes both crispy tuna with soy ginger vinaigrette ($23) and beef brisket "home-style" ($9.95). Taking a cue from the local steakhouses, South also offers separate side dishes, including mashed potatoes ($3) and mac and cheese ($3.95).

The wine list includes a choice of more than 100 bottles—nearly 40 of which are available by the glass. South also encourages varietal variety with wine flights, which can be sipped either at the small bar at the back of the main room or at your table. Incidentally, you may find yourself waiting at that bar if you arrive at a peak hour, as South's 120 seats sometimes prove insufficient for the demand of a neighborhood that's been waiting for just this kind of place.

On our Friday-night visit, the place was packed and the waitstaff harried. (Our waiter first brought us someone else's food.) But the herb-roasted pork loin with caramelized onion and dried fruit chutney ($16.95) was top-notch, and life's too short not to try the crusty, creamy mac and cheese. Once the service is sorted out (and by the time you're reading this, it probably already has been), South seems in a position to anchor what might well become a fine-dining renaissance in the neighborhood of boiled dinners. *77 Dorchester St., South Boston (617-269-7832). www.southkitchenbar.com.*

—Ezra Dyer

INNER VIEW

The Germinator

Allison Janse wasn't always a germ freak. But since her twins were born prematurely three years ago, she's been obsessed with keeping them healthy. To help others come to terms with being, like herself, a germ freak, the Natick native and Simmons College grad hooked up with Dr. Charles Gerba, aka Dr. Germ, to write *The Germ Freak's Guide to Outwitting Colds and Flu*, which came out in September.

IMPROPER BOSTONIAN: *How did you decide to write the book with Dr. Germ?*

Allison Janse: My husband and I were out at a restaurant one night and I pulled out my disinfectant wipes. My husband called me a germ freak, and I said, "I'm going to write a manifesto for all the other germ freaks out there like me!" After talking to several experts, Dr. Germ and I hit it off and I asked him to co-author the book.

IB: *What's your most shocking discovery about germs?*

AJ: Air dryers in bathrooms. They blow air from the floor and put 162 times more germs into the air.

IB: *Your book reveals that our office desks contain more germs than most toilet seats. Why is that?*

AJ: People don't ever clean their desks. Germs can last up to three days in the office. It's the worst place for germs. The typical office desk has 20,000 germs per square inch, and the phone receiver has 25,000.

IB: *What are the best ways to fight germs at work?*

AJ: Clean your desk area every day. Dr. Germ's study shows if you do that, you'll kill 99 percent of the germs.

IB: *Do you believe in hand sanitizers like Purell?*

AJ: Yes, absolutely. I never leave home without them.

IB: *Any places you should avoid at all cost?*

AJ: I would never let my kids play in a ball pit. His studies found an unbelievable amount of E. coli in them. And I try to avoid buffets and salad bars. If I have to eat at them, I will.

IB: *What are the top three things people can do to protect against germs?*

AJ: Know where the germ hot spots are, and avoid them if you can. Or at least disinfect them or wash your hands after you touch them. Stop touching your face with your hands. And avoid germ spreaders (those who are sick) like the plague. *—Leslie Kilgore*

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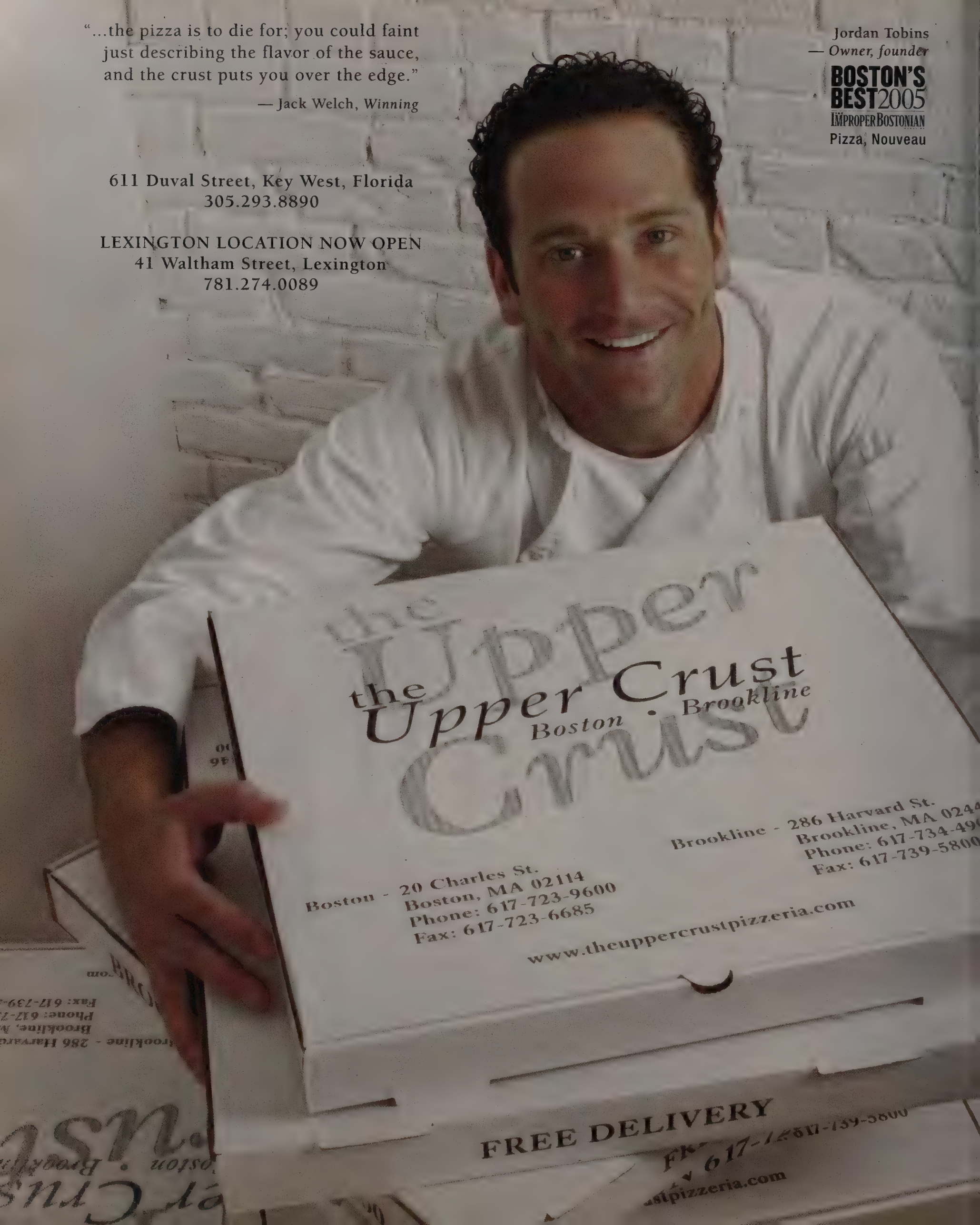

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TASTY TIDBITS

Burgers for Life

Amrheins Return... Amrheins Restaurant was a staple in South Boston for more than a century—until owner Steven Mulrey closed the place down for renovations back in 2004. On Nov. 16, the old-time classic American restaurant at last reopened and is ready to get back in business. The new Amrheins boasts a much bigger bar area, with three plasma TVs plus a hi-def projection screen, and also has a new dining room, the Curley Room, which is decorated with an assortment of pictures of legendary Boston mayor James Michael Curley. There's also a new chef, Boston native Janice Silva, who previously worked at Siros in Quincy's Marina Bay. *80 West Broadway St., South Boston (617-268-6189).*

b. really good... In January 2004, Jon Olinto and Anthony Ackil opened their first restaurant, b.good, on Dartmouth Street in the Back Bay. And after almost a year, we'd say that business has probably been good, because the duo opened their second b.good location on Nov. 17. The new spot, at 24 Dunster St. in Harvard Square, is very similar to the first with its vibrant colors and layout, and it also serves the same health-conscious and creatively named burgers, salads, sandwiches and shakes. *www.bgood.com.*

Pizza-opoly... Upper Crust owner Jordan Tobins keeps on trekking in his plot to take over the pizza world. On Nov. 20, Tobins opened an Upper Crust in Lexington—his fourth location—which is equipped with a full liquor license. By early January, location number five is slated to open in Hingham, and mid-February will see the opening of yet another outpost, this one a little closer to home, on Newbury Street. The menu at all three new spots will be on par with their predecessors', but Tobins tells us that the menu is expanding about as fast as the business is. Don't expect the Upper Crust train to stop anytime soon, either. Tobins is already pursuing pizza properties in Cambridge, the South End and Kenmore Square.

Livin' the Good Life... The key to a good life is good relationships. That's according to the newly renovated Good Life Downtown, and who would know better than co-owners (since May) and siblings Chris, Peter and Marisa Fiumara? Gone are the days of the retro, beer-friendly bar. In its place is a sleek, upscale bar with hardwood floors and rotating artwork. The downstairs lounge, slated to open Dec. 1, will be revamped as a high-end frozen-vodka bar offering over 100 different vodkas and a new tapas menu. Grilled cheese ($8) and burgers ($10) are still on the menu, but are infused with flavorful new ingredients: a taste of the good life, perhaps? *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). www.goodlifebar.com —Rich Levine and Christina Velocci*

Amrheins' new look

SAM SAYS

DIY Sneaks

Puma, the folks who recently came out with the coveted Johnny Damon sneaker that sold out in about two seconds flat, has come up with another brilliant idea just in time for the holidays. It's called Mongolian Shoe BBQ: Basically, you go to the store and pick out the fabrics, color and the design, creating your own sneaker. Once you've designed them, using anything from tweeds to metallics to suede to pinstripes, Puma sends your selections to a factory. Four to six weeks later, you'll be the proud owner of a one-of-a-kind pair of designer Pumas. They cost $130 and you need to make an appointment before stopping by. They come in sizes 6-13 (men) and sizes 7.5, 8.5, 9.5 and 10.5 (women). So pull on your generic shoes and sprint to Puma for some originals, because these are only available through Dec. 31. *333 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-7091). —Samantha House*

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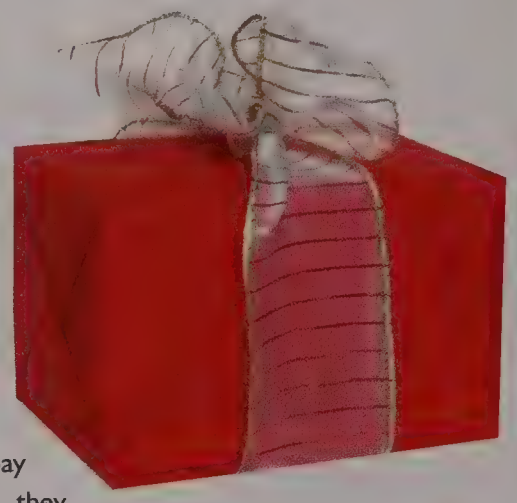

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Fini Concierge
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If you provide Fini with a price point, they'll find two or three potential gifts and e-mail you a picture and description so you can make the decision. In addition, Fini gift-wraps and sends packages to your desired destination. The cost runs about $35 an hour, with a minimum of one hour.

Lisa's Hands of Time
(617-281-7606). www.lisashandsoftime.com

Lisa Schreider, owner of Lisa's Hands of Time, offers her personal shopping services year-round, specializing in locating hard-to-find personalized gifts. In the biz for about four years, Lisa also provides custom gift-wrapping and delivery service. Even better: Lisa's crew also handles exchanges and returns. She charges $45-$55 an hour.

Powers Associates
(617-628-3873)

Suzanne Powers begins her personal shopping by going into your home and getting a feel for your personality, so she can buy gifts that seem like you chose them. Launched just last month, Powers gift-wraps and delivers the presents to your door. Bonus services: Scrapbooks, photo-collages and customized cards to accompany the gifts. The flat rate is $30 per hour.

Style and Shopping Services with Dava
(617-266-9707)

Dava Muramatsu, owner of the women's clothing store Matsu, provides individual style assessment and shopping services to help you figure out the best gifts to give. Taking into consideration the personal style of both the giver and the getter, Dava shops in a variety of stores for jewelry, interior decorations, clothing, accessories and more.

—Sarah McCormick

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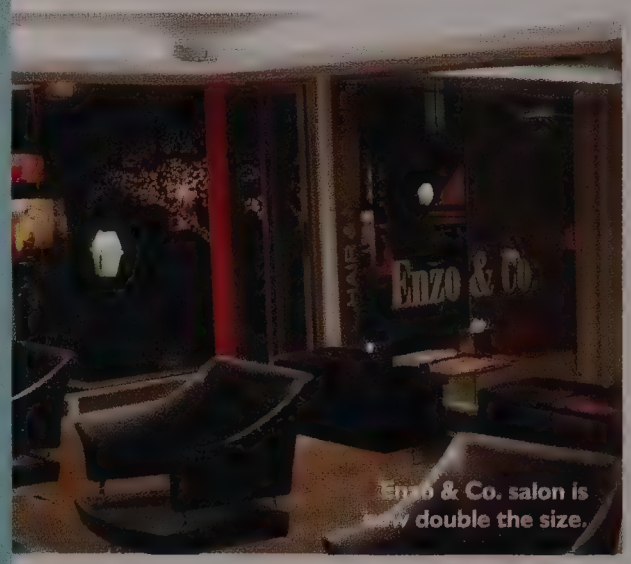
Hitting the Mark... The Charlesmark Hotel's new bar/lounge is a far cry from the outdated feel of many a local hotel bar. Simply called the Charlesmark lounge, it's an open, modern space that seats 90, with two flat-screen computers where you can check e-mail while sipping a cocktail and a seven-foot projection screen for satellite TV. Along with the décor that its designer Dennis Duffy calls "intimate, vibrant and sexy," the lounge has an eclectic menu of American and Thai food: shrimp spring rolls, chicken satay, spicy Indonesian chicken, a B.L.T. and cheeseburgers. Charlesmark's drink of choice? Tropical martinis. *655 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-1212).*

A Face Lift... Brothers Johnny and Enzo Marchio and their cousin Antonio Defabritiis just gave themselves a two-year anniversary present. The trio opened a second floor to their Newbury Street salon when Enzo & Co. turned two in October. The family wanted to emulate the salons they grew up visiting in Italy by creating a laid-back lounge atmosphere in a salon setting. The new level is an airy space with a Miami-inspired decor: white walls, black leather chairs and round sofas at each cutting station. You can still get Enzo signature hair cuts and make-up applications, but an expanded list of services includes facials, waxing, manicures and pedicures. *135 Newbury St, Boston (617-369-4844).*



Enzo & Co. salon is now double the size.

Granny-free Crafts... Whippoorwill Crafts has been a Fanueil Hall fixture for 25 years. Now that owner Karen Hohler has changed her store's name and switched locations, she's hoping to lose some of the "crafts" stigma. The new location in the financial district is just called Whippoorwill. She says, "For some reason, when people hear the word 'craft,' they think their local fair or their grandmother's knits. That's not what we do." Wall art, kaleidoscopes, hand-blown glass, silver, gold and glass-bead jewelry are some of her specialties, and her un-crafty contemporary items, from pottery and handmade kitchen utensils to hand-painted scarves, range from $5 to $2,000. *93 Franklin St., Boston (617-422-0025).*

Dress Up... Fresh off a gig as an assistant buyer for Michael Hayes in Newport, R.I., fashionista Sumi Seo has opened a new eponymous boutique in Newton Centre and stocked the cozy space with clothes by more than 50 designers from around the world. Handmade St. Emile suits, knits, dresses and outerwear from Germany; dresses, suits and pants by Genes; Gimos furs from Italy; and jeans by Fins and Rosener are just some of the hard-to-pronounce designers whose names fill the racks. A seating area lets shoppers sit and have a cup of tea or a glass of wine over a wardrobe consultation with Seo and her stupendously dressed staff. Clothing prices range from $150 to $4,000. *1207 Centre St., Newton Centre (617-964-7864). —L.P.K.*

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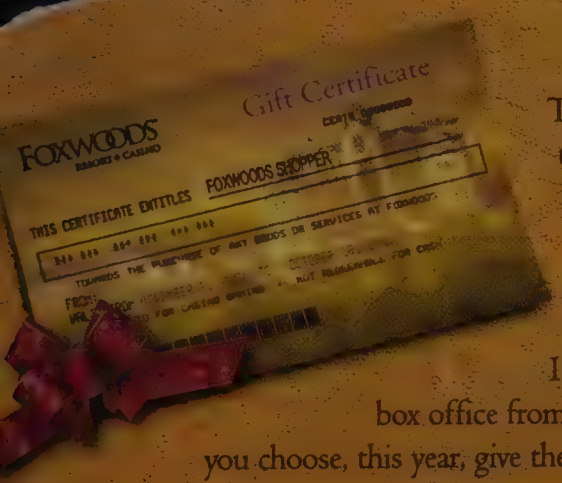

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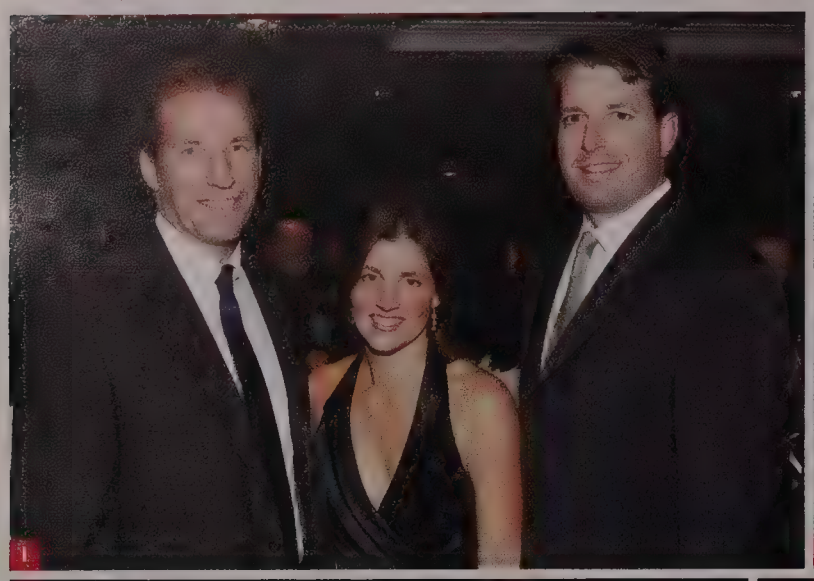
PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY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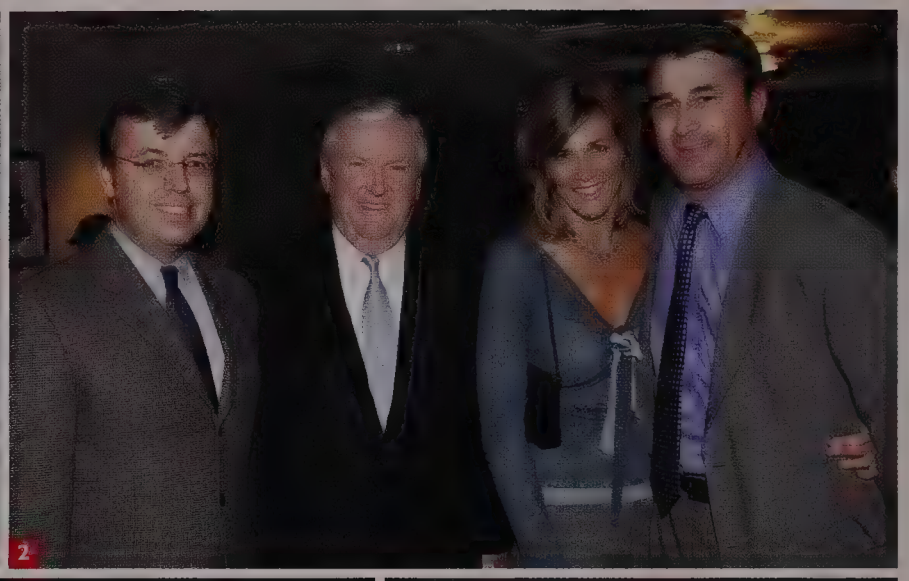
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RSRF's 5th Annual Festival of Food & Wine was held Thursday, Nov. 3, at the State Room. Over 600 partygoers attended the gala, and more than $500,000 was raised to benefit the Rett Syndrome Research Foundation. Rett Syndrome is a genetic, developmental disorder that primarily affects girls.

1. **Rob Reilly**, managing director for Piper Jaffray, with his wife, **Nicole**, and **Bill Eustis**
2. **Jon Mellin**, managing partner for the Mellin Group, **Jack Connors**, Chairman of Hill Holliday, **Nancy Bergholtz** and her husband, **Jeff**, national sales account manager for Lindenmyer
3. **Michael Joyce**, partner at Richards Barry Joyce & Partners, and his wife, **Jane**, with **Paula Curley** and her husband, **Chuck**, eastern regional sales manager for *Microwave Journal*
4. **Christian McMahon**, marketing director for Diageo, and his wife, **Ariane**
5. **Jennifer Endres** and **Craig Robertson**, executive director of RSRF
6. **Kerry Durgin**, senior sales executive for MC Communications, and **Jay Scheck**, account representative for West Publishing, and his wife, **Julie**
7. **Michael Vaughan**, president of Nauset Strategies, with his wife, **Lee**, and **Kyle Warwick**, director of Spaulding & Slye
8. **Greg Hill**, radio personality for WAAF, and **Jim Apteker**, owner of the State Room

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The 10th Anniversary Celebration for the Kenneth B. Schwartz Center, "A Decade of Compassion," drew 1,800 guests on Thursday, Nov. 3, at the Boston Convention Center. The event raised $2 million for the Schwartz Center at Mass. General. Dr. Paul Jodka was honored as the compassionate caregiver of the year.

9. **Jennifer Temel**, physician at Mass. General Hospital, and **Alex Temel**, attorney at Proskauer Rose
10. **Shara Geraghty**, senior investment analyst for MMA Financial, and **Sean Coletta**, senior analyst for Boston Capital Group
11. **Joel Goldberg**, associate general counsel at Millennium Pharmaceuticals, and his wife, **Cybill**
12. **Adriana Jenkins**, principal at Sterling Jones, **Christine Regan**, account supervisor at Fleishman-Hillard, and **Kerry Beth Daly**, vice president at Fleishman-Hillard

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ezra

BY EZRA DYER

MAN AT HOME

Flying solo for a week proves that old bachelor habits die hard.

Do you ever watch *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*? If not, here's some background: *EM:HE* builds new houses for people with sad stories, and it plumbs depths of sentimentality heretofore reserved for greeting cards featuring big-eyed puppies. Last week was a particularly heart-wrenching episode, and Heather was not amused when I folded my arms up inside my T-shirt and stuck my elbows out through the arm-holes so I looked like an amputee, then chased the dog around the apartment yelling, "Thanks for building me a new house, ABC!" The difference between us is that she watches *EM:HE* and cries; I watch it and cry, and then compensate by making jokes about tragically deformed people. In retrospect I should've known that this bit of slapstick wouldn't go over well ("If our kids are retarded it's going to be your fault!"), but I had an excuse: For the previous week, Heather had been out of town on a business trip, and I'd simply forgotten how to act.

It's amazing how quickly a guy regresses to his natural state of filthiness, sloth and degeneracy without the guiding hand of Woman. Maybe this doesn't apply to all guys, but I think it does. I'll bet if you sent Camilla on a trip for a week, by the time she got back Prince Charles would be knee-deep in empty Hungry Man dinner trays, wearing nothing but a dirty ascot. He would have an up-to-the-second knowledge of all the latest soccer statistics, and their Rolls would be inoperable because he stripped out half the interior trying to fix a blown door speaker, then lost interest and went to the pub.

When you live with a woman, you get used to moderating your behavior in ways large and small, and after a week I'd completely regressed to my bachelor self. First of all, I called Comcast and, with no little trepidation, ordered the one channel that I've never been allowed to watch. I don't think I even need to identify it by name, but just in case you're dense and don't realize what I'm talking about: Oh yes, the Speed channel. Nothing but car-related programming, 24-7. And it came as part of something called the "Sports Package," because that's another void in my life—I don't watch nearly enough sports programming.

I plopped on the couch and watched *Pink Slips*, a show where guys drag race and the loser has to give the other guy his damn car. "That's so bad-ass," I thought as I munched on slices of salami.

That's another single-guy habit I resurrected—going to the grocery store and ordering a pound of salami, none of which will make its way into sandwiches. Back when I lived in Beacon Hill, whenever I completed a grocery run I'd reward myself at home by eating a few slices of salami. But, when you're cohabiting with a member of the fairer sex, your cold cuts become, for lack of a better description, less disgusting. No more bologna or salami or other meats of mysterious origin. Heather and I buy roasted chicken or turkey—as a general rule, our meats now have names that correspond to an actual animal, not just a concept.

Also on the culinary front, I'm normally self-conscious about shirtless eating. Even if I'm having a bagel on Sunday morning, I'll throw on a T-shirt. I don't know where I picked up such a fancy habit, but it just seems the polite thing to do. Without Heather around, my shirtless-eating inhibitions disappeared. If you think I was watching the Speed channel and eating salami while wearing a shirt, you're only two-thirds correct, my friend. Me man!

IT'S AMAZING HOW QUICKLY A GUY REGRESSES TO HIS NATURAL STATE OF FILTHINESS, SLOTH AND DEGENERACY.

A few other fun things I got to do during Man Week: leave my beard stubble in the sink after shaving; use clean dishes right out of the dishwasher, thus eliminating the cabinet middle man; and deliberately wear clothes that are normally mocked on the basis of their looking "like bird poop." Hey, if you wear brown pants and an orange shirt in the forest and there's no one there to see them, do they still look like bird poop?

Now Heather's back and life has returned to normal. I've limited my sports viewing and I'm showering almost every day. Plus, I get to read *US Weekly* again. I wasn't gonna buy it myself, but it's good to know information like, "On Oct. 26, [Jessica] Simpson spent an entire hour watching a baby elephant get fed." They didn't mention what Nick was up to, but I think it's a safe bet it involved Speed TV and salami. iB

YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY?

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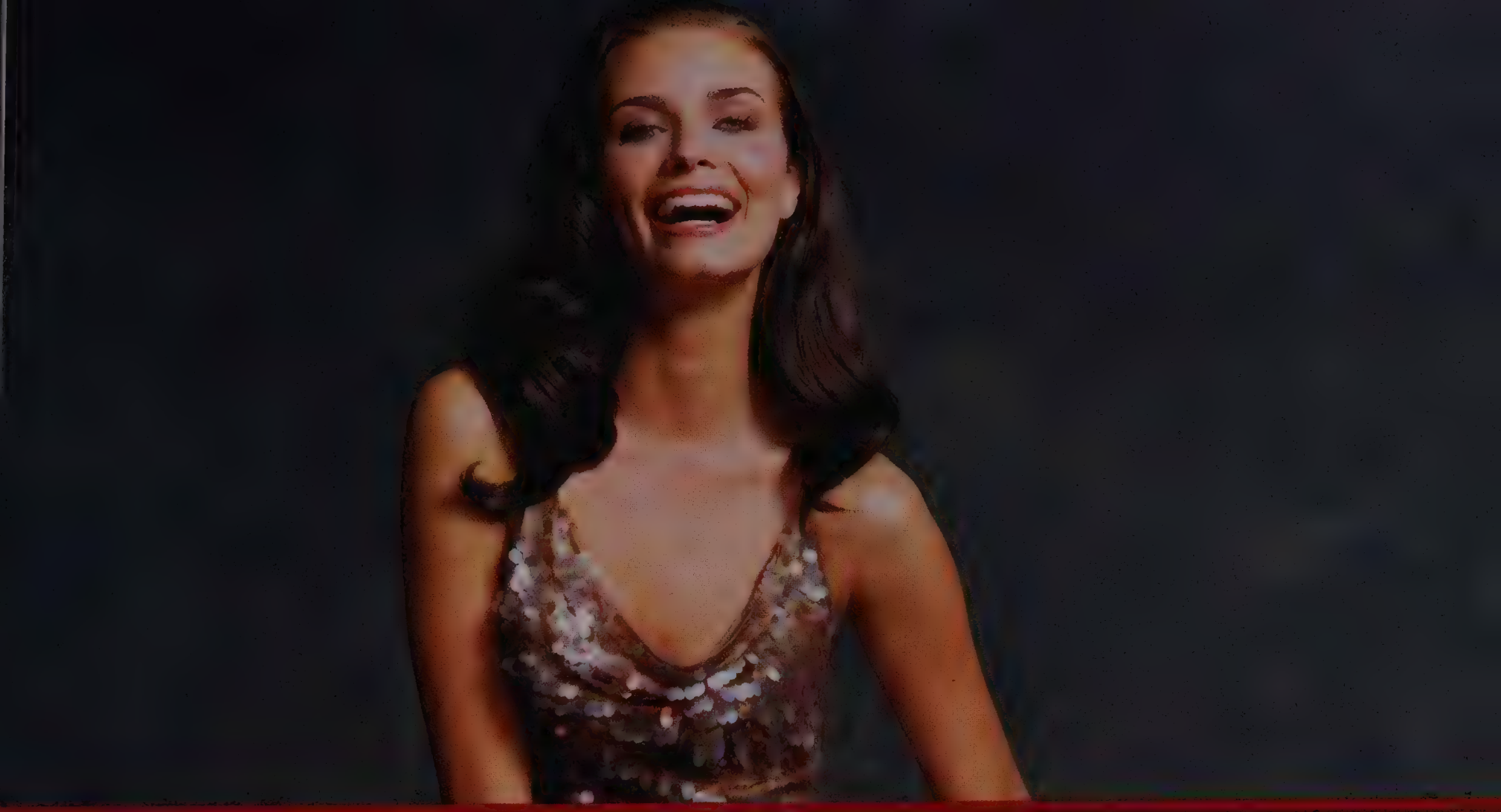

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THAT'S RICH

BY RICH LEVIN

Not Dead Yet

It's too early to give up on the Pats.

There's no doubt that this season has been a somewhat trying one for the Patriots and their fans, but don't worry, because what you're about to read isn't one of those generic obituaries for the Patriots Dynasty. I'm not That Guy. In fact, I hate That Guy. I think he should be tarred and feathered, then exiled to a remote island with society's other truly evil individuals, like Osama Bin Laden or Dakota Fanning. That Guy has watched what's happened this year and pronounced the Patriots Dynasty dead, the 2005 season a lost cause.

I say it's not, and here's why:

★The Patriots will win the AFC East: Sure, that's not too astounding a feat when you're playing in a four-team division and the other three teams are about as talented as Ashlee Simpson, but honestly, who cares? What matters is that the division crown gives them at least one home playoff game, against probably Jacksonville, Cincinnati or Kansas City. The Pats don't go down at home in January.

★They still own their rivals: Successful trips to Pittsburgh and Indianapolis will likely be a necessity if the Pats are to three-peat, but should that worry us?

For details on the Pittsburgh match-up, check out January 2002, January 2005 and, most recently, September 2005 (without Rodney Harrison, Matt Light or Tedy Bruschi). I know that the Steelers ended the Patriots' win streak last season, but in the playoffs, the Patriots are their Everest.

Now for Indy: Will knocking off the Colts on their turf be easy? Hardly.

We all watched the massacre a couple of Mondays ago. It was ugly, and that's being generous. But I'm still not sold on the notion of Peyton Manning, Big Game Quarterback; he's got to show me he can do it on the larger stage. In the NFL playoffs, anything can happen (just ask the 2001 Rams), and if I'm forced to choose between Bill Belichick and Manning in a winner-take-all game, I'm still taking Belichick—especially since at their next meeting, the Pats will be a different team, because…

★Injuries are only temporary: Yes, Rodney Harrison is gone for the year, and I'm not downplaying the significance of his absence. Without him and Tyrone Poole, the secondary will continue to be abused harder than an eight ball sitting on Kate Moss' bathroom sink, but it's nothing the Pats haven't overcome before. Remember Super Bowl XXXVIII, when the Panthers connected on touchdown passes of 39 and 85 yards? Who won that game?

Poole and Harrison are lost, but eventually Richard Seymour will return, as will Matt Light and Kevin Faulk; Corey Dillon will be healthy. (Note: The loss of Randall Gay and Dan Koppen, announced only hours before this column went to press, is devastating, but In Hochstein We Trust, hopefully). The grossly undermanned Patriots are currently 5-4, and four of those games came against the top four teams in ESPN's NFL Power Rankings (plus Atlanta and San Diego); they've weathered the storm. The remaining schedule is relatively easy; the playoffs are a certainty; and the big guns will be well-rested for when it matters most. And at that point, we've still got the best quarterback in the game…

★Tom Brady: *60 Minutes* recently proclaimed, "In Boston, Brady has become a bigger star than Carl Yastrzemski, Larry Bird or Bill Russell." Personally, I think that borders on blasphemy, but the fact that CBS even aired that statement speaks volumes about what Brady's become. And here's the thing: He's only getting better.

IF I'M FORCED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN MANNING AND BELICHICK IN A WINNER-TAKE-ALL GAME, I'M STILL TAKING BELICHICK

At 28 years old, Brady is just entering his prime. The game starts slowing down, reads become easier and little holes in the defense suddenly look as wide as the ass print on Charlie Weis' couch. Joe Montana was 33 when he won his final Super Bowl; Bart Starr was 34; John Elway was 37. I refuse to go on record saying that Brady won't win a Super Bowl after the age of 27. Especially considering the core group of young guys around him aren't going anywhere, either. The Pats are built to last. If things by some chance don't work out this year, it won't be the end of the Patriots' reign.

So there it is. Call me a yahoo, but don't count out the Pats this season, and don't close the books on the Patriots Dynasty. IB

Look for Rich's column in every other issue of the IMPROPER, and address sporting opinions and feedback to rich@improper.com.

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LISA EDELSTEIN

INTERVIEW BY JONATHAN SOROFF PHOTOGRAPH BY GREG HENRY/LAMOINE PHOTO GROUP

The stunning co-star of the surprise hit TV show *House*, Lisa Edelstein was born in Boston, raised in New York and New Jersey and returned to Boston when she was 17 to study dance at Harvard. After graduating from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, she appeared in numerous off and off-off Broadway plays, including the AIDS-related musical *Positive Me*, which she wrote and starred in. She first became familiar to TV viewers as Lisa E on MTV's *Awake on the Wild Side*, and her other credits include being a series regular on *Leap of Faith* and guest spots on *Seinfeld*, *Without A Trace*, *Frasier* and *ER*. In the last several years, she has portrayed Rob Lowe's call-girl girlfriend on *The West Wing*, the transsexual boyfriend of James Le Gros on *Ally McBeal*, David Conrad's lesbian sister on *Relativity* and an Orthodox Jew losing custody of her child on *Family Law*. Most recently, she was tapped by David E. Kelly to play James Spader's love interest on *The Practice*. On film, she is best-known as Ben Stiller's aerobics-obsessed date in *Keeping the Faith*, directed by Edward Norton, with other credits including Mel Gibson's *What Women Want*, *Daddy Day Care* with Eddie Murphy and *As Good As It Gets*, in addition to the recently wrapped comedies *Say Uncle* and *Grilled* with Ray Romano and Kevin James.

Edelstein also works extensively in the realm of voiceover, most recently as Mercy Graves on the animated *Superman* and *Justice League* series. Although she frequently visits her parents, who now live in Western Mass., she resides in Los Angeles with her cat and a menagerie of rescued dogs, and she volunteers her time with Best Friend Animal Sanctuary.

Jonathan Soroff: *You're not a doctor, but you play one on TV. What's your favorite medical term?*

Lisa Edelstein: I actually don't say that many medical terms on the show, because I'm the dean, bossing everybody around.

JS: *OK, what medical thing grosses you out the most?*

LE: I'm not a huge fan of colonoscopies, but that's about it. I'm totally pro-gore.

JS: *How's your bedside manner?*

LE: I can be as kind as I want to be. [chuckles]

JS: *Your sister works for NASA, your brother's an extreme skier in Colorado, and you're an actor. What do you think it is in your genetic makeup that created…*

LE: Such an odd group of offspring? We couldn't be less alike, but we all have really strong personalities, so I guess my parents failed to crush any of that, and we all went after the lives we wanted, which were nothing like the lives we were handed.

JS: *You've worked with Jerry Seinfeld, Eddie Murphy, etc. etc. Funniest co-star?*

LE: I really loved working with Ben Stiller. He's deeply, deeply neurotic, and I really enjoyed him. I like that kind of insanity where the brain just won't stop. It's like being on a roller-coaster in the dark. You just hold on and go.

JS: *Aren't all actors deeply, deeply neurotic?*

LE: No. Some of them are remarkably lacking in self-loathing, and I can't really relate to that at all.

"SOME [ACTORS] ARE REMARKABLY LACKING IN SELF-LOATHING, AND I CAN'T REALLY RELATE TO THAT AT ALL."

JS: *Let's discuss Mel Gibson for a minute. Is he a certifiable lunatic, or what?*

LE: Well, he's a real cowboy. At the time, I'd been doing that raw food diet for about five months, and he also was on a raw food diet, but he was eating raw beef. He was going on about how he knew the cows, he knew the rancher, he knew the meat he was eating, and he thought everybody should be eating raw beef. And he was really anti-union. Other than that, perfectly nice, very funny. Didn't have a diva mentality at all.

JS: *I smell an Emmy in your near future. Are you going to thank me in your acceptance speech?*

LE: How about if I send you a signal?

JS: *OK. Yank on your bra straps.*

LE: What if I'm wearing a push-up?

JS: *Then just push 'em up.*

LE: I'll let one flop out. I'll have a wardrobe malfunction on the Emmy's just for you, and you'll be like, "I can't believe it! She really did say hi!"

JS: *OK, let's get serious for a minute. Some of your roles have been pretty risqué, like the call girl. How did you prepare for that one?*

LE: I'm an actress. That's about as close to being a hooker as you can get. [laughs]

JS: *How about the transsexual on* Ally McBeal*? What one part of the male anatomy would you like to have that you don't?*

LE: I don't have any kind of phallus envy.

JS: *Even though I can stand up and pee in the woods, and you have to squat?*

LE: Yeah, but I'm a master squatter. I just spent a month in India. I have no shame in dropping trou' when need be. So if you mean would I like to be able to aim better? I'm sure that's a talent one could hope for. But what I really like is how strong men are. Although I wouldn't necessarily want that kind of upper back or shoulders. I like being a woman.

JS: *Speaking of which, aren't you a little too pretty to make a convincing transsexual?*

LE: Thank you, although I have people come up to me on the street saying they totally believed it.

JS: *On "hottie rankings.com" you scored in the 80th percentile for most body parts. I think you have very important hair.*

LE: [Laughs] My hair is important.

JS: *They didn't rank you very highly on your eyes, though, and I think they're stunning.*

LE: Well, thanks. It's all just a bunch of bull. There are all kinds of rankings, like "ami annoying.com." I think I was halfway annoying the last time I looked, but I stopped checking because playing a character like mine I could be completely annoying.

JS: *Biggest lie on your acting resume?*

LE: It's all true.

JS: *No it's not! All actors lie, and put stuff like "speaking Tagalog" and "hostage negotiation."*

LE: I never put those special skills on my resume. But one thing I do have is the *Doors* movie. It would be a fun game to get some friends together and see if you could spot me in that movie, it's so fleeting, but the reason it's on there is that it was my first SAG job. Oliver Stone gave me a role because I was a smartass in the audition, but it got written out. That happened two more times, and by the time I flew out to L.A. to do it, I had no part, so he stuck me in a scene and gave me a line so I could get a SAG card.

JS: *Oddest special skills you have?*

LE: I can tap dance. I've got good jazz hands. I can roller-skate. Walk a tight-rope.

JS: *Liar. Most embarrassing thing you ever had to do in an audition?*

LE: I won't even say what show it was for, but I didn't even want to go in for it. The role was this girl who considered herself black and spoke kind of Ebonics, and I found it so offensive. Another time, I was auditioning for Spike Lee, who I think is brilliant but has had some stereotyped Jewish characters in his films. Anyway, I went in and read for him, and ironically, I could not say the words "Dr. Martin Luther King." I kept trying, but it would come out, "Moctor Dartin Kuther Ling." It was horrible.

JS: *You also do a lot of voiceover. Which do you like better?*

LE: Well, voiceover is easier. You're not in hair and makeup. You just roll outta bed and go to work, so there's a nice freedom in that. It's really fun doing cartoons. I wish I could do more of them.

JS: *One cartoon character you'd most like to voice?*

LE: I'd like to do another superhero. I really enjoyed doing Mercy Graves. I loved the fight scenes: "OK, now you're being punched in the stomach." "Oof!" "Now you're falling to the floor." "Aaah." "Now you're getting thrown against a wall." It's the weirdest job in the world, but it's really fun.

JS: *In your youth, you wrote and performed an AIDS-related musical called "Positive Me." Isn't that kinda like "The Cancer's Spreading—The Musical!" or "Genocide, a side-splitting comedy!"*

LE: Yes, it is like that, but at the time, nobody was talking about AIDS. Ronald Reagan was president and hadn't said the word out loud, and I knew about 50 people who were dead already, so it was a really frustrating and confusing time. No one was talking about it, or educating anyone about it. It was very hard to get your head around the whole thing. So the play was really about what stopped us from dealing with this. But that was in the '80s. I was a kid when I wrote it.

JS: *Speaking of musicals, do you wish you got to sing more?*

LE: God, no. I'm a terrible singer. I have a good voice, but about a six-note range.

JS: *Last question: What's your best feature?*

LE: My clavicle. IB

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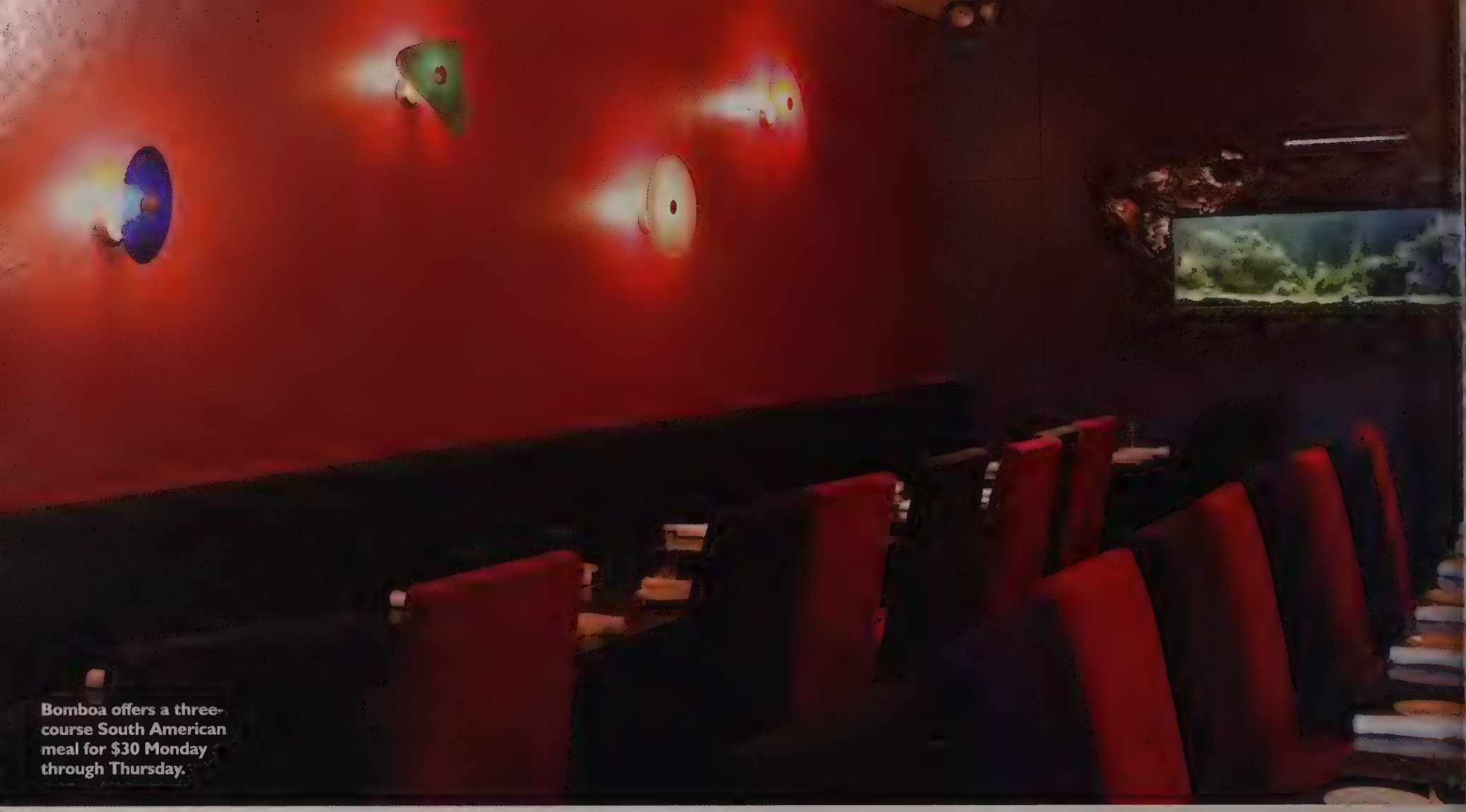
YES, YOU CAN EAT WELL IN BOSTON WITHOUT EMPTYING YOUR WALLET.

It's official: Boston is expensive. According to a recent national survey, it costs more to live here than anywhere else in America. And while economists say housing bears the brunt of blame, the foodies among us know you can't overlook the cost of a meal on the town. Bostonians love to enjoy the output of the city's most innovative and creative chefs; that's why the dining scene thrives. But in order to enjoy food that rivals the best of New York, we too often pay prices to match.

Well, it doesn't have to be that way. When it comes to sampling great food, be it the exquisite flavor unions of a destination restaurant, the better-than-home cooking in a cool diner or some eclectic treat that renews wonder in its tantalizing flavors, you don't have to spend a fortune. Boston boasts many opportunities to enjoy top-notch cooking for a steal. Here are some of the city's best-kept bang-for-your-buck secrets.

BY LINDA LABAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOPHER COX



Bomboa offers a three-course South American meal for $30 Monday through Thursday.

THE FIXE IS IN

The prix fixe is an old stand-by for those devout gastronomes, the French. In a country where eating well equals living well and the suggestion to grab a burger invites excommunication, you wouldn't expect the natives to sacrifice quality to save a buck; but the prix fixe (literally "fixed price") is an acceptable compromise, especially for lunch. And, fortunately for Boston diners, the concept is gaining popularity at the finest restaurants on our side of the Atlantic.

Take **Radius** on High Street in the Financial District. It is one the country's top restaurants, a rating that's due to a loving attention to detail. From smart, discreet service to simple yet elegant décor, stunning taste experiences and suave valet attendants, Radius oozes understated class. And that comes at a high price—usually.

Radius' weekday lunchtime three-course prix fixe, however, costs just $25 excluding drinks and tip. All you forego is choice. But placing your palate in Radius' hands won't leave you short-changed. A recent fall lunch started with a creamy parsnip soup, poured from a soup kettle over a nest of finely shredded sweet apple and toasted almonds. Next came a tender, pillowy braised pork belly, served with roasted baby carrots and salsify, all placed in a pool of rich pork jus reduction. And the finale: a fluffy walnut cake complemented by a tart cranberry "soup," and topped with house-made vanilla ice cream.

Radius' prix-fixe menu changes weekly, so you can enjoy a different three-course haute-dining excursion each week for about half of what you would normally pay.

Sel de la Terre, the charmingly rustic, French-influenced restaurant near the Aquarium, offers a $19 three-course prix-fixe lunch menu during the week. It comprises your choice from each of two appetizers, entrées and desserts, with the menu options changing daily. The restaurant also promises to have busy people fed in 45 minutes. How about a trio of house-made hummus (garlic, olive and red pepper), followed by sautéed shrimp with a white-bean hash, generously laced with rich pancetta and served with a pesto-laced crostini? Then finish off with a silky, amber-colored pumpkin pot de crème with biscotti.

You can even wash it down with that pink Portuguese plonk, Mateus Rose, for $2.29 per glass—the price changes to reflect the cost of a gallon of gas—or $12 a bottle. Save on cab fare, too: Hop on the T to Aquarium, which is within stumbling distance across the street from the restaurant.

Another French restaurant, **Les Zygomates** on South Street, offers both a two-course lunch deal and a three-course dinner prix fixe, both of which include three choices in each category. The menu of French staples changes weekly and costs $15 for lunch, $29 in the evening.

Monday through Thursday, the chic South American–influenced **Bomboa**, tucked away on Stanhope Street (a near-alley that threads between Berkeley and Clarendon), offers a three-course dinner for just $30. The prix fixe draws from Bomboa's eclectic mix of classic cuisine with exotic South American treatments, such as a roast chicken with cilantro yucca purée, or steak frites with chimichurri sauce. It also includes a choice of Bomboa's celebrated coconut bread pudding or chocolate buñuelos, Colombian donuts filled with molten chocolate and deep-fried.

Given its commendable standards, **Grotto** on Bowdoin Street has a reasonably priced menu at any time. Even better, you can build your own three-course prix-fixe dinner for $33, choosing an appetizer, entrée and dessert straight from the menu of classic, hearty Italian fare.

The weekend brunch at the elegant South End brasserie **Aquitaine** has people packed around the tiny bar, chugging expertly spiced Bloody Marys while waiting for a table. Many opt for the prix-fixe brunch, available on Saturdays only, which for $9.95 offers a choice of eggs (omelets or oeufs piperades, each fragrantly delicious with fresh herbs and vegetables as well as prime cheeses), served with hash and toast, plus juice and excellent coffee. On Saturday only there's a bonus: house-made cinnamon buns, which are perfectly seasoned. Seeing the usually glamorous South Enders bleary-eyed and wearing sweats? Priceless, of course.

WORLD'S FARE

By their very nature, ethnic cuisines—particularly those of Asia—are usually cheaper because, among other reasons, the basic ingredients, like rice and noodles, are inexpensive. Everyone has a favorite cheap Chinatown haunt: **Grand Shanghai** on Hudson Street, for example, and the cutely named **Yum Mee Garden** on Tremont.

Plenty of neighborhood joints also serve up the goodies nice and cheap: **Dok Bua**, on Harvard Street in Brookline, delivers tasty Thai food in a café-style atmosphere—no trappings, no alcohol, just good food cheap. Similarly, for 20-odd years **V. Majestic** on Brighton Avenue has been dishing up Vietnamese staples in its tiny, pleasant and very clean café over in Allston.

For a twist on Asian, try **Betty's Wok & Noodle** on Huntington Avenue. Situated between the Symphony Hall and the Y, Betty's serves up hearty entrées filled with fresh vegetables based around various Asian noodles, from soba to Shanghai and more. Either build your own dish or choose a combo; for $13-$17. Or try the large bowls of broth laden with veggies and your choice of meat or tofu and noodles, which also cost between $13-$17. Betty's also has delicious sake cocktails which, for $5-$7 a glass, add a little pep to the proceedings. After splurging on tickets for the BSO, an accompanying dinner doesn't have to compound the budgetary pain.

The chic Southeast Asian restaurant and bar **Pho Republique**, which sits opposite the Cathedral of the Holy

ss on Washington Street, has some of the best pho und town. The traditional Vietnamese soup is deli- usly fragrant as star anise, cinnamon and ginger rise in eamy mist to blend with the Thai basil, cilantro and shing squeeze of lime. Packed with greens and either u or meat, and with a choice of noodles or brown or mine rice, this is a satisfying dinner in one huge bowl $15, and a thoroughly gorgeous taste experience too. other good value is Pho Republique's cut-above Pu Pu tter, which yields a light dinner for two people, or bar cks for three, for $25.

One exception to the "ethnic equals cheap" dinner e is sushi, which can be annoyingly expensive. Devo- s should try **Sushi Express**, a tiny basement café on acon Street in Brookline, which has a pleasant, casual nosphere and possibly the cheapest sushi anywhere. As all fine restaurants, Sushi Express nails the basics: fresh gredients, well prepared. The rice is perfectly sticky and t too sweet, and the fish is fresh. Even better, it gets eaper as you eat more: Most nigiri sushi à la carte is .05 per piece, but an 18-piece order of nigiri will set you ck only $16.

BEYOND BAR FOOD

any bons vivants are hip to the thrifty idea of the happy ur meal and take advantage of downtime bar deals. As ng as you don't go crazy with the drinks, this strategy is sy on the wallet.

From 7 pm 'til midnight on Thursdays, you can get a tle loose with the 'tinis at the **Ruby Room**, on Portland reet, when the bar-café's superbly delicious brain befud- ers are half price. For the rest of the workweek, from -6 pm, the Ruby Room's $2 bar snacks, including a small heeseburger and fries, make a great late lunch or light rly dinner.

Over in the South End, the sophisticated, Southwest- n-styled **Masa**, on Tremont Street, has a popular bar enu of intriguing tapas for just a buck a tapa. The daily eal runs from 5 pm until closing, and includes such deli- acies as tuna ceviche with avocado, lemon-accented alamari with a white-bean purée and a jalapeño hicken-salad wrap.

Both **McCormick & Schmick's** locations (Faneuil Hall nd Park Plaza) run a weekday deal, 3:30–6:30 pm, and offer late-night menu, 10:30 pm to midnight. Both are served n the bar, and comprise $1.95 appetizers and snacks—large nacks. A recent version of the constantly changing menu ncluded a half-pound cheeseburger with fries, a pair of oys- er shooters, chicken teriyaki, beef satay and steamed mus- els in a superbly flavorful wine broth. There is a $2.50 drink inimum, but all in all it's a fabulous post-theater, -shop- ing, -work or just-because option.

In addition to the bar menu, this seafood specialist's din- ng room offers a $5.95 traditional Blue Plate Luncheon Special Monday through Friday, 11:30 am–3 pm. This isn't ust some old codswallop either. Menu items vary daily, vith recent options including a shrimp crêpe with lobster ollandaise sauce, a fried oyster po' boy with tartar sauce nd center cut pork loin with Dijon-brandy cream.

Bukowski's Tavern on Dalton Street has a very long appy hour, which features the so-called "buck burger"— actually $1.69 for a straight-up burger, Monday through Friday, 12–8 pm. Add cheese or fries for an extra $1.10 apiece. Bukowski's also offers Midnight Menu Madness, Thursday through Saturday, when every menu item is $4.99 for very-late-night diners.

Bonfire's happy hour has many devotees eager to grab four tacos for $12, which basically means you get one free. That might sound expensive, but these are deluxe tacos, heavily stuffed with chicken, tuna tartare, lobster, pulled pork or skirt steak. (The last is a particular favorite, due to its special seasoning.) All are served with pico de gallo

Sushi Express serves up fresh fish for à la carte prices starting at $1.05.

and guacamole, and the fillings are generous enough to make a meal of the deal.

Caffè Umbra has been busy with renovations and has added a new casual café menu and the most delectable selection of bar nibbles, served 5–7 pm, Tuesday through Friday. These small delights run $2 or $3 and are a thrilling taste trip. Dishes include a duo of tempura pumpkin and cured lemon that is the most amazing palate kicker, and a hypnotic, sweet-and-creamy goat-cheese-stuffed fig flecked with crunchy pistachio. And for $10 you can get the torta de champiñones, a portabella mushroom topped with potato, serrano ham, manchego cheese and an almond red pepper sauce.

Umbra's café menu offers a more substantial meal: for instance, a half-pound Angus beef burger, covered with Vermont cheddar and served with fries; or a dense, rich panino stuffed with roasted pork and pancetta, served with Umbra's fabulous eggplant fries. At $12 and $14 respectively, these aren't the cheapest burger and sandwich around. But they have all the fine quality of Umbra's kitchen, served in a classy environment, all without going the more expensive full-dinner route in the restaurant.

Besides, without quality and enjoyment a low price is simply cheap, and that doesn't mean a great deal. **iB**

Aquitaine, 569 Tremont St., Boston. 617-424-8577.

Betty's Wok & Noodle, 250 Huntington Ave., Boston. 617-424-1950.

Bomboa, 35 Stanhope St., Boston. 617-236-6363.

Bonfire, 64 Arlington St., Boston. 617-262-3473.

Bukowski's Tavern, 50 Dalton St., Boston. 617-437-9999.

Caffè Umbra, 1395 Washington St., Boston. 617-867-0707.

Dok Bua, 411 Harvard St., Brookline. 617-277-7087.

Grand Shanghai, 23 Hudson St., Boston, 617-338-2218.

Grotto, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston. 617-227-3434.

Masa, 439 Tremont St., Boston. 617-338-8884.

McCormick & Schmick's, 34 Columbus Ave., Boston. 617-482-3999; Faneuil Hall Marketplace, North Market Building, Boston. 617-720-5522.

Mike's City Diner 1714 Washington St., Boston. 617-267-9393.

Pho Republique, 1415 Washington St., Boston. 617-262-0005.

Radius, 8 High St., Boston. 617-426-1234.

Ruby Room, 155 Portland St., Boston. 617-557-9950.

Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston. 617-720-1300.

Sushi Express, 1038 Beacon St., Brookline. 617-738-5658.

V. Majestic, 164 Brighton Ave., Allston. 617-782-6088.

Yum Mee Garden, 665 Tremont St., Boston. 617-267-0488.

Les Zygomates Wine Bar & Bistro, 129 South St., Boston. 617-542-5108.

Divine Dinering

Mike's City Diner draws both presidents and pedestrians.

Over on the Mass. Ave. end of Washington Street, sweats (or scrubs!) are the usual garb of customers at **Mike's City Diner**. As one of Boston's most popular weekend brunch destinations, this casual spot attracts recovering party people and old-time South Enders alike, and nearby BU medical workers make it a regular pit stop. Mike's has even earned the thumbs-up from President Clinton after a midday meal of hand-carved ham and grits.

Mike's offers good value any time of the day: From 6 am–3 pm, seven days a week, this is the place for a rib-sticking breakfast or a satisfying meat, mash and veggie lunch, served in a classic diner atmosphere. The black-and-white checked tablecloths add a mad mod touch, but Mike's serves American-style food in traditional American portions: large.

On weekends Mike's offers only breakfast, all day. You can go crazy with the Mass. General breakfast, a generous mixed grill, for $7.50. The weekday special, which costs $5.95, includes eggs, bacon or sausage, home fries, toast and coffee. Popular lunchtime staples include meatloaf served with vegetables, $7.95.

Beyond the prices, what zaps Mike's food up a few rungs in the diner ladder is out-of-the-ordinary quality: For instance, rather than buying plastic-wrapped, preservative-laden precooked meats, they roast their own, then carve the ham and turkey right from the bone.

rfection has its price.

you're going to be just a bit picky about how it is served. Which is why we like bartenders to follow a carefully organized ritual when they pour it. This includes everything from rinsing the glass, to cutting the excess foam from the head. And even making sure the logo on the coaster and chalice are turned to face the customer. Which might sound fussy to you. But then we're fussy about everything when it comes to our beer.

www.stellaartois.com

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IN THE PRESENTS OF GREATNESS

YOU'LL SCORE BIG POINTS WITH THESE STANDOUT GIFTS.

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY TONY SCARPETTA

SHORT AND STOUT

Shogun Warrior Armor teapot,
$160 at Teavana; Prudential Center, 617-262-8327.

The homebody on your list will be pouring tea for two in style with Teavana's heavy cast-iron pot, molded to look like ancient armor.

SNAP IT UP

Kimono framed wristlet, $228 at Coach; Copley Place, 617-262-2063.

Coach's small, Asian-inspired clutch is fun and sophisticated, with a gold-leather strap and trim and a satin finish.

GREEN MONSTER

Sterling silver and 18K gold cocktail ring, by Judith Ripka, $950 at Long's Jewelers; 100 Summer St., 617-426-8500.

Cocktail rings are all the rage this season, but don't let hers be cheap plastic or glass. Wow her with authentic sparkle: a big, emerald-cut green amethyst with diamonds.

ZOOM WITH A VIEW

Digital LCD binoculars, $179 at Brookstone; Copley Place, 617-267-4308.

Great for birdwatchers—and pervs—these babies allow the viewer to zoom in and take pictures of faraway subjects. They also come with software for printing images.

PINK LADIES

Pink toolset, $24 at www.gifts.com

Girls love tools…as long as they don't clash with their outfit. Pretty and practical, this giftboxed case houses a variety of gadgets, including a tape measure and wire stripper.

X-CELLENT

XBox 360 Deluxe, $399.99 at Game Stop; Prudential Center, 617-236-4432.

For video game connoisseurs, the 360 is the crème de la crème. But it's not just about the games; with the ability to play DVDs, MP3s and streaming media, the latest XBox can anchor the highest-tech audiovisual system.

ANTE UP

Texas Hold 'Em handheld poker game, $39.95 at Sharper Image; Prudential Center, 617-262-7010.

Give him this handheld game and let him compete against 189 tournament players. It also features a talking dealer.

BADA-BLING

Bottle-cap pendant necklace, $210 at the Chanel boutique; 5 Newbury St., 617-859-0055.

Every woman craves a little Chanel bling: The black-and-white box rivals the little blue one. The design of this necklace, a white Chanel logo on a square black setting, recalls the caps on Chanel's perfume bottles.

WATCH THIS

iPod video, $399 at the Apple Store; CambridgeSide Galleria, 617-225-0442.

The It-gift this season, Apple's latest has space for up to 15,000 songs and 150 hours of video. Besides listening to music, an entertainment junkie can now watch music videos and TV shows, available for download from the iTunes store.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Johnny Walker Blue, $218 at Charles St. Liquors; 143 Charles St., 617-523-5051.

You say he's strong and smooth? Give him a Scotch to match. A blend with notes of peaty moss and vanilla, it'll be the gem of his liquor cabinet.

BRAINS AND BEAUTY

Leather laptop case in stylish colors, by Ro, $260 at Cross; Zero Brattle St., 617-868-7020.

A colorful case keeps her laptop protected and fashionable, with convenient interior pockets to store business cards and cell phone.

KEEP ON GIVING

Giftscription, $19.95 at Barnes and Noble; 395 Washington St., 617-426-5184.

Magazines are perfect gifts for just about anyone, in our unbiased opinion. Go with the giftscription box, which lets your giftee browse 50 choices, including *Allure*, *Real Simple*, and even *Sports Illustrated for Kids*. Better yet, there's an actual box to gift-wrap and present.

POP!

Wine opener by Cork Pops, $19.95 (refill, $9.95) at Kitchen Arts; 161 Newbury St., 617-266-8701.

Gadget heads will love it. Just put the needle into the cork, press, and the cartridge of inert propellant neatly pops the cork out. Each cartridge opens more than 50 bottles of wine.

GIRLY GOODIES

Winter Wonderland Sleepover Kit, $25, Jeannine's Bakery Gathering Kit, $39.50, and Ivy Cottage Inn Bath and Beauty Retreat, $42. All by Jaqua and available at C.O. Bigelow; Copley Place, 617-236-7257.

Little girls and big girls alike love fun time with their friends. These three Jaqua kits contain invitations to help that girly girl on your list make a delicious event of time with her friends. The Winter Wonderland Sleepover Kit includes sweet-smelling items like a Baked Apple Purifying Mask and Peppermint Candy Lip Glosses. The Bakery Gathering Kit comes with Pumpkin Papaya Face Masque and Buttercream Frosting Body Butter, while the Ivy Cottage Inn Kit comes with Banana Spice Cake Lotion and Tuscan Orange Shower Syrup.

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Walk this Way?

We took it to the streets to find out how well Bostonians know their own city.

BY RICH LEVINE

Here's the understatement of the year: Boston's not the world's most traversable city. In fact, on the spectrum of navigable U.S. cities, the Hub probably falls somewhere between New York and Hell. While some metropolitan areas are mapped out in straightforward grids or have streets arranged by number, letter or state name, we have seven randomly alphabetized streets; the rest looks like a city planner threw up on his blueprints. Add in daily anarchy-inducing changes—thanks, Big Dig!—and honestly, we're lucky to find our way to and from work every day.

With that in mind, we wondered: How well do Bostonians know their way around Boston? And more specifically, which areas, hot spots or landmarks do they know the best? We hit the street for some answers.

CASE 1: PRAYING OR POLE DANCING?

One Saturday night at around 10 pm, I stumbled around Downtown Crossing asking random night owls if they knew a place—Centerfolds, to be specific—where I could make quick work of the 50 one-dollar bills in my wallet. The next morning, just as Church was convening, I wandered around City Hall Plaza asking for directions to Old North Church, one of Boston's most treasured landmarks, which was made famous when the lights in its steeple were used to alert Paul Revere when and how the British were coming, back when he sacrificed his life to save the Earth from certain Armageddon, courtesy of a colossal meteor. No wait that was Bruce Willis. Anyways, here's how it broke down:

Old North Church, 193 Salem St., North End
20 people asked (10 men, 10 women)

- *Four people knew exactly how to get there.
- *Five people vaguely knew and made a suggestion along the lines of "once you get there, just look for the big church."
- *Four people knew it was "somewhere in the North End" (one woman even pointed in the right direction for me).
- *Seven people didn't know, but one of those seven didn't admit it. She directed me to Trinity Church on the corner of Clarendon Street and St. James Avenue in the Back Bay.

Centerfolds, 11 Lagrange St., Chinatown
20 people asked (15 men, five women)

- *Three men knew the way, and were mighty proud that they did.
- *12 men and five women didn't have a clue (or so they claimed).
- *Five women were officially weirded out.

Conclusion: Our Puritan forefathers would be proud, because it was the Church in a landslide. I would have asked more women, but nothing says "please hit me with a fresh batch of pepper spray in the face" like approaching a woman at night and asking directions to the nearest strip club. Plus it was only fair to ask more men, but it didn't end up making a difference.
Bottom Line: The Lord beats the ladies.

CASE 2: BOOKWORM OR BOOZE BAG?

Academics love to rack their brains at the Boston Public Library's main branch on Boylston Street and party animals love to destroy their brain cells at the Rack in Faneuil Hall. But which group is better at giving directions? I took to Hanover Street on a Friday night and tried to make my way over to the Rack, and the next afternoon I circled Boston Common looking for the library:

Boston Public Library's Main Branch, 700 Boylston St., Back Bay
20 people asked (10 men, 10 women)

- *Six people knew exactly how to get there.
- *Two knew it was somewhere on Boylston Street.
- *The other 12 didn't know, but one guy told me that if I was looking for books, "There's a Buck-a-Book over near City Hall Plaza."

The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall
20 people asked (10 men, 10 women)

- *12 knew exactly how to get there.
- *Three people knew it was somewhere around Faneuil Hall.
- *Five people didn't have any idea.

Conclusion: Despite what we all might like to think, I found that the boozers know best. Maybe we can chalk the lack of library interest up to the power of Al Gore and the Internet, but whatever the reason, finding the BPL's main branch was a lost cause, even though all they really had to do was point to Boylston Street and tell me to keep walking.
Bottom Line: The Rack takes the BPL to school.

CASE 3: SOX OR CELTS?

If there's anything we expect locals to really know, and know cold, it's how to get to the two places that our pro sports teams call home. I spent a half hour one afternoon in Copley Plaza looking for directions to Fenway Park and then another half hour trying to get from Boston Common to TD Banknorth Garden:

Fenway Park, 4 Yawkey Way, Kenmore Square
20 people asked (13 men, 7 women)

- *16 people gave me the right directions (and three of them wanted to make sure I knew the Sox were in the off-season).
- *Four people weren't sure, but two of the four let me know that if I was in a bind, taking the Green Line to Kenmore would get me close.

TD Banknorth Garden, 100 Legends Way, North Station
20 people asked (13 men, 7 women)

- *11 Bostonians got me to the Garden.
- *Three didn't know but suggested going from Park Street to North Station on the Green Line.
- *Six people didn't know.

Conclusion: Not surprisingly, the Sox came out on top, but the Celtics and Bruins brass have no reason to hang their heads. Hey, nobody's perfect, right? Especially not the Bruins or Celtics.
Bottom Line: Sox rock the C's and B's.

CASE 4: GEEKS OR, UM...GEEKS?

So who's got the more prestigious reputation: Harvard or MIT? Actually, who really cares, they're all still smarter than we are. What we wanted to know is which batch of brainiacs has the better sense of direction? I traveled to both campuses on a recent weeknight looking for directions to the Berklee College of Music, which is just a quick trip over the Mass Ave. Bridge that separates MIT and Harvard from the rest of us puddingheads in Boston:

Berklee College of Music, 1140 Boylston St., at Mass. Ave.
20 Harvard students asked (10 men, 10 women)

- *Five of the Crimson faithful knew the way to Berklee.
- *15 didn't, and two students had never even heard of the school.

20 MIT students asked (10 men, 10 women)

- *Four techsters sent me the right way.
- *16 students didn't and four of them didn't know Berklee from a pretty girl.

Conclusion: Either I spoke to a bunch of freshmen, or these coeds don't get out of Cambridge much. I don't think we can proclaim either school the winner here, although Harvard did edge their academic rival by a nose.
Bottom Line: Directions obviously aren't rocket science.

CASE 5: WHERE EVERYBODY KNOWS YOUR NAME...

Save for the semi-recent barrage of David E. Kelley dramas, Boston's a one-trick pony when it comes to memorable TV shows. But if you're going to have only one trick, it might as well be among the greatest TV comedies of all time, and you might as well have two different bars of the same name to honor its memory. I stood outside of the Downtown Crossing T Station—relatively equidistant from Cheers' Beacon Hill and Faneuil Hall locations—and asked for directions to Cheers. Would they know how to get there? And if so, which one would they send me too?

Cheers, 84 Beacon St., Beacon Hill
Cheers, 1 Faneuil Hall Marketplace,
20 people asked (10 men, 10 women)

- *Six people asked me to be more specific because "you know, there are two of them."
- *Six directed me to the Faneuil Hall location.
- *Four sent me over to Beacon Hill.
- *Three said they had no idea, and the last woman I spoke to sent me on a voyage that involved a trip to South Station. Let's just assume she didn't know either.

Conclusion: Sadly, with no definitive winner, the Cheers dilemma looks like a wash. Let's just all go have a drink.
Bottom Line: Sam Malone's still the man.

So there you have it: the absolute final word on how well Bostonians know their city. OK, maybe it wasn't the most scientific of experiments, but any study resulting in a Red Sox victory, a case against the intelligence of Harvard and MIT students and further proof that Boston isn't overrun by hyperliterate strip-club addicts can't be all bad, can it? No, no it can't.

DRESSED

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE · PHOTOGRAPHED BY MATTHEW JORDAN SMITH

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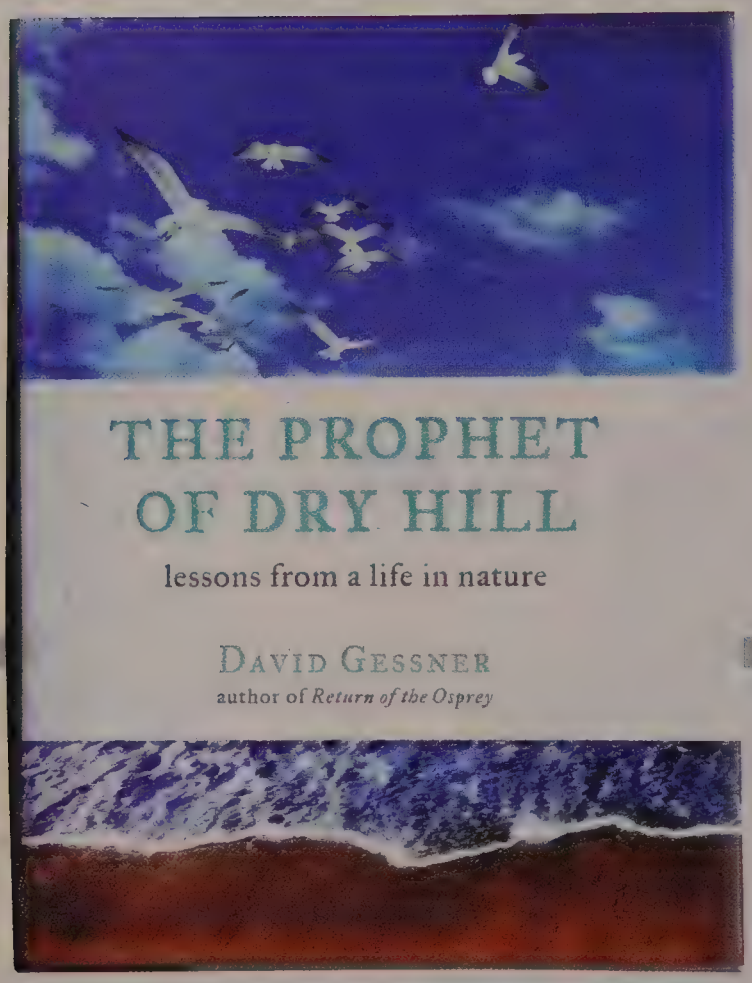


THE NATURE OF THINGS ON THE CAPE

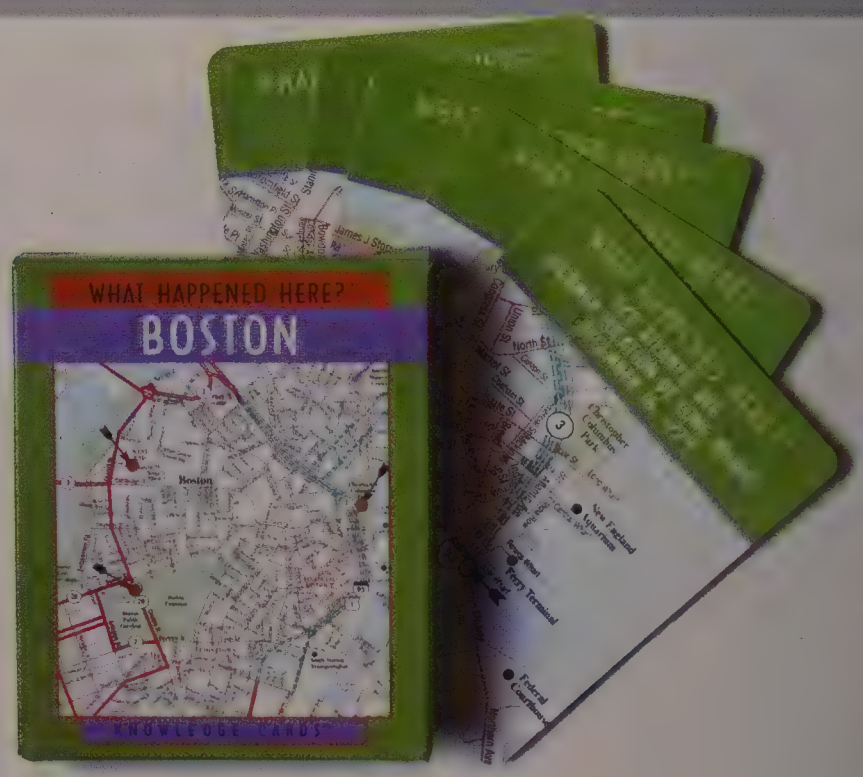
***The Prophet of Dry Hill: Lessons from a Life in Nature*, by David Gessner, celebrates one of Cape Cod's great nature writers.**

"The world is too much with us," Wordsworth wrote, the world of nature too little. But the intimate observation of birds and fish, land and sea was the lifework of nature writer John Hay. A reserved and patient man, Hay lived on the Cape in more pristine times, "shedding his skin and throwing himself out into the lives of herring or terns." While beginning his late-blooming writing life, he looked up to the wilder, heavy-drinking writer Conrad Aiken. Much later, David Gessner, Hay's own admiring protégé, followed in his wet, sandy footprints, observing and pondering the outward-to-inward movement of Hay's roamings through the natural world. Such marvels as the instinctual trajectory of herrings from salt water to fresh water and back, to gaspingly employ their "tremendous fecundity," fascinate both men. The aging Hay is dismayed in an almost curmudgeonly way at the McRuination of much of the Cape; and following him around, Gessner absorbs Hay's ideals, giving the book a peaceful rhythm with an undercurrent of wistfulness. Gessner also muses on the nature of mentorship, noting that for Hay and Aiken, as for himself and Hay, mentors serve both as a model and as something to define oneself against.

THE LIQUIDITY OF LETTING GO

Tommy Thompson is an Alexander Technique practitioner and teacher. The Alexander Technique is useful for addressing physical and emotional problems. At 1692 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. 617-497-2242. Fees range from $50-$135.

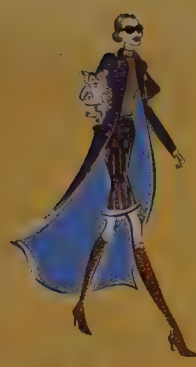
The approach known as the Alexander Technique addresses both mind and body. People seek out a "lesson," as Tommy Thompson's sessions are called, for reasons of malaise that may simply involve a painful neck from, say, the constrictions of violin-playing (musicians are especially fond of these techniques). Or they may be experiencing emotional distress, somehow visited upon the body. The guided touch of the Alexander practitioner, along with his or her gently probing questions, helps a person let go of some habitual physical, kinesthetic constrictions. Part of Thompson's goal entails what he calls a "very deeply abiding sense of the present," bypassing the ritualized rush from past to future of our habitual patterns of behavior, toward some newfound freedom and an altered, keener attention to how we move. One child Thompson treated, with mild scoliosis multiplied by family distress, went from feeling like "a tiger in a cage" to "a lightbulb burning softly inside." Imagine the perfection of a flower stem—actually your own neck—making relieving minuscule delicious alterations.



BOSTON GETS CARDED

"What Happened Here, Boston?" is a deck of Knowledge Cards about Boston events and people. At the MFA museum shops and independent bookshops.

Our city is spangled with delicious historical tidbits. Places that we might take for granted are important sites in American history. Now when we walk through Boston's streets, we can also learn about what happened literally at our feet in years past. "What Happened Here, Boston?" is a deck of cards each of which shows a date and a mini-map on one side, with a concise narrative of what happened there on the reverse. The cards can be played, à deux, as a not-so-trivial pursuit guessing game, couch-side. Or you can use them to guide you, say, to the place in Roxbury where Malcolm X led the Nation of Islam's Temple, or to Bay State Road, where Eugene O'Neill complained of dying, as he had been born in a "goddamned hotel."



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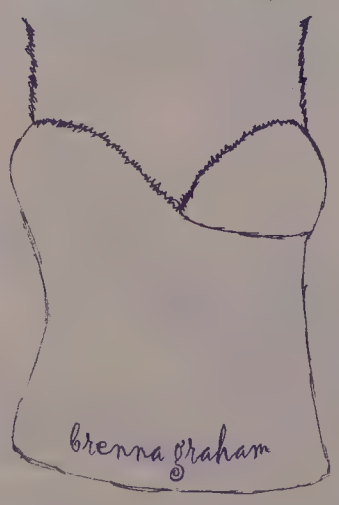

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REVIEW

A THRILL ON THE HILL

Mission Bar and Grill is worth a trip to an overlooked area.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANTHONY TIEULI

With 20 or so draft beers on tap, Mission Bar and Grill is true to the heritage of the Mission Hill neighborhood. This architecturally diverse district, once home to most of the breweries in Boston, runs parallel to Huntington Avenue from the fringes of the Northeastern campus to Brookline and Jamaica Plain. Gentrification emanating from the Longwood Medical area and NU has not yet undermined the area's reputation as a refuge of affordable rents. And affordability is a watchword as well for some of the neighborhood's eating establishments. In this regard Mission Bar and Grill is clearly worth noting. At the Mission, a couple can enjoy a first-rate dinner, with generously sized appetizers, even more ample main courses, and a whole bottle of wine (but no dessert—none are offered) and escape for $75.

Fried calamari with sun-dried tomatoes, arugula and garlic aioli

A tacky yellow sign, which hopefully is temporary, hangs above the Mission's windows facing Huntington Avenue. A heavy wooden door, opening onto the side street, has a wrought-iron grate protecting a small hinged window, perhaps an artifact from speakeasy days that allowed the proprietor to survey his potential patrons and protect against unwanted visitors. Inside this engaging pub, a high black ceiling and black window shades contrast with a bright Cinzano poster on one wall, while three framed decorative brass grilles dominate another. Large light fixtures shaped like inverted bishops' mitres hang from the ceiling, dimly illuminating the darkened interior. On the frosted glass panel above the door is clearly stenciled "The Mission."

High and low tables with stools and banquettes seat almost 40 patrons, while a dark wooden bar, with an expansive mirror behind flanked by dark Doric columns and pilasters, seats another 16. Two plasma-screen TVs, one on either end of the bar, were tuned to different sporting events on the evenings I visited the restaurant. The Mission reminds me of the new generation of pubs in Ireland, their eclectic but appetizing cuisine a far cry from the notorious potato and boiled meat of yesteryear, reflecting the current prosperity and newly refined gastronomic tastes of the economically robust Celtic tiger. Unlike today's Ireland, however, where menu prices in inflated euros can be steep, the Mission's fare is a bargain by any measure.

MISSION BAR AND GRILL

724 Huntington Ave., Boston
(617-566-1244)

HOURS Daily, 11 am-2 am
RESERVATIONS not required
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING no
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

A cup of thick but not floury clam chowder, for example, fetched a mere $3. Its firm, al dente hunks of potatoes, shards of onion and nuggets of bacon complemented the briny clams. Bruschetta ($5), large slices of grilled French bread topped with diced tomatoes—fresh and juicy despite being past season—chopped red onions, cubed mozzarella and fresh, minty basil, proved a refreshing treat that perked up my taste buds. Chicken wings ($7), moist, meaty and less fiery than one usually encounters in this quintessential bar food, came appropriately garnished with celery and carrot sticks and a side bowl of tangy blue cheese dressing. Crisp fried calamari ($8), tossed with sun-dried tomatoes and fresh, tender arugula leaves, came with garlic aioli. Forewarned by the menu that the dish was "topped" with aioli, I took the precaution of requesting the aioli on the side so that it would not drown and cool the squid. While the large ringlets were slightly tough and included none of the tiny tentacles that have more interesting texture, the critters were so hot and fresh—straight from the fryer without a sojourn under a heat lamp—that I found them quite enjoyable, especially with the interesting nuances added by the tomatoes and greens.

Another bar food favorite, sweet potato skins ($7) stuffed with a combination of mascarpone cheese and bacon, delivered delightfully contrasting tastes and textures—crunchy, earthy skins, mellow, pleasantly starchy potato, mildly sweet and creamy mascarpone, and crisp, smoky bacon. The stuffed skins measured their half-life in seconds once the platter hit our table. Finally among the starters, caprese salad ($7) brought slices of ripe heirloom tomatoes—again, fresh and juicy even though we were only a couple of weeks from Thanksgiving—layered with rich, full-flavored mozzarella cheese and fresh basil leaves, all bathed in good extra virgin olive oil with a splash of balsamic. The liveliness of the fresh basil also seemed to belie the calendar.

Main courses took up where the appetizers left off. Early one Saturday evening, our party of four tackled half of Mission's eight main courses. English style fish 'n' chips ($13), a respectable exemplar of this pub classic, featured hunks of resilient, white-fleshed haddock, deep-fried in fresh, hot oil to seal in their flavor and firm but moist texture. The chips—hand-cut French-fried potatoes—arrived at the table hot and fresh from the fryer. So good were both fish and fries that accompanying condiments, a ramekin of toothsome, lemony tartar sauce and a bottle of ketchup, went almost untouched. Pan-roasted Portofino chicken, half a bird with crisp skin and moist flesh, came with a garlic and thyme reduction of

Clam chowder

Open dining and bar area

Owner Michel Soltani

he cooking juices. The sauce took on a ich brown hue and robust, mouth-filling avor that enhanced the garnish of mashed otatoes.

Steak frites ($16) paired a magnificent iece of prime sirloin, grilled to perfection—seared on the outside and tender, are and juicy within—with more of the resh, hot French fries. Priced at less than alf of what it would have cost in one of he city's upscale steakhouses, the steak has o be one of the best values in town. Finally among the main courses, roasted almon ($13) brought a thick, moist, boneess filet of rich salmon alongside a mountain of red bliss potatoes, julienne carrots, ucchini and onions.

Food this substantial deserves a respectable liquid accompaniment, and Mission proves equal to the task on this front. First, its selection of beers includes a mellow, bittersweet pint of Stone Smoke Porter ($4) that went particularly well with the clam chowder and calamari. Mission's wine list is short but serviceable and value-priced, with bottle prices beginning at $20 and topping out at $31. Big Tattoo ($22), a cabernet sauvignon blend from Chile, showed forward fruit along with decent acid that paired well with the food. Even better was the 2002 Col d'Orcia Rosso di Montalcino, a well-structured Tuscan red with a pleasant bouquet and fine finish.

After satisfactory but unexceptional service at the bar one weekday night, I received superb service the following Saturday evening when my companions and I were seated at one of Mission's high tables. Attentive, efficient and personable, our engaging young waitress answered our questions and anticipated and obliged our requests and needs with aplomb, grace and finesse.

I have driven along Huntington Avenue from Boston to Brookline and beyond many times, but until recently I had no idea of the existence of Mission Hill as a distinct neighborhood. With eateries like Mission Bar and Grill, and not too distant attractions like the MFA and the Massachusetts College of Art, Mission Hill ought to be on everybody's map of Boston. iB

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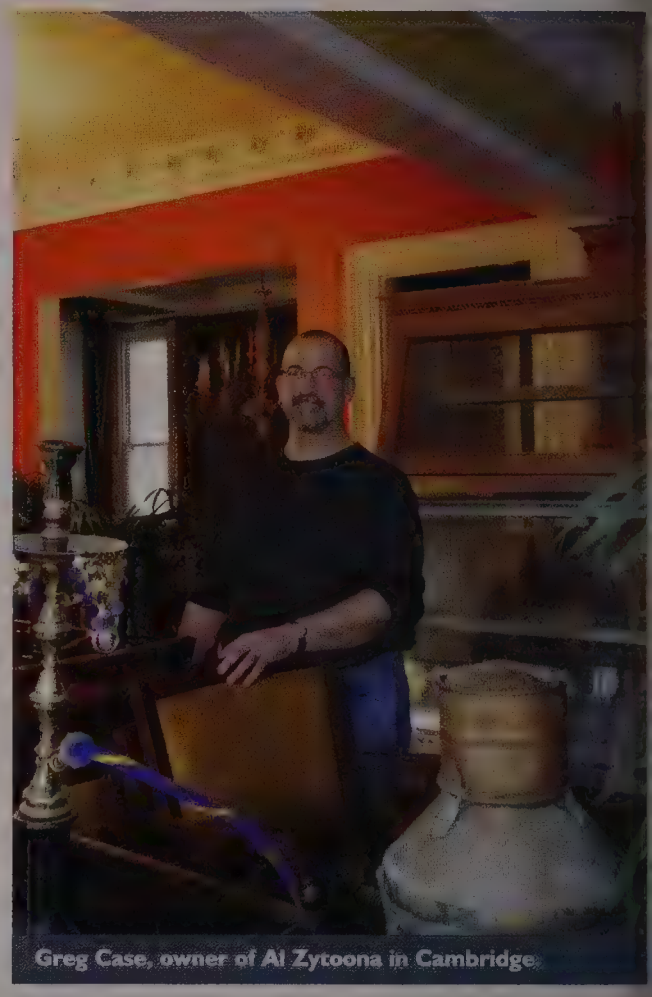
DISH

Case History & Future

Greg Case steps up to the batter… Rossi's on the move…

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Since leaving his high-visibility position as pastry chef at **Hamersley's Bistro** in the South End, **Greg Case**'s life has been neither a piece of cake nor a case of pique. His Somerville-based bakery, **G. Case Baking Co.**, shut its doors last year after what he calls "the most grueling three years of my life," filled with personal trials and tribulations. Looking ahead, though, "I'm on the road to happiness now," he asserts. Case recently finished a cookbook, *One Cake, One Hundred Desserts*, to be published by William Morrow. He's a consulting chef at **Haley House Cafe** in Roxbury, working closely with **Didi Emmons** to streamline the eatery's training program and fine-tune its menu. And he's planning to open an all-day café called **Al Zytoona** (Arabic for "The Olive") in Cambridge's Central Square by the first week in December.


Greg Case, owner of Al Zytoona in Cambridge

The Arabic theme, says Case, comes from **Sami Herbawi**, a Jerusalem native who owns the space and will manage the front of the house. "We'll use Arabic ingredients in traditional as well as updated classics," he says. "The food will reflect the Arabic influence throughout the Mediterranean, many cuisines from Spain, Italy, France, Africa, Turkey, Greece. "Seasonal and organic ingredients will also be a focus in items such as maple walnut baklava, Moroccan flourless orange-almond cake, and a chocolate, cinnamon, cumin and fig torte. The upstairs floor of the two-level café will open first, followed by the lower, garden-level space, which will offer dinner fare, hot Middle Eastern flatbreads and pizzas. Come spring, an outdoor patio will seat hookah-pipe-smoking patrons.

But wait, there's more. Remember the chocolate toffee cake Case created back when he worked at Hamersley's? The fudgy chocolate cake, coated with toffee, served with vanilla ice cream and caramel sauce? The dessert that outsold all the others, including the famous lemon-custard soufflé? Lots of people can't forget about it, says Case, and "people often ask me about it." Well, Case still has the recipe, and despite its lack of Arabic influences, you can expect to see it at Al Zytoona. Proving that multicultural isn't just politically correct; it's scrumptious. And speaking of scrumptious: Case is still single, so Mr. Right with a sweet tooth, please take note!

SECOND COURSE

Wine line: **Andrea Luca Rossi** is the new general manager at **Meritage** at **Boston Harbor Hotel**. Rossi, who served as general manager at **Le Soir**, the French eatery in Newton Highlands for the past four years, brings his suave Italian demeanor, wine expertise and experience gained in a variety of local venues—including **Il Panino**, **Carlo's Cucina Italiana** and **The Catered Affair**—to chef **Daniel Bruce**'s signature wine-oriented dining room. iB

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Champagne Tasting
Lucy's, 242 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-5829). www.lucysbrookline.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Nov. 29, 6:30 pm. $50. Executive chef **Andrew Coleman** and **John Grange**, a representative from Laurent Perrier and Lolonis, present a four-course meal paired with champagne.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., 6-8 pm. Each Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) and complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Destination: Italy
Sorriso Trattoria, 107 South St., Boston (617-259-1560). www.sorrisoboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed., 7-8 pm. $25. Executive chef **John Paine** and resident raconteur **Ciro Pirone** host weekly wine tastings this fall highlighting particular regions of Italy. •Nov. 30: The Lakes Region—Como and Garda.

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue., 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •Nov. 29: Vital Oregons. •Dec. 6: Bordeaux.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Sat., 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •Nov. 26: Single Malt Scotch.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and wine director **Jacob Knight** Wednesdays for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Nov. 23: Palate Education Evening. •Nov. 30: Wines for the Holidays.

Quartino and Cicchetti
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. Mon., 11:30 am-4 pm. Chef de cuisine **Mark Usewicz** offers four to six different wines paired with a selection (five to eight items) of small plates, otherwise known as cicchetti. Cicchetti is priced from $4-$9 and wines are between $9 and $16.

Radius Restaurant Cooking Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sat., 11 am-2:30 pm. $125. Saturdays this fall and winter, chef **Michael Schlow** teaches a cooking class that includes wine pairings directed by co-owner **Christopher Myers**. •Dec. 3: Time to Eat Now—great recipes on the table in 30 minutes.

Sake Dinner at Cha Fahn
Cha Fahn, 763 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-983-3575). www.chafahn.com. Dec. 1, 5 pm. $30. Cha Fahn offers a three-course dinner paired with three different types of sake.

Sudoku Night
Fugakyu, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline (617-734-1268). MBTA: C Green Line to St. Paul. Mon., 5-7 pm. On Mondays, customers at Fugakyu's sushi bar try to solve Sudoku, a Japanese placement puzzle, for the chance to win discounts off their meal.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.winebar.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Nov. 29: New Zealand. •Dec. 6: Worldwide Pinot Noir.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** presents wines to complement a four-course French-New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Nov. 28: California Dreamin'. •Dec. 5: I Want to Be a Rhône.

Wine Tastings at Vinalia
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-1777). www.vinaliaboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Wed., 6:30 pm. $15. Every Wednesday night, Vinalia hosts a wine tasting featuring four wines paired with seasonal appetizers.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Wed., 7 pm. $41. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Nov. 23: Home for the Holidays. •Nov. 30: I Want to Be a Rhône.

New wine director Jacob Knight leads 33 Restaurant's Hot off the Vine Wednesdays

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WINE

All About Aussie Shiraz

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.

The main things you need to memorize are: It tastes good, it doesn't cost much, you can drink it tonight with or without virtually any food and everyone (well, not quite) likes it. Once you've mastered this challenging list, you're ready to go out and drink an Australian shiraz. Oh, by the way, you can almost pick one at random because there's that much consistency. Is it any wonder this is the best-selling imported red wine category by far?

Being so popular with the public, shiraz also has some wine snob detractors. But what's there not to like about shiraz? This is the pleasure principle in action. Even the snobbiest wine geek is usually hard-pressed to fault shiraz, with its generally smooth, lush texture and abundance of spicy red-fruit flavor. It wins you over. So typically when I line up a bunch of different shirazes and taste them against one another, it's more of a love fest than an exercise in wine criticism.

Which is exactly what happened in my latest blind tasting. The percentage of wine we didn't care too much for was tiny versus the percentage that drew praise. What follows is a list arranged in ascending order of pure enjoyment. I'd drink any of them without hesitation. Be very careful with these wines, though. They can make you too happy if you don't watch it.

Nine Stones "Hilltops" Shiraz, New South Wales, 2004 ($12). This wine has a very fresh, friendly, bright raspberry aroma that leaps out of the glass, but then it's creamy and soft with some deeper blackberry-like fruit. There are notes of crisp acidity, white pepper and anise which come on after a few moments and then linger gently after you swallow the wine. Nine Stones will definitively prove the argument that a good cheeseburger and shiraz were made for one another.

Wishing Tree Shiraz, Western Australia, 2004 ($12). They do have interesting names, don't they? This wine comes from a cooler climate in the western part of Australia, where only about 2 percent of the wine is made. Consequently it's a variation on the theme of deep, pure, red-berry flavor and spice. Wishing Tree has a juicier, more acid-focused flavor profile, which may not sound appealing to some, but the purity of the fruit makes it all work really well. Last year was, incidentally, a fine vintage out west. There are some grace notes of green herb, mint and tobacco behind the fruit. Tannins are moderate. Red wine with fish, anyone?

Hardy's "Nottage Hill" Reserve Shiraz, South Australia, 2002 ($10). The beauty of Australia is that big doesn't necessarily mean bad, not that it really does anywhere. But Hardy's is a winemaking giant who apparently has the winemaking expertise and will to put out a very moderately priced shiraz that's delicious. This wine emphasizes the rich and creamy side of the grape's personality. Spicy, velvety, with blueberry-like aromas and a nice, slightly gritty, peppery finish, this stylish and versatile shiraz would work beautifully with highly accented seasonings, Asian or Latin. It's also a pleasure to enjoy as a cocktail. And when barbecue season comes around again, watch out for the next vintage. Incidentally, you can serve this and the other wines listed here a bit on the cool side, and they'll still be delicious.

McGuigan "Bin 2000" Shiraz, Limestone Coast, 2003 ($12). Wow! This wine, from one of South Australia's top coastal districts, is very engaging, with a slightly sweet, brilliant, cranberry-like fruit expression that's rounded off with just a touch of oak spice. Low to medium in tannin, with a long, sensuous finish, the Bin 2000 is so well balanced that I can't imagine anyone not liking it. Grilled dishes, whether chicken or fish, come to mind first as an accompaniment.

Stonehaven "Winemakers Selection" Shiraz, South Australia, 2003 ($12). OK, I'm officially out of superlatives. This wine brings it all together: a pinch of tobacco, a dash of leather, generous helpings of exotic spice and a soft, mellow, black-cherry fruit flavor. Tannins are moderate, and there's even a bit of chocolate in the finish. Another anytime wine.

So how do Australian vintners do this and if they can why doesn't everybody else? Southeastern Australia's got an easygoing climate conducive to ripening grapes without much trouble, but the key thing is that they want to do it. Winemaking research is advanced in Australia: Their vintners are not protecting any traditions in terms of technique, and most are very attuned to popular tastes. The industry as a whole responds quickly to current trends, and within a vintage's time they adjust practices appropriately because the major goal is simple: to sell their wine. So as moderately priced red wine with spice, flavor and soft tannin keeps growing on Americans, and we keep voting with our pocketbooks, expect Australian shiraz to become ubiquitous. IB

Master of Wine Sandy Block is vice president of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.

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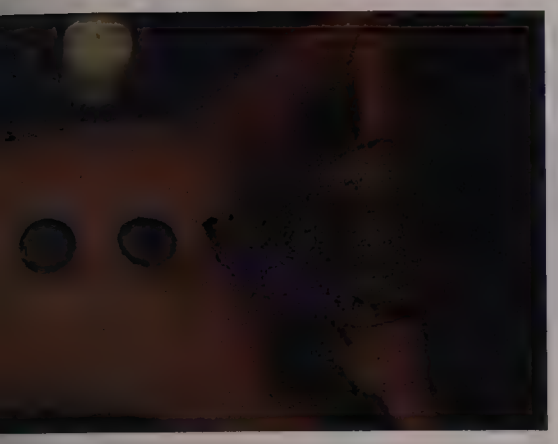

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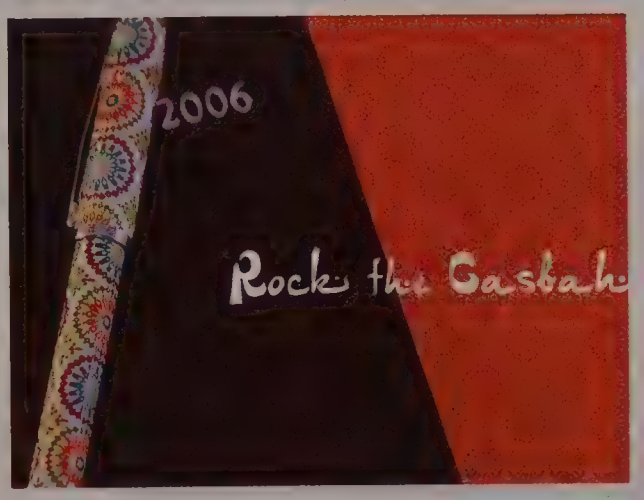

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agenda

HOT TIPS FROM CALENDAR GURUS LESLIE AND RICH

MPROPER PICKS

november 23 - december 6

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			23	24	25	26
				The annual **Gobble Gobble Gobble Road Race** kicks off at the Burren in Somerville. See *CityScope on page 65.*	Boston Ballet's ***The Nutcracker*** opens at the Opera House. See *Performing Arts on page 67.*	The MFA holds a screening of ***Ansel Adams: Photographer*** as part of its Photographers on Film series. See *Movies on page 73.*
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
	Lady Sovereign and **Ghislain Poirier** play a show upstairs at the Middle East. See *Music on page 76.*	Lucy's in Brookline hosts a **Champagne Tasting**. See *Tastings on page 58.*		The Ruby Room hosts the annual **Red Ribbon Party** to benefit the National AIDS Fund. See *CityScope on page 65.*	The annual **SnowBall**, a benefit for Santa Clause Anonymous, is at the Park Plaza Hotel. See *CityScope on page 65.*	**Tim Piper** and **Working Class Hero** play a show at the Somerville Theatre. See *Music on page 78.*
4	5	6				
Red Elm, directed by Wesley Savick, plays at the Boston Playwrights' Theatre. See *Performing Arts on page 66.*		The **31st Annual Crafts Showcase** is at the Brookline Arts Center. See *Museums & Galleries on page 91.*				

MORCHEEBA: STEVE GULLICK

TUE./NOV. 29

Music: More 'Cheeba...

Known for their catchy trip-hop beats and electronic ballads, Morcheeba kick off their North American tour at Avalon on Nov. 29. Fans of the band's signature style might be in for a surprise, though. Their new album, *The Antidote*, is guitar-driven, with more live instrumentation and a new, psychedelic pop sound. But while Morcheeba's tune may have changed a bit, the group's ability to light up the stage with smooth, funky beats has not. And keep in mind that some of their old stuff has been promised among the new tunes you'll hear on this tour. *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). All ages. 8 pm. $20. —L.P.K.*

CITYSCOPE 65

PERFORMING ARTS 66

MOVIES 69

MUSIC 74

CLASSICAL MUSIC 81

DANCE CLUBS 83

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES . . 88

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CALENDAR EDITED BY

Erin Graham Books & Poetry, Movies

Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music

Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts, Sports

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

SAT./NOV. 26–
SUN./NOV. 27

Museums and Galleries: Antiquarians Unite

The Peabody Essex Museum is worth a trip to Salem any time of the year. But there's special incentive during the weekend of Nov. 26, when the 33rd Annual Antiques Show comes to the museum's East India Marine Hall. Visitors can browse more than 30 antique dealers from England and the U.S. selling all kinds of silver, furniture, paintings, porcelain, jewelry and home goods. On Saturday, interior decorator Leslie Tuttle, who's appeared on the TV show *This Old House*, will give a talk on decorating with antiques. *East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9. Those 16 and under and Salem residents, free. Entry to the show is included with museum admission; proceeds support the museum's education program. —L.P.K.*

THU./NOV. 24

Movies: Bogie Nights

It's heartbreaking to hear that the cash-strapped Brattle Theatre may have to close its doors for good in January. But there's a way for cinephiles to help, and have a good time doing it: Attend a benefit screening of *Casablanca* or *The Maltese Falcon* during the upcoming Give Thanks for Bogie! film series. As usual this time of year, the Brattle is showcasing several of Humphrey Bogart's best roles, but this time certain showings are fundraisers. The 7:30 pm *Casablanca* screening on Nov. 24 and 7:30 pm *Maltese Falcon* screening on Dec. 1 are priced an extra dollar to benefit the Preserve the Brattle Legacy campaign. It's a tradition for *Casablanca* junkies to show up in their favorite character's garb, so dust off your pinstripes and trench coat. *40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837). www.brattlefilm.org. See Web site for a full schedule. $9; $10 for benefit screenings on Nov. 24 and Dec. 1. —L.P.K.*

FRI./DEC. 2–SAT./DEC. 17

Performing Arts: Finally Found

Over the years, it's been the inspiration behind many hours of online, workday procrastination, and now *Found* magazine, the published collection of random objects like notes, love letters, birthday cards and kids' homework found by the *Found* staff and their readers, has inspired a play. The show, called *P.S. Page Me Later*—a reference to the magazine's first-ever found item—opens at the BCA Plaza Black Box Dec. 2. The play, directed by Alarm Clock Theatre co-founder Sally Dennis, brings together local writers and songwriters including Steve Almond, Bill Donnelly and Steve Gilbane, who have written a series of pieces inspired by some of those found items. One writer took a love letter and scripted a dramatic backstory, while others took an object and used it as the springboard for an elaborate scene. The show runs through Dec. 17. *539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15. —R.L.*

FRI./DEC. 2

CityScope: Refugee Rock

Here's your chance to help some of the thousands of New Orleans refugees who've been forced to relocate to Boston in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. On Dec. 2, the International Rescue Committee in Boston hosts a benefit concert, Rock for Refugees, at the Milky Way Lounge in Jamaica Plain. The show features performances by five local acts: Milo Jones, Hilken Mancini, the Snow Leopards, Cyanide Valentine and the Rudds. All proceeds go toward helping newly arrived Katrina evacuees pay for daily living expenses, as well as for job training. *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. Dec. 2. 9 pm. $10-$15. —R.L.*

cityscope

vice to Contributors
mit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Scope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@roper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket e, dates and times, and a brief description of the it. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. List- cannot be accepted over the phone.

enefits

HURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

bble Gobble Gobble
ad Race
rt/finish at the Burren, 247 Elm St., Somerville. w.srr.org. 9 am. $20. Run off the turkey you'll later in the day at this four-mile Thanksgiving d-race, which raises money for several charities uding Project Soup.

RIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

op for the Holidays
Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-694-3545). TA: Green Line to Government Center. 7-11 pm. . This event features a silent auction, a raffle and ve auction by City Councilor Michael Ross. All ceeds benefit Project Mastery and the National nter.

ONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

ston Choice Awards
Imperial Ballroom, Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 ington St., Boston (617-457-2251). www.tonparkplaza.com/choiceawards. MBTA: Green e to Arlington. 7 pm-1 am. $25-$50. The first nual Boston Choice Awards, a ceremony noring the best the city has to offer, also includes after party at Bonfire and a pre-show gala efiting ReadBoston—an organization committed outh literacy in Boston.

UESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

ds First KnitMania
go Restaurant, EF Education Building, 1 Education , Cambridge (617-619-1631). www.culturalcare.n/kidsfirst. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7-10 pm. 5-$50. Sponsored by Cultural Care Au Pair, this tting event includes hot cider and cookies and vides Moscow's Orphanage No. 63 with ndmade scarves. Inexperienced knitters welcome.

EDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

nfit for the Copley Society
e Copley Society, 138 Newbury St., Boston (617-5-2787). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6-9 pm. $25. This event for young professionals in Boston features various pieces of original artwork on sale and food from BarLola. Procceeds benefit for the Copley Society, the oldest art association in America.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Yankee Swap Your Ex Holiday Party
Gypsy Bar, 116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799). www.liverteam.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6-10 pm. $25-$30. This second annual event invites local singles to enjoy complimentary appetizers and partake in various contests to meet new people around the holidays. A portion of the proceeds go to the American Liver Foundation, which works to fund liver disease research and increase public awareness.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Red Ribbon Party
The Ruby Room at the Onyx Hotel, 155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950). www.rubyroomboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 6-9 pm. $50. The Ruby Room hosts this World AIDS Day event featuring a raffle, appetizers and an open bar. Guests are encouraged to wear red, and proceeds benefit the National AIDS Fund.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

Rock for Refugees
Milky Way, 402 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-482-1154). www.theIRC.org/boston. MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson. 9 pm. $15. This concert, featuring Milo Jones, Hilken Mancini, the Snow Leopards and Cyanide Valentine benefits Boston's International Rescue Committee, an agency that works to provide services for refugees from over 40 countries and, most recently, Hurricane Katrina victims.

SnowBall
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-333-0327). www.scaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 9 pm-2 am. $60 in advance, $75 at the door. Santa Claus Anonymous, an organization dedicated to improving youth educational, social and character development programs in the Boston area, presents this black-tie event, which includes live entertainment, dancing, a mock casino and a silent auction.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Cultural Survival Annual Winter Bazaar
Harvard University, Pound Hall, 1536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-5400). www.culturalsurvival.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Dec. 4. 10 am-7 pm. Free. This festival features over 50 arts and crafts vendors from around the world, live Peruvian music and Tibetan and West African Food. A portion of the proceeds benefits Cultural Survival, a non-profit group working to spread awareness about indigenous cultures.

Longwood Symphony Orchestra
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.lso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The Boston medical community's orchestra presents pianist Men-Chieh Liu in concert to benefit the Massachusetts Consortium for Children with Special Health Care Needs, a non-profit group working to ensure a more responsive and family-centered health care system for local, special-needs youth.

The annual SnowBall, benefiting Santa Claus Anonymous, is at the Park Plaza Hotel, Dec. 2.

Festivals & Parties

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Wild Turkey Wednesday
High Bar, 200 High St., Boston. www.jetseteevents.com. MBTA: Green Line to Park. 8 pm, $20-$30. This Thanksgiving cocktail party features complimentary drinks and appetizers, go-go dancers and various DJs, plus a chance to win prizes like a trip to Mohegan Sun Casino and Resort, a makeover at Maksou Salon, dinner for two, gift bags and more.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Festival Noir 2005
Hynes Convention Center, Third floor, 900 Boylston St., Boston (508-877-8601). www.festivalnoir.net. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Through Dec. 4. Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Free. This 13th annual celebration and sale of Afrocentric art features hand-crafted products like jewelry, ceramics, dolls, Kwanzaa gifts and more.

Singles

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

8-Minute Dating
Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 32-42.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

8-Minute Dating
Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Boston (617-227-7800). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 25-35.

Hurry Date
Foundation Lounge, Hotel Commonwealth, 500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. $26.25 members; $35 nonmembers. Embark on 20 dates in five minutes while you enjoy drink specials. For singles ages 30-45.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

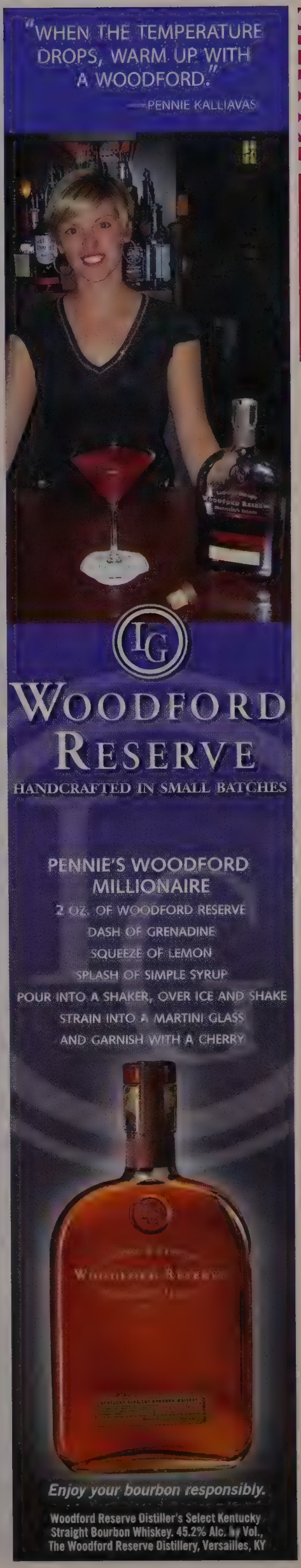
8-Minute Dating
Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 25-35.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

8-Minute Dating
Fire and Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-482-3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington; Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm, $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 30-40.

8-Minute Dating
Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For single professionals ages 32-42.

Hurry Date
Foundation Lounge, Hotel Commonwealth, 500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. $26.25 members; $35 nonmembers. Embark on 20 dates in five minutes while you enjoy drink specials. For singles ages 25-35.



performing arts

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

StubHub
(866-788-2482). www.stubhub.com. Where fans buy and sell tickets.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.tixboston.com. Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JUST OPENED

Arcadia
Cambridge Family YMCA Theatre, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (800-595-4849). www.longwoodplayers.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 2-10. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $16-$21. Set in the English countryside, Tom Stoppard's play addresses a range of topics including history, science, philosophy and love. Directed by Marc S. Miller.

A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley
Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy St. lington (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. De 11. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 4 pm. $18. Alex Luc directs Israel Horovitz's adaptation of the Dic story in which three ghosts visit Ebenezer Scroo restore his Christmas spirit.

Crowns
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MB Green Line to Copley. Nov. 25-Dec. 23. Wed.-T 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 $22-$47. This story follows a Brooklyn teena journey south to live with her grandmother. Roach directs.

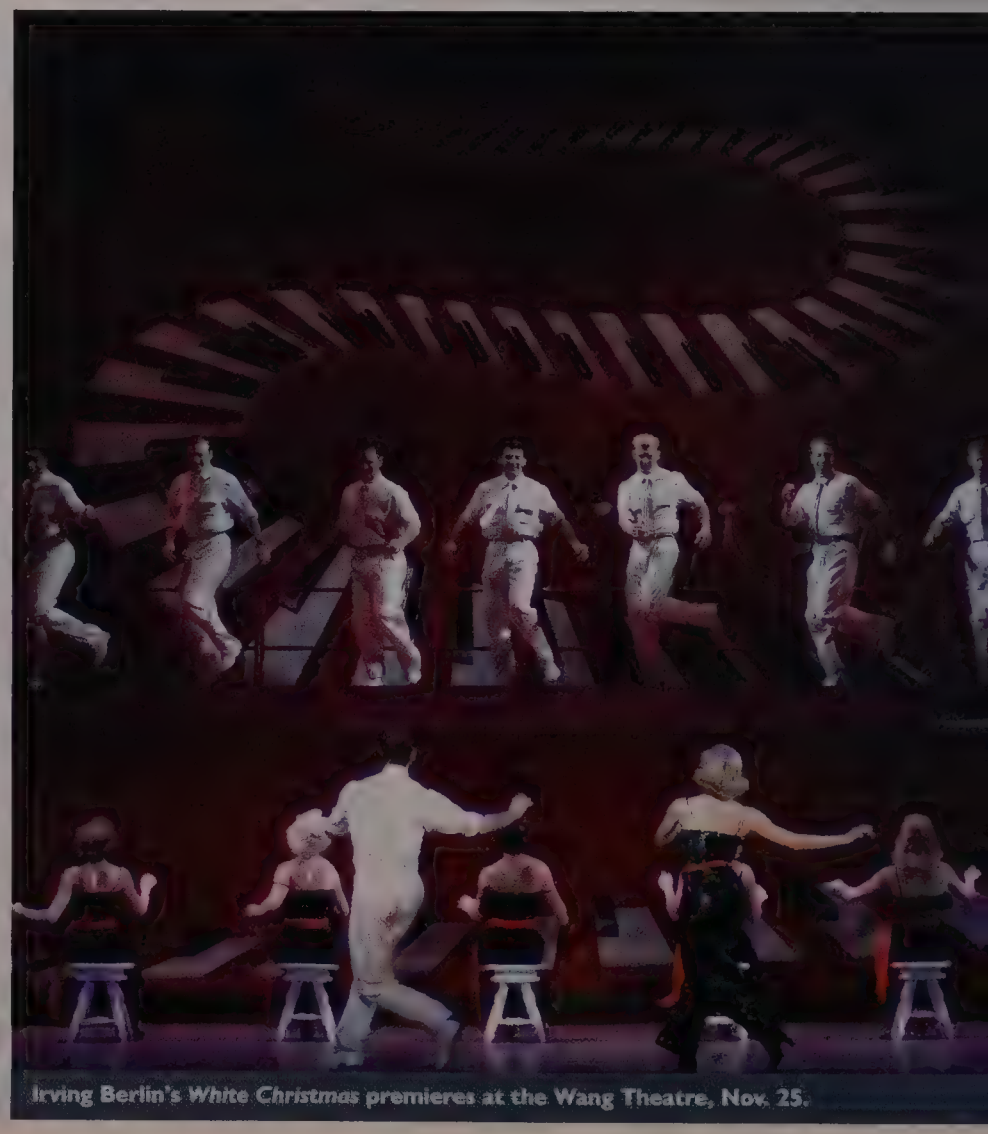
The Mikado
MIT Stratton Student Center, 84 Mass. Ave., C bridge (617-253-0190). web.mit.edu/gsp. Dec. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $6-$12. Emily Sen directs this performance of the Gilbert and Sull opera involving marriage in Japanese culture.

P.S. Page Me Later: Performances Inspired by Found Magazine
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Bo (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Dec. 2-17. Thu.- 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $12-$15. A variety of local a come together to celebrate Found Magazine thr performances based on objects the magazine has lected over the years, including napkins, draw and love letters.

Red Elm
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Bo (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B G Line to Pleasant St. Dec. 1-18. Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15-$25. Wesley Savic rects this play about a conflict when parents be the family business on their sons.

Three Sisters
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., C bridge (617-496-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 26-Jan. 1. T Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Sch varies, call to confirm. $15-$74. Krystian Lupa di this tale of a Russian family looking for a bette despite the hardships of isolation, death, birth marriage.

The Two Orphans
Brandeis Spingold Theatre Center, 415 South Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu. 1-11. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $16-$20. This story of African-American sisters struggling to surviv


Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* premieres at the Wang Theatre, Nov. 25.

Three Sisters runs at the American Repertory Theatre from Nov. 26-Jan. 1.

st-emancipation New Orleans is directed by Den- Garnhum.

hite Christmas
ng Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (1-800-447-00). www.whitechristmasthemusical.com. MBTA: een Line to Boylston. Nov. 25-Dec. 31. Tue.-Fri., 0 pm; Sat., 2 pm, 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 pm. $22-$78. alter Bobbie directs this musical about two sol- rs who become singers and meet their girlfriends ring a performance at a Vermont inn.

OW RUNNING

g River
rtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton 17-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through c. 11. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $17-$24. is musical adaptation of Twain's *The Adventures Huckleberry Finn*, directed by Eleine Vrettos, fol- vs the adventures of Huck and Jim in the ante- lum South.

ue Man Group
arles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-1-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green e to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 ; Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. The ue trio performs an ongoing show that mixes art, sic, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

mmy Tingle's American Dream
mmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., merville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway. n. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Ongoing. Thu.- t., 7:30 pm. $15-$25. Jimmy Tingle's American eam is a one-man show that combines comedy, litical commentary and storytelling.

iss of the Spider Woman
ston Centre for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston 17-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. BTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Dec. 3. ed., Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; n., 3 pm. $39-$48. Paul Daigneault directs this usical about two prison inmates whose only es- pe is reenacting their favorite movies inside eir cell.

enopause: The Musical
uart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-6-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: reen Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; t.-Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. In Jeannie Linder's usical, a quartet of aging baby boomers with noth- g in common but memory loss and hot flashes eets at a lingerie sale.

hear Madness
harles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This comedic whodunit, set in a crazy unisex hair salon, holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Sisters Rosensweig
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through Dec. 4. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15-$70. Nicholas Martin directs Wendy Wasserstein's play centered around three sisters at a birthday party as they reveal family secrets and strengthen their bonds.

Softly Unsaid: A Boston Romance
Midway Studios, 15 Channel St., Boston (617-835-2616). www.1111theatre.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Through Dec. 3. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $15. Brian Tuttle's play follows Mark and Maggie, two best friends separated for years, as they spend a day in Boston to catch up.

Dance

The Nutcracker
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-695-6950). www.bostonballet.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Red or Green Line to Park Street. Nov. 25-Dec. 30. Thu.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 5:30 pm. $22.50-$107.50. Choreographed by Mikko Nissinen, Tchaikovsky's ballet about a nutcracker come to life to battle the Mouse King enters its 37th year of Boston performances.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). ww.stashcomedyjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA:

Domani
Bar & Trattoria

Located in the heart of Boston's Back Bay, Domani Bar & Trattoria offers an approachable "New Italian" menu reminiscent of those found today in hot-spot neighborhood restaurants throughout Italy. Nationally acclaimed Executive Chef Rene Michelena heads up a kitchen staff dedicated to providing each guest with an inspired culinary experience in a fun and comfortable dining environment.

Domani features Lunch and Dinner, with a one-of-a-kind Brunch served on Sunday. Designed by Stephen Sousa, Domani captures a contemporary feel with cool tones of white, oranges, and deep chocolates. Sleek molded plaster wave walls with creative wallpaper and eye-catching upholstery and furniture complement the seasonal alfresco dining in the large outdoor patio separated by only the retractable floor-to-ceiling windows.

51 Huntington Avenue, Boston
Reservations: 617.424.8500

Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians. •Nov.25-26: Steve Donovan and Boston's Best Standup. •Nov. 27: Greg Rodrigues.

Comedy Connection

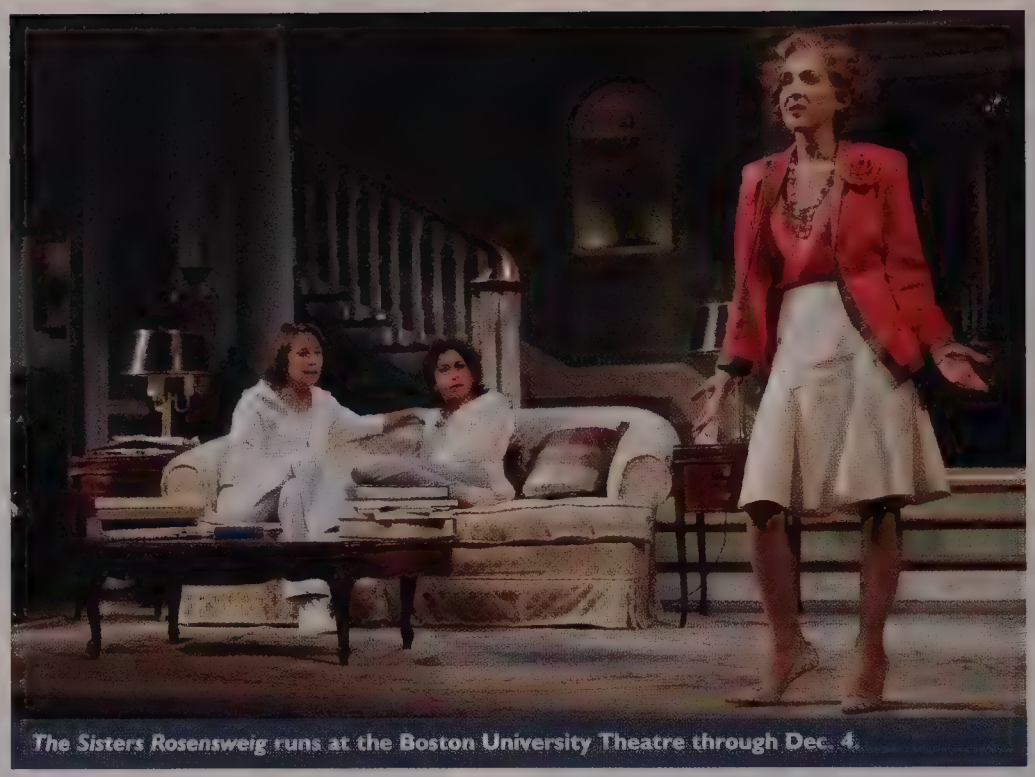
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Nov. 23, 8 pm: Tony V., $12. •Nov. 25, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Jeff Garlin, cast member on *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, $25. •Nov. 26, 8 pm, 10:15 pm: Jeff Garlin, $30. •Nov. 27, 7 pm: Mike McDonald, $12. •Nov. 28, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •Nov. 29, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12. •Nov. 30, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Dec. 1, 8:30 pm: Comedy Central to Go starring Greg Giraldo, host of *Friday Night with Greg Giraldo*, $15. •Dec. 4, 7 and 9:15 pm: Charlie Murphy and Friends, $25.

The Comedy Studio

Harvard Square, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $8-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Nov. 23: Chris Fleming, Korte Yeo, Tim Kaelin, Eric Riley Moore. •Nov. 25: Patrick Borelli, Steve Calechman, the Walsh Bros. •Nov. 26: Rebecca Anderson, Patrick Borelli, Steve Calechman. •Nov. 27: Erin Judge Presents...Tom Dustin, Taylor Connelly, Ellen Moschetto. •Nov. 29: Mystery Lounge. •Nov. 30: Nate Johnson, Tonya Dalhaus, Rob O'Reilly, Greg Thibideau. •Dec. 1: The Dan Sally Show: Renata Tutko, Amanda Beals, Ken Reid, Jim Laprel. •Dec. 2: Myq Kaplan, Bethany Van Delft, Deb Farrar-Parkman. •Dec. 3: Nick Lettic, Rick Jenkins, Andy Ofiesh, the Glow. •Dec. 4: Erin Judge Presents...Tim Kaelin, the Steamy Bohemians, Robby Roadsteamer, Pat Boccuzzi. •Dec. 6: Magic Lounge.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions.



The Sisters Rosensweig runs at the Boston University Theatre through Dec. 4.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians at Kennedy's Midtown. Call the restaurant for an updated schedule of performers.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 8:30 pm. $10-$22. •Nov. 25-26: Frank Santorelli, *The Sopranos*.

Steve Sweeney's Comedy Cafe at Jae's

711 Boylston St., Boston (1-800-401-2221). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. $20. 18+. Boston comedians Steve Sweeney and Dick Doherty are featured each Saturday night with other select performers. •Nov. 26: Jim Lauletta. •Dec. 3: Lenny Clarke.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Dinner packages available. • Summer in New England: Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 and 10 pm, $15-$20. •The Midnight Show: Sat., 12 am, $10. •N Thu., 9:45 pm, $5. •Lost in Boston...or H Learned to Love That Dirty Water: Wed., $15.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-12 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to C tral. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improv tional comedy troupe creates everything on spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Hump Fringe Sh •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$12: UnNatural Selectio master of ceremonies randomly eliminates pla until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great and cret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and D Walsh perform stand-up and character sket and play music and short films in a display of ling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Tales of a Bro Heart. Marcelo Illarmo discusses his life-threa ing heart condition and fights it with humor pm, $10-$12: TheatreSports. The audience s two opposing improv teams based on who's fun •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and under companied by an adult admitted free): Imp Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisati show appropriate for individuals of all ages; 8 10 pm, $10-$12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Bl ing storytelling, music and audience participat a cast of improvisers creates a show that cha with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This evening feat performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-3 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red L to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Bost based short-form improv comedy group perfo skits that involve participation from member the audience.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 $10 after. 21+. Every Thursday, The Tribe spon this comedy show at Cantab featuring a collect of improv comedians who poke fun at everyth including themselves. Acts include Snowflakes, ter Brother, Sosnys and Villalobos.

lew Releases

PAUL SHERMAN

e Season ★★★½

say this drama is about the family of a young girl ancing to the national spelling bee doesn't do it ice. That premise makes it sounds like a lame fic- alized version of the outstanding documentary *lbound*. It's more pertinent to know it's the latest n directors Scott McGehee and David Siegel, guys behind the probing psychological thrillers *ure* and *The Deep End*, and that it's based on a el by Myla Goldberg (with the screenplay by mi Foner Gyllenhaal, Jake and Maggie's mom). hose hands, this actually turns out to be one of better movies, in some time, about spiritualism our struggle to connect with the world around In the story, the emerging spelling skills of 11- -old heroine Ellie (Flora Cross) spark the inter- of her domineering father (Richard Gere), a reli- us studies professor who wrote his thesis about a ish mystic who believed that, "through letters, d could flow through you." He starts coaching through her bees (regional, state, national) and ng to nurture her ability to commune with God ough the words she spells. But this intensified d between father and daughter heightens the in- urities of Ellie's mother (Juliette Binoche) and n brother (Max Minghella), who also struggle to nect life's disparate dots and make sense of the -ld. Through visuals and story elements, the well- ed movie effectively integrates its characters' in- idual plights into a smart, touching whole. (At ndall Square.)

pote ★★★

man Capote revolutionized pop culture with his 5 "nonfiction novel" *In Cold Blood*. Without it, might not have had subsequent books like *The fect Storm* or *A Civil Action*, nor film documen- es like the Maysles Brothers' *Salesman* and the le- n of movies it inspired. This impressionistic ma about the long genesis of the book follows pote (Philip Seymour Hoffman) as he learns of a tal Kansas farmhouse murder and sees human ma where others might have seen only savagery. t in unearthing the humanity in the killers, pote becomes torn apart by the dilemma of ini- lly wanting to help them and, after years of ap- ls, wanting them to finally be executed so he can sh the book. There's a fine line between Capote's yful way of performing at parties and the white with which he manipulates Perry Smith (Clifton llins Jr.), the killer with whom he bonds most ply. Hoffman immerses himself in the role of the ter who's both mousy and catty, and the movie ely gives its protagonist a matter-of-fact intro- ction that makes it easy for audiences to accept ffman as Capote. (At Boston Common, Harvard uare, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

rhead ★★½

m Mendes' adaptation of former Marine sniper thony Swofford's book about his experiences dur- the first Gulf War has narrowed the focus of the ry so much that it loses a lot from page to screen. dropping the background about Swofford lked-up Jake Gyllenhaal), who's foolishly fol- ved in the path of his miserable ex-Marine dad, as ll as the flash-forwards to his post-war encounters th his comrades (who, like him, aren't doing so ll), the movie becomes more about the war than e people fighting it. But, as a movie chronicling e absurdity of the Gulf War, aka "The Media ar"—with Swofford's platoon waiting in the Gulf six months for the war to begin and then seeing stratingly little action—this runs a distant second 1999's more inventive *Three Kings*. Stripped of offord's tangents, it's rendered fairly conventional: u have the scared, confused foot soldiers (with ter Sarsgaard and Lucas Black also among the st), the hard-working staff sergeant (Jamie Foxx) d the oblivious senior officer who cares only about s power (Dennis Haysbert). What's here is decent, t it might have been less generic had it dared to be re adventurous. (At Boston Common, Fenway d suburbs.)

orth Country ★★½

re's a question: Is it more palatable when an scar-craving, one-dimensional tale of heroism mes from talented people than when it's made by e usual bunch of hacks? I guess it elevates things a tle—hence the mixed reaction rather than repul- n to this based-on-reality tale of Josey Aimes Charlize Theron), the Minnesota iron-mine rker who was the first woman to win a sexual ha- ssment suit. This single mom sued the iron mine here the female workers were outnumbered 30 to e and repeatedly bullied and belittled by the men th down in the pit and upstairs in management.

Sweet 'n' Nasty

Sarah Silverman jokes in *Jesus is Magic*.

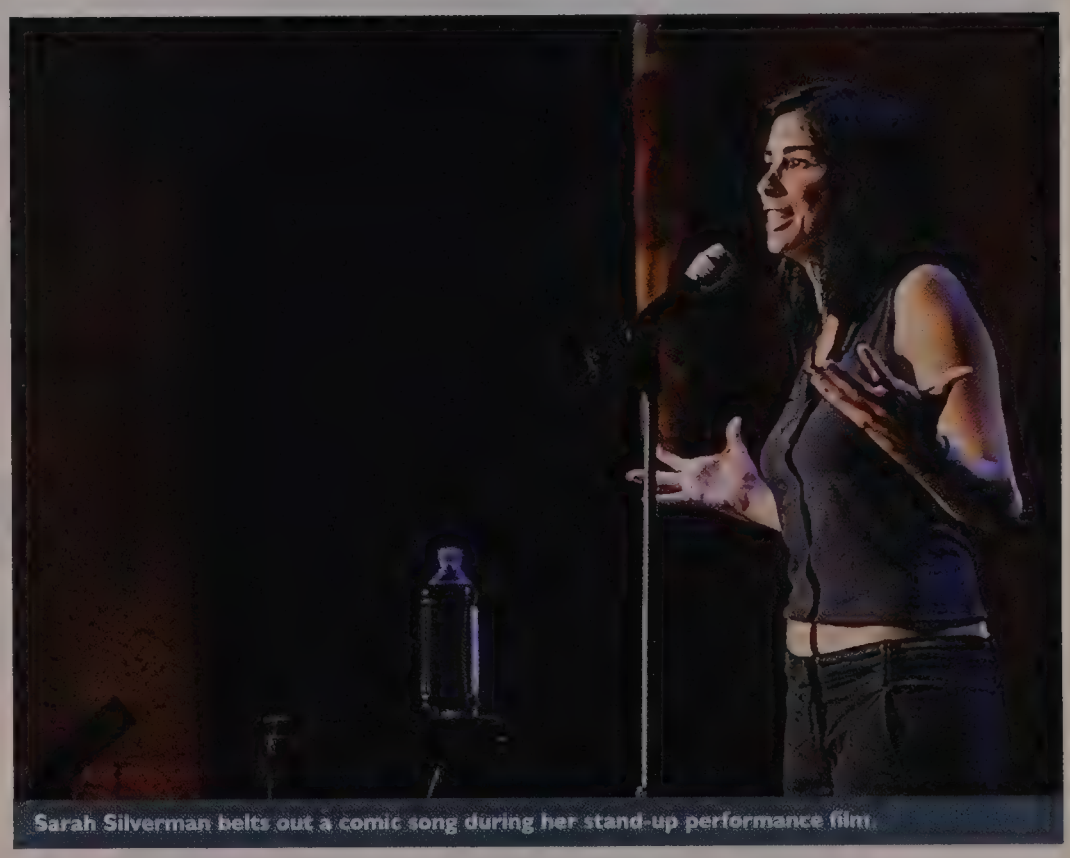
BY PAUL SHERMAN

"I don't care if you think I'm racist," Sarah Silverman says at one point in her performance film *Sarah Silverman: Jesus is Magic*. "I just want you to think I'm thin."

That joke, which starts with a confrontational swagger but ends up making fun of Silverman's own vanity, nails much of the appeal of the New Hampshire native's stand-up comedy. It's bad taste with a purpose. And, more importantly, with a lot of laughs.

A veteran of *The Larry Sanders Show*, *Saturday Night Live* (briefly), *Mr. Show with Bob and David* and just about everything on the Comedy Central schedule, Silverman's memorable performance in this year's long-running comedy documentary *The Aristocrats* was typical of her talent. While other comics riffed on the extreme vaudeville joke that gives the movie its title in third person, Silverman told it in first person, adding another layer of creepiness and vulnerability to it.

In *Sarah Silverman: Jesus is Magic*, she gets the entire 72 minutes to herself. The movie, directed by Liam Lynch (who's also directing the upcoming Tenacious D movie), essentially has a cable stand-up special format, with a story frame at the beginning and end, and a few cut-away scenes in the middle of the stand-up act. The story frame is better than most, though, with Brian Posehn (*Mr. Show*) and Laura Silverman (Sarah's sister, from *Dr. Katz, Professional Therapist*) playing friends of Sarah who are gushing about all of their professional successes to her, as she feigns being happy for them.



Sarah Silverman belts out a comic song during her stand-up performance film.

When they ask what she's been up to, she starts making up stuff about a "play/movie. It's about the Holocaust...and AIDS. But it's funny." Throw in some other "unfunny" subjects, like Judaism, Sept. 11, sex and race relations, and she's pretty much described what *Sarah Silverman: Jesus is Magic* turns out to be.

Recalling both Andy Kaufman and Lenny Bruce in her comic approach, Silverman is not afraid to make her audience feel uncomfortable (like Kaufman) or to challenge its preconceptions about other people (like Bruce). In Silverman's case, much of that is accomplished by playing her girlish, attractive looks against the brash things she says. At one point in her stand-up act, she talks about people blaming the Jews for killing Jesus, but instead of being defensive and parrying the charge, she just cops to it and says, "I'd do it again in a second." In a similar moment of playful belligerence, later on she says, "Listen, Martin Luther King, I had a f***ing dream, too."

Silverman's Judaism, as well as her whiteness, is a central topic of her stand-up act. And the tribes into which we divide ourselves are perhaps her greatest source of comedy. She brings up the incident in which some branded her a racist for using a derogatory term for Chinese people in a joke mocking racism on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, and mentions how an appearance on a different show to talk about the scandal led to an enlightening moment. That's when the second show's producer told her to replace an anti-black term with the "n-word," but to go ahead and say the anti-Chinese epithet. Bursting any bubble about how enlightened we've become, Silverman concludes we now only make fun of people we're not afraid of, like midgets.

There are some old jokes in here, but since Silverman never had a stand-up cable special, it's understandable that she includes some of her best late-1990s material for posterity. The surprise in *Jesus is Magic* is its handful of songs, which are usually presented as off-stage production numbers. The best of these is the first, after Silverman realizes she has to come up with the show she's lied to her friends about, while one set in her late grandmother's nursing home ("It's not cold in here / You're just dying") has a Stephen Lynch sick-and-twisted quality, and another that mines cultural stereotypes to complete the phrase "I love you more than" makes bold use of the uncomfortable silences Silverman also regularly works into her act. But the bit that flits between Silverman on-stage, and on two studio sets, spoofing Isabella Rossellini in *Blue Velvet* in one and a gesticulating preacher in the other, comes off as awfully scattered.

A few other moments miss, too, including a backstage skit featuring Bob Odenkirk as Sarah's manager and a brief bit involving the stage manager at the theater where she's performing. But the movie gets in gear quickly, packs in the laughs and sends you on your way before you're sick of it—three things few comedies achieve. IB

Sarah Silverman: Jesus is Magic ★★★

Directed by Liam Lynch. Written by Sarah Silverman. With Sarah Silverman, Brian Posehn, Laura Silverman and Bob Odenkirk. Not Rated. At Kendall Square.

In *Bee Season*, Flora Cross plays 11-year-old Ellie, whose father (Richard Gere) takes an interest in her spelling ability.

The story, reminiscent of *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* and *Norma Rae*, wisely covers the range of knocks Josey suffers, and in her first American movie, director Niki Caro (*Whale Rider*) keeps things respectable, while Theron never grandstands as Josey. But the "big" Oscar-clip moments still evoke a cringe or two, even though they're delivered by such sturdy players as Frances McDormand (as Josey's dying co-worker) and Richard Jenkins (as Josey's crusty dad). With plenty of songs by Minnesota mining country expat Bob Dylan. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Paradise Now ★★★

There have been other movies about terrorists, but director and co-writer Hany Abu-Assad's tale dares to travel to the epicenter of suicide bombing, the Middle East. Although we think of suicide bombers as zealots, Abu-Assad realizes that at some point such people make choices to do what they do. His movie's bombers, Khaled (Ali Suliman) and Said (Kais Nashef), seem almost like a West Bank Beavis and Butt-Head when we initially meet them. So it's a big surprise to see a friend inform these Palestinian pals they've been chosen for a suicide bombing to be carried out the following day. The very dramatic action doesn't so much follow their mission as it does their psyches. After a fascinating visual make-over and briefing, in which they're put into *Men In Black*–style suits and have belts of explosives strapped to them, it seems as if the story is fully mapped out. But a logistical snafu jeopardizes t mission, and the two have to decide whether want to try it again—a process that deepens our derstanding of these characters and throws in an predictable swerve or two. (At Kendall Square.)

Walk the Line ★★★

Writer-director James Mangold's Johnny C biopic isn't *Ray Lite*, it's *Ray White*: rural South upbringing, childhood tragedy, musical tal drugs a-plenty, 1960s meltdown, triumph comeback on the way to icon status. As Ja Foxx did in *Ray*, Joaquin Phoenix gives a str galvanizing performance as Cash, in a story takes him from farmland to Folsom Prison con and marriage to the woman he long pursued, Carter (Reese Witherspoon). It's that pursuit drags out the movie, though. Carter initially re Cash's advances because they're both mar when they first meet, then because he becom drugged-up wreck from not being with her. In dition to Cash's desire to please his forever-u pressed dad (Robert Patrick)—who sees Johnn inferior to his brother, who died as a kid—thwarted affair is about the only motivation w given for our hero. Phoenix gives Cash an ea charm and Witherspoon makes Carter a s spitfire, and each gains points for doing his o character's vocals. But after a while you wan say, "We get it! He wants to shack up with Despite Cash's firery comeback at his Fol Prison concert (and its hit live album), the third drags because of the monotony of the suit, taking some pep out of an otherwise ev tive tribute to a musical legend. (At Boston C mon, Fenway and suburbs.)

Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of Were-Rabbit ★★★

Nick Park's 1990s pop-culture sensations retu their first feature, and it's a good one. The s motion clay animation rendering potty English ventor Wallace (voiced by Peter Sallis) and trusty (and smarter) dog Gromit is simply mor pressive than any other example of that sty animation. Gromit's facial reactions are fun and more subtle than those of most human ac and the dog also has more humanity than people. Gromit, of course, must pull his maste

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ight situations, big and small, again and again
ing the movie, which finds the duo working as
den-pest exterminators whose services are in
at demand because of their village's upcoming
etable-growing contest. When a supersized rab-
threatens to destroy the veggies, the contest
Wallace and Gromit's reputation, the two
ll, Gromit mostly) must save the day. Like
k's 1990s shorts, the movie is smart and playful,
the influx of celebrity voice actors (Helena
nham Carter, Ralph Fiennes) doesn't spoil
ngs a bit. In fact, those two are very funny as
posh aristocrats. (At Boston Common, Fen-
and suburbs.)

e Weather Man ★★

policy on Nicolas Cage movies is this: the
re neuroses, the better. Give me *Adaptation* and
tchstick Men over *National Treasure* every time.
Weather Man might be the exception to that
icy. It presents Cage's title character as a bun-
of nerves who always manages to mess things
with his family, no matter how good his inten-
ns might be, so it at least offers Cage a flawed
o to play. But director Gore Verbinski, who has
ked in very broad strokes in past movies like
use Hunt and *Pirates of the Caribbean*, tries to
ke a more substantial comedy-drama than he's
r dared. Yet at several points the former com-
rcials director goes for the shallow choice, like
aper clip inexorably drawn to a magnet. This
kes Cage's latest a movie that wants to have
stance, yet doesn't know how to create it. (At
ston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

pecial Events

ntemporary Turkish
cumentaries

*rvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-
-2222). www.harvardfilmarchive.com. MBTA: Red
e to Harvard. Nov. 25-26.* This series features
documentaries by emerging directors of the
kish cinema as part of the 10th annual Turkish
m Festival.

th Annual Boston Festival of Films
om Iran

*seum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston
17-267-9300). www.mfa.org. Through Dec. 4.*
e film festival features Mohammad Rasoulof's
n Island and Tamineh Milani's *The Unwanted*
man, along with 13 other films.

epertories
nd Revivals

dvice to Contributors

*bmit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Cal-
dar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is
r weeks prior to publication.*

OSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
ruce Lee and His Legacy

Nov. 28, 6 pm. **Shanghai Noon** *2000.* An Impe-
l Guard pursues a kidnapped princess with the
lp of a train-robber. Tom Dey directs.

Fighting the Fires of Hate

•Dec. 4, 2 pm. **Imaginary Witness: Hollywood and the Holocaust** *2004.* Daniel Anker directs this documentary, which explores the ways American movies shape our perception of the Holocaust.

BRATTLE THEATRE
Exclusive Theatrical Premiere

•Dec. 2-6, 5:15 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:45 pm. **Darwin's Nightmare** *2004.* Hubert Sauper directs this documentary on the effect of fishing the Nile perch in Tanzania's Lake Victoria.

Give Thanks for Bogie!

•Nov. 24-26, 5:15 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:45 pm. **Casablanca** *1942.* In this classic film, an American expatriate meets a former lover with unforeseen complications. Michael Curtiz directs.

•Nov. 27, 2 pm, 4:30 pm, 7 pm, 9:30 pm. **Treasure of the Sierra Madre** *1948.* John Houston directs this film about two friends who meet in Mexico to work for a contractor and their subsequent search for gold.

•Nov. 28 and 29, 7:30 pm. **To Have and Have Not** *1944.* Based on a novel by Ernest Hemingway, this film details a stormy relationship during World War II. Howard Hawks directs.

•Nov. 28-29, 5 pm and 9:40 pm. **The Big Sleep** *1946.* A dying general hires a private eye to follow his youngest daughter and keep her out of trouble, which only involves him in a series of deeper problems. Howard Hawks directs.

•Nov. 30, 5:15 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:45 pm. **Key Largo** *1948.* A man visits his old friend's hotel and finds a gangster running things. As a hurricane approaches, the two end up confronting each other. John Huston directs.

•Dec. 1, 5:15 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:45 pm. **The Maltese Falcon** *1941.* John Huston directs this thriller about a private detective who gets involved in a murderous hunt for a valuable statuette.

Repertory Series

•Nov. 23, 5:15 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:45 pm. **Touch the Sound** *2004.* Thomas Riedelsheimer directs this film about a deaf musician who proves that sound is felt through every sense in our bodies.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

•Nov. 29, 7 pm. **All the President's Men** *1976.* Alan J. Pakula directs this adaptation of the true story of *Washington Post* reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, who fought to reveal the truth about the Watergate scandal that eventually toppled the Nixon administration.

•Dec. 5, 7:30 pm. **Primer** *2004.* In this sci-fi mystery, two friends who are fledgling entrepreneurs face ethical dilemmas after they realize that the error-checking device they've built has time-travel possibilities. Shane Carruth stars and directs.

FILM AT MIT

• Dec. 1, 7 pm. **Poniente On** *2002.* Chus Gutierrez directs this courageous denunciation of racism against foreign workers in Spain through the eyes of a woman confronting her own past.

•Dec. 2, 6 pm. **Stupeur et Tremblements** *(Fear and Trembling) 2003.* A young Belgian translator arrives in Tokyo to work in a large corporation, only to become entangled in intricate office

Wallace and Gromit's West Wallaby home is overrun by captive bunnies in *Wallace & Gromit.*

New York novelist Truman Capote (Philip Seymour Hoffman) travels to Kansas to investigate a murder in *Capote*.

politics and a hierarchical system she doesn't understand. Alain Corneau directs.

•Dec. 6, 7 pm. **West 47th Street** *2001*. This documentary follows four people with mental illness off the streets and out of homeless shelters over the course of three years. June Peoples and Bill Lichtenstein direct.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Contemporary French Cinema

•Nov. 28, 7 pm. **Wesh Wesh, What is Happening?** *2001*. Rabah Ameur Zaïmeche directs and stars in his debut feature film about an ex-convict who returns to his old Paris neighborhood after serving a five-year prison sentence.

Film Architectures

•Nov. 29, 7 pm. **Aelita: Queen of Mars** *1924*. Yakov Protazanoe directs this eccentric comedy based on Tolstoy's story about an inventor who shoots his wife and flees to Mars. Live piano accompaniment by Martin Marks.

•Nov. 30, 7 pm. **Playtime** *1967*. This film satirizes the absurdities of modernist architecture in a Paris composed of modern office blocks and skyscrapers. Jacques Tati directs.

Harvard LBGT Film Series

•Nov. 30, 9 pm. **Boys Don't Cry** *1999*. Based on a true story, this film portrays the life and death of a woman living in Nebraska who passes herself off as a young man. Kimberly Peirce directs.

In The Trenches: Filming World War I

•Nov. 27, 7 pm. **Isn't Life Wonderful** *1924*. D.W. Griffith directs this drama examining the hardships that prevail in war's aftermath.

•Nov. 27, 9:15 pm. **Hearts of the World** *1918*. This film follows the travails of two American families living in France who are drawn into the horrors of battle when Germany bombards their once-tranquil village. D.W. Griffith directs, with live piano accompaniment by Yakov Gubanov.

•Nov. 28, 8:45 pm. **Oh! What a Lovely War** *1969*. Richard Attenborough directs this satire, adapted from Joan Littlewood's stage play and told mostly through soldiers' marching songs.

•Nov. 29, 9 pm. **Gallipoli** *1981*. This historical f focuses on the individual journeys of two yo Australian sprinters who become friends and join army. Peter Weir directs.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Friday Reel Rush

•Dec. 2, 8 pm. **Get Rid of Yourself** *2003*. Bernadette Corporation examines a group of ai chists known as the Black Bloc.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Engagements

•Nov. 25, 11:30 am and 4 pm; Nov. 27, 11 **Modigliani** *2004*. This film presents the life of Ita painter Amedeo Modigiliani in his final years. M David directs.

•Nov. 25, 2 pm; Nov. 26, 12 pm; Nov. 27, 1:30 Dec. 1, 2 pm; Dec. 4, 1 pm. **The Two of Us** *19* Based on director Claude Berri's own experiences child during World War II, the film follows a yo Jewish boy from Paris who is sent to live wit Catholic family in the countryside.

•Dec. 1, 4 pm. **Does Anyone Die of AIDS Anym** *2002*. In honor of World AIDS day, this free show takes a look at the reality of AIDS in America. Lo Hogarth directs.

Heimat 3: Chronicles of Endings a Beginnings

•Dec. 2, 8 pm; Dec. 3, 10:30 pm. **The Happ People in the World** *1989*. Edgar Reitz directs story about former lovers who meet again in Berli the evening of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

•Dec. 3, 1 pm. **The Champions** *1990*. This film tr the relationships between friends as they follow World Cup games. Edgar Reitz directs.

Latin American Film Series

•Nov. 25, 6:30 pm. **Ana y los Otros** (*Ana and Others*) *2003*. Celina Murga directs this portra a young woman who returns from Buenos Aire her provincial hometown for the first time years.

Photographers On Film

•Nov. 26, 10:30 am. **Ansel Adams: Photograp** *1981*. John Huszar directs this film, which foll Adams to the locations of his most fam photographs.

Dec. 3, 3 pm; Dec. 4, 10:30 am. **Ansel Adams: hotographer** *1957*. This portrait captures the hotographer describing his equipment and how he ed it. David Meyers directs.
Dec. 1, 8:20 pm; Dec. 2, 6:15 pm; Dec. 4, 11:15 am. **illiam Eggleston in the Real World** *2005*. Director ichael Almereyda tracks photographer William gleston as he travels throughout the United States.

irkish Film Directors Abroad
Nov. 27, 6 pm. **Short Sharp Shock** *1998*. Fatih cin directs this film following an ex-convict who nts to lead a good life, but is caught up in the bad es of old allies.
Nov. 27, 8 pm. **Between the Stars** *2001*. A 19-year-l falls in love while on vacation in Turkey. Seyhan erin directs.

USEUM OF SCIENCE
ugar Omni Theatre
Antarctica. The winner of the Prix du Jury at the IAX Film Festival features a helicopter view, scien-ic research and penguins. Through Jan. 1, 2006.
ighter Pilot. Stephen Low follows F-15 Eagle pilot nn Stratton as he trains in the Nevada desert before ing sent into combat. Through Jan. 31, 2006.
Mars 3D. Explore the landscape and learn the his-ry of the red planet. Through Feb. 28, 2006.
pecial Effects. This film takes a behind-the-scenes ok at the making of *Star Wars* Special Edition, *uzaam!*, *Independence Day* and *Jumanji*. Through Jan-ry 2006.

EW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
imons IMAX Theater
Aliens of the Deep 3D. James Cameron directs is film while discovering the strange lifeforms of e ocean floor. Through Nov. 23.
Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3D. his film presents previously unseen footage and pho-graphs taken by NASA. Through February 2006.
Polar Express. Robert Zemeckis' 2004 film about a ung boy who boards a magical train for the North ole is featured in IMAX 3D. Nov. 25-Jan. 2.
Sharks 3D. Jean-Michael Cousteau explores sev-al shark species using 3-dimensional views. hrough February 2006.
Wild Safari 3D. This film shows the African sa-annah from a safari jeep exploration. Through ebruary 2006.

Cinema Venues

RLINGTON
egent Theatre
Medford St. (617-646-4849).

ELMONT
tudio Cinema
76 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

OSTON
oston Public Library
00 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green ine to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Bartos Theater@MIT
20 Ames St. (617-253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

38 Cameron
38 Cameron Ave., Suite 100. (617-492-4091). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

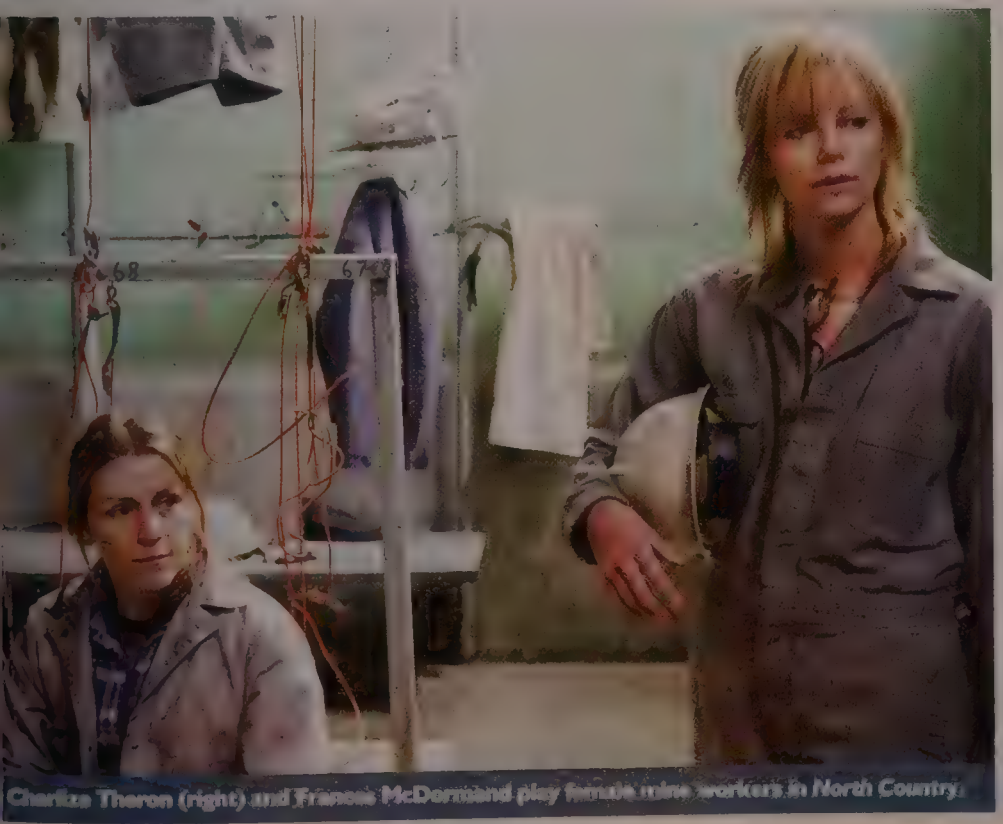
Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St. (617-876-6060). MBTA: Red Line to Central.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060). MBTA: Commuter Rail to West Newton.

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.


Charlize Theron (right) and Frances McDormand play female mine workers in North Country.

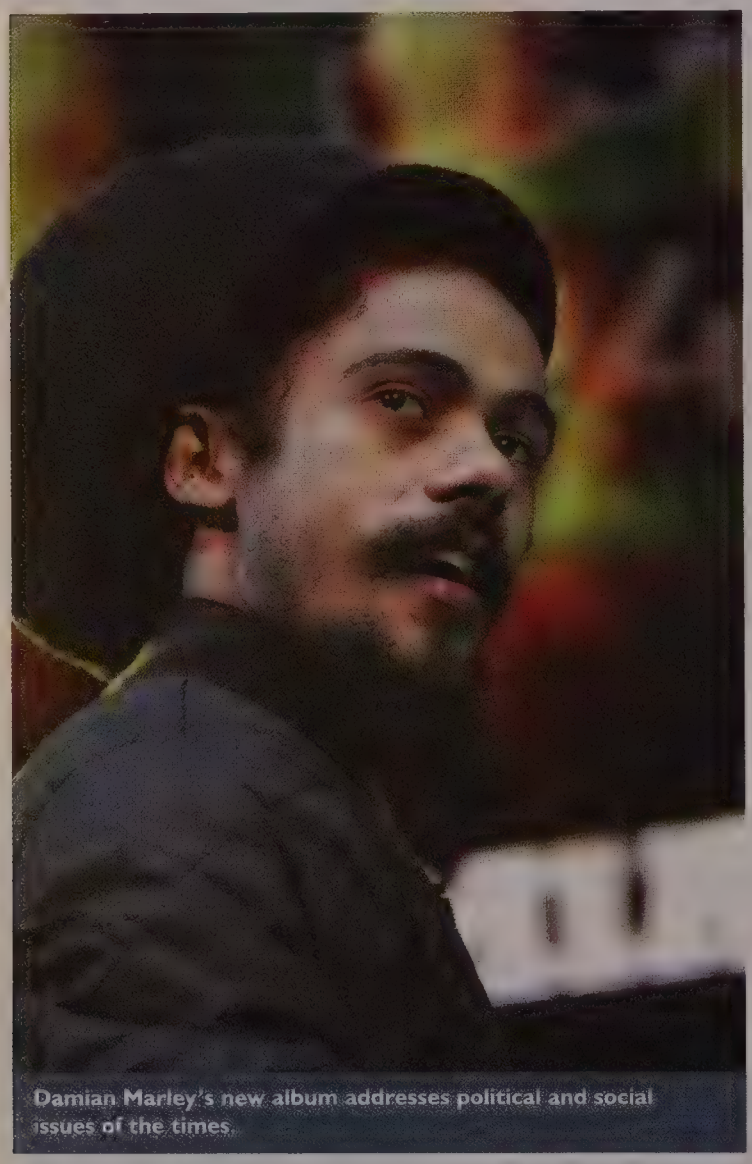
Blunt Instrument

Damian Marley reignites a reggae legacy with a modern edge.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

When Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley's *Welcome to Jamrock* drops visions of ghetto violence over a dubbed-out beat, it's a far cry from the mellifluous sound of his siblings in Ziggy Marley & the Melody Makers, or famed family patriarch Bob.

But the youngest son of reggae's first family reminds us that people usually think of his father's lighter music, such as "One Love" (heard in TV ads for Jamaican vacations), rather than such revolutionary songs as "Burnin' & Lootin.'"



Damian Marley's new album addresses political and social issues of the times.

Welcome to Jamrock fits the latter category, shattering tourist images of Jamaica with blunt, chanted rhymes such as "Di thugs, dem wi' do what dem got to / And won't think twice to shot you," plus a sinuous sample of Ini Kamoze singing, "Out in the streets, they call it murrr-der."

The album of the same name (one of the best-selling reggae debuts in history since its September release) also touches on such topics as drug abuse and family values, adopting a more conscious tone than recent dancehall reggae hits.

"For the longest time, no, you haven't had any real popular conscious songs to break in America or on the international scene," Marley says from LA, where he opened for U2 before a headlining tour that rolls into Avalon Nov. 30. "But you always have them in Jamaica."

The poverty and political violence raised in *Welcome to Jamrock* may seem far removed from the life of Marley, 27, the only child from his father's extramarital affair with beauty queen Cindy Breakspeare, Jamaica's 1977 Miss World.

"I grew up comfortable, yeah, but at the same time, I grew up knowing," says Marley, who now lives in Miami, but was raised in Kingston, Jamaica—uptown from the Trenchtown ghetto that spawned Bob Marley. "We're really not that far removed. I'm the son of a Trenchtown man who definitely had that connection, even mentally. You know that is where your root is coming from. Jamaica is a very small place."

"I know my father through my mother, through my brothers," says Marley, who was only a toddler when Bob Marley died of cancer in 1981. "We're very much our father's children, so that's very much a part of us. But really, the way we express ourselves is because of the people that we are."

Marley mainly uses the pronoun "we" to include step-brother Stephen, a more active collaborator with Damian than he was with Ziggy's Melody Makers. Stephen serves as co-writer/producer on most of the new CD, plays several instruments on it and is now on tour as a singer in his younger brother's band.

"I would put together the basic foundation of the beat and would write lyrics to that, then Steve would polish it and add phrases, and he does the mixing," Marley says. "My projects, especially previous to this one, are really overseen by Steve. He's always been my musical mentor."

With Stephen's assistance, Damian Marley truly comes into his own on *Welcome to Jamrock*, living up to his "Jr. Gong" nickname (based on his father's "Tuff Gong" moniker and bestowed by a security guard at the Bob Marley Museum).

"My father has always been a light for my career, because if someone doesn't know of Damian, he may know of Marley and because of that, he may pick up a CD and check it out," says Marley, who won a Grammy for Best Reggae Album with 2001's *Halfway Tree*. "Whether he likes the music or not, that's a different story."

There's plenty to like on *Welcome to Jamrock* beyond the title track. The Marleys artfully balance polish and grit, murder and melody, marrying their father's roots style with dancehall and deejaying, Jamaica's variation on hip-hop.

"In the '70s, roots music was the dancehall of the day, and now that [dancehall has] branched into this new high-tempo music, we separate it," says Marley, who credits dancehall for influencing his rapping or "chatting" style as opposed to singing. "But it's really reggae culture. Most of the artists that you'll hear as dancehall artists will also have songs that you'd probably consider roots songs. It's kinda like hip-hop and R&B, right? It's not too far apart."

In turn, *Welcome to Jamrock* includes seamlessly integrated cameos, not only from his dancehall icons Bounty Killer and Eek-A-Mouse, but also from R&B veteran Bobby Brown and hip-hop kings Nas and the Roots' Black Thought. The latter raps on Bob Marley's "Pimper's Paradise," the disc's only nod to dad apart from an "Exodus" sample in the booty-pumping "Move!"

"I always hear people say hip-hop grew out of reggae music and culture in a sense," says Marley, who performed next to hip-hop acts at October's Monster Jam 2005 at TD Banknorth Garden. "Both are of a very raw expression, a very true expression." iB

Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley
plays Avalon Nov. 30.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fa (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by e mail to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from dif ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provid accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahea to double-check dates and times (see complete list o venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Clay Aiken Dec. 6, Orpheum Theatre (617-931 2000).
Andrea Bocelli Dec. 3, TD Banknorth Garde (617-931-2000).
The Dandy Warhols Nov. 30, Paradise Rock Clu (617-931-2000).
Disturbed Dec. 2-3, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Donovan Dec. 4, Somerville Theatre (617-931 2000).
G. Love & Special Sauce Nov. 26, Orpheum Theatr (617-931-2000).
Gov't Mule Nov. 25, Orpheum Theatre (617-562 8800).
Damian Marley Nov. 30, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Morcheeba Nov. 29, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Mos Def, Pharoahe Monch and Talib Kweli Dec. The Roxy (617-338-7699).
Sinead O'Connor Dec. 5, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Piebald and Hot Rod Circuit Nov. 25, The Middl East (617-931-2000).
U2 Dec. 4-5, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931 2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Abbey Lounge Gene Dante, Alexis Babini, Je Root, Philpot, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
All Asia Café Open mike, 7 pm.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway The E-Water Band, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Ryan Montbleau, 7 pm, 10 pm, $1 members, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Disappearer, Purity's Failure an 1point3, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Felt Anna Freitas, Derek Rando, Cahill, 9 pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Booty Vortex, 8:30 pm, $8.
Lizard Lounge Dennis Brennan Band, Soul Low, pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Styrofoam, Alias, 9 pm, $1 18+; Downstairs: Sweetfist, Alchemilla, Sundown, pm, $9, 18+.
Regattabar Shemekia Copeland, 7:30 pm, 10:3 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club The Jinga Quintet, 9 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Bad Art Ensemble, 10 pm, no cove 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cove
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Bria Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Cake on Cake, Brute Choi Eisenhower Highway, 7 pm, $8.
ZuZu Ponies in the Surf, 10 pm.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Asgard The Steve Giannaros Quartet, 9 pm, n cover.
Avenue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cove
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Dodge Street Bar & Grille Delvis, 8 pm.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Po High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
Terrace Lounge Eric McFadden, 7:30 pm, no cove
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm, no cove 21+.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: John Havorka, th Black Clouds, Triple Thick, 9:45 pm; Pub Stag Todd Rourke, 7 pm, 21+.
Asgard Scott Damgaard Duo, 9 pm, no cover.
Avenue One Ronan Portley, 5 pm, no cover.
Axis Matchbook Romance, Armor for Sleep, Love drug and Gatsby's American Dream, 6 pm, $15.
The Black Horse Tavern Eugene Byrne, McTag gerts, 9:30 pm, $5.

ADVANCE SEATING

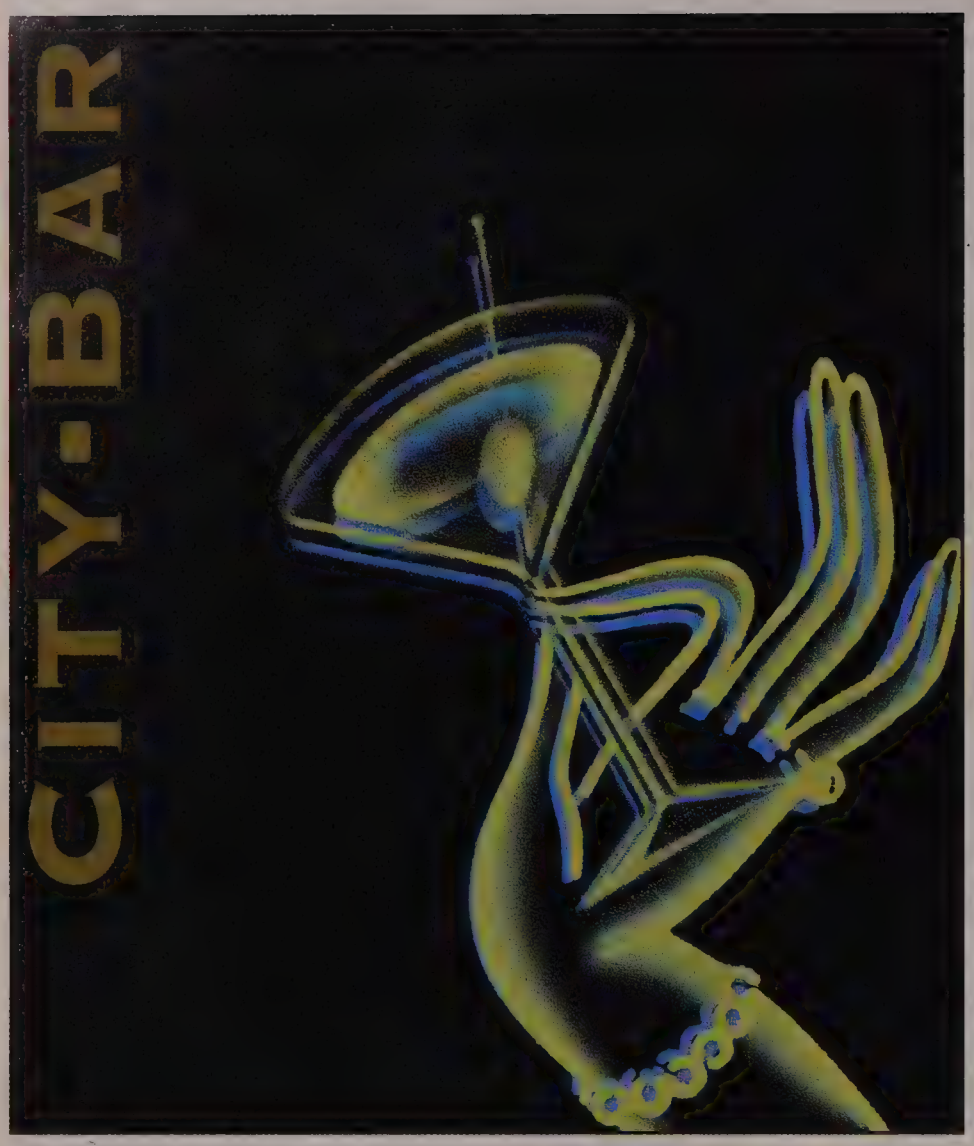
UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Fiona Apple Dec. 7, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Bon Jovi Dec. 9-10, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Cave In Dec. 23, Middle East (617-931-2000).
Dave Matthews Band Dec. 15, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Il Divo Feb. 2, Wang Theatre (617-931-2000).
INXS Feb. 10, Wang Center (617-482-9393).
Iron and Wine, Calexico Dec. 7, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Living Colour Dec. 14. Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Rolling Stones Jan. 13 & 15, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Sean Paul Dec. 8, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Sigur Ros Feb. 7, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).

ntab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
ub Passim Bob Franke, 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
ck's Last Resort The Big Idea, 8:30 pm, no ver.
dge Street Bar & Grille Three Toad Sloth, 9:30 n.
and Canal Freeze Pop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
e Green Briar Me & Julio, 10 pm, $5-$7.
e Green Dragon Tavern Grumpy Jones, 9 pm.
e Harp The Benderz, 10 pm, $10.
rpers Ferry Badfish, $15, 21+.
nnessy's Velvet Jones, 9 pm.
nny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10.
rkland Café Obasi, Clams, Jake & the Jakes, ickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5.
att Murphy's State of the Art, 10 pm, no cover.
ddle East Upstairs: Rocketscience, Say When, re Fiction, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Piebald, ot Rod Circuit, I Am the Avalanche, Hit the ghts, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
lky Way Holy Stalker, Juniper's Daughter, 9 pm, .
r. Dooley's Tommy and Alan, Rod Eile, 5 pm, +.
Brien's Ocean, Village Of Dead Roads, Shroud Bereavement, Sin Of Angels, 7 pm, 21+.
rpheum Theatre Gov't Mule, 7 pm, $25-$30.
ddy O's Cape Fear, 9 pm.
radise Rock Club Lounge: Suburban Sky, 9 pm, , 18+.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Shalabi Effect, Keith Fullerton Whitman, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Regattabar Kenny Barron Classic Trio, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Gilson Schachnik, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Earl Klugh, 8 pm, 10 pm, $32.
Terrace Lounge Mystique, 9:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg The Resonance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Lovewhip, Sidewalk Driver, Karacter, Angela, 8 pm, $9.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Pandas, 9:30 pm, $12.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: The Billies, Jason Bennett Band, Johnny Carnevale, Lorntell, Eli Paperboy Reed, 9 pm; Pub Stage: John Gerard, 7 pm. 21+.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, McTaggerts, Hughie Purcell, 7 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Gonzalo Silva, 8 pm, $12; members, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Mutha's Mistake, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Dodge Street Bar & Grille Alter Ego, 9:30 pm.
Grand Canal Complaints, 10 pm, $5, 21+.



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The Green Briar Inchicore, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Four Inch Stud, 9 pm.
The Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Contruda with the Old Silver Band, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Random Axis, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10.
Kinsale Brehan Law, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café The Highway, Hixx, Simon Ritt, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Hi8us, Hot Day at the Zoo, 9:30 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's Tastes like Gravy, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Sound Team, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Resonance, 9 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Rod Eile, 9 pm, 21+.
Orpheum Theatre G. Love and Special Sauce, 8 pm, $25.
Paddy O's Mark Morris & The Catunes, 9 pm.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Sweet Cheater, 9 pm, $5, 18+.
Parris The Benderz, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Beat Soup, In Discretion, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Regattabar Kenny Barron Classic Trio, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Adrian Legg, 7 pm, $20; Marta Gomez, 9 pm, $14.
Scullers Jazz Club Earl Klugh, 8 pm, 10 pm, $32.
Terrace Lounge Mystique, 9:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, Los Diablos, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm, no cover.
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sumie Kaneko, 1 pm, $7; Dunya Meyhane, 9:30 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Buckmoon, Ry Cavanaugh, Gato Male, The Scissormen, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Ocean Rose, The Collisions, 7 pm, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Jazz Brunch, 10 am.
Club Passim Erin McKeown, 6 pm, 9 pm, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm.
Dodge Street Bar & Grille Milo's Syndicate, 9:30 pm.
Great Scott Now Denial, They and the Childr Pretty Faces, Goat Island, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freezepop, 9 pm.
Harpers Ferry Blood, Sweat, and Gears, $7, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Zion Blood, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Clarias, The Casual Fias Speak Easy, 9:15 pm$9, 18+.
Midway Café Moxie Fever, Jordohn Bileau, An Dechant, 8 pm, 21+.
PA's Abernathy, The Braves, Jakuta and Carl, 9 p $8, 21+.
Phatt Boys Groove Authority Trio, 12 pm, cover.
75 Chestnut Maggie Galloway, Anthony Well 8 pm.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cove
T.T. the Bear's Place The Highway, The N Thirty, 9 pm, $6.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Ru Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Incus, 9:30 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Open Mike Night, 7 p 21+.
Berklee College of Music Yngwie Malmsteen, 7:3 pm, $20.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, cover.
Club Passim Nini Camps, Garrison Starr, Miche Malone, 10 pm, $10; members, $8.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Lizard Lounge Open Mike, 8 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Lady Sovereign, Ghisla Poirier, 9 pm, $12-$15, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Steve Reynolds, Pe Bradley Adams, 6 pm, $5, 18+.
Tír na nÓg Jessie Ciarmataro, 8 pm, no cover, 21+
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear pm, $3.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rus Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Fred Woodard Trio, 7 pm, $10.

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The Dandy Warhols play Nov. 30 at the Paradise Rock Club.

uZu J.WAIL, 10 pm.
es Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 8 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

bbey Lounge Main Stage: Donna Parker, The rindhouse, 1977, The Glass Set, 9 pm. Pub Stage: lort, Robby Roadsteamer, 7 pm, 21+.
valon Morcheeba, 8 pm, $20.
he Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
he Burren Open Mike, 6:30 pm, no cover.
antab Lounge The John Stey Band, 10 pm.
lub Passim Open Mike, 7 pm, $5.
ick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no over.
odge Street Bar & Grille Fats Hammond, 9:30 pm.
reen Street Grill Two Timin' Three, 10:30 pm, no over.
ohnny D's Paul Geremia, Dave Hull, 8:30 pm, $10.
insale Christ O'Connell, 9 pm, no cover.
izard Lounge Rose Polenzani, Brian Webb, 9:30 m, $5.
latt Murphy's The Public House, 10 pm, no cover.
liddle East Upstairs: Ara Vora, The Beatings, Lady f Spain, Scuba, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
lidway Café Gabe Plays Drums, Hands of Fate, alumet-Hecla, Tristan da Cunha, Piles, 8 pm.
lilky Way Nickel and Dime Band, 10 pm, no cover.
egattabar Obbini Tumbao, 7:30 pm, $12.
cullers Jazz Club Rick Braun, Peter White, Mindi bair, 8 pm, 10 pm, $37.
ir na nÓg David Johnston Band, 10 pm, no cover, 1+.
op of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no over.
T. the Bear's Place Wicked Automatic, Naked olk, Tim, 8 pm, $7.
ohnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, o cover.
es Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no over.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

bbey Lounge Pub Stage: Jay Allen, Doug Macdonld, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
ll Asia Café Open mike, 7:30 pm.
valon Damian Marley, 8 pm, $23-$26, 18+.
erklee College of Music Aaron Neville's Holiday Concert, 7:30 pm, $46.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Bethanie and Rufus, 8 pm, $12; members, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
Great Scott The Never Never, 9 pm, $5, 18+.
Johnny D's A Vote For Pedro, 8:30 pm, $8.
Lizard Lounge Dennis Brennan Band, Soul Low, 8 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Chainletter, A Wish for Fire, The 8mm Fuzz, The Nearly Departed, 9 pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Rogue Wave, Mazarin, Aberdeen City, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Leukemia Fundraiser with Josh Cole and the Households, 9 pm, $10.
Paradise Rock Club The Dandy Warhols,The Out Crowd, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Regattabar The Zen Tricksters, 7:30 pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Alfredo Cardim Trio, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Rick Braun, Peter White, Mindi Abair, 8 pm, 10 pm, $37.
Tír na nÓg Bad Art Ensemble, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place 6S, Rane, Kage, 9 pm, $7.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Peter Slavov Quartet, 7 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates En Clave, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Chris Evil and the Taints, The Call-Up, Wild Zero, Prime Movers, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Avenue One Andy Baer Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Sam Shaber, Flynn, 8 pm, $14; members, $12.
Felt Stephanian, Noel Christopher, 9 pm, 21+.
Great Scott Mobius Band, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara, Jama-Jigi, Afro Pop High Life, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Richard Buckner, 9 pm, $10.
Middle East Upstairs: Reverend Bob and the Darkness, Bell Bell Dogs, Kite, Sunchunck, Escape

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to Everything, Carmen's Condition, With No Remorse, The Ricecookers, 9 pm, $15, 18+; Downstairs: The Premiere of the Diaspora Funk Movement with Soulfege, The Foundation, Audible Mainframe, 8 pm, $10-$12, 18+.
Milky Way J.D. Natasha, 9 pm, $8.
PA's Glen Jones, Micah Blue Smaldone, PG Six, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Roxy Mos Def, Pharoahe Monch, Talib Kweli, 9 pm, $35.
Scullers Jazz Club Julia & The Zerounian Ensemble, 8 pm, 10 pm, $20.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Western Front Pressure Drop, Special Blend, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Christopher Schaub, 7 pm, $8.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Jack Grace Band, The Electric City, The Plain Janes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
All Asia Café Melodeego, Crashwagon, Mr. Salty, 6 pm.
Avalon Disturbed, Corrosion of Conformity, Dope, 6:30 pm, $32.50.
Avenue One Ronan Portley, 5 pm, no cover.
Berklee College of Music Ray LaMontagne, Brandi Carlisle. 7:30 pm, $28.
Boston Harbor Hotel Johnny Souza, The Ray Santisi Trio, 7 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Hillary Lindsey, Lori McKenna, 8 pm, $20; members, $18.
Grand Canal Bumpin Uglies, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Paranoid Social Club, Say When, Straight to Video, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Toni Lynn Washington, 5 Helena, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Midnight 7, Groove of the Day, Rollo Tomasi Quartet, Mickey Bliss, 9 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's Vibewise, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: 5'nizza, Markscheider Kunst, 8 pm, $45, 18+.
Midway Café Jimmy Hank Williams, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sinead O'Connor plays Dec. 5 at Avalon.

Milky Way Rock for Refugees Fundraiser with Milo Jones, Hilken Mancini, The Snow Leopards, Cyanide Valentine, 9 pm, $15; students, $10.
Paradise Rock Club Benevento Russo Duo, 8 pm, 18+.
PA's The Illegals, Holding Room, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Phatt Boys West End Blues, 9 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Soul Kitchen, 9 pm, $10.
Somerville Theatre Warsaw Village Band, 8 pm, $25.
Tír na nÓg Hot Day at the Zoo, 10 pm, no cove 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cove
T.T. the Bear's Place Frank Smith, Mittens, Ag Rings, Harpswell Sound, Tiny Amps, 9 pm, $9.
The Western Front The Tempting Fate Revue, 9 pm $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Seth Fruiterman Quartet, 7 pm $10.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Rattle Battle, Muck an the Mires, Slim Jim, The Mad Cows, Deep Purpl Helmet, 9 pm.
All Asia Café Franklin Kite, 6 pm.
Avalon Disturbed, Corrosion of Conformity, Dope 6:30 pm, $32.50.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Berklee College of Music Ray LaMontagne, Brandi Carlisle. 7:30 pm, $28.
Club Passim Lori McKenna, Hillary Lindsey, 7 pm 10 pm, $20; members, $18.
Grand Canal Red Square, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Great Scott The Subways, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Stoic, Unscarred, 1 pm, $10.
Johnny D's Bettye LaVette, Eli Reed, 9:45 pm, $15.
Kirkland Café Genuine Imitations, Propergande Line of Girls, Too Stupid to Blink, 8 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's Weisstronauts, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Harrvester, Eye of the Sun Incus, Sunday Girl, El Gringo, Arrogant Bastard Hate the Living, Force of the Fallen, 9 pm, $15 18+; Downstairs: Hexerei, Break the Dark, Escap to Everything, Death by Fame, Troll, $12, 18+.
Orpheum Theatre Brian Regan, 7 pm, $38.
Paradise Rock Club Raq, 8 pm, 18+.
PA's The Jumbles, The Honored Guests, 9 pm, $8 21+.
Phatt Boys Driving Blind, 9 pm, no cover.
Somerville Theatre Tim Piper, Working Class Hero 8 pm, $26.50.
TD Banknorth Garden Andrea Bocelli, 7:30 pm $55-$275.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5 pm, no cove 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, n cover.

The Cactus Club
presents
Tequila Tuesdays
&
Margaritas & Massages

Tequila Tuesdays - Build your own Sauza Margarita
Every Tuesday night, create your version of "Boston's Best" and automatically enter in our "My-Garita Contest" for a chance to win Rolling Stones tickets (Entries starting November 1st 2005)
Drawing will be held Thursday, January 5, 2006 Between 10pm - 2am. Must be present to win.

Margaritas & Massages Wednesdays
We thought you would like the sound of that! Every Wednesday from 6-8 pm enjoy a Sauza margarita & a free massage! (Starting November 2, 2005) We anticipate massages filling up fast, so get here early as we will not take names over the phone. While you are here sipping on your Sauza margarita you may also enter into our drawing for a chance to win Rolling Stones tickets being given away on Thursday, January 5, 2006 (Must be present to win)

Sauza TEQUILA

Cactus Club 939 Boylston Street, Boston 617.236.0200 www.bestmargaritas.com

T. the Bear's Place Certainly Sir, Chad van aalen, Haley Bonar, 9 pm, $10.
he Western Front Roots Nation, 9 pm, $10.

UNDAY, DECEMBER 4

gganis Arena Juan Gabriel, 8 pm, $59.
xis Funeral for a Friend, A Static Lullaby, Hopes-ll, Love Hate Hero, 7 pm, $14.
lub Passim Girlyman, 6 pm, 9 pm, $17; members, .5.
arpers Ferry Artis, $5, 21+.
att Murphy's Thousands of One, 10 pm, no cover.
iddle East Upstairs: A Loss for Words, Lannen ıll, a Hero Next Door, Therefore I Am, The Fells, 15 pm, $15, 18+.
A's New Radiant Storm King, The Kahoots, ɔouse, Lo-Fine, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
ıatt Boys Irving D Trio, 12 pm, no cover.
yles Jazz Club Johnny Hoy and the Bluefish, 9 pm, 0.
5 Chestnut Herb Pomeroy, Anthony Weller, 8 pm.
ɔmerville Theatre Donovan, 8 pm, $41.
D Banknorth Garden U2, 7:30 pm, $49.50-$165.
ɔp of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no ɔver.
T. the Bear's Place Dave Dondero, 11 pm, $8.
'onder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty ɔott, 9 pm, no cover.
eitgeist Gallery Howard Fishman, 7 pm, $20.

IONDAY, DECEMBER 5

valon Sinead O'Connor, 8 pm, $35.
att Murphy's Oshe, 10 pm, no cover.
iddle East Upstairs: Kiss Me Deadly, Miskatonic, he Living Sea, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
D Banknorth Garden U2, 7:30 pm, $49.50-165.
ír na nÓg Jessie Ciarmataro, 8 pm, no cover, 1+.
'onder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty ɔott, 9 pm, no cover.
eitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.

'UESDAY, DECEMBER 6

lub Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5; members, no ɔver.
reat Scott We're All Gone, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Green Street Grill Two Timin' Three, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Arthur Nasson, 8:30 pm, $6.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Dillinger Escape Plan, the Bronx, Between the Buried and Me, Horse the Band, 7 pm, $15, 18+.
Orpheum Theatre Clay Aiken, 7:30 pm, $49.50-$68.50.
PA's Akron Family, Barn Building, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Scullers Jazz Club George Russell Jr., Walter Beasley, 8 pm, 10 pm, $15.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston (617-227-2175). MBTA: Red Line to Park.*
Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Agganis Arena *925 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7000). MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul.*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*

Government Mule plays Nov. 25 at the Orpheum Theatre.

Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Warf, Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave., Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*

W.R. Designs

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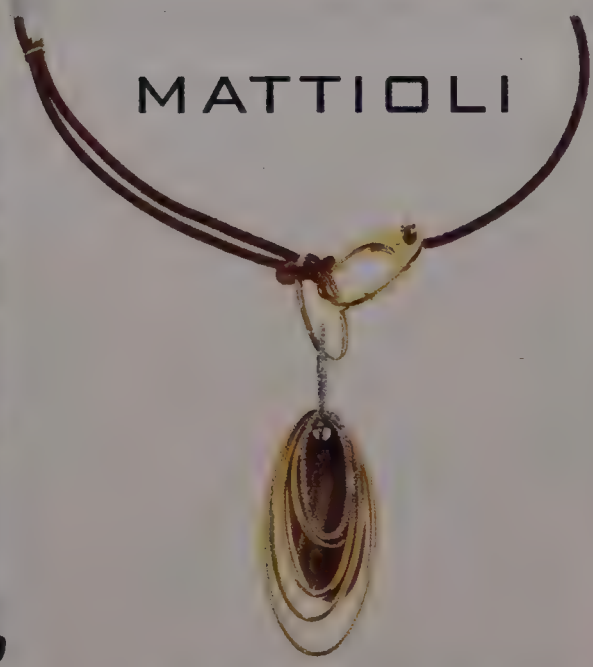

MATTIOLI

Paqéo
Fine Jewelry

One-day only • Paqéo **Boston**
Friday, December 2, 2005
11:00am - 6:00pm
33 Newbury St • Boston
617.226.0066

invites you to view **3 distinctive collections**; experience classic diamonds and the latest in cutting edge design, exclusively in the Boston area.

One-day only • Paqéo **Newton**
Saturday, December 3, 2005
10:00am - 5:00pm
843 Beacon St • Newton
617.964.4940

The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *Quincy Market, Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Dodge Street Bar & Grille *7 Dodge St., Salem (978-745-0139).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*

Mos Def plays Dec. 1 at The Roxy.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mobius *374 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416) MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-565(MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. Jam Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Lin Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245 MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Old Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somervill (617-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Squar*
Orpheum Theatre *1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617 482-0650). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (6 562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-880(MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-155*
Phatt Boys *50 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-2005). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Orange Line to State.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Centra*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Terrace Lounge *110 Huntington Ave., Boston (61 236-5800). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
TD Banknorth Garden *100 Legends Way, Boston (617 624-1000).MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station.*

Hot Rod Circuit plays Nov. 25 at the Middle East.

Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-28-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Venezia *20 Ericsson St., Dorchester (617-436-3120). MBTA Red Line to Ashmont.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $28-$98. Mezzo-soprano Lorraine Hunt Lieberson performs under conductor James Levine with the BSO for the premiere of Peter Lieberson's lyrical settings of Pablo Neruda's poetry.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Same program as Nov. 25.

The Greek Byzantine Choir

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of New England, 514 Parker St., Boston (617-661-1812). www.bemf.org. 8 pm. $21-$53. As part of the Boston Early Music Festival, the choir performs traditional Byzantine music under the direction of Lycourgos Angelopoulos.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Handel and Haydn Society

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $25-$79. Conductor Grant Llewellyn directs H&H's annual performance of Handel's *Messiah*.

King's Chapel Concert Series

King's Chapel, Boston (617-227-2155). www.kingschapel.org. MBTA: Orange Line to State. 5 pm. $8-$12. From Annunciation to Nativity: Music for the Advent Season features the music of Pinkam, Underhill, Brahms, Kodaly and more.

Newton Free Library Concert Program

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. Pianist Alexander Schwarzkopf showcases a concert of Bach, Berg and Schumann.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Boston Conservatory

Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. Free. Piano Masters features Idil Biret on the Turkish virtuoso piano playing pieces from Bach, Kempff, Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Legeti and Stravinsky.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Passages of Love in Life's Progress is a faculty artist recital featuring soprano Karyl Ryczek, pianist Wayman Chin and cellist Thomas Kraines.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St. , Boston (617-536-6340). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Veronica Jochum performs music by Bach and Beethoven in remembrance of the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $28-$98. Conductor James Levine leads the BSO as they perform pieces including Dutilleux's *Symphony No. 2, "Le Double,"* Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms*, Carter's *Boston Concerto* and Bartók's *Concerto for Orchestra.*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661) www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $41-$61. Classical guitarist Christopher Parkening and baritone Jubilant Sykes perform original works at this holiday program.

Boston Conservatory

First Church, Hale Chapel, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.

Alarm Will Sound performs at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Dec. 2.

edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6:30 pm. Free. Music on Marlborough presents prize-winning players from the Boston Conservatory as they perform Schubert's "Trout" Quintet.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $28-$98. Same program as Dec. 1.

Boston University College of Fine Arts
CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 12 pm. The Mirror Quartet performs Beethoven's *Quartet No. 12.*

Handel and Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $25-$79. Same program as Nov. 27.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-536-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7 pm. $15-$30. Alarm Will Sound, a 20-member band, performs the music of composer John Adams under conductor Alan Pierson.

MIT Wind Ensemble
Kresge Auditorium, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1980). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. $5. Director Frederick Harris Jr. and assistant conductor Kenneth Amis lead the ensemble in performing the works of Foin, Joplin, Schumann, and Schuller in celebration of Schuller's 80th birthday.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $28-$98. Same program as Dec. 1.

Longwood Symphony Orchestra
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.ticketstage.com/LSO. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$25. Pianist Meng-Chieh Liu performs Brahms' *Piano Concerto No. 1,* Butterworth's *A Shropshire Lad* and Britten's *Sinfonia da Requiem, Op. 20* under the direction of Jonathan McPhee.

TD Banknorth Garden Music Event
150 Causeway St., Boston (617 931-2000). www.tdbanknorthgarden.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 7:30 pm. $55-$195. Vocalist Andrea Bocelli, accompanied by the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra & Westminster Concert Choir, performs songs from *The Nutcracker.*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

Bank of America Celebrity Series
NEC Jordan Hall; 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661).www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $41-$61. Pianist Richard Goode plays five of Beethoven's sonatas, including no. 8, "Pathétique," and no. 26, "Les Adieux".

Boston Conservatory
The Boston Conservatory, Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. •4 pm, Free. Harpsichordist Lidor Dudas performs several suites by Jean-Philippe Rameau and Jaques Duphly *•8 pm, Free.* Women's Chorus performs pieces from Bach, Pergolesi, Fauré, Persichetti and Elgar under conductor Miguel Felipe.

Handel and Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7 pm. $25-$79. Same program as Nov. 27.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-536-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $5-$20. This Sunday concert series features cellist Wendy Warner and pianist Eileen Buck performing the cello sonatas of Brahms.

MIT Concert Choir
Kresge Auditorium, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1980). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7 pm. $5. Under the direction of William Cutter, the choir performs Handel's *Messiah.*

Wellesley College Concert Series
Houghton Memorial Chapel, Wellesley (781-283-2028).www.wellesley.edu/Music/concerts.html. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. 8 pm. Free. The Wellesley College Choir performs with special guests Handel and Haydn Young Women's Chorus

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

Boston University College of Fine Arts
CFA Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. The Boston University Percussion Ensemble plays the work of Cowell, Rockmaker, Takemitsu and Tan Dun.

Wellesley College Concert Series
Jewitt Auditorium, Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu/Music/concerts.html. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. 12:30 pm. Free. The Triple Helix Piano Trio Siblings presents In Harmony: The D minor Piano Trios of Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Boston Conservatory
The Boston Conservatory, St. Cecilia's Church, Boston (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. Free. This choral performance under conductor William Cutter features soloist Kerry Deal, tenor Thomas Gregg and bass Robert Honeysucker.

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of Gothic and industrial music, pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJs and drag performances, 0 pm, $7, 18+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel spin a mix of Middle Eastern nd international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Felt
T.I.N. Mondays This Service Industry Night includes free pool and guest DJs spinning high-energy dance, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no over, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, ip-hop, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no over, 21+.

Green Briar
ish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Havana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 $8 after lesson), 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Hakka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 0 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week, two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
T.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno pins house and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 1+.

TUESDAYS

Bar 33
Havana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban eff, salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after esson), 21+.

Embassy
DJ Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no over, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spin hits from he '70s and '80s, 10 pm-2 am, $3.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no over, 21+.

The Kells
Totally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic 80s music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Paradise Lounge
Mash Up Tuesdays DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop, ock, '80s and more, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
"Take" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 0 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin Top 40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Karaoke for Cash with Deb-N-Art.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances nd themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins ip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 9+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa Night DJs Hernan, D. Martinez, Antonio Ortiz and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes beginner lessons and karaoke, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
iPod Night Bring your own iPod and be an MP3J, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Soulcity Old school and 70s classics, 8 pm-12 am, $5.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Mike Bose spins hip-hop, rock and house, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
Famous Wednesdays DJ Tanno spins. Also featuring Zensai Japanese appetizers, 9 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Wentraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Oldies but Goodies DJ Russ McQueen spins hits from the '50s, '60s and '70s, no cover.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

Avalon
Fling Thursdays DJs spin hip-hop, R&B and Top 40, 10 pm, $15, ladies free until 11 pm, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

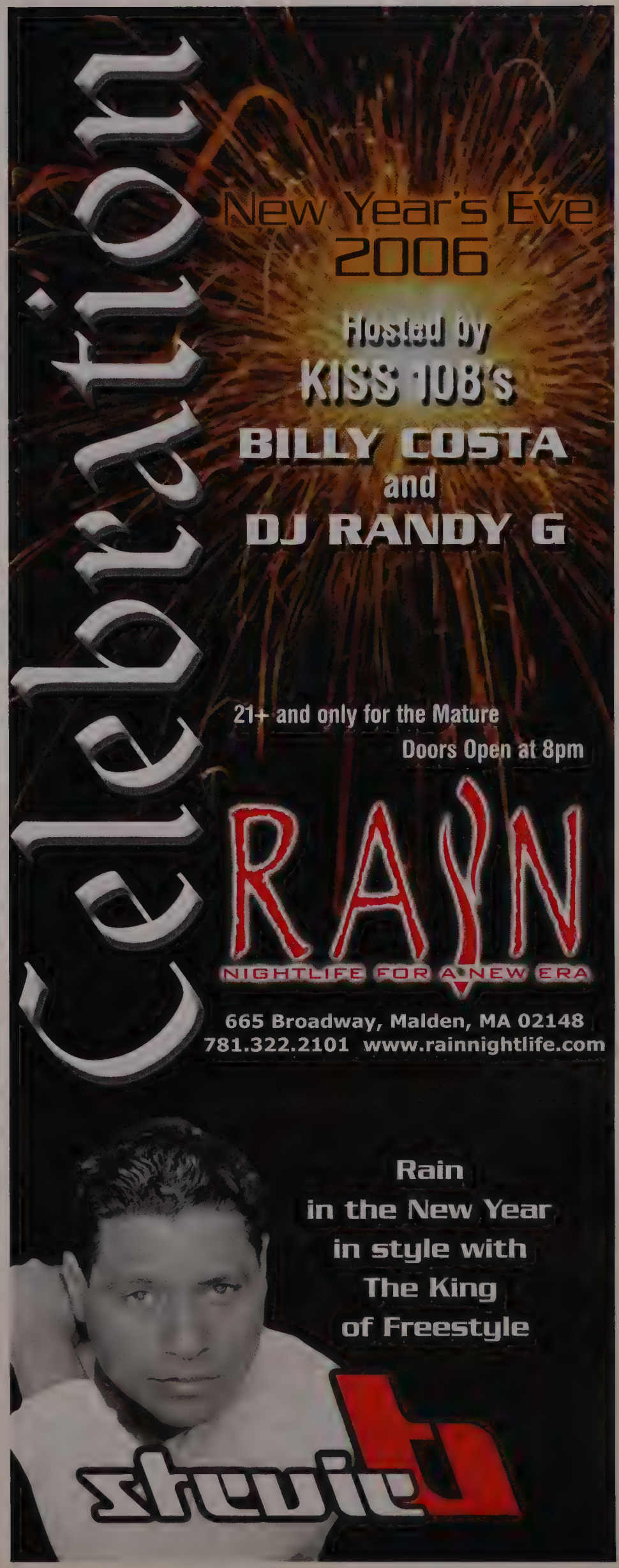
Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

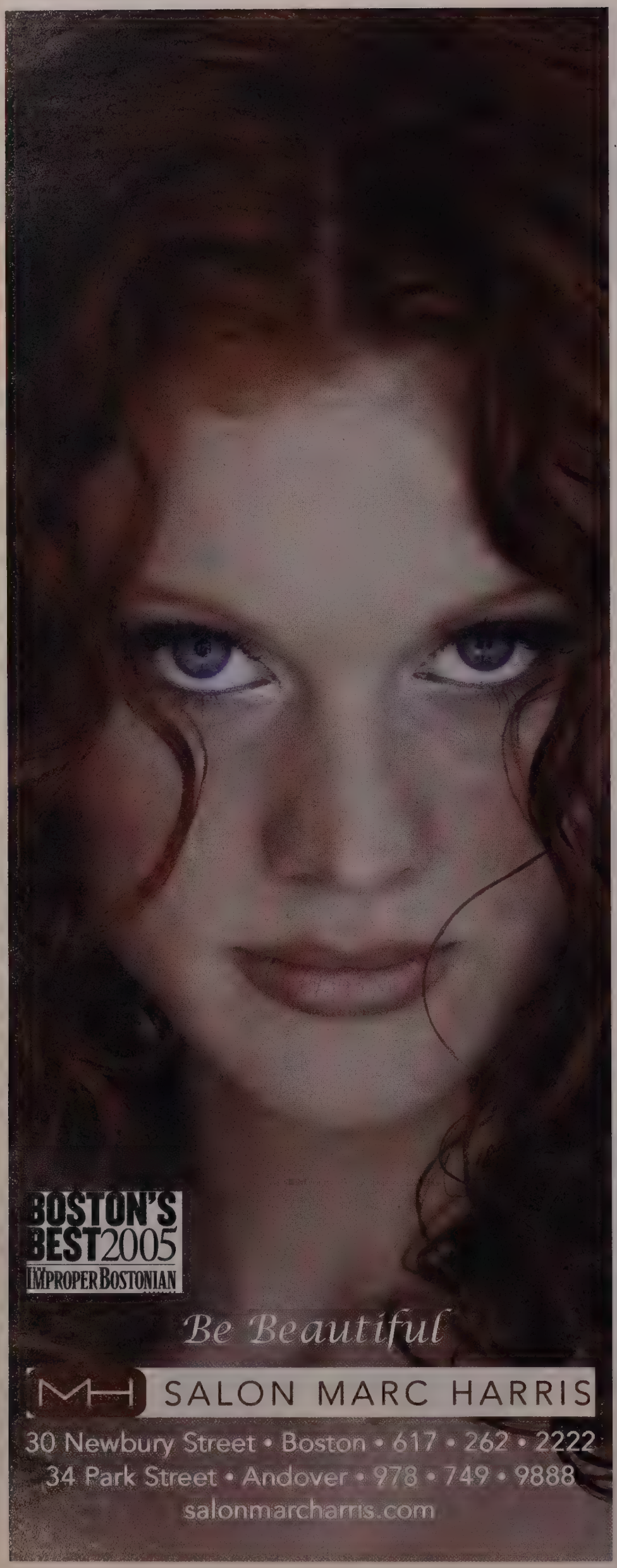
Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Dance Party Thursdays with DJ Mike Navarro, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.





Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Aphrodite host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
True Music Thursdays Featuring live performances, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama Jigi play Afro-pop highlife, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJs Edgar and Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban Jeff spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 before 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog prese drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $ 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and sam dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin par classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Rouge Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while Prolific spins R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm- am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dan ing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge mus 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hi hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Underbar
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, 11 pm.

Venu
=20 Thursday Hip-hop and house music, 11 p $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul a rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cov

WaterWorks
Buckwild Thursdays DJs spin Top 40 and house and host a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull riding contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.
West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Tim Collins spins Top 40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Aria
Vanity DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 pm, $20; 19+ ladies, 21+ men.
Avalon
Avaland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilkie, Alex Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.
The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and Top 40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.
Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning Top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Bill's Bar
Hot Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae and bachata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning Top 40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Caprice
DJ Kamal spin a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop, '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; after 11 pm, $15, 19+.
Club Q
Boston's Best Dance Party DJ Massi plays hip-hop and Top 40, 10:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Common Ground
DJ Dino Sound spins Northern Soul, 10 pm, no cover.
Cosmopolitan
Lesbian night, 10 pm-2 am, $5.
Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.
Devlin's
DJ Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Embassy
DJ Nyce spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.
The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.
Felt
DJ Jim Klerkin spins Top 40, dance and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.
Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Rob Wentraub spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Green Briar
DJ FK spins dance and Top 40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill
Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Gypsy Bar
DJs Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
The Harp
Friday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.
I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins reggae, $15, 19+.
Jose McIntyre's
DJs spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.
The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins Top 40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.
Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.
Liquor Store
DJ Howie spins Top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.
Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house, and DJ Steve Spinelli plays Top 40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hip-hop, no cover.
The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.
Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.
The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.
Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.
The Penthouse Club
DJ Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.
Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Place
VJ Laptop spins Top 40 and hip-hop, and TV screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P, 10 pm.
The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.
The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Rain
Vegas Fridays Las Vegas resident DJs spin.
Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, Top 40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.
Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.
Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.
Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.
Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.
The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Tantric Lounge
Hookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud 9 spin the music at this night featuring hookahs, specialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Tequila Rain
DJ Mike G spins Top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.
Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.
Underbar
DJ Franklin spins house, hip-hop, and rock, 11 pm.
Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.
Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.
WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin Top 40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+.
West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and Top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

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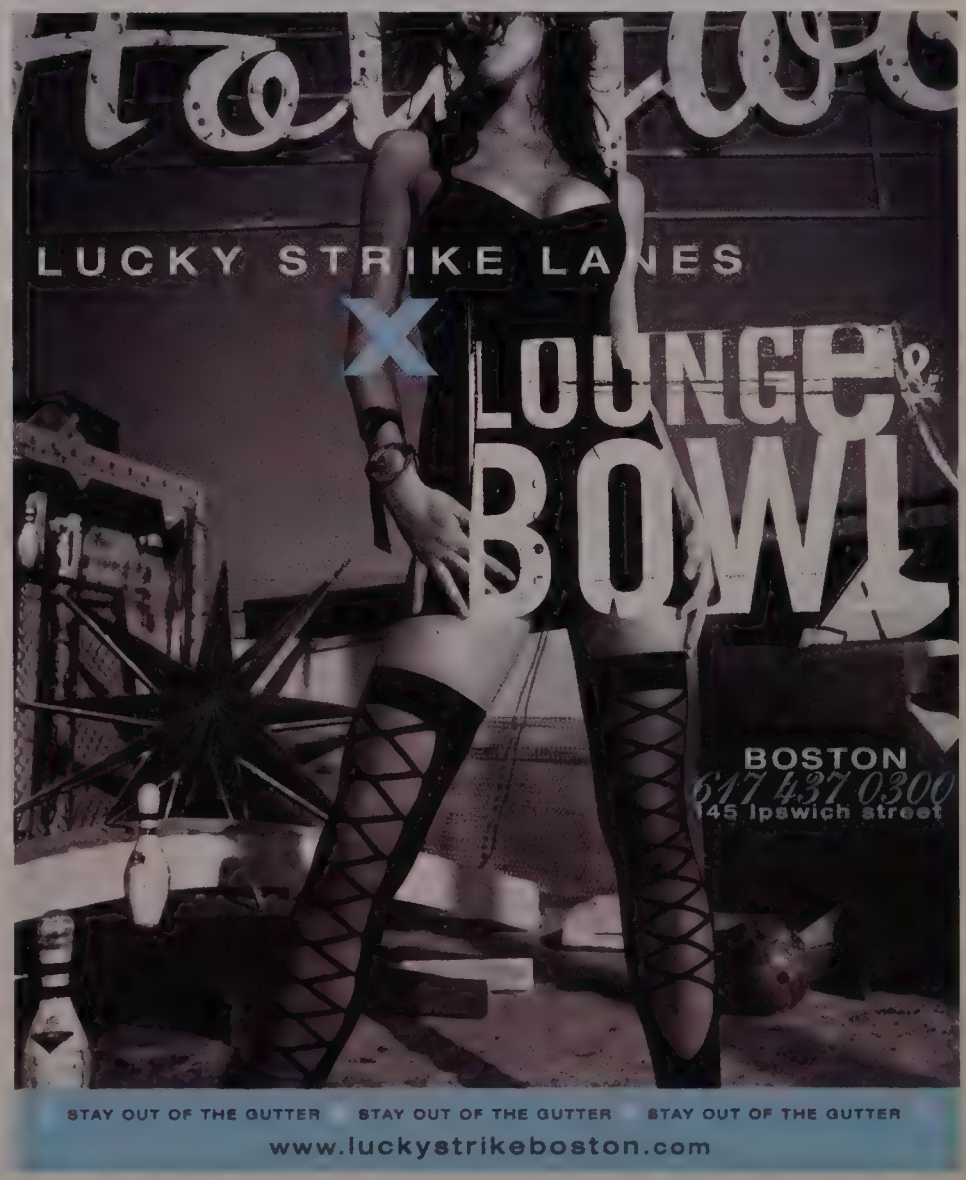


SATURDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Tim Collins mix Top 40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20; 21+ men, 19+ women with college ID.

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJs Big spins hip-hop hits, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning Top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and Top 40, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present Top 40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Rip Hernandez spins hip-hop, R&B, and dance, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Common Ground
Shake Your Ass Night DJ spins indie rock, $2.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Cosmopolitan Satrudays Top 40, Hip-hop, R&B, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
•Sensation Saturdays featuring DJ Val Beats spinning hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins music from the '70s, '80s and '90s, as well as vocal house, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJs Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
House DJ spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Fresh spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJs Peter D and Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Howie spins Top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+; $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
The Grooveyard DJ Yamin spins a mix of mash ups, soul, hip-hop, 9 pm, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, men $10, ladies $5 or free before 10:30, 21+.

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons spin minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 pm $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features DJ Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and Top 40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; men $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-energy dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
KISS 108-FM's Billy Costa and DJ Randy G spin Top 40, house, dance, disco and rock music, 10 pm.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styles of house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins Top 40 dance in the front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and Top 40 dance, 9 pm, $8.

Tequila Rain
DJ Mike G spins Top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, Top 40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of Gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Underbar
Global Entertainment Presents DJ Angel Moraes, 11 pm.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyball, 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays** DJs spin Top 40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 pm-10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and Top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Country Western Includes line daning lessons, 11 pm, $10-$15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $20; women 19+, men 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Caprice
Rotating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Club Q
International Dance Party 8 pm-2 am, $10.

Cosmopolitan
2-3-5 Presents Reggae vs. Reggaeton, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
Finbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Spot Rotating DJs spin top 40, hip-hop and house music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Groove Yard DJ Yamin spins mash-ups, soul, hip-hop, dancehall and more, 9 pm, no cover.

The Office
Utopia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests play deep, soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump House-music night featuring a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Point
DJ Itchy P, 11 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins Top 40 beats, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and Top 40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
DJ Danny Sharp and the World Premier Band provide Top 40, dance and old-school funk music, no cover.

Redline
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and rotating guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJs Nik and Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and international grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

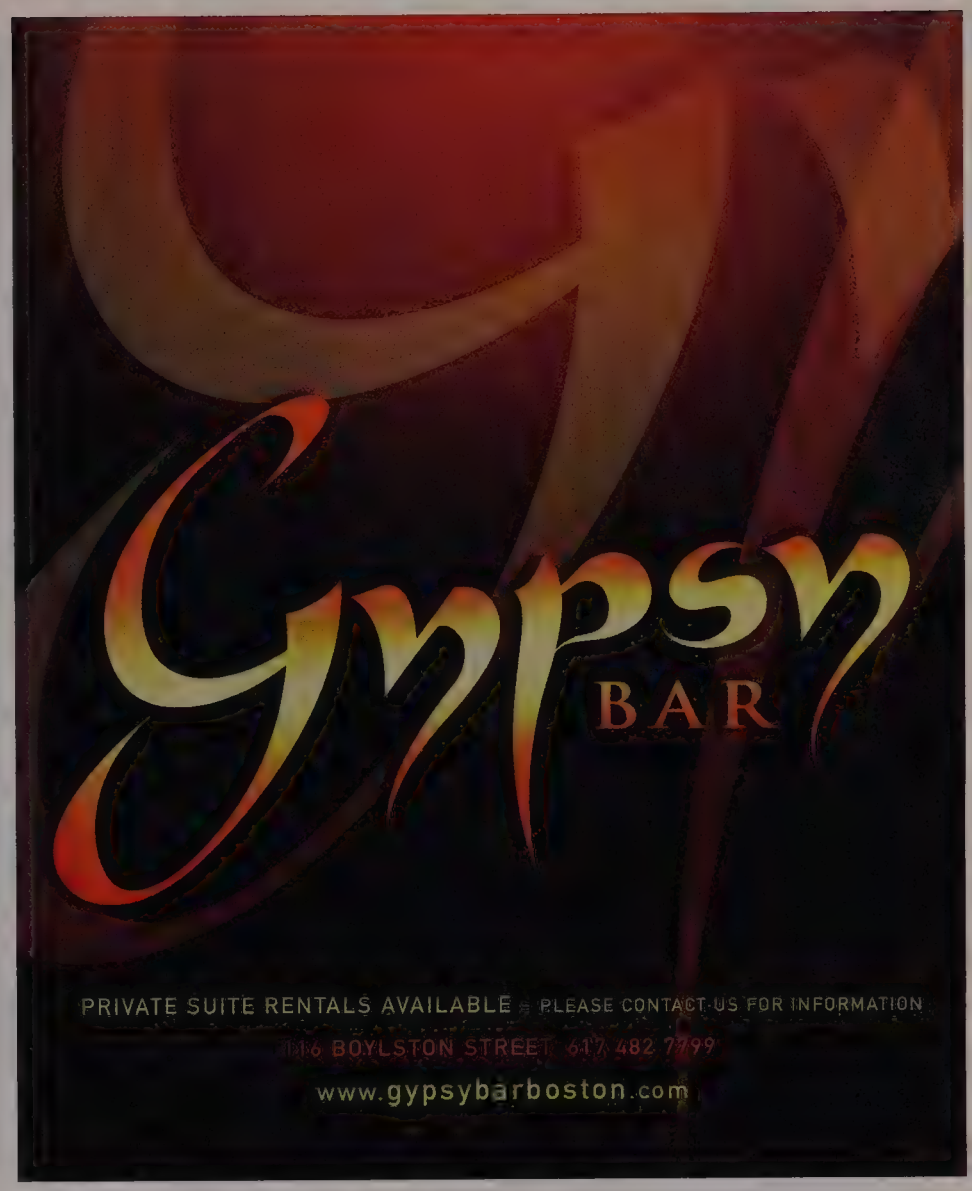
Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance hits, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyball, 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Smokin' Sundays** DJs Romeo and Randy spin, and Romeo hosts a Hawaiian Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am; $10 from 5-9 pm, $20 after 9 pm; 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
Anthem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *51/2 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Road, Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*



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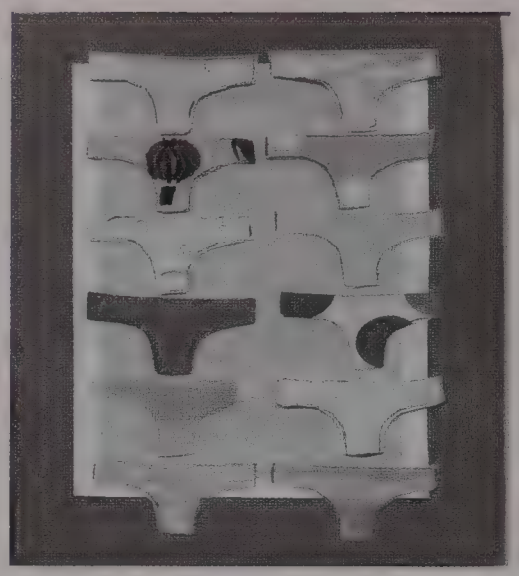

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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •*Degas at Harvard* displays more than 60 drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs by Edgar Degas. Through Nov. 27. •*Silver and Shawls: India, Europe and the Colonial Art Market* highlights the evolution of shawls and silverware during India's colonial period. Through Jan. 29, 2006. •*Evocative Creatures: Animal Motifs and Symbols in East Asian Art* explores the symbolism and significance of animals in the arts of East Asia through paintings, ceramics, sculptures, jades and textiles. Through June 11, 2006.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center

Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •*Extended Boundaries* is a collection of paintings, photographs, sculptures and films by the Wellesley College studio arts faculty. Through Dec. 18. •*Hold: Vessel 1* is a multimedia installation by Lynette Wallworth. Through Dec. 18. •*Brice Marden: Etchings to Rexroth* exhibits images paying tribute to calligraphy. Through Dec. 18. •*Aaron Nobel: Artist in Residence* exhibits a lobby wall project inspired by comic book superheros. Through Dec. 18. •A display of art from China, Japan and Korea runs through June 2006. •A new installation of modern art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6; children 5 and under, free. •*Robert Arnold: Zeno's Paradox* is a short, loopin video that experiments with the connections be tween zooms and stills. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Joh Huddleston: Killing Ground, Photographs of the Civ War and the Changing American Landscape* juxtapose historical images with contemporary photography the same locations 150 years later. Through Jan. 2006. •*Saga: The Journey of Arno Rafael Minkkinen Photographs 1970-2005* exhibits nude self-portrai incorporating the artist's body into a range of lanc scapes. Through Jan. 8, 2006.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har vard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50 students and seniors, $6. •*Rococo Religion: Four Ob jects from the Collection* displays two pairs of small scale religious objects from 18th-century German and Austria. Through Nov. 27. •*Stratification: A Installation of Works Since 1960* displays seven piece presenting various approaches to making art Through Feb. 26, 2006. •*Highlights from the Collec tion of Grenville L. Winthrop* exhibits 19th-centur paintings. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center

53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400) www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington Mon., Tue. and Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 10 am-8 pm Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Monument and Mem ory* honors the 200th anniversary of the Père Lachais cemetery through Susan Wilson's black-and-white photographs of the grounds and Paris. Through Dec. 1 •*Contemporary Parisian Street Photography* display David Lewalski's black-and-white photographs, captur ing the faces and interactions of daily life in Paris. Dec 3-Jan. 2, 2006.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Mon.-Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 9 am-12 pm. $7.50 students and seniors, $6; children 3-18, $5. •*Rober Turner: Rare Places in a Rare Light* exhibits images o North America's wildlands. Through March 26 2006. •*Climate Change: Our Global Experiment* ex plores scientific studies on climate and allows you t select a course of action in a computer simulation re vealing the consequences for the planet. Ongoing •*Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites...Treasures of Natur and Science at Harvard* features collections docu menting more than two centuries of scientific explo ration. Ongoing. •*The Glass Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka features glass models of more than 830 plant species from the Ware Collection

David X. Levine's drawings are displayed at OSP Gallery through Nov. 26.

going. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of rmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine elry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

titute of Contemporary Art

Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). *www.ica on.org*. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., l. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and ., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; Thu. r 5 pm, free.* •*Momentum 5: Paul Chan* features tical drawings, projected digital animations and eos. Through Jan. 16, 2006. •*Utopia, Utopia = World, One War, One Army, One Dress* critiy looks at the world through wall graphics, vits, sculptures, maquettes and films by Thomas chhorn. Through Jan. 16, 2006.

bella Stewart Gardner Museum

The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). *www. lnermuseum.org*. MBTA: *E Green Line to Mun. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; weekends, $11; ors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons named ella and those under 18, free.* •The perennial inlation *Holiday Table* displays a set dining table mbling the one Gardner used for her holidayon guests. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*A Closer k: An Introduction to the Isabella Stewart Gard-Museum* offers museum tours. Tue.-Fri, 2:30 Ongoing. •Special Exhibition Gallery Talks vide context to museum exhibits Saturdays at om. Ongoing. •The collection features more n 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furni-, manuscripts, rare books and decorative es, including works by Rembrandt, Michelan-, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

ry Baker Eddy Library

Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). *www. ybakereddylibrary.org*. MBTA: *Green Line to es/ICA. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $6; seniors, ents and youth ages 6-17, $4; children 6 and er, free.* •The Mapparium celebrates 70 years n a new exhibit showcasing its history and re-ting on the major changes in the world since 5. Through Jan. 6, 2006. •*Fractions of Time Well* t features images, artifacts and documentation sing on daily life in the Baker Eddy household n 1885 to 1911. Through Feb. 26, 2006. •The ary's *Historic Bible Collection* showcases rare les in the Reference Room. Ongoing. •The multimedia exhibit *This Is Woman's Hour...* highlights the life and accomplishments of Mary Baker Eddy. Ongoing. •The library displays a peace flag from the 1907 Peace Congress proceedings in New York. Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: *B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free.* •*The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons* looks at the role that Jewish women's salons played in Europe and America from the late-18th century through the 1940s. Through Dec. 4.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: *Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. Free.* •*Working Drawings for the MIT Bell Tower* displays Theodore Roszak's preparatory sketches for the tower. Through Dec. 16. •*Christian Jankowski: Everything Fell Together* is a collection of 54 photographs and 10 cinematic and conceptually based installations. Through Dec. 31. •*Critters* is a Media Test Wall installation of short videos of animals mimicking human attributes. Through Dec. 31.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: *Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $2; children under 5, free.* •*Finding Form: The Art of Richard Filipowski* celebrates the sculpture of a former visual studies professor at MIT. Through Feb. 17, 2006. •*Scopes, Station Wagons and Solder: Unexpected Images from the Rad Lab and RLE Collections* exhibits photographs from preserved negatives documenting the history of radar and electronics. Through June 11, 2006. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* is a multimedia exhibit focusing on the famed MIT professor, including his development of the electronic strobe and his groundbreaking photography. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.* •*Words of Thunder: William*

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Lloyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition celebrates the life and achievements of Boston abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison. Through April 1, 2006. •*Historic Gallery Talks: 19th Century Black Beacon Hill* discusses the determination of blacks on Beacon Hill in the 1800s. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17, school days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all other times, free. Thu.-Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed. 4-9:45 pm, free excluding special exhibitions. •*Ansel Adams* showcases works by the famous American photographer. Through Dec. 31. •*Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia* features more than 100 musical instruments. Through Jan. 5, 2006. •*American West: Dust and Dreams* presents more than 70 artists whose works reflect the American West. Though Jan. 8, 2006. •*Zhang Huan: Seeds of Hamburg* displays 12 chronological large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 16, 2006. •*West African Gold: Akan Regalia from the Glassell Collection* presents items crafted for Akan kings and elite including crowns, jewelry, sculptures, swords and kente cloths. Through March 26, 2006. •*A Much Recorded War: The Russo-Japanese War in History and Imagery* exhibits prints, postcards and photographs. Through March 28, 2006. •*Contemporary Clay: Japanese Ceramics for the New Century* is a collection of innovative, present-day Japanese ceramics. Through July 9, 2006.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, $13; children 3-11, $12. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers. Ongoing. •*Countdown to Supernova* is a planetarium show about the creation and death of stars. Through April 30, 2006. •*Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination* uses all six Star Wars films to examine the technologies of today and tomorrow. Through April 30, 2006. •Hundreds of butterflies and flowers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. •*Natural Mysteries* puts your organizational skills to work to solve mysteries. Ongoing. •The *Theater of Electricity* provides lightning shows daily at 12 pm and 2 pm, and Fridays at 7 pm. Ongoing. •Stargaze atop the museum's garage roof using the Gilliland Observatory Friday evenings. Ongoing.

Renia Platt's paintings are displayed at Gallery AA/B through Dec. 22.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Old Glory* displays patriotic magazine covers from the 1940s. Through Dec. 11. •*September 11: Bearing Witness to History* commemorates and reflects on the tragedy of Sept. 11 through photographs, articles and everyday objects. Through Jan. 1, 2006. •*Teenage Hoboes in the Great Depression* features letters, questionnaires and audio tapes documenting stories during the Depression. Through Feb. 16, 2006. •*Blue Monday: Doing Laundry in America* showcases a collection of laundry advertisements and paraphernalia from the 1700s to today. Through March 4, 2006.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*The Artful Teapot: 20th Century Expressions from the Kamm Collection* displays 250 teapots by more than 100 painters, sculptors, ceramists and artists. Nov. 25-March 5, 2006. •*Gifts of the Great River* features pottery from [illegible] Mississippi River area. Through March 30, 20[illegible] •*Air Lines: Photographs by Alex MacLean* capt[illegible] images of the United States from thousands of [illegible] above the ground. Through April 23, 2006. •*Mahal: The Building of a Legend* is a collection o[illegible] paintings and photographs exploring the s[illegible] Through July 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature: [illegible] tamed Traditions in Chinese Decorative Art* exhi[illegible] organic wood forms which appealed to Buddh[illegible] and Daoists seeking to connect with nat[illegible] Through Aug. 13, 2006. •*Exposing the Source: [illegible] Paintings of Nalini Malani* displays 40 works inclu[illegible] oils, acrylics, watercolors and videos by one of In[illegible] leading contemporary artists. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). w[illegible] peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harv[illegible] Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, children 3-18, $5; children under 3, free. •*Breaking Silence: Nineteenth-Century Indian Delegations Washington, D.C.* features photographs of Na[illegible] American delegates to the U.S. governm[illegible] Through Dec. 1. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arka[illegible] Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtiss Collection* is display through March 30, 2006. •*From Natio[illegible] Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collec[illegible]* features Native American artifacts from the exp[illegible] ers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006. •*Imazigh[illegible] Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20[illegible] century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Thro[illegible] June 30, 2006. •*The Moche of Ancient Peru* is a [illegible] lection of early ceramic art that gives insight i[illegible] the culture. Through June 2007.

Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (7[illegible] 736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: C[illegible] muter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun., 12-5 [illegible] $3. •*Alvin Lucier: Chambers* explores the char[illegible] teristics of enclosed spaces. Through Dec. [illegible] •*Fred Tomaselli: Monsters of Paradise* displays [illegible] lage-style paintings that blend natural and unr[illegible] ural worlds. Through Dec. 11. •*"Post" and Af[illegible] Contemporary Art from the Brandeis University C[illegible] lection* displays works from the 1980s and '[illegible] Through April 9, 2006.

pecial Events

st Annual Crafts Showcase
okline Arts Center, 86 Monmouth St., Brookline 7-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. TA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Dec. 1-18, Mon.-, 9 am-4:30 pm. Free. The 31st Annual Crafts wcase allows shoppers to browse and purchase ctic and unique pieces of art for the holiday on.

rd Annual Antiques Show
ody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-9500). www.pem.org. Nov. 26-27, 10 am-5 pm. ; seniors, $11; students, $9; 16 and under and lents of Salem, free. Over 30 dealers from England across the United States showcase silver, iture, paintings, porcelain, jewelry and decorative ssories. Proceeds from the show support the eum's education programs.

alleries

NE ART

me Fine Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). w.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling- Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm by appointment. •The paintings of Agnes Wein-, Blanche Lazzell, and Grace Martin Taylor are ured in *Pioneers of Early Modernism*. Through 23.

ams Gallery
olk University Law School, 120 Tremont St., Boston 7-305-1782). www.suffolk.edu/adams_gallery. TA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Mon.-Sun., 10 6 pm. Free. •*Touching All the Bases: A Red Sox tory* explores the history of the Boston Red Sox ough photographs, cartoons and artifacts. Through 28, 2006.

anza Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). MBTA: en Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; ., 12-5 pm. •*Holiday Adornment: 12 Jewelers* fea- s artists working with metal, glass and semi-pre- is stones. Through Dec. 31.

tana
'8 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-1). www. artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green e to Coolidge Corner. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; ., 10 am-7 pm; and by appointment. •*The Col- of Light IV* showcases the realist paintings of hleen McDonough, who explores the qualities ight in her work. Through Nov. 30.

t Interactive
Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). w.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. -Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Glowlab: Open* features several erent artists each weekend leading workshops, rs and other activities. Through Dec. 11.

rbara Krakow Gallery
Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). w.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Robert ttingham's *An American Alphabet* displays the rk of the photorealist. Through Dec. 7. •Jeff rrott's painting exhibition *Nature of Things* is on play through Dec. 7.

erenberg Gallery
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www. enberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back y. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Cher d Gabriel Schaffer present *Two of a Kind: Visions*, rks of mixed media on paper. Through Dec. 23.

ernard Toale Gallery
0 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www. nardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back y. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm and by appoint- nt. •*All Things to Center* features sculptures by eg Mencoff. Through Nov. 26.•Heide Fasnacht plays her work in *Jump Zone*. Through Nov. 26.

oston Center for the Arts
lls Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-35). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ck Bay. Wed., Thu., Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri.-Sat., 12- pm. •*The 19th Drawing Show* exhibits various ists' wall drawings with influences from graffiti, t LeWitt's wall drawings and installations. rough Jan. 8, 2006.

oston Sculptors Gallery
6 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-776-3410). ww.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to opley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •This year's holi- y group show *B-Side* features pieces that are flip- les to usual artist-solo exhibitions, placed on the verse side of vinyl records. Through Dec. 24.

romfield Art Gallery
0 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). ww.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm. •Sally Lutz's painting *Traveller* is on display in Gallery One, while Sarah Lutz's *Congeries* is in Gallery Two. Both run through Nov. 26. •*Twelve by Welve* includes paintings and drawings. Nov. 30-Dec. 17.

Cambridge Art Association
Kathryn Schultz Gallery, 25R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. University Place Gallery, 124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-1 pm. www. cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •In *Wigglescapes* Lisa Jeanne Graf exhibits her landscapes drawn in various media. At the Kathryn Schultz Gallery through Nov. 30. •*RED*, which focuses on more than the color, is on display through Jan. 19, 2006 at the University Place Gallery.

Cambridge Arts Council Gallery
344 Broadway, Cambridge (617-349-4380). www.cambridgeartscouncil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Mon., Wed., Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm; Tue., 8:30 am-5 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-12 pm. •*dimensions variable, site fixed* exhibits a collection of works by local artisits charged with creating a new work for Cambridge. Through Dec. 28.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Zapatistas* features Norma Suarez's photographs documenting the Mexican Zapatista struggle. Through Dec. 9. •Pablo Gonsalez's *Sacrificios* deals with Chicano cultural issues through paintings and an installation. Through Dec. 23.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Debra Fritts* exhibits her terra-cotta sculptures layered with object marks and colorants. Through Nov. 26. •*Whitney River* features an oil-on-canvas approach to organic objects. Through Nov. 26. •*Nathan Wilson* exhibits oil-on-canvas landscape depictions. Dec. 1-30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Laurent Schkolnyk: Mezzotints* exhibits a variety of color mezzotints. Through Jan. 7, 2006. •*19th-Century American Landscapes* features classic oil landscapes. Through Jan. 7, 2006. •*On the Move: Transportation in Art* displays drawings by several artists, all of whom deal with the subject of travel. Through Jan. 7, 2006.

Claygo Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). www.claygo.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*Is it Soup Yet?* exhibits ceramics for gourmet dining. Through Dec. 16.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Escapes* displays Suzanne Crocker's oil paintings of New England barns. Through Nov. 29. •CSA members display their work in various media in *Small Works*. Dec. 1-23.

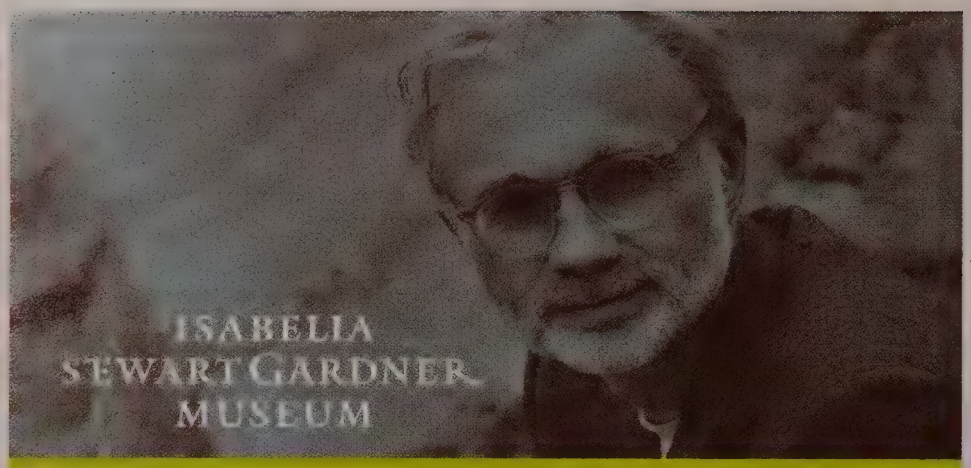
Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* exhibits paintings by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

DTR Modern Galleries
167 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-9700). www.dtrmodern.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri.-Sat., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 11 am-6 pm. • Selected works from the DTR collection are for sale and on display in *Unique Selections of Modern Art for the Holiday Shopper*. Through Dec. 30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-9 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. • *Off the Wall* exhibits sculptures by Julie Levesque and Sally Moore. Through Dec. 3.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An exhibition of paintings, sculptures and fine prints features works from the 15th to 20th centuries. Ongoing.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Fri., 12-5:30 pm; Sat. 12-5 pm. •Patricia Burson and Renia Platt display paintings



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of Provincetown dunescapes and New England interior scenes. Through Dec. 22.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •Judith Maloney's *Northern Edge* features her most recent paintings. Through Dec. 10. •A group exhibition features paintings, drawings and photographs by Gallery Katz artists. Ongoing.

Gallery Kayafas
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-0411). www.gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Eric Lewandowski exhibits black and white photos, while Shuli Hallak presents color prints. Through Nov. 26. •*Brief Encounters with the Dead* showcases Herb Greene's photographs of the Grateful Dead. Dec. 1-Jan. 14, 2006.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • *Under Cover: Upholstery in Contemporary Furniture* features modern approaches to furniture upholstery by multiple artists. Through Dec. 17.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*A Selection from the Past 20 Years* features paintings and sculptures by John Franklin. Through Nov. 29. •Fred Faudie showcases his digital photography in *Dickinson Suite at Home*. On display through Nov. 30.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Susan Jane Belton's *Coffee Cup Paintings* features a series of oil-on-panel representations of different coffee cups. Through Dec. 23. •Rhona Bitner exhibits her *Photographs From the Stage Series* through Dec. 23.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Masterpieces of Graphic Design* showcases the evolution of graphic design. Through Nov. 30. •The gallery displays a variety of vintage posters. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*New Beginnings*, an exhibit of new work by Judi Rotenberg, celebrates the future with large colorful paintings. Through Nov. 26. •*Memorabilia: Sean Micka* is a display of works with paper by artists Deponte, Linder, Phelps and Rosenthal. Through Dec. 30.

Judy Goldman Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-492-0815). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •Bill Durgen displays his interior photographs in *Domestic Arrangements*. Through Dec. 3. •*Natural Perspectives* features segmented landscape paintings on sliced logs by Alison Moritsugu. Through Dec. 3.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •Gail Erwin's *Mapscape* exhibits an installation of 500 sheets of handmade paper. Through Nov. 26.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by Douglass Freed, Ruth Block, Marc Civitarese, Carrie McGee, John Folsom and more. Ongoing.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Off the Wall* exhibits new works by artists Gail Taylor, Bernice Koff and Paula DeSimone. Through Dec. 31.

Locco Ritoro Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Storefront 37, Boston (617-542-1010). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm or by appointment. •*Perception/Process/Connection*, an exhibition of wood carvings, is on display through Dec. 17.

Massachusetts College of Art
Bakalar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Crossroads of Cultures/Southeastern Anatolia* features 45 photographs taken during Cengiz Akduman's 11 visits to Turkey. •Using 70 objects, *Braun: 50 Years of Design* shows the industrial design development process from brainstorm to finished product.

Dr. Harold E. Edgerton's photographs ar displayed at the MIT Museum, ongoing.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). wu mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingt Mon.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 p •*Daniel Robinson: Forms and Light* exhibits la scapes from the 1930s and '40s. Through Nov. • *Ensemble* is a group show of gallery artists' pai ings and works on paper. Dec. 3-31.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). wu mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back B Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Aaron Holz and C Thompson: Power, Passion and Humiliation* showca works of collage, painting and drawing that disp figurative images and sexual overtones in pose powerlessness and humiliation. Through Dec. 21.

Mobilia Gallery
33 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). wu mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., am-5 pm. •*Celebrating the Necklace* is a collectio handmade necklaces. Through Dec. 15. •Cura by the University of Texas, El Paso, *Hanging In E ance* is a traveling exhibit of necklaces on disp through Dec. 15.

The Nave Gallery
Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powderho Blvd., Somerville (617-625-4823). www.artsomervi org/nave/2005/sac.html. MBTA: Red Line to Da Thu., 4-8 pm, Sat., 1-5 pm. •The 2005 Somerv Arts Council Visual Art Grantwinners exhibit th work in *Party of Five*. Through Dec. 10.

Newbury Fine Arts
29 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-0210). wu newburyfinearts.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingt Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12 pm-5 pm. •Thon Pradzynski exhibits more of his acrylic landsca paintings. Through Dec. 5.

New England Institute of Art
10 Brookline Place West, Brookline (617-582-444 www.neia.aii.edu. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookl Village. Mon.-Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm; Fri., 8:30 am pm; Sat., 9 am-3 pm. •*Color Fields* displays the pai ings of artist Lenore Sempert. Through Dec. 12.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-483 www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to C ley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Joan Snyder ad dirt, cloth and herbs to her oil and watercolor pai ings in *Two Rivers*. Through Dec. 3.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-425-1677). www. gallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tu Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*New Paintings* showcases Bry Osburn's acrylic on canvas pieces. Through Nov.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. #304, Boston (617-778-526 www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back B Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Recent Drawings* features t work of David X. Levine. Through Nov. 26.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-528 www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line Central. 12-6 pm. •The gallery features photog phy, paintings, sculpture, jewelry, mosaics and a tiques by local artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). ww peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arli ton. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 p

tels by Sidney Hurwitz is on display until Dec. 23.

cker Gallery

Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.ergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. .-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Mark s' Energy in Motion features the artist's mobiles. ough Nov. 30. •The late Gerald Garston's oil tings are on display Nov. 26-Dec. 31.

nson Projects

Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.onprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. Ellen erance and Jeanine Oleson display their color ts. Through Nov. 26. •*You and Me Simultane-* features works by Emily Mast. Dec. 2-Dec. 31.

hool of the Museum of Fine Arts

sman Gallery, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-3718). www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to eum. Mon.-Wed. and Fri.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; s., 10 am-8 pm. • Six graduate students display es in various media dealing with the effect of e on the body in *Students Curate Students: Unoc-d Ground.* Through Jan. 4.

erman Gallery

Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-0295). .bu.edu/cfa/visual. MBTA: B Green Line to BU . Tues.-Fri., 11 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 1 pm-5 pm. na Clancy exhibits her new portrait and scape paintings in *Intimate Distance*. Through 16.

ciety of Arts and Crafts

Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). v.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to ley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. th over 25 artists featured, *Artcessorize* exhibits , belts, scarves, shawls, purses and jewelry made various materials from hand-painted silk to l. Through Jan. 22, 2006.

George Gallery

Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. -Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*New New Artists* exhibits recent Plein Air oil paint- by William St. George and watercolor depic- s of Santa Fe, Taos and abroad by Sandra ller-Dick. Through Nov. 30. •*Infusion* contin- o display paintings by William St. George and Sandra Mueller-Dick, in addition to impressionistic landscapes, figures and animals by Shauna Shane. Dec. 1-Dec. 31.

Vose Galleries of Boston

238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. *Mon.-Fri., 9:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*J. Jeffrey Grant and His North Shore Contemporaries* features over 50 paintings by the Cape Ann native and his peers. Through Dec. 7. •The gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and early 20th-century American artwork in various media. Ongoing.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography

67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. *Tue.-Wed., 11 am-5 pm; Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-6 pm.* •*Dancers* by Morten Nilsson and *Soul to Sole* by Beverley Abramson feature two different perspectives on dance competitions. Through Nov. 27. •*Arthur Griffin: A Singular Vision* features black-and-white photos from 1929 to 1951. Through Dec. 30.

Panopticon Gallery Boston

502 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. *Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm.* •The Panopticon staff holds an exhibit of their work titled *From the Attic.* •*Problems in Time and Space* by Peter Vanderwarker displays both color and black-and-white photos. Through Dec. 3.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham

435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham. *Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm.* • *States and Fall* showcases the photographs of Christopher Griffith. Through Dec. 3.

Photographic Resource Center

Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. *Tue.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm.* •*Group Portrait* exhibits works by photographers who challenge the genre of group portraiture. Through Jan. 22, 2006.

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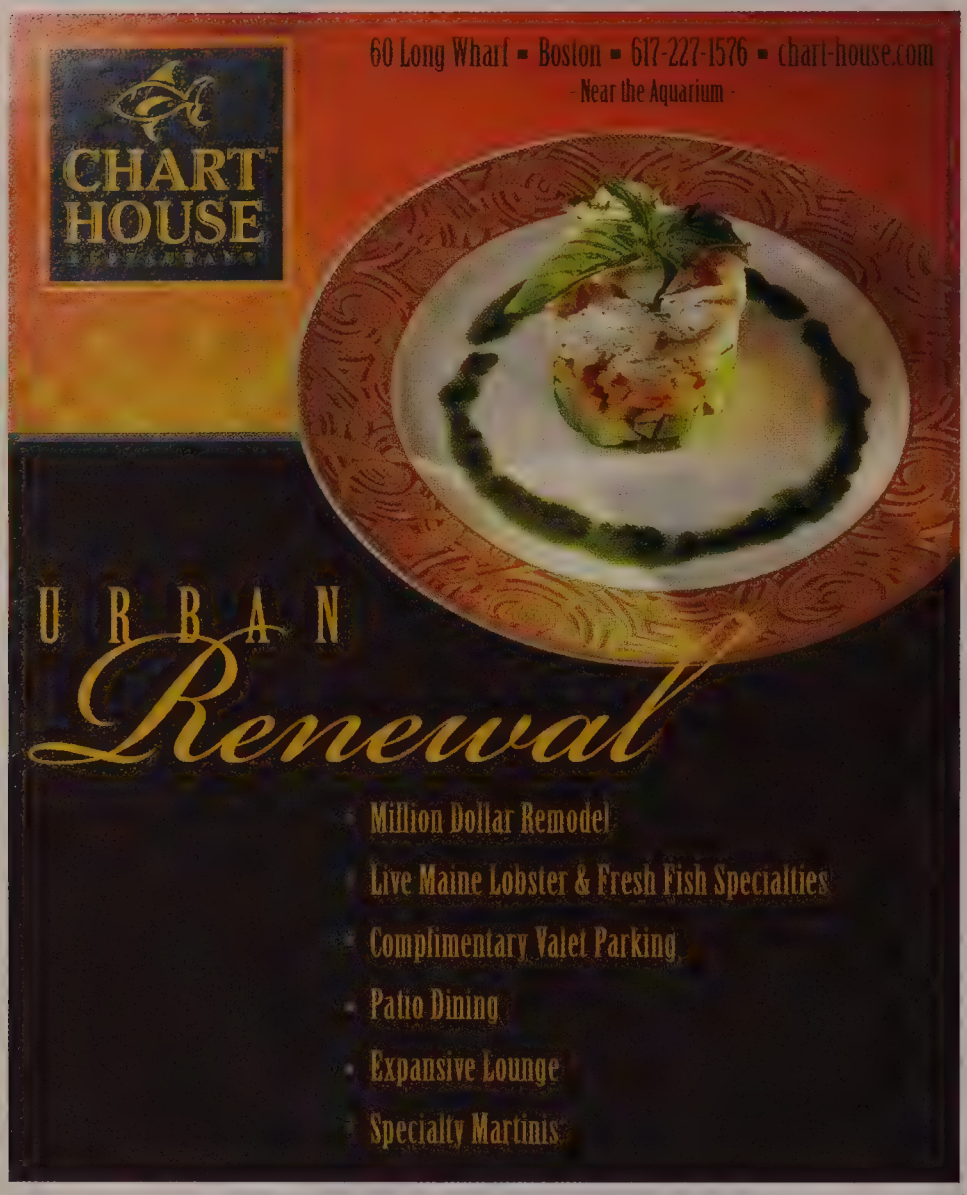

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Readings & Signings

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Nomad Event
1741 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-6677). www.nomadcambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 2 pm. Free. Sesame Street graphic artist **Ken Brown** discusses his book *The Unbearable Cuteness of Being*, a collection of his graphics, cartoons, postcards and T-shirt designs.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Blacksmith House Event
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poets **Cammy Thomas** and **Susan Thomas** read from their works.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Potter **Suzanne Staubach** discusses her book *Clay: The History and Evolution of Humankind's Relationship with Earth's Most Primal Element*, which traces clay's usage, starting with the Neolithic era.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Boston College Book Event
Gasson 100, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8000). www.bc.edu. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 7:30 pm. Free. Associate professor of English at University of California, Berkeley **John Bishop** speaks about his book *Joyce's Book of the Dark*, which analyzes the concept of the dream-state using the themes and characters of James Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Emerson College professor **Richard Hoffman** reads from his memoir, *Half the House*, which describes the deaths of his two younger brothers from muscular dystrophy, his experiences with an abusive father, sexual molestation by a coach and his battle with drugs and alcohol.

Harvard Book Store Event
Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Jonathan Harr** reads from his historical novel *The Lost Painting*, about the mystery surrounding Caravaggio's *The Taking of Christ*.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Jewish Advocate journ
Susie Davidson discusses the book she edit
Refused to Die: Stories of Boston Area Holoc Survivors and Soldiers Who Liberated the Conce tion Camps of World War II, which includes i views, poetry, essays and articles about the H caust.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). u ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Ne Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Economist **Benja Friedman** speaks about his book *The Moral C quences of Economic Growth*, which outline thoughts on how economic growth creates p cal stability, increases opportunity and strengt democracy.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Barnes & Noble, Boston Universit
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). w bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmo pm. Free. TV personality and Ivy League grad **Mezrich** reads from his book *Busting Vegas: MIT Whiz Kid Who Brought the Casinos to T Knees*, the true story of MIT student Sem Dukach and his friends, who made millions g bling in casinos.

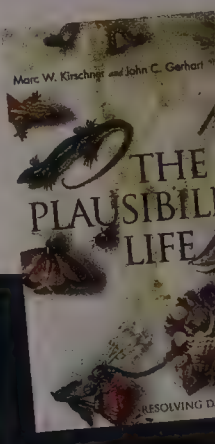
Borders Books and Music
24 School St., Boston (781-369-2323). w borders.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park. pm. Free. 60 Minutes' **Mike Wallace** discusses memoir, *Between You & Me*, which mixes humor some of his investigative reporting.

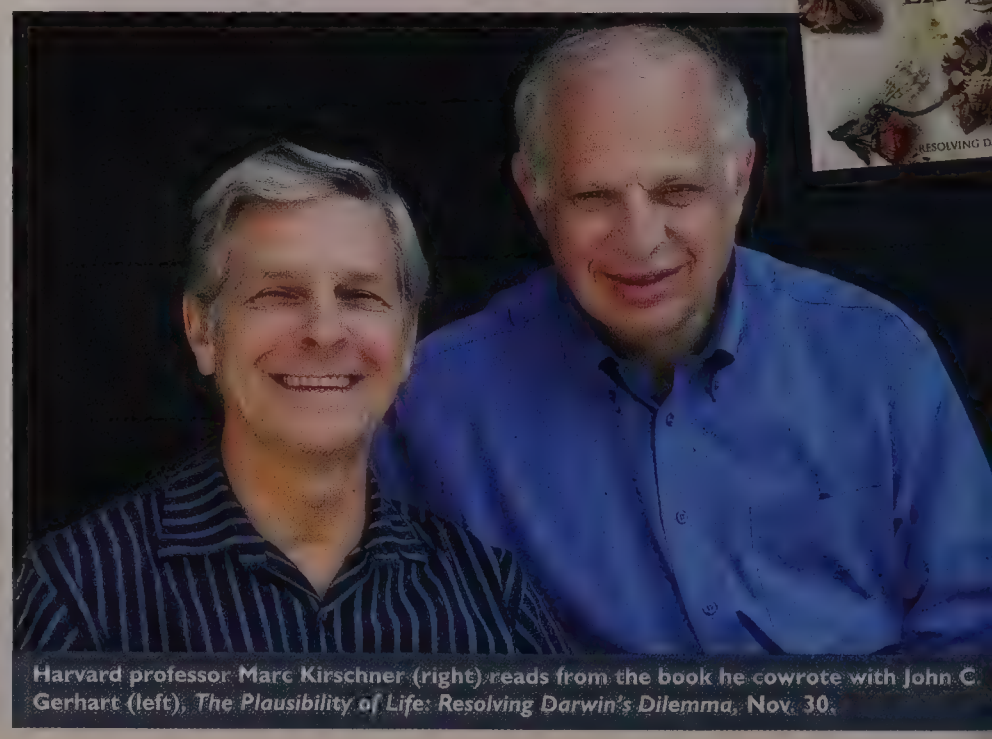
Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-15 www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harv 6:30 pm. Free. Feature film producer **Laura MacDonald** discusses her book *Curse of the N rows: The Halifax Disaster of 1917*, which reco the tragic events surrounding the collision of ships.

Harvard Book Store Event
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Lir Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard professor **M Kirschner** reads from the book he cowrote, *Plausibility of Life: Resolving Darwin's Dilem* which re-examines and fine-tunes Darwin's th of evolution.

McIntyre & Moore Books
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). w mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Da 7:30 pm. Free. **Adam Pachter**, **Jennifer Rapap Andy Saks** and **Robert Weintraub** read from stories they contributed to *Fenway Fiction: S Stories from Red Sox Nation*.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). w newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Alice Mattison** reads from her book *In Case We're Separated: Connected Stories*, a collection of interconnected stories spanning multiple generations of one Brooklyn family, beginning in 1954.




Harvard professor Marc Kirschner (right) reads from the book he cowrote with John C. Gerhart (left), *The Plausibility of Life: Resolving Darwin's Dilemma*, Nov. 30.

ter Square Books
White St., Somerville (617-491-2220). www.rsquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. n. Free. Poets **Cathleen Calbert, V. Jane neeloch, Victoria Bosch Murray** and **H. an Freireich** read from the anthology they ributed to, *Poetic Voices without Borders*, ed by **Robert L. Giron**.

URSDAY, DECEMBER 1

ders Books and Music
School St., Boston (781-369-2323). www.ers.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park. pm. Free. **Paul Zollo**, an editor at *American writer*, discusses his book *Conversations with Petty*, a compilation of interviews with the cian.

okline Booksmith Event
idge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brook- (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 $2. **P.D. James** discusses her mystery *The Light se*, a follow-up to 2003's *The Murder Room*.

erson College Reading Series
oylston St., Emerson Room, Boston (617-824-0). www.emerson.edu. MBTA: Green Line to ston. 7 pm. Free. **Antonya Nelson** discusses her collection of short stories, *Some Fun*.

wtonville Books & Brews
Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.onvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to tonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Laura M. MacDonald** s from her book *Curse of the Narrows: The Hali- Disaster of 1917*. See the Nov. 30, Harvard Book- listing for a description.

ter Square Books
White St., Somerville (617-491-2220). www.rsquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. . Free. **Jonathan Ceely** discusses his novel, *d and Dreams*, about a young Irish girl in the century and the friendship she finds through rt of cooking.

lent Booksellers & Cafe
Newbury St., Boston (617-491-2220). www.ntbookscafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to es. 7 pm. Free. Mountain-climber and jour- t **Mark Bowen** reads from his book *Thin Ice: Unlocking the Secrets of Climate in the World's Highest Mountains*, about the effects of global warming on the climate.

University of Massachusetts, Boston Poetry Event
Wheatley Hall, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-287-5000). www.umb.edu. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 4 pm. Free. Poet **Frank Bidart** reads from his works.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Participants share their favorite poems written by other poets.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 4 pm. Free. Chef **Michael Schlow** discusses his cookbook *It's About Time*, consisting of recipes for people with limited time. It's followed by a brief cooking demonstration.

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 3:30 pm. Free. Psychiatrist **Susan Rako** discusses her memoir, *That's How the Light Gets In*, about her Jewish upbringing in Worcester and her career in medicine.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. Free. Rhodes scholar **Chesa Boudin** reads from the book he edited, *Letters From Young Activists: Today's Rebels Speak Out*, a collection of letters from more than 40 activists, ages 10 to 31, about their hopes and suggestions for radical changes.

Porter Square Book Event
Eitz Chayim Congregation, 136 Magazine St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.eitz.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Tufts University lecturer

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Stephanie Levine discusses her book, *Mystics, Mavericks and Merrymakers: An Intimate Journey Among Hasidic Girls*, which explores the Lubavitch community of Crown Heights, Brooklyn.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

Blacksmith House Event

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Mary Gaitskill** discusses her novel *Veronica*, about a woman's decline from a fashion model to an ill, aging maid. Also, co-creator of TV series *China Beach* **John Sacret Young** reads from his memoir, *Remains: Non-viewable*, about his career and personal history, namely the Vietnam War's effects on his family.

Borders Books and Music

24 School St., Boston (781-369-2323). www.borders.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park. 6:30 pm. Free. Poet **Patrick Lane** discusses his memoir, *What the Stones Remember: A Life Rediscovered*, which he started while trying to remain sober.

Four Stories Event

The Enormous Room, 569 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.fourstories.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Benedict** reads from her novel *The Practice of Deceit*, about a man's marriage to a woman he suspects has lied to him. **Jaime Clarke** discusses her novel *We're So Famous*, about three teenage girls obsessed with celebrity culture and their quest to become famous. **Tom Perrotta** reads from his novel *Election*, about an overachieving high school girl. And associate professor at Boston University **Megan Sullivan** discusses her memoir, *The Embezzler's Daughter*.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Patrick Lane** reads from his work.

Ellen Cooney reads Dec. 6

TUESDAY, DECEMBER

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-5[illegible] 6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **E[illegible] Cooney** discusses her novel *A Private Hotel for G[illegible]tle Ladies*, about a proper young woman's exp[illegible]ences at a Boston hotel where the women have l[illegible] night visits during the winter of 1900.

Newtonville Books

296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). w[illegible] newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rai[illegible] Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. Poet **Patrick Lane** re[illegible] from his work.

ducation

dvice to Contributors
mit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. adline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

ONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

ooking with Wines
ston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., ston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: een Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $69. Learn to use ne in innovative ways when cooking chicken, at and pasta dishes.

troduction to Irish Politics
uth End Center for Adult Education, 566 Columbus e., Boston (617-375-8136). www.uses.org. BTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 4-5 pm. Free. is class will examine the causes of conflict in Ire-d today by studying major historical events over last 700 years.

gal Program on Immigrant Labor w
wton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-6-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/Library. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highland. 4-5 pm. Free. This ogram aims to educate immigrants about their al rights and how the Office of the Attorney neral protects those rights.

UESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

sia Rising: Japan, the World, and e Russo-Japanese War
useum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Hunt-ton Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. BTA: E Green Line to Museum. 10:30 am. $30; mbers, $25. Paticipants learn how the Russo-panese War was portrayed during the conflict rough postcards and print media, followed by a ided tour of the exhibition.

arwin in the Twenty-First Century
rvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., mbridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. BTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Author **Edward Wilson** examines Darwin's four greatest books, hich include *Voyage of the Beagle*, *On the Origin of ecies*, *The Descent of Man* and *Expressions of the notions in Man and Animals*.

tringing Techniques
ston Bead Works, 167 Newbury St., Boston (617-7-7227). www.beadworksboston.com. MBTA: reen Line to Copley. 6-7:30 pm. $40. Learn about ads, clasps, tools, stringing materials and basic inging and finishing techniques necessary for cre-ing beaded jewelry.

arped Passages: The Mystery of ther Dimensions
useum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science ark. 7 pm. Free. Harvard professor of physics **Lisa andall** discusses string theory and the mysteries of dden dimensions.

omen's Studies Research Lecture eries
randeis University, 515 South St., Waltham (781-6-8100). www.brandeis.edu. 12:30 pm. Free. lmmaker and Women's Studies Research Center holar **Laurie Kahn-Leavitt** discusses her film *The ight Stuff but the Wrong Sex*, about the limitations he first female astronauts experienced despite their ualifications.

VEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Defense of Party Spirit
he Colloquium Room, Radcliffe Institute, 34 Concord ve., Cambridge (617-495-8600). www. radcliffe du. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Har-ard University professor and current Radcliffe In-itute fellow **J. Russell Muirhead** speaks about polit-al partisanship in the United States.

he Delicious Torment of "What oes It All Mean"
he Group Center, 190 Ivy St., Brookline (617-399363). www.thegroupcenter.com. C Green Line St. Mary's. 7-9 pm. $30. Featured speaker **lopsy Strange Kennedy**, author, IMPROPER olumnist, former therapist and book reviewer will ead a discussion on how therapy can impact veryday life.

xporting 101
oston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston 617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line Copley. 6 pm. Free. This workshop is a small, in-ormal and interactive discussion on exporting lobal goods, specifically designed for beginners.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Reflections with Lloyd
The Museum of Afro-American History, Abiel Smith School Gallery, 46 Joy St., Beacon Hill (617-742-5415). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 6:30 pm-8:30 pm. Free. National Park Service Ranger and Boston College professor of philosophy **Horace Seldon** guides a discussion focusing on the thoughts and actions of abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison.

Self-Defense for Everyone
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30-7:30 pm. $36. Learn practical prevention skills and easy-to-use self-defense techniques that enable you to avoid potentially threatening situations.

Up-and-Coming Writers
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $2; seniors, $1. CCAE instructor **Jamie Robertson** reviews up-and-coming writers and novelists to expand your reading list.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

The Great Scientific Breakthroughs of the 20th Century
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 7 pm. Free. Explore the nature of discovery and creativity in science as well as the human dramas and intellectual journeys behind the 25 most influential breakthroughs in modern science.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Homebuying in a Nutshell
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 9 am-12:30 pm. $58. Learn how to develop your homebuying strategy and decode key homebuying terms.

Wire Work Techniques
Boston Bead Works, 167 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-7227). www.beadworksboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9-10:30 am. $40. This class covers the basics of earring construction, teaching wire working techniques such as the simple loop and wire-wrapped loop.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

Sunday Encounters
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-927-6620). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 2:30 pm. Free. ICA docents and staff members lead informal exhibition tours and discussions for the public that examine specific art works and allow participants to ask questions.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

The Julia S. Phelps Annual Lecture
The Cronkhite Living Room, Radcliffe Institute, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. 2005–2006 Radcliffe Institute fellow and co-artistic director of Mabou Mines Theatre Company **Lee Breuer** discusses his thoughts on postmodern and contemporary theater.

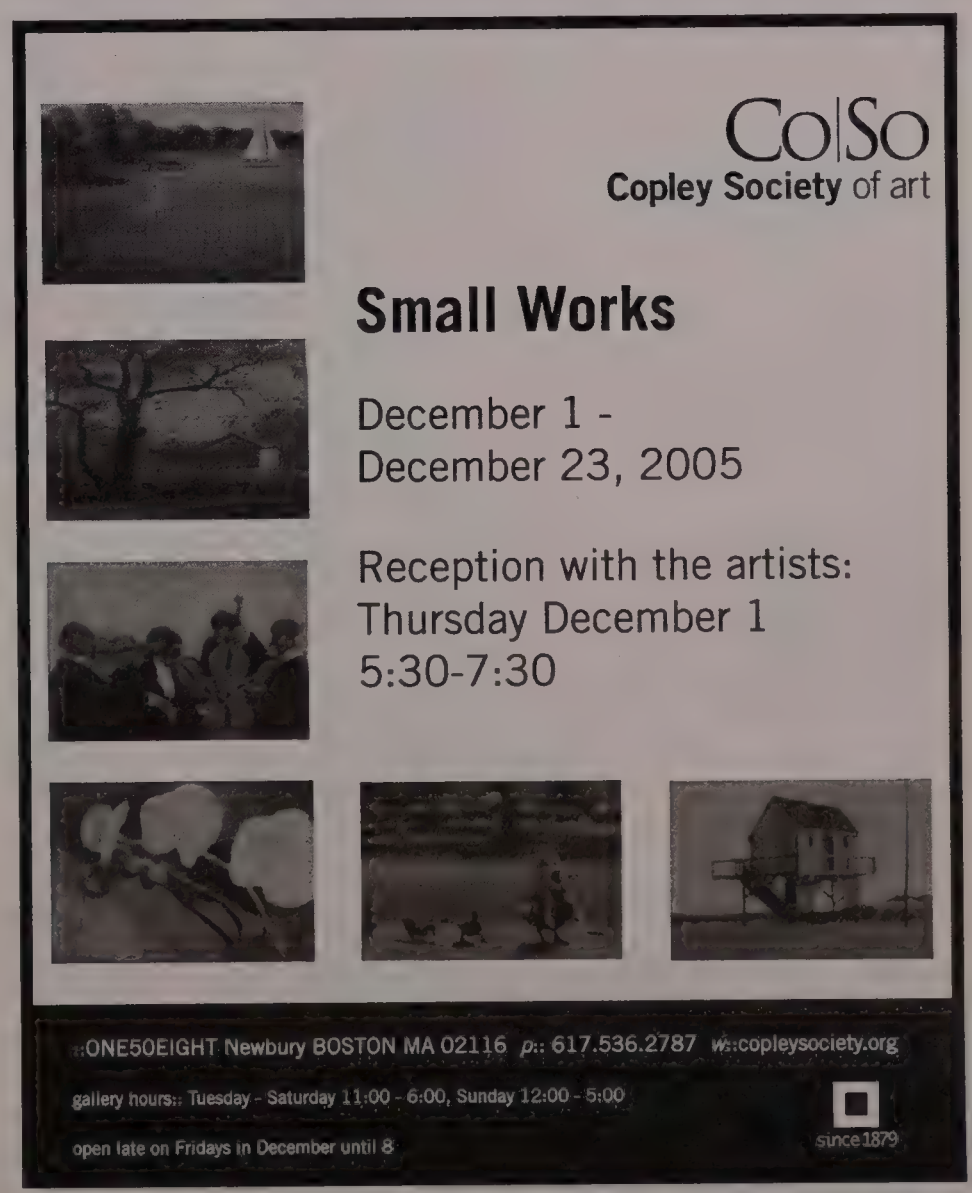
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Arts and Crafts: Tree Ornaments
Spark Craft Studios, 45 Grove St., Davis Square, Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6 pm. $35. Learn how to make a set of four tree ornaments decorated with glitter, paint and other holiday-inspired accents.

Disaster-Proof Dinner Parties
The Orleans Restaurant, 65 Holland St., Somerville (617-5912100). www.orleansrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm-9 pm. $25. Learn to prepare two to three dinner-party dishes quickly and easily. Call ahead to register.

Finding a Voice in a New Homeland
The Ford Hall Forum, Faneuil Hall, 1 Quincy St., Boston (617-373-5800). www.fordhallforum.org. MBTA: Green Line to Gov. Center. 6:30 pm. Free. Panelists discuss generational issues, homeland politics, cultural barriers and challenges and the contributions Vietnamese-Americans have made to the city of Boston, and to the country as a whole, 30 years after the first wave of Vietnamese immigration to the United States.

Making Money with Your Photographs
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:45-9:45 pm. $66. Get advice on breaking into the market while discussing portfolio presentations and pricing.



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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Gov. Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am. No cover. 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Thursdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 11 pm. $10. 21+. Get Down Thursdays feature rotating DJs playing hip-hop, house and pop.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 19+. Sunday-night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $7. 19+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil, with DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of each month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm. $10. 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay, Green Line to Arlington. No cover. 21+. Neighborhood cruise bar open nightly.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 19+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. This gay sports bar, with six large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

I/D (Saturdays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston. www.lesbiannightlife.com. 10 pm-2 am. Free. 21+. LiQuid DJ Mix Mistress spins hip-hop, house, reggae, reggaton and more at this weekly women-only night.

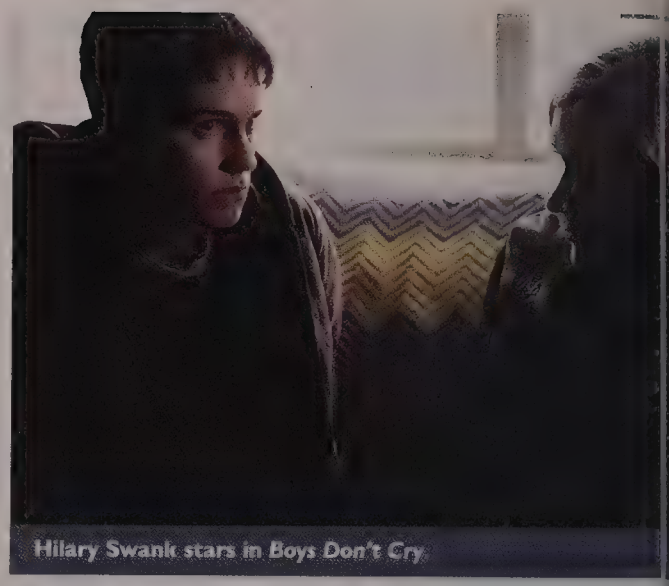
Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends. 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music as booked. •Sun.: An Evening of Mizery: Amateur Talent Night, 10 pm. •Mon. (alternating weeks): Foxy Follies; Trani-Wreck. •Tue.: Karaoke. •Wed.: Delightful Divas with Melinda Wilson. •Thu.: Jacque's Angels with Kris Knievel. •Fri. and Sat.: Miss Norelle's Leading Ladies.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, featuring deep house music, 10 pm-2 am. $8. 21+. •Sat.: Latin night, 10 pm-2 am. Cover varies. 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with hostess Mizery. 10 pm-2 am. 19+.

Modern (Thursdays)
30 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581). www.lesbiannightlife.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 19+. Thursdays at the Modern is lesbian night with DJ Afrodite.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover. 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features Top 40 Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is mandatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Mandance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Muscle with DJ Duo Freespace. •Mon.: Pool, dart tournaments and pizza.


Hilary Swank stars in *Boys Don't Cry*

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. Cover varies. Sunday T-dance features DJ Danae spinning the latest house and pop.

Toast (Fridays, Saturdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 5:30 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera, and Saturday is Hero's Retro Night with DJs from ManRay.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9:30 pm-2 am. DJ Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and Top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat.,12pm-2am;Sun.,10:30 am-2 am. No cover. 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke, 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Underbar (Sundays)
275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080). www.flauntatunderbar.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 11 pm. $10. 21+. This weekly event features DJs spinning hard house.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies, 7-9 pm. Showtune videos, 9 pm-1 am.

Venu (Wednesdays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). www.chapsboston.com. 10 pm, $8, 21+. Boston's long-running gay Latino night features Latin and house with DJ Adilson.

Shows & Events

Harvard LBGT Film Series
Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.harvardfilmarchive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 30, 9 pm. The Harvard Film Archives screens the 1999 film *Boys Don't Cry*, about a cross-dressing youth whose true identity is revealed to tragic consequences. Directed by Kimberly Peirce.

12th Annual GBBC Awards for Excellence Holiday Soiree
The Hotel Marlow, 25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge (866-594-4222). www.gbbc.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Dec. 1, 6 pm. Memb $50; non-members, $65. This event honors two dividuals and two companies for their comm ment to the gay community. Highlights incl gourmet hors d'oeuvres, a chocolate fountain dancing.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MB Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and so events for young people seeking community, supp and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown North G/L Bowling Leag
Lanes & Games, 195 Concord Turnpike, Cambr (617-876-5533). www.beantownbowling.com. MB Red Line to Alewife. 8:30 pm. This bowling league gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Tues nights.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Bos (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Lin Gov. Center; Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (6 482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back B www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm. $12 for the s son. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cric matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling Leag
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-8 1552). www.beantownbowling.com. 7 pm. T bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Bos area meets Wednesday nights.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlingt Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss bo videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Ca bridge (617-354-8807). First Tue. of each month, 7 pm. This discussion group provides support and formation for bisexual women or women who questioning their sexuality.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Bos (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBT Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 p am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and th Saturday of each month and also hold a happy h every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. The league comprises gay and lesbian play and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offe full regular season and playoff schedule each y E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBT Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; F 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Despina's Place, 47 Mass. Ave., Boston. ww lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- a transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group cuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Av Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/

BTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A y and lesbian square-dancing group.

hiltern Mountain Club
17-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-ember gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

OLAGE
ird Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets Medford for support and activities and holds a ncurrent meeting for interested parents and their rtners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

oming Out as Bisexual
ston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Liv-g Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-95). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ck Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month. 7 n. Free. An informal group for people who think ey may be bisexual or are attracted to more than e sex.

oming Out Support Group for Adults
17-482-2166). This group offers a confidential ace for men and women who are looking for a safe ace to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets hursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge orner in Brookline. Call for more information.

ompass
781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area pport, information and social group for people as-gned female at birth, but who feel that the desig-ation is not an accurate or complete description of eir gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) enter, this group meets monthly. E-mail Compass TM@usa.com for details.

osmetically Correct
oody's, 58 Hemenway St., Boston. http://hoogroups.com/community/cosmeticallycorrect. First hu. of each month, 6 pm. Cosmetically Correct is a oup of lipstick lesbians who meet each month.

legant Outings
866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group elcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 0 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisti-ated to get together with like-minded women for nversations, dinners, theater and networking.

enway Community Health
Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenway ealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fen-ay Community Health offers a wide array of ser-ices for the GLBT community, ranging from discus-ions about parenting and safe-sex practices to rograms addressing domestic violence and sub-tance abuse.

LAG Flag Football
ww.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT flag football league for its formal fall season. ll are welcome, regardless of skill level.

he 40-Somethings
heprimeoflife@aol.com. This newly formed group of esbians in their 40s runs events that help to foster nduring romantic/life partnerships through being iends first.

rontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat., 0 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome to oin this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
mateurgphoto@yahoo.com. Learn more about pho-ography, socialize and meet new people at monthly eetings.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-42-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This roup for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and hird Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
ww.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing ealthy gay relationships features alternatives for eeting and dating, communication games, singles ixers and a date-matching system. E-mail nfo@gaylab.org.

Gays for Patsy
617-412-5751). www.gaysforpatsy.org. This coun-ry-western dancing club, featuring two-step, wing and line dancing, holds events twice a nonth. Beginners welcome, no partner needed. Call for more details.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of ach month, 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose nd performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

LAFFAN
Lesbians Available For Fun and Networking is a local social and networking group that provides opportunities for women to connect with each other. Members receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. LAFFAN sponsors an annual Halloween dance and spring dances/benefits. E-mail LAFFAN_Boston 2004@yahoo.com for membership information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This local, predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open year-round to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Monday Night Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). www.mnbl.net. 7:30 pm. The MNBL's 2005-06 bowling season runs Monday nights.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This support group is working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Newly Diagnosed Group
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and bisexual men who have been diagnosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men and bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks as well as their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s. E-mail twentysomethings bostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks and benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group supports HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments around Boston.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support. E-mail sungyun@chickmail.com.

Somos Latin@s LGBT Coalition
www.somoslatinoslgbt.org. The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more info.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the second Friday of each month.

body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Annual Holiday Fair
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Hall, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.FullCircleAura.com. Nov. 26, 10 am-4 pm. Learn about personal growth, well-being and spirituality. You can also check out your aura and chakras and receive an analysis.

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 2, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-$10. Join hands in this meditative circle dance honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. All dances are accompanied by live music.

Monthly Singles Film Series
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 308A Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Dec. 7, 7:30-9:30 pm. $10. Pre-register. Sexuality boutique owner Kim Airs launches this series as a chance for like-minded singles who shop at Grand Opening to meet. The event includes light refreshments and video.

Spiritual Cinema Circle: Rumi
Locus, 1560R Trapelo Road, Waltham (508-624-7519). www.locusonline.org. Dec. 2, 7-10 pm. The regular movie event features spiritual cinema. Tonight's movie is a documentary on the Sufi mystic poet Rumi.

Sugarplum Retreat
Pyara Spa and Salon, 104 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-497-9300). www.pyaraaveda.com. Dec. 7, 5-8 pm. $35. Pyara's holiday back treatment includes customized aromatherapy, a soothing hand treatment and a makeup session.

Sweat Your Prayers Dance Jam
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). www.dancingoutloud.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 5, 8-9:30 pm. Sliding scale, $8-$11. The Dance Complex's freestyle dance workshop features deep listening, improvisation and other exercises designed to stimulate creativity and raise your spirit. All levels welcome.

Walk-in Healing Clinic
Spirit Earth Healing, 661 Mass. Ave. #8, Arlington. (617-515-8826). www.spiritearthhealing.com. Dec. 3, 12-2 pm. Donations welcome. This clinic features a variety of healing modalities meant to reduce pain, flush out stagnant emotions, cleanse your body and clear your mind.

Lectures

Mary and the Divine Feminine
The C.G. Jung Institute, 116 St. Botolph St., Boston (617-267-5984). www.cgjungboston.com. Dec. 1, 7-9 pm. $15. According to psychotherapist C.G. Jung, the Virgin Mary's archetypal value would classify her as a goddess. In this lecture, a few of her mythic titles will be explored, along with the Jungian perspective on the meaning of her Assumption and her importance as an image of the feminine divine.

Wednesday Night Dharma Talk
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Nov. 23, 30 and Dec. 7, 5:30-9 pm. $5. This center offers a weekly meditation gathering along with discussion on meditation practice and the Buddha's teachings. It's followed by tea and socializing. The Nov. 23 lecture is titled "Self Knowing: A Quiet Passion."

Tulku Thondup Rinpoche: Peaceful Death, Joyful Rebirth.
Boston Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.shambhalaboston.org. Dec. 4, 9 am-4:30 pm. $100. Drawing from his new book, *Peaceful Death, Joyful Rebirth,*

Tulku discusses the passages of life and death, ho and why we are reborn and how to break from th endless cycle. His talk is based on Buddhist teach ings and the first-hand accounts of people who hav had near-death experiences.

Classes

Ease Wedding Stress with Yoga
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., Bosto (781-258-9187). www.i-do-yoga.com. Dec. 8, 7- pm. $35. Please pre-register. Gather with othe engaged-to-be-married yoga practitioners in ord to ease wedding stress and practice being full present for the Big Day. All levels welcome.

Holiday Bliss Yoga: Svaroopa Style
All That Matters, 315 Main St., Wakefield, R.I. (40 782-2126). www.allthatmatters.com. Dec. 2, 6:30- pm. $30. This holiday workshop teaches a blend yoga poses designed to help soften, relax and calm yo body and mind. Some yoga experience is suggested.

Kirtan with Shubalananda
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlingto (781-306-1246). www.arlingtoncenter.org or http: shubalananda.weblogger.com. Nov. 26, 7-9 pm Donation suggested. Kirtan, a simple form of Hind devotional music, is designed to resonate with one chakras to help move the energy up the spine an allow participants to enter a higher plane consciousness.

Qigong Healing
76 Nason St., Maynard (800-990-9332). Nov. 27, am-4 pm. $100. Dr. Ming Wu teaches participan simple, easy exercises and meditation designed t improve health, calm the mind, increase energ reduce stress and connect with nature.

Shamanic Journeying and your Animal Guides
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 9 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circles wisdom.com. Dec. 2, 7-9:30 pm. $35. In this clas participants learn the technique of shamanic jou neying—a form of trance meditation facilitate through drumming. This meditative state is mean to provide the opportunity to meet your anima spirit guide and get in touch with your intuitive side

Women's Healing Love
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlingto (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Dec. 4 12:30-5:30 pm. $95. The spiritual function of sexua energy is explored in this workshop for women onl Participants are taught chi kung and meditation ex ercises to help build on the strength of feminine yi power. This practice is said to promote self-love contentment and greater compassion.

The Yoga Essentials of Asana, Breath and Vinyasa
Exhale Spa, 28 Arlington St., Boston (617-532 7000). www.exhalespa.com. Dec. 3, 1-3 pm. $35 Through practice, demonstration and discussion participants explore the basic principles of align ment, vinyasa movement and the fluidity of breath

Yoga for Runners
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617 864-3191). www.teamlunachix.com. MBTA: Re Line to Central. Dec. 1, 7:30-9 pm. $10. Wome only. The pain that many runners experience ca come from imbalances that running exacerbates The practice of this kind of yoga may help brin your body back into balance and reduce pain. Al proceeds benefit the Breast Cancer Fund.

Ongoing

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St. Watertown (617-997-0948 or 617-876-3050) MBTA: Bus lines #57 and #70. Fridays, 8-12 pm Donations welcome. The evening starts with a warm up and continues with freestyle dancing to DJ spinning. Dancing barefoot is allowed but drinkin and smoking are not. All ages and levels welcome.

ports

vice to Contributors

mit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to endar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@roper.com. Include address, phone number, subway , dates and times and a brief description of the league vent. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone must be received at least four weeks in advance.

ome Games

ston Bruins
D Banknorth Garden, Boston
kets: 617-931-2222
v. 25, 12 pm vs. Philadelphia Flyers
c. 1, 7 pm vs. Ottawa Senators

ston Celtics
D Banknorth Garden, Boston
kets: 617-931-2222
v. 25, 7:30 pm vs. Charlotte Bobcats
v. 28, 7:30 pm vs. Orlando Magic
v. 30, 7:30 pm vs. Philadelphia 76ers
c. 2, 7:30 pm vs. Chicago Bulls

ew England Patriots
illette Stadium, Foxboro
kets: 800-543-1776
c. 4, 4:15 pm vs. New York Jets

vents

na Barros Playaz Men's sketball Tournament
na Barros Sports Complex, 31 Oxford Road, nsfield (781-956-9357). www.danabarrosplayaz. Nov. 25-27. $500 per team. Former Celtics d Boston College point guard Dana Barros holds first annual Men's Invitational Holiday Tourment, where the winning team takes home 000.

bble Gobble Gobble Road Race
rt/finish at the Burren, 247 Elm St., Somerville. w.srr.org. Nov. 24, 9 am. $20. Run off some of turkey you'll be eating at this four-mile anksgiving-Day road-race, which raises money several charities, including Project Soup.

o Play

USTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

oston Demons
17-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club ks new players for nine-a-side competition.

ASEBALL

enry's Baseball
81-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

ASKETBALL

oston Ski & Sports Club
17-789-4070, ext. 238). Co-ed, year-round agues for players at all levels in Watertown, Belont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuare welcome.

ambridge Racquet and Fitness Club
17-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round agues for individuals or teams at all levels.

orporate Basketball League
81-248-7811). Three divisions for men and one r women play weeknight games in the Camidge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels elcome.

The annual Gobble Gobble Gobble Road Race kicks off on Thanksgiving morning.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

Dogtime Boxing
527 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). www.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This boxing club offers training for competition, conditioning and recreation.

DODGEBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeball teams.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www. worldkickball.com. Co-ed kickball leagues play throughout the fall in Boston and Somerville. Register online.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group. Call for times and locations.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonRun@teamlunachix.com. Weekly runs Thu. at 6:30 pm. Women only. http://groups.yahoo.com/ group/bostonlunachix. Talking-pace three- or five-mile runs through the Fells.

SOCCER

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070). A series of indoor and outdoor soccer leagues start up this fall.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(774-287-9574). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur, folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

TRAIN TO ACHIEVE

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Nov. 27, 11 am. Based on the popular book series, the film *Berenstain Bears: Out and About* is co-presented by the Coalition for Quality Children's Media. •Dec. 4, 11 am. The Coolidge shows the film version of *Miss Spider*, based on the best-selling books by David Kirk.

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Boston (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students and children. •This short-form improv performance includes interactive games.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $7.50, members; $9.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Nov. 23, 10:30 am. *Raccoon Tales* is a collection of three humorous tales inspired by the Native American tales of the Seneca tribe. •Nov. 30, 10:30 am. Ann Davidson uses animal puppetry in *Forest Tales*, which includes audience participation. •Nov. 25-27, 1 pm and 3 pm. *Father Goose* is a modern retelling of nursery rhymes, stories and children's songs through the use of shadow puppets. •Dec. 3-4, 1 pm and 3 pm. *A Holiday Fantasy* is a holiday story about a clever mouse.

Things to Do

Barefoot Books
1771 Mass. Ave., Arlington (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Fri. and Sat., Free. •Nov. 25, 10:30 am. Story hour features fun with food. •Nov. 26, 10:30 am. Story hour for children ages 5 and under tells stories with a flying objects theme.

Borders Books and Music
CambridgeSide Galleria, 100 CambridgeSide Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersbooks.com. MBTA: Green line to Lechmere. •Nov. 26, 11 am. Story time features books about Thanksgiving for the month of November.

Boston Children's Theater
321 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheater.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. $10, adult; $8 kids. •Nov. 26, 11 am. The cast of the BCT performs the classic tale of Alice in Wonderland in *Adventures with Alice and Friends*. •Dec. 3, 2 pm and 7 pm; Dec. 4, 2 pm. The tale of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* is brought to life on stage.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Dec. 2, 10:15 am. *Kids Cinema* features movies for children ages 3-7 accompanied by an adult.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Thu., Sat.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •Dec. 2-Jan. 13, 5:30-8:30 pm. Each Friday evening explore the traditions of different holiday celebrations taking place throughout Boston and the world. •Dec. 6, 10:30 am. *Tasty Tuesdays* lets children try a variety of snacks. •The exhibit *Adventures with Clifford the Big Red Dog* invites families to explore Birdwell Island, where the Clifford books take place, and also features a 9-foot-tall Clifford. Through Jan. 8. •The *Amazing Castle* allows children to experience a medieval village and make medieval-themed arts and crafts. Ongoing. •The Art Studio invites parents and children to create works of art together. Ongoing.

Frog Pond
Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-2120). www.bostoncommonfrogpond.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park. Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Tue.-Thu. and Sun., 10 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-10 pm. Admission: $3, adult; free for children. Skate Ren $7, adult; $5, children. •Ice skating at the F Pond through March 17.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200 www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harva •Sat., 11 am. Storytelling and Craft Hour for k ages 2-6. •Tue., 11 am. Telling Tales is a story ti for preschool kids ages 5 and under.

Harvard Museum of Natural Histor
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). ww hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harva Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50, adults; $6, studer $5, ages 3-18. •Dec. 3, 9:30 am. Learn how an a mal's colors and patterns can help it survive, practice camouflage skills with a variety of games *Animal Hide and Seek.* •Dec. 3, 9:30 am. Kids le about the people, plants and animals that inha the desert in *Desert Dwellers*.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1600). www library.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. S Sat., 9 am-5 pm. $8, adult; $4, teens; free for childr •Nov. 25, 10:30 am. Comic performers Peter Go and Stephen Sterns give a live enactment of *Sim Gifts*, a series of stories in the holiday spirit.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (6 558-6447). www.ncacboston.org. MBTA: B Gr Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sa Sun., 12-5 pm. •Designed for students in grades 12, *Welcome to my Salon* is aimed at developing ch dren's verbal mastery while making connections Jewish history. Through Nov. 27.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Roo
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-930 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, ages 17 on weekdays before 3 pm; free, 5 and under. •Tu Thu., 3:30 pm. *Books Bring Art Alive* provides a and crafts for children ages 5 and under.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.m org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu. am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14, adults; $12, senio $11, children. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm. A *mals and Stories Alive!* combines a live animal p sentation with mythical and folk storytelling. O going. •*Beyond the X-Ray* features four ma exhibits that explore how doctors peer inside t human body without cutting. Ongoing. •Butterfl and flowers are on display in the permanent *Butt fly Garden.* •*Countdown to Supernova*, showing the Hayden Planetarium, explores the life cycles stars. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interacti exhibition that features models of a wave tan Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoi •*Science Live!* features live animals and multime presentations surrounded by natural history dio mas. Ongoing.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.nea org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 a 6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, adults; $13.95, niors; $8.95, children ages 3-11. •*Amazing Jellies* fe tures thousands of jellyfish. Through Dec. 2005. •T 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains shar stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* i hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, hermit cra and more. Ongoing. •The Simons IMAX Theat features various movies. Ongoing.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). ww newtonfreelibrary.net. •Nov. 9, 16, 7 pm; Nov. 30, 4: pm. *Amazing Animals* features stories and activiti about animals for grades K and 1. •Nov. 29, 4 pm. *T Secret Science Tuesday: Roller Coaster Rides.* Exper ment with physics, balance and friction in a series activities. •Dec. 1, 7 pm. *Pajama Story Time* is f children ages 4 and up.

Peanut Butter & Jelly Dance Co.
Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth St., Brookli (617-738-7688). www.pbjdanceco.org. D Green Line Longwood. •*Creative Movement* provides dance class for children ages 3-8, including warm-up exercise creative and improvisational challenges, story dance free dances, prop dances and good-bye solos. Call f registration and scheduling.

Wellesley Free Library
1530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-1610 www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. Commuter rail to Wellesl Square. •Tue., 10:30 am. Babies 23 months and und and their caregivers enjoy singing, active fingerpla and books in *Bookbabies*. •Nov. 30, 6 pm. A fil showing of *Zathura with Mad Science*. •Dec. 1, 10:3 am. *Step-up Storytime* introduces fingerplays and st ries, both classics and new, for children ages 2- •Dec. 1, 4 pm. *Story Circle* is a book-sharing time f children ages 4-6. Siblings are welcome.

ıround own

ights to See

ston University Observatory
t Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-30). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on r nights), 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

ildren's Museum
0 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-55). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South tion. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9; dren ages 2-15 and seniors, $7; 1-year-olds, $2; under ear old, free. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1 per person.

neuil Hall
State St., Boston. www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. BTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 . Free.

arvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.nh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-n., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; chil-n ages 3-18, $5. Free to all Wed., 3-5 pm, and Sun., 9 -12 pm.

hn F. Kennedy Library & Museum
olumbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). ww.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. ily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and college students with id ID, $8; ages 13-17, $7; 12 and under, free.

ount Auburn Cemetery
0 Mt Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). BTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm. Free.

useum of Afro-American History
Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam useum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park reet. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Guided walking tours ailable by special request. Free.

useum of Science
ience Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.os.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. rough Labor Day, daily, 9 am-7 pm; starting Sept. Sat.-Thu., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; se-ors, $13; children ages 3-11, $8.95.

luseum of Transportation
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., am-5 pm. $5; children ages 6-17 and seniors, $3; chil-en under 6, free.

ew England Aquarium
entral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.g. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-pm; Fri.-Sun. and holidays, 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; se-ors, $13.95; children ages 3-11, $8.95; members, free.

ld North Church
93 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Or-nge or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. ee.

ld South Meeting House
10 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). ww.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or lue Line to State. Daily, 9:30 am-5 pm. $5; seniors nd students, $4; children, $1.

ld State House Museum
06 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). ww.bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; seniors and students, 4; children ages 6-18, $1; members, children under , free.

rudential Center Skywalk
00 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: reen Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; ith college ID, $7.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and nder, $6.50; children under 3, free.

rinity Church
06 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). www.inityboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Daily, 8 m-6 pm. $5; children 12 and under, free.

SS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). ww.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-6 m. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a fos-er-care or adopted child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 100 volunteer opportunities are available each month.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012, ext. 227). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers over 18 for kitchen tasks, office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145, ext. 620). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor students in math and literacy and prepare high school students for the MCAS.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000, ext. 7508). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. Help ALS (aka Lou Gehrig's Disease) patients and their families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helplineonline.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-927-0648). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900, ext. 113). www.horizonsinitiative.org. Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). www.lvm.org. Teach adults to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-972-9119). www.mabcommunityservices.org. Read to or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelder.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org. Volunteer as an aquarium guide and more.

Parental Stress Line
(1-800-882-1250). Counsel parents and caregivers, and facilitate support groups.

Pine Street Inn
(617-892-9187). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740, ext. 15). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111, ext. 17). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). www.respondinc.org. Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). www.rosies.org. Volunteers needed for this women's homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP

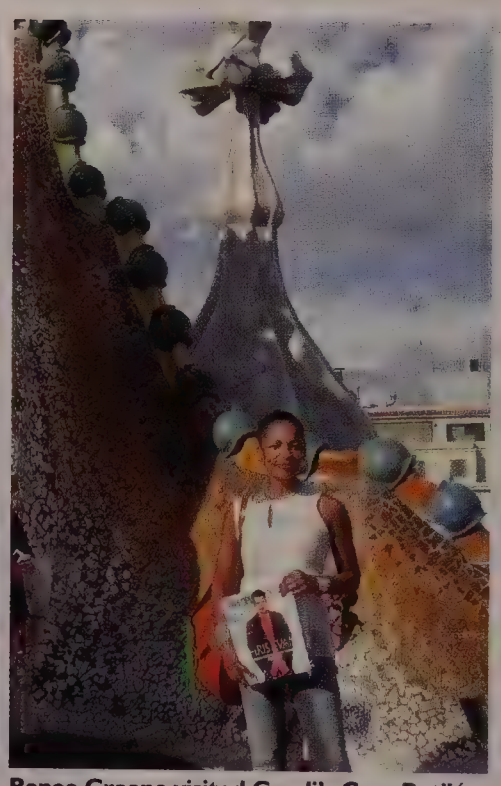
Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Chrissy Stengel and Tim Trampedach partied at the Hofbräu Festzelt in Munich, Germany. Festzelt means "fair tent," while Trampedach means "funny suede overalls."

Charlestown's Erin Breen (second from left) didn't feel like sharing her IMPROPER with her friends on their trip to Gibraltar and made them all bring their own. What kind of fish don't we like? That's right, Selfish.

Anoushavan Danielian is the Prime Minister of Nagorno-Karabakh, which is in Armenia. Seriously, we looked it up.

Joel and Sheila Kessel uncovered the Italians' real opinion of THE IMPROPER during their recent trip to Rome. In response, we've imposed an office-wide boycott of Italian ice, Italian dressing and Roberto Benigni.



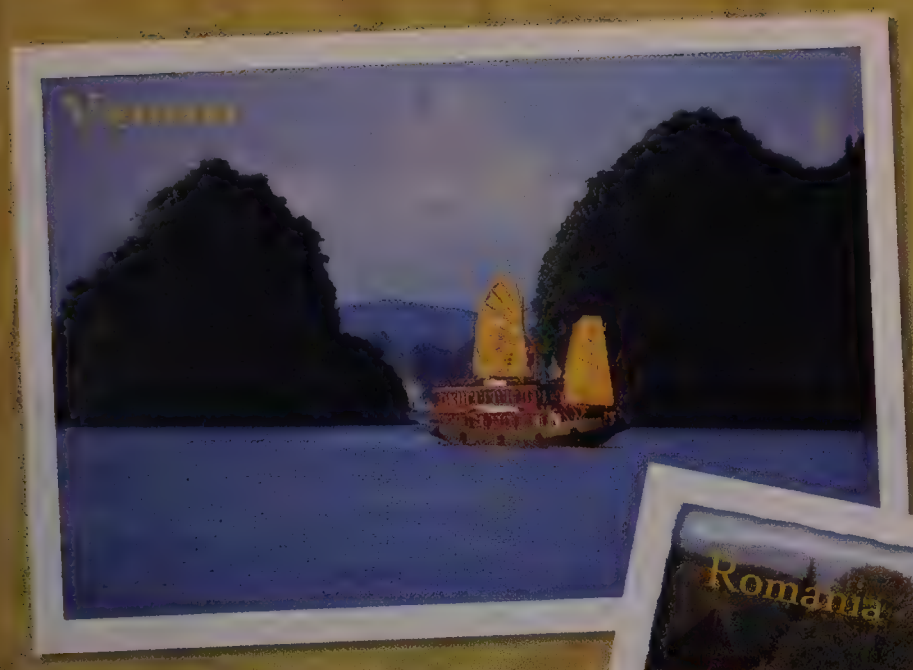
Renee Greene visited Gaudi's Casa Batlló in Barcelona, which doubles as the set for E!'s new show *Growing Up Gaudi*.

Michael Carmichael and Jim Dwyer went to Indiana for a visit with the World's Largest Ball of Paint. It's apparently much bigger than a baseball, and undeniably more stupid.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Working the shopping cart before transitioning into the hitchhiker at the World's Largest Disco, held Nov. 26 at the Buffalo Convention Center in Buffalo, N.Y.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St. 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.



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The Secret of Laos - Jan. 30-Feb. 3

Journeys of imagination

LIBYA

Hidden Cities of Antiquity - March 25-April 9

ROMANIA

Easter Celebration - April 14-28

GREECE

Corfu, Kefalonia, Crete - May 1-14

NEPAL & BHUTAN

Himalayan Dreams - Oct. 19-Nov. 18

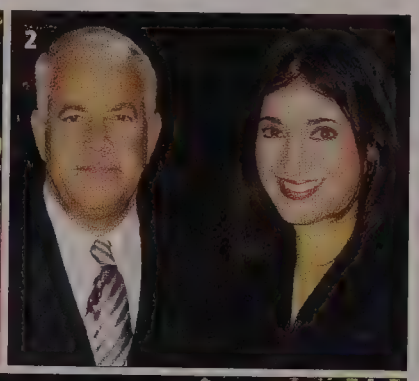
IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, October 29, the **Improper Bostonian** and **Saks Fifth Avenue** hosted Ultra Lounge Saturday Night Fashion House to benefit **The Gillette Center for Women's Cancers at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute** in conjunction with Saks' Key to the Cure Charity Shopping Weekend. Guests enjoyed cocktails by **Gosling's Rum** and a fashion show previewing the coolest looks for Holiday '05. The event was held at Saks Fifth Avenue, Boston and was hosted by **Mix 98.5** midday host Erin O'Malley.

1. **Sinead Gibbons**, New England brand manager for Gosling's Rum, and **Shauna Firicano**, brand manager for Castle Brands Inc.
2. **Danielle Crugnale**, makeup artist for Trish McEvoy at Saks Fifth Avenue, and **Wendy Corthell**, regional account coordinator for Trish McEvoy.
3. **Alan Kapilian**, business systems analyst, and **Maly Kapilian**, manager, both at First Marblehead.
4. **Dan Baptiste**, retail sales manager, and **Erin O'Malley**, midday host, both for Mix 98.5.
5. **Chris Isenburg**, research analyst for Investor Group Services; **T.J. O'Brien**, developer, and **Justin Lopes**, property manager, both for Dannin Management; and **Kyle Cabral**, bartender at Chilis, Copley.
6. **Courtney Davis**, media relations manager at Oldways Preservation Trust, and **Jay Manciocchi**, membership director at The Sports Club/LA.

On Friday, November 4, **DeScenza Diamonds** hosted the second day of the annual Designer Event spectacular at their Framingham location. Guests viewed the freshest looks from the industry's top designers, including Roberto Coin, Jose Hess, Alisa Jewelry and Concord Watch Company.



1. **Jack Winer**, account manager for Alisa Jewelry, and **Diane Kaufman** of Wayland.
2. **Steve Jager**, territory manager, and **Lisa Zimmerman**, account manager, both of Concord Watch Company.
3. **Lawrence Hess** of Jose Hess Designs; **Patricia Murray**, sales assistant, and **Richard Caso**, advertising director, both of DeScenza Diamonds.

On Saturday, November 5, **Wish** boutique of Charles Street hosted their annual Holiday Fashion show at the **Hampshire House** to benefit **Rosie's Place**.

1. **Christiane Frick**, medical research doctor at Mass General, and **Julie Regan**, graphic designer for the *Globe*.
2. **George DiVenuti**, assistant manager at Talbot's Flagship Store, and **Clint Hamblin**, theater critic for the Beacon Hill Times.
3. **Joanne Crearr**, media relations representative at Digitas; **Haley Lamson**, development office representative at Simmons College; and **Marisa Traniello**, government relations for IHRSA.

On Monday, November 7, **Sunset Grill & Tap** celebrated their renovation, expansion and 18th anniversary.

1. **Bret Aronne** of the Williams School, and **Marc Kadish**, owner of the Sunset Grill & Tap.
2. **Jacqueline Van Meter**, executive assistant at Iskoot Software, and **Matthew Magee**, manager at Sunset Grill & Tap.

PHOTOS: SAKS FIFTH AVENUE, STACEY SHANE; WISH, DESCENZA DIAMONDS, GARRETT WALL

Searching for some excitement outside of the city? Look no further.

OUR YEAR-END DOUBLE ISSUE

is packed with fun things to do in different area codes. It's amazing what can happen minutes away from the city! Then, from green circles to blue squares to black diamonds, we'll cruise right into ski season with all the right moves. We'll give you the lowdown on where to ski and where the party is on the mountain. Next, whether it's dry or sweet, inexpensive or pricey, our wine expert unveils everything you need to know about bubbly. So get your glasses out and let's ring in the holidays with style. Lastly, is calendar overload taking its toll on you? Fear not. Our fashion editor Samantha House gives you all the tips you need to stay in shape this holiday season.

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
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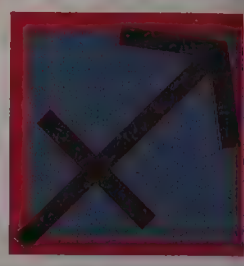
rockie horoscope

NOVEMBER 23–DECEMBER 6, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21



Access to other people's money, insurance payments or bank loans could be delayed now that slow poke Saturn is turning retrograde. Patience may be the key to heaven, but it's hardly the Sagittarian's strong suit. Instead of twiddling your thumbs, waiting for a break to come your way, use the innovative techniques media-savvy Uranus adds to the mix as it favors your Jupiter ruler. They haven't been this friendly since June 2001. Another birthday gift: a secret germane to your well-being is revealed when Mercury and the sun merge on the 24th.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

You're in a position to reap appreciable benefits from the favorable trine between Uranus in Pisces and Jupiter in Scorpio. For Goats born in January, the rewards should provide opportunities for career and financial growth; for those born in December, a platform to air your views and affect a wider audience. While influence peddling can work wonders, so can good looks. As long as Venus, planet of beauty and artistry, is in your sign, capitalize on the magnetism this irresistible force provides. You know it won't last forever.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Read for Capricorn. If you were born in January, chances are you'll also benefit financially from the favorable relationship between your Uranus ruler and prosperous Jupiter. If you have a February birthday, then it's likely that you'll suddenly become so much smarter than you were last month, also that you'll find the world of academia much more appealing. Wise Jupiter could awaken the "natural born teacher" in you. Or convince you that you're ripe for an adventure that may take you half-way around the globe.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

It seems that the signs at the tail end of the zodiac are receiving most of the goodies from the trine between revolutionary Uranus in Pisces and enthusiastic Jupiter in Scorpio. If the truth be told (and when it's not exaggerating, Jupiter insists that it is), Fish could cash in both financially and personally. Other people's money is poised to come pouring in about the same time that you decide to reinvent yourself. You'll have almost a year to complete the change; however the process could begin as the month ends.

ARIES
MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Don't expect to see much progress while informative Mercury, your Mars ruler and, as of the 22nd, Saturn are retrograde. You may as well get into the holiday party mood sooner rather than later; however, continue to keep an eye on a somewhat stagnant money matter that'll eventually take off. Also keep an ear out for gossip traded across the Thanksgiving table you weren't supposed to hear. It's the secret, arcane stuff that turns you on, and this time it can prepare you for an adventure you'll be eager to undertake once December begins.

TAURUS
APRIL 20–MAY 20

The trip down memory lane you're on while incisive Mars is retrograde in your sign could become even more meaningful as Mercury, also retrograde, and the sun merge on the 24th. People who haven't made a difference in your life for years might appear out of the blue and have an impact on what you're currently going through. Think of their arrival as a gift from the gods, fortunate Jupiter and futuristic Uranus, to be exact. The support these planets offer is a relatively rare cosmic event whose effects can last through next summer.

GEMINI
MAY 21–JUNE 20

With the sun in your Sagittarius house of partnerships, the main focus shifts from your every-day routine—going to work, walking the dog, hitting the gym—to the people who are important at the present time. Information you didn't know you needed could be transmitted when your retrograde Mercury ruler meets the sun and retrieves a tasty tidbit from your past. Although all sorts of messages will be conveyed on Thanksgiving, if there's a crowd around your table, carefully sift through their conversations until you get a gut reaction.

CANCER
JUNE 21–JULY 22

It may not seem fair or seasonal-appropriate, but while the sun transits Sagittarius, the Moon Child's main focus of interest switches from vacation to vocation. So much for the intense Scorpio pursuit of romance and recreation (no doubt nice while it lasted); it's during Sagittarius that you get to expand your work ethic. First thing's first: Mercury's meeting with Sol on Thanksgiving Day brings up an idea you filed away some time ago. Secondly: A push-pull relationship can exert pressures you'll be damned if you'll succumb to.

LEO
JULY 23–AUGUST 22

The generous-hearted Lion is usually delighted when your sun ruler finally gets to Sagittarius, a fire-sign that's as eager to spread the wealth as you are. Such compatibility makes the pleasures of the holiday season worth whatever effort it takes to order gifts and make reservations. Listen well to what a little birdie tells you over turkey because, when Mercury and the sun get together, you often learn something you really need to know. Probably how to deal with the surprise rebellious Uranus intends to spring as the month ends.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Something even the most conscientious Virgin may have missed shows up when your retrograde Mercury ruler bumps into the Sagittarius sun on Thanksgiving. Although the tendency is to store miscellaneous information along with the leftovers, keep your discovery on the front burner because, sooner rather than later, you'll need it. Possibly around the 28th when individualistic Uranus in your partnership house prepares to stage a palace coup. But before you raise a ruckus, consider the potential for profitability.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

A little of this, a little of that, a taste of the rest; not a description of your plate at the Thanksgiving feast, but an idea of just how scattered your attention can get over the next few weeks. A financial matter, especially if it's old business, may need to be reconsidered once the sun and retrograde Mercury meet over the holiday. Give it time to ripen before you act on it. And Saturn slowly turning retrograde could further delay a career decision you've been waiting on anyway. Ready to escape the same-old holiday routine?

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Foot-loose Sagittarius energy can move money matters forward faster than a circumspect Scorpio would like, but because Mercury and your Mars co-ruler are still retrograde, relax; there'll be time to breathe and think things through. What you should carefully consider, despite the apparent speed, is how to maximize the opportunity prosperous Jupiter in your sign for the first time in 12 years can bestow when it and barrier-breaking Uranus form the first of three rewarding trines. This is as good as "good luck" gets.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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f everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over he place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the vorld to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of ourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type ip e-mailed messages) and write to:

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

What's Your Problem?

It was a nice Friday, so I decided to send you some flowers. What a huge mistake. Not a single thank you. It's not like I wanted to marry you, or better yet, bang you. Here's to you taking the flying leap of faith off the Tobin Bridge...and surviving. As you can tell, I'm not bitter or anything. I hope you enjoyed those flowers.

—Regretful

Fancy A Cup?

I have not done anything like this before, so here it goes. I saw you walking your dog in the South End. I think it was a Monday or Tuesday. When you smiled at me, my heart melted. I had just come back from getting some food for dinner that night. I do not remember what you were wearing, but I thought that you were very cute. If you are single, please contact me and we can go for coffee.

—hrrngtnsctt@yahoo.com

Can I Be Frank?

What you said to me last week was much appreciated. One of the most honest things anyone has said to me, especially when you could have benefited if you didn't say anything at all.

Thanks.

—Bud Wieser

Let's Talk

No doubt the best looking brotha' I've seen since I've been in Boston. You: Reading "The Tipping Point," wearing a blazer with a red Ben Sherman bag, next to a blond hair, blue-eyed dred. Me: An authentic dred; brown skin, brown eyes with black Puma bag and denim jacket.

The red line is usually crowded so can we talk about this book, among other things, at Tealuxe?

—dredlocchic@aol.com

What Now?

So, you got married. I was there. I smiled. I cried. I hugged. I traveled to another state just for a 20-minute ceremony. I shelled out loot for an expensive gift, not to mention the cost of a bus back to Boston. I went to the reception. I met your family. I paid for my own drinks. I laughed. I mingled. So, what's the big idea with a second reception? Haven't I put in my time? Now I have to take more time out of my busy schedule, bring you a card and maybe some flowers, and for what? Will you guys ever be happy? Love stinks and I have to smell it.

—Lonely and Broke

Who Do You Think You Are?

To the tunnel-vision idiot hanging out in the pharmacy department on Nov. 8th. I don't know where you got the right or the privilege to insult customers and call them names. I didn't know that God was dead, and that you were his next incarnation. I also didn't appreciate you leaning over me while I was trying to ignore your rudeness and complete neglect of any positive customer service relations. I'm sorry that Walgreen's lets you get away with such conduct. Maybe it has something to do with the tag you have on your "tunic." Maybe it has something to do with your ugly face.

I may be overweight, but that is MY problem and MY business. I don't need somebody to say "fat woman" in my earshot, or to laugh it up with the assistant pharmacy technician. Besides, all one has to do is take one look at your fat face, to see how much of a low-minded, anal-hemorrhoidal hypocrite you really are. Good thing it's known that beauty is only skin deep. I may be "fat" as you accuse me of being, but I will NEVER, NEVER, NEVER stoop so low to demean someone else. That is COMPLETE loser behavior. I pity whoever has to work with you. It must be sheer torture. I'm also sorry Walgreen's hired you to simply hang out during your shift and insult people. I'm switching my scrips over to CVS—you've just lost a customer that's been going to Walgreen's for over 16 years.

—Turned Off

All Around the World

To my darlings of Suite 824—you're the best roommates a girl could have. You make our awesome suite even brighter and happier than its electro-glow decorations. To my partner in crime, my go-to girl, the Irish spirit, my shopping bud and the sunshine, all my love, no matter the continent.

—M.O.M.

Attention Ms. Veil

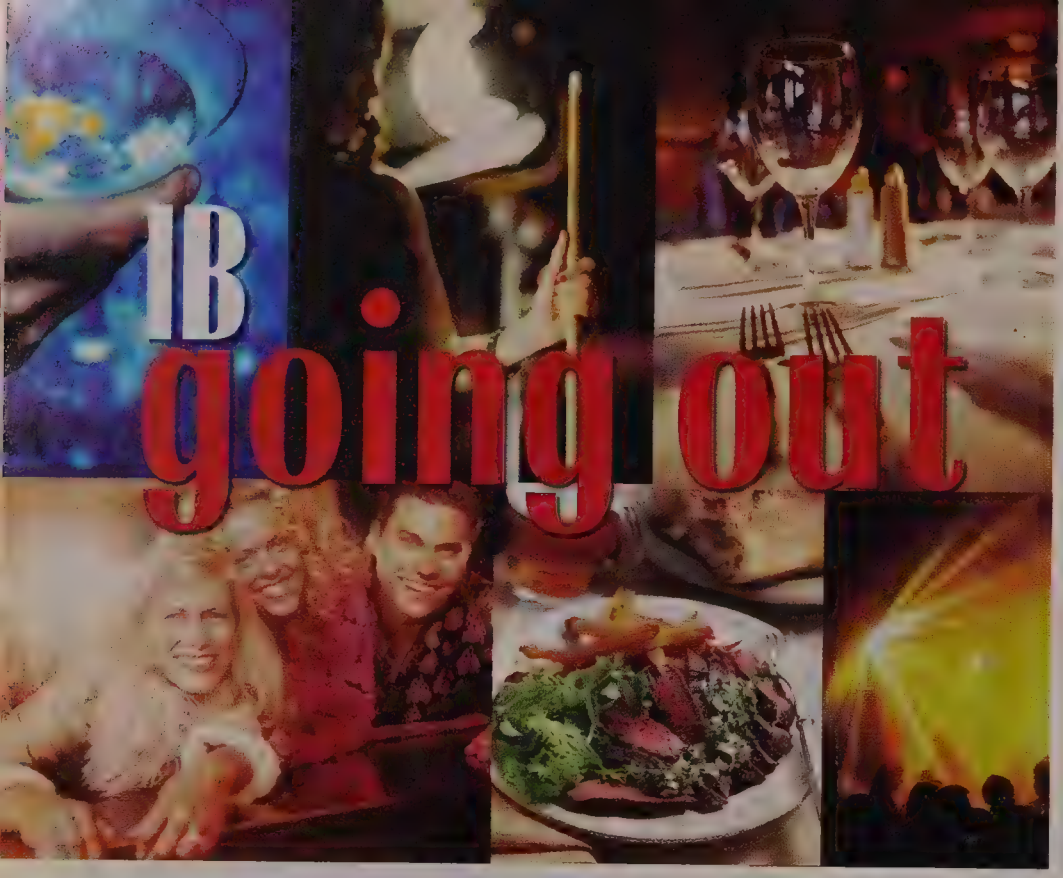
Here's my question: Why do you wear a black veil when we're not at a funeral? My guess is for the attention, which, if that's what you want, you certainly got it. But your woe-is-me, Gothic getup became old shtick a long time ago. The black clothes and Goth veil went out in seventh grade. Take the Prozac and hit up Macy's for some new gear, pronto.

—sicilianmaria@yahoo.com

Please

Don't borrow my socks. I know I leave them on the floor, but that's no reason to wear them for a week straight. Please walk yourself, and my smelly ex-socks, out of our apartment, as soon as possible.

—Your semi-hygienic roommate



RESTAURANTS

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

MATCH *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* This modern restaurant/lounge maintains an unpretentious yet hip vibe. A sleek fire display and glass wine room are just two of its many features. Match's signature mini burgers and martinis are guaranteed to please the most discriminating palate. Match music has a distinct early evening lounge feel with the beat and volume picking up as the night progresses. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255.* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'-Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

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General

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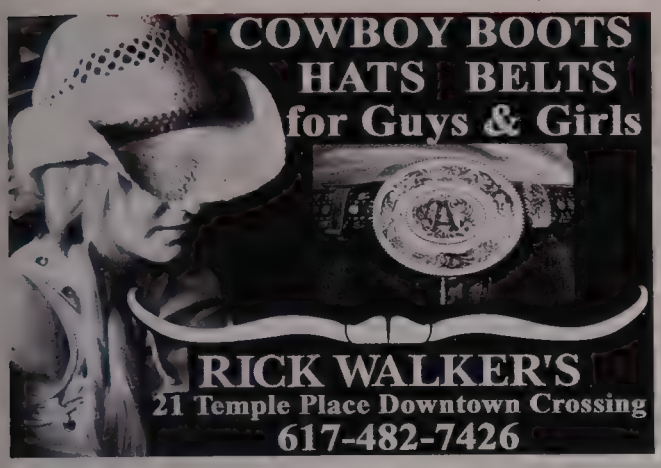

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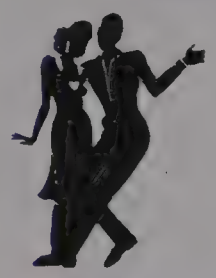

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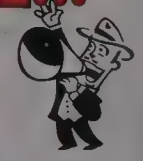

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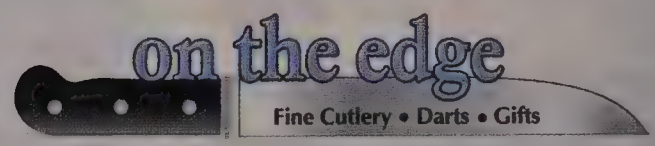

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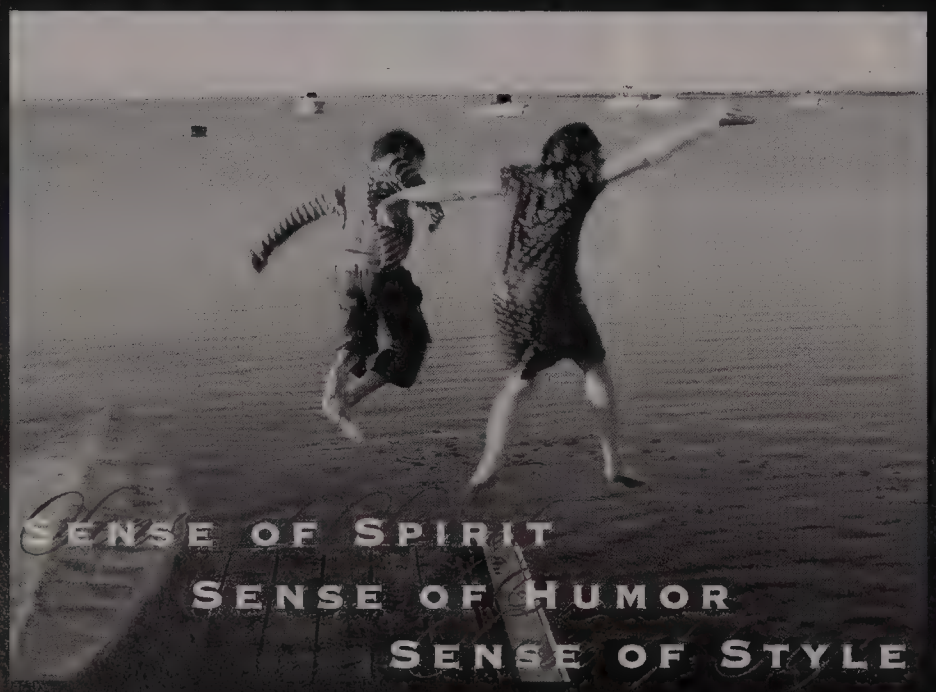

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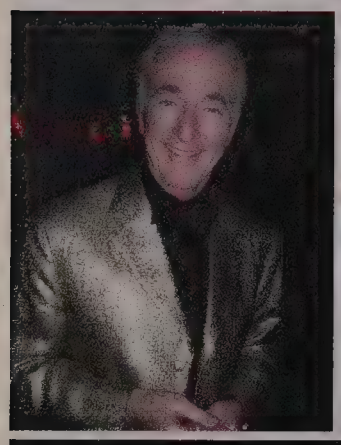


At the Star Wars gala, top row: Wolfgang Puck. Bottom row: Anthony Daniels; George Lucas; Daniel Waus and Jennifer McMahon

LUKE, I AM YOUR WAITER...

Not very long ago, in a galaxy right around the corner, **The Museum of Science** hosted an epic gala to mark the opening of its exhibition *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination.*

Guests arriving at the big-ticket, black-tie blowout were greeted by Storm Troopers and other characters from the films (although, fortunately, there were none of those annoying little Ewok things that look like the bear from the Snuggle Fabric Softener ads). The famous cantina scene from the film was faithfully re-created for the cocktail hour, although with the addition of Boston's well-heeled, wonky set.

Present and accounted for: museum head honcho **Ioannis Miaoulis**, broadcasting behemoth **Paul LaCamera**, former chief nuclear weapons designer at Los Alamos **Michael Hynes** and wife **Louisa Kasdon**, the fetching **Pamela Wilson** of Cohasset and the lovely **Sandra Park** of Brookline, party pair **Ranch** and **Alexa Kimball**, Dover doyenne **Beverly Abelow**, and so on and so forth.

Also on hand were the man himself, **George Lucas**, and Hollywood chef **Wolfgang Puck** (who catered the affair), as well as the man behind C-3PO, **Anthony Daniels**, who opted for a gold dinner jacket worthy of the *Price Is Right*'s Rod Roddy, rather than "spending three hours sweating in a metal suit that weighs 60 pounds while the rest of you enjoy a delicious dinner." (Among his other pithy remarks: When asked how being in *Star Wars* had changed his life, he said, "At home, I talk to the microwave.")

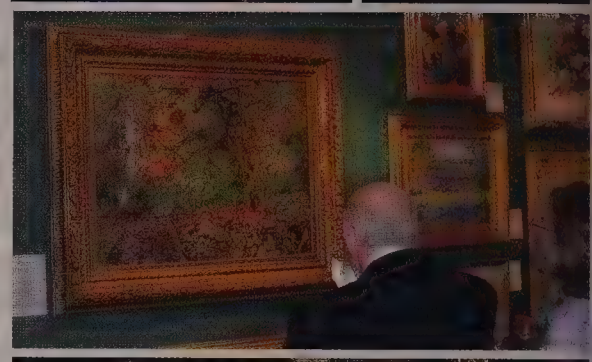
After cocktails at the museum, guests were transported to a giant tent nearby. Dinner and a live auction ensued, along with an appearance by special guest R2D2, who worked the room, hitting on women and asking for sips of wine, which just goes to show: You can take the droid out of Hollywood, but you can't take Hollywood out of the droid.

THERE'S GOLD IN THEM THAR NEW MARRIAGE LAWS...

Now that gay marriage has become old hat, there was a heart-warming plethora of Mr. and Mr.'s and Mrs. and Mrs.'s at **Leading the Way**, the New England gala for the **Human Rights Campaign Fund**, held at the **Westin**.

Spotted at the very sparkly affair—which included incredible live and silent auction items and the staggering raffle prize of a brand new Saab convertible—were such eminences as Channel 7 lovebug **Randy Price**, ridiculously cute newlyweds **Ricardo Rodriguez** and **Michael Kelley**, soon-to-be newlyweds **Benson Willis** and **Dan Avery**, Ghanaian hottie **Taye Ansah**, advice columnist and cut-up **Robert Dimock**, AIDS Action honcho **Rebecca Haag**, the ICA's newly installed work of art, **Carola Cadley**, *Bay Windows* publishers **Jeff Coakley** and **Sue O'Connell**, interior design duo **Chris Drake** and **Lee Bierly**, distinguished Beacon Hillian **Bill French**, the ever-charming **Jerry Finegold**, blue-blooded political operative **Richard Babson**, super-smoothie **Mark McGrath**, tall drink of water **Billy Coombs**, lovable shutterbug **Joel Benjamin** and one guest who said, "I went to U.V.A., so I'm a Wahoo," to which his friend replied, "Oh, you were a wahoo long before that."

Select guests wore rectangular lapel pins in different colors to indicate their level of giving, prompting one guest to ask, "What color represents a million dollars? I'm husband-hunting." Which begs the admittedly cynical question: How long before someone gets rich as a gay divorce lawyer?



At the Ellis Memorial Antiques Show, top row: Frank and Terri Davis; Ernest Jacquet and Ann Trautenberg. Middle row: The $2.5 million John Singer Sargent. Bottom row: Elizabeth Clapp, Hans Vaule and Rebecca Winter

IT HAPPENS EVEN IN THE BEST OF FAMILIES...

If the Red Cross conducted a blood drive at the **Preview Party** for the **Ellis Memorial Antiques Show**, they'd walk away with nothing but blue.

One of the remaining social redoubts of Boston Brahmins and other patrician types, the evening was presented by **Christie's** and held at the **Park Plaza Castle**. As always, it featured the famed raw bar and delicious little nibblies that prevent stomachs from grumbling while perusing such eye-popping items as **Biedermeier** furniture, tartanwear boxes, a ship's model made from whale bone and a **John Singer Sargent** painting with a $2.5 million price tag (right underneath it was a more affordable **Childe Hassam** for $140K).

Conspicuous among those in the crowd: super-philanthropist **Elaine Rosenfeld** (of all those buildings at Yale), Chestnut Hill party pair **Vicky** and **Tom Whitney**, the perfectly lovely **Cassandra Irvine** and her adoring husband, **Hod**, bright young things **Caleb** and **Elizabeth Clapp**, board member **Frank Davis** and his fashionista sister, **Terri**, bejeweled social butterfly **Natalie Gardiner**, the effervescent **M.L. Coolidge** and her other half, **Frank**, eternally stylish **Kay Lyons** with the charming **Peter**, car-parking czar **Andrew Tuchler** and the gorgeous **Christine**, ubiquitous do-gooders **Cokie** and **Lee Perry**, stunning event chair **Cecily Coburn**, the delectable **Rebecca Winter** and one antiques dealer from Palm Beach who, someone whispered, "is a real Romanov" (as in the Russian Imperial family).

Looking at a small, 19th-century snuff-box shaped like a gentleman's cranium, one guest said, "Who knew you could get a little head at the Ellis?" while another guest greeted an old acquaintance by exclaiming, "I thought you were dead!"

However, the evening's most shocking comment came from a woman who was complimented on the beautiful brooch she was wearing and said, "It was a reward in the ninth grade for visiting my lecherous great uncle Charlie in the hospital. Luckily his hip was broken, so he couldn't chase me around." iB

At the HRC dinner, top row: Taye Ansah; Ricardo Rodriguez and Michael Kelley. Bottom row: Rebecca Haag and Carola Cadley; Dan Avery and Benson Willis

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EASTIE EATS: TASTY FINDS IN A 'HOOD ON THE BRINK

STAR ATHLETES' CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

THIS IS IT

What's hot in Boston right now? The IMPROPER's editorial staff plagued everyone we know who's in the know with that question as we gathered ideas for our first It List—20 people, places and things that have buzz and/or deserve your notice.

We considered everything from the locally based diaper-free baby movement to roller derby and facial hair (on men). None of those made the cut, but the most creative jewelry store window in town, one city street and cover girl Sarah Borges, whose country sound is getting big attention, did—along with two restaurants and 15 more "Its."

Columnist John Spooner weighs in on the topic too—he took it to the people, asking a bunch of Bostonians who has "It" in this town. The answers are as individual as the respondents.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
verónica@improper.com

SCAM ON US

I enjoyed Ezra's recent column about scammers in Boston (Oct. 26). Like Ezra, I feel I must look like an easy target too. I worked in NYC for 15 years, and anytime people approach me now with a sob story that hinges around their need of money, my first instinct is not to trust them. It's like I'd rather take a chance that I'm ignoring someone truly in need than allow someone who's lying to take advantage of me. Sad, but that's the world we live in today.

—LYN FITZGERALD
Boston

I had a similar experience to the one Ezra described in his Oct. 26 column. Mine was at the Hess gas station on Cambridge St. in Allston. It's stressful as a girl to have to pump gas in a sketchy Allston station at night, while being surrounded by skeezy people. The funny thing is that at the gas station, the scammer approached me in a way that startled me and I almost kneed him in self-defense!

—ANNIE NESTLERODE
Waltham

ALL FUR NOT

I'm sorry to see that Jana Reed, one of your "10 Stylish Bostonians" (Nov. 9), is wearing fur in her photo. Fur is only stylish on animals. It looks downright ugly on humans.

—KAREN IANNONE
Boston

A NEW DISEASE FOUND

In Rich Levine's article on navigating around the city (Nov. 23), he writes, "I spent a half hour one afternoon in Copley Plaza." I wonder if he has fallen prey to the Copley mislabeling disease. I sense from the context that he's standing in the public park, which is actually Copley Square. Copley Plaza is a hotel, now called Fairmont Copley Plaza. If he was, indeed, in the hotel, my apologies. Then, to complete the naming confusion, there's Copley Place, the shopping mall.

—JOHN ELIOT SPOFFORD
Boston

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PHIL AMARA

East Boston native Phil Amara is a former editor for Dark Horse Comics and a creator of *Sky Ape* and *The Never* comics. He's written for the *Portland Mercury*, the *Weekly Dig* and the *Boston Phoenix* and is currently at work on a book about Japan. His feature, "Eastie Uncovered," begins on page 28.

JASON WALLENGREN

Jason Wallengren lives in Cambridge and attended art school in Boston for illustration. He has photographed for *Boston Magazine*, New Balance Shoe Co. and Outward Bound. A world traveler, Wallengren keeps his journal and camera with him at all times. His first photographs for THE IMPROPER can be seen in "Eastie Uncovered," beginning on page 28.

STYLE COVER: ANTHONY RUGNETTA

Tell Us What You Think

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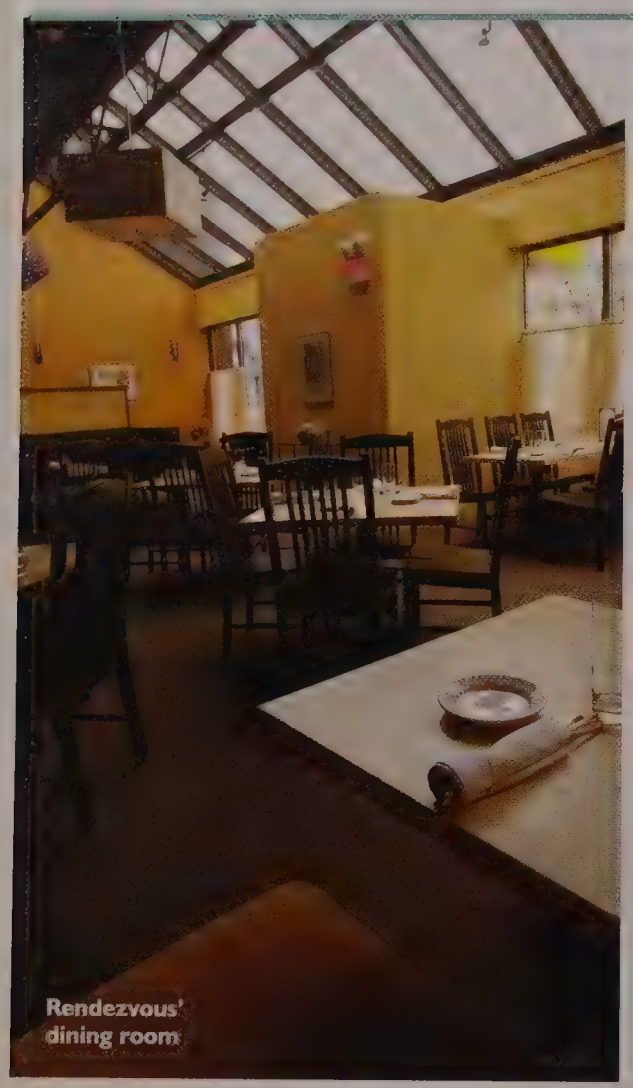

Rendezvous' dining room

Grilled hanger steak with truffled parsnip purée, marrow and red wine sauce.

NEW IN TOWN

West Meets Central

Central Square's steady climb toward the upscale has hit a high point with the opening of Rendezvous, a casual, fine-dining restaurant owned by Steve Johnson, formerly of the Blue Room. Johnson, a long-time Cantabrigian, says, "I think what's going on in Central Square is really positive. The time is right to get in here and build a business." A far cry from its previous incarnation as a Burger King, Rendezvous' warm brown, orange and yellow space is airy with a high, exposed-beam ceiling and skylights, giving it an inviting, slightly rustic feel.

Rendezvous' menu features American fare with Mediterranean accents—an umbrella that gives executive chef Deepak Kaul lots of creative license. "Basically, that means we get to cook whatever we feel like," Johnson jokes. Rendezvous' culinary inspiration may be literally all over the map, but its approach is based on California's Bay Area restaurants. "Their food sensibility out there is so different," Johnson says lovingly. "The San Francisco idea is to work with local farmers and lesser known companies—like small manufacturers of cheeses." Johnson hopes to replicate that idea by choosing ingredients and wines from smaller producers.

Appetizers and main courses combine regional fresh ingredients with the more exotic: starters like seared sea scallops with herbed leeks and caviar beurre blanc ($11); Maine crab cakes with harissa and preserved lemon ($12); and potato gnocchi with braised oxtail and piave cheese ($10). Main courses include Moroccan-style lamb tagine with dates, almonds and flageolets ($23); grilled swordfish with farro, pickled heirloom peppers, preserved lemon and salsa verde ($21); and lobster and mussels simmered with fennel, tomato, harissa and saffron rice ($23).

Those who like to dine at the bar will appreciate Rendezvous' extra-big bar that's loosely modeled on those found in Japanese restaurants. There's no sushi, but the table-height bar is intimate and comfortable, with lots of space for plates—and glasses of wine. *502 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-1900). www.rendezvouscentralsquare.com.* —*E.G.*

INNER VIEW

John Feinstein

John Feinstein worked at the *Washington Post* for 1 years as a political and sports reporter. He is the autho of a number of acclaimed sports books, including 1989' *A Season on the Brink* (about a season spent with Bobb Knight and the Indiana Hoosiers), the best-selling sport book of all time. On Dec. 15, he'll be at Game On! to dis cuss his latest book, *Let Me Tell You a Story: A Lifetime i the Game*, which retells stories he gathered at lunchtim meetings with former Celtics coach Red Auerbach.

Improper Bostonian: *You've written books that have required lots of traveling and research. How great was it to do a book where your primary concern was sitting down and talking with a legend like Red Auerbach?*

John Feinstein: I always say that I felt like I was stealing t actually get paid to sit and do something I'd pay money t do. It was so neat, for lack of a better word, because who Red is and because he's such a great storyteller.

IB: *What did Red Auerbach have back in his prime that n other NBA coach or GM did?*

JF: He's always thinking a step or probably even five steps ahead of everyone else. The ways he got Bill Russell, Larry Bird and Kevin McHale were genius. [Former Celtics player and Georgetown head coach] John Thompson always said he never met a better communicator than Red. He used to mesh loads of future Hall of Famers together Now, it's considered hard to mesh two superstars.

IB: *Obviously, you never would have begun this book without having a huge respect for Red. Did your respect for him grow as you wrote the book?*

JF: I'd heard a number of stories about him coming into it but to hear him recount his life was unreal. He's never been one to say "look at me." When he was coaching the Celtics he'd always have the press talk to the players after a win, but he would take the heat after a loss.

IB: *You're an ACC guy. What are BC's chances of succeeding in the conference in their inaugural season?*

JF: They have two of the better players in the country (Craig Smith and Jared Dudley) and Al Skinner is one of the better coaches in the league. So short-term they should do very well.

—*Rich Levine*

PERHAPS IT'S THE
SEXY, CUTTING EDGE
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THEN AGAIN...

IT COULD JUST BE THE TASTE.

TASTY TIDBITS

Irish Pub Grub

Three for Tommy... On Nov. 21, Cambridge got a third dose of Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub & Restaurant when the new outpost opened in the space that was once home to the House of Blues and most recently Brother Jimmy's BBQ. We know what you're thinking: not *another* Irish restaurant. But this one's got street cred: Seemingly every member of the staff speaks with a thick Irish accent; soccer matches are broadcast on TVs around the bar; and pub fare consists of items like ploughman potato skins ($6.95) and fish 'n' chips ($10.95) served in newspaper. And the company also owns 15 pubs in Germany and four in Ireland, so their third Boston-area venture (the others are in Newton and Kendall Square) isn't a far cry from authentic. *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-0655). www.tommydoyles.com.*

Dante for Davio's... There's a culinary shakeup in the cards this spring at Cambridge's Royal Sonesta Hotel, as Steve DiFillippo, owner of Davio's, has relinquished the spot his restaurant has occupied there for the past 16 years. In its place comes Dante, a new American-Mediterranean eatery owned by Dante de Magistris, former executive chef of Blu restaurant. De Magistris isn't going it alone. He'll be joined by brothers Damian, recently a maître d' at Town in New York, and Filippo, who will create an extensive wine list.

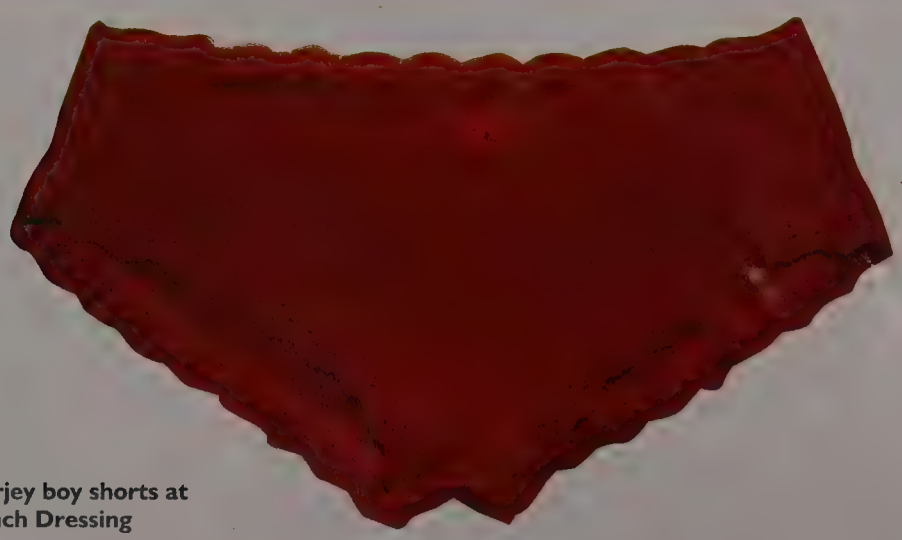
Tommy Doyle's new branch in Harvard Square

Shepherd's pie at Tommy Doyle's

Six Degrees of Separation... Ed Costa, the former food and beverage director at Boston Harbor Hotel and current owner of Vinalia, gave the Financial District a little culinary kick right after Thanksgiving with the opening of Zita, the Hub's latest Italian eatery. The restaurant takes over the old home of Osushi on Arch Street (in the same building as Vinalia) and features fare from chef Cliff Clark, who also heads the kitchen at Vinalia. Zita's got a small 53-seat dining room and will be open for lunch and dinner on weekdays only. There's also a take-out menu featuring pizza by the slice. *101 Arch St., Boston (617-412-4479).*

Hello HoJo's... The Trinity Restaurant Group, which opened South in South Boston earlier this fall, is set to embark on another venture. Well, kind of new. They're gearing up to bring the Howard Johnson's café chain back to Boston. Dan Kaufman, a Trinity partner, tells us they're finalizing plans and are aiming to have a HoJo's open on West Broadway Street in South Boston this winter, with another location to follow in Quincy. The food will be classic American fare with meatloaf, fried clams, burgers and 28 flavors of ice cream, plus an extensive drink list that'll help you get drunk enough to forget you're actually eating in a Howard Johnson's. Hello, blue and orange.

—R.L. and Christina Velocci



Eberjey boy shorts at French Dressing

SAM SAYS

Pretty Panties

In a space that feels like a giant closet in Barbie's Dream House, French Dressing, the newest lingerie boutique to open in Beacon Hill, is filled with frilly little delights. Brenna Graham, French Dressing's owner, has come up with a unique gift idea that keeps on giving. It's called the Panty of the Month Club. All you have to do is choose, either by phone or in person, a line-up of lingerie, selecting from several pairs of panties ($25), matching bra-and-panty sets ($100) or lingerie ($100), and dictate a note to be included with the selection. (When you sign up you get a fixed price despite variations in individual items' costs.) French Dressing keeps your credit card on file and charges it as the lacy wares are shipped to the lucky recipient each month. *49 River St., Boston (617-723-4968).*

—Samantha House

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IMPROPER REPORTS

Spirits of the Season

Bars all around Boston are ready for the holidays. This month, you can taste a variety of decadent winter drinks that give the holiday season a buzzworthy boost.

The Apple Cider Cocktail at Grill 23

Excelsior

272 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-7878).

Excelsior's Spiked Cider ($11) features a mix of Gosling's Rum, Grand Marnier and apple cider, with a layer of whipped cream on top for good measure. And good taste.

Grill 23 & Bar

161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255).

Bartender Chris Simmons created the Apple Cider Cocktail ($12), with apple cider, cinnamon and Courvoisier.

Harvest

44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255).

The Pumpkin Pie Cocktail ($12) mixes Stoli Vanil, house-made pumpkin purée and cream in a martini glass garnished with fresh nutmeg.

Henrietta's Table

Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5005).

The Wintertini combines Godiva white chocolate liqueur, dutch chocolate liqueur and chocolate vodka. Another liquid dessert is the Warm Apple Pie, with vanilla rum, Amaretto and warm apple cider. $9.50 each.

Jer-Ne

Ritz-Carlton Boston Common, 10 Avery St., Boston (617-574-7100).

The Cherry Winter Kiss ($15) is a mix of brandy, Godiva white chocolate liqueur and cherry juice, garnished with brandied cherries. Also on the seasonal menu: the Raspberry Truffle ($12), which blends homemade chocolate cocoa and Chambord black-raspberry liqueur and comes topped with whipped cream.

The Oak Bar

Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300).

The Oak Bar's White Christmas Martini combines vanilla vodka, peppermint schnapps and Godiva white chocolate liqueur, topped off with a candy cane. Another specialty, the Spiked Egg Nog, blends cognac, bourbon and eggnog on the rocks and comes garnished with nutmeg shavings. $16 each.

The Ruby Room

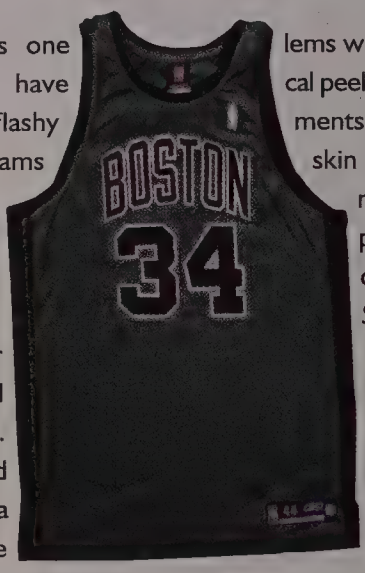
Onyx Hotel, 155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).

Those who aren't on Santa's Nice list should try the Naughty Elf ($10): Frangelico and Irish Cream served hot with cinnamon, a tasty alternative to the traditional mug of hot cocoa.

—Melissa Czerkowicz

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION



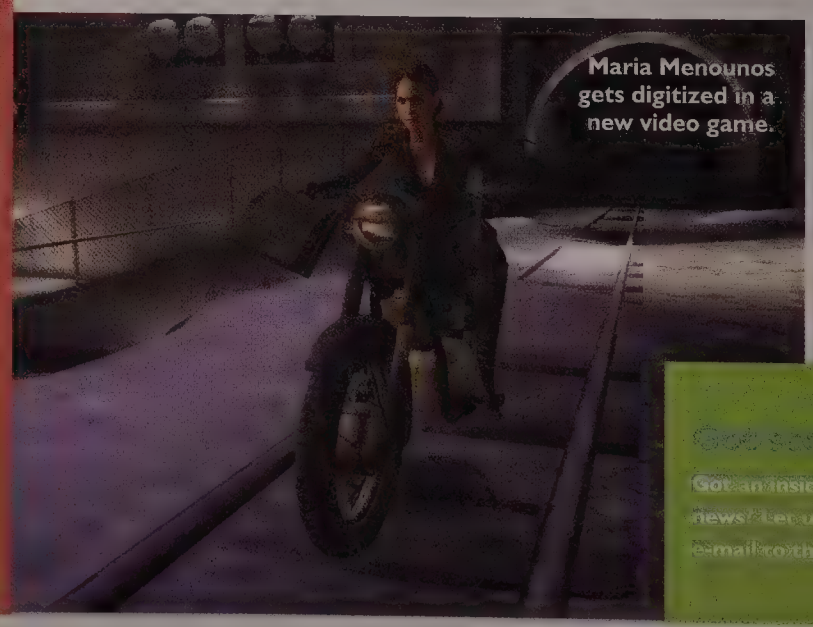
Feelin' Green... If there's one thing the Boston Celtics have never been known for, it's flashy uniforms. While other teams around the NBA have continued to barf out ugly alternate uniforms at a discouragingly rapid pace, the Celts have always stuck to their tried-and-true green and white jerseys—until now. On Nov. 25, Boston sported an alternate road jersey in a game against the Charlotte Bobcats. The new unis, which will be worn at a handful of road games this season, have a green body (just like the old road jerseys) with black as a secondary color, and the front of uniform says "Boston" in place of the old "Celtics." Traditionalists may object, but you can't argue with the results: The C's beat the Bobcats and are undefeated with jersey No. 3.

Youthful Pursuits... Valerie Hasson's new Brookline spa just might keep you out of the plastic surgeon's office a little bit longer. After working as an aesthetician at several dermatologists' and plastic surgeons' offices in the city, Hasson decided to open her own practice, Advanced Skincare Studio. She says that although her treatments are pampering, they're also clinically driven by her experience at medical offices. "It's not just about relaxation here," she says. Hasson focuses on curing ills like acne, fine lines and skin texture and pigmentation problems with microdermabrasion and chemical peels, and also offers hair-removal treatments. Prices range from $70-$175 for skin services and $10-$50 for hair removal. Hasson works solo, by appointment only, Sundays and Tuesdays through Fridays. *1776 Beacon St., Brookline (617-232-0700).*

Monday Madness... Two of Jamaica Plain's hippest venues, the Brendan Behan Pub and movie mecca Video Underground, have teamed up to bring all you non-football fans a Monday night out on the town. Each week, Video Underground picks an independent film to show at the cozy Irish bar across the street. December's remaining features are *The Great Rock and Roll Swindle* on the 12th, *This Is Spinal Tap* on the 19th and *Repo Man* on the 26th. Movies are shown on the bar's TV at 8:30 pm—but get there early for a good seat, since there's only room for 100. *37 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-5386).*

Menounos. Maria Menounos... Hometown hottie Maria Menounos has ventured into the virtual world, appearing as a character in the new video game From Russia With Love, based on the classic James Bond flick. The *Today Show* and *Access Hollywood* reporter plays Eva Adara, the henchwoman of villain Red Grant, an assassin for the evil organization Octopus. Her nemesis is none other than cyber Sean Connery as Bond. Menounos' first foray into the digital world has already paid off: She beat out Charlize Theron and Jessica Alba for Spike TV's Best Video Game Vixen award. Available for PlayStation 2, GameCube and Xbox consoles. *www.eagames.com.*

—L.P.K., R.L. and E.G.


Maria Menounos gets digitized in a new video game.

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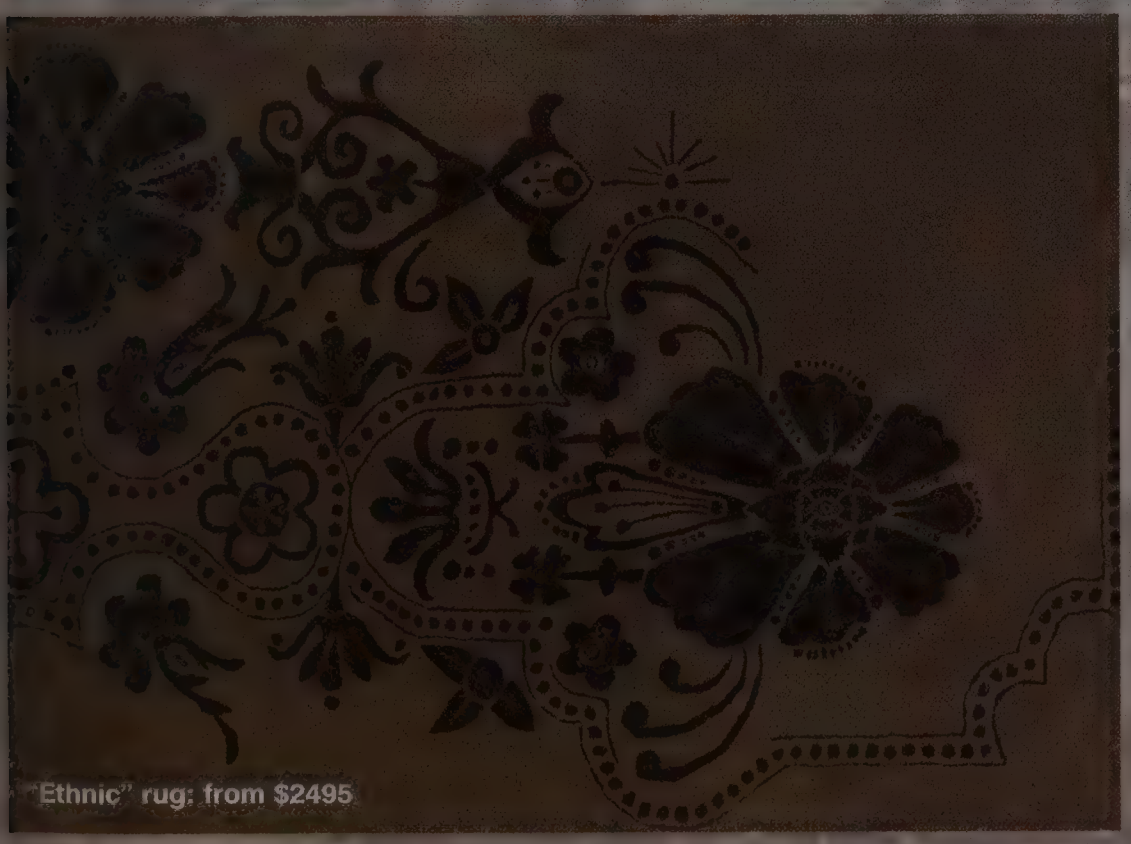

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BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

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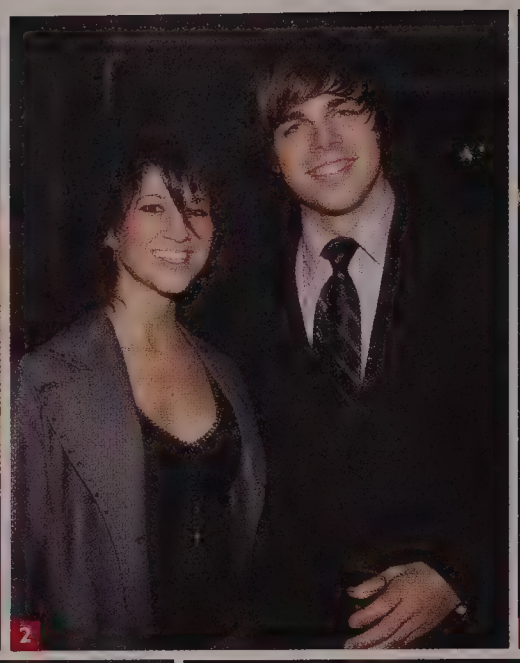
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The Berkshire Hills Mus Academy **"Music For A Seasons" live auction** took place at the Ritz-Carlton on Friday, Nov. 18. The event featured a performance by the Click Five, with proceeds benefiting the Berkshire Hills Music Academy for students with cognitive disabilities.

1. **Peggy Burling**, **Peter Tarr**, chairman of the First Marblehead Corporation, and **Mimi Rutledge**
2. **Andriana Santiago**, musician, and **Joey Zehr** o the Click Five
3. **Chris Kennedy**, principal of Capital Advisors Group, and his wife, **Heather**
4. **Bob Ackley**, vice president of Omark Consultants in Boylston, and **Darian Packard**
5. **Bill Hodgins**, interior decorator, and **Ashley Bernon**, event planner
6. **Melissa Marois**, student a Emerson College, and her uncle **Joe Marois**, preside of Marois Construction Company in South Hadley
7. **Sarah Koonce**, pianist, and **Josh Burnett**, graduate student at Boston University

The New England Center for Children Gala was held Friday, Nov. 18, at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center. More than 500 guests celebrated the 30th anniversary with a tribute to Michael Dukakis, former Massachusetts governor and current professor at Northeastern University, who received the distinguished "Children of Promise" Award to honor his longtime service to NECC and to children with autism. Proceeds of the event will benefit NECC, a nonprofit autism education and research center.

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8. **Luciano Barreto**, owner of New England Construction, and his wife, **Cidia**
9. **Chris Kane**, student at Salve Regina, **Caitlin Downey**, business analyst for JP Morgan, and her brother **Mike Downey**, CPA at Feeley & Driscoll
10. Former Gov. **Michael Dukakis**, **John Portz**, chair of the political science department at Northeastern University, **Robert Gittens**, vice president of public affairs at Northeastern University, and **Kitty Dukakis**
11. **Ivonne Moore**, cardiologist at Saint Vincent Hospital, and **George Suazo**, owner of Hudson Construction in Hudson

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BY EZRA DYER

ONE NONBLONDE

Heather joins forces with the Dark Side.

On the subject of hair color, I tend to agree with Jack Handey, who wrote, "People laugh when I say that I think a jellyfish is one of the most beautiful things in the world. What they don't understand is, I mean a jellyfish with long, blonde hair." My fiancée, Heather, used to be a blonde. Her hair was gorgeous, the color of dappled rays of sunshine on a plate of chicken-flavored rice. But a few months ago, she decided she'd had it with the monthly trips to the hair salon to bathe her locks in chemicals for hours at a time. She announced that she was going to make a change. She was going back to her natural color.

I assumed this meant that she'd just let her hair grow out, and eventually it would be its natural hue, which for all we know could be purple. This just goes to show how little I know of the ways of women, because apparently the only path to return your hair to its natural color is by dyeing the hell out of it with more chemicals—but in a shade that you guess is a closer approximation of "natural."

I wasn't sure how to react to this development. On one hand, Heather has a right to do whatever she wants with her hair, and if she's sick of the blonde maintenance, well, I'm not the one who has to sit there for three hours with chemicals seeping into my head every time my roots start to show. On the other hand, I felt like on some level I had a right to veto this decision, just as I would if she announced, "I've had it with being skinny. It's just too much effort. Starting today, I'm sitting on the couch and eating Burger King chicken fries until I weigh as much as a minivan." In the end, I outwardly offered encouragement while secretly hoping that she'd change her mind. Think about it—blonde: Marilyn Monroe. Brunette: Marilyn Manson. Other brunettes I could name include Roseanne Barr, Rosie O'Donnell, Slash from Guns N' Roses and Janet Reno. I know what you're thinking, and it's true that, for the sake of argument, I'm ignoring the Jolie Clause.

When Heather first started rockin' the brunette, reaction was sharply divided, depending on whether the audience was male or female. Women professed to be big fans of the dark hair, offering comments like, "I love it, it really brings out your eyes!" Guys, when I informed them of the new 'do, offered responses like, "I'm sor[illegible]. Is there anything I can do for you? C'mon, let's do a shot o Jäger." Another common refrain from the male demographic focused on an ancillary benefit of your girlfriend suddenly looking like a stranger. Let's leave it a that.

Aesthetics aside, since going brunette Heather has been less prone to fulfilling the stereotype of blondes epitomized by Jessica Simpson's Chicken of the Sea incident. For instance, back when she was blonde, I was able to lock Heather in the bathroom by turning a penny in the lock from the outside, which caused her to become so angry that she failed to realize that the knob for the lock was on her side of the door. I doubt I'd get away with that these days. And when she was blonde Heather was also given to occasional verbal trip-ups, such as the time she called a power plant an "electricity factory." I'm thankful for that phrase, because now

THINK ABOUT IT—BLONDE: MARILYN MONROE BRUNETTE: MARILYN MANSON

every time Heather mocks me for, say, waiting 15 minutes for a bagel to pop up before realizing that the toaster's unplugged, I can reply with, "Wow, with all these Christmas lights, they must really be working overtime tonight at the electricity factory."

As for my opinion on the dark hair, I've generally been supportive of the new brunette in the house. I say "generally" because I may have called Heather "Elvira" a couple times in the first few days after the switch, and I may also have referred to her exact tint as "flush it down brown." But hey, I'm not so shallow and superficial that an attribute as trivial as hair color really matters to me. So I've been encouraging her to go longer and longer between dye jobs—screw paying all that money for silly hair coloring, right? Let those roots grow, girl! Let's see what your true color is. Who knows—it might be blonde. A guy can hope. iB

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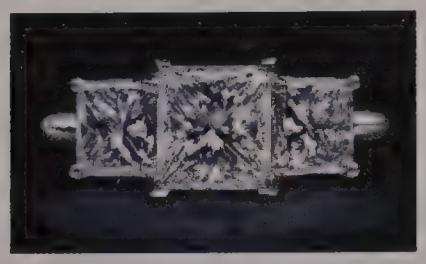

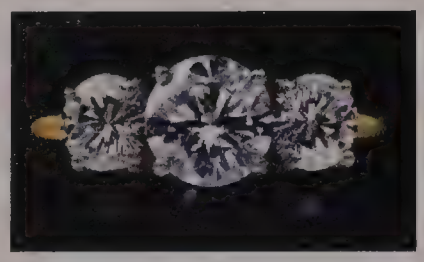

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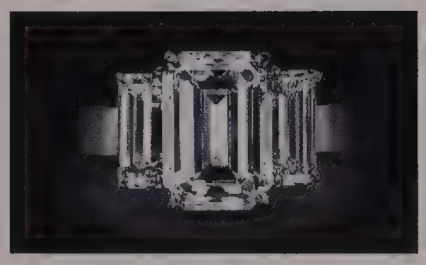

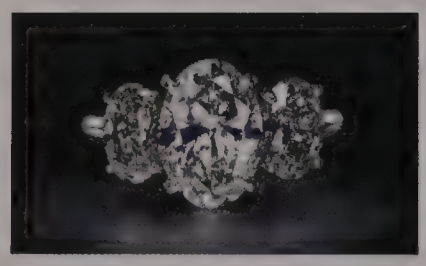

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THE DANCE

BY JOHN D. SPOONER

It

You'll know it when you see it.

My father called my sister, from the time she was little, the "It Girl," after Clara Bow, a silent film star with that sobriquet. This annoyed the hell out of me, because I felt it marked my sister as the favorite. So what is the elusive "it" that separates those people from the rest of us? Obviously, the people with "it" have special talents: They might be athletic or artistic, for instance. These people might also be more handsome or beautiful than the rest of us. Or smarter. Or richer. We all have a list of people with the "it" factor, people we wish we could dine with, have drinks with, hang out with, so that something of their glory could rub off on us.

My literary heroes in college were Hemingway and Fitzgerald. "If I could only meet them!" I thought. "But what could anyone possibly say to one's heroes or heroines that could be even vaguely interesting to them?"

I never met Fitzgerald, but I did have tea with his only child, Scottie Lanahan, at her summer house. *The Great Gatsby* was my favorite novel, and I strained myself talking to her, asking questions about her parents, afraid of running out of time.

"Stop," she said at one point. "Take time for tea. You know, no one will ever meet such high expectations. I suggest you savor your day and enjoy me."

I actually met Hemingway in Spain during that annual drunken festival in Pamplona involving the running of the bulls. He was surrounded by an entourage of journalists, aging bullfighters and Sarah Lawrence students. We all hung on his every word, including "Watch the bulls' horns, rookie. They will move right and left, like a boxer."

"Ooooh," everyone said. Later I was alone briefly with the Great Man, who was glamorously peeing against a wall as a crowd of revelers dressed in white shirts and red scarves streamed by. "Who cares, rookie?" he said. "It's the sport, no?" It's the sport, yes.

As far as the people in Boston with "it," I did a random sampling around the city of almost 100 people, asking them who has "it," and to name one person in the city with whom they'd love to have a fantasy dinner.

My respondents were a diverse group of older folk, young bloods, males, females. Their selections are as varied as you might expect and prove to me that we are not much of a celebrity town. Our celebrity tastes are far more eclectic and personal than in any other city. The amazing thing to me is that my random sampling pr duced no two identical responses. Amor the many choices for the elusive "it" wer Keith Lockhart; Billy Bulger; Nicholas N groponte, head of MIT's media lab; The Epstein; Denis Leary; David Mamet (r longer really in Boston); Nicholas Martin artistic director of the Huntington Th atre; Harvey Mansfield, professor of go ernment at Harvard and an expert o Machiavelli; Anita Diamant, author *The Red Tent*; and Teresa Heinz Kerry.

I would have two picks. One is Pet Lynch of Fidelity, because he's one of th best money managers in history. But m first choice would be Tom Lehrer, th great satirist and composer. Lehrer rose t fame in the '50s, a math instructor MIT who also wrote and performed wit songs (first at local parties, later in cor cert around the country), including "Po soning Pigeons in the Park," "Be Pr pared" (the Boy Scouts' marching song "The Old Dope Peddler" and many oth classics. Today he might be on *Saturda Night Live*, certainly HBO. He still has cult status, despite the fact that h stopped recording at the peak of his po ularity in the mid-1960s.

Several years ago, I took a client an friend to dinner. She was Margret Re who, with her husband, Hans, created th *Curious George* series. Margret pulled n punches and was known for nailing peopl who did not measure up to her strict stan dards. Lehrer was sitting at a table we ha to pass. Margret stopped, stared at him an said in her German accent, "You used to d something. Vy don't you do it anymore? And she moved on.

This is the point, and why I'd love t have dinner with Tom Lehrer. He quit per forming when his "it" status was peakin (as did my other choice, Lynch, by th way). Only Ted Williams, in this town, di the same, quitting when everyone wante more. How many others do we know or re member who are that smart?

Probably the most practical pick wa from a young man I questioned in an eleva tor. He paused for five seconds and said "Who has 'it'? It would be Amber. I don' know her last name. But she used to dance at the old Golden Banana." We do have high standards in Boston. IB

John D. Spooner, IF an investment advisor, author and novelist. Contact him at thedance@improper.com.

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLIN

PERFECT STRANGERS

Theo, Lucchino were destined to grow apart.

While there were some bumps and hurdles along the way this past year, be honest, Red Sox fans, world peace finally arrived. OK, so I'm overstating it a bit, but the Red Sox got a mulligan in 2005 and, hell yeah, they deserved it.

But now it's starting to feel like the old days again, and while the pre-2004 Red Sox were always interesting, they weren't always good. Unfortunately, it's looking like the Red Sox have become "The Red Sox" again.

I'm disappointed. I thought the days of bickering, mismanagement and name-calling were gone. We won the freakin' World Series. The mood in Boston suggested that anything was possible. If I remember correctly, the Sox ownership promised several championships. But instead, we're back in the bad old days when management obfuscated contract disputes by disparaging players. Pedro is a greedy egomaniac, just like Roger Clemens is a washed-up fat guy.

When Theo announced he was leaving, the Sox were caught off guard. No one really believed that the kid who grew up a dozen blocks away from Fenway Park would actually leave. John Henry didn't think so. Larry Lucchino didn't think so. The local press didn't think so.

One of my sources told me that the morning of Theo's big press conference—you know, the one that was supposed to clear up why he just couldn't sign a three-year, $4.5 million extension—Theo and the Trio (Henry, Tom Werner and Lucchino) were negotiating into the wee hours of the morning at Fenway Park. The Sox wanted Theo to stay, even after he had said he was gone.

Most people have come down on the Red Sox for driving out the local hero, but I don't see it quite that way. I'm not going to assign blame on this one. Choices were made by two parties and nothing more.

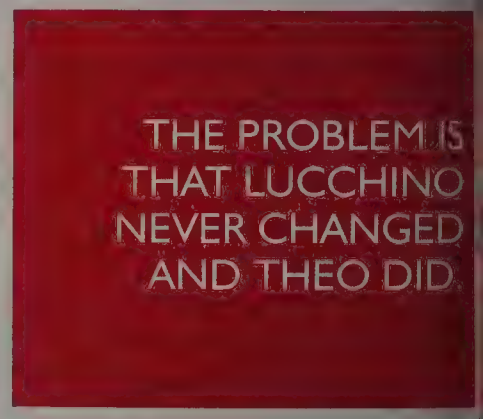
The problems are rooted in the changing power dynamic between Theo and the man who hired him. Realistically, when Theo became general manager three years ago, he wasn't truly the captain of the Good Ship Red Sox—he was more of a first mate. The real skipper maneuvering through the high waters was Lucchino.

Three years later, the job description for general manager hasn't changed (and there's a startlingly long list of baseball execs who've publicly stated that they want no part of it). Lucchino is still the main man, but his protégé has grown up: It's time he moved out of the baseb front-office equivalent of the apartme over Dad's garage.

Theo knew what he was getting into. H was well aware throughout his 14-year r lationship with Lucchino that the S president can be difficult to deal wit Many people in the Sox clubhouse ha expressed to me their displeasure wi Lucchino. There's a strong feeling with the organization that Lucchino is not a ways truthful. It's that simple. I've spok at length with players about this and it's r secret—and certainly no secret to Epstei

So when Theo was watching how th organization dealt with guys like Pedro, h didn't need his Yale degree to figure o that come contract time for himself, he be subjected to the same tricks.

The breach of trust that ultimately dro Theo out of Boston was similar to the issu that spun public sentiment away from Ped and Nomar upon their departures. Priva



information was fed to the media durin those tumultuous times, too.

That said, however, I don't blam Lucchino like most people do. As a matte of fact, I applaud him. The goal was t bring Boston a World Championship, an under his leadership, it happened.

So as much as I like Theo, the job he di and how he did it, this situation goes be yond easily quantifiable issues like a con tract's years and dollars. The problem i that Lucchino never changed and The did. Theo shouldn't walk away mad—jus hold his head high and find another posi tion that will truly give him the keys to th whole organization. I wish Theo nothin but the best. It's too bad his role her couldn't continue. But this is the Red So we're talking about, and that would have been too easy. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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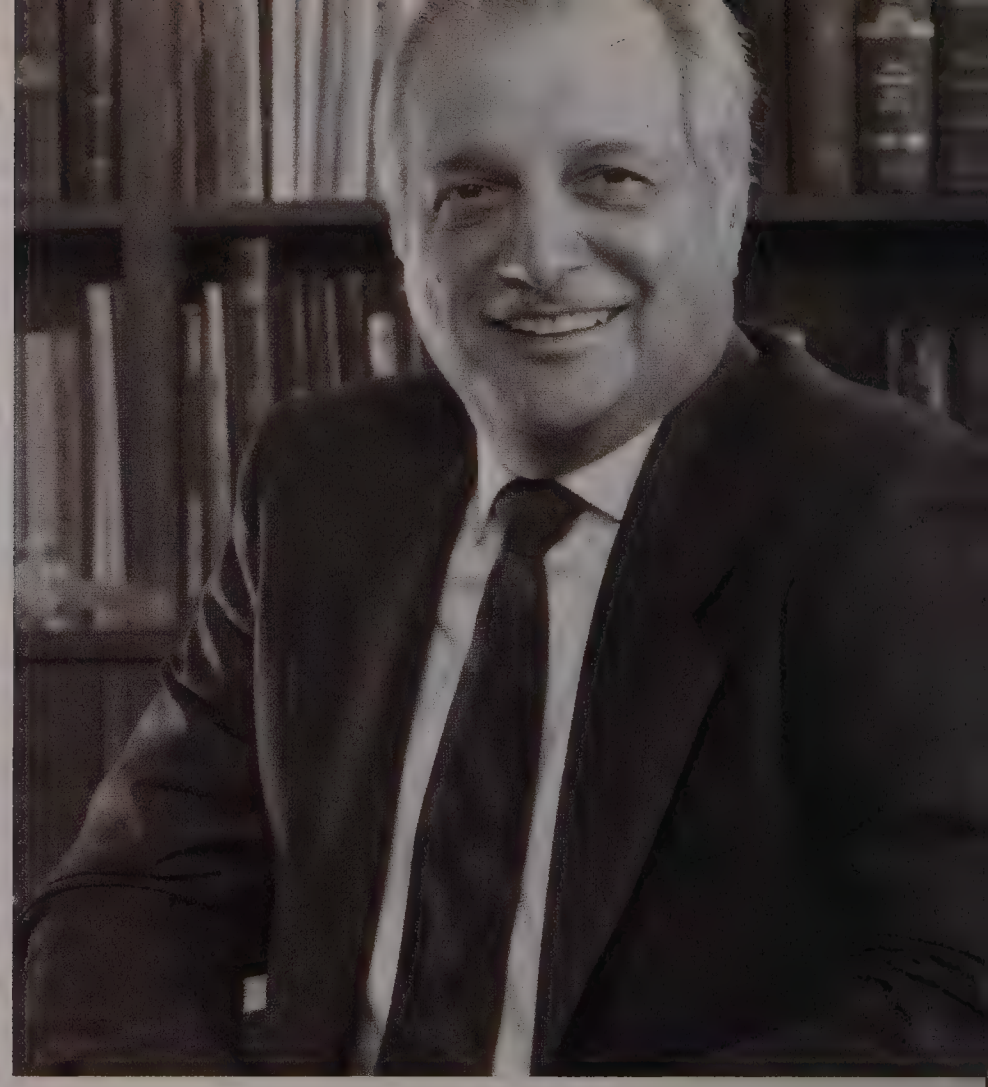

Visionary educator Gregory Adamian is chancellor of Bentley College, after serving as its president for 21 years. Born and raised in Somerville, he attended high school in Brooklyn, N.Y., but returned to Watertown at the age of 16 and went to work before enlisting in the Navy, which paid his way through Harvard.

After graduating, he served on active duty in Asia, then returned to Boston to earn a law degree from B.U. and a Masters in Public Administration from Harvard. He began his academic career as a part-time lecturer in economics and law and joined the Bentley faculty in 1955. Following his wife's death in a 1966 car accident, Adamian launched the landmark legal case that holds liquor vendors liable for injuries to third parties caused by intoxicated patrons. He was elected the fourth president of Bentley in 1970 and oversaw the school's expansion after it moved from cramped downtown Boston quarters to a new Waltham campus. He also helped to grow an endowment of $385,000 in 1970 to $59 million in 1991; the endowment today stands at $200 million. Adamian stepped down as Bentley's president in 1991 and was elected its first chancellor. He and his second wife, Debbie, live in Massachusetts and Florida.

Jonathan Soroff: *Which is more useful: a degree from Harvard or Bentley?*

Gregory Adamian: A degree itself is more useful from Harvard because its reputation is international, and consequently, someone who has a couple of degrees from Harvard, I think, stands a better chance of finding a place in this society. But a Bentley degree gets you a job right away, because the education Bentley students receives is very, very practical. They hit the road running. In the old days, when they used to advertise for an accountant, it would say, "Bentley education desired."

JS: *I went to Duke University, where I majored in drinking, doing drugs and having a good time. I didn't learn that much, yet it's a prestigious school. Don't you think the elite universities are overrated?*

GA: No. It's a stepping stone. You've still got to prove yourself once you're employed, but the great thing about a Duke degree or a Harvard degree is that it gets you in the door, and that's 90 percent of the problem. People assume someone is competent and can do the job well. They need the opportunity, and that elite education, frankly, provides it. I think because I had two degrees from Harvard it prompted the board of Bentley to elect me president. The previous three presidents were accountants.

> SOMEONE WITH DEGREES FROM HARVARD STANDS A BETTER CHANCE OF FINDING A PLACE IN THIS SOCIETY. BUT A BENTLEY DEGREE GETS YOU A JOB RIGHT AWAY.

JS: *How'd you get into Harvard back in the days when it was a bastion of the Old Guard?*

GA: I joined the Navy when I was 17 because I saw an ad in the newspaper that said if you did, you'd get a college education. I was working at the Hood Rubber Co. in Watertown. My parents didn't have tuition money. It was maybe three or four hundred dollars, but you could buy a house back then for $500 down.

JS: *So joining the Navy Air Corps was your ticket to a higher education?*

GA: Yes. I had a scholarship to do flight training. The humorous part of that is that I hate heights, and secondly, I don't like the water.

JS: *What would you say about tuition costs these days?*

GA: I don't know how anybody pays them, they're so tremendously high. But that's the cost of hiring faculty, particularly in the business disciplines. In the outside world, those people make a fortune, so schools have to pay a competitive wage to get them.

JS: *What's your opinion of the current state of higher education in this country?*

GA: I think it's in pretty good shape. There are a lot of people who waltz their way through, because there's a lot of grade inflation. I feel sorry for those people, because they didn't really learn as much as they could have. But at the same time, once they get that passport, that degree, they're more employable.

JS: *How about the admissions process? Doesn't it favor the ass-kissing overachievers rather than the innately intelligent?*

GA: In a sense. There are an awful lot of people who never got good grades, and I would argue it's because they were never engaged in high school, and they never got to go to college. But at Bentley, there were numerous students whom I personally let in because I saw they could be motivated and they did well, while there were people who creamed the SAT—got 1400 or 1500—and flunked out the first semester.

JS: *Best way for someone to get accepted to a competitive school?*

GA: Now everything is numbers. You've gotta really crack the SAT. You've got to make the dean's list. And the fact is that the high school makes a difference. The dean's list at one isn't viewed the same as the dean's list at another.

JS: *One thing no one should graduate from college without knowing?*

GA: I think today the one thing they should understand is ethics and the importance of being honest and having integrity, which is something most colleges don't pay much attention to. Bentley was one of the first colleges in the country to establish a center for business ethics and, more impo tantly, to integrate ethics into the curric lum. It's like computers. When we fi started out, we had a course called "Co puters." That's better than not having an thing, but it was much better when we i tegrated the use of them in all classes. W were one of the first colleges in the count to require laptops.

JS: *What one word would you use to descri your tenure at Bentley?*

GA: Vision. I had an idea of what it cou become when I took over.

JS: *Biggest run-in with students?*

GA: I was pretty lucky. I only had a few them. But shortly after I became preside a group of maybe 50 students marched in my office complaining about the food. said, "I'll look into it." So I went over the cafeteria and ordered an egg sal sandwich and a cup of soup. The soup w cold. The sandwich was terrible. So called over the manager and said, "E this." I fired him that day, and then t food improved.

JS: *Accomplishment you're proudest of?*

GA: Changing Bentley from a school th offered one degree, in accounting, into o that offers a variety of degrees. We no offer advanced degrees, and that fulfills m dream of changing a two-year accountin school into one that offers numerous d grees, including doctorates. That's mirac lous. But every time I see the buildi there that's named after me, I have pinch myself. I think you really ought to dead before they do that.

JS: *Last question: The nicest thing anyone ever said about you?*

GA: Probably when I got an honorary d gree from B.U. and John Silber called m "The second founder of Bentley College."

unmistakably

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the it list

BY EZRA DYER

"What is it?" asked Faith No More in their seminal 1990 hit single, "Epic." They answered their own question in the next line with the conclusion, "It's it." Well… What else is "it," besides a Stephen King book about a scary clown who lives in the sewer? According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, "it" can be a noun, a pronoun or an acronym that's applied to the titles of guys who actually know what a firewall is. But for our purposes, we're going to add a new definition. It: adjective denoting a person, item or trend that is of the moment, on the cusp of becoming a full-fledged phenomenon or otherwise worthy of notice. For instance, Uggs were it last year but are no longer it. Flat-screen TVs, Matthew McConaughey and Harry Potter are all it. And now, allow us to identify 20 more it-worthy entries with a local focus. Have at it.

SHAG

"Fish where the fishermen aren't," says Sandy Poirier (pictured), owner of Shag salon in Southie. Indeed, in a neighborhood dominated by storefront walk-in salons, Shag stands out like Dennis Rodman in a 4H meeting. The location itself looks like someone's cool-ass loft that happens to have a few barber chairs strewn about it, while the "rock star" theme extends from the DJ equipment sitting in the corner (used during monthly parties) to Poirier's own righteous goatee, which makes Dave Navarro's look like Fisher Price's My First Facial Hair. Funky ambiance is all well and good, but Shag actually backs up the bravado with a team of seriously talented stylists who can handle everything from a boy's regular to...you name it. Last month, MTV was here filming an episode of *Made*. The subjects wanted to become rock stars. They got the hair right, at least. *840 Summer St., Boston (617-268-2500). www.shagboston.com.*

Stella is one of Washington Street's hottest dining destinations.

WASHINGTON STREET

In its September issue, *Bon Appetit* ran a feature story posing the question, "Could Washington Street become the next restaurant capital of the Northeast?" The South End main drag certainly appears to be on its way. Beloved hipster hangout Pho Republique, where everybody knows everybody else through three degrees of separation, was once the main attraction on Washington. As popular as ever, Pho now also has inventive California transplant Victor Sodsook helming the kitchen. Within a few blocks in either direction, Pho has been joined by Union, Caffe Umbra, Evan Deluty's Stella, Seiyo and swank retail stores like Lekker Unique Home Furnishings. The latest arrivals to the scene, Ken Oringer's Toro and, a block off Washington, Latin kitchen Orinoco, indicate that the area is only gaining momentum—an impression that can be confirmed on any given night by glancing through the window at Stella's consistently packed dining room. If that's not enough evidence of Washington Street's newfound status, we point you to the 7-Eleven just down the street from the Brix Wine Shop. It has a fancy sign, just like the one in Beacon Hill. When a neighborhood forces its local purveyor of butts and lotto tickets to assume the appearance of a quaint antiques store, the area has truly arrived.

HONEYPUMP.NET

Feel like a lame-o because you know every word of the latest Kanye West album yet the only local band you can name is Aerosmith? Honeypump.net (and especially the associated message board, www.board.honeypump.net) is a vast repository of information on what's what with local bands and shows. OK, so maybe 10 percent of the posts on the board are actually about music, but where else are you going to learn about performances in cafés by bands like Polski Fiat? Whether you're a local music insider or not, Honeypump is a great resource for news about shows and bands—and when you're done with that, you can (to cite one recent example) argue about why "OK" is spelled with two capital letters.

IKEA

If you build it, they will come. In this case, "it" is the new IKEA in Stoughton, a Mecca for those who worship at the altar of inexpensive, self-assembled Swedish furniture. The traffic snarls at the new store have been well publicized, but exactly how many people have trekked to Stoughton's Svede Svperstore? Ikea doesn't divulge customer numbers or sales, but they did offer a clue to quantify their success: On the first day alone, the store's cafeteria sold an astounding 24,580 meatballs—Swedish meatballs, of course. *1 IKEA Way, Stoughton (617-344-4532). www.ikea.com.*

TEXT MESSAGING (FOR PEOPLE YOU DON'T REALLY WANT TO TALK TO)

It's the best way to "talk" to someone you don't really want to talk to: the text message. Sure, it's a pain in the

TEMPER CHOCOLATE CLASSES

Temper Chocolate's Caroline Yeh leads classes at the Hotel Commonwealth designed to educate cocoa lovers in the same way wine tastings cater to oenophiles. And, like wine, exotic chocolates are best sampled in small doses, so you can take a world chocolate tour without OD'ing. Eating chocolate under the guise of education: an idea whose time has come, as evidenced by Yeh's consistently packed classes. The next one meets Dec. 15. *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-375-2255). www.temperchocolates.com.*

ass to hack your way through a message with an alphanumeric keypad, but in the long run it's still quicker than defending yourself for a half-hour because you're bailing on Scrabble Night to watch your favorite TiVo'd episode of Taradise. Text message: We'll luv u 4evr.

O'BRIEN'S

While O'Brien's in Allston is mixing up its musical rotation with new additions like a weekly alt/dark country night, promoter Ben Sisto says he's not out to reinvent the purple Mohawk: "None of us have ANY—and I can't stress this enough—any intention of displacing the metal, grind, thrash and punk bands who have helped keep O'Brien's afloat. We just want it to be a bit more varied. We feel that with the right promotion and bands, O'Briens can be known as a really good spot for small- to mid-draw bands to play, get noticed and win over fans." The idea is that O'Brien's will complement Great Scott in a manner similar to the Middle East's upstairs and downstairs shows—if a band develops a solid following at O'Brien's, they might get a shot to play Great Scott, which is under the same ownership. That kind of band farm system is good for local musicians and live-music fans alike, and it promises to amp up the live music scene on the BU side of the Charles. *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). www.obriens.purp.org.*

ART INTERACTIVE

Whatever your conception of art galleries, Art Interactive in Cambridge doesn't likely fit your mental picture. With an emphasis on participation from the viewer, a healthy dose of technology and a clever sense of humor, Art Interactive's events appeal to a much wider audience than just avant-garde art aficionados—hence their frequently packed exhibition openings. Consider the following descriptions of events that were part of this fall's Glowlab Festival: The DIY Wearable Challenge invited participants to "make an interactive outfit from Cambridge trash and discarded electronics." Another event took attendees on a stroll around Cambridge with the express goal of saying hello to strangers. Yet another offered this cryptic come-on: "Visitors can talk to trees on their cell phones and launch secret messages into the sky." At an Art Interactive event, you're not just a part of the party, you're a part of the art. *130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org.*

MUSK WEDNESDAYS AT MIDWAY CAFÉ

The full name of the night is the Musk Electrodisco Dance Party, and the man on the wheels of steel is David Daniel Geissler, also known as DJ Area D. "I call it Electrodisco

THE DISPLAY WINDOW AT MICHELE MERCALDO JEWELRY

It seems that Shreve, Crump & Low doesn't have a monopoly on the drool-inducing jewelry display window. Michele Mercaldo's Shawmut Avenue display window changes themes, along with the art on her studio's walls, roughly every three months, transitioning along with the seasons. "I've been working with Team Creative, my friends Allessandra Mondolfi and Tyler Evans," Mercaldo says. "They gather or grow or make all aspects of the window, and my husband, Gary Knell, helps with all the installations and initial concepts. I always decide what the window will be, but they make it happen. I would like to be more hands-on, but I'm usually focused on my four-year-old son during the installs." The current winter window features a pine forest theme, complete with a real moss floor, that required "two pickup trucks and a tractor" to gather the materials. If you want to see her stunning winter setup, get there before your window closes. *280 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-350-7909). www.michelemercaldo.com*

RESTROOM TECHNOLOGY

You're out and about, you've had a few drinks, and it's time to hit the loo. The M.O. is to get in, get out and get back to business, and to that end some public bathrooms are better than others. Specifically, we like bathrooms that try a little harder than they have to. Video screens above the urinals like at Houston's? Genius. Running water in the ceiling panels at 28 Degrees? Super-genius. And finally, there's a new soldier in the long battle between paper towels and hand dryers: the XLerator (as seen in Big City, Boston Beer Garden and numerous others). If you haven't used one, the XLerator is a hand dryer with so much thrust, you expect it to rip itself off the wall and launch into the troposphere. It makes your hands look like an astronaut's face during liftoff. And it actually gets them dry.

HEALTHY FAST FOOD

Just because you're in a rush to eat doesn't mean you have to settle for a drive-thru heart-attack platter at the nearest McFranchise. Healthy fast food joints are proliferating around Boston faster than you can say "baked French fries." KnowFat Lifestyle Grille has had such success with its four current locations (including one in Downtown Crossing that became a favorite noshing spot for Billy Crystal when he was in town for *700 Sundays*) that four more restaurants are on the way at the Landmark Center, Waltham, Bedford and Logan Airport. B. Good on Dartmouth Street has found a loyal following with offerings like the Carolina BBQ turkey burger—a mere 325 calories—and recently added a second store on Dunster Street in Cambridge. Finally, the proprietors of Stonyfield Farm yogurt have dipped their tofurkey into the healthy fast-food waters with O'Naturals in Somerville, the first Boston location of a chain that's now four strong. Their menu includes the words "free-range," "grass-fed" and "organic," and that's just the listing for the Wrangler sandwich. If healthy fast-food joints keep proliferating at this rate, Burger King might want to make a preemptive move and trademark the word "vegnormous."

O'Natural's pesto chicken with brie and root vegetables is served on organic flatbread. You can wash it down with organic iced tea.

because the night encompasses the entire modern dance era," Geissler says. The key to the night's success, he says, is getting people comfortable with familiar tunes before plunging them headfirst into the unknown. "I play '70s era disco early in the evening to warm people up and then '80s dance music gets 'em all out on the floor. By the time I delve into the '90s club era, the party is really pumpin'. Then I slip on the hip-hop. Now the crowd is primed for the more bizarre underground electro you would hear nowhere else. And people dance with abandon, hurling themselves into it in a sort of primitive ritual." Musk also includes live music with a dance bent. "The live acts I book, like Plunge Into Death, Angela and Cassette, are all dance-oriented and have a strong performance aesthetic," Geissler says. Musk is such a hit, it's beginning to outgrow its original [illegible] and expand into weekend shows with Musk Freakin' Friday and Musk Saturday Night Furor, giving the hipster crowd even more incentive to sling back the cheap brewskis late into the night. *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.midwaycafe.com.*

NEPTUNE OYSTERS

With the Union Oyster House being America's oldest restaurant, Bostonians have clearly had a thing for the pearl-harboring mollusks for quite a little while. However (cue *Seinfeld* theme), what's the deal with oysters lately? It seems every neighborhood now has its own oyster emporium, and perhaps the hottest spot to slurp down the briny critter is in a neighborhood better known for its spaghetti than its shellfish—the North End. Specifically, Neptune Oyster on Salem Street is the destination du jour for oysters, its 26 seats and 16 barstools consistently accommodating a capacity crowd. Maybe men are from Mars and women are from Venus, but both of them seem to enjoy a little Neptune *63 Salem St., Boston (617-742-3474).*

LOUNGES

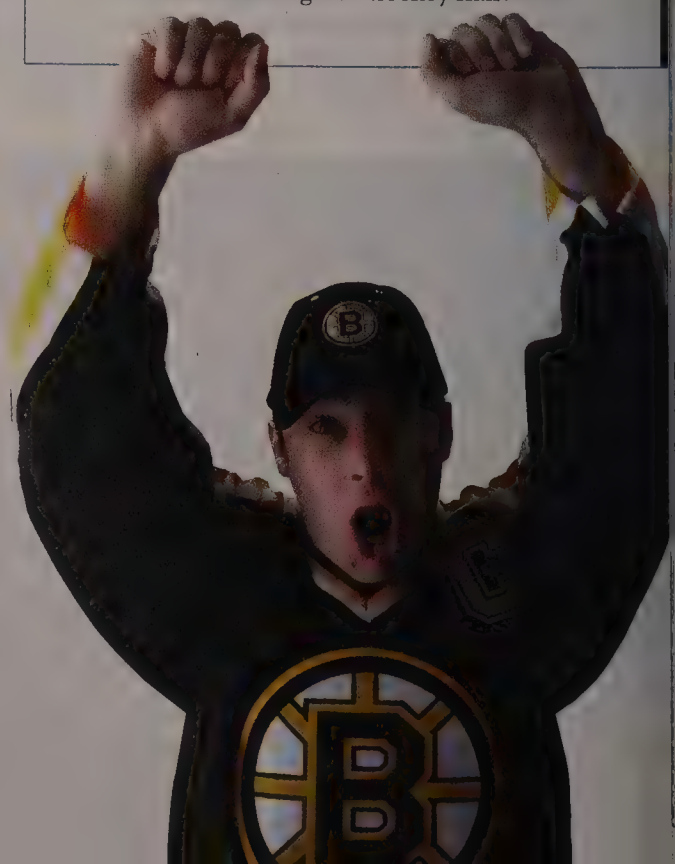
Fans of drinks and conversation, rejoice: Sitting around i the new dancing. For exhibit A, see the explosion o nightlife establishments devoted to the fine art of lazin about, gabbing and sipping beverages—without fear tha your drink will end up on the floor courtesy of an overen thusiastic performance of the Worm. A lounge, by our de finition, is an upscale room with an open floor plan an lots of couches and/or comfy chairs arranged in such way as to facilitate intimate group convos. Food may b served, but it's more of a complement to a lengthy martin list than a primary attraction, and music tends to be chi and not overpowering (though DJs are welcome). Fres establishments that fit this template include the Founda tion Lounge, 28 Degrees, 6B, 180, the Middlesex Loung and even a decidedly loungesque salon, Enzo & Co., o Newbury Street (Enzo's lounge is an all-white space offer ing coffee, tea, espresso and italian sodas). Besides all th new places, the staying power of two of the leaders of th lounge revolution—Saint and Cambridge's Enormou Room—proves the allure of a laid-back vibe.

DANE COOK

How is Arlington-bred comedian Dane Cook blowing up Let us count the ways. His latest standup album, *Retaliation* debuted at number four on the Billboard 200 chart, th

THE BRUINS

Ye of little faith did underestimate the devotion of Boston's hockey fans. Pundits predicted that after last year's lockout, embittered followers of the black and yellow would stay away in droves. Thus far, that's not been the case. The Bruins sold out six of their first 11 home games, and through the first five games the B's outdrew the Celtics in attendance, 83,137 to 72,417 (this despite the fact that the TD Banknorth Garden has 1,059 more seats when configured for basketball). It remains to be seen whether they'll maintain that pace into next spring—especially minus the star power of Joe Thornton—but right now the Bruins are the Gahden's hot ticket. Long live hockey hair!



highest debut in 26 years for a comedy album. Next month he's starting work on two feature films, both leading roles. And by the time you read this, the man who once declined to audition for the cast of *Saturday Night Live* because he didn't think he was ready will have taken the stage in New York—not as a cast member, but as the host. We just hope that amidst all this success, Cook remembers what got him here: thoughtful, heartfelt soliloquies about the important topics that define our lives, such as the need to own a pet monkey to dress up in armor and fight with when we get home from work. *www.danecook.com*

FAKE EYELASHES

From Los Angeles to London, eyelash extensions are finding their way onto the moneyed lids of ladies like Victoria Beckham, Paris Hilton and Lindsay Lohan. The reasons are twofold: You get that sexy Betty Boop look and don't have to apply mascara besides. In Boston, Michaud Cosmedix offers synthetic lashes that last for six weeks, starting at $150. That's not exactly cheap, but for its sheer aesthetic impact, we're going to have to agree with your therapist on this one—go ahead and lash out. *69 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-1607).*

MIX TAPES

The mix tape is all the rage in New York right now, even more so than tucking your jeans into your boots. Mix tapes, which persist with their original moniker despite the obsolescence of the cassette tape, are put out by numerous DJs—Jam'n 94.5's DJ Pup Dawg is a mix-tape force in Boston—and seem to be viewed as a benign means of grassroots music promotion by the record labels. Making a mix tape isn't brain surgery, but it underscores the idea that the foremost talent of a DJ, before remixing, scratching or anything else, is playing music that people want to hear. **iB**

ASHMONT GRILL

What do the phrases "The neighborhood haunt everyone wants in their neighborhood" and "It doesn't get much more appealing" have in common? Well, rarely do the *Herald* and *Globe* see eye to eye on anything, but in this case those quotes are excerpts from the two papers' reviews of Chris Douglass' new Ashmont Grill in Dorchester. It's admirable enough that the Ashmont Grill endeavors to provide high-end comfort food in a neighborhood bereft of such restaurants, but it also provides a charming flair (fleece blankets and a firepit for dining outside, for instance) that would be welcome anywhere. *555 Talbot Ave., Dorchester (617-825-4300). www.ashmontgrill.com.*

SARAH BORGES

Carrie Underwood should be glad that Sarah Borges didn't unleash her stunning pipes on *American Idol Season 4*, because there likely wouldn't have been room for two Oklahoma-born country-singing hotties on the final stage. As it is, Borges, who studied musical theater at Emerson College, is one of the biggest up-and-coming talents on the local scene, and music critics are nearly unanimous in the opinion that she's destined for greatness. Last September the *Hollywood Reporter* dubbed Borges "one performer nobody should miss – she's the goods," while Puremusic.com called her "the new Americana artist to watch this year." A vocalist and quick-fingered guitar player, the 27-year-old Borges rips through her sets with a playful ferocity that never fails to engage the crowd, lending a whiff of punk to her essentially country sound. Her next step, says Borges, is to "do everything we've done already, but on the next level: tour as much as we can, play bigger venues and put out a new record." Our advice: check out Borges' debut album, *Silver City*. Then find out when she's next playing Boston (ahem... Dec. 9 at the Lizard Lounge) and go see her, so that when she's bringing down the house on *Saturday Night Live* in a year or two, you'll be able to say you saw her way back when. *www.sarahborges.com*

Neighbors flock to Ashmont Grill's giant outdoor patio.

EASTIE UNCOVERED

The neighborhood's dining treasures help define its character. Can they hold on in the face of gangbuster development?

BY PHIL AMARA PHOTOGRAPHS BY JASON WALLENGREN

Whoever devised the name "EaBo" to market East Boston should 'fess up so he/she can be shot from a catapult into the Chelsea River. The fact that someone's attempting to slap a new identity on the neighborhood suggests, mistakenly, that it doesn't have much of one in the first place. East Boston—acquired by General William Sumner in the 1830s when it was still called Noddle Island—has had its ups and downs. No argument there. It continues a love-hate relationship with Logan Airport, and older residents still stew over losing Wood Island Park in 1966 to accommodate more runways.

But this sizable area east (northeast, really) of greater Boston is no longer a mere wormhole for folks living in Peabody and other parts of the North Shore. And although Logan has been there since 1923, neither is Eastie simply a Blue Line stop for air travelers. Italian Americans have been calling it home since 1915, and now so do Latinos and other ethnic groups. Development has been gangbusters. Take, for example, Piers Park—a pristine new public space with a cinematic waterfront view across the harbor. The Maverick Square housing projects are gone. Near what was the old Imprescia olive factory, a brand-spankin'-new YMCA will open. The Greenway project, which will stretch to Belle Isle Marsh, will be bicycle heaven, and T stations continue to be refurbished. Rumors persist of Starbucks' imminent landing. The converted firehouse on Marion Street—recently featured on WCVB-TV's *Chronicle*—is going for a cool million.

All that said, East Boston isn't being gentrified so much as it's regenerating. It's still mostly an Italian-American neighborhood that enjoys a tonic, a spuckie, the odd fichi d'india (cactus pear) and knows the difference between gravy and sauce. In the summer, locals still get slush from that tiny spot on Bennington Street that non-locals can never find. Can Eastie withstand a wave of yuppies looking for the next up-and-coming neighborhood or a java chain or two? No doubt, but only if it continues to feel "of" the city, and if the new throngs of residents don't push out the neighborhood treasures.

Enough food for you? At Roy's, a super Italian sub (above) looks like it can feed a whole family, while rows and rows of candies (left) are sirens to the sugar-obsessed. Below, at Rino's filetto di pomodoro (cheese ravioli with fresh plum tomato sauce and basil) displays its sizable charms.

Opposite page: top, a view of Boston from Piers Park after sunset; below, Rino's draws a range of diners.

Like Machu Picchu or Area 51, Eastie has its own rich secrets: Its food is phenomenal. This is partly due to an overimpacted North End and the attractiveness of lower rents in Eastie. One cannot live on Bricco alone, nor can a community support 20 pizzerias. Thanks largely to the Ted Williams Tunnel, East Boston is no longer a beaver dam of traffic. For chefs, Eastie is now a viable alternative to the North End.

"East Boston used to be the wall that separated you," says chef Pietro DelViscovo of Zafferano, which moved to East Boston in July of 2004. "No longer. Now, you don't fight traffic. You don't worry about parking. The North End is too congested. The rent is high, maybe eight to 12 thousand a month to open a place. East Boston has changed. Once, it seemed too far. But it's not."

No bones about it, what East Boston gained when Zafferano moved from the North End is a flagship Italian restaurant with a capital "I." When DelViscovo offers his acute knowledge on traditional food of the old country, or you hear Pina (Pietro's wife, and a fourth-generation gelato maker from Avellino, just east of Naples) speaking in her mother tongue, you can't help but feel close to Italia, whether you've been there or not.

"Italians eat unbelievably well," says DelViscovo. He's not kidding. Try the homemade gnocchi or ravioli, the homemade monachina cake (made with yellow pastry creme, chocolate creme and amerana cherries), or DelViscovo's signature saffron limoncello shrimp, and chances are you'll whisper to your dinner mate, "Let's keep this place to ourselves, shall we?"

A place like Zafferano isn't courting only locals. People may have moved to Winchester or Wellesley to get away from the city. But when it comes to dining out, finding that off-the-path neighborhood spot has more allure than the restaurant in the strip mall next to Barnes & Noble.

Rino's is clearly one of those secret places. In the late 1970s, the Peter Falk movie *The Brinks Job* filmed scenes in East Boston. At night, locals crowded Saratoga Street to catch a glimpse of Colombo himself filming the diner scene in what is now Rino's. The space is cozy, so expect to wait in line outside. Inside, it's a friendly character study between the group of friends that live in Revere and the older couple that's come from Danvers. No matter. Good food bridges the difference. Catch a whiff of the fragrant chicken marsala or braciolatini (roast beef) before it even reaches your table. By far the two dishes to try are the risotto with wild mushrooms, asparagus and scallops, and the handmade—wallet-size—ravioli filled with sweet cream ricotta.

To explore East Boston is to sense how connected most of these places are to the community. Case in point: Roy's. "[It was] opened in 1960 by my parents, Roy and Celia. I was three," says Roy Antonuccio, Jr. "They started with $300 they borrowed. We lived in the two rooms behind the store for the first 10 years because they couldn't afford double rent."

EAT

BETTY ANN FOOD SHOP
565 Bennington St., 617-567-1479

EL BUEN GUSTO
295 Bennington St., 617-561-6333

RINO'S
258 Saratoga St., 617-567-7412

ROY'S
198 Marion St, 617-567-9760

SANTARPIO'S
111 Chelsea St., 617-567-9871

ZAFFERANO
999 Saratoga St., 617-561-2922

At Zafferano, a waiter sets tables (right) which might later hold cheese ravioli with sage butter sauce (below).

Nowadays, he runs the Marion Street sandwich shop that harkens back to days when Ea Boston had corner stores every few blocks. Imagine a primordial version of Lambert's in Dorch ester. That's Roy's. Now imagine generous subs filled with chicken cutlets or soppressata an provolone, loaves of scala bread, shelves of Necco and Boyer candy, and Antonuccio knowin you by name. The menu board reminds you that they have fresh mozzarella, and includes friendly note about street cleaning days.

Betty Ann Food Shop was around when trolleys ruled Bennington Street. The Scantlebu family stills runs the bakery and serves up scones, made from a recipe the family brought ov from Cornwall, England, sugar-dusted donuts and slow-simmered baked beans. The exterior so unassuming, you'll drive by 10 times before you notice it, yet locals who have been comin here for years could find it with their eyes closed.

Santarpio's needs no introduction. It could do with less exposure. It's so good that some pe ple would rather eat here than meet Tom Brady.

"I remember the smell of Santarpio's just a half block away from my house. It's the best pizza in th country, and I hate pizza," says Pino Maffeo, chef extr ordinaire at Boston's Restaurant L, and former longtim Eastie resident.

"My in-laws spent their Saturday nights at Sablone and we sometimes joined them," recalls Michelline D Fort, former executive director for the Spinazzola Found tion and current CEO for the New Hampshire Restaura and Lodging Association. "I remember discovering Sa tarpio's, which is worth going to for the 'show,' forget th most irresistible pizza in the world."

Michael Stern—food author, *Gourmet* writer, and fr quent guest on NPR's *The Splendid Table* with his wif Jane—puts it best: "I love the unrepentant old-neighbo hood atmosphere. The pizza, the charcoal sausage an lamb...it's hard to imagine how gentrification anywher within five blocks wouldn't negatively impact the Santa pio's experience."

One to watch is El Buen Gusto, opened this past Jul While Maverick Square is top-heavy with grocerias an taquerias that seem to be hitting the same notes, Frar cisco Perlera and his mother/cook Lidia are dishing up au thentic El Salvadoran food in a space that looks made fo the Cape, not Day Square. Their story resembles those c earlier generations of Italian immigrants that settled i the area. "My connection to Eastie began as an imm grant, following my family. I came to East Boston in 199 My family emigrated from El Salvador due to the civil wa in the mid 1980s. I was the last member of my family t arrive in Boston."

Through El Buen Gusto, Perlera is educating the unin tiated on the subtle yet important differences in Latin food. "A pupusa is a typical dish made with a corn tortill and cheese or pork, with vegetables or refried bean cooked on a grill. The pupusa is unique to El Salvador."

El Buen Gusto is the kind of place that's good for Eastie. Aside from the food, it's added t the diversity of the community organically. And it's a nice reminder that the folks living her can influence East Boston's future with their own personal vision.

Stephen Rushmore, Cambridge native and creator of roadfood.com, expands: "If restaurant gets discovered by a new socio-economic class, the owner might decide to ac commodate the surging demand. Expansion then puts the restaurant at risk of becoming 'tourist trap.' The No-Name expanded into new space and started to accommodate group and tourist buses. The higher volume has led to a loss of charm and the quality of the prod uct suffered."

Even in neighborhood-friendly Portland, Ore., a city co-founded by Bostonian Asa Lovejoy there's a megablock of repurposed red-brick factories called the Pearl District. It caters to th "cheese plate" sector so wantonly that it seems separate from the city itself. Developers, pleas note: No one comes to the city just to eat at P.F. Chang's or shop at The Gap.

The neighborhood can deal with the opening of Jamba Juice and other strip mall mainstays But it's the nuances—generations-old bakeries, corner stores, a hole-in-the wall for inimitabl lemon slush—that have made Eastie work. Maffeo suggests that Eastie could benefit from dust ing off more of the trappings of its nostalgic past like cobblestone streets, brick sidewalks an gas-lit street lamps. "Then every other aspect would fall in place." A horse-drawn carriage clip clopping through Eastie's Central Square or past little A&L bakery around Christmas woul indeed be a sight.

While EaBo is a self-important, theoretical land of artist lofts, boutique hotels and doggy sweaters dreamed up by folks with expensive shoes, East Boston is an actual place. Thankfully one Starbucks can't change that. iB

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— Jack Welch, *Winning*

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holiday replay

Boston sports stars share their memories of Christmas past.

BY LENNY MEGLIOLA

Christmas approaches, and we're all kids again. The meaning of the big day and the memories of past Christmases transcend age. Families gather, many of them reunited from afar, to exchange gifts but mostly to share good will, laugh and reminisce. It's a time when people eat, drink and put their problems aside for a while. Since the sports fan observes no holiday, you can bet banter by the fireplace will turn to the Red Sox and Patriots, the Bruins and Celtics; it's inevitable. No one, however, will have to wonder what Christmas was like for the athletes when they were kids, because we decided to ask.

Flutie, age 7, in Melbourne Beach, Fla.

DOUG FLUTIE, PATRIOTS QB AND LIVING LEGEND

The Flutie family moved to Natick from Melbourne Beach, Fla. Christmas comes around and what does Flutie ask for? Ice skates! Needless to say, he didn't do any pond skating in Melbourne Beach. He couldn't skate a lick, but there weren't many sports Flutie, now 43, wouldn't try. Besides football, he also starred in basketball and baseball at Natick High. He still plays a lot of hoops during the off-season.

"When I got those skates I was about 13," says Flutie, one of four children. "We didn't have a lot of money. It wasn't like we were opening presents all day. I remember the anticipation, peeking at the gifts Christmas Eve. We couldn't wait to wake up our parents the next morning. When I got the skates we went over to Lake Waban by Wellesley College." Flutie was a natural at most sports, but skating was totally foreign. Still, he enjoyed hockey enough to play goalie in a men's league later on.

In fact, he says his all-time favorite Christmas gift came from his future wife, Laurie, when they were dating in high school. "She gave me my first quality pair of ice skates." True love comes in many forms.

Doug and Laurie have two teenage children and Christmas is still a big deal. The downside, however, are the Christmases Flutie had to miss because of his profession. He's spent a number of holidays in a hotel room. "One year, the first time I was with the Patriots (1986-89), Christmas was on a Wednesday and Coach Ray Berry took the team to Miami on Tuesday because we were playing the Dolphins that Sunday. I spent Christmas in a little hotel room in Florida."

It wasn't the last time he spent Christmas in a hotel room. Last year when Flutie played for the San Diego Chargers, the team was in Atlanta Christmas week. Another hotel room. To give it some holiday spirit, "My roommate Tim Dwight and I got a Christmas tree and put it in the room," says Flutie.

Just before Christmastime my grades would suddenly improve. Best thing I ever got was a blue bike when I was eight years old."

—Paul Pierce

PAUL PIERCE, THE TRUTH

It was none other than Shaquille O'Neal who gave Pierce his nickname. Now, that's how the Celtics captain is introduced at home games: "Number 34, The Truth...Paul Pierce!!!"

Truth was though, when Pierce, 28, was growing up in California, he wasn't fully applying himself in school. His mother, Lorraine, duly took note. "A lot of times, because of my grades, there were no presents for me at Christmas," Pierce recalls.

But she had to see his report card first.

Young Paul finally caught on. "Just before Christmastime my grades would suddenly improve," he says coyly. And so would the gift situation. "Best thing I ever got was a blue bike when I was eight years old."

By the time he got to high school, Pierce wanted a car for Christmas, but he didn't dare ask. His mom wasn't exactly rolling in dough. "I appreciated the things she got me at Christmas."

And though Lorraine couldn't afford to buy him a car in his youth, Pierce certainly could afford to buy her anything she needed after he signed a multimillion-dollar contract with the Celtics. "First thing I bought her was a new house," he says. "And a car."

BRONSON ARROYO, RED SOX ROCKER

Now that Arroyo, 28, has made a name for himself as a big-league pitcher, he's working on a music career on the side, playing the guitar and singing. He's cut a couple of CDs. Strange, that he never wanted a guitar for Christmas.

In fact, the holiday season, Boston style, is foreign to Arroyo, who grew up in Key West Florida and still resides in the Sunshine State. "I've been in Boston in the winter and I actually like snow, walking down Newbury Street," says Arroyo. "But I don't want to be in it every day."

Arroyo has spent all his Christmases in Florida. "Christmas in the Keys," Arroyo muses, "That's funny, huh? I'd wake up Christmas morning in shorts and flip-flops. No socks."

His parents tricked him into believing in Santa Claus until Bronson was about 10. And how did they pull that off? "One year my mother woke me up and showed me Santa putting presents under the tree. But she said 'Make sure he doesn't see you.' It was really my father who had rented a Santa suit." To the wide-eyed Bronson, it was really Santa, which only reinforced his belief. "I'd write him letters, asking for four things in order, 1-2-3-4, of what I wanted most.

"We were a middle-class family and my older sister and I got pretty much everything we wanted. I never asked for anything off the wall."

Like snowshoes.

MIKE ERUZIONE, OLYMPIC HOCKEY STAR

Eruzione, 51, scored the winning goal against the seemingly indomitable Russians in the historic 1980 Winter Olympics at Lake Placid. He never played pro hockey but has made a handsome living talking about that memorable gold medal–winning year for the U.S. hockey team.

Eruzione grew up in Winthrop and still lives there. "Christmas in our house was awesome. There were six kids. We lived on the second floor of a triple decker. On the first floor was the Jaworski family with three kids and on the third were the Fucillos with five kids. We were all related. As soon as we opened our presents we'd run up and down the floors to see what the other kids got. The best gifts I ever got were two hockey sticks when I was 9 or 10. We didn't have a lot of money, so those sticks had to last all year. [illegible] dad buy the sticks? Oh no. Santa Claus brought them."

TOM FITZGERALD, BOSTON BRUINS HOMEBOY

Fitzgerald, 37, is from Billerica and is finally playing for the home team. It took him a while. He played for New York (the Islanders), Florida, Colorado, Nashville, Chicago and Toronto before signing with Boston as a free agent last summer.

Fitzgerald has a brother, Scott, a year younger, and as kids they were practically treated as twins on Christmas morning. "Scott would open a gift and pull out a blue sweatshirt. I'd pull out a red one. Same thing, different color. What I wanted most was to be a goalie. I wanted a goalie mask and gloves for when we played street hockey. I'd drop hints, but every Christmas morning I'd wake up and it wasn't there. I was disappointed."

But his father, Tom Sr., was a hard-working longshoreman, so Fitzgerald didn't complain.

At Austin Prep, Fitzgerald was a star forward on a team that won a state championship. He got a hockey scholarship to attend Providence College, then was drafted by the Islanders in 1986. He's been a pro ever since, so not becoming a goalie as a kid worked out just fine.

The National Hockey League shuts down at Christmas so the players can spend the holiday at home. "You know you're going to have two days with your family," says Fitzgerald, who has four sons, three of whom are already seriously into hockey. Their dad is a volunteer coach for their teams when he's around, which isn't often enough for him. That means the burden of getting the kids to the games falls on his wife of 14 years, Kerry. "On any weekend she could have four hockey games to drive the kids to," says Fitzgerald. "She deserves the credit."

After the kids opened their presents, the families all congregated at the Eruziones fo dinner. Then Eruzione's dad, Eugene, known as "Jeep," would provide entertainment "He sang some songs in Italian. He had a very good voice. My mother and four sister could all sing. Music was part of my life."

So much so that Eruzione was in a high school show and sang in a choir, but quit because some boys teased him. Jocks just didn't do stuff like that back then. If he were a kid today, Eruzione says he'd mix sports and music.

The family has stayed close all these years. "My dad lives in the same house, and I live wo houses down. My mother-in-law is just down the street. My kids have great Christ-ıases, but nothing like we had."

M.L. CARR, FORMER CELTICS PLAYER AND COACH

Carr, 54, played for the Celtics during the golden era of Bird, McHale and Parrish. When he coached the Celtics, he also ran basketball operations and drafted Antoine Walker. Carr lives in Weston even though he has an ownership stake in the Charlotte Bobcats. It's a far cry from his humble beginnings in tiny Wallace, N.C.

"It was a poor area, but Christmas was a great time. There were five of us kids and my ather, who didn't go past the third grade. He always told us a Christmas story before he ave us our gifts. We got fruit baskets, fruits and nuts that weren't always there for us any ther time of the year. It was a little thing, but it was huge for us kids. He'd tell us Christmas wasn't about the gifts, it was about the gift of life given to us. There'd be a Christmas prayer, then we'd go play with our toys."

The Carr kids would spend Christmas with their cousins, and there were plenty of hem. "My dad had a twin brother who had 15 kids. We had more Carrs than General Motors. Christmas was great because we all shared our gifts. We lived in a poor agricul-ural town, so we went around to the houses to show what we had got."

TAYLOR TWELLMAN, NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION SOCCER STAR

The St. Louis native led the MLS in goals scored this season. Twell-man, 25, has become the face of the Revs and last month became the first player in franchise history to win MLS MVP.

A go-kart was the most memorable Christmas gift Twellman ever got, and what happened the day he got it is unforgettable. "My father started it up in the kitchen. I thought that was cool. Then somebody opened the kitchen door and my brother drove right through and crashed into a basketball pole.

"I grew up in a sports family. The weather in St. Louis was kind of weird. One Christmas you could be playing golf, the next year you'd be playing hockey outdoors. At Christmas I always wished for the newest video game and Nike shoes. Soccer took hold when I was a freshman at the University of Maryland. I was there on a baseball scholarship." He had to make a choice. "Thank God I chose soccer."

Three-year-old Taylor in North Brook, Ill.

The best gift ever? "When I was 12 I got a red bicycle. It was like getting a Mercedes now."

Carr's dad was named John Henry, also the name of the very wealthy owner of the Red Sox. "I don't want anyone thinking he's my dad," Carr joked, "but if he wants to adopt me I'm available."

MIKE LYNCH, WCVB-TV CHANNEL 5 SPORTSCASTER

Lynch, 52, grew up in Swampscott where his father, Dick, coached three sports at the high school and might have been the best known and loved guy in town.

Mike Lynch is the oldest of four children. His most memorable Christmas is a no-brainer: 1966. He was 13 years old. "My dad got very sick and was in the hospital. There was a question of whether he'd live. It wasn't a very festive Christmas season. Because of the medical bills, my mom, Joanne, told us not to expect too much."

Then Red Sox slugger Tony Conigliaro stepped in. Dick Lynch had coached Conigliaro's younger brother Billy in high school. Tony had gone to the games. When he heard about Dick Lynch, Conigliaro visited him at home and grasped the family situation.

"All of a sudden everything we wanted for Christmas was under the tree." The Lynch kids, not fully comprehending the gravity of their father's health, had been "kind of pouty" because they didn't think they'd be getting much. Then came the big day. "There was a bicycle for me, hockey sticks and a Montreal Canadiens jersey I always wanted. Tony had bought most of the gifts for us kids."

The best part: "Dad started getting better." And Dick Lynch is still with us.

Oh, we'd be remiss not to mention that Mike Lynch played football at Harvard, and his field goal beat Yale 10-7 in 1975.

RYAN GOMES, CELTICS ROOKIE

Gomes, 23, is the NBA exception in that he actually went to college for four years. A star at Providence, he finished his career as the Friars' all-time leading scorer. Gomes grew up in the Waterbury, Conn. projects with a single parent, Teresa.

"I lived in the projects for 15 years, but I was an only child, so Christmas was different for me. It was kind of special. My mom worked two jobs so she could buy things for me and pay the apartment rent. Christmas morning I could hardly wait to see what was under the tree."

Gomes believed in Santa Claus until he was 11. This is how he found out the truth: "I don't know if you want to put this in the story because it might spoil it for the kids, but it was Christmas Eve and I couldn't sleep. I heard a noise coming from another room. It was wrapping paper. It had to be my mom wrapping my gifts."

Yeah, Santa wouldn't have had the time to wrap every gift he dropped off. Gomes' mom would get him "one or two gifts, nothing expensive. The best gift I ever got was a gold cross. I wish I still had it. I lost it."

Gomes has never forgotten what his mother did for him, and how hard she worked. Now that he's a professional athlete with a salary most people can only dream of, Gomes has begun the payback. "That's very important to me, letting her know how much she did for me. I ask her what she wants for Christmas, and I get it. Then I get something for her on my own." **iB**

"There was a bicycle for me, hockey sticks and a Montreal Canadiens jersey I always wanted. Tony [Conigliaro] had bought most of the gifts for us kids."

—Mike Lynch

ROMANCING THE STONE

1899

WILLIA NIDAS · SPRIN

lavender plum tunic a
matching sash by Mare
Burge. $695. Le
capris by Yasene Barg
$199; embroidered a
beaded cropped jacke
Ruzzou, $348. All at S
Blue agate "cand
necklace, by Adria
Jenkins for Sterling Joh
$188 at Gretta Luc

Yellow empire waist embellished dress by Millergirl, $290; coat with metallic embroidery by Malene Birger, $499. Both at Stil. Ruby red "candy" necklace, $188; white cross rosary, $165. Both by Adriana Jenkins for Sterling Jones at Gretta Luxe.

Soft layers add feminine appeal to structured pieces

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY ANTHONY RUGNETTA

Silk tunic dress, by Cadeau, $395 at
Crystal collar necklace, $550; Chaing
earrings, $118. Both by Adriana Jenkins
Sterling Jones at Gretta Lu

Off-white knit top, $268; gracie skirt, $548; velvet jacket, $498. All by Elie Tahari at Stil. Small semi-precious strand, $143; large semi-precious strand, $143; amber cross necklace, $242. All by Adriana Jenkins for Sterling Jones at Gretta Luxe.

Corduroy jacket with rhinestones, by Love Junkie, $325 at Stil.

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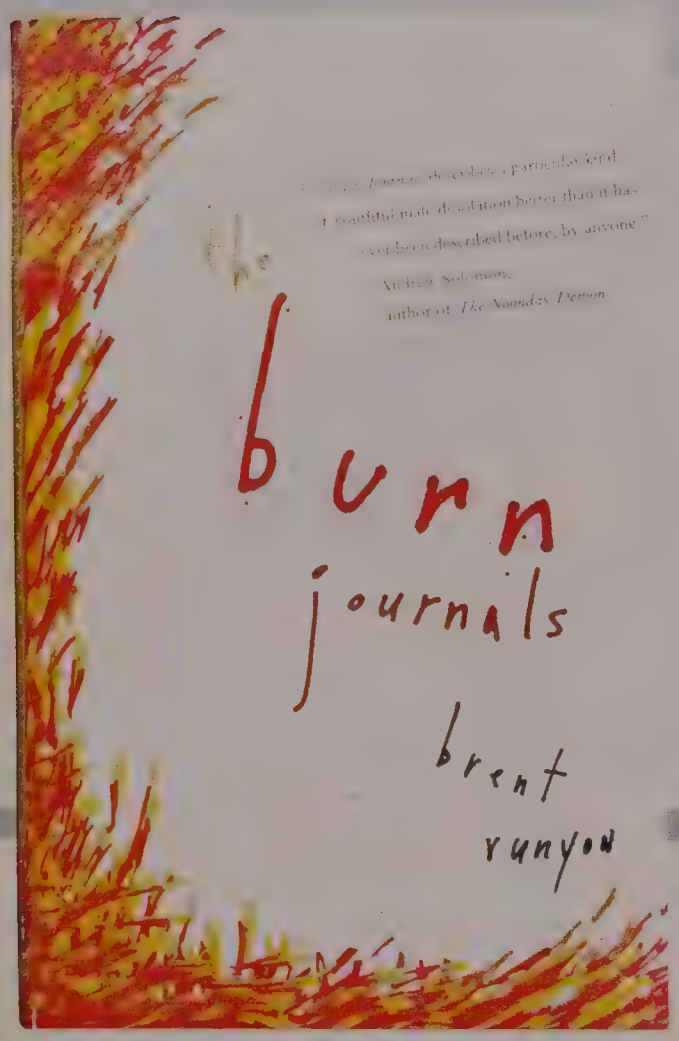
MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



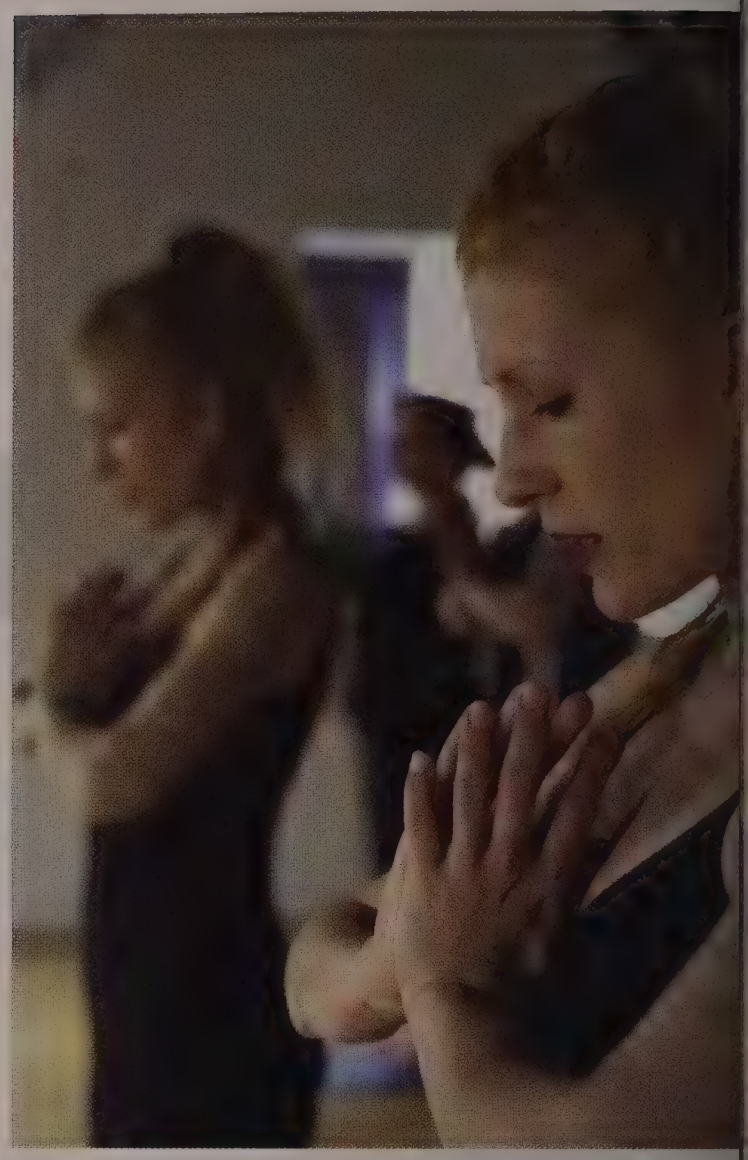
THIS BOY'S LIFE, THEREAFTER

***The Burn Journals* by Brent Runyon, now of Cape Cod, chronicles a teenager's suicide attempt and its long aftermath.**

The surprising thing about this book, focused on the event and aftermath of Brent Runyon's attempt to burn himself alive at the age of 14, is that it's not actually depressing. Gifted, talented and funny, with two loving parents, and afflicted with touches of pyromania amid mostly normal early-teenaged angst ("I felt like I could keep pushing all my feelings down into my socks"), Brent, without much elaborated background music, goes suddenly darker. One day after school, he lights his bathrobe on fire. Badly burned, his teenaged life moves into a radically new venue, the hospital's burn unit. With a minimalist detachment and sweetness—he's a loveable guy—Brent chronicles his recovery: grafts, being covered by special garments designed to protect his tenderized skin, the contact with him gingerly made by baffled schoolmates, the nurses whose kindness and allure replace what would have been attention from girls his age and the stoical affection of his parents. Therapists, to whom he gives choice nicknames, earnestly dig for feelings but get cynical defensive brush-offs, until he eventually meets one whose techniques for bonding with Brent include doing magic tricks. A moment of desperate, primal crying alongside his mother says more than any words could.

THAT WAS NO LION, THAT WAS CLAUDIA

To sign up for Claudia de Haven Biddle's yoga classes, call 617-905-7301 or go to www.snowlionyoga.com.



Watching her practice and teach yoga, you wonder whether Claudia de Haven Biddle was some feline being in a past life—or might be one right now. Certainly she loves animals and has hosted a class to benefit the animals affected by Katrina. Claudia teaches in numerous places, including private classes, and is certified with the highest credentials in multiple yoga styles, including Ashtanga, Viniyoga, Iyengar, Triyoga, Hatha and Structural Corrective. Her work is infused with a deep belief in yoga as "a more inward and dedicated mind/body/spirit growth." Both inspiring and impossible to detect as you watch Claudia's ballerina grace, enhanced by some magical inner elasticity that seems to make her limbs grow as she works, is the fact that she has overcome physical disabilities that have put her periodically in a wheelchair. So she is especially attuned to the needs (and the healing potential) of the afflicted, declaring, "The only disability is a closed mind." She has worked with ages 4 to 102, amor them: Olympic athletes, psychiatric patients, new mothers and corporate types. A Claudia class is fille with her generous attitude, a narrative of yoga's spiritual benefits, her gentle adjustments and her ow limber, starry beauty.

A LIVING ROOM FULL OF FINE CONSIGNMENTS

The Consignment Gallery, at 363 Highland Ave. in Somerville (617-629-4900), sells furniture, jewelry, china, rugs and more. The consignor nets 60 percent when an item is sold.

Coming into this vast (but orderly) consignmer shop is almost like coming into a large, wel furnished house—possibly owned by a duchess. Yo are struck by the healthy, plump chairs, deliciou slipper chairs and substantial sofas with curl wooden edges that seem to have been upholstere yesterday. The prevailing era stretches from circ the 1920s to the 1970s. The word "estate," as i sales thereof, is evoked in solid, good-lookin dining room tables usually with chairs that matc twinkling with a set of fine china, maybe a box silver and delicate or decorative glassware Hammersley and Limoges might be in attendance Recently an attractive mahogany tall chest with si drawers, larger at the bottom climbing up to smalle at the top, sported fancy metal drawer pulls, an cost a mere $585. Thanks to the acquisition of rug plunder from an Iranian warehouse, there's als plenty underfoot, as well as all sorts of shin silver dishes for food- or bibelot-holding, or fo engraving-on as a wedding present. One shoppe buys little silver salt spoons to attach to holida jam jars, upping the glamour considerably, for no much. Lots of pretty jewelry burbles forth: silve and gold and fat watch fobs. Prettiness appears both in big things—chandeliers and stained glass—an in tiny delicate hankies for $2.

Happy Holidays

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REVIEW

SAVOR THE FLAVOR

New Taste of Asia serves authentic northern Chinese cuisine without an eggroll in sight.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANTHONY TIEULI

Sesame jumbo shrimp with broccoli florets

How does an ethnic restaurant distinguish itself in an eatery-rich area like Coolidge Corner? Restaurants are planted thick along both Harvard and Beacon Streets—particularly ethnic places, and especially Asian. Almost a year ago, this crowded field was augmented by one, New Taste of Asia, which occupies a small storefront a couple blocks west of Coolidge Corner.

This small, 24-seat restaurant boasts a high ceiling with a skylight and dark wood wainscoting that partially covers its white walls. Two colorful framed pictures compete with boards listing specials (in Chinese and English) on one wall, while on the wall opposite is a large etched window through which one can glimpse the tiny, bustling kitchen. Green tablecloths topped with glass cover the tables, and paper napkins accompany chopsticks or, for the unadventurous, forks.

Appetizers reflect a northern Chinese culinary emphasis, with nary an egg roll in sight. Instead, four kinds of homemade dumplings take center stage, including the ones I ordered, the pork-and-cabbage and the pork-leek-shrimp dumplings ($5.95 for a baker's dozen). Steamed rather than sautéed, the tender, light pastry of both handmade dumplings enclosed savory, hauntingly delicious fillings, with the pork, leek and shrimp slightly more complex than the pork and cabbage. The open mouth dumplings ($3.95 for a small order of five) had been sautéed golden brown to a slightly crisp exterior, making a much more impressive presentation than the drab, pale-colored handmade dumplings, while their stuffing of minced pork made them equally delectable. The cilantro-spiked vinegar that enhanced both kinds of dumplings on my first visit was missing on the next. A third appetizer, five-flavor beef ($4.95), turned out to be disappointing—thin slices of rather dry pot roast on a bed of lettuce. They were boring notwithstanding their seasoning: Their name apparently derived from five different spices with which the beef had been seasoned, none particularly noteworthy—the beef could have used a dipping sauce.

NEW TASTE OF ASIA

1393 Beacon St., Brookline
(617-730-3888)

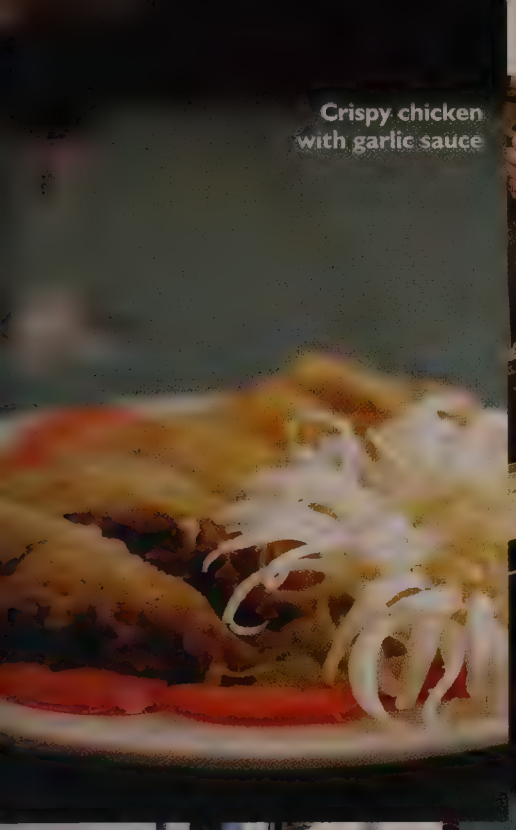
HOURS Sun.-Thu., 12-10 pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-11 pm
RESERVATIONS not required
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING yes
LIQUOR LICENSE wine, beer

I tried two varieties of shrimp. First, the sesame jumbo shrimp ($10.95), 10 sizable crustaceans shelled to their tails, came doused in a slightly pink sauce and surrounded by bright green broccoli florets—an eye-catching presentation. Sesame seeds prevented the sauce from cloying, and the al dente texture of both shrimp and broccoli provided a pleasant crunch. Crispy shrimp with ginger scallion ($10.95), also 10 hefty, impeccably textured shrimp, substituted the bite of garlic and the lively, exotic flavor and aroma of fresh ginger for the sweetness of their predecessors, making them a gently provocative treat.

Duck appears in two places on the menu, first as a half crispy duck ($12.95). A simple, almost austere preparation, it arrived with good crispy skin and moist, flavorful flesh atop a bed of raw lettuce and without a whisper of sauce. Once salted, the duck's natural, succulent flavor stood on its own and justified the minimalist treatment by the kitchen. A duck-and-noodle preparation, duck crispy noodle ($7.95), brought thick hunks of dark duck meat in a splendid sauce studded with coarsely chopped green pepper, crisp slices of celery, satiny sprouts and juicy tomato wedges, with a garnish of dry, crunchy noodles; the ensemble provided delightful contrasts of tastes and textures. Crispy chicken with garlic sauce ($8.95), one of the dishes marked with a chili pepper icon warning "hot and spicy," came with green and yellow peppers, tomatoes and wood ear, a dark fungus with a subtle flavor and a resilient texture unlike any other mushroom I know. The dish earned its spicy designation by virtue of its strong but welcome garlic content.

Another dish marked with the chili icon, handmade noodles with spicy sauce ($7.95), turned out to be a huge mound of soft, velvety, irregularly shaped noodles, firm bok choi, small cubes of pork, mushrooms and sauce made almost fiery with garlic. The granddaddy of the spicy preparations, lamb with cumin powder ($11.95), could have mounted a serious challenge to the East Coast Grill in the fiery flavor follies. Ground lamb infused with cumin, the reddish brown spice more associated with food of the Indian subcontinent than China, shared the plate with an excessive array of small brown chili peppers, each with the potency of a small nuclear weapon. As long as I avoided actually biting down on one of the peppers, the flavor of the lamb and milder cumin came through, but one of my companions was not so prudent and spent several minutes quenching the fire that ensued with water and beer.

Blander dishes included triple color mushroom delight ($8.25), a giant bowl of huge, whole mushroom caps, tomato wedges, coarsely chopped onions and peppers in a light brown sauce that enhanced the earthy flavor of the mushrooms and the savory onions. On our first visit to New Taste, my son expressed dismay at the menu's lack of his favorites, sweet and sour pork and pork-fried rice, which he routinely orders at Chinese restaurants. The



Crispy chicken with garlic sauce

Chef Qun Li

Open mouth dumplings with minced pork

itchen readily remedied this deficit, ac-
ommodating his special request for these
miliar dishes. A restrained hand on the
ornstarch and pineapple juice made the
veet and sour pork ($8.95) more palatable
r adult tastes than most of this genre, and
ne pork-fried rice ($6.95), which com-
ines shredded pork, peas, small cubes of
arrots and bean sprouts, generated an en-
usiastic thank you.

A unique dessert to which I had been di-
ected by a friend provided a splendid
unctuation mark to one of my meals at
lew Taste. Hot candied apple ($6.95),
ices of cored, skinned apple bathed in hot
aramel sauce, came accompanied by a
owl of cold water. It took some dexterity
o maneuver my chopsticks to retrieve the
lices and pull them from the plate, with
ong threads of caramel following—a good
men, said the hostess—and after I dipped
hem in water to cool and harden the
aramel, I summoned more dexterity to transport the sweet and tart treats to my mouth, where they satisfied the sweet tooth that develops during every meal in which savory and spicy notes predominate.

What made New Taste of Asia different from your run-of-the-mill Chinese restaurant? When my family walked through the door on our first visit, directed there by a friend whose wife travels frequently to China, we were the only non-Asians in the place. The performance of the kitchen fully met the expectation of authenticity generated by his recommendation and confirmed by its initial all-Asian clientele, which became more diverse as the evening wore on. I had read that its proprietor and chef, Qun Li, spent several years in the kitchen at one of Beijing's most celebrated hostelries, the Beijing Hotel, once known as Le Grand Hotel de Peking. In fact, Mr. Li's training at the Beijing Hotel took on added significance for my family, since it was at the Beijing Hotel that I had booked accommodations for a long-awaited return trip to Beijing two years ago, which we had to abort. My visit to New Taste strengthened my resolve to make that trip. iB

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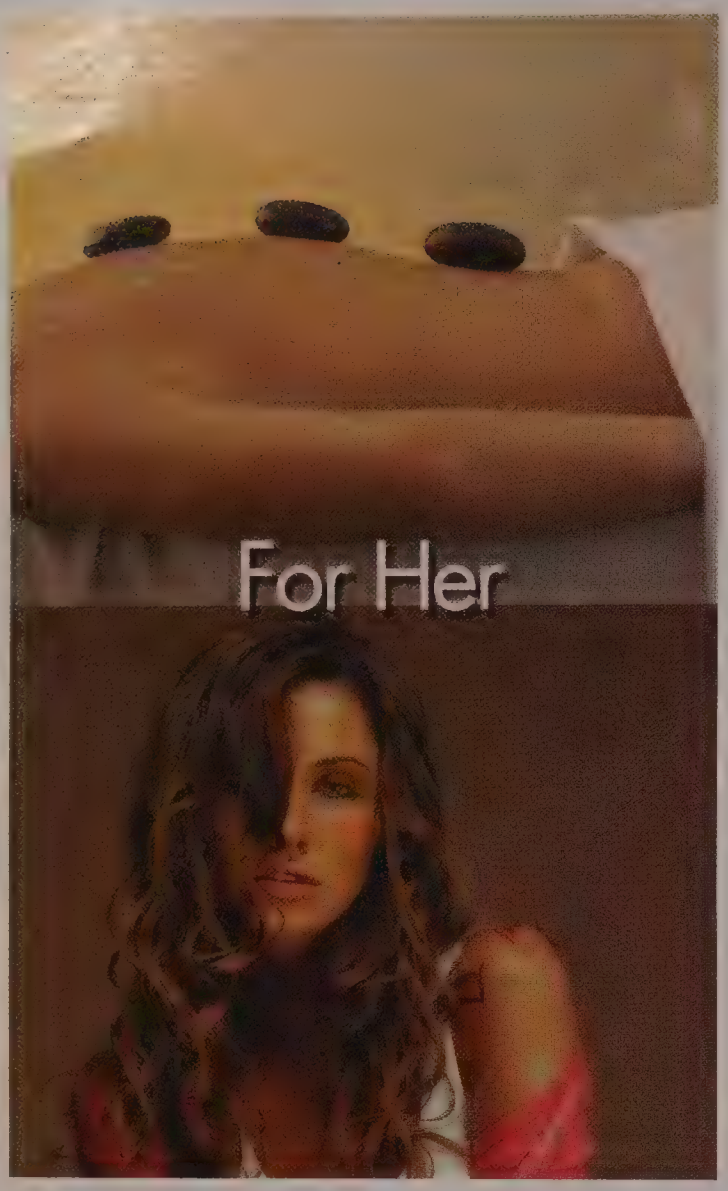

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Battle of the Chefs
Lucy's, 242 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-5829). www.lucysbrookline.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Dec. 12, 7 pm. $60. At Lucy's second annual Battle of the Chefs, four local chefs are given a different bag of ingredients out of which they must create one component of a five-course meal for attendees (dessert is included but isn't part of the contest). Guests then vote to decide which chef emerges victorious.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., 6-8 pm. Every Tuesday, Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) and complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Destination: Italy
Sorriso Trattoria, 107 South St., Boston (617-259-1560). www.sorrisoboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed., 7-8 pm. $25. Executive chef **John Paine** and resident raconteur **Ciro Pirone** host weekly wine tastings this fall, highlighting particular regions of Italy. •Dec. 7: Mediterranean and Alpine. •Dec. 14: Spumante e Prosecco.

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue., 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •Dec. 13: Chasseur Winery.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Sat., 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •Dec. 10: Mixing Martinis. •Dec. 17: Sparkling Wines.

Holiday Champagne Tasting
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 13, 6:30 pm. $45. Wine director **Alex Yankus** leads a tasting of fine champagnes as well as some newer "boutique" bubblies.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and wine director **Jacob Knight** Wednesdays for a sampling of four wines paired with complementary food tastings.

Quartino and Cicchetti
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. Mon., 11:30 am-4 pm. Chef de cuisine **Mark Usewicz** offers four to six different wines paired with a selection (five eight items) of small plates, called cicchetti. C cchetti are priced from $4-$9, and wines fro $9-$16.

Radius Restaurant Cooking Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234 www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. Sat., 11 am-2:30 pm. $125. Saturda this fall and winter, chef **Michael Schlo** teaches a cooking class that includes wine pai ings directed by co-owner **Christopher Myer** •Dec. 17: Time to Celebrate—recipes for a special occasion.

Spice of the Month Club
Tamarind Bay, 75 Winthrop St., Cambrid (617-491-4552). MBTA: Red Line to Harvar Second Monday of every month. 5-7 pm. $2 Executive chef **Wali Ahmad** discusses a ne Indian spice each night and prepares a fou course menu of dishes predominantly featuri that spice. Dec. 12: Fennel Seeds.

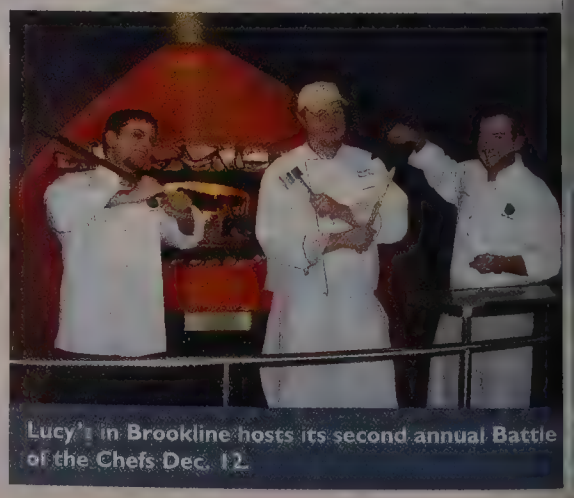
Sudoku Night
Fugakyu, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline (617-73 1268). MBTA: C Green Line to St. Paul. Mon 5-7 pm. On Mondays, customers at Fugaky sushi bar try to solve Sudoku, a Japanese nur ber puzzle, for the chance to win discounts o their meal.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). www.winebar.com. MBTA: Red Line South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **G offrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and ch **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres a offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Dec. 1 Best of the Rest 2.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-26 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Li to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Er Johnson** presents wines to complement a fou course French-New England meal by ch **Frank McClelland**. •Dec. 12: Bordeau •Dec. 19: Burgundy.

Wine Tastings at Vinalia
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-1777 www.vinaliaboston.com. MBTA: Orange or R Line to Downtown Crossing. Wed., 6:30 pr $15. Every Wednesday night, Vinalia hosts wine tasting featuring four wines paired wi seasonal appetizers.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-72 1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Bl Line to Aquarium. Wed., 7 pm. $41. Ch **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine wi wines selected by sommelier **Erik Johnso** •Dec. 7: Bordeaux. •Dec. 14: Burgundy.


Lucy's in Brookline hosts its second annual Battle of the Chefs Dec. 12.

DISH

Doormouse in the House?

New chef, new tea UpStairs… Another Oishii…

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Amanda Lydon, **Michael Leviton**, **Evan Deluty** and **Deborah Hughes**: So many fine chefs have taken a turn behind the stove at **UpStairs on the Square** and its predecessor, **UpStairs at the Pudding**, that it's hardly earthshaking (though still newsworthy) when a change in personnel is announced at the Harvard Square landmark. Sure, new chef de cuisine **Steven Brand** (who works under Hughes) has fine credentials—most recently, he spent two years as sous chef to **Jean-Georges Vongerichten** at **Jean-Georges** in Manhattan—but the menu will change gradually, and after all, co-proprietresses **Mary-Catherine Deibel** and Hughes really set the tone at UpStairs. In the what-took-them-so-long category, they're now serving afternoon tea from 3-5 pm, Tuesdays through Saturdays, in the sunny, striped Zebra Room and the Monday Club Bar. Expect traditional tea sandwiches, breads, savories and sweets, as well as comforting classics with an UpStairs kick, like hot cocoa with house-made marshmallows and vanilla whipped cream.

UpStairs on the Square's Deborah Hughes.

SECOND COURSE

Super-size that sushi: If there's one complaint we hear from sushi fans about **Oishii Sushi** in Chestnut Hill, it's that they're tired of packing into tiny dining spaces like canned sardines to savor some of the country's finest sushi in a hectic environment. Well, Merry ChristmaHanuKwanzaa: Come spring, a spanking-new Oishii will open in the South End at 1166 Washington St., with "about 60 seats… possibly 80," according to **Jackie Yen**, wife of Oishii co-owner **Ting San**. Construction, she says, is slated to start "the second week of December, but with the holiday and everything, I don't know." What is for sure is that "it'll be nice, really zen…a lot more relaxed in the new location." As for specifics, stay tuned: "We'll have something to show everybody by Christmas," Yen promises.

Holiday shopping requires energy, and since you're buying such tasteful presents, it's only logical that you take the time to refuel with an equally tasteful lunch. If you're wearing the digits off your credit cards at the Chestnut Hill Mall or the Atrium, treat yourself to lunch at **The Metropolitan Club**, now through Christmas. From Dec. 9-23, both **Grill 23** and **Excelsior** will be serving special weekday holiday lunches. At Grill 23, the three-course prix-fixe menu ($45 plus tax and gratuity) features nourishing dishes such as dinosaur kale soup with chorizo chips and creamy potato hash, BBQ short ribs pizza, and prime skirt steak with chef **Jay Murray**'s killer chimichurri sauce. Excelsior's three-course prix fixe, priced at $48, features equally robust fare—for example, venison stroganoff with black pepper pappardelle. Because nothing says "festive sustenance" like a bite of Bambi.

It's tough to build an identity on a split personality. When **33 Restaurant & Lounge** opened three years ago, the menu was evenly split between French and Italian cuisines, and the Stanhope Street location uneasily straddled the line between Back Bay fine-dining and South End lounge scene. Today, a year and a half after executive chef **Anthony Dawodu** took charge and created a menu that he describes as "embracing all cultures," and a couple of months after new general manager **Steven Carriero** implemented a demanding customer-service standard, a trip to 33 is worth your while. Highlights: a scrumptious chestnut/butternut squash bisque; exquisitely tender butter-poached Maine lobster; and ice cream made with tonka beans from South America (similar to vanilla).

Finally, congratulations to **L'Espalier**: The peerlessly elegant Back Bay restaurant has been honored with the AAA Five Diamond Award for the seventh year in a row. IB

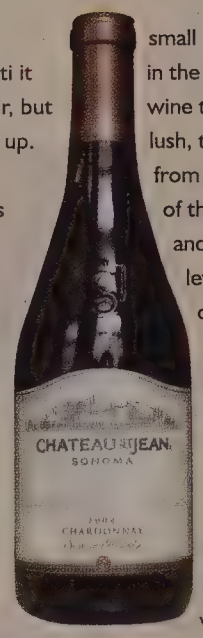
Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com

WINE

The Chardonnay Way

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.



California chardonnay's big business. To the cognoscenti it may have a vaguely retro air, but the rest of the world's still lapping it up. Chardonnay's story is actually a remarkable one. This is a wine that's been on top for so long, America's undisputed favorite, that you might think people would begin to grow tired of it. Some have, but even in the face of a massive shift toward red-wine consumption, chardonnay continues to grow in popularity every year. And despite the vogue for crisp, clean white wines that never see the inside of an oak barrel, but instead go straight from stainless steel tanks into the bottle, the predominant style of chardonnay remains distinctively barrel-aged.

The transformation that wood and oxygen work on the flavors of chardonnay is dramatic. You take a white grape that's relatively mild in personality—even when fully ripe—and turn it into a flashy, strutting muscleman. The newer the barrel, the more buttery, smoky and toasty the wine tastes. If we've collectively backed away from chardonnay that tastes like one-dimensional oak extract, which is an entirely welcome development, there's still a very appealing quality to these wood-derived flavors, as long as they're balanced by enough richness of fruit and acidity.

The current chardonnay round-up reveals a number of delicious examples that as a group are subtler in their charms than I personally expected. It's easy to stereotype ("California chardonnays are too oaky and alcoholic," etc.), but the reality is that the following wines, tasted blind, all show a sophisticated understanding of how to use wood as an enhancement to natural grape flavor. The heavy-handed, oak-dominated wines so prevalent five years ago are still out there, because there's a taste for them and because chardonnay is still planted in areas too warm in climate to yield the most balanced flavors, but equally prevalent now are wines like the following, which have the right kind of texture and taste to go beautifully with a variety of dishes. What's interesting to me is how many old stalwarts there are among the winners, wineries that have been at this for a long time, because in most other tastings there's a prevalence of newcomers at the top. The four listed here are also produced in sufficient quantities that you can find them at a wine store. They're listed in ascending order of preference.

Chateau St. Jean Chardonnay, Sonoma, 2004 ($15). This wine has all the smoky appeal of a major league barrel-fermented chardonnay at a bargain price. St. Jean has been at it for decades, and although they're no longer the small boutique chardonnay pioneer they were in the past, this is an outstanding example of a wine that delivers a mouthful of full-bodied, lush, toasty, fruit-accented flavor. What takes it from the ordinary and formulaic into the ranks of the delicious is the persistent note of acidity and the fact that it's so dry, with alcohol levels that feel reined in. St. Jean's chardonnay would be a lovely partner for grilled shrimp.

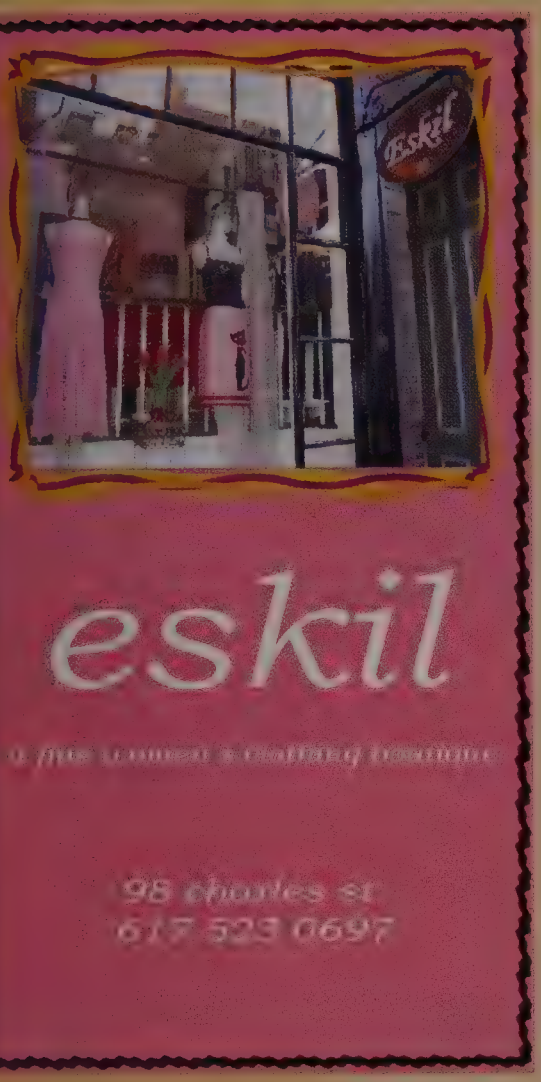
Wild Horse Chardonnay, Central Coast, 2004 ($16). A blend of grapes from several vineyards spanning four Central Coast counties, this is a leaner, crisper take on the chardonnay experience that has a classic, silky feel to it. Like the St. Jean, it's sourced from cooler-climate vineyards where the grapes don't ripen to excessive levels of sugar. Its virtues are subtlety and suppleness. Medium-bodied, with flavors that are minerally, slightly appley and very dry, it has a nice, lingering finish that bodes well for matching with grilled or sautéed fish fillets.

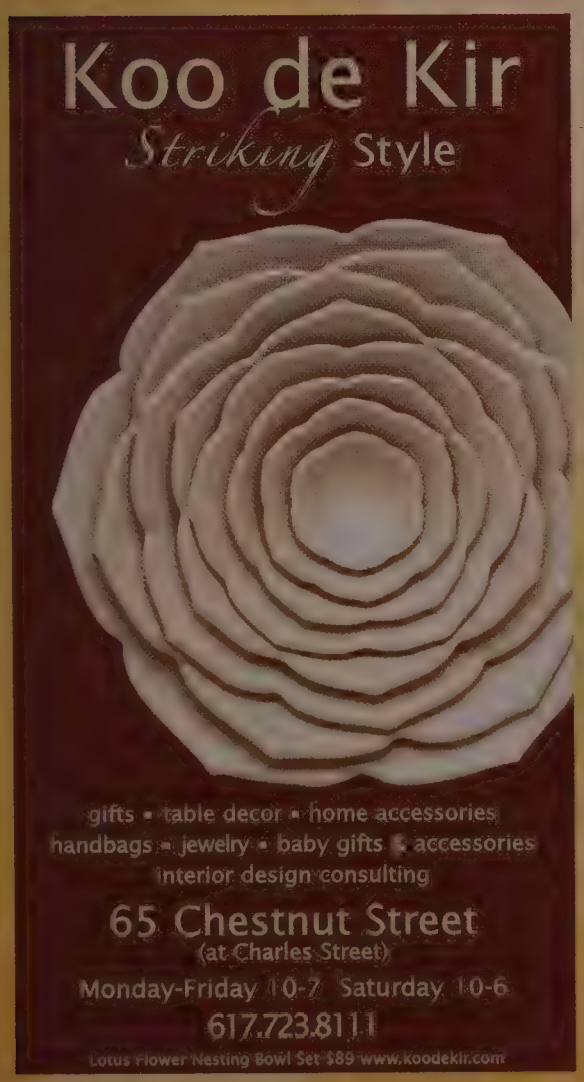
Matanzas Creek Chardonnay, Sonoma, 2003 ($30). It's interesting that in recent tastings Sonoma chardonnays have generally rated better than their pricier Napa counterparts. This wine, with its strong pedigree of about 25 years as a California blue chip, has lost nothing off its fastball. Vanilla and herb-accented aromas with undertones of wood spice and cinnamon are quite heady and give the impression of a wine that might be over the top with wood character, but the flavors, though rich and dramatic, are delicious nonetheless. There's subtle spice on the palate, including white pepper and fennel undertones, to support the peachy fruit. Impressively balanced with vibrant citrus accents, this is a definite choice for grilled, herb-rubbed lemon chicken.

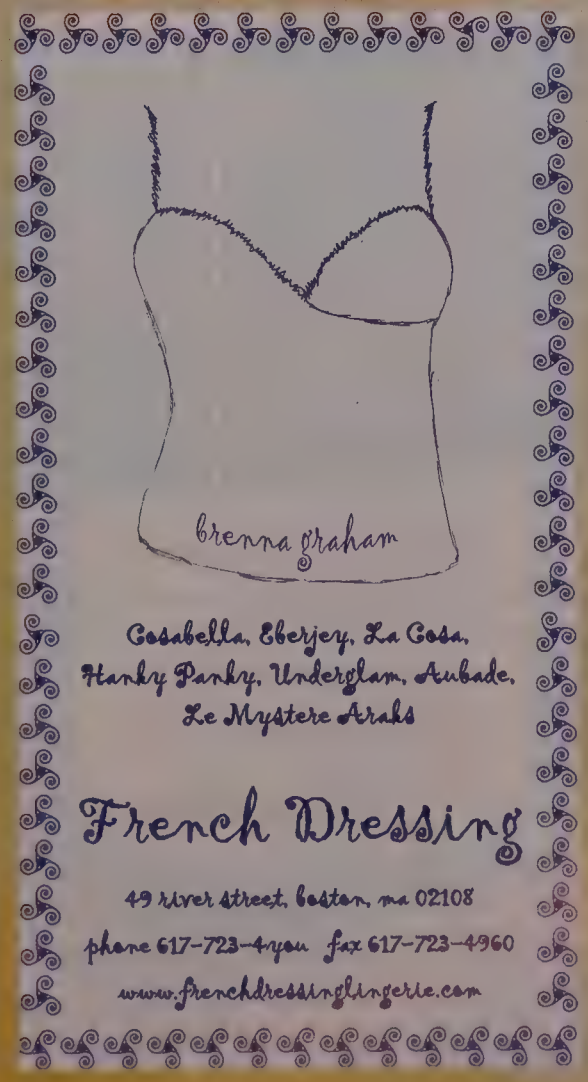
Acacia Chardonnay, Carneros, 2003 ($20). It was a revelation for me when this Carneros district pioneer scored as the overall winner, because in the past decade its chardonnays have struck me as lackluster. Acacia's is anything but, and at $20 it's a steal. It's actually an anomaly in this field, with alcohol levels pushing 15 percent and a production technique using a degree of contact between the juice and the grape skins, something they used to do for chardonnay but generally abandoned a few decades ago. The effect here is electrifying, though. The wine has a brilliant caramel cream, pear-like aroma. It's got a velvety, succulent feel, with just the right dash of acidity to lend balance and charm. A "wow" wine with a lingering spice and toast finish that will have your mouth watering for some Alaskan king crab. IB

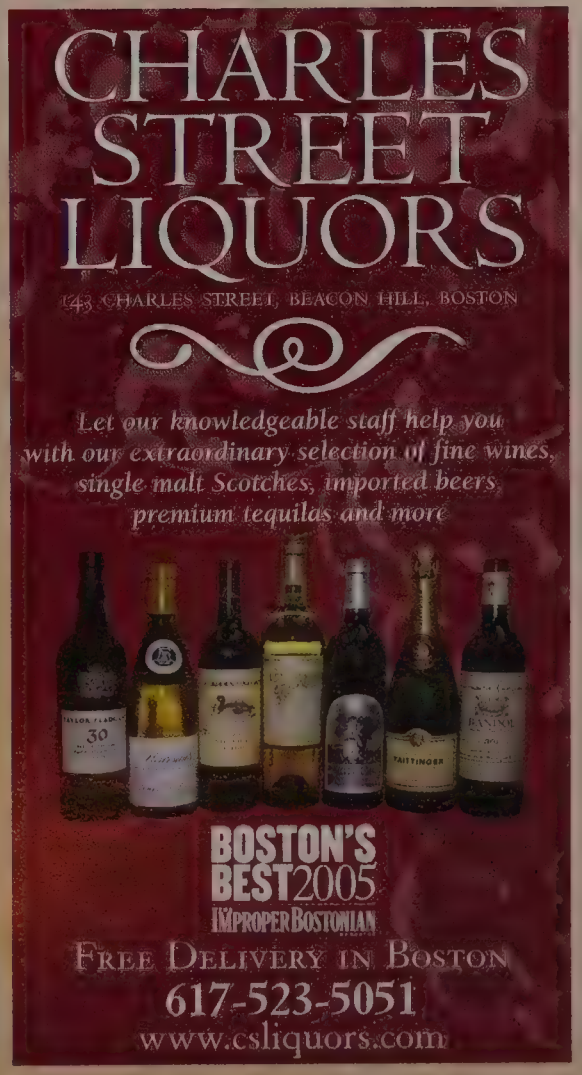
Master of Wine Sandy Block is vice president of beverage operations for Legal Sea Foods.

Beacon Hill Beckons









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GUINNESS

HOT TIPS FROM
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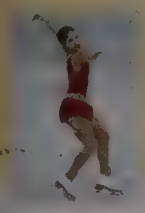
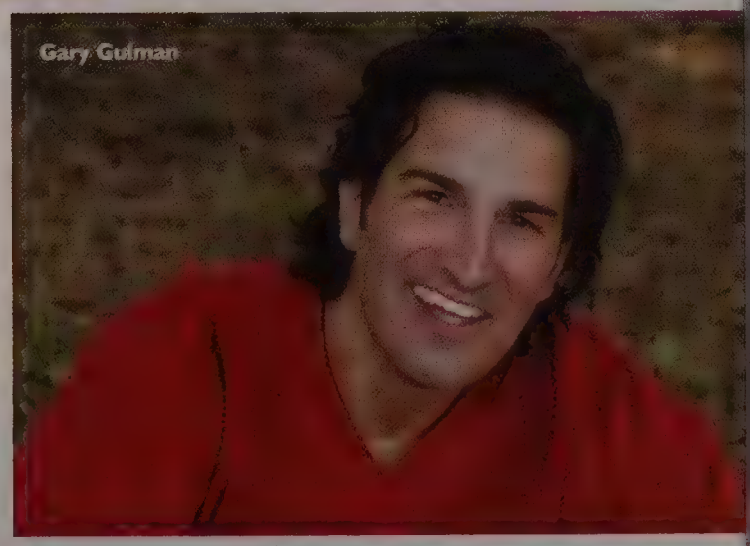
december 7 - 20

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			7	8	9	10
				Harpoon Brewery hosts a **Holiday Party** at the Harp on Causeway Street. *See CityScope on page 55.*	The Harvard Film Archive hosts an evening with independent-film guru **James Schamus.** *See Movies on page 63.*	**Bon Jovi** rocks TD Banknorth Garden. *See Music on page 68.*
						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
The Marshall U.S. Figure Skating Showcase comes to B.U.'s Agganis Arena. *See Sports on page 89.*	Fugakyu in Brookline hosts **Sudoku Night** at the restaurant's Sushi Bar. *See Tastings on page 46.*		**Wheatus** and **Midstates** play a show downstairs at the Middle East. *See Music on page 70*	The **Adam Ezra Band** plays a benefit concert for the American Stroke Association at Porter's Bar and Grille. *See CityScope on page 55.*	Food Network's **Rachael Ray** discusses her new cookbook of 30-minute recipes. *See Books & Poetry on page 84.*	
18	19	20				
The Handel and Haydn Society present ***Christmas in Wales and America***. *See Performing Arts on page 57.*	The Brattle Theatre hosts screenings of ***Rushmore*** and ***The Royal Tenenbaums***. *See Movies on page 63.*					



FRI./DEC. 16–SUN./DEC. 18

Comedy: Local Laughs

The Comedy Connection in Faneuil Hall is a permanent playground for local comedians to show us the funny, but on the weekend of Dec. 16-18, the comedy hot spot welcomes back two of Beantown's biggest homegrown talents. On Friday and Saturday night, Gary Gulman, who reached reality TV stardom for his role in 2004's Last Comic Standing 2, performs back-to-back shows. The Peabody-native and B.C. grad also performs at the Comedy Connection's Saugus location on Thursday night. Then, D.J. Hazard, one of the original founders of Boston's legendary Ding Ho Club—whose members include stars like Denis Leary, Steven Wright and Bobcat Goldthwait—rounds out the weekend with a Sunday night show. Hazard hit the big time in 1993 with the release of his comedy CD, *Lock Up the Planet When You Leave*, and has been touring the country with his stand-up ever since. He's currently putting together his second CD, *El Hazardo Rides Again*, and recently finished shooting a movie called *Street Players*. *245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. Dec. 16, 8 pm. $22.50; Dec. 17, 8 pm. $25; Dec. 18, 7 pm. $15. —R.L.*

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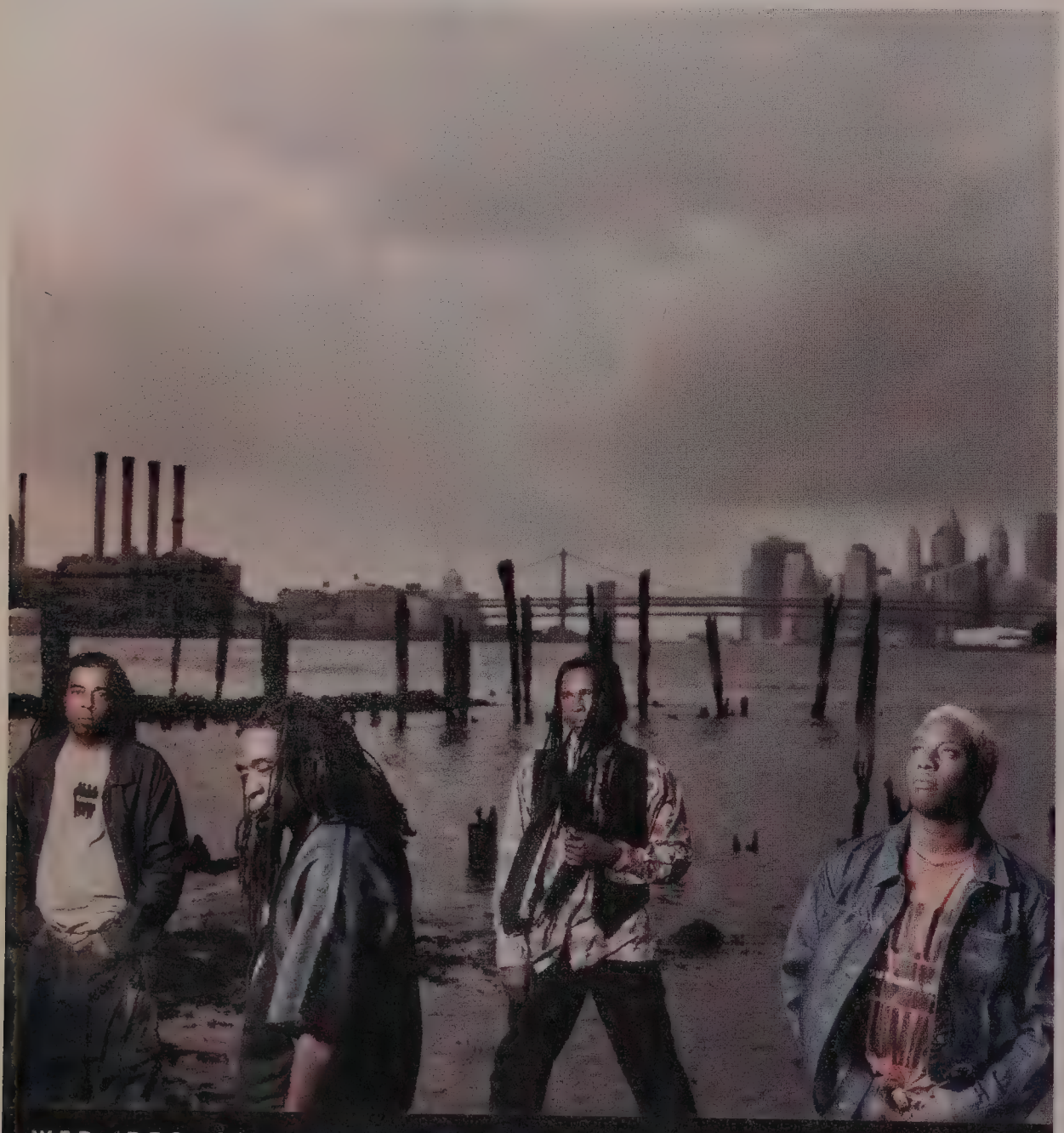
CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Graham Books & Poetry, Movies
Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts, Sports
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

C. 9-SUN./ DEC. 11

Heading South

A ring from Stoneham-based Swirly Designs

This year, instead of battling the mass hysteria at malls and department stores for your holiday shopping, consider a trip over to the second annual South End Holiday Market. The market hosts 130 artisans from around New England for a three-day juried gift show from Dec. 9-11 and offers a selection of wearable art, jewelry, pottery, home décor and other unusual gifts. It also doubles as a benefit for Washington Gateway, a group dedicated to the revitalization of Washington Street in the South End/Lower Roxbury, so you'll be doing some nice to make up for all that naughty over the past year. *500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-481-2257). www.southendholidaymarket.com. Dec. 9-11. Fri., 6-10 pm; Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $5. —R.L.*



WED./DEC. 14

Music: A New Cult of Personality

Many were sad to see the Grammy-winning band Living Colour split up right after they hit a high note opening for the Rolling Stones. It's been 10 years since they've played a show together, and even the most die-hard fans had just about given up hope of a reunion. But rejoice—they're finally back together and have a new sound that fuses a decade of solo performances from locations around the world, including stretches of time in Russia, Australia, Morocco and South America, with some of their classic beats. They'll be at the Paradise Dec. 14 to promote their new album, *CollideØscope*, which shows off some of their original sounds—sort of a Jimi Hendrix/Chuck Berry/Parliament combo—as well as new covers of AC/DC's "Back in Black" and the Beatles' "Tomorrow Never Knows." The album took more than a year and a half to record, but it's worth the wait with an eclectic earful of soul rock, reggae/dub and electro-dynamics. *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8820). 7 pm. $20. —L.P.K.*

SUN./DEC. 11 & WED./DEC. 14

Books: Sports Guy's Salvation

Before 2004, members of Red Sox Nation were a neurotic pack of pessimists, living in fear of the BoSox never winning the World Series in their lifetime. Bill Simmons was our online therapist. The former Boston Sports Guy, who's now better known as ESPN.com's Sports Guy, was the voice of the tortured Sox fan on a national stage. In early October he released his first book, *Now I Can Die in Peace: How ESPN's Sports Guy Found Salvation, with a Little Help from Nomar, Pedro, Shawshank and the 2004 Red Sox*, which recounts the years leading up to the Sox' World Series victory. This month, Simmons is back in Boston to help us all relive the good, bad and ugly from the Sox' title quest. He'll be appearing Dec. 11 at Barnes & Noble B.U. and Dec. 14 at Barnes & Noble at the Pru, where he'll be reading from his book and possibly even answering some of your Red Sox-related questions, like whether he thinks we'd get in trouble for tarring and feathering Larry Lucchino in the Public Garden. *Barnes & Noble, Boston University, 660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. Dec. 11, 3 pm. Free; Barnes & Noble, Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-6959). www.barnesandnoble.com. Dec. 14, 12 pm. Free. —R.L.*

FRI./DEC. 10–MON./DEC. 12

Performing Arts: Tchaikovsky Times Three

'Tis the season for all things merry. And that means it's time for T *Nutcracker*, and lots of it. In the next few weeks, three very differ productions of the ballet are in town to suit just about anyone's ta and budget. Of course Boston Ballet's traditional performance, in 37th year and its first at the Opera House, is the one most of us know and love. (This year, you'll see local celebs playing the role the chestnut seller.) If you're looking for a little edge, check out t *Urban Nutcracker* on Dec. 10-11 and Dec. 17-18 at the Strand Theatre. It fuses ballet, swing, hip-hop and urban tap with Tchaikovsky's original score and Duke Ellington's beats. Or, for a more dance-centered performance with fewer props and scenery, check out the performance by Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre at the Sanctuary Theatre in Cambridge through Dec. 18. Schedules and prices vary. See their Web sites or call the box offices for details. *Boston Ballet, Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-695-6955). www.bostonballet.org. Through Dec. 30. $22.50-$107.50. Urban Nutcracker, Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-635-1408). www.urban-nutcracker.com. $15-$35. Ballet Theatre, Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org. $15-$35. —L.P.K.*

cityscope

dvice to Contributors

mit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities l events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calen- : CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@ roper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket e, dates and times, and a brief description of the nt. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. tings cannot be accepted over the phone.

enefits

HURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

arpoon Holiday Party

e Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742- 10). www.harpoonbrewery.com. MBTA: Green Orange Line to North Station. 6 pm. $10. This liday celebration features Harpoon beer, live isic from Guy Smiley, complimentary appetizers d a DJ. Proceeds from the event benefit Toys for ts.

SPCA Treelighting Ceremony

udential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-541- 31). www.mspca.org. MBTA: E Green Line to udential or Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 5:30 pm. ee. Well-mannered dogs and their human unterparts bring pet toys and treats for canines aiting adoption. The Krokodiloes, Harvard's dest a cappella group, provide the music, and the SPCA provides refreshments.

RIDAY, DECEMBER 9

outh End Holiday Market

0 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-481-2257). ww.southendholidaymarket.com. MBTA: Orange ne to Back Bay. Dec. 9-11. Fri., 6-10 pm; Sat., 10 n-6 pm; Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $5. Jewelry, pottery d the usual gifts from 130 New England artisans e on sale at this event, the second fundraiser for Vashington Gateway, a group dedicated to vitalizing the Washington Street area.

ribe Theater Launch and Charity undraiser

ribe Theater, 67 Stuart St., Boston (617-510- 447). www.tribeboston.com MBTA: Green Line to ov. Center. 8 pm. $15. The Tribe, a Boston ollective of artists, musicians, actors and medians, opens its theater doors for the first time ith an improv comedy show to benefit the lassachusetts United Way.

ATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

Cultural Survival's 26th Annual Winter Bazaar

lynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston 617-441-5400). www.cs.org. MBTA: Green Line to lynes. Dec. 10-11, 10 am-6 pm. Free. This athering features 50 vendors selling their arts and rafts from all over the world, as well as music from cuador's Yarina. A portion of the proceeds benefits Cultural Survival, a Cambridge group concerned with spreading awareness of indigenous peoples.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Cambridgeport Children's Silent Auction

472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central. www.totlot.org. 12-3 pm. Free. Vacations, sports memorabilia, and entertainment services are offered for auction, and other activities include music and a magic show. All proceeds benefit the Cambridgeport Children's Center,

Ciclismo Classico Jingle Ride

Ride starts at Carberry's Bakery, 600 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-3377). www.ciclismoclassico. com. 11 am-3 pm. $20. This annual charity bike ride through the city of Boston benefits Cycle Kids, an independent nonprofit organization designed to introduce children to cycling, healthy eating and fitness.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Luna Boston Shopping Extravaganza

Luna Boston, 286 Newbury St., Boston (617-262- 3900). www.lunaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-10 pm. Free. Tiffany Christian Designs and Designs by Hillary display belts, bags and jewelry for purchase, and a percentage of all sales benefits the Healthworks Foundation, a non-profit group dedicated to empowering women and children through fitness. Complimentary cocktails are available.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Club Ice

Hyatt Regency Boston, 1 Avenue De Lafayette, Boston (617-912-1234). www.dougflutiejr foundation.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 5:30-8:30 pm. $5. This event features food, cocktails, music and a raffle—with a chance to win gifts from Elyse Jewelers, H&M, Felt and the Hyatt. All proceeds benefit the Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism.

Live Music Night to Benefit the ASA Featuring Adam Ezra

Porter's Bar and Grill, 173 Portland St., Boston (617- 943-5092). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 8- 11 pm. $15 advance, $20 at the door. This night of food, drinks and music by Adam Ezra at Porter's benefits the American Stroke Association's Train to End Stroke program.

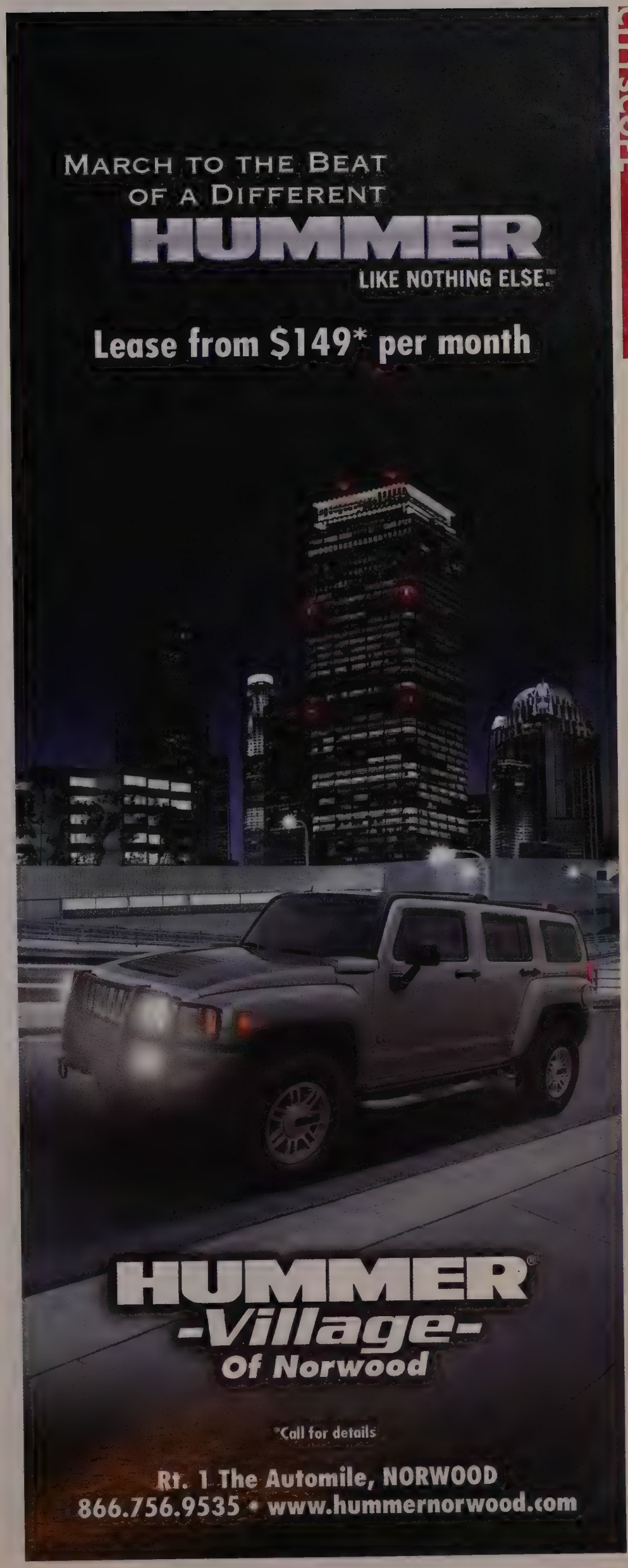
Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

The Bay Colony Cluster Dog Show

Bayside Exposition Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Boston (508-533-1153). www.baycolonydogshow. com. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Dec. 8-11, 8 am-5 pm. $12 adults, $7 children. This four-day festival features 160 American Kennel Club dog

The annual Ciclismo Classico Jingle Ride benefits Cycle Kids, Dec. 11.



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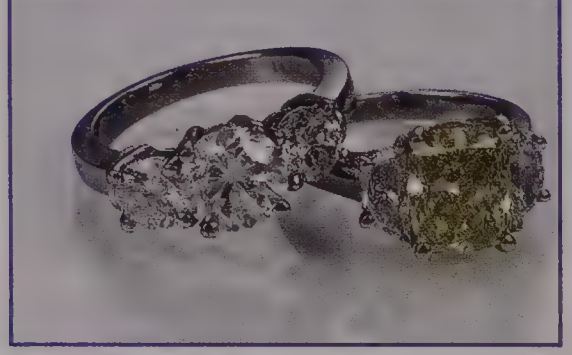

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breeds engaging in competitions of obedience and agility, demonstrations and even some Christmas-themed special events. Additionally, several non-profit organizations display educational exhibits.

The Wine, Oil and Artisanry of Agrigento

The Lobby at One International Place, Boston (617-279-4228). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street or Orange Line to State Street. 6-8 pm. Free. The Italy American Chamber of Commerce and Trade in New England hosts this celebration of Agrigento—a Sicilian island dense with Mediterranean cultural heritage—featuring wine tastings, a ceramics exhibition and a fashion show from Marco Morealle.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

52nd Annual Holly Fair

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42-56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 10-11. Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. Crafts, cards, clothing and other items are available for purchase at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education's annual holiday fair in Harvard Square.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Boston Tea Party 232nd Anniversary Reenactment

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 5:30-7:30 pm. $5 general admission, free with colonial attire. This annual interpretation of the act that sparked the American Revolution features a staged debate, followed by actors in colonial garb dumping tea from ships docked in Boston Harbor.

BYPA Holiday Crystal Ball

Felt, 4th floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6 pm-12 am. $20-$30. The Boston Young Professionals Association's annual holiday party features appetizers from Felt, two hours of complimentary drinks from Dewar's, a DJ and a raffle benefiting the Home for Little Wanderers. Party goe also get their pictures taken with Santa Clau

Fifth Annual Bazaar Bizarre

Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., (617-694-8493). www.bazaarbizarre.org/b MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 1-8 pm. This craft fair features over 80 vendors, mus and artists united by the "do-it-yourself" Faux-robotic sculptures, "disgruntled" dolls, jewelry, silk-screened everything and other are available at the fifth installment o underground event.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Celtics' Pregame Party

The Greatest Bar, 262 Friend St., Boston (617 1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Gre Orange Line to North Station. 5:30 pm. $65 This event features a pregame party at the Gr Bar with complimentary appetizers, and tick the night's Celtics' game against crazy Ron A and the Indiana Pacers. After the game, the returns to the Greatest Bar for the Hickm Gilroy postgame show broadcast on 1510AM Zone.

Singles

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

8-Minute Dating

Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, B (617-227-7800). www.eightminutedating MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket or Govern Center. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and the people you didn't get the chance to share with. For single professionals ages 25-35.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Hurry Date

Foundation Lounge, Hotel Commonwealth, Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900). www. date.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $26.25 members; $35 nonmembers. Embark dates in five minutes while you enjoy specials. For singles ages 30-45.

performing arts

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bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Cal-dar: Performing Arts, or e-mail to performing@proper.com. Include address, phone number, subway op, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. stings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

ce Tickets
00-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets. m. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

ostix
17-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Same-day kets at half price.

ext Ticketing
17-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

ut of Town Tickets
17-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets sold-out shows.

tubHub
66-788-2482). www.stubhub.com. Where fans buy d sell tickets.

icket City of Boston
17-787-2370). www.tixboston.com. Ticket City lls tickets to sold-out shows.

icketmaster
17-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater and Opera

JST OPENED

nd the Winner Is...?
ie Park School, 171 Goddard Ave., Brookline 17-232-1175). www.freelanceplayers.org. Dec. 9 d 10, 7:30 pm; Dec. 11, 2 pm. $10. This free-neeling comedy examines through drama, dance ad song issues of loyalty, honor and winning at ay cost.

utobahn
?7 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2530). tp://web.mit.edu/mitcp. MBTA: Red Line to ndall/MIT. Dec. 8-10, 8 pm. $5; $3, students. ne MIT Community Players present a short play cle by Neil LaBute.

hristmas in Wales and America
rdan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-266-05). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green ne to Symphony. Dec. 18 and 21, 3 pm. $33-$63. rant Llewellyn conducts seasonal choral works by merican composers from the 18th through the st centuries and recites Dylan Thomas' *A Child's hristmas in Wales.*

he Christmas Revels
nders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-95). www.revels.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. ec. 16-30. Schedule varies, call to confirm times. $12-2. This theatrical celebration of the winter solstice blends song, dance, ritual, storytelling and drama, drawing on audience participation.

Encore!!
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-542-9155). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA; John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-9155). www.chambertheatre.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 12, 19, 20 and 23, 10:30 am. $14.50. Chamber Repertory Theatre presents staged productions of Poe's "The Tell Tale Heart," Irving's "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," Jacobs' "The Monkey's Paw," Maupassant's "The Necklace" and Twain's "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County."

The Firebugs
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. Dec. 8-23. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $15-$18. Swiss playwright Max Frisch's story follows a hair tonic salesman whose own vanity is used against him by two strangers.

Ovation!
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-9155). www.chambertheatre.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 16, 19, 22 and 23, 10:30 am. $14.50. The Chamber Repertory Theatre brings five stories to the stage: Poe's "The Cask of Amontillado" and "The Black Cat," Saki's "The Open Window," Dahl's "Lamb to the Slaughter" and O. Henry's "A Retrieved Reformation."

Promises, Promises
Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Dec. 9-18. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Dec. 11 and 17, 4 pm; Dec. 18, 2 pm. $38.50. This comedic musical, written by Burt Bacharach and Neil Simon, is about love, office politics and climbing the corporate ladder. Directed by John Ambrosino.

Twelfth Night
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., Cambridge (866-811-4111). www.actorsshakespeareproject.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Lechmere. Dec.15-17, 7:30 pm; Dec. 18, 2 pm; Dec. 20-23, 7:30 pm; Dec. 21, 10:30 am; Dec. 26-30, 7:30 pm; Dec. 28, 2 pm; Dec. 31, 6 pm; Jan. 5-7, 7:30 pm; Jan. 7-8, 2 pm. $35-$40. The Actor's Shakespeare Project presents the Bard's famous comedy of disguises and mistaken identities.

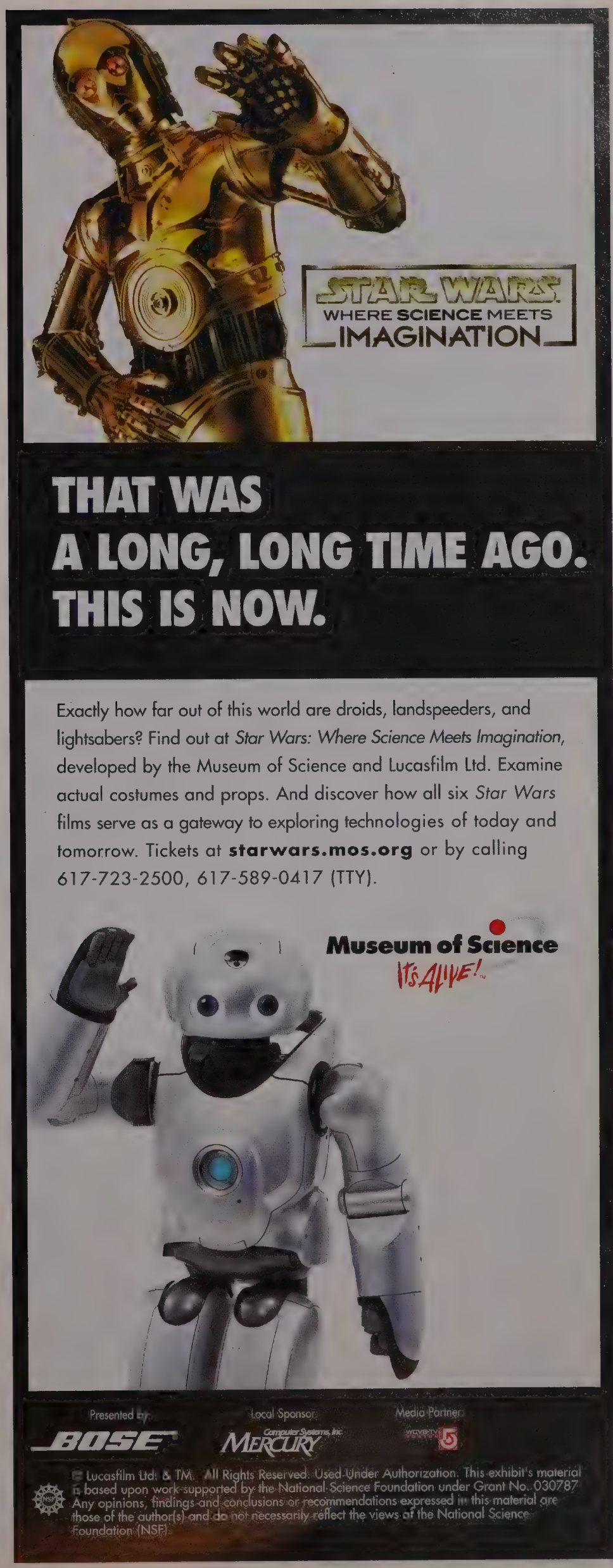
NOW RUNNING

Big River
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through Dec. 11. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $17-$24. This musical adaptation of Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, directed by Eleine Vrettos, follows the adventures of Huck and Jim in the antebellum South.

Black Nativity
Tremont Temple, 88 Tremont St., Boston (617-585-6366). www.blacknativity.org. Through Dec. 18. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3:30 and 8 pm; Sun., 3:30 pm. $25-$41. The National Center of Afro-American Artists' 36th season of Langston Hughes presents this gospel song-play.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sun., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 2 and 5 pm. The blue trio performs an ongoing show that mixes art, music, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

A Doll's House runs at the Devanaughn Theatre through Dec. 11



PERFORMING

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by Alex

The Firebugs premieres at Chelsea Theatre Works Dec. 8.

A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley

Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy St., Arlington (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. Through Dec. 11. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 4 pm. $18. Alex Lucchesi directs Israel Horovitz's adaptation of the Dickens story in which three ghosts visit Ebenezer Scrooge to restore his Christmas spirit.

Crowns

Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Dec. 23. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $22-$47. This story follows a Brooklyn teenager's journey south to live with her grandmother.

A Doll's House

Devanaughn Theatre at the Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Dec. 8, 7:30 pm; Dec. 9, 8 pm; Dec. 10, 3 and 8 pm; Dec. 11, 3 pm. $16. Small World Big Sky Productions presents Ibsen's play—adapted by playwright Frank McGuiness—about a woman who must question the foundation of everything she believes in when her marriage is put to the test.

Menopause: The Musical

Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. In Jeannie Linder's musical, four aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meet at a lingerie sale.

P.S. Page Me Later: Performances Inspired by *Found* Magazine

Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatrescene.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Dec. 17. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $12-$15. A variety of local artists come together to celebrate *Found* magazine through performances based on objects the magazine has collected over the years, including napkins, drawings and love letters.

Red Elm

Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. Through Dec. 18. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15-$25. Wesley Savick directs this play about a conflict when parents hand over the family business to their sons.

Shear Madness

Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. This com whodunit, set in a crazy unisex hair salon, hold record as Boston's longest-running play.

Three Sisters

American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., C bridge (617-496-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA Line to Harvard. Through Jan. 1. Tue.-Thu., pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Schedule varies to confirm. $15-$74. Krystian Lupa di Chekhov's tale of a Russian family looking for a ter life despite the hardships of isolation, de birth and marriage.

The Two Orphans

Brandeis Spingold Theatre, 415 South St., Waltham (736-3400). www.brandeis.edu. Through Dec. 11. Sat., 8 pm. $16-$20. This story of two African-A can sisters struggling to survive in post-emancip New Orleans is directed by Dennis Garnhum.

White Christmas

Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (1- 447-7400). www.whitechristmasthemusical. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec Tue.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 pm, 7:30 pm; Su pm. $22-$78. Walter Bobbie directs this mu about two soldiers who become singers and their girlfriends during a performance at a mont inn.

Dance

Ballet Theatre's The Nutcracker

The Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Camb (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org. MBTA Line to Harvard. Through Dec. 18. Thurs.-Fri., pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15-$35. rendition of the holiday classic, choreographe artistic director Jose Mateo, focuses on dancing.

The Big Chill

Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica (617-869-2970). www.bigmoves.org. MBTA: Or Line to Stony Brook. Dec. 9-10. 8 pm. $15. Big M holiday dance revue features plus-size performers s casing hip-hop, ballet and belly dancing pieces.

Dance Troupe Fall Concert

Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass. Ave., Camb (973-951-3753). http://web.mit.edu/dancetro MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Dec. 8-11. Th Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $5-$10. Da choreographed and performed by students inc hip-hop, tap, ballet/lyrical, modern and tango.

Dancer's Christmas
obsham Theater Arts Center, Boston College, 140 omm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-4002). ww.blde.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boston College. ec. 9-18. Fri.-Sat., 7 pm; Sun. 3 pm. $25; $15, chil-en, students and seniors. This 25th annual presen-tion by the Boston Liturgical Dance Group de-cts the Christmas story through dance.

he Nutcracker
pera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-695-)50). www.bostonballet.org. MBTA: Green Line to oylston or Red or Green Line to Park Street. Through ec. 30. Thu.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; in., 1 and 5:30 pm. $22.50-$107.50. Choreo-aphed by Mikko Nissinen, Tchaikovsky's ballet bout a nutcracker come to life enters its 37th year Boston Ballet performances.

en's The Limit
reen Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617-'6-4275). www.crasharts.org. MBTA: Red Line to entral. Dec. 9-10. 7 and 9 pm. $15. This fifth an-ual showcase features new contemporary dance eces and works-in-progress by eight Boston-based tists in a studio setting.

2 Dancers Dancing: Christmas in Cambridge
ie Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 17-547-9363). www.thedancecomplex.org. MBTA: d Line to Central. $16. 18+. This holiday-themed ent presents hip-hop, jazz, modern and ballet nces by Rainbow Tribe, Kelley Donovan and ancers, and Disco Brats.

rban Nutcracker
ie Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Road, Dorchester 17-635-1408). www.urban-nutcracker.com. MBTA: d Line to JFK/UMass. Dec. 10-11, 17-18. 2 pm. $15-5. This modern take on the holiday classic fuses bal-, swing, hip-hop and urban tap with Tchaikovsky's ssical score and Ellington's pulsating beats.

Comedy

dvice to Contributors
bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calen-r: Comedy, or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. adline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

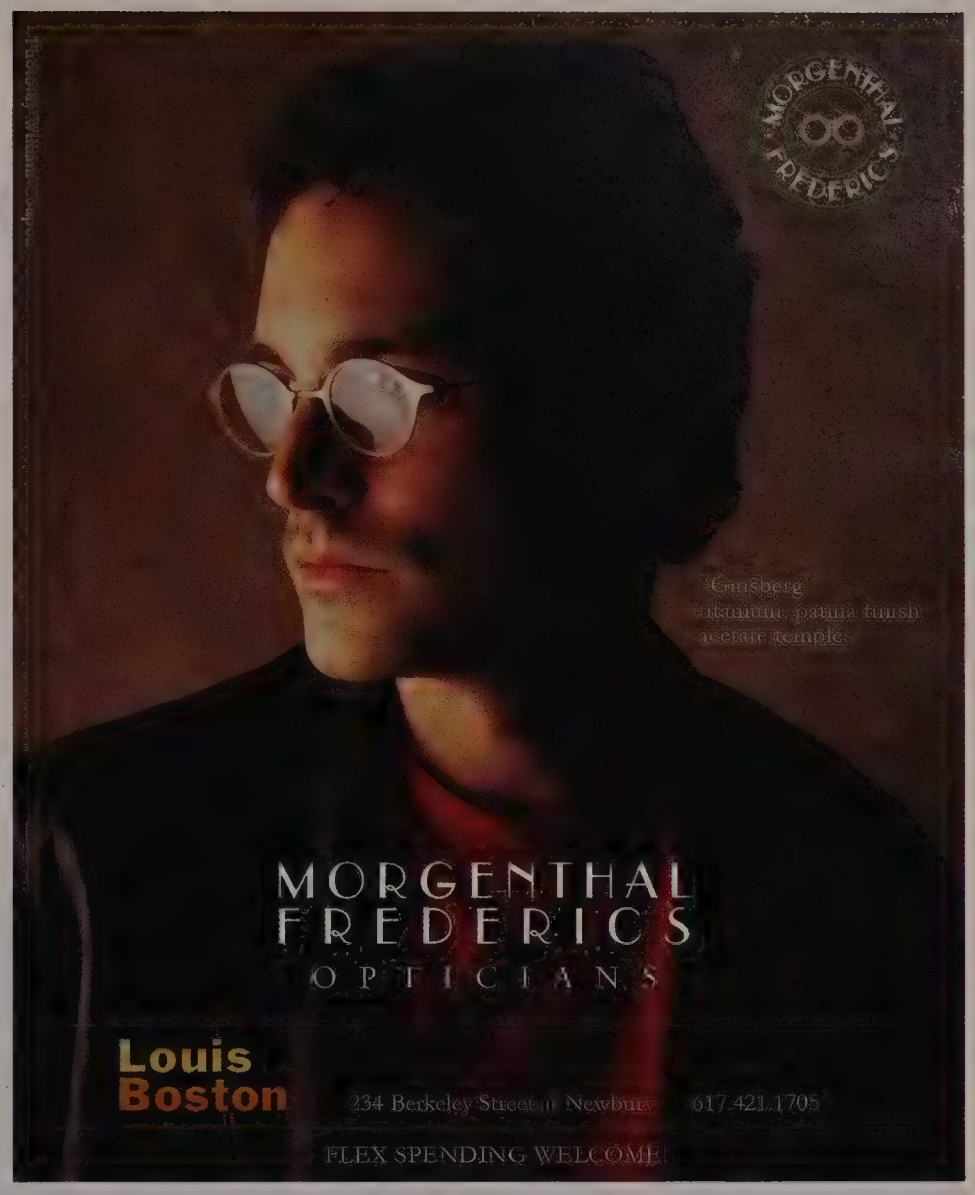
STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). ww.stashcomedyjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Dec. 8, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. • Dec. 9, 8 pm: Boston Headliners, $20; 10:45 pm: Pablo Francisco, $25. •Dec. 10, 8 pm: Pablo Francisco, $25. •Dec. 11, 7 pm: Jim Dunn, $15. •Dec. 12, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $15. •Dec. 13, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $15. •Dec. 14, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $15. •Dec. 15, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. • Dec. 16, 8 pm: Gary Gulman, $22.50. •Dec. 17, 8 pm: Gary Gulman, $25. •Dec. 18, 7 pm: D.J. Hazard, $15. •Dec. 19, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $15. •Dec. 20, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $15.

The Comedy Studio
Harvard Square, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $8-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Dec. 7: Brian Feer, Tom Dustin, David Powell, Carlos DeSouto and others. •Dec. 8: The Dan Sally Show!, Micah Sherman, Dan Boulger, Rob Conery and others. •Dec. 9: The Walsh Bros., Adam Pearlman, Jen Griffith, Arielle Goldman and others. •Dec. 10: Tom E. Morello, Rob O'Reilly, Renata Tutko and others. •Dec. 11: Erin Judge Presents...Marc Basch, Bryan Ames, Korte Yeo, Greg Thibideau, Bethany Van Delft,



Steve Albert, Chibuzo. •Dec. 14: Carolyn Plummer, Shane Mauss, Jim Laprel, Eric Riley Moore, Myq Kaplan, Christian Lynch, Nate Johnson, Tim Kaelin. •Dec. 15: The Dan Sally Show: Dan Spangler, Andrea Henry, Myq Kaplan, Janet Cormier, Nicole Blizek, Mike Morrell, Rebecca Anderson. •Dec. 16: The Walsh Bros., Tonya Dalhaus, Kevin Neales and others. •Dec. 17: Sarah Blodgett, Rick Jenkins, Andy Ofeish. •Dec. 18: Tony V. holiday show.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions. • Dec. 8-10, 7:30 pm, $15-$25: *Jimmy Tingle's American Dream* is a one-man show that combines comedy, political commentary and storytelling. •Dec. 11, 7 pm, $25: Betsy Salkind and Friends appear in this special benefit performance to support The Leadership Council to help eliminate Massachusetts' statute of limitations for child sexual abuse. •Dec. 15-17, 7:30; Dec. 18, 7 pm, $35: *Comedy for Globe Santa with the Ding Ho Alumni* hosted by Jimmy Tingle.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semi-finalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians. Call the restaurant for an updated schedule of performers.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 8:30 pm. $10-$22.

Steve Sweeney's Comedy Cafe at Jae's

711 Boylston St., Boston (1-800-401-2221). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. $20. 18+. Boston comedians Steve Sweeney and Dick Doherty are featured each Saturday night with other select performers. •Dec. 9-10: Don Gavin.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government ter. Dinner packages available. • Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Sat., 8 and 10 pm, $15-$20: Summer in New land. •Wed., 9:45 pm, $15: Lost in Boston…or H Learned to Love That Dirty Water. •Thu., 9:45, $5: NXT. •Sat., 12 am, $10: The Midnight Show

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Bos based short-form improv comedy group perf skits that involve participation from membe the audience.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-12 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Cer $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisati comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: ch ters, stories, settings, even songs and dances. •We pm, $5: Hump Fringe Show. •Thu., 8 pm, $10- UnNatural Selection. A master of ceremonies domly eliminates players until only one is left; 10 $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brot Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and ch ter sketches and play music and short films in a di of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Tales of a ken Heart. Marcelo Illarmo discusses his life-thre ing heart condition and fights it with humor; 10 $10-$12: TheatreSports. The audience scores two posing improv teams based on who's funnier. •Sa pm, $10-$12 (children 11 and under accompanie an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family S A short-form improvisational show appropriat people of all ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-$12: Imp Boston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music audience participation, a cast of improvisers crea show that changes with every performance. •Su pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. This eve features performances by visiting and local troupe

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 $10 after. 21+. Every Thursday, The Tribe spor this comedy show at Cantab featuring a collec of improv comedians who poke fun at everyth including themselves.

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ew Releases

PAUL SHERMAN

e Season ★★★½

ay this drama is about the family of a young girl ancing to the national spelling bee doesn't do it ice. That premise makes it sounds like a lame fic- alized version of the outstanding documentary *lbound*. It's more pertinent to know it's the latest n directors Scott McGehee and David Siegel, guys behind the probing psychological thrillers *ire* and *The Deep End*, and that it's based on a el by Myla Goldberg (with the screenplay by mi Foner Gyllenhaal, Jake and Maggie's mom). hose hands, this actually turns out to be one of better movies, in some time, about spiritualism our struggle to connect with the world around In the story, the emerging spelling skills of 11- -old heroine Ellie (Flora Cross) spark the inter- of her domineering father (Richard Gere), a reli- is studies professor who wrote his thesis about a ish mystic who believed that "through letters, l could flow through you." He starts coaching through her bees (regional, state, national) and ng to nurture her ability to commune with God ough the words she spells. But this intensified d between father and daughter heightens the in- rities of Ellie's mother (Juliette Binoche) and brother (Max Minghella), who also struggle to nect life's disparate dots and make sense of the ld. Through visuals and story elements, the well- d movie effectively integrates its characters' in- idual plights into a smart, touching whole. (At dall Square.)

pote ★★★

man Capote revolutionized pop culture with his 5 "nonfiction novel" *In Cold Blood*. Without it, might not have had subsequent books like *The fect Storm* or *A Civil Action*, nor film documen- es like the Maysles Brothers' *Salesman* and the le- n of movies it inspired. This impressionistic ma about the long genesis of the book follows ote (Philip Seymour Hoffman) as he learns of a tal Kansas farmhouse murder and sees human ma where others might have seen only savagery. in unearthing the humanity in the killers, ote becomes torn apart by the dilemma of ini- ly wanting to help them and, after years of ap- ls, wanting them to finally be executed so he can sh the book. There's a fine line between Capote's yful way of performing at parties and the white with which he manipulates Perry Smith (Clifton llins Jr.), the killer with whom he bonds most ply. Hoffman immerses himself in the role of the ter who's both mousy and catty, and the movie ely gives its protagonist a matter-of-fact intro- tion that makes it easy for audiences to accept ffman as Capote. (At Boston Common, Harvard are, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

od Night, and Good Luck ★★★½

ere's passion dripping from George Clooney's 50s tale—for journalism, for liberty, for viemaking. Filmed in an evocative, cigarette- oke-filled black-and-white, his second movie as ector chronicles the decision by CBS TV's no- nsense star journalist, Edward R. Murrow (David athairn), to take on Senator Joseph McCarthy, Communist-hunting bully. Murrow's on-air very helps turn the tide against McCarthy, and neath the tense story of dilemmas and decisions— d in a vibrant style in which the camera often ms to "find" the action, documentary-style—are issues of the role of journalism and the larger tter of what it means to be an American. oney sets the tone for the movie by not taking lead role. Instead, he plays Murrow's producer, d Friendly. Similarly, the movie doesn't grand- nd or go for "big moments," and Strathairn not ly catches Murrow's distinctively clipped ca- nce, he also lets that cadence suggest the moral cision that defines the character, as well as the vie. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

arry Potter and the Goblet of Fire ★

ur entries into the series, these movies are still tle more than bloated, big-budget versions of ne 1980s post-*E.T.* kids' movies like *Young Sher- k Holmes*. Our hero (Daniel Radcliffe) is still a p. His friends (Emma Watson, Rupert Grint) are ll twee losers. The quaint tone is still annoying. ie movie is still an elephants' graveyard for Eng- n actors. And HP4 is as long and almost as plod- ng as its predecessors. As usual, there's little flow the latest, directed by Mike Newell (*Donnie asco*), which follows Harry as he competes in a i-Wizard competition against three other wiz ds. Scenes run too long for fear of leaving some- ing out and alienating fans of the book, and the

Stone Cold

Family dumps a lump of coal in our stocking.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Sarah Jessica Parker, you've just completed six seasons of the critical and popular success *Sex and the City*. What are you going to do now?"

"I'm going to Disneyland! No, wait. I think I'll make a mediocre movie in which my character looks like an idiot for most of the story!"

That Parker's character, Meredith, looks like an idiot is just one of many problems in Thomas Bezucha's overreaching *The Family Stone*, but it's a biggie. Bezucha doesn't do us the favor of offering much background information about Meredith. About all we know is that she's wound as tight as the bun in her hair and the fist in which she clutches her cell phone.

Meredith (Sarah Jessica Parker, second from left) feels out of place with her boyfriend's family.

Still, *The Family Stone* tosses Meredith into the luxury sedan of boyfriend Everett (Dermot Mulroney) and headlong into his family's Connecticut Christmas get-together. We're supposed to think it's funny that uptight Meredith is entirely uncomfortable around the informal Stone family. It seems that half the movie is based around this concept: Meredith feels uneasy that Everett's mom (Diane Keaton) puts them in the same bedroom, she's accused of being a racist by Everett's younger sister Amy (Rachel McAdams) and Everett's parents (with Craig T. Nelson as the father) snap at her when she makes a borderline politically incorrect statement at the dinner table involving another of Everett's siblings, gay Thad (Ty Giordano).

Well, gee, who the hell doesn't feel uncomfortable being the odd person out in a family gathering, especially in a boisterous family with five grown children? And who wouldn't think the large family was being a little bitchy toward Meredith? Just what planet is Bezucha from?

The ironic thing about *The Family Stone* is that Bezucha, an Amherst native, seems to think his titular family is a model of liberal enlightenment: Dad is a professor at the local college, one son (Luke Wilson) is a documentary film editor living in Berkeley, one daughter (McAdams) is a teacher and Thad has a black partner (presumably his husband, as their car has Massachusetts plates). Yet this clan epitomizes red-states stereotypes of the overeducated, liberal elite. They're intolerant of Meredith and reject her in knee-jerk fashion rather than talk to her, and they're controlling, secretly trying to dissuade Everett from proposing to her (the movie's title also refers to the family-heirloom ring he wants to give her).

At least there's Wilson's laid-back Ben, the only person who actually tries to make Meredith feel comfortable. Of course, he also fancies Meredith, which is a stretch, but then, unconvincing stretches are a running theme in *The Family Stone*. The longest comes when Meredith, panicked, calls her younger sister Julie (Claire Danes) to come keep her company. She soon shows up at the Stones' house, and just as Ben is trying to befriend Meredith, romantic sparks start to fly between Julie and Everett.

This sort of everything-wrapped-in-a-bow twist should be no surprise to anyone who saw Bezucha's *Big Eden*. It was as bland as beets. If your indie movie is bland and has a Hollywood ending, your first studio movie is not likely to be any more interesting. Bezucha works on a grander scale here, but the humor is often forced and the drama (mainly centered on the health of Keaton's character) lacks subtlety. Then the rearranging of romantic couplings so that everyone is left "happy" goes to insane lengths. By the time Parker has become covered in the breakfast dish she had prepared for the Stones, and has to play humiliated for the umpteenth time, the movie is long past the point of salvageability.

It's not just missteps that make *The Family Stone* a waste of time and money; it's misguidedness. It reminded me why I usually avoid family-gathering movies this time of year. Occasionally there's a decent one, like Jodie Foster's *Home for the Holidays* (which coincidentally co-starred Danes), but most are like reading 200-page greeting cards. Is the lazily written, cheek-pinching drama they usually offer supposed to be more palatable simply because there's a tree with tinsel on it in the corner of the room? IB

The Family Stone ★½

Written and directed by Thomas Bezucha. With Sarah Jessica Parker, Dermot Mulroney, Diane Keaton, Rachel McAdams, Claire Danes, Luke Wilson, Craig T. Nelson, Ty Giordano, Brian White, Elizabeth Reaser and Paul Schneider. Rated PG-13. Opens Dec. 16 at Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

...sequences rarely flow into each other, ...the movie very episodic. It's almost comi... ...ks you again and again to marvel at ...special-effects (cue the reaction shots of wide-eyed kids), but the end result is that none of the magic seems special, due to the sheer abundance of it. Radcliffe, Watson and Grint are at least finally starting to look semi-comfortable on-screen, and newcomers-to-the-series Brendan Gleeson and Miranda Richardson add a few laughs, but the adolescent drama mixed in between the competition is as by-the-numbers as a run-of-the-mill Afterschool Special. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Ice Harvest ★★

John Cusack's wounded cynicism, Billy Bob Thornton's hot temper, Oliver Platt's comic timing and Connie Nielsen's gams and deadpan flippancy certainly elevate Harold Ramis' latest. But they can't disguise the fact that it's a generic heist comedy full of scoundrels we're told little about and whose dirty deeds we're given little reason to care about. It's hard even to fathom exactly what's going on at times in this story of a Wichita mob lawyer (Cusack) and pornographer (Thornton) who steal a bundle from a Midwest mob boss (an underutilized Randy Quaid) on Christmas Eve, and try to make it through a long night of freezing rain before they can get out of town. We're never shown the two thieves doing their jobs or their extracurricular skimming, so you just have to accept what the movie tells you about them and their scheme. So scenes of comic amorality are often funny, as characters backstab one another, but they don't really add up to that much due to the lack of context. As the miserable friend who married the lawyer's ex-wife and is dying for something more exciting out of life, Platt steals the movie, because we actually get to see the family and in-laws he can't stand, and we commiserate with him. With the others, most everything is sketchy, which makes the movie mildly amusing but instantly forgettable. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Jarhead ★★½

Sam Mendes' adaptation of former Marine sniper Anthony Swofford's book about his experiences during the first Gulf War has narrowed the focus of the story so much that it loses a lot from page to screen. By dropping the background about Swofford (a bulked-up Jake Gyllenhaal), who's foolishly followed in the path of his miserable ex-Marine dad, as well as the flash-forwards to his post-war encounters with his comrades (who, like him, aren't doing so well), the movie becomes more about the war than the people fighting it. But as a movie chronicling the absurdity of the Gulf War, aka "The Media War"—with Swofford's platoon waiting in the Gulf for six months for the war to begin and then seeing frustratingly little action—this runs a distant second to 1999's more inventive *Three Kings*. Stripped of Swofford's tangents, it's rendered fairly conventional: You have the scared, confused foot soldiers (with Peter Sarsgaard and Lucas Black also among the cast), the hard-working staff sergeant (Jamie Foxx) and the oblivious se... officer who cares only about his power (Dennis H... bert). What's here is decent, but it might have l... less generic had it dared to be more adventurous. Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Sarah Silverman: Jesus is Magic ★...

New Hampshire native Silverman—a vetera... *The Larry Sanders Show*, *Saturday Night*

They're ba-ack!: The *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* kids try to find magic in the library.

efly), *Mr. Show with Bob and David* and just
ut everything on the Comedy Central sched-
—was responsible for one of the more memo-
e comic riffs in this year's long-running comedy
umentary *The Aristocrats*. She gets an entire
rie to herself this time. Her performance film,
cted by Liam Lynch (the upcoming *Tenacious D*
rie), essentially has a cable stand-up-special for-
, with a story frame at the beginning and end,
a few cut-away scenes in the middle of her
d-up act, as well as a few songs. Recalling both
ly Kaufman and Lenny Bruce in her comic ap-
ich, Silverman is not afraid to make her audi-
e feel uncomfortable (like Kaufman) or to chal-
ge its preconceptions about other people (like
ce). In Silverman's case, much of that is accom-
hed by playing her girlish, attractive looks
nst the brash things she says. The oft-quoted "I
raped by a doctor, which is so bittersweet for a
ish girl" is one of her better lines, and her humor
n looks at the tribes into which we divide our-
es. Not all of the songs or cut-aways work (a
kstage skit with Bob Odenkirk goes nowhere),
the whole movie runs only 72 minutes, but Sil-
nan's comedy scores much more often than not.
Kendall Square.)

alk the Line ★★★

ter-director James Mangold's Johnny Cash
pic isn't *Ray Lite*, it's *Ray White*: rural Southern
ringing, childhood tragedy, musical talent, drugs
enty, 1960s meltdown, triumphant comeback
he way to icon status. As Jamie Foxx did in *Ray*,
quin Phoenix gives a strong, galvanizing perfor-
ice as Cash, in a story that takes him from farm-
d to Folsom Prison concert and marriage to the
nan he long pursued, June Carter (Reese With-
oon). It's that pursuit that drags out the movie,
ugh. Carter initially repels Cash's advances be-
se they're both married when they first meet,
n because he becomes a drugged-up wreck from
being with her. In addition to Cash's desire to
ise his forever-unimpressed dad (Robert
rick)—who sees Johnny as inferior to his
ther, who died as a kid—this thwarted affair is
ut the only motivation we're given for our hero.
enix gives Cash an earthy charm and Wither-
on makes Carter a smart spitfire, and they gain
nts for doing their own vocals. But after a while
want to say, "We get it! He wants to shack up
n her." Despite Cash's fiery comeback with the
om Prison concert (and its hit live album), the
third drags because of the monotony of the pur-
, taking some pep out of an otherwise evocative
ute to a musical legend. (At Boston Common,
way and suburbs.)

**allace & Gromit: The Curse of the
ere-Rabbit ★★★**

k Park's 1990s pop-culture sensations return in
ir first feature, and it's a good one. The stop-mo-
n clay animation rendering potty English inventor
llace (voiced by Peter Sallis) and his trusty (and
rter) dog Gromit is simply more expressive than
other example of that style of animation.
mit's facial reactions are funnier and more subtle
n those of most human actors, and the dog also
more humanity than most people. Gromit, of
rse, must pull his master out of tight situations, big
n small, again and again during the movie, which
ds the duo working as garden-pest exterminators
ose services are in great demand because of their
age's upcoming vegetable-growing contest. When
ipersized rabbit threatens to destroy the veggies,
contest and Wallace and Gromit's reputation, the
(well, Gromit mostly) must save the day. Like
k's 1990s shorts, the movie is smart and playful,
the influx of celebrity voice actors (Helena Bon-
n Carter, Ralph Fiennes) doesn't spoil things a bit.
fact, those two are very funny as two posh aristo-
s. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

pecial Events

n Evening with James Schamus

*rvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St. (617-496-
2). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 9. 7 pm.*

Independent film guru James Schamus pre-
ts a preview screening of an upcoming release
n his studio Focus Features.

epertories
nd Revivals

dvice to Contributors

*mit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Cal-
ar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is
r weeks prior to publication.*

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fighting the Fires of Hate

•Dec. 18, 2 pm. **Rosenzweig's Freedom** *1998*. Liliane Targownik directs this thriller about a Jewish lawyer defending his brother accused of killing a neo-Nazi.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Benefit Screenings: Help Save the Brattle

•Dec. 8, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm. **Bob Dylan Mix Tape** *2005*. This compilation of Bob Dylan clips includes rare television footage, highlights from a never-seen-before documentary and live performances.

•Dec. 9, 7:30 pm. **Memoirs of a Geisha** *2005*. Rob Marshall directs this film chronicling a geisha's life in the years leading up to WWII.

•Dec. 10, 12:30 pm. **Touching History: Harvard Square, the Bank and the Tasty Diner** *2005*. Federico Muchnik directs this documentary about the rise of commercialism in Harvard Square with the independent diner the Tasty as a focus.

Brattle Staff Picks

•Dec. 19-20, 7:30 pm. **Rushmore** *1998*. Wes Anderson directs this story about a private school student who resolves a love triangle between himself, an elementary school teacher and a wealthy father. •Dec. 19-20, 5:15 pm, 9:30 pm. **Royal Tennenbaums** *2001*. A family of estranged geniuses reunites after their mother announces her engagement and their father announces his terminal illness. Wes Anderson directs.

Exclusive Area Premier

•Dec. 9, 5:15 pm, 9:45 pm; Dec. 10, 3 pm, 5:15 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:45 pm; Dec. 11, 12:45 pm, 3 pm, 5:15 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:45 pm; Dec. 12-14, 5:15 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:45 pm. **Be Here to Love Me** *2004*. Margaret Brown directs this documentary about the late Townes Van Zandt, a songwriter recorded by everyone from Willie Nelson to the Meat Puppets.

Exclusive Theatrical Premiere

•Dec. 7, 5:15 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:45 pm. **Darwin's Nightmare** *2004*. Hubert Sauper directs this documentary on the effect of fishing the Nile perch in Tanzania's Lake Victoria.

Special Holiday Screening

•Dec. 15, 4:30 pm, 7:15 pm; Dec.16, 4:30 pm; Dec. 17-18, 1:30 pm, 4:15 pm. **It's a Wonderful Life** *1946*. An angel-in-training shows a suicidal businessman what life would have been like had he never been born. Frank Capra directs.

Wong Kar-Wai Trilogy Weekend

•Dec. 16, 7:15 pm; Dec. 17, 9:30 pm. **2046** *2004*. A womanizing pulp-fiction writer plays out his sci-fi novel in his mind. •Dec. 16, 9:45 pm; Dec. 18, 7:15 pm. **In The Mood For Love** *2000*. After two young neighbors meet and become friends, they suspect their spouses are having an affair.•Dec. 17, 7:15 pm. **Days of Being Wild** *1991*. A young man deceives a shop girl, setting off a violent and dramatic chain of events.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

For updated movie schedules, see www.coolidge.org.

•**Boys Of Baraka** *2005*. Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady direct a documentary which follows a group of inner-city boys from Baltimore who are sent to a boarding school in Kenya and the academic and social obstacles they face in their new environment.

•**Brokeback Mountain** *2005*. This adaptation of Annie Proulx' story recounts the tale of two cowboys in the 1960s who meet at a sheep-herding job as they form a close friendship that slowly transforms into an unexpected love.

•**Electric Edwardians** 2005. This film showcases newly uncovered footage of 20th-century Britain documenting festivals, street performances, sporting events and parades along with glimpses of industry work and street scenes capturing daily life of the era.

FILM AT MIT

Lecture Series Committee

•Dec. 9, 7 pm, 10 pm; Dec. 11, 7 pm. **The 40 Year-Old Virgin** *2005*. Judd Apatow directs this comedy about a virgin whose co-workers aim to help him lose his virginity.

•Dec. 10, 7 pm, 10 pm; Dec. 11, 10 pm. **March of the Penguins** *2005*. This family documentary, directed by Luc Jacquet, follows a group of Emperor penguins on their annual quest to breeding grounds through harsh weather conditions with little to no food.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Contemporary French Cinema

•Dec. 12, 7 pm. **Les Pays des Sourds (In the Land of the Deaf)** *1992*. Nicholas Philibert directs a documentary about hearing-impaired individuals from a variety of backgrounds and ages.

Film Architectures

•Dec. 14, 7 pm. **Wings of Desire** *1987*. Wim Wenders' film is inspired by a Rilke poem and follows two angels who spy on Berliners.

LGBT Film Series

…n. **Six Degrees of Separation** *1993.* …ims to be an old friend of the son of two …art dealers until their suspicions prompt an investigation. Fred Schepisi directs.

• Dec. 14, 9:15 pm. **The Wedding Banquet** *1993.* In this comedy, a Taiwanese-American man, who doesn't want his parents to know that he is gay, enters into a marriage of convenience with a Taiwanese woman who needs a green card. Ang Lee directs.

Imagining the City

• Dec. 7, 7 pm. **D'Est (From the East)** *1993.* Chantal Akerman shot his documentary in Germany, Poland and Russia on the eve of the unification of Western Europe.

Ride Lonesome: The Films of Budd Boetticher

• Dec. 13, 9:15 pm. **Comanche Station** *1960.* A man rescues a senator's wife and runs into an old enemy while returning her to civilization in the Old West. Budd Boetticher directs.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Friday Reel Rush

• Dec. 16, 8 pm. **Baghdad in No Particular Order** *2004.* Paul Chan directs this documentary following the Voices in the Wilderness aid group before the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

American Independent Cinema

• Dec. 9, 8 pm; Dec. 10, 2:45 pm; Dec. 11, 2 pm; Dec. 14, 6 pm. **The Joy of Life** *2005.* Jenni Olson directs this feature that overlaps two stories: one about the Golden Gate Bridge as a historical suicide landmark and another about a butch lesbian in San Francisco looking for love.

• Dec. 14, 7:45 pm. **The Talent Given Us** *2004.* Andrew Wagner's comedic film blurs the line between fiction and documentary by recording his family's journey from NYC to Los Angeles to visit him.

Encore Screenings

• Dec. 18, 12:30 pm. **Princesse Marie** *2004.* Benoît Jacquot directs this historical drama about Marie Bonaparte, princess of Greece and Denmark, and her 20-year friendship with her psychoanalyst Freud.

Johnny Cash (Joaquin Phoenix) and June Carter (Reese Witherspoon) duet both on- and offstage in *Walk the Line*.

Heimat 3

• Dec. 16, 5:30 pm; Dec. 17, 10:30 am. **Follow Me: Part 5** *1997.* Edgar Reitz directs this installment of the series that depicts life seven years after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

• Dec. 16, 7:30 pm; Dec. 17, 1 pm. **Goodbye to Schabbach: Part 6** *1999.* On the day of the solar eclipse, Gunnar Brehme goes to Munich to begin serving a prison term for drunk driving.

New Colombian Cinema

• Dec. 8, 6 pm. **La Sierra** *2005.* Scott Dalton and Margarita Martinez direct this award-winning documentary about a neighborhood in Med… Colombia, an area ruled by a gang with ties t… nation's parliamentary armies.

New England Film Artists Present

• Dec. 8, 7:45 pm. **So Much So Fast** *2005.* St… Ascher and Jeanne Jordan direct this docume…

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t a 29-year-old man diagnosed with Lou ig's disease.

tographers On Film

. 8, 4 pm; Dec. 18, 10:30 am. **Ansel Adams: cumentary Film** 2002. Ric Burns directs this nentary about the legendary photographer.

. 8, 2:15 pm. **William Eggleston in the Real d** 2005. Director Michael Almereyda follows the natic and influential photographer William ston as he travels throughout the United States.

. 11, 10:30 am. **Ansel Adams: Photographer** . John Huszar directs this film, which follows ns to the locations of his most famous ographs.

-Release Screening

. 11, 3:45 pm. **The Syrian Bride** 2004. Eran directs this film about a family preparing for an ged marriage between their daughter and a TV star.

EUM OF SCIENCE

;ar Omni Theatre

arctica. The winner of the Prix du Jury at the X Film Festival features a helicopter view, scien- esearch and penguins. Through Jan. 1, 2006.

ter Pilot. Stephen Low follows F-15 Eagle pilot Stratton as he trains in the Nevada desert before sent into combat. Through Jan. 31, 2006.

s 3D. This movie explores the landscape and sses the history of the red planet. Through Feb. 06.

cial Effects. This film takes a behind-the- s look at the making of *Star Wars* Special Edi- *Kazaam!*, *Independence Day* and *Jumanji*. ugh Jan. 2006.

ENGLAND AQUARIUM

ons IMAX Theater

gnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon his film presents previously unseen footage and graphs taken by NASA. Through Feb. 2006.

r Express. IMAX 3D presents Robert Zemeckis' film about a young boy who boards a magical for the North Pole. Through Jan. 2, 2006.

rks 3D. Jean-Michael Cousteau explores sev- hark species using three-dimensional views. ugh Feb. 2006.

d Safari 3D. This film shows the African savan- om a safari jeep exploration. Through Feb. 2006.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Bartos Theatre@MIT
20 Amest St. (617-253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

38 Cameron
38 Cameron Ave., Suité 100. (617-492-4091). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St. (617-876-6060). MBTA: Red Line to Central.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060). MBTA: Commuter Rail to West Newton.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

nema Venues

INGTON

ent Theatre
dford St. (617-646-4849).

MONT

dio Cinema
Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

TON

ton Public Library
Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green o Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

y Bob Thornton and John Cusack play drinking thieves in *The Ice Harvest*.

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Punk Vibration

A less anxious X still marks the spot with power and personality.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Exene Cervenka says she's not worried about nostalgia as X celebrates the 25th anniversary of the band's debut *Los Angeles* with a concert DVD/CD and a tour that includes a Dec. 10 return to Avalon.

"I would give anything to go see the Ramones play tonight," says the X frontwoman. "You can call it nostalgia, oldies, punk rock or old school. I don't care what you call it. But if [Clash frontman] Joe Strummer was alive, we'd all be going to see him. There are a lot of reasons to keep playing, and the biggest reason is because people want to come see us."

X is back on tour after the release of their 25th anniversary DVD/CD

When it comes to punk, what the Ramones were to New York and the Clash was to London, X was to Los Angeles. But no other band, in L.A. or elsewhere, approached the sound of X: the country-tinged collision of singers Cervenka and bassist John Doe, the metallic rockabilly of guitarist Billy Zoom and the whiplash swing of drummer D.J. Bonebrake.

"I know we wanted to sound unique, and I think most bands do," says Cervenka, 49. "But you want to have some element of the personalities doing it. That's what makes longevity. You can have a hit song and be famous for a minute, but I don't really see much in that. Personality is everything when it comes to music."

Personality and poetry were all Cervenka had to offer when she moved to L.A. in 1976, arriving with $80 in a paper bag to live with five people in a one-room apartment. "I had been living in Tallahassee, and if you know anything about Florida in the '70s, you had to get out," says Cervenka, who landed a job at a literary arts center called Beyond Baroque and immediately met Doe at a poetry workshop.

"We started hanging out and he told me about Billy, and a few months after being here, I was in a band," she says one morning before her current job as an assistant elementary schoolteacher. "Talk about falling into something.

"DJ and Billy and John had been in bands since they were children, just playing music and singing songs at home, the whole musical upbringing, and I'd never sung a song in my life," says Cervenka, who grew up listening to Johnny Cash and Ray Price. "I was definitely the oddball of that group. I just had some lyrics that I wanted to do something with as poems, and John thought he could turn them into songs."

The pair's careening harmonies became X's most distinctive feature. "I just opened my mouth and started singing along with John, and sometimes it worked and sometimes it didn't, and as time went on, it got better," she says. "Luckily it was the punk days. Anybody can sing punk rock.

"It was less about learning to sing with each other than to be with each other, because a lot of that was just feeding off each other's vibrations or something," says Cervenka, who was married to Doe from 1980-1985 (followed by a five-year marriage to future "Lord of the Rings" heartthrob Viggo Mortensen). "We never sing those songs the same way."

X also had a unique look onstage, from Zoom's cool, spread-legged stance to Cervenka's bohemian-goth attire. "It was a time when you could just be yourself, and that was what was so great about punk," she says. "For me, it was a sense of style that I brought into that. It was the antique dresses and the rhinestones and the messy hair. That was stuff that I had been doing before I'd moved to California anyway."

The DVD *X Live in Los Angeles* shows the band surviving a quarter-century in vintage form, breaking out such high-octane nuggets as "Your Phone's Off the Hook, But You're Not," "We're Desperate," "I'm Coming Over," "Motel Room in My Bed," "The Hungry Wolf" and "The New World"—songs from the group's critically acclaimed first four albums, which were all produced by Doors keyboardist Ray Manzarek.

There's no new X studio project in the works yet. But after the recent *The Modern Sounds of the Knitters* (a countrified outfit that includes Cervenka, Doe, Bonebrake and onetime X guitarist Dave Alvin) and two discs with her punky Original Sinners, Cervenka's hopes are high. "The next project would hopefully be to write some stuff with John," she says. "He's busy with his own stuff [including a 2005 solo release, *Forever Hasn't Happened Yet*], but I think he's into it."

For now, there are more X shows to play. "We're less anxious about it, because there's nothing to prove," she says. "There's no one to win over. We are X. We did what we did and we do it now. If you're there, you're there because you want to be there. People really share in the show."

X plays Avalon Dec. 10.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, email to music@improper.com. Include dates, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadl four weeks prior to publication date. Listings n cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled fro ferent sources. Although we make every effort to p accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call to double-check dates and times (see complete venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Fiona Apple Dec. 7, Orpheum Theatre (617 2000).
Bon Jovi Dec. 9-10, TD Banknorth Garden 931-2000).
The Cheetah Girls Dec. 13, Orpheum Theatre 931-2000).
Dave Matthews Band Dec. 15, TD Banknorth den (617-931-2000).
Iron and Wine Dec. 7, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Living Colour Dec. 14, Paradise Rock Club 931-2000).
Sean Paul Dec. 8, Avalon (617-931-2000).
P.O.D. Dec. 12, Axis (617-931-2000).
X & Juliana Hatfield Dec. 10, Avalon (617 2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Distinguished Men The Swill Merchants, Sad Marvin, Boston Lon pm, 21+.
All Asia Café Open mike hosted by Christian S tis, 7 pm.
Avalon Iron and Wine, Calexico, 8 pm, $20.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, no c 21+.
Bravo at the MFA Foundation for Chinese Perf ing Arts, 7 pm, no cover.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no c 21+.
Club Passim Christopher Williams, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cove
Great Scott Wildlife, 9 pm, $6, 18+.
Harpers Ferry Jesse Dee, Mighty Purple, Ch Leigh, Blue Sky Traffic, $5, 21+
Lucky's Lounge The Bennett Miller Trio, A Herbert, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Damone, The Dents, 9 $9, 18+.
Orpheum Theatre Fiona Apple, David Garza, pm, $35-$40.
PA's Juliet Kilo, Chop Chop, The Young Repub pm, $6, 21+.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Scullers Jazz Club Will McMillan, Bobbi Carr pm, $18.
Somerville Theatre The Roches, 8:30 pm, $25-
Tír na nÓg Bad Art Ensemble, 10 pm, no cover,
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rock Kills Kid, She Want venge, The Lovemakers, 9:15 pm, $12, 18+.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, E Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Gill Ahron, Nat Muga Aruan Ortiz Quartet, Josh Rosen, 7 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Brian Kelly Trio, 8 pm, no cove

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Illustrious Day, Lett Sparrowhawk, Yummy Cakes, 9 pm. Pub St Betty Widerski, The Old Sweethearts, 7 pm, 21
All Asia Cafe Lick, 9:30 pm.
Asgard Steve Gianarros Quartet, 9 pm, no cove
Avalon Sean Paul, 7 pm, $30.
Avenue One Andy Baer, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, no cov
Bob the Chef's Elan Trotman Jazz Quartet, 7:30 $3-$5.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge The Chicken Slacks, 9 pm, cover, 21+.
Club Passim Christopher Williams, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Jenn and Steve Show, 7:20 no cover.
Felt Caroline Gulde, The Brightwings, Say Whe pm.

…t Scott The Collisions, The Irreverends, The …n Ridge Band, AM Stereo, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
…n Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, 10:30 …o cover.
…ers Ferry Eclectic Collective, Fear Nuttin' …l, Lifted, Gavin Castleton, $7-$10, 18+.
…ny D's Wailin' Jennys, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
…nedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no …r.
…land Café David Harold, Laura Brereton, 8 pm,

…y's Lounge Alex MacDougal, 9 pm, no cover,

… Murphy's Round Midnight, 10:30 pm, no …r.
…lle East Three Nouns, Closed Casket, Chemist …p, Dann Russo and the Whisky, Vary Lumar, … Transmission, Chriss Wilhelm Trio, Emer…y Exit, 8:30 pm, $15, 18+.
…dise Rock Club Lounge: The Most High Sound, …, $3, 18+. … The Less Lonesome, Red Door Exchange, Na…l Corridors, Audrey Ryan, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
…le Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3.
…s Jazz Club Vote for Pedro, Zoe Lewis, 9 pm,

…a nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm, no cover,

…of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no …r.
…he Bear's Place Tarantula A.D., Caspian, At…on Underground, 12 pm, $8-$10, 18+.
…Western Front Pressure Drop, Special Blend, …ver.
…geist Gallery Mike McNeal, 7 pm, $10.

…IDAY, DECEMBER 9

…ey Lounge Main Stage: Joshua Gabriel Band, …Own Worst Enemy, License, Auto Interiors, 9 … Pub Stage: Max Heinegg, 7 pm, 21+.
…sia Café The Shills, This Car Up, Kid Napkin, …pm.
…rd Scott Damgaard, Bilgehan Tuncer, 10 pm, …ver.
…ue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
…k Horse Tavern The Jenn and Steve Show, 9 …no cover, 21+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Boston Harbor Hotel Dick Johnson, 7 pm, no cover.
The Burren Classic Trax, 10 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook, The Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Kelly Joe Phelps, Paul Curreri, 8 pm, $18; members, $20.
Common Ground Joint Chiefs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Mutha's Mistake, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Grand Canal Fast Times, 9:30 pm, 21+.
The Green Briar Random Axis, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Harp Big Bang Baby, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Joshua Tree, Headcold, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Sam Kininger Band, Mark Mallman Band, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, Fugitive Kind, 8 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's BQEZ, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Tomorrow's Remedy, Better Life, One-Less, Joe Turner and the Seven Levels, CC40, Skulltoboggan, Nol*Edge, The Pug Uglies, 8:30 pm, $15, 18+; Downstairs: Sand Machine, The Gulf, Freighttrain, Medina Sod, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Diamond Nights, The Thieves, Cheeseburger, $8 in advance; $10 at the door, 18+; Rock Club: Railroad Earth, Honkytonk Homeslice, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris Mr. Greengenes, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Voxtrot, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Phatt Boys ShotGun Marshall, 9 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Black Sea, 9 pm, $12.
TD Banknorth Garden Bon Jovi, 7:30 pm, $49.50-$95.
Tír na nÓg Zipper, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Contact Highs, The Teenage Prayers, The Figgs, 9:30 pm, $10, 18+.
Wonder Bar Thunderbar with Scott Bliss and Caseroc, 9 pm, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Pandelis Karayorgis Trio, Daniel Levin and Nate Wooley Duo, 9:30 pm, $12.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Liam and Me, Apple Betty, Ryan Lee and the Mindless, Ad Frank and the Fast Easy Women, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Chris Luxem and Emily Jane Powers, Hidden Soul Acoustic, 7 pm, 21+.
All Asia Café Nick Forbes, 1 pm; Cameron Lister, 4 pm; Christie Leigh's Showcase, 7 pm.
Asgard SunFive, 10 pm, no cover.
Avalon X, Juliana Hatfield, 7 pm, $20.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern The Jenn and Steve Show, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bob the Chef's Black Sole, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
The Burren Fat Tuesday, 10 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook, The Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Nerissa, Katryna Nields, 7 pm, $18; members, $20.
Dick's Last Resort Never in Vegas, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Grand Canal Icandence, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Great Scott Emergency Music, The Debutantes, The 8mm Fuzz, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 10 pm, $5-$7.
The Harp Big Bang Baby, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Graveyard Barbecue, The Acrobrats, Count Zero, Honest Bob and the Factory Dealer Incentives, Artillery and Din, $7, 21+.
Johnny D's Donna the Buffalo, 9:45 pm, $18.
Lucky's Lounge Bennett Miller Trio, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Eillen Jewel, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Jonas Complex, Throwback, Noel Christopher, Jonathan's Distortion, Bad Jamie, Move the Rabbit, Nash Lane, Lumin-R, 8:30 pm, $15, 18+; Downstairs: Cage, Camu Tao, Slaine, Awkward Landing, Colony Underground, Al-Jabra, Soular Winds, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Midway Café The Angelic Slugs, Eddie Dyer and the Walking Shoe Revival, 9 pm, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Will Hoge, The Trews, Will Champlin, 9 pm, $10 in advance; $12 at the door, 18+; Rock Club: Mr. Brownstone, Heather, 9 pm, $14, 18+.
Parris Mr. Greengenes, 10 pm, $10.
PA's The Ramona Silver Band, The Weisstro Temper, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Phatt Boys Steve Murphy Band, 9 pm, no cove
Purple Shamrock Syndicate, 9:30 pm, $5.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston Horns, 9 pm, $10.
TD Banknorth Garden Bon Jovi, 7:30 pm, $4 $95.
Tír na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5 pm; Los Diabl pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad Tall Palm, 7 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 p cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Screamin' Scotty, Cobra ics, King Memphis, Johnny Carlevale and The ken Rhythm Boys, Thru the Keyhole Burle Sean Mencher Combo, Raging Teens, 8:30 pm 18+.
The Western Front Fitzie Niceness, 10 pm, $1
Zeitgeist Gallery Mehmet Sanlikol, Cem M Eylem Basaldi, 9:30 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no c

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

All Asia Café Jesse Free, 4 pm; Jinsen & Karina pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no 21+.
Club Passim Carl Cacho, Jack Hardy, 8 pm members, $10.
Dick's Last Resort John Polino, 7:20 pm, no c
Great Scott Honeypump, Roh Delikat, Gar Beard, Beautiful Weekend, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Harpers Ferry Close to Home, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Bennett Miller Trio, 11 am.
Matt Murphy's Mang Dub, 10:30 pm, no cove
Middle East Plan B, Drive Like July, Revive Deviations, 1 pm, $9; Wizzardz, Longknives, M People, Dean farm Murdern, 9 pm, $8, 18+; D stairs: Pretty Girls Make Graves, The Double, iers, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
PA's The Summer Villains, Buried Beds, Saulnier, Jeff Chasse, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Phatt Boys Groove Authority, 12 pm, no cover
Ryles Jazz Club Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.

Preview

Props to Genesis

The Musical Box isn't just another tribute band.

he Musical Box debuts at the Berklee Performance Center Dec. 15.

Tribute bands have gone to another level of presentation, popularity and credibility as they tour in concert halls. The Dark Star Orchestra re-creates complete Grateful Dead concerts, letting fans guess which one is taking shape song-by-song. The Australian Pink Floyd goes for a grander visual scale, using lasers and original Floyd inflatables.

But artistically, it's hard to top the Musical Box. The Montreal group has spent the last 12 years recasting early '70s Genesis tours, when Peter Gabriel was the lead singer and wore theatrical costumes and masks.

"It's not a tribute band," says drummer Martin Levac, who plays the role of Phil Collins, making the comparison to a musical or an opera. "It's like a review, a reproduction as exact as humanly possible. We're very picky with detail."

Details will be rich when the Musical Box makes its local debut at Berklee Dec. 15, performing *The Lamb Lies Down on Broadway*, Gabriel's crowning achievement before he quit Genesis and the benchmark for art-rock concept albums.

To present *The Lamb* internationally, the group obtained a first-ever license from Genesis and Peter Gabriel, and was able to copy the 1,120 slides used for backdrops on the original 1974-1975 tour, which was never filmed. The Musical Box also were given access to bassist Michael Rutherford's custom double-neck to make a copy, in keeping with a goal of using the vintage instruments. Then there were the reproductions of Gabriel's costume pieces, notably the Lamia cone and the grotesque Slipperman outfit, which alone took two months to make.

Gabriel and members of Genesis have attended performances, and Collins sat in for an encore in Switzerland this past spring. He was later quoted in the press as saying that a Genesis reunion was possible.

"We intend to re-create a period of time which doesn't exist anymore," Levac says. "I think playing with us reminded him what it was like to be playing this music onstage again in the original setting." ***Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-931-2000). www.themusicalbox.net. 8 p.m $30-$40.***

—Paul Robicheau

Chestnut Billy Novick, Anthony Weller, 11 am, cover.
of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no er.
the Bear's Place Tiger Saw, Tom Thumb & The ter Day Saints, Grizzly Bear, 9:15 pm, $7, 18+.
onder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty ott, 9 pm, no cover.
itgeist Gallery Out to Lunch, 7 pm, $5; Ben nwendener and Songbook, 9:30 pm, $10.

ONDAY, DECEMBER 12

bey Lounge Pub Stage: The Union, 7 pm, 21+.
Asia Café Brian Zanos, Brain Police, 7 pm.
is P.O.D., 7 pm, $18.
e Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
ntab Lounge Valerie and Walter Crockett, 9 pm, +.
ab Passim David Surrette, Eric Royer, 8 pm, $10; mbers, $5.
ck's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no ver.
eat Scott Helms, Dirty Holiday, Appletown nshop, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
tt Murphy's FCO, 10:30 pm, no cover.
ddle East Upstairs: Big Juss, Elemental Zazen, nny Blanco of the Greater Good, Letia Larock, tural Chaos, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

Paradise Rock Club Lounge: Steve Reynolds, Peter Bradley, Adams Residency, 6 pm, $5, 18+.
The Red Fez Carmen Marsico Jazz Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg James Christiensen CD release party. 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Living Things, The Konks, 8:30 pm, $8-$10, 18+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery David Fiuczynski's KiF, 7 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 8 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Rock n' Roll Social, 7 pm, 21+.
All Asia Café The Fellows, 10:30 pm.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joy Kills Sorrow, Merry Mac Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Flynn Cohen and the Chagrin River Band, Sometimes Why, 8 pm, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott BOWAC, Blood On The Wall, Cassette, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Harpers Ferry Velvet Stylus, D-Tension Letia Larok, Illin P, $5-$8, 21+.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Animal Collective Feb. 21, Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800).
Catch 22 Dec. 26, Axis (617-931-2000).
Cave In Dec. 23, The Middle East (617-931-2000).
Steve Connolly Jan. 7, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Deerhoof Jan. 24, The Middle East (617-931-2000).
Il Divo Feb. 2, Wang Theatre (617-482-9393).
INXS Feb. 10, Wang Theatre (617-482-9393).
Billy Joel Jan. 19, TD Banknorth Garden (6 482-9393).
Pat McGee Band Dec. 30, Axis (617-931-20
Rolling Stones Jan. 13 & 15, TD Banknc Garden (617-931-2000).
The Queers Jan. 6, TT the Bear's Place (617- 2000).
Sigur Rós Feb. 7, Orpheum Theatre (617- 2000).
Yellowcard Jan. 27, Axis (617-931-2000).

Johnny D's Ukelele Noir, 8:30 pm, $8.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: This Car Up, Lucas Carpenter Band, Crashwagon, Common Thrill, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Midway Café Jess Yoakum, Teresa Storch, Jud Caswell, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Orpheum Theatre The Cheetah Girls, Aly and Aj, 7 pm, $29-$46.
PA's Eugene Chadbourne, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Christy Bluhm, 8:30 pm, $8.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Headband, Psychic Ills, Blood on the Wall, 9:15 pm, $8, 18+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Phillip Sargent, 7 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: One Eyed Stanley, Kevin Connolly Band, Pinnochio Syndrome, Stoley PT, 9 pm, 21+.
All Asia Café Open Mike with Christian Samatis, 7 pm.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bravo at the MFA Boston Village Gamelan, 7 pm, no cover.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Julian Velard, Jordan Carp, $10; members, $8.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott The Killtakers, ex-Call Up, 9 pm, $5, 18+.
Johnny D's Right Turn Benefit with Beefy DC, Downbeat 5, Byran McPherson, 8:30 pm, $10.
Lucky's Lounge Bennett Miller Trio with Adam Herbert, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Nylon 66, Ugly Fucklings, The Rabbit Ears, Z.W.A, 9 pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Wheatus, Midstates, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Living Colour, Danielia Cotton, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
PA's Sleeprunner, King Junk, Hixx, 8:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 10 pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Bad Art Ensemble, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Brendan Little, Lincoln Conspiracy, The Earlies, 9:15 pm, $10, 18+.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Gill Ahron, Nat Mugavero, Taste Explosion, 8 pm, $10.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Asian Babe Alert, Bees Knees, Dirty Truckers, Starhick, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Anna Freitas, 8 pm, 21+.
Asgard Steve Gianarros Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Axis From Autumn to Ashes, Emery, Biology, 6 pm, $15.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Elan Trotman, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Bravo at the MFA Sounds of the Silk Road, 7:30 pm, $20-$25.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge The Chicken Slacks, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Cate Curtis, Elana Arian, 8 pm, $20; members, $18.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Felt Braddigan, SYD, Ryanhood, 9 pm.
Great Scott Honeypump, Big Digits, Certifi nanas, Miss Fairchild, Hot Beat, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, pm, no cover.
The Harp Darik and the Funbags, 10 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 p cover.
Kirkland Café Hammertoe, Cello Chix, Hurts, Clear, 8 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougal, 9 pm, no 21+.
Matt Murphy's Wild Sextet, 10:30 pm, no co
Middle East Upstairs: Medicated Kisses, Cha ture, Dieslow & Rot, SSA, Jekus Crobe, Poly ene, Thick as Thieves, Sealed Fate, 8:30 pm 18+; Downstairs: The Break Mission, Trem Thick as Thieves, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club Lounge: The Most High S 9 pm, $3, 18+.
PA's The Flyover States, The Silver Lining, Choo La Rouge, Androgony, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, $3, 10 pm.
TD Banknorth Garden Dave Matthews Band Doughty, 7 pm, $52.50.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm, no 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 p cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place On Fire, Drab, Con Controller, We Are Wolves, 9pm, $7, 18+.
The Western Front Pressure Drop, Special Bl pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Glenn Jones, Matthew Joy dom for Gus, 8:30 pm, $10; Keith Hollis and t Boyz, The Organ Trio, 10:30 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Leah Souza, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Over the Edge Collisions, The Drags, Super 400, 9 pm. Pub Culann's Hounds, 8 pm, 21+.
Asgard Ryan McHugh, 10 pm, no cover.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern The Jenn and Steve Sh pm, no cover, 21+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, Sunday's Well pm, $5.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis Jazz Quartet, 7:3 $3-$5.
Boston Harbor Hotel Ron Gill, 7 pm, no cov
The Burren Cover Up, 10 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook, The Thrill pm, 21+.
Club Passim Harvey Reid, Joyce Anderson, $15; members, $13.
Dick's Last Resort Hypercane, 8:30 pm, no co
Grand Canal Freeze Pops, 9:30 pm, 21+.
The Green Briar 2U, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Harpers Ferry The Well, Kashmir, 10 pm, no
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm, no cov
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, M Rakusin, Thunderpants Johnson, Goodtime lies, 8:30 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougal, 9 pm, no 21+.
Matt Murphy's The Well, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Below Average, Stor ground, Media, The Medicine Line, Tri-State Waking Slows, Mentira, Headline, 8:30 pm, 18+; Downstairs: Gene Loves Jezebel, Incus, Effect, 9 pm, $18, 18+.
Parris The Loop, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Shumai, The Metric Mile, The Magogs pm, $7, 21+.
Phatt Boys Bag Full of Blues, 9 pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg The Resonance, 10 pm, no cover, 2
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pn cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Camaleon, 9 pm, $12, 18
The Western Front Primary Others, 10 pm, $1

eist Gallery The Stunt Doubles, Gabriel Birn- Quintet, 7 pm, $10; Fairy Dog Mother, Sweet nesday, 9:30 pm, $8.
ygomates Ronnie Ron, 8 pm, no cover.

TURDAY, DECEMBER 17

ey Lounge Main Stage: Ism, Museum of Sci- , The Texas Governor, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Draw p, 7 pm, 21+.
ue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Street Dogs, Ducky Boys, Lost City Angels, here USA, The Good Fight, 5:30 pm, $14.
k Horse Tavern The Jenn and Steve Show, 9 no cover, 21+.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne, Sunday's Well, 9:30 $5.
the Chef's Black Sole, 7:30 pm, $3-$5.
Burren Gray Spot, 10 pm, $5.
tab Lounge Little Joe Cook, The Thrillers, 9 21+.
Passim Lorraine Hammond, Bennett Ham- d, 4 pm, $10. Session Americana, 8 pm, $12; bers, $10.
's Last Resort Mugsy, 8:30 pm, no cover.
d Canal Dick and Jane, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Green Briar Me & Julio, 10 pm, $5-$7.
Harp Darik and the Funbags, 10 pm, $10.
bers Ferry Dead Cat Bounce, 10 pm, no cover.
nedy's Midtown Mike Barrett, 10 pm, no cover,

land Café Maple Street Project, 8:30 pm, $5.
cy's Lounge Bennett Miller Trio, 7 pm, no r, 21+.
t Murphy's Dead Cat Bounce, 10:30 pm, no r.
dle East Upstairs: Bloodletter, Attacking Fre- ncies, Scarslikeours, Holesaw, Prospect Hill, lying Grace, Ulysses, Mamadou, 8:30 pm, $15, ; Downstairs: Another Planet, Close to Home, utt, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
is The Loop, 10 pm, $10.
; Ponies in the Surf, Kamikaze Hearts, Pants !, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
tt Boys Blue Train, 9 pm, no cover.
ple Shamrock Brick Park, $5, 9:30 pm.
s Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 9 pm, $10.
Banknorth Garden Manheim Steamroller, 7:30 $30-$150.
na nÓg Eilen Jewell Band, 5 pm; Los Diablos, 10 no cover, 21+.
d maeve, 7 pm.
of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
the Bear's Place Primary Others, The And- z, Morgan Knockers, The Dents, Waltham, 9 $10, 18+.
Western Front Frankie J., 10 pm, $10.
Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

NDAY, DECEMBER 18

ard One Side, Amity Front, 10 pm, no cover.
ntab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, .
b Passim Jane Siberry, 6 pm, 9 pm, $30; mem- s, $28.
k's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm, no cover.
eat Scott Honeypump, The Showman, BJ Snow- , 9 pm, 18+.
e Green Briar Sunday's Well, 10 pm, $5-$7.
rpers Ferry New Soul, 10 pm, no cover.
nny D's Matthew Dorko, Larry Kukers, 9 am.
cky's Lounge Bennett Miller Trio, 11 am.
tt Murphy's New Soul, 10:30 pm, no cover.
ddle East Upstairs: Casey Desmond, Emily Grogan, e Snow Leopards, Static of the Gods, 9 pm, $8, 18+; wnstairs: Harry and the Potters, Draco and the Mal- s, Uncle Monsterface, Tristan da Cunha, 5 pm, $10. 's King & Country, Private Eleanor, French An- tors, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
e Red Fez Carmen Marsico Jazz Quartet, 8 pm, cover.
les Jazz Club Harvey Finstein, 10 am, no cover.
Chestnut Maggie Galloway, Anthony Weller, 11 , no cover.
na nÓg BJ Snowden, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
p of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover.
the Bear's Place Emergency At Sunrise, Swiss my, 9:15 pm, $6, 18+.
onder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty ott, 9 pm, no cover.
itgeist Gallery The Either Orchestra, 8 pm, $20.

ONDAY, DECEMBER 19

bey Lounge Pub Stage: The Union, 7 pm, 21+.
e Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
ntab Lounge Steve Howard and The Acciden- s, 9 pm, 21+.
ub Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12; $10, members.
ck's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no ver.
Matt Murphy's Brian Thomas Group, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Sunn 0))), Nachtmystium, Ocean, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Tír na nÓg Jessie Ciarmataro, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Fred Woodard, 7 pm, $10; The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Abbey Lounge The DC Snipers, The Tampoffs, The Functional Blackouts, 9 pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Boston City Limits, Joe Walsh, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott The Scrooges, Cracktorch, 9 pm, $5, 18+.
Matt Murphy's Public House, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Frequency 7, Savin Ill, 9 pm, $8. 18+.
Midway Café Jess Yoakum, Carrie Cheron, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club What I Like About Jew, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $15.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Western Front Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Westward Trail, Chop Chop, Summer Villians, Beau Roland Band, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Elan Mehler, 7 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
All-Asia Café *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Warf, Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave., Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*

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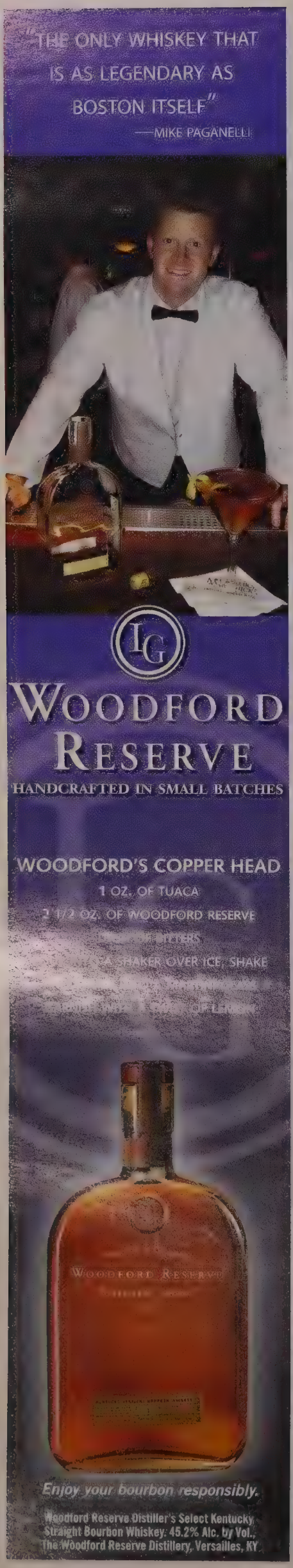


The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mobius *374 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Old Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somerville (617-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Orpheum Theatre *1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Red Line to Park St.*
Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Phatt Boys *50 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-2005). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Orange Line to State St.*
Red Fez *1222 Washington St., Boston (617-338-6060). MBTA: Orange to Back Bay/South End.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston (617-227-2175). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
TD BankNorth Garden *Causeway St., Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Venezia *20 Ericsson St., Dorchester (617-436-3120). MBTA Red Line to Ashmont.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

ALEA III
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8725). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. 8 pm. Free. Theodore Antoniou conducts a group of soloists as they sing selections from "Marsyas" and "Little Red Riding Hood," among others.

Chinese Classical Music
Japanese Gallery, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum of Fine Arts. 7 pm. Free but accepting donations. The Foundation for Chinese Performing Arts Ensemble performs Chinese music on some of the country's principal traditional instruments, including the erhu fiddle and the zheng zither.

MIT Chamber Orchestra
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-258-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7 pm. Free. Dante Anzolini directs the MIT chamber orchestra in Grieg's Holberg Suite and J.S. Bach's Triple Concerto, BWV 1044.

NEC Sinfonietta
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1100). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Ludovic Morlot and Yoichi Udegawa conduct Dvorák's *Othello* Overture, Op. 93, Honneger's Symphony No. 5, Di Tre Re, Brahms' "Haydn" Variations, Op. 56a and Beethoven's *Fidelio* Overture, Op. 72b.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Boston University Wind Ensemble
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-536-6340). www.boston conservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. Free. Eric Hewitt conducts the BU wind ensemble in this performance of pieces by Mozart, Purcell, Schoenberg, Mahler, Varese and Susato.

Django Bates at NEC
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1100). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. British-based multi-instrumentalist, bandleader and composer Django Bates performs with the NEC Jazz Orchestra.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Boston Pops Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $24-$109. The orchestra, led by Keith Lockhart, Bruce Hangen and other guest conductors, performs selections from *Sleigh Ride*, its 2004 holiday CD, and other Christmas songs.

Little Women
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8 pm. $12-$15. Douglas Kinney Frost conducts NEC student singers in Mark Adamo's opera, based on Concord native Louisa May Alcott's classic novel.

MIT Symphony Orchestra
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-258-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. $5. Alexey Shabalin conducts this concert of pieces by Tchaikovsky and Sviridov, featuring baritone Anton Belov.

Swing in the Season
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-536-6340). www.bgmc.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.8 pm. $15-$45. The 150-voice Boston Gay Men's Chorus present holiday songs, Appalachian carols accompanied by fiddle and music of Conte and Whitacre.

The Tallis Scholars
Jesuit Urban Center/Church of the Immaculate Conception, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-536-8440). www.bemf.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $25-$59. Peter Phillips directs the Renaissance choir the Tallis Scholars in *A Celebration of the Birth of Thomas Tallis*, a program including music by Byrd, Taverner and the choir's namesake.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

Boston Pops Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 11 am, 3 and 7:30 pm. $24-$109. Same program as Dec. 9.

Brandeis Early Music Ensemble
Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu 8 pm. $10. Sarah Mead conducts vocal and instru tal works of 15th- to 17th-century Europe wit Brandeis chamber choir.

Emerson Program Student Piano Scholars Recitals
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Drive, Cambridge 258-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Re to Kendall/MIT. 3 pm, 6 pm. Free. Students fro Emory Chamber Music Society of Atlanta perf series of piano solos.

Little Women
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston 233-3123). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green L Boylston. 8 pm. $12-$15. Same program as Dec.

Lyrica Boston: Lost and Found
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Ha Garden St., Cambridge (617-522-1616). www. boston.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15, seniors; $10, students; free, children unde Lyrica Boston performers deliver world premie pieces by Copland, Rozsa and Lucas Foss.

Newton Symphony Orchestra
Rashi Auditorium, 15 Walnut Park, Newton 965-2555). www.newtonsymphony.org. 2 pm. The NSO combines with winners of the L Young Soloist Competition, among others, fo holiday-themed performance.

Swing in the Season
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St. , Boston (617 6340). www.bgmc.org. MBTA: E Green Line to phony. 3 and 8 pm. $15-$45. Same program as D

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Bank of America Celebrity Series
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gai ough St., Boston (617-262-1815). www.cel series.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. $43-$53. Grammy Award-winning Takács Qu performs Haydn's String Quartet in C m Borodin's String Quartet No. 2 and Mozart's S Quintet in G minor, K. 516.

Borromeo String Quartet
Forsyth Chapel, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica (617-524-3354). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest H pm. $20-$45. The Borromeo String Quartet pre the premiere of Larry Bell's String Quartet with its inspiration, Beethoven's String Quarte 15 in A minor, Op. 132.

Boston City Singers
St. Mark Catholic Church, 1725 Dorchester Dorchester (617-825-0674). www.bostoncitysinger MBTA: Red Line to Shawmut. 4 pm. $5, indivi $10, families. Artistic director Jane Money pre New Journeys, the Boston City Singers' annual ter concert, which blends music from Japar Austria, American and Jewish folk songs and and spirituals from around the world.

Boston Pops Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bs MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm, 7:3 $24-$109. Same program as Dec. 9.

Brandeis Music Marquee Series
Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu 3 pm. Free. Lydian String Quartet cellist Joshua don is joined by pianist Randall Hodgkinson special concert of works by Leo Ornstein.

Erevan Choral Society and Orches
Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church, 145 B St., Cambridge (617-354-0632). www.htaac MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Christmas Holiday Concert features soloist R Muresan, under conductor Father Oshagan Mi ian, with a reception following the performance

Family Concert
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., B (617-353-8725). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B G Line to BU Central. 3 pm. Free. The New Eng Philharmonic performs Mozart's *The Magic F* Erb's *Music for a Festive Occasion* and Gand *Pinocchio's Adventures in Funland*, with narratio Steve Aveson.

Festival of Carols
St. Paul Church, Bow and Arrow Sts., Cambridge 868-8658). www.bostonboychoir.org. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 3:30 pm. $10-$25. The Boston Choir and the St. Paul Men's Schola present annual Christmas concert under the directio John Dunn.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Sunday Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fen Boston (617-278-5156). www.gardnermuseum MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $14, seniors; $10, college students; $12, members; children ages 5-17. Kayo Iwama directs the Can

rs Chamber Series in a mance of songs from Ger- and the British Isles for olidays and winter season.

e Women

Majestic Theatre, 219 nt St., Boston (800-233- . www.telecharge.com. A: Green Line to Boylston. 3 12-$15. Same program as).

gy Chamber rus

School of Music, Edward ickman Hall, 27 Garden Cambridge (617-522- . www.lyrica boston.org. A: Red Line to Harvard. 7 ichard Larraga conducts ongy Chamber Chorus in erformance of works by el and Saint-Saëns.

gy Family Series

School of Music, Edward ickman Hall, 27 Garden Cambridge (617-522-1616). www.longy. edu. A: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Based on the by Beatrix Potter, singers from the Longy ol of Music Opera Department enact Roberta 's *The Tailor of Gloucester*. Suitable for children +.

nen's Chorale Holiday Concert

Hall; 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-484-). http://web.mit.edu/womensleague/womens le. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 3 pm. Free. y Kushlan Wanger directs MIT's Women's ale in a holiday concert including medieval ontemporary styles of music along with both and secular songs.

th Pro Musica

Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington St., West on (617-666-6087). www.youthpromusica.org. $10. The Greater Boston Youth Chorus cele- s the winter holidays with works by Lubeck, pentier, Pinkham, Bach, Brunner, Ebel-Sabo, Kountz, Rutter and others.

NDAY, DECEMBER 12

ton Pops Orchestra

hony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). .bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 24-$109. Same program as Dec. 9.

ndeis Music Ensemble

leis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/arts. Free. Judith Eissenberg directs classical cham- orks.

servatory Chamber Ensembles

y School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 en St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Conserva- students, coached by Longy faculty, perform iber music from all eras.

ua T. Lawton

ch of the Redeemer, 379 Hammond St., Chestnut (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: D n Line to Chestnut Hill. 8 pm. The Longy organ- ves his Master of Music recital, including songs ach and Frescobaldi, as well as a premiere by so.

C Concert Choir

n Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-262-). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E n Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Amy Lieber- leads the NEC Concert Choir, Chamber ers and Women's Chorus in a program that in- s works by Rautavaara, Barber, Badings and i.

erence Gospel Ensemble

ee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston -747-2261). www.berkleebpc.com. MBTA: n Line to Hynes. 8:15 pm. $5-$10. Dennis gomery III directs this program of traditional contemporary gospel music.

ESDAY, DECEMBER 13

ton Pops Orchestra

hony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. A: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $24-$109. program as Dec. 9.

iservatory Chamber Ensembles

y School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 en St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Longy faculty uct students performing chamber music from all

w England Conservatory

n Hall, 30 Gainsborough St. , Boston (617-536-). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm This installment of the New England Conservatory's Week of Chamber Music features Beethoven quartets.

As part of the Bank of America Celebrity Series, the Takacs Quartet performs Dec. 11 at the New England Conservatory.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St. , Boston (617-536-6340). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Fabio Mechetti conducts the NEC Symphony Orchestra as it performs Shostakovich's Festive Overture, Op. 96, Stravinsky's Divertimento from *The Fairy's Kiss* and Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition.*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Boston Pops Orchestra

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $24-$109. Same program as Dec. 9.

Delores Ziegler and Friends

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St. , Boston (617-536-6340). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.8 pm. Free. NEC voice instructor Delores Ziegler, mezzo-soprano, is joined by soprano Linda Mabbs and NEC Director and Chair of Opera Studies John Greer, piano, in an evening of songs and duets.

Musical Evening

Wolfinsohn Recital Room, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. The program features faculty-nominated Longy students and chamber groups from the Conservatory, Preparatory Studies and Continuing Studies departments.

Sounds of the Silk Road

Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum of Fine Arts. 7:30 pm. $25; members, students and seniors, $20. Virtuoso Min-Xiao Fen highlights an evening of music from Turkey, India and China with solo and ensemble performances on traditional instruments.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

An American Christmas

First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-262-2092). www.bostoncamerata.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $22-$42. The Boston Camerata performs colonial hymns and anthems from New England, Shaker songs, country spirituals and religious ballads in this program of seasonal music.

Boston Pops Orchestra

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 pm, 8 pm. $24-$109. Same program as Dec. 9.

Chorus Pro Musica

Old South Church, 645 Boylston Street, Boston (800-658-4276). www.choruspromusica.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8 pm. $20-$50. This holiday concert features Ottorino Respighi's *Lauda per la Natività del Signore*, Francis Poulenc's *Four Motets for Christmas* and other spiritual works.

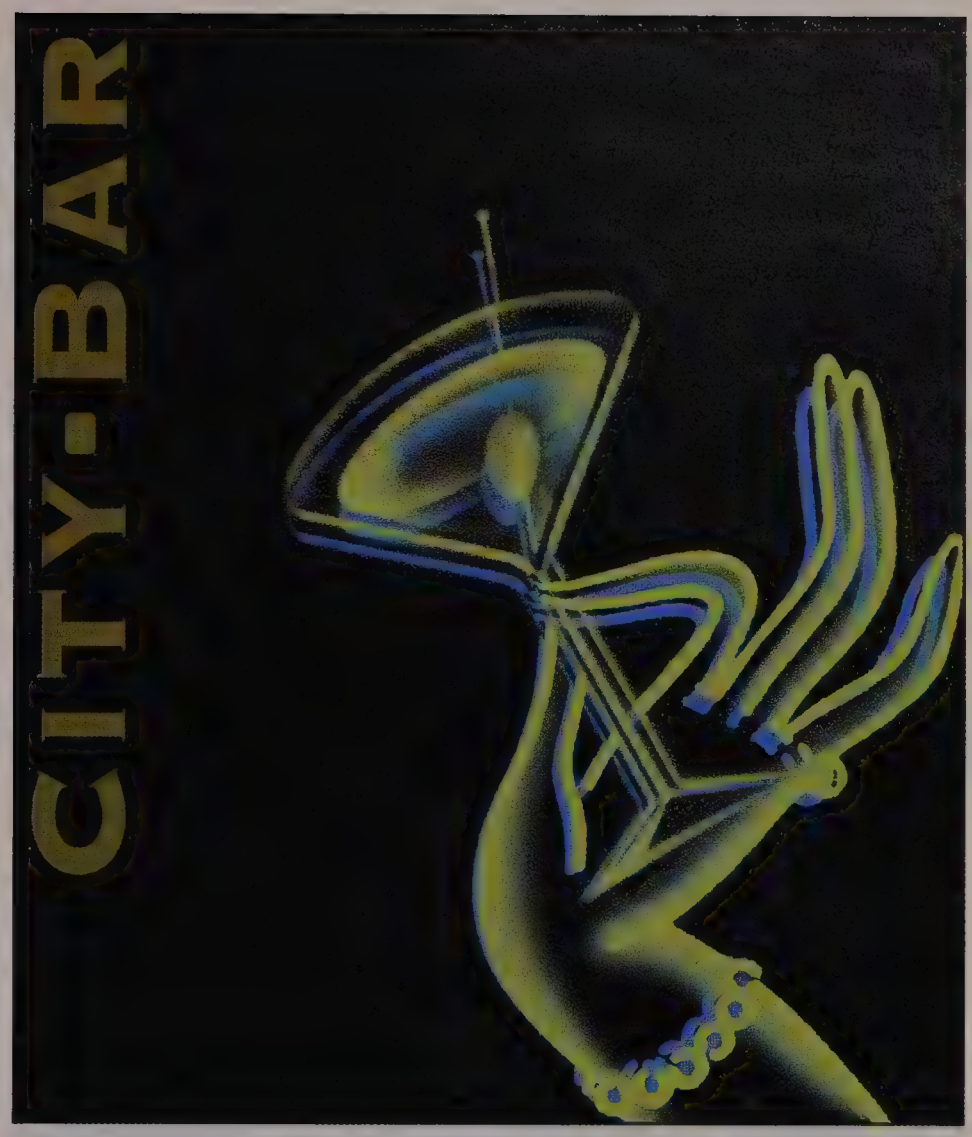
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

An American Christmas

First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-262-2092). www.bostoncamerata.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $22-$42. Same program as Dec. 16.

Boston Pops Orchestra

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 11 am, 3 pm, 7:30 pm. $24-$109. Same program as Dec. 9.



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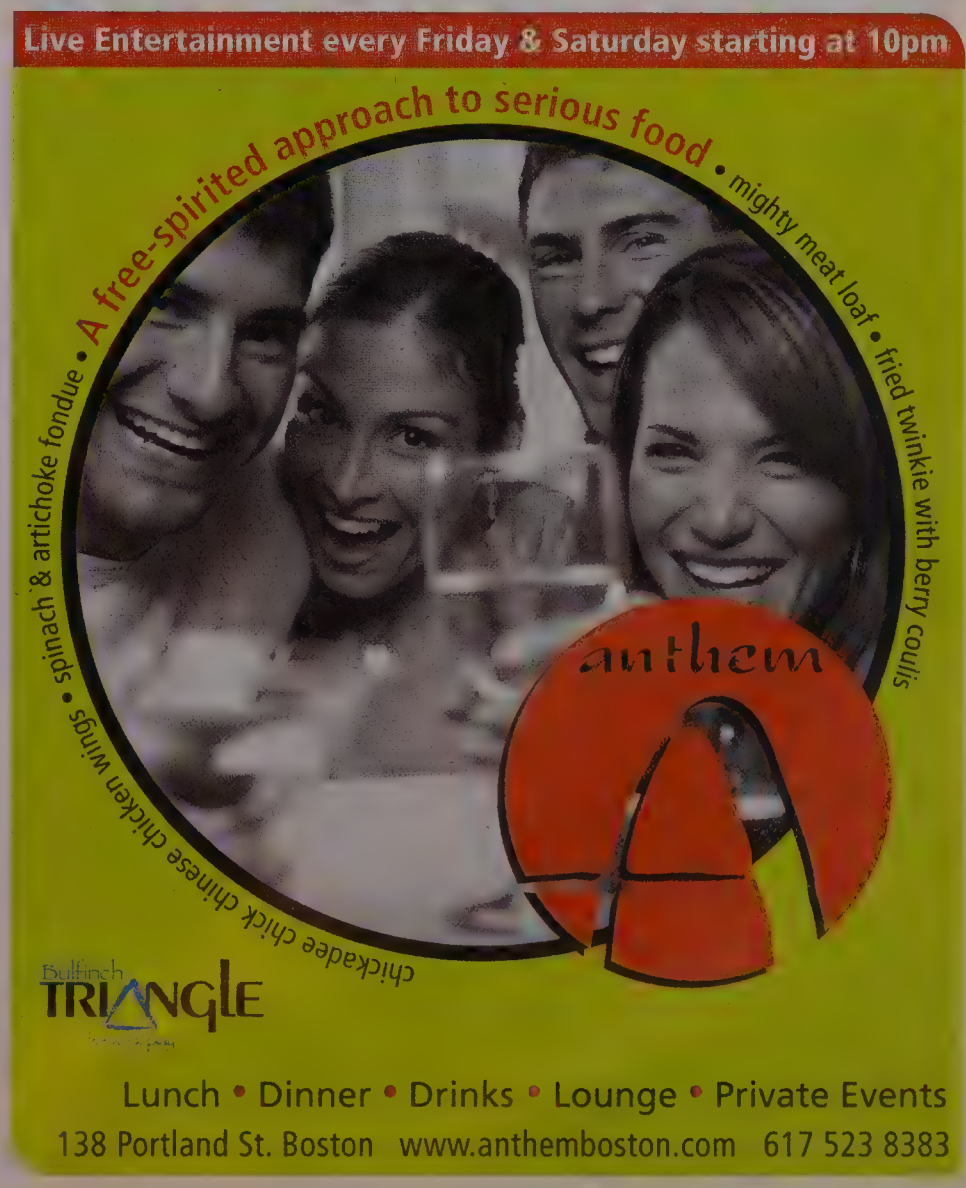

Longy Junior Chamber Orchestra
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30 pm. The Preparatory Studies Ensemble performs under conductor Vartan Aghababian.

Longy Youth Chamber Orchestra
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. George Ogata conducts the Longy Youth Chamber Orchestra in performances of Beethoven, Torke and Brahms.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Boston Chamber Music Society
First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $17-$46. Violinists Ida Levin and Harumi Rhodes perform pieces by Mozart with violist Roger Tapping and cellist Ronald Thomas.

Boston Pops Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 11 am, 3 pm, 7:30 pm. $24-$109. Same program as Dec. 9.

Chorus pro Musica
Old South Church, 645 Boylston Street, Boston (800-658-4276). www.chorusmusica.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3 pm. $20-$50; free, children under 12. Jeffrey Rink directs the chorus's second annual family holiday celebration, featuring a special appearance by the New England Conservatory Children's Chorus.

Christmas in Wales
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-262-1815). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $33-$63. Grant Llewellyn conducts seasonal music by Charles Ives, Daniel Pinkham, Virgil Thompson and Ned Rorem and reads from Dylan Thomas' *A Child's Christmas in Wales*.

Cohen Continuing Studies Recital
Longy School of Music, Recital Room N1, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Students perform selections as individual vocalists and instrumentalists as well as in chamber ensembles.

Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemb
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (61[illegible] 1815). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MB[illegible] Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Michael [illegible] conducts pieces by Barber, Wagner, Susato, Vi[illegible] Williams and Gorb.

Mini Mozart Festival, Part I
First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St., Ca[illegible] (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermus[illegible] MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $28-$3[illegible] list Ronald Thomas, violist Roger TappingVio[illegible] Ida Levin and Harumi Rhodes play the final[illegible] Mozart string quartets in this performance pre[illegible] by the Boston Chamber Music Society.

Noell Dorsey
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman H[illegible] Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www[illegible] edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1 pm. The sc[illegible] vocalist gives a Master of Music recital.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

Boston Pops Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1[illegible] www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symph[illegible] pm, 8 pm. $24-$109. Same program as Dec. 9.

Conservatory Chamber Ensemble
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman[illegible] 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0[illegible] www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Longy faculty conduct students in perfor[illegible] chamber music.

Swing in the Season
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St. , Boston (617[illegible] 6340). www.bgmc.org. MBTA: E Green Line t[illegible] phony. 8 pm. $15-$45. Same program as Dec. 9.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Boston Pops Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). ww[illegible] org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 pm, $24-$109. Same program as Dec. 9.

Conservatory Chamber Ensemble
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman[illegible] 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0[illegible] www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Longy faculty conduct students performing c[illegible] ber music.

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lights

ONDAYS

Tua Nua
emony A night of Gothic and industrial music, n, $3, 19+.

is
tic Gay night with DJs and drag performances, m, $7, 18+.

price
ıdha Bar DJ Kamel spin a mix of Middle Eastern international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

lt
N. Mondays This Service Industry Night in-des free pool and guest DJs spinning high-en-y dance, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no er, 21+.

ılden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, -hop, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no er, 21+.

een Briar
h seisiun.

een Street Grill
vana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ ban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 after lesson), 18+.

oenix Landing
kka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, pm, $3, 21+.

ıe Place
spin Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ie Rack
spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ver Gods
ekly Wax Each week, two local DJs hold a musi-face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

int
N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins ıse and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

JESDAYS

ır 33
vana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban f, salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after son), 21+.

nbassy
Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no ver, 19+.

ıe Enormous Room
ul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spin hits from '70s and '80s, 10 pm-2 am, $3.

olden Temple
e E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix in-ding R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no ver, 21+.

ıe Kells
tally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic 's music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

aradise Lounge
ısh Up Tuesdays DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop, k, '80s and more, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

ıoenix Landing
ake" DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, pm, no cover, 21+.

ıe Place
s spin Top 40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ıe Purple Shamrock
raoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

ıe Rack
s spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ain
raoke for Cash with Deb-N-Art.

ver Gods
vesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at m, no cover, 21+.

umor
ght varies with an assortment of performances d themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

enu
YNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins p-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, +.

EDNESDAYS

n Tua Nua
lsa Night DJs Hernan, D. Martinez, Antonio rtiz and guest DJs spin salsa music. Includes begin-r lessons and karaoke, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
iPod Night Bring your own iPod and be an MP3J, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Soulcity Old school and 70s classics, 8 pm-12 am, $5.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Mike Bose spins hip-hop, rock and house, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
Famous Wednesdays DJ Tanno spins. Also featuring Zensai Japanese appetizers, 9 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Wentraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Oldies but Goodies DJ Russ McQueen spins hits from the '50s, '60s and '70s, no cover.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock and roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

Avalon
Fling Thursdays DJs spin hip-hop, R&B and Top 40, 10 pm, $15, ladies free until 11 pm, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

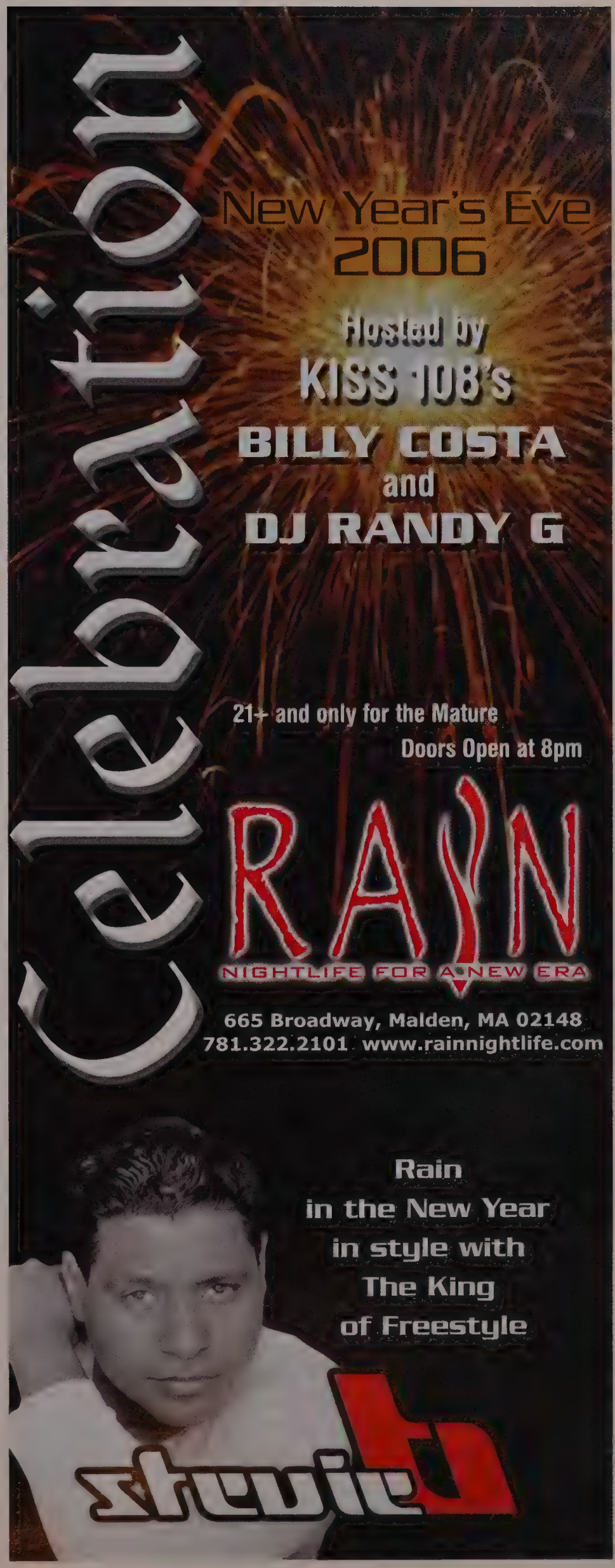
Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

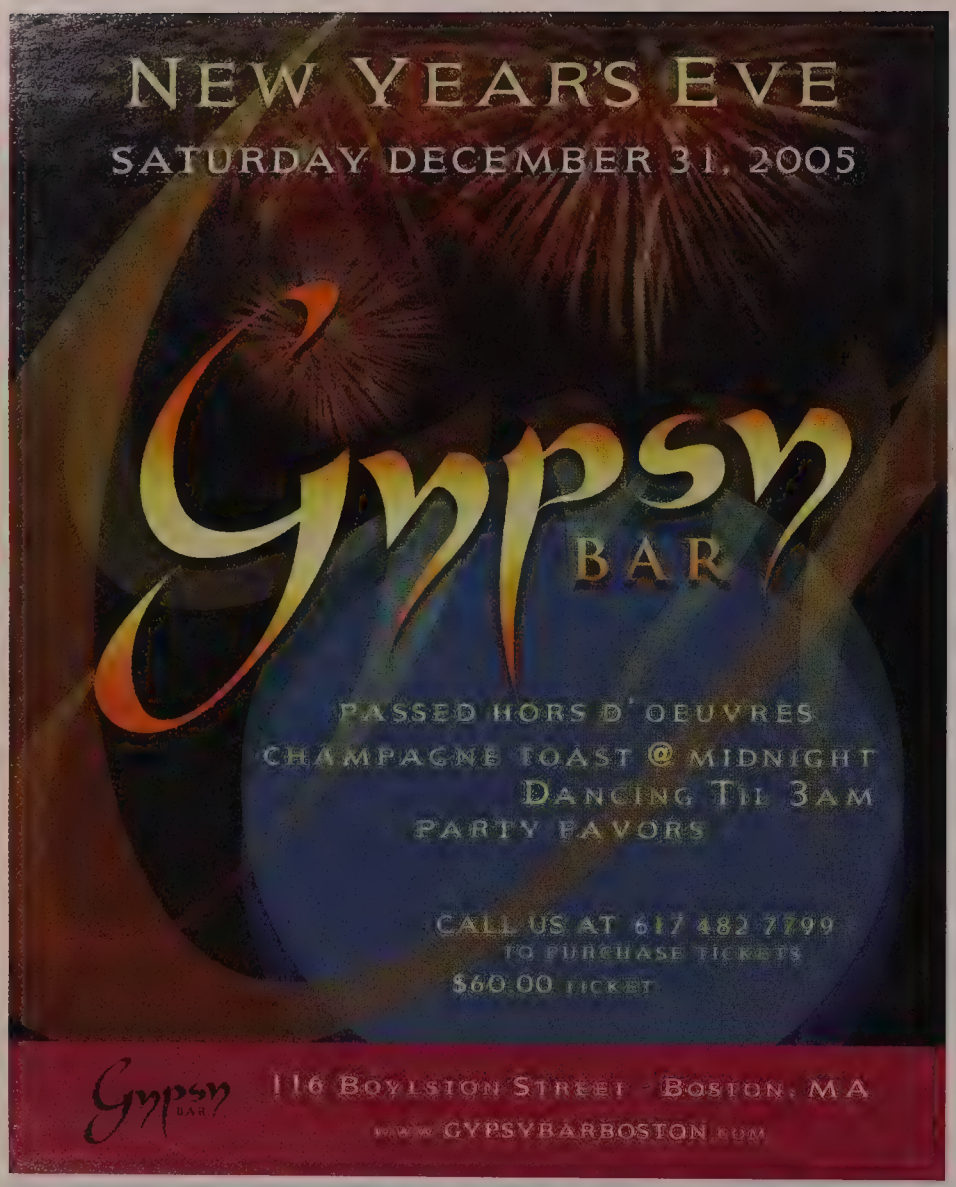
Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Dance Party Thursdays with DJ Mike Navarro, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.





Cosmopolitan
Hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Aphro-dite host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
True Music Thursdays Featuring live performances, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama Jigi play Afro-pop highlife, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJs Edgar and Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban Jeff spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 before 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog pr drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no c 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and s dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul s mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Rouge Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis whi Prolific spins R&B and downtempo beats, 7 p am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and d ing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge m 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Underbar
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, 11 pm.

Venu
=20 Thursday Hip-hop and house music, 11 $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, cover.

terWorks
cwild Thursdays DJs spin Top 40 and house and a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull rid- ontest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

st Street Grille
School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

IDAYS

Tua Nua
im Collins spins Top 40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 $5, 21+.

a
ty DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 $20; 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

lon
and Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilkie, Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Avenue
Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and Top 40, 9 pm- , no cover, 21+.

s
or Fridays DJ Mastermillions spins hip-hop, 10 $15, 19+.

Easy Bar
ebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spin- Top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

's Bar
Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae and iata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ston Rocks
ays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a t of local DJs spinning Top 40, dance and hip- tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

price
Kamal spin a mix of international, Latin and se music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

rys
thythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

ıb Europa
t DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop, '70s and '80s he lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; after 11 pm, 19+.

ıb Q
ton's Best Dance Party DJ Massi plays hip-hop Top 40, 10:30 pm, $5, 21+.

mmon Ground
Dino Sound spins Northern Soul, 10 pm, no cover.

ogan's
Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5,

smopolitan
opean Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style music, m-2 am, no cover.

vlin's
Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance, n-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ckside
spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5,

ıbassy
Nyce spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

e Enormous Room
Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything n hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, pm-2 am.

lt
Jim Klerkin spins Top 40, dance and hip-hop, no er, 21+.

lden Temple
E Room DJ Rob Wentraub spins '70s, '80s, '90s vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

een Briar
FK spins dance and Top 40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover,

een Street Grill
ombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, 21+.

psy Bar
Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ıe Harp
day Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins nstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

rricane O'Reilly's
spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before pm, 21+.

shment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins reggae, , 19+.

se McIntyre's
spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

ıe Kells
dies Night DJ Doc spins Top 40, R&B and ıce while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s fa- ites, 9 pm, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

nvara Pub
Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, &B and pop, 21+.

quor Store
Howie spins Top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house, and DJ Steve Spinelli plays Top 40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

The Penthouse Club
DJ Cerebral spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop spins Top 40 and hip-hop, and TV screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P, 10 pm.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Vegas Fridays Las Vegas resident DJs spin.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, Top 40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tantric Lounge
Hookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud 9 spin the music at this night featuring hookahs, specialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Mike G spins Top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Underbar
DJ Franklin spins house, hip-hop, and rock, 11 pm.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin Top 40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and Top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Tim Collins mix Top 40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

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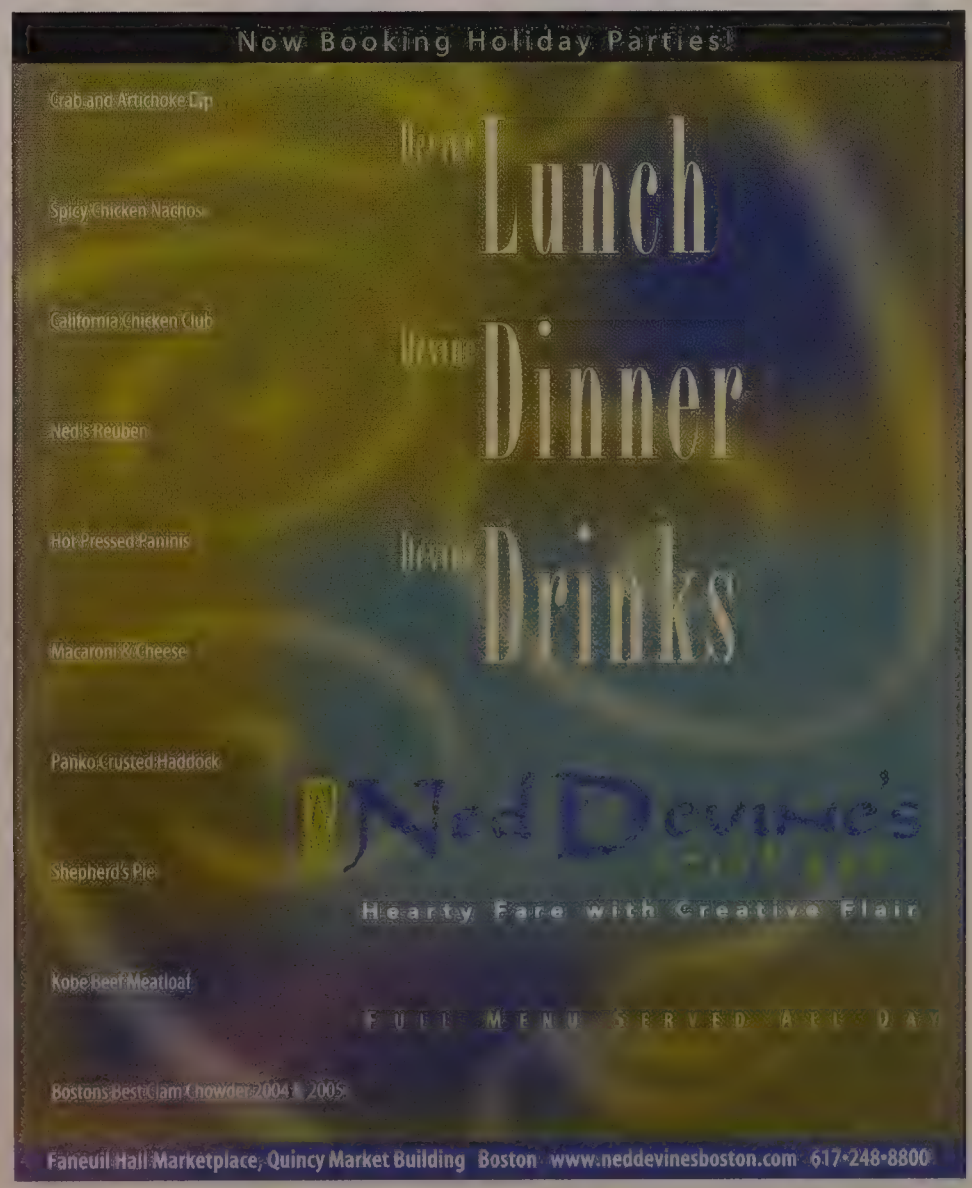
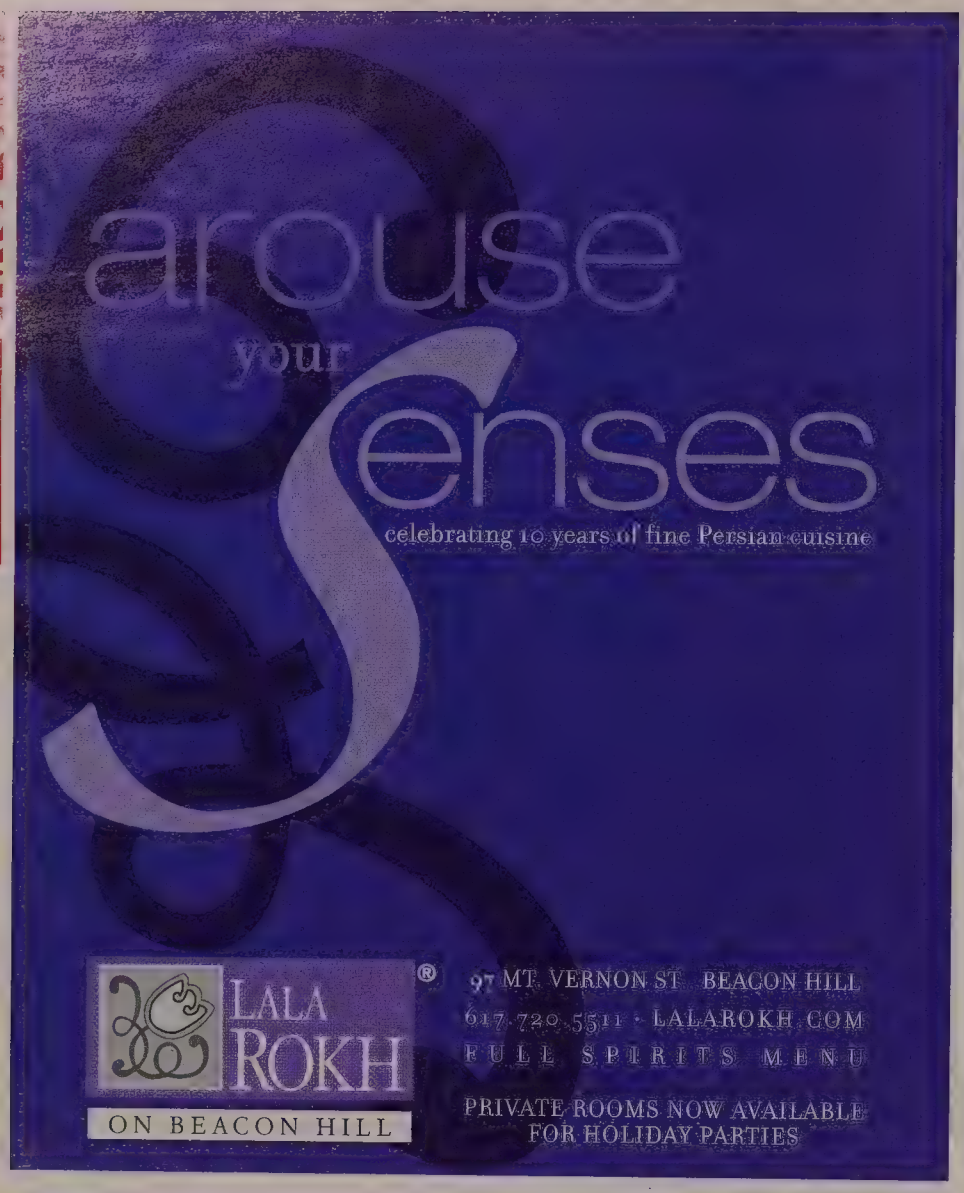
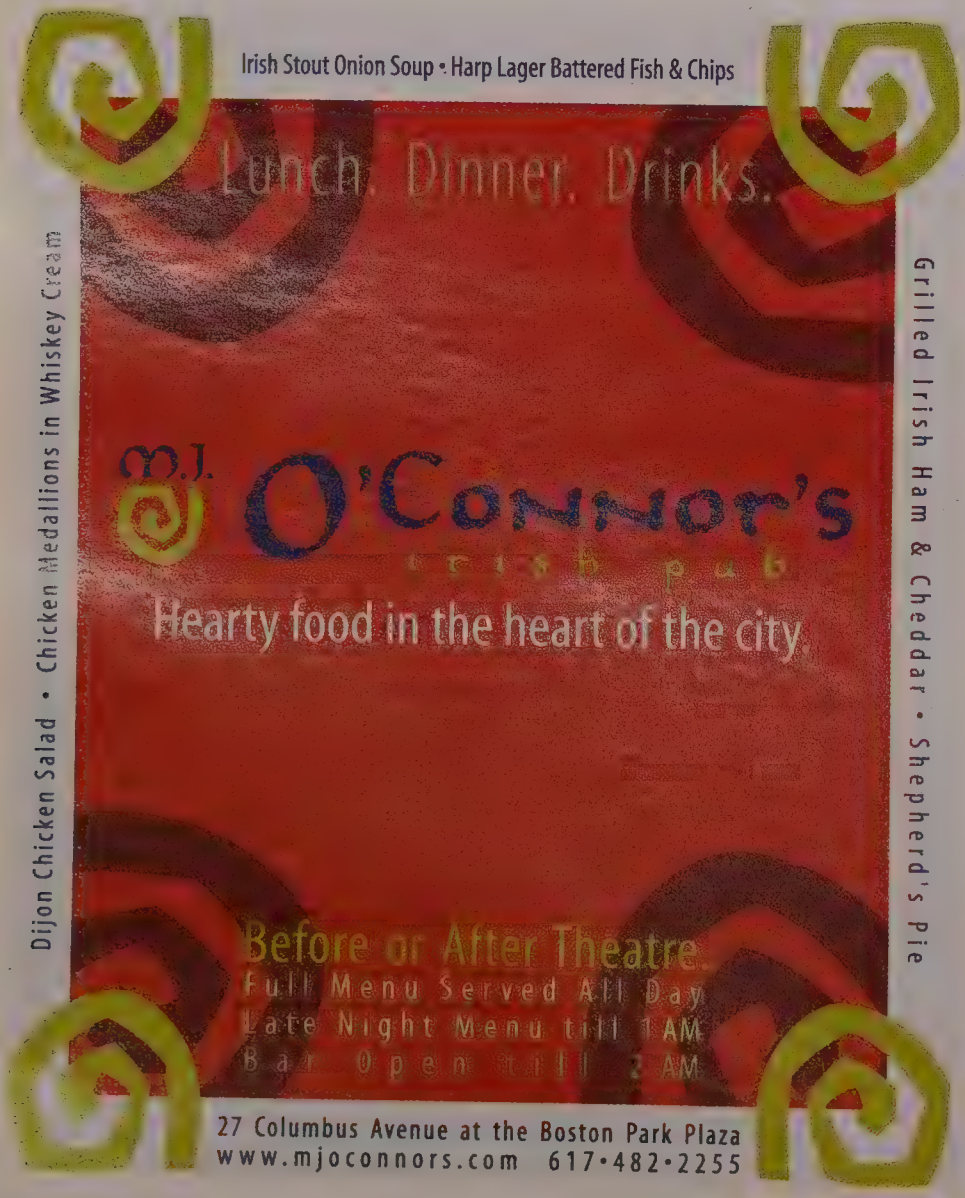






Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20; 21+ men, 19+ women with college ID.

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJs Big spins hip-hop hits, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning Top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and Top 40, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present Top 40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Rip Hernandez spins hip-hop, R&B, and dance, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Common Ground
Shake Your Ass Night DJ spins indie rock, $2.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Cosmopolitan Saturdays Top 40, Hip-hop, R&B, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
•Sensation Saturdays featuring DJ Val Beats spinning hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins music from the '70s, '80s and '90s, as well as vocal house, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJs Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
House DJ spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Fresh spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJs Peter D and Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Howie spins Top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+; $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
The Grooveyard DJ Yamin spins a mix of mash ups, soul, hip-hop, 9 pm, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, men $10, ladies $5 or free before 10:30, 21+.

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons spin minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night featu
Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance, 1
2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music an
40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shak
Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop
Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; m
before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+
21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's
est-running all-male dance revue, doors a
pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20
Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hi
mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D.
mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosp
$15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm),

The Penthouse Club
Hush Saturdays DJ Tanzer K spins high-e
dance beats, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit
ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian
spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
KISS 108-FM's Billy Costa and DJ Randy
Top 40, house, dance, disco and rock
10 pm.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-
no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mo
mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own sty
house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm,
21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ
plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dan
9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins Top 40 dance i
front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retr
vorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and Top 40 dance, 9 pm

Tequila Rain
DJ Mike G spins Top 40, hip-hop and hous
pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins cl
old-school, Top 40 and dance, 10 pm, no c
21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evenin
Gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Underbar
Global Entertainment Presents DJ Angel Mo
11 pm.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs T
Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-
11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and ho
10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volley
12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays**
spin Top 40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8
10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and To
all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Country Western Includes line daning lessons
pm, $10-$15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm,
women 19+, men 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance
techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

s Bar
eggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

rice
ing DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, 0, 21+.

Q
national Dance Party 8 pm-2 am, $10.

mopolitan
Presents Reggae vs. Reggaeton, 10 pm, $10,

lin's
stry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and es, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Enormous Room
lutions A night of electronic music, $3, n-3 am.

en Briar
r Doyle, no cover, 21+.

Kells
Spot Rotating DJs spin Top 40, hip-hop and e music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

el
ting DJs spin Latin and international on the floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house he fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10,

dlesex Lounge
ve Yard DJ Yamin spins mash-ups, soul, hip-hop, ehall and more, 9 pm, no cover.

Office
ia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests deep, soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover,

enix Landing
p House-music night featuring a rotating roster ocal and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5,

e Place
d LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, over, 21+.

e Point
tchy P, 11 pm-2 am.

e Purple Shamrock
Thom spins Top 40 beats, no cover, 21+.

e Rack
Mike Janedy spins dance and Top 40, 9 pm-, no cover, 21+.

n
Danny Sharp and the World Premier Band pro- Top 40, dance and old-school funk music, no er.

dline
day Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and rotating sts spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover,

er Gods
ion Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic and roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

les Dance Hall
pa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sun- of each month, DJs Nik and Hernan play salsa sic, 6-10 pm, $12.

int
ce Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night turing Latin and international grooves, 10 pm- m, $10, 21+.

sy K's
nu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

ki Room
ggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub tion and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ast
wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

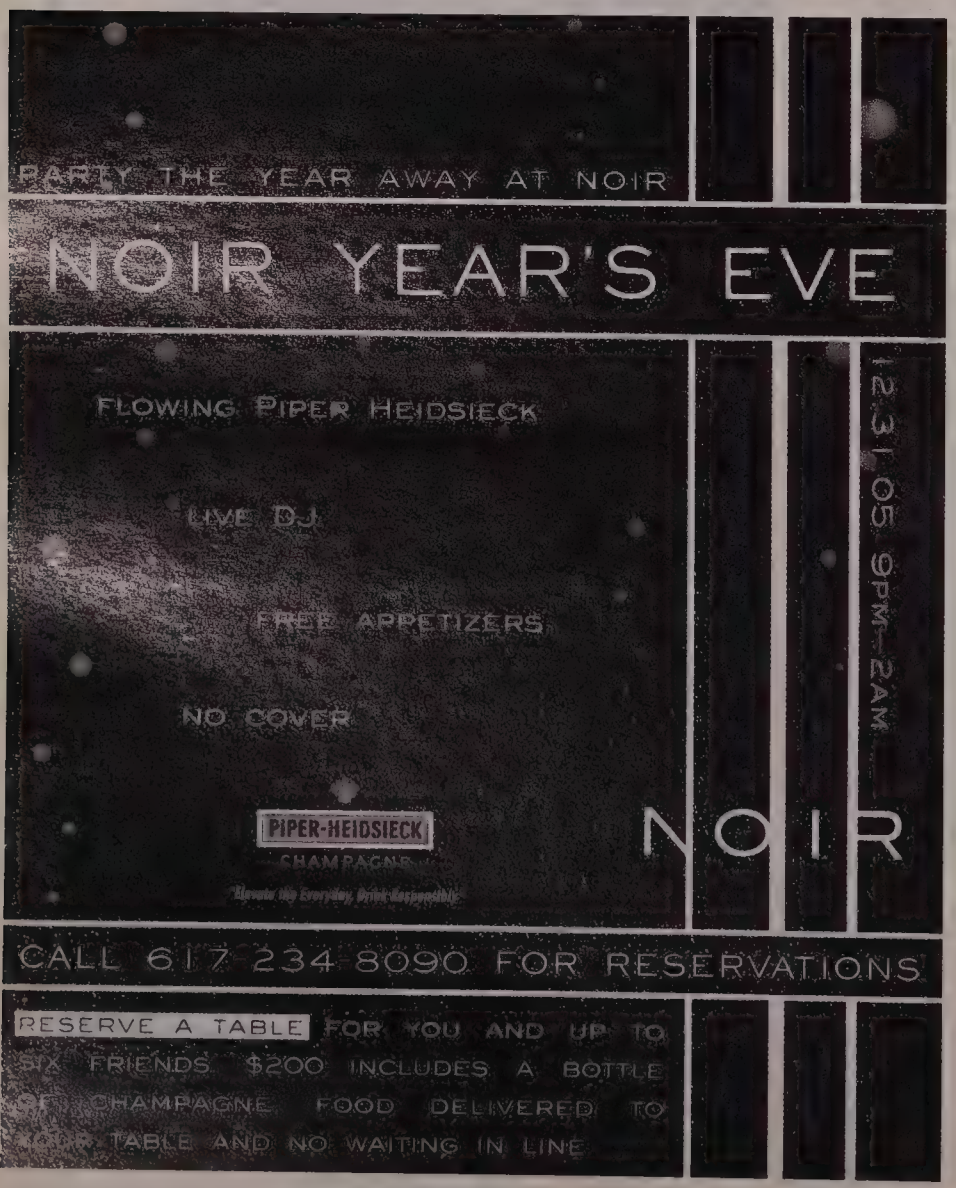
nu
rnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian ht as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance , 11 pm, $15, 19+.

rtigo
itian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and ld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

aterWorks
Weekend Beach Party Cocktails and volleyball, pm-5 pm, no cover. **•Smokin' Sundays** DJs meo and Randy spin, and Romeo hosts a Hawai- Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am; $10 from pm, $20 after 9 pm; 21+.

Club Venues

Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
them *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
a *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
alon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
e Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-08).*
is *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *51/2 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Road, Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*



museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •*Silver and Shawls: India, Europe and the Colonial Art Market* highlights the evolution of shawls and silverware during India's colonial period. Through Jan. 29, 2006. •*Evocative Creatures: Animal Motifs and Symbols in East Asian Art* explores the symbolism and significance of animals in the arts of East Asia through paintings, ceramics, sculptures, jades and textiles. Through June 11, 2006.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center

Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •*Extended Boundaries* is a collection of paintings, photographs, sculptures and films by the Wellesley College studio arts faculty. Through Dec. 18. •*Aaron Nobel: Artist in Residence* exhibits a lobby wall project inspired by comic book superheros. Through Dec. 18. •*Brice Marden: Etchings to Rexroth* exhibits images paying tribute to calligraphy. Through Dec. 18. •*Hold: Vessel 1* is a multimedia installation by Lynette Wallworth. Through Dec. 18. •A display of art from China, Japan and Korea runs through June 2006. •A new installation of modern art features works by Claude Monet, John Singer Sargent and Diego Rivera. Ongoing.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6; children 5 and under, free. •*John Huddleston: Killing Ground, Photographs of the Civil War and the Changing American Landscape* juxtaposes historical images with contemporary photography of the same locations 150 years later. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Robert Arnold: Zeno's Paradox* is a short, looping video that experiments with the connections between zooms and stills. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Saga: The Journey of Arno Rafael Minkkinen, Photographs 1970-2005* exhibits nude self-portraits incorporating the artist's body into a range of landscapes. Through Jan. 8, 2006.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. •*Stratification: An Installation of Works Since 1960* displays seven pieces presenting various approaches to making art. Through Feb. 26, 2006. •*To Delight the Eye: French Drawings and Paintings from the Collection of Charles E. Dunlap* investigates the tastes and journey of the collector; as well as his relationship with former directors and curators who played a pivotal role in Dunlap's development as a collector and donor. Dec. 17-March 12, 2006. •*Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* exhibits 19th-century paintings. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center

53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon., Tue. and Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 10 am-8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Contemporary Parisian Street Photography* displays David Lewalski's black-and-white photographs, capturing the faces and interactions of daily life in Paris. Dec. 3-Jan. 2, 2006.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 9 am-12 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children 3-18, $5. •*Robert Turner: Rare Places in a Rare Light* exhibits images of North America's wildlands. Through March 26, 2006. •*Climate Change: Our Global Experiment* explores scientific studies on climate and allows you to select a course of action in a computer simulation revealing the consequences fo planet. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites and orites...Treasures of Nature and Science at Harva* tures collections documenting more than tw turies of scientific exploration. Ongoing. •*The Flowers* by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka fe glass models of more than 830 plant specie the Ware Collection. Ongoing. •*Romanci Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showca museum's collection of fine jewelry and roug malines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). w boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sa Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5 after 5 pm, free. •*Momentum 5: Paul Chan* di political drawings, projected digital animatio videos. Through Jan. 16, 2006. •*Utopia, Ut One World, One War, One Army, One Dress* ex a critical look at the world through wall gra vitrines, sculptures, maquettes and films by T Hirschhorn. Through Jan. 16, 2006.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museu

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to M Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; weekends, $11; s $7; students, $5; members, patrons named Isabe those under 18, free. •The perennial installatio *day Table* gets a contemporary interpretati Michele Iodice. Through Jan. 8, 2006. •*Gentile and the East* explores the Western fascination wi exotic East by examining how the cultures Mediterranean were transmitted to Venice. De March 16, 2006. •*A Closer Look: An Introductio Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum* offers museum Tue.-Fri, 2:30 pm. Ongoing. •Special Exhi Gallery Talks provide context to museum ex Saturdays at 12 pm. Ongoing. •The collectio tures more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tape furniture, manuscripts, rare books and deco pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michela Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

Mary Baker Eddy Library

200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7 www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Gree to Hynes/ICA. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $6; se students and youth ages 6-17, $4; children 6 and free. •The Mapparium celebrates 70 years w new exhibit showcasing its history and reflecti the major changes in the world since 1935. Th Jan. 6, 2006. •*Fractions of Time Well Spent* fe images, artifacts and documentation focusi daily life in the Baker Eddy household from 18 1911. Through Feb. 26, 2006. •The multimed hibit *This Is Woman's Hour...* highlights the li accomplishments of Mary Baker Eddy. Ong •The library's *Historic Bible Collection* showcase bibles in the reference room. Ongoing. •The l displays a peace flag from the 1907 Peace Co proceedings in New York. Ongoing.

McMullen Museum of Art

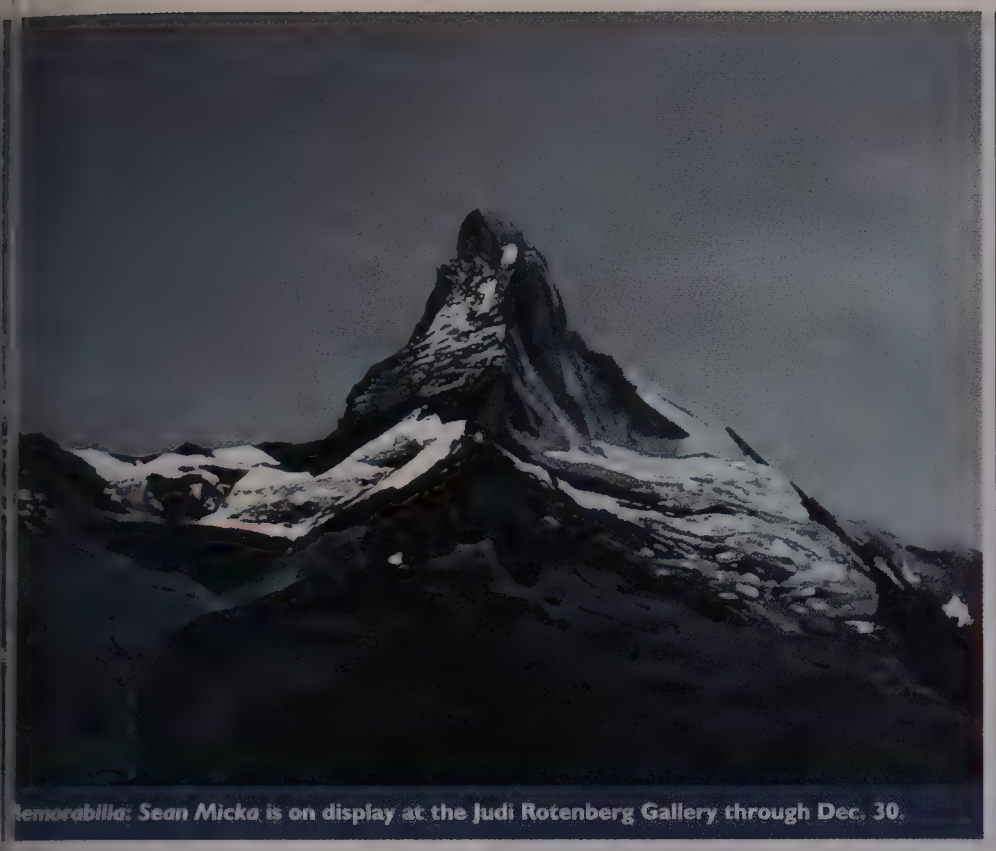
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., nut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmus MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon. 11 am-4 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •The mus permanent collections span the history of art Europe, Asia and the Americas and include: A *can Landscapes and Portraits from 1840-1940, Sacred Scenes and Portraiture, Flemish Tapestrie Gifts from William and Alison Vareika.* Ongoing

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Ke Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 Free. •*Working Drawings for the MIT Bell Towe* plays Theodore Roszak's preparatory sketches fo tower. Through Dec. 16. •*Christian Jankowski: E thing Fell Together* is a collection of 54 photograph 10 cinematic and conceptually based installa Through Dec. 31. •*Critters* is a Media Test Wa stallation of short videos of animals mimicking hu attributes. Through Dec. 31.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). h web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Ke Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm students and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. • *ing Form: The Art of Richard Filipowski* celebrate sculpture of the MIT professor. Through Feb 2006. •*Scopes, Station Wagons and Solder: U pected Images from the Rad Lab and RLE Collec* exhibits photographs from preserved negatives umenting the history of radar and electro Through June 11, 2006. •*Flashes of Inspiration: Work of Harold Edgerton* is a multimedia exhib cusing on the famed MIT professor, including hi velopment of the electronic strobe and his gro breaking photography. Ongoing. •*Robots*



Memorabilia: Sean Micka is on display at the Judi Rotenberg Gallery through Dec. 30.

ond: *Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an ractive exhibit. Ongoing.

iseum of African-American History

Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). *www.* ammuseum.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Park.* Mon.-, 10 am-4 pm. *Free.* •*Words of Thunder: William* d Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition cele- es the life and achievements of the famous ton abolitionist. Through April 1, 2006. •*His- Gallery Talks: 19th Century Black Beacon Hill* usses the determination of blacks on Beacon in the 1800s. Ongoing.

iseum of Fine Arts

Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). w.mfa.org. MBTA: *E Green Line to Museum.* 1.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. *. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the west wing is open.* ; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17, school s until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all other es, free. Thu.-Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by Wed. 4-9:45 pm, free excluding special exhibitions. nsel Adams showcases works by the famous Ameri- photographer. Through Dec. 31. •*Sounds of the Road: Musical Instruments of Asia* features more n 100 musical instruments. Through Jan. 5, 2006. merican West: Dust and Dreams presents more than artists whose works reflect the American West. ough Jan. 8, 2006. •*Zhang Huan: Seeds of Hamburg* plays 12 chronological large-scale photographs. rough Jan. 16, 2006. •*West African Gold: Akan Re- a from the Glassell Collection* presents items crafted Akan kings and elite including crowns, jewelry, lptures, swords and kente cloths. Through March 2006. •*A Much Recorded War: The Russo-Japanese r in History and Imagery* exhibits prints, postcards photographs. Through March 28, 2006. •*Facets Cubism* focuses on Cubism's flowering in France up il 1920 and includes outstanding paintings, sculp- es and works on paper. Dec. 7-April 16, 06.•*Contemporary Clay: Japanese Ceramics for the w Century* is a collection of innovative, present- Japanese ceramics. Through July 9, 2006.

useum of Science

ence Park, Boston (617-723-2500). *www.mos.org.* BTA: *Green Line to Science Park.* Mon.-Sun., 9 -5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, $13; children 1, $12. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the tory of computers. Ongoing. •*Countdown to Su- nova* is a planetarium show about the creation d death of stars. Through April 30, 2006. •*Star rs: Where Science Meets Imagination* uses all six ar Wars films to examine the technologies of day and tomorrow. Through April 30, 2006. lundreds of butterflies and flowers are on display the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. •*Natural ysteries* puts your organizational skills to work to ve mysteries. Ongoing. •The *Theater of Electricity* ovides lightning shows daily at 12 pm and 2 pm, d Fridays at 7 pm. Ongoing. •Stargaze atop the useum's garage roof using the Gilliland Observa- y Friday evenings. Ongoing.

ational Heritage Museum

Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). *ww.monh.org.* Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12- m. *Free.* •*Old Glory* displays patriotic magazine covers from the 1940s. Through Dec. 11. •*September 11: Bearing Witness to History* commemorates and reflects on the tragedy of 9/11 through photographs, articles and everyday objects. Through Jan. 1, 2006. •*Teenage Hoboes in the Great Depression* features letters, questionnaires and audio tapes documenting stories during the Depression. Through Feb. 16, 2006. •*Blue Monday: Doing Laundry in America* showcases a collection of laundry advertisements and paraphernalia from the 1700s to today. Through March 4, 2006.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*The Artful Teapot: 20th Century Expressions from the Kamm Collection* displays 250 teapots by more than 100 painters, sculptors, ceramists and artists. Through March 5, 2006. •*Air Lines: Photographs by Alex MacLean* captures images of the United States from thousands of feet above the ground. Through April 23, 2006.•*Taj Mahal: The Building of a Legend* is a collection of 40 paintings and photographs exploring the site. Through July 23, 2006. •*Carved by Nature: Untamed Traditions in Chinese Decorative Art* exhibits organic wood forms which appealed to Buddhists and Daoists seeking to connect with nature. Through Aug. 13, 2006. •*Exposing the Source: The Paintings of Nalini Malani* displays 40 works including oils, acrylics, watercolors and videos by one of India's leading contemporary artists. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children 3-18, $5; children under 3, free. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtiss Collection* is on display. Through March 30, 2006. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31, 2006. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30, 2006. •*The Moche of Ancient Peru* is a collection of early ceramic art that gives insight into the culture. Through June 2007.

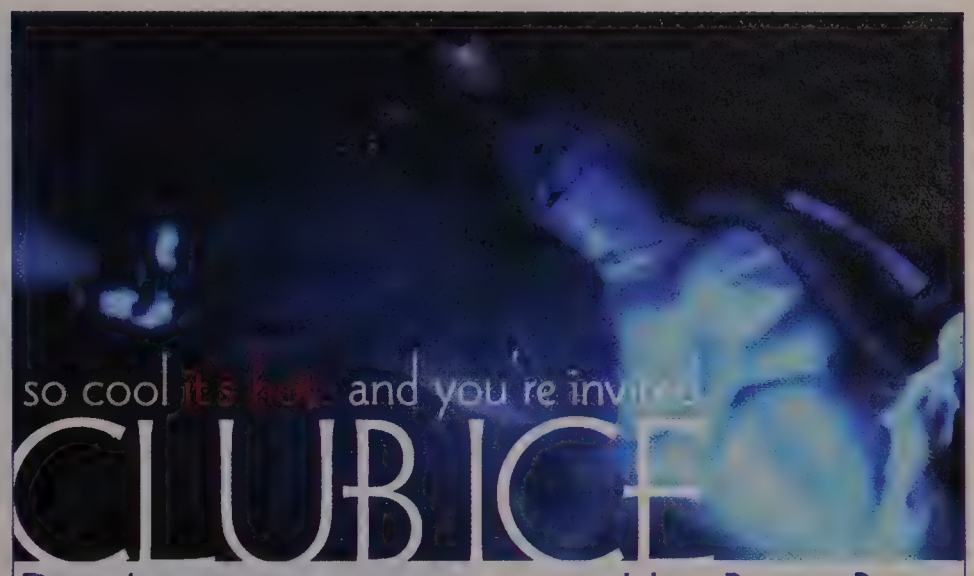
Rose Art Museum

Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $3. •*Alvin Lucier: Chambers* explores the characteristics of enclosed spaces. Through Dec. 11. •*Fred Tomaselli: Monsters of Paradise* displays collage-style paintings that blend natural and unnatural worlds. Through Dec. 11. •*"Post" and After: Contemporary Art from the Brandeis University Collection* displays works from the 1980s and '90s. Through April 9, 2006.

Special Events

Award Winning Photographs of 2004

Boston City Hall, 1 City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-635-3245). www.cityofboston.gov/arts. MBTA: Green Line



December 15, 2005 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Hyatt Regency Boston

$5 general admission to benefit the Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism

Live music and D.J. provided by Hip Pocket Entertainment
V.I.P. prizes as cool as ice. From a $3,000 diamond to weekend getaways
win great gifts from:

Elyse Fine Jewelers-Gemologist, H&M Gift Card, Felt Pool Party,
Jet Blue Tickets, Sports Club L.A, The Boston Bruins, Lufthansa
Ice Hotel Quebec-Canada, autographed sports memorabilia and more!

Cash food and bar

For more information call 617.912.1234 or e-mail psorge@hyatt.com

Tickets available at the door only. Bring your colleagues to celebrate the Holiday Season.

in partnership with the **DOUG FLUTIE, JR.** *foundation for autism, inc.*
www.dougflutiejrfoundation.org

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Best wishes for a
happy, healthy
New Year.

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1 (877) and MAIN

... Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm. Free. •This exhibit documents Boston in 2004, from John Kerry to the Red Sox, through a series of over 60 photographs selected by the Boston Press Photographer's Association. Through Jan. 13.

31st Annual Crafts Showcase

Brookline Arts Center, 86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Through Dec. 18, Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. Free. The 31st Annual Crafts Showcase allows shoppers to browse and purchase eclectic and unique pieces of art for the holiday season.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The paintings of Agnes Weinrich, Blanche Lazzell and Grace Martin Taylor are featured in *Pioneers of Early Modernism*. Through Dec. 23.

Adams Gallery

Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont St., Boston (617-305-1782). www.suffolk.edu/adams_gallery. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*Touching All the Bases: A Red Sox History* explores the history of the Boston Red Sox through photographs, cartoons and artifacts. Through Feb. 28, 2006.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Holiday Adornment: 12 Jewelers* features artists working with metal, glass and semi-precious stones. Through Dec. 31.

Ars Libri Gallery

500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-560-1608). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Starball Contribution* showcases John Tremblay through Dec. 31.

Art Interactive

130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Glowlab: Open* features several different artists each weekend leading workshops, tours and other activities. Through Dec. 11.

Artana

1378 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). www. artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm; and by appointment. •The *Annual Holiday Group Show* features paintings, sculpture and other art by Artana gallery artists. Through Dec. 31.

Barbara Krakow Gallery

10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Cottingham's *An American Alphabet* displays the work of the photorealist. Through Dec. 7. •*Nature of Things* exhibits Jeff Perrott's paintings through Dec. 7.

Berenberg Gallery

4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. • *Two of a Kind: Visions* presents mixed media on paper by Cher and Gabriel Schaffer. Through Dec. 23.

Boston Center for the Arts

Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-8835). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu., Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-10 pm. •*The 19th Drawing Show* exhibits various artists' wall drawings with influences from graffiti, Sol LeWitt's wall drawings and installations. Through Jan. 8, 2006.

Boston Sculptors Gallery

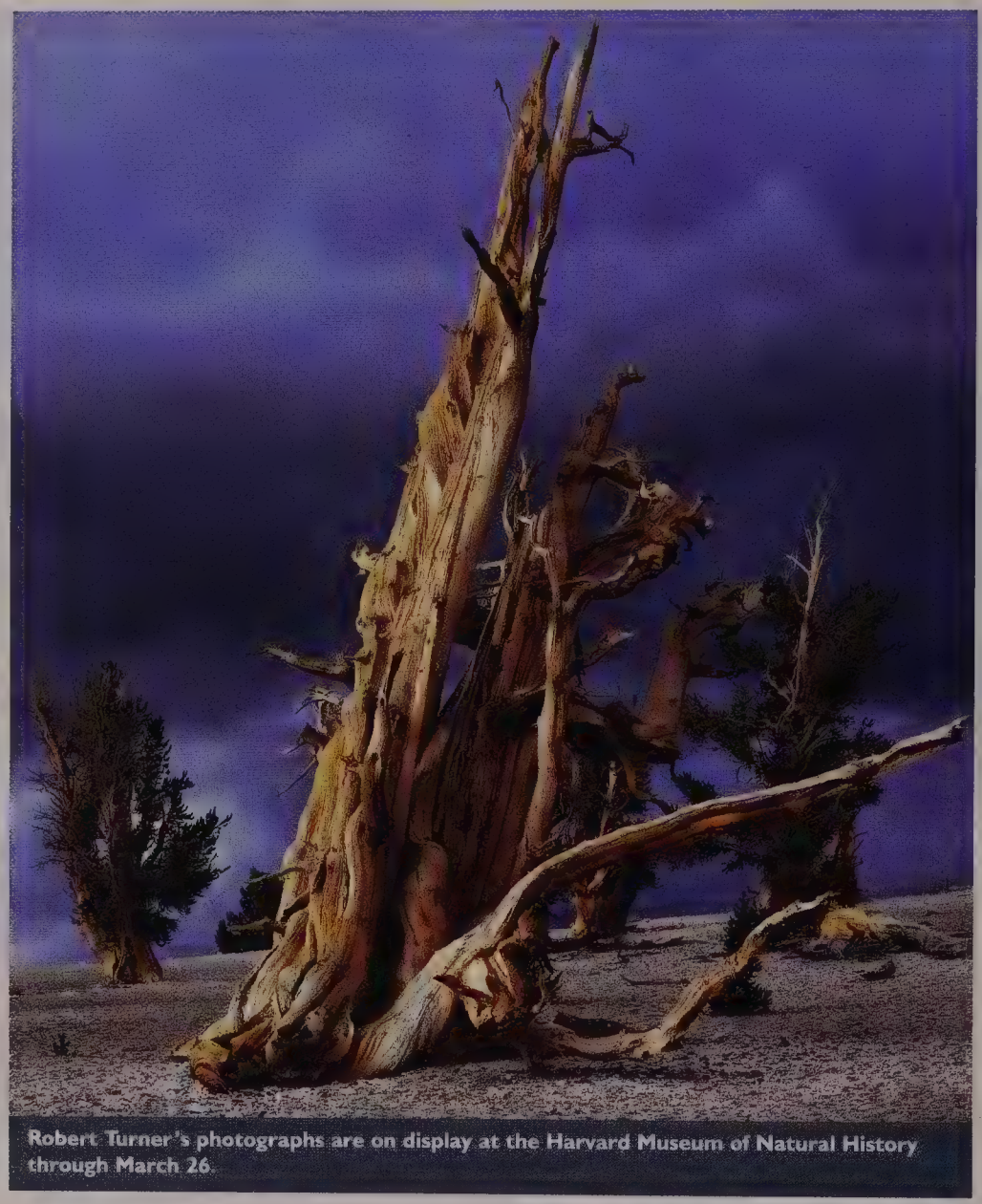
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 1-5 pm. •This year's holiday group show *B-Side* features pieces that are flipsides to usual artist-solo exhibitions, placed on the reverse side of vinyl records. Through Dec. 24.

Boston University Art Gallery

855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3329). www.bu.edu/art. MBTA: Green Line to BU. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. Free. *Syncopated Rhythms* displays 20th-century African-American art from the collections of George and Joyce Wein. Through Jan. 22, 2006.

Brickbottom Gallery

... Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thurs.-Sun., 2-6 pm. •*The December Store: An Art Market at Brickbottom Gallery* features a variety of media, including jewelry, ceramics, glass, printmaking and paintings. Through Dec. 23.



Robert Turner's photographs are on display at the Harvard Museum of Natural History through March 26.

Bromfield Art Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm. •*Twelve by Twelve* includes paintings and drawings 12 x 12 or smaller, including the frame for $300 or less. Through Dec. 17.

Cambridge Art Association

Kathryn Schultz Gallery, 25R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. University Place Gallery, 124 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-1 pm. •*RED*, which features a variety of work by more than 100 artists, is on display through Jan. 19, 2006 at the University Place Gallery.

Cambridge Arts Council Gallery

344 Broadway, Cambridge (617-349-4380). www.cambridgeartscouncil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Mon., Wed., Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm; Tue., 8:30 am-5 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-12 pm. •*dimensions variable, site fixed* exhibits a collection of works by local artists charged with creating a new work for Cambridge. Through Dec. 28.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center

41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •Pablo Gonsalez's *Sacrificios* examines Chicano cultural issues through paintings and an installation. Through Dec. 23.• Skip Schiel displays his *Paired Photographs from the Levant*, which draws from his experience traveling through Israel and Palestine. Dec. 16-Jan. 27, 2006.

Cambridge 7 Associates, Inc.

1050 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7000). www.c7a.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •*Photographs from the Big Dig* is a collection of over 40 photographs and collages by Camila Chaves Cortes documenting the large-scale renovation project. Through Jan. 31, 2006.

Chase Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Nathan Wilson* exhibits oil-on-canvas landscapes. Through Dec. 30.

Childs Gallery

169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Laurent Schkolnyk: Mezzotints* exhibits a variety of color mezzotints. Through Jan. 7, 2006. •*19th-Century American Landscapes* features classic oil landscapes. Through Jan. 7, 2006. •*On the Move: Transportation in Art* displays engravings by several artists, all of whom deal with the subject of travel. Through Jan. 7, 2006.

Claygo Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0100). www.claygo.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. The Holiday Show features selections from the gallery and their soup bowl special, which includes homemade soup and a giftbox.

Copley Society of Art

158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •CSA members display their work in various media in *Small Works*. Through Dec. 23.

Crump McCole Gallery

200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* exhibits paintings by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

DTR Modern Galleries

167 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-9700). www.dtrmodern.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri.-Sat., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 11 am-6 pm. • Selected works from the DTR collection are on display and for sale in *Unique Selections of Modern Art for the Holiday Shopper*. Through Dec. 30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery

300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-9 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*The Wheels Project* is a collection of photographs of motorcyclists, broken down cars and other facets of "wheel culture" curated by Ken Richardson, Jasen Strickler and Andrew Warren.

Galerie d'Orsay

33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*La Belle Epo* collection of posters by Toulouse-Lautrec, C Mucha, Tisso and others. Through Dec. 25.

Gallery AA/B

535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0 www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orang to Back Bay. Thu.-Fri., 12-5:30 pm; Sat. 12- •Patricia Burson and Renia Platt display pai of Provincetown dunescapes and New Engla terior scenes in *Recent Paintings*. Through Dec

Gallery Katz

450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617 6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red L Broadway. Wed.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appoin • Judith Maloney's *Northern Edge* displays the paintings. Through Dec. 10. •Ben Collier pr photographs of his travels in *China: Estimati Future*. Dec. 17-Jan. 28, 2006. •A group exhi features paintings, drawings and photograp Gallery Katz artists. Ongoing.

Gallery Kayafas

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-0411). gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Bac Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Brief Encounters w Dead* showcases Herb Greene's photographs o Grateful Dead. Through Jan. 14, 2006.

Gallery NAGA

67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlir Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Under Cover: U stery in Contemporary Furniture* features m approaches to furniture upholstery by mu artists. Through Dec. 17.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery

47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue. 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*New Works* by Deborah dovits features a video and works on paper. Th Jan. 3.

Green Street Gallery

141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0 www.greenstreetgallery.org. MBTA: Orange L Green St. Tue.-Wed., 6-9 pm; Thu., 2-9 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. Free. •Robin Mandel displa sculpture work in a solo exhibition. Through 7, 2006.

Gurari Collections

91 Charles St., Boston (617-367-9800). gurari.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles St. Tue. 11 am-6:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm or by appoint •Wendy Artin displays her watercolor work in *Italico*. Through Dec. 11.

Howard Yezerski Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0 www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Greer to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Susan Belton's *Coffee Break* uses coffee cups and pain springboard for cultural commentary. Through 23. •Photographer Rhona Bitner's *STAGE* fea seven color photographs of theatre perfor Through Dec. 23.

Hurst Gallery

53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6 www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm. •*Landscapes and Legends* s cases Ukiyo-e's Japanese woodblock prints thr Jan. 14, 2006.

International Poster Gallery

205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to C Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Deco Halls!* brings in the holiday season with scores o sonal Art Deco posters. Through Jan. 15, 2006.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery

130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •*Memorabilia: Sean Micka* dis works in oil on canvas. Through Dec. 30. •Wor artists Nicole Deponte, Joan Linder, Danica Pe and Donna Rosenthal are displayed in *Works Paper*. Through Dec. 30.

Kidder Smith Gallery

131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Mon.-Sat., 11 5:30 pm. •Miroslav Antic displays his *New Pain* that draws on his experience as a child with focal point being the one and only picture he with his father. Through Jan. 7, 2006.

Lanoue Fine Art

160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-44 www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to C ley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. • gallery's collection features works by Douglass Fr Ruth Block, Marc Civitarese, Carrie McGee, J Folsom and others. Ongoing.

ttitude Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.
idegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Off the Wall
oits new works by Gail Taylor, Bernice Koff and
a DeSimone. Through Dec. 31.

co Ritoro Gallery
Harrison Ave., Storefront 37, Boston (617-542-
). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11
:30 pm or by appointment. •Mario Kon: Perception/
ess/Connection gathers the artist's wood carvings
isplay. Through Dec. 17.

ssachusetts College of Art
lar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-
7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green
to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-
. •Using 70 objects, Braun: 50 Years of Design
vs the industrial design development process
brainstorm to finished product. Through Jan.
2006.

rcury Gallery
lewbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.
urygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.
.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •En-
ble is a group show of gallery artists' paintings
works on paper. Through Dec. 31.

bilia Gallery
Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109).
v.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm;
, 10 am-5 pm. •Celebrating the Necklace is a col-
ion of handmade necklaces. Through Dec. 15.
rated by the University of Texas, El Paso,
ging in Balance is a traveling exhibit of neck-
s. Through Dec. 15.

'G Contemporary
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.
allery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.
.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Power, Passion and Humilia-
presents Aaron Holz's work with acrylic and
cil on vellum and Calla Thompson's mixed
dia pieces through Dec. 21.

e Nave Gallery
rendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powderhouse
d., Somerville (617-625-4823). www.artsomerville.
nave/2005/sac.html. MBTA: Red Line to Davis.
., 4-8 pm, Sat., 1-5 pm. •Party of Five features
art of 2005 Somerville Arts Council Visual Art
ntwinners. Through Dec. 10.

ew England Institute of Art
Brookline Place West, Brookline (617-582-4442).
w.neia.aii.edu. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline
age. Mon.-Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-5
; Sat., 9 am-3 pm. •Color Fields, an exhibit of
ntings by Lenore Sempert, is on view through
c. 12.

ewton Free Library
) Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360).
w.ci.newton.ma.us. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri.,
m-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Start-
With Trees is a collection of Susan Post Lichten-
in's oil paintings of trees from different perspec-
es. Through Dec. 29. •Shelby Tiziani's Colored
dows displays the artist's pastel still life work.
rough Dec. 29.

ielsen Gallery
9 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835).
w.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop-
. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. • This collection fea-
es paintings by Jon Imber. Dec. 10-Jan. 14.

SP Gallery
0 Harrison Ave. #304, Boston (617-778-5265).
w.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back
y. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.•Bricks and Mortar dis-
ys recent paintings by Carolyn Swiszcz. Through
. 14, 2006.

ut of the Blue Gallery
6 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287).
w.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to
entral. 12-6 pm. •The gallery features photogra-
y, paintings, sculpture, jewelry, mosaics and an-
ues by local artists. Ongoing.

epper Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.
ppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Ar-
gton. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5
n. •Pastels by Sidney Hurwitz focuses on an in-
strial and urban vision ranging from factories in
aly to ports in Germany all painted in many lay-
s of pastel. Through Dec. 23.

ucker Gallery
71 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.
uckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
on.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •The late
erald Garston's oil paintings are on display
rough Dec. 31.

obert Klein Gallery
3 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.
bertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling-
n. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •
The gallery's *Winter Salon* is a group show featuring both black and white and color photography. Through Dec. 23.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery displays etchings and lithographs by Chagall, Picasso and Delaunay, alongside paintings by Constantin Terechkovitch and Raymond Legeult. Through Dec. 31.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm and by appointment. •*You and Me Simultaneously* features paintings, a video and sculpture by Emily Mast. Through Dec. 31.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Grossman Gallery, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718). www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Wed. and Fri.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thurs., 10 am-8 pm. • Six graduate students display pieces in various media dealing with the effect of space on the body in *Students Curate Students: Unoccupied Ground.* Through Jan. 4, 2006.

Sherman Gallery
775 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-0295). www.bu.edu/cfa/visual. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Tues.-Fri., 11 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 1 pm-5 pm. •*Dana Clancy: Intimate Distance* features the artist's landscape and portrait paintings. Through Dec. 16.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •With over 25 artists featured, *Artcessorize* exhibits hats, belts, scarves, shawls, purses and jewelry made with various materials from hand-painted silk to wool. Through Jan. 22, 2006.

Soprafina
73 Thayer St., Boston (617-728-0770). www.soprpafina.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •The *Winter Salon Exhibition* features art by Olga Antonova, Elizabeth Awalt and Robert Baart alongside many others. Through Jan. 14, 2006.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.st georgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Infusion* continues to display paintings by William St. George and Sandra Mueller-Dick, in addition to impressionistic landscapes, figures and animals by Shauna Shane. Through Dec. 31.

Vose Galleries of Boston
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 9:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Tease* is a collection of paintings by Michael Theise. Through Dec. 31. •The gallery's inventory includes 18th-, 19th- and early 20th-century American artwork in various media. Ongoing.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. Wed.-Sun., 1-7 pm. •*The Art of Palestine* exhibits paintings, drawings and prints by prominent Palestinian artists through Jan. 1, 2006.

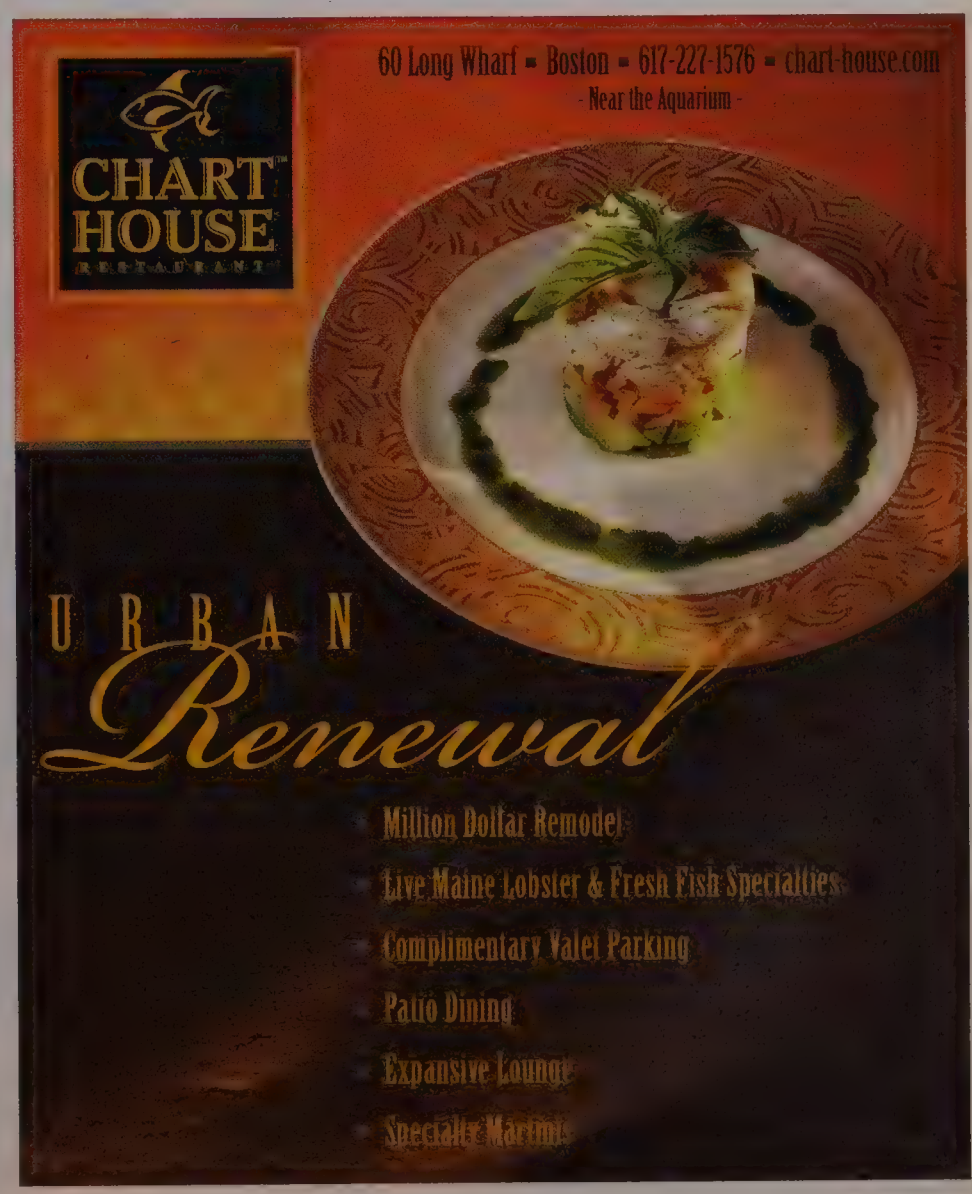
PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Wed., 11 am-5 pm; Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Arthur Griffin: A Singular Vision* features black-and-white photos from 1929 to 1951. Through Dec. 30. •*Images by Peter Urban*, a collection of widescreen portrait photography, is on display through Jan. 2, 2006.

Panopticon Gallery Boston
502 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*Holiday Show: Prints from the Collection* features the work of various gallery photographers. Through Jan. 21.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. •*Shadows of Time* showcases landscape and interior architectural photographs by Paul Wainwright through Jan. 14, 2006.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. •*Group Portrait* exhibits works by photographers who challenge the genre of group portraiture. Through Jan. 22, 2006.



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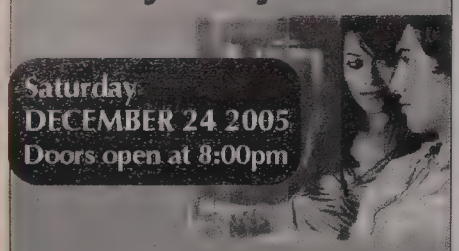

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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Borders Books and Music
24 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park. 12:30 pm. Free. Marine Corps officer **Nathaniel Fick** reads from his memoir, *One Bullet Away: The Making of a Marine Officer*, which recounts his experiences in marine training, serving oversees in Afghanistan and his 1st Reconnaissance Battalion's combat in Iraq.

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $2. Accompanied by former Massachusetts governor **Michael Dukakis**, former *Brookline Tab* journalist **Larry Ruttman** discusses his book *Voices of Brookline*, a collection of interviews with and essays about notable Brookline residents.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Anita Diamant** reads from her novel *The Last Days of Dogtown*, which explores the lives of outcasts on Cape Ann in the early 1800s and the bonds they form as the settlement deteriorates.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Somerville (617-491-2220). www.portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. **Liza Ketchum** reads from her young-adult novel *Where the Great Hawk Flies*, about intermarriages between white settlers and Native Americans during colonial times.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. Poet **Marty Matz** reads from his work.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Photographer **Abelardo Morell** discusses a new collection of his photography, *Abelardo Morell*. A slideshow of his work follows.

Harvard Book Store Event
Harvard Information Center, Holyoke Center, 1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Princeton University historian and contributing editor to *The New Republic* **Sean Wilentz** reads from his book *The Rise of American Democracy: Jefferson to Lincoln*, which studies the formation of democracy from the American Revolution to the Civil War and how social forces and electoral politics built democracy.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Mary Morris** reads from her novel *Revenge*, about an artist who tries to discover what she believes to be her stepmother's role in her father's death.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

McIntyre and Moore Books Event
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). www.ibbetsonpress.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 3 pm. Free. Poets **Philip Burnham, Ann Carhart** and **Doug Holder** read from their works. Reception to follow.

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley Square. 1 pm. Free. **Gary Braver** discusses his novel *Flashback*, about a man stung by a rare jellyfish, resulting in a three-year coma.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. ESPN.com columnist **Bill Simmons** reads from his book *Now I Can Die in Peace: How ESPN's Sports Guy Found Salvation, with a Little Help from Nomar, Pedro, Shawshank and the 2004 Red Sox*, which recounts the years leading up to the Red Sox' World Series victory.

Boston Public Library Event
Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8700). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 1:30 pm. Free. Simmons College professor and winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award **Lawrence L. Langer** discusses his book *Holocaust Testimonies: The Ruins of Memory*, which focuses on 300 taped interviews with Holocaust survivors preserved at Yale University's Fortunoff Video Archives.

Porter Square Book Event
Eitz Chayim Congregation, 136 Magazine St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). www.eitz.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Photographer and consummate traveler **Jill Culiner** reads from her book *Finding Home: In the Footsteps of the Jewish Fusgeyers*, which traces the history of Jewish refugees who escaped persecution in Romania as they searched for a home during the early 1900s.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

Barnes & Noble, Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Tamar Frankel** discusses her book *Trust and Honesty: America's Culture at a Crossroad*, which argues that as our culture becomes more tolerant of corporate dishonesty and fraud, it will impact America's economy and prosperity.

Blacksmith House Event
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poet **Mark Rudman** reads from his work. Also, former president of Amherst College **Peter Pouncey** reads from his novel *Rules for Old Men Waiting*, about three British soldiers in the battlefield trenches of World War I.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Boston Public Library
Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. MIT professor **Yossi Sheffi** discusses his book *The Resilient Enterprise: Overcoming Vulnerability for Competitive Advantage*, which argues that choices made before a business shake-up are more important than the decisions leaders make in the midst of the problem.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Food activist and Food First co-founder **Frances Moore Lappe** discusses her book *Democracy's Edge: Choosing to Save Our Country by Bringing Democracy to Life*, which argues that individual activism helps to prevent special-interest groups and government officials from gaining too much power in society.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Thomas O'Malley** reads from his novel *In the Province of Saints*, which follows a boy's life in 1970s Ireland and the plight of his family as a result of illness, poverty and alcoholism.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Barnes & Noble, Prudential Center
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-6959). www.barnesandnoble.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 12 pm. Free. ESPN.com columnist **Bill Simmons** reads from his book *Now I Can Die in Peace*. See Dec. 11, Barnes & Noble, Boston University listing for a description.

Borders Books and Music
24 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park. 12:30 pm. Free. Legal Sea Foods Restaurant president and CEO **Roger Berkowitz** discusses his cookbook *The New Sea Foods Cookbook*, which includes over recipes, directions for choosing and storing se and basic cooking techniques.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail Newtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. Associate Profes Mathematical Sciences at Bentley College **Aczel** speaks about his book *Descartes' Secret book: A True Tale of Mathematics, Mysticism a Quest to Understand the Universe*, which su ideas that may have been in Descartes' lost ings based on his involvement in secret socie

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Somerville (617-491-2220). portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to P 7 pm. Free. **Marge Piercy** discusses her new of historical fiction, *Sex Wars: A Novel of th bulent Post-Civil War Period*, which explores feminism while following a group of wom New York City on a quest to take control of lives within a misogynistic society.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Li Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Marge Piercy** from her historical novel *Sex Wars*. See De Porter Square Books listing for a description.

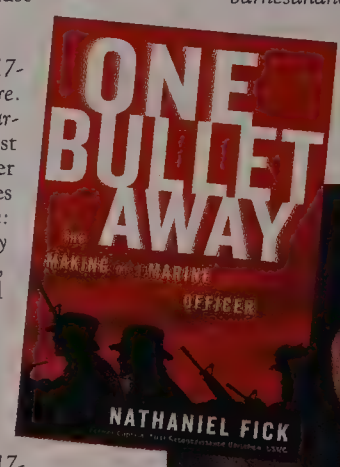
Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). ci.newton.ma.us. 7:30 pm. Free. **Kurt Ger** speaks about his novel *A Complex Solution*, v focuses on fraternity life.

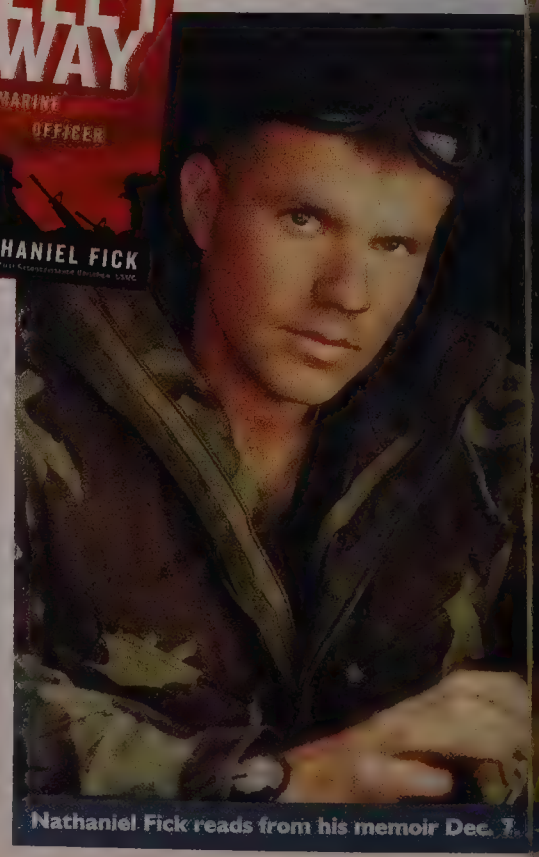
Porter Square Books
25 White St., Somerville (617-491-2220). portersquarebooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to P 7 pm. Free. **David Ebenbach** discusses his c tion of short stories, *Between Camelots*, a men's thoughts on their endless struggles wit mantic relationships.

ReadBoston Celebrity Author Ser
Game On!, 82 Lansdowne St., Boston (617 528). www.readboston.org. MBTA: Green Li Kenmore. 5:30 pm. $20. Former *Washington Po* porter **John Feinstein** discusses his book *Let M You a Story: A Lifetime in the Game*, which r stories gathered at lunchtime meetings with fo Celtics coach Red Auerbach. This event als cludes a silent auction of Boston sports-re memorabilia.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

Barnes & Noble, Prudential Cente
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-6959). barnesandnoble.com. MBTA: E Green Line to dential. 12 pm. Free. Food Net star **Rachael Ray** discusses her cookbook, *Rachael Ray 365: N peats: A Year of Deliciously Diff Dinners*, which includes dozens o minute recipes.




Nathaniel Fick reads from his memoir Dec. 7.

ducation

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uit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. line is at least four weeks prior to publication.

DNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

ting Started in Genealogy
England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 New- St., Boston (617-536-5740). www.newengland tors.org/education. MBTA: C Green Line to Cop- 10 am. Free. Resident Irish genealogist **Marie** leads this discussion detailing how to break into alogy and the basic resources to use.

ss Roots Mobilization in the Era he Internet
nons College, Linda K. Paresky Conference er, 300 The Fenway, Boston (617-521-2581). .simmons.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Heath :30 pm. Free. Northeastern University professor former Massachusetts governor **Michael akis** delivers a lecture about the effects of net use on grass-roots movements in organizing achieving their goals, followed by a reception.

rims, Patriots and Products: ling the Colonial Image
Joseph Moakley Federal Courthouse, 1 Courthouse , Boston (617-261-2440). www.historicnew nd.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 8 am-6 Free. This series investigates how the capitalist et benefited from the historic image of Colonial erica through the entertainment and commercial stries.

URSDAY, DECEMBER 8

rty Matz: The Lost Beat Poet
on Public Library, Mezzanine Conference Room, Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. The entation discusses the career of surrealist poet **ty Matz** and features a 35-minute documentary t the making of his book *In the Seasons of My Eye*.

Never Too Late Group
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2 pm. Free. In his lecture "The Humble Clam," food historian **Joe Carlin**, contributor to the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Food and Drink in America*, talks about New England's favorite mollusk.

Voices of Public Intellectuals Lecture Series
Radcliffe College, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-495-8212). www.radcliffe.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. **Roberta Cohen**, co-director of the Brookings Institution–University of Bern Project on Internal Displacement, discusses the plight of those forced from their homes by conflict, communal violence or human rights violations.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Internet Workshop
West Roxbury Branch Library, 1961 Centre St., West Roxbury (617-325-3147). www.bpl.org. 10:30 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. This class explores the basic steps to get started with the Internet, like how to effectively use search engines and navigate Web sites.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

Make Your Own Holiday Ornaments
Brookline Adult Education, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 10 am-4 pm. $195. Learn the basic skills of blowing glass from the furnace to create holiday ornaments.

The Psychology of Persuasion
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. $41; $33 members. This course covers basic psychological principles about how people are influenced and why they are inclined to behave in certain ways. Through case studies, discover practical applications of these principles to sharpen your ability to understand and motivate others.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Boston Tea Party Reenactment
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15 pm. $5, free for members and those in colonial attire. To commemorate the 232nd anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, actors re-enact the rally against the tea tax at the Old South Meeting House, which hosted the original gathering in December 1773. Fife and drum concert to conclude the debate.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

Beginning Silversmithing
Boston Center for Adult Education, Studio 122, 122 Arlington St., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 9 am-5 pm. $99; $84 members. **Marcia Deluty**, graduate student of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, describes the basic silversmithing techniques of filing, buffing, polishing and soldering needed to make a ring or bracelet by the end of class.

The Fine Art of Cheese Tasting
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $69; $59 members. **Ihsan Gurdal**, a cheese expert from Formaggio Kitchen, demonstrates differences between artisan and farmhouse cheeses and discusses affinage (cheese maturing) using samples paired with white and red wines.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Boston Society of Architects "Exploring Design" Lecture Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Practicing architect and editor of *Faith & Form* magazine **Michael Crosbie R.A.** gives a talk entitled "Sacred Places/Sacred Spaces" as part of the Boston Society of Architects' lecture series.

Radcliffe Institute Fellows' Presentation Series
Radcliffe College, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-495-8212). www.radcliffe.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. In a lecture entitled "Directed Matrix Seeding of Semiconductor Nanostructure Arrays," **Rachel S. Goldman**, associate professor of materials science and engineering and of electrical engineering and computer science at the University of Michigan, explains her novel approach to semiconductor nanopatterning.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Never Too Late Group
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2 pm. Free. Using piano, trumpet and vocals, musician **David Polansky** presents a selection of Dixieland, show tunes, swing and other musical styles in "Musical Potpourri."

The Smaller Majority
Harvard Museum of Natural History, Harvard University, Haller Hall, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Harvard professor **Edward O. Wilson** introduces this lecture in which **Piotr Naskrecki**, author of *The Smaller Majority*, discusses his photographic journey examining microorganisms and their ecological importance.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

Wine and Craft: Jewelry Gifts
50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6 pm. $30 members; $35, non-members. Learn how to make the perfect last-minute gift for someone special. Basic wireworking instruction and supplies for one set of earrings and one bracelet or necklace provided.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

New Year, New Date Book
Paper Source, 338 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-3444). www.paper-source.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 2-5 pm. $45. Use book cloths and decorative papers to create a customized 2006 planner.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Fighting the Fires of Hate: America and the Nazi Book Burnings Film Series
The Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2 pm. Free. The film *Rosenzweig's Freedom* is introduced by filmmaker **Liliane Targownik**, Hadassah-Brandeis Institute scholar. A discussion follows the film.

gay & lesbian

Advice to Contributors
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest MBTA stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Gov. Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am. No cover. 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Thursdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 11 pm. $10. 21+. Get Down Thursdays feature rotating DJs playing hip-hop, house and pop.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 19+. Sunday-night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $7. 19+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Ms. Kris Knievil, with DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of each month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm. $10. 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay, Green Line to Arlington. No cover. 21+. Neighborhood cruise bar open nightly.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 19+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. This gay sports bar, with six large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

I/D (Saturdays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston. www.lesbiannightlife.com. 10 pm-2 am. Free. 21+. LiQuid DJ Mix Mistress spins hip-hop, house, reggae, reggaton and more at this weekly women-only night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends. 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music as booked. •Sun.: An Evening of Mizery: Amateur Talent Night, 10 pm. •Mon. (alternating weeks): Foxy Follies; TraniWreck. •Tue.: Karaoke. •Wed.: Delightful Divas with Melinda Wilson. •Thu.: Jacque's Angels with Kris Knievel. •Fri. and Sat.: Miss Norelle's Leading Ladies.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, featuring deep house music, 10 pm-2 am. $8. 21+. •Sat.: Latin night, 10 pm-2 am. Cover varies. 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with hostess Mizery. 10 pm-2 am. 19+.

Modern (Thursdays)
30 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581). www.lesbiannightlife.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 19+. Thursdays at the Modern is lesbian night with DJ Afrodite.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover. 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features Top 40 Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is mandatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Mandance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Muscle with DJ Duo Freespace. •Mon.: Pool, dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. Cover varies. Sunday T-dance features DJ Danae spinning the latest house and pop.

Toast (Fridays, Saturdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 5:30 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera, and Saturday is Hero's Retro Night with DJs from ManRay.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9:30 pm-2 am. DJ Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and Top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat.,12pm-2am;Sun.,10:30 am-2 am. No cover. 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke, 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Underbar (Sundays)
275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080). www.flauntatunderbar.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 11 pm. $10. 21+. This weekly event features DJs spinning hard house.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies, 7-9 pm. Showtune videos, 9 pm-1 am.

Venu (Wednesdays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). www.chapsboston.com. 10 pm, $8, 21+. Boston's long-running gay Latino night features Latin and house with DJ Adilson.

Shows & Events

Back Bay Ringers
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston. www.backbayringers.org. MBTA: Green Line to Gov. Center. Dec. 10 and 17, 12 and 2 pm. Free. The Back Bay Ringers, Boston's only community handbell ensemble and the nation's first openly gay and lesbian handbell group, plays two free shows in Faneuil Hall as part of the annual Bells of Boston program.

Dyke Night Holiday Shopping Party
Toast, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.dykenight.com. Dec. 16, 8 pm. $5. 21+. Dyke Night and Toast Lounge host a special, two-hour holiday sale by dykesinthecity clothing company, followed by DJ Susan Esthera spinning current and retro music from 10 pm-1 am.

Harvard LBGT Film Series
Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.harvardfilmarchive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 14, 9:15 pm. Ang Lee directs a humorous piece, *The Wedding Banquet*, focusing on the life of Wai-Tung in NYC with his gay partner.

Swing in the Season
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.bgmc.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Dec. 9-10, 8 pm. The Boston Gay Men's Chorus performs all the holiday season classics from "Jingle Bells"to "Silent Night," while also adding a new set of Appalachian carols played on a fiddle.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown North G/L Bowling League
Lanes & Games, 195 Concord Turnpike, Cambridge (617-876-5533). www.beantownbowling.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. 8:30 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Tuesday nights.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449); MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Gov. Center. Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428), MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mondays, 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). www.beantownbowling.com. 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesday nights.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First Tue. of each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group provides support and information for bisexual women or women who are questioning their sexuality.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-2 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri., 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Despina's Place, 47 Mass. Ave., Boston. www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(617-869-7958). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month. 7 pm. Free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe

Dykesinthecity holds a special holiday s at Toast on Dec. 16

space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It r Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coo Corner in Brookline. Call for more information

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England support, information and social group for peop signed female at birth, but who feel that the nation is not an accurate or complete descripti their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-M Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail Co FTM@usa.com for details.

Cosmetically Correct
Woody's, 58 Hemenway St., Boston. yahoogroups.com/community/cosmeticallycorrect Thu. of each month, 6 pm. Cosmetically Correc group of lipstick lesbians who meet each month

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional w 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sop cated to get together with like-minded wome conversations, dinners, theater and networking

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fe health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fe Community Health offers a wide array of servic the GLBT community, ranging from discus about parenting and safe-sex practices to prog addressing domestic violence and substance abu

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Bo GLBT flag football league for its formal fall se All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

The 40-Somethings
theprimeoflife@aol.com. This newly formed gro lesbians in their 40s runs events that help to enduring romantic/life partnerships through friends first.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring ~frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; 10 am. See Web site for locations. All are welco join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
amateurgphoto@yahoo.com. Learn more about tography, socialize and meet new people at mo meetings.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham 742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the firs third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in develo healthy gay relationships features alternative meeting and dating, communication games, si mixers and a date-matching system. E- info@gaylab.org.

Gays for Patsy
(617-412-5751). www.gaysforpatsy.org. This c try-western dancing club, featuring two- swing and line dancing, holds events twi month. Beginners welcome, no partner nee Call for more details.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jam Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Th each month, 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of GLBT community are invited to share poetry, and performance pieces at this open-mike even

lfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian men of Color
ıbridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. ., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line entral. This discussion group for all ages meets y Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

FFAN
ians Available For Fun and Networking is a local al and networking group that provides opportuni- for women to connect with each other. Members ive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. LAFFAN ısors an annual Halloween dance and spring ces/benefits. E-mail LAFFAN_Boston2004@ o.com for membership information.

nday Night Bowling League
on Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889- 2). www.mnbl.net. 7:30 pm. The MNBL's 5-06 bowling season runs Monday nights.

e Network/La Red
7-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This sup- group is working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual ıen's and transgender communities. E-mail @thenetworklared.org for more information.

wly Diagnosed Group
Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston 7-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line owntown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each th, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and xual men who have been diagnosed with HIV ng the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

t to Dance
7-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin ballroom dance classes and workshops are held gay-friendly environment.

t TwentySomethings Boston
s social and peer support group is for lesbians, men and bisexual, transgendered and ques- ıing folks as well as their straight allies in their and early 30s. E-mail twentysomethings consubscribe@yahoogroups.com.

)Z Social
nshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., on (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Line ack Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. . This monthly event, featuring raffles, food, ic and drinks, benefits people affected by V/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group supports HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups. com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments around Boston.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support. E-mail sungyun@chickmail.com.

Somos Latin@s LGBT Coalition
www.somoslatinoslgbt.org. The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more info.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. Second Fri. of each month. This social group comprises lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s.

body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Children's Day Celebration
Boston Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.shambhalaboston.org. Dec. 18, 10 am-1 pm. $10 suggested donation per family. The Shambhala Community's festival celebrating children features games, crafts, story-telling, refreshments and a gift exchange. Children are asked to bring a gift for needy children in the Boston area. Parents are invited to bring a small gift for their own children.

Christmas Celtic Harp Music
Earth Spirits, 407 Main St., Sturbridge (508-347-1180). www.earth spirits-herbals.com. Dec. 11, 11 am. Free. Jerry Mar- chand will play his Celtic harp at this holistic health center.

Dharma Film
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Dec. 10, 7 pm. $10. Co-sponsored by the Institute for Meditation and Psychotherapy, this film series explores the mind and spirit of the cinema. This evening features Ingmar Bergman's *The Seventh Seal*, about the spiritual struggles of a knight returning from the crusades.

Full Moon Meditation
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). www.tsboston.org. Dec. 14, 7:30 pm. Donations welcome. Full moon meditations provide an opportunity for meditating with a group. The guided meditation is easy enough for beginner but is also suitable for practiced meditators.

Groton Dental Wellness Spa Open House
GDWS, 495 Main St., Groton (978-449-9919). www.grotondentalwellness.com. Dec. 8, 6-8 pm. Free. This opens house lets visitors see the different environment at a holistic dental spa, and have any of your questions answered.

Practicing Kindness with Sharon Salzberg
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 18, 10 am-4:30 pm. $100. Please pre-register. This workshop and book signing hosted by author Sharon Salzberg features Dharma talks and guided meditations to help participants cultivate kindness in themselves.

Lectures

H.P. Blavatsky: Adventures in the Unseen World
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101 or 617-864-5720). www.tsboston.org.or www.newacropolis.org. Dec. 9, 7:30-9 pm. Learn about 19th-century writer, philosopher and mystic Helena Blavatsky, who challenged science and religion, and attempted to synthesize the philosophies of East and West.

Classes

Beginner Svaroopa Yoga
Earthsong Yoga, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-480-8884). www.earthsongyoga.com. Dec. 11 and 18, 5:30-7 pm. $15, drop-in. Svaroopa yoga facilitates flexibility by releasing the body into support rather than overexerting it. Poses are held with emphasis on skeletal alignment, awareness and breathing.

Belly Dance: Under the Veil
CasaNia, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge, (617-491-5144). www.casania.com or www.thegoddessdancing.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Dec. 11, 2-5 pm. $45. Belly dancing's moves are said to aid digestion and naturally exercise muscles without strain. F ipants learn some belly dancing along with h dance with a veil.

On Dec. 18, Sharon Salzberg talks abo how to cultivate kindness

Chakra Intensive
Spirit Earth Healing, 661 Mass. Ave. #8, Arli (617-515-8826). www.spiritearthhealing.com. 13, 7-8:30 pm. $20. This workshop explains to correct energy imbalances or blockages w your chakras and open up to universal inspira

Introductory Tai Chi Class
Prydwen, 67 Broad St., 4th Floor, Boston. prydwen.org/events.html. Dec. 11, 4-6 pm. Tom Manning demonstrates tai chi ch'u practice developed to enhance and promote health.

Make More Money: Clear Unconscious Self-Sabotage
Dr. Judith A. Swack, 56 Pickering St., Nee (781-444-6940). Dec. 8, 7-9 pm. $36. Ser participants will learn to recognize healthy unhealthy uses of money, uncover beliefs and udices about making and having money, and methods to help eliminate financial self-sabo

Moon Salutations
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617 7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Li Kendall. Dec. 15, 6-8 pm. $20. This asana, o ture, stirs and stimulates the body's energy cor aims to ground the practitioner while provid feeling of expansion.

Opening to Breathe
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Cente Main St., Andover (978-474-8010 or 603- 8810). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Dec. 13, 7- $35. Learn techniques associated with Transfo tional Breath, a practice that uses conscious a ness to open up restricted breathing and inc oxygen in the blood stream, in order to aid o health. Open to all ages and levels.

Reiki Healing Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass. Ave. #304 lington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki. Dec. 16, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Experience a rela Reiki Energy Healing treatment.

Restorative Yoga
Center for Yoga, 393 Worcester Road, Framin (508-620-9642). www.centerforyoga.us. Dec. 1 6 pm. $37. Pre-register. De-stress, release ter and revive your spirit through supported p meditation and relaxation.

Ongoing

Meditation In the Tibetan Traditio
Sakya Center, 59 Church St., Unit 3, Camb (617-710-5387). MBTA: Red Line to Har www.sakya.net. Tue. and Fri., 7:30-9 pm. Dona welcome. Lama Migmar Tseten leads this c which is taught in the Tibetan tradition an cludes informal Buddhist discussions, traditi teachings from Buddhist texts and more fo meditation instruction. Beginners welcome.

Philosophical Open House
The Philosophy Foundation, Worcester House Worcester Lane, Waltham (781-647-0020). w philosophyfoundation.org. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. $5 gested donation. Attendees will hear words of wise, both ancient and modern, converse with p and practice silent meditation.

ports

dvice to Contributors
mit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to endar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@ roper.com. Include address, phone number, subway , dates and times and a brief description of the league vent. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone must be received at least four weeks in advance.

lome Games

ston Bruins
D Banknorth Garden, Boston
kets: 617-931-2222
. 11, 5 pm vs. Phoenix Coyotes

ston Celtics
D Banknorth Garden, Boston
kets: 617-931-2222
. 14, 7:30 pm vs. Indiana Pacers
. 16, 7:30 pm vs. Milwaukee Bucks
. 19, 7:30 pm vs. Golden State Warriors

ew England Patriots
illette Stadium, Foxboro
kets: 800-543-1776
. 17, 1:30 pm vs. Tampa Bay Buccaneers

vents

l Rodgers Jingle Bell Run
begins at Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-3-5612). www.billrodgers.com. MBTA: Green Line Kenmore. Dec. 11, 5 pm. $20. This annual three-e run raises money for Toys for Tots and CASA, a up that supports and promotes court-appointed unteer advocacy for abused and neglected chil-n. A post-race party will take place at Avalon.

arshall U.S. Figure Skating Showcase
ganis Arena, 925 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-931-00). www.ticketmaster.com. MBTA: B Green Line BU West. Dec. 11. 1-3 pm. $50-$150. A star-dded line-up of figure skaters, including Michelle an, Sasha Cohen, Johnny Weir and Timothy ebel, perform exhibition programs to be aired e on ABC. The winners are decided by the votes the television audience and fans in the arena.

o Play

USTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

ston Demons
7-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club ks new players for nine-a-side competition.

ASEBALL

enry's Baseball
31-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

ASKETBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club
17-789-4070, ext. 238). Co-ed, year-round gues for players at all levels in Watertown, Bel-nt, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individu-are welcome.

ambridge Racquet and Fitness Club
7-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round gues for individuals or teams at all levels.

orporate Basketball League
31-248-7811). Three divisions for men and e for women play weeknight games in the mbridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All els welcome.

ever Too Late Basketball
31-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

OXING

ston Sport Boxing Club
5 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.stonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to rvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style xing lessons for all levels.

ogtime Boxing
7 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). w.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This xing club offers training for competition, condi-ning and recreation.

ODGEBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
17-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodge-ll teams.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www. worldkickball.com. Co-ed kick-ball leagues play throughout the fall in Boston and Somerville. Register online.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players to join its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group. Call for times and locations.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonRun@teamlunachix.com. Weekly runs Thu. at 6:30 pm. Women only. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bostonlunachix. Talking-pace three- or five-mile runs through the Fells.

SOCCER

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070). A series of indoor and outdoor soccer leagues start up this fall.

Michelle Kwan skates at BU's Agganis Arena Dec. 11

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"The name of the place was what grabbed me first. Then I opened the menu and saw offerings like 'my big phatt Greek salad,' 'naked burger,' 'phrench dip.' I needed a drink to calm myself, so I turned to the sizeable cocktail list and spotted the 'Tini wini bikini martini.'
-Anand Vaishnav, Globe staff, July 21, 2005
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Patty Morin Fitzgerald, the Boston Globe
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Una Bella Serata

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Dec. 10, 10:30 am. *The Kids Variety Show* features songs and stories by A. Mifflin Lowe. •Dec. 12, 11 am. Ezra Jack Keats' short film *The Snowy Day* features a young boy's discovery of the snow-covered world. • Dec. 17, 10:30 am. Dan Foley and Joel Harris give a vaudevillian performance with a modern twist in *Airborne Comedians*. •Dec. 18, 11 am. In *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, the Peanuts character struggles to put on a pageant that captures the holiday's meaning.

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students and children. •This short-form improv performance includes interactive games.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $7.50, members; $9.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Dec. 7-8, 10:30 am. Michael Graham presents two stories in *Three Wishes and Other Tales*. "A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing" tells of a wolf trying to outsmart a shepherd, while a man encounters a magical elf in "The Three Wishes." •Dec. 10-11, 1 and 3 pm. "Shoemaker and the Elves" is the story of a young man who discovers the importance of giving after trying on a magical pair of shoes. •Dec. 14-15, 10:30 am. A collection of marionettes and trick puppets dance, juggle and play music in *Fairy Circus*. •Dec. 17-18, 1 and 3 pm. In "Rumplestiltskin," a troll offers to spin straw into gold for a woman, for a price.

Regent Theatre
7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.regenttheatre.com. The *Fourth Annual Family Holiday Concert Extravaganza* features Ben Rudnick and Friends as they perform classic holiday songs with audience participation.

Things to Do

Barefoot Books
1771 Mass. Ave., Arlington (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Fri. and Sat., Free. •Story hour for children ages 5 and under features a variety of themes. Ongoing.

Boston Children's Theatre
186 Tremont St., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •In *Beauty and the Beast*, a girl teaches a heartless prince how to love. Through Dec. 30. Tickets are $20-$22.

Boston Public Library
North End Branch, 25 Parmenter St., Boston (617-227-8135). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Dec. 9, 11 am. Toddler storytime is held for ages 12-36 months. •Dec. 14, 3:30 pm. Ages four and up make holiday crafts and then watch a film.

Bristol Lounge at Four Seasons Hotel
200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Dec. 8-24, 3 pm-4:15 pm, $24 adult, $14 children, $8 children with teddy bear donation. With story telling and peanut butter sandwiches, the Teddy Bear Tea fundraiser gathers teddy bears for donation to local children. Reservations required.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Thu., Sat.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •The exhibit *Adventures with Clifford the Big Red Dog* invites families to explore Birdwell Island, where the Clifford books take place, and features a 9-foot-tall Clifford. Through Jan. 8. •Each Friday evening, children can explore the holiday traditions of different cultural groups in Spirit of the Season. Through Jan. 13. •The *Amazing Castle* allows dren to experience life in a medieval village make medieval-themed arts and crafts. Ong •The Art Studio invites parents and childr create works of art together. Ongoing.

Frog Pond
Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-2120). www.bostoncommonfrogpond.org. MB Red Line to Park. Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Tue.- and Sun., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm mission: $3, adult; free for children. Skate R $7, adult; $5, children. •Ice skating at the Pond continues through March 17, 2006.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2 www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har •Sat., 11 am. Kids ages 2-6 can enjoy storyt and craft hour. •Tue., 11 am. Telling Tales is a time for kids ages 5 and under.

Harvard Museum of Natural Histo
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50, adults; $6, stud $5, ages 3-18. •Dec. 10, 9:30 am-12 pm. Chi in grades 2-3 scour the museum for warm-blo animals in *Meet the Mammals*.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Ro
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Muse Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; $6.50, a 17 on weekdays before 3 pm; free, 5 and u •Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45. In the Children's Room explore the museum and create projects with ferent theme each week. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30 Books Bring Art Alive provides arts and crafts a ities for children ages 5 and under. •Sat.-Sun am-4 pm. Family Place allows children ages 4 ar to explore the MFA through self-guided activ with their parents.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www. org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Th am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14, adults; $12, se $11, children. •Sat.-Sun., 11 am-12 pm. *An and Stories Alive!* combines a live animal pres tion with mythical and folk storytelling. Ong •*Beyond the X-Ray* features four major exhibits explore how doctors peer inside the human without cutting. Ongoing. •Butterflies and flo are on display in the permanent *Butterfly Ga* •*Countdown to Supernova*, showing at the Ha Planetarium, explores the life cycles of stars. O ing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibi that features models of a wave tank, Mount Ev and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Science* features live animals and multimedia presenta surrounded by natural history dioramas. Ongoi

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). w nationalheritagemuseum.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 Sun., 12 pm-5 pm. •Dec. 10, 10 am-5 pm; Dec 12-5pm. $5, family. The annual HUB model t exhibit returns. •Dec. 15, 10:30 am-12 pm. children. This story time includes a reading of " Spider's Tea Party" and a craft activity for chil 4 and under.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.n org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, adults; $13.95 niors; $8.95, children ages 3-11. •*Amazing Jellies* tures thousands of jellyfish. Through Dec. 30. • 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sh stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the S* an ongoing hands-on exhibition featuring sea s hermit crabs and more. •The Simons IMAX The screens a variety of movies. Ongoing.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). w newtonfreelibrary.net. •Storytime for different groups is held daily.

Peanut Butter & Jelly Dance Co.
Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth St., Brook (617-738-7688). www.pbjdanceco.org. MBTA Green Line to Longwood. •Creative Movem provides dance classes for children ages 3-8, cluding warm-up exercises, creative and impr sational challenges, story dances, free dances, p dances and good-bye solos. Call for registrat and scheduling.

Wellesley Free Library
1530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-161 www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. Commuter rail Wellesley Square. •Dec. 9, 6:30-8:45 pm, free. second annual Winter Family Festival featu puppets, music, refreshments and stories by M Binder. •Tue., 10:30 am. Babies 23 months under and their caregivers enjoy singing, act fingerplays and books in Bookbabies.

round
own

hts to See

ton University Observatory
Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. ear nights), 7:30-9:30 pm. Free.

dren's Museum
Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South n. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9; ildren ages 2-15 and seniors; $2, 1-year-olds; free, 1 year old. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1 per person.

euil Hall
ate St., Boston (617-523-1300). www.faneuil arketplace.com. MBTA: Orange or Green Line to arket. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. start at 9:30 am. Free.

vard Museum of Natural History
xford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www. harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. -Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; $6, students and se- $5, children ages 3-18. Free to all, Wed., 3-5 pm un., 9 am-12 pm.

n F. Kennedy Library & Museum
mbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. , 9 am-5 pm. $10; $8, seniors and students; $7, 13-17; free, 12 and under.

z Anderson Antique Auto Museum
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.- . 10 am-5 pm. $5; $3, ages 6-17 and seniors; free, en under 6.

y Baker Eddy Library Mapparium
Mass. Ave., Boston (617-540-7000). MBTA: n Line to Hynes. Tue.-Sun. 10 am-3:40 pm. $6.

unt Auburn Cemetery
Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). A: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-5 pm. Free.

seum of Afro-American History
oy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam um.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park t. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Guided walking tours able by special request. Free.

seum of Science
ace Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www. org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.- ., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; $13, se- ; $12, ages 3-11.

w England Aquarium
ral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am- ; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; 95, seniors; $8.95, ages 3-11; free to members.

d North Church
Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange reen Line to Haymarket. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. Free.

d South Meeting House
Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www. outhmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue to State. Daily, 10 am-4 pm. $5; $4, seniors and nts; $1, children; free, children under 6.

d State House Museum
Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). www. nhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to . Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; $4, seniors and students; ges 6-18; free to members and children under 6.

idential Center Skywalk
Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: n Line to Hynes. Daily, 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; college ID, $7.50; $7, seniors; $6.50, ages 3-12; children under 3.

ity Church
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). www. tyboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. y, 8 am-6 pm. $5; free, ages 12 and under.

S Constitution & Museum
rlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). v.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am- . Free.

olunteer

C Mentoring Program
7-224-1303). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a er-care or adopted child.

DS Action Committee
7-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with V/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-542-9090). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 100 volunteer opportunities are available each month.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012, ext. 227). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers who are over 18 years old for kitchen tasks, office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145, ext. 620). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor students in math and literacy and prepare high school students for the MCAS test.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000, ext. 7508). Help tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. Help ALS (aka Lou Gehrig's Disease) patients and their families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Be a mentor to a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900, ext. 113). www.horizonsinitiative.org. Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-457-8500). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). www.lvm.org. Teach adults to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-972-9119). www.charityfinders.com. Read to or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelder.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org. Volunteer as an aquarium guide and more.

Parental Stress Line
(800-882-1250). Counsel parents and caregivers and facilitate support groups.

Pine Street Inn
(617-892-9187). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740, ext. 15). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111, ext. 17). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

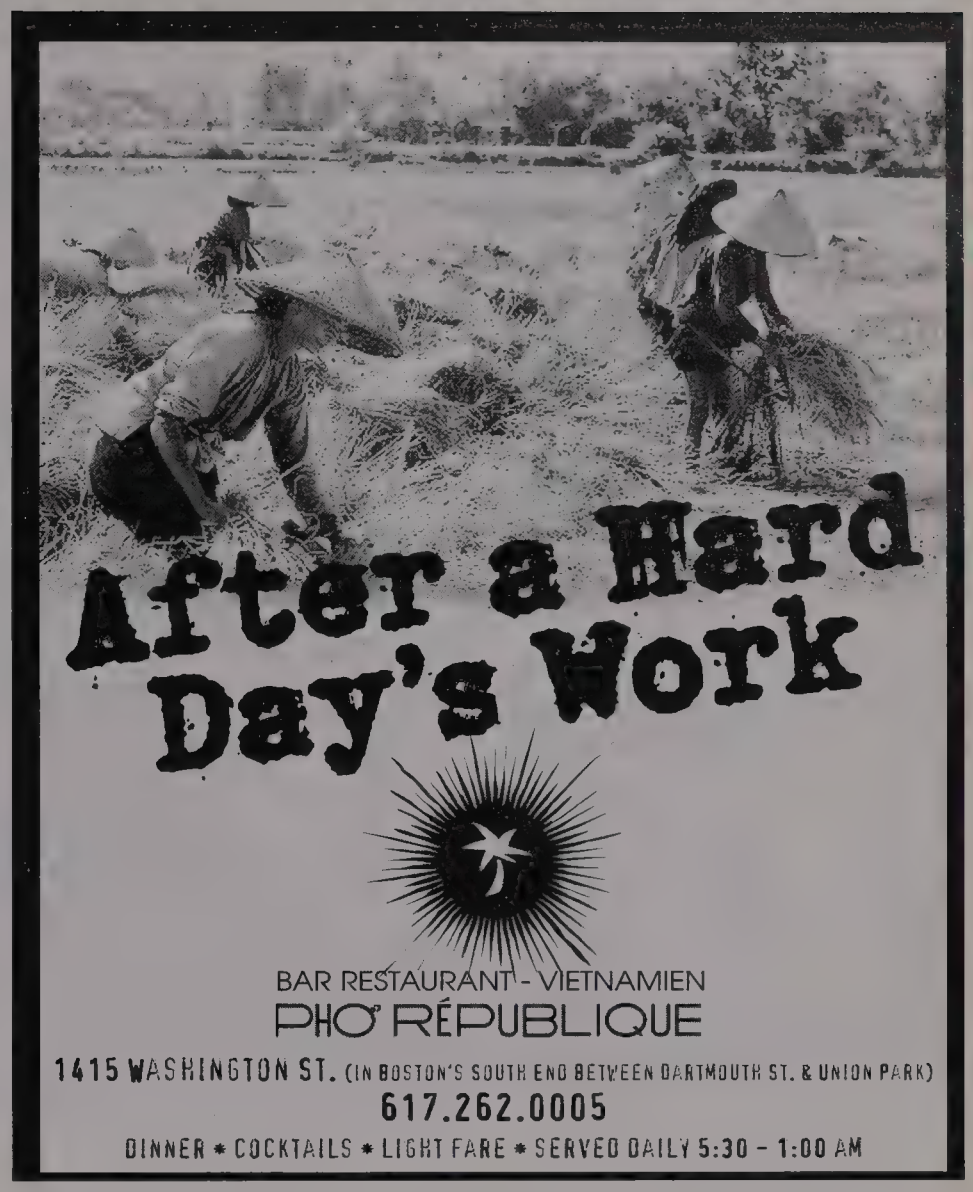
Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). www.respondinc.org. Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). www.rosies.org. Volunteers needed for this women's homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

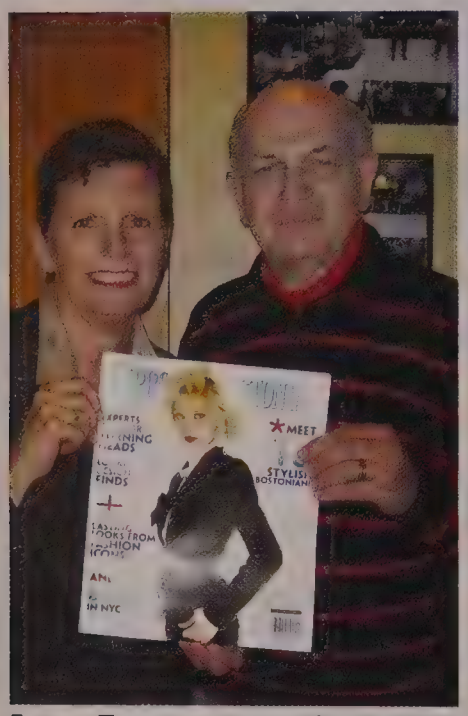
Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.



IMPROPER sightings

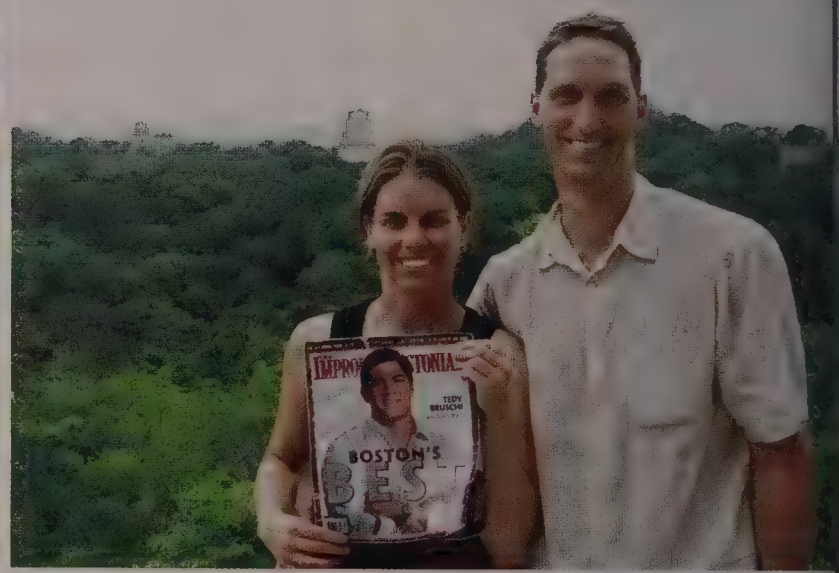
UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TR

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend or, better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you we The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

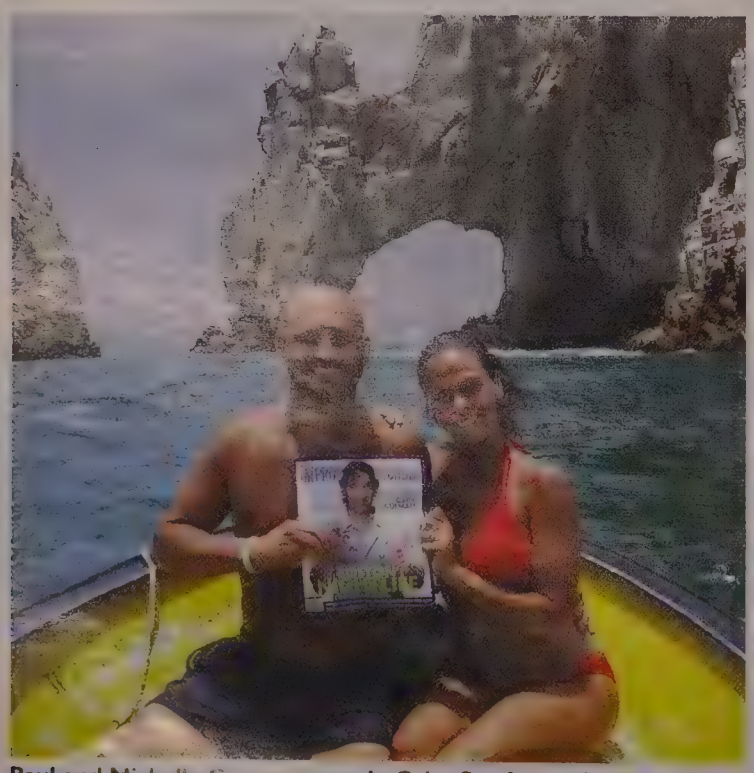


Former Texas congressman Martin Frost and Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost know style when they see it. Red stripes, baby.

Charles H. and Tamara Davis, with guide Thompson Sibone (middle), went on safari in Botswana. The pond behind them is infested with crocodiles…and water.

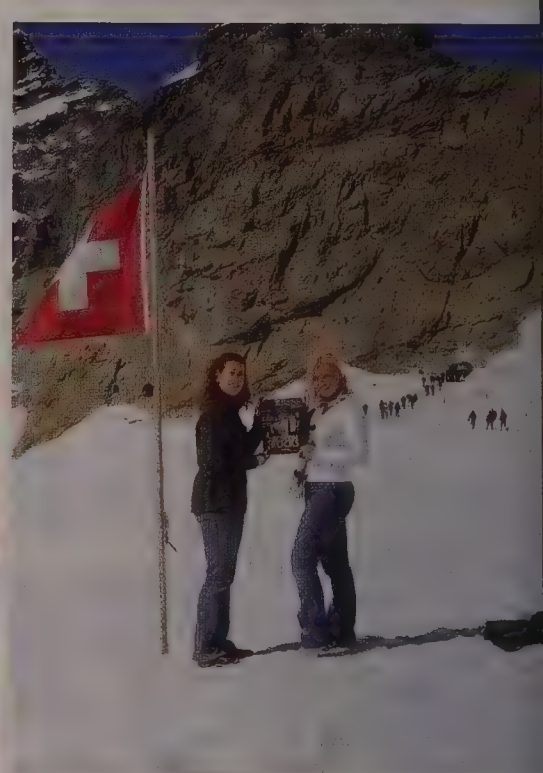


Brian and Joy Harms spent their honeymoon in Tikal, Guatemala, where they toured the Mayan ruins. They maintained a safe distance, however, a made sure to keep out of "Harms'" way.



Paul and Michelle Capurso were in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, and visited the arch where the Pacific meets the Sea of Cortez. What do they say when they meet? Don't ask us, we don't speak ocean.

Bill Lilly, Boston's former "Condo King," celebrated his 60th birthday at his Boca Raton mansion with the IMPROPER and girlfriend Valerie Kaan, Florida's current "Kaando Queen."



Shannon Botte and Christina Dengler scaled th Jungfraujoch in Switzerland, which is also know as the Top of Europe. We prefer Jungfraujoch.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Quoting "The Raven" while riding a bucking bronco at the annual Monterey Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival, held in Monterey, Calif., Dec. 8-11.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com or ALL professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

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SATURDAY DECEMBER 31. 2005

the Big Easy BAR

LIVE BAND: SYNDICATE / DJ KC

COUNTDOWN FROM NYC ON 10' GIANT SCREEN

2006 VIP PASS

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is ordinary or usual;
exceptional.

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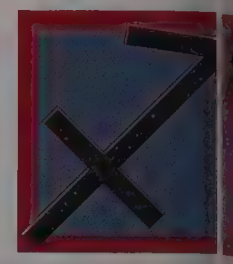
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

rockie horoscope

DECEMBER 7 – 20, 2005 BY ROCKIE GARDINER



SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Feel your pulse racing and your toes twitching as you approach your birthday? Planning something special this year or do you have the foresight to wait until next year? By then your Jupiter ruler will be in your own sign, not hidden away in secretive Scorpio where you can barely recognize the benefits being bestowed. Oh well, it's probably safe to assume that the Big Guy is cleaning up some of the karma you've incurred over the past 12 years. This week Jupiter confronts infectious, surgical Mars in your house of work and health. Ring a bell?

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Civilizations rise and fall on the interaction between expansive Jupiter and your conservative Saturn ruler. Why is this worth mentioning? Because mid-month, after the full moon and affable Venus' hasty exit from your sign —don't worry, she'll be back—Jupiter and Saturn will perfect their first challenging square since they met in Taurus in May 2000. Jupiter is currently in Scorpio, while slower-moving Saturn got as far as Leo. In fixed signs, they'll try to consolidate what began back then, but don't panic. You've got another year.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Believe what you want; while the enthusiastic Sagittarius sun supports visionary Neptune in your sign, you may as well let your imagination call the shots. Soon enough artistic Venus will visit Aquarius and make the holidays brighter and more beautiful. That you'll look better and exude more grace and charm is also nothing to sneeze at. Plan something special around the Sag-Gemini full moon mid-month to celebrate the arrival of the goddess of love and good luck. Unfortunately, she's not staying long, but she'll be back in March.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Other signs have time to play, you get more to do and better rewards for doing it during the holidays. The only hitch in this potentially smooth ride to the top could come during the mutable Sagittarius sun-Gemini moon opposition when high-strung and mobile folks head for your door. Being a compassionate Fish, you'll tend to absorb the vibes they're emitting without first protecting yourself. Let this be the only lesson you're supposed to learn from the challenging square between your former Jupiter ruler and sad-sack Saturn.

ARIES
MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Yes, there's an upside to the stressful confrontation between your ambitious Mars ruler and growth-oriented Jupiter this weekend. And that would be a sizable infusion of money and enthusiasm. Why now? Because Mars is about to come out of retrograde and face forward for the first time in 10 weeks. Your financial future could look more promising, filled with interesting possibilities and/or strong-willed partners you're not able to control. To complicate matters, a family or real estate issue may be added to the mix.

TAURUS
APRIL 20–MAY 20

Like the Ram, the Bull could experience a reversal of fortune when self-absorbed Mars in your sign emerges from retrograde and takes another look at an opportunity offered by prosperous Jupiter in your house of allies and agents. What didn't seem easy to pull off at their first confrontation in June may have become a more feasible proposition in the interim. But you should probably wait until you see what happens during the full moon on the 15th, when your Venus ruler enters altruistic Aquarius, before agreeing to proceed with any deal.

GEMINI
MAY 21–JUNE 20

A reward that's long overdue just might come through while the sun favors slow-poke Saturn in luxury-loving Leo. Since the stop-go rhythm of this holiday season can exasperate a fleet-of-foot Gemini with a long list of things to do and people to greet, take a deep breath and a time out. Around the Gemini full moon, whatever is trivial and incidental could get culled from that list so that you'll be able focu[s] on a few meaningful relationships. But not exclusively; affectionate Venus in barrier-breaking Aquarius will be tending to your erotic well-being.

CANCER
JUNE 21–JULY 22

If your career has been on hold while ambitious Mars w[as] in reverse for the past 10 weeks, relax. The red planet turn[s] direct on the ninth. Besides, Mercury finally moving for[ward] in your house of romance, recreation and creativity sho[uld] boost your efforts in that area as well. If nothing else, there's a good chance people will return your calls. Whe[n] the Messenger helps you channel the next great screenpl[ay] something else. You'll know more after the Gemini full m[oon] on the 15th lets you know if it's time to call in a favor.

LEO
JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Call it a gift from the spirited Sagittarius sun or simply th[e] holiday season. This time of year all Lions, not just those doing stand-up, have license to kill. You'll also wow fellow party-goers with your unique sense of sharing and clever repartee. Former heartthrobs are liable to show up about now; however, with loving Venus in your Aquarius marriag[e] house this season, they could be a lot more attentive, perh[aps] inexplicably irresistible. Play games, play host and let you[r] creative urges run rampant during the sociable Gemini fu[ll] moon mid-month.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Once your Mercury ruler sets its sights on the future inst[ead] of the recent past, it should be relatively smooth sailing f[or] you, your close neighbors and siblings for the rest of the year. Oh, there may be some confusion and a moment of panic midmonth as the mutable Sag sun and the mutable Gemini moon oppose, but any perceived threat to down-to-earth Virgo sense and stability will soon vanish. Instead, to repair a relationship that has suffered some damage s[ince] last Christmas or, failing that, fix up the house.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

By now you may sense that the atmosphere at home or among other family members will lighten up once your Venus ruler leaves the confines of duty-driven Capricorn mid-month. Sorry, wishful thinking! Although Venus does escape into airy, innovative Aquarius for a while, the goddess of love and lovely presents will turn retrograde o[n] Christmas Eve and, come New Year's, reenter Capricorn f[or] two more months. Accept that some of what you've just gone through will have to be gone through again. With a few variations, of course, but still....

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Good fortune comes in cycles. Over the course of two years as your Mars ruler circles the sun, you get opportunities t[o] benefit from various sources and different signs. But it's only once every 12 years that you are blessed by Jupiter's visit to Scorpio. So if something that smacks of intelligent development plus the potential for prosperity and satisfaction is being offered, don't dismiss it out of hand. The prospect may demand more of you than you've been willing to devote, but that will change. Jupiter wants you reach your full potential.

For a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months, send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405; more details at www.rockiehoroscope.com. Rockie's daily forecast appears online at www.laweekly.com.

improperimpersonals

eryone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the ld to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of self in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type -mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

IMMORTAL IMPERSONAL

Hey There, Beware!

To the Jewish ladies in the Coolidge Corner area: There's a 40ish Jewish man with blue eyes and a baldish head. Take note. He likes to have a good time. He's selfish and can't commit for shit. So, ladies, if you like to have a good time, so be it. If you want a real man, run away if you see this creature.

—A helpful Jewish lady

u're The One That Want

ah G. J.,
ın't take the past away, all I can
is recognize the pain I've caused
l work hard every day to make it
ht. I'm sorry. I moved here to be
h you. I'm here now, and I'll
er leave you. You and I are an
omparable team! Please stop by
day. #48.
Bunny Butt

hat Happened?

y Scott, I met you Sunday night,
13th of November at the
ersection of Merrimac and
niford, post-Celtics game. I
nost got killed walking toward you
d we enjoyed a fantastic night of
er and tequila at Harps and
rters, until somewhere in our
ipor we got separated. I need to
d you desperately and would hate
give up our instant "four years of
rriage" connection. Me: tall,
nde ED nurse. You: Newbury
eet–living financial guy with sexy
nples. E-mail me!
kfer621061@aol.com

lease Forgive Me

the person dressed as Mr. Potato
ad on Halloween: This apology is
g overdue. The scene: the vending
achines at the bottom of my
ilding. You commented on my
end the Easter bunny's white
hnet stockings. I told her to ignore
(even though you were hitting on
r, perhaps?) because you couldn't
a day over 12. You asked me to
peat what I said to your face. I
plied by asking you if your mom dropped you off at the party that night. You got heated and defensive. The Easter bunny antagonized you, labeling you as pathetic. The only thing pathetic was our gratuitous behavior. I hope the night's occurrence didn't get your plastic facial features in a twist.
—The feisty "Cinco de Mayo"

Hello Out There

Improper Impersonals readers, I enjoy reading this magazine when I can get it. I am currently locked up after being in the wrong place at the wrong time. I am searching for a female who is willing to correspond. Please don't judge me for being behind bars. I am well educated and a nice person. If you are interested in getting to know me, you can write me at:

Mottis Brown
20 Bradston St.
Boston, MA 02118

Grossed Out

Okay, I know we work together. I know we're friends. I know something you may not know that I know. I KNOW THAT YOU DON'T FLUSH THE TOILET. You know HOW I know? Because after walking in the bathroom and lifting the seat I was greeted by a piece of your shit. I was polite enough to flush it and shut it (my mouth, that is—I didn't want to embarrass you). But I know, and I can't even look at you now that I know what your shit looks like. Having an image of fecal matter to place next to a face is one of the worst visuals ever. Thanks!
—Barfed

A Poor, Unfortunate, Clueless Soul

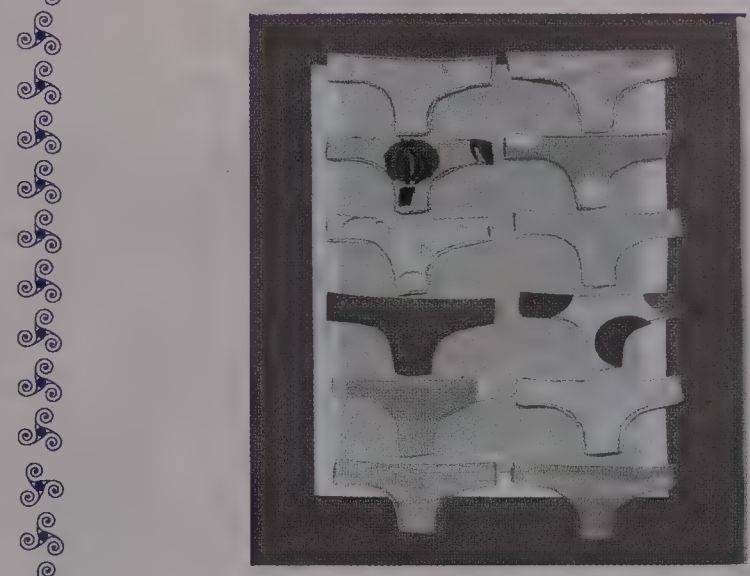
Didn't your mother ever teach you to buy the girl you are with—let alone your girlfriend—a drink when you go to a bar? Perhaps not. But maybe you would get a clue when every other guy there did. But no, instead you opened up a tab for yourself, and no one else. I hope you enjoyed all those solitary beers while your girlfriend watched you down them, empty-handed. You cheap bastard. Enjoy your lonely life.
—Over it

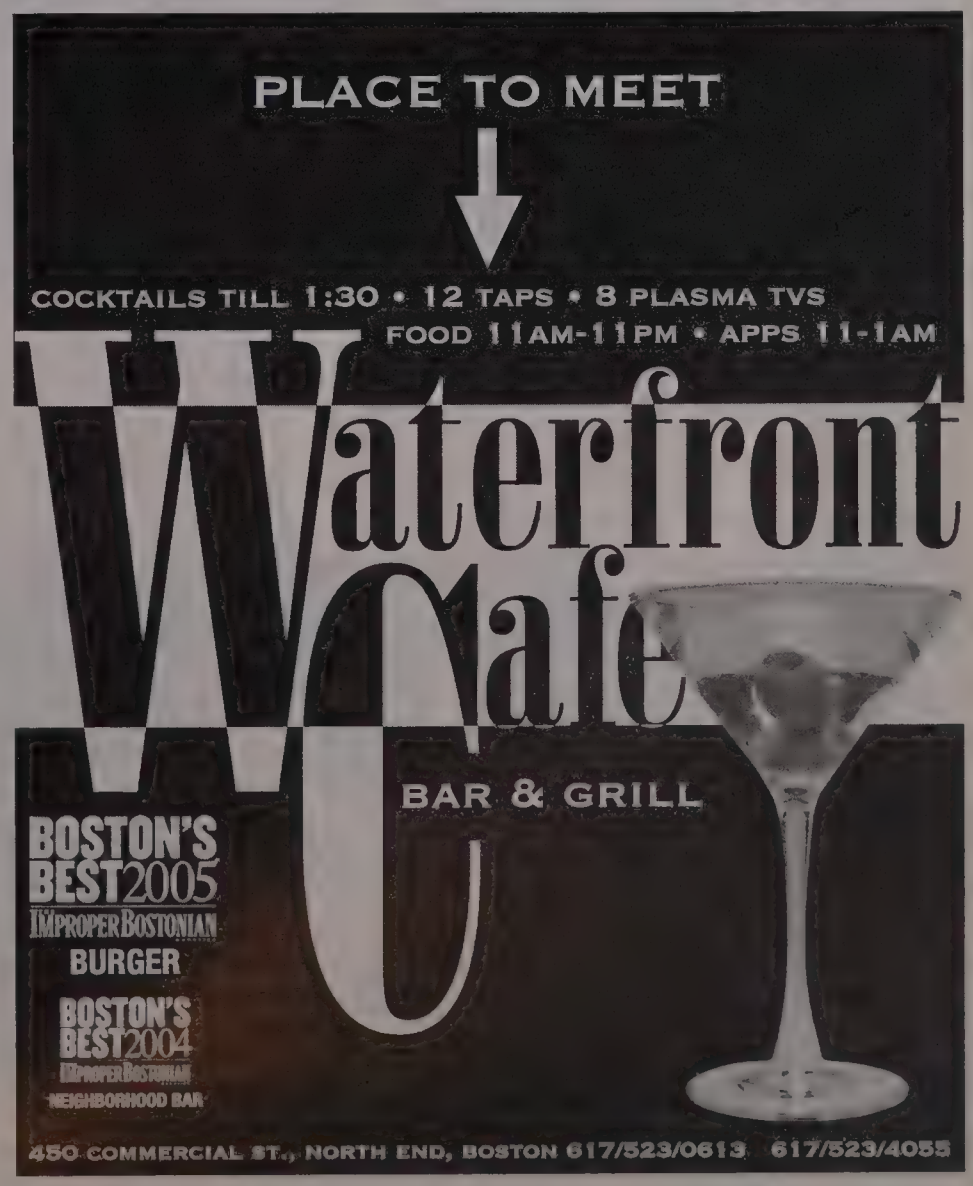
Creep Alert

So, you find me attractive. It's true, what can I say? However, it is totally inappropriate to approach me in my place of employment. Just because I work retail doesn't mean I'm not a normal human being who deserves at least some amount of respect. When I am with another customer, it's rude to interrupt. Do not ask me out for drinks, or horseback riding on the Cape. You look like an idiot, yet I'm the one who ends up feeling like one.
—Shoe Lady

To: Turned Off

Hi, my name is Rodney Brown. I read the Improper Impersonals every two weeks when the magazine comes. I was reading your letter and I have to say, I feel what you are saying, and I love fat women. That guy, he's a loser. That's the devil talking to him. So I just wanted you to know that I'm with you 100 percent. OK.
—Mr. Concerned





IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, November 12, **The Improper Bostonian** magazine was pleased to be a sponsor of **Comics Come Home**. The event was held at the **Agganis Arena** and the after-party was at **Game On!** Denis Leary hosted as guests enjoyed an evening of laughter and fun. The event benefited **The Cam Neely Foundation for Cancer Care** and **Tufts-New England Medical Center**.

1. **Tachou Dubuisson**, events manager at Game On!, and **Steve Coyle**, vice president of operations at Lyons Group Management.
2. **Bill Burr** and **Colin Quinn**, both comedians.
3. **George Spowart**, senior V.P. at Allen & Gerritsen; **Meghan Campbell**, account manager at Elevate Communications; and **Ming Tsai**, chef/owner of Blue Ginger.
4. **April Donnellan**, owner of Stars Promotions; **Eric Aulenbach**, vice president of operations at Lyons Group Management; and **Victoria Stratton**, personal trainer of South Boston.

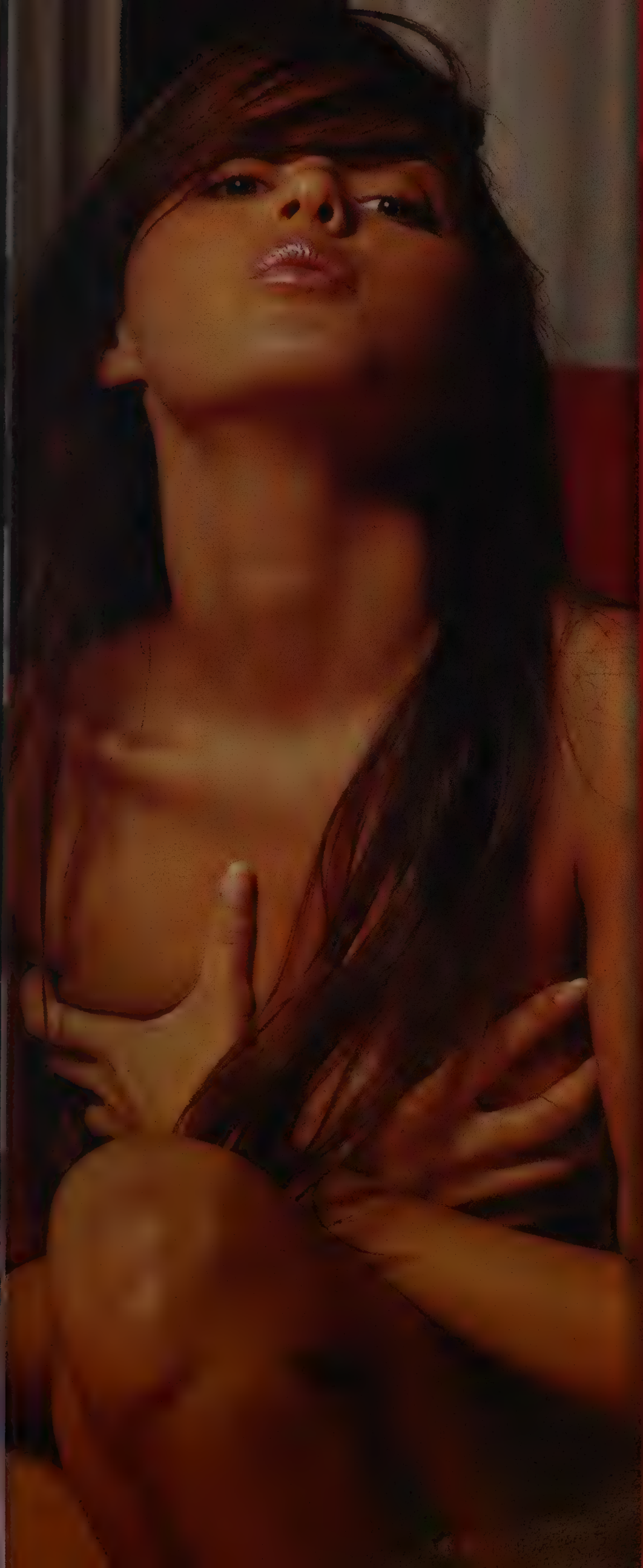
On Monday, November 14, **The Improper Bostonian** magazine hosted Improper Poker Night at **Anthem**. Guests enjoyed an evening of entertainment by **Top P Productions** and spirits by **Dewar's 12**. The event was sponsored by **Foxwoods Resort Casino**. Proceeds of the evening benefited **Leslie's Links Ewings Sarcoma Fund** at the **Dana Farber Cancer Institute**.

1. **John Tanguy**, host at Anthem; **Jill Gigante**, promotions and marketing for the Briar Restaurant Group; **Kathleen Nash**, training for the Briar Restaurant Group; and **Benthic Nash**, chef at Anthem.
2. **Karly Levas**, pharmaceutical representative at Sanofi-Aventis; **Cedric Tonello**, general manager of Cartier; **Thanh Tonello**, podiatrist at BIOMC; **Haley Lamonde**, marketing manager at City Express; and **Patrick Cutt** broker for Otis & Ahearn.
3. **Dana Moscardelli**, fashion manager, and **Kellie Innocenti**, assistant broadcast manager, both at Filene's.
4. **Leah Gourley**, public affairs at Harvard Medical School; **Taimah Vaber**, financial consultant at A.G. Edwards & Sons; and **Chelsey Platt**, administrator at Harvard Medical School.

On the weekend of November 19-20, the **Miss Massachusetts USA** and **Miss Massachusetts Teen USA** competitions took place at the **Boston Marriott Quincy**. **Elyse Jewelers** was the official jeweler of the statewide event. The packed house enjoyed music by Jada during intermissions.

1. **Tiffany Kelly**, winner of Miss Massachusetts USA 2006, and **Caroline Caruso**, winner of Miss Teen Massachusetts USA 2006.
2. **Ryan McDonough**, special assistant to basketball operations for the Celtics; **Christine Berberian,** co-owner of Elyse Jewelers; **Susie Castillo**, Miss USA 2003 and on-air personality/vee-jay for MTV; and **Richard Berberian**, co-owner and gemologist of Elyse Jewelers.
3. **Jada**.
4. **Darryl Forbes**, judge coordinator; **Anthony Clemente**, director of operations; and **Ralph Melen**, judge coordinator, all for Miss Massachusetts USA.

PHOTOS: COMICS COME HOME: STACEY SHANE; ANTHEM, ALISON MORANT, DAN GAURON; MISS MASSACHUSETTS USA 2006, DANA D'AL



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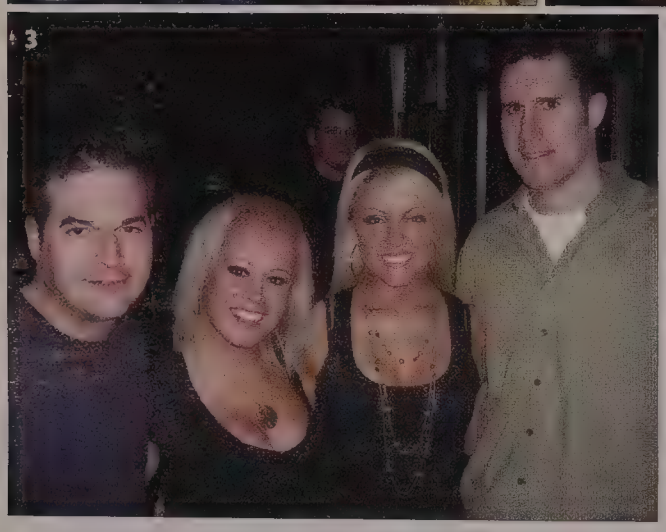
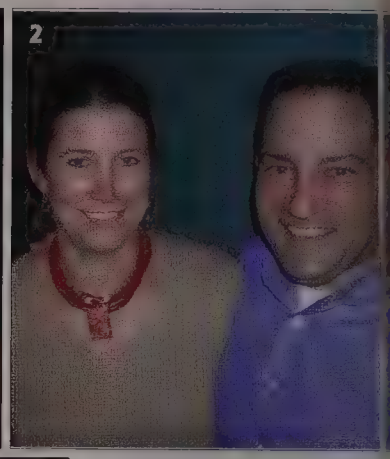
The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, November 12, **Rain** celebrated its three-year anniversary with a live performance by Taylor Dayne.



1. **Matt Mitrano**, owner; **Marialisa Mitrano**, stylist; **Amy Paone**, stylist; **Elizabeth Leahy**, manicurist; all of Mitrano Hair Salon.
2. **Taylor Dayne**, recording artist; **Anthony DeCotis**, owner, and **Dee Brousseau**, promotions manager, both at Rain.
3. **Matt Rubenstein**, district manager at Schnadig, Inc.; **Shawna Minghella** and **Julia Crowell**, both waitresses at Rain; and **Brain Ash**, project manager for Gillette.

On Wednesday, November 16, **The Improper Bostonian** magazine was a pro sponsor of **The Click Five** concert performance following the **Boston Celtics** game against the Seattle SuperSonics at the **TD Banknorth Garden**. Celtics fa who attended the concert were invited to stay and listen to one of music's hotte up-and-coming acts perform at this exclusive post-game show.



1. **Becky Bram**, senior at Tufts University; **Bill Miller**, analy **David Klein**, analyst; and **Naomi Klein**, real estate agent, all of Boston.
2. **Julie Flanagan**, physical education teacher of Plymou and **Jim DeCoste**, V.P. of sal –New England at Wireless Ci
3. **Mike Buckley**, **Dan Evans** **Chris Colclough**, **Jay Ferra** all from the information syste department at Partners Healthcare.

On Friday, November 11, Casper Macrae, the Brand Ambassador for the **Macallan Distillery** in Scotland, made an appearance at **Charles Street Liquors** for a tasting of fine Macallan and **Highland Park Scotches**.

1. **Adam Barber**, assistant manager, and **Chris Pedersen**, managing partner, both of Charles Street Liquors; and **Mark McLaughlin**, sales representative on-premise for the Martignetti Companies.
2. **Caspar Macrae**, brand ambassador for the Macallan Distillery Scotland.
3. **Andrew Slater**, retired professional squash player of Boston; **David Brown**, vascular surgeon for Massachusetts General Hospital; and **Catherine Mozingo**, lawyer at Mozingo Law Firm.

On Wednesday, November 9, **LaLa Rokh** hosted the Whole Foods Bake-Off, where pastry chefs from various **Whole Foods** locations competed in the category of best original dessert. Proceeds benefited the **Taste of Beacon Hill Scholarship Fund**.

1. **Azita Bina-Seibel** and **Babak Bina**, bo proprietors of Lala Rokh.
2. **Mike Ross**, District 8 Boston city councilman.
3. Judges of the Whole Foods Bake-Off.

PHOTOS: RAIN, CELTICS, BILL EPPICH; CHARLES STREET LIQUORS, CHRIS PEDERSON, MARK LAMONICA; WHOLE FOODS, FRED SHANK, AZITA BINA SEIB

RESTAURANTS

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

MATCH *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* This modern restaurant/lounge maintains an unpretentious yet hip vibe. A sleek fire display and glass wine room are just two of its many features. Match's signature mini burgers and martinis are guaranteed to please the most discriminating palate. Match music has a distinct early evening lounge feel with the beat and volume picking up as the night progresses. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255.* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish wood-

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SCIENCE STREET CAFÉ *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

VENEZIA RESTAURANT *20 Ericsson St., Boston 617-436-3120.* For authentic Italian fare, impeccable service and an atmosphere unmatched on Boston's Waterfront, Venezia provides one of the city's most unique and pleasurable dining experiences. Your destination for everything from a relaxing midday lunch to a romantic dinner for two, Venezia can also accommodate private affairs like wedding receptions and business functions, and features live music on Friday and Saturday nights.

THE WATERFRONT CAFÉ BAR-GRILL *450 Commercial Street, Boston 617-523-0613.* A North End neighborhood hot spot, serving up sizzling steak tips and the best burgers around! Featuring a big screen TV and plasmas to catch all your favorite teams in action. Come for dinner, stay for a drink! *Open 7 days, Lunch & Dinner 11am–11pm, Apps. 11pm–1am.*

BARS & CLUBS

Beer Specialty

SUNSET GRILL & TAP: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 300+ microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

BIG CITY - POOL HALL, *Pizza Kitchen, Beer Bar 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

FELT *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Dance Bars

GREEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am, 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

KINVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

General

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas. com.

CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR *Boston Marriott Copley Place; 110 Huntington Ave. Boston, 617 937-5658.* Come join us at Boston's premier Sports Bar where you can enjoy all you local and national sports action on one of our 33 tvs, including 2 big screens. We have draft beers as well as a huge selection of domestic and imported bottle selections for you to choose from. We also have a full bar and menu serving all your favorite traditional American cuisine. Planning your next party or corporate event? We have room for parties ranging from 25-325. Our hours are from Sunday through Thursday 11:30-1am, and Friday and Saturday 11:30-2am.

THE HARP *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

JILLIAN'S BOSTON / LUCKY STRIKE LANES *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300 www.jilliansboston.com.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring 16 bowling lanes, 50 pool tables, high-tech games, high definition video walls, multiple lounges and private rooms. Located on the first floor is Tequila Rain, which offers an amazing Tex-Mex menu and dancing to the hottest DJs Friday and Saturday nights.

PARRIS *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters and steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French martini, and then motion onto the hu dance floor featuring live music with t best bands and DJs Thursday through S urday. Named for the original architect the Greek-revival-style building, Alexan Parris, you're nightlife experience at Par will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pn 2am Wedneday - Saturday. Cover char on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

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BRUNCH

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in t Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Ca bridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturda and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a carte brunch features mouth watering e trees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out la ish with everything from Salad of Smok Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. T menu changes every week so it always fe tures what's freshest and best on the mark Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunc Appetizers from $6, entrees $16, desserts $ or all 3 courses for $24. Sundays: $39 adul and $17.50 ages 12 and under. Reservatio strongly recomended 617-661-5005.

KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN *42 Provinc Street, Boston, 617-426-3333 ww kennedysmidtown.com.* Ideally situated Boston's Midtown, Kennedy's is located b tween Downtown Crossing and the Bosto Common; Just steps from Beacon Hill an The Freedom Trail. One of Boston's be kept secrets, Kennedy's menu boast prim aged steaks, seafood,assorted pub far and daily creations. Open 7 days a week brunch served Saturdays and Sundays, an lively piano bar. Call us for that specia function or eve.

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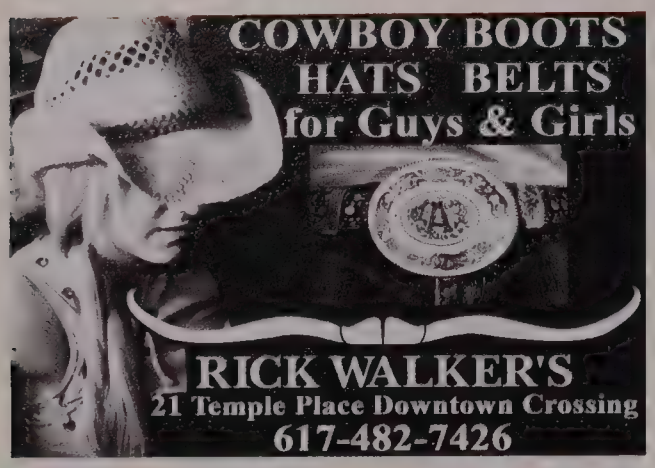

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At the Rogerson Community benefit, top row: Alix and Peter Keating. Middle row: Andrew Rogal and Olga Gomonova; Mary Kakas; Leslee Shupe. Bottom row: Kelly Verrochi

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY...

They say home is where the heart is, and among philanthropic circles, that would seem to be the ballroom of the **Four Seasons Hotel**, at least at the **Rogerson Communities' annual Welcome Home!** benefit.

All the Who's from Who's Who-ville congregated to pay tribute to tireless do-gooder **Mary Kakas**, who was fêted with roasts, toasts, a slick video presentation and countless air kisses. As one guest pointed out during the cocktail reception, "You know you're popular when ex-wives agree to serve on the same committee as their ex-husbands."

The event drew the likes of eminence grise **Joseph McNay**, United Way head honcho emerita **Marian Heard**, hotelier-turned-developer **Robin Brown**, publishing poobah **Nader Darehshori**, Channel 2 doyenne **Emily Rooney**, glamorous young Westonians **Peter** and **Alix Keating**, minimogul **Paul Karger**, the elegant **Ella** and **Tom Auchincloss**, uber-philanthropists **Ted** and **Joan Cutler**, live wire **Barbara Quiroga** and the always dapper **Jorge**, Chestnut Hillians **Brian** and **Missy Lash**, Back Bay nabob **Andrew Rogal** and the stunning **Olga Gomonova**, fashionista **Leslee Shupe**, ex-pat **Tom Connor** (who donated a week's stay at his villa on the Riviera to the live auction) and a bevy of leggy models in tennis outfits (Mary's favorite sport), wearing jewels up for auction.

Among the amusing comments made about Kakas, one friend quoted her maxim, "A pat on the back is only six inches away from a kick in the butt," and someone else noted that one of her daughters-in-law referred to her as "Holy Mary, mother of Joe."

Referring to the models, meanwhile, one woman who clearly confused them with actual tennis pros innocently wondered if "you could arrange a hitting session with one of them," but apparently, the answer was yes, since somewhere between the salad and the entrée, one bachelor-about-town said, "I got the blonde's number, but I think the brunette might be cuter."

IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL...

It was like spending an evening surrounded by real-life Indiana Joneses and Crocodile Dundees when **Earthwatch** (an organization that provides scientists in the field with funding and research assistance) held its annual hoo-ha, **One Night in Kenya**, at the **Hyatt Regency in Cambridge**.

Guests came from literally all over the globe, but conspicuous in the crowd were world-famous naturalist **E.O. Wilson**, Starbucks muckety-muck **Dub Hay**, Marblehead socialites **David** and **Mimi Locke**, judge **Nonnie Burnes** and her venture capitalist husband, **Rick**, Harvard's East Asian studies chair **Peter Bol**, and such scintillating scientists as mammoth expert **Larry Agenbroad**, lemur researcher **Luke Dollar** (fresh from Madagascar), the super-

At the Earthwatch event, top row: Paul Grant. Bottom row: Brad Bailey; Barbara Erickson and Hugo Sellert

hunky **Paul Grant** (who studies crocodiles in Costa Rica) and Malaysian green turtle investigator **Jason van de Merne**.

Many attendees donned African garb for the evening, and everyone was escorted into dinner by traditional Kenyan drummers, prompting an exchange between two guests who couldn't have been more Caucasian:

"In my fantasy world, I'm actually a Masai woman."

"Well, then, we're sworn enemies, because I'm dressed as a Samburu. Cheers!"

ALL THAT JAZZ...

Despite the fact that the sound system decided to step out, the **Dimock Community Health Center**'s annual black-tie blowout, **Steppin' Out**, was, as always, a resounding success.

Held at the **Sheraton**, the evening featured such musical headliners as three-time Grammy winner **Ramsey Lewis** and his trio, **Oleta Adams**, **Bobby Caldwell**, **The Funk Brothers**, **Regina Carter** and **Jazz Report**. Seen bopping from room to room (which were named after legendary jazz clubs like the Hi-Hat, Savoy and Basin Street South) was a prominent and predominantly African-American crowd that included the **Rev. Ray Hammond** and his stunning wife, **Gloria**, hoops deity **Robert Parrish**, the absurdly gorgeous **Danny Levy** and her husband, Celtics bigwig **Wayne**, temp mogul **Earl Tate** and the ravishing **Ellen Phillips**, fashionista **Gilbert Hickman** of Armani, party pair **Carol** and **Bernie Fulp**, Chestnut Hillians **Kathy** and **Richard Taylor**, United Way head **Milton Little**, newspaperman **Ben Bradlee, Jr.**, Red Sox den mother **Eugenie Beal** (sporting her World Series ring), candidate for lieutenant governor **Deborah Goldberg**, attorney-about-town **Kirk Jackson** and his lovely other half, **Aisha Saunders**, TV medical reporter **Dr. Mallika Marshall**, and so on and so forth.

Among the evening's most amusing exchanges:

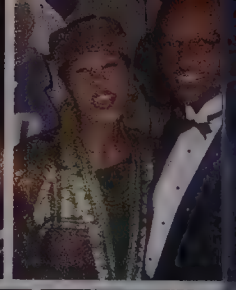
"I got my fourth master's degree last spring," said one woman.

Her friend replied, "Exactly what does that qualify you to do, besides going to school?"

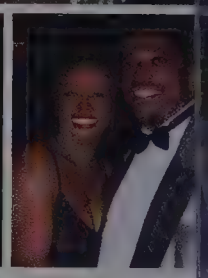
IF YOU CAN'T STAND THE HEAT, GET OUT OF THE BOWLING ALLEY...

It was just your typical Monday night at **Kings**, with all the Back Bay billionaires sporting rented two-tone shoes and their socialite spouses trying to bowl in Prada pumps, when **Kids Can Cook** held its annual **Bowl-A-Rama** fund-raiser.

Present and accounted for: the event's chairs, **Rachael Goldfarb** and **Maggie Gold Seelig** with their husbands, Galaga-champ **Andy** and strike-meister **Jonathan**, the organization's co-founders, **Dan Mathieu** and **Donna Montgomery**, board members **Denise Korn** and **Susan Poduska**, Our Lady of Chanel **Barbara Lemperly Grant**, interior designers **Fotene De-**



At Steppin' Out, top row: Wayne and Danny Levy; Gloria and Ray Hammond. Bottom row: Ellen Phillips and Earl Tate



moulas, **Manuel de Santaren** and **C**
olina Balsbaugh, peripatetic party p
Shelly and **Ofer Nemirovsky**, the unfa
gorgeous **Beth Dickerson** and **Da**
Drubner, blonde bombshell **Beth Kur**
Back Bay stunner **Jeryl Oristaglio** (w
owns her own bowling ball and shoes) w
her handsome other half, **Steve**, the sup
chic **Katie Curtis** (who was the high-h
der on the orange Hermès Kelly bag t
someone joked she could use the next ti
she went bowling) and numerous oth
one would never in a million years expec
run into at a bowling alley, like the wom
who said, "It's not that I don't like to bo
it's just that it's hell on the manicure."

In between throwing gutter balls, gue
chowed on the ever-creative grub fr
Max Ultimate Foods (Mathieu's co
pany), which prompted the evening's m
amusing remark from one husband, w
muttered under his breath, "I wish to G
someone would start an organization call
Wives Can Cook." IB

At Bowl-A-Rama, top row: Maggie Gold Seelig and Rachael Goldfarb. Middle row: Beth Dickerson and Beth Kurtin; Randi Cutler. Bottom row: Lori Sidman, Manuel de Santaren and Fotene Demoulas

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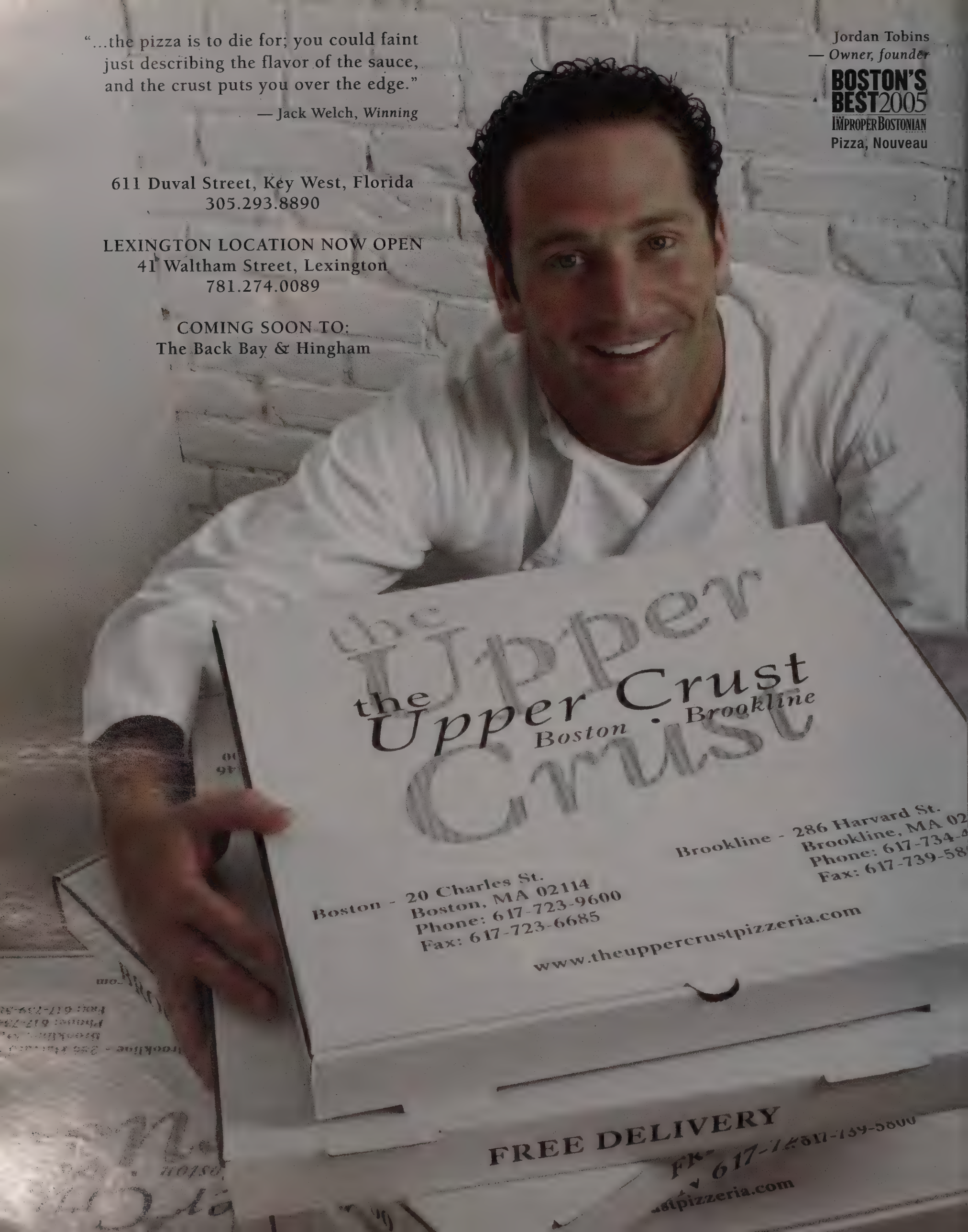

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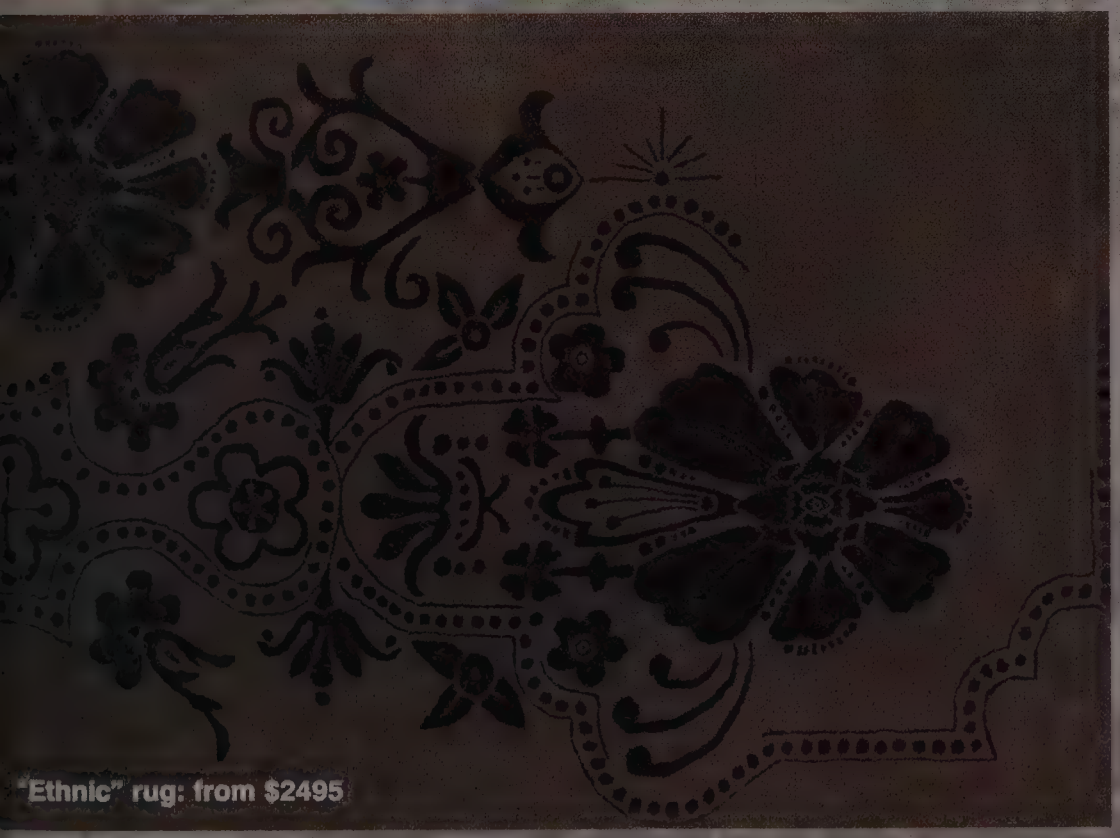

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

OUT OF THE CITY

Most of our readers live, work and play in the city, so we keep a pretty tight focus on Boston proper in our coverage. But that doesn't mean there aren't great discoveries to be made in the city's farther-flung suburbs. In this issue's main feature, we zero in on five towns with bars, restaurants, boutiques and spas worth exploring. A little trip to Hingham or Newburyport, with faces and places that are new to you, might be just what you need as a post-holiday pick-me-up. Our guide tells you the best places to go.

Helping you make the most of the fun stuff around you remains our big mission as we head into our 15th year. Here's to a 2006 filled with exciting new experiences.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

SHE'S NO OKIE

Sarah Borges, who was featured on your "It List" cover (Dec. 7), was born and raised in Taunton, Mass., not Oklahoma! We're proud of our hometown girl. Next time, have your writers do a little research before publishing that kind of information.

—ADELINA ROMERO
Taunton

SCAM A LOT

Ezra's so right about those annoying scammers (Oct. 26). There are some near North Station and on Cambridge Street that ask for a dollar for a bus ticket, because they've lost their wallet. Sometimes they're a couple, and both claim to have lost their wallets! If I were to lose my wallet, I'd call someone I knew collect.

—CINTA BURGOS
Boston

AT LEAST WE GOT OUR NAME RIGHT

Your name couldn't be more correct. Your recent write-up about Living Colour's show at the Paradise (Dec. 7) was full of improper facts. To say they haven't played together for 10 years is incorrect. In fact, they played Oct. 17, 2004, with Public Enemy at Avalon, and before that at the Paradise Rock Club on Nov. 11, 2003. Also, their last album was released in 2003, so to say that it's new is a stretch. Next time around, do the research.

—MERCEDES MANSON
Roslindale

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TRACY MAYOR

Longtime North Shore resident Tracy Mayor writes frequently about parenting, the environmen and technology. Her work has appeared in the *Boston Globe Magazine*, *Child* magazine and Salon.com. Her most recent contribution to THE IMPROPER, "Adventures in Suburbia," begins on page 36.

WHITNEY ALLEN

Whitney Allen is a freelance writer whose work has appeared in publications such as *Brain, Child*, the *Worcester Telegram* and the *Cape Cod Times*. She is currentl writing a mystery novel set in early 19th-century England. She co-wrote "Adventures i Suburbia" on page 36.

MATTHEW VINCENT

Matthew Vincent studied fine arts at the University of Rhode Island. His illustrations have appeared in such publications as *CosmoGirl*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Outside Magazine*, *Mountain Bike* magazine, *Spin* and *ESPN* magazine. His first illustration for the IMPROPER can be seen in "Mountain Mania" on page 44.

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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THE WORD

EDITED BY ERIN GRAHAM

NEW IN TOWN

Toro, Toro, Toro

After a few false starts, chef Ken Oringer's tapas restaurant Toro, which attained superstar status the moment it was announced, has at last opened in the South End. For the seven of you who don't know, Oringer's the much-lauded mastermind behind tony sushi spot Uni and ultra–high end New American restaurant Clio. Toro, however, is super casual. On the first night of business, it was already filled with genuflecting patrons checking out the menu, which was written in Spanish on a giant chalk board behind the bar. A T-shirt–clad Oringer was behind the bar and in the kitchen doling out the small plates, which range from simple pan con tomate (toasted bread rubbed with tomato, garlic and Spanish olive oil, sprinkled with sea salt, $3) to fancier fare like mejillas de ternera con rioja (braised veal cheeks with Rioja, prunes and onions ($12).

Waitstaff, many of whom were chatting in Spanish, zipped from the open kitchen and the bar to the tables, bringing steaming plates filled with ceviche de bacalao (traditional salt cod fritters with lemon rings) and salteado de setas con huevo (wild mushrooms sautéed with olive oil, garlic and farm egg) as each was ready.

Toro's décor—exposed brick, wine bottles along the walls, rustic tables, soft lighting, a small fireplace and bunches of red flowers—is the only thing that's subdued about the place. Lively world music booms, and the food is Oringer-esque, bursting with flavor.

Those who don't like to nosh so much as dine can choose from bigger dishes like the classic paella valenciana ($32), which serves two to four people, or a suckling pig with Pedro Ximinez glaze for two ($30). But the smaller tapas take up most of the menu, many are quite cheap ($3-$6), and the Spanish flavors go perfectly with the house sangria. Oringer even put a Spanish twist on the ubiquitous mini burger: His kobe beef burger comes with smoked tomato, allioli and pickled red onion ($12). Order a few of the small plates to make a meal but save room for churros con chocolate. *1704 Washington St., Boston (617-536-4300).*

—E.G.

INNER VIEW

Santas' Secrets

We kicked it with some real-life Santas from Sout Shore Plaza and the Northshore, Square One an Natick Malls and got the 411 on what kids are askin for this year, how to deal with a crying baby and th power of the Santa beard.

Improper Bostonian: *What are kids asking for this year?*

NS Santa: Little girls still love Barbies, and the olde kids are all over the iPods, Xboxes and other vide games.

SO Santa: Dora the Explorer is out-doing Barbie 5 to-1 for little girls this year, and the boys are still ask ing for video games and action figures, like Spider man and Batman.

IB: *How many of the kids are terrified of you?*

N Santa: We get a good share of criers, but some times we use the drop-and-run method: A paren drops a kid on my lap, we shoot the picture, and be fore the kid knows where he is, the parent runs ove and scoops him up.

SS Santa: We get a lot of crying babies, but with th real young ones, crying sometimes looks like laugh ing, so the pictures come out great.

IB: *Most memorable Santa moment?*

SO Santa: This season I've had both a 6-day-old gi and a 91-year-old woman sit on my lap.

SS Santa: One boy was insistent on getting a hors for Christmas, and I knew it wasn't going to happen so I told him the North Pole was too cold for ani mals. He understood.

IB: *What happens when kids ask: Are you the real Santa?*

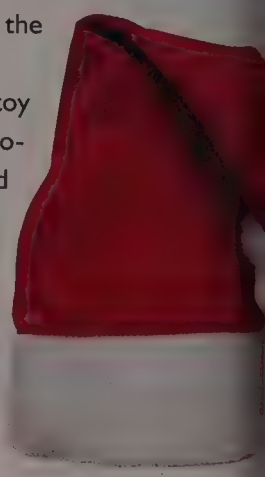
NS Santa: I always try to convince them. I have piece of coal in my pocket to threaten them with just i case.

SO Santa: I have them tug the beard and they believe.

N Santa: I've done a lot of toy research and have great sto ries about my reindeer and elves.

SS Santa: The kids have no doubts. They pull my beard and are convinced I'm the real Santa, because I am.

—Rich Levine



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TASTY TIDBITS

Below Dedo

Dedo Lounge and Bistro just opened below Dedo.

The Down Low at Dedo... Boston's Bay Village got a little pick-me-up last month when the space below the bar Dedo opened as the (separately owned but similarly named) Dedo Lounge and Bistro. Co-owners and former Dedo patrons Greg Guarente and Zane Bower saw great potential in the empty space below the bar, and offer home-style Italian-American fare both at the bar area and at a smattering of tables. Popular among chef Nicholas Chauarria's simple creations are steak frites, homemade pastas and fresh fish. *69 Church St., Boston (617-338-9999).*

Get Lost... Cambridge's Rustic Kitchen is spicing up Wednesday nights with a tribute to one of hottest shows on TV. Each week, the Kitchen shows ABC's *Lost* on the flat-screen TV above the restaurant's bar from 9-10 pm, and during the show offers half-priced appetizers, homemade brick-oven pizzas for $6 and beers for four bucks a pop. Sounds like a pretty good deal to us...and so does getting stranded on an island with Evangeline Lilly. *1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz.*

Wadda Sauce... What's in your favorite jar of BBQ sauce? Chances are the good stuff is laced with preservatives and packed with sugar. BBQ lovers Andrew Bausman of Arlington and Bill Downing of Reading are changing all that with Willy's Wadda, a line of all-natural, preservative-, cholesterol- and dairy-free sauces. Mexican Fajita, Jamaican Jerk, Carolina BBQ and Waikiki BBQ are now sold in gourmet shops and health food stores around the city and suburbs. Or you can order the sauces direct from the company's Web site, which includes cooking tips and recipe ideas. The sauces are packaged by Vermont Pepper Works, using only high-quality, fresh ingredients. Jars go for about $3 plus shipping. *Willy's Foods (800-824-9010). www.willysfoods.com.*

Branching Out... Restaurateurs Brad Dalbeck and Chris Damian, the team behi Scollay Square in Beacon Hill, finalized plans in early November to purchase Ta ern on the Water in Charlestown. They intend to redesign the 325-seat spot, a Damian, who's been the chef at Border Café, Scollay Square and the Jumbalaya Danvers, has unveiled a new menu focusing on comfort foods. *1 Pier 6, 8th S Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown (617-242-8040). www.tavernonthewater.com —L.P.K., R.L. and Cristina Velocci*

SAM SAYS

Mac Daddy

If you haven't heard of MAC Cosmetics by now, you might want t come out from under that rock: Known for its celebrity follow ing, MAC is the crème de la crème of the cosmetics industry MAC has everything you didn't even know you wanted (unt you saw it), offering an endless array of makeup colors Though you've always been able to find some MAC product in department stores, the new 1,400 square-foot boutique o Newbury Street is a Boston first. Now you've got access to th whole collection, like Chromacake foundation, Paintsticks cream face colors and mixing mediums that turn powders into creams. A always, you're in good hands with their knowledgeable staff and tal ented makeup artists. The store opens at the end of December. *112 New bury St., Boston (800-387-6707). —Samantha House*

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IMPROPER REPORTS

New Year's Eve Hotel Packages

After a night of NYE partying in the city, there's nothing like skipping the drive home and slipping between clean sheets at a nearby hotel. Check out these New Year's Eve specials.

Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf, Boston
(617-439-7000).
The Romance New Year's Eve package includes accommodations for two, breakfast at the Intrigue Café, a pastry delivered to your door and a bottle of champagne. The New Year's Eve First Night Celebration package includes a five-course meal at 5 pm at Meritage and two admission buttons to First Night festivities. Rates for Romance start at $475 per couple and rates for the First Night Celebration start at $595 per couple.

The Fairmont Copley Plaza
138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300).
The Resolution Brunch Package ($405 for two) includes accommodations on New Year's Eve, two First Night Boston buttons and New Year's Day brunch for two. The New Year's Eve Gala Celebration package ($725 for two) includes overnight accommodations, a five-course dinner plus a glass of champagne in the Oak Room, followed by live entertainment and dancing.

The Hotel @ MIT
20 Sidney St., Cambridge (617-577-0200).
If you want to make New Year's a communal affair, this hotel can book accommodations for 8-10 people in up to five rooms. A reception in the Presidential Suite begins at 9 pm, followed by a five-course dinner in the adjacent Sidney's Grille, prepared by chef Ryan Cyr. The Manny Santos Quartet provides entertainment. You and your friends provide the $2,006 for the package.

Hyatt Regency Boston
1 Avenue De Lafayette, Boston (617-912-1234).
The Hyatt's New Year's package offers deluxe accommodations for two ($249 per room). Perks include two First Night buttons, complimentary valet parking, a disposable camera, a breakfast buffet at Avenue One, the hotel's restaurant, and a late check-out on New Year's day.

Sheraton Boston
Prudential Center, 39 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-2000).
The Sheraton's New Year's Eve special includes a room for two, four buttons for Boston's First Night, a "surprise amenity" and a disposable camera. The package starts at $179 with the option of adding another guest to the room for $20. *—Jeffrey Harder*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTI(

Making Tammy Faye Proud... LuxLash, the country's first spa to focus strictly on lashes and brows, is here to thicken, lengthen, shape or strengthen those facial features they say can make or break a pretty face. Brow and Lash extensions are their specialty: For $250, you get extra-long lashes that last about two months, and for an extra cost your lashes can be decorated in materials like faux fur, feathers and crystal appliqués. (Soon to come are diamond-encrusted lashes.) Brow services ($50-$150) aim to correct over-plucking or waxing mishaps. Eye-brightening services ($50) for both men and women include a facial massage and product application meant to tighten the skin, reduce puffiness and brighten the eye area. If you really dig your mascara-free look, you can join a maintenance club, which gets you a free visit for every six appointments. *231 Newbury St., Boston (617-587-5274). www.luxlash.com.*

Squeaky Clean... With all the chemicals in what we eat, drink and breathe, maintaining a toxin-free lifestyle is practically impossible. That's why health guru Dr. Douglas Wine just opened up D Tox Boston, a service meant to draw toxins from your body—through you feet. By soaking your tootsies in a tub of ion ized water for 23 minutes, Wine says, pos tive and negative ions are absorbed throug the pores in your feet, jump-starting th body's natural detoxification process. The re sults? Painless toxin removal and a tub o grossly discolored water. Wine, a chiropra tor, claims that the process increases energ promotes weight loss and glowing skin; an alleviates allergies, migraines, fatigue, arthrit and memory loss. One visit costs $55, bu Wine recommends multiple visits to mor thoroughly detoxify. $500 gets you 10 visit *83 Newbury St., Boston (617-867-0007, www.bostondtox.com.*

D Tox Boston

Be Jeweled... Maine native and Portlan School of Art grad Laura Preshong recentl christened her South End store, Laura Pre shong Jewelry. The small, ultra-modern spac is filled with wearable and visual art by abou 15 artists (prices range from $35-$2,100 Preshong's goal is to display both jewelry an artwork of different artists each month, creat ing an art gallery/jewelry store. *Tue.-Wed., 1 am-6 pm; Thu.-Sat., 11am-7pm; Sun. 12-5 pm. 53 Dartmouth St., Bosto (617-236-7660).*

Solid Gold... You grew up with dream of someday taking home a Grammy, bu with age came a harsh realization: Yo have no talent. Don't let that stop yo from taking home the gold record Boston musician (as well as Bruins Celtics and Red Sox team photographer Brian Babineau's new business, Custom Record Awards, creates gold and plat inum records just like the rock stars get You choose the artwork and pick the name that gets emblazoned across the plaque, and after shelling out the $125 (gold) or $135 (platinum), you've just bought your way to fame in a frame. *www.customrecordawards.com.*

—C.V. and L.P.K.

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juic news? Let us know what it is. Send an mail to theword@improper.com.

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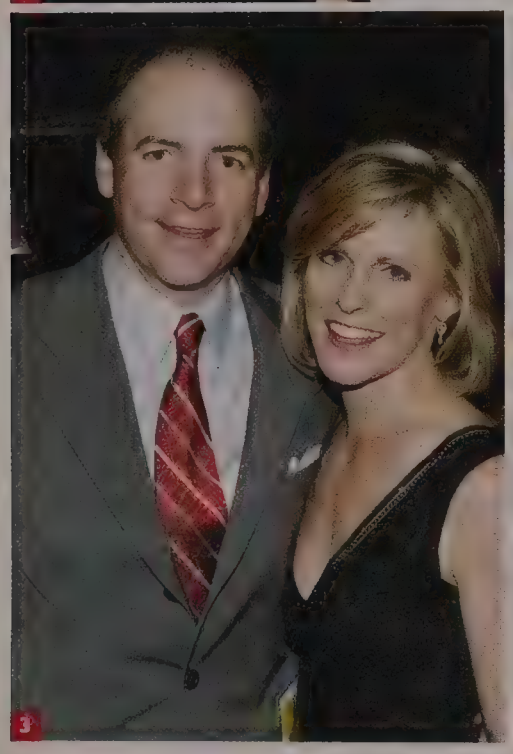
PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

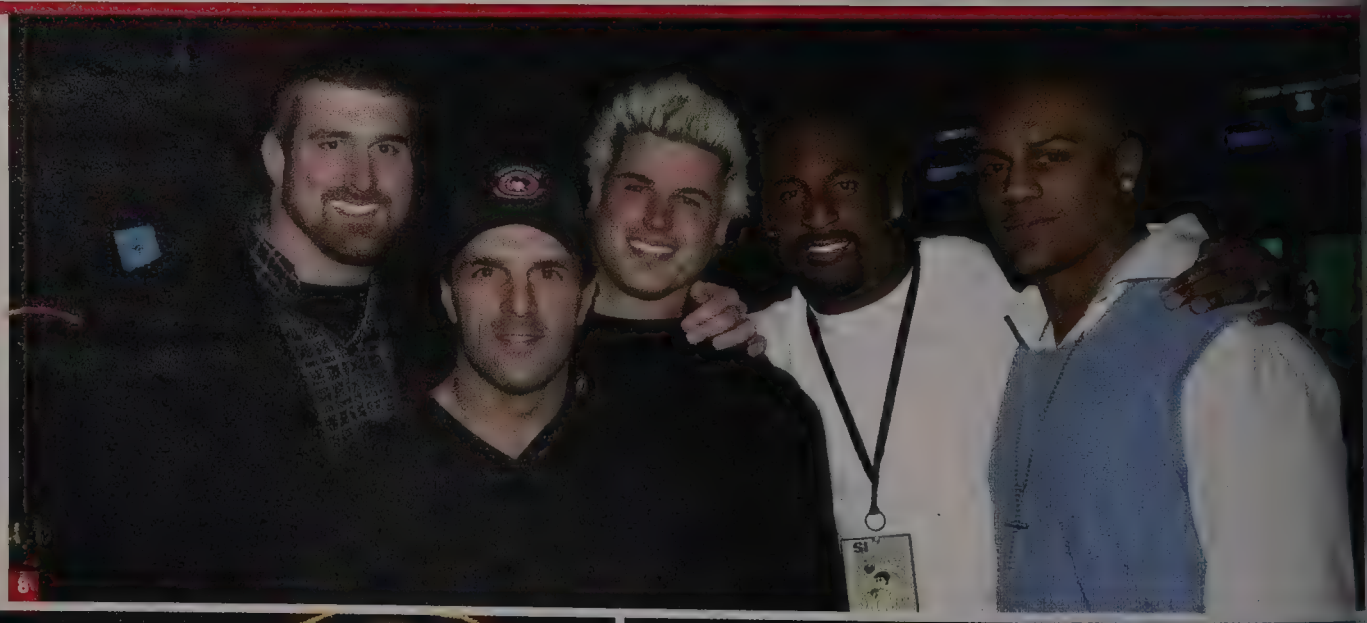
The Children's Hospital League celebrated **Festival 2005 Make Someone Hap** on Dec. 10 at the Westin Copley Place. Some 500 supporters gathered and rais $800,000 for Children's Hospital Boston.

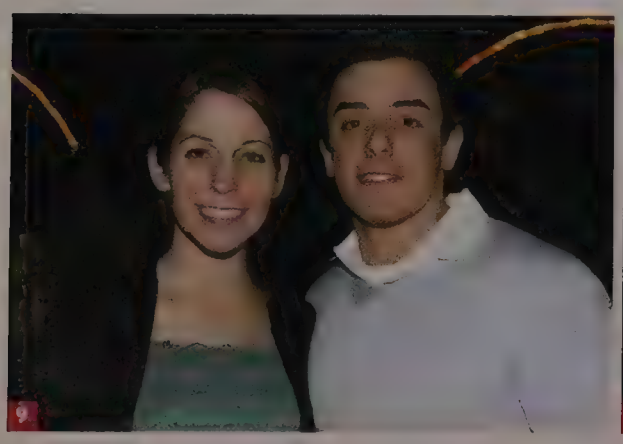
1. **Eric Schwartz**, hedge fund manager at Sebago Capital, **Jennifer** and **Davis Clayson**, investment manager for Boston Partners
2. **Jordana Miller**, student at Bos University, **Julie Wolman**, ever assistant at Rafanelli Events, and **Stone**, executive at YellowPepp Wireless
3. **Mike Casey**, photographer, an wife, **Lisa Hughes**, news ancho for CBS-4
4. **Klee** and **Andrew Miller**, president of Internet Real Estate Group
5. **Jonathan Karelitz**, financial advisor for AXA Advisors in Wellesley, with **Katherine Rya** counselor at Franciscan Children Hospital in Brighton
6. **Mike McNamara**, national advertising and sales representati for the *Boston Herald*, with his w Sally (left), and **Ellenann Hawg**
7. **Pat Kreger**, director of public affairs for CBS-4, and **Julio Marenghi**, president and gener manager of CBS-4



Some 500 party goers gathered for **Doug Flutie's Bowlathon** on Monday, Dec. 5 at Lucky Strikes Lane. The bowlathon benefits the Doug Flutie, Jr., Foundation for Autism, which was created in honor of Flutie's son Dougie. The event raised more than $100,000.

8. New England Patriots: **Matt Light**, **Doug Flutie**, **Lonie Paxton**, **Don Davis** and **David Givens**
9. **Michele Carey**, analyst for Fidelity Investments, and **Chuck Rodrigues**, buyer for Timex Watches
10. **Richard Bailey**, president of Conihasset Partners, and **Timothy Hamilton**, senior sales executive for the Custom House
11. **Arpee Simonian**, developmental specialist for Riverside Community Care in Needham, and **Tracy Kleven**, multimedia designer for Corporate Graphics in Westborough





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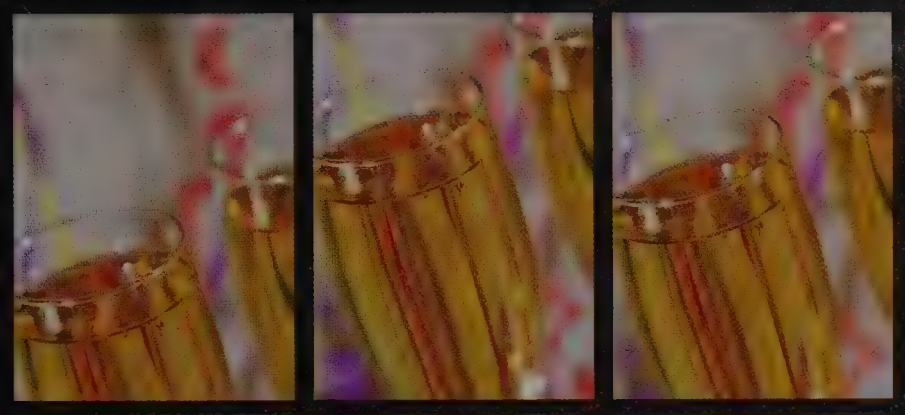

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ezra

BY EZRA DYER

FLIGHT CLUB

You may redeem your frequent flyer miles for a one-way trip to Screw Youville.

There are some companies that I just feel bad for. Like Hanes. Am I supposed to be impressed by the dregs that Hanes got its Hanes on? Damon Wayons—no way! Marissa Tomei? Awesome! How did they get such a big-time actress to be in a commercial? I think that if you're in a "Look who we got our Hanes on" ad, you're probably hard-up enough that they pay you in tighty-whities. And poor Hanes is so proud of itself, like a 5 year old with a booger on his finger.

I also pity Blockbuster, with its desperate no-late-fee policy, or, as I like to call it, "the forever rental." And LL Bean, which honors its lifetime guarantee even when it really shouldn't. I once returned a year-old pair of underwear with a big hole in the crotch and got my money back. The incredulous woman at the counter said, "Are you really unsatisfied with these?" and I said, "You'd better gimme my money before I have to get LL Mean." No, I didn't. She just gave me my refund, because LL Bean is nice like that.

Yes, when it comes to consumerism, I play hardball. I am king and always right, and my business had better be appreciated. Which brings me to my current problem, which is that I tend to harbor grudges, and I'm blacklisting travel-related companies so quickly that soon I won't be able to leave my house because I hate everyone so much. First, it was Orbitz. They were bastards about changing a reservation, and now I can never use Orbitz again. Then it was a local cab company that left me standing on the curb for a half-hour before admitting that they wouldn't be able to get a car over to Southie until roughly August of 2008. But I'm going to have a bigger problem with my new boycott of a certain giant airline. I don't even want to tell you which airline it was, but I imagine that when Sir Elton John last hung out with Sir Paul McCartney, he might've asked, "So, when were *you knighted?*"

Here are the events that led to my current vendetta: I was on my way to Japan, and I should've been worried as soon as I changed planes in Chicago, because the 747 that awaited at O'Hare was so crappy that Xzibit was standing on the runway making fun of it. We sat on the runway for two hours while they tried to get the onboard video system functioning. Eventually they gave up, concluding that it would be better to get moving than cancel the flight due to a malfunctioning DVD of Shrek 2.

It got worse. Specifically, about three hours into the flight, somewhere near the edge of the Arctic Ocean, when the p announced, "You'll notice that the su now on the other side of the plane. Th bad. That means we've turned around." parently, we'd bonked the tail of the pl on the runway on takeoff, and we had to turn to Chicago to check it out. We'd o flown as far as we had to burn fuel to ligh the plane enough to land without driv the struts up through the fuselage. T flight ended up being rescheduled to next day, which effectively rendered two-day trip pointless, so I returned Boston having spent my day flying to Arctic Ocean for absolutely no reason.

A few weeks later, I checked my freque flyer account, expecting that the six-h joyride would at least be credited. chance, so it was time for Take-No-Bullc Man to spring to action with some righte outrage. I wrote an e-mail to the custon service department saying that if this mat isn't rectified to my satisfaction, I'd sell all

I'M BLACKLISTING TRAVEL COMPANIES SO QUICKLY THAT SOON I WON'T BE ABLE TO LEAVE MY HOUSE

frequent-flyer miles and do everything in power to avoid that airline in the future. I back and waited for the groveling apolog was certain would be forthcoming.

About a month later, I received an e-m telling me that I can stick my beverage c where the seats don't recline, because y don't get miles unless "a ticket is purchas and a flight flown." So if a ticket is purchas and you fly in circles for six hours because t pilot thought he was in the space shuttle stead of a Boeing, thus botching your enti trip, that doesn't count. Sorry, you're out luck. In fact, you're lucky that once they d cided to turn around, the flight attenda didn't stick her finger down your throat to g back that lunch they'd just wasted on yo refund-demanding ass.

It's all too much, this horrible reminder how unimportant I am. I'm going to go bu some Hanes. Me and Hanes, we're abo right for each other. IB

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THE DANCE

BY JOHN D. SPOONER

I've Got a Little List

It's time to reflect on the year that was, before ringing in the year to come.

Americans love lists and "top tens," especially in these days of information overload (or misinformation, as I like to call it). This is not really a column of lists, but random thoughts on goodies from the closing year—things that have appealed to me, and perhaps might interest you.

The writer John Fowles died this fall. I think that in the 1960s and '70s, there was no better writer in the English language. I believe in the importance of romance, no matter what your age, and before I was married, I thought Fowles' novel *The Magus* set the standard for the strange mystery of love in all of its magic and complexities.

Early in our marriage I mentioned several books I thought my wife would enjoy, including *The Magus*. "Ahhh," she said, "the improving-my-mind department? Forget it." That was the end of that until one wintry Sunday, when I saw her curled up on the couch reading the book. Hours later she was still at it, and on into the night, totally absorbed. Finally, as she was still reading in bed after midnight, I said, "Okay, it's time to shut the lights." This led to an argument, then to something else. Our son Nicholas was born almost nine months later, named after Nicholas Urfe, the hero of Fowles' novel.

Little, Brown was Fowles' American publisher. They were also mine, and from them I got Fowles' address. I wrote him, telling him the story of our Nicholas and his conception (well, most of it). Months later I received a note from Fowles postmarked from Greece, where they were shooting the film version of *The Magus*. "Loved the story," he wrote. "I had very many pregnant meanings in the novel. But nothing that pregnant." Still more amazing is that the novel's heroine is named Alison, the same as Nick Spooner's new bride. Want to get lucky? You read it, too.

Other book ideas for year-end: Thrillers and mysteries would include any of the psychological works of the brilliant Ruth Rendell, especially *The Bridesmaid* and *The Rottweiler*; any novel of Colin Harrison, but particularly *Afterburn* (order from Amazon; it's a few years old); and the wonderful African thrillers of Robert Wilson.

Here's a fragment of a list from one of my favorite characters, who writes privately for his friends under the pseudonym Bill Diamond. In real life he is one of Boston's best lawyers, practical and wise. He has a rolling list titled "Sto Living Like a Stupid Person: 200 or s Common Mistakes Even You Ca Avoid." They include:

- Don't move to Buffalo for a better jo
- Don't go up on your roof to check o the problem first.
- Don't ask your father about his se life.
- Don't cancel your poker game t spend more time with the family.
- Don't ask your single friends wha they did over the weekend.
- Don't admit to the kids that yo smoked dope in college.

I think that this is the kind of lawyer t retain for your own use: someone quirky wh thinks about the things real people conside when they are honest with themselves.

Only two movie thoughts to pass or one old flick, one new one. Rent *The Pro fessionals*, a film somewhat like *The Dirt Dozen*, with an all-star cast led by Bu Lancaster. Lee Marvin has a classic line i it, one I'm often tempted to use at inappro priate times: "What else is on your mind be sides 100-proof women, 90-proof whiske and 14-carat gold?"

My favorite movie in 2005 was not ver popular but, in my opinion, fascinating o a number of levels. It's *Lord of War* wit Nicolas Cage, all about international arm dealing and dealers: not nice people doin not nice things. This is not only for th guys. My wife loved it as much as I did, al though her year's favorite was *Pride an Prejudice*. (Every time this is remade, how ever, whether on TV or in the movies, it' always her favorite.)

Musical notes include the annual not to-be-missed Oedipus orgy on WBCN The legendary program director for a least 20 years has deejayed his Christma Eve compilation of the history of Christ mas music from classical to rock.

And a real failing of mine: lack of tru appreciation for jazz. For instance, I neve knew until recently that the horn geniu Chet Baker also sang. Again, if you love romance, you have to hear Baker singing ballads such as "I'm Old Fashioned," "Let' Get Lost" and "It Could Happen To You." Many good things we wish would happen to us. May they come true.

Happy New Year. iB

John D. Spooner is an investment advisor, author and novelist. Contact him at thedance@improper.com.

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THAT'S RICH

BY RICH LEVIN

I Want My NFL

The leagues's great, but I could make it better.

The NFL is the undisputed new American pastime, but as successful as it's become, the league won't be perfect until these rule changes take effect:

Overtime: I'm not a huge college football fan; in fact, I'd rather watch *The Program* for the 5,000th time than sit through your average NCAA game. However, anytime a college game goes into OT, I'm watching. The NFL needs to finally adopt the college overtime system and forget about sudden death. Imagine if Major League Baseball created a rule where, once a game hits extra innings, the first run scored—regardless of whether it's in the top or bottom of an inning—would end the game. Actually, scratch that (I don't want to plant any more idiot seeds in Bud Selig's head), but honestly, how ridiculous would that be? Well, that's what the NFL is right now. After 60 minutes of football, how can the league let one little coin toss have so much influence on the outcome of a game? It's one of the purest tenets of competition: Both teams deserve an equal shot, and that's it.

First Downs: This one actually comes courtesy of my friend B, who started his pro–first down campaign a couple of years ago, but I quickly called shotgun on the first down bandwagon. First downs should be a major NFL statistic. What's more important to a team's success over the course of a game: a 12-yard grab on third and 15, or a four-yard slant on third and three? Obviously it's the latter, so why doesn't the NFL distinguish between the two in its box scores, and why can't I find this year's first down leaders anywhere on ESPN or NFL.com? I don't know, but it has to change. Did you know that last season David Givens had 24 consecutive receptions that were good for a first down? Remarkable, but for the most part it went unnoticed. That's a travesty.

Point Spreads: There are 100 factors that played into the NFL's recent rise to supremacy, but only one that matters: gambling. Midweek injury reports? They're for gamblers. The NFL Sunday Ticket? It's for gamblers. Jake Plummer's moustache? That's right, it's for gamblers. It all is. So why must the NFL continue to look the other way during live game telecasts? When the Saints scored 10 fourth-quarter points last month against the Patriots, making the final score 24-17 (the Pats were 10-point favorites), the announcers should have noted it; it would have made an otherwise boring game more interesting. Just once, I'd like to watch a game on ESPN and, after a "meaningless" late-game touchdown, hear Joe Theismann bang his hea against the wall and yell, "Shit! There go my parlay!" Everyone watching the game thinking it, so why don't they just say it?

Tight Ends: Just change the name of th position, so that no self-respecting man wi ever again have to e-mail a fantasy buddy regard to their search for a "stud tight end."

Challenges: Right now, each team ge two challenges a game, regardless of whethe they win or lose them. I say, as long as yo don't lose a challenge, there should be a unlimited supply. Right now a team can su vive the referees making two bad calls. Wh should they have to swallow it if the re make a third? I'll never understand this.

Basketball Converts: Randy Moss wi finish his career as one of the greatest re ceivers in NFL history, and it has little to d with superior route running, ultra-soft hand or dazzling foot speed. Simply put: Moss is 6'4" freak of nature with a sick vertica being chased around by 6-foot-nothing co nerbacks. Are you telling me that LeBro

> MAYBE WE CAN CONVINCE MARK BLOUNT TO QUIT HOOPS AND BECOME A TACKLING DUMMY FOR THE PATS

James couldn't have become the best wid receiver in NFL history? But forget about Le Bron, there's more than a handful of middle of-the-road NBA guys, like Stromile Swift Kwame Brown and Corey Maggette, wh would be absolute stars in the NFL. Can yo imagine how deadly an athletic 6'10" wid receiver would be? Even if he were just use in goal line situations, he'd be a Pro Bowle Just look at Antonio Gates. Seriously, let get this trend going and maybe we can con vince Mark Blount to quit hoops and be come a tackling dummy for the Pats.

Throwback Jerseys: My John Madden season on Xbox shouldn't be the only time get to see New England rock their Pat Pa triot duds. I'm only asking for one or two games a year. Bring back the old-school unis

You've heard the call, Paul Tagliabue Now let's make it happen IB

Look for Rich's column in every other issue of the IMPROPER, and address sporting opinions and feedback to rich@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

JOHN KRASINSKI

INTERVIEW BY JONATHAN SOROFF PHOTOGRAPH BY GREG HENRY/LAMOINE PHOTO GROUP

Having sprung to fame playing the nerdy sales rep Jim Halpert on the NBC comedy *The Office*, John Krasinski, 26, was born and raised in Newton and graduated from Newton South High School. After earning a degree in playwriting, with honors, from Brown, he studied at the National Theater Institute. His television credits include appearances on *Law & Order: Criminal Intent*, *Ed* and *Without a Trace*, while his feature film experiences include *Kinsey*, *Duane Hopwood* and the recent Jake Gyllenhaal film, *Jarhead*, as well as the upcoming Christopher Guest movie *For Your Consideration*. He divides his time between New York City and Los Angeles.

Jonathan Soroff: *Krasinski must be a stage name, right?*

John Krasinski: It is. My name was originally John Collins, but I just didn't think it had the flair I needed. I found out the poet laureate of Poland was named Krasinski and so it seemed like a shoe-in for show business.

JS: *Good thinking. Let's play TV trivia: Sanford and Son, All in the Family, Queer as Folk and* The Office. *What do they all have in common?*

JK: They were all adapted from English shows.

JS: *Very good. But most shows taken from England are bombs. Look at that show* Coupling. *It was a total dog.*

JK: Yeah, or that British show…what was it called? Soprani? It was about a family of soccer hooligans in a bar, and they tried to bring it over here as *The Sopranos*….Oh, wait. That did OK. Actually the producers of our show are the same ones who brought over *Coupling*.

JS: *So you can't say anything bad about it.*

JK: No, but what I can say is that the British version of *The Office* is literally a perfect show, and everybody in our cast thinks that.

JS: *Your show is sort of painful to witness. It's like watching a train wreck. Aren't you just squirming in most of those scenes?*

JK: Yes. Especially the long pauses where I'm wondering why Steve [Carell] just said what he did. The good news is that we understand the realism of it. There are painful situations in 9-to-5 life, and we give you the ability to laugh at it, since most people sure as hell can't do it at work.

JS: *Have you ever had a 9-to-5 job?*

JK: I did a lot of internships. I interned at Hill, Holliday, which was a blast. It was a trip, working on stuff like the Dunkin' Donuts commercials, which still stand as some of the funniest I've ever seen. And then I worked for Conan O'Brien. I was his script intern.

JS: *Another Boston homey. Speaking of which, what's up with the fact that everyone on* The Office *is from Boston?*

JK: Boston is actually the capital of the world. You didn't know that? We breed smart-ass, quippy, funny people. Not that I'm one of them. I just sorta sneaked in under the radar.

JS: *One thing you'd like to hear about yourself around an office water cooler?*

JK: I guess I'd love to hear that this is the cutting edge of comedy right now. We tip our hats to shows like *Arrested Development* and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, and to be mentioned in the same breath as them is really flattering.

JS: *You and B.J. Novak, who plays Ryan the temp and writes for the show, graduated from high school together. Who was the class clown?*

JK: Interesting. Well, he was kind of a genius and he wrote the first thing I was ever in, which was a parody of the school, so I guess he'd be the class clown.

JS: *So are you two like a comedic Matt and Ben?*

JK: Oh, yeah. In fact, we were really bummed out that they stole the math genius idea, because we had some really good stuff goin' with that. Ours involved a couple of gifted monkeys, which was actually a really nice twist, so at least they didn't bite that off of us.

JS: *You just made* Jarhead *with Jake Gyllenhaal. Ever wish you'd starred in* Brokeback Mountain *with him?*

JK: Are you kidding? To ride horses through the West with Jake…

JS: *…and to sodomize him in a tent?*

JK: Oh, wait a minute. That was all backstory. You think Ang Lee got the close-up?

JS: *Yup. Of him and Heath Ledger. So there were no sodomy jokes on the* Jarhead *set?*

JK: No. I think I was too scared of getting beaten up. He was so jacked for that movie. I was like, "Wait! What happened to *Donnie Darko* Jake? I could take that guy." Not so much the jacked-up Jake Gyllenhaal in *Jarhead*. Oh, that was a good tongue-twister.

JS: *What was your first job ever?*

JK: Raking leaves for a woman named Mrs. Gorin.

JS: *That sounds dirty.*

JK: No, no, no. When I shoveled her walkway—that sounds dirty.

JS: *Hope you got a raise for that. You went to an Ivy League school and now you pretend to be an entry-level schmendrick. Is your father the doctor proud?*

JK: My dad is psyched. He has patients coming in and telling him about their favorite scenes, and he's having a great time with the whole thing. My dad actually said he'd never been more proud of me than when I decided to [become an actor]. So there's the tear-jerker part of your interview.

JS: *That's how my dad felt when I told him I was a piano player in a whorehouse. Anyway, who's a better talk show host: Conan O'Brien or Tony Danza?*

JK: Ouch. You're putting me on the spot because I just did both shows.

JS: *I know.*

JK: I guess I'll have to say Conan for no other reason than that I have to go with family. He was the inspiration of all comedy for me. I watched him every night. Then, when I interned for him, it probably reached stalker status, because I was this huge fan getting closer and closer to him. And being in his guest chair was quite honestly the best perk of this whole thing, besides acting on an incredibly cool show…of course, second only to being interviewed by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

JS: *Ass-kisser. So your character is in unrequited love. Ever try to win someone over from a significant other?*

JK: I'm trying to right now. I'm smitten with a girl from college who has consistently been dating someone when I have been single and vice versa.

JS: *There's another tear-jerking moment. I think our readers will be weeping reading this.*

JK: Well, I hope they bombard you with phone numbers. This is basically just a one-page dating ad.

JS: *OK, give me your personal: Single White Actor Seeks Woman with No Teeth and Webbed Feet?*

JK: Umm, no. That's a little over the top. How about Single White Male seeks intelligent, fun-loving woman with a sense of humor who also works as a carny.

JS: *There's nothing sexier than a woman from the midway. Now I'm going to be your mother for a minute. You're workin' that shaggy dog look pretty hard. When are you going to get a haircut?*

JK: I actually did. It's not shorter, but it's less wing-y.

JS: *Good, because that's what I objected to the Farrah Fawcett Majors-ness of it all. So what do you consider your best feature?*

JK: The fuzzy ties I wear on the show.

JS: *That's sort of sad.*

JK: OK, in total seriousness, I'd say my spontaneity.

JS: *One thing you'd have plastic surgery on if you could?*

JK: My fuzzy ties.

JS: *OK, time for the annoying job interview question: In 10 years, where do you see yourself?*

JK: I want to be at the Huntington Theatre Company, playing Sandy the dog in a revival of *Annie*.

JS: *I'll look forward to it. Who would you want to play you in the movie of your life?*

JK: Haley Joel Osment. I think if he gets into an awkward teenage phase, he'd be perfect.

JS: *Last question: If this were a job interview, tell me one reason why I should hire you.*

JK: Because I make a mean cup o' coffee.

"BOSTON IS ACTUALLY THE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD. DIDN'T YOU KNOW THAT? WE BREED SMART-ASS, QUIPPY, FUNNY PEOPLE."

adventures in SUBURBIA

There's more to Boston's suburbs than McMansions and cookie-cutter coffee chains. Venture forth—you'll be pleasantly surprised.

BY WHITNEY ALLEN AND TRACY MAYOR

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BOB PERACHIO

The suburbs. Statistically, there's a good chance you grew up there. Culturally, there's a good chance you moved away as soon as you could. Demographically, there's a good chance you'll someday return, like a wild salmon back from the ocean, to spawn there.

In the meantime, it's likely the suburbs don't rank high on your list of fun places to eat, drink, shop or get groomed, right?

Think again, urbanites. It's true, some of the outlying towns that ring the Boston–Cambridge–Somerville–Brookline core you call home are little more than vast wastelands of Staples, Targets and Home Depots. But others are more interesting than you may have imagined.

We pounded the Greater Boston 'burbs to dig up a quintet of friendly, walkable little urban centers with tons of cheap (even free!) parking, unique shopping, and an outside chance at a Saturday night dinner reservation. Best of all, these are suburbs done up New England–style, which means that in between your finding and feasting, you can soak up the ambience of cottage-lined main streets, white-steepled churches, historic village greens and other charming visions the rest of the country sees only in movies.

Break away from your same old, same old for an evening, a day or even a weekend of suburban exploration. Who knows, you may even catch the fish of your dreams.

Facing page: The Old Man of the Sea keeps watch over Gloucester Harbor.
Above: 1. the casually elegant dining room at the Alchemy Café; 2. Alchemy's steamed littleneck clams, sautéed with onion-dried tomatoes, chorizo, fennel and cilantro in natural broth; 3. the Common Crow market sells health and beauty products and wholesome foods; 4. lunchtime at the Franklin Café.

GLOUCESTER

Equally gorgeous and gritty, this working-class city, which bills itself as America's oldest fishing port, is home to generations of fishermen and artists. And Gloucester shows off both influences with frankness and flair.

It's a 10-minute hike from the commuter rail stop to Gloucester's oft-painted harbor and Stacy Boulevard, where the locals walk, stroll, run and 'blade past the famous **Fisherman's Memorial Statue** (landlubbers might know him best as the dude from the fish sticks box). Further out is **Rocky Neck**, a narrow spit of land laden with layers of tiny art galleries crammed cheek-by-jowl with some serious summertime drinking spots.

But the easiest way to get a good feel for the authentic mix of the artistic, the up-and-coming and the lost past is to wander the mile or so of Main Street, one block up from the harbor, where long-closed department stores and granite-fronted banks share space with funky used clothing and music stores, eclectic art galleries and high-end restaurants, with the occasional genuine Italian deli or coffee bar thrown in for good measure. While you're there, take a detour over to the **Cape Ann Historical Museum**, a beautifully renovated little space that houses an impressive collection of works by local boy Fitz Hugh Lane, alongside various maritime and decorative-arts bits and pieces.

Where to Eat and Drink

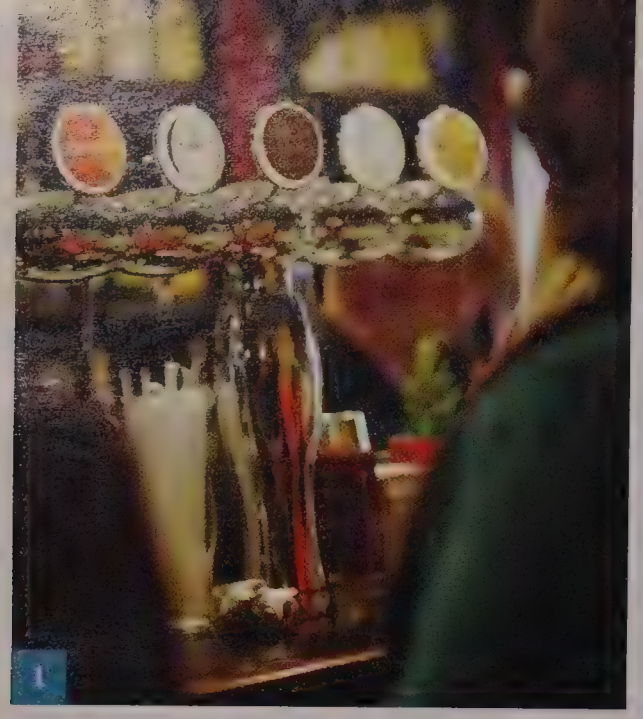
Steer clear of the seafood mega-joints that cater to busloads of whale watchers, and for God's sake, stay out of the fishermen's bars. (If you ask a local where to find "that bar from *The Perfect Storm*," you deserve whatever happens to you next.) Instead, make yourself happy by heading to **The Franklin Café Cape Ann**, the northern outpost of the famous South End eatery. The space is warm, dark and cozy, the food is fantastic (pan-seared Atlantic cod with chorizo hash is one local favorite off the winter menu) and the place stays open late into the night, thanks to a roomy upstairs bar. A few doors up, **Passports** picks up the Franklin's overflow, though it's a destination restaurant in its own right. Newcomer **Alchemy Café & Bistro** also is worth checking out; it has an enormous and eclectic menu and a great bar area laid out around an open wood fire. For java and WiFi, check out the **Lone Gull Coffeehouse**.

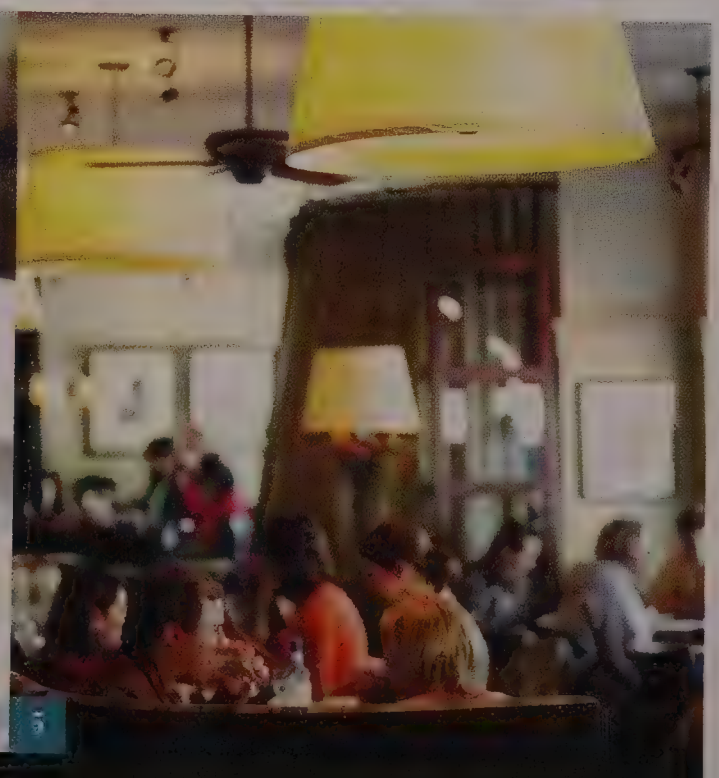
Where to Shop

Ula Blue boldly goes where few suburban boutiques dare, carrying such city-sophisticate clothing lines as Citizens of Humanity, Trina Turk, BCBG Max Azria, LA Made and Joe's Jeans. Tiny **Field & Brown** offers a cute collection of housewares, while the dark and creaky-floored **Bookends** will bring back memories of newsstands past. **Local Colors Gallery** offers jewelry, pottery, clothing and accessories, as well as affordable oils, watercolors and pastels, all produced by local female artists. **Bananas** is good for used clothing, for both men and women, as well as any Marilyn Monroe or Elvis tchotchke you might be missing. Stick your head into **Virgilio's Bakery & Deli** for a whiff of Italy as authentic as anything you'd find in the North End (or Sicily, for that matter), and finally, way down the street, check out **Mystery Train**, which sells used records, tapes and CDs to those still willing to pay for their tunes.

Where to Get Gorgeous

Though there are a couple of bona fide salons-cum-day spas in the area, like **Adesso Hair and Day Spa**, **Tridosha Salon and Spa** or the **Deborah Coull Salon**, Gloucester women tend to focus more on inner beauty. To that end, check out **Common Crow Natural Market** (just off Main Street), which sells chemical-free makeup and several lines of high-end holistic skin care products in addition to a wide repertoire of tinctures, teas, supplements, spices and groceries.





1. taps at The Snug; 2. Chelsea Orr, owner of Chel Bella; 3. bracelets at Chel Bella; 4. a Square meal, grilled moulard duck breast with butternut squash and haricots verts, served in a sauce of pancetta and sage-ground butter; 5. patrons at the Square Café

HINGHAM

Outdoor types in the know go to Hingham to get back nature, but leave some time afterward to stay for its sma town charms. A quick drive south from Boston or ferry t from Rowes Wharf will put you in Hingham, land of hikin biking, horseback riding and cross-country skiing, to s nothing of the gorgeous coastal views. And if you ca manage to get going before the daylight fades, you can st go cross-country skiing at night.

Of the half dozen or so Hingham parks to choose fro two stand out. You can have your pick of four miles of wa ing paths and gaze fondly back at the Boston skyline **World's End**, or explore the 10 miles of hiking trails **Wompatuck State Park**.

Then, after your exertions at the nature preserve of yo choice, take in the historic downtown, otherwise known **Hingham Square**. You can't miss it—just follow Ma Street to where it bisects South and North Streets. Fr parking is readily available. You'll notice the construction the commuter rail line to Boston, but it doesn't suffocate t charm of the town center.

Where to Eat and Drink

The name on everyone's lips is **Square Café**. Open f lunch and dinner, this airy restaurant, tastefully decorate in pale green and soft neutrals, boasts an executive chef ar an extensive cocktail menu. Packed even on a weekday wi ladies who lunch, the menu comprises a variety of fillin protein-topped salads and hearty sandwiches for non-d eters. Try the ginger, brown sugar-braised pork sandwich f $10.50. The dinner menu, slanted toward seafood, is divide into small-plate entrées for under $20 and large-plate en trées in the $20+ range.

If you can't squeeze into the Square, amble down th street to **The Snug**, a classic Irish pub in appearance (dar paneled wood galore) serving American comfort food. It open for breakfast, lunch and dinner and calls itself th "Home of the Perfect Pint"—which perhaps explains wh the younger crowd likes to hang out there at night.

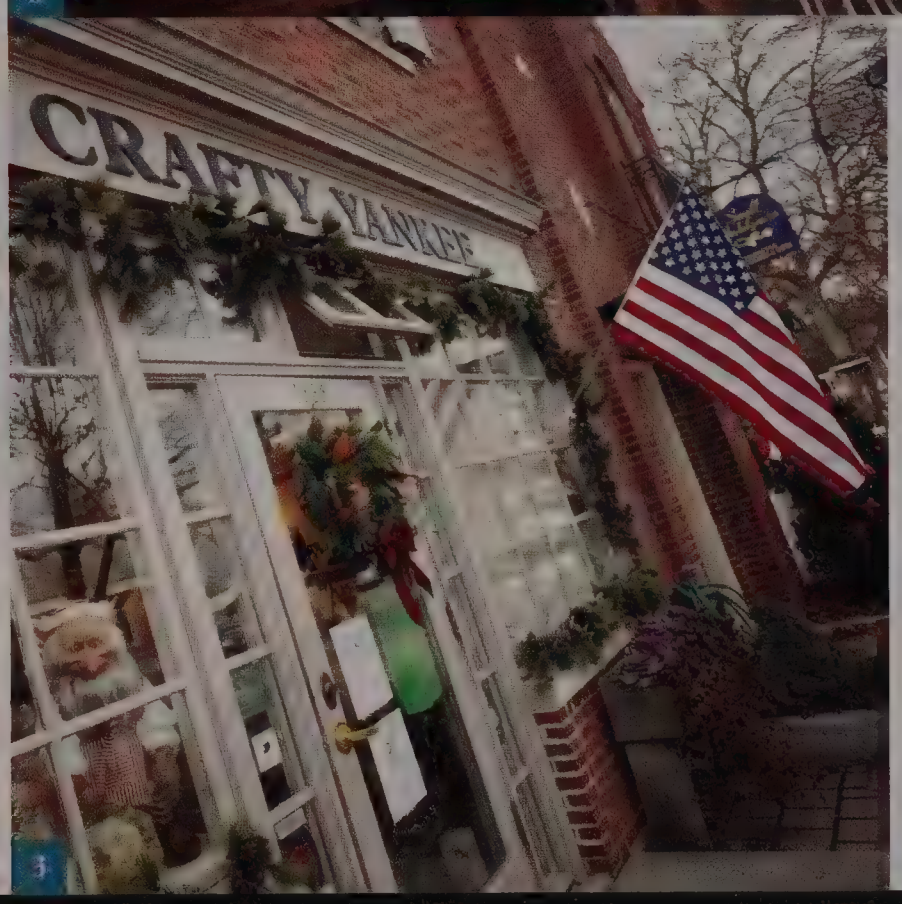
Where to Shop

We won't lie to you, if you have your heart set on whale-em broidered pink and green pants, you'll find them in Hing ham. Or maybe you just want to accessorize your preppy loo with a canvas boat tote with floral straps? If so, head straigh to **Island in the Square** on Main St., which offers good from both Lily Pulitzer and Vineyard Vines.

But there is one store that all by itself is worth the tri from Boston, and preppy is not the word for it. Chelsea Or opened **Chel Bella** on Memorial Day 2005. The 26-year old's store looks like a funky vintage boutique crammed with finds. In fact, it's a mix of top designers in a range of prices You'll find everything from stacks of designer denim (lates arrivals: Citizens) to a shelf full of Michael Stars' basic tees i a rainbow of colors. We dare you to get out of there withou succumbing to an eye-catching bag or one of the Rache Wassman jeweled watches with fabric wristbands.

Where to Get Gorgeous

With national magazine recognition, **AZ Studio/AZure Spa** should easily meet the highest standards. Of specia interest is the Sundari Facial, based on supermode Christy Turlington's Ayurvedic Skin Care line. First, you receive an analysis of your dosha or skin type. After the more usual facial steps, you'll end with the essential oi that's best for your skin. The spa also offers manicures and pedicures with a floral twist. Choose the Red Flower Rit- ual manicure and pedicure and breathe in aromas from a red, flower-scented candle while you get your treatment. The Kai manicure and pedicure includes a blend of Gar- denia and white exotic flowers.



1 and 2. Rosie's sells a variety of freshly baked cakes and pies, plus coffee 3. outside the Crafty Yankee; 4. a historical marker

LEXINGTON

If you were paying attention in history class, you'll instantly associate Lexington with the Revolutionary War. Sure, there are plenty of revolutionary war sites in Boston, but Lexington is where it all began. This was Paul Revere's destination, and it was where the Minutemen gathered to face the Redcoats.

If all of this is ringing only a distant bell of recognition, you can refresh your memory at the **National Heritage Museum**, located at the intersection of Route 2A and Mass. Ave. The museum has free admission, and it features a standing exhibit on the Revolutionary War with rotating exhibits on various aspects of American history. The museum is open Mondays through Saturdays from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sundays from noon to 5 pm.

Once you've finished stimulating your gray matter, explore downtown Lexington. That famous **Minuteman statue at the Battle Green** gazes over a wide variety of shops, cafés and restaurants along Mass. Ave. (as well as up a few side streets).

Where to Eat and Drink

Lexx sports warm woods and an unintimidating, upscale pub menu. The front of the restaurant feels free-wheeling and date-friendly, with high bar tables and stools looking out onto Mass. Ave. Across the street, **Not Your Average Joe**'s lures in the rest of the bar crowd and more with a two-page cocktail list. Yes, it's a chain, but a chain that delivers fun drinks, decent wine and good, affordable food, with an Asian–Italian–Cajun–American fusion menu broad enough to keep everyone happy on date night.

Where to Shop

Start at the **Crafty Yankee**, a locally owned shop that sells New England gifts and crafts. Right next door, sister store **Small Indulgences** sells women's clothes, plus accessories and leather goods from the Brighton Collection. Don't miss the other Small Indulgences down the block, which focuses on accessories, including bags and jewelry made by local artisans. You might also want to take a pass through **Cohoes**. Described by one local as "a high-end Marshall's," the two-story women's department store sells discounted fashions from Fendi, Valentino and Calvin Klein, as well as Nine West and 1928 Jewelry. If you can't get enough of the locally produced goods, make another stop at the **Lexington Arts & Crafts Society**, and on your way out of town, grab a fresh-baked pick-me-up at **Rosie's Bakery**.

Where to Get Gorgeous

Lexingtonians love **Indulgence Day Spa** (no relation to the Small Indulgences stores). In addition to weekday specials, they have some tempting packages—if you have two and a half hours to spare, for example, you can sample the Mini Indulgence. For $120, choose between a spa facial and Swedish massage, plus get a manicure and "footial," which includes an herbal soak, manicure of the toes, foot filing and sloughing, and foot massage.

1 and 2. luxurious homegoods at the Red Bird Trading Co.; 3 and 4. Plum Island Coffee Roasters serves java and wraps; 5. dessert at Kiwi Grille: a meringue shell with whipped cream, fresh fruit and fresh-fruit purées

NEWBURYPORT

Ah, Newburyport. Gateway to the beaches of Plum Island and bi ing grounds of the **Parker River National Wildlife Refuge**, this most-too-picturesque town at the mouth of the Merrimac Rive home to a thriving theater and live music scene, majestic examples New England architecture and a wide choice of parks and other p served wild spaces.

None of this will matter one whit, however, if you are a shopper, cause the brick and cobblestone streets of Newburyport offer up sh ping choices deep and wide enough to keep even hardcore shopahol in a daze for days. Clothing and shoes, housewares and food, jewe and accessories and cosmetics and gifts, all intermingled with a ple ingly wide range of restaurants and watering holes, mean the only thi it's easy to part with in Newburyport is your money.

Where to Eat and Drink

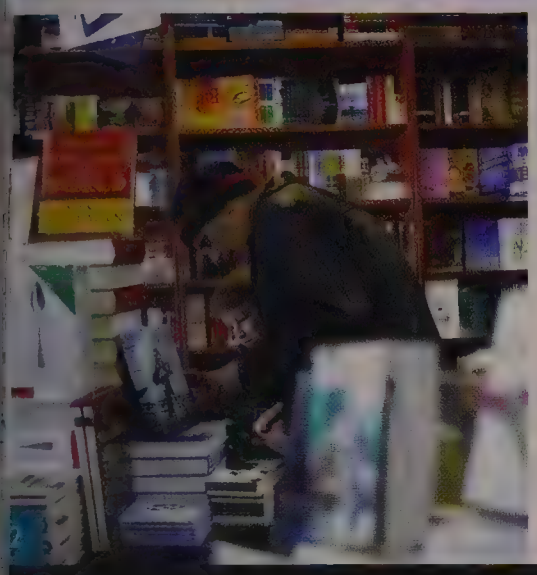
Particularly in the summer months, waterfront stalwarts like **Michae Harborside**, **The Black Cow** and, at the end of the causeway to t beach, the **Plum Island Grille** are filled with a rocking crowd of 2 somethings showing off their tans and slurping up the cocktail of t moment. But even the most toasted are willing to venture away fr the waterfront to try the new venues that seem to perpetually pop up town. Two relatively recent additions worth checking out: **The Ki Grille** and **Agavé**. Formally called The Kiwi Grille at Steeple Hall, t funky eatery in a colorfully painted, church-like building dishes o New Zealand favorites like ostrich, rack of lamb and lamb foreshank i termingled with seafood dishes like peekytoe crab salad, spiny lobst lemongrass bisque and lobster-crusted halibut, all in a room that's mi malist and modern-looking. Agavé Mexican Bistro goes upscale on t south-of-the-border theme, with grilled salad and tampiqueña appeti ers (beef lightly seared with a fresh salsa), caldo tlapleño soup (Mexic chicken soup) and mariscos del caribe (Mexican shrimp cocktail wi fresh shrimp, scallops and habañeros), all of which can be washed dow with any of 60 tequilas. The restaurant sports a warm and inviting b downstairs, a second-floor dining room, and a third-floor lounge ar with leather couches and a fireplace. If thirst is your main concern, p into **Rosie O'Shea's**, a spacious and authentic-looking Irish pub, for pint of your favorite brew, or head down near the water for a blast of ca feine from **Plum Island Coffee Roasters**.

Where to Shop

Where to start? **The Tannery**, a collection of old mills that has bee transformed into a mini-shopping haven. Inside, **Red Bird Tradi Co.** specializes in an explosion of the baroque for the home—furn ture, bedding, linens, pillows, incidental pieces, as well as clothin jewelry, lingerie and bath products. A few doors down, **Wishbask** takes a slightly preppier approach to housewares and hostess gift **The Ruby Slipper** offers costume jewelry with an emphasis on th fun and the funky; and the wonderful and welcoming **Jabberwock Bookshop** makes you remember why independent book stores are s much better than mega-chains. Head a few blocks back to the cent of town for some serious, and seriously high-end, clothes shoppin primarily at **Azure** and **Native Sun**. **Mary Jane** offers clothing that slightly less stratospheric, price-wise, and a good selection of co footwear as well. When all the opulence starts to get to you, recharg at the beautifully old-fashioned **Fowles**: part newsstand, part lunc counter, where a grilled cheese and a Spiderman comic book shou return you to your senses.

Where to Get Gorgeous

Hands down, **Interlocks Salon & Day Spa** is the place in town— the place on the entire North Shore, in fact—to spend the day ge ting cut, highlighted, primped and primed. The huge, well-li sparkling clean space feels less like a salon than a boutique hospit (only without the bloody parts) and the spa menu, which runs to sev eral pages, serves up such goodies as facials from Decleor (Paris), Di (Italy) and Plantogen (New Zealand); ultrasound and microder mabrasion; hot stone and maternity massages; Vichy showers; an tanning. Downtown, **Be Pink** sells such high-end lines as Nars, Blis and Farmaesthetics, and offers of-the-moment beauty treatments lik eyelash extensions.



1. the entrance to Wellesley College; 2. browsing at Wellesley Booksmith; 3. a splash of sartorial color at Betsy's

WELLESLEY

We admit it—we have a soft spot for touring college campuses: the beautiful grounds and architecture, all that history, usually with a tasteful little museum or two thrown in the mix. Plus performing arts and the requisite theater playing an obscure art house movie you've always meant to see.

Wellesley College has all of that. Sure, there are plenty of college campuses in Boston. But Wellesley has room to spread out over 450 acres, including space for botanical gardens. Check out the school's Web site before you go to see the exhibitions at the **Davis Museum** and elsewhere around campus.

When you've finished touring the campus, walk out the main gates onto Central Street and you'll find downtown Wellesley spread out before you.

Where to Eat and Drink

The town's crown jewel is **Blue Ginger**, one of the top-rated, most famous restaurants in the Boston area. You're probably familiar with the name Ming Tsai, even if you haven't seen either of his two Food Network shows, *East Meets West* and *Ming's Quest*, or his latest venture on PBS, *Simply Ming*. Try his cuisine for yourself at Blue Ginger, described as his "East meets West bistro." You're best off making reservations before you leave Boston—make that at least several days before.

Though Wellesley is a dry town, Blue Ginger does serve wine, and the dining experience definitely counts as a splurge for most pocketbooks. Dinner entrées start at $21 and run into the $30 range. Try the pan-seared scallops with miso Koshi-Hikari risotto. And be sure to save room for Blue Ginger's take on Boston Cream Pie with jasmine tea cream. If you're on a budget, lunch might be the way to go. Sake-miso-marinated Alaskan butterfish is $33 at night and $21 during the day. It's a smaller portion, but with the same flavor. Be forewarned, though, that the restaurant's closed on Sunday.

If you can't manage to get into Blue Ginger, pop into that other celebrity chef's place, Todd English's **Figs**. Satisfy your hunger with pizzas and pasta, all under $20 for both lunch and dinner.

Where to Shop

Central Street is lined with stores. Don't miss the independent bookstore **Wellesley Booksmith**, sister to Brookline Booksmith. The shop boasts a newly opened used-book cellar (through the children's section) and prides itself on hosting a wide range of author events, like a recent evening with Julia Alvarez, author of *In the Time of the Butterflies* and *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents*.

Wellesley has its share of suburban soccer moms, but college girls round out the rest of the customer demographic, which means it's possible to find some suitably stylish clothes. For a young vibe, pounding music, and lots of bags, visit **Luisa, Luisa**. Or stop down the street at **Betsy's** for a selection of hip, casual clothes. For any kind of sports gear you could possibly need, explore the cavernous **Thunder—The Sports Source**.

Where to Get Gorgeous

Wellesley has plenty of choices for spas. One local favorite is the original **Grettacole** spa. If your friends have been calling you Casper the Friendly Ghost of late, try the Gretta Body Bronze with Exfoliation for $115—or without exfoliation for $60. All first-time clients receive a personalized Trish McEvoy makeup consultation after services. **iB**

LOCATIONS

GLOUCESTER

Adesso Hair and Day Spa 13 Main St., 978-282-7777

Alchemy Café & Bistro 3 Duncan St., 978-281-3997

Bananas 78 Main St., 978-283-8806

Bookends 132 Main St., 978-281-2053

Cape Ann Historical Museum 27 Pleasant St., 978-283-0455

Common Crow Natural Market 6 Elm St., 978-283-1665

Deborah Coull Salon 116 Main St., 978-282-1778

Field & Brown 196 Main St., 978-281-1700

Franklin Café Cape Ann 118 Main St., 978-283-7888

Local Colors Gallery 121 Main St., 978-283-3996

Lone Gull Coffeehouse 146 Main St., 978-281-8588

Mystery Train 21 Main St., 978-281-8911

Passports 110 Main St., 978-281-3680

Tridosha Salon and Spa 94 Main St., 978-283-7100

Ula Blue 180B Main St., 978-281-8852

Virgilio's Bakery & Deli 29 Main St., 978-283-5295

HINGHAM

AZ Studio/Azure Spa 63 and 65 South St., 781-740-9662

Chel Bella 28 South St., 781-749-1219

Island in the Square 17 Main St., 781-749-2323

The Snug 116 North St., 781-749-9774

Square Café 150 North St., 781-740-4060

World's End 250 Martin's Lane, 781-740-6665

LEXINGTON

Cohoes 1690 Mass. Ave., 781-861-8554

Crafty Yankee 1838 Mass. Ave., 781-863-1219, www.craftyyankee.com

Indulgence Day Spa 10 Muzzey St. (Mews building), 781-674-9300, www.indulgencedayspa.com

Lexington Arts & Crafts Society 130 Waltham St., 781-862-9296, www.lexingtonma.org/LACS

Lexx 1666 Mass. Ave., 781-674-2990

National Heritage Museum 33 Marrett Road, 781-861-6559, www.monh.org

Not Your Average Joe's 1727 Mass. Ave., 781-674-2828

Rosie's Bakery 32 Waltham St., 781-862-1991

Small Indulgences 1844 and 1806 Mass. Ave., 781-863-2435, www.smallindulgences.com

NEWBURYPORT

Agavé Mexican Bistro 50 State St., 978-499-0428

Azure 37 State St., 978-465-0790

Be Pink 15 State St., 978-463-7465

The Black Cow 54 Rear Merrimac St., 978-499-8811

Fowles 17 State St., 978-463-9824

Interlocks Salon & Day Spa 58 Merrimac St., 978-465-3010

Jabberwocky Bookshop 50 Water St. (The Tannery), 978-465-9359

The Kiwi Grille at Steeple Hall 26 Green St., 978-463-5494

Mary Jane 20 Pleasant St.; 46 Inn St., 978-462-1119

Michael's Harborside One Tournament Wharf, 978-462-7785

Native Sun 11 Market Square, 978-465-4120

Plum Island Coffee Roasters 54 Merrimac St., 978-465-1444

Plum Island Grille Sunset Boulevard, 978-463-2290

Red Bird Trading Co. 50 Water St. (The Tannery), 978-462-5566

Rosie O'Shea's 84 State St., 978-499-0606

The Ruby Slipper 50 Water St. (The Tannery), suite nine

978-499-8588

Wishbasket 50 Water St. (The Tannery), suite one, 978-465-1515

WELLESLEY

Betsy's 100 Central St., 781-235-6364

Blue Ginger 583 Washington St., 781-283-5790, www.ming.com/blueginger

Figs 92 Central St., 781-237-5788

Grettacole 95 Central St., 781-237-5201

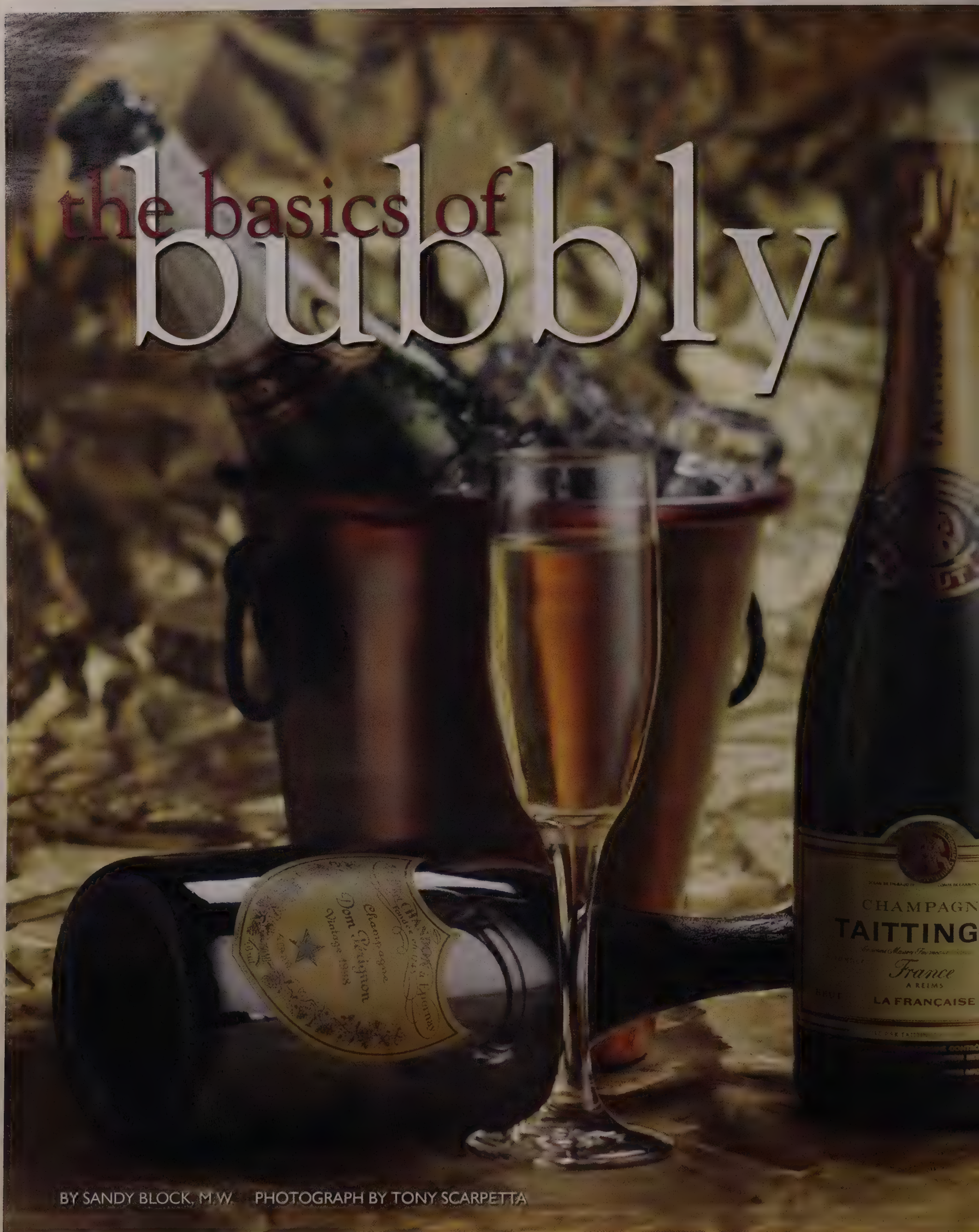
Luisa, Luisa 68 Central St., 781-235-1833

Thunder—The Sports Source 19 Central St., 781-237-0400

Wellesley Booksmith 82 Central St., 781-431-1160

Wellesley College 106 Central St., 781-283-1000, www.wellesley.edu

the basics of bubbly



BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W. PHOTOGRAPH BY TONY SCARPETTA

CHAMPAGNE COURTESY OF BAUER WINES

A MASTER OF WINE OFFERS A BRIEF HISTORY OF CHAMPAGNE AND TIPS FOR WHAT TO SIP WHILE RINGING IN '06.

This is the time for all you closet champagne drinkers to go nuts and start flaunting it. It's amazing that the season in which the vast majority of champagne is sold (November and December) is also the time you'll find the best prices by far, without even looking. It's called competition. Of course, best pricing when it comes to true champagne doesn't mean what it once did: Just try spending less than $25 a bottle. You might be able to do it, but are you sure it's the real stuff?

So what's this about "true" champagne? First, a little lesson in history and geography. Champagne is the name of a cold region in northern France, near Paris, where grapes struggle to ripen each year and usually fail, but where, nonetheless, vintners have been making wine since antiquity (though not sparkling wine necessarily; that's an innovation of the last 300 years). Champagne's also the name of a glorious wine. Its production entails a slow, painstaking process that creates the characteristic sparkle. The bubbles arise from a second fermentation inside the actual bottle you buy, but the critical step involves aging the wine and then removing the yeasts trapped within the bottle without the fizz evaporating—no easy feat, and it requires a lot of different steps taken over a period of years. There are quicker ways to introduce bubbles and get credible, sometimes even delicious results. But none of these shortcuts yields the real deal. So unless the wine comes from Champagne and unless the winemaker uses the approved technique (the so-called *méthode traditionelle*), it ain't champagne no matter what the label says.

Oh, the label. It may walk, talk and bubble like champagne, it may even say champagne, but if there's any other geographic indication at all (such as California or New York) it's a cheaper imitation. The driest champagnes will say "Brut." In the wacky terminology of wine, if the label tells you it's "Extra Dry" or "Dry," the champagne's actually sweet. There are some delicious, flavorful champagnes that are rosés, and you might find a bottle labeled "Blanc de Blancs" (meaning it's light and delicate, made with chardonnay), or "Blanc de Noirs" (meaning it's full and perhaps earthy, made with pinot), but most of the bottles you'll encounter are blends of various grapes and vintages and they will say "Brut NV" (or "non-vintage") after the brand name. As in "Moët & Chandon, Brut NV." When you buy one this time of year you can hold onto it for several months without fear of its going bad, and you don't even have to lay the bottle on its side, as you do with most other wines.

We're buying greater quantities of champagne this year than last, even though it's more expensive and sales of French wines without bubbles have declined an average of 5 percent.

Although champagne costs more money than most of us usually spend, it's worth it because of its unique origins, which impart a particular finesse of aroma and flavor. Champagne's special taste, along with promotional efforts by the major producers to convince us that this is THE wine of luxurious celebration, have helped champagne buck the slide in popularity of French wines overall in this country. We're buying greater quantities of champagne this year than last, even though it's more expensive and sales of French wines without bubbles have declined an average of 5 percent since 2004. But champagne's been on a 200-year roll as the wine of toasts and commemoration, and it's unlikely that this winning streak will end any time soon, especially since quality is impeccable across the board. The largest houses on the U.S. market, Moët & Chandon and Veuve Clicquot, dominate sales, so the following are my picks from among the others. Except for the Dom, all run between $30-$40 a bottle, depending on the store.

Taittinger Brut "La Française" NV. The character of every champagne's Brut NV reflects the somewhat nebulous "house style"—nebulous not to the champagne company but to consumers, most of whom buy more on brand attributes and associations rather than flavor. This is a blended product that's supposed to taste the same from one year to the next, yet there are always different vintages composing it. So how do they do it? Each company buys grapes from certain areas within Champagne that impart a specific character to the wine. In Taittinger's case, the company owns a larger percentage of the vineyards that produce its wine, and many of these are located in the Côte des Blancs, Champagne's prime chardonnay area. As such, Taittinger's "La Française" always has a preponderance of chardonnay. This wine is yeasty and toasty, with a fragrant apple blossom aroma. It's bone-dry, light in body, and has a really nice core of penetrating acidity, with a finish like a Granny Smith. The flavors are very pure and lingering. They pair beautifully with a plate of smoked salmon.

Pol Roger Brut NV. The opposite of Taittinger stylistically, the equally fine, family-owned Pol Roger has a fuller aroma of ginger, orange and spices, and it tastes firmer and more powerfully structured. Somewhat reserved and understated, with a mineral, slightly lemony edge, the fruit is beautifully balanced, soft and bone-dry. A favorite of Winston Churchill, the company has named one of its top cuvées (top-vintage champagnes that are produced from the region's best grapes and given extra-long aging) in his honor, but the basic Brut NV, while reserved and understated, is a substantial, medium-bodied champagne. Pair it with a poached filet of sole or halibut, particularly served with a creamy sauce.

Laurent Perrier Brut NV. Much larger in production than either of the above two companies, Laurent-Perrier still has something of a boutique image because of its relatively soft sales in the States. I thought it the finest Brut Non-Vintage I tasted this season. The wine has an interesting bread dough, sweet herb, mineral-like aroma. It's beautifully balanced, creamy in texture yet with firm acidity. Characterized more by finesse than power, its dry, understated minerality carries through all the way to the finish. Serve it with a simple boiled lobster.

Dom Pérignon. If you're going for broke, Dom Pérignon ($140) is a great choice. The fact that this wine is an icon, to some even a cliché, in no way negates its status as a magnificent champagne. The current vintage, the 33rd produced, is 1998. Its subtle, flowery, wheat-like aroma, with hints of lemon and crisp apple, results from the seven years the wine has been aging on the yeast. Slightly herb-like in flavor, but very clean, pure and elegant, this champagne has an incomparably long finish that hints of citrus. The advantage of Dom Pérignon among all the prestige cuvées is that it's available everywhere and instantly recognizable. I enjoyed it with sea urchin and caviar, the salty flavors of which brought out more personality in this young DP. It's got several years of aging ahead of it if you want to put a bottle or two away. And if you want to be really trendy and extravagant, go for the Dom Pérignon Rosé 1995. Why 1995? Because, thanks largely to its higher price, it takes longer to sell. That's actually an advantage, because it's more developed and aromatic than its younger, paler sibling. Cinnamon, tarragon and tangerine are all present in the aroma, and the flavors are lingering and herb-like. Should you be lucky enough to find it, expect to pay somewhere in the neighborhood of $150. IB

CONCERT SERIES

mountain MANIA

BY LESLIE KILGORE ILLUSTRATED BY MATTHEW VINCENT

WHEN THE LIFT SHUTS DOWN, THE FUN IS JUST BEGINNING AT THESE NEW ENGLAND SKI RESORTS.

Maria said it best: The hills are alive with the sound of music. Here in the Northeast, it's not just about the fresh snow, clean air and outdoor exercise anymore. The nightlife at ski resorts around New England is legit, rivaling city bars for their quality music, rowdy crowds and assortment of special events and parties. But figuring out where to go and who's got the best scene for you can be a major research project. As with snowflakes, no two ski resorts are exactly alike. Lucky for you, we're here to help. We surveyed northern New England's ski scene and put together this guide to some of the best local resorts and their entertainment offerings. Check them out and head for the slopes.

MAINE

SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN

5092 Access Road
Carrabassett Valley, Maine (800-843-5623). www.sugarloaf.com

Sugarloaf isn't a mountain for the timid. More than a five-hour drive from Boston in good weather, it's the only resort in New England above the tree line, with challenging terrain and conditions. And being so far to the north, it's also very cold. Here you'll find a mix of skiers and snowboarders—Maine students, outdoorsy hippies, Canucks, Bostonians, New Yorkers and hard-core New Englanders who are willing to drive far for some of the best terrain in the area. But as for crowds on the hill, you won't find them here. If elbowroom is what you're looking for, "The Loaf" is sure to deliver.

Lift Tickets: [illegible], daily

Best Bars and Music Venues: Located at the base of the mountain, [illegible] is a legend for true Loafers (as the resort's devotees are called). Locals and tourists alike are drawn to the lively après ski scene, known for its big burgers with all the fixin's, homemade soups and live music, making it a good place to stop for lunch or to end a long day on the hill.

For late-night recreation, Loafers swarm to the Widowmaker Lounge. With live music every night and several popular Boston bands playing regularly, it's where to go if you're not planning on first tracks the next morning. This winter, some bands featured are the Adam Ezra Group, Jan. 4-7; Rhythm Method, Jan. 13-14; Motor Booty Affair, Jan. 22; Dub Station, Jan. 27-28; Swerve, Feb. 3-4; Skeletones, Feb. 17-18; Chicken Slacks, March 3-4; and Super Honey, March 10-11.

[illegible], another locals' spot, is located off the mountain on the access road. A bit more low-key (you're sure to see a few dreadlocks and Carhart jackets here), it's a traditional mountain-town brewpub, complete with pool tables and a slew of microbrews on tap.

Special Events: How do you get people to a ski resort in the boondocks of Maine? Book big bands for the annual Bud Light Concert Series. Throughout the season, headliner bands fill the King Pine Room at the base area for sold-out shows. On Jan. 28, Big Head Todd and the Monsters perform. Feb. 25 and March 18 are also Bud Light Concert Series nights, with headlining bands to be announced soon.

SUNDAY RIVER SKI RESORT

Sunday River Access Road, Newry, Maine (207-824-3000). www.sundayriver.com

Sunday River has, hands down, some of the best snow conditions in New England. But take note: While not as far as Sugarloaf, it's still about a four-hour drive from Boston. Don't expect too rowdy of an evening; families abound at the River. But there are plenty of options for the younger crowd throughout the winter at the resort, on the access road and in nearby Bethel, with live music nightly.

Lift Tickets: $59, daily

Best Bars and Music Venues: Thumper's Night Club, located at the mountain, is where it's at for headliner bands. How about the Wailers on Thursday, Jan. 5? That's reason enough to get an early start to your weekend. It's also an opportunity to see big-name bands in a relatively intimate setting (Thumper's has a capacity of 800, small compared to venues in the city). Other bookings this season include the Sam Kininger Band on New Year's Eve and the Battle of the College Bands on Jan. 4. Eddie Money's offering two tickets to paradise on Feb. 19, and more bands will be announced for dates through April.

[illegible], located at the base area, is known for its après ski scene, with local bands playing nightly. Other spots for the best après ski (or past-après, into-the-wee-hours-of-the-night) scene include the Sunday River Brewing Company and the [illegible] on the access road, near the resort. Both are where the locals go for a variety of good beers, quality food and well-known bands throughout the winter.

Special Events: The Russian/American Kids Circus performs Jan. 14-15. It features aerial and acrobatic stunts from youngsters ages 6-18 in a fully staged circus tent at the base of the mountain. At the end of the season, [illegible] weekend March 31-April 2 pays tribute not just to Jimmy Buffet, but to spring itself, with pond-skimming contests, several live bands playing outdoors, parties at the base areas and the Bust 'n' Burn mogul competition open to the public.

VERMONT

KILLINGTON MOUNTAIN

4763 Killington Road
Killington, Vt. (800-734-9435). www.killington.com

Like to burn your candle at both ends? Killington is your spot, with a nightlife as good as, if not better than, the daytime activities. K-towners like their music and their bars, and the trails and lodges teem with designer-clad girls from New York and Boston in ski-bunny suits and yuppies in North Face garb, as well as hippies and snowboarders from Burlington. The variety makes for a lively scene any night of the week.

Lift Tickets: $69, one day; [illegible], two days

Best Bars and Music Venues: Both the Pickle Barrel and the Wobbly Barn are known for booking quality bands throughout the season. Such headliners as Rusted Root, the Samples and Matisyahu make both venues worth a visit this season. But some of the best acts to see at both bars are names you may not recognize—local East Coast and Canadian bands that play in Killington and other areas around Vermont regularly. From funk to jazz to blues and straight-up rock, the Barrel and the Barn keep it lively.

Special Events: The Wobbly Barn Mardi Gras Party celebrates its 10th anniversary Feb. 28. Costumes are required, but don't fret: The K-1 Lodge on the mountain provides mask-making materials from 3-5 pm the day of the event, with music during the day from the band Los Blancos. Satisfy your post-ski hunger with a Louisiana-style meal in the dining room, then join the festivities in the nightclub starting at 8 pm with the zydeco band Mango Jam. [illegible], March 9-11, is a snowboarder's weekend with a half-pipe competition, a bachelor auction at the Wobbly Barn, live music and several other activities to raise money for breast cancer research and treatments. [illegible], kicking off March 23, bring together more than 200 of the top freestyle athletes in the country to compete and party in style for four days. For more extreme sport fun, the [illegible] on April 8-9 features snowboard competitions, outdoor parties, BBQ at the base area and live music. If that's too extreme, April 15 brings the [illegible], a tribute to the Grateful Dead where cover bands play Dead tunes all day and night, sweetened by free samples of Ben & Jerry's ice cream.

SUGARBUSH MOUNTAIN

1840 Sugarbush Access Road
Warren, Vt. (802-583-6300). www.sugarbush.com

The welcome sign at Sugarbush should say, "No High-Strung City Types Allowed." As local musician Aaron Hersey says, "This is where hippies and rednecks hang out together. But everyone is welcome." In fact, it's tough to be stressed out here: A happy-go-lucky attitude prevails in this true Vermont mountain town, located three and a half hours from Boston, and you'd do well to leave the urban angst at home. Other benefits? The number of skiers at this resort is low, snowfall's high and the nightlife isn't bad, either. Mellow is the word for the Bush.

Lift Tickets: $63, one day; [illegible], two days

Best Bars and Music Venues: The Blue Tooth, located on the resort's access road, is all about the funky jazz and jazzy funk. The fun continues until 2 am on the weekends, with a variety of bands to party and dance to. Acts at [illegible], formerly the Mad Mountain Tavern, run the gamut of musical genres. Soul, rock, country, funk and jam bands from Boston and Providence perform here throughout the winter. More than 16 microbrews are on tap, and they make their own smokehouse BBQ. If you just can't tear yourself away from the slopes until later in the day, the Phoenix, slope-side at the Lincoln Peak Village, has the best après scene. Here you'll see tourists mingling with locals and mountain employees just off their shifts.

Special Events: On April 1, the entire resort gets irie for the [illegible], with live bands, food, beer specials and the annual ski and snowboard pond-skimming contest—all outside in the sunshine.

STOWE MOUNTAIN

5781 Mountain Road
Stowe, Vt. (800-253-4754). www.stowe.com

Stowe is the perfect mountain for those looking to relax and chill out after a da on the hill, but with a happening nightlife too. In general, the resort hosts a cros between the young city crowd at Killington and the mellow, woodsy crowd a Sugarbush. A variety of East Coasters make the trip regularly to rejuvenate whil they party.

Lift Tickets: $74, one day; $120, two days

Best Bars and Music Venues: The Matterhorn hosts touring bands in a smal but lively space. The 20-something crowd dominates the après ski scene here which includes sushi, pizza and pool tables. Meanwhile, 30-somethings flock to th [illegible], a true Vermont bar with the atmosphere of a rustic barn and a rockin music lineup that also features headliner bands throughout the season. Locals han out at The Shed for the best burger in town and the Shed's own microbrews, not t mention an atmosphere that's cozy and relaxed.

Special Events: The University of Vermont Winter Carnival brings togeth the top collegiate ski racers in the country to vie for spots at the NCAA national during this two-day competition on Feb. 3-4. And if there's one thing ski racer should be known for (other than their badass athletic abilities), it'd have to be par tying. The weekend promises the chance to see some hotties in tight racing suit showing off their stuff, with parties into the night. The Stowe Derby, a traditio at the resort slated for Feb. 26, is the oldest downhill/cross-country ski competitio in the country, with over 1,000 competitors. International athletes, amateurs, recre ational skiers and kids travel over 10 miles. Anyone who's brave enough to endur the pain is welcome to compete.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

ATTITASH MOUNTAIN

Route 302, Bartlett, N.H. (603-374-2368). www.attitash.com

WILDCAT

Route 16, Pinkham Notch, N.H. (603-466-3326). www.skiwildcat.com

Both Attitash and Wildcat are close to North Conway, a mountain town worth a visit in its own right any time of year. But winter brings an eclectic bunch of people to the area—from skiers, ice climbers and snow mobilers to shoppers searching for bargains at the many outlets downtown. A mix of restaurants and bars are scattered around town, not far from Attitash. But for a more secluded vacation, Wildcat is a little further away from North Conway and has a more remote feel, with fewer visitors on any given day. Located in the shadow of Mount Washington, Wildcat's colder than cold, but the views are worth enduring the frigid temps. For a luxurious ski trip, the Mount Washington Hotel is close to Wildcat and serves a four-course dinner nightly accompanied by an orchestra. An ideal trip to the area would allow a couple of days to check out Wildcat and Attitash, with a couple of nights to party in North Conway.

Lift Tickets: Attitash: [illegible], one day; [illegible], two days. Wildcat: $65, one day; $80, two days

Best Bars and Music Venues: Ptarmigan's Pub at Attitash is worth a stop for slope-side après fun, with live music on the weekends and outdoor concerts when the weather permits. The Red Parka is on the access road to Attitash and is the best spot for live music from local bands, good pub food and scoping out the locals' scene on the weekends. While there's no nightlife at Wildcat to speak of, North Conway has a variety of restaurants and bars close by. Try the Wildcat Inn and [illegible] or the Moat Mountain Smokehouse and Brewing Co.

Special Events: The Budweiser Spring Mania is a weeklong celebration at Attitash, March 17-25. It features the Grand Stand Mogul Jam on Saturday, March 18, with reggae music all day long on the Snow Stage outside of Ptarmigan's Pub. The event closes with the On Snow Golf Tournament and a performance by the funk/jazz/blues band the Boston Horns. **iB**

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WHAT'S IN AND OUT FOR 2006

As the shiny new year toddles into view and the old one heads for the retirement home, it's pop culture tradition to slough off those tired old trends and make way for a whole new crop of random obsessions. Just because we can, the Improper's editors have once again gazed into the superficial corners of our souls to declare what's hip and what's not for the coming year.

IN	OUT
Trannies	Nannies
Big talk	Small talk
Divorcekevin.com	Feedlindsay.com
Roller derby	Roller blading
Brunettes	Blondes
Eating	Dieting
Moustaches	Goatees
Electric candles	Fire
Aslan	Dumbledore
Gold	Silver
Metrospirituals	Metrosexuals
After-dinner cocktails	After-dinner coffee
Baby Luv haters	Tinkerbell haters
Aioli	Mayo
Fraud	Irreconcilable differences
House	Desperate Housewives
Satellite Radio	FCC
Arrested Development	Arrested Development
Getting over him	Pining
Plumpers	Collagen
Sweaters	Heat
Beefy	Buff
Pre-fab	Cape drab
Photo murals	Wallpaper
Hypoallergenic cats	Labradoodles

IN	OUT
Clive Owen	Colin Farrell
Biker chicks	Rocker chicks
The Click Five	The high five
Three San Jose guys	Joe Thornton
Pandemic panic	Epidemic panic
Telling it like it is	"Holiday" trees
Hating Indianapolis	Hating New York
Humps	Bumps
Fuzz	Overplucking
The BC	The OC
Sauerkraut	Chicken soup
Cooking vacations	Cooking
Toy huskies	Mini-maltese
ACC	Big East
White Sox	Red Sox
Reggie Bush	George Bush
O RLY?	LOL
Josh Beckett	David Wells
Gorilla suits	General manager suits
Dipset	G-Unit
Pomegranate martinis	Sidecars
Marrying country singers	Marrying rock stars
Divorcing country singers	Divorcing rock stars
Pussycat Dolls	Barbie dolls
Celebrity from another planet: Tom Cruise	Celebrity from another planet: Michael Jackson

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button-front cardigan, $195 at DKNY.

Black

Smolder in this season's most popular color.

Sheer mesh turtleneck by Jarbo, $165; black tulle overlay on fuchsia silk skirt by Nandita Joshi, $280. Both at Matsu.

Rabbit

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER

knee-length coat, $375 at DKNY.

Leather motorcycle-style jacket with crystal fleur-de-lis, by Royal Mocc, $1,095 at Matsu.

DKI
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617-236-04

Ma
259 Newbury
617-266-97

Hair and Make
Claudia Sey

Model: Katherine Pow

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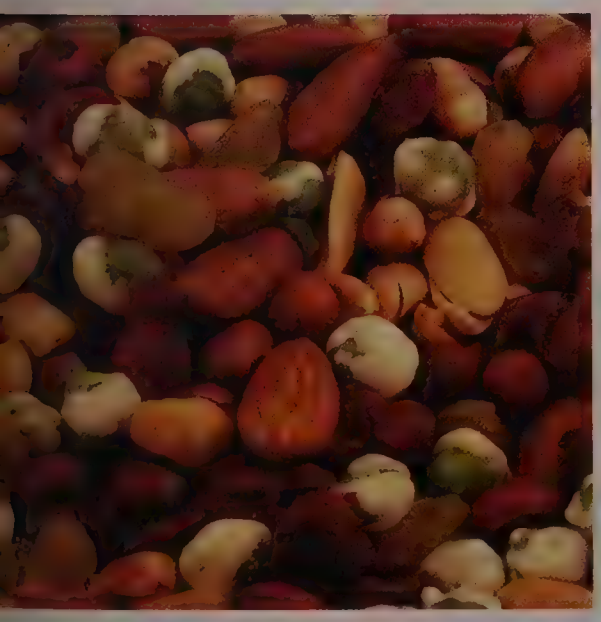

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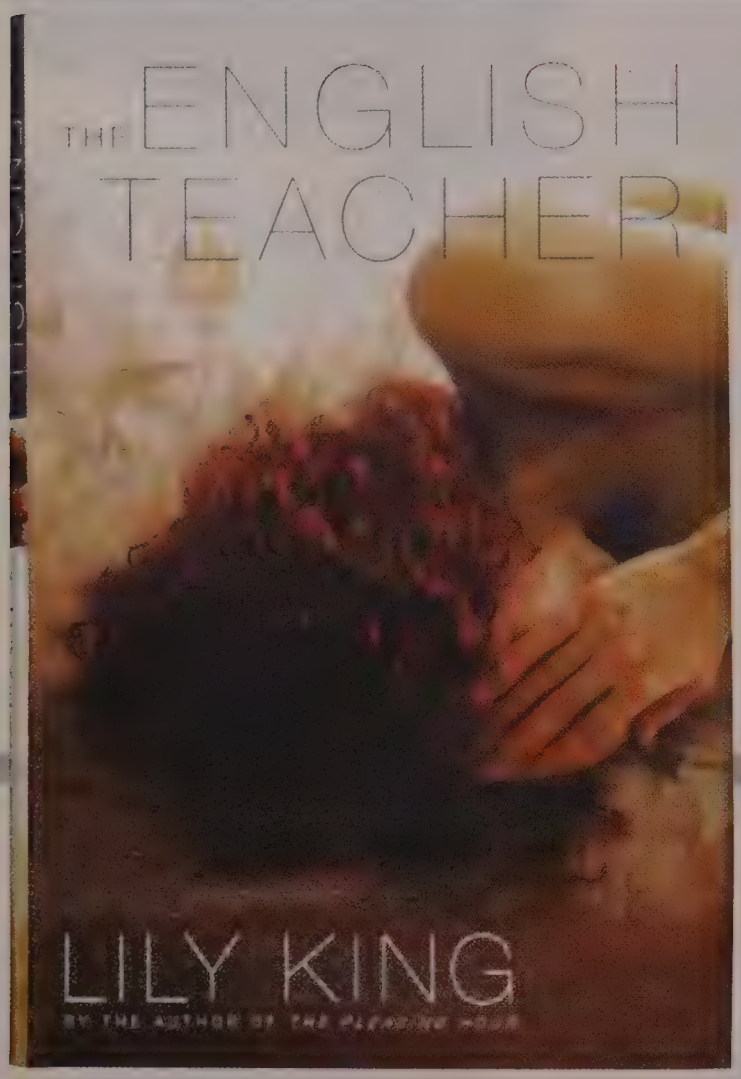
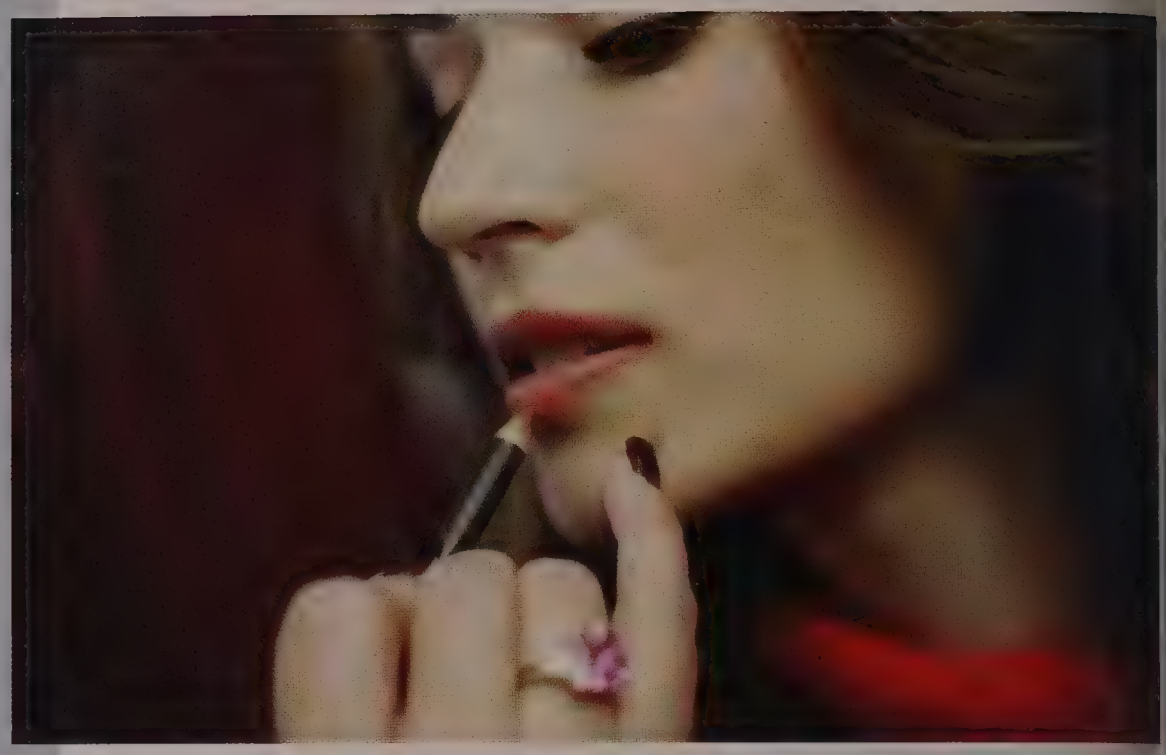
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



STEPPING IN AND OUT OF A FAMILY

***The English Teacher* is the latest offering from Cambridge native Lily King, who also wrote *The Pleasing Hour*.**

For 15 years, Vida Avery has lived with her son, Peter. She teaches English at a school housed in a mansion once owned by her grandparents. Their bond, both close and uneasy, is threatened by Vida's whirlwind marriage to widower Tom. He's the father of three, the most notable of whom, Stuart, has taken refuge in icily detached stances and pronouncements as a response to the loss of his mother. Peter makes appealing, rather awkward stumblings toward his new family, into unrequited yearning for a girl and around the edges of the cool scene that doesn't welcome him. In the bathroom, he makes a kind of kindred contact with a photograph of Tom's dead wife, noting the oddity of his invasion into her former life. Vida, a marital misfit herself, in spite of having a sweet husband, is a rather fierce teacher with a connection to the eponymous, outcast heroine of *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*. As things unravel—her dog dies, and it's clear that this was her closest relationship—Peter, willy nilly, rises into his grownup self. King's grace of pace lends a pearly air to the subtle inwardness of the characters.



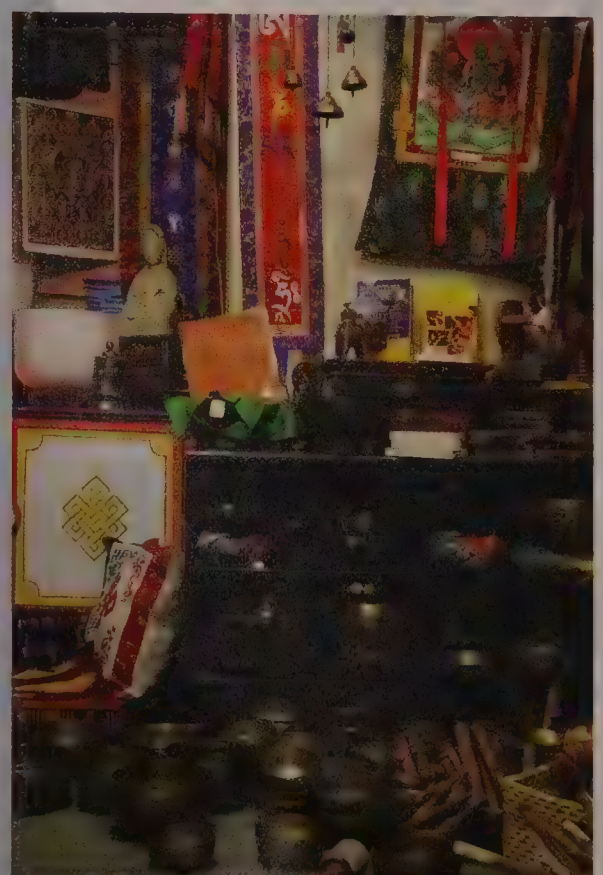
ADVENTURE IN BEAUTY FOR GIRLS

Wishes for Girls is a new beauty studio for girls, guys and even grownups. 34 Main St., Concord (978-369-9699).

Where do girls—littler ones—go to get their tiny tresses treated? To some intimidating ammonia-spritzed salon for gossiping grownups? No way! They should come up the white stairs to this friendly fairyland which is designed and decorated to suit the young, with lots of purple and pink, cute cherubs, a velvet pouf and a cheering poster that promotes good values like "Quell rumors. Touch hearts." It's salon-like but in a cozier, Concord way. The little ones, ages 4-8, can get their hair cut in colorful high-chair-like seats for $25. Haircuts for those between the ages of 9 and 13 are $30, and for the oldies who are ages 14 and up, their haircut will set them back $40. CoCo Grace is a makeup consultant who has created products that are "light on the skin." Wishes For Girls offers hair styling that includes braids, curling iron treatments and updos. The kiddies can get their nails painted in any color of the rainbow with a "mini-mani" or "mini-pedi." Wishes for Girls also makes a good birthday destination: For $50, cake and goody bags are showered on the little tykes. At the in-house photography studio, a minigang can get photographed, and the birthday girl's photo may be incorporated into an imaginary magazine cover adorned with pertinent cover-lines. The proprietor, Rita Greeley, once served THE IMPROPER as photo editor, so she knows a thing or two about picture-taking.

A STORE THAT MAKES YOU FEEL BETTER

Tibet Arts sells Tibetan clothing, jewelry and spiritual healing items made in India and Nepal. 1925A Mass. Ave., Cambridge (781-643-4656). www.tibetarts.com.



Away from the hurly burly of Porter Square, Tibet Arts invites you into its soothing climes. Atmospherically apart from America itself, the store is decorated with gauzy pastel curtains, scented with a light smell of incense and surrounded with the sound of singing bowls which, when tapped with a wooden stick, ring in a way that makes your head feel like it's encircled with gold. The clothes—dresses, handmade jackets and silk scarves—have an exciting, dramatic air, and there's one wonderful hat made of silk and fur that would make an amusing person even more so. Eye-catching rings and bracelets have bold, colorful stones, like chunks of turquoise or coral, or carnelian (for good luck). The store's back area features Buddhist and other spiritual and meditative items—healing banners, prayer flags, CDs and calendars, and books by such spiritual luminaries as the Vietnamese monk Thich Nhat Hanh, the Western nun Pema Chodron and the Dalai Lama. Even a woven rug depicting a tiger is said to be calming. Seeds, a reclining Buddha and travel amulets promise "protection against all obstacles, losses and negativities." Who could resist such comfort and courage?

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REVIEW

SEA IT TO BELIEVE IT

Neptune Oyster goes far beyond the typical North End stop.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN

As befits a country surrounded on three sides by water, Italian cuisine has always given a prominent role to seafood. While various restaurants in Boston's North End feature respectable seafood dishes, only two make it the centerpiece of their menus. Like Mare (reviewed in these pages a couple of months ago), Neptune Oyster is a relative newcomer to the neighborhood, having just completed its first year in operation. But despite its youth, Neptune offers some of the most consistent, imaginatively conceived, professionally executed and beautifully presented cuisine in the neighborhood. Young revelers love its kinetic atmosphere; they coexist alongside more mature patrons, who come here to savor the fresh fruits of the sea.

Neptune's tiny storefront contains a large, marble-topped bar seating 16, while small tables with wrought iron pedestals and the same marble tops and red leather banquettes along the opposite wall accommodate another 20. White-tile walls, a white hammered-metal ceiling and tiny-white-tile flooring resemble the décor of Grand Central Station's Oyster Bar and innumerable chic raw-bar bistros in Paris. Large, gleaming mirrors framed in dark wood cover the upper part of the walls, some of them inscribed with the names of oyster varieties and specials of the evening. The mirrors alternate with framed fish posters, one depicting two dozen species of swordfish. Black ceiling fans and white-globe hanging light fixtures and sconces complete the bistro décor. The large, plate-glass window looking out on the street is etched with the name of the restaurant and a trident logo, while the restaurant's glass door adds an Italian note, with the words *aperitivi*, *vino*, *birra fredda* and *frutti di mare* etched from top to bottom.

In attacking Neptune's small but well constructed menu, I paid particular attention to its namesake delicacy, the oyster, offered in several different forms. Because the raw bar is the focus of much of the action at Neptune, I began my gastronomic exploration with three of the 12 varieties of oysters served on the half shell. Neptune's list began with Wellfleet from the outer Cape and continued through Falmouth to five other Massachusetts sources, then on to Watch Hill in Rhode Island, Wawenauk in Maine, up to Cape Breton in Nova Scotia, and out to the Pacific Coast, concluding with Stellar Bay in British Columbia. The Wellfleet ($2.40 each), described as medium-large with a strong salt start and a sweeter finish, more than met those criteria—plump, impeccably fresh, and swimming in its subtle, distinctive-tasting liquor (the liquid surrounding oysters in their shells) and expertly opened to avoid the slightest fragment of shell. The Falmouth, described as "earthy" with a "brie finish" seemed similar to the Wellfleet, if slightly smaller. I didn't quite see this creature, raised under the sea, as "earthy," and any taste of brie escaped me. Finally, the Wiley Point oysters from Maine were slightly larger, pleasantly briny, plump and juicy. But the menu again failed me, as I completely missed the "hint of mint" promised in Neptune's description. I loved the oysters, notwithstanding the descriptions, which reminded me a little of the literary license that wine critics take with fermented grape juice: "vanilla," "grassy," and so on. That license has never stopped me from enjoying wine, and Neptune's oyster descriptions could not detract from the pure, pristine goodness of those splendid bivalves.

Wellfleet oysters with live sea urchin

NEPTUNE OYSTER

63 Salem St., Boston
(617-742-3474)

HOURS Sun.-Wed., 11:30 am-11 pm; Thu.-Sat., 11:30-12 am

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CREDIT CARDS yes, all major

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE no

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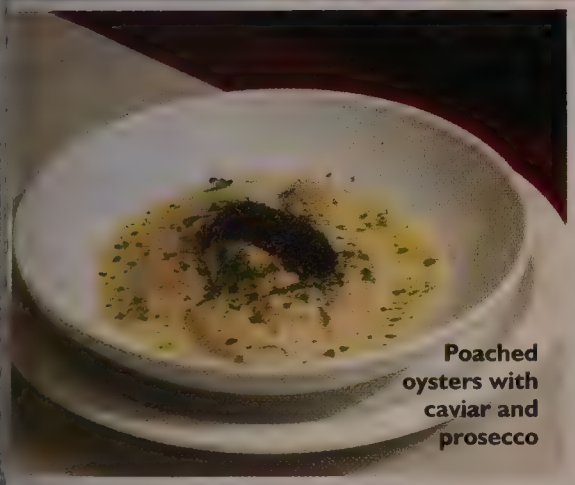
Moving along through this lively eatery's oyster repertoire, I ordered the poached oysters ($14). These had been poached in prosecco (slightly sweet Italian sparkling wine) and butter, with a substantial dollop of caviar as a garnish. The nine plump oysters proved as fresh as those served on the half shell, and the butter and wine contributed to the sweetness, with the caviar adding an exotically salty dimension. Fried oysters and artichokes ($12.50) combined five flash-fried, lightly breaded oysters with the same number of tender artichoke hearts, also lightly breaded. The careful frying of both oysters and artichoke hearts had given them a crisp exterior that sealed in the natural goodness of these disparate but compati delicacies. A trace of fontina cheese an splash of truffle oil added a note of crea richness and savory complexity.

Other appetizers included clam chow ($7), a conventional seafood starter re dered unconventionally delicious, th with clams, firm chunks of potato a crunchy celery. Served hot, its intense f vor rivaled the best in the city. A decide nonstandard offering, baked polenta ne ($11.50), brought a rich block of moist, f vorful polenta steeped in octopus ink, o which had been ladled a ragout of tend braised octopus, roasted tomatoes a breadcrumbs topped with minced parsl Its intriguing flavor and the lingering r ances of the sauce drove us to reques piece of bread (which is not routinely fered at Neptune) to mop it up. Fina among the appetizers, crab cakes ($1 brought two thick, crab-ri patties, crisp yet moist, serv on slices of country ham a endive, with a lively sauce mustard, horseradish and sc cream. Only the refrigerat cold temperature of the ha flawed this delicious ensembl

Neptune's main cours maintain the high standard by its appetizers. I started wi an oyster po' boy ($14.50), sandwich of nine fried oyst served with a mountain of h fresh french fries. Despite t indifferent roll—again, bread not a distinguishing feature of this resta rant—the oysters, accented by a piqua aioli, proved every bit as delectable in th format as those served raw, poached combined with artichokes. Biscuit-crust monkfish ($22) combined excellent, r silient texture with an enjoyable toppi of homemade biscuits. The accompanyi stewed kale and split-pea broth provid herbaceous flavors that enhanced this e timable dish. Marvelous Japanese accen distinguished the filet of salmon ($24 served with morsels of crisp, pleasant salty duck, avocado and soy sauce spik with raw ginger. The bright green-pea te drils served with the salmon provided w come color, but proved difficult to che tasting like stemmy watercress.

Filet of salmon with crispy duck, avocado salad and pea tendrils

A view from the raw bar



Poached oysters with caviar and prosecco

Roasted halibut ($25), a magnificent, generously large and thick filet of fresh fish, roasted outstanding texture, with firm but moist layers of white flesh flaking off the filet at the touch of a fork. Fresh mint framed its delicate flavor, while a garnish of eggplant, chick peas and roasted garlic cloves provided a robust counterpoint. The jumbo sea scallops ($26.50) fetched the second-highest price on the menu, and they clearly merited the premium. (There was a more expensive bone-in ribeye, but I couldn't pass up Neptune's glorious seafood to try it.) *Jumbo* accurately described these four behemoths, their satiny texture and sweet flavor providing two delectable meals, one in the restaurant and one gently warmed up at home later. A thick slice of pumpkin bread and maple butter at first seemed to risk excessive sweetness, but balanced by nuggets of meaty, salty pork crackles and a garnish of slender, bright green string beans cooked to perfect al dente texture, the whole combination succeeded splendidly.

Neptune's wine list contained a number of first-rate selections. A Montepulciano rosé, offered by the glass ($7), went well with the robust flavors of the polenta nero and the monkfish and its pleasantly bitter kale garnish, while Les Crustaces ($29), a blend of gewürtztraminer, riesling, pinot gris and muscat produced by Alsacian winery Dopff et Irion, complemented the more subtle oysters and the halibut. Cremant d'Alsace ($36), one of my favorite non-champagne sparklers, delivered its taste of the Alsacian terroir in festive mode. Service at Neptune was mixed: excellent one night, satisfactory another and a little distracted on a third.

The volume in this tiny, hard-surfaced venue can be harsh, but I only encountered a particularly boisterous patron on one visit, and with his departure the noise reduced to a much more tolerable level. At any rate, the minor inconvenience seemed like a small price to pay for the spectacular food and chic setting.

Like many North End restaurants, Neptune doesn't offer dessert. No problem. One Saturday evening when our sweet tooth managed to survive Neptune's generous portions, we retreated, along with throngs of other natives and out-of-town visitors who turn the North End into an adult Disneyland, to the line in front of Modern Pastry for a first-rate, freshly stuffed cannoli. IB

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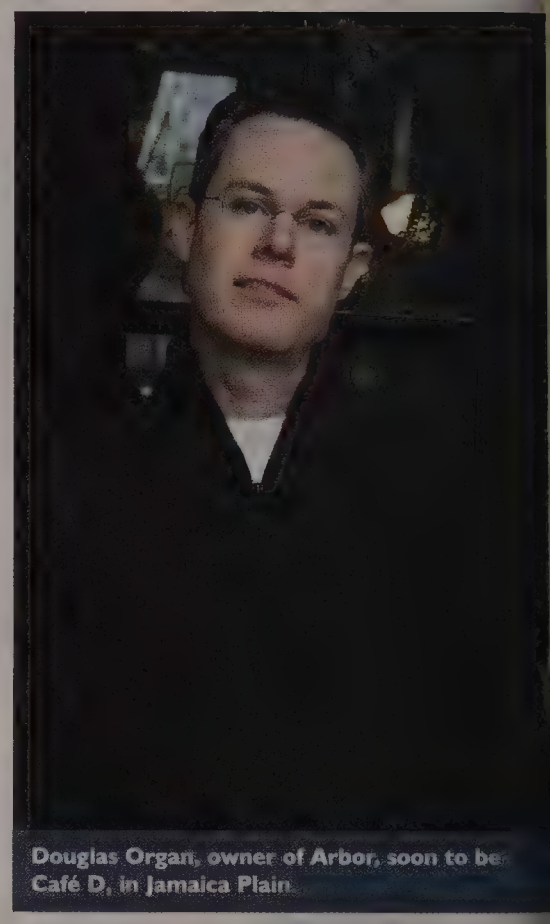
DISH

Tim-berrrr!

Arbor out on a limb… Vox Populi revamped

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

When **Douglas Organ** opened **Arbor** on Centre Street in Jamaica Plain less than two years ago, the diverse neighborhood seemed the perfect spot for an upscale fine-dining restaurant focused on sophisticated Provençal and Mediterranean cuisine. Reviews were universally positive, and the plentiful free parking behind the restaurant made it easy for suburbanites to drive on weekend nights. And yet, says Organ, Arbor wasn't as closely attuned to the neighborhood as he'd wanted it to be. The dark windows and vestibule weren't especially welcoming for walk-ins, and the menu prices—$8-$14 for first courses, $18-$24 for main courses—were too high to entice a high volume of neighborhood diners. So Organ is "re-concepting," closing Arbor after New Year's Eve dinner and then re-opening the restaurant in February as **Café D**. It will be "a totally new restaurant, basically relaxed and more casual, more suited to the neighborhood," he says. The menu "will change fairly dramatically, downscaling in a pretty big way," with virtually all entrées under $20. As for décor, Organ is installing clear glass windows and knocking out that vestibule, to "bring the restaurant to the street," and doubling the size of the bar. Organ himself is staying on, of course, as is everybody currently on staff.



Douglas Organ, owner of Arbor, soon to be Café D, in Jamaica Plain

SECOND COURSE

Vox Populi is giving us something to talk about: New chef **Eric Bogardus**, who took over the kitchen in November, is on a mission to bring the quality of the dining experience "up to the level of the bar business," he says. Bogardus is certainly the chef to achieve that goal: With local experience working with **Jacky Robert** at **Locke-Ober**, and most recently a six-month stint consulting for a restaurant in Washington, D.C., he's already assembled a new kitchen team and created a full dinner menu. Bogardus had been looking to open his own restaurant in Boston, but real estate was too pricey, and "I wanted to get back into the kitchen before I got rusty!" he laughs. So when owner **Joe Quattrocchi** offered him the position of executive chef, Bogardus hit the ground running. He hired **Greg Di Giovanni**, f merly café chef at **Maison Robert** a former chef at **Pierrot Bistrot**, as well other staff and re-trained everybody. revamped the kitchen, ordering n plates, tables, and dinnerware. And changed the menu 100 percent. Seve dishes will be familiar to diners luc enough to have enjoyed Bogardus' coo ing at **Lucy's** in Brookline: chickpea p lenta fries with red-onion ketchup, da and marrow dumplings with teapot mus room consommé, ostrich stroganoff, a apple beignets. It's a huge menu, with half-dozen "small plates," eight appetize four pastas and more than 10 ma courses, plus side dishes and desserts.

After a stint at **Umbra**, pastry ch **Lee Napoli** is back at **Sandrine's**... January, Arlington's popular Mexic eatery **Zocalo** will expand into a larg space on Comm. Ave. (formerly **Café tanbul**), featuring added attractions su as a rolling ceviche cart (Boston's firs and, on weekends, strolling musicia The Arlington location will stay open

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Tue., 6-8 pm. Croma features three specialty martinis ($8 each) and complimentary pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Destination: Italy
Sorriso Trattoria, 107 South St., Boston (617-259-1560). www.sorrisoboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed., 7-8 pm. $25. Executive chef **John Paine** and resident raconteur **Ciro Pirone** host weekly wine tastings this fall, highlighting particular regions of Italy. •Dec. 21: The Unknowns.

Epicurean Evenings
Aujourd'hui at Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue., 6 pm. $45. Sommelier **Ted Davidson** and chef **Jerome Legras** host this weekly event that offers guests three light courses built around a theme, region or grape variety. •Jan. 10: Blind Tasting.

Feast of Seven Fishes
•Davio's Boston, 75 Arlington St., Boston (617-357-4810). www.davios.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 24, 5-11 pm. $65. Chefs **Stephen Brown**, **Eric Swartz** and **Rodney Murillo** put together a five-course dinner featuring seven sea creatures, including clams, calamari, scallops and shrimp, for this annual Italian Christmas Eve tradition.
•Grotto, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-3434). www.grottorestaurant.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Dec. 24, 5-10 pm. $50. Grotto chef/owner **Scott Herritt** prepares four fish-laden courses and a dessert course, as well as a limited menu featuring items from the Feast, signature dishes, and new inspirations which can be ordered à la carte or as a prix-fixe meal (three courses for $40 or four courses for $50).

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Sat., 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts gastronomic experts who discuss subjects that range from wines to foods to microbrews.

The Harvest Review
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). www.harvestcambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvest. Dec. 27-29. $39. For three straight nights in December, Harvest offers a four-course tasting menu made up of the best dishes from the past year's tastings series. Dishes include a lobster empanada, rabbit and dumplings, ham and sage-braised thighs, and a vanilla custard.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** and wine director **Jacob Knight** Wednesdays for a sampling of four wines paired with complementary food tas ings. •Dec. 21: Lovely Bubbles. •Dec. 28: Wi & Cheese.

Lucy Goes to the Dogs
Lucy's, 242 Harvard St., Brookline (617-23 5829). www.lucysbrookline.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Dec. 22, 5-1 pm. For one night only, diners who enj Lucy's butter- and cream-free menu can joined by canine companions, who will recei a doggy bag courtesy of Cause for Paws. Rese vations required.

Quartino and Cicchetti
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambrid (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBT Red Line to Porter Square. Mon., 11:30 am-4 p Chef de cuisine **Mark Usewicz** offers four to s wines paired with a selection (five to eig items) of small plates, called cicchetti. Cicche are priced from $4-$9, and wines from $9-$16.

Spice of the Month Club
Tamarind Bay, 75 Winthrop St., Cambrid (617-491-4552). www.tamarind-bay.co MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Second Monday every month. 5-7 pm. $25. Executive chef **Wa Ahmad** discusses a new Indian spice ea night and prepares a four-course menu of dish predominantly featuring that spice. Jan. Pickle Spice.

Sudoku Night
Fugakyu, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline (617-73 1268). MBTA: C Green Line to St. Paul. Mo 5-7 pm. On Mondays, customers at Fugaky sushi bar try to solve Sudoku, a Japanese nu ber puzzle, for the chance to win discounts their meal.

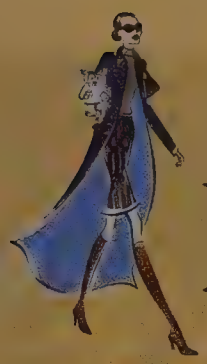
Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). www.winebar.com. MBTA: Red Line South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $30. Sommelier **Ge offrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and ch **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuv and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Ja 10: California Pinot Noir.

Wine and Dine Monday's
The Beacon Hill Bistro, 25 Charles St., Bost (617-723-1133). www.beaconhillhotel.co MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH or Red Green Line to Park Street. Second and fou Mon. of each month. $55. Chef **Ben Knac** prepares a four-course meal paired with wi from around the world. A brief discussion each wine follows, led by local wine exper **Cecilia Rait** and **Marilyn Snee**. •Jan. 9: Ita

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-26 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Li to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Er Johnson** presents wines to complement a fo course French-New England meal by ch **Frank McClelland**.

Wine Tastings at Vinalia
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-177 www.vinaliaboston.com. MBTA: Orange or R Line to Downtown Crossing. Wed., 6:30 p $15. Every Wednesday night, Vinalia hosts wine tasting featuring four wines paired wi seasonal appetizers.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-72 1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Bl Line to Aquarium or Orange Line to State Stree Wed., 7 pm. $41. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pa French cuisine with wines selected by somm lier **Erik Johnson**.



Beacon Hill Beckons

"...the pizza is to die for; you could faint just describing the flavor of the sauce, and the crust puts you over the edge."

— Jack Welch, *Winning*

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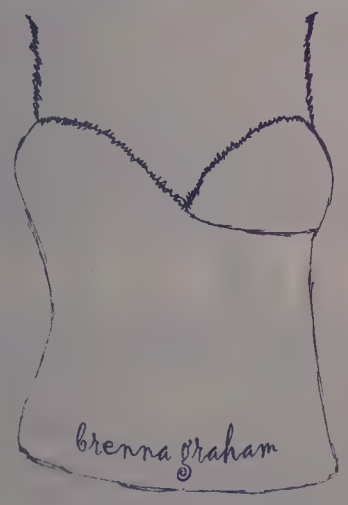

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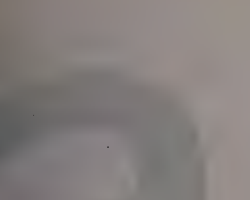
agenda

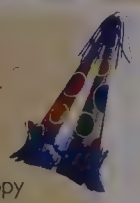
HOT TIPS FROM
CALENDAR GURUS
LESLIE AND RICH

MPROPER PICKS

december 21 - january 10

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			21 The **Boston Pops** presents its annual holiday show at Symphony Hall. *See Classical on page 90.*	22	23 **The Purple Shamrock** holds its annual toy drive for Toys For Tots. *See CityScope on page 70.*	24
25	26 Jersey-based ska band **Catch 22** plays at Axis. *See Music on page 83.*	27 Harvest hosts a **Best of Harvest Review** dinner party. *See Tastings on page 62.*	28	29	30 Boston Ballet's ***The Nutcracker*** finishes its annual run at the Opera House. *See Performing Arts on page 72.*	31 **Ralphie May** headlines a New Year's Eve show at the Comedy Connection. *See Comedy on page 73.*
1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5 **Kay Hanley** headlines a show at T.T. the Bear's in Cambridge. *See Music on page 87.*	6 ***The Underpants*** debuts at the Lyric Stage Company. *See Performing Arts on page 71.*	7
8 Avalon screens the season-three premiere of ***The L Word***. *See Gay & Lesbian on page 106.*	9 ***A Raisin in the Sun*** plays for one night only at the Shubert Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 71.*	10				





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CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Graham Books & Poetry, Movies
Leslie P. Kilgore Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Music
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Performing Arts, Sports
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

SUN./JAN. 8

Music: Java Craving

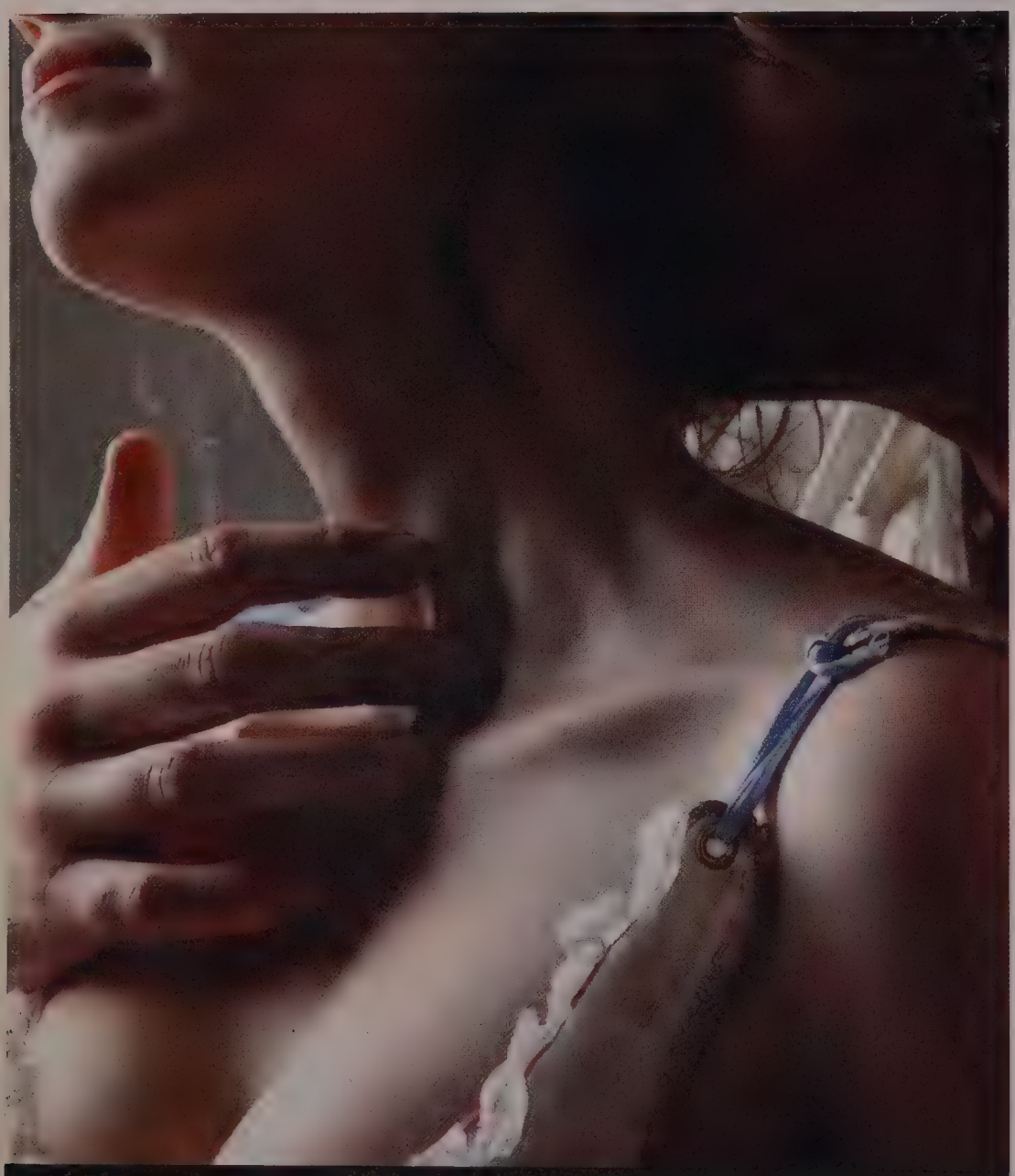
One of the livelier weddings IMPROPER staffers have attended featured an orchestra playing Indonesian gamelan music. So we pricked up our ears when we heard that the MFA is hosting a concert by the Boston Village Gamelan ensemble. Gamelan music, which takes its name from the Javanese word for hammer, is one of the oldest cultural traditions from Central Java. The MFA's collection just happens to include traditional 19th century gamelan instruments—gongs drums, mettalophones and more—and BVG members have been rehearsing on those instruments before small audiences at the MFA since July. Their rehearsals culminate in the January concert, which will include an introductory talk about the art form by Emerson's Andy McGraw. It's all in conjunction with the MFA's exhibition *Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia. 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3308). www.mfa.org. Lecture, 2:30 pm; concert, 3 pm. $24, general admission; $20, museum members; $30 reserved seating for front row; $28, front-row seating for members. —L.P.K.*

The World's Fastest Indian

SAT./DEC. 31

Film: See It First

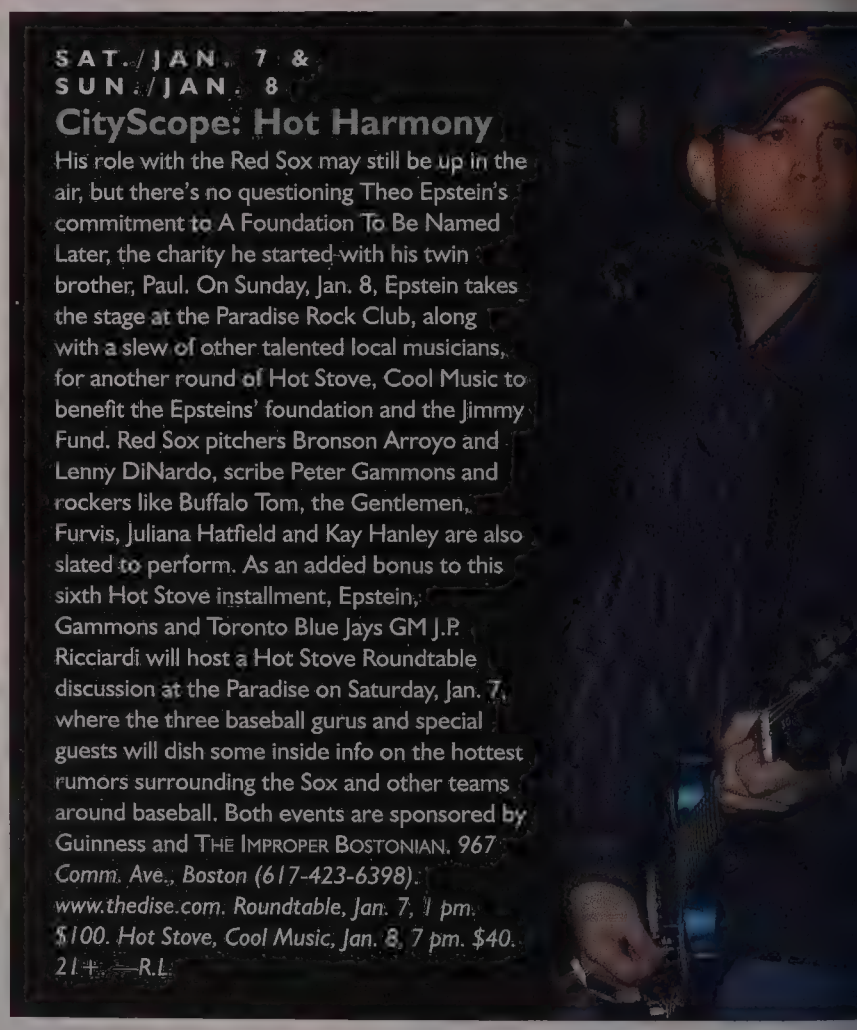
The city's annual First Night festivities are a surefire way to start the New Year off right, and thankfully not all First Nig activities involve shivering in the streets. One mellow optic for keeping it inside is the Hynes Convention Center's First Night Film Festival. This year, five screening rooms show sneak previews of forthcoming Hollywood films, new independents and animated shorts. The event kicks off at 12:30 pm with *Mad Hot Ballroom*, a comical documentary th looks at three groups of 11-year-old New York City public school kids who learn to ballroom dance. The festival continues with *The World's Fastest Indian* at 2:30 pm, starrin Anthony Hopkins; *Ballets Russes* at 5 pm; *Mutual Appreciati* at 7:30 pm; and ends with the rockumentary *New York Doll* 9:30 pm. Also on the agenda are submissions from the Roxbury Film Festival, Japanese animated films selected by New England Anime Society and a collection of shorts fron MassArt's animation program. A First Night button ($15) i all you need for admission. *Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-542-1399). www.firstnight.org. 12 pm–12 am. $15. —L.P.K.*



FRI.–SUN. AND TUE./JAN. 5–FEB. 5

Performing Arts: All's Fair in Love and Lust

The movie *Cruel Intentions*, with Sarah Michelle Gellar, Selma Blair, Reese Witherspoon and hubby Ryan Phillippe, is one of our favorite guilty pleasures. When it comes to portraying love and deceit, that foursome had it mastered. The classic plot, drawn from the 18th-century French novel *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* by Choderlos de Laclos, can once again be savored—this time on stage—in the Huntington Theatre's production of the play, also based on LaClos' novel. Directed by Daniel Goldstein and written by Christopher Hampton, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* is at the Boston University Theatre for one month. Chock full of nudity and "explicit adult situations," this production stars the dishy Michael T. Weiss, who drew attention for his performance in the Huntington's *Burn This* last season. *264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm.; Sun., 7 pm.; Tue., 7:30 pm. $15-$60. —L.P.K.*



SAT./JAN. 7 & SUN./JAN. 8

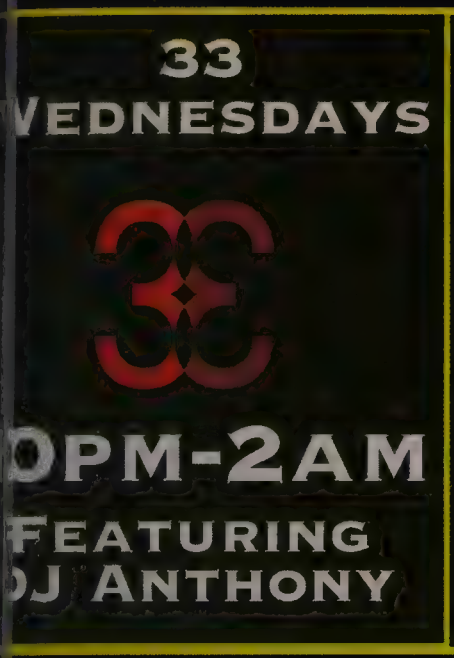
CityScope: Hot Harmony

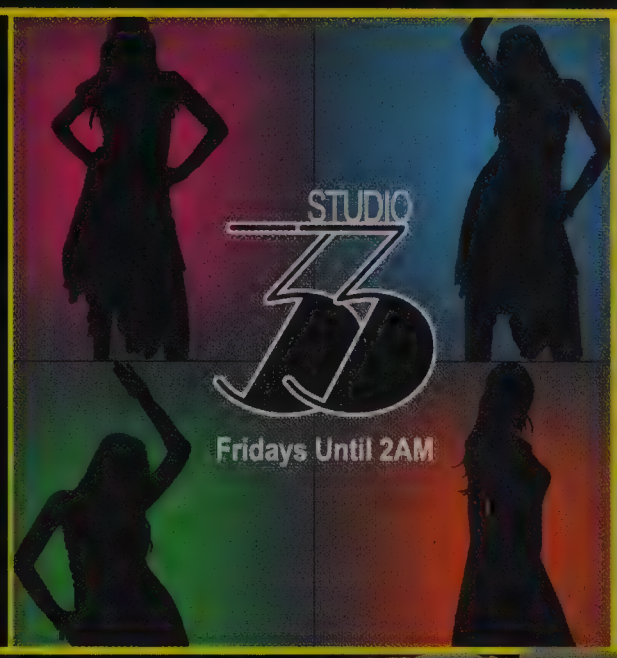
His role with the Red Sox may still be up in the air, but there's no questioning Theo Epstein's commitment to A Foundation To Be Named Later, the charity he started with his twin brother, Paul. On Sunday, Jan. 8, Epstein takes the stage at the Paradise Rock Club, along with a slew of other talented local musicians, for another round of Hot Stove, Cool Music to benefit the Epsteins' foundation and the Jimmy Fund. Red Sox pitchers Bronson Arroyo and Lenny DiNardo, scribe Peter Gammons and rockers like Buffalo Tom, the Gentlemen, Furvis, Juliana Hatfield and Kay Hanley are also slated to perform. As an added bonus to this sixth Hot Stove installment, Epstein, Gammons and Toronto Blue Jays GM J.P. Ricciardi will host a Hot Stove Roundtable discussion at the Paradise on Saturday, Jan. 7, where the three baseball gurus and special guests will dish some inside info on the hottest rumors surrounding the Sox and other teams around baseball. Both events are sponsored by Guinness and THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN. *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-423-6398). www.thedise.com. Roundtable, Jan. 7, 1 pm. $100. Hot Stove, Cool Music, Jan. 8, 7 pm. $40. 21+. —R.L.*

SAT./DEC. 24

Tastings: Gone Fishin'

Want to score a little good luck heading into the new year? Improve your prospects for '06 by taking part in the Feast of Seven Fishes, an Italian Christmas Eve tradition said to bring good fortune in the year to come. T number seven represents the sacraments of Christianity, the seven pilgrimage churches of Rome and the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, and while the specifics of the can feast vary, the only rule is that seven fish m be presented throughout the course of the meal. Fret not, however, about that poaching and fileting: We've found two local eateries offering up versions of the feast. In Beacon Hill, Grotto chef/owner Scott Herritt prepares four fish-laden courses and a dessert course, as well as a limited menu featuring items from the feast, signature dishes and new inspiration that can be ordered as a prix-fixe meal (three courses for $40 or four cour for $50). The same night, Davio's Boston chefs Stephen Brown, Eric Swa and Rodney Murillo put together a five-course dinner featuring seven sea creatures, including clams, calamari, scallops and shrimp. Buona fortuna! *Grotto, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-3434). www.grottorestaurant.co 5-10 pm. $50; Davio's Boston, 75 Arlington St., Boston (617-357-4810). www.davios.com. 5-11 pm. $65. —R.L.*





New Year's at 33

NEW YEAR'S EVE MENU
DECEMBER 31ST, 2005

AMUSE BOUCHE

Tuna-Crab Salad Roulade with Rice Popcorn Chili Soy Dressing

FIRST COURSE

Seared Sea Scallops with Sweet Pea Puree, Caviar and
a Champagne Butter Sauce

~ OR ~

A Roasted Corn 'Sip' with Rillettes of Duck Leg Confit

SECOND COURSE

Arugula Salad with Spiced Pecan, Shaved Pecorino and Champagne Vinaigrette

THIRD COURSE

Roasted Sirloin of Beef with Oven-Cured Tomatoes,
Fingerling Potatoes, Asparagus and a Perigeaux (Truffle) Jus

~ OR ~

an Seared Halibut with Crisp Mushroom Ravioli, Cauliflower-Walnut
Pesto and a Chianti Beurre Blanc

FOURTH COURSE

Warm Double Chocolate Cake with Cherry Compote
and Tonkanese Ice Cream

~ OR ~

Bread Pudding with Blueberry Coulis and a Lemon Olive Oil Gelato

VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

*5:00PM to 7:00PM Seating — $99/person
Includes a Welcome Drink

*8:00PM to 10:00PM Seating — $125/person
Includes a Glass of Veuve Clicquot & Party Favors

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IN THE LOUNGE
5:00PM & 10:00PM***

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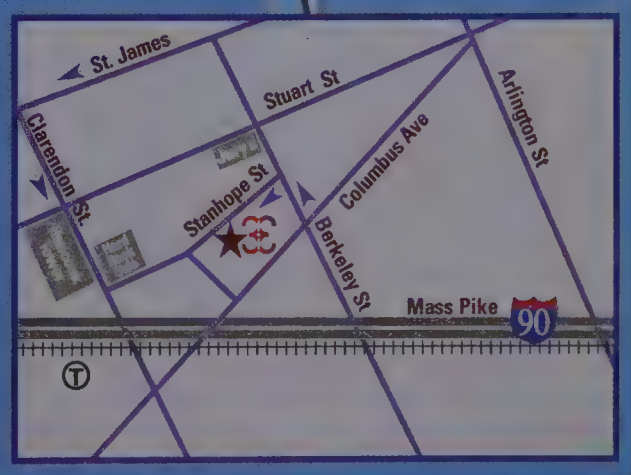
A 33 MARTINI LUGE

- Hors d'oeuvres of Canapeés of:
  - Caviar
  - Shrimp
  - Filet Mignon
  - Salmon
  - Lobster
- Complimentary drink, party favors and a champagne toast

$100/person

$125/person after Dec. 28th

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
SPACE IS LIMITED



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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121). 9 pm- 3 am. $30. An Tua Nua's party features four DJs, two dance floors, a champagne toast at midnight and free appetizers.

The Big Easy Bar
The Alley, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000). www.bigeasybar.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 8 pm. $50. This Mardi Gras–style party features music from Syndicate and DJ KC, Mardi Gras street performers, a dinner buffet and more.

Bonfire
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 50 Park Plaza, Boston (617-262-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5-7 pm, $90, first seating; 7:30 pm-9:30 pm, $125, second seating; 10:30 pm, $40, bar service. Seatings include multicourse meals with a champagne toast, and bar service includes a taco platter, a glass of champagne, party favors and entertainment.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10:15 pm. $80-$167. The Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra plays its annual New Year's concert, along with refreshments and dancing.

Brew Year's Eve Celebration
Cambridge Common, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-1228). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 9:30 pm. $31. Cambridge Common's first annual Brew Year's Eve features samplers of beer paired with signature sliders and fries.

The Colonnade Hotel: Back Bay Gala
120 Huntington Ave., Boston (781-444-7771). www.backbaygala.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 7 pm. $125-$200. The first annual Back Bay Gala offers baby boomers live swing music by the Love Dogs, cocktail reception, choice of all-inclusive dinner or hors d'oeuvres reception, silent auction and gift bags. Black tie optional.

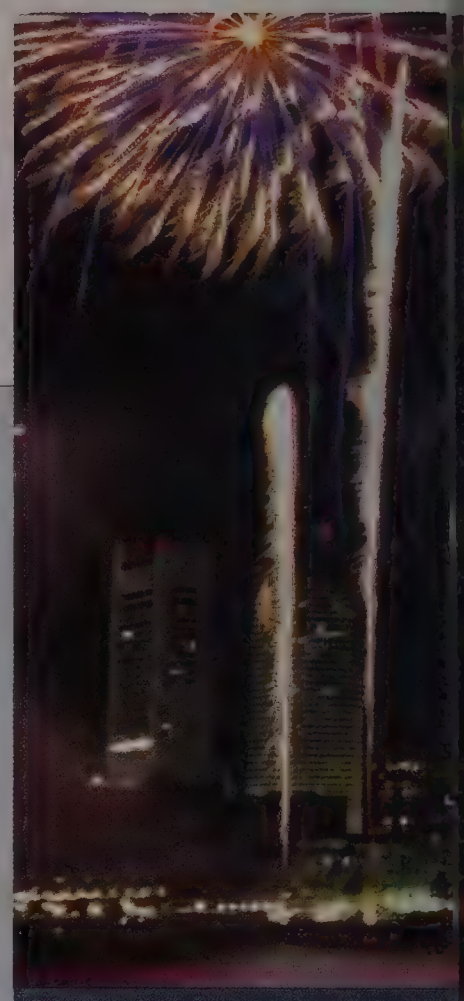
Dick's Last Resort
Quincy Market, Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. 9 pm-2 am. $49.50. Dick's New Year's Eve bash features entertainment from Groleau's Basement, appetizers, dinner, dessert and a champagne toast.

Felt
533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). www.feltboston.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-3 am. Felt's New Year's party is highlighted by a live performance by Pussycat Doll Rachel Sterling, appetizers and a champagne toast.

First Night: Family Festival
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-542-1399). www.firstnight.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 1-5:30 pm. Boston's First Night Family Festival features storytelling, puppet shows, children's music, art workshops and more.

First Night: Fireworks
Boston Common and Boston Harbor (617-542-1399). www.firstnight.org. Family Fireworks above Boston Common, 7:10 pm; main fireworks over Boston Harbor, 12 am. Boston 4 Celebrations presents Family Fireworks, an 11-minute display for those with an early bedtime, while Zambelli Pyrotechnics presents an elaborate celebration over the harbor at midnight.

First Night: Grand Procession
Boylston Street from Hynes Convention Center to Boston Common, Boston (617-542-1399). www.firstnight.org. 5:30-7 pm. This annual parade through the streets of Boston celebrates its 30th anniversary with "In the Spirit of New Orleans," a tribute to the people and culture affected by Hurricane Katrina.


Take a good look at our guide to New Ye
the ball drops.

Foundation Lounge
*500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-99(
www.thefoundationlounge.com. 9 pm. $75-$1*
Foundation's New Year's Eve bash features l
d'oeuvres, a champagne toast and a DJ spinr
groove, house, hip hop and rock.

The Green Briar
*304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-41(
www.greenbriarpub.com. Doors close at 9:30 pm. $*
The Green Briar offers a DJ and dancing all n
long, appetizers, party favors and a champagne t
at midnight.

Gypsy Bar
*116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799). w
gypsybarboston.com. MBTA: Green or Red Lin
Park Street. Open until 3 am. $60.* The Gypsy Ba
fers hors d'oeuvres, dancing and a champagne t

The Harp
*85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). w
harpboston.com. Doors close at 9:30 pm. $50.*
Harp offers a DJ and dancing, appetizers, pa
favors and a champagne toast at midnight.

Jake Ivory's
*9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-247-1222). w
jakeivorys.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmor
pm. $40.* Jake's offers a New Year's edition of
Dueling Piano Show, buffet and a champagne to

Julien
*The Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (6
451-1900). www.langhamhotels.com. 8 pm-1
$210.* Julien's New Year's Eve black-tie G
dinner includes a six-course menu, champa
toast, party favors, a midnight balloon drop o
the dance floor and a four-piece band.

Kings
*10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). www.b
baykings.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA
pm. Free.* Kings offers a live band, giveaways, pa
favors and food.

The Kinvara Pub
*34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-940
www.kinvarapub.com. $25.* Kinvara offers a
and dancing all night with appetizers, pa
favors and a champagne toast at midnig
Proper dress required.

Liquor Store
*The Alley, 25 Boylston Place, Boston (617-3
6800). www.liquorstoreboston.com. MBTA: Gr
or Red Line to Park Street. 8 pm. $50.* This pa
features passed appetizers, party favors, danci
and a champagne toast.

The Living Room
*101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-510
www.thelivingroomboston.com. 9 pm. $75, dinn*

:50, *lounge; $125, private lounge*. The Living Room's New Year's Eve celebration features a four-course prix-fixe dinner in the main dining room, complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a champagne toast in the lounge, and a tasting flight by Executive Chef Matt Puma with champagne specials in the private lounge.

Lucky Strike
45 Ipswich St., Boston (617-437-0300). www.luckystrikeboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Open until 3 am. $20-$40. Lucky Strike offers three different New Year's bowling packages. Call for details.

Midnight at the Met
The Metropolitan Club, 1210 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-731-0600). www.metclubandbar.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill. 5 pm-12 am. $40 in advance; $50 door. The full-service restaurant will feature special New Year's Eve tasting menus in the dining room by Chef Jeff Fournier that will also include a split of champagne and festive hors d'oeuvres.

M.J. O'Connors
27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). www.mjoconnors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. $20. O'Connors offers music all night long and a champagne toast at midnight.

New Year's All Over The World
Mantra, 52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111). www.mantrarestaurant.com. $100 per table (four-person minimum), $120 VIP. 10:30 pm. Mantra's New Year's Eve club features two DJ's, five live dancers, one complimentary bottle of Moët per table, a live light show and passed hors d'oeuvres.

New Year's Eve Bellagio Ball
The State Room, 60 State St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Orange Line to State. 9 pm-2 am. $150-$250. Boston Young Professional hosts this black-tie event, featuring three Vegas-themed rooms, top-shelf bars, gourmet food, entertainment, party favors, a champagne toast, mock gambling and live music hosted by Mix 98.5's Tad Bonvie.

A Night of Opulence
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). www.bhh.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 8 pm-1 am. $220. Boston Harbor Hotel's celebration features the cuisine of chef Daniel Bruce in a five-course dinner, live music by eight-piece band Urban Renewal, party favors and fireworks over the Boston Harbor.

Parris
Quincy Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-248-8800). www.parrisboston.com. Doors close at 9:30 pm. $60. Parris offers live music by Flavor and DJ Scorch with appetizers, party favors and a champagne toast at midnight. Jacket and collared shirt required.

Rain
665 Broadway Malden (781-322-2101). 8 pm. 21+. KISS 108's Billy Costa hosts Rain's New Year's Eve bash, featuring Randy G and Stevie B.

The Resolution Ball
Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (781-444-7771). www.resolutionball.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $150-$225. The ninth annual Resolution Ball features live music by the Felix Brown Band and NYC DJ Sam L, a premium cocktail reception, choice of hors d'oeuvres reception or all-inclusive dinner, a champagne toast and a goody bag from event sponsors.

Saint
90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm. $30. Saint's Platinum Ball features a DJ spinning house, hip hop and dance, hors d'oeuvres and a midnight toast.

Sidney's Grille
20 Sidney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). www.hotelatmit.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $69, first seating; $99, second seating. Sidney's Jazzin' into 2006 New Year's Eve party includes a five-course prix-fixe menu, a midnight champagne toast and live jazz featuring the Manny Santos Quintet.

Sorriso
Sorriso, 107 South St., Boston (212-201-1317). www.sorrisoboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to South Station. $65-$100. 8 pm-2 am.21+. JetSet Events presents this upscale New Year's celebration, featuring New York City DJ Sensae, live jazz by the Japanese Swing Cats, two-hour complimentary bar, hors d'oeuvres from Sorriso Trattoria and Les Zygomates Wine Bistro, patisseries from Café Vanille and French Memories and a champagne toast.

Tequila Rain
3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300). www.tequilarainboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9 pm-2 am. $30. This party features passed hors d'oeuvres, party favors, dancing and a champagne toast.

33 Restaurant & Lounge
33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. $99-$125. 33 Restaurant offers two seatings, as well as a VIP Reception featuring passed appetizers, party favors and a midnight toast.

Tiki Room
1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580). www.tikiroomboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9 pm-2 am. $40. This party features a tropical luau–style buffet, party favors, a champagne toast and a raffle.

Top Of The Hub
The Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. $250 per person. 8 pm. The night begins with an hour-long cocktail reception followed by passed hors d'oeuvres and a panoramic view of the city during the fireworks. The menu includes chilled lobster and hearts of palm salad and sautéed king salmon.

Venezia
20 Ericsson St., Boston (617-436-3120). www.venezia-onthewater.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ashmont. Venezia's New Year's celebration features a limited dinner menu, live band and a champagne toast.

Vinalia
101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-1777). www.vinaliaboston.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm. $125, gala; $30, lounge. Vinalia's party features a four-course wine-pairing dinner, a champagne toast at midnight, a live band and dancing. The lounge offers a cash bar, live band and dancing.

West Side Lounge
1680 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-5566). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $40. New Year's Eve at West Side features a three-course prix-fixe menu created by Chef Mark Gaudet, special wines and champagne selection, and cocktail specials.

Les Zygomates
129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.winebar.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7 pm, $75, first seating; 10 pm, $100, second seating. Les Zygomates' celebration features a three-course dinner and live jazz from the Ronnie Ron Trio.

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Benefits

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

Toys for Tots Drive

The Purple Shamrock, 1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Gov. Center. Bring an unwrapped toy to contribute to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves' Toys for Tots program.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

Hot Stove, Cool Music

Paradise Rock Club, 967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-423-6398). www.thedise.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. 6 pm. $40. Peter Gammons, Theo Epstein, Kay Hanley, Bronson Arroyo, Lenny DiNardo and Juliana Hatfield headline this charity rock show benefiting A Foundation To Be Named Later.

Festivals & Parties

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

The JBall

The Alley Cat, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (781-444-7771). www.tjcboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. 8 pm. $20-$25. This fifth annual Christmas Eve party for Jewish singles features a live DJ, hors d'oeuvres and one hour of complimentary beverages.

The Matzo Ball

Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (888-633-5326). www.matzoball.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 8 pm. $25. This 19th annual Christmas Eve party for Jewish singles features a live DJ, hors d'oeuvres and door prizes.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

Elvis 71st Birthday Bash

Dick's Last Resort, Quincy Market Place, Boston (617-267-8080). www.dickslastresort.com. MBTA: Green Line to Gov. Center. 5 pm. Free. Elvis impersonator Dana Z and his band perform some of the King's most popular hits at this birthday party that also features a Look-A-Like, Sound-A-Like and Jelly Donut Eating Contest.

Old Town Trolley Chocolate Tour

The Trolley Stop Store, Corner of Boylston and South Charles streets, Boston (617-269-3626). Sat. and Sun., through April 30. Tours depart at 11:30 am, 12:45 pm. $60. This fully narrated tour incl chocolate-tasting stops at the Top of the Hub, Omni Parker Hotel and the chocolate bar buff the Langham Hotel.

Singles

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

8-Minute Dating

Orleans, 65 Holland St., Somerville (617-591-21 www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Dav pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight diffe eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet people you didn't get the chance to share a date w For single professionals ages 25-35.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

8-Minute Dating

Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambr (617-225-0888). www.8minutedating.com. MB Red Line to Kendall. 6:45 pm. $35. Sample appeti during eight different eight-minute dates. Th mingle and meet the people you didn't get chance to share a date with. For single professio ages 34-46.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

8-Minute Dating

Fire & Ice, 205 Berkeley St., Boston (617-4 3473). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Green L to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appeti during eight different eight-minute dates. Th mingle and meet the people you didn't get chance to share a date with. For single professio ages 28-38.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

8-Minute Dating

Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-7 0720). www.8minutedating.com. MBTA: Red Lin South Station. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appeti during eight different eight-minute dates. Th mingle and meet the people you didn't get chance to share a date with. For single professio ages 25-35.

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ce Tickets
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17-787-2370). www.tixboston.com. Ticket City lls tickets to sold-out shows.

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17-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

heater and Opera

UST OPENED

ig River
urtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-44-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. MBTA: D Green ine to Riverside. Dec. 26-30, 2 and 8 pm. $24. A mu-cal version of Mark Twain's classic *Huckleberry Finn* nd winner of seven Tony awards, including Best Mu-cal.

Disney On Ice Princess Classics
D Banknorth Garden, 100 Legends Way, Boston 617-931-2000). www.disneyonice.com. MBTA: reen Line to North Station. Dec. 28, 7 pm; Dec. 29-0, 11 am, 3 pm and 7 pm; Dec. 31, 11 am and 3 pm; n. 1, 1 pm. $15-$30. Portions of such classic Dis-ey films as *Cinderella*, *Aladdin*, *Mulan* and *Sleeping eauty* are re-created on the ice.

Les Liaisons Dangereuses
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston 617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Jan. 5-Feb. 5. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm; Tue. 7:30 pm. $15-$60. This adaptation of the classic novel by Choderlos de Laclos examines games of love and lust in 18th century France. This production contains nudity and adult situations and may not be suitable for children.

Little Women
Opera House, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.littlewomenonbroadway.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 10-22. Tue.-Thurs., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 pm. $25-$87.50. Based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott, this musical follows four sisters growing up during the Civil War.

The Love Show
Arsenal Center for the Arts, 321 Arsenal St., Watertown (617-923-0100). www.arsenalarts.org. Dec. 28-29, 2 and 7 pm. $30-$40. Nimble Arts, the Vermont-based, circus-theater troupe, presents high-flying aerialists, jugglers and comic interludes of love gone awry.

No Exit
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 7-29. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm and 7:30 pm. $37-$74. Jean-Paul Sartre's classic thriller revolves around three recently deceased strangers who find themselves locked in a drawing room. Directed by Jerry Mouawad.

A Raisin in the Sun
Shubert Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 9, 7 pm. $10; students and seniors, $5. This production of Lorraine Hansberry's award-winning play follows a black family facing racial inequality and their dream of a better life.

The Ritalin Readings
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan. Jan 6-7, 8 pm. $10. This festival of 10-minute plays includes readings of the very short works of local playwriting talent, along with musical performances.

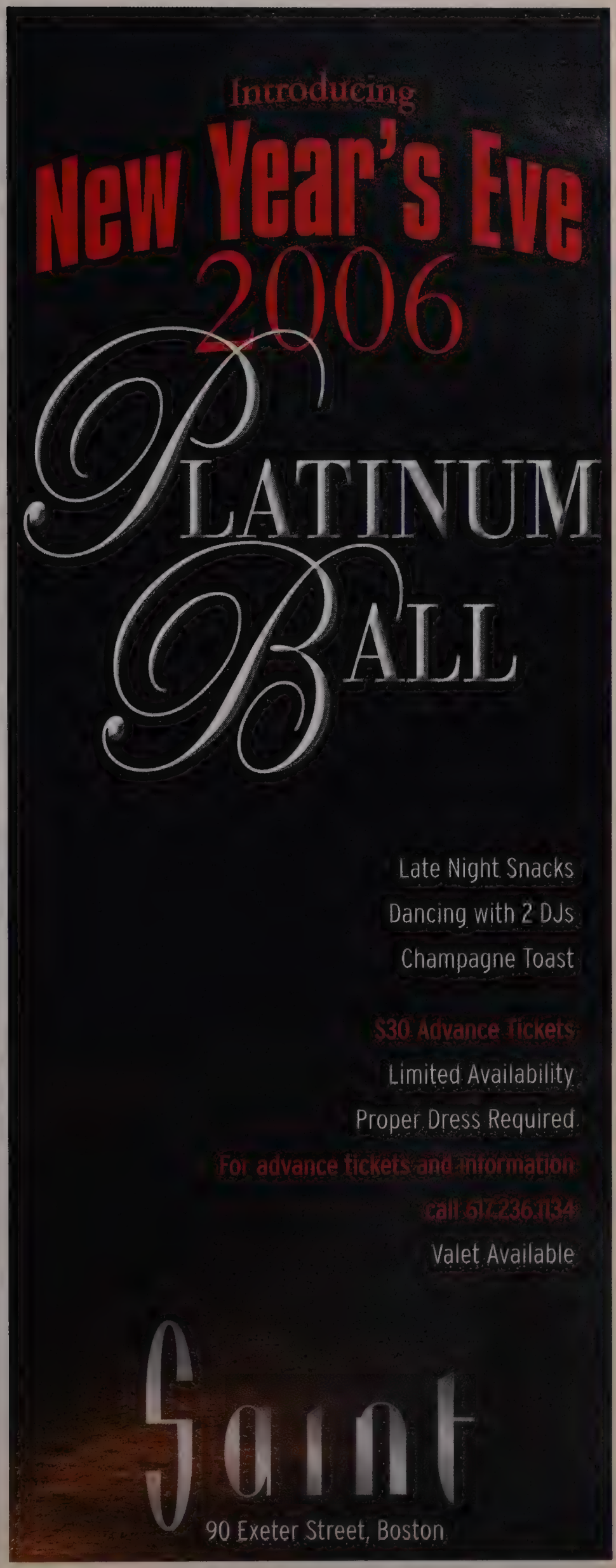
The Underpants
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. Jan. 6-Feb. 4. $20-$45. Daniel Gidron directs Steve Martin's adaptation of this classic 1910 German farce about a wardrobe malfunction and the vagaries of fleeting fame.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. The blue trio performs an ongoing show that mixes art, music, comedy and a lot of toilet paper.

A Christmas Carol
Arsenal Center for the Arts, 321 Arsenal St., Watertown (617-923-8487). www.newrep.org. Through Dec. 24.

Little Women premieres at the Opera House, Jan. 10



2 and 8 pm; Sat., 3 pm. $35-$53. The cast performs a 12-minute concert of period carols in Victorian costume before each performance of this holiday classic, based on the novel by Charles Dickens.

Christmas in Wales and America

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Dec. 21, 3 pm. $33-$63. Grant Llewellyn conducts seasonal choral works by American composers from the 18th through the 21st centuries and recites Dylan Thomas' *A Child's Christmas in Wales.*

The Christmas Revels

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-4595). www.revels.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Dec. 30. Schedule varies, call to confirm times. $12-$42. This theatrical celebration of the winter solstice blends song, dance, ritual, storytelling and drama, drawing on audience participation.

Crowns

Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Dec. 23. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $22-$47. This story follows a Brooklyn teenager's journey south to live with her grandmother.

Encore!!

Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-542-9155). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Dec. 20 and Dec. 23, 10:30 am. $14.50. Chamber Repertory Theatre presents staged productions of Poe's "The Tell Tale Heart," Irving's "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," Jacobs' "The Monkey's Paw," Maupassant's "The Necklace" and Twain's "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County."

The Firebugs

Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. Through Dec. 23. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $15-$18. Swiss playwright Max Frisch's story follows a hair tonic salesman whose own vanity is used against him by two strangers.

Menopause: The Musical

Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42.50. In Jeannie Linder's musical, four aging baby boomers with nothing in common but memory loss and hot flashes meet at a lingerie sale.

Ovation!

John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-9155). www.chambertheatre.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 22 and 23, 10:30 am. $14.50. The Chamber Repertory Theatre brings five stories to the stage: Poe's "The Cask of Amontillado" and "The Black Cat," Saki's "The Open Window," Dahl's "Lamb to the Slaughter" and O. Henry's "A Retrieved Reformation."

Shear Madness

Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (6[illegible] 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBT[illegible] Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 [illegible] Sat., 6 and 9 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. T[illegible] comedic whodunit, set in a crazy unisex hair sal[illegible] holds the record as Boston's longest-running pla[illegible]

Three Sisters

American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., C[illegible] bridge (617-496-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: [illegible] Line to Harvard. Through Jan. 1. Tue.-Thu., 7 [illegible] pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Schedule varies, [illegible] to confirm. $15-$74. Krystian Lupa dire[illegible] Chekhov's tale of a Russian family looking for a b[illegible] ter life despite the hardships of isolation, dea[illegible] birth and marriage.

Tour de Force!

John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (6[illegible] 542-9155). www.chambertheatre.com. MBT[illegible] Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back B[illegible] Dec. 20 and 21, 10:30 am. $14.50. The Cham[illegible] Repertory Theatre presents five works: Poe's "T[illegible] Fall of the House of Usher", Ambrose Bierc[illegible] "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge", Sal[illegible] "Louis", Richard Connell's "The Most Dangere[illegible] Game" and O. Henry's "The Ransom of R[illegible] Chief."

Twelfth Night

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second S[illegible] Cambridge (866-811-4111). www.actorsshakespe[illegible] project.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. D[illegible] 21-23, 7:30 pm; Dec. 21, 10:30 am; Dec. 26-[illegible] 7:30 pm; Dec. 28, 2 pm; Dec. 31, 6 pm; Jan. 5[illegible] 7:30 pm; Jan. 7-8, 2 pm. $35-$40. The Acto[illegible] Shakespeare Project presents the Bard's famo[illegible] comedy of disguises and mistaken identities.

White Christmas

Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (1-80[illegible] 447-7400). www.whitechristmasthemusical.co[illegible] MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. [illegible] Tue.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 pm, 7:30 pm; Sun. [illegible] pm. $22-$78. Walter Bobbie directs this musi[illegible] about two soldiers who become singers and m[illegible] their girlfriends during a performance at a V[illegible] mont inn.

Dance

The Nutcracker

Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (617-69[illegible] 6950). www.bostonballet.org. MBTA: Green Line[illegible] Boylston or Red or Green Line to Park Street. Throu[illegible] Dec. 30. Thu.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 p[illegible] Sun., 1 and 5:30 pm. $22.50-$107.50. Chore[illegible] graphed by Mikko Nissinen, Tchaikovsky's ball[illegible] about a nutcracker come to life enters its 37th ye[illegible] of Boston Ballet performances.

Crowns plays at the Lyric Stage Company of Boston through Dec. 23.

Christmas Carol finishes its run at the Arsenal Center for the Arts on Dec. 24.

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STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café

334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). ww.stashcomedyjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 7-10 pm. $5. Stash's Comedy Jam features performances from local stand-up comedians, sketch comedy, musical acts and more.

Beantown Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). www.dickdoherty.com/remsched.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnection boston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Gov. Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Dec. 21, 8 pm: Mike Donovan. •Dec. 22, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist." •Dec. 26, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox. •Dec. 27, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz. •Dec. 28, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins. •Dec. 29, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist." •Dec. 30, 8 and 10:15 pm: Ralphie May. •Dec. 31, 7, 9 and 11:15 pm: Ralphie May.

The Comedy Studio

Harvard Square, 1238 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). www.thecomedy studio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $8-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Dec. 21, Shane Webb, JJ Leslie, Dan Hirsch. •Dec. 22, The Dan Sally Show with Daniella Capolino, Korte Yeo, John Lincoln. •Dec. 23, The Walsh Bros., Sarah Blodgett, Rick Jenkins. •Dec. 28, Steamy Bohemians, Greg Thibideay, Robby RoadSteamer, Deb Farrar-Parkman. •Dec. 29, The Dan Sally Show with John Lincoln. •Dec. 30, The Walsh Bros., Rick Jenkins.

•Dec. 31, New Year's Eve with Rick Jenkins and friends. •Jan. 1, Erin Judge Presents...her Christmas Show. •Jan. 4, Rebecca Anderson, Shane Mauss, Eric Cheung, Renata Tutko. •Jan. 5, The Dan Sully Show with Patrice Vinci, Courtney Cronin, Dan Hirsh, Gary Sohmers, Shane Mauss. •Jan. 6, Orlando Baxter, Shane Mauss, Rick Jenkins. •Jan. 8, Erin Judge Presents...Dave Grabiner, Shane Mauss, Jon Rineman, Chibuzo.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jimmy Tingle's features both established and aspiring performers and productions. •Dec. 22-24 and 29-31, 7:30 pm, $15-$25: *Jimmy Tingle's American Dream* is a one-man show that combines comedy, political commentary and storytelling.

Kennedy's Midtown

Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians. Call the restaurant for an updated schedule of performers.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 8:30 pm. $10-$22. In its 24th year, the longest-running comedy club in Boston features visiting and local comics.

Steve Sweeney's Comedy Cafe at Jae's

711 Boylston St., Boston (800-401-2221). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Hynes/ICA. $20. 18+. Boston comedians Steve Sweeney and Dick Doherty are featured each Saturday night with select performers.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Dinner packages available. • Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 and 10 pm, $15-$20: Summer in New England. •Wed., 9:45 pm, $15: Lost in Boston...or H Learned to Love That Dirty Water. •Thu., 9:45 $5: Nxt. •Sat., 12 am, $10: The Midnight Show.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. This Bos based short-form improv comedy group perf skits that involve participation from membe the audience.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-12 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to tral. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improv tional comedy troupe creates everything on spot: characters, stories, settings, even songs dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: Hump Fringe Sh •Thu., 8 pm, $10-$12: UnNatural Selectio master of ceremonies randomly eliminates pla until only one is left; 10 pm, $5: The Great Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and D Walsh perform stand-up and character sket and play music and short films in a display of ling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-$12: Tales of a ken Heart. Marcelo Illarmo discusses his threatening heart condition and fights it humor; 10 pm, $10-$12: TheatreSports. The a ence scores two opposing improv teams base who's funnier. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-$12 (childre and under accompanied by an adult admi free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-f improvisational show appropriate for people ages; 8 and 10 pm, $10-$12: ImprovBoston M stage. Blending storytelling, music and audi participation, a cast of improvisers creates a s that changes with every performance. •Su pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jamboree. evening features performances by visiting local troupes.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 $10 after. 21+. Every Thursday, the Tribe spo this comedy show at Cantab featuring a collec of improv comedians who poke fun at everyth including themselves.

ew Releases

PAUL SHERMAN

okeback Mountain ★★★

Lee's "gay cowboy movie" turns out to be more tional and less sensational than you might ex-. It's a 20-plus-year tale of two young cowboys ath Ledger, Jake Gyllenhaal) put together on a mer ranching job in 1963, who fall for each r despite saying they're "not queer." As each re-s to his separate life, eventually involving an tisfying marriage for each man, they reconnect secret relationship during "fishing trips" to-ier on the mountain where they once herded p. Whenever the opportunity arises to live to-ier and start a ranch over the next 20 years, one's of being found out thwarts the relationship from g further. The end result is a sad tale of frustra-, self-censorship and a life together that never intimately told, with no villains beyond those een societal forces inhibiting the two men. ger's performance as the close-mouthed cowpoke see most can be mannered, but the earthy re-int of the movie—in its staging and its tight s on its characters—adds to its effectively ancholy mood. (At Coolidge Corner and Har-l Square.)

pote ★★★

man Capote revolutionized pop culture with his 5 "nonfiction novel" *In Cold Blood*. Without it, might not have had subsequent books like *The fect Storm* or *A Civil Action*, nor film documen-es like the Maysles Brothers' *Salesman* and the le-n of movies it inspired. This impressionistic ma about the long genesis of the book follows ote (Philip Seymour Hoffman) as he learns of a tal Kansas farmhouse murder and sees human ma where others might've seen only savagery. in unearthing the humanity in the killers, ote becomes torn apart by the dilemma of ini-ly wanting to help them and, after years of ap-ls, wanting them to finally be executed so he can sh the book. There's a fine line between Capote's yful way of performing at parties and the white with which he manipulates Perry Smith (Clifton llins Jr.), the killer with whom he bonds most ply. Hoffman immerses himself in the role of the ter who's both mousy and catty, and the movie ely gives its protagonist a matter-of-fact intro-tion that makes it easy for audiences to accept ffman as Capote. (At Boston Common, Harvard uare, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

e Family Stone ★½

iter-director Thomas Bezucha's previous *Big Eden* s as bland as beets. If your indie movie is bland l has a "Hollywood ending," your first studio vie is not likely to be any more interesting, and ucha's isn't. Full of forced humor and unsubtle ma, his holiday movie struggles to do anything ht, despite a cast that includes Sarah Jessica ker, Luke Wilson and Rachel McAdams. The t plays a high-strung New Yorker thrown into the liday celebration at the family home of her friend (Dermot Mulroney). It seems as if half the gs are about her being uncomfortable, but who uldn't feel uneasy around these overbearing, self-hteous drips? About the only consistently funny ng is that Amherst native Bezucha seems to think titular family—which includes a professor, a film tor, a school teacher and a gay, bi-racial couple—n example of liberal enlightenment. Yet this clan ractically the epitome of a red-stater's stereotypes ut the overeducated, intolerant, liberal elite. (At ston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

od Night, and Good Luck ★★★½

ere's passion dripping from George Clooney's 50s tale—for journalism, for liberty, for movie-king. Filmed in an evocative, cigarette-smoke-ed black-and-white, his second movie as direc-chronicles the decision by CBS TV's -nonsense star journalist, Edward R. Murrow avid Strathairn), to take on Senator Joseph Mc-rthy, the Communist-hunting bully. Murrow's -air bravery helps turn the tide against Mc-rthy, and beneath the tense story of dilemmas d decisions—told in a vibrant style in which the nera often seems to "find" the action, documen-y-style—are the issues of the role of journalism d the larger matter of what it means to be an nerican. Clooney sets the tone for the movie by t taking the lead role. Instead, he plays Murrow's ducer, Fred Friendly. Similarly, the movie does-grandstand or go for "big moments," and rathairn not only catches Murrow's distinctively pped cadence, he also lets that cadence suggest e moral precision that defines the character, as ll as the movie. (At Boston Common, Fenway d suburbs.)

The World's a Stage

Pluto and *The Producers* get flamboyant.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

If the characters in Susan Stroman's *The Producers* and Neil Jordan's *Breakfast on Pluto* act as if they've just stepped off a stage, it's no accident. The first is the movie of the stage musical of Mel Brooks's 1968 comedy classic, while the second soars on the personality of its protagonist, an Irish transvestite who lives as if he's performing in a theatrical struggle against the world around him.

The Producers (1968) contained a musical within a movie. The 2001 stage show turned it into a full-blown musical. Besides having a very mixed reaction to *The Producers*' stage musical, which I saw during its local stop three years ago, I couldn't recall exactly what I did and didn't like about it. The movie brought it all back, though, and it's abundantly clear what works and what's less appealing about the musical version.

If you've seen the 1968 original—and if you haven't, you should—it's hard to get excited about how in the movie musical, the two main characters' initial 15 minutes together is almost a word-for-word re-creation of scenes from the original (Brooks wrote and directed the original; he co-wrote the script and songs in the musical). That's when high-strung accountant Leo Bloom (Matthew Broderick) arrives at the office of boisterous, on-the-skids Broadway producer Max Bialystock (Nathan Lane). It's also when you realize Lane and Broderick aren't just repeating some of the best dialogue from the original, they're essentially imitating that movie's priceless performances by Zero Mostel and Gene Wilder as, respectively, Bialystock and Bloom.

Lane captures Mostel and his oversized comic persona more amusingly than stiff Broderick does Wilder. The premise of the story begins when Bloom innocently observes that a producer could make more money with a flop than a hit, by overfinancing a bad play and then absconding with the leftover budget after it flops. Bialystock convinces Bloom to partner with him and turn the theory into reality, leading the pair to hire the world's worst playwright (Will Ferrell's unreformed Nazi Franz Liebkind) and the world's worst director (Gary Beach's cross-dressing Roger DeBris) to stage the self-described "musical romp" *Springtime for Hitler*.

Although Lane has his moments, especially the lively song "Betrayed," as he and Broderick channel the original's stars, it's Beach and Roger Bart (as Roger's catty assistant, Carmen Ghia), with roles expanded from the original, who steal the movie. Beach's facial expressions are hilarious but, like the stage musical, the movie (also featuring Uma Thurman as Bialystock and Bloom's athletic secretary) still yields just mixed marks. The original has more laughs, despite being 45 minutes shorter, and already had three memorable songs in it (one not in the movie musical).

Breakfast on Pluto is also long and full of music, and its cross-dresser takes center stage. He's Patrick "Kitten" Brady (Cillian Murphy), an Irish orphan whose birth mother leaves him on a church rectory's doorstep in the late 1950s, inadvertently setting him on a picaresque journey through the 1960s and 1970s. It's a journey involving a disgruntled foster mother (Ruth McCabe), an unorthodox priest (Liam Neeson), the IRA, a biker (Liam Cunningham), a glam-rock singer (Gavin Friday), a magician (Stephen Rea) and his elusive birth mother (Eva Birthistle), among others.

Although the presence of a cross-dresser in a Neil Jordan movie inevitably recalls his 1993 hit *The Crying Game*, *Breakfast on Pluto* is more a cousin to Jordan's feral *The Butcher Boy*, another of his best. Like that 1997 black comedy, *Breakfast on Pluto* is based on a Patrick McCabe novel, and the author has again collaborated with Jordan on a rousing screenplay. This film similarly has a headstrong, charismatic hero prone to referring to himself in the third person and staging grand psychological battles to overcome those who would marginalize him.

He usually wins over such people and we're in his corner all the way, thanks to the performance of Murphy (*28 Days Later*, *Batman Begins*), who shows more onscreen personality here than I ever thought he could muster. With a twinkle in his eye and a bounce in his walk, Murphy gives Kitten a beaming resilience that allows the character to overcome those who want to take advantage of him and glean important lessons from those he befriends. (Conor McEvoy, who plays the hero as a 10-year-old, also deserves credit for filling the boy with personality before Murphy takes over the role as a teen.)

Sometimes those life lessons come from unexpected places, like the biker who tells teenaged Kitten the fanciful story of a motorcycle ride that goes from the past to the future and ends with breakfast on Pluto. It's a tribute to individualism and finding your own path that Kitten takes to heart and, like *The Butcher Boy*, *Breakfast on Pluto* has great affection for individuals, but trouble with people in organized groups, whether it's the IRA, the Catholic Church or any other group that might stifle individual expression.

Cillian Murphy is androgynous as the hero(ine) of *Breakfast on Pluto*.

So it's not surprising that the storytelling in *Breakfast on Pluto* comes purely from Kitten's point of view. His window to the world is often through music, and the movie gets great mileage from 1960s-1970s Anglo-American Top-40 like Harry Nilsson's "Me and My Arrow," T. Rex's "Children of the Revolution" and Sweet's "Wig Wam Bam." It even squeezes drama from Bobby Goldsboro's syrupy "Honey," clearly the best cinematic use of a goofy pop song since "Tiny Dancer" in *Almost Famous*. iB

The Producers ★★½

Directed by Susan Stroman. Written by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan. With Nathan Lane, Matthew Broderick, Uma Thurman, Gary Beach, Roger Bart and Will Ferrell. Rated PG-13. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

Breakfast on Pluto ★★★½

Directed and co-written by Neil Jordan. Co-written by Patrick McCabe, based on his novel. With Cillian Murphy, Liam Neeson, Ruth Negga, Stephen Rea, Brendan Gleeson, Ruth McCabe, Conor McEvoy and Gavin Friday. Rated R. At Kendall Square and Waltham Embassy.

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Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire ★★

Four entries into the series, these movies are still little more than bloated, big-budget versions of lame 1980s post-*E.T.* kids' movies like *Young Sherlock Holmes*. Our hero (Daniel Radcliffe) is still a drip. His friends (Emma Watson, Rupert Grint) are still twee losers. The quaint tone is still annoying. The movie is still an elephants' graveyard for English actors. And *HP4* is as long and almost as plodding as its predecessors. As usual, there's little flow in the latest, directed by Mike Newell (*Donnie Brasco*), which follows Harry as he competes in a Tri-Wizard competition against three other wiz kids. Scenes run too long for fear of leaving something out and alienating fans of the book, and the resulting sequences rarely flow into each other, making the movie very episodic. It's almost comical how it asks you again and again to marvel at magic/special-effects (cue the reaction shots of wide-eyed kids), but the end result is that none of the magic seems special, due to the sheer abundance of it. Radcliffe, Watson and Grint are at least finally starting to look semi-comfortable onscreen, and newcomers-to-the-series Brendan Gleeson and Miranda Richardson add a few laughs, but the adolescent drama mixed in between the competition is as by-the-numbers as a run-of-the-mill Afterschool Special. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Ice Harvest ★★

John Cusack's wounded cynicism, Billy Bob Thornton's hot temper, Oliver Platt's comic timing and Connie Nielsen's gams and deadpan flippancy certainly elevate Harold Ramis' latest. But they can't disguise the fact that it's a generic heist comedy full of scoundrels we're told little about and whose dirty deeds we're given little reason to care about. It's hard to even fathom exactly what's going on at times in this story of a Wichita mob lawyer (Cusack) and pornographer (Thornton) who steal a bundle from a Midwest mob boss (an underutilized Randy Quaid) on Christmas Eve, and who try to make it through a long night of freezing rain before they can get out of town. We're never shown the two thieves doing their jobs or their extracurricular skimming, so you just have to accept what the movie tells you about them and their scheme. So scenes of comic amorality are often funny, as characters back one another, but they don't really add up to much due to the lack of context. As the miser friend who married the lawyer's ex-wife and is d for something more exciting out of life, Platt s the movie, because we actually get to see the fa and in-laws he can't stand, and we commise with him. With the others, most everythin sketchy, which makes the movie mildly amusing instantly forgettable. (At Boston Common, Fen Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Jarhead ★★½

Sam Mendes' adaptation of former Marine sn Anthony Swofford's book about his experiences ing the first Gulf War has narrowed the focus o story so much that it loses a lot from page to scr By dropping the background about Swoffor bulked-up Jake Gyllenhaal), who's foolishly lowed in the path of his miserable ex-Marine da well as the flash-forwards to his post-war encour with his comrades (who, like him, aren't doin well), the movie becomes more about the war the people fighting it. But as a movie chronic the absurdity of the Gulf War, aka "The M War"—with Swofford's platoon waiting in the for six months for the war to begin and then se frustratingly little action—this runs a distant sec to 1999's more inventive *Three Kings*. Strippe Swofford's tangents, it's rendered fairly con tional: You have the scared, confused foot sol (with Peter Sarsgaard and Lucas Black also an the cast), the hard-working staff sergeant (Ja Foxx) and the oblivious senior officer who c only about his power (Dennis Haysbert). W here is decent, but it might have been less ger had it dared to be more adventurous. (At Bo Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

King Kong ★★★

Peter Jackson's remake will never replace the in tive 1930s original, but it clearly has more to than 1976's previous remake. Retaining the e 1930s setting, Jackson turns Merian C. Coo original into an often thrilling, sometimes blo succession of set pieces, as a showman full of (Jack Black) takes stars (Naomi Watts, Kyle C dler), a screenwriter (Adrien Brody) and a cre find "undiscovered" Skull Island and film an ad

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Jack Black models the latest in pinstriped fashions in the *King Kong* remake.

re movie there. Not only do they find the island d its natives, they also find the supersized title aracter (rendered in impressively expressive GI), who takes a shine to the actress. Some of the st sequences replicate the original—including ng's battle with a T. Rex (or three of them, in this se) and the scene in which he shakes humans off a e-trunk bridge to their deaths. Jackson also adds at-squirming action with monstrous creepy-awlies and huge worms. The story pushes the ro-ance between Watts' actress and Brody's writer too rd (Kong is forever the real romantic lead) and e climactic, top-of-the-Empire-State-Building se-ence drags on preposterously long, so it can try to st all the 10-minute set pieces before it. But the oduction design and visual effects in the New rk scenes are dazzling and, as with Cooper's 1933 rsion, Black's showman character becomes a sur-gate for the filmmaker, with Jackson self-deprecat-gly poking fun at this ballsy but insincere charac-. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

rs. Henderson Presents ★★

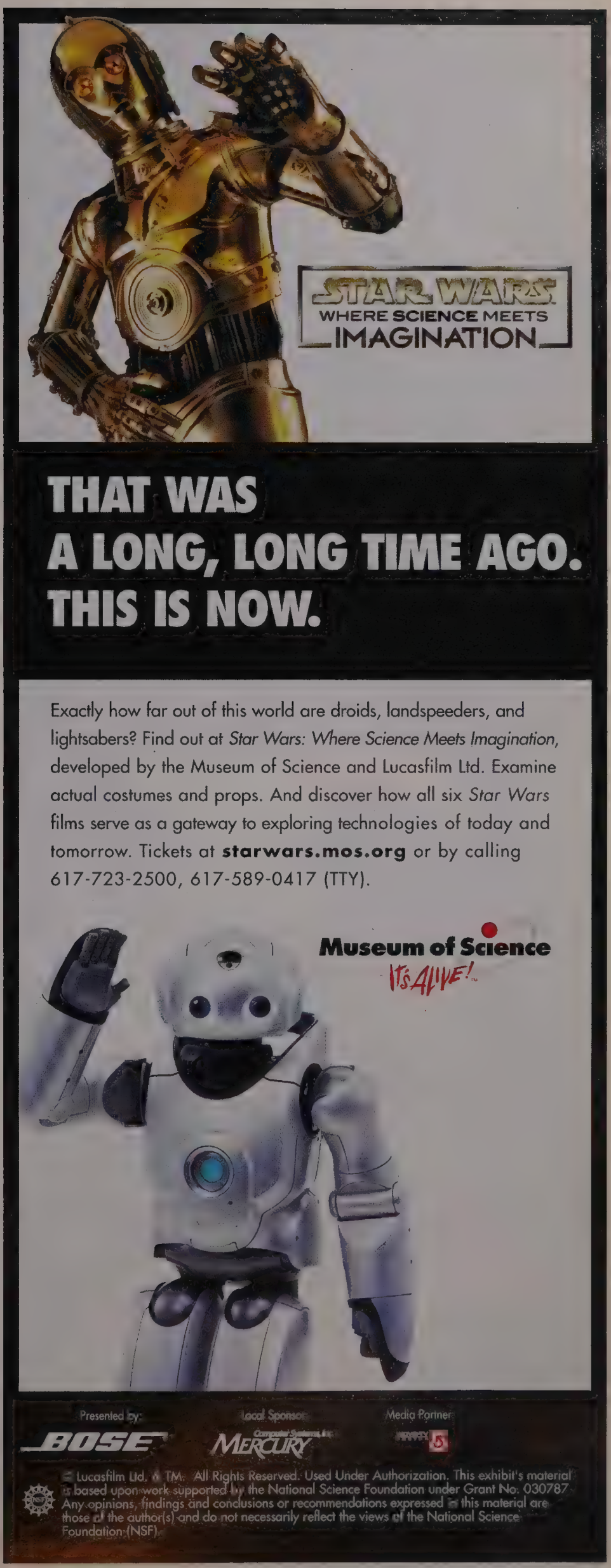
ery once in a while, director Stephen Frears (*The ifters*, *Dirty Pretty Things*) lays a generic egg. He's ne it here with a based-on-truth period piece out the title character (Judi Dench), a bored, hy rich late-1930s widow who, on a whim, buys a osed London theater, hires an equally cantanker-s showman (Bob Hoskins) to run it and ends up tting on the first nude revue in England. Al-ough it sounds racy and its pulchritude is scenic at nes, it's more in line with quaint English comedies e 2003's *Calendar Girls* than with *Showgirls*. In her words, it's all very tasteful and the comedy ually verges on the cute. The story is never actu-y bad, it's just never very interesting—the charac-rs are one-dimensional and because they never epen, everything remains shallow, especially the peated bickering between Mrs. H and her theater nager.

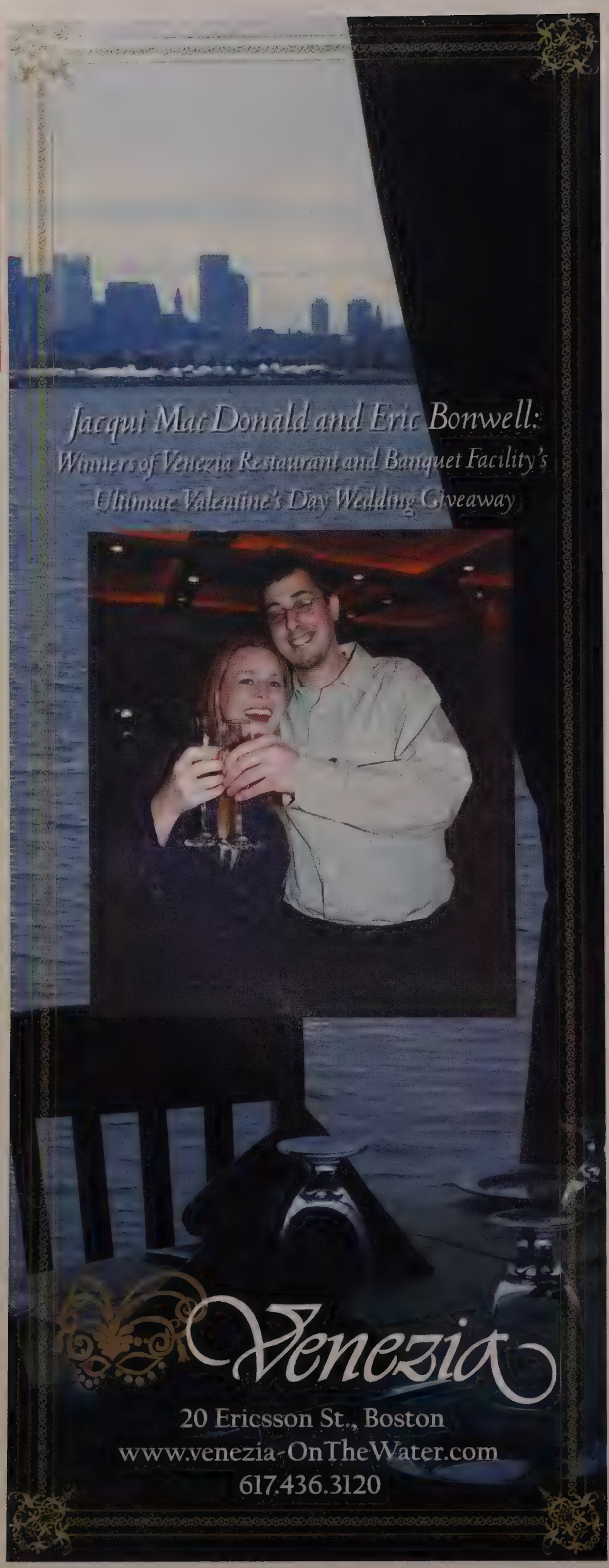
unich ★★★

Saving Private Ryan, Steven Spielberg opened th a horrific battle sequence, and then spent the rest of the movie trying to convince you the ideals of World War II justified all that carnage. His latest takes a more somber approach to the effects of violence, especially on those who inflict it. Eric Bana stars as an Israeli soldier who, following the kidnapping and murder of 11 Israeli athletes and coaches at the 1972 summer games in Munich, is recruited to head a covert squad designed to find and assassinate the Palestinians who planned the Olympic Village attack. The early action feels odd, as it has you rooting for the team (also including characters played by Daniel Craig and Ciaran Hinds) to kill people—especially since the action withholds most of the Olympic violence until later flashbacks. Still, the movie functions as a well-oiled, globetrotting thriller full of nail-biting sequences, and the movie's sense of right and wrong, good and bad, isn't as fixed as it initially seems. As the squad leader gets deeper into the shadow world in which any ally might be an enemy, and in which helpful friends might have hidden agendas that aren't very friendly, he begins to question the value of fighting violence with violence. Does his violence just create more enemies? Does it really make him safer from attack? Whether this is meant as a commentary on the current "war on terror" is debatable, but it's certainly food for thought. Aside from one very dubious piece of editing—in which Spielberg intercuts the final flashback of Olympic tragedy with a sex scene—this is solid, thoughtful stuff from Spielberg, a step up from last summer's *War of the Worlds*. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Sarah Silverman: Jesus is Magic ★★★

New Hampshire native Silverman—a veteran of *The Larry Sanders Show*, *Saturday Night Live* (briefly), *Mr. Show with Bob and David* and just about everything on the Comedy Central schedule—was responsible for one of the more memorable comic riffs in this year's long-running comedy documentary *The Aristocrats*. She gets an entire movie to herself this time. Her performance film, directed by Liam Lynch (who also directs the upcoming *Tenacious D* movie), essentially has a cable





A pre-op male transsexual (Felicity Huffman, right) tries to bond with the son (Kevin Zegers) he never knew he had, in the new road movie *Transamerica*.

stand-up-special format, with a story frame at the beginning and end, and a few cut-away scenes in the middle of her stand-up act, as well as a few songs. Recalling both Andy Kaufman and Lenny Bruce in her comic approach, Silverman is not afraid to make her audience feel uncomfortable (like Kaufman) or to challenge its preconceptions about other people (like Bruce). In Silverman's case, much of that is accomplished by playing her girlish, attractive looks against the brash things she says. The oft-quoted "I was raped by a doctor, which is so bittersweet for a Jewish girl" is one of her better lines, and her humor often looks at the tribes into which we divide ourselves. Not all of the songs or cut-aways work (a backstage skit with Bob Odenkirk goes nowhere), and the whole movie runs only 72 minutes, but Silverman's comedy scores much more often than not. (At Kendall Square.)

Syriana ★★★

Traffic writer Stephen Gaghan makes his debut as writer-director in this drama that essentially takes the same approach to the oil business as the earlier movie did to the drug trade—by looking at the intersection of business, politics and crime. There are a wide variety of characters and locations here, and through much of the first hour you pine for a scorecard to keep everyone and everything straight in your head: There's a CIA field agent (George Clooney) popping back and forth between Washington and the Middle East, a Saudi-like emirate full of palace intrigue, two Texas oil companies trying to merge, a D.C. lawyer (Jeffrey Wright) the oil companies hire to fend off the Department of Justice, an expatriate American energy analyst (Matt Damon) who becomes an adviser to the more progressive prince of the emirate (Alexander Siddig), and a Pakistani immigrant (Mazhar Munir) who loses his oil-refinery job in the Persian Gulf because of all the boardroom machinations. Despite the sheer complexity of the early going, the story comes together very potently in its second half, with a particularly chilling climax. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Transamerica ★★

It's great to see Felicity Huffman of TV's late, great *Sports Night* (and now *Desperate Housewives*) get center stage in a movie, playing the pre-op male transsexual hero(ine) in this road movie. But, despite her convincing performance as a highly-strung, deeply sad man preparing for an imminent sex change, it's clear early on that first-time writer-director Duncan Tucker is going to keep the tale on a merely pleasant, surprisingly bland keel (it's even blander when weighed against the similarly gender-bending *Breakfast on Pluto*). Huffman's Stanley "Bree" Osbourne discovers he has a teen son he never knew he had, and his shrink (Elizabeth Pena) requires him to go see this new relative (Kevin Zegers) before she'll sign off on the sex change. But all Tucker can concoct for these two is predictable tension as the strangers road-trip from New York to Los Angeles before their inevitable bonding, and sitcom-style hysterics when, after car trouble, the pair reluctantly stop at her estranged parents' house in Phoenix. Most of all, Tucker's movie seems like a pale version of *The Station Agent*, which was a more vivid, amusing and heartfelt peek at outsider characters. (At Kendall Square.)

Walk the Line ★★★

Writer-director James Mangold's Johnny C biopic isn't *Ray Lite*, it's *Ray White*: rural South upbringing, childhood tragedy, musical tal drugs a-plenty, 1960s meltdown, triumph comeback on the way to icon status. As Ja Foxx did in *Ray*, Joaquin Phoenix gives a str galvanizing performance as Cash, in a story takes him from farmland to Folsom Prison con and marriage to the woman he long pursued, J Carter (Reese Witherspoon). It's that pursuit drags out the movie, though. Carter initially re Cash's advances because they're both mar when they first meet, then because he becom drugged-up wreck from not being with her. In dition to Cash's desire to please his forever-ur pressed dad (Robert Patrick)—who sees Johnn inferior to his brother, who died as a kid—i thwarted affair is about the only motivation w given for our hero. Phoenix gives Cash an ea charm and Witherspoon makes Carter a s spitfire. And they both gain points for doing t own vocals. But after a while, you want to say, get it! He wants to shack up with her." Des Cash's fiery comeback with the Folsom Pr concert (and its hit live album), the last t drags because of the monotony of the pursuit, ing some pep out of an otherwise evocative tri to a musical legend. (At Boston Common, Fen and suburbs.)

Special Events

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

First Night Boston 2006

Hynes Convention Center, Boston (617) 542-13 www.firstnight.org. $15; children under four, free.
The 30th-annual day-long festival of the coun oldest and largest New Year's arts celebration tures sneak previews of Hollywood films, indep dents and animation, including the films *Mad Ballroom*, *The World's Fastest Indian*, *Ballets Rus Mutual Appreciation* and *New York Doll*.

Off the Couch

•Jan. 10, 7:30 pm. **Brokeback Mountain** *2005.* Lee directs this dramatic romance, which is adap from the Annie Proulx novel about the hidden r tionship between two cowboys. The film is follo by a discussion with members of the Boston Psyc analytical Society.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to endar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadli four weeks prior to publication.

ARSENAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Documentary Opening

•Jan. 7, 7 pm. **Growing Old** *2006.* Michael N debut film addresses the definition and the fu

aging in America through profiles and conversions with elders, people of the baby boom generation and healthcare professionals. Proceeds go Helping Elders at Risk Through Homes.

ATTLE THEATRE
attle Staff Picks

ec. 21, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 pm. **Videodrome** *1983*. vid Cronenberg directs this sci-fi horror flick about a le guy who starts to see his future through the recepn of odd television programs.

ec. 22, 4:30, 7, 9:30 pm. **City Of Lost Children** *95*. Marc Caro directs this adventure drama out a scientist who attempts to discover the foun- of youth in the stolen dreams of young children kidnaps.

OLIDGE CORNER THEATRE
atured Film

ec. 30, 11 am. $6. **Memoirs Of A Geisha** *2005*. Rob rshall directs this story based on the Arthur Golden vel of a young girl's rise to eminence as a famous sha.

ds First Film Series 2005

ec. 25, 11 am. $3. **Chanukah at Bubbe's** *1991*. is film features a cast of muppet-like characters celeting the values of the Jewish holiday.

ds First Film Series 2006

an. 7, Jan. 8, 11 am. $3. **Creature Comforts** *1989*. ck Park directs this animated comedy about Frank tortoise and his animal friends, who contemplate ir life in captivity at the zoo.

ARVARD FILM ARCHIVE
tistentialist Adaptations

an. 6, 9 pm; Jan. 8, 9:15 pm. **The Condemned of tona** *1962*. Based on a play by Jean-Paul Sartre, ttorio de Sica directs this Italian drama about a rman business owner whose son refuses to take over family business because of the company's past cciation with Hitler and the Nazis.

an. 6, 7 pm. **Le Notti Bianche (White Nights)** *1957*. chino Visconti directs this Italian film based on a stoyevsky's short story about a clerk's love for a man abandoned by her sailor lover.

an. 8, 7 pm. **Yagzi (Fate)** *2001*. Zeki Demirkubuz ects the first installment of a trilogy based on Albert Camus's novel *The Stranger*, which explores the life of an apathetic man accused of a crime he did not commit.

•Jan. 10, 7 pm. **Crime and Punishment** *1935*. This American film, modeled after Dostoevsky's novel, explores the psychology of a murderer who believes his crimes are flawless and unable to be traced until a keen investigator is assigned to the case. Pierre Chenal directs.

•Jan. 10, 9 pm. **Pickpocket** *1959*. Director Robert Bresson's first film, inspired by Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*, follows a recently arrested novice pickpocket and his return to the craft after lessons from a professional.

Immaterial Monuments

•Jan. 7, 6 pm. **Carriage Trade** *1971*. This short film follows director Warren Sonbert's travels to six continents in four years and combines footage from his earlier films to illustrate the various relationships between the clips.

•Jan. 7, 8:30 pm. **Mahagonny** *1970-1980*. Harry Smith directs this experimental documentary which transforms the opera *Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny* into a story of contemporary living by translating the opera into a pattern of numbers and symbols gathered from his mathematical interpretation of artist Marcel Duchamp's *Looking Glass*.

•Jan 9, 7 pm. **La Région Centrale** *1971*. In this three-hour film, director and artist Michael Snow sets up his camera in Northern Quebec and captures the Canadian landscape by using preset timers to move the camera in every direction.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
Asian Cinema

•Dec. 22, 8 pm; Dec. 23, 6 pm; Dec. 24, 3:40 pm; Dec. 28, 8 pm; Dec. 29, 5:40 pm; Dec. 30, 8 pm; Jan. 5, 2 pm; Jan. 7, 11:30 am. **Café Lumière** *2003*. Taiwan's Hou Hsiao-Hsien directs this film dedicated to Japanese master Yasujiro Ozu; the film tells the story of one young female writer's life in Tokyo.

Boston Jewish Film Festival

•Dec. 28, 12 pm. **Princesse Marie** *2004*. Benoît Jacquot directs this historical drama about Marie

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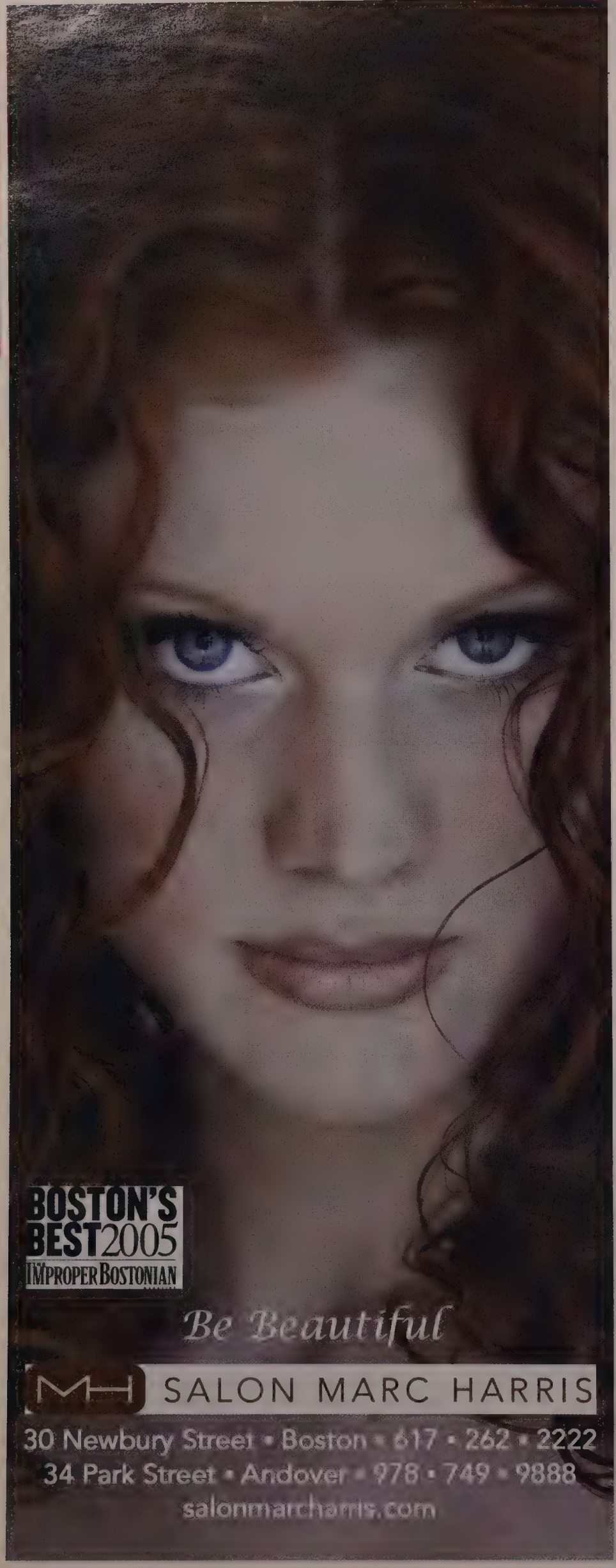


George Clooney and Matt Damon reteam for the thriller *Syriana*.

Bonaparte, princess of Greece and Denmark, and her 20-year friendship with her psychoanalyst, Freud.

• Dec. 22, 6 pm; Dec. 23, 8:15 pm; Dec. 24, 1:40 pm; Dec. 28, 6 pm; Dec. 29, 8 pm; Dec. 30, 6 pm. **The Talent Given Us** *2004*. Andrew Wagner's comedic film blurs the line between fiction and documentary by recording his family's journey from NYC to Los Angeles to visit him.

First Night Film Program

• Dec. 31, 12: 15 pm, 1:30 pm, 2:45 pm, 4 pm. This 45-minute event features a variety of short films for the whole family.

Photographers On Film

• Dec. 24, 12 pm; Dec. 28, 3:45 pm. **Ansel Adams: A Documentary Film** *2002*. Ric Burns directs this documentary about the legendary photographer.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theatre

• **Fighter Pilot.** This film follows the adventures of F-15 pilot John Stratton through operation Red Flag, one of the most challenging and realistic flight courses in the world. Through March 9.

• **Special Effects.** This film takes a behind-the-scenes look at the making of *Star Wars* Special Edition, *Kazaam!*, *Independence Day* and *Jumanji*. Through April 30.

• **Wired to Win: Surviving the Tour de France.** This film explores how the body's organs are connected to the brain and how the brain reacts to stimuli which determines who will win this ultimate bicycle race. Through April 30.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

• **Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3D.** This film presents previously unseen footage and photographs taken by NASA. Through Feb.

• **Polar Express.** IMAX 3D presents Robert Zemeckis' 2004 film about a young boy who boards a magical train headed for the North Pole. Through Jan. 2.

• **Sharks 3D.** Jean-Michel Cousteau explores several shark species using three-dimensional views. Through February.

• **Wild Safari 3D.** This film shows the African savannah from a safari jeep exploration. Through February.

Cinema Venues

ARLINGTON

Regent Theatre

7 Medford St. (617-646-4849).

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

700 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gr Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBT D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green L to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBT E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Lin Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lin Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBT C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gr Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-290 MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green L to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060). MBT Commuter Rail to West Newton.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: ange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red L to Davis.

vice to Contributors
nit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax 7-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by il to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, s, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac- ed over the phone.

vice to Readers
rmation for the Music section is compiled from dif- nt sources. Although we make every effort to provide rate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead ouble-check dates and times (see complete list of ues at the end of the section).

op Billings

v Wow, Omarion, Ciara, Marcus Houston, Chris wn, Trey Songz Dec. 26, TD Banknorth Garden 7-931-2000).
ch 22 Dec. 26, Axis (617-931-2000).
e In Dec. 23, The Middle East (617-931-2000).
isyahu Dec. 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-931- 0).
McGee Band Dec. 30, Axis (617-931-2000).
Queers Jan. 6, T.T. the Bear's Place (617-931- 0).
ns-Siberian Orchestra Dec. 27, TD Banknorth den (617-931-2000).

ock, Jazz nd Blues

EDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

oey Lounge Main Stage: Ara Vora, the Exchange e, Almada, Gavin Elder, 9 pm. Pub Stage: wn Snyder, 8 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
e Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
rtab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jazz & Rock , 9pm, no cover, 21+.
b Passim Rachael Davis, Eric Merrill, 8 pm, $12.
k's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
e Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
rpers Ferry Tragic Bastard, $5, free with college 21+.
nnessy's The Buzz, 9pm.
nny D's Chandler Travis' X-Mas Cavalcade.
ard Lounge The Residency featuring the Dennis nnan Band, Jabe Beyer, 8 pm, $5.
cky's Lounge Bennet Miller Trio featuring Adam rbert, 21+.
ddle East Upstairs: Far From Finished, the Pug lies, Confront, the Scars, 9 pm, $8. Downstairs: ncess Superstar, Bling Kong, UV Protection, n, $12, 18+.
ddy O's Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute.
's TM, Sky Circuit, Benjamin Willmot, 8:30 pm, 21+.
att Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm, no cover.
rple Shamrock Brick Park, 10 pm.
er Gods Primitive Sounds hosted by Jason Beek PJ Eastman, John Gersten, Rain Robers, 9 pm.
na nÓg Bad Art Ensemble, 10 pm, no cover, .
o of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no ver.
the Bear's Place Carmen's Condition, the okups, 9:15 pm, $6.
nder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian esse, 9 pm, no cover.
itgeist Gallery Gill's Wednesday Follies, 7 pm,
Zygomates Brian Kelly Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

HURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

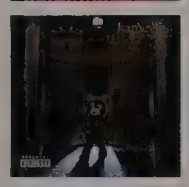
gard The Steve Gianarros Quartet, 9 pm, no ver.
enue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no ver.
's Bar Cyanide Valentine, 9pm, $7, 21+; $10 .
ck Horse Tavern Sunday's Well.
e Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
b's Southern Bistro Elan Trotman Jazz Quartet, 0 pm, $4.
eezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
e Burren Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, $5.
ntab Lounge Upstairs: Chicken Slacks, 9 pm, no ver, 21+.
ub Passim Jeremy Lyons, Kerri Powers, Evan odrow, Duncan Walters, Timothy Mason, Don nite, Danielle Miraglia, Tom Bianchi, Vance lbert, 8 pm, $15.
ck's Last Resort Jenn & Steve Show, 7:20 pm, no ver.
t Meet the Day, Frankie and His Fingers, Dr. Mal- m, Nicole Russo, 9 pm, 21+.

Sights and Sounds

A year in review: 2006's top CDs and concert DVDs

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

This is the season for year-end lists and last-minute holiday gifts. Here are my annual picks for CDs and concert DVDs, though the lines between categories are blurring as record labels bundle stuff to provide more (un-downloadable) bang for the buck. The CD list favors my critical choices of 2005, while my DVD recommendations lean to popular entries.



CDs

Beck, *Guero* (Interscope). The postmodern collage kid's best mash-up since *Odelay*, refining that 1996 CD's junkyard bounce with the maturity of 2002's melancholic *Sea Change*.

My Morning Jacket, *Z* (ATO). Kentucky's alt-country rockers transcend reverb to explore post-Radiohead sonic frontiers.

M.I.A., *Arular* (Beggars Banquet/XL). Bubblegum bombs from a London-based Sri Lankan refugee whose pointed street slang and computer-savvy beats rule the Top 40 in an alternate universe.

System of a Down, *Mezmerize* (American/Columbia). Art-metal anarchists create acerbic, absurdist juxtapositions; neatly folds into follow-up disc *Hypnotize* to form a double album.

Kanye West, *Late Registration* (Roc-A-Fella). Hitting higher highs than on his debut *The College Dropout*, rapper West stays a step ahead of the class as a cunning, cocky conceptualist.

Charles Lloyd, *Jumping the Creek* (ECM). Stellar jazz from a sax icon whose music is meditative, mercurial and full of ideas, with an empathetic quartet led by pianist Geri Allen.

Sarah Lee Guthrie & Johnny Irion, *Exploration* (New West). The granddaughter of Woody Guthrie and her Carolina indie-rock husband overlap in beautiful harmonies on their first release together, deftly bridging country and folk-rock.

Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley, *Welcome to Jamrock* (Tuff Gong/Universal). The youngest son of father Bob rises to the forefront of reggae's first family with an incendiary blend of dancehall and roots reggae sweetened with hip-hop.

Sufjan Stevens, *Illinois* (Asthmatic Kitty). This indie-rock curio—the second entry in an ambitious salute to the 50 states—riffs on Casimir Pulanski Day, Carl Sandburg and Abraham Lincoln to eclectic orchestration that suggests someone who frequented the band room after history class.

Amadou & Mariam, *Dimanche à Bamako* (Nonesuch). Afro-pop from a blind Malian couple that taps into diverse cultural references from blues-rock to Latin American dance music, with extra spice from polyglot producer/stylist Manu Chao.

Concert DVDs

Cream, Royal Albert Hall (Rhino). An excellent alternative to traveling to London or New York and paying hundreds to witness the original power trio's first shows in 37 years. Blustery bassist Jack Bruce and dream drummer Ginger Baker get as much focus as smooth guitar idol Eric Clapton.

Pixies, Sell Out 2004 Reunion Tour (Rhino). Another hell-freezes-over reunion logs miles and smiles (well, maybe not from dour singer Frank Black). Boston's alt-godfathers were better in the studio, but they're stronger onstage now than ever. A full set from France, plus better-shot selections from other locations, including Lowell's Tsongas Arena.

Various Artists, Live 8 (Capitol). From TV to DVD a lot faster than 1985's Live Aid, these four discs boast more than 70 acts, from U2 and Paul McCartney (together) to a climactic Pink Floyd reconciliation with Roger Waters.

U2, Vertigo 2005: Live from Chicago (Interscope). These post-elevated superstars really don't need another live DVD, but this one vies with the best, thanks to invigorating camerawork (from overhead to the pit) and early rarities.

Green Day, Bullet in a Bible (Reprise). Once-snotty punks turn into potent, important rock stars for a stadium-sized English crowd, members of whom pay homage in an insightful between-song interview segment worth laying off the skip button. The same songs come packaged on a live CD.

Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band, Hammersmith Odeon, London 1975 (Columbia). One vintage night before the Boss shaved and soared to stardom, serving as the first disc of a reissued *Born to Run* box. The funky brimmed hats in the E Street wardrobe are outdated, but classics like "Kitty's Back" and "Jungleland" show the future of rock 'n' roll.

Various artists, Live From Bonnaroo 2004 (Sanctuary). Artfully filmed by photographer Danny Clinch, this sampler from the showcase festival for jambands is as enlightening for songs from raucous rockers Kings of Leon and My Morning Jacket as those from standbys moe. and Trey Anastasio.

Franz Ferdinand (Domino). An early step for a live DVD from Scotland's pop sensations, but their slash 'n' hop attack is primed for the stage. More than two complete shows makes a generous but overlapping set aided by snappy navigation.

Rush, R30 (Anthem/Zoe). Canada's own futuristic power trio raids the vaults for rare performances and interviews in addition to a concert from its 30th anniversary tour.

The Dresden Dolls, Paradise (Roadrunner). The camera loves Boston's dynamic, decadent cabaret-punk duo—especially through the eyes of filmmaker Michael Pope, who nailed 10 songs at the Paradise as well as two wild bonus videos. iB

Great Scott Tristan da Cunha, 9 pm, $3, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Harp Incadence, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Revival, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Incredible Casuals' Chandler Travis and Philharmonic, 8 pm.
Jose McIntyres Sugarboot, 8 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm.
Kirkland Café BJ Snowden, Melisande, Brenda White, Jon Macey, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Clun dElf, 9:30 pm, $10.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougal, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Pub Round Midnight, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Lovewhip, Cold Duck Complex, Pennyred, Adria, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
O'Brien's Rodentt, Mente.
Old South Church The Willie Sordillo Trio, Tadd Allman-Morton, Jeff VonWald, 6 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute, Justin Beach & Tom Groleau.
PA's The Pilot Light, the Gondoliers, Scuba, Greg Lyon and E.R., 8:45 pm, $10, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Giovanni Moltoni, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Tryst Carmen Marsico Jazz Trio, 7 pm, no cover
T.T. the Bear's Place Exultation of Larks, Das Happening, Spires, $7.
Zeitgeist Gallery Beyond Recognition, 7 pm, $6; Night of the Living Hammond B3's, 9:30 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Scott Ryckman Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

Abbey Lounge Pub Stage: Mark Lind, Jeff Morris, These Lies, Jason Bennett, 8 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
All Asia Cafe Banana Hands, Tiny Whales, We Are the Music Makers.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Humanwine, 9 pm, 21+
Black Horse Tavern Sunday's Well.
Bob's Southern Bistro Pat Loomis Jazz Quartet, 7 pm, $5.
The Burren Acme Music Trio.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and Thrillers, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Aine Minogue, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Ript, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Amo, 10 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Friday Episode, 10 p $5, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Playin' Dead, $5, free with can food donation, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, Freeze Pop, 5pm.
Johnny D's Alto Reform School.
Kennedy's Midtown Peter Rice, 7 pm.
Kirkland Café Tara White, Jimmy Hank Willi and Thunderhand, Leon Rich, Natalie Flanag Brooklyns, 7:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Reed Foehl, 9:30 pm, $10.
Lucky's Lounge Justin Beach, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Pub Touissant, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: the Breakfast, Speak Eas pm, $12. Downstairs: Cave In, Doomriders, For sic, 8 pm, $10-$12, 18+.
Midway Café Bachelor, Radio Knives, New Frus tions, 9 pm, $3-$7, 21+.
Milky Way Jr Clayton, Sidecar Radio, 9 pm, $7.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheahan, Colm O' Brie pm, $5, 21+.
O'Brien's Zippo Raid, the Spoilers, Mass Colony, Reserve.
Paddy O's Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute, Au Underground.
Ryles Jazz Club Jen Kerney and the Lost Onio pm, $10, 18+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Popgun Seven, Downb 5, the Beatings, AdFrank, the Dents, Kevin Stev son, Andrea Gillis, Corin Ashely, Banquet H Chris Colbourn and Hilken Mancini, Drew O' herty, Brendan Little, Jonny Pape, 9:10 pm, cover.
Venezia Sweet, 8 pm, no cover
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm, no cove

Grace Potter plays Dec. 30 at the Paradise Rock Club.

ATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

venue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
antab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and the nrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
ennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm.
ddy O's Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute.
p of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no ver
enezia Sweet, 8 pm, no cover.

UNDAY, DECEMBER 25

he Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
ennessy's Tom Groleau Band, 9 pm.
ddy O's Irish Seisiun.
Vonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty cott, 9 pm, no cover.

IONDAY, DECEMBER 26

bbey Lounge The Union, 7 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
xis Catch 22, 6 pm, $13.
he Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, $5, 1+.
antab Lounge Open mike, Fishken Groves, 8 pm, o cover, 21+.
ick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no ver.
ennessy's Joe Carson.
att Murphy's Pub Shankos, 10 pm, no cover.
iddle East Pollcrips, the Desert Sea, the Prime eridian, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
aradise Rock Club Matisyahu, 8 pm, $22, 18+.
D Banknorth Garden Bow Wow, Omarion, Ciara, larcus Houston, Chris Brown, Trey Songz, 7 pm, 25-$75.
ir na nÓg Jessie Ciarmataro, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
op of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Vonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty cott, 9 pm, no cover.
eitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.

UESDAY, DECEMBER 27

bbey Lounge Main Stage: Major Stars, Duck, exie Mountain, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Steve Mardon, 7 m, $5-$7, 21+.
he Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Frank Drake and Friends, Tastes Like Gravy, 8 pm. Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harpers Ferry Amy Famiglietti, $5-$8, 18+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Paul Rishell and Annie Raines.
Lizard Lounge Rachel Cantu, 8 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Pub Public House, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Bloodstains, the Old Men, Heuristic, Nothing But Enemies, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Midway Café Jess Yoakum, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Paddy O's Brian Locher.
Paradise Rock Club The Leevees, 8 pm, $16, 18+.
TD Banknorth Garden Trans-Siberian Orchestra, 8 pm, $30-$51.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place How to Act, Alcoa, Levy, 9:50 pm, $7.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Tango Dance, 9:30 pm.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Moth, Satch Kerans, the Oggs, Yvette Graveline, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Doug Gochman, 8 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Burren Acoustic Alchemy, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jazz & Rock Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers, Kristin Cifelli, 8 pm, $20.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Blood Horse, Transient, 9 pm, $5, 18+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harpers Ferry Robots in Love, $5-$10, free with college ID, 18+.

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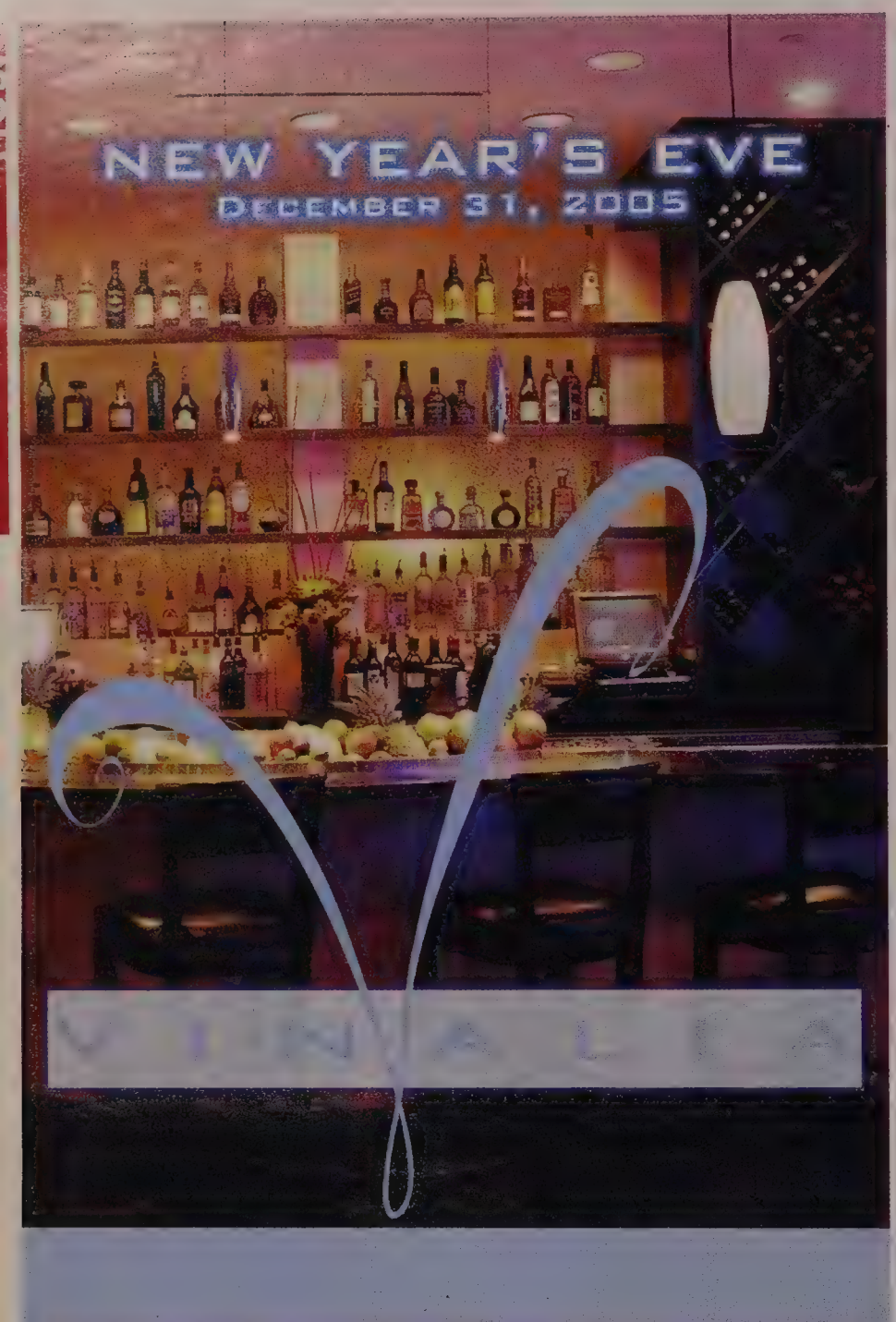

Restaurant and Lounge Open 5:00pm

9:00 New Year's Eve Gala

4-Course Wine Pairing Dinner
Band and Dancing
Champagne Toast at Midnight
$125

Reservations recommended

Lounge 9:00pm
Cash Bar
Band and Dancing
$30

Omarion plays Dec. 26 at TD Banknorth Garden

Hennessy's The Buzz.
Johnny D's Rust Never Sleeps.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring the Dennis Brennan Band, Swati, 8 pm, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Bennett Miller Trio featuring Adam Herbert, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Westgate, Hepburn, Kinetic Theory, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy O's Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute, Open mike with Greg Latrell.
Phatt Boys Nate Watkins, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 10 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Boubacar Diabete, Samba Lolo, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Tír na nÓg Bad Art Ensemble, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Jason Massimo, Guillermo Sexo, Chemist Camp, Kincade, 9 pm, $7.
Wonder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian Lecesse, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Gill's Wednesday Follies, 10 pm, $5.
Les Zygomates April Hall Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: the Irreverends, Goldenwest Motor Lodge, Watts, the Genders, 9 pm. Pub Stage: the Freeways, 8 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard The Steve Gianarros Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
Avalon CKY, Puny Human, ASG, 6:30 pm, $17.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Bob's Southern Bistro Elan Trotman Jazz Quartet, 10 am, $4.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Chickenslacks, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Kaki King, Todd Martin, 7 pm, 10 pm, $17.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Felt Chad Perrone, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Addison Groove Project w
Akashic Record, $12-$15, 18+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Splendid Nobodies, Lincoln Conspir
Jose McIntyres Sugarboot, 8 pm.
Kirkland Café Pull-Chain 3, the Estranged, Jake
the Jakes, Egoscene, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Yoni Gordon and the Goods, Jef
Simmons, 8 pm, $7.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougal, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Pub Round Midnight, 10 pm,
cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Volcano Suns, Kudgel, 9
$15, 18+.
Old South Church The Willie Sordillo Trio, T
Allman-Morton, Jeff VonWald, 6 pm, no cover.
Paddy O's Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute, Jus
Beach & Tom Groleau.
PA's Starship Awesome, the Self Righteous Bro
ers, Baker, Sean Aylward, Brett Saiia, 8:30 pm,
21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10 pm, $3, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm, no co
21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no co
Tryst Carmen Marsico Jazz Trio, 7 pm, no cover
T.T. the Bear's Place Codetta, Never Only On
the Silent Service, 9 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Leah Souza, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: World's Greatest S
ners, the Outlets, the Radio Knives, Light of Da
pm. Pub Stage: John Gerard, 8 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Axis Pat McGee Band, Virginia Coalition, 7
$16.50, 18+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan; Upsta
Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Boston Harbor Hotel Patricia Adams, 7 pm,
cover.
The Burren Swerve.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and
Thrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Ellic Paul, Matthew Herbert, 7 pm,
pm, $30.

ck's Last Resort Last Laugh, 8:30 pm, no cover.
and Canal Friday Episode, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
e Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop, 10 pm, $5, +.
e Harp Kick, 10 pm, $10.
rpers Ferry Addison Groove Project, $12-$15, +.
nnessy's Me and Julio, Brick Park, 5 pm.
nny D's Tarbox Ramblers.
nnedy's Midtown Peter Rice.
rkland Café Lyres, Classic Ruins, Eric Martin and e Illyrians, 6S, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
zard Lounge The New You, Animal Hospital, 30 pm, $7.
cky's Lounge Alex MacDougal, 21+.
ddle East Caspian, Seneca, Constants, Junius, ore Leave, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
dway Café Courtney Hate, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
. Dooley's Tommy and Alan, 5 pm, $5, 21+.
ddy O's Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute, Spike e Punch.
radise Rock Club Assembly of Dust, Grace Pot-; the Nocturnals, 9 pm, $15-$16.50, 18+.
rris Flavor, 9 pm, $10.
's Ghoul's Night Out, Sad Marvin, 8 pm, $8, 21+.
att Boys Blue Train, 9 pm, no cover.
les Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
p of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place The Charms, the Naked Sams, nusia, the Glass Set, 9:15 pm, $9.
nezia Sweet, 8 pm, no cover.
s Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm, no cover.

ATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

obey Lounge Main Stage: Beefy DC, Coffin Lids, ndrea Gillis Band, Prime Movers, the Killer Abs, 45 pm, $20, 21+.
venue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
e Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan; Upstairs: nday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
e Burren Swinging Johnsons.
ntab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and the hrillers, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
ub Passim Ellis Paul, Flynn, 7 pm, 10 pm, $30.
ck's Last Resort Groleau's Basement, 8:30 pm, no ver.
arpers Ferry Badfish, $50, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm.
Johnny D's Pressure Cooker.
Lizard Lounge Hi8us, Homeland Security Orchestra, $15 in advance, $20 at the door.
Matt Murphy's Pub Hogmanay, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: the Damn Personals, Crash and Burn, Clouds, Weird Owl, 9 pm, $10-$12, 18+. Downstairs: Darkbuster, Robby Roadsteamer, Eli "Paperboy" Reed, Brunt of It, 8 pm, $12-$15, 21+.
Midway Café Babaloo, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
O'Brien's Grief, Adolf Satan.
Old South Meeting House Amaryllis Duo, 3 pm, $5.
Paddy O's Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute.
Paradise Rock Club Assembly of Dust, Ryan Montbleau Band, 9 pm, $25, 18+.
Parris Flavor, 9 pm, $10.
PA's Jason Anderson, Tigersaw, Casey Dienel, 8:30 pm, $5.
Phatt Boys 2 Tone Pony, 9 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Chicken Slacks, 8 pm, $40, 18+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio with Maggie Galloway, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Rudds, Sidewalk Driver, the Pills, 9:20 pm, $12.
Venezia Sweet, 8 pm, no cover
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

The Green Dragon Tavern Red Square, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: B for Brontosaurus, the Smittens, the Specific Heats, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Traditional Irish Sesuin, Visiting Guest Musician from Ireland, 4 pm, $5, 21+.
Paddy O's Traditional Irish Seisiun.
The Red Fez Carmen Marsico Jazz Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Patricia Adams, 10 am, 18+.
Top of the Hub Leè Childs Group, 12-2 pm, Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jeff Philby, 7-9 pm.

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

Club Passim Halall, 7 pm, 10 pm, $17.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7TH, 2006 (5P.M. 'TIL CLOSE)
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The Leevees play Dec. 27 at the Paradise Rock Club.

Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Middle East Upstairs: Station85, Saving Alcatraz, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

Abbey Lounge Bryan McPherson, Asian Babe Alert, the Illegals, Simon Ritt, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins 7 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Lizard Lounge The Resophonics.
Middle East Upstairs: Head Turners, 9 pm, $11, 18+
Paddy O's Brian Locher.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover
T.T. the Bear's Place Dead Ellington, One Eye Stanley, State Street Liars, Sean P. Rogan, 9 pm, $
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rus Scott, 9 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Cambridge Modern Ja Project.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Generation Rx, the F neral Barkers, Audrey Ryan Band, Bosley, 9 pm. P

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age: Blue Ribbons, Steve Shomo, 7 pm, $5-$7, +.
ick's Last Resort Jenn and Steve Show, 7 pm, no ver.
e Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
arpers Ferry Josh Cole and the Household with aria Demaio, $5, free with college ID, 21+.
ennessy's The Buzz.
zard Lounge The Residency with Dennis Brennan ind.
iddle East Upstairs: the Sex and Murder, Distinished Members, Superlow, the Acro-brats, 9 pm, , 18+.
op of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place The Shift, Ara Vora, the Jet t, 9 pm, $7.
onder Bar Dennis Babbin, Matt Giannaros, Brian cesse, 9 pm, no cover.
eitgeist Gallery Gill's Wednesday Follies, 10 pm, .

HURSDAY, JANUARY 5

bbey Lounge Main Stage: Kermit's Finger, Zues ronion, Suzuki Smith, Drive Like July, 9 pm, $5-, 21+.
venue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet, 5:30 pm, no ver.
lub Passim Jason Myles Goss, Devon Sproule, 8 n, $10.
ick's Last Resort Big Time, 7 pm, no cover.
e Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
reen Street Grill Joh Camara and Jama-Jigi, 10:30 n, no cover, 21+.
ennessy's Me and Julio.
zard Lounge Jake Brennan and the Confidence en.
iddle East Upstairs: Taking Cadence, Bad Ash, e Johnny Mazcko Band, Steppers Heaven, Wings ever Shattered, Kage, the Mores, Theo Rodrigues, 30 pm, $10-$15. Downstairs: Kalvin Koolidge, the irty Whites, Elsewhere, $10, 18+.
ld South Meeting House Veronica Robles, 12:15 n, free with museum admission.
addy O's Justin Beach, Tom Groleau.
A's The Kieran Ridge Band, Bee's Knees, the Beau oland Band, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
op of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T. the Bear's Place Kay Hanley, Scamper, Hilken lancini and Chris Colbourn, the Knee-Hi's, 9:50 m, $13.
Zeitgeist Gallery Night of the Living B53's, 9:30 pm, $7.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Reverse, Dirt Mall, Say When, the Speed of Things, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Satch Kerans, 7 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Avenue One Ronan Portlet, 5 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Kate Klim, Anais Mitchell, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Mutha's Mistake, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Red Square.
The Harp Negative Space, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry The Knot, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, Spike the Punch, 5 pm.
Lizard Lounge Scissormen, the Sawtelles, 8 pm, $6 in advance; $8 at the door.
Middle East Upstairs: Propergander, Blind Drive, All In, Shavahawk, Fight the Nothing, Jeannine Hebb Band, the Pity Whores, Day Sleeper, 8:30 pm, $10-$15. Downstairs: Era For a Moment, Jaded, Ravage, Official, Offset, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Eamonn Sheehan, Patsy and Tony, 5 pm, $5, 21+.
Paddy O's Swerve.
Paradise Rock Club The Wailers, 9 pm, $25, 18+.
PA's Radar Eyes, Rider, Spider, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Red Riders, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group with Maggie Calloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Queers, Downbeat 5, the Arsons, the Steinways, Whoa Babies, 9:10 pm, $10.
Venezia Majic, 8 pm, no cover

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: the Unband, the Dents, Mung, the Choke, 9 pm. Pub Stage: Paul Hammer, Deidre Muro, 7:45 pm, 21+.
Avenue One Leah Souza, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Dana Z, 8 pm, no cover.
Great Scott The Plan, Emergency Music, Eiffel Tower, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
The Harp Negative Space, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Chris Trapper and the Wolverine Jazz Band, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, Syndicate, 4 pm.
Johnny D's Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson.
Middle East Upstairs: Heretic Hybrid, Coldread, Frightening Dick Theatre, Unda the Radar Enter-

CKY plays Dec. 29 at Avalon.

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ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Animal Collective Feb. 21, Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800).
Deerhoof Jan. 24, The Middle East (617-931-2000).
Il Divo Feb. 2, Wang Theatre (617-482-9393).
INXS Feb. 10, Wang Theatre (617-482-9393).
Billy Joel Jan. 19, TD Banknorth Garden (617-482-9393).
Less Than Jake Jan. 31, Avalon (617-262-2424).
Lifehouse Feb. 1, Avalon (617-262-2424).
Martina McBride Feb. 12, Tsongas Arena (617-931-2000).
Rolling Stones Jan. 13 & 15, TD Banknorth Garden (617-931-2000).
Samples Feb. 2, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Sigur Rós Feb. 7, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Yellowcard Jan. 27, Axis (617-931-2000).

tainment, Hideaway, Fictive Kin, Almost Untitled, Broken English, 8:30 pm, $10-$15. Downstairs: Electric Sugar, Stringtheory, the Vital Might, Audrey Can't Die, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Paddy O's Syndicate.
PA's Doom Buggies, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Group with Maggie Galloway, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Shills, Last Week, Baker, 9:15 pm, $8.
Venezia Majic, 8 pm, no cover
Zeitgeist Gallery Benjamin Sharoni, Halie Milekian, 9:30 pm, $10.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Mustangs and Madras, Ricky Fitts, $5-$7, 21+.
Club Passim Erin McKeown, 6 pm, $20.
Dick's Last Resort John Polino, 7 pm, no cover.
Great Scott Cataract Camp, UV Protection, Eyes Like Knives, the Cassettes, Honeypump, 9 pm, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's Groleau Band.
Middle East Upstairs: Three Nouns, Closed Casket, Chemist Camp, Dann Russo and the Whisky, Vary Lumar, Now Transmission, Chris Wilhelm Trio, the Emergency Exit, 8:30 pm, $10-$15, 18+.
Paddy O's Traditional Irish Seisiun.
Paradise Rock Club Kay Hanley, Buffalo Tom, th Gentlemen, the Peter Gammons All Stars, Furvis, pm, $40, 21+.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm, Mar Ballou Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Scars Like Ours, Stolen Bik Crusade, Milo's Syndicate, $7.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rus Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

Club Passim Chuck Hall, Taylor Armerding, Pat Casey, 8 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Middle East Upstairs: Tomorrow's Remedy, Bett Life, One-Less, Joe Turner and the Seven Level CC40, Skulltoboggan, Nol*Edge, the Pug Uglie 8:30 pm, $10-$15, 18+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Sty Scott, 9 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

Abbey Lounge Main Stage: Egoscene, Apple Bett the Illegals, 10 pm. Pub Stage: Rock 'n' Roll Social, pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.

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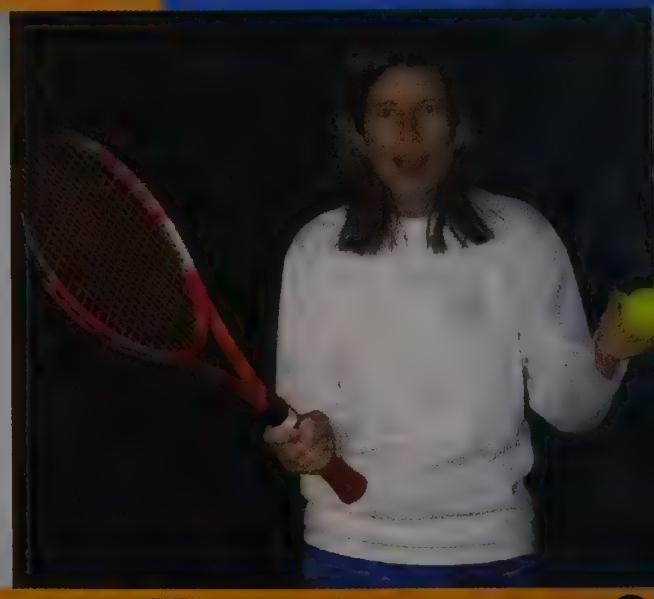
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Catch 22 plays Dec. 26 at Axis.

ennessy's Scott Damgaard.
ohnny D's Lloyd Thayer, Bill McQuaid.
zard Lounge The Resophonics.
iddle East Upstairs: Jonas Complex, Throwback, oel Christopher, Jonathan's Distortion, Bad Jamie, love the Rabbit, Nash Lane, Lumin-R, 8:30 pm, 10-$15, 18+.
lidway Café Jess Yoakum, Mieka Pauley, 8 pm, no over, 21+.
addy O's Brian Locher.
yles Jazz Club Berklee Concert Jazz Orchestra, 8 m, $7, 18+.
op of the Hub Stan Strickland Group, 8:30 pm, no over.
Vonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon, Rusty cott, 9 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

bbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-631). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
ll-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-544). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
sgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-22-5579). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-1678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-742-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob's Southern Bistro *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Warf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3474). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave., Roxbury (617-541-1400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2052). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-8896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-3605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014).*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kings *10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825).*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mobius *374 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Olde Magoun's Saloon *518 Medford St., Somerville (617-776-2600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*

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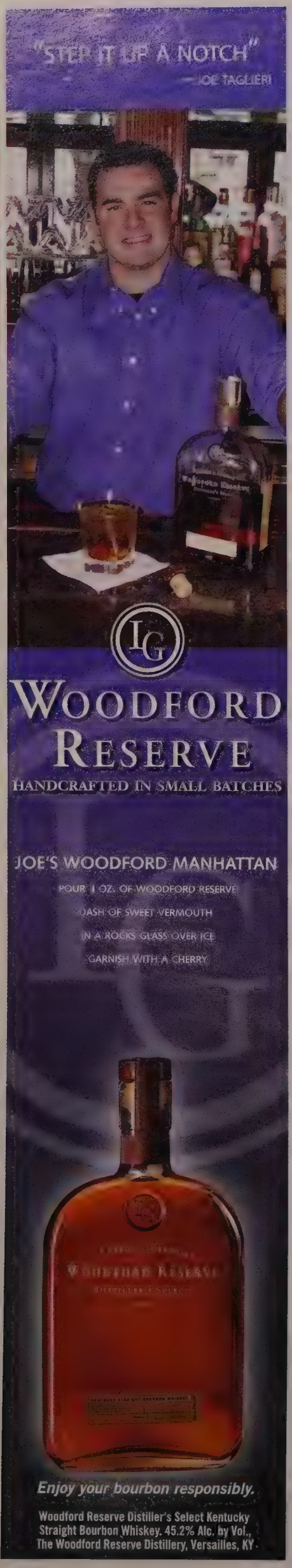

Cave In plays Dec. 23 at the Middle East.

Paddy O's *33 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-9900). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Phatt Boys *50 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-2005). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Orange Line to State St.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Venezia *20 Ericsson St., Dorchester (617-436-3120). MBTA Red Line to Ashmont.*
Wally's *427 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 pm. $24-$109. Keith Lockhart conducts the Boston Pops Orchestra and the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra in this performance of selections from their holiday recording *Sleigh Ride*. The Kids Matinee at 4 pm includes a children's sing-along and photos with Santa.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. The Early Music Department holds the recital *A Musical Banquet.*

Museum of Fine Arts

Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $25; $20, MFA members, students and seniors. The New England Conservatory Millennium Gospel Choir perform traditional and contemporary holiday gospel pieces.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 pm. $24-$109. Same program as Dec. 21.

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Violinist Viktoria Tchertchian performs her Master of Music recital.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 pm. $24-$109. The Boston Pops Orchestra, along with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra perform selections from their holiday recording *Sleigh Ride.*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 11 am pm. $24-109. Same program as Dec. 23.

Choir of the Church of the Advent

Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston 523-2377). www.theadvent.org. MBTA: Red L Charles MGH. 11 pm. Edith Ho directs this C mas Eve service featuring pieces by Giovanni N Nanino, Hieronymus Praetorius and Giovan Palestrina.

Emmanuel Music

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston 536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MI Green Line to Arlington. 10 pm. Michael Be conducts the Emmanuel orchestra and chor this Christmas Eve service as they perform He *Lieb* by Buxtehude and a motet by Richard Ro Bennet.

Handel and Haydn Society

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E G Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $33 and $47. Grant L lyn conducts holiday music and gives a recitati *A Child's Christmas in Wales.*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 $24-109. Bruce Hangen directs this Von T Children performance of European and Amer folk and classical songs alongside tunes from *Sound of Music.*

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. 109. Same program as Dec. 26.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $24- Same program as Dec. 26.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200).

rg. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 pm and
. $24-$109. Same program as Dec. 26.

IDAY, DECEMBER 30

ston Pops
phony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.
MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 pm.
109. Same program as Dec. 26.

TURDAY, DECEMBER 31

aryllis Duo
Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.
uthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange Line to
mtown Crossing. 3 pm. $5 or free with First Night
on. Harpist Sarah Anne Manning and flutist
nie L. Cochran perform winter-themed pieces
classical favorites.

ston Baroque
lers Theater, Quincy St.; Cambridge (617-484-
0). www.bostonbaroque.org. MBTA: Red Line to
vard. 8 pm. $28-$64. This program includes
es by Bach, Corelli, Marcello and Handel per-
ed by soprano Sharon Baker, oboist Marc
achman and organist Peter Sykes.

ston Pops
phony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.
MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10:15 pm.
-$169. Dancing and desserts follow this New
's Eve performance by the Boston Pops Orches-
nd the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra.

oir of the Church of the Advent
rch of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston (617-
-2377). www.theadvent.org. MBTA: Red Line to
rles St. 6 pm. Under the direction of Edith Ho,
choir performs songs by Harold Duke, Robert
l, William Walton and others.

gy School of Music
Congregational Church, 11 Garden St.,
bridge (617-536-3356). www.longy.edu. MBTA:
Line to Harvard. 10:15-11 pm. Soprano
helle Trainor, pianist David McGrory, and horn
er Megan McBride perform *Nocturnes* by Arnold
ke and songs by Amy Beach.

NDAY, JANUARY 1

ston Baroque
lers Theater, Quincy St., Cambridge (617-484-9200). www.bostonbaroque.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $28-$64. Same program as Dec. 31.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Kurt Masur conducts Tan Dun's *Water Concerto* and Bruckner's Symphony No. 7.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Same program as Jan. 5.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Same program as Jan. 5.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

Boston Symphony Chamber Players
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-638-928). www.bso.org. MBTA:E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $58-$100. Conductor Ludovic Morlot leads the chamber version of Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring*.

Boston Village Gamelan
Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. 3 pm. $24; $20, MFA members, students and seniors. The ensemble performs traditional Javanese music.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Donations requested. Craig Smith conducts the weekly Bach cantata.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $28-$98. Same program as Jan. 5.

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17 59
GUINNESS

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of Gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJs and drag performances, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Felt
S.I.N. Mondays This Service Industry Night includes free pool and guest DJs spinning high-energy dance, house and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, hip-hop, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
Irish seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Havana Club's Mambo Mondays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week, two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Bar 33
Havana Club's Salsa Tuesdays featuring DJ Cuban Jeff, salsa lessons and dance, 9 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Embassy
DJ Joe spins hip-hop, rock, funk and '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spin hits from the '70s and '80s, 10 pm-2 am, $3.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Totally '80s Tuesday DJ Rubiks Cube spins classic '80s music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

Paradise Lounge
Mashup Tuesdays DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop, rock, '80s and more, 10 pm, $7, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Take DJ Scott Bliff spins funk, soul and electro '80s, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin Top 40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Karaoke for Cash with Deb-N-Art.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Salsa Night DJs Hernan, D. Martinez, Antonio Ortiz and guests spin salsa music. Includes beginner lessons and karaoke, 8 pm, $12, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Funken Gruven Night Live funk bands, 9 pm, $13-$15, 18+.

Clerys
Live music, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
iPod Night Bring your own iPod and be an MP3J, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Soulcity Old school and '70s classics, 8 pm-12 am, $5.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
Boogie Nights DJ Mike Bose spins hip-hop, rock and house, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Flat Top Johnny's
Local DJs spin rock music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Foundation Lounge
Famous Wednesdays DJ Tanno spins. Also featuring Zensai Japanese appetizers, 9 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Wentraub spins a mix including R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
The Basement DJ Boo Boo hosts a night of punk, '70s-style new wave and house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Underground dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Musician Greg Lutrell performs, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Oldies but Goodies DJ Russ McQueen spins hits from the '50s, '60s and '70s, no cover.

Redline
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop hits, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Reel Bar
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 9 pm-1 am.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band plays R&B and dance in the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

Avalon
Fling Thursdays DJs spin hip-hop, R&B and Top 40, 10 pm, $15, ladies free until 11 pm, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School Hip-Hop Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Thursday on the Rocks DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

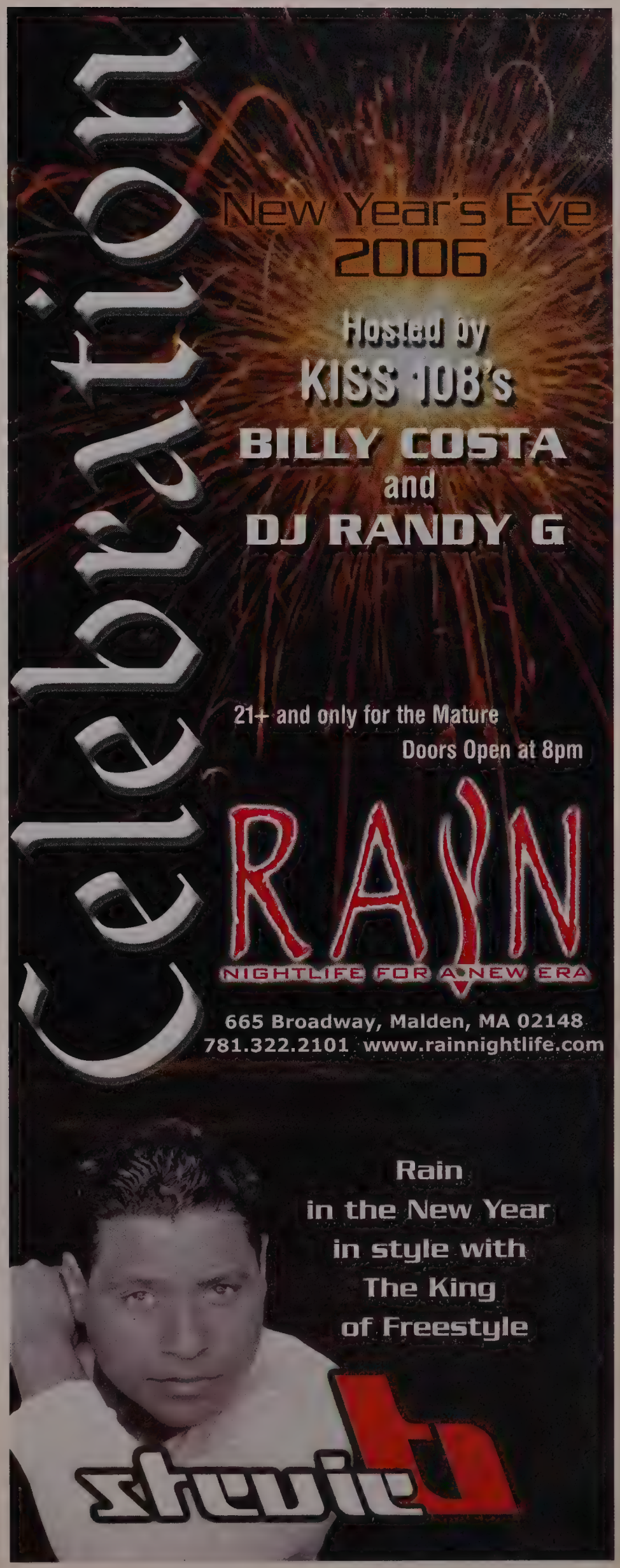
Caprice
Hip-Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
Dance Party Thursdays with DJ Mike Navarro, 9 pm, $5.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.



Club Q

Cosmopolitan
Hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Doc spins upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
The Glamorous Life DJs Susan Esthera and Aphro-dite host this gay hip-hop and electro party, 10 pm.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $3.

Felt
True Music Thursdays Featuring live performances, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Joh Camara and Jama Jigi play Afro-pop highlife, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJs Edgar and Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes, including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Mantra
Havana Club Night: Thursdays at Mantra DJ Cuban Jeff spins a mix of Latin and salsa, 10 pm, $10 before 11 pm, $15 after 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Aquanet Dance Party '80s old-school funk and soul, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Opal Lounge
Psychic Libations Psychics from the Tremont Tea Room offer readings at this night sponsored by Ciroc Vodka and Tanqueray 10, 5-9 pm, $15.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Mad Dog pre drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins Top 40 and dance, 9 pm, no co 21+.

The Point
DJs spin dance and hip-hop music, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and sa dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin p classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spi mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, cover, 21+.

The Ruby Room
Rouge Thursdays Enjoy half-price martinis while Prolific spins R&B and downtempo beats, 7 pm am, no cover.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and da ing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge mu 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest h hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Underbar
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, 11 pm.

Venu
=20 Thursday Hip-hop and house music, 11 p $15, 19+.

rtigo
al Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and k from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no er.

aterWorks
ckwild Thursdays DJs spin Top 40 and house and t a Daisy Dukes contest, a mechanical bull rid- contest and karaoke, 5 pm-1 am, $5, 21+.

est Street Grille
d-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school -hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

RIDAYS

n Tua Nua
Tim Collins spins Top 40, hip-hop and R&B, 10 , $5, 21+.

ia
nity DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, R&B and classics, 11 , $20, 19+ ladies, 21+ men.

valon
aland Guest DJs spin with residents Eli Wilkie, ex Whalen and Jay P., 10 pm, $15, 19+.

ne Avenue
Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and Top 40, 9 pm- m, no cover, 21+.

kis
vor Fridays DJ Mastermillions spins hip-hop, 10 , $15, 19+.

g Easy Bar
lebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spin- g Top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

ill's Bar
t Fridays Hip-hop, merengue, salsa, reggae and chata music, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

oston Rocks
idays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a ght of local DJs spinning Top 40, dance and hip- p tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

aprice
Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and use music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

lerys
Rhythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

lub Europa
vist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and Os for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; after 11 n, $15, 19+.

lub Q
oston's Best Dance Party DJ Massi plays hip-hop d Top 40, 10:30 pm, $5, 21+.

ommon Ground
J Dino Sound spins Northern Soul, 10 pm, no cover.

oogan's
J Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, +.

osmopolitan
uropean Night DJs play a mix of Euro-style music, pm-2 am, no cover.

evlin's
J Paul Daley plays upbeat house and trance, pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

ockside
Js spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, +.

mbassy
J Nyce spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

he Enormous Room
ll-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything om hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 0 pm-2 am.

elt
J Jim Klerkin spins Top 40, dance and hip-hop, no over, 21+. The penthouse level: **Therapy Fridays** J Cerebral spins hip-hop beats, no cover, 21+.

olden Temple
he E Room DJ Rob Wentraub spins '70s, '80s, '90s nd vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

reen Briar
J FK spins dance and Top 40, 7 pm-1 am, no cover, +.

reen Street Grill
ilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, 21+.

ypsy Bar
Js Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

he Harp
riday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins ownstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

urricane O'Reilly's
J spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 0 pm, 21+.

/D
ashment Fridays DJ Juneyacool spins reggae, 15, 19+.

ose McIntyre's
Js spin, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

he Kells
adies Night DJ Doc spins Top 40, R&B and lance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s fa- orites, 9 pm, ladies free before 12 am, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Howie spins Top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house, and DJ Steve Spinelli plays Top 40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Future/Retro DJ Brian Merke spins electro, techno and disco, 10 pm-2 am, $5.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Groove Yard '70s, '80s, funk, soul and disco, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop spins Top 40 and hip-hop, and TV screens show Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Fist Holdin' Loot Productions presents DJ Itchy P, 10 pm.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
Vegas Fridays Las Vegas resident DJs spin.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, Top 40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Salsa Cubana Ryles hosts a Cuban-style salsa night the third Friday of every month, 9 pm, $10.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tantric Lounge
Hookah Lounge The NGP Allstars and Cloud 9 spin the music at this night featuring hookahs, specialty cocktails and belly dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Mike G spins Top 40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
Lesbian Night 9 pm-1 am, $5.

Underbar
DJ Franklin spins house, hip-hop and rock, 11 pm.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

WaterWorks
Hook Up Fridays DJs spin Top 40, hip-hop and house and host a dance contest with Playboy Playmates, 5 pm-1 am, $5 before 10 pm, $8 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and Top 40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Tim Collins mix Top 40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Lifestyles DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $20, 21+ men, 19+ women with college ID.

Avalon
Resident DJ Adilson spins along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Big spins hip-hop hits, 10 pm, $8, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning Top 40, hip-hop and '80s, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Sexy Saturdays DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop and Top 40, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs present Top 40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
International Lounge DJ Ghost and DJ Vagellis create a lounge atmosphere with international and house sounds, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Q
DJ Rip Hernandez spins hip-hop, R&B, and dance, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Common Ground
Shake Your Ass Night DJ spins indie rock, $2.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
Cosmopolitan Saturdays Top 40, hip-hop, R&B, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
•Sensation Saturdays featuring DJ Val Beats spinning hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop and dance beats, no cover, 21+. The penthouse level: **Social Club Saturdays.**

Foundation Lounge
DJ Edward Grant Stuart spins an eclectic mix of '70s and '80s disco and Motown, plus international lounge and acid jazz, 9:30 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins music from the '70s, '80s and '90s, as well as Top-40, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJs Niso and Mario spin, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Harp
House DJ spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Fresh spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJs Peter D and Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Howie spins Top 40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+; $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
The Grooveyard DJ Yamin spins a mix of mashups, soul, hip-hop, 9 pm, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 9 pm, men $10, ladies $5 or free before 10:30, 21+.

The Modern
KLIK DJs Don Schmidt, Mike Walsh and Bons minimal techno and electro microhouse, 10 $10, 19+.

Opal Lounge
Candy Shop This ladies-only night features Missladyj spinning hip-hop and dance, 10 2 am, no cover, 21+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and 40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free; me before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's l est-running all-male dance revue, doors at pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. s mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosph $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit w ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles DJs spin each Saturday, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Rc spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Rain
KISS 108-FM's Billy Costa and DJ Randy G Top 40, house, dance, disco and rock mu 10 pm.

Redline
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins moc mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs Massi and Play spin their own styl house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa danc 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins Top 40 dance in front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retr vorites in the white room, $5, 10 pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and Top 40 dance, 9 pm,

Tequila Rain
DJ Mike G spins Top 40, hip-hop and house pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins cla old-school, Top 40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover,

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evenin Gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Underbar
Global Entertainment Presents DJ Angel Mor 11 pm.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Ta Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-h 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and ho 10 pm, $15, 21+.

WaterWorks
•**Weekend Beach Party** Cocktails and volleyb 12 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Rewind Saturdays** spin Top 40 and house, 12 pm-1 am, $5 from 8 10 pm, $10 after 10 pm, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and Top all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Country Western Includes line-dancing lesso 11 pm, $10-$15, 19+.

Aria
Scandalous Sundays Brazilian music, 11 pm, $ women 19+, men 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

ill's Bar
ive reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

aprice
otating DJs spin Brazilian dance music, 10 pm, -$10, 21+.

lub Q
ternational Dance Party 8 pm-2 am, $10.

osmopolitan
-3-5 Presents Reggae vs. Reggaeton, 10 pm, $10, +.

evlin's
dustry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and mixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

he Enormous Room
evolutions A night of electronic music, $3, pm-3 am.

reen Briar
nbar Doyle, no cover, 21+.

he Kells
he Spot Rotating DJs spin Top 40, hip-hop and ouse music, 10 pm-2 am, no cover.

evel
otating DJs spin Latin and international on the ird floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house n the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, +.

iddlesex Lounge
roove Yard DJ Yamin spins mashups, soul, hip-hop, ancehall and more, 9 pm, no cover.

he Office
topia Sundays DJ Bruno and weekly special guests lay deep, soulful house and disco, 10 pm, no cover, +.

hoenix Landing
ump House-music night featuring a rotating roster f local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, +.

he Place
had LaMarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, o cover, 21+.

he Point
J Itchy P, 11 pm-2 am.

he Purple Shamrock
J Thom spins Top 40 beats, no cover, 21+.

he Rack
J Mike Janedy spins dance and Top 40, 9 pm- am, no cover, 21+.

ain
J Danny Sharp and the World Premier Band pro- ide Top 40, dance and old-school funk music, no over.

edline
unday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and rotating uests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, +.

iver Gods
ction Sunday DJs play punk, garage and rock, 9 m, no cover, 21+.

yles Dance Hall
epa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sun- ay of each month, DJs Nik and Hernan play salsa usic, 6-10 pm, $12.

aint
pice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night eaturing Latin and international grooves, 10 pm- am, $10, 21+.

issy K's
amu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

iki Room
eggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub tation and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

oast
Js wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop nd Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

enu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian ight as DJ Leandro spins a collection of dance its, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

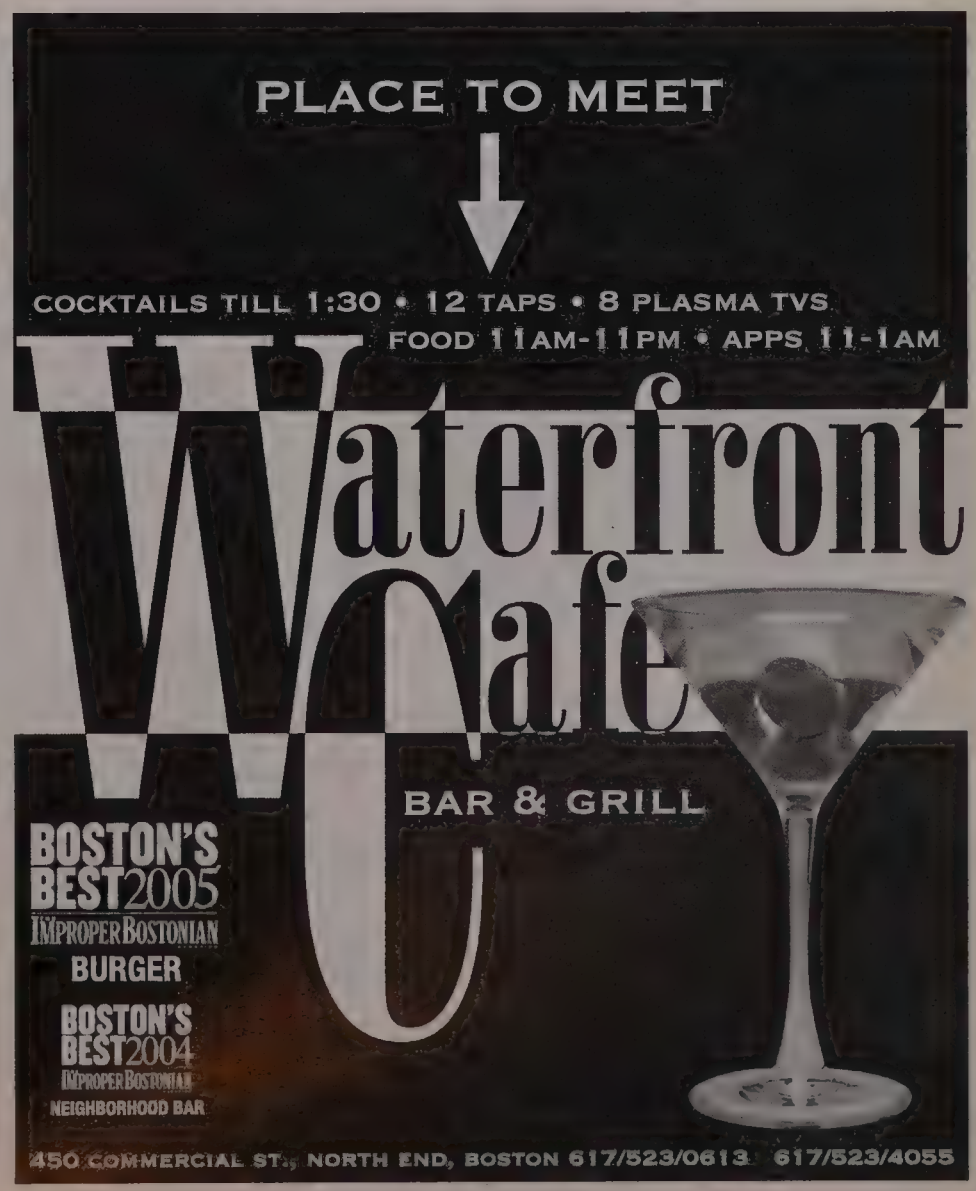
ertigo
laitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and orld beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

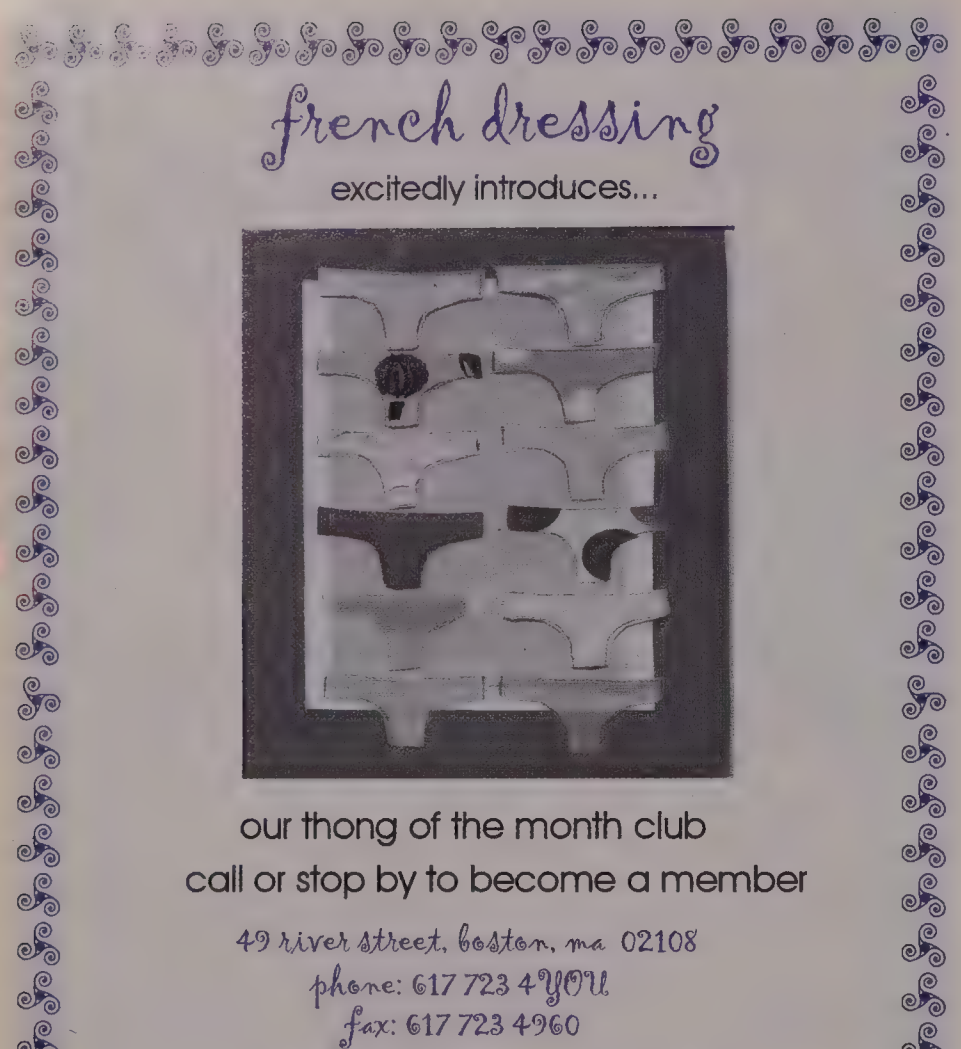
VaterWorks
Weekend Beach Party Cocktails and volleyball, 2 pm-5 pm, no cover. •**Smokin' Sundays** DJs omeo and Randy spin, and Romeo hosts a Hawai- an Tropics Contest at 6 pm, 12 pm-1 am; $10 from -9 pm, $20 after 9 pm; 21+.

Club Venues

un Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
un Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
unthem *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*
uria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
valon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
he Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-508).*
uds *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*

Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *51/2 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Club Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Flat Top Johnny's *1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-494-9565).*
Foundation Lounge *500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-9900).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Highbar *200 High St., Boston (617-523-4000).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Mantra *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111).*
Matrix/Paradise City *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Office *5 Broad St., Boston (617-474-7866).*
Opal Lounge *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
The Penthouse Club *Fourth floor, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Rain *665 Broadway, Malden (781-322-2101).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851).*
The Reel Bar *477 Cambridge St., Allston (617-738-3222).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Ruby Room *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tantric *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
WaterWorks *333 Victory Road, Quincy (617-689-0600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*





museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6; Sat., 10 am-12 pm, free. •*Silver and Shawls: India, Europe and the Colonial Art Market* highlights the evolution of shawls and silverware during India's colonial period. Through Jan. 29. •*Evocative Creatures: Animal Motifs and Symbols in East Asian Art* explores the symbolism and significance of animals in the arts of East Asia through paintings, ceramics, sculptures, jades and textiles. Through June 11.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Wellesley. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. Free. •A display of art from China, Japan and Korea runs through June. •An installation of modernist art features works by Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Paul Cézanne and Hiroshige Ando. Through June.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6; children 5 and under, free. •*John Huddleston: Killing Ground, Photographs of the Civil War and the Changing American Landscape* juxtaposes historical images with contemporary photography of the same locations 150 years later. Through Jan. 8. •*Robert Arnold: Zeno's Paradox* is a short, looping video that experiments with the connections between zooms and stills. Through Jan. 8. •*Saga: The Journey of Arno Rafael Minkkinen, Photographs 1970-2005* exhibits nude self-portraits incorporating the artist's body into a range of landscapes. Through Jan. 8.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6. •*Stratification: An Installation of Works Since 1960* displays seven pieces presenting various approaches to making art. Through Feb. 26. •*To Delight the Eye: French Drawings and Paintings from the Collection of Charles E. Dunlap* investigates the tastes and journey of [illegible] collector, as well as his relationship with forme[illegible] rectors and curators who played a pivotal rol[illegible] Dunlap's development as a collector and do[illegible] Dec. 17-March 12. •*Highlights from the Collectio[illegible] Grenville L. Winthrop* exhibits 19th-century pa[illegible] ings. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Cente
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). ww[illegible] frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. M[illegible] Tue. and Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Wed., 10 am-8 pm; Fri.[illegible] Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •*Contemporary Parisian Sc[illegible] Photography* displays David Lewalski's black-and-w[illegible] photographs, capturing the faces and interaction[illegible] daily life in Paris. Through Jan. 2.

Harvard Museum of Natural Histo[illegible]
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-304[illegible] www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to H[illegible] vard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 9 am-12 [illegible] $7.50; students and seniors, $6; children 3-18, •*Robert Turner: Rare Places in a Rare Light* exhib[illegible] images of North America's wildlands. Thro[illegible] March 26. •*Climate Change: Our Global Experi[illegible]* explores scientific studies on climate and allows [illegible] to select a course of action in a computer simulat[illegible] revealing the consequences for the planet. Ongo[illegible] •*Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites...Treasures of Na[illegible] and Science at Harvard* features collections do[illegible] menting more than two centuries of scientific ex[illegible] ration. Ongoing. •*The Glass Flowers* by Leopold [illegible] Rudolph Blaschka features glass models of m[illegible] than 830 plant species from the Ware Collecti[illegible] Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facet[illegible] Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of [illegible] jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.[illegible] boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tue., W[illegible] and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun.,[illegible] am-5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5; Thu. aft[illegible] pm, free. •*Momentum 5: Paul Chan* displays polit[illegible] drawings, projected digital animations and vide[illegible] Through Jan. 16. •*Utopia, Utopia = One World, [illegible] War, One Army, One Dress* takes a critical look[illegible] the world through wall graphics, vitrines, sculptu[illegible] maquettes and films by Thomas Hirschho[illegible] Through Jan. 16.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-140[illegible] www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Lin[illegible] Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; weeken[illegible] $11; seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patr[illegible] named Isabella and those under 18, free. •*T[illegible]* perennial installation *Holiday Table* gets a conte[illegible] porary interpretation by Michele Iodice. Throu[illegible] Jan. 8. •*Gentile Bellini and the East* explores [illegible] Western fascination with the exotic East by exam[illegible] ing how the cultures of the Mediterranean w[illegible] transmitted to Venice. Dec. 14-March 16. [illegible] *Closer Look: An Introduction to the Isabella Steu[illegible] Gardner Museum* offers museum tours. Tue.-[illegible] 2:30 pm. Ongoing. •Special Exhibition Gall[illegible] Talks provide context to museum exhibits Sat[illegible] days at 12 pm. Ongoing. •The collection featu[illegible] more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestri[illegible] furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorat[illegible]

John Huddleston's photographs are on display at the DeCordova Museum through Jan. 8.

ces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelan-lo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. Ongoing.

ary Baker Eddy Library

0 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). vw.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line Hynes/ICA. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $6; seniors, idents and youth ages 6-17, $4; children 6 and der, free. •The Mapparium celebrates 70 years th a new exhibit showcasing its history and re-cting on the major changes in the world since 35. Through Jan. 6. •*Fractions of Time Well Spent* atures images, artifacts and documentation focus-g on daily life in the Baker Eddy household from 85 to 1911. Through Feb. 26. •The multimedia hibit *This Is Woman's Hour...* highlights the life d accomplishments of Mary Baker Eddy. Ongo-g. •The library's *Historic Bible Collection* show-ses rare Bibles in the Reference Room. Ongoing. The library displays a peace flag from the 1907 ace Congress proceedings in New York. Ongoing.

icMullen Museum of Art

ston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chest-t Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. BTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., am-4 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •The museum's rmanent collections span the history of art from rope, Asia and the Americas and exhibitions in-ude: *American Landscapes and Portraits from 1840-40, Italian Sacred Scenes and Portraiture, Flemish pestries* and *Gifts from William and Alison Vareika.* ngoing.

IT List Visual Arts Center

Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://b.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-u. and Sat.-Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. Free. *Christian Jankowski: Everything Fell Together* is a col-ction of 54 photographs and 10 cinematic and con-ptually based installations. Through Dec. 31. •*Crit-s* is a media test wall installation of short videos of imals mimicking human attributes. Through Dec. 31.

IT Museum

5 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://b.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. ue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; udents and seniors, $2; children under 5, free. •*Find-g Form: The Art of Richard Filipowski* celebrates e sculpture of the MIT professor. Through Feb. 17. •*Scopes, Station Wagons and Solder: Unexpected Images from the Rad Lab and RLE Collections* exhibits photographs from preserved negatives documenting the history of radar and electronics. Through June 11. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* is a multimedia exhibit focusing on the famed MIT professor, including his development of the electronic strobe and his groundbreaking photography. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing.

Museum of African-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free. •*Words of Thunder: William Lloyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition* celebrates the life and achievements of the famous Boston abolitionist. Through April 1. •*Historic Gallery Talks: 19th Century Black Beacon Hill* discusses the determination of blacks on Beacon Hill in the 1800s. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the west wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 6-17, school days until 3 pm, $6.50; children 17 and under all other times, free. Thu.-Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed. 4-9:45 pm, free excluding special exhibitions. •*Ansel Adams* showcases works by the famous American photographer. Through Dec. 31. •*Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia* features more than 100 musical instruments. Through Jan. 5. •*American West: Dust and Dreams* presents more than 70 artists whose works reflect the American West. Though Jan. 8. •*Zhang Huan: Seeds of Hamburg* displays 12 chronological large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 16. •*West African Gold: Akan Regalia from the Glassell Collection* presents items crafted for Akan kings and elite including crowns, jewelry, sculptures, swords and kente cloths. Through March 26. •*A Much Recorded War: The Russo-Japanese War in History and Imagery* exhibits prints, postcards and photographs. Through March 28. •*Facets of Cubism* focuses on Cubism's flowering in

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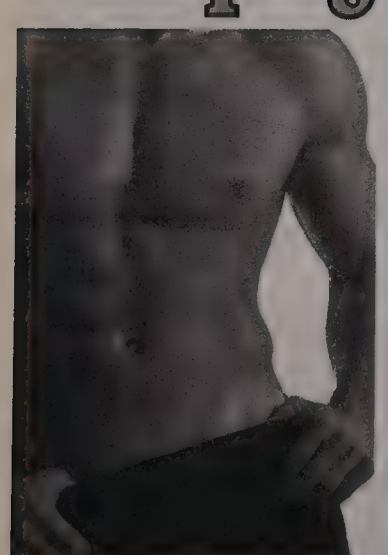
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France until 1920 and includes outstanding paintings, sculptures and works on paper. Dec. 7-April 16. •*Contemporary Clay: Japanese Ceramics for the New Century* is a collection of innovative, present-day Japanese ceramics. Through July 9.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; seniors, $13; children 3-11, $12. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers. Ongoing. •*Countdown to Supernova* is a planetarium show about the creation and death of stars. Through April 30. •*Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination* uses all six Star Wars films to examine the technologies of today and tomorrow. Through April 30. •Hundreds of butterflies and flowers are on display in the new *Butterfly Garden*. Ongoing. •*Natural Mysteries* puts your organizational skills to work to solve mysteries. Ongoing. •The *Theater of Electricity* provides lightning shows daily at 12 pm and 2 pm, and Fridays at 7 pm. Ongoing. •Stargaze atop the museum's garage roof using the Gilliland Observatory Friday evenings. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*September 11: Bearing Witness to History* commemorates and reflects on the tragedy of Sept. 11 through photographs, articles and everyday objects. Through Jan. 1. •*Teenage Hoboes in the Great Depression* features letters, questionnaires and audio tapes documenting stories during the Depression. Through Feb. 16. •*Blue Monday: Doing Laundry in America* showcases a collection of laundry advertisements and paraphernalia from the 1700s to today. Through March 4.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*The Artful Teapot: 20th Century Expressions from the Kamm Collection* displays 250 teapots by more than 100 painters, sculptors, ceramists and artists. Through March 5. •*Air Lines: Photographs by Alex MacLean* captures images of the United States from thousands of feet above the ground. Through April 23. •*Taj Mahal: The Building of a Legend* is a collection of 40 paintings and photographs exploring the site. Through July 23. •*Carved by Nature: Untamed Traditions in Chinese Decorative Art* exhibits organic wood forms which appealed to Buddhists and Daoists seeking to connect with nature. Through Aug. 13. •*Exposing the Source: The Paintings of Nalini Malani* displays 40 works including oils, acrylics, watercolors and videos by one of India's leading contemporary artists. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children 3-18, $5; children under 3, free. •*Gifts of the Great Rivers: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtiss Collection* is on display. Through March 30. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through Dec. 31. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* includes 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30. •*The Moche of Ancient Peru* is a collection of early ceramic art that gives insight into the culture. Through June 2007.

Rose Art Museum
Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $3. •*Lucier: Chambers* explores the characteristics of closed spaces. Through Dec. 11. •*Fred Tomaselli: Masters of Paradise* displays collage-style paintings that blend natural and unnatural worlds. Through Dec. •*"Post" and After: Contemporary Art from the Brandeis University Collection* displays works from the 1980s '90s. Through April 9.

Hiroshige Ando's painting *Edo, Japan* is on display at the Davis Museum and Cultural Center through June.

Special Events

Award-Winning Photographs of 200
Boston City Hall, 1 City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-6 3245). www.cityofboston.gov/arts. MBTA: Green L to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 Free. •This exhibit documents Boston in 2004, fr John Kerry to the Red Sox, through a series photographs selected by the Boston Ph Photographer's Association. Through Jan. 13.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). ww acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingt Tue.-Fri., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm by appointment. •*Pioneers of Early Modernism f* tures the paintings of Agnes Weinrich, Blanc Lazzell and Grace Martin Taylor. Through Dec. reopens Jan. 7.

Adams Gallery
Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont St., Bos (617-305-1782). www.suffolk.edu/adams_galle MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Mon.-Sun., am-6 pm. Free. •*Touching All the Bases: A Red Sox H* tory explores the history of the Boston Red S through photographs, cartoons and artifacts. Throu Feb. 28.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). MBT Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 p Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Holiday Adornment: 12 Jewelers f* tures artists working with metal, glass and semi-p cious stones. Through Dec. 31.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0620). MBT Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 p

ean Larson shows her work, which explores emo-
ns in nature focusing on light and color. Jan. 4-30.

rs Libri Gallery

0 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-560-1608). BTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Sat., 11 1-5:30 pm. •*Starball Contribution* showcases John emblay's work through Dec. 31.

rtana

78 Beacon St., Suite B, Brookline (617-879-11). www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green ne to Coolidge Corner. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; u., 10 am-7 pm; and by appointment. •The An-*al Holiday Group Show* features a variety of paint-gs, marble sculpture, glass pieces, jewelry and her art by the gallery's artists. Through Dec. 31.

tlantic Works Gallery

Border St., Boston (781-853-0017). MBTA: Blue ne to Maverick. Thu., 6-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-6 pm. Darkness features artwork characterized by mini-al light and viewed in the dark. Through Jan. 28.

arbara Krakow Gallery

Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). ww.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. Bronlyn nes presents her work examining the relation-ip between the mark and the surface with her inimalist style. Through Jan. 25.

erenberg Gallery

Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www. renberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. ue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. *Two of a Kind: Visions* presents mixed media on per by Cher and Gabriel Schaffer. Through Dec. 23.

oston Center for the Arts

ills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-335). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ck Bay. Wed., Thu., Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-10 n. •*The 19th Drawing Show* exhibits various artists' all drawings with influences from graffiti, Sol Le-'itt's wall drawings and installations. Through Jan. 8.

oston Sculptors Gallery

36 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-776-3410). www. stonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. ue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 1-5 pm. •This ear's winter group show *B-Side* features artwork aced on the reverse side of vinyl records. Through ec. 24.

Boston University Art Gallery

855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3329). www. bu.edu/art. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. Free. Syncopated Rhythms displays 20th-century African-American art from the collections of George and Joyce Wein. Through Jan. 22.

Brickbottom Gallery

1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www. brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thurs.-Sun., 2-6 pm. •*The December Store: An Art Market at Brickbottom Gallery* features a variety of media, including jewelry, ceramics, glass, print-making and paintings. Through Dec. 23.

Cambridge Art Association

Kathryn Schultz Gallery, 25R Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. University Place Gallery, 124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www. cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-1 pm. •*RED*, which features a variety of work by more than 100 artists, is on display at the University Place Gallery. Through Jan. 19.

Cambridge Arts Council Gallery

344 Broadway, Cambridge (617-349-4380). www. cambridgeartscouncil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Mon. and Wed.-Thu., 8:30 am-8 pm; Tue., 8:30 am-5 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-12 pm. •*dimensions variable, site fixed* exhibits a collection of works by local artists charged with creating a new work for Cambridge. Through Dec. 28.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center

41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www. cmacusa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •Pablo Gonsalez's *Sacrificios* examines Chicano cultural issues through paintings and an installation. Through Dec. 23. •Skip Schiel displays his *Paired Photographs from the Levant*, which draws from his experience traveling through Israel and Palestine. Through Jan. 27. •*In a Land Most Strange* showcases Kerry Stuart Coppin's photographs of Egypt. Dec. 30 through March 30.

Cambridge 7 Associates, Inc.

1050 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7000). www. c7a.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •*Photographs from the Big Dig* is a collection

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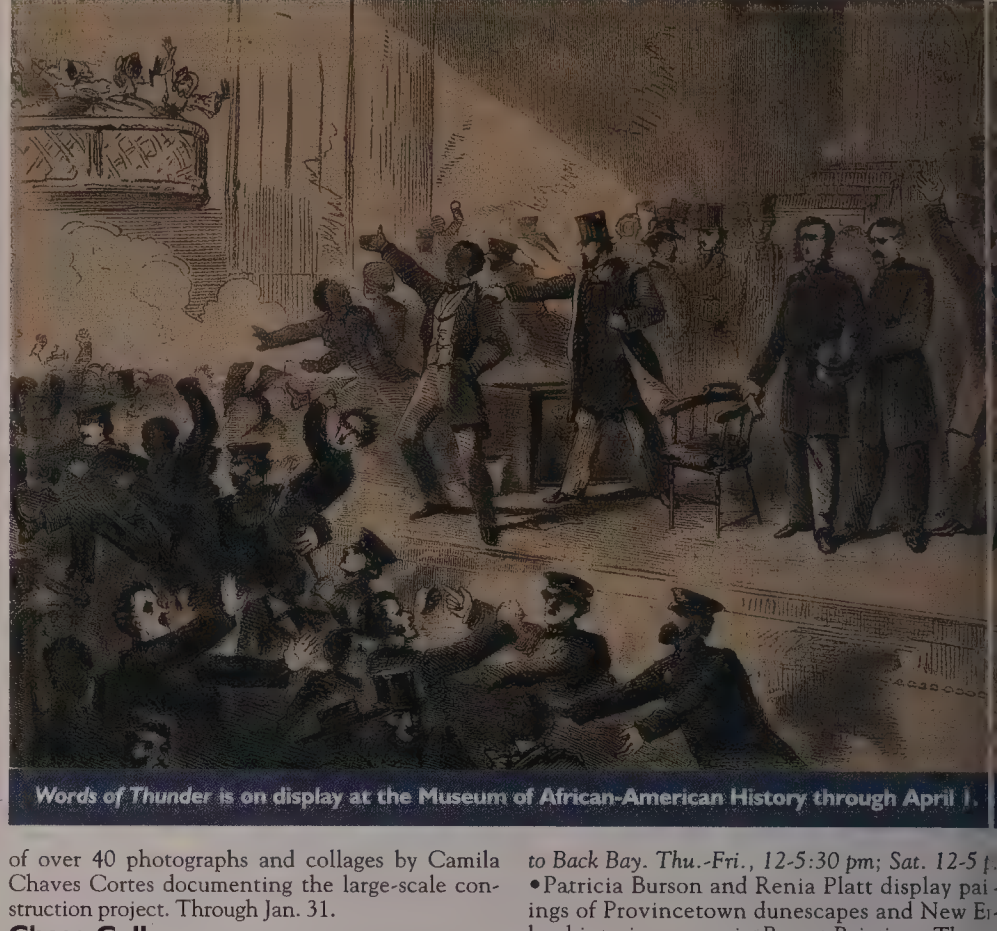

Words of Thunder is on display at the Museum of African-American History through April 1.

of over 40 photographs and collages by Camila Chaves Cortes documenting the large-scale construction project. Through Jan. 31.

Chase Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Nathan Wilson* exhibits oil-on-canvas landscapes. Through Dec. 30. •Michael Schultheis displays his works of oil on canvas combining abstract mathematical ideas and the world of visual arts. Jan. 4-28.

Childs Gallery

169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Laurent Schkolnyk: Mezzotints* exhibits a variety of color mezzotints. Through Jan. 7. •*19th-Century American Landscapes* features classic oil landscapes. Through Jan. 7. •*On the Move: Transportation in Art* displays engravings by several artists, all of whom deal with the subject of travel. Through Jan. 7.

Copley Society of Art

158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •CSA members display their work in various media in *Small Works*. Through Dec. 23.

Crump McCole Gallery

200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* exhibits paintings by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

DTR Modern Galleries

167 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-9700). www.dtrmodern.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 11 am-7 pm; Fri.-Sat., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 11 am-6 pm. •Selected works from the DTR collection are on display and for sale in *Unique Selections of Modern Art for the Holiday Shopper*. Through Dec. 30.

Eclipse Gallery

164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Paul Crimi displays his collection of photography transfers on wood through Dec. 31.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery

300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-9 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*The Wheels Project* is a collection of photographs of motorcyclists, broken down cars and other facets of "wheel culture" curated by Ken Richardson, Jasen Strickler and Andrew M.K. Warren.

Galerie d'Orsay

33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galeriedorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*La Belle Epoch* is a collection of posters by Toulouse-Lautrec, Cheret, Mucha, Tisso and others. Through Dec. 25.

Gallery AA/B

535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Fri., 12-5:30 pm; Sat. 12-5 p

•Patricia Burson and Renia Platt display pai- ings of Provincetown dunescapes and New E- land interior scenes in *Recent Paintings*. Throu Dec. 22.

Gallery Katz

450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-4- 6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange L to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appoi- ment. •Ben Collier presents photographs of travels in *China: Estimating the Future*. Throu Jan. 28.

Gallery Kayafas

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-0411). wu gallerykayafas.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back B Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Brief Encounters with Dead* showcases Herb Greene's photographs of t Grateful Dead. Through Jan. 14.

Gallery NAGA

67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). wu gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingto Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. Lana Caplan's *Di* and Jaclyn Salvaggio Kain's *Pieces of Millie* are bo by young photographers who use the archaic fo of images called "tintype" that was a 19th centu technique now reemerging as a popular meth among new artists. Jan. 6-28.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery

47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sa 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*New Works* by Deborah Da- dovits features a video and works on paper. Throu Jan. 3.

Green Street Gallery

141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0000). ww greenstreetgallery.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Gre St. Tue.-Wed., 6-9 pm; Thu., 2-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 12 pm. Free. •Robin Mandel displays his sculptu work in a solo exhibition. Through Jan. 7.

Howard Yezerski Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). ww howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to A lington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Susan Jane Be ton's *Coffee Break* uses coffee cups and paint as springboard for cultural commentary. Through De 23. •Photographer Rhona Bitner's *STAGE* featur seven color photographs of theatre performe Through Dec. 23.

Hurst Gallery

53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888 www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvar Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm. •*Landscapes and Legends* sho cases Japanese Ukiyo-e woodblock prints. Throug Jan. 14.

International Poster Gallery

205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). ww internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cople Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Deco T Halls!* rings in the holiday season with scores of se sonal Art Deco posters. Through Jan. 16.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery

130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). ww judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •*Memorabilia: Sea Micka* displays works in oil on canvas. Throug Dec. 30. •*Introductions 2006* shows the work

orge Rosa and Lorna Williams. Jan. 5-28. •*Har-* *Loves Harvey* showcases groups of three paneled otographs by Jason Dean and Matthew Nash wing the artists acting out quotes from famous sts. Jan. 5-28.

dder Smith Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www. dersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Miroslav Antic displays *New Paintings* based on family photographs. cough Jan. 7.

noue Fine Art
) Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www. puefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The ery's collection features works by Douglass Freed, th Block, Marc Civitarese, Carrie McGee, John som and others. Ongoing.

Attitude Gallery
3 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www. itudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Off the ll* exhibits new works by Gail Taylor, Bernice ff and Paula DeSimone, including copper etch- s, still lifes, photocollages and abstract tapes- es, furniture and mirrors. Through Dec. 31.• *eat Gifts, Small Packages* is a group show pre- ting works in glass, metal, ceramic, stone, fiber l wood. Dec. 10- Jan. 8.

assachusetts College of Art
alar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-)-7333). www.massart.edu. MBTA: E Green Line ongwood. Mon.-Fri., 12-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. sing 70 objects, *Braun: 50 Years of Design* shows industrial design development process from instorm to finished product. Through Jan. 14. lichael Queenland displays photographs, installa- n drawings and sculptures made of styrofoam king peanuts, electrical tape and candles. rough Jan. 10.

ercury Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www. rcurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. n.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*En- ıble* showcases over 500 paintings and works on ıer from 1930 to the present by the gallery's ıerican artists. Through Dec. 31.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www. mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Power, Passion, Humiliation* presents Aaron Holz's work with acrylic and pencil on vellum and Calla Thompson's mixed media pieces along with sculpture by Joe Carpineto. Through Dec. 21.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci. newton.ma.us. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Starting With Trees* is a collection of Susan Post Lichtenstein's oil paintings of trees from different perspectives. Through Dec. 29. •Shelby Tiziani's *Colored Shadows* displays the artist's pastel still life work. Through Dec. 29.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www. nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*New Works* features Jon Imber's abstract paintings of Maine's coastal land- scapes. Through Jan. 14.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. #304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Bricks and Mortar* dis- plays recent paintings by Carolyn Swiszcz. Through Jan. 15.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www. outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Cen- tral. 12-6 pm. •The gallery features photography, paintings, sculpture, jewelry, mosaics and antiques by local artists. Ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www. peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Ar- lington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Pastels* by Sidney Hurwitz is on display until Dec. 23.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www. puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*A Good Life in Your Eyes* highlights oil paintings by the late Gerald Garston. Through Dec. 31.

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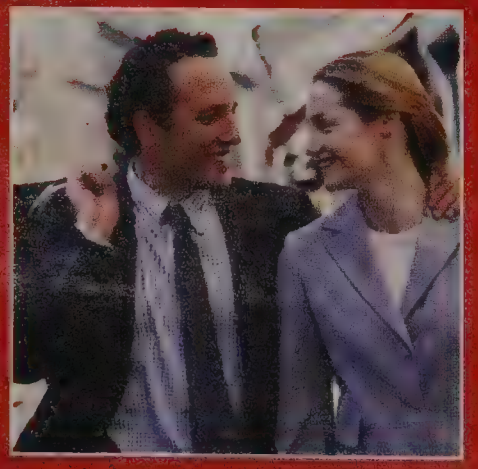

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Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery's *Winter Salon* is a group show featuring both black-and-white and color photography. Through Dec. 23.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. Free. •The gallery displays etchings and lithographs by Chagall, Picasso and Delaunay, alongside paintings by Constantin Terechkovitch and Raymond Legeult. Through Dec. 31.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*You and Me Simultaneously* features paintings, a video and sculpture by Emily Mast. Through Dec. 31.

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Grossman Gallery, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718). www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Wed. and Fri.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thurs., 10 am-8 pm. • Six graduate students display pieces in various media dealing with the effect of space on the body in *Students Curate Students: Unoccupied Ground.* Through Jan. 4.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •With over 25 artists featured, *Artcessorize* exhibits hats, belts, scarves, shawls, purses and jewelry made with various materials from hand-painted silk to wool. Through Jan. 22.

Soprafina Gallery
73 Thayer St., Boston (617-728-0770). www.soprafina.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •The *Winter Salon Exhibition* features art by Olga Antonova, Elizabeth Awalt and Robert Baart alongside many others. Through Jan. 14.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Infusion* continues to display paintings by William t George and Sandra Mueller-Dick, in addition to pressionistic landscapes, figures and animals Shauna Shane. Through Dec. 31.

Vose Galleries of Boston
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). wi vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co Mon.-Fri., 9:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 •*Tease* is a collection of paintings by Mich Theise. Through Dec. 31. •The gallery's invent includes 18th-, 19th- and early 20th-century Am can artwork in various media. Ongoing.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-60 www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. Wed.-Sun., 1-7 pm. • *Art of Palestine* exhibits paintings, drawings and pr by prominent Palestinian artists through Jan. 1.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). w griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winc ter Center. Tue.-Wed., 11 am-5 pm; Thu., 11 a pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Art Griffin: A Singular Vision* features black-and-wh photos from 1929 to 1951. Through Dec. 30. •*Im by Peter Urban*, a collection of widescreen port photography, is on display through Jan. 2.

Panopticon Gallery Boston
502 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). w panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. T Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*Holiday Show: Prints from Collection* features the work of various gallery p tographers. Through Jan. 21.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). w panopt.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Walth Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. •*Shad of Time* showcases landscape and interior architect photographs by Paul Wainwright. Through Jan. 14

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave., Bos (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Gr Line to BU West. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat. and Su 12-5pm. •*Group Portrait* exhibits the work of vari photographers working with narrative and gr portraiture. Through Jan. 22.

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Readings & Signings

EDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

orders Books and Music
School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www. rdersstores.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to rk. 12:30 pm. Free. Marine **Nathaniel Fick** reads m his memoir, *One Bullet Away: The Making of Marine Officer*, which recounts his experiences ring marine training and serving oversees in ghanistan and Iraq.

EDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

ewtonville Books & Brews
6 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. wtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to ewtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Paul Mandelbaum** reads m his novel *Adriane on the Edge*, about the misad- ntures of an eccentric young woman who decides loosen up and live a little.

HURSDAY, JANUARY 5

ewtonville Books & Brews
'6 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. wtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to ewtonville. 7:30 pm. Free. **Deborah Noyes** reads m her book *Angels and Apostles*, which retells athaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* (and be- nd) from Pearl's point of view.

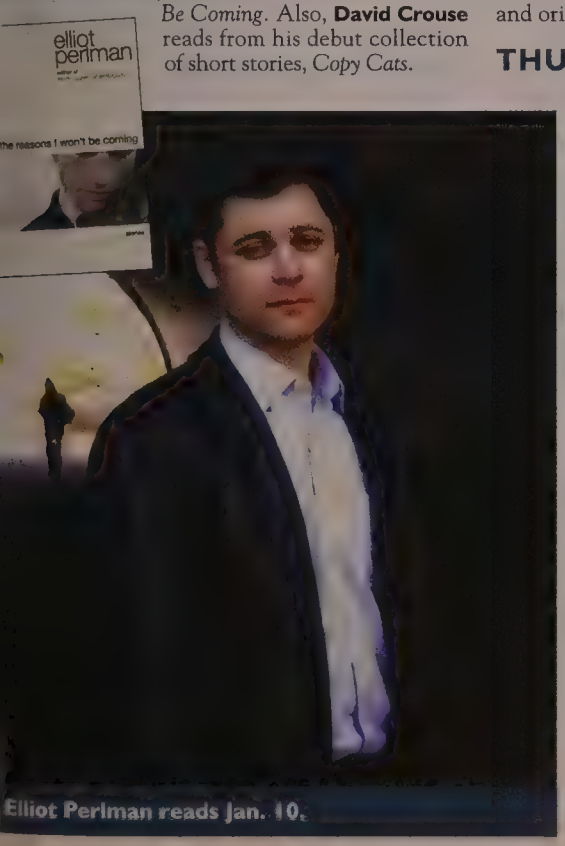
Vellesley Booksmith
Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www. ooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to ellesley Square. 7 pm. Free. **Jeffrey Rosin** discusses s novel *Lipstick's Legacy*, which follows an FBI spe- al agent's homicide investigation.

RIDAY, JANUARY 6

rookline Booksmith
'9 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. ooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to ɔolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Joseph Campana** ıd **Brian Scott Kelly** read from their works.

UESDAY, JANUARY 10

rookline Booksmith
'9 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. ooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to ɔolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Elliot Perlman** reads m his short story collection *The Reasons I Won't Be Coming*. Also, **David Crouse** reads from his debut collection of short stories, *Copy Cats*.



Elliot Perlman reads Jan. 10.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Object Lessons: The World's Lightest Bike
MIT Museum, 265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 1 pm. Free. Deborah Douglas, MIT's curator of science and technology, discusses the world's lightest track bike built by a former MIT undergrad.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

Knotting With Silk
Spark Craft Studios, 50 Grove St., Somerville (617-718-9132). www.sparkcrafts.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6:30 pm. $45. Erica Freund, a public school art teacher, demonstrates how to apply knotting techniques to bead projects with pearls and precious stones while preventing loss of stones. All supplies included.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

A Radical Interpretation of Christmas and Hanukkah
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6710). www.commchurch.org MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 11 am. Free. Jason Lydon, congregational director, leads a discussion on why radical interpretation is often left out of the story of Christmas and Hanukkah.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Exploring Design Lecture Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. The Boston Society of Architects presents this annual series which explores the importance of architecture and how it shapes the way we see things in our cities and neighborhoods.

Extraordinary Tenure—Massachusetts and the Making of a Nation
Boston Public Library Mezzanine Conference Room, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. Author Neil Savage presents this lecture about Massachusetts' role in America's political history from the colonial era to the present.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

Making History—Your Car's Illustrious Past
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle, Bus #51 to Newton St. 7:30 pm. $9; $7, members. Kit Foster, automotive historian, discusses restoration techniques and original construction methods for all levels.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

Wire Work Techniques
Beadworks, 23 Church St., Cambridge (617-868-9777). www.beadworksboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $65. This workshop, taught by Beadworks employees, explores ways to manipulate metal wires and teaches the construction of the loop to create the basic earring structure and other beginning jewelry techniques. Materials and tools included.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

Soap Box: Robots in Space
MIT Museum, 265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 6 pm. Free. Dr. Rodney Brooks, director of MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab, discusses robotics in space exploration. Presented with support from the *Boston Globe*.

The Unique Invitation
The Paper Source, 1810 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (617-497-1077). www.papersource.com MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 6:30 pm. $50. Learn how to design custom invitations. Topics include how to decide on various styles, how to mass-produce your invitations and how to use unique decorations. Price includes three samples.

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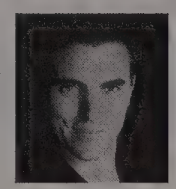
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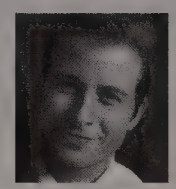
Founder, President & Chef – The Olive Group

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Oldman's Guide to Outsmarting Wine

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gay & lesbian

Advice to Contributors
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest MBTA stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Gov. Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am. No cover. 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as theme nights.

Aria (Thursdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 11 pm. $10. 21+. Get Down Thursdays feature rotating DJs playing hip-hop, house and pop.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 19+. Sunday-night parties include drag acts and house music from resident DJ Ted Elison.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $7. 19+. Static on Mondays features a drag show hosted by Miss Kris Knievel, with DJs Susan Esthera and Adilson spinning progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of each month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm. $10. 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay, Green Line to Arlington. No cover. 21+. Neighborhood cruise bar open nightly.

Embassy (Thursdays)
36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 19+. DJ Susan Esthera spins hip-hop and pop music every Thursday night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. This gay sports bar, with six large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

I/D (Saturdays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston. www.lesbiannightlife.com. 10 pm-2 am. No cover. 21+. LiQuid DJ Mix Mistress spins hip-hop, house, reggae, reggaton and more at this weekly women-only night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $10 weekends. 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music as booked. •Sun.: An Evening of Mizery: Amateur Talent Night, 10 pm. •Mon. (alternating weeks): Foxy Follies; TraniWreck. •Tue.: Karaoke. •Wed.: Delightful Divas with Melinda Wilson. •Thu.: Jacque's Angels with Miss Kris Knievel. •Fri. and Sat.: Miss Norelle's Leading Ladies.

Machine (Mondays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). www.ramrodmachine.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, featuring deep house music, 10 pm-2 am. $8. 21+. •Sat.: Latin night, 10 pm-2 am. Cover varies. 21+. •Mon.: Stroke, with hostess Mizery. 10 pm-2 am. 19+.

Modern (Thursdays)
30 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581). www.lesbiannightlife.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm. $10. 19+. Thursdays at the Modern is lesbian night with DJ Afrodite.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-3000). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover. 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features Top 40 Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is mandatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Mac. •Thu.: Mandance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Freespace. •Sun.: Muscle with DJ Duo Freespace. •Mon.: Pool, dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. Cover varies. Sunday T-dance features DJ Danae spinning the latest house and pop.

Toast (Fridays, Saturdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 5:30 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Friday is the new home for DykeNight with DJ Susan Esthera, and Saturday is Hero's Retro Night with DJs from ManRay.

Tribe at the Penthouse Club (Thursdays)
Felt, 533 Washington St., fourth floor, Boston (617-350-5555). www.tribenightclub.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9:30 pm-2 am. DJ Jim from KISS 108 spins hip-hop and Top 40 on the fourth floor at this weekly lesbian night.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat.,12 pm-2 am; Sun.,10:30 am-2 am. No cover. 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room at Restaurant 209 and video entertainment in the rear room at Club Café. •Wed.: Live karaoke, 9 pm. •Thu.: VJ Ricky Huss. •Fri.: VJ Cliff Cunningham. •Sat.: VJ Scott Kennedy.

Underbar (Sundays)
275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080). www.flauntatunderbar.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 11 pm. $10. 21+. This weekly event features DJs spinning hard house.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover. 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies, 7-9 pm. Showtune videos, 9 pm-1 am.

Venu (Wednesdays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). www.chapsboston.com. 10 pm. $8. 21+. Boston's long-running gay Latino night features Latin and house with DJ Adilson.

Shows & Events

The L Word Season Three Premiere
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston. www.hrc.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Jan. 8. 5:30 pm. $10. The Human Rights Campaign hosts this party in celebration of the third-season premiere of *The L Word* on Showtime. The screening is free and open to the public, and there's an after-show party at Avalon to benefit the HRC.

Avalon hosts a screening of the season three premiere of Showtime's *The L Word* Jan. 8.

LGBT Jewish Speed Dating
Temple Beth Zion, 1566 Beacon St., Boston (617-[illegible]9227). www.boston-keshet.org. MBTA: C Green to Washington Square. Dec. 25, 8 pm. $36. This single night features eight eight-minute dates for Jewish members of the LGBT community.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin [illegible] Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 5-9 pm. The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown North G/L Bowling League
Lanes & Games, 195 Concord Turnpike, Cambridge (617-876-5533). www.beantownbowling.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. 8:30 pm. This league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Tuesday nights.

Beantown Soft-Tip Dart League
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Gov. Center. Fritz, 26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bsdl.org. Mon., 8:30 pm. $12 for the season. This league hosts weekly 301, 601 and cricket matches at the Alley and Fritz.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-[illegible]1552). www.beantownbowling.com. 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesday nights.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First Tue. of each month, 7 pm. This discussion group provides support and information for bisexual women or women who are questioning their sexuality.

Boston Bears Barnight
The Alley, 14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). http://bostonbears.us. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 9:30 pm-1 am. Free. The Boston Bears meet the first and third Saturday of each month and also hold a happy hour every Friday from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Boston Boasts Squash
Central YMCA, 316 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue., 7-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year. E-mail info@bgbl.com.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri., 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Despina's Place, 47 Mass. Ave., Boston. www.lesbianavengers.org. Mon., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

hiltern Mountain Club
17-869-7958). *www.chiltern.org.* This 1,400-ember gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

OLAGE
ird Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. CO-AGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Every-here) meets in Medford for support and activities d holds a concurrent meeting for interested par-ts and their partners. E-mail medfordcolage@tmail.com.

oming Out as Bisexual
ston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Liv-g Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-95). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ck Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month. 7 n. Free. An informal group for people who think ey may be bisexual or are attracted to more than ie sex.

oming Out Support Group for Adults
17-482-2166). This group offers a confidential ace for men and women who are looking for a fe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It eets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near olidge Corner in Brookline. Call for more infor-ation.

ompass
'81-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area pport, information and social group for people signed female at birth, but who feel that the signation is not an accurate or complete de-ription of their gender. Part of the FTM (Fe-ale-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly location around New England. E-mail Compass TM@usa.com for details.

osmetically Correct
oody's, 58 Hemenway St., Boston. http://hoogroups.com/community/cosmeticallycorrect. First hu. of each month, 6 pm. Cosmetically Correct is a cal group of lipstick lesbians who meet each onth.

legant Outings
866-335-7730). *www.elegantoutings.com.* This oup welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional omen 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and phisticated to get together with like-minded omen for conversations, dinners, theater and net-orking.

enway Community Health
Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.nwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. enway Community Health offers a wide array of ervices for the LGBT community, ranging from iscussions about parenting and safe-sex practices programs addressing domestic violence and sub-ance abuse.

LAG Flag Football
ww.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GBT flag football league for its formal fall season. ll are welcome, regardless of skill level.

he 40-Somethings
eprimeoflife@aol.com. This newly formed group of sbians in their 40s runs events that help to foster nduring romantic/life partnerships through being iends first.

rontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., oston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/frontrunners. Tue., 12 pm; Wed., 6:45 pm; Sat., 0 am. See Web site for locations. All are welcome to in this running club.

ay Amateur Photography Group
nateurgphoto@yahoo.com. Learn more about pho-graphy, socialize and meet new people at monthly eetings.

ay Fathers of Greater Boston
irst Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-42-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This oup for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and ird Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm.

ayLab
ww.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing ealthy gay relationships features alternatives for eeting and dating, communication games, singles ixers and a date-matching system. E-mail info@aylab.org.

ays for Patsy
617-412-5751). *www.gaysforpatsy.org.* This coun-y-western dancing club, featuring two-step, wing and line dancing, holds events twice a onth. Beginners welcome, no partner needed. all for more details.

ender Crash
pontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica lain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thu. of ach month, 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GBT community are invited to share poetry, rose and performance pieces at this open-mike vent.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

LAFFAN
Lesbians Available for Fun and Networking is a local social and networking group that provides opportunities for women to connect with each other. Members receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. LAFFAN sponsors an annual Halloween dance and spring dances/benefits. E-mail LAFFAN_Boston2004@yahoo.com for membership information.

Monday Night Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). www.mnbl.net. 7:30 pm. The MNBL's 2005-06 bowling season runs Monday nights.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). www.thenetworklared.org. This support group is working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Newly Diagnosed Group
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. First and third Mon. of each month, 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group supports gay and bisexual men who have been diagnosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men and bisexual, transgender and questioning folks as well as their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s. E-mail twentysomethingsboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event, featuring raffles, food, music and drinks, benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group supports HIV-positive gay and bisexual men ages 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

Queer-A-Oke
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. Thu. 9 pm-12 am. Free. Dyke Night Productions provides costumes and wigs for this weekly karaoke night at the Midway.

The Rainbow Café
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups. com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual and artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments around Boston.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support. E-mail sungyun@chickmail.com.

Somos Latin@s LGBT Coalition
www.somoslatinoslgbt.org. The only social and networking group for LGBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more info.

Tiffany Club of New England
(781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. This social and support group for the transgendered community hosts regular activities and events. E-mail stef616@aol.com.

Under the Radar
(617-851-7911). www.radarboston.com. Under the Radar, Boston's gay, all-male, contemporary a cappella group, is always auditioning for new members. E-mail info@radarboston.com.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/wonder_women_boston. Second Fri. of each month. This social group comprises lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s.

upcoming issues

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January 25, 2006
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February 8, 2006
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Advice to Contributors

Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dance of Universal Peace

Cambridge Friends Meeting House, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 6, 7:30-9:30 pm. $6-$10. This meditative circle dance honors the spiritual traditions of the world. All dances are accompanied by live music.

Dharma Film: Baraka

The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Jan. 7, 7 pm. $10. Co-sponsored with the Institute for Meditation and Psychotherapy, this film series explores spiritual cinema. This evening features the film *Baraka*; the title comes from the Sufi word meaning "breath" or "source of life."

Grand Opening

Yoga for Life, 2400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (781-648-0722). www.innerfocusyoga.com. Jan. 1. Free. Grand Opening's open house features free yoga classes, music, refreshments and more.

New Year's Eve

Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 31, 7:30 pm-1 am, arrive at any time. Free. The meditation center invites guests to spend New Year's Eve with periods of sitting, walking, chanting and sharing readings or reflections. Light refreshments are served after midnight.

New Year's Open House

The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Jan. 1, 12-6 pm. Free. This holistic health center hosts an annual afternoon of free classes and consultations with wellness providers.

Under 30 Meditation Night

Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.shambhalaboston.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Dec. 27, 7-8:30 pm. Free. Shambhala's class welcomes young adults who practice meditation or are just beginning. Guests discuss the teachings of Buddha and relax.

Winter Solstice Celebration

Holistic Concepts, 10 Maple St., Suite 100, Middleton (978-314-4545). www.holisticconcepts.com. Dec. 23, 7-9 pm. $25. Solstice is a time to let go of old patterns, introduce new beginnings and give strength to working toward one's goals. This solstice celebration honors rebirth with a crystal reading and guided meditation.

Winter Solstice Celebration and Meditation

Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101 or 978-536-5131). www.tsboston.org. Dec. 21. Doors open 6:30 pm. Meditation begins at 7:30 pm. Donations welcome. The Theosophical Society is a holistic health center that's celebrating the waxing and waning of the sun by inviting participants to gather to sing, meditate and acknowledge our light as individuals and members of our community.

Yuletide Celebration Meditation

Favorite Things Studio, 479 Center St., Pembroke (781-294-7360). www.favoritethingsstudio.com. Dec. 21, 7 pm. $25. This holiday ceremony honors creation, birth and the divine.

Classes

Bones for Life with Feldenkrais

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 7, 1:15-5:15 pm. $67. Feldenkrais is a movement-awareness therapy designed to aid various physical problems such as repetitive stress syndrome or even bad posture.

Chakras: Wheels of Life

Spirit Earth Healing, 661 Mass. Ave. #8, Arling (617-515-8826). www.spiritearthhealing.com. J 10, 7-8:30 pm. $20. Please preregister. Spirit Ea Healing's introductory course on chakras teac participants about the body's energy centers how energy blocks can impact health.

Hypnosis for Weight Loss

Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-2 6333). www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: B Green l to Washington Street. Dec. 31, 2-4 pm. $30. In O Doors' hypnosis class, students learn how to use h nosis and positive suggestions to lose weight m effectively.

New Year's Resolution: Unclutter Your Life

Earth Spirits, 407 Main St., Sturbridge (508-3 1180). www.EarthSpirits-Herbals.com. Jan. 7, 1 pm. $20. This group-hypnosis session aims to h participants overcome the obstacle of "stuff" begin the process of becoming more orderly.

The Shiatsu Way: Winter Wellness

Earthsong Yoga, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-4 8884 or 508-435-5101). www.earthsongyoga.com www.OakTreeShiatsu.com. Jan. 8. 2:30-4 pm. $ Participants learn about exercises and pressure poi that allow energy to flow. Afterwards, you can wa up with foods that heat you from the inside-out.

Sweat Your Prayers Dance Jam

Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-5 9363). www.dancingoutloud.com or www.da complex.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Jan. 2 9:30 pm. Sliding scale, $8-$15. The Dance Compl freestyle dance workshop includes deep listening, provisation and other exercises designed to stimul creativity and raise your spirit. All levels welcome.

Tarot for Introspection

Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.cir ofwisdom.com. Dec. 27, 7-9 pm. $30. The tarot is ancient tool for mental and spiritual growth and derstanding. Through meditation, participants le how the card's archetypes relate to individual li and what lessons they may offer.

Yoga Beginners Workshop

Exhale Spa, 28 Arlington St., Boston (617-532-700 www.exhalespa.com. Jan. 7, 1-3 pm. $35. T workshop teaches both introductory yoga philosop and yoga breathing, meditation, sun salutations basic poses. Students get two free yoga class passes.

Yoga Nidra

In the Moment Wellness Center, 106 Access Ro Norwood (781-762-9281). www.inthemoment.o Jan. 5, 7:30-8:15 pm. $10. Yoga Nidra uses guid imagery and breath awareness to create a state of namic sleep, which provides deep relaxation an said to improve memory.

Ongoing

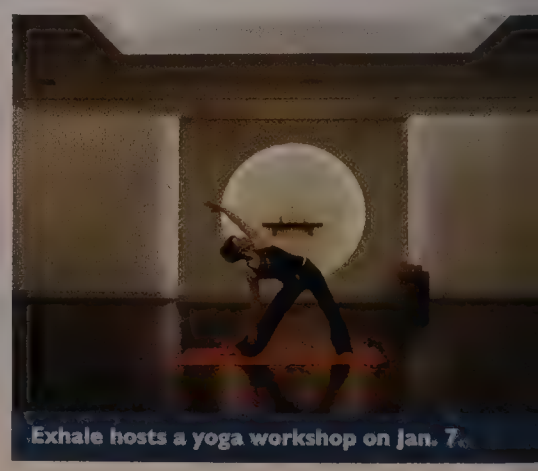
Introduction to Kabbalah

The Kabbalah Centre, 14 Green St., Brookline (61 566-0808). www.kabbalah.com. Wed., 7 pm. Fr Call to enroll. The lecture teaches that Kabbalah collection of ancient wisdom and philosophy ab the nature of the universe. Its philosophy intended to help practitioners get in tune w universal laws and live a more harmonious life.

Retreats

Gentle Yoga Weekend

Kripalu Center, West St., Lenox (866-200-520 www.kripalu.org. Dec. 28-Jan. 1, $539-$1181, cluding accommodation and meals. During this retre Rudy Peirce helps you intensely experience yo The retreat is geared toward beginners or those w some physical limitations.


Exhale hosts a yoga workshop on Jan. 7.

ports

vice to Contributors
nit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to endar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@oper.com. Include address, phone number, subway dates and times and a brief description of the league ent. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone must be received at least four weeks in advance.

ome Games

ston Bruins
) Banknorth Garden, Boston
kets: 617-931-2222
. 22, 7 pm vs. Toronto Maple Leafs
2, 1 pm vs. Philadelphia Flyers
5, 7 pm vs. Ottawa Senators
7, 7 pm vs. Tampa Bay Lightning
10, 7 pm vs. San Jose Sharks

ston Celtics
) Banknorth Garden, Boston
kets: 617-931-2222
. 21, 7:30 pm vs. Utah Jazz
4, 7:30 pm vs. Charlotte Bobcats
6, 7:30 pm vs. Atlanta Hawks
9, 7:30 pm vs. Dallas Mavericks

w England Patriots
illette Stadium, Foxboro
kets: 800-543-1776
1, 1 pm vs. Miami Dolphins

vents

sney On Ice Princess Classics
Banknorth Garden, 100 Legends Way, Boston 7-931-2000). www.disneyonice.com. MBTA: en Line to North Station. Dec. 28, 7 pm; Dec. 30, 11 am, 3 pm and 7 pm; Dec. 31, 11 am and 3 Jan. 1, 1 pm. $15-$30. Portions of Disney's derella, Aladdin, Mulan and Sleeping Beauty, ong other classic Disney films, are re-created on ice.

o Play

USTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

ston Demons
7-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club ks new players for nine-a-side competition.

ASEBALL

enry's Baseball
1-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

ASKETBALL

ston Ski & Sports Club
7-789-4070, ext. 238). Co-ed, year-round gues for players at all levels in Watertown, Belnt, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuare welcome.

mbridge Racquet and Fitness Club
7-491-8989). www.crfcbasketball.com. Year-round gues for individuals or teams at all levels.

rporate Basketball League
31-248-7811). Three isions for men and e for women play eknight games in e Cambridge, New- and Waltham eas. All levels welme.

ever Too Late sketball
31-488-3333). ww.nevertoolate.com. dults of all ages prace in locations roughout Boston.

OXING

ston Sport oxing Club
5 Walnut St., Watern (617-972-1711). ww.bostonboxing.com. on.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red e to Harvard, then #71 s. The club offers lympic-style boxing sons for all levels.

Dogtime Boxing
527 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-269-9044). www.dogtimeboxing.com. Mon.-Fri., 5-8:30 pm. This boxing club offers training for competition, conditioning and recreation.

DODGEBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting for dodgeball teams.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. This club offers fencing and stage combat programs.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

KICKBALL

World Adult Kickball Association
(866-350-1710). www. worldkickball.com. Co-ed kickball leagues play throughout the fall in Boston and Somerville. Register online.

RUGBY

Beantown Women's Rugby Club
www.beantownrugby.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Allston; games Sat. Beantown has won the national women's championship six times. New players are welcome.

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.biwrfc.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players to join its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

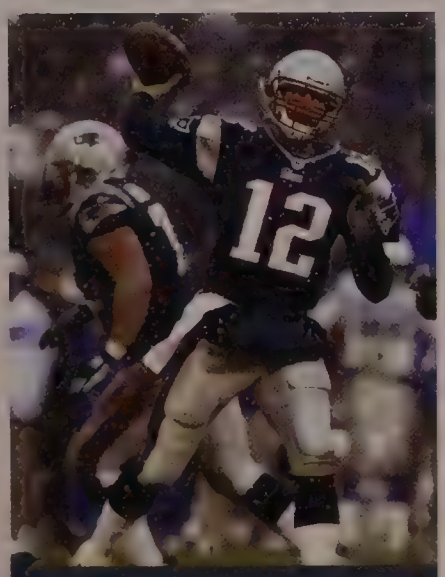
Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Sat. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, here's your weekly running group. Call for times and locations.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Team LunaChix Boston
BostonRun@teamlunachix.com. Weekly runs Thu. at 6:30 pm. Women only. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bostonlunachix. Talking-pace three- or five-mile runs through the Fells.



The Pats host their last game of the regular season, Jan. 1, against Miami.

SOCCER

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(617-789-4070). A series of indoor and outdoor soccer leagues start up this fall.

SKIING/ SNOWBOARDING

Polecat Ski and Sports Club
www.polecatskiclub.com. The Polecat Ski and Sports Club is looking for new member. All skill levels welcome. For more information, e-mail polecatskiclub@hotmail.com.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). boston wrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

A place where fun and great food are on the menu.

Boston's best sports bar and restaurant serves up a good time with a traditional American grill menu and an excellent selection of sports event viewing. With 33 TVs, including 2 big screens, the game is always on. Come to the place where good food, good sports and good times meet.

Be sure to ask about our private function space for up to 350 people.

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(ren-o-va-shun), n, def:
To change or alter. Refresh, revive, renew.

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171 Reservoir Street, Needham, MA 02494

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Things to See

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Dec. 25, 11 am. A film with a cast of comical puppets, *Chanukah at Bubbe's* teaches the values of respecting different holiday celebrations. •Jan. 7-8, 11 am. From the creators of *Wallace and Gromit* comes *Creature Comforts*, a funny and insightful view into the minds of the animals who live in the zoo.

Disney on Ice
TD Banknorth Garden, Boston (617-931-2000). www.tdbanknorthgarden.com. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. $15-$70. •Dec. 28, 7 pm; Dec. 29-30, 11 am, 3 and 7 pm; Jan. 1, 11 am and 3 pm. *Disney On Ice* presents *Princess Classics*, an adventure through the magical lands of classical *Disney*.

ImprovBoston Family Show
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12, adults; $10, seniors; $5, students and children. •Jan. 7, 6 pm. This short-form improv performance includes interactive games for the whole family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $7.50, members; $9.50, nonmembers. Reservations recommended. •Dec. 21-22, 10:30 am. Patricia Boylan presents *The Gingerbread Boy and Other Tales*. •Dec. 24, 1 pm; Dec. 26-27, 1 and 3 pm. Paul Vincent Davis' *Beauty and the Beast* will be presented during the holiday week. •Dec. 28-30, 1 and 3 pm. A ventriloquist show by Sylvia Markson, *The Magic Trunk* includes a wide variety of characters. •Jan. 4-5, 10:30 pm. *Funny Bone Tales* tells three stories that travel into three magical worlds. •Jan. 7-8, 1 and 3 pm. A collection of several of Aesop's fables is both entertaining and teaches some very valuable lessons.

Things to Do

Barefoot Books
1771 Mass. Ave., Arlington (617-349-1610). www.barefootbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Fri. and Sat., 10:30 am. Free. •Story hour for children ages 5 and under features a variety of themes. Ongoing.

Boston Children's Theatre
186 Tremont St., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $20-$22. •Dec. 28-30, 2 pm. The tale of *Beauty and the Beast* is brought to life on stage.

Boston Public Library
North End Branch, 25 Parmenter St., Boston (617-227-8135). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Dec. 28, 10:30 am. Celebrate *Frosty the Snowman's Magic Birthday* with puppetry, magic tricks and storytelling. •Jan. 6, 10:15 am. *Kids Cinema* features movies for kids ages 3-7 accompanied by an adult.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Thu., Sat.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 pm. $9, adults; $7, children. •The exhibit *Adventures with Clifford the Big Red Dog* invites families to explore Birdwell Island, where the Clifford books take place, and features a 9-foot-tall Clifford. Through Jan. 8. •Each Friday evening, children can explore the holiday traditions of different cultural groups in *Spirit of the Season*. Through Jan. 13. •The *Amazing Castle* allows children to experience life in a medieval village and make medieval-themed arts and crafts. Ongoing. •The Art Studio invites parents and children to create works of art together. Ongoing.

Finagle A Bagel
World Headquarters, 77 Rowe St., Newton (671-213-8400). www.finagleabagel.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Riverside. Free. •Wed., 10:30 am. Children's music hour featuring Jeannie Mack. Ongoing.

Frog Pond
Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-2120). www.bostoncommonfrogpond.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park. Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Tue.-Thu. and Sun., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm. Admission: $3, adult; free for children. Skate Rental: $7, adult; $5, children. •Ice skating at the Frog Pond continues through March 17, 2006.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.thecoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •Dec. and Jan. 6, 11 am. Kids ages 2-6 can enjoy story-telling and craft hour. •Tue., 11 am. *Telling Tales* story time for kids ages 5 and under.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50, adults; $6, students; $5, ages 3-18. •Jan. 7, 9:30 am. Learn about the lives of dinosaurs by examining their fossils and footprints in *Dinosaur ABCs*. • Jan. 7, 9:30 am. *Super Skeletons* is an interactive exhibit where kids learn about the skeletal structures of different animals.

Mudflat Pottery School
149 Broadway, Somerville (617-628-0589). www.mudflat.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square. •Winter clay classes starting Jan. 8 for kids and teens ages 5 and up. Classes meet once a week for 12 weeks. Tuition is $185-$225 including materials.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum of Fine Arts. $15, adults; $13, students; free, 5 and under; $6.50, ages 6-17 on weekdays before 3 pm. •Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm. In the Children's Room, kids explore the museum and create projects with a different theme each week. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30 pm. *Books Bring Art Alive* provides arts and crafts activities for children ages 5 and under. •Sat.-Sun., 11 am-4 pm. *Family Place* allows children ages 4 and up to explore the MFA through self-guided activities with their parents.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9 am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14, adults; $12, seniors; $11, children. •Sat.-Sun., 11 am-12 pm. *Animals and Stories Alive!* combines a live animal presentation with mythical and folk storytelling. Ongoing. •*Beyond the X-Ray* features four major exhibits that explore how doctors peer inside the human body without cutting. Ongoing. •Butterflies and flowers are on display in the permanent *Butterfly Garden*. •*Countdown to Supernova*, showing at the Hayden Planetarium, explores the life cycles of stars. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibit that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Science Live* features live animals and multimedia presentations surrounded by natural history dioramas. Ongoing.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, adults; $13.95 seniors; $8.95, children ages 3-11. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through Dec. 30. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is an ongoing, hands-on exhibition featuring sea stars, hermit crabs and more. •The Simons IMAX Theater screens a variety of movies. Ongoing.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.newtonfreelibrary.net. •Dec. 23 and 30, 10:30 am. Preschool Films at the Drucker Auditorium. •*Holiday Read-a-thon for Children and Young Adults*, promoting literacy for children and adults in Afghanistan runs through Dec. 31. Monetary pledges are accepted through Jan. 3. •Dec. 27, 2 pm. Learn about the behavior of reptiles in *Science Tuesday*'s animal presentation. •Dec. 29, 2 pm. A performance of *Peter Rabbit* will be presented by the Pumpernickel Puppets.

Peanut Butter & Jelly Dance Co.
Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-738-7688). www.pbjdanceco.org. MBTA: Green Line to Longwood. •*Creative Movement* provides dance classes for kids ages 3-8, including warm-up exercises and creative and improvisational dances. Call for registration and scheduling.

Teddy Bear Tea at the Four Seasons
200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Daily, 3-4:15 pm. $24, adult; $14, children; free for children with teddy bear donation. With storytelling and peanut butter sandwiches, the *Teddy Bear Tea* fund-raiser gathers teddy bears for donation to local children. Reservations required. Through Dec. 24.

Wellesley Free Library
1530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-1610). www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. Commuter rail to Wellesley Square. •Dec. 21, 3:30-4:45 pm. *Kids Crafts* devoted today to learning about solstice science. •Dec. 27-29, 4:30 pm. Drop in movies for the whole family.

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ghts to See

ston University Observatory
Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on nights), 7:30-9:30 pm. Free.

ildren's Museum
Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-5). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to th Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am-9 $9; $7, children ages 2-15 and seniors; $2, 1-olds; free, under 1 year old; $1 per person, Fri., pm.

neuil Hall
State St., Boston (617-523-1300). www.faneuilhall ketplace.com. MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Hay-ket. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Tours at 9:30 am. Free.

rvard Museum of Natural History
Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www. h.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; $6, students and seniors; $5, ren ages 3-18. Free to all, Wed., 3-5 pm and Sun., 9 12 pm.

n F. Kennedy Library & Museum
umbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). www.jfk ry.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 5 pm. $10; $8, seniors and students; $7, ages 13-free, 12 and under.

rz Anderson Antique Auto Museum
Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., m-5 pm. $5; $3, ages 6-17 and seniors; free, children er 6.

ary Baker Eddy Library Mapparium
Mass. Ave., Boston (617-540-7000). MBTA: en Line to Hynes. Tue.-Sun. 10 am-3:40 pm. $6.

ount Auburn Cemetery
Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). TA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-5 pm. Free.

useum of Afro-American History
Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam seum.org. MBTA: Red Line or Green Line to Park et. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Guided walking tours ilable by special request. Free.

useum of Science
ence Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www. s.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. .-Thu., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $15; $13, iors; $12, ages 3-11.

ew England Aquarium
ntral Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 ; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; 3.95, seniors; $8.95, ages 3-11; free to members.

ld North Church
3 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Or-ge or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. e.

ld South Meeting House
0 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www. southmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue e to State. Daily, 10 am-4 pm. $5; $4, seniors and dents; $1, children; free, children under 6.

ld State House Museum
6 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). w.bostonhistory.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5; $4, seniors and stu-nts; $1, ages 6-18; free to members and children der 6.

udential Center Skywalk
0 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: een Line to Hynes. Daily, 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; .50 with college ID; $7, seniors; $6.50, ages 3-12; e, children under 3.

inity Church
6 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). www. nityboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Daily, 8 -6 pm. $5; free, ages 12 and under.

SS Constitution & Museum
arlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). w.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-m. Free.

olunteer

FC Mentoring Program
17-224-1300). www.afcmentoring.org. Mentor a ster-care or adopted child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-542-9090). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-422-0910). www.bostoncares.org. More than 100 volunteer opportunities are available each month.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012, ext. 227). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. This HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers over 18 for kitchen tasks, office work and special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145, ext. 620). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor students in math and literacy and prepare high school students for the MCAS.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000, ext. 6399). Tutor adult students.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. Help ALS (aka Lou Gehrig's Disease) patients and their families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hcdhospice.org. Volunteers are needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900, ext. 113). www.horizonsinitiative.org. Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Volunteers
(617-547-2620, ext. 4271). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). www.lvm.org. Teach adults to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-972-9119). www.charityfinders.com/mabcommunity. Read to or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelder.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). www.neaq.org. Volunteer to act as an aquarium guide, help with the penguins, and more.

Parental Stress Line
(800-882-1250). Counsel parents and caregivers, and facilitate support groups.

Pine Street Inn
(617-892-9187). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve dinner to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740, ext. 14). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111, ext. 17). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). www.respondinc.org. Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). www.rosies.org. Volunteers needed for this women's homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0100). Volunteers needed for this 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone to people in crisis.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRI

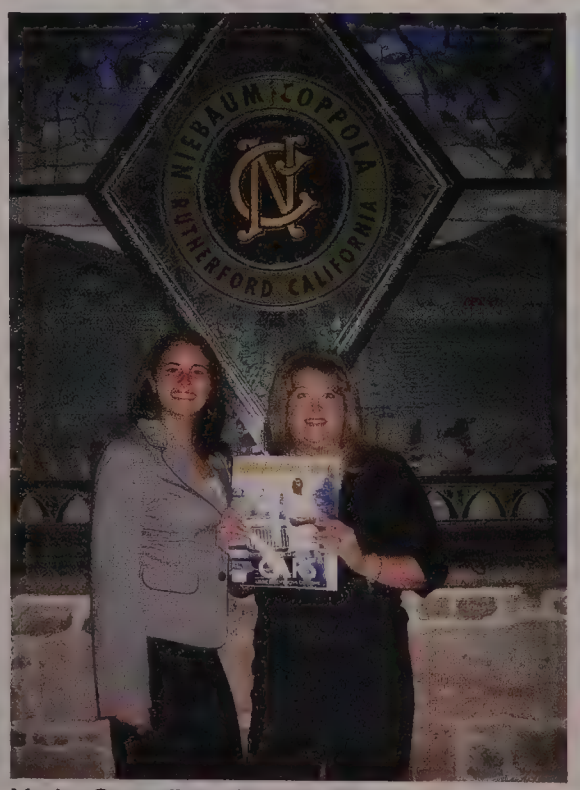
Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you wer The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.

Josh Elihu and Daniel Sabet took this shot on the shores of Eivissa City in Ibiza, Spain, where they head up the Spanish branch of the Chest Hair Club for Men.

We think Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa should sell his own line of ponchos, called Poncho Villaraigosas.

Northeastern student Matt Stafford got comfy in one of the latrines in the Tower of London. Seriously, Matt, how 'bout a courtesy flush?

Ellie Bowman and Megan Hardy rested in front of Barcelona's Sagrada Familia, designed by Antoni Gaudí. The church isn't Finnished—it's Spanish.



Marisa Centrella and Marcie Abainou checked out California's Niebaum-Coppola (as in Francis Ford) winery. They recommend the Corleone Blanc.

Rita Benullo spent three weeks in China and took this photo in front of the the section of the Great Wall at Badaling, a city best known as the birthplace of the Chinese rim shot.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Eating a radish while petting a radish cow and smelling a radish tulip at the annual Radish Night, held Dec. 23 in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Send high-resolution digital photos (at least 500K file size) to sightings@improper.com, or mail professionally printed color photos (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Please include the exact photo location, full names of all people in the photo, your phone number and e-mail address. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned. Ink-jet or laser-printed photos cannot be accepted.

improperimpersonals

everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over ne place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the vorld to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of ourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type p e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Oh, I'm the One You Want?

Phil L.T., you sure as hell cannot take the past away (conceiving a child with someone else while claiming your limitless love for me; buying a million-dollar home with your manipulative wench girlfriend, all the while undermining my every effort to remove myself from your life). If you TRULY recognized the immeasurable pain you've caused, you would not have had the audacity to move a mere 10 blocks from me and rub my face in your new-found notions of "love." You moved here to be with me? Well, then I'm sorry too. You're a decade late, one child too many, and countless alimony payments I never bargained for! Burn in hell for eternity, you useless eunuch! And don't taint the IB again!
—Sarah G.J.

A Temporary Greeting

Ms. Permanent, you should be ashamed of yourself for the abrasive remarks about temps and contractors in your office. Doubly offensive was your backstabbing about temps with twisted facts. Simply because I'm a contractor doesn't mean that I don't deserve basic professional courtesy. Those who were temping just a year ago ended up with better careers than yours. However, you should be grateful since you're obviously someone without people skills or a basic goodness of heart. I might be a temp for the moment, but at least I'm not you.
—A Temp With Benefits

Royal Pain

Out with 2005 and in with 2006...I tried, I really did. I did the match thing, volunteered, attended school, went to the gym, talked politics and even went on hospital visits. Not one special invite came into my life...I said hello, I smiled, made small conversations, but still no prince to be found. I can't figure out where the nice, single 40-55 guys are. I've "been there, done that" with the bar scene and have grown old and can't be bothered. On the plus side, I'll save money not having to buy gifts, but how I'd love to have that special someone for talks, walks or even a hug or two. How I'd love to splurge on you! Tall, blonde, blue eyes, not anorexic thin, not obese, shy yet outgoing. My boobs are mine and so is the cellulite, but I guess that's not enough. I don't want pity; I just want a prince. Every woman dreams of the day when she'll meet her prince. Hopefully 2006 will bring one. And if not, I have full control of the TV remote for another year! Here's to a happy and healthy 2006!
—Cinderella

In Bad, Bad Company

On Oct. 28, I received a $15 ticket for street sweeping on Yeamans Street by the Revere post office. I live 30 miles south of Revere and had no idea that street sweeping day is the last Monday of the season. I went to the Parking Clerk's office to dispute it and they set up a hearing for the following day. They told me it was a quick process—yeah right! Because my name begins with a "w," I had to be there over an hour before I finally got my turn. Since I drive a cab in Revere, I was told I should've known the parking rules and regulations of the city, so my ticket was valid. FYI: Revere doesn't require a written test of rules and regulations of the city to obtain a hackney license like Boston does. If this so-called intelligent person's going to make a statement like that, he should have facts to back up his information. Meanwhile, he let an elderly woman out of a $50 fire lane violation, a young lady out of a fire zone violation and a man from Everett out of the SAME street sweeping violation, because, as he said to the Everett resident, "I can't expect you to know abut the street sweeping zones if you're from Everett." If everyone were held accountable for his or her violations, I would have no problem with this ignoramus, but he just picks and chooses! I've never met such an unfair, totally biased, unjust, prejudiced individual who thinks he's God, perfect and never wrong. The only other people like that are Mussolini, Hitler, Hussein and Bin Laden.
—Disgruntled Driver

I Love Canada

I'm hunting for a Canadian boy! You were on the D Green Line train the other day with a Canada scarf, a long grey coat and nice shoes. I was the cute blonde with the greenish coat and wool skirt whose boot you stepped on. I was going to get angry since it was one of those days, but you bent down to brush it off and winked at me. Who winks nowadays? How cute were you? Your hair said hockey and your smile and blue eyes made it sexy, but it was your cute accent that caught my attention. I feel silly now for not starting a conversation, but you ended up chatting with the girl standing next to you. I've thought about you since then and how refreshing it was to bump into a sweet, polite and good-looking guy. If this story sounds familiar, send an e-mail to: bostoncanadian@gmail.com, and maybe we can grab a drink and play in the snow, eh!
—Your Biggest Fan

Is it Fate or Art?

Remember when you began talking to me one night in Newbury Comics in Cambridge in early September? I was looking through the comic book section and you asked me what I was looking for. I was the girl who wanted *Eightball* by Daniel Clowes and then it led me to go off on a tangent about how I related to *Ghost World* and how I'm a young girl in the city.

Then about two months later we made eyes again at the Museum of Fine Arts store in early November. You smiled at me and I met your gaze with some confusion, but then quickly realized where I'd seen you. It was some strange moment straight out of a movie. I wish I'd said something to you that day. If I never see you again, I'll have to add that to the top of my list of regrets. I haven't stopped thinking about you since. I want to know you because there must be a reason why we ended up in the same place at the same time twice.
—A Believer

Pick Me Up Before You Go Go

I'm sending my warmest, heartfelt thanks to the wonderful man with the pickup truck who pulled me out of a snow bank. My car skidded on some ice on the way to work and I came quite close to crashing into a tree. Luckily I missed it, but got stuck in all that damn snow. A knight in shining armor just happened to drive by, saw how desperate I was, and pulled my car out without hesitation. A million thanks and all the best to you. Have a wonderful holiday!
—Eternally Grateful

Habla Amor?

Betsy, it was Dec. 5 on the Fitchburg train when I asked you about the next train station with my poor English. I remember your eyes but my limited English wasn't enough to ask you for your phone number or out for coffee. I'd love to contact you and send you my address whenever you take a trip to Spain. E-mail me.
—omarin@inicia.es

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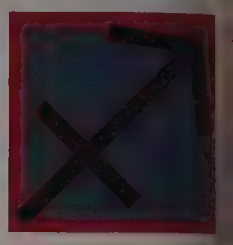
rockie horoscope

DECEMBER 21, 2005–JANUARY 10, 2006 BY ROCKIE GARDINER



SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Archers born in mid-December often have natal planets in Capricorn, so their birthday mind-set will continue through Christmas and, thanks to late Hanukkah and Kwanzaa celebrations, beyond. The others can make the most of clever Mercury coming back to early Sagittarius, speeding up their thought processes and punctuating their conversations with wisdom and wit. But try to refrain from playing the fool, a practice you're apt to resort to when your Jupiter ruler is threatened by muscle-bound Mars and stony-faced Saturn.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

No one who is as committed to family as a Capricorn wants to hear that, while your tradition-bound Saturn ruler is being provoked by trouble-making Mars, the holidays might not live up to your expectations. On the other hand, you could be spurred on to do more to brighten up the house or spend more on the people who live there. Remember, Saturn hasn't been in luxurious Leo for almost 30 years. For many this could be your first experience of living really well in the material world. Time to lavish expensive gifts on loved ones (along with the people you need to impress).

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

If you love them, let them go; if it's meant to be, they'll come back to you. This well-worn bit of advice could become your mantra for the holiday season. Although affectionate Venus has only been in Aquarius since the full moon, it's already preparing to turn retrograde on Christmas Eve and return to Capricorn by New Year's Day. Therefore you don't have much time to make an indelible impression on someone before the love goddess slips out of your grasp. But Venus returns to Aquarius on Feb. 3. Even if it seems premature, think about plans for Valentine's Day.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

The holiday season is hardly the time for a major dispute, but while demanding Mars and nay-saying Saturn refuse to budge from their iron-clad positions, you could catch more incidental flak than a well-meaning Fish should. Wishing for peace and good will may not be your primary objective this Christmas, but pissing off your nearest and dearest, even if they seem to be more hard-hearted than usual, certainly isn't. Where's the love? Look to casual friends and folks with mutual interests for a good, guilt-free time.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Besides celebrating the coming of the sun, the winter solstice also marks the progress you've made since the spring equinox and your birthday. Because Capricorn governs your mid-heaven, current career concerns will probably be what matters the most. However, you can't ignore the ongoing tug-of-war between impulsive Mars, your cut-to-the-chase ruling planet, and philosophical, consider-the-big-picture Jupiter. Don't be surprised if an authority figure, e.g., the landlord or Grandma, decides to take sides.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Boys rule! You're in for a decidedly masculine couple of weeks as macho Mars in Taurus challenges both paternal Saturn and avuncular Jupiter before settling into a productive, probably athletic as well, New Year's weekend. After circumventing restrictions and confronting the voice of experience, you'll be ready to begin an adventure of your own making. Like a committed crusader, you're willing to go to battle for your beliefs, not to mention for bragging rights and the opportunity to grow wealthy and wise. In this situation, your gentle, genteel Venus ruler seems missing in action.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

There's something inexplicably sexy about the winter solstice, especially since it occurs in your house of partners, so get inspired by the interests and resources you have in common. Whether you curl up by the fire, dive under the covers or drive out to the beach, make the occasion that the sun enters Capricorn magical for you both. Coincidentally, your Mercury ruler in your Sagittarius house of allies is about to expose you to an unusual, unexpected experience a well as a possible job offer. Good stuff for the holidays. Enjoy.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Moon children can practically feel their temperatures rise as the sun prepares to enter Capricorn and celebrate the coming of the light. Every solstice holds the promise of change; the winter solstice in the northern hemisphere indicates that the days will soon get longer and, in six short months, that summer and your birthday will be here. But for now, your heart and soul are drawn to significant others, the affection and concern you have for them and the impact they have on you. It may be only seasonal, but it's what is.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Every sign of the zodiac that your sun ruler travels through has an influence on how you feel and what commands your attention. And while the equinoxes might restore your equilibrium, it's the solstices that have the most profound effect. Summer and Cancer can brighten your disposition and warm your heart, but it's winter and Capricorn that provide the solitude your soul needs to survive. This is especially true for the year ahead; restrictive Saturn in Leo can pile responsibilities on you that you're neither prepared nor willing to assume. It's called growing up.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

The holidays could be hot for you this year. The more planets there are in hospitable earth signs, the greater the attention you receive—particularly since affectionate Venus and passionate Mars are coming on to each other. Add the creativity of the Capricorn sun in your house of romance and recreation, and even a modest, self-deprecating Virgin should be able to read the writing on the wall. So what's the catch? Ah, the expense of it all! Although it might not cost a fortune, be prepared to pay if you want to play.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Experiencing more false starts than usual? Blame your Venus ruler for shifting gears as she moves from pragmatic Capricorn to idealistic Aquarius and then, smack in the middle of last-minute Xmas shopping, turns retrograde. So the week before New Year's might seem as familiar as the week before Christmas: the same cast of characters, the same stuff only headed in the opposite direction. Until Feb. 3, when the goddess faces forward again, you'll have time and reasons to re-evaluate relationship and family issues.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Why a financial transaction with a neighbor shows up as a crucial ingredient in this holiday season is a mystery only a Scorpio could solve. Does someone have tickets to scalp? Is there a joint yard sale in the offing? Now is also a good time to pursue a romantic relationship; although you may have had to back off while your Mars co-ruler was retrograde, the planet of passion is ready to turn up the heat. Ergo, so should you. Since Mars won't stay in your Taurus marriage house much past Valentine's Day, carpe diem.

HOLIDAY SALE, $5 OFF. To order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, with a check or money order for $35 plus $3.50 s&h to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405. www.rockiehoroscope.com. Rockie's daily forecast appears online at www.laweekly.com

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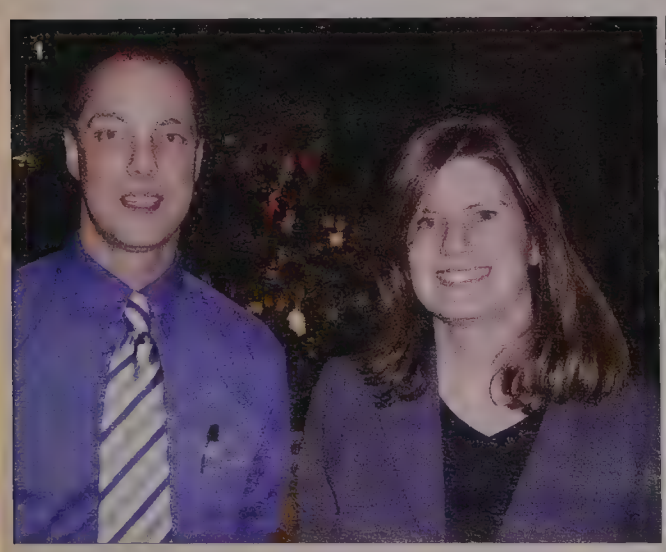
IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Tuesday, December 6, **Starbucks Cream Liqueur** celebrated its launch at **Lucky Strike Lanes**.

1. **Aliz Csaki**, on-premise manager for Future Brands; **Mike Fanning**, bartender at Daisy Buchanan's; **Jennifer Shatkin**, manager–stealth division at Horizon Beverages; **Russ Demariano**, bartender at Dillions; and **Caroline Lerner**, general manager of Pageo Jewelers.
2. **Mike Epstein**, vice president of operations and general counsel at Horizon Beverages, and **Ernie Buonaccorsi**, state manager, east coast division at Future Brands.
3. **Matt Cormier**, off-premise manager for Future Brands; **Clifford Ansara**, account rep for Lighthouse Importing and Marketing Inc.; **Chris Marino** of Boston; and **Stephanie Buiel**, promotion rep for Preston Marketing.

On Thursday, December 8, **The Improper Bostonian** was pleased to be a sponsor of the **MSPCA-Angell** tree lighting ceremony. Guests enjoyed holiday refreshments and music by Harvard's Krokodiloes. The event took place at the **Prudential Center** and was emceed by **7News** anchor Randy Price.



1. **Scott Giacoppo**, public relations manager, and **Suzanne Ryan**, direct marketing manager both at MSPCA-Angell.
2. **Laura Gretch**, project coordinator at MSPCA-Angell, and **Marci Tyldesley**, vice president at Regan Communications.
3. **Jeff Fisher** and **Emily Dietrich**, both students at Northeastern University.

On Wednesday, November 30, **Boston Park Plaza Hotel** hosted the first annual **Boston's Choice Awards**.

1. **Brian Kelly**, president of Kelly Automotive Group; **Jaimie Sparks**, event manager at The Alley-Lyons Group Management; **Jessica Sparks**, account rep at Todhunter International, Inc.; and **Mike Mika**, general manager at Kings.
2. **Lisa Roach**, on-air personality at Kiss 108, and **Mike LePage**, actor for Historical Entertainments.
3. **Jimmy Tingle**, owner of Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway; Joan Rivers, aka **Joe Posa**, actor for Historical Entertainments; and **Mickey Schneider**, general manager at Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers.

PHOTO CREDITS: LUCKY STRIKE LANES, JULIE KANE; PRUDENTIAL CENTER, STACEY SHANE; BOSTON PARK PLAZA, JULIE KANE, ROGER FARRINGTO

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, December 3, the **3 Kings** hosted their 10th Annual Event at **Vinalia**. All proceeds benefited the **Leslie's Links Fund at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute** and included toys to benefit **Midnight Santa**.

1. **Gary Murad**, lobbyist at O'Neil and Associates; **Dom Visocchi**, president of Precision Physical Therapy; and **Anthony Sgro**, manager for KPMG LLP.
2. **John McPhee**, retail sales manager at Leerink & Swan company, and **Aleicea Brandolini**, model and Fear Factor champion.
3. **Pat Davison**, sales executive for J & M Brown Company; **Travis Schoen**, physical therapist at South Shore Sports Therapy; and **Micheal Ceppi**, New England sales rep for America 2 Electronics.

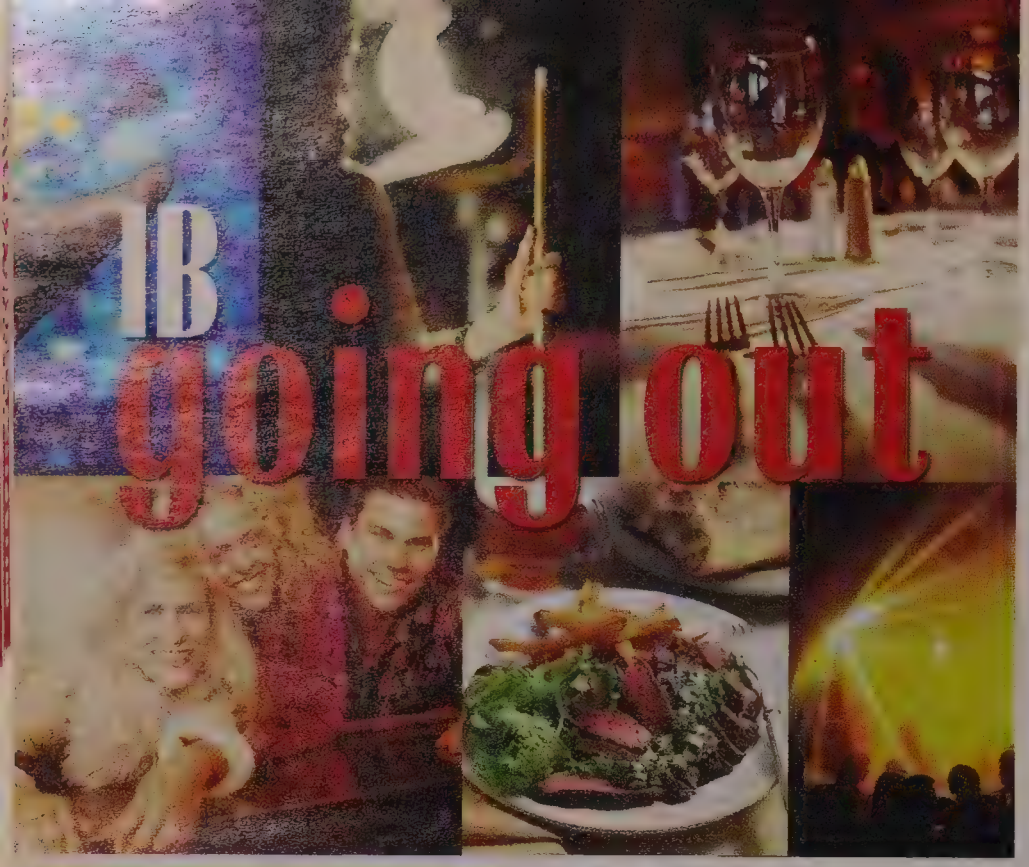
On Thursday, December 8, **Venezia Waterfront Restaurant & Banquet Facility** held the final round of its Ultimate Valentine's Wedding Giveaway contest. The deserving couple won an all-inclusive "wedding of their dreams" at Venezia Restaurant. Contestants and attendees enjoyed complimentary cocktails and hors d'oeuvres from Venezia.

1. **Jacqui MacDonald**, yoga instructor of Boston, and **Eric Bonwell**, accountant at State Street Bank, winners of Venezia Restaurant's Ultimate Valentine's Wedding Giveaway.
2. **Brenda Bruno** and **Perry Bruno**, both owners of Venezia Restaurant and Banquet Facility.
3. **Lauren Falcone**, features reporter at the *Boston Herald*, and **Yolanda Cellucci**, owner of Yolanda's.

On Friday, December 9, the **Boston Athletic Club** celebrated its annual holiday party at its Summer Street location. Guests enjoyed light bites by **Summer Street Grille**, and throughout the evening toys were collected for **Toys for Tots**.

1. **Ed Chapman**, institutional sales for Forest Labs; **Diane Chapman**, senior sales rep for Johnson and Johnson; and retired **Col. Ed Murphy** of Boston.
2. **Terrie McManus** and **Greg McManus**, both owners of Terries Place; **Adam Rogers**, sales rep for Avaya Phone Systems; **Kate Netherton**, teacher in Canton; and **Trisha Brady** of South Boston.
3. **Scott Willard**, assistant general manager; **Michelle Sturgeon** and **Alexis O'Brien**, both personal trainers; **Kerry Campbell**, sales director; and **Seth Moskos**, member-service manager, all at BAC.

PHOTO CREDITS: VINALIA, DOMENIC VISOCCHI; VENEZIA, KATIE NOBLE, ALLAN E. DINES; BAC, KERRY CAMPBELL



RESTAURANTS

ASSAGGIO *29 Prince Street, Boston, MA 02113 (617)227-7380 www.assaggio-boston.com.* Located in Boston's historic North End, *Assaggio* is open 7 days a week for lunch, dinner and late-night dining. *Assaggio's* menu is comprised of traditional Italian fare and uses only the freshest ingredients! Enjoy our extensive wine list or relax at one of the North End's only full service bars. Try our exclusive Limousine Shuttle Service–for a $10.00 charge we'll pick you up at home and provide round trip service to and from the restaurant– Please call one day in advance to reserve. Intimate, private function space is also available.

BONFIRE *64 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Theatre District, 617-262-3473.* Chef Todd English's restaurant, Bonfire, is a steak house and tequila bar with a wood-fired grill and Latin and European influences. The décor is gorgeous in warm red and gold tones. An extensive taco menu, wood-grilled steaks and a late-night tapas menu provide options for all diners. Open nightly for dinner and late-night dining.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

IGUANA CANTINA *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

LEGAL SEA FOODS *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

MATCH *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* This modern restaurant/lounge maintains an unpretentious yet hip vibe. A sleek fire display and glass wine room are just two of its many features. Match's signature mini burgers and martinis are guaranteed to please the most discriminating palate. Match music has a distinct early evening lounge feel with the beat and volume picking up as the night progresses. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

M.J. O'CONNOR'S *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255.* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

NED DEVINE'S *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am, 7 days a week.

SIDNEY'S GRILLE *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why *Bon Appétit* magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus www.sidneysgrille.com.

SOLAS *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am, 7 days a week.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP:*130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 300 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

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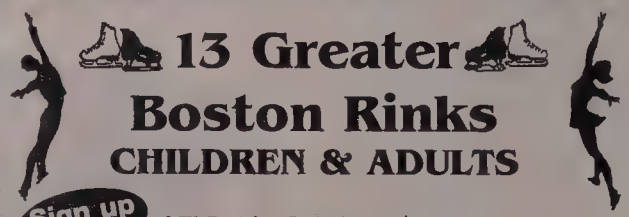

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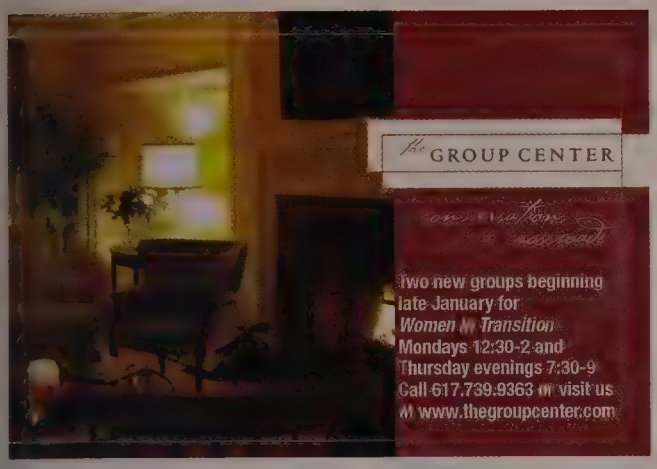

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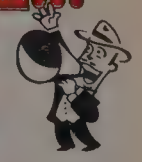

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State Room

LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

At the Silver Jubilee Gala, top row: The party. Middle row: Lily Poduska; Coco Grace; Lynn Kortenhaus wearing a tablecloth. Bottom row: Sickly sweet candy cane cocktail

SO MISTLETOE REALLY IS AN APHRODISIAC...

The **Wang Center's Silver Jubilee Gala** was a bit like a glass of eggnog spiked with cognac: fun and fattening, with more than a dash of holiday schmaltz.

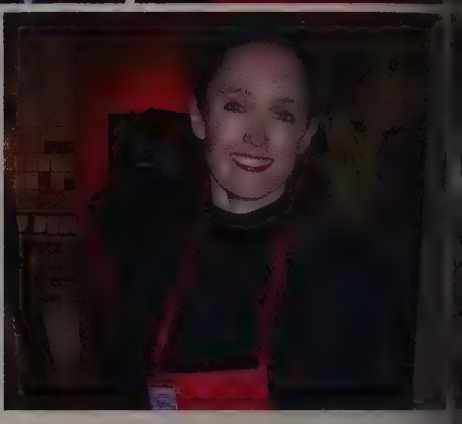
The super-swanky black-tie affair (at $1,000 a head, certainly one of the bigger-ticket fund-raisers of the holiday season) began with jazz and cocktails in the lobby (the specialty drink, garnished with a candy cane, "tasted like Pepto-Bismol and Scope," according to one guest) and continued with a sumptuous dinner at tables that transformed the theater into a glittering Winter Wonderland.

On-hand for the festivities: **Lorraine Wang** (widow of the high-tech billionaire and benefactor), the organization's jefe **Joe Spaulding,** with both his beautiful bride, **Joyce**, and mother, noted philanthropist, adventurer and North Shore grande dame **Helen** (one of Jackie Kennedy's bridesmaids), über-arts patrons **Bill** and **Susan Poduska** with their gorgeous daughter, **Lily**, ubiquitous party pair **Smoki Bacon** and **Dick Concannon**, power couple **Carol** and **Bernie Fulp**, the lovely **Mary Wolfson** with **Bob Rosenberg** (aka Mr. Dunkin' Donuts), latter-day Nick and Nora Charles **Kevin** and **Maggie Ahearn**, the statuesque **Allison Bibbins Ward** (looking stunning in Armani), New Hampshire governor **John Lynch**, Boston Lyric Opera head honcho **Janice Mancini DelSesto**, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company grand poobah **Steven Maler**, Boston's answer to Santa Claus, **Ted Cutler**, with the dazzling **Joan**, stunning young things **Jeff** and **Christine McCormick**, the perfectly lovely **Kay** and **Peter Lyons** and PR czarina **Lynn Kortenhaus** (who caught a chill in her sexy, strapless gown from Akris, and after dinner resourcefully grabbed one of the fuzzy tablecloths to use as a wrap).

Once everyone was well-fed and well-lubricated, they were ushered into the theater to watch a dress rehearsal of Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* ("The reason I've been popping Zantac 75 like it's candy," quipped Spaulding), which got everyone into the holiday spirit.

Apparently, it also put some guests in the mood for love, like one man who said, "I tried to convince my wife to christen the mezzanine with me during intermission, but no go," to which someone else responded, "We've already done it." Meanwhile, someone else obviously got a bit naughty—according to one woman: "I was waiting for a stall in the ladies room, and when the person came out, she said, 'That's not my bra hanging on the door.' Sure enough, there was a big black strapless bra in there."

At the MFA School December Sale, top row: Darryl Settles; Mary Jean Keaney. Bottom row: Trevania Henderson



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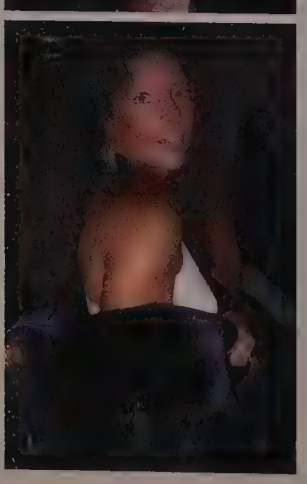
The dress code was diamonds and leather when **Shreve, Crump and Low** threw a rock 'n' roll blowout to celebrate the relocation of their flagship store to the corner of Boylston and Berkeley streets.

A fund-raiser for **Berklee City Music and the Music and Youth Initiative**, the party attracted the likes of the store's new owners, **Ann** and **Maria Birks**, party planner extraordinaire **Bryan Rafanelli** (whose new line of table decorations is on sale upstairs), gorgeous newlyweds **Lisa** and **Steve Woolfson**, Polish fashion plate **Kasia Nelson**, blonde bombshell **Darlene Jordan** with her high school chum **Georgia Critsley**, kabuki socialite **Marilyn Riseman**, party pair **Frances** and **Bud Moseley**, the delectable **Trish Fuller**, Concord socialites **Cat** and **Rob Mast** and **Drew** and **Kim Picullel**, restaurateur **Seth Woods** and his stunning wife, **Megan**, and countless, equally sparkly others.

Arriving guests were handed gift cards that ranged in value from $50-$1,000 (one woman whose card was only worth $250 whined, "The watch I like is $27,000"), but the highlight of the evening was undoubtedly when Aerosmith bassist **Tom Hamilton** joined the band of Berklee students for back-up on "Walk This Way."

Meanwhile, among the party's wittiest remarks: the guest who greeted the drag duo **The Hat Sisters** with, "I almost wore that. Thank God I changed before I left the house," and the compliment "You've still got an Anguillan tan" eliciting the response, "I've still got an Anguillan hangover."

At Shreve's Opening Party, top row: The Hat Sisters with Maria Birks (middle) and Marilyn Riseman; Megan and Seth Woods. Bottom row: Terry and Tom Hamilton; Doug Gates; Lisa Woolfson



HOW MUCH IS THAT TRIPTYCH IN THE WINDOW?

Forget that it was still November; the opening night of the **December Sale at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts** drew a crowd of savvy arts patrons that included Nashville-born thoroughbred **Trevania Henderson**, the mind-bogglingly beautiful **Mary Jean Keaney**, impish decorator **Ken Dietz**, connoisseur and collector **Allison Sallke**, restaurateur **Darryl Settles**, MFA curator **Frederick Ilchman** and Beacon Hill babe **Meg Gordon**, to name a mere handful.

Summing things up succinctly, one guest said, "I don't have a square inch of space on my walls," to which one volunteer responded, "So buy sculpture." IB

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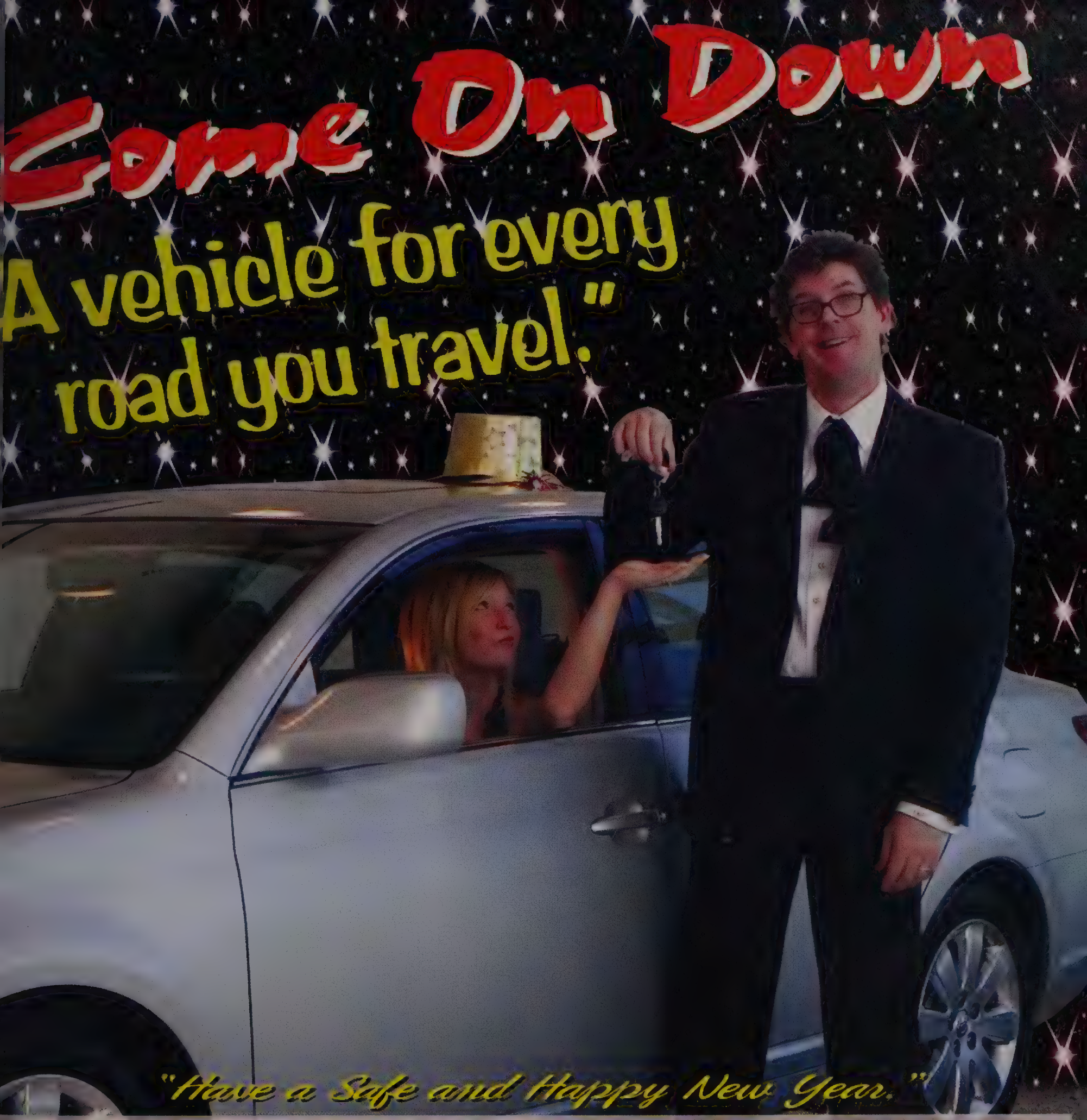

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